

# The L.A Times

Autumn/Winter 2018



## **The Journalism Club**

Lenzie Academy's Journalism Club is one of the many extracurricular activities that the school offers its students. The club is led by Miss Byres, a History teacher at Lenzie Academy and it has been running in the school for three years. The club takes part on Friday at lunch and can be found in C12. During the club, we plan the article we want to write, then research the subject we decide to write about, before writing our article over roughly a three-week period. Finally, we read over each other's work as a 'critical friend'. Once corrections are made, we arrange the order of the articles in the paper and it's published throughout the school and on the website.

Journalism Club currently has 8 members: Rachel, Olivia Ava and Kate (S4), Haroon (S3), Cameron (S2) and Rose and Alishba (S1) and has a really supportive atmosphere, where we always try to help each other whether it's checking over the article for mistakes or to help write the article. We do change up what we write from time to time as we also do interviews with teachers and lists of the top ten of various subjects e.g. random facts.

Journalism Club allows us to express ourselves through our pieces of writing or drawings that we put in the newspaper. We also get more time together and allows us get to know each other more. I feel Journalism Club is a great way to learn more about the English language and lets us discover and expand in the areas we like and are good at.



## ***What's in the news?***

### **McDonald's Strike**

On September 18<sup>th</sup> 2018 dozens of female workers went on strike, which made it the first multi-state strike in the USA. The workers targeted 10 cities including Chicago, Carolina and Los Angeles in hope of pressuring the company into stopping sexual harassment on the job. Their strike was for one day and was led by organizers who had filed complaints with the Employment Opportunity Commission about being harassed but they had been ignored. The strike included public protests by former employees. There will now be outside experts to work with McDonalds to help change the policies and procedures. However, labour lawyer, Mary Joyce Carlson, who has been supporting the women that complained says they "See no evidence there's been any change at all". It is also interesting to note, that this strike represents working-class women who have been victims of sexual harassment, rather than the recent focus on celebrities who sparked the movement initially.



The working class face of the 'Me Too' campaign?

## Poundworld closing

An announcement was made at 10am on June 11th about the loss of almost 100 head offices in Poundworld was confirmed on June 19. On July 17th it closed a further 40 stores resulting in over 500 redundancies. 145 of the 335 shops that were open will go by the end of July leaving 1,800 workers unemployed. In the previous year they had a loss of £17.1 million, a drastic change from the £5.4 million of the previous year. Poundland is a completely separate company, and aided by their new range of fashion will make roughly £100 million a year. This is the latest in a string of high street stores to announce closing their doors, due mainly to the surge in online shopping. This Christmas, why not support your local high street retailers as much as you can?



A vision that will soon disappear from British high streets.

By Kate (S4)

## Rachel's Short Stories



### ICE

Sara gazed dispassionately at what promised to be a spot upon her right temple. The teenage years were indiscriminate in their distribution of acne, and 16-year-old Sara was no exception, despite whatever remedy the glossy magazines her grandfather occasionally bought her recommended.

Sighing, she turned to face her best friend Juliet, indicating the offending almost-zit with a disgruntled huff. “My life is *over*. This is *never* going to go down and I’ve got that party at Louise’s tomorrow.” Sara, like so many other girls her age, spoke in italics. She had the unfortunate habit of stressing at least one syllable per word in such a way that they seemed to be fighting to exit her mouth.

“Why don’t you ice it? I’ve heard that works wonders.” Juliet’s speech was soft and slow, and until you knew her seemed like she thought carefully before she spoke. When at last you did know her, you realised that the cause of her slow speech was the fact that she simply did not have the mental capacity to string together a coherent sentence without at least two weeks’ notice and some form of script. You could almost see her buffering, like a faulty computer in some run down high school’s ICT room.

“Ice? *Really*? I mean, I’ll *try* it, but I don’t think it will work. Could you go down to the freezer and get some?”

As Juliet slowly padded down the 13 stairs that led to the kitchen, Sara resumed her reverie and continued her study of the latest celebrity style choices that the magazine before her displayed. The dresses enraptured her until the slender form of her best friend was silhouetted in the door, holding a dripping lump of swiftly dwindling ice.

“Hurry up and take this, my hands are cold.”

“Thanks. Didn’t you think to wrap it in a paper towel?”

*To be continued...*

**By Rachel (S4)**

## **Rose's Fiction**

### **'Time Traveller'**



Over time, there have been some amazing inventions, some of which have altered everything about the way humans live; the first car, train, flight, rocket launch and voyage in space. However, time travelling was never thought to have been invented, especially in the Victorian era.

In the year 1885, a 12 year old girl named Maggie had silky ginger hair and brown freckles, and wore an apron stained with sauces and spices, as her dad was a butcher and Maggie often helped him sell his wonderful tasting products. Even at this early age, Maggie was incredibly interested in engineering, making things using the new and immensely dangerous invention, electricity, so she was barred from experimenting with anything by her father.

