



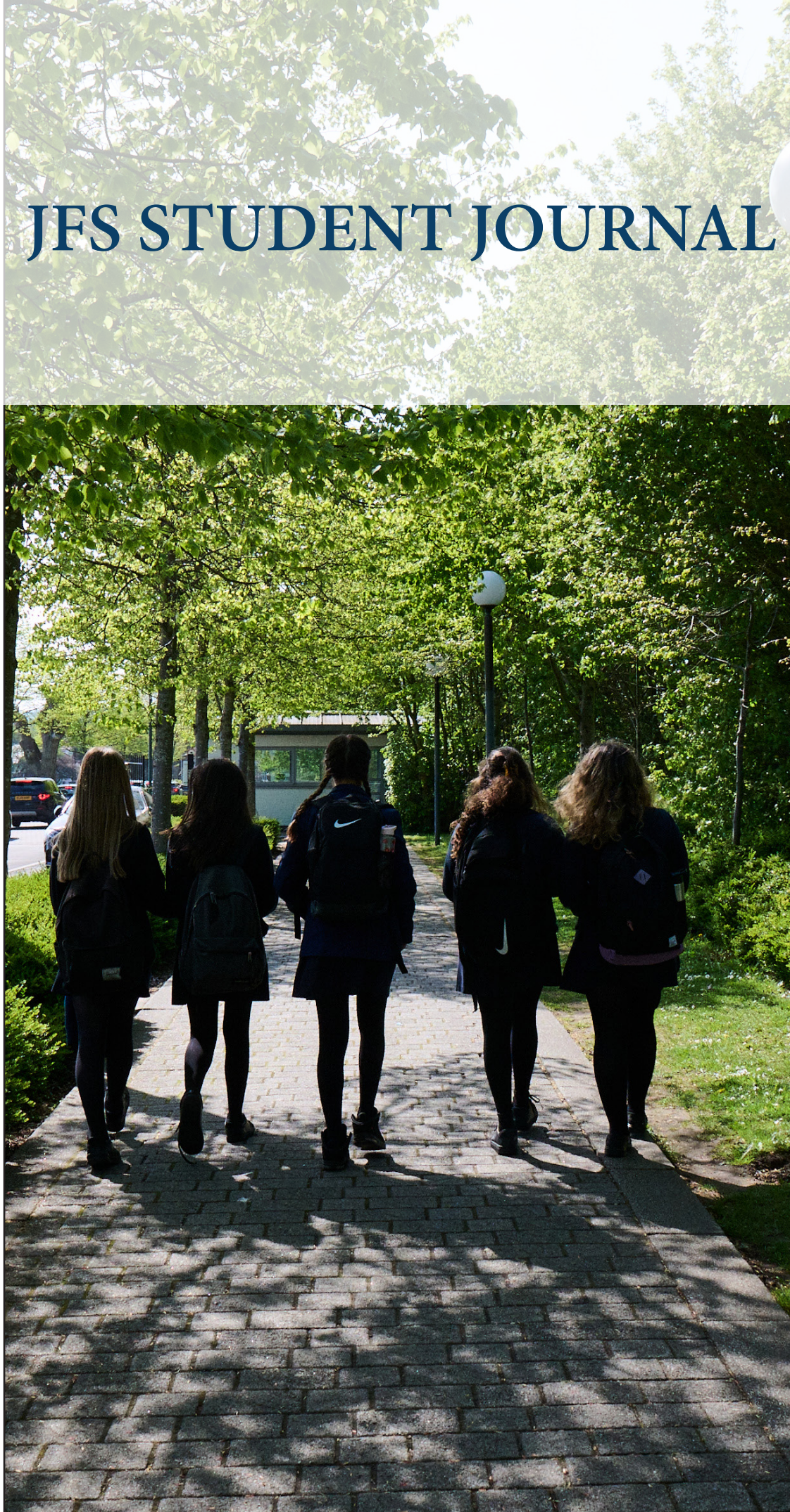
# JFS STUDENT JOURNAL

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK...

