

8 February 2019

Dear Parents,

This week I undertook the key note speech in the school Chapel. The focus of my theme was 'Icons' following the BBC series that sought to find the greatest Icon of the 20th and 21st Centuries. The 'peoples' vote' saw the nation anoint Alan Turing as the greatest icon. In that vein I presented Liverpool College's unsung iconic hero who made an impact upon lives for millions of years to come.

In 1866 George Butler became the Headmaster of the newly founded private school for the young gentlemen of Liverpool at a time when Liverpool was the fastest growing and one of the richest cities of the British Empire. He and his wife Josephine took up residence in their palatial home attached to the newly built gothic styled building which was the initial home of Liverpool College.

His wife Josephine Butler was the daughter of Earl Grey, she challenged the very establishment she grew up in by defending the rights of women especially those from marginalised communities. She worked tirelessly with women involved in illicit activities and those down trodden by abuse and prostitution to educate and provide health care. She challenged the law makers and achieved the impossible by ensuring the repeal of the Contagious Diseases Act an act that criminalised and ostracised the poorest and most vulnerable women at that time.

The repeal of that Act and the work undertaken by Josephine Butler saw future generations of women to seek change and demand equality. Millicent Fawcett (leading Suffragette) stated that Josephine Butler was their inspiration in their hard fought campaign to gain equality with men in the early 20th Century. Therefore Liverpool College has our very own 'Icon' who provided the foundations to inspire generations of women to seek equality and justice. I hope our young men and women can be inspired by the work of this great lady who is inextricably interlinked with our school.

On Sunday our debaters travelled to Manchester to take part in regional Schools' Debating Competition. Like Josephine Butler they challenged many of the injustices that exist in society today and according to Mr Barnicoat, proved worthy contenders. Jake C has written this account of the debates that they partook in.

For the Latest debating competition on the 3rd of February, the Manchester Schools competition organised by Manchester University, 6 Sixth Form students were fortunate enough to be selected due to their attainment and commitment to the Debating Society. These being Leon E, Cate D, Jake C, Mia M, Kamby A, and Ayesha J.

I was one of the people lucky enough to be selected for the Manchester Schools Debating Competition at Manchester University. We were selected from the Debating Society to compete against other schools from across the North of England, with the hopes of advancing to the next round of the competition. The first debate for my team went disappointingly, however my teammate and I spoke to the Judge and acquired some feedback. We built on our mistakes to prepare for the next debate. Whilst still not winning, we did improve and were placed third but this only motivated us more. Due to our lack of success we were nervous but worked hard and this led us to come first in this debate.

In high spirits we entered our final debate of the day. We were put against the Liverpool College A team, as well as 2 other teams. Learning from our mistakes we performed very well and were happy with our performance following our improvement and progression during the day, even if we did not qualify for the next round, we are more ready for the next debate.

Sport

The poor weather conditions meant that all sport was cancelled at the weekend.

Netball:

During the week the Senior girls had a netball fixture against Westholme School. Emily C has written the following report:

During our games session, the Senior First Team played against Westholme. It was a tough match as they were a strong team and were a good opposition to play against.

Thank you to Sophie C and Isobel F who played up for the first team and performed very well. Eliane and Heather made some strong interceptions which helped our team progress in the match.

Although we lost 25-9, it was a good match to play as we fought back and applied more pressure towards their team in the second half meaning we increased the amount of possession we had and made it harder for them to score.

Gold DOE

I was delighted to award Ben B his Gold Award in our Year 13 Assembly on Thursday. Congratulations to Ben for completing the award and this should inspire others to complete the latter stages so they can enjoy the accolade of being a Gold DOE recipient.

Intervention

We have undertaken a number of Intervention meetings with parents to address some of the shortcomings that have been evident as a result of the Mock examinations.

I am pleased that most have embraced the Interventions that we have introduced. Supervised study has proven to be very successful so much so that some students who are not on Intervention have requested that they would also like to be enrolled into the supervised study led by Mr Leeder and myself.

World Cancer Day

World Cancer Day is the one singular initiative under which the entire world can unite together in the fight against the global cancer epidemic. It takes place every year on 4 February.

On Friday morning Matthew B and some of our Year 12 volunteers travelled the campus asking students to contribute to the World Cancer Day Fund. This was inspired by Mrs Doran who sadly lost her dear husband to this dreaded disease two years ago.

Our thanks to the students for giving their time and money to this most worthy of causes.

Medicine Offer

Congratulations to William F who has achieved an offer from Manchester University to read Medicine. We are very proud of all our students and the offers they have received. Our Medics do deserve special mention as their application process is extremely competitive and the applicant process so difficult that success is never assured.

Classics

On Thursday evening, Dr McNamara travelled to Stockport Grammar School with our Year 12 and 13 Classicists to watch their production of Andromache.

The following précis of this renowned Greek play by Eve W and Sarah D highlights to us all that the ancient world has resonance in the modern world.

Last night, we as Classics students were kindly invited to watch Stockport Grammar School's production of Euripides' Andromache. We arrived with only a basic knowledge of Andromache, and the backlash of the Trojan War, yet this production provided us with a greater insight into the subject. Alongside the remarkable acting skills and confidence of the students, we were taken aback by the level of musical talent, which replaced the choral odes of the play. It was a thought provoking production, leading us to consider in more depth the tragic character of Andromache.

In studying Classics we are used to seeing these plays on paper, and so to see them performed is a privilege. It is always a fascinating thought that we today are able to watch the same stories that were performed thousands of years ago and thus we are very grateful to the Classics Department for organising this trip.

Attendance

Please continue to encourage regular, punctual, attendance. Students should be in school by 8.20 am, registering at 8.25 am.

Parents must telephone or e-mail the **House Administrators** directly regarding the rationale behind any absence.

Please use the College telephone number 0151 724 4000 then key in the appropriate extension number for your son/daughter's House:

Butler's & Selwyn's (ext 3232)
Brook's Howson's (ext 3247)
School & Howard's (ext 3280)

Congratrulations

It is with great delight that we can announce that our Chaplain, Mr Hammersley has had a second son. Rory was born on Friday, 1st February weighing 8lb 11oz. Congratulations to Mr & Mrs Hammersley on the new addition to their family.

We wish you all a very pleasant weekend.

Kind regards,

Stephen Brady
Head of Sixth Form