THE BROUGHTON SCOPE

October Edition **Issue 7**

Say Hi to our New Staff Squad!

Mr Goodare

Ms Scott

Ms Mitchell

Ms Bernard

Doina Gori – S1

This year is starting off with new students and teachers alike! So, we took it onto ourselves to interview the teachers to get to know them and let more pupils know about the teachers they might not have met. We interviewed 4 teachers, Mr. Goodare and Ms. Mitchell from Music, Ms. Bernard from Science and Ms. Scott from Art. The same questions were asked to all 4 teachers, so take a look at their responses on the following page.

Do you feel that you're settling in well here at Broughton?

Ms. Mitchell: Really well so far, everyone is super helpful and friendly.

Mr. Goodare: It's been really nice here, and it's a pleasure to meet the pupils and staff.

Ms. Bernard: I think I'm doing well, I've been here a couple years ago for a term before but I had to go because of maternity leave so I have a little bit of experience with pupils and the system.

Ms. Scott: Really well, I've met lots of lovely staff and students, and if I've had a question about something I feel like I could ask any staff member, and students as well since they've been so kind!

Do you enjoy the company of your students?

Ms. Scott: Absolutely, the students here are lovely and hardworking, even the silly ones make me laugh.

Mr. Goodare: Students are keen to learn, lots of enthusiasm, whether it's just music or knowledge.

Ms. Mitchell: Pupils have been great, really friendly and they're fun to teach.

Ms. Bernard: I think that students are a pleasure to teach on the whole while there are some exceptions. But I think most students are eager to do hands on learning.

Do you enjoy the subject you're teaching?

Ms. Bernard: Absolutely! I love all the aspects of science I'm teaching, biology, physics and chemistry, although my background is an astrophysicist.

Ms. Scott: Yes, I love art! I actually started enjoying art in high school because of my art teacher, and ever since I was in S5, I've wanted to be an art teacher.

Ms. Mitchell: Yeah, music was my favourite subject in high school, as well as maths and P.E.

Mr. Goodare: I'd say so, while I enjoyed other subjects in school, music was by far my favourite.

What was your favourite and least favourite subject in high school?

Mr. Goodare: I really liked maths and music to be honest.

Ms. Mitchell: English and music were my top two subjects.

Ms. Scott: I liked art, obviously, and chemistry and maths were also ones I liked. I did like P.E, but I just wasn't too good at it.

Ms. Bernard: Believe it or not, I liked chemistry more than physics. I didn't like English too much, hope I don't offend any English teachers.

If you're interested in helping out with interviewing, come and join us on Wednesday lunchtimes in the media classroom! With your help, we could get more than 4 wonderful teachers interviewed.

Many thanks to this month's contributors: Doina Gori, Raphael Rahman, Callum Kirby, Cara Bellia, Eilidh Faherty, Charlie Russ and Charlotte Stark.

A special thank you to our graphic designer Alex Love.

And well done and thank you to this month's stellar editor: Leon Munro.

Editor's Note

Leon Munro – S6

Hello people of Broughton, and welcome back to this month's edition of the Broughton Scope paper! We've covered, as usual, monthly reports of issues relevant to this month, opinions, and texts to hopefully make your day just that bit brighter. Fun fact - last October was when our first edition took place for the paper, and means we are now officially at our one-year mark!

This month's editor is me, Leon, an S6 at our school. Some details about me are that I like writing, analysis of media or texts, and giving my unprompted opinion to the people about things I believe in! You'll see more about that somewhere in this month's Scope.

This month's edition has some theming towards the spooky season ahead of us, with us discussing some truly terrifying topics such as how bad vapes really are for you, ominous stories crafted by our members, and spreading insightful awareness to matters such as Black History Month and ADHD awareness! Overall, we have quite the plethora of articles to read, which should hopefully give you something to consider or even just enjoy, with other articles being recommendations of media, a quiz of your spooky skills, interviews of some new teachers you may not be familiar with, an opinion piece of Halloween costumes being permitted in school, an advert for your inner actor to find a place and act for the drama studio, and a short comic!

I'd like to thank all our writers here at the Broughton Scope for their helpful contributions towards this month's article as well as Miss Mitchell for organising the paper! If you'd ever want to let your creative or opinionated side loose, the Broughton Scope is a great place for you to do so! We meet in the Media Room (3rd floor, in-between art and science) and we meet every Wednesday at lunch time. So come along, show us who you are, and voice yourself for the rest of the school to hear! Enjoy reading!

