



ISSUE 95

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2022

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A Word from our Headteacher



Dear Parents/Carers,

Another half term has flown by and as you will see from our newsletter, it has been jam-packed with interesting and exciting experiences for SGHS students and staff. Trips, visits and extra-curricular

activities fill the pages of this newsletter which is a testament to our commitment to providing a broad educational experience that goes way beyond the examined curriculum. Huge thanks go to our staff who provide these exceptional experiences and to families for supporting them too.

I have had the pleasure of attending a number of SGHS events this half term. First was the Friends of SGHS Family Games Night, which was a very entertaining evening, full of family laughter. We can not thank the Friends enough for the work that goes into organising such events and the support of all the attendees. Next, was the SGHS Winter Concert which was a wonderful event, showcasing the amazing talents of many of our students. We welcomed students from Ermysted's Grammar School and enjoyed diverse performances that ranged from a festive ukulele cover of Wham's 'Last Christmas', to a French rap about period poverty. The whole evening was led by sixth form students, but would not have been possible without the efforts of Mrs Chilvers and Mrs Evans, who worked extremely hard behind the scenes to ensure accomplished and inspiring performances. It has motivated me to increase my piano practice!

This week saw the return of our Post 16 Prize Giving evening. It was lovely to see so many SGHS alumni brave the icy temperatures to catch up, reminisce and celebrate their achievements. This particular cohort achieved the highest A Level grades in our history, with 54% of all grades at

A/A* and 73% at A*-B. Truly inspiring. As well as hearing from our Chair of Governors, Mr Howard Cutler, we were fortunate to be joined by Dr Beth Johnson, SGHS Alumnus, Professor of Television and Media Studies and Deputy Head of School of Media and Communication at the University of Leeds. Beth shared some powerful messages with us all about keeping creativity and curiosity in our lives and the importance of learning to appreciate and accept help when we need it.

There have been some staffing changes this term as we said goodbye to our librarian Mr Anderton who has begun his well-earned retirement after a long and illustrious career in education. We are also bidding farewell to Mr Hoyle who is moving on to a promoted post. We are sad to see him go and wish him very well.

We have welcomed Mrs Walkden as our new Librarian and in January, Mr Wood is returning to SGHS as Curriculum Leader for DT. I would like to thank Mr Green and Mr Boyd for their contributions to the DT department this term. Ms Palmer is joining us as Chemistry teacher and Mrs Wordley and Mr Daniell join us as Cover Supervisors/Admin Assistants. We have seen some changes to our Senior Leadership Team too, as Mrs Bean and Mrs Lofthouse have joined as Associate Assistant Headteachers.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to thank all of our students, parents, staff and governors for their continued support this term. It is a privilege to see our community working together to help our young people lead happy, successful lives. I wish you all a wonderfully festive and peaceful break and look forward to seeing what the new year brings for SGHS.

Ms M Featherstone
Headteacher

High Adventure for Year 7

Our new Year 7s had the privilege and pleasure of being our first year group to experience a residential at High Adventure Outdoor Activity Centre the week before October half term. The whole year group were invited to attend and had the opportunity to throw themselves into many exciting adventures as well as making new friendships with their peers.

The weather was kind at the beginning of the week with beautiful blue sky but typical cold, the second half of the week was slightly more challenging!!

All students had the opportunity to experience the high ropes, the leap of faith climbing challenge, the dark mystery of the labyrinth, the incredibly wet stream scrambling, team building tasks, archery and the amazing adventure walk with weaselling activities through the rocks.

Along with the challenge of making their own beds, lunches and sharing dormitories, the year 7 students threw themselves wholeheartedly into the activities and were a real credit to themselves, their families and the school. Well done Year 7!!

Mrs Winter
Student Development &
Achievement Lead Year 7 & 8



Returning Art Students

It was an absolute pleasure to have three of last year's Year 13 Art students back in school this term giving a talk to our Year 12 and Year 13 Art students about their new Art Foundation course at Leeds Arts University. Connie, Eleanor and Ruby all talked eloquently about their new experiences, explained the entry procedure, and showed us their very experimental Art work.

