

Principal's Newsletter

3 May 2024

Dear Parents,

A colleague texted me last weekend that our very own Issy H in Chapter 11 had just scored for Everton live on BBC TV. By the time I checked the BBC news there was an interview with the young star, describing her massive thrill of scoring in the 95th minute and referring to her school. I have always told Issy that we will take full credit for her amazing career, even if we have absolutely no right to. It is down to her own hard work and dedication that she is achieving these great heights as a 16 year old.

Some other OLs in the sport news are Nye Thomas who has extended his contract with Sale Sharks. Ali Al-Hamadi, another recent OL has moved from the Iraq national team and Wimbledon to Ipswich where his football career pits him against Cardiff long serving defender Perry Ng another OL. Hopefully, we will soon be able to watch them in the premier league.

Careers has been a big theme this week. There was the career Chapter 11 interview day where our pupils were helped to develop individual interview techniques by a large group of volunteers from every conceivable professional background, as Mrs Doran describes:

This week we were delighted to invite almost forty employers into Liverpool College to conduct a series of one-to-one interviews for every one of our Chapter 11 pupils. The event was organised in a round robin format, with every pupil receiving six interviews, each of between five to eight minutes long. Each interview was followed by feedback to allow the pupils to perfect and enhance their answers, building confidence as the event progressed.

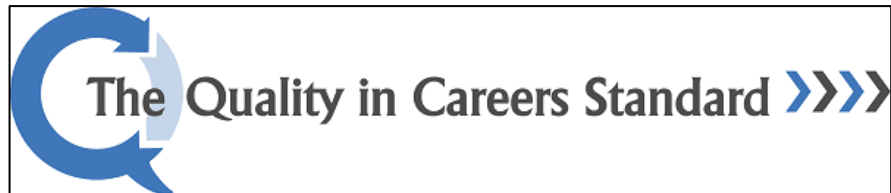
The interviewers came from a wide and varied field of careers, ranging from doctors, engineers, teachers, dentists, construction specialists, solicitors, HR, accountancy, research and a wide variety of business backgrounds. The pupils all benefited greatly from their expertise and advice. The event was arranged by Mrs Doran and Mrs Drew, with assistance from four wonderful sixth form students: Demi A, Tahlia R, Omar K and Lily N.

We would like to extend our special thanks to all the volunteers who participated in the event and helped our pupils develop real-life employability skills, especially Emily Day, Noemi Baricsa, Peter Taylor, Craig Roche, Dorothea Cox, Suzanne Coventry, Robert Bird, John O'Malley, Claire Embleton, Jonathan Lowe, Tony Antonna, Louise Burns, Laurence Lee, Rush Miah, Eric Mytton, Sarah Carroll, Hazel Walker, Suzy Gray, Joe Hart, Karl Quirk, Ange Garden, Ian Magedera, Lizzie

Kerfoot, Lizzie O'Shaughnessy, Dr Muhammad Awais, Hanna Magedera, Kirsty Frackleton, Sue Forte, Pooja Saini, Martin Newton and Patricia Sybil.

The feedback from the pupils showed how valuable they felt the experience was as they build their real-life employability skills.

It is very impressive to see our pupils speak about themselves and develop this crucial ability and capacity. A day later we received a glowing report from our assessor for the Quality in Careers Standard National Quality Award detailing how the College meets very well the benchmarks for excellent careers education.



Another theme for me this term is always the beauty of our campus and the joy when it is being used completely and fully. I see this especially in the Prep and Pre Prep with groups of pupils making the most of the playing fields and forest school, the sound of intense and friendly competition and the glories of our campus bathed in sunshine.



Chapter 8 pupils also enjoyed the sunshine during their LC+ lesson as Mrs Van Gordon reports:

8 Howard's took their ukuleles out into the sunshine to catch the summer rays and make the most of their practice session in PD this week. We are lucky to have some incredibly talented singers and guitar players who lead the rest of us in a joyful chorus. Here comes the sun, and it's alright!

The third theme of the week is I am afraid examinations. We have had the GCSE Spanish speaking and Art examinations and the BTEC Digital IT and PE practical exams. Pupils are wrapping up the last sessions with teachers, preparing for the moment of truth.

