



Friday 16th June 2023

The Hayes Herald

Formerly Yr9 Chronicle



Welcome

Hello and welcome to this edition of the Hayes Herald! We hope you all had a wonderful half term break and are ready to enjoy the summer fun that this last half-term brings. In this edition, we have a deep dive into what's been going on with Boris Johnson, some information on the summer solstice, book reviews and much more – ENJOY 😊

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Message from Mr Brockman

Dear all readers,

Firstly, I wish to extend my good wishes to all Year 9 completing their Duke of Edinburgh award today (Friday). I hope you cope well in the heat! It is wonderful seeing students enjoying the sun in school; it makes such a difference to everyone's moods. A reminder that, whilst there are no blazers in the higher temperatures, shirts still need to be tucked in, top buttons done up etc!

Best of luck to those year groups sitting their end of year exams, and I know your ACo's are excited to see your progress!

Lastly, it is very exciting that shortly we will be able to listen to Hayes School's first podcast! A lot of time and effort has gone in to setting this up, and the sneak previews I have listened to sound very professional indeed!

Mr Brockman

The Hayes Herald Podcast

On Monday 19th of June we will be releasing the very first episode of the Hayes Herald podcast. It will be a short welcome episode introducing the podcast and giving a little teaser as to what will be in it in upcoming episodes. It is going to be hosted by Fabian Bailey, Teodora Mindru and Jacob Fenwick-Read as well as being produced by Emma Prayag Baltanas. We will also be joined by a very special guest who many of you will recognise! Please fill out this form if you have any suggestions for what should be included: <https://forms.office.com/e/k5kjXfMEbv>

HAYESCREATES AND HAYES PTA PRESENT

THE ONLY FESTIVAL YOU NEED THIS SUMMER

HAZEFEST

2 0 2 3

With the school's annual music festival, Hazefest, just around the corner on 8th July, Mr Gunning has kindly provided some background information about the event and what we can expect on the day.

How did Hazefest come about?

Back in 2013 the PTA approached me about starting an outdoor music festival and I was ready for a new challenge. For the previous decade I'd been running a very successful midsummer cabaret night involving staff and students, but I felt it had reached the end of its shelf-life. So, when Hazefest was suggested, I jumped at it – and immediately got Mr Tucker involved as he knew far more about the logistics of staging something like that than I did. Needless to say, it rained most of the first year, but - touch wood – we've been very lucky with the weather since then!

Can you give us some background information about the bands involved?

This year it's very much a Hayes based affair. In the past we've had a lot of excellent bands featuring former students, some that have gone on to successful careers in the industry, but over the years I've come to realise that people want to see faces they recognise on stage, so it's more in-house this year.

Jamsesh everybody knows, Twenty-Two and The Night Garden are new student bands, Everfall made a great impression last year, Ben and Izzi are making their final bow, Blue Circle Band is the new name for last year's ex-staff/ex-students/current parents band (they've now gained a certain Mr Tucker in their ranks) and Gods&Monsters are planning to bring everything to a suitably explosive finish (if I can remember all the lyrics I've got to learn in the next few weeks!)

How would you describe the atmosphere on the day?

It kind of depends on what's happening in the stage! If it's a nice laid-back acoustic act and the sun is shining then it's like a giant chill-out stage, but if it's a full-on rock band it can become quite a dustbowl. We've had a fair old mosh pit down the front over the years! It's a great event to come to with a bunch of friends, or with the rest of your family – we cater for all! It's whatever you want it to be really!

What is the biggest crowd you have had over the years?

We hit 400 in 2019 – it would be nice to get back to that this year, or even more!

Which genres of music can we expect from the performers?

Jamsesh serve up a nice line in classic pop, and I think the Night Garden are in a similar mould. Everfall put a modern rock spin on the songs they grew up with, Ben and Izzi are folky/pop, Twenty-Two are as influenced by Music Theatre as they are Britpop, Blue Circle Band are Classic Rock and Gods&Monsters throw a bit of everything into the mix – alt-rock, synth pop, dad-rock, indie....

What has been your favourite moment from the last 9 years?

I think it was back in 2017, when Desmerelda, who were a brilliant and very edgy indie band featuring two ex-students, blew their image by coming on stage to YMCA and getting all the crowd to join in with the actions. They said it was a "dream come true!"

Will there be food and drink available to buy?

Oh yes! Ciao Pizza from Station Approach are going to be onsite making and selling their awesome pizzas and we'll have an ice-cream van on site too. The famous PTA bar will also have snacks, alongside a wide range of drinks to cater for all ages. You can bring your own food and drinks too!

