

The Liberty Light

STUDENT MAGAZINE



"All things are possible for one who believes." **MARK 9:23**

Issue 2: Summer Term 2026



Original artwork by Tilly B (Y8)

SELF PORTRAIT: Tilly B (Y8)

This edition's cover artwork is by Tilly B in Y8. This outstanding self portrait was entered into the Young Artist's Summer Show at the Royal Academy of Arts in London.

Tilly has said the following about her eye-catching work:

"This is a self portrait, an original piece. We were asked to create an original piece of art and I thought: 'What is more original than someone who was born an original!', so that's me.

The image was photographed in my school uniform because the piece was meant to represent the individuality in everyone. It examines how people may not act like themselves in a school or work environment, but may let themselves slip. That's what the colours in my eye and surrounding me are, the bits of weirdness coming out!"

Thanks so much to Tilly for providing the cover art for this edition of the Liberty Light and to Miss Shore and Mr Houston for arranging this too.

Would you like your artwork to feature in our next edition? Please speak to your art teacher or to Mrs Hagar in 208.

FEATURED THIS EDITION:

- The Liberty Community Choir
 - Holocaust Memorial Day
 - The Liberty Angling Society
 - Student Leadership: making a difference
 - Dystopian fiction written by our talented English students
-and so much more!



**LIBERTY
ACADEMY**
CHURCH OF ENGLAND

SOMETHING INSIDE SO STRONG: My story of joining the Liberty Community Choir

Written by Evelyn B (Y7)

The first time I heard about the Liberty Community Choir was in Collective Worship with Reverend Anne. From that moment, I knew that I belonged there.

I went to my first ever choir session the following Monday, and although I was a bit nervous going to the club, I went home knowing that I would definitely be showing up every week from then on. Ever since that first day, I have kept going back and it feels like time flies by in the blink of an eye every week! I would go home and tell my family about all of the fun it brought to me: every week there was a smile on my face beaming brightly!

We have been able to perform at public events, like the celebration events in the Nest, and we also performed for a local care home. That was a magical experience!

Reverend Anne, Ellie and Mrs Hagar run the club every Monday night between 3.15 and 4.15 in the Chapel, and they really try their best to make each session as fun as the last one - it is always a success and we all smile, sing and laugh. Right now we want new people to join our choir and perform with our lovely group - could this be you? Choir is an amazing space to have some fun and a break from school work.

Choir Visit Report:

The journey to the Care Home was just amazing: seeing all of the residents' smiling faces listening to us - and even joining in! - was so heartwarming and a time to remember!

One of the residents was such a great sport as well, she came in singing to us and bringing smiles to all of our faces. Her name was Mable and she was 96. We also sang a few suggestions from



Some members of our Liberty Community Choir in action at our recent Student Celebration Event

