



The Charter School
East Dulwich



The Charter Times



First student newsletter!

Hello students of The Charter School East Dulwich! This is the first school newspaper of the year, and we hope you enjoy this paper, as we here at the newspaper club work hard to write these articles.

We would love to hear some feedback from you about what you think that we should have in future articles, or have any thoughts about what we might be able to do better on, or what you think is going well.

If you have any question or queries about anything that we write or you're interested in something that we write, please feel free to ask Ms. Illidge or one of us about it, and if you are interested in joining our team, come to room 1.12 at lunch on Thursday if you would like to start writing with us!

by Milo Sharp (Yr 7)



Editor in Chief Message

I've taken this role in order to create a newsletter that will be appealing to all members of The Charter School East Dulwich community. I look forward to working with the newsletter team, and definitely urge students of all year groups to engage with it. Currently KS3 are active members, writing the article, it would be great to get articles from all year groups.

-Nazifa Munayem (Year 12)



The Charter Times

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Rishi Sunak: Cost of Living Crisis

By: Joe Borthwick (Yr 7)



Our newly appointed prime minister, Rishi Sunak has been tasked with many responsibilities. One of those that I am sure has all crossed our minds is the cost of living crisis. This is the rising prices of energy, fuel, and food. As Rishi was left in the ashes of Lizz Truss' disaster, he got to work straight away. He aims to support working class families by giving a small reductions on taxes but it doesn't stop people's accounts from

bankrupting on a daily basis. The Labour Party have been persistently asking the main electrics companies to lower their prices but they have not yet come to terms with the demands. The national inflation rate has picked up to 9.9%. There will be a raise to 11.4% but this will hopefully ease in the middle of this year. So far nothing to worry about but watch out, you never know ...

If you are worried about your family's financial support, go to the BBC for more information!





What is SHEIN?

Shein is a fast fashion company made in October 2008. It sells the newest fashion for an average of \$7.90 (£10.70) which is perfect for those who want to be trendy instantly. It has grown within these recent years due to social media. It is a non eco-friendly company which sells cheap quality clothing.

Shein was originally called ZZKKO and was founded in China 2008 by Chris Xu- an entrepreneur and search engine optimization marketing specialist. It changed name in 2015 and shortly gained more attention within their most popular users being in Brazil, Mexico and the U.S.

The downhill

As SHEIN gained popularity it started to increase the interest of others which lead many fascinated by the products.- This can be for good and bad. Reviewers on TikTok and on Youtube tested out these affordable outfits and soon others wanted to know the BTS of Shein. Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee Tom Tugendhat said: "Millions of people are signing away their personal data for cheap clothes." He added: "When the price is too good you have to ask who is really paying and how." (- source: BBC article Shein: The secretive brand dressing Gen Z).

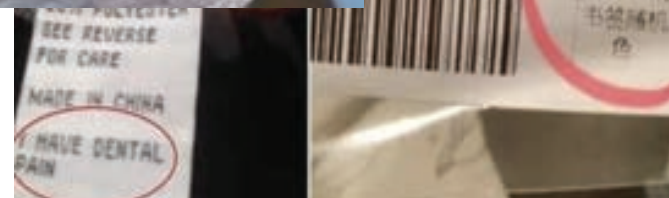
SHEIN : The go-to for fast fashion

By Maia White (Yr 7)

Controversy Of SHEIN

Research found that workers of Shein have been working an unhealthy 16 hours long day, with one day off and a wage of 4000 yuan (\$572) per month... Source: Fortune- Shein Scandal)

However, many families rely and depend on the income they receive and so if we were to boycott Shein the downside is many may suffer the consequence of unemployment



Help Labels were trending on TikTok



Climate Change (Key Stage 3)

Climate change is a growing problem for all humans as we know it. Irreversible changes are happening all over the world and we need to stop it!

Stats show that if we don't stop it now we will be endangering all human race. 85% of the world's population is already being affected by human-driven climate change, an October study in Nature Climate Change.



As David Attenborough once said 'The final chapter is ours to write. We know what we need to do. What happens next is up to us.'

How to help?

You can help just by eating less meat, you don't have to go completely vegan.

