



Liverpool College

Principal's Newsletter

10th December 2010

Dear Parents,

The last week of term is, for me, a time of writing reports. In this instance about 330 of them. I am not sure I do every pupil justice. The extensive reports of subject teachers, house tutors and heads of house which precede my report cover an enormous amount of ground. The experience of writing reports is very enlightening for me. I am always struck by how much pupils are doing and, frankly, have to do. The sheer organisational challenge and the demands from every direction are sobering and humbling. It is in this context, that I admire our pupils and staff. They really have worked hard this term and it is increasingly rare for me to read reports of pupils who are not working or not trying. This afternoon, we will hold our end of term assembly and present awards to pupils for outstanding contribution to all the areas of the school.

That assembly will be an opportunity to thank Mr Paul Davis for his 25 years of service to the school as a laboratory technician. There is a small army of people who keep Liverpool College moving forward and make sure that our school is effective and safe. Mr Davis belongs to that army, which is too often overlooked or not recognized. Most pupils for example will have little or no understanding of what a laboratory technician does and how Mr Davis has helped them in their education. This afternoon we will take the opportunity to acknowledge his devoted and unselfish service.

Tuesday night we held our Carol Service in the Cathedral. It was particularly pleasing to see so many parents there and to have a really good turnout of our pupils. The attendance of parents and siblings makes the event special and the chaplain, our choir, our readers, and the Prep School choir all played their part in making this a special occasion. I had heard of Mr Harvey's newly arranged carol and had the opportunity to hear it from a very good seat for the first time.

Our Year 13 pupils will need to use the next 25 holiday days wisely. Some are just back from interviews, some have interviews next week, and some will have their trial examinations in the IB diploma or A Level module tests when they return to school in January. I hope they take time to relax and refresh before the final assault on the summit of IB and A Level examinations.

Mr Donnelly intends like Mr Brady and Mr Lock and other teachers to hold some workshops. On Tuesday 14th and Wednesday 15th December from 9am to 1 pm there will be an opportunity for A level and GCSE candidates to work in the art building.

On Monday of this week, I attended the AGM of the London Branch of the Old Liverpoolian Society. These meetings are inspirational because young as well as old alumni take the trouble to travel through, in this case, a frozen London landscape to hear about the school and its progress and to pledge support for its future success. The geographic diversity of our school family is reflected in the use of our website. On average about

1800 people visit our website every week. Their location is loosely tracked by the website and the map that emerges is extraordinary in its variety from Australia to Pakistan to Brazil. Partly this is due to boarding, but it is also because our OLs all over the world like to follow what is going on.

During the holidays you will receive the school termly magazine and your child's report. I hope you will take time to read these and discuss the report with your child. Early next term, I will be inviting every Year 11 parent and pupil to meet with me to discuss the trial examinations, a programme of preparation for GCSE examinations, careers advice and sixth form options as well as outlining details of our programme for the period after the examinations are completed.

I want to thank you for all the ways you have supported the College this term. The term has been effective and fruitful because of your support.

I wish you and your family a wonderful Christmas and a peaceful holiday.

Yours sincerely,

Hans van Mourik Broekman
Principal



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