A Letter From The Headteacher

Dear Parents,

I hope that you will enjoy reading about the various events and activities that have taken place this term. Our students have excelled in so many areas – from participation in the 2019 Big Bang Fair, the Duke of Edinburgh Award, sports competitions to the high calibre school production – they are to be congratulated on so many fronts. We were also delighted last week to receive notification from the SSAT, the Schools, Students and Teachers network, that Lordswood Girls’ School and Sixth Form Centre has been recognised nationally for its excellent results in 2018 based on data from the Department for Education and Ofsted. Lordswood Girls’ School and Sixth Form Centre was found to be among the best performing secondary schools in the country, receiving two awards for being in the top 10% of non-selective schools nationally for both attainment and progress.

I should like to thank those parents who responded to the Kirkland Rowell survey; we will be discussing outcomes from the survey at next term’s parent forum. This term’s parent forum generated some useful discussion around parental involvement in school with parents offering their help to support the school through the skills and experiences that they are able to offer. I really appreciate this generosity and willingness to support the school and I promised to include this in my end of term letter. We would be interested in hearing from any parent/carer who might be possibly able to help in some of the ways listed below:

- Running mock interviews with our Year 11, 12 and 13 students
- Speaking to students about their work
- Supporting with/running an enrichment activity
- Supporting with Duke of Edinburgh
- School refurbishment/improving school grounds

This is by no means an exhaustive list and, given the talents of our students, I can only guess at the array of talents possessed by parents! If you do have a bit of spare time and feel that you could help the school in some way, we would be interested in hearing from you!

We were disappointed, but not altogether surprised, to learn that our bid to create an improved performing arts space was unsuccessful. Successful bids appear to be those that are addressing health and safety issues and I am conscious that Lordswood has received a considerable amount of funding already. Given the contribution that the arts make to the life of the school, we are not giving up on our plans to develop this facility and will now need to explore other funding options e.g. sponsorship. Again, if any parent has any experience in this regard, please do get in touch. We are still hoping that the new reception area will be developed over the Easter holiday but at the moment are awaiting confirmation from the Planning Department. The new security gate on Knightlow Road is likely to be installed at the beginning of the Summer term.

The Spring term ends at the normal time on Friday 12th April and the Summer term starts on Monday 29th April. For Year 11, 12 and 13 students this is a busy time of the year as they undertake examination preparation. I hope that they will ensure that they achieve a sensible balance between revision and relaxation and that they will use the time remaining wisely and take advantage of support available.

I should like to wish you all a happy and relaxing Easter break.

With best wishes

Mrs Jane Götschel
Headteacher
The Achievement Co-ordinators would like to congratulate all those students who have achieved an award for developing a positive growth mindset throughout the spring terms, and making excellent progress in their personal and academic growth.

Mrs Peniket said of the Year 7 students, “Congratulations to all of those Year 7 students who have received one of our Easter eggs and a certificate for their determined and positive attitude throughout the spring term. Also, well done to all those students who have completed the Lordswood Challenge; you have proved to be motivated, inspiring students and excellent role models to your peers. Have a wonderful holiday and a well-deserved rest.”

Mr Baker said, “Congratulations to all the students who have won an award. These students have displayed an excellent determination and their positivity has been displayed in all aspects of school life, from effort in lessons and involvement in extracurricular activities to being supportive and caring friends and class mates. Well done.”

Mr Goetschel said, “Congratulations to all of the Year 10 and 11 students who have been nominated for Easter awards. It’s a deserved recognition of their determination, resilience and commitment to their studies - rest assured, it has not gone unnoticed by your teachers. I also want to say well done to all of the Year 11 students who have been regularly attending revision clubs since Christmas. I have been hugely impressed by your hard work in the run-up to the GCSE exams, and I’m proud of the attitude and work ethic shown by the vast majority of you. Well done! Year 10, keep up the good work! Year 11, one final push now - make all of that hard work count!”

The School Council
Mrs Riley reports on the School Council’s most recent activities
As ever, it has been a busy term for the School Council.

Ria Dhani 7D  Kiran Kaur-Sethi 8D
Daisy Harvey 7D  Younas Mehak 8D
Maya Bhambra 7G  Molly Gillett 8G
Saina Sadeghimanesh 7G  Asiyah Nassim 8G
Ayeshah Ahmed 7L  Brianna Carr 8L
Sienna Watts 7L  Eliza Hussain 8L
Kamie Kaur 7R  Meshal Akbari 8R
Tanzilla Khatun 7R  Lois Thomas 8R
Cerys Gotz 7S  Esha Dhilon 8S
Isla O’Connor 7S  Claudia Vuthyani 8S
Bianca Douglas-Wilson 7W  Sara Ahmed 8W
Kate Harper 7W  Rhemya Maye 8W
Beheshta Haroon 9D  Mona Khosroshahi 10D
Namirah Khan 9D  Liba Mahmood 10D
Daya Bachada 9G  Chloe Gandolfi 10G
Abbigale McLaren 9G  Lisa Sylvane 10G
Bano Salman 9L  Sana Kadra 10L
Caelyn Willbanks 9L  Ella Thrushe 10L
Umaymah Mahmood 9R  Raiyan Barrow 10R
Lyla Perkins 9R  Tania Majeed 10R
Hayley Chikerema 9S  Manpreet Sahota 10S
Sanjana Kumari 9S  Mareem Sami Faris 10S
Javine Nongo 9W  Alana Higgins 10W
Amrit Virdee 9W  Darcie-Lea Lynskey 10W
Sabaa Kausar 11D  Evie Cooper 11R
Mehak Kohli 11D  Simranjijt Kaur 11R
Jodie Keight 11G  Kelly Chikandwa 11S
Zakia Razzaq 11G  Esther Ling 11S
Luci Benton-Hawthorn 11L  Nicole Chikandwa 11W
Amrita Kaur 11L  Ashvinder Kaur 11W
I would like to thank everyone who attended the second Parent Forum on the 14th February 2019. The main focus of the forum was to discuss the catering provision. Many comments were raised regarding the catering provision in the forum. The main concerns centred on the quality of the food, the amount of food provided, the limited variety of food on offer and the increased cost of the food despite the portion sizes not justifying the price charged. Since the forum took place, a meeting has taken place with the new catering manager in order to share these concerns and put an action plan in place. A re-launch of the catering provision has been planned for after the Easter holidays including the introduction of new menus.

To read the full minutes of the meeting including any action taken to address the points made, go to the school website/Your LGS/Parents then click on the link ‘Parents’ Forum Minutes’ or copy and paste this link: http://www.lordswoodgirls.co.uk/parents--forum-minutes.html

If you have any items that you would like the school to discuss in more detail in a future Parents’ Forum meeting, please contact me using the email address below. The next Parents’ Forum meeting will take place on Wednesday 22nd May 2019 at 8:00am.

