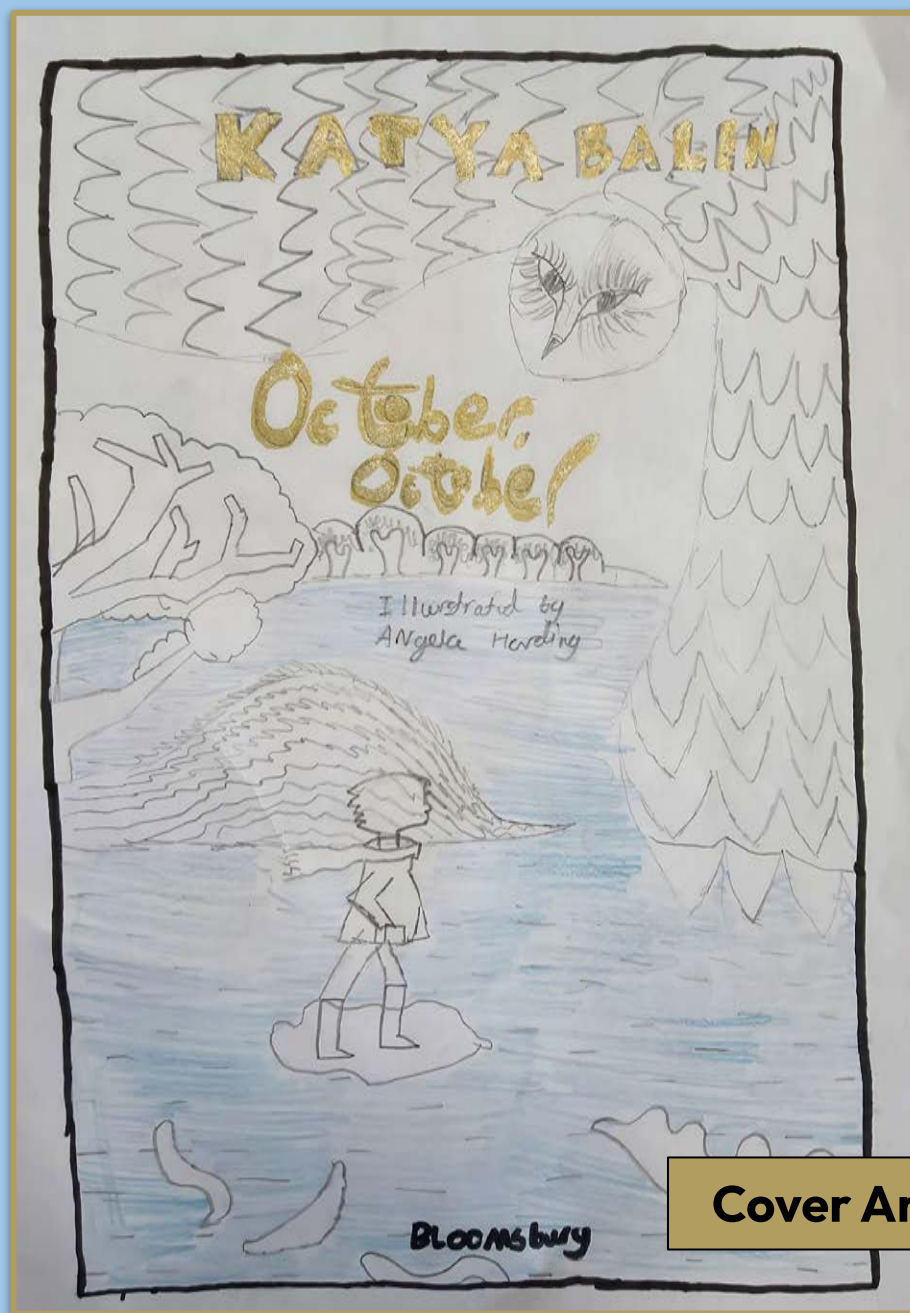
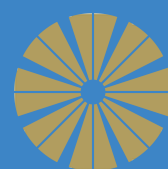


Meopham Monthly



Cover Art by: Jack BD

Meopham School Student Magazine
April 2026



Welcome

Welcome to the April issue of 2026. The front cover of this issue is Jack's version of the book cover for *October, October*, a novel by Katya Balen that some students in year 7 studied in terms 3-4. The novel is beautifully written, full of flowing prose and natural imagery, and it tells the story of a girl called October, who is forced to move from the forest into the city. If you would like to borrow a copy, please ask your English teacher.

We welcome your content for the magazine, which could be a short story, article, poem, photos or anything else appropriate for our readership. Please speak to Mrs Williamson, contact the team at MSS-magazine@swale.at or come along on a Thursday lunchtime to EN4.

We hope you enjoy this issue!

