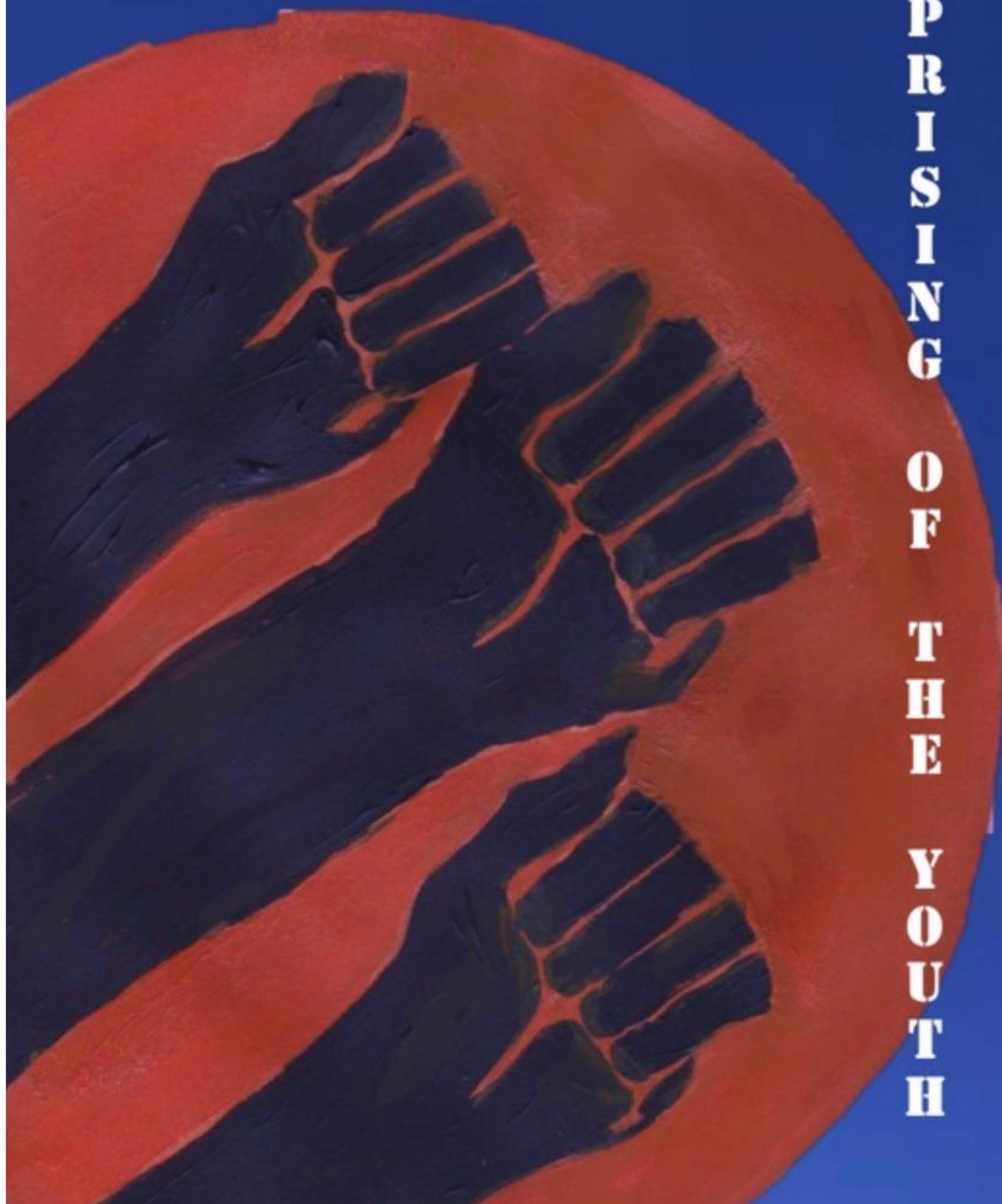


HER LADY'S VOICE



THE
UPRISING
OF
THE
YOUTH



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EDITOR'S NOTE

Welcome to this half term's issue of Her Lady's Voice, where we have decided to take up the theme "The uprising of the youth".

Everyone's articles explores how contrary to popular belief, the youth are everywhere! We are infiltrating our way into the parts of society that refuses to acknowledge our persistence, and that we are also, among the politicians and the policy makers, changing the world. One step at a time. We hope that this issue will inspire you to make YOUR mark on the world, because now more than ever the world is in need of its younger generation to lead the way.

We would like to thank all of the people who have contributed to this half term's issue, who despite the short turn around were able to produce some fantastic articles!

We hope you enjoy reading, and wish you a nice and restful half term!

Rukaiya Tasneem & Elena Tefera

YOUTH IN POLITICS: DOES POLITICS NEED A MAKEOVER?

By: Maddie Parker & Lily Chipperfield

The 116th congress is amongst the oldest in history. As of January 3rd 2019, the average age for a member in the House of Representatives is 57.6 and for senators, 62.9. Across the pond, Britons are not immune to this epidemic of ageing politicians – in 2017, the average age for a Member of Parliament was 50. Trends of the past have proven that politicians will neglect groups in society, if they do not have their foot in the door. Nonetheless, certain individuals with initiative, courage and that ‘why-not’ attitude have embarked on a mission: to catch up on centuries of political misrepresentation of the youth, in just a few years. This is not a task for the faint-hearted. The 21st century has provided an opportunity for the youth of today to not only shine a spotlight on the issues that they feel most concerned with, but also an opportunity to fix them. Despite the obstacles, political constructs and outdated traditions that have embedded themselves in the political world, this is not an opportunity that young people are about to pass up.

