

Serving our Star Community



During these unprecedented times, supporting vulnerable and needy individuals in our community has been of vital importance to us as a school. With Service being a key priority for us as a school, the current crisis called for us to do what we can to support and serve those in need. With this in mind, the school launched a Community Service Programme as a Star Family Hub to support the local Star Community.

As a Star Family Hub, the school has played a pivotal role in supporting local vulnerable families and homeless shelters during the current crisis. This has involved the following:

- **Hot Meals** – over 500 hot meals have been provided to local vulnerable families and homeless shelters. The school has received donations from staff and the local community towards this initiative and has also worked with Labbayk Catering to deliver the hot meals. This is an ongoing project, with hot meals continuing until the end of the academic year.
- **Food Packs** – The school has secured weekly food deliveries from FareShare and Morrisons. The food has been packed by a dedicated team of volunteers and delivered to local vulnerable families and homeless shelters on a weekly basis. Over 500 food packs have been delivered so far. This is also an ongoing project.
- **Hygiene Packs** – In conjunction with the Hygiene Bank, the school has provided essential hygiene items to local care homes and homeless shelters.

We have received fantastic support from our local community and businesses through a range of donations that have all made a real difference and impact in the local community. It has been a truly inspiring experience to see our local Star Community come together to support those in need.



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From the Principal

It has been an absolute honour to have served this school in a leading capacity for the past three years, both as Vice Principal and currently as Acting Principal. To see the successful journeys of so many on the way to adulthood, greatly supported by all at Eden has been a pleasure and privilege.

Life is full of obstacles, trials and tribulations. But what matters is how we navigate them to emerge safely and much stronger. The courage and resilience shown by each and every one of you has surely helped in attaining the successes each has deserved. I am sure you will all appreciate how great a place Eden is, not just as an educational centre but overall, in shaping the leaders of tomorrow.

Academic success has always been one of our biggest goals, but we have always strived to instil the belief that we should be looking to improve ourselves in all walks of life. Our character and conduct are just two of the many traits that can help to forge a successful career. We should always be eager to change ourselves for the better.

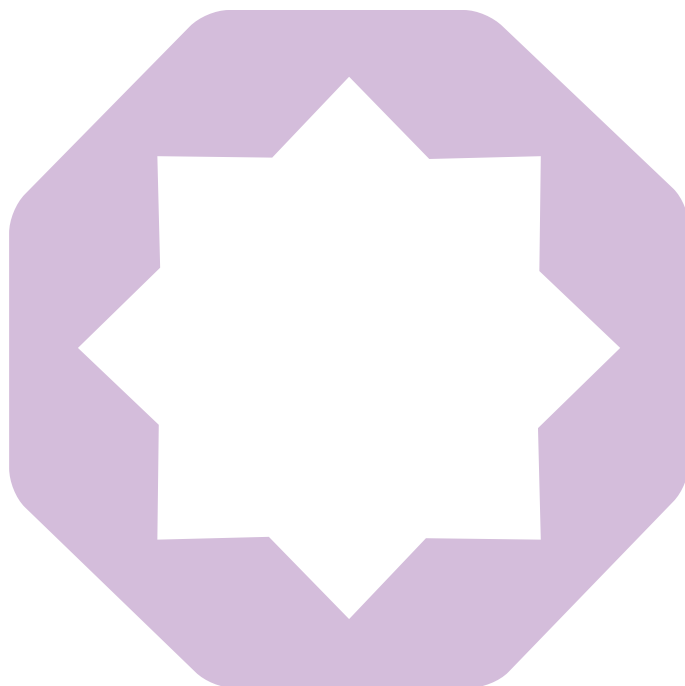
**"Yesterday I was clever, so I wanted to change the world.
Today I am wise, so I am changing myself." Rumi**

We have many grand plans to transform the world around us but so often, in the busy, crazy world we live in, we forget that to transform the world, we must first transform ourselves. To truly embed change we must embody that change ourselves. Our aim and aspiration is to see a school enriched with faith values and many a time we are looking for strategies and means to achieve this, but if each of us embody these values, we will hopefully see the change by being the change ourselves.

