

THE EAGLE

BY THE PUPILS. FOR THE PUPILS.

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This issue is about all things spooktular!

There are reviews of spooky books and films, as well as the regular features such as our agony aunt giving out advice, and an interview with the scariest teacher in school – Mr Were!

Please enjoy this issue and remember to see Miss Chapman in 213 if you would be interested in contributing to The Eagle!

Top 10

By Lily Robson, Y11

For this issue, I will be listing the Top 10 Halloween Traditions, all famous in their own right. Making the list is:

1. Stroking A Black Cat- some say it's bad luck, especially on this spooky day, but I see as a healthy challenge, or me throwing away any good karma I had.
2. Spiking the Sweet Bowl- if you are giving away any goods to Trick or Treaters this year, it's a rite of passage to add a brussel sprout covered in chocolate to the mix, so that a lucky participant may receive it.
3. Carving A Squash- you've heard of pumpkin carving, but this is way better.
4. Scaring All of Your Teachers- this one involves giving a teacher the most terrible fright, when saying you forgot your homework.
5. Being A Ghost- you have an excuse to say you were present in spirit at your lesson for when asked where you were.
6. Spiders- place spiders (they don't have to be fake) everywhere, for example on the toilet seat.
7. Slime- make slime in science then stick it to all the teachers' backs.
8. Being A Zombie- for this look you really need to be able to pull off a tired and dishevelled feel, although for Halloween I like to be something a bit different than my usual self.
9. Watching A Horror Film- my personal favourite are The Lego Movie, The Notebook and Lassie Come Home.
10. Scaring Yourself- this can be done by simply looking in the mirror.

Brexit: What's Happening?

By Philip Collins White

Brexit was meant to happen on the 31st October, but it didn't; so what did happen?

For those who don't know about Brexit, on the 23rd June 2016 a referendum was held throughout the United Kingdom, where 52% of the population voted to leave the European Union. The European Union is an economic and political union which allows free trade and free movement of people. Made of 28 countries, Britain will be the first country to leave, having joined in 1973.

In 2017, previous Prime Minister Theresa May triggered Article 50, which is the formal process for leaving the union. Although this meant Brexit was scheduled for 29th March 2019, this was then delayed twice until the 31st October.

The deal was first delayed due to the Irish backstop, this is the plan to make sure that Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland had a transparent border to help keep tensions between the two countries lowered and to aid the people who lived on the border.



MPs voted against the deal the first time and subsequently the second time due to the fact that the backstop, while only needed if Britain and the EU can't arrange a trade deal, had no way of ending, and keeps Britain in the same customs territory as the European Union.

In July 2019, Boris Johnson succeeded Theresa May as Prime Minister and took up the task of negotiating another deal. In this deal he created a customs and regulations border between Northern Ireland and Britain, where goods would have to pay an import tax.

Brexit: What's Happening?

This was also delayed on the 19th October, as MPs were waiting so the agreement was made into legislation that could then be passed into law before voting on it. Due to the Oliver Letwin amendment that had been passed on the same day, this then meant that Mr Johnson had to send a letter to the EU asking for an extension, which has now been granted till the 31st January 2020.

Now, Britain is heading for a general election on the 12th December, which would be the third since 2015. This is because the Prime Minister believes he doesn't have enough MPs who agree with him, so by holding another election he may gain enough MPs to help him carry out acts like passing a new Brexit deal. In addition, it will be a good signifier of the public's mood, and will help politicians determine what the public are asking for.

Currently the conservative party holds 298 seats and the labour party holds 244 seats, meaning that no party has a majority (326 seats). Some people are considering tactical voting (the practice of voting so another party won't obtain the seat), so that they can remove certain parties from the house.

Now, we're heading into a general election which will have a major impact on the future of Britain.



Saffron Sorts It!

Our friendly neighbourhood agony aunt is here to help with all of your worries and woes.



