

ACS NEWSLETTER

Monday 15 June - Friday 10 July, Issue #25

COVID-19 COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Please click on the links below for
COMMUNITY and EMERGENCY support
information available in your area.

BRENT COUNCIL

EALING COUNCIL

HARROW COUNCIL



Photo: Mr Gerard McKenna BSc(Hons) NPQH

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers

I am pleased to inform you about the arrangements for our school reopening in September 2020. On 2nd July, the Department for Education published guidance for the full reopening of schools in September 2020. The guidance explains that all children should return to school and attendance will be compulsory. Students are required to return on the following dates wearing full school uniform:

Thursday 3rd September: Year 7 and Year 12 Induction

Friday 4th September: Year 7 and Year 12 Induction

Monday 7th September: All students return to school

On Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th September we will stagger the start of the school day so that students do not arrive at the same time. Full details about the start times will be sent later this week. Over the course of these days we will ensure that students are clear about the changes we have made to our school procedures. This is because the Department for Education guidance explains that schools must minimise the number of contacts a child has during the school day. For example, every year group will have a separate playground/social area, each floor has a one-way system and key stage 3 students will be located in a Form Base Room for many of their lessons.

From Wednesday 9th September, all students will arrive at the normal start time of 8:30am. We will maintain the same school day with five one hour lessons, however, we will slightly shorten lunch time so that different year groups will leave school at different times at the end of the day. Please note, the teaching time for every year group will remain the same – students will not lose learning time. Students will also receive a full broad and balanced curriculum – practical subjects such as Drama, Music and Art will continue to be taught in the autumn term.

Dates for your Diary

ALL	Tuesday, 01 September 2020 Staff Training Day - No students in school
ALL	Wednesday, 02 September 2020 Staff Training Day - No students in school
7 12	Thursday, 03 September 2020 Year 7 & 12 Induction
7 12	Friday, 04 September 2020 Year 7 & 12 Induction
ALL	Monday, 07 September 2020 Autumn Term 2020 begins for all years

Also, from September, we have changed the location of some year groups. The new locations will be:

EALING ROAD: Years 7, 8 and 9

STANLEY AVENUE: Years 10 and 11

The Sixth Form will be taught on both sites, with Year 12 mostly taught at Ealing Road and Year 13 at Stanley Avenue.

We are currently producing a parent and student guide to the school procedures in September. We hope to send this out to you later this week. In the meantime, I would like to thank you for all your support with home learning over the past few months as we look forward to a return to school for all students in September. Please check our website regularly for the most up to date information.

Amazing Results in the UKMT Junior Maths Challenge 2020

The Junior Maths Challenge is run by the UK Mathematics Trust and every year Alperton students in years 7 and 8 are selected to participate in this challenge. Usually, students would have found themselves completing a multiple choice set of questions on paper, but for this year they were asked to sit the challenge online for the very first time. In total, 58 of our students successfully participated in the challenge, and 29 of them received fantastic results!

Overall, they achieved 12 bronze certificates, 12 silver certificates and 5 gold certificates. A special mention to Umair (Year 7) and Vivek (Year 8) who got the best score in their year groups, and to Safia (Year 8) who got the best score overall. A huge well done to all the students who participated in the challenge!

National School Sports Week 2020



In June our school took part in the National School Sport Week At Home 2020. Our Sports and Health Department organised some amazing challenges for our students and staff. As a collective group we managed to cycle 427.7 miles to Cravant, France, run 238 miles to Paris, and complete 10,000 steps each day. We also hosted a number of clubs and activities open to all of our school community. It was a fantastic week

celebrating sport and wellbeing activities and a great opportunity for students to connect and compete with their family and friends virtually!

APPLY NOW FOR YOUR FREE SCHOOL MEALS VOUCHERS

Thanks to the inspirational campaign led by footballer Marcus Rashford you are now eligible for free school meals this summer

IT'S EASY TO APPLY

- Children of any age residing in households on income-related benefits are eligible to apply
- Each family will get a one-off voucher that can be spent in supermarkets each week to buy meals or ingredients.

