

The Gryphon

December
2020

INSIDE:
Check out
page 8-9 for
the baby face
quiz

INSIDE:
Head to page 5
for photos of Mr
Oldham stuck in
the toilets!



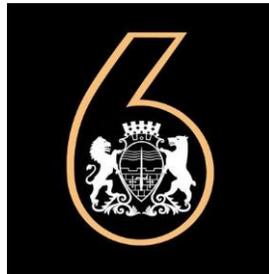
**Made by your
Sixth Form!**

A Magazine for the Students
... made by the Students





Beechen Cliff



Edited by Anton Phillips
and Harry Stevens



Contents Page

2-3. Why keeping active is so important

4. New song in the sixth form released!

5. Mr Oldham stuck in the toilets

6-7. A lil message from the music guys

8-9. Baby face challenge

10-11. Interrail as a gap year option

12-13. EPQ: from Pen to Lense

14-15. Government debt: who should pay for it?

16. Guess the Location

17-18. Puzzles

19. Crossword

20-21. Article about Psilocybin as an alternative to antidepressants in the treatment of depression

22-23. Burn off the Christmas calories

24-27. Easy Recipes to follow

28-29. A brief insight into nuclear fusion

30-33. Interview with Mr Oldham

34-35. Answers





Why keeping active is so important

It has always been made clear to us that leading an active lifestyle is important for our health and wellbeing, however, now it's more important than ever, especially for our mental health, due to the COVID-19 restrictions. I know this is much easier said than done but trying to get some activity in your day, whether that be going in a run, home workout or simply a dog walk with members of your household, I guarantee it will improve your day significantly. Now that being said, I'm no saint, I've had my fair share of days sat at home eating chocolate and watching Netflix, which is in my book just as important as exercise. As I'm sure many of you were the same, at the start of the first lockdown I was doing my home workouts and even started coach to 5k and if you know me that's an achievement in itself, however as lockdown came to end, so did my exercise. I'd tried honestly everything, from platies in the garden to doing Joe Wicks and I'm not being funny but that was fun for the first week but there's only so long I can be expected to be doing star jumps with my mum in the front room. I found it really hard to discipline myself when it comes to physical activity, as I'm used to being pushed by my netball coaches and teammates, but without that I was struggling. What I found helped me was my friend and I would do at home workouts together over video call, which meant that neither of us could back out and stay in bed as we had organised to do these workouts.



Afterwards the rush of endorphins we'd feel would get us ready for the day full of online lessons and banana bread baking. If you're anything like me I found the idea of individual activity that hasn't been part of netball practice a scary thought, if I knew I was going to do exercise that day it would be like a grey cloud over my day and I would constantly put it off and procrastinate, but once I had done it, it was like a weight lifted off of my shoulders. Now I'm not trying to say that you'll love it at first, but once it becomes part of your weekly routine, it takes the sting out of it as it isn't such a daunting thought. Try it with a friend, from a social distance of course, family member, by yourself, with some good music or podcast, or join the school sports teams, and if you find weekly slots for it then it will stop being such a burden; it will be no different to tidying your bedroom, you may not want to do it at first but you'll feel better for it afterwards and sometimes your mum has to remind you to do it a few times, well more than few, if you're like me. Overall, if you make exercise habitual and part of your routine then it's likely to stick and you never know you might actually enjoy it.

Lauren Morgan





Beechen News

Check out the Deputy Head Girl's new song! Check it out on Spotify... it's an absolute banger; link below!!

<https://open.spotify.com/artist/3QZPUZxEFGPCVGNKksXbGq?si=5pouHvFoT365eSK1OnuRug>

ARTIST

3lin

PAUSE FOLLOW ...

MONTHLY LISTENERS 636

OVERVIEW ABOUT CONCERTS

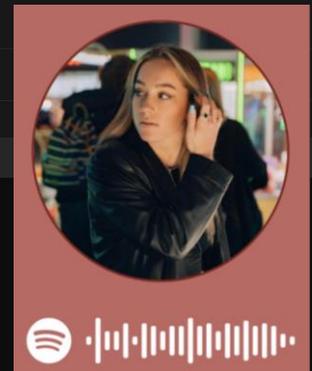
Latest Release

The Game
DEC 11, 2020

Popular

The Game

Elin Edwards





I'm the Head of Sixth Form Get Me Out of Here



Until the caretaker came and released him from his new office!

Mr Oldham was stuck in the toilets for over 40 minutes!



Some say the man himself decided to bring some Christmas cheer of his own by locking himself in.