Meopham School Values

TENACITY RESPECT UNITY EXCELLENCE

T **Tenacity** - Try your hardest

R **Respect** - Respect comes first

U **Unity** - Always be ready to listen and help

E **Excellence** - Make the right choices

Contents

Welcome	2	Lamine Yamal	18
Contents and Contributors	3	Riddles	19
Modern Art	4	Oscars 2026	20
Fruits for April	5	Evil Cat part 4	21
Historical Events	6	English Gallery	22-23
Birth Flowers	7	Meopham History	24
Know Your Seeds	8-9	20th Century Movie Night	25
The Phantom Station	10-11	Stray Kids part 2	26
Capcut	12	Amazing Animals	27
Film Reviews	13	BTCC preview	28
Easter	14	Recipe corner	29
Red Nose Day	15	Ten Random Questions	30
Swalestock 2026	16-17	Heritage Transport Show	31
		Poem	32

With thanks to everyone who contributed to this issue:

Hadiyah A (Yr 7)
Siara B (Yr 7)
Lilah B (Yr 7)
Archie B (Yr 10)
Reggie C (Yr7)
Charlie D (Yr 8)
Japjeet D (Yr 7)
Katie F (Yr 7)
James H (Yr 8)
Jack H (Yr 10)
Nate J (Yr 7)

Patrick K (Yr 7)
Ms Kerr
Vesta K (Yr 7)
DG K (Yr 8)
Mr Knight
Ethan L (Yr 8)
Owen L (Yr 8)
Albi L (Yr 7)
Victoria N (Yr 7)
Kyle O (Yr 8)
Olivia O (Yr 7)

Sia P (Yr 9)
Henry P (Yr 12)
Ms Rajkumar
Letitia S (Yr 8)
Luke S (Yr 7)
Shelby T (Yr 7)
Mollie T (Yr 8)
Charlotte W (Yr 7)
Mrs Williamson
Enya W (Year 7)

The Importance of Modern Art

By: Jack H (Year 10)

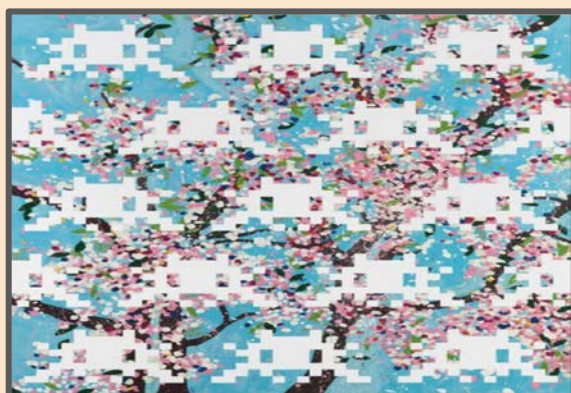
Modern art is a hotly contested topic that often gives rise to a multitude of strong, varying opinions. Personally, I don't just like modern art, I think it holds an important place within 21st century life; modern art reminds us to think.

One of the primary criticisms of modern art is 'well, I could do that'. Many people believe that to warrant 'art', a piece must be so deeply complex that achieving anything of its likeness should be unattainable for all but 1% - the 'artists'. This elitist perception of what constitutes art undermines the foundation of modern art: thought. The best response to the 'Well, I could do that' retort is this:

'But you didn't.'

Why didn't they? They weren't thinking. Now, nobody can be blamed for this: if everybody spent their lives thinking about symbolism and interpretation, the world would invariably grind to an abrupt halt; I'd rather my doctor was fully focused on their patient than contemplating the powers of art! The fresh perspectives and imaginative creations that artists can bring welcome us all to rethink and consider the world around us and our own place within it. Of all art forms, 'modern' is by far the most open, because almost anything crafted with thought and purpose could be described as art.

Our proximity to London is a huge opportunity, as the metropolis bursts with art and expression, with much of it being completely free of charge! A particularly fantastic place to view modern art is the brutalist looking 'Tate Modern'. With great views of central London and exhibits changing regularly, Tate Modern is well worth a visit, whether it be to see large scale pieces for five minutes or to dive into the experience of the sensory and thought provoking rooms.



Fruits for April



**By: Victoria N &
Charlotte W (Year 7)**

In the springlike month of April, one of the most popular freshly grown fruits is the rhubarb!

In April, UK-grown fruit is limited, with rhubarb (specifically outdoor-grown) being the primary seasonal, fresh option. While few fresh fruits are harvested this month, stored British apples and pears remain available and in season.

Even though rhubarb is a vegetable, we use it as a fruit. Rhubarb is ideal for crumbles, tarts, pies and jams!

Rhubarb grows in cool, low climate conditions in countries like the United Kingdom, Canada, Germany, the Netherlands, the Nordic countries and the Northern United States!

When seeing rhubarb, never consume rhubarb leaves as they contain high levels of oxalic acid, which can cause kidney stones for severe illness.

With rhubarb, colour does not mean ripeness! The colour of the stalk depends on variety not ripeness.



Historical Events that Happened in April

By: Archie B (Year 10)

On April 19th 1775, the American Revolutionary war began, with the battles of Lexington and Concord taking place that month. The small skirmish at Lexington which precluded its respective battle involved the shot heard around the world.



On April 14th 1865, we lost a great and honest man, handsome Abe (Abraham Lincoln) was shot by John Wilkes Booth. On the 15th, he was declared dead. Lincoln was the 16th President of the United States and led the country through the Civil War.



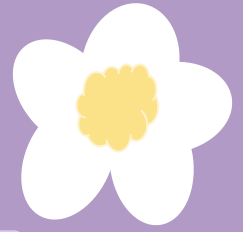
On 26th April 1986, 40 years ago, the Chernobyl power plant exploded. It was the world's worst nuclear disaster in history, causing over 6,000 cases of thyroid cancer and many other deaths attributed to radiation exposure.



On the 15th April 1912, the RMS Titanic sank after crashing into an iceberg the 14th. We're sure you know her, but in case you don't, it was her maiden voyage. Four beautiful smoke stacks, a beautiful big black hull, and an iconic, beautiful movie!



