

Autumn Term Newsletter



Eden Girls

Principal's Message

Dear Respected Parents – Assalamu alaikum / Peace be with you,

The first term of the school's second year has been an exciting time of development.

Members of staff have worked extremely hard to deliver a high-quality and rich curriculum and pupils have adapted well to our new assessment framework using GCSE Grades 1-9. The core school curriculum has been enhanced through trips out of school and projects such as our Year 7 First Give initiative, Girls FA Football Week and cross-curricular work marking key national events such as Remembrance Day.

Pupils have taken advantage of a wide range of experiences through our Enrichment Programme. Activities include subject-based clubs such as History Mystery and Computer Science Clubs and opportunities to develop skills through Creative Writing and Debating. The School Magazine has provided pupils with an early taste of journalism and members of the Eco Council have successfully raised awareness of environmental issues. The PE Department have delivered an impressive range of sports activities leading to our first competitive fixtures and early successes for our school teams.

The first round of teacher assessments has been very encouraging and teachers' predictions project significantly high standards of attainment and progress.

The school has undertaken two monitoring visits by HMI Ofsted inspectors and the Department for Education. On both occasions the school was judged Outstanding for its Leadership and Management and the Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare of pupils. In addition, the school has received a record number of applications for admission for September 2017 with 290 applications in total and 144 first preferences.

Our pupils have displayed an admirable commitment to character development this term. Their behaviour and attitude to learning is ensuring that they are maximizing their learning time in class. Teambuilding trips, Anti-Bullying Ambassador training and ongoing day-to-day pastoral care are all in place to ensure we have a safe and happy school. Attendance has been outstanding throughout the term, exceeding the school's target of 97%.

Pupil engagement with faith events such as our Ashoorah Fast-Opening Event and faith-related enrichment activities such as Arabic, *Seerah* (The biography of the Prophet Muhammad PBUH) and *Juz Amma* (The last section of the Qur'an) Club all provide pupils with opportunities to develop their spiritual understanding. In addition, visits from role-models such as European Athletics Champion Laviai Nielsen have supported learners in developing their aspirations.

A group of pupils attended the annual national First Give Award Ceremony in September and were very proud to receive a nomination for 'School of the Year', recognising their leadership in the area of community service. This dedication to community service has, once again, been a feature of the term with astonishing efforts for both Children in Need and our One Can appeal.

I am also pleased to report that the construction of our permanent school site is on-track for completion within the agreed programme. Staff, Governors and the Student Shura visited the site in November and were inspired by the progress that has been made.

I would finally like to take this opportunity to thank all our parents for their ongoing Support for the school. It is greatly valued. I hope that you find this term's newsletter informative and interesting and that you all enjoy a peaceful and happy Winter Break.

Mr Murcia

December 2016

Issue 5

Eden Girls' School, Slough

*Nurturing today's young people,
Inspiring tomorrow's leaders*

Key Dates:

Tues 3rd January 2017

Inset Day—School Closed for Pupils

Wed 4th January 2017

School Re-opens for all Pupils

Thurs 5th & Fri 6th January 2017

Half-Term 2 Report Cards Published

Tues 10th January 2017

Parents' Tea & Coffee Morning

Weds 11th January 2017

Parent Shura Meeting

Thurs 12th January 2017

Year 9 Parents' Evening

Thurs 26th January 2017

Year 8 Parents' Evening

Wed 1st February 2017

Year 7 Warwick Castle Trip

In January 2017, Year 7 pupils will be visiting local charities. They will be taking part in personal interviews to understand how they can support their local charities.

A **£1,500** grant is awarded for each school, to the charities of the three winning teams. In addition to this, First Give have delivered this term an assembly and will host the School Final in March in order to further engage and inspire students.

Mrs Fida

First Give Project

First Give works in partnership with secondary schools to help young people to give their time, tenacity and talents to improve their local communities.

First Give aims to provide young children with key skills in working in teams to support their local charities. More importantly, it ignites a passion for creativity and determination that help to make a social change.

