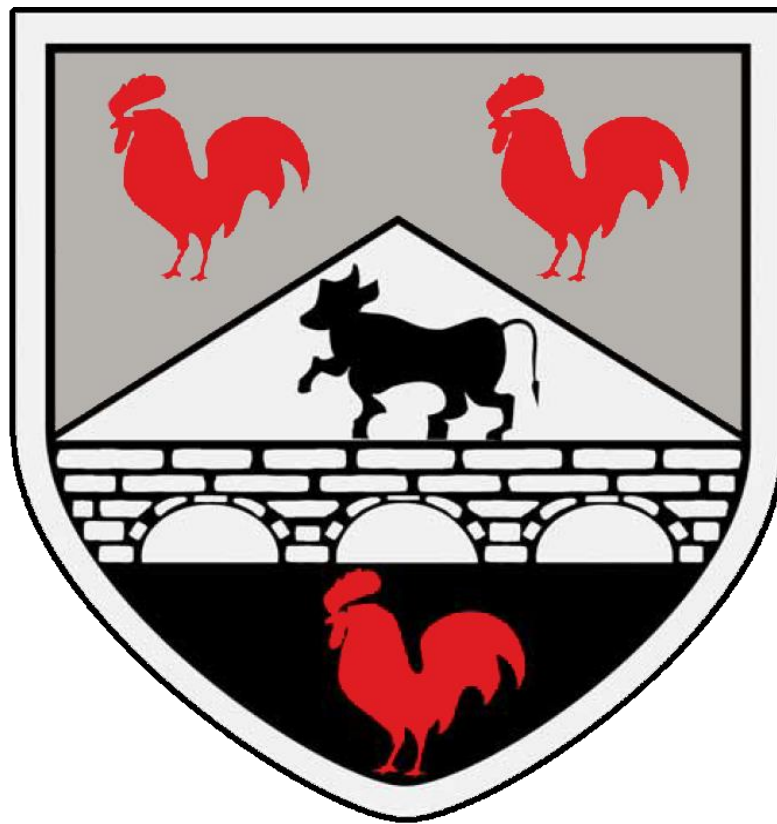




The Cowbridge Comprehensive School Student Magazine

PRINT



- February 2019 -

Have a suggestion for PRINT?

Email us at print@cowbridgecs.co.uk

Editor's Note ~



Dear Readers,

Welcome to our fourth edition of PRINT - Cowbridge Comprehensive School's student magazine. This month, as it's Valentine's Day, we are in love with languages. In this issue, you will hopefully understand why you should learn a language in Caitlin Lewis' article and, whether you're spending this month of love alone or with a special someone, find a film that will challenge your way of thinking about romance in 'Film's for Thought'. As always, we have our blog content: a fantastic winter themed piece to remind us of the snow we had. Also, in this issue, there is a slightly longer charity piece celebrating all that we've done recently in support of numerous cancer charities. For those of you interested in taking languages, we have an exclusive interview with the MFL department too.

From all of us at PRINT, we hope you can find something useful to read this month and enjoy our February issue. And, once again, we'd like to say a huge thank you to the support of staff, students and readers that we've received in the last few months.

Have something you want published?

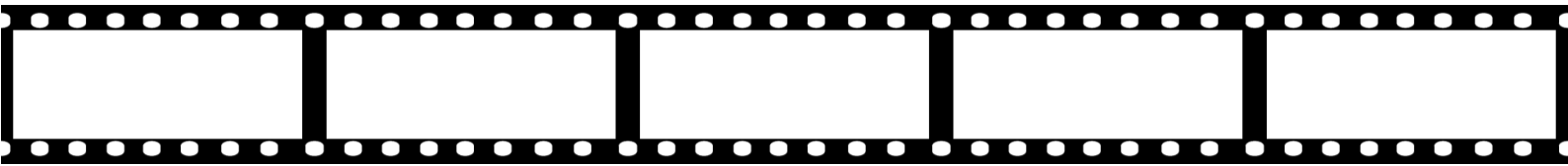


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「Films For Thought」

- Adam Durrant -



Film has become such a huge component of our culture. They're easy to get hold of and more importantly, easy to watch: a laptop, tablet, smartphone, or just an old school TV and DVD player will do. They're not only a form of entertainment, they influence our own views and beliefs as well. Here are five films that have changed the way I think and, at least in my opinion, are a great watch.



