

RUMBLE MUSEUM

Newsletter
March 23
2022

ABOUT US

The Rumble Museum at Cheney is run by educational charity The Iris Project and spread throughout corridors and rooms. We run regular projects, talks and events, and have two active student Museum Councils.

We have been awarded full Museum Accreditation by the Arts Council. Find out more at www.rumblemuseum.org.uk

THE RUMBLE ROBOTS START TO SPEAK

For the first time, the Rumble Museum Robots which have watched over the Cheney outside space since the pandemic began two years ago have begun to speak!

In the past few weeks, they have been taken away for some repairs to their arms, and secretly, they were also adapted to be able to install speakers. On their return, they waited in silence for a few days before speaking for the very first time to students on Tuesday 15th March at break time to unsuspecting Cheney students.

The Year Eight Museum Council students and Sixth Form Museum Volunteers have been in the know for a number of weeks, and have kept the plans veiled in secrecy. The students were given the challenge of preparing the first words of the robots, and decided to create some ghost stories connected to Cheney's past. They worked in groups to compose some stories, and the robots have been speaking these stories since Tuesday morning at certain times, including an English lesson, where other students were then able to come up with their own new stories.

The speaking robots will be a permanent new feature of the school, and will speak for lessons, events and other occasions.



MUSEUM PROJECT STUDENTS EXPLORE THE BATE COLLECTION

Year Nine Museum Project students took a trip to the University of Oxford's Bate Collection of Musical Instruments this afternoon to explore one of Oxford's less well-known and very fascinating museums.

We arrived to be greeted warmly by curator Andrew Lamb, and were then able to explore the extensive and highly varied collection. Students were delighted to be allowed to play some of the harpsichords and pianos, as well as to explore the many other instruments on display. These ranged from the familiar - cornets, trumpets, flutes - to the less familiar, such as shawms and serpent horns.

Many of the instruments were beautifully and intricately decorated, with elaborate paintings on the underside of harpsichords and engravings in brass instruments.

Andrew explained to us that the Bate Collection grew out of an initial collection of woodwind instruments donated by Philip Bate in 1968. There are over 1000 instruments on display, and University of Oxford students are able to borrow items, making it a unique museum. He talked about how there is an important balance for the museum to strike between preservation and allowing the items to be experienced through touching and playing on them.