I can't stress enough what a good day it is. Come and join us, you won't regret it!

Tickets are available here: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/hayescreates>.

Summer Solstice

Next Wednesday, which is the 21st of June, it will be the longest day of the year. This is called the summer solstice or midsummer.

This is caused by the fact that the earth does not spin at a parallel to the sun but is actually on a tilt. This means that in the summer, we get more sunlight and therefore a longer day. In the poles, this becomes extreme and sometimes the sun doesn't set near the middle of summer and doesn't rise during the winter. This axis also is what gives us our seasons.

It is not just recently we have learned about the solstice, many ancient societies new about the longest day in the year too. Christians used to celebrate Midsummer because of John the Baptist (Jesus's cousin and one of the first Christians). Many countries still celebrate this event. One of these places is Sweden, where there are celebrations are held from noon till late at night. This event is just as important to them as Easter or Christmas. Another group of people who celebrated the solstice are the Vikings who would:

- Make offerings to the gods of the harvest: Freyia and Freyr.
- Light bonfires to ward of the evil spirts, which were supposed to be particularly strong on the longest day of the year

It is also possible that they visited stone circles such as Stonehenge. Stonehenge also has links to the solstices (both winter and summer). In the evening the sun and stones will line up. This shows that even incredibly ancient civilisations new about midsummer.

- Robert Smith and Sathvik Rao

Jacob's Political Deep Dive

The ghost of the former PM come back to haunt Rishi Sunak yet again

After a chaotic few months last year, there had been a period relative stability across the government, but as the investigation into Partygate comes to a close and Boris Johnson suddenly resigns as a Member of Parliament, the eyes of the world are now back on the former PM, leaving many to wonder if Rishi Sunak will ever get out of his shadow or whether he will be forever haunted by the ghost of his past.

For several months now, a parliamentary committee has been investigating Boris Johnson and whether he purposely misled parliament over Partygate. Prior to this investigation, he and other very senior MPs had already been fined by the police for holding parties during Lockdown. However, in the weeks leading up to this, Johnson consistently told parliament that “the guidance was followed and the rules were followed at all times” – something later proven not to be true. He therefore misled Parliament from the truth about the parties and he has admitted to doing so, however, the investigation seeks to discover if this was purposeful. Although Johnson strenuously denies any allegations that it was, many people argue that as he was responsible for deciding the rules during lockdown so should know what they are well enough to follow them. The committee's verdict is expected to be announced shortly, but a copy of their findings was given to Johnson shortly before he resigned as an MP.

Last week, Boris Johnson announced that he would be resigning from his role as an MP with immediate effect, widely believed, to be due in large part to the Partygate report. Johnson did not go quietly, with his resignation statement accusing the investigative committee of trying to find him “guilty, regardless of the facts” describing it as a “kangaroo court”. Before going on to say that their report was “riddled with inaccuracies and reeks of prejudice”. However, many political analysts say that Johnson's resignation is far from the end of his political career with the former PM saying he would be leaving Parliament, “for now”. Boris Johnson's resignation has also coincided with the release of his PM's honours list.

When a PM resigns, they get to pick people they would like to honour with peerages (a seat in the House of Lords) and knighthoods. The former PM's list included many widely disliked allies of Johnson, including Sir Jacob Rees-Mogg and Dame Priti Patel. However, the controversy around this list comes from people he tried to nominate such as his father, Stanley Johnson, who was blocked from receiving an honour by Sunak. Nadine Dorries, another key Johnson ally was expected to become a peer but did not – since the

announcement, she stated that she was going to resign but will not officially do so until she has answers at why she was not given a peerage. However Boris Johnson and Nadine Dorries are not the only ones who have announced their resignation as another Johnson ally – Nigel Lawson – announced he was also resigning as an MP. These resignations mean that there will be three by-elections in which the Conservative Party will have to fight hard to maintain control of the seats.

