



COVENTRY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
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# Le Voyage Scolaire D'Eden Girls' Coventry En France

"The France trip was a once in a lifetime experience".

The Easter Holiday saw Eden Girls' first overseas residential trip... destination Paris, France. 35 excited students, accompanied by Ms Mushtaq (the trip organiser), Miss Paruk, Mrs Ellahi, Mr Hajbi and Mrs Thompson enjoyed a four day stay in France's capital city taking in a range of cultural, historical and leisure destinations from the Eiffel Tower, to the River Seine boats, from Euro Disney to the World War I battlefield memorials at Vimy Ridge.

Our students were further immersed in the French culture at our accomodation... the very spectacular, Chateau de Grande Romaine, set in parkland on the outskirts of Paris. Students ate a proper petit déjeuner each morning. On the first evening they worked in teams to create haute couture - stylish Parisian fashion – for the catwalk. On the second day they made crêpes (French pancakes), some of which tasted fantastique!

We even squeezed in un soupçon of shopping! According to Year 10 students Disneyland turned the teachers into their 'chilldhood selves'.

"The trip was an amazing opportunity to bond with other students. We got a chance to experience a completely different lifestyle and had an interesting insight into Parisian life".

Read more about the Paris Trip on page 6

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# From The Principal

"The best among you are those who bring the greatest benefit to others"

I used this hadith as a fitting start to our Great Get Together Iftar event in June to celebrate the life of the MP Jo Cox who was tragically killed a year ago. People across the country united in a mass celebration of Jo's life and work: to 'get together' and share food and everything we have in common. We joined the other Tauheedul schools to demonstrate that we were proud to stand shoulder to shoulder with the many diverse communities across this land, and here within Coventry, to do exactly what Jo stood for - 'Promote unity over division and tolerance over prejudice.'

As the school year draws to a close I also want to link the hadith above to the principle of sacrifice. Why do people make sacrifices? Because they care passionately about something and because that 'something' matters enough to miss out on other things. As Principal at Eden, I witness on a day to day basis what our students, their parents, my staff and our governors sacrifice in order to deliver our mission statement which aims to bring about the best possible life chances for all our students.

I want to pay particular tribute to my staff who give up free time with their families in evenings and holidays to marks books, plan lessons and pull together activities which will widen our girls' horizons so as to give them the best possible chances of doing whatever they want to do in their lives beyond Eden.

And of course, not forgetting our students ... almost all of whom have worked tirelessly, throughout the year, to do well in their end of year exams. The sea of green on most students' end of year reports, indicates that they have met or exceeded their challenging targets. This was only possible because of their massive endeavour and many sacrifices. Well done girls for having the strength of character to make the sacrifices needed to succeed.

To finish with another quote, this time from Martin Luther King Junior, the activist who became the most visible spokesperson and leader in the Civil Rights Movement.

'Human progress is neither automatic nor inevitable... Every step toward the goal of justice requires sacrifice, suffering, and struggle; the tireless exertions and passionate concern of dedicated individuals.'

Progress, whether in studies, character development or service to communities, such as that espoused by Jo Cox, is neither easy nor inevitable. Thank you to staff, governors and parents for the many sacrifices you make to bring about the greatest benefit to our students.

**Linda Thompson** 





# The Tauheedul Baccalaureate

At Eden, we strive for excellence in all that we do. Our goal is for all students to be the best that they can be.

We want our students not just to excel academically... we want them to develop into well rounded leaders; leaders who are ethically, morally and spiritually intelligent, leaders who make a positive contribution to the very communities they live in and come from, leaders who inspire

others through the strength of their character and whose actions and conduct are of the highest standard.

The Tauheedul Baccalaureate awards students who attend school well, work hard and show a positive attitude. It rewards students who take part in volunteering and raising money for charity. There are 4 awards for the TBacc that students can achieve at the end of the year.