Once Maggie turned 15 she was now a lot more mature and sensible so she was now allowed to fiddle and investigate with different scientific objects, to test out her newest theory about time travel. She had always wondered if the boy at number 34 had invented a time machine as he had disappeared suddenly two years before. Then one day when she arrived home from school, after she had completed her science homework, she decided once again to go to her hidden and safety-proofed room to test out her latest invention. While she was fiddling with her masterpiece, the electric wires twisted and BANG, she vanished!

Maggie's head was in a spin and to say that she was confused was an understatement. She was crouching in a little alley way surrounded by dustbins and bin bags which smelt like rotten eggs. Her head was in such a muddle nothing seemed to make sense. Dizzily she slowly made her way to what looked like the main road, her eyes sprinting across the street to see what was going on. The first thing to catch her eye was a bright and colourful sign saying, "New phone coming out in 2019, only one year away!" Maths was one of the subjects Maggie struggled with but with something as simple as this she could at least work out that the year was clearly wrong.



Not long later, Maggie started to realise other strange and mysterious things. She thought to herself for a moment as to why everyone was wearing these fancy and weird clothes and what were those blocks on the road that seem to be moving like magic? Then after some long and hard thinking she figured it out. She had TIME TRAVELLED!

Had her invention worked?! Yes, it must have, she thought to herself, but how would she ever get back home to her own time! She started to cry and tears rolled down her red cheeks making her freckles glisten in the streetlight. Then, she felt a hand on her shoulder. Turning round, she realised to her amazement that someone was asking her if she was ok. Weirdly, he looked oddly familiar, just like the boy who used to live at number 34.

**By Rose (S1)**

## Circus of Myth

The citizens of the town of Ferixia always heard of this story - a circus that only the children can see and the adults cannot, they come out at night when the kids are in bed and the children hear music inside of their heads, they go to the window and out comes a clown, waving their hands out for the kids to come down. The children go in and stories come out, the adults have no clue what their talking about, the myth lives on inside of their hearts and they hope that one day they'll go back to the start.

One girl named Molly when her Mother sent her to bed, hears circus music inside of her head, she goes to the window and sees a strange silhouette, a clown is just dancing doing pirouettes. The girl is intrigued and walks down the stairs, so fast that the wind is shifting through her hair, she takes the clowns hand and sees a strange tent, he takes her inside and she sees a small head. The head of a boy, his eyes are wide open, he walks out and his small leg seems to be broken, she steps forward with glee to see another small child but he grabs a rope and disappears for a while.

The clown takes her into a room where there is only one light, the boy has appeared, she is filled with delight, he puts his hands up and slams his glove down and then he is standing next to the clown. They start a strange dance, they are spinning around, then the clown throws him up and he lands upside down. He lands on one hand and bounces back up and then he takes a big giant sip from his cup. He brings out a blue ribbon and out pops a woman, her body is perfect and her hair is bright crimson, she grabs Molly's hand and takes her up in the air, Molly never knew she would get that much of a scare. She sees the night sky, they were up that high, then she floats back to her window, she wanted to cry. The circus had gone, the woman faded into the night, she couldn't believe she had lost that sight. She tucked up in bed and counted to ten and hoped that maybe she would see them again, she woke up the next morning and saw her mother and her face didn't really look that bothered. She never forgot about that special time, it was so good she could only tell it in rhyme.

**By Ava (S4)**



## **Haroon's Cartoons**

### **Amazing Disney Cartoons to Watch**

Christmas or Halloween? I prefer Halloween and these amazing Disney cartoons can be watched year round...

#### **Disney's' Mickey in the Haunted House'**



An ancient cartoon all the way from 1929! An old animated cartoon produced by Walt Disney. This film follows Mickey Mouse getting trapped in a haunted house and getting forced to play music for the monsters.

I give it a 5/5 star rating. It is super old but outstanding to watch!

#### **Donald Duck 'Trick or Treat'**



This is a classic from 1952. Donald Duck's nephews come to visit him for trick or treating and then Donald plays a nasty trick to them. A witch sees Donald's nasty trick and decides to help the three boys get revenge on their uncle.



I also give this an episode rating of 5/5 as it is a very good animated short and very funny.

You can watch all the best Disney animated Halloween cartoons on YouTube. They are really amazing so hope you will enjoy it as they are old cartoons from Walt Disney so check them out.

By Haroon (S3)

### **Top Twenty Most Interesting Facts**



1. When hippos are nervous they sweat red.
2. More people have died by falling coconuts than by shark attacks.
3. Polar bears are left handed
4. In France, its actually legal to marry a dead person
5. Honey does not spoil, you can actually eat 3000-year-old honey
6. Banging your head against a wall for an hour, burns 150 calories
7. Bananas are actually curved because they grow towards the sun.
8. If you lift a kangaroo's tail of the ground, it can't hop.
9. Heart attacks are most likely to happen on a Monday.
10. In 2017, more people were killed from injuries caused by taking selfies than shark attacks.
11. A baby octopus is about the size of a flea.
12. Honey bees can recognise human faces.
13. In Switzerland it is illegal to own just one guinea pig.
14. The British royal family aren't allowed to play Monopoly.
15. A can of Mountain Dew can dissolve a mouse.
16. McDonald's once made bubblegum flavoured broccoli.
17. The first oranges, weren't actually orange.
18. Armadillo shells are bullet proof.
19. Blue whales eat half a million calories in one mouthful.
20. There were active volcanoes on the moon while dinosaurs were still alive.