The day the sixth form building decided to have a bit of Christmas fun on everyone's behalf



A lil message from the Music guys

I feel as though it would be an understatement to say that the music department has been affected by Covid-19. Obviously, due to year group bubbling, practices for bands have simply not been able to go ahead.

This means no band, string group, choir, swing band or percussion groups will be able to play which inevitably means no school concert (purely devastating news); and furthermore the best nights of the school year (bands nights) have also had to be cancelled which means no Raw Toast, no Nocturne and most upsettingly no Dystortion. However this does not mean that the powerful music department staff are not working behind the scenes to conjure up new ways of showing off the talent of the music department.

Work is being done to produce a carol ingested choir video in time for Christmas and ideas are being put together to create other videos for bands such as the percussion or concert bands in the near future. The legend himself; Mr Huntriss is also working on making a school podcast which could feature all kinds of Beechen Cliff activities and a music department Instagram is also in the works as is the idea of a Bands Night livestream.



Many productions from the music block will still take place this year even with the absence of presence so no worry is needed.

Furthermore the music block is still bustling with activity from all kinds of instrument lessons to Mr Calvert and Ms Norse's thrilling music lessons and sick beats still being dropped in the studio. Much is to come in the music block and frequent updates will be provided.



If you have any ideas or want to be part of anything please send an email to me at music@beechencliff.com and we'll see what we can do.

That's all for now folks see you soon innit.

Benjy Morriss



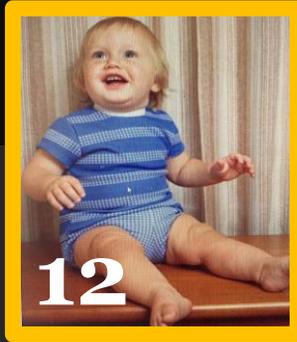


Baby Face Challenge

Match up the Baby photos with the names at the bottom of page 9. **Sixth Form staff** are the photos in **green** for photos on this page and **orange** if their photos is on page 9, and **Students** are the photos in **red**. Answers are at the back of the magazine. **GOOD LUCK!**



Sixth Form Staff



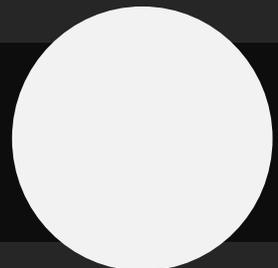
Sixth Form Staff



Upper Sixth Students

Mr Anstey, Izzy Criddle, Miss Mather, Mr Brewer, Mrs Ingram, Mrs DeGlanville, John Hetherington, Miss Georgiadi, Miss Fisher, Harry Stevens, Mr Oldham, Ms Morehead, Miss Kibblewhite, Mr Maxwell, Allison, Mr Firth, Ben O'Hare

Ellis Baker





Interrail as a gap year option

A-levels to University

The Transition from A-Levels To University is a huge step, with lots of students taking this jump with little consideration for other available options. Taking a Gap Year is an option often overlooked by schools and students. However taking a year off is more viable than you would think. By applying to University with a deferral, statistically you have higher chances of getting accepted. Not only this, but having a gap year can widen your horizons, giving valuable life experience , aiding with potential mental health struggles, or issues with motivation to study after spending the last 7 years burning out.

What can you do?

Working a job to earn your own money is a huge step in becoming independent. Managing your own finances , renting a flat and living a more adult life are very important to this as well. Getting a “taste for freedom” lays the foundation for being able to leave home and becoming self sufficient. Of course this is optional , living at home and working is just as significant as it can allow you to save money faster and more effectively. Travel , Festivals and your personal hobbies are just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to things to spend your money on.



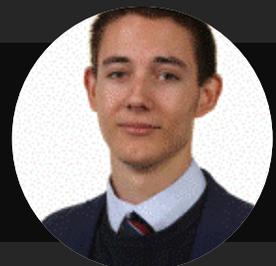
Travel

The option to travel is arguably one of the most important, travel may seem like its just for personal benefit , however to Universities and future employers it is a very valued attribute, showing that you have immersed yourself in various cultures and independently raised the money to do so. One of the cheapest travel options is Interrail Europe, over 40,000 locations are available to reach with the global rail pass. Which starts at £168 for 4 days travel per month and finishes at £615 for unlimited travel for 3 months.

Overall according to gapyear.com including nightly accommodation, food and spending money on a 30 day trip would total to around £1000. Which is extremely valuable for the amount of travelling that can be accomplished within the timeframe. In planning an Interrail trip , having a strong group of friends to do it with is essential for safety including a well thought out travel plan and map over the period or travels.

Hopefully this article has given you a greater understanding of a few available options in replacement of going to university straight after A-levels.

