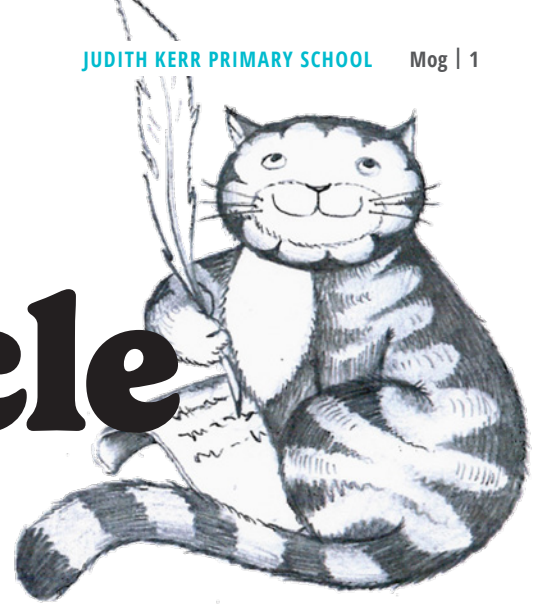


The Mog Chronicle



Welcome to the 2022/23 Mog Chronicle.

For the past few months, students from year 5 and 6 have been working hard to hone their journalism skills. They have been researching stories, interviewing staff and pupils and following leads to bring you the inside scoop on all things JKPS.

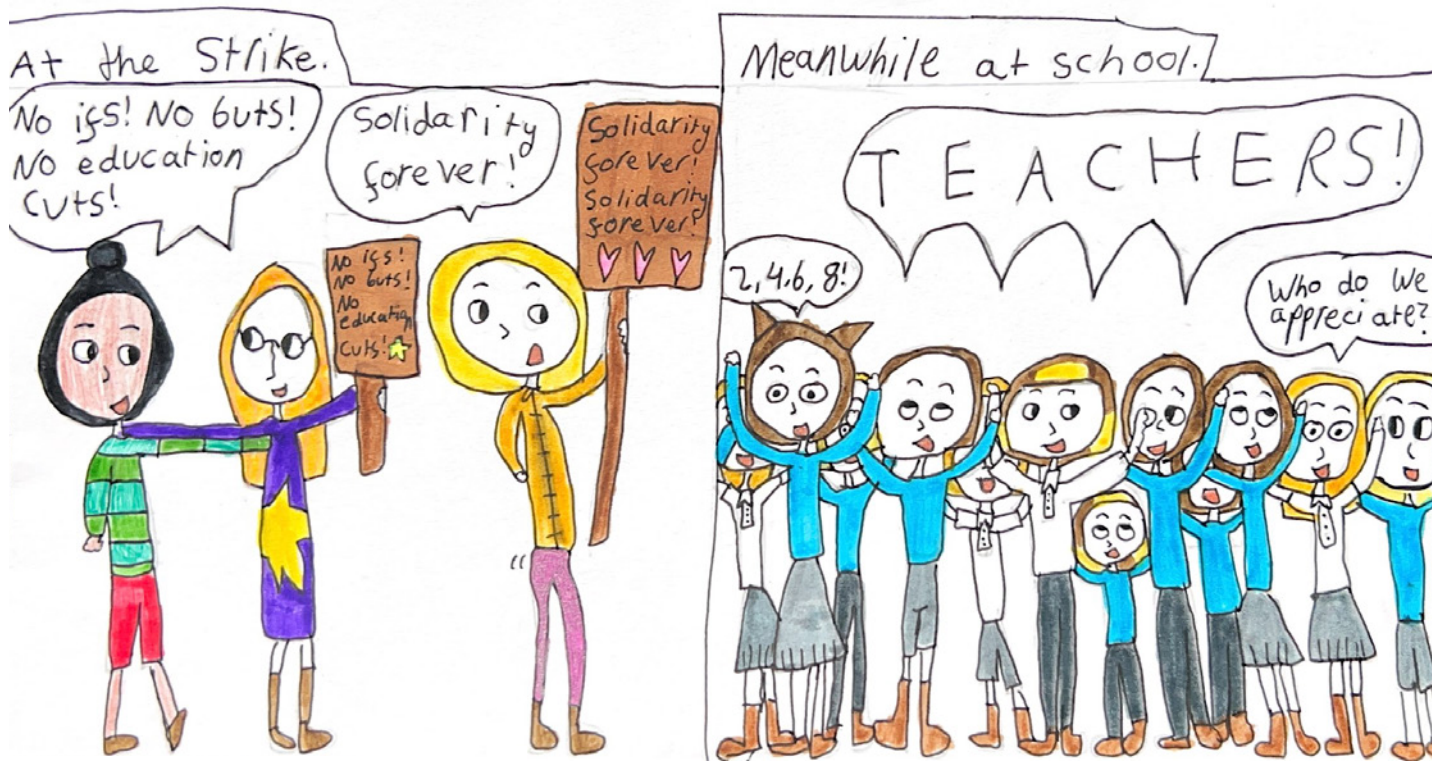
Inside this edition of the Mog Chronicle, you will find a whole range of exciting content - from an exclusive on the teachers' strike, to a sit-down with Mark the chef, some amazing short stories and a look at where to go on holiday this summer. This edition is not to be missed!

