



Liverpool College

Principal's Newsletter

5th March 2010

Dear Parents,

As our Year 13 pupils focus exclusively on their IB and A level examinations, we have announced our prefects for next year. There will be a Head Boy and Head Girl. Tomasz Chadwick will be Head of School and Head of Brook's and Georgina Potts will be Head of School and Head of Butler's. Nicholas Rooney is Deputy Head of School and Head of Howson's and Gemma Cunliffe is Deputy Head of School and Head of Selwyn's. The Senior Prefects are Antony Wilby, Mark Loveridge, Sean Daley and Katie Mitton. They are supported by a team of prefects from each house. I am very grateful to those who have agreed to serve next year and to those that served this year, including our Head of School, Christopher Schofield.

Year 11 pupils will receive in the next few days a letter concerning option blocks offered on the basis of subject preference surveys done last week and earlier in the year for Year 12. We ask that pupils return these by next Friday, 12 March. We encourage pupils and parents who have questions about the blocks or concerns about their programme of study to contact Mr Lock hlock@liverpoolcollege.org.uk or Dr Downes sdownes@liverpoolcollege.org.uk.

I hope to enlist your help in addressing the use and abuse of mobile phones by pupils in the Upper School. Sixth Formers are allowed to use their phones outside of lessons during school hours. All other pupils are not allowed to use their phones in school. Nevertheless it is not uncommon to see a pupil using a phone and, upon asking who they could possibly be speaking to, be told that they are on the phone with their mother! It has happened that a phone rings in a lesson. Again, parents, we are told, are ringing. Our policy is to confiscate telephones used inappropriately. Mobiles are now computers and parents are often oblivious to the material and software that is downloaded onto phones. Some pupils use the phone for Facebook, for email correspondences, for chat and, unfortunately, for inappropriate and sometimes obscene purposes. We have a clear policy on the responsible use of all technology on school grounds and during school activities. There are disciplinary consequences for the abuse of phones. I hope you will make sure that your child is not abusing their telephone in or out of school. We are certainly determined to teach responsible use.

Like Canada at their winter Olympics, our musicians have had much success at the Liverpool Performing Arts Festival this week in St George's Hall winning eight medals. Classes this year were extremely competitive and our students demonstrated a high level of professionalism and self-confidence. Adjudication from distinguished musicians was mostly encouraging, though not without criticism, and our students will have gained valuable insight into the minds of musicians who are used to working at the very highest level in this industry. We are delighted to announce that we came away with eight medals in total, and our congratulations go to Anna Parry (U14 String Solo Class) and to Tim Cunningham (U16 Solo Woodwind Class) both of whom won gold medals; to James Sinclair Ford (Over 16 Piano Solo Class), Laura Davidson (U16 Solo Woodwind Class), Oliver Yoxall-Dodd (Making Music' Class), Anna Parry ('Making Music' Class) all of whom won silver medals, and to Melissa Jones (U14 Solo Song Class) and to Daniel Murphy (Over 16 Solo Piano Class) who came away with bronze medals. Other creditable performances were given by Jonathan Davidson who saxophoned us funkily in the U14 Woodwind Class, and Fiona Sinclair-Ford who gave a beautiful performance of Puccini in the U14 Solo Strings Class.

On Tuesday, we held a Parent Information Evening in the Sutton Timmis. The discussion was positive and those parents present shared views on the Upper School Improvement plan, now posted on the website,

catering, reports, and the plans for the development of our campus. We will hold another Parent Information Evening next term.

Refurbishment work in the dining room will begin during the Easter holidays. Another exciting addition to our facilities is the creative media suite in our art building. This should be completed over the next few weeks and will give pupils an opportunity to work in creative media, digital photography and film.

Despite the sunshine this morning, the mood of our U16 rugby team is rather dark. Playing in the semi final of the Lancashire Cup they put in an excellent performance against Hutton Grammar School, with Aidan Drew and Tom Featherstone-Witty scoring excellent tries and Jack Donnellan kicking his penalties very well. We were leading comfortably with ten minutes to go. Unfortunately, we were unable to hang on. Competitive sport teaches many important lessons, including winning and losing gracefully and taking personal and collective responsibility. We are proud of the team and of Mr Brady's efforts in bringing them so close to the final.

We are proud also of our U15 and U14 girls hockey teams. Both are now city champions defeating St Edwards 3-0. Tomorrow our U12 and U13 girls are playing St Edwards at home. Girls hockey is a real strength of the College sport scene at the moment.

Our rowers took a bath last Wednesday. This is not an unexpected part of learning to row in narrow and fast racing shells. Because of the training they had received and the preparation of our coaching team, there was no alarm or danger. The event is already part of the expanding lore and lure of the rowing club. The club has about 28 rowers actively involved.

The Chemistry department took a group of pupils to the University of Liverpool to attend a nanotechnology workshop. 14 students accompanied Mr Traynor to a "Welcome to Nanoworld" workshop held in the Chemistry Department. During the workshop, pupils made their own samples of magnetic liquid called ferro-fluids. These fluids are at the forefront of nanotechnology research and could possibly be used in future medicinal drug delivery systems. On a lighter note the students were then given the task of making a pencil levitate using only some magnets, bluetac and a microscope slide. Not as easy as it first sounds. Kudos and praise for Peter Ryan and Lloyd King who cracked it first.

Tomorrow, our Sixth Form mathematicians will be competing in a Math Pop Quiz at John Moore's University. The event is sponsored by the Mathematics Society at John Moore's University.

This Monday, 8 March, 19.00 in the Drama Room, we are hosting an informal drama evening involving our Speech and Drama competitors. Pupils will perform a selection of different entries such as monologues and duologues. It is an opportunity for parents and friends who cannot attend the Liverpool Performing Arts Festival to see the pupils in action. The event will last for 45 minutes approximately.

The [May Ball](#) will take place on May 1 this year. Parents and friends of the College (over 18 years old) are invited. After the success of the 70's disco, this Parents' Society event looks set to provide more fun and entertainment. Last year, the event was sold out, so you are encouraged to get your tickets early.

May I wish you a very pleasant weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Hans van Mourik Broekman
Principal



Liverpool College, Queen's Drive Mossley Hill Liverpool L18 8BG Tel: 0151 724 4000; 0151 724 1611 (Admissions)
Fax: 0151 729 0105 Email: admin@liverpoolcollege.org.uk Website: <http://www.liverpoolcollege.org.uk>
If you would prefer no to be sent future emails please [click here](#).