

# THE RYGAARDS TIMES

## RYGAARDS DEBATE TEAM TRIUMPH !

**Charlotte 10y, Ansh 10y**

On Monday the 2nd , Rygaards took part in the ESU (English Speaking Union) debate competition at institute Sankt Joseph. Rygaards was split into two separate teams that went against ISH and ISJ. The day started at 8:30 with RGA team 1 going against ISJ first and then ISH, winning both debates; the judges were extremely impressed by the level of debating as we dominated the competition. At the same time RGA team 2 went against ISJ team 2 and ISH team 2 and won both debates, impressing the judges yet again. The day ended with the final teams being RGA team 1 and 2 going against each other. We went head-to-head with a tough final debate against each other, both teams gave their best, and it was a very close and intense debate. In the end the judges decided to award the win the RGA team 2!



On Wednesday 4th October the Rygaards debate team travelled to the International British School of Bucharest (IBSB) in Romania to defend their previous year's title at the European stage. After weeks of preparation the Rygaards debate team kicked off the tournament with a sweeping victory and continued this into the final. Out of the 6 debates they had they lost only 1. This performance brought us to the finals where we debated against the hosting school IBSB. After a hard-fought final, the judges awarded us the debate and we were declared European champions for 2 years in a row.

It was an amazing experience to debate amongst each other and other schools as not only did we make our school proud we also had fun and made new friends from the other schools. It was a terrific week so congrats to Rygaards debate team for bringing home 2 trophies at both the Danish and European level! Special thanks to Mrs. Olesen and Mr. Roberts for bringing us to these competitions and being wonderful coaches, we would not have been able to do it without them and Rygaards supporting us! It was a great experience, and I encourage younger students to come to the debate club to train to be part of future competitions. (More about this on page 2)

Congrats to Charlotte, Saule, Tanvi, Ansh, Sid, Marcus, Diana, Aarav and Tanish for winning!

## VOLLEYBALL

**Isabelle 10y**

Last Saturday, on the 28th of October, several students from Rygaards went to Copenhagen International School to compete in volleyball, representing Rygaards! At this tournament, we fought hard in game after game, and finished with 2 trophies! The U14 boys team won their tournament, and the U16 boys teams came 1st and 2nd! Dare I say it, we have, as usual, won our spots on the podium. The level 1 U12 team fought hard, and improved at every point, and the level 2 U12 team won 2nd place. The girls U14 team unfortunately did not make it to the finals. The U16 girls team fought in an extremely close and heated battle in the semifinals against CIS and lost their place in the finals. They will, however, make sure to come back raring to go next year! When talking to some of the girls from the U14 team, they said that they would definitely want to go again next year, a common sentiment, it seems. The U16 girls revealed that they were tired, and looking at the results, you can see how hard they tried!



# STUDENT COUNCIL & CLUBS

## STUDENT COUNCIL

Lana 11x, Ansh 10y

When it's spooky season at Rygaards, the student council ensures that everyone celebrates Halloween with a fun and creative activity by decorating classroom doors with Halloween-themed decorations. This year the judges, our librarians, have awarded 1st place to 8y. This was closely followed by 11y at second place and at 3rd place was 9x. This was not an easy decision for the judges as many classes had done a great job and the judges were very impressed with the quality of work. At the end the judges came to the conclusion that these 3 classes stood out on top due to their originality, storytelling and creativity in their door decorations!

Another thing we celebrate here at our school is talent. For this, there will be a talent show on Wednesday, the 6th of December. Everyone who wants to participate is encouraged to inform your class representatives of your interest. Try-outs for talent show performers will take place on November 29th. Check out the posters that have been put up with information on both of these events!



## BENEFITS OF DEBATE

Marcus 11y

At first glance, joining a debate club may seem like mundane extracurricular, additional schoolwork, or just something your teachers may recommend to aid in presentation skills - but that only scratches the surface.

