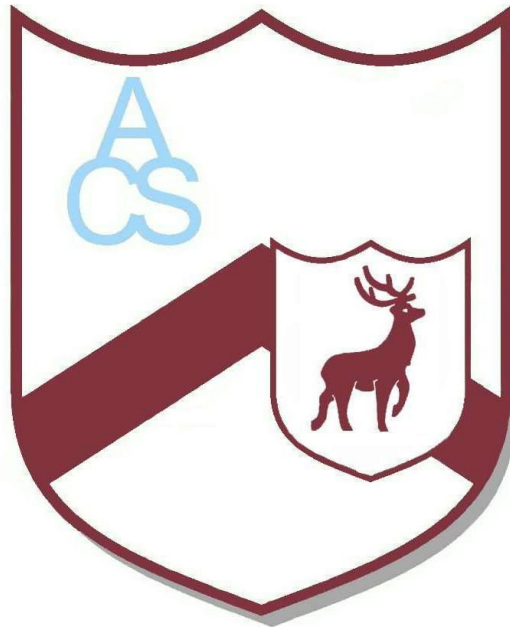


The Lockdown
Literature of The
Astley Cooper
School

Written by students across the school

Collated and Edited by Ms H Myers



Foreword

Dear Parent/Carers/Students of Astley Cooper,

As many of you know, the Astley Cooper school has a well-established Creative Writing Club. Due to lockdown, we have now gone virtual. Through my colleagues in the English department, I set as many students as I could on a quest – a quest to write as creatively as possible. Some of these stories include but are not limited to; magical beasts rampaging through our world, a horror story or two, tales from out of space or using the current world climate as stimulus if they wished to. When I was sent in so many different pieces of literature, I was amazed at what amazing writers we have in school.

As a department, we are all incredibly impressed by the thought and effort of our students for these pieces of work. Many students put their work forward to their respective teachers – some of whom we had no idea were such good authors. If you sent your work into your teacher, please know that they are incredibly proud of the work you have created, as you should be too.

Within this collection of short narratives is some of the best work we have received throughout the lockdown period. We wanted to share this selection of literature with you.

We hope that you enjoy reading these pieces as much as we did.

Stay safe,

Ms H Myers

English and Media Teacher and Creative Writing Club Lead

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Code of Fiendfire

Fiendfire. The most popular game in the last two years. Shan Feng - that was his name in the game; his real name is Lan - was the highest ranking player and the brother of the lead programmer of the game. A strong monster in the game, YaYu, was currently located outside the capital so he headed in that direction to help the villagers and players there. It was half snake, half wolf with dark wings, and an attack type.

The beast was about to attack the village with its annihilation blast when Shan Feng grabbed his sword and cut the creature in half at once. The cheering from the other players could now be heard. "You're a bit stronger than the last time I played with you." Lan turned around to see his friend, Qian Chen. Just like him, she was the smaller sibling of an important figure. Her sister was Ceo Chen, the Ceo of the Shuiyang Pharmaceutical Co which was a famous hospital. "Hmph, is that so?"

The game was quite simple: begin, get stronger, kill monsters, buy better equipment with those rewards, and you'll eventually rise in fame. As the strongest player, Shan is both loved and hated. There are players who can easily get jealous after all. So, if he falls, he might not be able to get up again. But his friends were always there for him anyway.

DING! The side pane of the game opened. It was the chat with his brother. Two texts from his brother said, 'Lan, I'm in "39147; 47422".' The last one sailed, 'Help me!' Lan texted back, 'Brother, aren't you at work? What's going on?! It must be some bug in his program again, so he wants to rant.

Huh? Another panel came up. The sos signal only he and his brother knew about. BP2301901091. Lan logged out. It was irritating to think that his brother sent a signal to him instead of working. "I have to log off" Qian looked disappointed. "Alright then. I'll wait for you to log back in again."

Lan arrived at the business district where his brother worked at. He was now in the real world. There it was. His brother's office, 4061. He opened the door and walked in. "Brother are you busy?" His brother looked up from his work. "Lan? Why are you here?" Did he literally send the signal to me for no reason?! "You're asking me? Why did you use our sig- Wait! Why is he writing with his right hand? He's left-handed!

"What's going on?" his brother asked. Lan felt a bit nervous now. "Didn't you message me to come here?" His brother frowned slightly. "Not Really." It was getting a bit awkward. "I must've imagined it after playing for so long. Brother, has our house's sig... security lock changed? It keeps saying the password is wrong." There isn't any security lock in our house. "Maybe. I don't really remember. How about this: you find someone to remove the lock and I'll reimburse the cost."

"Thanks". Lan turned around and started to tremble as he left. He looks like his brother but who exactly is he?!

Lan's brother's temper was quite awful when he was working yet this time, he was a bit too nice. When he last contacted his brother, he mentioned that the experiment had failed and there was something wrong with the game. The answer is most likely in the game! He must log in immediately but definitely not at home. The company has a list of registered home addresses. If his "brother" comes there and realizes that there is no security lock, he'll be exposed. And if he took off Lan's VR helmet while he was in the game, it'd cause permanent brain damage. He can just risk it. He must find a safer place...

New Moon Internet Cafe. It has rooms specifically for gamers. There would be a bed in the middle to lie on as well.

...LOGGING IN : FIENDFIRE...

He can only find the answer to what happened to his brother in the game.

...LOGIN SUCCESSFUL...

He was now in the game. Buzz!! The Fiendfire central database appeared.
...PLEASE RECONFIRM PLAYER DATA UPDATE...
"Confirm."
He was in the level 70 mission dungeon. He logged off in the wilderness outside the capital. How come he is in the mission dungeon now?
Brrr! So cold!
Cold?
That can't be right. All perception modules of every neutral immersive games are switched off by default. Why did he feel cold?!
"Open system settings!" The system settings opened. Lan looked for the perception module. What!
PERCEPTION MODULE: OFF
It clearly switched off so why would he feel anything?
BANG! BANG! It was a level 72 dungeon monster. He was only level 72. He'll take it out on it.
-Summon weapon- Laser sword-
PUFF. A small knife appeared in his hand. "That's..."
...WEAPON NAME ERROR. SWITCHING TO DEFAULT WEAPON: ROOKIE DAGGER...
"What?! Open character attributes!"
Everything was gone! What happened to his level and where is his staff and equipment?!
"Check current account status!"
...CHECKING COMPLETE. ACCOUNT STATUS NORMAL...
In what way is this normal?! "Leave dungeon!"
...DO YOU WISH TO LEAVE THE DUNGEON? YES. NO...
"Yes"
BLEEP! YOU HAVE NOW LEFT THE DUNGEON...
What? He is still here though. Lan opened the map of the game. He clicked on an area in it.
...COMMENCING TELEPORT. LOCATION: THE FIENDFIRE NATION CAPITAL...TELEPORT SUCCESSFUL

Andreea Cojocara, Year 7

Unicorns

Unicorns are creatures that only appear on tv right? Think again.