Vapes Suck!

Raphael Rahman – S1

Vapes haven't been around for long - only about 20 years - and since 2003 they have become extremely popular. Even children vape, though it is in fact illegal for shops to sell them to minors, and if they do, they may face a £2,500 fine. It is also illegal for adults to buy vapes on behalf of children and teens. Even with these restrictions in place, 7.3% of the Scotland's high school age population vape, posing a major health risk to growing bodies and brains.

Vapes contain thousands of chemicals, many of which are highly toxic, such as the carcinogens formaldehyde, benzene and acrolein, which is used in weed killer. These chemical names may not mean anything to you, but they can lead to serious diseases like acute myeloid leukaemia (AML), caused by benzene (which is found in car exhaust!) which is where white blood cells multiply prematurely and at a heightened rate, and crowd red blood cells.

Vaping myths

Myth: "Vaping helps me cope with anxiety."

Fact: This is an illusion caused by the chemical nicotine. While a single puff may momentarily fulfil a craving, stress will actually worsen with nicotine consumption over time.

Myth: "Vapes are just water vapour and harmless flavouring."

Fact: Vapes do not create water vapour, and flavourings contain the chemical acetaldehyde which irritates the eyes, nose, and mouth and can cause cancer.

Myth: "Nicotine is no different from caffeine"

Fact: Caffeine is nowhere near as addictive as nicotine, and the high concentration of it makes it extremely hard to quit, and it can change the teen brain, worsen focus, and increase depression.

How to quit

If you vape, it is important that you try and quit as soon as possible to avoid irreversible damage. You should consult a parent/guardian, who will be able to help. Vaping is not cool, funny, or trendy, it is a dangerous habit that harms one both physically and mentally. To help, you can use the NHS Quit Vaping webpage or call Childline anonymously and for free on 0800 1111.

Sources: NHS, BBC, American Lung Association, Wikipedia, and a few others

ADHD Awareness Week

Callum Kirby – S1

ADHD is a type of neurodiversity which everyone experiences differently, but some common behaviours of a person with ADHD include struggling to listen or sit still for long periods of time but also being able to hyperfixate on something if medications if they feel it will really help them focus. ADHD awareness week is to celebrate and educate people about ADHD and the brilliant minds of important people in history with ADHD.

There are a number of famous of people who had or have ADHD. Albert Einstein, who some consider to be the greatest scientist to ever

live, who also had dyslexia as well. Michael Phelps, a record-breaking Olympic swimmer, Simone Biles, an incredible gymnast and role model for young athletes around the world, Emma Watson, the actor of Hermione Granger in the Harry Potter film series and activist and so many others that have made a positive impact on our world. So, the next time you find out about someone you know having ADHD, make sure to support them and never discriminate against anyone who is neurodivergent, as it can really harm their mental wellbeing and discourage them in life, as it is really not too much to ask to never discriminate against anyone. I urge you to be nice to everyone, no matter their type of brain.

Black History Month

Cara Bellia - S5

Black History Month runs in the UK for the month of October. It was started in Britain in 1987 by Akyaaba Addai-Sebo, a Ghanian journalist and analyst who took refuge in the UK in 1984. He saw that whilst black people had been contributing to British society for thousands of years, this was largely overlooked by many, and he wanted to raise awareness of trailblazers of African and Caribbean descent who had helped shape British society, as well as celebrate Black culture.

Each year has a different theme, with previous ones including: Reclaiming Narratives, Saluting Our Sisters, and Time to Change: Actions not Words. This year's theme is Honouring our Communities, and aims to celebrate the contributions black people have made to their local communities past and present.

Earlier this year, the Black History Month website invited members of the public to nominate those championing black history within their communities, and who deserve recognition for this. The winners are expected to be announced this October.

But how can you celebrate? Well, events are being hosted around the UK as well as online to celebrate black history and culture and you can find more about these at https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk .
You can also use this website to read about pioneering black figures who have made an impact on history, as well as news and updates concerning Black History Month. In previous years, teachers have decorated classroom doors with prominent figures from black history, and the anti-racism group has had events. If you want to get involved in organising events for Black History Month, as well as school culture days, you can join the anti-racism group in social subjects on a Wednesday lunchtime.

Passing Notes

Written By ?

