



LGS Headlines

February 2022



Dear Parents

This newsletter marks the half-way point of the Spring term, and of the academic year. It is hard to believe that it is almost two years since we closed the school for the first lockdown in March 2020 - rather optimistically thinking that we would be 'back to normal' in a relatively short time.

Despite the setbacks of the last few months with the emergence of the Omicron variant, it does now seem that we are finally moving into a very different phase. Our Covid case numbers have decreased markedly over the last two weeks, and we are confident that we will return after the half term break to a significantly improved situation.

One of the frustrating aspects of the pandemic has been the restrictions placed on schools in terms of the range of activities which could be provided both in and beyond the taught curriculum. However, this term we have seen the re-establishment of extracurricular activities and a range of school visits taking place. This week we have held celebration assemblies across Years 7 to 11, focusing on the things that students have been involved in and their achievements over the last few weeks of this term. It has been very encouraging, and good to see our students working hard to develop themselves personally and academically.

This edition of LGS Headlines contains a range of items which showcase some of the activities, successes and achievements of the last few weeks. I hope you enjoy reading it. Please do take note of the range of news items which are publicised from week to week through the school's Twitter account - if you do not already follow us on Twitter, could I encourage you to do so?

Earlier this term we saw the publication of our Ofsted report, confirming the inspection team's judgement that Langley Grammar School remains an Outstanding school. We were delighted with the comments made in the report and are proud of the students' commitment to our ethos. The report was circulated to you in line with Ofsted requirements and I do hope you have taken the opportunity to read it. If you have not done so you can find a copy on our website.

We are very conscious that an outstanding school does not mean a perfect school, and we will continue to work to improve our facilities, our systems and our provision for the benefit of our student - your children.

Unfortunately, with the arrival of Storm Eunice, this half of the term ended rather more abruptly than expected, and I want to apologise again for the inconvenience caused by the school closure.

Thank you for your continued support and I wish you and your families an enjoyable half-term break.

Mr J Constable - Headteacher

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us on 01753 598300 or email school@lgs.slough.sch.uk.

Your query will be passed on to the most appropriate member of staff.

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Please visit our website at

www.lgs.slough.sch.uk

Follow us on Twitter @lgs_news





Updates

Welcome to new staff.....

- ◇ **Miss Elin Dafydd**, who has recently joined our Science Technician team.

Other staff updates...

- ◇ **Mrs Andrews** has now commenced her maternity leave. We wish her well for the remainder of her pregnancy and for the safe arrival of her baby in due course. Her psychology teaching will be largely covered by Mrs Kalsi, and her role as Individual Needs Coordinator will be covered by Mr Batsman. Mrs Bray takes over Mrs Andrews' responsibilities as Coordinator for Personal and Citizenship Studies.
- ◇ **Mr Choo** has returned to Canada for family reasons and has now resigned from his post as a teacher of Chemistry here at LGS. We wish him well for the future. Mr Choo's timetable will continue to be covered by Mr Motteram for the remainder of the academic year.

Covering staff absence

- ◇ We are very aware that we have had to rely on supply cover over the last few weeks due to higher than usual levels of staff absence. Some of our staff have had Covid themselves, while others have had to take time out because of Covid in their families, particularly with primary-age children. We can only apologise for the inevitable disruption that this will have caused and look forward to a period of greater stability in the second part of the year.

Covid control measures after half term

As the Covid situation improves and there are further relaxations of national restrictions, we expect the following to apply after half term:

