

From the Chair of Governors...

Assalamalaikum

I'm delighted to be able to introduce to you Eden Girls' School, Coventry's first integrated newsletter. We have previously issued a range of newsletters for parents, each with a different focus. Our new newsletter draws together all this information into a single, larger publication and, whilst our parents are still the main audience, we hope that many other 'friends of the school' will be interested to know what exciting things are going on at our new school. The Governing Body knows how important it is to ensure that we provide an environment and an education to our students which will help them achieve their very best. It is also very important that the school makes a lasting impression around Coventry by working together with our friends in the wider community.

With this in mind, it gives me great pleasure to inform you, on behalf of the Governing Body, that Linda Thompson has been appointed as Principal of Eden Girls' School, Coventry, on a permanent basis. I'm sure that you will agree that under Linda's permanent leadership, the school will continue to go from strength to strength.

As Chair of Eden Girls', Coventry, I'm also delighted to write that our students and staff are now well settled into our fabulous new school building, having moved in last November. A lot has been going on as you can imagine and here are some examples: the Learning Resource Centre is being filled with books; our new science labs and equipment are inspiring the chemists, biologists and physicists of the future; the display boards are now full of students' work; and we look forward to the sunshine of the summer months and a chance to see the sports hall cricket nets in action.

The architects have done a great job in designing a building that is light, airy and calming and provides the perfect backdrop for staff, students and governors to fulfil the mission of the school which is to provide:

Educational excellence
Character development
Service to communities

A few people to thank now - On behalf of the Governing Body I would like to express my sincerest thanks to all parents for the support and patience you have shown whilst we get things up and running. Secondly, thank your children (our customers) for the way they have embraced the school and drive for success. In addition alhamdulillah, none of this would have been possible without the hard work and commitment of the staff here at the school. I'd also like to remember and thank those people, some of whom are on the Governing Body currently, for their initial drive, vision and sheer effort in taking a seed of an idea to create a school with an Islamic faith ethos into what is today's reality, a new school building.

Finally, thank you to my colleagues on the Governing Body for their work and to the Tauheedul Educational Trust, who with the help of Allah, make this effort on behalf of the whole community and in the interests of ensuring every child has a great education, is safe and is happy.



Afzal Ismail

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Linda Thompson

From the Principal...

Having arrived at Eden Girls' School, Coventry as the interim Principal, I'm absolutely delighted and proud to have been appointed to the post on a permanent basis by the Governing Body from March 2016. It is an honour to be able to celebrate with you just a few of the school's many achievements this term in our first newsletter. I am truly privileged to be able to build on the great work done by Eden's first Principal, Asiyah Ravat and am delighted to let you know that, under her leadership, Eden Boys' School, Birmingham is off to a flying start.

"Actions are only according to intentions and every person shall have that which he intended" (Bukhaari)

Each week in school we reflect on a different Hadeeth, its meaning and how it might influence the way we live our lives and go about our daily business. I was recently musing on the Hadeeth above and wanted to share some of my thoughts. As the new Principal I want to link intention with aspiration ... to build an outstanding school where no one - the girls, the staff, our governors or myself, settles for second best. It's my intention that Eden will be a place where we are all the best we can be and where everyone strives to make their best even better! I have, therefore, with the support of my staff, planned a range of actions which will build on the excellent work done in 'year 1' to provide even more opportunities for our girls to achieve academic excellence and engage in community service whilst, all the time demonstrating honesty, integrity, compassion, respect tenacity, and self-belief.

On a slightly different note ... we are all caught up in the Presidential election campaign in the USA right now. There have been quite a few wise words uttered by past Presidents of the United States (and some not so wise words!). The following quote from the 26th President, Theodore Roosevelt, caught my eye:

"The credit belongs to those who are actually in the arena, who strive valiantly; who know the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, and spend themselves in a worthy cause; who at best know the triumph of high achievement; and who, at worst, if they fail, fail while daring greatly, so that their place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat."

So much has been achieved in only one year through real endeavour and determination. At this point I want to put the spotlight on my staff who, have worked tirelessly on behalf of all our girls to set up everything from scratch to make sure they are safe, happy and taught well. Some of you may know that when we moved from our old porta-cabins to our new school, back in November, we did so over a weekend so that no learning time would be lost. That is a remarkable achievement which shows their dedication to providing the very best possible.

