



STUDENT COLLEGE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

10.1.2019 (including Christmas news)

EDITOR: FARZANA HASAN

Lyng Hall's music concert!



A series of performances from our talented students from a range of different years was part of Lyng Hall's 'Winter Music Showcase' organised by our music teacher Mr Sanford Casey!



Sandeep in Year 10 gives her outlook on her experience in this showcase... "As a performer in the 2018 winter concert, I believe it was a success. Everyone who performed was given the chance to impress the audience. Parents, students and teachers were so supportive, which was really motivating for me and other performers! The concert included a number of acts... singers, guitarists, drummers, soloists, duet singers, and I was a pianist! The music teacher created a festive looking atmosphere for this musical occasion with Christmas music and twinkly lights to set the scene. I can't wait for the next one!"

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British Museum trip – Experience in London...

A trip to the British Museum was a special opportunity given to English students in Year 11, and Sixth form students studying English in Year 12, organised by Warwick University! The trip consisted of lectures by Professors from Warwick University covering Politics, a personal speech by an individual involved in 9/11 and an exhibit tour around the British Museum, all of which were moving and informative.

The first lecture by Dr Heath Kelly, covering Political memorialisation, gave all students an insight into subjects such as war and terrorism, reasons behind memorials, the purpose of their appearance, and the victims of terrorism. This lecture was given because it was required for the first practical and cognitive activity. Students worked in groups to create a memorial design based on terrorist events that have taken place in the UK. Part of Dr Kelly's lecture focused on memorials – not just architecture made of white stone, but also memorials that could turn a person's loss into stories of national identity and strength for the country. Students were reminded of some other terrorist activities, especially 9/11. We learnt the memorial for 9/11 was designed using a whole city block, which they felt was vital because the devastation was so enormous, that they had potential to use all this space.

Once the activity was completed, students from different schools were given the opportunity to openly speak about their ideas and what their memorial would appear to look like. Our sixth form students also presented their ideas publicly to the audience, as they explained that their memorial reflected the horror of the bombing in Ariana Grande's concert in Manchester Arena.



Museum trip continued...

Nickie's personal story based on 9/11

Nickie's first statement was, 'We will never forget,' words that will forever remain. This was to recognise the mass loss of human lives, and the damage caused, on 9/11. Nickie explained that it had just been an ordinary day, and that her husband happened to work in an office inside the Twin Towers, located in the highest storey of the building. She had woken up to a familiar routine, taking her children to school, and listening to the radio in the car as she drove them, and recognised a change of tone in the presenters' speech. Having seen a plane flying downwards towards the towers, and a second plane incoming towards it, causing flames. It was only then that Nickie had realised that Alex her husband was 110 stories high in the building, and, having called him several times had to come to terms that, 'Alex would never be coming home.'

Nickie recognised the wonderful tribute museum for the victims of 9/11, as she visited it last Summer, describing it as two beautiful pools with names engraved which reflected the absence of those who had been lost, but also symbolised peace and remembrance. Nickie strongly declared that, 'we need to open our eyes to the suffering of others when something tragic happens, we can't change what happened in terms of circumstance, but we can change what we can do after it.'

Tears streamed from some of those in the audience, teachers and students. They were honoured to hear something this personal. Experiencing a real story helps to become more alive to people's tragic situations. Students were given the opportunity to ask Nickie questions about her experience, one asking how she felt about the attackers, and her response was that she felt as if they were, 'Disillusioned...possibly vulnerable, I didn't have contempt for them at the time and even now I don't, I was far too absorbed in my own thoughts about my loss.' She advised that our approach to these attacks, or any attacks that are similarly related is to not be angry as it's not the ideal response. It is to understand what drives people to do these actions, to connect with the human stories of these events and not to focus on the statistics, but the realistic experience from one. Connect with them as much as possible, as 9/11 has become a magnet for conspiracy theories, which isn't good.

