



GREATFIELDS SCHOOL



Greatfields

Gazette ~

Winter Edition



Illustrated by Emaan Minhas – 9FKhalo



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Sout time, is it not?

By *Stilian Kapitanov (9 F Khalo)*

That's right lads 'n lasses, the Duke of Edinburgh's award has finally begun and it's got a lot of shenanigans packed for you to experience. How do I know? Well, I've started ploughing through myself! Got to say, it's exhausting at first, but after adjusting we've gotten the hang of it!



All that aside, the participation in such a rigorous chain of challenges is considered quite honourable on its own. I haven't even mentioned the opportunities it unlocks for you; that is not relevant for now though, you get to have fun (fun is well appreciated 'round these parts)!

Assuming that you don't know exactly how DofE works, let me put this into simple terms (with oddly complex vocabulary to contradict such statement).

~The DofE award consists of 3 main sections: Volunteering, Physical and Skills.

~Each section can be personalized according to the contestant's preference, with hundreds of activities worth selecting for each of the three sections

~Two sections span 3 months' worth of activity, while the last one spans 6

~A portion of one's section may be completed once a week at least (nice and unrestricting)

~Once those 3 sections are complete, you get to make your way to the countryside, where a 2 day/1 night expedition commences, which is just as personalise as all else was up to this point. Rad, if I do say so myself (and I do say so myself.)

So, since such a remarkable occasion has begun after an extended period of waiting, why not kick-start it with a few opinions from the fellow participants today?

"Personally, it is an interesting journey, as it helped me boost my confidence and make me do things, I would normally be unable to do."

-Sajid Jafri



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“It is really fun; you get a lot of commitments which you would normally find challenging to handle but the support from Ms Worrall helps.”

-Sefrat Ali Sadman

“At first it was tiring, but the end will truly be worth it!” -Anonymous

“Adjusting truly proves itself to be an arduous task, yet the finish line draws closer nonetheless; it will be worth it in the Long-run, fellas.”

-Stilian Kapitanov

With that, I present to thee the DofE’s award, an exhilarating crash course, a display of youth beyond limits while living to the max, in an experience only encountered once per lifespan. Until next time, rad lads!

Sport wins for Greatfields!

Pentathlon Competition

On Monday 21st November, 10 students went to Eastbrook School to take part in the Borough Pentathlon Competition. This is a circuit of indoor multi-sport activities targeted at a range of abilities. Greatfields entered 2 teams and out 9 teams, we came 4th and 2nd. This is our best result to date for this competition. A huge well done to:

Suzanna – **Team Captain**

Charlie Archer, Endi, Yasir, Josh Betts, Raghbir

Gvidas – **Team Captain**

Gabriel Lamina, Anad, Berhan





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Sporting Updates!

- **Year 8 & 9 Girls' Basketball team** showed great resilience to come back from 8-2 down to win 16-12 against Eastbrook School. The scorers on the day were Suzanna (4 points), Alicia (2 points), Ganiyat (10 points). Ganiyat was also player of the match.

- **Year 9 boys won 40-0 vs. Eastbrook.** They dominated from start to finish. The scorers on the day were: Tiago, Zakariya, Junior, Ryan, Khalil, Omar, and Hussein who was the player of the match.



- **Sixth form Basketball Academy** won the first match 60-58 vs. City Long Academy; the boys worked extremely hard to come out on top in a tight contest. The Sixth Form Academy won 52-34 against Leyton 6th form. The players of the match were Jehiel and Franco. The team are now top of the league and are undefeated.

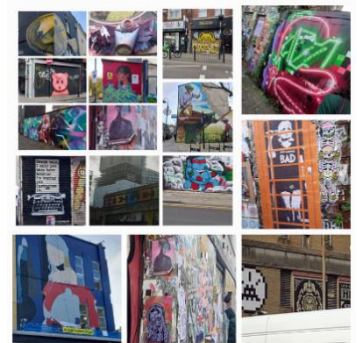
- **The U14 'A' Netball team** (mixed year 8 and 9's) won 4-2 vs. Eastbury and also beat Goresbrook 5-4. The team played extremely well in both matches. Ganiyat and Suzanna were voted players of the match for superb attacking and defensive play.



[Year 9 Arts Trip: By Diya Reneddula \(9 F Khalo\)](#)

What is street art?