Platinum

The Tauheedul Baccalaureate is awarded on an annual basis with the following six elements taken into consideration:

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE	1. Progress in subjects 2. Participation in enrichment	
CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT  3. Conduct – the difference between merits & behaviour points 4. Attendance		
COMMUNITY SERVICE	<ul><li>5. Volunteering hours</li><li>6. Charitable Fundraising</li></ul>	

To gain an award, students need to collect up to 10 points in each of the six elements according to the table below.

POINTS	ATTENDANCE (%)	CONDUCT	VOLUNTEERING HOURS	CHARITY (£S)	ENRICHMENT HOURS	PROGRESS
10	100 (0 days missed)	50+	50+	£100	50+	15
9	99.5 (1 day missed)	45-49	45-49	£90	45-49	14
8	99 (2 days missed)	40-44	40-44	£80	40-44	13
7	98.5 (3 days missed)	35-39	35-39	£70	35-39	12
6	98 (4 days missed)	30-34	30-34	£60	30-34	11
5	97.5 (5 days missed)	25-29	25-29	£50	25-29	10
4	97 (6 days missed)	20-24	20-24	£40	20-24	9
3	96.5 (7 days missed)	15-19	15-19	£30	15-19	8
2	96 (8 days missed)	10-14	10-14	£20	10-14	7
1	95.5 (9 days missed)	5-9	5-9	£10	5-9	6

To achieve Platinum students will need to earn a minimum of 50 points; 40 points for Gold, 30 points for Silver and 20 for Bronze.



Service • Teamwork • Ambition • Respect

# **Educational Excellence**



## Busta Rhymes Competition Winners

Congratulations to Aaliah Aziz (year 10), Aishah Parveen (year 10) Alishah Mahmood (year 8), Tabassum Mumtaz (year 8) Najla Khamis (year 8), Ayman Zaman (year 7) and Amira Abdiwali (year 7) who entered the national **Busta Rhymes Poetry Competition.** All the poems entered by Eden Girls' School have been published in the Busta Rhymes Book and all the students are still in the running to win £1000.

Poems could be on any topic and in any style. The aim was simply for the students to express their thoughts, emotions and feelings which they did magnificently. Topics submitted by our students ranged from family to nature. The poetry submitted was poignant and moving. At the Spring term Rewards Assembly the whole school was spellbound when Ayman Zaman and Amira Abdiwali performed their poems.

Busta Rhymes will announce the final winner in October 2017. Best of luck to all our students.

## **Top Performers**

At Eden, the students 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 students, the assessments tell us how far students have progressed on their learning journeys. Furthermore, all assessments are graded as

GCSE grades and so tell us exactly what grade a student is capable of at any point in their school lives.

Congratulations to the following students for their excellent progress this year. They have exceeded their target grades in all three core subjects: English, Maths, and Science.

YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10
Fatma Ali 7D	Ahmed Hajra 8A	Adam Hibaq 9B	Ali Rumaysa 10A
Amer Raheema 7B	Bhika Ammaraa 8C	Ahmedabadi Lamees 9A	Jabarkahyl Sara 10B
Ayub Aneesah 7D	Kathawala Ammarah 8B	Akinwale Muminat 9B	Khan Rabiah 10B
Begum Sharmin 7A	Khan Malyka 8B	Arif Areeba 9D	Navsarka Humairah 10A
Burket Safeerah 7D	Khan Mariam 8A	Kadoos Iqra 9D	Omar Samra 10B
Jalal Maria 7A	Robat Sakina 8C	Khaleel Iqra 9B	Tasnima Atqiya 10B
Kheer Randa 7D	Sheikh Naz Maidah 8D	Najiya Rezwana 9A	
Mateen Hamamah 7D		Saalim Najah 9D	
Mohammad Amal 7A		Sadiya Halimah 9B	
Zaheer Urooj 7A		Shaikh Umamah 9B	
Zaman Ayman 7D		Shehe Zakia 9D	
		Shojai Shamim 9B	
		Zahid Aaisha 9C	

