

The W.A.T.C.H. Word

Monday, 07 October 2024

Rosie Guy: Editor

Sophie Sysum: Lead Journalist

Elizabeth Bird: Social Correspondent

Alice Fuller: Sports Editor

Joe Cox: Media Correspondent

How to Thrive in Year 7

Sophie Sysum: Lead Journalist



Welcome back everyone to the first edition of *The W.A.T.C.H. Word* this school year.

A new year means that a new set of Year 7 students are joining our school. This month we wanted to outline our top tips for thriving in Year 7.

After many years of being at the school I have found that looking at your timetable and packing your bag the night before really helps. Doing this means that you have less to do in the morning and that you'll know exactly what lessons you have the next day.

This can also ensure that you always have your Top Ten with you. This is extremely important as it shows teachers you are ready to

learn and will make sure you're prepared for the day.

If you get lost don't be afraid to ask for directions, as there are many people who are willing to help you. Look out for students who are wearing



a solid green tie. These are prefects. They know their way around the school and will happily point you in the right direction.

We asked Mrs Gregory (Head

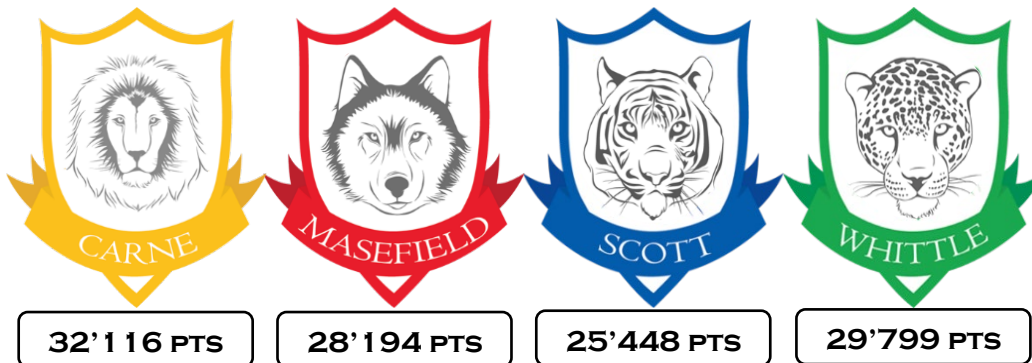
of Year 7) for her tips and she said: "Stay organised. Make sure you have all the equipment with you (PE kit, top ten et cetera). Make new friends and be kind."

Another useful tip to help you stay on top of all your homework is to do it the night you are set it. I find this useful as then I don't have to do it at the last minute, and it doesn't lead to a buildup of homework. This allows you to stay on track and know what you need to do each night.

Finally, get involved. Afterschool clubs are a great chance to meet new people and try new things. Who knows, maybe you'll be our next star actor or athlete!

A new school year is always a challenge, but we hope these tips can help you have the best start possible!

House standings....



Carne starts this year with a solid lead, but with a whole year ahead of us these still everything to play for! Keep earning those merits!

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Afterschool Clubs

Alice Fuller: Sports editor

Here at Chosen Hill there is a wide variety of different clubs around the school. We thought we'd take you through just a sample of the ones available to you.

To start with: sports. Boys' basketball kicks off on Monday lunchtimes, Netball on Tuesdays after school and there's girls' football after school on Wednesday.

On Thursdays we host both boys' and girls' rugby as well as Badminton after school on Friday.

But at Chosen we don't only offer sports clubs. Auditions for the school musical have just come to an end. This year our production is 'Beauty and the Beast'. Whilst

principal auditions have just taken place, casting for the ensemble will begin on the last week of term.

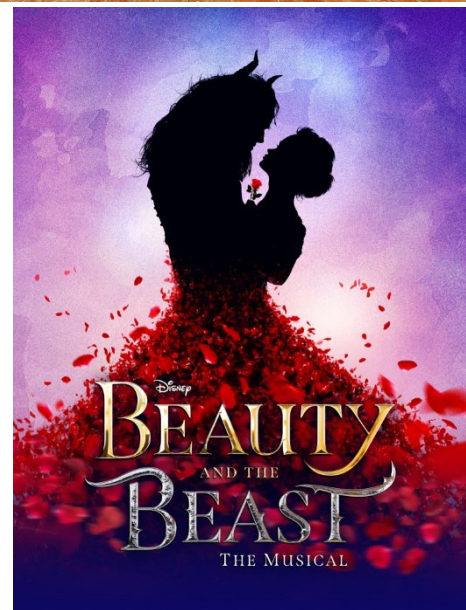
The English department will also, once again, be launching their book club for years 7, 8 and 9. Watch out for the posters!

With so many different extracurricular activities for you to take part in, why



would you not want to enrich your experience here at Chosen Hill?

If you're interested, speak to your tutor for more details.



