

HALEWOOD
ACADEMY

HUMANITIES HERALD

FOR STUDENTS, BY STUDENTS

The Herald originated in the mind of Faye Weadock (Year 8), with her fantastic work sent to Mr Ellis and Mr Gilbert. Now Faye is editor of this fantastic weekly club that brings you monthly news from the world of Humanities, namely Geography, History and RE. All articles are written by students out of their own interest, for yours.

MARCH 13TH 1881

You have probably heard about 2nd September 1939 or 11th September 2001, but have you heard of what happened on the 13th March 1881? When an important event happens in history, it is recorded in a textbook for future generations to read about, but what about the events that students are not taught about on the curriculum?

ENVIRONMENT WEEK

Since 1973, Environment Week has been widely celebrated across the globe. It helps us to acknowledge our planet's needs and what we can do to repair the fatal damage we have caused to our own home.

In this article, we will dive into the world of plastic pollution and fly up into the world of our beloved, fuzzy bees.

IT'S A CELEBRATION! BUT WHY?

During this time of year, many religions celebrate their own vibrant and fun festivals. No matter who you are or what you believe in, it is important to know what is happening in the world around you.



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ENVIRONMENT WEEK

You may not know, but pollution also affects human life in many ways; from lungs, to livers, to spleens, to kidneys to even placentas! Pollution not only affects people physically, but also mentally. Chemicals that are in plastics can be harmful neurologically. Studies show that babies that are born have microplastics in their body from their mother's placenta due to her eating microplastics. This is toxic and risky as plastics hold things like metals and added colourings to make the plastic.

Unfortunately, the full knowledge on how plastic affects human life is still unknown, but we do know that women are more likely to have health problems such as; cancer and other development issues.

HIC's produce more plastic waste than they can afford, meaning the more LIC's buy the plastics. This can cause an overflow of plastic pollution in our oceans This is because the more waste of plastic that is produced either goes into the ocean or to LIC's. This is a massive issue because less wealthy countries won't be able to properly recycle the plastic, leading to burning the plastic which releases toxins. The more it is burnt, the more of the particles build up which damages the o-zone. However, countries such as Britain, have a recycling rate of 43.5%. It may not sound good, but we are the 16th most recycled country in the world. Unfortunately, Americas recycling rate is only at 9%. Recycling improves our environment because plastics are melted and made into more plastic essentials. Reduce, reuse, recycle!

M Jones, Year 8

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ENVIRONMENT WEEK

MARINE LIFE

Our world, which is 71% covered in water. Less than 10% of the ocean species have been discovered but it doesn't help that pollution is killing more than 100 million animals a year.

In Italy, it was estimated that there were 160,000-440,000 tonnes of additional Marine life is a big part of waste produced in 2020. It is estimated that 11 million metric tonnes of plastic are entering our oceans and that it will triple in the next 20 years. This means that 23-37 million metric tonnes of plastic will flow into our oceans every year.

Sea turtles mistake floating plastic bags for jellyfish and are eating them. The plastic is making the turtles feel like they have eaten a lot and are full but they are starving and dying off. Research shows that 52% of a sea turtles' diet is plastic.

This is the same as sea birds. Sea birds are supposed to eat plankton, krill, fish and other prey item. But as a result of ocean plastics, they are eating bottle caps and they too are dying of starvation.

G Eland, Year 8



WORLD BEE DAY

Ah yes, the bee. Quite a small insect with large potential in our environment action. But did you know that there was a day dedicated to the fuzzy creatures, and it was proposed first by Slovenia? It's true! On the 20th of December in the year 2017 the UN unanimously approved the proposal, and the 20th May was proclaimed World Bee Day!

Bees are very important to our team of nature's pollinators, despite how much you think they sting. These creatures sustain food and food security as well as biodiversity. As well as this, they contribute significantly to the mitigation of climate change and sustaining the environments they pollinate in! In the long-term idea of things, protecting bees and their additional sectors can help reduce poverty - It's a win-win!

To put everything into perspective, every third spoonful of food depends on the pollination provided by bees, adding to how their products are a rich source of essential nutrients in. The problem is pesticides, causing bees to start dying at an endangering level. As a result, in 2011, Slovenia become one of the first counties in the EU to ban certain pesticides most harmful to bees. To quote Boštjan Noč, president of the Slovenian Beekeepers' Association: "To talk about reducing world hunger without ensuring conditions for the existence of bees and other pollinators is to pull the wool over people's eyes."

E Warrender, Year 9

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IT'S A CELEBRATION! BUT WHY?

EASTER

As the date of Easter changes from year to year, this year it will fall on Sunday, 9th of April.

This year, Ash Wednesday fell on the 22nd of February. Ash Wednesday opens Lent and takes place 46 days before Easter Sunday and is mainly observed by Catholics. It comes from an ancient Jewish tradition which involves fasting and penance. The ashes on the forehead are placed in a cross and symbolise the dust from which God made us. The ash may also symbolise grief of sin. Everyone (including non-Christians and the excommunicated) may receive the ashes.



Lent is the first stage of Easter. This year, lent began on Wednesday the 22nd of February, to finish on the 6th of April. Lent began because Jesus went into the desert to fast and pray before beginning his work for God. Several times, Jesus was tempted by Satan, though was able to resist every time. Lent allows Christians to remember Jesus' fasting by giving up an item of food they love and consistently eat for 40 days.