Zeb Goldsmith





EPQ: from Pen to Lense

“The death of one man is a tragedy. The death of millions is a statistic”

- Joseph Stalin

This quote evoked to my mind the ideas of loss of individualism and identity. An amateur aspiring actor, who is admittedly desperately searching for ideas and inspiration for writing original scripts, I decided to explore this idea further through the EPQ Artefact. My Script combines historical research, with a fictional narrative, to explore the concepts of dehumanization, responsibility and corruption; through the moral degradation of Nazi Officer Karl Frenzel, from supposed mild compliance to complicity in evil.

The extent to which Frenzel’s corruption is, as Stalin’s quote would infer, a tragedy; in particular contrast to the persecution of the Jewish people, was the focus of the short script.



COLLATERAL CASUALTIES

J. R. Salisbury (2020)

[Black screen fades into grainy chalk-board]

[Title: "SOBIBOR" - "194(3)" - POLAND - EXTERMINATION CAMP]

[Hand appears with a piece of chalk, doesn't linger, starts to write sums and statistics onto the chalk-board - RS1 -]

[The room is grey, stonewalled; a single window on the back-left wall, concealed by shades. Black-board is on the wall 1, RS1. There's a small table in the corner of the room, RS2. On the table, an unlabelled wine bottle, and 2 glasses]

[figure (CLAUBERG) turns]

[HEINZE smirking, is sitting on a chair, a cigarette smoking, lowered. 2 Guards either side of him, also smoking]

[After a moment, HEINZE leaves the seat and walks across to the blackboard, RS1. He silently admires the blackboard. Slaps CLAUBERG on back, with contrived friendliness]

[Enter FRENZEL]

HEINZE: Ah Officer Frenzel! Excellent timing.

[FRENZEL nods]

HEINZE: One-thousand. [pause] One-thousand of them every week. You can always tell when they're coming. Incomes the train *chugga-chugga* [he makes repetitive train sounds]. Following that there's some awful screeching, which I can only assume is the train grinding to it's halt. Off they climb, and, in they go. [gleefully - reference propaganda poster pose] NAMES OFF! NUMBERS ON!!

[pause]

Do you see the issue with that Officer Frenzel?

[pause]

No? Well... one-thousand a week simply isn't enough

[Breaks into laughter]

[Sinister, the laugh becomes weedy as it goes on]
[Collects himself. FRENZEL, who is stood awkwardly and unsure]

HEINZE: Please forgive me. I cannot believe I didn't offer you a cigarette.

[long pause.. Stares intensely]
Would you like a cigarette?

FRENZEL: ... Yes, [stutters] Sir

HEINZE: [resuming his charmed-gee, now it feels contrived, if it didn't already before] Clauberg! Get the Officer a cigarette would you? [his gaze is fixated, unflinching]

FRENZEL: [taking the cigarette, inhaling out of relief] [mumbles a thank you]

HEINZE: Do you have a wife Officer Frenzel?

No? No. Say... Your Mother, sister... The difference matters not... Let us say they serve you a delicious meal. Meats, vegetables, carbohydrates... You eat said meal, and you enjoy it... They are proud of it. But, as is natural with all meals; you neglect some of it... Just a few shavings here and there. Nothing much. In fact, despite perhaps the lack of seasoning or a slight singe to the side, there isn't all that much wrong with it. But you don't like it. [HEINZE looks out the window, gently lifting the blind] It's excess; collateral...

[Throughout the remaining duration of the monologue, HEINZE pours two glasses of wine] And you don't need it. Now, [chuckles to self] to equivocate the metaphor of a plate of food to a portion of the human race is of course absurd. But, according to the basic premise; when we have unnecessary excess what do we do? We throw it out.

[HEINZE offers out a glass of wine]

[FRENZEL accepts]

[HEINZE and FRENZEL clique their glasses, and drink. A small drop escapes Frenzel's mouth and slides down his chin].

- END -

Josh Salisbury





Government Debt: Who Should Pay For It?

Are we going to foot the coronavirus debt?

Debt in the UK is currently sitting at over 100% of GDP (£2.85 trillion) which is the highest public debt has been since the aftermath of WWII. This debt, however, has been necessary for all governments responding to the economic consequences of nationwide lockdowns where furlough schemes, company bailouts and half-price benders at TGI Fridays have all been put on the government's credit card. It has been right to approach the pandemic like a war in which we must fight the war first and pay for it later. While these debt figures may be scary, the economy without this government intervention would be sorer sight.

