



Liverpool College

Principal's Newsletter

5th February 2010

Dear Parents,

It is always exciting to host a foreign school. The pupils from Barker College in Buenos Aires thoroughly enjoyed their time in Liverpool. We pride ourselves on being a friendly school and the families hosting the girls from Barker provided great hospitality. Ms Hannah is already planning our return visit.

Next week is "play week". Performances are at 19:30 on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of next week. School plays are great occasions, even if your child is not in the play. This show also promises to be fun for the whole family and I hope you will come along to one of the performances.

After a good start, levels of morning tardiness are rising and I want to alert parents to the reality that school starts at 08:30 and that pupils who arrive late are given a lunchtime detention. In my family, we struggle at times in the morning to organize everyone and everything and get out of the house on time. Nevertheless, we are determined to begin on time and to have punctuality for our morning period. I hope you will make getting to school a priority. Arriving near or at 08:30 will make your child late for assembly, house assembly, chapel and house tutor period.

Today another humanities trip departed, this time for a visit to the concentration camp in Auschwitz. No better way of teaching the history and horror of the Holocaust can be imagined. Our pupils are always a credit to the school on these trips, which are full of sightseeing and frenetic travel.

It is reported that the government plans to do away with all Gifted and Talented provision in state schools, including the Gifted and Talented Academy. The programmes are deemed to be too expensive and also administratively cumbersome as all sorts of people are gifted and talented for all sorts of things, and this poses a programmatic and organizational challenge. We intend to proceed with plans to provide gifted and talented opportunities and make parents aware of opportunities beyond our curriculum. Some of those will be here on campus. Others will be at other institutions, particularly the University. Parents will be able to access these opportunities through our website. We aim to have this in place by the beginning of next term.

On Thursday, a group of Gifted and Talented Year 10 pupils travelled to the University of Liverpool for a Nano Technology workshop. Our links with the University are set to widen next year. The University has agreed to allow some of our Sixth Formers to take module courses in the afternoon at the University.

Frustratingly, all our football fixtures during the week have been unilaterally cancelled by our opponents and the weather saw our hockey match against King's Macclesfield abandoned. This Saturday offers the hope of some football against Hulme Grammar School, Oldham, hockey against Archbishop Blanch and county netball at St Julie's.

May I wish you and your family a happy weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Hans van Mourik Broekman

Principal



Liverpool College

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