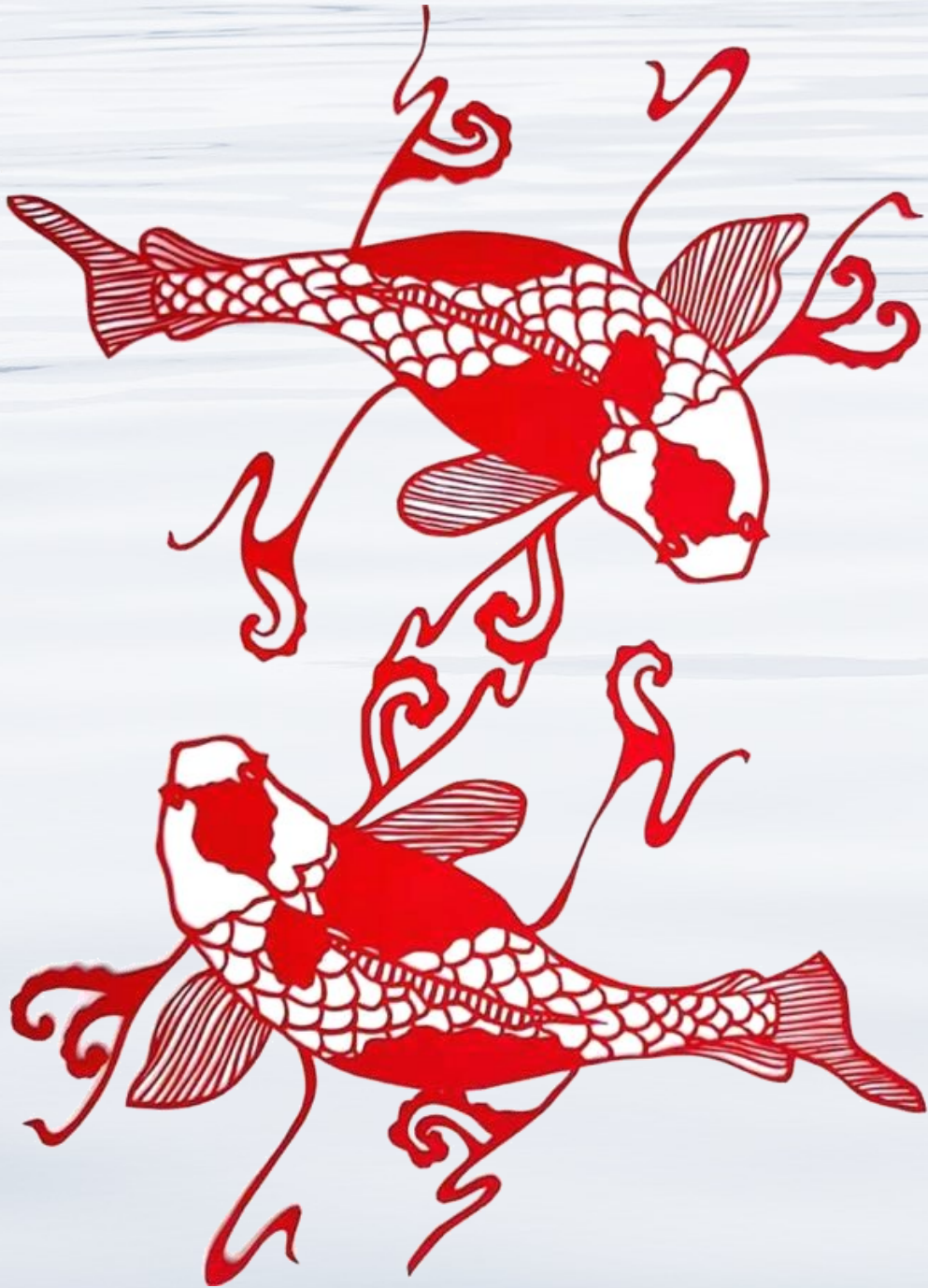


BYRON



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voice



Byron College
THE BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL





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"The only constant in life is change. Yet we are all predisposed to resist change because of the fear of the unknown. What this year has taught me in many ways is that change is necessary and cathartic. Napoleon once said, "One must change one's tactics every ten years if one wishes to maintain one's superiority." Little did he know how true his words would ring, especially during a pandemic. We have all had to adapt how we learn, teach, socialise, shop, celebrate... live.



Organisations and people that don't embrace change are bound to lose ground and stagnate. So instead of looking at our circumstances with negative nostalgia, let's embrace that this pandemic has made us appreciate the little things, we got to know our families a little bit better, we indulged in new hobbies, and perhaps stopped anxiously anticipating a change. So, while we wait to return to what we term as normal, let's reflect on the lessons we learnt and what we gained as people during this time."

*"If we don't change, we don't grow.
If we don't grow, we aren't really living."*

Gail Sheehy

ISABELLA TZITZIVACOS, YEAR 10A

"At a time like this, we have all faced various hardships and difficulties. Whether it's the lack of motivation or absence of concentration, online learning and lockdown have been hard for many. We have learnt the significance of social interaction and taught ourselves how to find enjoyment in our own company. In a way, it's an experience that will resonate with us and help us grow into more resilient and stronger people. More than ever, we must come together and support one another in such difficult times as a community."



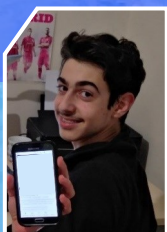
FADI MOAMAR, YEAR 11A

"We can spend our whole lives thinking about the terrible moments, but let's cherish the good in our hearts. Don't let the bad times take over the jolly ones."

SUFIA MOSTOFA, YEAR 11B



"To avoid any further spread of COVID-19 the Greek Government has instructed the closure of all entertainment centres and shops. Even though we are going through rough and unprecedented times, still we have to remind ourselves of how important our mental and physical wellbeing is. So, read a book, watch a movie, exercise or just go out for a walk – respect yourself and remember to appreciate your unique self!"



PANAYIOTIS STEFANAKIS, YEAR 10A

"Hello everyone!

My message to you, or rather my piece of advice during this lockdown is to have a schedule. Organise time for homework, various activities and have a sleep schedule! This has helped me stay organised, not to mention sane... In addition to this, go for walks, get some fresh air! This helps a lot."

NICK CHANTZARAS, YEAR 10A

MESSAGES FROM THE CLASS REPRESENTATIVES



"This year, all of us have been taken out of our routine schedule and placed into an unknown yet familiar world filled with broken mics, poor Wi-Fi and blurry cameras. Who knew I would actually miss sitting in a classroom for 90 minutes, close to my third nap of the day. Despite this, I know that even after the psychological burn-out, past-due assignments and several good cries, we will come out of this pandemic stronger and better than before. Friends, family, hairdressers and even the supermarket cashier are all people for whom we have gained greater gratitude and appreciation. I hope to see and meet every single member of the Byron community when we get back to school, but for now, I wish everyone a wonderful rest of the year!"

JOHN ROY AMURAO, YEAR 10A

"The lockdown has taught us never to take anything for granted again. Through the pandemic, a time of uncertainty, I have understood how fortunate I have been to receive a good standard of education even if it is online, but I have missed my friends enormously and hope to see them as soon as possible!"

"Do what you can, with what you have, where you are."



Franklin D. Roosevelt

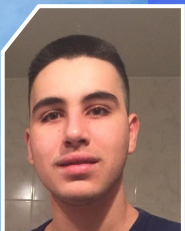
DIMITRIS VOULANAS, YEAR 10B

"I know you want to go back to the life you had before corona. However, there is a key lesson that we can learn to cherish: it is that all of us are stronger when we act together and displaying gratitude to one another means a lot. Let us not forget this after things go back to 'normal'."



LOUAI EL-HAJJ, YEAR 11A

"Sometimes people think they are trapped in an endless circle of darkness. That is true – if they choose to believe that of course. If someone wants to better themselves, they have to exceed their own expectations. That's why we become people beneficial to society. Instead of having a negative mindset, we should always try to better ourselves."



THEODORE CHALVANTZIS, YEAR 11A

"We've all been trapped in this almost endless quarantine, and it's been a trying time for most of us. Yes, the pandemic hit unexpectedly, and some of us were unprepared, but this does not deter us. There is still a light at the end of the tunnel and we should adapt to this new way of life."



TAREK AQLI, YEAR 11B

Articles

“Think before you speak.

Read before you think.”

FRAN LEBOWITZ

AMERICAN AUTHOR AND PUBLIC SPEAKER



1821-2021



TWO HUNDRED

THE GREEK INDEPENDENCE STRUGGLE
OF 1821-1824 AND ITS LEGACY TODAY

The 25th of March 2021 marks the 200th anniversary since the beginning of the Greek War of Independence of 1821, when the Greeks, who were subject under the Ottoman Empire, revolted and formed an independent and united Greek nation-state for the first time in history. But why should we care about something that happened 200 years ago? It actually turns out that the 1821 Revolution is a hugely significant event, not only for Greece but for the world.



YEARS OF LIBERTY



Let's get the obvious out of the way: we would not be living in a free country if we were still under Ottoman occupation. Freedom does not come for free. As Greeks, we must be grateful that our ancestors took the bold decision to stand up and, in the words of General Alexandros Ypsilantis, "fight for Faith and Fatherland", heroically laying down their lives in order to ensure a better future for us, their descendants.

However, the importance of the Greeks' revolution extends beyond the borders of Greece. The 1821 Greek War of Independence is part of a larger trend of awakenings that took place, especially during the 18th and 19th centuries. This 'Age of Revolution' is defined by the adoption of certain values, such as liberal democracy, human rights, self-determination, and the limitation of the power of government on people's personal lives. This trend was kicked off by the American Revolution of 1776 and subsequently

THE GREEK FLAG HAS NINE STRIPES: LEGEND HAS IT THAT THE STRIPES REPRESENT THE NINE SYLLABLES OF THE PHRASE *ΕΛΕΥΘΕΡΙΑ Ή ΘΑΝΑΤΟΣ* - FREEDOM OR DEATH.

Andreas Michas, Year 10B

I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it."

BEATRICE EVELYN HALL (1906), ENGLISH BIOGRAPHER OF VOLTAIRE (FRENCH WRITER, HISTORIAN, AND PHILOSOPHER OF THE ENLIGHTENMENT)

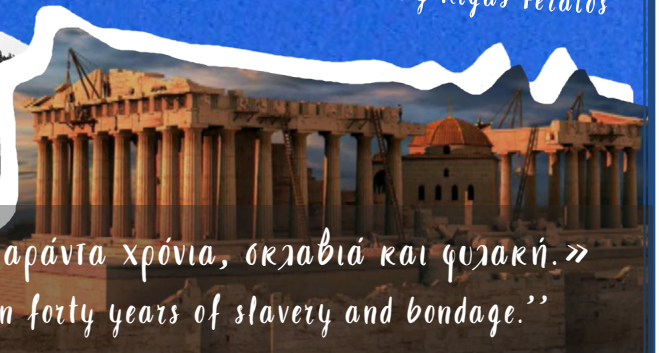
spread to Europe and other parts of the world, consisting of liberation movements in South America, Ireland, Serbia, and, of course, Greece. The Greek nation was one of the first ones in Europe to be liberated as part of the Age of Revolution and set the example for a number of other nations, as seen with the achievement of independence by Belgium in 1831, Germany and Italy in 1871, Bulgaria in 1908, and many more.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: THE ACROPOLIS UNDER FRANKISH OCCUPATION (13TH-16TH CENTURIES); THE ACROPOLIS UNDER OTTOMAN OCCUPATION (15TH-19TH CENTURIES)

ABOVE: STATUE OF GENERAL THEODOROS KOLOKOTRONIS, ONE OF THE LEADERS OF THE INDEPENDENCE STRUGGLE, OUTSIDE THE OLD PARLIAMENT

Below: από το ποίημα «Θούριος» του Ρήγα Φεραίου
from the poem 'Thourios' by Rigas Feraios



«Καλύτερα μιας ώρας ελεύθερη ζωή, | παρά σαράντα χρόνια, σκλαβιά και φυλακή.»
"It is better to have one hour of freedom | than forty years of slavery and bondage."



ABOVE: THE HELLENIC PARLIAMENT FACING CONSTITUTION SQUARE - Η ΒΟΥΛΗ ΤΩΝ ΕΛΛΗΝΩΝ ΣΤΗΝ ΠΛΑΤΕΙΑ ΣΥΝΤΑΓΜΑΤΟΣ

So, what can the 200th anniversary of the 1821 Revolution teach us in the 21st century? It can teach us the significance of freedom, self-determination, and national identity. It can teach us altruism and bravery. It can teach us that our liberty does not come for free and that heroes have given up their lives so that we can live our own freely and in peace. And it can teach us that, as mankind, we still have work to do to ensure the freedom of all people around the world, but also that those of us living in 'free' countries still need to fight against our internal masters to achieve true liberation.

On a more cheerful note, such anniversaries can help us realise that things aren't really so bad after all. In a time in which we are locked in our homes and feel deprived of the joy of life, and in which we are constantly bombarded with devastating news by everyone and everything around us, it can be difficult to concentrate on what ways we are actually fortunate. Before we get too caught up arguing passionately about politics, let's take a minute to think about how lucky we are that we are actually *allowed* to have different political views and to argue about them. Before we get depressed due to being forced to

stay at home, let's take a minute to remember that many people before us were depressed due to their loved ones dying because of wars and famines, and many still are. In times when we are freer than humanity has ever been, let's be grateful for the liberties, the privileges, and the peace that we have, that those who suffered under 400 years of Ottoman occupation and those who fought wars in the 18th and 19th centuries couldn't have even imagined.

But how would we have all these rights, liberties, and privileges if there hadn't been someone 200 or more years ago to stand up and courageously fight for them? Our task now is to continue the battle to retain these for 200 years more. Sadly, however, most of us would not even hesitate to choose to save our own lives over fighting and dying for the lives for our descendants.

In a time when great historical figures are being shamed and disrespected due to being compared to the changed ethical standards of today, it can be a revolutionary concept to be a bit more open-minded: to remember that there is no progress without memory, and to be thankful that there was someone 200 years ago who died *for you*. •

ΕΛΛΑΣ - HELIAS - GREECE

AN UNBROKEN CHAIN OF
CULTURE, LANGUAGE, HISTORY,
AND RESILIENCE

SPOTLIGHT ON GREEK WOMEN

ANCIENT GREECE: THE ERECHTHEUM ON THE ACROPOLIS
WITH THE CARYATIDS: THE PENSIVE ATHENA →



LASKARINA BOUBOULINA: GREEK NAVAL
COMMANDER IN THE WAR FOR INDEPENDENCE →



MELINA MERKOURI: GREEK
POLITICIAN, ACTIVIST, ACTRESS,
AND ADVOCATE FOR GREEK
HERITAGE →



Διονύσιος Σολωμός - Ο Ύμνος εις την Ελευθερίαν Hymn to Freedom

1
Σ'ε γνωρίζω από τήν κόψη
του σπαθιού τήν τρομερή,
σε γνωρίζω από τήν ὄψη,
που μέ βία μετράει τή γῆ.

2
Ἄπ'τὰ κόκαλα βγαλμένη
τῶν Ἑλλήνων τὰ ιερά,
καί σάν πρῶτα ἀνδρειωμένη,
χαίρε, ὦ χαίρε, Ἐλευθεριά!

3
Ἐκεῖ μέσα ἑκατοικοῦσες
πικραμένη, ἐντροπαλή,
κι ἓνα στόμα ἀκαρτεροῦσες,
«ἔλα πάλι», νά σοῦ πῆ.

4
Ἄργει νά λθῆ ἐκείνη ἡ μέρα
κι ἦταν ὅλα σιωπηλά,
γιατί τὰ ὅκιαζε ἡ φοβέρα
καί τὰ πλάκωνε ἡ σκλαβιά.

[...]

16
Ἄπ'τὰ κόκαλα βγαλμένη
τῶν Ἑλλήνων τὰ ιερά,
καί σάν πρῶτα ἀνδρειωμένη
χαίρε, ὦ χαίρε, Ἐλευθεριά!

1
I recognise you by the cut
of the terrible blade,
I recognise you by your spirit
that traverses the earth with force.

2
Arising from the sacred bones
of the Greeks
and as heroic as at first,
hail, o hail, Freedom!

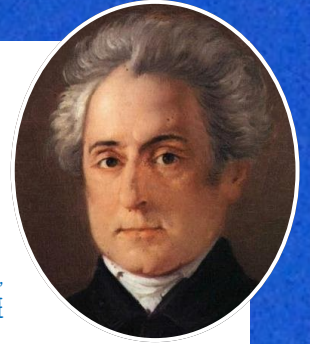
3
You dwelt there,
sorrowful and timid,
always dreaming of a voice
to call out to you, "come once
more!"

4
That day was long in coming
and everything was silent,
because it was terrorised by fear
and crushed by slavery.

[...]

16
Arising from the sacred bones
of the Greeks
and as heroic as at first,
hail, o hail, Freedom!

PICTURED: DIONYSIOS SOLOMOS,
NATIONAL POET OF GREECE



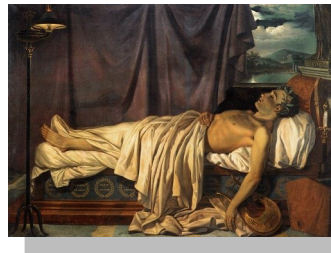
Εἰς τὸν θάνατον τοῦ Λόρδου Μπάϊρον Upon the death of Lord Byron

Λευτεριά, γιά λίγο πάψε
νά χτυπᾶς μέ τὸ σπαθί.
Τώρα σίμωσε καί κλάψε
εἰς τοῦ Μπάϊρον τὸ κορμί.

*Freedom, put down
your sword a while.*

Draw near and weep

over the body of Byron.