Year 7 pupils this term have been researching social issues such as, domestic violence, child abuse, bullying, homelessness, food banks and many more. In January they will visit the charities and prepare presentations on what they have learnt.



Literacy

Our school literacy strategy aims to help pupils enhance their skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing in all subjects across the curriculum.

Pupils are supported in developing wide and sophisticated vocabulary in all their lessons and through weekly form time activities where they work together on the chosen Word of the Week.

Pupil work is marked by all teachers using a consistent set of marking codes promoting better grammar in writing within all subject areas.

Presentation guidelines are kept in student planners. The aim of the guideline is to remind students to present their written work in a meticulous way that will create a feeling of pride for every piece of work they do and help them revise with clear notes and records of their learning.



Living Rainforest

On Tuesday 6th December Year 8 pupils travelled, along with Year 9 GCSE Geographers, to the 'Living Rainforest' in Thatcham.

During the second half of this autumn term the students have been learning about different types of global ecosystems with a focus on tropical rainforests. The purpose of this visit was to provide all of the pupils with first-hand experience of the conditions found in the rainforest as well as plant and animal adaptations.

The Living Rainforest facility is home to a variety of animal species and pupils benefitted from an in-depth educational tour and collected research to enrich their studies. The visit proved to be a huge success for both staff and pupils who came away with lots of inspiration and knowledge. Staff at the centre were full of praise for the mature attitudes to learning demonstrated by our pupils.



Children In Need

The much anticipated 'Children In Need' event finally arrived on Friday 18th November. The concept of charity and serving our community is central to our school ethos.

Members of staff supported students to set up fundraising activities where they managed to raise over £1500 with the support of our very generous Parent body. All proceeds went to Children In Need.

A high tea event was organised by Year 9 students who demonstrated exceptional baking skills including Pudsey Bear themed cupcakes. Year 8 students put their enterprise skills to the test and set out stalls to sell a variety of arts and crafts. Year 7 students very creatively devised a variety of games and set up an impressive competitive arena in the playground.



Laviai Nielsen Visit

Double gold medal winning European Junior Champion, Laviai Nielsen, visited the school this term to meet with our pupils. She delivered an inspiring and motivational assembly sharing her keys to success as well as the trials that she had faced in life. Remarkably along with her extremely busy training schedule she is also studying geography at the esteemed Kings College University. Laviai spent time with our 15 Anti-Bullying Ambassadors and posed for photos!

The pupils absorbed all the gems that she shared with them and hopefully it has encouraged them to strive for excellence in the future.



One Can Initiative

The latter half of this Autumn term saw the One Can initiative take off.

One Can is a local charity based in High Wycombe, who provide food staples and toiletries to families in distress. They provide both long and short term aid. In today's society despite having jobs, families still find it hard to make ends meet. This was a student led initiative supported by our dedicated staff.

We are pleased that students have empathy for others less fortunate. Students prepared assemblies, posters, campaigns and reminders. So far we have collected over 200 cans. We hope this will be the first of many food bank initiatives.

Remembrance Day

This term saw a week of activities as the whole school geared towards commemorating Remembrance Day. It was a truly cross curricular effort with the pupils in the History department investigating the harsh conditions of trench life endured by First World War soldiers. In Art, pupils created poppies to sell for charity and looked at why they have become a symbol for commemorating all wars. In ICT, pupils investigated modern day conflicts with the aim of understanding the many complex reasons for war. In English, pupils empathised with soldiers and wrote some touching letters from the trenches and poignant poetry. In Maths, statistical data on those that participated, casualties and wounded, was poured over by pupils. The week concluded with Year 9 GCSE pupils presenting an assembly on the contribution of Commonwealth Soldiers to the First World War. A truly holistic approach to an important national event.



Anti – Bullying Ambassadors

Fifteen year 7, 8 and 9 pupils attended Anti-Bullying Ambassadors training in Windsor, organised by the Diana Award. Pupils took part in workshops about why people bully others and the effects it has on victims. Pupils were given anti-bullying booklets and developed anti-bullying strategies to take back to school.

