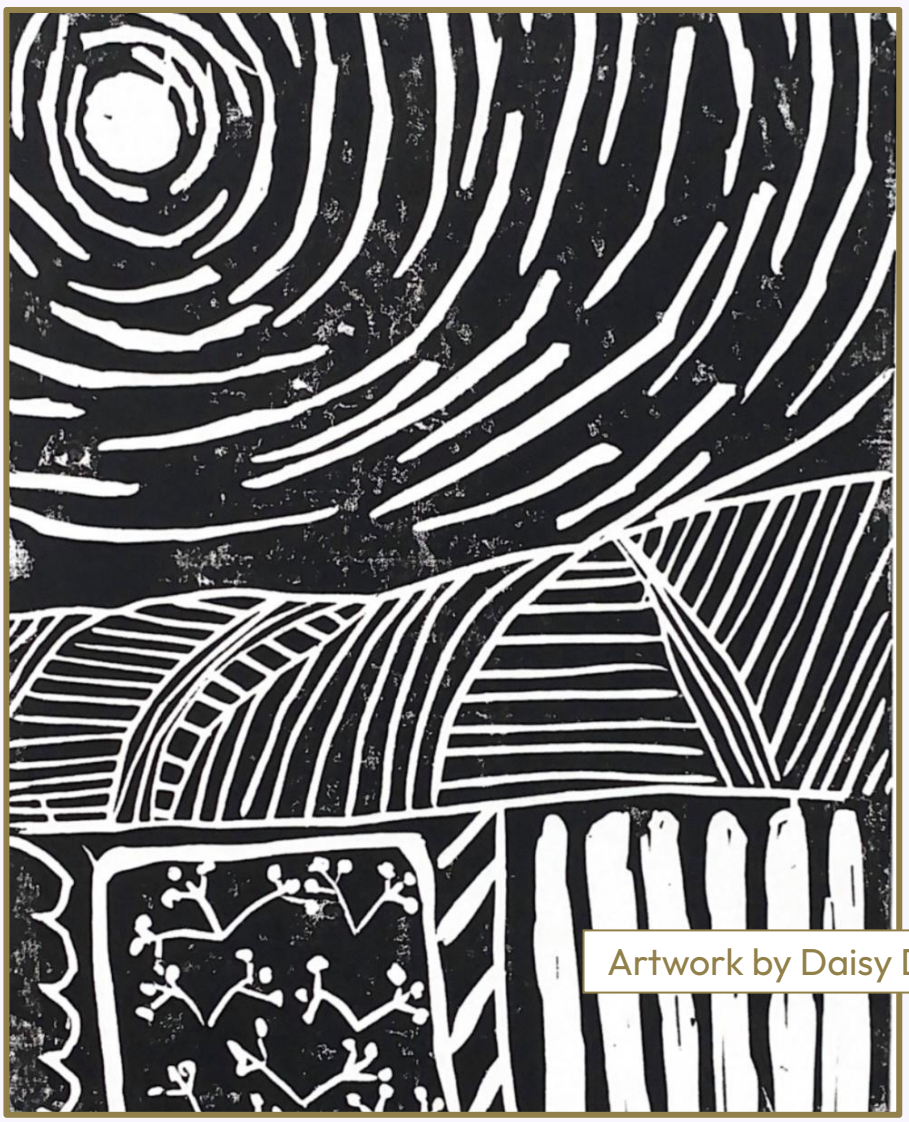
Tenacity
Respect
Unity
Excellence

MEOPHAM MONTHLY

Issue 44 - November Edition 2026



Artwork by Daisy D

Made by students.
Made for all.

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November

Welcome!

This month, we have a mix of fact and fiction, with features on travel, books, films, games and transport, along with some splendid stories..

