



The Shipston Spotlight

Keeping us connected

Issue 2: June 12th

Welcome to the second edition of this newsletter, which provides an opportunity to glimpse the wide range of work and activities the Shipston High School community has been busy with in the last few weeks.

Our first issue of 'Spotlight' created a real buzz, with many people impressed by the wide range of work students are producing at this time. The sheer quality of the work is amazing, with the time and commitment given by students really apparent.

Shipston High School are delighted to share more news, pictures and ideas in this issue of Spotlight, which we hope will impress and inspire in equal measure.

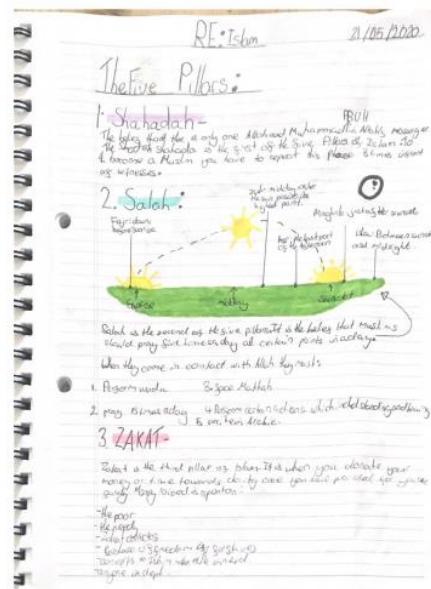
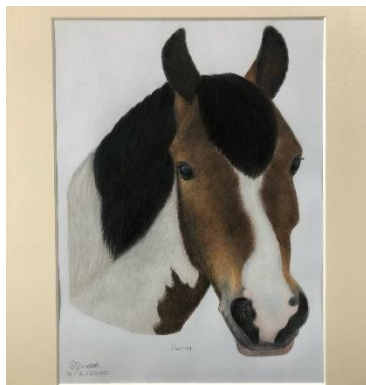
All students should be proud of their work, and this issue contains just a sample of the excellent work from across the school. It is great to know that the Shipston High School values and commitment to learning live in our students' attitudes regardless of the current limited access to the school building. The school is defined by the people, the community and the shared energy and commitment; all are clear to see in these pages.

G. Saunders

Student Showcase

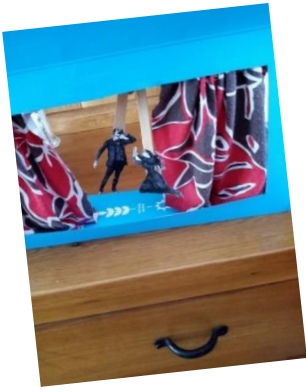
We have been so impressed with the fantastic effort students have been putting into their work, below is a sample of some of this wonderful work.

Let's kick off this Issue with some very impressive artwork from Sam Year 9 on the left and Sophie Year 10 on the right



Year 8
Niamh's
fantastic
Islam
project





Drama: Year 7 have been working on puppetry - Here's a beautiful puppet theatre, all completely handmade by Amelia

Drama: Year 8 have been working on multi-cultural theatre: learning about Indian Kathakali, Japanese Noh and Theatre in Ghana and Nigeria. We may have been in lockdown but we have been doing some virtual travel! Students have been watching clips online, creating their own guides to theatre and answering questions. Some students have also made a paper Japanese fan which is used in Noh Theatre!



Rebecca Year 8



Maddie Year 8



Jay Year 8

Hades writing by Benjamin Year 7

Describing Tartarus

Slowly we crept further down. The long rocky path that seemed to never end. A dead air hung between Hades and I, silence. I looked from the ground to see a large gateway, scorching heat struck me like a volcano. Suddenly a lot of pain hit me like a hammer, I was weak and found it hard to move. Hades pointed his finger at a pit.

I walked over only to be met with a 'hello whip' at least that's what they call it. The whip lashed around me like vines. They shoved me into the pit and dropped a pick axe on me, all they said was "Mine until you reach the bottom..."



Lucy Year 7 Raspberry cheesecake

The Food Tech department set a half term challenge: to design, cook and present a dish using three or more ingredients that you have at home.



Ellie-May Year 9 made both her cousins a birthday cake – half horses, half Harry Potter!

Miss Lawrence would like to say "Well Done" to George W Year 10

for his excellent Romeo and Juliet work this week 😊





Mr Smallman's Science group 8-1, have recently been investigating factors affecting mould growth while on lockdown.

Tom W Year 8 grew the most!



10set 4 have been working out their carbon footprint. 100% is average for the UK. Emma was way below that because her dad has an electric car.

Lauren Year 7 – Introduction to a dystopian novel

Government propaganda fluttered about on the mossy cobbles. The resistance's plans are burning like the cataclysmic bomb explosions from the government. The whole nation is hanging on a single thread, one inch away from the merciless wrath of the despicable leaders. Murder is becoming frequent: it is now a fight for survival. Illegal poaching has become normal in these desperate times. We are on the verge of war. I know it.

