

# The Trinity Times



DIXONS TRINITY ACADEMY

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## Two Heads are better than one!

By Umama Mahmood and Aisha Hussain, Year 9



Miss Thompson

Miss Steele

**Each year, International Women's Day takes place on the 8th of March celebrating women's achievements throughout history.** The first International Women's Day was organised in the United States, New York City in 1909. As part of the celebration for International Women's Day, we interviewed two women who have influenced our school for the greater good.

You'd think that being a Principal of one of the highest achieving schools in England would be extremely stressful. However, "With two people at the job, work becomes less stressful" and "lots of fun," said Miss Thompson. Both Miss Thompson and Miss Steele take pleasure in their jobs because they like spending time with students and love seeing them progress from young learners to someone who is going to step into the next stage of their life. Miss Thompson only ever had the aspiration to become the

Head Teacher at Trinity, because in essence, only our school will do for her. She told us that we are the hardest working students in Bradford and we never fail to make her proud.

As DEAR is an essential part of our lives, we asked Miss Thompson and Miss Steele which books they are currently reading and which books they enjoy the most. Miss Thompson is currently reading 'Alone on the Wall' by Alex Honnold which is a non-fiction book about a man who takes risks by climbing mountains unquipped. However, she doesn't have a particular favourite book but has a favourite author, Willa Cather, whose books she particularly enjoys as she feels that the author is "underrated". Miss Steele is currently reading 'This Is Going to Hurt' by Adam Kay which is a diary of a Junior Doctor. Her favourite book is '17 Equations That Changed the World' by Ian Stewart. Miss Thompson told us that she has a penchant for poetry and her favourite poet is W B Yeats as "If you read anything he has written, you will find him amazing".

We know how hard both our Principals work for us in school but what do they do in their spare time away from school to re-energise themselves for their busy days at Trinity? Miss Steele likes to play netball, playing the position of either goalkeeper or goal defence. Miss Thompson feels Miss Steele is good at the sport because she is tall. Miss Thompson, however, enjoys arts and crafts and reading. She was an English teacher in her past life so reading is in her DNA.

Although retirement is a long way off for both our Principals, we asked Miss Thompson and Miss Steele what they would hope to do. Miss Thompson would like to take her son and her other half travelling in the future, whereas Miss Steele would like to open a café and a cake shop. Miss Thompson said that once she had finished travelling, she would pop down to Miss Steele's cake shop! Their greatest wish for all students in Trinity is that they surpass their goal of attaining a "great job and great university", achieving the ultimate aim of a "great life".

"SHE BELIEVED HER AND HER GENERATION COULD CHANGE THE WORLD."

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# The Trinity Times

## Amazing alumni

By Umama Mahmood, Year 9

“SHE WAS AN INSPIRATIONAL PERSON WHO BELIEVED ACHIEVED AND STRIVED FOR THE BENEFIT OF OTHERS.”

**Maryam Kapree:** Ex-student, currently attending Dixons Sixth Form

**A levels:** PE, History, Biology and English Literature.

**Tips for choosing A levels:** Choose a subject that you are going to enjoy and not something that you are only choosing because your friends will be in that class.

**Tips to achieve top grades:** Don't leave everything to the last minute, space your revision, have a good work life balance and lastly don't overload yourself with work.

**Dream Career:** Not certain where her future will take her, she is definite her future path will make a difference to the community. She wants to explore her options and see what suits her best. However, she is also aware she wants

sport to be a part of it, as she particularly wants to influence young Muslim females to take up Sports.

**Dream University:** She hopes to go to a Russell group university because they are recognised as some of the top universities.

**Sentence:** “She was an inspirational person who believed, achieved and strived for the benefit of others”. Her sentence reflects how she wants to make a positive impact.

**Top of the mountain:** She hopes to see herself reach the top of her mountain, due to her hard work. However, she feels that achieving is not only about having brilliant grades, but also developing one's character.



Our ex Head Student  
Maryam Kapree

**Hafsah Mahmood:** Ex-student, currently studying at Dixons Sixth Form

**A levels:** Psychology, Biology and Chemistry.

**Tips for choosing A levels:** Choose subjects which will lead to a career path that will open doors, but to a career path you will not regret and definitely enjoy.

**Dream Career:** She would like to specialise in Diabetic medicine. No matter where her life takes her, she will always see herself positively impacting on people around her.

**Dream University:** She is currently part of the Next Step York University programme and has really enjoyed this. Therefore, she sees herself attending York University with its amazing facilities.

