

9 November 2018

Dear Parents,

On Wednesday William R and Melina B travelled to Poland for the regional schools day trip to Auschwitz. The students returned with an understanding of conflict, genocide and the sheer horror of war with a renewed understanding. William's account is well written reflecting the emotion of the event:

The word that can best give this experience justice is *harrowing*. All the information, stories and pictures that I have heard and seen could not prepare me for the oppressive and bleak landscape that awaited me behind the 'Arbeit Macht Frei' gates. I believe that only when you see the conditions, the labour and the punishment these poor innocent souls endured at the hands of a malevolent and malicious ideology, can you receive a glimpse into the lives of the Jews that lived and died there.

A particular image that I cannot remove from my mind is the room of hair. This room contained the simple yet prized possession of 140,000 Jewish girls. It stuck out in my mind because it reminded me of the things in my life that seem so simple at first but in reality are deeply significant. For many of us, our hair is our identity and it is a way of expressing ourselves and especially for women, hair is something they treasure very deeply. For it to be shaved off in a matter of moments, completely ridding you of any individuality and uniqueness turns my stomach.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude towards the school and the LFA group for giving myself and Melina the opportunity to visit to what I consider the most important historical site in the world.

Rugby

On the subject of Remembrance our Head Boy and Captain of Rugby along with a squad of 38 will be laying a wreath at King William's College Isle of Man as part of their Remembrance Day service. The boys will then play a 2nd and 1st team fixture against KWC.

The following day they will play the 'Island team' both at 1st and 2nd XV. We wish them every success and thank the staff and coaches for their time to facilitate the mini-tour.

The Rugby squad continue their march through the region's rugby scene by recording a record breaking victory over our nemesis, St Edward's College from West Derby.

Adam M writes his account about this exceptional win:

St Edward's: 55-0 Victory (H)

Our first team's fantastic form reached another height at the weekend when they convincingly dispatched our local rivals in yet another excellent display. The running theme of the past few months is that the boys go out incredibly focused, set the tone very quickly with huge tackles and impressive runs, then see the games out towards the end of the matches with fantastic composure; this game followed that script.

Mr Green, Liverpool College's loyal Groundskeeper for over 25 years, told our Captain that this is possibly the most enjoyable 1st XV he's ever watched and that the team ethic and quality of play is something he's rarely seen reach such heights. This puts us in good confidence for our much awaited trip to Isle of Man for the coming weekend where we hope to pick another win at a ground we historically struggle at.

Lecture

Today we enjoyed a lecture from CND. They highlighted many of the threats and issues that face our planet and fear that nuclear proliferation could occur is as big an issue as it was in the years of the Cold War.

DoE

I reported last week that the Year 12 Gold DoE students enjoyed a week of leadership training and undertook an expedition in which they tested their skills. Our thanks to Mr Ridley and his team for organising this excellent week. Brendan R has constructed this brief précis:

During the October half-term, 15 students descended upon the beautifully rural Lake District to carry out both our Gold DoE training and practice. We spent the first three days of our 6-day expedition training in Warcop military base learning key skills such as bearing taking, orienteering and meal prep which were to be applied during the expedition. After learning the skills in the class room, we went out to the mountainous areas of the Lake District to practice said skills. On the final 3 days we carried out our practice expedition unaccompanied in aesthetically breath-taking areas of British countryside such as Ullswater, spending two nights wild camping, and one night in an area inhabited with wild deer. During the days we reached peaks as high as 800 metres and trekked across ancient Roman roads. We learned valuable skills and made new friendships. The week was rounded off with a well-deserved stop at McDonalds before returning to school.

Art Trip to London

Our Art students enjoyed a day in London last week, experiencing the works of the greatest Modern Artists of our time. An Old Boy from the school I attended once stated 'When man is tired of London, he is tired of life; for there is in London all that life can afford.' (Oscar Wilde) highlighting the energy and the culture of our great capital city. Heather C enforces this view in her critique about their trip:

On the 31st of October, Miss McWatt and her Sixth Form Art students set off to London town. After the perils of trying to navigate thirteen students through the London underground, Miss McWatt led us to the Royal Academy to see the Oceania exhibition. Marking 250 years since the first voyage across the Pacific, the rooms showcased historic, indigenous art, sculpture and artefacts.

