

IN THIS ISSUE

Comic Relief Harry Potter Visit World Skills Show High School Musical





PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

At Landau Forte Academy this year, we have been working with our students on the habits we believe make for effective, life-long learners. If you read through the many articles in this term's packed edition, several of these habits come to mind. Students have planned and collaborated in their personal tutor groups to make articles or create games for our very successful Christmas Extravaganza. We have had tremendous sporting success this year, all of which takes perseverance. We have exposed the students to new experiences, such as 'Animals In Hands' and the visit to the Harry Potter studios. This clearly links with noticing, questioning and making links as well and hopefully ignites a sense of awe and wonder in the students. One of the biggest successes this year has been our third Academy production; High School Musical. Students draw on many skills for this, but the learning habit they probably develop the most is that of listening. Therefore, the whole Academy experience (and not just what happens in the learning sessions) is designed to provide our students with every opportunity to move on and be successful in life.

Following on from a disappointing set of examination results, which was due to the re-setting of the GCSE English grade boundaries and not the ability, aptitude and hard work of last year's Year 11 students, we have had to pick ourselves up, dust ourselves off and set a determined pace of improvement this year. The progress we have made since opening, was officially recognised in December when the Academy was inspected by OFSTED and judged to be providing a **good** quality of education. This was particularly pleasing as it is widely recognised that the bar for these judgements was raised once again in September 2012.



At the end of May, Year 11 started their final stage of compulsory education; the public examinations. They have been a wonderful year group; their attendance has been outstanding and they have all put a huge amount of effort into their studies. As a result of this, we are anticipating good examination results and equally importantly; every student has secured a positive destination in September. I would like to take this opportunity to wish them every success for the future.

None of this could be achieved without the hard-working and talented staff at the Academy, some of whom are moving on at the end of the year. I would like to thank them for everything they have contributed to the Academy and wish them all the very best for the future. I hope that you all enjoy the summer break and return safe and well in August.

Ms D Pickering

Achievement



AWARDS FOR ALL



An evening of celebrating individual successes was attended by students, staff, parents and the Mayor of Tamworth. The event was to recognise progress and achievement throughout all years, with nominations being made by staff. It was also an opportunity for the Year 11's from last year to return to the Academy to collect their GCSE certificates.

What's Inside?

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LEAGUE TABLES

TSSA Football League Tables

Year 7 - Winners!

Position	Team	Р	W	D	L	F	Α	GD	Pts
I	LFATA	8	8	0	0	71	8	63	24
2	LFAQ	8	6	0	2	33	20	13	18
3	TEC	7	- 1	2	4	19	34	-15	5
4	Wilnecote	7	I	I	5	14	30	-16	4
5	Rawlett	8	I	I	6	14	59	-45	4

Year 8 - 2nd

Position	Team	Р	W	D	L	F	Α	GD	Pts
I	Rawlett	8	6	0	2	21	8	13	18
2	LFATA	8	4	- 1	3	18	16	2	13
3	LFAQ	8	4	0	4	17	19	-2	12
4	Wilnecote	8	3	- 1	4	22	31	-9	10
5	TEC	8	2	0	6	20	24	-4	6

Year 9 - 3rd

Position	Team	Р	W	D	L	F	Α	GD	Pts
I	Rawlett	8	8	0	0	44	5	39	24
2	Wilnecote	8	4	- 1	3	16	13	3	13
3	LFATA	8	4	0	4	14	26	-12	12
4	LFAQ	8	3	- 1	4	14	16	-2	10
5	TEC	8	0	0	8	ı	29	-28	0

Year 10 - 4th

Positio	n Team	Р	W	D	L	F	Α	GD	Pts
	Wilnecote	6	5	0	I	17	7	10	15
2	Rawlett	8	4	0	4	17	15	2	12
3	LFATA	6	4	0	2	10	8	2	12
4	LFAQ	8	3	0	5	14	21	-7	9
5	TEC	8	2	0	6	13	20	-7	6

