
Principal's Newsletter

18 March 2022

Dear Parents,

Some very good news. Ms Maloney, our secondary English teacher, has given birth to the marvellously named Marley Jean Lucy. Mother and baby are doing well.

Happy Red Nose Day. There are various charity events taking place today, many of them organized by Mr Cartwright and the Sixth Form. I hope to stop by their cake sale in Brook's. There is much charitable activity related to Ukraine. The cards which I admired in the Prep were actually created by Jack R (Y6) and Freya R (Y3) in the school, making their creation even more extraordinary. They are available from Prep reception.

My assembly in the Prep School revealed amazing knowledge of world affairs among pupils in Years 3 and 4. One pupil asked me to comment on the conflict in Kashmir, others were able to distinguish between various forms of alliances. One pupil even asked me to comment on any incipient alliance between China and Russia arising from the conflict in Ukraine! I felt like I had stumbled upon a Foreign Office summer camp. Perhaps this is a result of the quality of the Opening Worlds humanities curriculum which has recently been introduced. It is hugely impressive to see teachers discussing in depth all manner of cultural, geographical and historical realities. The vocabulary our pupils are learning allows them to think deeply about culture and history generally, and likely contributed to the excellent way in which they could think about the challenges facing Ukraine.

Get ready for Seussical, the Musical. Now that our A level students have left the mock exam hall in MV, Ms Clark and Mr Bishop and all their volunteers can get into the space where the show will go on. Two years ago, we had to cancel a public performance at the beginning of a pandemic. Now we are looking forward to full houses on Thursday and Friday.

A reminder again that Speech Night (Tuesday 29 March) grows ever closer. Secondary pupils must attend, parents are welcome. We have sent you an email setting out the details. Pupils will be informed that failure to attend, without an explicit previously agreed permission, will lead to a disciplinary sanction. A further reminder that school will finish at 3pm that day for pupils in the secondary phase.

Congratulations to Amelia M in Year 12 who has won a place on a Maths residential in Oxbridge. Congrats also to Joseph in Y10 who is simply taking the mathematics competition

worlds by storm. On the same day he competed in the Mathematical Olympiad, Joseph and his teammates would likely have won every round of another competition, but, Ms Roddy tells me, that organisers wanted some other people to win as well. It struck me as odd that the prizes for all culture has now reached even something as exact as the solving of mathematical problems.

It is always a boost when universities visit. Mrs Drew, our careers lead writes:

On Thursday, we were lucky to have 17 Masters students from the University of Liverpool's Life Sciences Faculty in school to present the findings of their research topics. These findings were in the form of posters and covered topics such as a typhoid vaccine, climate change and liver cancer. Our Year 10 and Year 12 scientists met with the students to listen to the outcomes of their projects and then had the chance to ask any burning questions. For our Year 12 students, who are now thinking about their university applications, this was also the perfect time to ask the students about degree life. Our students really enjoyed the experience and impressed the students and staff of the University with their scientific knowledge and inquisitive nature.



Our thanks to Dr Awais, LC parent and University of Liverpool academic who brought this fascinating experience to our school.

We had a fantastic Chapter 8 rugby performance at the Scarisbrick 7s tournament, where the team made it to the final after defeating several top schools. We are also rejoicing in the selection of Nye Thomas who was a sixth former at the College last year in the England U20 squad to play against France in Perpignan this weekend. There were also huge wins for our girls' football team against Archbishop Blanch, and substantial hockey success. More generally, the fields of play are opening under the sunshine. One pupil mentioned cricket to me this week, a sign that summer term is on its way. This weekend we will play Sandbach in football.

The irrepressible Ms Young has confirmed that the boot swap I have written about previously will begin next Friday from 08.15 to 09.00 in the Prep School reception area. We

will collect outgrown or used boots and swap them to boots you can use. You can also make use of the bank if you haven't got boots to swap. If you have any boots, trainers, boot bags or shin pads you would like to donate, these can be passed into any school office.

One thing I look forward to every week is Ms Hardisty's selection of art work to share with all of you. Its variety and quality surely prove that the positivist paradigm which drives so much of our educational agenda has not yet destroyed the humanity and creativity of our pupils.

Here is this week's offer:

Spring is here, the blossom trees are starting to bloom both outside around our campus and inside the classroom! This week's painting "Blossom" is by Emelia W (Y11) is inspired by her research on artist Damien Hirst and his Cherry Blossoms series currently on exhibition at The National Art Centre Tokyo.



I am off to London for an OL dinner. For the first time the Old Girls of Huyton College will join us and about 25% of attendees left school in 2010 or later. I am getting old!

May I wish you a sunny and happy weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Mr H van Mourik Broekman
Principal