The Green Room



Front Cover by
Grace Groenewald

Winter Term 2024
Edition 9

Fallibroome
Performing Arts

Dear Readers

We are so excited to welcome you all to Edition 9 of The Greenroom Magazine!

Although the wait has been long, we hope you enjoy it! Our writers and art directors have worked tirelessly to make this edition a great end to the winter term. We are so grateful to the teachers and students who agreed to be interviewed and have given us crucial insight into the events of this busy school year.

We hope you enjoy reading and have a wonderful Christmas break

We're always looking for new designers, writers, and content creators to join our wonderful team, so don't hesitate to come along at Monday lunch times in Studio 6.

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WEST SIDE STORY

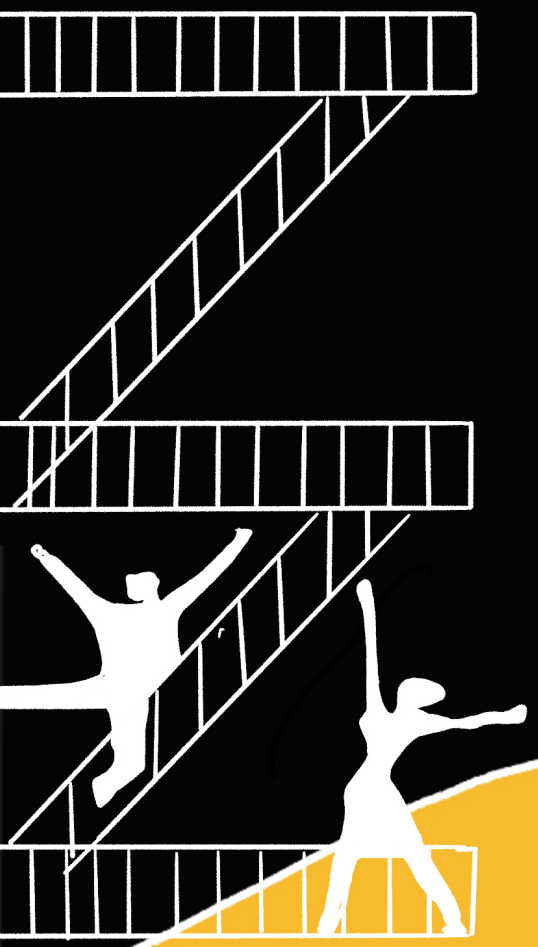
West Side Story is a musical that premiered in 1957, created by Leonard Bernstein, Stephen Sondheim, and Arthur Laurents. It is a modern retelling of William Shakespeare's, "Romeo and Juliet", but set in the 1950s of New York City, however instead of the Capulets and the Montagues, the story revolves around two rival gangs, the Jets, composed of white Americans, and the Sharks, made up of Puerto Rican immigrants, that mainly feud over land and identity.

The central plot follows Tony (played by Marco Dennis), a former Jet whose beliefs are against the idea of all that the two gangs stand for, being fighting and ganging up against each other, however he happens to fall in love with Maria, (Played by Ava Walsh) at the local school dance, despite the feud between their two opposing gangs. This is a significant part of the story as she is the sister of the Shark's leader, Bernardo, (played by Marshall Wilson) which they conclude may cause complications in the long run. Their romance develops amidst the rising tension and contradicting violence between the two gangs. This play highlights important themes of love, prejudice, and the struggles of the immigrant communities.

The musical is best known for its powerful choreography and emotional depth, and features iconic songs like, "Somewhere", "Maria", and "Tonight", which are all performed flawlessly live right in front of the stage by an orchestra made up of many talented students and members of staff.

As tension escalates between the Jets and the Sharks, the story leads to a tragic ending, highlighting the impact of violence and hatred where the love between Tony and Maria is ultimately doomed by the gang rivalry. West Side Story remains a significant and iconic work in American theatre, being celebrated for its innovative approach to storytelling through music and dance.

"Learning routines is very fun but can be difficult at times when everyone is doing a different thing, however it is impressive seeing the end result when it all comes together after many long yet rewarding hours of work" stated Lucy Pond, who played Graziella, an iconic member of the Jets gang. Overall, West Side Story is a unique exploration of love and conflict set against the backdrop of 1950s urban America, and was done exceptionally well by the hundreds of students and staff that took their time to create timeless sets and perfectly represented costumes for the 50s, and perform this perfectly executed adaptation.



Emily Sparks-Welch - Lieutenant Schrank

I played the role of Lieutenant Schrank in West Side Story and it was an excellent and emotional final production to be a part of at Fallibroome.

It was exciting to take on such an iconic show and I enjoyed tackling such a commanding character.

It was great to be a part of telling such a meaningful and powerful story.

I'm grateful for such an unforgettable experience, and I'm sure I will still have the songs stuck in my head for a good few months yet!



