



Friday 27th January 2023

The Hayes Herald

Formerly Yr9 Chronicle



THE COST OF LIVING CRISIS

ENERGY PRICES SKYROCKETING	FOOD AND PETROL PRICES RISING	TAXES UP AND WAGES STAGNATING	RENTS INCREASING



Welcome

Hello, and welcome to the first edition of the whole school student newsletter. We hope you enjoy it. We are still in need of a name, so if you have any ideas, please fill out this form for the chance to win some sweets. <https://forms.office.com/e/Wf9DQGLZvK>. In this edition, we have some articles about the natural world, a deep dive into the cost of living crisis, book recommendations and more! If you are in Years 7, 8 and 9 and would be interested in joining the team please fill out his application form: <https://forms.office.com/r/JCMkb5J2UU>. Happy reading :)

Message from Mr Whittle

I am thrilled to see this first edition of the school newsletter being published, following the success and commitment of a group of writers in Year 9 (formerly Year 8) launching the Year 8 Chronicle last year. This is your opportunity to write, to reflect on issues that matter to you and to have a wider audience for your writing. I am also certain that it will be both enjoyable and informative for readers. English author Edward Bulwer-Lytton famously said "The pen is mightier than the sword," reminding us that the written word can be a force for good and a means of political or social change. I encourage all with an interest in writing or something to say and share to contribute to our school newsletter and I look forward to seeing and hearing its name revealed in a future edition.

An Iceberg as Big as Greater London has fallen off Antarctica's Brunt Ice Shelf

What is an iceberg?

Icebergs are huge pieces of ice that break off glaciers. This is known as calving. After they break off, they float around in the ocean, and they are made of freshwater, not saltwater. Icebergs can break off from many glaciers including the ones in Greenland and Antarctica. Icebergs can be as big as the Italian islands of Sicily. There are many types of icebergs like brash ice and tabular berg. Icebergs can be extremely dangerous to ships. We can see this from the famous example Titanic. This is because the tip of the iceberg is the smallest part, and the most dangerous part is what is beneath the water which cannot be seen.

What happened?

Scientists have been expecting this to happen and luckily it is not due to climate change this was due to a natural cycle that happens in all icebergs, the ice shelves either grow or shrink up to a mile every year and before long a crack begins to appear, and a chunk will break off. This normally takes many years. Scientists monitor these cracks very regularly and noticed one was opening again. The discovery was made by British Antarctic Survey.

Extra facts: the glaciers

Many of you know about glaciers due to the Frozen Planet topic we did in Year 8. Glaciers are lots of ice compressed and are often known as frozen rivers that flow through valleys. They can be found in many parts of the world including Antarctica, Greenland and a few in Asia and in North America.

What is happening to the glaciers?

Due to pollution and the emission of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere because of human activities the planets ice is rapidly melting causing the ocean levels to rise. Scientists say that if we continue this path by 2100, 83 percent of the glaciers will disappear.

- Teodora Mindru

Jacob's Political Deep Dive

The Cost-of-Living Crisis

Homelessness, depression and hunger, just a few consequences of the Cost-of-Living Crisis.

Over the past months, there has been a sharp rise in the cost of living, leaving families economically crippled and business bankrupt. This is due to a number of reasons, starting back in 2016 when the UK made the decision to leave the European Union.

A study by the London School of Economics found that by 2021, Brexit had already cost households in the UK an extra £5.5 billion+ on food bills alone and over the past 12 months, that number is expected to have increased. Additionally, an ex-governor of the Bank of England said that Brexit was playing a part in upping the cost of fuel and has "slowed the pace at which the economy can grow". The growth of our economy was also hindered by the Covid-19 Pandemic.

In March of 2020, the UK went into the first of two full lockdowns in response to the number of illnesses, and deaths, caused by Coronavirus. As well as services such as schools, the leisure industry had to all but completely shut down, meaning you couldn't buy non-essential items or pay to do things such as eat in a restaurant. This means that people were not spending as much leading to a drastic fall in the UK's GDP. As the world began to open back up, prices began to rise at an unprecedented rate due to the supply chain issues lockdown caused and a higher demand that was felt in the post-pandemic world. The crisis was further exacerbated by Putin's illegal invasion of Ukraine.

