

# The Promethean

Oct Edition

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## Black History Month

Some inspiring Black people that pupils in Leith Academy wanted to talk about:

### **Stormzy**

Stormzy is a British, man of Ghanaian origin, who's widely known for his influence in the entertainment industry. His unique rapping, singing and song-writing skills have gained accreditations such as the MOBO Awards, Best Grime artist 2014 and the Best Album of the Year in 2018 at the Brits Awards. His humble beginning has greatly influenced his work. From being a young boy from Croydon, born to a Ghanaian mother and a taxi driver father, to now giving Scholarships to individuals from deprived backgrounds to go to Cambridge to further their studies, and even helping to fight racial inequalities as well as challenging political issues.

### **Afua Kyei**

The highlight of her financial career is being shortlisted as the most influential Black British Person in the UK, in 2026. She was born in London and her parents are of Ghanaian origin. She attended a private secondary school in Croydon, before furthering her studies in Chemistry at the Somerville college, Oxford. After which she worked as a junior researcher at Princeton University, before going on to train as a chartered accountant at Ernest and Young. She was the CFO of the Bank of England from 2012 to 2019.

### **Jane Bolin**

Jane Bolin made history in 1939 as the first black female judge in the United States. At a time when racism and sexism were widespread, she broke barriers with courage and determination.

Bolin was born in New York and became the first black woman to graduate from Yale law school. As a judge she advocated for equality, education and child welfare; making sure all children were treated fairly.

She was a beacon of strength and dedication to inspire black people, and women in general, to follow their dreams and to fight for justice

-Kim Brunelli

-Rachel Yeboah



Jane Bolin



Afua Kyei

## Halloween



Halloween dates back over 2,000 years, with the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain; which marked the end of harvest and the start of winter. The Celts believed that the veil between the human world and the spirit world was at its thinnest at this time of year, and they would wear animal heads as masks to disguise themselves as spirits (because apparently the spirits can't tell which witch is which). So, the real spirits wouldn't catch them out as humans, and hurt or kidnap them. Due to Christian influences, Samhain became All Hallows Eve, which then evolved into Halloween. When Irish immigrants moved to America, so did Halloween, and now it is a widespread Holiday that countries all over the world still celebrate today.

Now remember to stay safe, stay hidden, and stay scary!

-Morrigan Skail

# School Football

- Last year the S1 team came second in their league and only lost 2 games the whole season, whilst scoring lots of goals. With Toyin Daniels, now in S2, being the top scorer!
- The new S2 team played their first game on Saturday 20th September and there is an S3/S4 mixed team that will be playing in an upcoming Cup game.
- A couple of teams have their Scottish Cup games coming up against Alloa academy.

-Aaron Martins, Ayden Weir and Callum Whyte.



# Pupil Council interview

## Introduction

The pupil council plays a vital role in representing student voices at our school! This week we had the opportunity to sit down with our Pupil Council leaders, Foggo shepherd and Aidan Morrice, to hear about their experiences, challenges, and advice for future applications. Their insights show that being on pupil council is not only about leadership, but also about collaboration.

## Pupil council responsibilities

During the interview one of the questions we asked was: "What has been the most important lesson you have learned as pupil council?" Both Foggo and Aidan explained that being pupil council is not just about leadership but also listening and being able to contribute and engage. As well as about how they take ideas and suggestions that people discuss at School Council meetings, then they bring back ideas,

# Survey Results

Some Popular Favourite Shows at Leith Academy.

After conducting a survey in our previous edition to find out what we love watching here, we have found these shows to be repeat favourites:



- *Gilmore Girls* – A cozy autumn show of a mother and daughter duo.

- *Derry girls* – A funny show of the life of Irish teenagers during The Troubles (in the 90s).

- *Gravity Falls* – A pair of twins go on supernatural adventures in a small town.



- *The Umbrella Academy* – A rich man adopts seven kids with supernatural abilities.



- *A Series of Unfortunate Events* – Three clever orphaned siblings try to outwit an inheritance thief.