### Activities Week - July 2017

At Eden we try not to take students out of lessons for enrichment visits and activities so as not to interrupt the flow of teaching and learning. Instead we hold an activities week at the end of the summer term after exams have finished. We take all students 'off timetable' for a week to take part in an array of enrichment activities and external trips. Some of the exciting opportunities on offer this year included:

- · Brain Blaster maths puzzles.
- Social Media Savvy workshop.
- Trip to Worcester Medical Museum Year 10.
- Art trip to the MAD Museum.
- Biology Trip to the Stratford on Avon Butterfly Farm.
- PREVENT training.
- Start a Heart CPR training.
- History trip to Warwick Castle.
- African drums workshop.
- Japanese Theatrical Skills workshop.
- Taster visit to Coventry University.
- Visit to Coventry Cathedral.
- English trip to Shakespeare's Stratford.





## Big Bang 2017 - UK Young Scientists and Engineers Fair

This year the science faculty were proud participants of the much celebrated Big Bang Fair that takes place annually at the NEC Birmingham. The big bang fair brings together a combination of theatre shows, interactive workshops and exhibits and careers information from STEM professionals.

The Big Bang Fair 2017 ran over the course of four days. Eden Girls year 8 attended on Friday 16th March. The focus of the visit was for the students to see science in the real world and to encourage students to participate in science related activities. A spectacular show that demonstrates all of the scientific disciplines, the big bang fair capitalises on bringing science relevant to real life careers and opportunities. Some

of their shows included; the cauldron chemistry, body hacking, which combines the three sciences alongside engineering and a personal favourite was creating their own hand moisturizer, ran by the royal society of chemistry. Virtual reality was also a big hit of the day.

Traditionally careers such as doctors, pharmacists, opticians and dentists are associated with science. The big bang fair introduces many different types of careers such as, marine biology, design and innovation, research and development. It also allows for gender specific stereotypes to be broken and shows that women are as important as men in all industries whether that be engineering, designing or inventing. Hopefully through this trip our year 8 students can see why science is such a key subject.

## **Curricular Enrichment**



## Le Voyage Scolaire D'Eden Girls' Coventry En France

During the Easter holidays we travelled from Coventry to Paris by Coach and Ferry. It was an early start and a long journey but excitement kept us going. On the ferry we enjoyed the view of the blue sea, smelt the fresh breeze whilst savouring a light breakfast. We stayed in a chateau, surrounded by greenery, on the outskirts of Paris. In the evenings we enjoyed a range of entertainment such as: a bin bag fashion show, Crêpe Making and celebrating Yomna's 14th Birthday.

Our second day was spent sight-seeing. Helen, our tour guide told us many stories about Paris, for example, the River Seine is full of green peas 'gone bad' and that's the reason it's green! And that Paris has its own cloud making factory to keep it picturesque!!

We visited the 2nd floor of the Eiffel Tower, where we saw major landmarks. We sat on 'The Parisian Boats' floating past many important monuments of Paris such as the Louvre Art Gallery. The experience was thoroughly enjoyable as we enriched ourselves in the Parisian Culture. Finally, we admired the beauty of Notre-Dame Cathedral, one of France's finest examples of Gothic architecture.

On Wednesday, we spent a magical day in Disneyland, Paris to celebrate it's 25th anniversary! We saw Disney movie characters such as Mickey Mouse in the Parade. It was an unforgettable experience! On our last day, we commemorated the 100th year anniversary of the Battle of Vimy and paid our respects to the fallen soldiers before heading for the ferry back home.

### Year 10 Careers Fair

On Tuesday 7th March 2017 Eden Girls School all Year 10 students attended the Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership (CWLEP) careers fair at the Lloyds Bank Advanced Manufacturing Training Centre.

