

Park Times



60th

*Anniversary
of
Roundwood
Park School*

*Timeline
from 1956-
present day!*

*Prizes to be
won in
Pritchard's
Puzzles*

Issue No. 2

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Contents

A Note from the Editors.....	page 3
Fantastic Photography.....	page 4
Timeline of Roundwood: 1956 to 2016.....	page 6
Writers of the Month—Islay Shelbourne.....	page 12
60 years from now.....	page 15
Teacher Interviews.....	page 16
History Club Quiz.....	page 20
Sixth Form Interviews.....	page 22
Pritchard’s Puzzles.....	page 24
The Dream Teams.....	page 26
Next Time.....	page 28

A Note from the Editors...

2016 is Roundwood Park School's Diamond Anniversary, and we have decided to celebrate this in the second issue of Park Times.

Along the theme of history, we explore the past of Roundwood in a timeline from 1956 to the present. Read on to gain an insight from the teachers themselves as we interview some of our longest serving staff. Take part in a 1950s quiz created by Roundwood's History Club to see what life was like when the school first opened.

Following on from the last issue, there's more from Writer of the Month, entrants from the cover competition, and prizes to win in Pritchard's Puzzles. New this time, see if you're in the dream teams for rugby and netball.

Thanks again to everyone involved, especially the Mandela House Leaders. Any feedback would be welcome .

*Louise Jones , Seb Stacey and
Eleanor Lavender
Communications Captains*



Fantastic Photography

Congratulations to Greg Cockburn, the winner of this issue's front cover photography contest, which had a theme of history and the past— his drawing of St. Paul's cathedral is amazing!



Well done to everyone who entered.
Here are two of our runners up...



Hannah Tearle, Year 7



Sophie Nugent, Year 13

Don't forget to enter our next contest for a chance to have your photo on the cover of issue 3! Please submit entries by February 8th 2016 on the theme 'What makes you happy...'

Roundwood in the Making...

1956-2016



1950 - Population of Harpenden only 14,000.

