

# Quartet

Issue 85  
Autumn 2013

## MINTLAW ACADEMY VOTES.....



Find out the  
results...

# Miss Mitchell



**Q. How has your time at Mintlaw Academy been so far?**

*A. It has been very good! The staff and pupils are very friendly and have made me feel welcome.*

**Q. If you weren't a Modern Languages teacher what would you be?**

*A. When I was young I wanted to be a lawyer, so maybe that's what I would be doing instead.*

**Q. What did you do before you came to Mintlaw?**

*A. I have had lots of different jobs, including lifeguard, shop assistant, a restaurant manager and call centre worker. Last year I was teaching at Fraserburgh Academy.*

**Q. Do you have any hobbies and if so what are they?**

*A. I likes to cross stitch, bake cakes and read crime novels. But my favourite hobby is playing roller derby along with*

*Miss Pert. It is a fast, fun game and it helps me to de-stress if I need to!*

**Q. What is your favourite kind of biscuit?**

*A. Caramel wafers.*

**Q. If you were an animal what kind would you be, and why?**

*A. Giraffes are my favourite animal so I'd have to be one of them. They are elegant and graceful...which is what I would love to be!*

**Q. What is your favourite childhood memory?**

*A. My favourite childhood memory is singing karaoke with my Mum on holiday in Crete.*

**Q. What is the funniest thing that has happened to you?**

*A. It would probably have to be whilst working as a lifeguard on a beach in Fife. I hired a pedalo with some friends, but we accidentally managed to sink it. It was very embarrassing when the other lifeguards tried to rescue me. I refused help and swam to shore.*

**Q. If you won the lottery would you keep on teaching and what would the money go towards?**

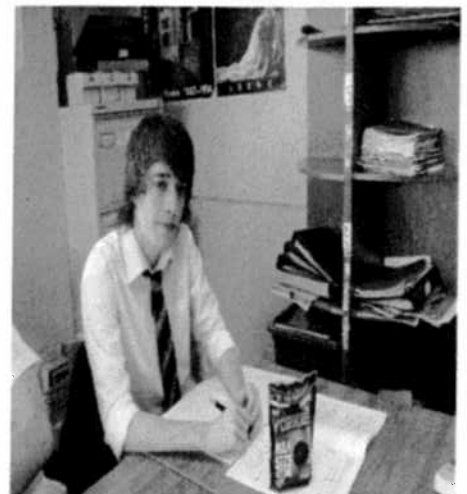
*A. That's a tough one! I think I would have to keep teaching (at least part time) because I like the people so much. With the money, I would buy a huge house with my own private roller derby track.*

Vielen Dank and merci boucoup, Miss Mitchell!

## Competition Winners

Winners of last term's wordsearch were fourth year Rebecca Bruce (1<sup>st</sup>), with Dirk De Vries coming 2<sup>nd</sup> and Rory Thomson coming third. Here they are pictured with their prizes.

Don't forget to enter this term's wordsearch. Prizes will be awarded for the top three correct entries drawn on the last day of term.



# Charities

At the end of last term, the Charities Committee collected a magnificent £336.32 for Cancer Research UK which was handed over to Miss Coleman.

Meanwhile, this term, members of the committee have been going round the registration classes to raise money for the Poppy Scotland Appeal. As well as selling the usual poppies, this year the Charities Committee have been making their own poppies on which pupils and staff can write the name of someone they wish to remember. In addition, poppy balloons will be released on the 8<sup>th</sup> November at break. Mr Horberry along with the Head Boy and Girl are also planning to attend the remembrance ceremony at the war memorial

# poppy scotland

## SUPPORTING OUR HEROES

in the centre of Mintlaw on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November to lay the school's poppy wreath.

The Charities Committee will be raising money this year for the Scottish Air Ambulance, The Salvation Army and Cancer Research. There is scope for lots more fundraising to be done by the Houses so if anyone has any good ideas, please come to the Charities

Committee, which is held in F8, any Monday at 1pm.

