



## Phew!

16th October 2020

ISSUE  
no. 7

As the gates shut this Friday afternoon, boys and THS staff probably lack the energy to give anything more than this informal exclamation. When we have time to reflect on the first half term of this strangest of academic years – there should be a collective sense of pride! Our 'new normal' has worked brilliantly. This has only been possible thanks to the effort, cooperation and camaraderie of all concerned – all in it together? – you bet!

Now we know we can function (mostly) smoothly we look forward with optimism. Focus is on the important things of life here in school – learning, laughing, caring and sharing. Thank you to everyone for getting us to this point.

Our thanks also go to families for their adaptation to staggered drop off /pick ups – this must have caused considerable disruption. Whilst we would love to loosen constraints; current national/global conditions will be our guide so we will content ourselves with celebrating our communal successes thus far.

## ART - *BLACK HISTORY MONTH*

Years 3, 4, 6 and 8 have been learning about the life and work of Alma Thomas, an expressionist painter and teacher who believed that creativity should be independent of race or gender. She was also the first African-American woman to have a solo exhibition which took place at the Whitney Museum of American Art in 1972 - she was 81!

The boys have created their own paintings inspired by Alma's work - please see a selection below. Aren't they beautiful?



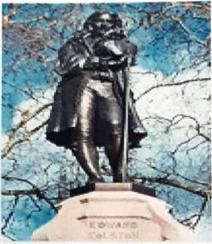


## HISTORY - BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Year 8 have considered the thorny issue of statues and memorials to Britons involved in the slave trade. Using Edward Colston as an example, the boys engaged in this conversation with rigour, thought and articulation, always mindful and respectful of the views of others.

Below are some of their responses to the question, "What should happen to the statues of Britons involved in slavery?"

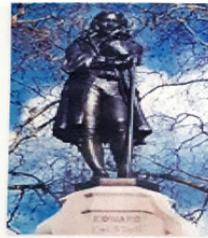
Black History Month



What should happen to the statues of Britons involved in slavery?

I think that these statues should be torned down because as the protests have shown many people have taken offence from these statues that are racist. Many people will not think much more than who he was but many people who are black or have close links to slavery will despise them. The statues are literally and metaphorically standing above us and we 'look up to them'. In modern society transporting slaves can be punished with severe punishments and even if those people did do some good things he would not be celebrated and it would make no difference. It is certain to me that these statues should not be looked up to or celebrated for doing good things but punished for the bad. They shouldn't be forgotten but taught when we can see the whole picture and not bias for the things they did for society.

Black History Month



What should happen to the statues of Britons involved in slavery?

The statues of people that were involved in the Slave trade in Briton should be at most taken down. This is because statues like Edward Colston were taken down roughly without thought and got ~~his~~ thrown in the river. If people wanted to take down a part of history they could place it in a museum or anywhere but a river. Another way statues of people involved in the slave trade could be added on because you could add posters next to the statue but no spraypaint. There are several different ways people can prove their hate for slavery ~~and~~ but we will never be free of our history.

Black History Month



What should happen to the statues of Britons involved in slavery?

The statues should be taken down because you can't change history but you can change the future, so by taking these statues down it will symbolise freedom, the rest of the world and how being the world is alive for. If we left them up then it will always haunt you when you walk past it. When the protesters throw the statue into the sea it showed that they were trying to take him out of big home, England, his symbol he did for the African Americans.



## YEAR 1 - *BLACK HISTORY MONTH*

This week Year 1 listened to the story 'The Sneetches' by Dr Seuss to help them think about how to treat each other equally.

To watch a fantastic video of the boys talking about the story please click on the link below. We politely request that the video is not shared outside of the THS community, thank you.

[Year 1 video](#)



## YEAR 3 - *BLACK HISTORY MONTH*

This week Year 3 have been creating collages inspired by the work of Uzo Egonu (1931-1996), who was born in Nigeria and settled in Britain in the 1940s. His work merges European and Igbo traditions and helped to redefine African Art. Please see some of their wonderful work below reflecting vibrant landmarks from across the world .





## YEAR 2 TRIP TO HOLLY LODGE

On Wednesday, Year 2 donned their Forest School kits once again and took a trip to Holly Lodge in Richmond Park. The boys have been learning about living things and their habitats in science this half term and enjoyed a great outdoor session looking at how plants and animals change in autumn and winter. The boys were able to make some bird feeders and created some animal homes to help them keep safe and warm in the winter. They also identified different trees using leaf finders and made their own deciduous trees too. Well done Year 2, some fantastic learning!



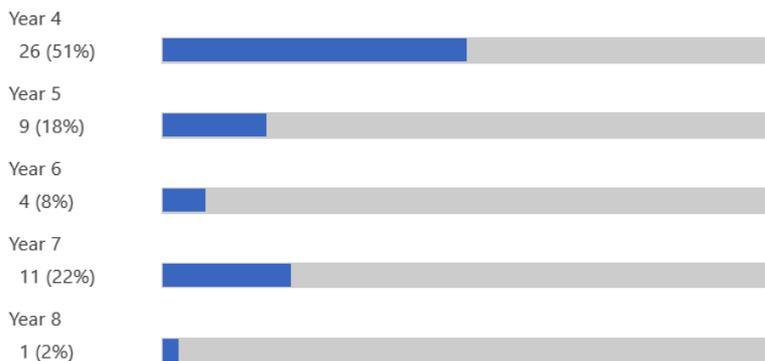


Year 1 have been preparing for the Mexican Day of the Dead celebrations by creating some skull decorations or *calaveritas* - brilliant work boys!



## READING WALL

### Your Year Group



Congratulations to Year 4 who have submitted the most reviews on the reading wall this half term!

A very big 'well done' also goes to other boys who have posted over the last few weeks - the reviews are always a pleasure to read.

We look forward to some new entries after lots of half term reading!

### Review of the Week;

Young Bond Double or Die by Charlie Higson

I like this book because it is action packed so close to a movie in terms of speed. The genre of this book is Action and adventure. Once you have the book in your hands you cannot put it down. This is because the action and excitement pull you into the book. It has many twists and turns.

James Bond is at Eton and receives a message from a missing professor. The letter holds some clues to where the professor. Once they find out the clues they have just 48 hours get the professor back and safe.

Submitted by William Bryan in Year 5



## UPCOMING EVENTS

TUESDAY 3rd

Year 8 Practise Mock CE exams  
**School lunch provided as normal**

Year 6 CATs tests

WEDNESDAY 4th

Year 8 Practise Mock CE exams  
**School lunch provided as normal**

Year 7 ISEB tests

THURSDAY 5th

Year 8 Practise Mock CE exams  
**School lunch provided as normal**

Year 7 ISEB tests

This week's overall house point winners are ... **SHACKLETON!**  
Congratulations!

## Have a wonderful half term!

Mr Gregory Evans, Headmaster

