



Lady Lumley's School Newsletter

3rd November 2017 Issue Number 392



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

Despite the drop in temperature and the darkness of the evenings, it has been a real pleasure to be back at work after the half-term break. The students all look smart in the green jumpers and they also seem to have returned to school with a great deal of energy and enthusiasm. I have been impressed by the students' attitude to their studies and their continuing willingness to work so well with each other and the teachers and support staff in the school. Year 11 students start their trial examinations next week, so I hope they all manage to keep away from winter colds as these examinations are essential preparation for the real thing in May and June. It is surprising, especially to the students who have experienced Year 11 before, just how quickly time passes and how few school weeks there are before the summer examinations start in earnest. I am encouraged by how many students who tell me they have started their revision already for next summer. Unfortunately not all students take the same approach and this is a real shame, as work outside school, testing and consolidating their learning, will make a huge difference to what the students will achieve next year. There is now overwhelming evidence that "cleverness" and "ability" are things you create with hard work and effort, they are not things you are born with. Every single student could do really well in the summer, and those who do are those who put in the time and effort throughout their schooling. And many of you with children in Years 10 or 11 will have received a letter from me commending the effort and positive attitude to learning of your son or daughter following the recent progress checks. Well done to all those students. Richard Bramley

Year 9 YOLO Production and Workshop

On the Friday before half term, Year 9 took part in an off-curriculum day, brought to us by the theatre in education company, An Invisible Man. In the morning, a play was performed, following the stories of two young people who had encountered difficult situations where decisions were required, and mistakes were made. We were then delivered a workshop which looked deeper into the behaviour of the characters in the play, describing and analysing different risks, both physical and emotional, and giving advice on whether these were worth taking. Topics covered were drugs, alcohol, sexual health, family relationships and internet safety. Report by Stephanie Henson



Wicked Year 11 Music Trip

On Wednesday 1st November the music exam groups went to London to see Wicked ('Defying Gravity' is one of the GCSE set works). We travelled by train to Kings Cross and with time in hand, the group went to Covent Garden to soak up the atmosphere of the cafes, shops and street entertainers before travelling to The Apollo Theatre. The matinee performance starred Sophie Evans as Glinda and Alice Fearn as Elphaba. The story, for those who don't know, concerns the story of how Elphaba became the Wicked Witch of the West in The Wizard of Oz. Poor lass was born green and suffered social rejection but fought for the rights of animals with whom she had an affinity. She and Glinda became best friends and the Wizard turns out to be Elphaba's father. Our set work is the final song of Act 1. It was really magical to see our song sung live within the context of the whole musical. As the students had already spent time studying the song they knew it well. Back at Kings Cross we had time to explore 'Platform 9 3/4' and have dinner. It was a thoroughly enjoyable day. Caroline Edmunds-Preedy

Staff member becomes a published author



Congratulations to Paul Holbrook, ATS in the Learning Support Department, who has finally hit his funding target and will be getting his new novel published.

Domini Mortum is a supernatural murder mystery novel set in the Victorian era. The novel is based in

London, York and in the village of Pluckley in Kent, the most haunted village in Britain.

Despite the fact that it is fully funded, it is still not too late to support it. A share of the profits of the book will be donated to Ryedale Special Families, a local charity which Paul also works for during the school holidays.

The book has now entered the editing and cover design phase, and will shortly be made widely

available on Amazon and other bookshops. If a thrilling Victorian Murder Mystery is your thing then take a look at

<https://unbound.co.uk/books/domini-mortum>.



Staff Training

On Tuesday we hosted a training event for newly qualified and trainee teachers from the four local secondary schools in Ryedale. 22 staff attended the session led by our head of languages, Rachel Wilson.

The focus of the session was on checking the learning in the lesson and planning for progress.

On Thursday, 8 staff attended the second day of a coaching programme led by the author and educationalist Mike Hughes.

The day is part of a three day course that has been exploring the value of staff coaching in school and how we generate professional and productive dialogue that will ultimately have an impact upon the learning in the classroom. Thursday's session focused on the effectiveness of video analysis. Staff spent the day watching and analysing their lessons with the ultimate aim of improving the learning experience of the students. The staff involved will complete a third and final day in January with a view to using the training to develop coaching across the school.



Drama News

Green Parrot Theatre (the school's upper school theatre company) worked with the Forestry Commission on Dalby Forest's Halloween event, Fear in the Forest last half term. The group created 4 short plays that were performed promenade style on Sunday 29th October. Each group performed their play fourteen times to an audience of approximately 400. They battled the elements as it was rather cold and wet but they did very well as their plays were all pretty creepy!