Katie Roebuck - Officer Krupke

I absolutely loved it! I loved the people and the cast. It was such an amazing tight, close-knit cast, everyone was so friendly and kind. It was so nice because it was upper school so we were all a lot closer in age, and it was very very emotional for me because obviously,

I've been doing it (School Productions) since Year 7, I've been in and out of Performing Arts since the day I walked into Faillbroome and knowing this is the last big thing I'm going to do.

It was very emotional for me but you know I'm very grateful for the part I had, and the people I got to be with, and honestly it was just the most amazing musical. It's been a favourite of mine for so long and the fact we got to do that with school I'm just so honoured and so amazed especially with everyone else in the cast as well that's been insane.

Everybody knows that Ava and Marco are amazing, and to be on stage with Ava was just incredible. I just had the best time, it was nothing but positive experiences and feedback from me and the backstage team, tech team and sound team did an absolutely incredible job.

Written by Bronwyn Eyres
Designed by Ebony Gaddum and Maddalena Cagol






West Side Story Rehearsals



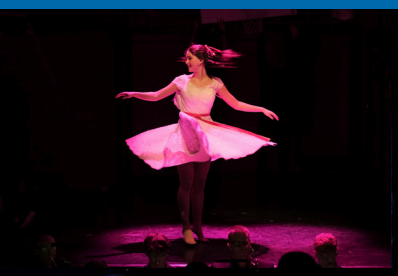



Designed by Arabella Cagol






The Show Nights














Designed by Maddalena Cagol

STUDENT STARS

Fallibroome is rich with talent and we love to showcase it!

Throughout Fallibroome's history we have had students stars, whether they are in the P.E department and go on to compete in the Paralympics or in the Performing Arts Department where countless student alumni have ventured into this field and succeeded. But why not showcase the talent that we have now, in our lower years, before they take their next steps to becoming the next generation of successors?

Tabitha Evans

The remarkable Tabitha Evans is only in Year 8 and is already competing nationally for dance! Isn't that incredible? She competes in various competitions and performances where she receives standing ovations and oh my, does she deserve it! Her dancing is exceptional and the Fallibroome Dance department love to showcase her talent (as they should) in the dance shows, so please, if you haven't seen her, do yourself a favour and watch the next dance show!

Why do you love dance?

I love dance because it is challenging, you can never be perfect but when you work hard and improve it feels good. When I dance I just enjoy it and forget about everything.

What do you recommend to others who want to dance?

Give it a try. It is a good way to make friends and learn something new everyday.

What is your favourite thing about dancing?

I love performing in front of people and especially in competitions.



How did you get into dance? How long have you been dancing for?

I first got into dance when I was around 3 or 4 just doing baby ballet but as I grew older I realised that I loved it and wanted to keep doing it. I have been dancing for 9 years.



Penelope Cooper-Forbes

Also in Year 8, Penelope Cooper-Forbes has just started at Junior Royal Northern College of Music (JRNCM) where she plays the violin, piano and chamber music on Saturdays in Manchester which she has expressed that " I really enjoy it". Penny studies violin at Junior RNCM with Professor Steven Wilkie. She is generously supported by the ABRSM as a Junior Scholar.

Why do you love playing the violin?
I love playing violin because there are so many opportunities and things that you can do and it's also a lot of fun playing in an orchestra and solo.
What do you recommend to others who want to play?
I recommend it for beginners/ people who want to give it a go , to go to concerts and also listen to music as well as playing to me is really important and if you put your mind to it and practise then you can achieve a lot more than you think you can.
How did you get into playing the violin? How long have you been playing?
My mum plays violin so I just decided to give it a go for fun and carried on from there but I was already learning the piano but I wanted to play an orchestral instrument. I have been playing violin for just over 3 years, since I was about nine years old.





Year 8 has proved to be a fruitful year for young musicians and dancers at Fallibroome which we are more than happy to hear. You can never have too much talent!

UNPLUGGED CONCERT

This year's Acoustic Sessions concert brought back the roots of unplugged performances, with a varied setlist that showcased the raw talent of Fallibroome students. The concert took place on Wednesday, 23rd October at 7pm, and featured performances from Eliza Seear-Nixon, Ryley Johnson and Ava Walsh. Taking inspiration from classic MTV Unplugged style, the concert aimed to create an intimate setting where emotion and musicianship take centre stage. The Music Department worked with students to choose songs that suit the acoustic format. Students suggest songs they're passionate about, while the department ensured there was a diverse setlist that complemented the unplugged theme.

A Year 11 student who performed in the concert, Poppy Pickup sang "It's All Coming Back To Me Now" by Celine Dion. This wonderful rendition was significant to Poppy because her mum sang it to her growing up, and it was one of her favourites to blast in the car or while cooking in the kitchen. Poppy said she was super happy when Mrs Mortimer picked it out for her to sing at this year's unplugged concert.

