

The Ramsey Ram



HOT DRINKS MACHINE

BEST TO WORST FILMS OF 2016



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THE RAMSEY WRITERS

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EDITORS NOTES

Hi, my name is Hannah Martin-Pocock and I am in Year 9. I am part of the Ramsey Ram because I enjoy writing. In my free time, I like to read, cook for my friends and family and walk my aunt's dog Stitch. Thank you for reading, and I hope you enjoy this edition of the Ramsey Ram. Hannah Martin-Pocock



Hi! I'm Amelia Dean, and I am in Year 9. I'm part of the editing team on the Ramsey Ram, the magazine that gives the students of Ramsey Academy a voice. I am a lover of English and reading and everything in between, and with a potential future in book editing and publishing ahead of me, this was right up my street.

Besides reading my vast collection of books, all varying from 19th century literature to modern fiction. In my spare time I enjoy writing short stories and novels, which have a range of genres, and I like to draw and sketch a lot in preparation for my GCSE Art course.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the Ramsey Ram! If you have any suggestions for future editions, please contact Miss Siseman, or you can contact myself (through my tutor, Miss Linsdell) or any of the rest of the editing team!



Hi, my name is Will and I am in Year 7. I joined the Ramsey Ram because I am interested in editing and wanted to improve my writing. I hope that you enjoy reading this edition of the magazine. William Farrelly



Hi, my name is Ryan and I'm in Year 8. I joined the Ramsey Ram so that I could become more involved in extra-curricular activities and meet other pupils in the school. I am excited about our first edition of the Ramsey Ram and hope that you enjoy reading what we have produced. Ryan Staples



My name is Jasmin Selby and I am 1 of the 5 editors. I am an editor because I'm good at spelling, grammar and writing. I feel that I can bring facts and interesting pieces to the magazine.



HOT DRINKS MACHINE - BY ?

Facts: Did you know that there are about 2 bags of hot chocolate powder used a day.

It is only 60p for a token to put in the machine.

Sugar, as everyone knows, is bad for you, this was proven when one of the drinks had to be taken off the menu because the children drinking it had become too hyper.

Many people have had things to say about the new machine, good things, and bad. Here are a few of the comments...

The bad comments were mainly about the taste, the exact words were: "It's Rank," "It tastes funny" and "It's gross". Another bad one was, "The lines are too long."

But, there were many good comments to argue with the bad ones, such as, "Its nice because it warms you up on a cold day," "Relaxing," "Worth 60p" and "The machine should stay because the students and adults enjoy it!"



RASPBERRY Pi FOR NEWBIES - BY MORGAN PERERANO

What is the Raspberry Pi?

It is a mini PC with an audio jack, power socket, HDMI socket (only on RPi b+ and RPi 2 whilst other models use analogue connection) a wired internet port and 4 USB ports. This comes with a variety of operating systems ready to use, an SD card used for storing the data and OS and a USB cable. This computer is more powerful than 1968's Apollo mission computers!

What does it do?

It helps people learn about coding and building your own PC. Using the internet and magazines you can find out how to use either Python 2.7 or Python 3.3.

Does it have parts to add on?

You could buy cases to protect your Raspberry Pi and you could buy extra pieces in order to give it more functions. A monitor/TV will be needed along with a keyboard, a mouse and a USB charger.

How much does it cost?

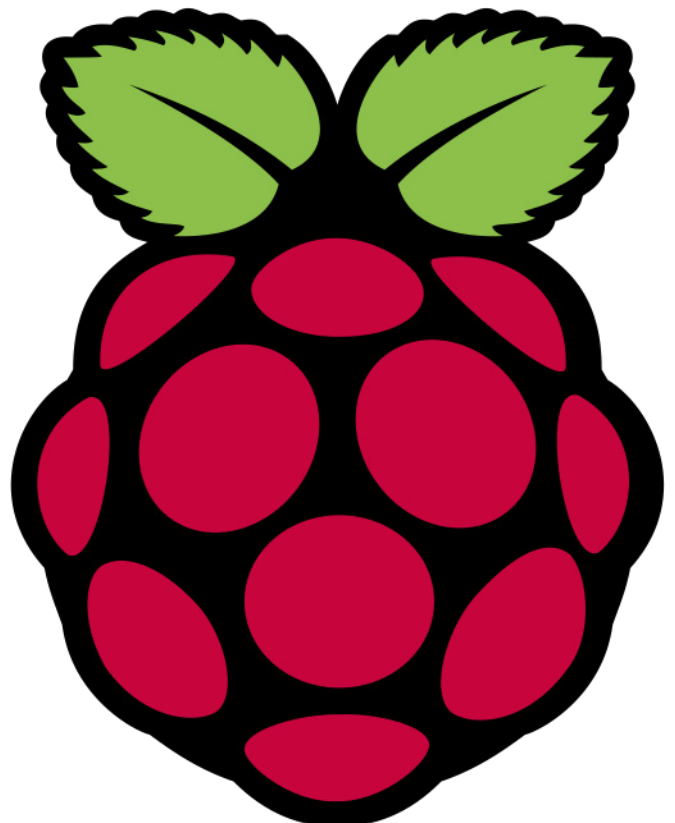
It costs about £24 and only £2-3 are needed for accessories.

