



LGS Headlines

8 July 2016





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From the Headteacher

Dear Parents

Welcome to our penultimate newsletter of the school year.

This is really a two-part July edition, with the last instalment due to be sent out on the last day of term in two weeks time.



The GCSE, AS and A Level examinations are now over. Our students worked incredibly hard in the run-up to the examinations and I am sure that the final results in August will reflect their commitment. Our staff were on hand to support them right through the examination season, and I know that very many students will have benefitted from the targeted support and intervention provided by teaching staff over the last few weeks. I wish our Year 11 students well as they take a well-deserved break before the next stage in their education.

The second half of the summer term is traditionally a very busy one for the remaining year groups in school. There has been a fantastic range of opportunities for students, a number of which are described in the student pages of these final two editions of Headlines. There are several large-scale events at this time of year, including Sports Day, Transition Day for Year 11 students joining the Sixth Form in September, and our 'Towards the Future' Day for Year 12 focused on careers and higher education. All these events take a great deal of time and effort to organise and I would like to thank the staff who make them possible.

Next week we will have the great pleasure of welcoming our new Year 7 intake to the school for their first induction day. I am sure they will quickly appreciate the message we try to promote through these newsletters—that examination results alone are not enough on their own for our students to succeed in the future, and that they can learn so much through their involvement in the wider aspects of school life as we try to prepare them for a world of constant change in the future.

Mr J Constable - Headteacher

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

- EU Referendum
- Year 7 Geography Trip
- Year 7 History Trip
- Year 7 Drumming Workshop
- Year 7 Competition
- Year 8 Art Trip
- Year 8 Real Game
- Year 8 German Trip
- Year 9 Focus Day
- Year 9 Lords Visit
- Year 9 Lego Workshop
- Year 10 Focus Day
- Year 10 Sports Leader
- Year 12 Passport for life Day
- Opera Workshop

Mr M Aplin — News Manager

Celebration assemblies

Celebration assemblies will be held on the following dates, beginning at 2.15 pm. Parents are welcome to join us in celebrating the achievements of the students at the end of a busy year.

Thursday 14 July	Year 8
Friday 15 July	Year 7
Monday 18 July	Year 9
Tuesday 19 July	Year 10

Mr S Cook - Assistant Headteacher

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EU Referendum

Written By Nanak Rana (10V)

Since the beginning of the year, Britain has been at war with itself over our current European Union membership, and whether or not we should decide to remain a member.

With a surge in immigration levels, Greek and Irish economic crises, and the amendment of many British laws, Britain's EU membership has caused a chaotic debate for millions across the country. With the use of leaflets, advertising and televised arguments, the United Kingdom began paying close attention to what has been one of the biggest referendums in our nation's history.

As a school, we were strongly passionate about getting staff and students to express their thoughts and feelings on the topic which was pushed forward with our own formal debate, where speakers campaigned for their views and answered questions that students had about the referendum. These included:

- Economic trade deals with European Countries
- The amount of immigrants arriving in Britain
- Whether Scotland would become an independent nation
- The Irish/Northern Irish border and Schengen Area

Here were some of the reasons both campaigns put forward:

Remain:

- * The European Union provides us with jobs and a free market
- * We do not have strong relations with non-EU member states
- * The NHS is run by European doctors and nurses

Leave:

- * The United Kingdom spends too much money on membership
- * Immigration levels will increase, with the addition of new member states
- * We are currently unable to create our own laws

On Thursday 23rd June, Langley Grammar School students also participated in their own EU referendum, and whether or not we should remain a member. Throughout break and lunchtime, 533 students came to exercise their right to vote, with a strong 70% voter turnout. The final results were:

Votes for Remain: 379 (71.11%)

Votes for Leave: 154 (28.90%)

From this we were able to see that Langley Grammar students felt strongly about retaining our European Union membership, and that leaving at this current stage could potentially be dangerous for the future generations of our country. However, the fate of our country lies in the hands of the British and Northern Irish voters and as you will now know our vote was quite different when compared to the national result to leave.





Year 7 Geography Trip

Written By Mitul Korla (7K)

On the 8th and 23rd June, both halves of Year 7 visited the Chiltern Hills near Aylesbury for the whole day. Although an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty this was up for debate due to the rain.

