



Liverpool College

Principal's Newsletter

6th November 2009

Dear Parents,

The school has roared back to life after half-term. We have had great reports of successful trips to Berlin and Paris and also a successful Duke of Edinburgh expedition over the break. On Tuesday we had a very well attended Year 11 Parents Evening. We discussed the school's preparations for next year's Sixth Form curriculum, which will be based upon the preferences of pupils and their families and is expected to include more A-level courses than are currently available within the AQA Baccalaureate. More information about our Sixth Form curricula can be found on our website. Next week; **Wednesday 11th November** we will hold our **Year 13 Parents Evening from 16.30 to 18.30**. A letter from Mr Lock with important information for Year 13 pupils and their families can be viewed [here](#). The mock examination timetable for GCSE and IB candidates can also be downloaded from the school website [here](#).

Tonight's **Bonfire Night has been postponed to next Friday, November 13th**. I would like to invite parents and pupils to our Remembrance Day parade and service at the Chapel. This will take place this Sunday, 8th November at 10.30.

Our plans for the refurbishment of the dining room are continuing apace. We have a designer for the interior and a consultant to evaluate and improve the dining room environment and our high standards of food service.

My own half term was spent in Hong Kong and China where I met with families and pupils interested in boarding at Liverpool College. The scale and size of Chinese cities made Liverpool seem pastoral and Arcadian. A visit to a Chinese school in Ghangzhou was particularly fascinating. For all the criticism of British education and the why-oh-why complaints of pundits and journalists, any visit to a Chinese school would quickly give reassurance about the culture and ethos of British education. Class sizes are large (up to 60), and the availability of library and technology resources and facilities, such as a dining room or sports hall or playing field, is much more limited. Teaching styles are quite didactic, although I also saw examples of extraordinarily lively and interactive instruction. The passion of pupils and teachers to learn English and to know as much as possible about other cultures stood in sharp contrast to the failure in this country to inspire pupils to study foreign language, history and even geography.

Speech Night is on **Monday, 16th November** and we will have a normal schedule of lessons before festivities begin at 19.30 at the Philharmonic Hall. I hope parents will attend the event.

Our hockey teams are continuing to impress. The U15 girls won their first 2 matches in their hockey league before half term. They beat Bluecoat 1-0 and Archbishop Blanch 3-1.

The boys 1st XI hockey team beat Sandbach 2nd XI 1-0 yesterday in a close match. The goal was scored by Liam Talbot.

Congratulations also to Jane and Sarah Bazley-Harrison who represented the North of England U16s during half term in the regional hockey competition.

We wish the U18 girls team good luck. They are competing in the regional finals of the national schools hockey tournament at Timperley hockey club on Tuesday. Parents are encouraged to come and support the team.

I look forward to welcoming you at one of the upcoming events and wish you a restful weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Hans van Mourik Broekman
Principal



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