



# Postistory #6

XMAS ISSUE

DECEMBER 2025

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Thank you to everyone else who attends Press Gang. We look forward to your contributions next issue!

# Fortistory





# Editor's Note

Welcome to the latest issue of Fortistory. We have had a brilliant team of regulars returning to us this year from Years 8 and 9 and it has been magnificent to be joined by so many Year 7 students keen to write for us. In an age of complaints about young people lacking engagement with reading and writing, it's great to see such enthusiasm for the written word.

You will find reviews, debate, sports news, 'How tos' and all sorts of writing in Fortistory. We hope you enjoy this edition over the holiday. If anyone else wishes to join Pressgang club (including KS4 or sixth form students) we meet every Wednesday in term time in S33.

We would love to have students join us who are interested in illustration or photography, or would be interested in 'laying up' the magazine on Canva and are interested in the design of this publication. This could be someone studying CDM or Media studies - if so, please get in touch!

We will be back in March with another issue as long as our students keep writing and illustrating!

*Ms Brooks*

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF/ADMIN ORGANISER!

# My Wicked part 2 review

## I saw Wicked part 2 early!

I know what you may be thinking, "For good already came out, he's not special" well no, on the date of writing, it is the 12th of November! It hasn't come out yet! Regular boring people need to wait another entire 9 days! 9 days! I am special! Mwahahah- I might be going a bit off topic now aren't I? Anyway.....

My mum's friend (If she is reading this, you should be honoured you were mentioned) works in the movie industry and she somehow, in some magical way she got us tickets to the premier! I was screaming so much I thought glass would break!

### **Before I actually start, there will be no spoilers, so without further ado, let's get into it!**

Firstly, let's talk about the Wizard of Oz. The events of For Good are basically 'behind the curtain' scenes of this 1939 classic we all know and love ( By the way, before you watch it or even read this review, my and many others' opinions are that you 100 percent need to have watched the Wizard of Oz and Wicked part 1, so do that, and then come back)

So now you know the backstory for the backstory, so like, the frontstory? Anyway, us die-hard Wicked fans have waited an agonising year for the epic conclusion, and you probably want to know, is it a good finale? Does it live up to the hype it's received? Is it even better than the multiple award winning part 1? In my eyes... Yes! I might even say it's better than part 1! It's just my personal opinion so don't kill me if you feel differently. We have to honour the songs in part 1, no one could ever match classics such as: No one mourns the wicked, Dear Old Shiz, The Wizard and I, My personal favourite What is this Feeling (I listened to this masterpiece on my phone for 6 whole entire hours!) Something Bad, Dancing Through Life, Popular, I'm Not That Girl, One Short Day, Sentimental Man and Defying Gra- I'm just listing all of the songs, aren't I!



But, controversially, I believe the storyline for part 2 is better! It has some great songs, as well, such as: Every Day More Wicked, Thank Goodness/Couldn't Be happier, No Place Like Home, Wicked Witch of The East, Wonderful, I'm Not That Girl (Reprise), As Long As Your Mine, No Good Deed (My favourite), March Of The Witch Hunters, Girl In The Bubble and For Go- oh my gosh I did it again! The journey that every character goes on is incredible! Obviously you want to know how sweet, innocent, wholehearted Elphaba becomes 'Wicked' and just thinking about it brings a tear to my eye.

Finally, this emotional rollercoaster, I do believe will change you for good! So what are you waiting for! Book your tickets now! \*Disclaimer, 'Wicked: For Good' does not sponsor this article\*

# Taylor Swift - The Life of a Showgirl

By Rian Bozek

WARNING: HAS SPOILERS

On the 3rd October 2025 Taylor Swift released her new album - the life of a showgirl. This album has many songs from 'the Fate of Ophelia' to 'Cancelled' to the main track itself 'The Life of a Showgirl'. So join me as I speak and give reviews of this musical masterpiece.

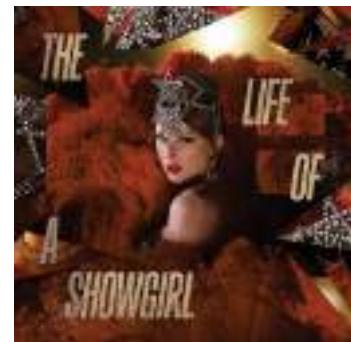
The first track is 'The fate of Ophelia'. Swifties (Taylor Swift fans) believe this is the best song on the album, and I don't blame them. It has broken many world records and the lyrics are written so wisely. It is said to relate to the movie 'Tangled' because it speaks about being trapped in a tower. This is a small verse of it.

All that time  
I sat alone in my tower  
You were just honing your powers  
Now I can see it all  
Late one night  
You dug me out of my grave and  
Saved my heart from the fate of  
Ophelia'

The second track is 'Elizabeth Taylor', and Swifties are seriously freaking out over it. It's got this fun, dramatic old Hollywood energy, but still totally feels like classic Taylor. The lyrics hit way harder than you'd expect and everyone online is already using them as captions. It's catchy and honestly just so her. Taylor is so good, wow. Now, we can just list all 12 tracks but then that would be BOORRIIIINNNNGGGG, so i will just name the main ones :3

Opalite is the third track in the album. It carries a fun beat and positive lyrics. Taylor herself said that it's about self forgiveness and creating your own happiness. It is said to reflect on Taylor's past emotions and how she survived multiple heartbreaks. The title, Opalite, is named after a manmade rock, opal. Swifties love this because the song's lyrics about making your own happiness and a man-made rock is a perfect metaphor. Taylor's fiance, Travis Kelce, has openly admitted that this is his favourite track on the album.

Skipping a few tracks, is "CANCELLED!". It has this dark and cool vibe which is unexpected for a taylor swift song, but it's sooo good!! Swifties suppose that this song is to resemble her and her past friends who got cancelled. This may include Blake Lively and more. This song is super underrated and deserves more love ❤



Short Review of All Songs:  
Fate of Ophelia - energetic, really fun to listen to, 10/10  
Elizabeth Taylor - calm, not as good as the fate of ophelia , 5.6/10

Opalite - lively, bubbly, 9.2/10

Father figure - one of my least favourite, 2/10

Eldest daughter - also not so good, 2.5/10

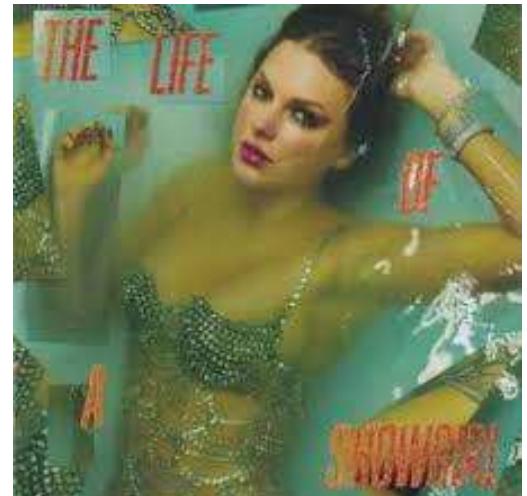
Ruin The Friendship - okay but not the best, 3/10  
Actually romantic - typical taylor swift song, 8.4/10

wi\$h li\$t - nice beat, 8.4/10  
Wood - taylors fiances least favourite, 0/10

Cancelled - underrated, 10/10

Honey - song about love, 7.8/10

The life of a showgirl - features SABRINA CARPENTER, 10/10



# We are lucky enough to have another review of Taylor Swift's Album...what's your view?

## The Life of a Showgirl

### Taylor Swift's Latest album

### Review & breakdown of first 6 songs

by Lyra Byrne

#### My Expectations

I'm writing this on the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2025 - two days before Taylor releases her new album. I've dedicated this paragraph of my article to quickly note down my pre-thoughts and opinions about what I think the album might be about. You can read ahead to see my review but I think it will be fun to compare my expectations versus the reality of this album. Anyway, let me actually start this...

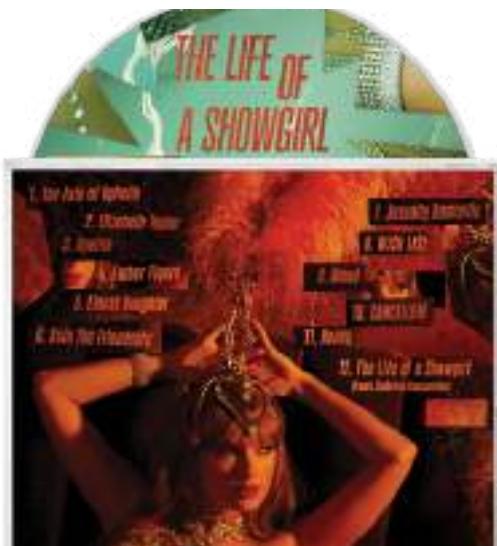
Firstly, I think that this album will be a bit of a dance, pop vibe but with a bit of an electro twist to it. I think she might base the sound off Reputation but have a completely different aesthetic to it. I have no reasons for this, I'm just going with a feeling I have. The cover art has some darker lighting so this suggest a mysterious energy but with a pop of glam, hence the jewels in many covers.

I'm very excited for this album!!!

#### The Reality of TLOAS

I had some predictions for this album and some of them were correct whereas others weren't so accurate. For starters I said I thought this would be a dance, pop album with some electro. Some songs were like this such as Elizabeth Taylor which was giving some Reputation vibes but not so much dance whereas The Fate of Ophelia was very pop and dance but not so much electric or Reputation. There were some tracks that were very different to the rest; Eldest Daughter is a slow, more emotional song (its a track 5\* so that is what I would expect). There are more songs to dive deeper into but we will look into that as I break down each individual track.

\*A track 5 is the 5<sup>th</sup> song on one of Taylor's albums and it usually is a more slow, sad ballad that may tell a story of something upsetting that Taylor was going through or explore some parts of a more sensitive topic.



1. The Fate of Ophelia
2. Elizabeth Taylor
3. Opalite
4. Father Figure
5. Eldest Daughter
6. Ruin the Friendship
7. Actually Romantic
8. WI\$H LI\$T
9. Wood
10. CANCELLED!
11. Honey
12. The Life of a Showgirl

These are all of the track- list names and now I'm going to dive deeper into every one - lyrics, opinions, and a final ranking!

- THE FATE OF OPHELIA

This is the opening track to TLOAS. It's the lead single and most listened to on the album. It's a more understated but with a catchy beat to bop along to whereas the chorus is very upbeat, that sounds like a classic pop song straight out of 1989 (one of her most well-known pop albums). One of my favourite lyrics from this song is "You wrapped around me like a chain, a crown, a vine, pulling me into the fire..." Which is the last line of the second verse, leading into the chorus. I like this line because it paints a clear picture and it almost summarises the song. A chain could represent how she (or Ophelia) felt - stuck or trapped and then a crown, how she felt afterwards (maybe a sign of hope or glory) and a vine, well I don't know about this one but it seems to tie well into the song. The meaning behind this track is based off a Shakespeare story called 'Hamlet' where Ophelia (one of the protagonists) is driven to madness by her ex lovers (and Hamlet in her case) so she drowned, hence the album cover of Taylor in water. Taylor reflected her love for Shakespeare plays and her similarities to Ophelia in this song until Travis Kelce (her partner) saved her from "The fate of Ophelia".

- ELIZABETH TAYLOR

This track is very unique as the verses are slow, sounding like a wholesome love song until you hit the chorus with a beat drop and it suddenly sounds like something straight out of the reputation vault! My favourite lyric has got to be "I'd cry my eyes violet" which suggests a similarity between her and Elizabeth Taylor (a famous movie star around 1950) who was well known for her violet/grey coloured eyes. The entire song is actually based around her and Taylor's similarities. There are many such as how they both mentioned they have the ability to stay glamorous and witty whilst also dealing with their chaotic life of fame. Both of these women have had significant relationships making headlines that usually have overshadowed achievements, focusing more on their love life than their success. There are lots of lyric references as well like "Burton to his Taylor" Richard Burton being one of Elizabeth's husbands. He is also slightly mentioned in the lyric "Portofino was on my mind when you called me at the Plaza Athénée". Portofino is the Italian town that Richard proposed to Elizabeth in and Plaza Athénée was a hotel in Paris they stayed in.

- OPALITE

Opalite is a very happy, cheerful song, all with the same upbeat rhythm throughout the song. My favourite line from it is "you had to make your own sunshine" which really represents the whole song, I think. It is all about making your own joy and happiness after going through a rough spot. It also reflects lots about Travis Kelce as an Opal is his birth stone which is man-made just like pleasure should be in her words. Overall this track is definitely the most joyous out of all of them with not much of a backstory.

- FATHER FIGURE

Father Figure is a slow yet powerful sounding song exploring Taylor's feelings of frustration and anger towards an the music industry (specifically Scooter Braun). My favourite lyric is "I was your father figure, you pulled the wrong trigger" because it represents how Taylor felt she was someone's "Father Figure" and protected them but they took advantage of that and pulled the wrong trigger. This song is hard to figure out what Taylor actually means and there are many different ways to interpret it. I see it as though she trusted somebody a lot and looked up to them (probably Scooter Braun – who worked for big machine records and took most of the money that Taylor had earned from her first 6 albums without her permission (this is how 'Taylor's Version' came about.)) but her trust in him took a turn when he earned her money that she deserved. This suggests that he used to be her Father Figure but now she is because she earned that power back after reclaiming her albums. As I said before, this track is hard to interpret but that I just what I think.

- ELDEST DAUGHTER

Eldest daughter is definitely the saddest sounding track on this album (not word wise but I will get into the saddest lyrical song later). It is a track 5 so its quite obvious that this one sounds more melodic or slow. I don't have one specific lyric that I like, more a section. It is the whole bridge:

"We lie back

A beautiful, beautiful time lapse

Ferris wheels, kisses and lilacs

And things I said were dumb

'Cause I thought that I'd never find that beautiful, beautiful life that

Shimmers that innocent light back

Like when we were young"

Like I said for the other lyrics, I feel that this really represents the entire song. It mentions about the past and childhood, that feeling of nostalgia and just overall the vibe of this track. Eldest daughter has two main meanings to it: one, about how it feels being the oldest child carrying all of that responsibility and how the youngest child was "raised up in the wild" but both finally feel at home now. The other meaning behind this beautiful ballad is how people (Taylor specifically) feel as though being classed as "cool" these days is too hard, especially with social media pressuring us. She talks about (mostly in the first verse) about things like "every hot take is as cold as ice", "apathy is hot", "everybody is cut-throat in the comments" and she has "been dying from trying to seem cool. Those are just some words I have taken from this song but there are many more things that reflect this opinion of how she feels about this.