I wish each one of you every success and remember - ***"reach for the stars as each one of you are one."***

Ms Bhikhu

Acting Principal



Educational Excellence

The coronavirus pandemic presented us with many challenges. With schools closed, the education of our pupils moved to online platforms. Our teachers have continued to deliver high quality lessons using Microsoft Teams. Below are a few reflections from our staff and pupils on their experiences with virtual learning:

While online teaching and learning does come with its own set of challenges, it has its advantages. Many of us look to Rosenshine's Principles to improve our practice, and one of the themes that emerges from them is questioning. The Microsoft Teams platform that we use has a chat function, which allows us to ask a large number of questions during lessons and collate the responses of a great number of pupils very quickly. Using emoji response buttons and embedded polls can streamline this process even further. The Assignments app on Teams allows teachers to set multiple-choice quizzes that are automatically marked - these can be used as classwork and homework, and if designed to target misconceptions, can be very powerful. These assessment tools can be used to ensure that all pupils achieve a high success rate before moving on to the next topic, without imposing too much of a workload on the teacher.

The online platform has also provided some pupils who are usually shy or reluctant in the classroom with a new lease of confidence. They report that they feel less embarrassed using the written chat function to answer questions, as there is less of a spotlight on the person answering.

Having a shared online files area with pupils on Teams means that revision resources can be uploaded in an organised fashion, and pupils can be directed to these for revision.

Miss Dlima



Miss Dlima



Miss Hamman

Online teaching has been a fantastic opportunity: *'I now can't imagine standing in front of a class because the benefits of using technology have been huge.'*

From my point of view, Microsoft Teams allows me to contact my classes freely and easily, plus, it allows for ongoing conversation very much like social media. I can mark essays on my phone at any time, any place. Also, I can leave voice notes and verbally give feedback. While I am marking, I can screenshot examples of outstanding work and post them on the class newsfeed. All this can be done within seconds whereas, in a normal situation, this would take days.

Plus, this experience has made me improve my own technological skills. To allow pupils to work at their own pace, I have created pre-recorded lessons. Pupils who may need extra support to follow the lesson in *'real time'*, can watch my video on YouTube which allows them to pause the lesson and rewind at any time. 9P1 have embraced online teaching so much that a number of the pupils have even led the lesson from their homes, picking a topic and teaching the rest of the class while we all make notes: it's just like being in a university lecture!

We talked about the **benefits of online teaching** recently and these are just a few of their thoughts:

- Instead of handwriting, we can type. This means we can include far more points, present our work far more orderly, and revise a lot more effectively. As soon as we have saved a document, we can share it with the rest of the class. In seconds, we have access to 30+ examples of work rather than merely the work of the girl sitting physically next to us.
- We have 24/7 access to your help/resources. This is particularly helpful while we are completing homework and need a point clarifying. Rather than wait for the feedback after the essay has been written, we can sort out the issue right at that moment.
- The chat system means you can speak at any time. In class, you would have to wait for an appropriate moment to ask a question and, by that time, you may have forgotten the question, or the lesson may have moved on. On the chat, the teacher can see your question and answer it far quicker than traditionally. Plus, the meeting chat feels far more comfortable and informal: it's feels more like having a conversation which means it's easier to engage with the topic.

Miss Hamman

Educational Excellence

Due to the current Covid-19 pandemic, the education system has been compelled to adapt their ways of teaching and learning to meet the needs of pupils. There has been a sudden shift away from face to face interactions and teaching within a classroom to teachers having to transition and teach lessons online.

Although, teaching lessons online has been an unconventional form of teaching, it has been an overall positive experience for me. From my perspective, teaching lessons online has had its benefits as it has allowed flexibility within my lessons. It has also provided pupils with a different platform and further opportunities for differing forms of teaching and learning to take place. This has been successful through sharing screens; pupils can see what I am doing live on presentations and work sheets, and are privy to my thought process when studying a new text. I integrate interactive elements into my lessons through online quizzes and challenges relating to the texts the pupils are learning.

I have had the opportunity to individualise the learning experience for my pupils through active intervention, timely marking, and feedback to address any misconceptions and build on prior learning. Online teaching has also enabled me monitor homework and progress through set assignments and online deadlines that the pupils adhere to.

