



Liverpool College

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## Principal's Newsletter

16<sup>th</sup> September 2011

Dear Parents,

Tuesday saw the return of our intrepid, somewhat bedraggled Year 7 from their induction camp in the Peak District. They successfully survived a weak hurricane on Sunday. Major Pickett reports that their spirit and perseverance were excellent throughout and, despite a lack of sleep and an abundance of rainwater and mud, they were all ready to roar again on Wednesday morning for their lessons.

The timing of the return from this trip with a Year 7 Parents' Evening was not fortuitous. To make sure Year 7 parents do have an opportunity to discuss their child's progress we are scheduling an **additional Year 7 Parents' Evening on Tuesday, November 1 from 16.30-18.30**. All subject teachers will be available to discuss progress and, at that stage in the term, there will be substantial progress to discuss.

The second week of term brought a full list of fixtures. The 1<sup>st</sup> XI girls hockey team travelled to Rydal on Wednesday for their first match of the season. With a couple of players missing the team managed to compete with a strong Rydal team. The final score was 3 -2 to Rydal. Our goals were scored by Sarah Bazley-Harrison from penalty corners. The team also played their first league game at Wyncote yesterday where they beat Blue Coat 1-0 with Sarah scoring again. The U15s girls hockey team also played Blue Coat in their first league game of the season. It was a competitive match with chances at both ends. The final score was 1 - 0 to Liverpool College. Our goal was scored by Eleanor Clark.

Last Saturday, three College rugby teams began their seasons with fixtures against St. Mary's College, Crosby. All three teams won, all three teams scored 36 points in winning. The U14s played particularly well as they had lost this same fixture last year. Joshua Breeden, Alfie Hughes and Kit Stevens in the backs were very effective, while Charlie Reed and Charlie Gilkes dominated up front.

Sports fixtures are exponentially increasing in number and difficulty this weekend.

There are rugby and netball fixtures at Birkenhead School while our 1<sup>st</sup> and 2nd XV open their season at home tomorrow against Birkenhead School.

I attach a schedule of activities for the term from Mr Griffith who will further elucidate the options available to pupils at assembly on Monday. I am excited to read that we are once again entering a team in the cross country championships.

On Wednesday night Mr Traynor and Mr Turbitt attended the Nuffield Foundation Celebration Evening at the World Museum in Liverpool. They were there to listen to Archer Wang and Emma Lathar, two Year 13 pupils who had applied for and obtained a Nuffield place over the summer. This is in and of itself quite a feat. 130 bursaries were available for pupils in the North West and there were 5 applicants for every successful bursary this year. Archer Wang's project was entitled "*Acoustic Metamaterials*". Working in conjunction with researchers at Liverpool John Moore's University, Archer applied lasers to metals and composites found on airplane wings in the hope of making them hydrophobic, literally scared of water. If water does not attach to

wings, frost and the subsequent delays caused by de-icing can be prevented.

Emma's project was called *"Misoprostol - Creating novel digital solutions to Misoprostol Dosage Social Marketing"*. In conjunction with researchers at Liverpool University for the World Health Organisation, she designed and wrote a programme for an "app" suitable for iPhones and iPads to help medical staff give accurate dosages of this pharmaceutical. Serious repercussions can ensue for a patient when even a tiny change is made in the dosage. Both pupils spoke with a love and deep knowledge of their project and were excellent communicators for progressive scientific research in Liverpool. When the application process begins for summer 2012, pupils will be informed by Ms Miller who has been organizing the application for these bursaries at the College.

Mrs Reid's desk is also laden with research on topics obvious and abstruse. Extended Project Qualification drafts were due this week for our Year 13 pupils. Some pupils have produced excellent literary endeavors, including Lucy Sellars' bi-lingual children's book and Joanne Sarginson's pastiche of Jane Austen. Many pupils explored areas related to their intended university courses. Matthew Brook researched economic change in Cuba, Joshua Smith concentrated on factors influencing the development of aerospace technology. Producing a project of this kind is a major challenge for pupils, but it must surely be counted as one of the best things to do in preparation for the independence of university study. Mr Hutchinson, who is taking on the responsibility of developing our EPQ programme has many ideas for making this part of our curriculum even more meaningful for pupils.

Mr Ansari, political correspondent for BBC Northwest, kicked off our Sixth Form lecture programme on Wednesday. In the next few weeks, speakers will enlighten us in fields as diverse as mathematical patterns in randomness and the causes of the recent riots.

Next week the Parents' Association will hold its AGM in the Sutton Timmis Hall on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September at 18.30. On the same day our Sixth Form art pupils will visit the Tate art gallery. On Thursday we will hold our School Council elections.

My meetings with Year 11 pupils and parents have begun and on Monday we will introduce the year group to the system we have developed for monitoring their progress and giving them the best possible feedback.

Such has been the interest in Macbeth that Mrs Hall is not able to cater to all interested thespians through the casting of this play. She will therefore ask some pupils to work on an acting for camera project with Mr Loli. The results of this project will be screened on the nights of the performances of Macbeth.

I hope you and your family enjoy a very pleasant weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Hans van Mourik Broekman  
Principal



**Liverpool College**

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