



**We are  
Lyng Hall  
26.06.26**

# Community Cohesion Workshop

## Built on Respect

### What choices will you make?

Our UNESCO Ambassadors developed a workshop that focused on the choices we make; the role of peer pressure, and how these factors influence the community we create.

On Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June, they visited one of our feeder primary schools – Stoke Heath - to explore these ideas with the Y6 students who will be joining our Lyng Hall Community in September.

“During the morning, I was working with Myla, Zafia and Layton.

I noticed that they were very engaged during the values part; they all produced their own arguments on why they chose it and why it's important to choose it.

As a group we decided to pick family, education, human rights, money and clothes. Some of their ideas were as a community we should be inclusive to work together no matter your differences. Also, that we need to learn from our mistakes and we should publicly talk about human rights because people should have the right to choose what they can and cannot do. During the time I was working with them I noticed there was no main person talking; they were all included and were bouncing off each others' comments. They showed that a community isn't a singular person, it is a group.”

**Aisha Warsame**



### WHAT IS COMMUNITY?

In your small groups, reflect on what a community is.

Are we a community in this room?



### WHAT IS PEER PRESSURE?

In your small groups, reflect on what you think peer pressure is; and why it is an important topic.



### SO, WHAT VALUES ARE IMPORTANT?

Stand up in a circle, you are in a community hot air balloon.

Talking with your community, you now need to persuade each other about what you think.

What conclusion will you come to? Be prepared to justify your community's choice.

Career	Money	Clothes	Beauty	Friend(s)
Pet	Future	Car	Books	Human Rights
Education	Memories	Social Media	Family	

### WHAT TO DO IF IT HAPPENED TO YOU?

If someone is being mean to you online, remember four important words:

**Stop:** Do not reply or type back. Saying something mean back usually makes things worse.

**Block:** Use the block button on the game or app so that person cannot talk to you anymore.

**Save:** Take a screenshot or picture of the mean words to show an adult later.

**Tell:** Tell a trusted adult right away, like a parent, relative, or teacher. They can help you fix it.



“It takes a whole village to raise a child.”

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“In our small groups, we reflected on the importance of supporting those in our community. During our time there, we introduced certain scenarios such as cyberbullying and peer pressure. Each of them chose to challenge the situations while also understanding and explaining the concepts. This helped us see where the young minds stand while also viewing their opinions on the world.” – **Elian Mohammed**

“In my small group, we took time to reflect on the values of community and what it means to us. For our activity we discussed what the most important factors are to have in a community. Kian said that memories are vital as they remind you of the people that are supporting you. He also mentioned that memories can make you remember the things you love the most. Amelia said that human rights hold significance because in a community a person needs to be respected and have a voice. She explained that everybody should be equal and be treated equally and heard. Renae believes that the future shouldn't be overlooked as you need to stick together and be good people for your own safety but also for the communities. These activities and conversations hold an importance as it allows students to engage in each other's thoughts and can open new connections and friendships. Our community cohesion workshop was working with children that will be invited to the Lyng hall school community next year which is also important as these children have a greater idea of our view in community.” – **Holly Masterson**



“It takes a whole village to raise a child.”

# Community Cohesion Workshop

## Built on Respect

“During the morning, I was working with Dina, Argo and Nathaniel. What I noticed was that they engaged with the cyberbullying project well, each bouncing off each other's comments.

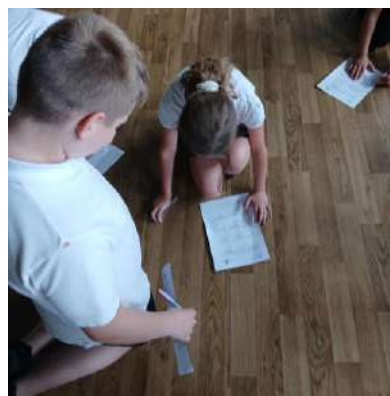
In the hot air balloon project, the value that we emphasised was our human rights. A quote from Dina was: “Human Rights because everyone should have protected characteristics and everyone should include each other.”