Political expansion into the lives of ordinary people is vital in the success of a democracy where individuals are truly represented.

At the forefront of demanding such advancement of political inclusivity is Nadia Whittome, Britain’s youngest MP. Growing up having been told that, as a working class girl of colour, she would have to “work twice as hard to get judged half as good”, Whittome is no stranger to the age-old, yet counterproductive, traditions in Parliament. As such, although Whittome has already accomplished her own individual political presence aged only 23, she is widely appreciative of the necessity to *share* her power with those currently neglected by the political sphere. In her own words, it is not her aim to feel comfortable in her parliamentary position nor to become part of

the “fabric of Westminster”; instead she strives to bring about reform- opening up the conversation to all. This idea of political expansion into the lives of ordinary people is vital in the success of a democracy where individuals are *truly* represented. Current affairs such as Brexit and the ever-impending threat of climate crisis are issues most relevant to the people of the future whom it will affect; namely today’s youth. Considering this, the necessity for young people to take such matters into their own hands is becoming more and more evident each day. Not only does Whittome provide a source of inspiration for those otherwise underrepresented in British politics, but she offers public appraisal to other young activists, supporting their actions and therefore encouraging the fundamental development in political age-inclusivity.

A recent VICE article bears the headline: “millennials are sick of old politicians but too poor to replace them.” This truth will resonate with huge proportions of the global youth population. The answer? We don’t have to replace them, as long as they are listening. This motto seems to fuel the ongoing efforts of twenty-year-old British activist Amika George, to combat period poverty in the United Kingdom. George has been depicted alongside her fellow activists calling for action and holding placards that read ‘deeds not words.’ This phrase also seems to strike a chord with the climate campaign of a certain seventeen-year-old Swedish activist.

Just two years ago, the name Greta Thunberg would have been met with blank faces. 2020 provides an entirely different picture. Since August 2018, with Thunberg’s first emergence outside the Swedish parliament, proudly bearing her home-made sign that read “SKOLSTREJK FÖR KLIMATET”, she has taken the political world by storm. Watched by thousands at the time, and millions subsequently on social media, Thunberg’s addresses to the United Nations COP24 in Poland and more recently to DAVOS 2020 (the World Economic Forum), have inspired, yet alarmed, many world leaders. Perhaps, the most obvious sign of Thunberg’s

breakthrough is the global ‘School Strike for Climate’ that brought out roughly 100,000 protestors in central London alone, in the September of last year.



Ruby Lord's poster at the Youth Against Climate Change protests in London.

With the reminder that “our house is burning down” still ringing in their ears, students from across London set out to carry Thunberg’s message to Parliament Square. Among them was Ruby Lord, a Year 12 student at Lady Margaret School, who was keen to share her experience of the protest, the impact of youth political activism and whether she felt she had made a real difference. At the march itself Ruby recalled: “There was definitely a wide range of ages but probably more young people – I went with my Mum. I felt like I was genuinely making a difference, especially since this was the first climate march I was involved with – it felt good to be a part of the movement rather than just staying in school.” In the wider political realm, Ruby believes, “the youth are relatively well represented since we are definitely trying to get our voices heard. It depends if people in power, usually old white males, are willing to listen.” The solution to any misrepresentation should be, “society simply needs to be a bit more open to young people because I feel like the people in power believe that age corresponds to the value of our views. The sooner the political

world acknowledges that perhaps the youth *do* know what they’re talking about, the sooner real progress can be made. We all just need to listen to each other.”

Where individuals in government have thrived for decades off of the ignorance and blind acceptance of the majority to ensure the maintenance of their power, for our voices to be heard we must seek to sustain an educated political stance and awareness of current affairs. In the current climate where fake news, ambiguous politicians, and opinion pieces stated deceptively as fact are difficult to decipher from reality, it is much easier to admit defeat and give in to that oh-so-blissful ignorance of self-removal from the situation. However, for change to occur and our futures to be protected, we must resist these impediments and make an effort to get involved and ‘stay woke’. Young people today can partake more actively through Youth Parliament, providing opportunities for people aged 11-18 to act as a paradigm of the real British Parliament, exposing them to the mechanisms of such a constitution and the chance to share ideas and have their voices heard.

I feel like the people in power believe that age determines the value of our views.

With the start of a new decade, the world continues its struggle against the injustices that are rife within politics. But the world is changing. As a result of young political activists, entire generations are now not only aware of a thawing of the ice caps, but also a thawing in the rigid political system. Ideas that stem from the forward-thinking mindsets of the youth are now penetrating into orthodox views and are accelerating the discovery of solutions to ongoing disparity across the globe. Greta Thunberg was undoubtedly right in saying, “You all come to us young people for hope.” Perhaps politics *is* in need of a makeover, and the youth are more than willing to provide it.