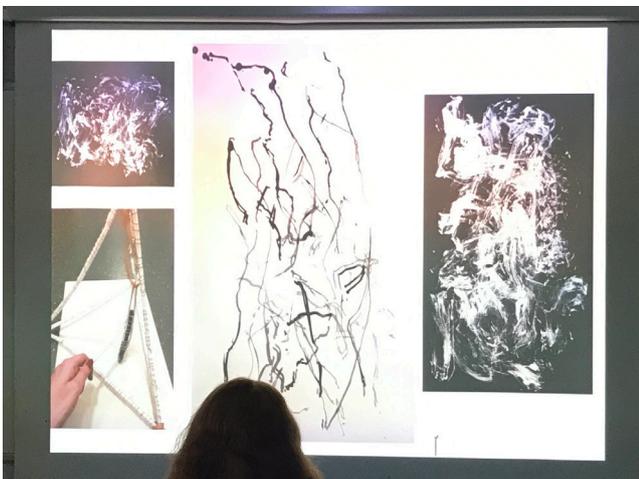
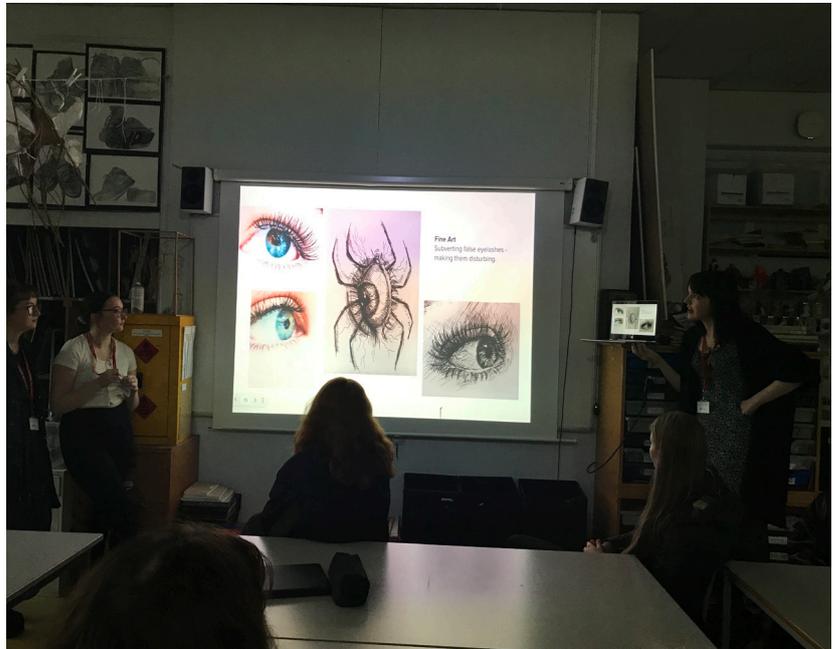
Mrs Scott
Curriculum Leader: Art

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Gaining an in person experience aided my understanding of what the Art Foundation Course at Leeds Arts University entails. Its was enjoyable to see the array of work that the foundation students create and opened my eyes to how freeing and openly creatives I could be.

Katie Bowes - Year 13

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Geography Trip to London

At the end of November Mrs Brailsford and I took the Year 13 Geographers to London in support of their A level course, the first time we have run the trip. We stayed right by St Paul's cathedral and had a lovely time exploring the area the evening we got there as you can see in the picture. We walked over the Millennium Bridge and popped into the Tate Modern before heading out for dinner.

On the Monday we headed to the City of London and went up a 25-storey building to what is technically a public park at the top, it's called the Skygarden and the views from the top are amazing, we highly recommend it. We walked through the City of London looking at change in the area's built environment and character as a result of modern economic change, to reach Brick Lane. Brick Lane is an important A level case study so we spent quite some time there investigating factors creating continuity and change on Brick Lane, it's a really fascinating area where you can see clearly the impact of its past history on its present place meaning. No trip

to Brick Lane is complete without a curry so we ended the day in one of the famous curry houses!

