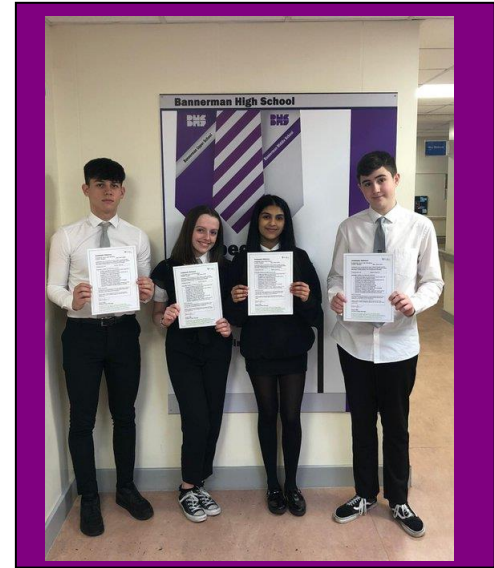




Bannerman Buzz

Quarantine Edition



Includes:

- No To Racism
- Advice to First Years
- Quarantine Dictionary
- A wordsearch
- Career advice



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A Word from the Editor

This edition is a little different from others for obvious reasons; it was made at home and there isn't news on what pupils have been up to this term. Also, since everyone is in desperate need of a laugh at the bottom of each article there is a joke instead of a right of the child.

This will likely be my last edition as editor, which is a bit sad since the buzz has been my baby since third year. However, I am excited to see the next chapter of the buzz, but hopefully the next editor isn't as obsessive as me because if they are poor Mr de Smith.

Hope everyone is doing well and enjoys the, hopefully, once in a lifetime Buzz: Quarantine Edition.



Quarantine Dictionary

During this time there has been a lot, sometimes a scary amount, of big, professional words thrown around. The words either go right over our heads or install the fear of god into us; neither is beneficial. Therefore, this article will explain these words in a way that makes sense to everyone, even if you haven't spent four years at university.

The thing everyone has been doing is quarantining but what does that exactly mean? It is separating yourself from others so you don't get sick or get others sick; that's why it is so important for us to do it.

Everyone's favourite word at the moment is "unprecedented". A great drinking game would be every time you hear this word you take a shot, though you would be furtherly inebriated. The definition of "unprecedented" is never known before.

Another thing we are all doing and are all extremely fed up of is Social Distancing . This means we need to stay a little further away from each other than we normally would resulting in us not being able to go to coffee shops or have anything that resembles a social life.

A rule of social distancing is we need to stay two meters apart but if you are like me and are inept at understanding measurements this means nothing. Two meters converts to 6.5 feet. This is about the size of a tall man.

Personally, the word I find the most terrifying is "pandemic". It sounds like it belongs in a dystopian novel rather than in real life. However, all it means is a disease that is global, which doesn't sounds as horrendous.

A medical word that I have been seeing, but not understanding, a lot in the media recently is the R rate. The R stands for reproduction. Basically, what it means, according to the BBC, is " the number of people that one infected person will pass the virus on to, on average."

Joke: I bought some shoes from a drug dealer. I don't know what he laced them with, but I've been tripping all day.

Quarantine Wordsearch

Q	Z	X	C	G	V	B	J	I	K	M	O	P	S	X
S	U	N	P	R	E	C	E	D	E	N	T	E	D	Z
A	Y	A	T	W	O	M	E	E	T	J	N	S	I	J
U	R	U	R	R	A	T	L	N	A	I	Q	O	S	T
E	E	S	M	A	E	N	I	T	A	P	I	A	T	W
T	D	U	I	C	N	Z	U	M	R	A	U	Q	Y	O
W	N	R	A	P	A	T	B	O	A	N	G	H	J	M
O	D	I	S	T	E	C	I	N	T	D	K	D	K	E
H	A	V	E	A	U	B	J	N	A	E	L	B	M	T
N	Y	A	O	B	P	A	N	D	E	M	I	C	N	R
S	D	N	B	M	P	L	Q	W	F	G	P	B	C	E
O	M	O	Q	S	B	R	V	R	R	A	T	E	V	S
D	S	R	W	L	N	D	Y	H	T	D	E	K	T	I
K	G	O	H	R	R	A	L	M	N	O	P	Q	H	N
S	O	C	I	A	L	D	I	S	T	A	N	C	E	A

Find the words:

- Unprecedented
- Quarantine
- Social distance
- Coronavirus
- Pandemic
- R Rate
- Two Metres

Joke: How does Darth Vader like his toast? On the dark side

Advice To First Years

Coming up to high school can seem like something daunting, something formidable, something ominous but it really isn't. It's an opportunity to grow and become a decent human being who can flourish in the real world. Nevertheless, it is a big transition, especially since you haven't been able to have your visits, so here is some advice to help you.

- First impressions with teachers are important. If they like you in first year, they will likely continue to like you. And if teachers like you, your life at Bannerman will be a lot more fun and easier.
- Don't change your personality to make friends. You will find true friends if you are yourself, if you aren't you will only find fake friends.
- Leave the lunch hall a couple of minutes before the bell to get to class on time. When the bell rings the main staircase becomes anarchy so it's easier to leave early rather than get stuck in the chaos.
- Only pack what you need in your school bag otherwise it feels like you are carrying a bag of bricks
- Do your homework on time, even if it is boring or trivial, it will make your life easier in the long run
- Study for class tests because it will help you find a study method that suits you which will benefit you when you start exams
- If you are confused ask for help, it's not as scary as it seems
- Join clubs if you can
- If you are lost ask a teacher or someone with a purple tie if possible
- Drama is inevitable in first year but try to avoid it as much as possible, it's not worth the hassle
- If you don't like a teacher or a subject don't make it obvious it will make your life incredibly difficult
- This advice sounds really obvious but a lot of the time people forget it when they come up to first year; be nice, be respectful and be polite
- You are still children, just because you are in high school doesn't mean you are a tough guy

Joke: I couldn't figure out why the baseball kept getting larger. Then it hit me.

No To Racism

Currently, there are a lot of protests across the world to do with the black lives matter movement. These protests are hopefully going to make the world a fairer and better place, because right now the world isn't the best place if you aren't a white, straight, rich man. Many people think that racism doesn't exist anymore. This couldn't be further from the truth; research shows that job applicants with African American names have to apply to 50 percent more jobs to get a call-back. Many people think that racism only exists in America, not Britain. Nonsense is the only word to describe this belief because between April 2015 and April 2019 there was 16,037 race incidents recorded by the police in London. Many people think that only old people, with outdated beliefs are racist. The human race would be far more laudable if this was true, but alas no such thing is true yet; in 2017 4,590 cases of racial abuse among school students were deemed serious enough to warrant fixed or permanent exclusion.

People are sick and tired of suffering solely because of their skin colour and that's why the protests are happening. There is long journey to go on to reach equality but it is worth it. Everyone can play a role in making the world a better place for their peers.

One of the easiest things we, as white people, can do is listen. Don't become defensive and loudly proclaim "my life is difficult too" or "yeah, but I'm not racist" when people share their stories.