We love all feedback so do let us know what you think—and of course if you have anything you'd like us to report on for the next edition of the Mog Chronicle, get in touch!

In this issue...

- 1 **Exclusive:**
Why our teachers strike
- 4 **Who was**
Judith Kerr?
- 5 **Revealed:**
The JKPS Art Contest Winners
- 8 **No Go Zone:**
What's really in the basement??
- 12 **Don't miss:**
Short Stories
- 13 **This Summer's**
Best Getaways





Laurie, Y5

No ifs, no buts, no education cuts

by Annabel and Laurie (Y5)

Miss Olivia's interview:

Why do you strike?

We are striking because the government has made some decisions about teaching and the budget. The pay rises that teachers have been given are below the inflation rate, so we basically just got a pay cut. The reason for striking is because all the money we are supposed to get from these pay rises are from the school's own budget, so money will come out of things that should come to you. For example, supplies or support staff. Children's education will suffer.

What happened?

We marched from Oxford Circus to Downing Street. They expected about 12,000 people, they got 40,000. They were teachers from all over London. There were

You might have been wondering why your teachers, or YOU for that matter, have had quite a few days off school this year. This is because our teachers, like a lot of teachers across the country, have been going on strike to argue for better pay. We interviewed a few JKPS teachers to hear their opinions about what's been happening.

speakers, we were singing, people brought musical instruments. It was my first strike. It was a happy, supportive atmosphere. People in cars and bus drivers were beeping in support. We said: "It's time to use our outside voices."

Will it do something? What will it achieve?

I think striking is the last resort for people who have done everything to try and be listened to. If we look back at history, striking has a very good track record of working. I don't think it will work quickly but I do think it will work.

The atmosphere was one of the most amazing things. It was quite

emotional to see all those people there for one cause and so many people who care about your education.

What was the hardest part?

Letting the children down. I work in Year 2. It was hard trying to explain why we chose not to be there.



No ifs, no buts, no education cuts... cont'd

Miss Sara's interview:

Why do you strike?

We are being given a pay rise which does not match the cost of living crisis. The pay rise goes out of the school budget — so that means there is not enough money for additional staff like lovely Miss Donna. Time to take action now.

What happens at the strike?

For the strike that happened in February, we started off the day by getting our signs ready. We met in central London and had a snack. Then we walked to where the march started and we waited for about an hour, until the march finally started.

What do you chant?

We sang: "Solidarity forever." We also chanted: "No ifs no buts no education cuts." While we were singing, some teachers and people who supported the teachers' strikes brought their own instruments like guitars. But mostly the music was us stamping and bashing against our signs.

We marched down to Downing Street where there were soldiers with guns! After that, transport leaders made powerful, emotional speeches.



Do you think that striking will do something?

I hope so. We need the government to start cooperating.

Do you think it's good to strike?

