



The Nascot News

SPRING TERM

ISSUE: 10

MARCH 2026



Hello everyone,

We hope you have all had a wonderful Spring Term and that you enjoyed reading Issue 9. We are excited to share Issue 10 with you all!

There have been lots of exciting events this term from school trips to workshops and lots of fun assemblies. Year 3 enjoyed their Egyptian day, Year 5 had an enjoyable Saxon-Viking day, it was nice to see everyone dressed up and Year 6 also took part in a virtual World War 2 workshop about life on the Homefront. The whole school enjoyed the Shakespeare rewired workshop which linked well with World Book Day.

This was also a milestone month for the Year 6 children as they found their secondary school allocations for September. It is hard to believe we only have one term left at NWJS.

In this issue, we have lots of great articles and reviews. We have interviews from previous NWJS students, interesting facts about the Vikings; Part 2 of the short story 'Isabel'; a wordsearch; jokes and lots more great articles. We also have the winners for the Spring Poem Competition.

Thank you to everyone who has taken part in the Interviews as well as all the children who have contributed towards this issue of the Nascot News and to the teachers who have supported us again.

We hope you have a lovely Easter holiday.

Tiaana and Zachary

Editors



Interviews



Vikings

Isabel
part two

Isabel



Poem
Competition

Interviews With Former NWJS Students

By Tiaana Year 6 Rowan Class

Earlier this month Year 6 students found out about their Secondary school allocations and I wanted to get some advice from students who have been through this process before. Some former NWJS students very kindly agreed to be interviewed and I hope that this helps give an insight into the exciting times ahead.

Thank you to everyone who took time out of their day to take part in this interview. It was lovely to speak to so many former students and hear about their memories of NWJS.

Year 7: Edward

What school do you go to?

Watford Grammar School for Boys.

You have been at your new school for just over term, how have you settled in so far?

I have settled in well. I have made lots of new friends and I am enjoying year 7.

Did you get lost around the school in the first few weeks in your new school?

No, I didn't get lost because I was given a map of the school and we travelled to our different classrooms as a form. I am in form 7 Cassio.

How did it feel moving from NWJS to secondary school and was it more different then you thought it might be?

Watford Boys' Grammar is much bigger than NWJS and it can be crowded at times, which took a bit of time getting used to.

What was your favorite memory from NWJS and why?

I really enjoyed going to the O2 Arena to sing at the Young Voices' concert because it was really exciting and I enjoyed being with my friends.

What was your favourite subject at NWJS and has it changed since you have moved to secondary school and why?

My favourite subject at NWJS was maths, but now I am really enjoying Design Technology because I like using the tools to make items like nightlights and spinning tops.

If you could change one rule at secondary school what would it be and why?

Our lunch time is at 1:15pm, so I would like to change that back to 12:00pm.

What do you miss most about NWJS?

I miss many things including the teachers, playing in the school orchestra and the small amount of homework we were given.

Year 7: Maya

What school do you go to?

Royal Masonic School

You have been at your new school for just over term, how have you settled in so far?

I have settled in very well. I have joined a range of multiple clubs such as flute ensemble and orchestra and sports clubs like netball and the school gymnastics squad. It has helped me meet different people from other forms.

Did you get lost around the school in the first few weeks in your new school?

I didn't get lost but I struggled to walk the distance from class to class in the little time we had between lessons. It is so much bigger than junior school and we have different classrooms for each lesson.

How did it feel moving from NWJS to secondary school and was it more different then you thought it might be?

It was a big change moving schools having to make new friends and meet new teachers. However, I found it was very easy to make friends. I would say it was easier than I thought it would be. Everyone was much friendlier than expected and in the end I was not scared at all. All my teachers are very approachable and lovely.

What was your favorite memory from NWJS and why?

I think it was the Isle of Wight because it was a time to enjoy and relax with friends that we had been with for a long time and we went to so many fun places.

What was your favourite subject at NWJS and has it changed since you have moved to secondary school and why?

My favourite subject was probably English but as I moved to secondary school I started to develop a love for Food and Nutrition as the school provided this lesson in the academic curriculum. However, I still enjoy creative writing and have a lovely English teacher.

If you could change one rule at secondary school what would it be and why?

I would change the rule that we get a new form tutor every year because I really like the form tutor I have right now and we have a great form class. One year goes by very quickly so a change every 2 years would be nicer.

Year 7: Maryam

What school do you go to?

Watford Girls Grammar School (WGGS).

You have been at your new school for just over a term. How have you settled in so far?

Although it felt quite daunting at first, I'm really enjoying my time here so far.

Did you get lost around the school in the first few weeks at your new school?

To be completely honest, I got really lost and was late quite a few times! The teachers were very kind and let me off during the first half term, but in the second half they weren't quite as lenient with some of my friends.

How did it feel moving from NWJS to secondary school? Was it more different than you thought it might be?

It seemed a lot scarier than I thought it would be! I also underestimated how many people there would be and how large the school was.

What was your favourite memory from NWJS and why?

The Isle of Wight trip, 100%! That was the most fun trip I went on and I shared a room with my best friend. The theme park day at the end was especially amazing!

What was your favourite subject at NWJS? Has it changed since you moved to secondary school?

English and R.E will always be my favourite subjects. I enjoy English because I have always loved creative writing, and R.E because there is no wrong answer!

If you could change one rule at secondary school, what would it be and why?

At Watford Girls we have a one-way system, and it can be very frustrating! However, it does help stop big crowds and people getting squashed.

What do you miss most about NWJS?

Everything! I mainly miss the staff and the students. Thank you so much to the staff for helping me on my journey at NWJS, and to the pupils who know me, all of you are superstars! Also, to the Year 6s: good luck this year, although I'm sure you won't need it. If any of you are going to Watford Girls, do give me a wave or a smile!

Year 8: Fareeda

What school do you go to?

I go to Rickmansworth School, sometimes referred to as Ricky.

What was your favourite subject in primary school and why and has it changed when you moved to secondary school and why?

I definitely enjoyed music in primary mostly because we had cool instruments to play on. English is now one of my favourite subjects and I look forward to my lessons.

You were the co-editor of the Nascot News when you were in Year 6, has that helped in secondary school and how?

The Nascot News was a fantastic experience! It taught me journaling skills and helped me learn a creative boost that helps in many subjects. Not to mention that it was a lot of work, so it also taught me a lot about deadlines (needed a lot for homework) and managing time effectively.

How did your first year at secondary school go and what was your highlight?

My first year at secondary was super fun and consisted of laughs and smiles with new friends. My highlight was probably receiving my R9 for Religious studies. This is an award given to the top student in the subject throughout the year group and it is only handed out once a year. I was so happy and proud, and this shows that all the hard work and effort you put in always gets you far.

What's something new you learnt this week that surprised you?

My English teacher can sing! Picture this... sitting in a classroom, reading Animal Farm and highlighting what seems to be the 100th line so far. Then one of the characters has to sing, and we all begged our English teacher to sing. The embarrassing part... we all had to sing with him! It was so funny and yet I still have all the lyrics of "Beasts of England" stuck in my head.