Street art is related to graffiti art in that it is created in public locations and is usually unsanctioned, but it covers a wider range of media and is more connected with graphic design. Most street artist use stencils so they can finish their designs quicker and avoid the risks of getting caught by the police. However, many intricate designs take time, such as realism (faces) which are usually spray painted at permissioned property. Additionally, the most common type of spray painting would be stick-on. This is where they paint on a stick-





on and, once they finish, they go out to the street and stick it up to the wall. Doing so diminishes the chances of getting caught, therefore helping to avoid getting fined.

What did we do on the street art trip?

We toured the streets and explored paintings made by famous artist, such as Stik and Helch. The most fun moments of this trip were when we got to spray paint on wall, as it was a new experience and was therapeutic.

What is special about street art?

Street art benefits urban environments by creating a safer community, generating relationships between constituents and businesses, and increasing economic revenue.

Murals, while beautiful, don't serve simply to brighten your day, but also are an integral part of creating a safer community. Furthermore, it is a way of showing a person's emotions in public, a way to share personal and political experiences, and a way to show support for others. Many may argue street art is useless and that it holds little value. Little do they know that you can make a lot of money through this form of art (an example of an artist is Banksy). However, your purpose should revolve around sharing your art with others and not producing art for the economic benefits.

What can you learn from street art?

- It is important to take risks
- Give without expecting a return
- Challenge the norm
- Be fearless
- Question everything
- Persistence pays off
- Creativity is a universal language.



Saints Day!

¿Qué es el día de los santos?

El día de todos los santos es una solemnidad cristiana que se celebra en el primero de noviembre, el primer domingo de Pentecostés, por la iglesia católica y la ortodoxa.

Para los creyentes, esta es la fiesta de todos los Santos, la que verdaderamente tiene relevancia y refleja la fe en el futuro para quienes esperan y viven según el Evangelio predicado por Jesús. El respeto por los fallecidos en la fe y su recuerdo se refleja en la veneración de quienes han sido “templos del Espíritu Santo”.

Origen del día de todos los santos:

El origen del día de todos los santos se remonta a hace casi 1300 años, en el siglo IV, durante la persecución de los cristianos por parte del emperador Diocleciano, y, para homenajear a los mártires católicos. El Papa Bonifacio IV estableció esa fecha (aunque no fue hasta el 13 de mayo del año 610), para conmemorar a los que murieron. Fue impulsada por el Papa Gregorio III el cual, durante su pontificado entre 731 y 741 consagró una capilla en la Basílica de San Pedro en honor de todos los Santos, consiguiendo que todos los santos fueran admirados al menos un día al año. Posteriormente, en el 835, el Papa Gregorio IV extendió la celebración a todas las iglesias. En esos tiempos las iglesias estaban intentando eliminar las celebraciones paganas y por eso el Día de Todos los Santos, el 1 de noviembre, coincidía con una festividad de los pueblos germanos del “Samhain” o Año Nuevo Celta, actualmente conocido como Halloween o Noche de Brujas, que se celebra la noche del 31 de octubre.

¿Como se celebra el día de todos los santos en España?

En España el día de todos los santos se celebra con la mayoría de personas aprovechando para acercarse a los cementerios de sus familiares más cercanos. Normalmente llevan flores y las depositan en las tumbas y rezan por ellos. Para los creyentes, este momento es muy importante porque es un tiempo para conciliación y recuerdo, basado fundamentalmente en la fe católica de una gran parte de los españoles. Sin embargo, considerando las tradiciones



de diferentes familias y países en el mundo y también las mezclas de religiones, algunas personas lo celebran en formas diferentes con el propósito de respetar y conmemorar a los familiares que no están vivos.

Méjico

A pesar de que las personas más religiosas tienen claro en qué consiste la celebración del Día de Todos los Santos, algunas confunden la fecha con la Conmemoración de los Fieles Difuntos, o el Día de Los Muertos. Quizás uno de los lugares en el que el Día de los Muertos y su forma de celebrarlo es conocido y reconocido en el mundo entero es en Méjico. Durante los días 1 y 2 de noviembre en el país mejicano rinden homenaje a La Catrina, una descendiente de la diosa Mictecacíhuatl y que fue diseñada por José Guadalupe Posada. En la mayoría de ciudades mexicanas construyen altares de homenaje a los muertos. Además, en la ciudad de Aguascalientes se celebra un desfile durante el Festival de las Calaveras, todo ello con caracterizaciones próximas a la estética de La Catrina.