Also, we can sign petitions to encourage officials to change policies that are harmful. You can sign this petition <http://chnng.it/cjWBK4xs5R> in an effort to seek justice for 25 year-old Ahmaud Arbery. Signing this petition <http://chnng.it/HPDg2F46zt> will help the fight to get justice for Breonna Taylor who was an award-winning EMT and model citizen. This petition <http://chnng.it/Yp98m9Nkd6> will help get justice for George and his family. Another petition to sign is <http://chnng.it/2Cm85pRxqX> to Justice for Nina Pop. Here is a list of other petitions to sign for change:

- <http://chnng.it/nGf6Px5VXF> to get justice for Tony McDade
- <http://chnng.it/BqjtzBMSXX> to Suspend UK Export of Tear Gas, Rubber Bullets and Riot Shields to USA
- <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/301079?fbclid=IwAR0yTU7vSXTc6Fr91t3vi6lxAvYsupOSvUIzepq6BVp05NSBgv2OxuuhZw0> to try to Improve Maternal Mortality Rates and Health Care for Black Women in the UK

- <http://chnng.it/jLGHGwvMVK> to make sure Medical Schools Must Include BAME Representation in Clinical Teaching
- <http://chnng.it/kyrWYB2bFC> to get *The Good Immigrant* by Nikesh Shukla and *Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race* by Reni Eddo-Lodge added to the national GCSE reading list
- <http://chnng.it/7f5TgdYmZG> to Protect Afro-Textured Hair
- <http://chnng.it/cMrYqSdfDr> to Include Afro Hair Education In The Hairdressing NVQ
- <http://chnng.it/PwqtGvCbwn> to get Justice for Belly Mujinga.
- <http://chnng.it/tKf9Lrcqyz> to get British schools to Teach British children about the realities of British Imperialism and Colonialism
- <http://chnng.it/QPWXqh2zT2> to get legislation that prohibits police officers from shooting unarmed citizens
- <http://chnng.it/svmDMCZcGB> THE TRAYVON MARTIN LAW

Also, educate yourself, read books by black authors, and do research.

Additionally, support black owned business. Here is a list of black owned businesses and useful articles to read on what you can buy:

- <https://metro.co.uk/2020/06/10/12-black-owned-businesses-need-buy-right-now-12830653/> This article includes links to black owned business. I've ordered the coffee scented candle for my room and the rhubarb and custard melts for my mum.
- <https://www.capitalxtra.com/news/black-lives-matter/black-owned-businesses-uk-beauty-books-food/> This article includes a list of Black owned business ranging from Food to Beauty
- <https://www.detolaandgeek.com/products?page=4> Tola Laseinde is the designer/maker behind these vibrant lampshades, homeware & gifts which are all made by hand from her home-studio in Letchworth, Hertfordshire. Her designs are African inspired and will look beautiful in any room of the house. I'm thinking about buying one of her lampshades to sit on my desk to brighten my mood when I am studying.
- <http://www.sunuker.co.uk/shop>
All of Sunuker products are homemade, hand-blended, and inspired by the natural beauty practices and raw ingredients of Africa. The best thing about these products are that they are healthy and cruelty-free so you can feel good without hurting any cute animals.

- <https://www.79lux.com/balm> This balm sounds like heaven in a bottle, and amongst its many luxurious ingredients there is a touch of Gold to make you glow like an angel.
- <https://www.affandjam.com/we-are> Aff & Jam's concept is wearable art and if that isn't enough to make you want to buy their products, maybe the fact that all of their packaging is plastics free and 100% recyclable. So this company allows you to save the planet and look good doing it.
- <https://ourlovelygoods.com/pages/about> Our Lovely Goods is the perfect website to find products that will help you relax after a long, laborious week at school. It is a family owned business, which I find really cute for some odd reason, that is passionate about creating products that are good for you, your home and the environment- a business after my heart with this description.
- <https://www.wildsuga.com/aboutme> Quarantining due to a pandemic is bound to cause some anxiety but this website offers the perfect solution to get rid of this anxiety. A colouring book ! "Women + Patterns + Plants is a self-care colouring book made up of stunning black-and-white line work featuring women, patterns and plants."
- <https://www.theletterwell.co.uk/about> If you are anything like me you are sick of the sight of your room and feel the strong urge to burn it down. This website offers the perfect solution that doesn't involve fire, prints that will uplift you meaning you can spruce up you room with something meaningful.
- <https://www.prickldn.com/prick-shop> Prick not only has a fantastic name that makes me giggle like a twelve year old boy, it also sells beautiful cacti and succulents as well as lovely pots that double as great accessories for your room.
- <https://mindthecork.co.uk/> This company, mind the cork, has a great name and sells beautiful pots made from, you guessed it, cork that double as room décor that will put your Pinterest board to shame.

If you hear or see racism report it, call it out, don't accept it. We have all been guilty of ignoring a problem either because it's not ours to deal with or we hope it goes away on its own. This approach doesn't work with racism, you need to actively and continuously fight it in order for it to be defeated. If you see someone being racist tell a teacher and they will solve it because school is a place that is meant to be safe for everyone so Bannerman will not tolerate racism.

BLACK LIVES MATTER

No to Racism Part 2

Ignorance is bliss is the motto many people, including myself, are guilty of applying to educating themselves on the issues of racism. It's painful to know that the country you call home is built on the abuse and oppression of an entire group of people. However, ignorance is not bliss, ignorance allows past anguishes to continue. In fact, some wealthy families in Britain continue to indirectly benefit from the proceeds of slavery. This is because the government paid out £20million to reimburse roughly 3000 slave owning families for the loss of their "property" (human beings were classed as belongings, not even worthy of the title of human being, in the UK; which is sickening) when slave-ownership was eradicated in Britain's colonies in 1833. These families are not anonymous, deplorable people; they are well-known, respected people who run our country- David Cameron's ancestors are included.

What's worse than people benefiting from barbaric acts? People celebrating people who commit and support barbaric acts. The purpose of statues is to pay tribute to certain ideals, yet Britain is littered with statues of people with racist histories. For example, Glasgow's renowned statue of The Duke of Wellington- the one that drunk people climb to put a traffic cone on. The Duke of Wellington is one of the world's most legendary military leaders, he defeated Napoleon at the Battle of Waterloo but during his time as a politician he was the most passionately pro-slavery politicians of the 19th Century. This is not the only statue of a racist that pollutes our country, I couldn't even count them all using my hands and toes. When people commit an "incident of vandalism or attack on public property" ,as Boris Johnson put it, by damaging the statue of a racist they aren't doing it for some rebellious fun, they are doing it because the statue promotes outdated and harmful ideals. By punishing these people you aren't proving that they are criminals, you are proving that you value the feelings and rights of an inanimate object over the feelings and rights of human beings. A lot of people, including the Prime Minister, think that getting rid of some statues that double as a toilet for pigeons will "edit or photoshop the entire cultural landscape" or "distort our history". If our citizens knowledge on our own country's history is so fragile that getting rid of some stone and copper will erase it from our minds we need to take a serious look at our education system because there is clearly something wrong with it is that is the case.

The N-word has caused more teary eyed apologies on YouTube than drunken mistakes have. That's because people use the word freely, not understanding the heinous history behind the slur. Many people think because black people use the word means that white people can use it; but that's not the case. When white people use the word the meaning it carries is completely different to when black people use it. When white people say the word they may not intentionally be meaning to diminish and ridicule black people. However, ultimately that is what they are doing because historically when that word left a white person's mouth it was to abuse black people. When white people say it it's not just a word it's a weapon. That's why it's not to be used freely and light-heartedly; because language has power.

All lives Matter is a racist movement that was designed to distract from and belittle the black lives matter movement. Obviously all lives matter. The black lives matter movement isn't saying that every other life besides a black person's doesn't matter, what it is saying is that we need to focus on black lives because ,disgustingly, in society they often don't matter as much as white people's. There is a shocking number of statistics to prove this; according to studies black people were up to six times more likely to be stopped by the police than white people and the chance of death for white women to die during pregnancy or childbirth was five times smaller than the rate for black women. An analogy to sum up this argument is; you saying to someone who broke every bone in their arm that you have a paper cut. One needs immediate hospital care and to wear a cast for months the other needs a wee kiss from mummy. See the difference?

Black Lives Matter

Next Year Plans

These are unprecedented (take a shot) times so next year will be an unprecedented (and another one) year. When I read the letter telling us the plans for next year the teenager in me wanted to go into a huff and proclaim “life isn’t fair” with my arms crossed over my chest and do my dramatic eye roll that is so noticeable that my drama teacher mentioned it at my S3 parents evening. However, the adult in me tried to find the positive in the situation, which was a truly unprecedented (still standing after that shot?) experience.

