



Girls on Tour

On Friday 3rd March, 40 students and five staff embarked upon EGSC's very first Netball Tour, to Shropshire. Spirits were high, excitement was palpable. Everyone was looking forward to the new experiences that came their way. Upon arrival we met our rep, Alex, who was just brilliant, the entire duration of the trip.

Read the full story on page 4



From the Principal



As our Holy Prophet Muhammad
(peace be upon him) teaches us;-

“People are like treasures – just like treasures of gold and silver.” As we know, gold and silver do not simply come out of the ground ready to be made into jewellery. Much effort is spent finding and extracting the gold. Craftsmen then labour for hours on end to turn it into something of beauty.

Welcome to our Spring Term newsletter. As ever, it is full of useful information for parents and carers and will also give you a feel for the life and work of the school. There is a huge breadth of interest represented in this issue of The Extra Mile. This is also accompanied by a depth of expertise and achievement of which any school could be proud. Whether it be academic subjects, extracurricular activities or pupils representing the school at external events Eden Girls' School Coventry's pupils are competing and succeeding. Our pupils are also being exposed to so many wonderful opportunities locally, nationally and beyond, curricular as well as skills based. We're still keen to develop those Star values such as Service, Teamwork, Ambition and Respect to fully equip our pupils for the demands of modern life.

The start of the Spring Term saw Year 11 students receive their mock GCSE results from the December examination series. As anticipated, results were promising, reiterating the school's view that teaching and learning for this cohort has been highly effective and the pandemic caused minimal disruption to student progress. This will stand Eden Girls' School Coventry students in good stead for the 2023 summer examination series.

The school has engaged fully with external stakeholders launching the Community Service and Enterprise projects in the Spring Term. Pupils also took part in the Coventry and Warwickshire Young enterprise project. Pupils were awarded second place among all school across Coventry and Warwickshire.

We have continued to work with institutions of higher education. Pupils on the Schools Excellence Programme visited Cambridge University learning about mathematical strategies used to handle the COVID pandemic. We welcomed The University of Warwick on a Women in Science event lead by Margot James Executive Chair WMG, The University of Warwick, DCMS and BEIS Minister, 2016-19. Our pupils attended the Women in STEM day at Coventry University for the opening of the Beatrice Shelling Building.

We are proud to serve to our local community: the pupil lead food bank and preloved uniform shop which aims to support the local community and instil a sense of service in our pupils.

We have seen sports teams grow in the school, we now have a netball team in all year groups and have a football team, pupils have taken part in fixtures with local secondary schools over the Spring term.

Finally, as we embark on the holy month of Ramadhaan, I would like to ask for your prayers for the school over the coming weeks. I pray that the Almighty grants us all the ability to value every single moment of the coming days and to undertake only those actions which please Him and refrain from those that displease Him.

Aameen

Shazia Akram

Reflections from our Student Leadership Team

During this half term, there has been an exemplary amount of achievements from each of our houses. Each and every student and staff have shown tremendous perseverance and ambition throughout each and every day and we can't wait to see what more is to come as we draw closer to the end of our academic year.

To begin, this half term was action-packed with various competitions in which all Eden girls were able to showcase the STAR values of Service, Teamwork, Ambition and Respect. As detailed by the Student Heads of Houses on pages 5 & 6, all students actively participated within their houses, allowing them the opportunity to display their individual skills of baking, artistry, sports, music and much more. With the determination of all students, it is safe to say many commendable achievements were made.

As the term progressed, Cultural Day was an exciting prospect for the students. Learning about various cultures which enrich this school, expanding students' knowledge of the plethora of countries globally. Following this was our Cultural food day on which students brought in their own cultural foods allowing everyone to see the variety and diversity of culture here at Eden. Students were then also able to express their support for Mental Health Day, raising awareness of mental health issues around the world and mobilizing efforts in support of bettering our mental health.

To conclude, the achievements made this half term is the epitome of what we hope to continue to achieve as the academic year nears its close. We hope to also continue celebrating the successes of students and staff alike with the inspiring accomplishments being made. We truly cannot wait to see what the next half term brings!

Saliha Farooq (Head Girl) and **Amna Jawfer** (Deputy Head Girl)



School Trip Overview

Girls on Tour

First meals were had and a big game of 'hide and seek', with a twist before bed. Ever played hide and seek in the dark? It was fantastic. Of course, no student wanted to sleep, they were too excited to get their fixtures underway the following morning.

We took five teams on the tour, 7A, 7B, 8A, 9A and 10A. All teams had six matches to play in their tournament phase across 3 sessions, against some very well drilled and much more experienced teams than ourselves, but the girls were up to the challenge. The Year 7A team started the morning with a win, with narrow defeats for the 7B, Y9 and Y10 teams. The morning picked up with a win and a draw for the Year 10 team and another win for the 7A team. The Year 8 team started their campaign in the afternoon, with a narrow defeat to a very good Oxted School team, with the Year 9's picking up their first win of the tournament.

While not playing matches, all students had the opportunity to have a go on a variety of outdoor adventurous activities. There was: giant swing, archery, rifle shooting, abseiling, climbing, to name a few. All students thoroughly enjoyed this aspect, as well as the netball. Saturday evening saw plenty of food, and a fantastic quiz.

