

Chace Chronicle

EXCELLENCE HAS NO LIMITS

Fourth Edition

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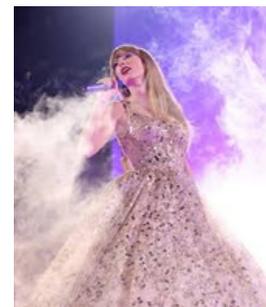
Eras Tour- The End of an Era -By Zahra Cavaye

Well hasn't this been a journey! Taylor Swift's eras tour has lasted quite a while and came to an end on the 8th of December; it started 17th of March 2023. This tour will have had a huge number of 152 shows each one lasting over 3 hours and has gone through around 22 countries. Not to mention Miss Swift's eras tour has made the most money of any tour in history!

In this tour a lot has happened! The eras tour has broken 18 records one of them was broken at Wembley Stadium which was most concerts at Wembley stadium in one tour, recently held by Michael Jackson. Not only that but it has grossed \$2,077,618,725 in ticket sales.



Well as I have mentioned this tour has officially come to an end, as a Swiftie myself I can definitely say I was extremely sad seeing this tour come to an end as before every concert I would predict Taylor's outfit and see what I got correct and watch highlights of each show. Not to mention how privileged I was able to experience the eras tour in person.



Eras Tour- The End of an Era -Continued

However, how does this tour ending affect other people? Well, I have interviewed 2 people with different opinions to compare what others will think, lets have a look...

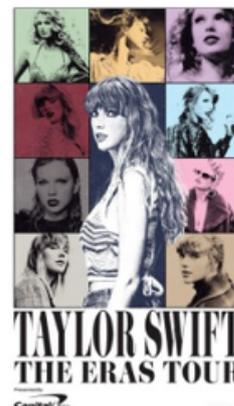
“My opinion on Taylor Swifts Eras tour ending is that I’m absolutely relived because it’s frustrating to see people pay thousands of pounds to go see her, it also is annoying to see people idolise Taylor Swift. Concerts are so ridiculously overpriced, overrated and over-hyped. Okay Taylor Swift is one good person at music but would you pay from around £500 a ticket to go see her because that is what a lot of people paid. Personally I wouldn’t but there are some insane people out there that would!”



Clearly that opinion giver was really happy about the Eras tour ending but what about the other person, lets see what they have to say,

“My opinion is that the Eras tour ending is so sad, it’s the worlds best tour! I mean no more fearless hearts , no more 22 hats, no more clowning for rep tv, no more erros, no more surprise songs or who’s afraid of little old me therapy. I will be crying my eyes out when she takes her final bow after singing karma”

That person feels exactly how i feel they really did say it all!



The Myth of Slenderman by Miah Lakhani-Jones

The myth of Slenderman was supposed to be just that. A Myth.

But yet— I found myself walking through the suddenly dark forest, shaking. It was only 4:00pm, summer, so it shouldn't have been dark. It was as if the sky itself retreated into the shield of black that now encased the sky.

My campers had gone. A school trip was the one thing I had looked forward to. But right now, my main goal was to calm my pounding heart, as paranoia began to consume me. What if it hears my heart? What if right now it's dwindling in the trees, studying the rhythm of my panicking heart, waiting for the right moment to pounce?

I walked faster. Feet going as fast as my train of thought.

As I ran deeper into the dark towering entwining trees, I felt less warm. I felt more lost. More alone— alone from friends, teachers.

I forced myself backwards, I almost hit... a tree? Yeah, it must have been a tree. A weird shaped tree though. I stepped back oblivious and dusted off my clothes. A pathetic piece of fabric for my camping uniform. Not like it would protect me from *anything* harmful in the forest.

Moving forwards, my torso responded yet my legs did not. Arms tensing at my side I attempt to move again but my feet remain firmly planted on the floor. *What the hell?*

As I looked up— I saw red. Literally. An almost painfully blinding red filled my irises. I held my breath as I froze in fear, but my circulation was seemingly permanently cut off as the *thing* wrapped a hand around my throat.

Slenderman

It's not real. He's a myth. He's a myth. A scary story. A MYTH—

But no amount of repetition could deny the fact that I was currently being strangled. His body was disgustingly morphed, his long limbs made of a menacing black matter stood on the ground strangely. As if he'd been in a fight.

