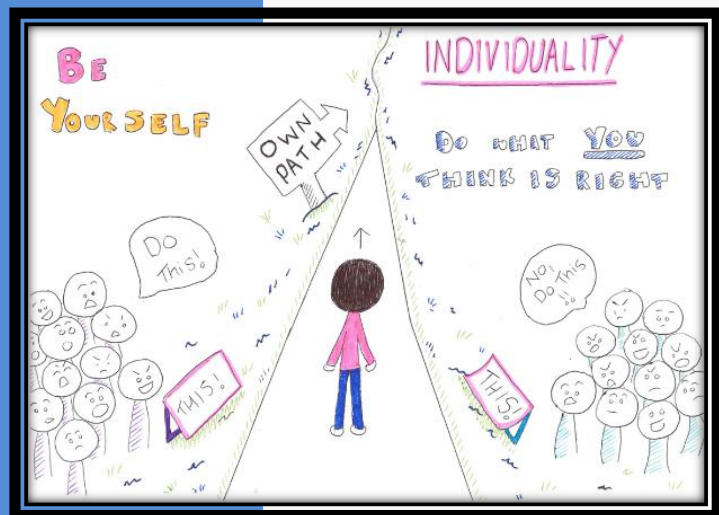




The Gazette

Written for students by students



*This edition's theme is **INDIVIDUALISM***

This term's entries were incredibly difficult to judge as we had such a large number of participants, in fact we received over 80 beautiful pieces! After lots of deliberation over the works to be published, the Sixth Form Editorial Team decided on the ones included here. They were looking for entries that caught their eye, fulfilled the brief and demonstrated outstanding effort. We hope you enjoy this term's publication – thank you to each and every one of you who submitted something. The entry picked from the prize draw, shown here, was created by Saffron Buttler in 10W - well done Saffron!

In a world shaped by social media, instant trends, and constant comparison, it can be surprisingly difficult to know who we really are. Every day we are influenced by the opinions, expectations and lifestyles of others. Yet one of the most important challenges we face is learning to think for ourselves while remaining open to the perspectives of those around us. That is the essence of individualism.

Individualism is often misunderstood as simply standing out or refusing to follow the crowd. In reality, it is something much deeper. It is about having the confidence to develop your own beliefs, values, and ambitions, even when they differ from those of the majority. It is about recognising your strengths, accepting your imperfections, and understanding that your unique experiences shape the person you are becoming.

This edition explores what it means to be an individual in today's world. Through poetry, photography, artwork, and personal reflections, our contributors examine identity, ambition, creativity, resilience, and the courage to express themselves honestly. Their work reminds us that there is no single path to success, no single definition of achievement, and no single way to make a meaningful contribution.

History is often remembered through extraordinary individuals who challenged convention and changed the world. However, individualism is not reserved for famous names. It is reflected in everyday choices: speaking up when something feels wrong, pursuing a passion that others may not understand, embracing your cultural identity, or refusing to let fear of judgement define your decisions. Real individuality is not about seeking attention—it is about having the integrity to remain authentic.

At the same time, individualism should never be confused with isolation. The strongest communities are built not on conformity but on diversity—of ideas, experiences, talents, and perspectives. When people are encouraged to be themselves, everyone benefits. Schools, like society itself, become richer when every voice has the opportunity to be heard.

Our differences are not obstacles to overcome; they are the source of our creativity, our resilience, and our potential. Individualism is not simply about being different, it is about having the confidence to become the person only you can be.

The Sixth Form Editorial Team



Daniela Tjarve 11G

I am me and you are you

I am me and you are you,
I am tall and you are short.
I am me and you are you,
I have brown eyes, yours are blue.
I am me and you are you,
I am young and you are old.

I am me and you are you,
I am a girl and you are a boy.
I am me and you are you,
That makes me, me, and that makes you, you.

