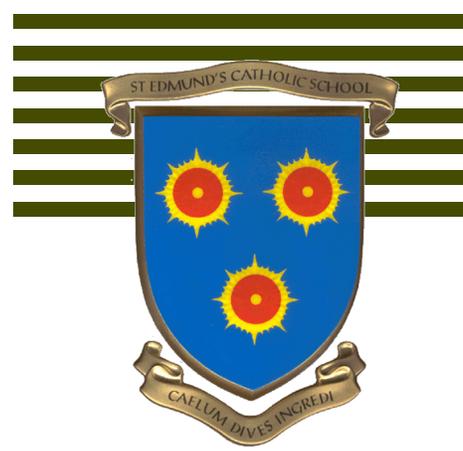


THE EAGLE

BY THE PUPILS. FOR THE PUPILS.

ISSUE NO 51 | DECEMBER '18 |



Merry Christmas!
We hope that you have a joyful and peaceful break.

We hope that you enjoy this issue and remember to see Miss Chapman in 213 if you would be interested in contributing to The Eagle.

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News stories of 2018

By Caitlin Jones, Y10

2018 is almost coming to an end, there has been many stories throughout the year that have been viewed all over the globe. Some have brought light, others not so much. Each month there has been a variety of stories sending all the messages to fellow readers. Here is a short overview of each month:

January

- 12th: US President, Donald Trump, scraps a planned visit to the UK, blaming Barack Obama for a “bad deal” on the new embassy due to be opened in London, despite the fact that it was agreed under the administration of George W Bush.
- 17th: French President, Emmanuel Macron, agrees to loan the Bayeux Tapestry to the UK, it is the first time in 950 years that it will have left France.
- 30th: A leaked government paper shows that Brexit will damage the UK economy no matter what kind of deal is agreed, with up to 8% of GDP growth lost within fifteen years.

February

- 3rd: Youtuber KSI defeats Joe Weller in three rounds in a boxing match streamed on YouTube at the Copper Box arena. It is considered to be the biggest event in YouTube history. 20 million watched the fight on live stream.
- 27th: Heavy snow causes disruption until the 4th of March. The Met Office release the first ever red snow warning in Scotland.
- 27th: The Labour Party introduce Munroe Bergdorf as a LGBTQ+ advisor to shadow Secretary of State for Women and Equalities, Dawn Butler

March

- 4th: Sergei Skripal and his daughter Yulia are poisoned with a publicly unidentified nerve agent in Salisbury.
- 14th: Stephen Hawking dies at his home in Cambridge aged 76.
- 15th: Theresa May visits Salisbury. In a joint statement, the leaders of the UK, US, France and Germany state that Russian Involvement in the act is the only plausible option

April

- 14th: UK, France and US order the bombing of Syrian Military Bases in response to the sarin chemical attack allegedly by Bashar al-Assad regime on civilians in Ghouta.
- 18th: Theresa May suffers two defeats in the House of Lords for customs union between the EU and the UK and for ministers to use secondary legislation to water down existing EU rights when transferred to UK law.
- 22nd: London Marathon takes place and the hottest temperatures ever for it are recorded.

May

- 3rd: Elections for local councils are held in England. 33 losses for the Conservatives, 77 gained for Labour, 75 for Liberal Democrats and 8 for the Green Party. UKIP are almost wiped out, only retaining three seats!
- 11th: Theresa May agrees to appoint a panel to help oversee the Grenfell fire inquiry.
- 19th: Prince Harry and Meghan Markle are married with a global audience of 1.9 billion.

June

- 17th: The government announces to fund the NHS £20 billion by 2023.
- 20th: Theresa May condemns the separation of children and parents at the US border by the President himself.
- 24th: Record-breaking wildfires are recorded across the UK as it starts to heat up.

August

- 14th: A man is arrested on suspicion of terrorism offences after a car is driven into people and cyclists near the Houses of Parliament.
- 25th: KSI and Logan Paul have a boxing match. It went down as the biggest event in YouTube history.
- 31st: London's £15 billion Crossrail line, Europe's largest infrastructure project, is delayed for nine months.

October

- 12th: The wedding of Princess Eugenie and Jack Brooksbank takes place at St. George's Chapel in Windsor Castle.
- 16th: Pepper becomes the first robot to speak in parliament.
- 25th: Officially announced the women in the army are now entitled to senior roles.

December

- 1st: The EU Galileo satellite system will not be used by the UK government after Brexit.
- 10th: The European Courts of Justice rules that the UK can cancel Article 50 without the consent of the 27 other EU states.
- 12th: Theresa May wins her vote of the Conservative MPs by 200-117.