Slenderman was supposed to be silent but deadly. A scary killer— but a quick one. But this Slenderman didn't look calm. He was angry.

His head started twitching psychotically, and black matter that resembled infected blood started seeping out of— well I didn't know what it was seeping out of, his body was so misshapen it could've been his wrist or his elbow.

The Myth of Slenderman continued...

I start scrambling around. Hands grappling at his body and feet digging into the ground desperately. But his grip only tightened in warning. His hand shifted from my throat allowing a short breath, but now was clamped onto my shoulder.

By the shoulder blade, digging his sharp tipped fingers into my flesh, he held me against the tree. His mouth opened, and hundreds of shark-like teeth rippled inside his mouth. His voice suddenly sounded through my ears, and I felt as if my eardrums were being beaten at the sheer intensity of it.

You... mortal..... your kind.... will pay.

What was he on about? My kind? I was confused and scared but still needed to ask, it might've of been the last thing I said after all,

“W-w-what are you talking about... I-I didn't do anything— please don't hurt me, all humans don't—”

My neck vein was torn open by a claw of his hand and my blood splattered on the tree. His long, repulsive tongue flickered out like a snake as he tasted the sweet redness.

Dead. In an instant. He didn't even need to hurt me further because his infectious matter has started contaminating each and every cell in my body...

As a sullen, wispy ghost, I peered down at my pale body, lying lifeless before me. He had gone. Airy, barely-audible voices filled my ears and I turned around. My eyes widened. There were hundreds of them. Hundreds of ghosts. Children, women, men, elderly.

He was targeting them all— and anyone could be next, after all,

‘Our kind would pay’.

The Secrets Behind Secrets

by Evie Dart

How long could you work in the same job? Well, if you were assigned to that job since you were born, you would probably just get used to it.

Luna had been a secret collector for years. She would venture into peoples' minds and take their secrets, since some secrets carry too heavy a burden to simple be discarded in the mind. So, they were taken to a secret chamber.

Luna had just returned from the chamber when she received a message. One more secret was left. How many times a day would she have to do this? Not going wasn't an answer so she sighed, turned around and left. Now, she was back in the real world, full of noise and chaos.

She checked the location of the secret. It was practically next to her! Hurriedly, she followed the tracker, which led her down an alley. She was greeted by the sounds of crying, getting louder as she cautiously stepped further ahead. On her right was a young girl. She bent down and looked at her.

"Where are your parents? Why are you here?"

The girl looked up, "I - I don't know..." She wiped her eyes.

"Do you have any secrets? May i check?" Luna was worried that she sounded quite rude.

The girl looked at her, confused. Luna waved her hand dismissively.

"I'll just be a minute..."

Luna closed her eyes and imagined the girl. When she opened her eyes again, she was in the girl's mind. She was suddenly pushed back by a strong wind. She gasped. This girl's mind was full of mountains and cold air. Where on earth would secrets be? Every other mind she had been in was peaceful, but this was utter turmoil. She looked around some more and spotted a cave. If she were a secret, that's where she would hide. She took one deep breath and faced the wind; she held her hand up to shield her eyes from the snow being blown everywhere. Eventually, she made it to the cave and peered in.

The Secrets Behind Secrets continued...

It was dark, but a light illuminated the end. She went in and her jaw dropped when she saw the secret. It was massive. She knew she had better hurry and take it away. Once again, she closed her eyes and imagined the secret chamber. She was immediately there and ran in, carrying the secret in her own mind. The front desk was empty, and Luna looked around frantically. She imagined her mind, and retrieved the secret. Nova - another secret collector - saw the secret and gasped. She ran up to Luna.

“What’s happening?” Luna exclaimed.
“It’s going to explode...”

Luna stared at her and jumped as she heard a bang. She turned around and saw the secret on the floor. It was glowing much less and it was a lot smaller.

Nova turned to her. “ Good job getting this secret, Luna.”

“Now the person that had the secret will be happy, right?”

Nova nodded and Luna smiled for the girl in the alley.



How to: Study Effectively **by Caitlyn Phillippo**

How to: Study Effectively

In this article, I will cover 3 of my personal favourite study techniques. As an A-level student, I know it can be difficult to figure out where to begin when studying. Hopefully, by testing these methods yourself, you will be able to find what works best for you.