Birth Flowers



By: Sia P (Year 9)

Daisy

Daisies are a valuable, necessary flower for honey bees and bumblebees. A Celtic legend about daisies is that whenever a young child had died, God would sprinkle daisies around the world. In Norse mythology, daisies were the sacred flower to the goddess Freya, who is associated with love and beauty.



Sweet Pea

Sweet peas may have sweet in their name but they are definitely not sweet in the slightest. They should never be eaten as they're poisonous. On the other hand, their scent is known to have a honey, jasmine kind of smell. In Greek mythology sweet peas were said to grant eternal life they also symbolise good wishes, friendship, kindness, gratitude and loyalty.



Know Your Seeds: Tiny Powerhouses for Your Health

We often overlook the little things, but when it comes to nutrition, seeds prove that size isn't everything. These tiny biological "suitcases" are packed with the blueprints for entire plants which means they are dense with fiber, healthy fats, and vital minerals.

If you're looking to upgrade your meals without a total pantry overhaul, here are five seeds you should know and exactly how to use them.



1. Chia Seeds: The Hydration Heroes

Once famous for sprouted "pets," chia seeds are now a staple for athletes and health enthusiasts. They can absorb up to 12 times their weight in liquid, making them incredible for keeping you hydrated and full.

Best Use: Chia Pudding. Mix 3 tablespoons of seeds with a cup of almond milk and let it sit overnight.

Pro Tip: Use them as an "egg" replacement in vegan baking by mixing 1 tablespoon of ground chia with 3 tablespoons of water.

2. Flaxseeds: The Omega-3 Specialists

Flaxseeds are one of the best plant-based sources of alpha-linolenic acid (ALA), a type of omega-3 fatty acid that supports heart health.

Best Use: Smoothies and Oatmeal. To get the benefits, you must grind them; the human body can't digest the tough outer hull of whole flaxseeds, so they'll just pass right through you!

Key Benefit: High in lignans, which have antioxidant qualities.

continued...

By: Ms T Kerr

3. Pumpkin Seeds (Pepitas): The Sleep Supporters

Pepitas are rich in magnesium and tryptophan. Magnesium is a mineral that helps the body relax, while tryptophan is an amino acid that the body converts into serotonin and then melatonin (the sleep hormone).

Best Use: Salad Toppers. Roast them with a pinch of smoked paprika and sea salt for a crunchy alternative to croutons.

Key Benefit: Great source of zinc for immune support.

4. Hemp Seeds: The Complete Protein

Hemp hearts (the shelled version) have a mild, nutty flavor similar to pine nuts. They are a "complete" protein source, meaning they contain all nine essential amino acids that our bodies cannot produce on their own.

Best Use: Pesto or Grain Bowls. Sprinkle them over avocado toast or blend them into a creamy dairy-free dressing.

Key Benefit: Excellent ratio of omega-6 to omega-3 fatty acids.

5. Sunflower Seeds: The Vitamin E Giants

These are more than just a ballpark snack. Sunflower seeds are exceptionally high in Vitamin E, a powerful antioxidant that protects your cells against damage.

Best Use: Homemade SunButter. Pulse them in a food processor until they turn into a creamy spread—perfect for those with nut allergies.

Key Benefit: Supports skin health and reduces inflammation.



The Phantom Station

A month had passed since the incident at the Abyssal Express. Emily and Connor had sworn off dark rides forever, but Louie was different. He spent his nights scrolling through urban explorer forums, convinced that the “glitch” they experienced was actually a gateway to a new world. When the local carnival rebranded its centerpiece attraction as “The Phantom Station”, Louie didn’t hesitate. He told Emily and Connor he was going to the movies, but instead, he was standing under a flickering marquee shaped like a greasy, grinning smile.

The Phantom Station wasn’t like the old ride. It was built into a deep, subterranean basement beneath the fairground. Louie boarded the single-seater pod, his GoPro camera strapped on his chest. As the pod descended down a steep incline, the temperature also plummeted. The ride began with a series of distorted mirrors and a few strobe lights. Then the pod jerked to a stop at a Subway platform. Above a sign read: Cloggy’s Corner...

Ahead, a 7 foot clown stood tall and proud, its feet glued to a pedestal. “Just a prop...” muttered Louie, though he was concerned how many stains the clothes actually had. All of a sudden, the pod jolted forward, its safety bar snapping off.

“Help me! Please help!” Louie screamed, but he knew his screams were trapped in the basement.

“Why would you need any help? Cloggy is nice,” replied a wheezing voice. Louie heard the sound of footsteps, then looked back at the pedestal but Cloggy wasn’t there.

Louie scrambled out of the pod, his heart pounding. He ran toward what he thought was the emergency exit hatch, but the door was just a painted illusion on a brick wall.

“Going somewhere, little passenger?” a voice rasped. It wasn’t a recording. It sounded like a fork on a chalkboard. Louie spun around. Cloggy was inches away, his smile staying put while his eyes rolled back and forth. From the baggy pockets of his polka-dot suit, he pulled out a rusted carnival chain.

“Emily, Connor! Help!” Louie exclaimed, though he knew they wouldn’t hear a thing.

He tried to run past Cloggy, but his massive, gloved hands bolted to Louie’s collar like lightning. Within seconds, Louie was hoisted into the air, Cloggy’s hand clamped on his shirt.

continued...