After all games had been played, including a couple of extra friendlies, the teams finished in the following places:

Year 7A – finished 4th in their group – (through to the semi finals)

Year 7 – finished 7th in their group

Year 8 – finished 5th in their group, narrowly missing out on the semi-finals by 1 point

Year 9 – finished 4th in their group – (through to the semi finals)

Year 10 – finished 6th in their group

All girls played extremely well and were a credit to the school. The 7A and Year 9 teams went through to their semi-finals, where the girls played beyond their age and maturity. Narrow defeats led to the Year 7A and Year 9 teams walking away with bronze medals.

While the finals were going on, Ella Bowen, England Netball GD came round to talk to the girls. She spend about 45 minutes with EGSC students, talking about nutrition, health, career pathways, the importance of sport, among many other things. She took time to get to know our students and was very impressed by their politeness, motivation to succeed and their passion about netball.

Then it was time for the medal ceremony, where the 7A and Year 9 teams were presented with their bronze medals. To our surprise there was one more award coming EGSC way. The umpires had voted, unanimously, for EGSC as the 'Team of the Tournament'. They said that this was due to their respect of the umpires, their fair play, and their overall kindness and support for one another. Not only this but several members of staff from other schools approached our school to express their thanks at being able to play such a polite and well-mannered school, something that, as staff, we were incredibly proud of.

Every single student who was on the trip epitomised the STAR values, were a credit to themselves and a credit to the school. I cannot wait to take next year's trip, and do it all over again – hopefully with even more students!

Caroline Amos Wilkins



Halima A (Y8)

'PGL was a unique and joyous trip. I enjoyed every single part of it as I was always busy either doing a fun activity or playing netball. PGL was a great experience for me to learn a lot of new skills but also help strengthen the bond between everyone in the team. We all became closer and did every activity together making it ten times more enjoyable. PGL was a different experience that allowed me to realise the skills I should practice in netball whilst having lots of fun. It was an exciting trip and I had a wonderful time at PGL.'

Samirah H (Y9)

'In my opinion, the PGL netball tour was an exciting trip for all of us to go on. It gave us the opportunity to bond with our teammates and to make new friends with other schools too. We learnt new netball skills first hand from amazing coaches, an England netball player, and from all the exciting matches that took place. It reminded us of the skill needed in netball and how fun it is to play. Not only that, but it taught us confidence and resilience, as we challenged ourselves to complete the numerous exhilarating activities on site. The PGL netball tour is an exceptional experience I hope that everyone can have.'

Ashanti L (Y7)

'PGL was an enjoyable experience learning about netball and each other. I was never not busy, whether that was playing netball or doing crazy activity and overcoming fears. It was a nice weekend away with friends as well making new friends in and around dorms. If I could go again, I would go a thousand times. I highly recommend it for others.'

Nabiha N (Y8)

It was extremely fun! I got to spend the weekend learning new skills, trying new activities and being able to build a deeper connection with all the people who went there: Yr7s, 8s, 9s, and 10s. We spent quality time with teachers and friends. The staff at PGL were amazing and friendly too! They would keep us busy with their little stories and small chit chats here and there. I was able to make improvements in my gameplay while watching other teams' matches. I spent at least an hour after getting back home talking about the experience with my parents. Our whole team agrees that we should have stayed longer. Overall, I really loved it and would recommend it to everyone.

Service's House Report

This half term, Service has been working exceptionally well to make sure they stay first in the league.

Throughout the past few weeks, students have been given a range of competitions which covered a variety of subjects (including Art, Languages and History) allowing students to participate in competitions that interested them and thus accumulate points for their House. One example of the Languages competition was the Arabic calligraphy, where students were encouraged to create a piece of calligraphy in Arabic. This could have been a verse from the Qur'an or a saying. The results of this competition were astounding, students from all Houses participated and the winner from Service was Nafisa Miah (11S).

Also, another competition that showcased many students' creative skills was the 'Show Racism the Red Card' competition, where students produced a piece of art (whether it was drawing or poetry) to emphasise on the importance of fighting against racism to unite

within the community. There were many winners for this competition as well, from Service Nafisa Miah (11S) once again presented her dedication and her innovative skills through her artwork. From the humanities subjects, we had the Castle Building competition as well as the Heritage Infographic. At Eden Girls' School, we have a diverse community of cultures and heritages, and therefore wanted to create a piece of artwork where students could celebrate their heritage and differences. The infographics covered many heritages, such as: Nigeria, Poland, Iran, Poland, Iran, Ghana, Pakistan, Malaysia....the list goes on! The winner for this competition was Salma Adam (9S) who created a stunning infographic on her place of heritage: Morocco.

These competitions and the participation in Reading Wise, Timetables Rockstar, merits and attendance scores, assisted Service to stay first in the House League (continuing from their success of last term) with a staggering score of 167 points! Go Service!

Setaish Popalzai & Nafisa Miah

Respect's House Report

Hey guys, we would like to just do a quick overview of this half term and our accomplishments as Respect.

To begin with, let's take a look at the various house competitions we participated in: the show racism the red card competition, the Arabic calligraphy competition, the Year 7 castle building competition and the heritage infographic competition. We are extremely proud to say that Mayra Shimaz 7R and Aisha Kadir 8R won the Arabic calligraphy challenge with their exquisite artwork and Unaiza Raza 7R won the Year 7 castle building competition with her unmatched creativity. Moreover, let's not forget this year's World Book Day, which resulted in a commendable turnout of creative and accurate costumes from students and staff. We would also like to give a special mention to Mr Khares for his ambitious outfit as Cat in the Hat.

