

CAMBRIDGE UTD'S PAUL DIGBY TALKS TEAMWORK, TACTICS AND TALENT



Paul Digby told us about the importance of teamwork and his future plans Photo Credit: Luke Thoday

By Arthur and Rohan

Paul Digby came to our school! He is a professional footballer who plays for Cambridge United. He is 29 years old and is 6'4". He used to play for Ipswich, which is a Premier League team. We gave him our questions to answer to know what life is like as a professional footballer.

How will you avoid relegation this season?

We've got to keep trying. Keep working hard. That's the most important thing. Like anything in life, if it's not going the way you want, you pick yourself up and go again.

Who is Cambridge Utd's star player?

Dan Nlundulu (Number 9, a striker) is playing very

well at the moment. He's our star.

Are you happy with the new manager Garry Monk?

Very happy. Sometimes results aren't going your way and there's a lot of different factors toward

that. He's a very good manager, he's managed in the Premier League and in the Championship. He's very good tactically and technically and he's really good for the team. [We say: As a player and a

Turn to Page 3

Welcome to the third issue of The Epistle, a newspaper reported and written by children from Years Five and Six during Monday lunchtimes, for their fellow pupils.

YOU CHOOSE
AUTHOR PIPPA
GOODHART

SINGING SPECIAL
TWIN POP DUO AND
YOUNG VOICES STAR

FLY BRAIN
SMALL BUT AMAZING

PLUS...SECONDARY
SCHOOL OPEN
EVENINGS, PUZZLES
AND COLOURING

SINGING DOUBLE: TWIN POP DUO TALK LIKE TIGERS



Valentine's aunties look so alike even he can't tell them apart. Could you? Photo credit: Samantha Orton

By Valentine

How many people can say they have twin pop-singing aunties? I can!

Their names are Charlotte and Stephanie Walker,

they're twins, are in a pop band called Talk Like Tigers, and also happen to be my aunties. They are so identical even I can't tell them apart! Their voices

are almost airy from all their singing. They say they sing because it makes them really happy and makes the world seems more colourful.

One of them (I couldn't tell which) said, "I feel like it's the twin connection." They seem very attached to each other. The duo have been singing since they were five. In their bedroom, they would sing with their hair brushes pretending they were on stage for hours on end! But sometimes they were on stage, in the school play.

They've planned on a tour around the UK, but they are NOT coming to Cambridge. I'm trying to make them come. They are also trying to get on Eurovision.

Their hardest rhyme was rhyming vampire with empire in their unreleased song called *Vampire*. Speaking of unreleased songs, they are planning on releasing some new ones in the coming months, including *Killer Barbie* and *Next Level*.

According to Spotify, their most popular song is *Annabel's Calling*. Some others are: *Sacred Feminine* and *Fruit*. Some of their albums are *Passion Fruit* and *Feminine Power*, but I think the new songs are a new album. All of their songs are very good and excellent.

If you want an autograph come and see me at break time or lunch time. Their merchandise is available at www.talkliketigers.com.

ON STAGE AT YOUNG VOICES

By Rory and Rosie

What's it like on the stage at Young Voices? We interviewed singer Laura to find out. We discovered her favourite song, warm-up and more.

First, we found out how long it takes to prepare. The singers come together for a day. The whole ten piece band for two days. Then they go to the first venue and have a full production day there. They set up and do the full dress rehearsal. A total of 4 days. Next we asked her for her favourite song. She said she really liked *Try Everything* by Shakira and

that the whole band always loves the pop medley too. Laura has been doing Young Voices for 15 years, so has done 15 different shows. She especially enjoyed every year with the Beatbox Collective. MC Grammar's songs are really fun for her to sing as well. She likes every year, though.

Her favourite venues are in London because London is her home. But especially the O2 as the atmosphere, sound and lights are incredible. We're going there this year so we'll see. To not be nervous she is very, very well prepared.



Laura told us all about being a singer for Young Voices

She also knows that she isn't on her own. Getting on the stage and the first bit of the song is very nerve-wracking. But afterwards, she relaxes. She isn't the biggest fan of warm-ups. She also says star jumps and breathing are good for nerves. Her favourite part of a show is when we all first arrive and sing a pop song. She loves

to see us get so excited. The hardest part is the exhaustion.

She got this job because Craig McLeish, Young Voices' musical director, was marking her university music performance exam. He asked if she wanted to sing at Young Voices.

