

Shakespeare:

The fight between good and evil

LADY MACBETH

The watchful drip
of blood,

Drip
Drip
Drip

A thousand tons
of water would
not clean me of
my sins
Rich and
dark covering
Me entirely
Demons fill
me and never
leave
Death welcomes me
and life repels
me
There is no
chance of recovery
only ruin
The gold round
that glittered bright
now weighs
down all hope
the careful balance
between right and
wrong, ruin and
rapture?
Death welcomes
welcomes
welcomes

Natalie Audley, Year 9

MACBETH

Before my very eyes,
my life has been
shredded into tiny PIECES
PIECES
PIECES ...

My mind which was
once proud
has now become EVIL
EVIL
EVIL ...

My husband who was
once powerful is now FEEBLE
FEEBLE
FEEBLE ...

And I'm growing weaker
The idea of victory has
now become DEFEAT
DEFEAT
DEFEAT

My life was once filled
with light
It is now a tunnel of DARKNESS
DARKNESS
DARKNESS

My eyes which were
once sparkling are
now EXHAUSTED
EXHAUSTED
EXHAUSTED ...

Rebecca Ridge and Jessica Daltrop, Year 9

MACBETH

Blood and water
a guilty knife
in this castle
is one less life.

Foul is pain
and fair is foul
the knife provoked
the devil's howl.

In my hands
the stones of remorse
that felt ambition
in his course.

But from this evil
the golden round
precedes
that will care for all
my yearning needs.

I must not sit
I cannot dwell
from my deeds that
are true from hell.

Blood and water
a guilty knife
in this castle is one
less life.

Foul is fair
fair is foul
the knife provokes
the devil's howl
What to do?

Georgia Rushton, Year 9

MACBETH

Thunder, fighting, fear and death
thunder, fighting, fear and death
thunder, fighting, fear and death
the devil has used its magic
the goodness has gone astray
not even the pureness of
water can wash the blood away.
White is black
and fair is foul,
light is dark
and day is night
the fear is killed, the guilt revived
what have we done?
The confusion torments me!
We teach the art of bloodshed,
then become the victims
of our own lessons.

Abigail Williams, Emma Leigh,
Jenny Moreton, Year 9

MACBETH

Why did we do this?
Where's the meaning
of what we've done
gone?
He's there, dripping in
deep red blood, with
pale skin.
The smell is
suffocating me.
There's blood everywhere.
Why did we do this?
I can't breathe,
The smell is so strong.
There's blood everywhere.
Blood
Blood
Blood
and more blood.
There's no light
it's so dark
It's never ending
the flashbacks won't
stop
the blood's all over
me.
Someone will notice
my hands covered in this
blood.
His spirit won't rest
His spirit won't let me
rest
Let it end
Let it end
Let it end
Death
Death
Death

Chloe Hutton and
Naomi Pine, Year 9

MACBETH

Deep in my mind
confusion torments me
sweaty palms are reaching
blood covers my pores
the devil lays on one shoulder
and an angel on the next
like a storm cloud above my head
with rays of sun shining through.

A vision of hell provokes me
the flames lap around me
heaven I can't quite reach
adrenaline is pumping
my ears are pounding
my superiority has blown
away

my murderous feelings have
retreated

Daniella Woudman/
Ashley Tomlinson, Year 9

MACBETH

Who are they?
Confusion
What are they saying?
Can it be true?
King.
Yes, King.
Murder.
What is she saying?
Murder.
No, protection
Evil.
Good.
Would it work?
Yes.
No, I'm his subject.
Weak
Strong
Weak. Murder.
Murder.
What have I done?
Blood.
My hands are covered.
Water. Bed.
Yes, bed.
Problems, Banquo,
Macduff.
Murder.
Would it work?
Could I get away
with it?
Of course.
Murder.
My wife ill, war
approaching.
Lady will be fine
concentrate on war
My wife
War
My love
War
War,
A killing machine
A killing machine
War
War.
Fear, witches, fear
Be brave.
The wood!
No man born of woman
Yes.
Fight
Fight
Defeated
No man born of woman
Macduff
Macduff
Death
Life
Death
Life
Death
Death

Chloe Hutton and
Naomi Pine, Year 9

Year 9

FRIGHTENED

I am frightened,
what of?

That door, or my
imagination, getting
lost or seeing a
secret.

I am frightened,
what of?

A ghost, a spirit,
maybe simply evil,
a black hole,
thunder or lightning,
a whirlwind of
power.

I am frightened,
what of?

A songbird, laughing,
dancing, playing, viewing
a beautiful sight which
only my eyes have
seen.

I am frightened,
What of?

Turning the handle, the
emotions flowing, the adrenaline
pumping, then really seeing
what is behind the door.

Emma Frew, Year 9

THE CITY FILLED WITH ORANGE TREES

The city was filled with bright orange trees
from up above in the mountains
the city looked like it had been caught alight
from the bright orange trees
then I thought it was a volcano that had erupted
because of the flowing lava
that I thought I saw from the corner of my eye
that had twinkled in the bright orange sun.
Then as I moved closer and closer
the brightness got so bright that it seemed like the
eclipse
or shall I say
it looked like the best sunset from out of this world
but I have always said to myself
something that bright can do some damage
no matter what colour it is
just remember the magic of the orange is all
around you as long as you believe in it.

Kirsty Annets-Gledhill, Year 9

PRINCE WILLIAM AT 21

Prince William was a prince
who wanted a normal life
But when he wanted a normal life
he could not do anything that he wanted to do
But when he was 15 his life came to an end, nearly,
Because of his mother's tragic death in Paris
But when it came to his mother's funeral the atmosphere
was quite a shock to the whole nation
But after his mother's death
he started to do a lot of sports
like polo which is a game where you ride a horse
and use a polo stick to hit a ball.
But it wasn't just polo he liked playing
Because he loves skiing too
especially in the Alps.
But when it comes to hunting, shooting and riding horses
he can go all day doing that.
But now I will tell you how clever he is,
Because Prince William went to a university called St Andrews
From his school he had got 12 GCSEs
But when it comes to girls,
well, William loves girls
So much that he would entertain them so much
that he would never lose them because he loves chatting up girls
so be aware
because if William sees you he will definitely chat you up
So keep watching
because you might be next!

