

THE CITY HERALD

A CITY OF DIVERSITY



TRACING THE VIBRANT HISTORY OF MULTICULTURALISM IN OUR CITY. THE PLACE WE CALL HOME. LEICESTER

MARYAM N | Y7

Leicester is often known as a model example of a multicultural city. According to the 2021 Census, only 45.1% of the city's population identify as White British, a very different figure to the national average for England, where 79.8% of the population are White British. The city has the largest Asian population in the UK and is also home to significant African, Caribbean and Eastern European communities. This means that multiculturalism allows different groups to live together, without being forced to abandon their cultural heritage. The current multicultural nature of Leicester is unsurprising, considering the city's history of receiving migrants from all over the world. In August 1972, Ugandan president Idi Amin announced that Uganda's entire Asian

population had 90 days to leave the country, accusing them of sabotaging the economy. Upon hearing that many Ugandan Asians intended to move to Leicester, the city council published a notice in the Ugandan Argus newspaper, warning potential settlers to stay away, making the migrants more aware of Leicester and the people. Nearly a quarter of Ugandan refugees who came to Britain in 1972 settled in Leicester. The change led to racial tensions in the city. The city council then decided to develop policies to promote equality and multiculturalism. Since the 1980s, Leicester has seen the arrival of many small migrant groups, including those from Vietnam and refugees from Monserrat. During the 1990s, the Somali community grew significantly,

with migrants moving from the Netherlands, Sweden and Norway. Since the enlargement of the European Union in 2004, a significant amount of Eastern Europeans have arrived in Leicester. The resulting cultural move is what makes Leicester uniquely multicultural, multi-faith and multi-ethnic. The variety of places of worship, festivals, shops, restaurants and so on reflects Leicester's multicultural nature. The city is home to the first consecrated Jain temple in the Western world, Diwali celebrations that welcome over 30,000 people each year, Eid celebrations in the city's parks, Polish bars, African hair salons, Turkish restaurants and much more.

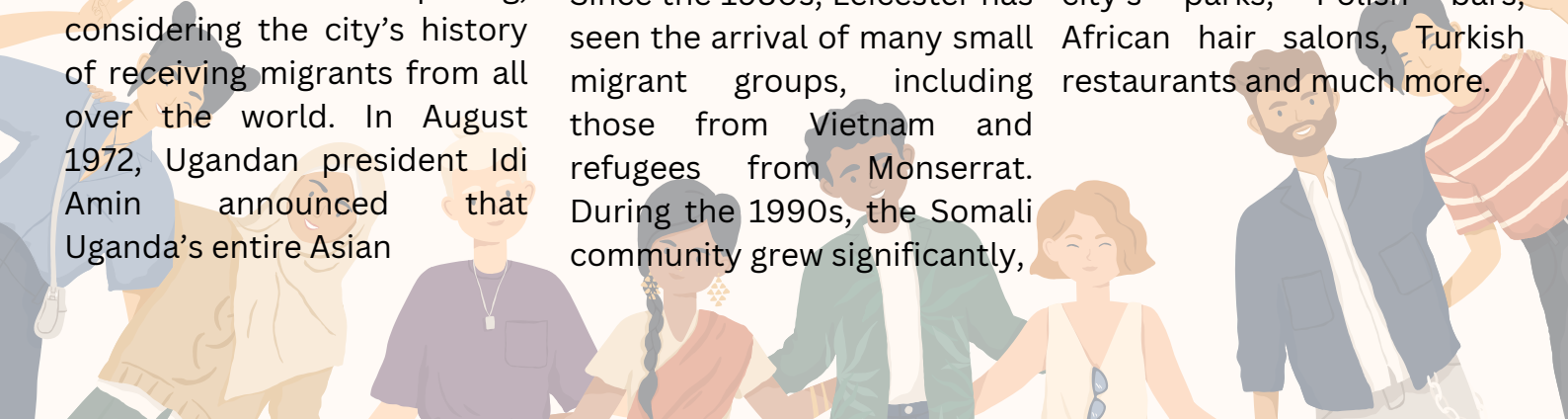


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Ramadan is a month of fasting and abstaining from things considered to be impure for the mind and body. Those partaking in Ramadan abstain from food, drink and impure thoughts between the hours of sunrise and sunset, allowing them instead to focus on prayer and connecting with Allah. The act of fasting allows the individual to understand the pain and suffering of millions around the world who live their lives in poverty and famine, leaving the participant feeling more grounded and grateful for all that Allah (SWT) has given them. At the close of the month, Zakat donations during Ramadan are made and then Eid al-Fitr is celebrated with loved ones. Eid is a great time of feasting and celebration for Muslims, with gifts exchanged between loved ones.

