

LRN



LAURUS RYECROFT NEWS

LRN has been created by students who attended the Future Journalists elective.

In This Magazine...



CLIMATE CHANGE

INTERVIEW WITH A VEGAN!



PLAYSTATION VS XBOX?



RUGBY AT RYECROFT!

SO, YOU THINK YOU KNOW YOUR TEACHERS?



UNDERRATED ARTISTS





A Letter from the Editor

Future Journalists

This magazine has been created by:

Leon Batty
Lacey Dootson
Elham Eqbal
Paige Hands
Harry Lewis
Shaye Mooreland
Alfie Nestor
Natalie Mitchell
Amelia Nulty
Lydia Slattery
Joshua Chappell
Ella Fogg
Megan Johnson
Jack Grover
Finlay Holt
Mani Javeid
Emma McDermott
Duane Whittaker
Maddison Garlick
Callum Grover
Cerys Thorpe

Welcome

Welcome to the Future Journalists' first ever Laurus Ryecroft magazine! This is written, edited and created 100% by students, for students. We chose all of the topics, researched, wrote, edited, added images, created the logo as well as checked our articles and more!

If you are into finding out more about the lives of teachers', Paige Hands and Lacey Dootson have made an article all about it!

Are you into gaming? Well Elham Eqbal and Callum Grover have written an article all about if the PlayStation or Xbox is better.

If you are into sports, Mani Javed and Duane Whittaker wrote all about Rugby at Ryecroft!

Do you find learning about new artists interesting? Our Arts Editor wrote all about artists named Salvia Path and Harmonia Rosales in their feature "Underrated Artists".

Are you considering being a vegan? Then Megan Johnson wrote an article all about veganism.

We hope you enjoy the LRN!

- Megan Johnson
Acting Editor-in-chief





So, You Think You Know Your Teachers?

Have you ever wondered what your teachers get up to?

Have you ever wondered about the teachers' lives outside of school?

Or what they do in their spare time?

Well, this article will delve deep and ask the questions you all want to ask!



Teachers' Most Embarrassing Stories

Mr Carling – He couldn't even give us an answer. This MUST mean he has done a lot of embarrassing things in the past.

Mr Clegg – Claims that he “is the best COD player [we] have ever met.”

Miss Iwantschak – She thought she was getting in her friend's car and got in the wrong car on the way to school.

Miss Wright – She was following her brother and not looking where she was going (she was on her phone) and her brother turned around and said something to her. However, she did not know what he said she just nodded then she realised that she had gone into the boy's toilets with him!

Mr Butcher – He was driving his car on a narrow lane and a van was coming towards him then his car crashed into a ditch and fell off the lane, but a man offered to help him, and his car ended up on fire – don't worry he's fine now!

An interview with Spanish teacher, Mr Butcher: questions you've always wanted to ask!

We asked Mr Butcher some questions that we all want to know the answers to, such as “Has he ever lived in Spain?” And the answer is yes, he has! He lived in Alicante for 9 months, Tenerife for 3 months, Majorca for 6 months and “somewhere near Barcelona” for 6 months. It looks like he really loves places in Spain! He was also a teaching assistant in Spain and taught English. He still has some friends in Spain, including someone called Marcos.

An interview with English teacher, Miss Iwantschak: Questions you've always wanted to ask!

While interviewing Miss Iwantschak, we asked why she wanted to become a teacher in the first place. She replied that she “absolutely loved studying English” and “in secondary school and college [she] had some great teachers that inspired [her]”, and she “wanted to do the same for other people”.

We also asked if she has any hobbies, and the answer is, yes, she does! She loves “creative writing” and “writing short stories”. She is also looking forward to “a pile of books to read” and “walking her pet dog, Max” this summer. Can you believe that Miss Iwantschak was a little cheeky in school? However, she worked extremely hard, and is still friends with some of her school mates twenty years later.

By Paige Hands (8HB) and Lacey Dootson (8HB)





Interview with a Vegan!

Have you ever wondered what it is like to be a vegan? Are you considering becoming one? Well this article is for you! We will be discussing the vegan lifestyle with Miss Filali (a new addition to the Laurus family). Continue reading to find out more.

What is it like to be a vegan?

Miss Filali, a new English teacher, thinks being a vegan, which is where you don't eat any animal products (eggs, milk, meat, etc.) is *"pretty cool,"* and *"not that big of a deal,"* as she has had this lifestyle for *"4 years"*. She also thinks that it is the exact same as having a lifestyle where you do have meat, except you *"just don't eat meat, dairy or eggs."*

What are the positives of being a vegan?

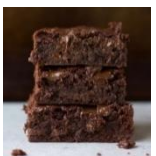
In her opinion, veganism is a *"healthy lifestyle if done right,"* and is *"good for the planet and animals"*. Furthermore, she has *"always liked veggie food"*.

Why did you become a vegan?