The day we returned we took the scenic route along the South Bank to Westminster to take in some of London's sights and then spent time in the King's Cross area looking at the regeneration taking place there which includes Google's London office and has entirely transformed that area.

We had a great 48 hours and crammed in a lot of geography and had lots of fun! The students were an absolute credit to themselves and the school; we were so impressed by how up they were for doing as much as possible in the time we had.

We hope to be able to run the trip in future years.

Ms Philips
Curriculum Leader: Geography



Politics Parliament Trip

On the 29th September 2022, the Year 12 and 13 politics classes went on a trip to the Houses of Parliament. Meeting at Leeds Station in the morning, we travelled down on an unsurprisingly crowded King's Cross train (thankfully, we had reserved seats).

After arriving in London, we caught the tube to Westminster, where we arrived with some time to spare. We took a walk across Westminster bridge and then enjoyed lunch in the park next to the Houses of Parliament. The last dregs of summer remained in the air, and so this was quite a pleasant lull in an otherwise busy day.

Inside Parliament, we were split into two groups – Years 12 and 13 – and explored the House of Lords and Commons separately. The MPs and Lords were, at that point, on holiday (after a ten-day period of mourning for the Queen) and so we were able to enter into the debating chambers, rather than be forced to observe from a distance. Some of us even got the chance to stand at the dispatch box and imagine ourselves Prime Minister for a few seconds.

Once we arrived back at King's Cross, after a rush-hour journey on the London Underground, we had a few hours to potter about the immediate area and enjoy the various cuisines on offer – or just go to MacDonalD's, as was the case for some, but not all. By seven, it was time to return to Leeds. After a long day in London, we were all exhausted but felt exhilarated and fired up about learning how politics works in the UK.



Millie Wooler
Year 12



Year 8 Maths Competition

We took two teams of four to Keighley College to represent school in November in a local Maths competition. The students who were selected were: Cath Ellis, Yuki Chen, Elena Burton, Elizabeth Webster, Fatima Raheel, Pearl Conroy, Jade Ellie and Akila Kumar. Their efforts on the day were excellent and used teamwork to tackle some challenging problems.



Advanced Mathematics
Support Programme®

Mr Barker

Teacher of Maths

Pearl Conroy

I wanted to take part in this competition because I personally find maths fun in lessons and was interested in what it would be like outside of lessons and in a competitive environment. I definitely enjoyed the afternoon as it was challenging, but in a good way as it really made you think hard about what to do and made it all the more satisfying when you solved the puzzles. Furthermore, I really enjoyed the new experience of doing maths with others in a team, as it is not something we normally do at school. I would encourage others to sign up in the future, especially if you enjoy maths, as it is all about exploring new ways of doing it. Also, only good will come of participating as it is a new (and fun) experience, so it is best to just try it and give it a go.



Yuki Chen

The Maths Competition was a brilliant experience. I wanted to participate and represent our school in the Maths Competition as it gives you a chance to work with different people and being more social. It was very enjoyable and a bit of fun. The best part was probably the coding and I loved how every question is somehow linked with the next. I would highly recommend students to join competitions in the future as you gain experiences.



Friends of SGHS Update

Thank you to everyone who supported our very successful fundraising events over the past couple of months - raising a total of **£1,626** for school.

The Halloween Prize Hamper raised £305. Congratulations to our lucky winner, Lucy Mitchell in Year 7. We hope you enjoyed it! Thank you to everyone who donated prizes and bought tickets. Our Family Games Night raised a whopping £ 988. Much pizza, pasta and chocolate was consumed between rounds of good old fashioned family fun and a bit of friendly competition! Thank you to everyone who came along for your generous donations. Your amazing energy and humour made for a brilliant evening. Most recently we held a Christmas Market at the Winter Concert, and in school the following day. We raised £333. Thank you to all you lovely, talented people who made and donated items to sell - not a morsel was left over.

School projects funded over the past couple of months

Because of your generosity we have been able to allocate £1,000 to the school's hardship fund. We have supported the Art Department with £200 to buy new paint brushes. The Robotics club has received £450.00 to cover competition entry fees and purchase additional robotics kits. Food Technology have received £470 to purchase additional kitchen equipment to ensure there is sufficient for all students to fully participate in practical lessons.

