

Breaking news: Tree blocks path to school after Storm Enucie.



A nearby tree has collapsed near an entrance to Whitmore High School in Barry after the catastrophic events that happened on Friday 18th February with Storm Enucie. The incident occurred near Elan Close and has made it impossible for any pedestrians and students to pass through the area. On that day, the Met Office had originally issued a yellow weather warning, but after some consideration, they changed it to a red warning because of 100 mile an hour gusts that could occur because of Storm Enucie, meaning that it was a danger to life by going out. Luckily, because of the red weather

warning, nobody was in the school at the time, so that means no one was stuck there and unable to go home. This also means that nobody was injured either.

Storm Enucie has caused much damage to Barry and Wales. Fences, plants, slates, roofs and more have been blown away in the powerful gusts. People's belongings have flown away and houses have been damaged badly. Storm Enucie has been one of the worst storms in a decade, and has sadly caused severe damage and some deaths. The storm has also left many without power. On the day, you couldn't go on trains as they were worried the trains could be derailed.

When counting the rings on the stump, after the tree was taken down, you could see that it was around 90 years old and was an ash tree. The lifespan of an ash tree can be 200 -400. There seemed to be a lot of ivy and stuff growing on top, so it probably was top heavy and fell over. - Jack Oliver



Extra-curricular activities. Good or Bad?

We interviewed Mr. Manley to get the scoop on extracurricular activities. Here's what he had to say...

He got the ideas for the clubs by teaching pe for so long in an all-boys school that when the schools mixed, he decided to make more activities for everyone to enjoy. So many students have different interests, so clubs give students a chance to try out new things. After school clubs are optional.

We asked Mr. Manley how he gets teachers to run the clubs, and this was his answer. "Teachers are very keen and enjoy clubs, they give up their own time and enjoy doing it" he told us some teachers who run clubs. Mrs. Azeez-Tennis, Mr. Prickett, Mrs. Gisby, Mr. Burrows, Ms. Davis. "We try to get staff involved in all kinds of activities."

We asked him if after school activities are helpful for students. He said it helps by increasing their confidence and helps the students make new friends that you did not know before. For example, I made a new friend that I never knew before as we were in different bands, now we are best friends.

Mr. Manley has decided to put new clubs on social media such as twitter so parents/guardians can see what clubs might interest children in their house also he will tell tutors to tell their forms which clubs the students can go to. He decided to tell the students himself to spread clubs around the school. He thought posters would be a promising idea to spread information around.

We asked Mr. Manley what clubs would be up and coming and he said Cycling, Skateboarding, Yoga, Dance and Self Defence would be good, and they will all be provided by external providers who are trained in that area. We have Dance supported by Motion Control Dance which is a local dance studio.

He also plans to conduct a survey so pupils can choose what clubs they would want to be in, some future clubs Mr. Manley can see is golf, Music, Disco and Movie, these are all incredibly fun and exciting, there is so much more as well!

We decided to be different from other schools by having clubs such as weightlifting, endurance, tennis and table tennis with teachers who are trained in that area like Ms. Gisby who is trained in tennis and so on so forth.

Some of the clubs include art academy, basketball, coding club, weightlifting, football, netball, self-defense, yoga, tennis, and dance. The school provides a plethora of clubs that promote diversity and inclusion

We decided to do a lightning round with him. We asked him lots of questions and he had to answer them as fast as possible.

Do you have to pay to go to clubs? "No of course not we want clubs to be available for everyone" he said. How many clubs are there? "I would have to say around 25-30 Clubs are on at the moment." He spoke. Do you plan to keep expanding the clubs? "Yes, of course we do. We want students to be in clubs at least 1 day a week!" He said. Do you think any language clubs are possible? "Yes, we could have a Spanish, Welsh and French club. We actually used to have one." He said. Mr. Manley did well. He answered all our questions quickly!