Iris Wakefield, a Year 12 student, sang "Mary Jane" by Alanis Morissette. This concert was significant to Iris because she appreciates the way it allows everyone to express themselves through song. She said the students that usually perform as different characters in the school musicals so it is nice getting to strip back fully and perform not as a character but as themselves, singing a song that they enjoy and letting go. The song Iris performed is quite downhearted as it's about a woman who is losing her spirit, however she hopes that she was able to convey an emotional performance to the audience, while also having fun! Two Year 13 students who also performed songs were Ava Walsh and Eliza Seear-Nixon. Ava Walsh sang "Always Remember Us This Way" by Lady Gaga, which is featured in "A Star is Born". She loves this song because the lyrics are beautiful, and she loves the topic of loving someone so much but knowing that you have to go separate ways. Ava also really enjoys the progression and storytelling of the song. Eliza sang "Feeling Good" by Nina Simone, and thought that the song pushed her out of her comfort zone, as it's not a style she is used to singing. This concert was significant to Eliza as it was the last one she will take part in at Fallibroome, considering she has been performing in these concerts since Year 7, so she wanted to make sure it was memorable.



This year's concert was a night full of captivating acoustic music, and brilliantly showcased a multitude of students' talents!





Written by Zara Bradley
Designed by Arabella Cagol

How To Prepare For Auditions

Auditions can be one of the most nerve-wracking things a performer does - even more so than their actual performance.

Several responses and pieces of advice have been put together by students who worked hard to get into school shows such as West Side Story, or last year's show The Addams Family and the upcoming Acoustic Concert to help you prepare for any auditions that you might be considering.

Firstly, an Addams Family cast member spoke a lot about the audition process revealing that there will be videos sent of the choreography that you will need to learn, practise and prepare for.

Specifically, learning your lines (if your preferred role has any), they said 'become your character'. Understand what your character wants, why they want it and what they are doing to receive it.

Ask yourself what would your role be in response to another character's line or actions. This will help you to not only remember your lines naturally but to also perform as your character better.

I spoke to a member of the upcoming Unplugged Acoustic Concert who gave helpful advice on auditioning for musical roles rather than acting.

They said that during an upcoming audition, it is helpful to work with other people (for example singing coaches) to find a song which works for you. After you have found the song you wish to perform for your audition, make sure to practise.

This band member suggested every day for 10 to 15 minutes until the day of the auditions. This does not include vocal warm-ups which help to build confidence in your voice right before your audition.

Overall, they said just keep practising and appear confident in your ability.

A member of the main cast from West Side Story says to always stay involved with whatever's going on in the Performing Arts department as they are amazing at helping anybody interested in trying out for a role to get 'audition ready'.

They also gave advice such as practising as a group which really takes pressure off when practising for your preferred role.

Lastly, don't be afraid to 'go big' or 'overdo it'. If you don't show the directors what you're capable of, they'll never know!

"BE SO GOOD, THEY CAN'T IGNORE YOU"
- STEVE MARTIN

Written by Tristan Ault
Designed by Maddalena Cagol

SPOTLIGHT ON...
Mrs Walters

From starring in commercials at a young age, graduating with first class honours and being the head of the media department at not one, but two schools, Mrs Walters has fully excelled in everything she has done thus far.

Mrs Walters is a vibrant and dedicated teacher here at Fallibroome where she has made her mark over the last three years. Initially joining on maternity cover for the English department, she quickly swept the media department under her wing where she has been imparting knowledge and first hand expertise for the last two years.

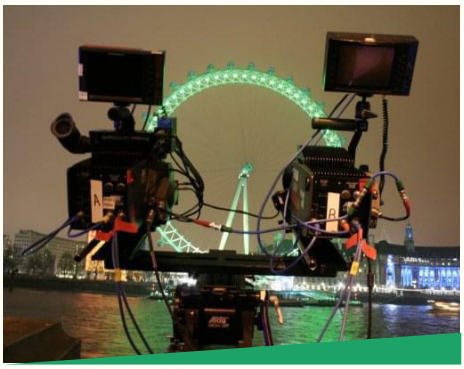
Mrs Walters' passion for media and performance was ignited at a young age; she was born into a family of actors and writers, with her uncle being a famous actor – even starring as the leading character 'Pip Bin' in the award winning BBC adaptation of Bleak Expectations. Her Dad curated the book 'Father Christmas And The Missing Reindeer' which was later adapted into an ITV Christmas special with David Jason as the voice of Father Christmas. Early exposure to the arts meant that drama and acting was her original passion but when going to auditions, 'I soon realised that the competitive nature of auditions wasn't for me so I focused on Media Studies and getting some more experience' she stated. Through her reach into the media world via her relatives, Mrs Walters was attending GMTV (Good Morning Britain) and gaining work experience on the Harry Potter set, things that we would be lucky to experience in our lives, she was doing right at the start of her lengthy career. When I spoke to her, she made sure to emphasise how important work experience is if you want a career in the world of media, 'the media sector is a competitive area of work with few jobs, Having an impressive show of experience on your CV makes you stand out to employers'.