September 1956 —
Roundwood Park opened
6 classes
169 students



1959-79 — Roundwood Express begins
1 volume per year

1960/61 — First students doing O level
51 passes

1969/70 — First students taking A levels

1970 — Trips:
Norway
Switzerland ski trip
Pembroke field trip



1981/82 — Silver
jubilee
Tree planting
Commemorative
magazine

1979 — Belgium and
Holland History trip

1976 — Mr Foxwell (first
Head Teacher) retires

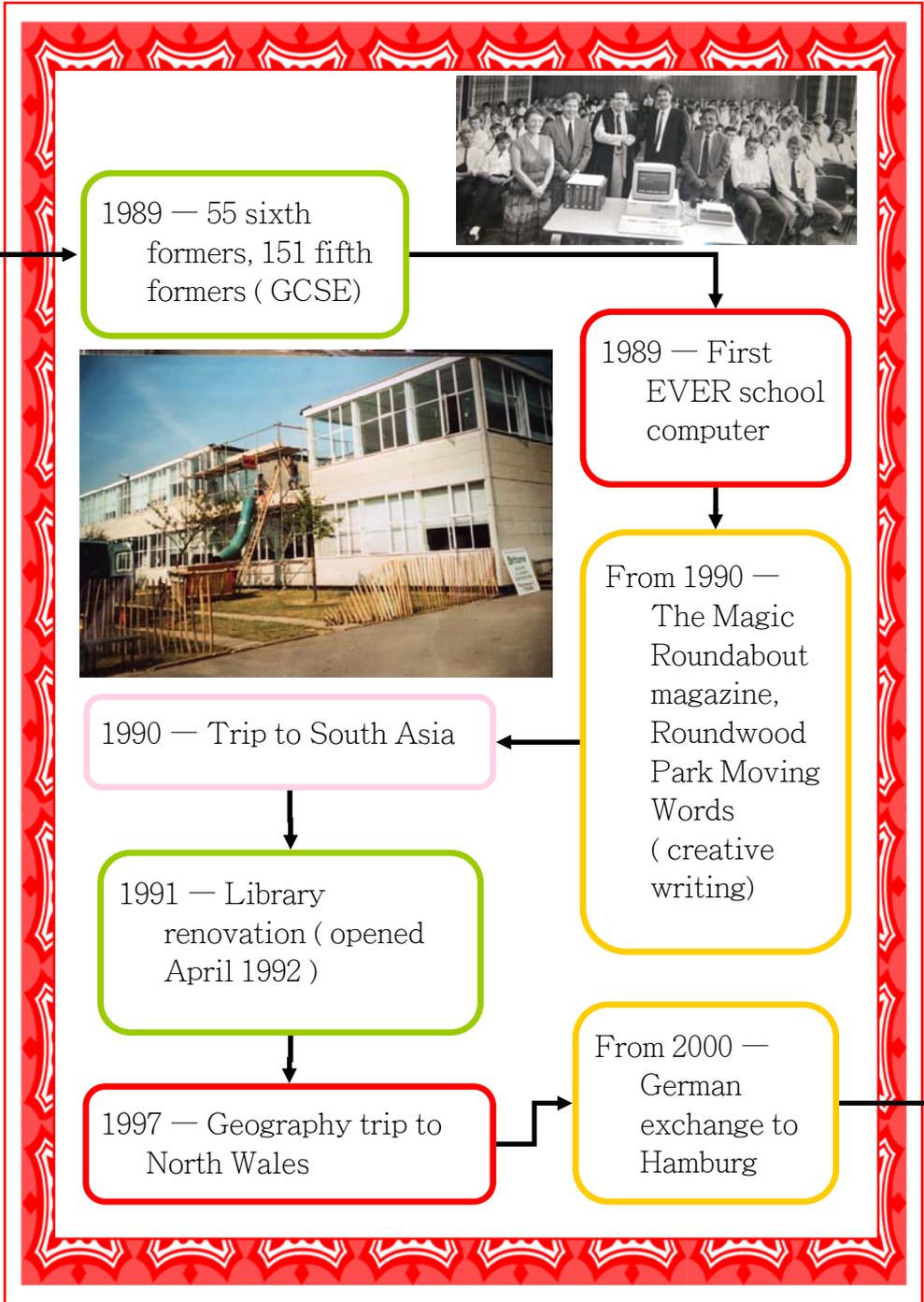