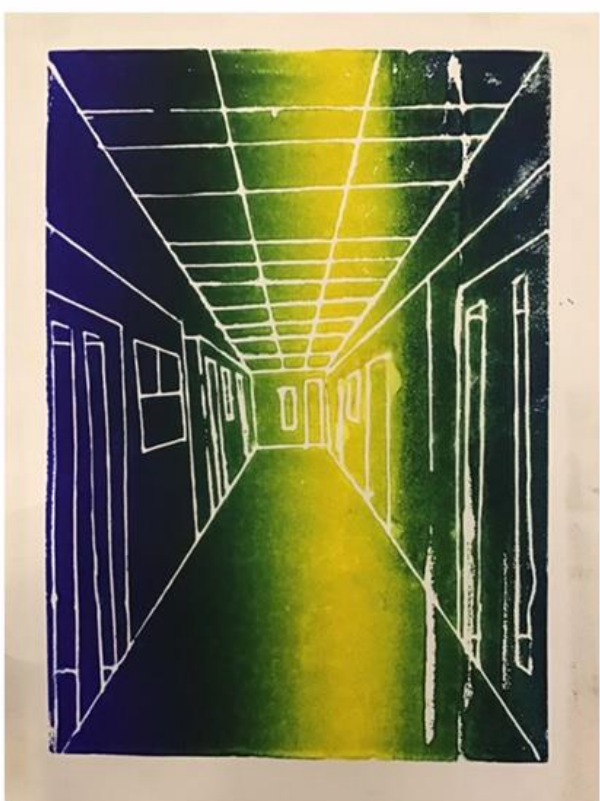
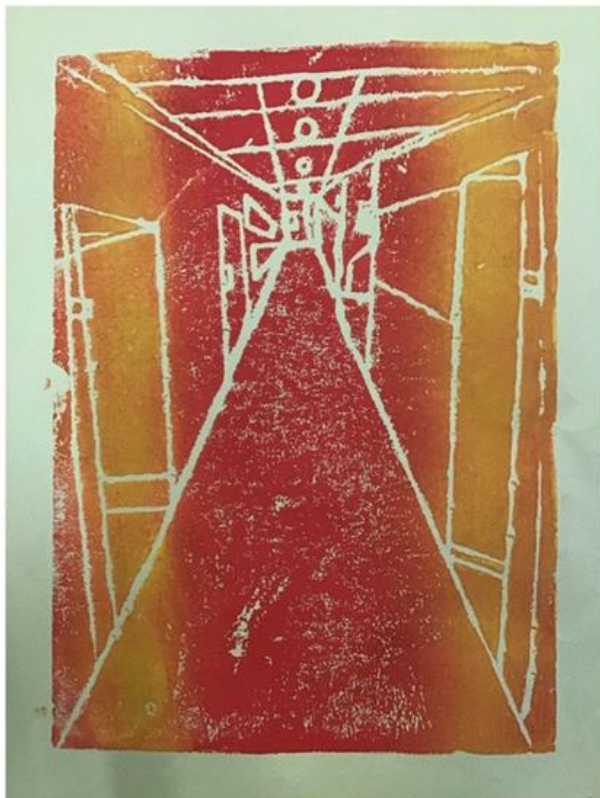
- ◇ Students will no longer be **required** to wear face masks in school. Wearing masks is entirely acceptable and will generally be a matter of personal choice.
- ◇ **There may be circumstances when students will be still asked to wear masks**, particularly where this mirrors requirements which may still be in place nationally, for example when using public transport. Indoor venues for school visits may also require masks to be worn. Students visiting Student Support for medical treatment may also be asked to wear a mask by the Student Support team.
- ◇ We will continue to provide **lateral flow testing kits** to students for as long as we receive supplies from the Government, and continue to encourage routine twice-weekly testing.
- ◇ We will retain **other control measures** such as enhanced cleaning and encouraging good hygiene.
- ◇ If cases start to rise again, we may make a **local decision to reinstate restrictions**, including the use of face masks.

We also understand that revised guidance about isolation will be published by the Government in early March. Until that point, the current expectations around isolation remain in force.



Year 7 Art

Our Year 7 students have been transforming some of their drawings from the Buildings and Structures project into prints, experimenting with ombré colour effects.





A successful school

There are lots of ways to 'measure' schools, and lots of ways in which schools are judged. We wanted to draw your attention to some of the ways in which Langley Grammar School's success can be measured.