July

- 3rd: England defeats Colombia in the World Cup.
- 4th: Another man and woman are exposed to the nerve agent Novichok that poisoned Sergei Skripal and his daughter.
- 10th: The RAF celebrates its 100th anniversary.

September

- 5th: Two Russian nationals are named as suspects of the Skripal poisoning.
- 21st: The pound falls by its highest amount of the year so far.
- 24th: Testimonies are heard from the Contaminated Blood Scandal. NHS' worst ever treatment disaster.

November

- 4th: Ross Edgley, 33, officially becomes the first person to swim around the entire coast of Great Britain. The 1,780 miles took 157 days.
- 11th: The UK commemorates the 100th anniversary of the end of the first world war.
- 14th: Theresa May secures Cabinet on her Brexit agreement.

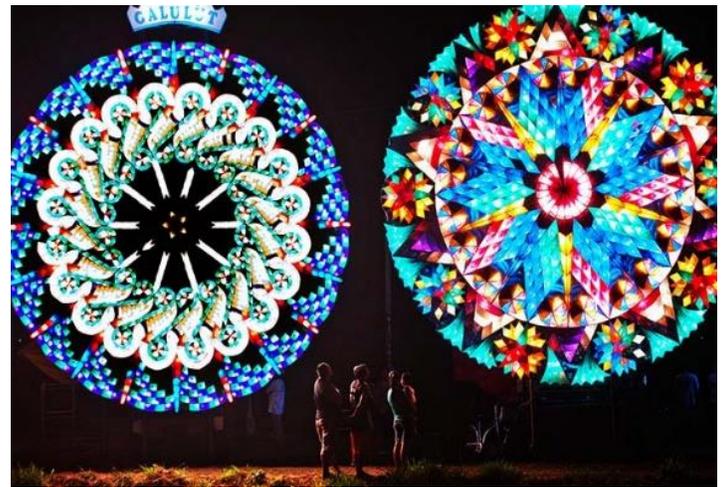
How do Other Countries Celebrate During the Festive Season?

By Marinela Pervataj, Y7

It's the most wonderful time of the year. For a couple of weeks every year the world takes on a magic glow, people seem merrier and even winter somehow feels cosy. Whether you're celebrating a religious festival, like Hanukkah or Christmas, or a more secular occasion, you're sure to have your own selection of rituals or customs that make the holiday season so special.

Giant Lantern Festival, Philippines

Ligligan Parul Sampernandu, is a light festival held in the capital of Christmas – Manila. Villages and major cities take part in creating the most remarkable lantern. Originally, the lanterns were simple creations of around half a metre in diameter, made from 'papel de hapon' (Japanese origami paper) and lit by candle. Today, the lanterns are made from a variety of materials and have grown to around six metres in size. They are illuminated by electric bulbs that sparkle in a kaleidoscope of patterns.



Sweden, Saint Lucia

Advent for the Swedish begins on the 13th of December, the feast day of their most fearless saint and martyr, st Lucía. She was highly renowned for always having two hands to assist the poverty-stricken and a heart to care for the whole country. Today girls wear candles around their necks and parade down the streets in a sea of light to commemorate this wonderful saint. A popular food eaten at St. Lucia's day are 'Lussekatts', St Lucia's day buns flavoured with saffron and dotted with raisins which are eaten for breakfast. Another act of kindness people perform to remember this saint, Lucia's also visit hospitals and old people's homes singing a song about St Lucia and handing out 'Pepparkakor', ginger snap biscuits.



Germany, the Christmas pickle

The Christmas tree first originated in Germany, in the late 1600's were families would go and choose pine trees to persuade saint Nicholas to visit their homes. The Ukrainians have adapted to the tradition by decorating their trees in cobwebs, to embrace the natural side of these festivities. However, the Germans hide a pickle in their trees and the child who is said to find it first would receive a gift. Others argue that this tradition was started in Spain when two dying prisoners found a magical pickle that restored their health. The dispute goes on.



Sinterklaas, the Netherlands

Every year in the days leading up to December 5th, Dutch children eagerly place their shoes by the fire in hopes that Sinterklaas will fill them with small gifts and treats in the night. Traditionally, carrots are left in the shoes for the companion of Sinterklaas, a white horse named Amerigo. In the olden days, naughty children would receive a potato in lieu of gifts. Amerigo's were also known for leaving sweets by good children's homes on the night of Christmas eve, but only to be eaten when the first star appears in the sky.