Auditions for Peter Pan are next Thursday (9th November) after school. All students will take part in a workshop for approximately 30 minutes and then those who would like a speaking part need to stay to perform a short monologue. Speeches are on the Drama noticeboard on the link corridor. The session will finish at 5.30pm. Sarah Goodwill

Would £200 help?

I have written before about Lady Lumley's Educational Foundation (LLEF) but it is important that all parents, carers and students are aware of the financial support that the foundation can provide for them. We are very lucky at Lady Lumley's school that LLEF exists and can help young people up to the age of 25 with costs associated with their study, their hobbies and interests or their work.

The Foundation has 9 governors and a clerk (Mr David Fitzgerald) and meets three times a year to consider requests from eligible young people. Any benefits are not means tested and the Foundation does not ask for any personal information about income or family circumstances. In the past, the Foundation has helped students with tools for apprenticeships, with specialised clothing for a job, with travel for sports training, with books for university courses, with fees for dance competition and with travel grants. There are many other examples of the way the foundation has helped young people. Any Lady Lumley's student, present and past (up to the age of 25) is eligible to apply for support from the Foundation.

To apply for support, the young person simply has to write a letter to the clerk to the foundation, Mr David Fitzgerald, c/o Lady Lumley's School. The Foundation is a separate organisation from the school and all correspondence between the young person and the Foundation is dealt with confidentially.

An example letter would look something like:

Dear Mr Fitzgerald

I am currently studying for a diploma in dance at Midtown College of dance in Birmingham. I attended Lady Lumley's sixth form and left two years ago to start my dance course. In my second year of the course I am now entering regular competitions and these cost about £100 a month. I also have to provide my own costumes and make-up and pay for hairdressing before each competition. I would be really grateful if you could help with these expenses and I can send you further details if needed.

Yours sincerely

The Foundation will look at each letter individually and usually award a grant to the young person for a proportion of the costs. I have been proud to be a Governor of Lady Lumley's Educational Foundation for 10 years as the Foundation exists to help young people and genuinely welcomes applications for support. Richard Bramley

Word of the Week - Narcissistic

I was looking after a Year 10 English lesson on Thursday and the students and I were watching excerpts of Baz Luhrmann's film adaptation of Romeo and Juliet. I could just watch and enjoy the film but the students had been given particular characters to watch out for and to analyse their roles, actions, intentions and interactions. One of the characters we met was Paris, who was a suitor of Juliet and favoured by her family as an excellent catch. The students had to find words to describe their characters and together we came up with narcissistic as an appropriate word for the character we saw in the film. Narcissistic means extremely vain or having an undue fascination with oneself. One student in the Year 10 class, William Lloyd, knew the origin of the word from Greek myths, although (as I have just found out!) the English word is more recent, coming from the German Narzissismus in the early 1800s. In the Greek myth, Narcissus was a young hunter known for his beauty. He was very proud and dismissed people who tried to love him, especially a nymph called Echo. Echo was snubbed by Narcissus and, heartbroken, faded away until only an echo sound remained of her. Nemesis (the god of retribution) heard what had happened to Echo so he lured Narcissus to a pool and when he saw his own reflection in the water he fell in love with it, not realizing it was simply an image. Narcissus was unable to leave the beauty of his reflection and he stared at his beauty until he died. Narcissus is also the name of a flower with yellow or white flowers (like a posh daffodil). Interestingly, the name of the flower has nothing to do with the Greek myth. (see next week's word of the week).

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 6th November

Y11 TRIAL EXAMS ALL WEEK

Tuesday 7th November

Y12/13 Senior Maths Challenge (in lesson)

Thursday 9th November

Y8 Online Safety Workshops (during L3)

Friday 10th November

Y8 Maths Lecture, University of Hull, 8.15-4pm

Y7 Online Safety Workshops (during L3)

Sunday 12th November

Remembrance Service, St Peter and St Paul's Church, Pickering 2-3.30pm

Upcoming Events...

13th November - Y12/13 Art Trip, Hull City of Culture 2017

13th November - Y9 'Future Engineers' Trip, National Railway Museum

14th November - Y12/13 UKMT Senior Maths Team Challenge, Fulford

15th November - Opportunity Knocks Event

16th November - Y12 Geography Fieldwork, Northallerton

16th November Y11 Prizegiving (current Y12)