Finally, on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September, one of our S4 pupils Alexander Bethune had his head shaved for charity, with the money he has raised in sponsorship going to Cancer Research. If you see Alex, please thank him for his brave effort!

## MurisonPrize

Each year, a shield known as the Murison Prize is awarded for the Best Writing in Scots. This year, the prize was won by Sarah Keith with a piece of descriptive writing. Second was Nadine Murphy with a poem, "Oot and Aboot", and third was Joanne Lowe with "Fairmer Rob".

### Sarah's Description

On the tap o the mountain, among i rocks and girse and i taps o i trees and rabbit holes stood a tal, lonely tree wi yirs o gettin battered aboot by i harsh wins and i weight o i sna which fell upon it ivery winter. It wis a sma, puny lookin tree

wi a its branches a shrivelt an bare. Bit if yi climbt ti the tap, ye could see fir miles oot ower the valley.

Yi could see i loch restin at i bottom o i mountain an a thick blanket o mist driftin oot ower the watter. An islan sat in the middle wi a sma rowin boat draggit up on tae the beach. The aul hoose on i islan wis rin doon an half rotten, but ay glaikit aul mannie still bade ere regardless. I mountains opposite were muckle great big an i sna awyes bade on i peaks. Tall forests an a sorts o beasties could be fun on at mountains, bit there wis only the odd bush or tree on is een.

I sky wis a dark shade o grey noo an yi could see that rain wisna far awa, as the mighty strang gusts o win whistl't ben the howe. The win brocht cal and fog ontae the tap. It wis a gran view fae the tap of the tree, bit climmin it was aye tricky, since the branches were gye brittle an ae wrang move and ye could fin yersel in an affa trouble. Wi only the aul, strange mannie on the islan tae see yi up here, yid be wytin a filie fur help...

# INDEPENDENCE YES / NO YOU DECIDE



## THE REFERENDUM

With young people not turning out to vote at elections and interest in voting remaining very low in recent years, Aberdeenshire Council thought it would be a good idea to organise a school wide referendum, especially as senior students, 16 and over, will have a vote in 2014. So on the 17<sup>th</sup> September 2013, all 21 secondary school students in the Aberdeenshire area

were asked to vote on a simple question, 'Should Scotland be an independent country?'

## THE CAMPAIGN

Campaign teams quickly organised themselves. The No campaign chose George Blair (S5) and Sophie Anderson (S4) as their agents. The Yes campaign chose Craig Lyttel (S6) and Antonia Uri (S6). Both groups decided to run the campaign as realistically as possible. They decided to do an opinion poll survey of each registration class before starting their campaigns. This allowed them to get an idea of where their support lay and which year groups they needed to target. The initial survey showed 55% of students said they would vote "No", 20% said they would vote "Yes" and 25% said they didn't know how they would vote.

The Yes campaign decided to concentrate on winning over



the Don't Knows and winning over unsure No voters. The No campaign decided to try and maintain their lead. Both groups decided to concentrate on new technology to get their message across. Facebook was considered but the logistics of setting up a public account were considered overly complicated. Tweets were avoided as group members thought this would only attract the abuse of school trolls – something politicians have to live with! E-mails were therefore used a lot by both groups.

The groups decided to win support by giving out lots of lollipops and pens, which went quickly. A referendum newsletter was produced, there was a display in the library and both groups had democracy walls in the E block for posters and leaflets. In the final week of the campaign, both groups decided to distribute leaflets through the registration packs on different days, like free postal leaflets





before every election. The Yes campaign cleverly decided to use the opinion poll survey to direct their leaflets to registration classes with lots of Don't Know voters.

### THE ISSUES

Despite students not paying any taxes, the big issues of the adult referendum were highlighted in the school campaign: child poverty, keeping the Queen, keeping the pound, North Sea oil, the banks, the army and nuclear weapons. Also highlighted were saving the Pandas and keeping Daleks on our television screens! Sport was also highlighted as the No campaign said we would lose Team GB while the Yes campaign championed Scottish football. The No campaign ended by using



Winston Churchill as an inspiration while the Yes campaign brought in William Wallace/Mel Gibson as their inspiration.

