

### Principal's Newsletter

26 April 2024

Dear Parents,

Happy Passover to all our Jewish pupils, families and staff. We hope you will have a blessed holiday.

My congratulations, felicitations and well wishes to Mrs Haynes whom the governors have appointed as principal for the 2024-2025 school year. I am delighted about this appointment. Mrs Haynes is a fantastic educator and leader, ideally suited to the task, who knows the school, is committed to its mission, and knows how to move the school forward and improve it. I shall be inviting her to "guest write" some parts of the newsletters from now on so that she can inform you of plans for next year.

In my tenure at Liverpool College, no pupil has obtained a scholarship to study at an Ivy League university in the United States. Yet this is indeed what Habeba H in Chapter 13 has achieved. Her place at Princeton was awarded to her after a rigorous process and is a credit to her abilities, ingenuity and perseverance. Congratulations Habeba.

Congratulations to the effervescent Elijah L in Chapter 8 who has completed the filming of some episodes for the BBC and will soon be appearing on the box. Elijah told me of his role and how much he has enjoyed playing his role and learning how a show like this is put together.

Not a dry eye in the house as the Prep School assembled this morning. The pupils had prepared a sign language farewell for their beloved forest school teacher, Mrs Jackie Shackell who is retiring today. Ms Shackell's enthusiastic embrace of every aspect of primary phase life including scouting, phonics and forest school has enriched the education of many. We wish her all the best.

The exam leave period is staring us in the proverbial face. Now is the time of heightened revision, last minute tidy ups, coursework submissions, and game faces. I cannot emphasize enough how important it is that pupils and students about to take this steady diet of exams sleep, focus, and are supported by parents to know that their best is always good enough. Our experience is that some pupils forget that all children in the UK since time immemorial have taken exams and have survived and that over the course of the examinations every pupil will have an opportunity to display their knowledge and skills and gain the qualifications they deserve. Pep talks are needed.

Today we are being visited by the assessor for the Quality in Careers Standard, the national quality award. Our careers programme formed part of an Ofsted study and the inspectors were very pleased with the work we do embedding careers education across the college, linking current learning with future possibilities and ensuring that pupils and students receive independent advice about their next steps, whether employment, apprenticeship, training or further study.

Mrs Drew (Careers Leader) has asked me to highlight an urgent request for your support:

*We are looking for support with the Chapter 11 Mock Interview Day on Tuesday 30 April, 9.30-4pm due to a large number of volunteer drop outs. This is one of our most important careers events of the year and extremely valuable to our pupils. If you can support us with conducting mock interviews for either the half day session, or even better, the full day please email [sedoran@liverpoolcollege.org.uk](mailto:sedoran@liverpoolcollege.org.uk) or [jdrew@liverpoolcollege.org.uk](mailto:jdrew@liverpoolcollege.org.uk) as soon as possible. Many thanks for your support.*

Mrs Achilleos is delighted with the efforts of our badminton team, captained by brothers Rick N and Liam N, at this week's match:

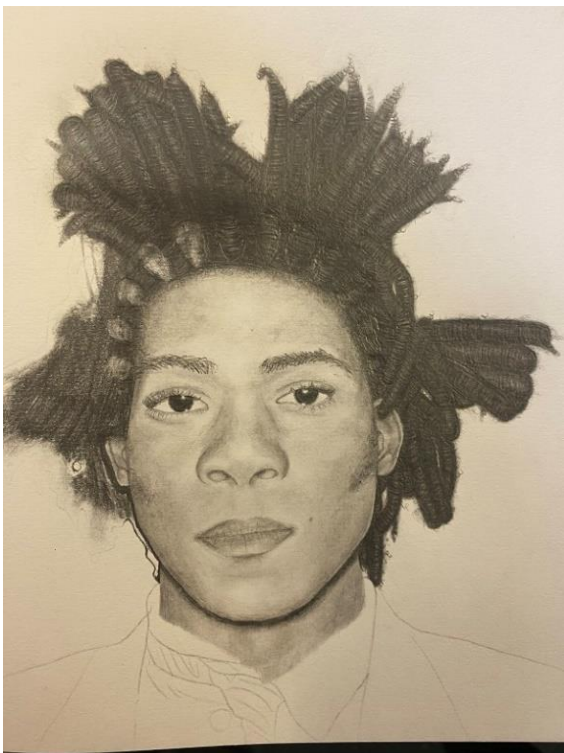
*Congratulations to the badminton team for Monday's performance against St Margaret's.*

*Rick N and Hayden McN won their doubles finals 15-11 and Brooklyn W and Erin J beat their opponents 15-13.*

*Players of the tournament go to: Rick N, Hayden McN, Brooklyn W, Erin J and Issy H.*

*Special mention to Liam N from Chapter 7 who stepped in very last minute and beat several of his Key Stage 4 opponents.*

*We look forward to future tournaments and growing the badminton team.*



Our **artist of the week** this week is  
Skye W (Ch9) with Basquiat.



This week's **musician of the week** is Artie H from Ch4 in recognition of passing two instrumental exams, Trumpet and Piano with a Merit and Distinction respectively; all while playing many notes (including improvisation) in the pit for *High School Musical*. Well done Artie!

The Music Department hosted its annual organ and brass concert in aid of the Organ Restoration Fund project on Tuesday evening, as Mr Harvey reports:

*The organ gala was a great success, kick off was 7pm in the School Chapel, the College Brass and percussion ensemble opened the concert with Purcell's Trumpet Voluntary and the other organists followed suit. It was a wonderful night of music, with the sun shining bringing Spring upon us. Do join us next year!*

Thank you to Lewis Harvey and our other organists Freddy Harvey and Alex Fishburn from Liverpool Cathedral, David Holroyd from St. Peter's Formby, Tim Harvey and of course our own Director of Music Daniel Bishop.



Our new build continues its seemingly interminable rise out of the ground. Visiting Mr Ridley's classroom in the CCF stores, I was reminded how badly we need these classrooms and how short of space we really are. We are all therefore focused on the appearance of foundations and walls promising relief from that overcrowding and appropriate spaces for our super teachers to do their stuff.

The boarders are off tomorrow to Llangollen to hike up a hill. They are looking forward to the ascent and we can all wish them sunshine.

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

**Yours sincerely,**

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