

LGBTQIA+ HISTORY MONTH

LGBTQIA+ History month occurs every February each year to celebrate and recognise heroes of any sexuality and gender throughout the years. It was created by Rodney Wilson in 1994 in a Missouri high school and has since been celebrated by millions of people worldwide. It's such a significant month, and so here are some queer heroes and essential moments in gay history.

Stonewall

The Stonewall Riots [otherwise known as the Stonewall Uprising] began on June 28th, 1969, when at that time the New York State Liquor Authority made it illegal for gay clubs and bars to exist.

Somehow, the Stonewall Inn in a village in Greenwich managed to stay under the radar of the authorities and was open to queer people anywhere, anytime.

Unfortunately, the police discovered that this was happening directly under their noses and raided the bar. This led to police brutally shoving and pushing employees of the bar and the customers who were simply trying to find a community. Female officers were given orders to check the sex of suspected cross-dressers in the bathrooms and the police arrested and injured multiple people that night. This sparked controversy about police brutality towards gay people and got the public thinking about the Equality Movement.



This led to six days of protests, hundreds of people shouting in the streets, cuffing themselves to fences, and many celebrities speaking out against the injustice of LGBTQIA+ at that time.

The riots didn't exactly start the Gay Rights Movement, but is a crucial moment in its history and helped bring attention to many iconic LGBTQIA heroes, such as Marsha P. Johnson.



Marsha P. Johnson

Marsha P. Johnson was born on the 24th of August 1945, and died July 6th 1992. She was an American gay liberation and AIDS activist, co-founder of the Street Transvestite Action Revolutionaries with Sylvia Rivera, whilst also being one of the first and most iconic drag queens of her time.

She modelled for Andy Warhol and sang onstage alongside the Hot Peaches, a famous drag show during the 1970s.

Marsha said the “P” in her name stood for “Pay it no mind” in reference to the attitude they showed towards the discrimination and negativity they received.

Martha was one of the key figures who stood up to the police brutality during the Stonewall raids. She resisted arrest and led a series of protests and riots that got a huge amount of attention across America and the wider world.



Representation of LGBTQIA+ in Comics

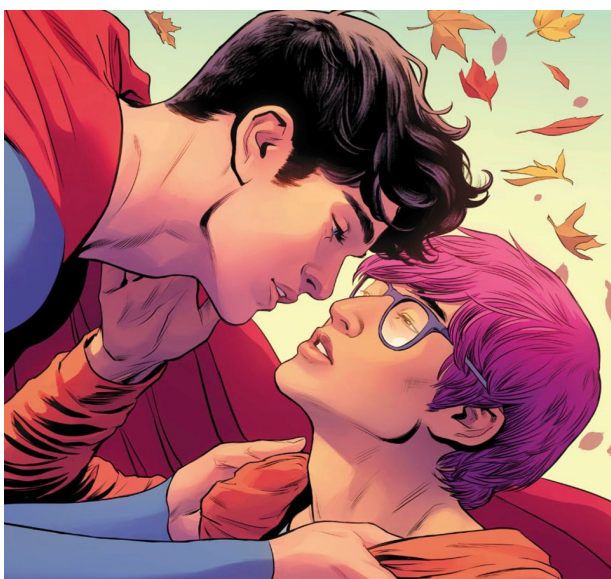
It is super important to have representation of all kinds in all aspects of popular culture- in Hollywood, books, TV shows, and comics- because it lets young people know it is ok to be whatever you are. when you see your favourite hero saving the world then coming home to his boyfriend, it reinforces that this is normal.



Here are some big-time heroes who you may not have known are LGBTQIA+:

Superman

In October of 2021, the latest version of Superman [Jon Kent] is confirmed to be bisexual and in a same sex relationship with Jay Nakamura.



Mystique

For many years, Mystique from X-Men's sexuality has been open to interpretation, but the writers have recently confirmed that she is pansexual.

Loki

In Marvels recent mini-series, Loki is confirmed to be gender-fluid and bisexual.

Harley Quinn and Poison Ivy

Although there has been a lot of debate about Ivy and Quinn's sexuality [and still hasn't been officially confirmed by writers their specific sexuality] in multiple comics they are in a happy same-sex relationship.

Equality in Lenzie Academy

What is Purple Friday?