1970/71 — 252 O level
passes,
4 A level passes

1974 — Western
Super Mare,
Geography trip
1976 — New Haven,
Geography trip

1972 — Trip to Scarborough

October 1971 -
raising of the
school leav-
ing age to 16





October 2008—
Maths and
Music block
finished

2008 — Library refit

2006 — Golden Jubilee
(50 years!)
Commemorative book

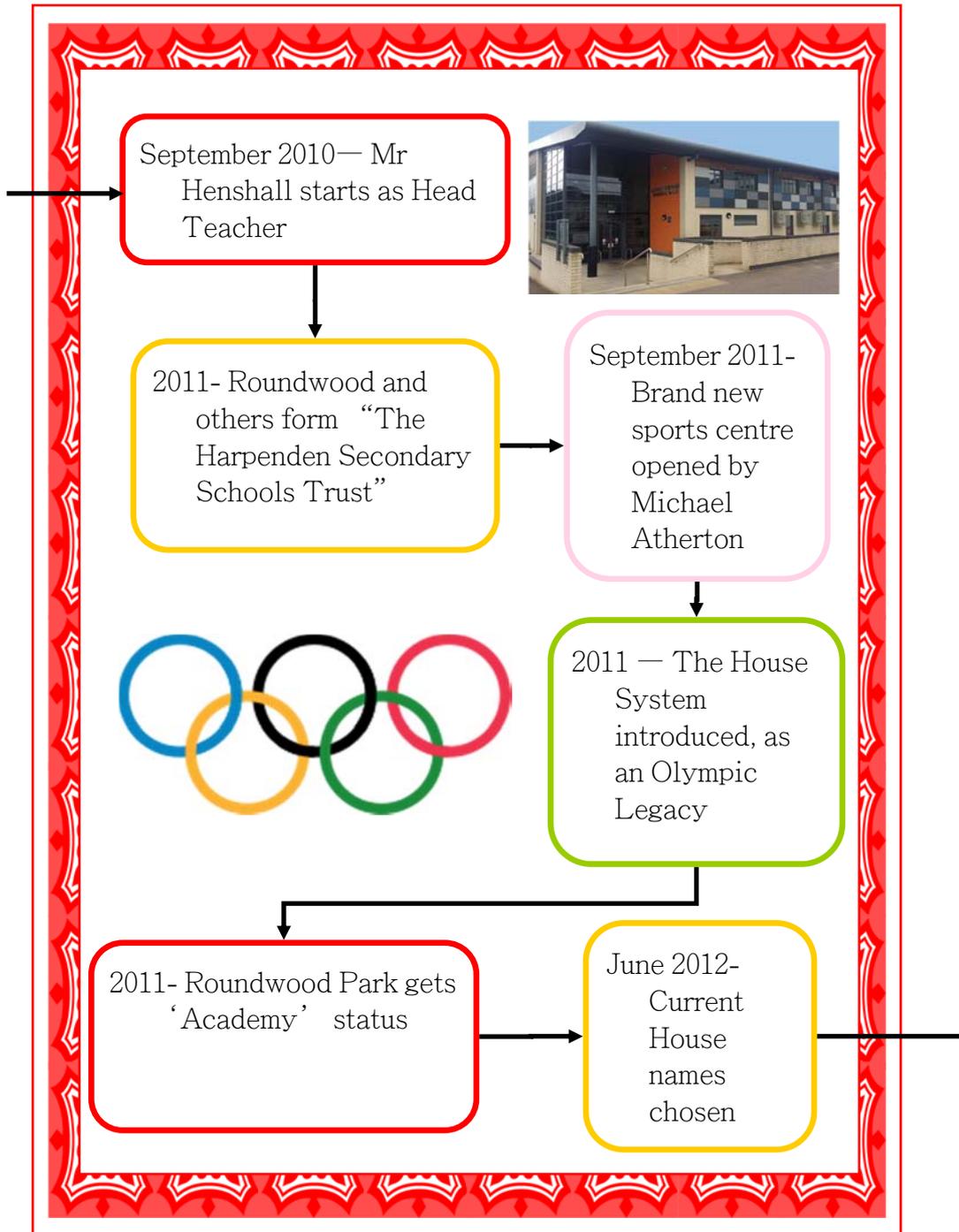


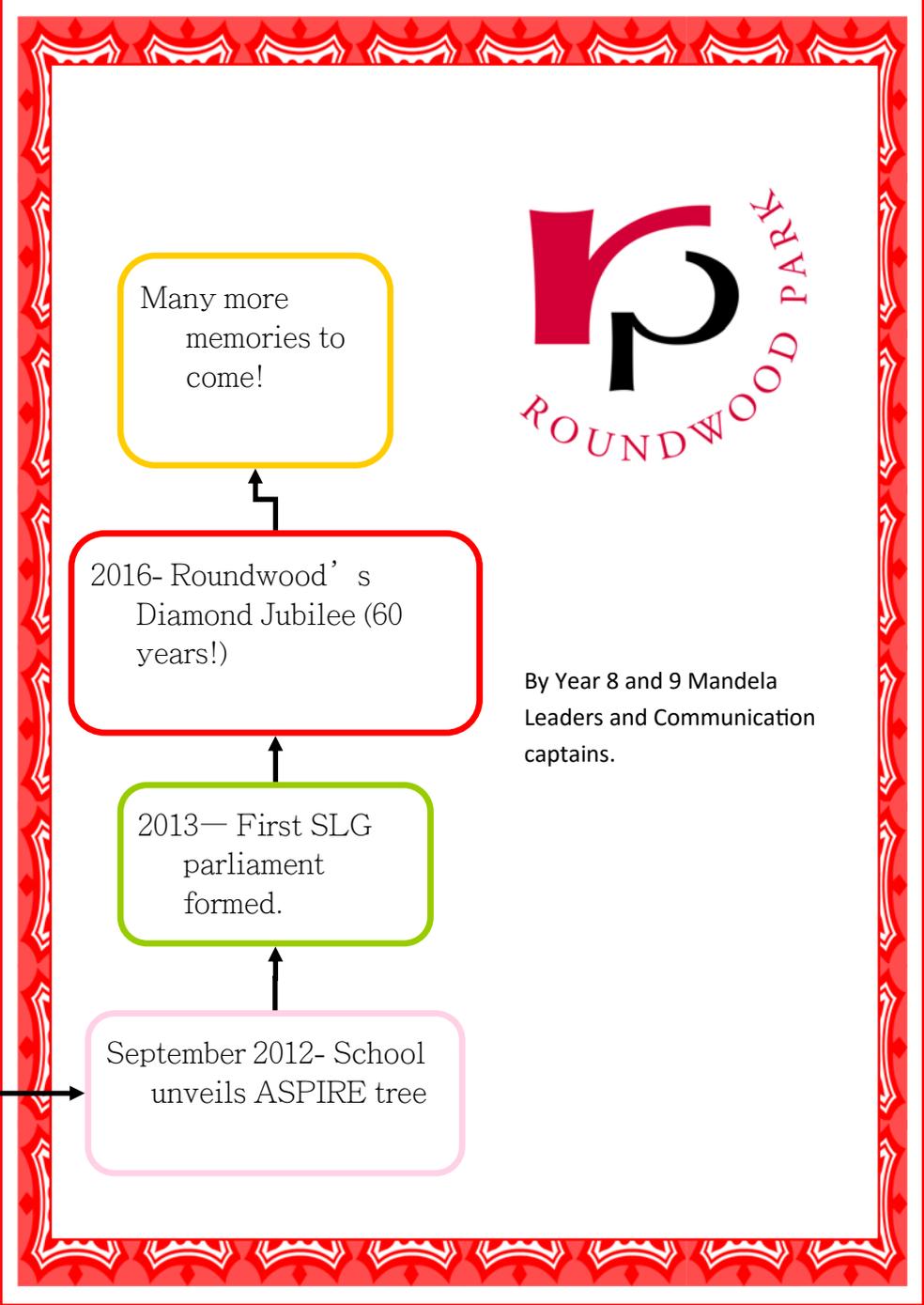
Nov 2005 —
Roundwood
students featured
in *The Times*