By: Reggie C (Yr7)

“The station is closed,” Cloggy whispered, his toxic breath filling Louie’s face, “But the chamber is always open.” Cloggy dragged the boy toward a hidden trapdoor underneath the ride’s tracks. Louie flailed and fought, his GoPro falling from his chest recording the ceiling. Cloggy pulled him into the darkness. The trapdoor slammed shut with a heavy metallic thud, its echo filling the chamber.

Back in town, Emily and Connor met at the town square. “He wouldn’t just leave!” stammered Emily.

“Wait! He was talking about Phantom Station all week. That’s where he’s gone!” replied Connor.

Their phones buzzed. Louie: “Two hours late,” the little, blue screen said. As they both ran towards the carnival, they began to wonder why Louie would lie. “What was he thinking?” said Connor. As they both arrived at the ride, they couldn’t see it anywhere. All of a sudden, they heard heavy footsteps underneath the dangling sign. The wet clog-clog-clog sound of metal shoes was echoing. In the distance they spotted a small maintenance hatch. They made a plan...

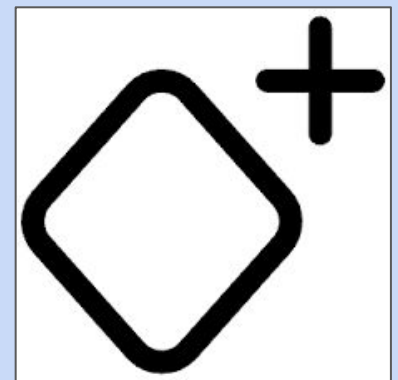


Capcut!

By: Nate J (Year 7)

Capcut is a fun editing app for all ages! This is a very simple editing software for making ads, edits or just making changes for videos! If you're into phonk (music genre), then this is a good app for you, as the most widely used music in Capcut is phonk like matadora, jester funk or montagem amostra. A lot of popular edits on Capcut are anime edits and car edits. If you have no clips to edit, then you could go into Capcut, press on the templates button at the bottom of the screen, go to the search bar and type "car clips for edit" or "anime clips for edit." I recommend Jujutsu Kaisen edits if you want to make an anime edit.

I started using it a while ago and I started off terribly, but after a while I just got better and better. One of the most important things in Capcut are the **keyframes**. Keyframes let you smoothly move an image or adjust the clip or effect over time. The keyframe looks like a diamond with an add symbol and it is located next to the undo button. Here's an example: select your clip and put a keyframe at the start of it, then you go to the end of the clip and put another keyframe there. After that is finished zoom in a bit and select the graphs button next to the keyframes button and select flow 2. Repeat this for the next clip and do it as much as you want!



On Capcut there are things called **templates** where you can add your own clips to premade edits. On templates there are also free edits (edits for you to steal) but I don't do that and I advise you not to do it either.

I recommend this app for any age, as it's simple and one of the most used coding apps in the UK and the world!

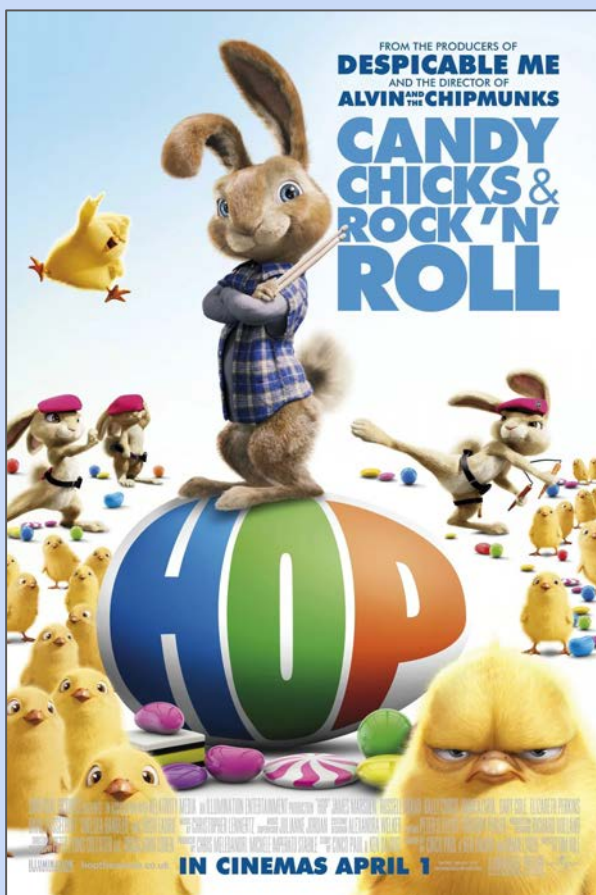
Film Reviews

By: Siara B (Year 7)

Zootropolis 2

Zootropolis 2, more commonly known as Zootopia, is a perfect family movie for entertainment and fun. The movie is all about a bunny cop (Judy Hopps) and her partner (Nicholas wild) who need to solve a mystery involving an evil snake, named Gary D'Snake.

This film is directed by Jared Bush and Byron Howard, bringing back key voices including Ginnifer Godwinson, Jason Batman and Shakira.



By: Olivia O (Year 7)

Hop

Hop is a fun Easter film about the Easter Bunny's son going to Hollywood to pursue his dream of music, without his father knowing. This sends his dad on a wild goose chase to find him, whilst he makes new friends and goes on a show called Hoff Knows Talent. The film stars the famous James Marsden, who you might know from Sonic, and Russell Brand

An amazing mix of animation and real life acting, this is a great film for you if you like a little bit of comedy and fiction.

Easter!



