



## A Message from Our Head of Year 10

As I write this, there is a palpable sense of hope within the school community. We are preparing to welcome back our students in years 12, 13 and 14 on Monday and we very much hope that the rest of the year groups will return after Easter. Somewhat poetically, this fresh start coincides with the season of Spring. Indeed, the daffodils are putting on their grand display around the school grounds and the days are getting longer and brighter.

With this sense of optimism must come a word of warning. None of us can expect to pick up where we left off and for things to just immediately return to 'normal'. Students (and staff) may justifiably be anxious about returning to school after a prolonged period of absence and it will take some time to adjust. However, the whole school community adjusted remarkably well to the enforced period of remote learning and we are more than capable of re-adjusting to life back in school.

I cannot let this opportunity pass without a special mention to the Year 10 students and their families, many of whom I have had direct contact with over the last few months. I am in awe at how you are all coping with the general situation together with your own unique circumstances. I am sincerely thankful for all your support and I truly hope that we are able to welcome all our students back after Easter.

If I could offer a few words of advice for our returning students, they would include the following.

- 1) Take everything a step at a time – don't rush or try to think that everything needs to be done at once.
- 2) Support each other and take time to chat (about anything and everything) with your friends and teachers.
- 3) Remember that it's ok to feel a little scared about things but also remember that you have the resilience to embrace this fresh start and make the very most of the opportunities that lie ahead.

We are all very much looking forward to seeing everyone on their return.

*Dr Nigel Morewood (Head of Year 10)*



A huge welcome back to all our Year 12, 13 and 14 students who return back to school today. We are so happy to have you all back with us!!!! We hope you enjoy your morning reconnecting with your friends and teachers and we are looking forward to the presentation by Life Coach and Careers Adviser Helen Quinn on how to maintain our wellbeing, given the challenges we are all continuing to face during the pandemic.



**Drama**

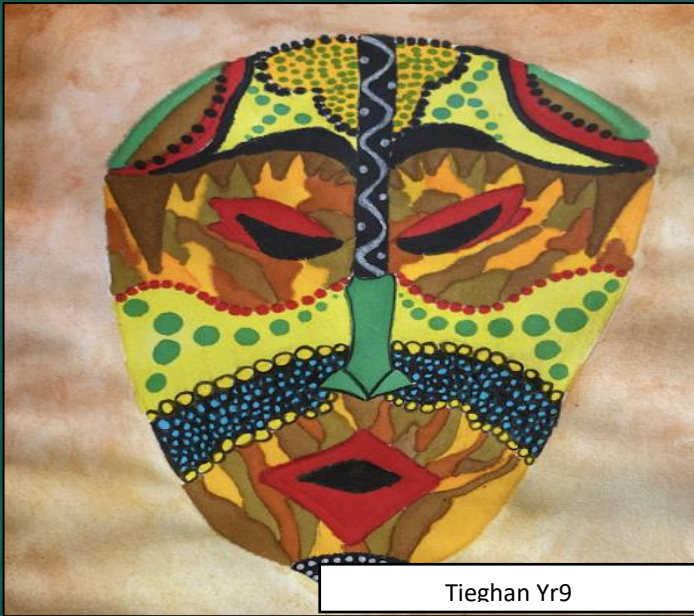
Well done to Year 10 Drama who are currently working on designing costumes for the main characters in Sparkle Shark. All your costume designs will make an excellent display for our classroom when we get back to school.

**Star Artists Gallery**

We continue to be amazed by the creative talents of our girls during lockdown. Just take a look at this selection of fantastic pieces of art work from the last week. Well done girls and keep the great work up!!!

9D and 9E have been focusing on the design and culture of African Tribal masks, and Picasso's African period. They have designed their own African tribal mask using Picasso's style to influence them.