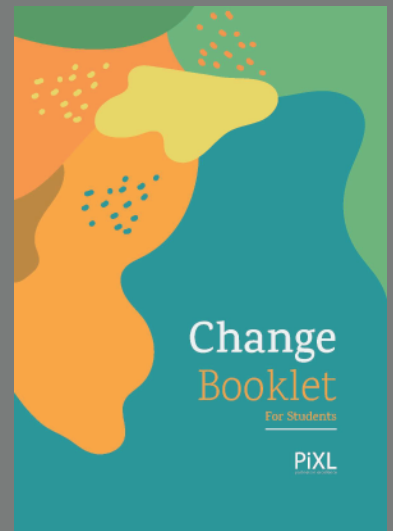
[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO](#)



Coping with change

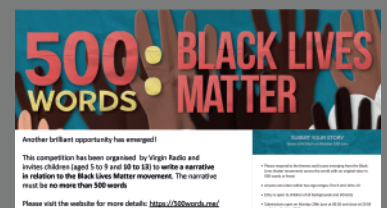
Are you finding it difficult to cope with all the changes caused by the Coronavirus?

Check out the student booklet below from PiXL with helpful information and advice on how to cope with change.



BLM 500 words competition

Don't miss your chance to take part in this fantastic competition organised by Virgin Radio, which invites students to write a narrative in relation to the Black Lives Matter movement. The narrative must be no more than 500 words. For more details, please click on the image below:



How to set up parental control

Please [click here](#) to check out an interactive guide with practical instructions on how to set parental controls on most devices to help keep your children safe online.

Safeguarding newsletter

Our Safeguarding Newsletter will be published later this week. Please remember to check our safeguarding page on the website for the latest news and information.



Safeguarding Newsletter

Words of the week



WEEK BEGINNING

13 July 2020

migrate

minimum

ministry

motivate

neutral

Art as Expression and Tool for Change

Our Art & Design Department created this brilliant and thought-provoking presentation on the theme of 'Art as Expression and Tool for Change' which includes some of the most impressive entries from our Black Lives Matter art competition. Click on the image below to view the presentation.

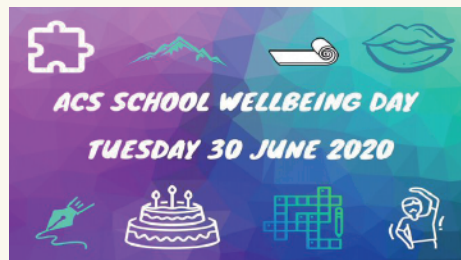


ACS celebrates Maths Week London

During Maths Week London our Year 7 and Year 8 students were given the opportunity to participate in two maths competitions hosted by Sumdog and TTRockstars. Congratulations to Aniksha Jignesh who achieved 14th place out of 8,672 participants and to Vithunan Wijayabalachandran who scored 2207 points and was the most active user during the TTRockstars competition. We also had eight classes who had five or more students logging into Sumdog during the competition

period and 7KN2 took the lead out of all ACS classes with 223 points, followed very closely by 7KN3 with 219 points. Our year 7 students were actively engaging with the Mangahigh website throughout the month and the students who scored the most points were: Dhairya Shah (255 points), Dhyey Rajendra (233 points) and Aniksha Jignesh (200 points). A huge well done to all the students who engaged with the opportunities presented to them during this month and during Maths Week London.

Staff and students take part in an excellent and engaging Wellbeing Day at home



A big thank you to everyone who took part in our Wellbeing Day on Tuesday 30 June and made it such a success. Students and staff had an amazing time! Some of the activities they participated in were: yoga, mindfulness, chess, baking, therapeutic writing workshops and much more. Well done everyone and many thanks to the organisers!

KUMON MATHS & ENGLISH STUDY CENTRE



DON'T MISS OUT ON
FREE
REGISTRATION

**Learning together
at home**

We are a local Maths and English Study Centre that has been running for over 14 years. We can offer all children at Alperton Community School Free Registration at Kumon Wembley Central, saving £45. We are currently offering free online 1:1 assessments and Kumon classes are currently being run online too. The Kumon programme builds confidence in secondary school children by encouraging independent study, helping to create homework routines, and taking ownership of their own study.

