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be proud of
who you are.

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HELLO FOREST HILL SCHOOL!

June is Pride Month! We would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to everyone who has worked to celebrate LGBTQ+ identities and inclusion every month of the year. We are so proud of everything the school has achieved.

Forest Hill School is committed to improving equality for everyone. If you have any ideas on how we can continue to work on this, please do let us know.

#equalitymattersatFHS

We would love to hear from anyone that would like to contribute to the magazine. Please contact our editors, Ms Suart and Mr Cox: e.suart@foresthillschool.co.uk m.cox@foresthillschool.co.uk

We hope you enjoy this edition!
Ms Suart & Mr Cox

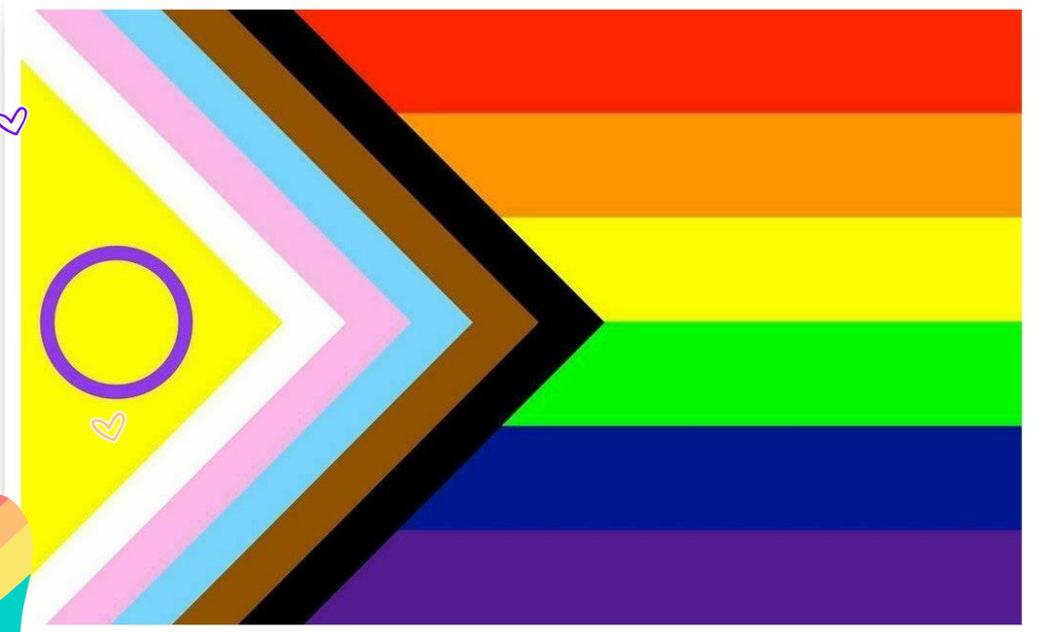
Some highlights
from last edition!



HAPPY

PRIDE

MONTH!

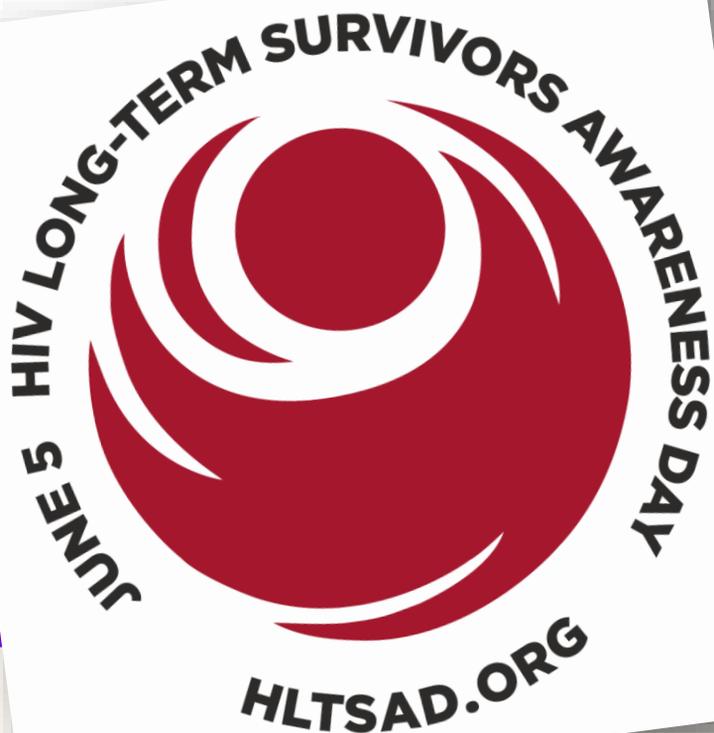




**HIV LONG-TERM
SURVIVORS'
AWARENESS
DAY**



SUNDAY 5TH JUNE





FREE

GIFT!



