

CEO: Peter Hughes

## the mossbourniar

The Newsletter of Mossbourne Community Academy and the Mossbourne Federation

Summer 2020



Principal:



Principal: Amy Wood



Principal: Nicholas Rutherford



Principal: Iane Sames

### Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the summer edition of the Mossbournian.

I hope this virtual edition of the newsletter finds you and your family well and safe after what has been the most challenging of times. Thank you for your tireless support and guidance of Mossbournians. You have become the educators as we have all struggled with working from home and trying to retain what little normality we can for our loved ones. The pressure on families, parents and guardians has been immense and staff are so very grateful for the support you have given. This edition

a 'new' normal. This week, I read the wise words of John F Kennedy who said: "when written in Chinese, the word 'crisis' is composed of two characters. One represents danger and the other represents opportunity." I think this sentiment must resonate with our experiences throughout the last few months and I am hopeful that progress and good can come from the difficult times the world has faced.

As the summer break approaches, Year 11 and Year 13 students will be keenly awaiting their results. Staff are extremely excited at the prospect of seeing pupils on results day to celebrate their hard work and achievements. Our outgoing Year 13 students can look forward to fantastic futures: this talented year group have received nine offers from Oxbridge and a record breaking thirteen offers to study medicine (10% of the cohort), including one offer for dentistry. Robine Van Doorne (13 Berkoff) has received a full rowing scholarship to study in the US at the University of Tulsa. An impressive 77% of this year group have received an offer from at least one Russell Group university. We congratulate both the Year 11 and Year 13 pupils and wish them the very best of luck in their promising futures.

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Students who have been attending school during lockdown created this chalk drawing as part of a video they made thanking key workers

of the newsletter is a celebration of both school work and extracurricular activities completed by our children during the period of closure. Teachers have been overwhelmed with the dedication and effort that pupils have demonstrated and, for that very reason, I am prouder of this edition of the newsletter than of any other in our history.

As you know, the academy has remained open since March but words cannot capture the extent to which staff have missed seeing both the pupils and a full, thriving academy on a daily basis. The horrific murder of George Floyd has, rightly, sparked meaningful, long overdue, and peaceful protests across the world and it is right that our youngsters are impassioned and determined to right society's wrongs and engage in affirmative anti-racist action for our Black communities. The superb first edition of "The Mossbourne Free Press', written by sixth form students, captures the spirit and willpower of our sixth formers to challenge injustice in an articulate and persuasive way. The hardships of this year have crystallised the importance of community, helping each other and looking after the most vulnerable in our community. It has also proven to be a vivid reminder of how incredible it is to be part of an academy such as Mossbourne.

Pupils have missed out on so many events and celebrations this year, from the Federation Concert to Sports Day to the Year 11 Ball. I hope that the losses can be made up over the next academic year as we begin to recover and move towards

It is always difficult to say goodbye to staff who have dedicated themselves to the development of our students at Mossbourne but it is even more difficult this year. I would like to thank all the members of staff who have contributed hugely to the life of our academy and who are leaving us for personal or professional

66 The hardships of this year have crystallised the importance of community, helping each other and looking after the most vulnerable >>

reasons in the summer. Not least, a very special mention must go to Dr Suzanne Lienert, the Head of Mossbourne Sixth Form, who has led the sixth form to greatness over the last few years and who will be heading off to a new life by the coast. She will be greatly missed.

At the time of writing, it is still unknown what September

will look like regarding the return of pupils, though I desperately hope to see all our pupils back at the academy and lessons and life back to normal. At the moment, I very much look forward to meeting the new Year 7 and Year 12 cohorts on Tuesday 1st September and to welcoming back all other year groups on Wednesday 2nd September. Of course, if there are any changes, we will write to you via PAM Parent.

As I wish you all a happy and restful summer period, it is my hope that, by continuing to work in partnership with you all, in our very special Mossbourne community, we can continue together to ensure the best possible wellbeing and outcomes for all the young people in our care. I wish you and your families the very best over the summer.

Yours sincerely,

#### Rebecca Warren

Principal

## Key Dates for Students

2020-21		
Start of term for Year 7 and 12. Photographs for Years 7, 12 and Year 9 Rowers	Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2020	
Autumn term starts for Years 8 – 11 and Year 13, Photographs Year 10	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September 2020	
Year 11 Parents' Evening	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September 2020	
Lessons start	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> September 2020	
Year 13 Parents' Evening	Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> September 2020	
Year 7 Parents' Evening	Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> September 2020	
Year 13 UCAS examinations	Monday 21st – Tuesday 29th September 2020	
Year 6 Open Evening (2.30pm close to all pupils)	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> September 2020	
Year 8 – 11 Assessment Week	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> October 2020	
Year 10 Parents' Evening	Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2020	
Half term	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> October 2020 – Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2020	
PSCHE Day	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> November 2020	
Sixth Form Open Evening	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> November 2020	
PE Enrichment Week	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> – Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> November 2020	
Year 11 Mock Exams	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> November – Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	
Year 8 Options Assembly	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	
Year 12 Parents' Evening	Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	
Year 13 UCAS deadline	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	
Year 13 EPQ Celebration Event	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	
End of Autumn term	Friday 18th December 2020	
Christmas Break	Monday 21st December 2020 – Friday 1st January 2021	
Spring term begins	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2021	
Inset Days	Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> August 2020 Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> August 2020	

Friday 12th February 2021



## 2020: The Year The World Changed

An article by Luke Thorne (10 Moore)

For almost everyone, 2020 seems to be a terrible year. It's almost as if it has something wrong with it, as if the year itself is somehow contaminated, as if the year itself is responsible for the atrocious events that occurred inside it. Sometimes it is comforting to think this way so that we can blame everything that happens on a single entity: a year. However, the year itself isn't malicious, evil or cursed – it's just a number, a point in time.

Near the end of 2019, Covid-19 was discovered (hence the number in its name) and the virus spread throughout 2020. However, although Covid-19 has dominated the news recently, 2020 has had several events all battling for the top spot of 'the worst thing to happen in 2020'. All the way back in January 2020, there was a global fear that the USA would go to war with Iran, which would, in turn, cause what some people were referring to as 'World War 3'. On January 1st, Pro-Iranian protesters ended the siege of the US Embassy in Baghdad, Iraq. In retaliation, a US drone strike killed the top Iranian security and intelligence commander, Major General Qasem Soleimani outside Baghdad airport in Iraq. In response, Iran withdrew from the 2015 nuclear deal limiting Uranium enrichment. They took revenge for the assassination of Qasem Soleimani by launching a missile strike on Irbil and Al Asad bases in Iraq which housed some American troops. This seemed as though it would escalate to war but hostility fizzled out as President Trump's attention was pulled in another direction: his impending impeachment trial which began on January 16th.

Around this time, China shut down the city of Wuhan and its 11 million people in an effort to control a virus which was known as coronavirus and is now known as Covid-19. On February 23<sup>rd</sup>, the first major Covid-19 outbreak in Europe occurred in Italy which prompted emergency measures and the lockdown of 10 towns in Lombardy. Next came cases in New York, Milan and the UK and the virus seemed to be spreading quickly. Within a few weeks, the number of cases worldwide passed 1 million. Across the

world there have been tragic losses of life, with certain communities being heavily impacted. Across the world there have been debates about the best way to solve the crisis. Across the world there have been heated arguments about health (physical and mental) and the economy. As countries slowly begin to 'unlock', there are still fears over the number of cases and deaths and the possibility of a second peak, alongside heavy criticisms of the handling of the crisis.

During this crisis, another pandemic has been exposed: the pandemic of racism. A video emerged of the murder of George Floyd: an African-American man who was pinned to the ground by the knee of a police officer for 8 minutes and 46 seconds. This terrible act has inspired worldwide protests and revealed the insidious nature of institutional racism as more and more black people revealed their experiences of injustice and violence. In England, supportive protestors removed a statue of a slave trader in Bristol named Edward Colston who supported the Atlantic slave trade. The protestors threw his statue into the water and re-ignited a debate about how to honour and recognise history.

As I write this, VE Day has recently passed, there are Black Lives Matter protests happening, there are people dying from Covid-19, there are children going hungry, there is a crisis in Yemen which threatens 18.4 million lives, there is the possibility of Israel annexing part of Palestine and there is the threat of a swarm of 'murder hornets' in America. We are only halfway through this year and it seems like we have experienced enough to last for a whole decade but there is also time for 2020 to redeem itself. While we stay at home, there is time for us to think about how we can change things. While it seems impossible for things to get back to normal right now, we must all have hope that, someday, they will and that, when they do, we will find a more hopeful, peaceful, united world.