Mrs Walter managed to secure her place at Chester University on the course 'Media Studies' with a specialist interest in Television Production where she left with first class honours. Proceeding this, she went straight into the world of work, getting a job as assistant producer at the company Centre Screen Productions. Centre Screen Productions was established in 1986 and produces audio visual media for clients across the world. The company holds a reputation for producing work which is inspiring, innovative and entertaining whilst still









educating and informing its target audience. The opportunities presented to Mrs Walters whilst she worked here were immense, working with companies such as the London Eye to produce their NYE firework display, Madame Tussauds and Manchester United to name a few. When asked if she had a particularly fond memory of her time here she said, 'not only did I get to meet the team and Sir Alex but researching the history of Man Utd was really interesting.' She went on to mention 'I loved working in this role – it was exciting, varied and fast paced. I worked in both the Manchester and London offices so I also got to experience living and working in the two cities.'

In her role at Fallibroome, Mrs Walters thrives on the interaction and development of her sixth-form students. Witnessing their growth from Year 12 to securing university placements is particularly rewarding for her. She finds immense satisfaction in guiding students who aspire to pursue Media Studies, especially given the proximity of Media City Campus in Manchester. Her approach to teaching is not just about academic success; it's about inspiring students to see the possibilities within the media industry. Domenique Kilshaw - a student who was part of her 2023-24 media class - looks back on her memories, 'Mrs Walters was a huge support to me in my first year studying media, giving me lots of input towards my coursework and pushing me to achieve my best in the music video task.'

When questioned on her fondest memories in teaching, she responded, 'One time working in a school we hosted Question Time, something I would love to see if we can do here at Fallibroome. My media students were part of the panel during rehearsals. They were able to see the set up and rehearsal process.'

Outside the classroom Mrs Walters spends time with her family including her two daughters ages four and six, who have both expressed particular interest in the shows here at school. Although time is scarce Mrs Walters enjoys winding down with a good series or film, especially musicals. While her travels may be less far afield now, Mrs Walters has seen an abundance of the world including Thailand, Vietnam and Cambodia, using travel to create memories as a family rather than deep adventure, and tries to reflect these different cultures through recipes at home.

"Mrs Walters was a huge support to me during my first year studying media, giving me lots of input towards my coursework and pushing me to achieve my best in the music video task."

Written by Ebony Gaddum
Designed by Grace Groenwald

Let's Get Technical

West Side Story, just like any production, would not be complete without the backstage crew. Without the hard work and dedication to this year's school production, many of the most moving and dramatic scenes would not nearly be as full of tension as they are in the final play. But what really goes on behind the curtain? As a member of the backstage crew for this and last year's production, I have interviewed several cast members about their time spent preparing for the show and shared my own experiences in working with this year's production crew to give a brief perspective of the hard work poured into this musical.

As one of the two follow spot operators for this year's production, a lot of practice and focus goes into my role. In order to prepare for the upcoming show, I had to carefully watch rehearsals every night for the three weeks leading up to the first performance to memorise who played each character, where they were positioned in each scene and at which point they would begin to move across the stage. During performances, my role is to listen out for the queue of my follow spot to turn on and which character I should shine it on. This meant I needed to remain focused and prepared at every given moment during the show. As I took part in the same role during last year's production of The Addams Family, I already felt prepared to sacrifice a lot of my time rehearsing and practising movement of my follow spot in time for tech rehearsals and, eventually, the real performances. The biggest challenge I found in this role was remembering at which point the character I was spotting would move. It took a while (close to the real shows) to keep track but both of us operators perfected our performances in the end!



I interviewed one of the many set designers of this year's production who shared a few of her personal experiences working backstage in a school production for the first time. Bea revealed all of the precision and details needed to keep this year's actors safe with smooth scene transitions including the removal of old props to make room for all of the actors backstage and keeping an eye out for potential hazards. Despite this being her first time working backstage, she took on the role with enthusiasm. One of the main tasks expected of set designers is to run on stage during a blackout and take out or bring on different pieces of set for a scene change. This could prove difficult in itself because of the precise placing required for all sets so that it does not interrupt potential choreography during the scene. Set designers also have to be aware of damage made to the set. Bea described taping together pieces of set between runs of different scenes to avoid any risk of harming actors who are using it.