### THOSE CLOSING REMARKS

"We shall defend our island, whatever the cost may be..." – Vote No!

"They may take away our lives, but they'll never take our freedom!" – Vote Yes!

### THE VOTE

On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September the poll took place between 9.15 am and 3.30 pm in the Social Area. Voting went very smoothly under the leadership of the presiding officers: Natasha Walker (S6), Sarah Lewis (S6) and Megan Duthie (S6) with support from a large group of volunteer S5/S6 polling clerks. On the 18<sup>th</sup> September, campaign group members and counters attended the referendum vote at Meldrum Academy. They then emptied the three ballot boxes and got down to counting.

### THE RESULT

**Mintlaw Academy: NO voters – 473, Yes voters – 153**  
**Aberdeenshire Result: No voters - 8,718, Yes voters - 2,847**

A year from the day - on the 18<sup>th</sup> September 2014 - voters who are 16 or over will have their say in the Scottish wide referendum.

## Second Years Vote Yes or No to Independence

Recently the S2 Modern Studies Tuition Group held a mini-election with a difference. The pupils divided themselves into two teams and went through the election campaign process. They were judged on the best rosette, flag, canvassing leaflet, teamwork and campaign speech. Mr. Paterson, Faculty Head of Social Subjects, was brought in to do the final judging on the day. Awards were presented for each category. The teams were neck and neck as they had produced work to a very high standard. The final decision was made by the pupils themselves, who voted in the classroom voting booth and the 'yes' team won by a very narrow margin. Mr. Paterson presented each pupil with a certificate of achievement, which had been signed by Mr. Horberry, who was impressed by the standard of work. Each pupil also received a positive referral for all their hard work for the event.



# Belgium 2013



**“At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them.”**

This quotation from Laurence Binyon sums up the purpose of the Battlefields Experience, according to Mr Kilpatrick who went on the trip. The trip lasted from Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September to Friday 6<sup>th</sup>, but many pupils wish it had been longer.

The group’s itinerary was filled to the brim with many exciting activities such as trench visits and memorial and grave visits, finishing with a day in Bruges, where everyone had some spare time.

34 pupils and 3 teachers went on the trip, and we decided to interview a few of them to see how it went.

## **MR KILPATRICK**

**Question: What was your favourite part of the trip?**

**Mr KP:** For me, going to the trenches was the most significant part of the trip. The Somme Battlefield was especially poignant for me as it hit home the scale of the slaughter that happened on the first day of the battle. I found the pupils were genuinely shocked at the scale of the killings, and the message of the futility of war was learned deeply and emotionally.

**Question: What kind of things did you do?**

**Mr KP:** We were busy all day, and the pupils worked extremely hard often completing 12 hour days. However no one complained and the enjoyment of learning such an important message meant that the hard work passed in a flash. We mostly learned about history and it was great to be able to work out of the classroom in a stimulating and real environment. Pupils experienced first-hand the horrors of war, and the sacrifices of a generation of young men who gave everything to fight for their country. We visited trenches and war memorials. The Theipval Memorial to the



missing had approximately 74,000 names of the fallen on it and it was amazing and sad to see so many names in real life.

Pupils also had some free time in Bruges, which is a walled medieval city and they enjoyed sight seeing, buying souvenirs and eating local dishes (chips with mayonnaise!). This was the perfect end to an emotional trip before returning on the ferry.

**Question: Did you mind the travelling that you had to do on the trip?**

**Mr KP:** Well, the return journey on the ferry was made especially interesting by having to share the ferry with 800 Belgian football supporters, who added a touch of good-natured colour and noise to the

journey at the end of our trip.

