



23 November 2018

Dear Parents,

On Thursday morning as I arrived to school during the early dawn I was greeted by the sight of Liverpool College Senior Girls boarding a coach to travel to Leeds. It is superb to see our girls back on the field and flying the flag in the Northern Hockey Circuit. Charlotte L B-B has written an account of the tournament and their match against Merchant Taylor's earlier in the week.

On Monday, the girls Senior Hockey team went to Northern Hockey club in Crosby after school to play Merchant Taylor's. Despite the weather being extremely cold and windy we managed to keep possession well in the first half scoring three goals. At half time we were impressed with how we had performed so far and went into the second half with some great pointers that we had all agreed we could work better on. However, Merchant Taylor's came back as a fighting force placing tackles against our Centre midfield Gabriella. We continued in the second half to display great effort keeping position and winning some great tackles.

In the last minute of the game Merchant Taylor's won a short corner and with the score being 3-2 to us this was a very tense moment. Merchant Taylor's took a straight strike which went above the backboard causing members of our team to signal for the Umpire to blow the whistle. From this the Merchant Taylor's ball went into the back of the net - however our team felt it should be disallowed.

We played a great game of Hockey and represented our school respectfully which I feel we should be very proud of.

Furthermore on Thursday, the Hockey team travelled to Leeds University after making it through to play in the U18 tier 4 Northern Finals Tournament. Even though the girls had to arrive at school for 7.30am and play four games in very cold, wet and windy conditions against four private schools who train multiple times a week, they brought their confidence, passion, enthusiasm and sense of humour with them. We played against Pocklington, Merchant Taylor's, BSC and St Peter's. All were quite difficult matches with many of the opposing players holding Honours for County and some for Country. We as a team displayed some great defensive skills with great tackling and pressure. We also had some great attacking opportunities and it has become clear we have a team with many players possessing a strong hit and ability to use some great elimination skills.

We returned to Liverpool at 7.30pm. This is great commitment from a team so thank you to all the girls who played; you all presented and played to the best of your ability and it turned out to be an all-round superb day.

It is clearly evident we are improving as a team as the weeks go on and hopefully in the future we will see a more wins, which we clearly deserve. Well done girls!

The Rugby juggernaut continues its journey forcing a defeat on Stoke's finest. Adam M has included his account as well as the Saturday fixture from the IOM tour. Nicholas P makes his journalistic debut with an assessment of the second team fixture in the IOM.

Rugby:

Nicholas P reports:

My last Isle of Man tour resulted in a 12-12 tie. The wind and rain was biblical and we kept the ball in the forwards driving up the pitch resulting in Ryan H getting a try. This was followed by a 50 metre run from Matthew S to get our second. We battled hard in defence and our intensity caused King William to knock the ball on multiple times. However our best wasn't enough and King William scored in the last few seconds of the game bringing the game to a draw. I am extremely proud of the Year 11's who stepped up and played their hearts out along with some new rugby players in the Sixth Form. It is safe to say that next year's first team will contain some serious talent.

Adam M reports:

Newcastle Under-Lyme: 29-17

Another week, another victory for our first team. Admittedly not the best performance of the season by any stretch of the imagination, but a win nevertheless. Although the devastating, fast paced moves, which have been the predominant reason for our incredible recent vein of form were not quite right, our dominance in the scrums and close quarters showed we were the superior side.

An underwhelming first half was made up for with a more recognisable performance after half time. The backs turned on the flare which has blown away so many teams this year and by the end of the game it was clear there was only ever going to be one winner.

There are improvements still to be made – even though we are on a fantastic seven game unbeaten run, Newcastle Under-Lyme proved we cannot become complacent, especially with a semi-final just around the corner.

Isle Of Man School's Combined Developed Squad: 36-20

Saturday's game was more suitable for our style of play. A dry and bright day allowed us to play the fast moving rugby which has been the catalyst behind our strong recent form. Considering the tiredness still in everyone from the game the day before we performed extremely well, scoring five fantastic tries. Going unbeaten on an Isle of Man trip is a very good accomplishment for our team, and carries on our unbeaten record to six in a row.

Man of the Match: Joe F.

