



STUDENT COLLEGE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

DATE 04.04.2025

Important Dates For Your Diary

See the back page for important dates.



Did You Know –By Josh, editor

Did You Know?

From Monday to Wednesday, the global Muslim community will have been celebrating the end of Ramadan, called Eid al-Fitr (the festival of the breaking of the fast). This marks the first day of Shawwal, which is the 10th month in the Islamic calendar, and is the first day after the month of Ramadan. The celebration is usually 3 days long and involves feasts and prayer to end the month of fasting. Eid al-Fitr is first observed with donations to charity (Zakat al-Fitr), and then is usually followed with a special Salah (prayer), called the Eid prayer. After this, Eid al-Fitr is celebrated with large meals and gift giving, and people may greet each other with the words "Eid Mubarak", meaning "blessed Eid". Homes are also sometimes decorated. Here's what Mr Ahbedin, our career advisor, has to say about this wonderful holiday:

"The Eid celebration is a reward that feels unearned without the fasting, the self-discipline and abstinence achieved for 30 days in the Month of Ramadhaan. We are told in our religion, Islaam, that within the month, 'God is not in need of someone who only gives up food and water', unless you refrain from slander, cheating, lying, stealing and any other pre-existing bad habits... actions perfected in the Month that preceded, should continue throughout the year. Rather than come to a sudden halt. In fact, a Muslim is obligated to pay towards a needy person who cannot afford to celebrate their Eid, called 'Fitrana'. So, we learn that even the needy are obligated to observe Ramadhaan and fast, and the financially able Muslim must support them to do this."

Thank you Mr Ahbedin.

We are Lyng Hall—For a Better Future

Events for Holocaust Memorial Day 2025

In February, we were privileged to host a second generation survivor, Lesley Urbach.

Our students' reflections:

"The story of how you and your family supported one another, despite the overwhelming fear and uncertainty whether you were still going to stay together or if those were your last moments with your mom you never knew, was incredibly memorable. It highlighted the strength of the human spirit and the importance of compassion, even in the face of unimaginable adversity."

"Look at us, hardly striving for unity, compassion and love. We are disappointing all the past generations that had to face so many unbearable hardships so that we wouldn't have to. Ask yourself, do you do enough? Do you push the significance of history, continue a light legacy, broadcast against hate? Do you? Do you smile at people whilst walking past? Do you use your mannerisms which you were taught at primary? Do you?"

Now that we've heard Mala's narrative and her chapter of the story, we are the vessels of her testimony. We may live a neutral life, we may have privileges but do not take that for granted. Privilege is never promised. Your life can change in a matter of days. So please, recognise that you can do more. As humans we have a collective responsibility. Please strive for peace. Strive for safety and strive for justice for our future."

"Every time I think about your journey it inspires me to be a better person."

Our Y12 English A-Level students welcoming our honoured guest - second generation survivor, Lesley Urbach—over a cup of tea



Our UNESCO Ambassadors having lunch with second generation survivor, Lesley Urbach

We are Lyng Hall—For a Better Future

Events for Holocaust Memorial Day 2025

John Hajdu, MBE

We were privileged to host a first-generation Holocaust survivor on Friday 28th March—he shared his emotional, and powerful, testimony with 6 classes. It continued our focus this term on Holocaust Education.

Ahead of his talk he had lunch with selected TEFL students—it was a beautiful exchange of shared experiences.

“It was an incredibly special afternoon and we are grateful to John for joining us and empowering our students with an attitude of resilience, hope and community.”

“Thank you for the opportunity today. We have had a detailed discussion about the History behind this.”

“Great experience and thought it moving.”



Our TEFL students exchanging stories with our special guest—shared experiences of being displaced and of war

Dear Lisa.

Where to begin!!

