

### Principal's Newsletter

10 November 2023

Dear Parents,

Like giants refreshed, we are tackling this new half term. Today marks a period of frenzied activity for the whole College with an own clothes day in support of the PTA. These days, when combined with heavy rain or snow fall, seem to cause excitement which can best be described as irrational and excessive by teachers and invigorating by pupils. But this is perhaps the best way to prepare for the big upcoming events. Tonight 1600 ticketholders will descend on campus for a firework display in honour of the discovery of the Gunpowder plot. The next morning, our CCF will be providing the colour guard for the remembrance service in the original Liverpool College building as the Collegiate Old Boys Association gathers at the plaque dedicated to those who lost their lives. This is now located in a building housing luxury apartment. On Sunday, the remembrance continues as we will host, for the first time in several years, a complete remembrance service with parade and chapel service.

The post covid development of our CCF continues. It has been great to see the way many Chapter 10 pupils are enthusiastically engaging in all the leadership and outdoor education provided through this unique part of our school. We are one of the largest CCF contingents, and among the founders of this movement back in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The history of the school was on our minds when our College leaders were briefed on the work done by the Liverpool College Foundation to establish a top-quality archive of Liverpool College and Huyton College. The current College will be contributing to the archive by systematically archiving materials of interest to posterity. You can catch a glimpse and become a member of The Lerpoolians site [here](#).

Remembrance weekend is also a time when we mention the heroic figures in the history of the school. Almost all pupils know about Noel Chavasse VC & Bar, MC, a doctor who heroically saved lives in the First World War, hated conflict and never fired a shot in anger. He competed in the Olympics, took a science degree, and especially loved his work with a youth group. He was a tireless advocate of the welfare of troops. It is sobering to reflect that his brother Aidan who also perished in the war and whose body was never recovered is barely remembered. A surviving brother donated a cross in his memory. In this time of conflict in so many places

across the world, the prayer for peace, the hope for peace wells up naturally on Remembrance Sunday.

An important request for parental support from Mrs Miller:

*On Friday 1 December we will be running a session on Multiple Mini Interviews (MMIs) for our prospective Doctors, Dentists and Vets in Chapter 13. The event will include a range of tasks to replicate those that students will face at their interviews including role play, data analysis and ethical discussions.*

*We would be delighted to welcome any parental support with this event (you do not need to be a medic) and if you are able to offer your time then please email me at the address below by next Friday and I will share more details.*

*I look forward to hearing from you.*

*Mrs Miller*

*Chapter 13 Dean*

[lmiller@liverpoolcollege.org.uk](mailto:lmiller@liverpoolcollege.org.uk)

### Our **musicians of the week**:

Our musicians have been busy over the half term, engaging in workshops, rehearsals and performances at various venues across the UK and Europe.



Will M, Adam S & Solomon W (Ch12, pictured) performed a set of ABBA songs at a 17<sup>th</sup> Birthday party at a venue in Allerton, supported by Joe N (Ch10) in the technical department; James K (Ch 8) and Grace K (Ch11) took part in the National Youth Orchestra Unite Inspire course in Lancaster; Leo B (Ch11) and Maria B (Ch7) took part in Orchestral ensembles at Dunfield House, Herofordshire, performing as soloists in works by Brahms, Bruch, Bloch, Dvořák and Bach; Adam S (Ch10), Enzo S (Ch10)

and Riley A (Ch9) took the initiative to book rehearsal space in town to practice; and four of our pupils (along with Mr Bishop) toured Belgium with the Cathedral Choir, performing six concerts over three days: Felix H, Olivia H & Will M (Ch12), Thomas H (Ch8), John Paul O & Reuben W (Ch6).

It is fantastic to see our young musicians actively engaging in music in their free time.

Our **artist of the week** this week is Ruth C (Ch13).



She writes,

*"This drawing is inspired by a Japanese artist called Matenscz Urbanowicz who focuses on recording and drawing shop fronts in Japan. Exploring the signage, colour and architectural details. I was attracted to this work as I like the use of colour and the softness of his drawing, I have tried to capture this within my piece."*

Mrs Drew (Careers Leader) reports on our on-going programme for pupils and students:



*On Thursday, Ch12 and 13 students who are interested in a law career were invited to meet with Jack Lewis, a trainee solicitor, from Macfarlanes, a law firm based in London. Jack gave our students an insight into his route into the profession, the structure of Macfarlanes and some of their international client base and then Jack gave our students information on Macfarlanes Legal Academy. This academy gives students an opportunity to spend a week on work experience in the main office in London, all expenses paid. Students are then mentored and return to the office for a follow up a year later. A really engaging session and fantastic opportunity.*

Mrs Duffy (Assistant Principal: Safeguarding & Inclusion) has highlighted some resources for parents on **online safety** and achieving a healthy and balanced use of the internet and digital devices. Please [click here](#) and [here](#) to find out more.

We have finally received confirmation of the start date of the construction of the new building on the senior school campus. This will commence November 27. We will be keeping you posted on developments as any construction of this scale and scope will, sad to say, lead to changes and disruptions and will require some co-operation on your part. As the project progresses, we look forward to the eventual opening of Queens Drive (no date has yet been provided to us for this), the erection of parking barriers on Queens Drive and the eventual creation of a Toucan crossing across North Mossley Hill Road and an illuminated walking path down Ibbotson's Lane. Please do help us keep children safe, especially now that school is taking place in semi-nocturnal conditions. There is far too much reckless and dangerous driving and we need to work together to prioritize the safety of persons over the convenience of ourselves.

The presence of invigilators on campus reminds us of the constant reality of examinations. The DfE has now published data about the performance of Liverpool College pupils last year. There are so many things to celebrate. Our pupils and students performed well in every phase. For me the highlights were the amazing KS2 SATs results. One example is that our pupils were in the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile nationwide for their in-depth mastery in Mathematics. Another very pleasing light point in the sea of positive data, is the performance of pupils who are disadvantaged in some way. They made even better progress than their counterparts at the end of Chapter 11. 85% of our pupils passed English and Maths, for boys in Liverpool overall that figure drops below 50%. At A and GCSE level, we had the second highest achievement in the city, behind a school that selects its pupils solely on academic ability rather than our non-academically selective process. There is much to celebrate but we move forward with determination to address all areas of school life, focusing especially on the development of the character of our pupils, their participation and contribution to the community, their integrity in living our values, and their care for each other.

May I wish you and yours a pleasant and dry weekend and a Happy Diwali to all our families who will be celebrating on Sunday.

**Yours sincerely,**

**Mr H van Mourik Broekman**  
**Principal**

### An Important Message from the PTA

There will be no PTA newsletter this week due to the fireworks event. All ticket holders should have received an email detailing information regarding tonight's events. Pedestrian gates will be closed from 7.15pm, with the display happening from 8pm. Please bring cash as limited stalls will have card machine facilities. Should you have any questions, please email [pta@liverpoolcollege.org.uk](mailto:pta@liverpoolcollege.org.uk), however please be mindful as we approach the beginning of the event, emails may not be responded to.

The weather is typically the great British weather so please come dressed accordingly - we recommend hat, wellies, trainers, umbrellas and coats - strictly no heels on the astro pitch.

Please remember to be kind. This is a PTA run event, who, along with their helpers tonight, are volunteers who have dedicated a lot of time and effort (blood, sweat and maybe the odd tear) into ensuring this event goes as smoothly as possible. Hiccups are expected, especially since we have 1600 people coming. Please support your PTA by remaining polite and kind.

We look forward to seeing you all!