The trip was about an hour to Chiltern Hills so as we arrived, we set off to the woodlands and started 'hiking' across the deep, muddy waters. We had also encountered a field full of cows and quite a lot of cowpats unfortunately. Some of us wore wellington boots, most of us wore normal shoes, at the end of the day these were muddy and wet! After visiting the South Africa memorial which was on Coombe Hill, we headed down the steepest hill of the day and had our lunch there. Later on, we carried out a science experiment where we measured what type of soil inhabited the hill; interestingly, the results overall varied from previous years' and we were surprised by this. The intention of the trip was to study the land if it was suitable to build HS2 here.

To end our journey, we visited the local town nearby and carried out a survey to individual civilians to collect data about their opinions on HS2 which will take 10 years to build. Most people were opposed to the idea of HS2 because it may affect them negatively. Now exhausted from the climbing, dirty from the mud and tired from carrying out our questionnaires we returned back to school and arrived a little late due to the traffic.

Overall though an enjoyable trip and thank you to the geography department for organising.





Year 7 History Trip

Written By Ajitha Sivananthan & Kanisa Jegatheeswaran (7H)

On Wednesday 8th June, year 7 embarked on a historical journey to delve deep down in the philosophy behind Warwick Castle which was situated a long way away from Langley Grammar School. Excitement filled the coach as we got closer to the destination. Getting off the coach, we walked through the ghostly trees that created dancing shadows to shade us all. Suddenly, posters advertising dungeons appeared before the corner of our eyes and got our excited mood to swing even higher. We were really looking forward to exploring the insides of the fascinating castle. Initially we went to see the tribute show where we were told lots of information about the catapult. Whilst we were told information, there was a group of people getting the catapult ready to fling a heavy weight. Eating lunch, we watched the wheel on the catapult swing away from us. It was shocking to see its power and to appreciate the damage it could have caused in the past. During a short break as we waited for the next show to begin, many decided to venture into the dark and scary tower. The insides of the ghostly tower were frightening especially the defensive staircase. It took forever, (well that is what it seemed like) to reach the top. Here we found out that climbing the horrendous tower was worth it as the view was glorious; everything could be seen! We weren't calm for long though as the thought of climbing down crept us out once more.

After that we saw a bird of prey show. We were shown 3 birds with extraordinary talents. They impressed everyone so much that we were wordless at the end of the show. Firstly we were shown an eagle. It flew up to a great height yet it looked like the eagle was gracefully floating on the clouds. We were shown two further birds afterwards but they were so prestigious that no one paid attention to their names as we were too interested in the birds' actions rather than their names.



The teachers gave us half an hour to explore the beauty around the castle so all the girls decided to travel to the past by hovering through a maze. As we entered it, we were all given a card and they had to be stamped on with all the different stamps that were found during the maze run. If all of them were collected, a prize could be gained and everyone was in the position of claiming their gift.

The trip was great, from the journey to even lunch. The castle was extraordinary, the tower was a scary experience, the tribute show was mind blowing and everything else was just beautiful. The whole of Year 7 loved it! A lot was learnt and a lot was experienced!



Year 7 'Bang On'

Written By Kylini Suganthan & Vidisha Volety (7H)

On 16th June, Year 7 had the amazing opportunity to meet two extraordinary people, who make music out of a homemade drum kit. Katie and Dave (the two leaders) led a workshop showing us how junk can make awesome music.

By using dumpsters, bins, water butts, old used guitars, rakes, and a handy broom, they made an epic piece of music. During each of the workshops, each tutor group had the experience to try out junk percussion. The forms were split into two groups where they had to go head to head in an all-out battle of the rubbish.

We used plastic bottles, metal pans and rice-filled containers, and used various rhythms and our own phrases to create pieces which impressed the teachers very much.

At the end of the day, Year 7 were all inspired to make music out of unwanted items. We all are very grateful for the opportunity to work with the "Bang On" crew and hope to see them again soon.





Year 7 Competition

Written By Kansia Jegatheeswaran (7H), Sankeerat Sidhu (7V) & Niluxsha Mohanaraj

All Year 7s had an opportunity to express their feelings towards art by entering the competition and all submitted pieces of work were exceptionally good. However, there could only be one winner. There were winners house wise but there were three main people that attracted the teachers most.