Kirsty Annets-Gledhill, Year 9

A HAIKU RAINBOW

It tells us to STOP
danger! a warning! or blood ...
it is also love

A field of rape seed
a zesty fruit, or summer
sick anaemic eyes

A ballerina
new-born girls in blankets
fluffy candy floss

It tells us to GO
Ireland has 40 shades
with envy or ill

Fruit juice at breakfast
think stripes on a tiger's back
tall consuming flames

Fleshy blackberries
sweet-smelling lavenders
the amethyst stone

A cloudless clear sky
the Caribbean, calmness
royal or navy.

Rachel Strong, Year 9



Miroslav Holub
1923-1998

STARTING POINT 'TO OPEN THE DOOR' BY MIROSLAV HOLUB

No one ever knows why but when they open the door something is always there,

Whether it's a dog or a cat or wind or thunder, something is going on. Aimee was just finishing her English homework when her mother called her down. There was someone at the door for her. It was almost 6.15. She was stunned to see a tall, handsome sort of Mediterranean-looking guy. He had dark blue eyes and dark olive skin with a healthy glow to him.

Aimee had never seen him before in her life, but suddenly she felt she had known him for years. He walked in, took her hand and pulled her outside towards him, and told her that he had been watching her at school and thought she was very pretty. Aimee found this very strange, because she knew most of the pupils at Wood Lone High in California, but she didn't care one bit because she was totally besotted with this amazing stranger. When he finally departed Aimee returned to her English homework, but with a permanent glazed expression on her face. She kept snapping out of this but she knew something was happening to her. The next day at school she asked around, and hardly anyone had heard of or seen the guy she had seen the previous night.

When Aimee got home she packed her bag and went to her dance class, but all the time that guy was on her mind. She returned home at 5.50 and remembered her mother had a work meeting at 6.00. She quickly got changed and ran downstairs to see her mother, who was dressed in a black sleek skirt and a smart white blouse, and her hair was tied loosely back into a swift bun. Once they had had a cup of tea it was 6.15. As she walked out the door she came across the guy from the day before. He was wearing the same things and his hair looked exactly the same. As soon as Aimee's mother had driven off in her fancy red sports car and was out of sight, the guy started to stare. His eyes were a steel grey and his hands were like ice. There was only one explanation for this. **THE DOOR!**

Heather Holland, Year 9

RESPONSE TO POEM BY MIROSLAV HOLUB

Go and open the door,
Maybe outside there is a witch,
Or maybe there is something you have wished for.

Go and open the door,
Maybe your girlfriend or boyfriend is there
or maybe there is a nice colourful rainbow.

Go and open the door,
Even there will be a magical mirror on the wall
or even you're the fairest one of all.

Go and open the door,
Maybe there is some one waiting
to marry you and give you a red rose,
or maybe it's all over for you.

Kirsty Annetts-Gledhill, Year 9

The poet who wrote 'The Lesson' is Miroslav Holub. A verse from the poem that I most like is the opening four lines which say:

*A tree enters and says with a bow:
I am a tree.
A black tear falls from the sky and says:
I am a bird.*

Another poem I like is called 'Kangaroo'.

*In the Northern hemisphere
life seems to leap at the air, or skim under the wind
like stags on rocky ground, or pawing horses, or springy scut-tailed
rabbits*

One of my favourite poems is called 'School Boy'. However, it is very long.

My Poem

*A tree enters and says with a bow:
I am a tree
A black tear falls from the sky and sings:
I am a bird*

*A murky mist swirls throughout the air and moans:
I am darkness
A plain, yet white piece of paper floats down and replies:
I am blankness
A pixie tip-toes down a needle and whispers:
I am silence
A dew-soaked spider's web yawns:
I am morning.*

*A jet black owl swoops and hoots:
I am night
"Well it seems like we are missing someone!" remarks the
curious teacher at the front of the classroom. She looks upon
her just-written register and then to an empty desk in the
corner. "Oh, excuse me dear, must have missed you out. You must
be nothing."*

Lucy Ives, Year 9

Year 9

RESPONSE TO LINES FROM THE POEM 'ORCHIDS' BY THEODORE ROETHKE

*They lean over the path
Adder-mouthed
Swaying close to the face
Coming out, soft and deceptive,
Limp and damp, delicate as a young bird's tongue,
Their fluttery fledgling lips
More slowly
Drawing in the warm air*

Soon comes nightfall
They absorb any heat left
The moon splashes colour onto the glasshouse
There has never been such a still moment.

I feel like I am being watched
In amongst the silence
I stare a look deeply into one's mouth
The lips neither alive nor dead
But breathing motionlessly.

Sunlight's back and colour emerges
Spotted tongues and emerald leaves.
Tall cup-cakes of yellow and pink
Then the usual green and brown flickers around.

Olivia Antoniadou, Year 9

RESPONSE TO LINES FROM TWO POEMS

*This porthole overlooks the sea, forever falling from the sky, the water
inextricably, involved with buttons, suds and dye* by John Updike.

I should make use of water, by Philip Larkin.

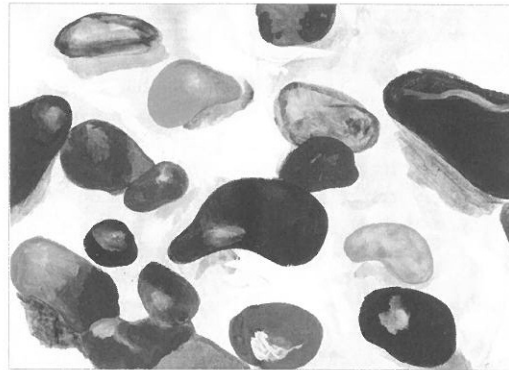
No words could fill my mouth with emotions to describe such art. My feeble fingers ran loops around each vivacious dent. Not stopping to share these perfectly assembled objects with any passers-by. Sitting for hours lost in a world of fantasy, my life seemed now not so important. How small a simple mind can be when tested with the knowledge of texture. For me, this seemed too hard to contemplate, pictures being my only means of expression. No one is too full of heart to move out of the way for another. My thoughts stay trapped within my mind, I am screaming and I cannot answer, though I long to hear my name repeatedly rolling from my lips.