With thanks to everyone who contributed to the November issue:

Editor: Charlie G (Yr 11)

Josiah A (Yr 7)
Nshira A (Yr 11)
Mason B (Yr 7)
Reggie C (Yr 8)
Charlie D (Yr 9)
Olivia D (Yr 13)
Japjeet D (Yr 8)
Daisy D (Yr 9)
Miss Garnett
James H (Yr 9)
Nate J (Yr 8)
DG K (Yr9)
Albi L (Yr 8)
Kyle O (Yr 9)
Mercedes P (Yr 8)
Ms Rajkumar
Molly T (Yr 9)
Enya W (Yr 8)
Mrs Williamson

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HEVER

1st Place
6,645hp

SCOTNEY

2nd Place
6,395hp

WALMER

3rd Place
5,978hp

CHILHAM

4th Place
5,892hp

Sixth Form Theatre Trip

By Olivia D (Year 13)

On Thursday 8th October, fifteen Year 12 and Year 13 students went on a school trip to Greenwich Theatre to watch ***A Trio of Tennessee Williams***, presented by Fox and Hound Theatre. The plays consisted of *The Fat Man's Wife*, *Talk To Me Like the Rain and Let Me Listen*, and *27 Wagons Full of Cotton*. Personally, the most interesting and engaging play was *27 Wagons Full of Cotton*, featuring complex characters and a gripping narrative, particularly for the female lead. When the plays finished, we had the opportunity for a Q&A with the cast, which was particularly interesting as we got to widen our knowledge - even though we do not study these plays, we do study *A Streetcar Named Desire*, so it was still fascinating to know what recurring themes that Tennessee Williams includes throughout his work. At the end we even got to go on stage and have a photo! Thank you to Mr Wood for driving us in the minibus!



Kimi Antonelli 2026 F1 World Champion!

By Charlie D (Year 9)

In the Mexico City Grand Prix, 20 year-old Italian, Kimi Antonelli, became the World Champion in F1. Max Verstappen won the Grand Prix in Mexico, but since Antonelli won in different races like the United States Grand Prix and the Spanish Grand Prix, Antonelli won overall and he is the youngest F1 Champion in history! The most disappointing race for Kimi Antonelli was when he broke down in Barcelona to go from P2 to DNF (did not finish), while Lewis Hamilton won the first grand prix for Ferrari.







Short Spooky Story

By Molly T (Year 9)

As I trudged through the muddy autumn leaves, I chewed on the tasteless sweets I had reluctantly been handed throughout the evening. The desolate sky was illuminated by an orange distant glow of the full moon.I just had to get through this field of rotten, mouldy corn that had been dried out by the blasting sun during the day, and I would be home.

All the moisture had been forced out of the spiky, faded grass below and as I walked, it pricked my ankles. The field was cornered by stale bushes, coated in thorns as sharp as needles, with only a lonely tree stood in the center of the land. Its branches twisted and curved in the howling wind, with the silhouette of an owl perched at the very top of the towering tree, stalking any nearby trespassers.

Sunflowers were bent all the way over, with their fading petals dragging them down toward the rough soil, away from the humid air. Their roots planted them deep into the Earth, guaranteeing no escape. All of the few sunflowers there were had folds in their browning stalks, supporting only a tiny bit of the flower, forcing the slightest breeze to knock them down.

My footsteps became a repetitive reminder of the long journey ahead. As the field shifted into a hill, I stomped on hay and crunchy leaves. A miserable crow glided across the hill and upwards, towards the the vermillion moon, its greasy feathers outstretched across the distant sky.

The howling wind was the only sound nearby, until the ear splitting roar of a tractor filled the air... I ran to the far edge of the sunflower graveyard, hoping that no one else would see me, not at this time at night! My parents didn't know I was here; they thought I was trick or treating. I continued to storm up the hill, as fast as I could go. Almost there! Almost there! Almost home.

A figure emerged from the darkness. A small girl wore a frayed red dress, her blonde hair in two tidy plaits, which were stuck in place by her shoulders. She had a mischievous smirk on her face...

The Haunted Cat

By Albi I (Year 8)

It was October, the time that Jack o'lanterns illuminate and children put on costumes. The haunted cat woke and stretched out to the tips of his sharp claws: he needed to hunt his prey. He crept down the dark streets of Meopham with his grin spreading from cheek to cheek, and his 7 ft tall masculine body terrifying all that saw him.

A Year 8 student named Mike was unaware of its presence. He had innocently been to the shops for sweets to give to his elders to hand out, when he suddenly saw the silhouette of a terrifying creature standing right in front of his very eyes. He screamed! He sprinted as fast as his legs could, ignoring the fact he was out of breath, all the way to his little caravan, not looking back, and finally he made it.