Overall, for the entire Year 7, coming 3rd place was Sakshi. 2nd was Huda and she said, *"I feel happy that I came 2nd because I put a lot of effort into my Art and English piece, and it was worth it in the end."*

Finally, 1st place was Mitul Koria saying, *"It feels quite good to win it, it's a house competition! I spent two days on it and I thought of something interesting that fascinates me."*



The competition gave all of year 7 a chance to do something creative independently. As the main focus for the competition was Art and English, students were expected to create a creative piece of Art along with an imaginative written piece of English. The entries for each house were chosen by the house captains of each form which were then entered for a final vote from the teachers. Though this was an independent task, we still had to use many different techniques for the cross-curricular competition. For example, for the English part of the competition, we had to concentrate on the genre of the text and for the Art part of the competition we had to focus on the materials we used i.e. watercolour, paints etc... We used many different skills for the competition, some of which we had not used before.

Sankeerat 7V



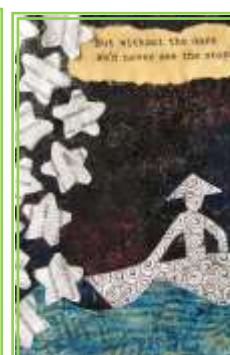
Year 7 Competition

Many students in Year 7 were buzzing around in excitement about this interesting competition. We wondered what everyone had chosen to do for their idea, and who would win? In our class, people had their imaginative thinking caps on for the entire two weeks. Everyone was focused on producing a wonderful piece of work for this challenging competition.

The final pieces of work were amazingly detailed with impeccable illustrations by all the Year 7's. I think there is a lot of talent amongst the students which can be recognised in a competition like this.

Especially, well done to Mitul, Huda and Sakshi for winning the overall competition out of the entire Year 7. Year 7 enjoyed this competition and we learnt lots along the way. Well done to all of the Year 7's students!

Niluxsha 7H



Year 7 Art & English Cross Curricular House Competition 'Where in the World'

Year 7 winners

1ST	Mitul Korla 7K
2nd	Huda Abdul Halim 7V
3rd	Sakshi Runwal 7S

House winners

H	1) Kanisa Jegatheeswaran 2) Ahmet Kucuk 3) Maya Lad
K	Mitul Korla Manpreet Basra Aryan Masson
R	Ritsikha Gade Rida- E-Zehra Aleem
S	Sakshi Runwal Shweta Velmurugan Jigar Shah
V	Huda Abdul Halim Aswathy Sajina - Suresh Ananya Malaiya



Year 10 Sports Leader

On Thursday 16th June, forty Year 10 students visited Holy Family Primary School in order to complete the final part of their Sports Leader course.

The Level 1 Sports Leader Award encompasses a wide range of skills, including managing and creating your own lessons, working with others to collaborate on projects, and evaluating ourselves and our peers. Since September 2015, we had been understanding what is needed to be able to deliver a session, and how to be a strong and confident leader.

This involved designing our own lesson plans and delivering them to our peers, which many of us had found difficult, as it was the first time we had done something based around teaching a large group of students. This was all leading up to our final assessed unit, where we were to deliver a P.E. session of our choice to students in Years 3-6 at Holy Family.

To help us prepare for this, we worked in pairs during our Games lessons, planning and brainstorming ideas that would be interesting and appropriate for our allocated age-group. This included taking on feedback that we had previously received when delivering sessions to students at Langley Grammar, and being able to include a wide range of pulse-raising activities. Upon arriving at Holy Family, we quickly had to set up all our equipment and meet the students we would be teaching for the rest of the hour. Despite them being younger than us, it was quite difficult as we needed to establish a sense of authority while still making sure that the lesson was fun and understandable.

Each pair that was delivering their session had chosen their own sport, including dodgeball, football, tennis and a mini Olympics! Throughout the course of the hour, we had gotten to know our students, and got on extremely well with them. They all seemed to enjoy the activities and were enthusiastic about participating in our sessions. Unfortunately, some of the classes that were planned to be held during the afternoon were postponed due to the rainy weather. Overall, it was a positive experience that many of us wish we could take part in again! Thank you to the PE staff for all their help with this throughout the year.

Nanak Rana 10V

Year 9 Enterprise

On the 8th June, year 9's Focus Day activity was hosted by Learning to Work.

We were put into mixed groups, representing the fact that in real life, in the working world, we don't get to choose who we work with. Our task, was to create an exciting and innovative product to sell. It could be anything. For example, one of the winning groups did a charger that popped out when it had finished charging the phone.

The format of the day was planning and assigning roles, such as manager, marketer, pitcher etc; making, for example prototypes, posters; and two sessions within the making time, we would have to go to the 'Lions', similar to 'Dragons' like in Dragon's Den. The 'lions' could give us money, based on our pitches. Between the two pitches we were expected to improve.

After both pitches, and then a bit more making time, we had to present our idea, to be in with a chance of winning the whole task. We first went into separate groups to Present, then the two best were chosen for the finals.



Finalists included products such as drone delivery. However, the end result, the judges had mentioned, was not based on the product, but in fact, the pitching. In the finals, the judges said one group had a better product, but the other group had a better pitch, so they chose the group with better pitch. We were told if you have a good product, you still need to present it well to make it even better, and just in case nobody actually likes it and if your product is bad, a good pitch can make up for it, however, if your product is bad, you should be improving it, not trying to sell it.

From this day, we have learnt lots about the business world, hopefully things we can take with us into the future. Thank you to all the teachers and visitors who contributed towards this vital skills event.

Jasmine Panesar 9S



Year 8 Art Trip

Written by Shreya Ramteke (8S)

Year 8 have recently been on a trip to the National Art museums and the National Portrait Gallery. Year 8 were split into 2 groups and we then went on the trips in those groups. H, K and half of R went first on Wednesday 8th June. S, V and the other half of R went on the second trip on Tuesday 21 June. This is what happened on the second trip...

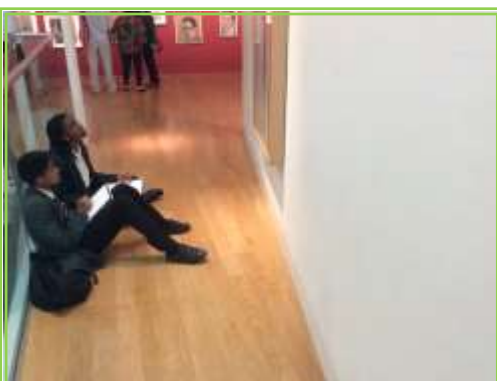
When we arrived, we had a two-minute walk from where the bus had left us over to the National Portraits Gallery. There, we split up into five or six groups with an adult in each group. We were all given art booklets which had exercises inside. After a small hush from a lady working there, we were allowed to roam around the gallery in our groups filling out and working our way through the questions in the booklets.



We saw some great pieces of artwork, including self-portraits which we had been doing earlier this year. We looked at artists like Michael Craig Martin whose artwork we had been studying before too. We recognised a couple of the paintings we had seen during lessons and online.

After that, we moved over to the National Art Gallery which was much bigger and equally crowded. After putting our bags away into a cloakroom, we split our original groups into three bigger groups. We were then guided around certain paintings that our tour guides wished us to see. We then spent a lot of the time, talking about the artist, the techniques, the people/settings inside the paintings, etc.

Soon afterwards, it was time for lunch! We enjoyed our lunch in the small dining rooms. Once done, we made our way back to the coach and headed back to school enjoying our last official trip in year 8...



