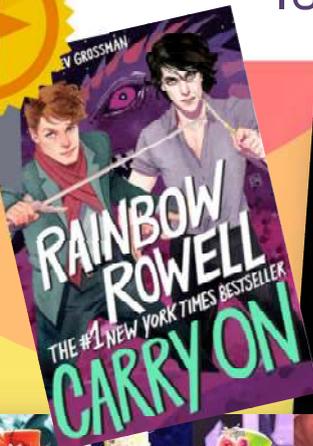




FHS RAINBOW!

Forest Hill School's LGBTQ+ magazine!

Issue 19 – 21 October 2022



SNEAK PEEK AT WHAT'S INSIDE...

- Black History Month LGBTQ+ Role Models
 - Feature of the month – The Royals and LGBTQ+ rights
 - LGBTQ+ book- *Carry On*
- ...and much more!

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be proud of
who you are.

- * Welcome
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Rights
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HELLO FOREST HILL SCHOOL!

Welcome to the first *FHS Rainbow!* of this academic year! We had a fabulous year last year publishing *Rainbow* and we hope we can continue (and improve) this year as *FHS Rainbow!* moves to a half-termly magazine.

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!



BLACK HISTORY MONTH OCTOBER



Black History Month, also known as African-American History Month in North America, is a month-long annual observance for remembrance and celebration of important people and events in the ongoing history of the African diaspora.



COMING OUT DAY

11TH OCTOBER



NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY

October 11



INTERSEX
AWARENESS DAY
26TH OCTOBER





TRANS AWARENESS WEEK

1st - 19th NOVEMBER



Trans Awareness Week occurs annually in the first two weeks of November, leading up to TDOR (see next page). The purpose of the weeks is to raise awareness about trans and gender diverse people, through education, events, and celebration



INTERNATIONAL TRANS DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

20th NOVEMBER



International Trans Day of Remembrance (TDOR) is an event occurring on November 20th each year. The day is dedicated to remembering trans people who have lost their lives, and to raising awareness of discrimination faced by trans people worldwide.



WORLD AIDS

DAY

1st DECEMBER



World AIDS Day is an annual event occurring on December 1st. The day is dedicated to raising awareness of HIV and AIDS, and to mourning those who have died of the disease.

LGBTQ+ NEWS

Read all about it!



A record number of LGBTQ+ athletes competed in the Summer Olympic Games in Tokyo

According to Outsports, at least 163 openly LGBTQ athletes competed in the Tokyo 2020 Summer Olympic Games (which took place last year due to COVID) This is more than double the number at the 2016 Rio Games (56). It's also more than all the previous Summer Olympics combined. This is such good news for representation – and we're celebrating this news with the athletes, their fellow competitors, and the Olympics!

Cuban people vote to change the definition of 'family'

Last month, Cuba voted in new family laws that have been widely proclaimed the world's most progressive.

The new code would recognise "the existence in

Cuba of multiple family structures that break with the traditional model", and

honour "the bonds of affection and love on which families are truly built."

Of the 74% of citizens who voted in the referendum, close to 70% ticked yes to the constitutional change.



FHS NEWS

Read all about it!



Pride Ambassadors Relaunches for 2022!

The Pride Ambassadors
Lunchtime Club has
relaunched this half term!

This happens on Tuesday
lunchtimes in Room 132.

This half term we have been
working on designing a new
equality banner for the
atrium.

Our KS3 students have built
Lego's *Everyone is Awesome*
set which is now proudly on
display in Mr Cox's room!

If you want to join, pop along
to Room 132 on a Tuesday
lunchtime, or see Mr Cox, Ms
Suart Ms Marray or Ms
Rhodes.

PRIDE AMBASSADORS

EVERY TUESDAY LUNCHTIME, ROOM 132

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?

KS3, KS4 and
Sixth Form!



See you there!