YOUTH IN SCIENCE

By: Orlanda Baldwin

Science is for everyone older than us, obviously. The youngest ever winner of the Nobel prize for science was 25-year-old Lawrence Bragg in Physics 1915 “for their services in the analysis of crystal structure by means of X-rays” 105 years ago. The 2019 Nobel Prize in Chemistry was won by John B. Goodenough who was born in 1922, 98 years old “for the development of lithium-ion batteries.” Clearly, we are much too young if precedent is anything to go by.

GCSE and A Level biology students will have undoubtedly heard about the MRSA bug, a cause of antibiotic-resistant infections, especially in hospitals. This bug has devastating effects across the world as people exposed to this hospital-loving-bug are suddenly subject to now fatal strains of diseases their immune system has no hope of holding off. One way this bacteria fights antibiotics is to eject antibiotics through so-called efflux pumps embedded in their cellular membranes. **Eric Delgado, 18** wondered: Was there a way to disable these pumps? And how could he do such complicated research in a school lab? Delgado took the initiative and worked to first disable an efflux pump in the common bacterium *E. coli*, as working with pathogenic bacteria would be far too dangerous in a school setting, where he, just like you are now, was.

Marie Aloia, a teacher, helped Delgado contact researchers across the country for advice and supplies. After school and on weekends for two years, Delgado measured how much antibiotic the organisms pumped out and how much was needed to kill them off. Delgado’s work won fifth place at the Intel Science Talent Search in 2008 and he now attends Yale university, where 14 science Nobel laureates have attended.

As you have undoubtedly noticed, the people in this article so far have all been men, and this combined with your age may have been

your glass ceiling on the scientific world. The youngest ever female winner of the Nobel Prize was the famous Marie Curie at 36 years of age, for Physics in 1903 “in recognition of the extraordinary services they have rendered by their joint research on the radiation phenomena discovered by Professor Henri Becquerel”. Curie also won the Nobel Prize in chemistry in 1911. Then, Curies' daughter, Irene, was also jointly awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry alongside her husband, Frederic Joliot. Marie Curie is, unfortunately to a lot of teenagers, not a pillar of the scientific community but just as she was interested in radiation, so was **Anastasia Roda, 19**.

Roda grew up spending her summers at Barnegat Bay in New Jersey, which fostered a love of marine life in her and so at 15 when she realized just how close the bay was to the Oyster Creek Generating Station, the oldest nuclear power plant in America, she swung into action. Radiation has a horrible and often deadly effect on all that it comes into contact with, so Roda was now left questioning if Oyster Creek had an impact on the bay’s ecosystem. She spent the next three summers comparing creeks near the power plant with a control creek about seven miles away. Roda found that, compared with the control creek, creeks closest to the power plant had higher temperatures and faster currents, and further downstream they had higher bacteria levels. She remembers how warm the water near the power plant was compared with other parts of the bay. “It was like bathwater,” she says, adding that the creeks’ ecosystems do remain functional, in that they are still host to many organisms. Roda’s work has won her numerous honours, including the American Museum of Natural History’s Young Naturalist Award and a spot in the Intel Science Talent Search finals last spring. Now she plans to attend one of America’s leading universities, Harvard, likely to focus on environmental studies or marine biology.

YOUTH IN SOCIAL ACTIVISM

By: Ayat Mohamed

Many youths believe that they are too young to make an impact. This is not true. I'd like to introduce you to several people who saw issues in society and took matters into their own hands. Hopefully you too can be inspired to take the first step in creating a better future for everyone.

Amika George

Amika was just 17 years old when she decided that it was time to solve the issue of period poverty in the UK. Many of us may take it for granted that we have access to things like pads and tampons when menstruating. It's an unfortunate reality that 1 in 10 people in the UK cannot afford sanitary products as a basic expense.



A photo from a protest against tampon tax.

Strangely, these items are currently classed as a 'luxury item' by the UK government; this means that we need to pay the 'tampon tax' (5% on top of the asking price). To give you an idea of what this means: you don't get charged any VAT for buying a HELICOPTER but people with periods pay EXTRA for the luxury of being able to participate in society whilst menstruating. A whopping 27% of young people have, at one point, been unable to buy menstrual products. This is incredibly unfortunate as this means that young people will have to miss school and social events as they can't leave their house.

People with periods pay extra for the luxury of being able to participate in society whilst menstruating.

Amika George couldn't let this injustice stand so she set up #FreePeriods. She organised several protests and created a petition, which gained over 200,000 signatures. Finally, the government took notice and, in March 2019, they announced that every state secondary school in the UK will receive funding to provide menstrual products free of charge. George also wrote an article in Vogue about the importance of social activism and was named on the Time Most Influential Teens of 2018, as well as Teen Vogue 21 under 21 after being nominated by Emma Watson. She has also written for The Telegraph and The Guardian.



Amika George

Mari Copeny (aka Little Miss Flint)

Mari is from Flint, Michigan, USA. Flint currently has a poison water supply as a result of contamination from lead pipes. This means that people in Flint cannot use any running water supplies to wash their hands, shower, etc. Copeny helped this gain a huge amount of media attention after she wrote to, then president, Barack Obama to highlight this issue. This led to the President visiting Flint, declaring it a federal emergency, and ordering \$100 million to fix this crisis.



Mari Copeny with the water bottles she donated to people in Flint.