Since these are unprecedented (SHOT!) times makes sure you look good because there is a high chance that any photos took will end up in textbooks and you want the kids wearing Apple glasses to think you are cute. Also, don’t be scared, surviving high school during a pandemic will make an awesome chapter in your future autobiography, so think of it as a blessing because that chapter practically writes itself. “I was fearing for my life while doing algebra”, that is profound, award winning material. Another plus side is all the extra cleaning. School toilets are never a nice place, they belong in horror stories, but now they will no longer be a place where you wished you were born without a sense a smell. The unhygienic kid who stinks of some odious odour will no longer exist with all the extra hand washing policies.

The best new rule is we aren’t allowed to share stationary. This fills me with a sick, twisted joy because no one will be able to steal my Paperchase pencils that are rose gold or my only pen that works. Also, I won’t look like an absolute child when I refuse to share. Can you tell I’m an only child?

BGE students (S1-3), otherwise known as the babies, will attend school every morning for two and half hours. You may be sad you are missing so much of the high school experience but you are also missing spending a lot of time being forced to spend time with irritants who weren’t born with enough brain cells to function like a human being. For example a boy stole pure alcohol from one of the science classrooms when we were in first year, a group of boys brought condoms into class one day and a boy played a trick on one of the teachers using the speaker. This idiocy would never have happened if we were only in school for two hours. Also, only being in school for 2 hours means you are 10X less likely to commit a murder because someone’s sheer stupidity is getting on your last nerve.

When I was in first year I only looked at people’s shoes because I was too scared to make eye contact with the petrifying fifth and sixth years. I don’t know why I was so scared of them, maybe I thought they were like medusa and one look in the eye and I’m stone. But thanks to these unprecedented (you will now definitely fail a sobriety test) times you won’t have to experience this fear because the babies and the senior phase (the oldies) are separated. This breaks all of the oldies hearts because we will no longer get to spend any time with second years (now third years) who we all love because they are angles. I love this year and have never lost my temper at them and possibly scarred them for life when I had to do an exam but couldn’t because of them.

One of the things that I was most excited about was moving classrooms, but sadly the babies won’t get to experience that this year. However, don’t get the tissues out yet because there is many positives to this. First one is you don’t need to carry your bag from class to class, like I have for the past five years resulting in permanent back problems. Second of all you don’t need to worry about getting lost every 50 minutes, which is the number one fear for every single first year. Thirdly, the teachers have to come to you, not the other way around, it’s your domain. Forth of all if you have new shoes that are torture devices from medieval times but they also just complete the look you are going for, you can still wear them and only suffer a little as you don’t need to walk from class to class. One time I wore new shoes to school and I had to take them off otherwise I was going to start crying for my mummy, so now you don’t need to experience the humiliation of walking around in your socks.

Third year was when life got real for me, school work became that bit scarier, the future started to feel heavier on my shoulders. I thought I was grown up therefore I had the same amount of worries as an adult. However, this year's third years you are still the babies, it's even your official title according to me, so you don't have to put an agonising amount of pressure on yourself to pass tests, do the homework perfectly or be the best. On the other hand, if you want to be a grown up you are technically the oldest year which could be fun.

The oldies are in for roughly three hours, half the amount of time we spent in school during a day that wasn't unprecedented (did I just add that in so you had to take another shot? No comment). Plus we get a long lie and I am sure not complaining about that. However, that does mean we have to do online schooling which is great because we can eat snacks (I recommend Oreo chocolate), listen to music, cry over maths problems without anyone seeing and if the pressure of the fast approaching exams causes a panic attack you don't need to hide in a bathroom. I have never done that, I am far too emotionally stable to do that. Fourth years if you are a normal person like me and despise PE you only have to suffer through one period, if you are sad about this seek immediate help.

Sixth years we won't get free periods (or study periods as the heads love to call them) which sucks. I can't put a positive spin on that, but hey ho one solely negative thing during these unprecedented (I had to, I'm sorry) times is good it gives us a good dose of reality.

The point of this article is to remind is that there are positives in this mess and even though change is terrifying you shouldn't let it consume you. I would also like to add that Bannerman does not condone drinking.



Joke: What do you call a guy with a rubber toe? Roberto.

Next Year Plans

- BGE students (S1 – S3) will attend school every morning for 2 and half hours. They will be grouped in classes of roughly 15 students. Senior Phase students (S4 – S6) will attend school every afternoon for either 3hours 20mins (Monday and Tuesday) and for 2 and half hours (Wednesday – Friday). They will be grouped in classes of roughly 15 students.
- BGE Block: 8.45am - 11.15am.
SP Block: 12.45pm – 4.00 (3.10)pm.
There will be no Tutor during this time.
- BGE: S1&2: Learners in S1 and S2 will have a time table based on the curricular areas of Curriculum for Excellence. These are: Literacy and Languages; Numeracy; Sciences; Social Studies; Expressive Arts; Technologies, Health and Wellbeing; RE.
Learners will be timetabled with a subject specialist from each of these curricular areas. If this timetable needs to extend beyond December, then it may be possible to move classes on to another subject specialist within the curricular area.
BGE S3: In order to accommodate personalisation and choice in preparation for National Qualifications pupils in S3 will have 2 periods of each of the subjects choices made for S3. In order to minimise movement around the school, classes have been timetabled in longer blocks wherever possible.
S4: S4 will be able to attend all 8 subjects for between half and 2/3rds of their usual teaching time. We have also included one period of core for Health and Wellbeing, with a focus on supporting learners with the demands of increased home learning and preparation for National Qualifications.
S5/6: These students will have roughly 50% of their usual teaching time. There are two periods of Core built into this. One of these is for PSE, the other for Wider Achievement (especially for S6) or additional study time.
- S6 students will no longer be able to remain in school for Private Study time due to restrictions on space. In order to minimise movement around the school, classes have been timetabled in longer blocks wherever possible.
- Young people and staff will be expected to wipe down their own desks and equipment before they leave a teaching area in addition to cleaning.
- Any pupil who wishes to use their own hand sanitiser can of course do so. There is no requirement for young people or staff to wear face masks

while in school, although no young person will be prevented from doing so if they so wish.



Joke: Why did the old man fall in the well? Because he couldn't see that well.

Career Advice

The most common question asked in schools is “what do you want to do when you are older?” The answer changes from person to person, year to year but one thing remains the same; most of us decide what we want to do based on what we see in the media. This is not an ideal way to decide what you want to do but there is really no other option because a lot of people don’t know anyone in their chosen career field. Therefore, this article gives details and advice from a variety of people in a variety of careers to help people develop a better understanding of what they want to do when they are older.

Housewife: I asked my nan (or nanny when I’m not feeling great or if you are not family Cathy) what it is like to be a housewife. She is a top tier housewife because she raised two great kids one of whom has got a Masters from Glasgow university and the other one is one of the only people in Scotland with his degree, she also raised me a straight A student who got 100% in an exam and is the head editor of the school newspaper. The achievements that we have all gained aren’t because she is a scary, pushy women it’s because she is the exact opposite of that. She is the most loving person I know so that means she has done her job as a housewife properly because according to her the most important thing about being a housewife isn’t about having a nice house or the smartest kids, it’s about having a loving family that is looked after. When she got married 50 years ago it was the normal for women to become a housewife when they got married and started a family. However, now it is more common for people to establish a career before they have kids. Her role consisted of looking after the house, washing and other general house chores; she took pride in making the house look nice. She also looked after the kids (my mum and uncle), took them to school but as they got older she got a part time job to help financially as well. Being a housewife is an important job because you are bringing up the next generation. Being a housewife is neither degrading or shameful; no one should ever say “I’m just a housewife” because it is a very difficult and important job if you are doing it properly. 50 years ago there was no stay at home husbands but now, according to my nan, if the couple agrees and they have worked everything out being a househusband is a good thing. One thing my nan made perfectly clear is that an important thing about being a house wife/ stay at home parent is communication, communication, communication; if you and your partner don’t agree or talk it won’t work.