Year 11 - 3rd

Position	Team	Р	W	D	L	F	Α	GD	Pts
I	Wilnecote	8	7	0	I	31	11	20	21
2	Rawlett	8	6	0	2	23	13	10	18
3	LFATA	8	3	I	4	14	17	-3	10
4	LFAQ	8	2	- 1	5	14	23	-9	7
5	TEC	8	I	0	7	8	26	-18	3

Netball TSSA Tournaments

Year 7: A Team - Winners, B Team - 3rd Year 8: 4th Year 9: Winners KS4: 3rd

Trampolining TSSA Competition

Team Results:
Beginner - 2nd
Intermediate - 1st
Individual Results:
Tiffany Hawthorne - 1st Beginner
Ryan Northall - 1st Intermediate
Wlisha Guest - 3rd Intermediate

TSSA Athletics Championships

Megan Ellison	I 500m			
Georgia Barlow	800m			
Libby Turford	200m			
Lucy Arnold	Javelin			
Tilly Hobson	Long Jump			
Ellie Simpson	I00m			
Amy Garratt	200m 7 Javelin			
Paighton Robathan	1500m & 800m			
Georgia Oliver	300m			
Y9 F	Relay			
Tom McVerry	100m & 200m			
Tom Randolph	800m & 300m			
Ryan Moore	I 500m			
Myles Richardson	100m & 200m			
Sam Watts	1500m			

Cricket TSSA Tournaments

Year 7: 3rd

Year 8: Winners

Year 9: Winners

Year 10: Winners

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

JARRAGOR.

On Sunday 17 February 2013, Megan took part in the Sportshall UK Championships, which took place at Fenton Manor Sports complex in Stoke-on-Trent. She was part of the Staffordshire team, and competed in three events on the day.





Ms Pickering, Mr Coppin & Mr McDermott completed the Fradley 10k run earlier this year, well done to 10k them all.! Ms Pickering is preparing for 10k the Ironman competition in July; we wish 10k her good luck and look forward to the 10k full report in the next issue of Newslink.



Term 4 Sporting Achievements

Congratuations to our Football Champions!

Y7 Boys = County Cup Winners!

Y7 Boys = Midland Futsal Champions. Next Stage = represent the Midlands in the National Competition on 29th June.

Junior Football Leaders Award

Nineteen students gave up a day of their holidays to be the first group of students in Tamworth to complete the new FA's Junior Football Leaders Award Training.

They spent the day looking at a range of areas including: organising and managing a football activity session, an introduction to refereeing and helping with a team. The course had both practical and theory components.

All candidates were successful and now just need to complete four hours work experience.

Sportivate Girls Fitness Sessions

A successful bid for funding from 'Sportivate' was granted for an all girls fitness group. Year 10 and 11 girls are enjoying an introduction to a fun and informative programme of activities related to personal fitness/self defence. A combination of fitness training and supported practice were introduced using exercises such as boxercise, gym work, body conditioning, and techniques based on Aikido/Tae kwon-do.

It is hoped that the variety of activities that are offered throughout the course will

ensure that the girls can continue with these forms of exercise as they develop into adult life. Tamworth has many gyms/fitness classes that are available to access on either a 'pay as you go' system, or as a membership.

On successful completion of the six week course there will be a special concession for the girls to attend South Staffs College, Tamworth's exercise classes, and in addition to this, there will be two months free for the girls after a paid induction at the 'pay as you go' Landau Forte Academy Amington's Fitness Suite.

Staffordshire Cup

The two Tamworth teams, Landau Forte Academy Amington and Landau Forte Academy Tamworth Sixth Form held a match in the 2013 Staff Championship Cup Final at St George's in Burton on Trent.

Amington were victorious after winning on penalties. Mr Sims (PE) said "I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone for taking part, and I'm looking forward to next year's tournament."