Years 5 and 6 will perform in the Young Voices choir at the O2 on January 23.

DIGBY CONT'D

manager Monk brought Swansea very far, maybe be can do the same for us.]

When we spoke to Digby Cam Utd had just had their first win of the season! We asked him how he felt about it.

Very happy. It has taken quite a while. It's nice to get that first win of the season. Puts a smile on everyone's faces. And of course it gives all of the club a huge confidence boost to help us in future matches. A few more wins would be amazing!

What improvements do you and the rest of the squad need to make?

It's quite simple but if you can defend a bit better. Saturday was the first match we kept a clean sheet (meaning the

team didn't let the other side score any goals).

Are you happy with your position and role?

I'm very happy with that. I've changed a bit between defence and midfield this season, but I enjoy doing both of these positions.

It's important that as a player you do everything you can to help the team rise up the ranks and leagues. You have to do what's best and right for the team.

How have you settled into Cambridge?

I've been living in Cambridge now for four years. I'm now the longest serving player in the squad. I love the area and enjoy the cosiness of the club. It's a nice city as well and a nice place to come to work every day.

Mentally, what helps you play?

It's always good when you play as a team. You all know you're going to help each other as a team. You're all in it together, with the confidence that everyone's going to help each other. Your mates have got your back and you've got theirs. That gives you a lot of confidence on the pitch.

Are you thinking about leaving?

My contract is up at the end of the season. Then in the summer you sit down at the club and behind the scenes you discuss your contracts, whether to sign an extension. At the moment I'm just thinking about winning the next game. That's what's important.

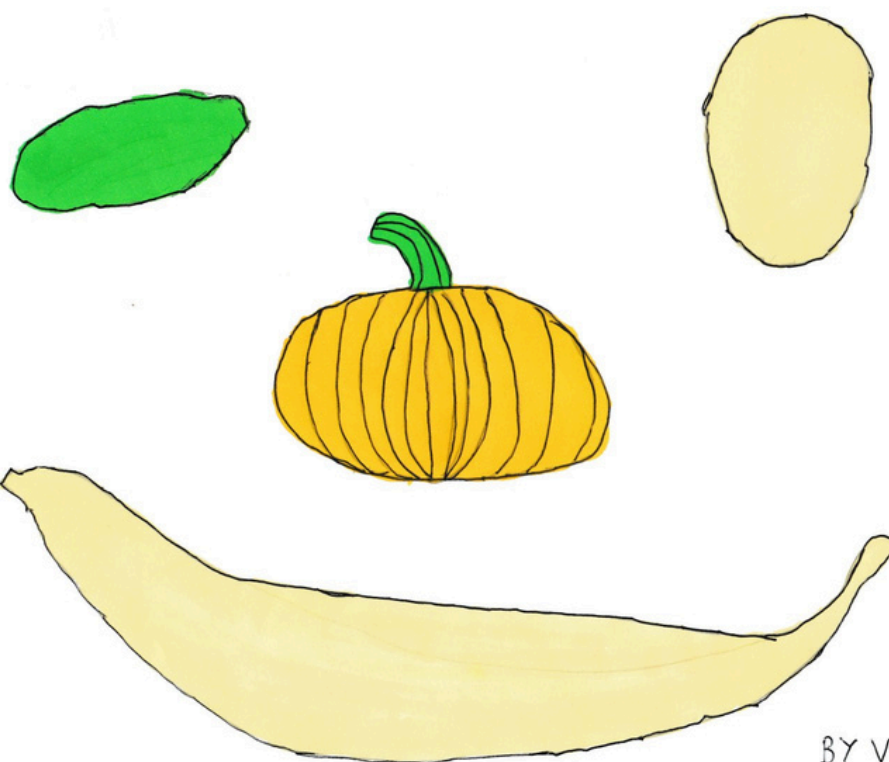
What do you think you might do after football?

I would love to stay and coach and manage one day. That's a bit of a dream of mine. Lots of footballers go into coaching and management, and that's the route I'd like to take.

Who was your idol?

I loved David Beckham. He was my favourite. One of my favourite memories of childhood was the 2002 World Cup. He was the England captain. It's a really good memory of mine watching him as an England player.

Interested in having a go at football yourself? There is an after-school football club open to children in Years 3-6. Ask Miss Brown or Miss Abrey for more information.