2003 — First ICT
suite installed
(costing
£50,000!)

2000 — Trip to Chernobyl







Writers of the Month...

...Continued from 'In Her Mind' from Issue 1



She was running. Running past the castle and the jungle. Past the porch without its light on, past her bedroom window and the billowing curtains that flowed out of it in spectral lilac hues. She sprinted past the side of the house, her feet skidding on the paving stones, the pads of her toes making little scratching noises as the soft skin there rubbed against the harsh surface of the patio.

Past the deckchairs and the smoky dragon barbecue that made her hair smell funny and Daddy shout and scream when it lashed out at his fingers and made them all crispy.

Past the swing that swung silently as she passed in a blur.

Down, down, down to the end of the garden, behind the compost bin and under the apple tree.

That was where she found Daddy.

He was digging, not like when they went to the beach and made sandcastles though. He was shovelling piles of dirt into a hole she hadn't realised was ever there. He was muttering while he did it; gasps and splutters sounding so unlike Daddy that she had to check to make sure it was him.

His face was calm, but there were tears running down his cheeks and his breaths were all raggedy.

The girl reached to take his hand, to tap him on the shoulder like she always did before breakfast. To watch him whirls around in shock and pretend he couldn't see her.

She extended infantine, 8 year old fingers towards the soft flannel of his shirt. She expected the familiar feel of the material against her fingertips.

Instead she got nothing but cold air and the smell of dust.

She cried out in confusion. Her hand went right through Daddy, through the shovel too and the dirt that was falling back into the hole.

She tried again. Again her fingers passed through.

She tugged on Daddy's sleeve. Her hand went through his arm and out the other side.

She wailed.

As tears tracked their way down her own cheeks, father and daughter mirroring each other in the twilight, she looked at the hole.

Her teddy bear stared back at her. She watched as a bit more soil covered its face, and then as another portion of the dirt concealed the pale, infantile hand that was laxly clutching it.

"What's that Daddy" She questioned while peering further in.

Her Daddy grunted with the effort of tipping topsoil back over the makeshift grave.

The girl looked down at her pyjamas. They were muddy; all dusty with soil and bits of sodden earth.

Her lip quivered. The father wiped his brow and smeared the tears from his face as he did so. He looked at the hole before him. If he squinted, he could just about make out the pink patterned and slightly too long pyjama trousers of his daughter- her feet peeking out from beneath the hems where the dirt hadn't quite settled over them.

He paused for a shaking breath, before resuming his shovelling and covering the last of the girl in the hole.

The girl looked from her father, to the bear in her arms, and then to the apple tree and what lay beneath it.

"What are you doing, Daddy?" She whispered as she watched him smooth the earth flat.

