# Make the Leap...

## Issue 7



## Introduction

Welcome to the seventh issue of 'Make the Leap', the Ada Lovelace School magazine. For this issue pupils reflect how they have 'made the leap' during the term, both in and outside the classroom.

The school magazine is curated by Miss Sullivan, Head of Art, and features several submissions from pupils who attend the new Magazine Club at school, as well as other pupil and staff contributions.



## **Enterprise Days (Curie and Euler)**

In May and July we celebrated Enterprise Day in school. This time houses Curie and Euler raised money for their house charities through, bake sales, sports events, film screenings and more! The Curie house chairty is Equality Now and the Euler house chairty is Alzheimer's Society. Pupils in these houses also helped lead assemblies on their houses figure head and raise awareness about their chairites. Find out more about the charities here: <a href="https://www.equalitynow.org/">https://www.equalitynow.org/</a> and <a href="https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/">https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/</a>









## **Activities week!**

In July, Year 7, 8 and 9 pupils had activities week where pupils were off regular timetabled lessons. After a few years of not being able to due to Covid, pupils now had the opportunity to go on day trips, residentals, as well as participate in onsite activities. Below are photographs from Cuffley, Kew Gardens and in house Art and Graphics workshops. See more photos from the MFL trips on the upcoming pages.



## Alice - School production by Matt Aldridge

'It's a warm early summer day as I walk over to see Alice at the Ada Lovelace Church of England High School, late afternoon sun gleams brightly off the school's tall windows. Met by cheery children, I am directed to a pre-show tea party of Pimms, scones and sandwiches. There are students buzzing optimistically around with the urgency of rabbits, if not quite the madness of hatters. But this is not Alice in Wonderland, all soft fantasy and happy adventure. This is Laura Wade's reimagining of a teenager coping with grief, less fanciful, just – Alice.

Entering the theatre, the mood is sombre as we join the wake for Alice's brother. The ensemble shuffle quietly round the stage exchanging small-talk, remarking on the funeral. At the centre of the crowd, the centre of her own world, Alice (played with confident defiance by a talented Adela) sits alone: a ball of isolated angst. The opening scene is notable for strong character performances from the whole ensemble, particularly Alice's overbearing Mum (an impressive Rhian) and skittish Auntie (embodied energetically by Tabarek). It's clear from the off that Alice is struggling to cope with the world around her. Her only coping mechanism is to cut herself off from her family and friends, retreating further and further into the sanctuary of her own mind until – wait, where are we?

Suddenly, Alice finds herself in Wonderland with no idea what to do. Until the White Rabbit races into the room. Played with bounding enthusiasm by Lukas he sets Alice off on an adventure ostensibly to find the 'heart' of Wonderland, but also on a journey of self-discovery. The skill of this adaptation is in watching Alice confront the death of her brother in this wonderland of her own creation, learning how to cope with loss. It's a credit to the strength of the characterisation work done by the cast that we recognise several of the original funeral-goers in the fantasy characters of this world. There are plenty of beautiful ensemble moments, underscored by slick music from Miss Grogan. The in-the-round staging works well also, serving the piece rather than hindering it. The Mad Hatter's constantly revolving tea party works particularly well, orchestrated by the charismatic Kalina.

Most of all, Wonderland is brought to life vividly by some brilliant turns from its cast of creatures. The wonderfully brooding Cheshire Cat (played enigmatically by Danielle) brings smiles all round, turns from Tweedles Dum and Dee (Fiala & Masoda) are playfully witty, and the uproarious Hedgehog (surely a role Zaeyn was born to play?) all keep us well entertained on Alice's journey. I was immensely impressed with this young but talented team of actors, who embodied their characters completely and even threw in well-judged improvisations to humour the audience.

More than this, though, the play is properly moving. Alice leaves wonderland with words of wisdom from the White Rabbit: she has to learn to live with her pain, it will get easier. The final scene, in which Alice leaves the house for the first time since her brother's death, flanked by the friendly creatures of her Wonderland genuinely brings a tear to my eye. This excellent production may confront some of the darkest feelings we can experience, but expertly shows us the rays of sunshine we need to live with them.'

## Alice - Acting by Ava (Year 9)

'Since a kid, I've always had a special place in my heart for acting; I've always had a superior passion for acting. I auditioned, and got a part! It was such a great opportunity for me the cast and stage crew, everyone bonded and got along with one another. Honestly, the production was one of the greatest experiences I have ever had. The backstage was full of vibes and passion! Everyone was nervous at the start, but overcame that stage fright as time went on.'