- RUIN THE FRIENDSHIP

This song is no doubt, the most sad song on this album. It starts off very upbeat and happy (and stays like that mostly throughout the song but meaning behind these lyrics are heart-breaking.) My favourite line is "Abigail called with the bad news, goodbye and we'll never know why" and "but I flew home anyway, with so much left to say" but I will explain these lyrics in a moment. The whole meaning behind this tragic song is about Taylor's high school friend "Jeff Lang". Taylor explains her feeling about how she liked him a lot although he was a close friend and had a girlfriend. She repeats in the chorus, "should've kissed you anyway" despite many reasons. In the second to final chorus, it mentions how Jeff had passed away after school had ended and Taylor's feelings of regret about not telling him how she felt was reflected in the lyrics I mentioned earlier. This song is saddening, for sure, despite how upbeat it may sound.

## CONCLUSION

Since this article is already so long, I'm going to leave the last six songs for next term's read! Overall this album is really fun because there are so many different types of songs to listen to depending on your mood. For me, it seems as though every song represents each one of her albums. This is one of her most ground-breaking albums with so many tracks to bop along to. Anyway, I'll see you next term!!!

# Wake up Dead Man - A new Knives Out mystery

by Arthur Goldwater



History of Benoit Blanc and Knives Out:

The Knife Out trilogy is about a world class detective called Benoit Blanc who solves murders for a living. Benoit Blanc is played by Daniel Craig and is the main character of Rita Johnson's Knives Out movie series. Not very much is said about his personal life apart from his husband Phillip Blanc who is played by Hugh Grant. We also know that he is from the southern part of the USA, likely Louisiana because of his name and accent. The only other thing we know about him is that his dad was a retired detective. That is all I know about Benoit Blanc but his other cases are the most interesting part of his story. The first one, just called Knives Out, is about a wealthy crime novelist who gets murdered at his 85th birthday party. The library of his mansion also has a circular board of knives which is what I assume is the film's namesake. This film has a lot of twists and turns and you cannot guess who committed the murder until the end, which is what I like about it. The 2nd film, Glass Onion is about a rich billionaire who bought a giant island and because every year he hosts a party with his inner circle also known as "the disrupters" but then a mysterious detective who you can guess is called Benoit Blanc is invited and no-one knows why, then during the activity one of the inner circle dies. As you might be able to see, not all is as it seems, I won't reveal anything else because you can watch this film at home to find out more about this mysterious party gone wrong with everyone playing to win an agenda of their own.

I very recently had the privilege of going to see Wake Up Dead Man (The new Knives Out film) at the cinema and here is a review of it. This is split into 2 parts, history of Knives Out and Benoit Blanc and a hopefully non spoiler total review of the film. Thanks for reading and read my other article 'The Fortismere Debate'

Total review

The new Knives Out has just been released on Netflix but if you have not watched it yet then this is for you. This will be a hopefully non spoiler review about what happens in the film and my opinions of it as a whole. To start off I think that giving a bit of background when the film opens with what happens before the church gives a very interesting look on the film. Of course later on Benoit Blanc has his giant entrance which sets the stage for the rest of the story. The genius of this film is not the actual denouement but how the crime happened. The victim was stabbed in a sealed concrete box with the door visible to the whole group but no-one saw anything, what could have happened? Then the rest of the film follows the others in the format of almost finding out what happened but then unravelling a further plot twist and so on and so forth until he makes his checkmate, his final solved puzzle. But right before Blanc reveals who committed the unforgivable act he has a sudden revelation about what the priest said about even giving the guilty a chance to explain and apologise.

# More Reviews

## The Twilight Saga reviewed by Aurelia Quinn

Age Range: 12-16 Rating: 4.4 stars

The Twilight Saga is about a 17 year old girl named Bella Swan, who leaves her perfect sunny home in Phoenix, Arizona with her mother to cold, dreary Forks, a small town in the middle of nowhere in Washington with her father, the police chief there. She goes to Forks High, where she meets the unusual Cullen family. Perfect, beautiful, snowy skinned and golden eyed, they don't seem to fit into the small community, living far away in the mountains, and are never seen in the sun. She somehow gains the attention of the youngest Cullen, Edward, who seems to hate her already. As she navigates her way through new friendships and rebuilds her relationship with her father, Bella is faced with many, sometimes life threatening, changes that seem to revolve around the Cullen family.....

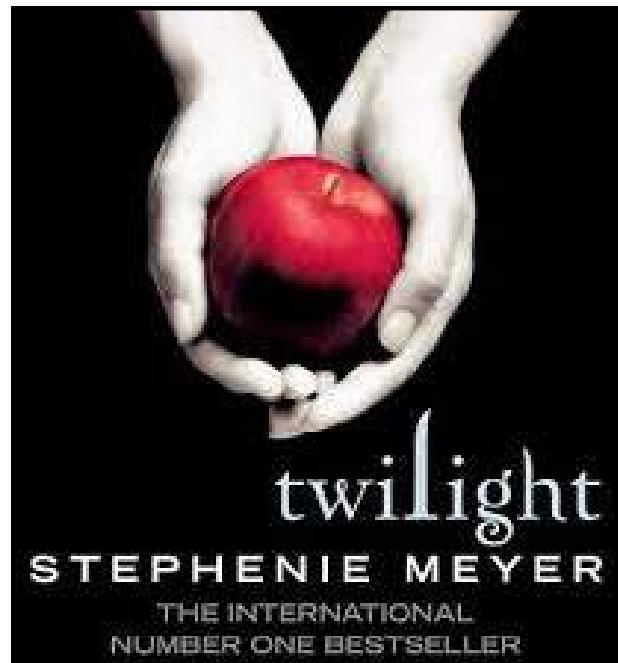
The books in order are:

- Twilight
- New Moon
- Eclipse
- Breaking Dawn
- Life and Death

And there are others that are backstories and extras such as:

- Midnight Sun
- The short second life of Bree Tanner

The first book was released on October 5th 2005, and the first movie on December 3rd 2008. The longest book (And my favourite) is Twilight: Breaking Dawn with 756 pages.



## Movie and series recommendations

By Aurelia Quinn

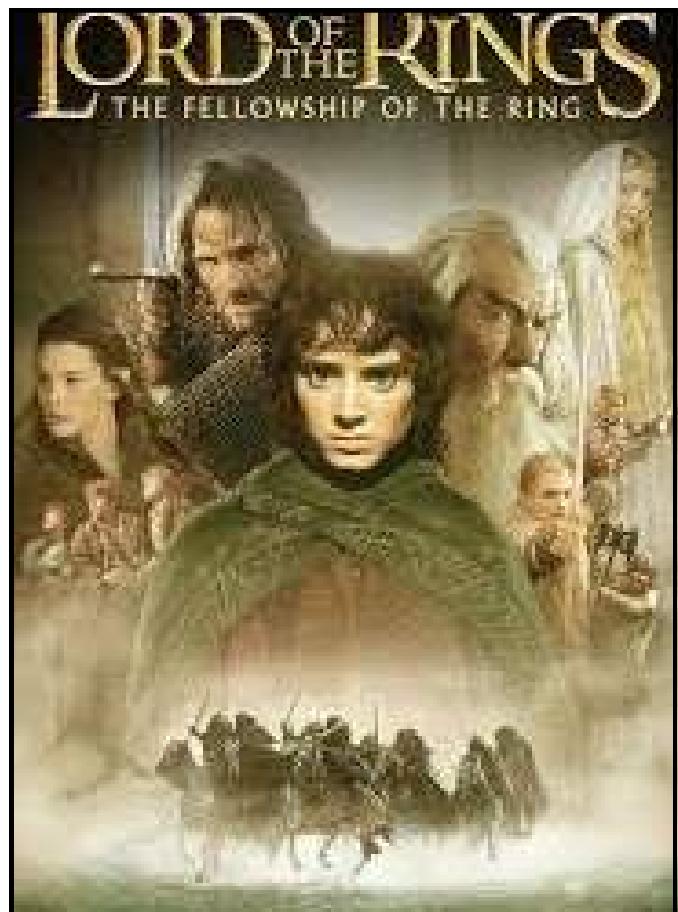
Here are some movies and series I recommend for people

The Lord of the Rings Trilogy - Ages 9+ - I have watched and rewatched these movies so many times and if you like adventures, battles, danger and peril, these movies are perfect for you - Set in a fantasy world called Middle Earth where an evil lord named Sauron is trying to reclaim the world, and a young Hobbit named Frodo Baggins must set out on a journey with eight of his friends to save Middle Earth - Three Movies, 1) The Fellowship of the ring, 2) Two Towers, 3) The Return of the King - Starring Elijah Wood, Ian Holm, Sean Astin, Billy Boyd, Dominic Monaghan, Viggo Mortensen, Orlando Bloom, Sean Bean, Sir Ian McKellen and John Rhys-Davies. There are also a trio of animated movies. A new movie (Lord of the Rings: The Hunt for Gollum) is to be released on December 17 2027.

The Hobbit Trilogy - Ages 9+ - A prequel to Lord of the Rings set around Frodo's uncle, Bilbo Baggins on his adventures with a group of rowdy dwarves to reclaim their homeland from a dragon - I loved these movies and they really help shed some light on how the Lord of the Rings came to be - Again, three movies, 1) An Unexpected Journey, 2) The Desolation of Smaug, 3) The Battle of Five Armies - Starring Martin Freeman, Ian Holm, Sir Ian McKellen, Richard Armitage, Aidan Turner, Elijah Wood, James Nesbitt, John Callen, Ken Stott, Peter Hambleton, Graham McTavish, William Kircher, Mark Hadlow, Jed Brophy, Adam Brown, Dean O'Gorman, Orlando Bloom, Evangeline Lily and Lee Pace. There is also an animated movie.

## More recommendations from Aurelia

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Twilight - Ages 12+ - Some of my favourite movies of all time, Bella is a young girl who moves from Phoenix, Arizona to Forks, Washington and meets the alluring Cullen family with an unusual secret. - Five movies, 1) Twilight, 2) New Moon, 3) Eclipse, 4) Breaking Dawn Part 1 and 5) Breaking Dawn Part 2. Very enjoyable for teenagers ages 12-16. - Starring Richard Pattinson, Kristen Stewart, Taylor Lautner, Kellan Lutz, Ashley Greene, Jackson Rathbone, Nikki Reed, Peter Facinelli, and Elizabeth Reaser.

Marvel - Ages 9+ Depending - Any Marvel movies are enjoyable, as there are things for all people, with Xmen, Deadpool, The Infinity Saga, The Defenders, and many more. The Infinity Saga consists of 23 Movies, and there are still more coming out. I suggest starting on Captain America: The First Avenger, and working your way through the others chronologically until Avengers: Endgame. Inside the Infinity Saga, there are two main branches, Captain America Movies and Avengers Movies. The Captain America movies consist of 1) Captain America: The First Avenger, 2) Captain America: The Winter Soldier, 3) Captain America: Civil War and the newest, 4) Captain America: Brave New World. The Avengers movies consist of 1) The Avengers, 2) Avengers: Age of Ultron, 3) Avengers: Infinity War, and 4) Avengers: Endgame. There are smaller branches that create backstory for the characters, such as Black Widow, The Incredible Hulk, and more. There is also a smaller branch for Spiderman, consisting of three movies following Tom Holland, three following Tobey Maguire, two following Shameik Moore, and two following Andrew Garfield. The Tom Holland ones are 1) Spiderman: Homecoming, 2) Spiderman: Far From Home and 3) Spiderman: No Way Home. The Tobey Maguire ones are 1) Spiderman 2) Spiderman 2 and 3) Spiderman 3. The Andrew Garfield ones are 1) The Amazing Spiderman and 2) The Amazing Spiderman 2. The Shameik Moore ones are 1) Spiderman: Into the Spiderverse and 2) Spiderman: Across the Spiderverse. A fourth Tom Holland movie (Spiderman: Brand New Day) is to release on the 31 July 2026, and a third Shameik Moore (Spiderman: Through the Spiderverse) on July 25 2027. Other Marvel movies to look out for will be Avengers: Doomsday on December 18 2026, and Avengers: Secret War on December 17 2027, which is to tie up all loose ends from most Marvel movies, ranging from the Fantastic 4 to the Infinity Saga.

# My top 10 films of the year

by Lachlan Clark

This review list will include films that did not come out in 2025.

10. The Long Walk 9/10 2025

Age rating 15

You might not think a film about a long walk would be this good. But the characters drive it to a 9. The characters are really complex and makes you care about them. which is its best trait. Don't expect that much action.



9. Roofman 2025 9/10

Age rating 15

Roofman is another film that is character driven and not at all action it is amazing and a really good film.



8. The Social network 2010 9/10 12a

A story about the owner of facebook and an lawsuits against his best friend.

Really good.

7. Rogue One

One of my fave films before this year probably

3 or 2 but it has gone down the rankings

2nd best Star Wars film ever.



6. Star Wars Revenge of the Sith 10/10 12a

Well I did say Rogue One is the 2nd best Star Wars movie of All time and this is better. The high ground scene

Is the best movie scene ever.

5. sonic 3 10/10 pg

Live and learn!!!! This is the best kid's movie and nearly the best film ever. I came into the cinema and the second the film started I metaphorically levitated out of my seat and Prayed on my knees to the Sonic gods.

4. Interstellar 12a 10/10

Great film and an masterpiece this is incredible. like always Christopher Nolan delivers.

3. Dunkirk

Another Christopher Nolan film and it is better i love it and I think it's great.