Purple Friday is a day where students and teachers wear a purple item of clothing to show solidarity of LGBTQIA+ people.



When is Purple Friday?

Every year Purple Friday is celebrated on the last Friday of February, this year Purple Friday will be on 25th of February.

Why should we take part in Purple Friday?

We should take part in Purple Friday because it's a day that celebrates diversity and equality and that's what our school is about- making everyone feel safe and equal. Also we can raise money for LGBT Youth Scotland, the charity that organise the events for it every year, by taking part in the Pass the Torch Relay happening within school.

Mary and I interviewed one the English teachers, Mr Quinn, about LGBT history month at our school and how we can celebrate it. When we asked him who, in his opinion, was an inspirational LGBT person from history he said "I think Alan Turing is a very, very inspirational person, especially



By Anna Davidson

because of how he was treated. For someone who has done so much to have been treated so badly...I know it's a sad story, but I find it inspiring." He also said, "I think modern examples are really important as well, like Lil Nas X being a Black rapper entering the space and country music crossing over in his work as well, it's quite a hetero-normative and masculine scene typically so it's great for him to be so openly queer."



Then when we asked if there were any ways the school could reduce any homophobia he said "How can we tackle it? Just raise awareness, just keep doing what people are doing- petitions and pushing for change...stuff like purple Friday and LGBT history month, actually openly celebrating these things" and "I think even with myself being an openly gay teacher, I think that helps. I think I would have loved that at school to have that role model. Even for young boys who are wanting to be macho and masculine, I think they need strong male role models like them who happen to be gay or bi or trans. It's hard to connect with what you don't have any familiarity with." I think that what Mr Quinn said was very true, that petitioning and celebrating events like Purple Friday is very important because if we forget history then we're doomed to repeat it. So please be respectful and kind to people because we can't change what we are. We are our own people. We aren't all the same.



LGBT Heroes from History

Stormé DeLarverie:

Stormé DeLarverie is known as the butch lesbian whose scuffle with the police ignited the spark that caused the Stone Wall riots.

She was known as the “Rosa Parks of Gay rights”. She is remembered as an entertainer who performed at the Apollo Theatre and the Radio City Music Hall, she was also work as a MC, Singer, Bouncer, Bodyguard

and a volunteer street patrol worker nicknamed “The Guardian of Lesbians in the Village”. She is also known as a Gay Civil Right Icon. Stormé was born on 24th December 1920 in New Orleans and died 24th May 2014 in Brooklyn.



Colette:

Colette was a female bisexual French author but was also known for being a mime, actress and journalist. She is best remembered for her 1944 novella *Gigi*.

She was born January 28th 1873. In 1893 she married her first husband but in 1906 they separated although their divorce wasn't final until 1910. She then had a series of relationships with women including Natalie Clifford Barney and

gender ambiguous Mathilde de Morny, the Marquise de Belbeuf (Max). In 1907 an onstage kiss between Colette and Max caused a near-riot and ended with them no longer being allowed to live together but their relationship continued for 5 more years. In 1912 she married her second husband and had her daughter one year later, in 1924 they divorced. Then in 1935 she married her final husband. She was also a huge feminist and is celebrated for this. On August 3rd 1954 she died.



International Women's Day

The very first International Women's Day was celebrated on the 19th of March 1911, but the first the United Nations marked the day was 1975, where people of all genders came together to march and shout about women's history and equality.

The original idea of having an 'International Women's Day' was created by Clara Zetkin, who suggested this at the International Conference of Working Women in Copenhagen, Denmark.

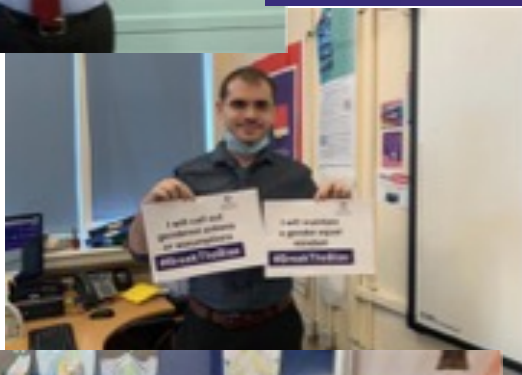
International Women's Day is a day to recognise and celebrate the contributions of women around the world.

