

# The Maiden Erlegh Marvel



## Interview with Mrs James

By Emma Graugnard and Sasha Harper



First, Mrs James gave us a few facts: that she is a very experienced pastoral leader, her favourite colour is blue and the team she supports is Hull City. She also said that she was 'very very pleased and also very excited' about being chosen to be the Head of Year at the new school but felt a massive responsibility, as starting at a new school was 'exciting but daunting'. She stated that 'all of the teachers and tutors have been so hard-working and that it is a privilege to work with them; they want the best for the students'. As many know, Mrs James teaches as well as being Head of Year. She said that her favourite subject is R.E. because you can discuss and be creative.

Mrs James says being a Head of Year means that you have to deal with some problems. She always thinks that its important 'to listen to the different stories each pupil has to tell', and then tries to put the real story together in the best way possible. Furthermore, she thinks that 'how a misdemeanour is put right is what counts' when an incident has occurred.

Finally, Mrs James is 'looking forward to going into our new building in September'.

**Look where we're up to with the new building - nearly there!**

There have been huge developments this half term with our new school building. Work is forging ahead with the inside construction of the classrooms, communal areas, admin and resource areas - and there are windows! The school's staff and students are really excited to see the school progressing so quickly and can't wait to be in the new buildings in the Autumn term.



This edition's editor is...

Elizabeth Adetoye

Elizabeth is a twelve year old student in 7Y2 who loves to catch up and do fun things with her friends, whilst pursuing her passion for writing, using her more creative side. She likes to go swimming, and playing the piano, as well as singing in her spare time. Elizabeth's favourite subjects are English and Drama.

## MES Sixth Formers Visit Assembly

By Amishi Gupta

On 2<sup>nd</sup> May, sixth formers from our sister school, Maiden Erlegh, Wokingham, came to our school and gave an assembly on mental health. The nine sixth formers had prepared a wonderful assembly for us and it was enjoyable and engaging.

After the assembly, the tutor reps chose one or two sixth formers to come to their tutor rooms with them. We then had an opportunity to ask them questions about their previous and present school life.

A bit more on mental health... Mental health includes our emotional, psychological, and social well-being. It affects how we think, feel, and act. It also helps determine how we handle stress, relate to others, and make choices. Mental health is important at every stage of life, from childhood and adolescence through adulthood. The sixth formers gave us some sensible advice to help us de-stress when necessary and to make sure we are healthy emotionally as well as physically. We are very grateful to them for giving up their time to do so.



## The EU Referendum



Katy, Bethan, Ella and Damini presented the debate about the EU referendum in assembly last week. You may be wondering what EU stands for? Well, it is the European Union - a political partnership involving 28 European countries. It was created after World War II to prevent anything like this dreadful war from occurring again. The EU oversees borders, travel, immigration and trade.

The referendum is giving the citizens of Britain a chance to vote on whether they want to remain a part of the EU or not. The country votes on 23rd June. In assembly, Damini represented the views of Boris Johnson, from the *Vote Leave Campaign* while Bethan presented the views of David Cameron from *Britain Better in Europe*.

David Cameron wants Britain to stay in the EU because he believes it is better for jobs and trade. Boris Johnson wants to leave the EU because he thinks there are too many laws coming from the EU and we have a huge opportunity to build a new and positive friendship with the rest of Europe but under a different structure.



Cameron and Johnson slug it out over Europe.

After the assembly we had a vote to see what our school thought. The results are:

Votes to leave the EU - 4

Votes to remain in the EU -154

This is a resounding majority for remaining in the EU. What will the actual result be in June? Watch this space!

Katy, Damini, Bethan, Ella



**Year 7 have been studying Greek mythology and the paintings and poetry inspired by the myths.**

## **LANDSCAPE WITH THE FALL OF ICARUS**

**By Uriel Kerestey**

Brightly dressed ploughman turning over the land,  
Soaking in the sunshine and cleaning away the sand,  
The white cliffs are shining like the gleaming sea,  
As the sun glitters there is nothing to see.  
A brilliant vessel lies just off the shore,  
While bystanders and fisherman, look at the sea floor,  
But all we can see are Icarus' feet,  
Drowning forever, and completely beat ...



*Landscape with the Fall of Icarus*

by Breughel

## **ECHO AND NARCISSUS**

**By Narjis Ghyas**

As I see you sitting by, minutes, hours, days,  
Upon the smooth surface of the lake.  
Oh why, do you make me wait to hear the words?  
'I love you Echo!'  
Oh how much I would die to hear those words,  
'I love you Echo!'  
Oh Narcissus, upon the lake does my true love lay,  
Oh when will you look above, to see your lover once again?  
When, oh when!  
Ever since I lie in front of you,  
The only thing on my mind is why,  
Oh why Narcissus, do you not look above  
To see where your destiny lies, but until that day comes,  
I will be waiting, even if I die, just for you!

