LIVERPOOL COLLEGE

A School of Character

Principal's Newsletter

5 September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Despite the decidedly autumnal weather this week, there has certainly been no dampening of spirits as the children returned to school bright, keen, enthusiastic and eager for the year ahead. The first few days of term are always exhilarating, and slightly overwhelming, as pupils find their catering locations, classrooms, learn the new timetable and routines.

While pupils began their school year on Wednesday, our staff started the term on Monday with two INSET days during which we discussed our priorities for the year ahead as well as how we can develop our teaching and learning to best meet the needs of all our children. The theme of "getting it right for those with the greatest need means getting it right for the whole school community" ran throughout our two days of staff training, whether it be safeguarding and health and safety training, developing pupils' reading and writing skills or adaptive teaching in the classroom. I also had the opportunity to thank staff who had worked hard over the summer to ensure that the campus was looking great on our return, including painting classrooms and offices, deep cleaning communal areas and installing additional CCTV across the site.

Before we look too far ahead however, we also need to recognise some of the tremendous work of our pupils and staff that we didn't have a chance to celebrate at the end of last term.

On the evening of the last day of the Summer term in July, our Chapter 8 Tackling Racism ambassadors, their parents and Mrs Kelly (Diversity Lead) and I attended the <u>Anthony Walker Foundation's Tackling Racism in Schools Award Ceremony</u> at Liverpool's Yoko Ono Tung

Auditorium. Mrs Kelly reports:

Our Chapter 8 ambassadors were given the honour of receiving a Bronze Award, after a positive journey leading the Chapter through the Tackling Racism in Schools programme. The ambassadors were commended for their efforts by Dr Gee Walker.

The night of celebration was an exciting affair; highlights were the thought- provoking and powerful poetry of Levi Tafari and the captivating Afro-Brazilian samba Music of the Mersey Batala band.



This year a new set of Chapter 8 ambassadors will undertake this role while Chapter 9 ambassadors will work towards the Silver Award continuing the message that racist behaviour is unacceptable and not to be tolerated.

It was a very proud moment when Liverpool College was invited on stage to receive their award. Particular congratulations to Mrs Kelly, who has used this programme to build on the excellent practice of our school community and who received a special mention at the ceremony itself.

We are thrilled to congratulate **Joseph W**, who completed his A Level studies with us last year, on an extraordinary achievement at two of the world's most prestigious science competitions! Jo earned a Gold medal at the International Chemistry Olympiad held in Dubai and a Silver medal at the International Biology Olympiad in the Philippines. These highly competitive events brought together around 300 of the brightest young scientists from over 90 countries, where participants tackled challenging theoretical and practical exams. Jo's outstanding performance is a testament to his dedication, talent, and passion for science. We are incredibly proud of his success on the global stage!

Chapter 9 Classics pupils were also given a fantastic opportunity at the end of last academic year to be part of a Society of Antiquaries project translating clauses from the original Magna Carta document of 800 years ago into English. In an educational programme organised in partnership with 'Classics for All', a charity that encourages teaching classical subjects in state schools, our Chapter 9 pupils led by Mrs Knoop joined with six other schools across the country to create a public exhibition of pictures and translated documents to mark 800 years since King Henry III issued what is widely held to be the definitive version of the Magna Carta. Well done to all involved.

I also want to take this opportunity to congratulate our primary and secondary pupils on their impressive external examination results in the summer, as well as some wonderful LC+ achievements. These results demonstrate what can be achieved when we all work together: parents, teachers, and the pupils themselves. It is vital that we maintain this positive and constructive communication as we strive for greater consistency and for inclusivity across every phase of the College. I look forward to meeting many of you at our Chapter Information Meetings next week. These meetings provide a useful opportunity for us to look forward to the year ahead, address any concerns and clarify what can sometimes seem a daunting and overwhelming list of expectations and standards for the year ahead. Mrs Lines'

and Mrs Pease's start of term letters to parents sent out last week include the dates and times for these meetings.

At our whole College staff meeting on Monday, I introduced several new members of staff to their colleagues:

Joining us as an Assistant Principal with responsibility across the College for Inclusion is **Mrs O'Meara Day**. As Assistant Principal: Inclusion, Mrs O'Meara Day will be responsible for the development, implementation and quality assurance of the school's inclusion provision and programmes, including SEND.

In the Primary phase, **Mrs Fisher** is a new member of teaching staff, joining the EYFS team in Reception.

In the Secondary phase, some faculties have new members of staff in their team this year:

Maths Faculty	Mr A Taylor, Mr S Taylor
English Faculty	Miss Pagan, Mrs Connor
Science Faculty	Dr Moon, Mrs Clarke, Mr Graham and Mr Higham
TES Faculty	Mr I Cartwright

Miss Roscoe Edge and **Miss Jones** also join the secondary phase team as Learning Support Assistants and **Miss Dickson Evans** as a Cover Supervisor.

Welcome to the College community to all our new members of staff!

In the first week of the summer holidays, 65 of our secondary phase musicians were on tour as Mr Bishop (Director of Music) reports:



Our musicians thoroughly enjoyed their annual concert tour, this year to Tuscany, performing in venues across Florence and Lucca, including performing at a local music festival.