SPIRITUALITY AT LIBERTY: Flourishing together

SOMETHING INSIDE SO STRONG: My story of joining the Liberty Community Choir

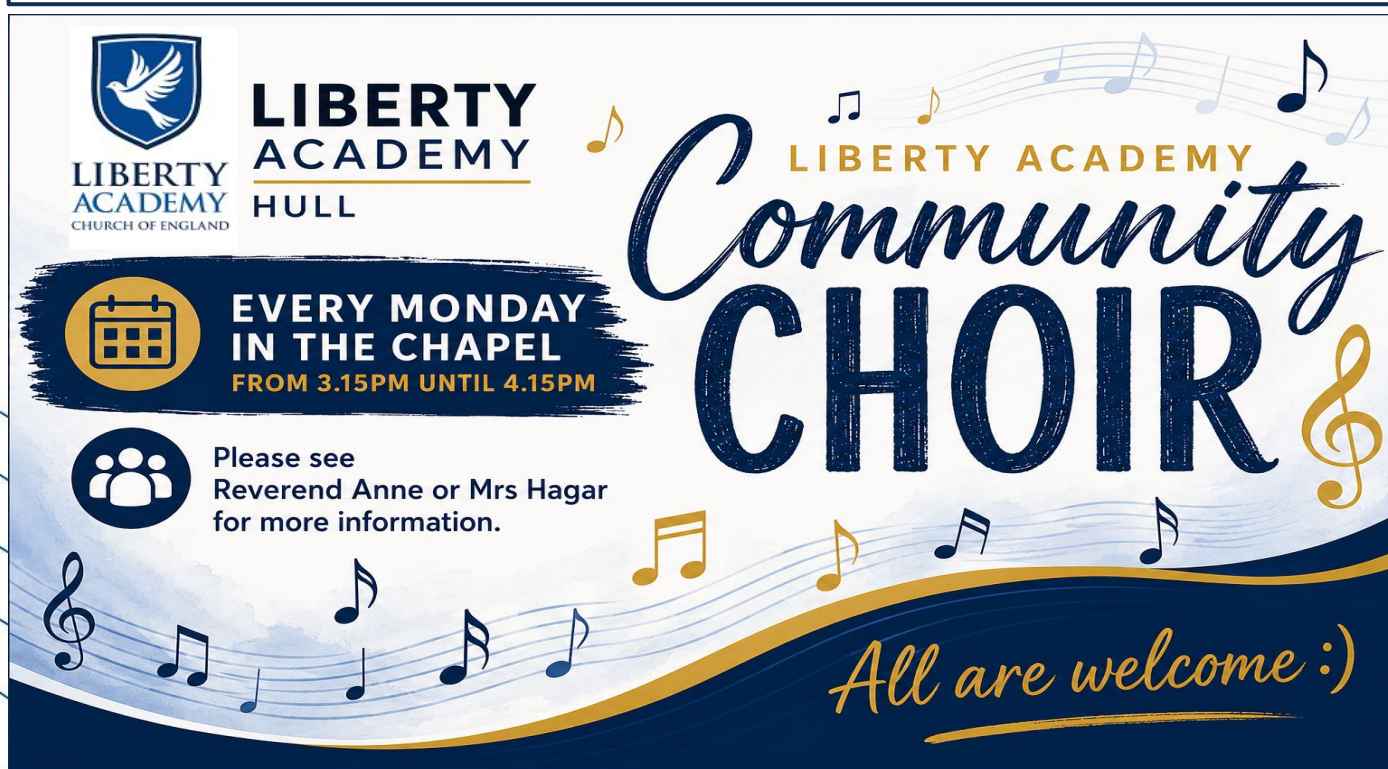
Written by Evelyn B (Y7)

the residents when we finished our set. I can't wait to sing for them again! It was such a lovely experience. Reverend Anne was playing the piano, Mrs Hagar sang with us too and the carers and residents were all smiling and singing along with us. We also surprised them all by handing out cards our students had made in Collective Worship at tutor time. It made all of the choir feel warm and fuzzy inside to see that the residents were so grateful and appreciated the time we had put into their cards and gifts.

In terms of our qualities, this was the perfect way for us to show compassion and consideration for others. We wanted the residents to feel like they were less alone and it has no doubt been a big help to them. We could see that it had not only brought them all so much joy but we also saw their warming gratitude.

We now have a repertoire of exciting songs: Something Inside So Strong, Lean on Me, Midnight, Better When I'm Dancing, A Million Dreams and more! We're learning new songs all of the time.

So become part of something bigger today and join our Liberty Academy Choir (info below)!



The poster features a blue and white color scheme with musical notes and a treble clef. At the top left is the Liberty Academy Church of England logo, which includes a shield with a dove. To the right of the logo, the text 'LIBERTY ACADEMY HULL' is displayed in a bold, sans-serif font. Below this, a dark blue banner contains a calendar icon and the text 'EVERY MONDAY IN THE CHAPEL FROM 3.15PM UNTIL 4.15PM'. To the right of the banner, the words 'LIBERTY ACADEMY' are written in a smaller, gold, sans-serif font, followed by 'Community CHOIR' in a large, stylized, dark blue script font. Below the banner, a group of three people icon is shown next to the text 'Please see Reverend Anne or Mrs Hagar for more information.' At the bottom right, the phrase 'All are welcome :)' is written in a gold, cursive font. The background of the poster is decorated with musical notes and a wavy line.

