

SKYLINE

Magazine

ISSUE #18



Contents

Welcome back.....	I
Skyline Junior.....	2-6
Tweets of the month.....	7
News.....	8-10
Story time: Seahorse.....	11-18
The Theft of the century.....	19-21
The most important discoveries in history.....	22-24
Movie of the month: Fast and Furious 6.....	25-27
Culture Corner: The Queen's Birthday.....	28-29
Travelling Corner: My Eurocup in Poland.....	30-32
Cooking Corner: The Queen Elizabeth Cake.....	33
Learning Corner.....	34

Welcome back

SKYLINE
Magazine

Is it me or it should be warmer? June is already here and I cannot feel it yet. It is difficult to think of holidays when the weather is moody, one day hot, the next chilly. Come on weather, give us a break! We are all tired and want to start enjoying the good weather. . .

The academic year is close to its end but we will still be here after that, all summer long, waiting for our students to come back from their holidays and taking up their English studies again. No matter the competence, the fighting, the tears and the effort, we know that our students are loyal, we know it. Every year, the circumstances are more difficult and you know what they say, what doesn't kill you makes you stronger, and here we are, stronger than ever and waiting for more. Whatever comes, whatever happens, we never give up, for the readers, for the students, for the staff, for us.

In this issue you will find some interesting things. As always you can see the outstanding work that our kids have done and continue doing. You will get some ideas for your free time next month, I personally recommend the concert at the Auditorium Miguel Delibes since one of my young students will be performing and I hope a lot of people will be showing their support, I will sure do. This month, I can say that I am specially proud of my students because they have written fantastic pieces, from a beautiful short story to a really interesting bite of crime history or a journey through discoveries. Also, one of them tells us his experience travelling around the world following a sport. I am sure you will love all of them. As every month you will have my proposal in cinema, although this month is dedicated to action and cars lovers. In the Culture Corner we will learn about a unusual celebration in the Commonwealth.

I hope you enjoy the reading and remember that teaching you is our priority, you inspire us every day.

Learn well

What am I?

I am an animal at the zoo

Listen now, this is true

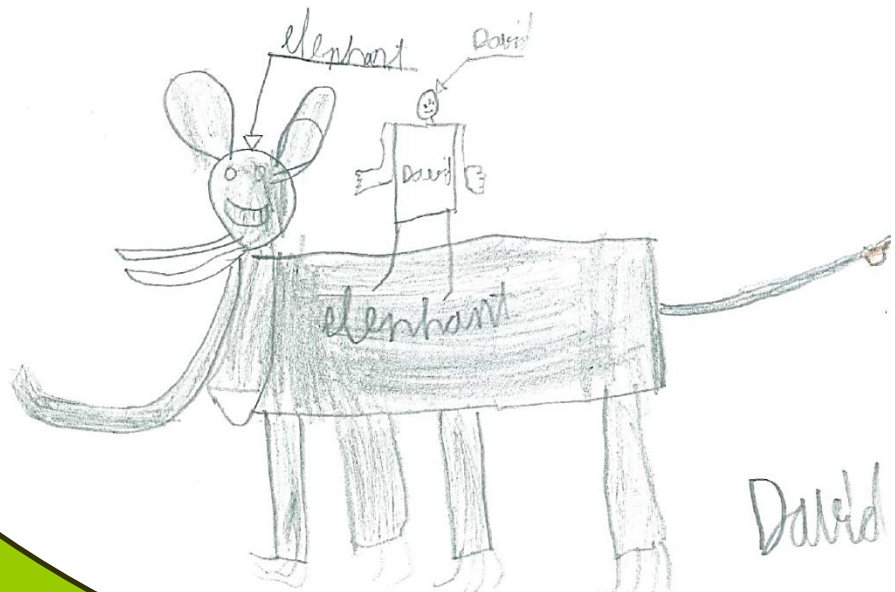
I'm grey I've got four legs

I've got one trunk

I've got two big ears

My favourite food is peanut

Yes, I am an elephant!



David

My friends

My friends are Elsa, Ainhoa, Ana, Patricia, Daniela.

Patricia has got brown eyes, Ana has got

Straight hair, Patricia has got curly hair

Ainhoa has got brown hair.

Ana hasn't got blue eyes, Ana has got brown

eyes, Elsa hasn't got blond hair, Ainhoa

hasn't got curly hair, Ana has got brown hair.



My Country



My name is Laura.



I 'm from Spain.

Our flag is red and yellow.