If you could change one rule at secondary school, what would it be and why?

This is easy, allow girls to wear ankle socks over their tights! My shoes are too big for my thin tights in the spring, and it makes me laugh when I'm tripping over my own feet because of my huge shoes!

Year 8: Avani***What school do you go to?***

I go to Watford Grammar School for Girls.

What was your favorite subject in primary school and why and has it changed when you moved to secondary school and why?

My favourite subjects in primary school were Maths and PE, and they still are now. However, I have grown to enjoy History and Languages (French and Spanish) more in secondary school.

You were the co-editor of the Nascot News when you were in Year 6, has that helped in secondary school and how?

I think that being the editor of the Nascot News gave me an excellent opportunity to connect more with a range of people throughout the school community. This has made me more confident to make new friends and connect with different and new people, without fear.

How did your first year at secondary school go and what was your highlight?

I think my first year of secondary school went very well as it gave me a chance to meet new people and make new friendships. My highlight was the PGL trip as it gave me a chance to bond with different people and make new friends in different forms as well as have lots of fun going on a zipline!

What's something new you learnt this week that surprised you?

This week I have learnt how to find the equation of a line perpendicular to another line.

If you could change one rule at secondary school what would it be and why?

I wouldn't change one particular rule but I would like to have more non-uniform days.

Year 9: Jamie***What school do you go to?***

I currently go to Watford Grammar school for Boys and I am in Year 9.

You left NWJS over 2 years ago, what is the one thing you miss the most and why?

Even though I left NWJS over two years ago, the one thing I miss the most is the small number of teachers I had a really good connection with. As the junior school was smaller, you saw the same teachers all the time, so you got to know them properly and they got to know you as a person, not just as a student in their class. I miss how easy they were to talk to and if I was stuck on work or didn't understand something, I felt comfortable asking for help. Now in secondary school there are lots of teachers and students, so it's harder to build the same kind of relationship. You might only see a teacher a few times a week, and they teach so many classes that it's difficult for them to really know everyone well. The teachers at NWJS helped build my confidence and made school feel like a place where I belonged. Even though it has taken me a little bit longer, I have now built some strong relationships with some of my teachers at Watford Boys.

What is your favourite memory from NWJS and why?

My favourite memory from NWJS was when I visited 10 Downing Street with the Junior leadership team. It was such a special experience because not many people get the chance to go inside such an important and famous building. I remember feeling excited and proud that we were able to visit a place where the Prime Minister works and where so many important decisions about the country are made.

One of the best parts was seeing all the portraits of the former Prime Ministers on the walls. It made the history feel real because these weren't just names in a textbook, they were real people who had led our country. Learning about the history of the building and why it is so important made the visit even more interesting. It's a memory that stands out to me because it was unique, exciting, and something I will probably never forget or do again.

What languages do you learn at school and which one is your favourite and why?

At school I currently learn German. I did also learn Spanish last year, but I preferred the German language. I enjoyed German over Spanish because I find the structure of German more logical. Even though the grammar can be challenging, I like how the rules are clear and how words often fit together in a structured way. It feels satisfying when I understand how a sentence is built and can work it out step by step. I also prefer the sound of German and enjoy speaking it more in class. Although Spanish is useful and widely spoken, I just feel more confident and interested when learning German, which makes me enjoy the lessons more.

Have you chosen your GCSE subjects yet?

Yes, I have already chosen my GCSE subjects at Watford Grammar School for Boys. At our school, we get to pick our options at the end of Year 8, which means we study our GCSE courses for three years instead of the usual two. I think this is a good system because it gives us more time to understand the content properly and feel prepared for the exams.

The subjects I have chosen are History, Geography, Computer Science and German, alongside the core subjects like English, Maths and Science. I chose History and Geography because I enjoy learning about the world, both in the past and in the present. I picked Computer Science because I am interested in technology and how computers work. I also chose German because it is my favourite language and I want to continue improving my skills in it. I am happy with my choices and I am looking forward to studying these subjects in more depth over the next few years.

You were the co-editor of the Nascot News, has that helped in secondary school?

Yes, being the co-editor of the Nascot News has definitely helped me in secondary school. Having that responsibility in primary school gave me confidence in my writing and helped me develop important skills that I still use now. It has especially helped me feel confident writing articles for the Fullerian magazine at Watford Grammar School for Boys. I have written articles about the prize giving event and also about my ski trip to Canada. I also regularly report on sports news, particularly for the cricket and rugby sections. When I got to secondary school, I was already used to writing for a newspaper, meeting deadlines, and making sure my work was clear and interesting and so I found it much easier to contribute in secondary school.

Being an editor also taught me important skills such as teamwork, organisation, and leadership. As one of the editors, I had to help manage ideas, check other people's work, and make sure everything was completed on time. These skills have also helped me in group presentations, where I feel more

confident organising tasks and making sure everyone contributes. Overall, being an editor of the Nascot News has had a big positive impact on me and has prepared me well for secondary school.

If you could change one rule at secondary school what would it be and why?

If I could change one rule at secondary school, I would reduce the amount of homework we get each week. Sometimes it feels really overwhelming, especially when lots of subjects set work at the same time. It can be hard to keep up, and it doesn't always leave much time to relax or do other things you enjoy.

Having less homework would give students more time to rest, spend time with family and friends, and focus on hobbies or sports. I think it would also help everyone concentrate better in lessons because we wouldn't be so tired or stressed from trying to finish too much work at home. Overall, it would make school life more balanced and less stressful.

If you knew you couldn't fail, what's one thing you would try?

If I knew I couldn't fail, I would love to captain the England national rugby team and lead them to win the Six Nations tournament. Rugby has always been a huge passion of mine, and being able to play at that level would be an amazing experience. I think it would be incredible not only to play alongside some of the best players in the country but also to inspire the team, make important decisions on the field, and help everyone perform at their best. Captaining the team to victory in such a prestigious tournament would be the greatest challenge of skill, teamwork, and leadership, and I would be excited to take on that challenge.

Year 9: Amelia

What school do you go to?

I go to St Clement Danes school (also known as SCD).

You left NWJS over 2 years ago, what is the one thing you miss the most and why?

I miss everything! If I had to choose one thing it would have to be the school trips. I enjoyed spending time with my friends away from the classroom whilst still learning new things. I made so many memories with them that I will remember forever. It was also nice to spend time with the teachers outside of a school environment. It was a great way to connect with them and build relationships. One of my favourite trips was definitely The Isle of Wight, I loved the daily trips to the beach! At SCD, there are a couple of trips each year, however there are a larger number of us going so it is harder to connect with the teachers, who are different for every school trip.

What is your favourite memory from NWJS and why?

