

The Wyvern Magazine



What is the Wyvern Magazine?

Relaunch of the Wyvern Magazine

What is going on in the world?



How can you get involved? - Relaunch of the Wyvern Magazine

An update to what's new at Wyvern Academy for the the Spring Term 2018

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By Luke Rowcroft

An interview with Headteacher Mrs. Wilkinson



After a successful first year as the Head Teacher of Wyvern Academy, Mrs Wilkinson is looking to make this the year when we make a significant step forward in terms of school improvement. Her aim is to make Wyvern a school where pupils achieve good results and leave with ambition and skills for life which will allow them to be the best they can be.

I recently spoke to Mrs Wilkinson and this is what she had to say about her aims for the year ahead...

First of all, how did you find your first year at Wyvern Academy? "I loved every minute of it, despite it being a challenge at times. The pupils and the staff made me feel so welcome and it was definitely a good decision to come to Wyvern Academy."

What was your proudest moment from last year? "It was a great moment when the Wyvern team were chosen to present BBC Sport live to the nation on BBC Schools Report news day. I was so proud."

Another memorable moment, was the assembly for Armistice Day - the level of respect and maturity made me so proud and I have to admit to having a tear in my eye."

What are your aims for the year ahead? "To embed school systems and processes but also to develop a "can do" culture in the minds of all the students and staff in Wyvern Academy. Quality Teaching and Learning is a major focus this year, as well as developing leadership at all levels, especially at a student level. Also, I would like to extend our community links. New initiatives and partnerships like The Martin Gray Football Academy will help to give our students more opportunities."

What are your long terms aims for the school? "Together we will make this school Outstanding. But more than that, we will make it a great place to learn for students and a great place to work for staff. "

We want pupils to feel safe and happy when they are at school and I believe that if pupils are safe and happy then they are more receptive to learning. As well as this, I want to increase the Student opportunities - clubs, productions and trips - opportunities that the pupils really want."

What do you think that all of the new teachers will bring to Wyvern? "They all bring their own unique positive qualities to the school and their sharing of good practice they have seen in other schools will add a positive dimension to the Wyvern ethos and culture. Excellent subject knowledge combined with a passion for their subject, will help secure success for our young people."

WHAT IS GOING ON

Prefects

At the start of this academic year, a new prefect structure was created by Mrs Walls and the senior leadership team. We are now known as 'pupil leaders' and are split into teams- Hospitality, Pastoral, Tutor Groups and Site. Each of these teams have their own purposes in order to take our school to the next level. The Hospitality team (led by Evie Nicholls) has an aim to help with school events, welcoming and talking to parents and visitors. The Pastoral team (led by Brodie Laidlaw) do duties in and around school, making sure that every student has the best experience possible. The Tutor team (led by Josh Blareau) goes out into the different tutors of different years, helping the Tutors with any jobs that they need doing and reading alongside the

Prize-giving evening

By Luke Rowcroft and
Peter Gartland

As happens yearly, on the 9th November the Wyvern Academy prize-giving evening was held. On the night students are rewarded for their hard work and achievements in the past year alongside the returning previous 11s who received their GCSE certificates. Prizes went for individual subjects, one student in each topic for each year group, and then trophies were given out for recognition of individual achievements in and out of school including rewards for charity work and dedication to the school. Before the prizes were awarded however, Commonwealth champion swimmer Chris Cook spoke about his journey from South Shields to chasing his dreams. Overall, it was an inspiring night for all those who attended.

AT WYVERN?

Leadership Team

By Luke Rowcroft and
Peter Gartland

Finally, the Site team (lead by Lewis Galloway) help the caretaker with jobs around the school, from setting up the school's events to putting up the exam tables. Overall, the aim for the pupil leadership team is to make Wyvern Academy the best it can be and assist Mrs Wilkinson in making this an outstanding school. Then came the head boy and girl interviews and appointments. The victors of the interviews were Luke Rowcroft (head boy) and Divine Mpongo (head girl) with Peter Gartland and Andrew Hebden deputy head boys and Natasha Hall, Katie Blewitt and Olivia Bray deputy head girls.

The aim for this team is to represent the school at events and put it in a good light in the community.

Y11 Period 6

By Andrew Hebden

Period 6 is the newest addition to the year 11 timetable. On Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays period 6 is an extra hour of revision added to the day. This timetable was first implemented in the Autumn Term and so far, it has been a success for the students who have attended. The reason this is happening is due to the school wanting to become more involved with the year 11 students and provide them with essential exam techniques and knowledge which can improve their results massively. Statistically if you attend only 2 hours of the extended days it can increase teaching time by up to 10%. The school stresses that even though this isn't compulsory, it is a great opportunity for year 11 students to take advantage of.

WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE WORLD?

