

Looking Ahead...With Optimism

It has been a busy fortnight across the Academy with some exciting, enriching opportunities for our students, some of which are showcased in this edition. I can imagine it's been very busy at home as well for some of our families who were celebrating Eid earlier this week; 'Eid Mubarak' to all families connected to JQA who were celebrating.

Throughout this week, we have been working with external partners to undertake a review of the provision at JQA, ahead of a likely Ofsted inspection in the Autumn Term. Our partners spoke highly of our students who warmly welcomed them and treated them respectfully throughout their time with us, taking many opportunities to impress. I am pleased to say that this process was very encouraging and there was much to celebrate; it allowed us to verify the progress we have made together as a team...so far—and has also given us clear ways forward to continue to develop the Academy for our wonderful students.

As we progress into the Summer Term, we will continue to adhere to all government guidelines to ensure we keep our community as safe as possible. [There is a letter on our website about the wearing of masks by students](#). I'd like to thank parents/carers and students for their continued support in taking responsibility for safety and working with us to ensure this. With continued vigilance against the virus, it is exciting to think that we will hopefully be able to fully celebrate with Year 11 on 1st July at Edgbaston Hall Hotel at their Prom.

Whilst the return to some sort of normality is welcome, we must also consider the 'silver linings' from the pandemic and consider what opportunities it has given us. One of those has been virtual Parents' Evenings and we invite parents and carers of Year 10 to attend a virtual Parents' Evening on Thursday via SchoolCloud between 4pm and 6.30pm—a chance to look ahead to starting Year 11 shortly.

I'd like to invite parents and carers who drive to JQA to drop off or pick up their child to complete a [short survey](#). We are looking to find out how many of our families might be affected by the Clean Air Zone charge from June 1st and hopefully work with the council to support families. Finally, you will have seen some of the work we have been doing to support strong Mental Health: it was lovely to see students considering how nature can play a part in this earlier this week (p5). A reminder to all families that the Academy will close early to students (times to be confirmed) on Friday 21st May to provide an opportunity to take part in personal activities to support mental health.

Mr J Barton (Head of School)

Our Shared Values:

Collaboration: we achieve our goals through working together and working successfully with others.

Opportunity: we make the most of every opportunity that we are offered to learn and grow.

Respect: we look after one another and make sure everyone is safe and that we are respectful

Excellence: we always give 100% and make sure that everything we do is our best.

COMING UP...

Our Events calendar is online at www.jewelleryquarter.academy/events

20th May - Year 10 Parents' Evening

21st May - Well-Being Afternoon: Academy closes at 1pm

26th May - Opportunity Day 3

28th May - Break up for half term

28th May - Non-Uniform day—students will need to qualify

Jewellery
Quarter Academy

St George's Court
1 Albion Street
Birmingham
B1 3AA

tel: 0121 729 7220 between 8am and 4pm

email: enquiry@jewelleryquarter.academy

www.jewelleryquarter.academy

 [@COREJQAcademy](https://twitter.com/COREJQAcademy)

 [@corejqacademy](https://www.instagram.com/corejqacademy)

OPPORTUNITY: Fashion Design

F2D-ITC is a company that helps to support children and young people in the community through workshops based on entrepreneurship, creativity and mentoring. The qualified mentors and business owners would like to pass on their knowledge, experience, and expertise to the next generation, with a view to assisting them to succeed and navigate life with a positive mindset.

We have the pleasure of working with FSD-ITC, and fifteen of our Year 9 students who are interested in Business are having the opportunity to learn about entrepreneurship. The end goal will be the manufacturing of a clothing design. The Year 9s will be split up into 2 teams, boys and girls, and will try to come up with the best designs.

Over 6 weeks, students will learn about profit and loss, designing and marketing.

We will see the final design in 6 weeks' time. Watch this space!



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OPPORTUNITY– Brilliant Club

The Brilliant Club is a UK non-profit organisation that aims to widen access to university for students from underrepresented groups. The Brilliant Club runs two programmes, the Scholar programme, and Researchers in school.

Twelve students in Year 10 were selected to take part in the Scholar programme, in which doctoral and post-doctoral researchers deliver academic tutorials in schools to pupils.

