



Lady Lumley's School Newsletter

9th November 2012 Issue Number 198



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

I am writing this late on Thursday night having just returned from a drama department trip to Leeds to see the play Beautiful Burnout. All I can say is Wow! There is a more erudite review later in the newsletter. Wednesday night was Year 9 parents' consultation evening which was really positive and had a great atmosphere. We now try and have all the consultation evenings in the hall whenever possible, even if it means the senior leadership team end up at the end of the evening helping our excellent site supervisors put all the chairs and tables back for the next day's examinations! During the evening we received some feedback from parents about the school calendar. We have been doing a lot of work on the calendar to ensure that disruption to learning was minimised whilst still maintaining access to the rich extra-curricular programme for the students. This has been a difficult task and it did delay the release of the calendar this year, with the full version not out until late September. Parents on Wednesday asked us for a year-specific calendar containing key dates, and such a calendar can be found in this newsletter. As always, we welcome feedback from parents and students and will always act upon it. Please always check with the full calendar on the website to ensure there have been no late changes. It is trial examination time (and some GCSE modules) for Year 11 and an important time for them. As in the last few years, the results from these examinations will be given out to the students at lunchtime on Thursday 29 November in a formal procedure which mirrors the way they will receive their actual GCSE results. We have found that this helps the students realise just how important the trial examinations are and what it could feel like to get excellent (or disappointing) results. And, as Year 11 students know, it isn't that long until the final GCSE examinations

Year 12 geographers went out on their field trip on Tuesday to Robin Hood's Bay – the weather was appalling and the students wonderful – more elsewhere in this edition.

Finally, if your son or daughter is talking of Rally Robins, seals of approval and timed-pair-share it is because of the staff training day on Monday. The day was based on Kagan's collaborative learning, a series of exercises (they call them 'structures') which ensure all students are actively engaged in their lessons. I have already mentioned the Learning Teams we have in school, one of which is exploring the Kagan approach. So many staff were interested in this idea that we bought in a trainer for the day so that more teachers, cover supervisors and learning support assistants could learn about collaborative learning. In a typical old school lesson in this country (which we are thankfully beginning to see the end of), a teacher may be addressing a class of 30 pupils in a classic question and answer session. One pupil answers the teacher's question and the other 29 are passive observers. Obviously this is the worse case scenario, and most teachers would use a range of techniques to involve more students, but, still, very few young people are actively engaged in such a lesson. With collaborative learning activities, at least half the class is actively involved at any one time. After the training on Monday, about half of the teaching staff "kaganised" subsequent lessons and I have done the same with the senior leadership meeting this week. I cannot remember any in-school training that has had such an immediate impact. If you want to find out if your child was involved in collaborative learning this week, just ask them if they had to high-five anyone or give them a 'cheese-great'. I hope you will hear a lot more about collaborative learning in the next few months.

And finally, finally: best wishes to the sixth form netball team who, after winning the area competition, compete at county level in Harrogate this weekend.

Richard Bramley

Sponsored walk: please support your child collecting their sponsorship money.

Mountain Leader (Summer)

More than 20 years of climbing and mountaineering experience, a week of training, followed by more than 40 long mountain days, often supporting LLS students on Duke of Edinburgh Gold, led David Gwillam to his half term break this year.

For 6 days over the holidays he undertook the Mountain Leader (Summer) assessment, based in Snowdonia at the prestigious Plas y Brenin centre. Each day involved accurate navigation in all conditions through the mountains, demonstrating safe group management on steep and rocky ground, crossing rivers and navigating at night, all whilst wild camping in a rapidly wintering North Wales.

Mr Gwillam successfully completed this assessment, and now joins David Mann in holding the industry standard qualifications to lead groups and individuals throughout the UK, enabling more LLS students to gain the benefits of high quality Learning Outside the Classroom, through their subject areas and in extra-curricula activities.

Mr Mann, head of outdoor education is delighted with Mr Gwillam's achievement and added "This is one of the hardest outdoor qualifications to gain and Mr Gwillam has dedicated a lot of time to gaining this award.

Climbing

A national climbing magazine 'Climb' has featured an article on climbing in the North Yorkshire Moors this month. The article includes Lady Lumley's Sixth Form students Sam Marks and Jack Hodgson, with Sam getting his own double page spread! Sam started climbing after the school's outdoor education trip to Beverley Park and also has used the climbing wall to improve. This shows the impact outdoor activities provided by the school has on its students.

Year 9 Netball Match Report - Lady Lumley's 37 St. Augustines 0

As Lady Lumley's won the first centre pass, an early lead was taken by Lady Lumley's. Great shooting from Lid Coote and Freya Morton. As well as fantastic play from defence, Victoria Woodhead, Abi Pollard and Caitlin Frith. By half time, Lady Lumley's led 19-0. Emma Clapton played amazing at wing attack. Well done to all the girls getting through their first cup match.