LIBERTY ACADEMY HULL

EVERY MONDAY IN THE CHAPEL FROM 3.15PM UNTIL 4.15PM

Please see Reverend Anne or Mrs Hagar for more information.

LIBERTY ACADEMY

Community CHOIR

All are welcome :)

Liberty Poetry Corner

Looking at the launch of our Yondr pouches

This edition, Emily W and Hallie F (Y9) look at the difference the Yondr phone pouches have made to our school and students.

The Screen Between Us

By Emily W and Hallie F (Y9)

At Liberty Academy now no phones ring,
Instead ecstatic faces laugh and sing.
Students now have time to ponder,
Their pesky phones locked in their Yondr.

Before, glowing feeds were more addictive every day,
Pulling minds and ideas away.
Some had grown withdrawn, hiding behind a screen,
Missing the beauty of what could have been.

With endless scrolling, they couldn't think clear,
Their focus faded as distractions appeared.
Each filtered image chipped at self-esteem,
Replacing confidence with impossible dreams.

There was cyber-bullying, cruel and unseen,
Leaving invisible scars where joy had been.
Friends became strangers, conversations were small,
And many were increasingly anti-social after all.

Now hope survives and education lights the way,
Choosing real voices over screens each day.

Protecting our minds and well being too.

**Phones are now gone,
And joy has been brought upon!**



The Qualities Council: A force for change

By The Liberty Qualities Council

What does it take to be an ethos leader at Liberty Academy? We asked our Qualities Council - the student leaders who are responsible for promoting our Liberty Vision and Qualities - and here's what they had to say about student leadership and the impact that they have made this year.

To what extent do you feel the Academy is now living up to its new Christian Vision "All things are possible for one who believes" Mark 9:23 (launched in September)?

"We are **supportive** (alongside staff) in helping students live out the qualities and vision, helping us to be **resilient** and to keep going. Behaviour and attendance have **improved** a lot."

"We -as individual leaders- need to make it happen as a **whole school**. Most students do live out the vision but some students need more help with our values. Behaviour is really improving around the academy which proves how well we have **pushed** students to reach their goals, go to lessons on time and follow our qualities."

"I think it is living up to this vision. As a leader, even if I have a bad day, I always **believe** the next day will be better and I **keep going**. Being part of a team on the Qualities Council helps me to believe this will help others do the same."

"Most people understand the vision and are aware of it but not everyone respects it yet. We are seeing this get **better** with the amount of students who now arrive to lesson on time, decrease in truancy and better behaviour"



The Qualities Council: A force for change

By The Qualities Council

Describe your experience so far as a Student Leader on the Qualities Council.

"I am really happy to be on the team. My confidence has improved massively through supporting things like leading Collective Worship, Christmas Fair and Open Evenings. I have not only learned more about leadership but also about myself: what I can now do that I didn't think I could. **I believe in myself more.**"

"I feel ecstatic to be part of the student leadership team and to be able to assist others."

"I feel **proud** that I am able to share my opinion and make change; I am glad things are changing; I am proud we are working towards **better standards**; I feel happy and proud for the team of leaders that have worked towards **high standards** and presented these to the school."

"I'm **delighted** to be a student leader. As someone who always follows the rules, it's great to **benefit** from doing what is right and setting an example. This has opened up **new opportunities** for me, such as speaking in Collective worship."

"I **love** being a student leader because we do fun things and I have made new friends. It helps me to help the school to be a **better place for everyone.**"



WHY WE MUST NEVER FORGET

Written by Amelia W (Y8)

As part of Holocaust Memorial Day, we are reminded to honour all those who tragically lost their lives during the horrors of the Holocaust.