Academic outcomes

Langley Grammar School is not a 'super selective' school. Our students come from roughly the top third of the ability range as measured by the 11+ test. We are therefore very pleased with the outcomes of our students, which rival many of the schools which select a narrower range of students. Academic outcomes from the 2020 and 2021 examination series will not be used to rank schools as the examinations themselves were cancelled in favour of different forms of teacher assessment.

The Times newspaper has published its **Parent Power** database, based on the average of the 2017, 2018 and 2019 results. **A Levels** are double-weighted in this table, reflecting the fact that they are the qualifications that really matter for students staying in schools until the age of 18.

We are pleased that LGS ranks 75th in the country in this table - the highest ranking of any school in the local area.

THE TIMES			Today's sections	Past six days	Explore	Top
HOME SEARCH THE GUIDE FEATURES SCHOOLS OF THE YEAR						
Langley Grammar School						
75 th	NATIONAL RANK	72.2%	A-LEVEL A*- B	64%	GCSE A*/A/9/8/7	
Selective						
TOTAL PUPILS	1,212					
GENDER OF ENTRY	Mixed (11 to 18), Mixed sixth form					
SCHOOL TYPE	Selective (100%)					
CRITERIA	Academic: Slough Consortium of Grammar Schools test, verbal, non-verbal and numerical ability (CEP)					
INSPECTION REPORT	Download report					

Quality of Education

Education is about far more than acquiring examination results. Ofsted recognise this in their inspection framework and judge a school on the overall quality of its curriculum - what the school is trying to achieve, how it is implemented, and the extent of the impact.

As you will know, Ofsted recently judged Langley Grammar School to be **Outstanding** in all areas, including the quality of education.



An Exceptional Education

We are members of the national schools' network SSAT and part of its Leading Edge programme as a high performing school. We have used the SSAT's Framework for Exceptional Education to evaluate ourselves and develop our provision for students and staff. We have been accredited as having 'transforming practice' in eight of the framework's twelve strands.....



These strands are indicators of the work that goes on 'behind the scenes' to support our students development as young people who are confident and well rounded, independent and creative, responsible and caring.



Safety advice



8th February 2022 was Safer Internet Day

We would like to encourage you to have discussions with your child about their online behaviour.

We hope that the tips shared on the next page will enable you to have positive conversations to help keep your children safe online.

We also subscribe to the **Parent Resource Hub** which has some useful guides and factsheets, for example on how to set parental controls, and provides information on a variety of apps your child may be using.

<https://parenthub.thekeysupport.com/>

Here is a link to the interactive guide on how to set controls. We would highly recommend that all families have controls on every device to which your child has access.

<https://thekeysupport.com/demos/elearning-parental-controls-on-devices-20-21/index.html#/>

Do you have concerns about your child's online activity?

Please contact us in confidence via the email address safeguarding@lgs.slough.sch.uk.

A member of the safeguarding team will contact you to discuss the issue.

Drivers - *please take care!*

We remained concerned about the safety of some of our students when they arrive at or leave school due to the poor driving and road awareness of a small number of parents.

Unfortunately, some of the behaviours we have seen recently do put students at risk. Some of you have also contacted us to express concern about the driving habits you have seen.

The **great majority of parents** who drive to or from school are **sensible and considerate**. However, please could all parents who drop off or collect their children by car take note of the following points, which are things we see happening every day.

Please do ***not***.....

- ◇ Stop on the **zigzag yellow lines** outside the school. This is illegal between 8am and 5pm.
- ◇ Park or stop on the **double yellow lines** on the corner opposite the school entrance. This is illegal at **any** time.
- ◇ **Mount the kerb** when driving along Reddington Drive - this endangers children walking on the pavement.
- ◇ Park on Reddington Drive with **wheels on the pavement** - this restricts students' ability to get past you safely.
- ◇ Allow children to **get out of your car** when you are not actually parked. We see children getting out of cars when simply stopped at a junction waiting to turn. It's dangerous!
- ◇ **Block the driveways** of local residents. We get frequent complaints about inconsiderate parking in local roads.

