



Wilde about Words

Christmas edition 2024

Meet our new team!



Hi! My name is Emily and I'm from 10D. My favourite singer is Noah Kahan and my favourite movie is the Lion King. My favourite subject is T.D.

Hi! My name is Robyn and I'm from 10D. My favourite books are the Maze Runner series by James Dashner. My favourite movie is Ratatouille and my favourite singers are Tyler the creator and Sabrina Carpenter.



Hi! Im Egle, I'm from 10A , I like physics, td and art my favourite book series is the Hunger Games , my favorite movie is Catching Fire and my favorite music artist is Marina

Hi! I'm Lucy, I'm in 10D. My favourite book is A wish for Us by Tillie Cole and Better than the movies by Lynn Painter. My favourite movies are any Marvel movies and any Fast and Furious movies. My favourite TV shows are Loki and Brooklyn 99. My favourite singers are Joshua Bassett and Eminem



Hi! My name is Carly, I'm from 10D. My favourite book is A Good Girls Guide To Murder by Holly Jackson. My favourite movie has to be the new Wicked movie and West side story and my favourite tv show is Strictly Come Dancing. My favourite singers are Laufey and Ariana Grande (I'm a massive wicked fan).



Hi! My name is Erin. I like to draw and I'm very keen on music. My favourite song is "Queen of the Night" by the Vanished People and my favourite book series is Ruby Redfort by Lauren Child.





Culture Corner

Christmas
edition

Christmas in the Philippines

Christmas in Philippines is known worldwide for being the longest-running Christmas celebration. The country is famously renowned for starting their celebrations months before. The celebrations of Christmas in the Philippines have deep influences of Catholicism, tracing their roots back to Spanish colonial rule from 1521 to 1898.



Christmas in India

South India is particularly famous for its Christmas Eve celebrations, as a significant portion of the population identifies as Christian. In Kerala, for example, families prepare a grand feast that includes dishes like appam, stew, and pork vindaloo. Tamil Nadu and Karnataka also offer special treats such as plum cakes, rose cookies (known as achappam), and sweets like kalkals. South Indians enjoy singing carols, lighting lanterns, decorating churches, contributing to charities, and participating in various cultural programs.

In urban areas of North India, Christmas is celebrated with elaborate decorations in streets and malls. There is a wide variety of street food available, and many people prepare a mix of Indian and Western dishes, including roast chicken or mutton curry, biryanis, and an assortment of sweets like plum cakes and cookies, along with traditional Indian sweets such as gujyas and kheer. Schools also engage in numerous activities related to Christmas.

Christmas in Lithuania

Christmas is celebrated on December 25-26th. The first day is for the family: gifts are exchanged and festive meals served: roast poultry, sweet baked goods and gingerbread. The second day is for visiting others and the youth. Families gather from near and far to share a special Christmas Eve dinner with close relatives. Tradition calls for twelve, meat-free dishes representing the 12 apostles to be prepared along with a blessed traditional wafer you share with everyone symbolizing luck and health



Christmas in Romania

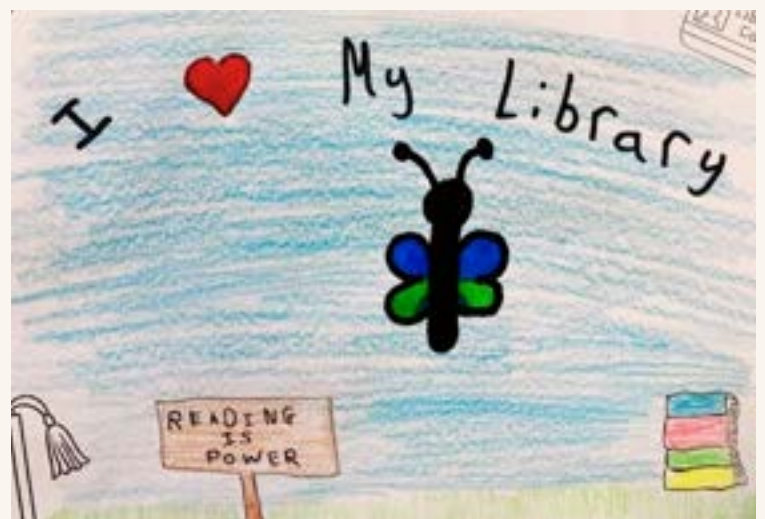
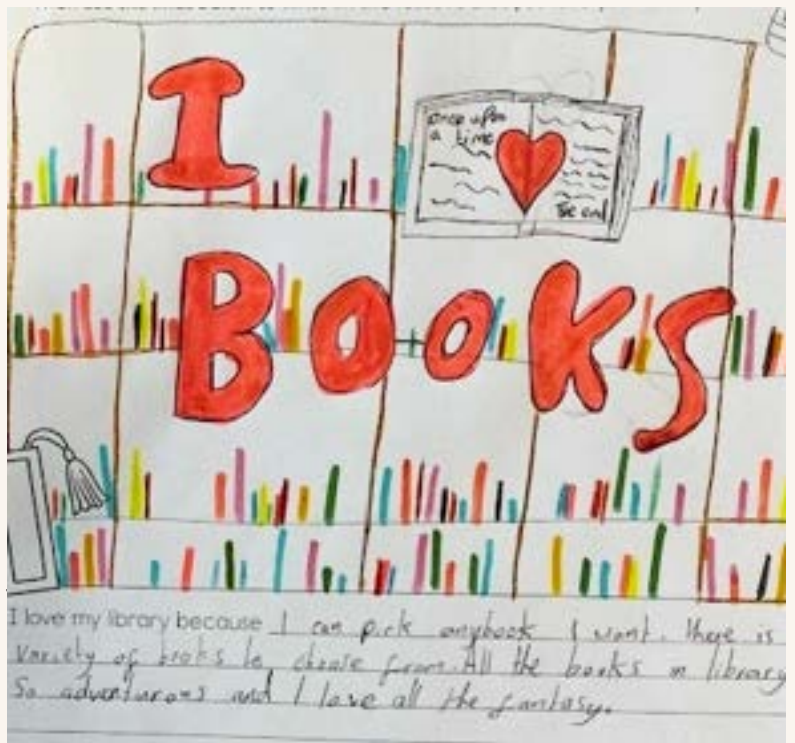
In Romania at Christmas they have a big meal with all their friends and family then they eat a pig that they fed and grew up for a few years then slaughtered a few days earlier. December is quite big month in Romania because the 1st of December is called Ziuă Națională a României, which is the national day of Romania.



