



STONYHURST THE WINDHOVER

Student Magazine



Easter Term
2021

(Issue 5)

Welcome!

We are very proud to bring you the fifth issue of the student-led school magazine, 'The Windhover'.

This term has had its challenges for our Windhover writing team. We have continued to meet remotely via Teams and the small team of writers have showed incredible fortitude in researching and writing the articles contained in this edition. As you can see, they have contributed a fascinating range of articles on topics ranging from overpopulation to the Biden/Trump furore in January.

Every week, the team members have demonstrated a genuine *quand je puis* spirit in maintaining their enthusiasm for writing about topics which have gripped them while grappling with online learning.

We only hope that you enjoy reading our articles as much as we have enjoyed writing them.

Wishing you all a very peaceful Easter break.

Mrs Scott and 'The Windhover' team.



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About This Edition's Contributors:

Alicia

I am 15 years old and currently in Grammar playroom. I am a full boarder and I have been at Stonyhurst since SMH, joining in figures. Going through the years and progressing through each playroom has been an exciting and nerve-racking experience. I play the piano, I started when I was 8; I find it relaxing and I also like to hear my fellow roommates play a song or two! My favourite sport is netball, I love the team spirit, as anything can happen during the game. A passion of mine is to write. I like the power that the pen has, to influence people and get them thinking.

Magnus

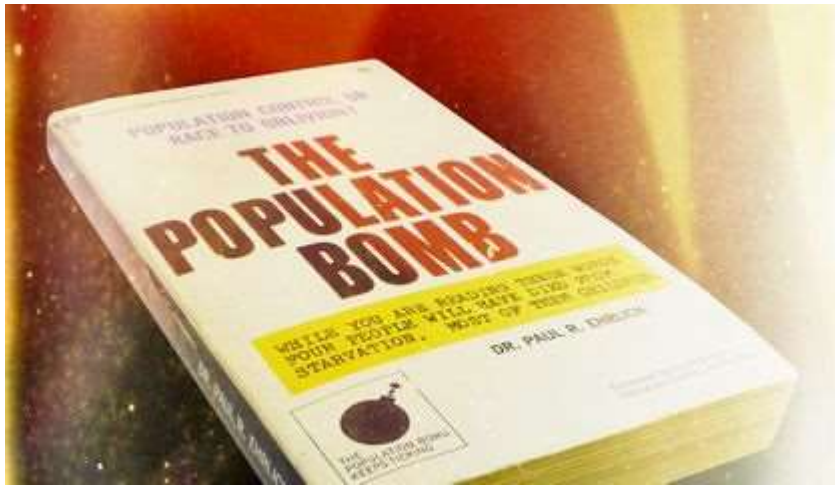
Hi, my name is Magnus and I am in Lower Grammar playroom. I first joined back in SMH in Lower Prep. I would say that so far in my time in SMH and Stonyhurst I have had a fast-paced, enjoyable and fulfilling time! My favourite subjects are Maths, Latin and English. Finally, outside of school I love to go windsurfing; I find it calming as it is a really good stress reliever and each year I try to compete in various competitions.

Thomas

Hi, my name's Tom. I do the wildlife photography article in The Windhover. I love photography and wildlife, especially birds. I shoot with the Panasonic Lumix FZ-82 18mp bridge camera, maybe a Canon 2000d soon. I submit my images to 500px and Shutterstock, though because of technical issues there is only one on Shutterstock. I live opposite a 250-year-old mill/duck pond, so it has great image opportunities, there were four kingfishers there this year, two herons, two moorhens and around fifty mallards.



Is Over Population Really a Global Emergency?



In the time when human population growth was at an all-time high, a man called Paul Ehrlich published a book titled, 'The Population Bomb'. This controversial novel hinted that population growth globally had to be limited, if not then there would be consequences never seen before against humanity. Mr. Ehrlich was criticised at the time for his frightening tone which would

force everyone to grow anxious about rapid population growth. To this day he has been brought up on some of his incorrect predictions he made, but the question still stands from the infamous book released in 1968, could population growth be a worldwide issue which (if given the chance) could finish off humanity?