In February last year, Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered the invasion of Ukraine. In response to this, the West has placed an array of sanctions on Russia and tried to become far less dependent on them. In 2021, Russia accounted for 4% of our gas, 9% of our oil and 27% of the UK's coal imports coming to a total of over £4.5 billion worth of imports. Since the invasion, the UK has tried to become less reliant on Russian resources as a punishment for their invasion. However, this has meant that the UK has had a shortage of these resources which has led to the cost of things such as petrol increasing at alarming rates.

This chain of events had culminated in the rate of inflation reaching 10.5% in December; more five times the Bank of England's target for inflation of 2%. Inflation is the rise of prices over a period of time, meaning that prices have now, on average, risen by more than 10%. This is causing huge repercussions for lots of people.

The consequence of increased inflation is that not only are many families not able to spend on non-essential items, but they are struggling to afford everyday things that people have taken for granted such as being able to have the heating on for extended periods of time – with fuel poverty (when people aren't able to adequately heat their home) at the highest level in years. People are now having to pay for things on credit cards and racking up huge amounts of debt, just to pay for their weekly food shop. With many people becoming dependent on food banks for most of their food.

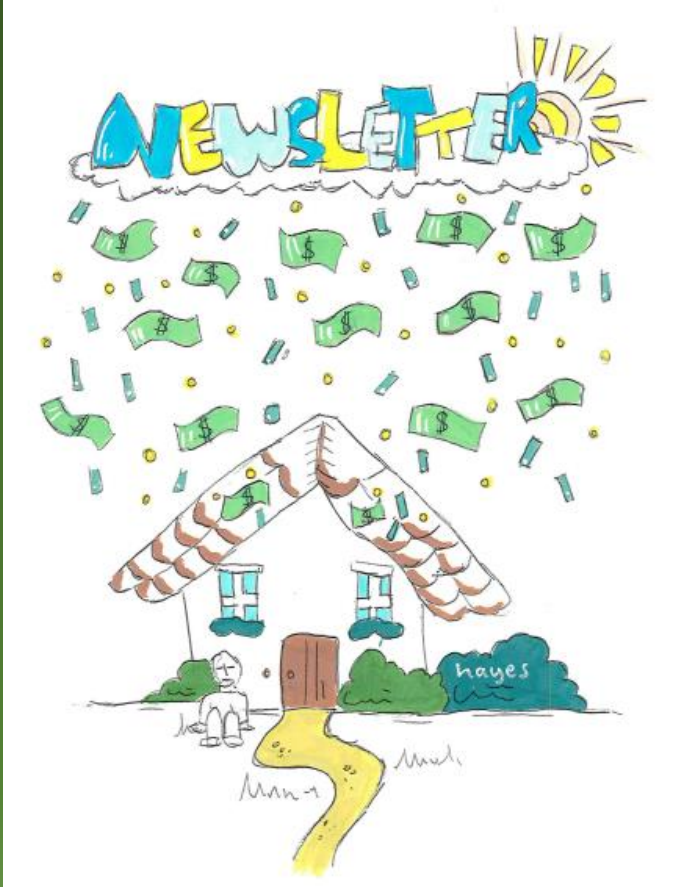
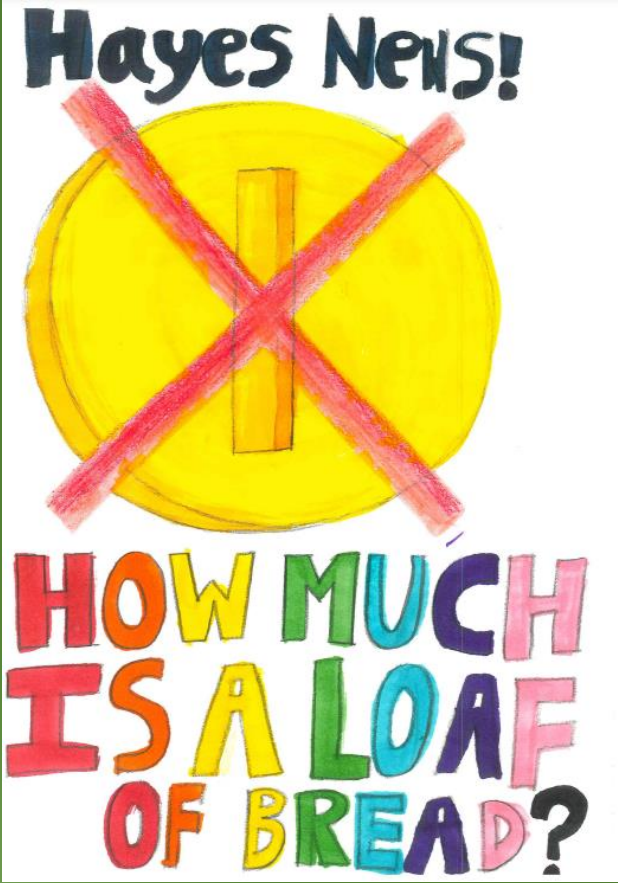
It's not only everyday people suffering because of the cost of living, businesses are finding it harder and harder to remain open as people's disposable income is gradually diminished, meaning many companies' profits have decreased.

