



Liverpool College

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## Principal's Newsletter

7<sup>th</sup> October 2011

Dear Parents,

Tomorrow is Open Morning. Many pupils will be involved in welcoming, guiding and entertaining our visitors.

A reminder that on **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October** we have our annual **Founders' Day Service** at Liverpool Cathedral at 12pm. Upper School pupils are expected to make their own way to the cathedral and arrive no later than 11.30am to meet their House Tutor outside the Cathedral. The Service should end at around 1pm and pupils are then free to go home. There will be no lessons or school transport on this day.

On Thursday our Sixth Formers made their EPQ presentations in the dining room. I am sorry I missed this because from several comments and emails, it appears that the quality of many of these presentations were very high. The independence, resilience, and creativity required for a good EPQ project make this an excellent challenge for our pupils about to embark on their university courses. This moment of public accountability helps focus pupils and tutors.

I have been at the annual HMC conference for most of this week. Fortuitously, the conference was held in St Andrews, a place which holds many memories for me as I was a student here for four years. Highlights of the conference were some excellent talks especially one by Lord Winston, the Imperial College professor and government scientific advisor, who spoke about the importance not only of a liberal and broad education but also of establishing a higher level of scientific literacy.

There was, as seems to be the case every year, much discussion and exhortation to seize the independence of our school as an opportunity to chart a distinctive path. There is also extensive discussion of initiatives originated by the government and of best practice and new approaches championed by schools.

I was touched to meet the headmaster of Wellington School who had been on the plane with our hockey team as it travelled to Australia for last summer's tour. He praised our pupils and our staff whom he described as friendly, charming, and in his words "quite wonderful." These comments came on top of an email earlier in the week from Lord Derby, President of Liverpool College, praising the performance of our Corps of Drums at the leaving dinner of the Dean of Liverpool Cathedral who will now become bishop of Durham. The Very Reverend Justin Welby gave an excellent talk to our Sixth Form a year ago about peacemaking and his work in bringing reconciliation to war torn countries. Such comments are really quite wonderful.

Our First XV keeps winning. Cheadle Hulme (29 - 25) and Rossall (19-12) were put to the sword this week. Meanwhile the U12 and U13s both recorded significant victories against Rishworth during the week. I watched an excellent game of school sports in an U15 match between the College and Cheadle last Saturday. We lost by the narrowest of margins but the noble spirit of the game managed to outshine the glorious weather.

Well done to Alex Cooke, James Washington and Tony Hammond who represented Merseyside on Wednesday v South Cheshire, winning 44 - 0. Alex scored one try and James scored three.

Congratulations to Year 7 pupils Luke Beyga, Alan Breeden, Lukas Falkingham, Saul Nagus, Dylan Rowe, Will Johnson and Daniel Doyle who, in addition to playing for the school, are also members of the 'Wids Rugby team' in Widnes who won the Littleborough Rugby Festival last Sunday.

Our U16 football team defeated Arnold School 4-3 in the ISFA Cup this week. Well done in particular to Luke Pritchard who scored a hat-trick.

In Netball our Seniors beat Kings 18-14 on Wednesday and in our block fixture against Fazakerley, Years 7 and 8 both won and Year 9 just lost out in a low scoring match 1-2.

The U14s just missed out on qualification for the hockey North West Finals of the National Tournament as they lost 1-0 to Merchant Taylors in the County round on Tuesday. The Seniors had a close match with Kings Macclesfield on Wednesday. The score was 1-1 with Catherine Bazley-Harrison scoring our goal.

A reminder that the **Parents' Association Craft Evening** is taking place on **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October** from **6.30-9.30pm** in the Dining Hall. You can enjoy a great evening of craft demonstrations, hands on activities and refreshments. No previous crafting experience is necessary and all materials and refreshments are included in the £20 ticket price. You can bring along friends and family. Please book now as places are limited and the organisers need to know numbers for materials and refreshments. For information/booking contact Alice Case on [casealice@aol.com](mailto:casealice@aol.com) or 07813 445138.

May I wish you and your family a happy weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Hans van Mourik Broekman  
Principal



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