

# The College Voice



The Ladies' College  
Guernsey

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In association with



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## Is An Eight-Week Summer Too Long?

By ~~Lauren Ogier~~ <sup>Lauren Ogier</sup>, Anna Ogier

SUMMER holidays are welcomed at the end of the academic year, but do we really need such a long break? Students have two months of relaxed recreational time, whether it is enjoying the rare local sunshine, going on holiday or working. But do we take full advantage of this break and

use it effectively?

It seems customary that the week before returning to school, students rush through homework and read books in a mad panic. So should we have a shorter summer, allowing less time to fall out of the academic mind-set and forget how to hold a pen or write?

Upper sixth student Jessica Rigby



Photographer: Miranda Griffin

believes that summer "is too long, as everyone finds themselves waking up at 12pm every day and forgetting anything taught before summer started. The elder students also have jobs, so instead of enjoying themselves tend to work for most of the eight weeks." Most students in the upper school generally agreed, that the summer is used more for working and the occasional holiday, and not to socialise with friends like it was in the lower school. However, some students believe that the 8 weeks are just the right amount, as it leaves plenty of time to relax on holidays, enjoy festivals and then prepare for school and complete any summer work. Christina Hodgson, 17 has no complaints about an eight week summer. "I think a long summer is great, as it gives us enough time to go to festivals, go on holiday

and relax."

Religious Studies teacher Miss Halliday comments. "In my opinion the eight week school holiday is a sufficient length of time. Personally, it gives me an opportunity at the end of the Summer term to complete all the necessary jobs before moving on to the next while still feeling like I have had a break. Further to this, I believe school holidays can be an invaluable opportunity to not only spend time with families but also put their knowledge in to practise and gain excellent independent life skills.

So can we appeal to everyone? Would it be possible to reduce the summer holidays? Or should we have a shorter summer and a longer half term in the middle of Trinity term, instead of just a long weekend? Alternatively, we embrace the summer we have and get out and make the most of the time off!



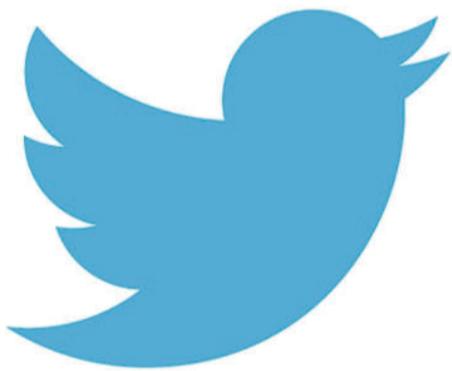
SHOULDVE GONE TO SPECSAVERS



# Twitter: Are We All Journalists?

By: Isabelle Morgan

LIKE any other social networking site, Twitter has its notably positive and negative aspects. It could be asked where the developed world would be without an online network that connects the ordinary of us with what some deem to be the extraordinary. Serving as an online journal for some and simply an access key for famous people to others, Twitter encourages people to communicate quickly and concisely, limiting one post to just 140 characters. This serves as a drawback in itself, as often people are unable to communicate in a sensible way in only a couple of sentences.



Twitter can reveal the very best and the very worst of people. Even celebrities are not afraid to battle it out over the Internet and famous twitter feuds have been recorded between Azealia Banks and Lily Allen, John Mayer and Perez Hilton, and Lindsay Lohan and Samantha Ronson. What kind of example does this set to the innumerable followers of these big names?

In terms of revealing the very best of people, by reading through tweets,

one can discover the magic that is worked in just a few words and it definitely shows how people are able to verbalise their thoughts quickly and effectively. For most people Twitter simply serves as a means of rapid communication or picture sharing between friends and the occasional glance at a star's profile – harmless, surely?

However, with the likes of Facebook and MySpace, Twitter inevitably houses the victims and perpetrators of online bullying, which can have a profound effect on an individual and therefore undoubtedly has a drawback in that respect. Twitter lends itself to easily abuse from one member to another, although if necessary people can make use of the 'block' and 'report spam' buttons, and even make their profile private so that any keen followers have to put through a request.

