



Lady Lumley's School Newsletter

26th January 2018 Issue Number 402



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

We had interviews for posts in the Advanced Teaching Support Team on Wednesday with very successful outcomes and four very impressive appointments made. Part of the interview process was a chance for students in a student panel to ask (and answer) questions in a meeting with each of the candidates. During the formal interview stage, we asked the interviewees what had been the best part of the day. Nearly all selected the meeting with the student panel, saying how good were the questions asked by the students and how confident, mature and interested the students were. Well done to **Rob Eddon, Emily Frank, Dan Morley and Esmay Richardson** and thanks to Lesanne Davison who accompanied the students during these meetings. Many thanks also to **David Corney and Jamie Winship** for providing excellent tours of the school for all the candidates during the morning.

It was the turn of St Joseph's RC Primary School last night to be visited by the Lady Lumley's Roadshow. We were warmly welcomed by Mr Eddy and ably assisted by five ex-St Joseph's students (currently our Year 7): **Keiran, Millie, George, Naomi and Alice**. The Roadshow gave the Year 6 pupils a chance to hear about life at Lady Lumley's School and to ask their year-older peers any questions they currently have. Between now and the summer there will be a visit to St Joseph's School by Lady Lumley's Staff, two induction days at Lady Lumley's and the transition evening in July, where the new students meet all the others in their tutor group. By the time the new Year 7 are in school on Tuesday 4th September they pretty much feel at home and if they have always been here.

The Newsletter is normally about what has happened in school during the last week, but, for a change, I am going to look ahead. On Saturday (tomorrow) I am going to London for the third Mixed Attainment Mathematics Conference. The first of these conferences was in January 2017 and interest has grown nationally since. We have been teaching maths at Lady Lumley's in mixed attainment groups for four years and it is wonderful to know that other schools have also 'seen the light'. I am really looking forward to hearing what other schools are doing and to find out if others are as far ahead, or even further ahead than we are. The aim of the conference is *to help form a community of teachers who share a common belief in social justice and the value of not separating children into groups according to some notion of their (fixed) 'ability.'* It is pretty much accepted that 'ability' is not something you are born with but something you develop. Many schools quote the work of Carol Dweck and the idea of a Growth Mindset. Whilst we believe this at Lady Lumley's, we are one of the few schools in the country that actually practice what we preach and put it into practice. The idea (much researched and becoming unarguable) is that we can all learn to be clever and that ability is not fixed. But if you put children into sets based on some unfounded belief of innate 'ability', you are already putting ceilings on the children's achievements and limiting what they can do. The genuine tragedy is that the vast majority of children who start school-life in bottom sets end their school-life in bottom sets. This is not accurate assessment of 'ability' as some would claim, it is a self-fulfilling prophecy. Anyway, more to come after Saturday! Richard Bramley

Global Heroes

One of the nice things about the Global Heroes displays around the school is the range of people on show, both culturally and historically varied. This time I will look more deeply at Nicholas Negroponte, who is the ICT/computing Global Hero. Whilst he is now based in the United States, he was born in Greece. He was chosen because of his One Laptop per Child initiative and his work in developing computer science. Negroponte predicted that telephones (traditionally wired) would become unwired and televisions ((unwired) would become wired, something which came true 20-odd years later. In 2005 he launched the idea of a cheap laptop which students in the developing world could use to access the Internet and help ameliorate the growing digital divide between rich and poor countries.

Nicholas was successful both academically (gaining a masters degree in architecture from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology) and in business, yet he was dyslexic and had difficulty reading.



Revision Project

On Thursday 25th January, we had the pleasure of working alongside Stephen Burke from The Invisible Man Theatre Company. While in school, Stephen interviewed a number of our sixth form students about their experiences of Year 11. Although our sixth form students were apprehensive about being interviewed on camera, they provided a very detailed account and reflection upon their experiences of Year 11. The interviews will now be edited by Stephen Burke and will form a resource for school which can be shown to subsequent Year 11 students in the coming years. The resources created will aim to help alleviate any stress and pressure that future Year 11 students may have on the journey to sitting their GCSE examinations.

Word of the Week - Amend

I went on 2 courses this week, both focused on literacy. The first on Monday evening at Pickering Infants School introduced me to Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 words. This classification has been around for ages but I was not aware of this way of classifying words. Tier 1 words are the most basic words. These words rarely require direct instruction and typically do not have multiple meanings. Examples of tier one words are: book, girl, sad, run, dog, and orange. Most students in this school will be very familiar with Tier 1 words and will use them in everyday conversation. Tier three words are the subject-specific words we meet in school e.g. *economics, isotope, asphalt, succession, revolution* and *crepe* occur in specific domains. Tier 3 words could also be specific words you meet in certain pastimes or occupations e.g. carburettor, differential, ignition, pneumatic.