**We also interviewed a 5<sup>th</sup> year pupil to get her take on the trip.**

**Question: What was your favourite part of the trip?**

**Hope:** For me, going to the Theipval Memorial was amazing. It is a stone memorial dedicated to 74,000 unknown soldiers. We each tried to find someone with the same last name as us, but it was so difficult because the memorial was huge. It was really emotional and hard to stomach when you saw the masses of names on the memorial.

**Question: Would you recommend the trip to other pupils?**

**Hope:** Definitely! I loved the trip, and the whole experience was amazing. Bruges in particular was spectacular and I only wish we had had longer there. Six days wasn't long enough; I could have stayed forever! For me the trip was definitely a success and the best school experience I've ever had.

**Thanks to Mr Kilpatrick and Hope for sharing their experiences.**



# Ellie Moore . . . .

Fourth year pupil Ellie Moore caught the circus bug back in S1, and since then she has been keen to learn as many of the skills of the Circus Arts as she can. This summer, she got the chance to further her interest at an International Circus Festival in France, and also performed at the renowned Edinburgh Fringe. We asked her about her incredible experiences...

## ***How did you get involved in circus skills?***

"We did an hour and a half of taster workshops in first year and I discovered I quite liked it. Then I went to a couple more workshops during the holidays and have not looked back since."

## ***When did the opportunity for the trips arise?***

"I was told in October/November time last year that there was going to be a festival in Grenoble, France in the summer of 2013, and we were invited. Then just before we left for France, I was told

we'd got the chance to go to a youth circus festival in Edinburgh too."

## ***What did you get up to while you were away?***

"In France, we had to put on a show and perform it to everyone else that was there from around the world. It went brilliantly and directors from other companies asked us to take the show to their countries in a few months. We also got to take part in workshops, perform in two huge parades, take part in another show and watch everyone else's performances. We got to see some amazing sights of Grenoble and we got to visit Paris as well! In Edinburgh we took part in loads of workshops and we watched incredible shows from professional performers. We also got to perform in a cabaret, performing to other youth circuses from around the UK; and that meant I got to perform my routine in the Edinburgh Fringe to two thousand people!"

## ***What kind of workshops were you involved in?***

"In France, I did workshops in Commedia dell'Arte which is an old traditional form of Italian comedy from which a lot of clowning and slapstick came. It was taught by an awesome Italian dude called Alberto who is also a musician, and he taught us loads of songs in other languages. Parts of the workshop was taught in Italian, so once I got used to it, I learnt some Italian too!



We did loads of workshops in Edinburgh including clowning, bushing, hat manipulation, walking globe, devils tricks and Diablo, tumbling, stage fighting, handstands, juggling and puppeteering. I also got to do a juggling workshop with a chap named Sean Gandini who is quite a well known professional juggler! I got to help run workshops for the public in the Botanic Gardens as well."

## ***What did you learn while you were away?***

"Over the six weeks summer holidays I learned so much! I learnt loads from the workshops that I never thought I would. Not only that, but it was great meeting people from all over the UK and the world that all do the same thing. I've gained friends, confidence and had a lot of fun!"







# Engineering & Science update

## Offshore Europe

On Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> and Friday 6<sup>th</sup> of September, the Higher Technical Studies class and the Energy Girls were given the opportunity to visit the Offshore Europe event, allowing them the chance to talk to the hundreds of Oil & Gas companies which were in attendance. The event was held at the AECC, with 5 sections covering the entire complex, filled with 1500+ suppliers and exhibitors. The Higher Tech Studs class was accompanied by Mr Melrose to attend the Education Day at the event. The class was first split into two groups and were taken to Opito, which is a training organisation, where they were given a full introductory lecture

with the opportunity to speak to the representatives from different areas of the oil sector. The areas ranged from Human Resources and the economic sector of the oil industry to civil, mechanical and electrical engineering. The purpose of the trip was to give students an introduction to the possible employment opportunities of the industry, and chances to interact with companies and employers. The groups were then appointed three different companies. Companies included Aker Solutions and GDF Suez, and other hugely successful giants of the oil industry. With each company, they had the chance to talk to employees and recruiters, and they were also given a full presentation, offering insight into what each company did.