The capital city of Spain is Madrid.

In Spain, there are many monuments:

The Acqueduct in Segovia, The Prado Museum,

The Burgos Cathedral...

I like Spain



SKYLINE

RULES

Don't speak in Spanish

Raise your hands to speak

Be punctual

Speak in English

Do your homework

Don't run in the English school

Don't shout

Don't eat in the Classroom

Study a lot.

Don't break the pencils

Sandra, 8 Julia, 7 Alberto, 9

Sergio, 8 Pablo, 7

MY DAY

In the morning, I get up at seven o'clock. I have cereal and milk. Then I go to school at nine o'clock. I go to school by car. Our school car is green, then I go home I have lunch. In the afternoon, I do my homework.

In the evening I go to my English school or I play with my cousin at night, I have dinner and then I go to bed





Tweets of the month



Bill Murray @BillMurray

5 May

I'm so good at sleeping I can do it with my eyes closed.

Expand



Kyle Newman @kyle_newman

10 May

Stay for The Great Gatsby credits... I heard Nick Fury shows up in the secret scene!!



Will @WillyFerrell

17 May

Facebook: What's on your mind? ..Twitter: What's happening? ... Myspace: Where did everybody go?



Mario Lopez @MarioLopezExtra

19 May

Patience is not the ability to wait, but how you act while you're waiting....



Dwayne Johnson @TheRock

24 May

Great thing about achieving success on any level is we get to go out and earn it.



**Send us your favourite tweets
@skylinecentre**

Also on 

News

Theatre

Flamenco Ballet "Good luck"

Valladolid welcomes Cristina Redondo and Estela Sanz with their flamenco ballet "Buena Suerte" on 7th june, from 21.00 at Zorrilla Theatre. The price varies from 18 to 22 euros.



Aunque suene a lo de siempre

Our community centre, Jose María Luelmo will be the stage of the play "Aunque suene a lo de siempre", performed by El Cuarto Azul (Fundación de Personas Asprona". Enjoy it on 17th June at 19.30.



Santi Millán Live

Humour, music and interaction with the audience is what Santi Millán is looking for in his new show. From a price from 18 euros you can enjoy his light-hearted style that creates a different story every time. It will take place in 15th June at Zorrilla Theatre.

News

"Veo, veo" the musical

This show is for the youngest people in the house, a mixture of circus and children musical show. Teresa Rabal comes back to make the children enjoy with a world of fantasy. It will take place next 16th June at 18.00 at Zorrilla theatre for an affordable price, 10€.



Music



Pablo Alborán

The artist who became popular in YouTube getting to be a fan idol in our country comes to our city to perform his new album "Tanto" on 1st June at 20.00 at Pisuerga Sports Centre. The ticket in advanced costs 27,50 €.

Band Concert

On 8th June you can enjoy the end-of-the-year concert by the Conservatory Band. The performance will take place at the Auditorium Miguel Delibes at 19.00. You can collect your tickets at the same place. Free entrance. Don't miss it!

News

Valladolid Latino 2013

For the 8th time, the city welcomes the show Valladolid Latino on 29th June, from 19.30 at the bullring. With artists like Alejandro Sanz, with his “La Música no se toca” tour, Malú, with her new album of duets, or Alex Ubago, with his last album “Mentiras Sinceras”. The price varies from 35 to 75 €.



Exhibitions

'The Alberto Jiménez-Arellano Alonso Foundation Indian Collection'

The House of India holds a painting and sculpture exhibition belonging to the Alberto Jiménez-Arellano Alonso Foundation. The paintings, both on paper or cloth, date from the 19th century, as well as the metal sculptures. Free entrance.

Once upon a time...

There was a beautiful princess who lived trapped in an impassable castle, guarded by a horrible monster. Only a few brave princes have tried to save the princess, but none got back alive. However, this time three princes will meet on the road to rescue the princess.

The first, Prince Gourmand, was famous for his fortune and treasures. He left his kingdom to find the princess and the countless riches that the castle should have. His armor was powerful and it was full of gemstones, the same as his axe.

The second, Prince Capricie, discovered the story in one of his daily parties. So, he decided to have a princess, she had to be the most beautiful princess. He wore his elegant clothes and he took his arch.

The third was Prince Cheval, nothing was known about him or his interest to save the princess. He was mysterious; he only wore a hooded coat and a simple sword in the back.