Thank you for your support.





10 tips to stay safe online

Not sure what advice to give your child? Our pointers have got you covered.

1. Be careful about talking to people you don't know and trust in real life – anyone can pretend to be a child online. If you do talk to people you don't know, don't give away personal information – such as what street you live on or where you go to school, or share your location with them. Say no to any requests they send you for images or videos of yourself, and stop talking to them.
2. Set your profiles to private, to limit what others can see.
3. Think carefully about what you share and with who. Once you've shared an image, you've no control over what the other person does with it. Remember, it's **illegal** to take, share or view sexual images of under-18s, full stop.
4. Be mindful of your digital footprint. What you post online now could come back to bite you later, like when applying for jobs, college or university.
5. If you see something upsetting, or someone bullies you, tell an adult you trust. Report it too.
6. When reading news online, ask yourself what the source is, when it was published, and whether it could be a hoax or made up. Read beyond the headline too.
7. Remember, people try to make their lives look more exciting and interesting online. There's a lot people can do with photo editing to make their photos look better. So don't assume everything you see is a true-to-life representation.
8. Watch out for hoaxes and scams, like messages you're meant to forward on or that ask you for payment details or your password.
9. Take any content that seems to glamourise gang lifestyles with a very large pinch of salt – it's not as glamorous as it looks. Be wary of schemes promising easy cash for receiving and transferring money too, they're almost definitely criminal activity.
10. Watch out for loot boxes or other parts of games where you pay money to take a chance on getting a reward – you can get sucked into spending lots of money on them.



Don't feel confident starting a conversation with your child about what they're up to online?

Read this advice from the NSPCC: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety>

Further information

This factsheet was produced by [Safeguarding Training Centre from The Key](#)

['Ban kids from loot box gambling in games', BBC News, 12 September 2019](#)
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-49661870>

[How to spot fake news, Childline](#)
<https://www.childline.org.uk/get-involved/articles/how-to-spot-fake-news/>

['Rescue and Reponse county lines project: strategic assessment 2019, Greater London Authority](#)
<https://www.london.gov.uk/mopac-publications/rescue-and-response-pan-london-county-lines-service>

[Home, Money Mules](#)
<https://moneymules.co.uk/>

[Sharing nudes and semi-nudes: advice for education settings working with children and young people, GOV.UK – Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, UK Council for Internet Safety](#)
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sexting-in-schools-and-colleges>



Student activities

Year 7 Drama Club

The Year 7s have been working creatively in their weekly lunchtime Drama club, to bring scenes from Roald Dahl's *The Twits* to life.

Directed by our Year 12 Drama subject fellows Anjali, Ben and Nuzha, the company have committed to weekly sessions, making new friends and developing their drama skills along the way.

Well done - we look forward to you sharing your pieces in a Year 7 assembly next half term!



Y8/9 Drama Club

The Year 8 and 9 students have been developing their Drama skills each Friday lunch, working on duologues, monologues and creating their own short pieces.

Lead by two of our A Level Drama students, Kiera and Nikita, the year 8 and 9 group have been highly invested in working together – well done all on your continued commitment.



Dear Langley Grammar School

Thank you so much for donating £2,470.25 to CARE.

Your support and generosity will make a difference to people's lives in so many ways – providing life-saving supplies in an emergency such as the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, improving health in vulnerable communities and empowering girls to work their way out of poverty.

We get that ending poverty and injustice is so much more than simply survival: it's about restoring dignity and genuinely empowering people. It's a big, complex task, and together we will rise to the challenge to make the world a fairer and more equal place for everyone. And we won't stop until the work is done.

Thank you again and take care during these difficult and uncertain times.