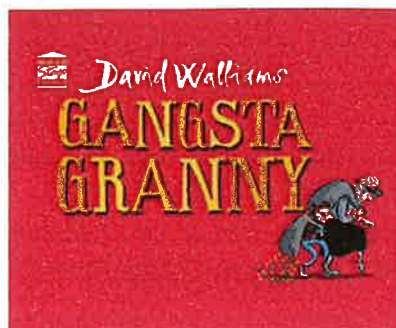
*Echo and Narcissus*

by Waterhouse



## **Theatre trip to 'Gangsta Granny'**

By Elizabeth Adetoye, Narjis Ghyas and Anesa Alam



Our school was privileged enough to go to the Hexagon to watch a live performance of the hit book, "Gangsta Granny" on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> 2016. It was an engaging piece that was fun to watch and definitely worth coming for. It was a very funny performance especially the part when Granny said that she was going to escape very fast on her mobility scooter and ended up taking five minutes to go one metre! The set was incredibly clever, as the transitions were very smooth. If Miss Tolman came to watch, she would definitely have been very impressed. All of the actors must have been rehearsing for a very long time, because their performance was brilliant. Somebody who was particularly noticeable was the actor playing Flavio whose flamboyant performance had us all laughing out loud. Narjis said that it was 'very funny indeed!' along with Anesa who added, 'the music was very cool and dramatic'. A very special thank you goes out to Mrs Escott-New for organising the trip.

Storyline: It's Friday night, and Ben is over at Gran's again. That means cabbage soup, cabbage pie and crème-brûlée, flavoured with cabbage, of course.

Ben hates going to Gran's house as it is the most boring thing on Earth, but that was until he discovered that Gran had a secret to hide, making Friday nights lots more fun than he would have thought.



Gilly Tompkins as Granny

## Advice for Taking an Exam By Narjis Ghyas

Are you worried about an upcoming test or assessment? Just remember you can work so hard to study large quantities of information for a test, but if you don't prepare yourself mentally and physically before that exam, all that hard work can sadly go down the drain.

Here are some tips doing well in a test you are really stressed about:

- Get a good night's sleep.

Studies have found that if you stay awake for 20+ hours straight, you have the mental capacity of someone who is legally drunk- in terms of your ability to concentrate, memorise and recall information. Make sure you get an average of 8 hours of sleep a night.

- Exercise

If you exercise for at least 30 mins a day, it will help you study more effectively for various reasons. Firstly, it's a great way to relieve stress and anxiety. Secondly, it gets blood flowing to your brain, which will supply more oxygen to your brain, which can help you to think more clearly.

- Drink plenty of water.

When we can't think clearly, it's because our brains need to be hydrated, which is why you should drink plenty of water before your test.

- Focus on what you do know rather than what you don't know.

Chances are there will always be something that you could have studied more thoroughly or don't know as well as you should but you can't do much about it at the last minute, so there is no point of worrying about it- come back to a question you can't do later if you have time, and have completed nearly all the other questions. You are better off focusing on the fact that you know a lot of answers to the other questions than the current one you're stuck on.

- Have a good and healthy breakfast.

Studies have found that students who skip breakfast experience a 20-40% reduction in thinking skills. If you have a healthy, nutritious breakfast, you will stabilise your mood, have plenty of energy and better concentration, memory and alertness.

I hope these tips will help you in your next test.



## Play review – Jekyll and Hyde

by Emma Graugnard

This play was about a scientist, named Dr Henry Jekyll, who wanted to see if there was another person within us. He tries many ways, and finds a medicine that "turns you into someone else". He drank this, but Dr Jekyll had too much, therefore could never return himself to what he was before. Jekyll was now Hyde, a very malicious man. In the end, something quite creepy happens...

In this play at the Progress Theatre, my favourite actor was the man who played Jekyll (and Hyde). The reason for this is that he really did seem like another man once he was Hyde. In fact, he was actually quite scary, especially if you were sat at the front of the theatre and he picked up props when he was annoyed. The play kept me guessing throughout; I wondered what was going to happen next. The whole play actually felt very real as the actors were great at playing their roles. There were some tense moments, too, as well as chilling ones. My favourite part of the play was the ending, with some very edgy scenes.

Overall, the play produced and performed, by the Progress Theatre, was very exciting to watch, with many fantastic actors. But remember, when you are watching a scary play, never sit too close! Try reading the novella *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson if you like the idea of this story.