What if I can't afford a costume?

In this situation, ask one of your friends if they have any fake blood/ face paint you could use and make your own costume and make yourself look spooky. If this doesn't work and you have a pound or so, put on your regular clothes and grab some string and paper. Put the string through the paper and put it around your neck. Write 'life' on the paper, buy some lemons and give them out. Because when life gives you lemons..

What if I don't get invited anywhere?

I know this situation can be heart breaking but honestly just casually go 'Is anyone having a party this year?' and someone may say 'Yeah' or no one will say anything. If nobody says anything then honestly, grab some spooky treats and watch some spooky films in the comfort of your own home. It's not the end of the world, trust me! Just enjoy this spooky season for what it is.

What if a party goes wrong?

Well my darling, if a party goes wrong in the sense that you feel uncomfortable or as if you no longer want to be in *the zone* then leave! Talk to the person who is throwing the party and say 'Hey, I'm going to get going, thank you for inviting me but I have to get home. Bye!' and all should be okay. Just don't force yourself into an uncomfortable situation .

Meet the Teacher: Mr Were

By Caitlin Jones, Y11

What inspired you to be an English teacher?

English was always my favourite subject at school, and I studied it at University. However, in terms of getting me thinking 'I'd like to do that', it was my own English teacher, Mrs Jackson. She was a little ginger firecracker of a woman, and she just made the subject come alive.

Do you have any Halloween plans?

I hate Halloween with a passion - not sure why, it's just never taken off for me. I'm in Paris over half term so hopefully I can keep well away from it.

What do you do in your spare time?

I love to travel. This year I've been to Hungary, Spain, America, and I've got France and Denmark booked up for now and Christmas. I love trying the local delicacies (and shops!).

What's your biggest tip for KS4 students?

Be positive. I have seen so many able pupils crushed by anxiety, fear or just an inability to look past what their exams. Yes, GCSEs are important but if you prepare for them correctly you won't have anything to worry about.

How would you describe yourself as a student in three words?

Capable but chatty.

Do you have any prom suit plans?

Haha, no unfortunately not. I usually just wear a suit I've purchased for another event.

What's on the top of your bucket list?

I'd love to visit India.



What would you be if you weren't an English teacher?

I wanted to be a journalist when I was younger. In my head it was the cut and thrust of Fleet Street, however in reality it would've been reporting on a cat up a tree in some local rag.

What's your favourite holiday of the year and why?

I did a tour of America this year, visiting NYC, Washington, Las Vegas, San Antonio (in Texas) and Miami. All of those places were incredible; the people, food and weather was exceptional. Clocking up 13500 miles did take its toll though.....

What's your favourite thing about Portsmouth?

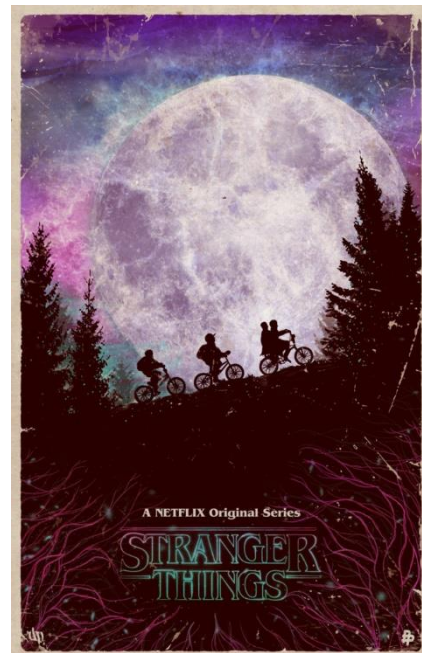
It's such a melting pot; of people, of places. It's rough and ready but then it has the Southsea scene. Its inner city attached to a beach with countryside over the hill. It's got a bit of everything for everyone, and I honestly think people take it for granted. It's only when you visit other places in the UK you realise how fantastic it really is. Portsmouth 'til I die!