Our first edition of the 2023-24 school year not only presents us with new recruits writing for us – thank you so much to the year 7s who have become part of the team. But we also have a group of our students who are also writing for an online publication as part of a Journalism apprenticeship, please look at the bylines to see who our 'Young Reporters' are.

Wishing you a happy read

*Ms Wolfson*





# Gabrielle Chanel comes to the V&A



**Chanel coined her specific colour palettes and classic silhouettes for her clothing which challenged the traditional wardrobes of women**

The “Gabrielle Chanel fashion manifesto” is one of the first exhibitions of its kind where Gabrielle’s evolution of fashion and her life’s work is being put up for display for the public to observe.

The pieces on display in the Victoria and Albert Museum range from the pieces sold in her first ever boutique in Paris (21 Rue Cambon) from 1910, all the way to her last collection that she produced in 1971. The exhibition gives insight into all aspects of the establishment of Chanel as a brand when it was under the direction of its original designer Gabrielle Chanel.

The exhibition is laid out in a format which takes you on a journey of the emergence of the brand. It begins with the emergence of style and how Chanel coined her specific colour palettes and classic silhouettes for her clothing which challenged the

traditional wardrobes of women. The little black dress movement is also focused on and it is acknowledged that such a classic became such a staple item of clothing universally in many women’s wardrobes. There is also a room dedicated to the Chanel No.5 perfume and Chanel beauty, original products which Gabrielle Chanel produced were on display as well as a layout of what her dressing table looked like with all her beauty products on it.


Displayed in a room are dozens of original Chanel tweed suits with mini films showing the original fashion shows that occurred in the Chanel store in Paris. The classic flap bag is also a focus, there are original prototypes of the bag on display in numerous different colours with its classic quilting which soon became an item that the brand was known for. On display is a broad selection of evening wear and haute couture collections including Chanel’s final collection before she died and before Karl Lagerfeld took over as head designer in the 1980s.

The exhibition aims to present the evolution of Gabrielle Chanel’s life’s work from the beginning of her career as a designer to the end. We are also presented with how society interpreted the mark she was making on women’s wear and how this influenced women to step out of their comfort zone with fashion. The exhibition provides clarity on the origins of the brand and how key ideas and styles are still so heavily prevalent in the designs and products that Chanel puts out today.

By Layla Freedman Y13  
Young reporter scheme

# An Hour at the Opera

Since 1732, the Royal Opera House has brought Opera and Art to the English public. It is and will always remain, one of London's most iconic landmarks. But to many, it is an intimidating institution. To some, opera can seem inaccessible. So how to resolve this perception and increase the amount of people experiencing the beauty of opera, ballet and more? Well, the Royal Opera House has come up with a solution. On select dates, usually Monday's and starting at 1pm, lunchtime recitals condense the world of opera into an affordable, accessible and captivating hour of performance.

 ***You don't  
need to be an  
opera lover  
to attend the  
recitals***

The Recital itself is held in the gilded Crush Room, which gets converted from its daily function as the bar for the main auditorium into a mini theatre. Under two dazzling crystal chandeliers, rows of seats are laid out facing towards a grand piano. If you arrive early, you can take the opportunity to truly explore the Royal Opera House. It is a little-known fact that the building currently standing in Covent Garden is the third theatre of its kind at the site, following two devastating fires in 1808 and 1856. Most of the building, excluding the central auditorium with its Victorian facade and foyer, were designed and constructed in the 1990s. One of these new extensions includes the Paul Hamlyn Hall, the sculptural glass building directly adjacent to the Opera House, which can be booked for dining (NK). If you venture upwards, you reach the scenic Piazza terrace, with a restaurant perfect for meeting up with friends before the recital, or a bar to sit down and enjoy the view of Covent Garden and the London skyline in peace.