So, are we all journalists? In the literal sense of the word – someone who 'collects, writes, and distributes news and other information,' is a journalist, right? But it is definitely true that the majority of Twitter users do not stand for particularly commendable journalists, unless blabbing online about a bad hangover, broadcasting their daily exercise routine (clap, clap) or waffling about their emotional turmoil grants them such a title.

The College Voice wants to hear what you think on this and other stories by contacting [griffinm@ladiescollege.ac.gg](mailto:griffinm@ladiescollege.ac.gg)

# History Of The Houses

By: Christina Hodgson

THE house system has always been a part of our school lives but the majority of us don't know the origins of the houses of which we are all members.

In 1920, thanks to help from a Mr Hutton, patrons and benefactors, the house system was introduced. The school was subdivided into three houses; Carey, Brock and de Saumerez. These were family names of people who rendered special services to both the school and the island. Ten years on, in 1930, Durand was added to the House system.

However, it is possible that the biggest difference between the house system in the 1900's and how it is currently, are the events in which we participate. In the past the 'old girls' competed in the current swimming, netball and tennis competitions, but also used to partake in singing, arts and crafts, cookery, handwork and even elocution competitions.

Hollie Le Cras, a member of Upper Sixth states, 'I am glad that the houses are still in place, as it brings together different age groups with a sense of unanimity', illustrating to us how important the house system is within our school life.

*Did you know you can follow our Principal on Twitter? @LCGSY*

# Where Do You Get Your Music?

By: Louisa Streeting and Natascha Helyar

Illegal downloading is a global problem in today's society. Although online music downloads have decreased by one third, surveys suggest that one in six UK internet users admitted to illegally streaming or downloading files in the last year.

We decided to conduct our own survey in the Ladies' College, asking 25 girls four general questions. Surprisingly, only 52% of girls confessed to regularly downloading their music free of charge. Our generation has grown up with rapidly adapting technology and the Internet has brought us unimaginable access to an eclectic music range. Despite this, only half of the girls admitted to actually downloading, although this statistic may be slightly swayed as we could have come across as somewhat threatening as we asked the younger years about their potentially illicit activities.

It is evident that iTunes is a dominant figure in today's music industry, and since its creation in 2001 it has become the leading software in legal purchasing of music. This is supported by the staggering 80% of girls from the survey that use iTunes as their first choice of media player.

Recently, the introduction of legal streaming programmes such as Spotify, SoundCloud and Google Play are proving increasingly more popular, which offers an alternative to

downloading your music from websites. Of the girls asked, 56% said that they used these types of platforms regularly to listen to music. The idea is that you pay a sum of money on a monthly basis to play music on any device from any artist - apart from The Beatles and Led Zepplin (for bizarre legal reasons).

With music seeming to be orientated completely online nowadays, the figure of 72% of girls saying they still bought CDs astonished us. It gave us confidence that young people still want hard copies of albums, even though it is so easy to go on the Internet and download songs in seconds. There is definitely something more personal about owning your favourite band's CD as the tangibility means that you can have it forever. It's different when all of your music is just a file on a computer.

Despite the decline in the last year, illegal downloading is still a big problem. It is not damaging to the music industry as of yet, but if we are not purchasing an artist's new album or single and downloading it instead, then they are not earning any money from it. Essentially, it is their job and most musicians enter the industry hoping to earn a profit! The harsh reality is that when you download anything illegally online, you are stealing from the creator, whether it is the producer or the artist. It's not only wrong, but also puts you at legal risk.

# Corrrr!

By: Katherine Jensen

OUR recently developed canteen has been a huge success! Both students and teachers have expressed their delight with not only the wide variety of food options, but also the many new beverages; including milkshakes, coffees and teas.