My favourite memory from NWJS - that's easy - it has to be the Junior Leaderships Team trip to No. 10 Downing Street. Nothing I have had the opportunity to experience could beat this trip to No 10! I enjoyed our "Lessons at 10" workshop with Mrs Murthy and Mr Dean Russell (who was our local MP at the time), where we had a Q&A session and then went on to present ideas about what we would do if we were Prime Minister for the day. The tour around No. 10 was just so surreal. From Winston Churchill's favourite reading chair to the black and white photographs of all the Prime Ministers that lined the staircase, and from sitting in the chairs in the Cabinet room to the famous white chairs in the White State Drawing room, we saw everything we could. We have all seen the famous black door of No.10 on the television but seeing what's behind it all was just amazing. It was one of the best experiences of my life and a memory that I will cherish forever.

What languages do you learn at school and which one is your favourite and why?

At St Clement Danes, the whole year group learns French and half of the year will then take Spanish and the other half will take German. I was allocated to the Spanish side of the year. While I enjoy studying both languages, Spanish is my favourite. I love learning about the culture, traditions, and foods. Spanish is also spoken in so many countries, and this makes it very useful to learn. The teachers make the lessons fun and engaging, especially when we play speaking games! I also find the grammar easier to understand and I am able to put it into practice more when it comes to our writing exams.

Have you chosen your GCSE subjects yet?

I have just chosen my GCSE's. At SCD we have assemblies from each of the subject leads in the build up to us finally choosing our options. This was really helpful as it gave me an insight into each of the subjects as well as the chance to ask any questions. At SCD we sit 9 GCSE's. Maths, English language and English Literature is compulsory and you get the decision between Combined Science (2 GCSE's) or Separate Science (3 GCSE's). I have chosen separate sciences as I love the lessons and experiments, and the teachers make the lessons really interesting. I have chosen Spanish as my language as this was my favourite out of the two languages and Geography as my Humanities subject as I have enjoyed learning more about the world we live in. Choosing my final GCSE was really difficult and I was torn between a few subjects. I have decided to go with Music as I really enjoy playing the piano and learning about the different styles of music and also composing my own pieces.

You were the co-editor of the Nascot News, has that helped in secondary school?

I feel being a co-editor of the Nascot News has definitely helped in Secondary school. Although our school doesn't have any student newspaper, I have had the opportunity to write an article about the Cyberfirst competition which I took part in for the monthly headlines newsletter which is sent out by our Headteacher. The skill of writing articles has also been useful. In English there are various tasks that we have to complete, such as writing a letter, article, or speech. Recently, in our lessons we had to give an Ignite presentation about a particular topic of our choice. We had to write a speech, and this is where being a co-editor of the Nascot News came into use. I was able to put the skills I had learnt into writing the speech, and then presenting it, like we did in assemblies at NWJS when we talked to other children about the newspaper. Other skills I learnt whilst being a co-editor was leadership and teamwork. Both of these are skills I have been able to build on during my time at SCD so far.

If you could change one rule at secondary school what would it be and why?

If I had to change one rule at secondary school, it would be making our break and lunchtimes longer. This would give us time to relax and recharge before our next lesson and be able to spend more time with friends. Some of my close friends are in the other half of the year which means I do not have any lessons with them so only have the break times to see them. Also sometimes if I have a lunchtime club then I have to eat my lunch quickly so I can also get to the club on time, this means even less time to see my friends!

If you knew you couldn't fail, what's one thing you would try?

If I knew I couldn't fail, I would love to build a new tennis club which was open to everyone and have both indoor and outdoor courts so it could be used all year round. I would let local schools come and use it for their PE lessons as then this would encourage them to take up the sport. If I knew I would

not fail then I would go onto Dragons Den or The Apprentice to gain more financial support to help build the business.

Year 10: Noah

What school do you go to?

St Clement Danes School

What is the one thing you miss most when leaving NWJS?

The atmosphere of the school

Is there anything you learnt at NWJS that you still find helpful today?

Everything I learnt in Maths

How does it feel preparing for your GCSEs?

Nerve wracking but very manageable

If you could change one rule at secondary school what would it be and why?

Longer lunches to enjoy playing with friends

If you could travel anywhere in the world for a week, where would it be and why?

Greece because its very hot and has lots of sand too

Year 11 Jonah

What school do you go to?

St Clement Danes School

If you could change one rule at secondary school what would it be and why?

Going to toilets during lessons because sometimes you have to go no matter how prepared you are.

You have got your GCSE exams coming up, how are you feeling about them and do you know what you want to do when you have finished?

I am feeling very prepared and also a bit nervous but overall I feel confident I can do well.

What do you think you will be doing in 5 years time?

I'd like to be working or training in Criminal Psychology and study why criminals do what they do.

Do you represent your school in sport? Do you find it difficult to balance school work with sports?

Yes , I play football and basketball for my school team and I used to play cricket.

If you could invent something to make life easier, what would it be?

I would invent an app that makes studying 100 times easier and makes it more fun so no one is bored and/or demotivated.

Year 11 Simran

What school do you go to?

Dr Challoners

If you could change one rule at secondary school what would it be and why?

To remove one compulsory GCSE subject from the "core" subjects and allow students to study more relevant subjects such as economics and finance instead.

You have got your GCSE exams coming up, how are you feeling about them and do you know what you want to do when you have finished?

Fine - steady progress and approaching them with a good routine. A levels after I finish.

What do you think you will be doing in 5 years time?

I am expecting to be at University.

Do you represent your school in sport or are you part of any clubs? Do you find it difficult to balance school work with sports or your clubs?

Athletics and football club.No - the balance is something I have become accustomed to.

If you could invent something to make life easier, what would it be?

An elevated metro system to navigate around big cities without worrying about vehicular traffic.

Year 12 Millie

What sixth form do you go to?

Currently, I am at Watford Grammar School for Girls' Sixth Form, and I study Physics, Maths, Computing and Further Maths at A Level. Yes, a lot of maths!

What is your most memorable memory from NWJS?

My most memorable memory from NWJS must be the Celebration Days. I loved how the whole day was full of fun, excitement, and laughter. We spent time in the pool, went on the inflatable obstacle courses, and played lots of games in the chocolate room, which was always a highlight. My favourite part, though, was creating our t-shirts. We would spend weeks designing them, and I still have mine today as a reminder. I will always remember Celebration Days because they showed how fun, creative, and close our school community really was.

You have 30 seconds to name as many teachers as you can remember from NWJS, go:

Mrs Singh, Mr Watts, Miss Reynolds, Mrs Keane, Mr Moonie, Mrs Park, Ms Park, Ms Agnew, Ms Derbyshire, Miss Tanner, Miss Brown, Ms Angus, Mrs Marsh, Miss Marsh!

If you could give one piece of advice to your younger self, what would it be?

If I could give my younger self some advice, I'd say not to be afraid to try new things and get involved. When I started secondary school, I used to be worried and nervous, but once I decided to take part in clubs and activities, I ended up loving them. Getting involved and trying new things helped me make friends, gain confidence, and have some of my best memories at school.

When you were little what did you want to be when you grew up and has that changed now?

When I was younger, I wanted to be a mathematician because I loved solving problems with numbers. Now I want to be an engineer because it's like maths, but with a little physics mixed in and you can use it to build things and help people. I still love solving problems, but now I get to see how my solutions make a difference in the real world.