Another positive aspect of the recent need for online teaching is the new systems of praise that have been implemented, pupils do not only receive instant feedback on their submitted work but are now awarded with praise through virtual praise stickers and merits for exceptional work or any positive contributions to lessons. This ensures that pupils receive positive recognition for their engagement in class and I am pleased to be able to continue with giving my pupils praise even when not on a face to face basis.

Initially, I considered that pupil progress may be hindered, however I believe that online teaching and learning has allowed my pupils to develop skills that will be beneficial once they have left school. Pupils have been able to acquire critical thinking skills and become more independent learners. The pupils have 24/7 access to their learning materials, which are easily accessible for them to download on Ms Teams through files and allocated folders therefore allowing them to take full ownership of their learning even outside of lessons. Pupils are also able to use the collaboration space to present and share their work further developing their articulation and confidence therefore teamwork has not been a limiting factor. Although, these skills were acquired due to unprecedented circumstances, they will be invaluable and valuable when our pupils pursue further academic ventures at sixth form and university.

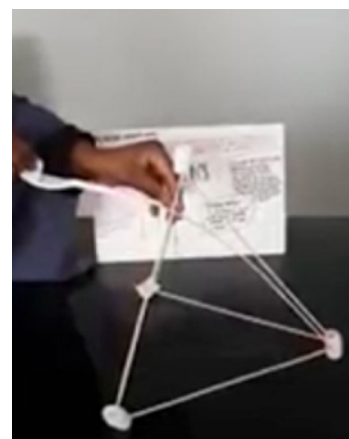
Miss Begum

This year has had its fair share of surprising trials and tribulations, and with the sudden turn of events, we could no longer attend school the same way we had for most of our lives. Instead, online school had become an alternative we had never expected. Many across the globe have had to suffer putting a stop to the learning they were accustomed to. However, alhamdulillah, our teachers at Eden Girls school made all the difference; dedicating effort and just as many hours so that we do not fall behind, especially in such difficult circumstances. In fact, they have taken the time to organise resources for not only during school hours, but for us to be able to learn and revise independently as well; not something they had to do, but did so for our own benefit. The teachers at our school have my gratitude for all the endless work put into ensuring that even through such difficulties, our education and well-being is still a top priority, going even further so as to allow us not only to be *'good'*, but to be the best that we can be. Virtual learning has certainly benefited me in the long run.

Ayman Zaman, Deputy Head Girl

The Star Inventor Challenge

KS3 and KS4 star students were tasked with the mission to channel their inner inventor. Students were asked to design a model or toy that represented a scientific concept. The challenge included writing an explanation on their design and the science behind it. Being the eco-aware Trust that we are, the extra objective was that this could only be done using recycled material. As usual our budding scientists here at Eden Girls Coventry got straight to work and used their ingenuity and problem solving skills mixed with an artistic flair to come up with some fantastic designs. We had catapults, air balloons, water dispensers, water cycle, atomic models to name a few! The judging panel consisted of Miss Hayer the Director of Learning for the science faculty, Dr Amin, the Deputy Director of Learning for the science faculty and Moulana Zubair our Faith Coordinator. The panel had the tough task of choosing the finalist, who must show attributes such as, creativity (with limited resources), ability to link to science and show a great engagement to the challenge criteria. A huge well done to all who participated, it was wonderful to see your inventor skills come into action.



Educational Excellence

VE Day

Whilst the world was locked indoors and celebrations were put on halt, some gathered in their front gardens and held parties. The reason for this, to commemorate 75 years since VE Day. Victory in Europe Day was celebrated on 8th May 1945 to commemorate the Allied Victory in Europe. Students in Year 9 History took part in an online, interactive lesson. They watched video clips and read war stories and empathised with how civilians might have felt on this day. Students in Humanities also started their lesson with a short

task and discussion of the events and its importance and symbolism in today's world. The response from students was excellent and Humanities teachers were impressed with their historical knowledge. Students were enthused and proactive within the lesson and even created their own newspaper article to celebrate the event. Year 9 students showed a great deal of maturity and engagement towards celebrating historical events.



