



# LGS Headlines

## 13 January 2022

### From the Headteacher



Dear Parents

This is the second of our new weekly LGS Headlines newsletters. In addition to this pdf attachment, we are experimenting with a version using Microsoft Sway which is easily accessible on your phones or other devices. The content of the Sway newsletter is exactly the same, but with ability to include further links to other websites or resources referred to in the text. We will run another two or three editions in this way and then seek feedback from you.

We are still seeing a level of respiratory illnesses including COVID-19. Please do not send your child into school if they are unwell, particularly if they are showing symptoms associated with COVID-19. There is a link on the next page to the most up to date advice on the NHS website.

There is a focus on safeguarding this week, with students from Year 8 upwards hearing about knife crime from anti-violence campaigner Alison Cope, and assemblies looking at the issue of 'toxic masculinity', stimulated by the recent media coverage around the controversial influencer Andrew Tate. More details are in other items in this newsletter.

*John Constable - Headteacher*

### Coming up next week...

<b>All week</b>	<b>Year 11</b> <b>All years</b>	Sixth Form taster activities continue - subject fellows in tutor time Assemblies on 'toxic masculinity'
<b>Mon 16th Jan</b>		
<b>Tue 17th Jan</b>	<b>Year 11</b>	Extended assembly with speaker from Lucy Cavendish College, Cambridge
<b>Wed 18th Jan</b>		
<b>Thu 19th Jan</b>	<b>Years 8 - 13</b> <b>All years</b>	Anti-knife crime talks Oxford University Computing Competition
<b>Fri 20th Jan</b>		

### Contact us

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us on 01753 598300 or email [school@lgs.slough.sch.uk](mailto:school@lgs.slough.sch.uk).

*Your query will be passed on to the most*

*For general information visit our website*

[www.lgs.slough.sch.uk](http://www.lgs.slough.sch.uk)

*or follow us on Twitter @lgs\_news*





### The week in review

- ⇒ Well done to the **Year 8 boys football team** - a brilliant performance on Tuesday with a 4-3 win in their first match of 2023 against Burnham Grammar School.
- ⇒ **Year 8 and 9** students have been challenged by their Phase Leaders to undertake something active every day this month as part of **Red January**. This is part of a Phase initiative linked to positive mental health - the idea is to 'beat the winter blues away' by encouraging regular movement and exercise. You can find out more at [www.redtogether.co.uk](http://www.redtogether.co.uk) and may wish to join in yourself!
- ⇒ **Year 9** students began thinking about their optional GCSE subject choices for next year following an assembly and parents' meeting about the Year 10/11 curriculum.
- ⇒ **Year 11** had Sixth Form Taster Week, with an assembly, tutor time discussions and subject-specific sessions to give them a 'flavour' of the types of activities they might experience in specific A level courses.
- ⇒ **Year 11** GCSE Art students visited the Tate Britain and Tate Modern galleries in London to gain inspiration for their new projects.
- ⇒ **GCSE and A Level Drama students** enjoyed the Shaftsbury Theatre production of '& Juliet', a musical with a "what if" storyline, where Juliet does not die at the end of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet.

### Updates & Reminders

#### Staff update

- ◇ Following her return from maternity leave, Mrs Andrews will be sharing the role of **Individual Needs Coordinator** with Mr Batsman until the February half-term break.

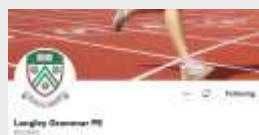
#### Other reminders....

- ⇒ **COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses** are still circulating. Up to date advice and guidance on what to do if you suspect your child or anyone else in your family is suffering from **COVID-19** can be found on the NHS website [here](#).
- ⇒ **Term dates for the 2023-24** academic year are published on our website [here](#) in addition to the dates for the remainder of this year.
- ⇒ The Government has announced a one-off bank holiday on **Monday 8 May 2023** to mark the coronation of His Majesty King Charles III. The school will be closed on that day.
- ⇒ We have a dedicated email address for parents and students to raise safeguarding concerns. Please contact us through [safeguarding@lgs.slough.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@lgs.slough.sch.uk) if you want to raise specific concerns, and the email will be forwarded to the safeguarding team.

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



**@lgs\_news**



**@LGSPPE**



**@lgsartists**



**@drama\_lgs**



### Looking ahead

- ⇒ Mrs Dobbs, our Designated Safeguarding Lead, will deliver **assemblies this week** for all year groups which will focus on the issue of 'toxic masculinity'. This is linked to the media coverage of Andrew Tate (see safeguarding update below) and the prevalence of misogynistic views on social media.
- ⇒ On Tuesday 17th January students in **Year 11** will have talk by a speaker from **Lucy Cavendish College, Cambridge** focusing on A Level options and implications for university applications.
- ⇒ On Thursday 19th January, **all students in Years 8 to Year 13** will be attending a talk delivered by anti-violence campaigner **Alison Cope**, in which she shares the story of the tragic loss of her son Joshua to knife crime. Find out more at [www.alisoncope.com](http://www.alisoncope.com). This presentation links with Slough Borough Council's 'Month of Action' as the town hosts the national monument against violence and aggression 'Knife Angel'.

### LGS PE Fixtures this week..

Date	Team	Opponents	Venue	Pick up time
Tuesday 17 January	Y9 Girls Netball	Burnham Grammar	Home	5:30pm
Wednesday 18 January	Y7+8 Girls Football	Wexham	Home	5:30pm
Wednesday 18 January	Y7+8 Boys Basketball	Langley Academy	Home	5:30pm
Thursday 19 January	U16 Girls Basketball	Luckley House	Home	5:30pm
Thursday 19 January	Y7/8 Boys Table Tennis	Al - Madani	Home	5:30pm
Thursday 19 January	Y7 Multi Skills Festival	Slough Schools	The Centre	5:30pm
Thursday 19 January	Y9 Boys Football (squad)	Langley Academy	Away	5:30pm



### Safeguarding update

You may be aware of the recent media coverage of **Andrew Tate**, a controversial British-American former kickboxer and internet personality/online influencer. Tate first came to prominence in 2016 when he was removed from TV show Big Brother over a video appearing to show him attacking a woman. His popularity soared after videos of him began circulating on TikTok. He was banned from Twitter in 2017 for saying women should "bear responsibility" for being sexually assaulted, and has also been banned from Facebook, YouTube, Instagram and TikTok for his misogynistic views. He is now back and active on Twitter following Elon Musk's takeover of the platform. Tate was recently arrested in Romania, where he is based, as part of a human trafficking and rape investigation. He is being detained along with his brother while awaiting trial.

Schools across the UK are encountering increasing numbers of younger boys who say they admire Tate, or at least appear to agree with some of his views. While they usually know that he says a lot of terrible things, many also see him as glamorous, good looking, successful and 'cool'. **We will be using assemblies in the coming week to raise students awareness of 'toxic masculinity' in the media and to reaffirm that in this school everyone is valued and we do not view any one type of person as less than another.**

We would encourage you to discuss with your children how social media algorithms work, and their tendency to recommend emotive and reactive content. Emphasise that just because a video is being pushed to your feed by automated systems on social media doesn't mean you have to agree with or even like what you're seeing. Please contact us through [safeguarding@lgs.slough.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@lgs.slough.sch.uk) if you want to discuss specific concerns.