One of the main highlights of the recital for me was the surprise aspect of the performance. You never know who will be performing or the programme until you arrive,

providing an element of suspense and excitement!

The recital I attended was performed by the recently joined mezzo-soprano Veena Akama-Makia. A Jetter Parker Artist, winner of the 2022 Encouragement Award from the Laffont Competition Illinois District and the Virginia Cooper Maier Award. Accompanying her on the piano was David Gowland, the Artistic Director of the Jette Parker Artists Programme. Veena centred her performance around the themes

of home and belonging. From the very first note of 'I Love Him' by Jeanine Tesori, I was captured by the emotion of her voice. We were taken on a tour of 14 pieces, ranging from classical operas such as 'Carmen', to more modern compositions. She performed in multiple languages, including Italian, German and English, but the artistry of her singing was a constant. My personal favourites were 'Sympathy', an undated song by Florence Price (1887-1953), set to a poem by Paul Laurence Dunbar, and 'O Glory' by Shawn Okpebholo, the award-winning American composer and conductor.

The Royal Opera House lunchtime recitals are a great, accessible, and well-priced gateway into opera. Tickets are set at £16, and booking is simple through the Royal Opera House website, with plenty more upcoming days to reserve. You don't need to be an opera lover to attend the recitals. All you need is a lunch break or afternoon free, and the willingness to embark on a musical adventure.

By Ilana Long Y13  
Young reporter scheme





# The Future of Film: Ealing's Newest Cinema



I, unlike many JFS students do not live in North London. I hail from Ealing, a borough in West London with a rich history and a large emphasis on the arts and culture sector. In Ealing, you can find a wealth of activities, restaurants, and green spaces, all of which have made the borough into the great place it is today. Take a walk through Ealing Broadway and find an art gallery, cross the road to find the Questors Theatre, stroll forward to find yourself in Walpole Park, and then stumble upon Ealing Studios, the oldest working film production studio in the world, established before the Hollywood giants.

The London Borough of Ealing is best known for its popularity as a filming location. From the filming of the horror movie 'Shaun of the Dead' at

the famous studio, to the shooting of the iconic comedy series 'Only Fools and Horses' just down the road from me in South Acton. You might have seen parts of Ealing on your TV without even knowing it! But, surprisingly, between 2008 and 2021, the borough had no centrally located cinema, with residents having to go to the Odeon in Park Royal, on the edge of the borough, and even that closed for a long while for renovations. In addition, you would think that the Covid pandemic and a move towards home-release movies would have made this lack of cinemas even worse, right?

Well, not exactly. In 2021, the 'ActOne' an independent community cinema was launched in the heart of Acton High Street. With two small screens and a

café area, the 'ActOne' was welcomed by residents, wanting to enjoy the big screen again after missing out on them for such a long time. However, like London buses when you have waited ages for one, two more cinemas came along in Ealing in the following years. In July 2022, the Ealing Project opened its doors and became the first cinema in central Ealing in over 14 years. The three-screen theatre, built on a former nightclub site, offers a café, bar, live music stage and community space which became popular with locals, excited by the prospect of having a cinema right on their doorstep. Then, in October 2023, the Picturehouse joined the Ealing Project in central Ealing, and I went to their opening.

The Picturehouse Ealing has become the biggest cinema in the borough,



with eight screens and a capacity of 900, beating out the Odeon Acton's capacity of 790. From the outside, the building is seemingly a normal cinema. You walk in, you buy your ticket and snacks and you watch your film. Yet, take a closer look and see that the foyer is decorated with paintings and pictures of Ealing Studios, which connect the cinema with the area's most prized possession. The magic of cinematography almost comes alive in the Picturehouse, as the people behind it clearly understand the importance of the borough in the film industry.