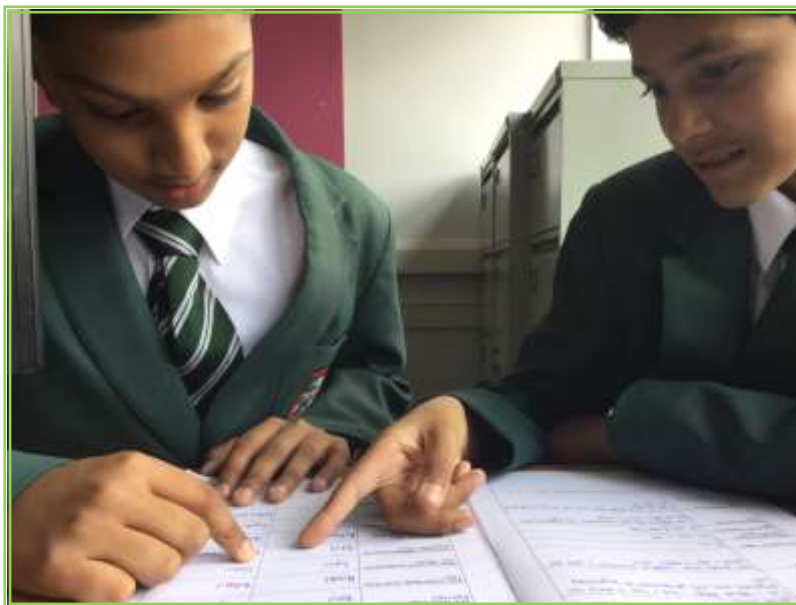


Year 8 Real Game

Written by Youssef Birbiad (8V)

During the course of focus day the year eights did a workshop on future careers and choices. We started with what we know about managing your day as an adult and to many of our surprises it was much harder than we thought. There was plenty of things to pay for such as bills and tax, and the idea of some people having to work for long hours day after day seemed too daunting.

Next we went on the real game site to our dream cloud, a place where we could add things we wanted such as the type of house and style of car we wished for, but all of this was at an expense!



The expense, was no other than the job we were given. Jobs ranged from being a hairdresser to being a pilot, but lots of factors had to be taken into consideration. Some people sat there in shock as they found out that their only holiday time was the summer break, meanwhile others were celebrating the fact that they could work from home and still live a good life. All in all, we learnt that being an adult was not as simple and fun as some of us thought it was and that to live a good life you needed to work hard to achieve it. Sadly, many of us had to heavily alter our dream cloud due to the reality that not all people could afford expensive delicacies, as there were other priorities!

Overall a really useful exercise and one that we thoroughly enjoyed. Thanks to the teachers who helped organise what was an entertaining exercise.



Year 8 German Trip

Written By Navin Vithana (8R)

A few weeks ago, a bunch of students in year 8 embarked on a trip to Germany. It was an agonisingly long journey with a very early wake up call. There was lots of sleeping and laughing on the bus, which helped pass the time during an extensive ride. We finally arrived, after around 13 hours in a bus, at our destination: the hotel Rheinlust in Boppard, Germany. Once there, we unpacked our bags and filled ourselves with the excitement of seeing the rooms we would be staying in for the next four days.



Yet there was no time for comfort as we went out for a walk. It wasn't much of a sight-seeing tour, rather just a walk around the town. After this, we went back to the hotel and had dinner at the restaurant there. Many stories of the bus journey were shared across the table over here. Then, we began our first activity of the trip; a town trial. Here we had to fill in the gaps of uncompleted sentences in full German. The sentences gave us clues but we had to translate them and find the place of where the answer will be. Once this was done, we went to bed with much exhaustion. Lights out and rest needed for the next day.

After a good night's sleep, we woke up and got changed for breakfast. Here we were told the schedule for the day. We were to have our first German lesson after breakfast. With a native speaker coming in, we were all excited to learn now more about the subject. They taught us many things including popular German traits, German songs and German vocabulary.

After the lesson we went to the Rheinfels Castle Ruins where we explored the depths of the ruins. With marshy grass everywhere, we were wise to take our walking shoes. Having admired the remains of a grand castle, we headed back to the hotel for dinner.





Year 8 German Trip

Written By Navin Vithana (8R)

Once finished, we headed to the Pinup bowling Koblenz ready for an awesome night of bowling. The excitement was to the roof as everyone wanted to do some bowling. Once getting our lanes we split into groups and took a lane to showcase our excitement. Surprisingly, the teachers (*cough *cough *Mr. Broz) were smashing this scoring points 20 more than us. In the end, a great evening going to sleep with brimming smiles on our faces.