Absolutely. If you have strong beliefs, you should show them.

How was the atmosphere?

It was the most positive, uplifting atmosphere.

Why do teachers strike on different days?

Different teachers are part of different unions. Like Ms. Jo is part of the headteacher union.



Miss Sarah's interview

Why do you strike?

The government has raised our wages and hasn't given the school any money. Now the school has less money to spend on learning and the children.

What happens at the strike?

We went to central London for a big march. There were 40,000 people marching which was awesome. We made our own placards and signs. Miss Sara was interviewed by two different global news teams. One came from Australia and one was from a French channel.

What do you chant?

We chanted, "No ifs, no buts, no education cuts." And sang, "Solidarity forever."

Do you think the strike will do something?

Yes, strikes are the reason that we have weekends, holidays and good working conditions. I feel confident that this will work out.

Do you think it's good to strike?

I think it's sad that it's having an impact on children's learning because I'm a teacher. At the moment, we don't feel listened to by the government. This is a powerful way of getting their attention.

How's the atmosphere?

It was amazing. I couldn't believe all those 40,000 people had shown up, even though there was a train strike that day. I felt solidarity with all the other teachers there.

Is there a specific day to strike?

We don't choose the days, our union does. However, I think they usually pick the middle of the week to cause maximum disruption.

What's in a name?

by Luz (Y5)

Have you ever wondered why our school is named Judith Kerr? Judith Kerr wrote many fabulous books. She also had a cat called Mog. And that's when her adventure with writing started.



Judith's Kerr Life

Judith Kerr was an author and illustrator who lived a varied and amazing life. Her career lasted more than 50 years and during that time, she published more than 30 children's books. Judith died in 2019, at the age of 95. She was such an avid writer that her last story was released just one month after her death.

When was Judith Kerr born?

Judith Kerr's real name was Anna Gertrud Helene Kerr. She was born in Berlin, the capital city of Germany, on 14 June, 1923. She lived with her parents and her older brother, Michael. Judith was born into a very talented, creative family. Her father, Alfred Kerr, was a well-known drama critic and writer. Her mother, Julia, was a pianist and composer. When Judith was 10 years old, a political party called the Nazis rose to power in Germany. Judith's family were Jewish and did not agree with the views of the Nazis. They no longer felt safe in Germany and were forced to leave in 1933. First they went to Switzerland, then France, before moving to Britain when Judith was just 13 years old.

How did Judith Kerr start her career?

Growing up, Judith loved to draw (like most of us). She spent lots of time drawing people. She would watch the way people moved, notice how their clothes looked and the little quirks that made one person look different from another. Judith took all these ideas and put them into her own drawings, creating new characters (like some of us like doing as well).

Judith volunteered for The Red Cross during World War Two, helping the wounded soldiers. But her true passion was always art and drawing. She was inspired to become a painter and went to art school.

What books did Judith Kerr write?

There are too many to mention here but, Judith is one of the most loved and admired children's authors. Some of her most famous books are *The Tiger Who Came To Tea*, *When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit* and the *Mog Series* about a loveable - but forgetful - cat.



My opinion of my favourite Judith Kerr book

One of my favourite Judith Kerr books is *The Great Granny Gang*. It is a very funny book about a group of grannies that always come and help out in their town.

The six grannies get up to lots of mischief and meet people from the village on their travels. They also have a bunch of wild animals as pets including lions and bears, crocodiles and cows.

The best bit of the book is when one of the grannies needs someone to babysit her pet crocodile. The babysitter arrives and is very shocked to see the crocodile.

We recommend this book for children in Year 1 to 3.

What's in a name?... *cont'd*

In honour of Judith Kerr and her incredible stills as a writer and artist - and because we all love drawing - we asked JKPS students to send us their best artwork.

Thank you to everyone who submitted an entry. **The winners are:**



Isadora, Y6



Mia, Y2



Emilia, Y3



Luz and Lene, Y5

Food glorious food

by Milla, Megan and Aurelia (Y5)



And now for a deeper look inside Judith Kerr and a place that both staff and students spend time in every day: the lunch hall.