Christmas traditions in Australia

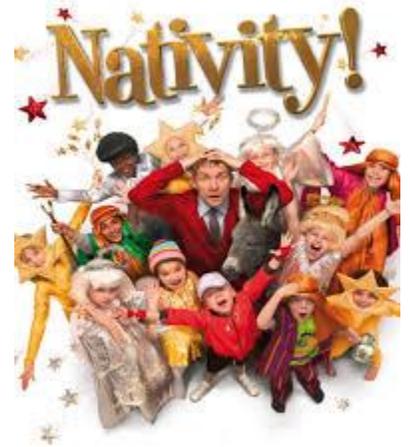
There's no single traditional dish for Christmas lunch in Australia. Usually, the biggest meal is lunchtime on Christmas Day, although for some families it's the evening meal. While some people stick to a traditional turkey or roast dinner, other popular centrepieces including cold ham, cold roast chickens and seafood, especially prawns by the kilo! Even Asian dishes sometimes make an appearance.



What's your favourite...?

with Mr Maguire

By Philip Collins Wight, Y10



Q: What's your favourite Christmas film?

A: It's got to be the Nativity franchise because I like the comedic way that the birth of Jesus is brought to life. And, of course, Mr Poppy is my teaching idol.

Q: What's your favourite game to play at Christmas?

A: One that causes tears every single year, and those are just mine, is playing Monopoly with the family and winding everyone up.



Q: What's your favourite Christmas story?

A: Well, I've got to fulfil the stereotype of an R.E. teacher and say it's the Nativity, as it's the purpose of Christmas.

Q: What's your favourite Christmas song?

A: Definitely We Three Kings of Orient Are, there's nothing better than hearing the song being belted out in a northern church.



Saffron Sorts It!

Our friendly neighbourhood agony aunt Saffron Stedall is here to help with all of your worries and woes. This week, it is a holiday special...



What do I do if I can't afford Christmas presents for my friends?

Honestly, I bet your friends won't mind. Try do Christmas cards if you can and even if not, wish them a Merry Christmas and they will most likely be okay with that. If you really want to do something special, get your hand on some card and make them personalised Christmas cards. (Pop up will win you a few points if you can!) Don't stress, honestly. If your friends make a big fuss out of it, they were never worth your worrying anyway.

What do I do I have revision over the holidays but I want to spend time with my family?

Dude, you break up on the 21st so even if you don't revise until the 27th. You've got time. Don't make the excuse that you didn't have enough time as you did. No matter where you are, even 10 minutes of work or reading helps. Just try your best and do as much revision as possible and no one can ask for more. It's only yourself you're helping.

What should I do if I have no idea what to get someone for secret Santa?

Hmm...treats are always a good bet. Try to think of things apart from chocolate as that's not very original. Go Christmassy like truffles or gingerbread. Maybe get a small teddy bear. Think cute and original. Just make sure they don't have any allergies first, you don't want a Christmas tragedy.

What should I do if I don't get the present I REALLY wanted?

I know it can be difficult when you hoped and prayed for something but that's not what Christmas is about. Don't be too sad as although your disappointment is justified, it shouldn't ruin your day. Be grateful for what you do have, someone thought of you when they saw it; isn't that amazing? Someone looked at it and thought you'd like it. The holidays are about cherishing your family. So say thank you, be upset for a little bit and then move on. It's not as big as it seems, I promise.

Creative Writing

Our award winning author in Year 8, Ana Clarke treats us to her latest work. It will be published chapter by chapter, so make sure that you get your copy of The Eagle every month for the latest instalment.

Chapter 3

Again and again that unseen villain struck and that mysterious shadow grief wrestled with my heart. Its cold finger did nothing but freeze my soul and even the happiness that had come before could not beat back the devouring beast.

I could no longer see any point to my love, my hope, my kindness. I slowly began to realise that there had never been any point to these things in the first place. I had been blinded by the superficial joys of life in the world, but death had pulled back the mask and shown me the truth at last.

Now I had seen the truth, I could no longer go back. I was so self-absorbed. How had I never thought of all this before? I was an imprudent, egoistic, senseless, useless piece of wood.

The tree looked around itself. It was changed but for the worse. AS it saw all the other plants the trees began to die. The wood fell of its decaying trunk AND THE LEAVES SLOWLY FLUTTERED TO THE FLOOR.

Meet the Teacher: Mr Fairey

By Caitlin Jones, Y10

What's your favourite Christmas ever?