We will be reviewing more bids from school in February so we need to keep the money coming in!





What's coming up next?

Numbers for the 150 Club for 2023 will be on sale in the new year on ParentPay and the Friends' website. Each £20 number is entered into a monthly draw with prizes of £40, £25 and £10 to be won every month – far better odds than Euromillions, albeit slightly lesser prizes! The 150 Club raises money for the school's hardship fund, which has seen increasing demands over recent times, so if you can support this by buying one or more numbers it is hugely appreciated. Tickets for our Valentines Prize Hamper will also be on sale in January and our annual Quiz and Curry Night is planned for early February. Keep an eye out on ParentPay for further details in the New Year.

From everyone at Friends of SGHS we send all our festive best wishes.

Friends of SGHS



Christmas Card Competition

Well done to all students who entered the Christmas card competition, there were lots of superb entries. I did not envy Ms Featherstone and the SLT team having to decide on a winner and three runners up!

The overall winning entry is by **Clemmie Swiffen in Year 12**. It is so good to see you make connections with our tutor read: "October October"

The three super runners up were:

Josie MartinYear 7

Yuki ChenYear 7

Francesca VareyYear 8

Mrs Scott

Curriculum Leader: Art



(Above) by Josie Martin - Year 7



(Above) by Clemmie Swiffen - Year 12



(Above) by Yuki Chen - Year 7



(Above) by Francesca Varey - Year 8

The Drop Swap Shop

This term the Engineers of the Future team have been working hard to create our very own Drop Swap Shop in school.

With sustainability at the core of everything we do, Drop! Swap! Shop! provides an exciting new system that promotes reusable uniform, student leadership and reduces the carbon footprint of our school community.

This enterprise project began in September and over this time the students have collected, washed, and organised donated uniform and painted and rebranded the space where the shop is located. The team felt passionately about the impact of “fast fashion” on global carbon emissions. For instance, did you know the fashion industry accounts for about 8-10% of global carbon emissions, and nearly 20% of wastewater. This has been an enriching careers experience for our students who have all embraced their different role.

With this new platform, students will be encouraged to bring in their old uniform that they no longer need, or they have outgrown, this includes PE kit, sixth form black jackets, coats, bags etc. This will be at various points across the year and will be known as “drop week”. Students will be asked if they would like to drop off any clean uniform at the shop. At this point students can look at see if they want to do a straight “Swap” for another item in stock.

On Tuesday and Friday lunchtimes, and at open evening events, the shop will be open for students to purchase items for the shop. This will be at minimal cost, for example £3 a jumper. Any profits made will be divided between renewable energy initiatives for the school site and the SGHS hardship fund.

Please come and visit us!

Mrs Lofthouse
Associate Assistant Headteacher

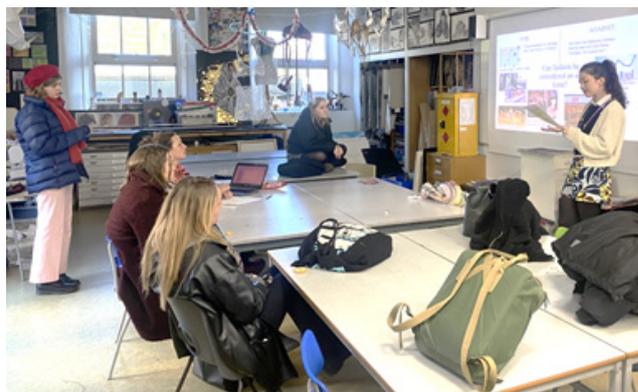


Year 13 Gold Arts Award

As part of our Gold Arts Award we have enjoyed listening and taking part of the Debate unit of the course. These topics have ranged from 'Can Art be considered an Art form?' 'Is racism at the core of the Fashion Industry?', 'The tortured artist – the overly portrayed link between neuroticism/ mental health disorders and creativity/ the arts' to 'Is an offender's artwork still as valuable as a non-convict?' amongst many others.