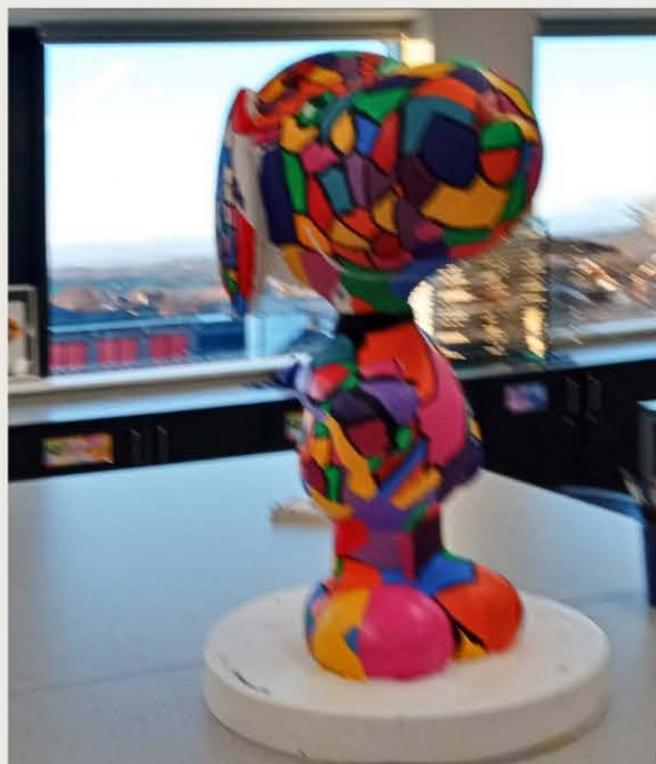
Overall, we think that clubs are worth going to boost your confidence and increase your positivity. We think that after a long pandemic this will be good for your mental health and make new friends.

What does Mr Robinson think of the snoopy ?

Whitmore High School

How did it come ?

The school is known for always being open to all charities. One of our teachers, Mrs. Prosser found out we had a chance to be able to get a Snoopy Dog. As soon as we found out we had this opportunity, the news spread around the school, and everybody was keen to get involved. Our Headteacher, Mr Robison, loves the idea of challenging the pupils to a competition, for who could make the best design . The student who won the contest, band together with 7 other pupils and the art department, to make the creation come to life.

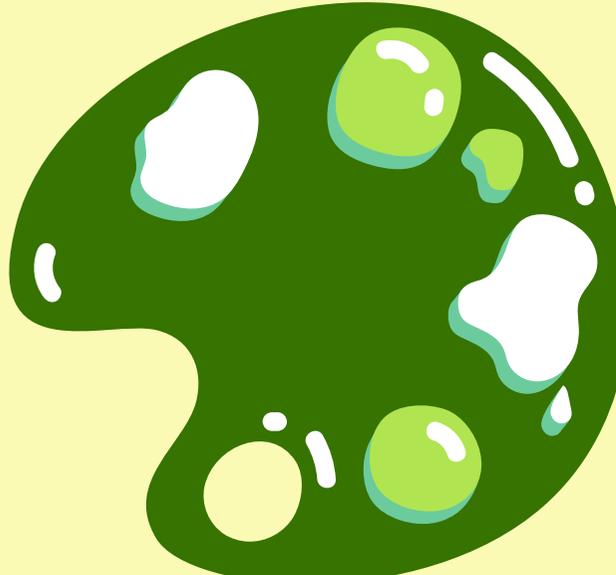


What are Mr Robinsons ideas ?

Mr Robinson really wanted the snoopy to be inclusive to all students with different ethnicity, races and sexuality's, he thought of a couple ideas such as a rainbow designed hair, and zig zag patterns. We needed to come up with a fundraising idea, but in todays society by the influence on social media, fundraising ideas like, a bake sale and marathons have all been seen and done before. Therefore, we needed to come up with something creative and new, that nobody has heard of which would draw them in. Mr Robinson and a couple other students thought of some creative money making ideas such as, a dance-a-thon and a pupils, pet show. For some students doing the snoopy has really expressed their creativity and we hope to do more charity like things in the future, all round the school.

BY: MAISIE DABROWSKA AND RUBY TUCKER

ART



Wear Red for Velindre

On Friday 4th of February, we raised money for Velindre (cancer research charity) . The life-threatening disease needs more money to continue this necessary research. Furthermore, we raised an honourable amount, which is over £900!

A pupil decided to raise awareness and money for prevention of this disease. As a result, we wore an item of red clothing to support the generous action. Also, we had to bring in a pound or more to be supportive in the bid to kill this disease. Majority of the school did participate in this charitable act, which many pupils attended.

The money raised on Friday will be put towards the heroic research; hopefully to stop Cancer all together. Thus, saving more lives. Many families and friends have experienced a close friend or relative go through the horrible brutality of Cancer. Furthermore, the charitable money will help to move forward this critical scientific research.