BOOK WEEK N.I

LOVE YOUR LIBRARIES DAY

Book Week N.I returned for its 9th time this year in October and the Wednesday was “Love Your Libraries” day. In celebration of this, 8D, 8B and 8E students got creative and drew some fabulous library-related pictures and penned a few lines about why they love their libraries. We hope you enjoy some of the lovely images and we’ve picked out a few of our favourite quotes about libraries to share with you:



“It has lots of books to extend my vocabulary and there are lots of friends for me to meet there”

“I love my library because it brings me peace and the books make me calm”

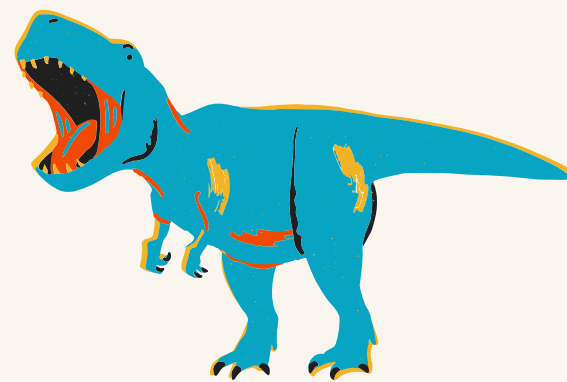
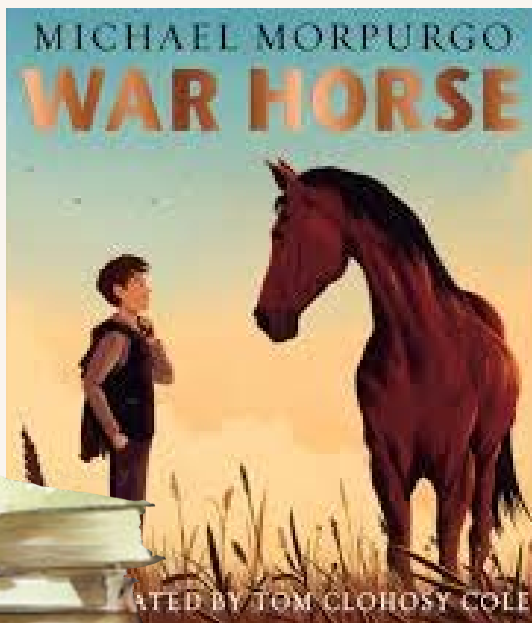




"Some countries don't have libraries so we should be grateful ...and celebrate it"

"It is like bookshelves of portals to different dimensions and no two books are the same, a bit like people!"

"I love my library because you can get away from whatever is happening in your life and the library has a feeling that is different to home."



The library is somewhere you can pick up new books and dive into the battle in War Horse or learn new facts about dinosaurs. The library is for everyone!"



National Poetry Day 2024



National Poetry day fell on 3rd October. Poetry is a wonderful way of expressing your feelings and making an impact in a way that is not always possible with prose. To celebrate National Poetry day a special trip to Enniskillen public library was organised for two year 8 classes. The group was warmly welcomed by Mrs Elliott who told us about poetry and shared the moment when she fell in love with poetry. Mrs Elliott shared her favourite poem called Trees by Joyce Kilmer. The next speaker was local businessman Ken Ramsey who recited his favourite poem The Bee Orchid. Another local speaker Mary McElroy followed, with a powerful poem by Maya Angelou called Still I Rise. The last speaker was local retired teacher Magdelene O'Reilly who shared a poignant poem called two birthdays with a three. The year 8 classes really enjoyed the poems and Finn McEvoy 8D bravely stood up and shared his favourite poem The Owl and the Pussycat. Poetry is definitely better when shared aloud! We also held a poetry competition on the theme of "Counting". The winning poems were read out at assemblies. We hope you enjoy this selection of winning poems.

Counting the Days

10 days to come for the most important moment ever,
9 more days, is it too much pressure?
After 8 days, she will face her fate,
It's just 7 more, what if news comes late?
Another 6 sleeps, the scores are getting counted,
Just 5 days, what if she doesn't get what she wanted?
4 nights left, she starts to worry,
3 more days, did she do enough study?
2 mornings left, it's coming so soon,
The results will arrive tomorrow at noon,
The time has come,
It's now her turn,
Which school will she go to?
It's at ERGS she will learn!
(By Jori Medani 8D)

Happiness of Numbers

In the bright light of day, numbers bring a smile,
Each count a high-five, making life worthwhile.
One, two, three, a joyful spree,
In the world of numbers, we are free.
Counting laughs like bubbles in the air,
Each giggle a number we gladly share.
Four, five, six, the happiness flows,
In the realm of counting, joy always glows.
Seven, eight, nine, a happy rhyme,
In the fun of maths we take our time.
Each number a friend, each digit a cheer,
Counting our blessings, feeling so near.

(By Lolli Fegan 9E)





National Poetry Day 2024

Countdown

You've dawdled in the labyrinth
Gleefully ducking into hideouts
And peeking through cluttered shelves
While dogging every buoyant step
The heralds of the tarnished window
Tap and beckon
And circle ever closer

the elder primal clockwork
Stilled a while back (after fourteen or so)
Harsh, belligerent, penetrative silence
uncomplicated and easily ignored.
The newer model
Sleek and sharp and merciless
Ticks louder, cleaner, puts the air off-balance
Till the second silence signals you to leave.

You stumble.

Across the threshold,
Armed with the allotted dozen-and-a-half
Go boldly for to navigate the silence, but
Clasping your wrist
Your own hands
Show no signs of stopping still
Their stream of ticking
Echoes through the caverns of your full-grown
little heart
Seeking purchase, finding nothing,
Wild, directionless
The doorway is dissolved, lost to the background.
And regardless of the yearning
Flailing, clawing hands
There is no beyond in sight.