Unicorns have just been discovered and I'm here to tell you all about it. So, I'm pretty sure you have your own ideas on what unicorns actually look like? Pretty, colourful and creatures of the earth. Well actually they are the complete opposite from this.

They're pretty much horses but what a horn centred on their head. People might still call these special horses, when in fact they are unicorns. They have all the basic features of a unicorn: wings, horn, different colours. It all started with a woman called Bethany who went out on an adventure into the woods.

She was coming across a nearby lake when she discovered something that shocked her. A horse with a horn on its head. In curiosity Bethany approached the horse like creature. As she got near, she realised this thing also had wings. She stood there admiring this animal. Bethany continued to take pictures to show what she has just witnessed.

She took detailed pictures of where the unicorn like features where. The unicorn wasn't affected by the human present in fact it turned around to stare Bethany in the eyes. Bethany claims that the animal's eyes were pink with strobes of glitter running through them. Bethany then started to question things to herself. Why would this creature be in a wood in England? What if I'm the first human to discover a unicorn? After these questions fled out here mouth, she fled to a nearby press office.

I've seen a unicorn she explained to the press office. The people were not down to believe until they saw the photos. The press wanted Bethany to show the unicorn to the world by having it being broadcasted by BBC news.

The next day Bethany showed the team where about she saw this magical creature. This time there was four of them. The whole crew was stunned with disbelief so much that they just gazed at the unicorns. They all approached this new discovery and started talking to these new creatures. There were very stupid to think that they were going to respond to them. The press wanted to capture it and use it for science.

The biggest unicorn responded with "Please don't capture us, we just want to stay with our family" the whole crew was now in utter shock of what they just heard.

"Record them!" one of the news presenters answered. Bethany didn't like this idea of someone ruining their habitat, so she aggressively responded with.

"Leave them alone, they just want to be left"

The news presenters listened to Beth and left the scene. After this the biggest unicorn explained to Beth not to worry about them, they disappear every now and then. The creature also explained it shows itself to decent people like her. She was, therefore, they appeared.

Rihanna Cootes, Year 9

The Last Night

"Wake up, Tarrik wake up!" His tired eyes opened. Beside him was his excited friend Kitster Palis. Tarrik looked around, his eyes getting used to the darkness. Two other silhouettes stood next to him. "We're sneaking out" exclaimed another voice. Once his eyes could see, Tarrik saw his other friends Cliegg Dalla and Pleione Alsafi buzzing with excitement as well. The whole group was there. Tarrik was the quiet one. He was always caught in the library after hours by the librarian, Jocasta Nu, studying about the force. Kitster was the adventurous one, always beating his classmates in duels and talking about how he's gone to all the planets in the galaxy. Of course, they didn't believe him, but the stories he told were always fun. Cliegg and Pleione were identical twins. They loved learning about the battle droids and the best way to chop them up.

They were all part of the same clan as younglings: the Heliost clan. Every day they trained, learned and duelled with each other. The previous day they were all picked by Jedi masters to be their apprentices and this was their last night together as Initiates.

"Come on, let's go celebrate!" whispered Pleione.

"Are you sure about this, my new Master would put me in the Agri-Corps if he found out" said Tarrik worryingly.

"As long as we don't get caught it will be fun" Kitster mumbled. Although he was terrified, Tarrik reluctantly agreed. He climbed out of bed and followed the others.

"This way" Cliegg muttered. They snuck past the archives, through the long halls and they made it to the hangar.

"Is that...Master Plo Koon's ship?" questioned Tarrik.

"Are you thinking what I'm thinking!" Pleione asked Cliegg.

"If what you're thinking of is hijacking the ship, NO!" declared Tarrik. Kitster, Cliegg and Pleione all looked at each other. All of a sudden, they grabbed Tarrik and pulled him onto the unoccupied ship.

"Lock the door, lock the door quick!" Kitster commanded Cliegg.

The boys started to push random buttons, trying to start up the ship. "Do you guys even know how to do this?" said Tarrik arrogantly.

"Go on. You do it then." Kitster told him. Tarrik stood up without a word and walked over to the control panel. Cliegg nudged him, causing him to support himself on the control panel. Suddenly, a figure rose from the hologram projector. It was a small green man who was talking backwards.

"Master Plo Koon, on Genonosis, your assistance is needed." the short man announced.

"That's Master Yoda!" gasped Pleione.

"Hmm...Genonosis. I know the lightspeed co-ordinates to there!" Kitster yelled. He skipped over to the control panel and inputted a string of numbers and letters with the keypad.

Kitster pulled a large lever and the vehicle started whirring. All of a sudden, they were flying through hyperspace across the galaxy. They were going so fast that they all fell over from the speed.

Cliegg got up and looked out the window. "GET DOWN NOW!" he screamed in panic. He heard a crash and then, darkness.

Cliegg woke up an hour later in the ship. Well, what was left of it. He felt a sharp pain in his left arm. He looked down to it. He could see 3 fractures in his upper arm. They were trained for things like this in their classes on the force. Cliegg closed his eyes and thought of nothing but the force.

"I am one with the force and the force is with me, I am one with the force and the force is with me." He murmured under his breathe. The pain was gone. He slowly looked down to his arm again. To his surprise, the fractures seemed to disappear. Cliegg slowly got up, worried for his friends. He lifted some of the rubble, nothing. He felt lost.

Cliegg looked around to look for any clue about where they were. Conveyer belts were everywhere, transporting what seemed like droid parts. He heard voices coming from across the large room. He could just make out their distorted voices.

“Send a team of droids to the rubble, it might be dangerous.” Droids! He had to get out of there, and fast. Cliegg slid under a conveyer belt and crawled to a pit of droid arms. He could hear the metallic sound of the droid's feet clanking over to the crash site. There was something in the distance that he could barely see. Squinting at it, Cliegg saw Tarrik, Kitster and Pleione sneaking out of a door. Excitedly, the boy started frantically crawling over to the supposed exit. Once Cliegg had made it he slowly opened the door, hoping to not make any noise. He ran out of their as fast as he could.

He saw his friends in the distance. He yelled their names and they turned around. Pleione ran over to him. “Cliegg you're alive!” The others came over in surprise.

“We have to get out of here.” exclaimed Tarrik.

“If we find Master Plo Koon he could bring us back to the temple!” suggested Pleione.