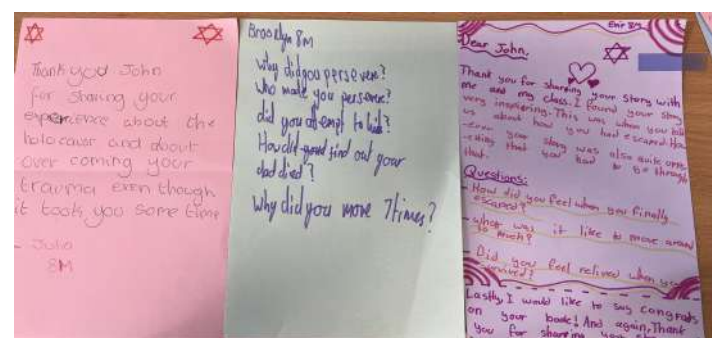
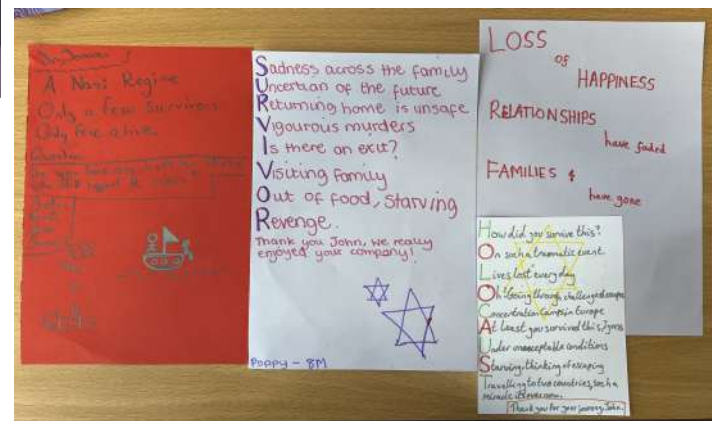
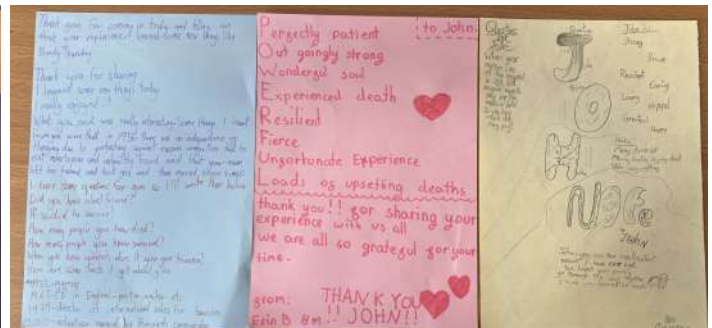
Thank you for organising my visit.

Thank you -

Thank you for lunch and for asking the boys to join us, it was a brilliant idea and I hope they found it of interest too.

I hope that those who attended my talk understood about the suffering in my life, especially under the Nazi regime, and that it gave them something to talk about and think about in the future.

I look forward to seeing the photos and the film which will bring back very happy memories of my visit.



Our students share their reflections in different forms: letters, poems, short speeches.

Awarded Coventry Peace Prize

We are incredibly proud of our ambassadors

“Peace.

It feels like a small word but its roots are significant and its importance unmatched. Its French root gives us the idea of “permission, reconciliation,” whilst Latin offers us “tranquillity, agreement” but my favourite is Spanish whose root is a “binding.” This sense of an agreement between us that we are committed to ensuring each member of our community has the permission to ‘be.’

If we think of our world now – Gaza, Palestine, Israel, Korea, Ukraine, Syria... The list could continue. If we allowed ourselves to, our view could become very bleak. We could think, but what can I really do?

Amidst the horrors of The Holocaust, one of the darkest chapters of our collective history, Itzhak Stern cites the Talmud: “Whoever saves one life, saves the world entire.”

And this is the challenge. The mission.

It is one of the profoundest privileges of my career to guide the UNESCO Ambassador programme.

Since the beginning, I have been inspired by the young people I’ve worked with. It is incredibly special today to have in the same space, the original ambassadors of the programme on my right, and our current ambassadors on my left. Aadam, Zaid, Hanan, Harvir, Zeid, Mia and Alex paved the way – speaking as the first British Young Representatives at the United Nations’ Student Conference.

Year on year, the individuals within the programme grows, as do the ripples and the potential for the peace we can inspire in the actions we take.

I am proud of each individual who has journeyed through this programme – who has made the choice to use their time to be a positive force for change and other people.” - Miss. Hagan



Our first ambassadors (2019-2022), alongside Miss. Hagan—UNESCO School Ambassador—receiving the Peace Award from Our Lord Mayor



Our first ambassadors (2019-2022) and our current ambassadors (2022-2025), with the Our Lord Mayor receiving the Peace Award

Awarded Coventry Peace Prize

We are incredibly proud of our ambassadors

“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.

It is a title I am proud to have.