If you could invent something, what would it be?

If I could invent something, I would make a robot that does your homework. When you get to sixth form, there's so much work to do, and it would be amazing to have something that helps you get it done faster while still learning. It would give students more time to focus on fun projects and other things they enjoy.

Tell us about your proudest moment?

My proudest moment was my school trip to Eswatini and South Africa with the World Challenge. We camped for over two weeks and had to cook our own food, which was difficult because we had to set up tents, carry our gear, and live without many comforts - even showers! The climate was very different from home, and hiking in the heat was exhausting, especially on long days when we were tired and sweaty. We also worked with local children and helped build a building for the community, which was hard work but meaningful. Even though it was difficult, it was completely worth it when we went on safari and saw the Big Five in the wild. That moment made me feel proud of myself for pushing through such a tough experience and making a positive impact.

What are your 3 top tips for the children at NWJS?

My 3 top tips for the children at NWJS are:

1. Be kind to everyone. Small acts of kindness, like helping someone, including others in games, or saying thank you, can make a huge difference.

2. Be curious and always ask questions. Don't be afraid to put your hand up or try new things, even if you're not sure. Asking questions is how you learn, improve, and discover what you enjoy most.
3. Work hard but make sure you have fun along the way. Try your best in lessons, but remember to enjoy school, clubs, and time with your friends. Having fun and staying positive will make learning much more enjoyable and help you create great memories.

Year 12 Anya

What sixth form do you go to?

Rickmansworth School

What is your most memorable memory from NWJS?

My most memorable memory would be celebration days at the end of the year: the bouncy castles, decorating shirts, the chocolate fountain and marshmallows were an absolute treat. I also remember the Year 5 Production of 'The Tempest' by Shakespeare which was definitely the highlight of my time at Nascot Wood. The teachers made it an incredible performance and I couldn't be more grateful.

You have 30 seconds to name as many teachers as you can remember from NWJS, go:

Mrs Singh, Mr Watts, Miss Reynolds, Miss Park, Miss Tanner, Mrs Keane, Miss Shardlow, Mrs Horwood, Miss Lelani, Miss Thompson

If you could give one piece of advice to your younger self, what would it be?

Don't stress about SATs, they feel impossible right now but later in life, you won't remember them and you will see the benefit in learning it.

When you were little what did you want to be when you grew up and has that changed now?

I actually can't remember but I think I wanted to be an artist or a teacher. Now it has changed as I'm looking to do Mechanical Engineering (basically a lot of maths and physics).

If you could invent something, what would it be?

If I could invent something, it would be to have a machine that lets you transport to school. I was fortunate to live close to the school but I had friends that drove 20 mins to just end up stuck in traffic.

What are your 3 top tips for the children at NWJS?

1. Find what you love (your interests and hobbies)
2. Be friendly to everyone (sometimes if someone doesn't have anyone to play with, you could invite them over)
3. Enjoy your life at a young age because as you start growing up it gets a lot more challenging

HOW TO PLAY CHESS

By Tayson Year 5 Beech Class

How the Pieces Move

The King can only move one square at a time. It can go forward, backward, sideways, or diagonal. The king is the most important piece because if your king gets captured (checkmated), you lose!

The Queen is the best piece because it's really powerful! She can move as many squares as she wants in any direction - forward, backward, sideways, or diagonal. But she can't jump over other pieces.

The Rook Rooks can move as many squares as they want, but they can only go forward, backward, or sideways. They can't move diagonally. Rooks are really good at the end of the game (especially for a ladder checkmate).

The Bishop Bishops move diagonal for as many squares as they want. Each bishop stays on the same colour for the whole game - one stays on light squares and one stays on dark squares.



The Knight Knights move in an "L" shape. They go two squares in one direction and then one square to the side. Knights are special because they're the only piece that can jump over other pieces!

The Pawn usually moves forward one square. But on their very first move, they can move two squares if you want. Pawns capture other pieces by moving diagonally (one square forward to the left or right). When a pawn gets all the way to the other end of the board, you can turn it into a different piece (most people choose a queen).

What's the Point of the Game? You have to checkmate your opponent's king. That means the king is being attacked and there's no way to save it.

Basic Rules

Check: When your king is being attacked, that's called check. You have to save your king straight away by moving it, blocking the attack, or capturing the piece that's attacking.

Checkmate: When your king is in check and there's no way to save it, that's checkmate and you lose the game.

Stalemate: If you can't make any legal moves but your king isn't in check, the game is a draw (nobody wins).

Castling: This is a special move with the king and rook. The king moves two squares towards the rook, and then the rook jumps over to the other side of the king. You can only do this if both pieces haven't moved yet, there's nothing in between them, and your king isn't in check.

These are the main things you need to know to play chess.

Quiz Time (*hint: look at the article above to get clues, come and find me in the playground to discuss the answers!*)

- What is the most important piece in chess?
- What is checkmate and what happens?
- What happens if you make 3 illegal moves in chess?
- (This is a hard one and it's not on the article!) Around which century was chess created?

CHESS TOURNAMENT REVIEW

By Tayson and Adit Year 5 Beech Class

Last week, we (Tayson & Adit) went to a county chess tournament - playing for Herts A- which was extremely exciting! When we first arrived, we walked through the chess hall into the waiting room. Everyone was nervous and you could feel the tension in the air.

Then the waiting was over and the first round started. Our hearts were racing fast as we sat down at our boards. We tried to remember all the strategies we'd practiced. After the first round finished, we all went back to the waiting room again.

In the waiting room, there was a table tennis table. Playing TT was really fun: It helped us relax between the rounds.

After the second round, at lunchtime, we were all starving! We sat together, ate our lunch and talked about the rounds. Some people won and some people lost, nevertheless, everyone was still excited for the next rounds. We won this round by a narrow 7:5.

After lunch, rounds 3 and 4 took place. It had been a long day, but we stayed focused. Each game felt really important because we didn't know if we'd qualify or not.



Finally, after all the rounds were completed, we eagerly waited for the results. This was the most tense part of the whole day! Everyone was checking their phones to see if the results were posted online yet. When we finally checked the results online, we couldn't believe it - we had qualified for the minor finals!

We felt so proud and thrilled. All the practice and hard work had paid off. We can't wait for the minor finals scheduled in March. Even though we were exhausted by the end of the day, it was definitely worth it.

Overall, we'd rate this tournament experience 8.5/10. The only thing that could have made it better was if the waiting times were a bit shorter. But qualifying for the minor finals made everything perfect!

YEAR 6 TRIP TO THE HARRY POTTER STUDIOS

By Tiaana Year 6 Rowan Class



On the 8th January, the Year 6 classes went on a school trip to the Warner Bros studio where the Harry Potter movies were filmed. Everyone was really excited about this trip and had been talking about it for a long time. The short coach journey was very lively as everyone was very excited. The theme of the trip was 'Hogwarts in the snow' so it was lovely to see the Christmas themed decorations that they still had up.

We were taken to a classroom where we had a workshop on the 'Art of Foley' which explained how the sound effects were made for the movie. Each group was given a box with some objects and then a short clip from the movie without the sound. We then had to use the objects in the box to create the sound effects for that clip.