Fasting during Ramadan is one of the Five Pillars of Islam. It was ordered in the Qur'an and is expected that all able Muslims (those who are mature and in good health) should fast from sunrise to sunset during the month of Ramadan.

During this time, fasting is more than just abstinence; it is a means of worship and for Muslims to feel a closer and deeper connection with Allah. Fasting allows each individual to understand what it means to go without and to learn patience with oneself and those around them, as well as compassion for those less fortunate.

The Five Pillars of Islam are the five core practices that all Muslims should follow. They are:

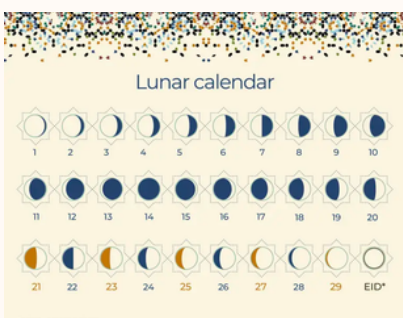
Shahadah - the reciting and profession of the Islamic faith.

Salah - five daily prayers and performing ritual cleansing

Zakat - giving to charity based on one's wealth to help those less fortunate.

Sawm - the process of fasting during the month of Ramadan. There are exceptions as to who can take part in fasting, but it is expected if you are of good health and sound mind.

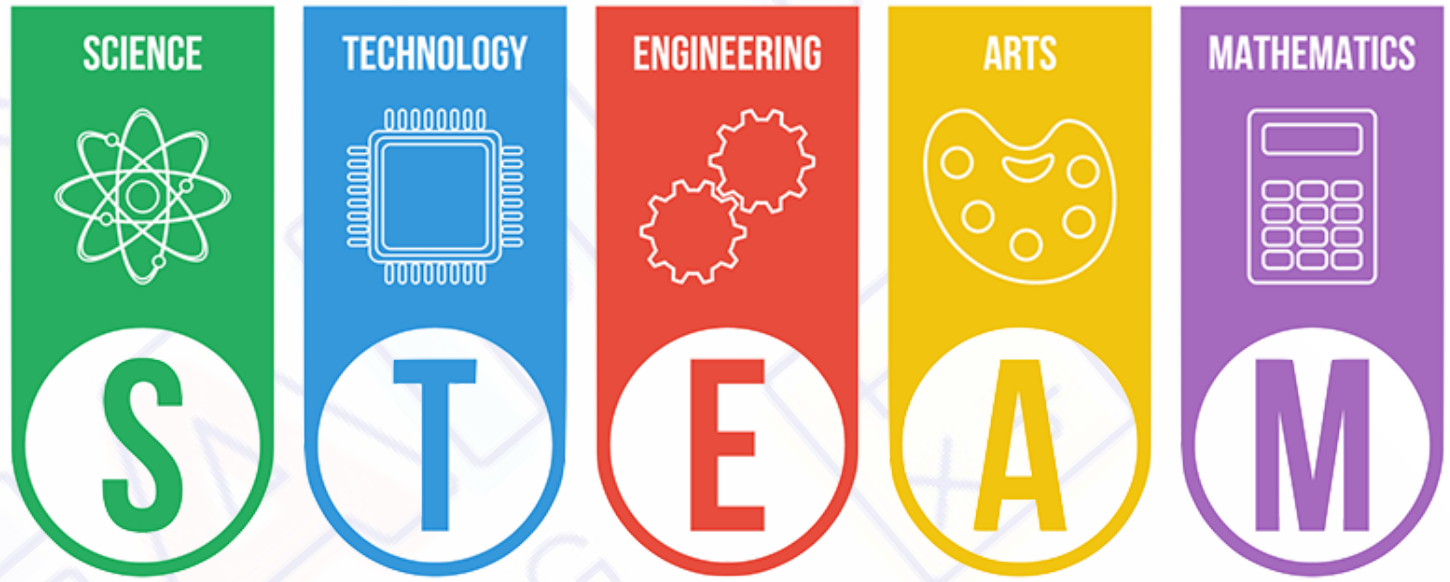
Hajj - the pilgrimage to Mecca, which every able-bodied Muslim must do at least once in their lifetime.



