



Lady Lumley's School Newsletter

12th October 2018 Issue Number 429



NAME:

TUTOR GROUP:

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

There was a really interesting interview with Amanda Spielman, the chief inspector of Ofsted on Radio 5 on Thursday morning. Ms Spielman spoke about too many schools, 'teaching to the test' and narrowing their curriculum in order that the students, and hence the school, achieved the right grades to make the school statistics look good. Ms Spielman said she did not blame the teachers (quite rightly) and used the phrase "nobody came into teaching to get the perfect Progress 8 score". She went on to say that good teaching (and hence good learning) will always produce good outcomes, but it is possible to produce good outcomes without good learning. Unfortunately it is possible to cram students into rows, have them sit down and shut up and teach them 'what they need to know to pass the test'. We don't do that. Lady Lumley's has always believed, and I hope always will believe, that we are here for the students not the scores. We put the students at the heart of everything we do. For instance, we have an almost free choice of options in Year 9 and build the curriculum around the students' choices. We do the same at A level. We do not believe we should restrict the subjects a young person studies just because the scores she gets won't fill the right boxes or 'buckets' for the school. It was refreshing to hear Ms Spielman talk of rebalancing the Ofsted judgments to move away (if only a little) from the school's scores and to instead consider the experience of the students and whether we have actually taught them something and helped kindle a lifelong love of learning. Anyone who knows Lady Lumley's school knows that we have always said that the students and their learning come first, the results will follow. We get good results *because* of the learning, not instead of it. It is understandable why so many schools have put the cart before the horse, but it is not right for the young people who put their faith in us and, ultimately, not right for the country which requires people who can think independently, stand up for themselves and love learning for its own sake.

Richard Bramley

Outdoor Ed club

The school's outdoor education club is now fully up and we have a fantastic team of committed members (and staff!). We meet every Thursday after school and take part in a wide range of activities.

Our previous sessions have included hill walking,

kayaking and canoeing. This week the group headed off to Menethorpe on the River Derwent to complete a kayaking trip.

During the trip students learned how to turn the kayak using sweep strokes, stop the kayak efficiently and we played some games. Future weeks see us heading to the hills to take part in some mountain bike sessions. In the winter months we will meet at the school's climbing wall and develop our climbing skills.

Thanks to Miss Heyes, Mr Reynolds, Mrs Edmondson-Preedy for helping out with the club. Mr Mann.



Travel and Tourism Trip

On Tuesday 2nd October the BTEC Travel and Tourism students spent the day in Scarborough

after researching all the attractions and facilities the destination has to offer. This was part of their assignment 'Investigating the UK as a Tourism Destination'. They visited the Castle, Peasholm Park, The Open Air Theatre, North and South Bay and The Spa. For a little rest they took advantage of a group photograph with Freddie Gilroy on the South Bay promenade. Maisie Pike Y12



DofE Bronze Orientation Day 2018

We are delighted that over 50 of our Year 10 students are enrolled on the Bronze DofE programme. This was after a thorough application programme, in which students had to write a formal application letter, outlining their skills and qualities.

On Monday 8th October these students took part in their first piece of Duke of Edinburgh's training and it was an extremely busy yet valuable day. Mrs Farrell and Mr Rutherford led a hill walking session in the local hills, focusing on map and navigation skills. Miss Heyes ran a first aid course, covering the essential skills of CPR, choking and bleeding – no doubt valuable skills for any budding mountaineer. Finally, Mr Mann helped students decide on their volunteering/physical and skill activities and also led orienteering and camp craft skills. Staff were incredibly impressed with the motivation and effort that students put into the day. Mr Mann



Word Of The Week - Ambitious. I blame The Apprentice for this week's Word of the Week. The programme involves 16 very ambitious people all apparently seeking a £250,000 investment and the chance to work with Lord Sugar (or start a career in television!). An ambitious person is a person who wants to get on in the world, to be the best they can be, to succeed in life. These are all positive traits, but the word ambitious can also convey an image of someone who is selfish, who wants money and power for themselves and who doesn't care who they upset on the way. The word origin is interesting as it comes originally from the Latin *ambito* which referred to candidates for political office going round asking for votes. The word *ambulance* comes from the same root - the word actually means walking hospital. Even better is the fact the word *perambulator* (the formal word for a pram) and *amble* (a slow walk) all come from the same root. I think it is OK to be ambitious, just not too ambitious!