Chloe Farkas, Year 9

THE WEST PIER?

The strong wind surrenders deeply around the West Pier with the fascination of the thunder and lightning striking anonymously every 5 seconds with the wind blowing like it is in a howling mood! Then all of a sudden a magnificent rain storm came and - splashed down like a ton of bricks. By the next morning the damage was quite enormous because there were smashed windows. Cars upside down Lampposts and trees through people's windows The West Pier? Well that was broken in half and on fire. But when it came to the tragic death of people well over 1,000 people were dead. So by the next day It was published in every newspaper on earth. I was very lucky to be alive because I had a broken leg and arm and I had lots of bruises and scars all over me So I just hope that I will never experience that kind of thing again.

Kirsty Annets-Gledhill, Year 9



COLOURS

Yellow is a colour which brightens the sky up in such a magnificent way.

Orange is a colour which stands for the sun because the sun sends out lovely heatwaves.

Red can be a colour which stands for danger in all different ways like blood. But it can also mean nice things like the colour of strawberries and cherries which you can eat.

Green can stand for the natural freshness of grass and leaves.

Blue can mean two different things like the bright blue sky which lightens up the earth and the other blue is a dark blue which covers the earth at night and you cannot see anything.

Pink is a colour for girls which comes in many things.

White is a colour which you can see through, like the clouds.

Kirsty Annets-Gledhill, Year 9

Year 10

ALWAYS WITH ME

As I walked through the trees,
Of that same wood in which we'd played,
I felt you with me,
Happy within my smile,
Forever within my heart.

As I heard the leaves break beneath my feet,
I remembered the sound of laughter,
When upon your shoulders we ducked the branches,
And spun in the clearing,
No worries,
No fears,
Blissful.

The smell of autumn awakens memories,
The way you smelt,
The warmth and protection in love-filled hugs,

Maybe the trees will be cut down,
The leaves swept away,
But I promise to remember everything,
You'll be with me always.

As I walked through the trees,
Of that same wood in which we'd played,
I felt you with me,
Happy within my smile,
Forever within my heart.

Emily Ward, Year 10

MY HOMELAND

Far away from my homeland, I think:
What are my people doing?
My friends live far from me,
We are separated by a great sea.
Where is my homeland?
My homeland is where autumn comes in golden yellow,
Deep reds and oranges,
My homeland is where the sunset turns skies bright pink,
My homeland is where chipmunks run free as the wind
In the national parks and the wild deer roam the forest areas.
In my homeland the sunrise brings new hopes, new ideas
And new inspirations.

Michelle Mezny, Year 10

A FORLORN WORLD

Sometimes the world is so dark and sad,
The colours, joys, music and dance have gone far, far away.
Even though the world seems so sad sometimes
I look up to the beautiful heavens above and
My hopes return to me, as does, the colours, dance and music
That had left before.

Michelle Mezny, Year 10

CHRISTMAS

The Christmas tree stands in the living room,
Tall and majestic, decorated with fairy lights and angels.
Many presents surround the Christmas tree, some may be
What I have asked for.
Other presents are for my mum and dad.
Christmas carols are playing, the Christmas meal is being
prepared.
We sit down at the table and one seat is empty.
That seat is for my Godmother who had departed into a
heavenly kingdom three years ago.
I miss her greatly, each Christmas is so lonely without
Her.
I comfort myself with the knowledge that she is safe and happy
In the Kingdom of God.

Michelle Mezny, Year 10

A LIGHT OF HOPE IN A FORLORN WORLD

I look up at the sky and see:
Beautiful, luminary sparks of blue, pink, purple, yellow and
Green that light up the dark November skies.
I look up at the sky in deep wonder and I ask:
When will there be peace on Earth?
When will all the wars end?
When will peace and justice be restored once again?
I look up at the tiny shimmering sparks and see:
A tiny light of hope in a dark, sad world.
I know somewhere far, far away from these
Beautiful sparks my Godmother and Grandfather look
Down from heaven and smile at me when
I look up into the sky lit up by fireworks.

Michelle Mezny, Year 10



Sofia Duplain, Year 7

Year 10

A TRIBUTE TO ZORAN DJINDJIC

The hearts of the people were filled with joy
 The day you rose to power you brought
 Fresh hope for a nation torn by war,
 You were a tower of strength to us.
 Today you are remembered as an honourable
 And strong leader who tried to work for
 The good of his people.
 Your children are young and innocent
 They ask: "When is daddy coming home?"
 Their mother will reply: "Your father is in heaven,
 Sadly he will not come home."
 May the Lord guide you, your family and friend through
 This sad and difficult time. Rest in peace forever.

Michelle Mezny, Year 10

POEM

The innocent little boy sits in pure silence,
 Swaying to and fro,
 Praying to God constantly to make him unbeknown to the
 world,
 The silence is broken with his mother's alarming entrance.

Her bloodshot eyes are fixed upon his,
 He tried to block her out and focus on him and God running
 away together,
 All the boy ever wanted was to be accepted,
 He was looked upon as a failure,
 but a failure for what, when no one had given him the chance.

The boy's frame, recently relaxed, now tight,
 He was enclosed within a shaky disturbing atmosphere,
 with just the stench of her breath to keep reminding him that he
 was alive.
 All he could make out was this deadly silhouette upon him,
 through his diamond sparkling eyes, the tears stained his face, the
 hurt ripped his heart.

He knew insanity took control of her,
 nothing would stop her,
 whether it was for guilt or sorrow,
 The quick slap struck.
 More, worship easy, like delicate time,
 He knew he could always pray,
 however time is so vital.

