

The L.A Times

Spring 2019



The Journalism Club

Lenzie Academy's Journalism Club is one of the many extracurricular activities that the school offers its pupils. 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 meets on Friday at lunchtime in C12. During the club, we plan the article we wish to write, and then we will research the subject 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 its website.

Journalism Club currently has 8 members: Rachel, Olivia, Ava, Kate (S4), Haroon (S3), Cameron (S2), Rose and Alishba (S1). Journalism club 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 itself. We do change up what we write occasionally 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. We feel this 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.

A decorative border of black and white patterned Easter eggs surrounds the text. The eggs are arranged in a rectangular frame, with some eggs also placed along the top and bottom edges.

Transgender Athletes

By Olivia May McW (S4)

Laurel Hubbard: Champion Women's weightlifter.

Rachel Mckinnon: Champion Women's track cyclist.

Terry Miller: Champion Women's sprinter.

What do you notice about the athletes above? Perhaps that they are all champions?

Or maybe with a second more attentive glance you may notice they are all female?

What brings these impressive athletes together is that they were all born biological males.

There has rightly been increasing awareness of transgender rights and inclusion in the fields of entertainment, art and sport over the last few years. 'Transgender' is a term given to all those who identify as the opposite of their biological sex. Those identifying as transgender live their lives as their chosen sex. Often altering their name/appearance and even pursuing surgeries/hormone treatments in order to attain the appearance of their desired sex.

The LGBT community have promoted the inclusion of transgender individuals, in everyday language, bathrooms and now on the playing field. This is to rightly challenge 'everyday' sexism that has been built into our culture. Attention was recently drawn to this issue after Rachel Mckinnon (born a male) won the women's 35-44 sprint during the UCI Masters Track Cycling World Championships in Los Angeles. Her victory was met with praise, and seething anger. Following the grand victory Mckinnon has been showered in 10,000 hate messages and received backlash from several Olympic athletes. What is the cause of this criticism?

As we know there are obvious biological differences between males and females. It is argued that traditionally, males hold a greater physical

advantage over women. They can possess higher muscle mass, helped by the hormone, Testosterone in their bodies.

However, given the negative treatment of those within the LGBT community in recent years, surely this is positive progress for inclusion and equality in the 21st century?



Laurel Hubbard



Rachel McKinnon



Terry Miller

Could a Robot take over from Teachers?

Kate T (S4)

A robot, called Tega, has been developed at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to look cute and cuddly, sound like a child, and act enthusiastic in its body and face while telling a story to children while illustrating it on a screen. Soon, it's going to be trialled in classrooms in Atlanta and Boston in the United States.



It was really interesting to learn that during a trial where Tega read stories to children every week, it was able to ask questions to test the listener's opinion and understanding of a story. It would also ask the meaning of a particular word, or ask the child to describe a character in the story or what they thought might happen next. Tega could also interpret if the child was listening eagerly, or had switched off, and would adjust the delivery to make the child interested again! After the whole story was read, Tega would ask the child to retell the story in their own words. As Tega met with the children every week, it would learn to replace some of words in stories with more complex ones, based on the understanding of each child. Researchers found in comparison tests that the children interacting with Tega had hugely improved vocabularies.

Personalised robot teachers could be a massive resource for schools in poorer areas, or for pupils with special needs. Could we ever imagine a world where robots would teach us in school instead of teachers?

Haroon's Cartoons

By Haroon A (S3)

To make your Easter 2019 extra special how about put on some spectacular Easter shows.

Here are some amazing cartoons you can watch this Easter:

'Funny Little Bunnies'



This is a cartoon classic which shows you what the Easter bunny does when preparing for Easter. This cartoon is very funny and adorable as it shows you the different kinds of bunnies and the kind of activities they are doing for Easter. They operate in secret (a bit like Santa) and only those who believe can visit them in their burrow.

I would give this cartoon **4 stars out of 5** as it is very exciting to watch with family and friends.

'Oswald the Lucky Rabbit'



'Oswald the Lucky Rabbit' is a forgotten Disney character who was made by Walt Disney in 1927. Walt himself described the character: "*Hereafter we will aim to make Oswald a younger character, peppy, alert, saucy and venturesome, keeping him also neat and trim.*" You can remember Oswald by watching his old black and white classics at Easter with anyone that you know and bring back the joyfulness of Oswald the Lucky Rabbit this year.

I would give **4 stars out of 5** for the cartoon series of Oswald.

'Easter Yeggs'



'Easter Yeggs' is a Looney Toons classical with Bugs Bunny and it is about Easter eggs and a bunny called Yegg. The term Yegg is a slang term for a burglar or someone who can crack into safes. This cartoon is about Bugs Bunny delivering Easter eggs to a child who wants an Easter egg.

I would rate this cartoon with **4 stars out of 5** as it is really fun to watch with your family or friends.

All the cartoons above are outstanding to watch with family and friends around you. The cartoons above can be seen on YouTube so I hope you will enjoy these cartoons with your family and friends this Easter with some chocolate treats.

THE KEY OF CURIOSITY

By Rose H (S1)

Milly crouched, breathing heavily in the claustrophobic small alleyway. Her eyes darted across the road, hoping that she would soon find her way out of this terrible situation. Her worn shoes were squeaking with every nerve-wracking step she took. It was like they were screaming for help. She closed her eyes, hoping that everything would just vanish into thin air but this was no fairy tale. Every step she took, she soon regretted it but she knew that she had to keep on going. Her eyes were focused, furious and filled with determination. After what seemed like an eternity, Milly finally made it across the deserted and abandoned road. Fright flooded through her skinny body which was shaking with fear. She wanted to hold herself back but the house in front of her was luring her in, like an enormous monster gobbling her up.

