



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

ISSUE 330
10th July
2020

Working in the Arts Industry Q&A

Online Session with Professional Dancer and Choreographer James Rosental



On Wednesday 8th July, as part of our Virtual Arts Festival of Hope, students got the chance to quiz professional dancer and choreographer James Rosental about his training, his work and his passion for dance. James gave the students an informative and interesting talk about working as a freelance dancer/choreographer.

James, originally from Wigan, studied dance and choreography at the Northern School of Contemporary Dance graduating in 2016 with a First Class BA (Hons) in Contemporary Dance. He then went on to achieve a master's degree at London Contemporary Dance School. Since then he has performed in numerous professional works and has in recent years been commissioned to choreograph several opera and musical theatre projects in London and Europe.

Students gained invaluable knowledge about training pathways; acquiring jobs and contracts as a freelance performer; and sustaining a career in a competitive industry. James also shared some essential life lessons, whatever career you dream of:

“Determination and resilience are important if you want something in life... learning is a life process, I'm still learning things, the term professional is used because I've got a degree but actually I'm still developing constantly...stick with it, with passion and energy and the trust that things will come, and progression will happen.”

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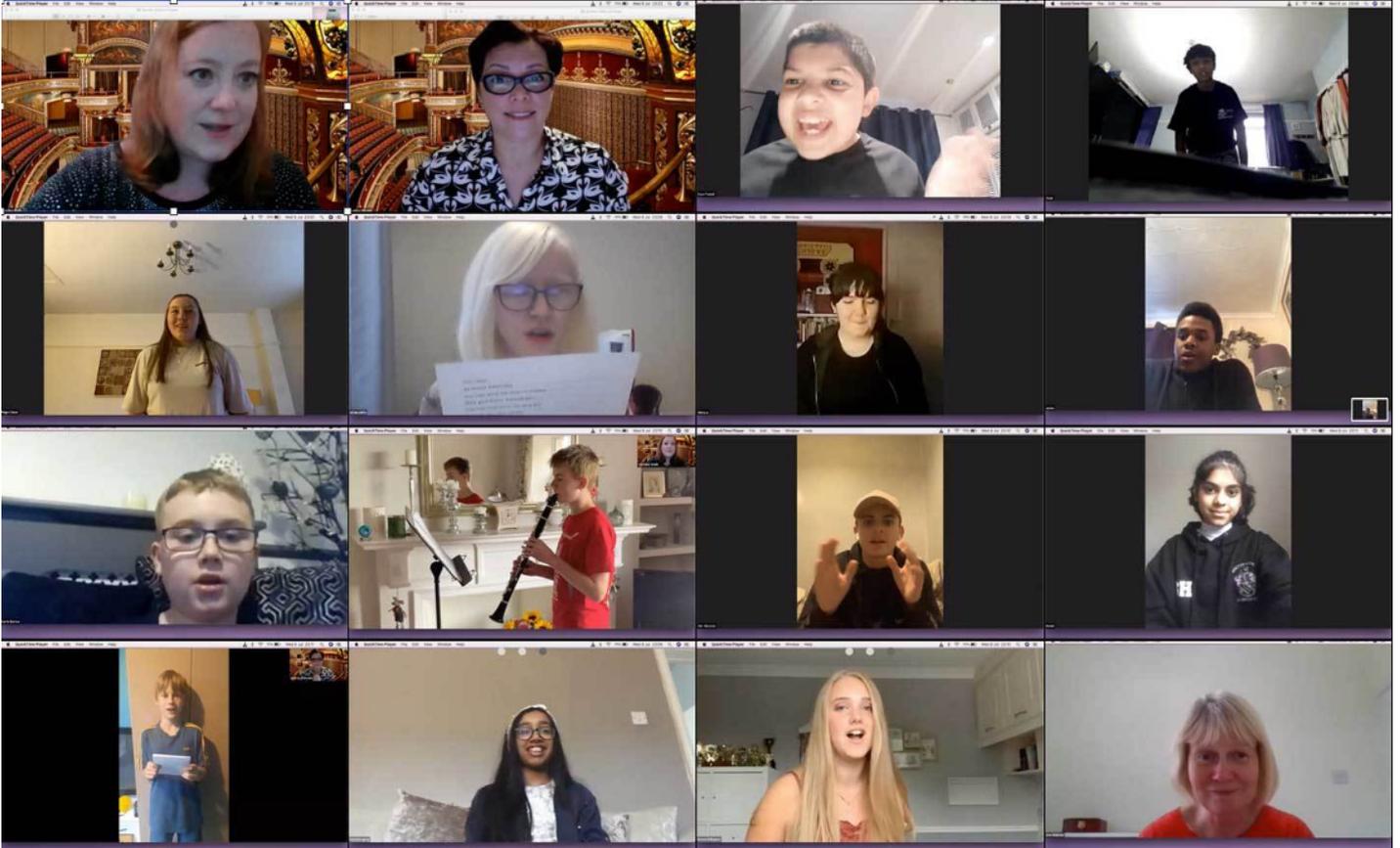