By Luke Rowcroft

Since the beginning of the year, the national news has been full of stories of terrible events. All of these terrible events have made a huge impression on people in and out of school and here are just some of our views on certain matters:

Over the past year, the number of terrorist attacks worldwide has increased hugely – creating devastation in many of the major cities in Europe. One of the most recent of these attacks, the London Tube Bombing was, thankfully, the first in which there were no fatalities. This just shows the huge rise of terrorism in the recent times, and it is a horrible fact that we are being forced to confront. However, as a country, we have managed to create a huge bond of unity and respect for each other, defiantly standing up to terrorism and what it can do to us. And this bond is vital for us to fight the challenges that terrorism is serving up.

We have all been hearing over the past weeks and months of the rising tension between North Korea and the USA. The constant testing of missiles has made many countries, including South Korea and Japan, very wary and intimidated of what North Korea could ultimately do, and President Trump has openly declared his annoyance and anger at these acts. The constant exchanges of threats between America and North Korea is worrying for everyone, especially with the ever developing nuclear weapons, however we can trust the United Nations to be working with both countries to find an appropriate end to this conflict.

Throughout the past few weeks and months, there seem to have been constant hurricanes and earthquakes throughout the world. Hurricanes like Harvey, Irma and Maria are just to name a few of these disasters that have changed many lives so drastically. We have all read of huge numbers of fatalities from these disasters. We have also heard about schools and workplaces collapsing, causing horrible devastation. This is something we could never contemplate seeing in this country yet it is a very real threat in certain other countries around the world, which is why we should all do our best to help those in troubled positions due to these disasters.

REVIEWS

By Peter Gartland

2017 has been the year when the screens on phones have been growing, but the body has shrunk. This has made the iPhone design look outdated and boring (just look at the Samsung's infinity display). Apple clearly recognised this and therefore, alongside the launch of the iPhone 8, they launched a phone called the iPhone X. 'X' stands for 10 years of the iPhone and this was how the phone was launched- as revolutionary as the original. The iPhone X sports a near bezel-less display, face-ID, wireless charging... basically everything you would expect from a new flagship phone. There have also been some controversial changes however. The near bezel-less display leaves no space for the iconic home button and with this the finger print sensor- leaving only face-ID which has been criticised for been slower than touch-ID. Then there's the price-£999 for the cheapest model and £1149 for the most expensive. This is where the phone has been most

iPhone X

Every year EA releases a new Fifa and every year people that don't play the game say 'it's exactly the same'. Every year they are wrong, and this year is no exception. To give them some credit, there is never a massive visible difference; the big differences come in how the game plays such as teammate's runs and how real being on the ball feels. There are actually some visible differences in Fifa 18 as well. After the mixed reviews of the Journey (which is carried on this year with Alex Hunter going abroad) EA have taken advantage of the Frostbite engine in career mode where transfer talks actually take place between manager and player with talking done the same as in the journey. A long awaited update for the mode that has lost popularity since ultimate team's creation. Overall, Fifa 18 is worthy of bearing the Fifa title and will keep gamers happy for a year at least.

Fifa 18

SPORT

This year at Wyvern Academy, the Martin Gray football academy is increasing by popularity by the week as boys and girls who share the love for football join. Martin Gray football academy is a football club ran every Monday night by Martin himself and other trained coaches. During the sessions players are trained by the former Darlington FC manager in order to improve their in-game skills with every session finishing in a match to further develop these. Not only is the purpose of this academy to improve skill but to also provide enjoyment as a reward for hard work in school.

It also doesn't end with the Monday night training as players are also invited to play in matches and tournaments against other schools in the Martin Gray Academy. A brilliant opportunity and all for free!

By Peter Gartland

Martin Gray Football Academy

After being relegated last season from the Premier League, it looks like Sunderland might repeat this, this year in the championship. After 33 games they are on just 26 points, which is only 3 points from safety so they still have hope. However the fans are losing hope as the clubs performances have been well under par with them leaking goals and not scoring enough- they have a goal difference of -24, the third worst in the league. If they were relegated they could end up having a similar problem to that Darlington F.C had just a few years ago, having a massive stadium (capacity 48,000) and not being able to afford it, sending it into administration. This would be devastating as Sunderland have always had a large and loyal fan base who have already been disappointed by Sunderland in the past few years.

By Peter Gartland

WHAT IS THE WYVERN MAGAZINE?

By Ryan Goldsmith

The Wyvern is our school magazine. It is sent home with school reports and published every half term with reports ranging from world affairs to school activities and upcoming events. The Wyvern has a state of the art TV studio with a green screen, editing programs and Apple macs. We have a variety of students involved ranging from year 7's to year 11's and each with different roles. The Wyvern also offers fantastic opportunities, for example: last year, 4 students travelled to the BBC studios and even presented the BBC Sport news live to the nation!

If you would like to join our team and get involved with some of these fantastic opportunities, email an application to 13-gartland@wyvernacademy.org
Alternatively, join the email group for updates and information of the latest meetings email wyvern@wyvernacademy.org.
Weekly meetings are held every Wednesday at 12:45 in E4.



Ryan Goldsmith before going live on the BBC



The BBC Sport studio



Jonathan Deery and Joshua Jackson in the studio