October's Announcements

- Well done to everyone who helped with the open evening on the 19th of September. It was great to see everyone supporting the school.
- Open mornings were on the 17th, 18th, 19th and the 25th of September.
- On the 9th of October there is the Year 11 parents' information evening.
- House music takes place on the 18th of October. Good luck to everyone participating and to all the houses.
- Congratulations to the cast of Beauty and the Beast who will be taking to the stage in February of this year. A special shout out to the newspaper's very own Joe Cox who was cast as Lefou. If you are interested in knowing who is participating in the show head to the Chosen Hill Musical's Instagram page.



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Book of the Month:

The Hunger Games

By Suzanne Collins

Elizabeth Bird: Social Correspondent

The Hunger Games Trilogy is well known for being a dynamic and action-packed series that follows the life of Katniss Everdeen. Within a futuristic, apocalypse world, Katniss must rise against the odds in a tournament against 10 other tributes.

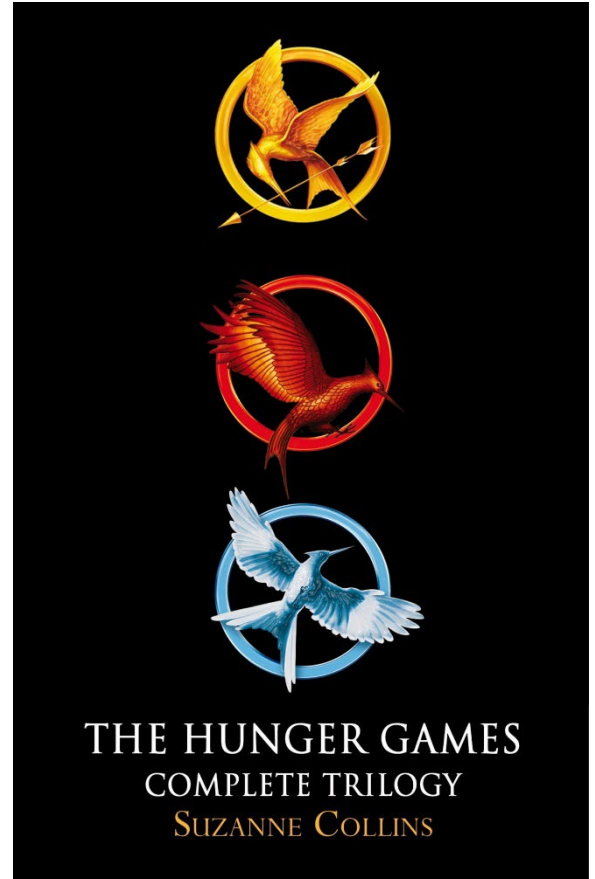
Suzanne Collins creates a world like ours, in which society is split into 12 different districts. A trial happens every year, in which randomly selected kids are made to fight each other, while the rest of the world watched with bated breath. These stories bring to light how far a society can turn and the animalistic nature of a dictatorship in a society where your value is determined by your trade.

Set to lose, Katniss enters the games in place of her sister, Primrose- who was only twelve at the time of the first book. Paired with Peeta Melark, the two quickly become the capitol favourite, despite best efforts.

In *Catching Fire*, Collins throws you back in with another kill-to-survive tournament, the Quarter Quell, where Katniss and Peeta face the winners from previous Hunger Games. But in the background, whispers of rebellion are starting to build. Book two leaves with a cliffhanger, leaving readers with as many questions as before the book. A nail-biting dilemma and conflicting emotions start *Mockingjay*, Collin's third book. With Peeta captured and a civil war raging, Katniss left to work out just how important the people in are life are.

Having read this series as an 11-12-year-old myself, I can honestly recommend it for anybody wanting to dip into fantasy and action. This trilogy is a fast-paced, intense, high-action series with brilliantly well-crafted characters and a solid plotline. These books are an excellent way to get into reading, as you will be hooked from the very first page to the very last.

Rating: *****



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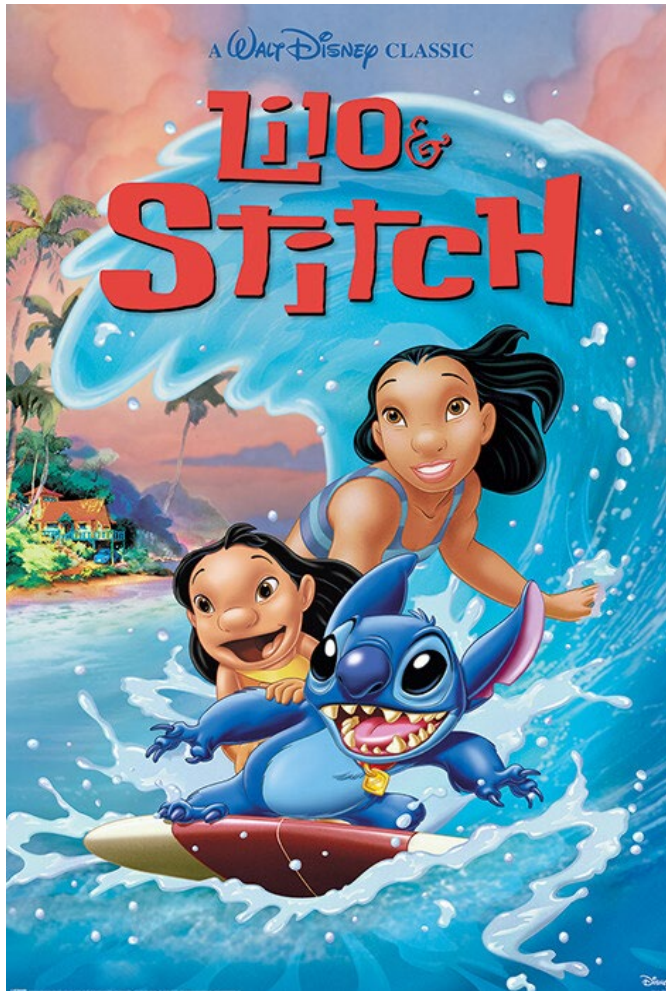
Joe Cox: Media Correspondent