Each week the students present a theme for debate and discussion, with research offering counterbalance, with a space to reflect and offer differing viewpoints whilst encouraging each other to think outside the box. As always, the students have gone above and beyond and have shown a wisdom and sensitivity which has been consistent throughout their Gold Arts Award.

Mrs Pitt
Teacher of Art



FOR:	AGAINST:
<p>"From Bandelaine to Christian Dior - The Poetics of Fashion"</p> <p>'Art after fashion' - Roberta Smith</p> <p>V&A Exhibitions</p> <p>Yves Saint Laurent's 25-year retrospective exhibition</p> <p>Alexander McQueen Exhibition No 13</p>	<p>Art critic <u>Lois Simmons Zelenko</u> held an interview with <u>Diana Vreeland</u>, "Is Fashion Art?"</p> <p>Art critic: <u>Michael Bruegel</u> fashion is commercial</p>
<p>Can fashion be considered an art form?</p>	

SGHS Art Exhibition at the Town Hall in 2023

We are really pleased to let you know that a sample of last years' year 11 and year 13 students' Art and Photography work will be on show in the Town Hall's Exhibition Gallery. If you would like to see this, it will be open from **Saturday 14th January 2023 - March 11th 2023.**

The Exhibition Gallery is open Monday to Saturday, 9.30am - 4.30pm and closed Sunday.

Mrs Scott
Curriculum Leader: Art



Cupcake Workshop

The Year 11 GCSE Food group had the privilege of working with Saima of [cupcakerbradford](#), who has amassed over 232K followers on Instagram. Saima happily accepted an invitation to visit SGHS on the day of her birthday with her daughter Hafsa, to deliver a specialist cupcake workshop on Wednesday 30th November.

Saima was a secondary school English teacher who left the profession to take up her passion for baking and has since had a very successful career. Her unique work is truly spectacular, beautifully intricate, and a magnificent show-stopper.

She made national headlines when she baked for royalty; The Duke and Duchess of Wales, William & Kate when they visited Bradford a few years ago. Saima's portfolio includes baking cupcakes for a parfumerie launch for Christian Dior and has had multiple Radio 2 talk shows. Saima was also asked to bake the Queens Jubilee cake, has been head-hunted by numerous foreign countries to come and offer specialist workshops.

The cupcake workshop was a huge success and was thoroughly enjoyed by both staff and students. Click on the link to view the video of the event to get a closer insight of the event, which has so far reached over 18.5k views.

Mrs Yasin
Teacher of Food Preparation
and Nutrition



Post 16 Options Evening

The Post 16 Options Evening was a huge success with the different Faculties running various A Level activities in their different areas - from experiments in Chemistry to the ethical Trolley Problem in RS.

The 6th Form volunteers did a wonderful job of representing their subjects explaining to prospective students and their parents about life in SGHS 6th Form and the myriad of opportunities available.

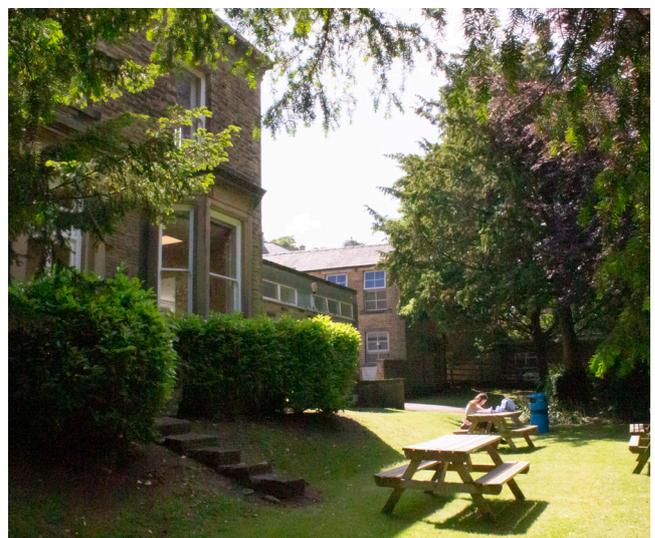
The West Bank facilities were in high demand with the catering staff putting on a splendid array of culinary delights and Psychology A Level in the Stables was packed to the rafters with students and parents keen to explore this topic.