BY VALENTINE



With thanks to our sponsor

Interested in sponsoring our next issue? Talk to Denise (Hildi and Bea's mum), Gwen (Rosie and Dylan's mum) or Sarah (Arthur's mum)

INTERVIEW: AUTHOR PIPPA GOODHART

You Choose creator tells us where the idea for the popular picture book series came from, how she learned to love to read, and what a ghost writer is



A spread from the original *You Choose* book. What would you choose?

By Clara and Alexander

Did you know that the *You Choose* books were almost not published! Only the 10th publisher accepted it, like wow talk about fun fact. Another fun fact: Pippa Goodhart (who wrote *You Choose*) has published over 100 books. In 2015 she was awarded an honorary degree by De Montfort University, becoming a Doctor of Letters. She has written loads of books from *You*

Choose to The Great Sea Dragon Discovery. Isn't that amazing?

Did you know that Pippa struggled, as a child, to read? Even though Pippa liked hearing stories and acting out stories, she DIDN'T LIKE READING! The first book she actually wanted to read was *Little House On The Prairie* by Laura Ingalls Wilder.

When asked what inspired her to write the *You Choose* books Pippa said it was her

daughters looking through catalogues and choosing things. She said: "It didn't matter that they weren't going to get their trampolines, it was the choosing that mattered so I thought: Let's do a catalogue of the big things in life." Well we're glad she did. We have lots of happy memories of going through a *You Choose* book with siblings and parents. We bet you do too. Have you ever wondered

why the *Winnie the Witch* chapter books have Laura Owen as author instead of the Australian Valerie Thomas, who created the series? Well you are about to find out. Oxford University Press rang Pippa Goodhart up and asked would you like to write about *Winnie the Witch*? They wanted to have some longer stories like *Horrid Henry* sized books. But she wasn't allowed to use her real name, it had to be Laura

Owen. Pippa still doesn't know why. You may not know it but Pippa did leave her mark in one of the Winnie books. In *Winnie and the Ghost in the Post*, Winnie uses a ghostwriter who's a real ghost and it's called PG (post ghost or Pippa Goodhart!).

Pippa said that if she was not an author she might have been a primary school teacher but there were no teaching jobs when she graduated school, so she became a bookseller at Heffers. "I read a lot of books there and met authors, illustrators and publishers but wasn't thinking of writing any books myself," she said. Pippa actually

wanted to become a publisher but all the publishing firms are in London and she didn't fancy being in London.

When she was a mum and had two small children her husband persuaded her to enter a competition to write a children's book. Her husband encouraged her by leaving with their children every morning so she could write in peace.

The first book was originally called *Flow*, then re-named *A Dog Called Flow*, and it stayed in print for 20 years! By the time her third child was at school she was writing well enough to not need a proper job! We asked her which of her books she liked the most, she



Pippa Goodhart said she didn't always like reading answered: "They all irritate me a bit. There are things I'd change. But if I had to choose, I'd pick *You Choose*. This was the one I had to fight for."

And for the sake of all of us I'm so glad she did! There are OVER TWO MILLION YOU CHOOSE

BOOKS SOLD. With all those illustrations would it surprise you that it took two years for Nick Sharratt to do the pictures?

Next year, McDonald's Happy meals are going to have little *You Choose* books. She'll get a fraction of a penny per book!

THE FABULOUS FLY BRAIN



All 140,000 neurons in a fruit fly brain

By Kayhan and Clara

Wanna know about some science in Cambridge? If you do, this is the fly brain.

Greg Jefferis (Clara's dad) told us that there are about 140,000 neurons - or brain cells - in the female fruit fly's brain and he mapped the

brain of a female fruit fly. It took him almost ten years and that is just a fruit fly. Imagine our brain!

Flies actually see the world like how we see Minecraft. Cool!

The insect's brain is about the size of a poppy seed but

when you unjumble the neurons it is almost the length of Russell Street!

He said it was a really stressful but fun job and from what I saw it looks really cool.

What's funny is that the fly's brain needed to be sliced into about 2,000 pieces. Talk about tiny toast! The human brain has about eight million neurons but even a fly's brain is complex. It is compressed into the size of a poppy seed yet you can (with a microscope) see the complex neurons, the same size as ours too. It is really surprising how complex yet minuscule it is.

You can find out more and see some cool videos at <https://flyconnecto.me/>

Pippa's Writing Tips

We asked Pippa's advice for aspiring authors. She said keep reading and actually think about what you are reading. If you find a book boring, don't just stop there. Continue and really think about it. Why is it boring? Is it because you know what will happen? Did you not understand some of the words so you couldn't enjoy it? Or did you not like the character so you didn't really care about what happened? If you read a good book, think why did you like it? Did you like the characters? Was it easy to understand so you liked it?

