



The APS Chronicle

A dedicated team of APS students bringing you the latest news

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Winter 2020



Introduction

Welcome to the Winter edition of the APS Chronicle. This issue is packed full of interesting articles written by Year 5 and 6 students all about COVID-19, the US Election, Diwali and Christmas celebrations. Read all about how we celebrated Children in Need in school and some breaking news stories from around the world too. To entertain you during the holidays, we have included some fun, festive activities, riddles and games too. Our hard-working newspaper team hope that you enjoy reading the newspaper. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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The US Presidential Election

On the 3rd November of this year, the United States of America held their highly-anticipated presidential election. The two candidates running for president were Democrat, Joe Biden, with Kamala Harris as his vice president and Republican, Donald Trump, with Mike Pence as his chosen vice president. More votes were cast in this 2020 election than any other US election in history. With over 80 million votes, Joe Biden won the election and will lead the United States for the next 4 years with Kamala Harris by his side.

Biden worked briefly as an attorney before turning to politics. He became the 5th youngest U.S. senator in history as well as Delaware's longest serving senator. He was born on November 20th 1942, Pennsylvania, Scranton. As a member of the Democratic Party, Biden served as the 47th vice president from 2009-2017 during the Obama administration. He will be inaugurated in January 2021 and aims to focus on the following issues: climate change, Coronavirus, the economy, ending racism and the spread of equality. This led to his victory as he was viewed by society as trustworthy, passionate and reliable, compared to the previous president, Donald Trump.

Billionaire real estate mogul and former reality television personality, Donald Trump was the 45th president of the United States. Whilst Trump was in power, he was equally loathed and loved by the people of America. He was highly opinionated and racist - going so far as to build a wall to separate Mexico and California. After four long years, he was expecting to be re-elected, but was disheartened as Joe Biden's votes rapidly increased while he was still lagging behind. When the new President was announced (Joe Biden), Trump could not believe he had lost. He demanded to recount all the votes and even thought that there must have been a mistake.

Although unhappy to leave the White House, he has agreed to finish up any remaining duties. Trump's goal was to 'Make America Great Again'.

Kamala Harris, who was born in California, is an American politician and attorney. Kamala's mother was an Indian-American immigrant, activist and breast cancer researcher. She inspired her daughter to follow in her footsteps. Kamala knew from a young age that she wanted to spend her life fighting injustice. After winning the US election with Joe Biden, Harris made history and became the first black woman and first Asian-American to be vice president in the White House. During her first post-election speech to the nation, Kamala stated, "I may be the first woman in this office, but I certainly won't be the last."

After the election, Americans and people around the world celebrated in joyous relief in the change in leadership. Scenes of joy and disappointment were seen across the US after Biden's win. His supporters flooded the streets with cheers, honking and dancing whereas Trump's supporters were left shocked and in disbelief. Many celebrities took to social media to express their feelings and also say congratulations to the new president. Boris Johnson tweeted, "Congratulations to the U.S. who is our most important ally and I look forward to working closely together on our shared priorities, from climate change to trade and security." Even celebrities such as Beyoncé tweeted, "Congratulations to president-elect Joe Biden and vice president-elect Kamala Harris."

Written by Esha, Aishani, Tiana and Zainab



Joe Biden and Kamala Harris

Protection of the Rainforests

A rainforest is a forest with tall trees, warm climates and lots of rain. They are the world's oldest living ecosystems and are found in warm places.

There are many different types of rainforests. The Amazon is the world's biggest rainforest. They house more species of plants and animals than any other terrestrial ecosystem. Much of the life is found in the trees. There are many types of plants and animals, the most famous animal that you could find in a rainforest is an anaconda and you would find many orchids and giant water lilies.

We can protect the rainforests by not cutting down trees, we can ask parents to buy foods like bananas and coffee that are grown in a sustainable way-in a way that is safe for the environment, for wildlife and for people, use less paper, reuse paper instead of throwing it away.

Recently, the government has passed some strict new laws to protect the rainforests. These state that no one can cut trees or harm rainforests, otherwise they will pay a substantial fine.

Rainforests play a practical part for the environment. They absorb the carbon dioxide, which can cause climate change problems, and release oxygen that we use to breathe. In addition, they are home to rare species of plants and animals which can't be found anywhere else on the planet.