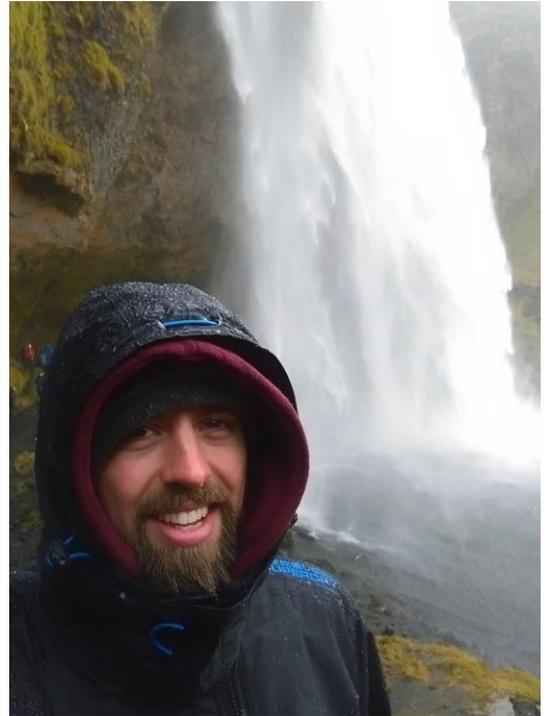
When I was about twelve or thirteen, I had a massive learning situation. I told my parents -and made it very clear- that I wanted these two computer games for our mega drive. I really wanted them and I remember feeling it so strongly. It came to Christmas day, I looked under the Christmas tree and I couldn't see any computer game sized boxes. I could see stuff that looked like clothes; I don't care about clothes. I ripped open the package and it was clothes. I looked at my parents and I was so disappointed. I was a real spoilt child. As I dug through the clothes, I found the games, the look on my dad's face was with utter disgust of my behaviour. This completely changed my outlook of gifts. I became a better person that day; the shame in not appreciating what my parents have done for me.

How many Christmas baubles are excessive?

If you can no longer see the tree, you're allowed one less than that.

What's your favourite subject apart from your own?

Dance. If I could do anything, I would like to do dance. If I could do any subject that I wasn't able to do at school it would definitely be dance. I think that it adds a lot. I would have loved to been able to dance as a young man and not be awkward. Dance adds a lot to life and I believe that it is really valuable to young men with their self-confidence. I totally believe this.



Where do you stand on Brussel sprouts?

There is a new pizza in the Co-op that has Brussel sprouts on it; it is not too bad. I would be a no-no as a kiddo, maybe more-so as a... adult. They still taste not nice.

What's your favourite number?

My favourite number is seven because if you ask anyone to think of a number between one or ten, they will say seven. Afterwards, they will say three. All the readers who say that they wouldn't, they just did! Lies!

Meet the Teacher: Mr Fairey

By Caitlin Jones, Y10

Why did you choose to be a maths teacher?

I have an astrophysics degree but I do not like chemistry or biology. I have a physics masters, so I could be a physics teacher but I really don't like the other sciences. I discovered that I really liked teaching when I had to do a bit in university. I realised that I could teach maths instead. There is a lot of maths within physics. In my masters, we went up to the second year or what the maths students do. A maths degree is very focused. Astronomy is describing the world with maths.

Why should students pick astronomy for GCSE?

This is a great question; it is clearly the best subject. Basically, it's a study of the universe. It gives you a great sense of wellbeing knowing how everything around you works. Things that you see every day, you're able to gain a better understanding of such as the stars, the sun and how everything orbits another and how they all work together. We go into greater detail than you do in physics, you learn where the universe is going and where it comes from and how it was all *created*. We learn lots about the universe, it's quite a romantic skill. It's a beautiful and lifelong skill. It is full of interesting facts.

What's your favourite star sign?

That's a tough shout! I'm a Virgo, as soon as you said that I thought Cassiopeia but it's not a zodiac. It would be Virgo.

In your opinion, what happened before the Big Bang?

That's a great question. I do not know. I don't know what the universe is expanding into, what contains the universe. Your mind can get close to what the question is comprehending and then it freaks out. It will run away from it because it is actually terrifying. Everything is contained within something: your brain inside your head, your head inside your body, body in the building, building in England, England in Europe, Europe in the world, the world in the Solar System, Solar System in the Milky way, the Milky Way in the Virgo Supercluster which is within the universe. What is the universe within? It has to be within something. What is outside of that? It does not make sense because at some point it has to stop. Our brains cannot comprehend it all.

Where do you stand on Brussel sprouts?

There is a new pizza in the Co-op that has Brussel spouts on it; it is not too bad. I would be a no-no as a kiddo, maybe more-so as a... adult. They still taste not nice.