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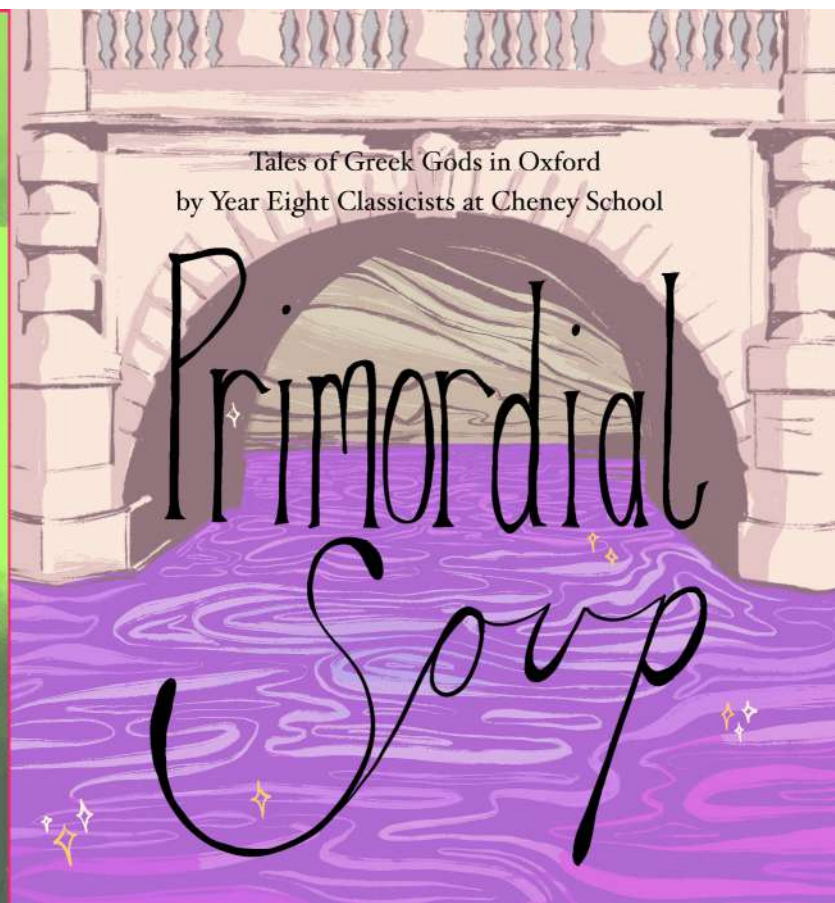
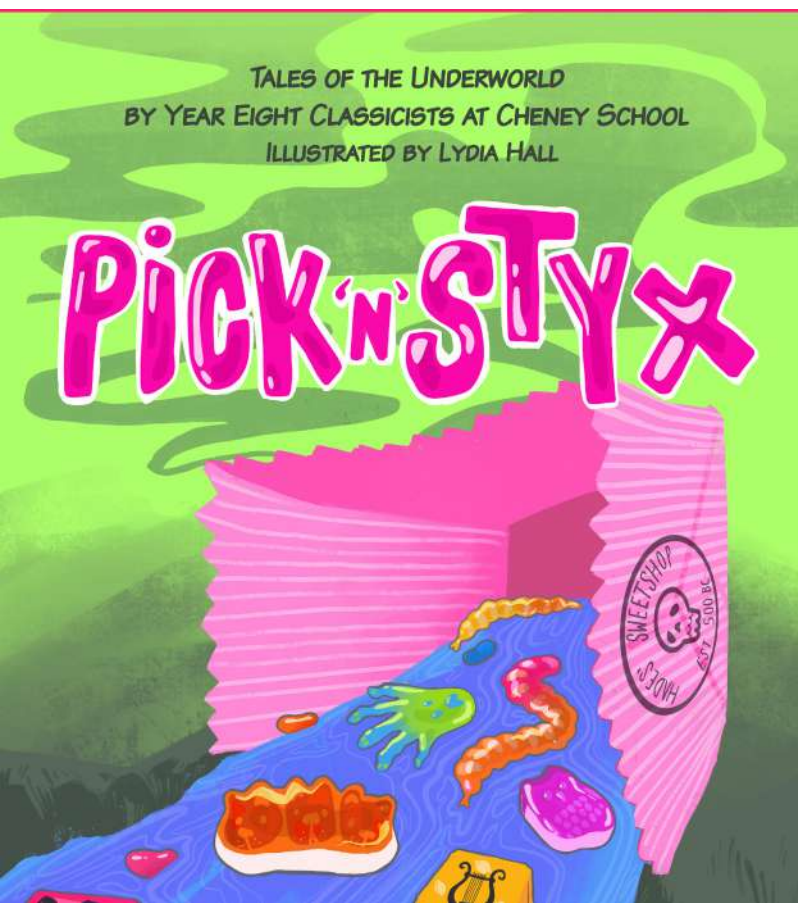
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GREEK UNDERWORLD COMES TO CHENEY FOR PICK'N'STYX LAUNCH ON 1ST APRIL

Explore stories set in the ancient Greek Underworld in the Cheney School Library on Friday 1st April! Our Year Eight Latinists at Cheney have been with artist Lydia Hall to create their own graphic novels: *Primordial Soup*, a selection of short stories imagining the primordial Greek gods, overthrown by the Olympians, and residing in modern day Oxford, and *Pick 'n' Styx*, set in the Underworld, where the Olympian gods have found themselves in a variety of funny situations.