This is my all time favourite film. Before I'd seen this, the idea of a romantic comedy never really appealed to me. Now, I can't get enough of them. It's a little old (it came out in 1998), but it has aged well. As the title suggests, Shakespeare in Love tells the story of Shakespeare falling in love with Viola de Lesseps who auditions to play Romeo (she was dressed as a man at the time; women weren't allowed on stage). From then on, it explores Shakespeare's writing struggles and Viola's plight to get on stage. It subtly explores gender equality, true love and issues around forced marriage. It's a fantastic film and clearly many others agree. It won seven academy awards and has some big names including Judi Dench, Joseph Fiennes, Gwyneth Paltrow, Geoffrey Rush and Imelda Staunton.



From a film about Shakespeare to a film by him. This film is an adaptation of Shakespeare's play by the same name. Although the script is fairly close to the original, don't let that scare you off. With context, they start to make a little more sense; by the end, you'll be fluent in Shakespeare. It's still enjoyable and funny today. For those of you who don't know the story, it follows four lovers who, through a series of unfortunate events, end up in a forest ruled by fairies who play havoc with various different love potions. Meanwhile, a group of amateur actors attempt to make a play ready for the Duke's wedding. This too tackles the nature of love in a fantastically funny way told by fantastic actors such as Rupert Everett, Michelle Pfeiffer and Calista Flockhart.



THE TALENTED MR RIPLEY 15

This one's a fair bit darker. It still has a strong element of romance, but it's certainly more of a thriller and it won't bring you any laughs either. Arguably it has the best plot twist of any film. It's difficult to describe the plot without giving spoilers, but at its basic level, it follows Tom Ripley (Matt Damon) as he travels from New York to Italy to try to persuade Dickie Greenleaf (Jude Law) to come back home to America. During this time, Tom Ripley takes full advantage of the perks of living with a rich man in Italy. Through the stunning beauty of the Italian coastline, this film explores just how far we will go to be rich and just how far trust can stretch. Well worth a watch.

THE BREAKFAST CLUB 15

Most people have heard of the Breakfast Club, if not watched it. It's something we can all identify with, particularly here at Cowbridge where friendship groups are well established and well defined. If you aren't familiar with the story, five students, each from different groups who live up fully to their stereotypes (a brain, an athlete, a basket case, a princess and a criminal), are in a weekend detention. As the day goes on they find that they get along despite their differences and finish the day as friends, some more than friends. The film really makes you evaluate how you see people and how they might have their own hidden problems and who they really are.

A Room with a View 15

I first saw this film a few years ago and I didn't even finish it. It's one of those films that it takes time to understand. It wasn't until this summer when I read the book by E.M. Forster (a fantastic read) that I fell in love with it. Another romantic comedy, this time set in the nineteenth century. It focuses on Lucy Honeychurch's holiday adventures in Italy and then her family's antics back in Surrey, England. During her time in Florence, she meets George Emerson, an unconventional individual, and finds she rather likes him, but stays away as she is confused by her feelings and her aunt, who acts as her chaperone, does not approve. Then, when in Rome, she is reunited with an acquaintance from England, Cecil Vyse, and he proposes twice. He is a rich aristocrat and considered a good match, however his comical airs and dislike for country life does not suit Lucy well. Through various coincidences, the holiday party are brought back together in England and Lucy decides between George Emerson and Cecil Vyse. For younger viewers this may be a little slow, but it's a great watch for older viewers. It makes you think about social rules and has some strong feminist themes.



Why You Should Learn A Language:

- C. Lisk-Lewis -

There are around 6,500 spoken languages in the world today, ranging all the way from Klingon from *Star Trek* (which is now a course available on Duolingo!) to those more commonly spoken like Mandarin.