BYRON'S DEATH, BY
JOSEPH DENIS ODEVAERE
(1826)

THIS PAINTING DEPICTS
BYRON AS A HEROIC MARTYR.
HIS HEAD IS CROWNED WITH
LAURELS (SYMBOLS OF
VICTORY) WHILE A LYRE
(SYMBOLISING THE MUSIC OF
POETRY) LIES BESIDE HIM
WITH BROKEN STRINGS. THE
WORDS INSCRIBED ON THE
BIER BENEATH HIM ARE
TITLES OF HIS POEMS
SURROUNDED BY LAUREL
WREATHS.

“Fair Greece! Sad relic of departed worth!”

Stanza 73 from Canto II
of *Childe Harold's
Pilgrimage*

LORD BYRON WAS A PASSIONATE PHILHELLENE
(*FIL-HEE-LEEN* - AN ADMIRER AND ENTHUSIAST
FOR GREECE AND GREEK CULTURE) WHO
ADVOCATED FOR THE GREEK CAUSE OF
INDEPENDENCE AND WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN
OBTAINING THE SUPPORT OF THE BRITISH AND
THE FRENCH IN COMING TO GREECE'S AID.

TRAGICALLY, HE DIED IN MISSOLONGHI AT THE
AGE OF 36 WHILE HELPING THE GREEK CAUSE.



OUR VERY OWN BUST OF BYRON BY SCULPTOR GABRIEL GRAMA,
KINDLY DONATED BY THE PAPPAS FAMILY




UBUNTU IS THE ESSENCE OF BEING HUMAN

There are moments in one's life that define kindness, that define the essence of being, that define humanity, or as we South Africans call it, *Ubuntu*. "I am because we are". A pure display of humanity towards ourselves and others.

Coming from a country that has a troubled history of segregation and discrimination, it is imperative that people are made aware of these wrongs. I was fortunate to be born several years post-apartheid; however, the time of my birth did not guarantee that I would not be affected by the wrongs of the past. I am haunted by things I had no part in. This has given me a greater understanding of why we all need to treat each other in a positive, humane way and awakened in me the perspective that discrimination of any sort has such far-reaching consequences that cannot be erased as easily as some would expect.

The question of how we become human has troubled scholars from the beginning of time. What makes us human? What does it mean to be human? Is it just physical attributes? The fact that we walk on two legs? Surely not.

We know that animals do not have the ability to reason like we do. Humans can reason: they can mentally process what is happening around them. They can decide between what is right and

wrong, which in turn means that to be human you need to have a conscience.

It is often described that a wrong against someone is considered inhumane; therefore the more wrong we do against each other, the less human we are.

Humans are social, with an ability to talk and listen, to question and seek the truth. We cannot exist in isolation and we seek the companionship of other humans.

Desmond Tutu once explained that we learn to talk through imitation of others. As babies, we learn to walk, sit and other basic skills from our parents. We learn to speak our mother tongue from our mothers and develop a cultural identity from our parents.

As we grow and strive for our different versions of success, we tend to forget that we did not reach those achievements on our own. No matter how independent we may think we are, we are always surrounded by people who support us, guide us, encourage us, believe in us and help us reach our goals.

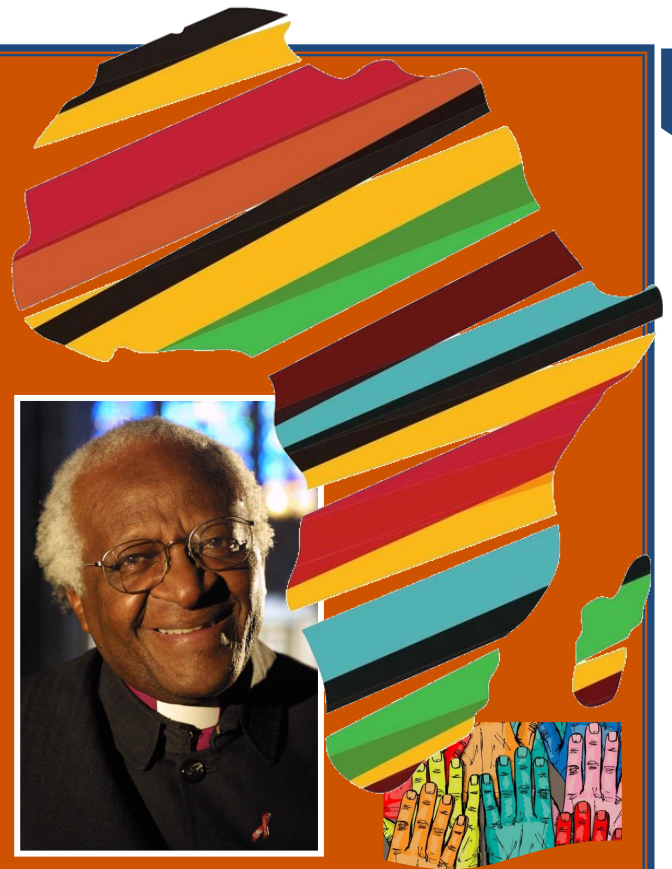
We depend on our family, our friends, our teachers, our community. The enrichment of mind is inclusive. We learn together, from each other and from the many people who surround us. We only apply the knowledge individually.



We are shaped by our environment and this realisation has been highlighted for me since leaving my beloved homeland. I am proudly South African despite my Greek origins, not because I was born there, but because of the many people who shaped me and the multi-cultural influence that is in my DNA by osmosis.

Ubuntu is one of the most powerful words for me. That is why I have chosen to illustrate it by writing this piece. Ubuntu helps us reach a level of self-understanding and self-growth. It encourages us to learn, to forgive, to help, to teach through our experiences, and to be kind. It helps us to assist those around us. The people who helped hide Jews during WWII often described what was happening during that time as inhumane and their acts of helping and assisting those in need not as heroic, but as human. Their selfless acts of kindness did not only help the people who were persecuted but also themselves, as they had a clear conscience in helping. Ubuntu therefore helps us to have a clear conscience and enables us to live, to grow, to forgive. To be human.

Forgiveness does not come naturally to us. Our brains are programmed to remember what wrongs are done to us and to protect ourselves from wrongs being done to us again. However, once we forgive, we can pursue our lives without the negative emotions that may hold us back. This makes us human in the spirit of Ubuntu. It helps us develop an abundance of spirit and generosity.



We are all so fortunate; we are living in a world with infinite possibilities. Understanding that we are not islands but rather people who need the input of many other people of all ethnicities, sexual orientations, genders and colours to survive, to learn, to achieve, to succeed, to grow, to love... is ultimately, how we strive to know ourselves. •

“Ubuntu is the essence of being human. Ubuntu says, ‘I am because you are. I can’t be me, unless you are you. I need you in order for me to be me, as you need me in order for you to be you.’”



DESMOND TUTU, SOUTH AFRICAN CLERIC, WINNER OF THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE, ANTI-APARTHEID AND HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST

Soultana Tzitzivacos, Year 10A



GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE: A SOUTH AFRICAN EMERGENCY

“My voice speaks for the women robbed of their beauty, girls robbed of their virginity.”

Having recently moved to Europe, the issues that surrounded our daily lives in South Africa seem to be non-existent, and perhaps many cannot relate to the fact that in my country it is more likely for a woman to get raped than to get a job. The trauma of being a woman in South Africa will never escape me, and for this reason I seek to make people aware of the horrors that are faced by women and girls in South Africa.

I recall an incident when we were driving along the gorgeous valleys of Stellenbosch, and a young girl ran past our car in a great hurry. A short distance up the road two men were walking at a quick pace. I recall my mind racing with frightful scenarios. I was afraid for the girl: afraid that she might become another tragic statistic in a country that has forgotten how to value women.

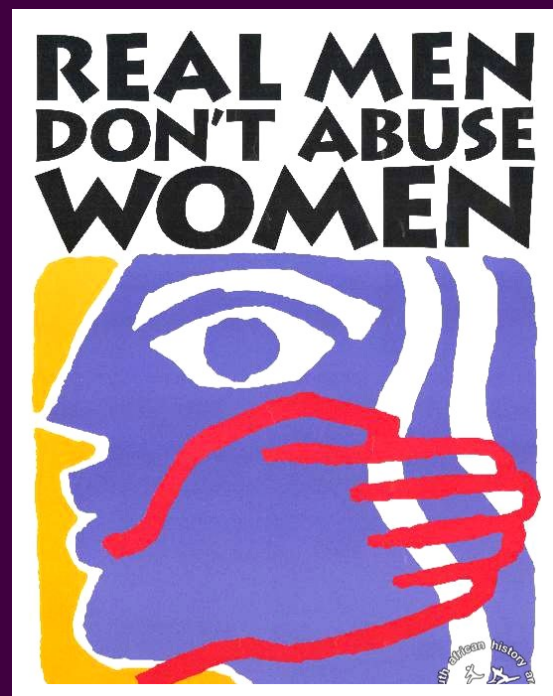
Life is cheap in South Africa: you can die for a mobile phone. Nothing, however, is cheaper than the lives of women: we are almost irrelevant. How many women are hurt daily by the very people who should be protecting them? How many women are raped and murdered?

To give you an idea of how tragic the situation is, France is said to be among the countries with the highest rate of women killed by their partner, with 0.18 victims per 100,000 women, according to 2017 Eurostat figures shared by the BBC.

These figures were unacceptable for the French Government, so they ploughed millions of euros into tackling the problem, with around one

thousand women's shelters and a mass audit of police stations planned. They are taking the threat seriously. Similarly, Italy has announced a 'Code Red' emergency to combat their 0.11 femicide rate.

Comparatively, the World Health Organisation estimates that 12.1 in every 100,000 women are victims of femicide in South Africa each year – a figure over one hundred times worse than Italy's in their newly announced 'state of crisis', and five times worse than the global average of 2.6. So, what are we doing about it?



Isabella Tzitzivacos, Year 10A

The sexual offenses crime rate in South Africa has increased to 90.9 from 2018 to 2019.

The number of reported sexual offenses increased to 52,420 from 2018 to 2019 and, yes, most of these were cases of rape.

The police recorded 41,583 rapes from 2018 to 2019; this means that an average of 114 rapes was recorded by the police each day. Only one in nine rapes is reported to the police. It is estimated that 42% of women living in South Africa will be raped in their lifetime.

These statistics are horrific and terrifying - but what are we doing about it?

The South African government reports that one of the reasons for the high prevalence of gender-based violence is the culture of patriarchy in South Africa. Patriarchy is a social and political system that treats men as superior to women - where women cannot protect their own bodies, meet their basic needs, participate fully in society, and men perpetrate violence against women with impunity. Its report states that patriarchy is firmly rooted, and fighting it will be seen as attempting to destroy South African tradition or South African ideals.

In September 2019, President Ramaphosa responded to the surge in violence against women by calling for laws making rape punishable by death and called an emergency session of the South African Parliament.

When the Covid-19 pandemic hit South Africa in February, people were confined to their homes in a Level 5 national lockdown in an effort to keep all of South Africa's citizens safe. While many of us

appreciated being able to stay home and safeguard our health, the government seemed to forget our national 'epidemic' faced by women on a daily basis. For victims of gender-based violence, this had devastating effects as many were trapped with their abuser within the walls of their home. Rose Gawayi, a gender advisor at the Social Policy Network claims that GBV cases increased dramatically over this period, with more than 120,000 victims during the first three weeks of lockdown alone. It was recorded that the call centre in Tshwane was receiving between five hundred and one thousand calls a day by mid-April. Call centres saw a rise of 65% in calls from women and children who were confined to their homes with their tormentors during lockdown and in need of urgent help.

Abhorrently, there is an extremely low conviction rate in gender-based violence cases. Women are not believed by men, and even by fellow women. The judiciary imposes light sentences on such cases, and in some cases are even released on very modest bail or a mere warning. We need legislative reform and enforcement of laws for the promotion and the protection of women's rights.

In the meantime, no one has been able to outlaw inequality. Rape and domestic violence have on occasion provoked public outrage, but it has been left to women's organisations and movements to take more concerted action.

Gender-based violence is sustained by silence; women's voices must be heard. Gender-based violence limits women as human beings, it drains their energy and hope, and it constricts the possibilities of creating a new vision of society.

Until then we remember the many women who have died:

AVIWE WELLEM, JAYDE PANAYOTOU, KARABO MOKOENA, FRANZISKA BLOCHLINGER, THEMBISILE YENDE, GABRIELLA ALBAN, SUSAN RHODE, HANNAH CORNELIUS, REEVA STEENKAAMP, UYINEN MRWETYANA AND LEIGHANDRE JEGELS;

to name but a few and never to be forgotten. •



INTERVIEWING PIONEER CHEMIST AND CO-DISCOVERER OF THE "SECRET OF LIFE", ROSALIND FRANKLIN



Hello and welcome to today's episode on influential female scientists who were never truly credited for their work. Today's episode will be slightly different since I won't be the one interviewing. In fact, we will be listening to an interview from 1953, the year when the chemist Rosalind Franklin made her contribution to the discovery of DNA. Interviewed by a dear friend and BBC radio broadcaster Marjorie Anderson, she tells us her story and a little bit about her discovery.

Interviewer: I'd like to welcome the chemist Miss Rosalind Franklin to our radio programme.

Rosalind Franklin: Thank you very much for inviting me. It is a pleasure to be here.

Interviewer: Miss Franklin is currently working at King's College London and has made a discovery of great significance, but first, I would like you to tell us a little about your childhood and why you wanted to become a chemist in the first place.

Rosalind Franklin: Well, when I was six years old, I joined my brother Roland at Norland Place School in West London. I remember my aunt would always say, "Rosalind is alarmingly clever - she spends all her time doing arithmetic for pleasure and invariably gets her sums right." I used to find it funny when she'd tell such things to us because I never really considered myself smarter than others.

Interviewer: As it turns out, your aunt was right. I was really impressed after taking a look at your research. Especially for a woman, your work is exceptional. Would you mind telling us about where you were first taught chemistry?

Rosalind Franklin: Firstly, I would like to quote Olympe de Gouges* and say that, "male and female citizens being equal in the eyes of the law, must be equally admitted to all honours, positions, and public employment according to their capacity and without other distinctions besides those of their virtues and talent." I feel like my research and hard

SAVE THE DATE
INTERNATIONAL DAY OF WOMEN
AND GIRLS IN SCIENCE
11 FEBRUARY

WOMEN IN SCIENCE HALL OF FAME



work should be impressive regardless of the fact that I am a woman.

Interviewer: I totally agree with your statement, Miss Franklin. Please forgive me for making such a statement.

Rosalind Franklin: No need to worry. Back to where we left off: I went to St Paul's Girls' School when I was 11, one of the few girls' schools in London that taught both chemistry and physics. There was never a time when I didn't enjoy chemistry. It was easy for me to understand and was by far my favourite subject in school. I graduated with six distinctions and passed my matriculation, winning a scholarship for university.

Interviewer: Would you mind telling us a little bit about your discovery?

Rosalind Franklin: I have discovered the density of DNA and, more importantly, established that the molecule exists in a helical conformation. I managed to make clearer X-ray patterns of DNA molecules and I have already taken some X-ray diffraction images. I am sure that my findings will be found very useful in the future.

Interviewer: Thank you very much Miss Franklin for joining us today and for making such an important discovery. You are an inspiration to many young women out there who wish to pursue the sciences.

Sadly, this interview was never played on BBC radio. Franklin's images, especially Photo 51, allowed James Watson and Francis Crick to create their famous two-strand, or double-helix, model. That being said, her research was critical to Francis Crick and James Watson's discovery of the structure of DNA that led to them being awarded the Nobel Prize in 1962. •

**18th century French playwright, political activist, and influential protofeminist*



XX

Formation of H - bonds.

Suggested arrangement (wise model)

chain A B Ring formation

all bases may be fitted.

next layer sits on top giving max. V. der Waals energy. 3 chain arrangement involves twist
 ∴ HELIX (🌀!)

Four chain arrangement.

can be built by putting sugars alternately each side in vertical away.

FROM LEFT: PHOTO 51, THE FIRST TIME THE STRUCTURE OF LIFE WAS WITNESSED; FRANKLIN'S HANDWRITTEN NOTES SHOWCASING HER GROUNDBREAKING INSIGHTS

Ellie Papa, Year 10B



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

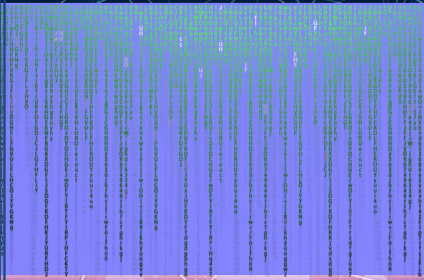
The term is used to describe an increasingly prominent sector of informatics sciences that is generally concerned with developing software that can independently develop in complexity and purpose as their exposure to data increases.

A prominent example is facial recognition programming that is found in contemporary cell phones and permits the client to open their telephone simply by showing their face to the camera.

This software uses every attempt of the user to better memorise the details of their face, exponentially increasing the efficiency with which they recognise the user over time.

Evidently, Artificial intelligence (A.I.) can have applications in almost every aspect of life, from security and scientific research, to marketing and corporate organisation.

CODING THE FUTURE



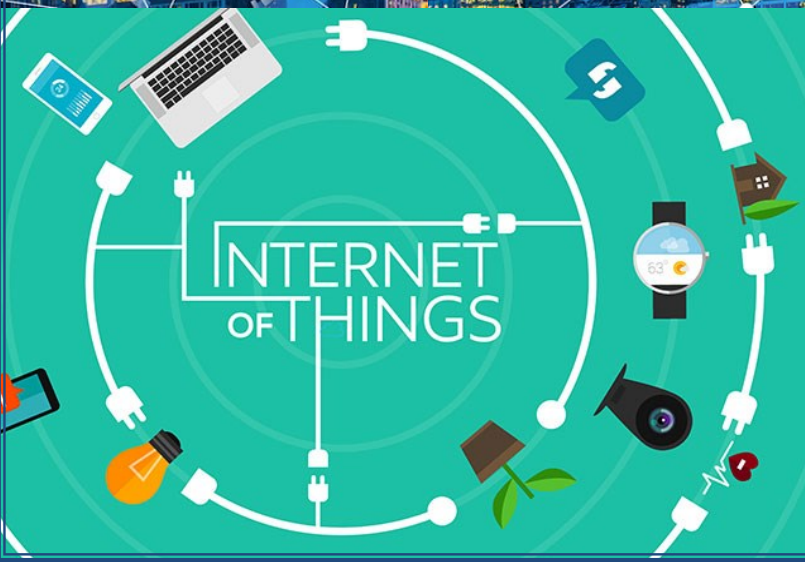
'5G' alludes to the most recent versatile information conveyance innovation, presently spreading all throughout the world.