Manager for G4S: Hi, I am Mark. I left school with a part time job at Asda and went to college to study Graphics. The day after I left school I got a full time job with Asda, I had been put off a career in graphics. Six months later I was on the management training program, a year later I was a trainee manager and then manager. In all I spent 15 years with Asda but I left to be a house husband as we expanded our family. Six months into it I took a part time job with G4S, to get me out of the house and earn a bit of money, doing football and gigs at the weekend and evenings. I found that I liked it; great social circles and you see free gigs and football. After three years I became a trainee manager and four years later a full time operations manager. I still love my job and the variety means you are never bored. I have worked amazing events; twenty days with the Dalai Lama as part of his security detail, six years running the main stage at T in the Park, more gigs than I can think of although highlights are Jay Z, Metallica, Beyoncé, Pink, Oasis, Glastonbury festival and so many more. Also 14 years of free football and travelling with the Scotland team when they play away. Both these jobs had great social circles, but also they taught me to work hard and enjoy it. You can progress if you apply yourself. Do not rush through life, you will get there if that is what you want to do.

Career in Performing Arts (Mrs Campbell): Before entering the dizzying heights of teaching I was lucky enough to work as a Stage Manager for a theatre company based in Glasgow while I was completing my studies at Glasgow University. A Stage Manager is a job title which does what it says on the tin so to speak; you manage all aspects of the technical aspects of a production once rehearsals begin in the theatre space the production is being performed in. In my case it was "The Arches Theatre" in Glasgow. A Stage Manager has responsibility for liaising with all production skill department heads; lighting and sound to props and set whilst the set is being built, and has the very important duty carrying out risk assessment, ensuring the cast and crews safety whilst working in the theatre space. During the performance they run what is known as "the book", communicating with the stage crew and technical team throughout the performance, cueing in sound and lighting effects and readying the stage crew for any scene changes to take place. A Stage Manager has to have an in-depth working of the technical aspects of production and how to operate safely and responsibly in a theatre. They must enjoy hard work, long shifts and must be organised, and able to assess and deal with problems quickly and efficiently when they arise. For anyone interested in this or indeed any job in a theatre the advice I could give is to contact local amateur theatre groups, they are always looking for keen individuals willing to help in the less

glamorous world of backstage. That way you can build up your experience. There are also general drama classes run by most theatres in Glasgow and the surrounding area and from there opportunities are advertised and posted for members.

Nursery Manager: There is a lot more to working in an Early Learning and Childcare (ELC) setting than the current misconception that we simply look after children. I myself have been working in a nursery for 14 years, after retraining when I became a mum, and I have been learning every day since I started. I completed my SVQ level 2, 3 and 4 in childcare while I was employed as a practitioner in the nursery and after a promotion to Manager I attended The University of Glasgow part time for 2 years and got a BA in Childhood practice. I then returned to university for another 2 years part time and got a postgrad and this year I will submit my dissertation and will have achieved my Masters degree in Childhood Practice. Currently I am trying to decide if I will apply to extend my professional learning further and work towards a PHD. During these years of official training I have also completed many professional courses to support my learning and therefore support the improvement and development of my nursery which in return supports my staff and children. I regularly undertake paediatric first aid training, I have completed many training courses to understand the developmental stages of children, courses in numeracy, literacy, health and wellbeing and other areas of the curriculum. Also, nurture training, ACEs training, I am a child protection officer and attend training for this twice throughout the academic year. These are a very few examples of the training that I have attended, practitioners and Managers of ELC settings are required to register with the Scottish Social Service Council (SSSC) who is a regulatory body that supports ELC settings to ensure that staff are qualified and safe to work in the sector. I love my job, I love the children I have the pleasure to work with, I love playing, cuddles, watching the children learn and being there to comfort them when they need it. Children are amazing, funny and loving. I love getting to know their family members, I love learning and I love being part of a community. If you love children and feel passionate about learning to offer the best experience for young children then do not hesitate to apply to work in a nursery it is one of the most rewarding occupations in the world.

Ex Painter & Decorator: My papa (also known as Peter) was a painter and decorator so my earliest memories of him include him being covered in paint, white paint in particular. Over 50 years ago he left school and went around

different companies to ask if they needed an apprentice. It was a painter and decorator he ended up being an apprentice for and he did that for five years, though now apprenticeships last between one and four years. During his time as an apprentice he went to college one day a week to learn the trade, but he didn't enjoy it. It was too much like school for him to like it; he preferred being out working as it had more variety as well as freedom and being with the men in the job teaching him. That was part of the reason he enjoyed being an apprentice rather than continuing education; he found pleasure in being away from the pressures of being around people his own age, the men he worked with only cared about producing the work so there was no competing to be the best. Competitiveness is part of human nature but once you know the trade you need to remember the job is not a competition so you need to offer as well as accept help. In order to know the trade you need to not be scared to ask questions; you aren't expected to know what to do. Also, he said to take the opportunities the firms offer you whether that is training courses or something else, don't let insecurities or negativity hold you back. He learned this lesson by having to take the train then a bus every day to work because he refused to learn how to drive. A lesson he learned from his father (who stayed up every night learning how to write his signature) was don't hide from the things you can't do, apply yourself and learn how to do it, don't take the easy way out. Though this takes a good work ethic. My papa said two things help you have a good work ethic. First of all think about what you want out of life and know nothing comes easily. Second of all is find a job you enjoy and it will motivate you to work hard. This second point leads to another piece of advice he mentioned; he said be brave don't stay in a job out of fear, find something that suits you and makes you happy. He said that people often think you only learn physical skills when you are an apprentice; this isn't true. You learn a number of skills as you go along that you didn't think you would, for example measuring skills so you know how much wallpaper you need. Additionally, you learn important life skills such as communication and responsibility.

Police Officer: The role of a Police Officer is often understood to be protecting life and property, preserve order, prevent crime and detect offenders. When I joined the Police Service of Scotland this is what I believed the job to entail however after 12 years as a Police Officer in various different specialist departments I now understand that our role involves so much more. When I first started in the Police I was the officer in uniform you see driving about in Police cars with blue lights and sirens on attending emergency incidents. Emergency incidents range from persons being assaulted or robbed, to persons breaking into

houses or people trying to hurt themselves. To name a few. As an emergency response officer my role was not just about arresting the "bad people". I have persuaded people not to jump off bridges or into rivers, taken elderly persons to shops and helped them buy basic necessities, arranged housing and social care for persons struggling to look after themselves, removed children from unsafe adults and living conditions. Our role is to protect the public and especially the most vulnerable members of our communities. However, my job is also about arresting those persons who are intent on causing harm to other persons through violence or theft for example. At those times we investigate by speaking with witnesses, noting statements, viewing CCTV, carrying out forensic examinations for DNA and/or fingerprints; all with the aim of identifying and providing enough evidence to libel charges against an offender. I then submit reports to the Crown Office Procurator Fiscal Service who decide whether to prosecute the offender at court where punishment can be administered in the form of a prison sentence or fine. An integral part of my job role is to provide professional evidence at court trials. For the more serious cases this evidence is given before a Sheriff and a jury of 12 persons. There are many different opportunities within the Police for training and development. I have worked in a Proactive Drugs Team where I focused on reducing the amount of controlled drugs within Glasgow. I have been a Detective Constable in the Criminal Investigation Unit specialising in assisting victims of serious sexual assaults and prosecuting offenders. I am trained as a Sexual Offences Liaison Officer, as a Joint Investigative Interviewer to interview children and as a surveillance officer. Every day is different as a Police Officer and sometimes the incidents I attend are distressing. However, each day I go home knowing that I have helped those in our communities who need it most.