The question in evaluation should be a modern problem, therefore requiring a modern solution and a modern explanation. In the time span of just 200 years, the human population has grown from 1 billion in 1800, to 7.8 billion in 2020. This is a huge increase which we have never seen in our history, but this is not the only thing that has changed completely in the modern era. We have advanced in other areas such as transportation, communication and medicine. All these factors are modern practices which have all been contributors to the population boom around the globe in recent centuries. To summarise, when looking at the population surge, it is important that we see it as something that had to happen if we wanted to further our life standards to the ways of a more modern society.

Although when looking at the population growth from an uneducated or ill-informed perspective, it may seem like the world may turn to total anarchy if we keep seeing sustained levels of population growth,



this is not the case. In fact, many countries around the world have all gone through the four main stages of population change. To see a clearer picture of where we are right now in our global population boom timeline, we must go back 250 years ago.

Currently, there are no 'developed countries'. This is because all nations at this time had many citizens in extreme poverty. The first step taken to see a change to this happens in Europe, more specifically, the United Kingdom. As I am sure you are aware, the industrial revolution was the first step for the UK to become a global powerhouse. The industrial revolution helped most of the people within the UK to secure jobs which could pay for basic needs, this therefore caused an upwards explosion in the number of citizens, as a better overall way of living leads to less chance of dying before the age of one. As the numbers sky-rocketed, the inhabitants of Great Britain realised they did not need to have as many children as they were more likely to survive. These actions across the country lead to the second stage of population growth. The first stage was the time when the population blew up in size. After these two stages we now see a steady rise in population once again, with fewer infants dying and fewer being born. The population is coming back to its usual growth except instead of lots of babies being born and many of them passing away, we see that a smaller number of babies are born as they are more likely to survive. This shows us the final stage of population growth. The United Kingdom's population is now (as we speak) at the point of coming back down from the height of the population explosion within the nation and will eventually start to depreciate in the figure of population.

Now we have a detailed understanding of the way in which nations go through the cycle of population growth, it is important to mention other countries as nations on continents such as Africa and Southern Asia are still in their population explosion. When Britain and other developed countries started the movement in figures between one population demographic to another, it took us eighty years to reduce fertility from more than six children, to less than three. We now see across the globe how many countries are doing this in a shorter time. It took Bangladesh and Iran just twenty and ten year respectively to achieve this goal. There are still some nations yet to climb to the stage four of population cycle, but these states should be able to do so quicker than ever before as the countries from around the world can give these remaining areas resources to become a 'More Economically Developed Country' (MEDC) in a period less than ten years. I hope this shows you, the reader, that overpopulation is a 'problem' which is not something we need to worry about, but a concept to embrace...

Before I get on to some more positive words, I would like to address the question that may have come across some of your minds, "If most places in the world have gone through the four-stage population development cycle, why do we still see such a sky-rocketing population figure on the Earth?" This is a point that must be noted and examined, if not then this article would render non-conclusive and pointless. The reason we see the statistics for the occupants on the Earth growing rapidly every day is because the fertility rate/children born peaked around the globe on the mid to late twentieth century. This means that the largest age bracket of people we may ever see on Earth are still having offspring. We will have to wait until approximately 2050 before this age group have less of an impact, which is the same decade in which major organisations say our population will peak. In addition,