I would like to thank everyone who took part in the recent school survey. At present all the information provided is being analysed and a report of the findings will be published shortly.
required us to go out of our comfort zones. The session was also very inspiring and allowed us to carry on this experience to the next level, as we were given the opportunity to participate in the NCS programme in the summer.”

Steffi So (11W)

Auschwitz-Birkenau

Lilly Daffon and Simran Kaur

The Lesson From Auschwitz (LFA) project aims to increase knowledge and understanding of the Holocaust for young individuals. The programme consists of attending half day seminars, witnessing a first hand account of a survivor testimony, a funded visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau and then proceeding to create a final project based on spreading awareness of the Holocaust.

We were both privileged enough to be chosen to be the ambassadors for Lordswood Girls’ School and Sixth Form Centre, which meant taking part in a trip to Auschwitz-Birkenau. A place where so many innocent victims lost their lives and were stripped of their identities, freedom, family and possessions.

The 13th of March 2019 when we visited Auschwitz, is a day both of us will never forget. To those reading this, we are sure are you are aware of Auschwitz, the site of mass murder, where countless lives were taken from innocent people. You may be reading this due to your interest in World War II, you may have studied it in school; maybe you have watched “Schindler’s list” or read “The boy in striped pyjamas” or heard of the “Tattooist of Auschwitz”; like us, you feel like you know quite a bit about the Holocaust, about Auschwitz.

However, after visiting the three main sites of Auschwitz, located in Poland we came to realise that we knew nothing and in fact we will truly never understand half the horrors that took place.

When visiting Poland neither of us expected to visit the town square of Oświęcim where the population before 1939 was 52% Jewish; it allowed us to have more of an insight into what normal town life was like. We were then informed that by 1941 the entire Jewish population of the town, had been deported to 3 main ghettos and 90% were unfortunately killed in the Holocaust at Auschwitz. The population of the town today is 3% less than 80 years ago, and lacks a Jewish community.

We were given a tour around Auschwitz 1, the memorial museum, and the smaller concentration and extermination camp; it allowed things to be put into perspective and words truly can’t describe what we both witnessed when entering the individual buildings. Piles upon piles of hair filled a room with braids of individuals, cut and shaved from each prisoner, thousands of suitcases with family names on top of one another, pots and pans jumbled up, baby clothes displayed on the walls and a heap of prosthetic limbs which were removed from the victims.

One site included a memorial room which displayed videos of Jewish families, couples and children pre war, living everyday life. “This room made me think of my family and friends, who were back home, showing that this could have happened to any of us.” - Lilly Daffon.

Another building we visited had an endless hallway of symmetrically, lined pictures taken of the innocent victims wearing the iconic ‘striped pyjamas’, before being administered into the camp. We were briefed on how pictures being taken of people were later disregarded as individuals would change so much that those individuals were unrecognisable.

Opposite the Gas Chambers where the extermination of hundreds of thousands of prisoners was carried out, was where Commander Rudolf Hess lived with his family; his wife described living in that house as ‘like paradise’.

When we arrived at Auschwitz II, the first thing that we recognised was the iconic train station that everyone immediately associates with Auschwitz. We found it hard to comprehend the scale of the camp and the rows of wooden horse stables, that were shipped from Germany to house around 80,000 individuals. We were horrified by the shocking unhygienic living conditions, where individuals had to share buckets for human waste.

We then went to the area where the prisoners’ fate was determined - whether they would be sent straight to the chambers or were able to work. Mothers were split up from their children, husbands from their wives and brothers from sisters; this was all determined by an officer who was heavily influenced by Nazi ideologies. The crematoria located at the back of the camp were partially destroyed in order to cover up evidence of inhumane actions. Another fact we discovered on the day which left us speechless was that ashes of the victims were used as fertilizers in nearby towns and villages.

We ended the day with a ceremony which consisted of poems being read out, prayers being said and a minute of silence for everyone that died during the Holocaust. The room in which the ceremony was held, had a display of family photographs from people of all walks of life. When leaving the building we had to walk through the whole of the camp in the dark which created even more of an eerie atmosphere. At this point the cold was really getting to us but we both felt as if we couldn’t complain, as we were wrapped up in our thick coats compared to the prisoners who were living in thin striped pyjamas.

When sitting in a classroom you can understand what is being taught to you but seeing where the Holocaust took place, provides you with a learning experience you will never forget. It makes you realise how ungrateful we are as well as how important it is to learn from the past.
Regardless of everything mentioned it is difficult to put into words what we actually witnessed on the day of the visit, plus not enough words can truly describe how insightful this visit was, which is why we couldn’t fit everything in this article.

We highly recommend taking part in amazing opportunities that may arise, such as projects that involve deepening your knowledge or understanding of the Holocaust and pre-war Jewish Life, like the LFA. These may then end up changing your own perspectives on life and how we all take the most minor things in life for granted. We were both highly honoured to be able to go and now share our experience with you all. We would like to thank Miss Branson-Harper for coming with us and the Lordswood Girls’ School and Sixth Form Centre for working with LFA and providing us with this opportunity. If you have any questions about the experience or the LFA programme please do not hesitate to contact us or Miss Branson-Harper.

Spring In The RE Department
Ms Ghalib reports from the first floor
This term the RE department said farewell to Mrs Mirza who was covering a maternity leave. We also welcomed back Mrs Stanley.

Year 12 students also attended Newman University earlier this term to participate in a Liberation Arts learning day. Students participated in discussions about whether cosmology harms the environment and the role of ethics in our rapidly changing world. There were also discussions on what it means to be human. The development in technology and artificial intelligence are important for thinking about our identity. Students looked at human – machine hybrids and thought about what a mobile phone might tell us about what it is to be human. Are we still humans or are we becoming cyborgs?

We will also be saying farewell and best of luck to our Year 13 students as they progress on to universities, apprenticeships or jobs. Here is what they had to say about studying Philosophy and Ethics at A level:

“I have learnt that there are numerous different approaches to issues we may face everyday. I have also learnt about the relevance of ethics in the news today. Everyone comes across ethics.”

“It makes me question things a lot, which is a good skill to have. Wanting to know and learn more means you can gain more knowledge.”

“I would recommend this A Level because it develops important skills such as empathy, compassion and moral values.”