If you are unsure of what the Holocaust is, then I will tell you. It was a horrific genocide that occurred during World War Two. Adolf Hitler and the Nazi party targeted anyone who they unfairly labelled as 'different' or 'not to their liking'. These people were mostly Jewish and roughly 6 million

Jews were killed. Many other groups were also targeted, including black people, people with a disability and travellers. In total, around 9 million people lost their lives.



During this year at Liberty Academy, we have observed many things that have reminded us of this terrible loss. For example, back in November for Remembrance Day, we lit six candles at the front of the theatre. Each candle represented one million Jewish people who lost their lives. We also watched an emotional story of a boy who survived the Holocaust. Him, his mother and his sister were taken from their home and marched to a concentration camp. They had also been to Poland, though they were quickly returned. The video really shone a light on the terror that the Jewish people experienced.

We have also explored the Holocaust in tutor led collective worship, looking at stories of victims to this awful event. One of the most hard hitting was Anne Frank. During the war, she hid in an attic with her family. The space was extremely cramped with limited space, but she had no choice. During this time, one of her only sources of comfort was writing in her diary, which is now famous worldwide and a reminder of what people were forced to do. She had frequent arguments with her family - especially with her Mum - and she documented this in the diary. Interesting to see her as a normal teenager in extraordinary and life-threatening circumstances, and a reminder that this must never happen again: innocent people should not be targeted for their religion, beliefs or ethnicity. Our Academy qualities remind us that we are all part of one community where everyone is welcome.

So, fun fact: you can still visit Anne Frank's home if this article has made you interested.

Overall, we should always remember the Holocaust: not just on Memorial day but every day. I hope that this article has educated you on the horror of this genocide and (hopefully) we can avoid an event like this ever happening again. We owe it to each other.

A Fantastic Day at the Big Malarkey

On 18th June, we took 26 students to the Big Malarkey Reading Festival at East Park for a day filled with creativity, learning and fun.

The students took part in two exciting activities. The first was an AI newsreader workshop, where they had the opportunity to create their own digital avatars and programme them to say whatever they wanted. They also enjoyed exploring a mock newsreader's desk and trying their hand at presenting the news. This proved to be a real highlight for many of our students.



Our second activity was Lights, Camera.... Mystery where students worked together to create and perform their own scenes. We were incredibly impressed by the fantastic acting skills on display, and many students were especially excited to have the chance to use and operate real filming equipment, including cameras and boom microphones. We are looking forward to seeing the finished results.

Throughout the day the students represented the school brilliantly - their enthusiasm, excellent behaviour and positive attitudes were a credit to both themselves and the school. We were extremely proud of each and every one of them.

The past two days of trips have been a wonderful experience, and we hope all of the students involved enjoyed them as much as we did. Well done to everyone who took part.

Liberty Reads: Reading and Library updates

Written by Mrs Suddaby and Mr Williams

James Reckitt Book Award Celebration:

On 17th June, a group of our students attended the James Reckitt Book Awards at East Park after taking part in the exciting reading challenge

Fifteen dedicated students : Amelia, Tilly, Anjolaluwa, Julia, Kylie, Victoria, Lilly, Oliver, Rowan, Kaiden, Sophia, Evelyn, Camille, and Alfie-Jay accepted the challenge of reading all 5 shortlisted books before June. The shortlisted titles were: The Boy in the Suit by James Fox, People Like Stars by Patrice Lawrence, Gloam by Jack MacKay, Inkbound by Philippa Leathley and Dragon Born by Struan Murray.

Over the past few months, the students worked incredibly hard and thoroughly enjoyed reading and discussing each of the books. Their commitment and enthusiasm for reading were truly impressive.

At the Awards Event, students had the opportunity to hear from the shortlisted authors, take part in a fun draw-along session (with illustrator Liz Million), and even received a free book to take home. One of the highlights of the day was voting for their favourite book from the shortlist. After all votes were counted, the winning book was Gloam by Jack MacKay.

It was a fantastic day filled with books, creativity and inspiration. We are extremely proud of all the students who took part in the challenge and would like to thank them for their dedication, hard work and love for reading throughout the programme. Well done to everyone involved.