Our girls had the opportunity to meet with employers, colleges and training providers. Seventy exhibitors were split into different zones, ranging from higher education and health and social care, to engineering and construction, retail, environmental and public services.

Before the day the students were given a list of all the exhibitors who would be present and asked to discuss this with their parents/carers and choose at least 15 that they wanted to speak to on the day. This helped focus their minds on which exhibitors to prioritise.



## Swimming Club

Swimming has been another hugely successful project funded by Coventry Warwickshire and Solihull sport. Between 15 and 20 students have been attending each week at Lyng Hall School.

Students have progressed from being hesitant to enter the water to doing forward rolls and handstands under water!

Most students are also able to swim on their front or backs unaided which is a fantastic achievement! As well as contributing to a health and active lifestyle, the girls have had fun socialising whilst learning a life skill so they can continue to enjoy swimming and being safe in the water.

## Cycling Club

The Cycling Course was funded by Coventry Warwickshire and Solihull Sport, who equipped the school with 10 brand new bikes and helmets. The course has been a great success with the participating 12 students able to ride a bike within two weeks. Students have really enjoyed the sessions and are now able to competently ride a bike.



#### New After School Clubs

Whilst our core curriculum is quite academic and aims to ensure our girls do well in the English Baccalaureate subjects we believe it's important that they get a broad and balanced experience which sets them up for life beyond school. To this end we run a diverse programme of enrichment activities – many of these happen at the end of the school day. This term, in partnership with the **Positive Youth Foundation** we launched two new after school clubs.

**Female Aspirations Club** is a fun and interactive space with workshops, talks and role play focusing on future aspirations, goal setting, active political engagement, debating skills and leadership development. This has provided students with a great opportunity to make new friends and build confidence.

**Fashion and Textiles** is a creative space where the students have an opportunity to learn new skills including design. They then discover how to develop, manufacture and market their chosen product.







# Character Development

### Red Nose Day Cake Sale

This term also featured 'Red Nose Day' which was an enjoyable and very rewarding day. There were a variety of fundraising activities on the day including non-uniform with students encouraged to wear red, the selling of official red noses, a sweet sale over a few weeks and a final cake sale.

Students are thanked for their contribution in making Red Nose Day so successful with some students making truly amazing Red Nose Day themed cakes. They certainly did taste as good as they looked! A particular mention to the Humanitarian club which brought sweets and doughnuts in to sell every Friday after school. The total raised was  $\mathfrak{L}563.81$  a fantastic amount of money which will be so beneficial to those in need.



#### Anne Frank Exhibition

This term we hosted the Anne Frank Exhibition with Anne Frank UK. Founded in 1990, the Anne Frank Trust UK uses Anne's life and inspirational message as an anchor to educate people about damage caused by all forms of prejudice and discrimination.

The Trust enters the lives of young people across the country when they are likely to be at their most vulnerable and impressionable and imbues in them the importance of positive attitudes, personal responsibility and respect for others.

A number of our girls were selected as peer guides. They were trained by the Trust to guide other young people around the exhibition. This opportunity enabled the girls to increase their own knowledge about the Holocaust and develop their confidence. The peer guides were amazing in their presentation and retold the story of Anne in a moving way.

## Inspiring Assembly Speakers

We have had many interesting external speakers visiting us here at Eden Girls' School, enlightening us about various topics and religions. One exceptionally inspiring speaker was Abda Khan who is not only a solicitor and author, but an achieving Muslim woman identified in hijab. This was motivating for me as a student because it portrayed Eden's aim - 'Nurturing Today's Young People, Inspiring Tomorrow's Leaders'. This gives us students, as young women, the message and importance of empowerment, emancipation and enfranchisement. Regardless of our background and ethnicity, we should always try to perfect our personality and exemplify our leadership characteristics.

