

Principal's Newsletter

1 December 2023

Dear Parents,

In the frenzy of a school day, so much happens at such speed that it can be difficult to capture it all in one's mind. The week began in the place where learning seems to begin immediately and with an intense focus. Phonics in Pre Prep. Groups seem to form by magic in every space in the building. Pupils enthusiastically recite diphthongs, consonants and other sounds. Every teacher and LSA in the building is laser like in their desire to see pupils progress. The whole thing cheers me for a week.

Can the Rushworth Music Centre have ever been the site of a more glorious performance than the brother sister pair of Maria and Leo B playing a duet together? This was the culmination of a wonderful concert of GCSE and A level candidate performances ranging from medieval song accompanied on the department's new harpsichord to jazzy renditions of Gershwin songs and Matthew D-H singing a Lord Huron tune. Moments like these linger and inspire because they show young people flourishing and making beautiful things.

Congratulations to the Chapter 8 netball team who beat Archbishop Blanch A team 10 - 2 and Archbishop Blanch B team 20 - 0. Mrs Achilleos has selected her players of the tournament: *Evelyn R x 2 for excellent attacking play, Freya W for speed and always being available and Leilani for excellent attacking play in the "D" as goal shooter. Orla D did a fantastic job as Captain today and all girls demonstrated great sportsmanship.*

We have also had substantial football success; Mr Fawcett writes:

National Cup Progress

I am pleased to report that the Chapter 10 Football team have progressed to the last 16 of the ESFA Boys Under 15s PlayStation Elite Schools National Cup.

On 29 September, the team were drawn in Round 1 away against SFX, who have an excellent local and national football pedigree. Liverpool College took the lead with a calm finish from Erdis R. SFX hit back in the second half to make it 1 - 1. However soon after, Khalil M got hold of a

pass from some solid defending skills from Billy C and smashed a 30-yard screamer into the SFX net. Result, 2 - 1 to Liverpool College.

Round 2 on the 8 November was another away fixture, this time to Manchester versus the excellent Wright Robinson College. With 350 students in a year group to select from and an outstanding sporting history, the team knew they were in for a tough game. Driving into the College Campus is like entering a large commercial retail park, and the central glass entrance proudly adorns lots and lots of gleaming silver trophies. From the kick off the team faced a very physical challenge from the Wright Robinson players and at least 200 students who formed a mini-Kop, on what must have been an extended lunch! With nerves of steel, Tom C calmly scored a penalty, making it 1 - 0, after some fine work in the penalty area from Erdis R. In the second half team Captain and Goalkeeper Layton N saved a 1 v 1 attempt and then saved a shot that was heading for the top right-hand corner of his goal. Erdis R then made it 2 - 0, and Khalil M struck again to make the final result 3 - 0 to Liverpool College. The Referee went on to award Harry Q the Man of the Match.

On the 6 December the team will face Calday Grange Grammar in Round 3. Whoever wins the round will be the last northwest school in the cup. If the team did manage to win, then they could face a team from Birmingham or Nottingham in the quarter final.

Local success

On Friday 24 November, the Chapter 10 Football team played in a (south section) 9 a side tournament at Simpsons Grounds Woolton. (SFX, Blue Coat, Calderstones, Kings Leadership, Gateacre, Liverpool College).

The team faced Blue Coat and SFX in a mini league format. First match was a draw against Blue Coat. Second match a draw against SFX. Liverpool College and SFX went through to knockout stage. The team were drawn against Gateacre in the knockout stage and the game finished 2 - 2. The team sorted penalty takers and when goalkeeper Layton N saved one of the Gateacre penalties, Ben McK calmly scored the winning penalty. The team then went on to win the final versus Calderstones, with a goal scored by Erdis R. Man of the tournament was Layton N for marshalling the squad through some tough games. They will now go on to face the winning team from the (north section) in a 11 v 11 Champions final.

Sadly, the big freeze is making our pitches and even astro increasingly like a replacement ice cap. Let's hope we can get some sport in this weekend.

Parents' evenings continued in polar conditions this week with Chapter 11 stopping by before their PP1 exams kick in properly, followed by mocks in January. It is good to have serendipitous meetings with parents and pupils, encouraging all, admonishing some. There is no doubt that there is much work ahead and that a realistic picture of the challenges, the efforts required and the cooperation between home and school needed can be shared and communicated early enough in the year.

In the MV Hall this week, the sombre rows of desks told the story of the Chapter 13 mocks. We are now in the business end of the season, nay of the entire school career. Students are receiving interview invitations and offers, there is a creeping realisation that imagining or desiring something is only the first step in achieving it. The intensity is quite gripping but we are very pleased with way the year group as a whole are approaching these challenges.



The Pre Prep were delighted to welcome Courage the Cat to school today to collect their donations for the Radio City Christmas Toy Appeal! Thank you for your generosity.

This week's **artist of the week** is Gabriel C C (Ch10) with "Birds of Paradise" sketchbook study.



We have been exploring the theme colour with flora and fauna. I have been working on my colour mixing, colour theory and technique alongside researching the artist Marcia Baldwin for inspiration.

Dr Teena Cartwright Terry shared some of her educational journey with Chapter 12: a surgeon, ob-gyn and hospice doctor who chose to pursue a degree in English literature and work in the arts world and is now involved in tribunals and courts; her story reflected the reality that we are preparing young people to pursue dreams that cannot be contained in the phrase: I am getting a job, or I am doing a degree. The invitation to all of our pupils is to imagine the contribution they can make to the world, and prepare their character and intellect to make it.

