

# THE RYGAARDS TIMES

## SPRING EDITION

### School News:

Isabelle 10y

- New Co-Presidents! On the 28th of February, Isabelle and Sid from 10Y were elected co-presidents of the Student Council. They are looking forward to the changes they can make. Be sure to thank the former president, Marcus 11Y, for his hard work! The Valentines disco, a few weeks ago, was a success, and the council look forward to holding more events throughout the year.
- Last month, multiple secondary school students took part in a maths competition, and the results will be released soon, so keep an eye out.
- The year 11s have almost finished their mocks, and will be going on study leave soon. This is your last chance to see them in the wild! Be sure to wish them luck on their IGCSE's!

### Will Student-Newsletter Archives become Available Online?

Vihaan 11x

Recently, the Student Newspaper Club of Rygaards has been trying to upload the archives of previous newspapers to the official Rygaards website! This will allow **everyone** to remotely access the online versions of past publishings!

The process is expected to take time as it requires permission from the school. However, we are hopeful that this can be done soon and that these newspapers can be made downloadable digitally for the first time!



# THE RYGAARDS TIMES

## BASKETBALL

Mike 11x

On the 1st and 2nd of February, Thursday and Friday, the U16 boys Rygaards basketball team had the opportunity to participate in the Nordic League Basketball tournament in Stavanger, Norway. They competed against 5 other international schools, and although the opposition teams were older and taller on average, the Rygaards team fought hard and was able to achieve a victory over Stockholm International School, securing fifth place.

On that same Friday the 2nd of February, the U12 boys played in the DISNAC tournament at CIS, and were able to win 2 games and come second place in their group. Unfortunately, only first place in each of the two groups would advance to the finals. The following day, the U14 and U16 teams took part in DISNAC as well. The U14 girls came second in their group but were knocked out in the semi-finals, while the U14 boys also came second in their group, and were able to win a close semi-final game to advance to the finals, where they lost to the International School of Hellerup.

There were only 3 U16 girls' teams in the competition, with the Rygaards team winning one game but losing by 4 points to Copenhagen International School, securing the 2nd place spot. On the boys' side, both CIS and NIS had two wins in the group of four before the last game: NIS against Rygaards, who had only one win at the time. If NIS won this game, they would be undefeated and in 1st place. However, should Rygaards win, the result would be three teams with two wins each. The game went back and forth, and the score was more or less even with under a minute left when our glorious king Hugo brought the ball down the court, found himself with some space at the three-point line, and... BANG BANG! WHAT A SHOT FROM HUGO! The atmosphere was electric after such a clutch shot, and the team was able to maintain the three point lead for the remaining half a minute, tying the two other teams with two wins each. Unfortunately, Rygaards only came in 3rd place, with a point difference of only 3 less than that of 2nd place.

All in all, the Rygaards teams had an exhausting but exhilarating weekend, fought hard, and represented our school proudly. We look forward to next year!



# WORLD NEWS

Isabelle 10y

## 112 DEAD IN CHILE FOREST FIRES

Forest fires that began in January have now ravaged Chile - killing 112, with hundreds of others missing, and burning whole villages to the ground. These fires have largely been caused by the intense heatwaves currently in South America, which are partially caused by El Niño, a climate phenomenon that results in unusually warm weather in the South Americas. Scientists have also stated that climate change makes the heatwaves and the drought currently hitting South America more likely. During the last decade, fire seasons have been longer and more intense. The fires are now in two tourist coastal cities, Vina del Mar and Valparaiso, which together account for more than a million residents. On Monday (5. February), two days of mourning begun in Chile for the 112 killed in the fire. President Gabriel Boric stated, "It is Chile as a whole that mourns and suffers for our dead." This is Chile's worst national disaster since the 2010 earthquake, in which 500 people died. Many of those whose homes have been impacted by the fire can no longer recognize their homes, and may struggle with their livelihoods after, as their shops and workshops have been destroyed. For now, though, saving of lives is a priority, and Boric channels funds to the areas that have been most heavily impacted by the fire, many filled with tourists.



