



ROKEBY RECORDER

DARE TO BE THE BEST



DIVERSITY AND



EQUALITY MONTH



Respect Success Passion for Learning Personal Challenge Harmony

Spring Term 2021 | Issue 15



Adedamola Otunuga, Year 11

DIVERSITY MONTH AT ROKEBY

As we emerge from lockdown and welcome students back in to school, our first edition of the Rokeby Recorder this term is a celebration of some of the fantastic work completed during Diversity & Equality Month. Every department across school engaged students in curriculum activities that aimed to promote discussion and engagement with issues relating to diversity and inclusion and the importance of combatting discrimination, in all its forms, within society.

Our art and writing competition, sponsored by Pinsent Masons, resulted in over 100 wonderful submissions; here is a snap shot of just a few of them. Other activities across school included discussions around forced marriage using *Romeo & Juliet*; age and society through *An Inspector Calls* (English); learning Labi Siffre's *So Strong* in music; decolonising languages through representation of non European French and Spanish-speaking communities across the world; LGBTQ+ issues in the sports; equality and religion, human relationships and social justice in RE. All students also took part in Diversity Month assemblies and a P4C enquiry on exploring identity online.



Respect, Success, Passion for Learning, Personal Challenge, Harmony

DIVERSITY & EQUALITY MONTH

Ada Lovelace and Women in Computing

Women have played an important role in the development of computers in today's society. Many famous figures such as Ada Lovelace, Mary Coombs, and Dina St. Johnson have all ignored the stereotypes of women in the past and have managed to bring the balance of men and women in the technological world. The number of women in the tech industry has continued to increase but women still remain underrepresented in the technology field. Many have been placed in the books of forgotten history, for example, when women were dominant in computing during the 19th and 20th centuries. Nowadays, there are many famous women in tech industries such as the CEO of Yahoo-Marissa Mayer, who was one of Google's first employees.



Yoosuf Riyaldeen, Year 11 | Computer Science | Excerpt from essay on women in computing



Muhammad Ibrahim Abdul Majid (Year 10)



Kelvin Appah Newton (Year 11)

There was once a man who had a vision
He wanted a world without any collision
He had a dream that we would stand
United together in this holy land
He wanted us all to be equal
And live without any evil
Unfortunately, this man was killed
But what he said, should've still stood
Is it really hard to treat everyone equally?
Can't we live like a family, and live peacefully?
He fought for injustice, but then got killed
Doesn't this show corruption, and censorship
He cared for all, no matter their colour or race,
But many disagree, such a disgrace
His passion so profound
He would not turn around
He taught this suffering Earth
The measure of man's worth
He preached on how it should be
But many disagreed, full of idiosyncrasy

Aaryan Islam Year 10 | Entry for written competition | My Diversity and Equality Role Model: Martin Luther King



Pinsent Masons

The Diversity and Equality month art and writing competition was sponsored by Pinsent Masons. Next week members of Rokeby's Senior Leadership team will shortlist the entries and then a judging panel at Pinsent Masons, headed Megan Cross, Diversity & Inclusion Consultant, will select the finalists.

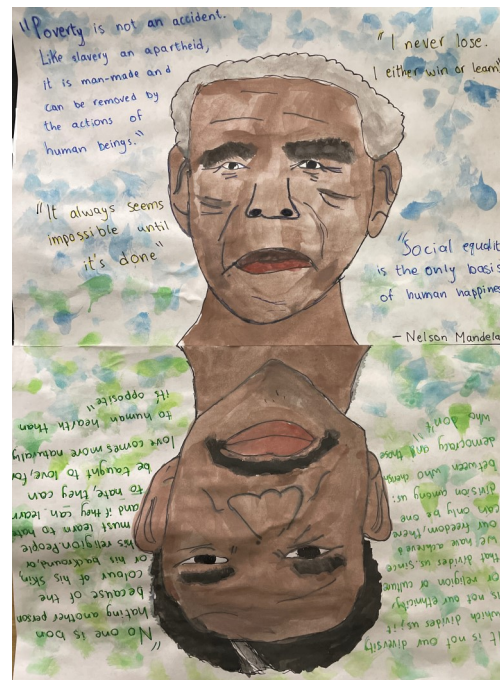
Artwork: Bishal Halder (Year 10)

Viswajith Raviprasad Year 9 | Entry for written competition |
My Diversity and Equality Role Model: Mahatma Gandhi

Haytham Abdullahi Year 11 | Entry for written work competition | My Diversity and Equality Role Model



Daiyan Khandaker (Year 10)



Tasin Haron (Year 10)