**Tips to achieve top grades:** Revise little and often so you can learn better, solidify knowledge from past years, remove distractions, get someone to test you and work with a friend so you can both learn together.

**Sentence:** “She was a Doctor who made a difference in third world countries”. She wants everyone to have the same health opportunities no matter which country they live in.

**Top of the mountain:** To reach the top of her mountain, she sees herself at university doing a medical degree which will open doors for her. She feels that attaining the top of her mountain also means achieving a happy life and making her family and teachers proud of the person she has become.



Ex-student Hafsah  
Mahmood

“SHE WAS A DOCTOR WHO MADE A DIFFERENCE IN THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES.”



## Book review: '1984'

By Mohammed Sameer, Year 9

'1984' is a book about a corrupt society and how it thinks it should rule the world. The main protagonist is Winston, who has doubts about his people, as he was born long before this society began.

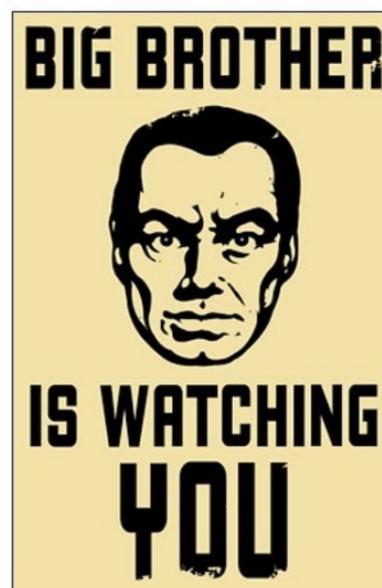
However, the 'thought police' are everywhere and if you get caught it's all over as you'll have to face your worst, unimaginable fears in Room 101.

The author, George Orwell, wrote '1984' in 1948, trying to predict how life might be four decades in the future. His previous novel 'Animal Farm' had been a huge success and he used many ideas from it to create this tense and

dark novel. We all know the phrase "Big Brother is watching you", but you may not know that the phrase originated from the novel where a totalitarian regime controls everything. Orwell also introduces the concept of 'doublethink'. The word means opposite, as, for example the Ministry of Truth is in reality, the Ministry of Lies!

I rate it 9/10 as the whole story is carefully layered to give you something you would not expect.

Find this classic dystopian novel in the iBase. It will not disappoint!



## Drax expedition: An electrifying trip

By Sufyan Mahmood, Year 10

Visiting the drax power station has enabled me to truly understand how electricity is created. When we were travelling to the drax power station I was constantly thinking about how a power station is designed and was intrigued as to why the cooling towers are so large. It was only when we arrived that I got to see the vast size of a power station.

Drax power station is one of the largest energy providers in the UK, the majority of its energy coming from burning biomass instead of coal and crude oil. The biomass that they use comes in the form of biomass pel-

lets which have to be imported from countries with lots of forests, for example Canada. As drax power station aims to be as eco-friendly as possible, they use a process called selective logging to cut down the trees that produce their biomass pellets. This is a process where they only chop down either dead trees or the oldest trees, reducing the impact on the environment.

Seeing the sheer scale of only part of the power station has helped me to gain a better understanding of how electricity is produced. Learning about the lengthy and complex

process in which electricity is made, has made me think differently every time I use any electrical appliance. The drax power station was an amazing opportunity, which enabled me to learn about how electricity is produced using other materials rather than coal.

The trip would not have been possible without Mr Hart's organisation and Miss Ward's assistance.





# The Trinity Times

## Upcycle to reach the top of your mountain!

By Talha Zubair, Year 8

There is no doubt that the Cycle 2 assessments are going to be hard, so we talked to Miss Vinnicombe, Head of both Year 7 and 8, to ask her for some advice on how to prepare for the tricky upcoming Cycle 2 assessments.

We know that nothing is achieved without hard work, so it is really important to plan ahead and keep yourself organised. Miss Vinnicombe suggested that “We should make ourselves a timetable with time to revise and complete homework, but not forgetting time for yourself to relax and enjoy as well”.

For those of you struggling to revise on a specific subject, here are three

steps to get back on track and be successful.

Firstly, check your 100% book. Checking your 100% book will allow you to revise any key terms that you are struggling on. Secondly, have confidence in yourself and don't let anything put you down. Thirdly, ask a friend or someone you can trust to help. Asking one of your friends to help you will really boost your confidence, as you know there is someone to help you. Don't forget, make sure you can trust them!