Whilst we have seen huge progress in terms of gender equality in recent history, there is still a lot of work to be done. IWD is a chance to reflect on these achievements but also a call to action.



International Women's Day

This year's IWD's theme was *"Break the Bias"* so we challenged staff and pupils within Lenzie Academy to call out gender assumptions, challenge discrimination and maintain a gender equal mindset.



Feminism In Our School

March marks Women's History Month but in this week alone, I have overheard or have had over five misogynistic comments said to me. That is five too many. Comments like 'feminists are just man-haters', or just simply that women aren't able to accomplish anything outside of a kitchen.

This is so completely wrong, and this if this is just what I have heard in a singular week, then I think we can all imagine the number of comments like these that are said to women on the daily, and we need to change it.

So many people do actually believe that feminists just think that women should overpower and take over all men. But by dictionary definition, feminism is described as:

"The belief in full social, economic, and political equality for women."

Basically meaning that feminism is about men and women being on the same social level. To ensure that women have the same opportunities and men, and that our body or gender doesn't define our abilities.

Here are some of the most famous feminists to date:

- **Mary Wollstonecraft**

- the celebrated author of '*A Vindication of the Rights of a Woman*', published in 1792.
- appraised as one of the earliest and most radical feminists of her time.

- **Emma Watson**

- Has given many inspiring speeches about women's rights, and is also a UN Women Goodwill ambassador and HeForShe spokesperson.
- Here is one of Watson's most motivating speeches:



[Emma Watson at the HeForShe Campaign 2014 - Official UN Video](#)

Emma Watson, British actor and UN Women Goodwill Ambassador, co-hosts a special event for UN Women's HeForShe campaign. The HeForShe campaign is a solidarity...
youtu.be

- **Alan Alda**

- a proud feminist who fought for women's equality, and also tried to make his character in the tv show M*A*S*H less of a chauvinist by talking to producers.

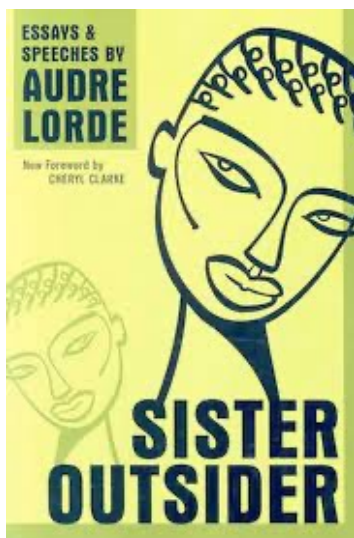
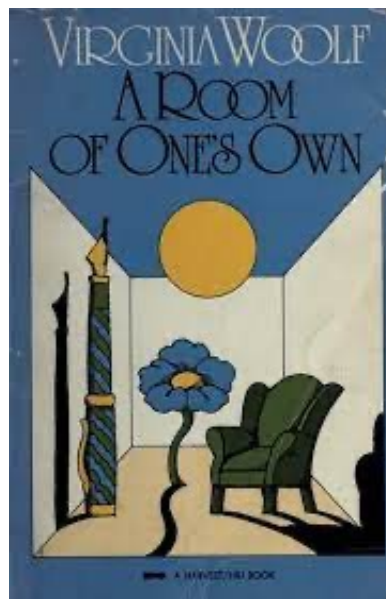
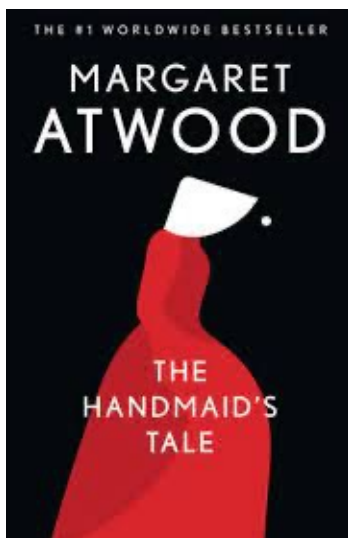
- **Sojourner Truth**

- Truth was an American abolitionist and Women's Rights Activist during the nineteenth century.
- also the author of the novel 'Ain't I A Woman?' where she wrote the famous quote;
"I am as strong as any man that is now."