**Sparkleshark** ✨



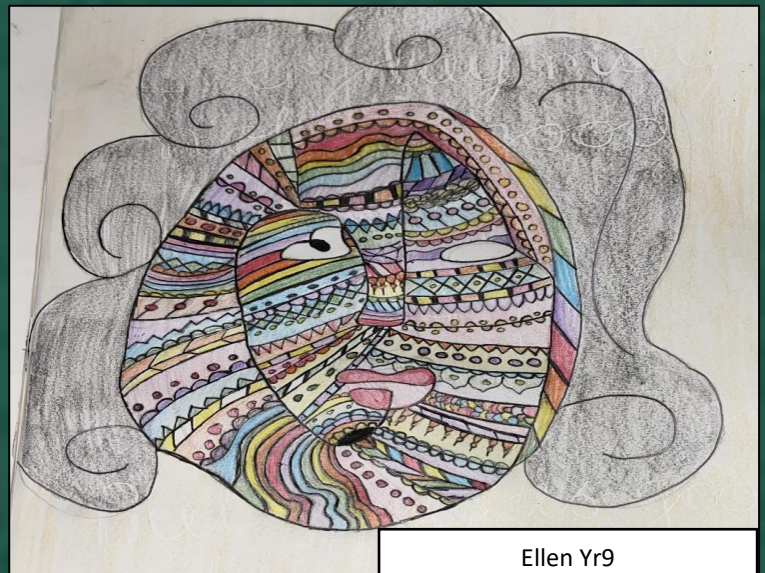
Tieghan Yr9



Chrissie Yr9



Sarah Yr9



Ellen Yr9



Amber Yr9



Alana Yr9



Alannagh Yr9



Clodagh Yr9



Caitlin Yr9



Roma Yr9



Emma Yr9

Ava Yr9



Fantastic work by our KS3 girls over the last week of lockdown in History. Our Year 8's have produced some amazing entries for the Model Tipi Competition while the Year 10's have produced some great inspiring women presentations! Keep up the brilliant work!!!



Why I chose Ruth Bader Ginsberg

Ruth Bader Ginsberg was born on the 15th March 1923. She was an American lawyer and jurist who served as an associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States for twenty seven years. She served on the court for thirteen years until 1993 when Bill Clinton nominated her to the Supreme Court of the United States. She began her career as a justice where she left off as an advocate, fighting for women's rights. She is a huge inspiration to me as I want to be a lawyer when I grow up and because of how hard she fought for women's rights. She wrote many books during her lifetime. Ruth Bader Ginsberg is widely regarded as a feminist icon. Among her many activist actions during her legal career, she worked to uphold legislation that discriminated based on one's gender, she was a founding counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union's Women's Rights Project, she designed and taught law courses on gender discrimination laws. She was the second woman and first Jewish woman ever appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court. After serving on the court for 27 years she sadly passed away on the 18th September 2020, aged 87. She passed away from problems of pancreatic cancer. She may not be here anymore but her huge legacy is.

### Michelle Obama

"When they go low, we go high"



- Born in south side of Chicago
- born 17th of January 1964
- brought up in a working class community
- went to Princeton university (1981-85)
- went to Harvard law (1985-88)

"We can't afford to wait for the world to be equal"

Michelle Obama is much more than Barack Obama's wife. She was THE FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN FIRST LADY!!! (2009-2017)

She's done a Let's Move campaign to raise awareness for poverty, education, nutrition and healthy eating to stop child obesity

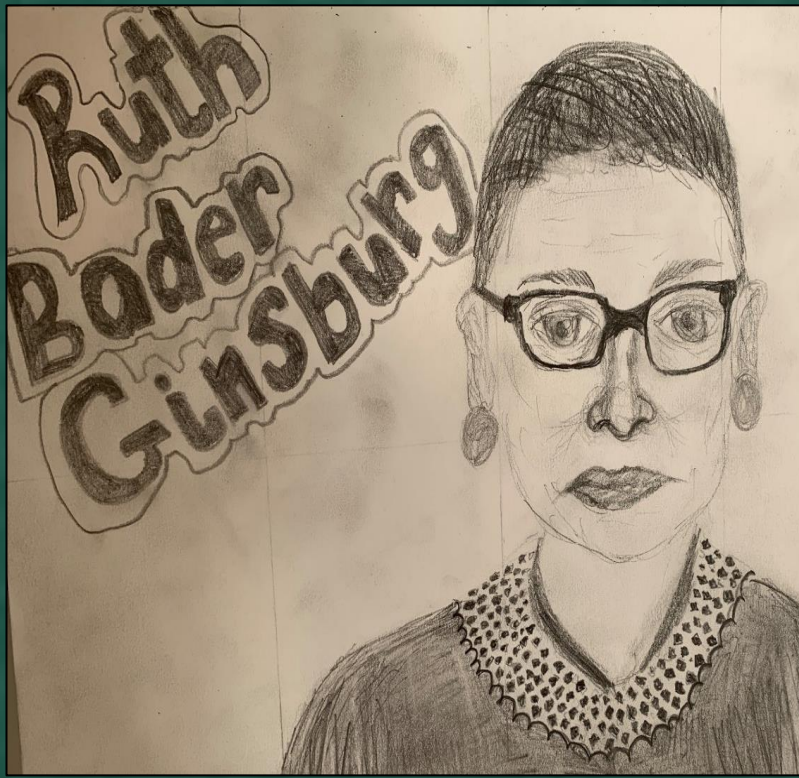


She is;

- lawyer
- entrepreneur
- mother of 2
- wife
- author

"A ROLE MODEL FOR WOMEN"

"So little of who I am in this 8 years, so much more of who I was happened before!"



