

The Lycommunication

5TH DECEMBER 2025



**BACK ON TRACK
AND NOW ON INSTAGRAM!**

With this new school year, The Lycommunication, our AMC English school newspaper, starts afresh with a brand new logo and a new team of journalists (1 AMC and 1 T AMC) who research, write and edit articles that will be published on the school's website but also, from now on, on Instagram!

In this fifth issue you will find the usual subjects like the news, sports, art and culture and travel with a focus on Great Britain; but we have also added a presentation of the great clubs you can join in our school and some DIY ideas for Christmas.

So, enjoy the reading and follow us on:



<https://www.lycom.fr/category/filières-pre-bac/disciplines/anglais/amc/>



The.lycommunication

V.Stotz



Zohran Mamdani, the new mayor of New York City, brings new ideas and hope to NYC. His vision could mark a new beginning for the future of the Big Apple. Zohran Mamdani has quickly become one of the most talked-about figures in American politics. Known for his progressive ideas and his strong connection to local communities, he represents a new generation of leadership to New Yorkers.



▶ Photo by Dmitryshein



▶ Manhattan skyline from upper NY bay. Author: Jakub Halun

Presentation & Political Life

Zohran Kwame Mamdani was born in Kampala, Uganda, in 1991, and moved to New York City with his family when he was a child. Growing up in Queens, he saw both the opportunities and the inequalities that exist in New York.

Mamdani started his political career when he was a member of the New York State assembly, representing Astoria, Queens. He became famous for his passion and his ideas and speaking about affordable houses, the right of the workers, and public transport. He also worked with immigrant communities and young people, encouraging them to be active in politics and speak up for what they want.

Now, as mayor, Mamdani wants to make New York an affordable city. His plans include building more affordable homes, cheaper public transport. He also wants to protect the environment by reducing the pollution. Many New Yorkers believe in him to bring fresh energy to City Hall.

However, not everyone agrees with his ideas. Some people say that it is impossible to make New York a cheaper place, or that will cost a lot of money.

Besides, Donald Trump wants to do away with him as mayor because Mamdani said on Instagram: "I am Donald Trump's worst nightmare as a progressive, Muslim immigrant."

Zohran Mamdani's election marks a new moment for New York City. With his energy, progressive vision and focus, many people hope he can make the city a better place for everyone.

Only time will tell if his ambitious plans will become reality, but one thing is sure: New York is ready for change.

Hurricane Melissa Destroyed Jamaica

The massive hurricane named “Melissa” has destroyed a great part of Jamaica, between the towns of Belmont and New Hope, situated in the southwest of the country. This natural disaster happened on the 28th of October 2025.



What is a hurricane?

A hurricane is a very violent storm, where wind speeds exceed 120 km/h. All the different types form in the same way and begin with a surface ocean temperature superior to 27°C. There are 5 categories of hurricane, the first has winds between 118 and 153 km/h and it won't be truly destructive; but the category-5 one has winds at speeds of over 250 km/h, with a catastrophic capacity to produce damage.

The category-5 Melissa hurricane was one of the most powerful hurricanes listed in the Atlantic. This disaster propagated near the Caribbean coast and devastated the cities located next to the sea. The human toll is dramatic: on the 11th of November 2025, 45 people had died, 15 had disappeared and 13 were hurt.

In a statement at the Parliament*, the Prime Minister, Andrew Holness addressed the Jamaicans, telling them that “resilience is not solely the job of government — it is a national project that requires every community member, every business, every agency and every parish to participate”.

Because in a world where storms will become stronger, quicker and more unpredictable, our greatest defence is preparedness.”

Indeed, Melissa is one of the many hurricanes and other natural hazards that are increasingly affecting our planet, due to climate change. Jamaica, and other countries, must unfortunately prepare for other disasters.

- Quote: <https://opm.gov.jm/statement-to-parliament-on-the-aftermath-of-hurricane-melissa/>





DISCOVER & JOIN OUR SCHOOL CLUBS !

School life isn't only about classes and homework. Indeed, it is also about chilling out with your friends. Here are some clubs you can join this year if you want to relax or take part in creative projects.



What happens when the lights are turned off and the curtains rise? Come and find out at the Theatre club! If a theatre club has been created in the LYCOM it is due to the fact that our school already has a big artistic flair*, this is the perfect place for it.