Looking for more advice, well look no further! There are so many more

ways that can help you. Miss Vinnicombe suggested to us that those struggling to revise at home can revise after school in Hegarty Maths Club and Homework Club. This is one hour completely dedicated to completing your homework or Hegarty Maths. For older students, there are some GCSE revision lessons which you can attend after school or in DEAR.

In one sentence Miss Vinnicombe told us that, “You should have confidence in yourself, trusting yourself that you can achieve what you want to, however don't deceive yourself in thinking it doesn't require hard work”.



## Mr Hart's take on Fairtrade Fortnight!

By Mohammed Sameer, Year 9

**Mr Hart gave up some of his time to provide insight on the importance of Fairtrade Fortnight.**

Fairtrade Fortnight is an important event that allows workers, such as cocoa farmers, to receive a fair wage. Many of us may not know about how farmers work long hours just to receive a poor amount of money.

We can also find Fairtrade products in many supermarkets but the main problem is, as Mr Hart explained, “Many of us will go to the cheaper places where products, which are not Fairtrade cost less to save some money”. This causes us to

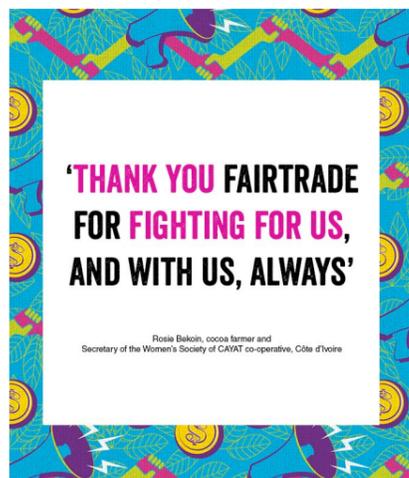
not help others in need.

The downside to Fairtrade is that it cannot include everyone, otherwise as Mr Hart stated, “We would be paying money but each farmer would only get a small sum”. Furthermore, people tend to go to the ‘Best Deal’ they can find meaning a higher chance of evasion of Fairtrade products.

However, there are some positives, for example many farmers get better wages and therefore gain access to good education and healthcare. This in turn leads to a better lifestyle. Mr Hart said, “These are genuine and something that everyone needs”.

On a scale of 1-10, Mr Hart was asked to rate the importance of Fairtrade. He answered 8 and added that, “There are more important issues that need to be addressed and another thing is that it doesn't benefit everyone. However, it affects others' lives and helps them to develop even further than they already are”.

In conclusion, Mr Hart thinks that it needs to be more publicised, perhaps using more relatable stories so people are aware of the benefits and understand what Fairtrade is about.



**“IF YOU'RE STRUGGLING TO REVISE, IT IS PARAMOUNT THAT YOU SPEAK OUT.”**

## How to deal with revision stress

By Talha Zubair, Year 8

Tensions are rising as the time to choose the Year 8 options gets nearer. Now, as we know, some of us are finding it extremely hard to pick our options. We talked to Miss Akudi, Head of Year 9, for some advice on how to pick those crucial options.

As some of you are aware, peer pressure is one of the greatest problems facing society. Miss Akudi suggested, “Don't do anything you'll regret, especially when it comes to picking your options. You should do what you enjoy most and

not what your friends do, because it can have extreme consequences”.

But what happens when the time comes to revise? Feeling stressed? Well look no further! Here are some incredible tips to help you get back on track. Firstly, contact your subject teacher. It is vital that the first person to know should be your subject teacher. This will allow your teacher to tailor their lessons, so you can have the support you need. Miss Akudi wants students to know that “If you're struggling to revise, it is paramount you speak out, otherwise we won't know”.

Although this might be the most effective approach, if you are still struggling, do not worry, as there are so many more ways to seek help. During DEAR and after school in the iBase, there are now “silent study” sessions dedicated to homework and GCSE revision. It is extremely important that you attend these if you are struggling to revise.

In one simple statement Miss Akudi said, “Revision starts now; if you fail to prepare, you prepare to fail”.



## Dixons Cup

By Qais Ratyal, Year 10

The Dixons Cup is an opportunity for children from different schools to come together and compete in their favourite sport to win prizes, but above all just to have fun.

Football isn't the only option, there is also basketball, netball, handball and many others for boys and girls. When asking Mr Rollinson how he feels about the Dixons Cup, he said, "I feel proud to see us competing and often winning against other schools within the Dixons Trust. Most importantly, I like seeing all students with a smile on their face".