## ELON MUSK'S NEURALINK PLANTS CHIP IN HUMAN BRAIN!

Tanish 9X

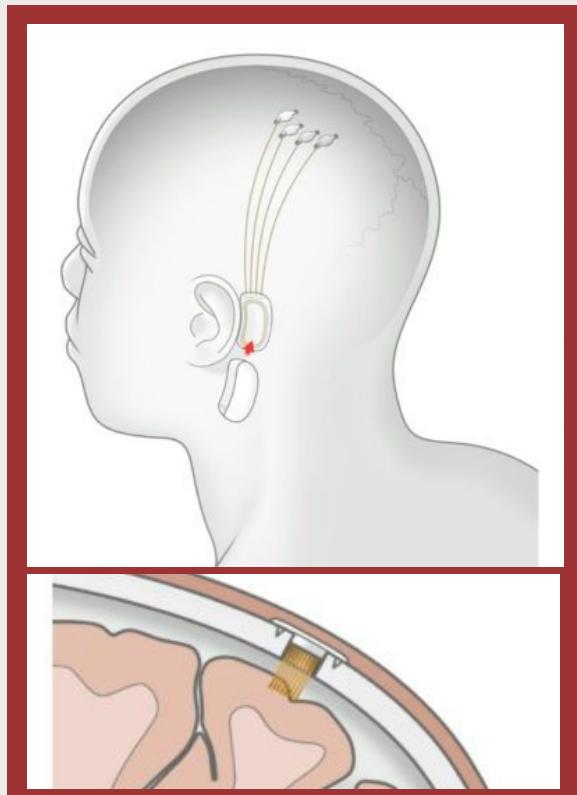
Neuralink, a brain chip start-up founded by Elon Musk in 2016, has just conducted its first human trials.

Only a year back, the neurotech company had implanted its N1 Bluetooth-powered chip into monkeys, enabling them to control a cursor on a screen.

### What is Neuralink?

Neuralink's vision was to create a Brain Computer Interface (**BCI**), which allows people to control machines from their thoughts. If that sounds futuristic, it's because it is. As the company's first product, Telepathy aims to bridge the communicational gap between thoughts and actions.

This would especially help those with paralysed limbs, and this is who, Musk says, it will be used on first. In fact, Musk stated: "Imagine if Stephen Hawking could communicate faster than a speed typist or auctioneer. That is the goal." However, this technology isn't exactly revolutionary as the first brain implant device was released in 2004. Yet the sheer volume of brain signals by the Neuralink chip sets it apart. Previously, people have been able to control cursors, robotic arms and even a video game. But Neuralink aims to allow people to control their phones, computers or other devices simply with their mind. Additionally, Musk believes that it could help to regulate peoples' moods and hormones, meaning curing depression is a possibility.



# WORLD NEWS

## How does Neuralink work?

Neuralink works by capturing the electrical signals that are passing through our neurons as they communicate with one another. To achieve this, Neuralink Corp. has developed a wireless brain chip implant with 1024 electrodes to capture the signals distributed across 64 threads. The chip is the size of a coin and sits behind the ear while the electrodes thread into the brain. One of the distinguishing features of their product, the N1 chip, is that it is wireless and can therefore be remotely powered "from the outside via a compact, inductive charger" that can be easily used "from anywhere".



**Aatish 9Y**

## HYPERLOOP “THE FIFTH MODE OF TRANSPORTATION”

With the increase in awareness of fossil fuels and inefficient transportation, our world requires a new mode of transport to revolutionize the way we travel. Enter Hyperloop!

### First of all, what is ‘Hyperloop’?

Hyperloop is an ultra-high-speed ground transportation system for passenger and cargo – proposed as a concept by Elon Musk, the CEO of Tesla and SpaceX in 2012. The hyperloop system consists of a network of low-pressure tubes with pods traveling at supersonic speeds. These pods carry the payload, and levitate, using the same magnetic technology that is currently used in Maglev trains in China, South Korea and Japan. However, what makes Hyperloop different is the near vacuum in which it operates. This lack of air creates a low-pressure environment, ensuring a quick and energy-efficient operation thanks to low aerodynamic drag. In theory, Hyperloop could reach speeds up to 1200km/h (Mach 1, or the speed of sound) making it 2-3x faster than a maglev train due to reduced air resistance. This would make it the fastest mode of transportation in the world. For comparison: a car ride from Los Angeles to San Francisco would take 6 hours and a flight would take 1 hour; However, if you chose to take Hyperloop it would only take 30 minutes.

Apart from speed, there are many more perks to the Hyperloop; such as being better for the environment in comparison to other modes of transport, being safer, and proving more cost-effective. Hyperloop is designed to be energy-efficient and uses solar panels to provide the energy required to power the propulsion system. The transport system is also much safer than conventional forms of travel as it is designed to be self-contained, so it is protected from the external environment. Lastly, Hyperloop has low operating costs which means, after the initial investment in infrastructure, it can provide a more economical alternative to other modes of transportation.