Being the seventh of eight children and from a traditional Pakistani background, Abda encouraged her parents to send her to University. Graduating as a lawyer Abda opened her own law practise, employing her husband. In October, she published a book about a British-born Pakistani young woman who recently lost her father and finds herself struggling with life: 'Stained'. Abda's eye-opening life story enabled us to realise that we must muster up the confidence and fully experience the opportunities that come our way. Although there are many hurdles we must overcome, Abda proved to us that it is possible to achieve anything. By Aaminah Sheikh 9A







## Sprirituality Day 2

At Eden Girls' School, we believe our Faith Ethos inspires our students to be well rounded individuals who care not just about themselves but the communities they live in whilst also appreciating all that the Almighty has blessed us with in this world.

Providing a well-rounded and meaningful Faith Ethos is a key priority at the school and it is an aspect of our provision that we will continue to prioritise as the school grows. To ensure our students are provided with opportunities to explore and reflect on theirs and others beliefs in an inclusive, outward facing manner, a range of faith activities take place

across the academic year. During the three Spirituality Day held across the year students have the opportunity to explore and learn about key faith concepts in a creative and fun manner.

The focus of Spirituality Day 2, Friday 10th February 2017 was 'Interfaith' with the aim of giving our students a better understanding of different beliefs and faiths, thus inspiring them to have respect and tolerance for people of all faiths and none. External guests, from a range of different faiths, led seven workshops for the students. Students learned about different beliefs, forms of worship and festivals.



## Seerah Competition

The Prophet Muhammad (Peace be Upon Him) was an inspirational figure who has had a profound impact on millions of people around the world. To honour and commemorate his life, a Seerah competition was held at the school.

Students wishing to compete were tasked with developing a 5-10 minute speech focussing on the legacy of the Prophet Muhammad and the impact this has had on people throughout the world.

Fahima Khatun, finalist from Year 9, recounts her experience of the competition:

"Taking part made me realise how courageous and determined our Prophet was. The competition started in our form groups and then to year groups. This competition wasn't just a competition for first prize but it made me aware of how much our adored Prophet has sacrificed.

Learning about His life made me spiritually closer to my faith. It made me understand how I could slowly change my life to become a better Muslim and a better person. I could never compare the struggles He faced to my nervousness of going on stage. I strongly

believe that my nerves slowly started to disappear as I realised how everyone was benefiting from each of our speeches. The Seerah Competition was truly an inspiring and eye opening experience."



# Service to Communities

## Community Service Projects 2017 - The Story So Far

"And whoever does good voluntary, then surely Allah is grateful, knowing" Surah Al Baqarah:158.

At Eden, an important part of our mission is to give our students opportunities to provide services to the communities. We want our students to become outstanding British Citizens who are proud of, and contribute to, the social prosperity and wellbeing of our country. We want our students to realise that volunteering is a "good deed" and is both rewarding and fun!

This year we've delivered our second programme of three day community service projects. This has involved all students and staff in planning and delivering seven different community action projects in partnership with a range of organisations in and around West Midlands. Each project saw the tables turned with Year 10 and 9 students leading teams comprising students and staff!

During a planning day in March, the teams worked together to prepare the delivery of their respective projects and met with people from the organisations. Once again, the delivery of the projects took place on a lovely sunny day in May. The students were a credit to both the school and themselves. The organisations that they supported were hugely impressed by their dedication and motivation.



The **Go Girls** project was all about empowering young women to be the people they want to be. Working with the **Coventry Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre (CRASAC).** Students were stationed outside the Coventry Transport Museum in the city centre and engaged passing members of the public in an Awareness Raising Campaign for the work of CRASAC.



The Ryton Pools Country Park Project saw the students engaging in a range of environmental activities, working with the Park rangers, including clearing fallen branches and leaves to make way for a children's den, cutting back scrub growing along the pathways so that visitors can enjoy the park, sanding down and painting fences and benches outside the Park Café and litter picking.



Our second environmental protection project was based in **Sutton Park** in Sutton Coldfield. This year students helped the **Sutton Park Rangers** to prune back invasive shrubs, litter pick and – most exciting of all – stomp on bracken to stop it taking over the heathland.