Its ribbon cutting ceremony on October 18 launched the cinema to local dignitaries as well as Picturehouse executives and staff and several members of Ealing Council. Speeches were given by Leader of Ealing Council, Peter Mason, former Mayor of Ealing, Mohinder Midha, Managing Director of 'Picturehouse Cinemas', Clare Binns and

## Film does change lives

Chairman of St George and part of the Berkeley Group, Piers Clanford. During the cutting of the ribbon, Ms Binns said to attendees, "There is no doubt to me that film and culture is important to us as individuals and to our community. Film does change lives."

That quote stuck with me. Something that I have realised over the last three years is that opportunities should never be passed up, as for all you may know, that opportunity will become

the best thing you have ever done. The team at the Picturehouse have done just that. The 2019 attendance for cinema in the UK was miles higher than that of 2022. But, although the number of people going to the cinema has declined, the Picturehouse was still pushed for opening. They had the opportunity to open Ealing's biggest cinema and they could have given up on this, believing that they would be unsuccessful. Instead, they're reigniting the significance film holds in the borough, and paving the way for the future of film; and I love that Ealing finally has a place to commemorate one of its greatest assets.

So next time you watch a film, I ask you to enjoy it. Film does change lives.

By Emily Bunder Y13  
Young reporter scheme





# An Ode to Sondheim

I'm a big fan of theatre, particularly musicals. So, imagine my excitement when I discovered that a close family friend is actually a musical director! Ted Sperling, and some of his Broadway productions may be familiar to you, including *My Fair Lady*, *Fiddler on the Roof* and *The King and I*. He has won awards and worked with artists such as Anne Hathaway from the *Princess Diaries*, Idina Menzel, the voice of Elsa from *Frozen*, and Michael Bublé. He even featured in a stage version of *Titanic*.

Over the summer I visited Ted and his family in Connecticut, and I learnt a lot about him and his connections in the showbiz industry. In fact, while we were there, we went to a concert of his, entitled *Isn't It Bliss*, where he performed a series of songs by his mentor and famous composer and lyricist, Stephen Sondheim. Although people who are not so well-versed in the world of theatre may not have heard his name, for certain some of his musicals will jog your memory. He wrote the lyrics for *West Side Story*, and composed *Into the Woods*. At the concert, Mr. Sperling performed love songs from different Sondheim shows which documented the progression of a romantic relationship. This was because, as Mr. Sperling said at the opening of the recital, "Sondheim was known for his wit. So, I thought let's get to know him better, to appreciate his warmth."

Some of the audience favourites during *Isn't It Bliss* included 'Getting Married Today', which was sung extremely quickly and was certainly the comedic relief of the show, and the more famous 'Send in the Clowns', which was a beautiful and emotional performance. Mr. Sperling recounted several anecdotes where he, a young man at the New York Juilliard School for performing arts, got in contact with Sondheim. He explained that while he and his fellow students were putting on a Sondheim production, he sent a

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letter to the composer asking, "Can I change it a bit?" The composer replied with a confirmation.

Later, when directing a Sondheim musical as a student at Yale, Mr. Sperling once again had a few alterations to make. So, he sent another letter, and this time Sondheim came to watch his production. Mr. Sperling said, "That was the beginning of a long and fascinating working relationship." This was rather inspiring for me and my family, a reminder that as a student, one shouldn't be afraid to contact your role models, you may just get a reply. Sperling was willing to write a letter to a top Broadway

