

## THE LAWNSWOOD LUMINANCE

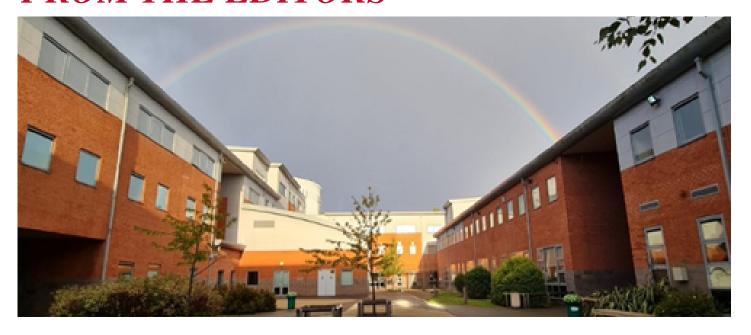
## BY STUDENTS, FOR STUDENTS

Est 2025 December 2025 Free





#### HELLO AND WELCOME! A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS



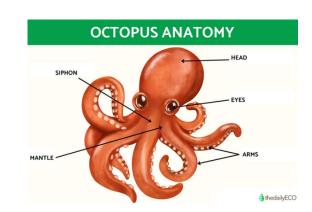
Hello Lawnswood students! Welcome to the first issue of The Lawnswood Luminance. Once a term, we will provide a comprehensive and entertaining overview of general life and Lawnswood School. This edition is a great read including GCSE option and mock exam advice, extra-curricular activities, fun facts, gaming news, book recommendations and some strange conspiracies. Have fun reading and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

JA (Year 10) and Mrs Thorpe

## Are octopuses aliens from outer space? By AA Y7

There is a theory by 33 researchers that octopuses are in fact aliens from outer space. It is suggested that a meteor, on its way to Earth, experienced such immense pressure and temperature changes that its outer shell broke. Living organisms were released from this meteor and after a while , adapted to the living conditions in our oceans and became jellyfish like creatures. Overtime, there were more evolutions, each bringing better adaptations. The next evolution was the octopus which then evolved into a final stage: the squid. It is interesting to note that the evolutions are totally different. For example, jellyfish do not have a brain yet octopuses are extremely intelligent , have a brain and are a fascinating invertebrate. There is an argument that this theory is not true: its up to you to decide what you think!





#### YEAR 11 MOCK EXAMS? FEAR NOT! BY RS, Y12

As someone who has recently done their GCSEs, I can tell you exactly what I found helpful during exam season. Mocks are hard, but I promise it helps you in the long run if you treat them like the real thing. There is no 'correct' or 'best' way to revise; you have to find what suits YOU best. So, here's my favourite ways I revised for exams:

Create a personal study space- If you are lucky enough to have a desk/workspace in your room, ensure you keep it minimalistic. This means not too much clutter, only the devices you actually need to revise with, and keep all your supplies, such as stationery, accessible. You can keep an inspirational quote or your favourite plant in your study space too!

Gather all of your resources- For GCSEs, I had a plastic wallet for each of my subjects, and I put any loose sheets or practice questions I did, and any revision material I had. This is separate from your class exercise book, but do ensure you go over the content and notes from that too! I wish I had done this for mocks as well as GCSEs...

Flash cards- Yes, these are the most glazed techniques, and to be honest, they don't work for everyone. But, if they do for you, they can be a perfect way to recall key terms, equations, and more. A bonus is that they are fully portable! You might want to look over them on the bus, or test a friend! (I personally think revising over a cappuccino with your friends is super fun)

Post it notes- A quick and easy way to revise without realising it. You can stick your notes on your mirror, your door, the fridge, and more.

Chat GPT- Yes, you are allowed to use it! I highly recommend using Chat to create your revision plan. An example prompt could be: 'Please create a retrieval practice plan for AQA GCSE Biology Paper 1, Topic 1 (Cell Biology). My exam is on December 1, and I can revise between 4pm and 6pm every Thursday and Sunday.'