Secondary School Open Evenings

Our Y6 reporters attended secondary school open evenings this term to help decide which to choose for next year. Here's what they thought.

Parkside Community College



By Callum

Parkside offers over 30 different clubs: indoor rowing, languages, debate, and so on. They are also all overseen by a lovely teacher. They give an entire hour of their time helping students learn new skills for FREE! You will get a lunch card which you can use to buy your lunch and if you forget to bring it then you can get a kind of token which will get you a lunch which your parents will pay for later .

When you are doing PE (physical education) you might be on Parker's Piece or in the gym, they have indoor rowing machines and new ping pong tables.

St Bede's Inter-Church School



By Rory

St. Bede's is an extraordinary school with surprises around every corner. Like waffles you can buy for breakfast! Due to librarians being on a rota, there are plenty at a time. They have incredibly high progress scores, which means that the improvement is more than expected. They do the Junior Maths Challenge and the Intermediate Maths Challenge. And there are so many labs!

Coleridge Community College



Coleridge Community College
The best in everyone™
Part of United Learning

By Louis

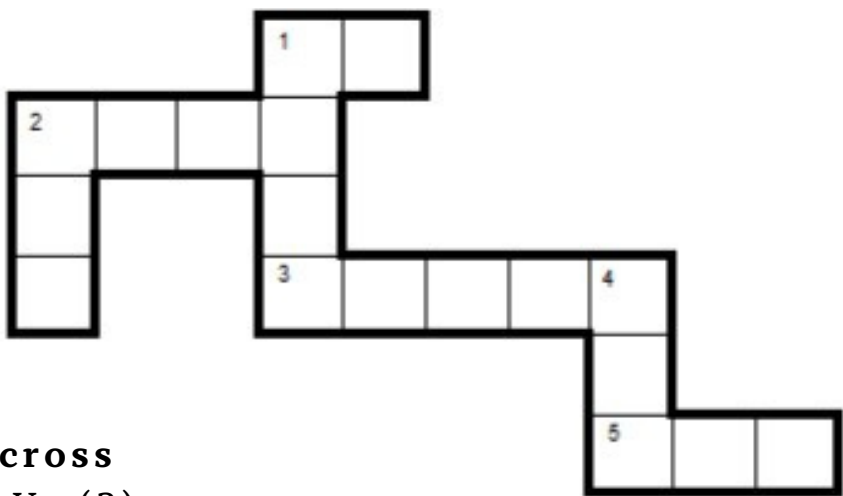
Coleridge is on Radegund Rd, Cambridge and their post code is CB1 3RJ. Coleridge is great for sport. They have lots of coaches and very good football pitches. When I went to the Head Teacher's talk, he said Coleridge's mission statement is: "I believe and achieve". Their headteacher has been at Coleridge for 15 months now. Coleridge has over 30 different clubs including a rowing club, a football club and many more.

A few years ago, almost 100 parents signed a formal complaint against Coleridge over its behaviour policy, saying it was harming their children's mental health. A Change.org petition with almost 300 signatures also called for Coleridge to "ease the rules and stop shaming pupils." The school's operations manager told *The Epistle*: "Unfortunately, Coleridge has had a bit of a colourful past, but we are very much on the right path now and have improved immensely in the last 15 months since our new Principal, Mr Oughton, was brought on board." The school's new behaviour policy is available on its website.

PUZZLES

CROSSWORD

by Clara



Across

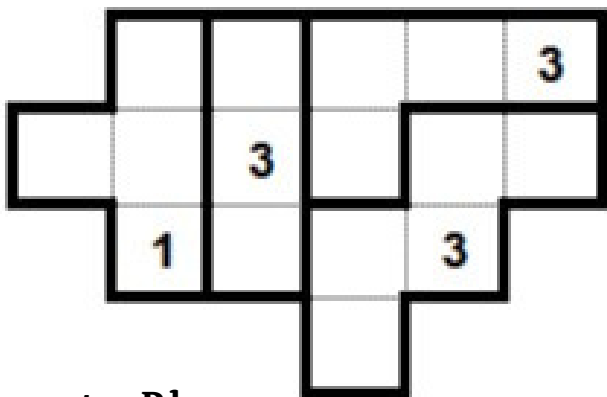
1. Us (2)
2. Water animal that we eat (4)
3. Ragged (5)
5. Look (3)

Down

1. ____! (4)
2. Good (3)
4. OK

SUGURU

By Clara



How to Play

Every area surrounded by thick lines must contain the digits from 1 up to the number of squares within that area. Neighbouring squares (including diagonals) cannot contain the same digit.