### FRIENDS OF MCA

## Greetings from FOMCA

Sadly this year, due to Covid-19, we haven't been able to support the academy as much as usual but we will be working with the academy to find new and innovative ways to continue our work as restrictions ease.

Just a reminder that all parents and carers are automatically members of Friends of Mossbourne Community Academy (FOMCA) – you can be involved as little or as much as you like!

### What does FoMCA do?

We aim to help put the 'community' into Mossbourne Community Academy. By selling refreshments and second-hand uniform at school events, we raise funds for Mossbourne. These funds are available to Mossbourne staff who are able to submit bids for financial help towards specific projects, initiatives or new equipment that fall outside school budgets. From a physics project with Oxford University, to equipment for the Rowing Club and new musical instruments, extra funds are always gratefully received by staff and can really enhance your child's learning experience.

### How can I help?

As working parents and carers, we appreciate you can't always support fundraising activities, let alone volunteer your time. But there are simple ways you can help make a difference. As well as the idea below we will be in touch via ParentPam to let you know how you can help us.

Easyfundraising.org.uk: MCA can earn commission via this charity, so every time you shop online at retailers such as Amazon, John Lewis, M&S and many more, a small donation goes to the school. As so many of us are shopping so much online these days, why not take 5 minutes to get set up?

- Download the Easy Fundraising app from the App store or access online at: easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ mossbourneaca.
- 2. Select 'Mossbourne Community Academy', click on Support, create an account.
- 3. Follow the instructions and select the retailer.
- 4. You'll be redirected to their usual website. When you make a purchase, a small donation will be made to the school.

#### Get in touch

If you have any questions or you think you might like to get involved, please email: friendsgroup@mca.mossbourne.org or just say 'hi' at the next event.

Thank you! Your continued support is much appreciated. ■

A poster created by Arlo Stallard Watson (7 Brunel)

## Raising money through creativity

By Nikita Petrak (12 Hazlitt)



An example of one of Nikita Petrak (12 Hazlitt) and Keo Kersting Herbert's (12 Wollstonecraft) designs

During quarantine, myself and Keo Kersting Herbert (12 Wollstonecraft) started a clothing brand in order to be able to raise money for Black Lives Matter. We have used lots of students as models and have got sponsorship from a local t-shirt printing company. We have attended the protests in London and taken photographs of models wearing our t-shirts there. We have promoted our t-shirts on social media and plan to give 50% of all our profits to charity. We have created a website and are excited to start selling our creations and raise money for charity. Recently, we also got sponsored by a number of Instagram influencers – some of whom have up to 700k followers. I have also had a meeting with the Pinterest partnership team who are going to support me with meetings and advertising.

## 'I was scared' is not an excuse

by Jedidah Fadiora (7 Mandela)

Before their murders, George Floyd and Eric Garner's names were unknown. Now they are as well known as Beyonce and Barack Obama. Before their deaths, they were ordinary human beings going on with their everyday lives until everything changed and now the whole world knows their names.

As a black girl from an African family, I have always known that there was racial inequality but never to the extent that people could be killed for their skin colour. Although my age and innocence shields me from what I can hear, I, like many people, am enraged by what is going on in our world. However, what angers me most is that the people responsible for this are being let off lightly: fines or unemployment will not bring a person back to life. Why do they often get off so lightly? Often, it is because they come armed with the defence: 'I was scared'. This excuse angers me

Firstly, the phrase suggests that black people are like wild animals and uncontrollable: it is offensive and untrue to suggest black people are more frightening or more likely to hurt others. Secondly, fear is not an excuse to kill another human being. In so many other cases the outcome has been different. A huge number of aggressive white criminals have been arrested, without any harm or violence, yet innocent black people are rarely given such mercy. If fear could push people to murder others, then the world would look very different. Thirdly, the newspapers cover this excuse as though it is legitimate. A lot of the time, the media is biased about the information they share about certain people. Headlines such

as 'man dies while being arrested' are inaccurate and makes the author of the article complicit in racism.

LIVES

After recent events, I have noticed how many small things are racist. I have walked the streets of London. I am a girl who could not and will not bring harm to anyone. But still, I walk past people who clutch their bags a bit tighter, move to the other side of the pavement or look at me as though I am threatening them. This is nothing close to what other people face but I am a 12 year old girl and am being treated like that. People are scared simply because of what I look like. My two male cousins, aged 9 and 10, are being taught that if they wear a hoodie, they should not put the hood up in public. Is this how we want the world to be? I do not want to grow up to teach my own children to play by rules that should not exist. I do not want to grow up to teach my own children that other people are scared of them. I do not want to grow up to teach my own children that if they are killed, there might not be justice because their skin colour is seen as an aggression. I will never know what George Floyd and Eric Garner went through but the thought that it could have been a loved one is my reality: a reality that my white friends do not have to face. 'I was scared' is not an excuse.



## 'When They See Us'

A review by Jamal Sesay (11 Bell)

Following the tragic death of George Floyd, a black American who was brutally murdered by a white police officer during an arrest in Minneapolis, mass protests for equality erupted in America. The protests spread across the globe to England, France, Belgium and other nations. Following these protests, Netflix released a 'Black Lives Matter Collection' which included documentaries and films centring on the abuse and injustices faced by black people. I personally was shocked by a series called 'When They See Us'. This series explores the story of five black and Hispanic boys who were accused of saulting a white female jogger in Central Park. The men were called Yusef Salaam, Kory Wise, Raymond Santana, Antron McCray and Kevin Richardson. All of them were between 14-16 years old and were interrogated without their parents. Some of the interrogations lasted at least 3 hours even though they consistently protested their innocence. Eventually, they were found guilty: Kory Wise, who was 16 at the time, was sent to an adult prison while the others were sent to a youth prison. I was frustrated by the pressure put on the boys by the detectives which eventually led to the boys lying to the police. The conclusion of the series, where the clear injustices are made evident, is shocking, emotional and ultimately heart-breaking. The series shows the impact of police bias and prisons on the black community. I highly recommend everyone who is curious about this issue to watch the series!  $\blacksquare$ 

## **Black Lives** Have Always Mattered

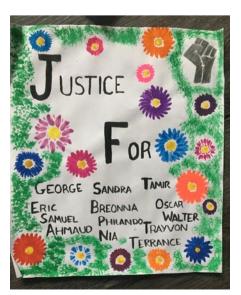
A poem by Emilie Ilunga (9 Moore)

Black lives matter Is the latest trend to some But not to lives of others The lives of my siblings And the life of me People wanna shout Black lives matter now Like they didn't a month ago When nobody cared Nobody mentioned The police brutality in the world Because it wasn't popular Nobody mentioned The prejudice we face Every single day Nobody mentioned The lack of black history Taught to kids in schools Nobody mentioned That Libya still have slaves Or sells slaves Nobody mentioned That my natural 4c hair Would be inappropriate at work Nobody mentioned That black lives have always mattered So let's continue to say it Continue to fight for it Fight for the lives Of my fellow brothers Of my fellow sisters Whose lives have been lost Because they are full of melanin

Right and bottom right: Paintings created by Ifechukwu Okey-Udah (8 Marconi)

A piece of art created by Kim Thien Hoang (10 Moore)





### **BLACK LIVES MATTER**

### Attending a Black Lives Matter protest

By Mayar Sabah (9 Marconi)

On June 6th, I attended one of the Black Lives Matter protests in Westminster. Initially, the protest began with protestors gathered in one area shouting call-and-response phrases such as 'What was his name? George Floyd' and 'Black Lives Matter'. After a while, it became a march; we moved out of the area outside Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament and into Parliament Square. People were dancing, singing and shouting and it all contributed to an amazing atmosphere that felt incredibly inclusive. Eventually, people began walking and along the way more chants were called out. People in their homes came out to clap, play music or hold up posters to show support. We continued to walk until we reached the US Embassy where

people sang and one man gave a speech about the injustices faced by black people for over 400 years. We then held a minute of silence for all those who have lost their lives as a consequence of policy brutality: protestors knelt down and raised a fist in the air. The protest made it clear that black lives mattered, do matter and will continue to matter and that skin colour is not a crime or a threat. Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Rayshard Brooks, Nia Wilson, Belly Mujinga, Mouhammed Cisse and Elijah McClain are unfortunately only a few of the hundreds of lives taken. The death of George Floyd has set off a worldwide response in which people of all races and backgrounds are calling for change to tackle systemic racisms and ensure people of colour are no longer afraid. May they rest in power.