However, this is a huge infrastructure issue and it requires years to fix; in the meantime, Flint still doesn't have clean, safe running water and many people who live in Flint are under-privileged. In 2018, after the state stopped providing free bottled water, Copeny started a campaign; within a month she managed to raise almost \$50,000, enough for over 200,000 bottles of water for residents. She didn't stop there. Many residents in Flint couldn't afford school supplies for the new school year so in 2016 and 2017 she raised money for new backpacks and school supplies for the residents of Flint. In 2016 she raised enough for 100 filled backpacks and in 2017, she raised \$10,000 for 1,000 backpacks. She also wanted to empower low-income children so in 2018 she started the #BlackPantherChallenge and she managed to raise more than \$16,000 so that the, mostly black, low-income children could see Black Panther and get the movie merchandise. It is incredibly important for people to see themselves represented in such a positive way and it boosted the confidence and aspirations of the children. Mari has also set up the Dear Flint Kids project so that people can send letters of encouragement to the children in Flint, as well as numerous other campaigns. Did I mention that she's only 13?

Marley Dias

When Marley was 11 she grew tired of being presented with the same books over and over again. It seemed that every book she read was about a white, male protagonist. Marley recognised the importance of representation. Even in Jamaica, where her mum was from, schoolchildren didn't read books where black people were the main character. Marley wanted to change that. Her original goal was to get 1000 books where black girls were the main protagonists and send them to her mother's old school in Jamaica. However, within months, she had raised over 9,000 books. The campaign, #1000BlackGirlBooks also highlighted the lack of diversity in children's literature. Dias wanted young children to have more freedom when reading. Since the campaign launch in 2016 she has collected over 12,000 books, met Oprah, and Ellen. She also organised a reading party at the White House. Dias has also written a book where she wrote about activism, social justice, and inclusion.



Marley

Dias pictured here with Michelle Obama

I hope that these fantastic young women have inspired you to go and change whatever you deem to be unacceptable. Be angry and don't accept anything less than you deserve. In the words of Marley Dias, "Frustration is the fuel that can lead to the development of an innovative and useful idea."

Go forth and set the world ablaze.

YOUTH IN MUSIC

By: Natasha Watts

“I know some of my music, being as depressing as it is, may not sound like it’s helping people, but talk to those girls who are sitting outside overnight to see me and ask them if it’s helping them.”

Sitting on a leafy block in L.A.’s Highland park is a cramped two-bedroom bungalow, home to six occupants, including a rescue cat, Misha and a rescue dog, Pepper. The inside of the residency is filled with overflowing bookshelves and worn photo frames. What is most fantastical about this house is that every corner of it is filled with music. Three pianos, countless guitars, ukuleles as well as one of two bedrooms entirely taken over by recording gear; have proven to be no question as to how this household was where the biggest album of 2019 was created.* This is home to the infamous, currently fluorescent-green-haired Billie Eilish Pirate Baird O’Connell.

Her music is rooted in honesty, especially when it comes to more sensitive and personal topics.

Her double-platinum album “When We All Fall Asleep, Where Do We Go?” soared to No.1 in 17 countries upon its release in March. After bringing home six Grammys just over a week ago between her and her brother and producer, Finneas, 22, it’s hardly an understatement to call the pair the future of music. Their hit song, “Bad Guy” has hit 1 billion streams on Spotify and counting. Her purely accidental rise to fame was the result of her breakthrough song, “Ocean Eyes” uploaded to Soundcloud late 2015. The ethereal ballad caught the eyes and ears of music label, Interscope Records, and was she signed within the year.

When asked about the secret behind her appeal, Eilish said, “I have no clue, dude,”

with a smile and a shrug. “I didn’t realise that I was saying and touching on aspects in life that were deeper than the average song. I didn’t try to do that – I just did it,” she told *Variety*.

What I truly believe has brought her the success she has achieved to date is that her music is rooted in honesty, especially when it comes to more sensitive and personal topics that most artists shy away from. In the *Evening Standard*’s March 2019 magazine, their interview with Billie captured the fan-artist dynamic perfectly. “At the very start of our chat, when I asked Billie how she was, she replied ‘Fine!’ Then when I asked her, ‘seriously, how *are* you?’, her answer was rather less casual: ‘I don’t really know. I feel like I try to stay away from that side of my brain, thinking about how I am. I feel like if I do, I get inside my head and wallow in a pit of sadness.’ In the meantime Billie seems hyper-aware of both the benefits and risks of her music operating as tacit therapy for young fan base. ‘It’s a big responsibility,’ Billie nods. ‘There are songs on the album where if you were in a vulnerable mindset, they could potentially...’ She chooses her words wisely. ‘...not help you. I try to make everyone aware that I know they’re suffering, and this is my



art for you to hug and take as a comfort.

“We didn’t write a speech for this because we didn’t make this album to win a Grammy. We didn’t think it would win anything, ever. We wrote an album about depression and suicidal thoughts and climate change and being the

bad guy – whatever that means. And we stand grateful.” – Billie when collecting her Grammy for ‘Album Of The Year’

YOUTH IN LITERATURE

By: Delphie Redhead

In a day and age where the youth of today are so attached to phone screens and digital devices, it truly seems as if the love for literature is dying. It is seldom, nowadays, to find a single reader amongst a crowd of tired eyes and exhausted minds, and once keen-eyed book worms have sunk to the ranks of social media obsession. In this digital age, where entertainment relies on 20-second videos and enjoyment at a scroll, it seems no one has the time or concentration to simply sit and read, anymore.