**By: DG K, Ethan L, Kyle O,
James H, Owen L (Year 8)**

🐰 Easter this year was on Sunday 5th of April 2026. Easter Sunday is a Christian event to commemorate the Christian belief in Jesus Christ's resurrection from the dead, symbolising new life, hope and the conquering of death. An Easter Bunny Hunt 🐰 was held at Meopham Windmill on April 5th-6th (Easter and the day after)!

I do know that not all parents want to leave their houses, so here are some fun indoor activities: you could make yummy cookies from last issue and add some Easter fun to it! Or you could make your own scavenger hunt for the kids at home. You could even (if you're Christian) make memorials for Jesus †. 🐰

At Easter, as you can see in the picture, you might eat chocolate eggs which in my opinion are very yummy! 😊

🍫🥚 You can get chocolate eggs from your favourite chocolate companies like: Oreo, Reeses, Mini eggs, Kit Kat, Galaxy, Creme Egg, Tony's (my fave), Milka, Smarties, Biscoff, M&Ms 🐰, Rolo, Maltesers, Dairy Milk, Ferrero, Wispa, Crunchie, Twirl, Quality Street, Kinder, Terry's, Milky Bar, Mars, Snickers, Celebrations, Yorkie, Munchies, Bounty, Aero, Yorkie, Thorntons, Freddo, Fruit pastels, Lindt, Buttons, Fingers, Schoko Bons, Flake Bueno, Guylian, Heroes, and a lot more.



Spot 10 Bunny 🐰 heads hidden on this page!

Easter Facts

- Eggs are associated with new life.
- In the 17th century, it was believed that rabbits (Easter Bunny) delivered the eggs. 🐰
- Hot cross buns represent the crucifixion of Jesus, who sacrificed himself on Good Friday to save others. 🐰

Red Nose Day



By: DG K (Year 8)

Red Nose Day 2026 took place on Friday 20th March. This year's theme was "Take Yourself Funny for Money" encouraging everyone to embrace their silly side to raise funds for basic necessities like food, shelter, and safety in the UK and around the world.

This year introduces the first-ever design your nose: a blank white nose that you can decorate yourself with markers or stickers.

As a school, we held a Red Nose Day bake sale, where students and staff brought in cakes they had made or bought, and everyone donated money to buy them. **We made £650 for the Red Nose Day charities!** Well done to Jessie, Kaitlyn, Megan and Millie for winning the baking competition and thank you to everyone who took part.



SWALESTOCK 2026

By: Charlie D (Year 8) & Henry P (Year 12)

On Tuesday 10th March, Meopham School hosted Swalestock 2026, a music festival-style event involving other schools in the Swale Academies Trust, including Eastbourne Academy, The North School and Westlands (and our favourites, Meopham!!!) Students performed an array of songs but each one changed into a unique genre. Some of these genre changes were quite unusual, such as the use of Afro Beats by Meopham Sixth Form band to change Espresso into a groovy and fresh song.



Thank you to Mr Knight and all other staff and schools that supported the event.



Lamine Yamal



By: James H (Year 8)



Lamine Yamal is a Spanish youngster who is thirsty for goals! He was the youngest player to score in the Euros final against England in 2024. He currently plays for Barcelona FC, playing with Marcus Rashford, Lewandowski and Raphinia. He has already scored a great 50 goals, with 9 assists and 143 appearances. He has won 6 trophies including The Euros, La Liga and Copa del Rey. He was born on the 13 July 2007 in Spain, meaning he is only 18 years old. He has a salary of 16.67million euros. He plays in the number 10 shirt.

Riddles

By: Molly T (Year 8)

- ★ What can run but can not walk, has a mouth but can not talk, has a head that can not weep and a bed that it can't use for sleeping?
- ★ There is a rooster sitting on a barn, it lays an egg, which way does the egg roll?
- ★ Which weighs more, a ton of bricks or a ton of feathers?
- ★ What can you hold in your right hand, but never in your left?
- ★ What can be broken, but never held, it can be given, but never sold?
- ★ What can you catch, but not throw?
- ★ What can be measured, but has no length, width or height?
- ★ What has a tongue, but can not speak?
- ★ What has a handle, but no door?

Answers on page 2!

Oscars 2026



By: Letitia S (Year 8)

On Sunday 15th March 2026 at 11:00 pm, the Oscars were happening. It was an amazing event with lots of known films, actors, voice actors and others trying to win a coveted Oscar trophy.

Many wanted their favourite film to win and maybe your favourite film won?

A bit of history:

The Academy Awards, commonly known as the Oscars, are awards for artistic and technical merit in film. They are presented annually by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS) in the United States in recognition of excellence in cinematic achievements, as assessed by the Academy's voting membership.



And now the winners of this year's Oscar are

Ryan Coogler's vampire horror hybrid "Sinners" made history with a win for the film's cinematographer, best actor honors for Michael B. Jordan, and the best original screenplay prize.

Evil Cat:

Part 4 The finale

By: Albi L(Year)

PREVIOUSLY:

Larry has hidden in a crowd of multiverses and disappeared...