Ms Suart, Mr Cox & Ms Rhodes

2022/23

**LGBTQ+ ROLE
MODELS OF THE
MONTH**

BLACK

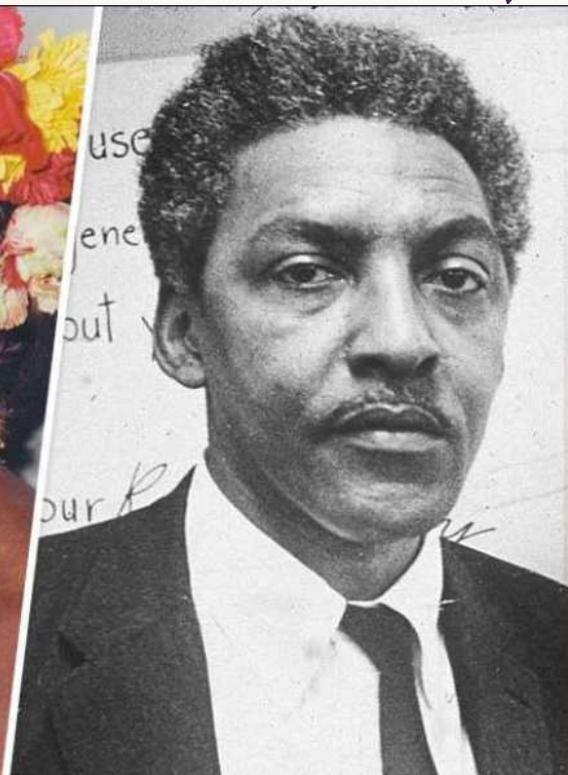
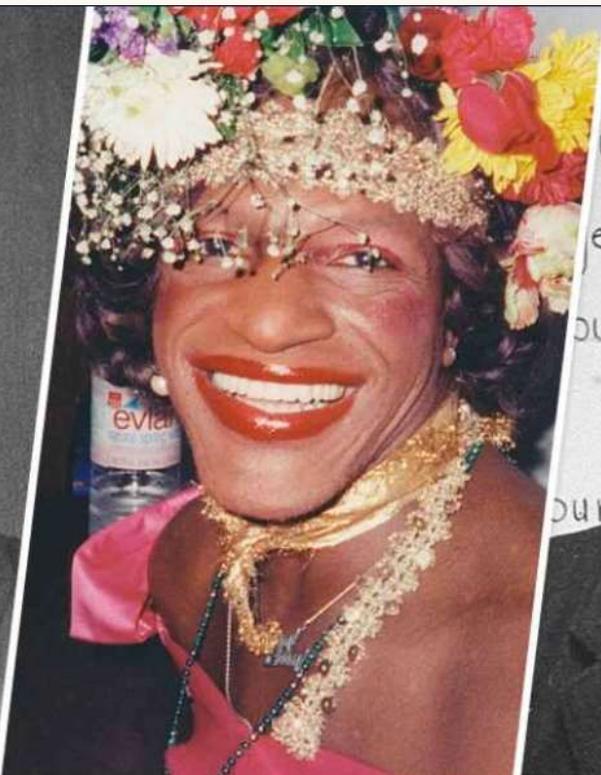
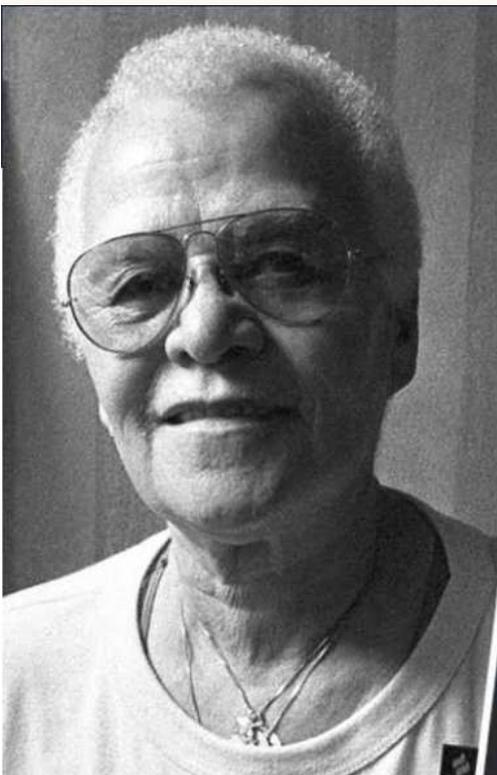
HISTORY

MONTH



In this month's edition of FHS Rainbow, we will not just be picking one role model.