Why does Ramadan change every year?

The lunar calendar rotates by roughly 10-11 days each year, meaning that the exact dates of Ramadan change on a yearly basis.

All dates and times are subject to confirmation and sighting of the moon.



MARCH 2024

The City of Leicester College hosts their annual STEAM Month every March. Run in conjunction with the British Science Association Science Week, STEAM Month celebrates all things Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths.

Throughout March, several departments worked together to produce an amazing variety of STEAM based activities, which students will be participating in over the three weeks.

We kicked things off in week one with a brilliant baking activity run by Mr Graves. Students learnt how to make meringue, bread sticks and muffins. These sessions are always, rightly, popular, not only did they bake some delicious food, they also linked technology to science by developing their understanding of raising agents and rates.

During this week we took a group of Y9 and 10 girls to De Montfort University to participate in an event to celebrate 'Women in STEM'. Throughout the day the students took part in different activities, such as engineering, computer science and sustainability – all careers that are underrepresented by women. A group of Y9 students won a presentation task, beating students from a different school, which demonstrated their ideas on how to improve sustainability. The Women in STEM Day has also led to a large group of Y9 students starting work on a Silver Crest Award.

On Friday of week one, a group of Y7 students learned all about 3D printing with Mr Datta. Over a lesson, students were taught about 3D printing and the possibilities that will arise from the process. They were shown how to use a computer program to design an object of their choosing. After developing their design during the lesson, they were able to send this to Mr Datta, who will 3D print their designs.

Week two started with the *Amazing Animal Experience*. On Monday, a selection of Y7 and Y11 students (and a group of very excited teachers!), greeted some special guests with much enthusiasm. We met many animals; snakes, a tarantula, and a meerkat, to name a few and many of us came away with some new friends! The human visitors provided an insight into each animal, including any personal traits they had, which was very interesting, but really, everyone just wanted to hold them!

The Science department held their annual Lunchtime Science session on Thursday. There was elephant's toothpaste, colour-changing chemicals and hovercraft and car making. In addition to this, several staff members 'volunteered' to set themselves on fire...always a favourite with the students! Mr Vernon even volunteered his services!

Ms Towers walked students through dissection techniques using hearts, eyes and a rat. The year 11 students who were present illustrated their knowledge by sharing their knowledge and skills with the younger students at the session. They showed off their understanding of anatomy and their dissections skills, when teaching the year 7 students.

Hot Air Balloons were the subject of Friday lunchtimes session. Students used their science and design ability to construct a hot air balloon that can float in the air. The Y8 session is being held next week – the competition is on to see whose balloon can go the highest!

In week 3, Mr Lunat is running two sessions in the final week of STEAM Month – Maths in Technology. These activities will link Maths and Computer Science together. Students will use a 'turtle' to create geometric shapes. This session is another new addition to STEAM Month, which the students are very much looking forward to. This will hopefully be the start of Maths and a 'STEAM Subject' program.

Aveea Academy are returning during week 3 to run another of their inspiring programming sessions. Students will be participating in a half-day session, using team-work and problem solving to undertake STEAM based tasks in groups. Of course there will be some healthy competition on the day!

KS3 Art students have also been given the opportunity to work with the theme of 'TIME', which is the theme that the British Science Association has chosen for this year. During lessons in March, students are developing their skills and using their imagination to produce installations based on their representation of 'Time'.

Throughout the whole of March departments have put into action their STEAM Month plan. Science teachers have supported their students by hosting 'I'm a Scientist...' so that students could talk to scientists online to learn all about their studies and career paths.

During the three weeks, PE and Performing Arts have run fantastic activities during lessons. As well as this, they are in the midst of hosting a 3-week Dance Event, which has proven to be very popular, culminating with a Dance-Off in the final week. The dancers were learning about the count of 8 and creating some interesting choreography! These dance activities have been excellently supported by Sport Leaders in year 10.

Students who have taken part in the STEAM Month activities now have the opportunity to win prizes. The British Science Association poster competition is always popular – the closing date for this is **Wednesday 20th March** and the STEAM experiments to do at home competition closes on Friday 22nd March.

Students – don't forget to hand in a completed Challenge Card!

