
Principal's Newsletter

13 March 2020

Dear Parents,

May I refer you to sources of guidance provided to schools and the public about COVID-19 (coronavirus):

Government Guidance and Information:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

NHS Guidance:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Public Health England Stay at Home Guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

There is also a **Department for Education helpline** to answer questions about coronavirus for staff, parents and young people:

- Phone: 0800 046 8687.
- Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk
- Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

It is important that every parent read and act upon the guidance. The main guidance emphasised is for everyone to wash their hands regularly throughout the day, for at least 20 seconds, with soap and warm water. We should all avoid touching our faces unless we have just washed our hands.

Liverpool College is following all guidance and is also engaged in some contingency planning. For example, we are preparing on- line learning materials in the event that pupils or staff need to self-isolate or in the event that at some future time the government issues guidance that schools should close. At LC Time today in the secondary phase, house mentors will be reviewing some IT planning with pupils.

The ski trip to Italy has been cancelled.

Currently there are no cancellations of any school events. We will keep you posted if this changes by emailing you directly and through information on our website. This includes notifications of cancellation of any trips.

In light of this momentous week, it seems incredible now to remember that we were inspected by Ofsted for three days earlier in the week. Indeed, it all seems a blur now, and so very long ago. On this occasion we were subject to a routine social care inspection of our boarding provision. I would like to express my formal gratitude to Ms Nolan and Mr Brady as well as all the boarders and the entire boarding team and school colleagues for their sterling efforts during the inspection. We have had informal verbal feedback from the inspector and we await the report.

The curriculum for early years is going to focus on instilling and developing a pupil's ability to delay gratification. Indeed, there is evidence that the ability of any person to delay gratification is essential to their success and happiness. This insight will be immediately recognized by all parents. Apparently, if you can resist immediately seizing and eating a presented sweet at age 4, because you have been promised that if you do, you will get more sweets later, you will succeed. We are all extremely curious about how this virtue or trait will be taught or assessed. I suppose it is a version of Learning with Character.

My thanks to Ms Brooke in the Prep. Her work on our pursuit of the writing charter mark is really impressive, innovative, and full of purpose, passion and challenge. Writing more and writing better is for many pupils a challenge not unrelated to the delay of personal gratification. A love of writing is per se an expression of the ability to delay gratification, to work systematically to create something, to focus. We are aiming to develop a curriculum where all our pupils will know more, remember more and write more than the national curriculum requires.

Because of the expansion of the primary phase of the school next year, we are interviewing for a new Prep School teacher.

The CCF held its field day in much better weather. Next week, we are due to have our CCF inspection.

Sport also continues unabated. We have some big rugby matches coming up next week, including two Lancashire Plate semi-finals for the U14 and U15 teams. The U13s will be playing in a sevens rugby tournament.

The primary/middle school co production of *Popstars* is in its final stages of preparation for performance next week.

Our long serving caterers, P&A Food Management have been purchased by another company. The new company, Dolce Ltd, is a family run catering company based in Yorkshire. It employs over 2,000 people and provides a catering service to some 500 schools and colleges across the country. The P&A staff will transfer to the new company so this will

ensure that the quality and range of services provided will not be disrupted. The Managing Director of Dolce has already visited school and we are confident that the school and Dolce can work on forging a new partnership which will serve to improve services even further. There will be no changes to the means of payment for meals so processes and services will continue without disruption.

May I wish you and yours a safe and sunny weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Mr H van Mourik Broekman
Principal