Did you know the head chef's name is Mark? Have you ever wondered how your school lunches are made? Well here are the answers to your questions & queries about the most important meal of your school day.

But before we start on Mark's interview, here are some of the students' opinions on the food. We asked them if they were stuck on a desert island, what one school meal would they bring?

Barni, year 6:

My favourite food is the chicken with gravy and noodles. I'm not a fan of the sauce though.

Ida, year 3:

Mac and Cheese

Layla, year 3:

Pizza for life!

Vihan, year 3:

Fish and Chips

Eric, year 3:

Chicken and gravy.

Jack, year 3:

the vegetarian sausage roll.

Max, year 2:

fish and chips, fish and chips. If I could add anything to the menu, it would be Yorkshire pudding regularly.

Megan, year 5:

If I was stuck on a desert island I would take the VEGETARIAN LASAGNE. NOT MEAT, because I'm vegetarian. I also love the macaroni and cheesiness.

Ralph, year 1:

My favourite food is the pasta bolognese, but if I was stuck on a desert island I would bring chips. If I could add anything to the menu, it would be Yorkshire pudding regularly.

Anella, year 4:

I would take pasta Bolognese or beef lasagna.



Food glorious food... cont'd



“We make all the food, apart from the chips which we cook from a bag.”

– Mark, the head chef

We asked year 5 what school lunch they would bring if they were stuck on a desert island:

Laurie: veggie pastry
Soren: chicken and rice
Charlie: Omelette
Philip: Lasagne
Leo P: Beef wraps
Annabel: Ketchup, just on its own
Dylan: Panini
Jack: Fruit

If they could add anything to the menu, year 5 said:

Lenny: chicken katsu curry
Nell: Panini
Oskar: Dumplings
Jude: Curry
Zach: Dumplings
Philip: Sausage and Mash
Laurie: Ravioli
Soren: pie
Charlie: more fruit

And now we move onto the main event:
Our interview with Mark, the head chef.

What ingredients & utensils do the kitchen staff use? What is it like working at Judith Kerr? You will find the answers to these curiosities right here!

Mark, what's your favourite recipe?

“Vegetarian lasagne and shepherd's pie. That's also what I would bring on a desert island if I was stuck.”

Do you enjoy working as the school chef?

“I really enjoy working as a school chef and so do the rest of the staff.”

Do the kitchen staff eat the school lunches?

“The kitchen staff eat the school lunch too.”

Is the fruit organic?

“Unfortunately the fruit isn't organic because it's too expensive.”

What do you eat at home?

“Puerto Rican food – such as chicken and rice. At home I make lots of international and European food.”

What made you want to become a chef?

“I have always had a passion for cooking.”

FUN FACT: Mark makes all the school food and even makes the bread. He makes eight to 10 loaves of bread every single morning.



Photo: Jon Richfield

The Basement of Doom

by Maria (Y5), Ocean (Y6) and Mya (Y5)

The 'Basement of Doom' is forbidden, and many people say it is haunted. Every student wishes to step foot inside.

But what do you think? Do you believe that the basement is haunted? Have you ever wondered what's down there?

**Dun Dun
Duuuuunnnnnnnnnnn!!!**

The appeal of the basement is you stare down from the stairwell and imagine what lurks in the darkness. Could it be true that a person lives down there, or could it just be Wednesday the Ghost? If you have arachnophobia (the fear of spiders) we recommend that you keep your distance because there have been rumours circulating that there are dead spiders covering the floor like a carpet!

Did you know that, before the Judith Kerr school was built, the whole school was a science lab? Some of our students' ancestors probably worked here...

We interviewed a range of children from all over the school, it's fair to say there's been lots of whispers and rumours flying around...

Joey from Year 5 claims that,

"There's a secret tunnel that leads from the basement to the creepy, abandoned house." Could this be true?

Another crazy tale that came to our attention was quoted by Lilly: "I think a person lives down there. There are dead spider legs everywhere and everything down there is scary because my mum told me that." Is that really the answer or could she be making it up?

