



THE STOPSLEY NEWS AND MEDIA TEAM PRESENTS...

THE STOPSLEY SOURCE

FRIDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2023

Welcome everyone to the third edition of The Stopsley Source!

This Friday, I will be telling you about what's been going on this month within the Stopsley High School community and around our wonderful world.

Today, we will be starting off with a review of the new film *Trolls 3: Trolls Band Together*, written by Zuzanna. Zuzanna will be talking us through her thoughts about the film, and letting us know whether she would recommend it.

Following on next is Katey, telling us all about Guy Fawkes' Night. He'll talk about the history behind this holiday, and how it is celebrated today.

Finally, as a member of the Dungeons and Dragons Club, I will be introducing you all to the fun of D&D, talking about how exhilarating it is and how you can use your imagination to create endless possibilities, making your own story.

We hope you have a wonderful weekend and an exhilarating time reading our Stopsley Source!
- Priyan L, Year 9

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Bonfire Night

A significant part of Bonfire Night is the bonfire itself, or more commonly nowadays, the fireworks. In this article, I will be going over exactly why we set off fireworks every November 5th.

First, a quick summary of the history of the Gunpowder plot: in 1605, John Catesby and 11 other men hated King James for his poor treatment of Catholics, so they plotted to blow up Parliament with him inside. They told Guy Fawkes to carry out the plan, as he was an explosives expert. It may have worked, but Lord Montague received an anonymous letter to not go to parliament that day. Suspicious, he showed it to the authorities.

The guards searched Parliament in an attempt to find any traitors. Sure enough, they caught Guy with 36 barrels of gunpowder before he could light the fuse. They locked him up for 2 days until he told them of the 12 other members of the plot, all of whom were then executed. They didn't burn Guy on a bonfire, but the king ordered for the 5th of November to be commemorated in remembrance of the failure of the plot, with bonfires being part of the customary celebration.

D&D Club

Step into a world of imagination and creativity, where heroes, villains, and mythical creatures come to life. If you've ever wanted to embark on epic quests, solve mysteries, and shape the destiny of a fantasy realm, then Dungeons and Dragons may be perfect for you. Dive into the realm of tabletop role-playing games (TTRPGs) and discover the magic of collaborative storytelling, strategic thinking, and friendship.

Dungeons and Dragons, often referred to as D&D, is a tabletop role-playing game where players create characters and embark on adventures in a fantasy world.

The game is guided by a Dungeon Master (DM), who acts as the narrator, referee, and storyteller, while the other players control characters with unique abilities, personalities, and goals. These characters journey through quests, facing challenges, monsters, and choices that affect the course of the story.

D&D gameplay revolves around rolling polyhedral dice, particularly the iconic 20-sided die (d20), to determine the success or failure of in-game actions. Characters have attributes like strength, dexterity, intelligence, and charisma, which dictate their abilities and skills. Players can choose from a variety of character classes (e.g., wizard, rogue, fighter) and races (e.g., elf, dwarf, human), each with its own unique traits.

One of the most alluring aspects of D&D is character development. As adventurers gain experience points through their quests, they level up, acquiring new abilities, spells, and gear. This progression allows players to see their

Now, how did the fireworks become a part of the celebrations? The first man-made fireworks were created along with the discovery of gunpowder in ancient China around 600-900 CE, and arrived in Britain in the 13th century, being popularised in the 17th century. They joined the Bonfire Night celebrations in 1650, along with the burning of the Guy Fawkes effigy.

In conclusion, Bonfire Night is a day that has been celebrated in Britain for over 400 years and commemorates the failed attempt by Guy Fawkes and his fellow conspirators to blow up Parliament in 1605 and kill the king. Today, this celebration continues to be a popular event enjoyed by people of all ages, with fireworks displays and bonfires held in towns and cities across the country.

- Katey O, Year 8



SUMMER CAREER EXPERIENCES
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We are pleased to announce the launch of our 2024 Summer Experiences in London.

Taking place at the prestigious University College London (UCL) and offering the opportunity to visit iconic industry locations across London, InvestIN provides teenagers with the chance to experience life beyond school, as well as receive unparalleled career preparation.

Our Summer Experiences run during the summer holidays and include the opportunity to:

- Work with world-class industry professionals across 15 top careers
- Participate in hands-on career simulations
- Visit exclusive professional venues
- Receive personalised industry reference letters and certificates to showcase on university and job applications

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characters grow from humble novices to legendary heroes, reinforcing a strong sense of personal investment in the game.