The Blurting Method

The blurting method is effective for two reasons. It helps you better understand the content through active recall and identify your weaknesses. When using the blurting method, you write down everything you can remember from a topic and then go back and compare it to your notes. Look at what you got wrong or what you missed so that you'll know what you need to revise more. I recommend doing this multiple times so you can see your improvement.

The Pomodoro Technique

I use the Pomodoro technique daily. It's effective for those who struggle to concentrate for long periods and helps to maintain motivation. The Pomodoro technique involves setting a timer (usually for 20-25 minutes). During this time, do your best to focus purely on the work that you need to get done. Then give yourself a timed 5-minute break and repeat.

If you do this 4 times and then give yourself a longer break. Although this may cause tasks to take longer, it's useful if you struggle with concentration.

I recommend this website: [LifeAt](#) It's an online 'study room' which uses the Pomodoro technique.

The Feynman Technique

The Feynman technique is one that I would only recommend if you are good at staying concentrated. These are the four steps of the Feynman technique:

- Select a concept and map your knowledge
- Teach it to a 12-year-old
- Review and Refine
- Test and Archive

Step 1: Select a concept and map your knowledge

Start with a blank page. Write everything you know about your chosen topic, using a different colour pen for new information as you learn. This creates a visual map of your growing understanding.

Step 2: Explain it to a 12-year-old

Once you feel confident you understand it, try to explain the concept using only simple words a child would understand. You haven't grasped it fully if you can't explain it simply.

How to: Study Effectively continued

Complex language often masks gaps in knowledge. Anyone can make a subject complicated but only someone who understands can make it simple.

Step 3: Review and Refine

Write out your explanation, then read it aloud. Clear writing reveals gaps in understanding and gives poor thinking nowhere to hide.

Look for:

Confusing explanations

Hidden jargon

Glossed-over concepts

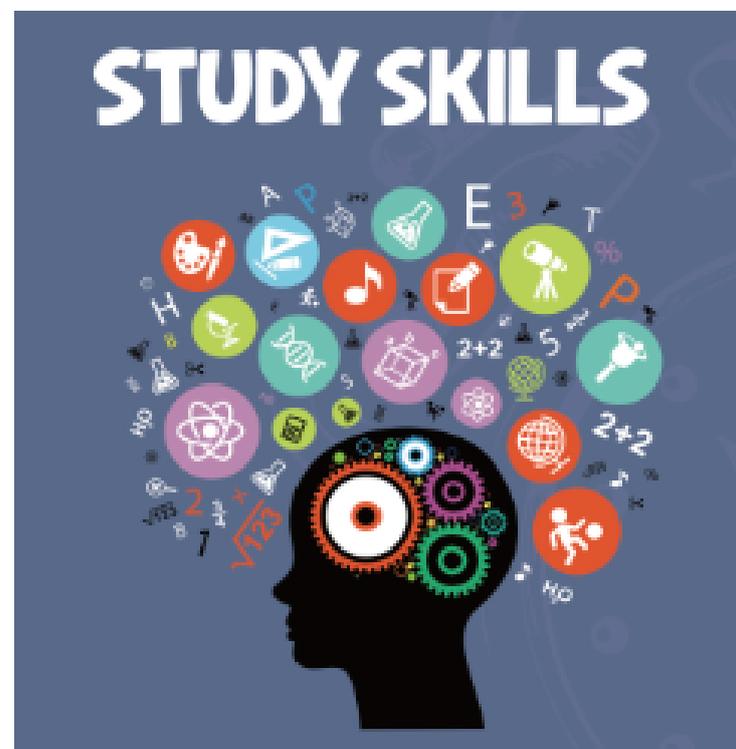
When you find weak spots, return to the source material. Study those sections until you can explain them simply.

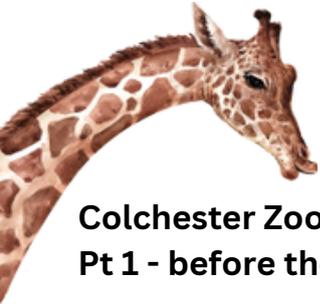
Keep refining until a 12-year-old would understand every part.

Step 4: Test and Archive

Test your understanding by teaching someone else.

