



# LGS Headlines

29 February 2016



**Pupil Premium Awards 2016**  
**Local Winner**



# LGS Headlines

## February 2016

### From the Headteacher

Dear Parents

This term is a short one - just over a week after returning from the half term break we are already 25% of the way towards the next holiday! However, this does not mean it is any less busy for staff or students.



This week is Literacy Week, which forms an annual focus for thinking about the value of reading, writing and communication. In assemblies last week, Mr Ullah from the English department gave us a very thought-provoking set of reasons to answer the question 'Why read?' and made us think about the value of reading to continue our education and to help us discover who we are and what we want to become. During this week our series of 'Lit Week' events will include World Book Day on Thursday when we will encourage staff and students of all ages to come dressed as their favourite book characters. I hope your son or daughter will join in!

Events such as Lit Week, and Sport Relief later in March, provide opportunities for some fun and memorable moments at a time when our older students are very focused on the forthcoming examinations. We know that our students do well in the GCSE and A Level examinations, but we are particularly proud of the achievements of those who come from less advantaged backgrounds. Grammar schools traditionally exist to provide equality of opportunity for able students from all backgrounds, and we are very pleased to have our role in supporting the achievement of disadvantaged students over the last three years recognised through the Pupil Premium Awards, where we have been judged a Local Winner - the only Slough school to gain such an award this year.

As always, the rest of this newsletter will provide you with a snapshot of the range of activities making up life at Langley Grammar School.

**Mr J Constable - Headteacher**

### In the student pages of this issue.....

- Year 13 History Trip
- Year 12 PWC Workshop
- Year 11 Art Visit
- Year 9 Careers Event
- KS4 Badminton County Finals
- Friendship In Music Concert
- Harry Potter Party

*Mr M Aplin - News Manager*

### Dates for your diary - March

<b>Wed 3 Mar</b>	Yr 9 PTC (school finishes 3.05 pm)
<b>Fri 4 Mar</b>	PGL Netball visit departs Yr 12 Zambia Expedition training weekend
<b>Wed 9 Mar</b>	Yr 7 Residential departs
<b>Thu 10 Mar</b>	Focus Day Yr 8 Geography/History visit Yr 11 Business Insight Day
<b>Fri 11 Mar</b>	Yr 9 MFL visit Dieppe
<b>Sun 13 Mar</b>	Silver D of E Practise Expedition
<b>Mon 14 Mar</b>	Yr 10 Charity week
<b>Tue 15 Mar</b>	Spring Concert 7.30pm
<b>Wed 16 Mar</b>	Sixth Form Information afternoon 1.45pm
<b>Thu 17 Mar</b>	Yr 8 Geography/History visit Yr 12 PTC (school finishes 3.05 pm)
<b>Fri 18 Mar</b>	Junior House Drama Yr 7-9
<b>Sat 19 Mar</b>	Yr 9 Sicily visit departs
<b>Mon 21 Mar</b>	Yr 10/11 Pompeii visit departs
<b>Thu 24 Mar</b>	Easter break to Fri 8 Apr

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## Pupil Premium Award

The Pupil Premium is a Government initiative which provides additional funding to schools in order to raise the attainment of children from disadvantaged backgrounds. The additional funding received by the school is based upon the number of students eligible for free school meals at any time in the preceding six years, which the Department for Education uses as an indicator of disadvantage. Schools also receive funding for children who have been looked after continuously for more than six months, adopted children and children of service personnel.

Nationally, statistics indicate that students in receipt of free school meals do not achieve as well as other students. The aim of this funding is to try close the 'achievement gap' by enabling schools to directly support individual students appropriately. The total additional funding for schools through the Pupil Premium amounted to £2.5 billion in 2014-15.

The Pupil Premium represents a very significant investment of public funds, and the Department for Education is understandably anxious to demonstrate the impact of the additional funds. Schools are required to provide annual reports to parents summarising the allocation and use of the Pupil Premium funding received each year. Our most recent report can be accessed from the school website.

The number of disadvantaged students who attract Pupil Premium funding at Langley Grammar School is relatively small. However, we are very pleased that their excellent achievement over the last three years has been recognised through a Pupil Premium Local Award received in February 2016. These awards are a joint initiative between the Department for Education and the Times Educational Supplement.