D&D is a game of imagination. Players are encouraged to immerse themselves in a collaborative storytelling experience, where creativity and improvisation are key. The freedom to create unique characters and shape their destinies leads to a wide array of stories, from heroic epics to comedic escapades. The open-ended nature of D&D allows for a boundless exploration of creativity and imagination.

Stopsley High School established a Dungeons and Dragons Club at the start of this school year. Every Wednesday after school, students in Year 7 and Year 9 have been battling monsters and solving mysteries, transported from the school library to the Forgotten Realms.

- Priyan L, Year 9

Top 4 students in each year group with outstanding contributions to their online Sparx maths homework

<u>Year 7</u>	<u>Year 8</u>	<u>Year 9</u>
Maja L	Kiyla W	Chris K
Arissa B	Muhammad A	Anxhela D
Merlon R	Michelle A	Safiyyah J
Nicoleta I	Manseerat S	Adan A

<u>Year 10</u>	<u>Year 11</u>
Shoaib Z	Elijah Y
Tyrese B	Kira M
Joel A	Enes L
Chiyelugo N	Awad D

Sparx Champion
Maja L

Trolls 3: Trolls band together film review

A few weeks ago, the third addition to the Trolls movie franchise, Trolls Band Together was released. The main theme of the movie is sibling relationships and how they can be bad or good. We find out more about Poppy and Branch's families and their relationship with each other. We meet Poppy's long lost sister Viva, who she instantly becomes best friends with, as well as Branch's brothers John Dory, Bruce (formerly known as Spruce), Clay, and Floyd. The brothers were all part of a band called BroZone when Branch was a baby, though they split up after their first concert.

The main villains are two pop stars siblings, Velvet and Veneer, who steal talent from Trolls. Velvet is Veneer's older sister, who is extremely rude towards him, while Veneer is the opposite of his sister, and only acts like her so she appreciates him. They represent a bad sibling relationship, unlike Poppy and her sister or Branch and his brother Floyd.

I enjoyed the movie, but it's not better than the last two. The story is great, since you find out more about people and places in the Trolls universe while still learning about characters already established in the franchise. The jokes written into the film are funny, and the voice actors did a great job of showing the characters' emotions and giving the character's voices that suit them.

I would give this film four stars out of five.

- Zuzanna H, Year 8

HEADTEACHER'S LETTER

Dear all,

Another busy week here at Stopsley High School. A key theme for all year groups has been reflecting on the significance of Armistice Day. I am very grateful that a number of our students have volunteered to join myself and Mrs Whiting in representing the school at the Remembrance service at the Stopsley Memorial and will be laying a wreath.

Thank you to all the parents, carers and Year 7 students who came to the Year 7 Settle and Workshop evening last night. The Year 7 Tutor team were able to enlighten parents and carers about how their children have settled into Stopsley High School life. Other staff then provided the opportunity to participate in workshops to find out more about key elements of Year 7 such as Stopsley High School's Top Class systems, navigating the curriculum, supporting your child with homework and student online safety.

It was wonderful to see our Maths Department being celebrated in the local news this week. The article below was published by Luton Today:

Luton high school develops maths curriculum with teaching programmes

"We are thrilled to play a role in instilling a love of Maths in students"

Teachers at a high school in Luton have participated in programmes to help support student learning.

Maths teachers at Stopsley High School attended hubs to ensure that students are equipped with key mathematical skills.

The hubs bring together mathematics education professionals, each led by schools in the area.



Karen Hand, Headteacher at Stopsley High School, said: "We aren't just committed to teaching our students maths, but also instilling in them the full potential of where a strong knowledge and skillset can take them."

"By working in partnership with the Maths Hub we are thrilled to play a role in instilling a love of Maths in students across our community."

Muhammad Ali, head of mathematics at Stopsley High School, said: "During the last year, the Mathematics Department has been working collaboratively with the Enigma Maths Hub.

"This has allowed students to obtain a deeper understanding of key mathematical concepts by challenging mathematical thinking, developing fluency, embedding variation theory into lessons and through the use of multiple representations."

He added: "One example is our use of a Bar Model. Staff received continued professional development to ensure they were confident to deliver Bar Modelling to students and we have then embedded this with our year eight cohort.

"Students can understand and can now explain the steps they are using to solve linear equations. We will now begin to implement Bar Modelling with other year groups and in other topics."

Have a restful weekend everyone,
Ms Hand