Regardless of how vital this spending was for the economy, surely the debt still needs to be paid off in the years following the pandemic? This is a question occupying many economists and governments as we tackle the largest financial challenge in a decade. The UK government had a similar dilemma after the 2008-09 financial crisis in which they responded by imposing severe austerity measures which saw public sector pay get cut or frozen and vital social funding get considerably sliced. This response by the 2010 Cameron Clegg government was arguably not the right response at the time and certainly isn't the right response now. Reducing the pay of government employers and cutting social service spending is counterintuitive after a pandemic where both have been essential.



How then should it be paid?

To start with, the government debt is not as daunting as it appears to be. Since May, the UK has been able to borrow at negative interest rates for its short-term debt meaning the government is getting paid for borrowing money and the longer term 10-year debt interest rate is not much higher at only 0.26%. The remaining debt should be paid through inflation, growth and clever taxation - not through high income taxes for lower tax bounds which would harm graduates the most. Inflation, the devaluing of money over a period of time, normally gets worse press than Mario Balotelli's firework incident and there are legitimate fears over it. However, a steady annual rate of inflation at 2% (above the current 0.7% rate) would decrease the value of debt while maintaining a growing economy.

We could inflate some of the debt away if done responsibly.

The carbon tax leads to pollution being heavily taxed and would not only act as an important income stream for the UK government which would alleviate some debt pressures, but it would also shift the economy towards a greener future as high pollution levels become less affordable.

By undertaking these measures, the government can at least avoid high increases in income taxes for lower tax bounds and economy slowing austerity measures which would certainly extend the economic pain felt from the pandemic. Alongside this, the economy can shift towards a greener future. So who should pay for the government debt?

Finlay Blair





Guess the Location

1.



2.



3.





Thinkers

Brain Teaser

There are three playing cards in a row. There is a two to the right of a king. There is a diamond to the left of a spade. There is an ace to the left of a heart. There is a heart to the left of a spade. Identify the three cards.



Riddles

How can you physically stand behind your father when he is standing behind you?

A is the brother of B.

B is the brother of C.

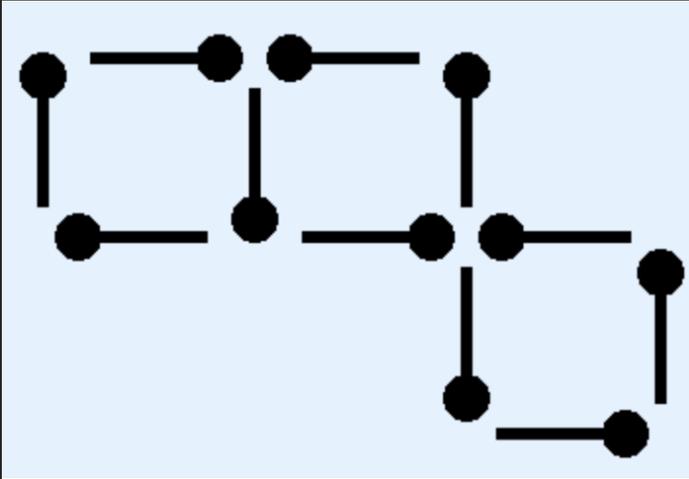
C is the father of D.

How is D related to A?

During what month do people sleep the least?