But it is our belief that there is such an importance in young people today reading and consuming poetry and literature. Not just for the benefits it has for subjects across the board in school, but also because the point of literature is to connect with others and express yourself through powerful language which is amplified greatly in the form of poetry. There is no other form of expression which allows you to be so expressive, so outlandish and connect with others on such a greater level. Poetry has helped me understand my own experiences and put it into words and that is why it is such an important thing to learn about, and not just in the form of studying for exams, but of our own accord. Literature has such a great variety of forms and I have found that there is so much passion and ambition you can find for english in reading things that you like. So, in conclusion, as youth I believe it is our duty to become passionate, empathetic and spirited young people and having not just an understanding of literature's importance in society, but a love for it is the principle way to do this.

Talin Tahajian

Talin grew up in Boston, and her gift for poetry has led her to win several awards and

up here confused an

features in magazines. At age 19 she co wrote a chapbook called “Start with the dead things” then wrote her second chapbook a few years later called “The smallest thing on earth.” She went on to study English Literature from the University of Cambridge. During the summer she works at a soda fountain in Maine, where she once accidentally made a banana split without a banana.



Kody Keplinger

At the age of 17 Kody wrote the New York Times bestseller “The Duff” which was then later turned into a major motion picture. Kody has since written other books for young adults and when she isn’t writing she is posting about fashion and body positivity.



If you are feeling inspired check out the competitions below:

- **HART prize for Human Rights-** Has both a creative competition and an essay competition
- **The Never Such Innocence writing competition-** with the theme “The impact of conflicts on the communities.”

YOUTH IN FILM

By: Sophie Thynne & Rebecca Dawit

In the last decade or so, youth have had a much larger influence in the film industry and whilst current movies seem to be revisiting old stars, such as Robert De Niro in "The Irishman," it is evident that the younger generation are on the rise within Hollywood.

Notable youth in current movies are not only being praised on their looks and success from a young age, but the sheer talent that they possess and the way they have been able to use the inter-connected modern world as a way to cultivate their popularity. Currently, French-American actor **Timothee Chalamet** (24) has been seen in many instant hit films, such as Greta Gerwig's "Lady Bird" and "Little Women", roles that have helped him rise to become a starring actor despite his young age. Not only this, but Gerwig herself is much younger than her peers and her youthful casts, such as that of "Little Women", having entertained both adolescents and older audiences, she debases the idea that youth in film are only supported by their teenage fans.



This can be seen as **Florence Pugh** (24) , who also starred in the Louisa May Alcott remake, has been nominated for best supporting actress in the 2020 Oscar Academy Awards. Pugh showed enormous talent in her depiction of the character "Amy," who normally disliked for her impulsive and

somewhat selfish motivations, became almost more sympathetic than Jo March. This undeniably represents the shift in public support away from older casts towards ones that ultimately relate more to the majority of audiences, as the entertainment industry has become fuelled by adolescents. As a result, extraordinarily talented actors are being allowed to gain the recognition that they deserve without seeing to be "filling" the young role required within a larger movie, and this empowering movement of youth within Hollywood is inspiring a rise in youth in many other industries.

The raw honest truth of growing up, navigating both who you are and what you have to offer to the world.

Actresses like **McKenna Grace** (13) and **MacKenzie Foy** (19) are not only idolized now for the way that their success has breached the challenges presented by their younger age, but have been since their first roles. Foy was only 11 when she played Renesmee in the "Twilight" saga and Grace was even younger, acting in Disney Show "Crash and Bernstein" at 6 years old. Both have gone on to develop past these roles, with Grace acting in Netflix's "Designated Survivor" and alongside renowned Chris Evans in "Gifted." This was a heart-warming film that addressed key issues within familial relationships in such an insightful manner that critics broke the pattern of dismissing younger actors to rave about the natural aptitude that Grace depicted.

The upcoming youthful presence in the film industry is marked by ensemble casts, something that has become a feature of the indie scene in the past few years with movies such as 'mid90's' making some noise. This coming of age drama follows a thirteen year

old boy Stevie ‘Sunburn’ in 1990 who seeks an escape from his troubled home life by hanging with a group of older skate kids. This directorial debut from Jonah Hill portrays, in a nostalgic and rough way, the raw honest truth of growing up, navigating both who you are and what you have to offer to the world. A further example of powerful performances from children include the work of **Brooklynn Prince** in ‘The Florida Project’ who delivers a poignant performance as the witty and precocious Moonee. Brooklynn, at the age of eight, is writing, starring and directing her own short movie called ‘Colours’, an unbelievable feat for someone so young but is well equipped with her “[uncanny poise and



resourcefulness]” - A.O Scott.

However the epitome of growth and coming-of-age is Richard Linklater’s epic drama ‘Boyhood’. Filmed from 2001 to 2013, ‘Boyhood’ accounts the life of Mason Evans Jr. from seven years old to his first day in college. While this masterpiece is largely credited to the vision of Linklater, and rightly so, **Ellar Coltrane’s** growth from a curious and innocent boy with a passion for his rock collection and cartoons to an intelligent man with an endearingly withdrawn temperament is the beauty of the movie and what makes the little splices of mundane life we get to observe, so memorable.