In this club every student is welcome, whether you are a beginner or have previous experience, no skills are required. Besides, acting is not even compulsory, because theatre is not only about playing a role, it is also about creating decorations and thinking about the theatre management. The students who prefer to stay behind the scene can train on scenography in collaboration with the art teacher.

The club also provides students with valuable skills: Learning lines, working in a group, becoming confident when you speak in front of an audience... Moreover, it also gives you the opportunity to discover the stage from the perspective of the spectator thanks to outings at the theatre.

The best way to describe the atmosphere in the club is to quote the students: “It’s funny!” “The atmosphere is friendly” “Next year, if I can, I will join the club again without doubt!”



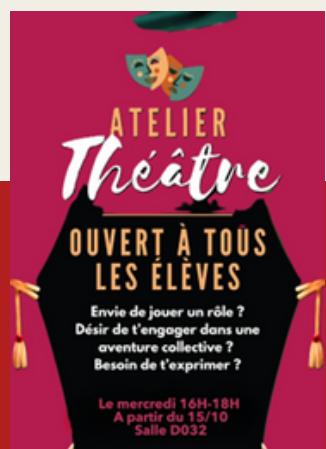
Artistic flair: fibre artistique

Useful information:

WHEN? Wednesdays from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM

WHERE? Room D032 (or another room depending on the activity)

GOAL? To prepare a public performance at the end of the year in the school's studio, and discover other forms of theatre during various cultural outings in Metz.



ZENGARDEN



<https://www.lycom.fr/un-club-jardin-pour-vegetaliser-le-lycee/>

If you need to take a break, the gardening club is the perfect place for you! It is a club open to everyone, where you can take care of plants, decorate and participate in creative working groups about nature. The main goals of the club is “to improve the quality of life at school” and “support initiatives in favour of the environment”.

Manga Club

Konnichiwa ! The Manga Club is a club of manga addicts, it is led by Mr. Simoneschi, the CDI teacher. You can find it at the LAC/CDI during the lunch break on Thursdays. In this club you can discuss and debate about manga and anime and increase your knowledge of Asian culture. This club was created by students 10 years ago, it is mostly led by the students, Mr. Simoneschi is here to help with the material.

See you there! Sayonara!





THE NBA CUP IS BACK !

The NBA (National Basketball Association) Cup is a mini championship designed to revitalize the start of the NBA season. It takes place all over the USA and makes its comeback this month.

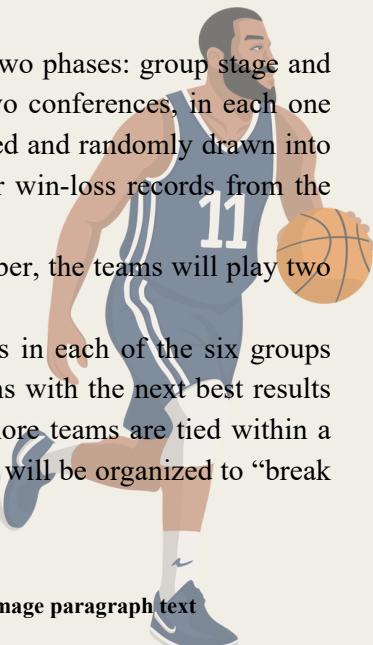


How does the NBA cup work?

The NBA Cup is divided into two phases: group stage and final stage. It is separated in two conferences, in each one 15 NBA teams have been divided and randomly drawn into 3 groups of five, based on their win-loss records from the 2024-25 regular season.

From 31 October to 28 November, the teams will play two games at home and two away.

The teams with the best results in each of the six groups will qualify, as well as the teams with the next best results in each conference. If two or more teams are tied within a group, a series of playoff games will be organized to “break the tie”.



▶ Los Angeles Lakers court used during the 2024 NBA. Author: [Troutfarm27](#)

<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?search=nba+cup&title=Special%3AMediaSearch&type=image>

The final- stage rounds will consist of games with a single-round elimination, Here is the calendar:

- Beginning with quarter-finals on 9-10 December.
- Then the winning team will play semi-finals on 13 December.
- The winning team will play the finals on December 16.

Both finals and semi-finals will be held at Los Angeles and Las Vegas.

The semi-finals will be hosted at the home arena of the higher-scored points team in each conference as of next year because changes were made ahead of the start of the 2025-26 season.