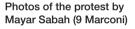




Photographs of protestor figurines by Jack Hawkins (7 Brunel). Jack and his family were worried about attending a march during lockdown so, instead, made 150 tiny placards and tiny model people to show their support. Jack and Cyrus Burley (7 Bell) photographed the models and sent the photographs to newspapers. The models were given out to other people to keep.









## Are we not all carved from the same dirt and dust?

A poem by Aamina Azam (9 Mandela)

Are we not all carved from the same dirt and dust? Is there not a pure heart within us all, beating and robust? There's no denying the truth that exists within our decaying society. We are a nation with a tarnished history of racial injustice and impropriety. The rug beneath us is burdened with the misdemeanours we've swept under. A countless list of transgressions, not just a mischance or an accidental blunder. Are you not hassled with these atrocities? Do these immoralities not dismay you? You're not the ones who live in fear every day, every waking second too. You're not the ones that are murdered and concealed and hidden. The colour of your skin isn't persecuted and forbidden. Don't be astonished - our very foundations are colonialism and exploitation. When you feel like all odds are against you, remember, your melanin is not a mutation. The world is by your side, for we are the generation of change. Join the fight. We won't settle until justice has prevailed, and all is right. Soon you'll look back at these tribulations as a distant reminder. Everything shall be good in the world, and we'll all be a little kinder.

## Why?

By Alicia Lawal (9 Brunel)

I never knew that the colour of my skin could be seen as a weapon. Why are people so threated? We never asked to be born black so why should we still suffer? Since slavery was absolished, why are we still being treated differently? When we are seen in a big group in society, we are viewed as suspicious to everyone: we are seen as 'loud', 'troublemakers', 'hangabouts'. There are even certain hairstyles that are seen as intimidating. This happens in schools, in the streets, in shops, in society. I am asking why? I want to know why? I need to know why? Because all lives won't matter until black lives matter. ■

Other contributors: thanks to Esme Sinclair (8 Marconi), Fatima Sillah (12 Caine), Saron Binyam (7 Moore) and Theo Betts (8 Milton) for sending in their responses to the Black Lives Matter movement.

STREET ART

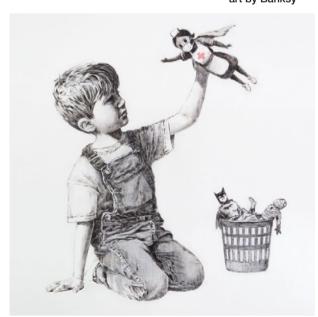
# Street Art is an important part of modern culture; it is not an act of vandalism

A persuasive speech in response to an English task by Ophelia Robinson-Beesley (9 Bronte)

The structure of an Orwellian Society isn't far from today's world. The unique segregation Orwell creates in his dystopian novel '1984' captures our nightmare scenario of social isolation and desolation, resulting in destruction. If one wishes to recreate Orwell's iconic police state, I insist you begin with the stripping of art from the street. In the world we claim as our own, graffiti and street art are the artistic embodiment of the citizens. Have you ever interrailed across another continent and, with your eyes beaming with curiosity, hunted down the terrific art of the walls of Berlin or Bolivia? How would annual family holidays to Europe differ if each street was painted the same shade of darkness: a plain white wall? As you read this piece, you may question that oxymoron but as you put yourself into the mind of an activist fighting for the preservation of liberation through modern art forms, you'll begin to understand. Street art is the glue that sticks all conflicting aspects of modern politics, education and technology together and adds a further, deeper concept in life's intimidating, yet beautiful, tapestry.

You and many other people may share the belief that artists whose canvas is the previous solitude of the street wall does not classify as art in the same way that Burne-Jones' oil paintings on canvas do. However, I believe that is ignorant of the concept of cultural adaptation and evolution. Although the V&A archives may never house the work of Shepard Fairey and OSGEMEOS, those names still share the occupation of Raphael and Da Vinci (renaissance artists whose work is housed in the galleries of the Victoria & Albert Museum): the occupation to please, question and entertain.

A piece of street art by Banksy



As you undergo any refurbishment of your flat or house, begin to observe the need to add something to the plain, bare walls in your kitchen or living room. Even though you dread to admit it, you share that necessity with those who 'vandalise' the streets of London with bright colours and statements. Even if your bright colours and statements are represented by a faux succulent from Ikea, you share the freedom that those artists have. They may choose the high walls of railways in Shoreditch as the vast emptiness society needs to steer away from but it does not allow you to segregate them into criminal activity: they remain the entertainers for the ordinary. The next time we are able to venture into another city or even neighbouring borough, appreciate the haven of graffiti that surrounds you and enhance your desire to remove the dystopian emptiness that a plain Hoxton street would grant you with.



### **CREATIVITY IN A CRISIS**

## Coronavirus Time Capsule Project

By Oliver Jean-Baptiste (9 Bell)

I have been part of the Almeida Academy, a drama group, for the last 7 years. One week into lockdown, I was asked to be part of a Coronavirus Time Capsule Project created by Company Three and the Almeida. The time capsule is a week-by-week response to the Covid-19 pandemic told by young people across the country. We receive a task each week via Google classroom and we have a week to film our ideas. The tasks have various headings such as the beginning, home life, about us, school, social distancing, letting loose, food and when this is over. Although we are given guidelines, we are free to interpret each task ourselves and are encouraged to be creative. Week 10 was about mental health and Company Three were working with the Wellcome Trust to support a unique five year strategy to improve mental health in young people. Everything we did for that week will form a major new report which is being written for UNICEF - it is a chance for young people to be heard. Each task is then uploaded onto the Almeida Twitter and YouTube page as a short five minute film combining all the participant's responses.

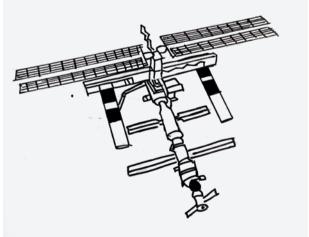
The Time Capsule has been great fun to be a part of and is a good way to stay active during quarantine. Each activity is completely different from the last which makes it even more enjoyable and everyone always has different ideas and interpretations for each task. The Time Capsule has been a unique way to remember my time during lockdown.

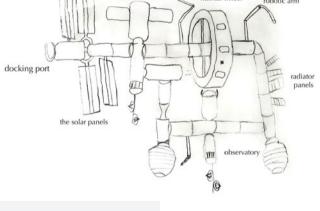


## Designing a space station

Whilst at home, unable to go outside, several students have been designing a new international space station as part of their Design and Technology work. The current international space station is the third brightest thing in the sky after the sun and the moon! This project ran across most year groups and there were some excellent submissions with interesting designs for both the space station and the astronauts.





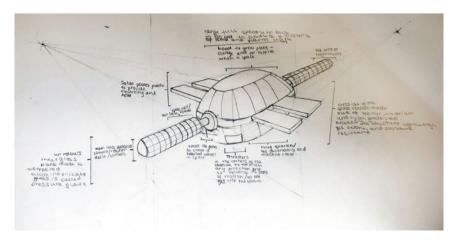


Above: A submission by Elliot Marsden (9 Brunel)

Left: A design by Leo-Can Akin (10 Bannister)

Far left: A submission by Fatima Ahmed (10 Bronte)

Below: Designs by Isabella Yesufu (9 Mandela)



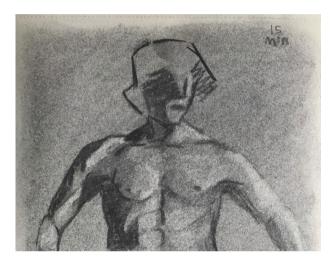


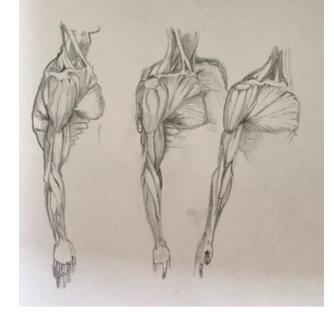
### CREATIVITY IN A CRISIS

## Life drawing with the Royal Academy

The Year 12 Fine Art A Level students have participated in a lesson of Life Drawing Live with the Royal Academy. This was a free online life drawing class you can take from anywhere. Life drawing is the artistic tradition of drawing the human body from a live model; it can be an important way for artists to hone their skills but it can have a much wider impact too. It can contribute to a mindful and relaxed state, reduce anxiety, improve problem-solving and encourage new perspectives.