Tamworth FC

On Thursday 21st March 2013, two professional footballers from Tamworth FC came to Landau Forte Academy Amington to be interviewed by three young Year 7 students, that also play for good local clubs.

The two players Duane Courtney and Lloyd Kerry answered football-based questions

about their time at Tamworth and what they do there. The two players enjoyed the interview and company and said that they would love to do it again.

The three boys said that they thoroughly enjoyed the experience and they wish them the best of luck for the rest of the season.

Sky Sports Living for Sport

Students from Landau Forte Academy
Amington have been working on a 'Sky Sports
Living for Sport' project that they named
'Fundamentals Friday'. Each week, a small
focused group worked to improve on specific
areas of the fundamentals of sport. This has
had a positive effect on their confidence,
leadership skills and attainment in PE lessons.

As part of the project, the Academy were visited by an athlete mentor; Charlotte Hartley (a former international hockey

player). Charlotte worked with the group to help with ideas for a primary school visit and also took a Year 9 girls PE hockey session.

Two of our feeder schools; Woodlands and Florendine Primary Schools, were keen to send a small group of students to the Academy so that the focus group could impart some of their newly found skills and drills/fundamentals to the younger children.











YEAR 11 ART EXHIBITION

Congratulations
to the Year 11 Art
students who have
completed their
GCSE coursework.
Here is a selection
of pieces submitted
this year.

Anna Chambers

Sarah Calverley



Kate Moore

"I enjoyed looking at all of the amazing art and it's all very creative! I also came to see the butterfly I made on Induction Day - Well done! It was excellent!"

Holly T (Year 6)

"Very interesting exhibits. Landau obviously have some very talented students. Well done."

Anon

"Really glad I came to see the Art/Textile exhibit. Some very interesting/ brilliant pieces of work. Most enjoyable. Well done to all!"

J Mansfield





Daisy Rimmer



Hannah Constantine



Roseanna Griffiths Ridler



Bethan Perry



Natasha Green



Daniel Bartram





Zizi Kasarge



On Monday 17th December, 48 students from Year 7 to Year 10 were taken to London for the day. The main part of this trip was to visit the Houses of Parliament. The students were taken on a guided tour and were lucky enough to go into the House of Lords and the House of Commons. Students then participated in a voting workshop. The students made their own manifestos for an interactive election and explored the world of different voting systems and voting behaviour. This included the first past the post and proportional representation electoral systems. The journey down to the Houses of Parliament took in the sights of Buckingham Palace, where the students were very lucky to see the Changing of the Guard from their coach window. The students also went on the London Eye and a cruise along the Thames to take in the sights of the capital city. The students were absolutely excellent and really enjoyed their day, especially joining in with a sing-song on the coach on the way back to the Academy. The trip will run again in 2013-2014, so students will need to look out for the advert. The price of the trip was approximately £20, including entrance to the London Eye, the Thames Cruise and travel. Miss C Barr Vice Principal "I loved going on the London Eye and you got to see lots of buildings in London that you wouldn't be able to see from the ground. The Thames Cruise was really good as you got to go under all the bridges and go down the Thames River. Tower Bridge was amazing to see and my favourite bit. The Houses of Parliament was really good as even though I don't like politics, I got to see the House of Commons and the House of Lords. The workshop that we all took part in was full of information about how the voting system works which really helped me to understand this process and it was lovely to see Mr Whitby (an ex-learning tutor of Landau Forte), who now works at Westminster." Lee Easterbrook (Year 9)













CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA!

The students worked in Personal Tutor Time for weeks running up to the Annual Christmas Fair. They created various different stalls to raise money for our four House Charities - St Giles Hospice, Birmingham Children's Hospital, Help for Heroes and Tamworth FoodBank.

Some of the fun included getting the snowballs into the chimneys, decorating biscuits and the sale of handmade Christmas decorations. The students all enjoyed themselves listening to Christmas music whilst raising money for these very worthwhile causes.