I would like to thank all staff who have taken the time to plan outstanding activities, support with resources, run trips and lead sessions during STEAM Month. The students have gained an great deal from their experiences and have very much enjoyed the experience.



MATHEMATICS

ARTS

ENGINEERING

TECHNOLOGY

SCIENCE

Cats of ISTANBUL



In fact, harming a cat in Istanbul is punishable by law. If you harm, abuse or kill a cat then you will face jail time between 6 months to 4 years

This city is the proud possessor of a museum dedicated to Türkiye's furry feline companions. This museum first opened on 4th of October 2023, known as National Animal Day.

Beşiktaş Municipalities at the Ciragan Service building opened this precious museum. A Turkish poet and author, Sunay Akin, founded the 'Cat Museum.'

Over at The City Herald, we love cats (except Miss Mirza, she isn't a fan), but we adore them! So much so that when we go on holiday - we're always on the hunt for them. This article delves into the enchanting charm of Istanbul's treasured feline residents.

What comes to your mind when you think of Istanbul? It might be the breathtaking landmarks or the hustle and bustle of the Grand Bazaar. Perhaps even the thought of Turkish tea and moreish baklava may tantalise your tastebuds. However, do you ever think of the cats?

It is not an unusual sight in Istanbul, to see water bowls, food stations and small cat houses around the city. The feline population is well looked after and dearly loved.

The affection for cats in Istanbul is thought to be due to the status of cats in Islam. The Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon Him) himself was a cat lover and therefore the precedent has been set for cats to be treated with love and respect.

For the city of Istanbul, cats are undoubtedly loved, respected and part of the captivating culture. Istanbulites share the streets of the city with approximately **125,000 cats**. Moreover, these are just stray cats alone; when house cats are included, it is estimated that **200,000 cats live in this city**. Cats are known to enjoy a comfortable life in this city.

"Without the cat, Istanbul would lose a part of its soul," quotes one resident.



teachers Pet

An addition to The City Herald that seems to be a crowd favourite is where we get to meet our teacher's furry friends. In this addition, we get to meet Ms Cole's dog. If you would like to see a teacher's pet or you know a teacher that would love to share - please let us know herald@tcolc.aspirelp.uk

Dev: What is the dog's name and what breed and gender is it?

Ms Coles: Dolly (she/her) is an ex-racing greyhound who was rescued after she was retired for greyhound racing.

Dev: What does the dog like to do?

Ms Coles: Dolly is a very lazy dog who mostly passes her time sleeping. She enjoys long walks in new places and sampling new treats.

Dev: What she like to play with?

Ms Coles: Dolly isn't very good at playing. She grew up in kennels as a puppy and spent most of her time training to race. She'd never played with humans until she was rescued at three years old. When Dolly gets a new toy she just rips it up and goes back to sleep.

Dev: We heard that there might be a backstory to Dolly, is there anything you could tell us?

Ms Coles: Dolly was a racing greyhound - she won a few races in her time but didn't really like being made to race.



Dolly

When the Greyhound Trust rescued her she was in kennels for about a year as nobody wanted to adopt her because she was too 'naughty.' When we met her, we didn't think she was naughty at all! When we took her home, she'd never been inside a house before and spent her first half hour of living with us poking her nose into everything, trying to figure out what it was!

Dev: What's your favourite thing about your dog?

Ms Coles: Dolly is really loving. Despite having quite a difficult life, she is really calm and gentle. She loves a cuddle and is very happy in her easy going retirement.

until she was rescued at three years old. When Dolly gets a new toy she just rips it up and goes back to sleep.

TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

DEV: IT'S BECOME A TRADITION TO ASK THIS TO EVERY TEACHER, SO WHAT DO YOU THINK OF PINEAPPLE ON PIZZA?

MS JASAT: PIZZA ISN'T PIZZA WITHOUT GENEROUS HELPINGS OF PINEAPPLE!! 😊

DEV: WHAT SKILLS AND QUALITIES HAVE YOU BUILT AND GAINED THROUGH BECOMING A TEACHER?

MS JASAT: PATIENCE. AND UNDERSTANDING.

DEV: WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO ASPIRING MATHEMATICIANS IN THE SCHOOL?