During the Scholars Programme, pupils have seven tutorials with their PhD tutor which include weekly reading and writing assignments that lead to the completion of a final assignment. This assignment is marked thoroughly by PhD tutors and given a university style grade (1st, 2:1, 2:2 etc.).

The assignment that the students had to complete a 2000 word essay on “Russian music during World War one”. The assignments were marked by the tutor and feedback was given to the students.

Speaking to some of the students, they found it very challenging but showed superb resilience.

Well done to the students participating in this programme:



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RESPECT–Consent and Boundaries

As part of our relationships focus in Personal Development sessions, we looked at 'Consent and Boundaries recently'. The session was based on the death of Sarah Everard, who was killed in March 2021. This sparked an outcry for the need to talk about preventing violence against women.

The second session on May 4th was to look at what actually we mean by consent and looking at different scenarios to see if consent was given. It was a chance for our students to have discussions within the classroom. The second part of the session was to look at personal space and why it is important to respect people's boundaries.

The session was insightful and it made our students think about different scenarios when it comes to consent and how important personal space is.

We continue to ensure our students know how to treat each other with Respect as relationships develop.

LEARNING JOURNEY
JEWELLERY QUARTER

You don't have to do anything that you don't want to do. If you're being pressured to do something you're not comfortable with, that's called coercion, even if it's someone you trust.

YES

Consent is agreement which is given willingly and freely without exploitation, threat or fear, and by a person who has the capacity to give their agreement.

Ethical sexual practices based on respect, equality and freedom are crucial – especially if we want to work to prevent sexual violence. Consent must be sought and it rooted in mutual respect, empathy and dignity for another person.

LEARNING JOURNEY
JEWELLERY QUARTER

What is consent and why is it so important we learn about it?

Hannah went to a friend's sleep-over. After drinking up lots and having fun, she fell asleep first. As Hannah slept, her friends decided to show on her face with marker pens. The next day Hannah was furious. But why could she not get the pens off? But she felt horrible and went about her friends doing things to her while she was asleep.

Starter

Why did this make Hannah feel so horrible?
Would she have felt all better if she couldn't get the pens off her face?
Explain the meaning of the word 'consent'.

LEARNING JOURNEY
JEWELLERY QUARTER

Have you heard of something called personal space? What do you think it means?

Personal space means having enough space between you and someone else!

Can you think of a time when someone was too close to you? How did it feel?

If we respect someone's personal space it means we don't put ourselves too close to someone else or make them uncomfortable.

People need to respect each other's personal space – adults as well as children! This means that nobody should make you uncomfortable, not even family members or friends. You are always allowed to say that someone is making you uncomfortable if they are getting too close to you. You can report it to a trusted adult or to Childline.

What does mean by getting too close to you?

This could mean sitting too near to you, or hugging you when you don't want to be hugged, or touching you when you don't want them to touch you. Getting too close to you means anything that someone does near you that makes you feel unsafe or uncomfortable.

LEARNING JOURNEY
JEWELLERY QUARTER

Tom used his phone to take a sneaky picture of his teacher without her knowledge. He later shared the picture on snapchat with his friends.

1. Was consent was given?

2. What each person should do next?

LEARNING JOURNEY
JEWELLERY QUARTER

Rob and Elena are in the library, working on a school report. At the computer station, Rob begins to give Elena a backrub. "This research is boring," he says. Elena shrugs her shoulders under his hands. Rob puts his arms around her from behind and pulls her close to him. Elena leans forward and husses, "Get it out, you're going to get us in trouble." Rob pulls her into the corner. As Elena puts her hands on his chest and tries to push him away, he pulls her to him and kisses her.

1. Was consent was given?

2. What each person should do next?

LEARNING JOURNEY
JEWELLERY QUARTER

If you have any more questions or issues or would like to learn more about consent and boundaries in relationships, remember staff are here for you! You can talk to your Form Tutor, HOY, or the Wellbeing team.

Remember, at JQA we are always **RESPECTFUL** and **SAFE**!

RESPECT – Mental Health Awareness

Over the past few months, the detrimental impact the coronavirus pandemic has been having on people's mental health has been widely discussed.

According to research conducted by mental health charity Young Minds, more than half of parents and carers are concerned about the long-lasting effects the pandemic is having on their children's mental well-being.