October 31st

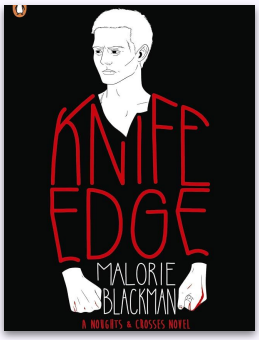
Halloween had begun and the children were all out dressed up in fancy costumes, with buckets of sweets in their hands, unaware of what was to come. Mike and his friends were out trick or treating together, when they found a house with windows boarded up. They decided to knock on its door and get sweets. Mike had an uneasy feeling about this house because it was isolated and looked abandoned, but by the time he had processed his thoughts, it was too late because the door had opened. A voice at the door said: "Come inside, there are plenty of sweets," in an unsettling deep voice.

Mike's friends entered the house, being lured into its trap, hoping to get sweets but Mike knew better and stayed outside. Mike's friends were missing after that night!



Books of the Month

– By Nshira A (Year 11) –

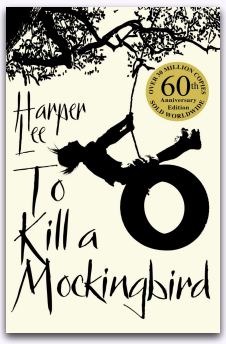


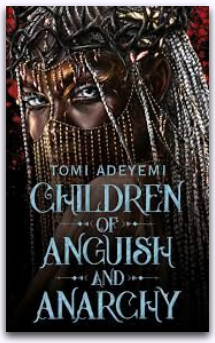
★★★★☆

Knife Edge is the tense second book in Malorie Blackman's *Noughts and Crosses* series, following Eighteen-year-old Sephy Hadley, who is pregnant with a mixed-race baby in a deeply racist society that threatens her child's survival. The baby's father, Callum, was hanged for terrorism months ago, and his brother Jude blames Sephy for his death. Jude's obsession with revenge puts Sephy in a desperate fight to protect herself and her baby.

The 1960s classic, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, is a powerful coming-of-age story set in Depression-era Alabama. The plot follows young Scout Finch and her older brother, Jem, as their widowed father, Atticus, defends a Black man falsely accused of raping a white woman. Through this explosive trial in a largely segregated town, the children confront the harsh truths of racial prejudice, while learning lifelong lessons about empathy and moral courage.

★★★☆☆



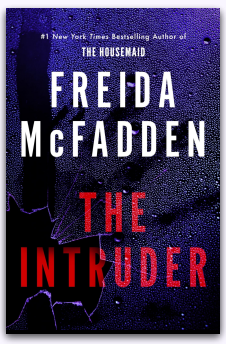


★★★★★

Tomi Adeyemi's *Children of Anguish and Anarchy* delivers a chilling, emotionally charged end to her famous fantasy trilogy. After Orïsha's monarchy falls, Zélie is immediately captured and enslaved by an ruthless new enemy, King Baldyr. Alongside Princess Amari and her brother Tzain, she must escape and find allies across the seas to save her people from total destruction. This book is a powerful, coming of age story that explore themes of survival, trauma and resilience.

Freida McFadden's *The Intruder* uses dual timelines to weave a high-tension psychological thriller. Alone during a massive hurricane, Casey shelters a suspicious, traumatised young girl named Nell, uncovering a history of abuse that perfectly reflects her own background. The novel peaks with the shocking revelation that the child is actually the daughter of Anton — Casey's childhood bully-turned best friend. In this adrenaline-spiking, deadly tale of survival and desperation, McFadden explores how far one girl will go to save her own life.

