

Principal's Newsletter

12 January 2024

Dear Parents,

And we are back.

This short week has banished any memory of the rainy Christmas holidays. Cold, clear, brisk, bright, we have returned to tackle the lent term. In Ms Fee's reception class this has meant the appearance of several pupils in super hero outfits and the sharing of many exciting stories about gifts received, family visited, and even in many cases travel far and wide.

Mr Stamper and his Chapter 4 team have invited staff at school to give them a task, any service or job the school needs doing as part of their LC+ curriculum. Their first LC+ effort was the repair and restoration of the cover in the Forest School. It required an entire class to fold and deal with this problem. I am confident they will have plenty of work on our 28 acre campus.

All week long, the Muslim Student Experience, a student group in the sixth form supported by Ms Ali, has been leading reflection assemblies. They were very well prepared and well delivered presentations on Islamophobia: its causes, its effects, and the way we can all work together to fight against it. Alhusain E and Myar B from Chapter 12 spoke convincingly. Now the group is partnering with our indefatigable PTA to work on a large, inclusive, and whole school Iftar evening on Friday 15 March (further details below) It is always gratifying when pupils take initiatives, supported by staff and improve their school.

It is in this spirit that Ms Kelly's anti-racism group is about to do several weeks of assembly presentations. They plan to have pupils presenting, speaking about their experience, and teaching each other. This will be effective and inspirational.

Congratulations to Ruth M (Ch13). Oxford announced their offers to candidates on the first day back to school. Ruth was offered a place to read Linguistics Psychology and Philosophy, a course on which only 17 are admitted at St John's College. She already has so many high grades in A level qualifications that her offer consisted of a solitary A. We are all confident she will be at Oxford next year. The Cambridge interviewees now face a two week wait before they find out whether they have been made offers.

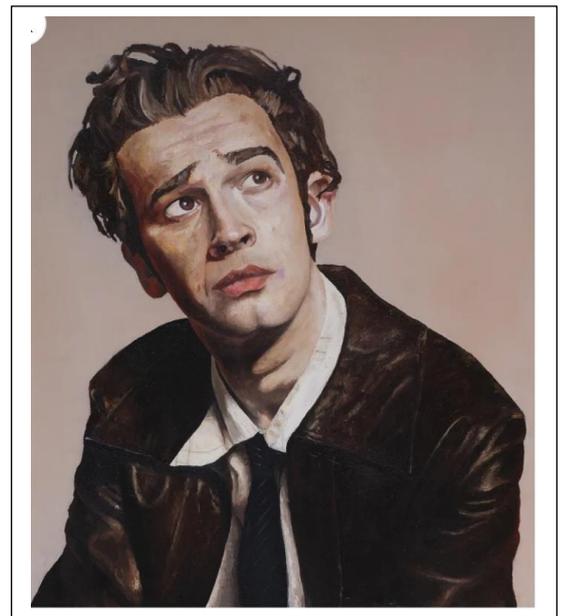
Congratulations also to our debating team. There is Klopp in football, and our very own mastermind coach Barnicoat in debating. Our teams of superstar debaters combine Scouse sass with teamwork, intelligence, research and forensic aggression. They are now Northwest Winners of the Ethics Cup moving on to the national final. Particularly pleasing is who they beat along the way. Manchester Grammar brought the full intellectual force one associates with that fine school, but the fact is that our teamwork overcame any individual brilliance. Well done to the team.

Mr Bishop has announced the first of this term's **musicians of the week**:



Pupils from Chapter 8 make up this week's musicians of the week. Finn S has worked extremely hard on his classroom keyboard practice, pulling off an excellent performance this week. Eva B and Valentin B have worked hard on perfecting some quite tricky harmonies in one of their songs for Not Quite a High School Musical which is to be performed by pupils from KS2 and 3 at the end of this term. Rehearsals are now in the final stage for Half a Sixpence which will be performed at the start of February by pupils in the secondary phase - keep an eye out for tickets!

Dylan D (Ch13) is a well-known LerpooLian whose artistic bent has now led him into the commercial realm in support of charity. A fine art print of Dylan's portrait of Matty Healy of the 1975 has been created and is being sold to raise funds for *War Child*. This stunning portrait reminds us all of the talent on this campus. Regular readers of this newsletter may also recognise the painting as it featured in our **artist of the week** section in May last year. One would think that such skills mean he only focuses on art, but Dylan has always played rugby and made music. He exemplifies what sixth form at the College is about.



Mr Harvey reports on an exciting musical initiative in support of the Organ Restoration Fund:

The 13 January sees the launch of a series of Virtual Organ Recitals, which is another part of the Organ Restoration Fund project. These recitals will show off the wonderful colours and sounds of the Chapel organ in all its glory. The recitals will lead up towards our second Organ Gala Concert in April!

Our first recitalist is Tim Harvey, former Director of Music of Liverpool College performing works by Greene, Telemann, Parry and Lefébure-Wély.

Keep an eye out on the Liverpool College Music YouTube channel where the recitals will be streamed @liverpoolcollegemusic

For further information about the Organ Restoration Fund project, please contact Mr Harvey via: lharvey@liverpoolcollege.org.uk



PTA Update



Share Ramadan

Share Ramadan tickets are now on sale via <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/liverpool-college-pta/t-yamavem>. Come and join our Muslim community as they break their fast at sundown on Friday 15th March from 5.30pm (time tbc based on sunset), learn in a fun way about Ramadan, enjoy a delicious cuisine suitable for all, from kebabs, chicken and samosas to ice cream, biriyani, pizza and so much more!

Mr Griffith took some pictures this morning of our new senior school build. Before the new can be built, the old needed to be cleared. Because of fencing it sometimes feels like nothing is happening back there. Work is more than a year delayed through no fault of ours, but it does look, from these images like we will get there. The seven classrooms and 20 toilets are desperately needed. It will be gratifying to see this much needed building rise over the next few months. Completion is anticipated in November.



Mrs Crook (SENCO) has asked me to share some training opportunities for parents led by Liverpool's ASD Training Team – please click on the links below for further information.

- [January and February course](#)
- [February half term course](#)

Rugby fires up again tomorrow as we play St Edwards. Hopefully the frost stays away.

May I wish you a warm and dry weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Mr H van Mourik Broekman
Principal