We were then taken into the main studios to start the tour. We watched some introduction videos and following this, we approached the doors of the Great Hall. It was enormous and everyone was buzzing with excitement to get through to the other side! For me, this was one of the sets I was most excited about seeing. I do not want to give away too many spoilers - but it was enormous inside with a beautiful ice sculpture at the top end of the hall.



Next we saw, the actors' real costumes, wigs and masks from the movies. It was interesting to see how much detail there was in each of the costumes and the masks. We learnt about Hagrid the Giant and how he was played by two actors and the special effects they used for this and saw Hagrid's hut that he lived in.

We moved on and had the chance to see the wall of wands, the mirror of Erised, the vault cart, the motorbikes and the night bus. We stopped to watch a short talk which taught us how to make spells, our group was taken by surprise when we were scared by a death eater! It was so funny and everyone around us was laughing.

We moved onto the forbidden forest but not before having the opportunity to have an individual photo on the broomstick which was a lovely memory for us all to keep. Next, was Platform 9 and $\frac{3}{4}$. We all had photos of pushing the trolley through the wall and even had a chance to walk through the train. We saw the carriages from the different movies and the props used as well.





After a quick stop for lunch and a catch up with the other groups we moved onto the outside sets. We saw the Ford Anglia, the Knight bus, a model of the Weasley's house and even had a chance to go inside Privet Drive. We then went to the greenhouses and pulled out Mandrakes and heard their shrieks.



Then back inside the studios we walked through Gringotts bank. The pillars in this set were massive and were a lovely gold and black colour. We went to Bellatrix Lestrange's vault and held the sword of Griffindor. The fire breathing dragon felt so real! Then came Diagon Alley and we saw all the shops and many of the props from the movies as well. My favorite shop was the Weasley Wizard Wheezes.



The final part of the tour was the AMAZING model of Hogwarts in the Snow. The set was just huge and we were able to walk around it to see how beautiful it was. I'm sure that set took a very long time to make. On our way out we walked through the gift shop and had an opportunity to try out the wands, everyone really enjoyed this part.



Everyone had a fantastic day and we all talked about our favourite parts of the trip on the short coach journey back.

So if you are a huge Harry Potter fan and haven't had an opportunity to visit the studios then I would definitely recommend it.

The Vikings

By Tayson Year 5 Beech Class

Who Were the Vikings?

The Vikings were warriors and explorers from Scandinavia (Norway, Sweden, and Denmark) who lived over a thousand years ago, from around 793 AD to 1066 AD. They were famous for being fierce fighters, skilled sailors, and brave adventurers.

Viking Ships

Vikings built amazing longships that could sail across oceans and up rivers. These ships were fast, strong, and had a dragon head carved on the front to scare their enemies. The ships were so well-designed that Vikings could travel all the way to America, hundreds of years before Christopher Columbus!

What Did Vikings Do?

Vikings were not just warriors - they were also traders, farmers, and craftspeople. They raided monasteries and towns across Europe, taking treasure and goods. However, they also traded peacefully with many countries, selling furs, weapons, and jewellery.

Viking Life

Most Vikings lived in simple wooden houses with their families. They farmed the land, raised animals, and fished. Viking children didn't go to school - instead, boys learned to fight and sail, while girls learned to cook, weave, and run a household.

Viking Beliefs

Vikings believed in many gods, like Odin (the king of the gods), Thor (the god of thunder), and Freya (the goddess of love). They thought that brave warriors who died in battle would go to Valhalla, a great hall where they would feast forever.

The End of the Viking Age

The Viking Age ended around 1066 when the Vikings started settling down in the lands they had conquered and became Christians. They mixed with the local people and their way of life slowly changed.

Conclusion

The Vikings were fierce warriors and skilled explorers who left a lasting impact on history. Even though they lived over a thousand years ago, we still remember their bravery, their amazing ships, WE LEARN ABOUT THEM AND their fascinating culture today.



Odin: The King of the Viking Gods

By Tayson Year 5 Beech Class

Who Was Odin?

Odin was the most important god in Norse mythology. Norse mythology is the collection of stories and beliefs from the Vikings, who lived in Scandinavia (Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and Iceland) over a thousand years ago. Odin was called the "All-Father" because he was the king of all the gods and ruled over Asgard, which was the home of the gods.

The Vikings saw Odin as a powerful warrior, a wise leader, and someone who would do anything to gain more knowledge and wisdom.



What Did Odin Look Like?

Odin was described as a tall, old man with a long grey beard. He had some very recognizable features:

- One eye - Odin gave up one of his eyes to drink from a magic well that gave him wisdom
- A wide hat - He often wore this when he travelled in disguise
- A spear called Gungnir - This magic weapon never missed its target
- Two ravens - Called Huginn (Thought) and Muninn (Memory). They flew around the world and told Odin everything they saw
- Two wolves - Named Geri and Freki, who were always by his side
- An eight-legged horse - Called Sleipnir, the fastest horse in all the worlds

Odin's Search for Knowledge

Odin was obsessed with gaining knowledge and wisdom. He believed that knowledge was the most valuable thing in the world, and he made huge sacrifices to get it.

Sacrificing His Eye To drink from a magic well that gave wisdom, Odin had to give up one of his eyes. He didn't hesitate - he pulled out his own eye and threw it into the well. After drinking from it, he could see the future and understand secrets of the universe.

Hanging from the World Tree In his most extreme sacrifice, Odin hung himself from Yggdrasil (the World Tree) for nine days and nine nights. He stabbed himself with his own spear and wouldn't let anyone help him. Through all this suffering, he discovered the runes - magic symbols that had great power. The Vikings used runes for writing and magic.

What Was Odin the God Of?

Odin had many different roles:

God of War Odin was a fierce warrior god. Vikings believed he decided who would win battles. Warriors who died bravely in battle were taken to Valhalla, Odin's great hall, where they would feast and fight until Ragnarok (the end of the world).

God of Wisdom and Poetry Odin was also the god of wisdom and poetry. He could speak in beautiful verse and once stole a magic drink called the Mead of Poetry, which gave people the gift of making poems.

The Wanderer Odin often disguised himself as an old traveller and walked among humans to test if they were kind and hospitable. Vikings were taught to always be nice to strangers, because it might be Odin in disguise.

Valhalla: Odin's Great Hall

Valhalla was Odin's amazing hall in Asgard. It had 540 doors and was massive. When a Viking warrior died bravely in battle, warrior women called Valkyries would carry their soul to Valhalla.

In Valhalla, these warriors would feast on endless food and drink, fight each other during the day (and magically come back to life each evening), and prepare for Ragnarok - the final battle at the end of the world.

Ragnarok: The End of the World

Even though Odin was so wise and powerful, he knew his own fate. He had visions that told him that during Ragnarok, he would be killed by a giant

wolf called Fenrir. Even knowing he would die, Odin still prepared for the battle.

This idea of accepting your fate, even if it's bad, was really important to Viking culture. They believed that how you faced your destiny was more important than what actually happened.