What's also spreading like wildfire is what Freddy said - "Depends if you have light down there or not". What do you think lurks down there at night? Could you be the next victim of Wednesday Addams? Perhaps just the thought of you standing there can haunt your dreams or maybe you are not as interested.



But what is really down there?

Coach Leo gave us the inside scoop on what is actually down there. The school used to be a science lab so the basement is actually a bit of a dumping ground.

He said it is musty and dusty. There are 14 rooms down there, some are used for storage. It's cold and there is one room that even the staff are not allowed to enter. There is a freezer chest and some old wardrobes and gazebos, and also an old theatre. There are lots of pipes on the walls and - most curiously - a huge ape teddy bear! And loads of big daddy longlegs.

Sounds pretty spooky to us! Take a look for yourself:



Zwölf Points for Liverpool



www.nbcnews.com / Martin Meissner / AP

Eurovision 2023

If you missed the 2023 Eurovision Song Contest you must have been living under a rock - or at least on a remote desert island. This year's extravaganza was the most watched final in history, according to BBC viewing figures. A peak of 11 million UK viewers tuned in and it was all broadcast live from the city of Liverpool, right here in the UK.

Here, Judith Kerr's students give you their view on the contest and their favourite acts.

by Lily (Y6)

Sweden won Eurovision this year with the song "Tattoo" by Loreen. Many thought that this was unfair as she had won before in 2012 with "Euphoria" and, since then, she had grown in fame in Sweden. Sweden was closely followed by Finland who came second with a song called "Cha Cha Cha" by Käärijä. Strangely, the acts of Sweden and Finland were entirely opposites as Sweden was a dramatic pop song and Finland was an entertaining rock song that was full of colour and light. There has been much discussion about which acts should have won, but both of them deserved the Eurovision stage!

by Barni (Y6)

I liked Moldova's song because it was quite traditional and gypsy-like, and as a Hungarian I love traditional music. A fun addition to the song was a flutist in an amazing costume. The costumes! The costumes looked incredible, like a bard fused with a Viking. But Moldova has never won Eurovision.



www.euronews.ro / Martin Meissner / AP

By Milla (Y5)

Many people agree that Croatia's act was quite amazing. One of the reasons is because the men who performed danced around in underwear and dresses. The lyrics translated mean: "My mum got me a tractor oh oh." Unfortunately, Germany only scored 18 points meaning they came last overall with their song 'Blood and glitter'. Prior to the 2023 contest, Germany has participated 64 times since its debut as one of the 7 countries to take part in 1956. Germany has won Eurovision on just two occasions: In 1982 with "Ein Bißchen Frieden" performed by Nicole and in 2010 with the song 'Satellite'.



www.gazettelive.co.uk / Image: Johan Persson

REVIEWS:

Six, the musical

by Laurie (Y5)

Have you heard of the extraordinary musical called *Six*? Well, if you haven't you need to read this article. (If you have, please continue to read the review to see if you agree.)

Six is a musical about King Henry V III's six wives. As you may know, he married six different times, and this musical tells you about the lives of these six wives.

There are six queens and four band members. Each one of the queens sings fun songs about what happened to them when they lived with Henry VIII.

The show is interesting because Henry VIII beheaded two of his wives and he divorced another two, one of which he thought looked like a horse. Another of his wife's died from childbirth - giving

him a son which was exactly what he wanted. And his last wife stood by his death bed as he drew his last breath.

This is a musical that should certainly be on your must-watch list because not only do you learn about history, but the music is very catchy. The minute I got home I wanted to see it all over again!

Beware, if you watch this show you are entering earworm territory! The show is so successful, it is now performed on Broadway in New York as well as London. What a journey this show has had since it started as a performance to a 40 people at Edinburgh festival.

A student wrote this incredible musical as a small hobby while he was doing a degree in university. Little did he know it would turn to a brilliant show years later.

Make sure you get tickets when they next come out!



Note for your diary

Our very own Mog is going to be on Channel 4 this Christmas! The team behind 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' will be making a hand-drawn animated special, voiced by stars including Benedict Cumberbatch and Claire Foy.