The next morning we woke up and got changed for breakfast again ready to have our second, but final, German lesson. Being ever so eager, we learnt more German from our native speaker and were sad to see them go. After the lessons, we headed off to the Burg Eltz; a massive castle that was completely intact, with loads of paintings and ornaments, and a surprisingly similar look to Hogwarts. Having a guided tour with a tour guide, we went on a cable car through the hills to see a magnificent view of the city. We then went to go on our cruise; the Köln-Düsseldorfer - a peaceful trip along the river with some great scenery and just a nice time to relax. After this, we went back to the hotel to have dinner and then set out to go swimming. The excitement was buzzing around everyone since it was already late night and we will be having fun in the pools. A combination, of slides, walls, depths, fountains and swimming resulted in a great night. We went back to the hotel with great smiles after this fun. The next day, everyone woke up with so much excitement; it was the day of Phantasialand. Everyone was buzzing with excitement as we had breakfast and prepared for the excitement of a trip to a massive theme park. The day was amazing as we spent 5 hours or so at the theme park going on almost every ride imaginable. Some, although, a lot scarier than others. In the end, we all had a great time, even despite the rain, and we even met some new friends from Ireland and the USA. We came back to the hotel to have dinner where the teachers announced that we will be having a disco. Everyone refilled their excitement bars as we changed into smart clothes and headed for the basement to party. Here, the teachers announced the awards for the trip and then it was time to rock the dance floor. 3 hours or so of straight music resulted in lots of sweating, shouting, dancing, voices breaking and a heck load of fun. We went to sleep with giant smiles from the massive amounts of fun we had that day but there was also the disappointment that we will be leaving the next day.

We woke up and packed our bags ready to go to breakfast. There was an aura of sadness as none of us wanted to leave as we had so much fun. Yet we all knew, there was a time that this had to end and we all have to go back home. So we climbed aboard the bus for another 13 hours of travelling. We still had lots of fun and laughter since the party never ends. And this time we went on the ferry to cross the channel meaning we could see the sea and the magnificence of water and land. We finally arrived home to see our family and tell them about the great stuff we did. It was good to be back home and it felt awesome to look back and know that we experienced such great times.





Year 9 Lords Visit

Written By Faheem Anwar (9H)

On the 23rd June, myself and a few other students visited the Lords Stadium, the Home of Cricket, to watch a match between Middlesex and Somerset in the NatWest T20 Blast. When we arrived, we were all amazed by the size of the stadium and pitch, and extremely enthusiastic about the match that was to follow. Some of the players we were especially looking forward to watching were Brendan McCullum and Steven Finn, among others. As we had a break before the match was to begin, we were allowed to explore the stadium in groups and buy souvenirs from the official Lords shop.

Unfortunately, on arrival, it had been raining and continued to rain for a few hours. Due to this, the match and coin toss had to be postponed until the pitch was playable upon, but we were all still in anticipation of the match. Even though we had to wait a few hours for the match, we still had lots of fun just being in the stadium and joining in with the chants and challenges, even ending up on the big screen! To our delight, eventually the rain cleared up and the two teams were given 9 overs to bat and bowl. Somerset won the toss and chose to bowl first, even though we were almost unanimously supporting Middlesex!



The match was extremely enjoyable to watch, with us leaping up in excitement at the impressive sixes hit by some of the batsmen. As well as being an enjoyable experience, the match also provided an opportunity for those of us who played cricket in the school team or outside of school to learn some techniques for their batting, bowling and fielding positions. Overall, the Lords trip was a great day out and we all agreed it was one of the best trips we had been on in our Langley Grammar School lifetime. We hope to go on more similar trips in the future and relive this amazing experience. A personal highlight of the trip was us ending up on Sky Sports 2 as a fast ball came hurtling towards us in the stands!

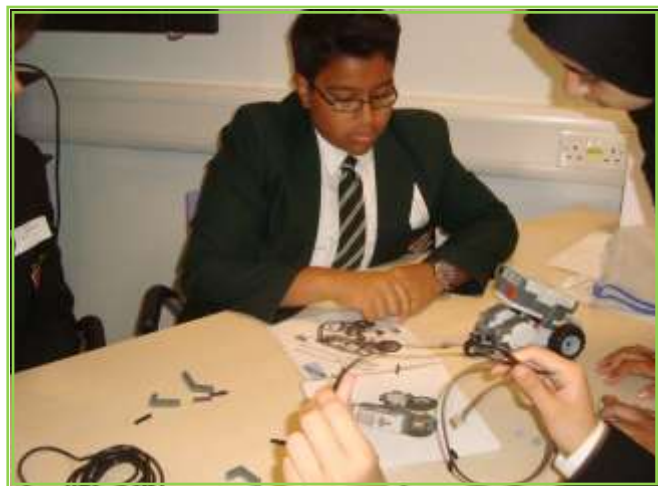


Year 9 Mindstorms

Written By Jasmine Panesar (9S)

