
Principal's Newsletter

13 November 2020

Dear Parents,

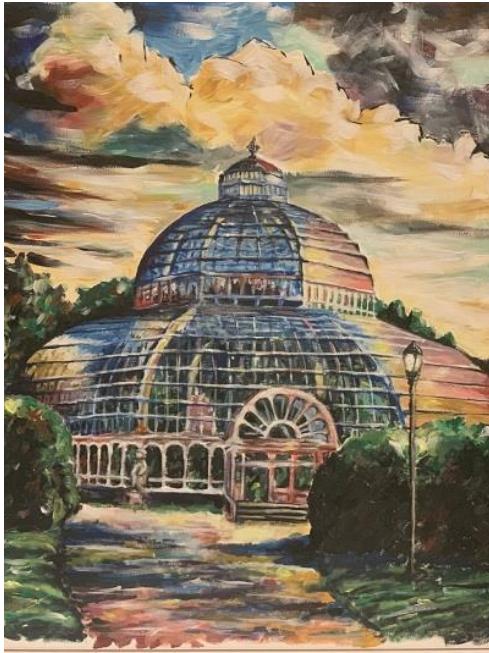
Lockdown does not mean slowdown at Liverpool College. It has been a week full of developments, initiatives and other learning impulses.

I received a polite but bullet pointed letter from an Army Major who intends to invite us to have all secondary pupils tested for Covid 19 on Tuesday 17 November. No one will or can be tested without your explicit permission, so I would ask secondary parents to return the permission form sent home by 'pupil post' yesterday. The on-site testing does not involve primary pupils. So far, testing across secondary schools in Liverpool is revealing a very low rate of infection, much lower than the one in other populations in the city. The testing programme will help the city get the pandemic under control and will provide vital information to policymakers. I hope you will participate.

Guidance changes frequently. Mid-week we discovered that we would in fact be able to resume extra-curricular school sports. For the duration of lockdown, we will be putting on a lot of extra sport for the well-being, mental and physical, of our pupils.

We had hoped to launch an extensive day boarding programme in September but restrictions made that impossible. Now, with Mr Hammersley at the helm, we are piloting some small and safe versions of the day boarding programme with a limited number of Year 11 pupils. We anticipate that in the months ahead we can continue to run pilots, and hopefully invite slightly more pupils to participate. The day boarding programme, once the cloud of Covid lifts, will include activities and additional academic work and support and will eventually be open to any pupil from Year 6 up. Day boarders get this support, enjoy exercise and activity, and round the day off with a delicious dinner in the dining room. I harbour high hopes that this programme, supported by a corporate sponsor, will enable even more of our pupils to reach their goals and will raise aspiration across the school.

Well done to boarder Liisa L (Y13 Brook's) whose painting of the Palm House in Sefton Park I attach below.



In lockdown, the arts are more rather than less important. Our own creativity needs outlets but we can also be inspired by the beauty and insight created by others. [Year 7 Brook's](#) have written lovely letters to a care home and the boarders have also made a full connection with a local care home. This gesture of reaching out to others who must be even more isolated and lonely than we are by the current circumstances is the right response from us to the situation around. Building connections and community are the way through this rather sad mess.

Remembrance Sunday became Remembrance Day. I was hugely impressed by the efforts of all the CCF officers and their cadets who proceeded with an honour guard and ceremony which was live streamed into every classroom at 11am thanks to the LC Filming Team led by Omar K (Y9 Howard's) and Luke P (Y8 Butler's). The cadets were focused and performed their roles with care and dignity. The absence of the chapel service, parents, OLs and other visitors reminded us all again of what we are missing this year in school life, but the spirit of the CCF and its cohesion were still clear for all to see.





A lot of Wilton Scholar and [Aspire Liverpool](#) activities have to take place online. Our Year 10 Inspire candidates will be attending another academic lecture in a massive zoom room, this time it is a talk by scientist Holly Ellis, an Oxbridge graduate in sciences who was educated and comes from Liverpool. It is really only zoom which is making some of these events possible as the need for travel, for venues, for physical organization melts away. Anyone, anywhere can reach out and deliver learning from anywhere.

The school shop has asked me to inform parents that they are closed during the current period of national restrictions. The shop will be operating as a Click & Collect point (no returns) for orders placed via the [online shop](#). Orders can be collected on Wednesdays between 12.30 and 5pm.

May I wish you and yours a sunny and restful weekend.

Yours sincerely,

**Mr H van Mourik Broekman
Principal**