“Come on I heard some blaster fire this way.” said Tarrik, pointing towards a city in the distance.

And so, they set off towards the city. They walked miles and miles, they're feet aching from the sand. None of them liked sand, it was coarse, rough and irritating, and it got everywhere. After hours of walking, the group finally made it to the city.

“Where is everyone?” Tarrik questioned.

“Hello...” one of them shouted. “Let's check inside.” Kitster suggested. They scurried into the local cantina. BANG! A laser flew past Pleione, narrowly missing him, and disintegrated some of the wall. Cliegg looked around. To his surprise, the room was full of Clone Troopers.

“We're saved!” yelled Tarrik.

“Who are you and why are you roaming the streets?” asked one of the troopers. The kids sat down and told them about the whole story.

“So, do you know where Master Plo Koon is?” Kitster inquired.

“Follow me” ordered the commanding trooper. He took them through the winding, bland hallways up towards the clock tower.

Plo Koon was waiting there, disappointed in the boys.

After a long discussion, Master Plo Koon told one of the Generals to bring them back to Coruscant. They got on the ship and jumped into hyperspeed. Before they knew it, they were landing back at the temple. Master Yoda was waiting for them there. “Disobeyed the rules, you have!” exclaimed Master Yoda. “But kick you out of the Jedi order, I will not” Master Yoda announced. The boys, excited and speechless, ran to their room.

They were safe, happy and protected...for now.

Christian Phillips, Year 7

Misadventures on Loch Ness

I decided to head out from Inverness with my hiking companions, El, Max and Mayson. Once we arrived there we found a day walk that would take us closer to Loch Ness and, in my little hiking guide book, appeared to connect with the Great Glen Way. So it was settled, we would hike along Loch Ness and then head up into the surrounding mountains to meet the Great Glen Way.

Little did we know that the 2 paths did not connect. Not even close. We left our hostel early in the morning taking what we reckoned would be enough food for 78 miles (it definitely wasn't), what we thought would be enough kit (It wasn't, we nearly froze) and my bagpipes.

We finally found the correct path in Drumnadrochit!

The hike couldn't have started off better. The day walk was pretty flat, starting in Inverness and reaching Loch Ness quickly. It was beautiful and we were happy. Our troubles only began when we reached the point on the day trail where we should have been able to connect to the Great Glen Way. We were standing on the rocky shore of Loch Ness and where we needed to be was through a forest, up the side of a mountain. We didn't feel like turning around so we decided to press on, maybe the scale was just wrong!

At first things weren't too bad. The shore was wide, if rocky and difficult to walk on, and the sun was shining merrily. Things took a turn for the worse when the foliage had started growing out into the water and we had to wade out to get around. Did we think this was a sign to turn around? Hell no!

The creepiest part of the hike was when we were fighting through some bush and stumbled on a dead sheep. Lying right there, quite clearly dead. There was no wind and the only sound was the faint roar of a motorboat. We believed that this was where we were going to die, sacrificed in some ancient Celtic ritual.

No sacrifices happened but the 'path' got truly bad at this point. At one point an Australian couple kayaked past us scaling around the edge of a cliff and asked if they needed to call some emergency services for us. We foolishly waved off this offer. We fought through forests, water, mudslides and stinging nettles all day. And the funny story is that we loved every second. Even being scared of an imaginary death cult added to the excitement. We'd never do it again but it is safely stored away in our epic adventure stories!

That evening we had reached outskirts of Drumnadrochit and was on the shores of Ness just opposite Urquhart Castle. We set up our tents in a little forest clearing (and more stinging nettles) and watched the sun set over the castle ruins. The next day we managed to connect to the Great Glen Way in Drumnadrochit. We eventually had to turn back to Inverness due to bad weather but what an amazing experience!

Zak Godfrey, Year 7

The Theme Park Ride

It was Zoe's 16th birthday and she was going to her favourite theme park, Splash Planet. She was joined by her best friend Scarlett.

They were so excited about the day ahead and wasn't sure which ride to head to first.

After talking about the different rides, they decided to go on the log flume, so they could dry out over the day if they got too wet. They made their way across the park, weaving through the crowds. They waited in line for 15 minutes, excitedly talking about the fun they were going to have. The ride would last approximately 5 minutes.

As they set off, the ride was smooth apart from the small bumps of the log hitting the sides of the ride. As the ride continued, they were laughing and joking, taking in all the scenery. They even discussed what ride to go on next, and when to stop for lunch.

The flume started to climb a massive hill, heading into a tunnel, ready to drop into the best part of the ride, 'the splash zone' this is where you get soaking!

Just as it got near to the top, after entering the dark tunnel, the ride stopped with a judder and a bang. They waited for the drop, they knew it would be coming, they waited and waited.

Nothing happened...

It was dark, quiet and eerie. They held their breath, listening carefully, for noise, any noise, that told them drop was coming. Still they waited patiently.

A few minutes passed.

Were they stuck or was the ride testing them pausing for maximum effect?

Either way, they were starting to get scared. They weren't even sure if anyone knew something was wrong...

They started panicking, screaming for help, but they weren't sure if they could be heard. Zoe wasn't sure what to do.

She screamed at Scarlett 'We need to get off!' but Scarlett was frozen to the spot. Zoe shook her, and saw she needed to take charge.

Without help, she wasn't sure they would get to safety, but she knew she had to try. She took her phone out so she could use the torch and light the way. She found the emergency stairs and convinced Scarlett they needed to move.

Just then, a voice came out of the darkness, they screamed loudly. So loudly they had trouble hearing the voice telling them to stay calm and stay in the boat.

Emergency lights came on.

Rescuers were on their way and be with them soon. They sat back down, huddled together with their fear disappearing knowing that someone knew the danger they were facing.

The rescuers appeared from the dark. Small torches on their heads. Smiling at the girls.

They noticed the emergency break had been applied. They released the lever and the boat started bobbing around on the water once more.

The first rescuer asked Zoe if they wanted to get off or continue. The girls were worried. Should they stay on or go with the rescue team?

Zoe wanted to stay on, telling Scarlett that the worst had already happened. Asking her what could go wrong now? The rescuers said they would stay until they were safe, so they climbed in the boat with the girls and pushed them off.

They plummeted down the drop, laughing and screaming, forgetting the ordeal they had just been through. They were soaked.

Laughing and thanking the rescuers they got off the ride and continued with their day.