The seemingly simple increase in data transfer (e.g. internet download) speeds has however reached such a level that it unlocks a vast array of possible technological applications.

It is asserted that 5G networks will empower the solid correspondence of appropriately fitted machines in an area-wide scale progressively (see the Internet of Things below).

For example, autonomous vehicles driving in a local road will be able to communicate with each other, actively minimising traffic congestion and accidents.

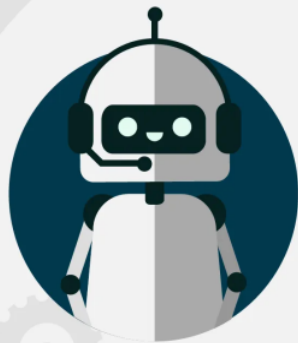
Such innovations would have the power to alter everyday life immensely.



The Internet of Things joins data from associated gadgets in order to establish a technologically fuelled, coordinated ecosystem of devices.

The emerging concept of smart homes can be considered as an example.

In a smart home, different device such as a door lock, room lighting, and a thermostat are all in constant communication, so that when it is detected that the house has been left and locked, the lights and the heating can be shut down to preserve energy without the need for any actions by the home owner.



NLP is a field of AI that empowers PCs to investigate and comprehend human language.

An example of this is discourse-to-message, which essentially translates human language into a programming language. Conversely, text-to-discourse principally changes a PC activity over to a perceptible reaction.

The development of these technologies has been a key contributing factor to the increasing emancipation of people with disabilities, while it has also opened the way for more efficient communication in professional and personal circumstances.



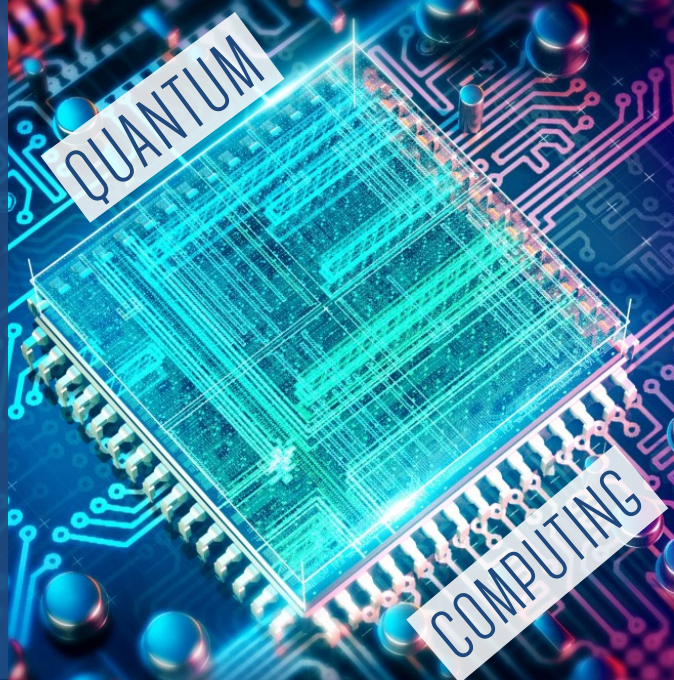
NATURAL LANGUAGE

PROCESSING

5 INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES THAT WILL REVOLUTIONISE THE WORLD WE KNOW

Quantum computing is based on an emerging new processor design that abandons the standards of contemporary processing units.

In short, quantum processors are designed to take advantage of phenomena in the microscopic quantum world that should theoretically facilitate calculations of a form that contemporary computing units struggle with.



Quantum computers can essentially carry out calculations in a unique way that a normal computer based on repetitive processes would require virtually innumerable years to carry out.

Quantum computers, if finally found reliable, could revolutionise computational infrastructure, providing practically limitless computational power in specific cases such as complex simulations or data encryption and decryption. •

WE'VE COME A LONG WAY...



FROM LEFT: AMPEX 6500 WORKSTATION (1984); 4.5 MEGABYTES OF DATA IN 62,500 PUNCHED CARDS (1955); IBM PUNCH CARD, FIRST DEVELOPED DURING THE 1920S

Louai El-Hajj, Year 11A

LEVEL UP:



THE EVOLUTION OF VIDEO GAMES

As COVID-19 has brought everyone inside, boredom has run rampant. This has acted as a catalyst for an already promising video game industry, leading to its exponential growth. Read on to explore the evolution of such electronic games and game consoles.



THE VERY FIRST VIDEO GAME

Video games are electronic games with an interface designed for human interaction and entertainment. They have spread from arcades to computers to even your phones and are seemingly everywhere in the modern age; however, they originated in a science lab. Video games were introduced in 1948 in the form of the cathode ray amusement tube. This game involved a user attempting to control a concentrated beam and fire at an airplane. For many years very few games were made - for instance, tennis for two - but they never reached the public. This happened as they were too expensive and the consoles were impractical and too large to get out of the lab.

However, in 1972 Ralph Bear revolutionised video games and laid the foundations for the birth of the video gaming industry. Bear brought video games away from the lab and into regular households with the first ever console: Odyssey. Titles such as table tennis and Interplanetary Voyage drove sales of the console.



THE ARCADE GOLDEN AGE

At the same time, rival Atari console took the world by storm with the introduction of Pong on the arcade. It was a commercial hit and is widely acclaimed to be the first successful game. In 1978 Midway released what would become the second-highest selling arcade game ever: Space Invaders. It is a Japanese shooting game that requires the user to exterminate swarms of aliens. However, as we enter the 80s, the market began to expand and colour was introduced. This allowed for the birth of a flagship title that remains in mainstream media to this day: Pac-Man. The Pac-Man brand grew and became a licensable character, creating a gateway between video games and popular culture which could act as the foundation for growth and exposure. Pac-Man earned its own television show and toy figures; this was a huge step for gaming, as it was finally able to branch out from the 'nerd' stigma associated with games at the time. Furthermore, its commercial success provided an incentive for various businesses to delve into



SPACE INVADERS



an up-and-coming market which prompted the release of Donkey Kong in the early 80s. In this game you assumed the role of jump man and have to rescue Princess Peaches. This was a highlight of the golden era of arcade games as jump man was the earliest version of 'Super Mario'. The golden age of arcade games came to an end in the late 80s after the release of innovative arcade games, for instance Tetris and Mega Man. A notable release was 'Double Dragon', a unique idea that allowed companies to diversify the gaming industry. It was the first game to successfully merge a storyline with the popular fighting genre. Double Dragon is the foundation which allowed for the release of pillars of our childhood such as Tekken or Street Fighter.



HOME



The 90s saw a surge in the popularity of videogames; however, the sales of arcade games eventually began to decrease. The home gaming era featured developed technology that pushed the graphical threshold to a limit we had never witnessed before. This was introduced with the release of 'Sonic the Hedgehog', an iconic commercial title that ambitiously pushed boundaries with its colours and landscapes that still hold up today. Such an innovative product drove sales of the Sega Genesis, with players welcoming videogames within the comfort of their own household. Other consoles such as the Nintendo entertainment system and further releases of Mario encouraged the move from arcades to home. The industry was revolutionised by the arrival of the Gameboy and the N64. The Gameboy gave a platform to the infamous Pokémon which signalled the beginning of the

GAMING

serious commercialisation of video games. The game led to TV shows, cards, and toy figures, becoming a global symbol of the industry. Another iconic flagship title that transformed the playing ground of video games was the introduction of Mario 64 on the Nintendo 64. This saw the eventual progression into a 3D world, boasting a standout gameplay experience that was seemingly ahead of his time. It was the first game to provide accurate analogues in order to control both the camera angle and the character at the same time. It was the first instance in which high quality graphics and technical practicality coexisted without a need to sacrifice one for the other.



MODERN DAY INDUSTRY

When we entered the new millennium, the gaming industry began to stabilise and when the dust settled there remained two main competitors: the PlayStation and Xbox, who to this day hold a firm grasp on the majority of the market. Companies like Nintendo still entertain minor segments, whereas Sega abandoned their consoles after the initial success dried up and resorted to making games for the two main players in the market. At the turn of the millennium, Sony produced the PS2 which remains the highest-selling console of all time, at roughly 160 million units sold. Flagship titles such as Modern Warfare and Grand Theft Auto popularised the consoles even further. Moreover, both firms began to utilise exclusive games, such as Halo on the Xbox which attracted many shooting game fans. The competition spurred on innovation, leading to the industry we have today. In the middle of the decade Microsoft and Sony introduced technically upgraded consoles in order to withstand the growing demands that

new graphics needed. This brought in the Xbox 360 and the PlayStation 3, which are possibly the first consoles our readers ever owned. These consoles added physical movement in the form of external cameras such as the Kinect and Wii. This was popular among parents and children and paved the way for new types of games such as 'Carnival Games' and 'Kinect Sport'. Nintendo reaped the benefits of the sales of games like Wii sports and utilised their franchises such as Mario in order to assist the sales of the risky product. Computers became a viable option for gaming at the same time of the release of PlayStation 4 and Xbox. Ultimately this birthed the two most successful games of all time: Minecraft and GTA 5. The diversity of genres brought about various fanbases numbering millions of global players. Such popularity has been commercially capitalised on to produce a professional gaming scene worth close to 1 billion dollars and various gaming celebrities on Twitch and YouTube. •



Fadi Moamar, Year 11A

HALO

MINECRAFT




GAME OVER

DAYDREAM YOUR CLASS AWAY

The first pandemic we have all experienced: the first, and hopefully the last. This pandemic affected everyone severely, and changed some of us for the better. As students, however, I can guarantee you that any student who said that this was easy is a fabricator. Since schools went into lockdown, some students have adapted well to new learning environments and habits, but many have had trouble adapting to this new standard - and this is completely understandable.

Let's be real here. No one knows when this pandemic will be over, and I would like to personally thank every teacher who has been truly understanding and put our mental health over our grades. During this tough period, schools should consider adjusting the way they grade students to consider the real health problems that students are facing. Just as teachers who are trying out online methods for the first time need their students to respond with a degree of flexibility, it seems

fair that teachers should extend that same flexibility in return - for instance, extending deadlines and considering the needs of vulnerable students, as not everyone is capable of having stable connections or affording things that others can.

Add to that a whole range of other issues: for instance, video calls often make it easier to lose attention because of the urge to browse social media during online lessons. Under normal circumstances, that short walk to a different classroom for the next lesson can be a good way for the brain to relax and unwind, and online classes do not make that kind of relaxation easier. Students are expected to go from one lesson to the other without being late and fully ready, so that eventually students are like drivers asleep at the wheel.

Moreover, increased screen time has been linked to anxiety, depression, and perceived attention issues, and the lack of genuine face-to-face interaction has affected the mental and physical health of many students. We all miss so many ordinary social interactions: walking between classes with friends, chatting with teachers and friends at the canteen, those small conversations with your teacher before the class begins. These little interactions really add up, and even hardcore introverts feel isolated without them.

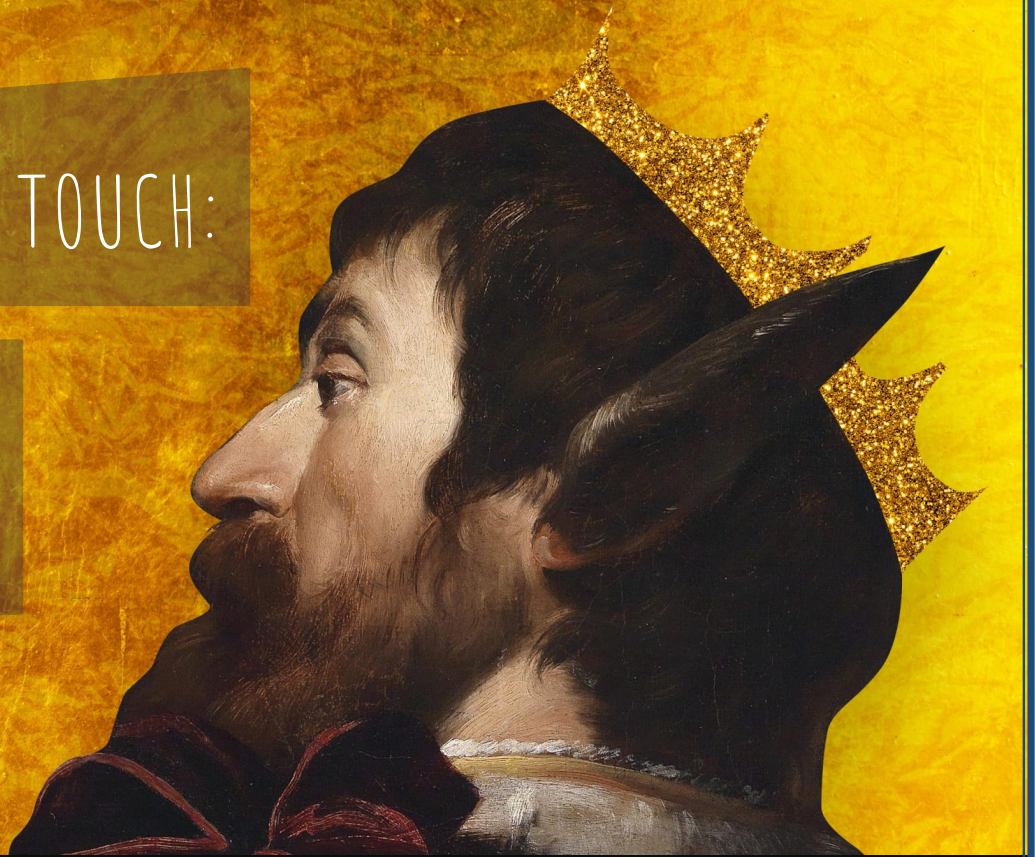
So, when will things go back to normal? We shall wait and see -and in the meantime, I have a class to log on to. •

Noor Raza, Year 11B



THE MIDAS TOUCH:

TRUTH OR TALE?



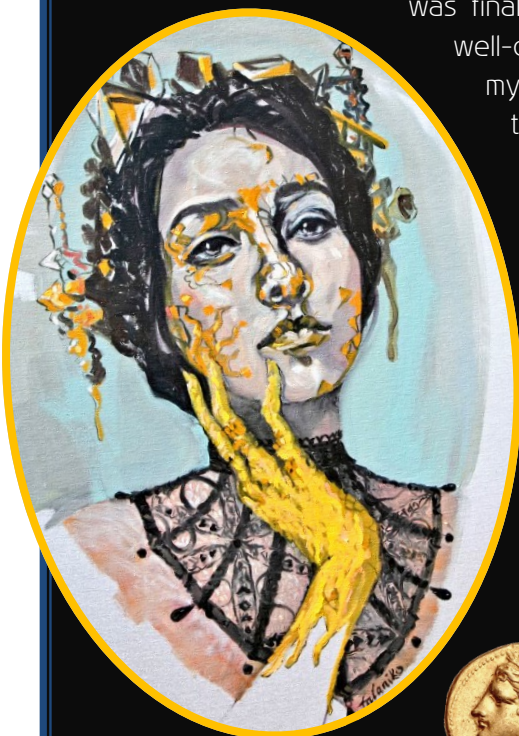
The legend of King Midas is a well-known myth. Dionysus offered to grant Midas any of his desires, and Midas chose to let whatever he touched turn to gold. But after turning food, drink, and even his daughter to gold mistakenly, he begged to be cured of his curse. He was told to wash his hands in the River Pactolus, and upon doing so, the gold seeped from his fingers and he was finally cured. It is a well-documented

myth exhibiting the harm of gluttony and

the necessity of food and compassion, both of which monetary wealth does not grant. However, has this legend been completely fabricated?

Throughout history, the Pactolus river had been blessed with large deposits of electrum (a mixture of gold and silver). These deposits were so grand that they powered the Lydian economy, which King Midas is said to have ruled. It is no surprise that the Ancient Greeks would attempt to explain the presence of vast sums of gold in ancient Lydia with myths, as they created, shared, and popularized myths very rapidly... But why would Midas, a man of such stature and power, be depicted in such an unfavourable light?

PICTURED: ANCIENT GREEK
COINS MADE OF ELECTRUM



66 ALL THAT GLITTERS IS NOT GOLD;
OFTEN HAVE YOU HEARD THAT TOLD:
MANY A MAN HIS LIFE HATH SOLD
BUT MY OUTSIDE TO BEHOLD:
GILDED TOMBS DO WORMS ENFOLD.”

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE
THE MERCHANT OF VENICE ACT II SCENE 7



Midas was renowned throughout the Greek world as a man of vast wealth, but also as a very avaricious man. He was envied by many for his extreme affluence and possibly hated by his citizens, who had to pay substantial taxes to enrich the king and as a result could not live as easy a life as he did, leading to the myths surrounding him to usually depict him as a greedy self-centred fool who thought of gold before wellbeing. By being unpopular and a despised public figure, the poorer Lydians could easily have

spread such stories, saying that he had a golden touch, or that he later would have had ‘ass ears’ thanks to his insulting claim that a mere satyr played a tune better than Apollo could play the harp.

Overall, the wealth and harshness of King Midas made him a loathed personality, leading to the quick transmission of these fabrications amongst the local populace and a disastrous legacy over two millennia later. •

Be careful what you wish for...