★★★★☆



The Travelling Teacher

Bubbling Bath

By Ms Rajkumar

'Splish, splash I was taking a bath!' Wait, not that kind of bath! Even though Bath Spa is a holder of a second UNESCO inscription as one of the Great Spa Towns of Europe, Bath offers an intoxicating blend of ancient history, sweeping Georgian architecture, and world-class relaxation. As you step off the train, 2 hours away from Kent, there is something undeniably magical about the place. Nestled in the rolling green hillsides of Somerset, this honey-hued sanctuary feels less like a modern UK city and more like a living, breathing period drama set; the truth is, it is the only city in the UK designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Bath's story has always been written in water. Over 2,000 years ago, the Romans established Aquae Sulis around Britain's only natural thermal hot springs, constructing a grand complex dedicated to healing and worship. As you walk through the remarkably preserved Roman Baths, the complex allows you to tread on original 2,000 year-old stone pavements beside the steamy Great Bath. While you can't swim in these ancient waters, the site's rich museum and haunting atmosphere transport you straight back to antiquity. If the Romans gave Bath its soul, the Georgians gave it its breathtaking look.





Bath is a paradise for foodies, effortlessly combining historic traditions with a vibrant modern dining scene. Right next to the Roman Baths, enjoy a refined afternoon tea accompanied by live classical music. You can even sample a glass of the mineral-rich spa water straight from the fountain! The cobblestone side streets are packed with coffee shops, farm-to-table eateries, and restaurants.

Gran Turismo 7

By Mason B (Year 7)

Gran Turismo is a PS5 racing simulator game made by polyphony. I recommend this game because it is super fun with realistic game physics,high selection of races and extraordinary cars including F1 cars, hypercars and supercars. To buy these cars you have to earn money by completing races



It costs 59.99 or 64.99 depending on the console type (PS5 or PS4).

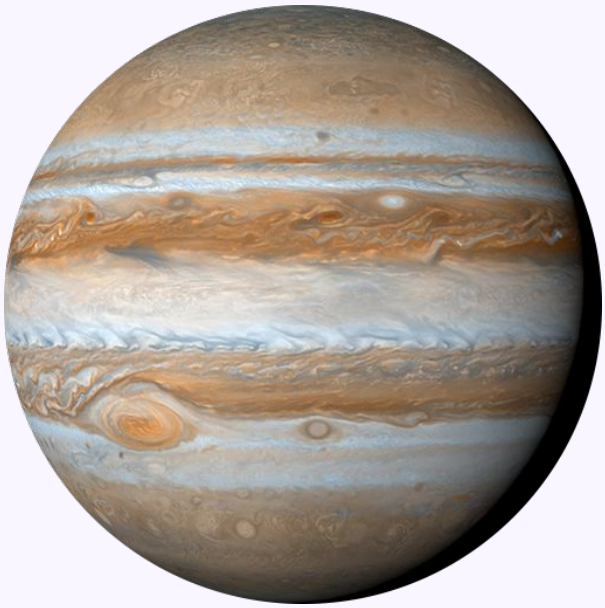
I think you will love this game because it has a different car for everyone and it has many recognizable tracks ETC Brands hatch/silverstone race track. Also even if your not a fan of cars you will still have fun and enjoy it



You can go to the cafe to upgrade more things and even earn free cars. FUN FACT! If you park your car at a specific corner at the mount Panorama circuit for 10 minutes a UFO will appear

Life On Jupiter

By Albi L (Year 8)



Advice for Living on Jupiter!

Life on Jupiter is highly recommended for people who want somewhere friendly and welcoming to stay. The gasses on Jupiter are like oxygen and are breathable for us Jupitarians.

The President of Jupiter is called Orble. Orble has three bodyguards called Orbas, Goliath and Frank. Frank is extremely hideous and ugly (the centre alien), while the other two are incredible and Orble just looks a little angry. Thank you for taking the time to understand us Jupitarians.





Geometry Dash

Nate J (Year 8)

Geometry Dash is an amazing game where you have to get yourself to the end of a level without dying! Recently a famous player named doggie verified the new top 1 grief (the sequel of slaughterhouse - #37 on demon list) after 436,000 attempts and 2.5 YEARS worth of playing! Verifying means he is the first person to beat it to make it legitimate. Some of my favourite levels are limbo by mindcap (Extreme demon #77 on demon list), tidal wave by OniLinkGD (Extreme demon #6 on demon list), hopes and dreams by fnafbonnie2012 (Insane demon) and nullscapes by ItzKiba (Extreme demon #11 on demon list).

At the moment my hardest completion is Future funk by Jonathan GD and I'm going for erebus (#436 on AREDL) by Boldstep.