Instead, this issue will feature TEN black LGBTQ+ trailblazers who made history!



LGBTQ+ ROLE MODELS OF THE MONTH

BHM



Gladys Bentley (1907-1960)

Bentley was a gender-bending performer during the Harlem Renaissance. Donning a top hat and tuxedo, Bentley would sing the blues in Harlem establishments like the Clam House and the Ubangi Club. According to a belated obituary published in 2019, The New York Times said Bentley, who died in 1960 at the age of 52, was "Harlem's most famous lesbian" in the 1930s and "among the best-known Black entertainers in the United States."

Bayard Rustin (1912-1987)

Rustin was an LGBTQ and civil rights activist best known for being a key adviser to Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. He organized the 1963 March on Washington and was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, in 2013 for his activism. In 1953 Rustin was arrested for being gay and served 50 days in Los Angeles County jail and had to register as a sex offender. Rustin was pardoned in 2020, affirming that LGBTQ people were unjustly punished for their sexuality by U.S. law enforcement at the time Rustin's arrest.



LGBTQ+ ROLE MODELS OF THE MONTH

BHM



Stormé DeLarverie (1920-2014)

A biracial, butch lesbian, DeLarverie was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, and was always a performer. As a teenager, she joined the Ringling Brothers Circus. Then from 1955 to 1969, DeLarverie toured the Black theater circuit as the MC – and only drag king – of the Jewel Box Revue, the first racially integrated drag revue in North America. Beyond her LGBTQ activism, DeLarverie also organized and performed at fundraisers for women who suffered from domestic violence and their children.

Bayard Rustin (1912-1987)

A writer and social critic, Baldwin is perhaps best known for his 1955 collection of essays, "Notes of a Native Son," and his groundbreaking 1956 novel, "Giovanni's Room," which depicts themes of homosexuality and bisexuality. Baldwin spent a majority of his literary and activist career educating others about Black and queer identity, as he did during his famous lecture titled "Race, Racism, and the Gay Community" at a meeting of the New York chapter of Black and White Men Together (now known as Men of All Colors Together) in 1982.



LGBTQ+ ROLE MODELS OF THE MONTH

BHM



Lorraine Hansberry (1930-1965)

Hansberry was an activist and playwright best known for her groundbreaking play "A Raisin in the Sun," about a struggling Black family on Chicago's South Side. After the play's release, Hansberry became the first Black playwright and youngest American to win a New York Critics' Circle Award. Hansberry didn't officially come out until nearly a half-century after her death — when in 2014 her estate unsealed diaries and other writings in which she reveals her sexuality.

Alvin Ailey (1931-1989)

Ailey was a choreographer who founded the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, one of the most prominent dance companies globally, in 1958. His signature work, including "Cry" and "Revelations," continue to be performed all over the world. In 2014, Ailey was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his influential work in bringing dance to underserved communities.



LGBTQ+ ROLE MODELS OF THE MONTH

BHM



Audre Lorde (1934 – 1992)

Lorde, a self-described “Black, lesbian, feminist, mother, poet, warrior,” made lasting contributions in the fields of feminist theory, race studies and queer theory through her writing. Among her most notable works are “Coal” (1976), “The Black Unicorn” (1978), “The Cancer Journals” (1980) and “Zami: A New Spelling of My Name” (1982). “I write for those women who do not speak, for those who do not have a voice because they were so terrified, because we are taught to respect fear more than ourselves. We’ve been taught that silence would save us, but it won’t,”

Ernestine Eckstein (1941-1992)

Eckstein was a leader in the New York chapter of Daughters of Bilitis, the first lesbian civil and political rights organization in the United States. She attended “Annual Reminder” picket protests and was frequently one of the only women – and the only Black woman – present at early LGBTQ rights protests. Eckstein was also an early activist in the Black feminist movement of the 1970s and was involved with the organization Black Women Organized for Action. According to historians, she viewed the fight for civil rights and LGBTQ rights as intrinsically linked.