Again the innocent little boy sat in pure silence,
 Swaying to and fro.

Natalie Paddenburg, Year 10

IN MEMORY

People light candles in your honour,
 Large fields of flowers are laid to remember you.
 The nation already torn by war,
 Is also a nation torn by grief at the loss of their
 Leader who was such a tower of strength.
 When you rose to power the nation rejoiced.
 You worked hard to bring justice, stability and peace,
 You worked hard to end evil, poverty and hatred,
 You worked for the good of your nation and was
 Devoted to his people.
 Your legacy of working for a stronger, better and
 Happier nation will continue.
 May the Lord be with your family, friends and nation,
 May the Lord guide you, your family, your friends and
 Your nation through this difficult time.

Michelle Mezny, Year 10

'SHE'

She looks through to see,
 If she can see her.
 She still looks through to see.
 Her eyes are growing heavier and heavier,
 Getting closer and closer,
 She sees someone, hears something,
 But doesn't feel anything.

She falls to the floor,
 As she feels like she's falling through the clouds.
 She STOPS, she looks around,
 Feels around, but senses nothing.

She is the child,
 She is the earth,
 She is everything.

She is the eye everyone can see.
 She is the air everyone can breathe.
 She is the people of all people.
 She is the animals.
 She is the trees.
 She is 'she'.

Georgia Scott, Year 10

COLOURED

When you are born you are White
 When you are hot you go Red
 When you are cold you go Blue
 When you are sick you go Purple
 And when you die you go Green

When I was born I was Black
 When I am hot I am Black
 When I am cold I am Black
 When I am sick I am Black
 When I die I am Black

Yet you're the one who call us coloured!

Anonymous

Year 11

LOVE

Butterflies in your stomach,
 Your eyes begin to glaze,
 Your heart is pumping loudly,
 Your mind is in a haze.
 Your palms are getting sweaty,
 And you begin to shake,
 Your skin is getting tingly,
 As love's first kiss you make.
 This love will last forever,
 It will never go away,
 You're telling everybody,
 "First love has found its way."
 Some loves do last forever,
 In marriage they do vow,
 to be together always,
 Until the end from now.
 Although love can be joyful,
 tragedy will fall,
 To those who are unlucky,
 It has happened to all.
 The pain will be so terrible,
 Your heart will smash like glass,
 You cannot see another day,
 Into darkness you are cast.
 You cry into your pillow,
 It never goes away,
 The memories of each other,
 Are with you every day.
 But soon you're feeling better,
 The scars begin to heal,
 A smile appears upon your face,
 You cope with the ordeal,
 Can you ever love again,
 Can your heart take much more,
 But soon you will meet someone else,
 Whom you truly do adore.
 This person makes you happy,
 This person makes you laugh,
 This person is your saviour,
 The saviour of your heart.
 Your palms are getting sweaty,
 And you begin to shake,
 Your skin is getting tingly,
 As true love's kiss you make.

Nicola Johnson, Year 11

HERO

I will be your Hero
 Be by your side every night
 I will guide you like an angel
 Like a star shining bright

I will be your Hero
 Help relieve your pain
 I will stand by you for eternity
 Be your sunshine or your rain

I will be your Hero
 Wherever you may go
 I will pray to be with you forever
 Up in heaven, or here down below

I will by your Hero
 All that matters is you
 I will lie all day with you in my arms
 Just us and the open view

I will be your Hero
 Die for the one I love
 I will swear to devote my life to you
 My saviour, my white shining dove

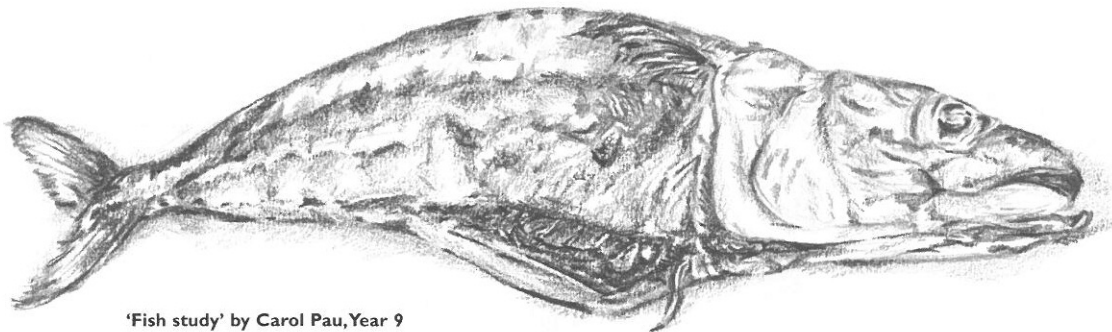
Let me be your Hero
 Your one true love.

Selina Austin, Year 11

CARPETED WITH PETALS

Blown with wild winds, are scattered into ayre,
 The rose petals of a rejected love
 Surrendered to the breeze spiralling away
 Waltzing through the air
 Passing the pure downs
 Passing the warm comforting noons
 Passing the soft velvet veils of dusk
 Carried through the blue, black dark of midnight
 here the whole world caught in this picture frame of life,
 The sky would be carpeted with the petals of a broken heart,
 A naive broken dream
 An all-encompassing dream mortal, daily dies
 A love, a hope from dissolutions rise.

Fiona Barley, Year 11



'Fish study' by Carol Pau, Year 9

THINGS DON'T HAVE TO RHYME

The inevitable controls what we do.
Tomorrow has arrived.
however much I resisted.
It comes all the same.

The barriers that are set
for all of us to stay within
I find a challenge, not a rule
An obstacle not a definite.

Just proceeding isn't enough
diversity isn't a sin
However much we're told it is
Monotony is not the only option.

Nurturing is the same
History cannot be repeated
there's no point in attempting to try
the colour may be grey now but things change.

Nothing is definite
Creativity can bloom
Boredom can wither
Surroundings change, you shouldn't have to.