Geometry Dash is widely known as the hardest game, as once you die you restart no checkpoints - just trial and error (besides some platformer levels).

As of November 4th, the top 1 Grief got its first victor (WPoppoff verifier of amethyst (5 on demon list)).

Top hardest levels:

1: grief
2: Artemis 13
3: Society
4: Thinking Space II
5: Amethyst
6: Flamewall
7: Tidal wave
8: Green bullet
9: Orbit
10: Antarctic lights

If you want you can try out my level unnamed 34 preview, my username is Dominate_2014 if you want to try out my levels!



MINECRAFT STORY MODE

A Telltale Games Series

By DG (Year 9)

Minecraft Story Mode is a game by Telltale Games Series (T.T.G) which fell off in June 25, 2019 when TTG went bankrupt as nobody played MCSM or watched it on social platforms. This is a shame because I never got my chance to play it. In the story, you can choose your character, all being called Jesse, where you start your journey to kill the the wither-storm. Maybe they'll bring it back!



HERO x HERO



Hero x Hero is a really fun VR game where it has the same movement as G-Tag. The difference? You can kill bosses to get things called Soul Blocks, which you could open to get characters with powers you can unlock! There's also a thing called trading where when you get to rank 5 you can trade for rare stuff!

21st Century Cinema

– By Reggie C (Year 8) –

THIS MONTH'S MOVIE IS:



In ***Spider Man: Into the Spider-Verse***, Brooklyn teenager Miles Morales (**Shameik Moore**) is bitten by a radioactive spider and gains web-slinging powers. His universe's Peter Parker was killed by Kingpin (**Wilson Grant Fisk**); he teams up with the Spider-men/women of other universes, such as Peter B Parker (**Jake Johnson**), Gwen Stacy (**Hailee Steinfeld**) and Spider Noir (**Nicolas Cage**) to stop Kingpin's collider from destroying New York. Along the way, Miles faces many challenges. They go from getting used to being Spider-Man and living a double life, to losing his Uncle Aaron (**Mahershala Ali**) after finding out he's the Prowler.





Review: Heartstopper

By Mercedes P (Year 8)

Heartstopper is a type of lgbt book/series featuring two boys, Nick and Charlie as they navigate school, friendships and love. I personally like it, as it is fun and exciting. Of course, there are other people's opinions on it, but I think there are a lot of people that might relate to this.

The main part of this story is about whether Nick and Charlie will get together. There was a new film released earlier this year, but I'm not going through that because that is a 15! The TV vol 1-5 are a 12.

Alice Oseman is the creator of Heartstopper and the film, and she's from Kent and is friends with some of our teachers! The actor for Nick Nelson is Kit Connor and the actor for Charlie Spring is Joe Locke. The actor who plays Tao Xu is William Gao and the actor who plays Elle Argent is Yasmin Finney.

Now, in my opinion, as a person who has read the books multiple times and watched the series multiple times, is that my favourite is the books. They have some different part in them compared to the TV series. Alice Oseman has also written other books, and in my next article, I will tell you more about her. Alright, enough about Heartstopper and see you next month for the Alice Oseman talk!!



Wanted Writing Competition

CONGRATULATIONS to our wonderful student writers who entered the WANTED national creative writing competition! Students were asked to write 100 words on the topic 'Wanted' and they came up with some really creative ideas.



Four fabulous Meopham students were selected to be published in a new book:

- ★ **TARA M (Year 11)**
- ★ **MASON H (Year 9)**
- ★ **ANNABEL T (Year 8)**
- ★ **JACOB C (Year 8)**

Well done to you all!



The Young Writers organisation are now promoting their latest competition: GONE! You only have to write 100 words and the entry form contains lots of good ideas and writing prompts.

For more information, speak to Mrs Williamson in English 4.