(by Heather McCaffrey 14D)

My Pets

Welcome to my house
Where it's never quiet as a mouse!
We have a big brood,
Which does include:
1 guinea pig,
They come mini and big.
2 snakes,
Which always raises the stakes.
2 axolotls,
Who like to play-a-lot!
1 bearded dragon called Nero,
Who is white like sub-zero.
1 tortoise called Dave,
Who is cheeky and cannot behave.
3 dogs, Pixie, Reggie and Molly
Who are always so jolly.
2 cats.
Both like to chase rats.
1 spider called Ziggy,
Who really isn't that biggy.
1 Leopard gecko called Lola,
Who is female
You have to be super careful
Or she could lose her tail!
And finally
10 little hens
Who are all good friends.
So 24 altogether,
Who are always here no matter the weather.
With my little zoo
You'll never be blue!

(by Jensen Browne 8D)

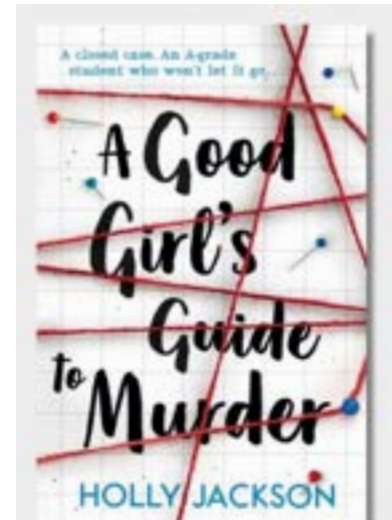


BOOKTOK

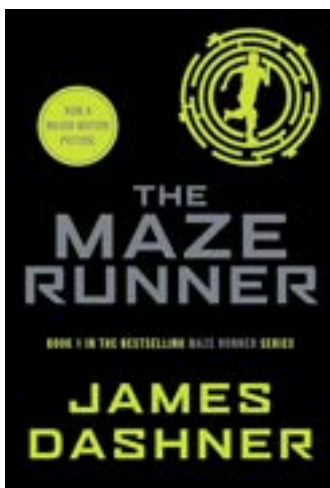


When Liz's childhood crush, Micheal, comes back for pay back to town, she looks to her rival and next door neighbour, Wes Bennett, for a help. When she finally gets Micheal to fall for her, she encourages him to go after another girl, because she realises she has fallen for Wes. With lots of music and 2000's/ 2010's rom-com movie references, this book is filled with comedy, hard decisions and romance, Wes and Liz find out they were really meant for each other.

Pretty and popular high school senior Andie Bell was murdered by her boyfriend, Sal Singh, who then killed himself. It was all anyone could talk about. And five years later, Pip sees how the tragedy still haunts her town. But she can't shake the feeling that there was more to what happened that day. but there is something very wrong with the case and the closer pip gets the the harder it is to continue

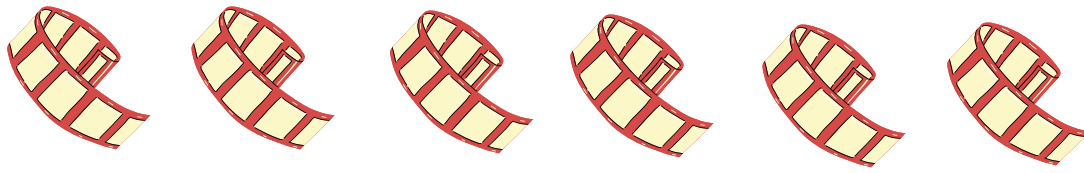


When Thomas arrives in the Glade by a mysterious elevator, he wakes up surrounded by boys who went through the exact same thing. He doesn't remember anything, not even his own name. Little does he know outside the wall there are dangers he could've never imagined. As he learns the ropes, the box comes up... early... and with the first girl. When they realise something is going on, they will do anything to get out... but they soon find out can't save everyone... and that there is a bigger threat on the other side.





Books to Movies



Many people prefer movies to books, but have you ever thought about the details and characters you might have missed? Many people say the movies are better but if you think about extra information, books will always come out on top. Wouldn't you rather see into the minds of the characters, than just see the reactions?

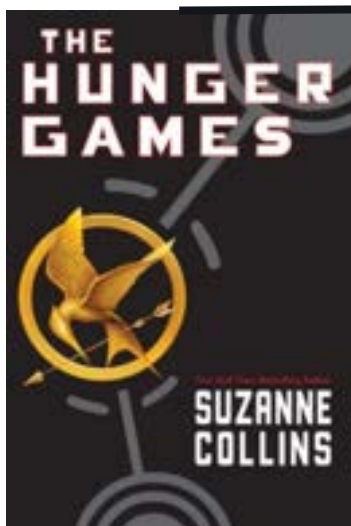
Five Feet Apart



Book	Movie
<p>The book has more of a developed story and also some extra storylines that would show a reader more details about the characters' lives before their illnesses</p>	<p>In the movie there were occasional bits left out like extra storylines and backstories. The movie focuses mainly on the main storyline and doesn't leave space for any extra information you get in the book.</p>



The Hunger Games



Book	Movie
<p>In the book there are a lot of scenes and a few characters that don't in the movies. It has extra backstory and details that can be quite important in the story whether it is the book or the movie</p>	<p>In the movie there are storylines left out that majorly impact the story and the sequence of events. There is also a lot of characters and scenes left out that change the story from what it was in the book, which could confuse you if you watched the movies first.</p>