Anagrams

- 1) I M S U A S N I C
- 2) E F T V A L I S S
- 3) I G T I G N L H N
- 4) P E C A R A N V M

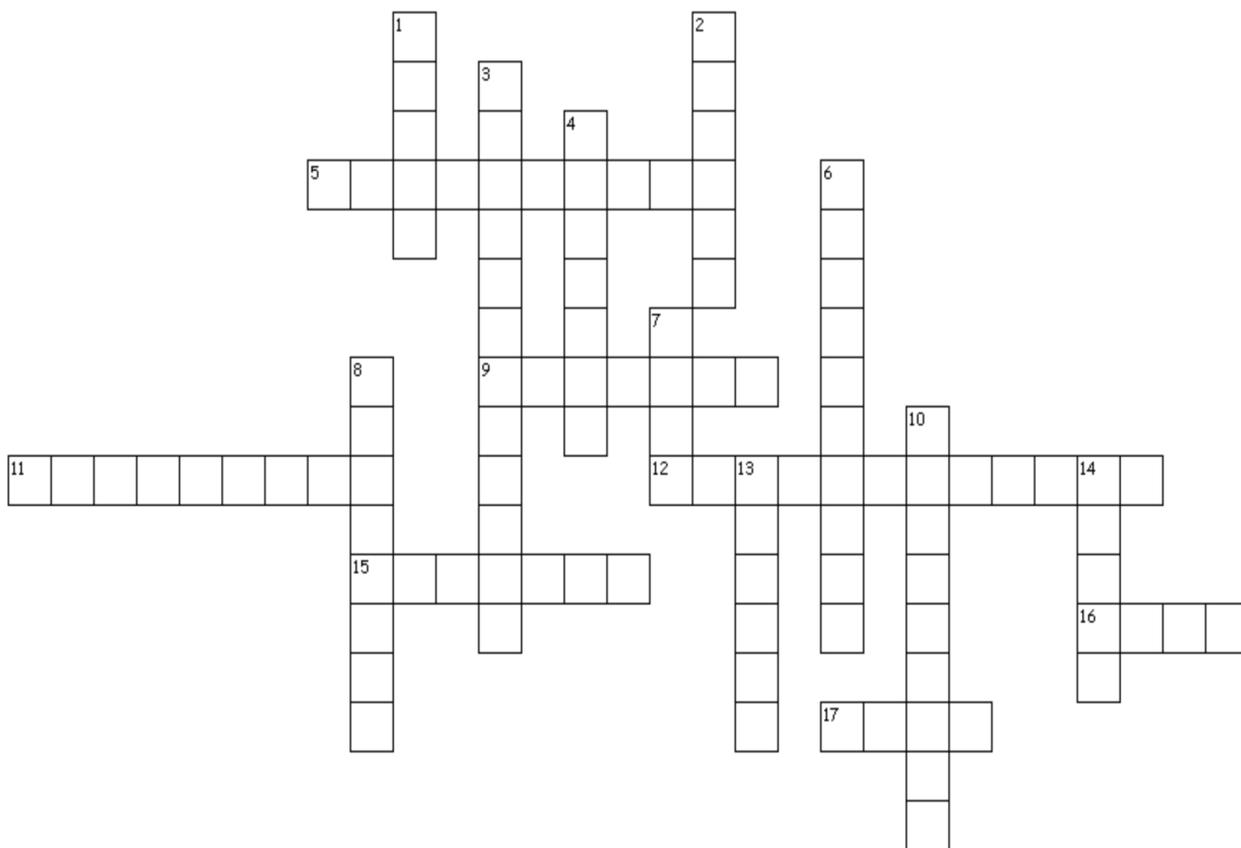


Visual Challenge

Move 3 matches
to make 2 squares

	8	4			3	5		
7			2				8	
								2
				5	1	3		
							7	
1	6		8					
		6	9	7				
	3			1	5			
							9	

Sudoku



Across

- 5. A hashtag for Beechen Cliff School (10)
- 9. What does Mr Brewer have on his head (7)
- 11. Generalised name of a geography a level student(9)
- 12. Vice President to Joe Biden (7,7)
- 15. The championship football team Dr Wilkinson supports (7)
- 16. The end of course (5)
- 17. A fish with a film (4)

Down

- 1. Get through these to the final(5)
- 2. The surname of more than one teacher at school (6)
- 3. A school in Bath (7,5)
- 4. www.beechencliff (7)
- 6. What subject does Ms Fischer teach (10)
- 7. Military board game (4)
- 8. Its an enigma (8)
- 10. The 25th December (9)
- 13. An author on one of the avenues (6)
- 14. Useful if you know what you are looking for (5)



Psilocybin as an alternative to antidepressants

Psilocybin is a chemical compound naturally found in magic mushrooms. It induces psychedelic effects when interacting with the brain, producing changes in sensory perception, mood and thought. It is chemically similar to the neurotransmitter serotonin, the happy hormone, and can therefore mimic its chemical effects; in this way it is being studied as a treatment for major depressive disorder and is showing promising results in early trials.

Antidepressants are a well accepted and affordable treatment for depression that can be produced at scale to meet increasing demand. However, they are criticised for causing emotional blunting and having numerous, debilitating side effects. What's more, there is increasing evidence to suggest they are not that effective for the majority of people.





On the other hand, psilocybin has so far only been tested in small trials and must overcome several factors if it can be seriously acknowledged as an option. These include: legalising the drug for medicinal purposes, ensuring affordability and transforming societal mindsets on both psilocybin and antidepressants. Yet the drug has shown to alleviate symptoms of depression for a prolonged period of time, increasing emotional connection by enhancing both positive and negative feelings. It is proven to be notably safe, with no long term physiological effects, and if used as a catalyst or adjunct to therapy, with set and setting carefully controlled to avoid bad trips, the full therapeutic potential of the drug could be realised.

Rather than replacing antidepressants as a new 'miracle' drug, psilocybin could completely transform the way depression is viewed. Integrating therapy with controlled psychedelic sessions is a new way of looking at treatment, and can maybe change the results for the better.