Brasil

El conocido como Día de los Finados es bastante similar a como se celebra El Día de Todos los Santos en España. Y es que la tradición del país sudamericano proviene de los portugueses que llevaron hasta el nuevo continente, tradiciones católicas similares. También se dejan objetos personales como camisetas y otras prendas del fallecido en las tumbas. Además, tiene lugar el 2 de noviembre, en vez del 1.

Irlanda

Aunque ya no se celebra apenas en un país de mayoría católica, en Irlanda existía el Samhain, una fiesta de origen celta que llegó a establecerse en casi toda Europa hasta la llegada del cristianismo. Esta tenía lugar el 31 y marcaba el inicio del Año Nuevo y el final de la cosecha. Durante esta fecha, se celebraba la vuelta a la vida de los difuntos, a los que dejaban comida fuera de las casas. Además, para ahuyentar a los malos espíritus, utilizaban tanto hogueras como máscaras, marcando el germen de la que a la postre sería la festividad de Halloween, importada por los propios irlandeses hasta los Estados Unidos.

Camboya

Conocido como el Pchum Ben, en un país de mayoría budista del Theravada, el concepto del Día de Todos los Santos es completamente diferente en Camboya. En el país del sudeste asiático se celebra el principio de las puertas del infierno y las almas que se han reencarnado vuelven con sus familias. Por ello las familias, al igual que en Irlanda, les dejan comida a los



difuntos para guiarlas. En las Pagodas, se realizan cánticos para guiar también a las animas hasta los templos. No obstante, se celebra casi un mes antes.

La celebración no es mórbida como pudiese parecer Halloween ya que hay grandes diferencias entre estas celebraciones:

Aunque existen algunas similitudes entre el Día de los Muertos, Día de Todos los Santos y el Halloween, ya que son rituales para los difuntos cuyas fechas de celebración coinciden, hay marcadas diferencias entre ellas.

TRANSLATION

What is All Saints Day?

By Agatha and Jacqueline Ferreiro and Hitika Soni

All Saints Day is a Christian solemnity that is celebrated on the first of November, on the first Sunday of Pentecost's, for the catholic and orthodox church.

For the followers, this is the celebration of all Saints, the one that is truly relevant and reflects the faith of the future for those who wait and live according to the Gospel predicted by Jesus. The respect for those who have passed away in the faith and their memories is reflected in the veneration of those who had been "temples of the saint's spirit".

Origin of All Saints Day:

The origin of All Saints Day dates back to nearly 1300 years, in the era IV, during the persecution of the Christians from part of the emperor Diocleciano, and to honour the Catholic martyrs. The Pope Bonifacio IV established this date (although it wasn't until the 13th of May of the year 610), to commemorate those who had passed away. It was propelled by Pope Gregorio III during his pontificate between 731 and 741, to consecrate a chapel of the Basilica of Saint Pedro in the honour of all Saints, in the hopes that all Saints would be admired at least on one day of the year. Subsequently, in 835, Pope Gregorio IV extended the celebration to all churches. During those times the churches were trying to eliminate the pagan celebrations. Therefore All Saints Day, on the 1st of November, matches with a festivity of the German towns of the "Samhain" or the New Year Celtic (currently known as Halloween or Night of Witches) which is celebrated on the night of the 31st of October.

How is All Saints Day celebrated in Spain?

In Spain, All Saints Day is celebrated with many people taking the opportunity to approach their closest relative's cemeteries. Normally, they bring flowers and place them down in the tombs and pray for them. For the followers, this moment is very important because it is a time for conciliation and remembrance, fundamentally based on the catholic faith of the grand part of Spaniards.



However, considering the traditions of different families and countries in the world and also the mixture of religions, some people celebrate it in different forms with the purpose of respecting and commemorating the relatives that have passed away.

Mexico:

Despite that the most religious people have a clear understanding of what All Saints Day consists of, some confuse the date with the commemoration of the Faithful Departed, or the Day of the Dead. Perhaps, some of the locations that the Day of the Dead and its way of celebration is known and recognized globally, is in Mexico. During the days on the 1st and 2nd of November, the Mexican country pays tribute to the Catrina, a descendant of the God Mictecacihuatl and that was materialized by Jose Guadalupe Posada. In the majority of Mexican cities, they build altars of homage to the dead. Additionally, in the city of Aguascalientes a parade is celebrated during the Festival of the Skulls, all with proximate characterizations to the aesthetic of the Catrina.

Brazil

The so-called Day of the Dead is quite similar to how All Saints Day is celebrated in Spain. And it is that the tradition of the South American country comes from the Portuguese who brought to the new continent similar Catholic traditions. Also, personal objects like t-shirts and other clothing of the deceased are left in the graves. Additionally, it takes place on the 2nd of November, instead of on the 1st.