These sessions proved to be very useful, and a lot of the students left the event with a much clearer view of what kind of career they would like to have in the future. Another success of the trip was the chance for the ROV group of the school to ask around the different companies for the possibility of a sponsorship deal.



## ENGINEERING ROAD SHOW

This term Mintlaw Academy hosted an interactive Science and Engineering roadshow called 'A Rough Guide to Engineering'. Three shows were presented throughout the day to all S2 pupils and S3 Physics pupils.

The show took pupils on a journey around the world, showing the different types of engineering disciplines and highlighting where engineering is used in all sorts of day to day experiences.

The presenter engaged the pupils in lots of interactive activities and they were encouraged to volunteer to help demonstrate various aspects of engineering. For

example aeronautical engineering was highlighted by using a colourful wind up bird and then asking a volunteer to hold a giant beach ball whilst having jets of air fired at them from a giant leaf blower. The beach ball floated in the air flow, thus demonstrating lift.

Civil engineering was also highlighted by discussing earthquake-proof buildings which involved volunteers pushing a moving platform to and fro whilst the demonstrator stood on top holding a tray of jelly.

There was plenty to entertain and inform the pupils throughout the show and most

felt that it had been a very entertaining and useful experience.



## Edward Flinn signs for St Johnstone



**Quartet caught up with Edward and found out about his exciting new chapter in this fourth year pupil's footballing career.**

Edward told us how it all began.

"I have been a keeper since I was ten. I played three years at Ellon Meadows, then two years with Lewis United. I also had a year's trial with Aberdeen FC, but then in the first week of the summer holidays, I was signed by St Johnstone.

"I was still trialling for Aberdeen while St Johnstone were looking at me. They thought I had signed for Aberdeen so didn't come for me. They only came in when they realised I was only trialling. I left Aberdeen because St Johnstone were offering better conditions.

"I went to train with the Under

20s at Easter. I was down for three days. All I had to do was be myself – train how I usually train – and that's how I got signed.

"A year ago, I would never have seen myself here. When I became a keeper, I didn't have any ambition to become a professional. I never thought I was anywhere near good enough, but now I am at an SPFL club training with other professionals! I'm playing and training with people way older than me. So this really feels like a dream.

"Hopefully, this will lead to a fulltime contract; that's what I want because right now I'm on a pro youth, so I don't get the opportunity to play at a higher level yet. However, I have been training with first team keepers, Steven Banks, Zander Clark and Big Al Mannus, and working with them has improved everything in my game as both Alan and

"Banksie" are highly experienced keepers. Banksie played in the English Premier League and Alan is a national keeper for Northern Ireland. Working with them is a great experience! I hope I can train with them one day full time.

"I don't play with the Under 20s yet, as I am too young, but I do something train with them and I'm sometimes on the bench at their games. I play Under 17s.

"I'm gaining experience all the time. I've been on the bench at the Under 20s league games against Dundee United at Tannadice and against Aberdeen at Balmoor. I was also on the bench at their friendly at Fraserburgh in the testimonial game which finished 3-3. I also helped the first team kit man at Pitodrie and at Celtic Park. I helped with the kit and gear for the warm up and game, and also got to watch the game for free."

**Thanks for talking to us, Edward. Good luck for the future. Let's hope that one day we'll see you saving goals in the Premier League!**



# Around the School...

## Courtney Murphy: Acting Up in the USA

This summer, Courtney Murphy spent two and a half weeks in San Francisco, rehearsing for and then appearing in a play called "The Ballad of Bonnie Prince Chucky". This amazing experience came about after she heard of the opportunity through her involvement with Aberdeen Performing Arts. She auditioned in Aberdeen in May, and won the role of Mavis, a popular girl, in the play.

Arriving in San Francisco on August 4<sup>th</sup>, Courtney spent her days rehearsing, then returned each evening to the home of her host family, where she got a chance to experience what she calls "a totally different, American way of life". She admits that she thoroughly enjoyed

having an American Mom and Dad!