As you will see in the pages that follow, the girls are really making their mark locally, nationally and even internationally. Even more impressive though is their willingness to 'have a go' and be actively involved in new and different experiences that form part of our enrichment programme and in Service to Communities, which is an important specialism for the school.

And last, but by no means least, I'd like to mention our parents, without whose support none of this would be possible. For getting their daughters into school, on time - no matter what the weather; for encouraging their daughters into school when they had snuffles but were well enough to learn; for supporting the completion of homework and checking their planners; for sending their daughters smartly dressed and fully equipped day after day. Thank you.

From the Head Girl...

We'd like to say well done to everyone for all the patience, dedication and hard work this year so far. 'With hardship comes ease' and we have definitely reaped the reward of everyone's perseverance. Alhamdulillah we have got a brand new building full of new resources and a full set of new adventures.

However, the chaos of the move hasn't hindered our ambition and passion towards extra-curricular and charitable activities. During the last few weeks of term, the Food Bank and the YCC joined forces and collected toys, books and knick-knacks to give to the ill children at Walsgrave Hospital and the Refugee Centre. Alhamdulillah we managed to accumulate a large amount of presents and showed the community how to do it Eden style.

To celebrate our achievements a Christmas party was held for the YCC and the Food Bank along with guests from the Refugee Centre and Reverend Hanna. They enjoyed lots of indulgent food and had an enjoyable time. We were given the chance to understand the importance of Christmas for Christians.

We began the new term with an eye opening account from a survivor of the Holocaust. She truly made us appreciate our childhood and admire our opportunity to learn and become educated. Her experiences as well as her resolve allowed us to approach life through different eyes. Her ultimate message to the world was to stop hating each other and learn to resolve your differences in a peaceful manner.

"The best among you are those who bring greatest benefits to many others."

This Hadith shows that you should always be positive and show positivity towards one another. It also portrays how much you can benefit from a person and how it is rewarded to share your peace, positivity, knowledge and advice with one another.

You can bring benefits to one another in the simplest way by smiling, this can encourage someone to do so much more, one smile can make someone's day.

What we want in the end is a well-built community that is filled with respect, integrity and faith. We must spread our beautiful message of peace and safety to other people and become the people the Almighty destined us to be, Inshallah. - **Rabiah Khan**

Our New School Building

As you will be aware, the school moved into its new, purpose built buildings, at the end of November 2015. This was a massive change from the porta cabins that had been the school's home for the past 14 months. The building now affords the girls an environment that befits their efforts and commitment to their studies, along with facilities that were simply not possible on the temporary site. Girls can now sit and eat together in the atrium/canteen area, PE lessons no longer require a 15 minute walk to the leisure centre, Computer Studies lessons can now be taught in fully equipped IT Suites, Art can be taught in a specialist art studio, and lesson changeovers no longer require lining up outside in the cold and rain! Most importantly, the reflection hall offers the school a chance to congregate as one for Friday assemblies, and share in the rich tapestry that makes up the weekly life of the school.

Whilst the school has now fully decamped to the new site, pupils have not forgotten their humble, not so distant, past, and images from the old site are regularly displayed around the school, causing girls to reminisce and contemplate what was and what is now. Someone once told me that buildings are just bricks and mortar. The true spirit, soul, and culture, of a school resides in its people, and I am pleased to say that everyone at Eden has brought the family feel, values, ethos, and respect that they developed during the hardship of the porta cabins with them to this new phase in the life of the school.



Educational Excellence

The Learning Journey

The process of learning is a journey of exploration, with many twists and turns, that shape the kind of pupil we are, and eventually, the person we become. At Eden we are blessed to have a team of teachers, and support staff, who understand the importance of these formative years in the lives of our pupils and the role they play in nurturing and developing a love of learning so that we can all fulfil, and exceed, our expectations and potentials. The following excerpts have been written by Year 9 pupils and discuss their love of learning through their favourite subjects.