Is it any good?

Python is good way to start programming but if you even find that too hard then you can try using Scratch. Coding can only be limited to your imagination. Using the kit you can create simple and exciting games even coding your own version of Minecraft or coding within a pre programmed version available from Martin O'Hanlon. Overall the Raspberry Pi appeals to both kids and adults and is fun and inexpensive hobby. It is great value for money and it can give you hours of fun.

The true story of NWA, a film that should have received a best picture nomination and has one of the best soundtracks of the past couple of years.

Honourable mentions - Suffragette, Cinderella Ant-man, Man from UNCLE, Wild Tales, Spy and Jurassic World. By Morgan Pererano





ENDEAVOUR CHARITY WEEK - BY ?

So what went on?

Through the whole week there were cakes and hot chocolate sold in the main hall. This was for everyone that wanted to pay/donate money to the charity.

There was also an event almost every day, such as Rugby, The Multi Stage Fitness Test (The Bleep Test) for staff and also there was a non-uniform day on the Friday of the charity week.

How Much Money Was Raised? - And For What Charity?

The amount of money that was raised was about £1,000. This money was raised for a charity called P.A.R.C (Essex). This charity is a play and resource centre for children with learning difficulties and disabilities to interact with other children that have the same similar conditions. - Callum Watson



THE RAMSEY WRITERS

THE LOST ENTRY

- A SHORT STORY BY UNKNOWN

Dear diary,

If anyone is reading this, I am long gone on a remote planet probably millions of light years away just waiting for it all to end. This entry is my last and my worst. I remember millions of men and women standing staring at the rescue ship, the worst was coming... the end of life on earth. As we left many things happened at once - a bright flash that could have travelled even further if it wasn't for the planet. The people on earth that have stayed behind have perished and it's all because of time that wore on the only most destructive object in the solar system. The sun was dying. Only one thing could happen from this - the end. By the time that the worst had happened we were already millions of light years away, but I could still see the sun as it shrank and shrank.

What happened next was beautiful and terrifying at the same

time. The sun started expanding rapidly and changed colours, growing bigger and bigger. I thought it was going to hit us but only just missed. It would have sounded deafening but we were safe for now. Only the children and other important people were allowed on. I could only think of my parents that stayed behind. Maybe I should have stayed. That thought has never left me, not even a tiny bit, and probably never will. The children on board of the ship never talk to me, so I sit in a dusty corner always writing and imagining a future - if we will make it to the planet or if we will starve. These questions still haunt me as I plan to destroy all I have written by putting it into the empty vacuum of space. Maybe even find its way back to our home solar system. Whether this will happen I don't know but all I do know is that it is the most important thing in my life and will find my home. Who knows maybe the life on earth actually survived but I doubt it. Goodbye diary.

Yours truly (Unknown)



