



The New Gilbertian

| Autumn Term | 2021 | Issue #10

Welcome Back Gilbertdians!



BY CAIDEN JACKSON



Last year was a hard year for anybody to join a secondary school as restrictions were put in place due to COVID. I was one of those people.

Coming back to school as a year 8 offered a lot more opportunities as I took my next steps in the Gilbert school.

I have joined clubs such as, boys vocals on a Friday; school production on a Tuesday and a Thursday; and cadets on a Wednesday. These are all amazing clubs that have opened a whole new door of opportunities for me and I think everyone should

give clubs a chance.

I was excited about joining year 8 as I had

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The New Gilberdian

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Reporting

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DESIGN

Comic Strip Artist:

Izaak Curtis

Artwork:

Freja Olsen—Allen

ADDITIONAL THANKS

The New Gilberdian founded by

Mr. T. Ratchiffe

Mr. P. Olley



found out school life was going back to normal and I felt more confident in the school environment.

Although I was feeling more confident about starting year 8 I was also a bit worried, as I know this is the year I have to make my decisions for my GCSEs. I am still trying to figure out which of my subjects to choose, as these are especially important choices that will impact me later on in my life.

I can't wait to see all the new awards and badges that are available in

year 8. I'm hoping to gain my silver pip at the end of the year and possibly some badges from all of the new clubs opening up to me. The thing I think I am looking forward to the most, though, is the school production, as I have got a part that I am proud of.

I hope you are enjoying the Gilberd as much as I am!

Take a look at the clubs and opportunities available to you.



Joining Year 7

BY SUMMER HALLS



When joining Year 7 everyone has their own personal feelings about this new start; leaving our old school for a new one.

Personally, for me, this was quite a challenge to go through. I came up to the Gilberd school alone, only knowing one or two people and having to start not knowing what I should expect on my first day (2nd of September).

Due to covid-19, our induction day was

unfortunately cancelled; not allowing us to look around the school until summer school, which I could not attend due to having covid. Therefore, I only knew what I had been told from other students that went to the Gilberd school. Our year 11 mentors helped massively: showing us around the school and helping when needed. All of the teachers that were around school also helped a lot to settle us in on our first few days. Due to all the help we received in this time, we were able to relax into the school and learn our way around..

Meeting new people was also a challenge for me since I had only known the same class for 7 Years. But, when I first met my form group it was like I had known them for a long time.

Now that I have settled into the Gilberd school and finished my

first half term here, I could not imagine being anywhere else or even in a different form group.

Thank you to all the staff and students who have helped us settle into the school and I cannot wait for my years ahead of me at the Gilberd.

Interview with Ms Wren

BY JEM HINCHCLIFFE



The summer school for the Year 7s was a tremendous

success and a fantastic opportunity for them to get involved and get a feel of what the Gilberd would be like. The summer school was an incredibly important opportunity since they had missed out on an awful lot in the past year.

Therefore, Miss Wren and the other members of staff wanted to “make sure their transition into the Gilberd School would be very smooth and they would not miss out.”

The summer school's intentions were to “allow the students to feel settled and part of the Gilberd already”, so the summer school was almost like a celebration before summer to make up for all the socialising they had missed.

The summer school was very beneficial in terms of socialisation.

The government had spoken quite a lot on how students had needed to catch up in terms of schoolwork, but it was important that the students could make up for the socialising they had missed as well as this.

Due to it being in the summer, the students were able to do activities and most of the tasks outside, COVID did not affect the summer school particularly harshly. The COVID restrictions were the same as the ones we would have in normal school. They had to introduce COVID testing and the Year 7s were not used to this as much as the older year groups. There was a lot of normality to the program as most activities were outside, however they did have to wear masks inside and clean things down.

There were a wide range of activities in the summer school, such as

designing and teamwork activities. Teachers all over the school got involved such as Miss Wren, Mrs Pharaoh and Miss. Chamberlain were head organisers.

There have been many summer schools in the past, and it has been a very beneficial program. Miss Wren also did state that “there was a lot of funding from the government this year. They may do a summer school next year depending on government funding, but overall, it is a very beneficial program, and they hope to carry it on.”

Overall, the program was flawless, it was a fun and interesting summer school, the students knew where they were going and lining up by the end of the week, so it was hugely helpful for them.

Year 7 Summer School





Summer School



Summer School



Black History Month

BY REBECCA ALMOND



Black History Month. A vital month for the recognition and commemoration of every contribution to history created due to the courage and resilience of exemplary black people that have previously been overlooked.

It also serves as a step to a more equal future which embraces the diversity of our nation .

A well-known display of courage from black people that promoted change was in the 1950s when Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat to a white man in Alabama. This act of defiance to the unjust laws of the time may have been the spark needed to ignite the civil rights movement. Her acts of bravery caused Alabama law to be changed to ban segregation on buses and inspired others (such as Martin Luther King JR) to peacefully protest for equality.

Nevertheless, there were many black activists that are seldom remembered to this day. For example, Olive Morris. She was a key figure in the civil rights movement by fighting tirelessly for the rights of black people in the

United Kingdom. Additionally, she was also the founding member for many groups such as Brixton black women's group. But, sadly, due to her short lifespan she is rarely remembered as her efforts were forced to a halt.

Here at the Gilberd, Black history month is celebrated in many of the aspects of the school including: English - a lesson was spent researching a famous black role model with the best few in the class being submitted to a competition. See the results on the next few pages.