2. La la land

This is a romance and a musical but don't let it fool you this is stunning and it captivates you



1 Whiplash

THIS IS THE BEST FILM OF ALL TIME

It's amazing.

# News on Avengers: Doomsday

by Stav Ben Zvi

The MCU (Marvel Cinematic Universe) continues to expand with one of its biggest projects yet: *Avengers: Doomsday*, set to release on 18 December 2026, following *Spider-Man: Brand-New Day*. With new heroes, returning favourites, and major surprises, fans are already calling this the most ambitious Marvel film since *Avengers: Infinity War*.

## Trailer Release Dates

The first official trailer is scheduled to be released on 19 December 2025, premiering with *Avatar: Fire and Ash*. The second and third trailers do not yet have confirmed dates, but they are expected to release around March and June.

A fourth trailer is considered unlikely. However, if Marvel does release one, it would probably drop in September. If plans change, the backup trailer timeline is April and August.

## Cast and Characters

Marvel has already announced a huge cast for *Avengers: Doomsday* (full list opposite), yet this is not even the complete cast. Rumours suggest a second cast announcement, but Marvel has not commented on this possibility. This film features an enormous roster – even bigger than *Infinity War*. One of the biggest surprises is that the X-Men officially join the MCU in this movie.

Another major shock: Robert Downey Jr. returns to the MCU – not as Iron Man, but as the long-anticipated villain Doctor Doom. When asked about the role, all he said was:

"New mask, same task."



## Full Doomsday Cast List:

- Chris Hemsworth – Thor Odinson
- Vanessa Kirby – Sue Storm / Invisible Woman
- Anthony Mackie – Sam Wilson / Captain America
- Sebastian Stan – Bucky Barnes / Winter Soldier
- Letitia Wright – Shuri / Black Panther
- Paul Rudd – Scott Lang / Ant-Man
- Wyatt Russell – John Walker / U.S. Agent
- Tenoch Huerta Mejía – Namor
- Ebon Moss-Bachrach – Ben Grimm / The Thing
- Simu Liu – Shang-Chi
- Florence Pugh – Yelena Belova
- Kelsey Grammer – Beast
- Lewis Pullman – Robert "Bob" Reynolds / Sentry / Void
- Danny Ramirez – Joaquin Torres / Falcon
- Joseph Quinn – Johnny Storm / Human Torch
- David Harbour – Alexei Shostakov / Red Guardian
- Winston Duke – M'Baku
- Hannah John-Kamen – Ava Starr / Ghost
- Tom Hiddleston – Loki Odinson
- Patrick Stewart – Professor X
- Ian McKellen – Magneto
- Alan Cumming – Nightcrawler
- Rebecca Romijn – Mystique
- James Marsden – Cyclops
- Channing Tatum – Gambit
- Pedro Pascal – Reed Richards / Mr. Fantastic
- Robert Downey Jr. – Victor Von Doom / Doctor Doom

## Crew

The Russo brothers – Joe and Anthony – are back for *Avengers: Doomsday* and *Secret Wars*. They've already made some of Marvel's biggest hits, like *The Winter Soldier*, *Civil War*, *Infinity War*, and *Endgame*, so fans are pretty excited to see them return.

Marvel has also put together a strong crew for the movie (the full list isn't in the article, but you can check IMDb by searching "Avengers Doomsday Crew"). It was also mentioned that Kevin Feige will be on set at some point, though no one really knows what his exact role will be during filming.

Filming officially wrapped on September 19th, giving Marvel plenty of time for post-production. It's still not clear why they rushed through the shoot, especially since reshoots are already planned for January.

## Plot

The plot for *Avengers Doomsday* is still unknown we know that *The Fantastic 4* will meet *The New Avengers* (*The Thunderbolts*) early on in the movie and that *Doom* will spend most of the time in the *baxter building* since they the color of the carpet in the post-credit scene of *The Fantastic 4* to *Orange* so that it could pop with *Doom's* *Green*, The Russo brothers confirmed this to be true in an interview.

We also know that *Doom* is from Earth 828 (*Fantastic 4* universe) and *Latveria* will be almost the same as it is in the comics.

We don't know if it would go in the direction of the comics where *Doom* will build *Battle world* and become *God Emperor Doom* or go a completely different route.

Fans are eager to know why *Doom* looks like *Stark* or how *Stark* turns into *Doom* and when *Thor* and *Loki* have their reunion.

Also because it's an *Avengers Movie* we have to get a cool cinematic shot with *Thor* in it.

Where will Marvel go after the movie?

After this movie Marvel will produce one more before the *Mutant Saga* where the *X-Men* will likely have a huge role. We don't know what Marvel will do this time but we know they're planning to reboot the *MCU* which is their chance to get rid of all the bad characters like *She-hulk* or the *Eternals* and bring back some people like *Quicksilver*. The *MCU* has an exciting future ahead of us but no matter what, fans will always be excited for where Marvel will go next.



# Guardian's Call

## Chapter 1 - Kora

The Order - an all powerful group of gods.

They created life, in all its beauty and pain.

They created the creatures of the world, and the magic in the air.

Everyone is born with the knowledge that the Order created them and cares for them. It is the one indisputable truth.

However, when it seems like they've taken everything from you, you find it hard to believe that.

The spell of morning stupor finally wore off. Kora sat on the grass, still damp with dew, staring off at the lake below the cliff. The clear water reflecting the cold light of the autumn sun was framed by a sweep of towering mountains on either side. Looking backwards, she saw her village, nestled in the rocks and wildgrass. What had been her entire life, a stone's throw away and a short walk across. Nothing more, nothing less. At least from what she could recall.

Out of the medical tent emerged her mother. She wore a simple grey dress, just like the one upon herself, and a worried look on her face. That look was hidden by a smile as she approached Kora.

“Good morning, Kora.”

She didn't reply. She kept looking off into the distance, searching for... something. Then she thought it might be rude not to answer. “Hello”, she said far too late. She heard her mother chuckle.

“Always the daydreamer, as you are. Didn't even notice me.”

“I heard you coming.”

She sat next to her, looking at the lake and sighed. “You know, sometimes I envy your ability to get lost in your head.”

Kora looked inside her head. All she could see was a blurry maze with warping walls and thousands of paths. Of course she could get lost in it.

“Yeah,” she breathed. One second. Two seconds. Start a conversation. “How... are the patients?”

Her mother almost jumped as she said that. “Oh! That was actually what I was coming to tell you about.” She looked at the downward corner of her eyes, a surefire sign that something was wrong. “Well, the amount of creatures from the forest venturing in our village outskirts recently meant a lot of people got injured in the last hunting trip. We're trying to keep up with the patients, but we don't have enough medics to help. So...” she paused for a moment, a flash of embarrassment skirting across her face. “I was wondering if you could possibly help. I mean, you're only a medic in training, but-”

Kora didn't need to hear the rest of the sentence. She couldn't even attempt to hide the way her eyes lit up at the prospect of actually helping people. The tangled maze in her mind melted away to a single path, all the static now in the periphery. Focus on this. Focus on the present. That's at least something you can remember.

...

As she walked in, Kora had to try her hardest not to scream. There were at least twenty people, each seeming to bear worse injuries than the last, strewn about like ragdolls across the floor of the tent. Shots of noise broke through the uncomfortable silence when one of the patients coughed or groaned in pain. She looked away, trying her hardest not to stare or cry. Kora was the sort of person who would look at someone who was suffering and almost feel their pain - her empathy and desire to help others is why her mother always said she'd be a great doctor. However, that same thing was the reason why she wanted to throw up whenever she saw blood - that was why her mother always joked she'd still be in training for years to come. Her mother held her hand as they walked to the other side of the tent. Kora suddenly felt a wave of anger and a need to push it off. She didn't know why though. A shrine to the Order of Balance stood at the far end, a candle burning beneath it. There was no point of it being there - the Order was real, but that superstition that the light would attract angels that would bless the sick was not. Everybody knows that angels don't exist.

Her mother turned to Kora, her usual tired smile replaced with a serious face. This always happened when she was working, she'd kick into focus, and switch her awkwardness with determination. She spoke to her in a hushed tone. “Okay Kora, there is another person in the connected tent-”

“There's more!?” Kora whispered back, unable to believe that all the pain she just saw wasn't all of it. “How many?”

“Just one more,” her mother replied. “I am trusting you to take care of this person. Clean her wounds, bandage them. Do you remember what I taught you?”

“Yes, I do.” Her own determination came in. She was going to do anything to help.

“Well, then... good luck.” With one final look at each other, they turned in opposite directions to do their work.

She pushed back the canvas, and gingerly looked inside. There was a woman lying there, with a pained look on her face. A large smudge of red stained her clothing. Kora had to take a nervous step back, realising what she had signed up for. Then the woman looked up at her, with squinted eyes and a look of desperation in them. A spark lit deep inside Kora's soul, a spark that told her one thing:

You can't let this innocent woman die.

She rushed in, forgetting all of her apprehension in an instant.

“Don’t worry, everything’s okay. I’m here to help you.” The words came out of her so easily, as if they were programmed into her mind. The woman groaned a reply, however Kora couldn’t hear it. That spark had grown into a roaring flame that could drown out all of the noise in the world. However, when she took a closer look, she had to cover her mouth in shock.

The scratches were deep, red poison leaking on the floor. Even if she did all she was taught, there was no way she could save her. Even her mother, who had been working as a medic her entire life wouldn’t be able to do anything about it. It was hopeless. Water doused the fire. There was nothing she could do to stop the inevitable.

Unless...

She stepped back, and took a deep breath. She hadn’t done this in what felt like forever. Maybe it was forever. She had no memories of it - she just knew that she was able to. Maybe that was a sign she should stop. However, to save a life, she was willing to do anything. Familiarity coursed through her veins as she felt a sparking sensation that made her feel as if she were waiting in anticipation - magic. She closed her eyes and lay her hands on the wound.

Her cold fingers warmed as she felt the tissue growing back around them. Her hands emitted a soft, golden glow as she continued focusing, feeling her own energy coursing into the body of this woman. Then this feeling stopped. She gradually lifted her hands off and opened her eyes. The wound had healed. Her patient looked down at it in confusion. After a long pause, she spoke.

“Thank you.”

Kora felt her heart beat faster and a warm feeling appear inside her chest as she smiled. “You’re welcome. I did the best I could.”

The woman sat up. The look in her eyes had changed from one of desperation to that of thankfulness. She smiled back at her. Kora gave a brief nod before turning around to ask her mother what to do next. However, before she could, the woman spoke again.

“Wait a second. Isn’t healing magic impossible?”

Kora turned sharply around. Her view of the woman closed into darkness as she blinked.

Opening her eyes again, she was sat at the table, staring at her food.

Confusion didn’t appear to give her a sense that blinking and being somewhere else couldn’t happen in reality. She didn’t feel anything. She didn’t question anything that just happened. She just sat there with her mother, staring at the non-descript blur in front of her that she decided was her dinner.

Written by Alice Edwards - This is the first chapter of my story, hope you enjoyed it! :3

# Top 12 best Christmas films by Julia Pule



Christmas movies are a very fun part of the holiday and can be very fun to watch, so here is a list of the top 12 best Christmas movies (one for each day of Christmas), that are all critically acclaimed. They cover a range of genres including action and comedy. I hope you enjoy and happy holidays! (In no particular order)

## 1. Home Alone

Home Alone is a very well known movie but in case you don't know the plot it is about a young boy called Kevin Macallister who is left home alone for Christmas when his family accidentally leave him behind when they head for the airport and Paris. At first Kevin is delighted to be left by himself and is able to do whatever he likes, like watching movies his family deems too violent and going shopping. Relieved to have escaped his family who he thinks don't treat him nicely especially his brother who torments him and his uncle. However when two burglars catch on that his house is empty for the holidays they plan to break in, leaving Kevin to protect the house and himself from them using some unusual methods...

Home Alone is a classic Christmas comedy that was made in 1990 that got 80% on Rotten Tomatoes.

by Julia Pule

## 2. Home Alone 2

The sequel to Home Alone is also very popular and has a very similar plot. It follows the same boy Kevin Macalister who this time makes it to the airport with his family but accidentally goes on the wrong plane when he follows a man he mistakes as his father. This takes him to New York by himself where he cons his way into a glamorous hotel and explores the city while his family are in Florida. However when he spots the two burglars who terrorised him previously he struggles to fend them off from an elderly man's shop.

This sequel was made in 1992 and got 63% on Rotten Tomatoes.

### 3. Elf

This comedy follows Buddy, a human who was accidentally raised among elves after he climbed in Santa's sleigh as a toddler. However as becomes an adult the feeling he doesn't fit in with the other elves continues to grow so he decides to travel to New York in search of his real father. He spreads his Christmas spirit across the city and even finds his father, a cynical business man named Walter Hobbs, who reluctantly reconnects with Buddy after a DNA test proves their relationship.

Elf was made in 2003 and got 79% on Rotten Tomatoes.

### 4. The Grinch

Based on the beloved book by Dr Seuss, The Grinch tells the story of a grumpy, green - furred creature whose heart is two sizes too small and lives on top of a hill that looks down on the joyous town of Whoville. The Whos love Christmas and are in the midst of decorating their town for the holiday but the Grinch instead prefers to destroy their spirit and even plans to steal all the Whos gifts and decorations. However after an encounter with Cindy Lou a young Who whose Christmas wish is to help her mother with looking after her brothers, could perhaps change his mind.

The Grinch was made in 2018 and got 60% on Rotten Tomatoes.