After some hard days travelling, the three princes met up in front of a colossal ice mountain, impossible to climb or go around. At the front, the mountain had three caves. The legend said that only there are three roads to arrive at the castle of the princess, there are two deadly routes and a safe route. Thus, each prince chose his own entry; soon they would discover their luck.



Seahorse

Story Time

Gourmand crossed the route of the decoy. He found a lot of treasures such as gold crowns, gemstones, coins and many strange statues. But he thought that the castle should have even more treasures. So, he went on his way without touching anything. Suddenly, a big sphinx appeared blocking the road. Gourmand saw that the sphinx was made of gold. The sphinx smiled with malice. Then, it spoke:

Congratulations, prince! You crossed the route of the decoy. Now, you can take me as a present and return to your kingdom.

The prince was really surprised. Quickly, his mind started to make plans: if he takes the sphinx, she will take all the treasures that he saw in the cave. But, the best thing would be to continue to get the gold of the castle. This way, when he returns, the sphinx can take the things of the castle and the cave. It was a perfect plan.

So, Gourmand rejected her offer and the sphinx didn't have other option that let him go.

The mysterious Cheval crossed the route of the soul; the most difficult test because it tested the mind and the body. He had to walk through a thin bridge in the middle of a big lake, while a lot of beautiful mermaids were watching him and trying to seduce him with their lovely voices.



Seahorse

Story Time

When he rejected them, the mermaids got angry. So, they went out of the lake, they became horrible sea snakes and they attacked the prince.

The luckiest was Prince Capricie, because the only problem that he had was the cold of the ice cave. He walked along the long way during hours. Finally, he arrived at end of the cave and he found a huge door. The door had sculpted a text and Capricie read it aloud:

"Come on, brave adventurer. Discover the secret of the lake and the secret that the abysmal monster keeps in its trunk. Enter the castle and find the princess. Defeat the jailer that keeps everything and then endures out of the abyss. "

The door opened.

Capricie crossed the door and he was surprised when he saw an enormous cave with a big dark lake. It was impossible to see the end of the cave. Suddenly, he heard a noise behind him; the other two princes were crossing their ice doors. He knew that he was the luckiest and felt admiration for them.

Cheval went to a big piece of ice and he started to write something on the ice with a stone. After, he went back some steps and said aloud: "Freedom is the owner of my own life" Suddenly, a water mountain went out of the lake. There was an enormous turtle that ate the three princes. Everything went black, everything was spinning and then it stopped. The princes woke up and covered their eyes because of a strong light; they saw a big castle of gold in front of them.

Seahorse

Story Time

The prince Gourmand walked quickly to the hall of the castle. He crossed the drawbridge and could see how the water of the moat was full of gold things. The other two princes followed him.

The inside of the castle was as big as beautiful and, like the moat, full of gold. In the back of the room there was an enormous closed door. In the middle, there was one more lake with clear water. And in the middle of this, a golden shell open like a throne, with a comfortable pillow. On it there was the princess asleep. She was really beautiful. She had shiny, gold-coloured hair. Her body was of a slender woman, by the way that the white sheets sketched out. But they were three princes for an only princess. Gourmand remembered it at that moment. So, he thought that the best idea was let the other two princes start a fight for the princess while he was escaping with all the gold. But he was inside of a turtle, how could he escape?

Suddenly, the prince Cheval advanced some steps and he exclaimed:

- Mousse!! It's me, Cheval! Are you OK? Are you injured?

Mousse!

Then, the beautiful princess opened the eyes and sat up on the pillow. She saw Prince Cheval and her face drew a big smile. But some kind of roar darkened her face.

The door which was in the back of the room brutally opened. A dragon as black as the night, appeared, its body was full of sharp scales. The dragon had two big horns in the head and a tail with big spikes. Its claws and fangs were like knives. And its wings with green big eyes gave him a horrible look.

Seahorse

Story Time



The dragon talked aloud with a hard voice:

-“IF YOU WANT TO ESCAPE ALIVE, YOU WILL HAVE TO KILL ME OR I WILL DEVOUR YOU”

-The first time, I couldn't win you, Svart, and you took my lover. I was looking for her for years. But, I'm here because I'm going to save her!

said Prince Cheval, taking off his coat and taking his sword while the dragon looked at him very surprised.

The princess Mousse got up hastily and the white sheets fell, revealing the rest of the body of the princess, exclamations of surprise were generated by Prince Capricie and Gourmand. The princess didn't have legs; she had a delicate and graceful tail like a seahorse.

Seahorse

Story Time

Suddenly, the dragon attacked the princes.

