



INAUGURAL ISSUE!

Issue 1!

Monday, 10th October, 2011

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ESAMAG

The English School of Asturias magazine

Battle of minds!

THE ESA CHESS CLUB, organised by Head of Secondary, Mr Lewis, continued on Wednesday. See report, page 2!



Debating begins!

THE ESA DEBATING CLUB, organised by Headteacher Mr Hardes, held its second session on Friday 7th October, this time debating the emotive subject of “bullfighting”. This followed from the subject of “regional independence” which was debated on the 1st. Full eyewitness report on page 8

Welcome Ross!



THE ESA welcomes a new pupil to Asturias as he arrives from Glasgow. See the full interview with one of the new recruits inside!

House captains selected!

See inside for details!

Big stories inside:

- Part 1 of our terrifying, new, periodical **WEREWOLF** story!
- Read our International Editor's **Malaysia report!**
- See our new **Book Review** section!



+Our **Sixth Form Editor** brings us all new *House News* inside ->



Chess battle!

Two students tell us about their experience of the House competition

WEDNESDAY, 5th OCTOBER, THE AIR in the library was tense; the chess competition was about to begin. The puzzled faces of those who did not know how to play, and the confident expressions of those who had already mastered the game were noted in every corner of the library.

Two of the players (Miguel Ardines and Claudia Allende) were up against each other and they both desired vic-

tory. Miguel was confident in himself, he knew how to play. When they got seated, Miguel changed his expression: his eyes were focused in the game; his mind was absorbed by winning. Claudia could see that, and she set her mind to the battle. The first move was by Miguel, an awkward silence arose while Ardines checked his move and Claudia studied her next one. One after one, the pieces played their role, some dying and some killing.

The tension was unbearable; the concentration could not be broken. Miguel was clearly in the lead, massacring Claudia's army; nothing could be done; Claudia's King fell, defeated,

Exclusive report by **Claudia and Ardines, Year 11**

destroyed.

The Greeks had earned two points. Ardines was excited, he had won the war.

**(Many thanks to Mr Lewis for giving up his lunch to organise the competition.)*

Results:

Greeks 29 points

Vikings 13

Romans 10

Egyptians 5



Meet Asturias's next football star!

Jeremy Elliott Mckenny Povedano interviews his Year 6 friend Nel about his budding football career. (Elliott learns English with Mrs Grant.)



Elliott and footballer Nel

ON SATURDAY 1st OCTOBER ESA PUPIL **Nel Gonzalez** won his football match against Carisa 10-0. The match

was played in the Parke Principado. At the moment Nel plays for Peña Marijil, but Sporting have shown an interest in him. Nel said, "Sporting said, they want me to play for them."

Amazingly on Sunday Nel met Barcelona Legend David Villa! Mr Villa signed his ball and told Nel he was going to have a "bright future". Nel said to ESAMAG, "I think Villa should go back to Sporting!"

Nel told Elliott about his studies at school. "I am studying biographies in literacy, and ancient Greece in Humanities." He also has to make a biography-poster about a famous person for home-learning.

Nel's next football match is going to be against la Corredoria.



Legend Villa, at Gijón



Claudia

Jose

Violeta

Rodrigo



Hugo

Beltran

Blanca

Ana

Aye aye cap'tn!

Congratulations to the newly appointed Key Stage 2 captains!

ESA book report: *The Spook's Apprentice*

THIS IS the magical first installment of the terrifying *Wardstone Chronicles*.

13-year-old farm boy Thomas Ward is the seventh son of a seventh son and he has been apprenticed to the local Spook. The Spook is a strange old man who travels the country fighting monsters!

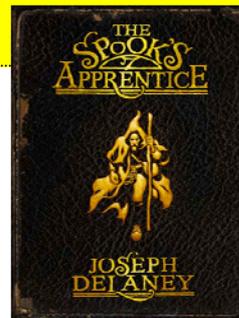
Thomas must struggle to learn how to exorcise ghosts, contain witches and bind boggarts, and things will get worse when he is tricked into freeing *Mother Malkin*, the most evil witch in the County... then the horror really begins!

The Wardstone Chronicles is a

fantasy, horror series that is set in Pendle, England in the late middle ages/early dark ages. It follows the adventures of a few feared people, the Spooks, fighting monsters with staves, salt, iron and their silver chains.

