



THE PRIORY ACADEMY

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# Film review

Emily Dove

## The Emperor's New Groove

Recently I have found myself rewatching old Disney films, reminiscing about childhood memories built around them. One of these films was Disney's 2000 film 'The Emperor's New Groove'. I stumbled upon it in the Disney collection under family fun. And it sure was entertaining and captivating.

It is a film about Emperor Kuzco, a vain and arrogant 18 year old who likes to 'groove' and who wants to build a summer pool for himself for his birthday. However, when Kuzco's adviser Yzma disrupts his groove, she gets fired, leading her to plot against Kuzco. She goes through with this plan with her right-hand man, Kronk, but when her assassination attempt fails, Kuzco gets turned into a llama. Found by a llama tamer called Pacha, he sees the good the emperor can do and agrees to help Kuzco as long as the emperor does not demolish his home. With this, they both journey back to the empire, defeating challenges along the way.

I think this film is funny and has likeable characters like Kronk and Kuzco. I especially like how although Emperor Kuzco is a changed man, his personality is still the same. Kronk is the perfect side kick for Yzma as his clueless charm is enjoyable.

The sequel to 'The Emperor's New Groove' is called 'Kronk's New Groove'. Kronk is a good character to base the next film on, and the film features other important characters such as The Emperor and Yzma.

I highly recommend rewatching classic Disney films like 'The Emperor's New Groove' as, in a way, you rediscover parts of your childhood you didn't know you had.



# Space News

Anusha Senthilkumar

## RFA takes off: UK's space industry soars

Rocket Factory Augsburg (RFA) has recently obtained the green light to launch rockets from a new spaceport in the Shetland Islands, UK. This Launch Operator Licence allows RFA to carry out up to ten rocket launches each year, primarily aimed at deploying satellites, with the first launch set for later this year.

This development represents a pivotal moment for the UK space industry, potentially leading to the first vertical rocket launch of a satellite from European soil. Jorn Spurmann from RFA has described this as a "ground-breaking moment." However, the journey hasn't been without its hurdles; a recent test rocket encountered a fire and an explosion, luckily without causing any injuries. The RFA 1 rocket, towering at thirty meters—about the length of two lorries with trailers—will spearhead these missions.

The rocket will take off from Launch Pad 1 'Fredo' at the SaxaVord site, heading northwest over the Norwegian Sea and the North Pole, with the goal of reaching an orbit approximately 5 hundred kilometres above Earth. After launch, the first and second stages of the rocket will detach and plunge into the sea, ultimately forming an artificial reef that will foster marine life. The RFA One is designed to carry up to 1,300 kilograms of payload, tripling the capacity of earlier models.

# Game Review

By Gregor Wallace

## Satisfactory

When you first hear the title of this game, what do you think of? If you thought of a complex game about building a megafactory, you happen to be correct with the style of this game! When you start, you land on a distant planet with one goal: Save The Day! Your first short-term goal when you land is to build your quarters, like a hub of sorts (conveniently also named the HUB), where you can build parts and produce power with two biomass burners. These burners are essential for your factory to run, and produce a whopping 30 MW each! As you explore, you may end up finding some other crashed freighters, as your PDA calls them, and amongst the wreckages you can find important parts you may find uses for in building, and hard drives. These can be researched to unlock alternate recipes which may simplify or increase efficiency of your production lines. Whilst exploring, you may also encounter enemies, who will attempt to attack you if you are close enough to be seen. You aren't defenseless though. You have a light electroshock weapon, which can provide some defensive capabilities.

I haven't mentioned everything in this article as there isn't enough room, and the story is a whole different aspect.

Overall, so far, I am giving this game a 8.9/10.

# Book review

Aashritha Guntuka

## **A Story of Trust and Betrayal: 'Waiting for Murder'**

'Waiting for Murder' is a gripping mystery that keeps readers engaged from start to finish. The story revolves around the protagonist, who finds herself entangled in a web of secrets and deception after a murder occurs in her small town. As she delves deeper into the investigation, she uncovers disturbing truths that challenge her understanding of the people around her.

The author's writing is captivating, with well-crafted characters and a plot that twists and turns, making it difficult to predict the outcome. The themes of trust, betrayal, and the quest for justice resonate throughout the narrative, offering readers a thought-provoking experience. The tension builds steadily, keeping readers guessing until the very last page.

Overall, 'Waiting for Murder' is a compelling read for fans of mystery and suspense. It not only entertains but also encourages readers to consider the complexities of human relationships and the darker sides of human nature. This book is a great addition to any reading list for those who enjoy a thrilling whodunit.

