

## End of term Newsletter

### *Welcome*

Welcome to our latest newsletter.

The term has been a rather unique one in many ways and I want to start by thanking you all for your support in what has been an incredibly challenging period in everyone's lives.

We have had our fair share of Covid cases but I am pleased to report that it is certainly my impression that we have been less affected than other secondary schools in Slough and this is testament to the staff and students and how well they have followed the social distancing guidelines along with adapting to the changed pattern and processes of the school day.

I am pleased that we are still able to produce a newsletter which reflects the experiences that our students have managed this term and I hope you enjoy reading about them all.



### **Head of Year 7**

We are sad to say goodbye to our Head of Year 7, Ms Malpas who is leaving this term and thank her for all that she has done.

Mrs Ahmad will be our new Head of Year 7 from January and brings considerable experience to the role.

### **Reminders**

When we return in January, please remember that students must bring with them their face mask, lanyard and Student Planner

## There are two key things that I need to bring to your attention:

### Covid cases in the holiday

If you receive a positive test result for your child up to the 24th December, please notify the school using the [cvalert@lhea.org.uk](mailto:cvalert@lhea.org.uk) email address. This will be monitored by me every day until then so I can apply contact tracing where needed. I hope I do not need to disrupt the break with isolation news for a member of your family but will obviously do what is necessary to help slow the spread of the virus whilst also protecting students and their family members. After 24th December you should work with NHS Track and Trace to identify close contacts but still send an email to this address for our records please.

### The start of next term

Yesterday the Government announced a change to the arrangements for students returning to school after Christmas. This was unexpected and is not without its problems for us, nevertheless it does change when students return to school after the Christmas break. The details are as follows:

- **Year 11** students return to school at the usual time on Monday 4th January. All students in Year 11 are expected in school.
- **Students in Years 7, 8, 9, and 10** must stay at home until Monday 11th January (unless in the groups listed next) and access work set by their teachers using Show My Homework. Their start to the term is now on Monday 11th January when they will start with their Week 2 timetable.
- Students in any year who have an **Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)**, have a **foster carer**, are a **young carer** or have a **social worker** must return to school as normal on Monday 4th January. We will have contacted those families today.
- **Children of critical workers** - If you require supervision of your child as you are a critical worker please send your child to school on Monday 4th January as usual. A full list of eligibility criteria is here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-maintaining-educational-provision/guidance-for-schools-colleges-and-local-authorities-on-maintaining-educational-provision>

I recognise that the late notice of this is going to be problematic for families. Unfortunately, this is not the school's decision. If your child receives free school meals then they will be able to come to school and collect a food parcel if they wish to which will contain a sandwich, cake and a piece of fruit. Students can come to collect these from 10-11.30am each day and they will be made as they arrive. We are not able to deliver food parcels to families and the Government have not said they are providing vouchers to eligible families.

The final part of this week's announcements concerned testing in schools. I will write about that after Christmas when I have some idea of what is expected. I currently know as much as the national media has presented.

Finally, I would like to wish all parents and families a safe and healthy Christmas break, however you spend the time in your household. It is with sadness and frustration that I write this from home as I recover from the effects of this unpleasant virus – please take it from me, it is not to be underestimated! I look forward to your continued support next year.

## LHEA goes on Expedition!



LYNCH HILL  
ENTERPRISE ACADEMY

This term has seen the completion of LHEA's inaugural DofE programme with participants finishing the much-anticipated expedition.

On Friday 25<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September, fifteen pupils from years 10 and 11 took part in their expedition with a difference. Because of the current Covid restrictions, pupils were not allowed to camp overnight, but were still given the opportunity to experience all the different elements of a traditional expedition.



After meeting at school, pupils went to the MUGA in school to practise their tent building skills. They had already had a session on this before the lockdown and found that it was far more challenging in windy weather, when they had guy lines and tent factors to deal with. Once their tents were built, the pupils could then shelter inside them and plan their walking route for the next day. They had to work out distances, their journeying time, direction of travel and when they would take any rest breaks. All of this helped the pupils take ownership of the routes they would be taking and gave them a greater insight

into their journey for the next day.





Once all the routes were planned, the tents were deconstructed and put back in their tent bags. This proved more challenging than it looked, as they had to fold and roll everything down very small! The pupils then went over to the front of school to cook their lunch on the Trangia cookers. Trangias are small gas cookers which are very popular with hikers because they are lightweight yet powerful. For many of our participants, it was the first time they had ever cooked a meal themselves, let alone outside. One pupil did not know that you can boil water without using a kettle; one pupil did not realise that you need to drain pasta before you can eat it. They learned so many new life experiences! They worked so well together to ensure that everyone ate a decent meal and left their cooking environments as they had found them. They also engaged really well with pupils and staff who were walking by and were excellent ambassadors for the DofE programme.