Sanrio Characters

By Enya W (Year 8)

Mashumaromitainafuwafuwanyanko

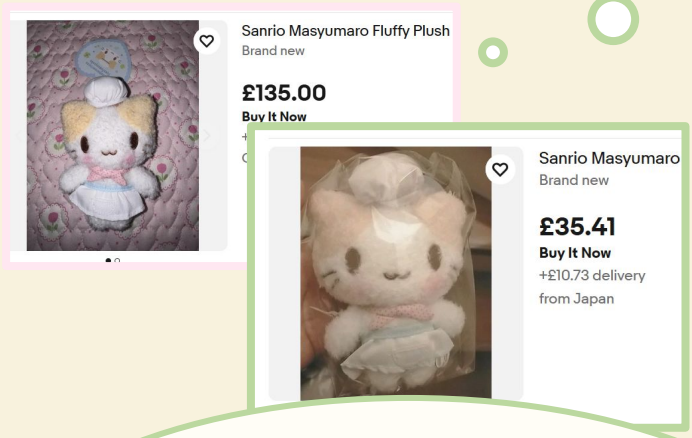
Ma-shu-ma-ro-mi-ta-na-fu-wa-fu-wa-ya-n-ko
(マシュマロみたいなふわふわにゃんこ)

He was created by Sanrio in 2006, he is shown as a white kitten with light brown spots and a fluffy appearance, he can be difficult to find merch of, compared to Hello Kitty's amount, with some plushies being around £20-80 at times!!

He lives in an apartment with a boy who is a beginner fashion designer, in Paris. While he can't speak any human language, he speaks a mystery language- which everyone magically seems to understand!



"Who on earth is that?"
Glad you asked, this is Mashumaromitainafuwafuwa nyanko or more commonly known as Masyumaro, his english translation of his name is: a fluffy cat like marshmallow.





FUN FACT!

He actually knows how to sing soprano, and can play piano, he's described as gifted and having a beautiful voice!

Story Maybe Beginning?

By Kyle O, DG K and James H (Year 9)

Yuji, Kairo and Semaj were strolling along like they normally do on a Thursday afternoon, until they found an abandoned cave. Yuji, doing Yuji things, sprinted to the side of the cave and mounted up the side to get on top of the cave. Yuji thought he was the king of the cave, until the rocks under his feet started to crumble, with tiny pieces falling down. Yuji started losing his footing and a boulder of rocks fell in front of the mouth of the cave entrance.

The boys used all their strength to move the rocks, then they turned around to look at the view, taking in the breathtaking moment. They still needed to get in the cave. Suddenly, they heard a noise close to them... It was outside the cave. Something was closing in on them. That was their motivation to get in the cave and quick, because there was something coming after them and they didn't want to take their chances...

The boys ran as fast as they could towards the middle of the cave. They ran and ran until their legs felt like noodles. Then Yuji saw something: a tree with luscious, glowing, pink leaves. And by the tree, stone statues. The boys, confused, blinked, and three of those statues were suddenly in front of the 3 boys. Semaj instantly screamed, turned around and dashed it past a tunnel, however Kairo and Yuji were being tactical, looking at each others statue's and slowly moving back outside of the other tunnel...

When Yuji and Kairo saw daylight Samej was nowhere to be seen and, for some reason, something felt wrong. A cold breeze went down Yuji and Kairo's back whilst the air suddenly felt different. The monsters were not following anymore, as if they were scared... Although scared too, Yuji and Kairo where relieved for now, but why? Something felt wrong; like a trap. Samej then was seen on the horizon but something was wrong, he had no injuries. But that didn't make sense as he went down a rougher exit. Kairo and Yuji had plenty of cuts; you could see blood still running down Yuji's arm. Again, something was very wrong.

Continued...

Kiaro and Yuji where questioning the possibility of how Semaj had no injuries of the event. Semaj quickly said, in a shifty tone, for them to keep moving deeper into an eternity of darkness. As they went deeper into the archway of the cave, it got more and more eerily quiet, as if something was going to attack them. Like they were being hunted down like deer. Or something worse.... To help distract them from the eerie silence, they started discussing if there was something valuable down there. Semaj was still acting shifty and said it could be a blood-red ruby that would stare into their souls.

Semaj questioned Yuji: “I don't know Semaj, It’s very unlikely anything will be down there, i'm just saying, don’t get your hopes up.”

Semaj replied with “I know there will be probably nothing down there but it’s the thought that is keeping me brave enough to move forward.” Yuji looked at Semaj with sorrow.