## Alice - Review by Nelly (Year 8)

'Recently, I have seen the Alice play, constructed by Ms Aldridge, Ms Grogan and Ms Newson and, I must say, it was incredibly enjoyable and everybody involved has done an amazing job. First off, the stage had been used very well. It wasn't exactly a set with a backdrop so without scenery and only including props, the characters and lighting, the stage crew made an accurate and effective atmosphere depending on the scene.

Next, the actors. The teachers have made amazing choices with the cast which ensured the play was the best it could be. All the actors had memorised their lines and the emotions of the lines were conveyed beautifully during the scene. I particularly like the last scene when the white rabbit had told Alice about why she's in wonderland. The acting was so good and seemed really genuine and I congratulate all the actors. A funny thing that happened while I was watching the play is that one of the actor's costume pieces fell off, and instead of the actor reacting to it out of character, she played it off as something that was meant to happen, which was really smart of the actor and is an effective technique often used by many actors called 'improvising'.

I just want to congratulate the actors, the stage crew and the teachers. Even though they've probably been congratulated many, many times, it's an achievement to be proud of. I'm sure that everybody who watched the play really enjoyed it, I sure did but, it's kind of obvious since I'm writing about how good it was. I can't wait for next year when the next play (or musical) is announced and I'm sure, since the play's success, there will be loads of new people auditioning next year.'







## Geography Department by Mr Doyle

### Year 8 – Microclimate

In our summer term, year 8 geographers set out to uncover answers to some of the big geographical questions that affect the Ada Lovelace community. Our specific focus was on how temperature and wind speed can vary across the school site. This is known as a Microclimate – the particular climate of a small scale area, such as a park or part of a city. The results are in, and the MUGA is the place to be for a toasty summer's day, whereas the shaded pathway next to the grass is your go to spot to cool down. Well done to all year 8's who took part

actively and engaged fully!











### In lessons by Lottie (Year 9)

'Throughout Year 9, I have learnt many new and important things in Geography - not only to do with just geography, but also practical skills, like how to write structured detailed paragraphs with a clear and persuasive point, therefore improving our debating skills and our writing skills. More specifically, in this term, my class has learnt about worldwide and UK resource management and how important our energy mix is. From this topic, the most important thing we have learnt about was our exploitation of the environment and how it is becoming more and more necessary to switch to renewable energy and slow down climate change, as at the moment we are incessantly polluting our earth.

We have also learnt about the world's ecosystems/biodiversity and the UK's specific ecosystems, the causes of climate change and deforestation. Did you know: The Tropical Rainforest cover less than 3% of the planet, yet are home to more than half our planet's terrestrial animal species!'

As part of the GCSE geography course, we needed to undertake some fieldwork to investigate change in an inner city area. We boarded the central line and headed to the complete opposite side of London visiting 3 sites in Stratford.

Throughout the 19th century, Stratford grew due to the construction of a docking area and railway station. The railway, like the docks, became a significant local employer and boosted the local economy in the process. However, during the 20th century, Stratford, like many areas in East London, suffered significant **de-industrialisation**. London docks



closed in 1960. In 2012 Stratford hosted the London Olympics in a bid to **regenerate** the area. And after the Olympic bid was won, the upward trajectory of investment in the area began.

We investigated land use, environmental quality, asked questionnaires to members of the public and more to see how the area has changed.









### In lessons by Daniel (Year 9)

'These last few months we have learnt the intricate and interesting details of the UK's fascinating wildlife, especially the Temperate Deciduous Woodland. My favourite topic of the last months has been the Tropical Rainforest topic. The fascinating and almost alien species of plant and animal cohering with each other, to create the most rich and mysterious part of the world, has been an honour to learn. I am extremely exited to see what comes up next year!'

# MFL Department by Ms Lyons

### Year 8 Germany trip

Year 8 German students have had a fantastic week on a joint trip with Twyford to the Black Forest. Highlights included a tree top walk with panoramic views and a slide back down from the tree tops to the ground, the historic city of Heidelberg, Germany's highest waterfall, and of course the Europa park theme park. All accompanying teachers were particularly impressed by the confident and accurate use of German by students, and the group was complimented by members of the public for the kindness they showed to each other. As well as using German daily, students experienced German culture first hand, such as the abundance of cyclists or the magic 'bin-money-machines'! If you aren't familiar with these Pfandautomaten, be sure to ask a Year 8 German student to explain it to you!



### Normandy trip by Ms Coombes

Year 8 French students have had a fantastic week visiting Normandy on a joint trip with all four Trust schools. Highlights of the trip have included wading through sand and water to visit the renowned Mont St Michel, a visit to the beach and the market town of St Malo, and activities such as archery and orienteering with all instructions in French! The students stayed in an idyllic château and quickly fell in love with the wild rabbits and chicks that roam the grounds. Culinary highlights included pain au chocolat, baguettes and snails, and the final night saw a big celebration in the form of a talent show, which was enjoyed by all!