The library has a plethora of books written by black authors. In October



it had a table set out which was laid with a myriad of different books written by black authors about black characters; many exploring struggles with racism or just general problems. The library also features a display in which many inspirational black people are presented with a description of what they did underneath.

On the week commencing the 18th of October 2021 all years either received a captivating assembly from a representative of Black History

Colchester or from a selection of the diversity representatives who delivered a powerful message of how important Black History Month truly is.

Additionally, the Gilberd has recently come up with a new leadership role – **d i v e r s i t y** representatives. There are two in each form group who gather with the rest of the representatives from their year group and create ideas on how to be a welcoming and diverse school.

To conclude, October is

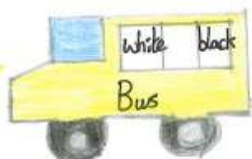
a crucial month for commemoration and change for the Black Lives Matter movement. It's also a time to recognise all history contributed to humanity nowadays by black people regardless of whether they were overlooked in the past or not.



A Year 7 Competition Winner: Imogen Chandler

Rosa Parks!

By: Imogen
Chandler X
year 7

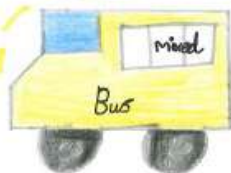
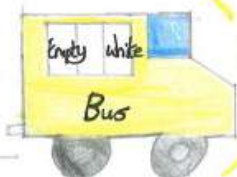


* In the 1950's black people were treated unfairly.

* On the 1st December 1955 she refused to give up her seat in the "coloured" section for a white person as the "white" section was full.



She wasn't the first person to resist, nor to be arrested but after her few hours in jail she managed to start the Montgomery bus boycott. It was only meant to go on for one day but it actually ended up going on for about a year!



After a year the laws changed as buses were not getting ~~enough~~ enough money.

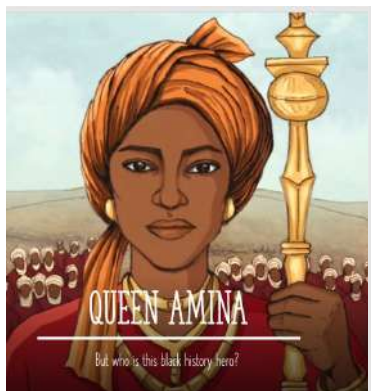
Now bus seats were mixed and so were other things such as restaurants and toilets.

Awards and honerings

Awards that she has collected over the years include: The Spingarn Medal, The Presidential Medal of Freedom, The Congressional Gold Medal and a Pothumus statue in the United States Capitol's National Statuary Hall.

Honerings that she has received are: "The first lady of civil rights" and "The mother of the freedom movement."

Two Year 8 Competition Winners: Evie—Lei Millbourne and Daniella Deniran



WHO IS THIS BLACK HISTORY HERO?

Queen Amina, but more commonly known as the warrior queen and a member of the Hausa Muslim religion, is a historical figure in the city-state Zazzau, in what is now in the territory of the Hausa people of north Africa which has been expanded to the largest African borders in history - 780 km.

Queen Amina of Zaria may have first ruled in the sixteenth century and was the first woman to become the *Sarauti* (queen) in a male-dominated society. Additionally, she led an army of 20,000 men in, what is now, Nigeria - in the sixteenth century this country was called Zazzau.



AMINA'S JOURNEY INTO BEING QUEEN

Her family were wealthy, trading in imported metals, cloths, kola nuts, salt and horses. When her father died her brother, Karama, took the throne, but Amina chose a different route. She trained hard to be a ruthless warrior, earning the respect of the male-dominated Zazzau military.

After her brother's death, Amina became the first queen of her people. She led her first military campaign just a few months after taking power. Conquest after Conquest followed, while Amina had 20,000 men under her command. The story goes that she take a husband after every battle spend one night with them and got them executed in the morning.

Today in Nigeria she is known as 'Amina, woman as capable as a man' and represents the strength and spirit of womanhood.

By Tariq & Henna after a lesson on 11.11.20

QUEEN AMINA'S RELIGION

Queen Amina was a member of the Hausa Muslim religion and this means that she believed in Allah (God) and Muhammad as his prophet. Within her day, the queen would pray five times, read the Koran (holy scriptures), fast during the month of Ramadan, give alms to the poor, and aspire to make the pilgrimage (hajj) to the Muslim holy land in Mecca.

65,839,158 Nigerian people are Hausa Muslims and all do the same things as Queen Amina.

The Hausa ethnic group are 95% muslim and 5% christian and we would say many more are part of this ethnic group.



OCTOBER 6
WORLD
CEREBRAL
PALSY
DAY



World Cerebral Palsy Day.

BY ZIVA BARRICK



On the 6th of October Cerebral Palsy is celebrated throughout the world.

Cerebral palsy is the name for a group of lifelong conditions that affect the movement and coordination. It is caused by a problem with the brain that develops

before, during or soon after birth.

Some facts about Cerebral Palsy include:

- Cerebral palsy affects over 17 million people world-wide and more than 30,000 are children.
- It is more common in boys than girls.
- There are 4 different types of cerebral palsy, Spastic, Dyskinetic, Ataxic and mixed.
- Spastic CP is the most common and affects more than 80% of people with Cerebral Palsy. It makes

muscles stiff and can make movements quite awkward.

Dyskinetic CP makes it hard for people to control the movements of their hands and feet, making it difficult to sit and walk.

Ataxic CP makes balancing and coordination quite hard.