In fact, debate is a great way to learn argumentative public speaking in an encouraging, knowledgeable, and - most of all - fun environment! As you discuss motion after motion, trying out the various team formats and positions, you learn to think critically and explain those thoughts fluently. Plus, if you want to find out if a career in law, politics, business, or any formal discussion line of work suits you, debate is a superb place to start.

The actual process of debate is fast-paced, with POI's whizzing through the air and lightning-thought rebuttals conceived. A whirlwind of ideas, language, and mindplay that will leave you exhilarated when the verdict is announced. It is truly a feeling like no other to battle your heart out with words and receive a trophy for it alongside your teammates. In competitions, you'll meet loads of people (as you're quite literally talking to them for hours a day), many mind-blowingly competent but happy to help you improve as well. Perhaps you'll even find yourself enjoying dinner with them on the final day, or meeting them in a political campaign years into the future.

As you progress, you'll be more and more comfortable speaking before you even realise a change - a change perhaps noticed in a simple classroom exchange, or even the Grand Stage at the European Championships. So come by your local club, try it out, and see if you love it!



# BOOK REVIEWS



## SHATTER ME

**Age Rating:** 12+

**Author:** Tahereh Mafi; also writer of This Woven Kingdom

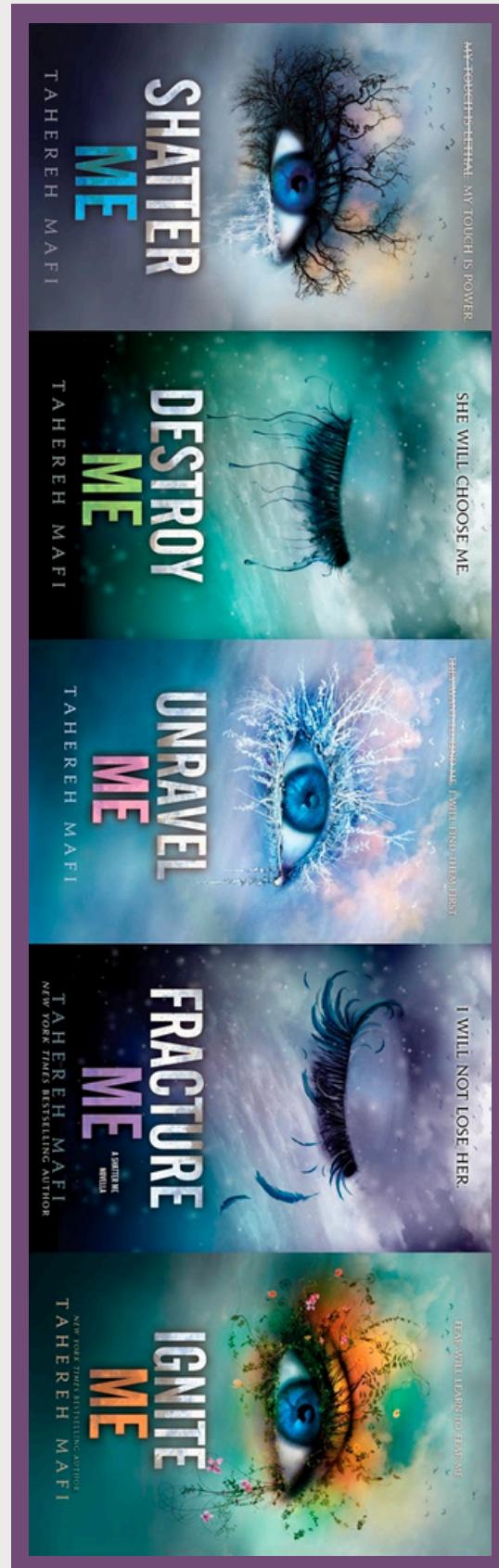
**Genre:** Dystopia, Thriller, Romance, Fiction