**Free rainbow
ribbon for any
student or staff
member!**

**Just ask Ms
Suart 😊**

**Get more freebies at
the end of this
magazine**



Under the new Stonewall
awards criteria, we are
the **FIRST SCHOOL IN**
LONDON to achieve the
Stonewall Gold award. We
are also only the **SECOND**
SECONDARY SCHOOL IN
THE COUNTRY to be given

Gold!

WOW!!



**SCHOOL & COLLEGE
CHAMPION AWARDS
GOLD 2021/23**

**SCHOOL & COLLEGE
CHAMPION AWARDS
GOLD 2021/23**

Celebrate

LGBTQ+ NEWS

Read all about it!



Pro footballer Jake Daniels has been praised for his courage and bravery after he became the first British male football player to come out publicly in 32 years.

Daniels, who is a forward for Blackpool, came out in a heartfelt interview on Monday 16th May in which he discussed finally feeling ready to “be myself” and “be confident with it all” after “such a long time of lying” about who he really is.

Netflix releases adaptation of popular novel series, *Heartstopper* which explores sexuality and coming out in sport.



The 17-year-old told Sky Sports that he considered waiting until he was retired to come out, but he knew that would “lead to a long time of lying and not being able to be myself or lead the life that I want to”.

LGBTQ+ NEWS

Read all about it!



The UK's first national LGBTQ+ museum, Queer Britain, is finally opening its doors.

The museum will explore the stories, people and places that are central to the LGBTQ+ community in the UK and beyond. It will be located at 2 Granary Square in Kings Cross, which is owned by Art Fund, the UK's national charity for art. Organisers have been putting plans in place to open an LGBTQ+ focused museum since 2018. They have promised that Queer Britain will be "an inclusive place that promises to welcome everyone regardless of sexuality or gender identity" .

A new LGBTQ+-themed 50p coin has been unveiled, marking the 50th anniversary of the first Pride celebrations in the UK.

The special release from the Royal Mint marks the first time Britain's LGBTQ+ community has been directly celebrated on official UK coinage, though gay codebreaking hero Alan Turing last year became the new face of the £50 note.



FHS NEWS

Read all about it!



MR HARESIGN'S IDAHOBIT SCHOOL ASSEMBLY!

On Wednesday 18th May, Mr Haresign ran a whole school assembly to celebrate IDAHOBIT (International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia). The focus was on HBT and football and was perfectly timed with the fantastic news that professional footballer Jake Daniels has come out as gay!



IDAHOBIT 2022:
HBT AND FOOTBALL

International Day Against
Homophobia, Biphobia, and
Transphobia

A WORLDWIDE CELEBRATION
OF SEXUAL AND GENDER DIVERSITIES

MAY 17



HBT and Football



It's estimated that around 6% of the population are Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans. In football terms that's more than **2000 LGBTQ+ fans at an average Premier League game or 5400 at Wembley!** However, **homophobic, biphobic and transphobic abuse is regularly heard in English and Welsh Football stadia.** Much more needs to be done to make LGBTQ+ supporters feel welcome.

LGBTQ+ ROLE
MODEL OF THE
MONTH



Jake Daniels

(Footballer/ Gay)

*"I am **confident** and
happy to be myself!"*



*"I am only 17 but I
am clear that
[coming out] is
what I want to do
and **if, by me**
coming out,
other people look
at me and feel
maybe they can
do it as well, that
would be
brilliant."*



LGBTQ+ WORD OF THE MONTH

HBT

An acronym standing for **Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia**. These are all examples of prejudice which are directed to LGBTQ+ people and are completely unacceptable.

Why have we chosen this word?

The 17th May was International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, and Transphobia.

At FHS, we have a clear zero-tolerance on any HBT behaviour and language, both of which are a form of bullying.