Note their questions and points of confusion – these reveal where your explanation needs work. Once satisfied, archive your simple explanation in a learning binder for periodic review.” - Feynman Technique: The Ultimate Guide to Learning Anything Faster





Colchester Zoo Trip!

by Elena Sidabraite & Naomi Martinez



Colchester Zoo Trip!! Pt 1 - before the trip

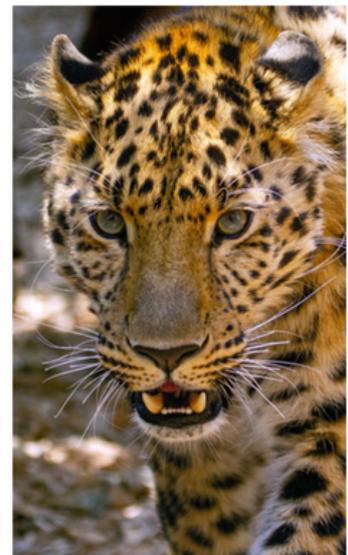
On Thursday 5th December, Year 8 will be going to Colchester zoo for their 2nd enrichment day! With it's amazing safari experience and beautiful animals to see, Colchester is a great place for all types of people!

Colchester Zoo was founded by Helena and Frank Farrar and opened on 2nd June 1963. Since then the zoo had many amazing animals that are rare to see as they are endangered. These animals are: red panda's; most breeds of goats; penguins; lemurs and more! With over 10,000 animals and 1 million annual visitors per year, the zoo has inside attractions which keep you active. Such as feeding the rainbow lorikeets and hanging with the infamous orangutans (who have been known to throw food at guests!) Colchester zoo has over 60 acres of park land which is perfect to see the range of different species with their natural surroundings, making them comfortable for their habitat as home.



With the help of staff, Colchester zoo have tried to keep all the animals in good health and have released many animals back to the homes of their species in order to keep the population safe from extinction. Colchester zoo have also raised £6.1million towards animal charities and shelters through the years to help on-the brink extinct animals in need.

For people who want to work at the zoo, they could enrol in many different varieties of jobs which range from working with animals, to healthcare and even the behind the scenes magic! In fact, year 8 has been challenged to find how many jobs there are in the zoo! Top form gets a prize!





Colchester Zoo Trip! continue



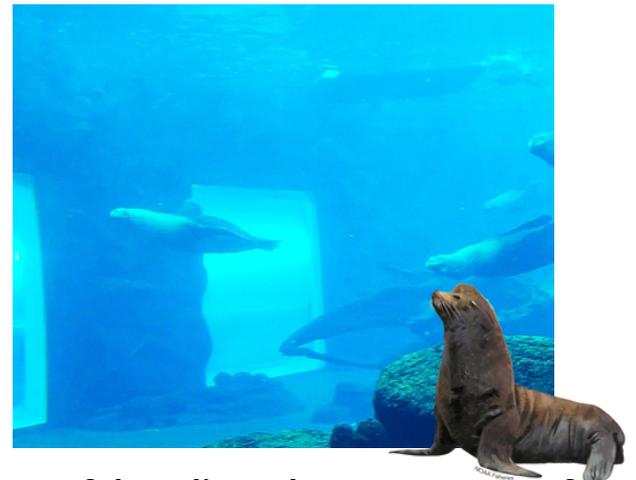
Colchester Zoo Trip!! Pt 2 - the experience

The trip was very fun for all of year 8 and it was a great experience to learn about the animals, the workers and all the other amazing things that the zoo had to offer. After learning about the animals and seeing them active in the zoo, year 8 got to go to the gift shop, where they had many different plushies and merch of your favourite animals. Personally, I think that the experience was very fun and educational and would love to go to more trips like it!

Here are some of my favourite pictures of the amazing creatures from Colchester zoo.



The cute and cuddly otters- one of my favourites!