B

↓

LGBTQ+ ROLE MODELS OF THE MONTH

BHM

Barbara Jordan (1936-1996)

Jordan, a civil rights leader and attorney, became the first African American elected to the Texas Senate in 1966, and the first woman and first African American elected to Congress from Texas in 1972. Jordan was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by Bill Clinton in 1994 for her work as a political trailblazer. While Jordan never explicitly acknowledged her sexual orientation in public, she was open about her life partner of nearly 30 years, Nancy Earl.



Marsha P. Johnson (1945-1992)

Marsha P. Johnson – who would cheekily tell people the "P" stood for "pay it no mind" – was an outspoken transgender rights activist and is reported to be one of the central figures of the historic Stonewall uprising of 1969. Along with fellow trans activist Sylvia Rivera, Johnson helped form Street Transgender Action Revolutionaries (STAR), a radical political organization that provided housing and other forms of support to homeless queer youth and sex workers in Manhattan. She also performed with the drag performance troupe Hot Peaches from 1972 through the '90s and was an AIDS activist with AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP).





LGBTQ+ WORD OF THE MONTH

Coming out

When a person first tells someone/others about their orientation and/or gender identity.

Why have we chosen this word?

11th October is National Coming Out Day. This is a day where LGBTQ+ people who want to come out to family and friends are encouraged to do so. People often feel a sense of relief after coming out.



Text taken from:

<https://www.pinknews.co.uk/2022/09/13/king-charles-prince-william-lgbtq-rights/>

FEATURE OF THE MONTH

Last month Queen Elizabeth II passed away at the age of 96, and the crown passed to King Charles III.

What does this mean for LGBTQ+ rights?



The Royals and LGBTQ+ Rights



Text taken from:

<https://www.pinknews.co.uk/2022/09/13/king-charles-prince-william-lgbtq-rights/>

FEATURE OF THE MONTH

Queen Elizabeth II died on 8 September, with King Charles III acceding the throne.

Her 70-year reign saw transformative changes in the UK, including major laws that advanced LGBTQ+ rights including the partial decriminalisation of homosexuality in 1967 and the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act in 2014.

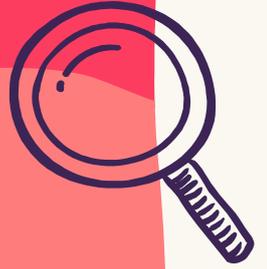
However, the late Queen avoided commenting publicly on LGBTQ+ rights. She kept herself out of social and political issues, and it seems that LGBTQ+ rights, even in the 21st century, were considered just that.



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FEATURE OF THE MONTH



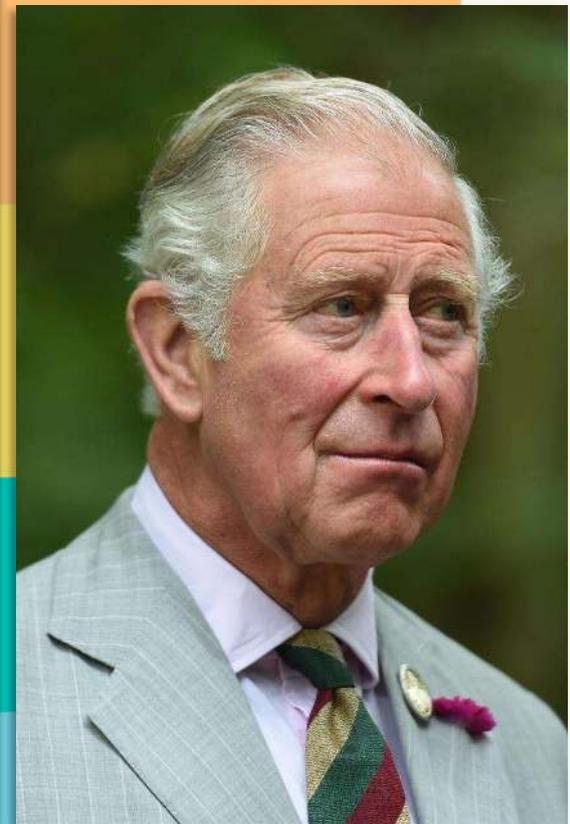
King Charles III has largely followed in her footsteps, and there is no record of him speaking on LGBTQ+ rights.