NOW:

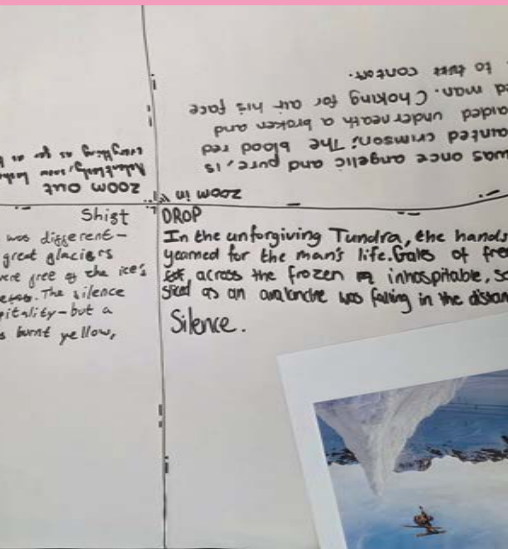
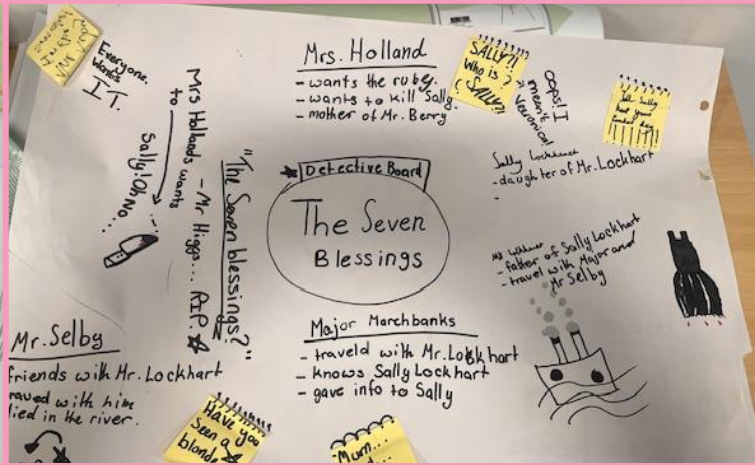
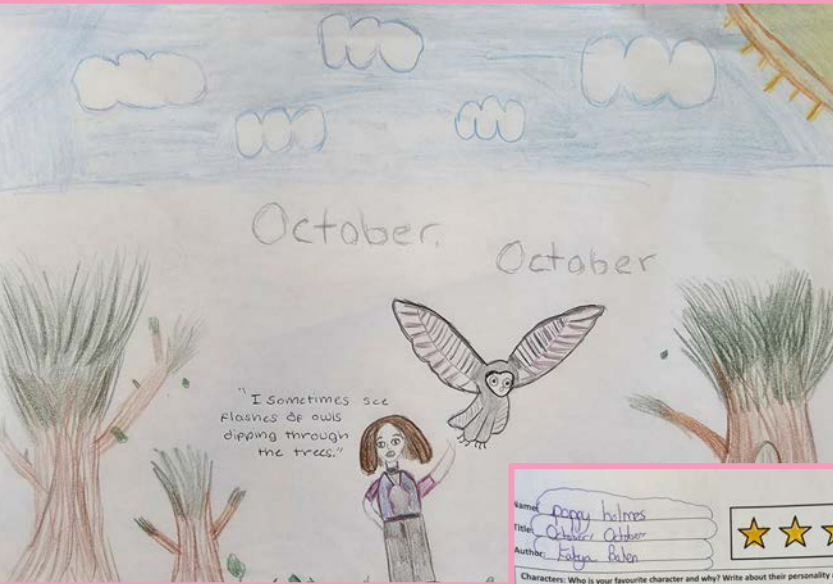
As the group of heroes searched for Larry, the other characters from other dimensions faded away and the crowd became smaller and smaller until no one was left but Larry was still missing. Ethan looked around for Larry but Larry ripped through his chest, surprise attacking everyone giving him the upper hand and then he rapidly exploded Nate back to Chinatown and recreating the past (JIMBO VS LARRY).

Larry knew this was the end of the beginning and that his plans would succeed, even if they both died. Larry began to rise the temperature higher and higher until Jimbo's blood boiled. Jimbo (knowing he would die) drove his fist into Larry at 1000% percent breaking every bone in his and Larry's body killing himself in the process. As the weakened Larry crawled to a safe spot, a hole to another dimension opened and a gargantuan eye appeared but this eye belonged to no other than the narrator.

As I ripped through the dimension, something caught my eye, it was Jimbo's (my main creation for this universe) dead body with his boiled blood surrounding him. I was outraged. I was furious. I wanted to, no, I wanted to kill Larry but that would make a mess so I recycled him. I contorted his bones to my liking and shifted his colours until I made the next character.

DAVID THE COW

ENGLISH



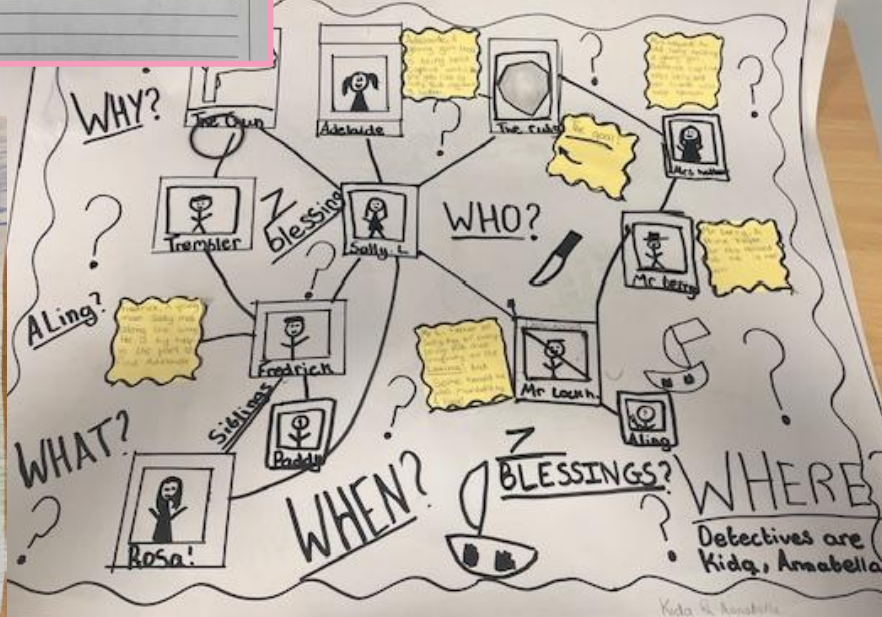
Name: Peggy Holmes
 Title: October, October
 Author: Judy Blume