After hearing this story of Nickie's, **Saba** and **Somma** in Year 11 shared similar feelings of sadness, because when Nickie was speaking, it really 'connected' them to the 'real story' of what took place. Me personally, I had goose-bumps all over when Nickie had mentioned her husband had worked on the top floor of the tower. It was a sense of surrealness because you wouldn't expect such a loss to happen when it was just meant to be an ordinary day.

Farzana Hasan

Museum trip continued: Exhibition and lectures



After a break of sandwiches, crisps and dessert, students were able to adventure around the museum. This Exhibition consisted of various architecture, including ancient models from the Greek era, and what particularly fascinated **Julia** in Year 12, were the Roman models.

Professor Watson's lecture and presentation was about the Politics of apologising, and the debate of accepting blame or not. This was interesting because Professor Watson even allowed an open debate between all the students in the audience that got a little heated too...

Devine in Year 12 shared, 'I enjoyed the debating because I heard a variety of differences of opinions based on colonialism and apology, even touching on the sensitive topic of racism was interesting as this was part of the heated debate'.

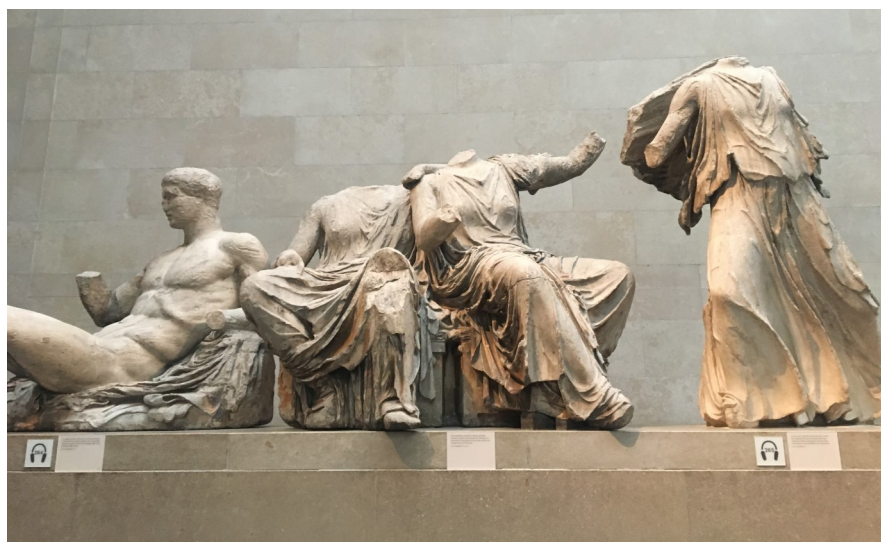


Naomi, also in Year 12 stated that, 'Professor Watson was fun and open minded, he let the audience of students and teachers have a voice of our own, as well as speak our minds whilst respecting each other.'

Levise and Ellie in Year 11 shared that their favourite event of this trip was the experience Nickie had opened up about, as it was so personal, they believed it was very 'insightful' for them.



Alicia, Simran and Irsa in Year 11 all agreed that the highlight of this experience was the debate during Professor Watson's lecture! Although not because of the heat of it but because, 'The debate allowed anyone to speak their minds, not only the lecturer himself'.



Student College's Charity: Santa Sweet Cone Sale!



Last term, Student College proposed an idea to create Santa sweet cones for charity! With students from a range of years working hard collecting money donations from staff and students altogether. A huge well done to those in Student College for this major contribution, and a thanks to Miss Faulconbridge for taking care of the stock of the craft items and sweets!



We raised **over £200** from the Santa sweet cones that were crafted by Student College! This is a great achievement for Lyng Hall and also raised the idea of Halal sweets too. This was taken into consideration so we can raised more money and also thought about all the students in Lyng Hall. We did this sale in celebration of Christmas but also to look out for those that are more deserving of gifts, shelter and food.

Big congratulations!