Thought Of The Week - "Values are the invisible threads that keep our community together."

Governor News

The governors meeting focusing on Teaching and Learning was held on Tuesday this week. It was an opportunity for Mrs Tanya Elsworth to introduce herself to the whole governing body and explain what she has done so far and what she is hoping to do in the future in her role as Assistant Headteacher and SENCo. Mrs Elsworth has settled in really well into her new job and has already made a positive impact on the school. Governors also discussed some school policies, particularly the revised school Behaviour Policy. Governors recognise that behaviour is generally excellent at Lady Lumley's School and we have wonderful students, but there are times when children do step out of line and the Behaviour Policy gives all staff guidance on how to deal with this. The policy has not changed a great deal in recent years but, following Government guidance, there is a new section on prohibited items, which, at Lady Lumley's, includes mobile phones. The new Behaviour Policy will be on the school website in a few days.

Parent Governor

Dear Parent/Carer,

You might agree that the person having the greatest influence on your child's wellbeing should be you, rather than a group of local people whom you rarely, if ever see. I certainly feel that way. If you are reading this, you are by definition, among the target group for this invitation to become a Parent Governor. As cohorts of children come and go, so too do the parental elements of the school's Governing body. Inevitably there is a regular, routine need to fill vacancies and such a vacancy exists at the moment. My fellow governors and I would welcome your enquiry about joining us if you feel you have a constructive and pragmatic contribution to make to this community; your voice will be readily heard and welcomed. If you would care to join us initially as an observer, to get a feel for proceedings, this is also entirely possible, by prior arrangement.

Can you imagine yourself interviewing new staff? Can you imagine yourself participating on a disciplinary panel? Imagine having the discretion to approve or disapprove a course of strategic action. Imagine having influence in terms of conditions, resources, facilities and funding affecting all our children and not just your own. If you feel you have something positive to say, which will benefit others, please make an informal enquiry via the Clerk to the Governors at the school, by any means that suit you.

Kindest regards
John Cheetham
Chair of Governors

French Exchange

The French Exchange returns today after a week in (mostly) sunny Bordeaux. Students have spent the week trying French cuisine and experiencing French culture with host families. Watch out next week for a full account of the Exchange from a student's point of view! Mr Heeley.



IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 15th October

w/c 15th October - Y8 Geography Fieldwork, in lesson

Tuesday 16th October

Y9 Rugby, MRFC 4 - 6PM
Y11 Consultation Evening, 4:30 - 8PM

Wednesday 17th October

Y12 Drive Alive
Y7, 8, 11 Football, LLS
Y10 PSHE Refugee Workshop, L1
Y7 Meet The Tutor Evening, 4:30 - 7PM

Thursday 18th October

Y11 Art Trip, Liverpool 7:30AM - 8:30PM
PSHE Talks, Y8 L2, Y7 L3
Y8 Rugby, MRFC 4 - 6PM

Friday 19th October

Y11/12 DofE Practise Walk

Upcoming Events...

22nd October - Non Uniform Day
23rd October - Y10 - 13 Drama Fear in the Forest Rehearsal
24th October - Y12/13 Art Trip, Manchester
25th October - KS4/5 Drama London Theatre Trip
25th October - School Closes for Half Term
26th October - Staff Training Day
31st October - Y10 - 13 Drama Fear in Forest
5th November - Students Return to School
w/c 5th November - Y11 Trial Exams
6th October - Y12/13 Senior Maths Challenge in Lessons
7th - 9th November - Y13 Geography Fieldwork
W/c 12th November - Y12 AS Geography Fieldwork
12th November - Y12/13 RE Conference
13th November - Y12/13 Senior Maths Team

Useful Contact Information:

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