Miss Filali said she became a vegan *"because she didn't enjoy eating meat in general"* and that she *"felt bad for the animals"*.

Do you have any good vegan recipes?

Miss Filali, a determined teacher, believes that if you *"always choose things people eat but adapted without meat"* it makes everything *"quite easy to make"*. Additionally, she is of the opinion that *"brownies and cookies"* are delicious when vegan.



Are there any tips that you have for people who are vegans or want to be vegan?

The patient English teacher, who was patient enough to answer these questions, feels that *"if you want to be a vegan, don't put pressure on yourselves."* She proceeds to say that *"you might decide you want two vegan days a week"* perhaps *"1 vegan meal a week"*. Moreover, you might decide to *"just stop eating meat."* To her, *"it is all about balance"*.

By Megan Johnson, 8MA



Playstation Vs Xbox

As you probably know, acquiring a next-gen console is harder than getting your hands on a Laurus Ryecroft Head Teacher's badge. To get one, you would probably have to be aware of restocks at least 2 weeks in advance by reading news or listening to podcasts and sitting at your device constantly refreshing a page to find out that in a fraction of a second, they are out of stock. In this article, we are going to weigh up the pros and cons of each next-gen console and ultimately decide which one is better.

Xbox

Although the PS5 is much more popular nowadays, the Xbox Series X still has its exclusive features, starting off with backwards compatibility. Unlike the PS5, the Xbox Series X has the ability to read discs for games from all of Microsoft's earlier consoles. This includes the Xbox One, Xbox 360 and also the original Xbox. Another feature is Co-Pilot – this is when two controllers are signed into one account so that two people can play as one character in a game together. This is usually helpful for RPGs (Role-playing games) but is not limited to this genre of games. In terms of specs, the Xbox has been proven to have faster loading times than the PS5 for most games including the Call of Duty Series and Grand Theft Auto V. Also, of course, Microsoft has its own line up of exclusive games including Forza and Halo. Even though the retail price is £449.99, getting hold of one of these is an achievement.

Playstation 5

With no price difference at all, the PS5 has many of its own characteristics as well. For example, the new DualSense controller has many improvements from the DualShock 4 controller such as its new adaptive triggers meaning that depending on what you are doing in certain games, the resistance of the trigger changes. Sony also has an impressive line-up of exclusives including titles such as Demon's Souls and Ratchet and Clank. Although the PS5 is compatible with the PS4 version of PSVR, we hope to see an advanced version of it. Another benefit from the PS5 is the speed SSD (solid state drive) meaning games will load faster than before but not as fast as the Xbox Series X.

So, which do I get?

Ultimately, both next-gen consoles are incredibly powerful however we hope you now have a good understanding of the two and have an idea of which one you would prefer buying. All things considered, the Xbox Series X is the better choice in terms of specs and performance; however, this should not limit you. The PlayStation 5 has support for VR and many exclusives. If you have previously owned a PlayStation, it would be wiser to buy a PS5 since you can download games that you have bought before.



**By Elham Eqbal, 8HB, and
Callum Grover, 8VA**



Climate change: the effects on animals

Wild animals face challenges for survival because of climate change. This is due to more frequent and intense droughts, storms, heatwaves, rising sea levels, melting glaciers and warming oceans. This can directly harm the animals and their habitats. Numerous animals could soon become extinct, such as: chimpanzees, red pandas, African elephants and orangutans, due to the fact that their homes are being destroyed by human deforestation and climate change. Orangutans will become extinct within the next 8 years if no action is taken? (<https://www.independent.co.uk>). There are only 10,000 red pandas left in the world and will become extinct in 2022 (<https://www.worldwildlife.org>).



Do you really want to be one of the contributors to the death of these animals? If you don't take action **NOW** and change your ways then you will be an animal ***MURDERER!***

What you can do to help

- Recycle
- Walk more instead of driving
- Use less electricity
- Reduce waste

All of these, small but effective, things help combat climate change.

Act now, save our planet!

By Natalie Mitchell, 8JH





Rugby at Ryecroft

About Laurus Ryecroft Rugby

At Laurus Ryecroft, we love rugby. To take part in Rugby and join our team you can either choose the elective or sign up for the team! Last year, we played 4 games against other High schools. You can also play in Varsities where you play against Schools in the Laurus Trust.

What Makes Rugby So Special?

You may be asking 'why choose rugby?' when there are other sports out there? The reason is because it calms you down and you can also take your anger out by tackling other people! In rugby, you can work on your mental health and physical health. It is also very enjoyable and you can have a laugh and joke by chatting to your teammates and the opposing team.

Training and the Electives

The Rugby elective helps you develop skills in communication, teamwork, tackling, organisation, formation and how you deal with certain situations. To improve your tackling, teachers and students hold up tackling bags for you to tackle. This will improve your knowledge of how to do a clean tackle in rugby.

Rugby Team

If you decide to join the rugby team you will enjoy yourself but first you need to build a strong friendship with your teammates. Your team will be your support and your backbone since Rugby is reliant on communication and trust. There will be multiple people that you may not know on your team but soon you will be good friends with them. You can ask Mr Clegg if you would like to join the rugby team.



Hope to see you there!

We hope to see you in the rugby team or the rugby elective, after all its your choice but we highly recommend you join us. You can also join a team outside of school to work on your skills to improve and better yourself. Remember that all girls can join a rugby team and get involved just the same as the boys.

By Mani Javied (8TA) and Duane Whittaker (8TA)

Rugby Clubs

ALDWINIANS RUGBY UNION CLUB

Droylsden Road, Audenshaw, Manchester, M34 5SN

ECCLES RUGBY UNION CLUB

Gorton Street, Eccles, Manchester, M30 7LZ

MANCHESTER RUGBY CLUB

Grove Park, Grove Lane, Stockport, Cheshire, Greater Manchester, SK8 7NB

Recommended Club: Aldwinians Rugby Union club.



LRN Underrated Artists

In this feature, our arts editor hunts down and reviews underrated artists who they think are doing great things that you should know about!

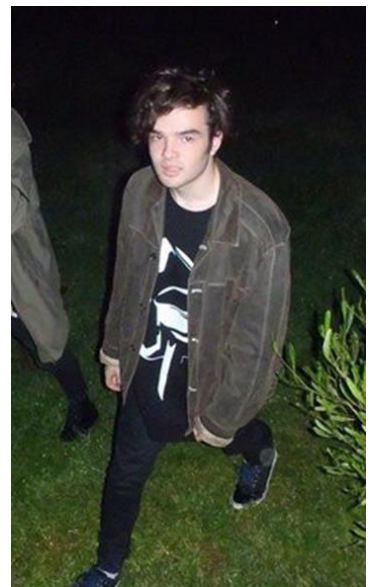
Salvia Palth

Salvia Palth, real name Daniel Johann, is a musical artist from New Zealand who, while not creating anything big currently, I believe is a firmly underrated artist. He released his debut album, 'Melanchole' in 2012 and has been active on Twitter since. He has also released a couple of songs which do not belong to his first, and currently only, album – though these songs are not as good as his album's, in my opinion, as they don't have the same polished feel to them. While you may recognise him from his most popular song, 'I was all over her', he is currently performing under the name Adore, 1996, yet while under Salvia Palth, he promised more music soon.

Now, the real mystery comes from his obvious play on words of the famous poet Sylvia Plath, a poet who suffered from depression and, sadly, took her own life on the 11th of February, 1963. In his own words, he wrote that Melanchole is, 'a collection of ambitious lo-fi pop songs [...] that deal with the awkwardness of growing up, the pains of being apart, and the anxieties of being alive and real', mirroring the themes of most of Plath's poems.

In an interview with KDVS music station, Johann introduced himself and his work: 'I guess when you come down to it there's not really any difference between any of these projects like... they all kind of picked up where the other left off in terms of sound and stuff. Like the first Adore, songs are essentially just an extension of the themes and sound from the Salvia Palth album. Same goes for the entire first Adore album, 'Which I Lost in the Fire', but that's pretty much the same kind of music so I view it more as a continuous thing'. If you're in to any kind of lo-fi music, you'd enjoy Daniel Johann.

If you're just getting into the genre, I recommend girl (his song reflecting off of Plath's themes), Madison or Untitled (under Adore, 1996). I also recommend looking at Ike Zwanikken, who was a consultant for Melanchole. You can find Daniel Johann under his own name, Salvia Palth and Adore, 1996 on Youtube, Instagram, Facebook, Spotify (and other music streaming services – eg Soundcloud and Amazon Music) and, as mentioned before, on Twitter.





Harmonia Rosales

An artist who breaks every gender and racial role with her recreations of Italian classical paintings

Harmonia Rosales is a revolutionary Afro-Cuban American artist, who has devoted lots of time to recreating Classical paintings, making the main focus(es) of her reconstructions black women, a minority who are usually not included in the depictions of the time.

Rosales was taught gender norms by her family and was told that she would 'need a man to support her'. She then married her high school sweetheart when she grew up, but realised that the relationship was not going to work out after she became pregnant with her daughter. By this time, she had almost nothing to call her own.

In 2017, she recreated the legendary artist Michelangelo's Creazione di Adamo (The Creation of Adam) [pictured below]. This took her two months to create and depicts both God and Adam as black women. One of my personal favourites is 'Birth of Oshu' [also pictured below], a recreation of 'Birth of Venus' by Sandro Botticelli. This shows Oshu, the Yoruba goddess of fertility, instead of Venus, Roman goddess of love, emerging from the seashell – surrounded by black angels rather than white ones. Rosales aims to destigmatise black women in artwork and show a more diverse look on heaven, with more cultures, ethnicities and genders than just white, Eurocentric men.