### 5. The Nightmare Before Christmas

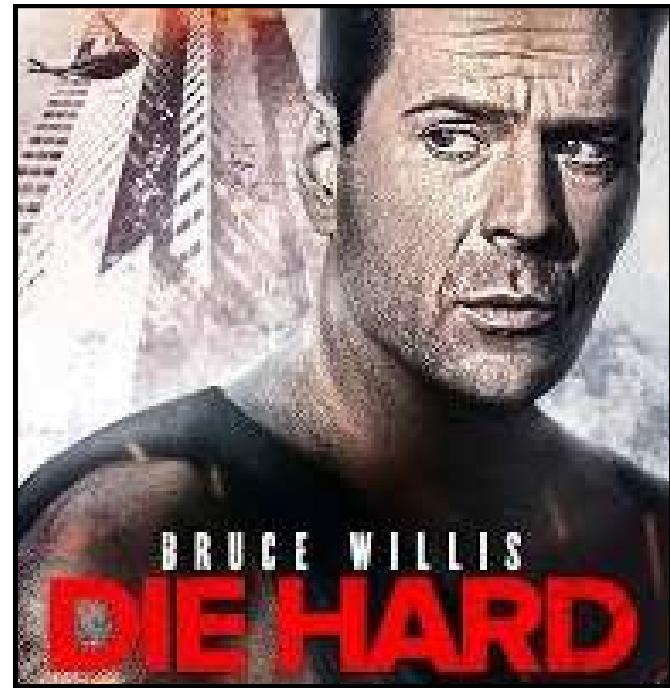
The Nightmare Before Christmas follows Jack Skellington who lives in Halloween town, a town dedicated to celebrating Halloween and preparing for it all year long. Jack is the well renowned Pumpkin King however one year Jack gets tired of celebrating the same holiday and following the same routine and finds doors that lead to other holiday- themed towns. He stumbles into Christmas town and is fascinated by their celebrations. He decides to bring this holiday back to his town and try to recreate it, although his fellow citizens don't exactly grasp the contempt...

This movie was made in 1993 and got 95% on Rotten Tomatoes.

### 6. Die Hard

Die hard follows John McClane, an NYPD (New York Police Department) detective who is visiting Los Angeles to reconcile with his wife Holly and reunite with his two children. John gets driven to Nakatomi Plaza ,by a chauffeur named Argyle, which is a luxurious office building where Holly works and where she currently is enjoying a Christmas party. However while he is in the bathroom, the plaza gets taken hold of by a group of German terrorists. All of the employees are taken hostage including Holly but luckily not John as the terrorists have no idea he is there (at least at the beginning) so it is up to him to save them.

Die Hard is an action movie made in 1988 and got 94% on Rotten Tomatoes.



### 7. Die Hard 2

The sequel follows the same John McClane who this time is waiting at the airport on Christmas Eve to meet his wife Holly two years after the event at Nakatomi Plaza. He is now a detective at the LAPD (Los Angeles Police Department) and is at the Dulles International Airport. Unfortunately, Holly's plane is not the only one that is landing as a corrupt foreign military leader named General Ramon Esperanza is under extradition. Waiting for Ramon at the airport are a group of men who sympathize with his actions including the ringleader William Stuart. The group of men manage to block all communications with all incoming planes and cut off runway lightning forcing the planes to stay in the air despite their low fuel warnings until Ramon can have his plane landed safely and escape the police. John worries that Holly's plane is too low on fuel and it will crash so he takes the problem into his own hands and attempts to stop William.

This sequel was made in 1990 and got 69% on Rotten Tomatoes.

### 8. Planes, trains and automobiles

In New York city two days before Thanksgiving an advertising executive named Neal Page is eager to get home to his family on Thanksgiving but is upset to find his flight is delayed when he arrives at the LaGuardia Airport, but while he is waiting he meets Del Griffith an overly chatty and enthusiastic travelling shower- curtain- ring salesmen. Neal who is uptight and more reserved strongly opposes Del's bright personality making them unlikely acquaintances. However events keep pushing them together as they try to go home to Chicago for the holidays, like Neal's plane seat getting switched forcing him to sit next to Del and the plane itself getting diverted, leaving them to stay at the same hotel. While on the journey Neal becomes increasingly irritated by Del but learns to love his personality while they are in such close quarters.

This comedy was made in 1987 and got 87% on Rotten Tomatoes.



## 9. The Gremlins

The Gremlins, a horror comedy, follows a gadget salesman who is looking for a gift for his son and finds something he likes called a Mogwai in Chinatown but the shopkeeper is reluctant to sell it to him. He does cave in with three rules that the gadget salesman must follow to a point:

1. Never expose it to bright light
2. Never expose it to water
3. Never feed it after midnight

However, all three of these rules get broken resulting in a gang of Gremlins that tear up the town on Christmas Eve.

This movie was made in 1984 and got 87% on Rotten Tomatoes as well.

## 10. The Muppets Christmas Carol

This family musical follows the Muppets putting on the classic Charles Dickens' story, a Christmas Carol where Kermit the Frog plays the main character Ebenezer Scrooge. Scrooge is a grumpy man who doesn't have much Christmas spirit or empathy and one night receives a visit from three spirits:

1. The past
2. The present
3. The future

They collectively end up teaching him the importance of kindness. The other Muppets of course make appearances as well.

This movie was made in 1992 and got 86% on Rotten Tomatoes.

## 11. Miracle on 34th street

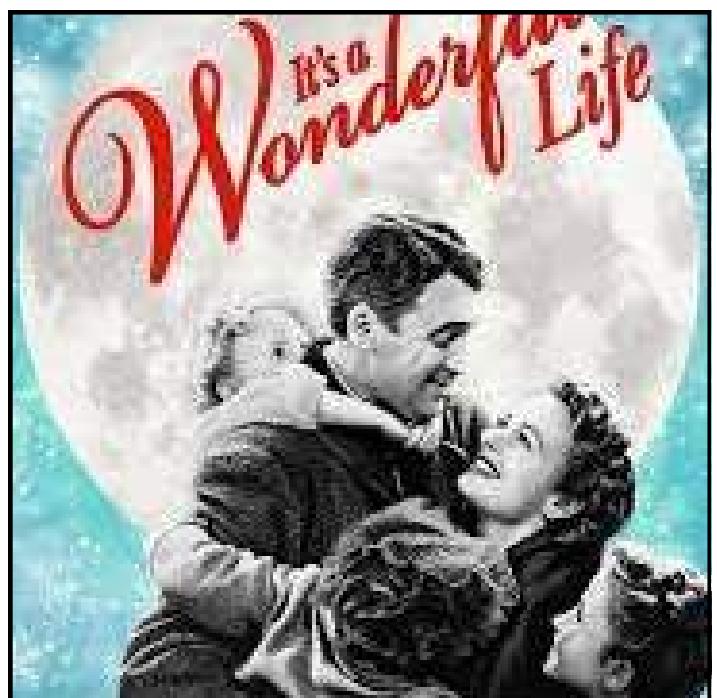
Miracle on 34th street follows a man named Kris Kringle who steps in to replace an intoxicated Santa at a Macy's annual Thanksgiving parade and ends up being a big hit so much so that he is invited to make appearances regularly at the main store in Midtown Manhattan. However when Kringle starts to surprise both customers and employees by saying he is in fact the real Santa Claus, it ends up leading to a court case that questions his mental state and authenticity.

This movie was made in 1947 and got 87% on Rotten Tomatoes.

## 12. It's a Wonderful Life

This movie by far is the most melancholic on the list as it follows George Bailey on Christmas who is struggling and is considering ending his life. The angels discuss George; the audience sees his life as a flashback and learns about all his good deeds. The movie cuts to George about to jump off a bridge but instead saves his Guardian Angel Clarence who shows him what his town would look like without him and his kind heart. Considered widely a classic.

This classic was made in 1946 and got 95% on Rotten Tomatoes.



# Apple vs Samsung: the ultimate tech debate

This is one of the most controversial topics in technological history. Apple or Samsung, iOS or Android. This debate will cover every aspect, every product and produce an outcome. As always, we encourage you to suggest ideas for future issues and email them to: [golda264.309@fortismere.school](mailto:golda264.309@fortismere.school). Check out my other article which is a review of the new knife out film wake up dead man. This is the Fortismere debate and thanks for reading.



## Phones: Iphone 17 vs Galaxy s25

To start off with both the iphone 17 and the s25 have lots of colours, for example blue or black but Samsung has more colours that have more variation. The screen size is different in both with apple having a screen of 6.3 inches and Samsung having a screen size of 6.2 inches. For storage Samsung has 256gb which is enough to install blockblast about 1900 times and apple also has 256gb. They both cost anything from £799. They are both good starters which sync to the other products like watches and earbuds. They both have around 30 hours of constant use battery life but the iphone pulls ahead with 30 hours while the galaxy only has 29 hours

## Watches: Apple watch 10 vs galaxy watch 7

This is a category that is not mentioned much but I still think it is important so here we go. They both have lots of colours but the only similar one is silver which they both do in all metals. They both sync to their respective phones and can take calls, payments and notifications so they are both good substitutes to phones temporarily. Samsung watches have 1.3 and 1.5 inch screens whereas apple has a 1.65 and 1.81 inch screen. The Samsung watch has 32 gb storage whereas the apple one has 64 gb. They both have compatibility to be used to measure activities like running and cycling and they both monitor how good your sleep is. They have different battery capacities between charges, apple has 48 to 56 hours whereas Samsung has 22 to 24 hours



## Tablets

### ipad 2025 pro and the tab s9 ultra

This is one I know a bit more about. The similarities are that they both have the best chips that their brands offer which is good for gaming and doing long pieces of work. They both have a 120H/Z refresh rate which is good if you want it to react very quickly. They both have 10 - 12 hours of use between charges and have usb charging. On the other hand, both their operating systems are designed to work well with their products but not anyone else so you are tied to their product. The ipad is a lot cheaper with a starting price of £899 unlike Samsung's £1099. Samsung has expandable storage though unlike apple which has a fixed storage.

## Earbuds

### AirPods 3 pro and the buds 3 pro

I have no personal experience with either but here we go. They both have active noise cancellation which means they both block out outside noise. They both have high quality audio and you can hear in great detail. They both have great battery life with 8 hours of solid use between charges and with the charging case the battery can last 30 - 35 hours which is a lot. They are both water resistant and can track our exercise. Lastly they connect seamlessly with an apple iphone or watch. This may come as a shock but you can use the airpods as hearing aids. These earbuds both have voice commands to help with accessibility which helps make it work to a wider range of audiences.

## Laptops

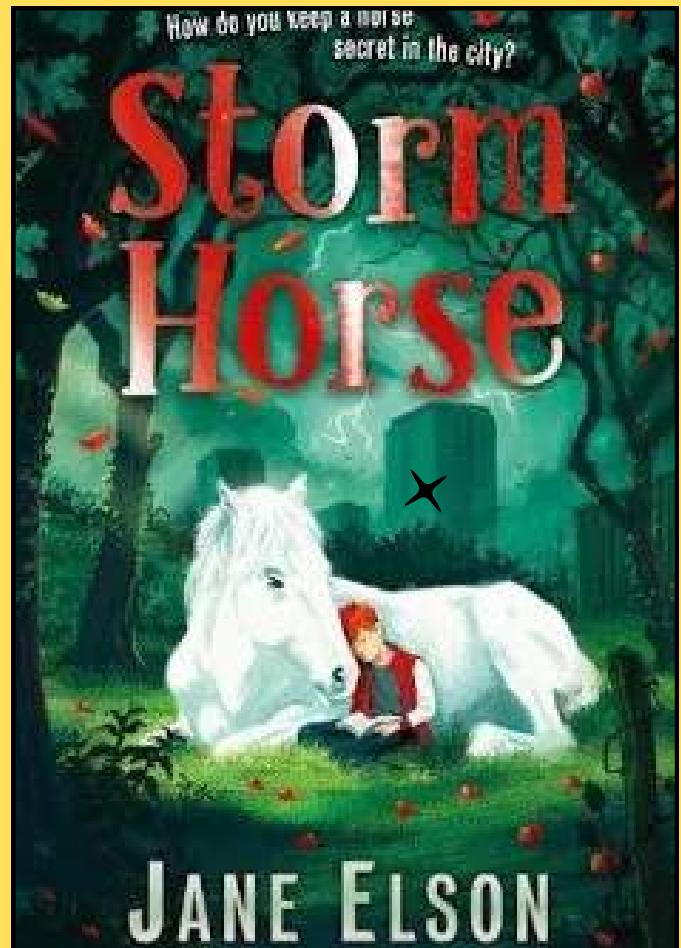
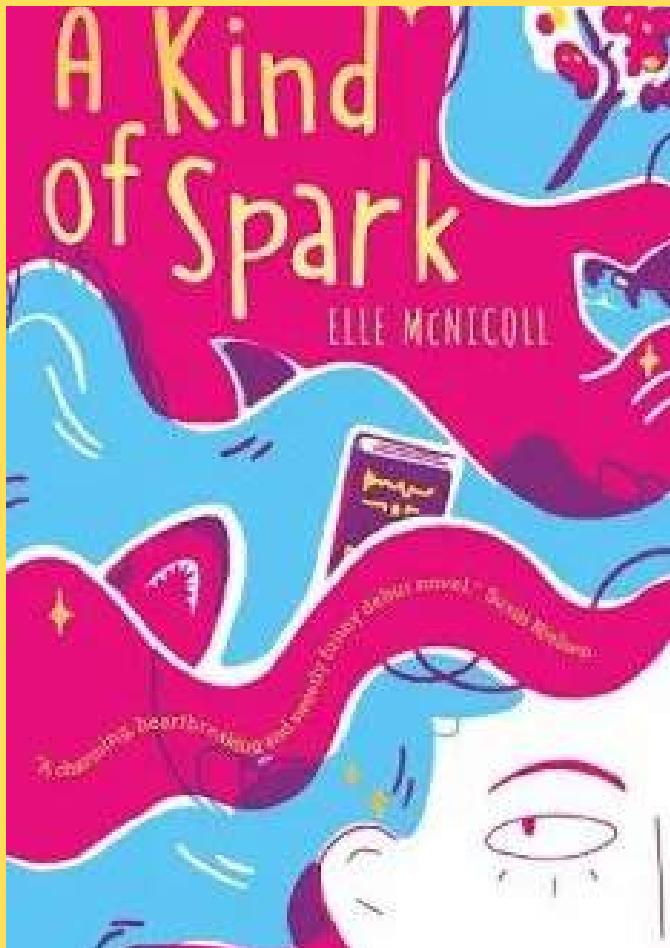
### Macbook Pro 16-in and Galaxy Book 5 360 Pro

I have no personal experience on these laptops so let's see how they are. Let's start with the colours the Macbook comes in Silver and Space Black. While the Galaxy Book only has one colour grey. The Galaxy Book is about £1,550 but the Macbook is at £2,500. Now onto processors the Macbook has the Power to run 2 matches of fortnight at the same time but the Galaxy Book has the power to run 3-4 games of fortnight all at the same time. Another Shocking fact is that they can both download Roblox 2165 times whilst having saved your progress

## Total Summary: Everything totalled together

In total I think that Apple is better with integrated software because the products have good connectivity, for example they let you send files from devices wirelessly within less than a few seconds. Samsung on the other hand has better standout items which we did not have time to mention today and the standalone technology it better, for example the Samsung headset is better than the vision pro and Samsung is the only one with a health tracker ring. Also Apple uses Samsung's screens so they automatically win on that. In summary if you are looking for integration go to Apple but otherwise, always use Samsung!