RE Stars
The following students have really impressed us this half term!
Year 7
Umaiza Syeda, Isla O’Connor, Sneha Suman, Iffah Armeen, Nokutenda Gwande Kate Harper

Year 8
Elizabeth Sidhu, Safiyah Iqbal, Aniah Smith-Douglas, Millie Conway, Zoha Hussain,

Year 9
Reeha Islam, Kiran Johal, Fiza Aftab and Kayla Gooding, Selwan Hamzawi, Amelia Yasmin

Year 10
Caitlin Norman, Amelia Quinney, Haleeza Rehman, Nosheen Siddiqi, Aliyah Sohail, Raiyan Barrow

Year 11
Sanaa Kausar, Saniyah Mahmood, Sanaa Khan, Tariah-Sarice Alloui-Morris, Simranjit Kaur, Zarah Azeem

Year 12
Kallam Nandra and Chantelle Tambwanaye

Year 13
Isra Rashid and Dilawaiz Jahangir

Years 8 And 9 PSHEE
Mr Baker reports on what was covered
Year 8 students covered sessions on self-esteem, LGBT, smoking, feminism and consent. In the self-esteem session students learnt how the influence of the media can affect self esteem, for example by advertising and displaying ideal body types and appearance, and strategies to improve self-esteem. In the smoking session students were astounded by the number of harmful substances that make up the thousands of chemicals in cigarette smoke and by the gruesome effects these have on the lungs and other organs.
Costume Club

A group of year 7 students have been part of Costume club since the Autumn term. They were tasked with designing and making the cheerleaders outfits for the school production, ‘Legally Blonde’. Before selecting a design the students learnt how to sew, cut stencils, use bondaweb and fabric paint; for some, this was the first time they had used any textile techniques. Betty says, ‘I have enjoyed learning the new techniques because I’ve never tried them before. It was great to see our designs on stage and it has been a really good experience’. The costumes looked fantastic and the students are now well on their way to achieving their bronze Arts Award!

Active In Art!

Miss Tooley shares news of a multitude of activities from the Art Department

Costume Club

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Art Trip to the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery

As a group we were given a tour of the “Women, power, protest” exhibition. It was an uplifting and empowering show that was very relevant to young girls. The collection of artwork showed the female response to the unequal treatment that women have felt throughout history and as artists. There were pieces of art which showcased controversial topics and sometimes it could be upsetting to see, however our tour guide helped to explain why they wanted to use such difficult subjects and the impact they aimed to make from their expression. The artwork in the gallery was clearly made to make those who attended the show understand the emotions and harsh treatment that the women went through.

Students in the ‘Women, Power, Protest!’ exhibition

My personal favourite piece of work was a spool wrapped with an artist’s hair, the hair had be woven together with her mother’s hair and her daughter’s hair to make it look like thread that someone would sew with. The thread has lots of shades with the occasional silver hair which shows the generations of women and female power. It also related to the idea of women in the 50s still being expected to be a housewife and spend all their time caring for and looking after their husbands. This meant they had a lot of time on their hands so turned to activities such as sewing and needlework to pass time.

Future Leaders UCC, Ghana update

The new school build for Future Leaders UCC is now well underway in Ghana. All foundations and concrete pillars are in place and you can really imagine the new classrooms!

The estimated completion date is July 2019 and all the new furniture will be in place for when school opens for the new academic year in September.

A group of Year 9 students have been volunteering for Future Leaders UCC as part of their Duke of Edinburgh and have already raised a brilliant £400! Keep an eye out for tickets for their next big event, a dance contest on Friday 12th July. A huge thank you to the students for all of their efforts this term!

Year 9 students covered sessions on grooming, eating disorders, gambling, prejudice and stereotypes, and criminal exploitation and county lines. Students were able to demonstrate their creative and artistic ability in the prejudice and stereotypes sessions and produced some excellent pieces of imagery. Specialists from outside of school delivered the sessions on eating disorders, gambling, criminal exploitation and county lines and these guest presenters were extremely positive about the maturity, politeness and level of engagement and interest of the Year 9 students.
This term has been a busy one for the science department. We have been working hard with Year 11 to get them ready for their exams starting in May and Year 10 have just sat their first set of mock examinations.

Year 10 biology students were treated to a hands on lesson dissecting an eyeball - many thanks to Mrs Verma for facilitating this activity!

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**News From Science**

**Mrs Farrah on a busy spring term**

This term has been a busy one for the science department. We have been working hard with Year 11 to get them ready for their exams starting in May and Year 10 have just sat their first set of mock examinations.

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**Artmark Gold**

We are proud to announce that Lordswood Girls’ School have achieved their Gold Artsmark award! For the past two years the art, drama and music departments have been working together to raise the profile of the subjects and enhance the opportunities for students within the arts at Lordswood. During this time partnerships have been created with arts organisations in Birmingham such as Birmingham Museum and Gallery, the Birmingham conservatoire, the Crafts council and the REP. These partnerships have allowed us to deliver exciting extra-curricular projects and have offered our students workshops, advice on career progression within the arts and opportunities to gain their Bronze Arts Award. Some of our students have also had the chance to voice their opinions about the arts and their value to a panel of visitors from Arts council England who are working to shape future curriculum offers nationwide. At the awards event in February, Megan and Kiran, who are studying performing arts at Lordswood Sixth Form Centre, performed an acoustic version of Britney Spears, ‘Toxic’; their rendition was extremely professional and thoroughly enjoyed by the audience.

**Online Safety Update**

**Mrs Finucane with advice and guidance**

**Screen time and wellbeing**

A recent report was published by the UK Chief Medical Officer to investigate the effect of screen-based activities on the mental health and psychological wellbeing of children and young people. As a result of the research, a useful guide has been created to give advice to parents and carers on how to balance screen time with healthy living. With the holidays fast interpreting in any medium you want e.g. pencil, paint, collage, photography and at any size you want. Bring your piece of work into school by the 15th May and hand it in to Miss Tooley so that she can get them sent off in time for the deadline.
approaching, it’s a good time to discuss these lifestyle changes with your child.

How to deal with viral scares and hoaxes online
As you will be aware, the recent hoax ‘Momo’ swept the internet by storm fuelling alarm and anguish amongst children and parents alike. There was no evidence to say that any of the claims were true and the media response to these stories particularly fanned the flames, which led to a worsening of the situation.

What to do if you’ve heard about a viral scare/suicide challenge?
As a parent, there is a lot you can do to support your child. It’s important to help your child feel safe by staying calm.

• If your child has not yet heard about the scare, don’t bring it to their attention by naming it or trying to explain it. You don’t want to frighten them, and the last thing you want is for your child to feel curious and try to look for the scary content online. Instead, remind them that if they ever feel worried about something they see online - or hear about from friends - they can come to you or another adult they trust for help. Remind your child about evaluating information and being critically aware of information found online. Fake news and online hoaxes can spread quickly, and not everything we see online is real and it is important to always speak to a trusted adult if they have concerns.
• Make sure they know if they do see something upsetting or worrying, they are in control. Tell them that they can report it to the platform they are using and close down their app or browser – and you can help them with this.
• Why not check your facts first. A simple Google search e.g. “Momo hoax” will give you plenty of information. Websites such as ‘That’s Nonsense’ (https://www.thatsnonsense.com/is-the-momo-challenge-real-or-an-online-hoax-factcheck/) can be a good source of information.
• Use this as an opportunity to check that privacy settings are enabled on the apps they use and set parental controls to filter out inappropriate content.
• Continue to have open and honest conversations with your child. Keep up-to-date with what they are doing online, celebrate the positives, and keep talking about how they can stay safe.

