

LGS Headlines - Sept 2017



Dear Parents

Welcome to the start of the Autumn term and to the first edition of Headlines for this academic year.

I do hope that the term has started well for your son or daughter. I would particularly like to welcome all those new students who have joined us in Year 7 and Year 12 and hope that they will soon feel settled and part of our community. This is the first year of the school's planned expansion, with six forms in Year 7 instead of five. As a result we have created a new house - Clarke House - which will grow alongside the five existing houses as the expansion works through over the next few years.

During the summer holiday students in the outgoing Years 13 and 11 received the results of their A Level and GCSE examinations. As always there were scenes of excitement, anxiety and relief as the envelopes were opened; for the great majority of ex-Year 13s the results determined whether or not they would be able to take up the university places for which they had worked so hard. Overall, the results were very pleasing - a testament to the hard work of the students and to the dedication of our staff who taught and supported them. We are very proud of the achievements of this year group as a whole; so many of them also combined their academic studies with participation in other activities including music, fundraising, overseas expeditions, and support for younger students. They exemplified our ethos of being confident and well-rounded, independent and creative, responsible and caring.

Our former Year 11s were the first year group to take the new reformed English and Maths GCSEs, and I would particularly like to thank our English and Maths teachers who worked so hard, often with little resource material to draw on, to prepare students for the new-style examinations. For these new courses, and for the unreformed subjects, the outcomes were again very encouraging, and enabled the students to progress on to Sixth Form studies as planned. Further information about our GCSE and A Level results can be found on the school website and in this newsletter, and I hope that the students now moving into Years 11 and 13 in particular will be encouraged by the success of others in the reformed examinations. Year 12 students also received the results of their AS examinations, and Year 9s the outcomes of their iGCSE in ICT. In both cases the results were good, and both year groups are also to be congratulated.

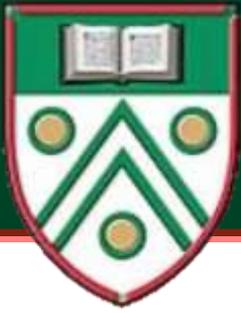
Of course, we constantly remind students that we want them to be more than a 'walking set of exam certificates' and we aim to help them grow and develop personally as well as academically. We have a series of parents' briefing meetings planned for this term. My colleagues and I look forward to meeting many of you at those events, sharing some more information, our school ethos, and talking to you about how we can work together to best support your sons and daughters.

I wish you and your families a happy and successful year ahead.

Mr J Constable - Headteacher

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Welcome to....

New students - Year 7

We are delighted to welcome all our new students into Year 7.

This is the first year of the school's expansion to a planned admission number of 180, with six forms in Year 7. Around half of the students come from the local admission area which covers Langley and Colnbrook, with the remainder coming from the school's general admission area.

Altogether, students come from around 70 different schools and many are here on their own or with just one other student from their primary school. We have put together a very supportive programme to help them settle in to the school and rise to the challenges of secondary education.



Clarke House

To accommodate the additional students we have established **Clarke House** in recognition of former headteacher Hilda Clarke who served the school from 2000 to 2009.

The new House will grow alongside the existing five houses, reaching full strength in a few years' time. For this year, only house competitions within Year 7 will involve all six houses, and 7C will receive special recognition at the end of the year as part of the overall House competition.

New students - Year 12

We are also delighted to welcome students into Year 12 to begin their Sixth Form studies.

The great majority of our former Year 11s have returned to Langley Grammar School for the next phase of their education. A number have chosen to continue their studies elsewhere, and we wish them every success.

We have a number of students who have joined us from other schools either locally or from further afield. We work hard to make all students welcome into the Sixth Form, and especially those who are new. We very much hope that they will settle in quickly and feel at home here.

Staff news

The following members of staff joined the school at the start of this term;

Ms du Preez joins the Mathematics team.

Ms Du and **Mrs Jarral** will be teaching in the Science department.

Ms Dhatt joins the Science technician team to provide valuable support to the teaching staff.

Mr Halliday will be teaching Philosophy & Ethics.

Mr Flasch and **Ms Lewis** join the English team.

Mr Gardner also joins the English team as Assistant Subject Leader.

We are also joined by Mr Webster who will be following the Schools Direct programme to train as a drama teacher.

We would like to wish all our new staff well as they settle in.

Ms Chowdhury and **Miss Northcott** are Associate members of the Senior Leadership Team, attending SLT meetings and playing a part in strategic school development.

Mrs Andrews has returned from maternity leave and resumed her role as Individual Needs Coordinator (INCo). We would like to thank Mr Batsman for covering this role so effectively during Mrs Andrews' absence.