How Odin Affected Viking Life?

The Vikings worshipped Odin and tried to be like him:

- They valued wisdom and learning because Odin sacrificed so much for knowledge
- They believed in dying bravely so they could go to Valhalla
- They were kind to strangers because Odin might be testing them
- They loved poetry and stories because Odin was the god of poetry
- They believed in fate but also in being brave

Odin Today

Even though the Vikings lived over a thousand years ago, Odin is still famous:

- Wednesday is named after him (it used to be called Woden's Day)
- He appears in Marvel films as Thor's father
- Many books, TV shows, and video games have Odin in them
- People still study Norse mythology today

My Conclusion about him

Odin was much more than just a war god. He was someone who wanted wisdom so badly that he gave up his eye and hung from a tree for nine days. To the Vikings, he was the perfect leader - strong in battle, wise in decisions, and willing to make sacrifices for what he believed in.

The stories about Odin show us what the Vikings thought was important: bravery, wisdom, and facing your fate with courage. These values shaped Viking society and made Odin one of the most fascinating gods in all of mythology.

HOW TO MAKE A MINI BOOKLET

By Niya Year 5 Beech Class

1. First, you get 5 to 10 pieces of paper. This depends on how big you want your booklet .
2. Next, you align all the papers together and then fold them neatly.
3. After that, you cut the folded end 1.5cm in over and over again till it reaches the other end.
4. Thereafter, you will get a few flaps on the folded end and you will fold one to one side and the next one on the other side over and over again.
5. I usually glue them to the side to keep it secure but you don't have to.
6. Finally, you can flick through the pages (once the glue has dried if you have chosen to use it) and make a spring design on the front cover.



(We would love to see some photos of your home made mini booklets)

A mystery story by Arabella, Year 6 Rowan Class

Arabella is an accomplished writer, who has been working on the story of Isabel, in three parts, for the Nascot News. Arabella's story is probably most suitable for a Key Stage 3 audience. We have therefore employed the help of an AI platform to make it more suitable for our younger children. If you are in Y5 or Y6, you could ask Arabella to show you her original story.

We hope you enjoyed reading the first part of Arabella's short story in the Autumn edition of the Nascot News....here is part 2.....

Isabel . . .

Soon, everyone was in the basement, except Märkus, Michael, Emily, Juliana and Axel.

Kamala was the first to speak. "Does anybody know where Mr von Finck is?"

Isabel stirred and everyone whipped their heads round at her. She said weakly, "He went on a business trip to Morocco five minutes ago. He's coming back in two weeks. He left his phone at home."

There was lots of groaning at that. Florence noticed something. "Hey guys, there's a note on her lap." She stood up and bravely went over to Violet.

"It says: 'Emilia and Juliana have been taken somewhere safe. You can see what has happened to Violet.'" Florence frowned. Violet looked unwell and wasn't responding properly.

"Can someone fetch me a pair of gloves?" Florence asked. Suddenly there was a scuffling sound, a quick, quiet "Run!" then silence. "What's going on?" she said, turning around.

A man dressed all in black was standing in the doorway, with a strange smile on his face.

Then there was a cacophony of sound. Fire alarms blared, people shouted, and the man turned and ran up the stairs, locking the basement door behind him. Florence looked around in alarm as she saw smoke beginning to curl up the wall closest to her. Heat spread quickly through the room.

Then she saw a light. Not from the fire, but a blue light. Her guardian angel? No, it was a torch. A person wearing a mask and a firefighter outfit stepped forward.

Florence paused. Something didn't feel right. Firefighters usually rushed to help, but this person moved slowly and strangely. And how had they opened the door without a key?

Luckily, Florence played football at Birchwood and knew how to trick people. She feinted left, and the man swerved that way. Florence darted to the right and quickly grabbed the key from his belt. She ran to the door, unlocked it, and called for everyone to follow.

They rushed out just in time as smoke filled the room. Florence began to feel dizzy and covered her mouth with her scarf. The corridor spun around her, and everything went blurry as she sank to the floor.

Part 2

(a short one)

When Florence woke up, there were worried faces staring down at her.

“Flor, are you OK?” Isabel asked.

“Yeah... what happened?”

“There was a fire. You fainted. Are you sure you’re OK?”

“Yes. I feel much better now!” She tried to stand, but wobbled slightly.

A man came into the room. “Hello, girls. I am Doctor Max, and I would like to have a word with Emilia. Come this way.” Emilia nodded and followed him.

After an awkward silence, Charlotte said, “Who wants to go to the pool?”

“ME!” everyone replied at once.

“It’s the von Finck private pool,” Isabel reminded them. “We need to be sensible.”

At the pool, the girls changed and jumped in.

“Last one to touch the bottom and get back to the hot tub has to do a silly forfeit!” Savannah grinned.

A shriek came from Charlotte and everyone dived down. Savannah reached the hot tub first, with Isabel close behind. The last two were Charlotte and Florence.

“Right, you two—go again!” Isabel laughed.

With a groan, Charlotte dived back down, while Florence climbed into the hot tub, grinning.

Suddenly, an announcement crackled over the speaker.

“Attention please. Violet Shackelbury has been found and is now safe. Staff are helping her recover.”

Relief filled the room.

But Charlotte looked uneasy.

“Is everything OK?” Isabel asked.

Charlotte hesitated. “I... I might know something about what’s been going on.”

Everyone turned to look at her.

Before she could explain, the masked man appeared again at the doorway.

“Good afternoon,” he said calmly. “I think it’s time we cleared a few things up.”

“What if we don’t go with you?” Emilia said bravely.

Isabel shook her head slightly. “Let’s stay calm.”

Just then, Charlotte whispered, “Don’t worry. I think help is coming.”

The man paused. “Have you worked it out yet?”

Emilia stepped forward. “Mr Min-Yan?”

The man slowly removed his mask.

“Well done,” he said.

Isabel folded her arms. “We knew something wasn’t right.”

Charlotte held up her phone. “And we’ve been recording everything.”

At that moment—

BANG!

The doors burst open and police officers rushed in. They quickly surrounded Mr Min-Yan and led him away.

One officer smiled at the girls. “You did exactly the right thing. Very brave.”

The girls looked at each other—shaken, but proud.

Through one door, they could see flashing lights outside. Through the other, the calm evening sky.

Whatever had just happened, one thing was certain—
they had solved the mystery together.

THE BATTLE OF HASTINGS

By Tayson Year 5 Beech Class

The Battle of Hastings

The Battle of Hastings was a really important event that happened a long time ago, in the year 1066. It was a big battle about who should be the king of England. William, who was called William the Conqueror, came from a place called Normandy in France, and he wanted to be king. But the English king at the time was King Harold, and he wanted to stay king.

The battle happened on the 14th of October. Both armies met on a hill near a place called Hastings. Harold's army got there first and stood on top of the hill. William's army had to try to run up the hill to fight them, which was really difficult. William's soldiers had horses, called cavalry, and they also had archers who could shoot arrows really far. Harold's army mostly had soldiers called foot soldiers, who fought with swords and shields.