Caprice fled scared, he didn't expect that he would have to fight with that enormous dragon, and on top, the princess was a mermaid. Now, she stopped mattering for him, and his life was the most important thing.

Gourmand, meanwhile, had been stepping back since he heard the roar, and after the truth about the princess, he started to run inside the turtle, he wanted to find an exit. It was strange but, despite being in a turtle, the entire place was ice and stone.

Cheval had to face to Svart with his sword. This, contrarily to what the other two princes thought, was really powerful.

It was an epic fight. Both enemies made use of all their strength and skills. The prince was strong, fast and clever. But the claws, the fangs, and the spikes and, of course, the fire breath of the black dragon were big problems for the brave prince.



Seahorse

Story Time

Svart used his large neck to propel his head and attack the prince with the gullet open. But Cheval jumped and held onto one of his horns. The beast started to shake and flap the wings. The prince got a hard swipe with the tail and one of the spikes sank in his abdomen. He fell and the dragon corralled him. When the monster went to give the last hit, the warrior rolled on himself, he got up with the sword, strongly holding it and with all his forces and faced with the bloodshot eyes of the monster, and he sank his sword into the dragon.

The dragon Svart fell making the place shaking. The prince Cheval went quickly to see his princess. He hugged her and she held onto his neck. Suddenly, the prince felt the horrible pain of the wound and he fell on the floor. Mousse cried and rested her lover in her lap; the tears of the mermaid fell in the hurt. And the princess was inclined and kissed the prince with all the love with which she was waiting for the prince. And the wound started to heal.

Meanwhile, Gourmand and Capricie had arrived at the mouth of the turtle, although they tried to open it, it was impossible. They ran out of ideas when Cheval appeared taking the princess in her back and with the sword in the hand. He sank it in the mouth of the turtle and this was open instantly. A torrent of water entered in the mouth and Gourmand and Capricie felt that they were drowning, in the moment that they felt how something held them, they lost consciousness.

They woke up coughing the water that they swallowed; they were into the cavern before the turtle. And, when they looked, they discovered the rescuers: Cheval and Mousse, both with the same tail of seahorse.

Gourmand got up instantly and, without saying anything, he ran to the route of the decoy. He had hope, the sphinx.

Seahorse

Story Time

Capricie thanked the two lovers because they had saved him. After, he ran to his road to escape from the place and never come back.

The couple was immersed and swam quickly to the deep of the lake. There was a cavern, and they entered.

Finally, Gourmand came back with the sphinx, he ordered him to catch all the gold and take him in her back out of there.

But, when he started to climb at the back of the sphinx, he felt how his body was stopping and, with horror, he discovered the truth of those strange statues that were in the road. He was becoming one of those golden statues.

Capricie got back to his kingdom. There, he told the story about the big turtle, the terrible dragon and the seahorse couple. And that story passed the borders of the kingdom, and every time it was told it gave more importance to the romantic story of the two lovers, half-human and half-seahorse.

The seahorse is famous for being the most faithful animal in the world. They only have a one couple in their life, which will never separate. If their couple dies, they live sadly a short time until they also die. But, in the opposite case, the couple of seahorse will conceive and they will live their lives united and in peace for ever.



Author's note

The meaning of the names of the characters:

Gourmand: avaricious in French.

Capricie: "capricieuse" is capricious in French.

Cheval: horse in French.

Mousse: foam in French.

Svart: black in Norwegian.

The theft of the century



Albert Spaggiari is not a well known man. Probably you have never heard of him, but he starred in a spectacular story, the theft of the century. It happened between 16th and 20th July 1976 in Nice, France.

In 1976, Spaggiari was 44 years old. He was the owner of a photo studio in Nice. He lived in a house in the hills of this city, called "Les Olies Sauvages". Soon, he got bored of a quiet middle class life.

When he learned of the old sewers passing near the vault of one of the biggest banks in France, "Le Societ e Generale in Nice", he began to plan to get into it.

He decided to do so by digging a tunnel to enter underneath. First he checked if there were seismic or acoustic detectors in the bank.

He rented a safe vault and he placed a powerful mechanism inside and he programmed a vibration and sound alarm at night. The bank has not seismic alarm. The safety vault was considered impenetrable; its wall was very thick and reinforced. There was not apparent way to access it.



Spaggiari requested assistance to the Marseille mafia. They thought that he was crazy. Then he recruited twenty people, each of them specialists in different types of work: an expert jeweller to know what to bring, an expert in coal pits, some locksmiths, miners, engineers...