Contact us on tel 0208 426 1222 or email Wembleycentral@kumoncentre.co.uk
Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram @kumonwembley

DISCLAIMER - The content provided is for informational purposes only and should not be taken as an endorsement of any kind by the School.

Geography Newsletter

Welcome to our newsletter!

It is an absolute pleasure to launch our first geography newsletter. We started this project because we wanted to help you be in touch with your local and global geographies. Please make sure you read the work done by our students but also explore these themes by clicking on the hyperlinks which are all underlined. Let us know what you think, we are looking for ideas, opinions and thoughts.

Country Profile - Italy

by Aryan 8S



Native flowers - Oleanders, Bougainvillea, Jasmine, Crocus, Cyclamen, Bluebell, Violets, Periwinkles, Alpine Pasque Flower, Spring Gentians, Aquilegia, Aster Alpinus, Convolvulus, Cornflower, Cosmos Bipinnatus, Dahlia Semplicegazania, Geranium A Grandi Fiori, Giant Daisy Margherita.

Native Fruit- limes, lemons, oranges and cedro.

Native Animals- Eurasian lynx, Italian wolf, Marsican brown bear, Pyrenean chamois, Alpine ibex, common genet, axis deer, mouflon, rough-toothed dolphin, crested porcupine and Mediterranean monk seal.

Photography and Geography

If you like geography and photography this is a great opportunity. The Geographical Association is running a physical geography photo competition. Check out the poster with examples here and more information here.

.....

Have a look at our Environment Day Winners!

Climate Change Conference

On Saturday 4th July - young people from around the world will come together for a day of online discussions and workshops. Gain skills and get informed to take action against the climate and ecological emergency. Sign up here to receive more information and be part of The BIG Climate Teach-In.



Local Geography - River Brent

by Ms Vianna

You have probably seen River Brent about half a mile south of our school. It has quite a narrow channel at this point, so a lot of times it goes unnoticed. However, this is an important river as it is a tributary of river Thames and it is 17.9 miles in length. The source is in Hendon – North London and along its course there are a number of parks and nature reserves. In fact, you can walk almost the entire length of the river! Wouldn't that be a nice weekend plan?

Source: Wikipedia

Image: Ms Vianna when trying to do that walk!



Wider Geography - Kew Gardens

by Antany 7P

Let Kew Gardens nourish your senses as the flowers around bloom with happiness. Kew Gardens is a place to relax, enjoy and nurture the world around you and nature. It is supposedly one of the most attractive places in the UK and also in the world. Kew Gardens includes more than 50,000 different plants in its living collection, and over 7 million preserved specimens.

Source and Image: Kew Gardens Website.

Also, check out the website Antany created!

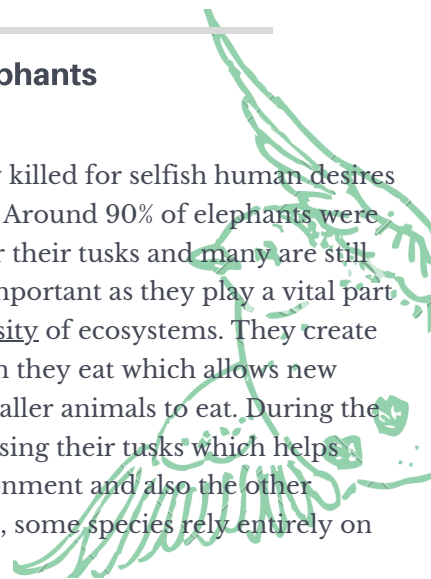


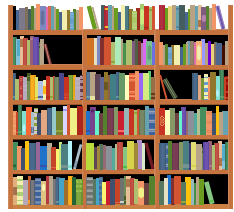
Global Geography - Elephants

by Urvashi 10P

Elephants are being brutally killed for selfish human desires stealing their tusk for ivory. Around 90% of elephants were killed in the past century for their tusks and many are still dying. Elephants are very important as they play a vital part in maintaining the biodiversity of ecosystems. They create gaps in the vegetations when they eat which allows new plants to grow and helps smaller animals to eat. During the dry season, they dig water using their tusks which helps them survive the dry environment and also the other animals who live there. Also, some species rely entirely on them for seed dispersal.