Elon Musk published the content and technology of his project, and he stressed that he felt it was an initiative open to participation by anyone interested in its development. As a result of this, there are currently many ongoing projects to build a hyperloop. In fact, SpaceX held a competition called the SpaceX Hyperloop Pod Competition in which both student and non-student teams compete to build the fastest hyperloop prototype.

The work being done to create a Hyperloop has been slow for many years now, with companies like Hyperloop One having been shut down and Elon Musk's Hyperloop venture The Boring Company having not even dug 4km out of the target of 110km in its 7-year existence. However, recent advances in the Hyperloop industry are showing promise. On the 5th of February, a Chinese Aerospace corporation claims that their Hyperloop has reached a speed of 623km/h during testing - that is the fastest speed ever achieved by a maglev vehicle! Additionally, a Hyperloop project in India - which participated in the SpaceX Pod competition - called the 'Avishkar Project' plans to have routes connecting Mumbai, New Delhi and several other cities. There are many more projects across the globe working towards building a fully functional and safe Hyperloop which will have far-reaching benefits for us all. So, I can't wait to see what the future holds!



# BOOK REVIEWS

## TOFFEE

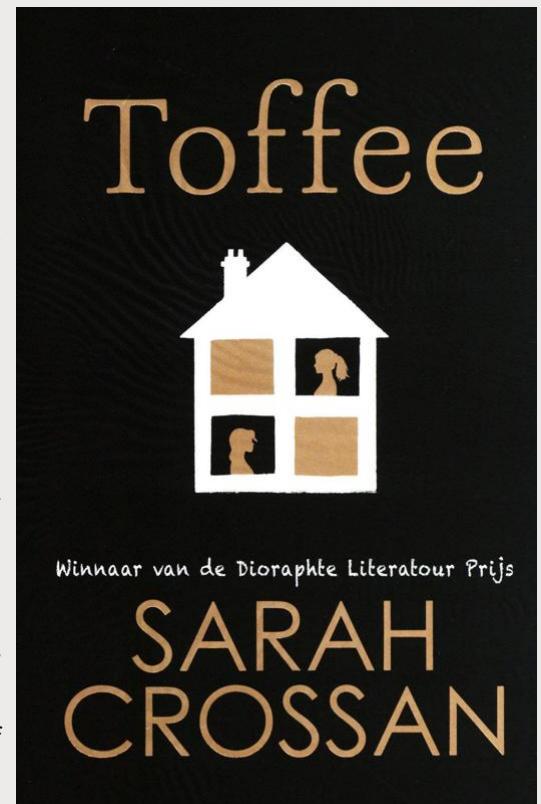
**Age Rating:** 11+

**Author:** Sarah Crossan.

**Genre:** Poetry · Young Adult · Contemporary · Fiction

Are long books not your cup of tea? You want to read a book but for some reason you can't seem to get past the first boring 30 pages? Well maybe, just maybe, this book is for you. It looks like a long beast of a read, but, in truth, 'Toffee' is a short and sweet story that you can enjoy in just 2 quick hours. Filled with beautiful prose, valuable lessons, and totally lacking in unnecessary fluff, Toffee is the story of a girl, Alison, who runs away from home. When she meets Marla, an old lady, by chance, Alison is surprised to see that Marla seems to know her, under the name Toffee. But does she? Alison doesn't know who Toffee is, but she needs a home, and right now, Marla's home is better than nothing. Running from her past and worried for her future, this is the story about a girl named Toffee, who learns to survive. And maybe, possibly, perhaps, makes a new friend. If you are interested, it's in the library for you to read!