In addition, when asking Sear Ahmed, from 10B, how he feels when going to play for the Dixons Cup, he said, "I feel excited to participate in the Dixons Cup, I hope there are more matches in the future".

There will certainly be more matches in the future for students to look forward to and featuring a variety of different sports.

Furthermore, when students perform really well they could win medals, certificates, and even get an appreciation. This means that after the match, those that have tried their best will know that their hard work has not gone unnoticed.

## Duke of Edinburgh

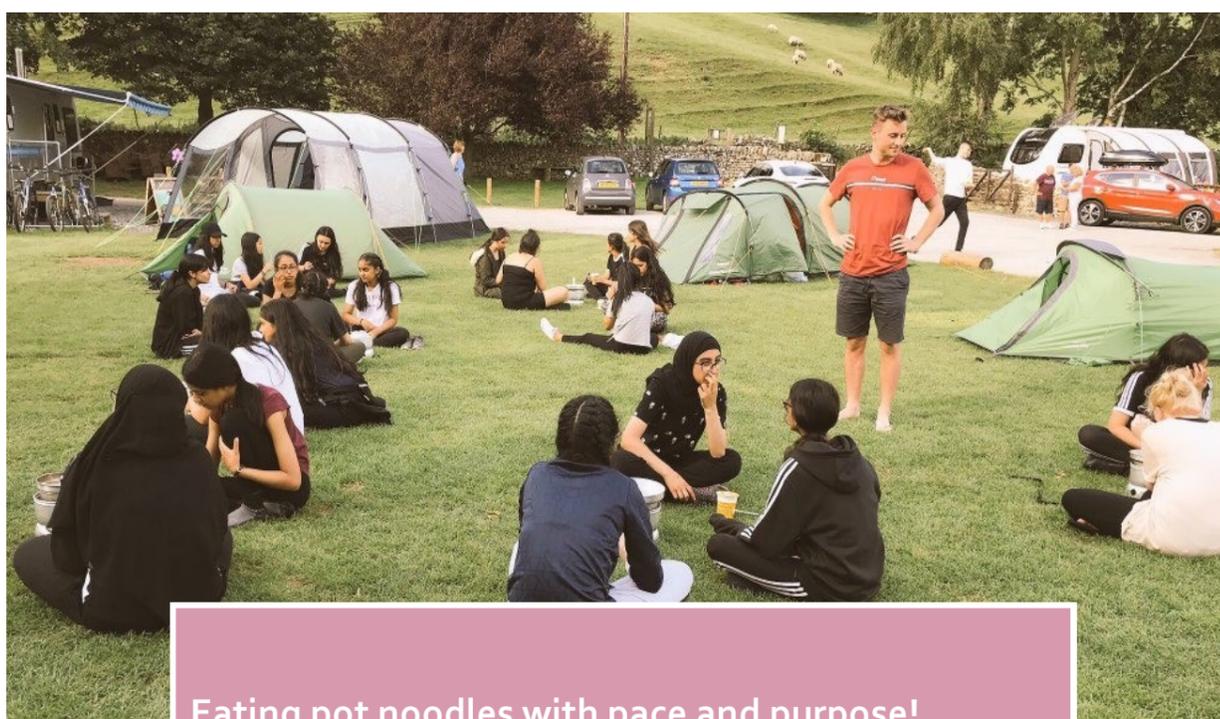
By Raheeq Haq, Year 10

Last Summer a group of five Year 9 students, including myself, went to the Yorkshire Dales National Park where we completed a 20km walk. Just the thought of a 20km walk in the middle of nowhere is probably filling most of you with dread! Technically, the 'walk' is called the Duke of Edinburgh Expedition and is part of the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. Just to fuel your anxiety further, mobile phones were not allowed! This means that it is essential to have good map skills to navigate yourself and your group to various meeting points. Don't worry as there are teachers at various checkpoints to help you and ensure that you stay safe. The Expedition took place over two days and was a valuable life experience.

**Day one:** The five of us set off from school with only a compass (we learnt how to use a map and compass during special preparation lessons) and, of course, large, heavy bags with all of our worldly possessions for the two days! After a few hours of walking we were all thirsty and some of us also wanted a break. We arrived at our overnight campsite, our first stop, later that afternoon. At the campsite we met up with the other Year 9 groups and we rested and ate Pot Noodle. We all played a game of rounders before having to pitch our tents for the night. This wasn't too difficult as we had practised putting up tents at school.