And you can have a go to! Some paper and a pen or pencil is all you really need to take part. You can watch the video at: royalacademy.org.uk/article/online-life-drawing-classlifedrawinglive Make sure you use full-screen if you can to get the best possible view of the model. Follow The Royal Academy of Art on Twitter and Instagram to share photos of your drawing with the hashtag #LifeDrawingLive. ■





Above: Life drawing by Amelie Hartley Salim (12 Caine) Left: Life drawing by Michael Gibson (12 Kingsley)

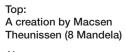
## Year 8 Textiles Designer Superheroes **Project**

As part of their Textiles home-learning and inspired by the artist Banksy's tribute to NHS frontline workers, Year 8 designers have chosen a hero and designed masks and gloves for them which are influenced by their heroic qualities.









Above: A piece of art by Arthur Wood (8 Brunel) A creation by Stanley

Moss (8 Mandela)



## Impressive artwork from lockdown





A video game style poster by Buster Dennish Ross

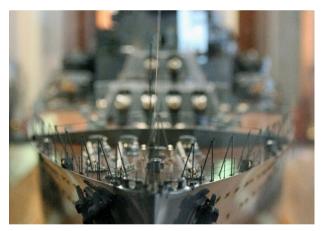
(9 Moore)



battle between Yoda and a battle droid by Liam Zhang

(7 Moore)

A piece of textiles work by Alexis Agyenim-Boateng (7







Safiri Abantu-Choudhury (12 Cavell) has been working on her photography, particularly editing photos using photoshop



Inspired by an article on the Colossal website about the work of Bisa Butler who uses African fabrics to create nuanced portraits, Year 10 Art students have been responding to the experiences of life in lockdown through quilt making. Year 10 artists are going to create individual tiles for a quilt to recognise and pay tribute to the global and personal events that have occurred since March.

Quilts can take many forms and are a great way for communities to come together to share ideas, values or commemorate events. We invite you all to get involved in creating the Mossbourne Community Quilt.

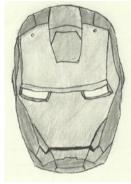
Right: A quilt submission by Kim Thien Hoang (10 Moore)

Below: A quilt submission by Lucy Guthrie (10 Moore)



A portrait in response to the portrait project created by Oliver Carter (9 Marconi)





A piece of superhero inspired art by Farhan Mirza (8 Bronte)



A digital portrait by Jennifer Duong (9 Bannister)



A yacht made on Minecraft by Killian Scortichini (10 Marconi)



A wonderful observational drawing by Allison Cerna Vidal (9 Moore)



Alan Studniak (11 Bannister) has been developing his cartoon series



A drawing of an eye by Jose Andrade Salazar (8 Milton)



A piece of textured artwork by Safa Bhula (7 Bronte)

**Other contributors:** thanks to Paris Davis (7 Bell), Connie Smerdon (8 Moore) and Safiya Bhula (7 Moore) for also submitting their excellent pieces of creativity.



#### **CREATIVE WRITING**

The English department have been especially impressed with the variety of creative writing responses which have been completed as part of home-learning. We have highlighted some excellent extracts of longer pieces of writing here and we want to say a huge well done for the hard work students have been putting into their English work.

Life is blue. The colour has surrounded me my whole life from the deep rich blue of my mother to the winking world above. When I circle my mother, she urges me upwards – 'to breathe' she says. I remember doing as she asked. It was the first time I remember the sun winking at me in the waves.

By Camilla Anuar (11 Marconi)

On a Halloween night she went into the graveyard. Suddenly, out of nowhere she could hear someone breathing. It was so scary. The breathing was heavy. The breathing stank. Slowly, she turned her head but no one was there. A cold and long bony hand touched her. She yelled but when she turned her head, no-one was there.

By Kitty Stander Moy (11 Bannister)

Radiant, golden light glared across the flora-congested terrain, as the soaring trees tentatively oscillated in the tranquility of the amiable breeze. Like waves going over a beach, the foliage managed to subdue the mystifying mill; an ambitious endeavor to obscure the mill within the depths of nowhere. The windows, devoid of any life, dismally gazed across the land like a creature permanently sealed in a confined cage.

By Obinna Okoro (7 Bannister)

The ship creaked dangerously as waves thrust forward in great amounts of power, allowing small glimpses of the cliffs just up ahead. You could almost hear the song of the mermaids as the ship was pulled down into the depths of the watery hell. As the undines played their sounds of death, salt burned the lungs of the ones daring to cross Bermuda's path. The ocean teased the boat and threw it about like an infant would a rag doll; the wind mocked the pirates in their attempt to escape the oceans hunger.

By Tabassum Noshin (9 Marconi)

The sea was taunting us. All our sins, shortcomings and poor decisions were finally combing back to us, to haunt us, even in the afterlife. As the terracotta sun sank into the abyss, the streaks of orange light teased us. They danced across the sea to show that warmth and happiness had slipped from our fingertips. The rays of light gradually turned into a violent, bloody crimson and, as the wind howled at our faces, I heard a faint laugh.

By Ajwad Ameen (9 Mandela)



### **MAKING MUSIC**

## MCA Collaborates with the Abram Wilson Foundation

Earlier this year, before lockdown, we were really lucky to be able to run two separate programmes with the music charity Abram Wilson Foundation. The first project - Achieve Your Greatness - began in September for a group of Year 7s, who got to take part in day-long song writing workshops and learn how to express their voice through or with music. They got to work with professional musicians to develop both their musicality as well as their confidence. Gary Johns (7 Bell) said "I wish we got to do more of this, every week or even every day!" Then, in February, the students got to go on a backstage tour at the Hackney Empire and meet lots of different people who worked there, to learn more about the whole arts industry. Alexis Agyenim-Boateng (7 Marconi) said "This has been really interesting, I never knew that half of these jobs even existed. I am interested in working here one day maybe on the stage or maybe behind the scenes. Or maybe both!" The project culminated with the students performing songs they had written themselves, which were excellent and an exciting indication of things to come!

The second project we ran this year with Abram Wilson Foundation was Future Sound, following its resounding success last year. This time, the students got to work with the Mercury Prize nominated band SEED Ensemble, who feature none other than our own alumni Deschanel Gordon on keys!

There is no doubt that it was an incredible experience for all involved. The final gig was at the Church of Sound on Friday 13th March – their final live event before lockdown. It was, to put it most simply, inspiring. The students performed to a professional standard and connected with everyone in the audience through their excellent performances and compositions. Once again, we are reassured about the future of music.

You can find out more about the work of the Abram Wilson Foundation on their website!







Photographs of students at the Hackney Empire backstage tour and working with professional musicians

### COME DINE WITH US

## Cooking in a crisis

As the supermarkets emptied, Mossbourne students had to get even more creative with their culinary delights. The Food Technology department have been impressed with the high standard of student home-learning in this subject and were overwhelmed to see how many students have spent time cooking food for their families and learning new skills.





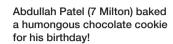


Pictures of Gus Leung Skinner (7 Marconi) hard at work cooking a delicious dinner for his family. Gus said he had never cooked for his family before!



This colourful dish was made by Ledley Amankwah (7 Milton)

**Other contributors:** thanks to Mateusz Miskiewicz (8 Bronte), Sharon Adebola (12 Berkoff), Salma Abdulaziz Ali (9 Brunel) and Ednessa Haline Grenon (7 Mandela) for submitting their delicious creations.





A fruity chocolate creation by Losana Rexha (13 Cavell)



This impressive sushi was made by Lycam Pham (10 Moore)



An excellent dish made by Angel Ogboru (10 Mandela)



This is Krutagn Mistry's (7 Brunel) first attempt at making pizza and apparently it was delicious!



Saskia Van Someren (9 Mandela) made this excellent oreo cake.



A photo of Mohsena Mahiya Rashid's (10 Bell) decadent creation



A selection of cookies baked by Samia Abdulaziz Ali (9 Mandela)



### THE NATURAL WORLD

## Climate Change isn't locked-down

By Aaron Thomas-Epstein (8 Bell)

Before Covid-19 struck, many young people took to the streets, protesting against the climate emergency. Although the coronavirus has distracted many of those protesters and the public, the crisis has not gone away. Even in lockdown, we are still seeing the effects of climate change start to emerge in full force. We have just experienced the hottest winter, the wettest February, and the driest May since records began.

Scientists from around the world who are working for the International Panel for Climate Change (IPCC) have predicted that we have just under eight years to prevent and avoid a chain of catastrophic events. Despite the fact that we are uncertain on what those events will actually be, we know for a fact that after these eight short years, if we don't do enough, these events will likely impact all of our lives in a drastic way. But just like Covid-19, those that are socially deprived are most likely to suffer the most. This is a huge problem as 48% of children in Hackney already suffer and this issue will only grow.