Shatter Me is the first book in a series of six novels and five novellas which follow a teenager who can kill anyone by just touching them. Juliette Ferrars, the 17-year-old with a deadly touch, narrates her past and present life of living in a world under the rule of a cruel government called the Reestablishment. This organisation is responsible for having ruined the world while attempting to change it in their goal of destroying all individuality by getting rid of things such as culture, literature, and languages. The extent of damage dealt to the environment and the people—through tragedies like food shortages, pollution, and extreme changes in climate that ensued—really gets the reader to reflect on those issues which we also hear of in the world. Speaking of which, I couldn't help but notice multiple similarities between the fictional world and our own when reading the series and, personally, that's what I think is one of the most interesting aspects of dystopia: amplifying the same, or similar, problems faced in real life, having the main characters recognise them and act towards solving them, thus causing whoever reads the book to ponder on those dilemmas. So, I am appreciative of how both the first novel as well as the rest of the hexalogy do that well.

Moreover, another thing I really enjoyed was the writing style of the author, but especially how she perfected the protagonist's register with stream of consciousness, the inclusion of passages from her journal where appropriate to the storyline, in addition to the utilisation of unique graphology. To expand on the latter, the narrator spaces out letters or words, strings them together, or crosses several words and sentences out according to her thoughts and feelings. I found this very intriguing, especially on the long run, (like once I reached the later part of the series), as it made all the changes in character clearer and even more impactful.

Finally, if you aren't sold on this series already, you will be once you reach the latter three books of the series or the novellas because you will get to read from the different characters' perspectives. However, even through just the first couple of books the reader is exposed to lots of world building and many humorous and intense interactions between very different characters while they try to survive and save their world. Shatter Me is full of crazy revelations, ever-building suspense, and nearly constant action, making it so that each addition to the series is enticing.

Lana 11x



# SPORTS

Vihaan 11x

## CRICKET WORLD CUP

Recently, on the 5th of October, the 13th edition of the Cricket World Cup began, and it is scheduled to continue until the 19th of November this year. The tournament occurs every 4 years and the first edition occurred in 1975. The previous tournament (2019) was held in England, and the current edition is being hosted in India across 10 different cities.

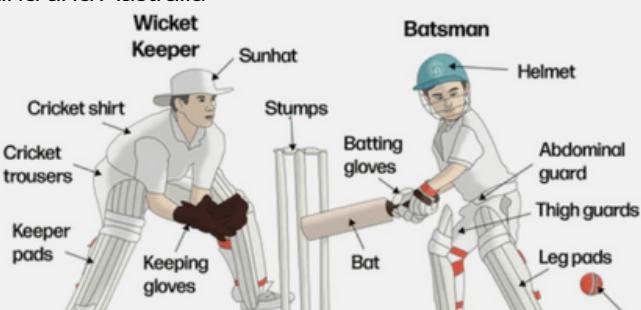
This year, the World Cup consists of 10 different teams:

- India 🇮🇳
- Australia 🇦🇺
- England 🇬🇧
- Pakistan 🇵🇰
- New Zealand 🇳🇿
- Netherlands 🇳🇱
- South Africa 🇿🇦
- Afghanistan 🇏🇦
- Bangladesh 🇧🇩
- Sri Lanka 🇱ං



## PREMIER LEAGUE NOV 2023/24

#	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1	Tottenham Hotspur	10	8	2	0	22	9	13	26
2	Manchester City	9	7	0	2	19	7	12	21
3	Arsenal	9	6	3	0	18	8	10	21
4	Liverpool	9	6	2	1	20	9	11	20
5	Aston Villa	9	6	1	2	23	13	10	19
6	Newcastle United	9	5	1	3	24	9	15	16
7	Brighton and Hove Albion	9	5	1	3	22	18	4	16
8	Manchester United	9	5	0	4	11	13	-2	15
9	West Ham United	9	4	2	3	16	16	0	14
10	Chelsea	9	3	3	3	13	9	4	12
11	Crystal Palace	10	3	3	4	8	13	-5	12
12	Wolverhampton Wanderers	9	3	2	4	11	15	-4	11
13	Fulham	9	3	2	4	8	15	-7	11
14	Brentford	9	2	4	3	14	12	2	10
15	Nottingham Forest	9	2	4	3	10	12	-2	10
16	Everton	9	2	1	6	9	14	-5	7
17	Luton Town	9	1	2	6	8	17	-9	5
18	Burnley	9	1	1	7	7	23	-16	4
19	Bournemouth	9	0	3	6	6	20	-14	3
20	Sheffield United	9	0	1	8	7	24	-17	1



