



Lady Lumley's School Newsletter

12th July 2013 Issue Number 227



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

Last but not one Friday of term, the sun is shining, Murray won Wimbledon, the new Year 7 students were in school on Wednesday to meet their tutors and fellow tutees and many Year 8 students have been having a fantastic time at Beverley. We have tried to make the week nearly as exciting for those Year 8 students who stayed in school. On Monday they had a great time on their history trip to York's Castle Museum and the National Railway Museum, and during the week they took part in team-building activities including putting a tent up blindfold! On Wednesday, I was able to visit Beverley and had chance to thank the staff who were there and who have given so freely of their time to allow the students to experience a week of outdoor activities. Lady Lumley's probably has more extra-curricular opportunities than almost any other school and these activities are an integral part of the school and its character.

Richard Bramley

Leave of Absence during Term Time

The Coalition Government have recently changed the legislation regarding leave of absence for students in term time, effective from 1st September 2013.

The changes can be seen at <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2013/756/contents/made>.

This means headteachers will not be allowed to grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Should parents or carers wish to take their child out of school during term-time, they should alert the headteacher at the school as soon as possible. The headteacher will then have to make the decision as to whether or not the circumstances are exceptional. This means that students with a good attendance record will no longer automatically be granted leave of absence. This has been imposed upon us by central government legislation and applies to all state schools.

There is a letter to parents about this from Peter Dwyer, Corporate Director of the Children and Young People's Service, on the school website.

Richard Bramley

National Festival Award for Musicians

The school Jazz Group took part in the National Festival of Music for Youth in Birmingham last Friday. The day was an early start leaving Pickering at 6 a.m. It included a number of different musical activities.

There were two workshops, which both included our students for hands on experience. One was led by staff from the Birmingham Conservatoire which focussed on composition; the second was a percussion workshop featuring Indian percussionists. In between the workshops our students performed their set to the public in the festival tent receiving great acclaim for their performance. This was the program of music which they would later perform at their adjudicated session in the Adrian Boult Concert Hall.

The actual National Festival performance saw our students in top form and they represented the school and the community admirably. The performance led to the group receiving one of only two awards given for performance. Our award was a certificate of 'achievement for innovation'. The adjudicator's comments said of the group "you guys have an obvious and collective desire to explore all kinds of music, with a genuine sense of adventure, playfulness and humour. With this much ability the sky is your limit. Keep imagining, you rock."

The elated group consisted of **Bron Bury, Mark Fortnum, Jack Hodgson, Josh Kenyon, Sam Marks, Ethan Sherwin and Tom Wrench.**

Many thanks to Martin Blythe who drove the group to Birmingham and back completing a 17 hour day!
Clive Wass Subject Leader Music



Year 9 Pre-GCSE Art Trip

On Wednesday, 32 year 9 students visited the Yorkshire Sculpture Park armed with sketchpads and pencils to inspire ideas for their GCSE coursework.

The focus was Inside/Outside and the art on display enabled the students to start to think of ideas for their own work and to see other artists' work first hand. Also on the trip were 2 work experience students and a Sixth Form student who acted as mentors to discuss the work with the students and generate ideas.



The work in the park included that of Yinka Shonibare MBE, with his 'FABRIC-ATION' exhibition that many of the students liked, and James Turrell's 'Deer Shelter Skyspace', which gave a lot of thought for the topic. Most of the park is open-air, and there were sheep on most of the grounds. Many of the students found these sheep unusual as most had words spray painted onto their wool in black. This was part of an exhibition called 'Write to Roam' by Alison Cooper and left them all to think about why the words were there and what they meant.

In the photo, the students are standing with a sign that says 'Arcadia', one of four signs in the park. The artist, Leo Fitzmaurice, used the idea of arcadia – a utopian region of contentment - to question what makes a place like Bretton estate and how we as onlookers choose to experience it.

When asked about the trip later, the students were really responsive. This is what some of them said: "I found the Yinka Shonibare exhibition interesting because of the vibrant colours and fabrics in the displays." – Breagha (Year 9)

"I really enjoyed the art trip. I found it a very big help and I am looking forward to doing GCSE art. I particularly enjoyed the 'wind sculpture' by Yinka Shonibare because to begin with you couldn't quite tell what it was until you really looked at it, then it began to take shape." – Caitlin (Year 9)

"I was really inspired by the trip and I found it very helpful for the future. The hard thing was trying to relate every sculpture to the project 'Inside/Outside'.