As we are writing right now, some games have already been played and the Toronto raptors won against the Atlanta Hawks 109-97.



**See you on 16
December in
Las Vegas for
the finals!**

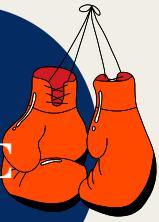


NBA



ENHANCED GAMES :

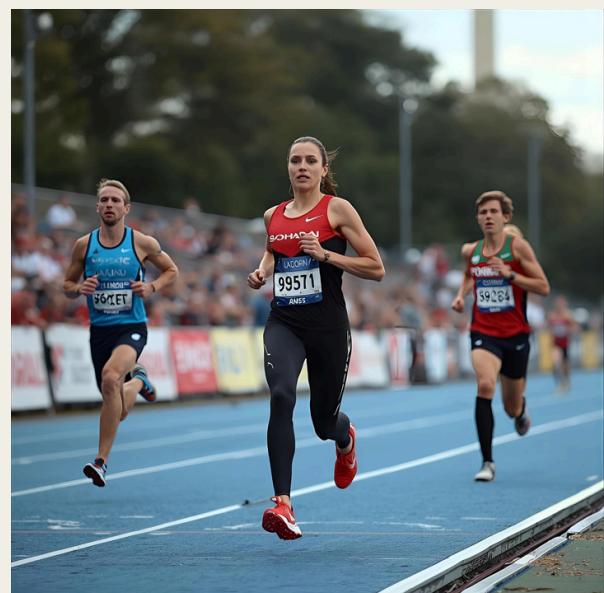
WILL DOPING BE ALLOWED IN THE FUTURE OLYMPICS ?



The Enhanced Games is a multi-sport competition where athletes have the right to use doping substances. They will take place in Las Vegas in May 2026 and they will be different from normal sports events by their unique rules.

This is the project of Aron D'Souza, a 40-year-old Australian entrepreneur who is famous for organising the “Enhanced Games”. He lives between London and New York and acts in the domain of sports and innovation. He studied law at the University of Oxford and has a PhD in law from the University of Melbourne. D'Souza is famous for challenging the traditional sports model. Indeed, he believes athletes should have the freedom of making choices about their own bodies. As the creator and president of the Enhanced Games, he leads the project. He is surrounded by scientists, doctors, and former athletes. He has also attracted high-profile investors.

His project is to organize a multi-sport event where athletes are allowed to use doping substances without breaking any rules. His purpose is “pioneering a new era in athletic competition that embraces scientific advancements to push the boundaries* of human performance”, ignoring World Antidoping Agency and letting all the participants use doping substances within the legal and medical limits. This competition is considered controversial by sports organizations all around the world. Despite all the outrage about this plan, Donald Trump Jr, the US president's son, finances this project. Nevertheless, Sports organizations like ‘Aquatic Sports’ establish new rules that ban any sportsperson who will take part in this event.



Picture generated by Artificial Intelligence on CANVA
<https://www.canva.com/design/DAG5UfzHf2Y/a5LrfdNKWiDeLICUobK5KQ/edit>



https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Enhanced_Games_Logo.png

The Enhanced Games is a new sports competition where athletes can use doping legally. Aron D'Souza created it to mix sports and science, and it is already creating debates around the world.





SCOTLAND

SCOTLAND, A WILD LAND MARKED BY HISTORY AND CULTURE

Scotland, situated in the North-west of Europe and the North of England, is well known for its culture and history. We can't deal with Scotland without writing about its capital, Edinburgh, and its beautiful landscapes, with misty mountains and lakes, famous all around the world. Its history, between war and rebellion, its dishes, its crafts and its art are a total source of inspiration.



Edinburgh castle. Author : Emphyrio
<https://pixabay.com/photos/edinburgh-castle-scotland-tourism-7398037/>



Its flag, also known as St Andrew's Cross or the Saltire, is a white cross on a blue background. Moreover, its symbol is the thistle*, a thorny purple flower. They do wear kilts, but it is traditional clothing, and each tartan** used represents a Scottish clan. There are several Scottish clans, with their specific land. In fact, one third of the Scottish people are part of a clan, which is a sort of big family with a big backstory. The Highland Games, games where men from different clans fight in different sports, may come from the time when the clan chiefs needed to know who was the strongest among them.