Mrs Scott, our College mental health coordinator writes:

As we navigate through the challenges of the academic year, it's crucial to prioritise the mental well-being of our pupils, particularly as they approach significant milestones such as GCSEs. In preparation for the upcoming GCSE examinations, our Chapter 11 pupils recently participated

in a special assembly led by the Kooth Mental Health Support Service. This assembly aimed to provide invaluable guidance and support in managing exam stress effectively.

Kooth Mental Health Support Service is renowned for its expertise in offering tailored strategies to cope with the pressures associated with academic performance. During the assembly, pupils received insights into recognising signs of stress, practical techniques for stress management, and resources available for additional support.

By equipping our pupils with the necessary tools to navigate through stressful periods, we aim to foster a supportive environment where mental well-being is prioritised alongside academic success.

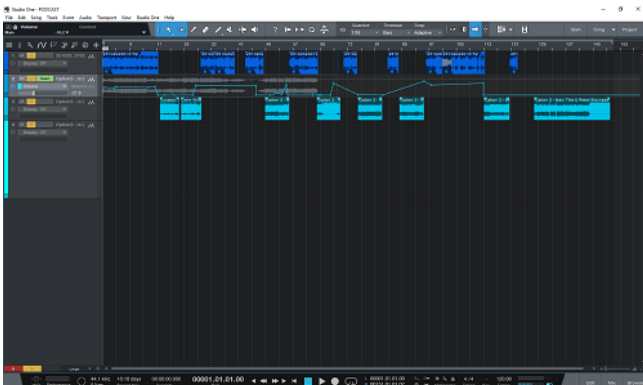


We encourage ongoing conversations at home about managing stress and seeking support when needed. Together, we can ensure that our pupils feel empowered to face challenges with resilience and confidence. Please find attached a QR code for information on Kooth services to aid further conversations with your child.

Congratulations to Zachary H (Ch8) and Samuel P (Ch7) who represented Lancashire U13 at a County Hockey tournament at the weekend. They had some tough opponents from Cheshire and Greater Manchester but both boys brought their top game and scored some fantastic goals. Well done!



Congratulations also to Amy G in Chapter 9 whose artwork will be exhibited in Walker Art Gallery. Amy was the vote winner for our school in the dot-art Schools 2024 competition and has been invited to a prize giving ceremony in the Concert Room at St George's Hall in June where the Lord Mayor of Liverpool will be presenting the awards.



This week's **musicians of the week** are Tavia T and Aisha A from Ch9 for their work on their musical analysis Podcast of the Main Title theme to Star Wars. Their work includes detailed analysis and musical examples to back up the points they make. Well done!

Mrs Crook (SENCO) has received information from the Liverpool ASD Training Team about a number of upcoming events for parents in May. Please click on the links below to find out more:

- [ASD Training Team advisory sessions](#)
- [ASD Workshop](#) (for parents whose child has an ASD diagnosis)
- Social Communication and Social Behaviour Workshops: [9 & 16 May](#) and [Half Term](#)

An update from the **PTA**:



Food festival (Saturday 18 May):

Volunteers required - for each volunteer who helps, they will be assigned 2x fireworks tickets for 8 November. More information in our newsletter.

We need your help with Tombola donations!

We are in desperate need of prizes for our tombola at the Food Festival. If you have any of the following, please hand them in to Mrs Fraser, Mrs Herron or Upper School Reception on 9 or 10 May, or bring them to the Outlet during opening hours.

Primary:

- Bottles (alcohol, soft drinks, anything in a bottle!)
- New/unused gifts/items that would be a nice prize!

Secondary:

- Chocolates or sweets (unopened and in date)
- New/unused toys and games
- New/unused gifts/items that would be a nice prize!

Tickets are available for the food festival - we have a much bigger response of vendors this year, with pizza, burgers, Indian cuisines, crepes, Indian mithai, spice garnishing, freeze dried candy, fresh donuts and so much more! Our own Prepling choir are making a special appearance too! You can purchase tickets and get more information here -

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/liverpool-college-pta/t-gaeejan> or on our newsletter.

Come and have lunch with us and take your dinner home - no cooking on Saturday 18 May!

May I wish you and yours a dry and warm bank holiday weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Mr H van Mourik Broekman
Principal