“...I enjoy English as it allows me to think outside of the box and it allows me to express my thoughts in a poem, story, or letter. English is a very important subject for me, it opens many different gateways that allow me to learn different subjects and learn new skills.” - **Muna Osman 9A**

“My favourite subject is Maths because it is made fun and I understand the subject well as Mrs Hafejee explains things clearly. I have improved my assessment levels in Maths because Mrs Hafejee goes over the work with me so that I understand it properly. Mrs Hafejee’s Maths lessons are active and this helps me to understand the topics.” - **Aaishah Fakir 9A**

“My two favourite subjects are Maths and Art. Maths is a subject where the answers are right in front of you but you need to use keys and formulae to find them out. Maths needs you to use logic. I find Art easy but it is a subject in which you can express your personality through colours, paper, and other media. Many people think that there is no point in doing Art because it will get you nowhere in life, but if you think about Islam there are many forms of Art, such as the Qur’an. Also, humans are living art from Allah. The way we pray is a form of Art.” - **Aaliah Aziz 9A**

“My favourite subject is English as it allows you to express yourself, and your emotions, through words. It allows you to conjure up images of places and characters that you dream of. There is no limit....it’s all yours. It allows you to drift into an oblivion of something spectacular where the world is all yours for the taking. English allows you to search deeper with words and imagination. In English there is no right or wrong – you search for meanings and express yourself through writing. Each word in each sentence has its own depth and meaning.” - **Humairah Navsarka 9A**

“My favourite subject is PE. I’ve always liked PE because it is a fun lesson and I love sports. I try to motivate others to participate in the lesson so that they have fun too. I’m into a lot of sports like athletics, basketball, swimming, cricket, football, and rounders. I make sure that I perform well in PE, the same way that I do in every other subject. I have been involved in many sports events and attend a lot of after school sports clubs. I think we should have sports leaders that run sports activities at lunch times. We should visit primary schools and support sports activities there too.” - **Amira Jama 9A**

“My favourite subject is History. Some people think that history is the past and we should focus on the future but I think it is a fascinating timeline of the generations who lived before us. To me History isn’t just a subject but an inspirational log of our country

and our ancestral heritage from which we are taught the mistakes and errors of their ways, but also inspired by their knowledge and wisdom.” - **Rumaysa Ali 9A**

“My favourite subject is Maths. I like it because it does not involve having to back up your arguments or giving reasons, looking for evidence or hidden meanings. It is simply pure and formulae lead to straight answers. It exercises the logical side of my brain keeping it healthy and stimulated. The best part about Maths is that you learn to work with, and without, calculators. I think Maths is one of the most useful subjects for later in life.” - **Sophia Patel 9A**

“The subject I like most is History because I find it interesting. I also believe that problems that we go through in our daily lives can be solved by looking back at History and seeing how people in the past solved their problems.” - **Maryam Malik 9A**

“My favourite subject is Art because it gives me a way to express my feelings and emotions in colour, pattern, and shape.” - **Leyla Abdulrahman 9A**

“My favourite subject is Maths. I used to dislike Maths because it was hard and difficult to understand, but since the start of this year I have enjoyed Maths and understand it well. I like Maths because everything links together when you solve equations. These equations help with other topics. I also enjoy solving things because of the feeling you get after solving them.”

- **Yasmin Mussa Farah 9A**



Artwork by Leyla Abdulrahman - 9A



Artwork by Atqiya Tasnima - 9B

Top Performers

At Eden, the girls sit assessments at the end of every half term. These show how well each student is doing, where they need to improve, and whether they are on track to get good GCSE grades at the end of Year 11. Even for Year 7 and Year 8 pupils, the assessments tell us how far pupils have progressed on their learning journeys.

Congratulations to the following students for their excellent progress so far this year. They have each exceeded their targets in every subject:

Year 9	
ALI Rumaysa	9A
JABARCAHYL Sara	9B
MOHAMEDI Nasreen	9A
YUSUF Rumaysah	9B

Year 8	
AHMED Munira	8B
AKINWALE Muminat	8B
KADOOS Iqra	8D
NUUR Zakia	8D
SAYED Khadija	8D

Year 7	
ABDI Fardawsa	7A
ABDURAHMAN Zeynab	7B
JABEEN Iffat	7B
KHAMIS Khadija	7B
SHEIKH NAZ Maidah	7D



Artwork by Husnaa Mota - 9A

Progress Review Meetings (PRMs)

Some parents and pupils will be familiar with the PRM process and how important it is for helping pupils make progress across the curriculum. The achievement of every pupil at Eden is a shared responsibility between the school, the girls, and their families. PRMs take place for selected students every half term after their report card goes home. The meeting between student, parent(s), and a member of the school leadership team is designed to help us all understand what is stopping pupils making progress in particular subjects.