Every time a story is shared, the narrative remains strong, and we participate in the continued liberation of those who suffered and we make possible the absence of this in the future. We are proud to be ambassadors of values that will make our community stronger.

“When justice cannot shape memory, remembering the past can be a form of justice we can choose to be a part of.” (Ana Blandiana) Freedom is fragile and it cannot be taken for granted. I acknowledge that truth, and as we prepare for our journey to Ypres, I carry the thought through into action. Will you?” - **Emmanuel Dampare—Current UNESCO Ambassador**



Aadam Vohra and Emmanuel Dampare receiving the Peace Award from Our Lord Mayor

“My name is Aadam Vohra. I was a student here at Lyng Hall 3 years ago, and it is a pleasure and an honour to be back here today, and even more so to be speaking to you.

Peace is a concept that we in the western world are very lucky to know as our normal way of life. The vast majority of us wake up every morning with a sense of certainty and safety, and we return home every night knowing what tomorrow will bring. But this is not the case for all human beings.

Our goal was to ensure that young people understood the past and the impact of the past on our world today; to never take for granted the peace we enjoy. And I think the fact that we are all here today and our ambassadors are receiving this award is a testament to the fact that this message has been understood.” - **Aadam Vohra, UNESCO Ambassador 2019-2022**



Former ambassadors Hanan and Harvir, alongside current ambassador Julien, receiving the Peace Award from Our Lord Mayor

“My name is Harvir Dhatt. It brings us great joy to see everybody here and I am honoured to be able to talk about peace, a construct that many people and families across the globe cannot attain.

As a group, we have always questioned this concept of peace, what is it? It goes beyond just a google definition. This neglect of peace is engraved into both mine and Aadam’s legacy as British Indian and British Pakistani individuals. Programmes like this enable students to try to make a difference by raising these issues and spreading awareness to other young people—developing a deeper understanding of what true peace really means. Our research exists on the British Council as a global educational tool.

It goes without saying that we should all be very proud of ourselves for taking this step forwards. These different experiences travel with me as I start my life as an adult.” - **Harvir Dhatt, UNESCO Ambassador 2019-2022**

“It is always humbling to watch the achievement of our students—especially so, when they are reaching wide beyond the corners of our school, out into the community and so very far beyond. To see past students return and talk about the powerful influence working on the UNESCO projects have had on their lives and how it continues to resonate with them. Then the growing UNESCO group who are so powerful currently and have grown in their presence and poise over the year. The Mayor, Miss Hagan and Mr Green and our other distinguished guests were rightly impressed by what they have achieved and what lies ahead. It was a pleasure to watch.”

Mrs Smith—Associate Headteacher

Awarded Coventry Peace Prize

We are incredibly proud of our ambassadors

“Lord Mayor, honoured guests, staff and students,

I am delighted to accept this prestigious peace prize. We are proud to live and work in a city dedicated to peace and reconciliation and hope that we have played a small part in contributing to this. This moment is a testament to the collective work of all those who strive for harmony and understanding in our communities.

I want to express my sincere thanks to Our Lord Mayor for giving up the time to be with us, and for championing initiatives that bring people together, transcending and celebrating our differences.

I also want to acknowledge the staff and students who have been involved in this work over a number of years. Your passion and tireless efforts serve as a reminder that we all have a role to play, supporting the cause of peace, tolerance and understanding in our community.

Peace is not merely the absence of conflict but the presence of justice, understanding, tolerance, celebration of diversity, and love. We are committed to continue to work together, to create a future where peace flourishes in every corner of our community.

In closing, thank you once again, Lord Mayor, and to everyone who has supported this work. Together, let us strive to build bridges, foster empathy, and each do our part to help create a world where peace is truly attainable for all.

Thank you.” - Paul Green, Headteacher



Our Headteacher addresses the audience alongside our ambassadors past and present



Our Lord Mayor addresses the audience alongside our ambassadors past and present

Lyng Hall Pop Up Shop

POP UP UNIFORM SHOP



LYNG HALL SCHOOL UNIFORM POP UP



Pricing

Blazers =£5

Trousers =£1

Shirts = 50p

Hoodies = £2

7TH April and 8th April



Lyng Hall School,
Blackberry Lane
CV2 3JS

We also
offer a swap
shop
exchange your
old uniform
for a new set!

