



Lady Lumley's School Newsletter

22nd April 2016 Issue Number 333



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

Many of you received a leaflet from Scarborough Sixth Form College in the last week promoting the college to potential students. You may have seen buses around North Yorkshire or newspaper advertisements promoting other schools and post-16 providers. These advertisements can be useful in alerting parents and young people to the available choices and we reinforce this at Lady Lumley's with the independent advice and guidance given to all students in Year 11, as well as the excellent careers guidance given throughout the school. We want our students to know what opportunities are open to them and we encourage them to visit other providers and make the most informed choice possible about their future destination. One part of making an informed choice is being able to look beyond the headlines, the banners and, most importantly, the statistics, and finding out whether the place you want to study is the right place for you. The recent leaflet had a "league table" of post-16 providers in North Yorkshire. Scarborough Sixth Form College was first and Lady Lumley's was second. Does that mean that Lady Lumley's is a better sixth form than every other school and college listed on the leaflet? Maybe we are and maybe we aren't, but this single statistic does not begin to answer that question, nor does it answer the question "is this the right place for me?". We do know the recent Ofsted report praised the sixth form provision at Lady Lumley's with learners in the school "achieving stronger overall outcomes than those achieved nationally".

The numbers quoted in the leaflet were value added scores. Value added scores are an indication of the grades students leave the school or college with at 18 compared to their starting grades at GCSE. This seems like a fair measure but we need to take care. The value added score only takes into account those students who complete the course over 2 years. What about the students who start and then leave? Were they given the wrong advice about course choice? Were they asked to leave as they were deemed 'not up to scratch'? We do not know and value added scores do not tell us. There is another statistic which does, and this is called retention rates. The retention rate tells us how many students start at AS and complete through to A2. This could be a measure of how well students are supported and guided through their 2 years and how well they are taught. From a school or college's point of view, high retention rates could adversely affect their overall figures but for the individual student staying on and passing the course is crucially important. It may be interesting to see a league table of retention rates, for example.

You could look at many statistics produced by the government to measure schools: total points score, average point score, percentage A grades etc, but none of these are like points in football league tables. Schools and colleges are measured on a whole range of factors and can choose to highlight whichever numbers they want. These numbers can only ever be a guide at best, and a smokescreen at worst. If you have a child in Year 11 this is such an important time and a time when the right decisions have to be made. If your child is taking GCSEs this year, then please visit all the potential providers and go armed with questions you want to ask: what is the quality of the teaching, what support will my son or daughter get, what grades do they need to stay on to Year 13, what has happened to previous year's students in terms of work and university? and probably many other questions pertinent to you and your child.

Wherever your child ends up, I hope they are happy and successful and I hope this article has been of some use.

Richard Bramley

Feversham Victorious in Spine-chilling Competition!

The results are now out for the winners of the creative writing competition! Lots of people entered, and had to write 100 words with a spine chilling twist.

Miss Sudlow and Mr Wilks have judged the entries and awarded 1st, 2nd and 3rd places:

1st Place: Rachel Wilkinson from Feversham with 'Verbum: The Word'

2nd Place: Stephanie Henson from Hainsworth with 'Hell's Nightmare'

3rd Place: Abbie Henry from Hainsworth with 'Dying for Love'

Points were also awarded for participation, with the overall scores being: 15 to Feversham, 14 to Hainsworth, 6 to Highfield and 3 to Acland.

We would like to congratulate all the participants for entering, and the winners for winning! Well done!



Trekking

13 GCSE PE students trekked to Rosedale via Cropton on Friday 15th April and braved the poor weather conditions to camp overnight as part of their GCSE assessment. The students had to cook their own food and of course pitch their tents in the pouring rain! The students survived the night and were very efficient packing up to start their trek back to Lady Lumley's. Well done to all the students who successfully navigated their way to and from Rosedale in tough conditions! Kerry Hammond

Leeds University Discovery Zone Trip

On Wednesday 23rd March a group of intrepid Year 8 students set off on a visit to Leeds University. After a look at the main university building, and a short tour of the campus, they were taken to the Discovery Zone where they took part in a wide variety of activities organised by the university to coincide with National Science Week.



Students test the gasses they breath out for Carbon Dioxide (with Dr Scribbins)

Sam Taylor

"We went on a science trip to Leeds University and it was really fun. We all had supervisors and did different experiments - it was so cool. My favourite activity was where we went outside and fired a rocket into the air. We spent 1 hour on the coach (approximately) and back. Dr. Scribbins and Mr. Taylor came along and there were 30 students in total and we all had a good time and we were honoured to go and I would like to go again!"

Written by Thomas Morellato



Students learn how to make a giant polymer thread



Students head outside to launch their mini rockets

students have a close look at the heart



Word of the Week - Adjacent

I chose this word as it came up in an examination paper and some students were unfamiliar with it. Adjacent means next to, close, lying near or just before or just after.

For instance "the picture on the adjacent page", "number 17 and number 19 were adjacent houses". A much less common word, but one for the pedants amongst us, is contiguous, which has a similar meaning but with more touching. According to Dictionary.com "touching along the side or boundary; in contact".

Parents' Forum - Tuesday 26th April

The meeting will focus on how you can support your child with feedback they receive during lessons, with a particular focus on written feedback in exercise books and folders. Will be great to see you there on Tuesday 26th April at 6:30pm in the sixth form café area.

Brian Davis

New Fitness Classes available from Peter Nelson Fitness

Fitness Classes are now available for children aged between 11-15. The classes are 50 minutes in duration aimed at all fitness levels and abilities, ranging from stretching sessions, indoor cycling, bootcamp and body torque.

The classes will run during the week 4:30-5:20pm every night. The trainers will be DBS checked. The classes will be £3 per person.

For further information, please contact Peter Nelson on 01751 475363 or email info@peternelsonpt.co.uk.

Peter Nelson Fitness, 18 Enterprise Way, Thornton Road (please note that these classes are not school led)

Event at Dalby Forest

Maserati Tour De Yorkshire Ride - Sunday 1st May

The Maserati Tour de Yorkshire Ride is the unique opportunity for sportive riders in the UK to experience the Tour de France legacy. The sportive in Dalby Forest for the participants of the medium and long routes will take place on the same day as the 3rd and final stage of the Tour de Yorkshire pro ride (Sunday 1st May).

For more information visit www.maserati.co.uk

USEFUL CONTACT INFORMATION

Main School Office: 01751 472846

Attendance Officer: 01751 472846

Finance Office (ParentPay): 01751 470043

Specialist School Nurse: 01609 798150/146

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 25th April

A2 art Exam (25th to 27th)

Tuesday 26th April

Parents' Forum 6:30pm

Thursday 28th April

AS Art Exam (28th to 29th)

Y6 Out of Area Roadshow, LLS 7pm

Forthcoming Events

2nd May - Bank Holiday

3rd to 5th May - A2 Photography Exams

4th to 5th May - GCSE Drama Exam Prep & Performance

6th to 9th May - AS Photography Exams

23rd May - Non Uniform Day

30th May to 3rd June - Half Term

6th to 10th June - Y7 Exams

8th to 9th June - Y6 Induction Days

14th June - GCSE Art & Photography Exhibition

21st June - Parents' Forum 6:30pm

23rd June - Sports Day

23rd to 30th June - French Exchange student in school

27th June to 1st July - Y8 Exams

30th June - Y11 Prom