Some Feminist literature:

- The Handmaids Tale - Margaret Atwood
- A Room of One's Own - Virginia Woolf
- The Second Sex - Simone de Beauvoir
- Sister Outsider - Audre Lorde
- The Bell Jar - Sylvia Plath

And finally, if you are interested in learning more about feminism, please stop by A15 on Tuesdays at lunchtime to join Miss Roy's Feminism Club!



Reading Schools at Lenzie Academy

Reading Schools is a programme led by the Scottish Book Trust to get school pupils into the habit of reading more often. 39 schools in Scotland have already joined the scheme and this session, Lenzie Academy is hoping to join that list. 80% of pupils from these schools have agreed that taking part in this supports young people that are not enthusiastic readers. Reading Schools has had an important impact on both pupils and staff which has allowed them to improve their learning skills and creativity.

Our school believes that it is extremely important to encourage pupils to continue reading for pleasure as they move up the school. Many teachers have agreed that reading has helped some of their pupils to achieve better grades and improve their mental health. We believe that Reading Schools can help our school into becoming more enthusiastic towards literacy and learning.

One of our English teachers, Mr Keeley, agreed to an interview where I asked him a couple of questions about Reading Schools and the programme.

Eva: Why do you believe that we should become a Reading School?

Mr Keeley: I think we should become a Reading School because I think reading is really important and I think that people sometimes forget that or they think that it's sort of something that you do only in English to fill a bit of time. Older pupils especially, once you start to move towards 3rd, 4th and 5th year you don't have that extra period to read anymore, and they forget about reading or they don't think that it's important since they become so focused on exams. I think that if we become a Reading School it will remind everyone that it's not just something you do randomly in English but something that is really important for your future.

Eva: Do you think that the Reading School programme is the right one for this school?

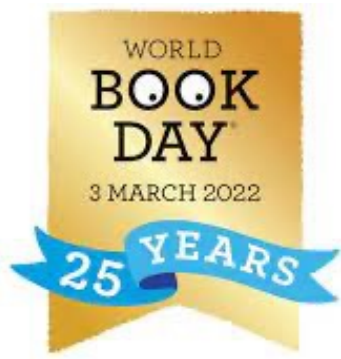
Mr Keeley: Yes, because Reading Schools allows you to do loads of different things instead of just giving you things to do. This allows us to let the pupils explore and use their imagination and even though there is criteria you need to complete, it's encourages pupil motivation.

Eva: How much of an impact do you think Reading Schools will have on us?

Mr Keeley: I think that Reading Schools will help to motivate pupils at Lenzie to read and I think that it will have a good impact on us because of all the positives it promotes-your mental health can improve and your resilience, creativity. It won't just help you in English, it will help you in all subjects because you need to use reading in everything.

Reading Schools can offer different challenges to suit the pupil or staff members and can provide various levels of difficulty. Many pupils think that Reading Schools has helped their motivation, creativity, resilience and overall capability to learn so we're excited to get involved!





World Book Day at Lenzie Academy

On Thursday the 3rd of March, Lenzie Academy celebrated World Book Day alongside hundreds of thousands of schools worldwide.

World Book Day is a day to commemorate the amazing literature iconic authors have shared over the years, and to encourage people to instead of looking at a screen, read a book instead!