Theatre Review: 'Beautiful Burnout'

22 students in years 10-13 went to West Yorkshire Playhouse to see 'Beautiful Burnout' performed by Frantic Assembly. Centred around the sport of Boxing, it follows the life of Cameron Burns and his journey to the biggest fight of his life. This big fight will not only change his life, but also of those around him. The real reason he wants to fight is to become a famous boxer and get everything he doesn't have, but what he doesn't realise is the things he needs are right in front of him. For him fighting is his life - despite pushing the consciences in his life away from him. The show was full of action and jam packed with contemporary and modern choreography to influence the emotions surrounding the storyline. We were all touched deeply by the tragic story of the 'Fists of Fury' who lost his fight. Thanks goes to the Drama department, for organising a fantastic trip. Leo Rowell

IMPORTANT DATES

Years 9-13 Opportunity Knocks Event,
plus evening event for parents and carers 5-7pm
Year 8 Hockey Tournament, Caedmon, 1.30pm
Year 10 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Information
Meeting, 6.30pm

Year 10-13 Australi Exchange Meeting 7pm
Tuesday 13th November

Year 13 Consultation Evening 4.30pm
Wednesday 14th November

Cross Country, Ryedale 1.30pm
Year 11 Trial Exams end
Thursday 15th November

Year 12 and 13 Art Study Visit, London galleries
Thursday 15th - Saturday 17th November

Netball County Round, Ashville College
Saturday 17th November

Sixth Form: 'Drive Alive'

Wednesday October 24th saw the annual 'Drive Alive' programme delivered to our current Y12 students. Students attend five sessions during the day and the aim of the programme is to support our students in the pursuit of the important independent skill of driving, whilst encouraging them to adopt safe driving practices and to be safe passengers.

Many thanks to the 'Drive Alive' team and especially to David and Janet Warin, whose son Daniel died aged 17, three weeks after passing his driving test. David is a member of the Adult Education team here at Lady Lumley's. Daniel was a popular student in the Sixth Form and fondly remembered by many current staff members. David and Janet have worked with the North Yorkshire Road Safety Team going into schools across the County at special events to tell students the story of Daniel's death and the devastating effect it has had on their family. 'Drive Alive' has been delivered to over 20,000 students in the past ten years, teaching them one of the most vital lessons they will ever learn, how to stay safe on the roads.

Lady Lumley's School is, and will continue to be, committed to supporting the 'Drive Alive' initiative.

Progression Pathways

Most Y13 students have made up their minds at this point if they wish to apply to university through the UCAS application system. It is especially important that if they do not wish to pursue this route, they look out for and respond to bulletin-board announcements offering support to them over the next few weeks.

Some key reminders regarding UCAS: Students can make a maximum of five course choices. For 2013 applications, the fee is £12 for a single choice or £23 for 2-5 choices. Higher education providers will then make 'offers' of places, subject to entrance requirements being met by the student. So long as the student has been successful in receiving offers of places, then each student will accept 'firm' and 'insurance' offers. ***It is advisable for students to seriously consider their target grades and AS results and be realistic in their choices - especially their insurance choice.***

It is advisable for all applications to be in as early as possible and our internal school deadline is Friday 7 December.

Visit the UCAS website at: www.ucas.ac.uk and try the 'Course Search' section.....or the 'Parent' section...or the 'Students/student finance' section for extra help and advice.

James Ambrose, Head of Sixth Form

Year 12 Geography Fieldwork

The annual Geography fieldtrip to Robin Hood's Bay lived up to its expectations of being, cold, wet and windy. Mr Gwillam urged us to record the weather optimistically as light drizzle. The purposed of the visit was to deepen our knowledge of coastal landforms. Geography textbooks try hard to explain the complex processes that form this dramatic landscape but it is only by visiting and exploring the environment that it comes to life as a coastline shaped by glaciers in the past. We are lucky to have Robin Hood's Bay so close as it has practically all of the landforms we study and this learning outside the classroom will hopefully give us the edge in our exam. Lizzie Rising, Anya Bartlett and David Knowles.



Athletics News

Emma Clapton has had a very successful weekend, whilst competing for Scarborough AC. On the Saturday before last at Whitby, she won the Girl's Under 15 race in the North Yorkshire and South Durham cross country league, which was especially notable as she is only 13 and this was her first race at that age group level. The following day at Scarborough she won the so called 'Fun Run' overall, much to the surprise of some older boys, and which had 314 finishers of all age, although predominantly those under 16 who were too young for the 10K race. Her brother Sam, also ran very well at both fixtures.

Bronwen Owen and Emma are the club's sole nominations for the annual Scarborough and District Sports Awards which will be decided later this month.

Bronwen has been suffering from a running injury and has not raced recently, but hopes to be back in action at the end of the month.

School Calendar: The full calendar is available on the school website – please keep a check on this as it is regularly updated.

Below is an ‘at a glance’ summary of key events for each year group. Events are also advertised in advance in the weekly Newsletter.

We hope this helps with ease of planning, many thanks for the feedback and suggestions given at this week’s Year 9 Consultation Evening.

Prizegiving events are as follows: 21st November – Last year’s Y12 (present Y13) period 4 in the afternoon and last year’s Y11 (present Y12) 7.00pm in the Hall. Last year’s Y13, Thursday 20 December 7.00pm in the common room.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
January – first progress report	January – first progress report	January - written reports	November – first progress report	November – progress report and trial exams	November – first progress report	November – first progress report
6 th February – Consultation Evening	27 th February – Consultation Evening	February 14 th – Options Information Evening	January – second progress report	29 th November – Trial exam results issued	28 th November – Consultation Evening	14 th November – Consultation Evening
April – second progress report	April – second progress report	April – progress report	16 th January - Consultation Evening	6 th December -6 th Form Open Evening	January – progress report and trial exams	December – trial exams
July - written report	June - written report	July – end of key stage final levels	February – third progress report	12 th December – Consultation Evening	March – written report	January – progress report and external exams
		April – written report	February – written reports	February – written reports	May – progress report	February/March written reports
		June – fourth progress report	Week beginning 24 th June - exams (results home in July)	April – progress report	July – progress report	May progress reports
				May/June - exams	May/June external exams	May/June external exams