The graceful sea lions that we got to see from an underwater tunnel



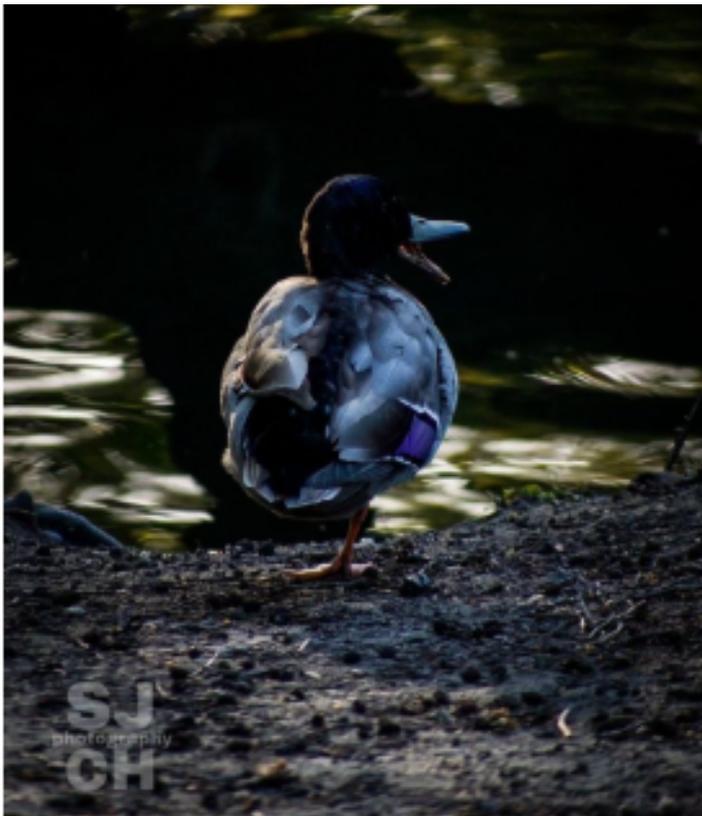
The penguins that were screaming in joy! - we also got to see them being fed their favourite food - fish!



The beautiful koi fish, one of my favourite animals at the zoo - they're also my favourite fish :)



Photography by Stratos Chalkais



This photo was taken at Grovelands Park of a one footed duck which I only noticed fully from when I edited the photo.

This was posted on my Instagram @SJCH_photography (Shameless plug no.1). And this is what I wrote:

“Here is a picture from a week or two of a duck that (as I can remember) has one leg! ;que emotionante!”

This post-description was boring in my opinion, like yuck level. It's about to get a bit more boring depending on who I'm talking to because, photography.

I will keep this nice short and sweet. The settings are:

- Shutter speed: 1/3000
- Aperture: f/5.6
- Iso: 200

2nd ...the editing... settings:

I am going to keep this simple as well,

- Firstly, I decreased the shadows a bit
- Then I raised the noise reduction slider slightly to get rid on any lurking colour noise/distortion in the photo
- Then I added a very slight vignette around the duck as you can see on the edge of the photo

There is the end of the editing section. The critics of this photo are only one or two. They have pointed out that the framing could be a bit tighter to fully indulge the viewer to the one legged duck and the duck's eye isn't light enough for it to be more captivating. Chat GPT said that this photo is a solid 8/10 so I don't know who to trust the human critiques or the robot!

You can find this photo and many other photos on my Instagram: @sjch_photography , I mostly do portraits and events which means I'm ready for business. Just message me Instagram or email me or message me on the number and email provided. (Shameless plug no.2)



Christmas Decorations; When's the perfect day to put them out?

-By Lily Foster

All across the world, people are waiting in anticipation for the man in red to come down our chimneys and answer our wishes. Some people believe Christmas is undoubtedly the holiday of the year but the question is: when's the perfect day to put Christmas decorations out? Dive deep to explore varied opinions about Christmas decorations.

In your opinion, is December 1st too early, or too late to put out your Christmas decorations?

Too early, about 10 days too early! I think it waters down the spirit of Christmas by prolonging it. Christmas decorations should go up at the same time as your Christmas tree and traditionally you couldn't put your tree up too early, or it would die before the 12 days of Christmas (which end on January 5th).

'Jonathan Foster, adult male'

In your opinion, is December 1st too early, or too late to put out your Christmas decorations?

Honestly, definitely the perfect time, maybe a touch too late so I think that November 20 + is the right time.

ANYTHING past December 1st is too late!

'Unknown'

In your opinion, is December 1st too early, or too late to put out your Christmas decorations?

No debates, Christmas starts November 1st! Everyone knows that Christmas is the best time of the year so it needs to start as soon as possible.

'Zahra Cavaye, female year eight'

In my opinion Christmas starts December 1st, not before not any later. I LOVE preparing for Christmas, its almost as good as the actual day but if it is for too long, then you lose the spirit of Christmas and it gets boring.