### German Olympiad success!

Congratulations to everyone who entered this year's German Olympiad. Over 30 students from Ada Lovelace entered the competition and all received certificates in recognition. In addition, 3 students won national recognition. Hadi (Year 8) was commended for his depiction of Rhein animals, while both Faatima (Year 9) and James (Year 8) were selected as joint first prize winners. Both James and Faatima were invited to go to Oxford to attend the prize giving ceremony in the famous Bodleian library. The full list of winners and their work can be seen here: https://www. ogn.ox.ac.uk/content/results-oxford-german-olympiad-2022









by Hadi (Year 8)



Im Gemälde, gibt es den Schiffer im kleinen Schiffe und et segelt in der Abendsonnerschein nach Lozelli Lozelei singt ein zied und ihr golden ess Haar hämmen Den Schiffer schaut nicht die Felsenrisse Dann verschungen die Vellen den Schiffer und sein

### by Faatima (Year 9)

### French creative translation workshop by Emmy (Year 8)

'During the French creative translation workshop on Wednesday 6th July, students worked in pairs to complete a literal translation of a French text (word to word). The groups then switched and translated the text into modern English. The students were given steps to help translate these texts and to learn how to do it efficiently. After lunch, we were given a big piece of paper to create our own text in any language. One of the groups did a comic in three languages: English, French and Polish. Towards the end of the lesson, several groups either read out or performed their work. This workshop helped us to understand how translators translate texts into different languages.'







### **Theater-auf Deutsch!**

'Year 7 German students have enjoyed cross curricular learning last week. They read, rehearsed and performed Henry Hühnchen, the German translation of Chicken Little. All German teachers were impressed by the confident, accurate German pronunciation, along with the creative and entertaining dramatic retellings. Here are some photos of Ms Thellusson's class rehearsing and performing the play.'







### German Spelling and Translation Bee by Ms Thellusson

'This term, Ada students proved what proficient linguists they are by competing in the German Spelling Bee (Year 7) and German Translation Bee (Year 8). The winners from each set competed in an "Ada Champions" Competition, and the Ada winners went on a trip to represent the school in the Inter-Trust final. A huge congratulations to George, Edouard, Zeya (Year 8) and Ermioni and Dylan (Year 7) for being such fantastic finalists. A particular shout out goes to Inana (Year 7) for spelling 12 words in German in just a minute! They should all be very proud of themselves and their languages skills.'



### Maths Department by Zeya (Year 8)

<sup>1</sup>Maths has been interesting to engage with this year involving many new concepts to unravel during lessons, inspiring creativity and logic. My personal highlight was the Junior Maths Challenge that occurred earlier this year which saw many Year 7s and 8s, including myself, testing their problem solving skills in this national competition. Whilst challenging, the second round, which being the Kangaroo Challenge, proved to be a much more skilful round and demonstrated Maths in a more creative perspective. Overall, I found this challenge a fun test of my mathematical skills and I would encourage future Year 8s (and 7s technically) to try this challenge and push their computational thinking.

Now, let me stop waffling on about the JMC and start summarising what we actually learnt this year. So, this year focused a lot on algebra and concepts involving it, but it did also teach some more interesting topics like transformations (which can honestly be a pain to try and visualise). Either way, our Year 8 topics were some nice building blocks onto what we learnt in Year 7 and was personally a great lead on to what we might learn in Year 9 which will probably be lots of what we learnt but much harder.'



### Intermediate Maths Challenge by Alex (Year 9)

'Maths is the foundation of all the sciences. The language of the universe. The objective subject.

Here at Ada Lovelace, we have been learning the fantastic Mathematical GCSE curriculum, covering a multitude of topics, including: Inequalities, Quadratic Sequences, trigonometry, and simultaneous equations. We are extremely privileged to be taught at such a fantastic school with fantastic teachers to match. Our curriculum is very engaging and encompasses a wide range of topics as we progress through the AQA GCSE Maths coursework. I absolutely love maths, and through the plethora of resources we have access to and by the standard of teaching, my innate curiosity is satisfied with our lessons.

The biggest highlight of the year for maths has to be the UKMC Challenge. It was one which I had trained for and absolutely needed to succeed in. Only the year prior, I had failed to attain the highest certificate available: the GOLD certificate – by a paltry margin of two marks – and was forced to settle for a disappointing silver.

