

The Sixth Sense

Autumn Term 2021

Issue 4



Lucton School Sixth Form Magazine

Letter from the editor

Welcome to the first instalment of The Sixth Sense in this academic year.

The winter term can be difficult while weather changes and nights draw nearer, however this seems to be a universally shared experience. Nevertheless we have been fortunate to have a fairly normal winter term here at Lucton, despite the prolonged covid restrictions.

For this term's edition we decided on the theme of 'international'. Many of our day students, boarders and teachers come from all around the world, so it felt fitting to focus our theme on this. As always we have been sure to include a recipe, this time one which is designed to travel, as well as a book review by Finn, a poem by Matthew and much more.

We have also interviewed staff and students who have either lived in, or come from, other countries and we have a fascinating quiz testing our knowledge of foreign objects.

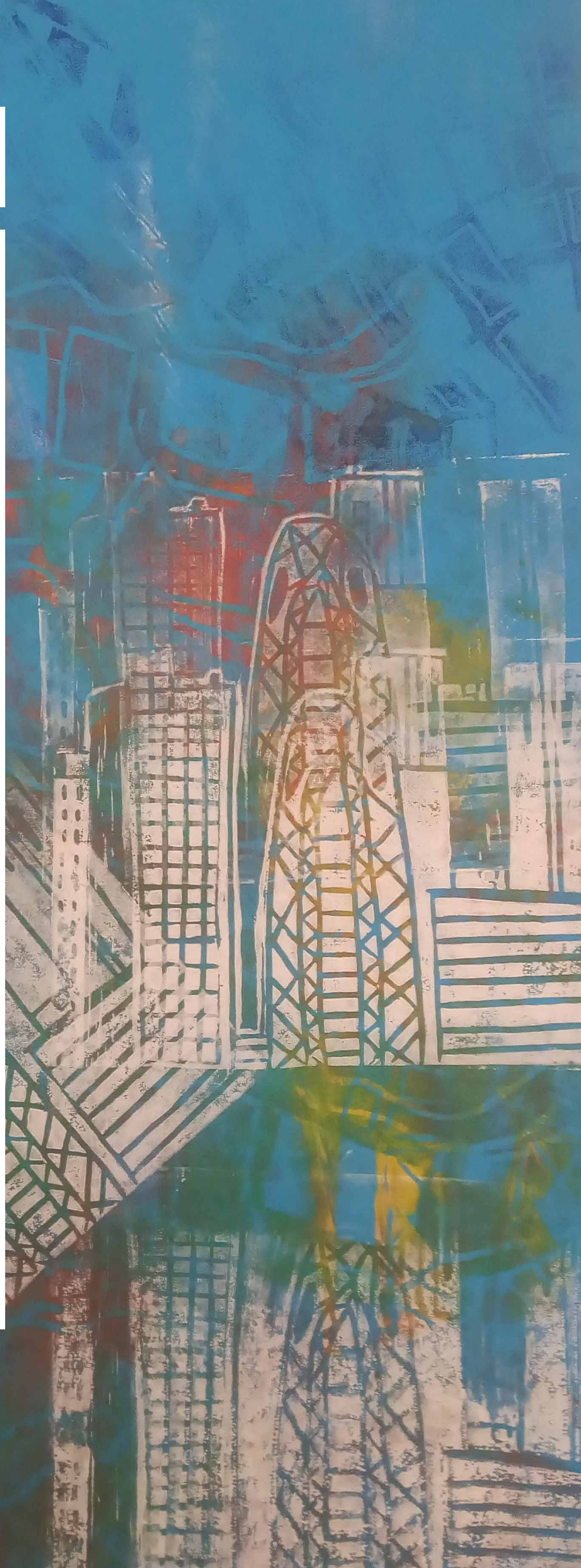
Particular thanks goes to Louise who has been tireless in pursuing articles for this edition; she has also, with Mr Wolstenholme, put the content into a visually appealing format. While Mrs Mathie cracked the whip with the editorial team and contributors, this edition wouldn't have been made possible without their guidance and organisation along with continuous work from the sixth formers!

At this festive time of year we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and look forward to working on the next edition of the magazine in 2022.

Grace Marriott.

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BIENVENUE!



This term we were delighted to welcome Mr Helis to the Sixth Form, as a Sixth Form tutor. We caught up with him over a cup of tea to find out more!

How many countries have you lived and worked in?

Four: France, England, Germany and the Middle East. They all have advantages and disadvantages, but I keep coming back to England so there must be something behind that!

What is the biggest difference between the French and the English?

We're not actually that different; I've found that the people are very similar in both countries, in our history and the way that we live. Although we do see the English as being more disciplined; that's probably the biggest difference. We have a history of strikes; that's very French.

What is your favourite English dish and what is your favourite French dish?

Well, that depends on the season and the weather. But I like fish and chips, can't go wrong with that. Roast dinner is pretty good too. In France it depends: in summer, probably rice salad, as you don't want anything hot. In winter, bourguignon. That's beef marinated in red wine with carrots and mushroom.

When did you decide that you wanted to be a teacher?

At sixteen years old, I received a qualification in France to work in camps, teaching groups of students in the summer holidays. From then on I knew I wanted to work with children because I can't keep still and neither can they! Every day's different when you work with children because you may teach the same lesson, but it will never be the same class.

Have you ever made a memorable language faux pas?

Yes, many times! Particularly in Germany, when I went to the supermarket. I'd try to learn what I wanted to say, and then get it completely wrong.

What do you miss most about France when you're not there?

My family and the food and the area. I'm from Provence, so I always miss the smell and

the colours: the lavender and sunflowers are a pleasure for the eyes.

Give us a good piece of general advice

Carpe Diem. It's very important to live the day as it is and not look too far ahead. And when you've got to make a life-changing decision, always have two or three paths in mind, in case one doesn't work. Because that's my other piece of advice: it's never too late. I left school at eighteen years old with nothing, thinking I would be playing rugby all my life. And obviously that didn't happen but it wasn't too late to change.

Where do you see yourself in ten years time?

Hopefully still here! Being settled. I've been travelling all my life, so I think it would be nice to just stay in the

same place for a bit longer, to raise my children.

What is the best thing about Lucton?

