

John Rankin News

JRN is the newspaper written and edited by members of Year 5 & 6 Newspaper Club



Welcome to John Rankin Ms Cooper!

By JRN reporting team

John Rankin has a new Executive Head Teacher! Ms Flora Cooper (pictured right) will be in charge when the new school year starts in September. She will take over from Mr Felix Rayner, who is leaving at the end of this term after six years at the school. In this edition of John Rankin News we have exclusive interviews with Ms Cooper, who says she can't wait to get started at JRS! This is the first John Rankin News for over two years. We hope you will enjoy it!

FOR OUR EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEWS WITH MS COOPER AND MR RAYNER TURN TO PAGE 2!



And it's farewell to Mr Rayner

After six years as Executive Head Teacher, Mr Rayner is moving on from John Rankin. He says he will be "very sad" to leave and will miss us all.

We will miss you too, Mr Rayner. Best wishes and thanks from everyone at John Rankin School!



Colour Run is lots of fun

By Ethan Mearkle-Mist

Our school had a Colour Fun Run organised by the PTFA on Saturday 9 July.

There were stalls on the playground including a barbecue, tombola and sweet store. One of them was a Code Ninja stand. First the Foundation Stage had a bubble run where they were sprayed with water and bubbles.

Then the Colour Run started, with the Year 1s and 2s running round the playing field while volunteers threw coloured powder at them. Years 3 and 4 were next, then finally Years 5 and 6 had their turn.

Overall, the Colour Run was a really fun experience.

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Scary spiders in school!

Exclusive report and pictures on Page 3



Our top reporting team for this issue of JRN:

Freddie Bawden Marsh, Gabriel Bird, Dennis Bull, Finlay Burrows, Reece Early, Dylan Griffiths, Maddie Hall, Ethan Mearkle-Mist, Rafferty Muir, Isabel Preston, Alexander Pryce, Amy Radbourne, and Elodie Wright.



Exclusive JRN interview with Ms Cooper ...

By JRN reporting team (pictured above with Ms Cooper)

What is your current job?

I am the head teacher of a primary school in Oxfordshire.

Why did you decide to come to John Rankin?

You guys! It feels like a family and a real community here. It's a lovely school and I've been given a warm welcome.

What are your intentions for John Rankin?

To make sure everyone loves coming to school every day!

What are the main differences between your current school and JRS?

My school is smaller, with 230 children. John Rankin has more pupils and staff but in many ways it feels similar.

What are you looking forward to?

I can't wait to meet everyone and hear what you all have to say.

Is there anything you are not looking forward to?

No.

Have you ever been a class teacher?

Yes. I started out as a TA, then a class teacher, then a head teacher. I hope to do some teaching here at JRS.

What is your favourite thing about being a head teacher?

Standing at the school gate and saying "good morning" to the children every day!

What do you like to do when you are not in school?

I love reading, writing, running and other sports, and gardening. I also have a radio show every other Saturday.



... and Mr Rayner!

How long have you been at John Rankin? **Six years.**

What were your thoughts when you came here?

"Aren't I the luckiest man alive!"

What has been your favourite thing about the job?

Seeing all our brilliant children flourish.

And your least favourite?

Lockdown. It was difficult, but we all pulled together..

What do you think has been your best achievement?

Bringing the schools together – JRJ, JRI, the nursery.

What are you going to do next?

I'm going to be a School Improvement Adviser – helping other schools to get better. I am also looking forward to more walks at the weekend, music, TV, theatre, gigs and playing with my band – Loopy!

Tarantula on the loose! (Not really)

By **Gabriel Bird**

On Monday 23 May the junior school had a visit from Zoolab for Rainforest Discovery.

A Zoolab Ranger called Elle showed us six real rainforest animals.

Here are some fascinating facts about them.



Rainforest visitors: tarantula, African land snail, corn snake

1 African land snail This lives on the first layer on the forest floor. Their shell is made of keratin (the same as our hair and nails). Its slime is used in hand sanitizer and face wash. It has 10,000 teeth! Ours was called Eva.

2 Millipede This one only had 400 legs, but would grow up to be 30cm long! It also lives on the forest floor and has to protect itself, which it does by imitating faeces by look and smell. The one we met was called Millie.

3 Tree frog Instead of webbed feet to swim, the tree frog has sticky pads on its toes to help it to climb trees in the understory or canopy. It can jump one metre up and across, and it can change colour.

4 Tarantula This spider has thin skin, so if it is dropped or falls it will shatter like glass. It can survive without food for a whole day. Tarantulas eat food in liquid form because they don't have any teeth.