ADVICE OF THE MONTH

Regarding coming out, an FHS
pupil says:

“Embrace who you are. There always will be challenges, the main challenge for most is telling someone, and the most challenging is telling your parents. But remember this: be yourself. Don’t change for anyone and most of all, don’t hide in the shadows. Step into the light and show the true you.”

FEATURE OF THE MONTH

At FHS, we pride ourselves on having a fantastically stocked library with many books with LGBTQ+ themes. In honour of this, this month we explore...



LGBTQ+ representation in literature



Text taken from:

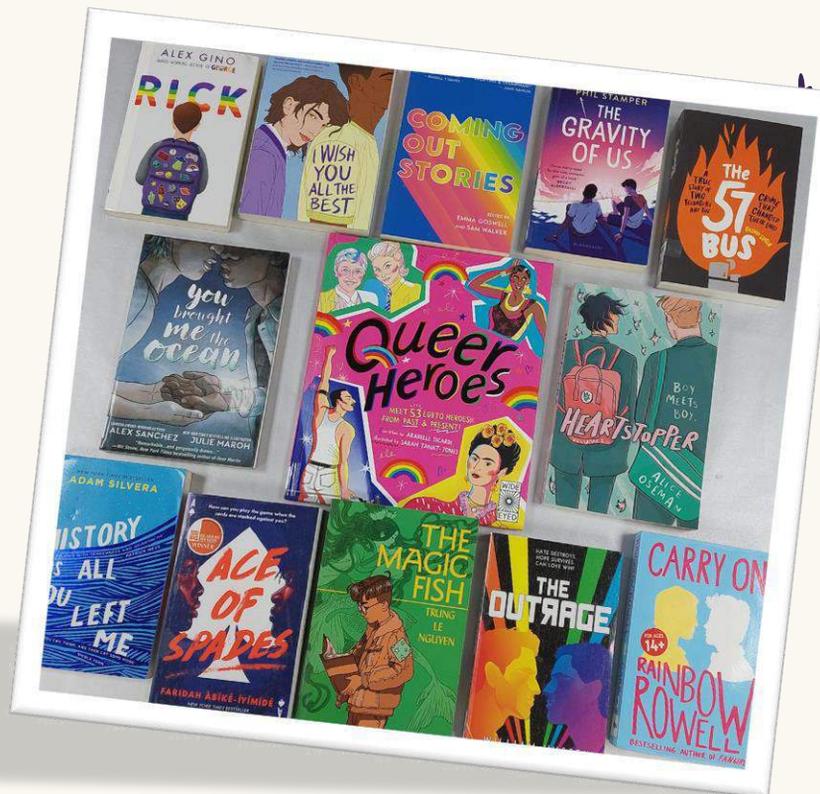
<https://www.hachettebookgroup.com/articles/important-milestones-in-lgbtq-publishing/#:~:text=Writers%20like%20Arthur%20Rimbaud%2C%20Walt,James%20Baldwin%2C%20Truman%20Capote%2C%20E.M.>



Underrepresentation

LGBTQ+ characters and themes are often underrepresented in mainstream publishing due to censorship and arguments that LGBTQ+ content is “niche,” and therefore not commercially viable. However, books about LGBTQ+ characters and history can have a profound effect on readers, and **LGBTQ+ visibility in media has a valuable place in the world of representation.** Not only can these stories educate and inform readers who do not identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community, they can also portray a path in life that LGBTQ+ readers may not have thought possible.

As valuable as these stories are, the history of LGBTQ+ literature is not widely known or taught. What are the most significant LGBTQ+ books in history and **how has LGBTQ+ publishing evolved?**





LGBTQ+ literature through history

Throughout history, **literature with LGBTQ+ themes have faced challenges and objections.**

Writers and readers have navigated changing social tides and faced legal restrictions, book bans, and persecution—all with the goal of sharing their stories. Despite these hurdles, **LGBTQ+ themes in literature can be traced back all the way back to ancient times.**

Ancient Greece and Rome:

Plato's Symposium and Homer's Iliad describe same-sex partnerships, including one between two heroes of the Iliad, Achilles and Patroclus. Many stories in Greek and Roman mythology also reveal relationships and liaisons between same-sex and intersex figures. Contemporary scholars interpret these as the ancient world's understanding and expression of same-sex romance, as well as their tolerance of it.