Yet, I didn't allow this setback to stop me. As the day of the test slowly approached, I grew in nervousness and excitement. The night before I hardly slept. And then, the time for the test arrived. I managed to calm myself down and suppress the nerves and got to work on the test, working through answer after answer whilst maintaining the finest presentation I've ever managed in my entire life. Coming out of that exam, I felt confident. I'd answered most questions, and even tackled some of the harder ones (including the penultimate one!)

A couple of weeks later...

Assembly finally rolled around. The results were in. As the slide changed, a feeling pulsed through my veins: adrenaline. And once my eyes saw the slide I was ECSTATIC! I had got only one of 2 gold certificates in my year! (Shared with the genius himself, Jo) I was so proud.

My hard work and the pain of last year's failure had managed to motivate me and drive me to finally achieving success. The morale of this story is that you musn't lose your will to achieve and that failure is temporary, your mindset is eternal. I am very grateful for the opportunities which we are presented and especially my UKMC story, because aside from the beautiful certificate which I earnt, I learned about the importance of mental strength and hard work. These lessons I will cherish for life.'



### Junior Maths Challenge by Ms Lipka

This term, we had 100 students from Year 7 and 8 compete in the Junior Maths Challenge. The Maths Challenge is a national competition which includes a compilation of challenging and complex, problem solving questions. 15 students gained a Gold certificate, 32 students gained a Silver certificate, and 30 gained Bronze – these have been celebrated in the End of Year assembly.

A HUGE congrats to Masaki (Year 7) for the best score in the school, and Marisa for the best score in Year 8.

The students who gained Gold in the Junior Maths challenge, went on to compete in the follow on round, the Pink Kangaroo. A special shout out is due for these students listed below:

- Jake
- Kaisei
- Aurelio
- Yui
- Lukas
- Marisa
- Zeya

Marisa, Zeya and Yui were all awarded a Merit in this competition.

#### YEAR 9 AND 10 INTERMEDIATE MATHS CHALLENGE

Last term, we had 70 students from Year 9 and 10 compete in the Intermediate Maths challenge. We had 15 students who went on to compete in the follow on round, the Grey Kangaroo. These students are as follows:

- Linet
- Wilfie
- Radek
- Raito
- Max
- Enzo
- Haruto
- Charlie
- Hana
- Mark
- Jo
- Cid
- Brayan
- Alex
- Adam

Masaki competed in the British Olympiad, a two hour long competition, against 1,200 qualifying students – we are still waiting on these results. A HUGE congrats to Jo for the best score in Year 9 and Raito (Year 10) for the best score in the school.

The Maths department is incredibly proud of this fantastic set of results, and looks forward to seeing continued engagement and success in next year's Maths Challenge.

### PE Lessons and Extended Electives by Rokhini (Year 10)

'This summer term Ada Lovelace competed in their first borough league rounder's fixtures. Considering this is their first time playing rounders the Year 7 & 8 girls got off to a great start winning three of their six fixtures in the league with impressive scores of 13 rounders against Brentside and 11 rounders against Ark Acton. The girls also competed in their first borough rounders tournaments with great sporting efforts, unfortunately being pipped to the post by Ellen Wilkinson in the group stages.

Special mention to the year 7 & 8 girl's football team as well who competed in a tournament in partnership with Brentford FC and the Euros. The girls competed against a Danish and German football team, defeating Denmark but losing to Germany. Unfortunately, the girls were knocked out in the quarter finals to Cardinal Wiseman after a valiant effort in the 26 degree heat.

Girl's futsal made a return this summer with Ada Lovelace finishing second in the School Games competition set up by the Willow Tree Schools Sports Partnership and Mr Green. Additionally, well done to Katie, Eden, Julia and Fiala for completing a futsal officiating course. This was a brilliant event in which the girls officiated a primary school futsal tournament.

Speaking of Futsal well done to the boys under 13's futsal teams that completed their season finishing second in the borough overall based on total points. The team cohesion is building and we expect to see this flourish more next year.

That's not all! Ada Lovelace also hosted our first onsite tennis fixtures and the first inter trust team. Well done to the boys this year who performed superbly dominating most of their matches against other schools.

In addition, Ada Lovelace has successfully defeated Ealing fields, Drayton Manor, and Twyford in cricket fixtures this year in multiple age groups, spectacularly reaching the semi-finals of the borough year 10 competition. Congratulations to everyone that took part.





The year 7 and 8 girls represented the girls at a table tennis festival run by Table tennis England. They also participated in a Girls table tennis programme for 8 weeks learning new skills and becoming table tennis gurus along the way.

Ada Lovelace girls attended Radlett Park to watch the Sunrisers and also Middlesex men's Cricket where they were the guard of honour.

And special mention to Nikodem in year 8 and Matteo and Adam in year 7 for winning the keepy uppy challenge during enterprise day.

