

Principal's Newsletter

8 December 2023

Dear Parents,

Happy Hanukkah.

I neglected in last week's newsletter to report on Mr Ridley's GCSE RS Chapter 10 class' visit across the road to St. Anthony of Padua. It is wonderful that we are able for the first time in more than a decade to offer, by popular demand, this additional GCSE in our curriculum. The pupils are very excited about their learning in this subject which includes ethical studies and the studies of different religions and religious preferences. The closing of Queens Drive, which has led to road rage and traffic delays, in this instance provides a very peaceful path to our neighbours the Franciscans. Fr Terence introduced the pupils to the church and answered questions about Franciscan life. More visits are planned to mosque, synagogue and hopefully temple.

There are always surprises in terms of everything that the school offers. One can now attend shooting club, surely a club which not many schools can support. It meets after school through the good offices of our CCF and in our shooting range. The last time I was invited to participate I assumed the prone marksman position and fired at the target some distance away. A Chapter 10 pupil next to me showed me her results, 5 bullseyes, while I could not seem to find evidence of hitting my target. Her wry smile remains an abiding image.

Early in the week we welcomed Mr Tegg, formerly of our Prep School, who was visiting to support the development of our phonics and reading programmes. There is a marvellous experience of the speed and thrill of learning in the Pre Prep, as pupils in Reception begin to read words, sound out phrases, and embark on the wonderful journey of reading books. The organisation of this feast of education continues to impress.

The next day I stumbled upon an unusual sight. Gathered in Mr Chalmers reception class were a large crowd of pupils and Ms Russell Moore was vigorously gesturing the motions to accompany the songs. Here was a glimpse at the preparation for the drama to be presented for Christmas by the Pre Prep pupils, all of them with various singing and speaking parts. Later in the week, they had gathered their various companies in the hall to rehearse in situ. It promises to be quite the show.

We need to mention of course the next week of activities. The boarders have their Christmas dinner while Christingles happen for the primary phase and the secondary phase have their service of lessons and carols. Next Saturday (16 December) is the PTA Christmas Market. The schedule is full and will take us into the holiday season.

One of the highlights of the Christmas Market, along with the Preplings choir, will be the performances of the LC Productions Panto *Cinders*, as Mrs Harper reports:



Panto preparations are in full swing...oh yes they are!

The cast and crew (a cross phase collaboration) will be performing 7 shows over 2 days on 15 and 16 December. 'Cinders' is fun, fast and full of joy.

The talented Mrs Hardisty has been busy designing and painting our wonderful set and not forgetting our talented Mr Jones who's constructing the set. We also have some special guests taking on the role of the 'ugly sisters'.

Tickets can be purchased following this link

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/events/landing/50561>

Pantomime has been part of our Chapter 9 curriculum this year and has its roots in 'Commedia dell 'Arte', - 16th century Italian entertainment which used dance, music, acrobatics, not forgetting stock characters. Our Chapter 7 pupils have been exploring 'Commedia dell 'Arte', this term in their drama curriculum and what fun we've had.

Meanwhile Chapter 11 have enjoyed a successful Drama theatre trip on Thursday afternoon to watch 'Woman in Black' at the Playhouse - we had a 'frightfully' good time.

Liverpool College PTA
Christmas Market
Saturday 16th December
12-5pm
Liverpool College MV Hall (entrance via Prep car park), Queens Drive, Mossley Hill, L18 8BG

Featuring
LC Productions Panto
Cinders

Come and join us!

Featuring lots of lovely stalls and gift ideas, as well as hot and cold drinks, raffle, tombola, refreshments, face painting, Preplings Choir and Santa's Grotto.

For more information about the **PTA Christmas Market** and to purchase your tickets, please click here <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/50561>

CHARITY ACTION GROUP

Whitechapel Christmas Appeal

DONATION WISH LIST

- Chocolate selection boxes
- NEW Pyjamas, boxers & socks
- Toiletry gift sets
- Hats, scarves & gloves
- Christmas food treats
- Stocking fillers

Collection Points

Student Services
Sixth Form Office

Collection ends
Tue 12th Dec

A reminder of the Christmas appeal launched by our pupil charity action group for the Whitechapel Centre. The collection finishes on Tuesday 12 December.

Thank you for your support.

Our primary pupils have also been busy supporting local charities as our chaplaincy team describe:



The Mini Vinnies, a group in Prep interested in helping others - the motto is 'see-think-do' - recently began a year-long foodbank collection in Prep to highlight how important foodbanks are in our city. They visited the South Liverpool Foodbank at Bridge Chapel and learned how the foodbank helps individuals and families who struggle with hunger and other issues. The Mini Vinnies brought along food collected from Chapter 4 families. They also presented a Reflection on foodbanks to the Prep School. Thank you to the South Liverpool Foodbank for welcoming us so warmly! Thank you to Prep families for supporting our year-long foodbank collection especially at Christmas time.