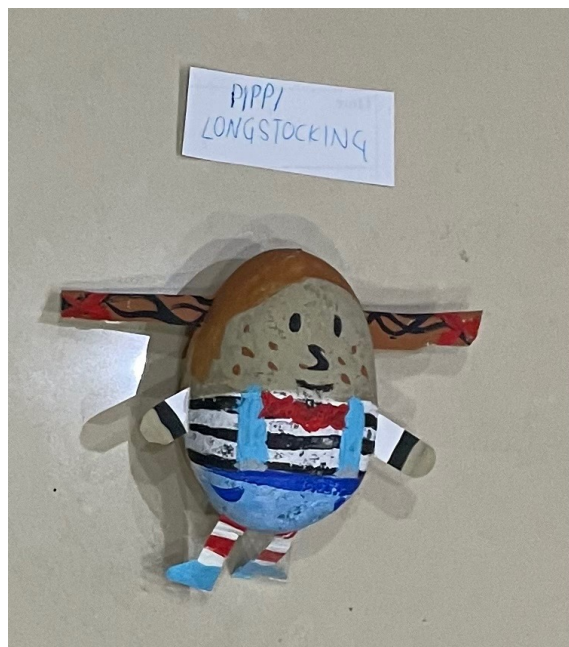
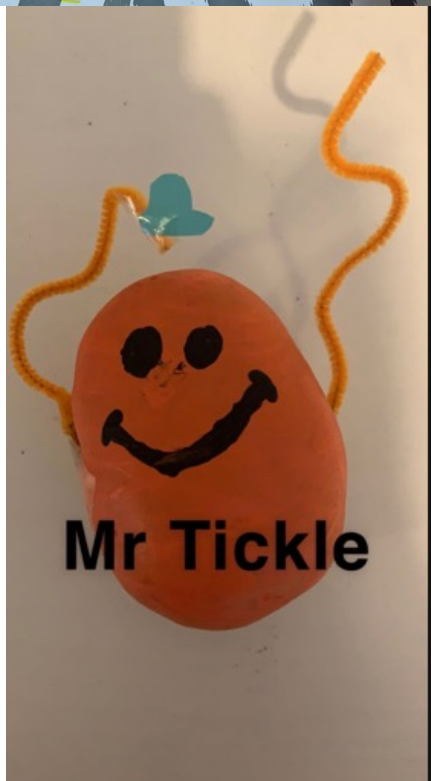
To do this, Lenzie Academy created a book swap for S1-S3 in the library. Every student had the opportunity to bring in a used book from home and receive a token that they could then use to swap for another book at the event!

Thank you to everybody who gave in their wonderful donations!

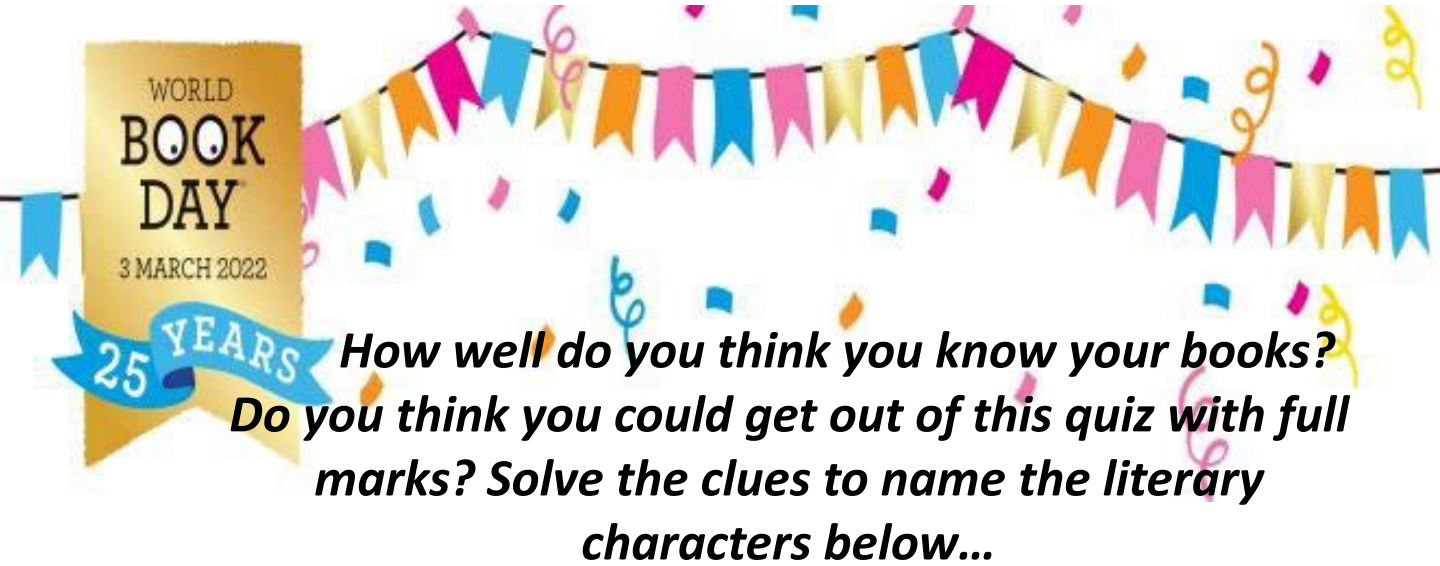


For World Book Day, many classes and students participated in a challenge as part of our quest to become a certified *Reading School*.

