

30th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I am delighted to share with you the fantastic news that CORE Education Trust won the Gold Award for Impact Through Partnership in this year's Pearson National Teaching Awards for its Echo Eternal project.

The news was officially announced on BBC One's The One Show on Friday 27th November 2020 and celebrated across our social media channels over the weekend. As you might have seen, there was also a lovely piece on Friday evening's Midlands Today, featuring broadcaster Natasha Kaplinsky, survivor Mady Gerrard and our own Rockwood Academy student, Sana, Year 11.

As you will know, Echo Eternal uses testimonies from survivors of the Holocaust to engage students directly with living history. Using live performance, exhibition and film, the students then pay tribute to these true stories, collaborating with neighbouring schools to honour those who came before them and ensure that our society never forgets the horrors of the past. It is a very moving project and has had an incredible impact on our students, teaching them the importance of tolerance and respect. You may wish to visit the [Echo Eternal](#) website and watch the students' echoes, or to look at our school's archive of creative work here – and see if you can spot your child! <https://youtu.be/3H-1q9g6xtE> and https://youtu.be/YJ_qr41QjU

We are thrilled and proud that the work of Echo Eternal, and the students' creativity in honouring survivors of the Holocaust, has been recognised – amongst thousands of nominees - by the Pearson National Teaching Awards. And we're very excited that the trophy will be visiting CORE schools over the next fortnight, before it starts its tour around the country. There will be plenty of publicity to announce the arrival of the trophy on our website and social media channels, to mark the occasion.

We are already well into the planning for our next annual festival, which will take place in January, and we look forward to sharing more information with you shortly.

Yours sincerely



Ms S Darr
Headteacher