The aim of Mental Health Awareness Week, which is taking place this year from Monday 10 May to Sunday 16 May, is to raise awareness of a topic related to mental health and to provide support for those who need it.

This year, the theme for Mental Health Awareness Week in the UK is **“nature and the environment”**.

According to the Mental Health Foundation, they have stated “Nature is so central to our psychological and emotional health, that it's almost impossible to realise good mental health for all without a greater connection to the natural world.”

As part of our Personal Development session on Tuesday 11th May, students were taught what factors affect our wellbeing and how we can improve it. As the theme is “nature and the environment”, the students looked at why nature can reduce stress and the areas in Birmingham they can go to for walks.

A reminder: Jewellery Quarter Academy will be closing at 1pm on Friday 21st May for staff and students to provide an opportunity for us all to do activities to strengthen our mental health and well-being.

What is Mental health and wellbeing?

Mental health is a state of well-being in which an individual realizes his or her own abilities, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and is able to make a contribution to his or her community.



We have discussed in previous PD sessions many factors that can impact our mental health and wellbeing both in and out of school. Covid-19, lockdown and many other aspects of modern life can have negative impacts on our ability to cope with the stresses of life.



What is the theme for this year?

May 10-16 marks Mental Health Awareness Week. It has been hosted and run by the Mental Health Foundation for the last 21 years and this year has never been more important to highlight mental health issues people face.

Mental health can be hard enough to deal with, let alone during a pandemic.

And it is apt that this year's theme is nature. Using the #ConnectWithNature hashtag, the Mental Health Foundation is exploring the positive impact nature and being outdoors has on our mental health.

Where can we go in Birmingham to connect with nature?

Birmingham is the second largest City in England, and is a very built up urban area. However, there are many areas dotted around the City and local area where you can connect with nature:

- Clent Hills
- Botanical Gardens
- Edgbaston Reservoir
- Birmingham Canals
- Cannon Hill Park



RESPECT – VE Day

VE Day - or 'Victory in Europe Day' - marks the day towards the end of World War Two (WW2) when fighting against Nazi Germany in Europe came to an end.

On 8th May 1945, Prime Minister Winston Churchill made an announcement on the radio at 3pm that the war in Europe had come to an end, following Germany's surrender the day before. It was an emotional day that millions of people had been waiting for. Many people were extremely happy that the fighting had stopped and there were big celebrations and street parties. Huge crowds - with lots of people dressed in red, white and blue - gathered outside Buckingham Palace in London.

This year marked the 76th anniversary of VE day and as part of our Collaboration session, the students looked at what is VE day, the Prime Ministers announcement of the German Army defeat and the street parties that followed.

It is also an opportunity to be grateful for the sacrifice of soldiers and civilians from across the Commonwealth and to commemorate how people from all faiths and backgrounds came together to ensure victory.



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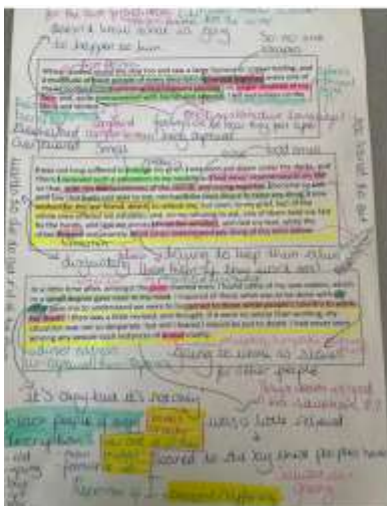
EXCELLENCE AT JQA

Recognition

Year 10B-AR have been looking at the work of London-based, practising illustrator Samuel Harrison. You can see from their work how talented the students are. They are working in pen and pencil to create beautiful pieces in response to the theme of identity. Samuel Harrison even shared an image of their work on his social media, he was so impressed.



Here are some other brilliant examples of students' work in the past fortnight:



EXCELLENCE - #HotChocFriday

Hot Chocolate With The Head of School

As part of our reward system, every other Friday, the four top merit earners in the last fortnight are invited to have a hot chocolate and blueberry muffin with the Headteacher during Form Time.