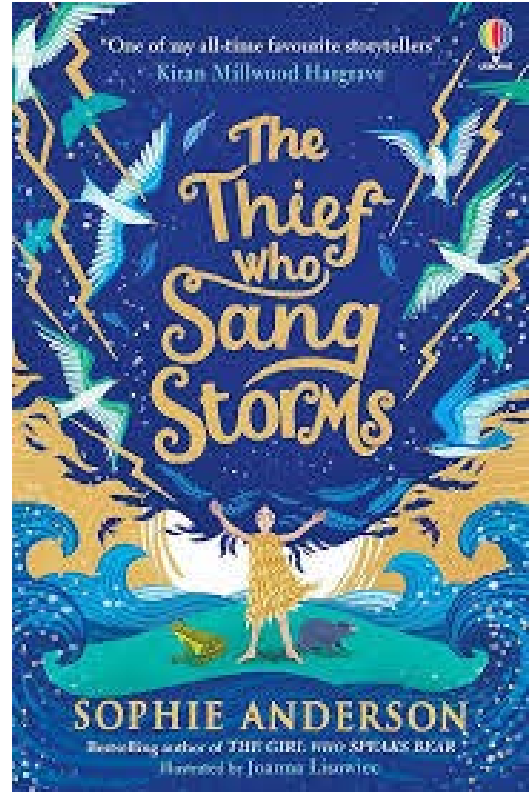


Year 8 Book Reviews

The Thief who Sang Storms by Sophie Anderson

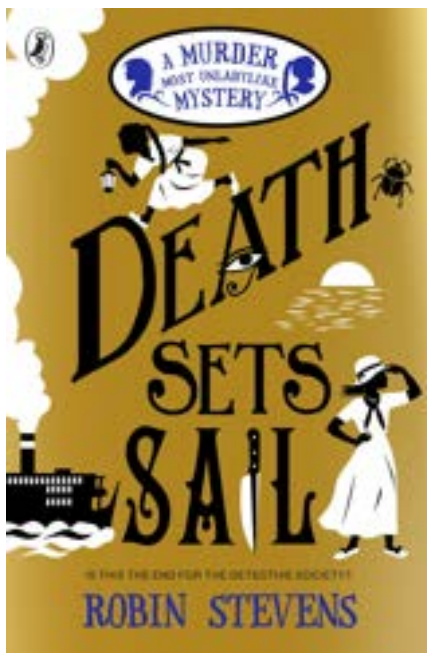
Review by Lucy Roberts 8D

There is an island of humans and alkonosts (bird people) and a human called Captain Ilya is locking people up in the keep. Linnet wants the people to live together so she must go on a quest with friends to unite the island. It is so far my favourite book. Linnet singing magic is great and I love the fact that even though she does not have magic she still makes her voice heard. Echo is my favourite character because she is willing to risk everything for her friends. I recommend this book to my friends and everyone who likes stories with adventure, plot twists and friendship.



Death Sets Sail (A Murder most Unladylike series) by Robin Stevens

Review by Jori Medani 8D



In this story two girls go to Egypt and have a cruise on the Nile. On the same boat there was a group of people who believed that they were the reincarnation of the Ancient Pharaohs. One day their leader was found stabbed to death. My favourite character is Hazel Wong because she faced her fears and she's just a kind character. I really enjoyed the book because of all the suspense and mystery. My favourite part was when they were introducing sowing and explaining the murder. I really enjoyed this book it has lots of mystery and suspense. Robin Stevens did an excellent job. This is the last book in the series so I would suggest you read the others first.

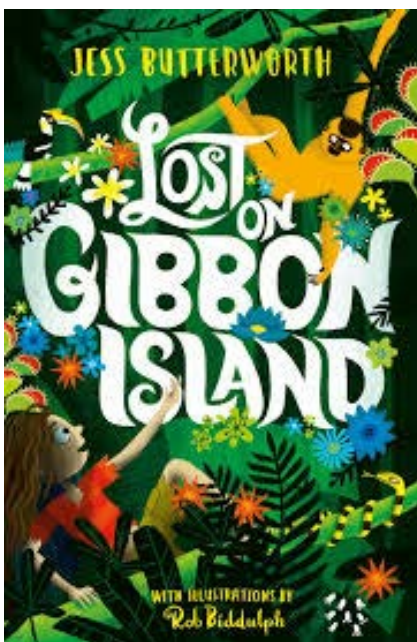
In the Shallows by Tanya Byrne
Review by Laila Quinn 8D

The plot follows Mara, a girl who's crazy for her ex, Nico. But Mara is never sure Nico really likes her at all. But then Nico is rescued from the seaside. She doesn't remember anything, but her mother begins to shape her memories to her will. I personally really enjoyed the book. The characters were relatable and definitely my favourite part. I could understand both Mara and Nico, and that's a great talent on the part of the author. There was also really great representation of female friendships and sapphic relationships. My favourite character was probably Nico or Mara. Their styles, their personalities, their opinions really added a flair that most books lack. I would definitely recommend this book it has a lot of valuable things to say and helps you see everything and everyone in a different light. Overall it's a gorgeous contemporary romance.



The Longest Whale Song by Jacqueline Wilson
Review by Aimee Nixon 8D

Ella (the main character) has a lovely mum. Her dad is great too but he left. Now her mum has got together with a new guy and is having a baby with him! Ella's not sure whether to be excited or not. She makes her decision when her mum goes into a coma after having the baby. I would recommend this book to people who are going through a hard time to remind them that they are not alone!

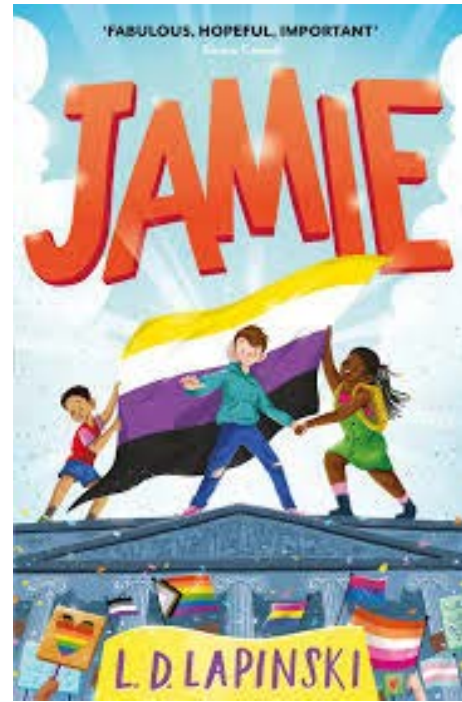


Lost on Gibbon Island by Jess Butterworth
Review by Jensen Browne 8D

The plot is that a 12 year old girl is trapped on an island with a gibbon called Goldie. I personally like it for the many plot twists (I won't spoil it!) and that the book is like a notebook with things like "Day 5, To Do: get food and water". I would recommend it to people to read for having a good story. As you read the book you uncover more of how Lark got stranded and that there is a back story of what happened before she got stranded.