**After lunch, the pupils were transported to Black Park.**



Here, they received a lesson in practical compass work- how to use them, how to take a bearing, how to orientate a map etc. They were then given two hours to complete the orienteering course, with the challenge of seeing who could reach the most number of check points! One group was a clear winner with 9 checkpoints, so well done to Jessica, Bethany, Simran, Maxwell and Koree! The participants came back really excited and had enjoyed being outdoors in nature, without the use of technology to distract them. Once they had all returned (very promptly!), they were taken back to school and went home, ready for the next adventure on the Saturday!

Saturday saw the main part of the expedition- where the pupils were walking through the countryside unaccompanied, following the routes they had planned. They had to be entirely self-sufficient, so had to carry all of their food/water for the day, as well as waterproofs, first aid kit and maps. They had a staggered start time, so that they did not bump into each other on their routes. Along the way, they had checkpoints which were manned by teachers, who ensured they had enough water, that they had eaten, they knew where they were and where they were going etc. The participants demonstrated excellent team skills, really helping each other out when someone felt a little down or had injured themselves. They all took turns in navigating- some were more confident than others! They all completed the journey in excellent time and were all in high spirits upon returning.



All participants who took part in the expedition passed this element of their DofE programme and have received their certificates in the post, so well done to them!

The DofE team is so proud of how well the participants represented LHEA during their expedition. Some members of the public commented on how polite and friendly our pupils had been when they had crossed paths whilst out walking. They were respectful to their environment and were such a pleasure to take out.

A big thank you to all the staff who supported the expedition, but in particular to Ms Jones, Miss Malpas and Mr McLeish who gave up their weekend to support the pupils!

Any student in year 9 can begin their DofE journey- it will be officially launched after half term! Please send Mrs Tate-Harratt an email for more information. [E.tate-harratt@lhea.org.uk](mailto:E.tate-harratt@lhea.org.uk)



Having sadly missed out on their Year 10 Work Experience placements because of the national lockdown, we arranged for them to participate in Business Insight Days instead. Learning to Work, the charity based here at the school, organised virtual presentations from three significant businesses: Hewlett Packard Enterprise, Poly and O2 Telefonica.

Following that, we commissioned CV preparation sessions for the students where they also started to prepare letters of application for a mock job. The CVs were sent off to a company for feedback and the students are now working on making additions and changes to them. Each Year 11 student will be using their CV and letter to take part in a mock job interview in January with volunteers from local businesses, which is a fantastic opportunity.

Year 11	July & Sept 2020	IAG Future Focus V	Full CIAG interview delivered by Level 6 Practitioners. Provides independent and impartial Information, Advice & Guidance.
Year 11	10 <sup>th</sup> November 2020	Business Insight Days V	Business Insights days are an introduction to the working environment and allow students to gain an understanding of the structure of an organisation as well as the many skills and qualities business are looking for.
Year 11	17 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2020	CV Prep Session V	The CV Preparation Session compliments the Interview Day and supports students prepare a winning CV
Year 11	20 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2021	Future Focus Workshops	Workshop presentations delivered by industry visitors.
Year 11	<del>9<sup>th</sup> Dec 2020</del> 27 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Interview Day	1-2-1 Mock Interview Day using your CV and your letter of application
Year 11	19 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Start Employability Now	Final interviews for selected students
Year 11	2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> Feb	IAG Future Focus	Follow up CIAG meetings for identified individuals.

The focus after Christmas is for each of the Year 11 students to get **two applications** submitted for college, 6<sup>th</sup> Form or apprenticeships.

These are the deadlines that we know of:

## Application deadlines for 6<sup>th</sup> Form

- Slough & Eton – February 2021
- Westgate – 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021
- St Josephs – 14<sup>th</sup> February 2021
- Wexham – no deadline, will accept applications throughout the year
- Baylis Court – 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021
- Langley Academy – 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021
- Upton Court Grammar – 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021
- Herschel Grammar – 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021
- Langley Grammar – 28<sup>th</sup> January 2021

## Opportunity

It has just been announced that Mars apprentice applications are now open; they are available in manufacturing and engineering. The link below provides further information:

<https://careers.mars.com/uk/en/apprenticeships?fbclid=IwAR1ZPgSqcj3jRTXq4hlpvGS01BAxnAygj02h8JSEvlapGMy6UgVYtSly5OE>

## Year 10 Work Experience

We are hopeful that work experience will be able to take place this year, but of course, with the pandemic, nothing is certain. If it does go ahead, it has been planned to take place the week beginning 24<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

To prepare for the week, the Year 10 students will have short preparation interviews on 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> January. Later in the year, they will take part in preparatory Skills for Life workshops.