Lexi Gardener 9G

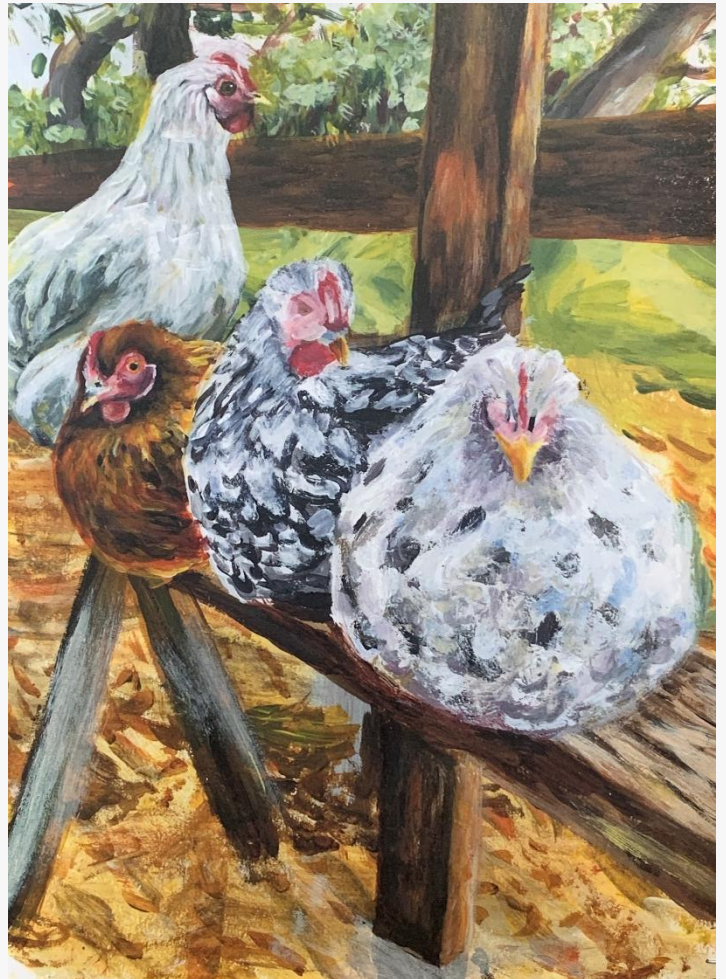
You can only be you

I am me and you are you.
You can see and I can too.
If I am **me**, then who are **you**?
You could be a sailor, sailing the sea,
You could be a poet, making poetry.
You can be **that**, but you can't be **me**.

Why can't you be me, you may ask
Because I can only be me,
Only I can complete that task.
If you can't be me, who can you be?
You can be you, an individual too.
You can be a helper, helping out a crew.
You can be an actor, acting other lives too.
But I can only be me, and you can only be you.

How to be you, I can't know.
To walk in your shoes, I can't go.
To be you, you must see.
We are not the same, you and me.

Megan Rees 9M and George Turner 9C



Lara Costigan 13MJC

Individualism

Some people believe that some are worthless compared to others. Others believe some are worth the world. However, at the end of the day, we can never change who we are. Sure, we can change our style, develop a new look even, but we can never, ever change who we really are. We are who we are and if anyone tries to change that, then they are the one with the problem, not you! No matter who you are, I promise you, you're perfect!