The first day of phone pouches has just passed. You've been itching to get at your phone all day. When 3.30pm finally arrives, you rip your phone free from its prison you see you have a missed call. That's weird. You listen to the voicemail and a click as the recording starts and then a woman's voice: "Hello my name is Jamie and I'm a first year at Broughton High School. I just joined recently and everything has been smooth sailing so far. I have made a couple new friends, my teachers are nice and I joined a few clubs but I keep on finding these weird notes in my bag after English. It is always

some weird letters like KHOOR PH or sometimes it's weird numbers like 01101000 01100101 00100000 01101001 01110011 00100000 01100011 01101111 01101101 01101001 00100000 01100011 01101100 01101111 01110011 01100101 01110010. I have no clue why as the only people who sit near me are my friends. Sometimes I leave my bag in my locker for English and after English, another note has still managed to crawl into my bag. For now I don't really care but whenever I read them I get a massive hit of Déjà vu. It's very annoying to be honest but I am just going to try to ignore them for now and talk to my friends. I'll tell you more soon I have to get to class now bye!" The recording crackles to a stop.

To be continued in the next newspaper!
If you like the story so far you can send your feedback at BRO – News.

Eilidh Recommends

Eilidh Faherty - S1

Video game: I can't recommend Undertale enough. I have played this game and it is one of the best I have ever played, with amazing characters, lore, and gameplay.

It is about a child who has fallen into the underground. Your mission is to get out of there and unlike other games, in Undertale you are able to spare enemies or just kill everyone. Every decision you make will change the game, so if you just kill one little enemy it will never be forgotten. You will laugh at least one time with its humour, and I can just guarantee you a great time!

Book: I think you should read the 'Girl from the Sea' it is a great graphic novel that can be found in the library here at Broughton. I have read it myself, and I would highly recommend you read it, if you like to read about friendships and relationships without it being overly romantic, but still have that touch of romance thrown in, this might be the one for you!

The story is about a girl named Morgan Kwon, who meets a girl named Keltie and after a while of them spending time together Morgan falls in love with her but she still doesn't want her friends and family to know. If you're looking for a graphic novel about friendships, family, and secrets, you might want to give this one a try!

At the moment as you can tell I don't have that many recommendations and the ones I do have are just my Interests so if you want to make a recommendation please contact us at BRO - News .

Uniform? No! Costume? Yes!

Leon Munro - S6

Should people be allowed to dress up for school? That is the topic I'll be talking about today, so let's begin.
Dress up and cosplay are hobbies or interests people may have, which is often if not always about dressing up as a character or way you like. So, what place does this have in our school? Well, Halloween is an event that many people dress up for, as part of the tradition that you must dress up in order to be disguised and safe from wandering spirits, but beyond this, people also