Ireland:

Although it is hardly no longer celebrated in a country with a Catholic majority, in Ireland existed the Samhain, a celebration of a Celtic origin that came to settle in nearly all of Europe until the coming of Christianity. This took place on the 31st and marked the starting of the New Year and the end of harvest. During this date, the returning life of the deceased is celebrated by those who leave food outside of their houses. Also, to drive away bad spirits, they use as many bonfires as masks, marking the germ of which in the end will be the Halloween Festivity, imported by the Irish themselves to the United States.

Cambodia

Known as the Pchum Ben, in a country with a Buddhist majority in Theravada, the concept of All Saints Day is completely different in Cambodia. In the south Asian country, the beginning of the gates of hell is celebrated as the reincarnated souls return to their families. That is why the families, alike in Ireland, leave food to the dead to guide them. In the Pagodas, chants are performed to guide the souls to the temples. Nevertheless, it is celebrated nearly one month before.

The celebration is not morbid like how Halloween may appear, since there are big differences between these celebrations:



Although there are some similarities between the Day of the Dead, All Saints Day and Halloween as they are rituals for the deceased whose dates of celebration coincide, there are marked differences between them.

The Winter Showcase

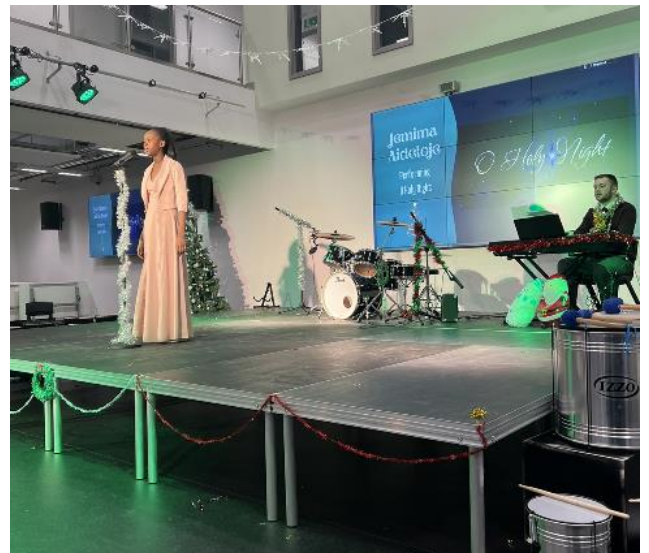
By The Journalism Team

On Thursday 8th December 2022, Students of Greatfields alongside the amazing Performing Arts department hosted the long awaited Winter Showcase. This event displayed a plethora of amazing talent from a range of students across the school body.

We were blessed with an amazing Sandman Electric guitar solo performance from Bowie King and Kenneth Kozlowski wowed us with a Jingle Bell Rock rendition. Students performed an amazing world dance choreography that took us on a journey from Traditional Africa to South Asia with bright colourful accessories to brighten up the dance! The lovely Jemima sang a heart-warming solo of O' Holy Night and she left the crowd in utter joy. Similarly Michael's crooning voice took us to church and back with the beautiful 'Have yourself a Merry Christmas'.

To close off the beautiful night the staff choir entertained the audience with the classic 'Seasons of Love', solo'd by Miss Olumoyegun and Mr Summers. Their soulful voices erupted the entire hall, it was a pleasure to be blessed by their voices. A huge shoutout for Mr Bagley who encouraged the entire audience to round off the performances by doing a whole sing-along to 'Feliz Navidad', which happened to be Mr Paul's favourite Christmas song! It was a thoroughly enjoyable night and we cannot wait to see what the performances hold next winter! A huge shoutout to everyone who took part in the night, it was truly magical!

Feliz Navidad everyone!





○ FRIENDSMAS ○

- Short story by Emaan Minhas 9 (FKhalo)

‘The bonds between friends can often be stronger than those that are forged by family’

The last bell rung. Students poured out of the corridors, children pouring out of the shadows of the oak doors. Yelling rang throughout the building. Countless students walking across the freshly made turf, while others awaiting their friends by the entrance. A young girl staggered through the structure, her complexion a reddish brown with a pure yellow undertone. Her back was covered in jet black waves, as her lavender eyes illuminated beneath the ceiling's artificial lighting. Being packed into several crevices, she clutched to her back straps, her frown deepening as was swarmed by multiple delighted bystanders.