Overall, this term we successfully achieved becoming second place in the house leadership board and only 2 points behind Service. Of course, this labels Service as the team to beat. Considering Ambition's place on the leader board, with only 149 points, there are certain houses which clearly do not pose any threat to our 165 points.

Finally, we would like to congratulate fellow Respect members for really pushing themselves this term and for participating in competitions, stabilising our position on the leader board whereas other houses seem to be regressing further back from first place! We hope that you will continue participating in future competitions (such as the Eid card competition).

Just as a reminder, the Eid card competition is unique to other house competitions, held here at Eden: the winning entry with the most creative design will be featured as Eden's annual Eid card. Your Eid design will be circulated around the school to governors, staff and students. Therefore, we personally implore you to participate. And to close, thank you to the entire Head of House team. We truly believe that as a house, we can win this year.

Bahar Sais and Mariyah Apabhai

Teamwork's House Report

Salaam, as teamwork heads, we are more than grateful for the hard work and effort put in from everyone this term.

We are forever proud of our teamwork teachers who participated in and, Alhamdulillah, won the House Art competition and are extremely proud of the many students across the school who constantly implement our STAR values in their lessons and in competitions.

This term was an eventful one filled with successes for Teamwork. Reaching 160 points placed us a few points behind Service and comfortably facing no threat from Ambition 11 points behind. From Halimah A in Year 8 winning the Children's Mental Health Awareness Basketball competition with 9 baskets, as well as Miss Breed leading the staff competition with 14 baskets.

We would like to give a massive thank you to everyone who contributed to our progress this term and for all being exceptional members of House Teamwork. You have made your HoHs extremely proud. And let us continue our push towards the House Cup!

Leena Khan & Nasra Mohamud

Ambition's House Report

House Ambition has had an exciting term, filled with enthralling activities and opportunities for success.

Thanks to Alysha in 11A's beautiful and powerful piece of artwork (which portrayed the harsh reality of 'implicit' racism on black women and girls) for the 'Show Racism the Red Card' competition, we received first place! A stirring castle-building competition saw a dedicated – and ambitious – group of Year 7s make Ambition runners up, putting good use to the knowledge learnt in their history lessons.

In general, house Reading Wise and Sparx Maths efforts were tremendous gaining us a plethora of house points. Both of ourselves and Mrs. Tolley are extremely proud of every single person in our house and hope we can continue to ameliorate more and grow as individuals. Ambition is surely making its way back up the leader board!

Layla Ise and Doaa Idris

SERVICE
TEAMWORK
AMBITION
RESPECT

A Sporting Round Up

This year has led to one of the busiest sports years filled with so many exciting opportunities and incredible achievements. All students have embodied our STAR values throughout the numerous fixtures, trips and performances.

One of the highlights of this term consists of our unstoppable netball teams from Years 7-10 attending a residential PGL netball tour. Moreover, through the trip they learnt so many skills that they can implement during fixtures as well as strengthening their team bonds. The trip also gave them the opportunity to be able to meet the incredible Thunderball netballer, Ella Bowen, who plays in the super league. This enabled them to see the future that sports can open. During the trip, all students were recognised for their incredible character and talents on and off the courts as they were awarded Team of Tournament by the umpires!

This year is the first year where our teams have competed with schools all over Coventry and have performed phenomenally excellently in netball, football and basketball. Our netball teams from all years have competed in fixtures over this term and over 30 fixtures combined across this entire year. Also, our basketball teams from both KS3 and KS4 have shown incredible dedication towards the sport when performing in fixtures.

Not to mention, Eden has such a vast range of highly attended enrichment open to all students, giving us the opportunity to come together away from academics. For example: Guardian Ballers, trampolining, archery and much more. A varied enrichment is catered for all and is constantly extended to provide more opportunities. All students are encouraged to participate in enrichment alongside normal school life to allow students to be able to gain qualifications and experience useful to life after Eden. This consists of the introduction of sports and academic leaders, a nationally recognised SQL programme, which increases student's opportunities. Moreover, all students were able to participate in a KS1 multi skill festival.

In addition, this year has seen the introduction of a Gifted and Talented programme, which allows students to experience one off masterclasses in a variety of sports across the year. This is mirrored with a programme that is aimed at students who don't usually access sport with our 'Get into Sport' programme. The aim is to broaden their understanding and develop a range of skills which will allow them to develop a lifelong passion for physical activity.

To conclude, a huge thank you goes towards the teachers who made all this possible. Without the consistent dedication and hard work of all our PE team none of the successes achieved would be possible!

Safiyyah Hassan



The Korean Spirit & Culture Promotion Project

As young people today are growing up in a globally integrated society, it is important to gain exposure to different cultures. KSCPP (Korean Spirit and Culture Promotion Project) is a not-for-profit, non-government organisation dedicated to the promotion of greater awareness and understanding of Korean history and culture. Its headquarters are in Seoul, Korea, with branches in New York, Los Angeles (USA), Kaufering (Germany) and London (UK).

KSCPP has held essay contests in the U.S. for the last 17 years, targeting 3,000 middle schools, 6,300 high schools and the top 500 colleges. Last year, they expanded the competition to students across the world.

Congratulations to Alisha Mahmood who not only entered this competition, but who was awarded second place and received £200.