Student activities

Shakespeare Schools Festival 2022

Macbeth

Our Year 10 GCSE Drama students have been working very hard since the start of this academic year to bring to life an ensemble production of *Macbeth* for the *Shakespeare Schools Festival*. The Festival is the largest youth Drama festival in the world, and celebrates both the work of Shakespeare and the development of key creative skills for students.

The students have rehearsed for an hour afterschool each week, took part in a company workshop with the SSF professionals, went to the theatre venue for a full technical run through and dress rehearsal. Ultimately, the students then performed their production to a paying public audience at the theatre.

Our students performed on Wednesday 9th February at *South Hill Park Arts Centre*, with a very high quality production, showcasing their talents and they should be very proud of themselves!



Senior School Production

Upper school students have been busy rehearsing for our production of 'The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee'. This show was originally due to open March 2020 just as schools were closed for the first lockdown.

The new and original members of the LGS cast have been rehearsing bringing to life the wacky characters who are trying to become the spelling bee champion.

Coming to LGS in March – tickets available soon!





Year 8 Art

Year 8 students have made some fantastic watercolour paintings of cupcakes for the Still Life project



PIC•COLLAGE



Student activities

CONGRATULATIONS

The Physics department would like to congratulate Azeem Siddiqui and Yashkanwar Dadwal for achieving GOLD for the Physics Olympiad.



A Magical Journey

A Harry Potter Party was held in the Library on Thursday 3rd February.

The theme was magical journeys. Students passed through a wall on Platform 9 3/4, boarded the train to Hogwarts were served with refreshments and then went on a scavenger hunt for objects required to make magical journeys.

They also completed a fiendish quiz on all things Potter.

Ms Shine, School Librarian



24/11/2021. Pitch dark.

Billy was walking home from a party at 1a.m.

A shortcut through Kederminster Park....

A FATAL MISTAKE . . .

On a dreary Thursday lunchtime, you may have thought nothing was happening. Well – you couldn't have been more wrong... room 201 was bustling with LGS Biology Society members.

We had just received news of 6 suspects linked to a murder (thankfully imaginary!) mystery case and were tasked with finding biological evidence to rightfully accuse the criminal and bring them to justice.

With the help of our brilliant Year 13s, (detective inspector) Mr Pacha and Mrs Dhillon, we were able to use a basic yet innovative form of DNA profiling called "Fingerprint Lifting". This is commonly used in forensics to analyse and identify latent fingerprints as each fingerprint is unique to a specific person, containing all of the water, fatty acids, amino acids and triglycerides (essentially the oil and sweat) that your skin produces naturally.

Now knowing the science behind it, we first dusted the culprit's fingerprint (which had been extracted onto microscope slides) by sprinkling a little bit of talcum powder and then gently swiping off the excess while keeping the fingerprint intact. Then we gently lifted the fingerprint using some clear tape onto a piece of black card to create a sharp contrast for observation. Finally, it was just the case of comparing the criminal's fingerprint with the ones of the suspects and all of our young scientists found conclusive evidence pointing towards... Sameer!



Another case cracked by the LGS Biological Society! We enjoyed the experiment and were all involved in the whole process – right from Emaan's excellent briefing of the suspects, to matching the suspect's fingerprints with the criminal. Thank you to the whole Biology Department and our Year 13 Subject Fellows for this great experience – it was a great insight into the world of forensics!

Ishir Sharma, Year 13



Student activities



CYBERFIRST GIRLS' COMPETITION

SOUTH EAST FINALS

Team NearCyber qualified for the South East finals of the National Cyber Security Centre's (NCSC) CyberFirst Girl's Competition.

Team NearCyber members:
Anishka Niszanthan
Nitya Kolluri
Rithika Korrapati
Eashaa Venkamolla



Saturday 5th February they competed in the SE finals at the National Air Traffic Services in Fareham.



Even though they were a team member down, they battled on putting their collective problem solving skills into action. The day flew past with a lots of intense thinking and snacking. 😊 Despite scoring highly they did not win but received a filled goodie bag and they had a great experience.