An SMH Pupil

WHEN I DANCE

I danced in the darkness, in the fresh moonlit air,
As the howling wind, blew quickly through my hair.
I heard the music swirl around me,
And nobody knew I was there.

The dewdrops upon the grass blades,
Slipped gracefully over my legs
The moon still smiled gratefully
I'm no longer yearning for sleep.

Whirling like a Phantom
To the rhythm of this dream
The mist is all around me
Setting a new dance scene.

All I can remember is a cloudy shaded thought,
A memory of me dancing, but never being taught.
I whirl again, the mist is heavy, way into the night.
Twirl and spin, dance and then, I fade away from sight.

Cheryl Hughes, Year 13

'THREE OLD BIRDS'

We came back to school just for the day
to see if it had changed in any way.
Tinner, Luggie, and BB are we
part of the famed SMH three.

There it stood in all its glory
with walls that could tell many a story.
We climbed the steps in trepidation
full of doubt and anticipation.
Could things really be the same
would they remember us just by name?

As we walked through the door and looked around
the first thing we noticed and also found
was the smell of the place and just how small
it seemed to us (now we were tall!)
But, nothing had changed, was something wrong?
It felt as if we had never gone.

Our tour began with a walk to the gym
seeing school photos of us looking slim.
We saw the wall bars and reminisced
about all the friends that we all missed.
Music concerts, evening prayers
and undertaking various dares.
Boiling Summers, chilly nights
grey long skirts and woolly tights.
Inter-house matches, and open days
where we showed off our skills in various ways.
"Hilary for Ever" rang in our ears
as we supported the 'yellows' with shouts and cheers.

Then off to the boarding house we went
to see the dorms where we all spent
many years of our lives living together
true friendships were made, mates forever.

But, oh what a treat was to come,
Invited for lunch – what great fun.
A surprise was in store for the old girls three
formerly of the boarding house called Hilary.
Fantastic grub, and what a choice
I'm sure the girls must now rejoice
at the cuisine available for them to eat
compared to what we had – what a treat!

The time then came for us to leave
hours passed so quickly it was hard to believe.
As we bade our farewells and walked away
we said to each other "What a wonderful day
of happy memories, and those times past,
was it really 25 years since we were here last.
It seems like yesterday, maybe it's a dream
that we were all part of the SMH team?"

Maria Dunn (née Tinner 1969-1977)

Dear Mrs Fincham
 I'm now in my fifth week of university (time really does fly!), and on the whole I'm really enjoying myself. There have been some problems with accommodation, which I'm still battling with, but I do at least have a roof over my head!

I've met some really great people here, everyone at Kent is very friendly. Our circle of friends was quickly established, and we've been having heaps of fun since. Last night we had another game of Monopoly in the bar and last week we played Risk until 1am! And my boyfriend plays chess! However, he is a much better player than me, so I need practice! Retro night at The Venue is also great fun.

Lectures etc. are going fine – I haven't missed a single one yet! However, I'm starting to have to do work which I'm not thrilled about! I'm really liking Social Psychology, it's fascinating. Social Policy is also quite interesting. However, Fundamental Human Biology is starting to get rather complicated, and I'm not too keen on Statistics and Practical. I'm undecided about Biological and General Psychology.

A good friend I've made, Jo, is even more into 'Buffy' than I am, so we instantly connected there! We've booked tickets for a convention in June which should be great fun.

So all in all, I've settled in very well, have made some good friends, and am greatly enjoying uni life, although I could do with more sleep!! I hope that you're well. If you get a chance, it'd be lovely to hear from you.

Best wishes

Lauren, ex-SMH,
 now at Rutherford College, University of Kent



Sofia Duplain, Year 7



Three self-portraits – 'Sorrow, Despair, Gloom' – by Ronnie Lo, Year 13

Duke of Edinburgh

Award Scheme

What a busy year it has been for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme!

Nineteen girls from Year 10 started the Bronze Award, and most of them have completed it successfully. Eight boarders from Year 12 and 13 also chose to start the Bronze Award and have enjoyed the new challenges involved. Nine girls from Year 11 and 12 embarked on the Silver Award, extending their skills and testing their endurance, as well as giving up some of their valuable time to help others in the Service section of the Award.

Training for the Expedition section of the award started in September and continued throughout the year. There were three successful practice expeditions – the Silver group conquered the Seven Sisters at the end of September, and the Bronze participants invaded the South Downs during two weekends in March – the Year 10s endured freezing conditions overnight, but both groups were lucky to have dry and sunny conditions for walking.

After a few more hours of training, route-planning and equipment-planning, everyone was ready for the Assessment expeditions. The Silver group had three tiring but rewarding days on the Isle of Wight at the beginning of May. The weather was mixed, blisters appeared and were popped, lots of delicious food was prepared and devoured, maps were pored over and paths were followed as closely as possible - this was a little difficult when the paths disappeared over the eroding cliffs or were diverted because of tree harvesting in the forest!

In June the Bronze groups completed their Assessed expedition very successfully around a different area of the South Downs. The girls were extremely well organised and fit, and coped well with a mixture of weather. Unfortunately, Josie Latham and Hattey Yang were unable to take part in these expeditions, but should be fit to complete them soon.

People often overlook the Skill, Service and Physical Recreation sections of the award, but these sections are just as important as the Expedition, and are completed independently by participants, who choose and organise their activities. The range of activities has grown this year: as well as learning a wide range of musical instruments, some girls have been on courses to learn Maketon sign language, another has learnt to train and look after greyhounds, some have run the school tuck shop, another has helped with netball squads, several have worked in Charity shops and others have spent many hours doing voluntary work in the Royal Sussex hospital.

Congratulations to those who have completed their awards. It has been a lot of fun training you and hearing your experiences. Many thanks go to Mrs Abbott for her invaluable help with the equipment store and expeditions, and to Mrs Fellingham, Miss Corris, Dr Ashdown and Miss Jensen for their help with expeditions.