I sigh, get up, receive a speculative glance from mother and walk out the door. Mum knows nothing about my secret participation in the resistance, I don't want to worry her, not that she could worry much more. Ugh! The government official police (GOP for short) are patrolling the streets. Again! I stop in my tracks and sprint into the nearest alley. Frightened children, dressed in rags with wide eyes and scrubby faces, scavenged through the rubbish. We had no choice but to leave them there, people could only scrape the money to pay for their own family's food, let alone an orphaned child who would eat anything put in front of them. Suddenly, out of the corner of my eye, I noticed a legal document nailed to the wall. This could only mean one thing. More restrictions! Now it's a 5:00 curfew. I better hurry, they'll use any excuse they can to use their powerful guns, worse, many aren't bothered about excuses.

Looking left to right, always alert to who might be following, I slip surreptitiously into the bombed resistance headquarters, where our meetings are held in the basement, guarded by a team of 5 battle-hardened volunteers. The government get more information every day, time is running out. Their oppression methods are proving quite useful. I entered the room. As soon as I did, they whispered in my ear, "we gather weapons, then we attack at the point when they are most vulnerable". I feel a flutter of hope, then a tidal wave of pessimism. We will never beat them. You're only safe if you have official government protection, that means if you are a spy. And of course, I have no respect for those cowards.

When I get back, my Mum is waiting for me. I have a sinking feeling in my stomach. All the time I have been trying to protect Mum, since Dad left and she began to crumble. I can't help constantly worrying about her, she's in a pit of depression and I can't seem to help her. Her mood symbolises the world around us, where the life we once knew has changed beyond recognition and our world is falling apart.



Pride Month



Did you know that June is Pride Month?

June is the month chosen to celebrate pride as it was the month of the Stonewall riots, the protests that changed gay rights for a lot of people in America and beyond.

It's about people coming together in love and friendship, to show how far gay rights have come, even if in some places there's still some work to be done.

Pride month is about teaching tolerance, education in pride history and continuing to move forward in equality.

It calls for people to remember how damaging homophobia was and still can be.

(<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/52872693>)

It's all about being proud of who you are no matter who you love. If you would like more information about the importance of Pride Month or how it was developed please see the link below: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zhbbvk7>

SUPPORT FOR LGBT+ YOUNG PEOPLE

If you're LGBT+ and aged 12-18, whatever you are going through, Proud Youth will help to support you. You can go to the Proud Youth website <http://www.proudyouth.co.uk/> or follow @ProudYouthWarks on Twitter for details of their weekly virtual Proud Youth groups and other support.

There is also lots of useful advice and information on sexuality and gender identity and its impact on emotional wellbeing on the Childline website.

Keeping Fit!

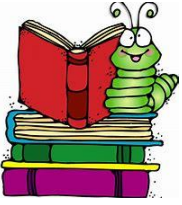
The Fitness Wheel of Fortune

Test yourselves and your family and take a spin to decide which activity to perform out of the many varieties on the wheel.

Each performer should start by spinning once and then progress to 2 or 3 spins back to back to increase the level of difficulty/intensity.

https://shipstonhigh-my.sharepoint.com/:p:/r/personal/stuartlockwood_shipston_high_co_uk/_layouts/15/guestaccess.aspx?share=EaztNRp70pZBiQJwg1Yo9OABcEW09jF_wOlxAsqoPJmalA





Recommended Reads

Each newsletter the English Department will be offering a recommended read for you to enjoy!

The Poet X - Elizabeth Acevedo

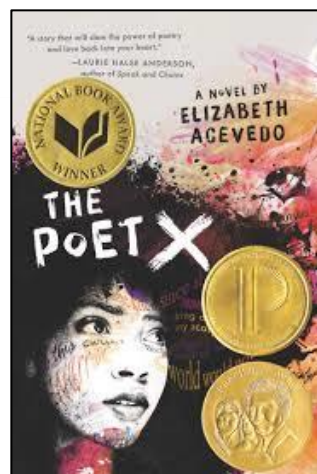
This week's recommended read is going to be the 2019 CILIP Carnegie winning book 'The Poet X' by Elizabeth Acevedo. I felt it would be worthwhile providing a review of this as it is quite topical with the current push for equality that society is striving for. 'The Poet X' follows the story of a young girl called Xiomara, living in Harlem, USA, who discovers the world of slam poetry: a form of competition where people read their poems without any props, costumes, or music. She uses this form to help her understand her mother's religious views alongside her own relationship to the world. Within this story you will follow how Xiomara fights back against a society that will not allow her to love who she wants and oppresses her individuality - and although she stares at the face of a world that may not want to hear her - Xiomara refuses to be silent.

I particularly enjoyed this book because of the open and raw emotions that Xiomara battles with: the beliefs and views of the world that she has been taught. It is a message to all of us to stand up for what we believe in and to find our own voice - not just going along with what others say is 'right'. I am sure that many of you will be able to relate to this book as you may also be under the same pressure yourself as you go through your teenage years. The best thing about this book though, and I am sure it will surprise many of you, is that it is written entirely in poetic verse. That doesn't mean it has strict rhyme schemes and metres throughout; you're not left battling with complicated poetic terms. What you get is a new way of reading a story that pulls you along with all the emotions in it (at first I was pessimistic but I flew through this book in a couple of days). Trust me - you have to try it out!