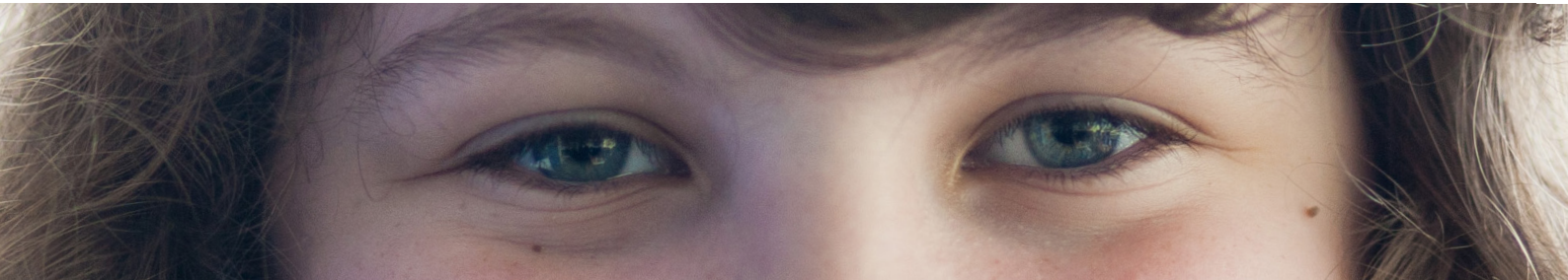
IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE - A SHORT STORY BY TAZMIN SLOAT

I first felt my eyelids drooping, my head resting against my French textbook. Next thing I knew, the world was slipping away from me. The many angry shouts from my teacher are muffled, as if I am locked in my own glass proof case. Around me, the view becomes darker and gloomier. White, black and purple rushes around me, obscuring my view. Suddenly, grotesque faces come out from no-where, each one more distorted than the next. They feel faintly familiar, so eerie that they are unrecognisable. If I don't act fast, the heaving mess of purple, white and black will swallow me whole. I do the first thing that comes to my confused mind: open my eyes.

As soon as I open my eyes, I realise I have done the right thing. My feet immediately make contact with the ground, throwing me off balance. I crawl over to a nearby tree, and sit up, knees to my chest. Up on the horizon, I gaze as the colours in the night sky slowly disperse. As the sky changes between midnight blue and orange, I gaze around to take in my surroundings. The wilderness around me seems strangely silent, and there is no sound except from the roughness of my breath. Highlighted strips of the sky hang above me, and the early morning sun dances across the dewy grass. I begin to feel more peaceful, and loll about lazily in the shade.

After a while, I jump up and decide to take a walk across the green fields. Every step I take seems to last a lifetime. Around every corner more of the wilderness opens up and I have to fight to overcome the sudden wave of desire to explore. Being confined before to the local park, school and home, I have never seen the countryside in my whole life. There have been the rare times that I have watched a documentary, but they were mainly on the animals and not the habitat that they live in. Suddenly, I wish I had paid more attention to my photography, geography and science classes. I decide to run for 5 minutes, and panting, I duck under the shade of a cherry blossom. Lazily, I lean against the trunk of the tree, and I begin once again to doze off.

Suddenly, my body jolts awake. A panic like ice pierces my heart, and my body feels like it is engulfed in water. I'm surprised I am not swimming. I hardly dare to breathe, my brain functions so slowly it could be going backwards. Then it hits me...like an unwanted dosage of medicine. I travelled! Somehow, I travelled by closing my eyes! I feel so stupid, I have been locked away in a field for hours, and I have only just realised. I need to travel back to school, even though it feels so strange. Then I realise who the faces belonged to, those grotesque face I saw the first time, they belonged to my teachers, and my bullies.



1665 - A SHORT STORY BY AMELIA BELL

Well, I'm doomed. Not a very cheery way to start my (most likely) last note, I know, but it's true. Now that grandmothers... now that grandmothers gone, he will come. He will kill me.

I can imagine them now - my friends turned against me - those who used to greet me with a smile, only glowering with hate and fear. I try not to blame them - it's his fault, not theirs. Matthew Hopkins: Witch Finder General. The most evil man I ever knew, and the one who'll end my life. I remember when they came before; Grandmothers fearful cries at me to get into the cupboard and hide, as the malicious shouts and chants came ever closer from the village. "Witch! Witch!" I heard muffled protests as they knocked the door down, charging into the room with blazing torches and pikes - anything they could find to destroy our home as they dragged grandmother from it. They were hungry for blood - and that day, they got it from an innocent woman. I thought I was safe after that, but local girls started having 'fits'. Of course I got the blame - and it is only a matter of time before they reach me, even now, the torchlight flickers in the distance as they march ever onwards to kill me.

I hear them thumping on the door now, I be-



TOP 12 FILMS OF 2015

by JACK HAWES

1 - Star Wars the Force Awakens
What is it? IT'S STAR WARS

2 - The Martian
What is it? Man trapped on Mars eats potatoes and listens to disco tunes.