Tammy-Faith Ohara, Year 7

Looking Up at the Stars

Once upon a time there was a boy named William and every night he would go up a steep hill next to his house and would always sit down and look up at the stars, and would just think how serene it looked in the sky. There were multiples of large and tiny stars floating in the dark sky, William would always wonder how many stars he was looking up at in the distance. He would stay up so late without even realizing the time because how distracted he was wondering around on the big hill. He was getting really sleepy so he decided to go in the house and go sleep in his comfy bed. 10 hours later. 'Ahh it's finally morning' William said in an exhausted voice. He went downstairs and made himself some coco pops, when he had finished his cereal he wanted to just go and watch some television. 1 hour later.

William had finally stopped watching some television and went outside back on the steep hill he absolutely forgot that the stars wouldn't be out at this time. So when he was walking down from his steep hill his dad came along and asked William to come with him to a field and pick up some sweet-corn for their dinner. So William went with his dad it didn't take that long then he expected only 20 minutes or so. They arrived back to their home as William was opening the car door he rushed to his house and went to his bed room went into his wardrobe and went to take his diary, he sat on his bed closing his door to make sure no one was listening to him.

Dear diary,

Today has been alright already me and my dad went out to a sweet-corn field which was fun because I like going to places like that and especially when the sun is out and the weather is warm. I haven't done much till then but it has been a peaceful morning and were having lunch soon and I'm really hungry already so I'm ready to eat some very tasty food.

That's all for the day diary I'll write soon bye.

Once William had finished writing in his book he went and asked his dad if he could have someone over for the night, his dad said yes! William was happy so he called his friend Lewis and asked to come over 'Sure William will come over for the night that would be really nice' Lewis said in a happy voice. Lewis came over in one hour with his bags packed and ready to be put on his bed. It was lunch time and the two boys were both really excited. They had a Patty with a glass of water. 'Yum that's so good' William said. 'Yep agreed' Lewis said. The boys played in the garden for a bit waiting for night to come and to have dinner.

5 Hours later... 'Boys dinners ready' Williams dad said. 'Ok coming' William and Lewis both said it at the same time. Mash potato with peas and sweet-corn for was dinner which was both of their favourite food, once they finished their dinner they were getting tucked in to their beds for a goodnight sleep... when Williams's dad went to bed William asked Lewis to follow him. They went on his steep hill and showed him all the pretty stars and all about them. 'So beautiful William thanks for showing me this!' Lewis said in a happy voice. 'You're welcome Lewis' William said.

They stayed up on the hill and fell asleep without realizing

Neeve Kemble, Year 7

The Lonely Alien

24th December 2,999,

It was not only the last day of school until 10th January but also just one day until Christmas when Goo got ready to go to school. Goo sprinted to school as fast as he could until he accidentally ran into one of his classmates and fell over. "Watch where you're goin' ugly rat!" That was Bleep and his twin sister bloop, they are the school bullies. They are mean to just about everyone but most of all Goo. Since Goo was shy and everybody knows that he wouldn't fight back, least of all the school bully, he is the one they bully the most. "Sorry," Goo whispered, whimpering into the school.

As soon as Goo entered the school it wasn't an unusual sight for him. As usual everyone rushed to each side of the corridor avoided to touch him at all costs. This doesn't stop even when he gets into his class of 30 there were at least two extra aliens on each table and him sat on his own in the corner of the classroom. He sat down and took his ripped-up pencil case from his bag and started writing. His pencil case was ripped up because of an incident that happened another day. Him and three of his classmates were doing school work and when he was forced into writing every single word on the project changing his hand writing each paragraph to make it look like it wasn't just him writing one of his classmates grabbed his pencil case and started throwing it around the room.

After he and everybody else finished their morning tasks their teacher began a speech. "Listen up everyone, since it is the last day of school until the Christmas holiday and also the last day until Christmas, I have prepared some fun activities for all of you to do, the first one will go like this, you will all get into groups of three, build a robot costume for one of your group members to wear, blindfold them and guide them to a cup of water and splash it at the other groups," announced Mrs Glop.

They all got into groups except Goo, Bleep and Bloop. They decided to go with Goo. "Oi tiny, you want to be in our group and be the robot, we promise we'll make your suit real good," yelled Bleep across the room, they purposefully sit as far away as they can to Goo. "Um, ok," Goo said quietly. The thirty minutes they had trying to build their cardboard robot. They actually did a very good job and everyone around them gasped. "Has Grey actually made some friends," shouted one of Goo's classmates. Goo thought way too quickly and thought for once "Have I finally made some good friends."

At the time Goo thought they were actually being serious when Bloop explained, "We've bullied you a lot and you took none of it, you got true heart, how about you be one of our actual friends something we don't have." They tied the blindfold on as tight as they could hoping Goo wouldn't realise, they tied both of his shoelaces together. "Get ready, on your marks, go," shouted the teacher as the aliens all ran off chucking water at each other except Goo. He tripped over his shoelaces and landed in the pool of water each team gets to use to fill up their water bottle's. As you can probably tell Goo got soaked. It was at that point that not only did Goo realise his dreams of making friends didn't come true and instead he had been bamboozled, every one of his classmates burst out laughing.

"Riiiiiiiiing!"

That was the lunch bell. Goo rushed to a table all on his own until some other kids pushed him out of the way. He hit his head on the door to one of the classrooms that was near the table, everyone in the canteen started laughing. While everyone was watching Goo asked someone who pushed him out of the way onto the table, "Can I sit with you guy's please?" "Ha, no you can't, you're so ugly,

you look like a dead mouse,” the nasty kid replied. Once again everyone bursted out laughing and Goo walked slowly with his head down outside the canteen and started eating in the corridor. Suddenly a few aliens kicked down the door and sprinted outside until one of them tripped over and not only knocked Goo’s lunch onto the dirty floor his knee clattered into Goo. His friends screamed, “Blip has the Goo touch” something that the whole school planned to say even if someone accidentally touched Goo. Blip ran into the bathroom covering his knee in hand soap and water. Goo felt one hundred times more unappreciated as he had before, which was a lot.

It was the end of the day and everyone surrounded Goo in a circle all around the school playground (Goo wasn’t allowed to touch any of the equipment otherwise everyone would never ever use it anymore,) and then Bleep came through a path way made by everybody in the school. “What is going on,” Goo thought in his head extremely scared. Then suddenly Bleep pushed Goo back onto the floor “Fight me” shouted Bleep. Goo didn’t reply until he quickly clinched his fist leaned to the side and blasted the most powerful punch right onto the middle of Bleeps stomach. Bleep fell to the ground and whispered into Goo’s ear, “You got lucky”

The whole crowd around him cheered, “Goo, Goo, Goo,” this was the first moment in Goo’s life he felt he wasn’t nothing. The whole group of aliens that pushed Goo and didn’t let him sit with them at lunch came up to him begging, “Please be our friends? we’re sorry for what we did to you at lunch.”