'Warning: Not to be read after dark,' it says on the back covers. Perhaps it's not quite as scary as the publishers would have you believe. For me it was less scary the first time I read it, and more scary the second time. It was as if somehow, at first, I had filtered out some of the scarier bits.

If you're looking for a well-written, imaginative adventure



book then this is the book for you, and if you're not, I would still recommend it. An excellent read with a fantastic storyline,

the school library is stocked with the first three, and *Monsieur Ponchon* is on the look out for more! *Review by Stanley Philipson Brown*

Author	Joseph Delaney
Setting	Great Britain
Language	English
Series	<i>Wardstone Chronicles</i>
Genre(s)	Historical fiction
Publisher	The Bodley Head



Malaysia Report

From our *roving* International Editor **Fiona Sobolewski**



UP UNTIL A YEAR AGO I used to live in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and although I like Asturias very much, I miss Malaysia a lot.

That's why I would like to tell you about this country.

Did you know Malaysia is famous for having the tallest twin towers in the world? They are called the Petronas Towers. They were built in 1998 and today they are the most important building in KL. You can see these towers from every corner of the city, so you never get lost!

Malaysia is also famous because it produces rubber, palm oil and oil. The food in Malaysia is very different to the food here in Asturias, in Malaysia they like to put lots of spices in the food, and they like to put a sauce called "fish sauce" on the rice. They also make a type of stew with fish and meat that is awfully spicy.

In Asturias there aren't many different cultures but in Malay-



MALAYSIA

sia there are three living together: Chinese, Indian and Malay. There are many other people from all nationalities living and working there too. The population is 28,728,607.

People practise different religions, the main three being: Buddhism, Islam and Hindu. The whole city is covered with colourful temples from these three religions. My favourite one is Theon Hou , a Chinese temple in the outskirts of the city.

Malaysia is close to the Equator and the weather is always very, very hot. For this reason school starts very early in the morning (8:00 am) but it also finishes early in the afternoon (14:00). My school was surrounded by rainforest where monkeys and monitor lizards live.



If you ever have the chance of travelling to Malaysia, don't miss it! And if you go, I hope you like it as much as I did.



The Werewolf Case — Part 1

Part 1 of an exciting story written by Stanley, year 9.



He was gorgeous; she was thrilled but puzzled.

“Why were your other relationships so short?” she wondered aloud as they walked.

He glanced upwards. “Well, I have this slight problem...”

Later the detective grimaced at the ghastly sight of the young girl bloody beneath the full moon. In the distance, a wolf howled though it was slightly muffled as if there was something in its mouth.

Sylvester glanced at the newspaper, leapt up and rushed upstairs to Orion’s study. There he found him pouring over maps with various old dusty volumes open,

“Another werewolf attack, this time further Polewards.” said

Sylvester.

“How much further?” questioned Orion. “19 miles, but a werewolf has also been spotted in Coldsbury.”

“Tell me your thoughts about this Sylvester...”

“It’s quite a detour... but still, he must have travelled over, what 30 miles..? At that speed he is walking and giving a large amount of time to some unknown activity, probably drinking. It is most likely that, after each killing, he spends a day in the closest tavern while his purse is bulging and then spends a day or two with a terrible hangover and then continues on his way with his money pouch considerably lighter.”

“You have forgotten that this is a werewolf we’re dealing with,” Orion paused, “you would do better to not forget such simple things. Armed with the knowledge that part of a werewolf’s instinct is to preserve whatever it can for as long as it can, we can be completely and utterly certain that he is in fact spending half the day at tavern, drinking large amounts of alcohol, and the other half walking to the next stocked-up ale house.” Orion’s face did not flicker. “But perhaps I expect too much of you, Sylvester...” Orion’s voice trailed off, tinged with disappointment. As he turned away Sylvester’s eyes flared with anger at the patronising comment, before he continued,

“In any case, the police suspect Bryon Corpsewell...”

“Nonsense!” Orion yelled, “It was clearly Bonehead George. Corpsewell is a warm climate wolf, who, given the time of year, will be migrating towards the Edge. Whereas Bonehead is a snow wolf who was last seen, by *reliable sources* at the ‘Winterset Inn.’ He was also arrested on similar charges, namely murder and thievery. He was also given the title Series Killer in 229a.M*, though somehow he managed to get off that charge. Gold probably switched hands, and, due to the judge in question, lots of it.”