Mixed is where people have more than one type of CP, the most common mix is Spastic - Dyskinetic.

To treat CP, there

is something called Physiotherapy which helps encourage movement, increases strength, and stops muscles becoming weak. It is important to celebrate people's differences and spread awareness for people that live differently to others. Living with a disability means that you may just need a bit more support and help with daily life in general. I was born a month early and as a result I have Cerebral Palsy. It affects how I walk by making me walk on my tip toes and it makes my muscles really tight. To help loosen my muscles I have to do exercises regularly.

Please do not treat anyone any differently just because of a disability they have.

Student Opinions on Diversity

BY MILLIE HOLLINGSWORTH



What are Gilberdian's opinions on diversity around the school?

Diversity has always been around us, but only recently the world has recognised its beauty and significance. As of late, The Gilberd School has brought positive attention and awareness to our diverse atmosphere.

The Gilberd School has given its students a plethora of educational resources about diversity. Such as:

- Multiple educational assemblies/ form time sessions
- Clubs
- Many new books revolving around diversity
- Added diversity roles around the school
- Introduced new diversity school rules to ensure a safe space for everyone
- And many more!

Many students have found out more about diversity from these resources. However, I wanted to know what students' opinions on diversity were. Therefore, to find out the answer to that question I interviewed multiple students to see their responses- here are the results. (What they know

about diversity and their concerns about diversity around the school).

Positively, no students had a negative opinion on diversity. Nevertheless, few students had knowledge on diversity awareness events or dates.

“I think it is important for us to recognise that we are all different, but we also have lots of things in common so we should aim to be more inclusive.”

“I think the Gilbert’s diverse atmosphere is good because then we can learn about other people’s cultures and ethnicity. I think diversity is good at making sure everyone knows at least 1 person of different culture”.

”I think that the school is exceptionally good at promoting diversity

, however I think in recent years they have been putting more effort into it. I think this may have encouraged more micro-aggressions (etc) to emerge and this has actually made some people feel worse about their cultures and differences.”

!! Loads of new diversity books in the library , Email cjn@gilberd.co.uk to get the lists!!

Thanks to Thomas Langston, Jessica Firth, Millie Brown and all the other people who gave responses to my interview.

World Mental Health Day

BY FAITH HOLLINGSWORTH



The World Health Organisation recognizes World Mental Health Day on 10 October every year. This year’s theme has been set by the Federation for Mental Health which is

‘Mental Health in An Unequal World’.

The reason this is celebrated is because it raises awareness of mental health issues around the world and mobilizes efforts in

WORLD
MENTAL
HEALTH
DAY



support of lots of people's mental state. This day is also a chance to talk your mental stability in general, how we need to look after it.

The Green Ribbon campaign aims to get as many people as possible talking about mental health to help end stigma and discrimination. By wearing the Green Ribbon – an international symbol for mental health awareness – you show you are committed to influencing positive change.

If you are wondering what stigma and

discrimination is: stigma is when someone sees you in a negative way because of your mental illness; discrimination is where someone treats you differently to everyone else because of your mental illness. This can possibly make someone's mental illness worse than it was before and would stop a person from getting the help they need.

The pandemic has majorly affected many people and their mental state. Some groups, including frontline workers, students, people living alone, and those with pre-existing mental

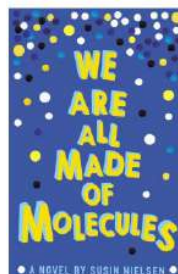
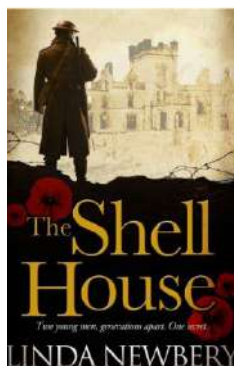
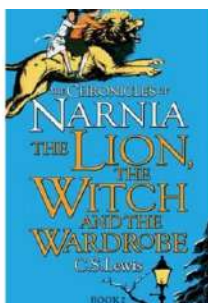
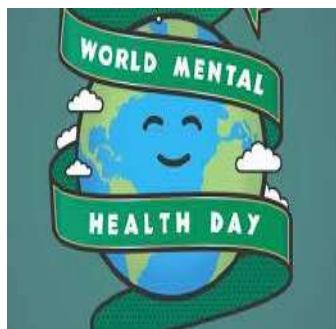
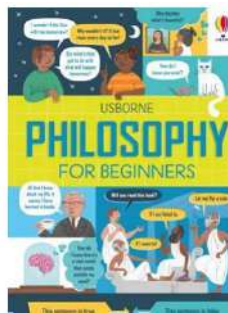
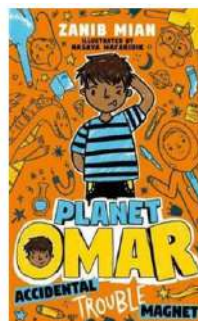
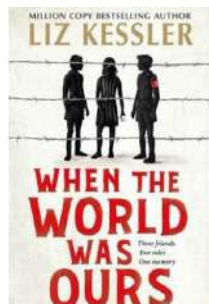
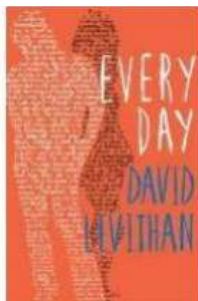
health conditions have been partially affected. Governments from around the world recognized this, and decided they needed to scale the quality of mental health services at all levels.