Dani Smith 9G



Esme Forero 13EG

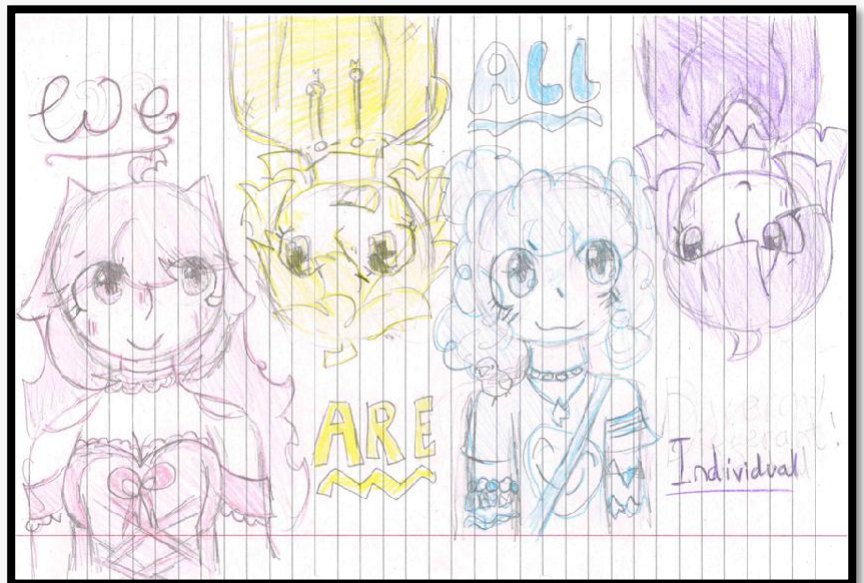
To be an individual

To be an individual you have to be different
To be an individual you have to be independent
To be an individual you have to care for yourself.

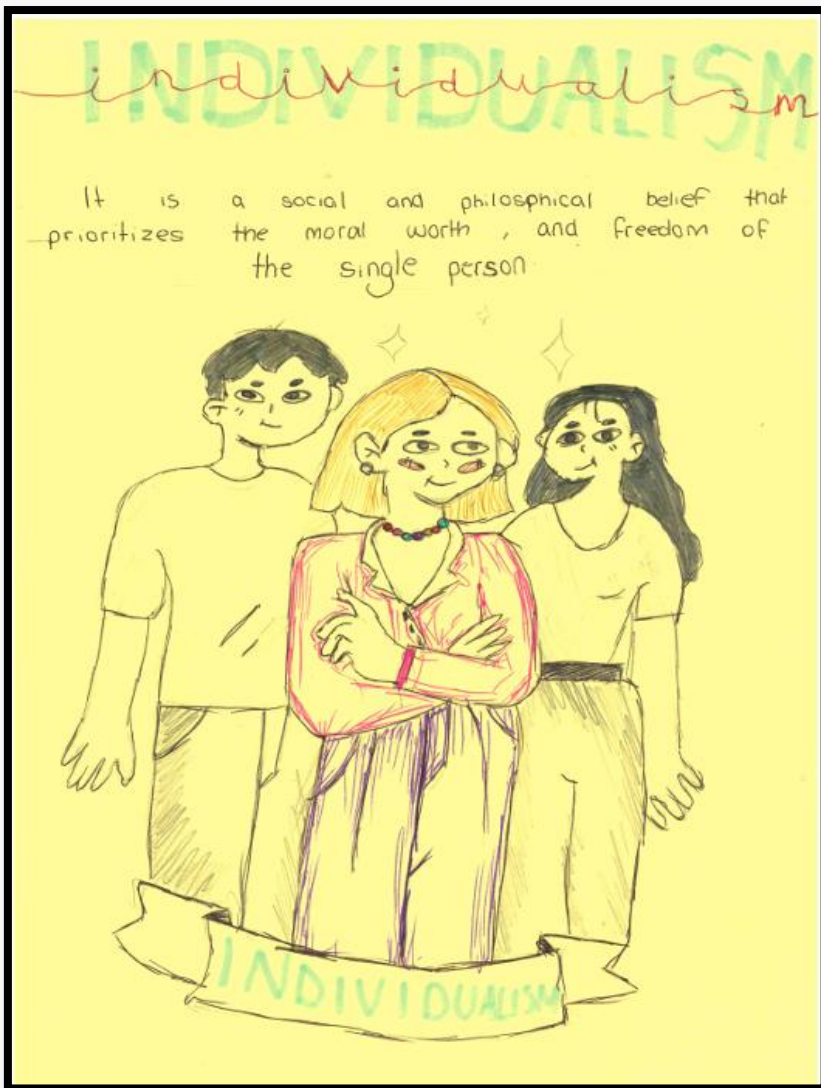
To be an individual you have to be kind
To be an individual you have to have a good personality
To be an individual you have to be different

To be an individual you have to be striking!