Students are selected for PRMs by the leadership team if they think a regular meeting will help the girls to make better progress.

At the meeting, we go through the pupil's latest report card and look at subjects where progress could be better. We draw up a plan together based on actions which should accelerate progress if everyone commits to them.

These meetings are vitally important and are an important part of ensuring that every student makes fantastic progress. We are delighted that so many of our parents take the meetings seriously and turn up time after time to support their daughters.

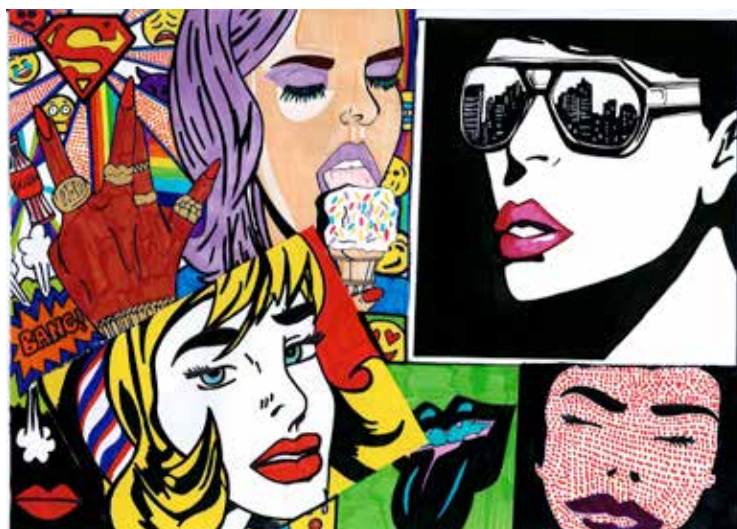
Yoga

Every Thursday, a group of 12 girls from across the school participated in Yoga Sessions, which were delivered by the Positive Youth Group. These sessions took place in the Sports Hall after school and were delivered by Neelam, who introduced us to the discipline of Yoga. The girls thoroughly enjoyed their sessions and found it useful for relieving stress and anxiety. Here are some quotes from our girls which illustrate the benefits of Yoga:

"I thought it was a fun and relaxing sport to do"
- **Arub Hussain 9B**

"I thought it was a way of releasing stress and anxiety from the day. It was also very fun and bonded some of us closer." - **Nuha Malik 9B**

"The Yoga class was really helpful and useful after a stressful week I was able to relax by doing the exercise." - **Iqra Khan 8B**



Artwork by Husnaa Mota - 9A



Castle Competition

Year 7 History students were set the ambitious task of designing and building their own Castle over the Christmas holidays. Students were given two weeks to complete the project, which they would bring into school and have entered against the whole of the year.

Pupils designed their castle and entered them either as a Motte and Bailey castle or a Stone Square Keep castle. 77 pupils entered the competition with a large variety of materials used, from a large variety of cardboard castles, plaster, glued square cubes and even a felt castle. The extremely difficult task of picking one overall winner was left to Mrs Thompson. Maryam Memi {7.1} won 1st place with her Motte & Bailey Castle, there were also 7 runner ups from each Year 7 group. The bar has been firmly raised by this year's current Year 7s, and all have been congratulated for their innovative effort by the History Department, well done Year 7!



First World War Battlefield Tour

Eden Girls', Coventry was among a group of schools whose students recently travelled to France and Belgium for a tour of the First World War Battlefields - a journey of historical discovery through the most war-hit areas of Europe.

The Programme, funded by the government, is designed to help teachers and pupils to develop a deeper understanding of the Great War. It was led by tour guide Andy and Baz, a serving soldier from the British Army. He gave students the opportunity to ask questions about the difference between the army now and a 100 years ago. Standing in the frontline trenches, visiting battlefields, museums, cemeteries and memorials to the missing, we had one question to answer "How important is the remembrance 100 years on from the First World War?" After an emotional series of visits to these historical locations, the response of Eden Girls students was "enormously".

