



This edition's theme is... Resilience

The Power of Resilience

Being resilient is one of the most vital aspects of tackling life. It can help you overcome tough situations, empathise with those around you and allow you to see the best in everything. In essence, resilience means being able to adapt and bounce back. To fail is a common occurrence ; everyone, no matter their background or occupation will fail at least once in their lives. Although failing may not be a great feeling at the start, and it may not be a widely accepted notion in the sporting world and places alike, learning to be okay with your big mistakes is a critical skill. This makes way for future successes and an ability to develop your resilience as well as learning from your mistakes.

Resilience is apparent in everyone's day to day life, often without us realising it. As previously stated, we face problems on a regular basis and we, as humans, are programmed to overcome these. Throughout the recent pandemic, the whole planet has been forced to show resilience - the illness has brought the emotional struggles of lockdowns and we have had to vastly adapt our lives. Our lives are shaped largely by resilience, and by simply being brave. We must use our peers and those around us to progress with these actions.

Additionally, resilience in current world, and political events has been paramount in all of our lives both impacting our present and our futures, especially for those less fortunate. The Ukrainians have shown resilience in defending their homes and country, to a level that not many could predict, and here in the U.K, we too have shown resilience in the form of empathy by inviting Ukrainian families into our homes and by raising phenomenal amounts of money and aid. So once again, resilience is vital in overcoming tough situations and being able to bounce back and help others around you.

By The Gazette Sixth Form Editorial Team.



Shakespeare's Resilience

While watching the new adaptation of William Shakespeare's 'Much Ado About Nothing,' I was captivated and impressed by the concept of the show. The director, Roy Alexander Weise, went for a sci-fi-space futuristic twist and I couldn't have agreed with that choice more. The modernised theme took an element of the 16th century and shoved it, full throttle, into the future – it strangely fits perfectly. I think it demonstrates just how everlasting Shakespeare's work is....

I deeply admire the sense of shying away from discrimination that would have been around in Shakespeare's time, for example, Don Pedro becomes Don Pedra and a possible lesbian relationship is introduced between her and Beatrice (when Don Pedra asks for Beatrice's hand in marriage).

The specific stage design and eccentric costumes really stood out to me as the best thing about this show. The costumes, stage design and backdrops really added to the sense of the 'otherworldly.' This being a world where there are orange, plastic plants shooting from the ground and bushes shaped like triangles. Every prop was designed down to miniscule details, for example, a simple checklist held by an actor was transparent and written on in silver pen.

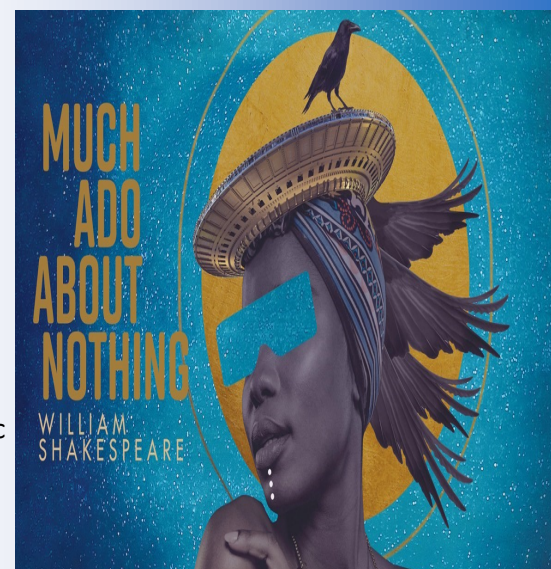
I would also like to commend the costume designer, the actors wore high fashion inspired outfits that did not go by modern fashion rules, but rather challenged 'smooth, perfect body shapes.' The hair worn by Beatrice and Hero had butterflies and ropes cascading from them. Each scene was a different hairstyle, a different outfit and rather than this taking away attention from the actor, it added to the character. It seemed as its outfits and hairstyles were designed based on the character Shakespeare created. Beatrice tended to wear short, poufy skirts whereas Hero – the quieter of the two – wore long dresses.

The thing that invited more young people in was definitely the cool, rap music performed by the actors; I thought it was amazing that a human could make those sounds simply by moving their mouth. I only wished there was more of it....