3 - Steve Jobs
Follows the creator of Apple before he has to deliver three key speeches that defined the man we all know.

4 - Mad Max Fury Road
Definitely not MEDIOCRE

5 - Mission Impossible 5
Better than Bond, cooler than Kingsman, the best spy film of 2015

6 - Amy
Documentary following the rise and fall of the girl from Camden Town

7 - Whiplash
Jazz drumming is AWESOME

8 - Theory of Everything
Story of Jane and Stephen Hawking, a film about a love rather than science

9 - Shaun the Sheep
I'm being serious it's one of the best comedies of the year

10 - Macbeth
The Scottish film

11 - Beasts of No Nation
The first Netflix film is a harrowing and emotional journey of brilliance

12 - Straight Outta Compton
The true story of NWA, a film that should have received a best picture nomination and has one of the best soundtracks of the past couple of years.

HONOURABLE MENTIONS - Suffragette, Cinderella Ant-man, Man from UNCLE, Wild Tales, Spy and Jurassic World.



Hail Caesar - by Jack Hawes



Hail Caesar is the new Coen brother's film about the yee old days of Hollywood. Josh Brolins Eddie Mannix is the actual focus of the film, taking a departure from the more serious Coen brother roles to do something more fun and light-hearted. The film follows him as he works his way round various different problems that I'm sure all Hollywood producers face on a day to day basis. Problems like twin journalists competing for the same angle, a cowboy who can't act, a pregnant star who need a husband, and a large group of communist' scriptwriters seeking revenge. Just the usual Hollywood problems.

The main problem Eddie has to face is the apparent kidnap of their biggest star, Baird Whitlock.

This marks a warm return for the Coen's after the incredible Inside Llewyn Davies and is yet another brilliant piece for them to add to their increasing list of brilliance. Hail Caesar features fantastic turns from Coen brother veterans like Josh Brolin and George Clooney but it's the new faces that steal this show. Alden Ehrenreich stands out as the singing cowboy

Hobbie Doyle. Given that this is a Coen brother's film the script really does shine through, especially in the more comedic moments of the film. The four religious leaders meeting at the table is already one of the funniest films of the year.

The film definitely serves as homage to older Hollywood with the tap dancing musicals, wild westerns and Esther Williams's style mermaid bits. The best scenes of the film are the ones where the Coen's parody old Hollywood. However, whilst they are funny they are taking away from the main focus of the film and its various supporting characters.

The film is chock full of fun little cameos from Hollywood stars like Channing Tatum and Jonah Hill. Though they are very good in their roles, they're not in it for very long. So if you want to see this film just for them, you may want to take a step back.

Hail Caesar is another brilliant film by the Coen brother's filled with witty dialogue, memorable characters and watch out for a cameo appearance by an eighties action hero.





SCHINDLER'S LIST - BY JACK HAWES



Based on a true story, Schindler's list is the story of Oscar Schindler, a German businessman who in WWII turned his factory into a refuge for the Jewish people, saving 1100 of them from being killed.

There is so much in this film to love, which is rather surprising given the very tough subject matter. Yet this film is a poignant beautiful piece about love in a time of horror. In Steven Spielberg's direction he was able to capture little small moments of beauty in the worst of times, the little girl in the red dress stands out as one of these moments. It's made all the more impactful by the last moments of this little

girl. He also captures the brutality and horror of this slaughter in very hard-hitting and powerful scenes. Though, sometimes these scenes are a very hard watch, like the 20 minute raid on Krakow and the first time the film enters Auschwitz.

Though Spielberg's direction is magnificent, it would have been interesting to see what Roman Polanski would have done with this film. Spielberg approached him with the film but he declined, he was one of the few to escape Krakow and his mother was actually killed during this time.

Overall, the film is a beautiful, brutal and timeless classic.

BEST TO WORST FILMS OF 2016

BY JACK HAWES

1 - High Rise

What is it? The residents of a high rise descend into chaos in a surreal and insane piece of cinema

2 - Spotlight

The true story about a group of Boston journalists who uncovered a harrowing news story.

3 - Big Short

True story about a group of men who predicted the Wall Street Crash in the mid-2000s

4 - Room

A young boy has spent his life trapped inside one room with his mum, if you don't cry during this film, then there's something wrong.