Sir Elton John has previously vouched for Charles, expressing his confidence that he, along with Prince Harry, would use their influence to decriminalise homosexuality in all Commonwealth states.

Same-sex relations remain illegal in many countries once colonised by Britain – many of which now form the Commonwealth.

“Things don’t happen over night. You can’t change a culture and people’s way of thinking over night. But you can certainly step in the water and have a good go. If you don’t step in the water, nothing’s ever going to get done,” Elton said in 2018, Gay Times reported.

“I think Prince Charles, when he is made Head of the Commonwealth, will do those kind of things.”



Text taken from:

<https://www.pinknews.co.uk/2022/09/13/king-charles-prince-william-lgbtq-rights/>

FEATURE OF THE MONTH



What's certain is that the younger generation of royals have been much more vocal in their support of LGBTQ+ rights.

Prince William, the new Prince of Wales and heir to the throne, said in 2019 he would be "absolutely fine" if his children were to come out as gay or lesbian.

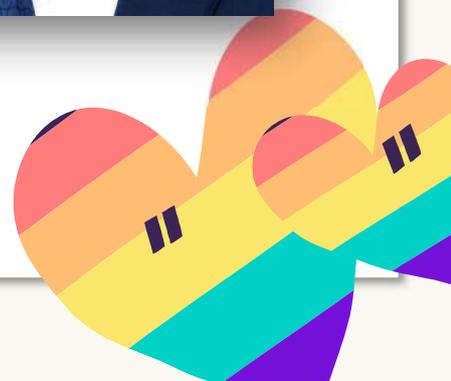
It wasn't the first time William had supported the community. In 2016 he invited LGBTQ+ people to Kensington Palace to learn more about bullying of the community, and the year before he led a diversity anti-bullying workshop.

That same year he made history by appearing on the front cover of Attitude magazine, becoming the first member of the royal family to pose for an LGBTQ+

publication.

William, a noted football fan, was also quick to send words of support to Blackpool footballer Jake Daniels after he came out as gay.

He took to Twitter to say he hoped Daniels' decision to "speak openly gives others the confidence to do the same".



Text taken from:

<https://www.pinknews.co.uk/2022/09/13/king-charles-prince-william-lgbtq-rights/>

FEATURE OF THE MONTH



The Duke and Duchess of Sussex, Prince Harry and Meghan, have also showed support for the LGBTQ+ community, notable becoming the first members of the royal family to celebrate Pride month publicly.

never fill her shoes, especially in this particular space, what she did, what she stood for and how vocal she was on this issue."

In memory of his mother, Diana, Prince Harry has worked to spread awareness and tackle the stigma of HIV/AIDS – a mission that led him most recently to urge everyone to get tested.

In 2016, Prince Harry was tested for HIV in a live broadcast, and afterwards testing numbers skyrocketed.

Prince Harry described his mother's work as "unfinished business", and added: "I feel obligated to try and continue that as much as possible. I can



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FEATURE OF THE MONTH



During the height of AIDS crisis quarter of a century later Princess Diana made many visits to Mildmay – a charitable HIV hospital in East London – and she famously shook hands with a patient in a move that helped lessen stigma around the virus.

At the time Diana declared :
“HIV does not make people dangerous to know. So you can shake their hand and give them a hug, heaven knows they need it.”

The kindness and generosity of the Princess of Wales is still remembered today and in 2015 Prince Harry donned a red AIDS ribbon while he visited Mildmay.