BREAKING: At 9AM on Thursday morning, the committee into whether Johnson knowingly mislead Parliament published their final [report](#), just days after Johnson had seen it. It outlined the illegal gatherings he had and whether he purposely mislead Parliament. The committee ruled that he had purposely mislead Parliament saying, it is “unlikely on the balance of probabilities that Mr Johnson, in the light of his cumulative direct personal experience of these events, could have genuinely believed that the Rules or Guidance were being complied with” before going on to say, “We conclude that in deliberately misleading the House Mr Johnson committed a serious contempt.” Meaning he broke the rules of Parliament. The report stated that had Johnson not already resigned, they would have recommended a ninety-day suspension as an MP but are now recommending that he is not given a Former Members Pass which gives former MPs access into Houses of Parliament to speak to past colleagues and also allows them to book tables at Parliament’s restaurants. They also note that the former PM’s use of language such as “kangaroo court” to describe the committee leaves them in no doubt that his attempt to distance himself from the “campaign of abuse and discrimination” targeted at committee members was insincere, going on to say, “This in our view constitutes a further significant contempt” and that he was “complicit” in the abuse. These allegations are unlike any previously bestowed on any other former Prime Minister and the reason for Johnson’s resignation as an MP is now clear in many people’s mind.

All this means that the world’s eyes are yet again on Boris Johnson – casting a shadow over Rishi Sunak and his government’s agenda.

- Jacob Fenwick-Read

AROUND THE WORLD

Hello and welcome back longtime no see since this series last aired. This week's country is South Sudan, rich with culture and diversity, a country located in northeastern Africa, bordering the red sea in the northeast it also borders Libya in the northwest and Chad in the west and these are only a few.

Some fun facts about South Sudan are, it contains the world youngest population. It is made up of the 10 southern most states of Sudan. A large portion of the population engages in farming and livestock keeping. The diet for most people includes milk, peanuts, honey, fish, meat, finger millet, beans, vegetables and more. As of 2020 the population is estimated to be 11.19 million people with a projected growth to 19.96 million by 2050 and 31.74 million by 2100 however there has not been a census in many decades so this estimate may be distorted.

The capital of South Sudan is Juba it is located on the banks of the White Nile, it is also the countries most populated city. It has been the capital of South Sudan since the country formally declared independence in 2011.

South Sudan contains vast plains, plateaus (and area of level high grounds) that are drained by the Nile and its tributaries, South Sudan is generally flat with mountains in the far south, northeast, and west and that desert dominate the north. The highest point is the Kinyeti mountain which is 3,187 meters tall (about 1.98 mi). Some major landforms are the mountains found in Darfur region in the west. South Sudan has a tropical climate with wet and dry seasons. In winter the north winds of the tropical air mass blow across the country towards the front which may be as far south as the tropics of Capricorn, these winds are cool and dry and bring no rain. By April the most southernly air of maritime air mass is drawn from the south Atlantic Ocean, because of this Sudan has a rainy season, the total length varies according to latitude and is no more than 8 to 9 months per year beginning as early as April and continuing as late as December. As you can see most precipitation occurs during summer months and most of the country receives about 30-40 inches annually. But now enough of Geography let's move onto the people of South Sudan.

People in South Sudan predominantly are Christians, primarily Roman Catholic, Anglican and Presbyterian or follow traditional African religions, the largest ethnic group is Dinka they constitute about 2/5th of the population. These people speak a Nilotic language which classifies within the eastern Sudanic branch of the Nilo-Saharan languages. There is also a small Arab population in South Sudan. Under the 2005 interim constitution, both Arabic and English were official working languages. However, English had been acknowledged as the principal language in what is now South Sudan since 1972. The population of South Sudan is extremely young with more than 2/5th being under the age of 15 and more than 1/4th between the ages of 15-29 years old, this is due to decades of Civil War taking a toll on South Sudan's population.

South Sudan's various ethnic group have a history of producing beautiful pieces of art. For example, The Zande were prominent as craftsmen and artists. Basketry, net weaving, pottery, smelting, metal working, ivory and wood carving were undertaken, Contemporary Zande are still noted for their iron, clay and wood handicrafts. Adding on to this a variety of musical styles are enjoyed as entertainment in South Sudan. There is a traditional style of music, in which singers perform without musical accompaniment or with only a limited drumbeat. Also, dance is an integral part of the culture of South Sudan's ethnic group.

In 2011 the people of South Sudan vote for full independence from Sudan and independence is achieved July 2011.

I hope you enjoyed this article and learnt some more about South Sudan

- Teodora Mindru

Amur Leopards

Amur Leopards are yellowish gold creatures with “rosettes”, black spots in random positions all over their fur. They live in areas with Korean pine and deciduous trees, usually found in caves where they sleep during the day.

Why are they endangered?

The main reason why these beautiful creatures are few in number, is climate change. It is causing their small habitats to shrink! This leads to not the right conditions for them to live in, causing them to die.

Want to help?

You most definitely can! You could help by adopting one of the rapidly decreasing numbers of amur leopards, or fundraising. Even spreading awareness of this issue. What you may think is a little, could definitely be a lot to them.

