



STUDENT COLLEGE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

DATE 08.11.2024

Important Dates For Your Diary

See the back page for important dates.



Did You Know?

Another bumper edition this week—there continues to be so much going on and it is a real credit to the staff and pupils who go the extra mile to put on the wonderful extra activities.

The UNESCO project and ambassadors continue to impress. There is an article on the following page that explains who they are, what they do and an insight into their accomplishments. Please take the time over this and the story garden—they are powerful projects and the impact these young people are having in the community with their commitment must be commended.

There is also an article on the Biology fieldtrip in the sixth form—it is interesting to see what experiences pupils have in their subjects and this report details a recent opportunity.

Have a peaceful weekend

At Lyng Hall we do not operate an application process like other sixth forms and colleges. We prefer to assume that all year 11 students will return to us, so we build our subject offering around the wishes and needs of students and then guarantee anyone who has had a good attitude to learning a place with us. All current students are spoken to about P16 options and then students receive an offer letter - there is no need to apply.

Year 11 P16 Parent Information Evening:

Wednesday November 27th @ 5pm



We are Lyng Hall - UNESCO

Date: Monday
11th November 2024



Community Story & Peace Garden

Time:
3.30 – 5.30pm



Venue: Conference Centre, Lyng Hall School

Coventry is known to be a centre of international peace and reconciliation.

The phoenix is a symbol of Our City and Our School.

This event will enable you to be part of the community who builds a garden space that recognises this long history, and still prioritises the rebirth and growth of our community.

Design your own sculptures for the space.

Tell your story to be part of the community of languages in our city's tapestry.

We look forward to welcoming you and for your voice being a part of our space.

*To confirm attendance please contact Lisa Hagan (Director of English and UNESCO Ambassador) –
lhagan@lynghallschool.co.uk*

Our Reflections on the Conference

Being a UNESCO Ambassador means you learn about significant events in our collective timeline. It means you are a supporter or representative for the values that are important to our society. We chose to be ambassadors since we believe it is good to learn about the complexity of these events, and how they shape our world now. Being a UNESCO Ambassador also provides us with many opportunities to meet amazing people and to go to significant places that should never be forgotten. One of the privileges of being an ambassador this year has been learning about events like the Coventry Blitz and The Holocaust.

In July we had the opportunity to present all of the projects we had done as UNESCO ambassadors in Coventry Cathedral, this included: our trip to the Old Cathedral, interview with a Holocaust Survivor and a multitude of other writing tasks and art pieces. We presented them on display boards colour coded by the 4 categories they fall under: learning to be, learning to know, learning to do and learning to live together.

From that experience not only did we have a great time but we were also enriched by the feedback from those who visited the exhibition. It was extra special to meet, and talk to, Linda Hirons, as she used to be a student at our own school. Her words made us feel very proud to not only be UNESCO ambassadors, but also ambassadors of the values Lyng Hall represents. She highlighted the calibre of our work and encouraged us to spread the many messages they represented.

We are Lyng Hall—UNESCO

In addition to sharing our own work, it was a privilege to visit the exhibitions of other students from different schools. This provided us with ideas for other projects and we were inspired by the power of other students. It was special to be part of an event which was building a community who have the same passion, and values.

Following the conference, we were proud to invite Our Chair of Governors, Ghulam Vohra (Vice Chairman - Coventry Muslim Forum) to a formal presentation at our school. It was so encouraging to hear his feedback, and his praise of our efforts, and it enabled us to see the power that could come from being an ambassador. Like the distinguished guests we met at Coventry Cathedral, he encouraged us to share our work with others. He helped us to see those moments, and experiences like these, in life are really important. That what we had already accomplished was a big achievement. But more than that, he gave us goals to work towards. He challenged us to think about how we were going to build on our work and we found this accountability empowering. We are grateful to have him as a role model, and supporter, of our efforts.

It is important to keep talking about historical events, like The Holocaust, to remember and honour those who endured. It is important to play our part in preventing atrocities from happening again in the future. Every time the story is shared, the narrative remains strong, and we participate in a continued liberation of those who suffered. We are proud to be ambassadors of values that will make our community stronger.



Welcome to Our Story Garden

Use the QR codes to listen to discover stories from the African continent—they lay hidden amongst native plants

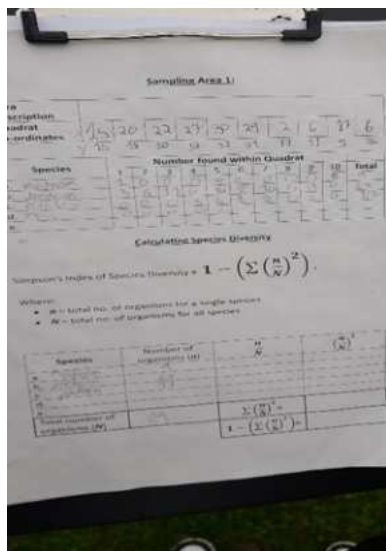
If W14, on a map, is the African continent, in what areas of the school will you find the remaining continent story gardens?