After the Christmas break was over and they came back to school no longer did aliens avoid him. Instead down the corridor everybody was cheering for him and in class there would always be two aliens trying to get a place on the same table as him, which was no longer the corner of the room, however something was off for Goo.

He realised Bleep and Bloop were no longer at school. They moved to mars after Goo punched Bleep, and no longer was anyone getting bullied let alone Goo.

Matthew Gobey, Year 7

Aliens on Mars

2022:

Research shows that there have been reports of a creature sighted on Mars by the Rover "Spirit". All that has been seen is a sort of mucus like jelly substance that houses a small embryo, scientists appear excited to learn more about this creature. The rover will be carrying the embryo as the expedition continues.

2025:

Reports from scientists show that the "egg" has grown slightly, and the creature has grown to be more visible, it appears to be a small lizard with human-like limbs. Biologists have nicknamed it "spatium lacerta agilis" (Latin for space lizard). The proportions have grown to the size of a small dog.

2026:

We have seen that the creature has no signs of any facial features and seems to have a back with many protruding tendrils similar to that of a squid. Biologists seem to theorize that the creature uses them to move in sand much like some species of octopus. Its hind legs are that of a dog but much taller but hairless, its skin has a deep black pigment, it seems quite rubbery and shiny. At this point in time it is still in its embryo state and is now half the size of the rover.

2028:

The shell of the egg is beginning to split open very slowly; it is now much larger than the average human at approximately 8 foot tall. It seems to have no way of digesting food as it has no mouth, meaning it does not require large amounts of food to survive, this also means it has to eat some other way, this creature may have porous skin much like humans (sponge skin to take in water) but much more advanced than ours and this may also be another reason for the tentacles on its back other than movement they could be used to spread surface area to take in moisture more effectively to ensure higher survival chances.

2030:

The creature is hatching. The egg has opened up and the creature is moving, the creature starts off by taking the remnants of the egg and spreading it across the skin: this is likely for the moisture and nutrients to be taken in by its porous skin. It then seems to sit on top of the rover for easy transportation, biologists say that the creature has imprinted on the rover and believes it is its mother. It's almost double the size of a human, if this exists what other creatures might be living on other planets like neptune. Biologists are happy and proud to announce the existence of aliens in space. Scientists will send astronauts over in protective gear to examine the creature's reaction to the humans, the creature seems to be in a sort of sleep now, it is completely upright and still as the rover moves to its next destination. The creature seems to wake up and check its surroundings every once in a while, to see if there may be any sources of sustenance.

Samuel Kamas, Year 9

The House Move

One dark yet warm night, I was told by my parents that we were going to move houses, but I was not ready for that. In fact, I was very saddened by this news. I had so many memories in this town and where I lived, so I could not let go of it very easily. I had to pack all my belongings the night before we had to leave, so I was very busy with all the work that I was given. The good thing that came out of all this is that the truck that had to move all of our stuff, was arriving a day late, and because of that I was allowed to see all my friends for the whole day. When I saw them all, I was overwhelmed with happiness as it would be the last time, I would see my friends in person. They all gave me presents, which they didn't need to give, but the presents were extremely brilliant and a great memory that would stay with me. It was nearing to nightfall and I had to say my final goodbyes to my friends; but that was when I felt a slight breeze cross my face.

I was arriving at my home when I felt the same cold breeze pass my face. It felt like the atmosphere of a desolate house, lingering in the shadows. It could've been a coincidence that I felt the same breeze cross my face or there was something following me or directing me to a certain destination. I finally reached my house and I opened my front door to a sight of pure darkness clouding the house. I was frightened to the core and scared because I had no clue where my parents were. When I saw this scene occurring in my house, I fainted, and I was unconscious for around 30 minutes. I got back in my home but there was something different this time. The home was back to normal and my parents were sitting on the sofa watching a movie. I was very perplexed at this as I was either hallucinating or something outlandish was betiding.

It finally was the next day and the truck was scheduled for 9:00 am, but it never showed up. So, I became bored and I went back to my room upstairs to listen to some music. As I was hopping up the stairs, I smelt an aromatic fragrance of roses travel into my nose; I wanted to find out where this smell was starting from. I did some detecting and I concluded that the aroma was coming from the corner of my room! I never noticed the smell before, so I had no idea. I closed my room door and I saw a few screws in the wall. There was a small wooden door on my wall. I was very sure that this door was never here, and I was just seeing things. I unscrewed the door and I removed the pieces of wood covering it. There was a slight pinkish glow in the wooden tunnel, so I decided to travel inside and see what was on the other side.

I reached the other side and I saw a magnificent view. It was like an enchanted forest right before my eyes, glowing in its beauty. I climbed out of the tunnel and I wondered about in all the of natural and clean area that I came across. It was a true beauty to see all of this and its plants. I eventually came back into the real world and I found out about some great news! We weren't moving as the people who were selling the house didn't want to move to a new house either. I told everyone the good news and they were very happy to hear it. The portal was still in my home and only I knew about it, so I could use it any time I wanted. This place was meant for me and only I can see it. Does this mean that I am special?

Rayan Khalil, Year 8

The Ball Game

It was a lovely sunny day and Tim was playing football in the garden, he was kicking the ball against the wall. Tim was disappointed that he wasn't going to the game today, his Dad tried so hard to get tickets but, in the end didn't manage to get any. Everyone wanted to go, and Tim knew his team were going to be amazing. He so desperately wanted to go. He kicked the ball a little harder against the wall in frustration.

Tim could hear the phone ringing inside the house, his mum picked up and it went quiet then she called "Tim, come quickly, the phones for you"

Who would be calling Tim? At his age he didn't get many calls, unless it was his Nan, she was as big a football fan as Tim but didn't go to any games anymore, she would be excited for the match today as well.

"Alright mate?" it was Tim's Dad; he had gone out early this morning.

"I'm ok, what's up?" said Tim.

"Get ready we're going to the game!"

"Are we really? But what? How? When?" Tim couldn't believe it; he could feel the excitement bubbling inside him like a bottle of coke about to explode! "I managed to get two tickets!" Dad said.

"What time are we leaving?"

"11 o'clock, so you better get a move on"

Tim ran upstairs to his room as quick as a racehorse out of the blocks. He opened his huge chestnut wardrobe deciding what to wear. There was no choice really, he picked out the new kit for this season that he got last week, he put on a pair of jeans and his favourite shoes, and eagerly waited at the bottom of the stairs waiting for his Dad to arrive.

"Let's go, the train should be here in 10 minutes," said Dad.

