LGS Headlines 12 May 2023

From the Headteacher



Dear Parents

Last weekend we witnessed the extraordinary spectacle of the coronation of HM King Charles III, and we have been exploring the significance of the ceremony in assemblies with particular year groups over the last two weeks. Shortly before the coronation weekend, there was an interesting YouGov poll which measured support for the monarchy. It showed majority support for the idea that the UK should have a king or queen as head of state, but the proportion in favour decreasing noticeable among younger people.

That is perhaps understandable, but the worrying issue for me was the significant proportion of young people who said they 'didn't care' or 'don't know'. Opinion polls and surveys have shown there is a rising trend of indifference towards some of the country's established institutions, particularly amongst young people. We want LGS students to be effective and persuasive leaders in the future, and it is important they are engaged and able to articulate informed opinions about important issues. We would encourage you to do whatever you can to stimulate the thinking of students across all year groups, and help them to develop their opinions about issues which go beyond their academic courses.

This week was the last week of regular school for Year 11 and Year 13 before the examination season begins. We wish the students well as they work through the challenges of the next few weeks and wish them every success. For those of you with children in those year groups, we know that you will be working hard to support them both emotionally and practically, and we want to thank you for that!

With best wishes

John Constable - Headteacher

Coming up	o next week		
All week	Year 11, 12 and 13	Public exan	ninations begin
Tue 16 May	Year 10	GCSE Geo	graphy Fieldwork visit to Slapton (Tue-Fri)

Contact us

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us on 01753 598300 or email <u>school@lgs.slough.sch.uk</u>. For general information visit our website www.lgs.slough.sch.uk

or follow us on Twitter @lgs_news



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The week in review

- ⇒ The English Department organised our first *language and linguistics conference* entitled *Knowledge is Power*. We were pleased to welcome Professor Rodney Jones, Professor Jane Setter and Doctor Fraibet Aveldo from Reading University to deliver lectures on sociolinguistics, language acquisition and accent bias to our budding linguists from years 11, 12 and 13. The A Level Language students were able to present their independent language research to our guests, who fed back that the content and delivery of these were of highest academic standard.
- ⇒ Year 11 had their final assembly today, before they start their GCSE public examinations next week. They gathered in the lecture theatre for speeches, music performances and form videos. There were some very creative videos from each form, which charted their time at school from Year 7 to Year 11. It was great seeing a whole catalogue of extra-curricular activities, fun and community spirit. They finished their day with leaver hoodies, pizza and a few tears. Although most Year 11s are hoping to return to our Sixth Form in September, this is definitely the end of an era!
- ⇒ On Friday we had nearly 80 Year 10s taking part in a *Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award training day*. Participants were split into groups to learn about camp-craft, navigation, first aid, tent pitching, expedition food and nutrition and appropriate expedition clothing.

At the end of May they will be doing their *practice expedition* to the North Downs with three nights camping and being self-reliant. They will then be walking in the beautiful national park of the New Forest in the last week of the summer term for their *qualifying expedition*. It will be tough for them and we are sure that you would want to wish them well.

⇒ On Thursday a team of teachers took on the Year 13 leavers in an exciting indoor cricket contest. The students posted a very competitive 64 off their 5 overs after a very dubious start. The teachers fell narrowly short after a blistering start thanks to some buffet bowling from Udit and Harris, but eventually lost by 9 runs unfortunately.

Updates & Reminders

- ⇒ Registration for the 2023 Slough Consortium 11+ examination is now open. This is for entry to Year 7 in September 2024. If you would wish to register your child for this process, please visit the admissions section of our website <u>here</u>. Registration closes on Monday 12th June.
- ⇒ A reminder that if you are notifying school that your child is *unable to attend school* for any reason, please would you either *phone* Student Support <u>or</u> email them at <u>studentsupport@lgs.slough.sch.uk</u>.
- ⇒ Year 8s and 9s had their *HPV Vaccinations* this week. If your child missed this vaccination, you can book them into an alternative venue by calling the School Nursing team on 0300-365-0077.



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Looking ahead

- ⇒ On *Tuesday 16th May*, Year 10s Geography students will depart for their four day *Fieldwork Geography visit to Slapton*. Students will spend time taking part in field work collecting data for a geographical investigation. The knowledge and experience gained from fieldwork is examined in one of the modules in the final exams.
- ⇒ On *Thursday 25th May*, some Year 7-9 students will be visiting the production *Newsies* at the Troubadour Wembley Park Theatre in London. This visit is for students who are taking part in the upcoming school production of Bugsy. Newsies is set in the same era as Bugsy, so this will be an exciting visit where the students get to take inspiration from professional performers to aid them in their own performances.
- ⇒ A reminder to parents that the summer half term break runs from *Monday 29th May* until *Friday 2nd June* when the school will be closed to students.
- ⇒ On *Tuesday 13th June*, *Year 12* will have their *Parent-Teacher Consultations* online using School Cloud. Information will be sent to parents nearer the time.
- ⇒ On *Wednesday 14th June*, all students will have their *Sports Day* at Thames Valley Athletics Centre. Further detail to follow.

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Dute	Tourn	Opponents	- Venue -	Pick up time	
Tues 16 May	V10 Boys Cricket	Luckley House	Stoke Green	6.00pm	1 2
Weds 17 May	Y8 Cricket	Slough and Eton	Away	6.00pm	1
Thurs 18 May	Y10 Boys Cricket	Burnham Grammar	Away	6.00pm	Active Are All
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Goodbye to Year 13!

This was the last week of school for our Year 13 students, who are now on study leave before their A Level public examinations begin next week.

This group of students were in Year 10 when the pandemic struck in 2020. Their GCSE courses were disrupted, their GCSE public examinations cancelled and replaced with teacher assessed grades. They have been called on to demonstrate more independence, responsibility and care for each other and yourselves than most year groups before them. Despite the undoubted levels of anxiety that many of them have felt, they have in many ways developed more confidence and more creativity than might normally be expected.

We are therefore very proud of all our Year 13 students as we think about how far they have come to be the confident and well-rounded young adults we know today. We would like to thank their parents and our staff for contributing to their development over their years at LGS.

To celebrate we had a themed dress day before their final assembly on Thursday which showcased the talents of this particular year group. This week has been an emotional rollercoaster for the students, sadness mixed with excitement and uncertainty. They start study leave with our very best wishes for their examinations and their futures.