Soon in March, 'Red Nose Day' will be approaching. Hopefully, the school will continue with the generous opportunity. Possibilities are endless, maybe we could wear our own clothes, and donate a pound or more to the charity. Possibly, the idea will encourage others to donate to 'Red Nose Day'.

The exact amount of money raised is £940.10!
Hopefully, 'Red Nose Day' will have the chance to raise such a vast amount of money.

Written by Rhian Davis.

Underrated and Popular Singers and Bands.

By L.J.Nicholson.

With the honorary mention of Taylor Swift who got me into music in the first place.

1. Chloe Ament

I first heard about Ament back in July on TikTok through her song *Narcissa* which was inspired by the character Narcissa Malfoy and since then I have followed her account @chloeschampagneproblems. She writes songs about some of my favourite fictional characters from the Six of Crows to Peter Parker and Gwen Stacy. Ament manages to create song after song making a perfect picture for many beloved book and film favourites just from the lyrics.

2. Marina and The Diamonds

I've been a fan since I was a child and heard the song *Oh No*. I know for a fact that her songs make many people feel represented in some way or another. Over the past few years, she has made plenty of people feel included through her songs, like *Teen Idle*, *Hollywood* or even *Are You Satisfied?* She creates such a feeling of comfort whilst keeping all of her songs upbeat and sending the perfect message.

3. Gorillaz

Funny enough, I've known and loved plenty of their songs without even knowing who they are. Some of my favourite songs are by Gorillaz and I never even remember when I first heard of the actual band, only their songs until a couple of weeks ago when my friends mentioned them to me. They

4. Olivia Rodrigo

Let's be honest, I actually knew who she was before *Driver's Licence* because I watched *Bizaardvark* when it first came out but for those that weren't a fan, I can assure you that her work has gotten a lot better. Ever since they came out *Brutal*, *Good 4 U* and *Favourite Crime* have all become my favourite songs by Rodrigo. This is the perfect recommendation for anyone who is looking to feel understood whether you are angry, sad or even just feel relief.

5. Nessa Barrett

Barret first made her debut in mid 2020 with the single *Pain* and since then has released many good songs including the EP album *Pretty Poison* back in 2021 which was when I first heard of her but the real song that pulled me in was *i hope ur miserable until ur dead*. Though this may sound like your typical angsty song but in reality it puts it into perspective and it allows you to move on whilst getting closure.

6. Bastille

Bastille has to be one of my favourites ever since the song *Pompeii* with the album *Haunt*. They also have plenty of other songs like *Flaws*, *Icarus* or *No Angels*. It is perfect for anyone

that wants a full playlist of upbeat songs and for those similar to myself who find music the best way to concentrate. As someone that grew up with Bastille, it has some of the most nostalgic songs for me.

7. Fitz and The Tantrums

One of the many songs that got me hooked on them was *Out of My League* as despite being quite sad when you think about it, the song manages to keep uptune for the majority. They have even more excellent songs such as *Spaceman*, *Fool* and *I Just Wanna Shine*.

8. Cavetown

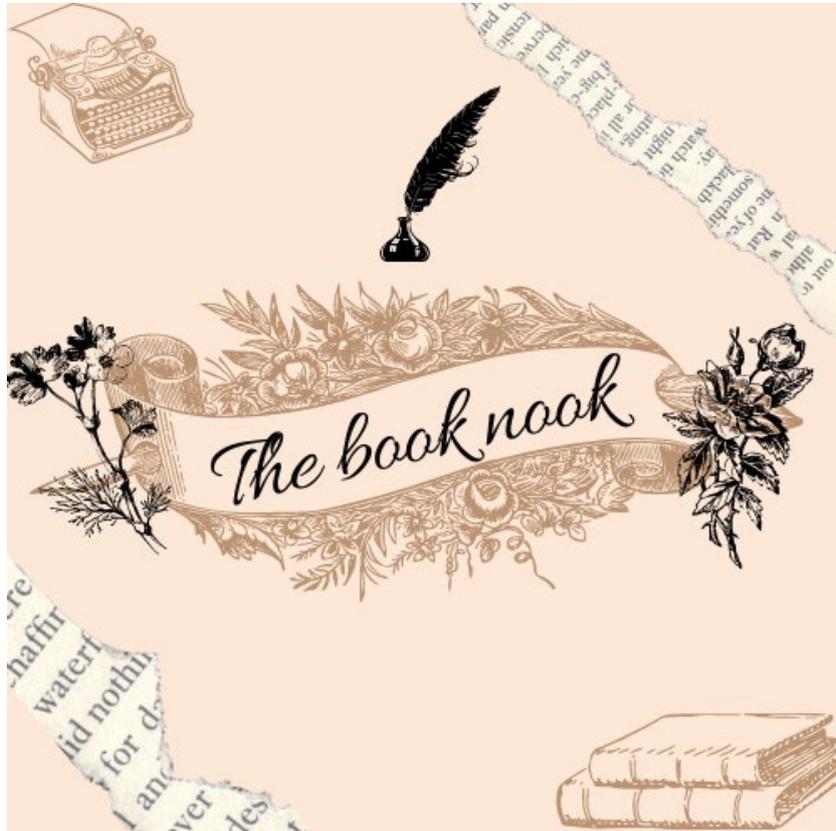
Cavetown definitely has a wide range of songs for anyone that is questioning themselves. The first songs by him I heard was *Lemon Boy* and *Boys Will be Bugs*. Though they began off with covers of songs, they began releasing their own amazing songs. Each and every song makes someone feel seen by his music.