We are Lyng Hall—Biology Field Trip

Students from our year 13 A-level Biology cohort were escorted to Coombe Abbey to complete their PAG 3; Sampling Techniques. The assessment of practical skills is compulsory and appears on students' certificates alongside the overall grade for the qualification. They studied the distribution and abundance of plants in habitats (aquatic and land based) using a number of measuring techniques. The session was run by a graduated masters student from Lincoln university, who had put together a bespoke session based on the sampling techniques required for the completion of PAG 3.

Initially, the students sampled a grass based “plane field” in which quadrates were placed using random number generation. Students identified different species of plant and established the abundance and diversity of plants sampled. The field is regularly maintained and used for human activities and as such is a controlled area.



Subsequently we moved to the second sampling area; Meadow lands. These meadow lands are free to develop, away from human intervention and as such have different species and the students studied if this results in a smaller or larger species diversity.

As in the previous field, the quadrates were placed at random and species counted that were encountered in the meadow land area. Following statistical analyses, on benches in the open air, using the Simpson's index of species diversity, the students established the “Meadow land” area has a higher species diversity than the “plane field” and that it contained different vegetation.

We are Lyng Hall - Biology Field Trip

Sampling technique 2, practical 3, involved using an interrupted belt transect sampling. This method of sampling is ideal for investigating the progressive change in the distribution and abundance of several plant species in a habitat. The gaps in the tree growth on the edge of the field resulted in a differential exposure to sunlight. We investigated if this had an effect on the abundance of plants along a hundred metre transect line with sampling every 10 metres. The results need further analyses (plotting and linking to features of the habitat) at this point but there appeared to be a relationship between the positions on the transect line and the level of tree growth on the edge of the field.



Finally, we measured the diversity of species based on the sampling depth in a pond in Coombe Abbey. Students were introduced to the correct way to gain valid samples and minimise the disruption to pond life and safe return of the captured species to the pond. Next, the students gathered their samples and identified the species using a reference chart after which the species abundance and diversity at different levels of the pond was assessed. The results showed a clear differential expression of pond life dependent on sample depth with the larger more complex species mainly found near the bottom of the pond.

I would like to thank our pupils for the fantastic application to the sampling and analyses of the data and the excellent atmosphere maintained throughout the day. In addition, I would like to express my thanks and complements to the staff at Coombe Abbey for an excellent educational trip for our sixth form students.



Dragon – Update

Dragon College



Hope you have all had a good week Dragon College!!!

This week we want to celebrate the top three Dragon tutor groups and their amazing efforts in gaining great achievement points in lessons.

These tutor groups are:



Christmas will soon be upon us. With the weather getting colder and the nights getting darker it's important that you stay safe when travelling to and from school.

Tips for safety:

- Wear a coat with high visibility fabric
- Keep your phone in your pocket but full of charge in case you need it
- Walk with a friend or group
- If you have to walk alone make sure someone knows where you are
- If you want to listen to music do it on a low volume of through just one earphone



Dragon – Update

Dragon College



This time of the year can often have an effect on people's mental health. Whilst some enjoy the dark nights and cosy evenings others may not and it can impact on their lives. Throughout the winter months it is important to try and stick to your daily routines and timing for meals, sleep etc.. it can be harder to get up in the morning with it being darker. If you are finding this a problem then talk to someone. Be aware of your mental health and if needed contact someone that can support you. There are lots of people in school that are here to help but if you feel you cannot talk face to face there are a number of online chats that you can use to help with keeping your mental health in check. It's OK to not be OK but don't keep it bottled up inside. TALK to someone....

ChildLine
0800 1111

however you feel, ChildLine is here for you.
Call free, day or night on 0800 1111. Or if you're deaf, hard of hearing or hearing impaired, textphone 0800 600 222. ChildLine is a service provided by the NSPCC.

HOPELINE247
0800 068 41 41

shout
85258

THE MIX

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GIVING HOPE TO GRIEVING CHILDREN

