



Be the best we can be

OUR NEW HOUSE SYSTEM

On our return to school in September 2020, a shift in timetable opened up an opportunity for us to review some school history. In the new lesson 'base time' we were tasked with researching the people whose names represent our school houses. Following the Black Lives Matter movement in 2020, it was decided that the people who represent our houses had historical links that no longer represent our values and views, and therefore, it was time for a change.

During the research, we discovered who these people were, what they did and why they were chosen to represent our houses. After our findings, it was decided that it was time for a change. The next task was then to discuss what should replace the current names. All the form groups came up with a range of suggestions. The senior senate was then tasked with collecting the suggestions and deciding the new names to present to Mr Fell and the Governing Body.

After much discussion, we chose:

- Sharman to replace Borrow (blue)
- Attenborough to replace Townsend (green)
- Malala to replace Fry (purple)
- Rashford to replace Crome (red) and
- Turing to replace Coke (yellow).



Many of these names were suggested by form groups or individuals but some we decided as they were more relevant to who would better represent the houses. By changing the house names, we hope that students will be more interested in who represents the houses and that the new names will portray our values and views better than ever before.



Our discussion group consisted of Dominic Hayward (Attenborough), Alice O'Hara (Sharman), Katie Mobbs (Malala and Turing) and Mariasha Blackwell (Rashford)

Dominic Hayward – Head Boy





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BLUE TIE

Sharman

- Named after Helen Sharman
- To replace Borrow
- Chosen for breaking gender boundaries and creating a platform for women in astronomy
- She was the first British astronaut into space which broke gender boundaries at the time, leading to women having more opportunity in astronomy
- Suggested by the form group 9B
- Blue as she was suggested by blue



Why should we name a house after Helen Sharman? Who is Helen Sharman? That's probably the most important question. After receiving a bachelor's degree in Chemistry from the University of Sheffield, Helen Sharman went on to smash gender boundaries and make history.

After responding to a radio advertisement Helen was one of 13,000 astronauts who were chosen to undertake project Juno, not only was she the only British astronaut in space she was also the first woman to visit the MIR space station. Whilst on this amazing journey in space undertaking different tests her main priority was to still make sure she was connecting with schools and young people to really inspire and make these children, especially young girls, never to let someone else tell you

that your dream cannot be reached. Without Helen

who knows how respected women would be within the space industry and without women breaking these gender boundaries young girls for years would have felt that they could not achieve something that they are very much capable of just because of what body they were born in.



Alice O'Hara



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GREEN TIE

Attenborough

- Named after Sir David Attenborough
- To replace Townshend
- Chosen for his work on protecting the environment
- Uses his documentaries to educate people about the world that we live in so that they are inspired to protect the environment around us
- Suggested by 8B, 9B and some year 11 form groups
- Green for his links with the environment



Who do you think of when someone mentions the environment? For me, it's David Attenborough. He has not only entertained me with his documentaries but has also educated me about the environment and how to look after the planet we live on. He is best known for his documentaries on the environment through documentaries such as Blue Planet and Planet Earth. These documentaries are an attempt to promote the beautiful environment to people with the hope that they will be interested and protect it. One of his famous quotes is: "No one will protect what they don't care about, and no one will care about what they have never experienced."

David Attenborough is an inspiration all over the world and is respected highly, having been knighted by the Queen and meeting former President Barack Obama to talk about clean energy. At age 94, David Attenborough is still winning awards for his amazing work, most recently the 2020 Outstanding Narrator for the 3rd year in a row. We hope that by having his name representing one of our houses he can inspire students to collaborate to take care of their environment around school, in their communities and around the world. Attenborough was a common suggestion, with the forms 8B, 9B and other students suggesting him. Due to his link with the environment, we chose Attenborough to represent green tie.

Dominic Hayward





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PURPLE TIE

Malala

- Named after Malala Yousafzai
- To replace Fry
- Chosen for her work campaigning for women in education
- She wasn't afraid to voice her opinions and fight for what she believed in to help improve education for women around the world
- She was the youngest recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize
- Purple as we wanted an inspirational woman to replace the only current woman Fry