The fighting went on for hours. At first, Harold's men were winning because they were higher up and could defend well. But then something strange happened. Some of William's soldiers pretended to run away, and some of Harold's men chased after them. This made Harold's army break their strong shield wall. That was a big mistake because William's soldiers turned around and attacked them from behind.

Later in the day, King Harold was hit in the eye by an arrow (at least, that's what the stories say!). After that, William's army managed to win the battle. Harold died, and William became the new king of England. That's why he got the name William the Conqueror.

The Battle of Hastings is important because it changed England forever. After William became king, lots of things changed. People started speaking more French words, castles were built all over the country, and the rules and laws changed too. It must have been really scary for the people fighting, and also for the people living in England who didn't know what would happen next.

My conclusion:

If I had been there, I think I would have been frightened by all the noise and fighting. But it's interesting to learn about, because it shows how one battle can change a whole country. I wonder what England would be like if Harold had won instead..



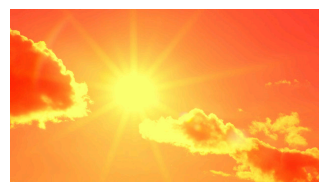
SPRING WORD SEARCH

By Niya Year 5 Beech Class

X	A	T	B	U	D	S	V	Q	R
B	S	Q	U	H	S	U	Y	Z	A
S	L	A	T	E	P	N	S	E	B
T	U	O	S	S	Y	S	L	Y	B
T	S	N	S	I	N	H	Q	R	I
L	Y	T	N	S	N	I	Q	D	T
T	S	G	U	Y	U	N	E	B	S
C	H	I	C	K	S	E	S	X	E
Q	U	F	A	Q	I	M	D	T	W
Q	S	D	L	Y	Y	P	C	U	T

- BUDS
- RABBITS
- CHICKS
- BLOSSOM
- SUNNY

- PETALS
- SUN
- TULIPS
- RAIN
- BEE



Percy Jackson Book Series Review

By Adit Year 5 Beech Class

The Percy Jackson series brings the Greek gods back to life in an extremely magical way. The series follows the thrilling quests of Percy Jackson and his acquaintances - Annabeth Chase and Grover Underwood. Percy and Annabeth are children of the Greek gods Posiedon and Athena, making them demigods. Demigods are constantly being pursued by monsters unless in the safe sanctuary of Camp Half-Blood which the Gods have protected. This training camp is conducted by the centaur Chiron who was made immortal by the gods to fulfil his duty. The five books in the series are: The Lightning Thief; The Sea of Monsters; The Titan's Curse; The Battle of the Labyrinth and The Last Olympian.





By Arthur Year 6 Poplar Class

Where do sheep go to get their haircut?

The baarber

Knock knock

Who's there

Nana

Nana who

Nana your business!

'Knock knock

Who's there?

Lettuce

Lettuce who?

Lettuce, in its cold out!

Why didn't the vampire suck Taylor Swift's blood?

Because she had bad blood

REVIEW OF THE SHAKESPEARE REWIRED WORKSHOP

By Tayson Year 5 Beech Class

We went to the hall for a Shakespeare workshop about Macbeth. Two nice people told us what we were going to do. They said some of us could act out Macbeth, which is a really famous play.

Some of my classmates volunteered to be actors. The rest of us watched. The two people who ran the workshop did sound effects and explained the story to us. It was easy to understand because they told us what was happening.

Macbeth is about a soldier called Macbeth. He meets three witches who say he will be king. Macbeth and his wife plan to kill the king so he can be king instead. Macbeth feels bad and does more bad things. In the end, people fight him and he loses.

We acted out some scenes like meeting the witches and when Lady Macbeth tries to wash blood off her hands. It was fun to watch my friends act.

I liked the workshop because it made the story interesting and not boring. I would like to do something like this again.

ALL ABOUT F1

By Adit Year 5 Beech Class

Disclaimer: This article was written before the F1 2026 season commenced.



An Introduction To F1

F1 is the pinnacle of motorsport. The specially designed cars are in line with the regulations set by the sport's governing body - the FIA. These aero-dynamic spectacles whizz around tracks all over the world at top speeds of 360km/h. Pit crews of the respective teams change tyres in under two seconds with drivers experiencing insane amounts of G-force of 5-6G of (1.5X the amount experienced in a rocket launch). Under the bonnet of every car, top engineers collaborate to create their highest-performing car. The engineering challenge makes the sport, which consists of 10 (soon to be 11) terrific teams: McLaren, Mercedes, Red Bull, Ferrari, Williams, Racing Bulls, Aston Martin, Haas, Kick Sauber & Alpine; fascinating to watch. A few of these will be described in further detail below in their team colours below. Each season of the sport features one constructor and one driver being crowned champion.

The 2025 Season

The 2025 F1 season started off with a *BANG*: a celebration of F1's 75th season was held in the O2 arena in London. Following this, the season began... Many of the initial races of the 2025 season were won by Australian Piastri, while few were won by Norris. Nevertheless, after the drivers' summer break, rival Red Bull driver Max Verstappen was recharged. He placed in the top 3 for all 10 races following the break including 6 wins. Norris managed to stay in close contention though, and edged out the 5 - time champion Verstappen by just 2 points! We are now in the Winter break (the period between the 2025 and 2026 seasons). The opening Australian Grand Prix will commence on the 8th March.

McLaren

McLaren are both drivers' (with Lando Norris) and constructors' champions for 2025. Their long-standing rivalry with Ferrari started in 1974. During their 59 year career, they have won: 10 constructors' championships; 13 drivers' championships and 203 wins (part of their 445 podiums). McLaren's key team members are: Zak Brown (the team chief); Oscar



Piastrri and Lando Norris (the drivers) and Pato O' Ward (the reserve driver). Piastrri collected a massive 16 podiums and Lando added on a whopping 18 more. These stats include a mammoth 7 wins apiece. It was an unforgettable, record-breaking season for the British side.

Mercedes AMG-PETRONAS

Mercedes is my favourite F1 team due to its roots lodged throughout my household. The superb squad used to be part of McLaren until they split, following the 2014 F1 season. During their 11-year career - which is still going strong - they have won: 8 constructors' championships; 7 drivers' championships and 122 races (part of their 201 podiums). Mercedes' main members are: Toto Wolff (the team chief); George Russell and Kimi Antonelli (the drivers); and Fred Vesti (the reserve driver). Italian rookie Antonelli - aged 18 - collected 3 podiums while Russell added on 9 more - including 2 wins. The squad ranked second in the constructors' championship during the 2025 season while Briton Russell ranked fourth in the drivers'.



Oracle Red Bull

Red Bull are famous for being home to 5-time world champion Max Verstappen and shaping his career. During the team's 20-year career, it has won: 8 drivers' championships; 6 constructors' championships and 130 races (part of 233 podiums). Red Bull's 2026 side consists of: Laurent Mekies (team chief); Max Verstappen & Isack Hadjar (the drivers) and Yuki Tsunoda (reserve driver). The squad ranked third in the 2025 constructors' championship, including a second for Verstappen.