Pomodoro- I'm sure your teachers will have mentioned this technique, but it does work! For anyone who isn't familiar with it:

Choose a task you want to work on.

- Set a 25-minute timer.
- -When the time is up, take a 5 minute break.
- -Repeat this 4 times in total.
- -Take a longer 15 to 30-minute break after the 4 times.

Revision is key, but don't forget to allow yourself some 'you' time. Go to the park, watch a movie, meet up with friends, maintain your sleep schedule. You can't put a hold on life, but you can create a time that works for you to do that all important studying.

Remember, revise well now= make it easier on yourself later! Good luck!

#### **JF PHOTOGRAPHY Y9**

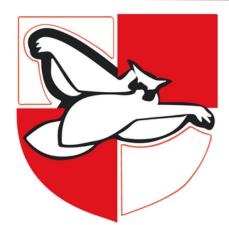


For this photo I saw two horses together. As I took my camera out, I waited for them to touch noses to make a love heart.



Morning image of the sky on my way to School Nature and electrical pylons

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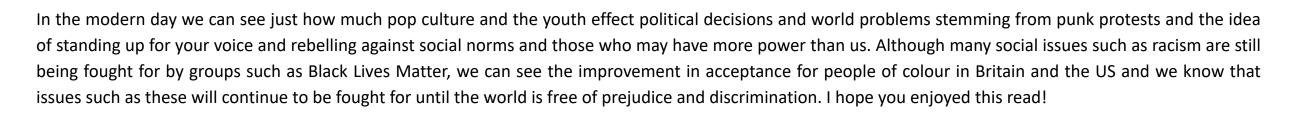
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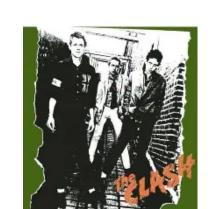
#### **PUNKS AND POLITICS BY SC, Y9**

The punk movement of the mid to late 70s was all about rejecting social norms and rebelling against the higher ups. It identified itself with these socio-political movements from early on, with bands such as The Clash, The Ruts and many more playing gigs for 'Rock against racism' in the UK in 1978-79, during a time when racism was extremely normalised in the UK. This is a key example, in English history of when pop culture and music have been used to challenge the government and give voices to the average person, especially the radicalised youth who weren't taken as seriously.

Many songs such as 'Down in the Tube Station At Midnight' by The Jam were banned by the BBC radio airplay at the time for its controversial, graphic depictions of racial violence. Lyrics such as "pubs, and wormwood scrubs, and too many right-wing meetings" which highlight the problem with violent drunks on the streets and the growing problems with the British class system and the right-wing agenda, which mostly affected people of colour at the time.

Progressing into the 80s and 90s, the punk scene mainly showed its support for the Labour Party and advocated against the Conservative party, particularly Margaret Thatcher, continuing to fight for their anti-establishment and anti-authoritarian views. During this time punk culture had also spread to other western countries such as the US, continuing the use of pop culture to create a voice for everyday citizens, in cases such as the Gulf War protest concert staged outside of the white house.





#### **Gaming news**

#### By AA, Y7

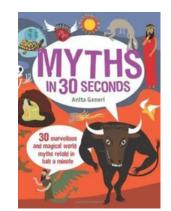
The new ROG Xbox Ally and ROG Xbox Ally X are out on the market. They are both handheld gaming devices. They contains features like Windows 11 and other platforms like STEAM and Battle.net . This means you can install and manage your games from the Xbox interfaces. The base model is £499 and the better model is £799. The storage can also be expanded from one terabyte to 8 terabytes. How amazing is this. If you are into gaming, maybe you can add this to your Christmas wish list!

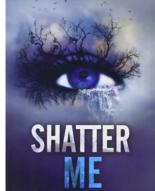






#### **Mrs South recommends...**





#### Myths in 30 seconds

This illustrated collection of traditional tales from cultures around the world introduces you to heroes and giants, gods and goddesses, monsters and magic, and more.