We tasked students with transforming potatoes into a famous literary character. Here are some of our favourites!



All of the entries were amazing! Lenzie Academy really does have so many creative thinkers!



1. As tall as big ben, frolicking through the night, your windows shall stay open, quit worrying, my dreams don't bite. *Who am I?*
2. I've been bitten by a spider, but it wasn't venomous, instead it gave me powers so now I am famous. *Who am I?*
3. Brown, frizzy hair is the way to go, but if I fail, I will blow, caught between by two best friends, what shall I do if this story ends? *Who am I?*
4. I love the guitar, but my family despises music, every time I play my family will start fuming. *Who might I be?*
5. I'm a grumpy, walking Brussel sprout with only a dog as my friend, don't come near me or your happiness will end... *Who will be the one to ruin your snowy fun?*

Answers

- The BFG
- The amazing Spiderman
- Hermione Granger
- Miguel Rivera
- The Grinch

Exam Fear and How to Survive It!

We've all felt that horrible sinking feeling in our stomach when a teacher announces that you have a test next week. You begin to overthink, compare to others, and write so many notes that your hand aches. Tests are infamously known world-wide to worry so many people, so here are my tips from what notes to use to how to not let tests control your whole mindset.

You've just been told you have a test

First things first, stay calm. Even if it is your worst subject, it is important to keep a clear head and not to spiral. Most likely, the classmates around you are feeling the exact same thing as you, so you are not alone. Your teacher will be giving you all the information you need about where to find notes and what and how much to revise, so make sure not to scare yourself and follow what they're saying.

You can't find the notes

Although this may sound like the most inconvenient thing to happen right now but it is important not to overreact. Firstly, make sure you are looking exactly where your teacher said, and if they're still not there the easiest thing to do is send an email to your teacher about you not being able to access the revision notes, and if you can't do that, just ask them about it in school whenever you have them next.



You don't know how to revise

So many teenagers everywhere are actually unsure about how to do one of the most important things to prepare for tests; revision. There isn't only one way to do it. For example, 65% of people are visual learners, which is where you have to see someone physically explaining a situation to understand it. 30% are auditory learners, where you have to hear someone explain something to understand it, and 5% are kinaesthetic learners, where you have to do the task yourself to be able to recall and do it again. These are only some of the few ways people understand tasks, but because there are hundreds more, these are the general statistics.

My advice is to try and figure out what kind of learner you are before trying to jump directly into a revision period.

What notes should you use?

Deciding what notes are best for you is similar to figuring what kind of learner you are, because it is never the same answer for everyone. Here are some of the most effective ways of taking notes for teenagers in school:

Outline Note-taking

The Outline Note-Taking method is a very easy way of taking notes because under your heading, you write brief bulletpoints on the subject. This is a very simple and calm note-taking method, and if you have never had a big test before, this is the perfect way to revise.



The Duke of Edinburgh

In 1956 John Hunt administered the first Duke of Edinburgh Award. It was open to boys from age 15 to 18, it was designed as an alternative to organisations like the Scout organisation for boys who didn't want a uniform. Two years after the original program was launched, a programme for girls was launched, but it wasn't until 1969 both girls and boys were doing the same programme. You can join the programme through many different paths including through school. There are three different rewards: you can get Bronze, Silver, and Gold. For the Bronze and Silver category participants must set and complete objectives in volunteering, skills, physical and expedition. In the Gold category, participants must do all of this plus a residential section. People join the Duke of Edinburgh programme for many reasons; here are some from S3 just starting their Bronze Award:

{Continued on the next age}

- “ I signed up for DofE because it would look good on university applications, and I heard lots of good things about it from teachers”
- “I do duke of Edinburgh because the adventure is good, you can volunteer for a reason, lots of my friends are doing it and its very fun”
- “It’s a really interesting experience and I’ll get to try new skills and advance on skills I’ve already got, I’m really excited for the expedition at the very end, and it will be just generally good for CVs and applications”

In S3 you are given the opportunity to sign up through the school. This is an opportunity that I would recommend everyone to take up. The Duke of Edinburgh award helps with job applications in the future and helps make unforgettable memories.