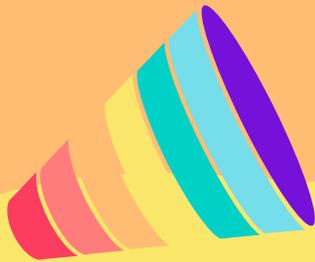
“When my mother held the hand of a man dying of AIDS,” the prince said, “no one would have imagined that just over a





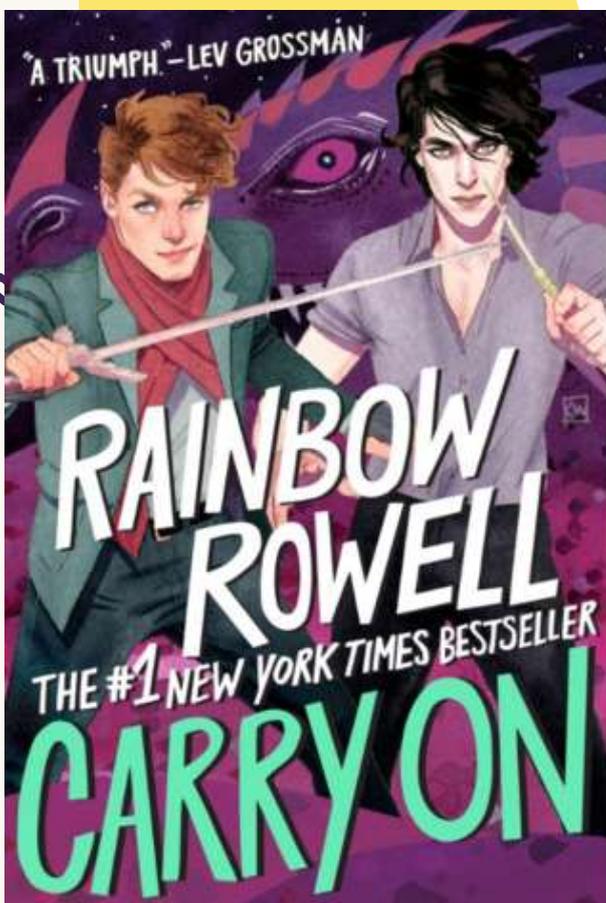
LGBTQ+ BOOK OF THE MONTH

Carry On by Rainbow Rowell



Waterstones says...

Rainbow Rowell continues to break down boundaries with *Carry On*, an epic fantasy following the triumphs and heartaches of Simon and Baz from her beloved bestselling book, *Fangirl*.



Simon Snow just wants to relax and savour his last year at the Watford School of Magicks, but no one will let him. His girlfriend broke up with him, his best friend is a pest and his mentor keeps trying to hide him away in the mountains where maybe he'll be safe. Simon can't even enjoy the fact that his room-mate and longtime nemesis is missing, because he can't stop worrying about the evil git. Plus there are ghosts. And vampires. And actual evil things trying to shut Simon down. When you're the most powerful magician the world has ever known, you never get to relax and savour anything.

LGBTQ+ BOOK OF THE MONTH



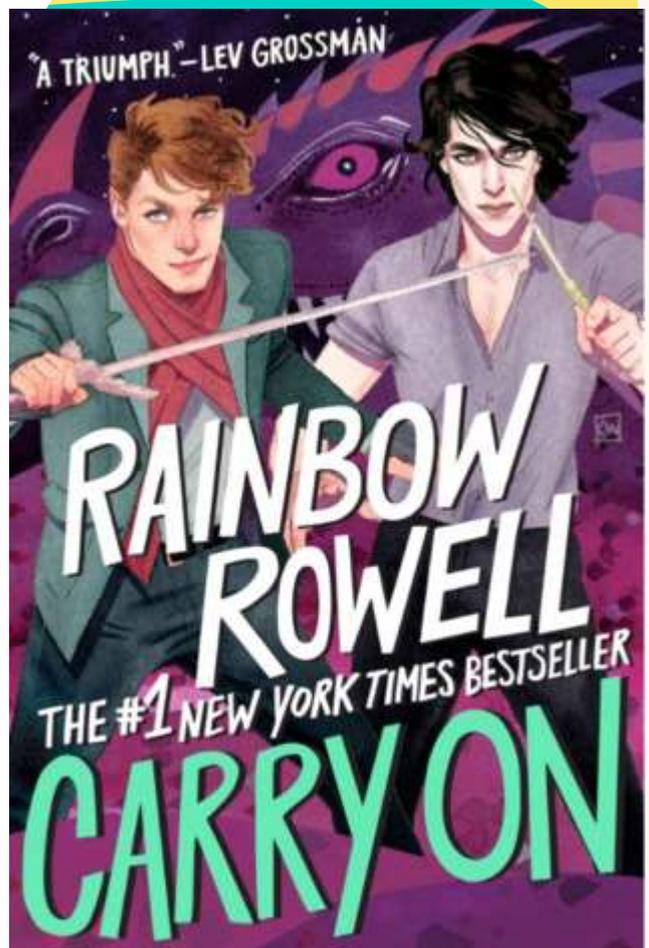
Carry On by Rainbow Rowell

A Y11 student says...