WELL DONE GIRLS!
MRS JENKINS

Our Young Enterprise company this year is

Pacific Aroma

Pacific Aroma is a start-up selling DIY candle and relaxation/aromatherapy kits.

The team took part in a Young Enterprise Trading Fair at The Nicholson Centre at Maidenhead on 5th February.

Their stall was judged **first place** against stiff competition from other local visiting out of area grammar schools.



The team will also be at Windsor Station on the 5th March before taking part in the regional final at Telefonica in May.

They are also selling online via:

<https://pacificaroma.wixsite.com/mainpage>.

You can also scan the QR code on the stand for a quick link.

The candle kits are priced very reasonably at £13.99 and make excellent Mother's Day gifts or for the stressed loved one in your life. Mrs Oakley loved making hers, and the smells are amazing!

If you are visiting the school you can see the award winning stand by main Reception until Easter.

Get them whilst you can! The students have certainly added value this year!

Mr Oakley



Student activities

The First Lego League Robotics Competition

The First Lego League Robotics competition is a global STEM challenge aimed at 9-16 year olds, and organised in the UK by the Institute of Engineers and Technology. Students compete in teams, and the challenge this year was to design, build and test a robot using a Lego Mindstorms controller. The teams were also judged on an innovation Research Project how they performed as a team and meet the core values of the First Lego League.

We got to go to the prestigious Legoland heat, with 2 teams at the Windsor Legoland Hotel, supported by two sixth form coaches **Ishir Sharma** and **Joshua Ocharhuge**. Our competitors were top IT schools like Reading Bluecoats, and commercial home school engineering clubs. **Team Kinetix** won the Best Innovation project and **Team Omega** the Best Robot Design, although we were beaten in the Robot game by one team with a higher score in one round.

Ishir Sharma won the award for best student coach, having done a great job of motivating and coaching and organising the day with Joshua. In Typical PE Match style there were MVPs: **Mathumillan** and **Mithuyallen** for Robot Design and **Ajay Sadasvian** for organising team Kinetix despite being off in the weeks prior with Covid:

Congratulations to both the teams!



Team Kinetix

Best Innovation Project

Mohid Rehman
Stutya Kausik
Simrith Kaur
Akaish Anand
Kriti Bolina
Jaskaran Tuteja
Jagot Nahal
Ajay Sadasvian



Team Omega

Best Robot Design

Hesane Vanaman
Adam Wong
Mitu Balakrishnanantham
Mathu Balakrishnanantham
Armaan Singh
Seth Subramanianiam
Abdullah Nazeem
Sukhraj Sachedeva
Vrishank Agrewal

Mr Oakley, Computing Department

Digital Schoolhouse Super Smash Bros Ultimate Team Battle 2022

Regional Qualifiers

Team Daytona were the winners of our LGS Esports heats which took place from November – January, and represented the school in an online Esports regional qualifier on Tuesday 8 February.

Satvik NATH, Sami JAWAD

Ayman CHUGHTAI

After many battles throughout the day Team Daytona were triumphant. We were unbeaten regional champions which means we go through to the semi-finals. Watch this space for the next update!