Isabelle 10y



## THE INHERITANCE GAMES

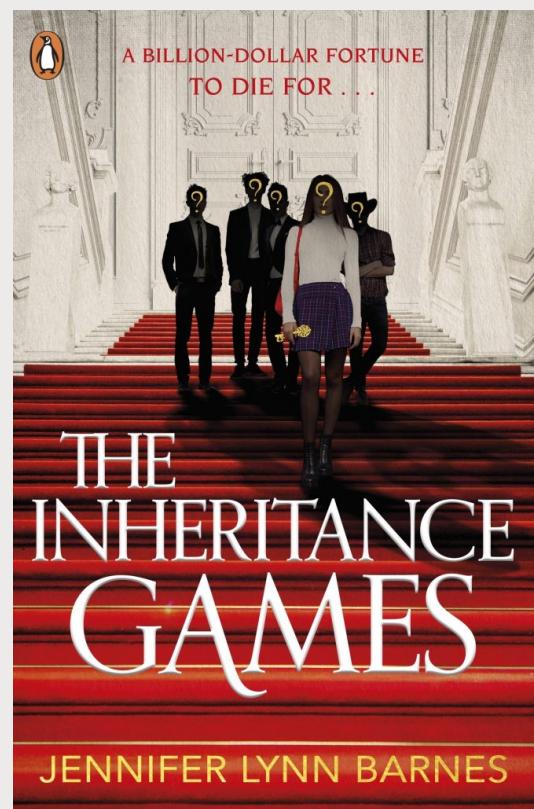
**Age Rating:** 13+

**Author:** Jennifer Lynn Barnes

**Genre:** Mystery · Thriller

The *Inheritance Games* follows Avery Grambs, a poor high school girl, whose life changes forever when she discovers that the billionaire Tobias Hawthorne left his fortune to her in his will. However, to inherit this money that would lead to Avery accomplishing her dreams, she must bear the burdens and risks that come with taking the billionaire's place, and, even worse, what comes with playing the game Tobias Hawthorne left her and his grandsons. Avery must work together with the Hawthorne brothers to solve the various riddles in the dangerous game and to uncover the numerous secrets surrounding the mysteries of the Hawthorne family. This captivating book that precedes two other novels in *The Inheritance Games* trilogy, has so many plot twists and such suspense that it will have any reader trying to figure out each and every puzzle along with the protagonist. The other books in the trilogy also do not disappoint, remaining just as intriguing, with even more traps, secrets, and unexpectedness. Not to mention, the books are very well-paced with interesting characters and a thrilling storyline. Go check it out!