Stars of Hope

On Sunday April 5th 2020 over 24 million people watched Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II as she delivered a powerful speech to bolster the strength and resolve of everyone playing their part in the battle against coronavirus. It will be remembered in history for its power in galvanizing Britain. She concluded with the pledge 'We will meet again.' This was a reference to lyrics sung by Dame Vera Lynn which roused the spirits of Britons during the Second World War.

'We'll meet again

Don't know where

Don't know when

But I know we'll meet again

Some sunny day.'

The song captured the '*Dunkirk Spirit*' - a phrase that is often used to describe groups of people showing determination in a difficult situation. The Battle of Dunkirk that took place in 1940, during which Allied Forces showed tremendous camaraderie and bravery. Throughout history, individuals and communities have faced adversity and responded with courage. The Queen's speech, drawing inspiration from the rousing lyrics of Dame Vera Lynn, once again demonstrated the extraordinary power of words to inspire, galvanise and motivate us to reach amazing heights.

During April, a competition called Stars of Hope was launched across Star Academies, with pupils invited to write a poem of hope and inspiration. Our pupils responded fantastically, with some excellent submissions. When the results of the competition were announced, we were incredibly excited and proud to hear that a poem from one of our pupils had reached the final, only to just miss out on claiming the top prize.



*The sun still shines, the moon still glows,
The vegetation still grows, and the flowers still bloom
They go through transition much like a mission
Through winter, through summer, through spring and autumn in
which some leaves may fall but that is not all.
We may have lost some, but I guarantee this battle will be won.
We are on a journey with the rest of humanity,
With hope and love and sayers of prayers -
Not all is lost, not all is gloom!
We are not alone we have one another.
From bone to bone and home to home you and I are not alone.
With one another this stumble is truly no bother.
World War1, World War 2 even through that we go through.
Stronger and better, united and enlightened.
Through this time that seems horrendous,
Our heroes are tremendous-
A beacon of hope.
Like stars that shine bright and give off great light.
We live a great time of mystery, a special time in history,
In which those we lost will not be forgotten.
There is no need for pessimism so appreciate this realism of optimism:
That in this time of fear, victory is so near
That in this time of pain, no good effort is in vain.
The NHS staff, the paramedics, the firefighters, the police officers,
and many more
From bee hivers to delivery drivers, our heroes and our stars, I thank
you all for what you bear and for what you bore.
At the end of the tunnel there is so much light,
Just as after every night the sun appears so bright.*

Saamiyah Ismail Year 9

Faith and Character Development

STAR Acts of Kindness

Lockdown gave us many challenges; as individuals, families, and communities. However, if we look back, we can see it also gave us a renewed sense of togetherness. We were gifted with time to spend with the ones we love and time to focus on our prayers and fasts during Ramadan.

One of the most wonderful things we saw was the kindness that individuals showed through acts of kindness. For example, giving time to charity work by packing food parcels, donating money, and generally helping people in need because it was the right thing to do. How amazing is that?

Well at Eden Girls Coventry, you certainly rose to the challenge when we asked you to take part in our *'STAR Acts of Kindness'*, this involved doing something from a range of kind acts for those around you. We had great examples of bird feeders you made, letters of thank you to show your appreciation to someone who cares for you, meals you cooked with your family, duas for the world and so much more! All of these acts demonstrated you are living our school values of Service, Teamwork, Aspiration and Respect.

We were blown away by the kindness in your hearts, as shown through your actions. May you be rewarded for your efforts, big and small, the seen and the unseen, Insha- Allah. Keep it up.

Mrs Khan



Faith and Character Development

Doorstep Rewards



In these testing months we have so many different challenges to face. Not being able to see our friends or spend time with our families who live apart from us, not being able to do the things we enjoy like going out for a meal, watching a film in the cinema or visiting places of interest. Fortunately, as a school we have been able to provide some normality for you in terms of the fantastic on-line lessons we have provided for all Key Stage 4 pupils.

In response to the hard work and dedication many pupils have shown by attending every lesson on their timetable and handing in every assignment set, we decided to give you some rewards. We surprised girls who had 100% attendance to lessons and a full commitment to all homework set with a sparkly Star balloon, a yummy box of chocolates and a lovely certificate to celebrate their achievement. There were so many of you who achieved the winning criteria, that we had to pick names from a hat!