Mustafa Suleman
City of London School



Alisha Mahmood
Eden Girls' School Coventry



Polina Kim
Oxford International College

An Inspector Calls Theatre Trip

On Saturday 4th March, Year 10 and Year 11 students enjoyed a production of *An Inspector Calls* at the Belgrade Theatre. *An Inspector Calls* by J.B. Priestley is a three-act play in which an inspector questions members of a wealthy family about the death of a girl who worked in a factory.

The students were superbly behaved and polite to all members of the public. We were all particularly interested in the staging of the family dinner to mimic the deconstruction of the Birling family and the wider ideals on capitalism.

At EGSC, the students study several plays between Years 7-11. Parent and guardians can support their child's learning by taking them to the theatre. The Belgrade is situated in town, which will not only support their progress in English, but also expose them to a host of new imaginations and ideas.

Sheridan Johnson

Science Club

This term, we have been exploring just how exciting Science can be!

We have been making vinegar and sodium bicarb volcanoes, creating our own bath bombs, making rainbow fizz, and using foil and lollipop sticks to complete a circuit.

However, the personal favourite of all students was making slime!

The highlight for this year must go to making an edible DNA model. Students had to use their knowledge of base pairings to match the correct sweets and use their twisting skills to replicate the double helix shape.

Sajedah Musa



What’s New in Art?

The Art Department has been a hive of activity this term. Not only has the progress of the students been fantastic to see, but we have also incorporated Food Technology and Textiles into our family.



The highlights, and upcoming events, are:

Show Racism the Red Card competition

This is an amazing opportunity for students to get involved in. EGSC have won for three years, either with the creative writing challenge or artwork. Over the last three years, we have visited Manchester United and Manchester City stadiums. Our latest entries have been sent off so hopefully it will be another win for such an important cause.

Eid card competition

Students are developing their art skills to illustrate the front cover for Eden’s community card. By the time of publish, the deadline will have passed, and we’ll be searching for an overall winner!

New Manga/Anime international competition

This enables the students to show their creativity within manga/anime through the character development of storyboard outcomes.

Coventry University Trip

This trip will take place on 20th June. Several Year 10 students will have the opportunity to experience further education life, as well as masterclasses and discussions with current students.

King Charles’ Coronation

We have an upcoming competition to design bunting for the king’s coronation, plus the creation of a card in celebration of the event.

Revision Tips

Our Year 11 students are in the final stages of their last set of mock GCSE examinations! As complete experts with the process now, these are the recommendations of Monday’s Additional English class in how to stay organised and succeed.

TIP 1

Past Papers: You may know the content, but using past papers ensures that you become accustomed to the style of exam questions, especially the wording and expectations. You can find past papers online if you search for the subject and exam board.

TIP 2

Knowledge Organisers: Many of our subjects use knowledge organisers every day. Knowledge organisers allow you to drill down on the content that’s really going to get you the high marks.

TIP 3

Online support: We rely heavily on our teachers, but there are hundreds of voices online who can also support you with your studies. Whether this is through YouTube and Mr Bruff, or specific websites such as Maths Genie, Kay Science, or Seneca. No matter what time you like to revise outside of school hours, there’s always support out there

TIP 4

Personalised revision: Some people like to revise with friends, some people like to revise alone. Some people need music to work, some people need silence. It doesn’t matter how you approach revision if it works for you (and you have the results to back it up). By the time you have reached Year 10, you should know exactly how you learn best.

TIP 5

Revision Timetable: Stay organised through your exams, and before. A revision timetable helps you cover all the topics necessary. Revision slots can be between 25 minutes to an hour, again, do what works for you.



British Science Week

During 13th - 17th March, the Science Department celebrated British Science Week.

The theme for this year was ‘Connections’ and students engaged in many tasks such as a fact-finding scavenger hunt, plus a cake sale competition for charity. Students were also tasked during their science lessons to build their own balloon powered car, working in teams to create the best one from scratch, using raw materials provided to them.

The week was a success with all students taking part, increasing awareness and understanding of the process of undertaking scientific endeavours, and the ability for girls to undertake STEM related careers.

Azmaine Ahmed



Warwick University

Students travelled to The Bhattacharyya Engineering Department at Warwick University to showcase the LBEEP funded Science projects. We networked with academics, engineers and STEM club students from over 20 schools in the region.

There was particular interest from the delegates of the event in our ‘Extracting essential oils from Fruits & Flowers’ project. A truly excellent event that encouraged our students to move out of their comfort zone and present their hard work on a public platform. The students enjoyed attending the mini-lectures offered and took eager interest in the WMG ‘Mission to Mars’ show.

Muhammad Amin



Star Readers

Reading plays a crucial role in supporting pupils’ learning and development and their understanding of the subjects they are studying.

As they prepare to sit the exams that will help to shape their futures, it is important for all of our pupils to continue to expand their vocabulary and improve their writing, language and comprehension skills. Reading a wide variety of books from an assortment of different authors will help our pupils to grow into powerful and knowledgeable communicators.

As well as being a gateway to learning and understanding, reading also helps young people to develop their social and cultural capital by giving them access to new ideas and experiences and encouraging them to empathise with people and characters from all walks of life. Authors use a wide variety of literary techniques to foster and sustain their readers’ interest, helping young people to discover characters that intrigue and inspire them, plots they can relate to, and genres that they love.

Our Star Readers initiative is designed to promote the joys and benefits of reading to all of our pupils, whilst simultaneously improving their writing, vocabulary and comprehension skills. Experienced staff have searched through the best of contemporary and classic children’s and young adult literature to provide a recommended reading list for each year group. The books have been selected to give pupils a window into other people’s worlds, promote discussion and build reading resilience.