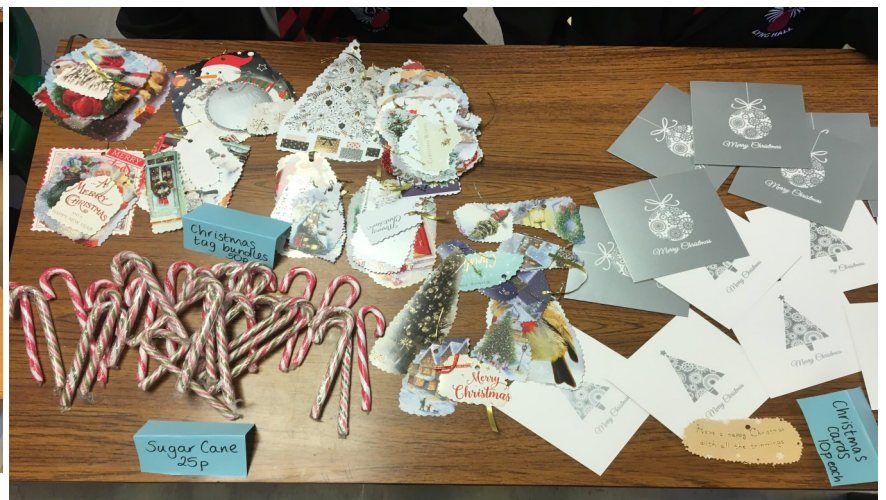
This year's charity is Myton Hospice.



Year 7's Charity Christmas fair!



The Christmas angel decorations on the left were crafted by hand by two Year 7 girls named **Alisha** and **Lucy**. The decorations took about 10 minutes to make each one. They stated it was their idea to make these and they were priced at £2 each. Super impressive work girls!



Charlie and **Jamie** were in charge of selling popcorn and sweets. The reason why they participated in this Christmas fair was for charity. Their aim was to serve all different years of customers, including staff, and believe me... a lot of them joined in!

Students in Year 7 baked ginger biscuits too! **Korben** mentioned he was, 'Happy to help the charity because baking was a fun experience!'

Money raised was for Myton Hospice.

'Neal before your potential, don't 'shut' the door –

Our time with a best-selling American author shared by Lleyton Print in Yr 9

Year 9 went on a trip to Finham School where they met author **Neal Shusterman**.

We got to learn how to become an author and what inspired Neal to write his books, for example, America's Best Seller *Challenger Deep*. This was an interesting book to hear about as it tackled mental issues.

We were fortunate enough to be able to ask questions, an example of one of the ideas put to Neal Shusterman was, "Who inspired you to become an author?"



Surprisingly, Neal said that it was his English teacher at High School who inspired him. He explained how she would always motivate him and gave him harder books than the rest of the class. This was because she saw great potential in him. So if your English teacher gives you a hard book, just know it's for a good reason!

It made me feel that I was lucky that my English teachers gave me the opportunity to meet Neil and hear his story.

Neil taught us to never give up

One rejection is not an excuse.

It took Neil years to get his first book published,

And to quote Martin Luther King,

'If you've never made a mistake you're not a winner.'

And if you give

up, writing is not for you.

We look forward to many other opportunities the English Team will continue to offer us through the year to help us to build on our potential. Thank you.