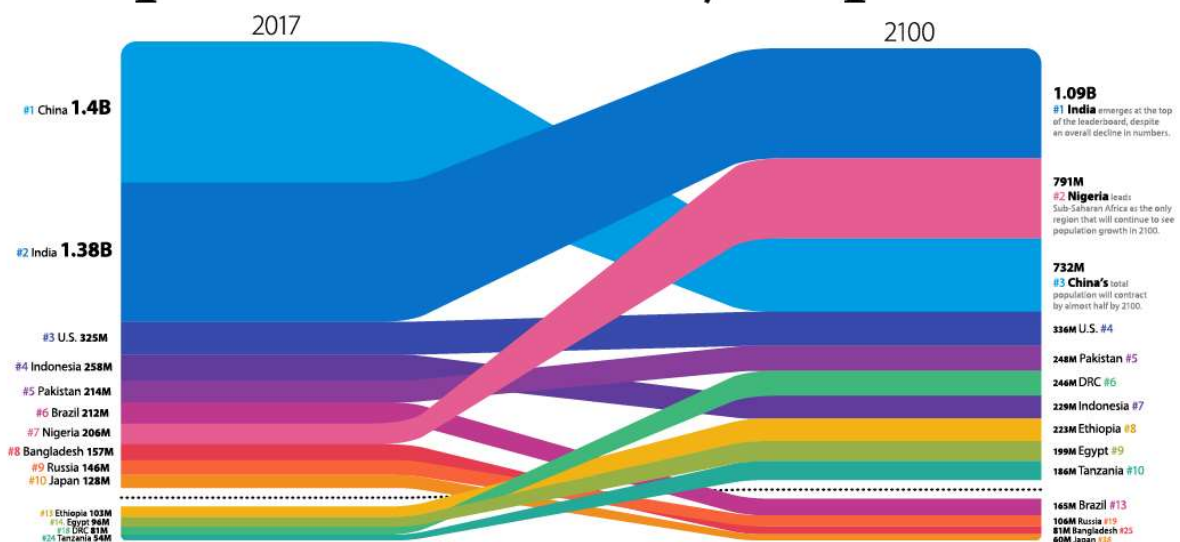
this means that eleven billionth person will never be born! In an ultimate statement before going into a conclusion, I would like to say that a lot of the estimated future events I believe that may happen will have to come from a keen sense of connection and community between many of the world's leading nations, as if they do not pick up the states that are worse off than them, we may be in for a rough ride. Albeit if there still is a lack of closeness there, I believe that the future can still be one which will turn out for better than for worse.

Now onto a conclusion which contrasts most of this article in the past style of negativity and slightly boring statistics that you have read, to a paragraph where the light will be shown in its most wonderful brilliance! With this population explosion we have seen and are still witnessing, it means that whatever project we want to do in the future, there will be a lot more people who can come together and be united in their endeavours. More people can make friendships, share experiences and learn skills which their ancestors may have never considered. In conclusion, I believe the idea of embracing the population growth is an idea which seems more practical than being scared or afraid of what lies ahead.

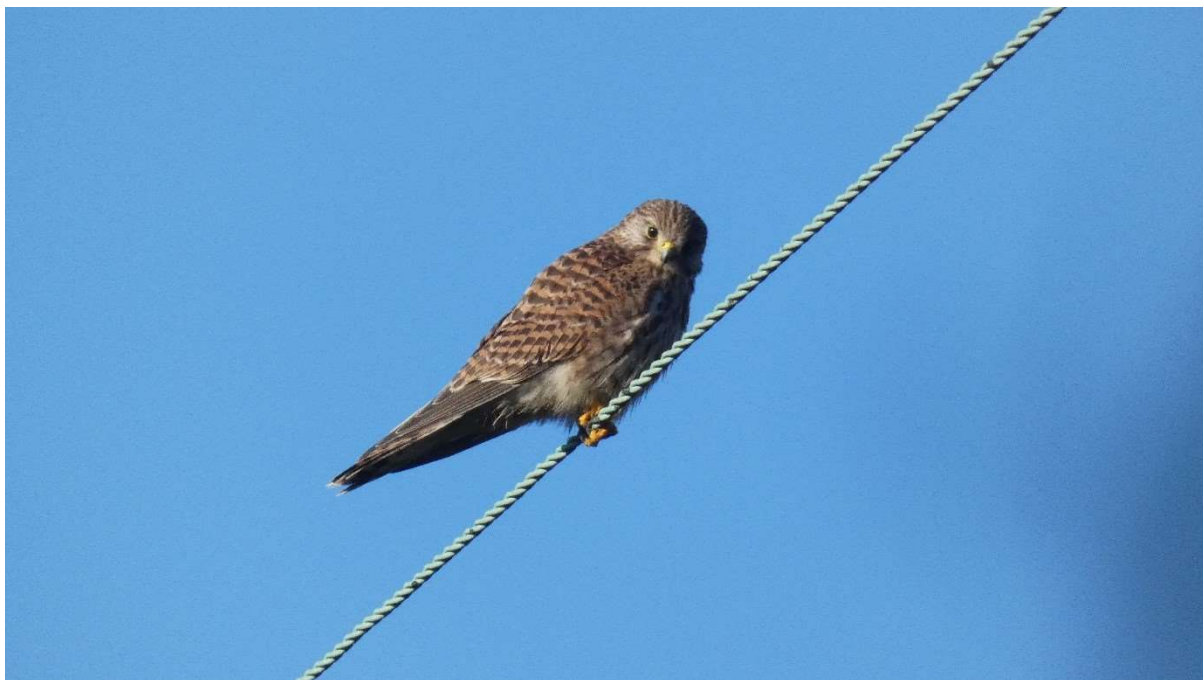
Source for statistics: Home (kurzgesagt.org)