Source and Image: WWF





EALING
ROAD

LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

JUL
2020

Poetry Competition Winners!

Thank you and well done to all of you who submitted entries to the poetry competition! We had a huge number of entries from all year groups and it was wonderful to see your creativity and hear about your experiences at home during lockdown. A big thank you to Mr Osmany for organising and leading the judging - keep your eye out for a celebration of all your literacy creations soon. **Scroll down to read the winning poems!**



Cressida Cowell's Creativity



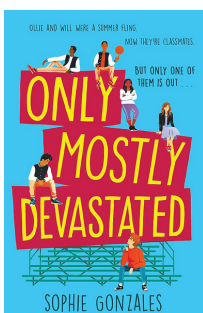
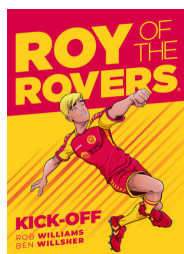
'Summer Camp'

Author of *How to Train Your Dragon* Cressida Cowell hosted a virtual 'creativity summer camp'. Click [here](#) to watch all of the writing and drawing masterclasses, with authors and illustrators including Jason Reynolds, Onjali Q. Rauf, Zanib Mian, Sharna Jackson and Patrice Lawrence. Keep an eye out for more videos being added each day!



Free Roy of the Rovers eComic!

[Click here](#) to read two free *Roy of the Rovers* comics, which follow 16 year old Roy, who tries his luck playing football for the Melchester Rovers.



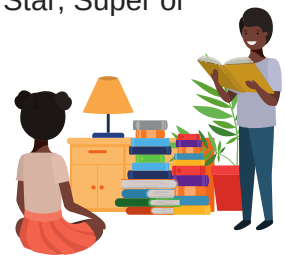
SOCIAL DISTANCING STUDENT BOOK REVIEWS!

'Ollie and Will get together during the summer but sadly Ollie had to move and Will stopped texting back....will they see each other again? It's an amazing read and it shows that you should give people second chances, because who knows what could happen? I want to recommend it to anyone who's likes romance and drama. It's my favourite book and it could be yours - I couldn't even put it down.' - Ashanti Reid, 8T

[Click here](#) to post your own book review on the ACS Book Review Wall!

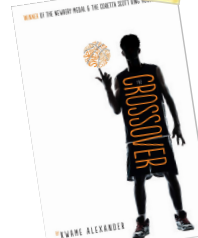
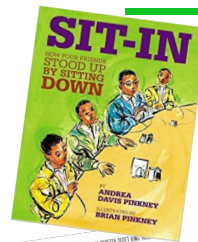
Summer Reading Challenge!

It's time for the 2020 Summer Reading Challenge! Like last year, you'll have the opportunity to choose the Star, Super or ULTIMATE reading challenge. Remember that achievement points are awarded for every entry! All details are on the VIP Zone.



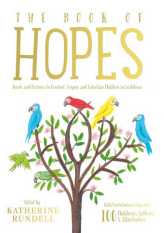
Black Lives Matter - New Audiobooks

Following the death of George Floyd and subsequent Black Lives Matter protests in America and across the world, audible have released some [new free audiobooks](#) that celebrate Black voices and history. They include Kwame Alexander's *The Crossover* which tells of basketball and brotherhood, and *Say Her Name*, a collection of poems paying tribute to the activists behind the Black Lives Matter movement.



The Book of Hopes

Rooftoppers author Katherine Rundell has collated an extraordinary collection of short stories, poems, essays and pictures from more than 110 children's writers and illustrators, including Lauren Child, Anthony Horowitz, Greg James and Chris Smith, Michael Morpurgo, Liz Pichon, Axel Scheffler, and Jacqueline Wilson. The collection is dedicated to the doctors, nurses, carers, porters, cleaners and everyone currently working in hospitals. [Click here](#) to read the eBook for free.