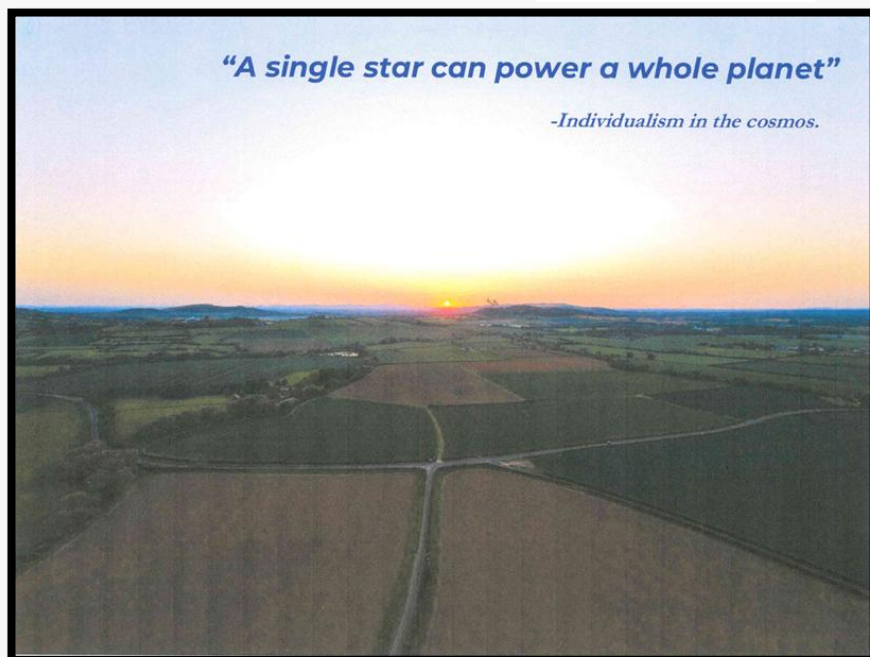
Alfie Brisker 9H



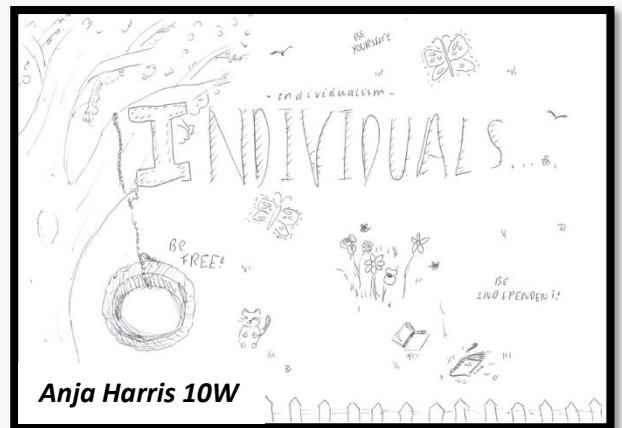
Bethan Rees 9M



Alicja Kowalska 9D



Jasper Mallon 9D



What is an individual?

An individual is a unique person.
Someone independent and striking.
Sometimes unusual but always original.
They might seem abnormal but that's fine,
They are an individual and are unique.
Just like you should be.

Max Mierzwinski 9C



I am who I am

I am who I am.
I choose what I do
With the freedom I have.

I know myself
And what I can do.
I am different.

The brown eyes I carry
And hair I have shows
My uniqueness.
It's better to be
Yourself and not follow
In the path of others

Freya Friend 9W