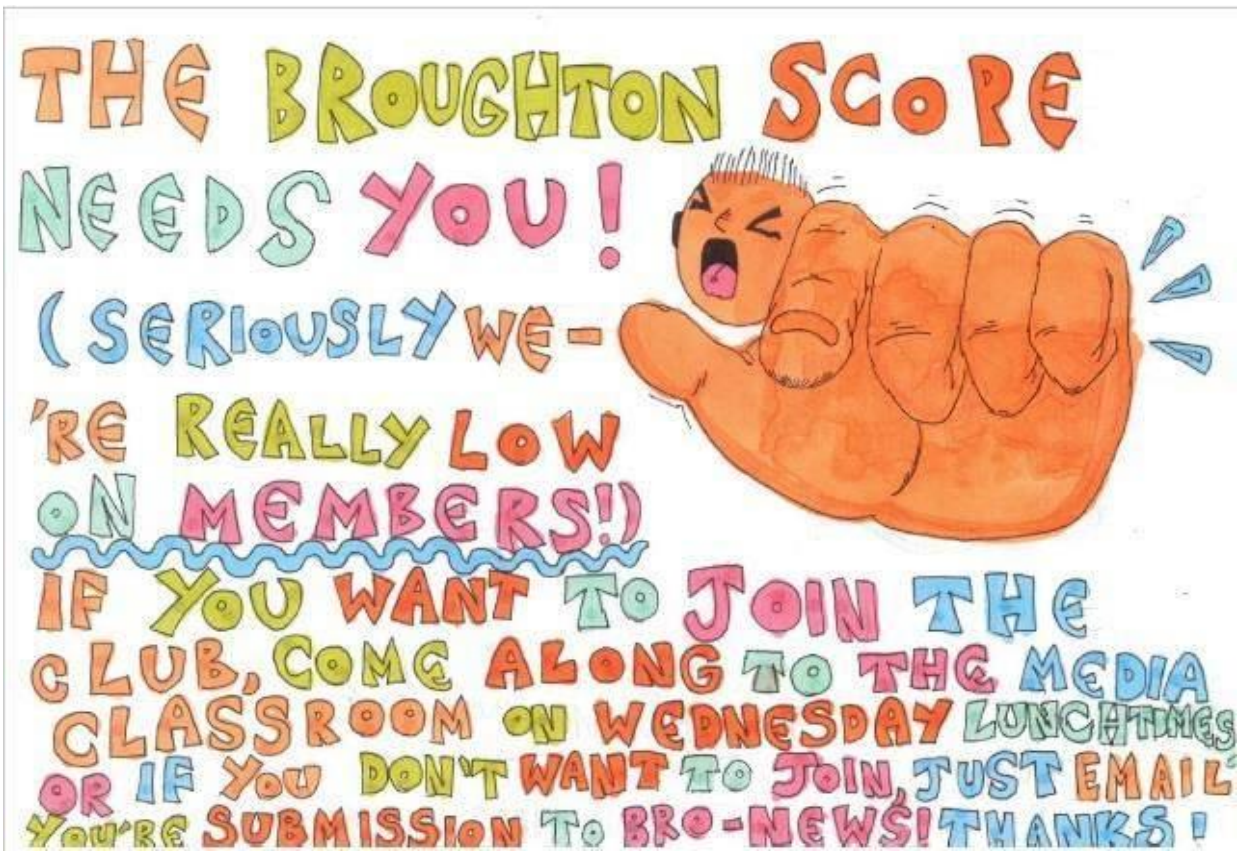
dress up for reasons equally important to supernatural protection. People dress up to express themselves, and show their creativity.

Cosplay and dress up, to put it simply, are extremely creative, expressive ways that people can try to show themselves, and people are entitled to be able to express themselves. While sure, school has rules of uniform for safety reasons, this doesn't need to be a thing that happens all the time, this could be an event that happens on the date of Halloween (or in this year's case, Hallows' Eve on Friday 30th as Halloween is on a Saturday).

But why should we? Well, if you don't think self expression is enough reason and you prefer professionalism, then this is also a good opportunity for us to use it in formal ways, such as school funding or charity! This way we can help all be a part of it, with people donating in exchange of being able to dress up in school, and the money then also going to a good cause!

The way this would happen would likely be the closest day to Halloween, if Halloween is a weekend, and to give an OPTIONAL event of dressing up in exchange for donation money. And, to give extra incentive to donate, while it would be preferred to dress in an outfit, if you don't want to, you could always express yourself by just wearing whatever else you want like a regular dress down day! Besides, from my experience the staff seem to quite like the entertainment of costumes! I've dressed up as an alien, Ghostface, Ed from Shaun of the Dead, and Alucard from Castlevania! I won't list the teachers who liked it for their privacy, but regardless it was seen as quite entertaining! So why not share that fun and show yourself to others?

So as my end conclusion, I believe we should really take up the opportunity of dressing up near Halloween for a day, not only so that people can express themselves and entertain others with their outfits, but also because we can use this incentive to donate for charity or school funds needed and make everyone happy!



Trick or Trivia

Cara Bellia - S5

It probably comes as no surprise that we celebrate Halloween today very differently than people of the past. However, some previous celebrations still linger today, albeit in a slightly different vein. Take this quiz to see how much you know about Halloween superstitions and celebrations past and present. Answers are in the bottom right corner!

1: According to Celtic folklore, people born on Halloween possess what supernatural power?

A: reading minds
B: seeing the future
C: mind control
D: telepathy

2: Halloween spending has significantly increased in the past 10 years. But how much did Halloween spending amount to across Britain in 2025?

A: £1.07 billion
B: £272 million
C: £779 million
D: £862 million

3: Which Scottish town traditionally celebrates Halloween on the last Friday of October instead of on the 31st?