Kairo then joined the conversation by saying: “Guys, don't you care about my opinion now?” Then all the boys burst out laughing for the first time in years.

The boys then saw more statues, but they were not scared anymore. They knew what they could do, so they let one watch whilst the other was trying to find a weakness. Yuji and Kairo were still confused on how Semaj wasn't injured, something was wrong with him but that wasn't their main focus. The boys needed to get rid of these annoying angels, but they just didn't know how to. Their heads were filled with blankness and they had to think of something quickly before they blinked, but suddenly they heard the crying of what sounded like children crying out for help. All three knew it was all part of the trap, fabricated by the angels. they had to think of a plan, and Semaj didn't know about Kiaro and Yuji, but his eyes were starting to get sour and filling up with tears causing unbearable pain...



History of Fastracks - 20th Birthday



By Charlie D (Year 9)

In 2006, Arriva released the service Fastrack and released the Thameside service route A and B, as well as the 2006 Wright Pulsar 1s with free wifi.

In 2015, Arriva bought brand new Wright Streetlites for Fastrack services with free wifi, USB Charging and displays. They had white and orange blinds with new Fastrack livery in 2023, before Go Ahead London took over the colour which changed from purple to gray, like the Enviro 200 MMCs.

In 2018, Kent County Council took part in a 7 week electric bus trial, run by Volvo Bus and their technical partner ABB, as part of their 1 year demonstration programme across the UK. The bus, a Volvo 7900e, produced no emissions and was driven by electric motors, providing up to 80% lower energy consumption than an equivalent diesel bus. This was then used on the route A from Dartford Home Gardens to Bluewater.

In 2019, Arriva brought the new Enviro 200 MMCs with USB charging and free wifi, and with a new livery before Go Ahead London took over the services going to Essex or Chatham.









In 2021, Fastrack released a new route AZ from Dartford to Gravesend via Amazon LCY3 in the Enviro 400's Ex Abellio London operated by Go Coach. In 2024, it was in a normal Go Coach livery.

In 2024, Go Ahead London took over the Fastrack routes route A B C E F And AZ in their Enviro 200.

In 2025, Fastrack released the new Irazar IE Trams for its new service and added new Enviro 200s for the Fastrack Connect for the route F, as the other Enviro 200s were scrapped or transferred to another company, for example Kent Country. The Fastrack Connect Enviro 200s transferred to Kent Country for the 306, 308, 416, 417, and the 477s.

On 26th March 2026, Fastrack celebrated 20 years at Bluewater at 13:00. Then on 16th May 2026 they celebrated 20 years by having a vintage bus running day, with the companies like Chaseside, ex Abellio London, Y77, CSP, Enviro 200 for example, on the Route A, raising donations to ellenor! On 31st October 2026 that is the last day of the Mercedes Benz Citaros operating its last era for diesel buses in Fastrack routes, before they transfer to another company or go for scrap.













10 Random Questions with One Random Teacher

By Japjeet D (Year 8)

This issue's teacher is Mr Smith (Maths).

1. What is your favorite animal?
"A dog."

2. If you were stuck on a deserted island, what 3 things would you take?
"I would take a source of music, a torch and crisps!"