Works in social week: Hello I am Nicola and I am the Child Protection Co-ordinator for North Lanarkshire Council. I have worked in children's services for over 20 years having roles in statutory and third sector organisations. I strive for kindness, safety and belonging for everyone. My qualifications relevant to this appointment include PGD in social work, Management Certificate, Child Protection Certificate, LLB(Laws), BA Psychology and Social Policy. North Lanarkshire Child Protection Committee includes representatives from a range of agencies including social work, education, the police, health and the third sector. The child protection committee is part of Lanarkshire's Partnership Public Protection Unit and consists of Adult and Child Protection Committees, The Lanarkshire Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA), NHS Nurse Consultant for Adult and Child Protection, Police Scotland, Violence Against Women Coordinator and administrative support. I love my

job because I work with agencies individually and collectively and together we all want to support children, individuals and families to reach their full potential and ensure the most vulnerable people in our communities are supported.

Works for NHS: I currently work as an Audio Typist for the NHS in the Queen Elizabeth University Hospital which largely involves typing clinical letters dictated by Consultants which are sent out to GPs, patients and other medical professionals. There are no exact qualifications required for this but a wide range of vocabulary and some knowledge of medical terms is ideal for this job. As far as career advice goes, I would recommend always being honest with employers as the best employers appreciate honesty from good employees even if it is not good news and this will benefit you in the longer-term for future opportunities.

Nurse: I became a staff nurse 22 years ago. I have never wanted to do anything else and always knew I would choose a career in a care setting. I work in a busy renal unit providing life saving dialysis treatment for outpatients, and acutely unwell patients. There are many aspects of my role I still enjoy: meeting new people every day, caring for and making a difference to their lives while they are often at their most frightened and vulnerable. I love being part of a team and working closely with medical staff, physio, social work, dieticians, etc. I enjoy that my days are never the same and different challenges occur daily keeping me alert and over the years the registered nurses role has expanded greatly. We have many new responsibilities and skills that was previously seen as “the doctor’s role”. It can be disappointing that the government do not reward or acknowledge this. The negative about my role is feeling underappreciated but thankfully not from the patients. The increase in paperwork is difficult to maintain also! But I wouldn’t change my career despite all its challenges and stresses. At the end of the day I can honestly say I have made a difference and that makes it all worthwhile.

P.A for Doctors: I have worked for the NHS for 12 years in a variety of roles. I started as a Clinic Receptionist and now work as a P.A. to the Chief Nurse and Chief Allied Health Professional. My main role involves diary management, ensuring that their time is managed effectively and acting as a first point of contact for enquiries. I also attend Senior Management & Board meetings taking minutes and produce monthly reports and stats for both the

Chief Nurse and Chief AHP. No formal qualifications are required for the role, however, it is essential to have excellent organisational skills to manage my workload effectively and a high level of IT skills. With regard to career advice I think it is important to work hard and show an eagerness to learn and maximise your professional development. You can open yourself up to so many career opportunities if you get the most out of your role and learn everything you possibly can, even if it's not within your current remit.

The Honourable Lady Rae (lawyer and judge): Well here I am, having just crossed the threshold into retirement, something I have dreaded and was not looking forward to. Why? The answer is simple. The law has been my passion for 52 years. I grew up hearing stories of my grandfather who was a lawyer in Italy in the 1920's and 30's and who resisted fascism such that my mother was not allowed to go to school and had to be privately educated at home. She had a good education but, being an only child, it must have been very lonely. Having been inspired by these stories and by my parents' encouragement I decided I too wanted to be a lawyer.

I graduated from Edinburgh University with an honours degree in law in 1972. At that time the law was very much a male closed shop so not having a privileged background or a private education and being a Roman Catholic and female, it was not an easy start. That may surprise some of you but sadly that is the way it was. The combination of a bit of luck, lots of hard work, perseverance and the support of my wonderful parents allowed me to get a couple of good positions in solicitor firms in Glasgow. I became a partner of a large firm in Glasgow at the age of 26, running a busy criminal department. That was not enough for me so in 1982 I joined the Faculty of Advocates, which allowed me to appear in the Supreme Courts. At that time a very small percentage of people in the Faculty were women. The impression I got was that females were expected to stick to softer end of the law such as family work but again that was not for me. In fairness to my female colleagues at that time, some of them have achieved much greater things than me, one, an eminent lawyer, is now in the Inner House of the Court of Session and is the Chair of the Scottish Law Commission, another is the Lord Justice Clerk. NB That title did not change! I did some family type work but probably because of my experience in Glasgow, I was regularly instructed in the High Court of Justiciary, including some high profile criminal cases. One of those, colloquially known as the "ice cream war trial", took place in 1984. It was a murder trial where 6 people had died as a result of a deliberate fire raising. The years which followed were exciting and rewarding. I was awarded silk early and became a Queen's Counsel in 1992. The career blossomed with some interesting cases including

an opportunity to appear in the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg in 1994. I was asked to be a temporary sheriff in 1987 doing part time judicial work throughout Scotland. Ten years later I became a full time sheriff in Glasgow and in 1998 the Chair of the Scottish Law Commission asked me to speak about the Children's Hearing System at an international conference in Ottawa. That opportunity sparked an interest in child protection cases and I established a link with the University of Glasgow's Department of Continuing Education where, over a period of years (1998 - 2012), I gave a series of talks at pre-service and in-service training events of children's panel members on the role of the court in child protection.

It was fascinating work. I was however combining a challenging workload with caring for my elderly mother who continued to encourage me. Despite her frailty she never lost her mischievous sense of humour which kept me on an even keel on a day to day basis. I regaled her with stories from the courts.

Life became even busier. Between 2002 and 2014 I chaired the Glasgow branch of the Scottish Association for the Study of Offending. This organisation consists of people from varied professions such as the law, social work, police, prisons, psychiatry, academia etc. all coming together to discuss and learn about different aspects of the criminal justice system with a view to improvement and reform.

In 2001 I became a member of the Parole Board for Scotland and Vice Chair in 2005. In 2003 I was invited to become a member of a new body, the Sentencing Commission for Scotland. In 2004 I was asked to serve as a Temporary Judge in the High Court of Justiciary and Court of Session. As can be seen, during part of this period I was undertaking four judicial and quasi-judicial roles. All of this inspired me to seek the full time role as Senator of the College of Justice. That took a little time and a number of rejections but I persevered. I was appointed full time in 2014 and that is when I became "The Honourable Lady Rae". My final additional judicial role (albeit part-time) came in 2017 as an Upper Tribunal Judge dealing with appeals in immigration and asylum cases - fascinating. I did that for two years.

As can be seen, challenging jobs continued to present themselves over the years. The important message to impart is accept the challenges which present themselves if they interest you. My belief has always been that one is never too old to learn and despite retirement, I hope that I am still not too old to learn although it might take me a bit longer! Nor do I believe I should deny the opportunity to accept new challenges!

While work is important, it is just as important to have other interests. I love theatre, and after an invitation in 2010 to attend a performance of a wonderful piece of theatre called Black Watch, presented by National Theatre of Scotland I got the opportunity to participate, in a very small way, in plans to deliver an innovative diversionary programme for disengaged young men from anti-social hot-spots in Scotland. It resulted in a wonderful piece of theatre created by NTS, called “Jump”. Subsequently, I became one of their patrons, one of the best decisions in my life. I am also “champion” of a project in Hamilton based on a cast of young volunteers who write scripts about events experienced today by them or their contemporaries. These scenarios are acted out by the cast and viewed by other young people, followed by workshops to discuss and tackle the difficult issues raised. This is such an admirable project and I have seen the positive impact which it has had on young people over the years.

Throughout my legal career I have loved my involvement with the young and in 2010, I was invited to become a member of the University of Glasgow’s “legal 40” now renamed, the Glasgow Legal Network. This group of professional lawyers from different parts of the legal profession, mentors students during the year of Diploma of Legal Practice. I ended up mentoring a number of students at different stages in their studies, and not all were from Glasgow University. I encouraged them to come to court, observe the process and meet other professionals. This way they saw law in action and improved their knowledge of the justice system in a practical way. I also support access scholarships at the University of Edinburgh and am an Ambassador for “Young Citizens” in London.