2 days only! Dont miss out.
From 2pm to 4pm onwards



Centaur – Update

Centaur Student Focus: Payam Saeidi

Introduction: *Payam is a lovely young man with bright interests. His desire to go into the STEM industry is an exciting one. He joined Lyng Hall not so long ago, after arriving in the UK in January 2024. He has an attendance record of 97% at present and has achieved over 400 positive points. As a character, he always seems to carry a smile, is amicable to those around him. And isn't afraid to ask for help.*



Where are you from? *West Azerbaijan near Kurdistan and Turkey.*

Where did you learn English? *I learned English when I was in Iran.*

What brought you to the UK? *Personal reasons but mainly, my father lives here. I came with my mother, brother and sister. My younger brother is also in TEFL.*



What do you miss the most? *The history of my country. The Azadi Tower in Tehran and the waterfalls in Sardach City, which are beautiful. I also miss eating Chelow kebab!*

How did you feel when you first came here? *Both happy and sad. I still have friends back home.*

What do you enjoy doing? *I enjoy sports and Mixed Martial Arts.*



What was the happiest moment since arriving? *Seeing my father after 4 years.*

What's the plan for next year? *I would very much like to come back to Sixth form.*

What subjects are your favourites? *I believe I am good at Science and ICT.*

What does the future hold for you? *I would love to go into a career involving Artificial Intelligence and Robotics.*



Dragon – Update



8B take over E13



Last week 8B were invited into the kitchen and given the opportunity to show off their baking skills. Armed with a recipe card and some basic ingredients the group were let loose to create themselves some shortbread treats. The boys worked so hard for the lesson and showed off some skills in the kitchen. We had great examples of teamwork, cleaning, consideration and even some singing. The end result was a nice afternoon of treats and new skills.

Here is the recipe for you to try at home:

- 100g plain flour
- 50g cornflour
- 50g icing or caster sugar
- 100g butter
- 1 – 2 teaspoons caster sugar to sprinkle on top when cooked.

Sieve flours and sugar into bowl.

Cut, then rub butter or marg into dry ingredients until mixture resembles breadcrumbs. Keep rubbing until mixture sticks together and a dough is formed.

Shape shortbread by lightly flour a rolling pin and tabletop. Roll shortbread mixture out to the depth of £1 coin. Cut out required shapes. Place shapes on a lightly greased baking tray.

Bake gas mark 4 or 160°C for at approximately 20 mins until pale brown around the edges and quite firm to touch. (The larger circles of shortbread will take longer to cook so prevent over-browning)

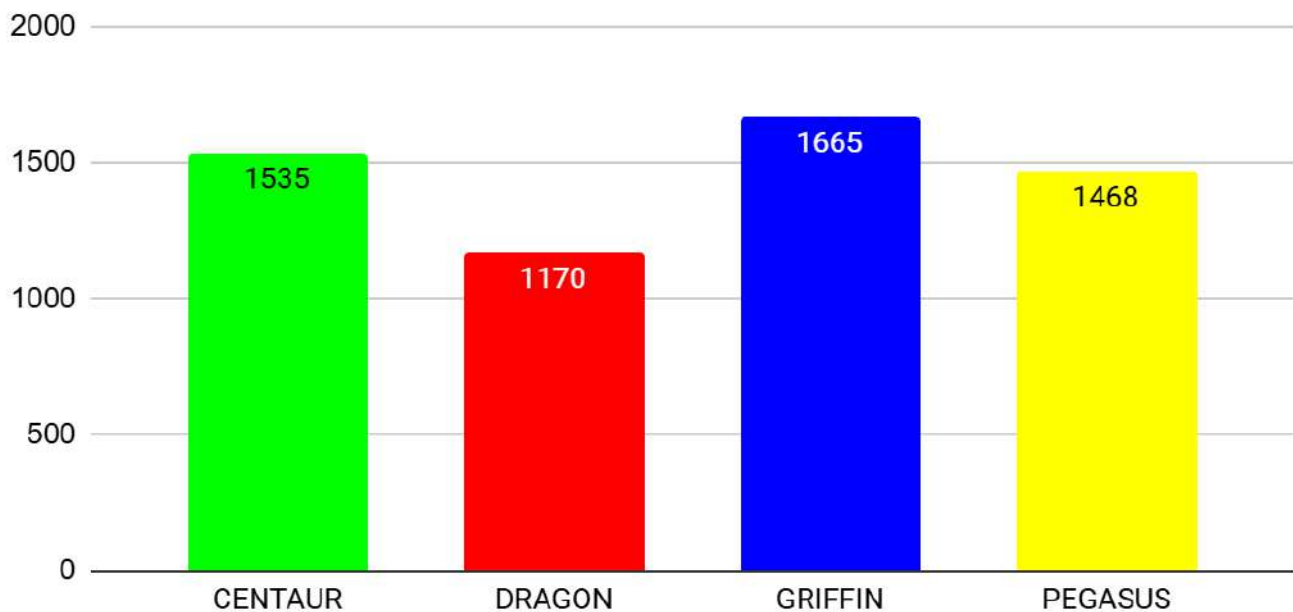
Remove from oven and allow to cool before placing on cooling rack. (The large circles should stand on the greaseproof for at least 5 – 10 minutes to avoid cracking).

