

Principal's Newsletter

13 October 2023

Dear Parents,

After the terrible attack on Israel last Saturday, and the now inevitable loss of innocent life and much pain and suffering, we as a school have to reflect on our core values and ensure our children promote always and in every circumstance the path of peace, of friendship, of mutual respect. As always, there is no place for anti-Semitism or Islamophobia in our school. We should never reduce other people to objects of prejudice, hate or violence. Parents must set the example of this fundamental attitude on which the school can build, can educate, and can improve. For this reason, I was so heartened to hear of our and other schools' sixth formers, of all faiths and backgrounds, learning and studying together, and attending a Liverpool Classical Association talk about 'Dream Analysis and Ancient Greek Medicine' at King David High School and offering support and friendship to each other at this difficult time.

Black History Month has led to several initiatives. One of the most promising is a gallery of Liverpool heroes who are people of colour. Mr Sani has researched an amazing list of people making contributions in every area of political, cultural and academic life. Their portraits and descriptions of their achievements will soon adorn our halls as a reminder of our celebration.

The Labour Party conference meant some representative work for Khan O in Chapter 12. He was part of a group of young people who met with the Children's Commissioner to discuss issues faced by young people.

Congratulations to Mrs Hardisty and her daughter whose children's books have now been published. A mother-daughter authoring duo, they are the creators of Sparkles Spacecat, available on Amazon.

At chapter reflection assemblies this week, the Chaplaincy team arranged for pupils to learn more about the charity Sreepur Village, Bangladesh:



A big thank you to our Reflection visiting speaker [Janette Porter](#) from Liverpool John Moores University for sharing with us her work in [Sreepur Village](#) in Bangladesh. We learned how Sreepur provides safe accommodation, training and education for women and children in Bangladesh and recognises the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Ms Porter is a former LC parent whose 5 children all went through the College. For Sreepur Village Christmas cards please [click here](#).

After the Charity action group bake sale for the Macmillan Coffee Morning, we had the Muslim Student Experience, a 6th form student led society, raise another £400 this week to provide funds for shelter, food and medicine for the people affected by the earthquake in Morocco and the floods in Libya. These student-led efforts in the secondary phase have now raised almost £1000 for charities. Thank you to everyone who supported these charity efforts.

The Senior NCOs from the Army section CCF: Holly B, Joshua O, Matthew D-H and Caitlin M represented the school on Wednesday at the funeral of Mr Derek Roberts who was the SSI of our CCF for a number of years. Those present commented that the NCOs were a credit to the school.



The boarders are picking pumpkins and carving them this weekend. This activity leads some of our weekly and day boarders to stay a little longer into the weekend so they can participate. It is remarkable to think that we are in to our final week before half term, and Halloween is upon us. This is especially true of the Prep and Pre Prep PTA Halloween disco, with Joe N (Ch10) from senior school as the DJ. These are examples of what happens when the truly young get down to dancing and consumption of some sweets. The energy explodes until exhaustion sets in. Well done to everyone for organising the disco and getting everyone back into school the next day.



This week's **musicians of the week** are members of Voices and BPM, but particularly members of the Senior Chamber Choir for their performance of Bruckner's 'Locus Iste' at Founders' Day. Stood round the Scott Memorial in the centre of the Cathedral, surrounded by members of the College, they sang unaccompanied 4-part harmony. Their voices filled the Cathedral, creating a marvellous calm moment at the end of this service to celebrate 183 years of Liverpool College. You can hear their performance here: <https://youtu.be/cvrStQWmQj4>

Our **artist of the week** this week is Thomas B M (Ch10).



"We have been exploring the artist Mark Powell, I like to doodle and this style appeals to me. I have created this sketchbook piece inspired by his approach to working on different paper surfaces."

Mrs Ormrod (Head of Science Faculty) reports that Ch10 physics students had an electrifying lesson with Ms Diamond this week! They used the Van der Graaf generator to cement their understanding of static electricity.



Congratulations to the Chapter 8 netball team for a fantastic win against Gateacre school (25-0). This team won the League and the Liverpool City schools competition last year so Mrs Achilleos has high hopes for the same this academic year! Players of the match were Everlyn R and Rajna R.

Miss Pye has reported the excellent commitment shown by her Chapter 9 hockey squad. In particular she has highlighted the 100% effort and attendance shown by the following pupils at her Tuesday after school training sessions: Scarlett A, Udara A, Poppy M, Lexi W, Malaya S, Heidi B and Gabby S.



Mrs Scott received very encouraging feedback this week on our progress towards the achievement of the Rainbow Flag Award. The evaluators of our application really liked the way we approached the process and are now encouraging us to take further steps towards becoming a fully inclusive school. We were delighted to gain our first accreditation - successfully reaching the Skilled Teacher standard. Work is continuing on the award with the evidence for the next two standards being submitted in January. Congratulations to Mrs Scott and Mr Beardsmore who have led this effort which involves staff and pupils.

Mrs Drew reports on how we celebrated World Mental Health Day 2023 on Tuesday this week:

The theme for this year was 'Mental health is a universal human right'. In school, our day boards helped create a colourful display for our main reception and pupils wore a yellow accessory with their uniform. Ms Odita-Sani ran a meditation session at breaktime for pupils to take some time out. Yellow ribbons were sold to raise funds to buy resources for students to access if they need support whilst in school. Many thanks to staff, pupils and our families for your support.



An important update from the PTA:



PTA kicked off this week with our Halloween tradition of Discos in the Primary phase. Primary teachers and pupils dressed up in fancy Halloween costumes, some bagging themselves Best Costume and Star of the Disco Awards. We saw Mr Beardsmore and Mr Harvey leading the Conga lines, and Mr Stamper, Miss Frees and Mr Rogerson leading the Macarena! We even had Pre Prep teachers dressing up as witches and pumpkins! You can find more details and photos in the PTA newsletter (sent out to parents via MCAS).

We're all systems go for our fireworks event, with a line up for food and drink vendors coming to showcase, and entertainment for all the family. Tickets are still available on Eventbrite [here](#).

We will be sending out full and finalised details for the event in next week's newsletters. More details regarding vendors and what to expect is in our newsletter.

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

- [Virtual Group Question and Answer advisory sessions](#)
- [Virtual Social Communication and Behaviour Workshop](#)
- [Virtual Parents/Carers Training Course](#)

There is, for me, a highlight to every week. Mr Chalmer's reception class provided one for me this week. Here was an entire class hanging on every word, every sung syllable, every new counting concept. They had already in these first six weeks learned to discuss a question with their partner, share answers respectfully, and refocus on the next task. Such miracles of progress are daily visible in our reception classes. One wonders what would be achieved if this spirit of learning could be maintained for all 14 years of school education. Amazing to see.

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

Yours sincerely,

Mr H van Mourik Broekman
Principal

Liverpool College Even Better

What actions can the school undertake to support the positive representation of the diversity of our school?

We did

One of our equality objectives is regularly review and update our curriculum materials to ensure that they support equality and diversity. An example of this was the work undertaken by the English Faculty in the secondary phase to review and diversify the reading resources and reading lists used by pupils.

Miss Humes who is our new Reading Champion was able to source a selection of non-fiction/fictions texts and novels that were written by authors of colour such as Maya Angelou, Caleb Femi, Marcus Rashford and Stormzy. These books were shared out to the English faculty staff to add into their mini libraries and were also gifted to our library where we now have a large diversity section. Miss Maloney has also reviewed and updated our reading lists at each secondary key stage to ensure they are more representative and reflective of the diversity of our school community.