He spun around, wielding the spade and trying to convince himself that the wind was whispering small torments to him and nothing more.

The girl looked at the place the spade had cut through. Her too long trousers were gone. Her legs were too. Half of her teddy bear had vanished with them. Her fingers were starting to fade away - looking half see through like the material of the fairy wings in her dress up box.

She looked at her father as the first glow of dawn blends her into the lessening shadows. Her voice croaked as she slipped away into the dying night.

"Daddy, what did you do?"

By Islay Shelbourne—Year 13

If you wish to enter any creative writing for Park Times Issue 3 then please email your work to 9staceys. Please submit by February 8th 2016.

How will the school have changed 60 years from now?

Since Roundwood Park's 60th anniversary is here, we wondered what school would be like in 60 years, yes we are going in to the future...

We realised that the majority of our ideas wouldn't belong in a school and would be too pricey but if anything was allowed, we could have such technological things. Think how much Tech has improved over the last couple of years: iPhones, touch screens, 3D printers, the possibilities are endless! Here is what some pupils said...

"I think that there would be individual little pods that we would travel around in and in the canteen all the food will be cooked automatically."

"The lesson's entire PowerPoint would be taken on everyone's own little Ipad and the teacher would control it."

"Everyone would constantly be glued to gadgets and never listen."

"The school would probably be bigger and the buses would have a different and easier route."

"The subjects might be different and MFL would teach more languages like Mandarin."



By Eve Waterhouse
and Alex Van Weezel
Year 7 Mandela

Teacher Interviews

We interviewed some of the teachers at Roundwood Park who remember what the school was like when they first joined the school, and how Roundwood has changed into the school it is today.

Mr; Taylor- English

How long have you been teaching at Roundwood?

I started in 1984- I've been teaching here for 31 years now.

What was the school like when you first started?

It was just the English, science, staffroom, and tech blocks. Each subject had only two or three classrooms, so in the English block they also taught history, RE and languages. There were no subject offices for teachers, classes were smaller, and there were only around five forms per year. Instead of a computer room we had one TV room- teachers had to book the TV for lessons which needed a video or documentary. Luckily, the school eventually got a classroom set of BBC computers.

How has English at Roundwood changed?

When I started English was more or less a simplified version of what we do now. A lot of the books are the same- obviously we did classics like Shakespeare, we just didn't watch the film like you might do now! The course used to be 100% coursework, but now we've moved to exams.

Mr Barnett- Science

When did you start teaching at Roundwood?

1978. I've been here 37 years!

What was the school like then?

There were only 800-900 students, with 4 or 5 form entries in each year. The hall we now use for exams was the dining area, science used to have the Sixth Form area. We used to have competitions and games on the school field in the summer. It's A Knockout was really popular- the staff would play and look like idiots!

At Christmas I was in charge of running the school film. They would send all the kids from 2 of the years to the hall and I'd run an old cinema screen so everyone could watch the film I'd chosen.

How have science lessons changed since?

There used to be a lot more practical work, whereas now we are doing more tests and exam preparation so there's less time to be hands on and do practicals in the lessons.



Staff football team, including Mr Barnett (front row L2) and Mr Woodhouse (back row R4)!

Mrs Moxham—Geography

How long have you been teaching at Roundwood?

For a very long and enjoyable time, otherwise I wouldn't have stayed. I have also won the "long service" award!

What was the school like when you started?

The school was much smaller, just the Hall, English, IT, and Science blocks. The geography block used to be maths and the sixth form used to have to wear blue and white uniform. Since then it has got much bigger and the teaching has really improved.

How has geography and trampolining changed?

In 1993 I spent a year teaching geography in Australia which was very different. We have also had 3 or 4 heads of department, including me but only for one year. As for trampolining, Roundwood have had 15 years of success with many national finals for boys and girls.

An article from the school magazine - The Trombone - in 1993 which tells of Mrs Moxham's trip to Australia



Mr Dumpleton- History

How long have you been teaching at Roundwood?

23 years, I joined Roundwood in 1992.

What was the school like then?

There were several mobile classrooms, behind where Geraghty's Café is now, and my first form group were in one. It certainly meant you had to carry a lot of books from the office to the classroom before each lesson! Standards were high, but the school has definitely improved since.

Teachers used to have walk-on comedy parts in the school plays- some would even sing. I remember seeing a great version of Joseph and the Technicolour Dreamcoat!