Reading Plus Programme: Liberty Literacy Legends

Students at Liberty Academy have been busy making progress with Reading Plus, our digital reading support programmer. Remember you can also complete Reading Plus at home too. You can log-in exactly the same way as you do at school. Please see your English teacher or Mr. Williams if you have any issues. Here are our top readers this edition:

- Year 7 Top Reader : Larisa R
- Year 8 Top Reader : Adeniran E - Gained over five year's worth of progress in year 8 alone!
- Year 9 Top Reader : Harley F who has read a whopping 220, 405 words!
- School Reading Plus Champion : Tilly B. **Congratulation to Tilly for becoming the school's Reading Plus Champion. Tilly is doing a superb job.**

Congratulations to all of our reading leaders!

Why I love athletics!

Written by Emily W (Y9)

Today I want to talk to you about something that I love to do every Friday. I have been going to Athletics club for 2 years now and have made many friends from doing it. Athletics includes sports like running, high jump, long jump, javelin and hammer throwing and more. My favourite thing to do is running, because that is what I am best at. Furthermore, my least favourite sport is to do hurdles, given that it hurts my legs and it really isn't for me!



You can sign up to do athletics from the age of 10 and it is based at Costello Stadium every Friday evening. This is just for fun, but if you wish you can take part in many competitions, mainly during the summer. I recommend everyone should try athletics because you will get a nice bit of fresh air, learn new things and make friends.

I also have four wonderful coaches at Costello who have helped me achieve new skills and learn to never give up. On the other hand, some may not want to do athletics and here are the reasons why:

- One major thing that could make others not want to take part in clubs is fear and social anxiety. The pressure of messing up or demonstrating in front of others can lead to a lack of confidence
- Another example is dislike of competitions: some individuals do not like to take part in physical activities and instead like to stick to indoor games, like on a computer
- It may also clash with your social schedule: balancing this club with studies or family/friends events can also get in the way of showing up for it
- Finally, it may be too expensive for parents to pay, or to purchase the correct kit

Despite these potential problems, athletics is very important to me because it helps me stay healthy and fit. Also I believe everyone needs a goal in life, so this is mine. Overall, athletics isn't for everyone but I really think most will enjoy it because I certainly do. This is my experience of athletics and I love it.

Liberty Life Skills: Extracurricular Clubs

By Ms Hossack

The Liberty Angling Society

Last half term the Liberty Angling Society took its inaugural trip to Risby Fishing Ponds. This marked an exciting launch of a group that has proven very popular.

So far 26 students have spent a day fishing with experts from the Angling Society. Among their many achievements, students caught bream, carp, mirror carp, tench, perch and roach.

Students were taught how to pole fish and feeder fish (although most students were already very accomplished anglers and needed little support). They were also shown how to care for the fish that they had caught and set them back safely and carefully into the water.

The coaches from the Angling Society commented on how well behaved the students were and how good they were at fishing! Well done, Liberty Anglers!

This is an initiative that will be running again from September 2026 and we have had lots of interest, so if you are an accomplished angler or a curious novice, please ask to speak to Ms Hossack ASAP. We'd be very happy to have you on board!



Keen Anglers: Can you spot our Liberty students (pictured here at Risby Fishing Pond)?

What's on: Liberty's Got Talent



LIBERTY
ACADEMY
CHURCH OF ENGLAND

LIBERTY'S GOT TALENT

★ ★ ★ IT'S YOUR TIME TO SHINE! ★ ★ ★

THURSDAY 9TH JULY

5.30PM - 7PM

(DOORS OPEN FROM 5PM)

★
TICKETS
£4.00

AVAILABLE TO BUY
ON EVENTBRITE

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to book
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AMAZING TALENT ★ INCREDIBLE PERFORMANCES ★ UNFORGETTABLE NIGHT

Liberty Literacy:

Our showcase of your writing talents

Dystopian Fiction: Showcasing English Talent

Year 9 students have been studying Dystopian Fiction in English, and it has sparked some creative flair that we felt we needed to share. Here are just two amazing Dystopian tales from two gifted Y9 students.