We have asked both students and the teachers to comment on their views concerning the new refectory. Principal Ms Riches said she was thoroughly impressed with the greater choice that is now available. Similarly, the food has become healthier whilst retaining the all-important taste. Ms Riches was concerned initially that the price of food may have increased, but she now reports that she is pleased this has not been the case. Finally, Ms Riches is delighted that the colour scheme of the canteen complements attractively, and said that the newly modern appearance is to be highly commended.

Similarly members of the student body were also pleasantly surprised by the amendments made over the summer holidays. We asked Bronnie James, Ellie Bell, Imogen Dovey, Sophie Le Feuvre and Ruby Davidson, all members of Upper Four, to give their opinions. They especially loved the introduction of milkshakes, which they assured are very tasty. Again, they were impressed with the price of the goods and new appearance.

Such success bodes well for the school and for future students who will also be able to enjoy the new canteen.

# Pet Of The Month

Thank you for all the entries. Well done to all the adorable pets that secured a place in this month's issue!



Issy Morgan's loved up pets Sassy and Joany!



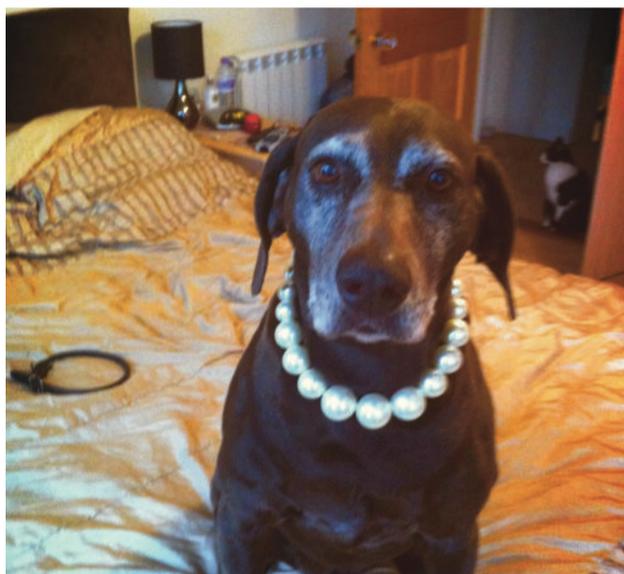
Tipsy and Bob. Ellie Purvis' cuddly kittens!



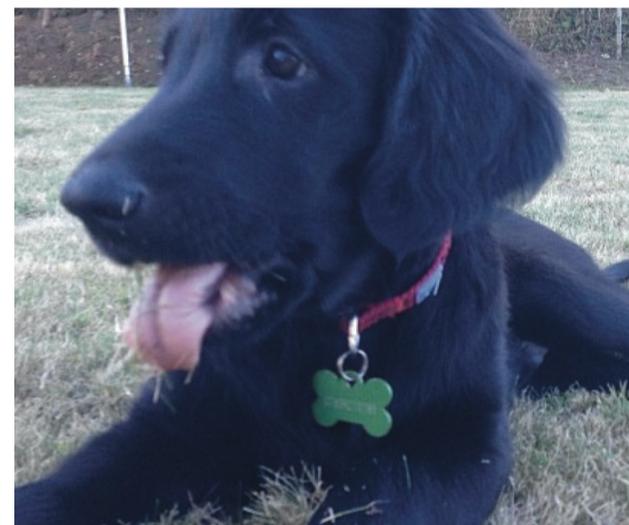
Louise Eneveoldsen's flying cat, Tinker!



Smokey and Monty the Hungry Guinea Pigs from Molly Simpson. RIP Smokey



Co Co the Glamorous dog from Sophie Burbridge!



Hannah Campbell's fluffy pup!



Bella the proud Guinea Pig from Abigail Tustin!



Mitten the mysterious cat from Veronika Fletcher!



**Well done to the winner Charlotte Perry with Amber, the Rodeo Guinea Pig!**



Mrs Dovey's playful lab, Miller!