Lana 11x

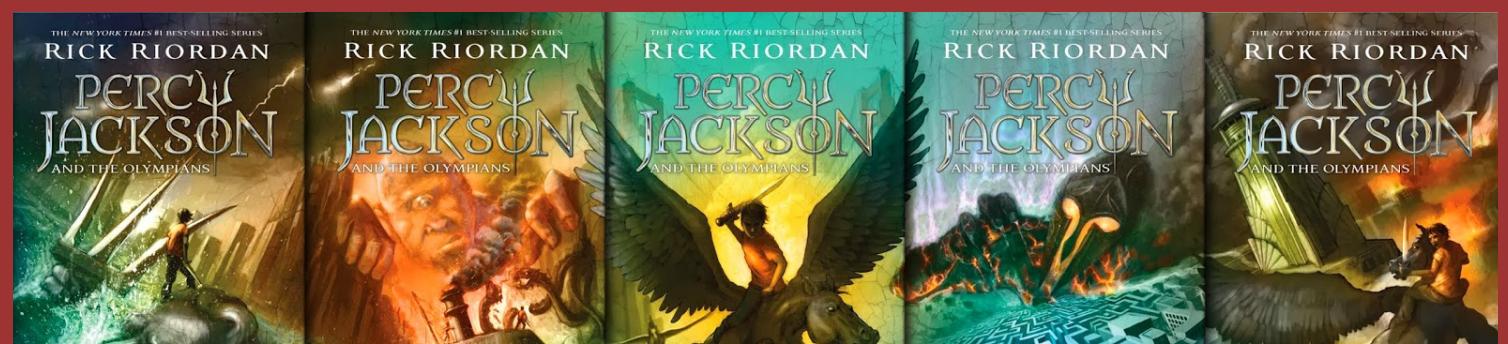
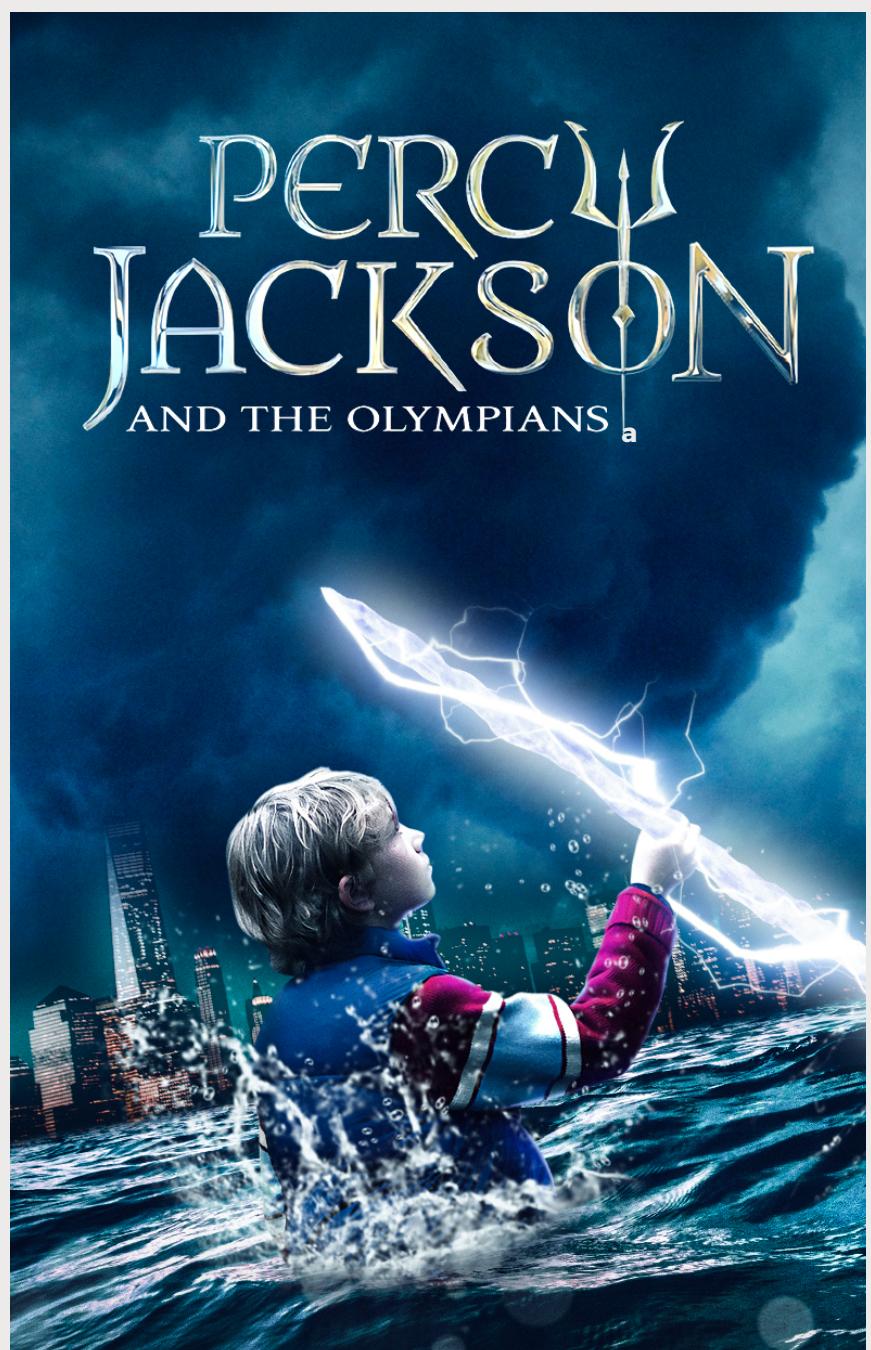