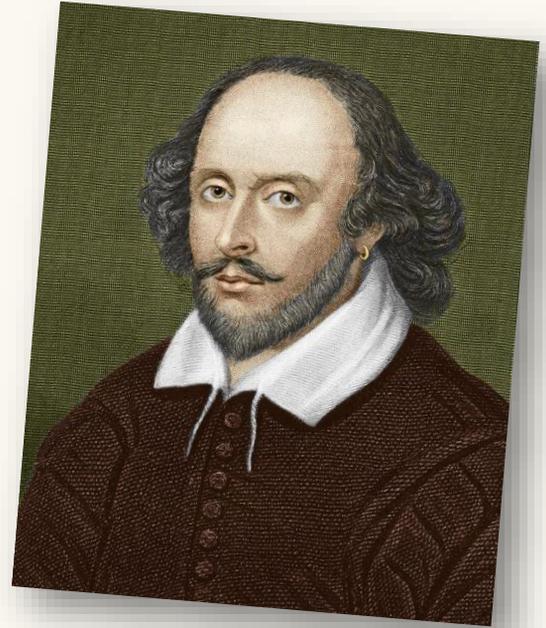


Achilles



LGBTQ+ literature through history

The Renaissance: Scholars and students have offered LGBTQ+ interpretations of Shakespeare's seminal works, including *Twelfth Night*, *The Merchant of Venice*, and his sonnets. These texts give insight into gender and sexuality across Renaissance Europe.



Shakespeare



Anne Lister

Eighteenth Century: Some physical intimacy between women in private was acceptable in Georgian England. These relationships were even playfully encouraged before a woman's marriage, as eighteenth-century literature attests in works like *The Diaries of Anne Lister* and the poetry of Katherine Philips. While open displays of same-sex love would have faced serious penalties, these texts reveal an important yet little-known part of eighteenth-century English society.



LGBTQ+ literature through history

Nineteenth Century: The nineteenth century introduced the next great period of LGBTQ+ literature, though less direct and more subversive. Writers like Arthur Rimbaud, Walt Whitman, Oscar Wilde, Marcel Proust, Emily Dickinson, and Virginia Woolf wove sly references to LGBTQ+ identity and relationships into many works. They began paving the way for more LGBTQ+ awareness among readers.

Twentieth Century: Authors such as James Baldwin, Truman Capote, E.M. Forster, Allen Ginsberg, Audre Lorde, Diane di Prima, Adrienne Rich, Thomas Mann, and many more pushed social boundaries and brought LGBTQ+ plots to prominence. These authors and their works often achieved critical and commercial success, marking the twentieth century as a new dawn for LGBTQ+ inclusion.



James Baldwin ↓



LGBTQ+ censorship

LGBTQ+ book bans, writer persecution, and censorship

Up until the mid-twentieth century, it was illegal in many nations to express homosexuality. It wasn't until the early twenty-first century that many countries began to allow gay marriage. Throughout this time, LGBTQ+ literature portraying same-sex love was often banned or censored, falling in line with social and legal customs.



Sappho

The Works of Sappho

Destroyed: Iconic Greek poet Sappho is known not only for her ahead-of-her-time lyrical poems but also

for their themes of female-centred sexuality and love. She was revered during her time, yet her works were burned during the rules of fourth century archbishop Gregory of Nazianzus and eleventh century Pope Gregory VII for their portrayals of lesbianism.



LGBTQ+ censorship



Oscar Wilde

Oscar Wilde Goes to Court: Oscar Wilde was put on trial three times for indecency in his home country of England, where homosexuality was outlawed. Wilde spent two years in jail and was eventually forced into exile for daring to carry on relationships with other men.

"Full of wonder, hope and the importance of getting to be who you are meant to be"

DAVID LEVITHAN, author of EVERY DAY and editor of GEORGE

GEORGE

ALEX GINO

Transgender Authors Fight Exclusion: Trans voices have historically been relegated to the fringes of society, with trans authors of colour encountering the most oppression. Thankfully, books like Alex Gino's *George* have paved the way for more trans stories and authors in the future.