Poetry Competition 2020 - 'Home'

Winning Poems



Year 7

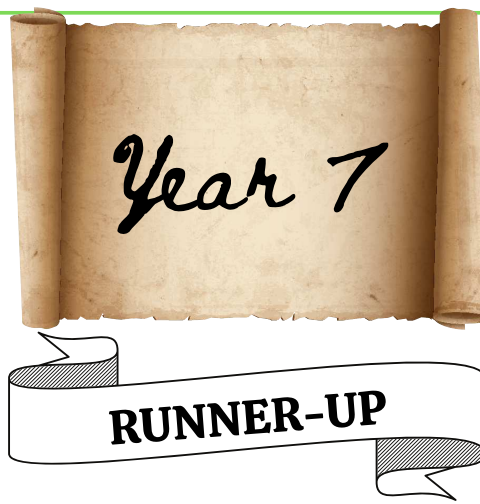
WINNER!

HOME

Beautiful home
Where I like to roam.
It is a safe place
Which I embrace
With all my heart
We can never be apart.

Wonderful home
It's like a big dome
Where I can read a book
With lots of things to look.
It's the thing I long for
The thing that gives more
HAPPINESS.

Milad Ahmadi 7Q



QUITE CHAOTIC

it's boring staying at home, isn't it?

quite chaotic.

everyone's running around the stores like a snake and mice.

quite chaotic.

just staying at home and using the devices as usual.

quite chaotic.

the parents out must be tired keeping their kids at home.

quite chaotic.

they can't even be bothered to get up and kick a ball.

quite chaotic.

all we do is sit in one place and play games or do online

school or go on your phone.

quite chaotic.

having to touch water every hour of our lives.

quite chaotic.

if we all stay at home, hopefully everything would end!

STAY AT HOME!

Sharjana Dinesh 7W



What Is Home?

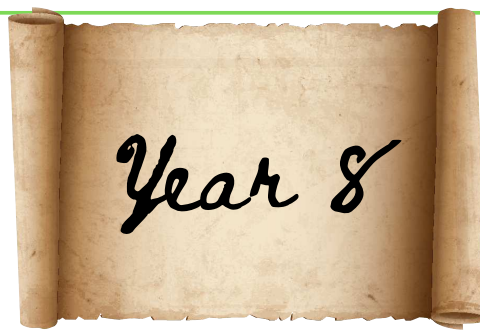
What is a home?
I ask myself that day and night,
A boy I met, who wasn't too bright,
He opened my eyes and I began to roam.
Many I met had different views yet none were wrong nor right.

Some say home is the aroma of a mother's cooking,
The silent sound of the page turning on daily paper,
But I'm still here in the wild, looking,
Walking down the streets, gazing up to the mighty skyscraper.

Another I had met said home is with family and friends,
Hard to believe such people truly exist.
I would love to meet them and tie the loose ends,
Yet I simply keep walking in the endless, thick mist.

However my quest has not yet come to an end,
I will travel from Paris to Rome,
Maybe on the way I can find a friend,
And at long last relax in my home sweet home.

Pranchi Vishvesh 8P



I Know I Am Home

As I step inside, the smell of my mother's cooking meets me at the porch, I inhale the aroma so distinctive, I know I am home.

As I throw myself on the couch, comfy and warm, after a long tiring day at school, I know I am home.

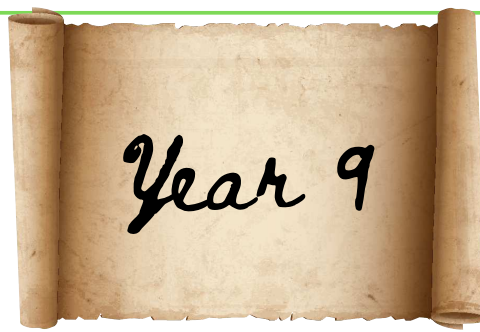
The sounds of my siblings screaming in disagreements, followed swiftly by their laughs, I know I am home.

The walls carry years worth of memories together framed in a glass box, I stare and I smile reminiscing the good old days, I know I am home.

Hearing Dad's hysterical yet idiotic jokes which no-one laughs at, the sound of the looming silence, I know I am home.