I was very interested in Yinka Shonibare's 'Flower Cloud', which was a headless ballerina stood on a black cloud." – Leanne (Year 9)

All in all, the trip was a great experience and hopefully one that will inspire the students for their own GCSE coursework.

Mr McGrath, Mrs Chaddock and Mrs Strachan would like to thank the mentors for their help on the day and the students who were a credit to the school.

Rhiannon Makinson, Yr 10

Year 9 Careers in Languages Event at York St John University

Last Friday 22 year 9 students took part in a Careers in Languages day at York St John University. 140 students from local schools took part in a day which focussed on the importance of learning and keeping up a language as well as the many opportunities language learning can provide in terms of careers and travel. Our students learned more about the need for languages in careers in business, travel and tourism and also interpreting. Many of our students came away feeling that the day had really made them think about the many doors that learning a language can open to them, and in such a range of careers. This will be really useful for them as they go onto GCSE next year. Agatha Wallington, Year 9

North Yorkshire School Games

Congratulations to the Lady Lumley's students who took part in the **North Yorkshire School Games** at Queen Margaret's School last Sunday. In sweltering heat the different groups of students took part in **rounders, boccia, kurling and modern pentathlon** events, and achieved silver medals in both the boccia and rounders competitions.

A full report will be included next week to celebrate the successes at this event. Further information can also be found at the following website: <http://www.northyorkshiresport.co.uk/get-into-sport/latest-news/north-yorkshire-school-games-2013-finals-review>

Andy Park

Outdoor Education news

DofE Bronze week

Last week 65 intrepid explorers from Lady Lumley's completed a gruelling multi day expedition in the North Yorkshire Moors. The week began with the students travelling in style by steam train to the sleepy village of Goathland before embarking on a 4 day trek, covering the best bits of the Yorkshire Moors.

Students were led for the first two under the expert guidance of our experienced and qualified outdoor education staff. During these days they learned how to read maps, navigate on complex terrain, deal with emergencies and camp like a true professional. The school's new outdoor centre in Rosedale was used for a base during the week and students and staff alike were overwhelmed by this fantastic asset.

The second half of the week was their assessment expedition, which had to be planned and executed by the students without any teacher assistance. Mr Hollis commented that "students made exceptional progress" and was impressed by the outstanding learning experience observed. Their assessor, Mr Mann was impressed by wonderful teamwork, organisation and spirit of students. You were a real credit! Headteacher, Nicola Johnson from Rosedale Abbey school also commented on the students " I spoke to a local residents and he said how 'supportive' he was of DofE and how the students were fantastic. A local business owner said that all of the DofE students were 'lovely and polite and a real credit' - but can we warn her next time and she'll make extra Rocky Road tray bakes - she was cleaned out!

Well done to all involved!

Year 11 DofE

Students from year 11 who completed their DofE expedition at Easter should now be handing in their completed DofE booklets to Mr Mann for approval.

Gold DofE success

Well done to former student, **Naomi Hepton** who has just passed the prestigious Gold DofE Award. Naomi put in an incredible amount of effort and work in to this, including a multi day expedition in the Yorkshire Dales and becoming a youth leader for outdoor activities in North Yorkshire. Naomi now looks forward to her invite to a royal palace to receive the Award from the Duke of Edinburgh himself!

Bewerley Park – Midweek Update

Having missed out on the opportunity to go to Bewerley Park as a student, when asked to go along as a member of staff I jumped at the chance. We couldn't have asked for a better start to the week; arriving at the centre on Monday morning, the Nidderdale valley was bathed in sunshine and the students were in buoyant mood. However, when told their first task was to make their beds, this soon changed. I would never have believed that there were so many different ways to put on a duvet cover! For many students, the Year 8 trip represents the first real time they have been away from home and they all quickly learned that if they were to survive the week, they would have to work together; whether this was when setting the tables for breakfast or carrying a canoe along the banks of the River Ure.

Aside from the skills it teaches them in teamwork and communication, the trip also provides the students with an opportunity to really challenge themselves and face up to any fears they may have. In the three days I have been with them, I have seen students afraid of water jump into 10ft pools, students who suffer from claustrophobia negotiate tunnels no wider than a dustbin lid and students afraid of heights climb 40ft rocks. Although the term is overused, I genuinely feel in the case of these students the phrase 'life-changing' is entirely appropriate. For the rest of them it will certainly be a week in their school life they will never forget and I can only say I wish I was still with them to enjoy the last two days of it.