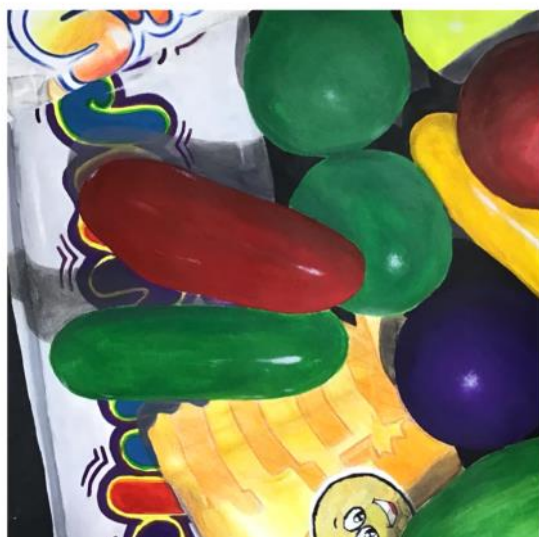


Year 10 Art

YEAR 10 ARTWORK

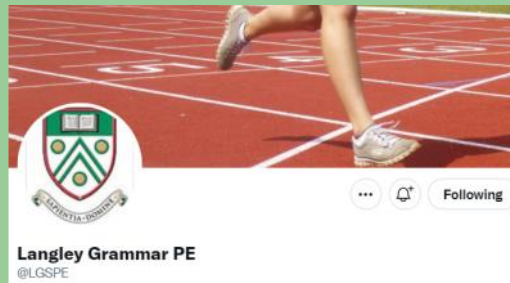
BY

MILLY KEVEREN
SAIBA CHOWDHURY
JASMIN DHANJAL
LAGAIN IBRAHIM
SRUTI JEYAKUMAR





From Twitter



@lgs_news

@lgsartists

@drama_lgs

@LGSPE

These pages showcase a small sample of the school activities which are publicised through Twitter. We now have accounts for PE, Art and Drama in addition to the main account **@lgs_news**

To find out more and keep up with what is happening in school from day to day, please follow our Twitter accounts.



Langley Grammar School @lgs_news · Jan 24

...

Delighted to be judged Outstanding again by @Ofstednews after a 14 year wait since our last inspection. Fantastic endorsement of the hard work and commitment of our staff and students. tinyurl.com/2ef26jp3





From Twitter



Langley Grammar School @lgs_news · Feb 8

Mrs Shine and the Library team held a Harry Potter Party for #LGSCreative students: the theme was magical journeys - passing through a wall on Platform 9 3/4, boarding the train to Hogwarts, refreshments, a scavenger hunt - and finally a fiendish quiz on all things Potter!



Langley Grammar School @lgs_news · Feb 2

Our #lgscreative @YoungEnterprise team Pacific Aroma is busy preparing for their first trade fair @NicholsonsSC Maidenhead on Saturday. DIY Candle Kits: the smells are amazing!! Buy the product here: tinyurl.com/wxvr22up Or see it in person on Saturday!



Langley Grammar School @lgs_news · Jan 31

Strong performances from the 10 #LGSCConfident candidates standing for election to @SY_Parliament. They addressed year 7 assembly this morning, broadcast to the school. Campaigns are now under way: hustings the week before half term, voting just after.



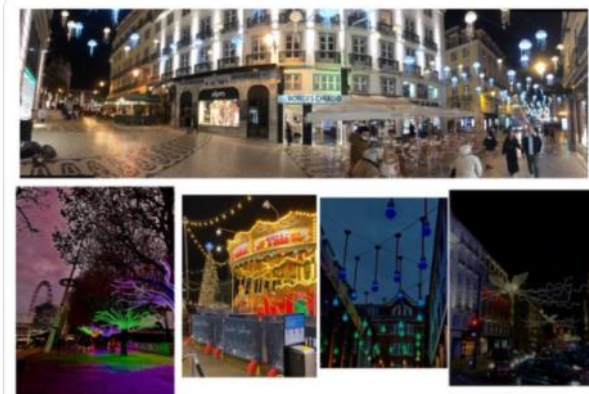
Langley Grammar School @lgs_news · Jan 27

Mr Batsman: A very enjoyable concert at the Royal Festival Hall with our A-Level music students, watching the @LPOrchestra perform works by Debussy, Brahms and Dvorak, conducted by Kazushi Ono and featuring clarinet soloist @A_Ottensamer of the Berlin Philharmonic



lgsartists @lgsartists · Jan 5

#LGSCreative Silver Arts Award students took photos around the theme of "Glow" over the Christmas holidays with some fantastic results! ✨



Langley Grammar School @lgs_news · Jan 17

#LGSCreative students have been battling it out over the past few weeks to get the top spot in our #SuperSmashBros tournament - the winners will be able to take part in national championships! @LangleyGS_Tech @CompHubLGS





From Twitter



Langley Grammar PE @LGSPE · Jan 19
Yr9 Basketball 🏀

Brilliant performance from these guys running out 34-25 winners today! Positive attitudes displayed throughout.