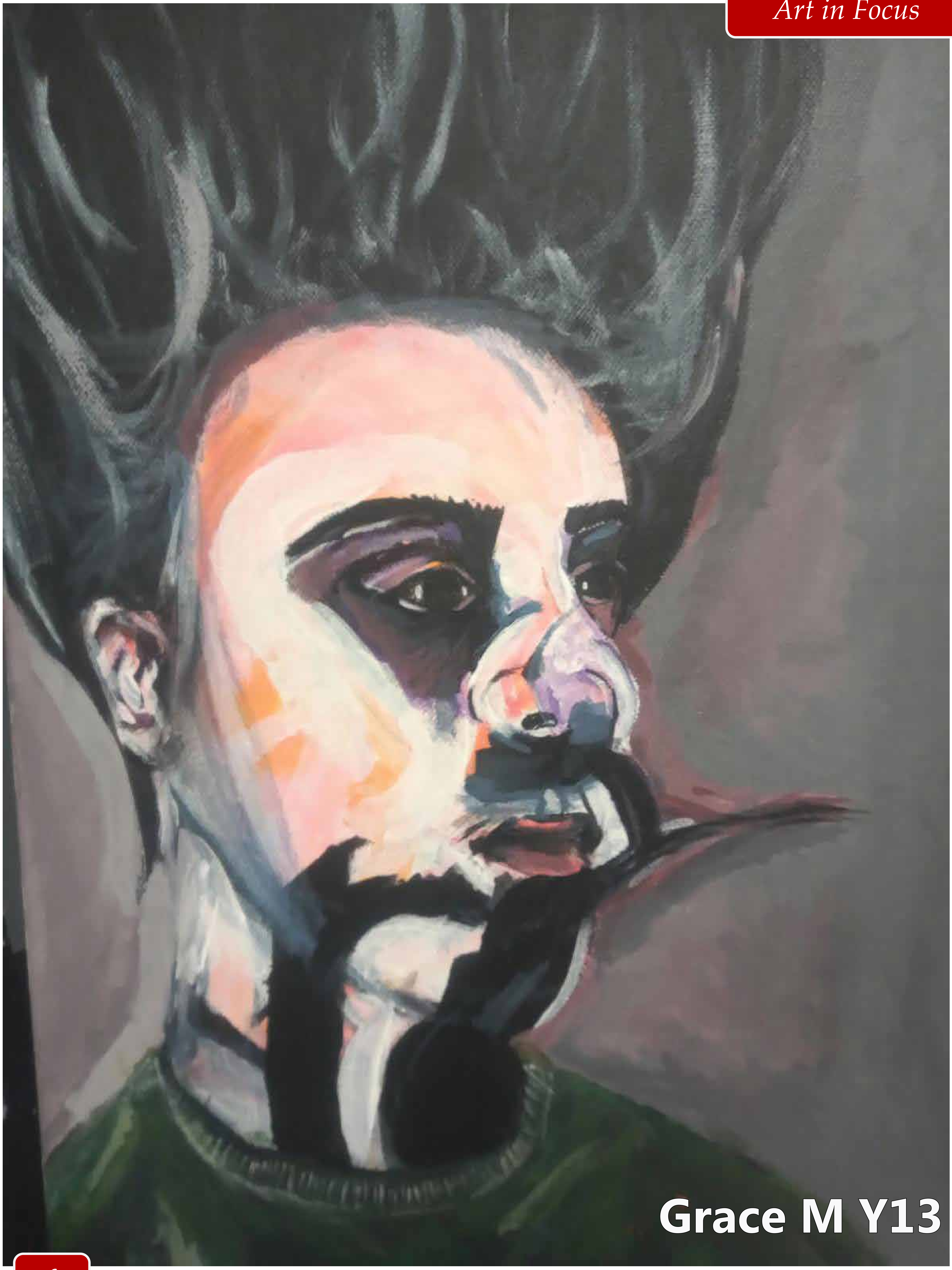
The family environment. For example, in the Sixth Form, there aren't far too many students so you all know each other and you can create bonds which might stay for the rest of your life. It didn't take me long to get to know everyone. That's something we have to cherish here. They also help you prepare for everything, not just the academic side.

What is something that have never tried but would like to?