The future of LGBTQ+ literature

Questions do remain—from critics and consumers alike—about the direction of LGBTQ+ literature. **Has it hit enough of a mainstream that it is no longer considered “niche,” and is it adequately representing the community it claims to?**

Meg Cale, a travel writer who co-authors a blog on LGBTQ+ traveling resources, safety, and information, thinks LGBTQ+ books have miles to go before they can claim mainstream status and all-important inclusivity. **“I’d love to see more stories of queer and trans people of colour. I’d also love to see more stories that revolve around storylines that aren’t centred on coming out or tragedy,”** she says.

Cale echoes an observation made by many of the bloggers we interviewed. **They feel too many LGBTQ+ stories revolve around coming-out narratives for young, predominantly white characters**—which are essential, but they are only one of many LGBTQ+ experiences.

Marketer, publisher, and LGBTQ+ blogger Adam Groffman elaborates. “Being LGBTQ+ today feels different than what it maybe was in the past, and **I’d love to see representative stories from my experiences today reflected in contemporary literature.**”

For further information on LGBTQ+ Literature:

Visit our school library!

&

<https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/the-read-down/the-ultimate-book-list-for-pride-month/>

AND IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING ELSE IN THE LIBRARY, MRS HANS ALSO RECOMMENDS...





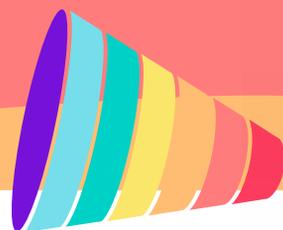
LGBTQ+ BOOK OF THE MONTH

Heartstopper by Alice Oseman

Shortlisted for the British Book Awards Children's Illustrated & Non-Fiction Book of the Year 2020

Longlisted for the Polari Book Prize 2020

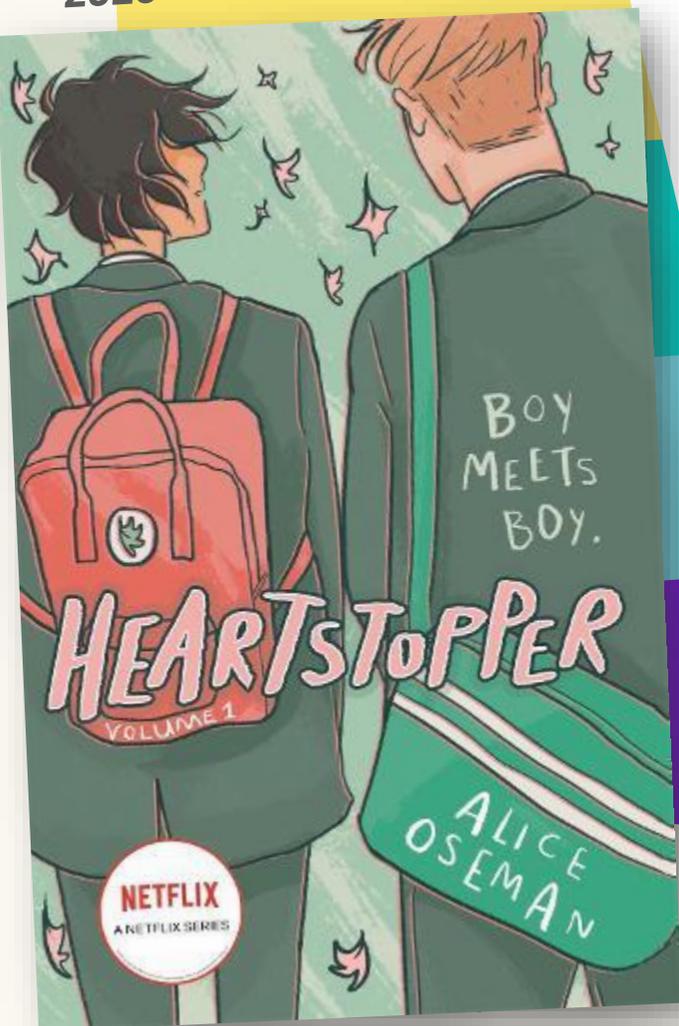
Available in
the library!



Waterstones says...

"Boy meets boy. Boys become friends. Boys fall in love. An **LGBTQ+ graphic novel about life, love, and everything that happens in between** - perfect for fans of *The Art of Being Normal* and *Love, Simon*.