What to do if your child has seen, or been involved in, a viral scare or suicide challenge?
• Understandably you may be distressed or angry if you hear that your child has seen, or been involved in, a viral scare/suicide challenge. It’s important to stay calm, take their concerns seriously and reassure them that they have done the right thing by telling you.
• Reassure them that it is not real and that it has been put online to frighten people. ‘BBC Own It’ have made a video which explains this clearly for young people.
• Remind them that when they do see something upsetting or worrying that they are in control. They can report it to the platform they are using and close down their app or browser.
• Talk to them about other sources of support – speaking to you will have helped, but further support from other sources could also help. There
We are now working in partnership with the National School Breakfast Programme who aim that no child starts the school day too hungry to learn. As part of this new partnership we have received a start-up grant which will improve the current provision in place and we receive a delivery of bagels, cereal and porridge on a weekly basis.

If you think your daughter would benefit from being part of this breakfast club, please contact Miss Baxter for further information.

Students enjoying the launch of the new scheme

National School Breakfast Programme

Mrs Baxter on our new breakfast club

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Rounding Up In Geography

Miss Gager with lots of exciting updates

Year 7 have finished their scheme of work on climate and weather. Mr Linton’s class also tried out a pilot ‘microclimate’ investigation looking at what influences the climate around the school building – when they could eventually get outside due to the rain! The pupils are now studying specific biomes and have been creating some fantastic animals who are adapted to suit living either in the rainforest or desert – with some very imaginative names to go with them!

Year 8 are working on a unit of work on ‘extreme weather’ and have had some good recent case studies to look at! They are moving on to look at tropical storms and tornadoes, including creating their ‘own’ tornadoes in the classroom!

Year 9 are studying tectonic hazards, such as earthquakes, volcanoes and tsunamis. They have been looking at how different countries are affected by these events and why the effects and responses vary between types of countries. Year 9s will soon be starting their GCSE geography course!

Year 10 are working well towards their GCSE in geography and are working through the ‘People of the UK’ module, including the effects of our ageing population. Miss Gager was not impressed when she was asked if she was classed as ‘elderly’!

Year 11 are fast approaching those all-important GCSE examinations! Revision club is run by Miss Gager on Mondays and Tuesdays after school in F5 (3-4pm) and all are welcome! All revision resources are available on the Google Classroom using the joining code: cf2bu0p

Year 12 have recently completed their first A-Level mock examination and are continuing with their schemes of work. They have recently decided on their fieldwork investigation titles and are looking forward to ‘getting out there’ and getting them started.

Year 13 have finished their A-Level lessons and are diligently revising for their A-Level examinations in the summer. They have all worked so hard and we wish them good luck in their upcoming exams and whatever they do afterwards!

Extra-curricular

Miss Gager is organising a cross-curricular visit to the Bay of Naples, Italy, for Geography and History GCSE and A-Level pupils in 2019. Pupils will be visiting Pompeii, Mount Vesuvius, Herculeneum, archaeological sites, the Amalfi coast – and a pizza making workshop!

Our ‘Geography Mentor’ scheme is in full swing and KS3 pupils are really reaping the benefits of having A-Level pupils helping out in their lessons. Thank you Rosemeen, Eva and Iqra!

Years 10, 11 and 13 pupils were given an assembly on the very important issue of plastic pollution, entitled ‘Life in plastic, not so fantastic!’ – students were shocked at the amount of plastic we use use each day in the UK, particularly plastic bottles (38.5 million per week!) and the destruction they are causing within our seas. Pupils decided that they ‘dolphinately’ want to
Two Year 8 students, Millie and Nicoli recently entered a competition to answer the question “How can we solve major challenges in the 21st century?”. Their idea was to design a machine that refilled plastic bottles with shampoos, detergents etc. rather than having to buy a new bottle every time. The girls’ idea was short listed to be displayed at the Big Bang Fair at the NEC and, while they didn’t end up getting any poll positions, they were extremely happy to be short listed. Both girls are considering a career in engineering when they grow up.

Mr Trewin shares his pride in the achievements of two Year 8 students

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Some ‘Top Tips’ for how you can help:
- Say no to plastic bags and drinking straws.
- Cut back on food packaging or buy reusable containers, bottles and mugs
- Pick up litter!
- Never flush plastics down the toilet or drains.

Spread the word. Talk to friends and family about how much plastic they use and what we can all do to give our oceans a better future.

Year 8 Students To Change The World!

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Mr Trewin with his budding engineers
Basketball Success For The Girls!

Caelyn Willbanks from Year 9 on recent successes on the court

Basketball club at Lordswood has been running since October and we have learned a variety of skills that we use on court and in everyday life - skills like communication, perseverance and more. At basketball club we learn drills for the first 45 minutes and then we incorporate these into the games we play in the remaining time. The drills we do improve our passing, dribbling, shooting and overall performance on the court. There are a range of different ages and abilities but we all go for the same reason, to improve our skills and get to know more people at our school.

Recently I got the opportunity to be a captain for a basketball tournament for Years 7, 8 and 9. I was excited to be able to help lead a team but worried as we have never played together as team. Our first game didn’t go to plan as we lost 4-20; we were slightly discouraged but that didn’t stop us. We had a break, talked about we needed to do and reminded ourselves it was just our first game and we could still perform like we do in practice. In the next games we got better and better the longer we played. We won our pool and then got to the semi-finals. We knew the pressure was on us but we played like we knew we could and with that mindset we got into the finals.

In the finals, we played the team that we lost to in the first game but in the final the final score was 12-16. Even though we lost in the final, we still came second across the whole tournament and each of us picked up a School Games Silver Medal. It was a great experience and helped with our confidence while playing basketball. Also we became close and developed trust between us which helps us play as a team. We have further games planned and want you to help support us and our school in the future.

Supporting Your Child Through Exam Time

Advice for parents from Young Minds

As we start to move towards exam season, Young Minds have launched advice for parents about supporting their children.

Tips include:

- Encourage your child to take revision breaks and find a balance between studying and doing things they find enjoyable and relaxing
- Make sure they are eating and drinking at regular intervals
- Reassure them - reinforce that you are and will be proud of them no matter what happens
- Remain positive and hopeful!
- Let them know their feelings are valid and normal, but also offer support and solutions where possible
- Anxiety is often worse at night and this means it is useful to encourage a good bedtime routine

You can find more out here: http://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/for-parents/parents-guide-to-support-a-z/parents-guide-to-support-exam-time/

Above And Beyond In The Sixth Form

Mrs Waraich with congratulations to students from Years 12 and 13

Year 13 above and beyond award winners

The following students are to be commended:
- Kane Falconer in recognition of his outstanding efforts to support the music department.
- Rosemeen Gulshan in recognition of her outstanding efforts to support the geography and art departments.
- Adeela Altaf Nisa in recognition of her excellent effort and contribution during her work experience placement.
- Hana Khan in recognition of her outstanding efforts to support the drama department.
- Mehwish Jahangir in recognition of her outstanding efforts to support the science department.
- Chioma Ochei-Uzo in recognition of her outstanding efforts to improve her grades in business studies and sociology.
- Tanvir Kaur in recognition of her outstanding efforts as an ambassador for the school and history department.

Year 12 above and beyond award winners

In Year 12 the following students are commended:
- Mohammed Mustafa in recognition of his outstanding efforts to improve his grades in maths and excellent effort and contribution during his work experience placement.
This year’s musical Legally Blonde was a pinktastic success! Two evening performances, a showcase at Hagley Road Retirement Village, a morning performance for Chad Vale and Victoria School and a Wednesday afternoon Matinee open to LGS students. Here are a few thoughts from some of the cast...

“This was our first time being involved in the school production as stagehands. This job includes: preparing and supplying props to the cast, helping with dress changes, looking after any animals involved, helping people with their lines and bringing props on and off the stage. It was a great and recommendable experience; it helps you get involved in the school play even if you aren’t particularly good at drama, singing or dancing, and helps you to make friends with people that you wouldn’t usually talk to outside of the school production.”
Sana Kadra and Sophia Norouzi

“We thoroughly enjoyed Legally Blonde because this was our first time of being in a Lordswood production. We made so many new friends and it was so exciting to learn new songs and dances that were crucial elements of the performance. We all wanted to get the dances perfect for the shows. We think that the musical massively improved our confidence and taught us the importance of commitment and working as an ensemble. We can’t wait for the next one!”
Esme Read, Gracie Pilling and Dua Iqbal

“This was my first time getting such a big part as I have been in the chorus for the past few years. It has been a great experience to work with such a talented and hardworking cast and I have enjoyed every second of it.”
Esther Ling who played the protagonist Elle Woods

“Oh My Gosh, Oh My Gosh, Oh My Gosh You Guys. We absolutely loved it, the whole cast were awesome”
Miss Gager and Miss Branson-Harper

Hard To Swallow Review
After watching the play ‘Hard To Swallow’ performed by the Tied-Up Theatre Company in school, it helped me understand the play in a lot more depth. I was able to see the actors present Catherine, the protagonist, and her family on the roller coaster ride of life coping with anorexia. The performance helped me to understand the motivations of the characters and directly helped me answer the recent mock exam questions in more detail. The workshop opened my mind to new rehearsal techniques and the whole experience was very enjoyable and extremely helpful.
Tayjah Johnson

Legally Blonde Oh Yay-yeah!

The Term In Drama
Miss Briggs and Mrs Swallow on a frantic spring term

After watching the play ‘Hard To Swallow’ performed by the Tied-Up Theatre Company in school, it helped me understand the play in a lot more depth. I was able to see the actors present Catherine, the protagonist, and her family on the roller coaster ride of life coping with anorexia. The performance helped me to understand the motivations of the characters and directly helped me answer the recent mock exam questions in more detail. The workshop opened my mind to new rehearsal techniques and the whole experience was very enjoyable and extremely helpful.
Tayjah Johnson

Drama Star of the Month
A massive congratulation to the following girls who will receive a drama star badge in recognition of their hard work, inspirational ideas and achievement in drama this term.
January:
Lily Smith, Alisha Parvaz, Maheen Farooq, Ruby Howarth, Seonti Thompson and Georgia Germain Rees

February:
Atlas Akbari, Kate Harper, Isha Mendez, Tiffany To, Ezzah Ahmad, Alisha Symons, and Tayjah Johnson

Year 7 Drama Club
A group of Year 7 students have been working on a short play about bullying written by Sidrah Ahmed, and will be performing it in the rewards assembly in front of their entire year group. They are quite nervous but I know they will perform beautifully. Thank you to Miss Gooch who has been working with them at lunchtime to prepare the performance.

Arts Award Silver
Last year I received the bronze award for Arts Award drama and I knew that this year I wanted to do silver. So far, we have gone to see ‘The Capital’ at The REP Theatre and ‘The Caberet of Bizarre at Circusmash’; we are also planning on seeing ‘Fame’ at The Old Rep. Recently we have been organising a TiE (Theatre in Education) performance about peer pressure for year 4 students and we are all looking forward to the rehearsals and performance. I love Arts Award and hope I can complete gold next year.
Lydia White

GCSE London trip
This was the first overnight stay we had been on as part of our drama and music GCSE. We watched the longest running West End Musical ‘Les Miserables’ and it was an amazing experience. The production uses a revolving stage and it was incredible to see the different possibilities of the creative staging and set as well as the powerful acting and emotional songs.

It was really interesting to see the different roles behind the scene of the Harry Potter films when we visited The Warner Brothers Studio- ‘The Harry Potter Experience’. It was fascinating to learn about the production process and have a go at special effects such as green screen, the flying brooms, the forbidden forest and the CGI suits.

Jasleen Sihra in recognition of her outstanding efforts to support the art department.
Samera Akhtar in recognition of her outstanding efforts to support all staff.
Mariam Naseem in recognition of her excellent effort and contribution to the science department.
Kallam Nandra in recognition of her outstanding efforts to improve her grades in philosophy lessons and sociology.
The best part was walking around the model Hogwarts, it was massive! It was also good to listen to everyone’s perspective on the journey home; we all had loads to discuss and made some funny memories. 

Ella Thrush, Seonti Thompson, Dionne Hunter and Gursharon Chohan.

**Health And Social Care News**

*Mrs Muggleton with an update*

Students in Years 11 and 13 are busy working on the remaining units to complete their health and social care course.

We have had some very pleasing external examination results from our Year 11, 12 and 13 groups and we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate them on their success.

Highlights this term have been undertaking practical activities where students apply theory to practice. Year 11 have learnt about the seven care values including equality, effective communication, confidentiality, respect and safeguarding. They enjoyed carrying out a role play activity where they took the role of a care worker and had to demonstrate all of the care values independently and confidently. We were impressed with the quality of the acting and the thorough planning obviously paid off as everyone did well. Students were surprised at how much fun they had completing the practical evidence which has given them a pass grade. To complete the task and achieve the higher grading criteria they are required to reflect on their own performance whilst making suggestions for improvements. As this is the last piece of coursework the end of their level 2 course is in sight!

Health and Social care is a curriculum area where there is constant change. The Government has announced the introduction of T Levels at post 16 and we are excited to be involved in researching and developing a brand new course in education and childcare to be launched in September 2020. We look forward to keeping you informed of our progress in future newsletters.

**Multilingual Performance Project**

*Mrs Siviter on an exciting new venture*

Earlier this term, the Department of Modern Foreign Languages was delighted to accept an invitation from Dr Daniel Tyler-McTighe, Director of Education at the Birmingham Repertory Theatre and Director of the Multilingual Performance Project at the University of Oxford, to support a multilingual project in Birmingham.

Over 80 students in Years 8 and 10 created resources in French or Spanish to be used as props in the theatre production “Merely Players”, an immersive, multilingual play which featured more than seven languages, very freely adapted and translated from Shakespeare’s ‘Henry V’, ‘A Midsummer Night’s Dream’, ‘As You Like It’, ‘Love’s Labour’s Lost’, ‘Macbeth’, ‘Twelfth Night’, ‘Antony and Cleopatra’, ‘Richard III’ and ‘The Tempest’.

Our students used their creative writing skills to design decorative love letters in French, between Rosalind and Orlando in ‘As You Like It’, and in Spanish, between Don Adriano de Armado and Jaquenetta in ‘Love’s Labour’s Lost’. The standard of work was exceptionally high; staff from the Birmingham Rep were extremely impressed and found it very difficult to choose six winners.

We would like to congratulate the following students who were short listed for artistic and creative merit: Dua Iqbal 8S, Esha Dhillon 8S, Esme Read 8G, Gity Afzali 8L, Ina Haxhiu 8L, Nicoli Tcacenco 8L, Vaani Jha 8W, Lidiya Hassan 8L, Asma Parveen 10L, Raiyan Barrow 10R, Muneebah Qadir 10G, Ameena Ahsan 10G

We are also excited to announce that, after much deliberation, the following six students were chosen as our winners: Dua Iqbal 8S, Esha Dhillon 8S, Ina Haxhiu 8L, Vaani Jha 8W, Ameena Ahsan and 10G, Raiyan Barrow 10R.

A huge congratulations! Your love letters were beautifully presented and the written content was imaginative and emotive. Well done!

Many thanks to everyone who took part in the project. Your efforts were much appreciated, especially by the play’s actors, technical crew and director, Dr. Daniel Tyler-McTighe.

Your contributions are a real testament to your dedication and positive approach towards both Modern Foreign Languages and school life as a whole. Well done!
This term the Government and Politics class in Year 12 and Year 13 took part in a visit to the UK Parliament and the Supreme Court. The visit allowed students to visit the institutions they are studying as part of their A level in Government and Politics. Students took part in a tour of the Supreme Court and were able to ask questions to one of the Supreme Court judges. The court is the highest appeal court and has overseen a number of significant legal cases since its creation in 2009.

Opportunities In Government And Politics

Mr Wells with news of excited events for our sixth form students

Parliament visit

We then attended the House of Lords for Question Time and saw different Peers asking questions of the government in the House of Lords. Questions were asked on issues such as Prevent, Britain’s future trade deals and gender equality. Finally, we visited a committee room where Lord Hunt and Preet Gill MP answered questions about a range of political issues students cover in their studies. The trip gave students an experience of politics in action and allowed them to speak to a range of political figures.

Visiting speaker

A visiting speaker from the University of Birmingham came to visit the government and politics class to discuss global political issues with a particular focus on the Middle East and US foreign policy. Scott Lucas is a Professor in International Politics and is also a reporter for a global news website. He was able to answer questions on the Israeli Palestinian conflict, issues in Syria and developments under the new Trump administration in the USA. The students asked a number of topical questions that related directly to their studies.
I would like to start by saying well done to all the girls who have participated in extra-curricular maths this term and a huge thank you to all the staff who have contributed to the organisation of these opportunities.

Firstly, Mrs Boodhoo provides this summary of a recent trip to Hillcrest school:

Last Tuesday eight Year 10 girls took part in a Maths Feast challenge organised by the Advanced Mathematics Support Programme, which was held at Hillcrest School. This Maths competition is a fun educational challenge which tests problem-solving and teamwork skills. The girls had been preparing for this competition over the past few weeks at the Sigma Club run by Mr Fox. At the competition there were several rounds requiring different skills and strategies for success. Several schools took part in the event and Lordswood Girls’ Team α snatched the third place, missing the second place by only one point. Round two of the competition was particularly challenging as students were required to have knowledge of Prim’s and Kruskal’s algorithm – topics which are often studied in Further Maths at AS level, however this did not dampen our girls’ spirit, they persevered and Team α, under Caitlin Norman’s lead scored the highest mark. Overall, both teams worked superbly well and LGS team α won the “Best Teamwork” award.

The UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge also took place this term, with over 30 entries. Well done to all those who took part and congratulations to the following girls who received a bronze, silver or gold award: Donia Ahmadjawid, Aman Phull, Vanita Kaur, Shimpali Raje, Madelein Poole, Caitlin Norman, Iqra Rashid, Florentina Dasgupta, Lucy Fan-Bruno, Suditi Mukherjee, Darcie-Lea Lynskey, and Alina Javed.

We would also like to say a huge well done to the year 11s in their recent second round of mock exams. As always the students worked very hard in the build up to the exams, which has resulted in some excellent mock grades. We would therefore like to take this opportunity to remind all students of the extra support that we offer within the maths department in preparation for final end of year exams:

- All students are able to attend mathematics lunch club every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday – with Wednesday for year 11 only. This is run as a drop in session and students are encouraged to bring work or revision they find difficult and speak to a member of staff regarding this.
- All year 11 students receive exam analysis following every assessment which pin points the topics the students should prioritise.
- All students have access to the Maths Department’s Google classroom (access code: aofaeh9). We have provided links to recommended documents, videos and websites to aid independent study.
- All year 11 students have access to Methodmaths. com and MathsWatch, allowing students to complete past papers online and receive instant feedback.

PsHEE Review From Year 7

Amina Ahmed, Zoya Ahmed, Poppy Bignell-Golder, Sarah Aksar, Ayna Hussain, Juwariyah Khan, Rhama Khan, Courtney Thompson, Senai Thompson, Ava Karra, Lily Karra, Betty Breen, Lily Smith, Mia Gray report

Cyberbullying

We learnt that bullying hurts people’s feelings. We learnt that it is inappropriate to say things are ‘gay’ in a nasty way. We now know that you should not hide things from adults like teachers or parents as they can help. We learnt how people can also make up fake accounts and lie. We learnt how to stay safe on-line and not to share our personal details. We learnt that saying something cruel on-line is permanent and we learnt how to avoid getting involved on-line and what to do if this happens.