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A Virtual Performing Arts Festival of Hope



On Wednesday evening, as part of our arts celebration week, we held our first ever Virtual Performing Arts Festival of Hope showcase event where students from all year groups performed their interpretation of Hope. So many fantastic performances, from instrumentalists, singers, actors and dancers. They selected and performed scripted extracts, composed and sang their own songs, played the classics, wrote and performed their own monologues and created a range of choreographies including a piece 'only in the darkness can you see the stars'. Such an eclectic and diverse range of talented and enthusiastic performers - all communicating the theme of hope. A huge thank you and congratulations from Mrs Stevens and Mrs Smith.

Art Festival of Hope Exhibition

The Art department had a fantastic response to our Art Festival of Hope exhibition. Students and staff worked hard on making their individual pieces of artwork to share with our community. We are so proud of all of the hard work that has gone into making the artwork. Thank you to the staff at Asda Bolton and at Bolton Hospice for the fantastic display that they have put together (see picture on next page). It has been great to showcase the artistic talents of our pupils and to share our vision of hope and spread some cheer amongst our community. I think this heart felt piece of writing by Khadijah in

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Year 7 summarises the Art exhibition perfectly.

These past few months have been very difficult for the entire population. However, we have tried to come through this pandemic by working together. We have been through happy times and sad times and that has helped us to improve individually and as a community. It has brought us together as one nation regardless of our backgrounds, ethnicity, race, belief, or gender. We must understand that we are in this together and we must remain united. As long as we tackle this together, we will go through these times and cherish it in our memories to remember how confident, brave and patient we were.

We have all used our abilities to overcome these unprecedented times and that has drawn us closer together. Many people have worked really hard! The Queen's words of hope have inspired all to persevere and be resolute. The Prime Minister and the government have given us regular advice and guidance during this difficult journey. Captain Tom Moore, a British Veteran, has raised phenomenal funds to support the NHS. Schools have risked lives and remained open for the vulnerable students and the children of key workers. In addition, children have continued to work remotely.

Many other people have made significant contributions during this pandemic, such as the NHS, Police Officers, Fire Fighters, supermarket workers. We all have made a difference for our safety and many have been a light to guide the mass. It is clear that we all have tried our best during these hard times and we have made a huge difference, not only to improve and help young minds grow, but we have also helped people with becoming more determined, grateful and hopeful.

So a huge thank you to everyone, especially key workers, who have chosen to help one another instead of saving their own life.

‘The pride in who we are is not a part of our past, it defines our present and our future’.

‘We will succeed and better days will come’. Khadijah P 7P1

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Lockdown Blog: Year 8

A lot of the conversations around school have been about ‘missed time’ and all of the ‘catch up work’ that will be needed when schools return to ‘normal’ in September. We don’t think that paints a fair or accurate picture of just how much students have learnt during lockdown. For our third edition of our ‘Student Voice’ blog, we asked our Year 8 students one question: “What have you learnt during lockdown?” Here are their answers.