Magnus (Lower Grammar)

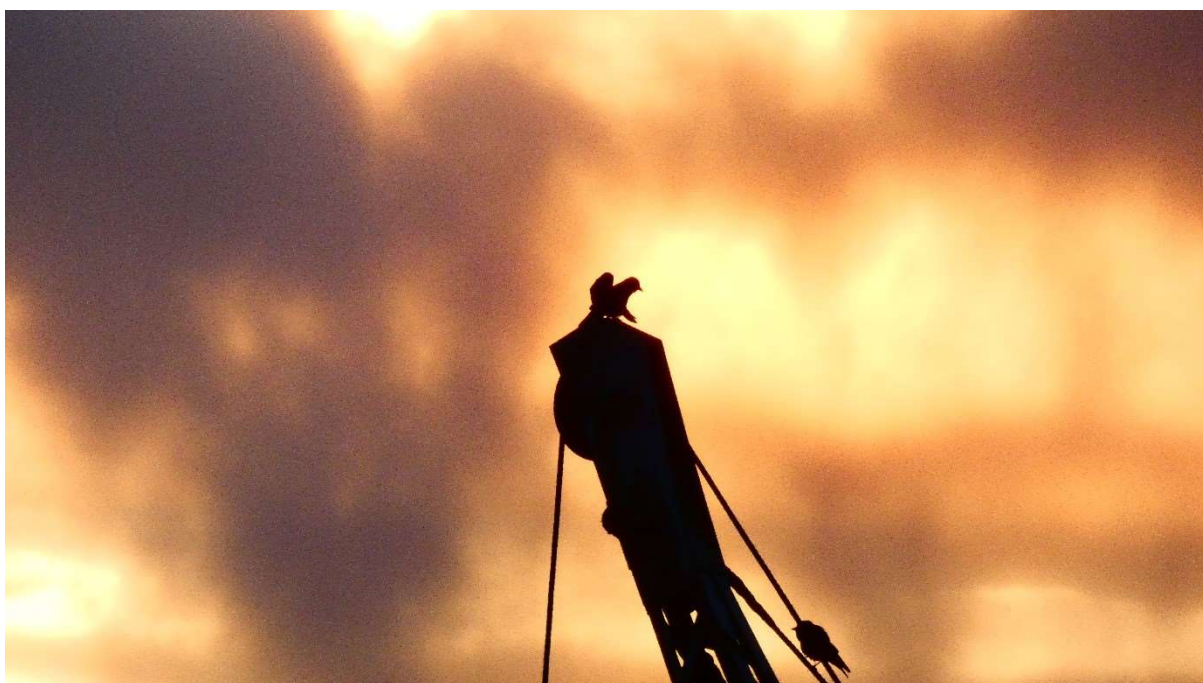
Top 10 Countries by Population



Windhover Wildlife



A recent image I took. I think it is a Merlin (though it could be mistaken for a kestrel) as we have seen them around here before. I also recently saw an ermine. I just saw a small white thing racing up the hill. I will try and get some images of that but it will be more difficult than bird photography.