# WORLD NEWS

## CLIMATE CRISIS: THE PARIS AGREEMENT

Isabelle 10y

On the 12 of December, 2015, 195 countries and the EU adopted the Paris Agreement. This is a legally binding treaty on climate change. This agreement was significant because, for the first time, there was a global commitment to fighting climate change. The main goal was this; to keep global warming well below 2°C and to try to keep it to 1.5°C since pre-industrial times. Countries could set up increasingly ambitious targets for themselves to reduce emissions, and a framework was set up to provide the financial, technical and capacity-building support to those who needed it.



the Paris Agreement, Dec. 12, 2015

However, multiple sources have stated the world is simply not on track to meet this goal. This doesn't mean it's over, though. Starting in 2024, countries will begin transparently reporting on their progress under the enhanced transparency network. After this, the Global Stocktake will assess the progress towards the long-term climate goals and recommend more goals. Hopefully, 2024 will bring some good news on the climate crisis! For now, here's some good news; more and more countries/regions are establishing carbon neutrality targets and embracing net zero targets, and new markets and low carbon solutions have been made.

## ISRAEL - PALASTINE CONFLICT

Aatish 9y

The recent conflict between Israel and Palestine have been stealing the headlines for the past month. The death toll has surpassed 5000 and the situation continues to escalate. So why exactly is this happening and who is behind this?

### History

War between Israel and Palestine dates back to 1947 when the UN adopted Resolution 181, also known as the partition plan. It sought to divide Palestine into Arab and Jewish states. This sparked the first of many conflicts to come. The war ended in 1949 in Israel's favour, but many Palestinians were displaced, and the territory was divided into 3 parts: Israel, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

The West Bank was occupied by Jordan and the Gaza Strip by Egypt. However, after several conflicts and invasions, Israel occupied both those regions and had peace with its neighbours. That was until 1987 during the First Intifada when Palestinians carried out protests and riots for their own country. Eventually in 1993, West Bank and the Gaza Strip was recognized as part of Palestine. But in 2006, a group called Hamas won the elections in Palestine and violently took control of the Gaza Strip. Hamas is a radical Islamic terrorist organization led by Ismail Haniyeh and intends on taking back Israel for the Palestinian people. Attacks on Israel were launched in 2014, 2015, 2018 and 2021, each one claiming thousands of lives. (continued on page 6)



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# WORLD NEWS



**Escaping from October music festival attack**

(Israel - Palestine Conflict continued)

## The attacks

This October, Hamas launched its most deadly attack to date. It was a surprise attack on the south of Israel at a music festival. Hamas terrorists flew with parachutes and opened fire on the partygoers. 260 young people were shot down and multiple hostages were taken as well. Following the incident, about 3500 rockets were fired at Ashkelon, 13 kilometres from the Gaza strip and all the way to Tel Aviv, 70km away. Israel uses a defence system known as the "Iron Dome" to protect major cities from missiles by intercepting and destroying them while mid-air. Though it has a 97% accuracy rate, some missiles still get through causing severe damage and casualties. This has resulted in a massive escalation as Israel's Prime Minister, Benjamin Netanyahu has mobilised 360,000 troops and orders strikes on the Gaza strip every day.