Teaching about the First World War is never easy, a conflict that took place in a time completely different to our own, and in conditions few can imagine. Textbooks and classroom lessons can only tell the students so much. This visit brought history alive.

- Miss Akram, History Teacher

"During the WW1 Battlefields tour, I realised that The Great War was far more momentous than our regular history lessons disclosed. The chance to see the battlefields, monuments and cemeteries on the Western Front for myself has helped me gain a more profound understanding of the First World War and its continuous significance to this day. Not only was this trip very informative, but extremely eye opening and meaningful. Personally, one of the most prominent and influential points for me in the entire trip was when we visited the Menin Gate memorial in Ypres which commemorates the thousands of casualties whose bodies weren't found so they did not have a known grave. The large walls of the building bear the names of more than 54,000 officers and soldiers and serve as a memorial to the missing. When I first looked upon the seemingly endless rows and rows of names engraved in the walls, I realised that these words weren't simply just names, but they were people who had families and friends, goals, ambitions, individual personalities and unpursued careers. They were the silenced witnesses to the desolation of war." - Yomna Shebani, 9A

"I was privileged to visit Ypres, Belgium to explore the history of the noble soldiers who died during the Battle of Somme. Furthermore, we visited the Poperinge, Lijssenthoek Cemetery to learn about the many courageous soldiers who were 'True in life' and 'Noble in death'. Many of the graves had a very personal touch to them, including personal messages from family and their religion's symbol was clearly engraved onto the grave stones. Despite this, there were unfortunate soldiers who were unidentified but were valued equally earning a grave with the engraving 'Known unto God' on them. We experienced one of the most meaningful visits to see those who selflessly fought for their country. This deep, gratifying visit permanently engraved a part of all those who died, into our hearts, all their stories will be remembered for eternity and will be cherished throughout our human history. They were left in an eternal sleep with no awakening. We left Belgium to go back to our families, remembering those who left for battle but never returned." - Saffiya Esmail

"To say that my experience was amazing is an understatement. It was a memory that will last forever. There were aspects of the trip that were heart-breaking, however that didn't stop the fun and laughter from also from taking place. One segment that I will always remember was being on the 'No-Man's Land' of the First World War. The proof of this is the uneven surface of the ground. The ground is uneven because of the impact from the shells that were exploded. The feelings and emotions going through me whilst we were there were unexplainable. Although temperatures reached below one degree Centigrade, as a group we were still stood out there in the bitter cold listening to information about the area during the time of the war zone. However, I am most definitely sure that it did not compare to the temperatures the soldiers were fighting in. We were informed to be extra cautious around this area as there were still unexploded bomb shells scattered across the battlefield. We were also informed that laying around the battlefield were bodies of the soldiers that were killed in action, however they were not dug up not only because there are too many well respected and appreciated soldiers laying beneath the surface of the ground, but also because they now belong there to rest in peace." - Saniyyah Bapu 9B



Best-Selling Author leads English Lessons

To mark World Book Day, we were privileged to have Ann Evans, a best-selling author, visit Eden Girls' School on Wednesday 2nd March 2016. Ann Evans has published novels for all ages from reluctant readers to young adult/teen fiction. Her best-selling novel *Celeste*, set in Coventry, is a time-slip novel. The character Megan in the 21st Century moves to Coventry but has flashbacks from another century: the pagan era. Not only is this a gripping read, but fascinating facts about Coventry and Lady Godiva are also revealed.

Throughout the day, Ann read aloud to the pupils from *Celeste*, *Beast* and *Nightmare*. Pupils were enthralled and were eager to purchase her books. Shamim Shojani couldn't decide which book to purchase! Saniyyah Bapu purchased three books. Two are for her younger brothers. Nearly all the books that Ann brought to the school were purchased and pupils were adding their names to the reserve list for more books.