The theft of the century



After one year making plans, they went underground to build a tunnel. They worked for three months, ten hours each day, to build a tunnel of at least ten metres long. He told them all to be three months without drinking alcohol and coffee, and all of them had to sleep ten hours a day.



They dragged underground machinery that weighed more than one ton. They came under the safety vault a Friday. It took a long weekend, on the feast of The Bastille Day, on July 16, 1976.

They entered and rather than take everything quickly and leave, Spaggiari ordered some food and drink for all people and they were locked up for three days.

The first thing they did was to weld the vault door from the inside so that nobody bothered them.

There were thousands of safe deposit boxes. They opened many of them and they selected the most interesting ones. They rejected what appeared to be personal savings. They also found photos of famous and rich people, all naked. They stuck them on the walls of the vault, and Spaggiari wrote on a wall "Sans armes, sans violence et sans haine", without weapons, without violence and without hatred. They put the booty in tight plastic bags on log rafts that floated in the sewerage water; they took out the booty out of the city without effort.



The theft of the century



It was the early hours of Monday, shortly before opening the bank. The first to arrive were the employees, then, the police. It took almost a day to open the vault door. It was welded from inside. They calculated that they had stolen more than 60 million francs, about 1.200.000.000 of the old pesetas, about 7.500.000 €, but in 1976.

Spaggiari was very intelligent and he planned the whole theft very well. But the police arrested him. How? He didn't think about a jealous woman. His wife called the police before the theft thinking that her husband was with another woman. He called many times, and she told that her husband was going at night. The police went to the woman's house and arrested many members of the band, shortly after Spaggiari was arrested too.

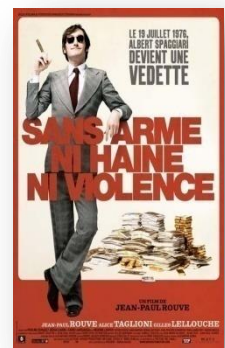


During the judgement, Spaggiari did not stop walking around the room giving absurd answers and telling incredible stories.

During one of the days of the trial, while he walked and spoke to the jury, he jumped through an open window. Everyone was scared, and all of them thought that he had committed suicide, but he didn't, he fell on top of a vehicle, which was parked, then he rode on a bike that was waiting and fled.

No one heard of Albert Spaggiari and his wife again. In 1979 a publishing company agreed with him to publish his biography. In 1989, his body was found lifeless by his mother.

I don't want to make a thief into a hero, but it is impossible not to feel sympathy for this romantic thief. Also, who did he rob? Exactly, a bank.



The most important discoveries in History

Throughout the history of humanity there have been many great discoveries, but there is no doubt that some of them are more important than others. In this essay I will describe the six discoveries that I consider the most important ones because they have changed our lives, although they are not the only ones.

Fire

Without a doubt, fire has a lot of uses. Our ancestors used it to protect themselves from animals, to cook, to make weapons, to warm themselves in cold seasons, etc. Fire is something that had always existed in nature, so the real discovery was to be able to handle it whenever we want. It is believed that humans learned to make and control fire in The Stone Age.



Electricity

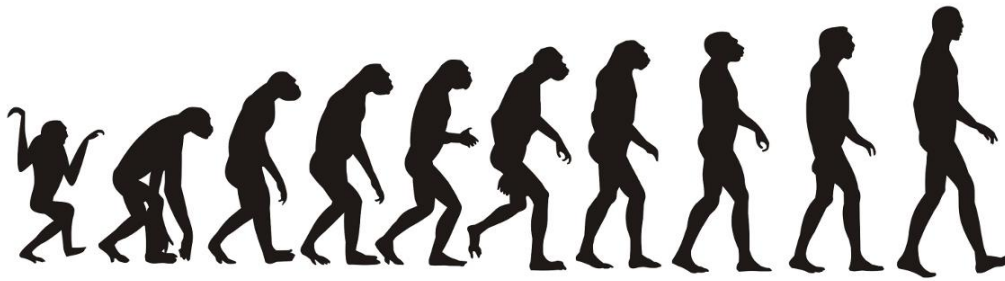
Static electricity was known since ancient times, which is why we could say that it was actually discovered by the Greeks, Phoenicians, Parthians and Mesopotamians. However, we started to know how to use it thanks to Benjamin Franklin and his well-known story of the kite and the lightning. We cannot consider it as a single invention because thanks to it we have other great ones like the light bulb.