*Pride
comes
before
a fall*



Salah Abdul-Qadir, Year 11A



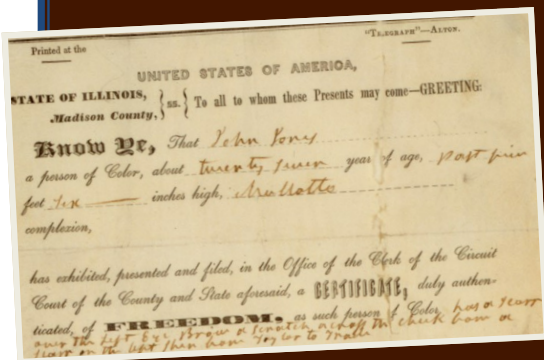
HARRIET TUBMAN:

A SUPERHERO FORGED IN SLAVERY

Escaping slavery; sacrificing everything to save her family; defending the cause of women's suffrage: these are only a few achievements of one of America's bravest heroes.

Harriet Tubman, née Araminta Ross, was born into slavery in Maryland around the early 1820s. Young Harriet's life was changed drastically when she blocked a doorway to protect another field hand from an angry overseer. The overseer picked up a heavy weight and threw it at the field hand. He missed and instead it struck Tubman on the head. She never fully recovered from the blow, as her injury often caused her to have sleeping spells for the rest of her life.

BELOW: A CERTIFICATE OF FREEDOM GRANTED TO A FORMER SLAVE; *A RIDE FOR LIBERTY - THE FUGITIVE SLAVES*, BY EASTMAN JOHNSON (C. 1862)



1822-1913

In 1849, in fear that she, along with the other slaves on the plantation, were to be sold, Harriet resolved to run away. She set out one night on foot, following the North Star and making her way to Pennsylvania all by herself.

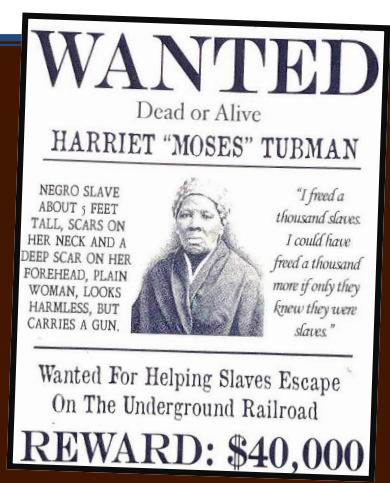
During a ten-year span she made nineteen trips into the South and guided over three hundred slaves to freedom. Not only that, but as she once proudly pointed out to freed slave and abolitionist Frederick Douglass, in all her journeys she "never lost a single passenger." She earned the nickname Moses - due to her leading her fellow slaves to safety and freedom from persecution - and developed clever techniques that helped make her trips successful. Harriet Tubman did all of this with a \$40,000 bounty on her head as well as an injury.





During the Civil War, Harriet worked as a Union Army nurse, a scout, a spy and even led a military raid that freed over seven hundred slaves. After the war, she worked to promote the cause of women's suffrage and was a keynote speaker in the National Federation of Afro-American Women.

Harriet Tubman does not get the recognition she deserves, as history textbooks only describe her actions as an Underground Railroad Conductor and hardly mention her work during and after the Civil War.



Furthermore, it was announced in 2016 by Barack Obama that, in recognition of her work, Harriet would replace slave-owner Andrew Jackson on the US \$20 bill. Although the bill had been planned for distribution in 2020, due to unknown circumstances relating to the Trump presidency, this was postponed to 2028. Many people, including myself, were waiting in anticipation for recognition of this supporter of abolition, women's suffrage, and gender equality. Fortunately, it was recently announced by the current president of the United States, Joe Biden, that they are working quickly to grant Harriet Tubman the recognition she deserves by launching the redesigned \$20 bill without further delay.

Although there are gardens and a museum exhibition dedicated to Harriet, the government should rather dedicate things to her in such a way that they represent what she stood for. For example, one of the gardens dedicated to her is actually on the land where she grew up as a slave. Instead of letting such dedications be marred by the scars of the past, they should rather dedicate something that inspires people to think of her as their role model, in order to enable them to develop courage and leadership skills in a world that needs them more than ever.

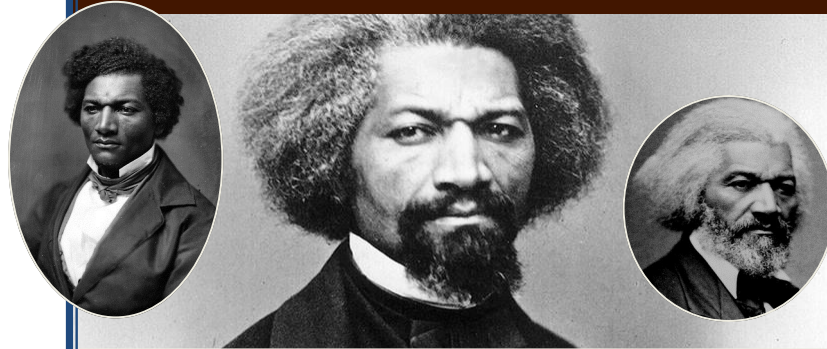
The more you discover about Harriet Tubman, the more you realise that she had to be a superhero. •



Trinity Ownhouse, Year 11A

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH
OCTOBER - UK | FEBRUARY - US**

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: DEPICTION OF SLAVES ON THE RUN, ARTIST AND DATE UNKNOWN; ARTIST'S IMPRESSION OF 'WANTED' POSTER FOR HARRIET TUBMAN; PROPOSED \$20 BILL; SCULPTURE OF HARRIET TUBMAN ON ONE OF HER EMANCIPATORY JOURNEYS NORTH BY WESLEY WOFFORD



FREDERICK DOUGLASS (1818-1895)

was an American social reformer, abolitionist, supporter of women's suffrage, orator, writer, and statesman. After escaping from slavery in Maryland, he became a national leader of the abolitionist movement, becoming famous for his oratory, incisive antislavery writings, and autobiographies describing his experiences as a slave.

Douglass was a firm believer in the equality of all peoples, be they white, black, female, Native American, or Chinese immigrants. He was also a believer in dialogue and in making alliances across racial and ideological divides, as well as in the liberal values of the U.S. Constitution. In his own words:

"I would unite with anybody to do right and with nobody to do wrong."

THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD...

was not a railroad! It was a network of secret routes and safe houses established in the United States during the early to mid-19th century, used by enslaved African Americans to escape into free states and Canada. The scheme was assisted by abolitionists and others sympathetic to the cause of the escapees. One estimate suggests that by 1850 100,000 enslaved people had escaped via the network.

THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD HAD ITS OWN CLANDESTINE LANGUAGE TO AVOID DETECTION:

People who helped enslaved people find the 'railroad'	"AGENTS"
Guides such as Harriet Tubman	"CONDUCTORS"
Hiding places	"STATIONS" OR "WAY STATIONS"
People who hid escaped slaves in their homes	"STATION MASTERS"
People escaping slavery	"PASSENGERS" OR "CARGO"
How enslaved people would access the railway	"TICKET"

The Railroad was often known as the "FREEDOM TRAIN" or "GOSPEL TRAIN", which headed towards "Heaven" or "the Promised Land", i.e. Canada.

'Spirituals' - songs sung by African Americans - were sometimes used to deliver cryptic messages to slaves making their bid for freedom. Songs giving coded directions on how to escape were known as *signal songs* whereas songs on where to meet in secret were known as *map songs*.

WADE IN THE WATER

MEANING: Tubman used this song to tell slaves to get into the water to avoid being seen and to have their scent be hidden from the bloodhounds, and therefore make it through. It is an example of a map song, where directions are coded into the lyrics.

CHORUS:

WADE IN THE WATER, WADE IN THE WATER CHILDREN,
WADE IN THE WATER, GOD'S GONNA TROUBLE THE WATER.

WHO ARE THOSE CHILDREN ALL DRESSED IN RED?
GOD'S GONNA TROUBLE THE WATER.
MUST BE THE ONES THAT MOSES LED.
GOD'S GONNA TROUBLE THE WATER.

CHORUS

WHO ARE THOSE CHILDREN ALL DRESSED IN WHITE?
GOD'S GONNA TROUBLE THE WATER.
MUST BE THE ONES OF THE ISRAELITES.
GOD'S GONNA TROUBLE THE WATER.

CHORUS

WHO ARE THOSE CHILDREN ALL DRESSED IN BLUE?
GOD'S GONNA TROUBLE THE WATER.
MUST BE THE ONES THAT MADE IT THROUGH.
GOD'S GONNA TROUBLE THE WATER.

CHORUS

FOLLOW THE DRINKING GOURD

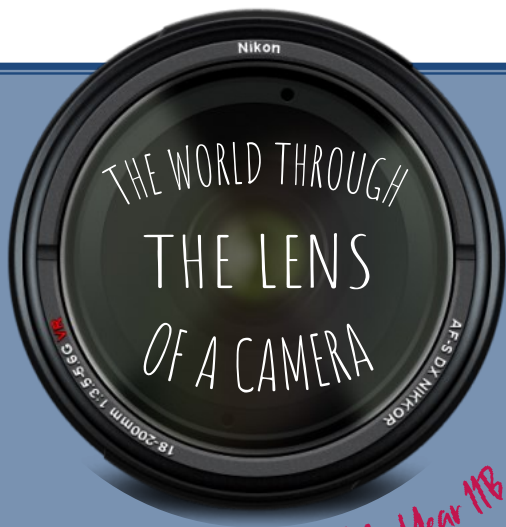
WHEN THE SUN COMES BACK
AND THE FIRST QUAIL CALLS
FOLLOW THE DRINKING GOURD.
FOR THE OLD MAN IS A-WAITING FOR TO
CARRY YOU TO FREEDOM
IF YOU FOLLOW THE DRINKING GOURD.

THE RIVERBANK MAKES A VERY GOOD ROAD.
THE DEAD TREES WILL SHOW YOU THE WAY.
LEFT FOOT, PEG FOOT, TRAVELING ON,
FOLLOW THE DRINKING GOURD.

THE RIVER ENDS BETWEEN TWO HILLS
FOLLOW THE DRINKING GOURD.
THERE'S ANOTHER RIVER ON THE OTHER SIDE
FOLLOW THE DRINKING GOURD.

WHEN THE GREAT BIG RIVER MEETS THE
LITTLE RIVER
FOLLOW THE DRINKING GOURD.
FOR THE OLD MAN IS A-WAITING FOR TO
CARRY YOU TO FREEDOM
IF YOU FOLLOW THE DRINKING GOURD.

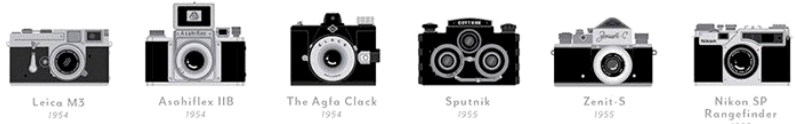
MEANING: This song suggests escaping in the spring as the days get longer. It also refers to quails which start calling each other in April. The drinking gourd is a water dipper which is a code name for the Big Dipper constellation which points to the Pole Star towards the north. Moss grows on the north side of dead trees, so if the Big Dipper is not visible, dead trees will guide them north.



Safia Mostafa, Year 11B

To me, photography is a way to capture beautiful moments in this mesmerising world. There are so many things to see and do. There are times when you merely enjoy yourself in the moment and want to capture it to show others or even just to remind yourself. How many times have you thought, 'Wow, I wish I could take a picture,' and took out your camera or phone and captured each second of it? I assume many times, but what about before the invention of photography appeared and took the world by storm? There were paintings, but that would take ages to complete.

The art of photography can be the most fascinating thing, seizing your imagination. I am sure you've heard of immortality. Do you believe in immortality? I do not either, but not the type of immortality that you are thinking of. A snapshot, on the other hand,

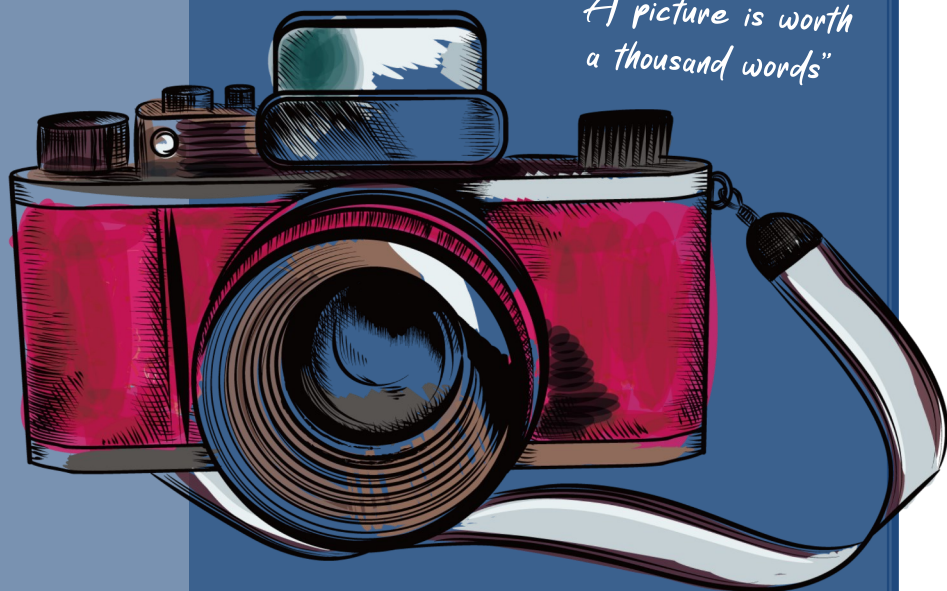


can hold years and years of memories, just like a history book holds years and years of historical facts and words and so much more. In fact, if we see an image that was taken about a hundred years ago, we can tell a great deal about the lifestyle of the people in it. Moreover, a photo can follow you on the journey of life. It is not just a picture but also a story. It can inspire and enrapture your imagination

truth. In addition, if you want to take a picture of wildlife, you need to be quiet and steady, as if you are not steady you might ruin any opportunity you may have to capture something magical.

It is often said that "a picture is worth a thousand words" and I strongly agree. What will we do without the blessing of photography? Being a photographer, you must arrive bright-eyed and bushy-tailed

"A picture is worth a thousand words"



by what your eyes behold in front of you.

On the other hand, a photo may deceive you. On the basis of a blurry picture, people may make wild assumptions which might be a far cry from the

at the spot and prepare your 'canvas'. I cannot recommend strongly enough giving this wonderful art form a chance. Its visual gifts may surprise you. •

WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY BY ANOTHER NAME



The Timeline of an Art Form





AN INTERVIEW WITH THE WOMAN WHO REVOLUTIONISED FASHION, *Coco Chanel*

Interviewer: Good evening. Tonight, I would like to welcome the extraordinary Mademoiselle Gabrielle Chanel! What a pleasure to have you here today.

Coco Chanel: Merci beaucoup [*Thank you very much*], Monsieur Beau. The pleasure is all mine, and please, call me Coco.

Interviewer: Coco, I would like to congratulate you on your latest collection. C'est très jolie - à mon avis, [*It's beautiful - in my opinion,*] it was your greatest one yet!

Coco Chanel: Thank you!

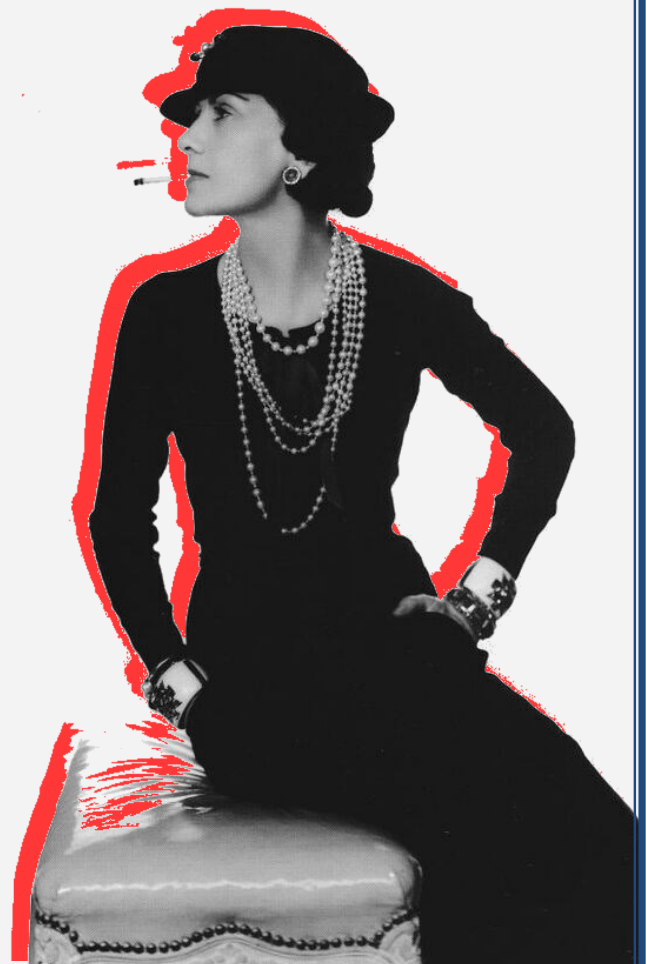
Interviewer: Please, do tell us about your early life.

Coco Chanel: D'accord alors, [*Alright, so,*] I was born into a lower-class family in the town of Saumur. After my maman's [*mom's*] passing, when I was three, mon père [*my father*] decided to send me off to an orphanage where I grew up with nuns. When I turned 18, I had been left unadopted, so I left to work as a seamstress.

Interviewer: Countless people, including myself, see you as a powerful woman, who has redefined fashion and reshaped the contours of women's clothing. You are a woman who came from nothing and built such a reputation, an empire. What would you say to that?

