



Lady Lumley's School Newsletter

15th September 2017 Issue Number 386



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

We have not yet gone through a full timetable cycle but this year already has a really good feel to it. I have met all the students in Years 7 to 11 in assemblies and I have popped in and out of quite a few lessons. Students new to the school, students new to their classes and students new to the sixth form seem to have settled well. I introduced you last week to the 10 new teaching staff who joined the school in September and they have also quickly settled into the routines of a new school.

The start of a new school year can be a daunting time. Year 7 students probably have the biggest change, alongside those joining the sixth form, especially students new to Lady Lumley's. Other year groups also face change. Year 10 students start their GCSE and BTEC courses studying the core and option subjects; sometimes subjects totally new to them such as media studies, business studies or health and social care. Some Year 10 students now have one day a week out of school following vocational courses, either at Scarborough TEC (ex-Yorkshire Coast College) or at the Academy in Norton. We are really proud at Lady Lumley's school that we have managed to maintain these vocational options for students despite financial pressures. Everything we do is about giving the students the best possible opportunities and we believe that these vocational courses are worth spending money on for our students.

In 2016 we had a significantly larger Year 7 cohort than we expected or could have planned for. This meant class sizes in last year's Year 7 approached 30, much higher than we ideally wanted. This year we have been able to put on an extra class in Year 8, meaning the maximum class size anywhere throughout Key Stage 3 is 26 students and usually a couple of students less. Lady Lumley's school has a genuine and school-wide belief in the unlimited potential of children and that is why all of our classes in Years 7, 8 and 9 are mixed in terms of prior attainment, as are the vast majority of classes in Years 10 and 11. Clearly reorganising six teaching groups into seven, smaller mixed-ability teaching groups required a great deal of thought and organisation and this took place at the end of last year. We believe strongly that smaller class sizes allow the best education for every student and there are few secondary schools in the state sector which have managed to maintain class sizes of this order. The school priorities have, and always will have, the students at the centre of everything we do. Using our limited resources to maintain such small class sizes is a visible measure of how much we care about the students at Lady Lumley's school. Whilst most students have settled extremely well into the new school year, we are aware that some have found the changes less comfortable. The school, as you know, has an excellent pastoral support system (because we have excellent pastoral staff) and they have offered support to these children and will continue to do so as long as it is necessary.

Richard Bramley

Dear Parents,

WHO'S RUNNING THIS PLACE?

"Something should be done about it." "It's a disgrace!" "How do they get away with it?" "Who makes the decisions up there?" "Why some kids but not others?"

Everybody grumbles and moans; it's the human condition. Over the last two decades, during which my four children have benefited from attending Lady Lumley's, I've heard it all.

All parents have a vested interest in the form of a child and as we all know, Hell hath no fury like a vested interest masquerading as a moral principle. However, we also all know that grumbles and moans are vapid and impotent if they are not voiced in the right place to the right people. "Somebody ought to say something about this – but whom?" Well, here's the answer – it's you, as a Parent Governor!

The school governing body, comprising local professionals and volunteer parents, discusses frankly and openly all matters of school strategy and has direct influence over matters including staff interviews, appraisals, discipline of both staff and children, finance, hirings and firings. We debate and decide democratically, topics ranging from salaries to ear piercings and scores of incredible, unpredictable, contentious and emotive issues in between.

If you feel strongly about the well-being of a thousand or so of your fellows here at Lady Lumley's, whether you currently have a child here or not, please consider joining a dozen or so of your peers and equals on the governing body, where your voice will definitely be heard and acknowledged. If you have an interest for a particular subject on the curriculum, you could become the Link Governor between that department and the Senior Management Team, to monitor and influence its development.

Do you feel strong enough, determined enough, passionate enough to speak your mind on behalf of others involved in the school? If so, your informal enquiry via the school about governor vacancies will be most welcome. What we ask of you in return is a courteous, open-minded, pragmatic approach and a couple of hours of your time per month.

