

RUMBLE MUSEUM

Newsletter
June 29th
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

YEAR NINE MUSEUM PROJECT PRESENTATIONS

After months of hard work and careful research, on Friday 24th June, Year Nine students at Cheney School presented their chosen museum projects to parents, staff, students and museum curators, as part of a year long project run by the school's own Rumble Museum.

For two hours, each student talked to visitors about what they had learned during their research, in front of display boards they had carefully prepared to introduce their topics.



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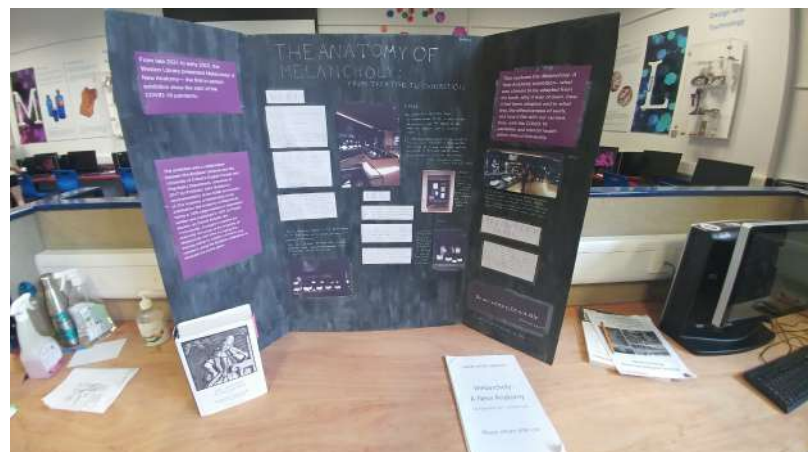
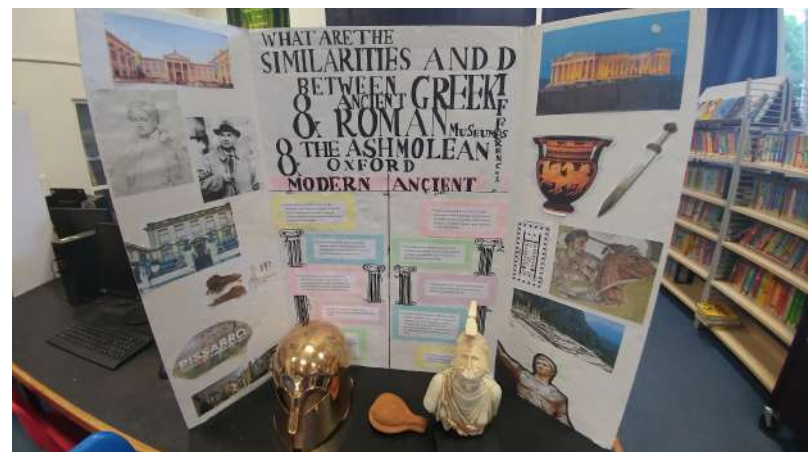
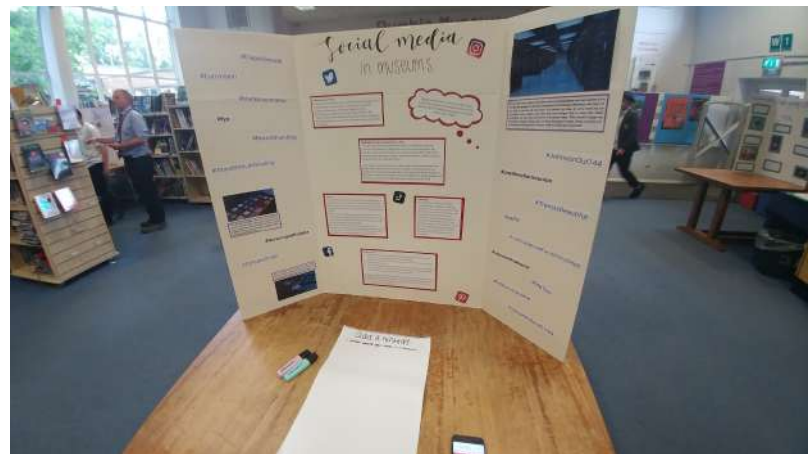
A dazzling range of projects were on display. Visitors were able to explore how social media might be displayed in museums, and even to create their own hashtag!

They were also able to find out about local museums displaying human remains and explore the debate around this contentious issue. The importance of fungi in our lives, its beauty and its under-representation in museums was another topic on display. As well as this, the under-representation of trench art in museums was investigated in a different project.

Two projects explored the controversial topic of the Benin Bronzes from different angles: one investigating through an essay, and another creating a screenplay with a discussion between people with opposing views on the artefacts. In both cases, people were able to vote and give their own views.

One project looked at the Ashmolean Museum through the lens of ancient Greek and Roman temples, seeing the ways in which these temples were examples of something like early museums,. Another compared the Ashmolean Museum to the Louvre, and explored the different impacts both museums had on visitors.

One project looked at a recent Exhibition about Robert Burton's Anatomy of Melancholy, the ways in which the Exhibition told the story of the book, and the parallels with modern ideas and approaches.



