

7 December 2018

Dear Parents,

Next week our Year 13 will be embarking upon their Mock Examinations. This will take place from Wednesday to Friday. Please use this link to our website for the combined timetable.

http://www.liverpoolcollege.org.uk/images/December_2018_Trial_Examinations_GCSE_A_Level.pdf

Our sincerest thanks to our Exams & Sixth Form Manager Mrs Hayes, who has undertaken this huge organisational task, collapsing timetables, arranging seating plans, liaising with the SEN Department and ensuring that all papers and staff are where they should be. An onerous task at the best of times compounded by the fact that Mrs Hayes fractured her ankle after a fall in school. She was back in school within hours of the accident at her desk putting the final touches to our Mocks. Maybe some of our students should take some inspiration from this stoicism and dedication to their work.

Rugby

I had a wonderful Wednesday afternoon this week when I had the opportunity to travel to Blackpool not to see the illuminations, but to watch our 1st XV play against AKS in the semi-final of the Lancashire Plate. We had an emphatic victory. Adam has written this excellent report which highlights the passion and zeal in which our players performed.

Semi-final vs AKS: 23-3

Yet again our First Fifteen were able to dispatch an extremely strong side. No doubt the continuous shouting support from Mr Brady, Mr Muscatelli and co prompted the lads to put in an extra display of skill and flare.

Going seven games unbeaten is an incredible achievement, especially when you consider the level of opposition that the team has faced. This game continued the running theme of aggression, discipline and brilliant scores which we have come used to associate our first team with. Strong attack and defence from the forwards showed clear dominance. Ben B, on his first appearance in over three months, showed exactly what the pack had been missing with his outstanding display. The backs always looked dangerous when the ball went wide; Chris C was especially eye-catching, orchestrating everything successful which came from their moves.

Of course there are aspects we need to improve on. The scrums and lineouts were inconsistent on Wednesday and something that Mr Heeley will undoubtedly work on and perfect. We now go into the final in great confidence, knowing we are fully capable of bringing some silverware back to Liverpool College. What is most pleasing is to hear that the younger years are starting to take interest in our Senior squad. If our current players can inspire future players to succeed with the school then we are definitely doing something right.

Tries: Chris C, Pieter B, Adam M (x2)

On Saturday both the 1st and 2nd XV have fixtures against St Anslem's at home. We hope for success in this re-match.

A Level DT: Product Design in Action Conference, Warwick University

Mr Cartwright brought the future Lord Dysons to Warwick University on Monday. The following highlights what a productive day it was. A report from Daniel L Year 13:

We began the conference with a talk by the award winning industrial designer Sebastian Bergne. He stressed to the 800 strong audience of Britain's future innovators, artists and architects that good design should aim to make even the most mundane of everyday objects special. He highlighted the importance of being willing to be flexible and to be able to think outside the box to thrive in such a competitive industry. Once, when approached by a client to design a soap dish that would prevent the soap bar from disintegrating he instead designed a ring shaped block of soap that would dry by itself when hung from a hook on the wall and therefore would not disintegrate. This kind of thinking, he told us, comes from experience and cannot just be learned in a classroom.

In an era of romanticism, fuelled by the Instagram generation's eye for the aesthetic, Icelandic product designer Theodóra Alfreðsdóttir reminded us that design is far more than meets the eye, it should tell a story and have a purpose beyond its appearance.

Amongst other things we heard from a car designer from Jaguar Land Rover, threw paper aeroplanes at a bucket from across the auditorium and watched a small army of orange robotic arms eerily take over Hull's old town in the name of "culture".

Overall it would be safe to say that the lecturers were informative and gave us as students a useful insight into the world of design and its future as an industry.

PP1

The PP1 has been posted out to Year 13 and the Year 12 students have the paper copy in their possession. I have written to those I need to see and would expect you to make the relevant appointments to meet with me to discuss the issues that have been raised from these results. If you have any other issues you would like to raise then please let me know.

UCAS

Our sincerest thanks to Mrs Gimeno, Mr Barnicoat, Mr Cartwright, Miss McKay, Mr Hutchinson and Dr Atkins for ensuring that the whole UCAS process was undertaken with great care, advice and above all success.

The Principal once had an award for staff referring to contributions going beyond the call of duty. The efforts undertaken by my aforementioned colleagues are testament to this. They have cajoled, guided, read an abundance of personal statements and written glowing references to ensure that your son/daughter receive the offer they would hope for. They have done this in addition to running a totally different Form group. We are extremely grateful of all the extra hours spent ensuring the completion of this process. We will internally close the UCAS system for the year 13 at the end of this term.

The official closure is the end of January, however we need to move on as my UCAS team now need to concentrate on their Form Groups.

Oxbridge

Our Oxbridge candidates and some of our medics are travelling to their chosen hallowed spires to be put under the cosh as to assess their worthiness to attend these fine institutions. I would like to thank Mr Leeder, the Principal and other staff and helpers for undertaking the interview practice and putting our candidates through their paces. We wish them every success.

Work Experience

I am delighted to hear that so many are endeavouring to organise their work experience in the Summer term. Already many have secured very lucrative placements. Most recently Faye H secured a post working for the Rt Hon Luciana Berger MP during work experience week. This should inspire others to be more assertive in addressing their placements.

Careers

Ellie Jones, our Careers Adviser recommends the following link for parents:

<https://www.careersadviceforparents.org>

Attendance

Please continue to encourage punctual, regular attendance. Parents must telephone or e-mail the **House Administrators** regarding the rationale behind any absence.

Please dial 0151 724 4000, Select Option 3, Senior Phase, then:

Press 1 for Butler's & Selwyn's (ext 3232)

Press 2 for Brook's Howson's (ext 3247)

Press 3 for School & Howard's (ext 3280)

A busy week is ahead of us and we hope that the students have been preparing with great earnestness for the forthcoming examinations.

I wish you and your family a very pleasant weekend.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Brady
Head of Sixth Form