Film of the month

Joe Cox – Media Correspondent



Lilo and Stitch



heroic characters from building their own Ohana.

Lilo and Stitch is an old-style animated Disney movie. It follows an abomination made by an imprisoned scientist on an alien planet. The monster [known as Experiment 626] was created to destroy anything in its path. He is bullet proof, flame resistant and solely focused on his destructive urges.

After crashlanding in Hawaii, it is adopted by Lilo – a young islander living with her sister. As aliens attempt to capture Experiment 626, now named Stitch, will the trio be able to prove they can become a model family and stop impending doom?

This outstanding piece of filmmaking has millions of fans raving and falling head over heels to these iconic characters – Including myself! Although, Lilo and Stitch do have more mature, serious scenes, it adds to, rather than takes away from, the films heartwarming feeling. This beautiful film covers the focuses in on the struggles of day to day whilst combining old-style Disney magic with gorgeous storytelling. Despite catastrophic accidents, like their house being blown to smithereens, nothing deters these

With my overall experience in the movie, Lilo and Stitch has no faults, whatsoever. The fairy-tale like ending adds just so much more charm and comfort. Would I recommend this to everyone in the world? Absolutely! Just make sure you prepare a soft blanket, and a box of tissues because this movie will make you bawl in sadness!

Rating: *****

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Video game of the month

Joe Cox: Media Correspondent

'Minecraft' - Is it the pixel perfection we all remember?

Minecraft is an action / adventure game where you can mine, chop, and craft whatever you want to as you traverse and discover your biome!

Everything, and I mean EVERYTHING, in Minecraft is comprised of colourful cubes and rectangles! You can use crafting recipes to make foods, like bread or cake, or find them in different biomes. You can use them to build them in

different biomes. You can use them to build whatever your mind pleases! You can make models of entire cities, your dream house, even Hogwarts Castle!

In my opinion, it's the plethora of activities that makes Minecraft so good! Want to join a server with other people? Sure! Sounds great. Want to focus on crafting potions and spells? Great! Go for it. Want to chase a

rectangular llama around for hours on end for no reason. Crack on!

The game has an enormous spectrum of people it can appeal to! Casual gamers will love it, due to its freedom and your sense of control. Animal lovers can create an expansive zoo or farm. Objective gamers can aim to become so powerful they'll be able to take on the most



fearsome of bosses - the Enderdragon.

Minecraft's freedom and flexibility makes this game the PERFECT one for anyone!

Rating: *****

Meet the Pet

This week's pet is Merlin! He is very cuddly and really enjoys company. Treats are his best friends, although he can easily spend a lazy afternoon in the sun!

He is 4 years old, however, has the personality of a grumpy old man. He has dark grey fur, a tuxedo shaped white patch, and a little brown spot on his nose, but don't mention that.

Merlin's favourite toy happens to be an old pom-pom that once originated from my mum's slipper, which he has had since he was a kitten. He can have a mischievous side, but ultimately just wants to feel loved, and fed, of course.

If you would like your pet featured in this article, please send your entries to TA@chosen-hill.gloucs.sch.uk.





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Meet the teacher...

What is your name?

Mrs Gregory

What subjects do you teach?

I teach PE and Wellbeing, and I am also Year 7's Head of Year.

What do you enjoy doing outside of school?

I enjoying doing lots of sport - I play netball, and I also do lots of CrossFit. I love to go to the beach, surf, ski and snowboard. I also love to see the world as much as I can.

What are your main hobbies?

Sport and I love getting into a good TV series!

If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go?

I would love to go to South America - Brazil, Peru and Argentina. I would love to visit for their amazing natural and cultural diversity, and I have heard that their food is amazing! I would also love to visit when they have their carnival in Brazil for all the dancing, colours and celebrations.

What is your favourite food?

My favourite food is a bagel with butter and marmite!

What do you dislike?

I dislike all hot drinks.

What is your favourite play?

Hamilton - I saw this in New York and it was incredible!!

What is your favourite film?

Mamma Mia - hands down the best film ever!!