



THE BYRCHALL NEWS

Live to Learn (enjoy and achieve) Learn to Live (now and in the future)

Issue 1

A warm welcome

Welcome to the Byrchall News. After a time of interruption and uncertainty, we are enjoying welcoming you all back and teaching you in the classroom. Given this, we already have so much to share with you about the great things happening at Byrchall. This is the very first issue of 'The Byrchall News'. We will be including key information, the latest news and a rotating theme for the reverse side.

Issue 1 Quiz: English!

1. Which Liverpoolian playwright do we study from Year 9 to Year 11?
2. What playwright categorised his plays into histories, tragedies and comedies?
3. What language device is given to a group of words which share similar meanings?
4. Who wrote the very first gothic fiction book?
5. Who spoke the famous line, 'We will fight them on the beaches!'?

Answers in issue #2!



Meet the Media Team

We are a dedicated team of staff and students who ensure that the school library, radio and newsletter are in top shape! (from left to right) Amelia, Charlotte, Ciara, Michael, Moyra, Alicia, Emma, Amaya, Neirin, Sam, Joe, Lewis, Grace, Furayah. Our team has grown even bigger this half-term and we are excited to recruit more!

EXCITING NEWS!

On Tuesday 15th February, we are delighted to be welcoming the National Theatre to our school to perform Robert Louis Stevenson's infamous *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll & Mr Hyde*. All Year 9 and Year 10 students will enjoy the performance throughout the day.

Byrchall Events Calendar

February

- ⇒ Year 11 Parents' Consultation (8th)
- ⇒ National Theatre—Jekyll & Hyde (15th)
- ⇒ Children's Mental Health Week
- ⇒ Senior House Competition
- ⇒ February Half Term (21st Feb)
- ⇒ *Blood Brothers* Y10 and Y11 English trip

March

- ⇒ Year 9 Parents' Consultation (10th)
- ⇒ World Book Day (3rd)
- ⇒ *Billionaire Boy* Y7 English Trip (9th)
- ⇒ *Chicago* Y9 English Trip (10th)
- ⇒ *Footloose* Y8 English Trip (2nd)
- ⇒ Junior House Competition
- ⇒ International Women's Day (8th)
- ⇒ Year 10 Parents' Consultation (30th)
- ⇒ World Poetry Day (21st)

April

- ⇒ Easter Holidays (1st-18th)



National Theatre

Have any ideas or responses for the newsletter?

Let your English teacher know or simply email krogerson@byrchall.wigan.sch.uk.

*Alternatively, look out for **the Media Team** for any queries!*



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The Accelerated Reader Lock Box...

Year 7 and Year 8 are the first students to be in with a chance of winning every single item in our brand-new 'lock box'. If students have quizzed on Accelerated Reader, and achieved over 80%, they are in with a chance of guessing the code and winning the prizes! Our winner will be revealed in issue #2.



Creative entry



The Watcher by Sam Walker (Year 8)

Jack Shoeman was smoking in a park, he was in his mid-30's and had been smoking since he was 19 and so far he had felt no negative effects. A cool breeze washed through the area, shaking the trees and making a low noise. Jack stumped out his finished cigar and walked along the twisted, uneven path that laid out in front of him for a few metres pondering the day's troubles. It was late evening and the sky had started to darken more and more by the minute, when the strangest of events occurred.

Jack looked on into the forest that sat on his left when suddenly his vision went dark, then light, then somehow it seemingly started to glitch like a broken computer screen. Looking through this he saw a figure standing in the trees, he tried calling out for help but sound never left his mouth. His blood ran cold. The figure had turned around and the image was mortifying: cloaked in deep blue robes the person stared forward at him with the most prominent feature about it. One large green eye, glowing in the place that should have contained a face...



English School Trips!
Hairspray the Musical
Grease!
The Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe
Gangsta Granny
Blood Brothers
See our theatre reviews in issue #2!

Word Wonder

doppelgänger (noun) a person who resembles someone else, or a ghostly counterpart of a living person.

Do you have a celebrity *doppelgänger*? Let us know!

Monthly Intelligence

We all have a **pre-frontal cortex** in our brains which can be referred to as 'the conductor.' Why do you think this is?

It controls all of your brain's functions and helps you to use them for all purposes! Without this, learning is obsolete.

Byrchall Book Corner



Elsewhere by Gabrielle Zevin. Reviewed by Miss Rogerson.

Have you ever wondered what it's like, *really* like to go up to heaven?

Well, Lizzie has and it is the most interesting interpretation of heaven I have ever encountered. *Elsewhere* is a book all about how heaven is a place where life doesn't end; life begins again. Each year of residence brings you another year closer to arriving *back to earth* as a baby.

Elsewhere is a place full of happiness, positivity and new chances. Lizzie is able to watch in on her family back on earth whilst building a small life of her very own at *Elsewhere*. Her dog misses her deeply, but they will soon meet again.

I highly recommend this book for anyone who is curious about what awaits us in the afterlife, or anyone who loves a truly brilliant read. Find it in the library or ask Miss Rogerson for a free extract!



Want your review to appear in the next issue? Make yourself known to your English teacher!