LGBT

We now know not to judge anyone because of their sexuality or identity. We learnt not to assume gender; that people have the freedom to change. We learnt how some people who are transgender or transexual can feel so unhappy because they are in the wrong body. We understood that people can be made very unhappy about how people expect them to be because of their sex (male or female). We learnt how painful it is to be judged by people because of identity and expectations. We found this session really interesting.
We live in the 21st century and we celebrate many diverse things such as Remembrance Day, Children’s day or Independence days. However, different types of marriage aren’t celebrated. When we define love we say that it is when someone falls in love with someone for who they are but how come we don’t celebrate different types of marriage? I am ashamed that we still live in a society in which we still believe in out-dated ideas of marriage - a man to a woman and they have to be young. We have grown as a society so that should mean that our minds and thoughts should as well.

We can’t change the minds of the past, however we can change the minds of the future by simply letting them understand that anyone can be anything they want to be. If we teach future generations, we can prevent future conflict. If we teach future generations, we can restore faith. If we teach future generations, we could change the world.

The Holocaust Education Trust’s Work And Comments On Christchurch

Reflections on recent events

With the recent horror of the events in Christchurch the Holocaust Education Trust released a statement, an extract of which is below:

‘The indiscriminate murder of Muslim men, women and children whilst at prayer is truly heart-breaking.

As we mourn innocent lives lost, we must remember that it is up to all of us to stand up to hatred, which has no place in our world.

Today shows how easily hate can spread and result in sickening violence. We must continue to educate young people about where it can ultimately lead and be sure that they can identify the dangers of hateful rhetoric.’

It continues to be of upmost importance to educate the next generation about the Holocaust: an event of such horror and magnitude that it should never be forgotten. The school is committed to ensuring all our students have an understanding of how it came to happen, its events and the impact it has on today’s society, and so, in January as part of Holocaust Memorial Day (29th January), all of KS4 were able to watch a live broadcast in the hall of Holocaust survivor, Harry Spiro being interviewed by Robert Rinder. Harry survived the Piotrków ghetto (the first ghetto created by the Nazis), Buchenwald concentration camp and a death march to Terezín, coming to Britain in 1945 alongside Robert Rinder’s grandfather. Year 10 and Year 11 listened intently to his hour long testimony, shocked and moved because we did not know much about this before. We liked to consider how people felt as we had not understood this before regarding identity. This was a brilliant session as we were surprised to learn about all the different identities and we made a rainbow chain for our review room!

Good Mental Health

We learnt how some spiteful words can hurt people such as ‘crazy’ or ‘mad’. It taught us about good emotional well-being. There was a good tip about opening doors to other ideas and people who can make you happy. We learnt about getting outside and walking and how to stay healthy. We learnt that many famous people also have poor mental health and we think that they don’t! We learnt that these illnesses are often hidden. We found this session a bit sad to think horrible words could be used against people with poor mental health.

Puberty

We learnt about our bodies and how they will change. It was shocking to see a picture of a naked man! We learnt about how to stay clean and fresh during our periods. We learnt about conception. We learnt to label the female body parts. We learnt about how our eggs are already in our body when we are born! This was very detailed and we liked the teacher. She explained everything really well. We learnt about the different types of sanitary protection. It was nice to have a visiting speaker who wasn’t a teacher.

Lockdown

This was the best session! We learnt how to hide under the tables in lockdown and that was fun! It was like hide and seek! We were a bit worried by this session but we learnt how to run, hide and tell. Inside school, we were a bit worried because we didn’t think we are always in the classroom; we might be in the toilet or in the canteen. We learnt that this is very rare and we would have to follow teachers’ instructions. What if it happened at home? Would our parents know what to do? Mrs Peniket answered these questions and we felt safe. Although this was scary, it was great fun! Hiding under the tables was fun, but I don’t think it would be fun in a real attack and we would have to be quiet! The video was brilliant - RUN, HIDE, TELL, and we learnt a lot about how to protect ourselves in an attack.

Key Stage 3 English

What students have been up to this term

As part of their English lessons in Year 8 students are reading ‘Romeo and Juliet’ by William Shakespeare. To complement this study and to enable students to have a wider knowledge and understanding of the world around them we have been reading a range of nonfiction articles on, for example, gang violence, the issues of knife crime and forbidden love. Some students have then gone on to write about such issues and below are just two extracts from the beginning and end of Shweta Kumari’s piece on the subject of love:

We can’t change the minds of the past, however we can change the minds of the future by simply letting them understand that anyone can be anything they want to be. If we teach future generations, we can prevent future conflict. If we teach future generations, we can restore faith. If we teach future generations, we could change the world.

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to hear him speak of the last time he saw his mother, amongst many other tragedies he suffered at the hands of the Nazi regime.

The broadcast had been preceded by a series of lessons taught by the English department who provided not just the context to the Holocaust but looked at other survivor testimonies such as extracts from ‘The Pianist’, a memoir by the Polish-Jewish pianist and composer Władysław Szpilman. We also discussed the importance of hearing survivor testimonies first hand with many students appreciating that they would sadly be the last generation to be able to do so. Many Year 10s then followed up the broadcast by writing articles expressing their point of view on the topic of the Holocaust and its place within the curriculum. Students in the Sixth Form were able to watch the broadcast live from our new block and two of our Year 13s were then successfully chosen to take part in the Lessons from Auschwitz programme attending seminars and visiting the infamous death camp in Poland this March, becoming ambassadors for the Holocaust Education Trust as a result.

We believe most strongly that we must learn from the events of the Holocaust and we will continue to remember this atrocity every year and educate our students as best we can to recognise hatred and to stand up to it wherever possible.

Here are some thoughts from some of our Year 10 students:

Darcie-Lea Lynskey
Harry’s story enlightened tens of thousands of children and adults as to the pain and struggles of the Holocaust. Soon there will be no survivors left to share their testimonies so it is crucial that today’s generation share their stories and educate the next generation. The Holocaust was the first movement that sought to eradicate an entire people – the Jews, and approximately six million were murdered under the Nazi regime. This is a well-known fact as we are all taught the horrors of the Holocaust, however, listening to the small details, that only a survivor would know, makes it seem so much more real and horrifying.

Ella Thrush
Our experience was very special as it meant that all those young people now become witnesses to the truth so much so that they can stand up to the ignorant who would deny that six million Jews were systematically murdered by the Nazi regime. We now understand that you have to stand up to prejudice, racism and xenophobia when it is in its infancy.