The most important discoveries in History

The Theory of Evolution

The Theory of Evolution is an explanation of the fact that humans have changed with the generations. This theory was published in the book “the Origin of Species” in 1859, written by Charles Darwin. The Theory of Evolution has always been against other theories, especially against religious beliefs. This discovery allowed us to understand both where we come from and how the world changes around us.



Medicine

Nowadays most of the medicines are synthetic or semi synthetic. However, the earliest medicines came from the properties of plants, like aspirin or penicillin. Until the late 20th century all the medicines came from nature, but with the development of the Organic Chemistry, scientists discovered how to separate drugs from nature in order to imitate it chemically, and consequently, the beginning of the medicines as we know them today. Contrarily to what we might think, the pharmaceutical industry might be just starting because some authors say that only the 10% of the plants have been studied so far.



The most important discoveries in History

The Internet

There is no doubt that the Internet has revolutionized the way we learn, communicate and entertain. Nowadays we spend most of our free time in front of the computer instead of watching TV, reading, etc.

Internet was invented for military use in 1960's by DARPA (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency), which is a Defense Department in the United States. After that, it was also used by Universities and then it became an essential part in our lives.



The Wheel



Probably the wheel is one of the most decisive inventions in the evolution of Humanity because of the development of the transport. The first wheels were made of wood. The tire was invented in the late XIX century and allowed the invention of the first cars.

Finally, although we do not know who the author of the invention was, we can firmly say that the wheel was invented in Mesopotamia 7000 years ago.

From my point of view these are the most important discoveries in history although we cannot forget other ones like the compass, the printing press, the alphabet, etc.



Movie of the month

FAST & FURIOUS 6



In 2001, Universal Pictures had a budget of \$38 million to make car movie, as simple as that. The film concept was inspired by a *Vibe* magazine article about street racing in New York City. They decided to buy the title rights, not the story ones, of the 1955 film *The Fast and the Furious*, another film about racing, and tried their luck. With actors, Paul Walker, Vin Diesel, Jordana Brewster and Michelle Rodriguez and a bunch of action stunts based on cars and crime. This first movie got an acceptable 52% in the Rotten Tomatoes critic website and started what is known today and *the Fast and the Furious* film series. Twelve years have gone by and six installments of the series have been released, some with better critical reception than others but all of them very profitable.



2 Fast 2 Furious (2003) forgot about the original cast but for Paul Walker, and introduced Tyrese Gibson to the series. Although the series fans, I include myself, went to the cinema to watch it, the critics were no very merciful, it got a 36% in the Rotten Tomatoes website and a Razzie Award for worse sequel. *The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift* (2006) got even a lower rate, 35%. In this movie they forgot completely about the original cast but for the very end when there is a cameo of Vin Diesel which gives fans hope of a coming back in the next movie.





Movie of the month

FAST & FURIOUS 6



The first trilogy came to be merely an introduction of characters to what was coming up next. And what was coming up next was *Fast and Furious* (2009), the fourth installment. The critical reception was quite poor, a 27%. However, for the fans, it was an awakening of the series. The plot connects the original cast for the first film, which reminds you very much of the first movie. Basically in the fourth movie what the director does is laying the foundations of *Fast 5*. *Fast and Furious* (2009) was the first motion-enhanced theatrical film to feature D-BOX motion feedback technology in selected theatres.



In 2011, Universal Studios decided to transform the franchise into an action series involving cars, departing from the street racing theme, so that they could get to a wider audience. Also, a very fun idea for fans is the fact that not only the original cast members are involved but also those characters who had been introduced in the previous movies appear, assembling an interesting team. The result was a success, being *Fast 5* (2011) the highest-grossing film of the franchise so far. The movie made a profit of \$625 million worldwide. The producers were quite innovative in terms of marketing approach since the first trailer was released on Vin Diesel's Facebook page, strategy that no other producer had ever used before. This installment is considered to be the resurrection of the franchise, having got an amazing 78% in the Rotten Tomatoes website.





Movie of the month

FAST & FURIOUS 6



On 24th May 2013, *Fast and Furious 6* has been released and so far the critical reception in general is similar to the previous installment. Much of the film is set in London and Hobbs (Dwayne Johnson) wants to take down a sinister gang led by ex-SAS officer Owen Shaw (Luke Evans), who is working with Letty (Michelle Rodriguez), who was supposed to be dead. The Fast Five team is reassembled giving the fans longer action stunts with more intensity.