While preparing for the performance, Courtney also had the opportunity to meet the playwright of "The Ballad of Bonnie Prince Chucky", Wendy McLeod. Wendy is due to see her play performed once more by Courtney and the rest of the cast, this time at the Lemon Tree in November.

Courtney stated that her favourite parts of the trip were "meeting so many amazing young actors and being able to participate in theatre classes in San Francisco". She also felt it was an amazing experience for her,

and feels she now has a much more detailed knowledge of theatre arts. She is currently in rehearsals for the Lemon Tree performance next month.

Hope it goes well, Courtney and thank you so much for talking to Quartet.



## S1—How Have You Settled In?

Quartet asked the First Years how the first few weeks have been at the academy.

So far nearly everyone loves the academy. Take a look for yourself.

Class	Hasn't enjoyed	Thought it was ok	Has loved
1B1	0	9	10
1B2	0	7	10
1D1	0	2	17
1D2	0	1	13
1M1	0	1	14
1M2	0	2	15
1U2	0	8	8
1U2	0		

## Young Musician of the Future

In June, before the end of term, the Music Department in conjunction with the Rotary Club, held a Young Musician of the Future competition. The entries were of an excellent standard, and the audience enjoyed performances played on a wide variety of instruments, from tuned percussion to an accordion. Winner on the night was S3 pupil John Burnett on his trombone. Well done to him and all the other musicians who took part. Thanks go to the judge on the night, Mr MacDonald, and to the Buchan Rotary Club for making the competition possible.

# WriteFest

On Monday 9<sup>th</sup> of September, the Advanced Higher English class, Lindsay Bruce and Natasha Walker, accompanied by Mrs Duncan of the English department, attended WriteFest 2013, held at the MacRobert building at Aberdeen University. WriteFest, organised by Aberdeenshire Library Service, offers the opportunity to hear authors read their works and participate in creative writing workshops, which is helpful in the folio section of the Advanced Higher course.

We were allocated places in three workshops, for poetry, prose and drama. The drama workshop was hosted by John Binnie, a dramatist who has written and produced many plays of his own and also worked with other theatre companies. In that session, we were all given characters and invited to create monologues. John's relaxed and humorous style allowed people to feel comfortable in contributing and gave us several

## Book Review

### *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief*

Rick Riordan is the author of this book. I have just finished reading this book quite recently and I really enjoyed it.

The book is about a boy called Percy Jackson. Percy thought he was just an unfortunate boy when bad things kept happening to him on a regular basis. However, he discovers he is more than just a boy with bad luck when he was on a school trip with his class. A girl that he absolutely hated fell into a little pond. She then complained to a teacher, who happened to be the teacher that

ideas for our own writing. The poetry workshop was led by performance poet Anita Govan, who writes and performs her own works at local and national festivals. This session involved a lot of moving about, chanting and trying to get a feel for the rhythms of poetry. This was quite good fun but did not really inspire us to become the next Carol Ann Duffy!

After lunch, our final workshop was led by Ron Butlin, author of several collections of short stories, who read us some extracts from his writing and shared some of his experiences from which he gets his inspiration. He then said that the best ideas come to us in dreams and invited us to put our heads on the desk and wait for an idea to emerge from our thoughts on the edge of sleep! Surprisingly, this was very effective and John himself then sat down with each member of the group and offered them individual support. We really enjoyed this session



Percy hated, telling her that Percy pushed her. The teacher then took Percy into a room to give him in trouble. When they got into the room the teacher's voice changed into more of a hissing sound. ' "You've got it! Give it to me!" She suddenly turned into a bat like creature. She launched at Percy.'

He tried to duck but she managed to grab him. When she was in the middle of flying away with him, Percy's favourite teacher Mr. C. and Percy's best



and found it very worthwhile. The day ended with a Plenary session, in which we had the opportunity to ask questions of the individual writers, some of whose sessions we had not been part of. Several writers read from their works, which was very amusing in some cases and quite thought-provoking in others. Then it was into the car and home, to miss the dreaded five o'clock traffic!