If you have access to a technological device and Wi-Fi, then you also have the opportunity to learn a foreign language: *Memrise, Duolingo, Drops, Tinycards...* the list is virtually endless. Even if perhaps you don't have access to such devices, the local library has a pretty decent selection of books and computers available where you can submerge yourself into another culture, so there really isn't anything holding you back.

Languages are the perfect, global tool; even by familiarising yourself with the basics of a foreign language you are immediately opening doors for your future — in our modern world where various countries are frequently associating with one another, bilingual people are a highly-sought rarity. Though the utility of a language is not limited to just more career prospects, you will also have the privilege to communicate with people from a diverse background of cultures utterly separate from your own. Or, you could just watch a movie you wouldn't otherwise be able to understand. That's fun, too.

However you look at it, learning a language is an advantage you really can't underestimate. The accessibility we have to the rest of the globe is one of the many privileges that our modern age has afforded us, so there's no point in limiting yourself to your local area.

Admittedly, there's always Google Translate but that really holds no comparison to the human mind unless you're okay with mistranslations in simple statements like "*I'm on holiday*" turning into "*I will be silent*" (courtesy of Google Translate, of course). This would probably lead to some confusion and definitely isn't the message you intended to convey initially, although I suppose after that mishap you probably *wouldn't* want to talk too much.

There are further advantages to learning a language than avoiding embarrassment, like the fact you will improve your social skills, broaden your understanding of your



own language, increase your memory capability (a useful skill with all those exams coming up!) and even shield your mind against dementia in later age, to name but a few.

Perhaps it may seem remarkable that something as accessible as learning a language can reap so many benefits, but that seems like a further motivation to pick up a new language and begin. Start with five minutes a day after school and a go from there - even if it's just Klingon. You don't have to learn a language within school if you don't want to, do it outside of school and turn it into an enjoyable, laid-back, no-pressure hobby that could potentially lead you to great things one day.

And here is a challenge to kickstart your journey:

学一门语言，就是多一个观察世界的窗户。

If you want to decipher that, then I suggest you get studying! Or use Google Translate, but where's the fun in that?





'Too late'

~ by Rose Price ~

I opened my eyes. Nope. Too early. I didn't want to wake up yet. I closed my eyes and tried to fall asleep again, to no avail. I sighed and climbed out of bed, checking my new digital alarm clock I'd got for Christmas. Seven o' clock on a Saturday. I hate it when this happens. The one day I can sleep in and I wake up at seven. Typical.

I wondered why I woke up. Just as I thought that I felt a cold blast of wind. Oh. I must've left the window open.

I walked over and opened the curtains, solely to close the window, then gasped.

Snow. Everywhere.

And my only thought was, 'Way too late!'

I closed the window and changed into normal clothes, grumbling under my breath how unfair it all was. Rain all december, and the moment Christmas is over it snows...

No one else in the house was awake, which was strange. My three year old brother's favourite activity is to wake up at six thirty and yell random words until Mum gets him to go to sleep again. He thinks it's funny. Everyone else thinks it's annoying.

I walked downstairs to grab some breakfast. Normally I skip breakfast on the weekend but for some reason I was really hungry. Unfortunately, though, we were out of cereal, and I was permanently worried my family's dodgy toaster was going to explode the moment I put some bread in it. I suppose I was too hungry to care, though, so I walked over and popped some bread into the toaster. And yes, I had been half right.



The toaster was fine for a few seconds then started making odd noises. I peered at it. Sparks started flying off it and then - how bad is my luck? - the stupid bread caught fire. I yelled, grabbed a carton of apple juice left out from the night before and poured it over the burning toast.

The toast had stopped flaming but the toaster was making odd popping noises, and was still sparking.

Just great. First it snows at the most inconvenient time, then my toast catches fire and the toaster breaks. And now my parents are going to blame me.

The commotion woke somebody up. I heard footsteps coming down the stairs, and then my little brother Ethan walked in. Just great. He scanned the scene with his big green eyes, then suddenly turned around, ran away and up the stairs yelling "EMMA BURNED TOASTER! EMMA BURNED TOASTER!"