# Common types of neurodiversity



## Good books to read about neurodiverse heroes and heroines.

- Keedie and A kind of Spark by Elle McNicoll - Keedie and Addie Darrow are two autistic children born into a mostly neurotypical family in a small town in Scotland. Both of these books explore their struggles as they try to fit in whilst still being themselves.
- Like a Charm and Like a Curse by Elle McNicoll - Ramya Knox is a Dyspraxic Teenager who learns she has a unique power and unlocks a whole new hidden world. But with that, she draws attention to her family. And a siren's song is hard to break...
- Storm Horse by Jane Elson - Daniel Margate is a Dyslexic teen who idolizes Seabiscuit, a famous racing horse, and his rider, Red Pollard. His mother works at the vet, and he helps her in his spare time, until one day, a pure white horse wanders into the supply shed and his whole world changes. When he and other children who struggle to read get chosen to do a public speaking competition in front of a whole crew of news reporters, they have to develop a plan, or risk worldwide humiliation.

## ADHD

ADHD stands for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, and affects your ability to sit still, among other things. The main symptoms are hyperactivity (Obviously, that is literally what the 'H' stands for), inattention and impulsivity. Someone with ADHD might need to move around a lot, or fidget. It often comes in pairs with Autism, or Anxiety. A few famous people who you might know, such as Emma Watson (Actress) and our own Lucy Bronze (Football player), have been diagnosed with ADHD. Bronze also has Autism. Teachers, you can help someone with ADHD by allowing them to stand up in class and walk around their area, if it's not too distracting to others, after they have finished their work, or allow them to fidget.

## Autism/ASC

Autism, or Autism Spectrum Condition, is a condition related to brain development that affects how people see the world. The main symptoms are difficulties with social communication and interaction, restricted, repetitive patterns of behaviour and poor motor skills. Someone with Autism might not want to be touched, or shy away from meeting new people. A few famous people with Autism are Greta Thunberg (Climate Activist) and Albert Einstein (Physicist). It is often described as being 'wired differently than everyone else'. Teachers, you can help someone with Autism by allowing them to fidget, have noise cancelling headphones in class or not making any physical contact with them without their permission.

## Dyslexia

Dyslexia is a set of processing disabilities that affect reading, writing and spelling. Someone with Dyslexia might be a slow reader, have trouble with left and right, and struggle with spellings. Famous people with dyslexia include Tom Holland (Actor), Keira Knightly (Actress). Teachers, you can help someone with dyslexia by allowing them more time on work, and not criticising them so harshly on the state of their handwriting.

## Dyspraxia

Dyspraxia, also known as Developmental Coordination Disorder, is a common disorder that affects movement and coordination skills. It does not affect your intelligence, so someone with Dyspraxia will be able to keep up with the class, but be slower when writing things down. Famous people with Dyspraxia are Daniel Radcliffe (Actor) and Emily Brontë (Author). Teachers, you can help children with Dyspraxia by allowing them more time to work, and not criticising their handwriting.

## Tourette Syndrome

Tourette Syndrome is a condition where you make involuntary movements and noises called tics. The symptoms can range from mild to severe, from physical things like shoulder jerks to calling out words. Please remember, this is involuntary, and they cannot help it, so do not judge them too harshly. Teachers, creating a safe and kind environment can help the person manage their tics. Whilst not being able to control them, if they feel safe, it will happen less often.

## Conclusion

I am an individual who has ADHD, and I would like all teachers, adults and children to remember that being Neurodiverse does not make me dumb, or less of a person. I am just different. People who judge others because they have Tourette's or Autism, all you are doing is hurting someone who, deep down, just wants to be normal. Having any one of these is amazing, although it is occasionally a curse, and you should never be afraid of it. Be yourself, and if people judge you for stimming, or ticking, then those aren't the kind of people you want to be around.

# All about planes

A history of plane developments and crashes and everything in between.

By Ivor Mears and Andrew Titov

## A short history of planes

Modern planes today are an impressive feat of engineering, with double decker planes like the Airbus A380 capable of flying nearly 15,000 kilometers and capable of flying 17 hours non-stop, but planes weren't always this way.



This was the very first plane in existence, The Kitty Hawk Flyer, built by the Wright brothers in 1903, Wilber and Orville have possibly discovered the greatest breakthrough in human transportation since the invention of the wheel.

WW2, though tragic, was one of the biggest advancements of aircraft models, moving from a wooden biplane to sleek, all-metal monoplanes powered by increasingly powerful engines. This was a huge advancement and sparked the creation of commercial airplanes, allowing people to fly longer and further with fully pressurised cabins.



This was the first fully pressurised plane, the Boeing 307 Stratoliner, with four engines modified to help pressurise the cabin, allowing its passengers to fly in comfort at altitudes of up to 23,300 feet for a generally warmer and smoother flight. Since then, planes have moved on, in 1970 Airbus was founded and introduced Fly-by-wire technology (if you're wondering what that is, see How Planes Fly) and a sidestick to their A320, and created the first double decker plane (A380) in late 2007, almost 40 years after the Boeing 747 was made.

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### How planes fly

First we need to understand what forces involve planes. There is gravity and it pulls the plane down to the ground. Second, there is lift which obviously lifts the plane. Third, there is thrust which is the plane moving forward, there's also drag which is air resistance or just air (same thing) slowing the plane down. The wings stabilise and generate lift. The engines propel the plane forwards so the aircraft has power to fly. But a plane can't fly with wings and engines alone, it needs more things.

The tail stabilises the plane and turns the plane (yaw). The elevator lifts the nose up so the plane can take off.

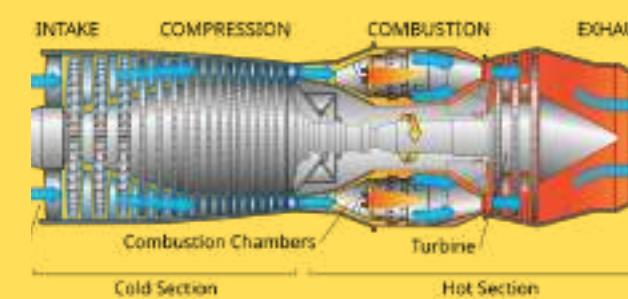
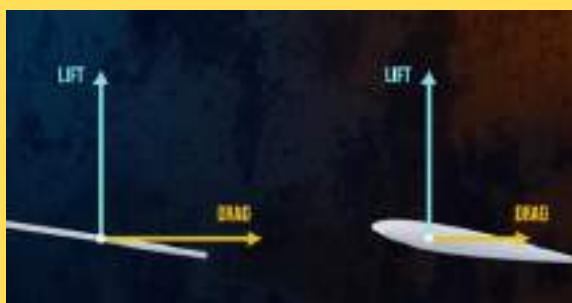
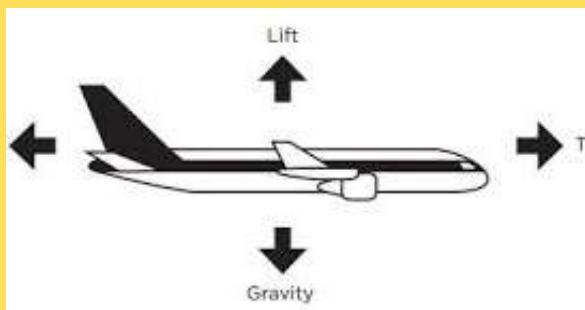
The aerofoil shape of the largest pair of wings generates lift.

The shape of the wing generates lift as air rushes underneath. At the bottom the pressure is higher so the air moves slower whereas at the top of the airfoil the pressure is lower so the air flows faster. You know when you stick your hand out of the window in the car you feel a pull up if you point your fingers up and a pull down if you point your fingers down.

The engines propel the plane.

The intake sucks in air and then the air gets compressed and then gets mixed with fuel and ignited to then give propulsion.

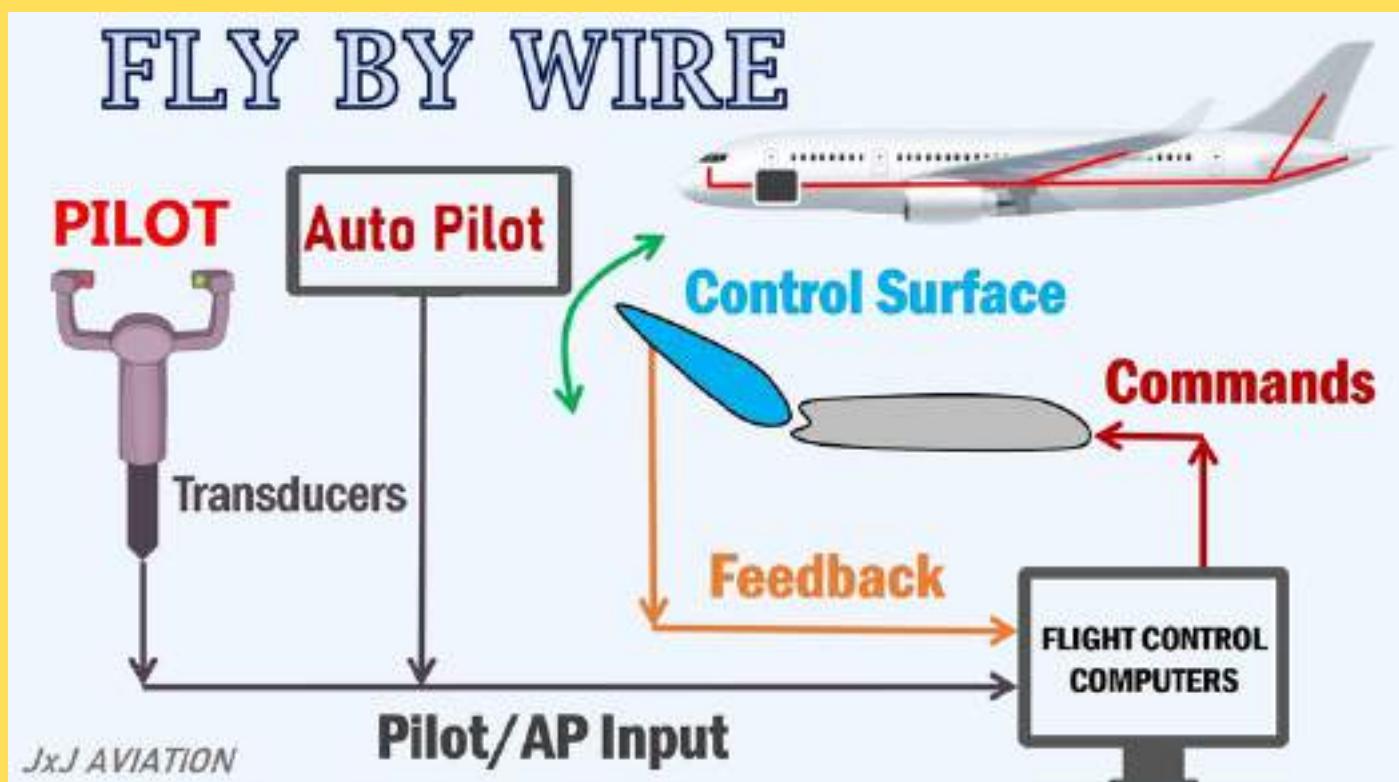
Fun fact: jet engines in general don't really pull in that much volume of air for the amount of thrust that they produce. A lot of people think if it's 80 pounds of air then it pulls in 70 pounds of air. Actually most of the thrust comes from the fuel when it mixes with the small amount of air.



Fly-by-wire is an electronic flight control system that replaces mechanical linkages with a computer and electrical signals. When a pilot moves a control, like the yoke or stick, the movement is converted into an electronic signal. This signal is then processed by a flight control computer, which sends electrical signals to move the aircraft's control surfaces (like ailerons, elevators, and rudder). This simple but genius progression allows more advanced cockpit controls and a better aircraft in general.

Cabin pressure in aircraft is the regulated atmospheric pressure inside the passenger cabin, which is maintained at a level equivalent to 6,000 to 8,000 feet above sea level to ensure passenger and crew comfort and safety. It is crucial because at the high altitudes commercial planes fly, the natural atmospheric pressure is too low, and a lack of pressurization could cause passengers to experience hypoxia (oxygen deficiency).

Fun fact: aircraft doors are physically impossible to open midflight even if you break the locks as the pressure outside the plane is pushing against the door.



Finally, we hope that you have seen through this article that planes are an astonishing feat of engineering, and have progressed so much from tiny gliders that can barely lift off to giant jumbo jets that can travel across the world in just one trip. Planes are the most advanced and safest vehicle in the world and yet can be pulled out of action for months because of a 1 millimetre crack in the engine. Though this article is long, we hope you still found it exciting and have now learned a little bit more about planes, the rulers of the skies.