At the start of school closure, I didn’t quite know what had hit me. At first, I just thought I would get a bit of time off school and it wouldn’t really affect me. Then I kept seeing the daily briefings and the number of people dying horrified me.

Lockdown has been hard for people. Families have not been able to meet up, grandchildren have seen grandparents through windows; it’s strange. Some people are isolated and lonely. People have started to work from home and children have had to learn to work with independence. It feels a lot different stepping outside and seeing all the deserted shops and restaurants.

I know most people are sticking to the rules, but I am appalled by the few who have decided to disobey the rules by meeting up in large groups. They are risking their lives as well as the hard-working doctors and nurses. It is selfish.

One positive thing to come out of this is that people have learnt how to work together and by doing so we can help our community. We should be thankful that we are alive and make the most of every opportunity.

Noah Dawson

The Coronavirus pandemic has encouraged us all to think about the priorities in our lives. I've been using this time to do things that I generally wouldn't, things I'd normally neglect with the false excuse of not having enough time. But now, time really is of the essence. We seem to be bombarded with content on social media and are constantly stimulated by text messages. However, somewhere along the way, we've lost our ability to sit still and appreciate what is, rather than what isn't.

With this time in mind I have started to take time out to retrieve what I had lost from the language that my Iraqi grandparents would sing to me in. I sometimes dream in



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my native language, Arabic. For a brief moment, I speak and hold conversations fluently. I then wake up and am ripped back into the present and I'm left confused and trying to piece together sentences. So I've started learning Arabic in lockdown.

Through this journey, I began communicating with my family in Arabic and decided to spend money on Arabic stories and online courses to help. Within three months, I've reached the intermediate level and hopefully more to come. Lockdown has given me a voice I should never have lost.

Mariya Raza

During lockdown I have learnt to be more independent with both school work and home duties. I was able to deepen my knowledge in religion and discover an interest in animated books. One thing I still can't comprehend is that my siblings haven't killed each other yet! This goes to show lockdown has taught me responsibilities and maturity. Further on in lockdown, I have started to take a course in Italian on Duolingo. My sister and I spend 20 minutes every single day learning Italian. Throughout lockdown, I have also been completing many of my art pieces. I am about to finish my Sunset Collection. Sunset represents the rainbow which leads onto the NHS and the struggles happening around the world. I am grateful for having this lockdown as it ensures mine and my family's safety and everyone else that has quarantined themselves. Also, thank you to the teachers for taking the time out to give us live lessons and for others who are continuing with extra-curricular events. It's taught me that learning is a precious gift.

Imaan Hassan

In Lockdown I have learnt something simple but important: do not be afraid. I have seen in lockdown people afraid of the unknown, the invisible enemy, the uncertain future. Being afraid does not help you.

One thing I have done that was 'frightening' is swimming in open water (see picture on next page). It's dark, it's cold, it's the unknown and you can't see what's coming. You feel vulnerable and isolated. Your mind plays tricks on you and it convinces you there are monsters; that there's something that's going to get you.



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Even though you're scared of something it's important to try it and overcome those fears and take on new challenges. Whether that is swimming in open water, stepping out of the house for the first time post-lockdown or trying to take part in a lesson when you're miles away from your friends, doing it is better than not doing it. You'll remember how much fun it was afterwards rather than the fear that overwhelmed you before. After overcoming a fear, you feel proud and stronger. You'll want to do it again. There's nothing in the water that can stop you, no monsters. It's just your mind.

Jack Riding



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What I have learnt during the lockdown - by Raeesa Mank

It was the worst of times, it was the best of times.

It was a time when schools closed down, it was a time when children found they could learn online.

It was a time when workers were furloughed, it was a time when parents had more time to spend with their family.

It was a time when the roads were empty, it was a time when the air became clean.