Visitors of all ages from within and outside the school are warmly welcome to come to the Library to have a look at the stories, pick up a copy of the books, enjoy some Underworld and Olympian-themed refreshments, and take part in activity stalls too.

All ages are welcome! Cheney students and staff can attend from 3.30pm onwards, with external visitors able to come from 3.45pm onwards. Email Iro@cheneyschool.org if you would like to attend.



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BLACK CLASSICISTS EXHIBITION AT CHENEY

An exhibition celebrating the important role of African Americans in the field of Classics will be on display at the Iris Classics Centre at Cheney from 1st to 8th April.

The exhibition website explains: The African American men and women featured in this installation taught Greek and Latin at the college or university level and made groundbreaking achievements in education. Their academic accomplishments bolstered a new tradition of black intellectualism and resulted in greater opportunities for future generations of African Americans.

We will be arranging for students to come and visit during the school day. It will be available for anyone from the wider community to book to view on 2nd and 3rd April between 1 and 3pm, and from 4th to 7th April from 3pm to 5.30pm.

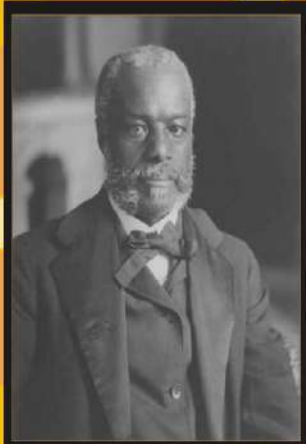
Shines a spotlight on both the academic accomplishments of its portrait subjects and the structural barriers they overcame in the course of their careers.

Guardian
17 Dec
2018

COMING TO THE UK

An opportunity to reflect upon the purpose of higher education and its place in the struggle for equality and human enrichment.


Center for Hellenic Studies,
Harvard University



Black

Classicists

From
Ostracism
To
Scholarship

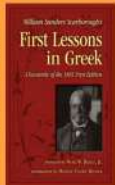



EXHIBITION DATES 2022

MARCH-APRIL	MAY-JUNE	SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER
St Gabriels, Newbury, March 30th	University of Oxford, May 2nd-8th	Solihull School, Birmingham, 26th-30th Sept.
Cheney School, Oxford, March 31st-April 8th	Sevenoaks School, Surrey, June Date TBC	Hillhouse School, Doncaster, 12th-16th Sept.
Ure Museum, Reading, April 11th-19th	Ashcombe School, Surrey, June Date TBC	Bristol University, 3rd-28th October
Downe House, Newbury, April 30th	Clifton College, Bristol, 15th-22nd June	

CHENEY SCHOOL, OXFORD, MARCH 31-APRIL 8, 2022

Acknowledgements The travelling exhibition, Black Classicists was envisioned and brought into existence by Michele Valerie Ronnick, Professor of Classical and Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures at Wayne State University and made its debut at the Detroit Public Library in September, 2003 as "12 Black Classicists." The exhibition was funded by two grants from the James Loeb Classical Library Foundation at Harvard University. Additional support was provided by the American School of Classical Studies at Athens, the Classical Association of the Middle West and South, Eos, a scholarly society promoting the study of Africana receptions of Greece and Rome, and the Washington, DC Society of the Archaeological Institute of America. The exhibition was brought to the Center for Hellenic Studies by Caroline Stark, Associate Professor of Classics at Howard University, thanks to a Leadership Initiative Grant from the Classical Association of the Atlantic States and through the support of the Center for Hellenic Studies. The poster was designed by Marc Ives, St Gabriel's School. Images of the portraits appear courtesy of John Fletcher. The exhibition was brought to the UK by the Classics Department of St Gabriel's School with the permission of Michele Valerie Ronnick and a grant from the James Loeb Classical Library Foundation at Harvard University.





FUTURE VENUES

- Kelmscott School
- Canford School
- Cambridge University
- Bishop Thomas Grant
- Bedford Modern
- Reigate School