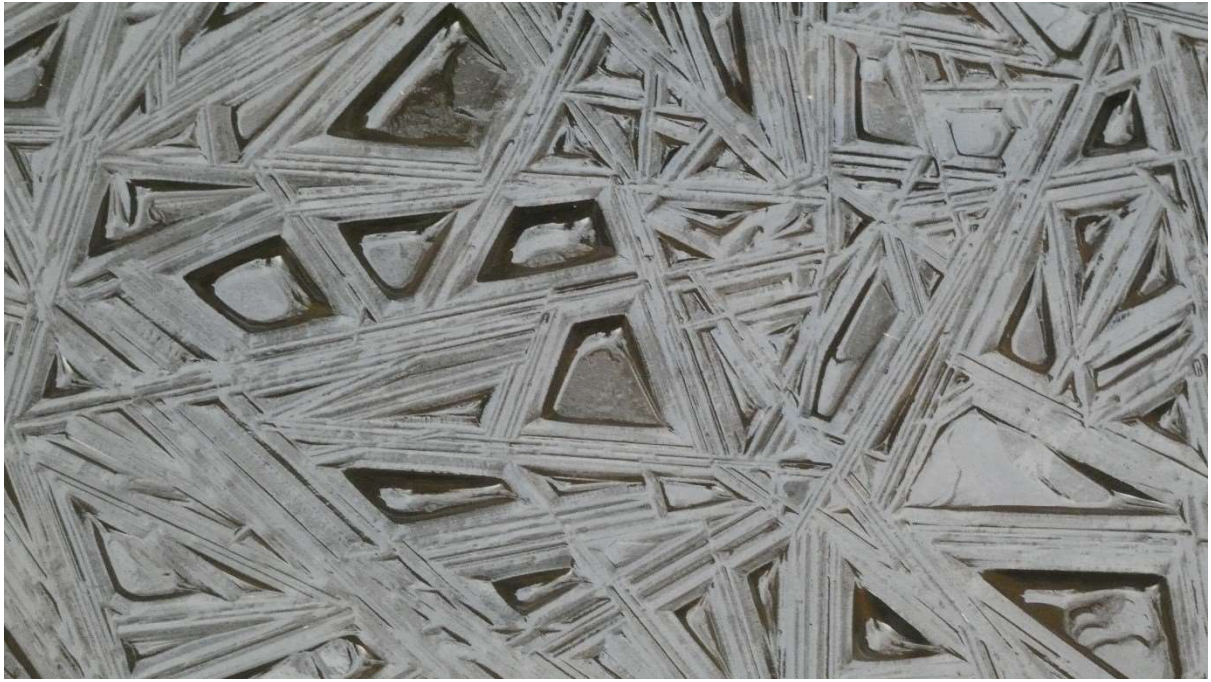
I have also been trying some different kinds of photography recently, silhouettes were one. Here you can see crows perched on an old crane on a very vibrant winter morning.



One of my favourite shots of the moon. It is really rewarding when you get a close-up like this.



An old image I found from a couple of months ago. It is a good action-shot.



Some interesting ice formations in a frozen stream.



I hope you enjoyed reading this issue of windhover wildlife. Soon it will be spring and I will have plenty more wildlife images.

Thomas (Lower Grammar)

The Dawn of a New Era for America



The New Year saw some changes in the politics of the United States after a real threat to its democracy in the siege of its seat of government, the Capitol Hill, by right wing mobs and the beginning of a new era by the swearing in of a new president in Joe Biden.

It all began with the then President Donald Trump losing the election and not being able to accept and concede defeat to his rival Mr Biden. Mr Trump had told his followers that there had been a fraud in the counting of votes and that he has been robbed of victory.