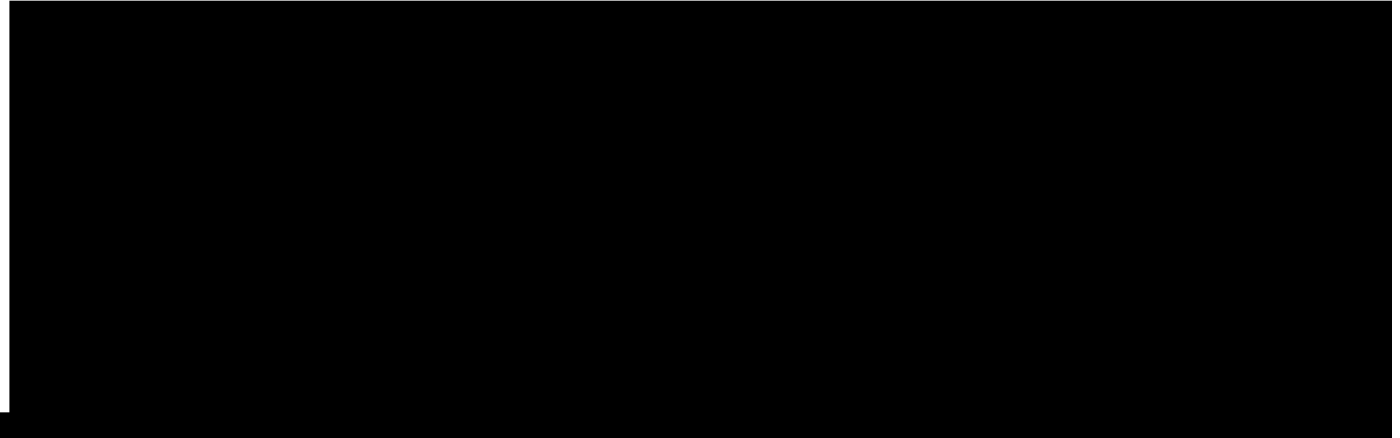
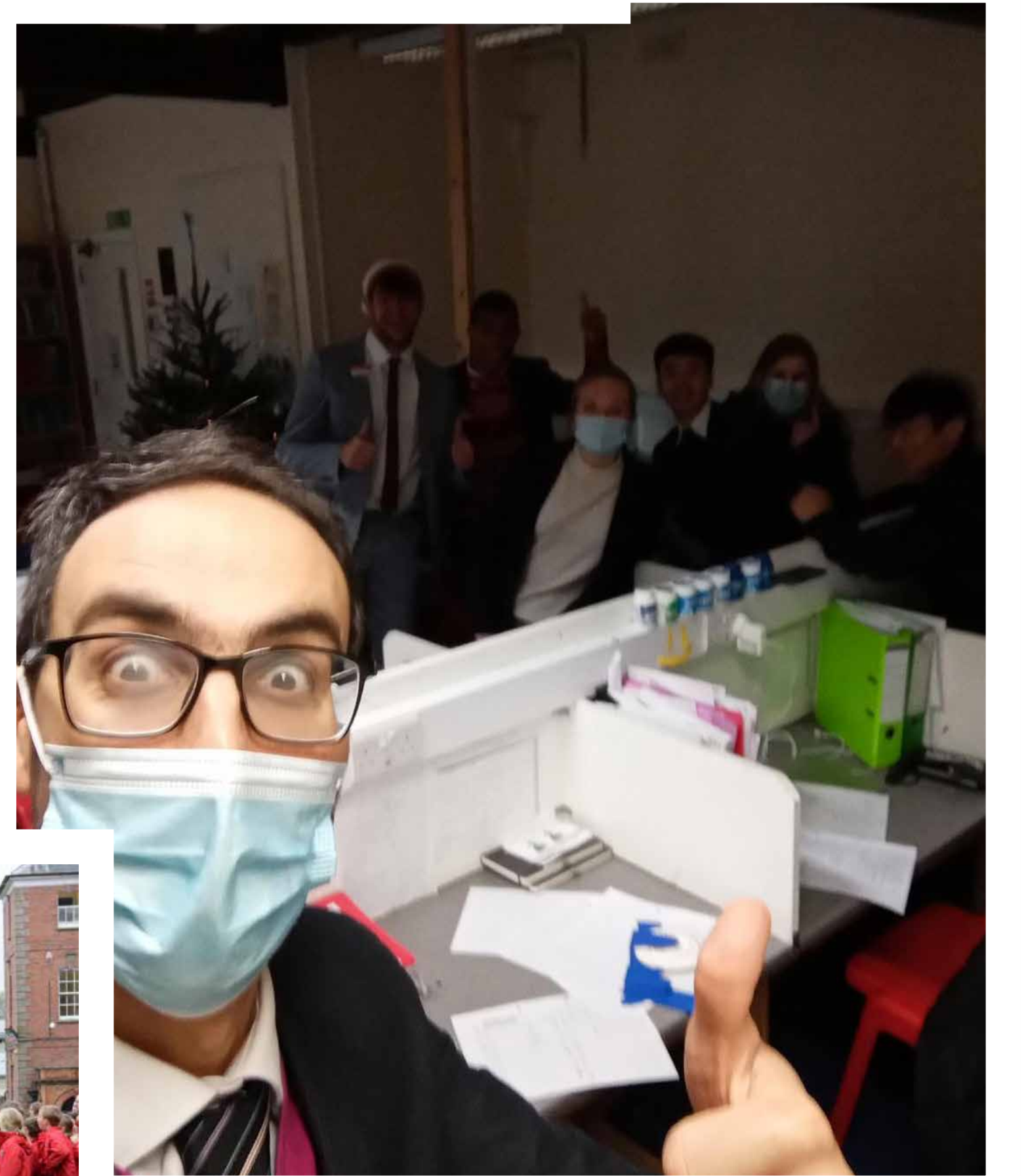
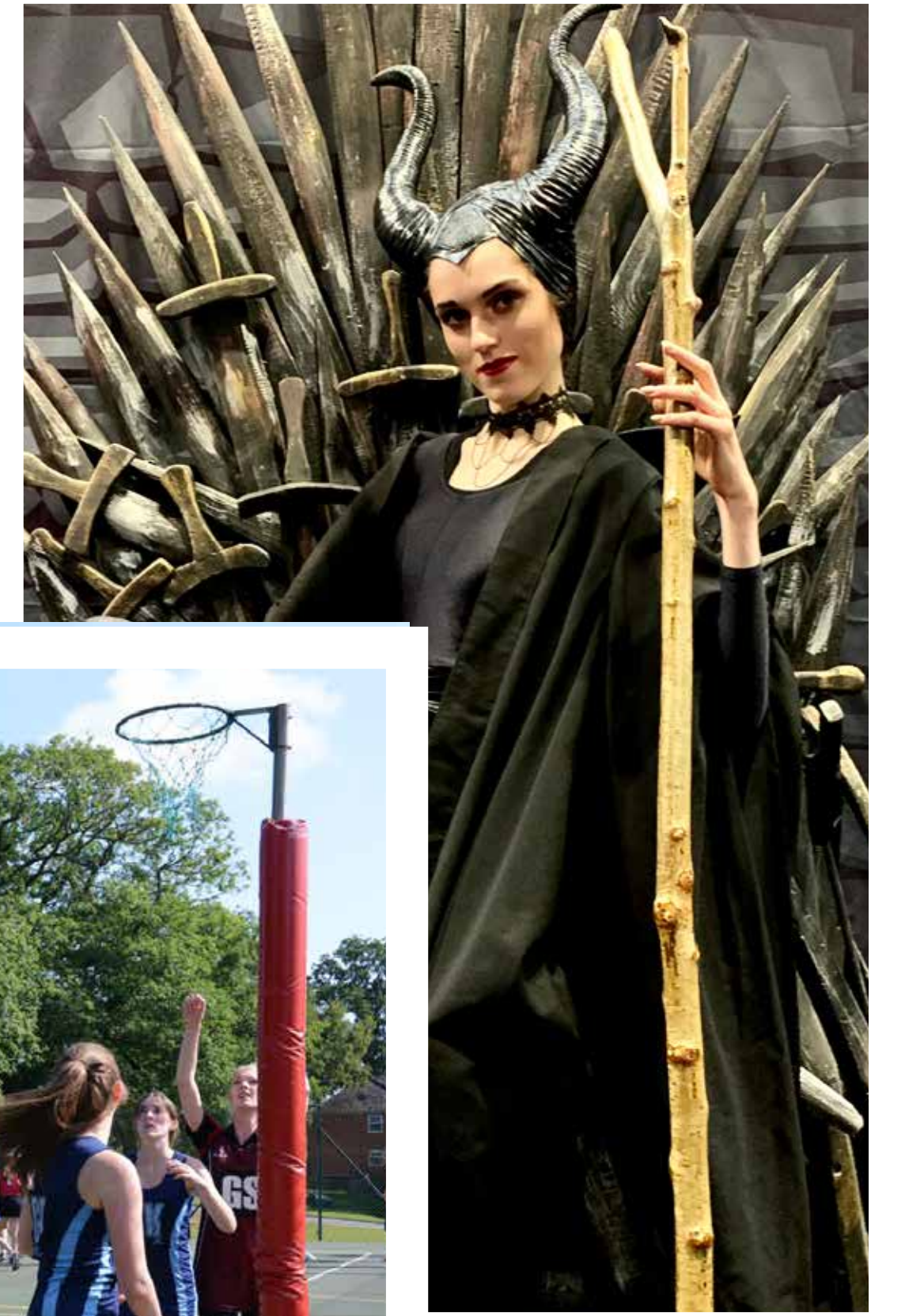
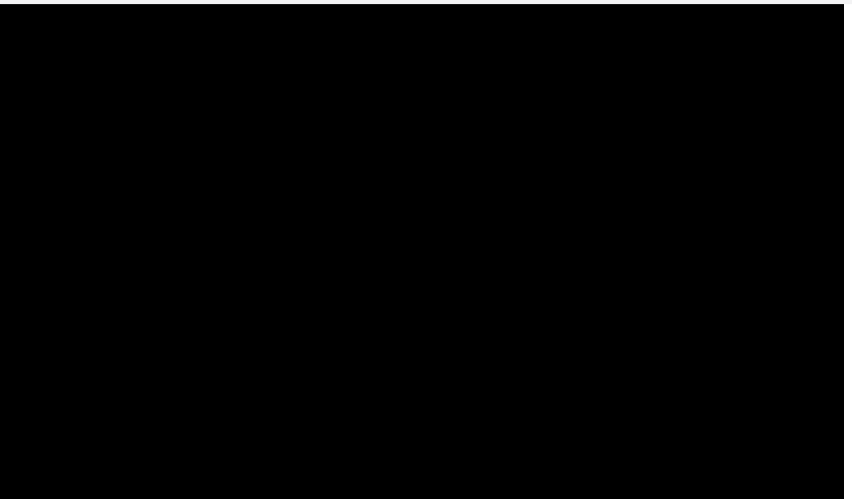
Perhaps surfing. I'm very sporty, but that's something I've never had a go at. On the other hand I'm a bit frightened of sharks, so maybe not.