Well done for persevering through difficult times and completing your on-line studies. Girls, you have made us really proud of you. Keep up the brilliant work ethic in the year ahead.

Mrs Khan

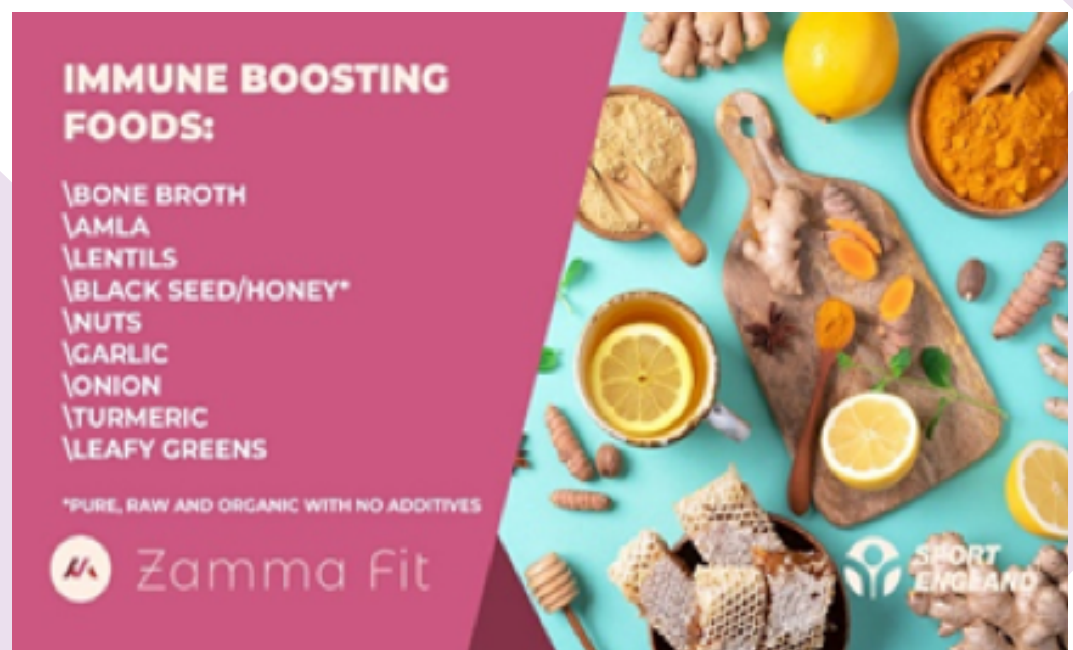


Faith and Character Development

Ramadhaan Fitness Challenge

This was a fantastic opportunity for the girls to complete a specifically designed exercise programme during Ramadhaan. In conjunction with Sport England and Dr Rimla, the programme included fitness sessions each day for around **15 minutes** to get the girls active during

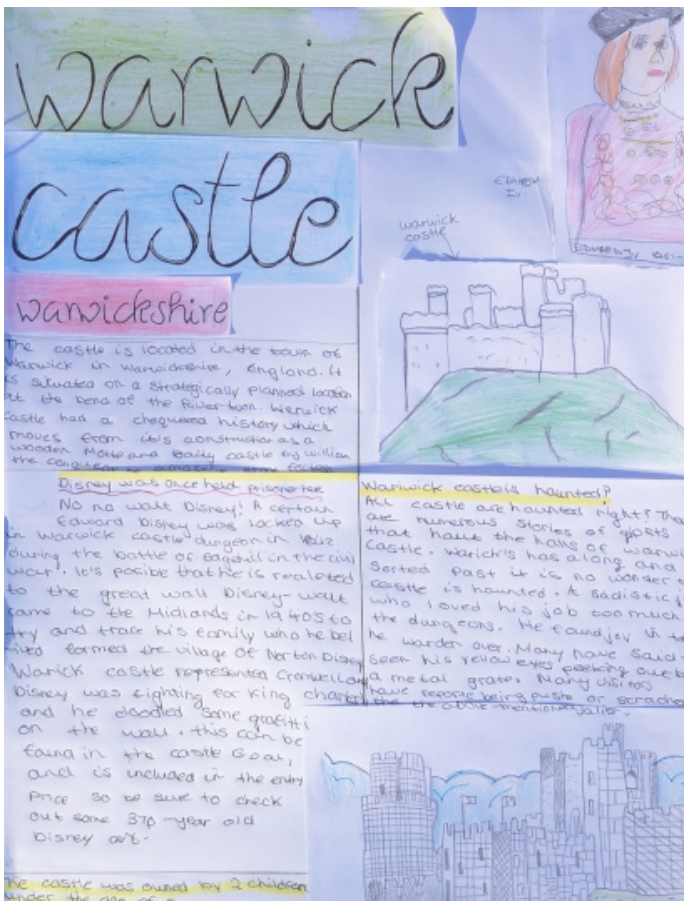
Ramadhaan. Each exercise had different levels of intensity to help suit all participants and encouraged not just the girls to have a go but also families, friends and teachers. Alongside each session, there was a quote for the day and also nutritional tips during Ramadhaan.