Jamie by L.D Lapinski
Review by Finn McEvoy 8D

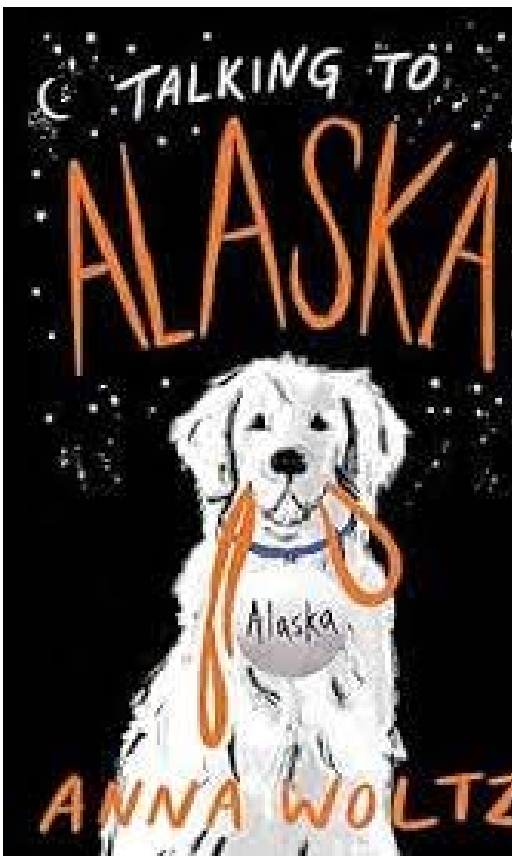
This book is about Jamie and their struggle to change their name to accommodate nonbinary people as well. Jamie is a non-binary primary 7 pupil. Some other characters are their gay older brother, their best friend and their parents. I loved the book and found it extremely heartwarming. I would recommend this book to anyone. It will raise your awareness of LGBTQ+.



Talking to Alaska by Anna Woltz
Review by Esther Hutchinson 8d

I don't want to say too much to spoil it but this book is about Parker Montijn and Sven Beekman who are starting secondary school. Sven and Parker have a secret that they don't want anyone to know. Alaska (Sven's beloved dog) is my favourite character because without her there would be no story to tell and because she brought two enemies to be great friends. I

like this book because it has really nice characters and you will know at least one person in your life who is like the main characters. I would recommend this book to a friend because I thought I knew what would happen in the book when I started reading it, but it kept twisting and turning to the point where I didn't want to put the book down!



ERGS REMEMBERS

On the morning of Friday 8th November, we held our school Remembrance Services, honouring the men and women who have sacrificed themselves in service to our country. The music was conducted by Mrs Bloomfield and played by the Senior Wind Band, complemented by the Pipe Band on the front terrace, to both welcome and bid farewell to our guests. Bugler Erin Trimble played The Last Post and Reveille with precision, evoking the sombre and reflective tone of the occasion excellently.



Remembrance in Fiction

Our newsletter team selected a few great library books on the war theme, bringing history to life. Tom Palmer is renowned for his war stories –“ I like writing about war because I want to try to understand how people can be so brave when such terrible things are happening”. Some of his books are set in the trenches on WW1. Michael Morporgo’s acclaimed War Horse shines a light on the animals of war as Albert searches the battlefields of France to find his beloved Joey and bring him home. Check out these and many more war themed books in our libraries.

PhilSpeaks Novice Debate Tournament

Four intrepid debaters travelled to Trinity college Dublin in October for a series of British Parliamentary style debates. They had to prepare their debate within 15 minutes of knowing the motion, without use of the internet. Year 14 pupils Thomas Clarke and Matthew Shaw made it into the Gold Final, ranking an impressive 1st place among 24 teams. Luchia McCusker (Yr 12) and Caitlin Binu (Yr 13) made it into the Silver Final, ranking a commendable 8th place.



What was the debate motion you had to prepare in 15 minutes without use of the internet?

Round 1: This house believes that the Olympics should be permanently held in one city (For)

Round 2: This house regrets the commercialism of Sports (Against)

Round 3: This house believes religious influence to those under 18yrs should be banned (For).

Gold Final: This house believes that Ireland should abandon its neutrality (For).





How do you go about preparing for a debate with such limited time and resources? What is the key to success?

Caitlin: “ During the preparation I think deeper into the topic, of how the world would have been if it was as the topic said, and think think why is it bad? Or why is it good? And try to say through scenarios to grasp the attention, and try to believe in what I’m saying to make it effective”.

Thomas: “Firstly it is important to stay calm and understand the key terms within the statement. Also writing down the key ideas of your argument you should discuss each other’s point of view and decide what arguments each of us should use”

Luchia:” The key to success is to make a list of key points and being able to confidently expand on them. Talking from experience makes the debate more real so I think if you’ve ever encountered the topic in your life that will help you greatly”.

Matthew: “We wrote down 5 or 6 key points that would make the core of our argument and discussed which of us would cover certain topics. We expanded upon these points in our debate where we used specific examples to convey our point”.

How has the experience helped with your debating skills and how does debating help in life in general?

Thomas: “The experience has significantly improved my debating skills. Firstly the difficult conditions to prepare for the debates encouraged me to craft a strong argument and improve my teamwork abilities. Furthermore, this opportunity has improved my confidence to speak in a public setting. Debating promotes critical thinking and problem solving which are important throughout life. It also teaches teamwork and communication skills”.

Matthew: “This competition has enhanced my debating and public speaking skills. I can carry these skills into the future where I can clearly express my views on topics and learn to compromise with other viewpoints”.