On this year's World Mental Health Day, the Health Organisation are showcasing the efforts made in some of the countries and it will hopefully encourage people to highlight positive stories as part of their own activities. They will also provide new materials, easy to read formats of how to take care of your own mental health and provide support to others too.

If you do know somebody who is in need of help, here are some things that you can do to help them. You can talk to them and offer all your support; you can encourage them to seek professional help; you can help them with everyday tasks; you can encourage regular eating and sleeping; help them focus on the positive rather than the negative and finally be patient with them - recovery can take time.

If you are feeling down at this point in time, I hope you feel better soon.

Recommended Wider Reading.



Is the COVID vaccine ethical?

BY EVA SMITH



Yes I am here talking about COVID. Yes it feels like we talk about COVID all the time, But with all the talks of vaccines, booster jabs and vaccine passports I thought it was important to ask the question: is it ethical?

Many people believe the COVID vaccine is partly ethical. There are lots of good benefits

of the vaccine but there are also some negative points.

It is important to note that the vaccines are a lot easier to get hold of in more developed, wealthy countries. These countries stock piled the vaccines meaning less developed, poorer countries have struggled to get the same basic access that we have been privileged with. This has led to people questioning how ethical this vaccine actually is.

Is it ethical that underdeveloped countries cannot save more lives just because they can't afford it?

Many people believe that countries like the UK should share their vaccines with countries like Africa who are still

trying to get hold of the vaccine.

Some reasons why countries don't have access to the vaccine are:

- The high cost
- Low stock of the vaccine.
- Transportation of the vaccine.

Another reason why the vaccine is unethical is because in the UK we are giving the vaccine to children whereas in some countries they still haven't been able to vaccinate their elderly and vulnerable. This just takes us right back to the ethical question surrounding access to important medicine.

One final reason that this vaccine is unethical is that people, in the UK, are being forced to have the vaccine because of their job. Some people

do not believe in a vaccination system and should be allowed to have that opinion. They should not have to have their opinions disrespected by their employers.

Following that, Boris Johnson has decided to send out 20 million one shot Janssen COVID vaccines to developing countries, and a further 20 million Oxford/Astra Zeneca doses will also be sent out. Johnson hopes that by the end of 2022 the whole world will be vaccinated!

Turning your attention to the reasons why the vaccine is ethical.

Think about it!

It stops people from becoming seriously ill. It stops people dying. It stops our NHS from being overran. This means that our world can get back to normal: at least to a 2019 standard. The vaccine can protect your family, it can protect your friends and it can protect you.

Focusing on the NHS, this vaccine has decreased the number of people being brought into hospital meaning that the beds can be given to those that are vulnerable and in real need of NHS help. Isn't it better that the doctors

and nurses can now focus their attention on those that are really sick and help them without being over run, exhausted or drained from fighting against this horrendous virus?

It is up to you to decide whether you think this vaccine is ethical. I can't decide that for you.

Do you think the vaccine will bring about better outcomes for our country?

Do you think Boris Johnson will vaccinate the world by the end of 2022?

Either way it is safe to say that the world hasn't been the same since 2019 and we are all looking forward to a day when we no longer have to talk about COVID.



Colne Valley Orchestra

BY MILLY BROWN



On 18th September 2021, the Colne Valley Youth Orchestra (or CVYO for short) celebrated its 40th anniversary with a reunion concert at Firstsite, Colchester.

Founded in 1981 by Nigel Hildreth, the CVYO is a Colchester based youth orchestra providing a classical music experience for children aged 10-19 also with a training orchestra for younger children.

The orchestra is a highly regarded part of Colchester's society and community, and have also performed on various tours around Germany, Belgium, Italy, the Netherlands, Sweden, France, and the Czech Republic.

With a heterogeneous repertoire, including modern film music and baroque chamber music to symphonic pieces, the Colne Valley Youth Orchestra rehearses once a month tackling music such as Schubert's unfinished symphony (No. 8 in B minor) to the Raiders march by John Williams and Kemp's Jig (John Dowland).

The anniversary concert showcased all-time favorites such as a collection of Mary Poppins, Eye level and other works by Mussorgsky providing lots of fun and

entertainment. The current musicians (including flautists, violinists, and trombonists) of the orchestra were surprised with a video message from the orchestra's president (Damon Albarn - member of Blur) and other partnered orchestras from across Europe. The evening also saw a raffle, free cake and CVYO merchandise. Mr Hildreth, who continues to run and conduct the orchestra, said he was "very pleased with the occasion" and that it was "relaxing and enjoyable for everybody"

Many members of the CVYO have gone on to become professional musicians, and the orchestra is currently trying to gain new members, so definitely check out their website if you are interested!

Troubles in Afghanistan

BY LAVINIA VENTRE



An American led coalition ended the Taliban rule in Afghanistan, and 20 years later a revitalised Taliban took Kabul.



The Taliban is now stronger, better armed and have more

territory to control – Afghans are frightened. The Taliban have said that they will not be seeking revenge and will respect women's rights, but have failed to keep their promise as they did in 1996 when they first took power.

So, who is the Taliban?

The Taliban was formed in the early 1990s in northern Pakistan following the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan after the end of the Cold War. The Taliban members are made up of Sunni Islamist nationalist and pro-Pashtun movement.

When they were in power, between 1990 to 2001, they ruled more than two-thirds of

Afghanistan. They lost power to the Americans who invaded Afghanistan soon after the 9/11 attack to the World Trade Centre (also famously known as the Twin Towers) in New York



Who does the Taliban predominantly affect?