I heard my Mum's voice from upstairs. Our house isn't very soundproof. "Sweetie, it's quite early. And I think you mean Emma burned the toast".

"No!" he complained. "Emma burned toaster!"

A moment later, I heard footsteps and Mum walked in the kitchen, wearing her old dressing gown and apparently having just woken up.

"Emma, what happened?!"

I sighed. I suppose this just wasn't my day.

~ THE END

The English Blog - [HTTP://TELLERSOFTALESCCS.BLOGSPOT.COM/](http://tellersoftalesccs.blogspot.com/)



MFL Department Interview

- With *Frau Jenkins* -

What's the best thing about your department?

I think that the best thing about the department is that it's not just a French department or a German department, it's an international department. The skills that you learn from learning languages equip you to learn lots of other languages and it helps people think about things on a global scale, not just next door, in the countries next to us, or in english speaking countries; it's international.

What unique skills will pupils learn from your department?

The unique skill that you can get from learning a language is being able to communicate with people who you wouldn't otherwise be able to communicate with. It really broadens your horizons when it comes to other people and getting to know other people, which can then be really helpful for business and different branches of science and that kind of thing.

What do you look for in a star pupil?

A star pupil is somebody who isn't afraid to make mistakes. It helps to be enthusiastic and to be able to do the basic bread and butter things like learning vocabulary, but mainly it's being willing to have a go because that's the scariest thing about learning languages, when you go to a different country and it feels a bit scary, so having the ability to try even if it's wrong, being okay with that and being able to move on from that is probably the best thing to be able to do.

To some it all up: why choose your subject (German) for GCSE?

I think everyone should choose my subject because it will help them in their careers, you can't really argue with that; lots of jobs like it if somebody has a language and that can be a language to A level or degree, but that can also be



to GCSE so it will help your employability. I try and make the lesson as fun as possible, there are lots of games, online activities that we can do and lots of apps that we use. Cake day is a bit of an added bonus which is completely cultural because Germans are really fond of having *Kaffee und Kuchen!* It's strictly cultural, the same with sampling Haribo; it's just sampling a bit of a German business.

It's hard, but it's really worthwhile as well and it's the sort of subject where once you've put a bit of work and you've made some progress you can actually do something with it. That's really great because you could be walking down the street one day and you could see somebody who might need your help and speaks German and you can speak to them in German. I guess that is really useful, on a really basic human level, it is really useful.





World Cancer Day

- Freya Yates -

On February 4th the school participated in helping to raise money for various charities which help to improve cancer treatments. Some of the charities supported were ones we have previously written about in the magazine, such as Marie Curie. However, charities such as Velindre, LATCH and Cancer Research Cymru may be less known, so I hope this piece will help you understand who and why you bought cakes for on that Monday morning. Starting with Velindre, it is an NHS run cancer centre which helps provide those suffering from any cancer illness with treatments, therapies and family support. The charity is constantly fundraising through a wide variety of events for new research and money to help pay for all the facilities they require to help and if you head over to their website, I'm sure you'll find something that peaks your interest. Cancer Research Cymru is a much more well-known charity (as you've probably seen adverts for it or badges at shop tills). The charity is renowned for its groundbreaking findings which have saved the lives of so many and brought thousands of families great relief. They also have some nearby charity shops which are always worth a visit to find that diamond in the rough whilst also helping fund some lifesaving work. Finally, for the charity LATCH, I spoke to the pupils representing the charity in the school:

"Wil O'Connor and I decided upon latch as our charity to support at our stall at the charity bake sale as the they supported our friend Jack in his last months while he was being treated at the Oncology Unit in Children's Hospital Wales providing him and his family support at a very difficult time. Latch is a charity important to my heart and it is a relatively small charity that works solely in the Children's Hospital Wales but has a large catchment all the way from Aberystwyth to Chepstow. This is not the first time the school has supported latch as Rhys Wardhaugh and I shaved our heads in December 2018 raising £6,500 for latch." – Arthur Jones