

7 February 2020

Dear Parents

On Sunday I enjoyed a couple of hours of self-indulgent 'me time' watching the England v France Six Nations Rugby. As we prepared to watch this fixture there was a general consensus that we would see another thrashing of the French team that has underwhelmed for so many seasons. The final score was beyond all predictions which saw an emphatic victory over the World Cup Finalists. I read many of the post-match reports that discussed why the French did so well. Amongst the Rugby commentators they highlighted the extraordinary work ethic and a desire by this French team not to be stigmatised as the 'whipping boy' of Six Nations Rugby.

The same methodology can be applied to those languishing in the doldrums of academic failure. Throughout the week I have discussed with many Sixth Form students and their parents the need for real endeavour and industry to ensure success this summer. This demands hours of relentless preparation and sacrifice. Whatever interventions the College applies the hard work of our staff will be rendered irrelevant if our students fail to work.

There is still time to be victorious; despite the odds. The rhetoric and the promises have now been made. Let us now ensure that your sons and daughters abide by the solemnity demonstrated in our meetings. The 12th August will be the day of reckoning.

Rugby

Mr Cook, Sports Co-ordinator, has organised some fanatic sporting opportunities for our Rugby boys with a weekend tour to Cardiff. Unfortunately, the pricing of the proposed Tenerife tour has been replaced by a visit to the Emerald Isle over the half term.

We will send you a letter about the Cardiff, Ireland and Isle of Man tours just after the half term when we have finalised all the costs associated.

Football

The football team has continued to enjoy success. Ben J has written this account.

Liverpool College faced Oldham Hulme on a in another tough game. With a few key players missing from the mix, it was many players' chance to cement a place in the starting 11.

Liverpool College began the game with pace and intensity. Paul Murphy scored the opener in the first half bringing his tally up to 5 for the season. Patrick Craig dictated the play and controlled the tempo throughout, looking destined to be future captain.

The score line was harsh on the home side at half time after they matched the opposition for both intensity and creativity. Stephen Rawlings came close on numerous occasions, using his speed to his advantage but it remained level.

The Oldham Hulme Keeper played an important part in keeping his side level. Nevertheless, the first half performance from Liverpool College boys was nervous and suggested the visitors could have a chance to inflict a surprising defeat.

Oldham Hulme found themselves back into the game after the ball took fly into the back of the net direct from a corner.

Liverpool College, no doubt invigorated by a half-time talk, were quick out of the blocks in the second half. After the second goal was calmly slotted home by Dan G, the victory that most will have expected before the match felt inevitable and confidence levels rose for the final third of the game. The Centre-back partnership of Max E and Mathew G continued to flourish.

The final goal came in the closing stages of the match where Paul M grabbed his second, in a convincing 3-1 victory in one of toughest tests yet.

MOTM: It is impossible to fault the performance from Stephen R, who should be praised for his tireless work ethic and composure when on the ball. The Winger, who can play anywhere across the front line, caused havoc for the opposition's defence and shone in all facets of his game.

Girls Sport

Elysia S writes the following report:

Last Tuesday, the Liverpool College Girls First XI team travelled to St Edward's College to play a friendly game of Hockey.

We had an unsteady start getting into the game, and despite the effort of the team, St Edward's unfortunately managed to score two strong goals. However, everyone played enthusiastically and players who had never played before gained a lot of valuable experience in the sport.

In the second half, although we got stronger, they did too and scored twice again. Until the end, we looked forward and kept on improving as a team. We stopped them from scoring and had a few good chances, but still didn't manage to get a goal past their strong defence.

We remained positive throughout, knowing that the opposition were a stronger team technically and had more experience than us. Yes, it was a 4-0 loss, but we played extremely well considering.

Thank you to Jean and Mr Cook for organising, and to everyone else who went out of their way to make the game happen.

House Dash

On Wednesday during games we undertook the House Dash in Sefton Park. The contributions by the Sixth Form raised over £100 for Cancer Research. Ben C won the boys race, Emily J won the girls race and Stephen B won the 47 - 50 race.

Congratulations to all who partook.

Stars of the Week

Year 12 Emma M

Year 13 Lucas O

Debating Team

Mr Barnicoat and our team of Debaters progressed to the Regional Finals of the English-Speaking Union Schools' Mace competition. <https://www.esu.org/>. They travelled to Manchester Grammar School to battle against the elites of secondary education in the North West. They performed extremely well and Noah R has written this account.

We arrived at Manchester Grammar School at around 3:45pm. We were then registered before being told the motion of the first debate – This House would decriminalise all drugs –

Lucas N and I were opening for the opposition for this motion. After this debate we were offered some very constructive feedback and criticism from the student judge of the debate.

We were then escorted back to the Dining Room where we were told the motion of the second debate - This House would support a domestic content requirement for the British media - e.g. 50% of British media would have to be made in the UK and star UK actors.

Lucas and I were closing for the opposition in this debate. We both felt that we did better in this debate than in the first. Unfortunately, none our 4 teams went through to the Oxford Nationals. However, I feel it gave me a valuable experience and will help me for future competitions. Furthermore, I would like to thank Mr Barnicoat for the opportunity and for taking us all there.

Open Evening/Gladstone Scholars

I awoke early on Monday morning remembering I should have reminded the Gladstone Scholars and request the Year 12 to work as Guides on our Sixth Form Open Evening, so I sent an email at 5.00am! I needed not to fret. When I arrived at the Dining Hall on Thursday afternoon to help set up, we had sixty Sixth Form students gathered to help out.

Thank goodness that we had so many volunteers and Gladstone Scholars present, as it was an extremely busy evening that required all those who volunteered to be employed.

Oxbridge Workshop

Further to my Group Call email, a reminder that on Tuesday, 11th February at 4.30 pm we are hosting a visit from Magdalene College Cambridge in the Sefton Room. This event is open to our Year 12 and Year 11 students who are contemplating applying to Cambridge University or another high-tariff institution. Those who attend the Principal's Oxbridge group are expected and their parents are also invited. Please report to the school Reception and you will be directed to the auditorium.

When I initially commenced this Newsletter, I thought it was a quiet week. I was wrong - there is no such thing as non-eventful week in the life of our '**Outstanding**' Sixth Form.

Brace yourself for storm Ciara and use the weekend to prepare for the week ahead.

Kind regards

Stephen Brady
Head of Sixth Form