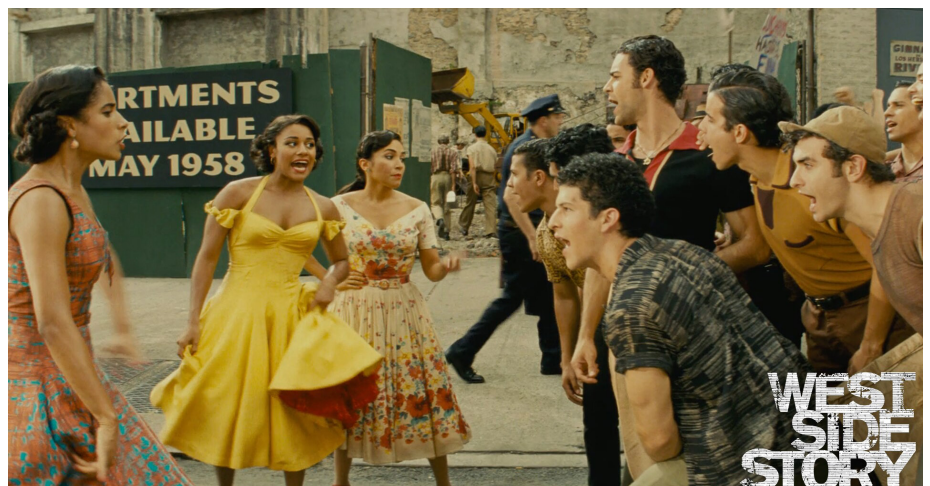
composer just in case it would help him progress in his career.

Sondheim was known as a solitary, introverted man, not a hopeless romantic. Sperling told us this was why he decided to perform Sondheim's songs about romance, to showcase this other side of him. Sondheim only had his first relationship in his sixties. This part of his life was reflected in his production, 'Company', which was the story of a bachelor who never wed and could never find himself a relationship. But he wrote songs about marriage as well. 'Feeling somewhat at sea', Mr. Sperling explained, "Sondheim invited a longtime friend Mary Rodgers to his home to 'tell me everything you know about marriage' and promptly took notes."

Just four years before his death, in 2017, Sondheim finally got married and settled down in Connecticut with his partner, Jeffrey Romley.

Sadly, he passed away in November 2021, during the pandemic. After the lockdown, Mr. Sperling was finally able to put on this performance, perhaps as an ode to Sondheim after his death. Mr. Sperling remembers him as a great, witty mentor, and, as the Guardian obituary for Sondheim says, "A leading light of musical theatre over the course of more than six decades."

Natasha Alexander Y10  
Young reporter scheme





# 2025's New cars



For over 100 years, since the Ford Model T hit the market, cars have been a part of our everyday lives. In the last 10-15 years, more and more cars have been released and there are many more still to come. The recent increase in car innovation has been 'driven' by the development of electric motor technology. Here are a few cars to look out for in 2025.

The Ferrari Purosangue, Ferrari's first SUV (well, sort of). Ferrari doesn't really want to call it an SUV as they say that it's still a sports car at heart. Unlike its rivals, the Purosangue has only four seats and sits fairly low to the ground. There are many extra options for the Purosangue, adding to the already hefty starting price of £313,120. Its engine is a 6.5-litre V12 making 715bhp. The Purosangue has rear-hinged back doors, which open independently of the front ones. Inside, it feels very Ferrari. The boot is 473 litres, which isn't amazing considering its rivals.



Next, is the Volvo EX90, a huge, 7-seat, fully electric SUV. This car is a development on the Volvo XC90, a similar car but with petrol and diesel engines. The standard engine has 402bhp, a lot for a bulky SUV and the Performance model has even more than that at a combined 510bhp. The performance model will have a 0-62mph time of less than five seconds. Inside, there's a huge 15.0in central touchscreen replacing the earlier 9.0in one. There are very little

buttons inside but there is one for volume. Exact boot space has not yet been confirmed but it'll hopefully be as much as the XC90.

Lastly, the Volkswagen ID 7, a spacious executive car to replace the VW Passat. The entry-level version gives you an estimated range of 367 miles, which is good. However, a larger 435-mile battery will also be available, which is very good compared with rivals. All ID 7s will come with a head-up display,

which effectively puts important information right on the windscreen. The ID 7 has been designed a bit more luxuriously than other electric Volkswagens. It is available with heated and ventilated seats and (if you pay a bit more money) massage seats as well.