Overall, it was a good day, which provided us with some hints and ideas for our own writing. The old university buildings and the trees with their autumn coloured leaves were quite inspirational in themselves and we really appreciated the opportunity to take part in the event in such beautiful surroundings.

friend Grover came bursting in. Mr C. chucked up a pen and shouted, "Press the top". So of course Percy pressed the top of the pen, and suddenly it changed from being a pen into a sword.

Percy swayed and slashed the sword, managing to catch the teacher/bat like creature which then suddenly dissolved into millions of tiny pieces leaving Percy to fall through the air. By the time he had reached the ground, Mr C and Grover had gone...

After all this excitement, there is nothing more to be done than for Percy to find out what is going on and who he truly is.

# HoroScopes

**Aries** - Change is coming so take time to prepare yourself and prioritise important issues this autumn. Take note of the events that happen on the 2nd and 18th October and 30th December as they are important and will show you the way forward.

**Taurus** – This autumn, Saturn continues to test your nerve, especially late October to early December. It will seem like people are testing your patience but if you're open to compromise and flexible then good outcomes can be accomplished.

**Gemini** – The beginning of October is an ideal time to de-clutter your life, and putting in structure is key. The 3rd of October is a great time to start a new project or hobby. Be at the top of your game for November by getting a few early nights at the end of October to recover your strength.

**Cancer** – Jupiter is broadening your horizons this autumn, by travel or other means. Mid-October, early November and late December are points when the topic of endings and beginnings will be very strong.

**Leo** – Autumn will bring opportunities to travel and your home and family life will improve a lot with the eclipse on the 3rd of November. These coming months bring energy and you have the ability to lead to success.

**Virgo** – Autumn is a great time to organise and improve living space, maybe by moving furniture or buying organisers. This is a time when some Virgos are taking a test aimed at upping their skills, while others will be seeing a lot more of their environment.

**Libra** – The Lunar eclipse on the 18th October signals change this autumn so pay attention in the upcoming months for signs that can help you seize an opportunity when it appears. You will be set on the right course but bring any big plans forward because next year it might be too late.

**Scorpio** – Even if things are not going your way or are difficult, looking to the future is key. Jupiter will help ease things and soften effects, so a difficult situation could become more positive or you could be inspired for success.

**Sagittarius** – Mid October and late November are both times when the people you know could turn out to be far more important than what you know. For some a new arrival could be coming. This season you could be more vulnerable than normal so be sure to deal with problems as soon as they come up.

**Capricorn** – Autumn is going to be upbeat and positive. Early to mid-October and early November bring a green light to proceed in some way relevant to you. And while you may have responsibilities to others, make sure you aren't using them as a reason not to go down the path of change and opportunity.

**Aquarius** – This autumn there'll be lots of action and there'll be lots of things to learn and also to celebrate. Don't believe first impressions around the 20th of October. The solar eclipse will help you get new plans underway.

**Pisces** – The solar eclipse on the 3rd of November will boost your creativity. Just focus on your assets and follow your passion instead of being upset about what you've lost, and you might even be enjoying a moment in the spotlight sometime soon.





# THE AUNTIES

Here to solve your problems

Dear Agony Aunt,  
Since the new uniform was introduced I have been having daily trouble tying my tie. Usually one of my friends at school secretly does it for me in the morning but they have been off school for a while and I am too embarrassed to ask anyone else for help. This causes my tie to be half the length it should be and I feel as if everyone is laughing at me behind my back. What can I do?

Uniform Troubled Teen

Dear Agony Aunt,  
I have been going out with the same boy for what feels like forever. However, I'm not sure if I really like him anymore but at the same time I don't know if I want to dump him. BUT now I fancy someone else so I don't know what to do L

I need some advice,  
Confused Hearted Child

Dear Uniform Troubled Teen,  
This is a common problem but the issue can be easily resolved. There are lots of tutorials available online and diagrams to help, and if you feel brave enough, just ask another person to tie it for you. As for people laughing at you, under their jumpers I'm sure their ties aren't perfect either!