In that small group we reflected on what community was and how to be a upstander, not a bystander. They also learnt that community isn't the same and it is brought together by differences.” – **Kristy Ebihon**

“The Stoke Heath pupils really appreciated the time, effort and experience the Lyng Hall pupils offered during their workshop. The transition to secondary school can be quite daunting and being able to work alongside some excellent role models has been a wonderful way for our students to gain confidence and insight into their next steps. Some even commented on whether they would be able to run workshops like this when they are at Lyng Hall so that they could come back and visit us. A great success! Thank you to Miss Hagan and the students for this opportunity.

**Ms Anderson, Y6 Teacher, Stoke Heath**

“I am incredibly proud of the ambassadors. The innovation for this project, and for it to be part of a transition programme, came from them. It has been a privilege to support them in developing a workshop designed to amplify the meaning of community. I know it will have a positive impact as the students look to move from Stoke Heath to Lyng Hall in September. They have created a project that will become a legacy transition.” – **Miss. Hagan**



“It takes a whole village to raise a child.”



## Beyond the Blade Exhibition

### Built on Respect

#### A poetry exhibition exploring the impact of Knife Crime

On the 15th of June, Lyng Hall School UNESCO Ambassadors carried out an exhibition exploring the history of knife crime and the long-lasting impacts on the victim, victim's families and society.

We used our poetic voices to bring attention to a problem that has affected many people, and we did this by writing poems from the victim's perspective and the victims' family's perspective, as well as the overview of society.

Our group introduced the 5 stages of grief – composing a piece for each stage. Reflections on the Knife Angel inspired other poetry – reflecting on how this continues to be a persistent problem that, as a society, we need to address.

We were privileged to launch this exhibition with special guests: Our Lord Mayor, Coventry Warwickshire police, Coventry Association of International Friendship, SACRE, teachers, parents, and members of the community.

Overall, our exhibition and our poetry helped bring more attention to this matter and raised awareness on the dangers of knife crime in Coventry and around the world. We are working on how we will take the work produced to share more widely with both the local, and global, community.

- Zaphya Kapur

It is a privilege as an educator to create spaces where young people's voices can breathe.

Knife Crime is a dark thread within the fabric of our society. It is one that needs to be unwoven. 'Voices Beyond the Blade' is a part of that conversation. It gives a space to our young people to consider this subject. They confront not the statistics, but the intricate impact that this violence can have on lives, communities, and perceptions.

We are a City of Peace and Reconciliation. But it cannot just be in a name. that concept needs to be threaded through us. It needs to be in how we speak, how we act and how we influence.

**Miss. Hagan**  
**Director of English**  
**UNESCO School Ambassador**



## Beyond the Blade Exhibition

### Built on Respect

Thank You for a wonderfully thought-provoking evening. The poetry and the delivery of the poems was amazing.

As I shared with your students, I really hope that your messages get shared to wider audiences and I think we should all be thinking about what actions we can take to prevent this awful violence for future generations.

Keep up the great work.



**Ann Beatty**  
**Chief Executive of The Steve Sinnott Foundation**  
**UNESCO ASPnet UK National Co-ordinator**

Year 9 UNESCO Ambassadors took part in a knife-crime exhibition, and I was one of the students who spoke to visitors about our work. Over the past few weeks, we had been learning about knife crime, the impact it has on victims, and how it affects their families long after the incident. Seeing how serious it really is made the exhibition feel even more important.

During the event, we explained to visitors why knife crime affects so many people and how one moment can completely change a family's life. Talking to people face-to-face made me realise how important it is to understand the real consequences, not just what you see online or in the news.

We also shared the poems we wrote inspired by the Knife Angel. When people stopped to read them, we talked about the meanings behind our poems and how we tried to show emotions like fear, loss, and hope. It felt good to explain something personal and see that people were genuinely listening.