Sprinkle with sugar while still warm.



College – Update

COLLEGE POINTS PER PUPIL



Pegasus have closed the gap slightly to first place, so that they now only have an average of only 130 points per pupil between themselves and Griffin. This may sound like a large number of points however, postcard nominations are worth 100 points each and there are three opportunities per week, to win a 1000 point bonus.

TOP CENTAURS			TOP DRAGONS			TOP GRIFFINS			TOP PEGASUS		
Caitlynn Babb	10M	1526	Deborah Eribalo	10Y	1361	Kevin Yu	9R	1616	Ashley Dewis	10I	1636
Reece Wilkes	10M	1507	Kimberley Frimpong	10Y	1297	Temi Kazeem	10O	1547	Vanessa Nwajioha	10R	1494
Lucia Gaborova	TEFL	1435	Ayub Jama	8I	1209	Charlie Raybould	9R	1537	Amelle Munro	10R	1431
Patrick Stark	10M	1433	Annalise Treacy	8I	1148	Liam Adkins	9R	1524	Wiktorina Zamosna	10R	1367
Anna Lackova	TEFL	1373	Igor Kap	8I	1119	Nucuta-Razvan Costache	10O	1509	Harkiran Kaur	10R	1351
Ayrton Sumner	10M	1332	Jason Laleye	10Y	1097	Piotr Jonas	10O	1504	Sara Raducan	10I	1351
Tehillah Nyakudya	10M	1318	Andreea Duna	8I	1094	Caitlin Valentine	9R	1502	Julia Witykus	10R	1345
Jaromir Gabor	TEFL	1315	Darren Junior Bishop	10Y	1084	Lona Nembo Wakam	9R	1489	Javion Duke	10I	1338
Elmantas Mockus	7B	1303	Taylor Purcell	8I	1080	Rasan Mohammed	9R	1488	Trey Langa	10I	1327
Emaan Haroon	10M	1272	Liam Kavanagh	8I	1062	Alex Drew	9R	1475	Alfie Brown	10R	1311

College – Update

DOUBLE POINTS FOR NO BEHAVIOUR POINTS

10M

8M

10R

THE 100 - REWARD TRIP

Pupils may have heard Miss Gaggini talking about 'The 100' in college assemblies and around school. This is a new reward that we are introducing to the college system, to recognise and show appreciation to the pupils that are working hard every single day.

Unlike the reward trip at the end of the year, that is won by the winning college, 'The 100' will be a trip or event offered to the 'top 25' in each of the 4 colleges. This means, that if you are a pupil whom is performing their best and demonstrating our school values yet, are not in the winning college by the end of the year, your efforts will still be recognised and rewarded through the opportunity to attend a free trip/event.

There will be lots of factors that will decide the criteria used, to establish whom are the 'Top 25'. This may include some of our key school foci such as: attendance, punctuality, total conduct points, homework submissions, ATL reports and general conduct towards others and around school. It won't be as simple as '*those with the highest number of achievement points*'.

The purpose is to acknowledge and reward our pupils whom set themselves high standards on a daily basis, demonstrate a diligent attitude towards their education and show respect and kindness to their teachers and their peers.



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...

Thursday 10th April - Culture day

Friday 11th April - Year 12 careers fair at Coventry Transport Museum

w/b 14th April - Easter Holiday

Thursday 1st May - Year 10 Geography field trip

Tuesday 6th May - Year 10 Parents' Meetings

w/b 26th May - Half Term