

THE BRANCH



GAPS

I think we can all agree, Gaps are so much fun, we all love them and this term we have two new ones, The Branch team decided to interview them.

Firstly, I interviewed Miss Taylor, almost like Taylor swift and, yes, she gets that a lot. Miss Taylor is only staying with us for a term as she is filling in for Miss Shaw. Her first impressions of the school are good, she likes her room, “my room is nice and the school seems to have good facilities”.

“So far being a gap has been tiring, way more hard work than I expected” “although exhausting, being a gap is surprisingly rewarding”, how can a job be exhausting and rewarding? To know that first we need to know what exactly gaps do. “We do all the jobs people don’t want to do” almost like filling in the gaps (pun

intended), they run around school, print things, answer phone calls and do activities on the weekend. “My favourite is taking the girls to North P, it so much fun!”. On a Tuesday she takes a few of the boarders and struts down to North P. After school she helps with a few clubs like hockey, the branch, inklings and acapella, her favourite by a mile is the branch (join). “The worst part of being a gap is lock up” dun, dun, duuunnnn. Lock up consists of going around the school at night and turn all the lights off and locking the doors, not scary or frightening at all. Good thing Wychwood isn’t an old creaky building, because if it was it would be the cliché horror story.

Before coming to Wychwood Miss Taylor went to Magdalen School do to her A-levels, so this technically means she chose not to come here for her A-levels! This is the first

time she has been away from home and her dad is a pilot.

When she leaves Wychwood she will continue her gap year and travel the world, going to Bali, Vietnam and Thailand with some friends and wasting all her parents money and convincing them that travelling on your gap year is a great experience that will change her life forever and teach her many things. After she's finished travelling and taking cool pictures for Instagram, Mrs Taylor is going to be a student in Bristol studying politics and Spanish for four years. Hoping to later work for the UN doing "something cool to do with Spanish and politics".

To end this interview I asked her what would be some things she would like to let the whole school know about her, she is 100% English, her favourite Wychwood meal is Brunch and that from her room she can hear everything you say in the boarding house.

Now onto the next new gap Miss Wiesner and she hates Wychwood. Just kidding and if she did it would have been a more interesting article. Unfortunately she actually really likes Wychwood and really enjoys working here. Like Miss Taylor she also finds the job exhausting, but rewarding and apparently the girls are really funny. Gaps are part of staff so they are allowed to enter the staff room, the mysterious staff room... and that's just a fun fact.

In school she helps with Art Club, and dance club as well as starting astrology club which seems really, really fun and everyone should join once it starts again after half term. Her favourite part of being a gap is being on duty on the weekends because she gets to go on outings.

Before coming to work at our lovely school Miss Wiesner went to boarding school in Scotland, but she lives in Frankfurt, Germany. Frankfurt has a really big airport and that's just handy. She has a 22 year old brother or 22 brothers I can't really remember, (my notes were a bit confusing), and her parents are both doctors. After Wychwood Miss Wiesner is looking to go to a German university and study physics because she loves physics. Her dream job would be to become an aerospace design engineer which seems like a fun complicated job. When I asked Miss Wiesner what were her hidden talents she replied that she's only really good at physics, maths and rock climbing and is actually trying to restart her rock climbing because turns out she is actually really good at it.

Apart from speaking perfect German and English she speaks French.

- Her favourite shop is urban outfitters

-Her favourite country is Iceland or Finland

-apparently she has no favourite year group

-and her favourite Wychwood meal is ice cream.

She also made it really clear that it very important to spell her name right, Miss W-I-E-S-N-E-R.

Both new gaps seem really fun, as a student I'm really enjoying this term.

By Olivia Zamora

DISSOCIATED IDENTITY DISORDER

In 1968, Dissociate identity disorder was first recognised as a mental illness but it was called was called hysterical neurosis (dissociative type) and was defined as an alteration to consciousness and identity.

Dissociative identity disorder or, now, more commonly known as either DID or split personality disorder is now defined as when a person's mental state causes their identity to split and to form into two or more people. Their body language may change and another personality takes over their brain.

This has been described as an experience similar to possession due to the fact when the other identity takes over they wake up as themselves after the episode having no memory of what they did. Typically, people who have this disorder tend to be victims of serious abuse. Women and girls

experience more childhood abuse than males with a ratio of 10:1 which causes more females to have DID.