★★★★★

Characters: Who is your favourite character and why? Write about their personality and appearance.
 October's Mom is my favorite character because she is kind and caring and was patient and never gave up on October and saved her best for something she did for her.

Settings: Where does the story take place? Give a short description of each setting.
 The story takes place in the woods where October and her father live. It's very peaceful and full of different types of colorful trees. The lake is blue and her father jumps in on the first of October as a start to her month.

Opinions: What did you think of the book and why? Give a detailed explanation with examples.
 I think this book is a very good book that teaches many lessons. It tells you how to be patient with people who struggle and how problems with their mental health. It shows to never give up on somebody when you can see a lot in them.



Meopham History

By: Katie F (Year 7)

Meopham might seem like a very ordinary place, but it has lots of history. Did you know that Meopham has been around for longer than you might think? The small village was actually inhabited by people from the Stone Age, over 5,000 years ago. There was a discovery of a knife in the north of Camer Park that was classified as positive to be from the Stone Age.

Fun facts!

Meopham Windmill used to be called the Killick Mill. Anyone recognise the name? Yep, the Killick building is named after the name of the windmill. But now you might be wondering where the name of the Dodmore building comes from? Well, it actually comes from the old name of the land that Meopham School is built on.

Thank you for reading this article!!!



20th Century Movie Night

By: Patrick K (Year 7)

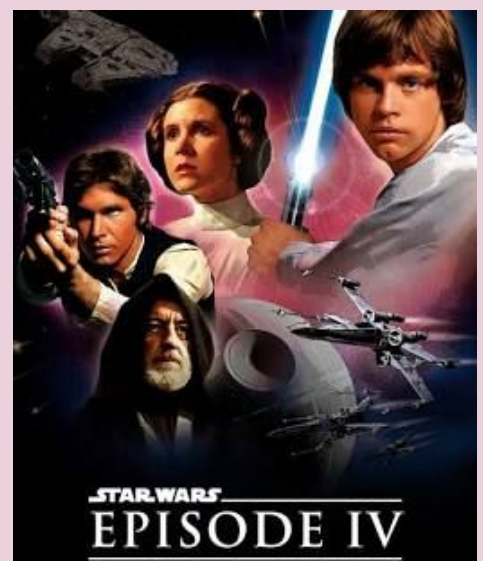
Welcome to another 20th century movie night, this month's fantastic film is...



STAR WARS: A New Hope

Young farm boy, Luke Skywalker (Mark Hamill) is suddenly sucked into a world of good and evil, Jedi and Sith. His story starts when a hologram asking for 'Obi-wan' Kenobi (Alec Guinness) sends him on a wild adventure for freedom. Laser blasts, aimless troopers and the evil dark lord of the Sith, Darth Vader (David Prowse) try to stop him and his friends C3-P0 (Anthony Daniels), R2-D2 (Kenny Baker), Han Solo (Harrison Ford), Chewbacca (Peter Mayhew) and Princess Leia (Carrie Fisher).

But will they survive?



Stray Kids (Part 2)

By: Vesta K (Year 7)

Welcome back to the fanpage! First up is Lee Min-ho, he is the main dancer of the group and was born in October 25 1998. Also he was featured in a BTS song as a background dancer.



This is Bamgchan, leader of the group. He's the songwriter in the group. He was 28 born on 3rd October 1997 and he has been a part of SKZ for 7 years now!

This is the lead vocalist of Stray Kids. His name is Yang Jeong-in and he's the youngest of the group! His birthday is 8 February 2001 and his age is 25. Fun fact: he graduated with 205 absences, straight F's and no scholarships!



This is Hwang Hyunjin. He was born on 20th March 2000. He's a singer dancer and a rapper for the group. He's the artist of the group and also my favourite so far.

This is the end of Stray Kids! Hope you enjoyed it!

Amazing Animals



By: Lilah B (Year 7)

Sunfish

Sunfish (Mola mola) are sadly named as one of the most useless animals on the Earth, being slow and an easy target for predators. There are 34 species of sunfish and they can weigh over 2,000 pounds!



Diet and Habitat

A sunfish's diet varies based on habitat and age. In the ocean they primarily consume jellyfish, salps and other plankton. They also eat small fish, squid and crustaceans. Their habitat ranges from open waters and coastal regions, often in areas with currents that bring nutrient-rich water to the surface.

Characteristics

Sunfish are one of the boniest fish in the world and they have no tail, making them look very strange. They have unique shapes, enormous egg production and unusual behaviours, like they sometimes swim and float on their sides.