Pupils have taken part in research about anti-bullying approaches in schools.

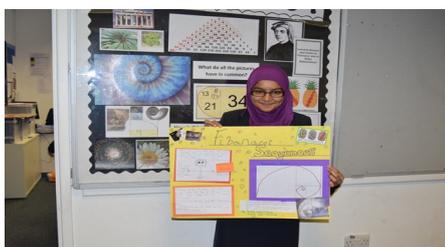
Anti-Bullying Ambassadors and all pupils to ensure that the whole school has a zero-tolerance attitude to bullying!



Numeracy

The school promotes numeracy across the curriculum. This term there has been an emphasis on enhancing the engagement of the pupils by carrying out activity based exercises focussed on communication, problem solving and pair work.

Activities have included topics such as Scoville unit (measure of chilli rating), Scrabble (popular board game) and pronouncing numbers in different languages such as Chinese, Swahili, Italian and Japanese. These activities created an opportunity for the pupils to experience numeracy in different contexts.



Fibonacci Day

The Mathematics department, this term, took part in learning and participating in Fibonacci Day which fell on the 23rd November 2016. Fibonacci number sequences are created by adding the two previous number and repeating this. For example, the sequence is as follows 0,1,1,2,3,5,8,13...

One of the number forms that the pupils explored was the Fibonacci spiral, which is formed by squaring the numbers in the sequence.

Many beautiful posters were created, as a result, and are currently displayed on the display boards within the school.

Royal College of O&G Competition

Pupils in Year 9 were invited to the Royal College of O&G's Christmas Lecture and take part in their annual schools competition. Pupils worked very hard to create one of the most eye catching posters to be judged by the RCOG and their hard work paid off. The college itself was a sight to see, filled with inspiring people talking about their passion for medicine and how this truly noble profession supports people in the most vulnerable parts of the globe. It truly opened eyes of many and inspired pupils to do great things in life. The event announced competition winners near the end. Fingers were crossed. Our pupils did their best and it was most certainly worth it because they won second place and fourth places in the poster competitions! A big achievement indeed since our pupils were the youngest competitors. Well done to all!



FA Football Week

The autumn term has seen an action-packed programme of sport at school, starting with FA Football Week kicking off events for all pupils. The PE department organised a variety of activities; the first being an inter-form quiz where pupils' football knowledge was put to the test. Pupils were encouraged to express their creative flair by designing their own kits. The entries were amazingly original so watch this space as they may become Eden Girls' Football kit.

The third day saw the discovery of a young budding footballer with skills to rival Ronaldo! Ayesha Syed in year 7 managed an amazing 27 kick-ups, but the highlight was definitely the inflatable goal in the courtyard tempting Mr Murcia and Mr Aslam to show off their shooting skills! Pupils lined up to take shots but a clear winner emerged with Amira Abdillahi year 8 scoring a phenomenal 280 points.



English

The English Department have been busy this term with lots of competitions and new incentives! Creative Writing Club is up and running. The members have produced beautiful and original short stories. They used famous paintings as a stimulus which enabled them to write with flair and on subject matter they may not otherwise have chosen.

Congratulations to Safa Ahmed for her imaginative, fun and extremely challenging tongue twister. Equally impressive was Medina Latif's talent for reciting it with speed, accuracy and clear articulation. The two girls set high standards in the first of many competitions that we will be running.

Pupils have been working hard to create very concise mini sagas. Many of these pieces are very impressive and reflect a three part structure that is hard to include within 100 words. We eagerly await the results to see which pupils will see their work in print. Watch this space!

Topping Out Ceremony

Staff, Governors and members of the Student Shura were very fortunate as they were invited to the topping out ceremony by our contractors, Galliford Try, at our permanent site on 25th November 2016. The purpose of the visit was to celebrate the successful completion of the early preparation, demolition works and transition to the next phase of construction. Everyone present was very excited to be given a guided tour of the permanent site. This has helped them gain an understanding of the layout and location of classrooms, libraries, sports halls etc. Galliford Try laid out tremendous hospitality and a very tasty meal which was enjoyed by all.



