



Lady Lumley's School Newsletter

4th October 2013 Issue Number 233



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

We had an absolutely marvellous Open Evening on Wednesday night for pupils and families in Years 6 and 5. Staff and students put on great displays and activities all around the school and our current Year 7 students were superb tour guides and excellent ambassadors. This year the head girl and head boy spoke to the pupils and families. We have reproduced their speeches in this week's newsletter so a wider audience can also appreciate the quality of the young people who are learning at Lady Lumley's School.

Richard Bramley

Apologies and Errata

Apologies to **Ethan Sherwin** for getting his surname wrong in last week's newsletter. As I said on the blog, doubly embarrassing since I teach him! Ethan was one of the musicians who played so well in the jazz ensemble in last week's prize-giving.

Also apologies for not making it clear that the 71% pass rate the students achieved in the summer for the GCSE examinations was for the percentage of students achieving 5 A* to C including English and Mathematics. This is the most significant measure of school performance and one the school is very proud of, both as a new school record and for making us the highest performing school in the Ryedale area.

And I must explain (mainly to Year 9 and 10) why we were not on TV as the school in Educating Yorkshire. Over a year ago, Channel 4 wrote to us and, I am certain, every other secondary school in all of the Yorkshire education authorities to ask if we wanted to take part in the programme. Having seen Educating Essex, I knew that Lady Lumley's was not the sort of school the TV company would have wanted. A calm atmosphere, phenomenally polite students and good lessons don't (unfortunately) make good television programmes. Apologies to all the budding actors and actresses, but I think it's all for the best!

Raft of Medusa 2013

GCSE and A level drama students had a drama workshop run by 'Blah Blah Blah' Theatre Company on Thursday 3rd October.

The workshop and performance revolved around a painting by the French artist Géricault, based on the plight of survivors on a sinking raft called 'The Raft of the Medusa'. The actors took us back in time to experience what it was like to be one of the few 15 of a 150 people to survive the sinking. We learnt



how to create drama through a

picture and create complicated still images, which will help our drama skills greatly. We also learnt the story behind the picture and the characters. It was a great workshop and we thoroughly enjoyed it.

Tally Costello, 10FLA



Open Evening Speech - 2nd October 2013

Good evening everyone and welcome to Lady Lumley's School open evening. As Mr Bramley has just said I'm Sophie and the current head girl here. I'm sure you're all itching to see the school grounds and the ample opportunities on offer so I'll try and make this as short and sweet as possible. Plus you've got Wrenchy up next and God knows he can talk.

I've only been at Lady Lumley's for a year and a half now and the school has already had an outstanding impact on not only my education but with shaping me as an individual. And I'm sure the same can be said for all of the students.

Not a long time ago at all I was in exactly the same position as you are this evening; I had to make a big decision that shaped my education and my future. So why, of all the schools in the area did I choose Lady Lumley's?

Well, the first thing that struck me when I attended an evening such as this was the buzz about the place. There is a constant activity that invited, and still does invite, you to see what's happening in each class room. Whether it's Mr Hollis brandishing a very fake wooden sword or a concoction of chemicals being created in the chemistry lab, education really does come to life here.

And it's through the passion and dedication of the teachers that knowledge is instilled in to Lady Lumley's students. A quote from William Arthur Ward states "The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires."

It's fair to say that all the teachers, and staff alike, are in the fullest sense of the word 'great' and it's through this that we as students are inspired to achieve.

This is achievement not just in academia but students are blessed to have a wealth of extracurricular activities at their fingertips. Be it in sport, performing arts, outdoor education or something entirely different, students have the opportunity to truly find their niche.

Thank you for listening, I hope you have a lovely evening and if you have any questions please feel free to come and talk to either myself or Tom.

Tom will now talk to you about his own 6 and half year long experience of Lady Lumley's.

Sophie Robinson, Head Girl

Governor News

The Governor's Strategy Committee met on Thursday night. The Strategy Committee consists of the chair and vice-chair of governors, the chairs of the teaching and learning and resources committees and the headteacher. The function of the committee is to look at Governors' business for the year and to set the agendas for forthcoming meetings.

Vacancy for Parent Governor

There is a vacancy on the school's Governing Body for a parent governor. The Governing Body plays an important role in setting the strategic direction of the school and ensuring the school continues to provide the best possible service to the students. Parents of students in Years 7 to 13 are eligible for this post. For further details of the role, please contact Rosie Dobson at school on 01751 472846 or at rdobson@ladylumleys.net.

Open Evening Speech - 2nd October 2013

Good evening.

When writing in last week's newsletter, Mr Bramley explained that this open evening allows prospective students and parents to get to know more about, as he put it, "the most successful school in the area." I was initially taken aback by such an audacious statement; after all, there are some very good schools in this district, as I'm sure you well know.