Last week, the Sixth Form benefited from another inspirational talk as Mrs Drew reports:



On Friday 24 November we were extremely lucky to welcome David Dein MBE into Liverpool College to give a motivational speech to our 6th Form students. David was the co-owner and Vice Chairman of Arsenal Football Club and a founder of the Premier League. He was also instrumental in the creation of the Kick Racism Out of Football movement, the rise of women's football and the introduction of the referee vanishing spray into football after a meeting in South America during his World Cup bid in 2018. David spoke about his time at Arsenal and how the Premier League was founded. David delivered a key message about how his belief in three motivational words; hard work, vision and courage have been his mantra during his illustrious career. David spoke to our students about having pride in their work and each other, about the strength and importance of teamwork and application and left us with his motto of the turtle; you won't get anywhere in life unless you stick your neck out. It was an absolute privilege for us that David gave up time in his busy schedule to talk to our students.

The Charity Action Group launched their Christmas appeal at secondary assembly today and details on how you can support their efforts is listed below:

*The Chaplaincy Charity Action Group is launching another **Whitechapel Christmas Appeal** to help the city's homeless and those at risk of homelessness including families. Pupils are asking for donations so that we can deliver a large amount to Whitechapel this Christmas. Drop off points are Student Services and the 6th form office until 12 December.*

Whitechapel requests:

- ✓ Chocolate selection boxes
- ✓ new pyjamas, boxers and socks
- ✓ Toiletry gift sets
- ✓ hats, scarves and gloves
- ✓ Christmas food treats
- ✓ stocking fillers



Thank you for thinking of others this holiday season!

Mr Bishop has also recognised Leo and Maria B's musical efforts this week:



This week's **musicians of the week** are Leo and Maria B from Ch 11 and 7 respectively for their stunning performance of Pablo de Sarasate's Navarra for 2 violins and piano. Their musicianship is first class and this duo will certainly appear on a professional concert platform in the future. Congratulations!

Their performance will appear on the Music Dept's YouTube page over the coming days - please subscribe to be notified! <https://www.youtube.com/@liverpoolcollegemusic>

Mrs Gimeno (Head of Languages) has an important announcement for Chapter 7:

We are excited to announce the launch of our Anglo-Spanish exchange with our partner school in Madrid, Colegio Newman. Our aim is to exchange culturally enriching experiences which will benefit British and Spanish pupils alike. To this end, we will host ten pupils for ten days in March and we will be visiting them in June. If you are interested in your son/daughter taking part, please fill in the form that will be sent to you next week. There are limited places. Please be advised that a DBS check will be needed for all parents volunteering to participate.

An update from the **PTA** on preparations for their next big event – the Christmas Market!

The poster for the Liverpool College PTA Christmas Market features a festive design with several red Christmas ornaments hanging from the top. The text is centered and reads: 'Liverpool College PTA Christmas Market', 'Saturday 16th December', '12-5pm', and 'Liverpool College MV Hall (entrance via Prep car park), Queens Drive, Mossley Hill, L18 8BG'. Below this, it says 'Featuring LC Productions Panto Cinders' and 'Come and join us!'. At the bottom, it lists activities: 'Featuring lots of lovely stalls and gift ideas, as well as hot and cold drinks, raffle, tombola, refreshments, face painting, Preplings Choir and Santa's Grotto.' The poster is decorated with a cartoon Santa Claus on the left and a reindeer on the right, and a central red sign with a yellow border and lights.

As each day goes by, we are closer to spreading Christmas cheer LC style! Our Christmas tree is getting some much loved TLC and being woken up from a long hibernation!

With this said, tickets are still available for our Christmas Market. You can purchase these at:

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/50561>

Mrs Harper's panto crew is in full rehearsal mode, prepping to put on a Christmas pantomime extravaganza, the PTA is busy gearing up stall holders, making floor plans, liaising with volunteers who have kindly offered their help on the day, and dusting off their raffle books.

We would also like to announce an event that we've been itching to get the green light for - LC's Got Talent!! This event is a mixture of XFactor meets BGT - Liverpool College style. With auditions available to everyone, from Pre Prep to Seniors, as well as staff (our staff have some

AMAZING talents!), this will be an epic end to the summer term! More details will follow in the new year, but start practising now!

Another reminder that next Thursday (7 December) we will hold our **termly parent information evening** in person in the MV Hall at 5.30pm. Topics on the agenda include online safety, attendance and updates on our anti-racism and inclusion work.

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

Yours sincerely,

Mr H van Mourik Broekman
Principal

Important Message from Liverpool Public Health Team

Schools have been asked to share with parents an important message from Liverpool public health officers:

Measles cases are rising across the country.

Measles is a highly infectious virus and can lead to complications such as ear infections, pneumonia, and inflammation of the brain which require hospitalisation and on rare occasions can lead to long term disability or death.

Anyone with symptoms is advised to stay at home and phone their GP or NHS 111 for advice, rather than visiting the surgery or A&E, to prevent the illness spreading further.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/>

Anyone who is unsure if their child is up to date with all their routine vaccinations should check their child's Red Book (personal child health record) in the first instance.

If you are still not sure, or if you need to bring your child up to date with their vaccines, contact your GP practice to check and book an appointment.

To find out more about childhood vaccinations, please visit the NHS website: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations/nhs-vaccinations-and-when-to-have-them/>

Further information from the NHS about measles immunisation can also be accessed [here](#).