# FESTIVE THINGS

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | L | E | G | N | A | L | Y | E | C | T | N | C | S |
| P | R | E | S | E | N | T | S | M | H | S | A | G | A |
| N | E | R | T | I | N | S | E | L | R | T | T | I | N |
| H | I | H | T | A | E | R | W | U | I | S | I | N | T |
| E | W | E | E | S | N | O | W | S | S | T | V | G | A |
| O | C | A | R | O | L | S | R | R | T | N | I | E | C |
| T | E | S | W | I | N | T | E | R | M | E | T | R | L |
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| M | T | T | S | I | E | C | A | L | P | E | R | I | F |
| A | Y | S | L | E | I | G | H | O | L | I | D | A | Y |

CHRISTMAS  
FIREPLACE  
CAROLS  
ORNAMENTS  
WINTER  
PRESENTS  
WREATH  
MISTLETOE  
ELVES  
BELLS  
SLEIGH  
SANTA CLAUS  
GINGERBREAD  
TINSEL  
NATIVITY  
SNOW  
YULETIDE  
HOLIDAY  
ANGELS  
LIGHTS

## Christmas!

Christmas is a holiday celebrated on December 25th, known for joy and tradition. For Christians, it marks the birth of Jesus Christ, but many people around the world celebrate it in a family centred way, regardless of religion.

Words: Felix Zielony

Wordsearch: Arthur Goldwater

The season is filled with familiar sights and sounds. decorated Christmas trees, colorful lights on homes, festive music, and the smell of holiday baking. Christmas is also a time of kindness. People donate to charities, volunteer, or reach out to those who might be alone. This spirit of giving is a big part of what makes the season feel special.

Overall, Christmas is a time to celebrate love, generosity, and togetherness bringing warmth and light to the darkest days of winter.

## Fun festive polar bear cup cakes!

### Ingredients

125g butter, softened  
125g caster sugar  
2 large eggs, lightly beaten  
1 tsp vanilla extract  
125g self-raising flour  
For the topping  
50g butter, softened  
125g icing sugar  
1 tbsp milk  
500g white fondant icing  
75g desiccated coconut  
50g black fondant icing  
1 x tube white writing icing

by Gracie Gormley



### Method

1. Preheat the oven to level 4, 180C, fan 180C. Line a 12-hole muffin tin case. Beat together the butter and sugar until pale and fluffy. Add the eggs. Add the eggs a little at a time, beating well between each addition.
2. Fold the vanilla extract and flour then divide the mixture between the muffin cases. Bake for 15-18 minutes until well risen and golden. Take the cakes out of the tin on a wire rack to cool completely before decorating
3. To make the buttercream topping, whisk the butter with a hand held mixer until pale. Add the icing sugar a spoonful at a time, whisking well between each addition. Add the milk and continue to whisk until the mixture is pale and creamy.
4. Roll out two thirds of white fondant icing, and cut out 12 circles using a 7cm (3 in) plain pastry cutter- this will be the polar bear's face. Pinch the edge of the icing circles in two places to create the polar bear's ears. Spread a little of the buttercream on top of each cupcake and then put a circle of fondant icing onto each one.
5. Divide the remaining fondant into 12 and roll into small balls. Stick the balls onto the cakes using a dab of water and then brush the whole fondant icing lightly with water and dip into the desiccated coconut to coat completely.
6. Take the black fondant icing and roll out 12 balls for the noses and 24 small balls for the eyes. Use a little of the writing icing to stick these onto the bears to create their fun festive faces.

# RAVIOLI



This is one of my grandma's specialties: cheese and spinach ravioli. When I go to her house I always make it with her. She has many combinations (and makes new ones every few years) of this recipe but here is the first one I learnt with her!

by Elliot Rebetez

## INGREDIENTS:

### For section 1:ravioli

400g pasta flour  
4 eggs battered  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  a teaspoon of salt  
300g frozen spinach without water  
250g ricotta  
50g of parmesan  
1 bar of fresh goat cheese

### For section 2:sauce

450g mushrooms  
1 large onion

### Sections

1:ravioli  
2:sauce  
3:cooking and final steps

## METHOD:

### Section 1 : ravioli

1. Combine the flour, eggs, and salt with a stand mixer if dry add 1/2tbsp of water
2. Leave combination in fridge for 2h (or more)
3. Filling: In a separate bowl combine the spinach, ricotta, parmesan and goat cheese
4. combination: Once the dough is ready flatten it to 2mm large (easier with a rolling pin)
5. Next place 2cm large balls of the filling like this (see picture on the left).



- After that put some water between the balls
- Then put a layer of dough over and compress between the balls to create a seal
- Cut the ravioli in between the balls but make sure that there are no holes going to the filling so that it can't fall out

## Section 2:sauce

1. Sauté the onions: Heat a dry large frying pan over medium heat. Add the sliced onions and cook for about 5-7 minutes until they begin to soften. You may add a tablespoon of water at a time to prevent burning and encourage caramelization if you are avoiding oil or butter, or you can use oil or butter.
2. Cook the mushrooms: Add the sliced mushrooms to the pan with the onions. Continue to cook, stirring occasionally, for about 5-8 minutes. The mushrooms will release their liquid, and you should continue cooking until the liquid has evaporated and the mushrooms are nicely browned.

Season (optional): For enhanced flavour (and more of a "sauce"), you can stir in salt and pepper to taste.



## Section 3:cooking and final steps

1. Put some water in a saucepan and turn on the hob
2. Once the water is boiling turn down the heat to medium heat
3. After having turned down the heat ,put the ravioli to cook
4. When they are floating take them out with a strainer
5. Put them in a plate and pour the sauce on top



## Easy After School snacks

This article is a guide on how to make low effort (and delicious) snacks to quickly make when you get home.

There will also be a range of sweet and savoury recipes to give you options of food to fit your mood.

### Instant frozen berry yoghurt

Make this in the weekend and you will be set for a week's worth of frozen delight.

- 250g frozen mixed berry
- 250g Greek yogurt
- 1tbsp honey or agave syrup
- Blend berries,yoghurt and honey in a food processor or blender, until smooth and creamy, store in an airtight container in a freezer if there is any extra.

- Apricot oat bars
- Although this recipe may take slightly longer to make, it will be perfect to eat after school(or bring into school) as a quick filling snack.
- 9 salted butter
- cut into cubes, plus extra for the tin
- 220g plain flour
- 150g light brown soft sugar
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- ½ tsp ground nutmeg
- ¼ tsp ground cardamom
- (optional)
- 150g porridge oats
- 150g apricot jam



#### Step 1:

Butter a 20cm square cake tin and line with parchment paper. Tip the butter, flour, sugar and spices into a food processor and pulse sever times until ingredients are combined and clumping together. Add the oats and pulse a few more times until incorporated . Tip two thirds of the mixture into the tin and press it into the base in an even layer using your hands.

#### Step 2:

Spread the apricot jam over the oat layer, then sprinkle the remaining oat mixture, breaking it up into rough clumps as you do. Chill for 20-30 minutes to firm up.

#### Step 3:

Heat the oven to 180C fan. Bake for 40-45 minutes or until golden brown. Leave to cool completely in the tin before turning out and cutting into 10-12 bars. Will stay fresh in an airtight container for up to 7 days ( that means they will be good to eat for a whole week of school).

### Apple doughnuts

This is a quick and simple after school snack with ingredients that you will definitely already have at your house.

#### Ingredients:

Apples (any variety) sliced and cored in any way ( I prefer to do them in doughnut shapes)

Toppings: nearly anything works but some of my favourite combos are:

Nutella and strawberries , blueberry yoghourt and fresh blueberries, strawberry yoghourt and sprinkles, chocolate chips and any type of nut butter.

Step 1:Cut and core your apples

Step 2: Place your toppings on the apple

That's how simple it is! This recipe only takes approximately 5-10 minutes, that's why I recommend it.

I hope you enjoyed reading about a few of my favourite afterschool snack recipes and will try making some of them soon.

By Mei-Lei Lerman

## Scrumptious Mac 'n' Cheese

by Francesco Barra

This deliciously cosy recipe will help you bake the tastiest mac 'n' cheese that will warm you up while also igniting your dormant Christmas spirit. You will definitely be surprised and delighted by this crispy dish which will certainly impress your relatives. Continue reading down below to find out the secrets to this masterpiece of a dish.

### Ingredients

200g cooked macaroni 100g milk  
150g mature cheddar 20 g breadcrumbs  
50g parmesan cheese  
40g butter  
10g paprika  
10g garlic powder



### Recipe Procedures

- Firstly, place the butter in the preheated pan and stir until it is melted - make sure to keep it on low heat !
- Once it has completely liquefied, add paprika and garlic powder and continue to stir.
- Then, add the flour and stir until it solidifies into a smooth, red paste.
- Next, gradually whisk in the milk, pausing at times to allow the paste to absorb it. Repeat this step until a lump-less roux sauce has formed.
- When you have made sure the roux is completely smooth, add the cheddar cheese along with half of the parmesan and stir until dissolved.(Make sure the pan isn't too hot !).
- Now, put in the boiled macaroni - make sure the pasta is completely submerged in this cheesy mixture.
- Finally, transfer the pasta into an oven-proof dish and sprinkle the breadcrumbs and the rest of the parmesan on top of the dish. Cook at 180 degrees for about 25 minutes; more or less until it is crispy, bubbly and golden brown.

ENJOY!

# The Coder's guide

## Scratch | Part 1

By William Garner

I have been a scratcher for about 3 years, and I want others to see what fun it can be. So I have made this guide for beginners. Good luck!

The game: Platformer  
Difficulty: Easy / Medium

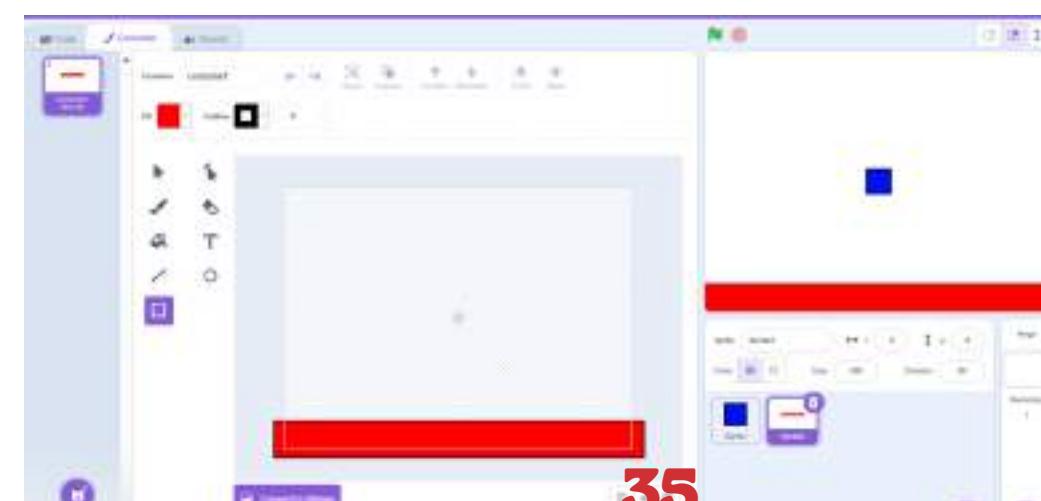
The first step is the platformer character. When you are on the create tab (next to scratch logo, top left) look at the bottom right corner, don't click the cat because if you hover over it you will see a paint brush, click it and it should take you to the designer screen.



You can make your player here  
This is mine for now

You can see my player is 37x37, this is normally the best size, but you do it however you want! 😊

One of the main steps is gravity, to keep your player on the floor. The most important part to this is the actual platform. Create a new sprite (cat button but click the brush again) to make this platform.



To make a platform is simple, there are 4 steps:

1. Make a rectangle
2. Place it near the bottom edge of the canvas
3. Look next to the sprite name, there will be a x and y box
4. Write 0 in both of them

Now you have a platform!  Well done!

(Right, now for the hardest part to explain, gravity)

Go back to the code tab and go to your platform character. You can put your jump and gravity in one, so it makes more efficient work. Follow these simple steps and you will be fine.

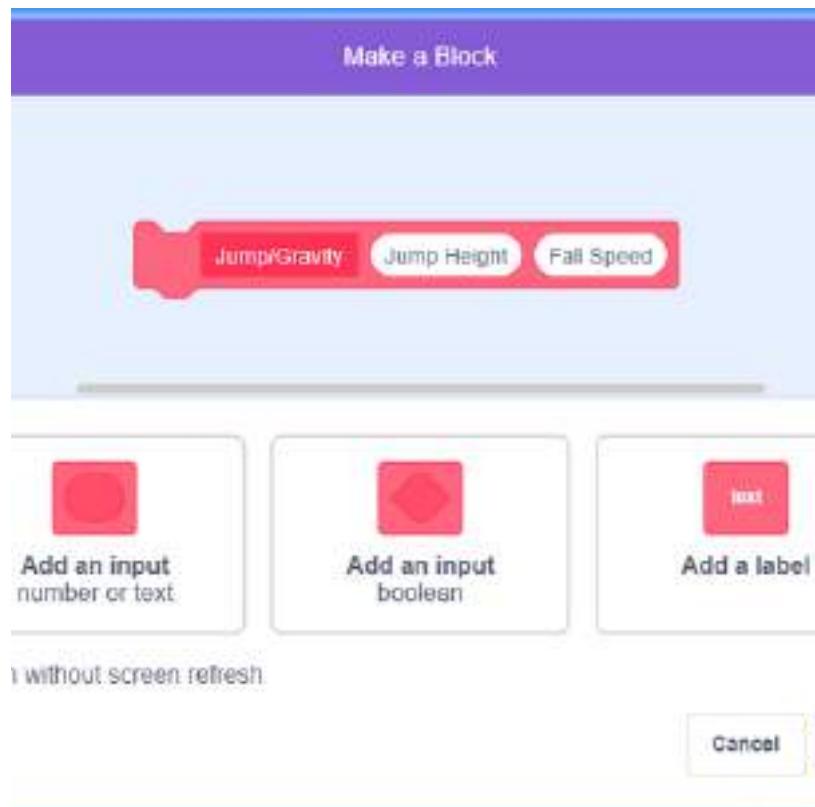
So first, go to events and get the green flag clicked. This will start the code when the player begins the game.