A final experience is shared by one of this year's hair and makeup artists, Caitlyn, who specialised in designing the signature looks of all the characters we watched perform during the final production nights. One of the opportunities Caitlyn described in her role of backstage crew was being able to explore different makeup techniques and hairstyles on various people in preparation for the show to perfect the faces of the iconic characters portrayed by our performance cast this year. Having researched this field in the past, she found a lot of enjoyment in experimenting and playing a significant backstage role in the play.







One final experience shared by one of this year's hair and makeup artists, Caitlyn who specialised in designing the signature looks of all the characters we watched perform during the final production nights. One of the opportunities Caitlyn described in her role of the backstage crew was being able to explore different makeup techniques and hairstyles on various people in preparation for the show to perfect the faces of the iconic characters portrayed by our performance cast this year. Having researched this field in the past, she found a lot of enjoyment in experimenting and playing a significant backstage role in the play.

Written by Tristan Ault
Designed by Eni Farrow

WORK EXPERIENCE IN MEDIA

WHAT TO EXPECT WHERE'S GOOD TO GO

Maddalena Cagol - PETS AT HOME

Where did you do your work experience?

I did my work experience at Pets At Home, over in Handforth in their studios.

What did you do?

I mainly worked in product photography, this included taking photos of the pets' toys as well as photos of the dogs with the toys and harnesses. This was an exciting experience because we had several joyful dogs everyday that I got to work with for two weeks. Not only this but I also did brand competitor analysis.



How did you get this work placement?

My family friend was the team manager so I got my placement through him. I never knew that he worked in this industry until I asked my parents if they knew anyone I could contact.

Ella-Mai Parsons - FALLIBROOME ACADEMY & CANALSIDE RADIO

Where did you do your work experience?

I did my work experience at Fallibroome Academy teaching dance, and creating a radio station at Canalside.

What did you do?

I taught dance lessons from different time periods and musicals. I made my own radio show and presented it on Canalside Radio.



How did you get this work placement?

By emailing the Fallibroome dance teachers and emailing the Canalside Radio station.

Evie Picksley - MCCANN ERICKSON

Where did you do your work experience?

I did my work experience with an international marketing company called Mccann Erickson, in their Manchester office which is in Prestbury.

What did you do?

I worked on their Aldi Account, on their weekly leaflet team. I got taken round all the departments within the production of the leaflets to see how they each work. My main placement was in Account Management, but I also saw teams like creative and photography. I attended meetings within the company and with clients.

How did you get this work placement?

Through connections, my dad knows someone that works in IT there.

Did you enjoy it?

I absolutely loved it. It was the most incredible experience and was proof that if you find the right placement, work experience can be invaluable. due to this placement I am now looking for an apprenticeship working in marketing.

Rita Knowles - MCCANN ERICKSON

Where did you do your work experience?

I did it at McCann Manchester.

What did you do?

I worked in post production for the first week where I watched how they made video adverts for tv and made some of my own. For the second week I watched how the creative team put brochures and other graphic adverts together and how they reviewed each other's work in interviews.

How did you get this work placement?

Through connections, my dad knows someone that works in IT there.

Did you enjoy it?

I enjoyed the placement and learnt a lot about marketing and the creativity that goes on behind the scenes. It was interesting seeing how everyone worked together and how they pay attention to even the smallest details.

Written by Grecia Fletcher-Palomino
Designed by Grace Groenwald



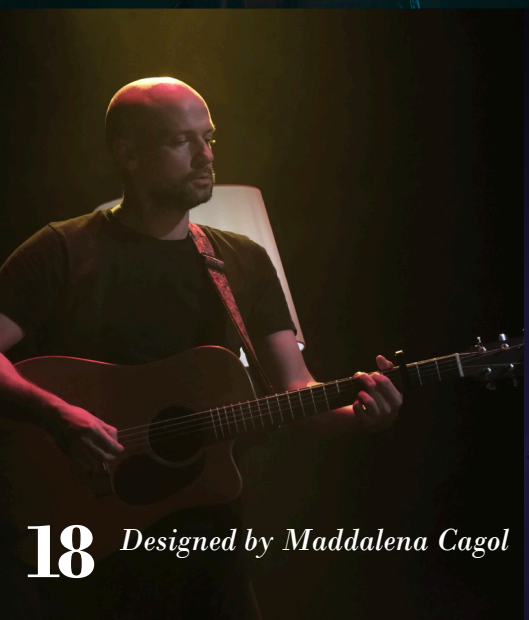







Unplugged Concert





Extra-Curricular Dance Opportunities

With all these extracurricular dance opportunities (and more!) available at Fallibroome, why not try some out while having fun, refining your dance skills, and making new friends!