Do you have any media recommendations?

information, and suggestions to wider meetings, or discussing with Mr Stewart. They encourage pupils to listen, discuss, and share their views and why shouldn't we, the students, have more input in decisions that affect our daily lives?

### **The school's progression**

Another topic we discussed was the school's progression, specifically: "Can you describe a moment where you as the pupil council had a meaningful impact on the school?" Their reply was that "the water fountains used to be atrocious and disgusting when we first came to Leith academy, so when we joined pupil council, we addressed this in the council meetings and then we got it fixed." We also discussed about how Leith academy has become more of an inclusive school over the years.

### **The struggles of being pupil council**

As well as great achievements, however, the pupil council face struggles such as time management, public expectations and pressure. One struggle that pupil council faces the most, according to Foggo Shepherd, is communication. Currently they rely on word of mouth and teachers reading the bulletin, and it is a limited form of marketing which means that many students remain unaware of upcoming events or opportunities to get involved. I mean, who here doesn't want more school events?

### **Conclusion**

In summary, we spoke about a lot and for anyone considering applying next year, their advice is as clear as can be: "Go for it, do your best at it and if your passionate about it just continue doing it!" Despite challenges the pupil council may face, from communication and time constraints to lack of recognition, their dedication to improving the school is strong. Let me ask you though, do you think our school could be even better and in what way?

-Jana Algebn and Amna Ahmad.



(Scan the QR code to recommend)

### *Top Food Spots Near School*

If you are tired of always going to Tesco, Lidl or Greggs then fret not, for there are many other stores near school. Some popular ones are:

- Frites – If you are in the mood for some fried food
- 275 cafe – If you're in the mood for a hearty meal
- Ella – If you're in the mood for some Greek Food during lunch
- Subway – If you're in the mood for some relatively healthy sandwiches or salads

Any other unique places near school?



(Scan the QR code to recommend)





### Debate club

Do you like arguing and proving that you're right? Well, you need practice to hone those debating skills, and what better place to do so than the debate club at school! (We meet every week at lunchtime on Wednesdays!)

### Newspaper Club

Would you want to be part of this? If you're interested in writing or editing, then you should join the School Newspaper club - the Promethean. Come along to Room 9 during Wednesday lunch, if you want to see your voice reflected here!

### Mythology and Folklore club

Do you want to talk about any mythology or folklore tales you're interested in? If you do, then you should know that we meet once a month, on the last Tuesdays of each month (Why is it complicated? - Well, all good stories are, so we thought why not make life a little bit more difficult than it needs to be!) Our next meeting is the 25th November (mark that down on your calendar!) in Room 12 during lunchtime. Next meeting we are going to do improv on the Greek Gods. So, if you are interested in participating or casually watching, then come along!



**Do you want to advertise a club? Then scan the QR code!**

**Scan the QR code below to tell us about any topics you would like us to write about:**



# Creative writing

## Our precious farmer

Fresh lump of clay,  
Now a man  
with an angelic face  
Sun burnt, a farmer  
with a pitchfork, a tail,  
some horns, and hoofed boots  
to blend in with his animals.  
He will do anything  
for his farm, and this village

A diligent worker he is!  
Ploughs through the field  
all day long with no respite  
What a man he is  
mingles with the gremlins,  
to convert the unfortunates  
to the Lord's path  
Everybody wants to meet a saint.  
Stories can be spun in a second

He can do no wrong.  
The village will not stand for  
any accusations you may come with,  
The last two who pointed at him,  
were discovered to be witches.  
So speak your mind  
The village is cold and dark  
this time of the month  
We wouldn't mind some warmth!

-Aditri Chatterjee

**If you would like us to publish your own creative writing (under 500 words), then please email it to Ms. McConnell**  
**[Sarah.1.McConnell@leith.edin.sch.uk](mailto:Sarah.1.McConnell@leith.edin.sch.uk)**  
**or talk to an English teacher to publish it in the school newspaper.**  
**You can publish under a pen name or anonymously, if you don't want to put your name to your writing. We believe your words deserve to be seen!**