The bite size retellings are accompanied by quick-fire story flashes, mini myths, facts and fun quests to complete.

#### Shatter Me by T Mafi

A fragile teenage girl is held captive. Locked in a cell by The Establishment, a harsh dictatorship in charge of a crumbling world. But Juliette is no ordinary teenager - one touch from her can kill.... One pf our Year 11 students read this and was so impressed, she asked me to order the sequel!

#### Year 9 options advice By SK, Y11



#### Options evening is on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2026

As you begin choosing your options for next year, remember that this is your chance to take the subjects that motivate you. Think about the subjects you enjoy, the things you are good at and the skills you want to learn. Do not pick what your friends choose, pick what feels right for you. At this point, it is okay to not know what you want to do in the future. Your options will not directly link to a job but they can give you a good starting point.

If you are unsure, talk to your teachers, parents or even older students. These people have been where you are now and can give you useful advice. Most importantly, choose the subjects that you know you will love. Trust your instincts and enjoy the path ahead of you. Good luck!

#### Let us remember By EH, Y9

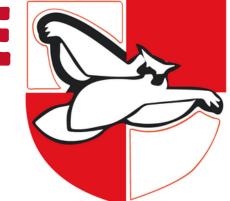
"At first the design concept was a bit challenging, since I wanted to create an image inspired by the late Queen's actions in the military. The idea of bringing a strong female figure that has inspired many people felt like a great decision. I had never expected this unique design to go this far but I am glad others are able to see my thought process on this design. Thank you Lawnswood for displaying my sculpture! "



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# There are some fantastic clubs around school this term! What could you get involved in?





Mrs Brigg's creativity club: students making their own tie dye pencil cases



Mrs Hammond's crochet club is a hit, with even staff taking part! Well done Mrs Briggs!

# Lots of trips this term! Thank you to all the staff who have been involved in these.

Yorkshire Water
Leeds Grand Theatre
Boutique Marketing agency
Springboard Future Chef Competition
Careers Fair
A Christmas Carol at The Leeds Playhouse
Science Film Festival
Leeds Magistrates Court Mock Trial
Post 16 Progression Graduation
The Trafford Centre



Hi, I play rugby for Lawnswood School. Our coach is Mr Singh. I love rugby because it teaches me how to deal with hard physical situations and I love the adrenaline. So far, we have played in a tournament with Abbey Grange. We would love for someone to come and watch Year 7 and 8 play, take some photos and write a commentary on our matches for The Lawnswood Luminance. If you are interested please come and see me or Mrs Thorpe.

Thank you!

**ZH Y7** 

Hi, I play football for Year 7 at Lawnswood. I play football because it gives me a chance to express myself and I love being part of a team. My friend RW s going to be taking photos of us playing and giving a small commentary on what happened in our matches for future issues of the Lawnswood Luminance!

We can't wait!



M C-H and RW Y7

#### Other sports results at Lawnswood School this term:

#### **Y9 boys football:**

- 1-1 vs Prince Henry's
- 0-0 vs Guiseley

#### **KS4 Basketball:**

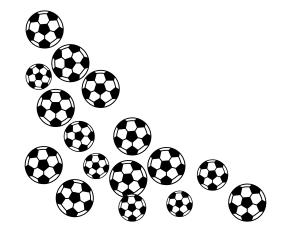
- 16-13 win vs Horsforth
- 28-22 win vs Ralph Thorsby

#### **KS3** girls football:

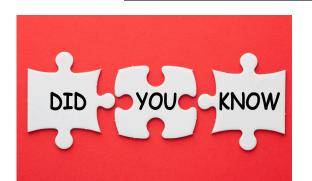
• 3-0 win vs Leeds West Academy

#### Y10 boys football

• 1-1 vs Guiseley







**By KA Y11** 

- Butterflies taste with their feet
- You are taller in the morning because the cartilage in your spine compresses throughout the day
- Ketchup was once sold as medicine in the 1830's!

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