

STUDY LINKS NEWSLETTER

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LEEDS ENGLISH LANGUAGE SCHOOL SHINES



LEEDS is located in West Yorkshire in the North of England and is an increasingly popular destination for study for many international students wanting to improve their English. Students come to study at the many universities, colleges and language schools in the area. In addition to the education provision in the region and the vibrant city centre, Leeds is situated close to the beautiful Yorkshire countryside.

Study Links provides homestay in the Leeds area for many students of all ages and backgrounds and works closely with schools like Leeds English Language School to ensure students are well cared for during their time in the UK.

Leeds English Language School has recently achieved the highest accolade 'Grade 1' in all areas of its recent Independent Schools Inspectorate inspection, including student support. We asked English language student Talal about his experiences in Leeds.

'My friends told me about Leeds before I came, so when I arrived I felt I knew it, and felt at home. It is beautiful. It has a lot of places to go, such as the city centre, shopping arcades, museums, places to have fun, beautiful green areas

and good people. Thank you so much Leeds! Now I am living with a homestay in Leeds. I feel comfortable and happy with them. I have got a bedroom and a bathroom. My homestay family are cooperative and very friendly, I have learnt many things from them. They help me with my studies and try their best to help me. I really enjoy living with them. Thank you. I would also like to talk about my school. It is the best in Leeds in terms of teachers, classrooms, teaching methods and management of the school. Actually, I am unable to describe how good it is. I have got a lot of classmates (I call them brothers and sisters) from different countries. Finally, thank you for everything.'

If you would like more information about Leeds, homestay or Leeds English Language School contact us at office@studylinks.co.uk or have a look at the website www.leedsenglish.com.



Talal with Wendy from Leeds English Language School

'IT'S A GREAT DAY FOR THE IRISH'

SAINT Patrick's Day will be celebrated across the globe on the 17th March this year. Sometimes it is moved to an alternative date to avoid a clash with Holy Week (the week before Easter). This last happened in 2008 and will not happen again until 2160! St Patrick was born in Britain in the fourth century. When he was just a teenager it is said that he was captured by Irish raiders and taken back to Ireland to work as a slave. He managed to escape captivity, but later in life returned to Ireland to Christianise the country. St Patrick used the shamrock, or three-leaved clover, to explain the doctrine of the Trinity to the Irish, who at that time practised polytheism, a religion of many gods. The Trinity defines God as three people: the Father; the Son; and the Holy Spirit. After St Patrick's death, there were more successful missions to Ireland from the Roman Empire, but he is remembered as the key figure in Christianising Ireland. The shamrock is now a symbol of Ireland and the colour green is associated with St Patrick's Day.

In 1903 St Patrick's Day became an official public holiday for Ireland and since 1996 the day has been observed with a Festival lasting several days. The Festival includes concerts, outdoor theatre and fireworks.

In Argentina, St Patrick's Day is celebrated with all-night parties in designated streets in the towns and cities, especially in Buenos Aires. People dance and drink beer throughout the night and most wear something green.

In Australia and New Zealand St Patrick's Day is a popular celebration. There are many links with Ireland in these countries as many Irish people emigrated, or were brought as convicts, there in the 19th century.

Both South Korea and Japan have been celebrating St Patrick's Day with parades and festivals for several years in their major cities.

If you go to a St Patrick's Day party, parade or festival, we'd love to hear all about it. Send your stories and photos to office@studylinks.co.uk.



FEBRUARY'S SLI STAR PUPIL

THE Study Links Star Pupil for February is Naruethai (Natty) Pongsakornvanich who is currently studying at Harrogate Ladies College. Catherine from Study Links looks after Natty whilst she is in the UK and has been delighted with Natty's progress right from the start. 'Natty is working extremely well at

Harrogate Ladies College. Her spoken English is constantly improving and she is a great example of how much our students can achieve if they commit themselves and work really hard.'

All SLI Stars receive a present and card in the post to say well done for being fantastic! We hope you like them.



Natty and Catherine

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The Sydney Opera House lit up green for St Patrick's Day