# Animal News

Emily Dove

## Five fun facts about stingrays

Sting rays are sea creatures that can be found in the Pacific and Western Atlantic. They are fascinating creatures as they don't move around like normal fish, and they have their faces on the bottom of their bodies. Stingrays are quite common sea animals, and are displayed at 'The Deep' in Hull. They are one of the first displays, which make them one of the most memorable animal. So, in honour of the intriguing sting ray, here are five facts about them:

- Sting rays are carnivores, feeding on prey that live in or under the sea bed.
- They have no bones in their body, but are made from cartilage which allows them to flow easily through the water.
- They get around the water by a propelling flapping motion. This is done by the sting rays flapping their sides up and down like wings
- Sting rays are closely related to sharks. They share multiple similarities, such as how they are both in the same group of cartilaginous fish (meaning their skeleton is cartilage instead of bones). Additionally, they use the same ampullae of Lorenzini sensors, which are sensing organs that pick up on the electrical signals given off by prey.
- Many stingrays like to live by themselves and only come together for breeding and migration.

Even though sting rays are an amazing animal, unfortunately they are endangered. This is due to humans using the ocean for sewage and pollution. By recycling and throwing away rubbish correctly, we can band together and prevent pollution in order to save all sea creatures, including stingrays.

# Book Review

Anusha Senthilkumar

## Escaping the Unknown: A Review of the Maze Runner Series

'The Maze Runner' series by James Dashner is a thrilling dystopian adventure that captivates readers with its unique premise and intense storytelling. The story begins with Thomas, a young boy who wakes up in a mysterious place known as the Glade, surrounded by other boys who have also lost their memories. Together, they must navigate a massive labyrinth filled with deadly creatures and uncover the secrets of their existence.

Dashner's writing is fast-paced and engaging, making it easy for readers to become immersed in the world he has created. The characters are well-developed, each with their own strengths and weaknesses, which adds depth to the narrative. Thomas emerges as a brave and resourceful leader, and his journey of self-discovery and friendship is both compelling and relatable.

The themes of survival, friendship, and the quest for identity are woven throughout the series, prompting readers to reflect on the nature of humanity and the choices we make in dire situations. Suspense builds with each book, as the stakes get higher and the mysteries deepen, leading to a shocking conclusion that leaves readers eager for more.

Overall, 'The Maze Runner' series is a must-read for fans of young adult fiction and dystopian tales. It combines action, intrigue, and thought-provoking themes, making it a powerful exploration of courage and resilience in the face of overwhelming odds. This series is sure to leave a lasting impression on anyone who picks it up.



# Film Review

By Gregor Wallace & Max Stothard

## Jurassic Park

Jurassic Park is one of the best movies of all time, highly regarded by its audiences, and was a film marvel at the time of release. It was made in 1993, directed by Steven Spielberg, and the score produced by none other than the famous John Williams himself. The film involves a group of archaeologists, a chaotician, and a lawyer being invited to an island in Costa Rica to see and review a mysterious theme park involving the creatures that went extinct 65 million years ago: dinosaurs. But, if you have even the slightest knowledge about this series, you may know that not everything goes well, and life finds a way.

On the island, scientists are still working on bringing back more dinosaurs that were still extinct, plus trying to reproduce the ones they have brought back, using cells and DNA to duplicate what they already have. However, there is some conflict. One employee is simply not happy with his already high pay, and he will not stop at anything to get it.

If you are a big dinosaur fan, you will love Jurassic park! There are many scenes where the dinosaurs come in contact with the humans, and it is a somewhat even split between peaceful and violent.

Overall rating 9.35/10



# Nature News

Esmae Elcocks and Ella Brandon-Lain

## Rare Black Swan Spotted on River Avon, Stratford

The historical town of Stratford, which is now known as the hometown of Shakespeare, is familiar with seeing the commonly sighted white swans; it has been estimated that there are approximately eighty within the border of Stratford. However, the rare siblings of our 'usuals', a few unfamiliar black swans have settled in there. This out-of-the-ordinary sighting has caused confusion among the Stratford community as black swans have been known to be native to Australia. Therefore, it has been an absolute delight to have witnessed the beauty of these unusual visitors from the land down under. A study of bird populations in the UK has estimated a rough number of 37 confirmed nesting pairs. Residents of the local area informed the BBC of the sighting and have been ecstatic at this phenomenon after seeing the swan regularly after the past week. "It's nice to see a black swan, you don't see them often at all," one local added. "I've lived here for years and I've never seen one."

Though Black swans are never really seen in England, there is a wild bank hidden in Devon with swans which were introduced in the 1940s, alongside the other waterfowl. They are still rare.