## Gaza Strip

The Gaza strip is surrounded by Israel and Egypt, who have been holding a blockade for 16 years, restricting the flow of people and goods. Many concerns have been expressed on the situation, and even accredited organizations such as the UN and the Human Rights Watch have criticized Israel, calling the blockade unlawful and a breach of human rights. It is especially horrifying due to the fact that half of the 2.2 million people living there are children who are running out of basic supplies such as electricity, water, food and fuel. 1 million Palestinians have been driven out of their homes but have no safe place to go. The only exit out of the war-torn land is through the Rafah border crossing into Northern Egypt. However, Egypt have been reluctant to let these refugees into their country. This means that only time will tell if Israel and other international powers such as the diplomatic meetings with global leaders such as Joe Biden and Rishi Sunak can persuade Egypt into opening their border. Despite of all that's happened, there is a chance for peace. Several countries are holding diplomatic peace talks with the Israeli Prime Minister, trying to deescalate the situation. Charitable organizations have convinced officials to open the border for 20 trucks of aid to be let into the Gaza Strip. But experts hope for that number to go up to sustain a constant supply of essential goods. And hopefully the border will open for the displaced civilians as well. Lastly, it's important to note that no country is to blame for this conflict; we should support those in need, regardless of nationality. So let us hope for peace and safety for those who need it most.

## SPACE THIS MONTH

welcome to the first rendition of space

this month it has been another crazy month of Starship news and some explosive testing at Rocket lab.

Starship SN25 has been rolled out onto the launchpad for its static fire test shortly after a booster stages liquid oxygen tank replica was put under explosive Liquid O<sub>2</sub> test and blew up, hopefully after passing its safety margins. Starships orbital test flight has been approved by the FAA but the US Fish & Wildlife Service still need to review the updated starship model and declare it ready for flight. They have stated this could take anywhere from 30 - 135 days but have, allegedly, not yet even started. CEO of SpaceX, Elon Musk, tweeted (Xed), "It is absurd that SpaceX can build a giant rocket faster than they can shuffle paperwork!".

Moving away from Starbase, Rocket Lab had its first launch incident in over 2 years. The accident occurred after the Electron rocket's primary stage separation and an "anomaly" occurred 45 seconds into the second stages ignition. The rocket was carrying a satellite from Capella Space valued at over \$5 million dollars.

## Siddhant 10y



# FUTURE TECHNOLOGY

## SELF DRIVING TAXIS

**Tanish 9x**

Driverless taxis are one of the most significant recent advances made in not only automation but technology as a whole.

Waymo's So-Called Robo-Taxi Launch Reveals a Brutal Truth. Although driverless cars such as Tesla have existed for years now, driverless taxis are only recently entering the market. But before you understand why, you need to understand how a driverless car works.

Self-driving cars, also known as autonomous vehicles, are vehicles that use sensors and artificial intelligence to transport people on roads autonomously without human input. The cars use a method called LiDAR to detect their surroundings. But first, chances are, you have heard of Radar, which is used in industries such as aviation to get a rough idea of the surrounding by shooting radio or microwaves and measuring the time it takes to come back.

### Radar tracking

However, we need a way better vision and understanding of our surroundings with cars, to avert potential dangers at any second. That's where LiDAR, which stands for light detection and ranging comes in. By shooting many small beams of laser pulses it can get a thorough view of an object by measuring the time it takes to bounce back. So, LiDAR helps to quickly render a detailed profile of an object.

With self-driving vehicles, there are many stages of vehicle autonomy (how much the human needs to interfere). SAE International (the Society of Automotive Engineers) has established 6 levels of vehicle autonomy - ranging from levels 0 to 5 with 0 being the least autonomous and 5, the highest.



### Levels

0 – Level 0 has no automation and is completely manual. So the human performs all the driving tasks (steering, braking, acceleration).

1 – Level 1 provides help with one automated feature to the driver e.g. lane centering or cruise control.

2 – Level 2 can have 2 features, namely steering and brake/acceleration support.. In all the previous 3 the driver needs to be fully involved and aware, constantly monitoring the functionality of the support features.

3 – Level 3, also known as conditional driving automation, is where things start to get real. This is where the system carries out all the aspects of the driving functions whenever the driver requests so. However, the driver must be seated in the driver's seat and ready to take control whenever requested or required.

4 – Level 4 can, like Level 3 vehicles can drive by themselves although the major difference between the 2 is that the former can intervene if things go wrong or if there is a system failure. This is one of the reasons why it is also called high driving automation. However, in the rare occasion that human intervention is needed, there is still an option.