The greatest thing about the series, apart from the obvious essence of the formula containing cars and action, is the fact that the audience is always surprised by some cameo of a previous character and of course, since nowadays all franchises are doing it, some post-credit scene which makes you want to see the next installment right away.

The Fast and Furious fan knows perfectly what they are looking for, and it is certainly not a deep meaningful plot that is going to make you think, just a good fun action movie. Whatever the critics say, the formula works and that is why what started as just another movie has become a multimillionaire franchise that does not seem to have an ending near since it has already be announced that the seventh installment will be released on 11th July 2014 and will be set in Japan and Middle East.

If you are looking for two hours of pure action and entertainment, don't miss this one.





The Queen's Birthday

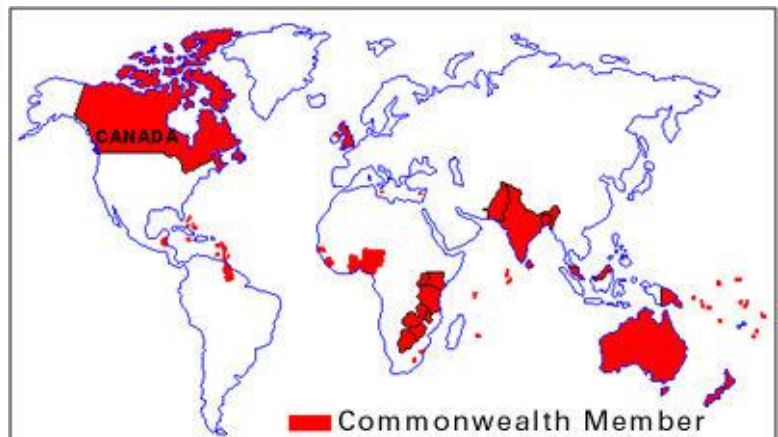


Elizabeth II, Queen of England, is also the constitutional monarch of 16 sovereign states, known as the Commonwealth realms, and their territories and dependencies, and the head of the 54-member Commonwealth of Nations. Among these territories we can find, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, South Africa, Barbados, Jamaica, Bahamas...

She celebrates two birthdays every year. Her actual birthday, which is on 21st April, and the official Queen's Birthday. The latter is a selected day celebrated in the entire Commonwealth. The day is chosen at the end of May or the beginning of June so that the outdoor celebrations can be carried out. This tradition started back in 1748 and it has been celebrated ever since.

In Australia, with the exception of Western Australia, it has been celebrated since 1788 on the second Monday of June, while in New Zealand it is celebrated on the first Monday of June.

In United Kingdom, it takes places on a Sunday, this means that it is not a working day and, therefore, it cannot be a bank holiday. However, some civil servants are given a privilege day.





The Queen's Birthday



Birthday Honours

Every year different newspapers and gazettes publish a list of awards given by the Queen to personalities of different areas of expertise, for example, in recent years, we can find in the list singers such as Gary Barlow, designers as Sarah Burton, who designed Kate Middleton's wedding dress or actors as Colin Firth and Catherine Zeta Jones.



Trooping the Colour

Also known as the Queen's Birthday Parade, this event marks the occasion publicly by gun salutes in central London: a 41 gun salute in Hyde Park, a 21 gun salute in Windsor Great Park and a 62 gun salute at the Tower of London. Her Majesty is joined by other members of the Royal Family to admire the parade which moves between Buckingham Palace, The Mall and Horseguards' Parade. This year Trooping the Colour will be held on 15th June. The celebrations also include a fly-past of military aircraft by the Royal Air Force that is seen by the Royal Family from the palace Balcony.





“My” Eurocup in Poland

Part 1: On Arrival

Last time I went abroad was due to the 2012 football Eurocup in Poland; I had already been to other football Eurocups like the one in Portugal, which took place in 2004 and the one in Austria too in 2008, as well, I was in Germany due to the World Cup in 2012.

Now you could say I am mad about football and you would be probably right, but I think it is a good way to travel, to know a lot of people and different cultures too and to have a great time. People usually like travelling around Europe or even farther for their holidays, don't they? Then do you agree that football championships are a great excuse to enjoy all your holiday goals together?

Well, as for my trip to Poland I went there with several friends of mine most of whom had been to the events I told you before. We were going to spend all the time in a city called Gdansk, a coastal village in the north of Poland, where a match amongst Spain and Croatia was going to take place two days after our arrival. We “only” were there for five days and almost two of these days were spent at the airport, waiting for more than 9 hours to take the cheapest plane, recession is infuriating, isn't it? At least, we knew another city, Bergamo (Italy), such a beautiful and charming city, I think the layover was worth it.