Up to 1994 this mental illness was re-named as multiple personality disorder so it had a more accurate title in correlation to the illness (according to psychology today). This condition is considered as rare and is estimated that only 1% of the population has it. Sadly, there is no cure for this type of disorder but if the patient is willing to undergo a long-term treatment it can help the patient cope and make the symptoms less severe. These treatments include: psychotherapy, hypnotherapy, talk therapy and adjunctive therapies like art.

By Maria-Vittoria Tozzi

SUNSETS

We lie on the beach,
our skin rough from the seawater,
listening to the waves stroking the
sand,
watching the burning sky,
as it melts into the green sea.

The sun gazes at its warped
reflection.

The curtain call,
before the dark obsidian of night is
reborn.

By Mabel Kinnings

NIGHT CORE

From the first time people hear the
word 'Nightcore' people might
think of a band or an underrated
singer that you have never heard.
Actually, Nightcore is a genre of
sorts where songs would be
remixed and sped up. Nightcore's
genres that it fits into are dance
and electronica. It takes the audio



to a song, for
example
"Rather Be",
and would
sound the
same and

have the same lyrics but the voice
would sound higher than usual

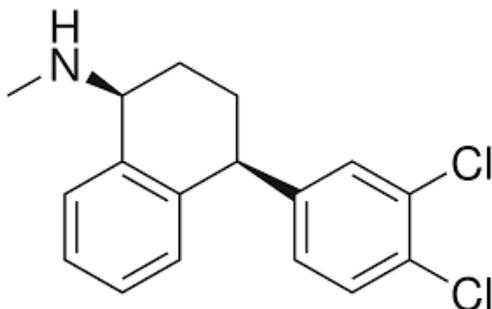
because the speed of how fast the
song is has changed. The speed
would be commonly around 160-
180 beats per minute, 10-30%
faster than usual. Nightcore
started in 2001 or 2002, when two
students were doing a class project
in, Norway. They were called
Thomas S. Nilse and Steffen Ojala
Soderholm. Nightcore is called
Nightcore because it's a nickname
of someone who remixes a song.

Nightcore can be almost any style
as the style depends on the song
which has been remixed

By Katya Bellers

ANTI DEPRESSANTS

You may think that
antidepressants help the people
who are on them, but in fact it's
the complete opposite. Many



people who have been on these
drugs have experienced major side
effects while coming off of them
that are leading doctors to believe
that the side effects are worse than
the benefit.

There is a dramatic increase in
suicidal thoughts while coming off
of antidepressants, and will often
lead to an increase in suicide as
well. It has recently been

published in an article by the American medical association that antidepressants are about as effective as the placebo effect, which is an effect where a person is taking a drug and believes that it is helping them and so they end up helping themselves with no medical help. And the drug is pretty much just made of sugar.

If you are totally against antidepressants then you can always try CBT (cognitive behavioural therapy). CBT is a form of therapy where you focus on

THE EMMYS

The Emmys! - It's the Oscars but for TV!

So the Emmys happened on Monday and well... I wasn't as disappointed as I had expected to be! While I'm still incredibly angry that the wonder of a show, Atlanta, didn't win anything but the winners, unlike the Oscars, were very deserving.

Now, the Drama category had some of my favourite and some of the most popular shows

nominated, including Stranger Things, The Crown and Westworld. And unsurprisingly Game of Thrones won!

One of my favourite ladies Claire Foy won Best Actress in a Drama Series but I won't lie, she was up against some stiff competition. Elisabeth Moss was one of the best performances in my opinion, with her haunting portrayal of Offred.

changing negative and unhelpful thoughts and improving emotional regulations and includes no drugs.

From my research I have found that some antidepressants do work but it depends on the patient. I think that CBT is worth trying before going onto the drugs as it may be more effective to the patient than the drugs and safer, but you should always consult a doctor or psychologist about any concerns.

By Lily Forster

Listen, if you haven't seen The Crown I beg you to go and watch it right now because Claire Foy does such a wonderful portrayal of the Queen, but I'll miss her in the third season since she's getting replaced because of the change of time period. As for Best Supporting Actress, Thandie Newton won in

that category. I'm a little angry considering that the nation's princess, Vanessa Kirby, better known as Princess Margaret didn't win especially since it's her last season and she did such a wonderful job! Oh, and if Millie Bobby Brown won I'm sure that the entire Stranger Things fandom would have celebrated.