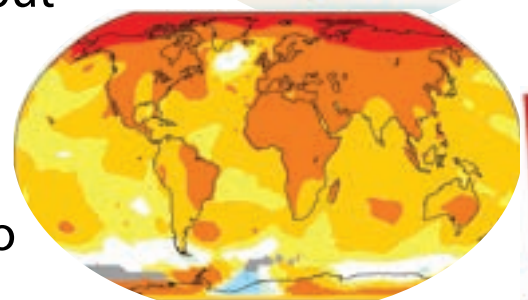
Did you know:

Skipping meat for one day a week can reduce your annual carbon footprint by as much as not driving your car for a whole month!

As well as eating less meat you can also start to reduce your plastic waste by recycling and putting things in the right bin.

This will kill us all!

We need to stop climate change. We need to stop it now.

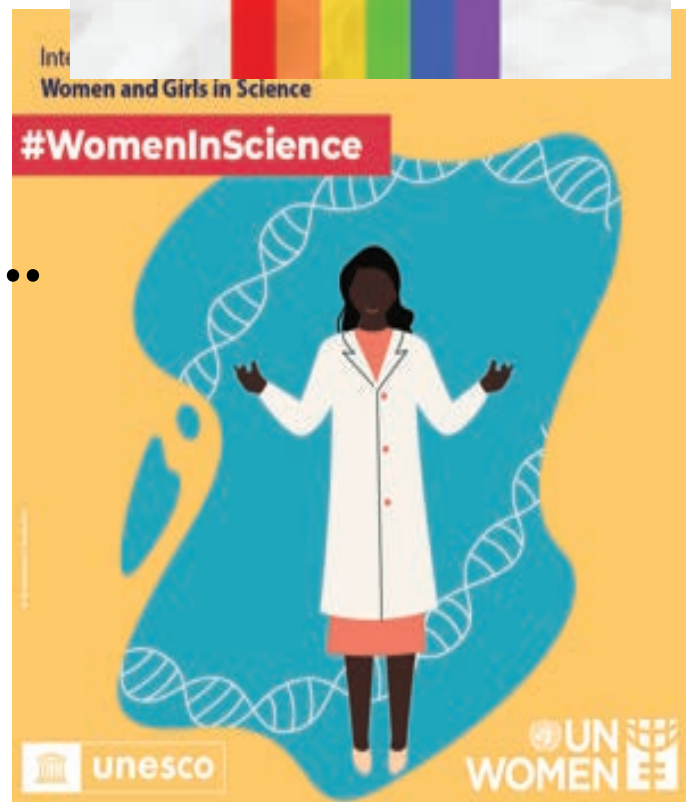




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This Month...





Children's Mental Health Day

Mia Hill (Yr 8)

Mental Health is considered to be just as important as physical health, but why isn't it taken as seriously. In England one in six children under 16 suffer from a mental health problem. 10.7% of the world's population suffer from a diagnosed mental health problem and this number is rising.

The most common mental health disorder is depression and in the UK, 80,000 people suffer from this disorder. Depression causes guilt, self-blame and an increased chance of suicide. Depression can be caused by a negative or stressful environment that doesn't get better. Other high stress scenarios such as poverty or bullying can increase a child's likelihood of being diagnosed with this life changing mood disorder.

Every Children's Mental Health Week has a theme, this year's theme is "let's connect". This is for us to really try and maintain or create healthy connections with our friends and family. This is very important as when we have healthy connections with the people close to us as when we are in a tough and hard situation, we can have someone to talk to.



If you need help at all, with any mental health issues contact:
nwilson@chartereastdulwich.org.uk
jewhieberene@chartereastdulwich.org.uk



International Day of Women in Science

11th February

-Holly Hardy (Yr 8)

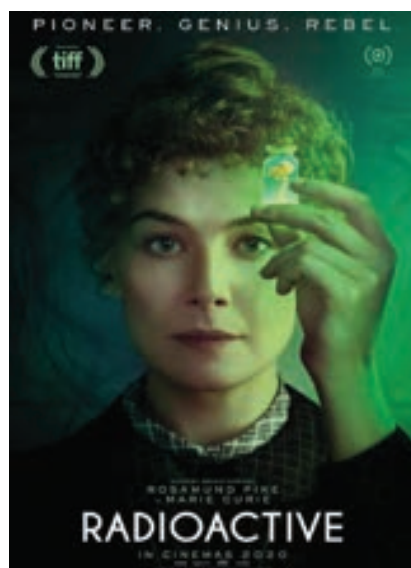
The 11th of February is a day dedicated to the appreciation of women who have done great things for our world and dedicated their lives to research and science. All around the world women dedicate their lives to the fascination of science which some of the most well known are: Katherine Johnson, Marie Curie, Rosalind Franklin and Valentina Tereshkova.