The Taliban is famous for their misogynistic views, inspired by an extreme interpretation of religious principles. Because of their ideals, they are violent

towards women. The Taliban has gender policies; a major one is that “women will not be allowed to [go] to universities or work”.

They have effectively banned girls from secondary education in Afghanistan, by ordering schools to re-open for boys only.

The Taliban education ministry said secondary school classes for boys in grades seven to twelve would resume. “All male teachers and students should attend their educational institutions,” reported the statement.

Despite being punished for pursuing education, women are adamant to teach schoolgirls and give them an education they require and need. The consequences for both the teachers and

the students are very severe if they are found; they could be executed.

Additionally, the Taliban has asked women to stay home, claiming it is a temporary measure for ‘security reasons.’ However, that excuse has reminded many women of the last time the Taliban took control. The Taliban has made other outrageous rules for women to follow:

Women should also not wonder the streets without a male relative or without wearing a burqa,

Women should not raise their voice in public since a stranger should not be hearing a women’s voice.

The Taliban has also allowed and encouraged marriage for girls under the age of 16 (there are international reports showing that 80% of Afghan marriages were forced); they sexually enslaved women and girls to use as pleasure as the Taliban views them as objects. Furthermore, more than half of all Afghan woman reported physical abuse and 17% reported sexual violence.



Malala Yousafzai

Malala Yousafzai is a Pakistani education advocate who at the

age of 17 became the youngest person to receive the Nobel Peace Prize after surviving an assassination attempt by the Taliban.

Malala was on a school bus when a member of the Taliban boarded and proceeded to shoot her three times, one of which entered her left temple in the head. As a result of this incident, she was left seriously wounded. Malala not only survived this horrific incident but also managed to gain the platform to share her experience with the world. This has allowed her voice to be heard and increase awareness about such a horrendous issue, which women are still currently facing.

In 2013, Malala and her father co-founded the Malala fund to bring awareness to the social and economic impact on girls'

education in Afghanistan. One of their aims is to empower girls to demand for change.



Year 11: It is all a bit too much.

BY HARVEY WRIGHT



In year 11, all the

teachers go on and on about is how important your final year of secondary school is. I can understand why they do that because they want the best grades for us students, but sometimes the pressure can just get too much! Can you imagine hearing that five times a day? Can you imagine hearing that 25 times a week?

All this pressure is affecting many of students mentally, including myself. We have lots of exams and work to do after school and we can't physically fit it all in. Which is why on our timetable during form we have a Friday afternoon on a week A to complete our personal statement. Personally, I don't think it is long enough time because we have to get to a

computer room, find a seat, do the register and log on to a computer. Then before you know it, its 2 o'clock which means we only have 20 minutes left of a 40-minute tutor period.

It is all just a bit too much sometimes!

Recently I had an appointment with our careers advisor, Ms J u d d , (email aju@gilberd.com for any questions/queries about college, grades etc) she said that I need at least a grade 5 in all my subjects to go to college to learn about my preferred subjects further.

At college, I want to do Criminology, Early Modern/ Modern

H i s t o r y and I don't know a third A-level. yet.

I am hoping for at least a grade 5 so I can do many college courses, but I want a grade 6 at the same time so I can comfortably get onto my courses.

To do this I am now trying to attend as many revision sessions as I can which is difficult as I am also a part of the school show. I know I can do it but dividing up my time is a real challenge.

This half term I will try and attend:

- Maths revision on a Tuesday.

- Science revision on a Thursday.
- Languages revision on a Friday.

Whilst also getting any extra help that subject teachers offer me.

Overall I do think that teachers could lighten up the pressure that is put on us in year 11. I know they do it to help but sometimes their idea of help is extra homework or more revision sessions when what we really want is a tube of biscuits, a cup of tea and a chance to relax.

Good luck Year 11!



Gilbits and bobs

VERSUS



Each issue, we ask two teachers the same questions, but can you match the answer to the teacher?
This issue: Mr Raynor and Mr Burman



1) Weird Snack	Percy Pigs	9) Favourite Subject (not your own)	Music
	Nutri Grain Bar		History
2) Celebrity Crush	Margo Robbie	10) Celebrity You Can't Stand	Kim K
	Hugh Jackman		Gemma Collins
3) Musical Guilty Pleasure	Abba	11) Party Trick or Unusual Talent	I can do the 'worm'
	School of Rock		Wiggle Ears
4) Favourite Film	Happy Gilmore	12) Most proficient 2 nd language	Australian
	Avengers End Game		English ...
5) Favourite Takeaway	Indian	13) Favourite Actor	Zac Efron
	Chinese		Adam Sandler
6) Alternative Career	Elephant Zoo Keeper	14) Favourite Artist	Avicii
	Firearms Officer		Ed Sheeran
7) Most Albums By One Artist	Drake	15) Favourite Game	Cornhole
	Queen		Water Pong
8) Favourite Current TV Show	Lucifer	16) Second favourite animal	Giraffe
	Line of Duty		Dolphin

Tongue Twisters

Can you wrap your tongue around our tricky twisters!

Six Sick hicks nick six slick bricks with picks and sticks

Have you been on the receiving end of a good deed?

Has another Gilbertian or staff member done something to help you out without you asking for it?

Let us know. Forward your good deeds on to newgilberdian@gilberd.com

Riddle Me This

What starts long but grows shorter over time?