One of Us

Written by Hallie F (Y9)

I awoke to the sound of my alarm wailing and squealing. I sighed with relief realising that it was the first day off school since breaking up for Easter break. Slowly but surely, I crawled out of my warm bed; a waft of cold air came from my door. It smelled like sweet strawberries and beautiful bacon, but the only person that cooks for me is, well, me. So who was it?

I heard a number of soft hums and softly sung words. It was my Mum... but she never cooked - like ever - but now she was? It didn't make sense. I rushed downstairs, still in my pyjamas, to see no other than my Mother with a sinister smile and a stare like daggers. Something wasn't right.

"Just let me help you with that, Dear" my Mum said, getting a pair of scissors.

"Help me with what?" I said, both angry and confused, "you've never helped me since I was young?"

My Mum slowly turned around with the scissors and a syringe and said "This won't hurt a bit . You too will be just like us. Beautiful!". This wasn't my Mum!

I bolted out of the house and saw that everyone on the street had the same sinister grin. "Be one of us. Be one of us" they chanted. Their heads snapped towards me; their hands and arms reached out as they surrounded me. I was trapped.

They closed in on me, their cold hands grasping me. I felt a prick on my arm as I went in and out of consciousness. A smile hit my face. A sinister grin. The grin of the beautiful people.

I was one of them...



Liberty Literacy:

Our showcase of your writing talents

By Albert R (Year 9)

Every edition we will be sharing some outstanding writing talents from you: our students. This edition, it's the turn of Albert R in Year 9

The Extermination

It's been a week since those humanoid bugs appeared...

...those things invaded earth for whatever reason. Most of my friends perished at the hands of those terrible things, most of my family too. Only good thing about it is that I have managed to survive these last few days; that I am safe from them. It's part of their idea. It's what they call a 'perfect society' but how can that be true when half of the original population are gone?

Anyways, it's another day in this hell hole. I stand up from my makeshift bed; the soft crunch of the olive green leaves fills the silence. No more birds now; no bird song. At this point I wouldn't be surprised if they got rid of all of the animals!

As I trot along the dirty pathway, the soft splash of mud covers my boots. My eyes land on the Stadium. A football one, to be exact.

I shift closer, cautiously entering to make sure nobody was trying to ambush me from thin air. Upon my entrance, a spark of nostalgia rushed through my tortured brain. This place feels so similar to....no, it *is* the exact one my Dad took me to when I was little. Before all of this happened. I didn't like football much of the time, and I still don't, but the joy of being with my Father kept me going back. Now he is gone. It's all gone.



Liberty Literacy:

Our showcase of your writing talents

By Albert R (Year 9)

I've lost everyone I ever loved, but that doesn't mean it's time to give up. It's a wake up call. They are dead but I am alive.

I have to make sure that I survive these next few days...

I see it in the corner of my eye. I thought I was safe, but they have found me. A heavy sigh escapes my lips as it gradually makes its way towards me. I see it lurking from across the deserted pitch. My fingers trace the wall as my eyes fix on something shifting and - before I have time to react - it's wrapped around my mouth. Realisation and dread hit me hard. I know that there isn't an escape. Is this really the end? Dying at the hands of a humanoid bug? I guess so...

Before it snaps my neck, I shout loudly: "Don't do it! Don't EVER go to the Studio!"

I doubt it will ever reach anyone but I had to try to lead them into our hands. Someone has to stop them...



ADVERT: Want to get involved in our next edition?

Here's how...

WANT TO GET INVOLVED

as a journalist for

THE LIBERTY LIGHT MAGAZINE?



We need budding journalists and writers to join our growing team at the **Liberty Newsdesk**.



You could write on a number of topics:

-  visit reports
-  school news
-  extracurricular clubs
-  spirituality and our Christian ethos
-  sporting news
-  and more



WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

Please see Mrs Hagar on duty or in 208.

YOUR STORY
MATTERS

*We look forward to
having you on board!*