ANIMALS IN HANDS





'Animals In Hands' are a company that take live animals along with a speaker to schools in the UK. At the end of 2012, they visited Landau Forte Academy Amington. In groups, we had a twenty minute presentation about natural life. During the speech, we learned about habitats, awakenings and lots of different kinds of animals. Also, we got to meet some creatures for the full experience!

The first creature that came out was a tarantula. It was quite small, as it was only a young spider, but lots of the girls were scared. The man told us about how spiders live and adapt in the wild. We also got the chance to hold the tarantula. It was very lively and kept trying to crawl out of my hands.

The next animal we saw was a large jumping frog.
This animal didn't want to be out of his box;
it was obvious. The speaker told us about that
species of frog and once again let people hold the
animal. But whenever someone picked him up, he
jumped on the floor.

Finally, we had two snakes. First, there was a small red and black snake. The speaker also had a box of the skin that the snake had shed. When he was put away, the big boy came out. A 4 metre boa constrictor! I found out during the presentation that constrictors can eat prey up to the size of a pig and then not eat for a year. It took 5 at a time to hold the

large snake.

In conclusion, I think 'Animals In Hands'
was really good because you learnt lots
of new facts and the live animals made it
interactive. We also used learning habits
including; listening to the speaker, noticing the
creatures, questioning about the animals and
making links between the live creatures
and the facts

Jack Preece, Student



wanted to make a comical spin on what they chose to paint, as the wall is notorious for students to sit on.

The students were: Ethan Hutchings Ciara Ryder Pola Stasule Victoria Stavislavska Ellie-May Smith **Emily Bird** Cassandra French **Emily Watkins** Leah Baldock Jonah Davenport Elise Plant Ellie Wood Amber Chetwynd

"I really enjoyed this workshop because it has boosted my confidence in Art. I am a lot more cautious when it comes to adding detail to a picture now, and remembering to add different types of tone to it, as well as making the image look more realistic etc. This topic has really developed the way I look at things now in Art."

Student





Proud to be a part of The Skills Show - the UK's biggest skills and careers event

the NEC Birmingham 15 – 17 November 2012



The business department took a group of students to the UK's largest skills and careers event at the NEC. This free show inspires young people with exciting opportunities in further education, skills and apprenticeships.

A highly interactive experience, the show featured the opportunity to try bite-size tasters of work-related skills, speak with employers about job and training opportunities, receive specialist advice, hear industry speakers and watch skilled performances and competitions – all under one roof!

The show provided an unrivalled skills experience in displaying the wide range of vocational careers on offer in the UK, from media to publishing, to retail to healthcare.

Images courtesy of: www.worldskillsuk.apprenticeships.org.uk www.freshwebsite.co.uk



SCHOOL REPORT

BBC NEVS

In March, the Year 7 students turned media moguls when they took part in the BBC News Day. Students scoured newspapers, trawled the internet and carried out interviews with the famous in order to get their scoop. Their stories were then forwarded to the editing room, where the best articles were selected and posted onto the BBC News Day website and a few budding journalists could see their work in print.

At the end of an exhausting day, each student received a certificate to show that they had taken part.

Here is the Landau Forte Academy Amington YouTube submission:







COMIC RELIEF 2013

£1000 was raised on Red Nose Day, shared between the Comic Relief fund and Birmingham Children's Hospital. Some great costumes were worn but a particular mention has to go to the staff who excelled themselves, as you can see.

Well done everyone!







The production this year started with auditions in September 2012. A record number of students auditioned for the lead roles of Gabriella and Troy!

With the cast in place, rehearsals started in earnest in October 2012. Rehearsing three times a week after school and after Christmas, some Saturday rehearsals were arranged to give the cast more time together.

Saturday rehearsals proved to be a lot of fun with plenty of singing and dancing, and the odd pizza showing up at the Academy doors to keep the cast going!

This year's production has been a lot of fun! With the cast supporting and helping each other learning lines and songs, the atmosphere has been brilliant.