Ann also recreated her journey as a writer from her first letter to the magazine to writing feature articles varying from model cars to

interviewing Norman Wisdom (a comedian) and finally books. Ann also shared some pearls of wisdom with the pupils:

- **Practice writing and persevere:** Anne had seven rejections before being published.
- Always make sure **spelling, punctuation and grammar** is accurate. The English teachers were very pleased to hear this.
- **Research** facts and key information particularly for non-fiction articles. This may involve talking to experts.
- Write for the joy of writing.
- **Read.**

Students were also fascinated by the process of becoming published. Ann brought with her manuscripts and first drafts of her novels. These drafts contained suggestions in the margins by editors similar to how teachers mark and suggest improvements. Ann even gave advice to a pupil who shared with her their draft of a story entitled "The wolf within". After the lesson and lunchtime reading, pupils felt enthused to read and write.

New Books in the Library

The new building has attributed to this school many new facilities and experiences. One of these was the Learning Resource Centre which provides for us a place to study. Our school is bursting with bookworms and this friendly zone gives us the opportunity to delve into the enriching and enlightening world of books. During the early days of the big move, the school wasn't able to collate a selection of books. Nevertheless, with a lot of student input, we were able to make some calls and get our book collection into full swing.

Recently, we were introduced to Eddie Burnett, the Managing Director of Jubileebooks. Eddie brought with him a variety of books for us to choose from; adventure to mystery and from fiction to non-fiction. A group of year 9s were called upon to examine the books and decide whether they were suitable for their age group, interests and also for the years below them. It was like seeing kids in a candy store. Furthermore, we were astounded by the collection and were able to relate to most of the books offered.

Character Development

Student Shuraa

The Student Shuraa have been busy over the last few weeks planning their campaign called 'Feed the Needy'. This campaign is aimed at raising awareness of poverty in Coventry. They prepared and delivered their presentation to Mrs Thompson and Mrs Begum, who were very impressed at how organised and professional the pitch was delivered and also at how well the pupils conducted themselves. The team have been working closely and are now preparing for their launch dinner that is proposed to take place later on in the year. Keep watching this space!



Holocaust Survivor Visit

In preparation for the Holocaust Memorial Day on the 27th of January 2016, Eve Kugler, a Jewish Holocaust Survivor, visited the school to tell her story. Eve was born in 1931 in Halle, Germany. She lived with her parents, who owned a small department store, and her older sister, Ruth. In 1936, her younger sister, Lea was born.

From the time that Hitler became Chancellor of Germany in 1933, life for Eve's family became increasingly difficult. With the outbreak of the Second World War on 1st September 1939, all German men living in France were immediately registered as Enemies of France. Eve's father was arrested on the first day of the war, and interned for 13 months. During this time, Eve's mother managed to arrange for Ruth and Eve to live in an orphanage. Eve and her sister were eventually sent to America. In 1945 Ruth and Eve received news through the Red Cross that her parents and younger sister had survived. The following year, she was reunited with her family in New York, and for a long time they found it difficult to communicate. The girls were extremely touched by Eve and her story.

Spirituality Day

Our first Spirituality Day in the new build was very exciting! The atmosphere in the reflection hall was a peaceful and calm one as the whole school came together for Surah Kahf/prayer. Pupils felt a better sense of spiritual connection with the whole school present for Surah Kahf in the reflection hall. Each form has worked very hard to put together activities to help portray their theme. It was amazing to see the creativity all around, with the spaces of the reflection hall, sports hall, dining hall, and other areas being used to create environments that helped pupils deliver activities and sessions to all the pupils in the school. The students that were delivering the sessions worked tirelessly all day. As the timetable was collapsed and forms were put together, teachers and pupils alike enjoyed the opportunity to try something different. The day's theme was looking at key qualities and values we learn from the Qualities and names of God, such as forgiveness, compassion and mercy. Pupils enjoyed watching the play in the reflection hall, trying out calligraphy in the dining hall, taking part in sports games and also having a go with the quiz.

Spirituality Day was a lovely way to end the half term!



Attendance and Punctuality

Punctuality and attendance are of the utmost importance. If a pupil is not in school then they cannot learn and they cannot progress. Over the last term we've been shocked to learn that 49.8% of pupils have taken either one of the registration periods off school for appointments!

On a much more positive note ... a huge congratulations to Mrs Hafejee and 9A for the highest cumulative attendance so far this year at 98.70%!