1 BREAKDANCE with Ricki Prince

Breakdance classes are on Thursdays after school in Studio 4 run by Ricki Prince and open to all students. Ricki Prince is a street dance teacher from Crewe who teaches at SYLK Dance Academy in Macclesfield and Street Dance Academy (SDA) based in Sandbach. He has 15 years' experience competing and winning competitions up to world level standard as part of a team and in solo battles. Ricki also has over 10 years' experience teaching students from beginner up to professional dancer level. In his classes he brings crazy energy, fun, jokes, and a LOT of hard work! You'd be crazy to miss it!

KINETIC DANCE COMPANY with Sophie Moores 2

Sophie Moores runs the Kinetic Dance Company on Mondays after school in Studio 4. Sophie's passion and love for contemporary dance blossomed when she successfully auditioned for The Lowry Centre for Advanced Training in Dance (CAT). She then went on to complete her professional dance training at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance in 2018, where she graduated with a first-class BA Honours Degree. Sophie now works as a freelance dance teacher and artists across the North West leading classes, workshops, and projects at a mixture of institutions such as The University of Liverpool. Sophie's extensive experience means she is an inspiring teacher to younger students!

3 YEAR 7 DANCE CLUB

Year 7 Dance Club is a great way for students new to Fallibroome to get involved with The Performing Arts Department! The club meets every Friday lunchtime at 12.50pm in Studio 4 with Miss Robertson. From an early age Miss Robertson started dancing, completing exam grades in ballet, tap and theatre craft, she then sent on to study dance at college doing a variety of styles including Contemporary, Jazz and Street. She loves dance as it allows you to tell stories, convey emotions, entertain, and most importantly have fun. Year 7 Dance Club is a fantastic way for younger students to show off their talent, while also having lots of fun!

THE STREET DANCE COMPANY with Millie McDowell 4

The Street Dance Company runs every Monday lunch at 12.50 in Studio 4 with Millie McDowell. Millie is a Year 12 student at Fallibroome Sixth Form with a passion for dance. She has been dancing since she was 7 years old and currently does advanced dance training in Manchester at KXT Dance Elite. Millie loves dancing because it's a great way to socialise and make friends, while also learning new skills!

Written by Zara Bradley
Designed by Grace Groenwald

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH...

Snowdrop

When did you first come together as a band, and how did this happen?
In late 2023, Sam Waring (lead guitar) realised his old band wasn't heading in the direction he wanted. So, he reached out to Connor Munro (bass) and Dylan Evans (drums) to start something new. Not long after, they brought in Ryley Johnson to sing and play rhythm guitar. They initially planned to be an Arctic Monkeys tribute band, calling themselves Quartic Spunkies, but quickly saw they had more to offer than just covers. Their first rehearsal was in January 2024, where they started jamming on both covers and some original tracks. By May, they landed their first gig at the Macclesfield Beer Festival and soon after played iconic Manchester venues like Retro Bar and Manchester Academy. Now, they're hitting the road, sharing their sound and music wherever they go.



Why do you want to make music?
Music lets us express ourselves by turning personal stories and real-life experiences into something others can relate to and enjoy. It's a way to escape and fully focus on creating something meaningful. It also gives us a chance to collaborate, share ideas, and bring the best out of each other's work, making the final product as strong as it can be.















What is the big dream for you all?
Our dream is to reach a place where we're fulfilled and earning a steady income as a band. But at the heart of it all, music is the real dream. We believe that playing regular gigs and building a fanbase that keeps coming back is the key to getting where we want to be. Playing at iconic venues like Manchester Academy, Gorilla, Glastonbury, Weekender, Y Not?, and the Roundhouse is part of that vision. More than anything, we want people to really connect with our music, to find something special in SnowDrop that makes them feel we offer something different.

Where do you play gigs?
Wherever there's a desire for a taste of Snowdrop, we want to be there. From Macclesfield to Manchester, and all the way to London, we're ready to bring our sound to every corner.

What is it like to perform live?
The vibe of a performance really depends on the atmosphere, the venue, and the crowd. One of the gigs we're most proud of was at Manchester Academy. There was such a buzz, especially since we had just dropped a new single a few days before, and the excitement of playing a venue where some of our idols have performed made it even better. During that set, it felt like time stopped—it was our moment, and all eyes were on us. The energy was unreal, almost like an out-of-body experience. The highlight of the night was during our final song, "Diamond." Hearing the crowd sing it back to us was something special, a moment we'll never forget.



Is there a meaning behind your first song, what is it?
Without getting into too many specifics, "Diamond" is really about resilience. It reflects those tough times when life feels overwhelming, and it seems like things will never improve. We want to remind listeners that there's always a brighter side to life, and that brightness often comes from within ourselves. This song is dedicated to those who might forget just how special they are and their true worth, who struggle to see the beauty in themselves, and who feel trapped in a negative routine. Ultimately, it's a personal reminder that we're all so much more than we realise.