The shows themselves saw lots of people come out to support even in the snow, finishing with a sell-out show on Friday evening!
The students have had a professional experience and have hopefully learned more than just how to improve their acting, singing, and

dancing; it should be an allround experience about being in a production, and how the industry works.

As well as in the cast, there were students in the Tech Team, running lights and sound for the production, stage crew, front of house and band. Every aspect of this production has provided an opportunity for learning, and a chance to develop a skill that students enjoyed.

It has been another successful and enjoyable production at LFATA.



RUBBISH

The Rubbish Shakespeare Co came to Amington and delivered two separate presentations of Macbeth and The Tempest to Year 9 and Year 8 students respectively. The occasion gave all students, in both year groups, the chance to experience Shakespeare as it was intended - being performed as a play. There were also a few surprised faces however, when some students found themselves part of the production. Both performances were then followed by a workshop where some students were given the opportunity to explore different themes and characters in more depth in each of the plays.





A small group of Year 7 & 8 students participated in the Bikeability Level 3 training course.

During Level 3 training, young people learn the skills to tackle a wider variety of traffic conditions. Level 3 is much more student-focused, where the trainees plan and execute a ride and then discuss the issues and complexities of that ride.

"Doing Bikeability, I learnt to be able to ride safely on the road and islands around Tamworth. It took about 4 hours to do the course, but in that time, we learnt a lot."

NEWS FROM THE LRC

Readathon

Readathon took place in the early part of Term 2. Students were invited to read and raise money for three national children's charities. We raised a total of £185.00; our top fundraiser was Lauren Perry, who received a certificate and book signed by author Ali Sparkes.





Accelerated Reader

We celebrated an excellent terms work on Accelerated Reader with a Roll of Honour in the LRC. All students who reached or exceeded their target, received a certificate during gatherings and from each AR group an outstanding student was selected and they received an additional certificate and a book. Outstanding class in terms of effort and achievement across both Years 7 and 8 were 7D I pictured below in front of the Roll of Honour.



Competitions

There have been several competitions since we last went to press.

November:

Remembrance Day Poetry: Winners - Jade Collins & Brittany Russell

December

Festive Fun.

lanuary:

Shout Magazine Competition: Winners - Emily Bird & Chelsea Prince

March:

Meet the Grunts, Invent a new character: Winners - Mia Curtis & Bethany Osborne. Runners up - Kirsty Askew & Oliver Powles.

2013-2014 MENUS

September 2013:

Sandwich, selected dessert, large drink: £2.20

Beach Theme (Friday 6th September)

October 2013:

Breakfast Special
Pastry & large drink: £1.35
Halloween Theme
(Friday 18th October)

November 2013:

Soup & sandwich: £2.20

Bonfire Theme (Tuesday 5th November)

December 2013:

Hot roast bap (with a large drink): £2.20

Christmas Dinner (Thursday 12th December)

January 2014:

Jacket potato 2 fillings/dessert: £2.20

Chinese New Year (Friday 31st January)

February 2014:

Tea/coffee promotion: buy 5 get I free!

Valentines Theme (Friday 14th February)

March 2014:

5-Item breakfast: £1.50

World Book Day (13th March) St Patricks Day (17th March)

April 2014:

Small panini/chips/salad: £2.20

Easter Theme (Friday 18th April)

May 2014:

Theo wrap/dessert: £2.20

Pirates Theme (Thursday 15th May)

June 2014:

Panini/dessert £2.20

World Cup Theme (Every week)

July 2014:

Hot/cold baguette/yoghurt: £2.20

Independence Day (Friday 4th July)





YEAR 11 NEC AIRPORT VISIT

This visit was part of Year 10's Travel and Tourism BTEC qualification, looking at customer service in the travel industry.

The group also looked at potential employment possibilities at the airport and the skills needed to work there.

