



Liverpool College

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## Principal's Newsletter

3rd December 2010

Dear Parents,

We have survived the arctic air so far. A little movement and reorganization was required for our trial examinations but eventually we found suitable warmth.

Last Saturday, we had a foretaste of the weather to come, but this did not prevent the crowds from attending the Parents' Association Christmas market. This event was a great success.

I want to give you advance notice of a slight change in our calendar. We had intended **April 18th 2011** to be an INSET day for staff. The royal wedding has changed our plans. In order to make sure we have the same number of teaching days with our pupils, especially those in examination classes, we have decided that this date should be **a regular day of school and lessons for pupils in the Upper School. The Pre Prep and the Prep School will still have an INSET day on the 18th April, so lessons will start on Tuesday 19th April for pupils in Nursery to Year 6.** We accept that this is late notice, and will make allowances for people who have made holiday plans. We feel this is the best thing we can do to protect teaching time and prepare our pupils.

**Tonight**, we will hold the end of term **Bonfire and Fireworks Extravaganza** from 18.00 in the grounds of Beechlands. Today is very busy generally. Our Year 7 pupils are at the pantomime, while our Choir is performing a Christmas Concert at the Palm House.

This afternoon our Duke of Edinburgh and CCF candidates will begin a first-aid course, one of the many courses available to them. I hope their skills will not be necessary at the bonfire later that evening. At the end of next week, the Silver Award expedition to Morocco will set off. This week our entire D of E programme was inspected by representatives from the organization. I was very gratified by their report which paid tribute to our enthusiastic staff and pupils, our high rates of participation and completion when compared to other independent schools in the Northwest and the central part the programme plays in the Upper School curriculum. As ever there were suggestions, and these included continuing to find ways to strengthen communication with parents about the programme and integrating it further into the curriculum of the school. We had plans to do these things anyway, but this inspection has given real impetus to these plans. Our idea is to organize the D of E programme to coincide with academic years so that every Year 9 has the opportunity to complete Bronze in Year 9 and every Year 10 has the opportunity to complete the Silver award in Year 10. We have also made sure that a pupil can do their expedition in the UK or abroad, as a way of making the programme more affordable for parents.

On **Tuesday**, we will hold our annual **Carol Service at 19.30 in the Anglican Cathedral**. This service is compulsory for pupils and I hope many parents will attend this event.

Next Wednesday, our Faculty of Science are taking our best Year 7 and Year 8 scientists to the Christmas science lecture at the University of Liverpool.

Mr Brady and Mr Lock have both organized revision sessions during the holidays. Mr Brady will be running history workshops in his classroom on Tuesday 14th December from 10.30-13.30 for Year 13 A Level candidates and from 13.30-16.30 for Year 13 IB students. On Wednesday 15th December there is a history workshop from 10.30-13.00 for Year 11 pupils who are re-sitting GCSE papers in January. On Tuesday 14th December, Mr Lock is holding a revision session for Year 13 IB geography students in G16 from 10.30-13.30.

The School Council under the leadership of Mr Turbitt continues to impress. I am always interested in the notes I receive of their meeting where various matters are discussed and proposed and where pupil opinion on matters large and small gets an airing. The Children in Need Charity Quiz was won by the Year 7 Selwyn's team: Danny Guttman, Tyler Reddin, Henry Sudbury and Matthew Le Gros under the guidance of Mr Hutchinson. The team won £40.00 by knowing, among other things, that the "Rainbow Warrior" was the name of the ship sunk off New Zealand in 1985. Well done to these polymaths.

May I wish you and your family a pleasant weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Hans van Mourik Broekman  
Principal



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