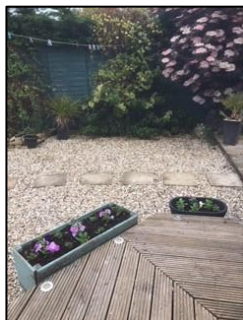
A couple of other books that would be quite relevant to read right now are: *Noughts and Crosses*, and *The Hate U Give*. Both link to our attitudes with equality, in particular with the current Black Lives Matters movement to which the world is currently paying attention.

Happy reading!

Mr R Denham



Teacher Feature



Let's find out how Miss Baker has been keeping herself busy during the evenings and weekends...

I decided that I needed to do something a little more productive, so I have been trying to develop my needlework skills by making different style bags, masks for family and friends and even a summer dress for my niece using old clothing.

When not sat at my sewing machine I have even tried my hand at a little gardening (not my normal past time as it ruins my nails 😊) and of course enjoying some of the sun to get my vitamin D.



Sunflower Activity

This idea comes from Miss Webb.....

Trying to find an activity to keep my daughters entertained for an afternoon; I bought a packet of sunflower seeds. The girls came up with the idea to plant them all and then give them out to the houses down our street with the instructions to plant them in the front garden. The thought was to try and cheer up all the villagers on their daily walk.

Some of you may have received one of the sunflowers. I hope you have planted it? Those of you that aren't lucky enough to live in my street, I thought you may like to take part. Plant a sunflower seed and look after it for the next few weeks. They grow really quickly. Towards the end of term, I would like you to take a picture of you measuring your sunflower so we can see which one grew the tallest! Send your pictures to natashawebb@shipstonhigh.co.uk



Keeping Safe

With lockdown easing it continues to be important to make sure we look after ourselves and each other when out and about and at home. We can work on minimising risk by:

- Making sure we follow physical distancing of 2m when outside of our homes
- Ensuring we wash our hands as often as possible <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tswQXTySS24>
- Wearing a mask if you have to use public transport
- Following government guidance regarding meeting people outside of your household (you can meet up to 5 other people as long as it is not in a person's home).
- Further advice and guidance can be found:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-outbreak-fags-what-you-can-and-cant-do/coronavirus-outbreak-fags-what-you-can-and-cant-do>

Sporting Success!

Some sporting highlights...

Click below for links to news of **Cameron Year 10** and **Freddie Year 10** making the Worcester Warriors set up. Cameron also named in the Scotland Exiles set up.

<https://twitter.com/ShipstonPEDept/status/1257990534850842624>

<https://twitter.com/ShipstonPEDept/status/1257991143599595521>

Shipston Ladies Hockey Club also nominated as team of the year which many of our female students are a part of. This is solely driven by Sarah Davies which should be recognised :-

<https://twitter.com/ShipstonPEDept/status/1266450682569265154>



Rebecca Year 8 is still training very hard with her swimming during lockdown. Tethering in a pool in her back yard!!



Competition Time!

Shipston High Community Competition Challenge!!

So we're 12 weeks into Lockdown. Whether you're tearing your hair out in boredom, or insanely busy because you've discovered a whole host of talents that you never knew you had, we have decided to harness some of the wonderful talent out there and invite everybody (pupils, parents and school staff) to join in on Shipston High's first (but hopefully not last) Community Competition!

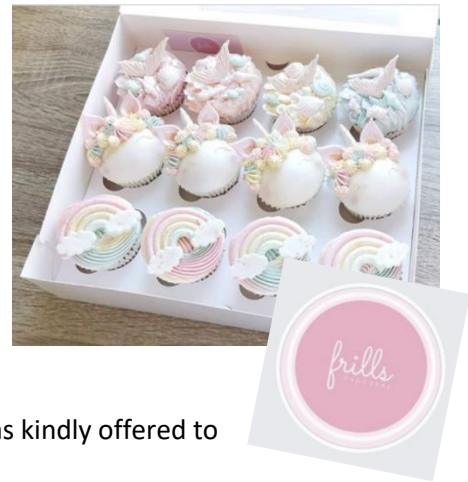
This week we're....

BAKING CAKES!

Get your aprons on and root around in your cupboards for some flour!

We're having three categories:

1. Most original cake decoration
2. Most original flavour combination
3. The cake that makes us smile the most.



Local business woman Abby Timms, owner of Frills Cupcakes, has kindly offered to judge our first competition.

Send in photos of your creations to victoriavalentine@shipstonhigh.co.uk with a small description of your cake(s). We'd like to know the flavours, what inspired you and who was involved in making it!

Future competition ideas that we are throwing around are below, so if you know of a local artist / musician / photographer who would be happy to volunteer their time to judge the entries, then please email victoriavalentine@shipstonhigh.co.uk with their contact details.

- Baking
- Photography
- Art
- Musical Performance
- Photography - Pets / Wildlife
- Poetry / Creative writing
- Gardening
- Sport