

# Adam Smith Business School Cultural Digest

APRIL/MAY 2026

WE ARE INTERNATIONAL AT ASBS

## MARCH RECAP

### IFTAR: STUDENT POTLUCK

On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March, the ASBS community gathered to take part in Iftar, the evening meal where Muslims break their daily fasts during



Ramadan. Iftar brings together family and friends in a community gathering to celebrate



spirituality, charity, and gratitude. For us at ASBS, this meant a student-led potluck. Families from many nationalities and cultures contributed delicious cuisines to the event, making it a

huge success, enjoyed by all. Many students discovered Iftar traditions for the first time, learning about Islam and the significance of Ramadan through the event itself.

A busy Hot House full of children, families, and friends showed us that community shows up for each other. It was truly an awe-inspiring evening, filled with joy, lovely conversation, and fantastic food. We hope to see more of this at ASBS.



## ASBS POSTGRADS!

Will you be writing your dissertation in Glasgow this summer?

**SUMMER TERM:**  
*Beyond dissertations*

What events/activities could make your summer dissertation period more enjoyable?

Let us know by filling out this quick survey:

Open to all ASBS postgraduate students

Or use [this link](#) (responses are anonymised).

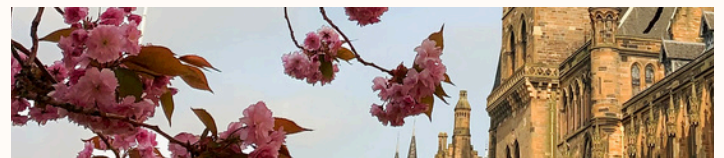
## APRIL/MAY ON CAMPUS

### SPRING FLING SCREENINGS AT THE ARC:

The Arc has a series of movie screenings open to the public. See [here](#) for more information on the *Alice in Wonderland* Screening.

### SRC DESTRESS EVENTS

As exam season creeps upon us, keep an eye out from the SRC's exam destress events. They often range from crafts sessions, to stalls with free goodies. See [here](#) for *What's On* at the SRC.



Interested in contributing to the ASBS Cultural Digest or the international student experience?

Let us know! Email: [Nethmi.Jayasundara@glasgow.ac.uk](mailto:Nethmi.Jayasundara@glasgow.ac.uk)

## AROUND THE WORLD

### EASTER SUNDAY

5<sup>th</sup> April

Observed by Christians, Easter Sunday is a day full of gatherings, joy, and spiritual service. Traditions include church services, festive meals, and symbolism like eggs that represent new life.



### SOUTH / SOUTHEAST ASIAN NEW YEAR

Around 14<sup>th</sup> April

Happy New Year to anyone celebrating the solar New Year in April! As well as being part of my own culture (in Sri Lanka), several countries in South/South East Asia are awaiting eagerly to celebrate their new year. This typically follows the Hindu or Buddhist calendars. In Sri Lanka, we call it Aluth Avurudda, but it is known by many other names across regions, like Puthandu, Songkran, and Sankranti.

### WORLD DAY FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY

21<sup>st</sup> May

Declared by the UN, this World Day celebrates the essentiality of cultural dialogue as a medium for peace and development.



### CINCO DE MAYO

MAY 5<sup>th</sup>

An annual celebration of Mexico's victory of the Battle of Puebla, this day involves parades, festivals, and sharing traditional foods.



### HOI AN LANTERN FESTIVAL

MAY 14<sup>th</sup>

A monthly celebration in Hoi An, Vietnam. The town is lit by colourful, traditional lanterns and involve boat rides and releasing paper lanterns into the river to symbolise luck.

Culture and community through food:

#### Laz Turkish Tapas, Bath St.

Serving Turkish tapas from tasty meats to delicious flatbreads and mouth-watering desserts, Laz Turkish Tapas has proudly made its way into Trip Advisor's 10 Best Restaurants in Glasgow. They focus on fresh ingredients and bringing cultural connection to each dish.



From popular dishes like Chicken Kebabs to well-loved Baklava, there is something here for everyone to experience, both comforting and exciting.

## INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES



*"Inclusion means intentional opportunities for people to be seen, heard, and meaningfully engaged"*

### Nia Kurniati Bachtiar

4<sup>th</sup> year PhD Researcher in Management

Originally from Indonesia, Nia finds a deep appreciation for the cultural landscape at ASBS. She finds that the genuinely meaningful cross-culture conversations and stories do more than just broaden one's knowledge: it is a part of building empathy and appreciation for cultures beyond your own. For her, sharing Indonesian food has become a powerful act that bridges the gap between stories, traditions, and practices among her and her colleagues.



*Silaturahmi* is an Indonesian practice of strengthening social ties through the act of having conversations and reconnecting with each other. Nia credits the Indonesian community at the University as an especially valuable supportive space during her time away from home. This includes holding cultural events to promote their traditions (and getting involved with the wider Indonesian student community in the UK).

She highlights a need to create a more intentional space for cultural exchange within ASBS students and staff, moving beyond typical activities into hands-on experiences that drive integrated conversation. This might especially be important as a creative outlet after intensive study, particularly for international students who may not be able to travel home often.

### BOOK RECOMMENDATION

#### Killing Commendatore



Haruki Murakami writes of a portrait painter in Tokyo. He finds himself in a mountain home where a mysterious discovery leads to a series of magical events and a journey into a metaphorical underworld.

See [here](#) for a compilation of some fabulous book recommendations, categorised by country.

