



The Obscurer

Edition #1 - April 2022

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Who Are We?

Hello and welcome to The Obscurer, your monthly school newsletter for all things obscure!

Whether it's an interview on certain school topics or a book recommendation that's sure to get you hooked we will make sure that you are entertained in our first edition.

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- Book Recommendations (pg.5-6)
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We support
each other

Ukraine Report

By Thomas Erwin, Y10



The current crisis in Ukraine is common knowledge - what is not common knowledge is the specifics of the plight of the Ukrainian people - such as the roughly 200 Russian tanks that have been stolen by the Ukrainian farmers.

The Russian invasion is looking grim for Putin, as he has failed to take Kyiv, even after weeks of bombardment. He has been forced to focus on the Donbas, which, even then, is holding. Unfortunately, approximately 1300 Ukrainian servicemen have been killed or wounded, however Russian casualty estimates are roughly 35 times this.

The thing is people assume that a Putin victory is an inevitability, however by the state of the effort with the amount of abandoned material due to lack of supply; the unprofessional Russian army who have been tricked into fighting, after last second changes to contract (meaning they have no choice) and the economic crashes in Russia, victory for Putin is a distant pipedream, if even one competent organised military force decides to intervene.

Subject Spotlight

This month's subject: PE

This month's interviewee: Mr Huston

This month's interviewer: Ethan Potts, Y7



Questions:

What do you enjoy most about your job?

I think it is seeing students at results day after 7 years of teaching and seeing them being happy with their results and possibly going on to study sports in the future.

Favourite sport?

Basketball and Football - I can never choose between them - I like them both. Football to watch and Basketball to play.

Biggest sports idol?

Michael Jordan - easy!

Best sports accolade?

When I was younger I got to the last 20 in the North of England trials in Basketball and represented greater Manchester in basketball.

Favourite PE teacher at school?

Mr Travis, he was enthusiastic about sport and encouraged us to get involved in lots of different activities.

Best Secondary PE school memory?

My school (Saddleworth school in Oldham) always won the basketball town cup, so I enjoyed winning.


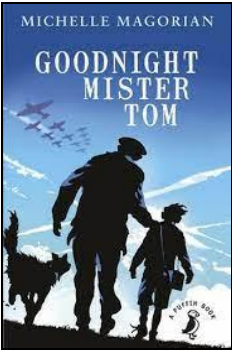
Sport club recommendations?

- ★ Rotherham Hawks - Basketball
- ★ Wickersley Youth - Football
- ★ Bramley Sunnyside - Football
- ★ Trailblazers - Football
- ★ Rotherham Hockey Club
- ★ Rotherham Harriers - Athletics
- ★ Rotherham Titans - Rugby
- ★ Wickersley Netball

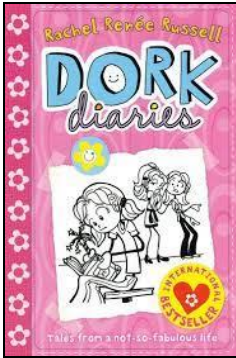


Book Recommendations

By Ellen Henry, Y7

<p>The School for Good and Evil - Book 1/6</p> 	<p>Blurb:</p> <p>‘ Sophie has waited all her life to be kidnapped’</p> <p>Every four years, two children are stolen away from Gavaldon, never to return. Most children fear being taken to the School for Good and Evil. But not Sophie... She has dreamt all her life of being a princess and believes the school could be her chance. Her best friend Agatha has other ideas. When the two girls are taken, things don't go quite to Sophie's plan. Because sometimes, the princess and the witch don't look like they do in fairytales.</p> <p>—</p> <p>Aimed towards 12-16 years old.</p> <p>Rating: ★★★★★</p>
<p>Goodnight Mr Tom</p> 	<p>Blurb:</p> <p>Willie Beech is evacuated to a tiny English village in the country just before the outbreak of World War II. A lonely and deprived child, he finds himself living with the reclusive, gruff old widower, Thomas Oakley. Although the two find it hard to adjust to their life together at first, they gradually develop a strong, mutual bond. Willie begins to enjoy life and make new friends in the village. However, everything is thrown into confusion when Willie is suddenly recalled to London by his neglectful and abusive mother. After several weeks with no letter from Willie, Tom Oakley becomes concerned for his welfare and sets out to London in search of him.</p> <p>—</p> <p>Aimed towards 10-14 years old.</p> <p>Rating: ★★★★☆</p>

Dork Diaries



Summary:

Dork Diaries follows eighth grader Nikki Maxwell as she chronicles through text and sketches her move to a snooty new school; her epic battle with her mom for an iPhone; her enthusiasm for drawing and art; and a love/hate fascination with the new school's queen bee, a girl named Mackenzie, who becomes Nikki's rival.

—

Aimed towards 10-14 years old.

Rating:

★★★★☆

The Hunger games



Blurb:

Twelve boys and twelve girls are forced to appear in a live event called The Hunger Games. There is only one rule: kill or be killed. When sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen steps forward to take her younger sister's place in the games, she sees it as a death sentence. But Katniss has been close to death before.

—

Aimed towards 11-16 years old.

Rating:

★★★★☆

The Creakers



Blurb:

One day, our heroine Lucy Dungston wakes up to find all the adults in her town have completely disappeared. While most of the other kids run wild, Lucy's mind gets whirring on what's really happened, and how she can get them back.

—

Aimed towards 9-13 years old.

Rating:

★★★★★

Comics

By Ethan Potts, Y7



Quizzes

By Alexandra Griffiths, Y9

As a digital newsletter, we can't really include our own interactive quizzes, or puzzles, but we can recommend some that we personally enjoy (although, we think Wordle might be blocked on school computers).

Wordle

Wordle, for those few of you that haven't heard, is a game where you get 6 tries to guess a daily 5-letter word. After you submit a guess, the letters will be colour coded depending on whether or not they are correct - a grey box means that letter is not in the word at all; a yellow box means that the letter is correct, just in the wrong place, and a green box means that the letter is correctly placed.



<https://www.nytimes.com/games/wordle/index.html>

Quordle

Quordle operates on almost exactly the same basis as Wordle, except for one little twist - you have to solve 4 puzzles. Simultaneously. Don't worry, however, your usual 6 tries has been increased to 9.

<https://www.quordle.com/#/>

Nerdle/Numberle

Sensing a theme yet? As you can probably guess, Nerdle is another variant of the globally-famous Wordle, but this one centres around maths equations, rather than words. In Nerdle, you have 6 tries to find the correct equation, which, instead of being 5 characters long, is 8.

<https://nerdlegame.com/>



Sporcle

Despite its deceptive name, Sporcle is not actually a rip-off of Wordle: Sporcle is a quiz website where you can find puzzles ranging from Geography facts to film trivia to Sudokus (I, personally, favour the "Countries of the World" quiz, where you have 15 minutes to name all the countries in the world).

<https://www.sporcle.com/>

Outro

We would like to personally thank you for reading the first edition of The Obscurer!

We would love feedback on any of the topics we have covered and if you want anything added to the newsletter.