The final accolade I received came in June 2019 when Glasgow University awarded me an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws. That was the biggest surprise of my life and attending the ceremony in the Bute hall with my dear friends was one of the best days in my life.

I was also so thrilled earlier this year to accept the nomination as a candidate for Rector of Glasgow University. It would have been just up my street. Sadly the election, set for 23 and 24 March, was cancelled due to pandemic and the lockdown restrictions.

Lawyers are often the butt of many jokes and adverse comments but in my view that is unfair. It is an honourable profession, the bedrock of which is founded on the principles honesty, integrity, fairness and justice. Sharp practice has no place in the law.

As I write this article it may seem that my career path was an easy one. It was not. I faced prejudice and bias. With a strong sense of justice gained from those wonderful stories of my grandfather, that was hard to tolerate. My approach has always been however, not to dwell on the disadvantages, build on the positives. I sincerely believe that one should follow one's ambition, whatever hurdles present themselves. However whatever career path one chooses, it is vitally important to enjoy it. I have been and continue to be as enthusiastic about the law today as I was when I started.

It has been my life and I would not change it.

Maureen McKenna (Executive Director of Education and teacher): First and foremost, I am a maths teacher even though I haven't had my own classroom for quite a few years. I love teaching and I still miss being in the classroom and getting to know young people, watching them develop and grow into young adults. It is such a privilege to be part of their journey.

I applied for this job as Director of Education because I loved Glasgow and I know what a difference education can make to a young person's life. I didn't like school and I wanted to be a teacher because I was sure that it didn't have to be the way that I had experienced it. So for the same reason, I became a Director of Education as I was sure that Glasgow's children could achieve more.

I have an Honours degree in maths and then I did a year for teacher training. I taught in a few different schools and each time when I moved it was because I wanted to be able to influence more children to improve their learning. When I was a depute in a secondary school I was asked to apply to become a school inspector. That was a brilliant job – I learnt so much about education and how children learn. Sitting in other teachers' classrooms watching them teach and speaking to young people about their learning taught me so much.

I don't think there is anything special about what I do. I think the best quality you could bring to the job is a passion for education and you need to be relentless in your pursuit of excellence for young people.

Whatever you choose to do in your life – make sure that you love your job, that you work hard because nothing happens without hard work. Here is a quote from Steve Jobs that is worth thinking about:

“Your work is going to fill a large part of your life, and the only way to be truly satisfied is to do what you believe is great work. And the only way to do great work is to love what you do. If you haven’t found it yet, keep looking. Don’t settle. As with all matters of the heart, you’ll know when you find it.”

Joke: What do you get from a pampered cow? Spoiled Milk.

Homophobia is Stupid

Homosexuality is a sin. Homosexuality is unnatural. Homosexuality is a choice so people can choose to be heterosexual. These are what homophobic people call facts, logical arguments against being homosexual. However, I prefer to call these statements ludicrousness that is a direct result of systemic homophobia. Granted these statements do develop from concrete, undeniable facts but a lot of people don't understand these facts so their understandings are twisted and often serve as reasoning to cause anguish to other human beings.

Let's start off with every homophobic person's favourite argument against homosexuality; God and religion condemns it. This belief stems from Corinthians 6:9 where it states "Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality" (English Standard Version). This clearly states that homosexuality is wrong, so everyone must hate gay people? No. We are currently living in 2020 where homosexuality means two people of the same sex being in a relationship where they hold hands, go on dates and essentially do all the romantic things that heterosexual people do. Ancient Rome was a very different time, therefore sexuality had a very different meaning. During this time sexuality had nothing to do with sexual orientation but had everything to do with the power dynamic in sexual relationships; whether you were the dominating, abusive one or the weak submissive one. Males and another male often had sex, if you could call a man raping a boy who was likely his slave sex. When people in Ancient Rome talked about males having sex, it was predatory; it didn't mean two adult men consenting to having an intimate relationship. So when the bible condemns males having sex with males, it is actually condemning a deplorable abuse of power against an innocent child. Which makes more sense because religion and God is inherently good, it's about spreading peace not hatred.

Every homophobes favourite adjective is unnatural. The reasoning behind this probably has to do with Darwin's theory of evolution, which means every species develops through natural selection so it has a higher chance of survival. Homophobic people think this means gay people are unnatural because if every human was gay we would eventually go extinct. However, this is untrue. According to Marlene Zuk who is a professor and specialises in evolution and animal communication says "Homosexual behaviour doesn't challenge Darwin's ideas" rather there are many ways it can evolve and be beneficial. Experts don't see a problem with being homosexual so there is no reason for

you to. Many animals in the wild engage in homosexual behaviours, in fact in flocks of sheep up to 8% of the males prefer other males even when fertile females are around. How can something be unnatural if it happens in nature on a regular basis?

Homosexuality is not a choice and anyone who thinks it is a closed minded bigot. Heterosexual people don't sit down one day writing a pro and con list to help them make the decision about what sex they are going to be attracted to; so why would homosexual people? Besides even if it was a choice the only thing gay people are "guilty" of is choosing to love whoever they want and being their true authentic self in doing so.

Love is love whether it is between a man and a man or a man and a women; so there is no reason to be homophobic and there is no argument to justify hatred against an entire community. Homosexuality is not a sin. Homosexuality is not unnatural. Homosexuality is not a choice so people can't choose to be heterosexual.



LOVE

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LOVE

Pride

Pride isn't about rainbow flags and face glitter, it's so much more than some superficial event. It is a celebration of the LGBTQ+ community and the history of its valiant movement. The LGBTQ+ community faces unjustifiable anguish and hatred everywhere from the streets to Parliaments across the world. In 72 countries people can go to jail for being attracted to the same sex, in 8 countries people are legally allowed to be murdered for loving another person. Pride allows people who are deemed "unnatural", "wrong", "and another number of deplorable words, to celebrate themselves and their community.

Pride isn't celebrated in June because it's sunny; it is celebrated in June to remember the Stonewall Riots. On June 28 1969 in Greenwich Village at the Stonewall Inn (a gay bar in NYC) a discriminatory police raid happened as homosexuality was illegal at that time. This wasn't an uncommon event, so people were sick and tired of the abuse. Therefore, the people inside the bar didn't just sit and wait to be arrested for being their true selves, they resisted and rioted bringing attention to their cause. A year later a committee was formed to honour the riots, at first they didn't have a name for the events. They considered gay power but then L. Craig Shookmaker came up with Gay Pride. Shookmaker said in 2015 about pride, "People did not have power then; even now we only have some. But anyone can have pride in themselves and that would make them happier as people and produce the movement likely to produce change."

The rainbow flag is arguably the most recognisable symbol of pride, but that wasn't always the image associated with it. Originally, the pink triangle had symbolized the LGBTQ+ community but then during WW2 the image was used to mark "Sexual Deviants" in concentration camps. However, in 1978 Artist Gilbert Baker created the first rainbow flag (this one had 8 rather than 6), a more hopeful and joyous symbol for a march in San Francisco. He intended each stripe to have a meaning to do with gay identity, "hot pink for sex, red for life, orange for healing, yellow for sunlight, green for nature, turquoise for art, indigo for harmony and violet for spirit."

Now when you think of Pride you should remember the history of the LGBTQ+ movement and you should celebrate the community that is shamed for being their authentic selves. Don't wave the rainbow flag unless you acknowledge the meaning and don't go to Pride events for a party, go to show love for a community that isn't shown enough of it.

Bannerman supports the LGBTQ+ community throughout the year which is shown the school's equality group and the work they have done to get the school our Bronze LGBT Charter award (and they are nearly at the silver level). Bannerman makes sure that the school is a friendly environment for the community by being very open, honest and visible about LGBT issues and the community within the school – in fact many teachers wear rainbow lanyards.