One of the few good things that came out of Covid-19 was the drop in CO2 in our atmosphere and improvements in air and noise pollution as traffic almost came to a standstill. The global carbon emissions fell by just over 7% since the beginning of 2020. This is how much of an impact can be made over 3 months. However, it is predicted that after lockdown fully eases there will be a rise is the amount of carbon dioxide released into the air. Scientists estimate a possible rise of up to 20% which is over double the amount that it has fallen. This has already happened in China where they have lifted the lockdown rules and it will happen all around the world unless we do something about it.

Of course, after 5 or 6 months, we will want to meet friends and family but we may not need to go by car. If we meet in a park, then cycling and walking are perfect modes of transport. If we use a car a lot – going to work, getting to school or doing the shopping - then maybe we could try and make it less of a habit and think of other ways to get to places. Another thing that the coronavirus lockdown has seen is wildlife coming back into urban areas. For instance, mid-lockdown, dolphins were said to have re-emerged in the Venice canal. Even if this story isn't true, what is true is that, since the mid-19th century, the water and air have been too polluted for wildlife to stay.

So, the question I want to ask is whether we can rebuild our economy back without harming our planet even more? And, what can a single person do?

Well, honestly, quite a bit. One small action you can do is to start a movement with others. In day-to-day life we love to pick up and follow trends. Look at Greta Thunberg who started a small protest and ended up with millions supporting and following. If you were to start a trend with your friends, then others can pick it up. And it too could grow - ten people, then a hundred people could catch on, then a thousand, then a hundred thousand, then possibly London and so on (think big!). If this trend was something like going vegan or a not driving challenge, then you could make a huge difference to the world.

Finally, here are five things you could do:

- 1. cycle or walk instead of driving
- 2. eat less red meat like beef and lamb or eat vegetarian
- 3. stop buying as many clothes if you like to go shopping a lot and buy second-hand
- 4. don't fly abroad as much if you like to travel
- 5. avoid buying plastic ■

Other contributors: thanks to Nair Gomes Pereira Bassangue (7 Milton), Charles Banbury (9 Milton), Momy Diop (7 Bannister) and Kamron Weekes (9 Bronte) for their excellent contributions.

## Designing our school water bottle

The School Council have been keen to create a school water bottle with the support of Ms Yennaris. Mossourne has received funding from the Jack Petchey foundation to create a water bottle to help reduce plastic use in school. Over lockdown, the competition was launched and there were many excellent entries. Congratulations to Lycam Pham (10 Moore) for the winning design! The next step is to get the water bottles manufactured!

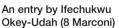






The winning design by Lycam Pham (10 Moore)







An excellent entry from Jessie Nguyen (7 Moore)



A wonderful entry by Sahra Taznim (9 Milton)





Far left: Laila Yakubu's (9 Marconi) design gained her the place of runner up. Left: A competition entry by Julia

Florea (10 Moore)

## Spotting Goldfinches

By Joshua Hollowood-Walsh (7 Bronte)

In my garden, I have been able to spot goldfinches. You can easily attract goldfinches if you have a feeder and some seeds. These little birds are very shy and will be easily scared away. When they are eating, they always look around for any stronger birds such as robins and sparrows (especially the sparrows) because these birds push them around and steal their food.

#### **Goldfinch Profile**

Length: 12cm Wingspan: 21-25.5cm

Migration: They migrate as far as south Spain

Beaks: They have long, fine beaks which allows them to extract otherwise

inaccessible seeds

Song:

They have a delightful twittering song and call

Population: 1.2 million pairs
Scientific Carduelis carduelis

name:

## Spotting wildlife

By Gideon Rochman (9 Milton)

During lockdown, I've been photographing all the wildlife I have seen. There are so many different species of animals – whether it be birds or butterflies - right on our doorstep. Recently I've been especially getting into bird-watching which is very tranquil and somewhat thrilling. So far I have spotted the following: wood pigeon, coot, cormorant, small tortoiseshell butterfly, goldfinch, song thrush, starlings, Egyptian goose, robin, blackcap, moorhen, greenfinch, dragonfly. What I've also been doing is identifying birds by their song, and if I don't know one, or if I haven't heard it before, I go home and look up the bird I think it is and listen to its song online. This usually works. This feels like learning another language, as you can get to know all of the bird songs and learn new ones each week. We also bought a new bird feeder and seed which attracts a vast variety of different bird species to our garden; everyone should do this as it provides a sanctuary for the birds during the harsh winter months when food is scarce.





A selection of wildlife photographs taken by Gideon Rochman (9 Milton)

## The enemy of the climate

A poem by Catalina Circu (8 Bronte)

The strikes that Greta started are indeed a wonder to behold.
But they have not affected change, we need to make the truth be told.

The problem is that they're strikes against the memes of all humanity which make a life, all should agree, defines the word insanity.

About two million years ago The elements of human life combined in nature's science lab in ways devoid of strife. The cells began to reach out to the bounds of their capacity, to others, and to nature's god, our natural activity; creating bodies just like ours with minds that were primed to fill.

To make the necessary change in order to keep us all alive we need to fully understand the reason why we may not survive. This devastating climate change creates our recent history where there to see among the facts The climate's enemy is 'we'.

### THE NATURAL WORLD

### Appreciating nature

As we have all been stuck inside, the natural world has felt far away. Mossbourne students have been spending time observing nature as part of their science work, completing natural drawings as part of their art work and considering our role in stopping climate change as part of their geography home-learning.

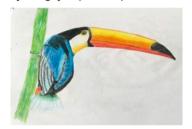
An observational drawing by Samuel Carter (7 Mandela)





A drawing by Octavia Farrelly (9 Bell)

A colourful drawing by Lynn Nguyen (8 Moore)





A project by Giacomo Halliday (7 Moore)



A piece of art in response to a pollution project by the Art department created by Suki Fitzwilliam (8 Brunel)



observational drawing by Daliza Rutale (7 Milton)



A photograph of Suki Fitzwilliam (8 Brunel) and her brother and sister and the newest family addition, their new puppy Elmo!



An observational drawing by Berkay Guven (7 Marconi)

Two artworks in response to a pollution project by the Art department created by





## OBSERVING RAMADAN IN QUARANTINE



## Fasting during lockdown

A portrait created by Mayar Sabah

By Elzoumor Hamid (10 Mandela)

Although Ramadan this year was very different, it was memorable and I learnt some valuable life lessons. On the day before Ramadan, I was so excited because I love this time of year where the whole family gathers together to participate in this beloved tradition: we all got together on the balcony to witness the moon and Ramadan began on April 23rd.

The first day of Ramadan is always the hardest for me as I have to get into the habit of restricting what I eat. However, with four years of fasting under my belt, it w too difficult. Generally, Ramadan continued as normal with the same traditions such as waking up for suhoor (a small meal in the early hours of the morning) before fajr (which is when the period of fasting begins). Maghrib (the breaking of the fast) continued as normal and our average fasting time was about 16 hours. This may seem like a long time fasting, but since we were in lockdown, staying at home doesn't consume that much energy and therefore, this Ramadan was the easiest Ramadan of my life! I was a little down-hearted that my favourite part of Ramadan was cancelled due to coronavirus. Taraweed, an additional ritual prayed performed by Muslims after isha prayer, could not take place because it requires you to attend a mosque. On the final day of Ramadan, we once again got together on the balcony to witness the moon and listen to the TV to declare when Eid will be.

## Making the most of Ramadan in lockdown

By Zayd Gajia (13 Pinter)

This year, Ramadan was uplifting. With more time on my hands than usual, I found that praying and reading the Holy Qur'an for hours gave me a feeling of spirituality and humility that I had never felt before. I became engaged with what I was reading and had a zeal for understanding and memorising the words of Allah. My heart became enlightened through the love for the holy book.

To pass the time during the fast, walking and jogging became a hobby. Along with my uncle, I would walk five miles a day through the greenery of the Walthamstow Marsh, witnessing natural beauty and history that was unspoken of.

A normal Ramadan would usually see us pray in large congregations in the late evenings so instead we had to take it upon ourselves to congregate in our homes with our families. I could not describe to you how comforting it was to see and hear about how many households were praying together in the early morning right through to the evening. There was a sense of togetherness that was formed as a product of the coronavirus and I came to realise that blessings can arise from tragedy.

At the end of the holy month we celebrated Eid al Fitr: an Eid that felt deserved and an Eid that was unalike. I had lost three of my family members since the last Eid, young and old. It was emotional realising that this may well be the last celebration we have together. We can't take life for granted. Where we lose, we can also gain, and I witnessed that once again by welcoming a baby into our family on the day of Eid. An Eid 'Miracle' to say the least.