Coco Chanel: Les femmes ont toujours été les plus fortes du monde, [*Women have always been the foundation of strength in this world,*] so why

should their clothes not be? Ma vie ne me plaisait pas, alors j'ai créé ma vie. Pour réaliser de grandes choses, il faut d'abord rêver. [*I wasn't happy in my life, so I remade my life to my liking. To achieve great things, one must first of all dream.*] Starting off with hats and later morphing into couture [*tailor-made fashion*] was the best choice I ever made. Women's clothing was très [*very*] limited, narrow and oppressive. It was all tight corsets and dresses. What truly felt like timeless style - as I always say, "la mode se démode, le style jamais" [*fashion goes out of*



COCO CHANEL PHOTOGRAPHED BY MAN RAY (1935)



LIBERATING WOMEN FROM THE CORSET
LA LIBÉRATION DES FEMMES DU CORSAGE



fashion, but style never does] - was different. Men's blazers and trousers were what I felt comfortable in. Beau, why should it only be men who have a chance to wear such clothing? It shouldn't. Beauty begins the moment you decide to be yourself, and many women couldn't be themselves without Chanel.

Interviewer: Incredible Coco, truly. What are the two most notable things you have done or wish for others to emulate?

Coco Chanel: Strength is built by failures, not success. Everyone should remember that. The most significant thing in my opinion is the popularisation of the Black Dress. It reimagined everyday wear and colour and broadened the horizons for women's fashion and freedom. Oh, and *une dernière chose: une femme sans parfum est une femme sans avenir* [*Oh, and one last thing: a woman without perfume is a woman without a future.*]

Interviewer: Incroyable [*Incredible*]. Unfortunately, that's all we have time for today but it was an absolute honour having you here today.

Coco Chanel: Merci tout le monde, bonne nuit! [*Thank you to everyone - good night!*] •



“Fashion goes out of fashion, but style never does.”

COCO CHANEL PHOTOGRAPHED BY CECIL BEATON IN HER OWN HOME (1965)



John Roy Amurao, Year 10A

RECLAIMING THE

*A*s the 'beautiful game' has aged, it has varied and evolved to a vast degree. With this has come the flood of money and advertising that has arguably ruined the essence of football itself. Primarily, this has manufactured a gulf in level between teams through the effects of the great surge in revenue. Ultimately, the playing field has become greatly unfair with the privilege of top-level players only granted to richer teams who are capable of buying into it.

Bidding war for success

Put in simple words: cash for success. You and I, the fans and those who care for the sport are noticing the change. With the immense influx of money, football has faced a large number of new issues. Consequently, the field has transformed into a match of money, rather than a match between our beloved teams. This constant splurge of money has removed any parity and widened the gulf in quality between the smaller teams and the businesses at the top. This leaves by the wayside the electrifying atmosphere and excitement of the old game, instead deflating into a lopsided affair that lacks true competition. This issue stems from the chasm of spending power that teams at the top have, allowing them to attract lucrative talent, while cutting corners in the process and surfing to success solely on the basis of their money. This can be seen through the Deloitte money league table that ranks teams on how much money they have made and spent. All of the eleven highest-ranking on this table have enjoyed domestic or European success within the last two years.

Buying fans and history

Another aspect of football damaged through the funds invested is the fans' emotional investment and the history behind it. Due to this purchasing of success, teams don't work to get to the top and face no hardship. This makes their success stories pale in comparison to the game of old, as no emotion, calamity or unexpected action is present. Therefore fans like you

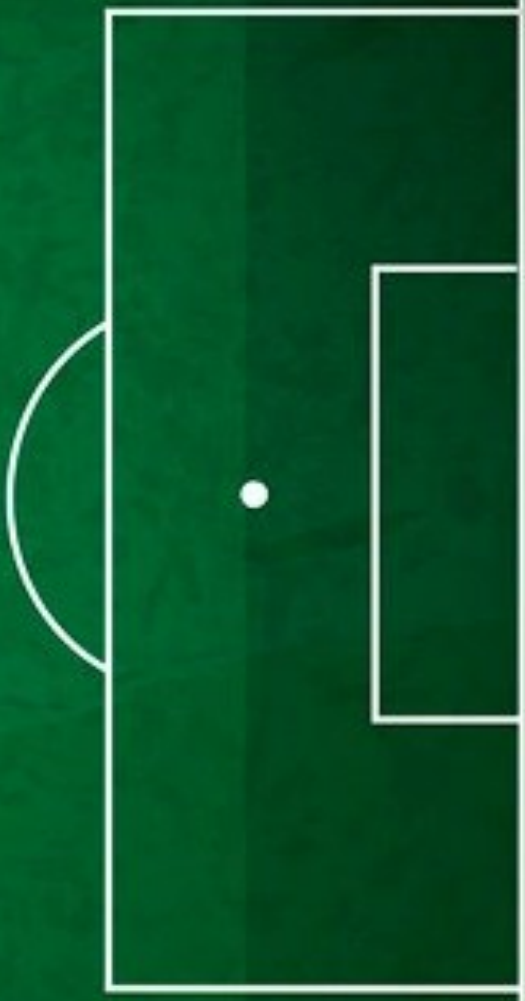
'BEAUTIFUL GAME'

Zein-Alabdeen Shamarti, Year 11A

and me are incapable of forming bonds with the players and emotionally investing ourselves in such an astounding sport. This lack of true engagement has been decried by football veteran and former Arsenal manager, Arsène Wenger, who stated, "When you look at the five big leagues in Europe, in December we already knew four champions, that means something is not right in our game. The huge financial power of some clubs is basically destroying the competition." However, the problem doesn't end there. More teams have subsequently attempted to use their money in order to attract new fans through clever marketing, again undermining the essence of football.

Money can't buy diversity

With the globalisation of football, it has found itself within many young children's hearts who aim to play professionally in the future. However, when one of these bright prospects is capable of displaying her talents to the world, she is found with no future to match her passion and ambition. While money has become the engine of world football, not all football is always on the same footing. Aspiring women footballers in particular are sometimes discouraged as their chances have been limited compared to men, with a major gender pay gap having been evident in several major tournaments. For instance, Fifa awarded a total of 400 million dollars to the competing men's teams in 2018, but only 30 million dollars to the competing women's teams in 2019. Belatedly, they issued a statement in January 2020 committing to gender parity in terms of earnings and bonuses. This historical disparity however is a telling illustration of how women's football had been deliberately relegated to inferior playing status. Furthermore, there persists a culture of exclusion for LGBT+ players both within the industry and fan base, so that these players are often discouraged or brought down. This defeats the purpose of football and is antithetical to the foundation of football: anyone should be able to play, no matter what status, race, religion, gender, or sexual orientation you are.



Ultimately, the manner in which money has taken over football has brought little to no benefit to the 'beautiful game', and we should ask ourselves as devotees of the sport what we can do to reclaim it. •

YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT

How do you maintain a healthy lifestyle? Leading a healthy lifestyle can be challenging, as it requires a lot of dedication and self-control. This includes having a balanced diet, exercising regularly, and giving yourself a treat every now and then. The key to achieving a healthy life is leaving behind bad habits, for instance drinking, smoking, and taking in other harmful substances.

How many times have you told yourself that you were going to start on Monday but never ended up doing it? Procrastination is very common, but you need to start worrying when you don't know how to overcome this issue. One of the things that procrastination can lead to is anxiety, which can also cause other serious problems.

Nowadays people don't understand the importance of self-care; teenagers often imitate their friends to seem cool or simply to fit in. This can go from mimicking somebody's style to more severe cases like copying somebody's bad habits, and this can negatively affect their health both mentally and physically. If we were to compare a smoker to a non-smoker, we can observe a big difference in their physical capabilities. Most likely, the non-smoker will be able to run for a longer time and have a lower chance of getting lung cancer, whereas the smoker will be out of breath in two seconds.

The most obvious part of having a healthy lifestyle is eating well. A balanced diet includes various fruit and vegetables, and cutting out fat- and sugar-containing foods. Indeed, your own body will benefit from healthy eating. Not only do you feel better spiritually but you also feel more energised. Furthermore, it reduces the chance of high blood pressure, diabetes, and cholesterol. One of the benefits of having a balanced diet is clearly maintaining your body mass. Another way of achieving this goal is by exercising regularly. Everyone wants to become fit, but statistics show that every six in ten people either lack motivation or don't put in enough effort. You can't expect to see an improvement if you don't motivate yourself to work out.

Overall, we can understand that leading a healthy lifestyle needs a lot of persistence, dedication, and motivation. Starting something new can be scary and difficult, but it's in our human nature to adapt to new and better things, no matter how much time it takes. As long as you are confident in yourself and trust in your journey, you will succeed. •

Iryna Galagan (Year 11B) and Shenale Galketi-Dewage (Year 11A)

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The Rejected Gifts of Spiritus

A Creation Myth



According to the ancient tales of the Sky Clan, the world began as a cold dark nothingness from which the creator, Spiritus, came. Spiritus was alone and often depressed, and when this happened he would mould objects out of mud. Everything that he made came to life.

Spiritus first moulded an elegant terrain that was covered from pole to pole in grass, and along with it he produced all kinds of plants. He called it Earth. Admiring how beautiful Earth was, he created many spectacular and majestic beasts, who he called animals, to live on the land. Some of the animals could walk on four legs, some on two, and others could fly.

This creator loved all these animals and gave every single one of them unique names. The animals could not talk, which saddened him and made his heart feel heavy. He then decided to create something to fill his void of sadness. He took his precious mud and added it to a tigress. This action resulted in the creation of a mesmerising woman. He called her Nightshade, for she was beautiful yet dangerous, just like the plant he had made.

Spiritus was so happy with his work that he wanted to make others like her. Instead of a tigress, he used an eagle. This time the action resulted in a handsome man. The man was named Maximus, for he was strong and fearless just like the eagle.

Soon, Nightshade and Maximus fell in love. This outraged Spiritus. He tried to impress Nightshade by creating the sun and the sky for her. He told her that he had made them for her because she was so beautiful. This thrilled Nightshade for a while, but she eventually made her way back to Maximus.

Spiritus, still angry, tried to win Nightshade's heart again by creating the stars and the moon. When he told Nightshade what he had created, she was thrilled once again. She stayed with him until she left him in the middle of the night while he was asleep.

Nightshade went back to Maximus and when Spiritus saw this, he wept and howled. He wept and howled so much that his tears and cries created beautiful rivers, sparkling lakes, oceans full of sea animals and enormous mountains.

Many years later, Spiritus stopped weeping and howling. He saw that Maximus and Nightshade had many children and that their children had children. Out of anger towards Nightshade's disloyalty, he created a place similar to how the world used to be, a cold dark nothingness. He called it the Otherworld. To punish Nightshade for leaving him, Spiritus brought an illness upon Maximus.

Maximus eventually died from his illness and was sent to the Otherworld. To teach his future creations not to betray him, Spiritus cast various curses on them like diseases, natural disasters, poverty and death all over the once elegant terrain. The Sky Clan say that the curses will only be removed once Spiritus has seen change on Earth.



Trinity Ownhouse, Year 11A



ΜΥΤΙΛΗΝΗ ΜΥΤΙΛΙΝΙ

Have you ever wanted to know what a tedious, two-month long holiday on a small Greek island is like? Then this won't be the piece to tell you, for two months in Mytilini went by fast enough to leave me wanting more.

I think I speak for everyone when I say the return back home is never fully pleasant. But is missing out on the best parts of holiday out of fear worth it?

Two months ago, I didn't think I would ever become accustomed to the ways of Mytilini – until I was stepping off the plane into the warm summer air, and I realised that I already had. I began to notice a pattern everywhere I went; from local hangout spots to beaches, I'd see the same people and the same happy families who would find joy in the simplest of things. It was easy to become attached to such mindsets.

A highlight of my trip was the connection I built with nature. After spending all my time surrounded by it, I grew grateful for being greeted by sunrays that would enter my home uninvited, and the singing birds that made it their job to wake up the island, even if at 4 am. I was just happy to draw back the curtains, knowing that the rising sun would make its appearance amongst the orange and pink tones rising with it.

If you can, do visit Mytilini at least once in your life. The only guaranteed regret you'll have is leaving.



 *Matina Papageorgiou, Year 10A* 

Parisian Paradise



I close my eyes and daydream about standing 324 meters above the ground in a wrought-iron tower that is 133 years old, breathing in the crisp Parisian air.

Paris, the City of Love, housing some of the most spectacular monuments of human history and the most touristic visits, with 19.1 million tourists each year.

Arriving at Charles de Gaulle felt like an absolute dream in anticipation of the delights of Paris. I was in one of the most picturesque cities in the world. I checked into my hotel on the Champs-Élysées and from my bedroom window I could see the great Arc de Triomphe peeking at me through the symmetrical Parisian-style buildings. The Arc de Triomphe is a famous landmark honouring those who fought and died for France in the French Revolution and Napoleonic Wars.

The first thing on my agenda was to visit the most famous museum of all time, the Louvre. I took the hard way and chose to walk and to admire the scenery instead of catching a ten-minute taxi ride. Midway through my 44-minute walk, I gave up and caught a taxi. After a few minutes the bold glass pyramids of the Louvre caught my eye. At first it was extremely overwhelming seeing all the bustling tourists and a rather large queue outside; I would highly recommend getting tickets beforehand instead of waiting for two to three hours in a queue. It was breathtaking seeing the magnificent work of artists such as Théodore Géricault, Jacques-Louis David, Michelangelo, the Ancient Greeks and of course Leonardo da Vinci. This experience was definitely worth the wait.

One of my favourite places is just on the outskirts of Paris, known as the Palace of Versailles, and undoubtedly my favourite experience in Paris. I loved seeing all the carefully detailed pieces put together by King Louis the XIV, also known as the Sun King. I loved delicately biting my favourite treat, macarons, from Laudurée while I admired the well-manicured gardens of the chateau.

I was advised by one of my local friends studying in Paris to try the duck at 'Le Malakoff', a traditional French restaurant in Trocadero Square overlooking the magnificent Eiffel Tower. This was the best restaurant in Paris and I highly recommend trying French cuisine.

My eyes are still tightly shut and I can almost feel the Parisian breeze brush past my face. Oh, what I would do to be back in the City of Light, living in my Parisian Paradise.



Isabella Tzitzivacos, Year 10A



La Vita è Bella

Life Is Beautiful



AGLIO E
OLIO—
PASTA
WITH
OLIVE OIL
& GARLIC

The spectacular city of Rome never ceases to amaze me and no matter how many times I am in this glorious city, its magnificence consumes me. In fact, one would be forgiven if they felt that they were in the largest open-air museum in the world.

The baroque Trevi Fountain, the largest baroque fountain in the world, stands tall and proud in its awe-inspiring splendour, marking a romantic point at the juncture of three roads. It is said that it is the terminal point of one of the aquaducts that supplied water to ancient Rome. On its facade is depicted the story of how the engineers prayed to the Virgin to guide them to find the water. I stand in front of this glorious image and take in the moment. The crowds around me cease to exist, and I am captivated by the magnificence of my surroundings.

The city is decorated with several obelisks which rise like glorious monuments to remind us of years gone by. Many of the Roman emperors were fascinated by Egypt and these obelisks were trophies of their conquests: monuments to their power and military prowess. They represented the living deity, the vitality and immortality of the Egyptian pharaohs. They were specifically positioned so that the first and last light of day would touch their peak, in honour of the Egyptian sun god.

I walked the beautiful cobblestoned streets to the infamous Colosseum which rises like a beacon, ever-present reminder of the barbaric gladiator games. I sat in the oval-shaped building made of concrete, limestone and volcanic rock and tried to imagine what it was like to witness such an event.

A bit further up the delightful roads stands the monumental stairway called 'The Spanish Steps', built from 1723 to 1725 as a steep pathway leading to the Trinità Dei Monti church and Bourbon Spanish Embassy. This picturesque stairway was designed by Francesco de Sanctis and Alessandro Specchi. I always enjoyed sitting on the steps while I ate a gelato and watched the people walking in and out of the boutiques.

On my way down from the Spanish Steps, while I admired the beautiful items in the luxurious boutiques, a delicious smell appealed to my senses. I followed it and it led me to a quaint restaurant with tables on the pavement, impeccably laid with white tablecloths and shiny cutlery to complement the smell.

I sat down and enjoyed possibly the best *Aglio e Olio* I have ever tasted, while listening to the lyrical Italian language resonating around me. I was captivated completely, and I never wanted to leave.



GELATO



THE TREVI FOUNTAIN, ROME

Soultana Tzitzivacos, Year 10A



AN INTERVIEW WITH SANJI VINKSMOKE OF THE STRAW HAT PIRATES

Yumna Abusalah, Year 10B



INTERVIEWER: Welcome ladies and gentlemen to another episode of *Interview the Best*. Today our guest is a rising-in-popularity pirate known for his best looks and extraordinary cooking skills. May we all welcome Sanji Vinsmoke!

SANJI: Hey... Hm, thank you for having me.

INTERVIEWER: Welcome Sanji. So, tell us: why have you joined the Straw Hat Pirates? What intrigued you to throw in your lot with them?

SANJI: Well, hm, it was a while back when I was working in this restaurant in the middle of the sea with that darn old man, to, er... pay back a debt. Then one day this darn pirate came starving and I really didn't want to serve him because we wouldn't accept those darn nasty pirates – too much trouble, you see. But I served him secretly outside, because everyone has the right to eat. Then this peculiar guy, Luffy – didn't look like a pirate – saw me, and asked me to join his crew. Absurd, right?! So then I walked back inside and saw him sitting with another four people and... a very beautiful, gorgeous woman... Nami, oh Nami, my dream. If it were not for her beauty, I would have never even considered it, you know.

INTERVIEWER: Was Nami the only reason you joined?