Now for the boys! Matthew Rhys won Best Actor in a Drama Series for The Americans and I'll confess I hadn't heard of this show until I saw the winners list so if it's amazing, I guess I'll never know. The good stuff is in the Supporting

Actor category. The iconic Peter Dinklage won in that category, of course, but I'll say it here and now, if he wasn't nominated then it would have been between Matt Smith, Mandy Patinkin or Joseph Fiennes. Don't quote me on this, but David Harbour would get eaten alive by these guys.

Okay okay, enough with the drama! What really took me by surprise was the comedy categories. We had the new kid on the block, *The Marvellous Mrs. Maisel*, sweep up most of the awards in that category which made me and many fans of *Atlanta* a little...irritated. What I will say is that *Atlanta* is one of the best shows to come out recently and that Donald Glover rightly deserved at least one award that night. Now that's done, who wants to talk about *Drag Race*?

Ok, so, *RuPaul's Drag Race* won: Best Reality/Competition, Best Directing for a Reality Series, Best Casting and of course *RuPaul* himself won Best Reality Host! Meaning that the show made history people! History! But before I get ahead of myself I still need to talk about the Creative Arts Emmys. I'm sure *Rick and Morty* fans were incredibly pleased that they had won themselves an Emmy. Unsurprisingly it was the "PICKLE RIIIIICK!" episode that got them the win. Don't get me wrong, I love this show, but of ALL the episodes it had to be the 'Pickle Rick' one... but aside from that, the win was well deserved and, in my opinion, I'm sure that *Rick and*

Morty will be snatching awards for many years to come due to their different and quirky sense of humour. Anyway, *Queer Eye* nabbed itself an award for being very well structured; so well done to them.

Finally, we can get to the best of



the best (The crème de la crème if you will) of the Emmys! What records did we break this year? Well, Peter Dinklage now has a third trophy to stick on his shelf along with his record breaking seven nominations for the category! *RuPaul's Drag Race* got a total of twelve nominations and *RuPaul* got Best Host for the second year in a row! But the biggest "You Go Girl!" would most definitely go to Sandra Oh for being the first Asian lady to be nominated for Best Actress in a Drama Series. As wonderful as it is, I can't help but feel a little weird about this record considering that it's 2018 and it's only now that there is Asian representation at the Emmys. I mean, 2010 was the first year any Asian actress won an Emmy which just doesn't sit right with me. I know that any progress is good progress, but I just feel like we can do better. But for Sandra, all I can give is a huge congratulations.

As for next year, well I'm not predicting as much as I would for the Oscars however, all I ask is that Adventure Time gets an Emmy for its series finale just as

YOUTH TRIBES

Throughout history, people have formed social groups. However, teenage culture really began after the Second World War. Most teenage cultures form around music and style. The first big musical artist of the 1950s to have a huge teenage following was Elvis Presley. Not long afterwards in the 1960s, the British band The Beatles were taking the world by storm. Bands like The Beatles gave birth to numerous different "tribes", each one with its own elaborate hairstyle and interesting clothing choices. In the 1960s, there were the hippies, the mods and the rockers. In the seventies there were the glam rockers such as David Bowie, the punks and the skinheads. However, in the 1980s music tastes changed once again and new movements were born, including new romantics, Goth and indie. Since the 1980s, music fans

By Mabel Kinnings

SCHRÖDINGER'S CAT - A SUMMARY

The Schrödinger's Cat paradox is a thought experiment that Austrian physicist, Erwin Schrödinger used to illustrate the flaws of the

one last hurrah for the team. Oh, and that Atlanta wins everything. Just...everything.

By Anu Sofoluwe

have become less outrageous but there are still numerous subcultures. Grunge, which was born in the 1990s spawned bands such as Nirvana and The Smashing Pumpkins. Many teenage tribes liked to have a figurehead, someone to look up to. For grunge, the main figureheads were Kurt Cobain and Billy Corgan. In the early 2000s the primary aesthetic was emo, because of social media sites such as Myspace, with the leading band being My Chemical Romance. Nowadays, there are still many different tribes, some new and some still living on from the past such as grunge and indie. Many modern day youth tribes

also like to incorporate fashion brands and social media trends. One thing is for sure, teenage culture and the battle of aesthetics are here to stay

'Copenhagen interpretation' of quantum mechanics, which states that a particle exists in all states at once until observed. The Copenhagen Interpretation of quantum mechanics essentially states that an object in a physical

system can simultaneously exist in all possible configurations, but observing the system forces the system to collapse and forces the object into just one of those possible states, Schrödinger disagreed with this interpretation.