To try and tackle these issues, the Bank of England has increased interest rates to 3.5% - the highest rates in more than a decade. Higher interest rates mean it is more expensive for people to borrow money which means people will try not to, thus resulting in less being spent. If people spend less, then companies need more money so they will increase prices at a slower rate. Additionally, the Government has given all UK households a total of £400 subsidy against their energy bills to help them deal with the rise in prices. However, many feel this is not enough leading to the largest wave of industrial action in years.

Over the past few months, many professions have voted to go on strike – leading to the largest wave of industrial action since the 70’s. For some of the unions, such as the Royal College of Nursing, this is the first time they have ever gone on strike, but they deemed it necessary due to the huge real term pay cuts many of these professions have had to endure. On the 16th of January, the NEU – the largest teacher’s union in the UK – announced strike action, with the first day of these strikes being on Wednesday 1st February. It is still unclear to what extent schools will be affected, but hundreds of schools are expected to have to close down during strike days. The NEU claims, that since 2010, a teacher could’ve lost more than £64,350 in real terms pay.

In response to the crisis the Government currently finds itself in, they have announced huge investment schemes in deprived areas across the country to try and help boost our economy. However Labour’s shadow secretary for Levelling Up has said that the Government is “in freefall, out of ideas, out of energy” in response to their plan, whilst others argue it is simply not enough to make a significant difference. The UK currently has the slowest growing economy in the G7 group of strongest economic countries with some estimates saying the economy will shrink -0.04%.

It is clear that the economic situation within the UK is dire with it having huge repercussions for everyone in the country.



INTERVIEW WITH MRS RIDLEY

Each week, in this feature, I will be interviewing Heads of Department about their subject at GCSE. This will hopefully give you an idea of which subjects you would like to choose next year. This week it is the turn of Head of German – Mrs Ridley.

Why do you think any student should take German at GCSE?

“Learning a language opens a lot of doors in terms of work and travel in the future. Also, German is more widely spoken than you may think, it is the number one business language in Europe. If you want to work in business, banking or engineering and science then it is a very important language to learn.”

What are the most important qualities a student should possess to be successful at German?

“You should want to learn the language – be willing to try, do not worry about getting things wrong (resilience is really important when studying a language). You need to be organised, because learning a language is a marathon, not a sprint, lots of short bursts of revision are very helpful. Try to get involved in lessons as much as possible, listen to German music artists, watch German Netflix shows, all of these help you to be successful.”

Can you outline the topics that would be covered in the GCSE course?

“We cover ‘Family and Relationships’, ‘Social Media’, ‘Free Time’ (sport, music and food), ‘Holidays and Festivals’, ‘The Environment’, ‘Social Issues’ (such as homelessness and poverty), ‘Your House and Town’, ‘School’ and ‘Future Plans and Careers.’”

What are the benefits of studying German?

“There are a lot. It makes you think about your own language, my English vocabulary and grammar have improved through studying German. It is really interesting to compare cultures, you might learn about what German schools are like or where Germans like to go on holiday, it is interesting to learn things about different places across the world. It also looks amazing on your CV, as not many people study a language and even fewer study German. German is a subject that is not studied as much in schools anymore, so it sets you apart as interesting to potential employers.”

What is your favourite part of teaching GCSE German?

“I love teaching GCSE German because you are starting to put full sentences together and you are able to speak more independently. You also start to include more culture and high-level vocabulary. There is a sense that you can build the language yourself, which gives students a great feeling of success.”

What careers would be opened to pupils studying German?

“All my friends who studied German at GCSE, A-Level or University, do different things. I have friends who work in law, marketing for international firms, sales, engineering, translating and sport. The list is endless. You have every single job in the UK, as well as an entire new market.”