Home where my family is, where my happiness lies, where I feel safe. Home, forever my favourite place.

Rima Bhandari 8V



Suffocate

Home

Home is where my heart is
Is it?

It's only 4 walls
But each breath is taking
Just a little more

Of the will
To smile that is certainly
becoming a chore

It's just 4 walls
They say but each one
Echoes with my pain

Unbearable day by day.

The tears that find
Their way out by night
Drowned out by laughs

Of glee and delight
During daylight, stay
Won't you stay?

I watch as the clock tick tocks
Staring into empty space
As I realize I'm stuck

Home.

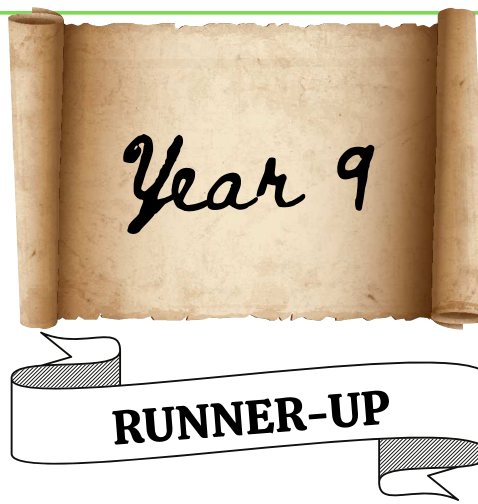
Warm fires and cosy beds
Starry nights
light up my sight

Safe and sound
Or stuck in a hollow
Playground

Spiralling out of
Control, I keep
Going on in circles

Alone.

In my home
Home is where my heart is
Is it?



Home

These painted bricks
Filled with memories
The love and laughter
The tears and anger.

We come from different places
but we're all made the same
We may be different
But in many ways, there's no change.

Where is home?
Here or up there?

We may not sound or look the same
but we are caught on the same page.

They say home is where the heart is
other's say it's where you get paid.

Boxes moved around,
others stayed put.
You are you
it's just a different book.

Zoe Hopkins 9Q



Home Sweet Home

Winter, summer, autumn, spring,
I am the one you live within,
Everyday in happiness we sing,
I am your castle and you are my king,

I always have the rooftop for my hat,
For my shoes there lays a mat,
Everyday you pull back the curtains and open my eyes,
Together we look at the beautiful world, see the sun rise,

You and me, we make a team,
living life together like a dream,
Like a mother, my hair you comb
I'm here forever, your home sweet home

Riyaben Patel 10P



Heart of Home

Home is all we have left,
She lights colours in your life that are bereft.
She's filled with delightful memories,
And love from different centuries.
A place with her own heart and mind,
Where you and your family will bind.

Home is all we have left,
She lights colours in your life that are bereft.
She's the shoulder to cry on after all the despair,
When everything's lost, she will be there to care.
A place full of comfort while you're in pain,
Not looking for any gain.

Home is all we have left,
She lights colours in your life that are bereft.
She's our peace and beauty,
Waits for us everyday to fulfil her duty.
A place where we are dearly attached,
There is nothing that can be matched.

She shelters you.
Loves you unconditionally too.
She is defined by you.
A place where you grew.
Home is all we have left,
She lights colours in your life that are bereft.
The Heart of Home.

Urvashi Ullas 10P



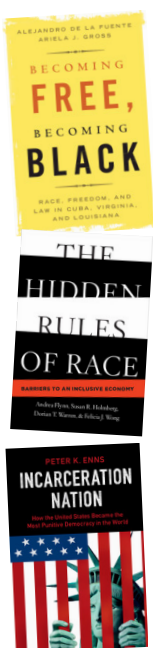
STANLEY
AVENUE

LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

JUL
2020

Poetry Competition Winners!

