



Lady Lumley's School Newsletter

5th September 2014 Issue Number 268



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

Welcome to a new school year. The school has a fantastic feel to it, the new students in Years 7 and 12 already seem at home and staff and students (old and new) are settled into the daily routine. On Monday and Tuesday we held staff training days where we worked on the five key actions the school will be concentrating on this year to further improve the high quality of teaching. I shared these with students in assemblies this week and will talk more about them in next week's Newsletter.

After the change to lesson length last year, the changes this year are less dramatic, with the biggest being the move of registration to the beginning of the afternoon rather than the end. Major building work has taken place upstairs with three rooms being turned into one, large open-plan ICT suite (although, at the moment, one large, open-plan empty space!). Furniture should be arriving very soon and we hope the room will be up and running before the end of the month. The conversion involved the loss of a sixth form study area, and we have compensated for this by cutting the staffroom in half and creating a new study area for the sixth form adjacent to the very popular café.

Possibly the most noticeable difference this year is our insistence on all students in Years 7 to 11 having the correct equipment with them in every lesson so that learning can take place unimpeded. A few students somehow missed the information posted out at the end of last year, but the school has a supply of equipment which we sell at cost to students to ensure they have all that is required.

A key piece of this equipment is the purple pen, and I would like to explain why this is such a crucial piece of kit. We know marking and feedback have a very positive impact on students' learning, but only if the marking is acted upon. Teachers at Lady Lumley's spend a great deal of time marking students' work and leaving constructive comments. The purple pens will now be used by students when they are responding to these comments. It makes it really clear to students, teachers and parents/carers that the comments have been acknowledged, actions taken and that the marking has begun to create a learning dialogue. Purple pens may not seem a big deal, but, like everything we do at Lady Lumley's, it is all about enhancing students' learning. Richard Bramley

6th Form Induction Day

On Wednesday, our new Year 12 students and our Year 13s enjoyed a free lunch in the Common Room of delicious pulled pork rolls with stuffing and apple sauce, and a vegetarian option of quiche, coleslaw and salad. Mrs Charlton, Mrs Ward and Mr Varey donned their aprons to serve the food, and special thanks to Ollie Varey (Year 13) for 'pulling the pork' with Mr Ambrose! The students also savoured some fantastic acoustic music from Open Mic musicians to accompany their lunch. After lunch, an afternoon of different activities was organised for both Year 12 and 13, which allowed the students to meet new people whilst having some fun! Activities included Dodgeball, gym activities, a quiz and orienteering challenges. Many thanks to all staff who helped organise the day.



Some of our new Year 12 students commented on the afternoon:

'Wednesday was our Induction Day. It included team-building activities including Dodgeball and Orienteering. These activities helped me meet friends and feel comfortable in the new surroundings of Lady Lumleys.' (Katie)

'Everyone was very helpful and friendly' (Ollie)

'Induction day was great fun! It seemed like everyone enjoyed themselves' (Sam)

'As a student coming from another school, Induction Day helped me feel really comfortable in an unfamiliar environment' (Elise)

The day helped me get used to a new school and also was useful as it helped me to find my way around!' (Kieran)

Student Planners

The student planner is an incredibly useful device for students, teachers and parents/carers. Last year we bought planners with a new type of binding that turned out not to work at all well. This year we have changed supplier and bought a much more robust planner with a metal spiral binder. Whilst the planner meets most of our requirements, you may already have noticed a few typographical errors, especially embarrassingly on the page intended to promote good grammar! Even with the typos and our discovery that the plastic wallets are smaller than we intended, the planner remains a key tool in communications between school and home.

Please ensure you sign the planner every week and, ideally, look at it each evening. If you write a note in the planner, please remind your child to alert his or her form tutor in registration so that the information can be acted upon. Tutors check planners at least once a week, but not every planner is checked everyday.

We have emphasised to students the importance of keeping planners in good, clean condition throughout the year and will be asking students to replace any that are damaged. The cost of a replacement planner is £5. Richard Bramley

Year 11 ICT Students catch-up

Thank you to the 25 Year 11 ICT students who gave up the afternoon of what would have been the last day of their holiday. They came in to school for between 2-4 hours to ensure they were up-to-date with their controlled conditions ICT work. It's effort like this that makes a difference to final grades. Well done.

Thank you to parents for their support too.

Mr Sharples/Mr Lech

Congratulations to Christina and Hannah Smith

(Year 11) who entered the cover competition for Ryedale Show. Both girls won prizes for their section and although their designs were not chosen for next year's catalogue, the school will receive £25 in book tokens. Well done!

New Staff

On Monday we welcomed a number of new teaching and support staff to the school. The new staff are: Maren Blume (languages teacher), David Heaton (history teacher), Imogen Lloyd (second in maths), Jeni Loosley (ATS), Beth McLean (ATS), Gary Parker (ATS), Victoria Seller (PE SCITT), Anusha Simha (science subject leader), Yasmin Spencer (maths teacher), Sarah Temple (geography teacher) and Kathryn Weatherburn (technology teacher). We also welcome Helen English (teacher) and Ruth Miller (GTA) who are based at the ROOSE site on The Ropery. Diana Hammond has also re-joined the school to teach food technology in Mrs Robinson's absence.

Car park and dropping off students

If you have to bring your child to school by car, you must not use the main car park or designated school bus parking zone. In the interest of your child's safety we must ensure that he/she is not put at unnecessary risk by being dropped off in, or collected from an area in which school buses are manoeuvring. Students must be dropped off and collected from the Leisure Centre Car Park where there is a safe turning circle, or on Swainsea Lane. The school is directly accessible from the Leisure Centre. If you must park on Swainsea Lane please do not block the school entrance/exit for buses.

Please also note that the exit gates from the main school car park will be locked between 3:30 p.m. and 3:45 p.m.

PARENT FORUMS

Tuesday 21st October 2014, 6:30 pm
Tuesday 9th December 2014, 6:30 pm
Tuesday 3rd February 2015, 6:30 pm
Tuesday 17th March 2015, 6:30 pm
Tuesday 19th May 2015, 6:30 pm
Tuesday 30th June 2015, 6:30 pm

USEFUL CONTACT INFORMATION

Main School Office: 01751 472846
Attendance Officer: 01751 470065
Finance Office (ParentPay): 01751 470043
Specialist School Nurse: 01751 472652

IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday 9th September 2014

U16 Mixed Hockey, LLS 4 pm
Year 9 Netball Vs Norton, LLS 4 pm

Wednesday 10th September 2014

Sixth Form Football Vs Malton, LLS 2 pm

Thursday 11th September 2014

Years 7,8,9 Football, Norton
Year 9 Hockey Vs Norton, LLS 4 pm
Year 11 Netball Vs Norton, LLS 4 pm

Coming Up...

Monday 15th September

Years 7,9,11,12 & 13 Photographs

Wednesday 24th September

KS3 Prizegiving

See web site for full school and at a glance calendars