3. What is your dream job?
"Probably an actor or a musician."

4. What was your favourite subject in school?
"It was Science."

5. If you could get rid of one food from existence, what would it be?
"I would get rid of celery!"

6. On a scale of 1-10, how much would you want to be a lion?
"2 - I don't really want to be a lion."

7. What is your favourite film?
"My favourite film is The Grand Budapest Hotel."

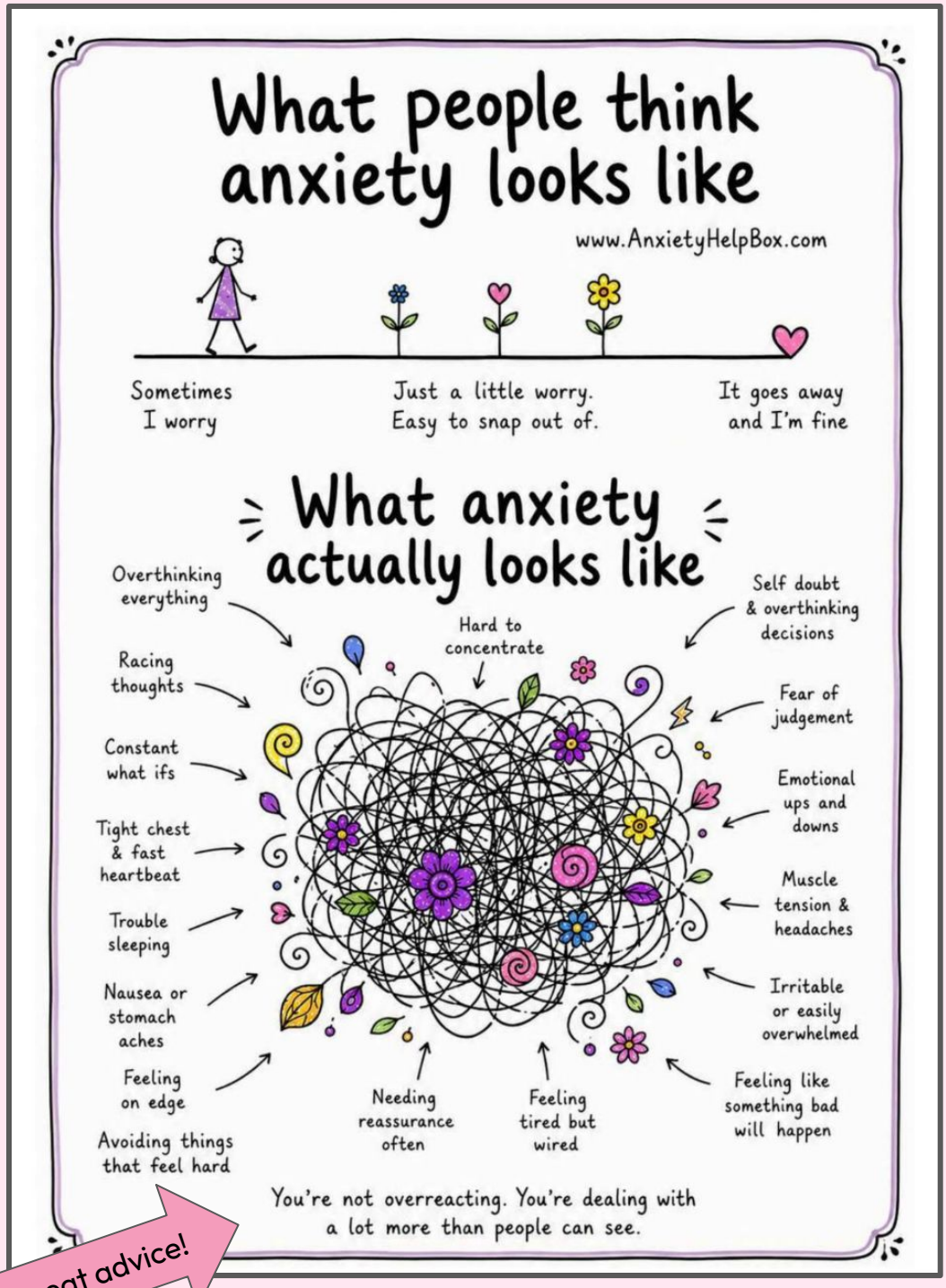
8. If you could change anything about the world, what would it be ?
"I would get rid of conflict."

9. If you could combine two things in the world, what would you combine?
"I would combine sweets and an elephant to make a elephant size sweet!"

10. What is your favourite biscuit?
"It is a bit of a boring one but Digestive."

Wellbeing Corner

Content chosen by: Miss Garnett



Great advice!

The Poetry Corner

The Hero's Sacrifice

~ Josiah A, Year 7 ~

The Hero's Sacrifice

A huge sacrifice, great patriotism made for a country;
Silent graves contain the brave soldiers who died at the enemy's hand;
They will be remembered for their bravery and unity;
Evil enemies gloating, bodies eroding in the land.

Dying wasn't a fear, it was their honour;
Crows flew above these respected soldiers who gave their lives;
In their lives there was a pause, like a comma;
These dignified soldiers were sadly found with a stabbing of knives.

Made by students.
Made for all.

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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.