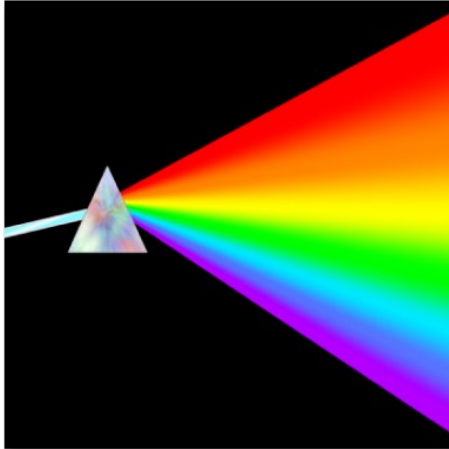


PRISM NEWSLETTER



LGBTQ+ Celebrity of the Week - Billy Porter:

Billy Porter is an American actor, singer, writer, director and LGBTQ+ activist. He identifies as a queer man and his fashion continues to challenge gender norms. Porter has been in movies such as 'Broken Hearts Club' as well as TV shows like 'American Horror Story' and 'Pose'. Originally known for his roles on Broadway, like playing Lola in 'Kinky Boots', he has become a beloved member of the LGBTQ+ community for using his platform to spread awareness and love. His numerous inspiring speeches at celebrity events and charity fundraisers emphasise the importance of chosen family to the LGBTQ+ community, expanding transgender rights and encouraging LGBTQ+ youth to find happiness and safe spaces to be themselves. One aspect of his life that many know him for is his stunning fashion that pushes boundaries in so many ways.

Hannah V (Year 13)



Our Club:

Prism is Queenswood's LGBTQ+ discussion club. We welcome people of all sexualities and gender identities or expressions. This term we are running the club at Wednesday break time. We discuss everything from celebrities to transgender activism, from the difficulties of coming out to RuPaul's Drag Race. If you want to know more about the LGBTQ+ community and fancy joining us in our weekly chats, feel free to drop me an email!

Hannah V (Year 13)

Amazon stops selling books that frame LGBTQ+ identities as 'mental illnesses':

Amazon has stopped selling the book when 'Harry became Sally', a transphobic book written by conservative academic Ryan Anderson, who is also known for his opposition to same-sex marriage. Since Amazon accounts for 53% of books sold in the US alone and 80% of all e-books, the book removals will have a massive impact on transgender lives.

A spokesperson for LGBTQ advocacy group GLAAD said: "There's an antiquated and shameful history of equating LGBTQ identity to mental illness, and Amazon's decision to stop selling books that falsely equate the two is a positive step in ending the misinformation campaign against LGBTQ people, especially trans youth, meant only to cause harm".

However this move was 'criticised' by right-wing senators who said "it is a signal to conservative Americans that their views are not welcome on its platforms". However Amazon has been unphased by this criticism and has continued to not sell books that frame LGBTQ+ identities as 'mental illnesses'.

Lucy R (Year 13)

Book/Film Review of the Week - Pose:

'Pose' is a TV show, found on Netflix and BBC iPlayer, set in the late 80s and early 90s in New York. It follows the emergence of 'ball' culture within the city, which was an African-American and Latin American underground LGBTQ+ subculture that consisted of many types of performance events, including dance, lip-synching and fashion runways. The show addresses the lives of those in the gay and trans community, including the AIDS crisis which spread rapidly through the country, at the time. It is a feel good and informative programme with a wonderful soundtrack.

Hannah V (Year 13)