# MOVIE REVIEW

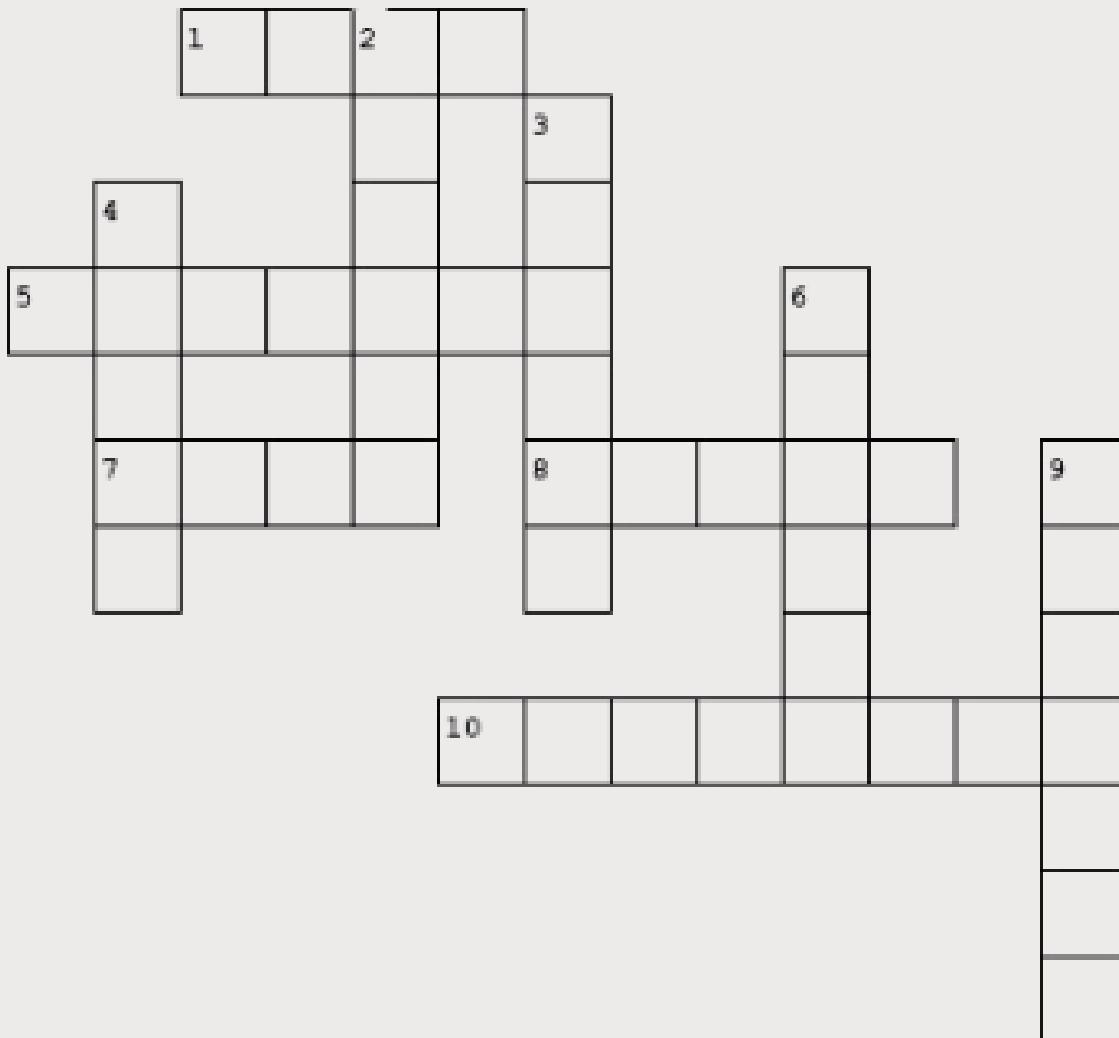
## PERCY JACKSON AND THE OLYMPIANS

Reyansh 10x

Percy Jackson and the Olympians, an American fantasy TV series created by Rick Riordan and Jonathan E. Steinberg, first premiered on Disney+ on the 19th of Dec 2023. The story follows Percy Jackson, a 12-year-old modern demigod (half-human, half-Greek god), played by Walker Scobell, who embarks on a journey of self-exploration, encountering hidden supernatural beings and challenges that only demigods like him can handle. Percy must travel across America to return the famous master bolt to Zeus (the king of all gods in Greek mythology) and stop an all-out war. Our lovable protagonist attempts to complete this quest with the help of his friends Annabeth Chase and Grover Underwood. The first season has 8 episodes ranging from 30 to 50 minutes and are named after chapters from the book that Rick Riordan wrote. I would strongly recommend that anyone interested in Adventure and Fantasy watch this TV series. Percy Jackson already has millions of diligent readers across the globe, competing with immensely famous book series like The Harry Potter series. No wonder this series is a fantasy marvel and has already glued tons of people to watch it as of February 2024. Additionally, Percy Jackson has two movies: "Percy Jackson: The Sea of Monsters" and "Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief" both of which were released in the 2010s.



# CROSSWORD



## Across

1. Who is the king of gods in greek Mythology?
5. What genre is 'the inheritance games'?
7. Who scored the final three point shot on the U16 boys basketball team?
8. What is the name of the main character in 'Toffee'?
10. Who proposed the concept of 'hyperloop'

## Down

2. A climate phenomenon in the South Americas
3. On which day did mourning start in Chile?
4. How many episodes did the 1st season of Percy Jackson have?
6. "What makes them different is the near \_\_\_ in which they operate" - 'Hyperloop'
9. Which animal did Neuralink implant its chips into last year?

## Credits:

Aatish Joshi, Ansh Makadia, Charlotte Sofia Trott, Mike Haozhe Zhang.  
 Isabelle Celeste Brander-Wang, Lana Pedras, Marcus Carl Christofer Johansson,  
 Rishi Tej, Saanvi Divya Raj, Tanish Joshi, Vihaan Ashish Sanghavi, Olle Henrysson