

Newsletter

"The object of art is not to reproduce reality, but to create a reality of the same intensity."

Alberto Giacometti

Week 8 2022-23

KETTLE'S YARD GALLERY



KETTLE'S YARD



On Thursday 25 October all the Fine Art and Photography A-Level students went to Kettle's Yard. Kettle's Yard is a gallery and exhibition space. We had a tour around the house and saw some amazing artwork including a Miro painting. As well as the art I was very impressed with both pianos and found out that there are concerts every Thursday evening which I want to attend. I took lots of photographs of the artwork and spaces in the house and will use these as source material for my Domestic Interiors Project. I found it very inspiring to see the art and spaces at Kettles Yard first hand rather than on my laptop and have come back with lots of ideas for my artwork. The trip also inspired me to explore the cultural side of Cambridge and I look forward to going to the Fitzwilliam Museum as well as Kettles Yard again.

Viktoriya – AS Fine Art Student

ARTS SOCIETY AND CAMBRIDGE DRAWING SOCIETY COMPETITION

The Arts Society and Cambridge Drawing Society exhibition and competition went well during the half term. There was a great display of work from several schools in Cambridge.

Angel Chak won a first prize for her self portrait.

Dan Nguyen won a highly commended for her collage work.



Cambridge Drawing Society - 1st Prize

Self Portrait by Angela Chak (CATS)

Judge's comment:- A really subtle treatment of this theme, I loved the discreet use of collage and silver paper to contrast the view through the window with the painting of the subject herself. The whole thing has a very dreamy quality.



Cambridge Drawing Society - Highly Commended

My Bedroom by Dan Nguyen (CATS)

Judge's comment:- this piece works on two levels. When looked at in detail the concept is a very clever evocation of lockdown confinement. But I was won over by the way that the artist has also created a dynamic and confident abstract composition that looks good from the other side of a room.



ISA EASTERN REGIONAL ART COMPETITION

Please join the Visual Art's Department and congratulate the following students for their success at the ISA Eastern Event last Friday October 2022 at St. Nicholas School in Harlow.

The first prize winner's work will now be entered for the National part of the competition later in the year.

First Prize:

Photography KS5: Long Hin Chiu (Bosco)
2D drawing KS5: On Ki Angel Chak (Angel)
3D Individual KS5: **Thanh Dan Nguyen** (Dan)
Drawing: KS4: Oyku Guzel (Mia)
Sketchbook KS5: Thanh Dan Nguyen



Second Prize:

Art 2D KS4: Quynh Anh Truong (Melanie)
Drawing KS5: Meriel Clare Rodgers

Highly Commended:

Photography KS4: Dylan Erken Ibram
Art 3D KS4: Irmak Bugday



HOUSE NEWS



Leopards

House Director,
Ruby Bell-Williamson



Our House Captain Natalia led her first House Assembly, with great enthusiasm and confidence. She says: 'Leopard students showed a great level of cooperation and communication. We did both personal and academic reflections on last term. This helped us to focus on sharing our weaker qualities and how to improve on them, but also ensured that we appreciate and value our strengths. We got to know each other more and had an opportunity to make new friends.'



Tigers

House Director,
Sarah Morgan



Tiger house have had a busy week, we had our first volleyball match against Lion house as part of an interhouse competition, the match was tightly fought with students battling to stay in the match. Unfortunately, the final score was 18-25 to Lions,

We have another match with Jaguars on Wednesday and aim to win to stay in with a chance of receiving some much needed points!

We also celebrated students in Tiger house who have 100% attendance with Pizza, 14 students participated and hopefully it will encourage others to aim high for next time.

VOLLEYBALL RESULTS: 2nd November 2022

Game 1: Tigers vs Lions - Lions won 25-18 **Game 2:** Leopards vs Panthers - Leopards won 25-14

HOUSE NEWS



Panthers

House Director,
Hayley Pienarr



In our Personal Tutor period this week, students discussed 'Cancel/Call-out' culture.