SANJI: She played a great role. However, this huge fight happened when another darn pirate decided to attack our restaurant. Everything was chaotic until this cool guy named Zoro and Luffy fought him and that idiot Luffy saved me and said some inspiring stuff. Then that darn old man convinced me to join them even though I was still in debt to him, but I guess he was acting like he wanted the best for me. And, you know, I wanted to sail to the East Blue because they have all the food every cook dreams of.

INTERVIEWER: Tell us more about your debt. Was it money? What did you owe him?

SANJI: I just... worked with him. He fed me when I was starving. Not much. Um.

INTERVIEWER: I see. Your past seems to have been extremely eventful! Thank you for your time, sir, and good evening.

SANJI: No, thank you and good evening. •





ARTWORK BY
YAKOSLAV RADECKIY

VISITING AN ALCHEMIST'S WORKSHOP, BIRTHPLACE OF SCIENCE AND MAGIC

The room is well-lit, bathed in a soothing orange light that shines down from grand stained-glass windows situated on either side of the room. In the far corner there are tables full of squabbling old men in fancy hats, arguing about their research, tightly huddled around long rectangular dining tables that had now been converted into work benches. Amongst them, a fair-haired, taciturn young lady clasps her child to her bosom protectively, as if wanting to shield it from this chaotic, tumultuous world.

As I look around the room, I see piles of archaic books strewn haphazardly on smooth wooden tables and littering the ground. I pick one up; it is heavy with the burden of knowledge. Upon closer inspection, its creamy coarse pages are slightly ripped along the edges from its extensive use. I set it back down and my attention is drawn towards an array of vibrantly coloured conical flasks that seem to hold strange bubbling liquids. The smell of burning hangs heavy in the air and as I peer at some hand-decorated vases, the stench of rotten eggs hits me like a horse-drawn carriage.

I take a large step back, intent on distancing myself from the strange feline creature that had wriggled out from beneath a pile of cloth, ready to devour a miniscule ash-grey mouse nibbling on some breadcrumbs. From the corner of my peripheral vision, I spot a hunched man wearing a sunset-pink tunic, a lush green phial clutched in his delicate grasp. He bends over an ancient-looking anvil as a tiny dog obstreperously yaps at his heels and trots around the bustling tables.

On the far-left side of the room a wise, argute-looking man with long white hair and an uncombed bristly bush of a beard glares sternly at the little dog and the noisy posse of scientists, as if trying to silence them with his impenetrable glare. He is dressed in elegant emerald green robes made of the finest, softest silk in the land, and has a dazzling pure gold necklace with a fiery gemstone in the centre strung around his neck. Sitting on a comfortable, ruby red pillow, he looks towards his assistant, a pale man with sparkling eyes, their gazes meeting, as if they're communicating through thought alone.

Behind him, phials and large glass orbs containing peculiar substances sizzle and boil, producing a low gurgling noise. Steam rises from the openings in lazy spirals, perfuming the humid air with pungent gas. This was an alchemist's workshop: a place where the power of knowledge and the cunning of man create true miracles.



Nikitas Nikolaou, Year 11A

UNTOUCHABLE

Another night; hard to fall asleep. Chris lay on his bed, tossing and turning restlessly. An unknown flame burned inside him, making him feel nervous and fretful. Alice, the cat, sat on the windowsill; her ink-black fur merged into the dark with only her emerald-coloured eyes gleaming towards him sharply. Chris sighed and got up from the bed. He grabbed a chair to sit beside Alice next to the windowsill. The only sound in the room was the scratching on the wooden floor as he dragged the chair, and the ticking of the clock on the wall.

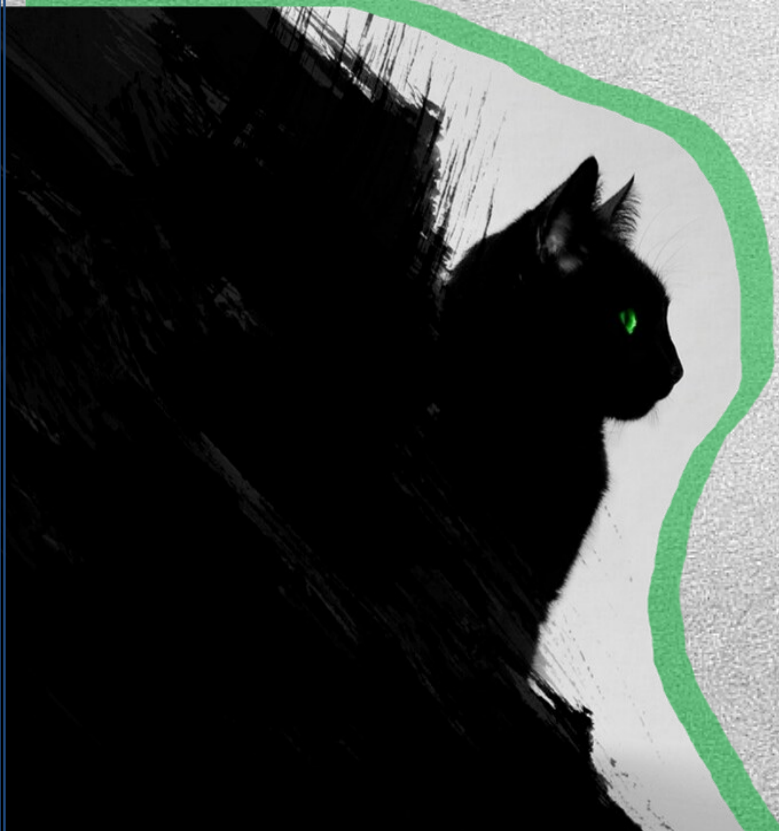
The gentle, yellow moonlight fell on him. Alice jumped off the windowsill, then vanished into the dark. After a while, a young lady walked in behind Chris. She was all in black: black hair, black dress, and black shoes. The only colour on her was her shining green eyes, just like Alice. Those eyes attract all your attention; they will drag you down into the deepest part of the abyss.

'Need a lullaby, kid?' the lady looked downward and patted Chris's back. On her fingertip was a red mark. 'Funny, isn't it? Could heal with just one simple spell and leave no mark, but someone is being stubborn.'

Chris did not answer. He closed his eyes and started humming the song that was engraved into his soul. The midnight breeze carried the melody into the far distance.

'The wind will carry the song to her, with my feelings,' he thought. 'Back to that time, that summer when we first met.'

He opened his eyes. The only thing he could see in front of him was the endless alley. The only thing he could taste was the stench of blood. The only thing he could hear was the yelling behind him and his own breath. And the only thing he could feel – the sharp pain and the jagged stones piercing his bare feet. He was running away from



that house. He had no clue where to go, what to do, no clue about whether it was freedom or more torture at the other side of the alley; he just wanted to run away from those people, or more specifically, devils.

The view was starting to become blurry, the walls were distorting, the yelling behind him getting closer and closer, fear flooding through him. Just as he was about to lose consciousness, a large, tattooed hand grabbed his collar and raised him up above the ground. The only thing that came into Chris's mind before he fainted was the desire for freedom.

And all he could remember after that was the endless monitoring, that terrible early chapter of his past resulting in trauma for the rest of his life.

Until the day... she entered his life.

She was not a girl who stood out from the crowd. She might not have been as clever, or as pretty, but to him she was entirely different from all the other girls he had ever met. She was the only hope in this fake, brutal world.

She was always hard-working and generous to others; they were people from two different worlds. While she lived in the sunshine, he had been raised in the dark. He never admitted his true feelings towards her but hid them in the deepest place of his heart, so deep that he didn't even realise himself.

The only thing he did was to drag her down into the dark too.

Chris never dared look into her eyes, as they were more than pretty when she smiled. There were courage, warmth, kindness, and many more alluring things from the positive world that would only make him doubt himself. And that is why he never realised the love in her eyes when she looked at him.

Time flies. Chris closed his eyes, and the second time he opened them, everything had changed. Her body was turning cold in his hand, with her blood on one of his hands, and a knife in the other. He couldn't remember why she died and what he did that night; he could only remember what she had said with her hand on his face.

'I was hoping you would kiss me in the flower of my youth, rather than cry in regret over my tombstone.'

A black cat jumped off the wall of the alley, with its emerald-coloured eyes staring at them both. That night, everything went back to the dark.

The ringing of the bell in the centre of the forest brought him back to the present. Four in the morning: the sun was rising, the moon falling. The lady dressed in black turned to the cat, curled up the table. Chris stood up from his chair and patted its head.

'Going to visit her today?' The cat jumped off the table and stretched. 'Just be careful not to step on my flowers on your way out.'

Chris nodded and left the room. He stopped at the doorstep and watched the sun slowly rising. His love no longer existed after that summer.



Qinqin Li (Year 11A) and Julia Lin (Year 11B)



WAR

I saw the warplane,
I heard the missiles,
I smelled gunpowder,
I touched the trigger,
I tasted blood.

Jason Zhang, Year 10A

HARVEY DUNN, *ON THE WIRE* (1918)

ART ON THE FRONTLINE

LAW

The law looks black and white.
The law smells of blood.
The law sounds like a heavy drumbeat.
Law tastes like rust.
The law is flint.

Apple Huang, Year 10B

STATUE OF LADY JUSTICE AT DUBLIN CASTLE, IRELAND

ALL THIS FOR WAR

With sticks that spit fire, we pray for ceasefire
As bombs fall in clusters, and strength we cannot muster
I shall not sleep nor slumber, yet we fall like leaves in the summer
All this for war!

As feet and teeth chatter, same way the men scatter
As planes fly and men die, children cry and scream "oh why?"
All this for war!

A lot of soldiers died a lot of mothers cried I watched tears fall from their
eyes
At their graves we place red flowers, hope you'll tell our tales at the towers
All this for war!

As soldiers breathe heavily, on the ground you'll see a dead lily
As brothers we fight to escape our plight, pray there won't be an ambush
this night.
All this for war!

As soldiers are ill-prepared for their fate, they impatiently wait for a date.
As mother nature weeps, so do men leap to stab and end up left on slabs.
All this for war!

As planes crash so do the men dash, and by the end of this cataclysmic
clash, we hope to find peace at last.
As women scream in pain, their husbands in chains,
All this for war!

As soldiers thirst for gore, the Earth weeps more
As mass destruction takes its toll, the more I detest human nature
All this for war!

KATARZYNA KMIĘCIK, *SKY NO. 6* (2017)

Olawale Cole and Aatish Ajay, Year 11B

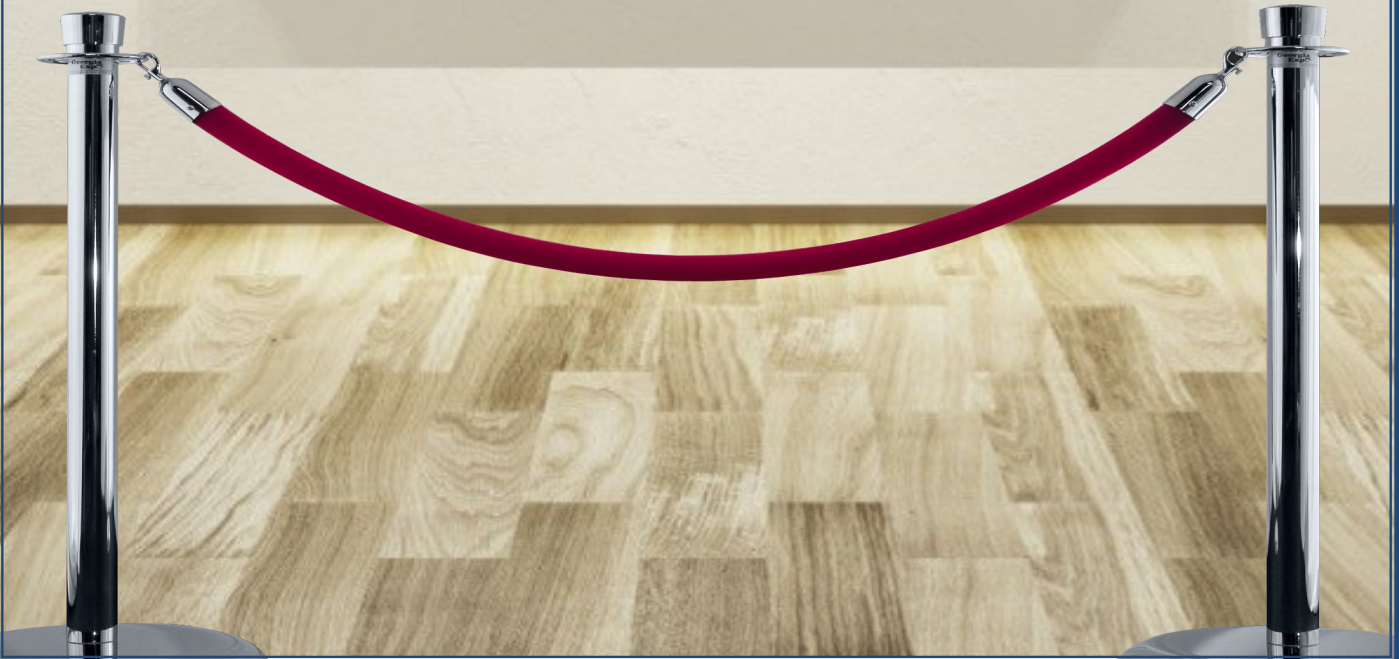


BYRON

VOICE

ART

GALLERY



ADMIT
ONE



N° 151283

FEATURING:

Yayun Pan (Year 11A)

Sophie Wang (Year 11A)

Yingtong Zhou (Year 11A)

Rajiul Firdouse Rafi (Year 10A)