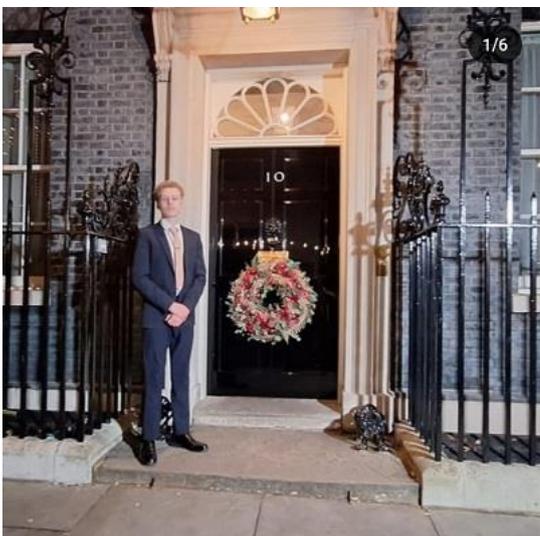
One of the absolute highlights of the term so far has been the inclusive project work undertaken by Mr Sani and Ms Odita-Sani. They have researched, edited, and produced around 40 poster sized portraits of famous Liverpudlians, many with an association to our school and our surrounding neighbourhoods, who are people of colour. The walls of our school will begin to mirror the diversity of our school community and give some concrete form to our journey to become more inclusive, multi-faith and anti-racist. The plan is to invite staff and others to select locations for these portraits and to, wherever possible, invite those whose portraits hang in our school, to come speak to our pupils.



This week's **musicians of the week** are Riley A and Oliver F (Ch9) who excel in BPM rehearsals every week; trying new instruments, willing to give up the instrument they're currently playing to let newer members of the orchestra try them out, excellent musicianship and all round excellent example as music scholars to younger pupils. Well done! Riley, in a very short space of time, has mastered our newly purchased *Temple Blocks* (pictured) which will feature in Tuesday evening's service of Lessons and Carols at Mossley Hill Church, 12th December, 7pm.

Some Chapter reflections are now being delivered by pupils themselves, with, frankly, as yet varying degrees of success. Every pupil needs to learn to stand up, alone or in a group, and present something to others, especially insights, ideas, beliefs, and dreams which are important to them. An excellent example of what can be done was provided by Chapter 12 Howson's, Mr Hutchinson's form, in their reflection on motivation. The mystery of what motivates, why some are motivated and others not, and what to do about it, was here beautifully discussed and presented. It can be done!

Congratulations to Khan O (Ch12) who was recently invited to 10 Downing Street, as he explains below:

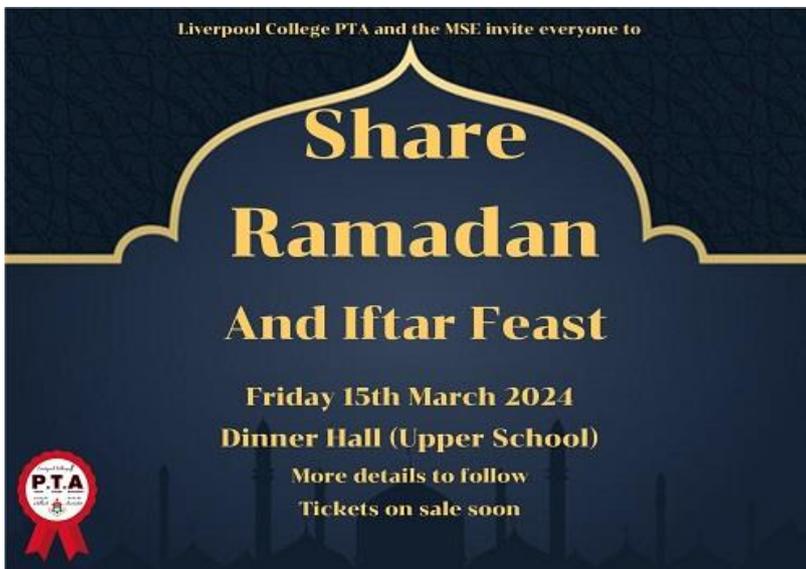


It was surreal to be at such a historical place. I was invited to the Downing Street Festive Market off the back of my award from the PM earlier this year for my community work and activism. Arriving at 2pm the House of Commons had already sat and left but I managed to watch the House of Lords. They were debating cutting off NHS prescriptions for those classed as jobseekers who aren't seeking jobs. The 'upper chamber' (Lords) is highly detailed, everything is pattered, carved or engraved. The statues situated in the walls are the most realistic I have ever seen and the entire building has an aura of authority and elitism (I say in the best way possible).

I shortly after went to the Downing Street gates and after extensive checks my mum and I were allowed to enter. The market was packed with stalls and people and a real festive atmosphere. I enjoyed taking it all in and it was surreal to see the famous door and who entered from it. I chatted to the Prime Minister and he thanked me for my service! The London Gospel choir put on a great performance and really lifted the atmosphere. I thoroughly enjoyed my time and I have no doubt it will aid me in my A-levels.

Our parent information evening was not well attended and we might have presented a medal to the handful of parents who did attend and bring some good points to our attention. We discussed how we might further disseminate information shared at these meetings and agreed that future "winter ones" might best be done online, although there was much gratitude and support for continuing face to face opportunities also.

In addition to the Christmas Market, the **PTA** are also busy planning two big events for later in the school year:



Share Ramadan: LC PTA, along with the MSE (Muslim Student Experience), invite you and your family to join our community in a day of fasting, to share Ramadan spiritually as part of a day in your lives, and to celebrate with a feast together.

LC's Got Talent: We would like to announce an event that we've been itching to get the green light for - LC's Got Talent!! This event is a mixture of X Factor meets BGT - Liverpool College style. With auditions available to everyone, from Pre Prep to Seniors, as well as staff (our staff have some AMAZING talents!), this will be an epic end to the summer term! More details will follow in the new year, but start practising now.



Our Chapter 9 rugby team continues to impress. They travelled to Merchant Taylors and set their team aside with a convincing win and have now advanced to the quarter finals of the Lancashire Cup. Tomorrow weather gods permitting we will play a big hockey block against St Edwards.

May I wish you and yours a dry and pleasant weekend

Yours sincerely,

Mr H van Mourik Broekman
Principal