This gave the students an opportunity to have a conversation with the Headteacher about matters that are important to them and how we can continue to improve the school.



How will YOU get a postcard sent home next week?



REWARDS AT JQA

We continue to send postcards home for students who demonstrate our CORE values in live lessons.

Points that have been logged from 29/04/21 to 13/05/21:

Year 7: **Simon Oshin** - 173 points

Year 8: **Aroz Jafer** - 68 points

Year 9: **Isahak Omer** - 85 points

Year 10: **Mohammed Alamin** - 216 points

Year 11: **Noura Lahrech** - 160 points

In total Year 7s have earned 19144 points. Year 9s in second place with 15840 points.

Keep logging those rewards at:

www.mystickers.com

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COLLABORATION - Clean Air Zone

Do You Drive A Car to JQA to Drop Off Or Pick Up Your Child?

The Clean Air Zone comes into effect on 1st June 2021. This penalises drivers of vehicles that contribute to city centre pollution. While we support the zone's ambition, we are very concerned about its negative impact on some families at Jewellery Quarter and City academies. We would like to plan to support parents who drop or pick up students from JQA who might not yet be exempt from the daily charge of £8 per day.

We are looking to find out how many families might be affected by the Clean Air Zone charge with a short questionnaire. **So if you drive your child to school in the morning or pick them up in the afternoon, complete the questionnaire here to give us more information:** <https://forms.office.com/r/YtXKNBrrH2>

In collaboration with City Academy, we are looking to share this information with Birmingham City Council and we will ask the City Council to offer exemptions to the families of Jewellery Quarter and City academies, so that the Clean Air Zone is truly beneficial to all of Birmingham's residents.



ATTENDANCE AT JQA

Collaboration is one of our key CORE values, that drives attendance. It is therefore imperative that we work together - school, parents / carers and students to ensure students are not disadvantaged by not being in school. If students are absent, their learning suffers.

We would like to thank families for respecting the Academy's expectations of taking only one day of religious observance for Eid. Many students were at home celebrating this important festival on Thursday and returned to the Academy on Friday for another day of learning. Around 45% of students celebrated Eid this week.

Top forms for attendance in the last fortnight:

- 1) 11R—91.8%
- 2) 11E—90.9%
- 3) 8CWi and 10C—90.3%

If your child is going to be absent for any reason, it is important you communicate that with us by calling our Attendance Manager Ms Sparg on 0121 729 7220 and pressing Option 2. Thank you.



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www.jewelleryquarter.academy

Twitter: [@COREJQAcademy](https://twitter.com/COREJQAcademy) Instagram: [@corejqacademy](https://www.instagram.com/corejqacademy)

Email: enquiry@jewelleryquarter.academy

COLLABORATION – Year 10 Parents' Evening

Dear Parent/Carers of Year 10

On Thursday 20th May, from 4pm-6.30pm, we hold Year 10 Parents' Evening. This will be a remote event hosted on [School Cloud](#). This is a fantastic opportunity for you to speak to teachers that teach your child and find out how they are getting on and how you can support their progress further, ahead of starting Year 11. Any issues with School Cloud or appointments please do not hesitate to contact me at sivey@jewelleryquarter.academy



Thank you,

S Ivey



COLLABORATION – Year 11 Information

A message from Mr Campbell (Head of Year 11):

Year 11' are working hard right now not only in lessons but preparing the last part of their journey at Jewellery Quarter Academy.

Each week, I meet with the Year 11 Prom Committee to arrange prom details. The prom will be on the 1st of July at the Edgbaston Park Hotel from 7pm - 11pm. The committee have also planned to provide leavers hoodies for the students who would like to have one and a year-book to share some memories of their time and friendships at the Academy.



The team are so committed to ensuring a positive end at JQA after two disrupted years, I really must give them all credit for the enthusiasm and effort they are putting into the last hurdle.

Well done all!

S Campbell



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COLLABORATION – Testing At Home

We hope you and your family are safe and well. Whilst restrictions ease somewhat from 17th May, you may have seen the concerning news from India recently and their struggles with Covid-19. We must remain vigilant as a community as the Summer Term continues, adhering to all [government guidance and restrictions](#). We are, of course, continuing our extensive measures at JQA to continue to educate our students safely.