MS JASAT: EMBRACE CHALLENGES, USE THESE AS OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN AND GROW. ASK QUESTIONS!! THE WORLD IS YOUR OYSTER AND THERE IS SO MUCH TO LEARN THEREFORE WHEN UNSURE SEEK TO GAIN A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT IS BEING ASKED OF YOU. THE POWER OF BELIEVING IN YOURSELF IS A POWERFUL MOTIVATOR, IF YOU BELIEVE YOU CAN AND YOU WILL, KEEP WORKING HARD AND SET GOALS THAT SCARE YOU AND THAT'S WHERE THE REAL GROWTH HAPPENS. LASTLY ENJOY THE JOURNEY.

DEV: IF YOU WERE A STUDENT AGAIN WHAT WOULD BE THE FIRST THING YOU'D DO?

MS JASAT: GO TO MR COOKS LESSON, (I KNOW. I DON'T LOOK OLD ENOUGH AND HE DOESN'T LOOK TALL ENOUGH, BUT HE DID TEACH ME). THEY SAY YOU LEARN BEST WHEN YOU ARE HAVING FUN, AND MR COOKS LESSON MOST DEFINITELY WERE FUN.

DEV: LASTLY, IF YOU COULD CHOOSE ANYONE IN THE WORLD TO BE YOUR TEACHER/MENTOR, DEAD OR ALIVE - WHO WOULD IT BE AND WHY?

MS JASAT: AS FOR SELECTING ONE SPECIFIC MENTOR, THIS WOULD BE AN IMPOSSIBLE TASK AS I SEEK INSPIRATION FROM A VARIETY OF PLACES THAT HAVE MOULDED ME THE WAY I AM. I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT MY SOURCES OF INSPIRATION INCLUDE FAMILY, FRIENDS, PERSONAL EXPERIENCES AND RELIGIOUS BELIEFS, THEREFORE CHOOSING A SINGLE MENTOR IS A CHALLENGING TASK AS I DRAW INSPIRATION FROM THE COLLECTIVE WISDOM OF DIVERSE INFLUENCES. 😊



EXPLORING THE LEGACY OF *William Shakespeare*

The legendary, inspiring William Shakespeare had changed the world for English literature with his adored work on world famous plays such as the motivating Romeo and Juliet. John Shakespeare and Anne Hathaway had eight children but on 26th of April 1564 a very special one was born, William. He was born in Stratford-upon-Avon more commonly known as Stradford.

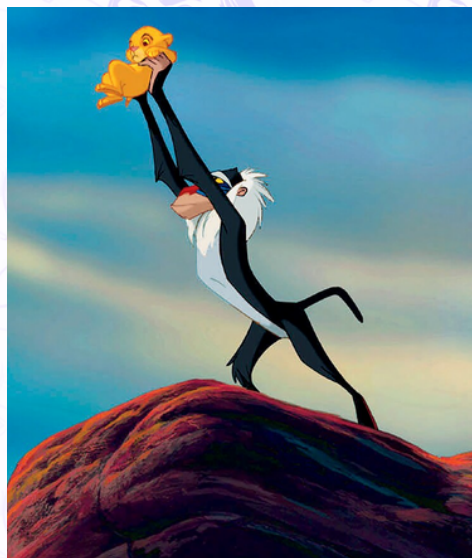
Shakespeare is known to be one of the greatest writers in the world, he is often called the "*Bard of Avon*" (a professional storyteller) along with being England's national poet. He had been a playwright, poet and actor during the Elizabethan era (1558-1603) and the Jacobean period (1603-1625). His work included 39 poems and 154 sonnets along with a range of many different poems. William had evolutionary work and it is believed that even though other writers such as Charles Dickens and Homer had influenced the world exceptionally, William Shakespeare's work was incomparable.

Shakespeare had many incredible plays some of his most famous ones were, Hamlet, Romeo and Juliet, and finally the extraordinary Macbeth.



Hamlet

The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark, more commonly known as Hamlet is a tragedy written sometime between 1599 and 1601. Hamlet is considered Shakespeare's greatest play of all time. It follows the vengeful story of young Prince Hamlet, the boy grieved for the loss of his father and promised to avenge and have justice for his death. This story was set in Denmark and explores the themes of madness, grief, rage. This was masterpiece has around 29,551 words making it Shakespeare's longest play. It was the most powerful and enchanting tragedy in English literature.



Romeo & Juliet

Romeo and Juliet is a classic love story, its theme is relatable to even the present generation which is what makes it so magnificent. It follows the story of two "star-crossed lovers" whose deaths will end a decade long feud between the house of the Capulets and Montagues.



