



Weekly Newsletter

HEAD OF SCHOOL UPDATE



This week marked an important moment in every year – Remembrance Day. We took time, this week, to consider the sacrifices made by others for our freedom, and the freedom of others. Though, in these times, we were unable to stage our usual marking of the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month at the front of the Academy, our staff and students

admirably observed two minutes silence in reverence and reflection in classrooms. In addition, Miss Williamson and Mr. Cox organised our Remembrance Parade with several Cadets in support: Elizabeth Rose (11L1), Grace Burgoyne (11C1), Aman Singh (11S1), Amber Ramian (11C1), Jamie Hunt (11C1), Ashley Nap-Ogilo (11A1), Jessica Thompson (11C1), Dora Smida (11C1) and Livy Nicholls (11D1). All students made us so proud.

This has been a challenging week for the Academy. In addition to a full week without on-site Admin support (though I thank Miss Quamar for dialling into our briefings every day), several members of our Year 7 pastoral team have had to self-isolate. At this time, I must pay tribute to some members of staff who have gone above and beyond this week. Stepping into her previous role (as well as continuing to be a superb Assistant Vice Principal), Mrs. Fogarty has steered the Year 7 ship, with Ms. Jeffers providing a plethora of support, in addition to her normal duties. Furthermore, Miss Breen has stepped up even more to support our Attendance function, and our very own Mrs. Gaur stepped into the breach to run Reception all week. Mrs. Gaur, one of our founders, has truly shown what the 'Langley Way' is all about – she has stepped into an unfamiliar role (as she has on occasions before) to support our staff, our students, and because it is better to have someone who understands our way of life on the end of the phone. I speak on behalf of our entire staff team when I thank all of these colleagues for their especial dedication this week.

Part of my role includes keeping in touch with colleagues in other schools; this week it seemed that Langley was Narnia in comparison to what many other schools are seeing every day. Our students committed themselves admirably during Assessment Week (for some, their first ever; for others, their first in many, many months) – I could not believe the levels of concentration, focus and positivity they showed, even in these challenging times. We have even seen some innovation, with the rolling out of our OMR software in all subjects; this was something that our Year 11 students were exposed to during the closure in the Summer term. I thank Mr. Wood for all of the work that he has done to support our staff and

students; what we are learning from this software might have a real impact on our students and their misconceptions...

A misconception of democracy seems to have gripped the red side of the United States in the last week – our students have been hotly debating the U.S Presidential Election around the Academy this week. We have been impressed at the conduct of President-elect Biden, and look forward to him being a leader who embodies our values (to seek for that which is Good, Right and True) from his inauguration and beyond. President Trump's response has allowed us to teach some lessons about winning, losing, grace, resilience and being acceptant of not being the master of your own fortune. Speaking of Master's, I was thrilled to hear that our PLD for Year 8, Mr. Rahman, and Leader of Learning Miss Deasy, were successful in achieving theirs in Education from the University of Wolverhampton. I congratulate both most heartily, as I remember the strains of completing my own whilst working full-time; I can assure you that they have not let their dedication or standards drop for a moment throughout!

Assessment Week, though rich in student achievement, generally does not result in many students achieving three Star of the Lessons in a single day, but I was delighted to judge the Autumn Art Competition with our new Art Learning Consultant, Mrs. Wilson. The standard of work was superb, with all receiving a Certificate of Entry, but it was Alessia Easton (9A2) who prevailed, claiming a Head of School Commendation. I thank all for their entries, and to Mrs. Wilson for her support.

I found myself in very interesting company this week, as I was invited by Sandwell's Director of Public Health, Dr. Lisa McNally, to speak (remotely) to members of the Cabinet Office in Westminster, London, along with Mr. Barry from Yew Tree Primary School. I was able to share with them our journey, our learning, our challenges and our successes, as well as share thanks to Sandwell Public Health for the wonderful support they have provided me. The news of the possible Pfizer vaccine, and the Prime Minister's address offered some glimpses of sunlight to encourage the green shoots of recovery, but as Boris Johnson warned; we will not be getting ahead of ourselves whilst cases continue to rise.

I hope that all manage to have a safe and relaxing weekend; I wish a blessed Diwali to those celebrating it in their own, possibly subdued, but spiritual way. We look forward to welcoming our students back to the Academy next week; they are our pride and joy!

Best Wishes,
Peter Lee
 Head of School

STARS OF THE WEEK

Well done to our Stars of the Week, beginning 9th November 2020. They are:



Carter Mills
7A2



Wisha Khan
7C2



Jonah
Samuels
7D2



Roisin
McHugh 7L2



Yousuf
Kamran 7S2



Elise Baker-
McKay
10C2

MENU FOR WEEK COMMENCING MONDAY 16/11/2020

Day	Meat	Vegetarian	Dessert
Monday 16th November	Sausage Peas & Carrots Mashed Potato Gravy	Quorn Sausage (V) Peas & Carrots Mashed Potato Gravy	Ice Cream Pot
Tuesday 17th November	Chicken Korma Braised Rice Broccoli Florets	Quorn Korma (V) Braised Rice Broccoli Florets	Mini Jam Doughnut
Wednesday 18th November	Beef Burger Burger Bun Wedges Baked Beans	Quorn Burger (V) Burger Bun Wedges Baked Beans	Fresh Fruit
Thursday 19th November	(Meat-Free Thursday) Cheese & Onion Pasty Diced Potato Peas & Carrots	(Meat-Free Thursday) Cheese & Onion Pasty Diced Potato Peas & Carrots	Yoghurt Pot
Friday 20th November	Battered Fishwich Chipped Potatoes Peas	Quorn Sausage (V) Chipped Potatoes Peas	Chocolate Mini Muffin

(H) Suitable for Halal (V) Suitable for Vegetarians. The menu is subject to change at short notice.

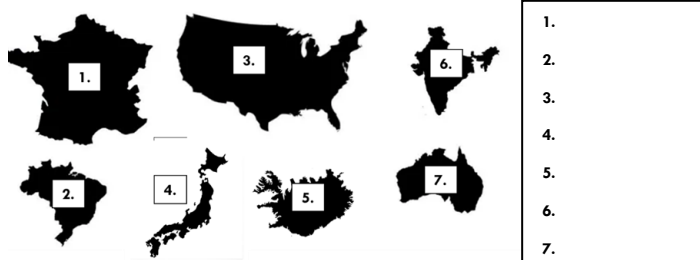
ANDERSON'S ATLAS

The winner of last week's Anderson's Atlas was Hasan Gul (8L2).
Well done Hasan!

The answers for last edition's Anderson's Atlas were: 1) Canada
2) Iceland 3) Brazil and 4) North Korea

Anderson's Atlas for this week is:

Name the country for each of the landmass shapes shown below:



Answers should be clearly labelled and returned to Reception by Tuesday 17th November at 15:30. A Mars bar or financial equivalent will be awarded for the winning entry draw. The Head of School's decision is final in this matter.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Parents' Consultation Evening 2 (Remote)

Thursday 10th December 2020

Details TBC

#WearItXmas Day including Christmas Family Lunch

Friday 11th December 2020

Year 11 Mock Examination Week

Week Commencing Monday 14th December 2020

Christmas Holiday (All students except Year 11)

Monday 14th December 2020—Friday 1st January 2021

INSET Day

Monday 4th January 2021—Academy closed to students

Tuesday 5th January 2021

Students return at the usual time.