5 - Deadpool

Wade Wilson is the foul mouthed, gun loving, katana wielding R-rated superhero we've been waiting for

6 - The Revenant

Based on true events, one man seeks vengeance after being left for dead

7 - The Witch

This film will crawl under your skin and stay there for the entire film. It's absolutely terrifying.

8 - Hail Caesar

The new Coen brother film about old Hollywood is an absolute cracker.

9 - Danish Girl

Based on the first person to go through gender reconstruction. Brilliant performances but a tad slow.

10 - Joy

David O. Russell's film about the lady who invented the miracle mop. No seriously.

11 - Triple 9

A disappointing thriller with good action but overall it's really boring.



RAMSEY RONALD - AGONY AUNT

Dear the Ramsey Ram,

I feel like an absolute elephant compared to my friends. They're all so skinny, love dancing and sports and most of them get lots of interest from boys. No one finds me pretty and I don't get half as many comments or likes on my Instagram as they do. I'm so fat, ugly and horrible and sometimes I just feel so worthless but I know my friends and family like me deep down but I don't like myself. How can I become beautiful like everyone else?

Hello,

I 100% know how you feel; I've been in the exact same place as you! The first step to making other people love you is to love yourself! Think really carefully about the kind of person you want to be and grab every opportunity that gets offered to you. Even if you don't know what you aspire to be, join up clubs, enter competitions and put your hand up a lot because that always helps you to become a better person in general and a better candidate for any job opportunity. Also, never diet! No matter how much weight you're burning and good you think you're doing, you're not. Just cut down proportions if you eat a lot, cut some snacks, and drink a lot of water. Exercise plays a large role in your body shape too. Just walking to and from school or joining something as simple as badminton can have a big impact. Furthermore, tell your friends exactly how you feel, they might support you and if they don't they're not worth it. Keep telling yourself you ARE beautiful, and then one day you WILL believe it.

All the love,

Ramsey Ronald

Dear the Ramsey Ram,

My parents never let me do anything and it's so unfair. I feel like my friends are getting bored with me because I can never do anything with them. I feel left out because when they're doing things as a group, I'm on my own at home watching their social media! I'm too nervous to approach my parents and feel so lonely and I know my friends are gonna ditch me soon even though they're so nice. What do I do?

Hello,

We've all been there at some point, don't worry it gets better! To be perfectly honest, there's no solution to this problem because every parent is different and has different boundaries, but it just means they're more protective over you. Sometimes it's hard for parents to adjust to how early children are allowed to do things nowadays as they were probably 16 when they started going to parties! I know sometimes you feel really rotten and left out but it will get easier. Why don't you try talking to your parents calmly, if you shout and then they'll shout and nothing will get said because they won't take you seriously. Try asking to do something with a family friend or cousin then your parents will know who you're going with and if that goes well then you could ask to do it with your friends. Also, I understand that right now you might feel as though you need to do everything immediately but honestly you've got the rest of your life, so just make the most of what you can do now! Talk to your friends, I'm sure they'll understand and if they ditch you then you need to consider if they're really worth it.

Ramsey Ronald

Dear the Ramsey Ram

I'm a boy and sometimes I feel kind of lonely. All the people in my group are all friends and have been for ages, they'd do anything for each other. They're always nice to me but I feel it's just out of pity because I came to them when I had no one else. I desperately try to be like them by wearing Nike Huaraches and having a 'Hype' bag but they still don't treat me like they do each other. How can I stop being a 'tag along'?

Hello,

There's no easy way of saying this but you need to make a really tough decision; are you being paranoid and making yourself feel left out or is there definitely a problem that's making you feel unhappy? Think about it carefully because if it is option 1, then stop being paranoid! I know it's easier said than done but ask them to do things with you; make an effort to get close to all of them and let yourself believe that you're one of them then maybe you will be. It is hard coming into a friendship group when everyone knows each other but chances are if they're acting a bit sceptical it's because they might think you're a threat to their friendships with each other. Remember they don't owe you anything, make an effort!

If there definitely is a problem, then talk to them and if you still don't feel any better then make some new friends! Yeah, it's hard but at least you can start off getting to know each other, you have as much right to be friends with them as they do to you. Also, you may think 'Oh everyone's already got their groups and they're really happy', if you look closely, there's always someone's gaze that's uninterested and looking somewhere else. They're probably looking for a true friend right now too!

I hope you find some proper friends because once you do it's amazing, but please remember never to rely on anyone but yourself.

Ramsey Ronald