5 – Level 5, finally, is known full driving automation and requires no human intervention in all conditions, therefore a human could ride while paying no attention to the situation whatsoever.

Throughout all the levels of driving automation listed above there has been a varying level of functionality in regard with being more self-functional. However, most self-driving cars, such as Tesla's autopilot feature, is only classified as a level 2. And only now are level 3 vehicles starting to emerge in the market.

But where exactly do driverless taxis come in this?

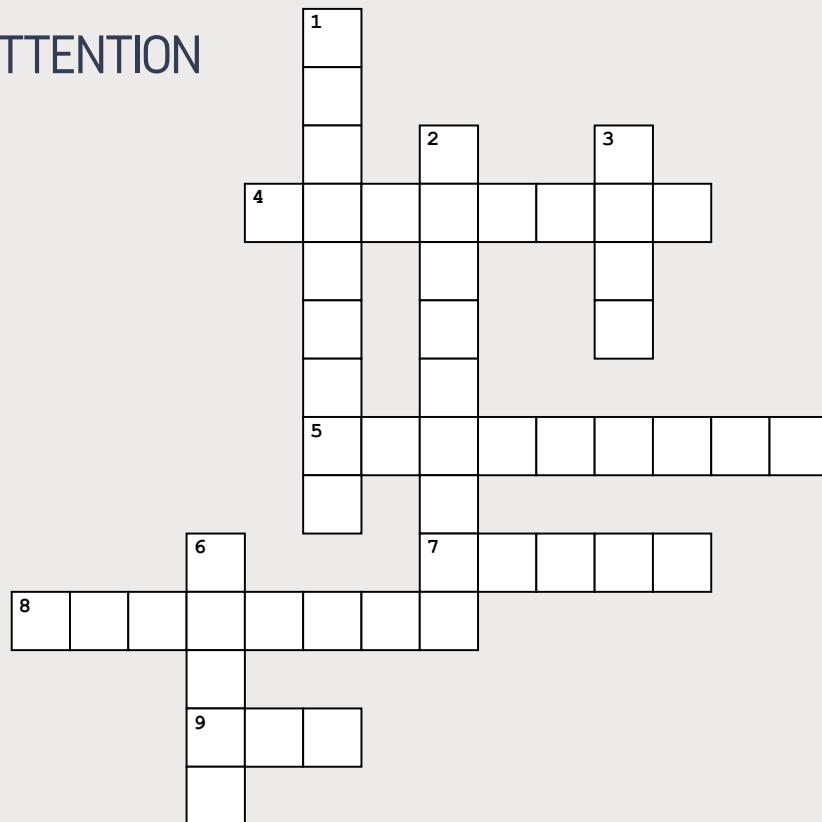
Well driverless taxis are at level 4, as they are able to drive themselves with little to no human assistance. This is one of the reasons why they are still in the early stages. With having to become a self-driving car as well as perform all the functions of a taxi, such as payment, security, parking and no human interference, this is a tall order.

Driverless taxis are still a new technology, that has a long way to go before reaching its latter stages. That's why companies such as Waymo (owned by Alphabet inc.) and Cruise Automation are trying to make them feel as safe as possible. What with incidents of malfunction by hitting dogs and driving into wet cement being reported all the time, people understandably have mixed feelings. With some wanting self-driving taxis to be completely shut down and others' wishing for the technology to further continue. All I can say is I can't wait for the technology to further advance, so I could (hopefully) try it out in the near future.

# CROSSWORD

HOPE YOU PAID ATTENTION  
WHILE READING

Saanvi 9x



## Across

4. Which month did the EU adopt to the Paris Agreement?
5. Who is Isreal's Prime Minister?
7. What do self driving cars use to detect their surroundings?
8. Which school won both debate competitions?
9. Where did the ESU debate competition take place?

## Down

1. What country did Resolution 181 divide?
2. Lightning thought \_\_\_\_ received (Article: Go join debate!)
3. What level of vehicle autonomy is completely manual?
6. \_\_\_\_ Agreement