We learn Tier 3 words when we need to, for instance we learn moraine when we study glaciation and the words above when we tinker with cars. Teachers are very aware that Tier 3 words need teaching explicitly and we are good at introducing and explaining keywords to students. What I found particularly interesting was Tier two words which are high frequency words that occur across a variety of domains. These words occur often in mature language situations such as adult conversations and literature, and therefore strongly influence speaking and reading. Tier 2 words often have multiple meanings, are important for reading comprehension and are used across a range of disciplines. Sometimes we forget that Tier 2 words need explicitly teaching to students, because these may not be words with which they are familiar. Those students who read a lot will probably know more of these words and will be at an advantage in school and beyond.

On the course on Monday night, we were shown a GCSE examination question with the instruction "Amend the diagram below to show ...". If you do not know what "amend" means (a Tier 2 word), the you have little chance of getting the question right. Amend means "to change for the better, to improve, to remove faults from or correct". The word comes from Latin via French, and originally meant to remove a fault. It would be really useful for parents and carers to encourage sons and daughters to read, as reading is the best way to learn new vocabulary.

Lady Lumley's Valentine's Concert - Thursday 8th February

Please do come along and support our student and staff singers and musicians as they perform a collection of love themed pieces.

The evening starts at 6.30pm and refreshments will be provided. Many thanks.

Peter Pan

This week was our first rehearsal in the hall. It was the first time on stage and the cast has settled in well and everyone has made progress. A couple of students had already learnt their lines and everyone is working really well together.

Peter Pan Rehearsal Schedule Thursday 1st February

The following cast members are required:

Storytellers, Wendy, John, Michael, Lost Boys, Peter, Tink, Pirates, Tiger Lily, Great Big Little Panther, Crocodile

We will be running through Act 2. The rehearsal will take place in the Hall, 3.40-5.30pm. Sarah Goodwill

Girls Rugby Report

The Year 7 and 8 girls went to Ryedale for their first full contact game of the season. Having not played since last year as a team, the girls performed extremely well coming away with a 7-5 win. There was some excellent tackling from **Sarah-Jane Skaife, Emily Grayson, Katie Fletcher-Varey** and **Phoebe Starbuck** and some equally brilliant tri's from **Emilia Forbes, Tallulah Starbuck** and **Emily Grayson**. Congratulations to the whole team: **Katie Fletcher-Varey, Sarah Jane Skaife, Tallulah Starbuck, Evie Mansell, Phoebe Starbuck, Bronte Ionascu, Izzy Hutchinson, Emily Grayson, Lucy Myers, Georgia Evans** and Emilia Forbes.

IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday 30th January

Y11 Poetry Live Nottingham 8.30am-5.30pm
House Mastermind Competition
Y10 District Basketball, Malton 4pm
Y10 Consultation Evening 4.30-7.30pm

Wednesday 31st January

Y11 FT CA (am)
U14 Girls District Football, Norton 1.30pm

Thursday 1st February

Y12/13 Science Live Biology Day, Manchester 8am-6pm
Y9/10/11 Intermediate Maths Challenge (in lessons)
Peter Pan Rehearsals 3.40-5.30pm
U15 Hockey Cup and Y8 Netball v Eskdale, LLS 4pm
Y7 District Basketball, Scalby 4pm

Friday 2nd February

A Level Art Exam Paper Released
Y12/13 Trial Exam Results Day

Upcoming Events...

5th February - Non Uniform Day
5th February - Y12/13 RE Trip Meeting 6pm Hi3
5th to 10th February - Y10 Battlefields Experience
5th to 6th February - Y12 Drama C2 Exam Prep Days
6th February - Staff v Sixth Form Ready Steady Cook
6th February - Y12 Drama C2 Exam Performance
7th February - Y8 Consultation Evening
8th February - Y6 Roadshow, Thornton 7pm
8th February - Lady Lumley's Music Concert
Friday 9th February - School Closes for Half Term
15th to 18th February - Y12/13 RE Trip, Krakow/Auschwitz
19th February - Students Return to School

USEFUL CONTACT INFORMATION:

Main School Office/Attendance: 01751 472846 Finance Office (ParentPay): 01751 470043