Last but not least – it's not just the girls who have been training this year. Dr Ashdown and Miss Jensen spent many hours on their BELA (Basic Expedition Leader Award) training so they can get more involved with the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. So much so that Dr Ashdown is now in charge of the expedition side of the award! (thank you, Peter!)

Jayne Dempster

YOUNG ENTERPRISE

2002-2003

Young Enterprise has been running successfully within the school for several years, and with twenty-nine students eager to participate, last year was the first time we had two companies registered for the Company Programme.

Our companies were Kat-Chi (Managing Director: Esi Essel-Koomson) which produced scarves, mobile phone accessories, picture frames and hand-made greetings cards, and Oki-Doki (Managing Director: Soo Baek) which produced Chinese/ Japanese bookmarks, traditional Chinese ribbon decorations and hand-made bead jewellery. Both companies were successful and were able to make donations to the RSPCA, Oxfam and Shelter out of their profits.

Both companies made short presentations at the Area Board Final at Roedean School and Oki-Doki received a special Board Award for achievement.

The Company Directors were:

	Kat-Chi	Oki-Doki
Managing Director	Esi Essel-Koomson	Soo Baek
Deputy	Katie Beves	Agnes Hung
Operations	Anna Mojab	Hattey Yang
Deputy	Jacqueline Lee	Tina Liu
Company Secretary	Corolla Tsui	Jenny Sum
Deputy	Sherry Deng	Jennifer Shan
Finance	Queenie See	Michelle Yang
Deputy	Joyce Lu	Haoyu Liu
Sales	Katie Beves	Danielle So
Deputy	Vanessa Ip	Siyu Zhao
Personnel	Boey Lee	Ada Luk
Deputy	Priscilla Koo	Katherine Chan
Marketing	Roxanne Nash	Christine Wan
Deputy		Sara Tsui
ICT	Phoebe Lai	
Deputy	Ronnie Lo	

All the students worked very hard and learned a lot about how business operates, as well as making new friends.

We are grateful to our advisors from American Express – Brian Shields, Clare Jackson and Sarah Best who visit regularly to offer support.

Congratulations to all who took part!

Mrs S Manby-Clarke
Head of Business Studies and Accounting



ESL Department

Since the School's foundation in 1836 St Mary's Hall has been a multi-cultural school. We are proud of this heritage and the International Centre led so ably and devotedly by Mrs Garside and her talented team, is in tremendous demand from students around the world. Last year we welcomed students from China, Vietnam, Brunei, Korea, Japan, Russia, France, Spain, Germany, Mexico and Hong Kong. The 'Seagull' programme for students from overseas has become a popular annual event! Last year this involved cultural visits to London with a boat trip on the Thames and a walk across the Millennium Bridge, to Arundel Castle and Amberley Chalkpits Museum, to Alfriston and the Seven Sisters followed by tea in the Edwardian gardens at Litlington.



Two weeks ago, we attended the Seagull Programme with our English teachers and all of us had good fun. In the Seagull Programme, I went to some places where I had not been before. It broadened my horizons. In these five days of the Seagull

Programme, I liked the trip to London best, because we went to China Town and had lunch. The food was so delicious! I hadn't eaten Chinese food for a long time. I enjoyed the Science Museum as well. We had a long walk in London. Although we were tired, it was nothing, because we had a good time.

That was the first time I went on a Seagull Programme like that. In China, we often have a one-day trip. Never more than one day. I felt this Seagull Programme was special compared to the programmes in China. The teachers in China always think that if they let students go out for a day, the students will be lazier when they go back to school. It's because students will no longer concentrate on their studying with their memory still on those happy hours. What I want to say is, students also need to go sightseeing because some knowledge cannot be learnt from books. I like learning from life. It's better than just studying. This Seagull Programme has good quality. It wasn't just good for our English but I have also learnt from a pleasant experience.

Ivy Mai, Year 11

The Science Museum



Last week was a trip week and it was an interesting week. We visited a lot of places. Seven Sisters, Lewes, London, Brighton Museum, Amberley Working Museum and Arundel but I liked the Science Museum best.

That day was Wednesday and it was also the second day of the week of trips. In the morning we went to London by train. Usually a train journey is very uninteresting. I often used to sleep to kill time. But I didn't sleep the whole journey this time. We played a lot of games. Elsa was very lucky. She won nearly all of the 'prizes'. I thought she felt these games were not as easy as her memorising words. We took the Underground and went to the Science Museum. Mr Hargreaves told us the Underground was built 100 years ago. It meant the Underground was just like that 100 years ago. It is inconceivable!

The Science Museum is a very big museum. It has six floors and has exhibits ranging from early history to the modern age and into the future. I think if I went all round it would take a week. So I decided just to see what I am interested in.

First, I played 'SIMEX Simulator Ride'. This is a journey that's truly out of this world. Buckle up and enjoy the incredible special effects and surround sound of this motion simulator ride. It was fantastic! I sat in a simulated spaceship and when it began it felt just like playing the 'Climbing Mountain' and when it finished and I stood on the ground, I still felt as if I was sitting in the spaceship and still moving! After that I saw and tried a lot of things but I thought the 'SIMEX Simulator Ride' was the greatest thing in this museum.

That's what I liked the best.

Christine Wang, Year 12

Amberley Working Museum



Amberley Working Museum is in West Sussex. In the museum they showed how the British people worked in the 19th century and all the old machines, traditional tools and the machines' development. On 9th May, we arrived at the last stop of

the Seagull Programme.