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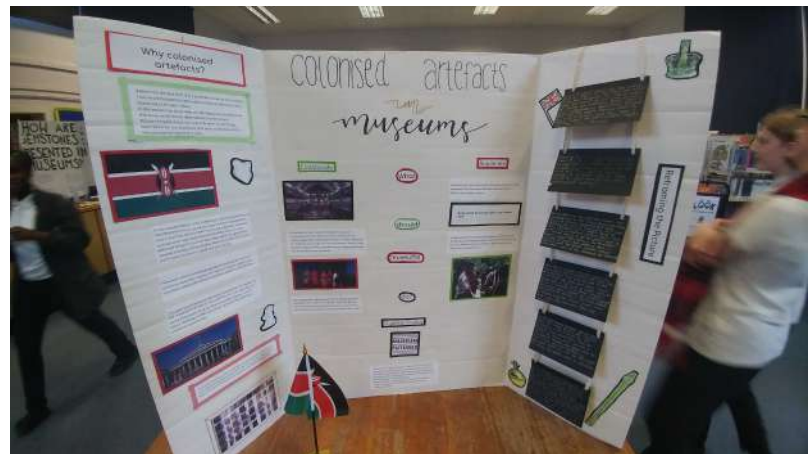
Another looked at how museums have told stories through exhibitions about Alice in Wonderland, and museums' ways of bringing these stories to life. A third project imagined the stories from artefacts from the Ca Mau shipwreck.

Colonialism and the return of objects and displays on the topic through exploring Kenyan artefacts. Another looked at the issue of colonialism "at home" by exploring the Highland Clearances.

One project explored the presentation of Inuit artefacts in museums, both locally and nationally. Another looked closely at how astronomy is presented in museums, and the approaches of looking at the astronomers themselves or looking more at the discoveries and processes of astronomy now.

One project looked at how gemstones are presented in museums, with some beautiful examples for people to handle, as well as a display of the equipment used in the process of rock polishing. Another looked at how accurate dinosaur displays are in museums, and how these displays can have an impact on how other natural history items are displayed.

Lastly, one project involved the recreation of an item of Tudor clothing called a "kirtle". The exhibitor modelled the item of clothing she had made, and explained to visitors the process of making it, and how re-enactment clothing is important in museums.



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BREAKFAST REWILDING TALKS CONTINUE

Students in Year Seven and Eight have been enjoying their journey into the topic of Rewilding as the Rumble Museum's Breakfast Talk series turns to this fascinating movement. So far students have heard from Pupak Hahighi from Trees for Hope, who introduced the idea of rewilding in terms of both an inner, personal journey as well as an outer one.. Students heard a bit about her work rewilding the Fertile Crescent and gave their own responses to how being in nature feels to them, which we have added as tags to our tree in L14!

Last week, Dr Paul Scanlon explored rewilding from genetic and historical perspectives, looking at how in the distant past, large mammals roamed, and how a number of modern species contain DNA from these ancient species. He explored how some scientists are using this knowledge to recreate some of the ecologies of the past, and used examples from Holland of how this is happening, and benefiting both nature and society.

Next week, we will hear from Kate Sheard from the BBOWT, and finally Dr Keith Kirby, both of whom will be focussing on what we can do locally to rewild and to protect nature.



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SOYLENT GREEN BISCUITS AND DYSTOPIA STORIES COMPETITIONS!

In the run up to our Dystopia Day on Tuesday 12th July, the Rumble Museum has launched two exciting competitions!

In the 1973 dystopian film *Soylent Green*, it is set in an imagined 2022 when the oceans are dying and everyone lives on a green food called Soylent Green. We would love to have Soylent Green biscuits to serve at the canteen on the day, so if you would like to have a go, there are lots of recipes online. Please bring your entries, plus allergy and ingredient details, to L14 on Monday 11th July.

We are also running a competition for ideas for dystopian stories and cover art. If you'd like to submit an idea you can either email me on Iro@cheneyschool.org or hand it in to your tutor. You can also post it through our special postbox in the Library on Dystopia Day!

On the day itself, there will be activities and Mostly Books selling books and graphic novels in the Library at break and lunch times, and also after school from 3.30pm, more stalls and activities, followed by an author talk by local author Chris Beckett from 4pm in the Library. Families and friends of all ages are warmly welcome!

Please email Iro@cheney if you would like to attend.



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ALBION PRINTING PRESS ARRIVING

We are very grateful indeed to Richard Lawrence from the Bodleian Library who has offered to donate a beautiful working Albion Printing Press to the Rumble Museum.

The Albion press is a model of early iron handprinting press, originally designed and manufactured in London by Richard Whittaker Cope in around 1820.

Albions continued to be manufactured, in a range of sizes, until the 1930s.

The press is fully functioning, and we are looking for a place for it to live, and will soon be looking for students who would like to be trained in how to use it for regular printing clubs, and even a regular Cheney newspaper to be printed on it!

More soon on this exciting story.



FINAL CALL FOR 80s AND MIDDLE EAST ARTEFACTS

If you would like to loan or donate any 80s or Middle East objects to our displays, please let me know on Iro@cheneyschool.org

Items can be anything, from photographs to games to any kind of everyday object.

We are keen to have a really diverse and interesting displays, so please get in touch if there is anything you think you'd like to share.