But then I began thinking about Lady Lumley's and about the six years I've spent here. And although I don't want to spend time trying to compare Lady Lumley's with other schools, I would like to explain what it is that makes Lady Lumley's stand out.

Of course, there's the school's academic performance; Lady Lumley's maintains a year-on-year improvement at both GCSE and A-Level, even as the government tightens its expectations and reduces the number and type of courses on offer.

Then there's sport; Lady Lumley's has a multitude of sports facilities and teams, which continually achieve highly at district, county, regional and national level.

The school also has a commendable record in music; the school's ensemble was recently praised at national level for their innovative performances.

Although Lady Lumley's is situated in rural North Yorkshire, we have links with schools from all over the world and students are given the opportunity to take part in trips to places such as India, France, Iceland, Tanzania, Belgium and China.

Participation in the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme is also becoming increasingly popular and this trend is set to continue following the opening of an outdoor centre in Rosedale, managed by the school, which deservedly holds the Learning outside the Classroom award for its outstanding work in this field, if you pardon the pun.

From the very brief summary I've given of this school, I hope you can ascertain that Lady Lumley's looks beyond academia to deliver the necessary skills and knowledge needed for later life. The secret, though, behind this success is the way in which the school works together as a community, looking out for one another, helping each other to achieve the common goal of maximising life chances.

This school may not have the fastest broadband connection; it may not have a multi-million pound recording studio, but what it does have is the invaluable sense of community and a force of inspirational, unfaltering and determined staff who work tirelessly to help all students achieve. I hope this evening, you will be able to envisage this community; a community which has existed in Ryedale since 1657, and I'm led to believe that some of the original teachers still work here. Lady Lumley's has been around for over three-hundred-and-fifty years; so something has obviously been going right.

This evening, however, look to future. This school will continue to develop, it will continue to achieve and it will continue to succeed. Lady Lumley's is a successful school and I hope you will be part of its successful future.

Thank you.

Tom Wrench, Head Boy

Liverpool Art Trip Review

On the 26th of September year 11 art students went on a trip to Liverpool. Firstly we visited the Chagall exhibition at the Tate Liverpool; we explored the exhibition for an half an hour and took down sketches and notes of his work, my personal favourite being "I and the village". After that we studied the rest of the Tate and again took down notes and sketches, we all loved the Tate and the inspiration it gave us to start our surface project. The next gallery we visited was the Walker Gallery, unfortunately we only had twenty minutes to look round it but we still gained a lot for the short experience. We then had a short drive to Crosby beach to see Anthony Gormley's sculptures called "Another Place"; the experience was unlike any other as there were over one hundred sculptures of men displayed on the beach. Finally we went to look at the "Dream Sculpture" at St Helens, the size of the head was awe inspiring, we all appreciated the amount of effort that had gone into it. The trip was an amazing experience and we definitely gained masses from it; actually looking at an artist's work in real life does even compare to the internet and we would definitely love to do it again! Thank you! Mikey Scott and Amber Long



English Schools Fell Racing Championships

Emma and Sam Clapton represented the school at the English Schools Fell Racing Championships, which were held at the Queen Katherine School in Kendal. In the school year 10/11 race, Emma Clapton a year 10 pupil, who was the reigning year 8/9 champion, finished in a very impressive third place in her first race in the older age group. In the school year 8/9 race, Sam Clapton who also moved up the age groups from last year's championship as a year 7, finished in 53rd place. Congratulations to you both!

Racing to Success

Dan Chapman raced again at the Solway Round 5 of British Autograss Series last weekend. This was the final round in the three heats to get him in the final (the top 8 point scorers get into the final) he achieved 2nd, 1st and another 1st. Dan tied with two others with top points. He made 4th place in the final.

Overall he has finished 5th in the BAS Championship. This is fantastic as this was his first year racing in these top competitions. Well done!

Pickering & Thornton Royal British Legion The Railway in War Time Event - Friday 11th to Sunday 13th October

During the 3 days there will be a street collection for the Poppy Welfare Fund supporting the existing seven RBL homes and the five poppy break homes. The RBL are committed to supporting establishments who care for our returned forces in need and dependents who are also in need.

IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday 8th October

U14 County Hockey Tournament
Year 10/11/12/13 Football, Whitby

Wednesday 9th October

Year 7 Meet the Tutors Evening 4:30-7pm
Yr 12 Information Evening 6 pm
House Cross Country
U19 Hockey County Tournament

Thursday 10th October

Year 7 Rugby, Malton
Year 9/11 Netball & Year 10 Hockey, LLS 4 pm

Friday 11th October

Year 10/11 Drama Workshop,
Pilot Theatre, LLS P3

Saturday 12th October

Year 9/11 District Netball, Graham