Since then, Mr Trump had been accused of inciting violence at a rally of his supporters which ultimately led to the storming of the State Capitol in a violent uprising, in which five people were killed.

This in turn led to the impeachment of President Trump by the Congress, with the Democrats accusing Mr Trump of “incitement of insurrection,” in order to stop Mr Biden’s election victory being ratified by the Congress.



This is the first time a President is being impeached for a second time in the annals of the history of the US.

On the latest in the impeachment trial against Donald Trump, the Democrats have been using the rioters’ own words to tie the former president of inciting violence at the Capitol. However, they needed a majority of 17 Republican senators to support them to convict Trump.

The irony is that even before an impeachment could take place President Trump's days in the White House were numbered and he left office even without acknowledging the victory of his successor and still not accepting defeat, insisting that the election had been rigged.

Thanks, to the security services and the National Guard the insurrection was defeated, and the seat of government was saved. In short, democracy was saved and the will of the people prevailed.



On a cold wintry day on 20th January, a new president took the oath of office at the same Capitol Hill now surrounded by armed guards and applauded by three ex-Presidents and only a small crowd.

The inaugural speech by Joe Biden, the 46th President of America, was a far cry from the 'America first, America first' by Trump. Mr Biden sought to heal the wounds of division and pledged to unify the nation especially in this time of a national crisis in the form of Covid19 and racial tension.

At last democracy has prevailed and a new era has begun in America.

God bless America!

Alicia (Grammar)



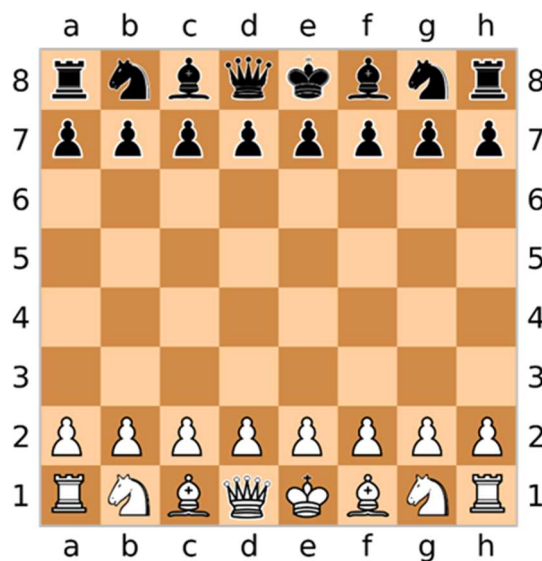
Chess: A Game for Geeks?



The year 2020 was a spectacular year for chess, with the pandemic bringing about a huge increase of popularity for online chess and a certain Netflix Series – The Queen’s Gambit – watched all over the world and encouraging both young and old to experience the game. Now this article should be posed as one for the ‘oh I learnt how the pieces move’ people and the avid Queen’s Gambit fans who want to get into the fantastic world of chess; treat this as a ‘Dummy’s Guide to Chess’.

The Basics

Now for the people starting from scratch or the ones who want a refresher, this segment is about the basic rules, movements and guidelines when playing chess. If you feel that you are placed in neither of these two categories mentioned, please move on to the next section. Right, so the best place begin will be at the start of the game. Here is a board set up in its start position:



The Movements and Phrases

Now, the numbers 1-8 are called ‘ranks’ and the letters a-h are called ‘files’. These are two key terms that are important to remember as notations for moves of all the pieces will be marked as the shorthand of the piece name + the square it is moving to, for example Re4 stands for Rook -R- to e4. Now let us learn the movements of each piece (in ascending order of their importance to the game), the pawn can move one square forward, however it takes pieces diagonally forwards (within one square). In addition, a pawn can move either one or two squares forward if it is their first move of the game. The pawns start on the 7th rank for black and the 2nd rank for white. We will move onto the knights; we see that in their starting position they are on the squares b1 and g1 for white and b8 and g8 for black. The knights move in a ‘L shape’, which means two in either a vertical or horizontal direction, then one in either side of the other direction. So, the knight on g1 can either move to f3 or h3. Moving onto the bishops (c1 and f1 for white; c8 and f8 for black), who have a slightly easier movement to understand. They move on the