Caitlin: “This experience has helped me to be confident and bring my opinion to the table and helped me discover a side of me as a debater which I had not experienced before. Also debating in daily life helps us know about different opinions and also helps us identify the truth of the situation”.

Luchia: “Before this experience I had never properly debated before so it really opened my eyes to how a debate works and how it is structured. It is now easier for me to think on my feet and speak confidently and less nervously than previously”.

SPOTLIGHT ON NEW STAFF!!

This month we took the opportunity to interview a few of our new staff members to get to know a little more about their backgrounds, personalities, likes and dislikes and impressions of ERGS. Here are some of the conversations we had - we hope to shine the spotlight on some more new staff in next editions of Wilde About Words.

Mrs Diane Morrow teaches Biology. She is mother of Finley in 8A and Callum 11E.

Where did you work previously?

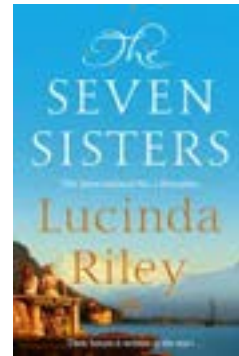
“ I taught in Fivemiletown College for the last 20 years so it was quite a change coming somewhere different and being the “new girl”

What were your first impressions of ERGS?

“How friendly all the staff are and how pleasant the majority of the students are. It has made settling in much easier!”

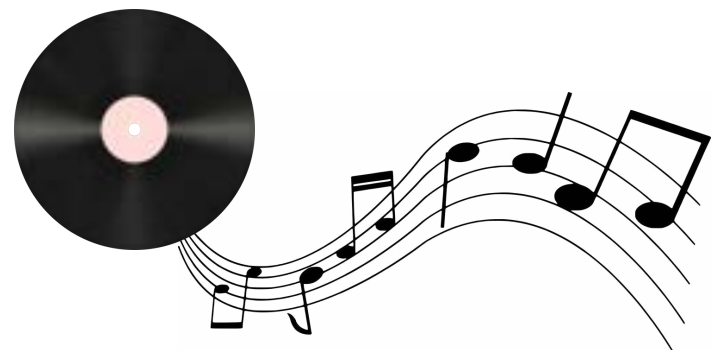
What’s your favourite book/film?

“ I’m currently reading The Seven Sisters by Lucinda Riley and I’m enjoying them a lot. Favourite movies - I enjoy all the Marvel movies, The Lord of the Rings when it was released and I enjoy a good comedy as well!”



If you were deserted on a desert island what musical soundtrack would you take with you?

“ It would have to be something upbeat to keep my spirits up. I’m afraid my music tastes are probably way off our students’ radars so something like Madness, Meat Loaf, Bruce Springsteen or Def Leppard may well appear and even a bit of Elvis or Abba would all keep me happy. Though if I had some good books and a decent sound track I wouldn’t consider it stranded it would be relaxation!”



Miss Gillian Brady is our new Art and Design, Moving Image Arts and R.E teacher. Here are some reflections from Miss Brady:

First impressions: “ ERGS provides a friendly welcoming atmosphere. The pupils are polite, happy and eager to learn making it a pleasant place to work”.

Favourite book or film: Animation -”SING”, a fun and uplifting animation and I love the variation in characters.

Live Action movie “War Room”. This movie has a more serious narrative. However, I enjoyed watching it and I will always remember it as it has provided me with valuable lessons on prayer and being thankful.

Desert island disc: “This would have to be any album by Philippa Hanna or Lauren Daigle; encouraging and moving. Listening to their music brings you beyond your current circumstances!”.



Mr Christopher Glass joined us in Spetember as an ICT teacher having been a former past pupil of our school:

“I went to Portora as it was known throughout most of my school life before turning into ERGS in my final years back when they had only just amalgamated. Unless you mean University, then I went to Queens University Belfast for one year and University of Staffordshire for three”.

First impressions of ERGS:

“My first impression of ERGS as a teacher is that despite being a student here in the past, it had changed so much and not at all at the same time. So many staff and students are incredibly friendly and energetic it is almost impressive!”

Favourite book or movie:

“Without a doubt The Lord of the Rings is my favourite book, movie and fantasy world. I have read the book several times and am currently listening to the audiobook read by Andy Serkis (Gollum's actor) as I write this. I love how J.R.R. Tolkien has created a world that feels so alive and has so much deep history behind everything. Not to mention I have a weak spot for high-fantasy as a genre.”

Desert Island Disc:

“ I would bring the entire soundtrack of Les Misérables with me. If I am going to be stranded there alone, then no one can hear my screeching as I sing the songs at the top of my lungs. Maybe if I am stranded there long enough I might actually get good at it - oh, who am I kidding? Of course I won't.”



Mrs Hannah Boles is our new teacher of Home Economics and Health and Social care. She last taught in Castleberg High School.

First impressions: “Having been a past pupil I was nervous however I found it was extremely welcoming and friendly. Everyone was approachable and supportive”

Favourite book or film:” I do love Romcoms, but my favourite movie is Mama Mia! The feel-good energy, beautiful setting and brilliant ABBA songs always bring me joy!”

Desert Island disc: “I would take either Noah Kahan’s “Stick Season” album or Morgan Wallen’s “One Thing at a Time” album. Both albums have some of my favourite songs and I have also seen Morgan Wallen in concert so it makes it extra special!”.

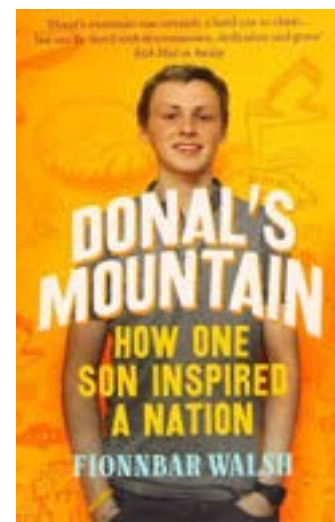


Mrs Hazel Manley came to us from Killyhommon Primary school Boho.

First impressions of ERGS: “Was how friendly and welcoming everyone was to me”.