Written by Tiana and Madiana



The Amazon Rainforest

Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day, also known as Poppy Day, is commemorated every year on the 11th of November to remember the fallen soldiers of war. We pay our respects to soldiers on this day because the First World War ended on the 11th of November 1918 at 11:11am. We remember them by holding a two-minute silence and by wearing a poppy, which is a symbol of remembrance.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Remembrance Day was celebrated a little differently this year. People were encouraged to display digital poppies on their social media pages and coloured in poppies in their windows. In school, Mr Norton recorded a special Remembrance assembly for us to reflect on with our teachers and some of us created our own amazing artwork.

Written by Tyler and illustrated by Eesha



Quotes:

*'No soldier outlines a thousand chances!
Only the dead have seen the end of war.'*

Children In Need 2020

Children In Need is an extremely well-known and worthwhile charity that raises money for children who are living in poverty, have disabilities, have been a victim of violence, have illnesses or had traumatising experiences. Every year millions of pounds are raised to help children who need the most help and work with them to give them a brighter future.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, fundraising looked a little different this year as people could not get together due to the lockdown. Despite this, an amazing £41 million was raised overall thanks to people like Joe Wicks, who did a 24-hour workout – wow! This year at APS, we took part by dressing up in our own clothes in exchange for one pound. In addition to this, we also took part in a general knowledge quiz. One of the most popular questions was, "Who is Children In Need's mascot?" It was the famous Pudsey Bear of course. All at APS should be proud of working together to raise £781 – we know that this money will be put towards helping those less fortunate than us.



Written by Naina and illustrated by Mariam

The World of Sport

Covid-19 has taken a big toll on sports, from the cancellation of Wimbledon to the postponement of the Tokyo Olympics. Cricket's marquee event and the Indian Premier League, were delayed by a whopping five months. Strangely they have not been hosted in India, but more than 1,620 miles away in the United Arab Emirates!

Due to Covid-19, fans have also missed out on watching their favourite sports. However, in the absence of live games, some sports channels have been replaying classic games from throughout the years.

Since November, a maximum of 2000 fans have been allowed to watch outdoor sports in stadiums with safety precautions in place, such as social distancing, temperature checks and a health questionnaire. The pandemic has affected both athletes and the general public. People have been bored during lockdown and so they have started to work out at home instead of doing so at gyms or clubs. Overall, sport has adapted well to the circumstances and we hope to be back to normal soon.

Written by Divya

New Marsupial Discovery

In November 2020, two new species of marsupial were discovered: The Greater Gliders. Firstly, a marsupial is like a kangaroo or koala as it carries its young in a pouch and they are native mainly to Australia. Greater gliders are possum-sized marsupials that can glide up to 100 metres.

James Cook University, The Australian National University, the University of Canberra and the Commonwealth Scientific Research Organisation conducted this fascinating research. A student of the James Cook University stated that, "there has been theory for a while that there was more than one species of greater glider, but now we have proof from the DNA. It changes the whole way we think about them." Even though scientists have just discovered the new species, they are extremely endangered and could be at risk of going extinct due to the monumental bushfires that have also devastated other species such as the koala and kangaroo.

Written by Arjun



Diwali 2020

Diwali is the Hindu festival of light, which celebrates light over darkness and good over evil based on the story of Rama and Sita. Typically, Hindus celebrate Diwali by lighting lamps and fireworks (which is believed to scare off evil spirits), buying new clothes and spending time with friends and family. Families exchange colourful boxes of delicacies such as ladoos, jalebis and dried fruit.

However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic Diwali was a bit different this year. As the UK were in national lockdown, people were unable to mix with other households. This restricted the usual traditions, which people love so much. Places of worship were also closed, which was challenging for many during this holy time. Despite this, coronavirus did not stop people from enjoying Diwali at home and everybody is looking forward to a brighter 2021.



Written by Laasya and Suryaraj and illustrated by Tiana and Eesha.

Junk Food Adverts Banned

Take a good look around you at posters, billboards and adverts and you will be faced with all sorts of messages persuading you to buy greasy fried chicken or sugary chocolate bars. However, this may not be the case for long as the UK government is planning on banning these adverts in the new year. Their reason for doing this is to try to cut down levels of childhood obesity, recent figures show that 1 in 3 primary school children are overweight or obese. Doctors have proven that overweight children are likely to be overweight as adults, which can cause major health problems later in life. Earlier this year, Google showed its support for the campaign, by banning junk food adverts being shown to children on its platforms, including YouTube.



Written by Mariam and illustrated by Tiana and Aishani.