Does the band ever squabble, how do you resolve it?
Every band experiences disagreements from time to time. However, instead of dwelling on the negatives, we embrace the value of these discussions. They encourage us to reflect on our music, and without differing perspectives, how can a song truly reach its full potential? Ultimately, these conversations bring us closer together. As we work toward a resolution, it reinforces the strong bond we share, rooted in a genuine desire for each other's success and well-being.



Christmas Concert

Celebrating Talent: A Night of Music at the Christmas Concert

This year's Christmas Concert was a spectacular celebration of the wealth of talent within Fallibroome, and it left the audience buzzing with excitement!

The Music department worked tirelessly to present a polished and entertaining evening that captivated the audience from start to finish.

Miss Mortimer said, "A heartfelt thank you goes out to our fantastic team of peripatetic staff—Ben Beer, Becky Finlow, Mike Eccles, and Carol Frost—who collaborated closely with our music staff to lead and direct the ensembles.

Their expertise and dedication were evident throughout the night."

The pupils' hard work and commitment truly paid off, with the final performance showcasing the high standards we've come to expect from our talented students. Concert highlights included a stunning rendition of "Another Day of Sun" from La La Land by the Senior Choir, as well as a lively jazzy version of "Jingle Bells" performed by the Big Band.

The evening culminated in a breathtaking mass choir performance, featuring over 100 pupils joining together for a festive showstopper that left the audience in awe.

Congratulations to everyone involved in making this concert such a memorable and joyous event! It was a perfect way to usher in the holiday season, and we look forward to many more musical celebrations in the future.















Written by Zara Bradley
Designed by Arabella Cagol

STUDENT ALUMNI
Verity Partington

Verity Partington is a Fallibroome Alumni Student who graduated from LIPA in 2023, and now works as a local dance teacher, teaching for Echo Performing Arts and Rambert Grades at Fallibroome. She is also choreographing for Prestbury Panto and is assisting with West Side Story.

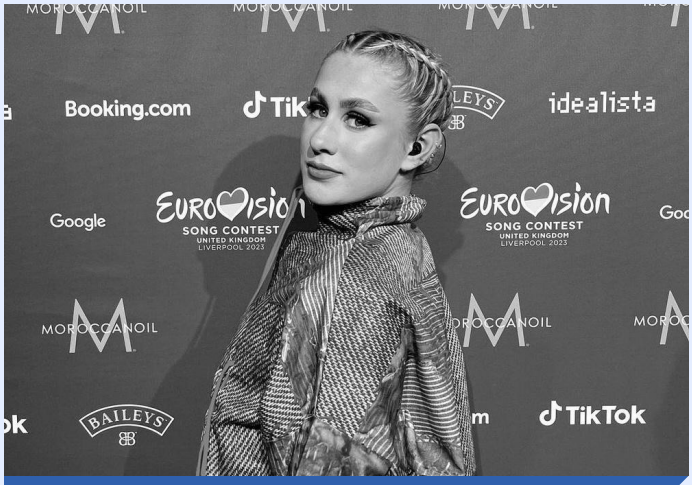
Verity's passion for dance was ignited from a very young age, she grew up dancing around the house and naturally fell into dance classes as she reached Fallibroome. As she began to participate in Fallibroome's shows she realised that the dance aspect of the performance was what she was best at. Verity danced seven days a week while at Fallibroome, both in and out of school, and she would never have changed that for the world. When she realised dancing wasn't just a hobby and it was something she could pursue professionally, she was determined to work for that.



Verity now

After leaving Fallibroome, Verity attended Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts and had an amazing time! She was able to work with outstanding industry professionals as well as an amazing team of staff that they have in house. Unfortunately, she did suffer with a serious knee injury which set her back in training, however her determination meant she was still able to complete her degree and ultimately come out stronger!

Verity was also super fortunate to be training in Liverpool when they hosted Eurovision in 2023, and she was given the opportunity to audition. She succeeded through the auditioning process and shared the stage with acts like Rita Ora and Kalush. It was an experience she will always cherish and never forget!



Verity at Eurovision

Her advice for aspiring performers is to not be so hard on yourself, especially dancers! She always felt pressure to be perfect every time she danced but she realised showing up is what's important, and it's never too late to start something new! "Go to that dance class, try that acting scene! You'll only regret the chances you didn't take, especially when you have them all in front of you! Make the most of the Fallibroome performing arts facilities and staff!".

Verity is such an inspiration to aspiring performers, her determination and perseverance have allowed her to star in unforgettable performances and have amazing opportunities, and also have a job now, which she loves!