Women in science is not a very spoken topic as not many get the recognition that is deserved.

A key example is the woman, Rosalind Franklin- she essentially discovered DNA but for a very long period of time the credit went to a man called James Watson. He was even given a Nobel prize for her discovery which emphasises why this is such an important day to recognise. Another example of an amazing woman in science would be Mary Anning, she was an English fossil collector whose credit was constantly stolen when publishing her finds and nothing was ever said. It's these kinds of women who deserve to be appreciated on this day as even now women in science could be doing amazing life changing things and never been seen or credited for it.

Women in STEM Movies





LGBTQ+ History Month



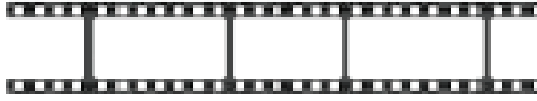
February is LGBTQ+ History Month, where we celebrate the history of the LGBTQ+ community, and the people who have helped give freedom to those now, to be able to live their lives as they are. We'll look at some of the big figures in this movie industry of the LGBTQ+ community, 'Behind the lens' and see articles on homophobia in schools.





B

ehind the lens



Watermelon Woman

By Bernice Ogbemor (Yr12)



In *Watermelon Woman*, Dunye cleverly critiques historical representations of marginalised communities and more importantly creates an archive for ethnic queer folks like herself, as 'The watermelon woman' becomes the first ever feature made by an out black lesbian. This low budget independent film authentically and wholeheartedly experiments with cinema in a way that is both engaging and revolutionary. A tenderness that is rare to find in the film industry, as often queer and black stories are solely included to meet self proclaimed woke agendas. Furthermore although the entire premise of the film is fictional it does a great deal in expressing something that is undeniably true: black history has been erased and fetishized. Dunye's irreverent storytelling in *The watermelon woman* continues to be a celebrated landmark of 'new queer cinema'.

Dunye tells the story of a black lesbian filmmaker researching an actress, Faith Richardson who she comes across in a 1930s feature. This task becomes significantly hard as the actress isn't credited and only referred by the racist archetype she embodies - 'the watermelon woman'. To Cheryl our protagonist Faith is more, there is "something in her face, something in the way she looks and moves that is interesting", and rightly so as we find out that Faith was a black gay woman navigating an exploitative industry, who did her best to live a rebellious and courageous life just like Cheryl.





At the end of the film we are confronted with a harsh revelation, Faith is a figment of Dunye's imagination, a placeholder for the erasure of black history, implicitly hinting at the nuanced stories and representations queer people of colour have been deprived of. Faith's story could have been the story of not one but many performers and creatives. By depicting the life of a black queer woman in such an intimate and confrontational manner, Dunye creates an archive for a community that has had little to none, as she realises that she must create her own history

In her attempts to create a realistic representation, Dunye playfully blurs the lines between fiction and nonfiction, creating a genre-bending film that refuses to conform to traditional structures in cinema, in Dunye's own words a "dunyementary". This can be seen through the switching of 16mm to videotape, and the public interviews. There is a particularly significant interview with real life feminist critic Camila Paglia, it is unknown whether or not the interview is scripted but the scene does a great deal in stressing the dangers of not interacting and uplifting diverse perspectives. In the interview Paglia fetishizes mammy roles and argues that the archetype is not exploitative or insulting but instead endearing. Paglia's tone deaf commentary is deeply rooted in her sheltered white experience and her indifference to the black experience, even as a woman who is familiar with oppressive rhetorics she contributes to the oppression of another marginalised group. Dunye uses Paglia to criticise the deceptive and ignorant historical consciousness adopted in white America.