"For part of our Travel and Tourism BTEC course, we had to go to Birmingham Airport and look at how they have adapted their service to suit different types of customers; prayer rooms, disabled access and shops accepting all currencies. We really enjoyed going on this trip, as it gave us a hands-on experience which we could easily relate to our coursework. It also gave us an opportunity to look at different employment roles that could be found in the airport, which may interest me as a potential career choice. We also had the opportunity to visit the behind-the-scenes action at the airport giving us passes to the staff restricted areas that we would normally not have seen. I thoroughly recommend this trip to others."

Ashley (Student)

PARENT GROUP

The Academy provides the opportunity for parents to share any concerns and issues that they are experiencing with their children. The topics discussed are relevant to all years and the Academy hopes that with the parent group, it will build the relationship between the Academy and parents to ensure our students are safe and healthy.

The meetings are held in the Presentation Suite regularly For dates or any information please contact Miss Martin on 01827 301800.

BOB BUDDIES

Hi, we are BOB Buddies. We are a group of students who are there for kids to come and speak to us about if they are (or feel) like they are being verbally/cyber bullied.

We sit down in a room every tutor time, where there is a different student every day. The students can come and see us, and we assess the situation, in order to deal with it.

The trust for this group is the most important thing - when a student speaks to us, it remains confidential, but if the situation is especially bad, then a tutor will become involved. We are BOB Buddies, and we are here to help!



30 students of varying ages undertook a 2-day course with 'Beat Bullying' staff, and were taught to look for signs of cyberbullying. They were trained to be 'cybermentors'. This training also extended its use towards the BOB Buddies scheme.







club

Congratulations to all of you who have managed to get 100% attendance this year, we hope you enjoyed your free trip during enrichment week. We hope to see this list grow next year where even more incentives will be offered for 100% attendance.

Keep up the good work!

Harriet Allen, Jamie Allen, Sophie Armitage, Kayleigh Barlow,
Joshua Barnes, Bradley Beavon, Alex Brazington,
Katie Brenchley, Megan Cassidy, Connor Dixon,
Megan Donnison, Ryan Fieldhouse, Charlie Flavell,
Emily Hakes, Bethany Hallam, Emma Harrison,
Brooke Hawkins, Sally-Anne Hollyoake, Matty Holmes,
Daniel Hudson, Louis Jennings, Louis Johnson-Tiso,
Bradley Jones, Jay Kara, Ben Keatley, Bethany Kimberley,
Lewis Lee, Megan Matthews, Sophie McGuigan,
Thomas McVerry, David Patrick, Nathalia Paula,
William Powles, Jack Pugh, Thomas Randolph, Jamie Reeve,
Ciara Ryder, Christopher Sadler, James Sharman,
Daniel Simpson, Ellie Simpson, Sasha Steeley, Isaac Turner,
Emily Watkins, Lauryn Williams, Ellie Wood, and last but not
least, Laura Wood!

Dates for your diary:

Friday 19th July - End of Term 5

Wednesday 21st August - Term 1 starts for Years 8, 9,10 & 11

Monday 2nd September - Term I starts for Year 7

Tuesday 3rd September - Year 7 Landau House trip to Whitemoor Lakes

Wednesday 4th September - Year 7 Forte trip to Whitemoor Lakes

Friday 18th October - End of Term I. Academy re-opens Monday 4th November



Goodbye and Good Luck!

We said our goodbyes to our Year II's in June and wished them all the best for the future. Special thanks to the contributors: Mrs J Rooke, Miss C Barr, Mr J Wood, Miss A Rathbone, Ms S Lord, Mrs B Whitby, Mrs K Wileman, Mrs J Lawrence, Miss L Martin, Mr B Sims, Miss H Fox.



Landau Forte Academy Amington Woodland Road Amington Tamworth Staffordshire B77 4FF Web: www.lfata.org.uk
Email: post@lfata.org.uk

twitter.com/landauforte
www.facebook.com/LFAAmington

Tel: 01827 301800