Congratulations to Joshua for his first time representing LGS! 🏆

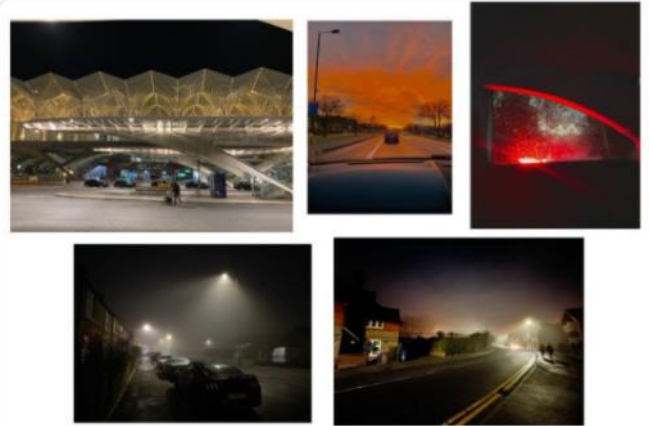
MVP: Ram ★

📸 [instagram.com/p/CY61_oDonBe/](https://www.instagram.com/p/CY61_oDonBe/) via [tweet.photo](#)



lgsartists @lgsartists · Jan 5

Some very moody and atmospheric photographs were produced by #LGSCreative Silver Arts Award students for the "Glow" photoshoot task



Langley Grammar PE @LGSPE · Jan 27

Great win for the girls football team at their first 11a-side outing for LGS! 4-1 winners! #LGSwellrounded



Langley Grammar PE @LGSPE · Jan 31

Live from the Boccia tournament at Wexham School today. Good luck boys! @SloughSSN



LGSdrama @drama_lgs · Jan 10

Well done to the company of Macbeth for a super productive, highly creative and focused workshop today with @ssf_uk ... excited for the upcoming performance on the 9th Feb at South Hill Park Arts Centre in Bracknell! 🎭 #lgscreative @lgs_news



LGSdrama @drama_lgs · Jan 27

🌟🌟🌟 Year 10 @ssf_uk finishing positions ready! Performance day is coming up soon - Weds 9th Feb, South Hill Park Arts Centre! 🌟🌟🌟 @lgs_news #lgscreative





From Twitter



LGSDrama @drama_lgs · Feb 3

🌟🌟🌟 Stretching and warm-up before this weeks dance session, lead wonderfully by Y11 Drama student and dancer Gagan. 🌟🌟🌟 @lgs_news #lgswellrounded #lgsconfident



LGSDrama @drama_lgs · Feb 3

🌟🌟🌟 Sneak peak at this weeks Dance Troupe routine to 'You Will Be Found' from @delwestend Well done troupe, lots of new moves (and lifts) and the first part is looking super already! 🌟🌟🌟 #lgscreative #lgsconfident #lgswellrounded @lgs_news



Langley Grammar PE @LGSPE · Jan 31

What a day!! As our 4 Boccia players did a tremendous job at representing LGS in the Slough Schools tournament held at Wexham School.

The boys were a credit to the school as they won 5 games and only narrowly lost out in the final! A brilliant effort, well done gents!



LGSDrama @drama_lgs · Feb 9

Here we are - GCSE Y10 Drama - @southhillpark ready for @SSF_UK #Macbeth tech, dress afternoon! @lgs_news #lgscreative #lgsconfident #lgswellrounded



LGSDrama @drama_lgs · Feb 7

🌟 Y10 working hard on their final rehearsal for their mock-scripted piece 🌟 #lgscreative #lgswellrounded #lgsconfident @lgs_news