A: Kilmarnock
B: Aviemore
C: Falkirk
D: Dunbar

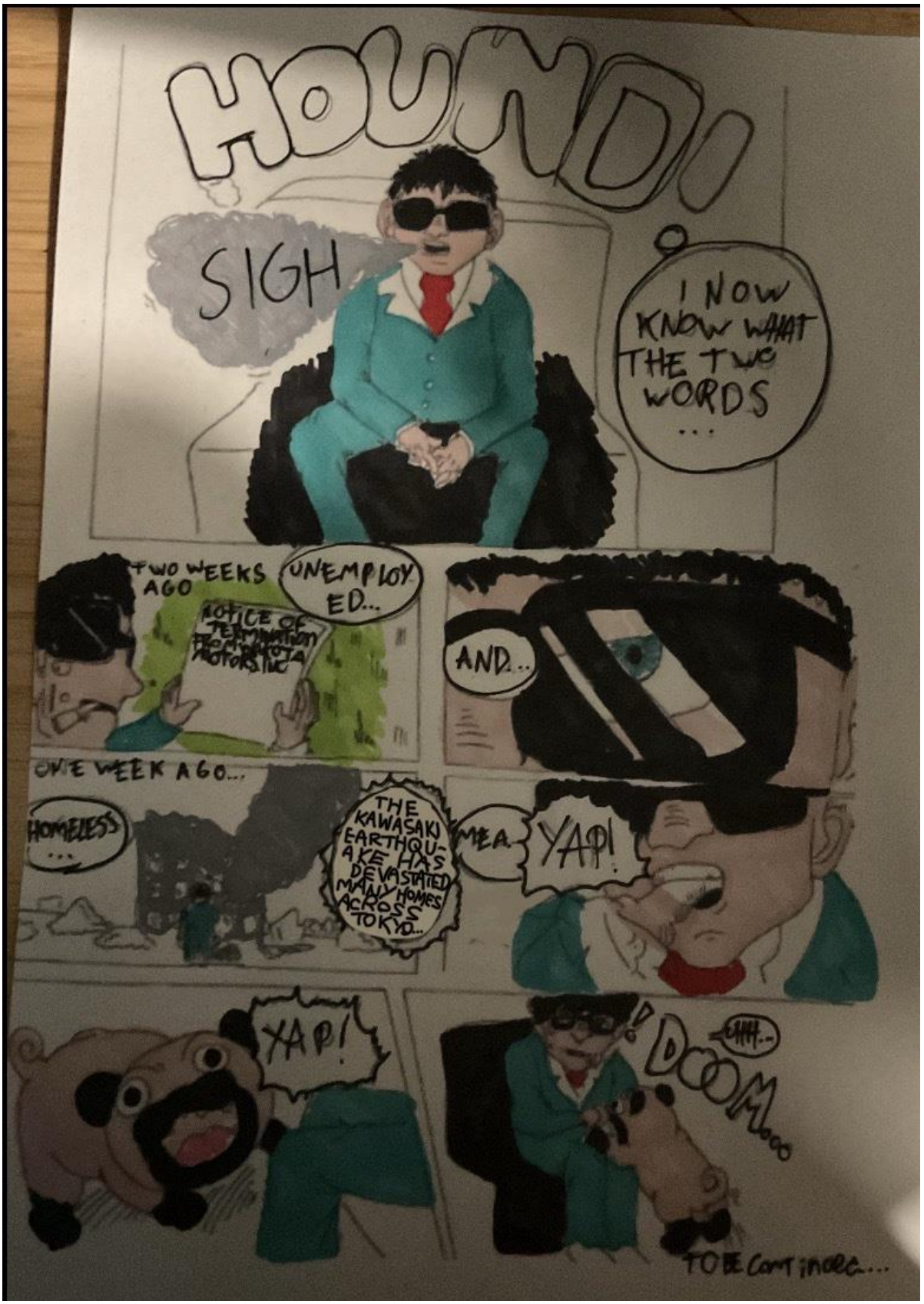
4: Carving pumpkins became popular in the 19th century when Scottish and Irish immigrants moved to America and discovered them. But what vegetable was traditionally carved before this?

A: pepper
B: turnip
C: aubergine
D: parsnip

5: In 17th century Wales, people used to throw marked stones into the fire on Halloween and try and find them the next morning. But what did they say would happen to those who couldn't find their stone?

A: they would be haunted by ghosts
B: they would have bad luck for a year
C: their cause of death would be fire related
D: they would die before next Halloween.

Answers: 1:B, 2:C, 3:A, 4:B, 5:D

HOUND

A Comic by Charlie Russ and Callum Kirby – Both S1