

Dates for your Diary

Year 11 'Going for Success' - Tuesday 21st March - 5pm to 7pm
Celebration Assemblies: Monday 20th March - Year 10 - 9:30am to 10:30am (**Students only**)
 Tuesday 21st March - Year 9 - 9:30am to 10:30am and 1:45pm to 2:45pm
 Wednesday 22nd March Year - 7 - 9:30am to 10:30am and 1:45pm to 2:45pm
 Friday 24th March - Year 8 - 9:30am to 10:30am and 1:45pm to 2:45pm



Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Congratulations to Dheeraj for the amazing achievement of winning the top prize at Warwick University with the work done with the Transformations club. What a fantastic accomplishment.

I am thrilled that our students had a World Class opportunity to play with a professional symphony orchestra - what an amazing experience for all involved.

Wishing you all a great weekend,

Ms Rooke, Headteacher

President Kennedy Schools Wins First Prize

On Tuesday, three students from Year 8 and 9 were invited to a special event at the University of Warwick; this was in recognition of their hard work participating in the after school English club *Transformations*.

Run by the university, the club was based around the theme of 'Voices' in which the students discussed socio-political issues such as the climate crisis, prejudice and identity. At the end of the programme, all students were invited to submit a creative response - either a speech, poem, story or piece of art work - based on their learning. The three school finalists were Ritik (Year 9), Shante and Dheeraj (both Year 8).

When we arrived on campus, we were given a tour of the facilities including state of the art technology, the newly opened Faculty of Arts Building and the library. Next, we had a poetry master class with Nicola Hamer and an awards ceremony for

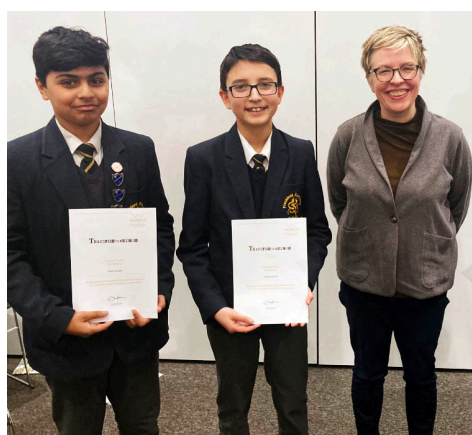
the school and competition finalists.

We were thrilled to learn that out of the ten schools in the competition and with over ninety entries, Dheeraj was the overall winner for the city! Emma Mason, the head of English at the University of Warwick, spoke passionately about how moving she found Dheeraj's poem, praising his creativity, insight and compassion.

I was so impressed by the mature and insightful questions our students were asking the university ambassadors, as well as their excellent behaviour throughout the day. As always, they did the school proud! Thank you to all of the students who participated in *Transformations* this year.

Miss Stentoff, Teacher of English

We are United



Day One – The Panic

The television switches on.
 People shouting, screaming and yelling,
 When will this war end?
 There is no telling...
 The atmosphere goes manic
 As the people start to panic.
 There's no time to think,
 The buildings are on the brink.

Day Two - Separation

There are more updates on the news
 As the Ukrainian war continues.
 Father waves goodbye to his daughter,
 She is boarding the crowded train.
 By tomorrow she will cross the Polish border
 Hoping that one day they might meet again.
 They wipe away their heavy tears
 As they face their greatest fears.

Day Three - Anger

The relentless Russian army forces its way,
 Yet so many Ukrainians decided to stay.
 Screaming sirens, blasting bombs,
 Demolished dreams as the anger grows.
 Putin's plans take its toll,
 As the Russians attack Mariupol.
 "Putin, you can try destroy us if you may,
 But can you answer on Judgement Day:
 Why...?"

Day Four, Five, Six, ... - Hope

The world united, they do all they can.
 Whether its sanctions, donations -
 Or just helping hands.
 All is not lost, as it may seem

Ukraine, you are never alone; we are a team.



Students Play in a Symphony Orchestra

A group of Year 7, 8 and 9 students had an exciting opportunity to develop their instrumental, orchestral ensemble and music making skills during their visit the Midlands Art Centre (MAC).

The event was led by the "National Orchestra For All" whose programme is about giving young people an opportunity to rehearse and play in a symphony orchestra.

I would like to thank all students involved; you were so engaged, focused, thoughtful, polite... not to mention passionate in your playing! The NOFA team said that they were genuinely blown away by the positive attitude they arrived with, and maintained, throughout an intense but rewarding day. Well done!

Mr Channer, Head of Music



Careers Week

This past week has seen staff get involved in 'Careers Week' during registration time. Staff have been sharing their own career stories, identifying specific jobs and skills they have experienced prior to becoming a teacher.

Post 16 tutors worked on a carousel basis to speak with students face-to-face about their personal career journeys, their pathway into teaching and answering any questions.

Mr Fogarty, Careers Strategic Lead