Thank you and well done to all of you who submitted entries to the poetry competition! We had a huge number of entries from all year groups and it was wonderful to see your creativity and hear about your experiences at home during lockdown. A big thank you to Mr Osmany for organising and leading the judging - keep your eye out for a celebration of all your literacy creations soon. **Scroll down to read the winning poems!**



Cambridge University Press release free Race, Protest & Policing Books

Following the death of George Floyd and subsequent Black Lives Matter protests in America and across the world, Cambridge University Press have released a number of their books on race, protest and policing for free. You can access the PDFs of these books, including those pictured left, in the VIP zone.

Imperial College London Science Recommended Reads

Staff, ambassadors and academics from Imperial College London have released a recommended reading list that covers the sciences, mechanical engineering, medicine, maths and more - click [here](#) to take a look.



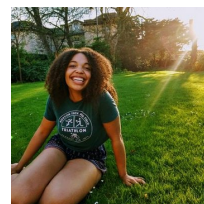
Summer Reading Challenge

It's time for the 2020 Summer Reading Challenge! Achievement points are awarded for every entry - all details are on the VIP Zone.



New Penguin Talks!

The fantastic Penguin Talks series has new recordings to offer! Click [here](#) to learn **How to Boss Your Mood** with a clinical hypnotherapist & performance coach who share how to manage anxiety and take control of your mood in uncertain times. Click [here](#) to watch **How to Embrace Your Intersectionality**, in which LGBTQ+ criminal barrister Mohsin Zaidi and YouTuber and disability activist Jessica Kellgreen-Fozard discuss their intersectionality and how we can embrace our identity. If the world of books interests you career-wise, click [here](#) to watch **How to Get into Publishing** with Penguin employees Simon Armstrong and Hannah Chukwu.



Listen around your subject! Podcast Edition #4



If you study **Sociology**, anti-racism educator Layla F. Saad's [The Good Ancestor Podcast](#) interviews change-makers and culture-shapers to explore what it means to be a good ancestor. For **History** try [Slow Burn](#) - each series takes a forensic look at a key event or moment in history. So far they have examined the Watergate scandal, Bill Clinton's impeachment and the murders of Tupac and the Notorious B.I.G. But if you need a break from anything study related, try [Still Processing](#)'s culture chat, or fascinating interviews on NPR's [Fresh Air](#) and journalist Elizabeth Day's [How to Fail](#).

SOCIAL DISTANCING

STUDENT BOOK REVIEWS!

Even though school's out, you can still share reviews of any books you've read whilst at home! [Click here](#) to access the ACS Book Review Wall where you can post a short review.

Poetry Competition 2020 - 'Home'

Winning Poems



Year 11
& 12

WINNER!

Home

My hands are steady as I write this
Difficulty in stating how I feel in times of
crisis
What a complex climate to be around
Feels like a tidal wave has overcome and
drowned the sound of everything and
anything.

Home is a state of mind
This I cannot deny
I struggle to find the time to fight injustice
and not want to cry
I do not want to waste any time

You and I we understand the sentiment
Black Lives Matter rhetoric
You and I came here under stress
Sell your soul to keep breathing
yet we are still under duress

Swimming in a sea of indifference
The only things being emitted
a lack of wanting to do better
We can fix all of their errors
You and I we do not have to lie

I turn the T.V. on and I want to see
superheroes
Yet I see another Zero, another
stat, another body.
This is the story of you and I
I have tears in my eyes, I empathise

But keep your head high, you and I
We have history to rewrite
We have tears of joys left to cry
You and I we are not another statistic

Home is a state of mind
This I cannot deny
We will find the time
fight injustice and not cry

My hands are no longer steady
I am ready to begin.

Samira Ali
LS4

Year 11
& 12

RUNNER-UP

Home

Its said to be a lingering feeling,
Of peace and unconditional love and healing
But how can we heal in an environment that we
keep abusing?

Yes, home is an emotional connection but,
How can we live without breathing?
The breath of life, unconditionally gifted to us by
the earth
Through food, shelter, medicine, water and
oxygen.

The one who birthed and nurtured us when we
were bleeding.

How can we be so unfeeling?
Masses of our natures gone,
To manufacture the devils way of dealing
And soon we will all be left kneeling,
Begging and screaming for forgiveness but the
earth won't do much giving.

It is your fault too.