Scuderia Ferrari HP

Ferrari are the oldest team on the F1 grid and have been in the sport since its very first season in 1950! Nicknamed the prancing horse, the Italian team has won: 16 constructors' championships; 15 drivers' championships and 249 races (part of 639 podiums), during its 75 year career. Its 2026 squad consists of: Frederick Vasseur (team chief); Charles Leclerc and Lewis Hamilton (drivers); and Antonio Giovinazzi (the reserve driver). The Italians ranked fourth in the constructors' championship including a fifth for Leclerc.



Atlassian Williams

Williams is well known for supporting young drivers to start their careers or giving them a second chance. After joining the sport in 1977, the team has won: 9 constructors' championships; 7 drivers championship, and 114 races (part of 245 podiums). The team's 2026 squad consists of: James Vowles (team chief); Carlos Sainz and Alex Albon (drivers); and Luke Browning (reserve driver). They ranked fifth in the constructors' championships while Albon bagged an eighth in the drivers'.



Visa Cash App RB

Famous for having a name that is always changing, RB (Racing Bulls) is the sister team to Red Bull. It often has had rookies in its squad - preparing them for the step up to Red Bull. Isack Hadjar has notably made this progression being promoted to Red Bull in 2026. Throughout their 20 year career (starting with the name Toro Rosso), they have won: 0 drivers' championships; 0 constructors' championships and 2 races (part of 6 podiums). Their 2026 squad consists of Alan Permane (Team chief); Liam Lawson and Arvid Lindblad (the

drivers) and Yuki Tsunoda (the reserve driver). Arvid Lindblad is notably the only rookie of the 2026 season. The side ranked sixth in the constructors' while Hadjar tied eleventh with Hulkenberg.

Conclusion

I hope this article has provided you an overview of the F1 grid and encouraged you to also follow the sport I love. The 2026 season can be watched on Sky Sports. Thank you for reading.

SPRING POEM COMPETITION

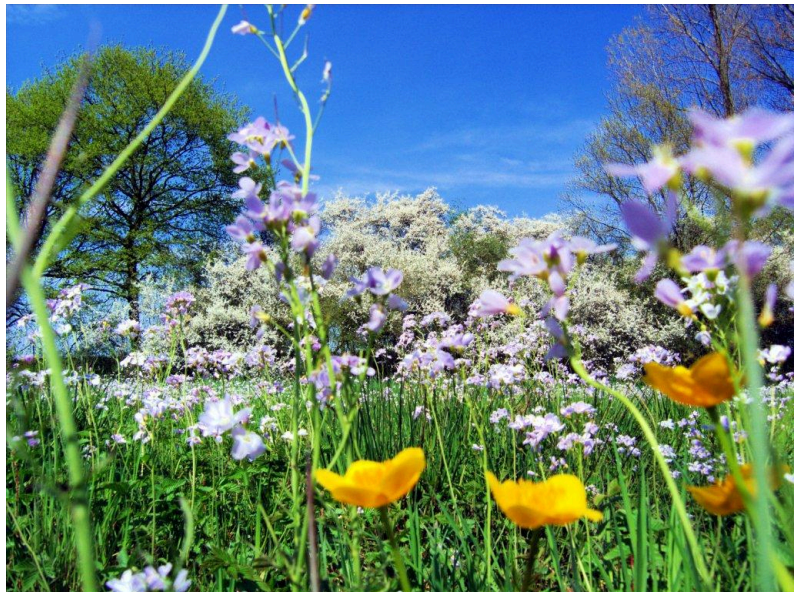
Thank you to all the children who have submitted an entry for the Spring Poem Competition. We are pleased to share the entries as well as the winners.

1st place - Spring's Symphony by Tayson Year 5 Beech Class - 30 house points awarded

Winter's frost has slipped away,
Spring bursts forth in grand display,
Crimson poppies, violet blooms,
Spreading colour, sweet perfumes.
Nestlings stretch their fragile wings,
While the blackbird proudly sings,
Bumblebees in golden coats,
Hum their busy, buzzing notes.

Dewdrops sparkle like diamonds bright,
Dancing in the morning light,
Playful lambs leap, twist and spin,
As the season rushes in.
Emerald leaves unfurl with grace,
Petals drift through time and space,
Laughter echoes through the air,
Joy and wonder everywhere.

Spring explodes with life and sound,
Magic bursting from the ground,
Painted skies of brilliant blue,
Hope awakens, fresh and new.



2nd place - Spring Poem by Dakshaya Year 6 Rowan Class - 20 house points awarded

Winter was a ghost, now gone away,
As the cold, winter breeze is not anymore in sway,
Though some plants have survived the year,
New sprouts will have now appeared.

As the sun peaks over the horizon,
Mother Nature has been reborn,
Leaves throughout cause an uprisen,
As the flowers on trees have been adorned.

Slowly, just slowly a little weed pops up,
Waiting to be a yellow buttercup,
It's shine is like the warm spring sun,
Coming alive to be begun.

Spring has come to comfort us,
To embrace the warm hug of it is a must,
Soon the perfect warmth will go,
It doesn't last forever don't you know.

After all the colourful leaves will come falling,
Which marks the end of Mother Nature this year,
All the animals will go back in their dens,
As this cycle of spring, summer, autumn and winter will repeat again.

3rd place - Spring Poem by Niya Year 5 Beech Class - 10 house points awarded

Spring birds singing melodies cheerfully

Petals growing on fragrant flowers

Rainbows shining as sunlight hits water

Ivy curling around towering trees

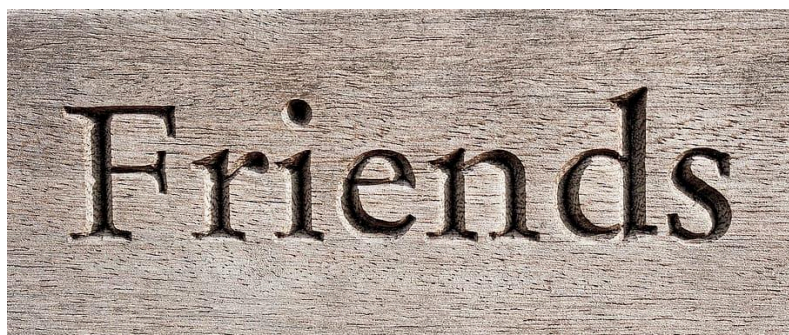
New life of awakening around me

Grasshoppers weaving in and out of long tall grass



Commended - We are friends by Isha Year 4 Juniper Class - 5 house points awarded

*You and me
So funny are we
We are so cheeky and sly
We feel like we'll fly
We share laughter and joy,
In the city of Troy
We are friends
Come with me,
So inseparable are we
We talk all day,
So come let's play
We can make a handshake,
Or we can make a milkshake
'Cause we are friends*



HAPPY EASTER

**TO ALL THE STAFF,
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
AT NASCOT WOOD JUNIOR
SCHOOL**

FROM THE NASCOT NEWS TEAM