What made you decide to specialise in German?

“I have always enjoyed learning languages, but I find German so interesting in the way it is structured and it is an intellectual challenge. I love Germany, I have been to Berlin over 20 times and the insight you can get when you speak to people in their own language and understand things authentically gives me an amazing buzz that I do not get when I do other subjects. You have access to everything else you love in a whole other way, whether it is Science or Literature.”

Mrs Ridley also wanted to add that you should always have faith in your ability as a language learner. Keep your options open for as long as possible, as there are people she has taught who have made amazing progress at GCSE, even going on to do it at A-Level and University, who have never thought of doing it before.

Careers at Sea

Hello, my name is Daniel Butcher and I am really excited to be joining the chronicle team. I'll be writing about careers and what could interest you as we move ever closer to leaving school. This week it will be careers at sea. Careers at sea can include a lot of jobs such as: The Navy, Cruise Ships, The Merchant Navy and Shipping Cargo around the world.

Variety of occupations

Within these maritime sectors, you can find many occupations that you can take on. It's doesn't have to be just driving or sailing boats. Ships need catering, cleaners, people who work in the engine room, navigation and many more. Working at sea is not just the image that always comes to mind of a sailor at a wheel, the maritime sector is so much more diverse.

On land

You can also work on land such as cranes, monitoring departures and arrivals or even building ships themselves. Even though these may be on land, they are still as fundamental to ships operating as jobs at sea are.

National Career Service Salaries

Crane Driver: £20,000-£37,000

Merchant Navy Officer: £12,700-£40,000

Port Operative: £16,000-£27,000

Royal Navy Officer: £27,273-£45,984

Royal Marines Officer: £27,000-£39,600

New Zealand

Update!



Top Story!

The Prime Minister of New Zealand, Jacinda Ardern, has recently resigned from being the PM of the country with an unexpected announcement. Read on to find out more!



Jacinda Ardern Steps Down



After serving around five and a half years in office, the Prime Minister of New Zealand, Jacinda Ardern, has resigned, stating she no longer has 'enough in the tank' to do the job justice. A member of the Labour Party, she came to power in 2017, at the age of 37 – the youngest New Zealand Prime Minister since 1856. In 2018, she became the second elected world leader to give birth in office, after Benazir Bhutto.

Her government was widely commended for their handling of the Covid-19 Pandemic, introducing some of the hardest measures in the world. Currently, only around 2,500 people have died from coronavirus in the country. In the first 18 months of the lockdown, life expectancy increased.

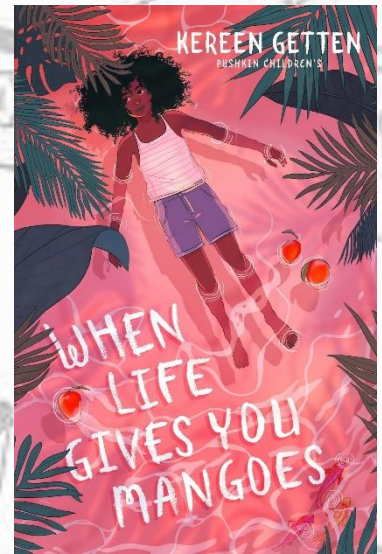
Ardern's response to the Christchurch Mosque shootings of 2019 was also praised. These occurred when a white supremacist opened fire on two mosques, killing 51 and injuring dozens more. As she visited the area in which the attacks took place, she wore a hijab to show respect and solidarity with the survivors and grievers. A few days later, she introduced tougher gun laws, banning all semi-automatic weapons.

Her resignation comes after a decrease in her popularity over the last couple of years, with some critics believing the measures put in place for Covid were far too severe, such as closing borders. Recent polls suggest that the opposition National Party are marginally ahead of the Labour Party, however Ardern said this had not precipitated her exit from office. Instead, she is prioritising her mental health, saying the events of last few years have been extremely taxing and difficult.

The replacement put forward by the Labour Party was Chris Hipkins, 44, currently serving as Minister for Education. He will be instated on 7th February.