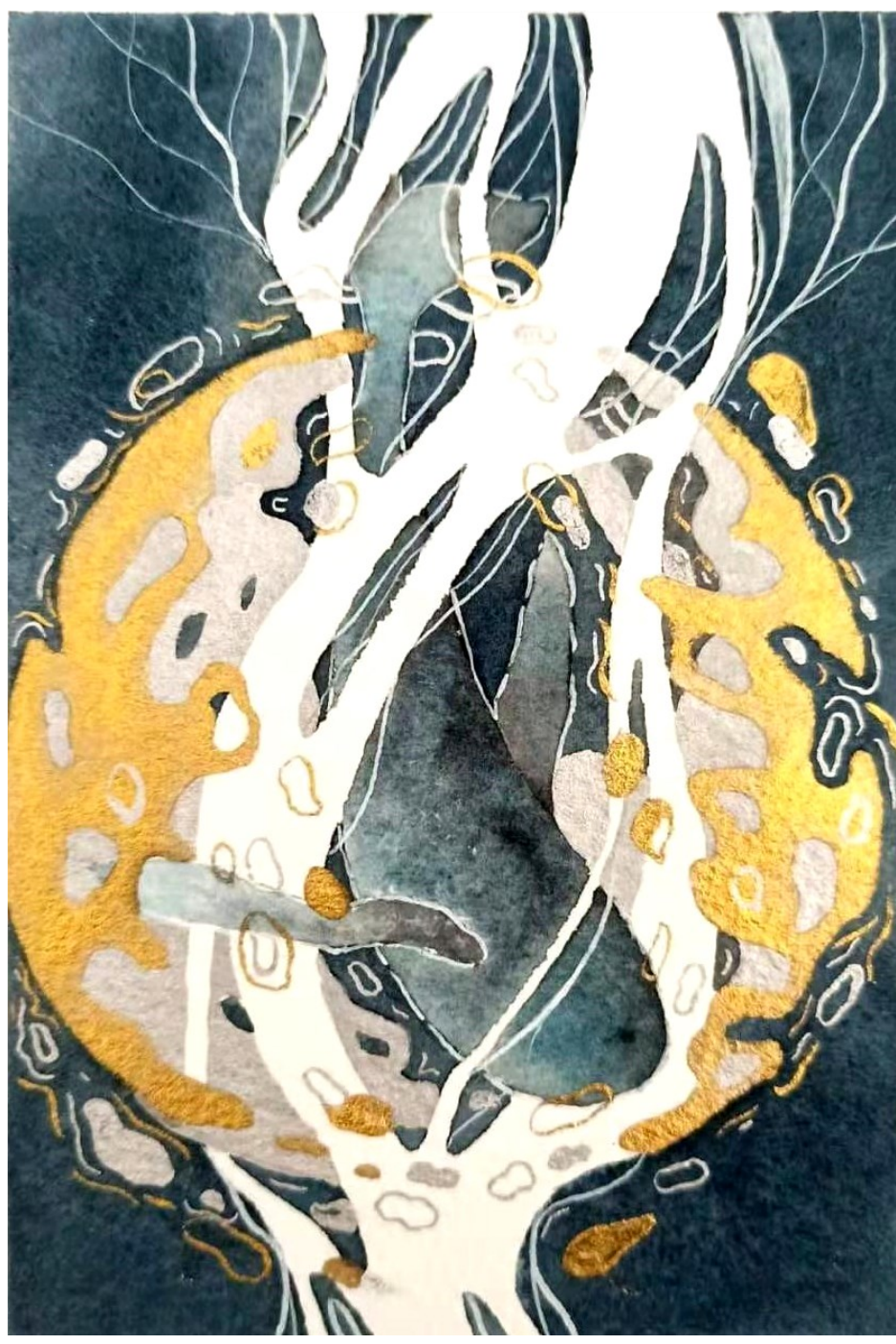


Yayun Pan, Year 11A







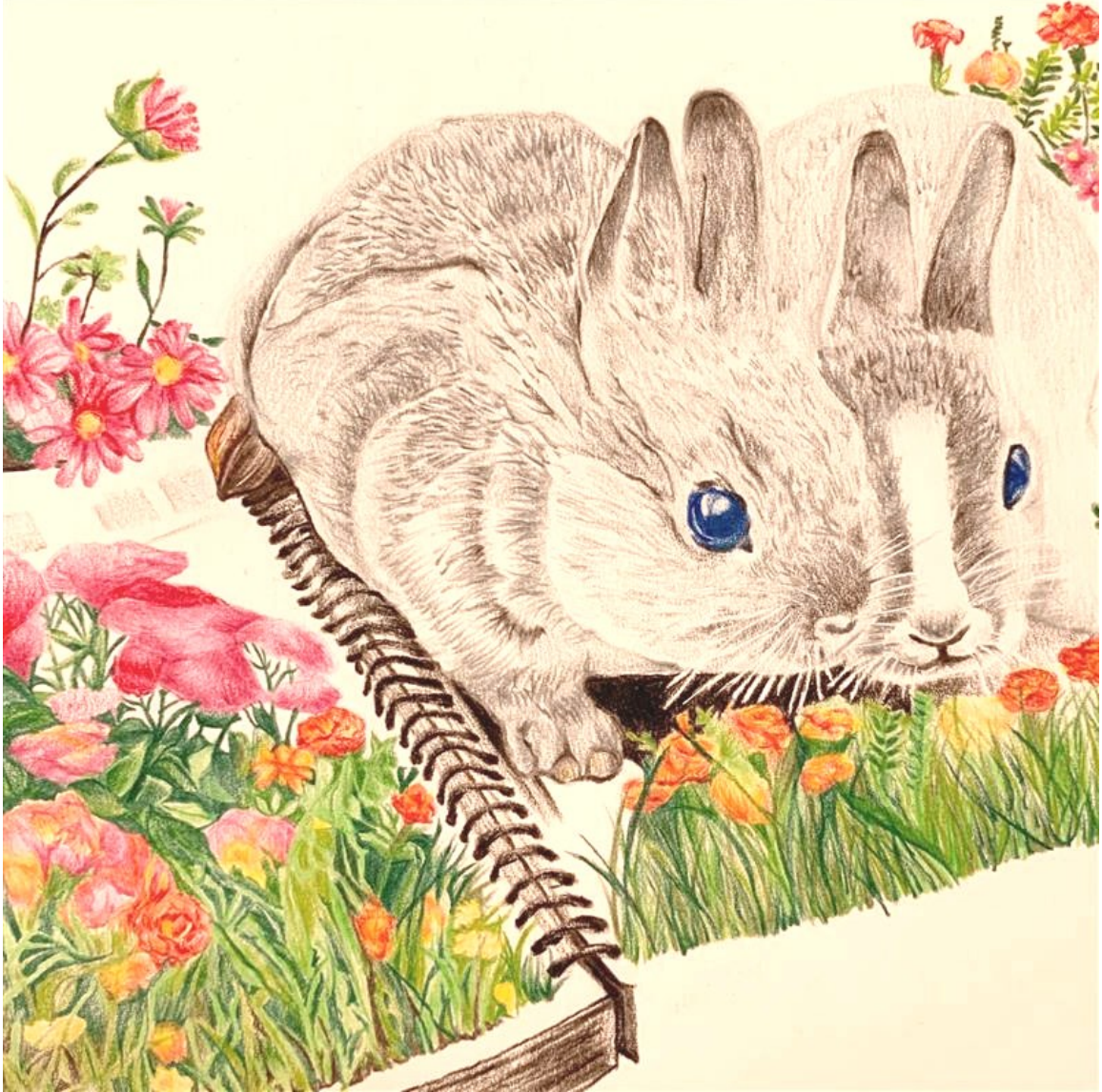




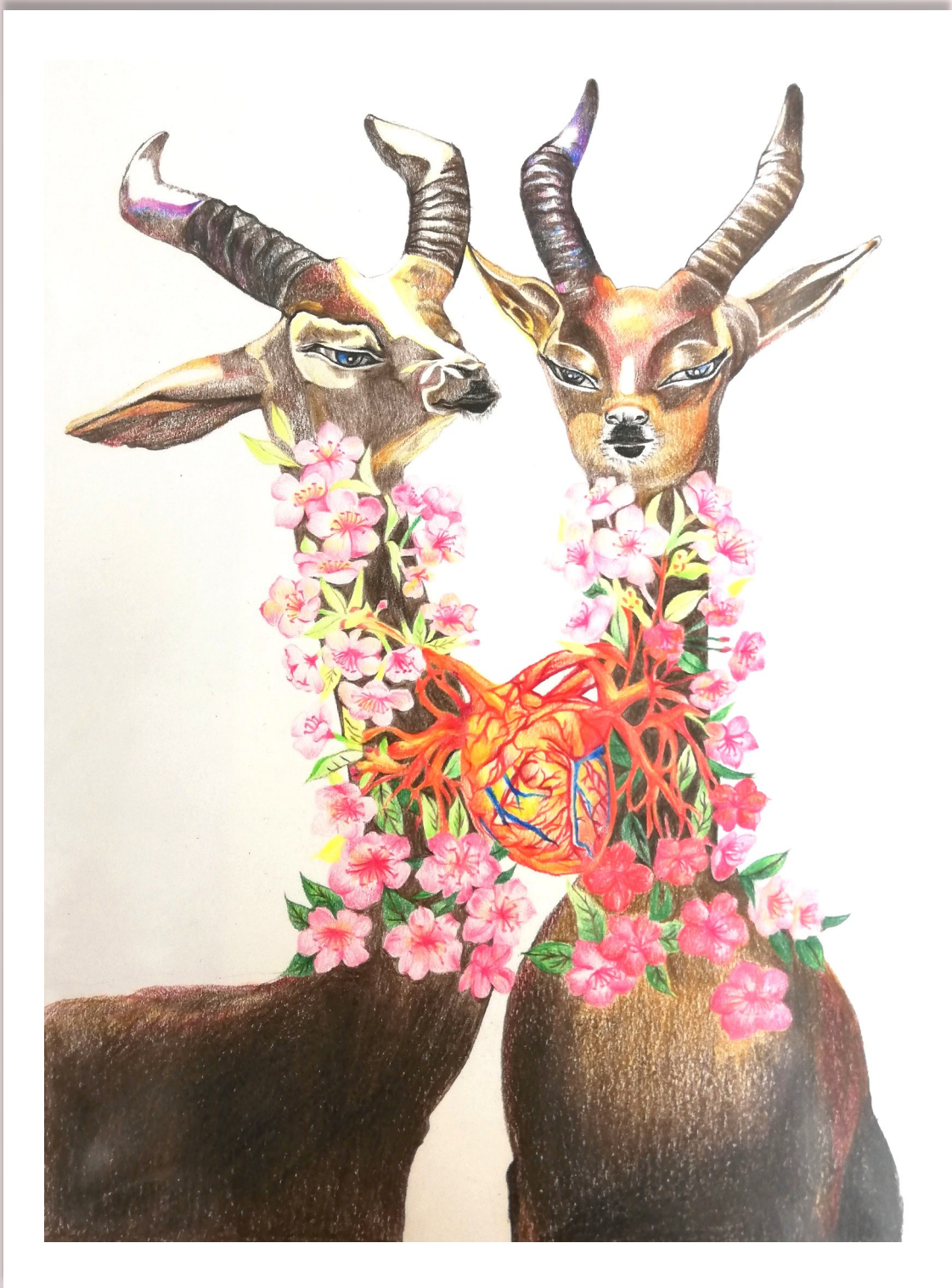




Sophie Wang, Year 11A





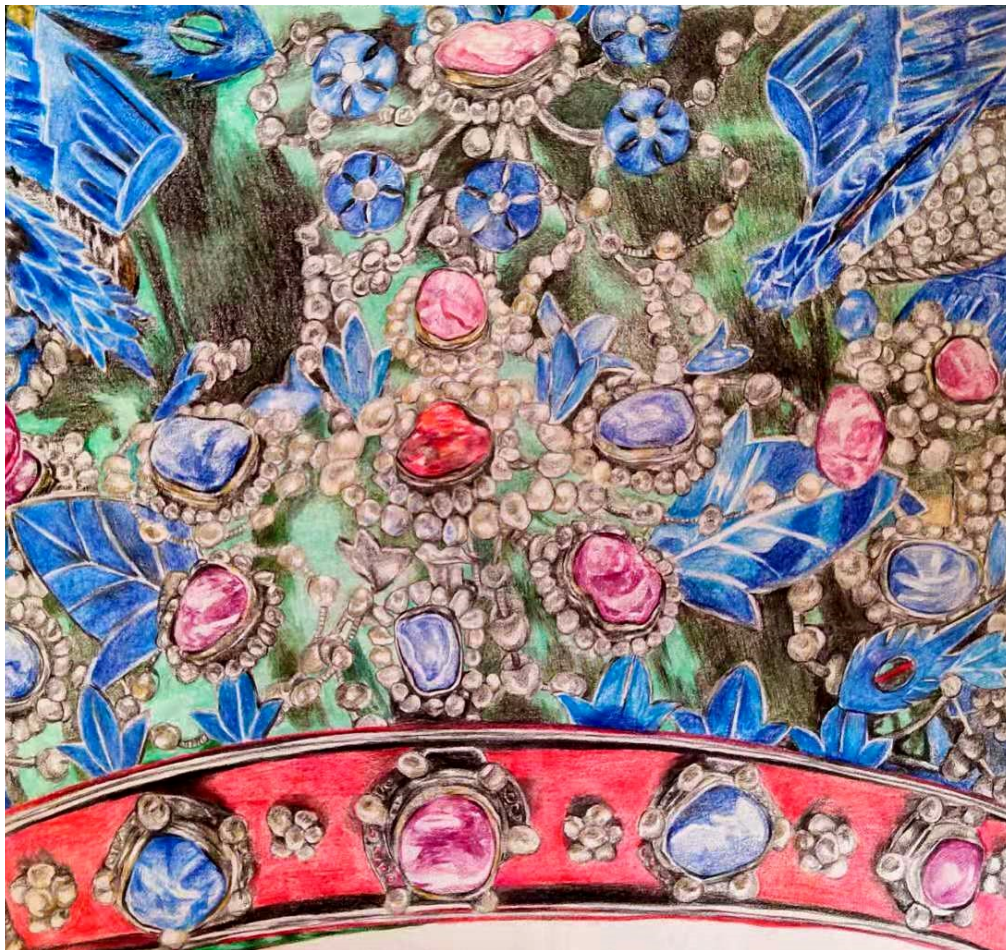








Yingtong Zhou, Year 11A

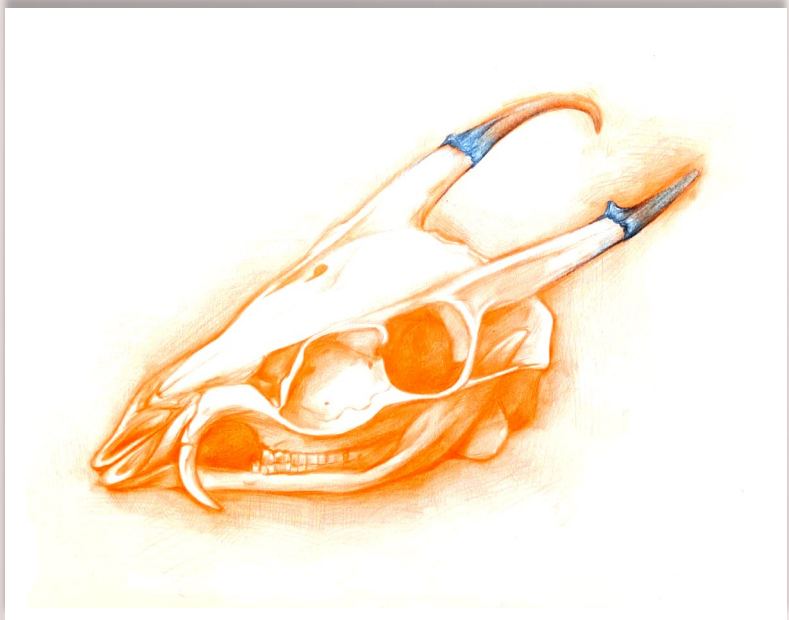
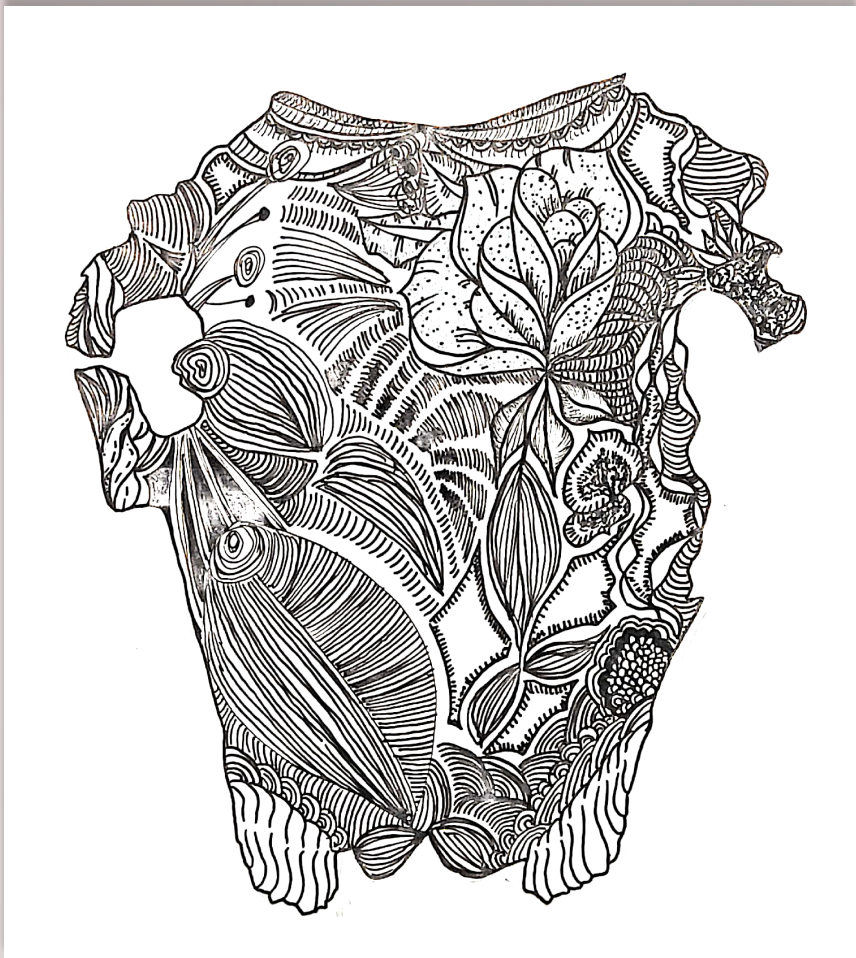


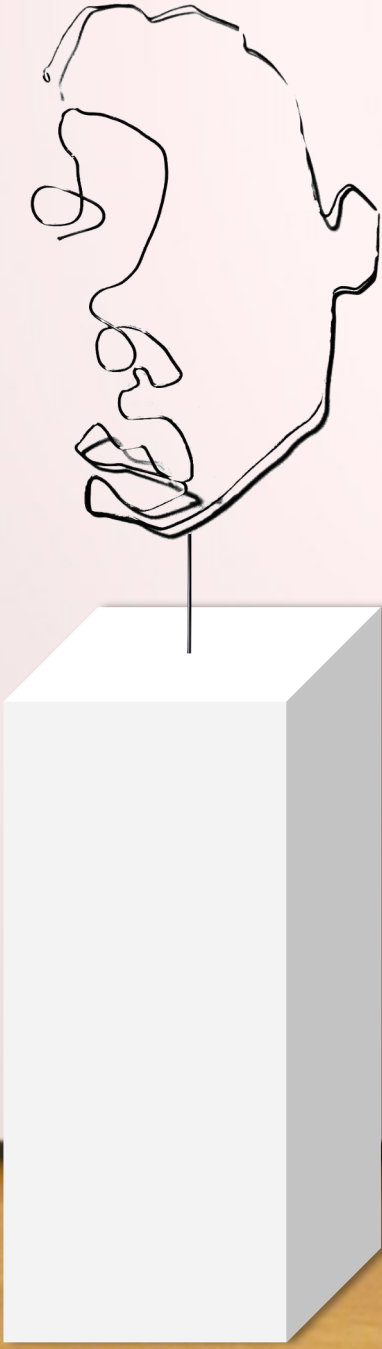
The Crown of Three Dragons and Two Phoenixes

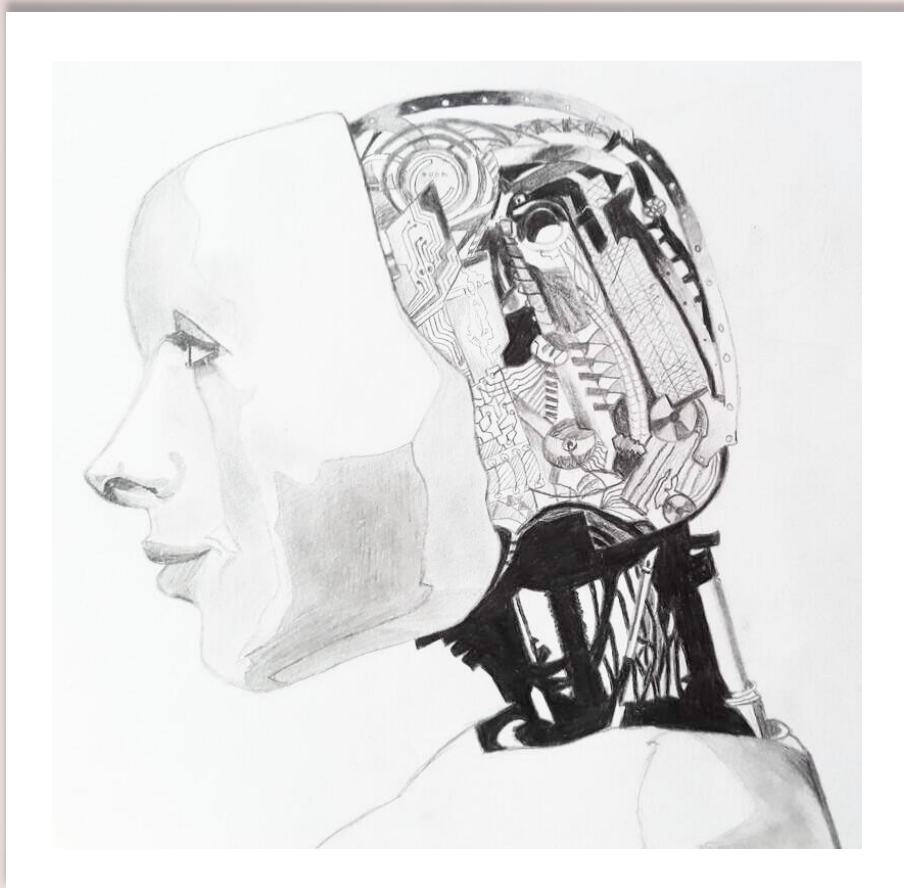
This is one of the extant phoenix crowns in China, from the Ming Dynasty Dingling tomb (the tomb of Emperor Shenzong of the Ming Dynasty), belonging to the Xiaojing Empress. The crown of three dragons and two phoenixes is 26.5 centimetres high and 23 centimetres in diameter. The phoenix crown is embedded with more than 100 pieces of ruby and sapphire, and there are more than 5,000 pearls of different sizes. Its bright colour and magnificence make it a crown of treasures.