Well done to the whole of year 9 for being the highest attending year group at 98.42%

Unfortunately year 8 have the highest level of absences in the whole school. We'd like to see our girls and their parents working together to improve this over the coming weeks.

We have Ramadhan coming up in June so this will be a time when everyone, students, their parents and our staff, will have to work doubly hard not to allow attendance to fall.

Your child's education is the doorway to many opportunities. Poor attendance and punctuality is closing those doors and taking away those chances. If your child misses one day of school a week, that adds up to missing 8 weeks of school each year! Please help us to give your child the best possible chances in life by working together. Remember, your girls are our girls, and they are our future!

Celebrating Behaviour

Well done to Shabana Maram in 8C for having the highest number of merits in the school – a massive total of 130!

Another special mention for Mariam Khan in 7A who has 126 merits, Aminah Rafiq in 7D - with 116 merits and Iqra Kadoos in 8D who has achieved 100 merits. Well done to all of you!

Well done to form 7A, with the highest cumulative score at 1820 merits!

Parents' Evenings

All parents will appreciate that Parents' Evenings are an essential part of school life. They are the main forum for parents, pupils, and teachers, to discuss the progress and achievements of individual pupils. Here at Eden we work hard to ensure that our parents evenings are accessible to all, and with this in mind, parents evenings at the school run from 3:30pm – 7:00pm. We are blessed to have a very committed parent body, and attendance at parents' evenings is normally 100%. Furthermore, the school's commitment to maintaining a dialogue with parents is unwavering and the staff have made appointments on Friday afternoons for some parents who cannot attend during the normal appointment slots.

Comments from parents include:

"The Parents' Evenings are really important to me because I want to know what my daughter is doing in her lessons and how I can help her. She is starting GCSEs and it is really important that she does well." – **Year 9 Parent**

"For me, Parent's Evenings are a chance to meet the teachers. My daughter always speaks so highly of them and I want a chance to meet them personally and not only find out about my daughter's progress, but also thank them for the effort they put into her education." – **Year 8 Parent**

"My daughter started the school in September. As a Year 7 parent I am really concerned about how she is settling in to the school. I also am a little confused about how to read her report cards. The parents' evenings give me a chance to speak to her form tutor about how she has settled, and to her teachers about her report card grades." – **Year 7 Parent**

However, there has been a slight dip in Year 8 and Year 7, where, even after our efforts to make alternative appointments, attendance fell to 98% for Year 8 and 97% for Year 7. This means that the parents of 5 pupils across the whole school failed to attend. Please ensure that you attend Parents' Evenings, and other school events that support your daughter. The partnership between the school and parents is vital in ensuring that all pupils fulfil their potentials.

Service to Communities



Food Bank

The Food Bank Committee have been organising the weekly food given to all our clients. Each week we serve approximately 30 service users. The Foodbank is making a huge difference to people's lives. As part of our school's big society campus, it is our aim to put positivity back into society to nurture a caring community. Pupils also have the opportunity to volunteer to help at the Food Bank. Seeing people of a less fortunate background or seeing those who have had unfortunate circumstances change their lives, is an eye opener for the pupils.

The Tenner Challenge

The Humanities Club have started their next project. They are taking part in the Tenner Challenge. The Tenner Challenge is for young people aged 11-19 who want to get a taste of what it's like to be an entrepreneur. They will all receive a pledge of £10 each, totalling to £220 based on 22 people in the Humanities group. They have 4 weeks to make as much profit as they can from their 'tenner'. Students are organising various activities, including a Vintage Tea Party and a Movie Night. Letters will be sent out to parents in due course regarding the events.

Coventry Ladies Get Fit and Fundraise for Refugees

A Ladies Fitness Extravaganza, held at Eden Girls School in Coventry, has helped women get fit, have fun and help refugees in the process. Over £800 was raised at the event, which will support people fleeing conflict, by providing things such as nutritious meals, warm clothing and blankets.

Organised by Alycia Malta, the day was attended by 30 women, who took part in sessions covering everything from Tabata and Zumba to bootcamp, dodgeball and dance. It brought women together in a friendly environment where they could encourage each other to be active, whilst also raising funds for the Penny Appeal's Refugee Emergency campaign. Instructors Ayesha (Mix it Up Fitness), Hasina (Zumba) and Susie (Positive Youth Foundation) offered their time free to support the cause. The main sponsor was Clariotts Care Coventry, with much-needed food provided by Crepefresh and Krusty's. The Positive Youth Foundation 'Smoothie Bike', which uses pedal power to mix up fruit-based shakes, also helped to ensure that the ladies were well catered for after working up an appetite.