**Day two:** After setting off from the wet, cold campsite the next morning, we started to walk again. Unfortunately, one of our group twisted their ankle, so we had to get help from the nearest teacher. With one man down, we carried on walking, but the Yorkshire weather took a turn and it rained heavily, resulting in us all getting soaked. As we walked onwards, we arrived at Bolton Abbey and our injured group member rejoined us minus his heavy backpack. We walked along the River Strid enjoying the breeze and cool atmosphere. A few hours later we ended up meeting at the last checkpoint and all of our legs were aching!!

We really enjoyed the Expedition last year and although as Alhadj Cameron, now in Year 10, said, "it was challenging," we all carried on and made it to the end. I hope all of you will have a go at the Expedition in the future as it was both enjoyable and character building.



Eating pot noodles with pace and purpose!



Are we there yet?



# The Trinity Times

## Meet our House Captain Sufyan!

By Sufyan Mahmood, Year 10



Progressing into the year, Makalu has worked extremely hard to gain House Points which has led them to maintain their standing on the House Leader Board as first place.

This is due to their consistent wins in Hegarty Maths competitions and continued success in attendance (realising that this not only helps their House but also their academic progress).

However, Makalu could continue to improve their attendance, since

slip ups are now emerging. I am confident that all individuals from Makalu will step up to ensure this next challenge is met, so that we can ultimately win the House Cup.

As a House, Makalu has potential to do anything they put their minds to. Therefore, I am confident that they will work to be the best and win, just as they deserve to.

## Meet our House Captain Maaria!

By Maaria Ali Naz, Year 10



As the House Captain for Aconcagua, I believe that the most important improvement we have made is on our attendance. Previously, when we would go through House Points, our position would be last for attendance; this was a huge next step for Aconcagua.

As a House, Aconcagua has taken on board their crucial next step and have ended up achieving their goal of coming first in this area. This is a huge achievement for Aconcagua. I believe we are more than capable of coming first at the end of the

year. We could be the winners if we improve upon this grey area. The other Houses are very good at winning specific House Points because of their drive to succeed and win.

Recently, the Vice House Captains of Aconcagua and I have encouraged our House to step it up and try their hardest to gain the vital 200 points from attendance. This will ultimately boost our overall points and allow us to win at the end of the year. I believe Aconcagua is a very capable House that can and will win.

**“I BELIEVE WE ARE MORE THAN CAPABLE OF COMING FIRST AT THE END OF THE YEAR.”**

## Meet our House Captain Tawheed!

By Tawheed Hussain, Year 10



Pelvoux, as a House, has the potential to be the best. However, due to some aspects lacking as a whole, our position so far has been very unstable. Our House's current position is second and if we don't improve upon the difficulties we have, then we will not be able to recover from this.

Makalu have been dominating attendance so far which has led them to practically run away with the points. Attendance has also now been increased with regards to points. Attendance for Pelvoux has been very weak. Up until now, we

have been constantly coming last and haven't had consistent weeks of coming either first or second.

We have to make some drastic changes within attendance, as it not only affects each individual's future, but could be the reason why people aren't making enough progress. I believe our House overall is excellent at everything else, despite attendance. However, we can change that around completely, leading up till the end of the year.

I am confident that the members of Pelvoux will be entering the Cycle 2

competitions and will win points for our House, so we can move to be first. Our main improvement has been on getting Hegarty Maths points, which also shows that people are completing their tasks sufficiently. I hope we can pull together to keep up our hard work as well as make the necessary changes.



## A message from our Head Students!

By Safia Kousar and Rameen Musharaf, Year 11

As Head Students, we have been working to make several improvements, not only in the House system, but within Trinity as a whole. We have done this by launching a platform for students, where they are able to help their peers whilst also progressing in their own studies. Peer tutoring has been established in all year groups from Year 7 to Year 10. The older students will support the younger students by working collaboratively with them to close their knowledge gaps and ensure they reach their potential. We hope to see this system benefit those who

struggle in certain aspects of their studies, with the help and guidance of student tutors who are currently thriving academically. This tutoring system is based on scientific research which suggests that teaching concepts to others is more effective than self-studying methods. We look forward to the benefits the introduction of this system will bring.

Furthermore, we have been working upon improving the reading culture at Trinity. This involved discussion in Student Council on how DEAR sessions could be enhanced

so that each and every individual was able to benefit. Being in Year 11, and having read for the past 4 years, it is apparent that active readers are those who go on to be successful. Hence, we want to give every student at Trinity the chance to succeed in studies. Therefore, we have chosen to vary the style of DEAR sessions so that each student is able to gain, even the reluctant readers. So far, we have received promising feedback in response to these changes.