Panther House Captain Meriel shared her views in an opinion piece on the topic:

'People have 'cancelled/called-out' their friends for inappropriate behaviour. In the past, I have had friends who expressed inappropriate views, and I have called them out for this, explaining exactly why these views are so harmful and

damaging. Whenever I call out a behaviour or idea, I attempt to do it in such a way so that I am as respectful and civil as possible, while still stating my arguments firmly. In the future, if I heard someone say something or express a view that I deemed inappropriate, I would question it and raise my concerns with them.

I think cancel culture is active wherever there is a difference of opinion. It is particularly noticeable when there is a harsh contrast between people's opinions, such as in left leaning groups vs right leaning groups. But anywhere there are humans that dare to think differently to the norm, there will be cancel culture. Unless, of course, we as a global community work together to debate peacefully and respectfully about topics that are controversial or cause offence to certain groups.

Finally, I'd like to say that I think we really need to change the narrative around cancel culture. Instead of being a negative way to vent one's toxicity, calling others out on their actions could become a talking point for debate which could help us move forward as a society. That said, I think we all need to have a lot more tolerance for alternative or controversial opinions, as long as they are not inciting people to violence, obviously. Even if I strongly disagree with someone's opinion, I would fight tooth and nail for their right to talk about it. As Evelyn Beatrice Hall, biographer of the famous author Voltaire, wrote, 'I may strongly disagree with your opinion, but I would die for your right to express it.'

Meanwhile, congratulations to Fidelis' Personal Tutor Group; they achieved 100% attendance rate over 4 weeks - seen here enjoying their well-deserved reward in the HUB.



THE BACK PAGE

**Dominic Tomalin,
Principal**



Well, the first half of term has been quite a half-term here in the UK.

We have mourned the loss of Queen Elizabeth II and welcomed in the new 'Carolean' age as the crown passed to King Charles III; Carolean being the adjective used to describe a period during which there is a monarch named Charles on the throne. This will be the second Carolean age; the first being that of Kings Charles I and Charles II (1660 to 1685). Queen Elizabeth II's reign was the second Elizabethan age; the first being the reign of Queen Elizabeth I (1558-1603).

During the same half term, we have also had three prime ministers in post, creating a remarkable degree of political instability for the UK: a country seen as having the mother of all parliaments. The third of those prime ministers is Rishi Sunak. His appointment coincided with this year's Diwali, the Hindu Festival of the Lights. Given that Diwali is a celebration of light over darkness, Prime Minister Sunak can only have been delighted to find himself the first Hindu Prime Minister and to have Diwali marked in the first week of his tenure.

Prime Minister Sunak may well be pleased to be a leader in the mother of all parliaments; however, he is also confronted with monumental challenges at home, and the most disturbing of geopolitical landscapes in a lifetime. I, for one, am hopeful he will bring the essence of Diwali to his premiership; we certainly wish him well in dealing with the multiplicity of current problems for many of which there are no real solutions, only least worst options.

The onset of Diwali is set by the Amavasya Tithi, the time when the Moon opposes the Sun's light by 12 degrees, which falls on 15th day of the 8th month in the Indian calendar. The result is that it moves around the Gregorian calendar used in the UK; it fell on 24th October this year. In 2023 it will fall on 12th November.

One date that doesn't move around the Gregorian calendar is my wedding anniversary. My wife, Clare, and I celebrated our 14th anniversary this year. Traditionally, the 14th anniversary is celebrated with gifts made of ivory. This is rightly unacceptable now, nevertheless, 14th anniversary gifts retain an air of the elephantine about them. For the first time in many years, I actually remembered our anniversary without prompting. We exchanged elephants.

The lovely Mrs Tomalin elected to go the whole elephant, and some. I now have a statue of Ganesh in my home office. Ganesh is a Hindu god, revered for being the remover of obstacles and a source of good luck. Ganesh is also the patron of arts and sciences, and also of intellect, purity, valour and wisdom. This gift from one of the most patient people I know, herself something of a remover of obstacles, was deeply touching. We all need assistance in our pursuit of all that Ganesh stands for, any ethereal assistance should be welcomed. I am very hopeful that Ganesh is keeping a watchful eye on Number 10, Downing Street, as well as on my office.