Love

Dear Confused Hearted Child,  
I'm sorry that things are not working out with your boyfriend. Maybe give it another couple of weeks with your boyfriend and if things don't improve and you truly no longer feel the spark, then I say dump him. However, it's also unfair on the other person to string them along, so put that on hold until you make a decision about your relationship.

Love from,  
The Aunties x x

Dear Agony Aunt,  
My bus has started arriving earlier in the morning than usual. It has come at the same time all year, but for the last week has come at different times. One day, I was almost at the bus stop (3 minutes earlier than necessary) when the bus flew past me and didn't even make an attempt to stop. The next day I left 10 minutes earlier and only just made the bus! So this morning I left 15 minutes earlier just in case and it came at its old usual time, so I was left in the cold for ages.

help.  
Chilly Bus Goer  
Please

Dear Chilly Bus Goer,  
Hopefully this is just a temporary problem, but just in case I suggest that you wrap up warm in the mornings. If the bus continues to be unpredictable, talk to your bus driver or the bus company.

Love,  
The Aunties x x

If you have a problem don't keep it to yourself: e-mail it to [quartet2010@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:quartet2010@hotmail.co.uk) or pop it into the box in the library.

# Tatties!

With the October, or "tattie" holidays imminent, what better theme to have for our termly wordsearch than varieties of potato and methods of cooking them?

Once you have found the 18 words listed below, look for one final potato related word, write it underneath, add your name and class, and post it in the box in the library by the end of term.

Good luck!

A X R Q M N R T F N J V Z J M Y X O Q B F Z L M J  
H L F O Q O X K L C J W A K C X V F H W M Y B U M  
X N R E O D H K F Q B C K N U Q T H J T I E W K J  
P M I P W S Y I R R K M U F V F O H S N P E G G O  
A U R M Z B T U Y E R F I K X K I Q X A N P X B G  
Q D M Y E Z R E T E T Y D T M R I D Z B M N Z H V  
P A O A G O S P R L R H X E J O Z K S W B R V B D  
Q L Z N A R O P G B Z P I K L Y G D V C B T A M C  
J K A S E T K E I Z E A S C V F Z P O R C P Y B V  
X R T A A S G T L H O Q I O T O U Y V L H U H I I  
W E V T R Q C R S B C L B R M E C R S T X P G K E  
D M O L D V G K T S O E R R E K U L B N I P O H C  
G E D R A W D E G N I K D E R U W K M O L K C O T  
S C H A R L O T T E P U J A G D N A O F I A C A C  
S Q M K M G Y B T K C G K X M I O F Z T P L T H E  
M Z V I X I C Q Q F Q X M Y P E V D A A M T E G H  
Y T O D H O Z S G P D S I S R Q M N R D I P J D Z  
Z O J P S Y N L L W N F R Z E F X O T E I J G T B  
K O L H Z F X A V A P R O H M J P R H X Z W H J Z  
U W T N D A Z G B B E K G L I H Z C K Z G K H D Y  
K N A O T E L M S K J V Z R E D R X P Q Q D B G E  
R G I A X N A R W X G E D B R C A S J K O C L O J  
B O O G Y U M X X Z V P C M E L O D Y D N G Y D Z  
N O X A S Q A R I Z Y G C P N P A C H L C K G H V  
P Q O A G H A K X C L V X Q L M K C O P M P X G X

APACHE  
BOILED  
CHARLOTTE  
CHOPIN  
DUKE OF YORK  
HOME MADE CHIPS

JACKET POTATOES  
KERRS PINK  
MASH  
MELODY  
MOZART  
OSPREY

PREMIER  
RED KING EDWARD  
ROASTED  
ROCKET  
ROOSTER  
SAXON

Missing Word:

Your Name:

Class: