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## Principal's Newsletter

22 October 2021

Dear Parents,

Founders' Day was a welcome resumption of our collective life. The choir and orchestra now have more than 250 members and their performances seem to improve despite the disruption of lockdown. Bishop Jill Duff was a visible reminder of the centrality of the purposes of our school, calling us out to seek and find the peace which surpasses all understanding. We hit the cinemas and restaurants hard, revitalizing the local economy for a few hours as about 1200 pupils, students, staff and parents emerged from the Cathedral and looked for a place to have lunch. It was, many told me, just good to be back as a school and to see that we are still Liverpool College, and still taking our tradition and mission forward together.

We need a break! And very fortunately we are about to get one. The half term has hurtled to a close. Symbolic of this energy is the house competition week. Sixth Form badminton players emerge from the sports hall proclaiming victory. Countless pupils swarm fields and AstroTurf to play hockey, rugby and football. The ultimate dance competition of all time takes place, with even Mr Heeley joining his form so his house can gain an advantage. The energy and enthusiasm are palpable. Even today as an Atlantic gale blows through Liverpool I have spotted pupils with backpacks on their back, ready to set out for another adventure.



I also attach the picture of the exertions of tug of war lunch time competition. I want to use this picture to highlight our discussion at the uniform consultation meeting last night. We discussed that our curriculum is now so kinetic that pupils are being asked to come to school on many days in sports kit. This looks exceedingly messy, with some pupils in full

uniform, others in improvised garb. About 40 parents joined us in a discussion about how this can be solved from the perspective of value for money and uniform quality, practicality, equality and simplicity.

The discussion was very helpful to us and we will report on our uniform plans at the next parent information evening on December 2 at 5.30pm. You can access a copy of the short presentation from the meeting [here](#) – obviously a powerpoint cannot be a complete explication of the consultation and the discussions at our one hour meeting but it gives some indication of the topics covered.



Ms Ridley tells me that Ted (Y1) and his grandad, a former school caretaker, are heroes of the environment. In the time they wait for an elder sibling to emerge from the Prep School they litter pick on Ibbotson's Lane and Queens Drive. Thank you, Ted and grandad.

We survey pupils and parents and, whilst early in the year, we were keen to get feedback on the Chapter 7 transition and curriculum introduced this year. The results are a tribute to staff and pupils, as they reveal an almost unheard-of unanimity in praising the development of the curriculum and the experience these pupils have had.

This half term has again been affected by Covid 19. We urge you to continue to test during the half term break. We hope there will be a so called circuit breaker effect in school transmission and that the number of cases and their impact on pupil and staff absence will subside somewhat in the next half term. You should definitely test your child before their return after half term.

A reminder that all pupils return to school on Wednesday 3 November. For pupils in the secondary phase, it will be **Week A**.

The inclusion team have asked me to share details of a parent virtual coffee event that YPAS (Young Person's Advisory Service) are holding on Wednesday 27 October. Please see flyer

below for further details.



**Parent Coffee Event  
Back to School Tips & Advice  
(Secondary Age)**



Hosted by YPAS Parent Team, online via **Zoom**  
Grab yourself a hot drink and join us for Information, Support and Advice

**WEDNESDAY 27TH OCTOBER 10AM-11.30AM**

**Services attending**  
KOOH- Wellbeing Platform  
Bullybusters- Bullying Support  
Child and Young Peoples  
Wellbeing Team

Please email  
**bookings@ypas.org.uk**  
to secure your place



Mrs Diamond reports that the LC cubs group led by the intrepid Ms Rogers have started their science badge this week using the secondary phase labs. The session was resourced and organised by Ms Norrey, our chemistry technician. The cubs thoroughly enjoyed it of course!

Classics and all things classical continue to grow and thrive. We are training three classics teachers this year, and through Ms Case we are the hub of extensive outreach activity in the region. The next Liverpool Classical Association event is a free public talk at 7pm on Thursday 4 November at King David High School given by Dr Andy Fear from Manchester University: "Blood and sand: Rome's gladiators" ([Click here](#) to download more information). Although the event is free, participants will need to register for tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/blood-and-sand-romes-gladiators-tickets-182519429527>

Gladiators are very glamorous in the imagination of pupils. Like so much in Ancient history and history generally, the more you know the less glamorous it all becomes and this talk will I am sure set the record straight.

I hope you enjoy a wonderful half term.

**Yours sincerely,**

**Mr H van Mourik Broekman  
Principal**