Back in the day, the Scottish people were known as “the irreducible”. After many wars, they finally united on May 1st 1707. One of the most famous war, the First War of Independence of Scotland, where troops were led by William Wallace, inspired *Braveheart*, the famous film produced by Mel Gibson. Nonetheless, war is technically not over, and many Scots still advocate their independence.



[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Plaid_\(PSF\).png](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Plaid_(PSF).png)



If you go to Scotland, the best period is from April to October. You need to see Ben Nevis, the highest mountain in Scotland (1,345 metres high), and its numerous “*lochs*” with the famous Loch Ness where the mysterious monster called Nessie seems to live. Many haunted castles are still standing in Scotland, like the Glamis Castle, and ghosts are a big part of Scotland folklore.

▲ Ben Nevis.<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?search=Ben+Nevis&title=Special%2AMediaSearch&type=image&haslicense=unrestricted>

After the visit, don’t miss traditional dishes : haggis, a mince dish (actually stuff rumen’s lamb), cock-a-leekie soup and the shortbread, a delicious biscuit. Don’t forget to taste the whisky !*** Scotland is the biggest producer of this type of alcohol drink with many distilleries across Scotland.

**thistle* = chardon

** *Tartan*: woolen cloth that has specific colours and stripes which characterize a clan.

***“Alcohol is dangerous to your health, consume in moderation”



HAVE YOU HEARD OF NESSIE?

Scotland is well-known for its haunted castles but also for a mysterious beast nicknamed Nessie...

If you feel like being scared, come and see Nessie, the Loch Ness monster. For nearly a century, the Loch Ness has been a main part of the Scottish culture and amazed the whole wide world. At first, Loch Ness was a peaceful place to rest, then it became a myth, not for the lake but for what or who lived in it. The first mention of this creature dates back to 1933 when a couple screamed, they shouted that they had seen an enormous beast in the lake.

In the XX century, the Loch Ness monster became an iconic story for the Scottish folklore. Even though scientists have debunked* this story and found proof that everything was simply a hoax, nowadays Nessie is everywhere in Scotland, in museums, movies, souvenir shops, cartoons and books.



The Loch Ness, located near Inverness, welcomes thousands of tourists every year from around the world, seeking any weird ripple on the surface of the lake. More than a creature, Nessie has become an icon for the Scottish folklore.



Original picture of Nessie that triggered the myth in 1933

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Loch_Ness_Monster_Surgeon%27s_photograph.jpg

* To debunk: to discredit, show something is false



WALES: A small country with a big history.



Wales is the neighbouring country of England. It has been a part of England since 1536 and its capital is Cardiff.

Map of Wales (in dark green) within the UK. Author: Peepermanh

There are beautiful landscapes and national parks. You can, for instance, hike in Snowdonia national park and admire the view from Mount Snowden or visit castles.



Ben Nevis



Chepstow Castle, by Michael20



Cardiff Castle



Now, let's learn more about the history of this country

The origins:

The country was created by Celtic tribes who arrived around 600-500 BC*; Then, the Romans invaded the country in 43 AD** but when they left, Welsh kingdoms appeared and maintained the culture and language. Wales remained independent, even after the Anglo-Saxon invasion.



map of the principality of Wales by [Joan Blaeu](#)

The Acts of Union : Wales united with England

King Henry VIII wanted to control Wales and, in 1536 and 1543, with the Acts of Union, Wales became a part of England. On the one hand, these acts strengthened the union, but on the other hand, they weakened the Welsh traditions and language.

In 1999, a Welsh parliament was created, which gave more power to Wales.

DID YOU KNOW ?

Who is the Prince of Wales?

The tradition of giving the title of Prince of Wales to the eldest son of the royal family dates back to 1301, when King Edward I, who had just conquered Wales, granted this title to his eldest son to mark his victory and ensure the succession.

The status of Prince of Wales means to be the heir apparent to the English throne or, in other words, to be the next king.

This tradition is still going on and the current Prince of Wales is Prince William (King Charles III's eldest son). His wife (Kate) automatically gets the title of Princess of Wales.

How could Elizabeth become Queen Elizabeth II?

As a woman cannot get the title of Princess of Wales unless she is married to the Prince of Wales, Elizabeth became queen without ever having this title.

She became queen because her father, George V, was the king and did not have any son. In that case, the heir apparent is the eldest daughter.