Once they got to the train station, it was busy with lots of fans bustling around, all happy and excited for the game and Tim spotted lots of familiar faces, just before they got on the train, they stopped at the small hut on the platform for their traditional bag of jelly beans, they had started the tradition years ago and it was now a good luck pre-match ritual. The train was busy with passengers packed in like peas in a pod. They got off the train and looked in amazement as they saw the stadium standing high above all the other buildings like a majestic jewel crowning the city. Dad and Tim were swept along with the crowds of fans making their way towards the stadium. The atmosphere was electric, the flags of the teams fluttering in the breeze and people laughing and joking on their way to the game.

It felt like ages before the game started but then the whistle blew, the game started! Tim was on the edge of his seat, cheering and shouting for his team, a couple of near misses had him covering his eyes. Tim's favourite player had the ball, he dribbled it past a defender and smashed it into the top of the goal. The crowd went wild, Tim and his Dad jumped from their seats cheering and hugging, they had won! He knew they would be Champions at last!

On the way home they stopped for a hotdog, Tim had extra ketchup and grinned when it went all around his lips. The journey home was almost as good as the game, everyone was chatting excitedly and reliving the amazing goal.

As Tim drifted to sleep that night, still wearing his football shirt, he smiled. That was the best day ever.

Jake Rattray, Year 8

Maze

Maze was a cat on a roof. A shadow you never notice. An assassin in disguise. Hobbies such as reading, playing games and painting that people would normally do, Maze's was spying, and it was just a bonus that you could get paid krug for it as well.

She was atop the Councilmen's building, overlooking the vast sea. The waves intrigued her. Not only were they useful for escorting corpses, but the sounds, the relaxation of every crash, it interested her. How could something so subtle be so fascinating? She saw the familiar three soldiers guarding the padded building. The padded building was a highly protected area, full of secrets most soldiers didn't know let alone the public. Somewhere mysterious activities occur and though Maze's job was not to scout them in this present time, she wanted to. She had first noticed it when spying one of the guards. Later she would most likely get a job linking to them anyway so in theory this was just a trip for saved time. It confused her though why the guards (basically kids) chosen to protect one of the most important and secretive buildings were so weak and vulnerable. You had the one constantly touching the one hair above his lips calling it a moustache, the one who was daydreaming three quarters of the time and the one who started bullying the two but then seemed like it was too big of a job so just went blank. Possible punching bags mind you.

Maze gathered that Councilmen Hoede was inside, most likely with a healer. She could almost feel the aura of magic. One of her most memorable jobs was getting intel on Hoede. You would think the most important person in Ketterderm would be heavily guarded and so would be a challenge and a half getting information on him, but because of his low IQ of guards and Maze's skill, it only took 10 minutes to get everything she needed.

Unlike the majority of Ketterdam, Maze didn't have powers. She was mortal, could not read people's minds, nor heal wounds, it was just her and her knives. But in the end, that's all she needed. Ketterdam was a place of deals, propersitions, everyone who was there was a tourist, in debt to someone or was a leader making the deals. No one there had the decision to stay, everyone just needed krug, and the only reason for that was to leave and to never come back.

She was still perched on the roof, the tiles starting to stab at her legs. She was waiting for something interesting to happen. It had been a week with no seen drama and Maze had started to get desperate; besides of violence, drama was the only entertainment she had, and with an order to stay low, though it disappointed her, violence wasn't really an option. She started to carve the tiles with her knives before she heard a girl scream. She looked up; eyes sighted on the building. Finally, where's the popcorn? She vaulted her legs over the tiles, silently landing on a near building and rested on a water pipe connecting to the house. Two armed soldiers ran into the cell, carrying what seemed to be M13s. She slid to the left, having a better sight of the harbour and then she saw it, the body of a girl being thrown into the sea. Maze laughed, throw a body into the sea without any body bag or bin liners, anyone could recognise the girl. Get supermarket bag, something. Rookies, Maze thought, she chuckled to herself and left the scene.

Crystal Close, Year 9

The Boy with the Starry Dream

On one wintry night, Tim was doing a challenge for a YouTube video. The challenge was to sleep outside overnight in -8 degrees celcius. The only thing that he had was a blanket that wasn't very thick at all. He then fell asleep looking up at the stars. He started dreaming nearly 10 minutes after he started sleeping. He dreamed about him having superpowers and being able to show off to his crush, when all of a sudden... HIS GREATEST ENEMY SHOWED UP. Stronger than ever with the stone of invincibility. Tim knew he couldn't destroy him, but he could give him a good run for his money. The battle began as they both flew at each other with speed of unseen amounts. Tim's enemy (Sparktor,) yelled, "lightning strike."

A HUGE lightning bolt came smashing down onto Tim, stunning him whilst his enemy beats him on the ground. He managed to get back up and yelled "Iron FIST," and punched Sparktor straight in the jaw and did barely anything. It was a decoy. He turned around and got punched across the face. Sparktor started floating again. He went to attack when he got blocked by the most powerful person in the world. LEN. He saved Tim's life. Len then flew up and started yelling different attacks and beating the hell out of sparktor. The stone of invincibility fell straight into Tim's hand. He absorbed the power as Len said proudly "You can finish this fight my man."

"Really?" asked Tim puzzled and confused. "I don't think I-"

"You can do it. You know the superhero that you always wanted to be; this will get you one step closer." Explained Len with an intimidating voice.

"Do it before he gets up and is able to leave." Tim aimed his wrist and shouted "LASER BLASSST." A massive laser beam came and shot straight at sparktor and turned into dust. He then DESTROYED the rock of invincibility and high fived Len. Tim expressed "Thank you for saving me." He then whispers, "My crush is over there and I'm pretty embarrassed. Can you help?"

Len nodded. "Sure, why not."

Tim wakes up the next morning and ends his YouTube video and gets dressed for school. He doesn't even eat and goes straight to school, and straight to the playground where the dream was held with everyone exactly where they were in the dream. But this time, he knows Sparktor's attacks and counters them. Len shows up again but this time not to help but to ask Tim "Want to join the most elite superhero team in the galaxy?" Tim nods his head frantically. He gets given a badge and some bubble gum. He chews the bubble gum and then blows. The balloon pops and his fighting suit appears. His crush walks over and gives him a hug. Then Tim says, "will you date me Maren?" Maren answers very quickly "Yes, oh my god Yes." excited as she could be.

Len then comes over and says, "I may present you, Girlfriend and boyfriend." Everyone claps. The girls celebrate with Maren and the boys celebrate with Tim and Len. Everyone gets along and Tim helps around the world with crime and getting prisoners into jail.

That evening Tim and Maren went on a date round Tim's house and looked up at the stars where it all began.