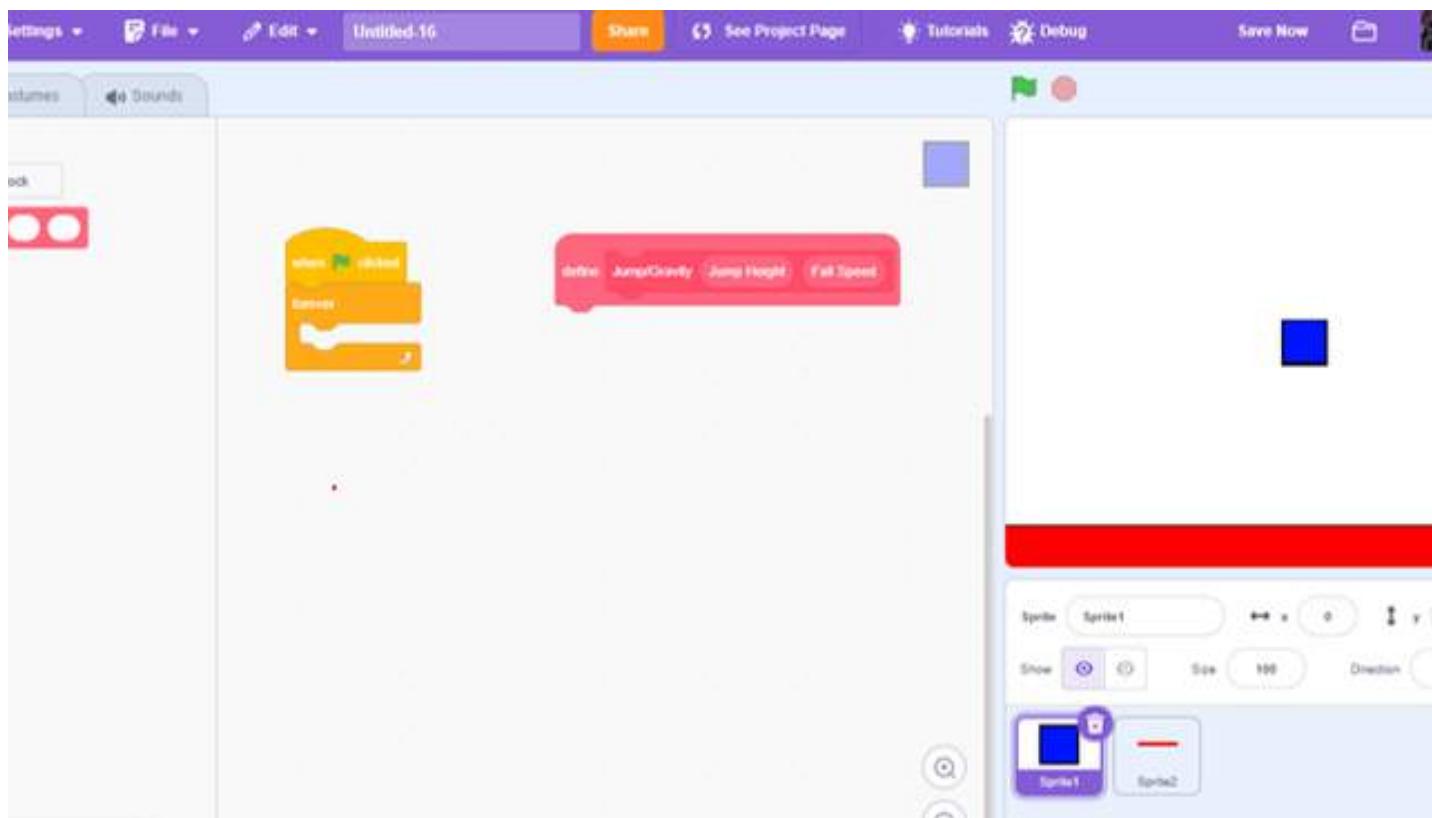
Add the forever block, in control to your event block, like this:



Now add a custom block, make a new block, call it jump/gravity. Add 2 inputs, one called 'jump height', and the other called 'fall speed'. Run without screen refresh, then create!



Once you do this, it should look like this:



If you look in the my blocks bar, you will see a new block, add it to the inside of your forever block, this will be helpful later on.

Now you have to add a variable, this works as the yVelocity. And call it...oh, yVelocity (make sure though that you make a new variable).

Now go to motion, and add the 'change y by' block to your Jump/Gravity block. Now go back to the variables section and put the yVelocity oval thingy inside the 'change y by' block.

Remember the control blocks? Well you should have, that was a few minutes ago. Go back to it (maybe it got lonely) and add the 'if \_ then, else' block underneath the yVelocity/Motion block.

**INTRODUCING:** the sensing blocks!

Now we need this, it is an **ESSENTIAL** part of the gravity code. It helps stop the player going through the ground.

Now go to sensing and add the 'touching(the sprite)?' inside the 'if\_then, else' block. Oh yeah, make sure that the sensing block is set to sprite 2 (the platform).

Now, if you look in the control section you will see a block called 'repeat\_'. Add that inside of your 'if\_then, else' block. Put it in the first part of the block.

Get ready for a complex bit that even I don't understand...

So we are heading to a new section today: **OPERATORS!!**

So add the 'ceiling of \_' block in the title of the repeat block (oh wait, I forgot to mention that the ceiling block is obtained by going to the last block on the list and then switching abs to ceiling).

Then you put the 'abs of' block inside the 'ceiling of\_' block, then put the oval yVelocity thingy inside the 'abs of\_' block. There...Done.

Now if you can see, there is an area inside the repeat block (not the bit with the abs block and everything, but the bit after that).

Add another 'If\_then' block inside and then put the sensing sprite block like last time.

Then you put a touching sprite 2 block and a 'if\_then' block inside the repeat.

Now go to motion and add a 'Change y by \_' block inside the 'if\_then' block. Now go to operators and add the '\_\*\_ block (also known as the multiplying oval thingy) into the 'change y by \_' block. In the right side of the multiplying block, put -1.

On the left side, put a divider block (operator that looks like: '\_/\_') in it. On the left side of this block, you put the yVelocity oval thingy. On the right side you add a 'abs of\_' block. Then finally, you put again one of the yVelocity oval thingy in the abs block. Done, it should look like this:



Now add a 'if\_then, else' underneath the repeat block. And choose between space, up arrow key, or the W key.

You will need this to jump. So to put it in: you go to sensing, add the 'Key \_ pressed?' block, choose W, up arrow key, or space.

Now go to operators and take the '\_and\_' block, then put the 'not\_' operator block in the left side and put a '\_>' in and put 0 on the right side and on the left side you put the yVelocity oval thingy.

On the other side of the and block, put your sensing block so later on, your character can jump. Does it look like this?:



Now, inside the if\_then part of the block, you put a variable BLOCK called 'Set yVelocity to\_' (make sure it is set to yVelocity). Now, if you see at the top of the code we are working on, the my block, take an oval 'Jump Height' thingy and put it in the yVelocity block.

Then, in the else section, just put a normal yVelocity block in with the number 0.

Finally, in the larger 'if\_then, else' section, put a 'Change yVelocity by \_' block in it with the my block oval thingy that says 'Fall speed'.

GRAVITY CODE DONE!!!

Now go back to the other line of code that has the 'Jump/Gravity \_ \_' block and in the first input, you put 13.5, and in the other one put -1. Then underneath the green flag event block, add the variable block that sets yVelocity to 0.

Now your character can jump and fall!

Now this is the end of part 1, part 2 coming out net press gang issue!



# CubeCraft Games

## CUBECRAFT BY DENIZ YURDAKUL

Cubecraft is a server where you can play multiple multiplayer games and online with other players. The list is bedwars, natural disasters, Pillars of fortune, battle arena, parkour



This is what the lobby looks like when you load in.

This platform/server is on minecraft when you sign in with microsoft you can join these servers like cubecraft mineville, complex gaming instantycraft and etc

This is a cross platform game where you can enjoy anything even grow a garden (gag for short)

So log in today and enjoy a wonderful experience in these multi choice games. My favourite is minecraft bedwars so hop on it and try it out.

Here is a picture of minecraft bedwars so you can have an idea of what you will be experiencing.



There is the shop where you can buy turrets, fire charges, swords, bows, crossbows and arrows and blocks, armour, and tools to break beds. You can also get items to help in pvp like enderpears, a golden apple and so on.

# Python tutorial - make designs like this

By Oliver Balsiger

Code is in purple on this tutorial the code will not look the same on python. python code will look slightly different but it will say the same thing.

To open python you need open the python IDLE

Then press the ctrl and N keys to open a new window so you can write your code.

The first thing you need to do to make this picture is to import the turtle module. To import the turtle module you need to type  
#import this is a note and is not part of the code but it helps you to find the part of it you need

import turtle this imports the turtle module

Next we need to setup the screen so we type

#setup

Width=800 how wide the screen will be in pixels

Height=600 how high the screen will be in pixels

s=turtle.Screen() this makes it so you only have to type s. Instead of turtle.screen.

s.setup(Width,Height) this tells python to make the screen

t=turtle.Turtle() this creates the turtle who will draw the picture for you

t.shape('turtle') this tells python to make it look like a turtle. This can also be square or triangle.

turtle.colormode(255) this allows you to use red, green and blue amounts as well as typing the color

t.speed(0) this tells the turtle to go as fast as it can. 1 is the slowest speed and 10 is the fastest speed with animation and 0 has no animation but goes even faster

t.pensize(4) this tells the turtle to draw with a pensize of 4 1 is narrow 10 is bold anything more is like a paint brush

t.hideturtle() (this is optional) this tells the turtle to turn invisible so you can take better photos of the pattern it creates

for \_ in range(360): this is a repeat for how many squares you want to make



r=random.randint(0,255) this sets the red value randomly. This line is indented so the computer knows to repeat it as said in the previous line

g=random.randint(0,255) this sets the green value randomly. This line is indented so the computer knows to repeat it as said in the previous line

b=random.randint(0,255) this sets the blue value randomly. This line is indented so the computer knows to repeat it as said in the previous line

t.color(r,g,b) this tells the turtle to turn to r , g ,b. This line is indented so the computer knows to repeat it as said in the previous line

for \_ in range(4): this is a repeat for the four sides of a square

t.forward(225) this tells the turtle to go forward 225 pixels. This line is indented so the computer knows to repeat it as said in the previous line

t.right(90) this tells the turtle to turn 90° to the right. This line is indented so the computer knows to repeat it as said in the previous line

t.left(1) this tells the turtle to turn left 1°. This line is indented so the computer knows to repeat it as said in the previous line

print('done') this tells the the idle to say done

## Python continued

This is the code without any comments so you can read it clearer and double check your code if there are any errors:

```
#import
import turtle
import random
```

```
#setup
Width=800
Height=600
s=turtle.Screen()
s.setup(Width, Height)
t=turtle.Turtle()
t.shape('turtle')
turtle.colormode(255)
t.speed(0)
t.pensize(4)
t.hideturtle()
```

```
#patten
for _ in range(360):
    r=random.randint(0,255)
    g=random.randint(0,255)
    b=random.randint(0,255)
    t.color(r,g,b)
    for _ in range(4):
        t.forward(225)
        t.right(90)
    t.left(1)
print('done')
```



By Oscar Glover

Preview

(This section has the information we have found out before the game released)

Release Date: 16th of October 2025

Starters

Pokémon: Legends Z-A is a new game coming out next month. The starters chosen are Tepig, Chikorita and Totodile! All of these are starters that haven't been shown as much love.

The important question is...

Who are you gonna choose?

Oscar's gonna pick:

New Megas

So far 7 new megas have been shown to be coming out in the main game. The normal ones are Dragonite, Victreebel, Hawlucha, Malamar.

The Kalosian starters also got megas; they are Greninja, Delphox and Chesnaught. Unfortunately, you can't get them until you do well enough in battles; Season 1 for Greninja, 2 for Delphox and 3 for Chesnaught. This also means that you can't really use them during your 1st main game playthrough.

Old Mega

Although a lot of the chat is about the new megas, we shouldn't pass over the power of the old megas. Many cool PokéMon have megas, such as Garchomp, Latios, Latias and Mewtwo X and Y.

So far we know about 72 (Including Primals) different megas. 30 were introduced in X and Y, 20 in Omega Ruby and Alpha Sapphire, and now there is 28 new megas are in Legends: Z-A, along with 4 from the dlc.



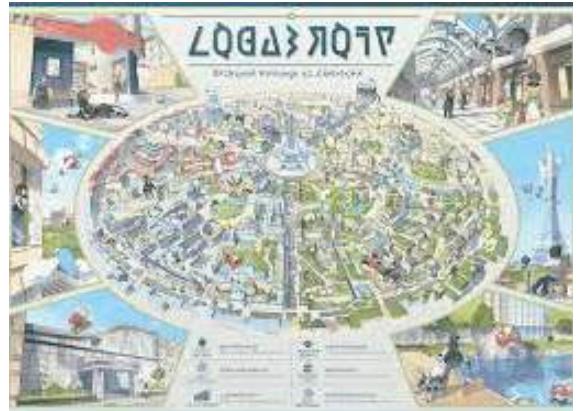
## The New Map

The new map is based in the previous place called Kalos, from X and Y. This game might be based in the same region but, we know it will be based in the sole city of Lumiose, the capital of Kalos. Kalos, being based on France, this city is based on Paris. We currently don't know if Nintendo is gonna base any of the game outside of Lumiose or not.

In Scarlet and Violet, Game Freak (the creators of the games) removed building interiors. We can see here that there is a high chance building interiors are returning.

I cannot talk about Lumiose without mentioning Prism tower the main attractions. In X and Y, it was a central hub for the city's urban redevelopment plans. The new Lumiose in Legends: Z-A is the result of these plans.

Many people hoped that in Legends: Z-A, and happily their wishes were fulfilled. These catacombs are filled with wild Pokémon that you might not be able to find anywhere else, such as: Klefki, Inkay and Noibat.



Real Time Battles

In Pokémon Legends: Z-A, the Pokémon battles have changed. Instead of regular turn based battles an entire extra layer of difficulty has been added; you now have to dodge attacks in real time and worry

Your Pokémon's speed stat changes how long you have to wait for cooldowns and how fast your pokémon can move about. Instead of accuracy, your moves will have an AOE (Area of Effect). If you press the '+' your move will turn into a plus move, this increasingly the AOE of your moves and increases the power of attacking moves.