In the Hall was 'Next Steps - Beyond SGHS' section of the evening, which saw a selection of HE providers, ranging from the Universities of Manchester, York St Johns, Leeds and Bradford, to other technical providers such as NHS and engineering and construction firms. Mrs Crowther, our Careers adviser, was also there to answer any queries from students and parents about their next steps and provide insightful advice and guidance. The 6th Form 'Xtra Student Representatives discussed their work experience taking place every Wednesday afternoon from placements as varied as Veterinary to Law to Primary schools to Engineering to Accountancy to mention but a few. There was also the UCAS stand which saw student representatives explaining how SGHS guides students with both a highly structured Careers programme, alongside personal, bespoke support.

The evening was a huge success and the school was buzzing with enthusiasm and ambition.

Mrs Townend

Learning Director: Humanities



Student Executive

Over the course of the Autumn Term, the Student Executive have been working hard to enhance the sense of community at SGHS. As a collective, we have been involved in discussions with various staff members around diversity and inclusion, safeguarding, and sustainability in school, with more important topics to come as the year continues.

For Children in Need, we organised a non-uniform day, raising £1254.46 of donations for the charity! In our specific house groups, we aimed to establish a stronger house identity, starting with the elections of individual house Student Executive representatives for each of the four houses. So far this year, the Curie and Brontë houses have led gatherings explaining their visions for the year, particularly in reference to how they want to encourage unity within their house. Following on from their gathering, the Curie team - led by their Head of House, Maiyda - organised an incredible 'Teacher X-Factor!' From this, we managed to raise £234.62 to go towards Curie's house charity, Disaster Emergency Committee, whose profits are currently funding humanitarian appeals in Pakistan and Ukraine. Students from across the whole school joined in, and everyone had a great time watching teachers perform various musical acts! The overall winner was Mrs Lipscombe, with her performance of 'Defying Gravity,' and Mr Wilson's tribute to Backstreet Boys with 'I Want it That Way,' won the popular vote. We are all very much looking forward to the other charity events from the remaining house teams!

Last but not least we would like to congratulate the newly elected Year 7 Student Executive Representatives: Beth Kent (Curie), Ifra Atique (Johnson), Dhhera Priyesh (Bronte) and Erin Cliffe (Franklin). There were 22 applications in total and all applicants presented brilliantly.

Niamh Burns
Head Girl

Remembrance

I hope everyone was able to see the lovely Remembrance Day display in front of The Holy Trinity Church. I am very proud of all of our students who helped paint them. Well done, it looked beautiful - a very fitting reminder for Skipton.



Christmas Present Appeal for Refugee Action

This term students from across the school led by FBR were involved in our Christmas Present Appeal for Refugee Action. Students brought in to school wrapped Christmas presents that are now on their way to refugees from across the world who are staying in our local area. A massive thank you to everyone who donated, wrapped, sorted and helped load such an amazing number of gifts.

Well done and Merry Christmas!

Dr Still

Teacher of History, Politics and Religious Studies



Window Display

Congratulations to Year 7 Art Club for producing this lovely display for Ms Featherstone's window. A big thank you to Anisa Alavi, Maisy Brown, Emma Charlton, Clemmie Swiffen who have organised and run all of these classes. You are all super stars!

Mrs Scott

Curriculum Leader: Art



Poet Laureates 2023!

In the English Department at SGHS we deeply value poetry and its restorative, creative, emotional and communicative powers.

We are thrilled, therefore, to announce the new school Poet Laureates for 2023! Students appointed to this role serve as poetry ambassadors for the school writing poetry, promoting poets and participating in poetry workshops across the year.

Congratulations to this year's team:

- Year 7: Christina and Ummehani
- Year 19: Holly and Khaulah
- Year 12: Lilia and Millie

All the appointed poets entered the competition with poetry on the theme of the environment and you can read their winning entries below.

Watch this space for more poets from our talented team across the year!