Throughout the month I really appreciated the family I had around me because families aren't just the people you live with, they are a gift and we should treasure them the most.

I hope you are all safe and healthy, it was a pleasure being a student at Mossbourne and wish staff and students all the best in their future endeavours.

Other contributors: thank you to Gulcan Kayar (7 Milton), Zulaikha Tugghur (7 Marconi), Diren Bektas (7 Milton), Zainab Bahar (7 Mandela) and Eray Bektas (7 Brunel) who all shared their experiences of Ramadan and Eid in lockdown.

## Stay home, save lives, protect the NHS

While we have all being doing our duty to protect each other, lots of Mossbourne students have been submitting interesting updates about what they've been up to. We've received letters from students to their past selves, lockdown survival guides and diary entries. It was impossible to include every single one so here is a snapshot of what our students have been doing at home.



A photograph submitted by Elliot Marsden (9 Brunel) of some of his activities during lockdown: bike cleaning!

### Delivering masks

By Mia Arthur (9 Brunel)

My mum is a seamstress and makes bridal gowns and occasion wear. After the lockdown period started, all of her clients either cancelled or postponed their events until 2021 which affected her business. However, with her businesslike mind, she decided to start making face masks instead of gowns and promoted them on social media. Luckily, she got lots of orders. I have been sending the masks to the post-office for her every day, and, in my free-time, I would do a next-day-delivery shift to anyone who was willing to pay a little bit extra for their masks. I often got lost during these shifts, so it was quite stressful but there were lots of perks to helping out with our new family business. For example, I sometimes got tipped! During this period, I have gotten a small taste of what it is like to have a part-time job and I really loved it. I got more than I bargained for during lockdown − I guess every cloud has a silver lining. ■





Masks made by Mia Arthur's (9 Brunel) mum

#### Dear diary,

A day during the time of Covid-19 is absolutely the most boring thing in the world and I hate it! The best thing about all of this is that I get to wake up when I want! I start the day having some breakfast and then do some online work. After working, I chill out with my family which I also enjoy. Sometimes I do chores around the house to help my family. When I'm bored, I call my friends and it's nice to chat. I am trying not to get addicted to using my phone so I have also been practicing origami and drawing.

From Jayna Nguyen (8 Milton)

Dear diary,

Lockdown is incredibly boring now and quite stressful. We do the exact same things over and over and over again and it feels like it will go on forever. The worst thing is not being able to play football outside and instead having to stay inside working. I really hope things get back to normal soon and nothing like this ever happens again while I am alive!

From

Nashaine Grant O'Garro (10 Bell)

Dear diary,

Quarantine is going well for me as I am enjoying getting up to do lots of work and feel I am still learning at a good speed. I don't think the online work is the same as being in school but I am working hard to stay on top of my subjects. I think in some subjects I may even have extra knowledge when we come back!

From Henry Beaumont (9 Bannister)

## Productivity in lockdown

By Ify Okey-Udah (8 Marconi)

For the first few days, or even weeks, of lockdown, I was miserable. Miserable and extremely bored. Of course, I had work to do but it just wasn't the same. All I was doing was sitting in front of a computer for seven hours and trying to pretend that I was in a cover lesson at school with a substitute teacher. What was I in? Denial!

I was trying to pretend that things were normal but they weren't! It wasn't until my older sister started her podcast that I realised I should make the most of this time. My sister had been putting off her podcast for a while now and I realised lockdown could be the perfect time to be productive and start new projects.

I started thinking about what I wanted to do for my lockdown project. My sister had created a podcast but what could I do? I jumped from learning to knit to sewing clothes to long-distance running but none of them felt quite right and I didn't have the motivation to continue any of them.

It was only when I discovered my old sketchbook that I became really excited about creating and sharing my art. My sister helped me make a Pinterest page which gave me some inspiration and I decided to start a Youtube Channel and Instagram account where I could share my art and thoughts about art. I began to interview people who are artistic and upload the interviews on my channels. My newest one got 100 views and I was really proud of how many people watched the interview.

Over only 16 days, I managed to gain a lot of followers, have some interesting artistic conversations and develop my artistic understanding. Imagine if I had just started looking on the bright side a bit earlier and realised the opportunity which was given to me. If I had stopped sulking already, I might have been even further on with my art blog. So, if you are still bored and miserable, think about what lockdown project you could start. Go do something you enjoy and create something you can be proud of and show your friends after quarantine!

## Being a brother during lockdown

By Yasin Shaikh (8 Marconi)

As it was Carer's Week recently, I want to talk about being a brother to my younger brother who has autism, epilepsy, ataxia and behaviour difficulties. He is ten years old but seems younger. I like to take on some responsibilities in helping my younger brother, especially as sometimes he is very choosy about who he wants to help him. Sometimes it's my mum, sometimes my dad and sometimes me. Today, after helping him get up, I gave him two beautiful pancakes with berries and banana with his favourite whipped cream and sprinkles - I have to carefully remember not to let the banana touch the pancake as he likes to eat those bits separately! My brother hates doing maths work, but we often do work together and I try to motivate him and myself to get our work done. Every now and then, we would show off the work we've done to my little sister who is also working. Later, we played UNO cards which is his current indoor obsession - he really likes it when he beats me! Our home is always a bit chaotic but I love my brother a lot and as soon as coronavirus is over, I can't wait for us all to go on holiday.



A picture of Yasin with his brother

A DAY IN THE LIFE

## A letter to my past self

By Jia Yin Guo (9 Mandela)

Dear Jia Yin,

You are probably very confused right now about who might be sending you this letter, and I do not blame you in the slightest. I am you, but one year later, because I want to warn you about the viral disease, Covid-19 which is also known as the coronavirus.

The coronavirus is shaped somewhat similar to a crown (hence the name), and the whole world is suffering from this disease. You may think that the NHS can solve this problem, easy-peasy, but it came so suddenly and the effects are so severe, that even with the whole world helping each other, the vaccine has still not come out yet.

This is 2020 in a nutshell so far: disease pops out in China in January, lockdown starts in March, and everyone but doctors and nurses stay at home freaking out until the government says everyone is free to go out. It is the 17th of June today and I am still stuck at home. I do not know when it will end but hopefully it will soon.

You, in about 9 months' time, will be quarantined, meaning that you will be at home. Don't worry about school work - the teachers will make sure you have work to do and that you aren't bored during lockdown. I also want to tell you that you may do the same things as I did but the future isn't set in stone – the choices that you make will affect your future.

I would like to reveal more, but I do not know what will come next and the rules of time would not allow me to reveal more anyway. In the meantime, stay safe, goodbye, and good luck.

Love. Your future self. ■

## Social media is essential

By Thomas Beaumont (11 Mandela)

During these troubling times, social media has remained one of the few respites young people have from the horrifying reality outside. It allows us to escape from the world, which only seems to get worse every day. However, it is also used as a way for us to stay involved and talk to our friends when we are not allowed to see anyone. It helps us to stay in contact with those outside our own house and remain somewhat normal during the times. In addition, it helps us to remain informed and, for some, it remains the only outside contact we have during these troubling times. Therefore, it has become one of the most essential pieces of technology to stop people becoming isolated from both the outside world and our friends.

Other contibutors: thank you to Muhammed Mumin (8 Milton), Billy Smith (9 Marconi), Perola Da Cunha (7 Marconi), Daliza Rutale (7 Milton), Ajwad Ameen (9 Mandela), Emil Boland (7 Marconi), Miriam Oyetunji (7 Bell), Berkay Guven (7 Marconi), Triphene Waku (7 Brunel), Emily Bayne (7 Marconi), Kacey Shergold (9 Bronte), Direnc Toprak (7 Mandela), Julia Florea (10 Moore), Bolu Odumosu (7 Bannister), Rihana Palmer-McLean (9 Bannister), Aaron Singh (9 Moore), Danae Kerr (7 Moore), Zainab Abdel-Hamid (7 Bronte), Elanur Barli (7 Bell), Bobby Yasin (7 Milton), Muhamed Ali Guven (7 Bell), Mohamed Mohamed (7 Bannister), Sahra Taznim (9 Milton), Aaron Comer (10 Bell) and Jake Stevens Pierce (8 Marconi) and Blake Leonard (8 Marconi) for their excellent entries.