“My” Eurocup in Poland

Part 1: On Arrival

From the moment we landed there everything was fantastic, we got on a free bus which took us from the airport to the city centre and it had free Wi-Fi too, so we could tell our families that we had just arrived and we were fine. Afterwards, at the city centre we had to change our euros into Polish currency called zloty. I remember 1€ was worth 4,3 zloty, and it was great because if we had done the exchange in Spain, it would have been much more expensive. After that, we went to find somewhere to have lunch and finally we decided to have lunch at McDonald's, I know it's not a typical Polish restaurant but we were hungry and we would have time enough to go sightseeing and to eat something else in the evening. First of all, we noticed menus were cheaper; in fact it cost around 14 zloty so that means 3 euros a McMenu more or less. In spite of our unawareness about the Polish language, I couldn't even learn a Polish word, we felt comfortable at once and we were able to eat successfully and we met exceptional people too.





“My” Eurocup in Poland

Part 1: On Arrival

After having lunch, the worst part approached: “The Hostel” or maybe I must say “the hostel” or even worse “the hut”; I had never been in a place like that. It was a strange kind of one-storey house in the middle of an industrial area where, because of the smell, seemed to be the changing room of every worker in that zone. There were about 10 rooms but around 150 people hosted there, I really mean it! In fact, the beds were really 3 floor bunk beds. Rooms didn’t have any type of blind and, if you didn’t know, sun rises at five o’clock in the morning in Poland!!! Breakfast was included but I didn’t even think about having breakfast there, yes, you can call me scrupulous if you want, it doesn’t matter. Better than those unimportant ins and outs I’m telling you, was that there was only one loo, with two showers, two sinks and two toilets for everybody in the hostel, amazing, isn’t it? Imagine shower time, each one with their own towel and slippers and each one talking in their own language, what a mess!! But actually, sincerely speaking, now I remember all those things and I find them somehow charming; I never thought I would be able to refer to that experience as charming.

Obviously we didn’t spend too much time there, only to sleep something, so if you don’t mind I’ll go on telling you more things about this astonishing trip like the match, the atmosphere that was lived there, the party... but it’ll be in the next issue!!!

So remember, don’t forget to read the next issue if you don’t want to miss anything.

See you.



The Queen Elizabeth Cake



Ingredients

240g dates, stoned
50g sultanas
200g unsalted butter cut into pieces
300g light muscovado sugar
2 free-range eggs
25g chopped stem ginger
Natural lemon extract
200g plain flour
1½ tsp baking powder
250g Bramley cooking apples, peeled
and then grated or chopped
1tsp vanilla extract
Icing sugar to dust with to serve

For the decoration:

200g ready-to-roll white icing
200g ready-to-roll natural
marzipan
150g apricot glaze
100g icing sugar
Blue and red food colouring



Preheat oven to 160°C (fan oven 140°C). Grease a 6in round cake tin or 2lb loaf tin. Sieve the flour and baking powder together. Place the dates and sultanas in a bowl and cover with boiling water. Melt the butter and sugar together in a saucepan and allow to cool slightly. Beat the eggs, ginger, lemon extract and vanilla extract into the butter and sugar. Drain the dates and chop finely. Add to the saucepan and mix well. Stir in the apple and flour, then spoon into the tin and bake in the oven for about 1hr 15 mins until well risen. A skewer inserted should come out clean, with a few crumbs. Leave to cool in the tin. Dust the top with icing sugar to serve. To decorate in a patriotic-style, brush the cake with apricot glaze, then cover with a layer of natural marzipan. Allow to dry and cover with a layer of ready to roll white icing. Use red and blue food colouring to draw a Union Jack on your cake, or just some regal writing.

LEARNING CORNER



IDIOMS

- ✓ **To pass the buck:** to blame others for something you should accept responsibility for.

It's not my fault. Don't try to pass the buck!

- ✓ **To have other fish to fry:** to have more important things to do.

I can't answer your question. I have other fish to fry.

PHRASAL VERBS

- ✓ **Cross out:** To draw a line through.

Please cross out your old address and write your new one.

- ✓ **Hold back:** To hide an emotion.

Jamie held back his tears at his grandfather's funeral.

IN OUR NEXT ISSUE...

- Movie of the month:
Man of Steel



- Culture:
The Twelfth



SKYLINE

Magazine



June 2013