From contemporary classics like The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas, Harry Potter, His Dark Materials and the Hunger Games Trilogy, to universal favourites like The Snowman, The BFG, To Kill a Mockingbird, Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland and The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, the programme features acclaimed titles dating back to Aesop’s Fables and includes ground-breaking literature from the 19th to the 21st century. All of the books are aligned with our leadership specialism and have been selected with the age of students in mind, both in terms of their reading ability and the main themes explored.

Pupils are able to borrow all of the titles featured in the Star Readers Primary and Secondary Edition booklet directly from school and many, if not all, are likely to be available from local libraries.

We are proud to say that, with our increased focus on reading in the school, the number of fluent readers in our school has increased by 6% since September.

Umar Tailor



Holocaust Memorial Day

Both Year 7 and Year 9 were able to engage in worldwide virtual events which allowed them to interact with a survivor of the holocaust. Year 7 students felt so moved and inspired that they conducted a whole school assembly on the story of Henri Obstfeld.

After the Nazis occupied the Netherlands, Henri’s family were subject to restrictive anti-Jewish laws. Despite resistance from the non-Jewish population, the Nazis gradually persecuted the Jews more and more, and captured several Jewish boys during raids, sending them to camps further east.

In 1942, the Nazis called up Jewish boys to work in the East. Much to Henri’s parents’ alarm, Henri was called up, despite only being 2 years old. Henri’s parents did not want to send Henri away, so they went to one of their relative’s house in a different part of the city to keep him safe. Thankfully no one came looking for Henri to see why he had missed his call up.

Henri’s parents decided it was not safe in Amsterdam anymore and managed to find foster parents to look after Henri. He lived with his foster parents for 2 years. During this time, he was not allowed to interact with other children, as it was too dangerous for him. Henri remembered watching the first gliders dropping British and Polish paratroopers onto the outskirts of the city. He had never seen parachutes before, and thought they looked like little dolls dropping from the sky.

As the fighting became more intense, Henri and his foster parents had to leave Arnhem altogether. They fled to the nearby village of Harskamp in a doctor’s motorcar, with Henri sitting on the floor, and gunfire going off around them. They stayed in the house of the headmaster of the school in Harskamp for 9 months. Conditions were hard, and Henri used to go on long walks with his foster parents to beg for food from farms. They would also visit a soup kitchen, and whilst the soup did not have much of a flavour, they were grateful for the warmth it provided.

On the 17th of April 1945, Henri and his foster parents noticed a Canadian troop carrier outside one of their friends’ houses in a neighbouring village. When they returned to Harskamp, it was not long before Canadian troops arrived there and chased the Germans out, freeing the inhabitants of Nazi rule. Henri was reunited with his parents, discovering that they had been hiding above a kindergarten school for 3 years in Haarlem, just outside Amsterdam. They had been helped by members of the Resistance, and several of those who helped Henri’s family, including his foster parents, were honoured posthumously with the Yad Vashem ‘Righteous Amongst the Nations’ award in 2000.

Sabrina Sangha



HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
DAY TRUST

Careers Spotlight

In December, the Year 11s had their Mock Interviews. Our interviewers were extremely impressed by their maturity and focus. With the GCSE exams fast approaching, our students are now considering life outside of Eden. We always want our students to think outside the box so here are five ideas to encourage people to dream big!

1) Oceanographer

Oceanographers study the oceans, unsurprisingly, but that can entail anything from programming ocean simulations on a computer to analysing pollutants in seawater. Whether you're on the more academic side of things or the more industrial side of things, you're likely to be moving between a lab and the sea itself: going out yourself on a boat and using diving equipment is an integral part of most oceanography jobs.

2) Ethical Hacker

Ethical hackers use hacking techniques to improve the security of websites: they will try to hack into a company's website (with that company's permission) and then inform the company about weaknesses in its security. Then, the company can use that information to prevent future cyberattacks.

3) Fire Investigators

Firefighters fight fires; fire investigators track down why they started in the first place by examining the building, the pattern of fire activity and the remaining structures and appliances. Fire investigators usually start out as paid or volunteer firefighters, then complete a fire investigator training programme.

4) SFX makeup artist

Special effects makeup artists focus on the theatrical, the comic, the otherworldly. They'll range from making actors look older than they are, or sicker, to creating prosthetics and models for ambitious body projects. Most SFX makeup artists take a relevant course in theatrical/media makeup, then build their skills through volunteering and industry work.

5) Toxicologists

Toxicologists identify and study the effects of toxic materials, chemicals, radiation and potential new medicines on the human body. There are plenty of different areas toxicologists can work in, some of which are more lab-based, some more research-based and some more industrial. For instance, toxicologists in the NHS diagnose people who have been poisoned, study the effects of harmful or potentially-harmful agents on the body and suggest methods of treatment.

Amy Novsarka

Ramadhan 2023

HEAD OF HOUSE TEAMWORK, Miss Hickinbotham

1) Do not skip Suhoor

As the saying goes, 'Breakfast is the most important meal of the day'. During Ramadan, this carries even more truth. Try not to continue sleeping because then your body has to rely on the calories consumed during Iftar throughout the day.

2) Do not overeat during Iftar

Just as it is not advisable to skip Suhoor, overeating when it is time to break the fast can harm your body. Iftar should be a well-balanced, nutritious meal and not a feast.