Schrödinger conducted a famous thought experiment where a cat is placed in a steel box (theoretically, of course) which also contains a radioactive substance, a Geiger counter, a small flask of hydrocyanic acid, and a hammer. When the atom of the radioactive substance decays, it is detected by the Geiger counter which, in turn, activates the hammer to release the acid and kill the cat. Since the radioactive atom exists in a state of superposition, where there is 50 percent chance of it having decayed or not, it extends to other events that are related to it. This also applies to the fate of the cat, which as Schrödinger put it, could be "living and dead ... in equal parts" until it is observed.

Until the box is opened, an observer doesn't know whether the cat is alive or dead—because the cat's fate is intrinsically tied to whether or not the atom has decayed. If the Copenhagen interpretation suggests the radioactive material can have simultaneously decayed and not decayed in the sealed environment, then it follows the cat too is both alive and dead until the box is opened.

Common sense tells us this is not the case, and Schrodinger used this to highlight the limits of the

Copenhagen interpretation when applied to practical situations. The cat is actually either dead or alive, whether or not it has been observed. Schrodinger used the experiment to show how Quantum superposition could not work with large objects such as cats, because it is impossible for an organism to be simultaneously alive and dead. Thus, he reasoned that the Copenhagen Interpretation must be inherently flawed. While many people incorrectly assume Schrodinger supported the premise behind the thought experiment, he really didn't. His entire point was that it was impossible. To underscore the strangeness of quantum mechanics and the probability interpretation, Erwin Schrödinger said, "I don't like it, and I'm sorry I ever had anything to do with it."

The Schrödinger's Cat paradox explains the apparent contradiction between things that are observable on the microscopic level, and those that are visible to the naked eye. While the above-mentioned paradox may work well for microscopic elements, the same rules cannot be applied to larger, everyday objects. Microscopic particles, like electrons can only be observed by measurement. While in some experiments, they act wave-like, in others, they act particle-like, following straight line trajectories, or colliding and scattering, and in the double-slit experiment they do both! It illustrates the problems of observing subatomic systems and drawing conclusions, especially

when it is applied to the larger macroscopic world.

The collapse interpretation has an issue, though. Instead of just you observing a cat in a box, imagine putting yourself and the cat in a room and having your friend wait outside the room. You run the experiment, open the box, record your observations, and only then have your friend open the room and see what your observations were. From your perspective, the cat is in a superposition of alive and dead until you open the box, at which point a collapse occurs. You are then in the definite state of having seen the cat, a state which persists until your friend opens the door. But from your friend's

perspective, up until they open the door, you are still in a superposition of having seen the cat dead and having seen it alive.

Even worse, this setup can be repeated again and again, such that every new observer is placed in a larger room, and the idea that different observers will disagree on the state of reality in this experiment is problematic.

BIODIGRADABLE

We all do our part to try to keep the earth as green as we can now that pollution has become a big problem to the wellbeing of our planet. Well, you may be surprised to find out that the biodegradable cups, straws and cutlery that you have been using, thinking you are helping the environment, are doing

The many-worlds interpretation of quantum mechanics solves this problem by rejecting the idea of collapse entirely. It instead claims that there is always a superposition of two "world-branches," one where the cat is dead and one where the cat is alive. When you open the box, there is now a superposition of two worlds with two versions of you. In one world, the cat is alive and you see the cat is alive, and in the other, the cat is dead and you see the cat is dead.

So whilst the idea of a cat that's



both dead and alive might be repugnant, the use of felines to give an accurate depiction of the underlying laws of the universe is something to be revered!

By Amelia

nothing. Despite these items being made of polylactic acid (PLA) which is made from corn, studies show that when these items are sent to landfill to biodegrade anaerobically, (i.e. without oxygen) methane is produced and, as you may know, methane is a greenhouse gas, therefore it is one