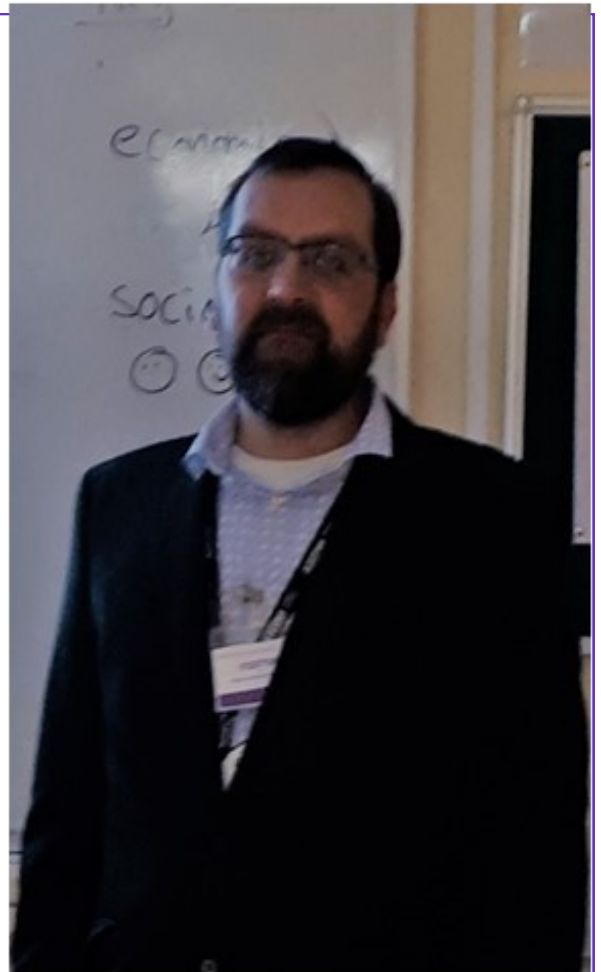


A special Ecologist visit...

Geography students from Year 10 were able to learn about the role of an Ecologist last week when we had a visit from **Stuart Robinson**, one of the ecologists working for AECOM. This is the company who are building HS2.

Our Geography students were interested to learn how the company is protecting the wildlife along the route, and what the ecologists do to ensure that when habitats are disrupted, the wildlife are moved to an appropriate alternative setting. This discussion was very useful for them as they had learnt new things and had their questions answered.

The part of the talk that the students enjoyed the most was hearing the bat noises, and learning about the different animals which might be living along the route. Some students were also keen to find out more information about the role of an ecologist which they thought very interesting, the necessary qualifications and salary.



Who was awarded for their kindness at the end of last term?

Well done **Inderpreet**! Inderpreet in Year 11 won the kindness award at the end of last term. This was for her efforts helping and assisting teachers, parents, and students during Parents' Evening. Thank you Inderpreet, we have acknowledged your helpfulness, and we are very grateful for it!

Another end of term award was given to Sonia Dziedzic! Congratulations Sonia for helping a student in recovery after falling over. This was very caring of you, keep it up! Well done.



KINDNESS AWARD

This award acknowledges that

_____ has been recognised for showing outstanding kindness towards others.

Date: _____

Signed: CE Smith

Mrs Smith, Associate Headteacher at Lyng Hall School



No act of kindness
is ever wasted



Myton Miles!



During two days at the end of last term, 'Myton Miles' fever took over Lyng Hall's race track! A variety of students from a range of different years participated, as well as teachers. A big thank you to those who turned up to support! A lot of grinning faces and a sense of accomplishment in completing the full run, especially by Mrs Smith here! Well done! There's still time to get involved...

Thank you to Miss Adamson and the Sports' Leaders for facilitating the event.



The school choir performs in Coventry city centre!



Before Christmas, our music teacher Mr Sanford-Casey travelled with the school choir to West Orchard Shopping Centre. The students sang Christmas Carols for charity, allowing their audience to enjoy the Christmas spirit. Mr Sanford-Casey was happy to organise this event as he felt the favour was returned by the happiness shown on peoples' faces as they passed by!

Great effort team!

Secret Santa!



A Secret Santa visited some tutor groups at Lyng Hall before Christmas!

Secret Santa visited Year 9 and Year 7 classes, delivering presents and cards. The students opened their presents on a Wednesday morning and were so eager they could hardly wait for their teachers to let them open them. Students that wanted to take part in this joyful experience spent £5 on their presents and placed them under the hand crafted Christmas tree. Miss Armitage wrote out cards for every student in the class, making sure everyone received something and left the class with a smile.