There are countless reasons for choosing Malala to represent a house at our school. First and foremost, she is a hugely inspirational figure to everyone, everywhere. Malala is a Human Rights Activist who is continuing to campaign for women around the World with a focus on access to education. When she was young, extremists took control of Pakistan, where she lived, and enforced laws such as women not being allowed to vote or work, as well as the shutting down of all girl's schools. At the age of only 11, she decided to voice her opinions and started a blog gaining her a wide following. She began public speaking and talked about the belief that everyone deserves an education - this gained her a lot of support, but also opposition. In her life Malala had to face a huge amount of hardship, but what I want to focus on is one of our OBHS habits - resilience. Malala grew even stronger. This is demonstrated by the many

honours she received, over 40, including being the youngest winner of the Nobel Peace Prize at 17. Despite her success, she never stopped fighting for her cause. She released a best-selling book, received a Doctor of Civil Law degree, and became a UN Messenger of Peace. Overall, she continued to show bravery, persistence, and determination. She demonstrates that it's possible to overcome adversity, and is a positive role model, not only for girls, but for anyone experiencing inequality. Malala reflects challenges that some still have in life today, she is current and has had issues that many can still recognise - representation and diversity are extremely important in all aspects of life and school today. Malala is from our generation, she is a Muslim, and a woman, and that is so significant. She illustrates that anybody can do anything that they put their mind to, and some things are worth fighting for. Finally, Malala radiates optimism and has no bitterness for her situation, shown in her famous quote, "I don't want revenge or violence on the Taliban, just peace and opportunity for all."

Katie Mobbs

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RED TIE

Rashford

- Named after Marcus Rashford (MBE)
- To replace Crome
- Chosen for his work on campaigning to provide 1.3 million school children with free school meals over lockdown
- Uses his platform as a footballer to address real issues such as racism and free school meals in a professional manner
- Suggested by individuals that we spoke to
- Red as his football team wears red



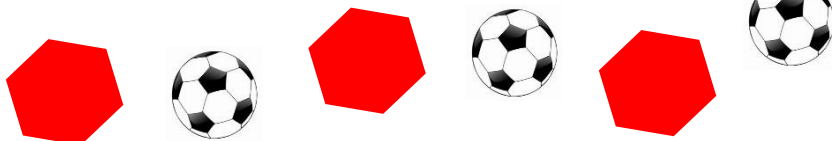
We decided to put forward Marcus Rashford to represent a house at OBHS. We would like him to represent a house because of his campaign that has made a positive impact directly on schools within the UK.

At just 22 years old Marcus Rashford has shown a great amount of resilience and respect as he used his platform as a footballer to campaign for the government to provide around 1.3 million children with free school meals over the lockdown during the coronavirus pandemic. After having grown up in a similar situation to many of the children that he campaigned for, he has used his hard work that he put in to get where he is to make a change. Not only has he done this, but has also tried to tackle racism on and off the football pitch, which shows how much of an inspiration he is for battling for what he believes in. In October

2020 he was awarded a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE). We believe here at OBHS that resilience and respect are important habits and traits to have.

As he plays for Manchester United who wear a red kit, we thought that he would be suitable to represent red tie.

Mariesha Blackwell





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YELLOW TIE

Turing

- Named after Alan Turing
- To replace Coke
- Chosen for his work during World War 2
- He was a key part of the group at Bletchley Park that helped created the 'Enigma' codebreaker which helped save lives during the war
- Suggested by individuals that we spoke to
- Yellow as we wanted Turing to inspire students to achieve their best in all tie colours



Alan Turing was a British Mathematician who made major contributions in the fields of computer science and Artificial Intelligence. He was well-known for breaking the Enigma Code in World War II which saved hundreds of lives. This made him a British hero and was awarded an OBE. He worked hard to get to that position and wrote many papers which earned him a first-class honours degree and a PhD in Mathematics. After he cracked the Enigma Code, he travelled to America to work on the German naval Enigma which he also decrypted. He then became involved in the Peace Movement via the Anti-War Council. However, he was unjustly arrested for being a homosexual shortly after this. He experienced huge amounts of discrimination and the arrest gave him a criminal record which meant that he lost his job. However, he persisted, worked harder, and achieved so much. He made massive advancements in computers, built the Turing Machine, wrote the first manual for programming, designed the first blueprint of a digital computer, and became director of Manchester University's computing laboratory. He made all these life-changing discoveries whilst experiencing terrible things, and his work paid off. He became celebrated and since 1966, the Turing award is given out every year, which is the computing equivalent of the Nobel Prize. Turing should be made a house name because his discoveries made a true difference. It is also vital that in today's society, we do everything we can to represent everyone, including those who are part of the LGBTQ+ community, and treat everyone equally and create a space where people can feel accepted for who they are. Turing defied boundaries, he pushed what the current knowledge was and understood that there are no limits, a mentality we should always try to instil into the students of OBHS.



Katie Mobbs