Mr Helios





Grace M Y13





Felicity: ComicCon is like a big celebration of all things fictional, and nerdy and fantasy. So that's films, TV series, comics, books, games. Everything you can imagine. The majority of people will dress up, there'll be stalls with artwork, costume stalls and there'll often be celebrities there signing autographs.

Louise: Well, we went on Sunday 14th November this year. Have you ever been there previously?

Felicity: I went once before, I believe it was in 2019, also to the NEC, and I went in a steampunk costume.

Louise: And I have not been before. I remembered that it existed and looked it up. Found that it was happening in the near future and said to my family "Can we go?" and, "Can we take Felicity?" Because I can't go to ComicCon without Felicity.

Felicity: And I will never turn down an opportunity to dress up!

Louise: Exactly! And speaking of the dressing up....

Felicity: I was Aelin Galathinias, the main character from the Throne of Glass books. My costume wasn't directly inspired by anything from the book, it was just something I could definitely picture Aelin wearing. It's this lovely green Medieval dress with a burgundy velvet bodice which laced up, and I wore a gorgeous necklace and tiara of my Mum's. I also had a metal armguard which I brought at the last ComicCon.

Louise: And I went as Maleficent. Obviously, I the costume had to be pretty convincing, but I was pleased with it. Especially since the only thing we brought for the purpose were the horns. Everything else I have worn either to school or skating. A pair of black tights, a black running top, black belt, black boots. The choker I got for Halloween a few years ago and then there was the cloak. We all know Maleficent has this big flappy cloak thing and I wasn't quite sure what to do about it until I remembered my Grandpa's

old university don robe, which was perfect! So we just repatriated that. And my Mum made a collar out of some card and black material. Then I went and harvested a stick out of the woods behind my house and we sanded it down and varnished it and "boom" I was Maleficent.

On the Sunday, the 14th November it took me about an hour and a half to get ready which wasn't bad considering that I had to do all that white makeup and contouring and red lipstick etc.

Felicity: I can't remember how long it took me to get ready, but it was a while! The dress, as beautiful as it is, is a pain to get on because it laces up the side. And then there's the bodice which also laces so it takes ages. My Mum helped me with the makeup and we floofed up my hair with a lot of dry shampoo and hairspray into what I would describe as "fantasy medieval".

Louise: On Sunday morning once we were ready I had to walk to your house which, thankfully, is not very far away from mine. But I still had to waltz down the road, with a stick, dressed as Maleficent. It's a good job I didn't run into anyone! When we got there I had no idea what to expect. But then I saw loads of people dressed in costumes from Star Wars and Marvel...

Felicity: There were loads of Jedi, loads of Stormtroopers, loads of superheroes.

Louise: I am speaking here as someone who has never seen Star Wars, or a Marvel film. I know nothing about Anime and I've never done any kind of gaming.

Felicity: I remember you asking "why are there so many monks?"

Louise: Yes! I was wondering why there were so many Rasputins running around! But apparently these are called "Jedi" and they are some kind of



weird entity from Star Wars. This does not encourage me to watch it. But never mind. We got there and, for those concerned, it was covid-safe.

Felicity: Right. We had to provide evidence of a negative covid, and you got a wristband to show you were COVID-free. Masks were encouraged but not mandatory.

Louise: Good job to because have you ever seen Maleficent in a mask? No.

Felicity: That would have been tricky with the horns...

Louise: It would have been impossible with the horns! The horns were great until halfway through when they began to give me a massive headache, but you have to suffer to look good!

Louise: Well, we got in and if you've never been to the NEC, it's a big black warehouse thing. It was heaving with people.

Felicity: And everyone was dressed up! In the carpark I was worried because I saw so many people not dressed up, but when we got inside there were some of the most incredible costumes. We saw someone

with the most amazing set of Lord of the Rings-style armour, superheroes galore and even someone in an inflatable dinosaur costume! And it didn't take us long to find you an Aurora...

Louise: It really didn't, no. We'd been there about five seconds when somebody in a not particularly good Aurora outfit wanted a photo with me.

Felicity: A lot of people wanted photos with you; you had an instant Fanclub!

Louise: Well, the costume was so distinctive.

Felicity: There was one little girl who walked past and practically yelled "It's Maleficent! You're my favourite Disney villain!"

Louise: Yes, she was sweet. About eight years old, maybe? There weren't many children there, mostly teenagers and adults. In one part there were stalls upon stalls of more Dungeons and Dragons stuff than anyone could ever need.

Felicity: Oh my gosh, the dice were amazing!

Louise: Yes, I don't need dice, I don't play D&D (yet) but I want the dice. You could also buy prints and T-shirts and figurines and pretty much everything. But what else was there in terms of things which weren't shopping?

Felicity: The throne.

Louise: The Throne.