Macbeth

Lastly, Macbeth. Macbeth is a play that themes include betrayal, mistrust and the lust for power. The story follows Macbeth's rise in power. it is often described as a cautionary tale about the perils of ambition and the consequences of betraying one's conscience. Macbeth is one of Shakespeare's shortest tragedy having **17,000 words**.

Shakespeare remains vital because his plays present people and situations that we recognise today. His characters have an emotional reality that transcends time, and his plays depict familiar experiences, ranging from family squabbles to falling in love to war.

Many of the films that we know and love are based on Shakespeare's play. Here's a few:

- She's The Man (Twelfth Night)
- 10 Things I Hate About You (The Taming of the Shrew)
- Lion King (Hamlet)
- West Side Story (Romeo and Juliet)



POSITIVE NEWS

UK'S CANCER DEATH RATE PLUMMETS.



The UK's cancer death rate plummeted
Cancer deaths in middle-aged adults have fallen by a third in the UK since 1993, despite cases of cancer rising.

That's according to a Cancer Research UK study, which showed that mortality rates had dropped by 37% in men and by 33% in women in the UK. The biggest fall was recorded for cervical cancer, with death rates plummeting by 54.3% thanks to improved screening. The HPV vaccination will further reduce cases, Cancer Research UK said.

The study also found that lung cancer mortality rates fell by 53.2% in men and 20.7% in women, following a reduction in smoking.

The decline recorded in the UK mirrors that of the US, where cancer rates have fallen by a third since 1991. But amid the good news, there was a note of caution. Cancer Research UK warned that all UK nations are failing to meet their cancer waiting times targets and that health staff are "under extreme pressure". "It's vital that the UK government takes bold action to keep momentum up," said Jon Shelton, lead author of the study. "Now is the time to go further and faster, building on the successes of decades of research and improvements in healthcare."

GRIEF IN GAZA

As I write this, more than 36,000 Palestinians have been killed in Israel's bombardment of Gaza – **almost half of them children**. On average one child is killed every 10 minutes in Gaza, a World Health Organisation (WHO) representative said, calling the situation "*humanity's darkest hour*." Those numbers, it should be noted, only count the kids who are dying as a **direct result** of Israel's bombing. The kids who were "*lucky*" enough to die instantaneously in an airstrike. And the not-so-"*lucky*" ones: innocent children buried under rubble, dying painful and protracted deaths as they are suffocated by the remains of their homes, the remains of their schools, remains of their libraries, the remains of their lives.

Those numbers mentioned above do not count the kids slowly dying of hunger and thirst. The kids getting sick from drinking sewage and sea water. They do not count the kids with cancer who will not be able to get any care now that the Israeli siege has forced the only cancer hospital in Gaza to suspend operations. They don't count the kids who are going to die from entirely avoidable diseases because hospitals in Gaza have ceased to function. They do not count the kids who are so traumatised from being born in an open-air prison, so scarred from having their neighbourhoods and loved ones eradicated in an act of collective punishment, that their lives have changed for ever. (*The collective punishment that is absolutely prohibited under international law and amounts to a war crime.*) But also, those numbers just don't count. They're Palestinians. And, as the last few months have made abundantly clear, simply, Palestinian lives don't count. They don't count to many in the media, they don't count to those who steadfastly refuse to empathise with Palestinians. They don't count to those who use the passive voice to describe Palestinian deaths. They don't count to those who justify unjustifiable death tolls.

They don't count to those who are very keen on international law when it's being violated by the likes of Russia, but not so keen to mention things like the Geneva conventions when Israel is violating and committing war crimes. Palestinian lives do not count to those who immediately report anything that the Israeli government says, sending out every IDF statement as a push alert, while looking at Palestinian voices through a permanent lens of suspicion. But to us, they do count, Palestinian voices matter, Palestinian lives matter.

Over the last few weeks, we have seen an increase in the call for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza with according to YouGov, approximately 76% of the UK's population calling for a ceasefire.