Why is Wales not represented on the Royal Coat of Arms and the Union Jack?

Since 1301 Wales has been annexed to England and is a principality (like the Principality of Monaco). As it is considered a part of England it is not represented.

The Welsh Language

It was the language used by Celts.

It was replaced by English after the Acts of Union but was revived in the 20th century. . In 2011, Welsh became an official language and is more and more used.

For instance, you don't say "Welsh", you say "Cymraeg"!



ENGLAND, AN ATTRACTIVE COUNTRY THAT INSPIRES A LOT OF PEOPLE

We are going to tell you about England and its famous cities, its museums, traditions, culinary heritage and its distinctive architecture. Where would you like to go? Throughout our article, we invite you to discover some cities of England and the must-see places to explore.

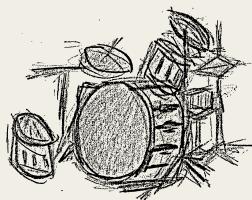
LIVERPOOL

Liverpool is famous for its football team but it is also the city where the Beatles – the most famous British band – were born.



► Courtesy of Mrs. Stotz

Liverpool is situated in the north-west of England. The city is popular not only for its football team, but also for being the birthplace of the world-famous British band, the Beatles. So, in order to learn more about them, you can visit the Liverpool Beatles Museum. This band was composed of John Lennon (singer and guitarist), Paul McCartney (singer and bassist), George Harrison (singer and guitarist) and Ringo Starr (singer and drummer). The museum was inaugurated on 13 July 2018 and was previously called Magic Museum Beatles. It exposes 300 original objects and is organised into 3 floors. The first floor focuses on the years 1959-1962 which represent the formative period of the Beatles. The second floor, covering 1963-1966 corresponds to the explosion of success. While the third floor is dedicated to the years 1967-1970 which corresponds to official separation of the group.



► The Beatles Museum



The name of the Liverpool Stadium is Anfield road. This is a football stadium which is located in Anfield, in England. It was built in 1884 by Archibald Leitch. It is located next to the Stanley Park and this is a grand Public Park of 104 hectares. The opening (the first match) of the stadium was on 28 September 1884.

The stadium has been rebuilt many times to improve the security. Anfield is famous thanks to the supporters and is surrounded by 4 opening stands.

To sum up, in the nearby streets of the stadium, there are houses and shops in the club's colours, such as the red, white and also yellow.



The Liverpool stadium

BRIGHTON

Brighton is a very touristic sea side city located in the South of England.

The Brighton Pier was opened in 1899. It is an amusement park with a gaming room, a roller coaster such as the Twister, the Waltzer and Galloper's Carousel for the whole family. This place is very attractive for the tourists because it is installed on a large pontoon above the sea and it is famous due to its reconstruction following its damage by storms.



The pier. Author: Hassocks5489



Then, why not visit the Royal Pavilion that is famous worldwide, since it is an old royal residence. It was built in the early XIX century, for the prince Regent and the future king George IV. Its style is exotic and Anglo-Indian. Before, The Royal Pavilion was used for banquets and during the First World War, it served as a hospital for the injured soldiers.

Today, the Pavilion is open for the public (the entrance ticket costs £19.50 for an adult) and it is also rented for conferences or weddings and banquets.



The Royal Pavilion. Author: Hassocks5489

The Warner Bros Studio tour Harry Potter

If, like our English teacher, you are a big fan of Harry Potter, this museum is for you!

It is a really magical place to visit and it is located 40 km north from the centre of London.

The ticket prices for the Museum are varied but it should cost you around 100 €.

In this studio you can visit many places such as where the movies were shot, therefore this is a wonderful experience.

The activities in this museum are numerous, you can see the costumes and the props, you can discover sceneries and the secrets of special effects and you can also test interactive activities such as getting on a broom in front of a green background and making souvenir photos.

At the end of the visit, there are several shops to buy souvenirs and to mark the moment.

To finish, this place attracts a lot of tourists and fans of the Harry Potter saga.

Let's see if you recognize these! (all photos: courtesy of Mrs Stotz):





LONDON

Can you imagine going to England without visiting its capital?

The biggest city in England is worth visiting as there are plenty of things to see and do! Let's see (only) a few!

London is the capital of England, it has several famous monuments such as Big Ben, which is the clock tower of the Palace of Westminster. It is known all over the world, however the only people who can visit this tower are the residents of the United Kingdom only after obtaining permission. Its construction took 16 years (1843-1859) and it is 96 metres high.