# Pupil Premium Awards 2016 Local Winner

## Secondary schools with published KS4 results

## Free School Meals

Pupil Premium funding is triggered by eligibility for free school meals. We receive funding for any students who have been eligible for free school meals at any point in the last six years. This means that any students who were receiving free school meals at any time while at primary school should trigger funding. However, there is considerable evidence nationally to suggest that families often stop claiming free school meals for children at secondary school despite still being eligible.

Families in receipt of the following benefits are entitled to claim free school meals:

- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseeker Allowance (IBJSA)
- Employment & Support Allowance Income Related (ESA(IR))
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit (TC602) provided your annual household income does not exceed £16,190.
- Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit (M1000 Award Notice)

If you think you may be eligible to claim free school meals for your child, please complete the [Slough Borough Council on-line free school meals form](#).

The school uses a service provided by Slough Borough Council to check if parents are eligible to claim free school meals for their children. Parents are not required to provide documentary evidence each term to prove they can still claim for free school meals; claims are automatically re-checked using the information already provided.

The free school meals system is managed with complete discretion. Once eligibility is confirmed, your child will have an allowance allocated to their cashless catering account each day, this allowance will be sufficient for them to purchase a balanced meal. They can choose what to spend the allowance on; however, money not used does not carry over to the next day.

The school receives £930 of Pupil Premium for each child who is eligible for free school meals. The funding can be used to give that child and others access to additional learning experiences and resources. If you are eligible to claim for free school meals but wish your child to bring packed lunches from home, please still apply so the school receives the additional Pupil Premium funding.



*The Year of the Monkey  
According to Chinese folklore,  
Started this month early,  
Celebration at its core,*

*The monkey embodies us all,  
In ways we may not know,  
Just like the erudite monkey,  
Our knowledge can start to show,*

*Year 9 attended a careers event,  
Eager to gain new advice,  
The professionals' careful instruction,  
Was more than enough to suffice,*

*The monkey embodies us all,  
In ways we may not know,  
Just like the inquisitive monkey,  
Our cultural tastes can grow,*

*Sixth Form attended the Globe,  
The Tempest was a delight,  
After a night of witnessing performing,  
They truly appreciated the wonderful sight,*

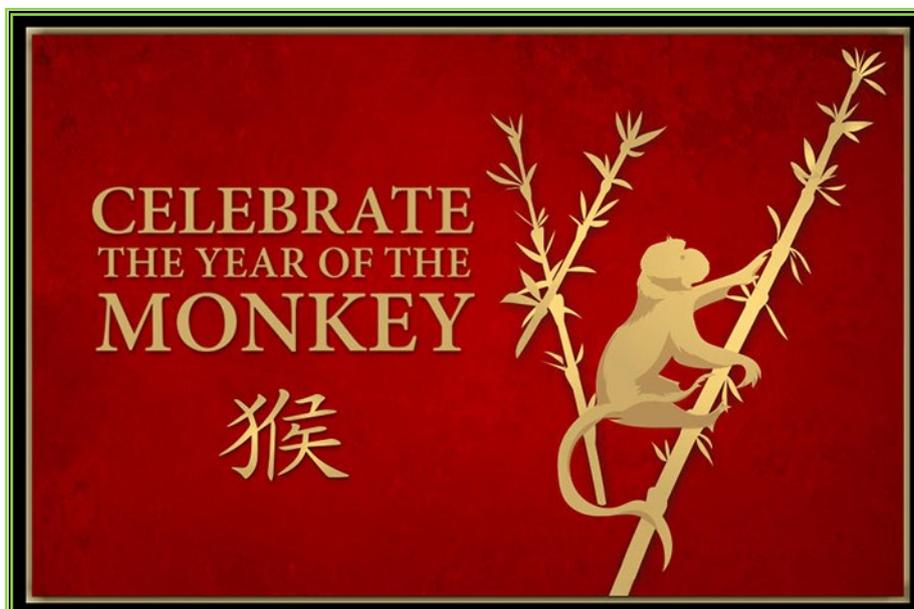
*The monkey embodies us all,  
In ways we may not know,  
Just like the skilful monkey,  
Our talented students can glow,*