Miss Silver

Curriculum Leader: [English](#)



Untitled

By Millie, Year 12

*The Sun filtered down through the canopy,
Bled through the turning leaves like water through a crack.
And as I rustled through the under-growth,
I came across a baby bird, all fluffy down its back.
In my outstretched palm, he sat, quite content,
Chirruping away, just learning to find his voice,
And from my outstretched palm, away flew both,
A goshawk and my baby bird - away, without a choice!*

*And through the tight-packed trees, I trudged along;
The Sun was yawning, readying himself for bed,
But through the ever-dimming light I saw,
A glen filled with ev'ry flower, of which I'd ever read.
A charming character then drew me in,
Bedecked in the colours of honey, green and gold,
He sprung into my waiting hand, before -
I saw he was a fragile child, already growing old.*

*And through the dying night, I still scabbled,
Until I came towards a small, silent clearing,
A mellow stream here gently bubbled by,
Beside which I lay, and then gave myself up to hearing.
The leaves around were deathly brown, above -
Were much the same. All crinkled up beneath me now -
I could not help but start to wonder why -
Why is it that all things must die?*

every axe

By Khaulah, 10B

*every axe to a tree is another life hurt.
every life hurt is a body in the earth.
every body in the earth is a fertiliser to the dirt.
every fertiliser to the dirt is another tree's birth.
every tree's birth is an opportunity to steal from Earth back.
and man will always seize profit with every axe.*



An Hour in the Dormer Room at Number Three

By Lilia, Year 12

*5 o'clock in the attic room and fiery autumnal sunlight
lances, blinds, and bleeds,
soaking into the nook beneath the eaves like spilled ink.
Like water over a sponge.*

*The floor is a landscape,
carved by a cerulean stream of cotton flowing
and pooling among valleys of knitwear,
cresting corduroy crags and plummeting
into the shadowed abyss beneath the desk.*

*Dust motes meander across sunbeams,
languid and lazy like coffee on a Sunday morning.
A money spider dances in the corner,
spinning liquid gold into a silken tapestry.*

*Photographs beam from their mounts on the wall:
Bolton abbey in July,
the photobooth at the shopping centre,
Janet's Foss in the summer.
Memories spot lit by dappled autumn light,
all vying for recollection*

*Amid this environment floats a raft.
A mattress heaped high with duvets,
a nest in which to bask in the fading rays,
until the sun sinks below the window frame at 6 o'clock.*

No Planet B

By Ummehani, 7C

*We have no planet B, it's not hard to see
We're planting cities instead of trees, we're littering and killing bees
We're polluting air, and we don't even care
The next generation will have nothing, because we are wasting
everything
Water is limited, wasting it should be restricted
We are littering everywhere, cleanliness is nowhere
We are throwing away food, and most of it is unchewed
People are suffering and we are wasting
In parts of the world electricity is rare, we are wasting it that isn't fair
Don't participate in food waste, hunger should be unfaced
Help lives, let earth thrive*



My World, My Future

By Holly, 10C

*I'm watching my future die
but all I do is sit there and sigh.
I admit,
I never even tried
to save it.
My world is no longer mine
because the trees don't breathe
and the birds don't sing anymore,
they're gone. Dead.
"Everyone and everything deserves a second chance"
but why doesn't my world? My future.
I believe that if he tried,
she tried, they tried – I tried,
a second chance for my world will be rewarded.
I believe that if we knew what the
birds sung or what the butterflies thought,
we'd want to try.
I'm watching my future die,
but all I do is cry and sigh*

But not try.

Our World

By Christina, 7A

*We all know that our planet is one of its kind,
So that means another is hard to find,
Roses and Tulips, will they be the same?
Or will it be a story or just a name,*

*Our planet is wonderous with sights to see,
But not all is well,
To this wonderous world,
With the air growing thicker,
And the leaves are all curled,*

*Pollution is spreading from place to place,
What will happen to our unique race?
Will we die, like the Earth,
All sad and blue?
Or is there something that we can all do?*

*If we pick up litter,
One by one,
"It's really hard",
Said only by some,
Our world will change,
Not just like that,*

It will need to heal,
Like a wound you have,
Doesn't heal very fast,

If we took our time to think,
How could we save the world?
With its air growing thicker,
And its leaves are all curled,

You find the answer,
Clear and true,
The answer to this question,
Is you.