Risk of extinction? - vulnerable

BTCC Preview

By: Luke S (Year 7)

The **British Touring Car Championship** is one of the best-loved, most illustrious and famous motor racing championships in the world. Only Formula 1 and America's NASCAR stock car series have longer histories. Since its inception in 1958, it has attracted and captivated millions of fans around the world.

As with previous seasons there are a number of drivers that have a good chance of winning the championship:



Ash Sutton is regarded as the best Touring car driver in the world. With his new upgraded Ford Focus he should be the nearest challenger.

KwikFit BTCC		2026 CALENDAR		
	DONINGTON PARK 18-19 APR	1	2	3
	BRANDS HATCH INDY 09-10 MAY	4	5	6
	SNETTERTON 23-24 MAY	7	8	9
	DULTON PARK 06-07 JUN	10	11	12
	THRUXTON 25-26 JUL	13	14	15
	KNOCKHILL 08-09 AUG	16	17	18
	DONINGTON PARK GP 22-23 AUG	19	20	21
	CROFT 05-06 SEP	22	23	24
	SILVERSTONE 26-27 SEP	25	26	27
	BRANDS HATCH GP 10-11 OCT	28	29	30

Tom Ingram - Excelr8 Motorsport. The reigning champion is looking to secure this third title in his Hyundai and will be the person to beat this season.



Sam Osborne is probably not going to be challenging for the title but he is my favourite driver, so I hope that he has a good season this year.



Recipe Corner

By: Shelby T (Year 7)

Madeira Cake

Ingredients

1. 175g butter
2. 175g caster sugar
3. 3 range eggs
4. 250g self-raising flour
5. Lemon zest from 1 whole lemon
6. 2-3 tbsp (optional) milk



Instructions

1. Preheat the oven to 180 degrees celsius.
2. Butter and line the base of a loaf or cake tin with greaseproof paper.
3. Using a electric whisk or a wooden spoon, beat together the butter and sugar until light and creamy, then beat the eggs in one at a time.
4. Add the lemon zest and vanilla, then beat in the flour until you have a thick batter. The batter should be loose enough that it falls off a wooden spoon. If it's too thick, mix in a splash of milk.
5. Tip the batter into the tin and smooth over the top. Bake for 55 mins-1hr until a skewer inserted in the middle comes out clean.
6. Remove from the oven and leave to cool for 15 mins, then remove from the tin. Peel away the paper and leave on a wire rack to cool completely before slicing. The loaf or cake will keep in an airtight container for three days.



Ten Random Questions with One Random Teacher

By: Japjeet D & Reggie C
(Year 7)

This issue's random teacher is: Mrs Williamson

1. What is your favourite food?

"Chocolate, especially Lindor!"

2. What is your dream car?

"Porsche 911 Carrera 4 in metallic blue."

3. What is your favourite book?

"My favourite book is 'The Night Circus' by Erin Morgenstern. It is a magic realism story of romance and adventure."

4. What was your favourite lesson in primary?

"My favourite subject was Music."

5. Who is your favourite author?

"I have so many. The list includes Margaret Atwood, Virginia Woolf, Kate Atkinson and Sarah J. Maas."

6. What is your dream job?

"I would love to own a children's bookshop with a giant tree in the middle of it, with books in its branches and comfy seats all around."

7. Favourite book genre?

"Fantasy."

8. What is your first thought when I say mental health?

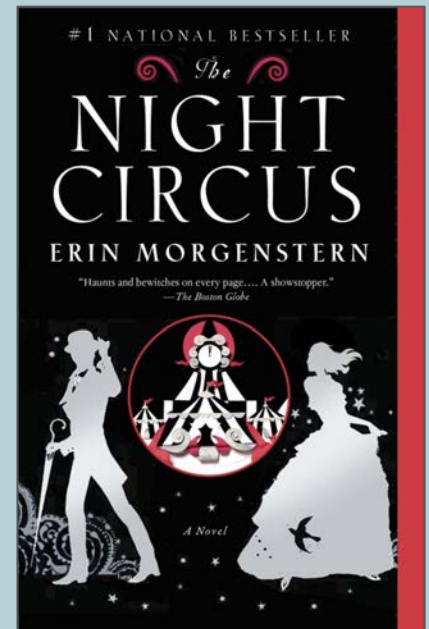
"Mental health is something that everyone has. Everyone will struggle with their thoughts and wellbeing at some point in their lives, so I think it is important to make sure you have good friends who can support you during difficult times."

9. What is your favourite sport activity?

"I enjoy yoga and pilates."

10. What is your favourite biscuit?

"I like a chewy oatmeal and raisin biscuit, dipped in a cup of tea!"



Jack's Analysis: Chewy implies something that's tough and not easily broken, entrenched in their ways, and forged from experience and life learning.

Heritage Transport Show

By: Charlie D (Year 8)

There was a Heritage Transport Show at Detling Showground on Saturday 11th April 2026. They had classic cars, buses and more vehicles and there was a South East Bus Festival as well, including free bus rides. I rode on a 1st Bus Stop bus which is my favorite bus company from Gravesend station to Detling showground, since they joined the Bus Festival. More next time!



Poem

The Peace of Wild Things

~ By Wendell Berry ~

When despair for the world grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.

I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.

And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting with their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

Wendell Berry (born 5th August 1934) is an American novelist, poet, essayist, environmental activist and farmer.

If you have a poem or any other contribution for the magazine, hand it in to your English teacher or Mrs Williamson, or come along on a Thursday lunchtime to EN4.