Lennie Flavin, Year 8

The Magical Portal

Rhianna was walking home from school, late Monday afternoon, when she received a text from her mum. She looked down at her phone and looked at the message. It read: I won't be home till later on tonight, I have a meeting. Sorry sweetie xx.

Rhianna replied to her mum: Its ok, I'll just have a quiet night in xx. Rhianna put her phone back in her pocket and proceeded her walk home.

A few minutes later, Rhianna got home and opened the door. She frowned immediately. There was a strange whistling/knocking sound that she could hear. It seemed like it was coming from the spare room. She placed her school bag down in the hallway and quietly tip-toed up the stairs, shaking with fear.

"Hello?" She called out once she had nearly gotten to the top of the stairs. She then blushed because she realised how silly that probably sounded. The sound stopped. Rhianna scuttled over to the spare room door and put her ear up to the door. She still couldn't hear anything. She put her shaking hand on the door handle and opened the door. She stepped inside.

"What the...?" She muttered, confused. There was nothing in there! Just their spare bed, a plant and a stack of cardboard boxes in the corner. Just. Like. Normal. Rhianna was astounded, what was that noise? She had definitely heard it. She looked around the room but found nothing.

"Maybe I'm just being silly," she thought, "But I'll call anyway." She got her phone and called her mum.

Her mum answered straight away.

"Rhianna I'm in a meeting," She said crossly. "What's wrong?"

"Mum weird things are happening! When I got home there was a weird noise, and I went to see where it came from and it stopped."

"What?"

"Please come home mum, I'm scared!" Rhianna said desperately.

"I can't sorry Rhianna! I'm working, I'm sure your fine, and maybe you're tired? Go and have a nap," her mum said "I've got to go now darling; I'll see you soon! Bye...!"

"But mum..."

"Rhianna I'll be home soon, okay? Just give me an hour or so. Bye! Love you!"

"Bye, love you too..." Rhianna said before hanging up and going up stairs for a nap, even though wasn't even tired, but she decided to do what her mum had said. She set an alarm to wake her up in half an hour.

Rhianna woke up with a start and looked around. There was a loud knocking/whistling sound like before, and she started shaking with fright again.

"Hello?" She whispered, but this time it didn't stop. She jumped out of bed and grabbed a candle (this was the only heavy object she could grab quickly) and walked over to the spare room and opened the door. There was a bright purple-blue light shining through her eyes- there was a strong wind gushing all around the bedroom, it was so powerful she could feel herself moving.

"What the-?"

Then she heard her mum unlock the front door and come in

"Hello darling I'm home!"

Rhianna fell with relief... "MUM! Help! Look at this, it looks like a portal!"

Dionne Prescod, Year 7

Magical Portal

Hunter and Frazier were chasing each other through the house just like Brother's do when Hunter ran straight into his Mother's shiny clean patio door. Frazier watched with shock as his Brother disappeared before his eyes. Frazier shouted, "Hunter where are you?" to which there was no reply.

Hunter stood in shock looking around him at unfamiliar surroundings. He saw a turquoise stream ahead of him with a pink mist floating above it. He could see colours darting quickly through the water. Slowly, Hunter approached the strange looking stream for a closer look. He could see every colour of the rainbow moving around in the stream but could not tell what it was.

Then suddenly a deep voice said "Stop, who might you be? What is your business here? Hunter froze with fear as a multi coloured creature appeared from the stream. Again, the creature said "who might you be? What is your business here? Hunter replied "My name is Hunter. I was playing with my Brother and I ran into a patio door and now I am here, where am I?"

The multi coloured creature smiled and said "You have arrived at Rhune, my magical kingdom. My name is Bodhi". Hunter felt calm that Bodhi seemed friendly but confused how he was in Rhune. Everything around him looked and felt magical. Bodhi took Hunter's hand and the pair of them began to float in the air. Bodhi guided Hunter through his kingdom. Floating just above ground level, Hunter took in the scenery.

The flowers were yellow and in the shape of huge stars and the trees looked like candy floss and were full of little blue birds singing. There were giant purple toadstools with white spots that smelt like lavender. At the end of the turquoise stream was a waterfall. The waterfall appeared aquarium blue and the water was drizzling down onto the smooth looking rocks. At the bottom of the waterfall was a tropical looking pool with large feathered ferns surrounding it and in the middle of the pool there was a funny looking blue bird standing on one leg.

Hunter was impressed at this magical place but wanted to go back home. He asked Bodhi how he could return home. Bodhi explained that there was a magical portal that he would need to enter in order to get back home. Hunter soon realised that when he hit the patio door at his home, it must have been the entry point to Rhune. His patio door must have been a magical portal!

Bodhi guided Hunter to an old looking grey stone wall and said "This is where our adventure ends. You must walk directly into the wall and that will take you safely back to your home". Hunter looked confused but thanked Bodhi as he floated away from him.

Hunter took a deep breath, closed his eyes and walked into the stone wall. When he opened his eyes his Brother Frazier said "Where have you been hiding? I have looked everywhere for you." Hunter laughed and replied, "I have been on a magical journey to Rhune and I met Bodhi!"

Myles Lemont, Year 7

The Unexpected Call

Tessa was currently watching a movie downstairs; her parents were out and none of her friends could hang out so she decided to just eat some microwave popcorn along with some coke.

That was until halfway through the movie the house phone began to ring, she ignored it the first time and then the second and the third before she finally stopped being her lazy self and skipped over to the phone annoyed by how persistent the caller was.

"Hello! Adam's residence, how may I help you," Tessa said in the happiest voice she could try to sound like to sound dead inside.

"Oh, hello. Yes, I wish to speak to the Michael Adams," The voice replied back in a way where he wasn't even trying to sound happy.

Tessa contemplated if she should tell this stranger that her parents weren't home then again, he did know her dad's name but so did everyone in the town.

"Uh, sorry he's asleep right now. I wouldn't wanna wake him. I can leave a message for you though," Tessa suggested about to grab a pen and paper before she heard something snap over the phone.

"Sir, are you ok?" She asked a little concerned by the random sound

"I know they're not home. You don't have to lie," He spoke with a little bit of a sadistic tone

"I assure you; they are. I just don't wanna wake my dad, last time he got really mad," Tessa joked before chuckling nervously trying not to be scared.

"I just told you I know they're not home so stop lying isn't it impolite!" The man shouted a little too loudly causing Tessa to pull it away from her ear.

"Look I'm hanging up now bye," Tessa spoke coldly going to put the phone down

"Oh know you're not cause I'll go in your house right now and take you I know your parents aren't in there's cars are gone and I saw them leave," The man spoke as Tessa felt as if he was smiling over the phone she decided not to reply and let him continue speaking.