Joke: They say: Be straight
I say: Taste the rainbow

Remembering The Sixth Years

Sadly, this year the school never got to properly say goodbye to the sixth years so this article is a little way to make up for that by teachers sharing memories about the sixth years.

Mrs Carberry: I'd like to thank the S6 leavers who have given their time & dedication to the orchestra & other music ensembles over their time at Bannerman. I'm sorry we couldn't do our last concert together but your efforts have been much appreciated. Wishing you all the very best.

Miss Mackenzie: I'd like to thank all of the S6 dancers for their continuous hard work over the years. Thank you for making my first year at Bannerman one I'll always treasure. The atmosphere created within your class will be hard to match! It has been wonderful to watch you grow into young adults over the past three years. Good Luck for your future endeavours.

Mr Gray: I'd like to add that the small group of YE members who committed to the course this year have been some of the best entrepreneurs I've worked with at Bannerman.

Miss Purdie: Big thanks to all S6 pupils for all their contributions to music department concerts over the years - you missed out on your Easter egg. Take care folks from everyone in the music department.

Mrs Breen: To all of S6, but especially to my Drama superstars (you know who you are). I wish you all the good luck in the world as you move on to the bright futures you have ahead of you. It has been a pleasure and a privilege in equal measure for our paths to have crossed.

Mr Duguid: I'd like to say to all of my S6 Higher PE and Leadership pupils that you were all amazing to work with and wish you all the very best in your future! You have been an excellent year group and I feel fortunate to have been able to teach you!

Mr Gardiner: I had the pleasure of working with a top notch team of House captains this year. A highlight for me was our trip to the Scottish Parliament.

Mr Pattison: I'd just like to say that I really enjoyed working with our 6th year pupils this year. I found them to be a really good group and I thoroughly enjoyed working with them over the years. Best wishes to all for the future, Mr P.

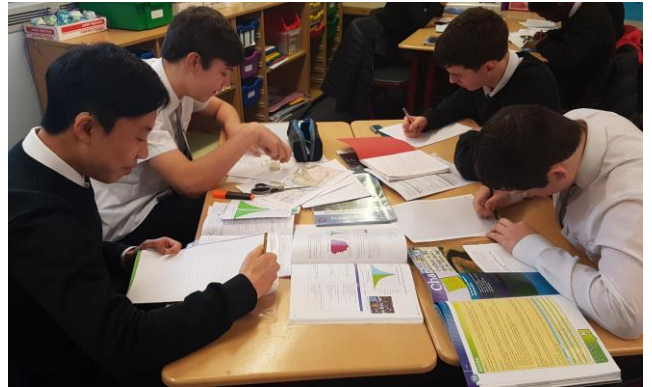
Joke: Why did it get so hot in the baseball stadium after the game?
Because all the fans left.

Sixth Year's Memories



Joke: What did the left eye say to the right eye?
Between you and me, something smells.

Sixth Year's Memories



Joke: How do you make Holy water?
You boil the hell out of it.

Things to do in Quarantine

With summer approaching, keeping yourself busy in quarantine can begin to feel repetitive and boring, so here is a list of some things to do to keep yourself busy:

1. Make a short film. You are stuck inside your house most of the day, make the most of it.
2. Read a new book, many online stores are still delivering. (read “books to read during quarantine” for recommendations)
3. Watch new movies and tv shows. Some good recommendations from Netflix are: A Quiet Place, Vertigo, The Theory of Everything. One day at a Time and Orphan Black.
4. Download Duolingo (it’s free!!) and learn a new language.
5. Make a Pinterest board for all your plans when quarantine ends.
6. Reorganise your room, get rid of the things taking up unnecessary space.
7. Write a collection of short stories, or write one long story.
8. Get together with your friends electronically and make up a quiz for each other.
9. Baking something, whether it’s something big or something small.
10. Go online shopping. Even if you don’t buy anything, it helps with the boredom.
11. Write letters and mail them to your friends and family for fun.
12. Paint or draw something, or even try origami.
13. Take an enneagram personality test.
14. Practise mediation, it will be good for the quarantine anxiety.
15. Use YouTube to learn a new skill, like crocheting or how to play an instrument.
16. Research your family history to see what you can find out.
17. Practise calligraphy.
18. Follow a Bob Ross tutorial.
19. Stay on top of self-care, buy some face masks and skin care.
20. Organise your photo albums, if you have any and if you don’t create one
21. Create a bucket list of the things you want to do when quarantine ends.

By Emma T

Joke: If you are Russian when you go into the toilet and you are Finish when you come out, what are you when you are in the toilet? European.

We Still Need Feminism

Ignorance is a silent killer. Ignorance slaughters girls' rights. Ignorance murders wives' happiness. Ignorance does nothing as the patriarchy bleeds out your femininity. When people say we don't need feminism anymore they are blinded by their privilege. Fortunately, in the UK girls have rights, but that doesn't mean we are equal. If we were equal over 137,000 girls wouldn't have to skip school when they have their period due to them not having feminine hygiene products. You have an education, so it doesn't matter that women make up two-thirds of all illiterate people, correct? UNICEF reported that 12 million girls per year are married when they are still children; that's ok because it isn't British girls, correct? No. As humans it's our job to show empathy and to help those less fortunate than us to become our equals. In other words, we need feminism.

Women walk home in the dark with keys between their fingers, or take the longer, more public way home because of fears of being attacked. Sadly, these fears aren't irrational because it's common knowledge that rape isn't anywhere near as rare as it should be; there were 41,150 rapes between March 2016 and March 2017 in England and Wales. Furthermore, the chances of women experiencing sexual assault are five times higher than men. But we don't need feminism because women are equals? No girl would feel protected, respected or privileged if they knew that the number of girls still in their teens who have experienced sexual violence at least once in their life is 120 million, according to a study by UNICEF.

The idea that rapists are only ever big bad men you don't recognise in masks, is what everyone wants to believe is true. In actual fact most rapes are committed by the victim's husband and in some countries it's perfectly acceptable for wives to be dehumanised by their husbands, for wives to be raped and treated as nothing better than objects. In 2011, only 8 years ago, the number of women who lived in a country where marital rape was legal was above 2.6 billion, these included quite developed countries like India and Singapore .

Governments that permit marital rape are sending the message that men have power over their wives. This message is the reason that 98% of the time when a woman is raped it's by her husband. The Taj Mahal and Qutub Minar are gorgeous parts of India, but The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013 isn't. Not only is this law insulting it is also damaging because it states "Sexual intercourse or sexual acts by a man with his own wife, the wife not being under fifteen years of age, is not rape." This law just proves how much we still need feminism. In order for women to be able to be fully liberated from the oppression and abuse they face a lot has to change.

Violent attacks of the body aren't the only torment women face, they also face violent attacks of the mind. From a dangerously young age girls are exposed to the lies of the media (photoshop, plastic surgery, etc) and this destroys their confidence. It teaches them that their healthy body that keeps them alive and functioning properly isn't good enough just because it isn't unnaturally thin. It shows girls that they will never be good enough no matter how kind or intelligent they are; often causing them to develop eating disorders. Girls aren't the only ones who suffer, boys suffer too. However there is still a huge difference, around 10 million boys suffer from an eating disorder whereas 20 million girls suffer from one in the USA, as stated by the National Eating Disorders Association. Additionally, figures from the NHS say in England, 1,791 under-19s required treatment in hospital for their disorder which is an increase of 172% from 2003-04. Devastatingly, above 90% of them were female. Personally, I was aware that there was a difference before I read about these statistics due to the conversations my friends and I have; at least once a week someone mentions their size or how they need to go on a diet but I rarely hear boys have conversations like this. The reason developing an eating disorder is ten times more likely for girls according to J. Kevin Thompson, professor of psychology at the University of South Florida, is due to the different changes their bodies go through while growing up. Girls bodies gain more fat during puberty, which is completely natural and healthy, but it is seen as shameful due to the constant advertisements for weight loss trends and businesses like Weight Watchers. On the contrary boys often become more muscular during puberty which is seen as a good thing because the media shows this as the desirable body type for boys. J. Kevin Thompson describes this as, "Culture collides with biology."