Using the world like a credit card with no limit
Taking advantage of its water and sacred beings
For your favourite brand to test its "beauty
potions"
But nothing in this world will ever make you
beautiful if
you don't show your emotions.
Ripping through habitats and killing God's
creations

To even build plantations and devaluing their
aspirations

How have we become such an abomination?

But the earth is so forgiving. Can you also be more
willing?

To put an end to mass deforestation without
negotiation

By making donations and taking down evil
corporations.

And reducing your plastic usage and your life
threatening carbon

Footprint as it's time that we take action!

Listen to me, its urgent.
Our world is burning down and hurting.
Our days on earth are numbered,
And if we do not change, our world will no longer
be
coloured,
Not because of natural disasters, but because we
are the hazard.

We are all empowered but soon we will be
overpowered
By our poisonous decisions and blunders.

I hope one day we
will all be able to truly say: "Our home has
recovered!"

Adelina Ciobanu

11Q

Year 13

WINNER!

The Island Home

I was gifted a little island,
and the finest human senses
So I built myself a little hut,
with no knowledge of man's later fences

I was gifted the concept of love,
companions I could call my own
So I extended my roots and my branches,
so more spirits could find their way home

I was gifted small hearts so pure,
new fruit with new seeds to sow
So I shared my knowledge of which I was sure
would help our island to grow

I had given them all my ideas,
hoping that our small island sustains
But they started to clog all the rivers,
and they started to shoo off the rain

I had given the island my body,
what was in me to give back to growth
I was little - one of many beings,
yet now helped form the green island's coast

I had given them years of my living,
adding on to years gifted to them
But they lost me in fogged-up perception,
and the skies now began to descend

The island gave them all its body,
so they tore power off its skin
And they drew from its veins and hacked at its
flesh,

without thinking they killed unborn kin

The island gave them signs aplenty,
peeled its scalp to help tears overflow
But the beings on it did not worry at all,
(their power bought them safety, you know!)

The island is close to its finish,
hurt its people to get them to see
If they continued it wouldn't just wound the land,
but its dear family of people would bleed

The island stays chained at the neck,
mutilated with borders and war
Once supported their steps and conditioned the air,
but for their selfish needs trunks were torn

The island fighting to survive,
is slaved away most selfishly
Quivering with loss of old strength,
"I'll be gone before you, don't you see?"

They won't stop 'til they burn it to ashes,
paradoxical ways that they won't leave alone
In the forest they left wounds and gashes,
as they fired their bullets they riddled the coast

I was gifted a little island,
yes it may seem as if long ago
But past lives grew flowers and shared their good
home,
and now nothing and no-one can grow

Jasmeen Torgul
US4

Year 13

RUNNER-UP

The Paradox

Home-

The four walls I'm enclosed in
Where thoughts are but an ongoing fantasy
Lies being at the epicentre of one's mind
As I step into what they call my safe haven,
My arms tense
Swarmed by the echoes of doubt that scream
out of my pores
I am reminded of what little happiness in life
means to teens
Reminded of the lack of sleep and motivation
one endures
My mind dances to the thought of escaping
this nightmare by entering my bed-
Only to simmer so seamlessly into another
Insomnia
Have you heard of it?
Recounting and rewinding my day constantly
to let my duvet feel some sympathy
Just some
To hold me tight enough so this episode can
pass
So my palpitating chest can ease this night
Just this night
My pillow, holding years of agony
No, but this is just one of my mood swings
right?
Thought not

The living room-

Upon each carefully constructed fold in the
brocade curtains,
The floor I ruined with my dirty shoes,
The sunken in sofa
There-
There stands my family,
The deafening noise reminds you of the
personal zoo you keep close to your heart
Where eyes light up joyfully
Hearts imprinted in one's mind
The dead flowers I kept up here are
breathing again
The light touch of my mother's voice has lit
up my soul again
This is where my heart lay
Amongst the sombre extremities of what I
called life,
the shattered image of oneself,
Emotional pain that bruised my skin
I learnt that in this home-
I was loved
I felt that little happiness my soul had
missed outside the premises of my home
Because home is where my heart is
And where it is buried.

Fatima Elmi
US5