Attendance

At Eden Girls', we believe regular attendance to school is essential for students' success and fulfilment. Our attendance message to all students is that 'the road to grade 9 begins with outstanding attendance. Challenge yourself to be in school every day.'

Attendance from the vast majority of pupils this term has been exceptional.

This is testament to the positive attitude and passion our students have towards securing an excellent education and ensuring they do not miss vital learning opportunities in school.

Well done to 8N for winning this term's Best Form Attendance Trophy! Special congratulations to every student with 100%.

Form Attendance – Summer Term 2016

Form	Attendance
7I	97.7%
7M	98%
7A	97.5%
7N	97.4%
8I	98%
8M	97.2%
8A	97.6%
8N	98.1%
9IM	97.3%
9AN	97.5%

Pupils with 100% Attendance This Term

7I	7M	7A	7N	8I
Eliza Ali	Laaibah Bhatti	Nawal Abdirah-	Areej Ahmed	Haleema Bashir
Sara Ali	Fatima Ghulam	man	Eman Asim	Safa Burhan
Ayesha Asghar	Hamda Ismail	Arisha Choudhry	Iman Chaudhry	Abdirahman
Eshal Babar	Iman Kambi	Leyla El-Bokhari	Hafizah Dad	Firdous Abid
Marwa Karemi	Sania Khaiser	Noura El-Bokhari	Amina Hirsi	Maryan Ali
Eeshal Malik	Hanan Lafer	Samira Gulled	Husnaa Javed	Fouzia Asakzai
Rawaan	Naima Moham-	Hawa Hussein	Haadiya Malik	Salma Axmed
Mohamed	ud	Asli Mohamed	Sumayyah Malik	Zaina Hussein
Azhaar Noor	Iqra Qureshi	Ayesha Noeman	Hadia Malikzad	Muntaha Khan
Amara Rehman	Zaira Tanveer	Safah Qureshi	Anisa Muhidin	Safa Khan
Aleena Rouf	Jasmine Zara	Zona Rehman	Tayyibah Syeda	Lyba Khurram
Shimla Sakoor	Saffanah Mirza	Hanna Saboor	Tayyaba Tay-	Ruqayyah
Amina Saqib		Aasia Shaikh	yaba	Maqsood
		Fathma Siddiqui	Hamda Yusuf	Aleena Murtza
		Munaima Tafhi-		Momina Naz
		mi		Sumayyah Rank

8M	8A	8N	9IM	9AN
Amna Abdul	Bilquis Ahmed	Isha Ayub	Eman Arshad	Zahra Mahamud
Qayyum	Iqra Ali	Dina Chaudhry	Rabab Dahmani	Amrah Janoofar
Safa Bint Ahmed	Sumayya	Hino Hussein	Mulki Dhaqane	Mohamed
Haleema Azad	Bajaffer	Hasna Khan	Roda Hussein	Alimah Ali
Mariam Gul	Amelia Hussain	Hannan	Sajidah Azhar	Alliya Farooq
Hafsa Haroon	Hafsah Hussain	Mahamud	Syeda	Iman Khan
Laibah Malik	Zahra Khan	Eesha Malik	Sumayya Tafhi-	Medina Latif
Zaima Mohamed	Malaaikah Ma-	Komal Mohy-ud-	mi	Salma Mahad
Noor Shehzad	lik	Din	Nazia Ibrahim	Tayyiba Qureshi
	Bilqeisa	Anisa Mughal		Najma Said
	Mohamud	Naayaab Saeed		Vaneeza Sheikh
	Sadiyah-	Syeda Hijab		Ayesha Tariq
	Mumtaz	Shah		
	Nadim			
	Uswa Raja			
	Emaan UIHa-			
	san			
	Maryam Wali			