QUIZ

by Rory

Geography

1. Name a country in Europe
2. What U.S. state is St. Louis in?
3. What country is Tuvalu in?

Maths

1. What is $7+4$?
2. What is 7 to the power of 4?
3. What is the Collatz conjecture?

Spotlight on Eco Club

By Clara

Do you ever wonder what the school does for the environment? Well, this will tell you what we do at Eco Club to encourage the school to be eco-friendly. You could join Eco Club and help too. It meets on Friday lunchtimes 12.30-1pm in the Rainbow Room and everyone is welcome.

We have boxes for recycling pens, printer cartridges, glue-sticks and crisp packets. We are also trying to help wildlife. Eco Club has also received a grant to buy bird houses, boxes (one of them with a camera), feeders and fountains.

Quiz Answers

Geography

1. There are many right answers! Check with a grownup.
2. St. Louis is in Missouri, although its urban area extends into neighbouring Illinois.
3. Trick question! Tuvalu is a country. Fun fact: its capital is called Funafuti

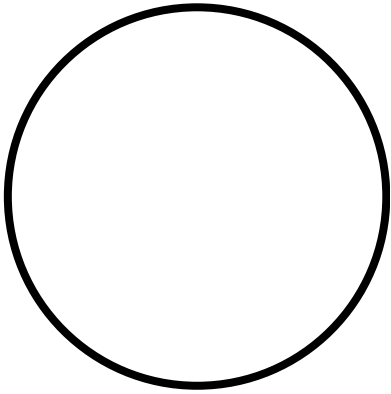
Maths

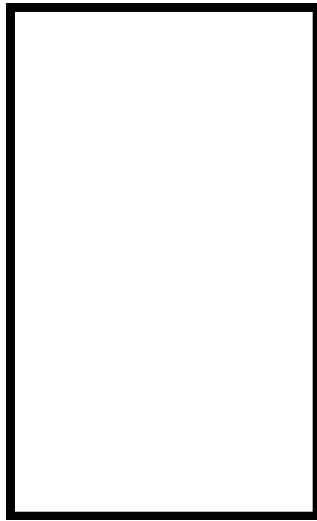
1. 11
2. $2,401$
3. Trick question! There is no Collatz conjecture. But there is a Collatz conjecture. Look it up, it's a fun thing to think about.

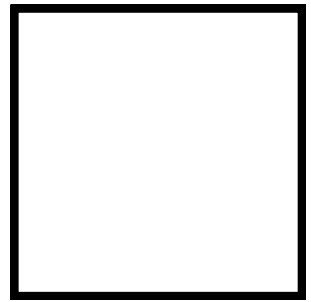
NAME AND COLOUR IN SHAPES

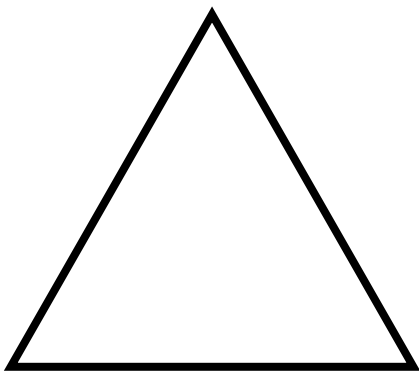
By Rosie

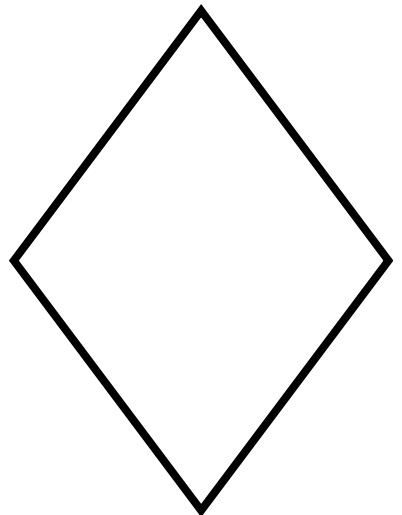
For 4-7 year olds











For 7 - 11 year olds