5 Corn snake This is a constrictor, so hunts by wrapping itself round its prey. It can eat its prey whole. It sheds its scales.

6 Rat There were only two rats – a brown one, and a white one with red eyes.

The rainforest animal that some children were scared of was the tarantula, but its venom is harmless to humans. It had to stay in its container anyway!

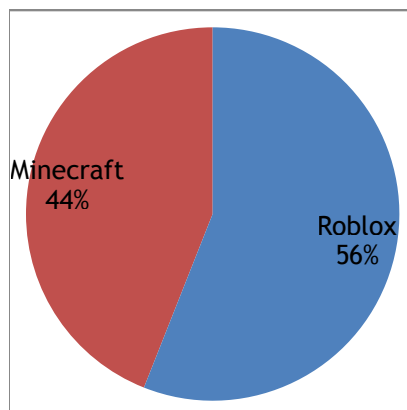
Overall, Zoolab was very exciting and I think most people enjoyed it.

Minecraft or Roblox? JRN gives its verdict!

By **Ethan Mearkle-Mist**

Minecraft

Minecraft is an adventure and construction game. It's home to creepers, skeletons and spiders. In Creative you can build to your heart's content. In Survival you have to survive mobs and beat the ender dragon. Minecraft doesn't have the best graphics, but it's very good. An update, the Wild Update, has just been launched.



Exclusive JRN poll

*We asked 50 JRJ pupils whether they preferred Roblox or Minecraft: 28 said Roblox, 22 said Minecraft. That's a comfortable win for Roblox by 56% to 44%.
Polling: Ethan and Freddie*



Roblox

Roblox is a cross-platform game. it's home to favorites like Jailbreak, Adopt Me and Brookhaven. There's always something for you. You can also play with friends so it's a great way to have fun together. Though it is sometimes glitchy, Roblox is a great game.

Long to reign over us ...

By **Rafferty Muir**

JRS had a fun-filled week of activities to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. These included wearing red, white and blue clothes to school, a picnic on the field, and learning the national anthem. Everyone received a book commemorating the Queen's 70-year reign.

Book & TV reviews by Freddie BM

Chronicles of Ancient Darkness

by Michelle Paver

These books are amazing!
Set in an ancient Scandinavia around the Stone/Bronze Age. Filled with clans, mages, soul eaters, these books are perfect for any adventure-loving reader. There are currently nine books in the series: Wolf Brother, Spirit Walker, Soul Eater, Outcast, Oath Breaker, Ghost Hunter, Viper's Daughter, Skin Taker and Wolf Bane.

Price: £5-8. Age: 9+. Violence: little. Swearing: none.



Freddie's star rating

The Power of Five series

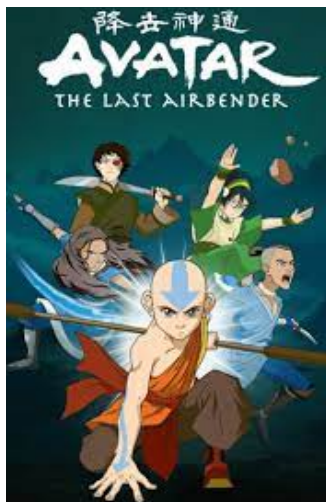
by Anthony Horowitz

This thrilling series of books is filled with mystery, double-crossing and magic. Five children, reincarnated from ancient times, each with unique powers, try to thwart the evil plans of the Old Ones. There are five books: Ravens Gate, Evil Star, Nightrise, Necropolis and Oblivion. I can honestly say Necropolis and Oblivion are two of the best books I've ever read. The entire series is amazing and Horowitz fans will love it.

Price: £5. Age: 9+. Violence: some. Swearing: none.



Freddie's star rating



Avatar: The Last Airbender

Netflix

This amazing TV series is based around people who can control the elements. As well as the normal four (fire, water, earth and air) there are six extra elements.

The premise is that the avatar, bender of all elements, and his companions must remove the war-bringing fire nation. It is funny, thrilling and fast-paced.

If you like anime, this is for you.



The Book of Boba Fett

Disney +

An excellent sequel to Star Wars, this series tells Boba's story after he got swallowed by the Sarlac in Return of the Jedi. The show tells of his adventures with the Tusken Raiders. You might think Boba's a bad guy but this show tells the opposite. If you're a Star Wars fan, you'll love this TV series.

I also recommend: Obi Wan Kenobi & The Mandalorian

Welcome to **Baby Business** The great new JRN cartoon strip by **Dennis Bull**



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