Another part of the exhibition was discussing the five stages of grief. I explained how families go through shock, anger, sadness, and eventually acceptance after losing someone to knife crime. This part made a lot of visitors stop and think because it showed how the pain doesn't just disappear.

Being part of the exhibition made me feel proud. I wasn't just learning about knife crime, I was helping other people understand its impact too. It showed me how important it is to raise awareness and look out for each other.

**- Hyelsinta Mshelia**

## Beyond the Blade Exhibition

### Built on Respect



It is a pleasure to join you this evening, and I would like to thank Lyng Hall School for the invitation to attend Voices Beyond the Blade.

Knife Crime is an issue that affects not only individuals but families and neighbourhoods. It raises concerns about safety, wellbeing, and the future for our young people. Events like this are vital in helping us understand these impacts more deeply.

What is especially inspiring is that this exhibition has been created by students. The UNESCO Ambassadors have taken a difficult and complex issue and explored it through creativity, reflection and powerful expression. Through poetry and interactive displays, they are giving a voice to experiences that might otherwise go unheard.

Coventry is proud of its reputation as a City of Peace and Reconciliation, and this work continues this tradition. To the students: you should be very proud. Your work is thoughtful, courageous and important.

Thank you for inviting me, and I wish this exhibition every success in raising awareness and inspiring positive change.

**- Right Honourable Lord Mayor of Coventry, Councillor Roger Bailey**

## Beyond the Blade Exhibition

### Built on Respect

Thanks so much for inviting me to your event last night. As always, I am completely amazed by the quality of your pupils' work. They show such maturity and their work is so moving. Congratulations for a very memorable evening. Your students should feel very proud of themselves.

**Rebecca Bolland**  
**Headteacher**  
**Earlsdon Primary**  
**School**

#### Our guest's voices:

"You are the voice of a generation. You give hope for the strength of those to come, those who can – and will – change everything. You inspires; you challenge; you hope; you can change the world."

"Your voices are vital in making a difference. These poems touched my heart and I hope you share them widely."

"Just shouldn't happen. Anger – frustration. But after tonight. Hope."

"The bloodshed is heartbreaking. These students bring inspiration to a future of peace. They should be proud of the change they are making."

"Knife crime is 'solveable' crime if the community unites to make a stand against it."

"Voices echoing in a hall. They speak of those left behind, the one who have to hold the suffering; the ones who hold the fragments, pieces shattered, of a life once whole. These words, these messages, halting at first, then proud, loud. Asking for debate, asking for answers. You make us so humble. You inspire, you hold the room. Your blessing will bring a hope, a change."





## A Journey to Wales

### Driven by Resilience

**Y7 students, with Mr. Ward, Mr. Davis and Miss Gaginni travelled to Plas y Brenin.**

On Monday we arrived at school at around 7.00 for the 4-hour drive. On the way there, we saw sheep, cows, farms and multiple nice houses. Upon arriving in Plas y Brenin, we got into our rooms and set off for a challenge, to hike up a mountain. This mountain was around 450m high. We had to face loads of challenges, like tricky rock climbing and never giving up. We found a lake and we decided to do some skimming.

On Tuesday, we had fun canoeing. As we were canoeing, we went around rocks and learned different skills on how to turn the boat and how to row faster. After that we went rock climbing – it was complicated learning how to use all the new equipment. We had a go at harness climbing, rappelling up a wall with loads of rocks. It was good fun. After we tried normal climbing which was even funnier as people fell off, which made me laugh.

On Wednesday we went coasteering which was the best thing possible. We jumped off rocks and we were swimming in the deep end. There was a lot of slipping which was really funny. After that we went for a swim, we saw some jellyfishes and I got scared. Then we watched the England game and had pizza. England won 4-2! Result.

On Thursday we went weaselling – before climbing up a 347m high mountain. We lunched at the summit.

On Friday, the final day – we tried the low ropes; where we had to climb on some low ropes completing different challenges which caused us to lose lives. We had to carry something around called polly - if we dropped her, we would be dead (not for real though) and that was really fun.