The London Eye, is a large Ferris wheel that is 135 metres high. It cost £70 million to build and on March 9, 2000 it was opened to the general public.



► **Big Ben and Westminster Palace. View from the London Eye. Author: Perituss**



The London Eye. Author: ►
Peter_Glyn





Tower Bridge is a suspension bridge which was built to connect the London population living east of London Bridge. It is 290m long and consists of two 65-metre-high towers. Tower Bridge has become an emblem of London. Next to it you can visit the Tower of London, a former prison where now the Crown jewels can be seen.



Tower Bridge. Author: Misterweiss



The Tower of London. Author: Perituss

Buckingham Palace :

Buckingham Palace has been the official residence of British Sovereigns since 1837 and it was built by John Schefield. It is an imposing monument that is located in Westminster and it attracts a lot of tourists every summer. It is used for important events and the King's receptions and it is composed of 775 rooms. This building is 108m long and 24 metres high. Its style is neo classic because it has symmetrical facades and a lot of columns and its garden is the largest private garden in the capital.



Buckingham Palace. Author: Jacquemart

**So, when is your
next trip to
England?**



Discover the theatres of London

London is famous for its theatres, where you can see classic plays or renowned musicals.

So, if you plan to go there, here are some suggestions that you may like to see.

Modern London Shows and Musicals

The Lion King

It is one of the most famous shows. You can see it at the Lyceum Theatre (21 Wellington Street, London). Tickets start at £35, and there are both evening and afternoon performances. The atmosphere and costumes are fantastic.

Wicked

Another great musical is *Wicked*, at the Apollo Victoria Theatre (17 Wilton Road, London). Tickets start at £27, and the show has won more than 100 awards around the world.

Hamilton

Finally, if you like rap and history, *Hamilton* at the Victoria Palace Theatre (79 Victoria Street, London) is a must-see. Tickets are available from £35, and it is one of the most popular shows of recent years.

So, if you go to London, don't miss the chance to enjoy one of these incredible shows and experience British culture in a fun way.



Lyceum theatre by night,
by Bert Seghers.



Apollo Victoria Theatre, London, 2007
Author: Andy Roberts

Last, but not least!
You must discover the mythical Shakespeare Globe!

Shakespeare's Globe was originally built in 1599. However, in June 1613, the theatre burned to the ground after a misfired cannon hit the thatched roof* during a performance of *Henry VIII*.

It was partially rebuilt, but all London theatres were forced to close in 1642, and the Globe was demolished in 1644.

In the 1990s, American actor and director Sam Wanamaker launched a campaign to rebuild the Globe completely, using the original 1599 plans to make it as authentic as possible.

The new Globe was re-opened in 1997. It is open-air, so the plays are only performed from May to early October. It is located on the south bank of the River Thames, next to Tate Modern (an art gallery), in Southwark, London.



The Globe, photo by Schlaier

* Thatched roof: toit de chaume

For only £5, visitors can enjoy a play at the marvellous Globe.

Did you Know ?

William Shakespeare, the most famous English playwright, was born in 1564 in the beautiful town of Stratford-upon-Avon (in the Midlands). He worked as a writer and actor in a company called the Lord Chamberlain's Men.

He wrote many plays and the most well-known, that you can see at the Globe are: *Hamlet* (from which comes the famous quote: "To be or not to be, That is the question"), *Othello*, *King Lear*, *Macbeth* or *Romeo and Juliet*.

Wicked: For Good is out in cinemas!

Wicked was originally a novel written by Gregory Maguire published in 1995. It was then adapted into a musical that was produced between 2003 and 2023. Wicked Part I came out in 2024 and was a total success. On November 19th, the sequel was released in cinemas in France, entitled Wicked For Good, also known as Wicked Part II.

The story of the series of movies starts with Glinda and Elphaba's arrival at Shiz University, which marked the beginning of an unexpected friendship, when their extraordinary adventures in the Land of Oz lead them to their destiny and becoming respectively the good witch and the bad witch.