In conclusion, there are many assorted opinions on this matter of debate but the question on everyone's lips is: is December 1st the perfect day for you to put your Christmas decorations out?



Victoria's Secret 2024 show: A Review **by Jaymie-Lee Cook**

In 2019 the Victoria Secret fashion show was cancelled due to the lack of diversity within the models showcasing the brands' merchandise. The annual fashion show returned in 2024 with a promise of diversity and inclusivity, so where was it?

The 2024 fashion show was walked by models from both LGBTQ+ community and different cultural backgrounds. Both transgender models Alex Consani and Valentina Sampaio made history on October 15th 2024 by being the two first transgender models to walk in the televised special. 'Today the Victoria Secret family has shown the world that being trans is just as exceptional and beautiful as anyone else on the runway. Inclusivity is crucial to the world'-Valentina Sampaio told people magazine.



In 2018, Victoria Secret faced criticisms and fans were outraged when the then Chief Marketing Officer Ed Razed said that he did not believe there was a place for transgender or plus-sized models within the brand's annual show as it was a 'fantasy'.

Although the 2024 was more inclusive than ever, many Americans are still left with unclear feelings. One person has said 'While I am a feminist who is LGBTQ supportive, I really do not care about some trans women getting paid obscene amounts of money to parade around 3/4 naked while school teachers have to work 3 jobs to support their families' [Joanne Lindstand, Quora]

Some individuals feel that Victoria Secret diversity campaign is only a small step on the way to promoting all body types. Although the 2024 show was inclusive, the underwhelming wings and reliance on familiar faces left the show feeling like a shadow of its former self.



Meet the team

Hi, I'm Evie and I am in 9CAL. I'm interested in researching music, languages, education and books/ films. I also like writing- if it wasn't obvious. :)



Hey, my name is Eloise Geraghty and I am in 9CKA. I'm interested in writing stories about reading and music because they are both my main interests at the moment as well as Taylor Swift.



Hi! I'm Jackson Green and I am in 12EKC, I write about video games because, like any great video game journalist, I don't have anything else in life!



Hey! I'm Chloe, I'm in 13VEK and a passionate writer. I am interested in all things art and I am super excited to write articles for the Chace Chronicle!



Hey, I'm Paige! I'm in 13EKC and I love everything science, horror and books. I'm super excited to bring my journalism to you and I hope you love reading my stuff.



Hi, I'm Lily Foster from 8MMC and I'm passionate about writing about political issues concerning young people and exploring both sides of the debate.



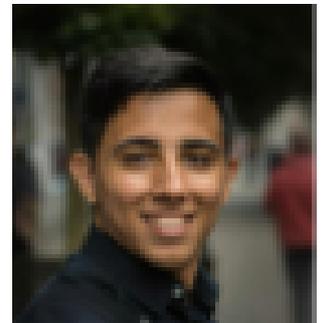
Meet the team...

Hii, my name is Naomi :D and I'm in 8PSA. I love videogames, music 🎵 and cute stuff. Also my current fav music artist is TV girl :) I joined the Chace Chronicle because it is fun to write something that you like and other people will read it! I hope you liked this edition! :3



(i made my avatar on picrew btw)

I'm Stratos Chalkias, I'm a portrait photographer who has been taking photos professionally for 1 year. My interests are photography as you may have guessed, football and futsal.



I'm Caitlyn from 13LMA and I'm interested in writing stories about books, art and important events because it's important to me to have a wide range of knowledge on things and to stay up to date with what's going on in the world.



Hi, my name is Miah from 9CAL. I like to write poems and stories in fiction. I'm interested in writing stories about the supernatural because all things paranormal really interest me~



Hi my name is Jaymie and I'm in 12AC, I'm interested in different views on fashion and how it has changed over a short period of time.



Hi, my name is Kaeleb. I love video games and nature. I also like books.



Meet the team...

Hi my name is Elena<33. Im in 8MVi. I'm new to newspaper club! I love asian themed stuff and listening to different music genres!! My favourite music artists are Tyler the Creator, Travis Scott, 2pac and more!! <3



Hi my name is Zahra from 8MMC I hope you enjoy my article about a singer who has recently ended a world tour which lasted almost 2 years. Also if you couldn't tell, I'm obsessed with Taylor Swift and my precious hamster, Coco. Also Bountys are DISGUSTING! (spoiler for a new article)