9. Matthew Mole

I've only recently begun listening to Mole but as far as I've heard, he is really talented with amazing songs such as *Holding On* and *Take Yours, I'll Take Mine*. Honestly, I'm not sure what it is about his music but it seems to draw me in, wanting more and that is where I appear with *Running After You*, *Keep It Together* and *You Are Loved*. The songs are so comforting and give the most amazing feeling of nostalgia.

10. Mitski

She has such a good diverse group of songs all the way from *Washing Machine Heart* to *First Love* or *Me and My Husband*. They all have such a wide range of meanings behind them and I love her way of having indie, punk, folklore and managing to create a large group of songs that create the most perfect image of escaping to a different realm with fantasy creatures and going on a magic quest.



Your go to stop for everything bookish!

Written by Rhian Davis and Phoebe Bond

Since February is the month of Valentines, all of these books contain some form of romance, be it sweet or tragic! I hope you enjoy the selection we have picked out for you this month!

February Recommendations:

- They Both Die At The End, by Adam Silvera ([Click here for TWs](#))
 - Rule of Wolves by, Leigh Bardugo ([Click here for TWs](#))
- A Good Girl's Guide To Murder, by Holly Jackson ([Click here for TWs](#))

[They Both Die At The End review, by Rhian Davis:](#)

They Both Die At The End is about two boys, who had a call telling them they're going to die that day. You will escape to a new dimension of imagination, as well as an emotional rollercoaster. The protagonists are just well written and love is kindling during the book. Why not have a romance book during the month of Valentines? The character development is beautifully crafted and the love interest is slow burning. Also, the adventures they go on are brilliant, so more fun is installed. Every page is a new journey. Whether it's laughter, happiness, or tears. A new page, a mixture of every emotion imaginable!

Rule of Wolves, by Phoebe Bond:

Rule of Wolves is one of my favourite books of all time. In my opinion, before reading this book you should read the Shadow and Bone trilogy, then the Six of crows duology, and King of Scars first. It tells the story of the young king Nikolai and his Grisha advisors, David, Genya, and Zoya, as they fight to save Ravka from the threat of Fjerdan war, and the Shu Han conspiracy. All the while, Nikolai and Zoya are dealing with their mutual feelings for each other, despite their forbidden love. In Fjerda Nina and Hanne are uncovering the Fjerdan war plots.

A must read for Grishaverse fans, Ring of Wolves is an amazing form of young adult literature. It's a poignant end to the series (for now!), and I love this book because of how it fits perfectly with its predecessors, and how the world building is so vivid. The characters are amazing, and I would recommend this book to anyone who loves YA fantasy.

A Good Girl's Guide To Murder review, by Phoebe Bond:

A Good Girl's Guide To Murder is a young adult crime novel, about an A-level student who decides to revisit a closed case. 5 years ago, Andie Bell was murdered in Pip's hometown, and everyone believes the murderer to be Sal Singh. However, Pip believes otherwise, and for her final year project, she decides to revisit the case with the help of Sal's younger brother, Ravi. Uncovering many twists and turns in the life of Andie Bell, as Pip is drawn closer to the truth, what will the guilty party do to stop her...?

A Good Girl's Guide to Murder is a gripping read that is full of unexpected plot twists. It is the perfect read for fans of crime fiction, and the multimedia approach is enticing and refreshing. I would definitely recommend this book, and I think everyone would enjoy it!