Moreover Dunye uses the one and only sexual encounter in the film to normalise queer sex, refusing to conform to the traditional fetishized depictions of lesbian intercourse. We are viewing this sexual encounter under a queer female gaze, and are thus being offered a realistic representation of gay intimacy; the male gaze has been disrupted. The watermelon woman does what few films can, it makes history, challenges traditional structures, and prioritises the representation of a marginalised community. Dunye fights to be seen.



Homophobia in schools

- Clara Batty (8H)

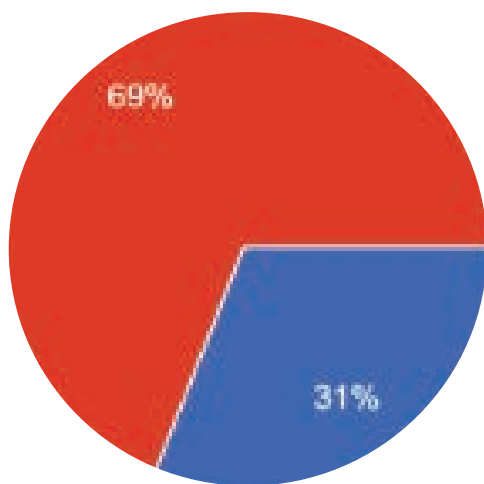
Homophobia: Dislike of or prejudice against gay people.

I am sure that everyone has heard at least once the comment "That's gay" or someone using gay as an insult. I, for one, have heard it too many times.



But it is generally ignored, or just passed off as a bit of 'banter', and not much of an issue. It clearly is an issue as stated in the Equality Act of 2010, which states that to discriminate someone because of sexual orientation or gender reassignment is harassment and can be taken seriously in court.

I decided to investigate the issue of 'homophobia' in our school, and successfully received 42 responses.



The first question asked if you knew anyone who had experienced homophobia in school. 69% had not, but still 31% had. When asked what it was, it was mainly bullying, name calling, teasing, mocking and someone even described it as harassing, the results show 31% of the 42 students had experienced homophobia in school.

● Yes
● No

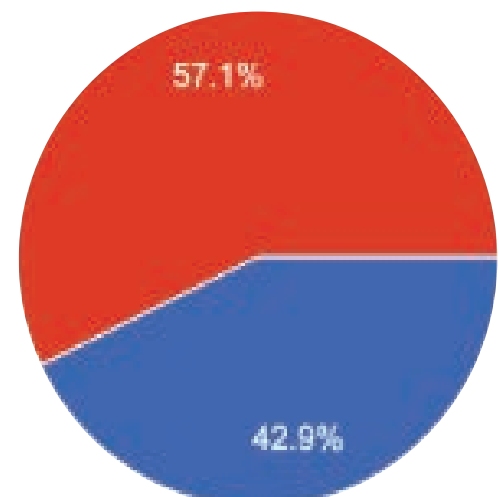
More shockingly, when asked if homophobic comments were heard around the school area, 42.9 % said that they had. I went on to ask what exactly they were. The examples are below:

"My friend was called trans-gender because she has short hair."

"People shouting; "you're gay, that's weird""

"a particular group of boys would call my friend slurs and tease me and them."

Students would openly shout, "That's gay!"





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This year we celebrated our 2nd annual Culture Day celebration which was a raving success with students and staff alike. A massive thank you to all staff and students involved in making the day a success - especially Ms Lawrence.

Althetics

Badge and flag making

Live performances including steel pans

A culture quiz in tutor time



Best dressed competition

Poetry competition

Culture day is an annual day of celebration at TCSED which gives students and staff an opportunity to wear items of clothing which are representative of their cultural heritage and identity. It allows individuals to express themselves and share with the school community who they are and what makes them who they are. TCSED is passionate about promoting inclusivity, diversity, expression and celebrating each other - all of which we do on culture day.



Culture Day Poems



Leoul Beyene - Poetry contest winner!

In a horn of Africa
Lies a land of wonder
Ethiopia, proud and ancient is its thunder
Home to coffee, Rastafarianism and more
Its history and culture are a treasure trove to explore.
From acts of ancient obelisks to riches,
Ethiopia's past is still alive and kicking
A legacy that is truly awe inspiring
In 1896, they fought off colonialisms grip
A victory that still echoes and won't forever skip
A country of diverse languages and tribes
A testament to Ethiopia's vibrant lives.