Now the basis of a **hit Netflix show**, Oseman's pioneering queer graphic novel series has become a modern classic of YA literature and this first volume **introduces the beautifully realised couple of Nick and Charlie and their journey towards love and self-discovery.**"



LGBTQ+ BOOK OF THE MONTH



Heartstopper by Alice Oseman

A year 7 pupil says...

"This book is relatable and enjoyable to read because of the story. However, I **really enjoyed the visuals as it is a graphic novel.**

The pictures are well-drawn and there are lots of small details which really add to the overall effect and story. **The book includes people of a range of different sexualities and gender identities and it allows you to learn more about different people's experiences!"**



Available in the library!



LGBTQ+ BOOKS IN OUR LIBRARY



FOREST HILL SCHOOL
ASPIRING TO EXCELLENCE TOGETHER

Our school library has lots of books with LGBTQ+ themes.

Please see below the links to find them and borrow them!

- LGBTQ+ books to read on the eplatform
- LGBTQ+ books to listen to on the eplatform
- LGBTQ+ books to click & collect from the library



PRIDE AMBASSADORS

EVERY MONDAY LUNCHTIME, ROOM 123

ANYONE CAN ATTEND,
REGARDLESS OF SEXUALITY OR GENDER IDENTITY.

LGBTQ+
SAFE
SPACE



Are you interested in:

- Finding a **safe space** in the school?
- **Fighting for equality** within the school?
- Discussing how we can **celebrate the LGBTQ+ community** and challenge homophobia/ biphobia/ transphobia at FHS?
- Joining a **multi award-winning group**?!?
- Learning more about these issues?

See you there!

Ms Suart, Mr Cox & Ms Learoyd





NEED ADVICE?

If you have been affected by anything in this issue, need support or would like more information, there are lots of people and organisations who can support you.

For example:

At FHS:

- **Equality Ambassadors:
Ms Suart, Mr Cox & Ms Learoyd**
- **Your tutor**
- **Your Head of Year**
- **Any member of SLT**
- **Ms Rhodes (school counsellor)**

External organisations and charities:

- **Stonewall** <https://www.stonewall.org.uk/>
- **Metro** <https://metrocharity.org.uk/>
- **Mermaids** <https://mermaidsuk.org.uk/>

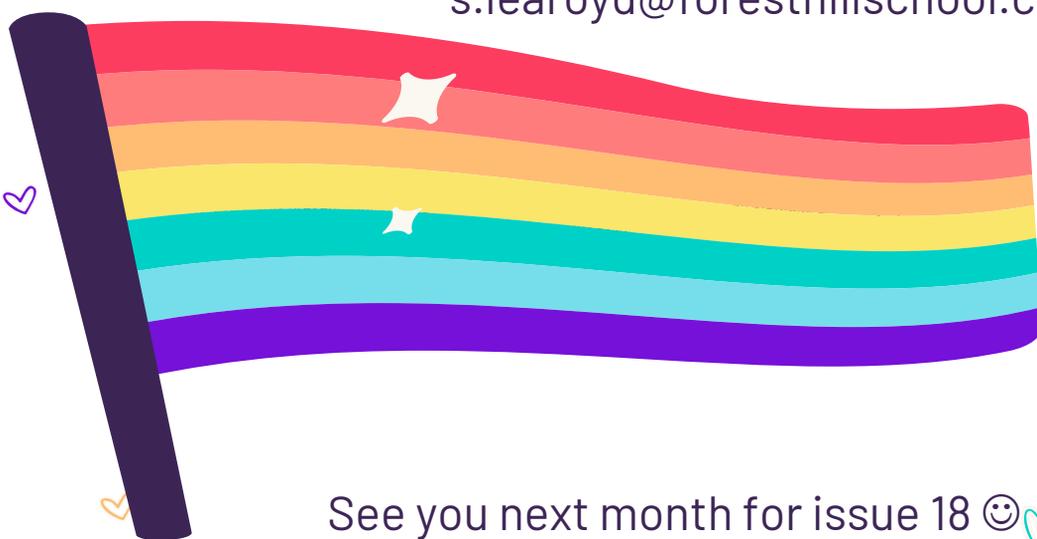


THANKS FOR READING!

For anyone needing support or feeling marginalised due to your identity... we are **PROUD** to be in solidarity with you.
You matter.