Stranger Things: Review

By Mia Laver, Y9

This thrilling Netflix original, *Stranger Things*, is arguably the best thing to watch on Netflix. So far it has 3 series (season 4 is coming soon), all about around a girl named Eleven and four boys: one of the boys goes missing and the others try and find him. While trying to find him they bump into Eleven and there are many little adventures they have together throughout the series. The main characters are, Eleven, Dustin, Mike, Will, Lucas, Nancy, Steve, Hopper and Max.

Stranger things will get you to know a character and then they die, making you want to see how they will react and what they will do (plus making you cry your eyes out). It's set back in 1983. There are so many twists and turns throughout these series it keeps you hooked not knowing what's going to happen next. You just want to stay up all night and find out what will happen and if everything goes right for them.



Book Review

By Zak Glanville, Y9

Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children by Ransom Riggs

This book is all about Jacob Portman and his journey to understand his grandfather's dying words and his mysterious death.

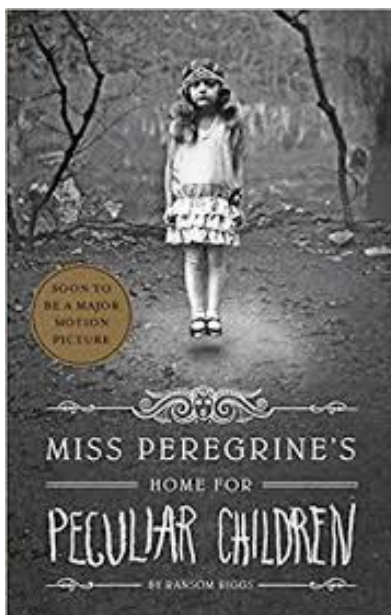
So, he must travel to a small island in England and find the orphanage his grandfather stayed at with his father.

I would recommend this book for year 8 and above as it is a 14-19 and does contain gore but this is not the main focus and a lot more of the book is spent being creepy but not horror. This book was created with a unique style that I haven't read before as the book is based upon old black and white photos that the author found usually creepy ones like two children dressed in white clothes that completely hide them while one of them is eating a ribbon (shown below).

Anyone who has seen the film should expect large changes and should remember that the book is the set up for a series and not a complete story.

In my opinion the biggest problem is the twins who appear once say nothing and never appear again or mentioned again which is strange as they have the most memorable photos.

I give this book four out of five stars.



Film Review: Joker

By CharlotteGolding, Y10

Does Joker Live Up to the Hype?

I am sure that you have all heard about the new film Joker that has recently hit the cinema screens. But you may be wondering – is it worth seeing?

To find out if it is as good as it is made out to be, I went to see the renowned Joker.

Firstly, I am going to say that Joker is rated a 15 so some Year 10s and all Year 11s can watch this movie.

Here is a synopsis of the movie:

Joker is a Drama-Thriller about a man named Arthur Fleck who suffers from mental illness and an uncontrollable laugh. Arthur feels isolated and disregarded by society. In an attempt to reverse this, Arthur turns his day job dressing up as a clown, into an attempt to become part of the world around him. Arthur's side-job as a comedian picks up after it is given attention by a popular TV talk-show. Fleck begins a steady descent into madness due to the sudden popularity and chaos in his life.



Now, after seeing Joker for myself, would I recommend it?

Overall, I really think Joker does live up to the hype. There are so many aspects that have obviously been thought about in depth that make the film so great, such as the music which accompanies the action perfectly.

Joaquin Phoenix, who plays Arthur Fleck and his alter ego 'the Joker', plays the character very well and really gives the audience an insight into Fleck's mind.

I would recommend this film to anyone who loves Drama/Thrillers and doesn't mind violence. It is a very interesting film that tells the background of the Joker, so if you have already watched and loved other DC films such as Suicide Squad then Joker is for you.