Some of Ruth Bader Ginsburg's most famous quotes

"My mother told me to be a lady. And for her, that meant to be your own person, be independent!"

"Women will only have true equality when men share with them the responsibility of bringing up the next generation!"

"I said on the equality side of it, that it is essential to a women's equality with men that she be the decision-maker, that her choice be controlling!"

"The state controlling a woman would mean denying her full autonomy and full equality!"

### Emma Watson



**Emma Charlotte Duerre Watson** (born 15 April 1990) is an English actress, model, and activist.

Born in Paris and raised in Oxfordshire, Watson attended the Dragon School and trained in acting at the Oxford branch of Stagecoach Theatre Arts. As a child, she rose to stardom after landing her first professional acting role as Hermione Granger in the *Harry Potter* film series, having acted only in school plays previously.

Emma Charlotte Duerre Watson was born on 15 April 1990 in Paris, to English lawyers Chris Watson and Jacqueline Luesby. Watson lived in Maisons-Laffitte near Paris until age five. Her parents divorced when she was young, and Watson moved to England to live with her mother in Oxfordshire while spending weekends at her father's house in London. Watson has said she speaks some French, though "not as well" as she used to. After moving to Oxford with her mother and brother, she attended the Dragon School, remaining there until 2003. From age six, she wanted to become an actress, and trained at the Oxford branch of Stagecoach Theatre Arts, a part-time theatre school where she studied singing, dancing, and acting.

After the final *Harry Potter* film, she took on a supporting role in *My Week with Marilyn* (2011), before starring in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012) opposite Logan Lerman and *The Bling Ring* (2013) alongside an ensemble cast, both to critical acclaim. In 2014, Watson played the titular character's adoptive daughter in the biblical epic *Noah* and was honoured by the British Academy of Film and Television Arts, winning British Artist of the Year. She starred as Belle in the musical romantic fantasy *Beauty and the Beast* (2017), which ranks among the highest-grossing films of all time, and Meg March in the coming-of-age drama *Little Women* (2019), which was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Picture. Other notable film roles include *This Is the End* (2013), *Regression*, *Colonia* (both 2015), and *The Circle* (2017).

Watson is an outspoken feminist. She has promoted education for girls, travelling to Bangladesh and Zambia to do so. In July 2014, she was appointed a UN Women Goodwill ambassador.



### Foyle Women's Aid Staff Fundraising

Well done to our canteen staff who undertook fundraising to support Foyle Women's Aid. A fantastic effort to support a very deserving cause!



### Home Economics

Well done to our KS3 pupils who have been using St. Patrick's Day and Ireland as their inspiration in the kitchen this week. Super work girls. Great work!



## Get Blogging Workshops



If you are aged 14 to 16 years and would like to #GetBloggingNI then you should consider registering for the free online learning programme by Libraries NI and Training Matchmaker called 'Get Blogging'.

libraries ni Free

Libraries NI and Training Matchmaker present

### Get Blogging

Zoom Workshops for 14 - 16 year olds

<b>Course 1</b> 24, 26 and 30 March 7:00pm - 8:30pm	<b>Course 2</b> 25, 29 and 31 March 7:00pm - 8:30pm
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Booking essential - [bit.ly/GetBlogging1](https://bit.ly/GetBlogging1)    Booking essential - [bit.ly/GetBlogging2](https://bit.ly/GetBlogging2)

**BLOG**



## Youth Culture & Peace Summit



Huge congratulations to 2 of our students: Cara McAnaney Year 12 and Patrick Omondi McCloskey Year 13 who acted as co-hosts for the North West Migrants Forum, Youth Culture and Peace Summit which took place on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021 from 6-8pm.

*"In this day and age diversity should be the forefront of everything, as without it, we as a society cannot progress forward."*

(Cara McAnaney)

*"Young people's voices must be heard. History has his eyes on all of us."*

(Patrick Omondi McCloskey)



**YOUTH CULTURE AND PEACE SUMMIT**  
18 March 2021- 6 pm to 8 pm  
**Co-host announcement**



**Cara McAnaney**



**YOUTH CULTURE AND PEACE SUMMIT**  
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**Patrick Omondi**

*let your dreams be bigger than your fears  
& your actions louder than your words.*