As you enter the gate, there are some buildings nearby. There was a big sign above the building 'Blacksmith's Forge'. At first I couldn't understand what it was, but then Mr Hargreaves explained it to me. The men in the shop worked with metal but the shop wasn't open, so we couldn't go in there. Then we went inside another building and saw a collection of all types of radios, televisions, telephones, and Morse code. This was used by ships in the old times, like 'SOS', SOS in Morse Code to call for help. It was interesting. I couldn't imagine how all these things could be produced and become more and more modern, and easier to use. Next we went to a printing shop. In the shop were two old men who looked very kind. They told us about the skill of printing and told us that China was the first country that produced print, and then Germany used the skill to make a machine, very clever! These two kind men got us a paper with our name and a cartoon picture of Mickey Mouse on it. It was very pretty and we all had an experience of pressing the print machine. After the printing factory we had a look in the pottery shop and an old fashioned bus called a tramcar, in fact, we wanted to go on the steam train but unfortunately it wasn't running at that time, but the bus was very good. I enjoyed the short journey. When we got off the bus we found a shop that was full of tools. There was one man working in the shop. He explained about the tools to us and we learned a lot there. The most interesting thing was this old man taught us how to make a paper hat and told us the history of paper hats. He didn't just teach us, he made a paper hat for everybody. I like it, although it's not as beautiful as a modern hat, so I wore it all day until I arrived back at my house.

The last stop of the Seagull Programme finished with us laughing. I sat on the minibus, had my packed-lunch and recollected my day.

EXTRA INSTRUCTION, HOW TO MAKE A PAPER HAT:

1. Fold single sheet in half. Crease at dotted lines.
2. Turn the corners in from closed edge to centre line.
3. Fold top edge back to meet triangle. Fold it again to form cuff over triangle, turn paper over.
4. Fold base of right angle in to centre. Short fold = large hat, beyond centre = small hat.
5. Fold in the right angle corners to meet the cuff.
6. Fold resulting truncated cone over the cuff and tuck it in.
7. Fold down apex of triangle and fold it into cuff. You now have a rectangle.
8. Pull hat open wide and fold down the 'ears'.
9. Tuck the ears into the cuffs.
10. Square the hat, creasing the corners and wear it with pride like I did!!

Kitty Zhang, Year 10

Amberley Working Museum



May 9th was the last day of the Seagull Programme. The destination was Amberley, which name I only knew because my room in the boarding house is called Amberley. Before going there my room mate asked me to take some beautiful

photographs, which she could print and put up on the door to show what the real Amberley is like. After nearly an hour's journey in the minibus, we arrived at Amberley Working Museum. On the way to our destination, we saw lovely countryside, which made me very delighted. The weather was mild, which pleased me too. There were some quarries around the museum, which contained grey and white chalk. After getting in the museum we saw a very short film, which only lasted 10 minutes, about the chalk and the quarry. I can imagine that the workers in the quarry had a hard life, not only because of the hard work, but also because of the horrible conditions and unclean air. I feel really sorry for these people. I can imagine how the capitalists forced them to work long hours with short rests and little salary. They just wanted to exploit the workers to gain the maximum profit. I don't think this sort of thing would happen very often, because the world has changed a lot.

Then we walked to the Printing Shop. The equipment was very old. On the wall were some pieces of paper about the history of printing. I was not surprised to find a picture of BiSheng who changed the method of printing a long time ago. It reminded me of the great history of China, such as the four inventions. At that time, China was the strongest country in the world. I remembered that when Kitty noticed the fake paper-girl standing behind her, she had such a scared look, which made me laugh. We were all surprised by the printer's proud experience.

Afterwards we went to the Broom-Maker's Shed. They only used some dry branches to make brooms. We found there were two types of broom (one was used inside, and one used outside) by chance. I intended to ride on the broom like magical people, but it was too silly for such a large person to do this. In China, we do have this kind of broom, but only in some places. I don't like this kind of broom, because it always brings in a great deal of dust. But they are extremely cheap.

We also went to the Wheelwright's Shop but I didn't like it much. It was very boring inside. I only learned two words, wheelwright and shipwright.

Mr Hargreaves told us that he had gone on the old bus the year before, which attracted us. And later we took the bus around the museum. It was called a tramcar and doesn't have a steering wheel and only has a small engine. It took us to the most interesting place, the Connected Earth Exhibition, representing the everyday public experience of telecommunications down through the ages. It was fantastic inside. I looked through the displays in a short time in order to send some e-mails. Then we paid a visit to the exhibition hall next door, containing all kinds of telephones and the other things that used electricity.

On the way there we went into a Pottery Shop where there was a woman called Kitty. When we told her, there was another Kitty in our group; she gave her a card, but nothing for us. She was painting a pot and we could see how well she painted from her technique.

We went back into the Wheelwright's Shop again and I wondered why. They asked the man to show us how to make the paper hat used in former days. It didn't interest me, because I had already known how to do it in China. Before we left the shop we were all given a paper hat each.

Finally, we went to the Printing Shop again to print our names by ourselves. It was a memorable thing for all of us, especially for me, because it was my seventeenth birthday and also my first birthday in England. The man had already prepared everything for us; we only needed to press as hard as we could.

After visiting Amberley Working Museum, we went to Arundel to have a picnic. We stopped by a beautiful lake, surrounded by hills. Unfortunately, some workers were dredging the lake. Afterwards Mr Hargreaves suggested walking a little round the hill. But we were really too tired to walk. Then he shouted to us, 'Lazy bees and lazy students.' Only Kitty walked with him, still wearing the paper hat. It seemed that she liked the hat very much.

Elsa Hong, Year 11

Dear Diary,

I've just come back from London.

On Wednesday 7th May, we took a bus from the school to Brighton Station. When we arrived Mr Hargreaves and Miss Collins bought the tickets for us. Our train left at 10.05am.

On the train Rainbow and I played with two year 12 girls, Elsa and Christine. It was fun.

We arrived five minutes early, then we took the Underground to the Science Museum. When we went in, we needed to give the security guard our bags to check. He opened my bag and he said 'Ar-ha'. I didn't know what happened. He said 'You have brought something you shouldn't bring'. I was very nervous, because I didn't know what things I shouldn't bring and then he laughed, so I knew it was a joke. There are a lot of science things and you can use your hands to make it work. There are 7 floors, and each floor is very big. I think floor 3 'In Future' was quite fun and the ground floor 'Antenna' was quite fun too. It was so big that we didn't have time to play all of the games.