On the way back Mr Ward put some music on - everyone was dancing around and waving their hands in the air. Everyone had good fun. When we arrived back to school our parents were so happy to see us. We said goodbye and thank you to our teachers.

Plas y brenin was the best - I would go again!!!!

**Kaiden Assinder**





## A Journey to Wales

### Driven by Resilience



On Wednesday we had one massive activity on the amazing coasteering! We climbed rocks and floated through obstacles in the sea. Then after we had a treat and went swimming in the mighty waves of the ocean.

On Thursday we climbed a 347m mountain and the view at the top was amazing! After we safely went down and ate our lunch, then we went back to camp and got changed to go through tight gaps through giant rocks which is called weaselling.

On Friday we did one last activity which was ropes and low ropes. First, we had to swing across platforms using one singular rope then we had to guide our blindfolded friend through obstacles using ropes.

After all I thought Plas y Brenin was great and I would love to go again next year.

**- Mason Piff**



It was a great time we will never forget!

**By Lissy and Kai 7RK**

“Nyah and Simran impressed me on the mountain trek – they were off out in front setting the pace.” – **Mr. Ward**

# A Journey to Wales

## Driven by Resilience

"We went hiking - up different mountains. We all had fun because there were sheep. We were jumping across the rocks ; and had an amazing race in the river. We had so much fun finding the sticks we wanted. Hiking up the mountain was hard but fun. We needed to follow the hiker's steps because it was so steep. I am thankful for this opportunity."  
- **Nyah Coleman**

"If I can fit through there, you definitely can." – encouraging words by **Mr Davis** when students were attempting weaseling (squeezing through tight gaps to make your way through rocks/boulders)

"Abdul and Sebastian rock climbing were very impressive." – **Mr. Ward**





## Partnership Visit to Northern Ireland

### Defined by Excellence

On Wednesday 17th June, I had the opportunity to travel to Northern Ireland as part of a Peace and Reconciliation project. During our three-day visit, we spent our time exploring the history of different towns and reflecting on the protests that took place before.

On the first day we arrived, we were able to meet and introduce ourselves to the other students who would be taking part in the workshops with us. We partnered with Limavady High School and St. Mary's.

This trip provided a unique experience to deepen our knowledge of Northern Ireland's history; whilst learning lessons of peace and understanding. One of the most memorable experiences was walking around the historic walls of Londonderry, which offered a powerful insight on the city's complex past and the importance of their goal to unify.

Overall, the visit was inspirational and demonstrated that embracing different perspectives and promoting mutual respect can help create a strong and more unified community.

We look forward to nurturing this partnership and welcoming them on their return visit to Coventry – **Elian Mohammed**



## Partnership Visit to Northern Ireland

### Defined by Excellence



“During this trip we visited Limavady High School and St. Mary’s school to participate in a project of peace and reconciliation, learning the importance of togetherness and forgiveness. These schools value the importance of building new relationships and new communities as they are a shared education school. Although they have different views in religion, they believe that they can still connect and be who they are. The whole duration of the workshop was shared with these students.



On the second day we got to visit Derry/Londonderry the areas where conflict used to be homed. This was important as it gave us a clearer view on why peace must be prioritised and helped us sympathise for all of citizens that might’ve lost their lives due to the violence. Acknowledging their conflict has allowed us to find a journey to what a healthy community is.

Overall, I enjoyed the visit and feel that visits like this are important for our future. It allowed us to experience different learning and helped create a more unified community within our friendship groups.” – **Holly Masterson**



“During our school trip to Northern Ireland, we learned about the history of conflict and the journey towards peace and reconciliation. We visited important sites and heard from people with different experiences and perspectives, which helped us understand the importance of respect, dialogue, and understanding between communities. The trip showed us how people can work together to overcome division and build stronger relationships. We can bring these lessons back to Coventry by promoting inclusion, celebrating diversity, and encouraging open conversations that help create a more united and peaceful community.” – **Kristy Ebihon**



# Partnership Visit to Northern Ireland

## Defined by Excellence

A snapshot frame of our adventures. Watch this space for next steps...