Sophie De La Mare's cheeky Labradoodle, Woody!

# This Month's Film and Book Review

## Film: *Django Unchained* by Quentin Tarantino (Rated 18)

By: Louise Enevoldsen

DJANGO Unchained is written and directed by the award winning, Quentin Tarantino. Set in a modern style in western America, two years before the civil war. This is where he introduces us to Django, a feisty black slave, living in a world where he has no name and no reason to live apart from to find his sweetheart, Broomhilda who was tragically taken away from him. It is then that Django has his life completely turned around by the famous bounty hunter with a heart of gold, Dr King Schlutz. He pronounces Django a 'freeman' and if he helps him collect and kill wanted felons to gain his bounty, he will take him to Broomhilda. It is then that they go

on a twisted adventure killing, in typical Tarantino style, and massacring wanted felons until they find themselves at 'Candie Land', where they found the king of the slave trade, confident and rich, Monsieur Candie. You see the true brutality of how slaves were treated in this era yet with hints of humour in every scene. The acting is brilliant with awarding winning performances from Jamie Foxx, as Django, Christoph Waltz as Dr King and Leonardo De Caprio as Monsieur Candie. The chemistry between all the actors leaps off the screen and their talent is obvious as you are truly catapulted in Django's life. This high action, western comedy is a must see if you want a funny, action packed film, which is sure to entertain.

## Book: *The Sleeper* by Emily Barr

By: Louise Enevoldsen

THIS tense, mystery thriller is guaranteed to have you gripped. It tells the story of Lara Finch, a married woman who left the busy business world of London to live with her husband Sam in the middle of nowhere in Cornwall. She falls into the pattern of trying to get pregnant but never succeeding, which leads her to crave her old life back in London. It is in Cornwall where she meets Iris, a mysterious woman with a heart of gold and a hidden past. Lara is then offered a job in London making her dreams come true but crushing her husband's Sam's dream of a quiet family life. It is then that every week Lara embarks on the sleeper train from Truro to London to her exciting life in the city but every weekend she must return to her normal life in Cornwall. It is on this train that she meets Guy, a married man who introduces her to a love she has never felt before; it is from then where they begin an illicit affair which leads to a catastrophic halt when Guy is found dead and Lara is nowhere to be found... Presumed dead or guilty is it down to Iris to find Lara and to do this she must conquer her own turbulent past. This book is brilliantly tense, intertwining the lives of two very enthralling women meaning you are unable to put it down.



# In A League Of Our Own

## Upcoming House Events To Get Training For!

Cross Country - October

Netball - November/December

Hockey - February/March

Gymnastics - February/March

## Our Recommended Top 10 Workout Songs

1. Not Giving In - Rudimental
2. No Problem - Chase and Status
3. Defeated No More - Disclosure
4. Gold Dust (Shy FX Re-Edit) - DJ Fresh
5. Don't You Worry Child - Swedish House Mafia
6. Punching In A Dream - The Naked and Famous
7. Stronger - Kanye West
8. Running From The Thoughts - Dub Pistols
9. Something Good - Utah Saints
10. Everyday (Netsky Remix) - Rusko

## Hall Of Fame

LADIES' College girls met gold medalist dressage rider, Carl Hester. They also met the daughters of Mary Russel Vick's at the recent Hall of Fame event. At their induction, the horse riding Olympiad, Carl Hester allowed pupil Katherine Bushell to wear his gold medals!



Katherine Bushell, Year 8 was delighted to touch a gold medal!

By: Miranda Griffin



Danielle De Kock holds Mary Russell Vick's medal!



From left to right, Gigi Allen, Honor Brooksbank, Carl Hester, Katherine Bushell, Danielle De Kock

## The College Voice caught up with Island Hockey player, Aisha Damarell to find out about her aspirations and recent trials!