We also have some individual athletic borough triumphs to celebrate - congratulations to Kyran for winning the triple jump and Brianna for coming 2nd in the shot putt.

This year we have had some great achievements in Sports. We have everyone who took part to thank including the students and teachers involved. As a school we have competed in 148 fix-tures this year and should be extremely proud of this achievement. The P.E department are very pleased with all the success and wish you all a happy holiday.'



## Science Department by Leanne (Year 9)

'Science in Year 9 started off with some challenging but fun content. In Biology, we focused on transport in the body. With that came a fun experiment with potatoes! In brief, we examined how water behaves and transports in potatoes and we applied this practical work to the human body. These practicals, which we regularly do, help us to improve our understanding of the topics which we study.

Other Biology experiments we did included the dissection of the heart, examination of respiration in organisms, and the non-curricular dissection of a squid (my personal favourite!). Personally, I think that Biology was the most interesting aspect of Science this year and we partook in many different Biology activities such as the National Biology Challenge, which was difficult, but enjoyable.

In Physics, we were introduced to a new exciting topic: the Electromagnetic Field. We studied the different properties of the different waves such as wavelength and frequency. We also learnt about the main two different waves: longitudinal and transverse. Finally, Chemistry was the most challenging in my opinion. The topics we were introduced to were completely alien to us year nine students. Nevertheless, we persevered and gradually we began to become experts at Chemistry!

Science stretched way beyond the classroom. One of our great teachers, Miss Fernandez, took the initiative to start up a Science Club. In Science Club, students have been partaking in great experiments. Recently, they performed a frog dissection! This club helps students to learn that science should not only be confined to the classroom, and expands their knowledge.

Miss Fernandez had also organised multiple Science talks from different experts. Earlier on in the year, a consultant came to Ada Lovelace to tell year nine and ten students about a potential future in medicine and the challenges that comes with it. She had also organised for an Engineer to come in and talk to aspiring engineers about the field as well. Without a doubt, science at Ada Lovelace this year has been eventful and educational. I have learnt so much this year and this is thanks to our amazing science teachers who always push us to go above and beyond whilst also imbedding a deep passion for science in all students.'



- Year 7 pupils during a dissection lesson.

## Science Department by Mark (Year 9)

'This term, Year 9 have studied the structure of the heart, carrying out a dissection as a class whilst working out how the blood travels through the different chambers in the heart together. Earlier in the year, some Ada students took part in the Biology Challenge – a nationwide competition designed to test the students' general knowledge of biology. Although it was quite challenging, it was also a fun opportunity to further our learning. Overall, Year 9 were the winners!

In Year 10, students took part in an IRIS project and have researched the biodiversity levels in Ealing by using an app called Treezilla, contributing to a UK tree canopy survey, run by the Institute of Research in Schools and UCL. The app helps to find the number and type of trees in the local area. The group discovered that though Ealing has moderate air quality, we can still do so much more to help improve the air quality of our local area by using public transport or cycle and walk to school to reduce our carbon footprints, as well as using the energy we produce more efficiently.

Outside of lessons, Year 9 and Year 10 have taken part in several career talks for those who are interested in STEM jobs. Previously, Ada Lovelace welcomed Professor Kate Bonnicci for an informative talk on medicine and how one can become a doctor. We also welcomed a guest speaker for a talk about nuclear physics on how his company develops X-ray scanners which are used by security agencies around the world.

For Year 10 students, there were also several A-Level taster sessions for Physics and Biology whilst touring the excellent new facilities and 6th form area at our sister school, William Perkin in Greenford.'

## History Department by Lucien (Year 7)

'This year in History we have been learning about lots of different topics and they have all been very entertaining to learn about. We have learnt about: the Aksumite Empire, the Battle of Hastings and Stamford Bridge, Eleanor of Aquitaine, Saladin and the life of a peasant.

My favorite topic to learn about was the Battle of Stamford Bridge and the Battle of Hastings because it is an interesting topic and we got to learn about the English monarch. I found the life of a peasant very interesting as we got to learn about what normal people like us would have gone through around 400 years ago.'



## Art and Graphics Department by Ms Sullivan

This term pupils in Year 7 have been looking into the history of dolls in different ancient cultures. They have created their own dolls based on their identities and a final textiles crazy creature, inspired by vegetable and fruit shapes, plus their own creativity.

In Year 8 pupils have been creating their own mini zine (comic) about a hidden hero from their culture or sub-culture. When drawing their zines, Year 8 have learnt the formal design principles and different types of perspectives.

In Year 9 Art pupils have been studying the topic of distortion using photography manipulation with a final painted or drawn piece. In Year 9 Graphics pupils have combined their skills used throughout the year to create a rebranding of the famous Animal Bar.