The week leading up to Easter is called Holy Week. It consists of Palm Sunday (a week before Easter Sunday) when Jesus arrived in Jerusalem riding on a donkey, throwing palm branches onto the road, Maundy Thursday is when Christians remember the Passover meal (the Last Supper) and will share bread and wine, Good Friday is to remember Jesus' crucifixion, and Easter Sunday.

Easter Sunday marks Jesus' resurrection. On Sunday, Jesus' disciples and Mary Magdalene visited his tomb to find Jesus gone. From that day and for forty days afterwards, many people saw the body of Jesus and realised he had been raised from the dead. This is called the resurrection.

HOLI

Holi is a Hindu festival where people celebrate the love of two gods, Radha and Krishna. It's full of fun for many people, with dancing, singing and the throwing of powder paint and coloured water. On the first night of Holi, bonfires are lit, and people throw roasting grains, popcorn, coconuts and chickpeas.

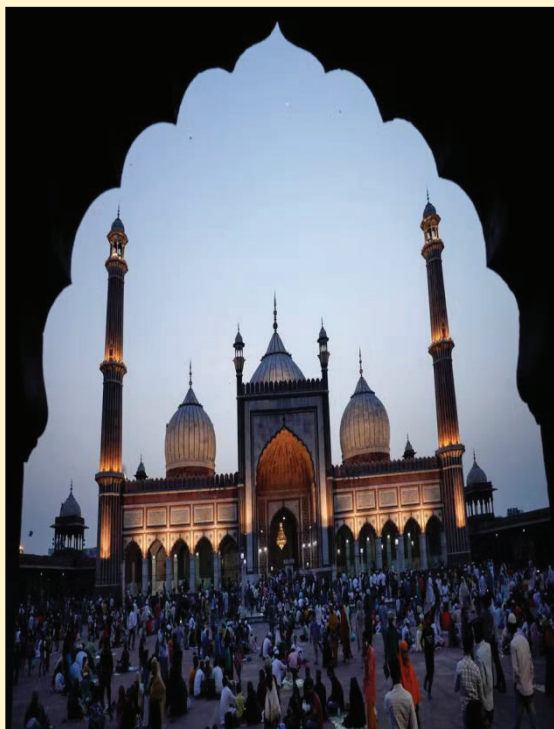
As it also being known as a festival of love, as well as a festival of colour, the legend of Radha and Krishna. As the legend tells, Krishna covered the face of his love Radha to make himself feel better for having dark blue skin. This explains why everyone pelts each other with coloured powder. As for Radha, she was still in love with Krishna after his little prank.

The Holi festival gets its name from the demon sister Holika, who comes into play for a story between her and her sibling, Hiranyakashipu, who was a demon king with special powers. These powers gave him immunity from being killed in certain circumstances. However, his son Prahlad continued to not worship him as Hiranyakashipu wanted all his subjects to, instead worshipping Vishnu. Holika was drawn into a plan to kill the son, as Hiran yakashipu knew of her funky coat that protected the wearer from fire. However, when she and Prahlad went into the bonfire meant to kill him and save her, the coat flew off Holika and covered the son instead, killing her. After that, Vishnu killed Hiranyakashipu by bypassing all the powers that kept him safe.



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RAMADAN

Ramadan is the ninth month on the Islamic calendar, which marks important holidays and events for Muslims. During Ramadan people fast, or refrain from eating and drinking, while it's light outside.

For the hundreds of millions of Muslims around the world who observe Ramadan, the month is a time to focus on their faith and also perform generous acts. People raise money and donate supplies to help others in need. And many fast to remind themselves about those in the world who don't have enough to eat.

On the last day of Ramadan, a three-day festival is held. People gather together to celebrate, and may even decorate their homes and exchange gifts. People eat all sorts of food including sweets and pastries, and during this time, fasting is not allowed.



We Seek The Best

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PLACES TO VISIT



If you are looking to get out and about and see some fantastic places, I can highly recommend a visit to Hilbre Island. Located within the Dee Estuary at West Kirby on the Wirral, it is an important wetland for wildlife and conservation with a colony of grey seals living on the sandbanks. Unfortunately, I didn't see any seals on my latest visit with my family in February, but I did see some amazing Geography!

It's an easy place to get to, through the Mersey tunnel by car, or the train station with a change in Liverpool City centre to get to the Wirral line. There are 3 separate islands, Hilbre Island being the largest. The other two islands are called 'Middle Eye' (or Little Hilbre), and 'Little Eye' and these Red Rocks are so named due to the Wirral sandstone laid down in the Triassic period. The equivalent of the Sahara, this was where dinosaurs roamed, leaving their footprints in the mud. Occasionally you can find these footprints, now fossilized in sandstone. It is thought that the islands of Hilbre were part of the mainland until the end of the last ice-age, about 10,000 years ago. The increased water levels caused by the melting ice cut a channel between West Kirby and what are now the 3 Hilbre Islands.

If you do visit, beware the islands are tidal and can be reached on foot from the mainland at low tide. The Islands are cut off from the mainland by the tide for up to four hours out of every twelve, so allow 1 hour for the 2-mile crossing, allocate more time if you walk slowly, or want to stay on the island and return before the tide changes. You can check the tide times online at [Hilbre Island Tide Times - High and Low Tides](http://hilbre-island.co.uk) (hilbre-island.co.uk). Remember, on Merseyside there are some fantastic places to see the Humanities subjects outside the classroom. Why not make Hilbre Island your next place to visit? You won't be disappointed. Mr Ellis