



LGS Headlines - Mar 2017



Dear Parents

Welcome to the March edition of Headlines.

I seem to start every newsletter by saying just what a busy half term it has been - and this edition is no exception. The Spring Term is always an important one with a strong focus on final preparations for public examinations for Year 11 and Year 13 students. Staff have been busy assessing and reporting on students' progress, and providing as much support as possible to ensure that they are well prepared for the challenges of the examinations ahead. However, as always we have found time for a wide range of other activities including residential visits and a very successful and enjoyable Focus Day.

This term has also seen a national focus on the Government's proposals for the future funding of schools. The consultation on the proposals has now closed, and we have tried to make our case as an individual school and collectively as part of the Slough family of secondary schools. We now wait to see whether the pressure that has been brought to bear by school leaders, parents and local politicians up and down the country will have any real impact. In any event we know that the next few years are likely to be financially challenging and there may be difficult decisions for all schools to take about priorities. Please assured that we will work hard to maintain our excellent level of support for our students' academic and personal development.

I hope you have an enjoyable Easter break with your families.

Mr J Constable - Headteacher

LGS @ 60 whole school photograph

2016-17 marks Langley Grammar School's 60th anniversary year. Our next 60th anniversary celebration event is our whole school photograph which will take place on Friday 21 April.

The last whole-school photograph was taken four years ago, and it will probably be another three years before the next one. This is a unique opportunity for students and staff to be part of a very special record of our 60th anniversary year.

Please make every effort to ensure your son or daughter is in school and able to take part!



Langley Grammar School
Reddington Drive
Langley
Berkshire SL3 7QS
01753 598300
school@lgs.slough.sch.uk

Please visit our website at
www.lgs.slough.sch.uk



Staff news

There are a small number of changes to our staffing at the end of this term.

We are delighted to welcome **Ms Karen Middleton** back from maternity leave. Ms Middleton will be resuming her role teaching English, taking over classes taught this term by Mr Bremner who has been with us as a supply teacher.

Our Sixth Form Administrator **Mrs Lesley Rackstraw** leaves the school at the end of term; over four years in the role she has built strong relationships with our Sixth Form students and will be sincerely missed. Mrs Rackstraw is relocating for family reasons and we wish her well for the future.

Our Careers Guidance Manager **Mrs Celia Golding** also leaves us at the end of this term to pursue other interests. Mrs Golding has been instrumental in building up our careers guidance service across the school over the last five years. Again, we wish her well, and we will be recruiting to fill this vacancy after the Easter holiday.

Admissions 2018

Following the required period of consultation, the Governing Body has now approved the admissions arrangements for entry to the school in September 2018.

Full details can be found on the school website through the admissions links. There have been changes to the over-subscription criteria and the priority admission areas which parents of current students should particularly note.

If parents have any questions about the 2018 admissions arrangements they should contact our Admissions Officer Mrs Alison Congdon via the main school email address or telephone number.

26.2 miles to go for Mr Close



On 23rd April I will be running the London Marathon to raise money for **Heart Link** - a children's charity very close to my heart.

In November 2013 I was delighted to become an uncle to my niece Isabelle. Two months later she was unexpectedly diagnosed with a rare congenital heart condition called Anomalous

Left Coronary Artery from the Pulmonary Artery (ALCAPA) and had lifesaving open heart surgery at Glenfield Hospital in Leicester. This was a hugely emotional and stressful time for all our family.

The treatment received at Glenfield was world-class and the support that Heart Link provided to Isabelle and my family was immeasurable. Without such incredible care and support from Heart Link my niece might not have survived to become the happy and healthy 3 year old she is today. This small charity provides facilities and support for families affected by congenital heart disease - the most common birth defect, affecting almost 1% of newborn babies. They fund a huge array of specialist medical equipment, vital to keeping babies and children alive. To find out more, visit their website at

<http://www.heartlink-glenfield.org.uk>

During the first week back after the Easter holidays LGS students have an opportunity to donate money towards Heart Link Children's Charity; when donating they will get a chance to 'predict my marathon time'. I am looking for lots of students to donate a small amount each and there will be prizes for the three students that are nearest to my finishing time.

If you would like to further support my chosen charity by donating yourselves, then please visit my 'Virgin Money Giving' page:

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/HeartRacing>

It has been a tough training regime and I'm sure that it will be a tougher 26.2 miles! Thank you for your support and kind donations.

Mr D Close - Subject Leader for PE & Sport





Sustaining Distinction

Although the majority of secondary schools in the country are now academies and are independent of any local authority control, each local authority still has a duty to monitor the performance of schools and academies and to champion high standards of provision on behalf of children and families.

We have received a letter from the Director of Children, Learning and Skills at Slough Borough Council this week which included the following statement:

“Slough Borough Council has a school improvement strategy under which they are required to make an evaluation of the performance of schools each year. This evaluation is based on a range of factors, including the use of hard data, soft intelligence and mutual cooperation between schools and the Local Authority.