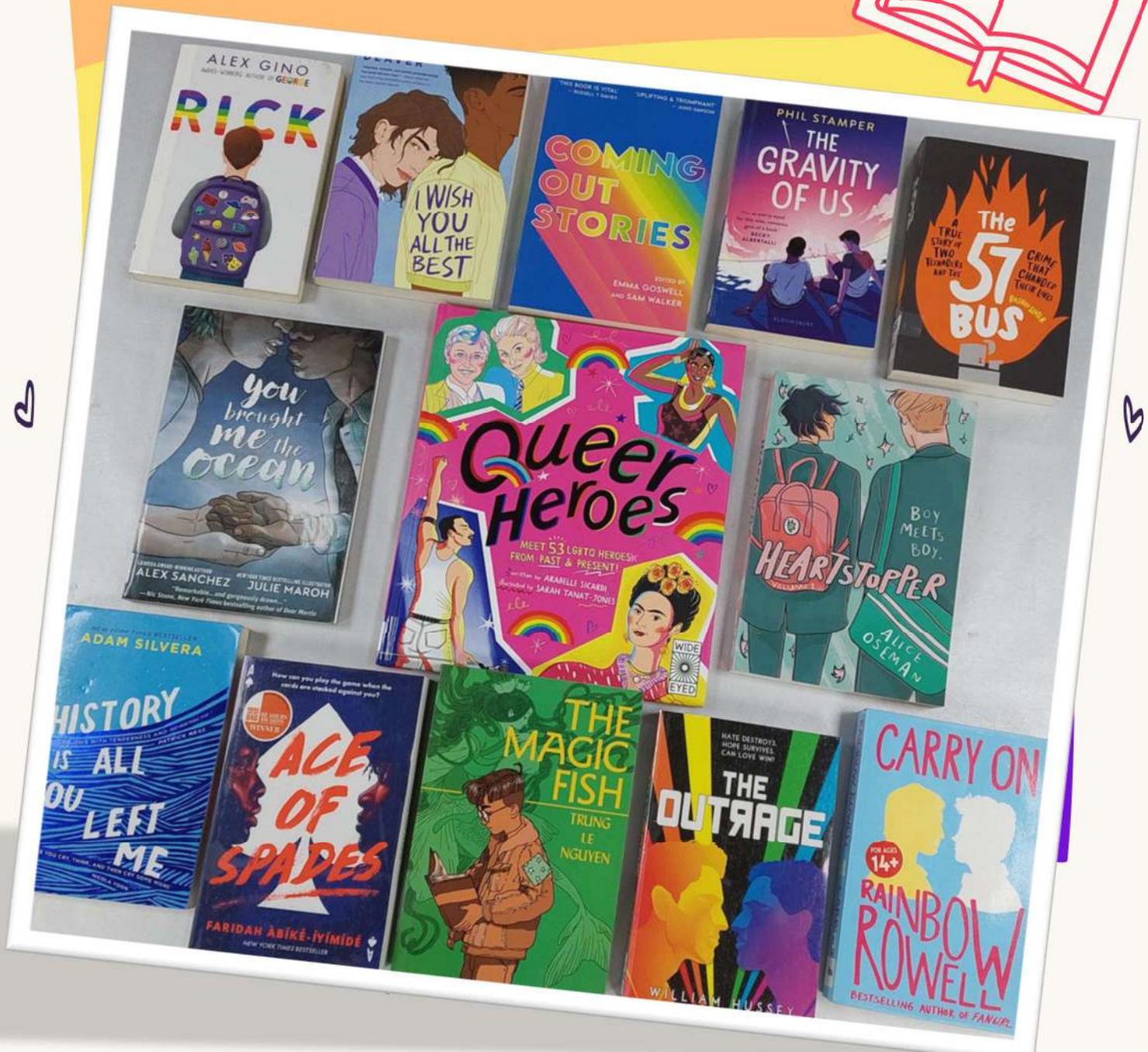
"Carry On is a subversive take on the magic school genre.