"Good I've got your attention don't I now listen very carefully you're going to go upstairs don't hang up the phone leave it on the side counter your on now," He paused probably letting the fact that he knew Tessa was at the counter sink in.

"Y-y-yeah then what do I do?" She stammered

"I want you to take as much money as you can, find put it in a bag and dump it on your outside patio and there better be a lot," The man explained the last bit his spoke with grimace.

"You know if this is about money and your robbing us why are you doing it over the phone?" Tessa questioned trying to sound confident.

"Look, I have a gun pointed at your head. Go get the money!!" He screamed down the phone as a bullet shot through window into a cabinet. "Next time it's you. So, move!" He ordered.

Joshua Mitchell, Year 9

The Martian

On the freezing cold planet that is Mars 100ft under the surface lies the Martian civilisation that has been misinterpreted by earthlings who are blissfully unaware of their true appearance. These green skinned aliens, appearance is one that spreads fear over the beholder of their complexion. The males have scaly arms as wide as a tree trunk with four spikes on each arm. Equally wide legs that have gnarled toes commonly mistaken for tree roots and a dagger like exoskeleton on their shins. A five-foot-long tail with the strength of a bull whip when their used in combat. One thing the males and females have in common is a skinny, yet muscular torso plated with scales that are stronger than the ones on other parts of the body. Females have shoulders shaped like spikes with bone-like arms with two fingers that have razor sharp claws. Backward bending legs like a flamingo, with six stubby feet. Males heads resemble that of a dragon's whereas the females heads are like that of the siren as they to trick their prey into coming close before killing them.

As they resemble a dragon the males can fly at speeds of 250 miles per hour which is nothing compared to the females, super speed of 460 miles per hour. Both possess, telekinesis but the males have stronger psychic abilities and often use them to form barriers to protect them from attacks. The dragon headed Martians can breathe fire of up to 100 degrees Fahrenheit to melt the chunks of ice into their homes. When threatened the females use an electric shock to defend themselves which if luck is on their side paralyzes the opponent. Battles can only consist if the opponents are the same gender as both have advantages the other does not meaning the battle could go on for hours. The only reasons to battle would either be for entertainment or to win the hand in matrimony. Forfeiting the battle would mean that you would be excluded from all other life forms or activities to train until you were ready to fight; the maximum you could wait for is 2 years. However you will be trained how to fight in case you need to defend yourself against invaders, sand serpents, frost dragons or even your family as the males are one track minded and only wish to fight to bring honour to themselves so as to get the chance to battle the champion as if you win you become champion and are treated as an equal to the king or queen.

To summarise the Martians are a secret species native to Mars and they hide within the planets crust and the males use the fire breath to melt the ice to turn it into their homes. These species desire to battle can only be associated with the word bloodlust as they will never back down from a fight and die trying to win and prove they are the superior.

Nathaniel Pike, Year 7

Rude Ryan and The Ring

Hi. My name is Ryan and my life changed with a ring.

People call me 'Rude Ryan'. This is because I have a lot of enemies that think I'm rude, but actually they are the rude ones.

At school I am always doing good. I always listen I always answer questions and I always get 100% on tests. All my enemies think that I cheat on tests and think I am rude to smart people to get the answers... but I am just smart.

One day, I was with my friend and she managed to convince me to buy a lottery ticket. I never normally buy one as I believe that they are just a waste of money, but I did anyway. The next day, I was watching the lottery news and saw that my numbers were the numbers on the winning lottery ticket.

That's when I got the call.

"Hey. Well done you won the lottery," the voice said. "Come to the lottery station and redeem your ticket."

They told me the address and I went there.

The building they sent me to was an old building that had bricks crumbling and the paint peeling off. When I went inside, there was shattered glass everywhere and a gun on the side. I picked it up and I checked the ammo. It was fully loaded.

Suddenly, a man snuck out from a corner he had hazel brown hair and a long messy beard. His clothes wear ripped and covered in dirt. He was wearing no shoes and had a knife in his.

"Put the gun down boy. We don't want anyone to get hurt now do we?"

I pointed the gun at the guy.

"Come on boy, just give me the ticket and you can go."

I looked at the guy. He looked familiar. That's when it hit me.

This man was England's no.1 wanted fugitive. Why did he want a lottery ticket?

I held the gun Infront of me and shot the guy's leg. He fell onto the floor with a scream of pain and I ran.

I pulled out his phone and watched the guy through the window. He dialled 999 and the cops came straight away. The guy got arrested and I was surrounded by news reporters.

The next day at school everyone loved me.

I had cashed in the lottery ticket and got a reward payment from the police as there was a million on the guys arrest!

My name changed to 'Rich Ryan' and everyone wanted to hang out with me.

I decided though that I wanted to move as I knew that none of those people were my real friends.

So, I moved to Cornwall and joined a surfing club. In my school no one knew about what had happened, yet so I know that they are my true friends.

Although, soon enough I became more popular when the news hit them about what I did I became famous.

The Birds

Have you ever noticed that no matter how hard you plan things they still seem to go wrong? Well this is what happened to Tom and me. It will start it on a Wednesday, nothing special, nothing different, we decided to have a walk in the Woods and do some bird watching.

I don't really like birds or find them that interesting, but birds are Toms favourites. he could talk about them all day; so, at 11:00 AM we packed our lunches and binoculars and off we went. The closest wood was behind my house so in two minutes we were there.

Deeper and deeper we went spotting lots of different birds along the way. Tom took pictures and wrote about them in his diary. We stopped under a large tree when it was time to eat. I was extra hungry as I had missed my breakfast but as soon as I had had my lunch in front of me 100 birds appeared out of nowhere and started to steal my lunch.

I tried to wave away, I tried to scare them, but it was to no use. They soon had eaten all my food up. I looked at Tom and saw that his food has been eaten as well.

We were both shocked but still hungry so instead of continuing our bird hunting trip we had to go back to my house to make lunch again. We both now knew to never trust the birds around our lunch!

Stars

I lay awake in my bed looking at the stars. I know I need to sleep but with all the strange things going on it's hard to settle.

Nothing in the world is normal anymore, things changed the blink of an eye. All of what I took for granted was taken away from me when I was put into 'Lockdown'. Children are expected to put on a brave face and just get on with things but it's hard. My parents are both what is labelled 'key workers' which means that even with the new virus going around they still have to go to work and act as normal.

I have to do with my schoolwork at home which is harder some things I haven't learned yet so I have to wait for my mum to finish work so she can teach me, but I think I'm doing okay. I'm trying my best but it's hard.

It's hard to be normal. It's hard to act like I'm not scared. It's hard not to miss everyone.

So, I like to lay looking up at the stars that never change.

Harry Grange, Year 7