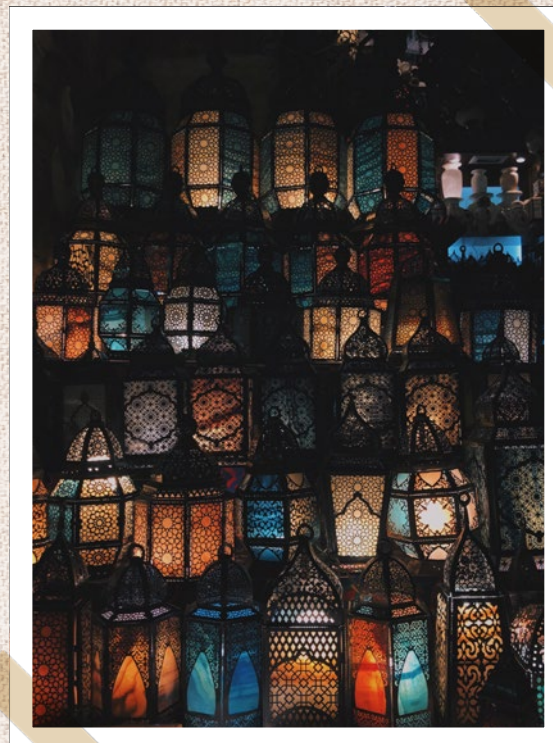
3) Avoid eating fried foods, salty foods and high-sugar foods

It is not uncommon for fasting individuals to indulge in greasy, fried and sugary dishes during mealtime. Consuming fatty and sugary foods can lead to indigestion, affecting fasting the following day. Also, you should limit salt intake, especially during Suhoor (pre-dawn meal), as this increases thirst during the fasting period.

4) Drink as much water as possible

Drinking as much water as possible between Iftar (breakfast) and Suhoor (pre-dawn meal) reduces the risk of dehydration during fasting. Make every effort to drink at least eight glasses of fluids daily before dawn and after sundown.

Hafsa Khalifa



CelestaClay

Joining Young Enterprise in January was actually a very good decision, and it happened because one of the girls who was going asked me to come along one Wednesday afternoon.

Since then, we created a team of amazing and talented individuals to help make this business a success. Granted things did get a little stressful, but our end results were worth it. We ended up establishing a business by the name 'CelestaClay' and made clay accessories to sell in school and at the trade fair in Leamington Spa.

Our amazing team on marketing and digital set up our social media accounts so we could advertise our products. And our equally amazing design team worked hard to produce the products we wanted to sell. After a lot of hard work, paint-stained fingers and maybe some sleep deprivation I, for one, think it was worth it.

At the end of the competition, we found ourselves coming second as a runner up. It was a very worthwhile experience: we had the opportunity to sell to the public and see what other great ideas other young enterprise teams had come up with. This experience has been amazing so far and insha'Allah it will continue to be.

Zoha Bukhari



Assalamualaykum, my name's Hazera and I took part in the 2023 Young Enterprise program as co-managing director of our business 'CelestaClay'.

I worked in a team with eight other girls to create a business where we crafted handmade, yet sustainable products, and pitched them to the public and also in school! It started off as a school club that my Business Studies teacher encouraged me to sign up for and now has become something I'm proud to be part of Alhamdulillah.

Honestly, I would 100% recommend doing Young Enterprise if you have the opportunity to, as it has allowed me to develop my character in areas where I was less confident. For example, I have been able to improve my management and communication skills through working in a team for this business, and it has also allowed me to be more effective with my time organisation. I won't lie, this has definitely been a stressful and busy journey (to say the least) but I have found that it can cut into my free time, but hands down I don't regret it as I have been able to innovate and discover new areas of our business with my team. Working with other students, especially my friends, has been such an enjoyable experience. The skills learnt can certainly be helpful when in crises as they encouraged me to move forward and have been able to offer suggestions to ensure the business is able to overcome any issues.

In our case, the Young Enterprise has been successful as we were able to sell our products at a public trade fair recently at Leamington Spa and engage with the public to inform them about our business. We were in a friendly competition against other schools which, as a matter of fact, were all sixth forms and we were the youngest business there, but that didn't stop us. In fact, it pushed us to put a lot of effort into the trade fair and I couldn't have been prouder of my team. We won as runners-up and have now qualified to the county finals. Currently, we are preparing a business report to submit and are hoping to plan for our upcoming interviews and presentations in the near future Insha'Allah.

I urge all the younger years to consider taking part in the Young Enterprise enrichment because I, personally, am so grateful for the opportunities it has provided me. I have a host of memories I have made with my team which are special and unique which make this experience all the more exhilarating. Plus, you can mention Young Enterprise on your CV! JazakAllah for reading and I hope this persuades you to sign up for Young Enterprise. I urge all the younger years to consider taking part in the Young Enterprise enrichment, because I am so grateful for the opportunities it has provided me with.

Hazera Rahman

Iqra: The importance of reading in Islam

As students, we are constantly surrounded by books, assignments, and readings. We read to learn, to expand our knowledge, and to broaden our horizons. But have you ever wondered why reading is so important? And what does Islam say about reading?

In Islam, the first word that was revealed to Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) was "Iqra," which means "read." This word signifies the importance of reading and seeking knowledge in Islam. The Qur'an also emphasizes the importance of seeking knowledge and encourages Muslims to read and learn throughout their lives.