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Frankie Leaning of 8 John Paul has written a fantastic poem all about the holidays:

The Little Details

Colourful flashing lights light up the streets,
And carollers sing their hearts out

The holidays,
A joyous time

It just seems that the
Bright colours, warming fires
And comfy Christmas jumpers

Warm up the hearts
Of others
Even those that that give the impression
That they are made of ice

The nativity brings those from all around
To watch the joyous faces of the children sing

Every parents wish is to give their child a perfect holiday
Rushing to shopping centres
Let the Christmas shopping chaos commence

Herds of worried minds
Grab what is closest

Christmas sales spread across the city
Hurrying to get the Christmas jumpers
And stockings

Happy families snuggling up for warmth
Wishing for snow

School kids watching the time tick down
To the end of term
To the holidays

Plans for a trip to other countries
Worry busy minds
As people hope to get away

Christmas trees spread an amazing scent around the house
Welcoming you every time you open the door

Fridges being filled
With snacks and chocolates

Cards slip through the post box
Everyone wishing you a
Happy holidays!

The best and worst of:

The Nightmare Before Christmas

By Jamie O'Farrell

Hello, me again! This time I'm here to share my opinions on one of my favourite Disney musicals, The Nightmare Before Christmas! (Warning! Opinions inbound!)

Best song: What's This?

I'm sure we all remember this one! This song begins when Jack discovers the whimsical land of Christmas Town. The tune is upbeat and just gets you up and jumping. While this song is brilliant, I do have one question: How does he know what snowballs are? He's been in Christmas town for about a minute and a half...

There are no bad songs in this movie by the way...



Best Character: Jack Skellington

I sure do love being predictable! *laughs hysterically*. The main protagonist of this movie has a simple motivation: Bring Christmas to Halloween Town. He's an ambitious character who knows what he needs to do. Though he soon crashes and burns after being hit by a missile whilst driving his "sleigh" and delivering "presents" dressed as Santa Claus. This causes him to realise that he is, in fact, The Pumpkin King.

Worst Character: This Guy!

The Mayor of Halloween Town has no purpose in this movie other than to provide unnecessary comedy. He's undeveloped and his hat is too big! Most of us know this guy as "The spiny-face bloke", instead of just "The Mayor". Also, has anyone realised that he's literally a two faced politician? No? Just me? Ok then...



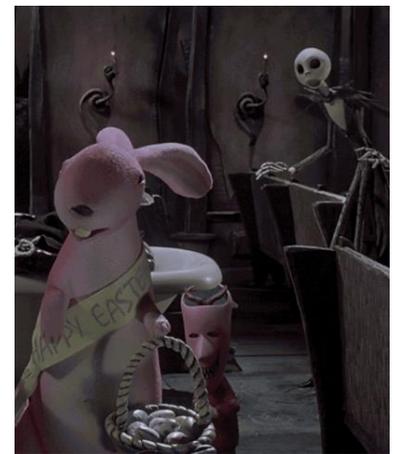


Best scene: This is Halloween

This opening scene gives us a perfect look of what the next 80 minutes is going to look like and it demonstrates how great the painfully slow process of Stop Motion worked. We are introduced to many frightening creatures during the scene: The Clown with the tear away face, The Vampires, Whatever that is up there? You get my point. However, if they knew how to use stop motion, then why did they animate the ghosts by hand?

Worst (or most forgettable)scene: The Easter Bunny

This is what I mean when I say "unnecessary comedy". Jack sends 3 random kids, that we're never introduced to before now, to capture Santa Claus. After a few hours, the kids come back with a sack in a bathtub. Inside this bag is the Easter Bunny, whom they believe is Santa Claus. Jack figures this out and sends them off to take back the Bunny, and actually find Santa Claus. *Yawns In Boredom* Is this scene over yet?



Finally.... Best Animation: Jack Skellington

The reason I decided to mention this is because Jack Skellington's facial expressions were created through moulding pieces of clay and swapping them out for each facial movement of expressions. Pretty impressive, eh?

Anyway, thats all I've got for now. Check us out in January, when I go over the top 10 Transfers of the January Transfer Window!

If you have any suggestions for a best and worst, contact me at Ofarrellja17@saintedmunds.org.uk

Top 10

by Lily Robson, Y10

In this month's issue, I will be listing the top 10 best gifts to receive this wintery season. Making the list in no particular order are:

1. A St. Ed's pupil- a great one to add to your collection.
2. A good Brexit deal.
3. An egg - a cracking way to start your holidays.
4. An AQA membership- includes sneak peeks of upcoming papers and a multipack of mark schemes.
5. A personalise student planner- with personal photos, dates and your preferred colour scheme.
6. A stair plough- an item which clears the stairs of people when you're trying to get past.
7. Kale.
8. A pair of socks with socks on- a innovative design.
9. A wheelie bin- a eco-friendly method of transportation.
10. Wrapping paper- admit it, it's better than the gift.

Join us next time, for more exciting new top tens!