TURN OVER FOR PAGE 2

Author: Stanley Philipson Brown , Year 9



The Werewolf Case — Part 1

Page 2

The way Orion pronounced 'reliable sources' suggested that he was still bitter at them for casting him out of the P.I.F**. After this event he had wandered around trying to make his small amount of money dwindle as slowly as possible until he had chanced upon Sylvester, a fan of his, who offered him food and shelter in his mansion.

"How do you intend to catch Bonehead this time, Orion?"

"Bait."

"Bait?"

"Yes Sylvester, bait. We shall lure him to a spot with another rich young lady, and then, we will pounce on him, the lady will provide any proof we need for court and we will deal with any of the problems which there are certain to be, as they arise."

"When do we leave?"

"Immediately! Are your bags packed and charmed? Your potions prepared? Your small mobile library ready? Your excuses made?"

"Err no. I've got an important lecture on ogre rehabilitation to give tomorrow and a lungworm and vampire fang solution to stir at full moon."

"That's nearly a month away! No I am afraid that we simply must be gone by then. There is nothing else for it you will have to go without any of that solution."

"It will work almost as well tonight. I would have done it last night but it was cloudy."

"Well, err, I'm very glad. I will leave immediately. You will find me at the 'Ancient Vampire' drinking cider at the fourth table from the right."

"And if you are not?"

"Then I shall set off a little red firework, it will spell out where I am."

"What time?"

"11:00 am. I will not be able to tarry more than half an hour so if it is past 11:30am do not even bother coming, for I shall be loong gone."

"Where to?"

"Darkwood Forest."

"What with the..?"

"Yes."

"And the..?"

"Yes."

"What about the..?"

"That's what I'll be looking for."

As Orion turned around to pick up his gem encrusted sword "Light Bringer", and his travelling cloak from which hung a bulging moneybag, Sylvester gaped at him, as if fearing for his sanity.

"Well, bye." Sylvester said weakly.

"Oh, it probably won't be forever," Orion replied firmly. They left the study and went down the stairs in silence, thinking. Orion lept onto his horse and cantered off.

"Are you sure?" Sylvester said to himself as Orion disappeared from view...

Author: Stanley Philipson

Brown, Year 9

KEY

*after Magic

** Police Investigation

Make sure you check the next issue of ESAMAG for Part 2 of The Werewolf Case!



HOUSE NEWS UPDATE

THE CAPTAINS AND vice captains (members of year 12 and 13 for secondary and year 6 for primary) were elected by the teachers before summer began. Depending on which house you're in, you can turn to your captain or vice captain with any ideas or suggestions. They will all be happy to hear anything anyone from the house has to say, so let's present them briefly:

Secondary:			Primary:		
	Captains:	Vice captains:		Captains:	Vice captains:
ROMANS:	Olivia Grane y13	Sarah Grane y12	ROMANS:	Violeta	Rodrigo
GREEKS:	Daniel Rodríguez y13	Irene Amigo y12	GREEKS:	Blanca	Beltram
EGYPTIANS:	Marina Fernández y12	Claudia Llorente y12	EGYPTIANS:	Ana	Hugo B
VIKINGS:	Laura Piñera y12	Fruela de la Roza y12	VIKINGS:	Jose	Claudia

Captains and vice captains decided on a charity for each house:

- Romans decided on Cruz Roja
- Greeks decided on Cocina Económica
- Vikings decided on Unicef
- Egyptians decided on Cáritas.

(Any money collected will be sent to these charities. Last year's winner were the Romans, who sent the money raised to Cruz Roja.)

UPCOMING HOUSE COMPETITIONS

- 'Draw two animals in one', starting this Monday 3th of October and will be running until the 15th of October, and for which only primary can participate. The three best ones will win house points, and the winners will be the most creative and most colourful. It consists of drawing two animals in one, on A4 paper and in *any* material you want. Anyone interested in participating should give their picture to their captain or vice captain, so that they can give it to Miss Philipson Brown and Mr Hardes can choose the winners.

- Art competition, starting on Monday 3th of October, ending on 15th of October, and consisting on drawing a flower in A4 paper and in any material you want (acrylics, pastels, watercolours...). Both secondary and primary can participate in this one; there will be three winners in primary and three winners in secondary. For primary y1 will compete against y2, y3 against y4 and y5 against y6. For secondary y7, y8 and y9 will compete all together, then y10 will compete against y11 and y12 against y13.

- Halloween Mask competition, starting the 14th of October. In this one, both primary and secondary can participate, though primary and secondary will compete separately. The winners will be "the scariest mask", "the most creative mask", "the funniest mask", and "the mask that took the most time and effort".