## A trip to Chinatown

### Defined by Excellence

#### 7RK share their experiences with you:

On Friday 19th June 7RK students went on a school trip to China Town to complement their studies in Mandarin. Here are some of their thoughts:

A group favourite was the Chinese buffet we had for lunch, it was delicious! We completed a booklet quest where we were given prompts to ask people questions. We went to the shops in China Town and had the opportunity to buy things like drinks and snacks. We met other schools who also learn Mandarin, so that was super cool! **By Mohammed and Rehyan 7RK**

**Mohammed:** 'The atmosphere was amazing!'

**Sebastian:** 'I especially enjoyed visiting the arcade in China Town'

**Kiruthic:** 'The buffet was incredible'



## Physical Fellowship 2026

### Defined by Excellence

Students from Years 7 and 8 delivered an outstanding performance this week as part of the Highly Sprung Physical Fellowship, showcasing a devised physical theatre piece titled 'When Fire Met Earth'. The work was inspired by the Hawaiian legend of Pele and Kamapua'a, a story that explores the tension and harmony between fire and water, destruction and creation. This rich folklore became the foundation for a powerful 12 minute performance that our students devised, supported by Highly Sprung practitioner Mai. Students spent two days exploring movement, ensemble storytelling, and the physical language needed to bring the island, its creatures, and its deities to life. They created a vivid world filled with erupting volcanoes, crashing waves, chaotic storms, and moments of stillness where the island itself spoke.

The performance day at the Belgrade Theatre offered an exceptional professional experience. Students took part in three specialist workshops alongside two other schools, led by practitioners from Ghecko, Les Enfants Terribles, and Fourth Monkey. These sessions introduced them to techniques in physical confidence, puppetry, and creative risk taking, broadening their understanding of contemporary theatre practice. After lunch, they received a masterclass from the Highly Sprung company before heading into a technical rehearsal in the Belgrade's B2 theatre, where they adapted their staging to a professional performance space.

That evening, the students performed to a sold-out audience, demonstrating maturity, discipline, and a genuine sense of ensemble. Their commitment to the theme 'United' shone through their performance. This theme, chosen by the Coventry Young Producers Group in response to the division young people see in society today, resonated strongly in the students' final message: that the island did not need a hero or a winner, but balance, listening, and collaboration.

To complete the day, students were treated to Highly Sprung's production of Sykes, a powerful prequel to Oliver! that further deepened their appreciation of physical theatre as a storytelling form. The entire experience was a celebration of creativity, resilience, and teamwork. Our students represented Lyng Hall School with pride, confidence, and professionalism, and their performance of When Fire Met Earth will be remembered as a standout moment in this year's performing arts calendar.





## Community Notices

*Built on Respect, Driven by Resilience, Defined by Excellence*

### **Water Safety Awareness Message from West Midlands Fire Service**

During the hot spell over the late May Bank Holiday weekend and half-term holiday, there were a number of tragic incidents around the country, many involving young people. The forecast over the coming weeks is for temperatures to rise again.

To keep yourself and your loved ones safe around water please be aware of the following:

- Of all drownings in 2025, 57% took place in inland water – canals, rivers, lakes, ponds – the type of bodies of water we have lots of in the West Midlands.
- Even if the weather is warm the water may be cold, causing your body to go into cold water shock.
- If you fall into water Float to Live – put your head back, float on your back and keep yourself stable by using small movements of your hands.
- Once you are stable you may call for help or swim to the bank if it is feasible.
- Do not go into the water to save people or pets. Call 999 and ask for the Fire Service.

For more information about staying safe around water please visit the West Midlands Fire Service water safety page (<https://www.wmfs.net/safety/water-safety/>) or the RNLI Education Resources page (<https://rnli.org/youth-education/education-resources>)



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