Stonehenge Tunnel Controversy

Stonehenge is an artificial circle of standing stones. It is one of the most puzzling structures in the world, as it is surprising that our ancestors who lived in 3000 BC would have been able to transport and build with such enormous stones. Some of the stones in Stonehenge are predicted to have been transported over 160 miles, from Wales. It is said that these stones were transported on wooden rafts and dragged all the way to the world-famous site. Then there were ditches dug and the stones put in the holes. Stonehenge is thought to have been used for many reasons including: a burial site; a giant astronomical calendar and also as a place of healing.

Near the famous Neolithic monument, there have recently been plans to build the A303 tunnel. This tunnel would be 3.2 km (2 miles) long and would cost £1.7 billion to construct. Although, there are people who disagree with the transport secretary's decision to build the controversial tunnel.

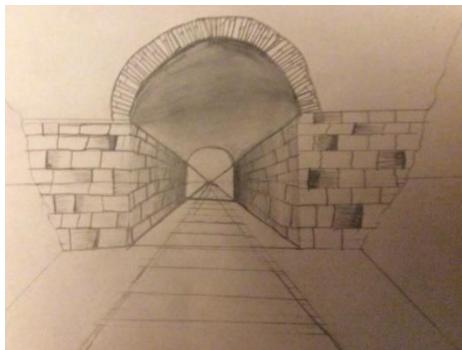


Against

Some people think the tunnel should not be built as it could collapse the historical sight forever. This would be catastrophic for some people to hear as they see Stonehenge as one of the world's mysteries that has never been solved. Another problem is the cost. It will cost a gargantuan £1.7bn. Some think a 2.9km road should not cost this much.

For

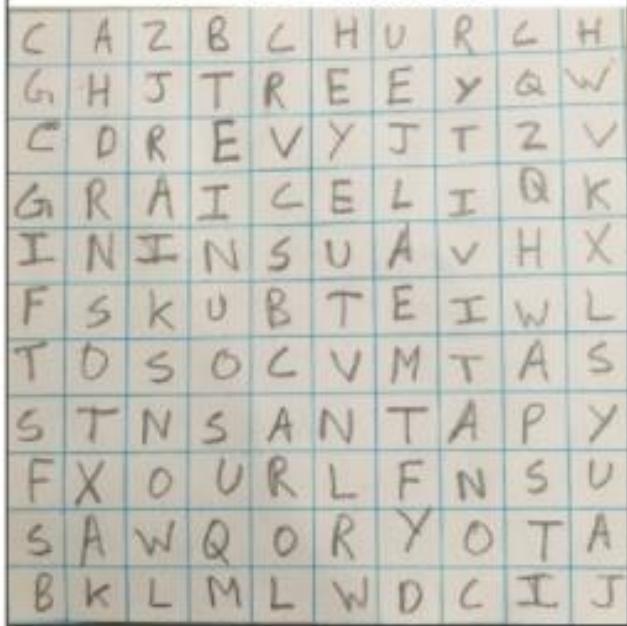
However, some people are being optimistic about this and saying it is worth it. They are saying the building of this tunnel would restore a calm and peaceful setting to Stonehenge, as the tunnel would keep cars out of sight and earshot. It is also said it will make journeys much quicker and more relaxing for visitors from the south west.



Written and illustrated by Aaliyah and Suryaraj

Activity Corner

WORDSEARCH



CHRISTMAS JESUS

TREE CAROL

SNOW GIFTS

SANTA CHURCH

Find and circle the items that do not belong.



Muddled Up Words

The words below are muddled up. The task is to get the words into the right order.

Have a go!

LARCO = ?

DENTVA = ?

URKEYT = ?

MCNEI EIP = ?

GANLES = ?

ESUSJ = ?

CRKCERSA = ?

SAMTSIRHC = ?

MISTLOEET = ?

Christmas Jokes

What's a Christmas tree's favourite ornament?

Orna - mints!

Why didn't the turkey want to eat on Christmas?

Because it was already stuffed!

What do snowmen eat for lunch?

Icebergers!

What do you call Santa when he has no money?

St. Nickel – less!

Final thoughts from the newspaper team

We hope that you enjoyed reading this first edition of the APS Chronicle 2020. The whole team have spent a great deal of time trying to make it enjoyable for you, the readers.

If you have any ideas for the Spring edition, please feel free to contact Miss Carberry (6NC), Miss Holmes (5H), Miss King (6K) or anyone from the team below. We hope you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. See you in 2021!

Year 6:

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Tyler and Suryaraj (6NC)

Divya and Naina (6C)

Year 5:

Aaliyah, Madiana and Nayan (5H)

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