- Football competition, starting around November.

- Basketball competition, starting around December.

- Rounders competition, starting around January or February.
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LOOK OUT ON THE BOARD FOR ALL THE LATEST NEWS!

Update by
Julia Rianza,
Year 13,
Sixth Form Editor.



WELCOME ROSS!



Interview with the ESA's newest student, just in from Glasgow, Scotland!

FELIPE: This is Felipe for the ESA Magazine and we are going to interview Ross. Well Ross, first question, what do you like about Asturias?

ROSS: Mmm, well, it's nice and sunny, unlike Scotland. A lot of people are dead friendly, and there's lots of like local parks about whereas in Glasgow, there's only like a few where I lived about.

FELIPE: "Dead friendly"?

ROSS: Oh yeh, "dead friendly" means ...I guess, 'very friendly'.

FELIPE: Oh, that makes sense. What do you like about the English school of Asturias?

ROSS: Well it's good because there's a big football pitch, whereas at my other school everyone was on the football pitch so we couldn't actually play football, it was just big goals, and then everyone was inside the goals so if you hit someone they would... go crazy!

FELIPE: How is life different in Glasgow compared to Asturias?

ROSS: Like I said before, it's much sunnier than in Glasgow... um, uh, nothing more really.

FELIPE: What team do you support?

ROSS: Um, I support Barcelona, Sporting Gijon and Rangers.

FELIPE: What are your hobbies?

ROSS: Just football.

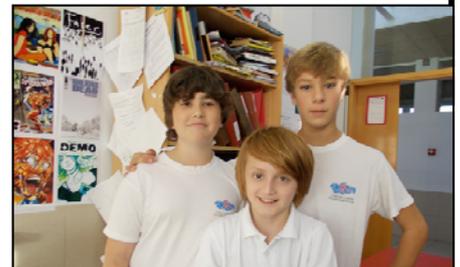
FELIPE: OK, what do you miss about the UK?

ROSS: My friends and my family... and stuff, my school.

FELIPE: Thank you for talking to the ESAMAG.



Interviewer Felipe, 8B



Ross, with new friends Carlos and Lorenzo, 8B

NO NEED TO (BULL)FIGHT!

DURING LUNCH on Friday 7th October, a debate between some Year 13 students took place in the school library. The event, organized by the Headmaster, Mr Hardes (who also acted as the debate's moderator), got the students thinking about the pros and cons of bullfighting in Spain. At the debating table sat Isabel Vallina García, Marta Ibarra García, Miguel Sopeña Álvarez and Luis García Arce. The audience consisted of Mr Ponchon, Ms Butler, and sixth form students.

The debate began with Isabel arguing that "bullfighting is a cruel activity" because "torturing bulls is morally incorrect". To this, Luis replied: "bullfighting is a good way to preserve the *toro bravo*. Without bullfighting, this species would be extinct by now." He also added that even if the bull's death is a painful one, it is "compensated" by the years prior to it. These are supposed to be very 'happy' for the animal because it is kept in a pleasant, open-spaced environment, unlike cattle which are preserved ex-

clusively for food production. "It is more honourable to die fighting than to do so in a slaughterhouse." he concluded.

Miguel agreed with this, and added: "Bullfighting is an art. All bullfighters have a great respect for the bulls, they don't do what they do simply to make the animal suffer."

Marta (in spite of declaring she isn't for or against bullfighting), declared she "can understand why some people consider it to be an art", but can't understand "why the bull has to be killed."

Miguel quickly responded: "I would hate to make the bull suffer and then not kill it. I believe this would be a real torture for the bull." He defended bullfighting as a Spanish tradition which must be preserved.

"With bullfighting, as with all things, we must try to make the most of the positive effect, and reduce the negative," Isabel added. "I am aware it is a Spanish tradition. But

some traditions are based on irrational and cruel behaviours. This would explain why most medieval 'traditions' are not preserved today." She also insisted that "there is a difference between killing an animal to obtain something which is necessary to us, like its meat, and killing it just for fun."

At this, Mr Hardes turned to the audience and asked for their opinion on the matter before closing the debate. Ramón González García-Bernardo (Year 13), not agreeing with what Isabel had last said, replied "meat isn't necessary for us. People have the choice to be vegetarians. Therefore, both bullfighting and eating meat are wants, not needs."

Report by Catalina Peña Ronzón, year

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The debate in action