Seeing such skill and craftsmanship in art forms created such a long time ago struck many of us as incredible, particularly the carvings with the knowledge they had been created purely as religious or cultural celebrations or objects.

After a brief supermarket food stop, we strolled on to our second gallery through the streets, enabling us to take in the city. The Saatchi Gallery was hosting the 'Instillation Shot - Black Mirror: Art as a Social Satire' which is an exhibition looking at multiple artists exploring different social aspects from faith and atonement to the American dream and the destruction of beauty. Personally, the abstract nature of the works did not appeal; however the reasoning behind them was a profound source of interest and stimulation for all.

Finally, we attended the V&A Frida Kahlo 'Making Herself Up' exhibition, of which we were greatly privileged to have tickets for, as it had since sold out completely. By far the favourite gallery, it displayed some of Kahlo's works, but also detailed the rather harrowing details of her pain riddled, revolutionary and communist lifestyle.

Alongside stunning artistic pieces, only really acquiring fame after her death, her wardrobe and private life were included, showing how she valued art in all aspects of her existence. It showed how she used art to help her through impossible times. The information featured how she contracted polio at the mere age of six and how it savaged her right leg and then how, in her teens, she was involved in a tram/vehicle collision in which her spine was severely damaged. Throughout all of the suffering, Frida continued to paint, lying on her back strapped down to her sick bed as she used different contraptions to hold her canvas above her.

Frida Kahlo's dedication and finding solace in art hit home with all of us and I know that I personally feel inspired by her to keep on with my artistic journey, hopefully leading to an artistic career, despite what may rear its head to block the way.

Moved and exhausted, the majority of us ate at Wagamama restaurant before our journey home. This was a most amazing and encouraging trip and we thank Miss McWatt for taking us.

16-19 Bursary

The 16-19 Bursary scheme is designed to help support those students who face the greatest barriers to continuing in education and training post-16. Applications can be made throughout the academic year as financial or home situations change.

Mrs Hayes chayes@liverpoolcollege.org.uk our Sixth Form Manager has asked me to include the application process for students and families who need additional help towards their Sixth Form education. Please refer to the link to the College website:

<http://www.liverpoolcollege.org.uk/sixth-form/about-our-sixth-form/16-19-bursary>

Attendance

Thank you for continuing to use the e-mail address assigned to your son or daughter's **House** to contact the House Administrator regarding reasons for lateness or absence on the first day and that you provide medical notes to cover extended periods of absence.

House	E-mail	Telephone	Extension	House Administrator
Brook's	brooks@liverpoolcollege.org.uk	0151 724 4000	3247	Mrs Davies
Butler's	butlers@liverpoolcollege.org.uk		3232	Mrs Crute-Jain
Howard's	howards@liverpoolcollege.org.uk		3280	Mrs Bradley
Howson's	howsons@liverpoolcollege.org.uk		3247	Mrs Davies
School's	school@liverpoolcollege.org.uk		3280	Mrs Bradley
Selwyn's	selwyns@liverpoolcollege.org.uk		3232	Mrs Crute-Jain

Work Experience

As we light our fires and crank up the central heating the summer seems so very far from our minds. However Dr McNamara jmcmamara@liverpoolcollege.org.uk is preparing the work experience forms for our current Year 12 in which they embark on this most valuable of times in the penultimate week of the summer term. The forms will be available from next week.

Extended Project Qualification

There has been a change of emphasis for year 12 re their EPQ. All work will be completed by the end of the summer term with the presentation day set for the 12th July. We will formally launch the EPQ at the end of November when we have completed the current cycle for the present Year 13.

Remembrance Day Service

On Sunday a great percentage of the school will attend our Remembrance Day service. The Head Boy and Head Girl, as well as many involved in key elements of the service and parade are students from our Sixth Form. I am sure they will lead the service with the dignity that the 'fallen' deserve.

Gladstone Scholars

On Wednesday 14th November the Gladstone Scholars are required to work as ambassadors at our Sixth Form Open Evening to encourage students from the College plus students from other schools in the city to attend our 'Outstanding' Sixth Form.

Kind regards,

Stephen Brady

Head of Sixth Form