How has history at Roundwood changed since?

Now there is much more of a focus on independent research and we can make use of the iPads and other ICT programmes. We can do a mixture of activities in lesson time, rather than just traditional teaching methods.

1950s: how much do you know?

The History Club at our school have created a quiz about what it was like to be in the 1950s when the school first opened! Have a go at these challenging questions, the answers are on the back page.

1 In the year 1952 thick smog in London killed how many people?

2000

4000

5000

6000

2 Which new television station was introduced in 1955?

Channel 4

BBC 2

BBC 3

ITV

3 What year was Queen Elizabeth II proclaimed Queen of England?

1950

1951

1952

1953

4 What was the name of the first James Bond novel published in 1953?

Casino Royale

Dr. No

Goldfinger

Thunderball

5 In millions, what was the population of Britain in 1952?

30

50

60

70

6 What was the school leaving age in the 1950s?

12

15

16

18

By Emmy Beynon, Year 8



Here are some pictures from History Club and an example of what they do— they're currently making death masks! If you wish to join, speak to Mrs Upton or Mr Juddery for more details...



A View from Sixth Form

How much do you think school will change in the next 10 years?

- * Modern technology will help us improve
- * Even better facilities for learning
- * Teachers will be more experienced
- * Massively, the house system will be amazing!
- * Teachers will become more motivated and fun

How do you think it has changed since the last 10 years?

- * Sports Hall was a great boost to the P.E. department
- * Introduction of the house system is great for friendly competition
- * Placement of signs for newer students helps a lot
- * Student voice at the school is much more involved then it used to be
- * Teaching has become much more interactive and learning has become much more worth while.
- * Technology is much more involved with learning.

What message would you pass on to the future students of Roundwood Park School?

- * Do your work as soon as you get, you'll find that you'll have more free time
- * Never leave your work to the last minute
- * Make sure to mix your work with some fun too!
- * Enjoy it as it goes way too quickly.
- * Know that teachers are always there for you if you need them for support.
- * Work hard as it is worth it in the end

What would you like to see in the future at school?

- * Swimming pool
- * A slide instead of stairs
- * Proper, athletic running track
- * More cafés
- * Students having a bit more independence

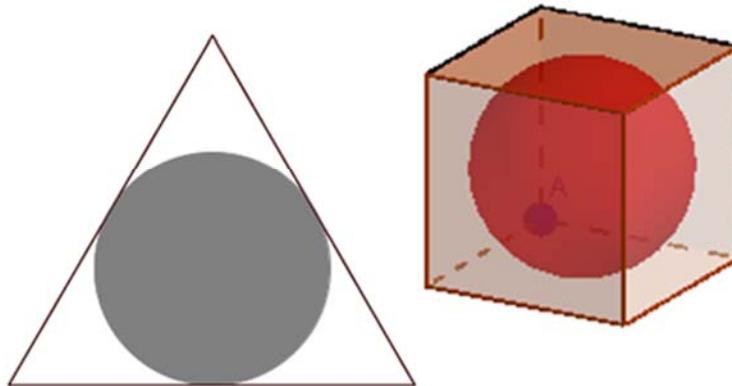
By Year 12 Mandela Leaders

Pritchard's Puzzles

Have a go at these tricky maths problems, either by yourself or as a form...

Puzzle 1

Which fills a greater percentage of the shape, a circle within an equilateral triangle or a sphere within a cube? Please give the answer as a percentage?



Puzzle 2

A) How many different ordered lists of 3 letters can be chosen from the letters of the word MATHEMATICS?

Eg MAT, ATM, AMT, AAT, ATA

B) Out of these, how many recognisable words can you find?



