
Principal's Newsletter

18 June 2021

Dear Parents,

Congratulations to our very own Jean Arnold who was awarded an MBE in the most recent honours list. Ms Arnold has been teaching, guiding and coaching young people for more than 6 decades and it is wonderful to see her receive this very deserved recognition.

I walked along with Year 6 yesterday. Deprived of their chance to go to Wales because of the resurgence of covid in Merseyside, we walked instead from school to the Pier Head and back again along the Prom, stopping for a very tasty gelato on Lark Lane.



The spirit was excellent. Particular credit must go to Thomas and Heidi who were great troopers. Jacob informed me that we had walked 31000 steps. His apple watch spat out the distance covered, coming to rest at 23 kilometres, which by any standard is a creditable 6-hour stroll. Well done to Mr Stamper and all his colleagues for the way they kept this human column of energy moving forward. I was even more impressed to hear Poppy and her friends plan their magic show for the evening performance! Yes, after the walk they returned to school to put on performances for each other. Sadly, their sleepover was denied them by the new coronavirus guidance but their adventure today still proceeds because it is happening in what is deemed the local area.

Sisyphus, in mythology, was punished in the underworld by being compelled to roll a rock up a steep hill which, as it approached the top, always rolled back down again. His work never ended. That is how we are all feeling now that the virus has returned in numbers. We have been briefed that there has been substantial growth in cases in Liverpool schools. We can expect the mask guidance to return. We must all make sure we wear masks around the entrance to the school. Bubble discipline must remain in place. Use the testing kits distributed in secondary to keep track of this in your family. Please [click here](#) to read a letter from Liverpool's Director of Public Health and Director of Children's Services with more information on the additional measures being brought into Liverpool schools.

Inside, outside, on-line, live, taped: what is it to be? Such a conundrum confronts the cast of Aristophanes' *The Frogs*, a play which has been in production and rehearsal for some time and which was due to be performed. Perhaps we will be able to see it live. The poster is certainly a work of graphic art genius.

All this while we are preparing for the secondary phase internal exams, having just filed the GCSE and A level grades with the exam boards. These exams mean that your child should be studying and revising extensively now and over the weekend, despite the temptations of the weather.

A marvellous new exhibition lifts the gloom. You can click on the Halliday Jones art gallery from our quick links on the front page of the website. The new exhibition is called [Local Landscape](#). Colourful, with poetry to accompany, and all curated by Year 7. Definitely worth a visit.

The summer school is still on. From August 16-20, pupils who will join Year 7 in 2021 and who will join Year 3 in 2021 can sign up for a week of summer school. This programme is intended to get us all inspired for school, and cleansed of any intellectual cobwebs through classroom and outdoor activity.

Also, still blooming, is the day boarding programme which, covid permitting, will be expanded enormously beyond its pilot next year. It will be possible for any pupil in Year 7-10 to participate in this programme of activities, study and academic support which will take place Monday-Thursday from 4pm to 6.30pm with an option for pupils to have dinner here. More information about this will be coming directly to you.

Mrs Crook (SENCO) has asked me to highlight a Parent Hub Live Q&A with Dr Joanna Stanbridge (Child and Educational Psychologist) on literacy difficulties. You can register for the event which takes place on Monday 21 June at 8pm by clicking [here](#).

Pre Prep continue to impress with their in medias res approach to the beginning of the school day. By about 08.45 you can find pupils gripping pencils, bowed over large exercise books, penning amazing stories as they begin the delightful journey of putting thoughts and ideas into words and then onto paper. They read their insights aloud with great gusto. To write, to read, it all starts for them at Liverpool College. In another class, pupils show an extremely close knowledge of the Roman numeral system, rushing to the board to convert

Arabic numerals into Roman ones. In another class, it is all about understanding ml and kg, L and g. Apart from often causing me to have to refresh my memory, it makes me realize how wonderful it is to learn about the world and the marvels in it.

May I wish you a dry, sunny and restful weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Hans van Mourik Broekman
Principal