



LGS Headlines - Feb 2018



Dear Parents

Having recently returned from the half term break we are now just over half way through the academic year - and I am sure many of you will share my feeling that the time is flying past.

This edition of Headlines captures some of the events which have taken place in school over the last few weeks. Alongside these activities, our Year 11s have been digesting the implications of their mock examination grades and planning their revision for their GCSE examinations. Students in Year 13, 12 and 8 have taken internal exams or assessments to gauge their progress, with Year 13s approaching those very important final A Level examinations. The majority of students are aiming for university entrance and are working hard to achieve challenging offers.

We are delighted that a number of Year 13 students are holding offers from Oxford or Cambridge in addition to the large number who have clearly impressed the admissions tutors at a range of other reputable universities. However, the most important thing is for students to be applying for courses which really match their own individual talents, attributes and passions. This is why careers guidance in school is so important, particularly as the range of options for post-18 progression increases and we see degree apprenticeships emerging as a serious alternative for high-achieving students in particular career areas.

The Department for Education has recently published its Careers Strategy which sets out a vision for high quality careers education and guidance in schools. I am pleased to say that very many of the recommendations made are already in place at Langley Grammar school. All our students benefit from impartial careers guidance through the external organisation Adviza and our own attached careers adviser Mr Devani. They have access to a range of career-oriented activities from Year 8 upwards; recent examples include the Slough Year 9 careers fair, and our Year 12 speed networking event where students were able to meet over 40 different representatives from a wide range of organisations. However, over the next few months we will be reviewing our careers education and guidance in order to ensure that we can offer even better support to your sons and daughters as they consider the options for their future careers.

As an academy we have an informal relationship with the Local Authority and seek to actively support the whole Slough community of schools. The Local Authority does have a legal duty to monitor the performance of all schools in the area and to champion high standards of provision. We are very pleased that the Local Authority has once again evaluated Langley Grammar as 'Sustaining Distinction' - the highest level its scale. This judgement is based on students' academic outcomes and visits to the school by an external consultant and is a tribute to the continuing hard work of our staff.

I do hope your sons and daughters will enjoy the remaining weeks of this term and take advantage of the opportunities they have at the school.

Mr J Constable - Headteacher

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Updates



Buildings

The tendering process for the new school buildings is under way again following the collapse of the previous bidder Carillion.

The PSBP2 project will see the entire 1956 buildings - the original school - demolished and replaced with new state of the art accommodation.

The main elements of the programme remain unchanged, with the first phase seeing a new teaching block on the current hard court area at the back of the school for all our specialist accommodation.

The second phase involves the demolition of the old 1956 buildings with a new block constructed at the front of the school to include a new Main hall, library, Dining room, kitchen & servery, Reception, administrative and support staff offices.

Overall, the project represents an investment of around **£16 million** into the school.

The DfE are currently appointing a building contractor. To do this, they are selecting two preferred bidders from a contractor framework list who will work with us early next term to develop an initial design for the buildings which will form the tender submission. The successful contractor will then further develop that design with us.

The delay in the procurement process will inevitably mean a delayed start to the rebuilding project; we are currently expecting to start work on the first phase in October 2018.

Data Protection

Many parents will be aware from their own working lives of the changes to the data protection laws which come into effect with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in May 2018.

As part of our preparation for the GDPR we are reviewing what personal information we hold about students, where we keep it and how we process it.

As we approach the implementation of the GDPR we will be revising a number of our school procedures including the way in which consent is given for us to use student personal data, and to clarify the rights of students and parents to see what information we hold.

We are also looking eliminating unnecessary information collection and processing and making our processes and systems more efficient and effective.



Keeping in touch

Most parents will be familiar with the 'Keep Kids Safe' system we have previously used for communicating with parents by text and email.

We have now changed our email system to SIMS InTouch, which takes information directly from our school database of parental contacts. This is a more efficient and cost effective way of sending you email updates.

We are also currently testing the **SIMS Parent App** which will provide you with access to information about your child straight from your smartphone, tablet or computer; we will let you know when we are able to launch this to all parents.

Please ensure that we have up to date phone numbers and email addresses for all contacts.



Distinguished School

As part of our Apple Distinguished School designation, we are expected to share our work with other schools. We therefore host occasional visits for members of staff from other schools to demonstrate how we use iPads to enhance our students' learning.

Earlier this term we were asked to host some meetings for groups overseas visitors who were in London for the annual BETT educational technology show. Across two separate days, we hosted 17 Russian senior school leaders and education officials from Moscow, a smaller group of school principals from The Netherlands and 22 school leaders from Poland.



Our Lead Practitioners Mr Mace and Mrs Jenkins gave presentations, after which our student Digital Leaders were waiting to talk to the visitors about the impact of iPads on their learning.



The Digital Leaders then took the visitors on tour round the school to see some of the applications they had described being used in lessons. This was a fantastic opportunity for our students to meet visitors from other countries, overcome language barriers, and share their enthusiasm for digital learning. They were - as always - superb ambassadors for the school.

For more information about how we use iPads in learning at Langley Grammar school please visit our website page [iPads at Langley Grammar](#) where you will find links to our iBook and a video made by the student Digital Leaders.



Recent website articles

Year 9 Careers Fair

As part of their preparation for choosing their GCSE options, Year 9 students attended the Slough Careers Event organised by Learning to Work, our local education-business partnership.

[Read more....](#)



Duke of Edinburgh's Award presentations

Students in Years 11 to 13 attended a celebration event to acknowledge their achievements in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme.

[Read more....](#)



Year 12 Speed Networking

Year 12 students had discussions with a diverse group of professionals as part of a careers networking event. Sectors represented ranged from finance to pharmaceutical consultancy.

[Read more....](#)



Year 12 Oxbridge visit

25 students from the Year 12 visited Brasenose College, part of Oxford University, as part of an Oxbridge preparation programme.

[Read more....](#)





Recent website articles

Year 9 Chocolate Workshop

40 Year 9 students took part in a chocolate workshop, organised by our Design Technology department. It was a very popular and enjoyable event, as students could take home and eat their chocolate creations!

[Read more....](#)



Year 12 Geographers visit Northern Ireland...

Year 12 students visiting Northern Ireland saw early mornings and icy cold weather on their geography field trip.

[Read more....](#)



Senior House Music

Students in Years 10-13 finished the half term with an enjoyable celebration of musical talent judged by three former students.

[Read more....](#)



Langley Roboteers

Langley Roboteers performed admirably against very tough competition from 50 heat winners from all over England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales in the national finals.

[Read more....](#)