Reading is one of the most powerful tools for gaining knowledge and understanding the world around us. It helps us to understand different perspectives, cultures, and ways of thinking. Reading can also help us to develop critical thinking skills and make informed decisions. Furthermore, reading is not just important for academic success, but it is also important for personal growth and development. It can help us to develop empathy, emotional intelligence, and creativity. Reading can also be a form of therapy and can help us to reduce stress and anxiety.

In Islam, seeking knowledge is considered a form of worship. The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said, "Seeking knowledge is obligatory upon every Muslim." This statement highlights the importance of education and the pursuit of knowledge. The benefits of reading are countless, and it is an activity that we should all strive to incorporate into our daily lives. Whether it's reading books, articles, or even Quranic verses, reading can help us to become better versions of ourselves.

As students of knowledge, we must recognize the importance of reading and seek knowledge throughout our lives. The word "Iqra" is a powerful reminder of the value of reading, and we must strive to make it a part of our daily routine.

So, let us all take the time to read, learn, and grow.

Umar Tailor



Q&A with Azkah Rehman

Why did you win a STAR Award?

I won a STAR Award because I won funding from the National Deaf Children's Society to work on a project called Accessibility Awareness. I organised the NDCS Roadshow to attend my school. The workshop was amazing, and I had the opportunity to lead a session which is a great thing to do.

What do you think made you stand out from the competition?

I follow the Star Values which are the foundation for succeeding, I believe. Also, my religious values mean that I will always try, whether or not I win, because the most important thing is making a difference to my community.

Service – Being a responsible citizen in our community

Teamwork – Working together for excellence

Ambition – Aspiring to be our best

Respect – Treating others as we wish to be treated

How did you feel when you found out you won?

I was happy that I found out I won STAR Awards. I couldn't believe that, out of every school in the Trust, I had won!

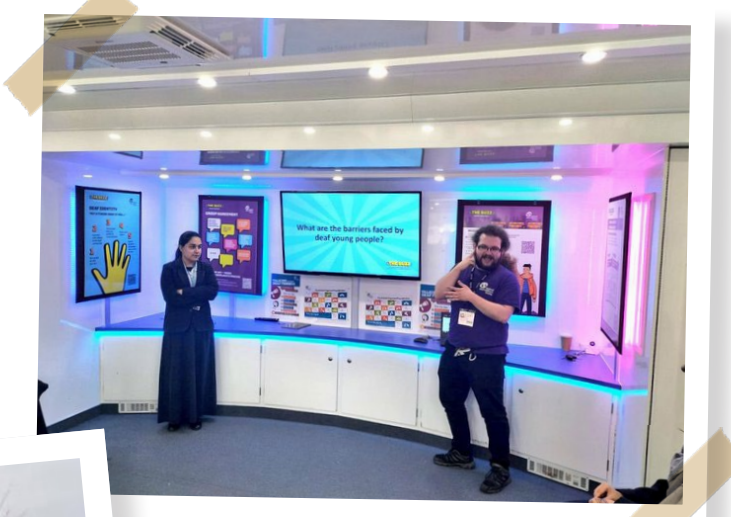
What was the award's ceremony like?

There were thirty other Star Schools at the ceremony, and I felt confident talking to different students from other schools. It was interesting to see that the different schools were dotted all over the country. I met CEO Sir Mufti Hamid Patel CBE which was very special.

What advice do you have for other deaf learners?

Advice: Don't be ashamed that you can't do anything. Be confident – who knows, you may win a Star Award too! Stay proud of your achievements. Ensure you volunteer for leadership roles.

Azkah Rehman



Food Bank

Our Food Bank has been successful in supporting several our families over the last term.

If you, or anyone in the local community, does find they need additional help one week, please contact the school to reserve your food bag. Our students volunteer after school on Fridays to ensure bags are ready to be collected between 1 - 4pm.

Telephone: 024 7622 0937

Email: info@egcoventry.staracademies.org



Community Programmes

Community service is something we are very proud of at EGSC. Since September, Year 10 have been working on designing their community service projects.

We are now at the point where the projects are starting to materialise. In groups, pupils are working with a diverse range of organisations including Masjid Zeenatul Islam Mosque, a church, two local food projects (including the Salvation Army), Myton Hospice, FWT and CRASAC. All pupils will spend three days working on practical projects that will directly benefit these organisations.

The students are busy planning events that will raise awareness for their cause: fundraising, informative videos and, in some cases, building garden furniture. As well as helping in the community, all pupils will gain experience that will be of benefit for their personal development as well as evidence of team-working for sixth-form applications.

James McCormick

Enterprise Challenge

This month, all Year 9 students completed the first of their three day 'Enterprise Challenge'.

This year, the challenge was to create jewellery and branding from recycled milk-bottle tops and VHS cases. As well as making the jewellery, they also needed to develop an ethical brand identity, display and marketing campaign. Anticipation is high, with one of the finalists from BBC's 'Apprentice' coming to give them advice in after the Easter holidays.

The winning team will be visiting the Birmingham School of Jewellery in the Autumn Term 2023.

James McCormick



Lifeguarding Success

More women-only swimming sessions are being put on in Coventry after a push to train more female lifeguards.

It comes as some women said they felt uncomfortable swimming with men, either for religious reasons or because they felt body conscious. In a bid to tackle health inequalities in the Foleshill area, the Positive Youth Foundation charity helped set up the classes.

Five new female lifeguards have now qualified at the AT7 site, including...Miss Imran!