## Lynch Hill and its wider community

*Two excellent examples here of our charity work.*

We have been amazed by the generous items donated from our parents, students and staff who have really gone the extra mile in helping to support our local community through the **Slough Foodbank**. This really has been the season for giving!

Thank you to everyone who has donated and supported; it really is appreciated and will help an important local charity.



Our students enjoyed the mufti day on 11<sup>th</sup> Dec and there were some wonderful Christmas jumpers in the mix 😊. We are delighted to announce that the school has raised over £370.00 for the Save the Children charity. Well done to everyone.



**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December – Mufti Day**

**£1 – Charity fund raising for Save the Children**



## Sign up for free online parenting classes

During this difficult time, when many families are struggling during the recent Covid outbreak, Frimley Local Maternity System is delighted to offer a free online parenting course available for parents, carers and grandparents involved in caring for children from ante-natal to 18 years. This is a growth and learning opportunity to you as parents and carers as well.

Bringing up children is a lot of fun but can also have its challenges and **understanding your child's emotional development** can be helpful.

The free courses are for parents and carers living in the Frimley Health and Care area including Ascot, Bracknell, Farnham, Maidenhead, North East Hampshire, Slough, Windsor and South East Bucks.

The courses can be taken in English and a wide range of community languages. There are also courses to help those caring for children have special educational needs and for teenagers.

Once you sign up you can log on whenever you have a spare half an hour to learn about topics relevant to your child and your family.

The course has various modules to cover different stages of your child's life and has been put together by health professionals working with parents.

For further information about the course visit [www.inourplace.co.uk](http://www.inourplace.co.uk)

For technical queries email [solihull.approach@heartofengland.nhs.uk](mailto:solihull.approach@heartofengland.nhs.uk) or ring 0121 296 4448 Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

### [Sign up for free parenting classes](#)

Registration is quick and easy:-

### [Register for our online guides – click here](#)

To get free access to the courses, if you live in **East Berkshire** or **North East Hampshire and Farnham** use the access code '**PARENTING**'.

If you live in **Surrey** it is **ACORN**.

(Access codes are not case sensitive)



Free online parenting courses include:

**How your child develops 26 Units**

Introduction to how the course works, lots of great information about what is going on inside your child's brain and how this affects their behaviour.

**Understanding how your child is feeling 21 Units**

Exploring the signs and signals that tell you how your child is feeling.

**Tuning into what your child needs 16 Units**

Tuning into what your child needs

**Responding to how your child is feeling 20 Units**

Responding to how your child is feeling

**Different styles of Parenting 14 Units**

Different styles of Parenting

**Having fun together 16 Units**

Having fun together

**Rhythm of interaction 18 Units**

In this session we're going to look at what's called the Dance of Reciprocity, the way that we communicate with each other and our children. We are going to think about what this teaches us about managing feelings and behaviour.

**Why sleep is important? 16 Units**

In this session we're going to explore how sleep is directly linked to your child's healthy development as well as to their mental and physical wellbeing. We are also going to explore the link between reciprocity and everyday behaviours such as sleep.

**Self Regulation and Anger 20 Units**

In this session we're going to continue looking at self-regulation and think about the way in which our understanding of the Dance of Reciprocity affects self-regulation

**Communication and tuning in 20 Units**

In this session we're going to look at how the way we communicate shapes and reflects the relationship between parent and child. Because the ways we communicate are not always perfect and we're not always in tune with our children, we're going to explore how to make things better.

**Looking back and looking forward 13 Units**

This session will be a little different as it's the last one. We're going to draw the course to a close, reflect on containment and reciprocity, and summarise what has been going on over the last 10 modules.

For further information about the course visit [www.inourplace.co.uk](http://www.inourplace.co.uk)

For technical queries email [solihull.approach@heartofengland.nhs.uk](mailto:solihull.approach@heartofengland.nhs.uk) or ring 0121 296 4448 Mon-Fri 9am-5pm





## Term dates 2020-21

Autumn Term 2020	
Staff Inset Days	Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd September 2020
Student Start Day (Year 7 & 11)	Thursday 3rd September 2020
Start day for all students	Friday 4th September 2020
Half Term	Monday 19th October - Friday 30th October 2020 (two weeks)
Students Start Day	Monday 2nd November 2020
Term Ends	Friday 18th December 2020 at 1pm
Spring Term 2021	
Student Start Day	Monday 4th January 2021
Half Term	Monday 15th - Friday 19th February 2021
Staff Inset Day	Monday 22th February 2021
Students Start Day	Tuesday 23rd February 2021
Term Ends	Thursday 1st April 2021 at 1pm
Summer Term 2020	
Student Start Day	Monday 19th April 2021
Half Term	Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June 2021
Students Start Day	Monday 7th June 2021
Term Ends	Friday 16th July 2021 at 1pm