International Women's Week

International Women's Week provided a great opportunity to celebrate the contribution of women and girls in every sphere of human endeavor. In partnership with Heather Parker from Coventry University, Year 9 History students presented and organised an evening of "Celebration of Inspirational Women in History", on the 3rd of March 2016. There was also an opportunity to view an exhibition by Mehru Fitter. This was an amazing opportunity for the girls to showcase their talents to the wider community.

Useful Information

Admissions: Moving Schools

If you wish for your child to move schools for any reason, please ensure you communicate this at the earliest point to your child's Head of Year. The reasons should be discussed with the Principal and an In-Year Admissions and Transfer form needs to be filled in at the relevant Local Authority – Council that you are requesting a new school place for your child at. Please ensure that you follow these necessary steps, with advice and guidance available on the following website and relevant Local Authority website:

<https://www.gov.uk/schools-admissions/applying>

Holidays or Leave During Term Time

We'd like to respectfully remind parents that holidays or other leave during term will not be authorised by the school. This includes family visits abroad. Of course we are sympathetic to requests related to visiting ill family members. However, we advise that arrangements to visit are maintained during the set holiday times in the academic calendar. Extended unauthorised absences may lead to your daughter being taken off the school roll and their place being given to another pupil on our waiting list. We place the educational needs and well-being of our pupils first and we thank you for your support in maintaining this.

Keeping Our Daughters Safe

This workshop for Eden Girls' School, Coventry parents will be running on Saturday 23rd April 2016. Key issues that are pertinent for our girls and worthy advice and guidance will be provided to parents during this session. It will incorporate input from Dr Abdullah Shehu and Rachel Oleyumi (Coventry City Council FGM Coordinator) on FGM. It will also include input from CRASAC on E-Safety advice for parents and on an awareness of issues related to the grooming of children. This will be a great opportunity for you to pop along and ensure you are equipped with the necessary details to keep our daughters not only safe in our homes and school, but in the wider community too. We hope you will be able to attend and join us in gaining information and having a cup of tea and biscuits in the meantime!

Educate Against Hate: educateagainsthate.com

The government has recently launched a new website aimed at supporting parents, teachers and school leaders in implementing the Prevent Duty. There are some useful resources on the website including written advice and signposting to other organisations. <http://counterextremism.lgfl.org.uk/>

Online Safety: www.internetmatters.org

Internet Matters is an independent, not-for-profit organisation to help parents keep their children safe online. This is a great additional link for advice: www.internetmatters.org/controls/interactive-guide/

'Share Aware' Tips for parents, teachers and young people on how to stay safe online, can be found via the NSPCC website: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/share-aware/>

Dates for your Diary

Summer Term 2016

School Re-opens	Monday 11 th April
May Bank Holiday	Monday 2 nd May
Half Term	Monday 30 th May - Friday 3 rd June
Year 9 Parents' Consultation Evening**	Wednesday 22 nd June
Year 8 Parents' Consultation Evening**	Thursday 23 rd June
Year 7 Parents' Consultation Evening**	Monday 27 th June
Eid-ul Fitr 1436 Holiday*	Tuesday 5 th & Wednesday 6 th July
All Parents - New Assessment System	Wednesday 13 th July
Activities Week	Monday 11 th - Friday 15 th July
End of Summer Term	Thursday 21 st July

Autumn Term 2016

School Re-opens for Students	Thursday 1 st September
Eid-ul Adha 1437 Holiday*	Monday 12 th & Tuesday 13 th September
Half Term	Monday 24 th - Friday 28 th October
Christmas Holiday	19 th December - 2 nd January

* Eid holidays may be revised slightly according to the sighting of the moon.
**For selected parents only who will be notified.

Eden Girls' School, Coventry, Stoney Stanton Road, Coventry, CV1 4FS
02476 220937
www.edengirlscoventry.com

Part of Tauheedul Education Trust
www.tetrust.org