*The Friendship in Music concert,  
Brought schools together in song,  
The result proved that in unity  
Our talents will always be strong.*

*The monkey embodies us all,  
A symbol for all our flair,  
Its intelligence, talent and curiosity,  
In people is quite rare,*

*Yet LGS students consistently,  
Continue to perform and achieve,  
To accept that we shall continue,  
Is what we all believe.*

**Written By Faheem Anwar - 9H  
Langley Laureate**



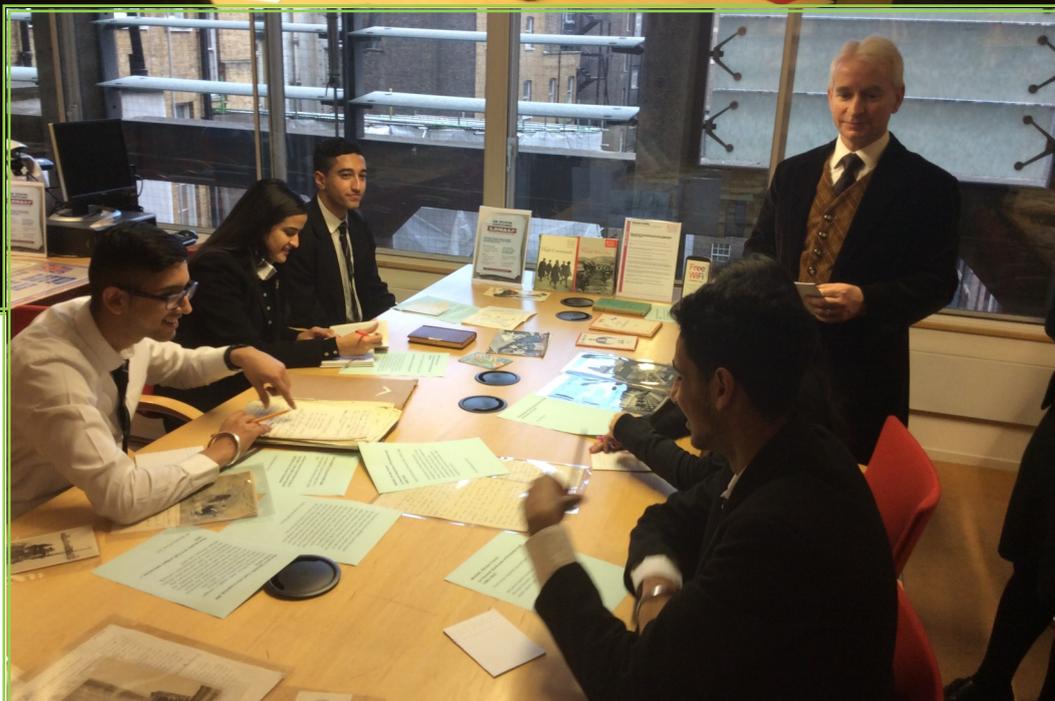


# Year 13 History Trip

*Written By Jack Allsopp (6F)*

Langley Grammar Sixth Formers were lucky enough to be allowed access to the King's College archives to enhance their understanding of the recent past and gain insight into an archival career from an entertaining and engaging archivist. Particularly stimulating material included a sketch of Churchill by one of his close friends, scientific equipment that was used to discover the double-helix model of DNA and fascinating photo diaries documenting colonial experiences.

Students also were given a tour of the campus and a look inside Somerset House. This was an especially exciting opportunity for those Year 13s who will be studying history at degree level next academic year, as well as those Year 12s considering it. A thoroughly enjoyably trip all round!





# Year 12 PwC Workshop

Written By Pratyush Jain (6H)

On Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January, I had the chance to attend the PwC Online Workshop, at Lunch, held in Room 204. The workshop was organised by a company called Class Careers, who have previously held similar Online workshops which have been very successful, leading to one person from LGS who found out about SKY, from this workshop last year, getting a job from the company. This year the company was PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) a multinational professional services firm, with an annual revenue of \$34.5 Billion.

There were 4 Year 13 students, and 11 Year 12 students who attended this workshop. To start off with, we had each conducted our own individual research about the company prior to the online workshop to gain an insight into how the company works and what the company actually is!

When we went to the session, Ms Golding gave us an introduction to PwC, which included a few videos about PwC and how they work, what work they do, what branches are there to get into the company.



Once this was over, we were given a link to use to sign up to an Online chat with a PwC employee, who had been part of their school leavers scheme, as that's what the focus of the day was – PwC school leavers scheme. We each got assigned an employee after logging in and the chat began!

We got the chance to ask many questions that we had about the business and the process of getting in, as well as the employee's personal experience – something you can't just find on the internet.

Personally, I found this quite useful as, considering PwC as a potential future employer, I got to find about how the actual employees find their job and what they think is useful to getting in, as well as finding out the salaries that they each earn.

Overall it was a great experience, and I wish the chat lasted longer, so I could ask a lot more questions!



# Year 11 Art Visit

*Written By Amera Dam -Elhana (11K)*

On Thursday the 25th of February, the Year 11 GCSE Art class set off to the V&A museum and then the Tate Modern in order to broaden cultural awareness and collate photographs and drawings of our chosen field in the art exam unit. We had the choice of seven different topics: groups, 'wish you were here', clothing, outline, landmark, 'from above' and diary, I had chosen 'clothing'.

The museum itself was vast and separated into many rooms and exhibitions, we entered through security and then were led up to the clothing area where we spent the first half an hour. The first exhibition was a timeline of fashion through the ages, including original designs by designers such as Alexander Wang and Christian Dior and some even dating back to centuries ago. The room was set up in a circular fashion where you could walk down from the 1600's idea of fashion, wired skirts and woollen swimwear to Victorian to modern pieces. This exhibition was particularly inspirational to me, having chosen 'clothing' as my exam topic.

The second exhibition we went to, spending the next half an hour there was the exhibition that contained middle eastern art, artefacts and clothing, the most interesting thing probably the ancient yet perfectly preserved Ardabil Carpet showcased in the middle of the room, lit for only 10 minutes a day to preserve colour. This exhibition contained not only beautiful pieces of art but contained a rich history told through the every day objects that people would have used in that day such as plates and pottery and jewellery.

We then spent the last forty five minutes looking at jewellery exhibits, sculptures and even went to one filled with items of clothing, set sketches and props from all Broadway and West End musicals, this one definitely being my favourite. This was the last thing we did before heading off to lunch.

After lunch, we got back on to the coach and then navigated our way through the London traffic to the Tate Modern where we all rode on long escalators to the second floor where we were given some time to go off and look at the pictures and sculptures, our task was to recreate some of them with fifteen minute sketches using a variety of media including pencils and pastels. After having completed these, and a final count, we all set off to the shop to try and get souvenirs from our exciting and educational day.

Overall the trip was great; not only did we understand particular parts of history a lot more, for example the moguls, but we got to see the changes in trend over the years, from art to clothing to even calligraphy and writing styles (where we saw different handwritten editions of the Quraan). This was truly a great opportunity to build up a repertoire of images for further use in our art exams but aside from the educational aspect, it was fun, interesting and a great day out with friends.





# Year 9 Careers Event

*Written By Simrun Chandale & Zainab Thasim (9V)*

On February 3<sup>rd</sup>, year 9 went to the Slough careers event, located in 'The Centre' Slough. By attending this event, every one of us was given a clear insight into the different career paths we could take; also helping us in choosing our GCSE options. The trip began with a talk and introductory video explaining the event and the variety of journeys we can take after our GCSEs, this was followed by a question and answer session with a panel of experts. During this part, students were allowed to ask questions to the panel which helped us understand more about the world of work.

Employees from both big companies (Mars) and small firms, were there to give their advice. They helped us to understand what we could do within an apprenticeship or when going onto further studies in university, and how it could benefit us in different ways. With such a variety of different expertise the talk was very interesting and beneficial towards our option choosing.

The second half of the trip was spent visiting different company stands in the market. Whilst doing so, we were able to retrieve more detailed advice and learn more about their line of work. This was extremely helpful as it allowed us to find out what they went through to get to where they were, and to give us an idea of the types of things they look for in employees. The market stalls supplied us with the knowledge of local businesses around us, which may be places that we could one day work at, or apply for work experience in the future.

Along with the businesses, there were stalls about both local and global charity work, as well as universities/colleges, army recruits, the NHS health care awareness and apprenticeship advice. As you are now aware the market place was full off different opportunities that every student could investigate so there was something for everyone.

One stall even gave the students questionnaires about real life situations, from there our reactions to what we would do the in the situations were processed to determine the type of person we are and possible lines of work that we could go into based on our personality. The stall that did this was the busiest stall in the market: **Mars!** It is fair to say that I think MARS was the overall favourite business to the students (however this was probably due to the samples they gave out: free chocolate!)



Overall, the trip to the Slough Careers event was extremely helpful and beneficial to absolutely everyone. Giving us the ultimate opportunity to ask any questions we had on any career path in helping us piece together our plan for the future. For many of us it was the first time thinking about life beyond school. By asking companies what they look for in employees we realised what skills might be beneficial for us to learn for specific job roles or career directions. Most would agree that it helped guide them in picking the right options for their GCSEs. What with that and shedding a light on our near future the event was successful and one that we will remember. Thank you to the staff involved in organising the trip for us and for taking us on the day.



# KS3 Badminton County Finals

*Written By Tanmay Lad (9S)*

On Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February, the LGS KS3 badminton team proceeded to the County Finals with Mr Close after winning all of our matches within the schools in Slough. The team consisted of Yash Gupta – 9S, Zichen (Isaac) Ma – 9S, Aryan Lad – 7R and myself, Tanmay Lad – 9S. We were competing for a place in the regional finals where only the top school from each county could participate in. For Aryan it was a new experience but the rest of us had been here previously only to be beaten right in the group stages!

The action started with a quick briefing and then we were assigned courts and our first opponents, Reading Boys. At that moment Yash, Isaac and I had a flashback – last time we had been wiped out by Reading in the group stages – and then the games begun! Unfortunately we lost all 5 of our matches to Reading. What a surprise. After our bitter defeat we played the second school in our group, The Downs School. As they were missing a player, two of their games couldn't be played and the points went to us so now we needed just one point to win overall. This was provided by Yash in the very first game! We also won the rest of the games with Aryan playing singles and Isaac and I playing doubles. We came out second in our group overall.



After this was the semi-finals, in which we had to play the winner of group B, Waingels school. We were not at all expecting to win this; they had won against all the schools in their group while we merely had won against one out of two! Yash played first against their player 1 and lost by a couple of points. His performance, coupled with Mr Close egging us on, inspired us to win our next doubles game in which Isaac and I played. After our game was the singles in which Aryan played their player 2. Again, he lost by a few points but encouraged Isaac and Yash to win their doubles marginally. The tally was now 2-2.

The last doubles game was the decider. Aryan and I were to play their Numbers 2 and 4. The match ran all the way until the score was 20-20. The match officials who were scoring announced that it would be sudden death – last point wins. Our tactic was to concentrate fire onto No. 4 as he was the weakest one of the pair and a badly hit lift from him was returned by me as a smash; the shuttle hit the floor on their side. We were ecstatic; we were through to the finals! As we settled down, we watched the winner of our group (Reading) thrash the runner up of the other group; they were playing us in the final.

I am not going to say much about the final; I will just be repeating myself! - But what I can say is that Reading Boys were confident and won all five matches. Happily, we boarded the minibus with silver medals bouncing on our chests and returned back to school. We would like to thank Mr Close for his encouragement in getting us here and all our parents for supporting us. For three of us, at least, KS4 awaits!



# Friendship in Music Concert

Written by Rebecca Wright (7S)

On Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February Langley Grammar School hosted the Friendship in Music Concert in the Lecture Theatre. The other schools that were there were St Bernard's Catholic Grammar School, Egham International School and Castlevie Primary School. At the beginning of the concert we listened to different people from the different schools who performed a song together. After that we started with St Bernard's Choir, their orchestra and their individual acts. Following that we had Castlevie Primary who sang four songs. One of the songs was about creating awareness for whales and how they are getting killed by the boats, so a strong environmental theme here. Next it was our turn.

We sang, *Mr Blue Sky* and then the ensemble played followed by the orchestra. Last it was Egham International School. They sang an Operatic Song and had a soloist playing. After all the different acts we had a joint choir with all the schools coming together singing 'You got a Friend'. The event was an excellent event and one that we all thoroughly enjoyed. We can't wait until next years and we would like to thank all the music department for organising the event.





# Harry Potter Party

*Written by Ms Shine*

Once again the Library hosted a Harry Potter party to celebrate J K Rowling's books.

Students were allocated to houses by the Sorting Hat. Apurbo Saha 7H (left) dressed the part. Pictured are students working out the ingredients of Polyjuice potion. They then tackled a fiendish quiz covering spells, potions and transformation.

Our students amazed the Librarian who is ashamed to admit she did not know many answers. The quiz was won by Slytherin. Nobody wanted to be in this house but once allocated, they proved cunning. The event ended with a special delivery by owl of certificates of attendance and a gift bag of Bertie Bott's every flavour beans.

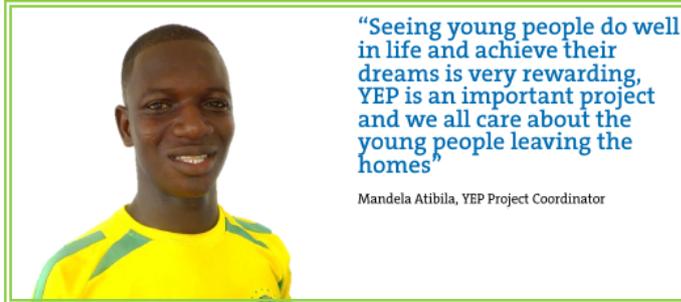




# Afrikids Update



Thank you so much for raising a total of £3,101 from your 2015 Charity Week and Mufti Day



“Seeing young people do well in life and achieve their dreams is very rewarding, YEP is an important project and we all care about the young people leaving the homes”

Mandela Atibila, YEP Project Coordinator

## The Young Entrepreneurs Programme

The Young Entrepreneurs Programme (YEP) was specifically designed in 2009 to support young people transitioning from one of our two residential care homes (Next Generation Home and Mama Laadi's Foster Home) to independent living. Only 1% of AfriKids' beneficiaries require intensive, long-term residential care. The children who come to live in the homes are severely disadvantaged and need ongoing support throughout their residency, as they may have experienced severe abuse or neglect.

AfriKids are acutely aware of the problems arising from children spending long periods of time in institutional care, and ensure that the environments in which they grow up are akin to that of a family home. Once the children reach their late teenage years, it is no longer appropriate to remain in the children's homes. In the UER, 65% of the population live in poverty, so without continued support the young people transitioning from our care homes to adulthood are at risk of falling into poverty, a life of crime or street life in the absence of a family that they can rely on. The level of poverty in the region further highlights the need for a programme such as YEP, to ensure young people stay on the right track and increase their employability.

YEP tackles the above risks by providing vulnerable young people with ongoing structured support to enable them to build secure futures. The programme provides practical and emotional support for between 3-5 years and support is tailored to each young person's needs.

Through the programme, young people are given the opportunity to either continue with further education or they are provided with practical skills training in a vocation such as tailoring, hairdressing or carpentry, thus increasing their employability. Once this is complete they are then supported with setting up a new business if they wish to. By continuing to support and work with them we aim to break cycles of poverty so that they can become self-sufficient adults.

£3,101 would be enough to fund the educational needs of four young people supported by the Young Entrepreneurs Programme and transitioning into independent adulthood from Mama Laadi's Foster Home... this includes their school fees, registration fees, accommodation costs, transportation to and from school, stationary and other learning materials and feeding.

## Our Approach

The project lays the foundations for each young person to create a long-term sustainable life plan by offering:

- rented accommodation
- provision of basic needs including a food allowance and personal hygiene items
- resources to enable young people to pursue vocational or tertiary education
- business start up costs
- on-going mentoring and emotional support

## Young Entrepreneurs – Benefits

- It creates employable, educated young adults who can give back to the society in which they grew up
- Provides new employment opportunities for young people who choose vocational training and set up their own business, who then go on to employ others
- Impacts positively on girls, as it ensures they have equal opportunities to pursue vocational training or education
- Encourages mentoring and volunteering. The young entrepreneur alumni continue to make a tangible contribution to the projects that supported them through childhood; often through mentoring in the foster homes and volunteering