It was a time when you had to wash your hands for 20 seconds, it was a time when you got to sing 'Happy Birthday' every day!

It was a time when holidays abroad were cancelled, it was a time when people enjoyed the local countryside.

It was a time when hotels were emptied, it was a time when the homeless were given a place to stay.

It was a time when people fought over toilet rolls in the shops, it was a time when neighbours clapped for key workers.

It was a time when football matches were cancelled, it was a time when Liverpool's win was delayed!

Dates For Your Diary

Monday 29th June onwards
Year 10 Options Lessons
begin in school

Week Beg 13th July
"Virtual" Academic Achievement
Assemblies (Year 7-10 everyday)



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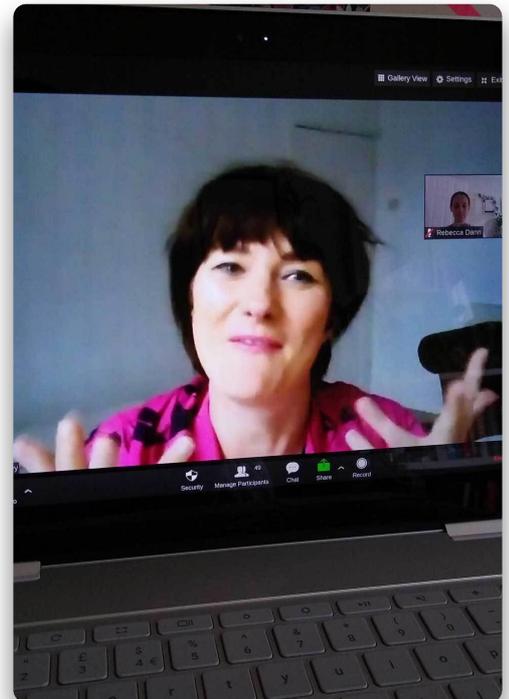
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Poetry Slam

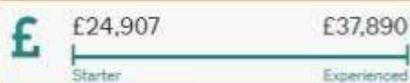
This week students from Years 7 to 10 took part in a Poetry Slam as part of the Sharples Virtual Arts Festival. Students worked on their poems individually and worked on pointers and suggestions from both Mr Hesford and Miss Ayub. Year 7 and 8 were both tasked with writing on the theme of 'Lockdown' and reflecting on this time in history. Year 9 and 10 looked at the theme of 'Social Injustice' and worked incredibly hard to bring to light important social issues that surround us during this time.

The students performed exceptionally well with praises from the audience, judges and also the professional poet: Louise Fazackerly (pictured right on a video chat with Miss Dann)! Once again the pupils at Sharples made us all incredibly proud and have shown that they are all brilliant!



Career of the Week: Children's Nurse

Average Salary:



**Typical hours:
(per week)**



You could work:



Qualifications:

- A degree in a relevant area of study.
- 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent, including English, maths and science.
- 2 or 3 A levels, including a science, or a level 3 diploma or access to higher education in health, science or nursing.
- You may be able to do a degree apprenticeship in nursing if you work in a healthcare setting like a hospital.

Skills required:

- Knowledge of psychology.
- Customer service skills.
- Knowledge of medicine.
- Excellent verbal communication skills.
- The ability to use your initiative.
- Leadership skills.

Relevant Subjects:

- Health and Social Care, Psychology and Science.

Information sourced from: <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/children's-nurse>



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ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT ASSEMBLIES RECOGNISING AND REWARDING ACHIEVEMENTS AT SHARPLES IN 2019-20

LIVE VIA ZOOM 2.00-3.00PM

Year 7 - Monday 13th July

Year 8 - Tuesday 14th July

Year 9 - Wednesday 15th July

Year 10 - Thursday 16th July

Awards will be presented by the Headteacher

The link will be sent to school email addresses of each year group at 1.30pm each day.

Families are welcome to join us

School Uniform is encouraged!

CELEBRATE THE FINAL WEEK OF 2019-20 WITH US!