Helpline: 08088 020 021
winstonswish.org

WINSTON'S WISH WW
Giving hope to grieving children

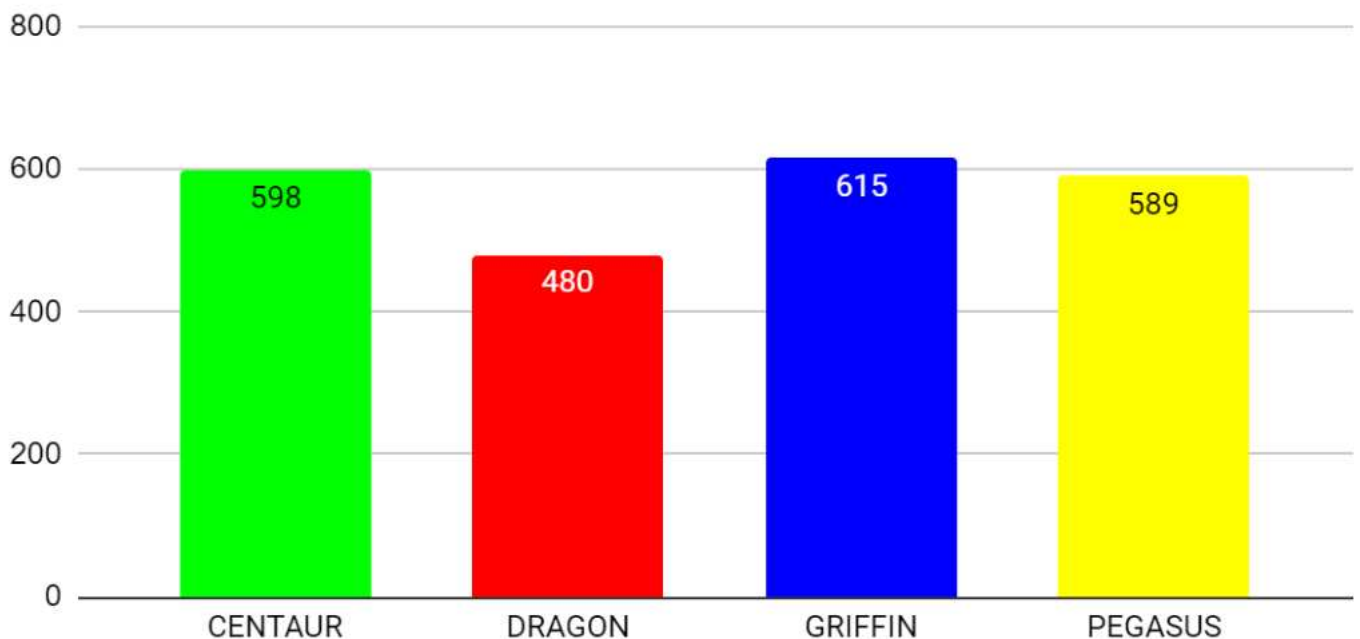
Remember,
you are never alone

Samaritans are here to listen 24/7.
You can call them any time for free on
116 123

SAMARITANS
A registered charity

College – Update

COLLEGE POINTS PER PUPIL



WOW! A big change in the college positions, after the statistics were calculated, following the last week before half-term... Griffin have shot up to first place, whilst Centaur have dropped into second place, Pegasus; third place and Dragon remain in fourth place. This goes to show that anything can happen, if an abundance of points are earned by a college, as Griffin have moved from third to first place in the matter of one week. Dragon are allowing the gap to become bigger—they need to show some fight and a real effort with their attendance, punctuality and behaviour, if they do not want to stay at the bottom of the league. Miss Gaggini warns Dragon of this every assembly but, they are yet to make any changes—have they given up already or, will this half-term be a fresh start for Dragon? We need high spirits, positivity and great determination, if they are to improve.



Did You Know? Support:

Your child may be eligible for free school meals if you receive certain benefits such as income support. Queries can be directed to Coventry City Council. Tel: 024768337733 or Email: freeschoolmeals@coventry.gov.uk Applications can be made through: www.coventry.gov.uk/applyforfreeschoolmeals

SCHOOL

To purchase food in the school dining room, money must be paid onto ParentPay as we are a cashless school. Login through: <https://app.parentpay.com/public/client/security/v2/#/login>

If you experience any problems with this, please contact your child's pastoral year coordinator.

LYNG HALL SCHOOL

TRAVEL

If you live more than 2 miles from the school, your child may be eligible for a free bus pass. For information on how a student would qualify for a pass please visit:

<http://www.coventry.gov.uk/schoolbuspasses>.

Applications: www.coventry.gov.uk/applyforatravelpass

Queries: Tel: 02476975445 or Email:

If your child out-grows their blazer but it is still in very good condition, they may be able to swap their blazer for a bigger size, if our stock allows.

UNIFORM

We accept uniform donations. Please drop any items that you no longer need or require in to school reception.

If you are struggling with the cost of items of the uniform, we will do our best to try and help you. Contact your child's pastoral year coordinator in the first instance

We Are Lyng Hall

Lyng Hall Uniform Donations

We have been informed by our pupils that they sometimes out-grow their uniform during the year and therefore buy new items. We would like to take the opportunity to ask that any uniform that you may be replacing, or not using, is kindly donated to the school.

The uniform does not have to be in brand new condition but be relatively good quality (not ripped or stained) and can include PE kit, winter coats, shoes etc.

Pupils and/or parents can hand the uniform donations into the school reception at any point in time throughout the year. We greatly appreciate all donations that have been made previously and any that we receive in the future.

Thank you,

Miss Gaggini

School Calendar

Coming up...

w/c Monday 11th November - Year 11 Mock Exams

Wednesday 13th November - Year 7 to 11 Nasal Flu Vaccinations

Tuesday 26th November - P16 Parents' Evening

Wednesday 26th November—Year 11 into sixth form information evening.