E	S	A	C	L	I	C	N	E	P	O	E
O	R	O	T	A	L	U	C	L	A	C	M
O	E	R	A	S	E	R	X	S	A	L	S
K	B	N	N	H	O	M	E	W	O	R	K
C	O	C	O	C	O	M	P	A	S	S	L
A	O	R	T	E	J	O	U	R	N	A	L
P	K	A	E	G	L	I	T	T	E	R	P
K	S	Y	B	S	K	O	C	N	M	U	E
C	S	O	O	S	R	E	K	R	A	M	N
A	N	N	O	T	O	T	N	E	E	A	C
B	E	S	K	P	E	N	S	L	L	A	I
A	S	C	I	S	S	O	R	S	N	E	L
R	E	N	E	P	R	A	H	S	A	N	S
S	L	U	N	C	H	B	O	X	R	C	C

CRAYONS
 SCISSORS
 NOTEBOOK
 MARKERS
 ERASER
 PENCILS
 LUNCH BOX
 COMPASS
 BACKPACK
 SHARPENER
 PENS
 PENCIL CASE
 BOOKS
 JOURNAL
 CALCULATOR
 HOMEWORK
 GLITTER

Did you know?

Dolphins sleep with one eye open.

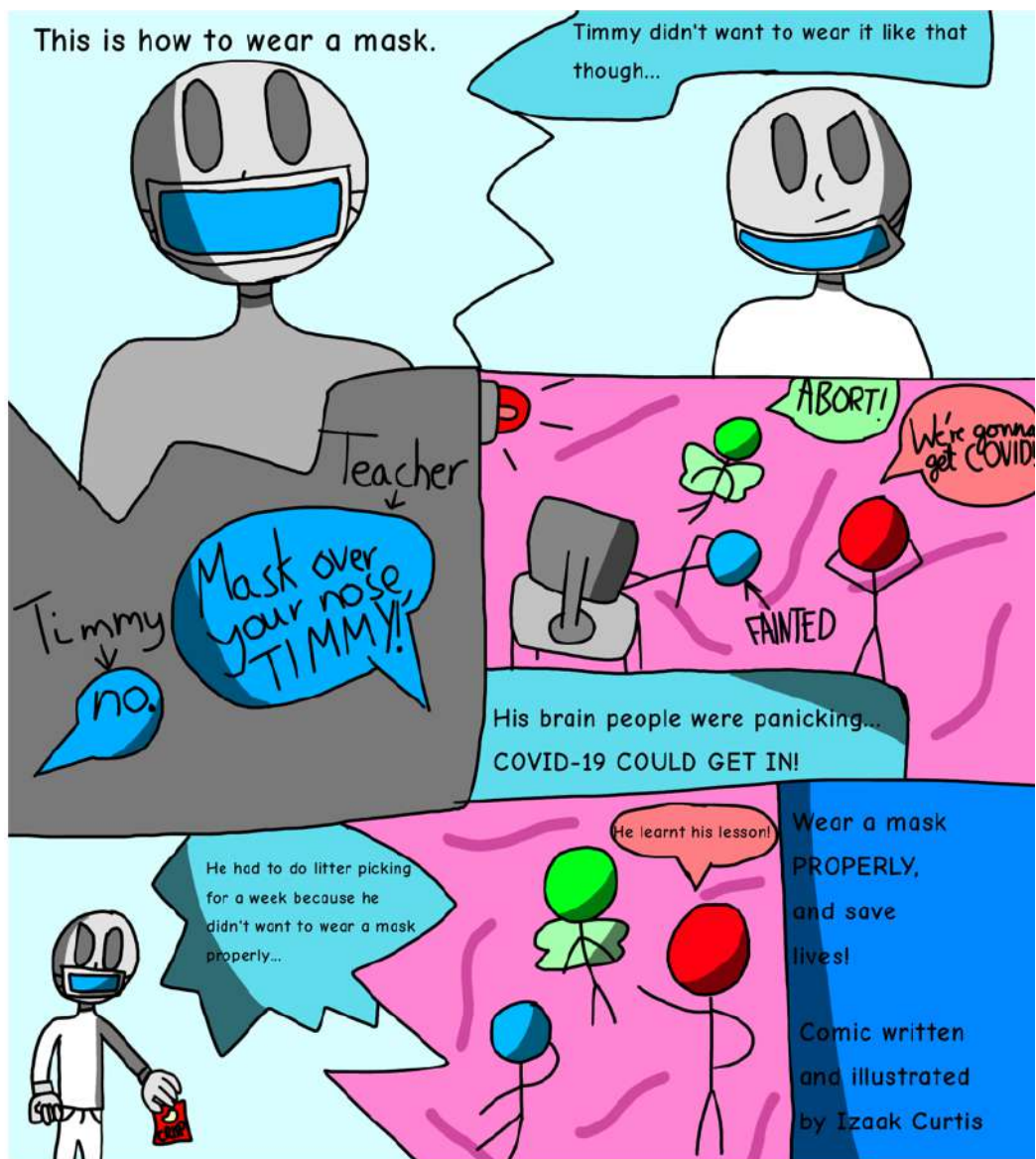
Are you a master of riddles? The joker of the pack? King of Trivia? Email:

newgilberdian@gilberd.com

You could be featured in a future edition!