GIVING THANKS

## Remembering heroes

As a way to honour the heroes within our communities, both past and present, students have been set creative homelearning tasks to pay tribute to the sacrifices that have been made during this time, and throughout history, to protect



A drawing of an NHS hero by Shemyiah Douglas (10 Bannister)

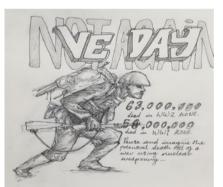


A poster celebrating NHS workers by Ifechukwu Okey-Udah (8 Marconi)

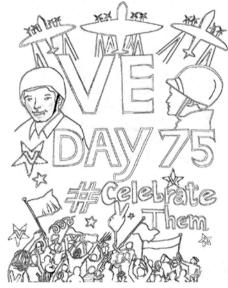
## Commemorating VE Day with the History department



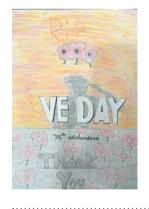
Congratulations to Allison Cerna Vidal (9 Moore) who was one of the winning posters for the History department competition



Congratulations to Jake Grandorge (12 Morley) who was one of the winning posters for the History department competition



Congratulations to Hasan Hasan (8 Milton) who was one of the winning posters for the History department competition





Far left: A poster commemorating VE Day by Jessie Nguyen (7 Moore)

Left: A poster commemorating VE Day by Stella Phipps (10 Brunel)

Right: A celebration drawing for VE Day by Mohammad Ibrahim (7 Bannister)



### Cycling for the NHS

By Aimonn Wood (9 Milton)

On Saturday 18th April, I spent 12 hours non-stop cycling on a stationary bike for charity. I started at 7am and continued until 7pm at night, only stopping for food and to change my clothes. My parents bet that I wouldn't make 4 hours and, to be honest, I didn't think so either! After 10 hours, my legs went numb but I was supported by a zoom

video call as I wasn't alone doing this challenge. I was doing it with my triathlon club as part of a 12-for-12 cycle. The main idea was that we would cycle for the same length of time that NHS workers spend on shift. I was really proud of myself as I was the only child doing the full 12 hours. In the end, we raised over £12,000 for the NHS and I learned an important lesson: always remember your Vaseline!

## Raising money for Great Ormond Street Hospital

By Deeyana Malik

My family and I decided to raise money for Great Ormond Street Hospital. We used just giving to raise the money and one part of our fundraising was to shave all the boys in our household! We wanted to do this because the hospital needed to expand their intensive care unit so that the ill children form other hospitals can go there while the adults with Covid-19 can go to adult hospitals.

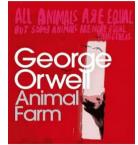


**REVIEWS AND RECOMMENDATIONS** 

## A review of George Orwell's 'Animal Farm'

By Tristan Anar (7 Bell)

During lockdown, I chose to read some of the books from the reading list which was given to us by school. One of them was 'Animal Farm' by George Orwell and I found this to be a very important classic book about political systems, in this case the problem with totalitarianism.



Orwell was born in England and was a socialist who strongly opposed communist ideals in the Soviet Union. 'Animal Farm' parallels the Russian revolution and begins with a story of injustice: the owner of Animal Farm is a cruel and irresponsible man who doesn't care for his animals and forces them to work extremely hard. Some of the smart animals plot an uprising against Mr Jones, the owner. Their idea was to remove Mr Jones from power in the same way the Bolsheviks overthrew the Tzar from power. The animals create a system called animalism which is similar to communism but soon after the revolution, the pigs begin to manipulate events and the other animals. It becomes very clear that "all animals are equal but some animals are more equal than others." Orwell's description in the novel is vivid and he uses simple but poignant metaphors to demonstrate the brutality of dictatorships. It was an interesting and gripping book and I am glad I had the opportunity to read it.

## A review of Malorie Blackman's 'Noughts and Crosses'

By Erika Derri (7 Bronte)

Two classes, two lovers, forbidden to ever be together. Trapped in a cruel and racist world, the doomed friends are forced to face the struggle of earning acceptance. I would highly recommend this book to children and adults because it covers an important subject matter that we currently face in society, the judgement of others. I think everyone should reflect on the storyline and empathise with the noughts who are treated unjustly. Even Stormzy has said that the series are his favourite books of all time.

## A review of Robert Muchamore's 'Brigands M.C.'

By Isidore Phillimore (9 Bronte)

This book is part of a long series called Cherub. The book is split into two parts: the first part is about a gang who deals with drugs and other illegal content. The leader of the gang is known as 'the Fuhrer' and he decides to murder someone. This nickname is something I do not like about the book as it has connotations of Nazism and discriminatory



beliefs. However, a member of the victim's family wants revenge and joins Cherub: a M16 type group for children. The second half of the book focuses on the attempt to get revenge. I like this book as it is really exciting and gripping and I like Muchamore's use of cliff-hangers. It also shows how people can grow and change. However, younger readers should be cautious as it has some violence in it!■

## A review of the film 'Unbroken'

By Zaid Sabah (8 Brunel)

This film is based on a true story about an American track record holder Louis Zamperini. He was born on 26 January 1917. He participated in his high school sprint in the US and qualified for the Olympics. He raced in the



Olympic 5000m race and set a record of 14:46.8. During the war, he was recruited for the US Air Forces. In the film, Louis is in a plane crash when on a mission to rescue other recruits. After 47 days at sea, he is captured. The film focuses on his time in a prisoner-of-war camp and the treatment he receives there. It is in the camp where he shows courage and compassion to everyone in the camp. I really enjoyed this film and it showed what it means to be brave during a really awful time.

SIXTH FORM

## Superiority is central to European Identity

An extract of an essay by Ebenezer Boakye (12 Pinter)

At the beginning of lockdown, I was tasked with writing a 1500 word essay as part of an OxNet programme essay competition, and it was highly commended. I learnt useful skills such as referencing and how to condense a significant amount of reading into an essay. It is interesting how even in an academic essay seemingly removed from reality, parallels can be found in current events. Below is a short extract from the essay:

Superiority is not just central to European identity- it is its guiding star, a fallacy by which falsehoods can become pillars of reason, by which brutality is but an essential means to an end, by which atrocities can be rationalised. Merriam-Webster defines superiority as the following: the state or fact of being better, more important, or higher in rank than others. So how can we apply this definition to a European context? Does it manifest itself in the brutal face of colonisation, Europeans spreading peace and civility to barbarous peoples? Or through the farce of "Enlightenment", conveniently ignoring philosophical and scientific strides made in Asian and Middle Eastern societies beforehand? Or even in current debates regarding migration, conveniently othering "swarms of people", in order to turn away from our moral obligations, to turn away those who are desperate, from our shores? These examples are deeply ingrained into the European consciousness, and by this metric it appears that there is no question whether superiority is central to European identity. But in order to truly establish superiority's place in European folklore, one must first ask: What is Europe? What does it mean to be European?

## A sneak preview: The Mossbourne Free Press

Sixth form students have been hard at work creating their own exciting newspaper. This paper is created by sixth form students for sixth form students. Pupils are given free political reign to write about things they are interested in. To read their brilliant articles, please read the newspaper on the Mossbourne website.

## MOSSBOURNE FREE PRESS The official Mossbourne paper, delivered by the Sixth Form Press Social Media and Social Justice WRITTEN BY XAYMACA AWOYUNGBO, 13 KINGSLEY **Unconscious Bias in The Metropolitan Police** A sneak preview of The Mossbourne

## Recommended Summer Reading



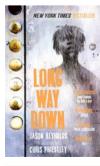




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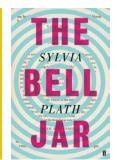
**STOLEPINK** 

RABBIT









Free Press







TEACHERS IN LOCKDOWN

## Working from home

Spending so long away from students has felt very strange for teachers and we have missed having face-to-face contact with all of our classes. It's been brilliant to look at the excellent work being produced in every year group in response to tasks set online. Along with setting online work, creating videos, marking and giving feedback, tutor phone calls home, zoom Q&A sessions with Y12 and Y10 students, sorting GCSE and A Level grades, writing UCAS references for Y12 pupils, coming to school to support the children of key workers and writing catch-up curriculums for September, your teachers have managed to squeeze in a few exciting activities during the lockdown!

## It's all Greek to Mr Douglas

Mr Douglas has been participating in online Greek language classes, practicing his conversational skills.

## On the air with Ms Sayer

Ms Sayer has been busy producing a radio show with her brother. It's been on every Sunday, except for #blackouttuesday #theshowmustbepaused. She's had a lot of fun playing new and old music, interviewing artists and making mixes.