Year 10 and 11 trip to see Frantic Assembly's 'Othello' at York Theatre Royal

We were thrilled to be able to secure tickets for the Year 10 and 11 Drama group to see Frantic Assembly's production of 'Othello' earlier this term. As a trailblazing Physical Theatre company (studied as practitioners as part of the Drama GCSE course) it was wonderful for all of us to see the work of this wonderful company in person and to be inspired by it for our practical work.



Phoebe from Year 10 writes:

On Thursday 20th October 2022, I had the privilege of watching a matinee performance of Frantic Assembly's 'Othello' (written by William Shakespeare, updated by the company and directed by Scott Graham) at York Theatre Royal. The play was about Iago plotting revenge on Othello by convincing him that his wife, Desdemona was having an affair with Michael Cassio. Ultimately, jealousy consumes Othello as he murders his wife; then killing himself when he realises Iago is duplicitous and manipulative. Whilst the original play is set in the 16th century in Venice, Frantic Assembly's Othello is set in 21st century West Yorkshire, specifically The Cypress pub. This was shown through the pub-like setting (focused around a central pool table) where the set was adaptable to change into a modern day alleyway. The dialogue used had a Yorkshire accent while maintaining the original script written by Shakespeare. The genre of this piece was a tragedy in the style of physical theatre. Frantic Assembly used physical theatre conventions such as choreographed choral moments and heightened movements to communicate violence and conflict arising between characters on stage. Additionally, choral movements were used to convey love and trust between Othello and Desdemona.



Ellie from Year 10 writes:

Michael Akinsulire (Othello) used his physical skills successfully throughout the performance to show Othello’s love towards Desdemona. Akinsulire clearly shows this love during the ‘duet’ between Othello and Desdemona that took place on the pool table. In the duet, Akinsulire’s facial expressions showed admiration. He looked at Chanel Waddock (Desdemona) as if she was the perfect person and he was in love with her. During their duet, Akinsulire’s movement was very gentle, he moved around carefully and when he touched Waddock his touch was gentle and soft. This showed the audience that Othello was madly in love with Desdemona, and it showed a very pure moment between the two; a moment where the world stopped and it was just them alone without society’s judgement. This created a very romantic atmosphere. In the scene there were no words – just movement – and it clearly showed the love between the characters. However, this scene did have a saddening impact on the audience as everyone knew how the story was going to end and how much Othello was going to be manipulated by Iago later on.



Darcie from Year 10 writes:

Overall, I thought this production was amazing, it had the right amount of modern elements without losing the incredible original storyline and text. The way that the violence was portrayed was unique and the acting was perfect for each character. The impact this had on the audience was touching as you felt as though you had a different connection with each character through the use of direct address and the breaking of the fourth wall.

SGHS Femsoc

It has been another busy half term for SGHS FemSoc with some fantastic presentations. Ruby in Year 13 explored ‘Gender Bias in Science and Engineering’ with us, whilst Millie in Year 12 considered ‘How feminist icons are still dictated by the patriarchy’.

We also held our annual Festive Feminist Celebrations including Pass the Festive Feminist Parcel and a vocalising of our feminist wishes for 2023!

As always, any student wishing to come along to our intersectional FemSoc is very welcome to pop in to R1 on a Friday lunchtime. Our first session after the break will be taken by Lizmia in Year 12 on the topic of ‘The Privilege of being a Feminist’.



If you are looking for some feminist reading over the holidays, we recommend:

- ‘Fix the system, not the women’ by Laura Bates
- ‘It’s Not About the Burqa’ by Mariam Khan
- ‘Warrior Queens & Quiet Revolutionaries’ by Kate Mosse

Miss Silver
Curriculum Leader: English





This Edition, and previous issues of the Newsletter, can also be viewed on the School Website...

www.sghs.org.uk/newsletter

**Skipton Girls' High School,
Gargrave Road, Skipton,
North Yorkshire, BD23 1QL**

Tel: 01756 707600

Fax: 01756 701068

Email: reception@sghs.org.uk

Website: www.sghs.org.uk

Tweet: @skiptongirls