Cursed staff

by Barni (Y6)

Once upon a time, there was a very greedy goblin who lived in Goboland called Gregory. Gregory kept on claiming everything and went on ridiculously long journeys claiming everything in sight and bringing it in his massive bag if it could fit.

Once, Gregory ventured into a cave and fell in a cavern which had a staff. Gregory was drawn to the staff and his greed was all consuming. He grabbed it and he

heard an ominous voice say 'YOU HAVE ONE WISH' and Greg eeked.

Gregory (after washing his pants) decided that his wish would be that he would be the king of Goboland. So, the staff made him the king, but made his arms fall off so he could never grab or snatch anything ever again.

He was nicknamed 'Armless one' and Greg had a miserable life for all of eternity.



Images by brgfx on Freepik.com

SHORT STORIES:

Here at the Mog Chronicle we love encouraging everyone to get creative! We really want our readers to send in some short stories to be included in the next issue. They can be about anything, as long as it inspires you to write, write, write! To get the ball rolling, one of our writers has written some of his own.



Magical potatoes

by Barni (Y6)

Many moons ago, a wizard fought the great battle of Avlagon, winning the Avlagon potatoes. The wizard - a very smart one - decided to use them in a brew.

He invited his friend, Druid Bert, who brought the other ingredients: shakrion weeds, bcriz leaves and mystery sauce. Bert and the wizard put the ingredients in a bubbling pot.

The brew looked brownish red and they got The Mighty Wooden Spoon and stirred until their blisters got blisters. They poured it all out onto a bowl and got purple potatoes. The strange potatoes had mouths?

Bert examined them closely and the potatoes bit poor Bert on his nose. The potatoes - now fed up by being looked at - hobbled out of the bowl and convinced the village (where the wizard lived) that they were kings from the faraway lands. They established their own kingdom called Faraway Potato Land.

They ruled fairly and banished Druid Bert and the wizard to live in a hut on the edge of the world where they promptly went mad.

SUMMER

Bucket List

by Lily and Mimi (Y6)

Are you already daydreaming about the end of the school year? Are you excited to splash about in a swimming pool or play in the sand? The summer holidays are only a few weeks away so we wanted to give you some inspiration on places near and far that you can go with your family.

Santorini, Greece

Santorini is an island in the southern Aegean Sea. It is located about 120 miles from the Greek mainland and is the largest island in its small group of islands, known as an archipelago. Santorini is an amazing place for a family holiday because of its beauty - the turquoise water, blue domed churches, the breath-taking views and lunar landscapes. There is something for everyone!

Another stunning and not to be missed attraction are the natural hot springs on the small uninhabited island of Palea Kameni. You can get a short boat ride there from Santorini while enjoying fresh fish straight from the Aegean Sea!

Flights to Santorini usually start around £200, but can rise during peak times.

Lake District, England

If you are searching for somewhere a bit closer to home, head to the Lake District, in Cumbria, north-west England. With crystal clear lakes and dazzling sunsets, the Lake District has always been a massive attraction. It's easy to take a cruise around one of the lakes, go on a stunning hike and explore the spectacular sights - so don't miss out on this great UK getaway. A visit to the Lake District is the chance to immerse yourself in wildlife too.

If you want to delve into the Lake District's rich history, try visiting

Castlerigg Stone Circle. You can find it east of Keswick, one of the most popular market towns in the Lake District. There are roughly 1,300 stone circles in the British Isles and Brittany. They were constructed from approximately 3,200 BC to 2,500 BC as part of the megalithic tradition.

Norfolk, England

If you are looking for a holiday destination closer to London, Norfolk should be on your radar. It has a little something for everyone, especially if you love being outdoors. There are an abundance of nature reserves - 27 across Norfolk! - and some amazing wildlife. The biggest is Wyre Forest National Nature Reserve which now spans 1,455 hectares.

One of the many unique things that attracts tourists to Norfolk is the famous Norwich Cathedral, in the city of Norwich. It is one of the Norwich heritage sites. And no visit to Norfolk would be complete without a visit to Cromer Ridge, the Breklands and the Norfolk Boards national park.