In Year 10 Graphics and Art, pupils have now begun their own personal project that they will complete in Year 11. It has been wonderful to see the pupils flourish with their skills and confidence as they work through their project.



by Harvey (Year 7)



by Amber (Year 8)



by Astera (Year 7)



by Julia (Year 8)

A selection of work from this term by Year 10 Art and Graphics pupils.



## by Brianna



by Lily



by Zahara



by Lina



by Danya



by Sami



by Artemis





by Noor

by Alex



by Siyona



by Radek





by Zeina

by Jenine



by Abdul



by Sophia

### Happiness competition winners!

WINNERS CHOSEN BY MARKED AS HIGH IN CREATIVITY AND SKILL!

nobbr

AND



Year 8 – Matylda

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Link

### Happiness competition – digital excellence!

WINNERS CHOSEN BY MARKED AS HIGH IN CREATIVITY AND SKILL!



Masaki

### Happiness competition – runners up!

MARKED AS HIGH IN CREATIVITY AND SKILL!



Ermioni

Matthias

## **Celebrities that have inspired me** by Alissa and illustrations by Inana (Year 7)

'Emma Watson - has inspired me because her first role (Hermione Granger: Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone – the Deathly Hallows) had such a huge impact on the world and she was so young (11). Since then she has done many amazing things and has had so many incredible roles. She has become such an inspiration to so many people through her chairty work.

Zendaya - is an inspiration to me because she went from being on Disney Channel to being in a show that she loves being in. She didn't enjoy being on Disney Channel as she was forced to do things she didn't want to do and she hated it. She finished her final show and decided to leave once her contract ended. She is now doing what she loves and is happy.'









- Emma Watson, Zendaya, Ariana Grande, Bjork and Taylor Swift



#### Hello Ada Lovelace, students and teachers alike.

I have been writing for a long time, and poetry has been one of the things I am really passionate about. In Year 7 tutor time recently, we studied the statement,

"Poetry is useless and should be removed from the school curriculum."

Well, I vehemently disagree with that statement, and I hope I can persuade you to as well. I hope you enjoy this small selection of poetry that has been written and edited countless times by me so I can pass on my love for poetry to you.



This picture is an artistic representative of one of my favourite quotes of all time. I've sneaked in some of my favourite books here as well!

**Poem #1 – Down**, – This poem's main theme is loneliness. Its quite sad when you're alone, but I wanted to reflect the two-sided nature of loneliness; it's a source of strength as well as sadness.

Some of us just ramble through the lawns and shrubs that life has to give, For others it's not so easy to really live,

If we work together, we'll succeed; whatever happens we've got our friends, But for others, they can't say that till the very end,

How would you feel if you realised that nobody's there to catch your fall? How would you feel if you realised that nobody's there to lift your haul? How would you feel if you realised that nobody's there to answer your call? How would you feel if you realised that nobody's there to help at all?

Sometimes, opportunity's hand extends to you, But you don't know whether it is false or whether it is true, As you take a step into the unknown, you hesitate, because you're alone! And there's nobody there to lead you home.

How would you feel if you realised that nobody's there to catch your fall? How would you feel if you realised that nobody's there to lift your haul? How would you feel if you realised that nobody's there to answer your call? How would you feel if you realised that nobody's there to help at all?

But I have to carry on, I have to succeed, Friends and help is exactly what I don't need, I can walk without a stick, I can perform solo tricks, I stand confident, I stand tall, I don't need anyone to answer my call. But things get hard when you all crowd around, And then you drive me off the edge of the cliff, so you push me... Down, down, down!

How would you feel if you realised that nobody's there to catch your fall? How would you feel if you realised that nobody's there to lift your haul? How would you feel if you realised that nobody's there to answer your call? How would you feel if you realised that nobody's there to help at all?

I can stand tall, I can carry my haul, even when I'm falling...

### <u>Down.</u>

**Poem #2 – The Daughter of The Moon**: I actually won a prize for this one, back in summer 2021, so I wanted to share it with you. I wrote it just as a reflection for my love of dark fantasy. The main theme is choices, and you can decide whether this girl made the right one. (I personally think she did, but it's up to you!)