By Zach Bokobza Y7



**the recent  
increase in car  
innovation has  
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the development  
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technology**





# The BBC Earth Experience



In West Brompton, London lies a breath-taking exhibition - the BBC Earth Experience which is held in the Daikin Centre. The arrival greeted us with a very long queue, but it was definitely worth it.

When I stepped into the building, I already felt like I was travelling around the world with bright images on the wall, to the right there were lockers decorated with animals and interesting facts about them. Then you enter the actual experience. The first main room you enter has many different perspectives, and angles projected on many large screens which makes you feel like you are right in there, watching the action as it happens. This is because of 360-degree audio and visual experiences.

The screens visit each continent showing three or four stories from each one. There are large bean bags to rest on and also bench-sofas so

you can sit and take it all in with no rush. If you want a view from up-above you can also go up the stairs to the balcony. Along the stairs were little circles with projections of baby animals with their mums which was a really cute little add on.

There were also two rooms where you could go into which were called micro-life and water-life. The main feature of water life was that you could play interactive games to entertain the younger ones. The main feature of micro-life was an interactive experience where a poem is read as bugs and beetles were projected all over the floor.

Then finally, just before you exit, there is a room where a video recording of David Attenborough speaks about climate change and our responsibilities while a realistic 3D earth appears up-above.



*makes you feel  
like you are right  
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the action as it  
happens*

It was a really great experience and I would recommend it to those who love nature, animals and the environment.

By Roline Pillemer Y8





# Dia de Muertos

In the centre of London, on Saturday 18th October 2023, a brilliant event took place. Thousands gathered for the entire day to celebrate in Ossulston Street for the festival of the Day of the Dead organised in collaboration with the Mexican Embassy in the UK, the British Library and UNAM-UK.

For those who do not know, the Day of the Dead 'Día de Muertos' is a Mexican festival that remembers those who have passed away and celebrates their memory. It is usually celebrated in late October or early November, hence the time of the event.

On one side of Ossulston Street there was a giant screen, showing Mexican films and documentaries. On the other side, there was a stage where various artists performed all types of Mexican music. On the street was an array of 44 Mexican market stalls that kept people young and old entertained.



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It was a festival of senses. Spanish could be heard everywhere, the smell of traditional dishes lay in the air and it was a spectacle of colours with flags everywhere and people dressed up

in costumes. Natalie S. a visitor said, "I love that living in London gives us access to cultures all around the world."

In addition to the street, there were many activities especially for families with young children in the StoryGarden, a community garden on Ossulston Street between the Francis Crick institute and the British Library. There was scavenger hunt, free face painting, seed bomb making, storytelling and a traditional and even a spectacular tribal dance and music performance.

Overall, it was an amazing experience and I recommend you to come next year and experience and learn about Mexico and its fascinating traditions and culture.

Elijah Pillemer Y10  
Young reporter scheme





# This is local London #1

Many football fans recognise the Emirates FA Cup as a prestigious tournament iconised by the famous draw which consists of pulling out marbles from a black silk bag.

For many Premier League fans, the cup begins in January, although in reality, the tournament's qualifying rounds get underway only a few weeks after the winner's trophy is lifted, in this instance by Manchester City at a sold-out Wembley Stadium.

The first proper round, to be played on the weekend of the 4th November, is in fact the 7th round out of 14 that a club may have to play. It is the only tournament in the country that is not exclusive to which league you are in, allowing the prospect of a Premier League giant to play against a semi-professional club that may be part-time, have voluntary staff, and a regular attendance of only around 250-500 people.

'Round One Proper' is significant as it welcomes teams at a 'professional' level to enter. This means that a team such as Portsmouth, former FA Cup winners, top of League One, and playing their games in front of 20,000 people, join at this stage. They can be potentially matched up against Cray Valley Paper Mills (PM), a side in the Isthmian South East Division, playing at a small stadium in South London that can hold up to



1,000 people on a good day!

