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# LIVERPOOL COLLEGE

A School of Character

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## Principal's Newsletter

22 September 2023

Dear Parents,

I am afraid I must start this newsletter with an account of the various traffic incidents and complaints which have been brought to our attention. One local resident was struck by another car pulling out of zig zag lines, a local Councillor visited me to describe the ceaseless complaints and concerns of local residents. The situation on Queens Drive is obviously not helping but this does not mean that we can or should set aside safe parking and safe driving. There are areas just slightly further from the school which are much less congested and quieter. Please consider parking there and covering the remaining distance on foot.

We held only one Chapter 7 open evening this year and this led to large crowds. We are so grateful for all the volunteers who helped guide the 1700 visitors around our campus. Visitors tell me how much the pupils they meet impress them with their enthusiasm, honesty, and clear commitment to the school. Staff worked hard to show their subjects and activities to visitors and this meant a very long day. It is distressing to know that so many people who would like to attend our School of Character and are mad keen to engage in every aspect of what it has to offer, are, in practice, prevented from doing so by something as random as a 'lottery'.



Victory delayed is often sweet. The College has waited patiently since 2007 to field a winning team in the annual golf match with the Old Lerpoolians. This has during my tenure turned into a nice social affair where we send a team of polite and eager golfers to be decimated by intense middle aged OLs who play golf four times a day. Imagine the surprise all around when we deployed a new tactic, indeed a new strategy. Alisha S in Chapter 9 and Anya S in

Chapter 8 are sisters who, if records are correct, may be the first girls to play in the match for the College. Their inclusion had immediate effect. We won! There was delight amidst the surprise and with Oliver H (Ch12) and Edward C (Ch12), we have a chance to build a golfing dynasty.

We would like to congratulate Mrs Pease (Head of Primary) and Mrs Lines (Head of Senior

School) on the completion of their NPQH, the qualification for headship in England. It is a tribute to their work ethic that they were able to continue to work with intensity and dedication while spending their evenings on this qualification.

Congratulations to Maleek A in Chapter 11. Mrs Van Gordon had set a summer challenge for her class to get involved with writing competitions over the holiday. Maleek submitted a poem to the Young Writers' Annual Showcase, an event which aims to democratise the world of poetry and to make it accessible for all. He found out this week that he had been successful with his entry and that his poem will be published in this year's anthology. The English Faculty are eagerly awaiting his next work!

Congratulations also to India W (Ch9) who stars in the film *Bolan's Shoes* which had its premiere in Liverpool last week. The film is now out in cinemas.

There are now so many auditions that I can barely keep track. The cast for *Half a Sixpence* has been chosen, and the show is underway. Today there are also auditions for *Cinders*, a Christmas pantomime directed by Ms Harper.



This week's **musician of the week** is James K (Ch8) who has been playing before and after Chapter 8's reflection assembly each week. James is currently teaching himself the basics of organ technique with some advice from Mr Bishop and with two instruments to practice on, he should make quick progress! Organ lessons are available to anyone who has passed Grade 5 on the piano.

Advance notice of the Charity Action Group's Great Cake Bake on the CCF yard at break time next Friday (29 September) in support of the Macmillan Coffee Morning.

It is good to see the day boarders and boarders joining together in various activities. Their involvement in the success of the Open Day was obvious to all. There is still space on our day boarding program which runs after school Monday - Thursday. Children participate in an activity each evening followed by one hour of supervised study sessions where they can work on their homework with the help of staff, followed by a restaurant-quality meal cooked by our chef. If you want more information, please email Mrs Latham [elatham@liverpoolcollege.org.uk](mailto:elatham@liverpoolcollege.org.uk).

Our Sixth Formers welcomed Mr Paul Olubayo, the city of Liverpool's Race Equality Officer for a conversation on Tuesday. This session really interested our students who asked probing questions and who responded to Mr Olubayo's invitation to work within the school to build a culture of anti-racism and inclusion. Pupils responded by volunteering to help Ms Kelly build up the group which can lead the pupil voice in this process.

Our **artist of the week** this week is Renee M (Ch9) with a David Setter and Rachael Taylor inspired cover design composition:



"We have been exploring the work of these two artists, although their styles are very different with Setter creating Portraits and Taylor floral surface pattern they both use continuous line to draw. We had a go at creating a piece as a fusion of the two artists and making a drawing using one single line"

Mr John Hardisty, father-in-law of Mrs Hardisty, is doing some great work for Ukraine. 'Generator John' fixes old generators and ships them to where the need is greatest in that distressed country. So far he has managed to repurpose/ buy 60 generators and send them over to Ukraine. If you would like to make a donation to support his efforts, please visit his fundraising page - <https://gofund.me/21813fe9>. As well as donations, John will also take any old / broken unwanted generators he can fix and repurpose them or to use for parts too, so worth checking in the back of your shed!



An important update from the PTA:

The new date for the fireworks is Friday 10 November at 6pm. You can purchase your tickets on Eventbrite by using this link

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/liverpool-college-pta-fireworks-bonanza-tickets-720838586617?aff=oddtcreator>

Further information is on the ticket link. We apologise to those who've already purchased their tickets for the 28 October, please email [pta@liverpoolcollege.org.uk](mailto:pta@liverpoolcollege.org.uk) with any enquiries.

We are playing King William Isle of Man in rugby this weekend. It is one of the longest running school sports fixtures in the country with its origins in the 19th century. It is their turn to come to us, later we will go to them. Ferries and planes mean we can't play until the afternoon at around 15.00. Should be another classic.

May I wish you and yours a dry weekend and we wish our Jewish pupils and families a meaningful Yom Kippur.

**Yours sincerely,**

**Mr H van Mourik Broekman**  
**Principal**

**Liverpool College Even Better**

Mental health is a major focus for all schools. Evidence shows a huge increase in reported mental health struggles by children and young people, particularly since the pandemic and our school is no exception.

***We did***

Mrs Scott, who many parents and pupils know through her work as an inclusion mentor in the secondary phase has taken on a new responsibility as the school's **Mental Health Coordinator**. Mrs Scott will lead on the development and implementation of an integrated mental health strategy and action plan across the whole school. This new role and our coordinated and evidence-informed approach to mental health will further strengthen our inclusion provision and help ensure that we can respond effectively to the challenges we know our pupils face.



**Even Better**