Alina Velji
It shows our generation how incredibly grateful we should be for our sheltered lives.

Farah Shah
Afghanistan, Syria, Rwanda...political terror and genocide is still happening. We honour Holocaust Memorial Day as our world needs a constant reminder of the hatred and state sponsored violence that is creating the worst of human misery.

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Year 11 Prom Fundraising Week
Luka Emanuel and Joely Howard review their week

The talent show was a spectacular success. It was extremely well organised by the members of the Year 11 Prom Committee, and we would like to congratulate all of the acts for their performances. Many teachers commented on how impressive the performers were, from dancers whose moves defied physics to beautiful singing voices. A special well done to the winners, Renée Williams and Simran Purewal (both Year 11) for their incredibly entertaining and well-synchronised dancing, and the second and third place acts, Lydia White (Year 9), Raiaz Fisher (Year 10) and Cerys Götz (Year 7). The hall was packed – thank you to everyone who bought tickets.

Another event which generated a fantastic atmosphere was the staff versus students basketball match in the sports hall. It brought a lot of people together, everyone was very supportive and the basketball match itself was very close and got people excited. It’s a shame that the staff won (10-8), but thank you again to everyone who bought tickets and contributed to a brilliant team spirit atmosphere.

Visit To Oxford University
A trip to the Dreaming Spires for A level history students

In March the History A level class were given the opportunity to visit the Middle East Centre at Oxford University and attend a seminar with Professor Eugene Rogan. The students currently study the history of the Middle East and this was an excellent opportunity to ask questions of an expert on the topic. Professor Rogan has written a popular book entitled ‘The Arabs’, which focuses on the history of the Middle East. Students asked a range of questions on the Arab-Israeli conflict and Arab nationalism, and the responses given by Professor Rogan were insightful and passionately delivered. Students also went on a tour of the Middle East Centre and were able to see the resources available to students studying the Middle East at Oxford University.
Psychology is the most interesting, engaging and relevant subject you can study. It brings us out of our comfort zones and causes us to think about our lives. It develops skills of observation, analysis and allows students to debate opinions. It enables us to look at the world from different perspectives and consider things we’d otherwise cast aside. You become aware of the world around you. It highlights individuality as well as emphasising collectiveness. The lessons are never dull, are often hands on and they cater for our learning needs with a range of activities. It is incomparable to other a-level subjects”.

“This lesson was on bio-psychology and we looked at the process of synaptic transmission, this is the process by which one neuron communicates with another. Information is passed down the axon of the neuron as an electrical impulse known as action potential. Once the action potential reaches the end of the axon it needs to be transferred to another neuron or tissue. We used strawberry laces, chocolate buttons & midget gems to demonstrate the action taking place in the axon terminal.”

Cooking is a great life skill to learn, enjoy and develop. It can also help to de-stress and cooking together is a fun activity. Key stage three students cook a wide variety of dishes which enables them to learn a wide range of skills. To build upon the learning in key stage 3 we are offering a new and exciting course at key stage 4 called Hospitality and Catering. With hospitality and catering being the third largest sector in the UK it offers students not only great life skills but fabulous opportunities for their future careers whether that be within catering or hospitality management, the list is endless!

Since the start of September 2018, Year 7, 8 & 9 pupils have read over 147,468,454 words and 2,771 books!

As the Spring term ends all students should be congratulated on their efforts but a special mention should go to one of our year 8 students who has read over three million words!

Claudia Vuthyani 8S                  3,449,471 words read

Congratulations to the following KS3 review groups who are currently top of the Spring term AR leaderboard.

7S R.Waheed                       5,498,816 words
8S R.Gager                          6,417,671 words
9D J.Hughes                          5,335,375 words

Well done!

Mrs Faulkner and Mrs Miller tuck in to their lunches

Renaissance
Accelerated Reading

An update from Mrs Ashford

All Key Stage 3 students are involved in the Accelerated Reading Scheme.

Students pick books within the reading levels they are given by their teacher after they have completed a STAR test, and once they read their book, they complete a quiz on the website which helps to ensure they understand what they have just read. Students need to attempt the quiz no more than 48 hours after reading the book.

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Well done!
As an aspiring accountant, learning about business finance and personal finance has by far been the most challenging unit in the course, however it has also been the most fascinating and intriguing part. The unit has given me an in depth insight of what to expect in the future when it comes to money and finances. It has opened my eyes in decisions to make in the future, from taking out short term loans, leasing cars to mortgages in addition to where to get investments from to start my own business.

In terms of business finance, I am looking forward to learning more about the profitability of businesses, their cash flow and how they work out their expenses to reduce taxes!

Money

Iqra Benash discusses his experiences as a business studies student

Mrs Kemphorne with news from the ICC

All Year 12s had the opportunity to visit this event. They had a series of seminars delivered by top employers on how apprenticeships work, how to apply for them, who offers them and what progress routes look like. In the main exhibition hall, there were over 100 top UK employers including Amazon, Virgin Trains, DAF, KPMG, Civil Service and Redrow. All of the exhibitors were able to tell students all about their businesses, the sectors they worked in and what apprenticeships they were offering. There was a lively atmosphere and all our students seemed engaged and interested in what was on offer. They even discovered that all of the organisation also take on graduates. So it doesn’t matter what route they are planning post-18, they could end up working for some amazing employers.

Knowledge is the key to making a good decision!
## Diary Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon 29th Apr 2019</td>
<td>Summer term begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>W/C 29th Apr</td>
<td>Year 11 practical examinations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thurs 2nd May</td>
<td>Year 12 Parents’ Evening 4 - 6pm</td>
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<td>Mon 6th May</td>
<td>May Day Bank Holiday</td>
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<td>W/C 7th May</td>
<td>Year 10 intensive revision week</td>
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<td>Thurs 9th May</td>
<td>Year 7 Parents’ Evening 4 - 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues 14th May</td>
<td>Year 11 study leave begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W/C 20th May</td>
<td>Sports Leaders Fundraising Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 24th May</td>
<td>School breaks up for half term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 27th - Fri 31st May</td>
<td>Half term holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 21st June</td>
<td>Year 8 immunisations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 27th June</td>
<td>PSHE day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 28th - June</td>
<td>INSET - school closed to students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W/C 1st July</td>
<td>Sports Leaders Festival Week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 1st July</td>
<td>Year 12 induction day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weds 3rd July</td>
<td>New intake day &amp; new staff induction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 5th July</td>
<td>Year 11 Prom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 15th July</td>
<td>Sports day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 18th July</td>
<td>Celebration Evening</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 19th July</td>
<td>School breaks up for summer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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From everyone at Lordswood Girls’ School, we wish you a very happy Easter!

Lordswood News