Faith and Character Development

Enrichment List

- Summer Term 2020 Program
- Home Science experiments
- ICT Skills
- Cooking Cook a dish or meal and upload a picture
- Writing Write a poem or short story about your experience during the lockdown
- History Create a poster or leaflet about local heritage sites
- Art Architecture Zaha Hadid project
- Film competition



Service to Communities

Care home letters

At times we take for granted that we have our youth and our health, but we must always remember these are blessings from Allah SWT. We should always be grateful for what we have and we now Allah will continue to bless us.

With this thought in mind, during lockdown we knew that many people in care home who did not have their youth or their good health any more were suffering great loneliness. They were not allowed any visitors, so no family or friends to go to see them. This was very hard for them as these visits were usually the only connection they had with the outside world.

So, at Eden Girls Coventry, we decided to do something about this. We called out in the time of need and you never failed to rise to the call. We asked you to write letters of hope to the elderly. We are pleased to say those letters brought so much comfort and happiness to the Care Home residents in Coventry. Bringing a smile to their face and a warmth in their heart because they felt someone had taken the time to do this for them. What a wonderful thing it is to brighten up someone's day!

Well done to all the girls who sent in those lovely letters. May you always stay blessed for the goodness you show to those who need it the most. Ameen

Mrs Khan



Ramadhaan Fundraising

As part of our annual Ramadhaan charity programme, pupils, staff and the local community once again demonstrated their generosity and commitment to helping and serving others by raising an impressive £7,000. All donations were given to Shine Charity and went towards their Coronavirus appeal. The focus of this appeal was to support UK families who had been particularly hard-hit by the pandemic as well as refugees in Syria who, due to poor conditions and hygiene, had been particularly impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.

A big thank you and well done to everyone who supported our fundraising campaign. May Allah accept our donations, ameen!

Useful Information

Dates for your Diary

Autumn Term

Pupils Return	Tuesday 1st September 2020
Half Term	Monday 26th October – Friday 30 October 2020
Pupils Return	Monday 2nd November 2020
Christmas Holiday	Monday 21st December – Friday 1st December 2021



Welcome to new staff members

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

Anand Patel – Principal

Ijaz Muhammad – Vice Principal

Irfaan Khares – Director of Learning of Computer Science

Zara Arfan – Teacher of ICT

Raksha Ramnarain – Teacher of English

Salma Bibi – Teacher of Science

Rabeeah Qaisar – Teacher of Science (Started May 2020)

Paul Moorcroft – SENDCo (Started April 2020)

Siti Latiff Lai – Special Support Assistant

Jade Collins – Special Support Assistant

Faye Melville – Science Technician

David Cripps – IT Technician (Started July 2020)

Saira Arfan – Receptionist

Syeda Zaman – Head of Year

Clare O'Hagan – Head of Year (Started June 2020)

Zainab Hirsi – Head of Year (Started March 2020 as Receptionist)

Eden Girls' School, Coventry, Stoney Stanton Road, Coventry, CV1 4FS Telephone: 02476 220937

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