The phoenix crown has a touching story behind it. Wang Shi, the Empress Xiaojing, was originally a maid in the palace. The emperor had secretly visited her once but neither wished her to get pregnant, nor did he intend to admit it. Later, Wang Shi gave birth to his son — Zhu Changluo, who was made the crown prince. In ancient China, by tradition, if there is a legitimate son, he becomes the crown prince, but if there is no legitimate son, the eldest son becomes the crown prince. Zhu Changluo should have been named crown prince, but Wanli wanted to appoint Zhu Changxun as the crown prince. The two women fought for decades over this. In the process of the struggle, Wang incurred the anger of Emperor Shen Zong, and was eventually banished to the cold palace where she could not be reunited with her son for more than thirty years. She wept during all her confinement, eventually crying herself blind and becoming seriously ill. At the end of the Wanli Year, Emperor Mingshen was compromised, and Zhu Changluo was eventually appointed crown prince. When Wang was in her dying days, the mother and son were finally reunited. They embraced and wept bitterly. Wang died at the age of 47, with the title of queen conferred upon her posthumously. The phoenix crown in Dingling was custom-made by their grandchildren.

The bright indigo Diancui, the most sparkling part above the phoenix crown, is decorated with kingfisher feathers. It is beautiful, but it is also cruel. In both ancient and modern times, beauty and death go hand in hand. We should not trade animal lives for human greed.

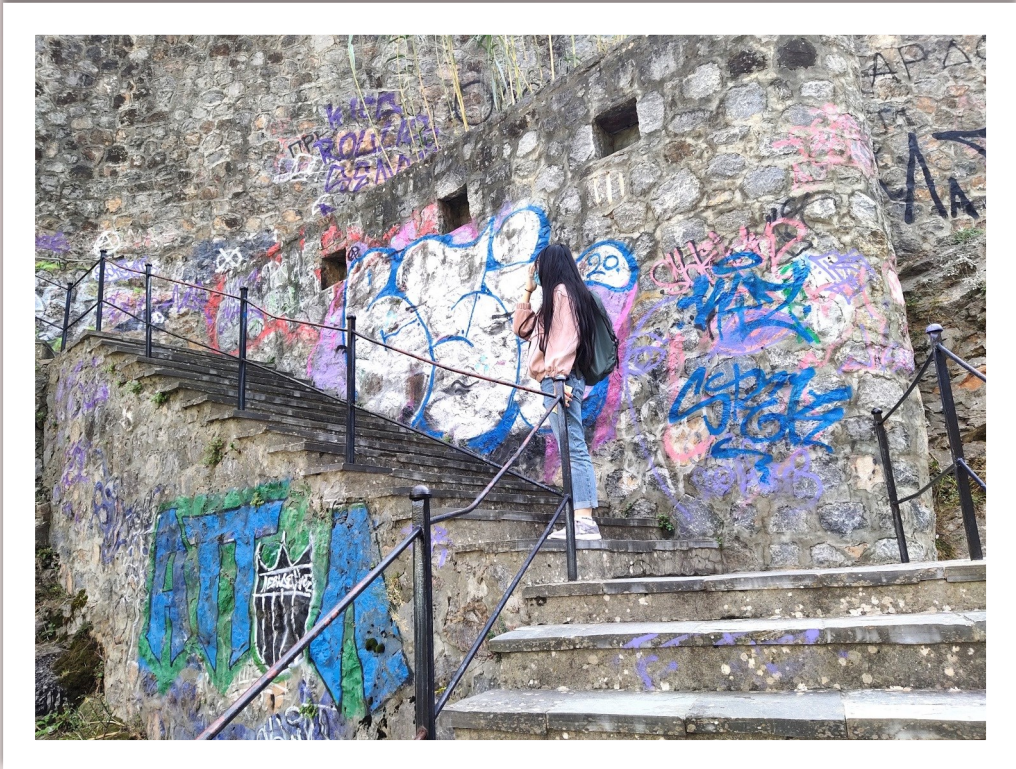






Rajiul Firdouse Rafi, Year 10A





Life With Masks 2020

A Photo-Essay by Yingtong Zhou, Year 11A

MESSAGES FROM THE KEY STAGE 4 FORM TUTORS

“Keep on dreaming!”

“The mind is not a vessel to be filled but a fire to be ignited.”

Plutarch

MS VERIKIOU (YEAR 10A FORM TUTOR)



“ Dear Students,

This has been one of the most difficult academic years that I have ever experienced in my career, but please feel proud of yourselves for having coped with this difficult situation in such an exceptional way. Let us all feel optimistic for the bright future to follow.”



MR CHRYSOCHOOU (YEAR 10B FORM TUTOR)

“It’s been a long and difficult time for everyone, both within our little Byron community and those around us. The resilience, determination and maturity all of you have shown during this time has been an incredibly commendable experience to observe and be a part of. You all deserve a round of applause.”



MR SCOTT (YEAR 11A FORM TUTOR)

“It is during our darkest moments that we must focus to see the light.”

Aristotle



“I’m sure that the lockdown has been very frustrating for all of us. However, it is important to remember that nothing lasts forever and that everything will be fine in the end. We must stay resilient during these strange times and focus on what we are fortunate to have rather than what we lack. Keep an optimistic mindset and you will realise that everything is not so bad after all! Stay strong, beautiful people!”

MS DELIKARI (YEAR 11B FORM TUTOR)

Brighter Days Are On Their Way

Following the huge success of the inaugural 'Byron Voice' last December I am sure you are eager to be captivated by Issue No. 2, which has been put together by our Key Stage 4 students. I am sure you will equally enjoy this edition and I am again particularly proud of this publication as it is for our students, by our students.

The Easter term draws to a close and we are pleased to see our Year 11, 12 and 13 students return to school. We expect the remainder of our community to return after the Easter break on a date to be confirmed. Hopefully, this is the start to some sense of normality for us all. Good luck to all students as you now prepare for your assessments to fulfil the criteria for your IGCSE and A-Level Exams. You have all proven that you have the ability, despite the unprecedented circumstances that the last twelve-plus months have thrown at you. You are prepared and you will be OK.

Throughout this extended lockdown all of us, myself included, have felt the strain. Times have been tough but we have kept going, so a huge 'WELL DONE' to you all. You are surviving a pandemic! Whatever your personal situation is you are doing a wonderful job and everyone has a unique set of circumstances to deal with, now more than ever. As I said in one of my letters to parents, please do not worry if you have stayed up too late, had one too many food deliveries, played on your Play Station for too long, watched an awful lot of Netflix and not always finished your schoolwork. Trust me, this is OK, and it just shows that you are human and dealing with a very unique situation. The most important thing is that you are safe, cared for, and above all loved. The rest is just details.

Despite the pandemic, Byron College has again proved that nothing can stop us. We may have been online, but we continue to push the boundaries of learning. This term has seen us celebrate the Chinese New Year of the Ox, Lord Byron's Birthday, World Read Aloud Day, World Book Day and the 200 Year celebration of Greek Independence. The Byron Bards did it again with a stunning and powerful performance of 'Be a Lady They Said' which just highlights what can be achieved together, even during a pandemic:

<https://www.byroncollege.gr/news-events/video-gallery/video/be-a-lady-they-said>

I continue to be amazed by the resilience of our students who have continued to 'produce the goods' despite the upheavals of the past twelve months. The positive responses we continue to receive from so many members of our community show that Byron College is such a special organisation to be a part of, whether that be as a student, a parent, a teacher, or a staff member.

A huge thank you to all the contributors for getting the latest issue to publication, again in the most extraordinary of circumstances. A big thank you also to the painstaking work of Ms Vekinis for overseeing the production. All that is left is to wish everyone in the Byron family a very happy and restful Easter and we look forward to welcoming you back from 10 May 2021 when the Summer Term begins.

Stay safe and take care. You are doing amazingly well.

Matthew Williams
Headteacher



A word of thanks

Many thanks to our student contributors in Years 10 and 11 who outdid themselves with the outstanding quality and creativity of their contributions; in fact we received so many that it was impossible to feature them all. Well done!

A major thank you to...

our Key Stage 4 Form Tutors for their coordination efforts for this first KS4 issue;

to the Arts Department and in particular Ms Voulpioti for her generous assistance with the Byron Voice 'Art Gallery';

and to colleagues in the English Department who went above and beyond in commissioning, compiling, proofreading, and submitting such high-quality work – a fantastic team!

Finally, thank you to colleagues across the School for your feedback, encouragement, and ideas for developing *Byron Voice* further. Up next: the Key Stage 3 June issue, just in time for a well-deserved summer and great beach reading!

To our students: well done for all of your hard work this year. Stay focused, positive, and determined, and you can achieve whatever you set your mind to.

Onwards and upwards!

Produced by the English Department, Byron College, Athens, Greece

Artistic & editorial direction: Ms Vekinis



STAY SAFE - STAY DISTANT - STAY MASKED
Catch it - Bin it - Eliminate it



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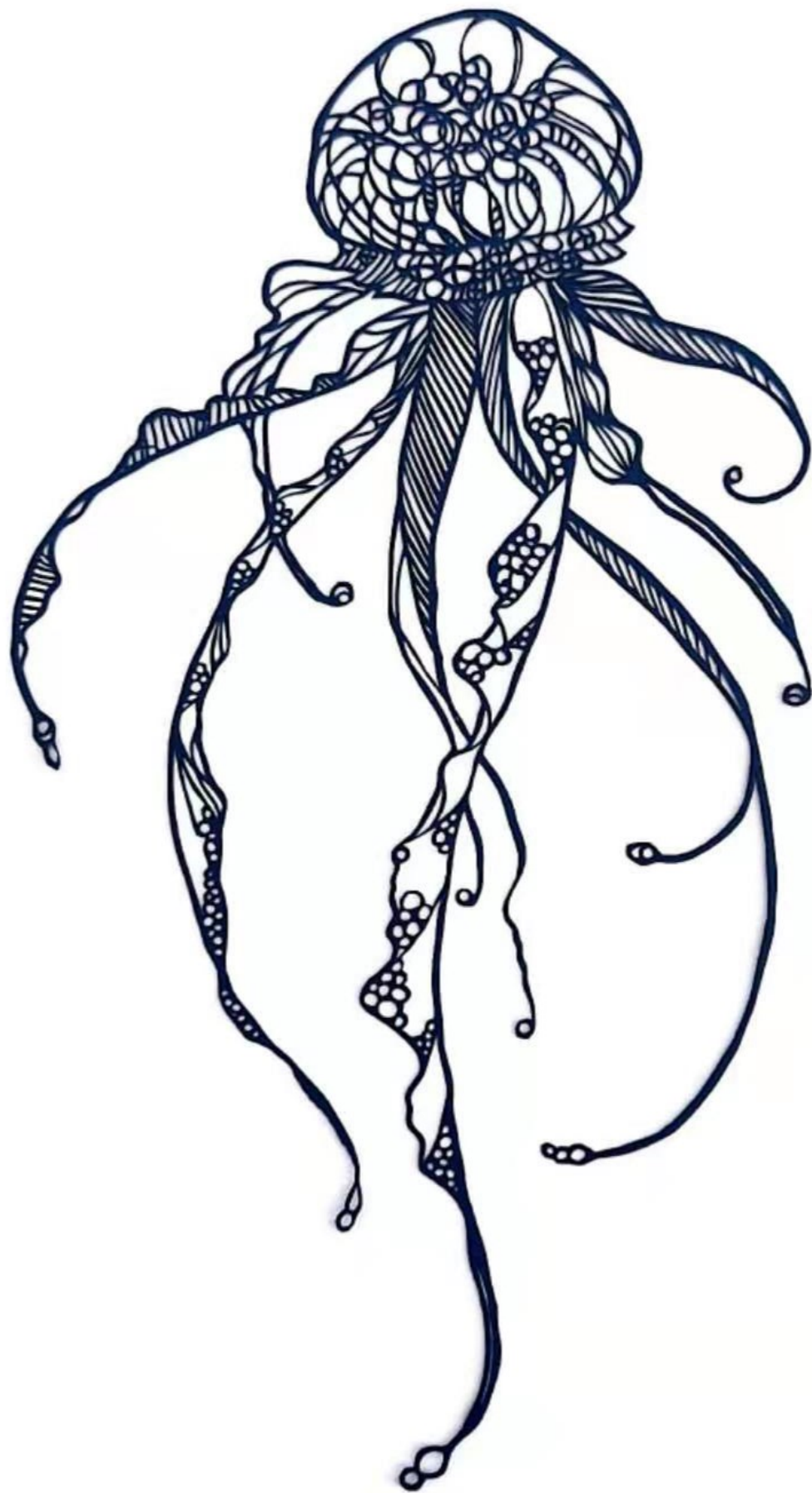
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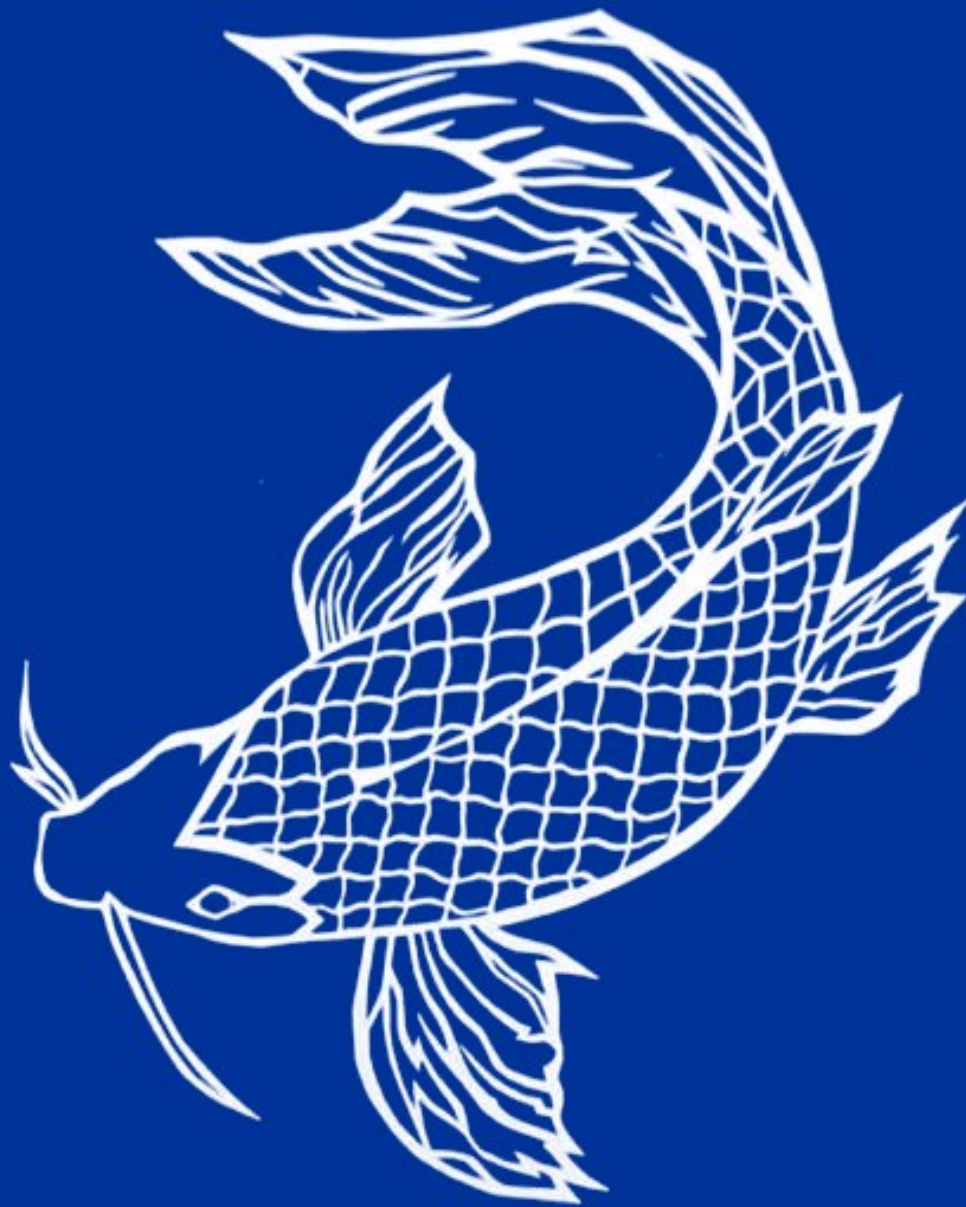


COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY
The Byron College Community

FRONT, BACK, & INNER FRONT AND BACK COVERS: ARTWORK BY YAYUN PAN, YEAR 11A (PAPER CUT-OUTS)







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