Home - *Azyan* (7H)

They shout in the street
'That country is terrible, it can't be beat! It's just unbearable'

There could be stereotypes and fighting but the atmosphere is so
mesmerising
It's your home,
Open its doors.
It's your home,
Despite the wars.
Opinions can be gone
Home is for us all, and home is where you belong





Sienna Smith - 10E

Who am I?
That is the question untold
What is my future?
Will it unfold?
Possibly yes, probably no
Why?

That question is unknown
Is my pride too high to find out why I cannot
Deny that my culture is hidden?
Or that an image of being from the
Caribbean is linking ghetto to black to point
Where I can no longer accept their
Forgiveness?

Who am I?
Again I ask myself
I cannot say

I have no way of showing my true identity to
Those who don't know me
So who am I?

Am I a black girl from the Caribbean living in
Britain, trying to live up to the expectations of
Being someone I'm not meant to be?

No

I am a black girl proud of my culture
Proud of my identity

I am proud of who I am today

Who am i?

I am me





My roots- *Jesutobi Adesanya* - 7R

My roots were like a distant idea
It lay in my mind but I could never get a full grasp of it.
Like a humming bird's morning chirp slowly fading away as it takes flight.

The origin of my ancestors placed in Nigeria but yet I was birthed on foreign soil.

They say that my mother tongue is English while at the same time at

The back of my throat itches the Yoruba just waiting to be set free.

Back then, my perception of Nigeria was poverty, slums and hungry children just waiting for the day that they will be saved by the white man, at least that was what I was taught.

But now I know that this stereotypical mindset is wrong.

Now I know that place, my country, is a paradise engraved with history, some painful to even fathom, while some full of joy and laughter,



all adding up together to what it has bloomed into today.

Dancing and thriving children, with not even a stressful thought passing through their young mind.

With villages built from the grounds of Ijebu-ode, and markets filled with the rich and beautiful smells of Ewa Agoyin and Suya.

Beats of the famous talking drum speaking in thuds drumming deep into your soul, and the harmonious but powerful sounds of its people.

I am proud of every inch of my identity. The ones that I know, to the ones I am yet to discover.

These are the foundational blocks of my ipseity, my me, my roots.



The Creative Bloc



Teacher Interviews *By Kaela Setti (Yr 7)*

Find out more about your teacher's profession

Name: Mr Baggs (Drama)

Why did you come to Charter East Dulwich?

I heard what a wonderful school it was. That I wanted to be part of the fantastic work that the school does for both the staff and students and wider community.

What is your favourite thing about Charter?

All the fantastic opportunities and experiences that the teachers and students can share in together.

What would you change about Charter?

Free pizza for all teachers at lunchtime.



Name: Mr Clark (Biology)

Why did you come to Charter?

I wanted the opportunity to teach A level biology. I love the diversity and I moved to London from Bristol and it was the best looking school I could cycle to.

What is your favourite thing about Charter?

The atmosphere. I like how it feels like the students here could genuinely go on to do anything.

What would you change?

I would fix the walkway between the main building and the sports hall and add more trees and maybe a pond.

Name: Ms Jupp (Maths)

Why did you come to Charter?

I thought it would be really exciting to help create a school from scratch.

What do you like about Charter?

I like the students and how friendly everyone is.

What would you change about Charter?

More trips. An A-level maths trip to New York should definitely happen.



The Creative Bloc



FUNTAISTIC RIDDLES

1. I'm tall when I'm young and short when I'm old.
What am I?
2. What question can you never say yes to?
3. What goes up but never goes down?
4. I shave every day, but my beard stays the same.
What am I?
5. What has lots of keys but can't open a single lock?
6. I'm light as a feather yet the strongest person can't
hold me for 10 minutes. What am I?
7. What has a tail and a head but no body?
8. What has legs but does not walk?
9. What occurs once in a minute, twice in a moment
and never in a thousand years?

ANSWERS NEXT PAGE



The Creative Bloc



TIME FOR
ANSWERS



1. Answer= Candle
2. Answer= Are you asleep yet? or Are you dead?
3. Answer= age
4. Answer= barber
5. Answer= piano
6. Answer= breath
7. Answer= coin
8. Answer= a chair
9. Answer= letter M



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**Thank you for reading this edition
of the 'The Charter Times'.**

Stay tuned for the next !