Whilst this may seem to paint the success stories of youth in film, it is arguable that

these recent victories for millenials within Hollywood are atypical to the pattern of decline within child actors. Many child actors have spoken out about the trouble that they had growing up in the industry, with **MacCaulay Culkin** addressing the issues that arose from having his father becoming essentially his manager, making the two inextricably linked once Culkin became the youngest actor to be paid \$1 million. This was said to turn his father into a “domestic martinet.” This is similar to that of **Shirley Temple**, who was such a beloved icon in the 1930’s that she became subject to all types of rumours, with some even believing her to be not a child, but an adult dwarf, something the Vatican itself investigated. Temple was also a victim of sexual abuse, and the amount of criticism, pressure, and scandal that circulated her childhood suggested that life in the limelight was not all as previously anticipated.

However it is not an automatically bleak and desolate future destined for child stars as some have gone on to have happy and successful careers. One of the most successful child actors in today’s cinematic world is **Jacob Tremblay**. Starring in movies like ‘Wonder’, ‘Good Boys’ and ‘Room’ at only thirteen, he’s already been nominated for 24 awards and won 7 awards since 2015, most notably the Critics Choice Movie Award for best young performer.

As our generation makes our voices heard in areas such as the political and social scene, it is only fitting that the media and film industry adequately represents the powerful figures and talents of a youth raised in a deteriorating world. While we see the cinematic sphere grow and evolve, there is an exciting place for the young artists with such an obvious bright light within them. It would be naive to suggest that filming from such a young age won’t come in tandem with problems, but despite

this, the achievements that these young actors have made can only be seen as a cause for admiration rather than concern, foretelling the possibilities and opportunities that await young people today.

INTERVIEW WITH MS.MAYHEW

BY: Nour Al- Amoudi

As this term's theme is based on the topic of youth, and it seemed fitting to interview you since as far as I know you are the one of the school's youngest teachers.

Do you feel different in that respect?

I definitely feel young. I definitely don't think that's a disadvantage though as I probably take a different approach to behaviour management to a lot of other teachers.

Do you think it gives you more of an advantage then? Since you'd be able to relate to students more?

In a sense yes, because I can probably still think like a child in a way. I guess it really depends on the person, as we've all had different experiences growing up. I can understand that maybe some (students) won't be paying attention all the time or they might want something to be done differently in a lesson, so I think I'm in that sense advantaged.

Have you always wanted to be a teacher?

Yes! Since Year Seven. I had an really amazing maths teacher and she inspired me so much that I wanted to be just like her. I went off to do a maths degree just so that I could become a teacher.

What exactly inspired you about her?

Well, she actually worked in the business world, and I was considering doing that too but it made me anxious and I didn't like the thought of it so I decided that I'd go straight into teaching instead. I was certain I was going to get my maths degree and go straight to the city to get into accountancy or

something like that initially, essentially to use my maths degree to make money. But then I realised I wanted to be happy and how I really enjoyed helping people.

What's your favourite aspect of teaching?

I like the fact that every day is different and how I get to make a proper impact on students and that's another reason why I wanted to teach. So that I could find a way to really help students. The pastoral side of things generally interests me, as it means that I get to know people.

As a young person, do you see something within my generation that you'd really like to change?

My generation in comparison to yours isn't very different to yours in regards to sixth form, but one thing that I've noticed is that nowadays sixth formers are quite dependent on teachers. I remember when I was at sixth form I relied on my own work and I think there's quite a large dependency on teachers now which is something I'd like to change, because I want people to be able to do things themselves and be more independent which links with self-confidence which we're seeing less of nowadays.

Why do you think that we're less confident and more self-critical?

Definitely social media. I'm not really into social media that much, which I think has really helped me develop personally. Social media just lets you scroll through the good bits and makes you forget that there are bad bits in everyone's lives, but everyone wants to be in some aspects like someone they see online. Nowadays we see more inclusive things like having "plus-sized" models, but the "plus" part defeats the purpose of inclusivity which is also a problem.

I always find generational gaps or age gaps quite interesting, since you guys didn't really

grow up with social media. Do you think it used to be more personal?

It used to be more about communicating with people you know rather than publicising your life for the whole world to see.

Do you agree with publicising your life online?

It's up to the person really. You're not actually publicising your life fully, but there is something to say when your online account is more personal and solely for your close family and friends. I'm not so keen on it and that's because when I was at school I was bullied on social media, and everyone in my year group read about it before me so when I came into school the next day everyone was acting weird around me and then I found out why and it was an awful feeling. Since then I haven't really liked social media, but that's not to say it's not good in other ways and for other things.

In relation to one of the initial topics, do you have a somewhat outrageous goal that you'd like to achieve in your lifetime?

I've always wanted to start my own school! But I wouldn't know the first place to begin. Being proud of something that I've built up from the ground is something I'd really like to accomplish.

Something that I'm doing at the moment is training for a team-based obstacle course called a Tough Mudder.

Is that like a boot camp?

Kind of yeah. It's like a run and you have to go through caves and water which I'm really nervous and excited about.

Have you started training yet?

No. But to be fair, I have until September to mentally prepare myself and do some running before then. I don't do much running, but it's a challenge, and I like challenging myself.

I think this is a good place to end the interview, is there something you'd like to say or a message you'd like to put across?

Maybe to encourage people to take some time off social media and spending time with the people in their lives face-to-face and not through a screen is quite meaningful.

Couldn't agree more! Thank you.