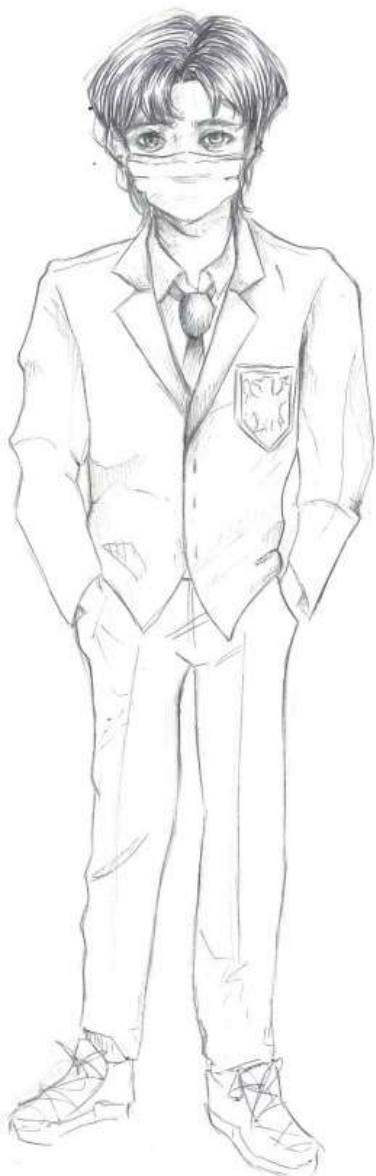
Comic Strip — wearing masks in school.

BY IZAAK CURTIS



Student Artwork—The Gilberd Student Design

BY FREJA OLSEN—ALLEN



Year 8 Speaking Competition

BY THOMAS RICKETT



After weeks of anticipation and excitement, the Year 8 Speaking Competition has drawn to a close, with a talented student receiving the title of the “Public Speaking Champion!”.

There have been two



rounds of intense speeches leading up to the grand finale, which took place on the 9th of November 2021.

As a competitor myself, I have a full understanding of the events that occurred. Two people were elected from each form, therefore there were four candidates per house, and this was an

inter-house competition.

In the first round, the speech topic was 'Freedom,' and the criteria was to write a thirty-second speech about anything relating to it.

At this stage, there were twenty-three participants and this number had to be whittled down to just twelve by four senior students and Miss Snape.

This round was quite straight forward to begin with: Holmes, Wren and Penney went head-to-head on the first day and Shackleton, Franklin and Austen on the next, to decide the twelve most confident speakers overall.

Next came the second round. The new topic for this round was "Resilience" and the speech had to last roughly one minute.

Now, the twelve semi-



final speakers were paired up and the winner from each pair progressed into the final. After this, we were left with our six best speakers. Unfortunately, (like many Gilberdians around this time) I was unable to attend school whilst this round occurred due to isolation, so I performed my speech in front of Miss Snape, and I was added to the group of now seven best public speakers in Year 8.



At last, the final was in sight. The

speeches had to last around two minutes and the topic was completely open - we could choose for ourselves.



In turn, we performed our speeches in front of the entire assembly of Year 8, the Senior VI and some senior members of staff including Mr Banham, Mrs Philips and Ms Litton and then began the painful process of awaiting the results.

Each speech was unique and distinguishable, which would have made

the decision process even harder.

For competing, each participant was awarded a Public Speaking badge, the top three receiving Golden Eagles and first place also being rewarded with a tie-pin.

Finally, a week later, the winner was announced:

**Owen Hoskin from
8xBCL!**

He was a worthy winner with an incredible speech about determination, and he fully deserved the title of "Year 8 Speaking Champion."



Planting for our future

BY THOMAS RICKETT, AMARRA MAQSOOD and
RAGAVARSHINI VIMAL



This term, Geography Society has started the project where the aim is to make the school more 'Green'. Our project is in 3 phases.;

- we have started growing small indoor plants to oxygenate our classrooms and to improve our learning environment.



- we are hoping to share these with all tutor groups and teachers.
- We are also planting bulbs and flowering plants to attract bees, butterflies and other pollinators around the school. We started this last year and it really cheered us up to see the school grounds covered in pretty flowers, especially as we had planted them ourselves!
- Our final project will hopefully be to

design and build a sensory garden for our school which will help with people's mental health by making a tranquil outside space, full of lovely vibrant plants which also smell beautiful! We are hoping to link up with M e r s e a Outdoors and help them to build a sensory walk too!! We have all really enjoyed this club

KS3

Book Review

BY CHRISTOPHER MERRET



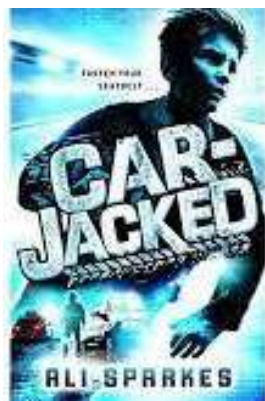
so far as it teaches and connects us more with nature and it also has benefits for us all directly! We have loved being outside after school as it has been very relaxing, refreshing and fun working with our friends to make our school better. We welcome any newcomers to join our society on Tuesdays after school.



Car jacked is about a boy called Jack Mattingly who is a child genius with an IQ (intelligent quotient) of 170. He is accidentally kidnapped by a bank robber named Ross. Jack helps Ross once he finds out the reason he hi-jacked jack's parents car; Ross's brother Stuart is supposed have a

limited supply of oxygen, and Ross is supposed to pay £100,000 to a crime boss in London named Shearer. Jack is prepared to do anything to help Ross...