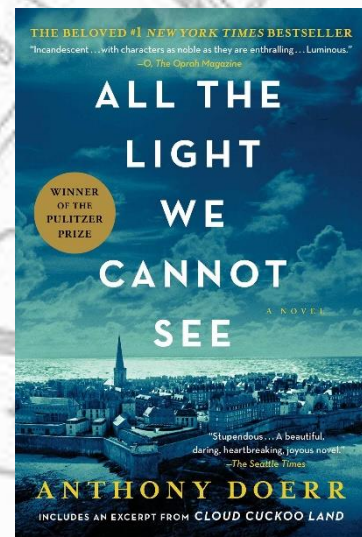
Book Recommendations

This week's book recommendation is going to be **'When Life Gives You Mangoes'** by Kereen Getten. It's a Psychological Fiction novel set in a village community on a Caribbean Island. It was published on the 20th of October 2020 and was Kereen Getten's debut novel. It is about a girl who has best friend stops acting like her best friend when a girl comes from England then one day when she is roaming the island, she uncovers an old family secret. I thought this book was an amazing story with a great twist but my favourite thing about it was the strong sense of community that was created throughout the novel and how well Getten laid out the story. Kereen Getten got her inspiration for **'When Life Gives You Mangoes'** from her childhood home, a small seaside town in Jamaica. She lived above the town on a hill that overlooked the ocean, her house was surrounded by fruit trees, and she spent her days playing games and exploring.



From this edition I am going to be starting a new section to my articles were each fortnight I will be asking a different teacher what their favourite book is. My first teacher is going to be Ms Williamson.

Ms Williamson's favourite book is **'All the Light We Cannot See'** by Anthony Doerr. It was published on the 6th of May 2014. It is two stories that overlap and end up crossing over each other. One story is about a girl called Marie who is blind and lives in France but when World War 2 hits she has to move to a safer part of France and to her uncle's house. The second story is about a German boy named Werner Pfennig. Werner is an orphan who has a gift of repairing radios and one day get invited to go to school and ends up going to France to continue working with radios. All the light we cannot see won the 2015 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in fiction and the Pulitzer Prize for fiction.



- Emms Prayag Baltanas

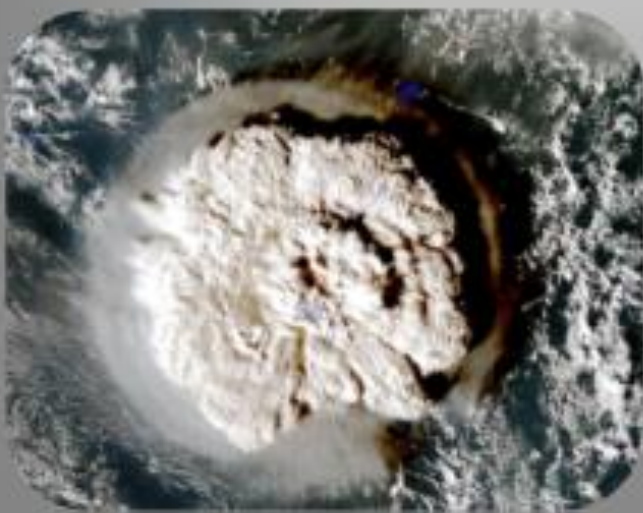
Tonga



Update!

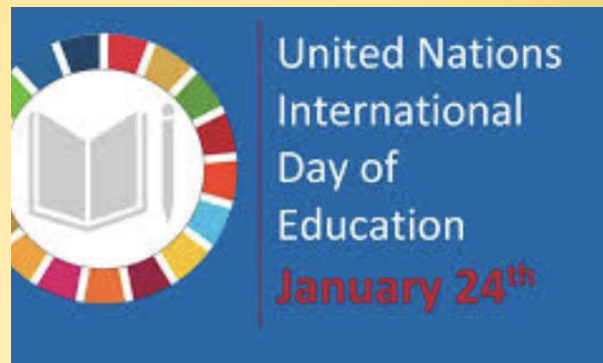
Top Story!

The small country of Tonga in Oceania, has experienced a major eruption from the **Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai** Volcano. The eruption was so major that it managed to re-shape the Pacific Seafloor! Read on to find out more!