Israel forced 1.4 Palestinians in to the small space of Rafah approximately 25 square miles. Displaced Palestinians were hoping that UNRWA would be able to help them. But nearly 150 of UNRWA's staff were killed in Israeli attacks, aid is being stopped by Israel, and Western governments withdrew funding when Israel alleged – with no proof yet – that 12 UNRWA staff participated in the October 7 attack. According to the humanitarian group Refugees International, Israel has generated "famine-like conditions" in the Gaza Strip "while obstructing and undermining the humanitarian response", and blocking aid through the Rafah border. They also argue that Israel has "demonstrably failed to comply" with legally binding provisional measures ordered on January 26 by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) to facilitate the flow of aid and lessen humanitarian suffering in Gaza. These are all war crimes and we must continue to shine a light on these. Israel have rejected countless offers from Palestinian authorities for a ceasefire and continue to do so. Qatar, Egypt and Jordan are currently acting as mediators between Israel and Palestine to call for ceasefire.

Collective punishment, targeting of civilians and healthcare, and forcible displacement must be immediately ended and humanitarian aid permitted to enter Gaza. The international community has a Responsibility to Protect Palestinians from further atrocities. Please email your MP today and ask them to demand that UK Foreign Secretary David Cameron calls for an immediate permanent ceasefire.



A Step into Gaza

**One hesitant step,
that's all I was needing
to explain the death,
and urgent pleading.**

**One glance at the sky,
of thick black contrails.
It'd explained the goodbyes
of thousands and thousands.**

**One look into an eye,
of that innocent child,
Who's mind was lost
just like the other civilians,**

**Can you not see this genocide?
Taking place all over Palestine.
This has all turned into an apartheid,
maybe you should turn to the right side.**

ARTISTRY OR VANDALISM?

THE WORKS OF BANKSY



Banksy is an anonymous street artist whose art is a highly controversial topic. Whether it is considered art or vandalism is the question within the street art community. Banksy was first inspired to create his own street art by the French graffiti artist, Blek Le Rat, who was one of the first to spray paint graffiti in Paris.

Banksy originally started off in a few small graffiti groups but eventually started creating his own work, starting small in his hometown, Bristol. He picked up the name "Banksy" to protect his identity and has stuck with it ever since. Most of his artworks use stencils, which are sheets of cardboard or plastic, with numerous letters and symbols, such as peace signs and silhouettes of people or animals, on them. This technique helps create his works faster and more precisely than free handing. This comes in handy especially if he has to flee mid work!

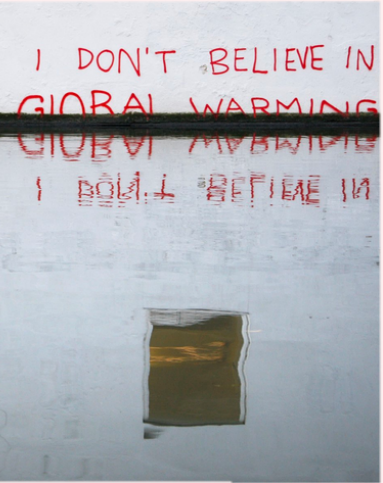
A question that is asked a lot when it comes to street artists like Banksy is whether it is art or vandalism. To answer this question we have to understand the meanings of art, and vandalism. The google definition for art is as follows, "The expression or application of human creative skill and imagination, typically in a visual form such as painting or sculpture, producing works to be appreciated primarily for their beauty or emotional power". The google definition for vandalism is, "Action involving deliberate destruction of or damage to public or private property". So, when comparing those, there is a big difference between the two but which category does Banksy's artwork fit into?

On the next page are a series of pictures, can you spot the real Banksy? Email us at herald@tcolc.aspirelp.uk

KODAK PORTA 400



KODAK PORTA 400



KODAK PORTA 400

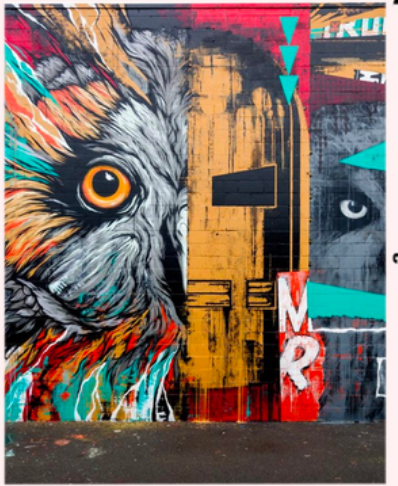
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THE CITY HERALD

G17 WEDNESDAY 3:20-4:00

RECRUITING NOW



G17 TUESDAY

3:20-4:00

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO
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mmirza@tcolc.aspirelp.uk
or herald@tcolc.aspirelp.uk**