‘Raven!’

A man, who seemed to have been the same age as her, closed in towards her. His plump, freckled face just meters away from hers. Ginger, glistening curls bounced down onto it, before then being swiftly placed to the side. His green eyes shone out from beneath his locks radiating under the sunlight. A worried scowl stood below his button nose, pasted up against his pale skin. He was dressed in a white button up shirt and an amber tie, partially concealed by an emerald blazer, coordinating with blackish blue denim jeans that laid beneath it. There he was: Austin Everwoods, one of her closest friends.

‘Austin, hey’.

He grinned towards her; his bright smile shining brighter than the numb sun that brushed over their heads. Just as he was about to speak, yelling erupted from behind them. A young girl raced towards them. Her dark complexion contrasted with her faded dirty blonde afro, curls drooping down towards her narrow eyes. Her plump lips lifted upwards in a smirk.

‘Did you tell her yet?’

She squealed. Her eyes widened as she jumped up and down, her smile extended from cheek to cheek. He sighed, slightly annoyed at the interruption however continuing nonetheless.

‘Malika and I were going to have a friend Christmas-’

‘A friends-mas!’

‘Yeah... We were wondering if you wanted to join?’



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He continued while glaring at the girl, who sheepishly touched the back of her neck after interrupting him once again. The raven-haired girl smirked and chuckled at her two foolish companions.

Malika was raised by a stay-at-home mother and janitor, however, despite that she was always incredibly thankful for everything and lively and, as a result, fairly popular. On the other hand, Austin embodied the complete opposite. He was more cautiously introverted. Only interacting with close friends as his parents were often abroad and most family members lived hours away. Due to his unpleasant experiences with trusting people, he rarely engaged with others. His parents were normally absent since they shared a business together, but when they weren't, they tried their best to spend time with him as much as they could. Raven spoke:

'Sure, I've got nothing better to do this Christmas anyway'

'Great! 5.30 at my place!'

The ginger responds immediately, failing to restrain his smile as the two race off, giggling, and abandoning the poor girl pondering in confusion.

Raven, concerningly, rubbed it off and continued walking. Her father wouldn't care too much if she was gone for the day, so she continued walking in the opposite direction from before: Austin's house.

Although she hadn't visited Austin's home in a while, she remembered it vividly since it was incredibly opulent. A lengthy, plank-like pattern walked through the whole framework of the tan home. The black oak entrance was intentionally positioned in the middle, flanked by two milky white windows, and encircled by three white pillars. A wooden mahogany fence surrounded the home, ending only at the light stairway leading to the door, parallel to the feathery grey roof.

It took around half an hour or so finally approach his house as it was near the richer outskirts of town. She knocked on the door a few times before retreating as she heard footsteps louden towards her direction. A ginger head of locks peered out of the door frame, green eyes gazed back at her, before dilating in recognition at the smoky hair and nervous smile. He apologised quickly before opening the door, revealing her two friends in some of the ugliest Christmas sweaters she had ever seen.

Malika was dressed in a holly and snow-adorned green sweater. She had a red hair bow in her hair, penguin earrings dangling from her ears, and a red skirt decorated with alternating gold and green tinsel. Austin was matching along with her. He was wearing a red sweater, a Christmas tree with ornaments on top and green bottoms with an infinite number of Rudolfs scattered everywhere, his orange hair wielding with a reindeer headband.

She entered the house, her eyes widening in amazement as she observed the holiday decorations. The chimney and rooms were adorned with tinsel. A glass of milk and some chocolate chip cookies perched atop. In front of the couch was a desk. Three mugs of hot chocolate were arranged around a plate fixed with one Malika's famous sugar cookies. Finally, she turned to look at the television, which had been playing Christmas music. A Christmas tree. Multi-coloured ornaments danced around the tree while LED lights were strung throughout it. Her gaze descended. Presents. The entire home was covered in presents...

Guilt dropped in her stomach...



'This is amazing guys, really, but I didn't get you

guys anything... I'm sorry.'

Malika giggled before answering;

'You being here is one of the best gifts either of us could ask for!'

She smiled.

'Now onto more serious matters; what are you wearing?!'

'Oh, don't worry, we got you one too. Upstairs.'

Austin remarked, a devilish smirk painted his face. Raven was visibly disgusted, before breaking down into a fit of giggles and running up to find the outfit resting upon the bed in the guest room that she would occasionally sleep over in. She looked through the curtains, her eyes widening in amazement. Snow. She smiled. She was so grateful to have her friends...