As quoted from the BBC, "I started swimming from a young age, maybe around seven or eight years old. And I loved swimming, I went through my bronze all the way to gold," the PE teacher said.

"However, at the age of 11 or 12, I stopped swimming due to religious reasons.

"And so from pre-teens to early adulthood, I would swim sporadically when there were female-only sessions.

"However, it was with the risk that there could be a male lifeguard and so unfortunately it wasn't as consistent as I would've liked."

The AT7 centre now offers five women-only swimming sessions a week.

Nicki Breeds



Service to Communities

Cultural Food Sale

Our school regularly holds a Cultural Dress Day. However, this half term, we celebrated the different food our communities eat. We had Persian, Afghanistan, Kurdish, Malaysian, African, and Jamaican culinary dishes to name a few.

Hafsa Khalifa



Community Wealth

On 5th March 2023, several girls from EGSC took part in the High Sheriff of West Midlands' Community Day.

The event was called Community Wealth and carried forward some of the aims of the recent Commonwealth Games in Birmingham: for example, bringing communities together and encourage more people to be active. There was also a focus on addressing some of the issues that individuals and communities have faced in the post pandemic period - in particular isolation.

It was an upbeat, fun day with entertainment and afternoon tea. There were invited dignitaries, older people, largely from care homes, who mixed freely with school children. There was a range of easy, enjoyable activities which the invited guests, the children, and older people worked together to complete. Eden's students and their families enjoyed the event and being part of such a different experience.

Paul Moorcroft



Service to Communities

Mental Health Matters Duke of Edinburgh

This term, we had many rewarding opportunities and events surrounding mental health, such as Children's Mental Health Awareness week, and we were blessed with the opportunity to have sessions with mental health professionals at Rise. This term has been littered with fantastic chances to learn more about mental health.

During Children's Mental Health week, we dressed up in cultural wear to express our school's wide range of backgrounds which our students come from. We also raised money for mental health-dedicated charities through cultural dress day and our house competitions. Overall, this week was a great opportunity for us all to learn more about mental health as well as normalising it for all the students.

We also had specialists from Rise, a family of NHS-led services that provide services for emotional well-being and mental health for young people in Coventry and Warwickshire, come in to talk about mental health. Students partook in interactive sessions about general mental health, body image, and stress. Through these sessions, students have learnt about ways to view themselves positively, and how to get a handle on feelings of anxiety, stress, or worry. The sessions proved to be valuable, as we were all able to look at mental health from various different perspectives.

Looking back, we have been greatly blessed to have been presented with so many amazing opportunities to increase our knowledge about mental health. As a mental health ambassador, my team and I have worked incredibly hard to ensure all these events run smoothly because we all strongly believe that the topic of mental health should not be one that is rarely spoken about. Rather, we agree that we should be emphasising the importance of talking about it. If we had to pick one thing we deemed most important from the Rise sessions, it is the fact that bottling up our mental health and emotions does not end well.

We urge students to open up to people and reach out when being bullied, or feeling anxious, worried, depressed, or stressed. Overall, everything that we did this term around mental health was extremely fruitful for all of our students. Especially in times when issues such as stress, depression, and anxiety are relatively predominant, we, as a school, have made it a priority to stress the importance of mental health awareness. The well-being of students matters the most to us, and mental well-being is no different.

Mental Health Ambassadors



The Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme is well underway at EGSC for both Bronze and Silver level. As part of their award, students need to complete a period of time (either 3,6, or 12 months) volunteering, completing a physical challenge and taking on a new skill.

I wanted to highlight in particular the work our students are doing in the local and school community for their volunteering sections:

Silver

Sahiba J
tutoring younger students

Azkah R
helping to fundraise for local charities

Imaan S
raising awareness of mental health issues with a local charity

Bronze

Salma A
volunteering in a local charity shop

Maleehah K
working with a food bank

There are also several girls at both bronze and silver levels who are supporting school clubs/initiatives through sports leadership, helping in the library and supporting other enrichment activities.

Caroline Amos Wilkins



Information & Updates

Attendance Matters!

As a parent, you set the standards and expectations for your child. Good attendance and punctuality are life skills which are passed from parents to children and affect their employability and prospects. Good attendance in school helps pupils learn better, sustain friendships and enjoy school life.

At Eden Girls' School Coventry, we want all our pupils to have a positive experience of school life and to reach their potential. One way in which parents can help their children do this is to ensure that they attend school every day.

Our minimum expectation is **97% attendance**

If your child is very ill, please don't send them. If they have a 'minor ailment' please send them in.

We do not approve any holidays taken in school time.

Please contact the school straight away to let us know if your child is absent. If there are ongoing medical problems, please keep us informed.

The table below shows how attendance percentages link to time missed from school.

Attendance	Missed Days: One School Year
100%	0
98%	Less than 4 days
97%	Less than 6 days (school target)
95%	9½ days
90%	19 days
85%	28 ½ days
80%	38 days

Dates for your diary - Autumn term

Re-open on	Monday, 17th April 2023
'Eid ul Fitr 1444 holiday'	Thursday, 20th April & Friday, 21st April 2023
May Day Closure	Monday, 1st May 2023
Coronation of King Charles III	Monday, 8th May 2023
Mid Term Closure	Monday, 29th May – Friday, 2nd June 2023
'Eid ul Adha 1444 holiday'	Wednesday, 28th June & Thursday, 29th June 2023



*Please note, 'Eid holidays may be revised slightly depending upon sighting of the new moon.

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