Favourite Book: “Donal’s Mountain, How One Son inspired a Nation by Fionnbar Walsh. I find this books so inspiring for young people in life and how Donal was able to see the beauty in life. Donal lost his battle against cancer in May 2013, but he left behind an extraordinary legacy. Donal also came to national attention as he spoke out about suicide in young people in an RTE television interview. Donal was determined to open people’s eyes to the beauty of life”

Desert Island Disc: “If I was stranded on a desert island with a musical track at this present time it would be “Do They Know its Christmas?” by Band Aid. I find this is the true meaning of Christmas”.





Christmas is here early for some in Enniskillen as young actors have prepared the stage for 'Just Stage It Academy's' production of Elf the Musical. This musical is based on the 2003 movie starring Will Farrel and Zoey Deschanel. A quirky tale about an Elf called Buddy that finds out he is human and has a dad. He sets off on a journey to find his dad in New York City.



Some of our very own ERGS students took part in this magical show. Including but not limited to, Carly Latimer (Year 10), Brooke Ewing (Year 11), Arwen Mccallum (Year 12), Charlie Beattie (Year 13), Sarah-Mae Mccusker (Year14) and Ella Prior-Jones (Year 14). Also a lot of our very own Year 8s students took part. I had the absolute joy of being part of this production playing Jovie and it was a magical experience and I had the best time. Amazing photos taken by Robyn Bailie.

By Carly Latimer,10D

The Enniskillen cast weren't the only ones putting on a fabulous show! This amazing production was also taking place in Belfast at the Mac Theatre. JSI academy's (Just Stage It) production of Elf the musical with amazing performances from the following cast members: Ben Furlong as Buddy, Cliona O'Hare as Jovie and Conor Creagh as Walter Hobbs. And that is only to mention a few spectacular actors and actresses. A hilarious production from both Elf shows!

By Robyn Bailie and Emily Balfour,
10D



Better Together Peace Impact Project

In October the first workshop of school year for the the “Better Together” cross-community project, involving a cross-border collaboration between ERGS and Ballinamore Community school, got underway. To kick off, William Graham year 13 led the group on a tour of the town and school and impressed everyone with his knowledge on the history of Enniskillen castle.

The first guest speaker was the celebrated Olympic rower and former member of Enniskillen Royal Boat club Ross Corrigan. Ross gave an insight into the sheer hard work and discipline that drives an Olympian and how a successful cross-community club paved the pathway to the Paris Olympics. Ross is a fantastic role model for our pupils! We spoke to some of the pupils involved in “Better Together” to find out their thoughts and reactions. Thanks to Eva Grayden, Freya Boyd McManus, Uma de Naipir, Charlotte Bukowski and Lily Shaw for sharing their impressions.



“I think the Better Together programme is a wonderful idea as since starting it I have made some lovely friendships with both boys and girls from Ballinamore. I love going on trips and starting our project”.

“It brings communities together and it encourages understanding of each persons’ life and way of living. It also encourages changing the way difference of religion affects how people are treated”.





“ Projects like this bridge the gap between communities and help us learn about and understand each other. It is a good way to make new friends and diversify your outlook on certain issues”.

“ I have enjoyed getting to know new people and getting to go on trips to places like Stormont and the Peace Wall. It is interesting to learn about our shared history and the cultural differences between us”

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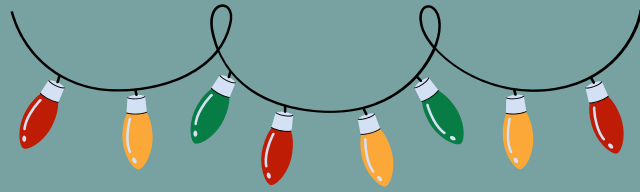


“ I think it’s a good idea because it helps to connect with new people and lets us enjoy our time together with them”

“I’ve enjoyed the trip to Belfast most. It allowed us to see both sides and how issues like the Troubles still affect people now.”

“ I have enjoyed getting to know new people and getting to go on trips to places like Stormont and the Peace Wall. It is interesting to learn about our shared history and the cultural differences between us”

CHRISTMAS BOOK QUIZ



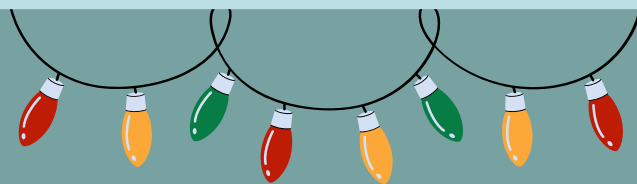
1. Name the family who in the book *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott celebrates Christmas without their father?

2. What Christmas gift does Mrs Dursleys famously give to the family every Christmas?

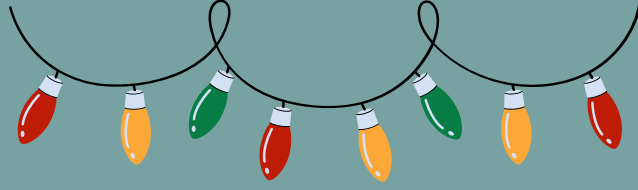
3. Which singer-songwriter wrote a book about a dinosaur who lives with Santa and the elves at the North Pole and what is the book called?

4. Who was the first ghost to appear in Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*?

5. In which children's classic is it "always winter but never Christmas"?



CHRISTMAS BOOK QUIZ



6. What is the final line in the poem "T'was the Night before Christmas"?

7. How many reindeers does Santa have?

8. How many sizes does the Grinch's heart grow in Dr Seuss' "How the Grinch Stole Christmas"?

9. In The Polar Express by Chris Van Allsburg, what is the first gift of Christmas wished for by the boy?



Answers: 1. March 2. Hand knitted jumpers 3. Tom Fletcher 4. Ghost of Christmas Past 5. The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe 6. "Happy Christmas to all and to all a goodnight" 7. 9 8. 3 9. A bell from Santa's sleigh 10. Stick Man



One Man, Two



Guvnors

Year 13 and 14 students have recently performed in this year's senior drama production of 'One Man, Two Guvnors'.