Performance with Rita Ora

Photo credits: Headshot photo by The Portfolio People, Eurovision photo N/A, Rita Ora photo by Gray Blame

Written by Zara Bradley
Designed by Grace Groenwald

Scene It All



Sweetpea

This recent TV show starring Ella Purnell is a darkly comedic thriller that adapts CJ Skuse's novel of the same name. Set against a gritty backdrop, the story follows Rhiannon Lewis, a seemingly unassuming young woman grappling with years of suppressed rage stemming from relentless bullying, workplace humiliation, and personal tragedies.The show explores themes of identity, vengeance, and empowerment which resonate throughout the series, making it both a thrilling and an unsettling exploration of what happens when societal pressures push someone to their breaking point.

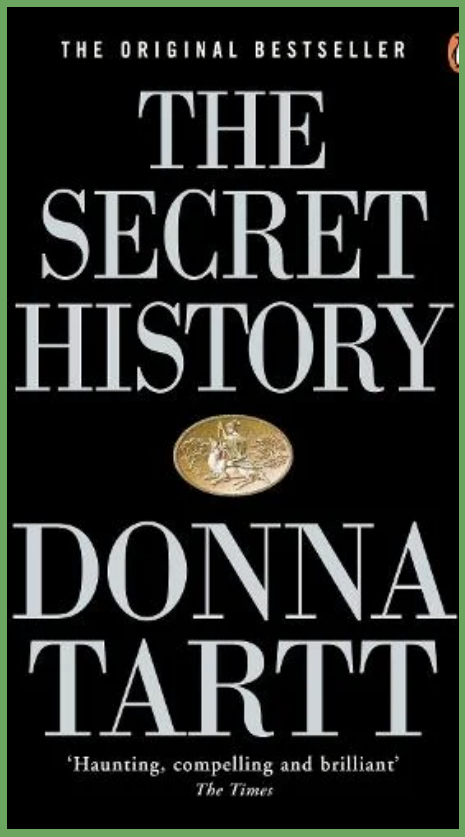
Ella Purnell delivers a captivating performance, making Rhiannon's transformation from quiet frustration to unapologetic chaos and violence shocking yet strangely relatable. This series didn't feel like a story of revenge but a story of empowerment. The absurdity of 'Sweetpea' lies in how Rhiannon's acts of violence are framed as a twisted form of liberation, offering a darkly humorous yet unsettling commentary on the lengths one might go to reclaim control over their life.



Have You Heard George's Podcast?

In the debut episode of Have You Heard George's Podcast?, George the Poet delivers a striking blend of storytelling, social commentary, and poetry, offering a fresh perspective on the complexities of modern life. Set against the backdrop of London's urban landscape, George navigates themes of race, identity, and societal expectation, drawing listeners into a world where art and activism collide. His rhythmic delivery and insightful observations make the podcast both a thought-provoking and immersive experience.

The podcast invites listeners to confront difficult emotions and reflect on their own experiences, offering a raw and honest look at the complexities of navigating the modern world. George's reflections on race and identity highlight the challenges faced by black individuals, exploring the nuances of discrimination, self-perception, and the power of cultural heritage. This podcast is studied in A-level media, it may be worth a listen.



The Secret History

As we move further into the winter season, 'The Secret History' is a modern classic that deserves a read. The story follows an elite group of college students fascinated by ancient Greek culture who welcome a like-minded outsider, Richard Papen, into their tight-knit clique. Soon, he becomes entangled in their secretive, intellectual world, which ultimately leads to murder and betrayal. The novel explores the consequences of their actions as their insular world unravels, revealing the psychological toll of guilt, betrayal, and moral decay. Throughout, Richard grapples with his own complicity and the moral choices he faces, all while trying to understand the allure and darkness that surround the group.

Tartt's writing is both elegant and haunting, creating a sense of foreboding that intensifies throughout the novel. With its exploration of moral ambiguity, the consequences of intellectual elitism, and the allure of the forbidden, 'The Secret History' is a compelling psychological thriller that lingers long after the last page, leaving readers with an unending sense of unease and a deep reflection on the complexities of guilt, loyalty, and ambition.



The First Omen

This prequel to the 1976 horror 'The Omen' explores the origins of the malevolent Damien offering a fresh and dark perspective on the iconic story. Set in 1970s Rome, the film follows a young nun who uncovers a sinister conspiracy that ties to the birth of evil. Packed with suspense and psychological tension, this story builds toward a shocking twist.

Unlike most horror reboots and prequels 'The First Omen' doesn't rely solely on nostalgia but instead introduces a compelling narrative with a unique blend of psychological horror and religious themes. The film is full of beautifully crafted visuals that contrast sharply with its dark subject matter, creating an unsettling experience that leaves a lasting impression.

Written by Arabella Cagol
Designed by Grace Groenwald

The Green Room

Fallibroome Performing Arts Department

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