Lenzie Academy's programme is run by Miss Ness in Maths, so if you have further questions, she would be the best person to ask or check the Duke of Edinburgh award website:

- [DofE - The Duke of Edinburgh's Award](#)

- Cornell Note-taking

If you have been in high school for a while, you have most likely already heard of Cornell notes.

To make a Cornell note, you fold for paper longways about a quarter of the way through, then on the smaller side of paper, make headings about the most crucial pieces of information on the subject. Then on the larger side, you write and elaborate on the headings, then write a small summary at the bottom.

- Mapping Note-Taking

Mapping note-taking is basically making a mind map on the most compelling parts on your subjects, then write smaller details on the side of your paper.



Although it is important to try your best on tests, what's more important is your mental health. In 2018 to 2019 alone, over 30% of young adults in Scotland talked to Childline about the stress about upcoming exams, and 82% of teachers say that many of the young adults in their school have bad mental health because of big tests in their year.

This seriously needs to change, because from talking to people in my class alone, majority say the exact same thing as these statistics.

We cannot let tests take over our mindset, distract us from self-care and let our bodies overwork ourselves.

Greta Thunberg- Book Review

'No-one is too small to make a difference' is a small book published on May 30th, 2019 written by Greta Thunberg, about the most important factors about climate change.

It contains 11 of Thunberg's most well-known speeches from her protests that presents the many problems in the world. It includes:

"I don't want you to be hopeful. I want you to panic. I want you to feel the fear I feel everyday. I want you to act like you would in a crisis. I want you to act like your house is on fire, because it is."

This is one of Thunberg's most famous quotes, as it speaks out to the many- not just citizens, but powerful leaders in the world to take notice that, in fact, the world is deeply sick.

Greta Tintin Eleonora Ernman Thunberg is an 19 year old climate activist who speaks up confidently against our government officials who refuse to acknowledge that our dear planet Earth is in deep, deep danger. She came into the public eye in 2018 at the mere age of 15, valiantly protesting at the Swedish parliament holding a sign that said "School Strike for Climate".

That specific protest was about the government not meeting the expectations of many citizens in Sweden about their climate change. Fortunately, the Swedish government introduced a new system named the "bonus-malys system." It ranks vehicles based on its average carbon footprint, and the lower the carbon emission, the lower the vehicle tax.

I feel like it is important to read and understand this book at any age, because the word needs to spread around wherever it can so people can know what they can do to help our planet. They can be found in many bookshops around not only the country but also the world, for only £3.99.



One of Us Is Lying- Book Review

'One of us is lying' by Karen M McManus is a murder mystery, thriller which features four high school pupils who all got detention for reasons they claim was not their fault and then face a death of one of their classmates. They are all traumatised about the experience, but things take a turn when the police start questioning them as suspects. This book was shocking and ended in a way that no one could have expected.

The story starts off with Bronwyn narrating the chapter talking about an app called 'About That' and explains how a pupil in the school called Simon finds out secrets and leaks it on the app he created. We gradually find out that Simon is hated by practically the entire school and has only one friend, called Jeanette. When Bronwyn is on her way to detention she learns that everyone there is in detention for the same reason; they each had their phone out whilst in class but all of the 5 students claim it wasn't theirs. A commotion is caused and the teacher leaves the room leaving Simon, Bronwyn, Nate, Ally and Cooper along with Simon who talks about all the different stereotypes of each pupil in the room. Bronwyn the smart girl, Nate the criminal, Cooper the Prince Charming and Ally the untouchable princess. As Simon speaks he takes a drink of water and dies by having an allergic reaction to peanut oil that was strangely put in his water. Everyone goes home traumatised but later learn that they are each the main suspect due to what "About That" was due to post next...

The characters are all very interesting because they are each opposites of each other. Despite following these stereotypes, each character slowly changes the reputation they built up for themselves completely. Every new chapter a different character narrates it which is interesting because every time you change your mind about who the murderer is.

This book will really challenge your ideas of who people are and who and why to trust them. The plot twist was shocking and I guarantee you will not expect the ending. There was twist after twist and you can never really choose which one shocked you most.