# Louvre Heist

On October 19 2025 The Louvre, a French museum, was broken into and eight valuable jewels worth £88 million were stolen. The world was captivated, waiting to see if the 'robbers' will be caught.

## HOW?

The four masked and hooded robbers arrived at the Louvre at around 9:30 am arriving on motor scooters just after the museum opened. Two of the thieves entered via the Seine-facing facade. Construction was a great aid in their heist as they were let into the Apollo gallery jewelry room on the first floor which is less than 275 meters from the Mona Lisa. It is unknown what happened inside the museum but a tour guide who was interviewed by CNN reported that he heard what could be described as stomping on the windows in the morning before being told by security to evacuate. Also, the crown of Empress Eugenie was found on the floor of the museum and was most likely dropped during the heist.

## Who?

More than 100 highly trained investigators have been trying to answer this question. And so far no evidence has been found to prove that anyone is connected to the robbery.

If we find the jewels how will we know if they're real?

One big problem with this investigation is if they are found how will we know if they aren't fake. A large reason for this is because no one would be able to tell the difference between the fake jewels and the real jewels. The easiest way to make a fake is to use lab grown diamonds which are cheaper to make and look nearly identical to the naked eye. However, trained geologists can notice the difference with specialised equipment because of the subtle different patterns in production.

by Leo Welter and Fred Carless



# In the news: what has happened since the last edition of Fortistory?

## Trump's Visit to the UK

On the 17th September Donald J Trump had his second state visit to the UK. It was a time of controversy, diplomacy and jokes. It started off with Trump arriving in Stansted airport. The British people projected a picture of Trump and Epstein onto a tower as if to mock him (him being Trump.) His visit started with him being met by the royal family before having a state banquet.



## UN meeting

There was a United Nations meeting held in July. In this meeting Donald Trump gave a speech criticizing European allies. He also claimed that the US is in its golden age. Donald Trump has a planned trip to Asia, aiming to talk about international trade.



## Scorching Heatwave

During June and July the UK was hit by the hottest summer ever recorded. The UK's mean temperature from 1 June to 31 August stands at 16.10°C, which is 1.51°C above the long-term meteorological average. This surpasses the previous record of 15.76°C, set in 2018, and pushes the summer of 1976 out of the top five warmest summers in a series dating back to 1884.



## California wildfires

This year California experienced wildfires on a large scale affecting over 50,000 acres of land and levelling thousands of structures. A suggested reason for this could be climate change as raised heat levels could have triggered these violent fires. Furthermore the increased rain resulted in vegetation to spring up everywhere and a sudden drought fuelled these deadly fires.

Scientists from the University of California quickly evaluated this, estimating that the difference between the average temperatures in 1980–2023 is massive.



Jonathan Rinderknecht has been charged with igniting the fire that days later became a devastating blaze and one of the most destructive blazes in Los Angeles history.

## Israel and Iran conflict

On June 13th Israel launched an attack using missiles on Iran's supposed nuclear facilities' targeting sites and key personnel to allegedly postpone or completely shut down Iran's nuclear weapons programme. In retaliation Iran responded by launching its own missiles and drones to attack Israel. This day was the start of a twelve day period of the two countries sending drones and missiles to each other and increasing the casualty tally in the process. Fortunately, at the end of those ten days a ceasefire was agreed. However, the cease fire did not last and when the ceasefire was broken the USA intervened in the conflict but the conflict still claimed many lives. After the USA bombed Iran, Iran sent missiles to bomb an US military base in Qatar. Thankfully, Iran told Qatar that this attack was happening and the local area was evacuated so no one was killed. A brief ceasefire was put in place but Israel attacked Iran so it broke. Currently a new ceasefire is holding and a temporary peace is upon Iran.

## Afghanistan/Pakistan Conflict

Conflict between Afghanistan and Pakistan has spiked considerably. The two countries have exchanged deadly gunfire and people are worried that this will spike a bigger conflict and as the recent conflict between India and Pakistan are recent in everyone's memories it doesn't seem unlikely at all. Experts predict that the unsteady treaty of peace between India, Pakistan and Afghanistan is on its last legs, spreading worry to the neighbours of these Asian countries. The Taliban accused Pakistan of firing unprecedented, violent and reprehensible attacks on targets at Kabul and Patika. With both countries claiming higher death tolls than their neighbour we cannot be sure of the actual death toll. Fortunately a ceasefire was called between the two as they wish to keep the peace between them in the future.

**Written by Tom,  
Leo, Max, Gabe,  
Hridhoy, Curtis  
and Fred**

# The rise, fall and wall of Wingate and Finchley

by our Sports Editor in Chief, Sam Mitting

On the 20th July fans of Wingate and Finchley and Chichester City were horrified to see Chichester striker Billy Vigar fly off the pitch, in an attempt of a courageous and brave challenge, into a concrete wall on the side of the pitch. It was a move we would all be proud of although the consequences were dreadful.

Wingate and Finchley were originally founded in 1991 Finchley FC and Leyton-Wingate FC mutually agreed to come together. Their squad size is 24 with a massive total of one national player. You may be thinking about countries like Brazil or Argentina but no. This legend plays for the incredible country of Montserrat. Wingate first started in the South Midlands League Premier Division. They gradually climbed up until they reached the Isthmian Premier Division in step 7 which they currently remain in. Or do they. At this moment, they currently play at the Maurice Reebak Stadium with a capacity of around 1500. At this moment.

On this dreadful day, Billy Vigar lost his life at the Maurice Reebak Stadium and everyone is devastated by the family's loss. Subsequently, the club has postponed their next two home matches and they have also added rubber padding to the outside pitch but none of this can pay for causing a young man's death. Furthermore, there have been discussions with the FA, football association regarding player welfare and safety.

This was completely preventable as this was not the first time players had to retire because of collisions with advertising boards. The dreadful tale of Alex Fletcher conveyed to the football community about how dangerous the advertising boards really were. The former Plymouth Argyle striker went crashing into the concrete barriers and suffered a near fatal head injury to his skull. He later went on to have part of his skull removed under careful surgery and then was forced to retire. This happened in November 2022. Therefore, the FA had three years to review and change the ruling around advertising boards but evidently not was done about.

Billy Vigar started his career at the Arsenal youth team where he was carefully brought up until he was U21 where he travelled the 125 miles trip up to Derby County Football Club. He then explored the football pyramid going to Eastborne, Hastings Utd and Chichester. This courageous career was shut down way too early.

Following this tragic incident, Chichester Football Club later proceeded to make a Gofundme For Vigar and they raised ,at time of writing(26th November), £18,028 with a target of £20,000. Some of their top donors have been Per Mertersaker,(ex Arsenal captain) and Bognor Regis football club who also play in the Isthmian Premier League. I am sure they would much appreciate it ,if you are in the fit state too, if you donate as they still have just under £2000 to raise. The link for this is as follows: [Fundraiser by Kieran Magee : In Memory of Billy Vigar](#).  
(Digital copies are available of issue)



# The F1 Season 2025

The 2025-26 championship in Formula 1 has been mostly dominated by McLaren but still the drama of F1 still happened like always.

The year started with an unusual event: F1 75. The event was hosted at the O2 in London and was organised to celebrate F1's 75th anniversary, and so the teams could show off their new car liveries and drivers.

The season started with a crazy race in Australia. Lando Norris, a McLaren driver, started on pole but was quickly overtaken by his teammate Piastri. 5 of the 6 rookies starting in 2025 crashed with Carlos Sainz, an experienced veteran also crashing in his new car. The two McLaren drivers suffered slip-ups with the home favourite, Piastri, suffering a spin that left him in 10th place, ruining his chances of a home win.

At the start of the summer, the F1 movie was released starring Brad Pitt as the main character (Sonny Hayes).

Directed by Joseph Kosinski (director of *Top Gun 3* and *Top Gun Maverick*), the film became Apple's highest grossing film.

One of the main highlights this year was the Silverstone race where wet weather made the race total chaos. Verstappen started on pole with the 2 McLarens just behind them. The wet weather made Max lose the pole and Oscar Piastri was mad when he got a penalty during the safety car. Oscar Piastri was handed a controversial 10-second penalty during the British Grand Prix for erratic driving after a safety car restart. In the end Lando Norris won the race on his home turf.

The Baku race was an incredible race but Fernando Alonso was not that happy. Fernando Alonso believes that the penalty he received for a false start at the Azerbaijan Grand Prix ultimately did not affect the outcome of his race, with the Spaniard stating that Aston Martin were “very, very slow” on a day that he finished outside of the points.

In the meantime Carlos Sainz was over the moon with the Baku race as he reached an incredible P3 podium finish with his Williams. Alex Albon was also very happy for his teammate for achieving the podium.

Another shock to the F1 world was when Max Verstappen, a 4-time F1 world champion, won a race on one of the world's most dangerous tracks (the Nurburgring Nordschleife) in a totally different class.

The Singapore race was an iconic race as George Russell took the top step on the podium. Singapore is an iconic track, The Marina Bay Circuit arrived on the scene in 2008. A street track with the city's famous skyline as its spectacular backdrop, the initial circuit plan by Herman Tilke was refined by KBR Inc, and the event quickly established itself as one of the standouts on the F1 calendar.

It is an iconic and hard track for the drivers. The Marina Bay Circuit is one of the most physically demanding on the calendar, its bumpy street surface coupled with humid conditions giving the drivers plenty to think about. Even after a 2023 layout change reducing the number of corners from 23 to 19, they are working the wheel a lot, too, around the high-speed lap – the physical stress causing them to lose as much as 3kg in body weight over the course of a race.



Max Verstappen continued his impressive run with victory in the United States Grand Prix, but who else joined the Red Bull driver on the podium? The Austin race was an exciting race as drama unfolded in the sprint.

Max started first in the sprint and kept his lead to go on to win the sprint and the race. The 2 McLarens crashed when Piastri tried to overtake Norris but then the two wheels clashed.

The race had some crashes including the Mercedes and the Williams.

Carlos Sainz has defended his race-ending overtaking attempt on Kimi Antonelli in the United States Grand Prix, and explained why he opted against “playing it safe” and banking the points for P8 in Austin.

News about formula 1 that there will be 11 teams on the grid in 2026 as well as kick sauber becoming the new audi car. The 11th team that will be joining the paddock in 2026 is the well known cadillac. With Valtteri Bottas and Checo Perez joining the team they hope to make an impact.

We hope for an exciting 2026 season!

# Ashes review 25-26

by Hridhay Ram, Curtis West and Tom Samuel-Rome

## What is the Ashes?

The Ashes is a cricket series held every four years between England and Australia. Each series consists of five tests which each team taking it in turns to host. The first test started on the 21st of November 2025 in Perth.



## First test - Optus Stadium Perth

### Day 1

England won the toss and chose to bat in Perth 83% of times the team who wins the toss and chose to bat won the game. In came Ben Duckett and Zak Crawley to face the fierce Mitchell Starc with the new ball within the first over, but Mitchell Starc struck early on the last ball of the first over reducing England to 0/1 dismissing Zak Crawley caught in the slips for a duck. England did not recover from their shaky start but found some runs with the batting ability of Harry Brook and Jamie Smith with Harry Brook getting a very valuable 52 of 61 deliveries. However Starc got on top of the England batsmen taking a remarkable 7/58 in England's first innings alone. Australia were no better in their first innings as England came back strong in the bowling with Jofra Archer getting a vital breakthrough of James Weatherald in the 2nd ball LBW.

After that it was a low scoring innings from all of them with England's skipper Ben Stokes leading the attack running through the tail with 5/23 bowling them out for just 132 and bringing England back in the game.

### Day 2

However the batting side for England did not seize the opportunity and got bowled out for 164 giving Australia a chance by setting them the score of 205 to win the game. This time Australia batted well with Travis Head smashing England's pace attack and getting his hundred after just 69 balls. Winning them the game, handing the English a defeat of 8 wickets.

### 2nd Test preview (Brisbane)

This test is a day night with a pink ball this will mean that it will be humid and the ball will swing more utilising Mitchell Starc and Scott Boland but England don't really have an option for those conditions. It is not looking good for England. With Travis Head following his 69 ball hundred. England have made 1 change for this test Will Jacks comes in for an injured Mark Wood this is strengthening England's spin attack and batting lineup. This is worrying though knowing Ben Stokes will have a more heavy workload being the 4th pace bowler not the 5th. Ben Stokes has had lots of injuries in his career such as his left knee, multiple hamstring tears, broken wrist, a finger injury, a hip problem, and a shoulder muscle tear. If England go 2-0 down the ashes will almost be over for England.



# CHRISTMAS IN MUSWELL HILL



MUSWELL HILL CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS WITH A MIX OF FESTIVE EVENTS, INCLUDING THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING IN ST JAMES SQUARE WITH ENTERTAINMENT, CAROL SERVICES AT CHURCHES LIKE ST JAMES AND MUSWELL HILL METHODIST CHURCH, AND FAMILY ACTIVITIES LIKE CRAFT SESSIONS AT LOCAL LIBRARIES AND A CHRISTMAS FILM NIGHT. THERE ARE ALSO MANY CHRISTMAS MARKETS.

## CHRISTMAS AT FORTISMERIE!



THIS YEAR AT FORTISMERIE, WE'RE PUTTING ON THE PANTO "JACK & THE BEANSTALK, SO GET YOUR TICKETS NOW. WE ALSO HAVE THE CHRISTMAS LUNCH AND MUCH MORE FOR EVERYONE TO ENJOY. AND OF COURSE THERE'S THE WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS CONCERT ON THE 15<sup>TH</sup> AND 16<sup>TH</sup> OF DECEMBER. WE ALSO SUPPORTED GIVING AND CHARITY WITH THE FOOD BANK COLLECTION, WINTER COAT COLLECTION AND CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY.

**FORTISMERE SCHOOL  
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**January 20-25th  
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fabulous panto!**



# Fortistory

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