On the 10th June, a few students, selected by Mrs Jenkins and Mrs Toor, went to an innovative event at the Mars offices, hosted by learning to work. All we knew is that we would be working as a team to create robots, then program them to run in a race. Little did we know, we were not working together as Langley Grammar, but instead as part of a team consisting of different schools, including Upton Court Grammar and St Joseph's Secondary - this was, as said by the learning to work team, to make us realise that you do not get to choose who we work with. So we got to know each other and had a few icebreaker activities, then we learnt a bit about the history of Mars.

Next, we went onto building our robots out of Lego, and after a short break, began programming and racing them. Sadly, no team with any Langley Grammar students won, but we have gone away from the event with optimism, as we took part, and that is the whole point. After racing the robots, we got a chance to talk to Mars employees, who had been around and helping throughout the entire day, about their jobs. We learnt about apprenticeships at Mars and how it could benefit us. They had an employee called Marc there, who is doing an apprenticeship, and he won apprenticeship of the year (not just within Mars, but within the country), and it was nice to ask him questions. We also learnt about what to expect in job interviews, and the kinds of answers interviewers expect. We left the Mars offices, of course with chocolate, but also with lots of useful information about working and apprenticeships. I would like to thank Mrs Golding for organising the event, as well as the Learning to work team, Mars employees, Mr Wilkinson and Mr Aplin for being mini bus drivers, and also Mrs Toor and Mrs Jenkins, who helped prepare us for the event. It was a very enjoyable and fun trip which we will remember, along with all of useful advice that came along with it.





Year 10 Focus Day

Written By Vianca Shah (10K)

Focus day for year 10s was quite different to what they expected. They were all going back to a subject which they had not worked with for almost a year, so what was probably the best part about the focus day, was that it was bringing old memories back of textiles in KS3. There is a large leap from year 10 to 11 and this focus day made sure that we were prepared for that crossing.

The day incorporated many activities, both giving us a chance of self-reflection along with a chance to express our creativity. The first part of the day was where Ms Owens explained the importance of preparing ourselves for the challenges that we will have to face in year 11. Along with the aims and objectives of today set out for the day, the talk showed us how we could use our textiles to set out goals for next year. It allowed us to see a new perspective of what our aspirations for next year should be like, and what would be a logical and sophisticated way of presenting our ideas.

After being separated into our groups, we started planning out our mood boards. We first wrote down what we feel we need to improve on from this year, and how we feel that would be important for year 11. We had to make sure our goals were S.M.A.R.T, following certain criteria which meant that they were both achievable but well thought out at the same time.

Following on from that, we could then look at the range of materials we had available to us and how we would use them to represent what we wanted to show in the mood board. Whilst we wanted it to look interesting, it was important that it was used appropriately, and so many of them had timetables so that we could use it appropriately and be recognising the steps we need to take to achieve what we want.



Next we created the mood boards. We had a sheet of calico fabric, and on that we could use art and textiles techniques to decorate and personalise it. However, it was important that we had designed it before because we only had 1 sheet of calico available to us. While some rooms had an advantage to others, such as the availability of embroidery and other textile techniques, all of us were able to use a variety of techniques to make the mood board individual to us. From sequins to printing pictures on the fabric, there was a variety of ways we could design it. There were times where we would have to adapt our design due to resources or to improve it but this was all part of the process!

After having completed our mood-boards, our final task was to write a letter to our future selves advising them and guiding them. We will then be looking back at these letters in year 11, to see whether we stuck to those goals and targets that we set for ourselves. Writing it all down has allowed us to structure our thoughts and have a clear idea of what we are to work harder on or change next year. While many year 10s have reflected upon their performance this year and changes for next year, focus day allowed them to look in detail and really think about what will be difficult in the coming year, and how they can overcome these obstacles. We would like to thank all of the teachers that were with us throughout the day, helping us with our designs, whilst we were making the mood boards and our final evaluations.