BOOK REVIEW: My sister lives on the mantelpiece

By: Alice Roberts

My sister lives on the mantelpiece is a novel by Annabel Pitcher, which highlights the key issues and current affairs in today's society- specifically highlighting the areas around racism, terrorist attacks, and dealing with loss.

This novel tells the story of a family torn after losing one of their daughters to a terrorist attack in London. We follow this family through the narration of Jamie, the brother, who struggles to grapple with the death of his sister and the other factors which seem to be pulling the family apart such as their parent's divorce and the father's alcohol addiction. There are aspects of the novel which would certainly appeal to those who can relate to the individual struggles that the family faces. Regardless, this novel is heartwarming and at times comedic, as well as being heart-breaking and devastating. Personally, I really enjoyed this novel and it made me realise that there is a lot to be grateful for in life as well as recognising the importance of family.

The novel is aimed at children aged around 11-18+ (so we have the perfect audience at LMS) and it is definitely a novel that I will remember and cherish forever. Most importantly, this story has made me more aware of the impacts of terrorist attacks in London. The novel goes beyond what is shown on the news to reveal how individual day to day lives are affected. I feel as though I have grasped a deeper and more comprehensive understanding of the world we live in and the society that we are a part of today. I would definitely recommend this novel to all- although it is upsetting and deals with very sensitive issues- it is a book that you will not be able to put down and one that you will not regret reading!

POEM: Pitiless

By: Emily Sparke

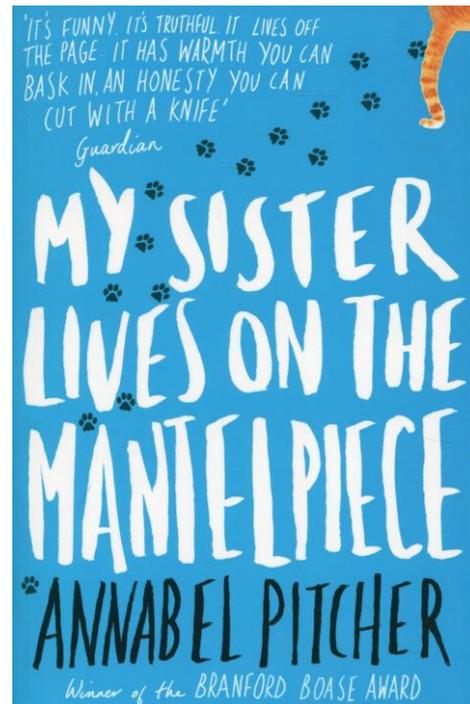
Oceans devoured, leaving sombre sand
Swelling wounds, crippling the complexion
Of the perennial, enduring homeland,
Finding radiance in imperfection

If, when iniquitous superiors,
Tremble and neglect this predicament
How then shall we salvage tranquility
Without a coherent, lucid comment?

Enough, enough! We keep on pleading,
Abandoned lessons, they aren't what we
crave!

Visual surveillance of the earth bleeding
Ascending in alliance at the grave

Pledges and modern science brings to bare,
In late hours, what on Earth will make us
care?



HOROSCOPES

By: Ruby Lord & Kitty Heriot-Walker

Capricorn

22 December → 20 January

This month it is important that you pace yourself and be patient with the process. Avoid making assumptions and you can lessen any confusion as 16th February marks the admittance of Mars into Capricorn which will give you an edge in the coming six weeks. Whatever the situation, remember that there is no urgency. Move slowly and you can learn what you need to know.

Aquarius

21 January → 19 February

As Mars enters on the 16th February, you have your mindset on very specific goals. Feel free to be yourself and being connected to other people, even strangers is important right now. Volunteering is a great option to explore. Think of what you like most in your life and try to give someone else the same thing.

Pisces

20 February → 20 March

There's a new moon in your sign on the 23rd February, putting you in a very selfless mood. You want the best for the people around you, and you're willing to give up what you have to make them happy. This month, in particular, watch out for people who want to take advantage of your kindness. Listen to your intuition when it tells you that something is not quite right.

Aries

21 March → 19 April

The moon joins Venus in your sign on the 25th, so your competitive drive will be in full force. Losing isn't really an option you've considered, but this month be prepared to take a back seat with the people around you. Venus enters on the 7th, so be clear on what you want and it will be easier to attract the finances, resources, partnerships, and support you need. As the full moon aligns the next day, dare to reach for the stars!

Taurus

20 April → 20 May

Venus squares Jupiter on February 23 and squares Pluto five days later, meaning some obstacles are heading your way. This could also suggest that you're turning a corner in understanding your true power, your place in the world, and the greater purpose behind your existence. Let this wisdom guide you in the coming months!

Gemini

21 May → 21 June

This month the sun is asking that you set your sights high and explore the many opportunities you have coming your way. As your public image has been glowing, bringing rewards, recognition, and professional opportunities. The month is the ideal time to reach for a dream opportunity.

Cancer

22 June → 23 July

The New moon opens the floodgates to enter a whole new realm of possibilities. Clarify long-term goals, organise yourself well and you can redirect the course of the coming months. There could even be second chances at a missed opportunity. Even if it means taking a detour, be fluid and patient with the process. Step away from any long-standing power-struggles that may be at hand and you will reap the rewards.