Felicity: We sat on the throne, and I really wanted to take it home-

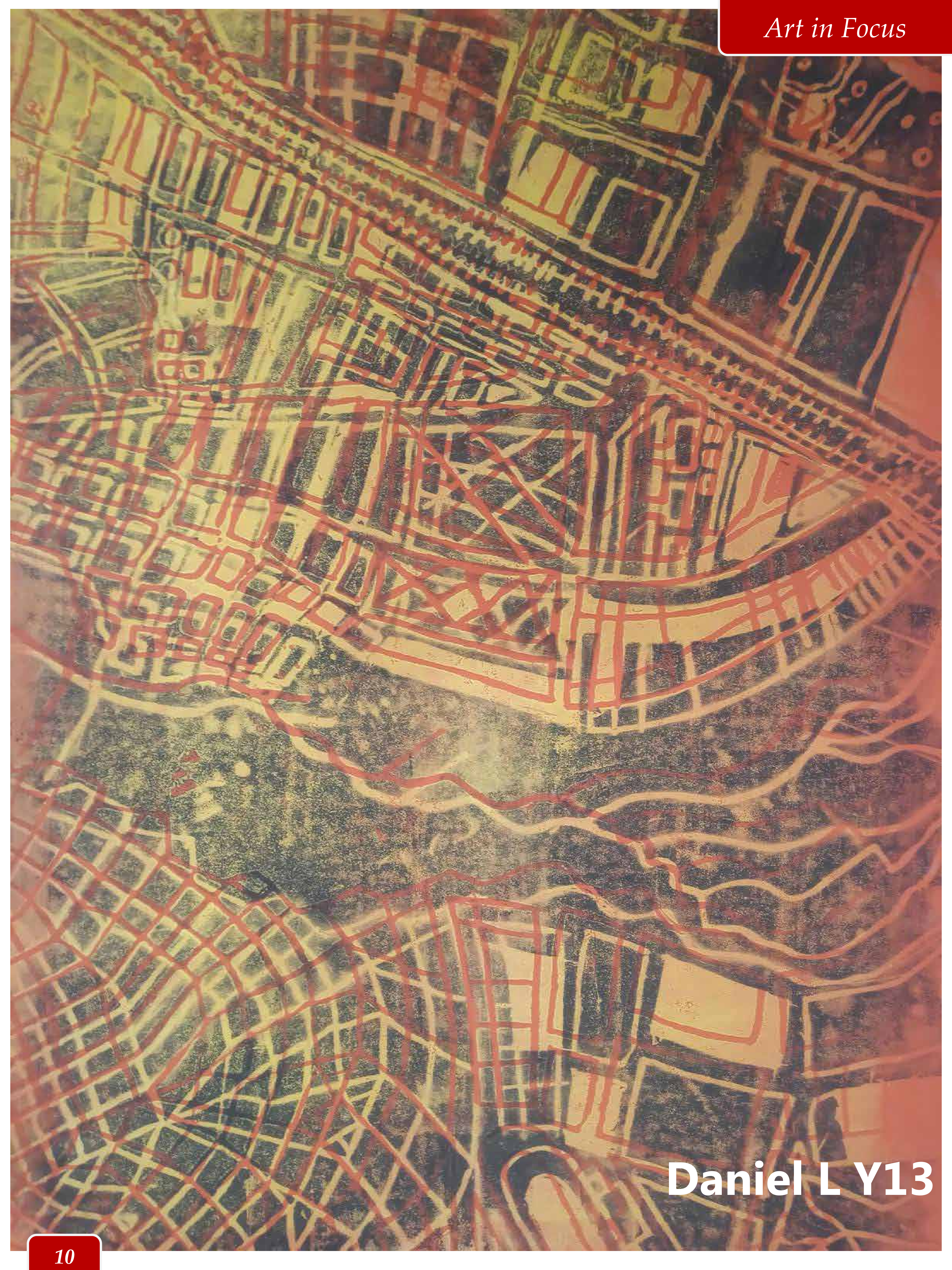
Louise: There was a Game of Thrones Throne and you could have your photo taken on it, which we did. There were also celebrities doing interviews. I had not heard of any of them except for John Rhy-Davies, who played Gimli in Lord of the Rings. We didn't run into him, unfortunately. I would have been prepared to queue, but he wasn't there when we were, so that was that.

Felicity: I know there were live music performances as well

Louise: So, what was your favourite thing overall?

Felicity: I think what I enjoyed the most was the general atmosphere of everybody dressing up for the occasion, as that's something that hadn't really been able to happen for a while. And just everyone saying "I love your costume" and asking for photos. It's something you wouldn't get anywhere else.

Louise: My favourite but was the dressing up in the first place; getting the costume and doing my makeup and turning myself from Louise into Maleficent. The only slight problem with the costume was that I couldn't hear anything through the headdress!



Daniel L Y13



Anzac Biscuits

In November, the month of Remembrance and with a nod to this edition's international theme, we chose to include a recipe for ANZAC biscuits. These iconic biscuits, enjoyed in Australia and New Zealand today, were originally made by wives and mothers to be sent to the ANZAC (Australian and New Zealand Army Corps) troops serving in Gallipoli in World War 1. They were robust enough to survive transportation to the Dardanelles where this hard fought campaign took place, which resulted in a defeat of the allied troops. The commercial manufacture of these biscuits is still used today to raise funds for charities supporting military veterans in both countries. ANZAC day takes place on 25 April each year in commemoration of the battle in 1915.

Ingredients

- 85g porridge oats
- 85g desiccated coconut
- 100g plain flour
- 100g caster sugar
- 100g butter, plus extra butter for greasing
- 1 tbsp golden syrup
- 1 tsp bicarbonate of soda

Method

- STEP 1 - Heat oven to 180C/fan 160C/gas 4. Put the oats, coconut, flour and sugar in a bowl. Melt the butter in a small pan and stir in the golden syrup. Add the bicarbonate of soda to 2 tbsp boiling water, then stir into the golden syrup and butter mixture.
- STEP 2 - Make a well in the middle of the dry ingredients and pour in the butter and golden syrup mixture. Stir gently to incorporate the dry ingredients.
- STEP 3 - Put dessertspoonfuls of the mixture on to buttered baking sheets, about 2.5cm/1in apart to allow room for spreading. Bake in batches for 8-10 mins until golden. Transfer to a wire rack to cool.



Gian-Andrea Y13

Where in the World?



These household objects were snapped in Sixth Formers' houses - can you guess where they're from? (answers to be released next edition!)

- 1 - Mexico, Brazil or Nicaragua?
- 2 - Panama, Costa Rica or Dominican Republic?
- 3 - Belgium, Liechtenstein or Holland?
- 4 - Fiji, Australia or Palau?
- 5 - Falkland Islands, Marshall Islands or Galapagos Islands? (It's a whale backbone)
- 6 - Malta, Portugal or Italy?
- 7 - Turkey, Ethiopia or Greece?
- 8 - Finland, Denmark or Holland?
- 9 - Indonesia, Papua New Guinea or Sri Lanka?
- 10 - Scotland, Norway or Wales?
- 11 - Spain, Argentina or Uruguay?
- 12 - Morocco, Sweden or Iraq?
- 13 - Thailand, Sri Lanka or Colombia?
- 14 - Sri Lanka, Tanzania or Chile?