Please email Ms Suart, Mr Cox or Ms Learoyd for any further information or support:

e.suart@foresthillschool.co.uk
m.cox@foresthillschool.co.uk
s.learoyd@foresthillschool.co.uk



See you next month for issue 18 😊



FREE PRIDE

POSTERS

**Print off the
following pages to
create your very
own Pride posters
and banners!**



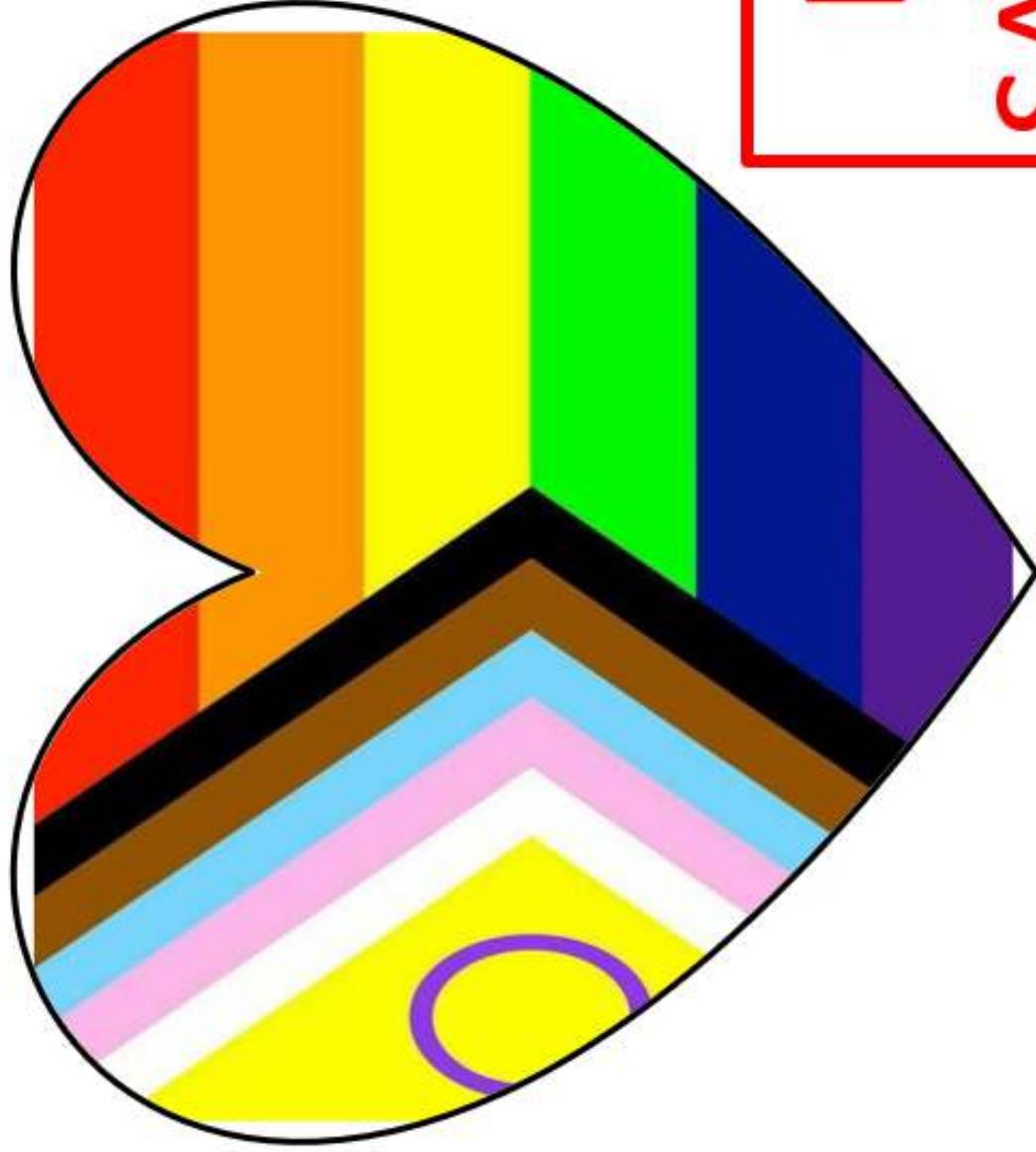


LOVE

IS LOVE







LGBTQ+
SAFE SPACE