DIVERSITY & EQUALITY MONTH

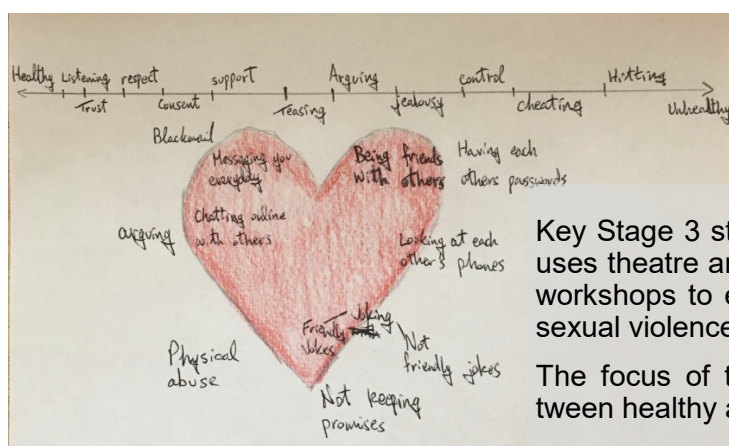


Abdul Ali (Year 11)

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL EVENT

A group of Year 9 students attended a virtual holocaust memorial event. The theme was *be the light in the darkness*. The event encouraged us to reflect on the depths that humanity can sink to but not to forget the way in which individuals have resisted the dark and stood up to injustice. It was a reminder that in a divided world full of denial and misinformation, one must remain vigilant and informed about the hatred present today. There were moving testimonies given by holocaust survivors and some amazing performances from primary school pupils in Newham, including music and poetry.

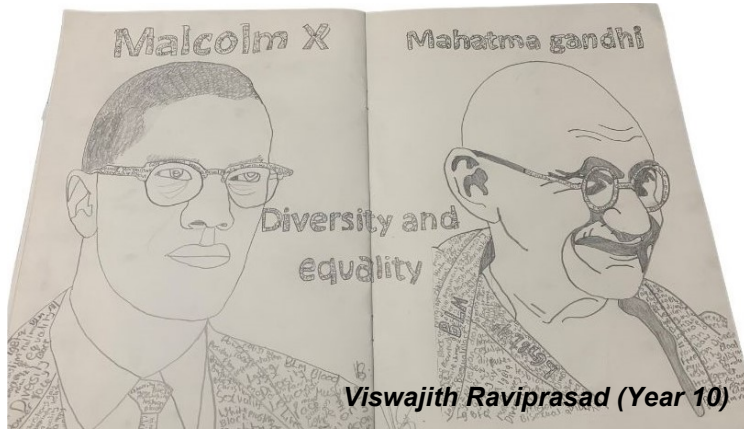
Stefano Diarra (9B) said, "This event was a beautiful experience; I enjoyed the performance of the young musicians at the beginning and hearing the testimony of two survivors was really emotional."



Key Stage 3 students took part in workshops with Tender, a charity that uses theatre and the arts to engage young people in violence prevention workshops to enable them to recognise and avoid domestic abuse and sexual violence.

The focus of the workshops was on understanding the difference between healthy and unhealthy relationships.

DIVERSITY & EQUALITY MONTH



FRENCH PARTNERSHIP

Through the British Embassy, Rokeby is paired with College Garcia Lorca in Paris and the two schools have been working together on a project aimed at inspiring French students ahead of the Paris Olympics in 2024.

Students have participated in three virtual exchanges with our counterparts in France, during which they spoke only in French. They took part in a meet and greet and shared an introductory video they had prepared about themselves and their hobbies. They also met with French athletic champion, Solene Ndama, ahead of her upcoming Tokyo 2021 and Paris 2024 competitions. During our last exchange, students gave three presentations, again all in French, and spoke about London 2012 and the subsequent transformation of our area following the games.

The boys really rose to the challenge - speaking French and doing it virtually! A really big thank you as well to Mr Ansah-Awuah, who taught his Year 9 class a break dance routine especially for the project, which we shared during one of our meetings. Break dancing will feature as a new sport in the Paris 2024 Olympics!

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Our partnership with College Garcia Lorca builds on our existing international links with Stone Bridge High School in the **USA**, Aburi Girls School in **Ghana**, Le Campigny school in Normandy, **France** and Veal Kasach in **Cambodia**.

We also have a very good working relationship with **Exeter University's** Modern Languages department which has resulted in reciprocal workshops on multilingualism and the involvement of university lecturers in presentations for school language events.

Our international work is recognised by the British Council who awarded Rokeby with [International School Status](#).

If you would like to find out more or get involved in any of our international work, speak to **Ms Wayoe** or **Mr Porter**.



"I thought pregnancy was very simple. I have learnt to appreciate all pregnant women because they go through different challenges and health risks during this crucial period of their lives (Year 10 student)".

PROTEST

KS3 Drama students explored the theme of *Protest*. Year 7 student Joshua Nikolov staged a toy protest to showcase the importance of difference and diversity within play. "Just like us, toy characters should represent different skin tones, genders, hair texture, height etc. We are all individuals and need to celebrate individuality and be accepting of others and their differences".

Meanwhile Zubair Ahmed (Year 9) created a poster to highlight the injustice faced by garment workers in Bangladesh.

"We need to take action; use our presence as the consumer and our collective voice on social media to tell these brands that they need to change".

Food Preparation & Nutrition

Students focused on the healthy lifestyle and dietary requirements of pregnant women. They identified the nutritional needs, emotional and physical challenges, daily requirements during pregnancy at home and the workplace. Students discussed the Equality Act for pregnant women and also identified ways to support women at home, at work and in the community.