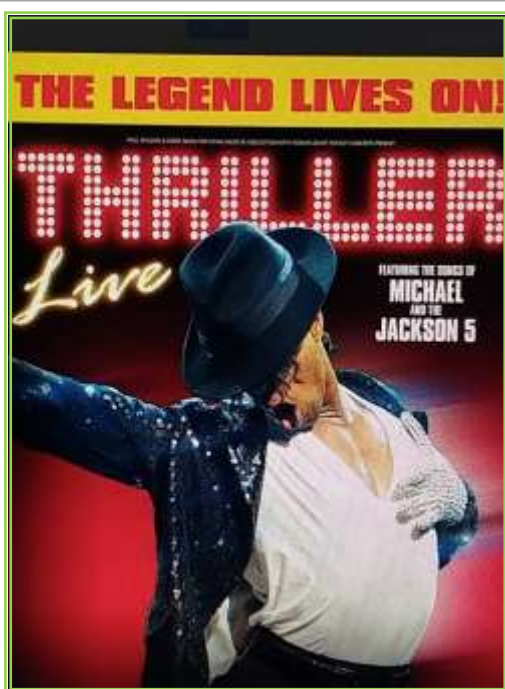
Year 12 Passport for Life

Written By Pratyush Jain (6H)

With the time to apply to universities fast approaching, the school held a "Passport for Life" day for Year 12 students, helping us gain vital information about things such as University finance to Post-18 options available to us after we leave the Sixth Form. The day had various speakers come into to talk to make us better prepared to make decisions after leaving school.

One of the sessions was about the university path and student finance. As student finance is usually a topic not many people know much about, it was a great to have such an in depth session explaining how it works, how much money can we get and how much things generally cost. The session was delivered in a fun and engaging manner with quizzes and facts about student finance helping us gain a wider understanding of how financial life at university could be like. We got important resources such as fact sheets on student spending and by the end we were thoroughly informed about student finance.

We also had a very inspiring talk by ex-LGS student Adam Bernard, who is now an actor/singer. He talked about his story and life after LGS leaving in Year 11, choosing to do what he wanted and how he eventually reached where he did. Working in hit musicals such as Thriller Live, getting offered the lead role in the Lion King of Simba, and he will play Jimmy Early in the upcoming West End show Dreamgirls.



He was also a stunt double for John Boyega in the latest Star Wars film. He really inspired the whole year through his story which involved his struggle through the early years, and showing the results of persistence and what you can then achieve if you believe in it enough and follow your passion. It was a privilege to meet him. He also gave us a fantastic preview of a song that he has written and he played this live on the piano whilst singing, we found this inspiring.

For the rest of the day we had talks related to either the Oxbridge pathway or other university UCAS applications to further prepare us for the Post 18 options. We understood how to apply for university, how to write personal statements and applied online to get registered on the UCAS website. We were told all about the various options that will be available to us once we leave LGS, and this also included information on Apprenticeships as well as studying abroad.

The day was very useful and clearly gave us skills and knowledge for our next steps in life to prepare us better for our own future! A huge thank you to the Sixth Form Leadership team for helping organise the day.



Opera Workshop

Written By Alvin Kanjamala Vince (7R)

I found the Garsington opera workshop really enjoyable and I would like to encourage as many people possible to consider doing the workshop in the future. I found it fun because of the activities such as making our own lyrics for a song and performing it in front of a group of Langley Grammar Students. The helpers in the activities were very friendly and funny. I loved my experience with Garsington opera's workshop and I hope all the other people that were in the workshop enjoyed it just as much as I did.

At the workshop we started off by doing warm ups to help us get ready for our many activities such as; making our own chosen emotion and then showing it as a group using twinkle twinkle little star as our song and we had different emotions like fear, anger kindness and others. Then, after our warm ups we started our main performance which was about a man named Eugene Onegin. A story about a lady named Tatyana who loved Eugene Onegin but Onegin didn't love her back so Tatyana's sister's boyfriend was killed in a duel by Onegin because Onegin was dancing with Olga (Tatyana's sister). Onegin ran away but after several years he came back but Tatyana was married to the prince and instead of going back to Onegin, she stayed with the prince. A sad emotional story.



We also made our own song which we called the 'Peasant Song'; here we made our own lyrics and harmony to it. We finished our day by showing a group of year 9s our performance, this whole experience was superb and I would like to do it again and I encourage anyone to get involved!

Thank you so much to the music department for organising this fantastic opportunity for us.