I like this story because it has a lot of action and once you pick it up you can't stop reading. I would recommend this book to thrill-seekers because it has twists and turns that keeps you engaged.



Hairspray Review

BY FINLEY WRIGHT



On the 22nd August, my family and I went to see Hairspray the musical in London at the London Coliseum.

Nothing compares to the buzz of when you wake up and you know you are going to see a theatre show later that day.

This show starred: Michael Ball, who played Edna Turnblad; Les Dennis, who was Wilbur; Lizzie Bea who



was Tracy Turnblad and Rita Simons who was Velma Von Tussle.

Michael Ball and Les Dennis were so funny because they forgot their lines and they had to make it up on the spot. It was hilarious and had the whole audience roaring with laughter.

Hairspray is about Tracy trying to be a television star and being on the Corny Collins show but there are a few obstacles in the way to TV fame. This includes Velma being in jail!

“Had the whole audience roaring with laughter”

My favourite song was ‘You Can’t Stop the Beat’. I enjoyed this the most because the audience stood up and started to clap to the beat, sing and dance.

After the show finished, we went to the stage door. I got to see Michael Ball!! Sadly, he could not have personal close up pictures because of COVID but we got some great photos from a distance. We even saw Michael Ball get into his limo to go home.

It was amazing to finally be able to watch a live theatre show again. Long may it continue.

Come Play

Film Review

BY TYLER MOORE



Released October 30th, 2020 is a horror film called *Come Play*. Although it might not be a new release it is definitely something for you to watch. From the suspense, the freezing chill down your spine and the jump scares...

Oliver is an autistic, non-verbal child who communicates almost entirely through his smart devices. His phone has an app that he uses to choose words to express himself, and he spends most of his time watching

“SpongeBob SquarePants.” His parents Sarah and Marty are splitting up, and the stress of that is seeping into Oliver’s life, making him feel even more isolated. It doesn’t help that he’s being bullied in school and struggling in his individualized therapy sessions to help him speak. Sarah seems to be stressed out by his lack of development as well, noting to Marty that her own son has never even looked her in the eyes.

From the opening scene of the film, something seems to be hunting Oliver. His phone seems to be possessed by an app that keeps showing a terrifying children’s story about a creature named Larry that just wants to be your friend. At first, Larry can only be seen through technology like phones or tablets, but he becomes more and more threatening to the real world. His

arrivals foreshadowed by him sucking power from the world around him, including popping most of the lightbulbs in Oliver and Sarah’s home

As time goes on, Oliver’s mum and dad realise he isn’t making this up and become even more petrified than he is. They try to tear down the house of electronics and destroy it all but that doesn’t stop Larry because Larry just wants a friend. Larry manages to come to the real life and Sarah sacrifices her life to be his new friend...



SPORT IS BACK!

BY TOLA OLAWOYE



This is what happened at the Year 7 netball tournament.

The Gilbert (group A) team started warming up for the big match ahead of them, they started by doing a light jog led by the year 9 helpers, they then moved on to doing passing and shooting practice.

Before the match I spoke to Farrah, Goal Attack netball player, to find out how she was

feeling before the match.

"I feel excited and I'm looking forward to the upcoming games!"

The first game started. Colchester Girls High Grammar School verses The Gilbert school.

Within a few minutes of the game Colchester High Grammar scored. The Gilbert started off the game with great teamwork and communication skills: alerting players and adjusting to the court flawlessly. With outstanding effort and positivity from both teams, the final score was ultimately Girls High 4 – 0 Gilbert.

The game ended with an encouraging speech to both teams.

Following on, the next game started not long after. Philip Morant verses The Gilbert School.

The game consisted of several good passes. Minutes into the game **The Gilbert scores!** Smiles and applause from parents break any tension the girls had beforehand. Soon after Philip Morant score and the whistle was blown, leaving them with the score 1-1, as well as a few cheers and handshakes.

Before the third game started, I briefly interviewed Lillie - the year 7 Gilbert Goalkeeper:

"I'm quite excited and stressed to be playing; after all this is the team's first match."



The team moved onto the next court and prepared for the game after greeting friends from different schools' teams.

Thomas Lord Audley School verses The Gilberd School.

Long and thought-out passes were played throughout the game. Several accurate interceptions and blocks were made by The Gilberd School. TLA scored twice with many great attempts at scoring from The Gilberd. The final

score was TLA 2-0 Gilberd.

Thurststable School verses The Gilberd School.

The final game began with the year 9 helpers' supportive speech and help with informing the team about the rules. 10 minutes into the game The Gilberd scored and not long after it followed on with another. The final score for the last game was Thurststable 0-3 Gilberd.

The Gilberd improved a lot from each game, from not scoring to

winning a match they definitely were learning and remembering throughout the tournament.

Also, from continuously having to follow the team I noticed the friendship and teamwork the girls had and could really see that they had fun.





Sporting Fixture Results (Sep-Dec)

Cross Country Results are in!

Year 7 girls 5th/14

Year 7 boys 7th/14

Year 8/9 girls 6th/13

Year 8/9 boys 11th/13

Year 10/11 girls
5th/10

Year 10/11 boys 8th/9

Top 15 of the Race

Year 7

Eve Boggis – 12th

Fin Bates – 8th

Trinity

Tyler Pether – 12th

Josh Andrews – 10th

Year 8

Eliza Shippey – 11th

Lucy Thompson - 2nd!!!

Year 10

Harrison Leek – 9th

Year 11

Ellie Thomspon – 12th