Scarlett Swales





Burn off the Christmas calories

Times are tough right now, let's face it. The seemingly perpetual restrictions created by the scourge we call COVID 19 have locked us indoors and thrown away the key. It wouldn't be a stretch to say that fitness junkies face their greatest challenge ever, and for those without a fully equipped home gym, staying fit may seem a fruitless endeavour. "So why bother?" I hear you ask. Now I can hardly claim the following exercises will land you the moniker "Baby Rhino", but I can tell you regular exercise can improve your mood, boost your energy and improve your sleep. With that said, let me jump right into the exercises.

High Knees:

Begin standing with arms out and palms down at waist level. Strike each palm with its corresponding knee in a high knee on-spot running action. Repeat this at high intensity for 30-60 seconds and perform multiple sets if possible.



Mountain Climbers:

Assume a traditional push up position to begin with. Raise alternating knees up towards chest in a climbing motion at a high intensity for 30-60 seconds. Repeat sets.



Push ups:

This stalwart calisthenic requires no introduction. Repeat in sets of 10 for as many sets as possible. If regular push ups prove too taxing, it is perfectly acceptable to drop knees to the floor and do push ups in this form.

Russian Twists:

Take a seated position on the floor, slightly leant back with knees halfway towards chest. Move arms either sides of legs in a twisting motion, with knees moving in the opposite direction simultaneously. Be sure to not allow feet to touch the ground.

Toe Touches:

Lay on your back with legs skywards. Reach up with left hand to touch your right toe, before repeating the exercise with opposite limbs. Sets of 10 reps are recommended though this can be edited to the reader's discretion.

Side Plank:

Assume a traditional side plank position, then raise top arm directly upwards. Reach down with top arm beneath torso while maintaining side plank form, before lifting said arm back to its original position. Repeat in sets of 15 reps.

Yuji Westmacott





Easy to Follow Recipes

Garlic Dough Balls

This easy recipe from blogger Jane Ashley makes 12 delicious dough balls, so is perfect for adding to a family tea

For the dough balls

- 250g strong white bread flour
- 1 tsp caster or granulated sugar
- 1/2 tsp fast action dried yeast
- 1 tsp soft butter

For the garlic butter

- 2 tbsp soft butter
- 1 garlic clove, crushed
- 2 tbsp chopped parsley, or 1 tsp dried parsley



- Put the flour and 1/2 teaspoon of salt in a large bowl, stir in the sugar and yeast, then rub in the butter. Add enough tepid water to form a soft, slightly sticky dough – you'll need about 150ml. Knead the dough on a floured surface for about 10 minutes until smooth and springy.
- Divide into 12 small pieces, roll them into balls, then place on a baking tray with space around them. Cover with clingfilm and leave in a warm place for 40-50 minutes, or until doubled in size. Preheat the oven to 230°C, fan 210°C, gas 8. Bake the dough balls for 10 minutes, then reduce the temperature to 200°C, fan 180°C, gas 6 and cook for a further 10 minutes, or until risen, golden brown and cooked through.
- Cool for 10-15 minutes before serving. Mash in the garlic and parsley with the soft butter. Serve the warm dough balls with the garlic mixture brushed over them.





Welsh Cakes

Ingredients

- 110g/4oz (preferably Welsh) salted butter, chilled, cut into cubes, plus extra for greasing
- 225g/8oz self-raising flour, sieved, plus extra for dusting
- 85g/3oz caster sugar
- handful of sultanas
- 1 free-range egg, beaten
- milk, if needed

Method

1. Rub the butter into the flour to make breadcrumbs.
2. Add the sugar and sultanas, then stir in the egg.
3. Mix, then form a ball of dough, using a splash of milk if needed. You will know if its needed as it will be too hard and crumbly.
4. Roll out the dough on a lightly floured surface using a rolling pin, or something round like a water bottle, until it is 5mm/¼in thick.
5. Cut it into rounds (circles) using a 7.5cm/3in fluted cutter. You could also use a cup to cut circles in the dough. If you have left over dough, squeeze it together and repeat the process until you can get no more out of it.
6. Rub a frying pan, or preferable a cast iron skillet with butter so the cakes don't stick. Put it on a direct heat and wait until it heats up, you might see the butter start to bubble, this is a good time to put them in. Place the Welsh cakes in the pan and cook for 2-3 minutes on each side, or until caramel brown.
7. Remove from the pan and dust with caster sugar while still warm. Some people leave out the sultanas, split them when cool and sandwich them together with jam.

Enjoy!



Recipe Tips

Getting the temperature of your griddle or frying pan is the key to this recipe. If it's too hot the cakes will burn before they are cooked through. Too low and the texture will be dry.



Beef Burger Recipe

Ingredients

- ½ tbsp olive oil
- 1 onion, peeled and **finely** chopped
- 1 x 500g pack British Beef Steak
- 1 tsp mixed dried herbs
- 1 egg, beaten
- 4 burger buns
- Any toppings you'd like



Method

- Heat the olive oil in a frying pan, add the onion and cook for 5 minutes until softened and looks golden and soft. Set aside.

- In a bowl, combine the beef mince with the herbs and the egg. Season, add the onions and mix well. Using your hands, shape into 4 patties.

- Cook the burgers by placing them on a tray and into the oven, on a BBQ, a griddle pan or frying pan (you can cook a burger many ways). Timings will vary, but what we are looking for are the juices to run clear, the burger to be firm and no pink on the inside.

1. *The juices should be see through rather than a pinky colour when you press into it, and it should not be pink in the middle, check this by cutting into the thickest part and looking very carefully. If in doubt, cook for longer. --- Minced beef has to be cooked thoroughly as the process of mincing is more prone to containing bad bacteria. This is because bad bacteria on the surface could end up on the inside when minced.*

- Meanwhile, lightly toast the cut-sides of the buns on the barbecue/grill/pan. Fill with the lettuce, burgers, pickles, tomato slices and anything else you'd like.





30 Minute Pizza

A really quick way to make a fantastic dough for dinner time.

Makes 2 medium pizzas

- 250g Self raising flour
- 100ml water
- pinch of salt
- Optional extra- Tbsp xtra virgin oil



Method

preheat your oven to 200 degrees

In a bowl add your flour, salt and a table spoon of oil (adds a little bit of extra flavour)

slowly pour the water into the bowl with flour and bring together with a fork

If it looks too dry, add a little more water and if it's too wet, add flour. It should feel a little bit sticky , not gloopy, and not too dry either.

Bring it together with your hands and tip it out onto a floured surface and knead for 2 minutes until nice and smooth.

Divide the dough into four balls and flour the surface and a rolling pin

Roll into four pizza bases using a rolling pin, or something smooth and round. Dust with flour to help stop sticking when rolling it out and place on a lightly floured tray to help it not stick. Top with your favourite pizza ingredients and bake for around ten minutes, or until your toppings are cooked and the crust looks nice and brown. Enjoy!



A brief insight into nuclear fusion

Nuclear fusion is being described as the power source of the future, but is really all that it's cracked up to be? Fusion occurs when two light elements, often hydrogen isotopes, have enough energy to come within such a small distance of each other that they fuse together, releasing lots of energy in the process. This involves temperatures of at least 100 million degrees Celsius and immense pressure, achieved by strong magnetic and electric fields. In England, the Joint European Torus was the first fusion reactor specifically designed to use magnets, being put into operation in the 1980s and still holding the current record for power production, producing 16 megawatts of energy in a single reaction. The most recent reactor, the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) is situated in southern France and is an upscaling of the JET reactor. It hopes to test heating methods for fusion and produce around 500 megawatts of power at peak operation. However, it too won't be able to harness any of this energy. The capture of energy is only set to materialise in reactors after ITER, the first being named the DEMO reactor series. This set of reactors is proposed to finally begin capturing energy and converting it into electricity, a crucial step for the future of fusion, with the EU DEMO reactor likely to be the most prosperous. Subsequent reactors to DEMO are set to be only one step away from fusion power plants, capturing vast amounts of energy and delivering it directly to the grid. When fusion does work, it has the ability to provide us with infinite energy (assuming certain other conditions are met), something completely unrivalled by any other power source.



But, at this scale, nuclear fusion is likely to only happen in the next 50 years, a hardly ideal timeframe. It is for this reason that it looks more and more likely that smaller, cheaper

reactor series will ultimately have the greatest effect on our energy crisis. Less than a fortnight ago, the UK announced it was looking for a new 100 acre site for a prototype fusion reactor, called the STEP program. This program, coupled with the desire of our government to be at the forefront of fusion research means that fusion, in the UK at least, is a real proposition and is something that I'm sure will influence us greatly in the future. Overall, I believe that with time and money, fusion will be able to provide us with infinite, clean energy within the next few decades, revolutionising our approach to producing energy and perhaps even diminishing our energy crisis.

Ben Kirby Woollett





Interview with Mr Oldham

In this, the first edition of our termly magazine, we would like to interview some of the people who all the sixth form have in common; so, who better to start with than our ringleader – Mr Oldham.

Take me back to when you were a student at Beechen, what do you remember?