The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo - Book Review

'The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo' is an eye-opening novel about the costs of being a celebrity and their 'perfect' lives.

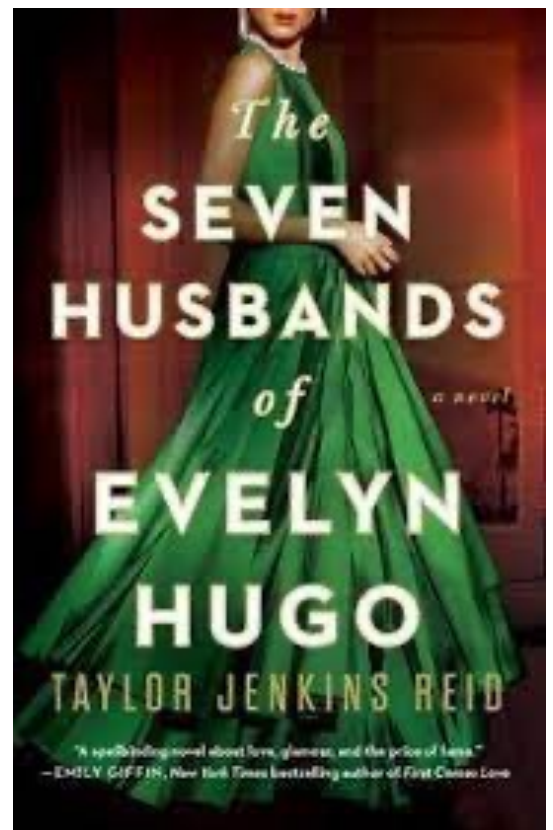
Its author is Taylor Jenkins Reid, who published it on the 13th of June 2017 and since then the book has sold tens of thousands of copies world-wide.

The story follows Monique Grant, an aspiring journalist for the fashion magazine 'Viviant'. She is seen as an underdog by many of her colleagues because she only wrote gossip columns [for now].

Suddenly, Evelyn Hugo, mega-star actress of the acting community from the 50s-60s, asks for Monique, and only Monique, to do an interview with her about her upcoming charity gala. When Grant arrives in Evelyn's fashionable apartment, however, Hugo tells her that she wants Monique to write a biography about her extraordinary life and to finally set the story straight about her infamous 7 husbands.

This is personally one of my favourite novels because it enlightens the reader to think about a celebrity they may have heard of in an article or online and think about how they're lives aren't as perfect as magazines or newspapers portray them to be.

You can also see how Reid took inspiration from many 50s icons such as Elizabeth Taylor and her eight husbands, and the amazing Rita Hayworth.



Spiderman No Way Home

Hello, its Zakk your friendly Neighborhood (spoiler-free) movie reviewer.

I was extremely excited to do this review as soon as I saw the movie, but I knew I had to wait till most people had seen it. Spiderman No Way Home got a 93% rating on rotten tomato's which it deserves.

A quick summary of the plot is after the events of Spiderman Far from Home, Spiderman's identity was leaked and he was framed for killing Mysterio. So he turns to his wizard friend Dr Steven Strange to wipe everyone's memory of him. This fails and the spell lets out enemies from across all of the Spiderman franchise.

This movie also has some very prominent actors coming back to reprise their roles of the villains such as, Alfreed Malina, Willam Dafoe, Jamie fox and some more.

Spiderman No Way Home made almost \$1.777B. It is still in cinemas now at the time of writing so if you have not seen it and thinking of it go quick because I have heard it is coming out of cinemas soon.

MARVEL STUDIOS

SPIDER-MAN

No Way Home

RIDDLES FOR YOU!

There were 503 bricks on a plane, 1 falls off. How many are left? = 502

How do you put an elephant in a fridge? = Open the door, put the elephant in and close it.

How do you put a giraffe in the fridge? = Open the door, take the elephant out, put the giraffe in and then close the door.

The lion king is having a birthday party, all the animals are there except one. Which animal didn't arrive? = The giraffe because it is in the fridge.

Sally has to get across a river, where alligators live, the alligators are very dangerous. The river has no boat or bridge, but Sally manages to get across safely. How did she do it? = The alligators that live there are at the lion king's party.

Although Sally got across the river safely, she still dies. What killed her? = The flying brick that fell off the plane.