One of the biggest weapons against the spread of the virus and its variants is regular testing. We test at home now and students are regularly issued with lateral flow test kits. **We test each Wednesday and Sunday.** Texts and app alerts act as reminders to students and we appreciate your support with this.

You can find out about our approaches to testing at home here: <https://www.jewelleryquarter.academy/covid-19-testing-at-jqa/>

Reporting Results of Tests

No matter whether your child's result is negative or positive, it needs to be reported.

Log it with the govt website at: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>

Inform JQA of the result: <https://tinyurl.com/JQAtestathome>



Any student that tests positive should remain at home and arrange to have the full PCR test, informing the Academy by calling 0121 729 7220 and pressing Option 2.

It is important we continue to work together to ensure we can stay on track to return to the things we once took for granted.

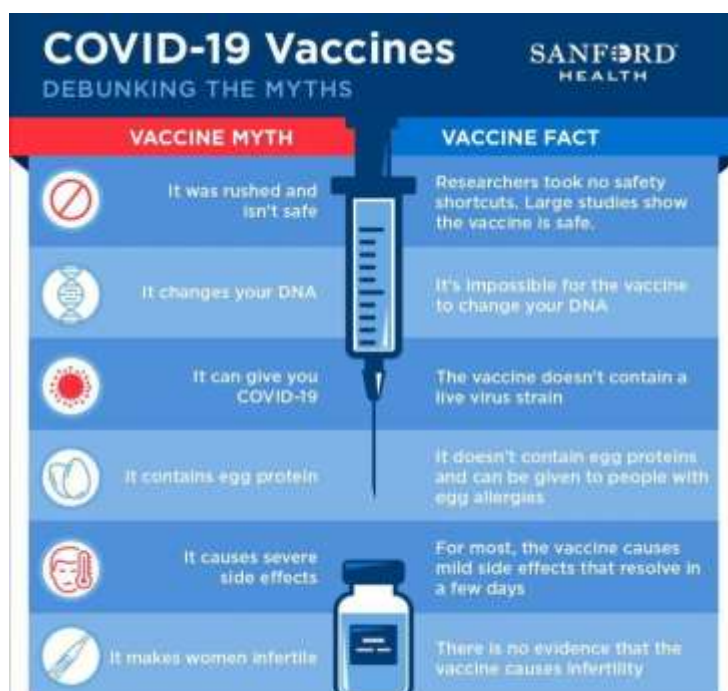
COLLABORATION – Vaccine Myths

The vaccination programme in England began on 8th of December 2020 and the total number of first dose vaccinations given to date is over 35 million. The total number of people who have received the second dose of the vaccine is just over 14 million.

As a community, we strongly urge all to 'have the jab'.

The diagram to the right gives facts about the vaccine to dispel any myths.

Many staff at the Academy have recently had the vaccine, including our Head of School, Mr Barton.



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WHO TO CONTACT AT JQA

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's education or time at Jewellery Quarter Academy can we ask that you contact the Head of Year for your child in the first instance.

The most effective way to do this is via email.

Please don't always expect an immediate response as all teachers have very busy timetables, but we will endeavour to reply the same day. The contact emails for each Head of Year are listed here.

Year 7 M Seleshe: mseleshe@jewelleryquarter.academy

Year 8 Mr M Morton: mmorton@jewelleryquarter.academy

Year 9 Mr C Kyffin: ckyffin@jewelleryquarter.academy

Year 10 S Ivey sivey@jewelleryquarter.academy

Year 11 Mr S Campbell scampbell@jewelleryquarter.academy



If you would like to contact the Well-Being team, email safeguarding@jewelleryquarter.academy

If you have an urgent safeguarding issue, you can call our Designated Safeguarding Lead on 07823354044



Miss Seleshe



Mr Morton



Mr Kyffin



Miss Ivey



Mr Campbell

STAYING IN TOUCH WITH JQA

Academy Voicemail

We recently changed our phone system after feedback from parents/carers to include the facility to leave a message if lines are busy.

You now have the option to leave a voice message on the Academy Voicemail in office hours and out of office hours too—this is checked three times a day at 8am, 12pm and 3pm.

Please be sure to state your child's name clearly and who the message is for and one of Team JQA will get back to you.



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