With kindest regards from a fellow parent. John Cheetham, Chair of Governors



Lady Lumley's School, Pickering
Open Evening
Wednesday 4th October
18:00- 20:30



For prospective students and parents of Years 5 and 6

For further information call **01751 472846** or
email admin@ladylumleys.net

Lady Lumley's vs Eskdale Friendly Year 8 Football

Lumley's first game of the year and you could tell we were rusty because we got off to a lucky start with Eskdale coming close twice in the opening 15 minutes. However, Lumley's goalkeeper **Joe Barker** kept Lumley's in the game with a great save from a one on one. Lumley's started to improve throughout the first half with some great passing that led to the opening goal. **Morgan Elven** put a good ball in from out wide with a flick on from **Alfie Suggitt** and then to a bottom corner finish from **Wayne Kitula**. Lumley's continued to press but it was a great run from the game's man of the match, **Oliver Hesketh**, which was finished with a cheeky chip gave Lumley's a 2-0 cushion into half time. Lumley's were a lot better in the second half scoring 2 goals quickly from Oliver Hesketh and Wayne Kitula to put Lumley's 4-0 up. However, Eskdale pulled one back from a mistake from the back 4. Oliver Hesketh was running the show, who was being closely marked but he kept going to set up Wayne Kitula's hat-trick with a very good finish. The game was coming to an end with Lumley's in the lead but there was still time for a master-class from Oliver Hesketh to get his hat-trick with another amazing run to end the game on a high.

Isaac Edmond(c), Joe Barker, Joe Wood, Harrison Archer, Charlie Ridler, Duncan Barf, Joe Dawson, Matthew Brewster, Gianluca Mastrotonado, Oliver Hesketh, Billy Brewster, Morgan Elven, Alfie Suggitt, Wayne Kitula .
Report by Isaac Edmond

Word(s) of the Week

I may have said this before, but one of the exciting and intriguing things about dictionaries is the way they can lead you on a path of discovery; like an adventure where you don't know the ending. I was attempting a crossword puzzle today and came across the word **abstruse**. I wracked my brains over this word but had to admit I had no idea what it meant. I looked it up when I got home and, according to Dictionary.com it means "hard to understand, recondite, esoteric". I could cope with **esoteric** but had to check on **recondite**. Again, according to Dictionary.com recondite is an adjective meaning "dealing with the very profound, difficult or abstruse subject matter". This was getting a bit circular now, with recondite being used to explain abstruse and abstruse being used to explain recondite (and I wasn't happy with "very profound" either). I never intend to put a cap on anyone's vocabulary, but I have managed six decades without every saying abstruse or recondite (apart from today!), so the word of the week will be a word I have used; **esoteric**. Esoteric means "understood by or meant only for the select few who have special knowledge or interest". I double-checked this with the Oxford dictionaries and got the same definition. Oxford gave this example "*This has led him to an interest in the esoteric world of art restoration.*" P.S The difficulty index on Dictionary.com says "few English speakers likely know this word" for both recondite and abstruse so I don't feel too bad.

Great start to term!

First after-school netball practice of the year. Lots of students attended, 45 girls in total. The session consisted of warm-up drills and ice-breaker activities, along with matches. The sessions will run every Wednesday, 3.35pm-4.30pm. The aim will be to enhance all aspects of netball and hockey, including match play, officiating and coaching.



Gymnastics Success

Over the summer holidays gymnasts from Lady Lumley's competed in the "TeamGym British Championships" held at the Echo Arena in Liverpool.

Emily Hunt, Sian Easton and **Hannah Best** were part of a team in the women's youth competition and came a very credible fourth place, among strong competition, just missing out on a medal. **Abi Davison** and **Alice Morley** competed at the Women's Senior level and finished in fifth place, again against very high competition.

A fantastic result for all gymnasts who train with Scarborough Gymnastics Academy. Well done to all.

Study Club

Study Club is open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays each week in Learning Support 3.40-5.00 p.m. This is an opportunity for students to get help to complete their home learning.

Deadline for School Photographs

Please return order forms by **Friday 6th October** to Reception. Many thanks.

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

Upcoming Events...

Monday 18th September

House Cross Country

Tuesday 19th September

French Exchange Meeting 6 p.m.

Wednesday 20th September

Y12/13 MFL Team Building, Rosedale:
depart 1 p.m., return 21st September 8.30 a.m.

KS3 Prizegiving 6.45 for 7 p.m. Hall
Y10-13 Drama Trip, WYP – The Kite Runner
depart 5.45 p.m., return 10.30 p.m. approx

Thursday 21st September

Y12 Information Evening 6 p.m. Common Room

Friday 22nd September

Y13 DofE Gold Practice Expedition Day:
depart 9 a.m. , return 3.35 p.m.

Y11 Drama Devising Weekend:
depart 4 p.m., return 24th September 2 p.m.

Upcoming Events

25th-26th September - Chilean students in school
W/c 25th September - Y11 Geography Fieldwork
26th September - Y12/13 Drama Trip. Dixon's Academy
27th September - Y10 Information Evening
4th October - Y5/6 Open Evening
6th-13th October- French Exchange Bordeaux
11th October - Y7 Meet the Tutor Evening