The girl with the wispy blue eyes, the pale skin and hair, Will make a choice- if she dares,

Isolated, nobody but the mist and stars, no longer seen,

The inky sky, the faint moonbeams,

Two paths as a climax to a story,

Which will end happily or will end gory,

One path requires selflessness and pride,

Courage, which no longer can hide,

The second will show who she is in reality,

This will decide all destiny,

One day she will know, the daughter of the moon,

Should it happen never or soon,

The choice she makes will change so much,

She might choose right or have to bear the crush,

If she chooses path one,

Her happiness is spent and done,

But the ones above will hear her plea and see her haul,

Safety and happiness will be granted to one and all,

But second, her wish shall be granted,

Her heart and soul no longer grounded,

But the ancient scripts warn of a terrible fate,

Others will be consumed by rage and hate,

Her footsteps seal the prophecies of old,

Which destiny shall take hold,

She takes her breath, holds her head high,

Walks into the tunnel where her end is nigh,

**Poem #3 – Death and Life**. – This poem is more about how friendship can take on death and slam its door. It's also a message to perseverance and how life is never over until we give up.

My fingers clasp yours, As we walk up to The Door, That broken humanity courses through us, As we stare; just brown, no glory, no blood.

Death is on the other side, how foreboding he seems! As through the cracks, his presence gleams. We can't go, our feet are stuck, As we go to sleep, never to wake up. We can't hide; he's everywhere, Staring at us like a fox to a hare, But I grab your hand, you are stock still, But dragging two along is like climbing a hill.

White light seeps out into our place, Slipping out and trying to slow its bait, Every breath pulls at me, A breath longer that I'm free,

The light, it whispers into my heart Tells me that I need to die, this beat will be my last, You're pushed out, death wants me only, I hope you go into life, be happy without me,

Then the light clears, a moan of pain, Almost sends me back to my grave, Your take me by the hand and I grin, As you and your fire sends the white burnin',

Life is precious; hold it with love, Things will never be over till you give up.

To conclude, now do you agree or disagree with the statement? "Poetry is useless and should be removed from the school curriculum."

I hope that I have convinced you that poetry is at least some good, or even better, that it is a way to expand and alternate between viewpoints physically, mentally and emotionally. Poetry is something that nothing will ever be replaced, and I wanted everyone to know that.



Hello Ada Lovelace, this is the Positivity Page – Issue Two! It is filled with tips on how to lead an enriching life at Ada Lovelace, and 'Make the Leap'. This issue, I am going to be focusing on what causes negativity and ways to stop it.



I wish I had an I-phone 13... I wish I had that cool bike that she has... I wish I had gone to Disneyland in the Easter holidays...

Life just seems so difficult when you don't have the things you want, doesn't it? Like you can't drag yourself out of bed if your parents don't get you a certain present for your birthday. But sometimes you can be feeling like life is difficult over some more serious things. Say you didn't get the grades that you were hoping for or expecting in Q4, and you just *know* that you're going to be moving down a set and leaving all your friends. Or outside of school, you lost a big competition that you spent weeks practising for.

### The most important thing to remember in any of those situations is that life goes on.

Things seem really hard when you're going through a big new change or some emotional trauma due to an event or outcome of an event. But it's not going to stop you from achieving something else. The world won't stop talking to you if you fall out with one friend, even a really close one. Just because you moved down a set, doesn't mean you can't bounce back next year with your results being even better than you expected. You're not alone either. I'd bet everything I have that at least one person you know is going through what you are, and are suffering in silence. Whether it's that quiet person always on the side-lines, or that outwardly happy kid who're tearing his/herself apart on the inside, they're there. If you are really worried, you can resort to talking to a trusted adult. If you don't feel like you know anyone who you can trust, call an organisation for these things, like Childline.

Here is an anonymous interview with someone in Year 7.

#### Have you ever been let down before?

Yes; when I auditioned for the School Production and didn't get anything. I really wanted a role and I really love acting. And I was really let down when I wasn't able to get anything.

#### How did you cope with it?

I tried to be happy for the people who got something and I reassured myself that there were extra opportunities.

#### How long were you disappointed for?

Not very long, as I realised that it wasn't a huge, huge chance and that there was always next year.

#### What do you plan to do in order to achieve this goal?

I will try to realise things that I did wrong last time and try harder.



Celebration Day, falling on the 26<sup>th</sup> of June, is a day meant to honour and celebrate passed on family and friends. It means that people can remember the people who have ascended into another realm. Here are two anonymous interviews with students.

#### How many family members passed away?

Both of my grandmas, but nobody else.

#### Were you close to them?

They lived in another country, so I didn't see them much, but I was moderately close to them.

#### How did you feel when they passed?

I was depressed. Losing a family member was hard, and I spent a long time mourning their deaths.

#### How do you honour them and remember them to this day?

By keeping them in my consciousness and retaining all the great memories of them always. They will always live on in me, even though they are not physically with me. Interview two:

#### How many deceased family members do you have?

To this date, I have about five to ten deceased family members.

#### Were you close to them?

I wasn't close to most of them, but I was close to one.

#### How do you remember them?

I remember them in my own special way – mostly with my brain.