Leo

24 July → 23 August

The sun enters on February 18, followed by the new moon, offering a chance to renegotiate important partnerships, financial arrangements, and contracts. There are huge opportunities arising now to take your professional partnerships to the next level. Avoid power struggles, be clear in your values, and you can make wise choices that will benefit your situation in endless, albeit, less tangible ways.

Virgo

24 August → 23 September

Settling down for some private quiet time could be harder than you ever thought it

could be now. Social invitations could start piling up, so you'd better decide whether you want to climb out of your shell or stay away from the real world a little while longer. If anything is out of order in your life, it's time to put it back where it belongs.

Libra

24 September → 22 October

Future goals come into focus easily, and you shouldn't have a problem figuring out a way to be successful in whatever you choose to pursue. If you're still hanging on to past hurt it's time to let it go so you can live your best life. It's hard to move forward when you're constantly looking over your shoulder rehashing old hurts and regrets.

Scorpio

23 October → 22 November

As Mars merges with Uranus you are urged to break free from the restrictions you've been under lately, even if you placed them on yourself. If you've been on a strict schedule of studying, working, or taking care of other people, it's time to leave your routine and have some fun. You aren't usually a rule-breaker, but you find yourself wondering "what if" a lot now.

Sagittarius

23 November → 20 December

The new moon can give some excellent creative ideas to solve some puzzling issues you've been dealing with lately. If you have to make an important decision now, it's best to rely on your intuition to show you the way. This is your chance to start fresh and what better way to clear the slate than with some imaginative solutions.

OVERHEARD AT LMS

By: Katherine Maclean & Pia Jones

"I don't wanna eat carbs too soon before Zumba."

"You can highlight with your tears"

"Does cotton come from sheep though?"

"I'm going to fail this exam, like I don't even know what the old testament is bro."

"I basically just scammed my grandpa."

"Wait, Scotland isn't part of England?!"

"I have more videos of John Bercow than me on my iPad."

"The only physics I know is my physical attraction to Callum from Love Island."

"Miss what another detention?? This would not happen in Sweden."

"Ay pass me some of that Coronavirus, I've got double physics next."

"Omg let me give you a hug because you look so nice ... today."

"My maths tutor looks like Joe from You; should I be like concerned or gassed?"

"Nelson Mandela's some sexy ting fam."

"Essay writing should actually be a form of punishment- I can't lie."

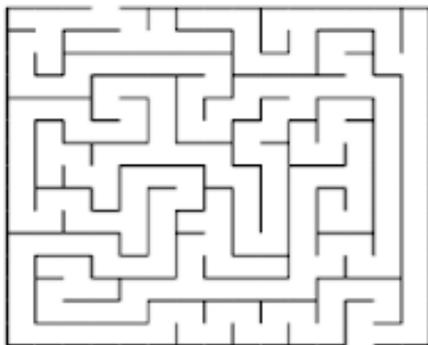
"It is."

"What is it with men and veneers?"

"The coffee machine at Waitrose has broken AGAIN, are you actually having a laugh!"

PUZZLE PAGE

Maze



Sudoku

Medium

Hard

9	5			7	
	6	9	8		
4	8			2	
	9		2	4	
1	4		6	7	3
	7	8		9	
	8			6	7
			5	6	2
9				5	4

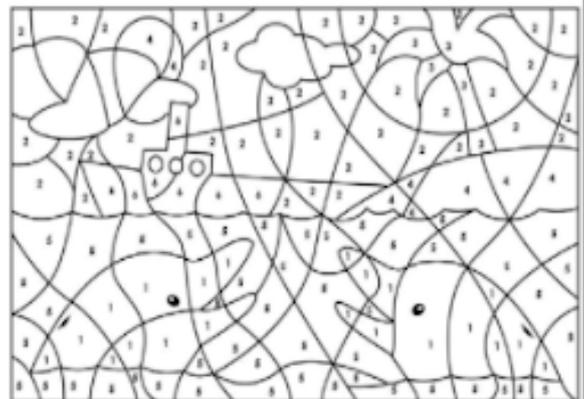
5			4			
3	2	9			4 7	
	4	1	7			
1		8	9			
	3				1	
			6	1		9
				2	8	3
	7	6		3	9	4
			7			1

Surnames of Inspirational Youth Word Search1.

- 1. Britains youngest MP
- 2. A Swedish environmental activist
- 3. Youngest Nobel Prize for humanitarian efforts
- 4. Diarist who wrote while in hiding during WW2
- 5. Founded a gun-control advocacy group Never Again MSD
- 6. Actor, feminist activist and UN ambassador for women
- 7. American snowboarder- youngest woman to win an Olympic snowboarding medal
- 8. American tennis player, youngest top 100 ranked player
- 9. Transgender teen and active LGBTQ+ campaigner

Riddle- A girl has as many brothers as sisters, but each brother has only half as many brothers as sisters. How many brothers and sisters are there in the family?

Colour by numbers



Anagrams- How many words can you make out of these letters
MTAUET

Across

- 6. Official name of D block
- 7. Name of church near school
- 9. First headteacher of Lms
- 10. Closest tube station
- 11. Yellow house

Down

- 1. Head of maths
- 2. How many headteachers have we had
- 3. Surname of who the school is named after
- 4. Month of the school birthday
- 5. This years charity
- 8. Tallest teacher
- 9. Schools patron saint

LMS CROSSWORD