Think you've got the answers? Email Miss Pritchard the answers and you could win a **chocolate prize.**

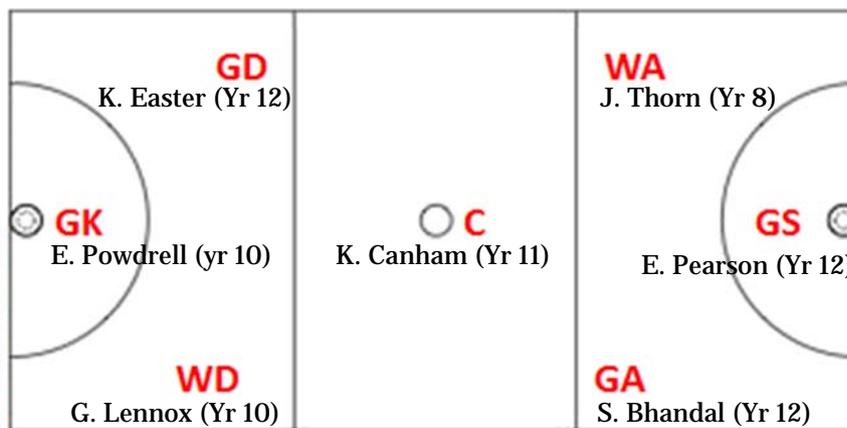
The Dream Teams

Here are the much anticipated rugby and netball dream teams, with players selected from year 7 through to year 13.

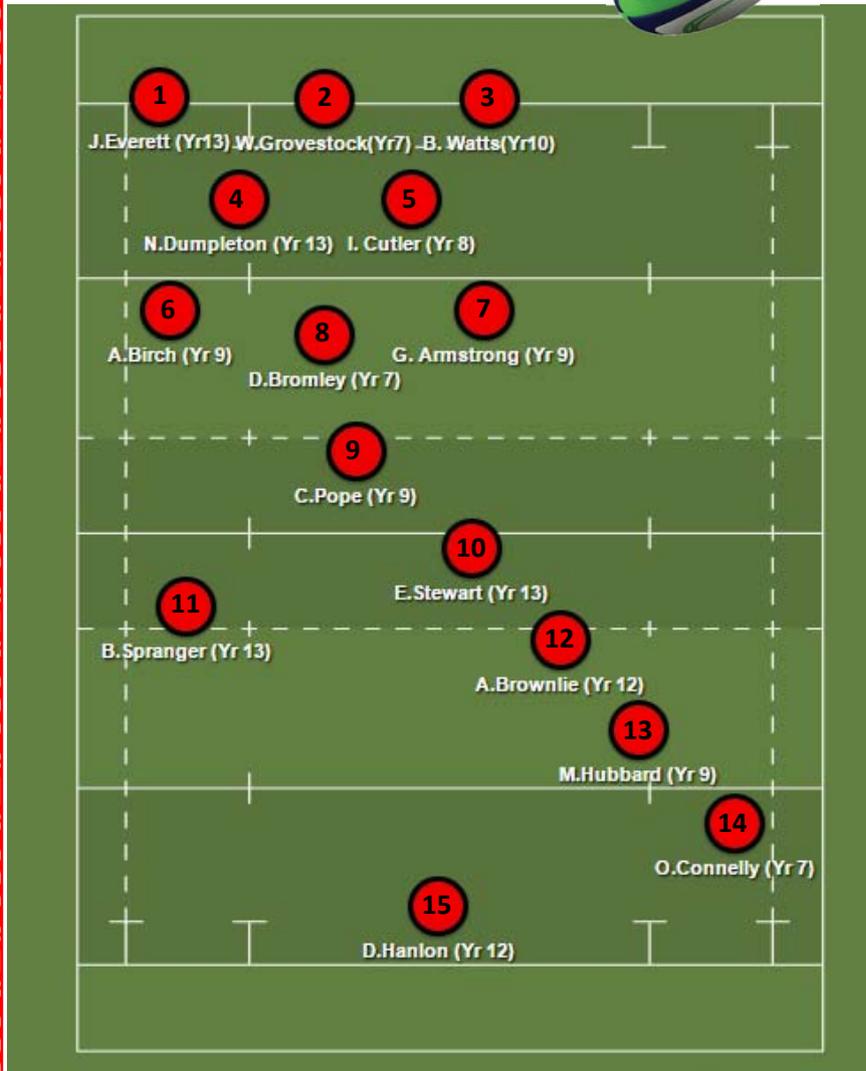
The players picked in the teams are merited to their performance in matches in their own year group. Players have only been considered for positions that they have the skills to play, yet this may not necessarily be their best position.



Netball



Rugby



History Club Quiz Answers!

- 1 4000
- 2 ITV
- 3 1952
- 4 Casino Royale
- 5 50 million
- 6 15



In the next issue...

The Theme is

‘What makes you happy...’

Remember to enter the cover photo competition and writer of the month.

Deadline: 8th February