The house she was approaching was tiny, with mouldy windows and ivy vines crawling up its ragged surface. Trees reached out with bony branches like witches' fingers. She peered and squinted her eyes to see inside. It contained rustic and antique furniture with cobwebs hanging from every corner of the small room. She tiptoed up the wooden steps towards the door, her steps echoed like she was in a big open space. Milly had heard mysterious rumours about this place, such as there were many hidden passageways and entrances into strange unknown places. It made her very curious. She felt around in her floppy skirt pocket and pulled out a small Kirby clip. She fiddled with it and placed it in the tiny miniature key hole. Despite her quivering hand, she managed to finally unlock the heavy wooden storm doors. **SHE WAS IN!**



Her eyes wandered around the room looking into every nook and cranny they found. Close to her right, hung a painting. She ran her wrinkled and dainty fingers over its smooth surface and then she heard a sudden click. The painting suddenly thumped to the left and a small key emerged from what looked like a pitch-black hole behind the painting. The key was shimmering and sparkling making Milly's eyes glimmer and shine. She could see her reflection on the gold shiny surface. Surrounding the key was crumbled brickwork which looked ancient. Excitement crawled through her making her shiver. Her hands felt wet with sweat as she slowly reached out for the key.

A deafening noise echoed through the open space. Milly darted and covered in a small corner. Her ears pricked up and she heard a faint noise that seemed to be descending down the stairs next to the crooked banister. A thin, greasy and grimy hand crawled around the peach coloured wall, its texture looked like elephants' wrinkly skin and it was a tinted a slight shade of green. Milly was horrified, her heart was pounding. She hoped with all her might that she was hallucinating but it all looked so real. The creature slithered down the rest of the steep carpeted steps. Its eyes were bulging out of its thin head. It purred like a tiger and then inspected the room like a detective on an investigation. It pounced in one direction and then leaped in the other direction like a ballet dancer but without the elegance. Confused, Milly waddled a bit closer to try to examine the creature more closely. In an instant, the creature shot across the room and snatched the golden key. The creature swiftly moved to the centre of the room where there was a small key hole. The key slotted in effortlessly and suddenly, without another moment to think, a square of the wooden oak floor flew open and Milly plummeted down a pitch-black hole!

To be continued.....



QUIZZES AND PUZZLES...

By Francesca J. Rose J and Alishba S (S1)

Think puzzles at the back of newspapers are only for old people? Think again!
Test your head with our selection of quizzes, riddles and puzzles

- 1.) A man named Henry had 3 daughters. The eldest was 5 times the age of the youngest. The middle child was 2 thirds of the age of the eldest and 3 times the age of the youngest.
...What age were the children?
- 2.) How many lego bricks stacked together would it take to reach the moon?
 - a) 40 million
 - b) 40 trillion
 - c) 1178 billion
 - d) 50 billion
- 3.) Pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconiosis is the longest word in the English language.
 - a) True
 - b) False
- 4.) What has eyes but cannot see? (**hint:** not a blind person)
- 5.) Spot the differences! (this is tricky)



Fast Easter quiz

Happy Easter!



- 1.) Which bird lays the largest egg?
- 2.) Who wrote a children book entitled 'Green Eggs and Ham'?
- 3.) Which came first at Easter?
 - a) Chicken
 - b) Eggs
 - c) None of the above
- 4.) Rabbits with long ears can't hear as well as those with ears upright?
 - a) True
 - b) False
- 5.) What is the name given to the Thursday before Easter Day?
- 6.) Which types of flower are traditionally exchanged on Easter Day?
- 7.) Which date is the earliest date in the calendar that Easter Sunday can take place?
- 8.) What name is given to the first day of Easter Week?

Write your answers, with your name and year group on a piece of paper and hand into Miss Byres in C12 by 30th April for a prize.

Maze: Start at top left corner then follow a path.

Add/subtract/multiply/divide the numbers as you pass them to add up to 100. Finish at the bottom right hand corner.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 4 | 5 | | | 1 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 6 |
| 7 | 6 | 8 | 8 | | 0 | | | | 7 |
| 5 | | | 9 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 2 |
| 8 | | | 7 | 9 | | | | | 1 |
| 8 | | | 5 | 8 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 8 | 8 |
| 4 | 9 | 2 | 2 | | | | | | 3 |
| | | 1 | 2 | | | | 1 | 2 | 6 |
| 1 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 8 | 9 | | 3 | | |
| 2 | | | 0 | | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | |
| 1 | 5 | 9 | 9 | | | | | | 8 |

Submit answers into Miss Byres in C12 by 30th April to claim a prize! 😊

A decorative border of black and white patterned Easter eggs surrounds the text. The eggs are arranged in a rectangular frame, with some eggs at the corners and others along the sides.

NEW MEMBER SEARCH!

If you are interested in writing, drawing, storytelling or anything else then you are more than welcome to come along to C12 (History dept.) at lunch time on Fridays (1.10-1.45pm) where we share ideas and edit work.

Alternatively, you can submit any articles to Miss Byres in C12 at any time.

Have an enjoyable Easter!

The Journalism Club ☺ ☺