Grace M Y13



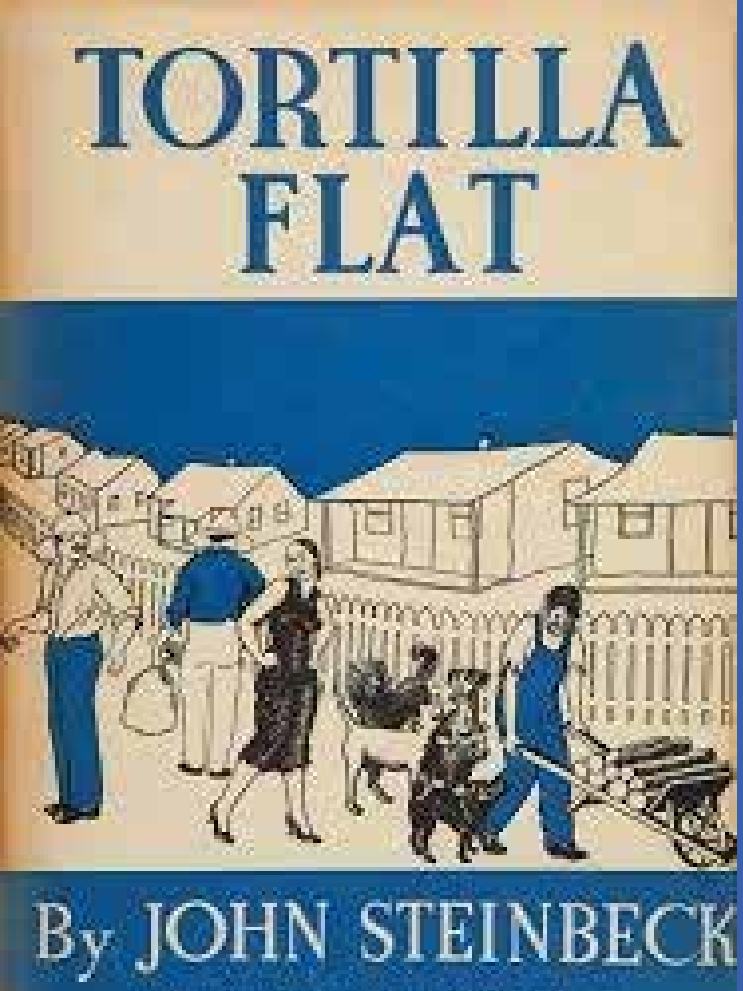
Goodbye Lenin!

First of all, I think it's important we establish that not all film reviews have to be good. Because certainly not all films are good. Or at least, not all films please all people. Take this one for example; I personally didn't like it very much, so it's not exactly going to be getting glowing feedback from me. But at least you can trust that this review is an honest one! So, "Goodbye Lenin". A film by a director I've never heard of, starring some actors I've never heard of, who all speak German. (It does have English subtitles though.) The plot flicks between sounding faintly amusing and making you wince because you just know that it's not going to work out for the poor characters.

The whole thing revolves around Alex Kerner, a young man who, until he reaches 21, has grown up in the very grey, Soviet-controlled East Germany. His father escaped into West Germany many years ago, leaving behind him a depressed wife and two young children. Are we at maximum pathos yet? Fast forward to 1989 and we see Alex joining a protest march, which shocks his mother, Christiane, so much that she falls into a coma and conveniently stays there until after the Berlin Wall has come down and Germany has been re-united. Problem is, Christiane is in such a frail condition that if she learns the ugly truth (that East Germany is now colourful, open and full of a variety of consumer goods) she will probably die. For understandable reasons, Alex doesn't want this. So he spends most of the rest of the film going to incredible lengths to pretend to his mother that the GDR (East Germany) is still a thing. He is (sort of) aided and abetted by his cynical sister, Ariane, his work friend and wannabe film director, Denis, and his new girlfriend, Lara. Even once Christiane is well enough to walk again, and she leaves the flat for the first time in months and sees all the trappings of civilisation in the previously monotonous city, Alex maintains that it's still the good old Eastern Bloc that we all know and love. Eventually, Christiane gets another heart attack and dies, making you wonder what you've just sat through 120 minutes of film for.

Okay, so if the plot's a bit of a flop, what does "Goodbye Lenin" have going for it? The answer is... ummm, not much. It was made in 2003 with nothing in the way of special effects, so the cinematography isn't much to boast about. I'm not sure how the actors deliver their lines because they're speaking German. There isn't what I'd call a "resonant soundtrack", but there is some nicely depressing montage music in the first five minutes which is bound to get stuck in your head and, to top it off, it's one of those films where you get to the middle and wonder why it hasn't finished yet.

But let's not be mean; if you watch the film for the same reason as I did, educational purposes, it's a bit more useful. As far as I can tell, it does a good job of representing the monotony of life in East Germany, and how much that life changed after the Wall came down. The characters, whilst not exactly inspiring, are at least believable (particular shout out to Denis, Alex's amusing friend whose fake news documentaries practically saved my sanity during this film). And bearing in mind that my usual field is either Disney or high fantasy, of course I'm going to be biased against something like this. So, basically: "Goodbye Lenin". It's a bit like Alex's fashion sense throughout: not terrible, but really not very good, either.



Book Review

TORTILLA FLAT

Tortilla Flat was written in 1935 and is one of John Steinbeck's earlier works. It is set in a housing estate bearing the name of the novel, in the paisano district of Monterey, California, in the years after World War 1 and during the Great Depression.

Steinbeck tells the story of Danny, who returns from the war to discover that he has inherited his grandfather's house and, as the story unfolds, Danny gathers a group of paisanos (people native to the state of California of mixed Spanish and American Indian ancestry) around him, and firm friendships are made as the individuals within the group navigate and falter their way through the trials of life as a 'band of brothers'. Steinbeck portrays the group as decent and good people, who live life according to their own rule book. In essence, this story can be summed up as being about friendship, loyalty, temptation, wine and women, with a mythical edge. Indeed, in the preface to the book, Steinbeck describes Danny's house as being not unlike the Round Table and Danny's friends as being not unlike the Arthurian knights of legend.

