
Principal's Newsletter

13 April 2018

Dear Parents,

Advance notice of an **INSET afternoon** this Wednesday, 18 April. You have already received an email about this, but a reminder that **school will finish at 1pm that day (12.45pm in Pre Prep)**. Pre Prep and Prep School pupils will have their lunchtime as normal. Pupils in the Senior School will be dismissed immediately after period 4 at 1pm so will not have a school lunch that day. There are no afternoon lessons in any part of the school that day and no after school provision. School buses will leave school at 1.15pm.

Gambling so the father of the dismal science Adam Smith tells us is a tax on fools.

After the spin of the equine roulette wheel at Aintree this weekend punters tell me it will be the flat season. No hurdles, just speed. So it seems we have entered the summer term, galloping away toward these imminent examinations and moments of reckoning, the finish line not yet in sight but only a few large bends away.



During the break, we were everywhere. Arnhem, site of the great and ultimately doomed fighting of the lightly armed parachute regiment against a panzer division which had, in the most unfortunate coincidence been dispatched for some R and R on the wooded plains around the city, is also home to our hosts Vitesse Arnhem Football Club. Mr Cook deserves

endless thanks for the marvellous opportunity these trips provide for our younger pupils. This time I am told our Year 7 teams were more evenly matched with our Dutch hosts.



And we were on the slopes in La Thuile, Valle D'Aosta in Italy. No one came back in a cast, behaviour was outstanding. Pupils and staff had a brilliant time.

I received a small notification which brought a smile while driving across the USA. Alex Dodgshon, formerly of this parish and a notable protégé in Mr Griffith's football programme, has captained the 1st XI of St Andrews University to their first Scottish Universities championship since 1943, before the battle of Arnhem. In the process Alex was declared man of the match and tournament. Having played for that side myself in the time of Julius Caesar I can tell you that it is the equivalent of personally leading Chesterfield to the FA Cup. Well done to Alex who proves we do not have to choose between excellent academic performance and outstanding sport achievement.



I do not often meet Ms Gimeno at 04.00 but I did when the Spanish exchange stormed in to the airport, ready for their week with host families in Madrid. Initial reports are good. The

weather there is much better.



There were further intimations of impending exam storms. Year 11 looked ready for expeditioning as they prepared for the Geography field trip as did the Year 12 geographers, the Russian AS and A2 orals are upon us, and the preparations for SATS are in full swing in the Prep School.

Mr Ridley is preparing an assembly for Monday about the 100th anniversary of the RAF. For this reason our bell tune has changed temporarily to the RAF march.



It is great to tell you about two new members of our team. **Ms Catherine Odita-Sani** is working as a learning mentor during Ms Styles' maternity leave. Ms Odita-Sani has an extensive background in charity work with children and in community building work. She has already had an impact by registering some of our Year 7 and 8 pupils for a pen pal exchange with pupils in Vietnam. **Mr Kelvin Hammond** joins us from the Academy of St

Nicholas as an ICT Technician. His knowledge and expertise are helping us stay on top of a network which incredibly includes more than 700 computers and laptops and which seems to be growing at exponential rates.

Today we are hosting 22 PGCE primary students from Hope University who will be accompanying pupils in our senior phase. It will be very interesting to hear from them how they experienced their perambulations.

A couple of events from the last week of term that were not reported in my last newsletter. On Wednesday 21 March, 14 of our Year 10 science pupils attended a Medical Careers Day at Carmel College. The course is designed to provide students with the information that they would require in order to apply to Medical School. Miss Miller reports that the day included a presentation from medical students about applying to medical school, and life as a medical student. The pupils also took part in three practical, medical-related activities: emergency medical assistance, diagnostics and medical ethics and heard from doctors with a range of experiences about their work.

Four of our Year 10 mathematicians (Ruari, Dylan, Erin and Clio) also enjoyed a day out on the last Wednesday of term to attend a 'Maths Feast' with Mrs Bibby. This consisted of four rounds; starter, main, practical interlude and dessert. Each round involved some sort of mathematical problem solving and the team had to work together to solve the challenges. Teachers were assigned to work with groups of students from schools other than their own and Mrs Bibby was delighted to be told that our team had been a credit to the school and that the teacher assigned to them had thoroughly enjoyed their company.



Our **Prep School cross country teams** ran in their final league race of the season yesterday. Mrs Bygroves and Mr Stamper report that both teams did well with the girls team finishing up in second place overall in the city for this season!

We have entered a team in the Liverpool senior weekday 20/20 cricket competition. We thought this might give our older pupils a game without gobbling up a day of standing on

the boundary during revision season. It will also mean that staff can play. We need players and it is always an honour to represent Liverpool College. If your child would like to play for the team (Y10 and above) please let Mr Heeley know shееley@liverpoolcollege.org.uk.

I learned today that a new production of a very ancient play is in a period of gestation soon to step out of Ms Poole's head rather like Athena from the head of Zeus. Euripides' Bacchae is being rehearsed with technical and scholarly assistance from Dr McNamara and will be performed in a few weeks. This play is about frenzy, intoxication and intoxicating frenzy. Perfect, in other words for summer term and exam season.

May I wish you and yours a happy and dry weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Hans van Mourik Broekman
Principal