While Cray Valley PM did not get Portsmouth, they were handed a fellow League One side in Charlton Athletic at the Valley. The two teams are separated by only four miles, yet six entire divisions split them apart. A televised trip to the Valley is crucial for Cray Valley's stability as a football club, with potential earnings of up to £41,000 in addition to a hefty bonus from BBC's live coverage.

Last year's tournament saw three National League (Level 5) teams surpass the third proper round, gaining winnings of more than £100,000. This has been key for Boreham Wood and Chesterfield in this instance, allowing them to gain significant advantages on-field as well as reinvesting to improve the quality that they can offer supporters off-field.

So, while the reality is that Cray Valley may fall to a heavy defeat by their local neighbours, the advantages to a trip are the more significant factor. The club will welcome more ticket sales as supporters make the short trip to the Valley, and earnings from the match and the outcome aren't as definite as 'on paper' may suggest.

To cap the perfect story off, Kyrell Lisbie, the 19-year-old son of Charlton Athletic legend Kevin Lisbie, scored a brace in the 2nd round against Enfield Town to put Cray Valley two goals to the good and will now have the chance to face his father's side at the ground he once shone in.

It's the magic of the cup, isn't it?

By Aaron Jaffe Y13  
Young reporter scheme

  
**It's the  
magic of  
the cup,  
isn't it?**



# Back of the Net

On the 3rd October, JFS Year 7 boys football team played a friendly vs St Gregory's at JFS home ground. For both teams, the first half was very quiet, scoring no goals. With great skill, in the second half, the hosts had a corner, and Dylan Cohen put it in the back of the net, scoring the first goal for JFS. But then, in the last minute, JFS were awarded a penalty and Gabrielle Shirling stepped up and scored, making the full-time score 2-2.

One week later, JFS came across Enfield Grammar School, yet again, on their home ground. Brandon Lissner scored a brace in the first half, and Dylan Cohen, in the second half, scoring in his second match in as many weeks. But it wasn't enough for the guests' 5 goals as opposed to 3 for JFS. One player commented, "The team felt they played well and tried their best."

By Sebby Blain Y7

*The team felt  
they played  
well and tried  
their best*





# The Tragic Death of Maddy Cusack



On September 20th, Maddy Cusack the 27-year-old midfielder for Sheffield United passed away. The police were called to a property in Horsley just after 6.30pm, where Cusack was pronounced dead.

After joining the Sheffield United community in 2019, Maddy was the longest-serving member of the women's team and was the first to reach 100 appearances. Paul Heckingbottom, the manager of the Sheffield United men's team, said, in his tribute to Cusack, "She was a big part of everything. Senior figure amongst the women's team." Billy Sharp, who recently left the Sheffield United men's team for the LA Galaxy, posted, "Such a lovely girl, enjoyed some amazing times with Maddy and the Blades. Such a sad loss. RIP Maddy."

As there are no known reasons for her death and it was unexpected, police have been involved. However, the case is not being treated as suspicious, as anonymous sources have claimed that her health may

have declined prior to her premature death. With no proper proof of any sort of health conditions, Cusack's health status is unclear, which has led to rumours such as her suffering from cancer. There has now been an official case opened on the cause of Maddy Cusack's death. Louise Pinder, the assistant coroner on the case, said that they are awaiting a police file and medical cause of death so there will be no progress made for around six weeks.

At the beginning of the Sheffield United vs Newcastle game, players took a minute's silence in memory of Cusack, while wearing shirts with the number 8 on, her squad number. As well as the Blades, the England and Scotland women's teams held a separate tribute, with players on both teams wearing black armbands to represent the grief felt for Cusack across the football world. At the end of the first Blades game since Cusack's death, many players were in tears, having done the job, as they said, for Cusack. The Doncaster squad, who were deeply saddened

by this tragedy, also held a minute of applause for Maddy, and many other teams confirmed that they would encourage the same.