Diverse characters make up this school of wizardry. There is an incredible plot twist at the end, and this is the first in a trilogy.

Carry On is a must read!"



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



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 TUESDAY LUNCHTIME, ROOM 132

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?

KS3, KS4 and
Sixth Form!



See you there!

Ms Suart, Mr Cox & Ms Rhodes

2022/23



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.

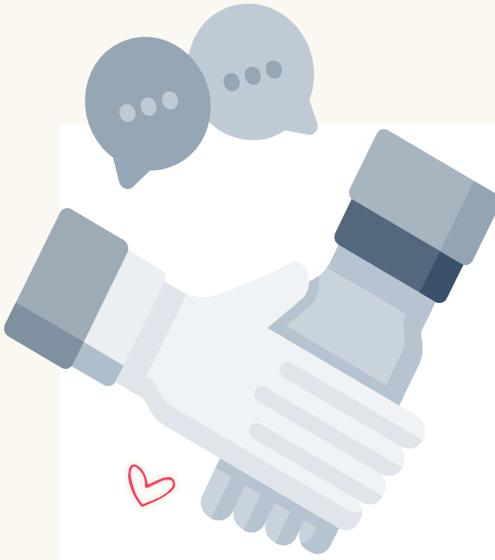
For example:

At FHS:

- **Equality Ambassadors:
Ms Suart and Mr Cox**
- **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/>
- 



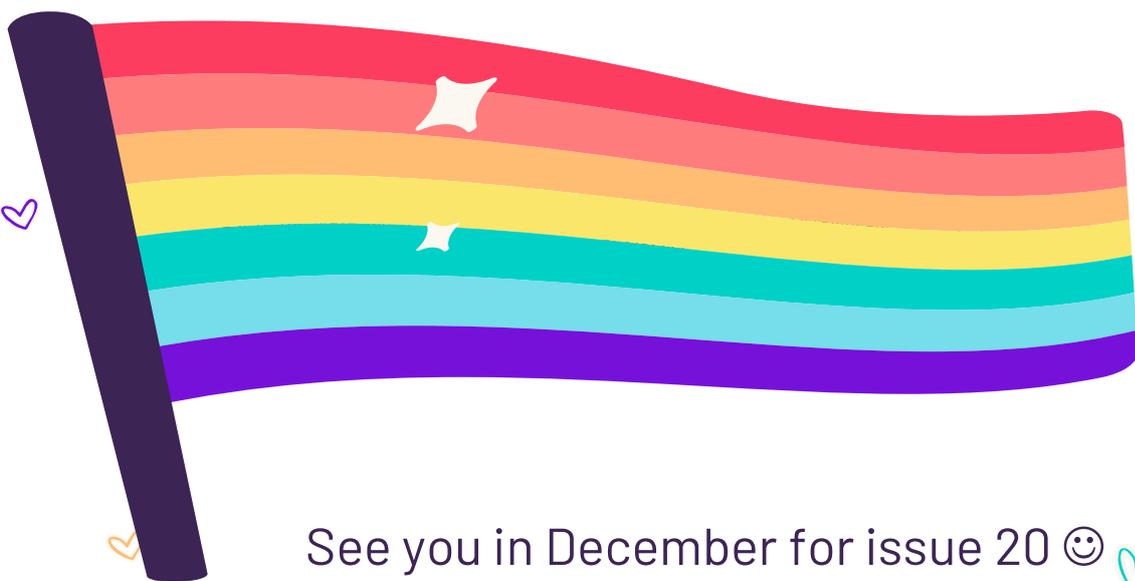
THANKS FOR READING!

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 or Mr Cox for any further information or support:

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



See you in December for issue 20 😊