Our **Healthy Eating Project** was carried out in partnership with Positive Youth Foundation. Our students delivering a range of activities promoting Healthy Eating to three local Primary Schools: Potters Green, Alderman's Green Primary and Stanton Bridge.



The exciting **Mad Hatters Tea Party** project was based in school and was supported by Haroon Mota from the charity, Penny Appeal. The students invited 25 elderly people from our local community

to come for afternoon tea and made all the food and decorations themselves. The guests said 'thank you' in song!



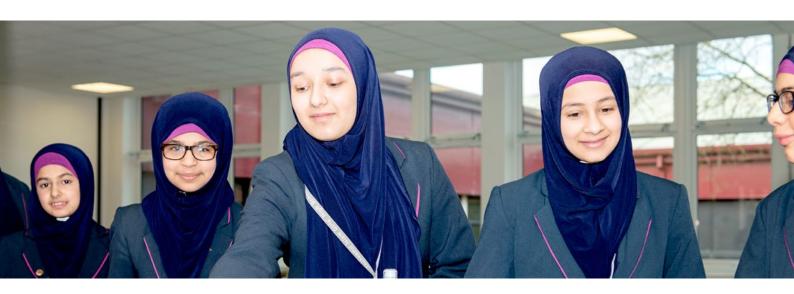
The **Teens Who Read** project was based at the Coventry Central Library. Supported by the Librarians, the team created a display to promoting the benefits of reading aimed at teenagers.



At **Tiny Tim's Day Nursery** the students worked with nursery staff to carry out a 'make-over' of the Therapy Room to create a sensory room.



# Useful Information



## **Uniform Changes**

Please note that, from the start of the new term in September, the headscarf for Years 7, 8 and 9 will change to a purple cap with a dark blue scarf. These will be available to purchase from our uniform supplier: Cat Ballou.

Parents of students in Years 8 and 9 can choose whether to purchase this new headscarf as the purple ones will still acceptable. For Years 10 and 11 there will be a different headscarf: a one piece oblong scarf in blue. The one piece headscarf for PE has changed to black.

## The Eden Family – New Staff

We are delighted to welcome the following staff to the Eden family:

Jeanetta Liburd – Assistant Principal (Pastoral) • Chloe Badham –

Computer Science Teacher • Maryam Abdullah – French Teacher

Martin Ndivea – Maths Teacher • Karen Midgley – Higher Level

Teaching Assistant • Siti Abdul Latif Lai – Special Support Assistant

Azrina Suhairdeen – Special Support Assistant • Sarah Burns –

Science Technician • Aysha Patel – Finance Officer.

#### The following staff will be joining us in September:

Sumeya Bhikhu – Vice Principal (Academic) • Harry O'Meara –
Subject Lead MFL • Qaddhafy Nazir – Maths Teacher
Saira Zobair – Maths Teacher • Stephanie Hamman – English
Teacher • Shamima Jogee – Science Teacher • Dr Muhammad
Amin – Science Teacher • James McCormick – Geography Teacher
Memoona Bashir – RE & History Teacher • Gabrielle Marsh –
Head of Year.

## **Dates For Your Diary**

#### **Autumn Term 2017**

Eid ul Adha 1438* holiday	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> September 2017
Re-open for students on:	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2017
Half Term Closure	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October - Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October 2017
Christmas Holiday	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2017 – Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2018

#### Spring Term 2018

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Re-open for students on:	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2018
Half Term Closure	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February 2018
Easter Holiday	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> April 2018

#### Summer Term 2018

Re-open for students on:	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2018
May Day Closure	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2018
Half Term Closure	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2018
Eid ul Fitr 1439*	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> & Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2018*
Start of summer break	Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> July 2018

<sup>\*</sup>Eid holidays may be revised slightly according to the sighting of the moon.