Alongside this, we visited a variety of famous places including the Leaning Tower of Pisa, Brunelleschi's Dome at Florence Cathedral, Palazzo Pitti, Boboli Gardens, Uffizi Galleries and Montecatini Alto.





In our downtime, we explored various cities and towns, engaging with the culture and sampling the local cuisine, from pizza to gelato!

A very big thank you to Mr Bishop and all the members of staff who accompanied the tour for giving up their holiday time to enable our pupils and students to have access to these amazing opportunities and experiences.

You are able to **listen to a selection of the performances from the tour concerts** on the LC Music page <u>here.</u>



It will be another busy and exciting year for our musicians with a packed timetable of events and shows. There are plenty of clubs and opportunities for your secondary phase child to get involved in as Mr Bishop explains below (primary phase parents have also received information about music opportunities in primary from Miss Clark):

Music Clubs

If your child would like to sign up to take part in any of the music clubs on offer, they can scan the relevant QR code(s) in the music club registration form (accessed by <u>clicking here</u>) to register their interest. All rehearsals begin next week.

Learn an instrument at Liverpool College

If your child would like to learn an instrument or take singing lessons during the school day, please click on the links below for further information for the primary and secondary phases of the College:

- Primary Phase
- Secondary Phase

Our Chamber Choir and cadets from our CCF will be involved in a special Evensong service at Liverpool Cathedral on Thursday 25 September. Due to our links and proud association with Captain Noel Chavasse VC and Bar MC, the school was invited by the Liverpool Heroes Committee to participate in the service which will mark the presentation of the maquette of Tom Murphy's Liverpool Heroes Memorial to the Liverpool Cathedral.

The organisers of the event have issued a special invitation to the service to all members of our school community and you can read more about the event and how to attend on the **Lerpoolians website** <u>here</u>.

For parents and carers new to the school, **The Lerpoolians** bring together a network of alumni, sixth form students, parents (past and present) and staff to help keep our Liverpool College community connected. You can find out more about how you can get involved with The Lerpoolians here.

As I mentioned in my last newsletter in July, Mrs Cassidy our Senior Vice Principal retired this summer. Her role as **Attendance Lead** for the school has now passed to **Mrs Duffy** as part of her role as Assistant Principal: Safeguarding & Wellbeing:

Every Day Counts - Let's Aim for Excellent Attendance



At Liverpool College, we believe that **every school day matters**. Regular attendance is the foundation for your child's learning, friendships, and future success. When pupils are in school every day, they build confidence, stay on top of their work, and make the most of all the opportunities on offer.

Did you know that missing just one day every two weeks adds up to nearly three weeks of lost learning across the year? Research shows that pupils with over **95% attendance** achieve the best outcomes in exams and are better prepared for life after school.

We understand that children are sometimes unwell, but wherever possible, please ensure appointments are made outside school hours and that minor illnesses don't keep them at home. If your child is feeling worried about school, let us know - we're here to support them.

Let's work together to make sure every pupil attends, on time, every day. With your help, we can make great attendance a habit that sets our young people up for a bright future.

Mrs Duffy also has some useful **safeguarding advice** for parents about after school clubs and provisions:

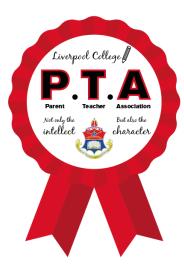
Many parents and carers support and enable their children to attend a range of clubs and activities that are not organised by school. These can cover a wide range of activities including

sports clubs, drama groups, music lessons and tutoring to name a few. It is important that parents and carers feel comfortable and confident that the providers of these activities are secure in their safeguarding arrangements. The documents below may be useful to support you in making decisions about the suitability of different providers (please click on the links to access):

- DfE Guide: Using after-school clubs, tuition and community activities
- Online Tutors Keeping Children Safe

Advance notice that **Friday 17 October** is **Liverpool College's Founders' Day** and as usual, school will be closed that day with no lessons in any part of the school. A Service takes place at 12pm in Liverpool Anglican Cathedral for pupils in the Prep and Secondary Phase. Parents will be sent further information about the specific arrangements nearer the time.

Update from the PTA:



- ✓ The **PTA AGM** is on Tuesday 30th September on Microsoft Teams. It is an opportunity to learn about the PTA, our plans, and to vote for this year's committee.
- ✓ Tickets are now on sale for the **Ch7 Get to Know Each Other** at Hollywood Bowl. Parents must attend the event, and it is a great way to meet each other and the PTA. Tickets are on sale

here: https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/liverpool-college-pta/t-dvymyne

✓ Our **Fireworks Bonanza** tickets are selling fast! The event, on Friday 7th November, is the biggest in our calendar and has food stalls, craft stalls, games, performances and an epic fireworks finale! These sell out every year, so please do not delay! Tickets are available at: https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/liverpool-college-pta/t-eaooxva

You'll find more details in our PTA newsletter (sent via MCAS)

Thank you for your continued support. May I wish you and yours a pleasant and restful weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs A Haynes

Principal