A parent commented to me during the week about how wonderful it is to have so many Sixth Form students contributing articles to the weekly Newsletter. In that vein we have an article written by Eleanor H entitled 'A Week in the life of The Head Girl'.

Monday brought a controversial draw in a Hockey match against Merchant Taylors. We played brilliantly and it was great to see players from different year groups work together seamlessly, as though they had been playing together for years! The following day I had a lesson in Child Language Acquisition with Miss Nixon, discussing theory surrounding the nature vs. nurture debate in their linguistic development. I also had a lesson with Mr Barnicoat in which we debated upon blame and deception within John Milton's Paradise Lost. After a Hockey activities session in school, I made my way to my Hockey club's training and saved some shots in the harsh cold.

On Wednesday, after playing more Hockey during games, I had a driving lesson where I tried to conquer manoeuvres. I don't think reverse parking is my forte at the moment!

I arrived home and we celebrated my Dad's birthday and then I revised a couple of my English Literature texts in time for December's looming Trial examinations.

Lessons with Mrs Gimeno and Mr McAlea on Thursday gave me an insight into the intricate structure of Spanish grammar as well as the role of men within Lorca's famous play that we currently study, 'House of Bernarda Alba'.

Within activities I helped collate articles for the Sixth Form Chronicle. We have some really interesting articles coming up for next half-term's edition, but we have recently published our first edition with articles on technology, friendship, breeds of dog as well as our classic page of fun!

I went home to plan my revision for the following weeks, with Friday morning bringing an interesting lesson with Dr Atkins on Scouse phonology. Who would have thought our home dialect had so many different words for 'man?'

The weekend is going to be filled with more Hockey, as I play for my club on Saturday and for South Lancashire U21 in a tournament on Sunday. Hopefully I can achieve some great results home and away!

Gold DoE

On Tuesday I travel to St James' Palace to meet up with our former students who have achieved their Gold DOE. Their awards will be presented by HRH the Earl of Wessex. I am attending in my role as Head of Sixth Form.

Miss Wynne will also attend in her capacity as a member of staff for over a decade who has worked throughout the school holiday period and at weekends to ensure that all our young men and women have the opportunity to achieve this very special award. Efforts from staff like Miss Wynne ensure that these opportunities exist at the College.

Y12 Parents' Evening: Wednesday, 28 November 3.30 – 6.00 pm

We have great opportunity on Wednesday to discuss the progress made by our Year 12 as they draw to end of the first term of their A level studies. We hope many of you can attend this important meeting.

As a teacher of History and someone who enjoys political debate, I cannot help but reflect upon events that are occurring in our country and my fear for the future as we embark upon our break from Europe.

History does seem to be repeating itself as in the early 1530s Henry VIII had a considerable legal problem. Only the Pope could grant him a divorce, but Clement VII was unwilling to do so. The case coincided with a widespread feeling in England that too many cases were being decided in Europe, which ought properly to be settled at home. Thus Thomas Cromwell initiated our first *Brexit* through the 1533 Act in Restraints of Appeals; prohibiting all appeals to Rome. Many argue that this resulted in the foundation stone for establishing the era of 'Gloriana Britannia'.

However, the contrasting view from those wishing to remain in the EU is that leaving, or a harsh Brexit will cause a disunited Europe and have an impact which resonates to events that occurred in the 1930s and 1940s. Mr Churchill saw the future of Europe in a vision not dissimilar to that which we see today in which 'parle' and integration are values that far exceed the individual state and Nationalism.

The essence of my missive is that our Sixth Form students have choices to make that will indeed affect their life journey, which can have an impact for decades to come. Therefore it is essential that we guide and support as much as we can. In that vein we invited YPAS <http://www.ypas.org.uk/> which is a youth mental health organisation to speak to our Sixth Form about how to develop resilience techniques and seek support as they cope with the months and years ahead.

It may be cliché but it is a truth that I hope is universally known that our door is always open as your son or daughter may be struggling to decide upon which path to take. Whether it is their school work, career aspirations, psychological or societal issues, we are all here to help.

Just as with Brexit, I don't have a crystal ball, but my colleagues and I do have decades of experience in education and dealing with young people that can be used to help guide your son or daughter through the Spaghetti Junction of life.

Kind regards,

Stephen Brady
Head of Sixth Form