After that we went to China Town to eat our lunch. We ate some dim sum, fried noodles and fried rice. It was really good, and I enjoyed it.

We went to St Paul's Cathedral and then we walked on the Millennium Bridge. We then took a boat trip. From the boat we saw that Tower Bridge was open, but by the time we left, it had closed. Then we crossed over London Bridge to the train station and I bought a magazine. It was really good, I loved it.

I enjoyed myself in London and I hope that I can go back to London with the school again, but to different places. I had a wonderful day.

On Thursday 8th May, Rainbow, Mr Hargreaves and I took the bus to Brighton Museum; we ate lunch outside in the garden. Then we went to Brighton Pier and I ate an ice-cream. After that we took a mini train to the Marina and then walked back to school. It only lasted half a day because we had got exams in the morning. However, I enjoyed that.

Marisa Amato, Year 8

A Day Trip to London



I had a fantastic trip to London on Wednesday. First, we had a train journey which took about one hour from Brighton. Then we took the Underground to the Science Museum. In the museum, I had a lot of fun. The teachers gave us some time

to look around and write down some information about science. Unfortunately, I completely forgot about this, I went to play other funny games and forgot the exact time to go back, so the rest of the group were all waiting and smirking!

We went to China Town after that. We were all very thrilled. I felt really honoured, as I felt like a host and the teachers were the guests. I had to guide them and make them happier. Mr Hargreaves had been very kind as he had given me some of his delicious biscuits, so I accompanied him to have lunch. We ordered a lot of Chinese food, and it was all Chinese traditional food – dim sum. We had a starter of chicken toes, it was really good (I think).

When I tried to recommend it to the teachers, I saw that they had a horrified expression when they looked at the chicken toes. I understand that there are different cultures in China and England; you can wear whatever you like in England, for instance strange, sexy ... etc., but you couldn't do that in China. If you do, the people would say you were a monster. However, we have to adapt to that. Then we had main courses, I really enjoyed them and I had a wonderful lunch.

Afterwards we went to St Paul's Cathedral which was fantastic, and the Millennium Bridge was such a typically English style. There were nice views around everywhere and therefore a lot of photographs were taken.

Eventually we took a river trip to conclude the journey. We took a lot of photographs on this 'cruise'. There were two landmark buildings which were Tower Bridge and Greenwich. They were so stunning and marvellous.

I really enjoyed the day although I was very tired during the walking, but when I viewed the scenery I could release all the pressure and the feeling was really comfortable.

The trip gave me knowledge which I had never learned in class. Thanks to all the teachers for giving me this opportunity.

Kaori Lao, Year 11

Brighton for the Day



Today was a windy day with the sky full of pearl-white clouds. Due to having finished my exams, I felt extremely relaxed and looked forward to this interesting trip.

Brighton is quite a popular place in southern England as it is itself an attraction. Although the sea view was undoubtedly brilliant, going to the Brighton Museum on foot was definitely hard work. At last, we arrived at the museum while the sun was shining brightly. Of course everyone was happy. When I paid attention to the buildings, I felt that they were too gorgeous to describe in words. We decided to sit on the grass nearby to admire them. We took some photos of each other with big smiles and chatted a lot.

Later we went into one big building with a beautifully decorated appearance. There were many fascinating artworks, sculptures, and old fashioned clothes, and I enjoyed it a lot. Following that I drank a cup of hot fragrant coffee and talked to Minnie about Taiwan's politics.

We bought some souvenirs and were ready to eat our lunch on the grass. I slowly ate my sandwich and enjoyed the birds' singing. When the temperature went down slightly, I felt really cold. I started to hate the weather in Brighton. Soon Mr Hargreaves arrived, which meant we had to continue our journey although I felt tired already.

We again walked by the sea. The only difference between that moment and the morning was that I felt colder. Brighton Pier was the only place I expected to go to. We bought some ice cream there since I was hungry again. We didn't have time to stay long but I really had fun because I won 15p.

Time flew. Before returning to school, we took a small train. As soon as I reached home, I was almost out like a light.

Gina Ou, Year 9

Dear Diary



Hello Diary, I've just come back from London and I've had a lovely and happy day!

Today I went to school at 8.25am, then Marisa and I went to the ESL Department at 9am. First we went to meet Mr Hargreaves and Miss Collins. We waited for all the other girls and when we were all there, our two teachers took us to catch the bus to Brighton Station.

When we arrived at Brighton Station, Mr Hargreaves went to buy the train tickets. We took the 10.05am train. On the train, Marisa and I played with Christine and Elsa. We played some funny and silly games, and we laughed so loud that Miss Collins said 'Don't laugh so loud, OK?' Then we continued to play our silly games.

When we arrived at London, we were still laughing! Then we went to take the Underground to the Science Museum. When we arrived at the museum, we had to be divided into groups. I went with Kitty and Marisa. First we went to the third floor. It talked about aeroplanes, and there were some things we could play with. After that we went to the second floor, which talks about the future and we played games. There are so many games that provide us with information, and on the first floor we were told about computer technology. I think this floor had so many games and some of the Year 12 girls ran out of time. We said goodbye to the museum and took the Underground to China Town to have lunch and it took us about ten minutes to choose the restaurant. Once we got to the restaurant Jenny, Ivy and Kaori ordered the food. After lunch we took the Underground to the Millennium Footbridge and went across it. Then we went to take the boat. We saw Tower Bridge and some beautiful buildings. We all took a lot of photographs and we saw Tower Bridge open twice. After we had seen it open the second time we got off the boat and went to the train station. Mr Hargreaves and Miss Collins went to buy the train tickets and at the same time Kitty and I went to buy some ice-cream. Then when we finished our short shopping we went to wait for the train. We waited for about ten minutes before the train came. We got on the train. Inside the train was crowded and we had to stand up. At that time, I was very tired! After a few stations a lot of people got off the train and we found a seat very quickly. When we arrived at Brighton Station we took the bus and then walked the last bit back to school.

Rainbow Lam, Year 8