Where can I donate?

You can donate at WWF or at the WildCats Conservation Alliance. You can adopt an Amur leopard, and many other endangered species I will write about, at the WWF as well.

Did you know?

Did you know the Amur leopard is one of the rarest big cats in the world? Another crazy fact, an amur leopard is named after the Amur River! They also sleep during the day only, making them nocturnal!



Elysia Roberts

New York Air Quality

Millions in North America, including New York, have been advised to wear N95 masks outdoors due to poor air quality levels sparked by intense wildfires in Canada. New York will begin distributing free masks on Thursday. Canada has said that people should wear a mask if they are unable to remain indoors. Officials have warned that the dangerously smoky conditions are expected to persist into the weekend. Much of the smoke is coming from Quebec, where 150 fires are burning. Smoke blanketed large areas of Ontario and Quebec, while an orange haze hung over much of the north-eastern US throughout Tuesday and into Wednesday. Toronto and New York briefly ranked among the metro areas with the worst air quality in the world overnight. The poor conditions have forced event cancellations and grounded flights across the US. Nearly 100 million people are experiencing very poor air quality in North America. Data from the US Environmental Protection Agency's Air Quality Index (AQI) shows that cities in North America had the worst air quality in the world on Thursday morning. Cities including Washington DC, Philadelphia and New York had significantly worse air quality than cities abroad such as Lahore, Dhaka and Hanoi. The smoke has caused the cancellation of school outings and sporting events, and, in the capitol, the White House's planned pride celebrations. The National Zoo was also closed, with its animals, including three giant pandas, taken indoors to shelter. In nearby Baltimore, residents were wearing masks as they went about their day-to-day activities. One local, Sean Montague, said people "have to put your health first and be cautious". Environment Canada said conditions were worsening in Toronto on Thursday, as more smoke poured in. The agency has recommended that anyone outdoors wear a mask. Canadian officials say the country is shaping up for its worst wildfire season on record. Experts have pointed to a warmer and drier spring than normal as the reason behind the trend. These conditions are projected to continue throughout the summer.

- Lara Griffiths



Book Recommendations

This week's book is *When the Shadows Fall* written by Sita Brahmachari and illustrated by Natalie Sirett. *When the Shadows Fall* is written in a very interesting way as it is written from Kai perspective (with a bit of help from his friends) after the story takes place as if he is reflecting on everything that has happened to him every so often in key moments of the story Kai brings us back to the present day and tells us how he sees his actions now. The story that Kai is telling is his journey through grief and how it changed and affected him as well as how important hope and friendship is when things get hard. It was a really moving story that shows everyone that if you have a little hope things can work out alright in the end. *When the Shadows Fall* was shortlisted for the Carnegie medal this year (which is how I found out about it). Carnegie is an annual award that nominates 13 children or young adult books and then one book is chosen to receive the Carnegie medal. This year the winner will be announced on Wednesday 21 June.

My second book is also shortlisted for Carnegie, it is called *The Blue Book of Nebo* and it is written by Manon Steffan Ros. *The Blue Book of Nebo* is a very simple read about a mother and son after what they call 'The End'. Despite how close they are they still have secrets which they take turns to write down in a little blue notebook they find but neither can read what the other writes. I quite liked this book because it was a heart-warming story as it is a story about a life that could be seen as horrible, but this mother and son manage to turn it into something not so bad, it obviously has its lows but there are also highs. *The Blue Book of Nebo* was originally written in Welsh and the translated into English by Manon Steffan Ros herself it was also translated into other languages as well including French, Arabic, Catalan and Polish. As well as being shortlisted for the Carnegie award for writing it also won the 2019 Welsh book of the year award, The Prose Medal at the National Eisteddfod and The People's Choice Award.

- Emma Prayag Baltanas



Thank you for reading this edition of the Hayes Herald – we hoped you enjoyed

The next edition will be published on Friday 30th June.

Last fortnight's riddle was 1 rabbit saw 9 elephants while going to the river. Every elephant saw 3 monkeys going towards the river. Each monkey has 1 parrot in each hand? The answer was 10 because you do 1 (for the 1 rabbit)+3 (The Elephants weren't going to the river but they all saw the same 3 monkeys that were going to the river) +6 (There were 3 monkeys and each monkey has 2 hands and they had a parrot in each hand which adds up to 6 parrots) which equals 10. This fortnight's riddle is A man called his dog from the other side of the river, the dog crosses without getting wet or using a boat or a bridge. How is this possible?

<https://forms.office.com/e/zaRpyjeb63>