**We hear you've just got back from West of England trials! How was it?**

It was really good thanks! I had to attend four training sessions in the UK over the summer and from there have been picked to represent the U18 Haslemere Leopards and play two weekends of hockey against Bristol and Exeter teams.

**Great stuff! How long have you played hockey and what keeps you motivated?**

I have played since I was around six. I love playing to improve my skills and develop my game. New chances to play in England and for Guernsey also keep me determined to carry on playing.

**Where do you wish to go from here?**

I want to continue playing for the Guernsey 1st 11 and hopefully secure a starting place on the team over the next season. I also hope to continue playing at university, which will give me the opportunity to learn new skills and improve as a player.

# October Fun!

## Guess Which Teacher This Is!

As a child, I was outgoing, confident and friendly but also a bookworm. I always had my nose in a book and would be completely absorbed by the story. I was the girl who climbed into her wardrobe looking for Narnia and who used to creep up on her dolls to catch them talking like Sara Crewe. One Christmas, the first gift I opened was a book. I started reading it and forgot I had other gifts to open- it drove my mother mad as she wanted to know what else I had received and to see my face when I opened her present!

Books are my passion to this day.

## Halloween Jokes To Make You Chuckle

Jess: Why don't ghosts like rain?

Adam: Why?

Jess: It dampens their spirits!

Dale: What do you do if you want to learn more about Dracula?

Gayle: You join his fang club.

Q: Why wasn't there any food left after the monster party?

A: Because everyone was a goblin!

Q: What key opens a Haunted House?

A: A spooKEY!

Q: What kind of TV do you find inside a haunted house?

A: A wide scream TV.

Q: What school subject is a witch good at?

A: Spelling.



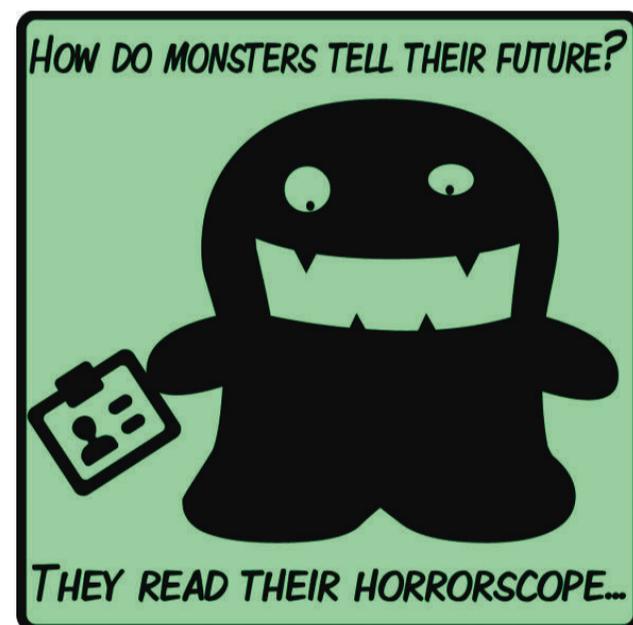
## 10 Halloween Facts You Didn't Know

- Samhainophobia is the fear of Halloween
- Ireland is believed to be the birthplace of Halloween
- According to tradition, if a person wears their clothes inside out and then walks backwards on Halloween, they will see a witch at midnight
- The Largest pumpkin ever measured was 836 lb
- Halloween has been around for about 6,000 years
- France and Australia see Halloween as unwanted
- Pumpkins also come in white, blue and green
- Snickers is the most popular halloween treat
- Black cats were once believed to protect witches
- Halloween in Welsh is 'Nos Calan Gaeaf'

By: Miranda Griffin

## Guess What I Am

1. Can fly up to 60 mph
2. Can live to be 30 years old
3. Can see in the dark through high pitch echoes
4. British breed can only eat at night
5. 3 types feed solely on blood
6. Only flying mammals
7. Extremely good metabolism
8. Nocturnal
9. 1000 different species
10. Can be related to halloween



SHOULD'VE GONE TO SPECSAVERS

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