

Principal's Newsletter

25 May 2018

Dear Parents,

The Royal Wedding seems to have disappeared in the rear view mirror. There is the increased pulse rate of a European final, a sunny half term and a series of examinations to look forward to. The boarders celebrated the wedding with an elegant garden party in the courtyard of Derby Hall - Mrs Nolan, our Head of Boarding, reports:

Our international boarding students had a busy Royal Wedding weekend as we enjoyed afternoon tea in the garden on a glorious May Saturday. Our Royal family and its longevity are something of an arcane curiosity, not to say mystery, to many of our boarders who come from countries with elected presidents and new democracies. The boys, needless to say, were more interested in the FA Cup Final! Our stalwart Man Utd fan was deeply disappointed.



Saturday evening was the date of the Year 13 Leavers' Dinner for boarders. A delightful meal was enjoyed at Casa Italia in Stanley Street but not before many photographs were taken in the garden for posterity.



Finally, we watched as thousands of people ran the Rock n Roll Marathon on Sunday with Penny Lane the inspiration for its name. North Mossley Hill Road was closed to traffic as runners were urged on by family and friends and marshals distributed water along the route.

As sunny weekends go, there was plenty for everyone to enjoy.

Yesterday we celebrated our Year 13 Leavers' service. This is always an emotional moment as students and staff celebrate the achievement of pupils and share memories and expressions of fondness. Eva and Sam gave great speeches on behalf of the year. Mr Brady recounted a number of moments on school trips and other settings which triggered fond memories. The theme of the day was relationships. As Sam brilliantly summarized, the College is not really an entity itself, it is a community of people and their relationships.



Mr Cook reports on the exploits of our Middle School footballers:

On a warm Monday evening, over thirty girls stayed behind after school for a football training session. This was quickly followed by three forty minute matches versus Formby High School. The Year 8 match was a keenly contested affair with the College eager to make up for a 2-1 loss earlier in the academic year. It was Formby High who got their noses in front with a goal just before half time. The second half enabled the College to make a few changes and it was captain Libby H who got the College back on level terms turning with the ball and volleying into the corner of the net. The last ten minutes both teams had shots on target with Sadie T making two vital saves before once again Libby H danced around three players before firing into the net and the College were jubilant 2-1 winners.

The Year 7 matches were both keenly contested affairs with both teams pitched at the same level. This also gave the opportunity for the College to field keen Year 6 footballer Anna R. Despite the matches being very close it was Formby who won both matches by 2-1. Another superb sporting advert for the College and supported by a number of the Liverpool College parents.



Mr Cook has also arranged a cricket match against an Indian school in June. I am very worried about the potential of this match being one sided but it is going to be wonderful to host these tourists here at the school.

The GDPR regulations which are filling our inboxes also apply to Liverpool College. Governors and staff are taking steps for us to comply fully, a not inconsiderable task.

We are continuing to explore how we can communicate with parents better and more consistently. Some obvious options are also very expensive and would in effect be taking much needed money and resources away from teaching pupils in order to deliver text messages for convenience on to phones. Next half term we will be asking parents for their views on various options for communication. After half term, this newsletter will be peppered with updates on the various consultations we have undertaken during the course of this academic year and the impact they have had on our plans for next year. These updates will culminate in a Parent Information Evening on Wednesday 27 June at 6pm.

Ramadan in the summer months means a long day's fasting for many of our Muslim pupils. I love the beautiful description in the Quran of the time of fasting:

And eat and drink until the white thread becomes distinct to you from the black thread at dawn. [Quran 2:187].

We follow the advice of the Muslim Council in this instance in continuing the education of pupils but making accommodations where necessary. For example, instead of running a mile in the sun in a games lesson, pupils may take a walk with their teacher instead. It is however necessary that all pupils continue to bring all kit and all equipment for all lessons during the month.

We are all ready for a break and I wish you and your family a happy and restful half term.

Yours sincerely,

Hans van Mourik Broekman
Principal