We have reviewed Langley Grammar School and have evaluated it as ‘sustaining distinction’.

We are confident through the information we have that the leadership of the school has an excellent capacity to maintain the highest possible standards for its learners.”

‘Sustaining distinction’ is the highest category in the Local Authority’s evaluation, and is defined as

Judged outstanding at most recent inspection, the school has the capacity to drive its own development. Succession planning is secure, partnerships strong and there is good capacity to support improvement in partner schools, leading on professional development in a range of aspects. Leadership is strong and secure.

Celebrating success

Langley Grammar School is a member of the national organisation **SSAT** (Schools, Students and Teachers network) and also part of the SSAT’s **Leading Edge** group of high-achieving schools.

Every year SSAT releases the Educational Outcomes database combining three official DfE and Ofsted sources to provide key performance data on every state-funded school in the country. Schools use this to benchmark and profile their achievements and SSAT use it to identify recipients of their annual **Educational Outcomes Awards**.

Although we are several months on from the publication of the 2016 examination results, we were nevertheless delighted to receive the following letter from SSAT this week: which commends our students’ GCSE performance last summer.



Langley Grammar School has been nationally recognised nationally for its exceptional 2016 performance by the Schools, Students and Teachers network SSAT. Educational Outcomes data from SSAT has shown that the school is in the top 20% of schools nationally for progress.

The school’s SSAT Educational Outcomes Award will be presented at a regional celebration event held to draw attention to the work of high-achieving, improving and innovating schools and teachers.

Sue Williamson, Chief Executive of SSAT said:

“It’s my pleasure to commend Langley Grammar school on their excellent 2016 performance and to have the opportunity to highlight and share their great work at an SSAT Educational Outcomes event . We know how hard teachers work to ensure the success of every child. SSAT’s Educational Outcomes award recognises the professionalism, commitment and hard work of the leaders, teachers and students at Langley Grammar school. A big thank you and well done to the pupils, staff and governors.”





Responsible & caring

Congratulations to.....

The following students have completed their **Duke of Edinburgh's Award** this half term:



Year 13	Haddon Lionel Ganippa	Gold
Year 11	Farah Noor	Bronze
Year 11	Ama Weerakkody	Bronze
Year 11	Ameeta Muker	Bronze
Year 11	Leila May Lawrence	Bronze
Year 11	Rohan Shah	Bronze
Year 11	Amrita Narula	Bronze
Year 11	Conor Simms	Bronze



As reported in previous editions of Headlines, our students often officiate at local sports events as part of their Sports Leader awards.

We were delighted to receive the following message from Jason Ewell, School Games organiser for the Slough Schools Sports Network.

"I am writing to thank you, your staff and pupils for your support in lending us your facilities to run our annual High 5 Netball Tournament on the 13th March - the day was a huge success. We have always traditionally held the day at LGS and I was pleased to repeat it again this year as your support always makes the day successful.

I would like to single out the leaders which also supported the day. We had 20 teams from 15 local primary schools take part - that was nearly 200 pupils involved on the day. Your leaders were simply magnificent! They ran the whole day with extreme confidence and represented their school in the highest regard. Please once again extend my thanks to them."

Well done to everyone involved!

New senior student team

After a rigorous application and selection process, our Sixth Form Student Leadership Team for the next year has been confirmed. We would especially like to congratulate our new **Aaron Pandher** and **Tanya Bittar Massally** on their appointment as our new Head Boy and Head Girl. They will be ably supported by their deputies **Yajat Bansal** and **Gurleen Muker**.

The following students have been appointed as Senior Prefects, and will take on a variety of leadership roles.

Koti Jaddu	Kainar Kapur
Puneet Muker	Salena Mann
Shahab Ud Din	Anna Abarian
Samarth Bajaj	Tia Dhaliwal
Vishwam Garg	Faiza Choudhary
Simran Hoonjan	Iqra Khan
Vidusan Jeevakumar	Muskan Gupta
Jennifer Lavender	Aarushi Menon
Gurdeep Sukham	Avneet Dhandee

The new team takes office on Monday 15 May after their Year 12 examinations. We will give a profile of our new senior students and provide more details of the full prefect team in the May edition of Headlines.

Congratulations to all of them!

Study leave dates

Students in Years 11, 12 and 13 will shortly be taking GCSE, AS and A Level examinations. Study leave dates have now been agreed as follows:

Year 11	Study leave begins on Thursday 18 May . Students' last day in school will be Wednesday 17 May.
Year 12	Students have study leave for school examinations for the week beginning Monday 8 May. They will also be able to take study leave on the day before each AS examination they are sitting.
Year 13	Study leave begins on Monday 15 May . Students' last day in school will be Friday 12 May.



Creative & independent

The Art Department's latest photography competition was on the theme of '**Colour**'. Entries were scrutinised by a expert panel of judges (the Senior Leadership Team!) with the following results:



Winning entry
Salman Chishti
Year 12



**Highly
commended**
Amaan Khalid
Year 11



**Highly
commended**
Benjamin Molalign
Year 7



Confident and well-rounded

Spring Concert

On 21st March Langley Grammar School's musicians came together to put on this year's Spring Concert.

[Read more....](#)



Year 12 German work experience

During February half term, the A Level German students completed five days of work experience in Germany, visiting the town of Aachen to explore the culture and improve their German....

[Read more....](#)

PGL Netball weekend

On the weekend of the 3 March, a group of enthusiastic girls set off on a PGL Netball Weekend, with three teams entered to represent Langley Grammar School....

[Read more....](#)



Reading Crown Court mock trial

On Saturday 18 March, a group of students took part in a Mock Trial Competition at Reading Crown Court....

[Read more....](#)



Confident and well-rounded

Year 7 Kingswood Residential

Students in Year 7 recently returned from their visit to the Kingswood activity centre in Kent. The residential was a huge success....

[Read more....](#)



Year 12 UCAS Exhibition

On 15th March Year 12 students visited Brunel University to learn more about the range of options available after A Levels and how the UCAS application process works....

[Read more....](#)

Year 12 Botswana training weekend

Students in Year 12 recently returned from a training weekend in the South Downs, in preparation for the expedition to Botswana this summer....

[Read more....](#)



Year 10 Talk the Talk workshop

Year 10 students experienced the 'Talk The Talk' programme, developing skills in oracy, and culminating with every student delivering a speech to their peers.....

[Read more....](#)



Confident and well-rounded



Year 11 Medical Mavericks

What comes to mind when we think about careers in the NHS? Doctors & nurses? Physiotherapists? On Focus Day, the organisation 'Medical Mavericks' ran an activity where students in Year 11 learnt about the wide range of careers available in the health sector...

[Read more....](#)

Year 8 Geography visit

On Tuesday 14 March, students in Year 8 visited Westfield in Shepherd Bush, and Spitalfields near Brick Lane to understand which shopping centre best suits the needs of its local community...

[Read more....](#)



A day in Auschwitz

As part of a national holocaust education scheme, two Year 12 students were given the unusual opportunity to spend a day in Auschwitz-Birkenau, Poland....

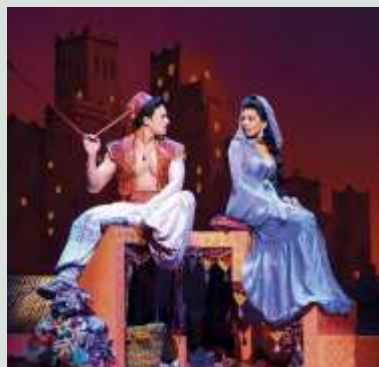
[Read more....](#)



GCSE Drama—Aladdin visit

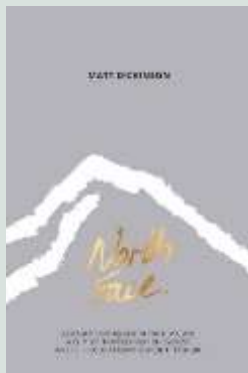
On the 22nd February, GCSE Drama students visited London to watch a performance of *Aladdin* at the Prince Edwards Theatre. The musical was both hilarious and exciting, and the students were gripped throughout....

[Read more....](#)





Confident and well-rounded



Matt Dickinson visit

On Wednesday 8 February, Year 10 students had a very interesting talk from Matt Dickinson - a fascinating author whose novels are based on his own real life experiences from his trips to Everest.

[Read more....](#)

Year 8 History visit

On Thursday 9th March, students in Year 8 visited the Tower of London to gain a better understanding of its role in British history and the powerful people who have been associated with it....

[Read more....](#)



Year 12 Lloyds Bank workshop

Students in Year 12 were offered a lunchtime online Lloyds Banking Group Workshop opportunity on the 8th March, in which they were able to see the different areas of work within Lloyds and the broad range of jobs which Lloyds had to offer ranging from technology based roles such as business software engineers to roles in marketing....

[Read more....](#)



GCSE Drama—Aladdin visit

On focus day, Thursday 9 March, Year 12s participated in a Super Learning Day. We were given the opportunity to further explore our subjects beyond the specification, with activities including exam technique, key word revision, and motivational speaker 'Action Jackson'.....

[Read more....](#)





Our ethos

We seek to develop young people whose academic success is underpinned by being.....



Confident and well-rounded

...demonstrating a positive mindset; secure in their own identity and aware of their own strengths; effective and persuasive communicators; believing in their own self-worth, with a broad and balanced outlook; striving for excellence in all they do; resilient and willing to persevere.



Independent and creative

...able to think critically and make wise decisions; curious and inquisitive; eager to explore and discover; willing to make mistakes and embrace challenges that may at first appear daunting; adaptable and flexible; innovative and enterprising.



Responsible and caring

...grounded in sound ethical and moral values; socially and culturally aware; recognising and appreciating diversity; having the courage to stand up for what is right; acting with kindness and compassion to bring out the best in themselves and others; engaged in communities with a local, national and global outlook.