diagonals (simply put), but they are on opposite colours so can never line up on the same diagonal! The next most important piece is the rook, these are found on each of the corner squares of the board and move in straight lines on the board. The most important attacking piece we see on the board is the queen, located on d1 for white and d8 for black. The queen combines the movement of a rook and a bishop, but be careful, you only have one! Ultimately, we have the king. The King is the piece which needs to be protected at all cost, because if he is attacked and there are no more squares to move to, you lose! Its movement is limited to just one square in any direction.

Abstract Rules

Castling: Castling is the movement of getting the king away from the centre of the board to the edge (where there is less activity). The rule of castling is that you move your king two squares to the right or left and he jumps over the rook who goes next to him on the other side to its original position. You can do this with either the queenside or kingside rook. You are not able to castle if in check (see 'Checks and Checkmates) or your king passes through check.

En passant: This action is where a pawn has moved its two squares forward and there is an opposition pawn adjacent to it. In this case, 'the opposition' can move diagonally forward to the space behind the pawn. Now this is not just abstract because you move diagonally without taking, but you will also take the piece without moving to its square! (Note: This action is only available when a piece has moved two squares forward and is still there).

The Notations and Worth

Pawn - (No notation) - Worth 1 point of material

Knight - N (ex. Ne2) - Worth 3 (approx.) points of material.

Bishop - B (ex. Be2) - Worth 3 (approx.) points of material.

Rook - R (ex. Re2) - Worth 5 points of material.

Queen - Q (ex. Qe2) - Worth 9 points of material.

King - K (ex. Ke2) - Worth the game!

Some points on notations, if you want to write down the movement of one piece taking another, you must put an 'x' between the piece taking and the square it is taking on. For example, 'Bxe2' or 'dxe2' for pawns which is showing how the pawn on the d-file is taking on e2. Also, the notation for castling short is 'o-o' and castling long is symbolised by 'o-o-o'.

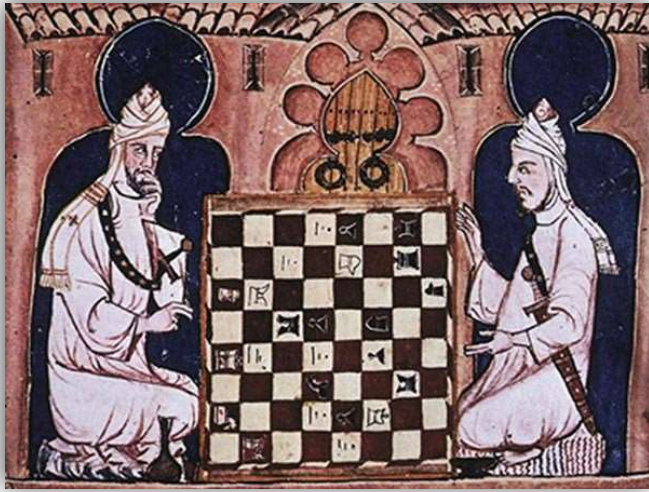
Checks and Checkmates.

A check is a position in which there is a piece directly attacking the opposition king. A check can be dealt with by either moving your king or blocking the attack with another piece.

Checkmate is the scenario where not only is the king attacked but he has no available moves/blocks/attacks to get out of check.



A Brief History of Chess



It is believed that the game of chess has existed in one way or another for one and a half millennia. It was a way of simplifying military tactics and a game which would be played by some of the absolute best geniuses.

The oldest records of the game come from the 7th century in India. It was originally brought about as the youngest prince of the empire that controlled India was killed in battle, and his brother tried to find a way of depicting the scene to his grieving mother.

It was set up on a classic eight by eight board, and there would be individual pieces that would have their own movements. This game would be called Chaturanga. It would slowly move from here to the Persian Empire, this is where it adapted its name 'Chess', derived from 'shah' which meant 'king'.