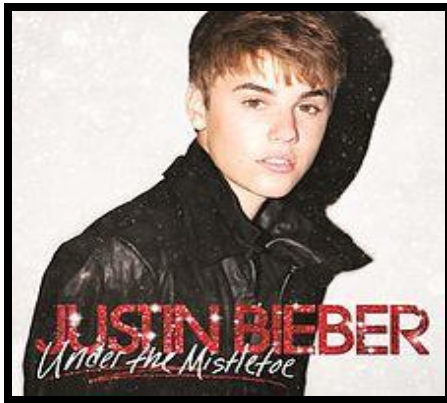
By Alishba (S1)

## Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree

*Here are a few of the top songs you could listen to this Christmas...*

There is a lot of amazing songs to listen to especially at Christmas as you can be with family and friends singing your hearts out or even dancing through the night! We have all heard of the big *Wham!* and *Mariah Carey* hits. However, here are some of the lesser known songs that you can listen to at Christmas – I hope you will enjoy!

### Justin Bieber



Justin Bieber's *Under the Mistletoe* is a song that is very Christmassy to listen to. This was one of Justin Bieber's first Christmas albums to release and was the third most popular album ever released at the time. There are other songs you can listen to on Christmas that are sung by Justin Bieber, but I would highly recommend this song and would rate it a 5-Stars as it is one of Justin's best albums for Christmas.

### Selena Gomez



Selena Gomez has been such a great singer for a long time and she is very popular for singing from her heart. Selena Gomez has sung a Christmas song at Disneyland called *Winter Wonderland*. It was very nice to hear. I gave this a 5/5 star rating as I really enjoyed the song, and I can watch the festive video at Christmas which gives me excitement since the video is full of love and happiness.

xxxtentacion



xxxtentacion was a rapper who died in 18 June 2018. It was a terrible tragedy for his family, friends and his wide fan base. xxxtentacions Christmas song was a *Ghetto Christmas Carol* which teenagers can listen to at Christmas with friends. I would rate this song a 5/5 stars as it makes me feel excited before Christmas.

**By Haroon (S3)**

## **The Secret Life of Teachers**

This issue, our spotlight is on Miss Wade in the History department!



**When did you start teaching?**

I started my training in August 2017

**What is the most common phrase that you use with pupils?**

Probably 'be quiet', 'use full sentences', 'let's settle down now please!'

**What's the thing that annoys you most in class?**

When pupils don't pay attention to the instructions or talk over other pupils when they are speaking.

**Did you always want to be a teacher?**

Yes - I used to pretend to be a teacher to my toys when I was very young!

**What is your favourite thing to teach in History?**

WW2, Nazi Germany and the Holocaust - it fascinates me that these events happened less than 100 years ago!

**What is the best gift you received during Christmas and why?**

Samsung slide phone, chocolate and socks.

**Do you have any weird/unusual traditions at Christmas?**

Have to be in pyjamas or watching a movie.

**What is your favourite Christmas song?**

Mariah Carey - 'All I want for Christmas'

**Which one would you rather eat: gingerbread, pudding, chocolate or turkey?**

Pudding and chocolate

By Rose and Alishba (S1)

## **The Techy Latest** Microsoft is Moving on...

**When it's January 14, 2020, Microsoft will be no longer supporting Windows 7. If schools keep on using this software after this date they will possibly have security issues, so it's much easier for hackers and criminals to break into the IT system.**

*So you've all seen Windows 7 before and if you're like me you'll probably miss it when it leaves. A lot of the schools are already updating to Windows 10, and some of our computers at Lenzie Academy now have them.*

**Let's see the differences between the two...**

	<b>Windows 7</b>	<b>Windows 10</b>
Released	July 22, 2009	July 15, 2015
Extended Support Date	January 14, 2020	October 14, 2025
Start Menu	Typical Start Menu	Combination of Start Menu on Windows 7 and includes Live Tiles
Assistance	Windows Help	Includes Voice Activated Personal Assistant – Cortana
Built in browser	Internet Explorer 8	New and improved Microsoft Edge that comes incorporated with Cortana and has a reading mode
Security	Only passwords.	Passwords, biometrics tools such as fingerprint and retina scanners
Use it on other Devices?	Windows 7 runs only on PCs and laptops, not on phones or tablets.	The same Windows 10 will run on the phone, tablet, laptop and PCs
Search	Users can type in the search bar to search within the system	Users can talk and ask Cortana to search something or open applications

It's important to update from time to time. You can't have the same car for 50 years, as it will eventually break down. We should embrace this new technology!



Old

vs



New

By Cameron (S2)

**NEW MEMBER SEARCH!**

If you are interested in writing, drawing, storytelling or anything else come along to C12 (History dept.) at lunch times on Fridays, where we share ideas and edit work. Alternatively, you can submit any articles to Miss Byres in C12 at any time.



*Merry Christmas*

*From the Journalism Club ☺*