When girls are abused, uneducated and self-conscious it has scarily negative impact on the world. Michelle Obama said, "When girls are educated, their countries become stronger and more prosperous." She couldn't be more accurate. If just one percent more girls got an education all the way through till the end of secondary school, economic growth could become 0.3% higher for a country. Furthermore, every girl having an education up to the end of secondary level could mean child deaths would happen fifty percent less, three million children wouldn't have to die, and each girl having at least a primary education would cut child marriages down by fourteen percent. Nevertheless, around 130 million girls don't go to school for a multitude of reasons. To put that into context for you, there are 66.2 million people living in the UK while there are 130 million girls who don't attend school. It's sickening that millions of girls can't go to school because they are pregnant or someone's wife. It's sickening

that girls can't go to school because the walk is too dangerous. It's sickening that girls can't go to school solely because they were born as the "inferior" gender.

Women are targeted, females are taught to hate their bodies and girls are held back from achieving greatness due to ridiculous patriarchal ideals. We need feminism to break these rules and forge a better path for future generations. Feminism is the only way to change the results of studies, like the one in India that stated that when going to school 50% of females were sexually harassed. Saying we don't need feminism, is saying we don't need equal rights. Women are equals, not possessions, dolls or objects so it's time we stop treating them like they are.

She believed she could. So she did.

Feminism not Equalism

Every time I discuss feminism at least one person superciliously proclaims that they are an equalist (never in a million years would they be a fractious feminist) because they want men and women to be equal. Hence I used to think that these two words meant the same thing because they both fought for the same cause and the people who thought that they were superior due to being an equalist just didn't know that. But now I know they are two very different things. Feminism is the right word. Equalism is the wrong word.

The word choice of equal means to be evenly balanced. Therefore equalism suggests that the inequalities men and women face are of a similar proportion; which, sadly, is completely, utterly and truly incorrect. Granted, men do face inequalities but nowhere near to the same extent as women. Every society in the world is built and run on the objectification and oppression of women; the patriarchy's roots are so tangled in our everyday lives that women don't know when they face an injustice; sexism is so prevalent in our society that people are taught to blame women for the sexism they face. Women face inequalities everywhere; in our work (in the UK 78% of the largest businesses reported a gender pay gap benefiting men) , out in the street, in bars and even in our own home, the one place we are meant to be safe (1.6 million women aged 16 to 74 were subjected to domestic violence in the year ending march 2019). The most deplorable thing about this is women are taught to expect and accept it. Girls are told that boys pick on them because they fancy them; are boys taught that abuse is a sign of affection? No! Young women are warned not to wear a skirt that is too short or a shirt that's too tight otherwise they might get harassed; are the clothes young men wear dictated by how safe they want to feel? Of course not! Women are expected to be loyal to their partners no matter the cost to their health or safety; are men supposed to stand by their wife at a the expense of their own happiness? Don't be ridiculous! That's why it's called feminism; because women are consistently hurt by sexism in every aspect of their lives. However, that's not the case for men.

A heart-breaking fact is that men are more likely to kill themselves; in the uk the male suicide rate for men is 17.2 deaths per 100,000 compared to 5.4 for women. The reason for this lamentable statistic is sexism against men. Although, this is not a reason to call it equalism. To put it in the absolute most basic and blunt form, men kill themselves as a result of not wanting to seek help due to fear of appearing feminine. Society has programmed men to believe that to show emotions and seek help is shameful because it goes against their masculine stereotype, they are meant to be strong men, not emotional and weak

like women. Of course this is completely ridiculous and damaging. There is nothing shameful nor demeaning about men showing their emotions, in fact it should be encouraged. That's why it's called feminism because sexism against men is caused by sexism against women; men are taught to not be feminine because women are seen as second class citizens.

Additionally, sexism against men causes suffering for women whereas sexism against women rarely hurts men, in reality it mostly benefits them. One example of many, is the average female chief executive only earns £77,351, at the same time as her male equivalent earns £100,016. Contrarily, women are continuously hurt by the sexism against men. The prime example is violence against women, which is caused by men being taught to suppress their emotions leading to them lashing out in violence most commonly against the women in their life. This is highlighted by the disturbing statistic that one in five women has experienced some form of sexual violence since the age of sixteen. How many women do you know? Because it's highly likely that at least one of them has been the victim of male violence.

Finally, the most infuriating, blood boiling, teeth clenching point; the only reason people argue against feminism is because it's women standing up for themselves. Strong girls are called bossy, smart girls are called know it alls and confident girls are called sluts; there is a negative word to shame women for every positive trait. This then leads to girls submitting to the sexism and injustices they experience because they are told that is what will make them likeable. That's why feminism is seen as a nasty word. It's so shocking to see a girl share her opinions, to stand up for herself and to not be shamed into submission that the word feminism symbolises the crumbling of millions of people's ideas of what it means to be a woman. Also, so what if feminism didn't benefit men, it does, but what if it didn't? Would it be so wrong that one thing in the world benefited women and women alone? Especially considering that in 2018 only 23% of the world's politicians were female, 64% of the world's illiterate population was female, in 2018 over 137,000 girls had to miss valuable time at school because sanitary products were too expensive for them and the estimated value of unpaid work performed by women every year across the world is \$10 trillion which is twice as much as men do. There is hardly any benefits to being a woman, so is it really too much for one word to start with female, especially considering we are called MANkind and huMAN?

As a society we have a long way to go until men and women are equal, and that progress starts by using the word feminism. The word equalism symbolises the

sexism in the world not the equality in the world. That's why it's feminism is the right word and equalism is the wrong word.

Feminism- the radical idea that women are people

Twitter Accounts

School: <https://twitter.com/BannermanHigh>

Media: <https://twitter.com/BHSmedia>

Performing Arts: <https://twitter.com/bhsperform>

Pupil Support: <https://twitter.com/Bhspastoralcare>

Art & Design: <https://twitter.com/BhsartD>

English: https://twitter.com/BHS_EnglishDept

DofE: <https://twitter.com/BhsDofE>

Employability: <https://twitter.com/BhEmployability>

Global Studies: <https://twitter.com/bhglobalstudies>

Dance: <https://twitter.com/BHSDanceschool>

Maths: <https://twitter.com/BannermanMaths>

Science: <https://twitter.com/BannermanScien1>

BITE: <https://twitter.com/BHSBITE>

Equality: <https://twitter.com/Bannermanequal1>



Contacts 2020/21

Going to be absent?

Call the pupil absence reporting team on: 0141 287 0039 to report your child absent from school. You can call the line every school day from 8:00am. You should call the absence reporting line on the first day of your child's absence.

- Sick absence: if the absence lasts more than one day, parents and carers are required to call on subsequent days to provide an update. A letter should be provided to the school when the child returns from their absence.
- Medical or dental appointments: Parents and carers should call the team to report absences for medical or dental appointments. The school requires a letter or appointment card as evidence of the appointment to ensure permission is given to be absent from class.

Please phone the school directly to report the following absences:

To make sure you receive the right support you require, parents and carers should still contact the school directly to report absences of a sensitive or personal nature, for example:

- Bereavement
- Serious illness, for example, an absence which is going to last more than one week
- Injury, for example, broken limb
- Contagious diseases or illness

Pastoral Care Teachers

Burns: Ms Peoples

Wallace: Ms Guile

Livingston: Mr Pattison

Napier: Mr Gardiner

Telford: Ms Heeny

Glasgow Road

G69 7NS

0141 582 0020



Head Teacher

Ms Black

DHTs

S1/6: Ms Kerr

S2: Ms Ohldag

S3: Ms Pearson

S4: Ms McConachie

S5: Mr Colquhoun