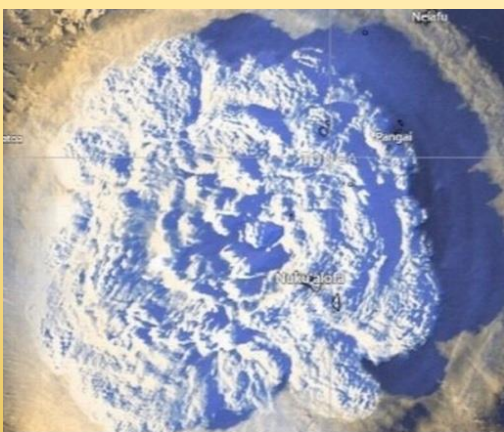
International Day of Education

Tuesday 24th of January was the International Day of Education, this is for peace and development as well as for us to recognize the privilege of education we have access to and how some people sadly do not have that and what we can do to help them. On the 3rd December 2018, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution proclaiming 24th January as International Day of Education, in



celebration of the role of education for peace and development. The right to education is enshrined in Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The declaration calls for free and compulsory elementary education. The Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted in 1989, goes further to stipulate that countries shall make higher education accessible to all. The theme of the 2023 International Day of Education, which takes place on 24 January, is 'To invest in people, and to prioritise education'. This day to generate debate around how to strengthen education as a public endeavour and common good, how to steer the digital transformation, support teachers, safeguard the planet and unlock the potential in every person to contribute to collective well-being and our shared home. We should all realise how blessed we are to have an education and for how sometimes we take it for granted. Many people in different countries sadly cannot access education for certain reasons and we should help them as much can. Every human on Earth should have the right to an education.

Tonga Eruption



The cataclysmic eruption of Hunga-Tonga Hunga-Ha'apai on 15th January sent pressure waves through Earth's atmosphere that connected with the sea surface and triggered 50 highly sensitive seismometers placed 5,000m under water, on the seabed. It was one of a number of intriguing phenomena picked up by the instrument network in the Azores-Madeira-Canary Islands region. The massive volcanic blast in the Pacific last year was felt 18,000km away on the other side of the world, on the floor of the Atlantic Ocean.

AI

AI also known as Artificial Intelligence, is the simulation of human intelligence processes by machines, especially computer systems. Specific applications of AI include expert systems, natural language processing, speech recognition and machine vision.

The different actions AI can do are vast. The way they complete these actions is very human-like and they do the action quickly and without problem. There is reasons AI is good which are they can help people do their everyday jobs and work. Also, it can be used to make apps, websites and education. The AI can do these actions from anywhere at any time which makes it dangerous on some occasions like cyber warfare. If it is used in cyber warfare, it can be extremely dangerous because it can take out Wi-Fi, satellites and other essential equipment we use in technology.

Some examples of AI are chatbot gpt which you can use to author essays from a bit of text you want the essay to be about, and it makes one for you. Another example is a well-known one, google cloud, it stores all your photos, emails and files and sorts them into a place where all your data is. There are some you can use for malicious purposes like hacking and swindling like taking personal information.

Overall, AI is a good piece of technology used to make life easier for everyday tasks from opening google to watching a video. You can use it in so many useful ways, so it is good, but people just use it for malignant intent.

By Naeem Ahmed

Holocaust Memorial Day

Holocaust Memorial Day is the day for everyone to remember the millions of people murdered in the Holocaust, under Nazi Persecution, and in the genocides which followed in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia, and Darfur.

This year's theme is ordinary People. Genocide is facilitated by ordinary people. Ordinary people turn a blind eye, believe propaganda, join murderous regimes. The murder of 6 million Jews in the Holocaust was not the actions of one man. Genocide is a societal act, it takes the action and inaction of millions of people to cause murder on this extent. Those who are persecuted, oppressed and murdered in genocide are not persecuted because of crimes they've committed – they are persecuted simply because they are ordinary people who belong to a particular group (eg, Roma, Jewish community, Tutsi).

It is important that we use this day not only to remember those who were murdered but also to educate ourselves in these matters in order to work together to prevent more mass premeditated murder. It was the small actions at the beginning that no one spoke about that helped lead to the deaths of nine million people.



Thank you for reading this first edition of the Hayes Herald – we hope you enjoyed it.

The next edition will be publish on the 10th of Feb.

Last week's riddle was **What word of five letter has one left when two are removed** and the answer is **stone** because when you remove the **S** and **T** you end up with the word **One**, you could have also had **three** or **shone** because when you take **two away from three** you get **one** and when you take the **S** and the **H** away from **shone** you get **one**. This week's riddle is **What is so fragile that just saying its name brakes it.**

<https://forms.office.com/e/rthdSGtW4p>