
Principal's Newsletter

3 February 2023

Dear Parents,

This has been a week of triumphs, won, performed, and reported.

Any account must begin with Grease, the musical performed on Tuesday and Thursday, including a Thursday matinee, to packed audiences. We are often informed that the inhabitants of northern Europe struggle in the winter months to overcome the effects of gloom and darkness, leading in some serious cases to seasonal affective disorder.

For milder symptoms, these performances of Grease were certainly the cure. Dynamic, energetic, committed, talented, exuberant, effervescent, fast, friendly, and youthful are some of the words that come to mind on the morning of calm recollection after the night before. It was particularly pleasing to see the massive cast contain so many Chapter 11, 12 and 13 pupils and so many boys. In the past, we have agonized over the inability to inspire the male of the Liverpoolian species to get onto the stage, as they appeared to prefer the entanglements of footie on the astro. Not so anymore. In choir, orchestra, stage crew, lighting booth, front of house, back of house, it is all properly co-educational. Before our eyes, we are seeing the years of dedication from Mr Bishop, Ms Clark, Ms Poole, and peripatetic music and drama teachers come to fruition in a massive orchestra and band, bursting beyond its "tucked away in the corner" position and a group of talented, committed and enthusiastic friends making beautiful music and drama together. A triumph indeed.

And then a report of the excellent performances of our sports teams. Mr Cook reports his pleasure with the progress of the Chapter 9-10 football team into the quarter finals of the Merseyside Cup. Then news of two Chapter 7 statement wins. Our girls hockey team powered to victory in the Merseyside Hockey League defeating all comers and being crowned champions. Ms Evans, Ms Pye and Ms Arnold do such a wonderful job coaching, guiding, teaching and motivating these players. They invite any girl or boy who wants to play hockey to come along, join in the practices, and contribute to this winning tradition. The Chapter 7 boys football team meanwhile are into the last 16 of the National Cup beating our friends from the land of Wirral, Calday Grammar 4-1. This on top of the Chapter 8 Lancashire rugby triumph shows how these Chapters are developing as a sporting force. This weekend we are playing some sport at St Edward's.



Then a report on the performance of the Eco Ambassadors at the 2023 Mock UN Climate Conference. Our six delegates were eloquent, prepared, engaged and we are so grateful to the Liverpool World Centre and Faiths4Change for organizing this event in such a realistic setting. [Click here](#) to read a full report.

It is National Storytelling Week and this is celebrated in the Pre Prep with some great stories and storytelling, and with a reignition of bibliophilia in the Prep. In the boarding house there is recognition with bunting and discussion of favourite books and stories. Much laughter ensued when one pupil announced that his favourite story was Charlie and the Chocolate Factory which he claimed was written by Charlie. The boarders had to find some entertainment during the national day of strike action so they added to their weekend stories after a visit to Alice in Wonderland Escape with a cinema visit to see Avatar 2. Their verdict on this blue tale: very sad.

Our artist of the week this week is Isla L (Ch9).



"TIGER"

This is Isla's assessment drawing. She has been working on recording animals, in particular fur textures and animal markings. Exploring mark making and pencil drawing skills.

In Pre Prep this week, class 1P and class 1R put on their wellies and enjoyed their first trip to the forest school in 2023. Staff report that the pupils loved climbing over logs, digging through dirt and exploring the nature on our doorstep as well as thinking about links between the natural environment and their class text (Hermelin the Mouse Detective)! Pupils in 1Q were also busy, learning the ukulele with Mr Jones.



Meanwhile over in Prep School, Mr Stamper reports that pupils have been helping the UK's wildlife by taking part in the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch last weekend. This regular visitor to James S's (4Q) garden is impressive!



On Tuesday, a perambulation of a Personal Development period provided a glimpse into the amazing variety of opportunities which form part of the personal development programme. In a short period of time, one could observe a discussion about LGBTQIA+ with pupils and staff, see the effects of a class project in developing a hand washing device for the prevention of the spread of disease in Ms Evans' class, hear Mr Heeley get his group ready for entry in the English Speaking Board qualification, watch a group being coached in the sport of handball, see our sixth form NCOs teach a rather unformed group of Chapter 9 pupils how to march, a visit to the shooting range to watch Ms Humes and Mr Newton lead a target shooting session in the CCF facility. It baffles the imagination sometimes, and certainly makes a wanderer marvel at the energy and sagacity of the staff who are developing and leading all these things.

Mrs Doran reports that the RAF's Defence College of Air & Space Operations delighted pupils from Pre Prep all the way up to Sixth Form when it landed a helicopter in the middle of the school field and invited pupils to explore inside. [Click here](#) to read more about this careers event with a difference!



Chapter 9 Wilton Scholars were inspired by their visit this week to the University of Liverpool for a STEM day organised by the Faculty of Science and Engineering. Please [click here](#) for Mrs Doran's report on the trip.

Chapter 12 art students enjoyed an excellent and informative lecture from OL Alex Wignall yesterday. Alex shared with the students his journey through A levels to the fourth year of his architecture degree.

Mrs Crook (SENCO) has asked me to include information on the virtual group drop-in advisory sessions being run by the Liverpool ASD Training Team in February and March. The sessions are for parents/carers who have any questions or concerns about their child, in regard to social communication difficulties or awaiting an ASD assessment. It is also an opportunity to speak with an ASD trainer and other parents. [Click here](#) to find out more information.

Maths challenges for the week:

- Q1. Find all possible ordered septuplets of positive integers (a, b, c, d, e, f, g) such that the following are all satisfied: $abc = 29$, $cde = 30$, $efg = 31$.
- Q2. How many lines of symmetry does a regular polygon with n sides have? ($n > 2$)

Answers to last week's challenges:

Q1. 1234/4321	Q2. -4 and 15
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May I wish you and yours a happy and dry weekend.

Yours sincerely,

**Mr H van Mourik Broekman
Principal**