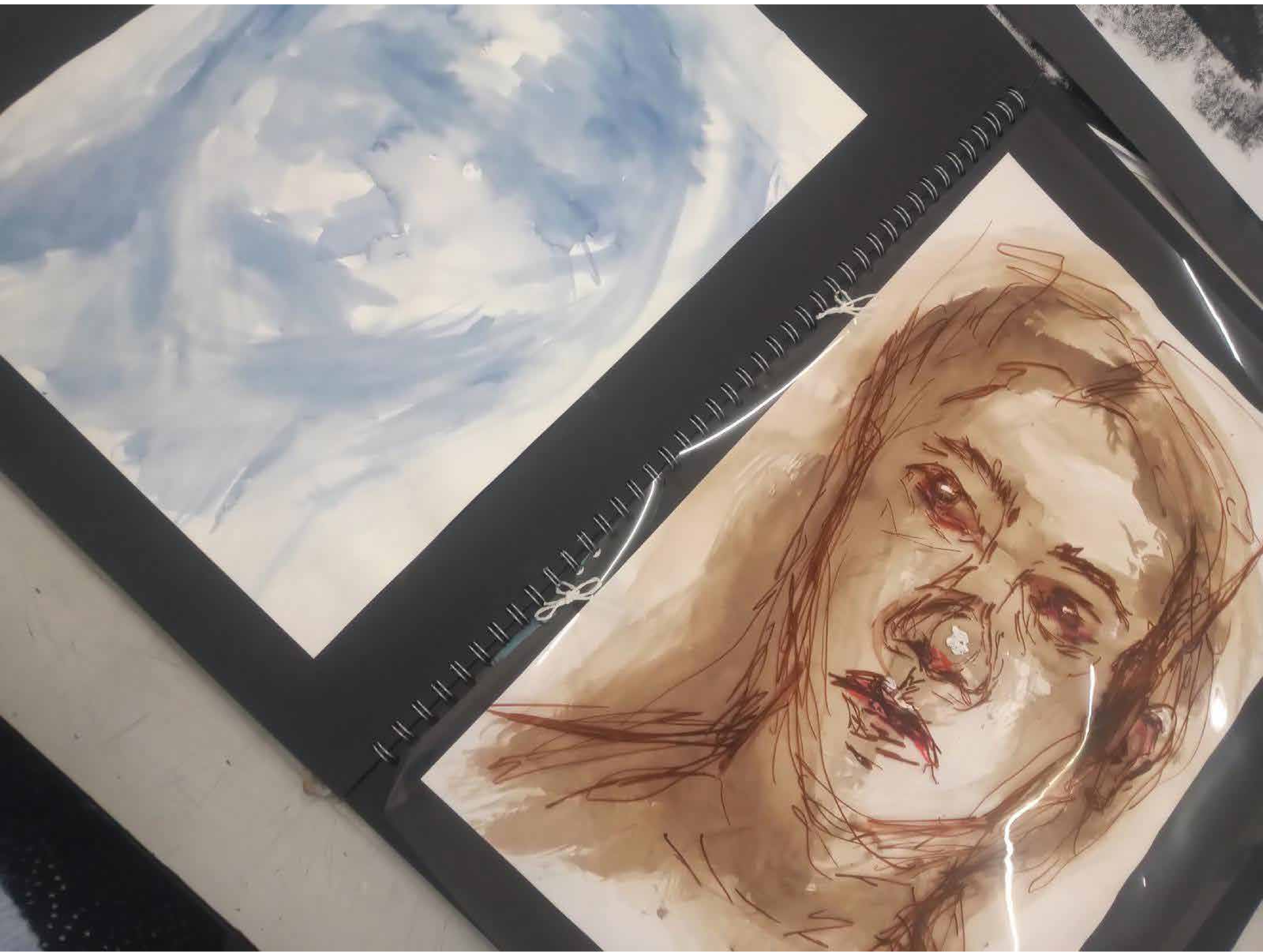
The quality of Steinbeck's prose is unsurprisingly faultless, but the true beauty of this book lies in Steinbeck's unique ability to bring his characters to life, each possessing their own idiosyncratic and endearing qualities, some good and some bad, but each so familiar that by the end of the book, you feel the need for further connection and mourn that there can be none.

Picking a favourite character betrays all the others, but the 'Pirate', 'whose head had not grown up with the rest of his body', has to be up there for me. This simple, kind, hard-working and humble character provides a lesson on how life should be lived, and brilliantly juxtaposes the lifestyles of most other members of the group who, although largely well intentioned, are wonderfully flawed.

The modern reader cannot miss the racial stereotyping in Steinbeck's portrayal of the paisanos, but Steinbeck's criticism of the 1942 film adaptation of the book, which portrayed them as quaint underdogs, seems to demonstrate that this was unintentional. So strong was Steinbeck's reaction to this interpretation of his work, he said he would never have written Tortilla Flat had he known his perception of paisanos would be so fundamentally misunderstood.

Short, captivating and beautiful, Tortilla Flat is a work of utter genius, but, more than that, it is one of those rare books that leaves something deep in your soul. Beg, borrow or steal it, just find some way of reading this book.

Finn M



**Portfolio Work - Grace M
Y13**

Interviewing Enbo



Former student Enbo Lyu completed her A levels at Lucton in 2019; as part of our international theme, we caught up with her to see how things had progressed for her post-Lucton! It was lovely to hear from her again, and we enjoyed our catch up! Below are some of the questions we asked, and her responses.

Tell Us About Your Degree

I am now in my third year of studying Mathematics at UCL, London. My degree consists of lots of different courses: pure maths, such as algebra and analysis, and applied maths, like Biomathematics and Newtonian mechanics.

What Have You Enjoyed Most About It?

I was attracted to UCL because they offer so many courses, covering a great wealth of subjects. This allows students to choose exactly what they're interested in, and find out which direction they want to pursue.

What is Your University Like?

Well, the main campus is in the centre of London, quite close to the British Museum. It's organised into

eleven different departments, each with their own architectural style. The location is perfect, as it's so close to many of London's excellent museums, libraries and research facilities.

What was the Highlight of Your Time at Lucton?

I'm not sure I can pick just one! But I really enjoyed all the sport, and it was so nice being able to work closely with the teachers and knowing they were always there to help me. I also had a lot of fun in the boarding house, which makes for many happy memories.

What are Your Plans for the Future?

After I graduate (as I said, I'm in my third year at UCL), it's my intention to do a Master's Degree in mathematics. This time at Oxford.

What Advice would You Give to Current Lucton Students?

Lucton is a great school, so really make the most of the facilities. Even more important; try to enjoy and live in every moment as it'll be over far too soon.

Which Country Would You Most Like to Visit and Why?

I would choose to visit Japan. Ever since I was young, I've been fascinated by the unique and interesting culture, lovely traditions and stunning scenery.



Felicity A Y13

Earth

Bleakness before it, hurtling through space-
A lonesome traveller, small and blue,
Around the fragile sun, it flew.

A billion years, and a billion more,
A billion small changes, a giant leap-
As life awakened from its sleep.
The tiny blue erupts with blooms,
Defying the void, that ever looms.
An enigma: life is fragile, many say-
But in the end it finds a way.

From miracle to miracle, birth to birth,
On our small, lonely, precious earth.
As ages went, life rose and fell,
From barren to verdant-then back to hell.
But we found a way, a way we found,
As quietly, without a sound.
A line was crossed, and a people made,
Humanity, on the world displayed.

As the earth spun, and circled the sun,
We grew, and learned, and lived and died-
Though death defied, and growth we tried,
Language, culture, tools, more-
More, ever more, we did not stop.

