

Principal's Newsletter

24 November 2023

Dear Parents,

It is finally happening. Getting permission to build schools takes a long time, too long for pupils and teachers but after 18 months, we are about to begin the construction of a desperately needed classroom building which will contain 7 classrooms, many toilets and some administrative space. Parking for staff will be affected. Over time construction equipment will come on site. Please do not park on the closed part of Queens Drive as this is one of the entrances that will be used by the construction company.

The careers and education fair was a tremendous success. Gathered in the MV Hall were universities, apprenticeship programmes, public services and sixth form colleges all educating our Chapter 11 and Chapter 9 pupils and staff about what they offer. The same spirit of future oriented potential pervaded the Chapter 12 parents' evening where our young scholars heard for the first time, accompanied by parents, how the engagement with A level and BTECs is going for them. We are very pleased with the approach of both of our sixth form chapters at the moment and we look forward to seeing this reflected in their mock exams.

There is also excellent progress with some of our student societies and groups. Mr Barnicoat and the super debaters won the first round of the English-Speaking Union's Mace, a prestigious debating competition. They defeated some top schools and a sixth form college. Especially impressive is that our team is relatively young. Well done to Ismail A H (Ch10), Hannah S (Ch12) and Zaenab R (Ch12).

The Muslim Student Experience group continues to meet and plan activities and make suggestions. Their immediate projects are preparing more education for pupils about Islam and Islamophobia and creating opportunities for education and participation in the upcoming season of Ramadan.

The anti-racism group is developing a restorative approach to educate classmates and the entire school community about the reality and effects of racism and racist speech.

A word about attendance. Nationally, locally, and at Liverpool College we are not quite back to levels of attendance from before the pandemic. We are constantly working with parents, pupils, external agencies to improve this number including developing rewards and prizes for those groups of pupils who have inspired each other to excel.

If your attendance is 90 percent you miss 18 days of school, more than 3 weeks. Your academic progress is inevitably affected. There is a direct correlation between progress and attendance. The more you attend school, the more progress you make. For this reason, we have to work together to inspire pupils to go to school, minimize absence.

Our **artist of the week** this week, selected by Ms McWatt (Head of Expressive Arts), is Che H (Ch7).



In response to Saluting Our Sisters for Black History month, Che produced this great piece of work celebrating Angela David.

On Tuesday, a group of 8 Chapter 2 pupils participated in a dodgeball event as Mrs Ridley reports:



We acquired new skills and had the opportunity to apply them during spirited dodgeball matches against schools from across Liverpool. The children enjoyed themselves, performed well, and, most importantly, made us all proud to be Liverpool College! Well done Ashley, Omari, Lacey, Violet, Adam, Fahad, Lillia and Billie.

Our **musician of the week** is Leo B (Ch11) for his sterling work accompanying the Preplings in their upcoming Christmas Concert at St. George's Hall on Sunday. It's a difficult skill for someone of Leo's age to accompany young singers and he has taken on this task admirably. Good luck for Sunday, Leo!



The rugby 1st XV team played a tight game against St Edwards losing by a try which to most observers was scored by a player who was 20 meters offside. One of the great lessons of sport is that the referee is the boss, and without a referee there is no game, and no game is worth an argument. The game was an excellent advertisement for rugby.

We are looking forward to the Prep School concert in St George's Hall and next week's A level and GCSE music recital.

A reminder that our next Parent Information Evening is scheduled for Thursday 7 December at 5.30pm. This is open to all parents and is held in the Mossley Vale Hall. At the meeting, the College Leadership Team will provide information and updates on current issues and future plans and there will also be an opportunity for parents to ask questions and make observations about how we can further improve the school.

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

Yours sincerely,

Mr H van Mourik Broekman
Principal