It would move to the Arab world after this and would be seen in much more of a poetic light. The game would then spread back across Asia to China, where they would place the pieces on the intersections of the board squares rather than inside them. Areas across Asia would end up with many well-known variants of the game, however it was in roughly 1000 A.D. when Chess would begin to take its modern shape, this would happen in Europe. It was a way of showing the roles of many different classes.

In the next few centuries, many religious faiths and believers would have their negative impact on the game, with it temporarily being banned in France. It was in the 15th century that the role of advisor would be removed and replaced with a queen due to the then new presence of fierce female leaders. It was shortly after this that the idea of 'Chess Theory' began. The game would soon become more romantic as the idea of brave sacrifices and novelty tactics encouraged more and more creative thinkers into the game.

The real emergence of official competitive games would mean that this dramatic style would soon sadly cease to exist as the tactician would be able to run the game dry. At the start of the 1900s, we would begin to see a more political reasoning behind the playing of Chess, many states - especially the Soviet Union - wanted to show their ultimate and unbeatable intelligence. This would heighten at the cold war. However, the eventual winner of this battle of the quest for intelligence would be the computer, as in the last few decades it has now developed the ability to beat all the top players.

Well, there you go, who knows how much more history is waiting out there to be crafted?

Magnus, Lower Grammar



Easter Egg Brownies



Here's a recipe to try in the holidays!

Ingredients

185g unsalted butter, cut into small chunks, plus extra for greasing
185g best dark chocolate, broken into pieces
3 large eggs
275g golden caster sugar
85g plain flour
40g cocoa powder
5 Cadbury's creme eggs
150g mini eggs (we used a mixture of Cadbury's and Smarties mini eggs)

To decorate

You will also need a few fluffy chenille Easter chick to decorate (optional)



Method

STEP 1

Put the butter and the chocolate in a medium-sized heatproof bowl and set over a pan of simmering water, stirring occasionally until melted. Alternatively, cover the bowl loosely with cling film and microwave at 30 sec intervals until melted. Leave the melted chocolate mixture to cool to room temperature.

STEP 2

Heat oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4. Grease a 20cm square tin with butter and line with 2 long strips of folded baking paper or foil – one running top to bottom, the other left to right then line the base with a piece of baking paper. The strips will help you lift it out later.

STEP 3

Break the eggs into a large bowl and tip in the caster sugar. With an electric mixer on maximum speed, whisk the eggs and sugar for around 5-8 mins or until they look thick and creamy and have doubled in size.



STEP 4

Pour the cooled chocolate mixture over the egg mixture, then gently fold together.

STEP 5

Sieve the flour and cocoa into the wet ingredients then continue to fold the mixture gently with a spatula just until everything is fully combined, try not to over-mix.

STEP 6

Pour the mixture into the prepared tin and carefully level the mixture with the spatula. Put in the middle of the oven and bake for 20 minutes.



STEP 7

Meanwhile, cut the Creme Eggs in half and set aside then place the mini eggs into a pestle and mortar. Crush a few of the mini eggs but leave some whole. After 20 mins take the brownie out of the oven and press in the fondant eggs, cut side up. Scatter over half of the mini eggs too then put it back in the oven for a further 5 mins.

STEP 8

Once baked, top with the remaining mini eggs, leave to cool completely then place in the fridge for about 1hr to firm up. Lift it out of the tin using the strips of baking paper and cut into squares to serve. Decorate with little Easter chicks if you like.

windhover@stonyhurst.ac.uk

Send Us
Your Photos!



Do you want to get involved?

Join 'The Windhover' writing team next term by joining up on SOCS as one of your lunchtime activities. We meet on Thursdays at 12.30 in Santa Zita. Speak to Mrs Scott for more details. You can also email articles to windhover@stonyhurst.ac.uk



We wish you all a peaceful,
restful and blessed Easter

Special thanks go to Alicia, Magnus and Thomas for all of the hard work that has gone into writing such diverse and interesting articles.