Additionally, further house competitions have been introduced in order to heighten the competition between Makalu, Aconagua and Pelvoux, for instance Hegarty Maths competitions have been set up. These have helped individuals to be more motivated towards completing their tasks, especially now that they will be contributing to their House's success. We hope to see an increased rise in student participation towards House challenges in the future.

## A new story: 'Family is Everything' : Chapter One

By Lana Saciri, Year 8

Date: 1930.

Slowly, my mother leaned over the sage-green skirt that laid on the table. She folded the material very gently with the beaded hem uppermost.

"That skirt is gorgeous," complimented my sister Reika, as she walked into the room to admire herself in the mirror, propped forward against the window. She coaxed a couple of tendrils of curly hair to lie on her forehead. Reika had stunning, light azure eyes that were illuminated at all times and as she gazed at her reflection, she flicked her thick, fiery red hair that looked as if it would be hot to the touch. Orange sunset locks, captured the light in vibrant ruby hues and a lava of warm curls flowed down to the middle of her back. A baby-blue pin held back her fringe showing off her flawless skin. At only fourteen years of age, she

gave every promise of becoming a beauty. The proud tilt of her head showed that she was well aware of her looks. Her neat waist was outlined by a perfectly fitted dress. She wore soft-leather cerulean coloured Mary-Jane shoes that made a light patter whenever she passed by.

"I'm going to have millions of skirts like that when I'm older," announced Reika.

"By then I'm sure that'll be out style," I commented.

Reika rolled her eyes slyly.

"Never mind standing there admiring yourself, my darling sister," I added.

In the distance, the thunderous sounds of Big Ben struck two. Our mother, Ruth Evans, abruptly snapped her head up, placed her worn hands on her hips and looked at us

both.

"Come along, ladies. Lillian, would you be a dear and go out to call your father for me? Make sure you bring him here."

I beamed a little and agreed to do so.

"He's with Rufus Feller down the street, my love," she told me. I nodded as she wrapped her gorgeous shawl around her back, putting on a hat and ushering me to get a move on.



## Book review: 'I am Number Four'

By Sufyan Mahmood, Year 10

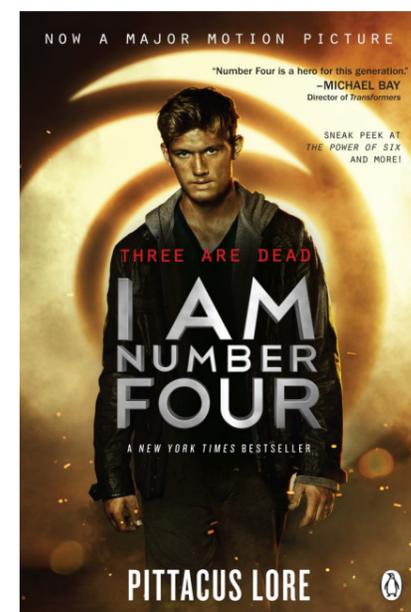
'I Am Number Four' by Pittacus Lore is one of the most thrilling and 'plot-twisting' books I have ever read. It is the start of the captivating Lorien Legacies series. John, the not so normal teenager, is living life on the run after seeking asylum from another planet. He and six out of nine of his comrades remain under a charm that their ancestors cast upon them; now his luck has ran out. He will be the next killed by the invaders

of his planet (Lorien) – the Mogadorians.

The Mogadorians do not care about any collateral damage, all they want to do is to get the job done. The Mogadorians threaten all of civilisation and only John and the other survivors can stop them. Can John and his comrades become the saviour of planet Earth? Only time will tell during the start of the epic journey that

Pittacus Lore will take you on.

A spine-chilling journey that will keep you on edge from start to finish. The thrilling and captivating Sci-Fi series is guaranteed to make you want to know what will happen. Though the story may not be for everyone, those of you who like the idea of a high school pupil who has special superpowers, then this story is perfect for you.



**A school of high expectations, no shortcuts and no excuses.**

DIXONS TRINITY ACADEMY

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Dixons Trinity Academy, opened its doors in September 2012 and is part of the Dixons Academies Charitable Trust Ltd. There is a commitment to making a difference where it matters with focus on one mission: to get students to climb the mountain to university or an alternative route. This mission, alongside three key drivers of mastery, autonomy and purpose and core values of hard work, trust and fairness are resonated through the school community.



We're on the Web!

<https://www.dixonsta.com/>



## More from DofE 2019!



Students enjoy their pot noodles!