“For me, thinking about Beechen I think back to my group of friends, and I think about the trips we went on. I remember going to Alkmaar, on a rowing training camp; Tir y Cwm many times and an A Level French trip to Montpellier. In the sixth form, I studied Biology, Chemistry and French. I am very proud of my time at Beechen and when I went to University I felt I had been set up really well for my degree and beyond.”

Who was your first celebrity crush?

“Britney Spears.”



What about Beechen has changed, and what has stayed the same?

“The emphasis on balancing academic interests with personal ones, such as outdoor-ed has stayed the same, as have some teachers: Mrs Merrett, Mr Mann and Mr Calvert to name a few. I think we have become a more open community to difference. We have students in sixth form and lower down the school so have been happy talking about being gay for example, and that certainly was not the case 20+ years ago.”

If no-one was watching, what would you be dancing to?

“Camelphat - iconic.”
Each to their own, I guess.

Last night at Glasto or the Proms?

“Glastonbury, that’s an easy one; I’ve been to the Last Night At The Proms!”
Quite the flex.

Tea or coffee?

“Coffee in the morning, tea in the afternoon.”





What did you do after Beechen?

“I went on a gap year. I travelled around New Zealand, Europe - twice! I did some work experience in the City of London, walking around wearing a pinstripe suit pretending I was doing something important when all I was doing was delivering coffee. Then I studied Chemistry with a European language at UCL. “In my third year I decided I wanted to do teaching. Particular teachers who inspired me were: Mr Diederich, Mrs Merrett, Mrs Bennetts and Dr Treadgold. I then went to Cambridge to do my teacher training and got my first job at Holland Park School, known as the ‘Eton of comprehensives’. Among other experiences, there I saw the beginning of the emergence of the grime scene at the school talent show as well as teaching children of ambassadors and gang members from Ladbroke Grove.

You have twins don't you? If you had the power to outlaw any kids TV programme, which would you choose?

“It'd have to be Mr Tumble. Not a fan.”
Something we can all agree on.



Why did you come back?
“I’d always thought, ‘if a job came up at Beechen, I’d love to go back there, since I had such a great time there’. So, when a job came up, I was quick to try and take it. Being a Head of Sixth role, I am able to really help equip young adults for the world after school, something I feel really privileged to do.”



In truth, then, there is far more to Mr Oldham than meets the eye - far more than just that red coat.

John Hetherington





Answers

Guess the location: 1) Finland 2) India 3) Canada

Brain Teaser: Ace of Diamonds, King of Hearts, Two of Spades.

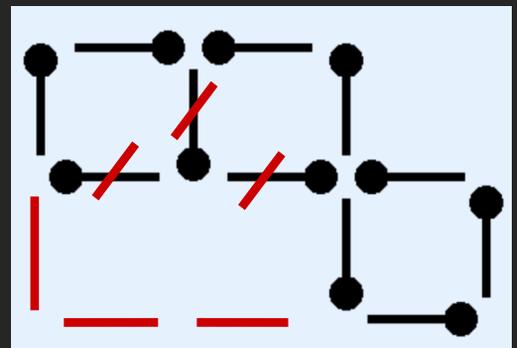
Riddles: 1) You and your father are standing back to back
2) A is Ds uncle 3) February

Anagrams: 1) Musicians 2) Festivals 3) Lightning
4) Campervan

Sudoku:

2	8	4	1	9	3	5	6	7
7	5	3	2	4	6	1	8	9
6	1	9	5	8	7	4	3	2
4	9	8	7	5	1	3	2	6
3	2	5	4	6	9	8	7	1
1	6	7	8	3	2	9	5	4
5	4	6	9	7	8	2	1	3
9	3	2	6	1	5	7	4	8
8	7	1	3	2	4	6	9	5

Visual Challenge:



Ellamia Wise





Baby Face Quiz:

1. Mr Maxwell
2. Miss Mather
3. Mr Oldham
4. Mrs Ingram
5. Miss Fisher
6. Miss Kibblewhite
7. Miss Georgiadi
8. Allison
9. Mr Anstey
10. Mr Firth
11. Ms Morehead
12. Mr Brewer
13. Mrs DeGlanville
14. Ben O'Hare
15. John Hetherington
16. Izzy Criddle
17. Harry Stevens

Crossword:

Across

5. Upthebeech
9. Nothing
11. Geolegend
12. Kamala Harris
15. Watford
16. Exam
17. Nemo

Down

1. Heats
2. Oldham
3. Beechen Cliff
4. Website
6. Phsycology
7. Risk
8. Codeword
10. Christmas
13. Milton
14. Index



Beechen Cliff



A special thanks to everyone who contributed to the magazine in some form if it was donating a baby photo or writing an article we are very grateful!