Matthew Smith

More to follow next week on Bewerley Park and the preparations for the summer Himalaya expedition.

Dave Mann



Year 10 Maths Enrichment Day on 5th July

Last week Ms Mitchell took a group of Year 10 students, to a maths enrichment day at York University. The aim of the day was to learn about some of the uses of maths while encouraging students to think about taking maths to a further level of education.

We attended several lectures, learning about some fascinating subjects, such as code breaking, number bases and applications of maths in real life situations (like in game shows). This was concluded by a talk from the mathematician, Katie Steckles, who spoke about maths' biggest unsolved problems.

Overall, it was a very fulfilling and fun day out, though we did hope that we would take a more hands on approach, maybe solving some questions ourselves. I would also like to extend an extra thanks to Ms Mitchell for taking us on this trip. Toby Mennell

Non-Uniform Day - Monday 15th July

It is non-uniform day on Monday. We are supporting the Yorkshire Air Ambulance and HemiHelp. Half of the donations of Monday's non-uniform day will be donated to HemiHelp. HemiHelp is a charity providing support and information to people with hemiplegia and their families in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

What is hemiplegia?

Hemiplegia is a neurological condition that weakens one side of the body, and affects up to one child in a thousand. It is sometimes described as a form of cerebral palsy, and the effects are similar to those of a stroke.

As someone who was born with Hemiplegia, I have a lot of experience in HemiHelp's work and it is a worthy charity, the workers at the HemiHelp office in London would be very grateful for your support.

Sorcha Galvin, Year 9

Mary Hebron's Channel Relay Success

On Friday 28th June I travelled down to Dover to attempt a channel relay swim, along with six other team members and our two coaches Paula and Phil from Kingfishers swimming club. I commenced the swim by jumping off the boat and swimming to shore until I was out of the water. Then I waded back into the sea and started my hour swim. When the hour was up another member of the team took over. This was repeated with different members of the team until we got to France. Most of the team had two swims. The team battled through jellyfish, seals, weed, cruisers, container ships and stomach ache. But we still made it to France in the record breaking time of ten and a half hours. I am collecting for the Yorkshire Air Ambulance; any donations would be greatly appreciated. Mary Hebron



Wednesday 10th July was the **Year 12 'Personal Statement in a Day' event**. This is a new strategy to ensure our 6th form students are ahead of the game in terms of their applications for university or the world of work. Activities throughout the day included group workshops to encourage students to reflect on their experiences; to explore their own skills and attributes, and evaluate their strengths and weaknesses. Students then used these outcomes to begin crafting their own personal statements which are an integral part of the application process. While some students found it difficult initially to speak about themselves, they soon realised that it is the essence of a successful personal statement. It is fair to say that it was a notably successful day in our Sixth Form calendar, and will be repeated for future year groups. Huge thanks to Mrs Ward for her organisation and leadership of the day.

James Ambrose

Lost Property

Please check for lost property by Thursday 18th July, as all unnamed items will be forwarded to charity.

Year 9 Rounders Report

On Sunday 7th July, the year 9 rounders team competed in the Youth Games Tournament at Queen Margaret's School in York. They started off by winning their first match of the day against Harrogate's team, with some great catches and deep fielding from **Lydia Preston, Freya Morton, Emma Clapton and Megan Williamson**. The team then went on to win their next two matches against Craven and Richmond, with some great bowling from **Lydia Coote, Ellie Pearce and Emma Hunter** on the bases which helped us get into the final. The team played outstanding but unfortunately lost to Hambleton by half a rounder which placed the team as runners up. Well done girls!



Report by Meg Williamson and Caitlin Frith

Parents' Forum

The next Parent Forum is on Tuesday 16th July at 6:30pm

We held our first coffee morning on Thursday 11th July. We look forward to running future mornings like this, when parents/carers will be able to visit the school.

Brian Davis.

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 15th July

Yr 9 MFL Global Trip (away all week)
MFL GCSE controlled writing assessment
(Mon-Wed)

Tuesday 16th July

Parent Forum 6:30pm

Friday 19th July

END OF TERM

Saturday 20th July

Himalaya Expedition leave