## Propagating with Ms Lennox

Ms Lennox has been learning how to propagate basil so that she can grow her own fresh herbs to use in cooking!  $\blacksquare$ 



## Pies with Ms McRae

Ms McRae has been having a weekly meeting with a friend on zoom to try and bake the same thing, even though she didn't have much experience of baking before!



## Protesting with Ms Shih

Ms Shih is passionate about the climate emergency and attended a socially distant protest about climate change.



## Painting with Ms Roberts

Ms Roberts has been practicing her skills by completing lots of colourful paintings. ■



## **Participating** in a trial with Ms Skipsey

Ms Skipsey is one of 10,000 people participating in a vaccine trial for Covid-19 at St Thomas's hospital.■

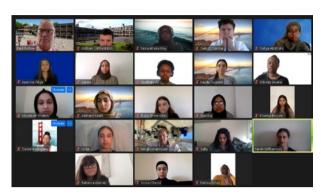




MEDICAL SOCIETY

### A call with frontline doctors

By Danielle Kingsley (12 Morley)



Medical society students on a zoom call with Dr El Ghazali, Dr Johannsson Dr Williamson

During the lockdown, the Medical Bursary was fortunate enough to have a zoom interview with three frontline doctors, Dr Johannsson from St Mary's Hospital, Dr El Ghazali from UCL and Dr Williamson from Harefield Hospital. These doctors were tirelessly working to treat patients suffering from the coronavirus and were willing to give us a glimpse of some of their experiences. This was an invaluable experience as we could ask questions that we had about what working on the frontline really is like, and obtain insight into what we could potentially be dealing with as future medics. We were able to be educated about some of the challenges even the most experienced doctors encountered, from low motivation to protecting themselves while still providing the best possible care. This session allowed us to shift from merely viewing the virus from a numerical and statistical perspective to seeing the emotional toll it was having on frontline workers and how it was impacting every person individually. Our interview session was also very informative, as we were able to learn about how Covid-19 may shape the future of the NHS and ultimately our future as potential doctors. One of the most significant lessons we took away from this experience is the importance of teamwork and collaboration. This will not only be useful as a doctor but also when facing difficult and stressful times.

### **Medical** researchers

In order to hone their research skills and prepare them for university medical interviews, medical society students were tasked with research essays during lockdown. An excellent range of topics was covered including antibiotic resistance, intercellular bonding, public health spending and racism within the medical profession – an extract of which is printed below.

## Racism within the medical profession

An extract of a research essay by Alfreda Sivalie (12 Caine)

Beyoncé and Serena Williams: two of the most famed and richest black women in the world yet united by their serious difficulties during childbirth. Beyoncé developed preeclampsia, a hypertensive condition that causes high blood pressure during pregnancy and can lead to lifethreatening seizures known as eclampsia. Williams was assured by doctors that she was fine had to insist she was given a CT scan which then revealed she was having a pulmonary embolism. Fortunately, both women are well and safe and so are their children but this is not the same story for black women around the world, particularly in the UK.

Between 2014 and 2016 there were 40 per 100,000 deaths of black women who died during, or up to six weeks after, pregnancy compared to 8 per 100,000 for white women. Moreover, there is a well-known statistic that black women are five times more likely to die during childbirth compared to their white counterparts. It is clear that this issue affects black women irrespective of money, class or status, but the question is, why is this happening?

Firstly, it is important that we address the narrative of the 'strong black women' which suggests that black women handle pain better. In fact, until 2017, Pearson Publishers were still producing 'Nursing: A Concept-Based Approach to Learning' which stated that black women 'believe suffering and pain are inevitable'. Such harmful stereotypes lead to racial biases; for example, many black women have reported that white expectant mothers are listened to with more depth and empathy whereas they are often dismissed and their concerns are invalidated. Moreover, when black women complain about their unjust treatment and how they believe their ethnicity had a part to play, these legitimate complaints are often disregarded. This leaves no room for the discussion about the institutional racism that black women face in healthcare. It is a vicious and fatal cycle.

**ACHIEVEMENTS** 

## An excellent science fair



This year's Science Fair was an overwhelming success with over 60 experiments conducted by budding scientists in Year 8 on display. Judging the displays were a group of scientists from Kings College London and University College London, with Ms Warren leading the judges. Huge congratulations to all those who presented their investigations but a big shout out for the following winners:

**Biology Award:** Investigating food digestion – Oscar Friedlander (8 Marconi), Reneika Munroe-Walker (8 Milton), Angelica Pashaw (8 Mandela)

**Chemistry Award:** Marshmallows – Sara Fakir (8 Mandela), Yusra Ali (8 Bannister), Rabia Altun (8 Bronte)

**Physics Award:** Investigating infinity mirrors – Aatami Lever (8 Brunel), William Ewurum (8 Marconi), Mohamed Ahmed (8 Mandela), Rafael De Sousa (8 Bannister)

**Oracy Award:** Investigating dynamics of lava lamps – Dylan Jackson (8 Bell), Aaron Thomas-Epstein (8 Bell), Tiernan Wharton (8 Bell)

**Nobel Prize:** Investigating memory – Liron Armah (8 Bronte) and Ayla Okotie (8 Bell) (who scored 10/10 for Scientific merit, Presentation and Oracy) ■

## Top Tassomai students

Students across Year 7-11 have been making impressive progress with their online Science revision using Tassomai. Tassomai is an intelligent online learning program that helps students build knowledge for success in Science.

Students working on Science questions from home have answered an impressive 590,536 questions correctly since March. The top students in each year group are listed below. Well done!



- Y7: Ridwan Abdulaziz Ali (7 Brunel)
- **Y8:** Lynn Nguyen (8 Moore)
- **Y9:** Salma Abdulaziz Ali (9 Brunel)
- Y10: Blessing Anosike (10 Bronte)
- Y11: Kush Givane (11 Brunel) ■

## MCA triumph in sport this year

This year MCA has won a huge number of sports tournaments and competitions. It's an impressive achievement and we are proud of all of our athletes. ■

#### Congratulations to:

- Year 7 Boys Football Hackney League Champions
- Year 7 Girls Netball Hackney League Champions
- Year 7 Girls Netball London League Champions
- Year 7 & 8 Boys Hackney running league Champions
- Year 7 & 8 Girls Hackney running league Champions
- Year 8 Boys Football Hackney League Champions
- Year 8 Girls Netball Hackney League Champions
- Year 8 Girl Football London Cup Semi-finalist (Postponed)
- Year 8 Girls Netball London League Runners Up
- Year 9 Boys Football Hackney League Champions
- Year 9 & 10 Boys Hackney running league Champions
- Year 9 & 10 Girls Hackney running League Champions
- Year 10 boys Football London Cup Semi finalist (Postponed)















## EAL Reading Plus lessons carry on

Our students who need extra support for their English are carrying on practicing by using Reading Plus Online lessons. So far, our students are doing well and enjoying using the programme from home. They enjoy reading different stories that they are interested in while improving their English level.

A special mention to the following three students who have been working incredibly hard and going above and beyond with Reading Plus: Nebye Kubrom (10 Moore), Can Gurzal (8 Milton), Raya Yaneva (8 Bell).

## ACHIEVEMENTS

### MCA participate in Race for Life

Mossbourne students participated in the 'Race for Life' for charity and raised £1761. Students proudly wore their badges around the school building. Congratulations to all who took part!





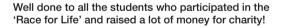


## Win, win, win for Mossbourne footballers

For the first time ever, Mossbourne Community Academy has won all three boys Hackney football league competitions. All the students involved have shown excellent commitment arriving to Hackney Marshes at 8:45am in order to represent the Academy. When playing their matches, teamwork, hard work and a positive attitude was demonstrated throughout all the games that the students played . For the Year 9 boys this is 3 years of hard work to have finally won the league. Congratulations to all players on the Year 7 Boys Football, Year 8 Boys Football and Year 9 Boys Football teams! ■









## Move aside Joe Wicks

An event that both staff and students look forward to every year is sports day. The events between each form class are always extremely competitive and of a high standard. Unfortunately, this year, sports day could not take place but that did not stop students competing.

The inaugural virtual sports day was sent out to students from the PE department with the aim of students trying to beat their PE teacher's score. The events included speed bounce, wall sit, indoor curling, long jump, reverse high jump and heptathlon. The PE staff were extremely impressed by the times and distances some students achieved. It should make for an extra special sports day next summer! ■





Above: Jaya Fox (9 Bell) makes a leap for it on virtual sports day

Right: Obinna Okoro (7 Bannister) participates in our virtual sports day

Left: Kayna Lee Morille (8 Marconi) taking part in virtual sports day