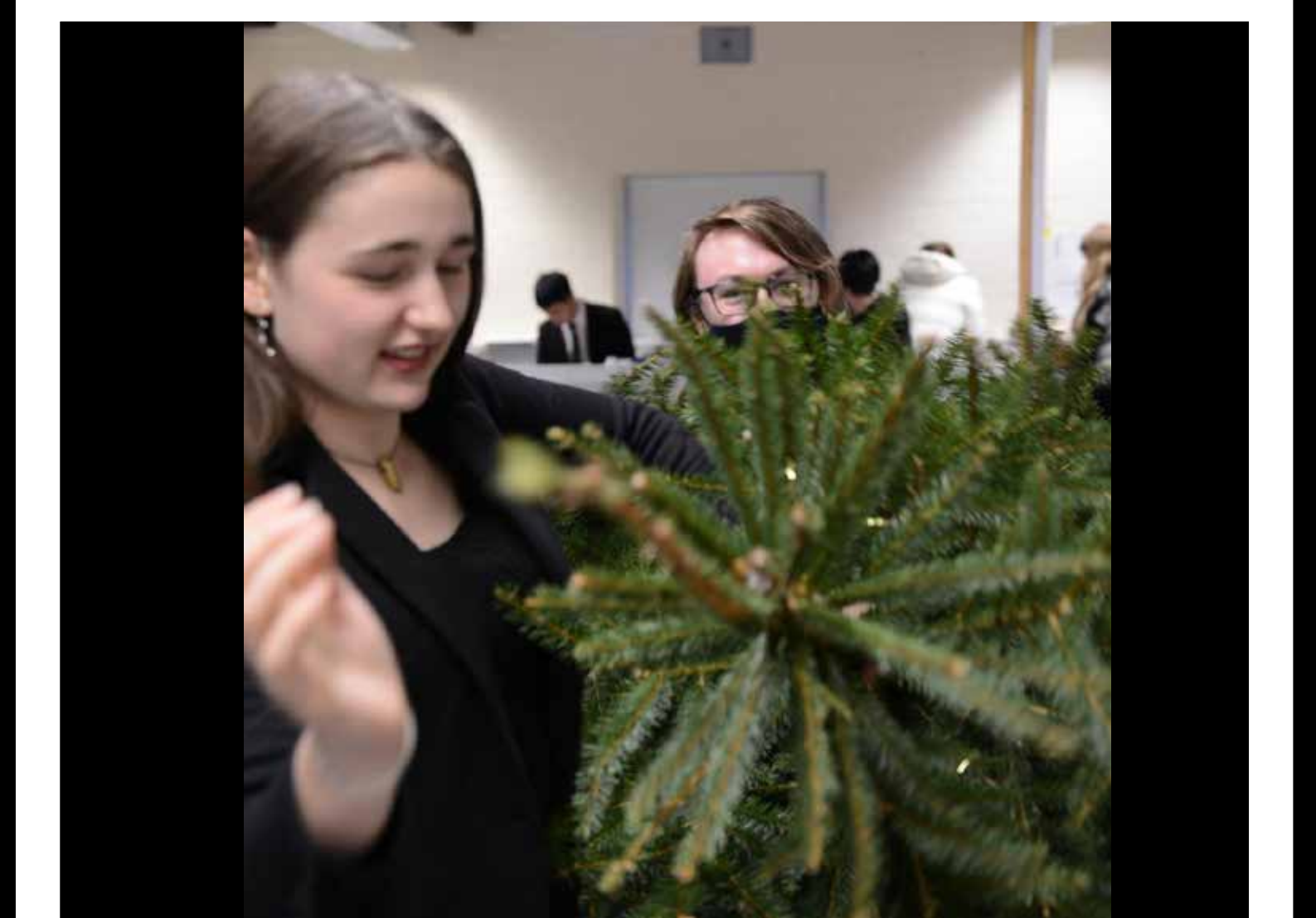
An earth, full of shining human lives,
Similar yet different, yet one people-
Living on one world.
Every life is precious, and every life unique-
From ideals that we seek, to language that we speak.
To work together, we stumble, then run-
One lone humanity, 'neath a distant sun.

So everything we built and broke,
Every tribe we made, word we spoke-
Culture made and ideas displayed-
Some eternal, some to fade.
But together, celebrate-
Who we were yesterday,
Who we are today.

And as for the future, let us dream
And work and toil, lay down a beam-
And then another, as we build the frame,
Of our common humanity: different, yet the same.
This tiny blue, this gift we possess,
Strive to build, not make a mess,
Strive to hold this precious earth-
The place of our birth, new life's hearth.
Every tongue and hand and eye-
Burn to be better, work to try,
For no matter the culture, colour, face-
We're all together, on this rock in space.

Hold on to this.
And don't let go.

Matthew D





Japan - Daniel L Y13

Dream Destinations

Students in the Sixth Form were asked the location of the most interesting place they have been to and why, and somewhere they would like to visit in the future.

Grace M

Been To: Vietnam
Want To: Sydney, Australia, to visit her older brother.



Daniel

Been to: Japan
Want To: Amsterdam, because it seems like an interesting place.



Seren
Been To: Rome
Want To: Iceland, to see the incredible landscape.



Matthew P
Been To: Shitterton, Cornwall
Want To: North Korea, as travelling there is so difficult

Molly:
Been To: South Africa
Want To: Thailand, to volunteer in an elephant sanctuary



Archie:
Been To: A World War Two bunker in Cannes
Want To: Nowhere. He's happy here.

Louise:
Want To: Oberstorf in Bavria, Germany, to compete at one of Europe's best ice rinks.

Matthew D:
Been To: Kruger National Park, South Africa
Want To: Geneva, Canada, to see the history of the area



Hannah:
Been To: Lanzarote
Want To: Greece,
the island where
Mamma Mia! Was
filmed

Alex R:
Been To: The Amazon
Rainforest, Brazil
Want To: Japan,
for the culture and
technology



Harri:
Been To: Australia
Want To: Japan,
just because it seems
cool

Reubens:
Been To: New York
Want To: Singapore,
to see the
architecture
Finn:
Want To: Finland,
because small country
and Dad lived there.



Maureen:
Been To: Dubai
Want To: Venice,
because it is sinking

Harvey:
Want To: A road trip
around the USA

Hershel:
Been To: Iceland
Want To: Norway,
it's peaceful, cold
and friendly with
cool history cool
architecture

Felicity:
Been To: Provence,
France
Want To: Svalbard, as
it's home to 5,000
polar bears

Jess:
Been To: Stonehenge,
Salisbury
Want To: St. Michael's
Mount, because it's
beautiful



With special thanks to...

- Louise P
- Grace M
- Mrs Mathie
- Mr Wolstenholme