One memorable attribute was her work with the men's team, showing tolerance of gender equality.

Zichrona Livracha – may the achievements and legacy of Maddy Cusack live on.

By Esther Nathan Y8

**There has now been an official case opened on the cause of Maddy Cusack's death**



# Breaking Down Barriers

Breaking down barriers – Leah Israelsohn

In October, the UK celebrates National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM), a month dedicated to recognising and appreciating the contributions of workers with disabilities and promoting inclusive workplaces. The month was set up in order to celebrate the contributions of disabled individuals to the workforce and promote equal employment opportunities for them.

NDEAM, first established in 1945, has come a long way in breaking down barriers and creating more opportunities for people with disabilities in the workforce. The month was set up in order to celebrate the contributions of disabled individuals to the workforce and promote equal employment opportunities for them. The theme for this year's NDEAM is 'Inclusion Drives Innovation'. It brings attention to the vital role that people with disabilities play in driving innovation in the workplace.

By creating environments that welcome and support individuals with disabilities, companies and organizations can help to create a diverse range of talent and harness unique perspectives to fuel creativity and problem-solving. Employers across the country are

taking steps to make their workplaces more inclusive. Accommodations, such as accessible workspaces, assistive technologies, flexible work schedules, and educational resources, are becoming increasingly common to support employees with disabilities. By doing so, businesses are not only fostering a more diverse and equitable work environment but also reaping the benefits of a richer and more innovative workforce.

NDEAM also serves as a reminder of the importance of breaking down stereotypes and promoting awareness. Encouraging conversations around disability, inclusion, and diversity in the workplace is key to driving lasting change. This awareness helps remove the stigma associated with disabilities and empowers individuals with disabilities to pursue their careers with confidence.

Government agencies, non-profits, and advocacy groups are actively engaged in spreading the message of NDEAM. They offer resources, guidance, and tools to help employers create more inclusive workplaces and support employees with disabilities. Events and initiatives throughout the month provide opportunities for individuals to share their experiences and celebrate the achievements of people with

disabilities in the workforce.

This October, we should all come together to celebrate National Disability Employment Awareness Month by recognising the contributions of workers with disabilities, promoting inclusivity, and continuing the journey toward a more diverse and innovative workforce. It is a reminder that in the world of employment, diversity and inclusion drive progress and success for all.

By Leah Israelsohn Y11

Young reporter scheme

*diversity and  
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# Democracy in Action Locally



**aimed to give the young generation access and the ability to ask questions and learn about Democracy**

The week of the 16th to 20th of October was allocated to Local Democracy Week. This is a week dedicated to the youth to absorb and be introduced to more information about parliament and democracy.

Locally, Brent Civic Centre in Wembley took part in this week by arranging activities such as a Question Time event and tours for the youth of Brent from ages 11 to 18. It was aimed to give the young generation access and the ability to ask questions and learn about Democracy, as well as what it means in relation to parliament and our country. This was made available through having representatives from Brent Youth Parliament (BYP) as well as leaders of the community to answer any queries about any problems or issues any of the attendees wanted to ask.

A representative from BYP Manel stated that the session, "Gave people from all backgrounds to hold them (the leaders of community) responsible and was a great opportunity." She also added that voting at 16 was a common question and topic asked. This highlights the

youth using this session to query about them having more influence in how Democracy and the country is run from a younger age.

A tour was also offered so that they could learn about how the inside of the Brent Civic Centre in Wembley works and have 'restricted' information about the goings on in the security sector, boardrooms etc. This allowed a deeper understanding about how it would be really like to work for democratic institutions such as Brent Council.

Local Democracy week is a successful annual event that enables youth to be in touch with Democracy and their local leaders, allowing them more freedom and learning about their present and futures. It is essential that these opportunities and sessions continue to be available to ensure that Democracy can be questioned and learnt about by the youth to enable a flourishing democratic future.

By Hannah Pillierner Y11  
Young reporter scheme









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