This play is a commedia dell'arte adaptation. This adaptation is set in Brighton in 1963 about a man called Francis Henshall who has two bosses and makes a wacky attempt to serve them both..

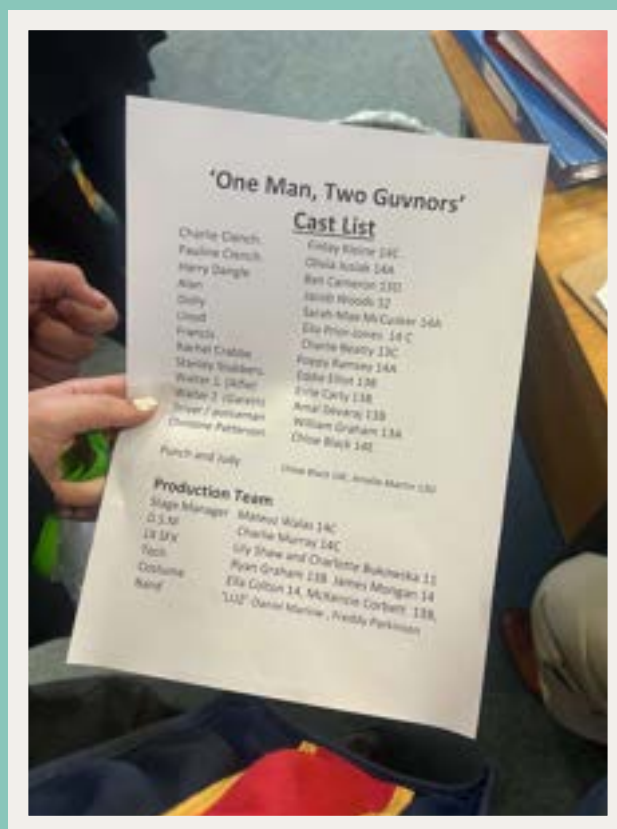
Charlie Beattie (Year 13) plays the comedic and hilarious role of Francis Henshall along side his first guvnor Rachel Crabbe played by Poppy Ramsey (Year 14). Who is secretly disguised as her dead brother Roscoe Crabbe. The second Guvnor is Stanley Stubbers who is played by Eddie Elliot (Year 13). Who is in hiding because he killed Roscoe Crabbe.

This cast was so funny and so talented. The set design by Jon Kelly was so fitting for this immersive piece of theatre. The Technical director Ross Brimstone with his amazing technical skills to bring this play to life. Also amazing job to the production team with the lights, sound, costume, hair/makeup, props, band and our Year 11 students helping out with the pre-show puppet show and coconut shy. Lets not forget about our amazing teaching and office staff. Finally, incredible thank you to the amazing director Ms McDowell for her amazing direction and determination.



For our Year 14 students, this was their final senior drama production before they leave school and do incredible things. As we say farewell to Sarah-Mae McCusker (Dolly), Finley Kleine (Charlie Clench), Ella Prior-Jones (Lloyd), Poppy Ramsey (Rachel Crabbe), Oliwia Jusiak (Pauline) and Chloe Black (Christine).

By Carly Latimer



'One Man, Two Guvnors'

Cast List

Charlie Clench	Finley Kleine 14C
Pauline Clench	Oliwia Jusiak 14A
Harry Dangle	Ben Cameron 13D
Alan	Joseph Woods 12
Dolly	Sarah-Mae McCusker 14A
Lloyd	Ella Prior-Jones 14C
Francis	Charlie Beattie 13C
Rachel Crabbe	Poppy Ramsey 14A
Stanley Stubbers	Eddie Elliot 13B
Walter J. (Jack)	Trile Carly 13B
Walter J. (Gareth)	Amal Devaraj 13B
Tracy / postman	William Graham 13A
Christine Patterson	Chloe Black 14E
Funch and Jolly	Oliver Price 14C, Amelie Martin 13D

Production Team

Stage Manager	Mattias Miles 14C
G.S.M	Charlie Murray 14C
1st DFX	Guy Shaw and Charlotte Bukneska 11
Tech	Ryan Graham 13B, James Morgan 14
Costume	Ella Gibson 14, McKenna Corbett 13B,
Band	1112 Daniel Martin, Freddy Parkinson



One Man, Two Guvnors
Over and Out.



"Elf's sure got 'Rizz'!!!"



"I hope Mrs Friel doesn't spot my morning's work!!"



"who needs Redbull when you can read?!!"



"I believe I can fly!!!"



"ooh la la!! Je viens de monter la Tour Eiffel - je suis fatigue"!!



**"Adding my touch of
"Sparkle" to the library
Christmas tree!"**



**"Christmas Movie Night in the
library!"!!**



**"I can see your house from
here!"**



**"Lift anyone? Santa's sleigh
is not going back for ages!"**



**"Miss Strong's
Christmas tree is
soo comfy!"**



NB: : No library books were harmed in the making of this newsletter!



ERGS Carol Service 2024

A service of 9 lessons and carols



The annual carol service is one of the main events of every year in ERGS. It is a magical event with wonderful singing and instrumental pieces surrounded by the 9 lessons meant to teach us to be better and to look forward to the future as we celebrate the birth of the son of the Lord, Jesus. This event happens every year in St Macartin's cathedral. After long hours of practice the senior and junior choir perform on the last Tuesday and Wednesday of term accompanied by the brass band and many other talented musicians in our school



The Carol service was an amazing experience. All the readers read very well and the choirs sang beautifully. The musicians were incredible and extremely talented. It was a lovely event to experience and I think it set the bar really high for years to come!

The carol service was an extremely fun but stressful event, it was super fun and you got to know lots of people better as well as expanding your skills. It was super tiring but it paid off and was amazing



There is one service for the family of the choir and teachers and an additional one the next day for the peers. Both days the choir and bands rehearse in the morning and perform in the afternoon and the choir gives their all for both services. It really is one of the best highlights of a winter term in ERGS, this year all of the singing was amazing especially the solos performed by the seniors and the Y9 Christina Quinn who did a wonderful job on her solo impressing everyone