I think some actors did better than others, some could only perform to the comedic side of the play and when it came to romance, they seemed to lack what actresses like the woman who played Beatrice did best. However, I think the director saw this and mixed some of the romantic scenes with comedy, for example Benedick's poem writing scene ended with him badly rapping, pulling laughter from the crowd.

Despite some actors' weak points, I think most roles were chosen fittingly and the casting director chose well. It was a great choice to almost always have dancers in the background while actors spoke their lines; it never distracted me but rather interested me and kept me focused on the play.

Overall, I absolutely adore this adaptation of 'Much Ado About Nothing,' it opened my eyes to a bright vibrant world where there are happy endings – as a contradiction to our current dismal world. I think this play will be the one that really stands out compared to other Shakespeare plays to me as I will imagine the magnificent adventure that the actors took me on and it will make the words come to life. I am so glad school gave me this opportunity; I was hooked as soon as the cast entered the stage via ropes from the ceiling.



What is Resilience?

Retrying when you fail
Every single time.

Struggling yet continuing. That
Is resilience.
Liking a challenge. That
Is resilience.

Enjoying the pressure.
Never giving up.
Continuing through pain and suffering.
Every single time.

That is resilience.

Thomas Cooper 10F

Resilient Forever

We stumble.

We fall down a hole.
We crumble.
We feel sad in our soul.

But...

We must pick ourselves up;
We must climb out of that hole.
We must stick ourselves together
We must be resilient forever.

William Holley 10C and Naomi Gillard 10C



I , Me, Mine by Lucy
Cambray 11D

Keep Going

Keep going,
Even if life gets hard,
Because if you keep pushing then who
knows what could happen?

Keep going,
Even if the world is spinning around,
Stand tall with your head held high,
And count the stars.

Keep going,
Stay positive because times will get
better,
If you keep going, you can beat this
stormy weather.

Natalia Wojcikiewicz 9H

All You Have...

You still try,
Despite it all,
Despite depression's siren call.

Be proud of your persistence,
Be proud of your achievements,
For all you have...

Is you...

Teodor Nikolov 9Z

At the End of Another Day by Ruth Hutt 13CLP



The Girl

The girl is resilient.
I'm not talking about the girl who got back up after
falling off her bike.
I'm talking about the girl who never gave up.
The girl who stood up for what she thought to be right.
The girl who went against the people who wronged
her.
The girl who didn't sit back and watch.
The girl who knows her worth.
The girl who has made mistakes but learned.

I'm talking about the girl who lived life her way,
No matter what got in the way. Becca Ballard 9Z

Unmoving Resilience

Sitting as still as an ancient rock.
As strong as a boulder.
As tough as diamonds.
Yet as fragile and collapsible.
As tunnels older than our humanity.
We can stand stronger than mountains.
As we seem taller than their peaks.
As we all have cores,
As unmoving as the core of our world.

Xin Yao Chen 9M



Eternity by Madeline Thompson 11D



Holding on by Archie Penlington 13DLC

Flame

His mother lit the candle.
The candle experienced so much but never blew out.
The candle was blown by the wind and struggled to stay lit.
The candle melted and melted the more it burned but remained alight.
The candle burned bright: very bright.

For the candle is you,
The candle is your life.

Becca Ballard 9Z



The Heart Does Go On by Eva Durbly 11O

A Flower

A flower rises and falls with the sun,
In a group together, or alone next to none.
A choice of independence or following the crowd,
When others say 'no', you still stand your ground.

Because other flowers may get picked first,
But you stand tall as if rehearsed.
Blooming and working whilst others rest their heads,
Like a flower you grow, despite what others have said.

Tamara Smith 9L



The Resilience of the Years by Harvey Sagar 13HC

Weathering The Seasons

Summer heat sears me
My skin is reduced to ash
Still I continue

My everything hurts
My heart begins to yield
Still I continue

Is this the right way?
I cannot process to know
Continue I must

Autumn leaves dance
A snowstorm of shining swords
I cannot submit

I shall not crumble
My heart is unbreakable
I will continue

The winter breezes
The cold takes me by the hand
Just one final step

I am at the end
I have reached enlightenment
I am complete

Asa Field 12SJH

The theme of the Autumn Edition is 'Acceptance'. Listen out for the Assembly on entry deadline details.