During the holiday we were very sorry to receive the resignation of **Mr Tony Myerthall** who has been our residential site controller for many years. Mr Myerthall has chosen to retire and relocate back to Scotland for family reasons, and we wish him well for the future.



Examination results

Year 13 - A Levels

Against a background of new specifications in many subjects, with increased content, greater challenge and a different style of examination papers themselves, we are delighted that our former Year 13 students achieved a most impressive set of results.

Over 45% of grades awarded were A* or A - the highest level since 2012.

73.1% of the results were graded A*-B.

There were a number of particularly impressive performances including the following students who gained a 'clean sweep' of A* grades.....

Ranjana Nair	3 A* grades in Maths, English, Chemistry, plus A* in the Extended Project
Sarah Siddique	3 A* grades in Maths, English, Economics, plus A* in the Extended Project
Amitoj Heer	3 A* grades in Maths, Biology, Chemistry
Harshav Mahendran	3 A* grades in Maths, Physics, Computing
Aarif Ali	3 A* grades in Maths, Biology, Chemistry
Theranjit Saran	3 A* grades in Maths, Further Maths, Physics

We must make a special mention of twins Sophia and Dayna Gill who gained 5 A* grades between them.....

Sophia Gill	A* grades in Maths, Biology and Chemistry
Dayna Gill	A* grades in Biology and Chemistry, and an A grade in Maths

Year 11 - GCSE

This is the first set of results for the new reformed (Grade 9-1) GCSE courses in Maths and English; these qualifications are more challenging, with increased course content and more difficult examination papers.

We are delighted that all our students achieved a 'standard pass' (Grade 4 or above) in both English and Maths, and that almost all of them gained 'strong passes' of Grade 5 in both subjects. We are also very pleased with the significant proportion of students who gained the new Grade 9, which is pitched at a higher level than the former A* grade, and is awarded nationally to only around 3% of the students in each subject.



Around a quarter of LGS students gained a Grade 9 in Maths, with a similar proportion in English Literature.

- 36 students gained Grade 9 in Maths
- 38 students gained Grade 9 in English Literature
- 12 students gained Grade 9 in English Language

There were a number of particularly impressive performances including 7 students who achieved Grade 9s in all three reformed qualifications - English Language, English Literature, and Maths.

Across the unreformed subjects using A*-G grades, just under 60% of the results were at grades A or A*, with an overall A*-C achievement rate of 96%.

Overall, 61% of the grades achieved were at Grade 7/Grade A or above.



Some reminders....

Parents' parking

Term has only just begun and unfortunately we have already been contacted by the local police to complain about the parking of some parents near the school.

We have been told that particularly at the end of the school day, some parents have been seen parking illegally or with little consideration for our neighbours or other road users.

Please would all parents park legally and with consideration for our neighbours.

Lost property

In the last newsletter we showed a photograph of the large quantity of lost property - mostly unnamed items left behind by students last term, and which had not been reclaimed.

Some items were reunited with their owners but we still have unclaimed PE kit, items of school uniform, outdoor coats, bags and lab coats.

The remaining lost property items are again out on display in the student corridor and we would urge your son or daughter to check if they know they have lost something.



At the end of the week, unclaimed items will be sent for recycling. This is so wasteful and could easily be avoided if all clothing was named.

Please make sure all items of your son or daughter's clothing are named.

Uniform expectations

In the last newsletter we reminded parents and students of the school's uniform policy. Some minor changes were made last term and the full uniform regulations can be found on the school website (the **Policies** section under the **Parents** menu) and in students' planners. Please make sure you are familiar with the policy as it applies to your son or daughter.



The great majority of our students wear their uniform correctly and are very smart. However, there are still a number of areas where we often have to remind some students of our expectations; the most common of these are:

Girls' skirts - should be of a modest length worn close to the knee.

Girls' blouses should have revere collars, not boys' style collars to be worn with ties, and should be worn tucked into skirts.

Boys' shirts should be worn tucked in, with top buttons done up. This applies to Sixth Form students as well as those in Years 7-11.

Boys' ties - should be tied at the conventional length reaching to the trouser waistband.

Hairstyles - should not involve extremes of styling or colour. Shaved areas, lines or patterns are not permitted. Relatively short back and side cuts are currently fashionable for boys, but should be no shorter than a No 2.

Jewellery - should be discrete and only one pair of unobtrusive stud earrings are allowed.

Makeup - should not be obvious. We do not allow nail extensions or coloured nail varnish below the Sixth Form.

Please make sure your sons and daughters look smart, including on the journey to and from school.