In Wicked For Good, Elphaba now lives in exile in the Ozian forest as she was demonized. Meanwhile, Glinda resides at the palace in Emerald City. Both Wicked parts are happening in the Land of Oz. The two movies were filmed simultaneously so they could release both movies a year apart from each other. In both movies, we are following the story of the growing relationship between the two main characters : Elphaba (Wicked Witch of the West), played by Cynthia Erivo, and Glinda (Glinda The Good), played by Ariana Grande.



Logo Wicked For Good. Author : Jaxtodo

In Wicked: For Good, along with its prequel, both main characters' stunts were done without any doubles, and more than 1000 costumes were made for the movies. Ariana Grande bleached her hair along with her eyebrows so she would look and feel more like Glinda the Good. Wicked Part 1, as well as Wicked For Good were both directed by Jonathan Murray Chu, and produced by Marc Platt and David Stone.



Author : UKinUSA
for both photos



So if you love musicals, it is time to go to the cinema!



The most interesting part of the year: Christmas markets !

PHOTO BY DADEROT :
CHRISTMAS MARKET IN
COLOGNE, GERMANY



Discover the magic of Christmas Markets. Let's learn about their history in Europe. so you can have a new look on them.

ORIGINS:

Before Jesus-Christ, the pagans celebrated the Winter solstice, with a market where they shared presents.

Nevertheless, the oldest Christmas Markets were in Vienna in Austria in 1294 as well as in Bautzen in Germany, as early as 1384. On top of that, the Christmas Markets, which became a Christian celebration, developed in the Holy Roman Empire and, with time, they expanded towards Alsace, which was not French yet. It was in 1570 that a Christmas market was installed in Strasbourg on the place of the Cathedral. In fact, they were called Saint Nicolas markets!

However, the city adopted a reform which forbade the cult of saints. They then renamed it as "ChristKindlMarkt". It lasted for 8 days before Christmas and finished at the midnight mass.

To conclude, Christmas markets are a very old tradition in Europe, which nowadays is still a huge part of the year.

METZ CATHEDRAL AT
CHRISTMAS TIME
(WIKIMEDIA COMMONS)



*châtaignes
**Grande roue



In Metz we have a lot of small Christmas markets with shops, food or craftspeople from the region. If you want to see lights in the night, you can discover, with your family or not, "Le sentier des lanternes" which is a path of 2000 lanterns! It is displayed in Square Boufflers from November 21st to December 30th, and closes on December 25th, for Christmas. In "Place St Jacques", you can taste specialities, like pretzels, chestnuts*, a lot of food with cheese or waffles. If you come with your boyfriend/girlfriend, you can climb on the Ferris wheel**, in Place d'Armes! Similarly, if you have kids, Place de la République is perfect for you; with the big Christmas tree carousel! Metz is the second-best European Christmas market, and there's a good reason for this! You can be transported into a beautiful universe and become a child again.

DIY keychain tutorial !

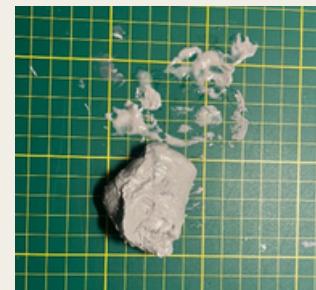
Christmas is coming. You might have no ideas on what to offer, but don't worry, we can help you ! Why not make a customized keychain for your friends, your family or even for yourself ? Check out our easy tutorial, it's cheap and pretty ! Have fun !

You'll need :

air dry clay
paint and a paintbrush

a cookie cutter (or a knife)
wool thread

1. Make a ball with modeling clay then flatten it, like a Christmas cookie dough
2. Wet your hands a bit
3. If you have a cookie cutter, use it to create the shape of your choice, if not, cut out the shape you want in the clay
4. Make a small hole
5. Smooth the edges
6. Let it dry overnight
7. Trace the design of your keychain on the dried clay the shape
8. Time to paint it (put something under your keychain to protect your surface)
9. Let it dry
10. Pass a wool thread through the hole and make a knot
11. It's ready ! you can tie it to your bag or keys





The Equipment:

- kitchen scale
- hand mixer
- baking sheets
- rolling pin
- cookie cutter

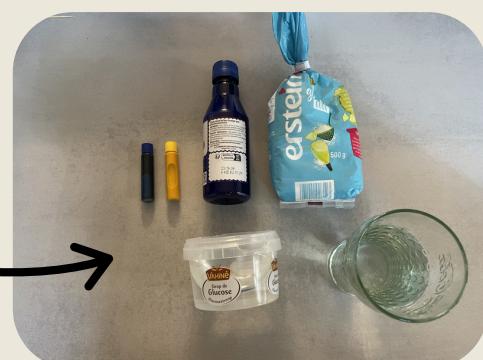


For the frosting:

- 452g of powdered sugar
- 6 tablespoons of glucose syrup
- 114g of water
- 1 tablespoon of almond extract
- food colouring, blue and yellow to create green

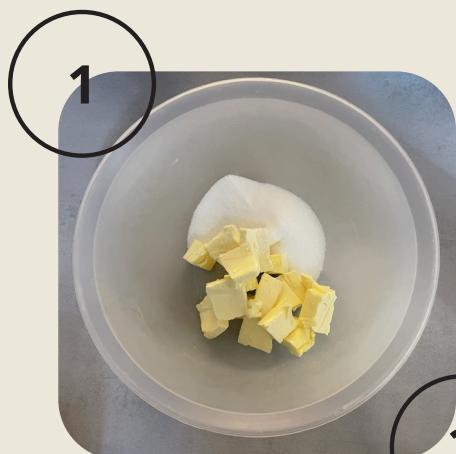
The Ingredients:

- 225g of butter without salt, (room temperature)
- 135g of white sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 teaspoon of vanilla extract
- 295g of flour
- a pinch of salt
- OPTIONAL → you can add some ground cinnamon (in powder) if you wish, it enhances the taste of the cookies.



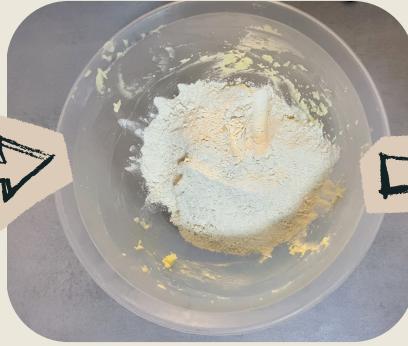
INSTRUCTIONS:

1 First of all, combine the butter and sugar in a large bowl and beat with a hand mixer until it gets lighter in colour and fluffy, Place this part after hand mixer for about 3-4 minutes. Beat in the egg and the vanilla until they are well blended.



2 In a separate bowl, whisk together the flour and salt.

Add the flour mixture to the butter mixture all at once and mix on low speed until completely incorporated





3 Lay out a baking sheet with baking paper and sprinkle a little flour on top. Divide the dough equally into 2 portions. Using lightly floured hands, take 1 portion of dough and spread it into a disc. Take your boxes and place them on the dough to form your cookies and move your shapes further on your baking paper. Repeat the process until there is no more dough

4 Then bake your biscuits at 180°C for 15 minutes (max17). To finish, let them cool down.



1

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE FROSTING :

In a measuring cup, stir together the water, glucose syrup, and almond extract.

Put the powdered sugar in a large bowl.

With a hand mixer on low speed, slowly add $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of the liquid mixture while mixing.

Scrape the bowl as needed.

The glaze should look like thick sweetened condensed milk.

If the texture is too thick, add a little more of the liquid (1 tbsp at a time).

And if the texture is too liquid, add more powdered sugar (2 Tbsp at a time).

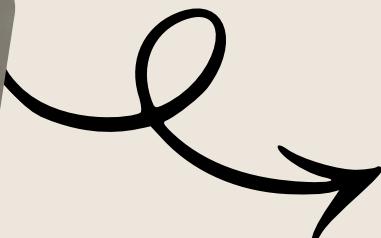


- 2** Pour half of the glaze in a bowl (big enough for dipping cookies). Cover the rest with plastic wrap so it doesn't dry out. Stir slowly to remove any air bubbles. Then add drop by drop your food colouring.

3 To glaze a cookie, have a second bowl sitting next to the bowl with the glaze.

Hold onto the cookie by the edges and turn it upside down. Dip the top of the cookie into the glaze being sure the glaze covers the entire surface of the cookie.

Lift the cookie straight up out of the glaze and hold it above the second bowl. Allow the excess glaze to drip off (about 5-10 seconds). Once the glaze stops dripping, flip the cookie over and place it on a cooling rack.



4 Allow the glaze to dry completely before storing the cookies in an airtight container. It is best to let the cookies dry 12-24 hours before storing.

Once you have let it rest, enjoy !



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