Celebration Day is a great way to remember your family, and come to terms with the pain and grief that is inevitable after losing a loved one. Even if you do not have a family member who has passed, you could ask your family about your ancestors, and find out more about them.

I hope you have enjoyed this article about positivity; stay happy!



### Music Spotlight by Mia (Year 9)

#### Artist Focus: James Jamerson (Jan 29,'36 - August 2,'83)

About: James Jamerson was a bassist who was most prominent in the late '50s and early '60s. Remaining uncredited on the records, he was the mastermind behind many Motown hits with his driving basslines and incredible improvisational skills.

The Bass-ics: Bass is a guitar that has 4 heavy strings normally tuned to E, A, D and G. General bass technique for basses is plucking the strings mainly using the index finger. However, Jamerson is also known as 'the Hook' for his habit of always plucking with his index and middle finger to create a sound more like a double bass (double basses sound smoother and warmer than electric ones). He even put a sponge under his strings to help with this effect!

Motown: Motown is both a record label and a place, the name of which comes from an abbreviation of Detroit's nickname 'Motor Town' because it was the centre of the motor industry at the time. While the label only closed in 2005 and you may be familiar with many tracks that Jamerson played bass on and from the Motown label if you have watched the film Guardians of the Galaxy as the soundtrack is full of them!

Theory: Jamerson is credited with expanding the style and role of bass playing in many genres at his time. R&B or rock basslines in the '50s and '60s usually consisted of root notes and fifths with simple repeated rhythms, however, he included more interesting, syncopated rhythms and frequently used chromatic runs in his basslines. This soon became incorporated into popular music, for example Nowhere Man by the Beatles.

*Quote:* 'The dirt keeps the funk' - Jamerson was known for never cleaning or changing his bass strings for the entirety of his career.

*Listen to:* Ain't No Mountain High Enough by Tammi Terrell and Marvin Gaye for many of his famous techniques in use. What's Going On by Marvin Gaye for a more laidback approach where every note counts.

Find Out More: Standing In The Shadows of Motown, a documentary about the Funk Brothers, who were a group of influential Motown players working behind the scenes.

#### Summer Playlist

#### Songs:

Keep Moving by Jungle

Where Do the Children Play? By Cat Stevens

Crashed My Bike by Sun Room

LDN by Lily Allen

No Rain by Blind Melon

Semi-Charmed Life by Third Eye Blind

Sunflower by Post Malone & Swae Lee

Under the Sun by L.A.B

Humility by Gorillaz feat George Benson

My Doorbell by the White Stripes

Albums:

Vampire Weekend self-titled

It Takes a Nation of Millions to Hold Us Back by Public Enemy

3 Feet High and Rising by De La Soul

Coming Up Easy by Paolo Nutini

An Evening with Silk Sonic by Silk Sonic, Bruno Mars & Anderson. Paak

#### Artists:

Lonely Benson

## Queen by Nelly (Year 8)

'As a singer, I take inspiration from many artists and bands, whether they do pop, blues, rock or country. However, there is one band in particular that has been my favourite ever since I first listened to their music and I hope that, even if you don't like their songs or their style, you can recognise their immense success in the music industry and the impact they have made on people all around the world.

Queen is a British band, whose music was predominantly popular during the 70's and 80's but they're still very popular today and are still touring with their new singer, Adam Lambert. The original members consisted of Freddie Mercury (singer), John Deacon (bassist), Brian May (guitarist) and Roger Taylor (drummer), the last two members of which are still in the band. I really take inspiration from them because they were all incredibly talented in song writing and the instruments they played and they had brilliant chemistry as well, which is a valuable quality to have in a band. Some of their most popular songs include:

- 1. Bohemian Rhapsody
- 2. Another One Bites The Dust
- 3. We Will Rock You
- 4. We Are The Champions
- 5. Under Pressure (ft. David Bowie)

Although all these songs are really great, my favourite song must be 'Play the game'. Now, onto their successes. Overall, Queen has sold over 300 million albums worldwide and in their most popular concert, Live Aid (with audiences in Wembley Stadium, JFK stadium in the US and people watching the concert on TV in over 100 countries) there was an overall audience of 1.9 billion people and in their recent biopic, Bohemian Rhapsody from 2018, it showed that £1000000 was raised once Queen had started playing. As you can see, Queen was, and is, quite possibly one of the most popular bands in the entire world!'



## **Pupils' personal work**



'A tribute to The Red Hot Chili Peppers' by Harvey (Year 7)



Comic strip by Keshini (Year 9)

## **Next Issue:**

Half term highlights

Subject reflections

Competition winners and runners up

Reviews

and more!

- Digital artwork by Layan (Year 10)



