



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

What another fabulous year we have had at Landau Forte Academy Amington. As you can see from the contents of this packed Newslink, not only have we been working hard on achievement, attainment and teaching and learning, we've also had a lot of fun within the enrichment curriculum too. I would like to pay a special tribute in this edition to the hard work and dedication of Y11. Now, more than ever, students are acutely aware of the changing national picture of education policy. It isn't so long ago that the young people in our care wouldn't even be aware that there is a Secretary of State for Education, let alone what his or her name was.

With the advent and development of social media our students are growing up in a news rich environment, which isn't always helpful. However, despite all of this, our students have risen above the turmoil around GCSE entries and applied themselves diligently to their studies. You will be aware that as a result of this, our students achieved some record-breaking English GCSE results in January and we are now on track to achieve our best 5A* - C (including English and Maths) results ever. The year group as a whole has been a pleasure to work with and I would like to extend our good wishes to them, on behalf of all the staff in the

Academy and best of luck for all their endeavours in the future.

This is the time of year when we celebrate all the achievements of our students. We have our Performing Arts celebration showcase, PE awards night, Y11 leavers' ball, sports day and finally, the Y9 graduation. It is time to reflect on all the fantastic things we as an Academy have achieved and look forward to returning in August to some great GCSE results. We also say goodbye at this time to staff moving on to pastures new; this year includes our Chief Executive, Steve Whiteley. After over twenty years of service to Landau Forte Charitable Trust, and many years prior to that as a PE teacher in Yorkshire, Steve is hanging up his whistle. Steve's contribution to improving the education and lives of thousands of young people is immeasurable and he will be greatly missed. I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for all his hard work and dedication for both the Trust and the staff and students at Landau Forte Academy Amington and wish him all the best for the future. It just remains for me to say that I hope you all have a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing you all again next academic year.



CONTENTS









MIDDLETON LAKES

Y7 Geographers embarked on an expedition to study river environments at Middleton Lakes on 15 May. With wellies at the ready, students studied pollution in the stream by identifying creatures living on the stream bed.

Students had great fun catching and identifying different species including; stonefly, beetles, shrimp and even a fish were discovered lurking beneath the surface. The second activity of the day involved taking stream measurements. Using specialist equipment, students collected a variety of information about the depth of the stream and how fast it was flowing. A challenge was set to see who could find the deepest part and fastest part of the stream without getting wet.

After lunch, our afternoon was spent taking a leisurely stroll through Middleton Lakes in search of the River Tame. On our way, we saw a variety of wildlife including butterflies, herons and even a woodpecker! After a short walk we found our final study site. The students then emptied buckets of water over drainage tables to discover which surface water would flow over the quickest.

After a fun day out, we finally had time to relax!

Miss Fox







GADGET SHOW

A mixed age group of students attended the Gadget Show in April. All the latest gizmos and gadgets were available to try out.



"i've been to the Gadget Show for two years in a row, and it has taught me many things; for example, how the world is progressing in technology and what we should be expecting in the near future. We got to try out lots of gadgets and even buy some. Overall I had an amazing experience at the NEC this year and I would recommend anyone to give it a visit."

James Bridgen Y10





CREATIVE ARTS DAY

Y7 students took part in a Creative Arts Day, working alongside the Art and Design Technology Department.

The day was inspired by Alice in Wonderland and the students took part in six workshops throughout the day including: baking, cake decorating, painting, cardboard sculpture and collage. The students worked collaboratively to produce a large scale piece of display work which has been on display within the Academy for two terms for visitors to admire.

The students thoroughly enjoyed the day and parents were invited in to view and interact with the installation at the close of the day.

Mrs Lawrence







BETH SHALOM

In March, fifty five Y9 students visited Beth Shalom; the UK's only purpose-built Holocaust Memorial Centre. On arrival, students had an introductory talk about the history and purpose of the centre. They had the opportunity to look around the exhibition and learn about the rise of the Nazis and anti-Semitism, life during the Holocaust and the concentration camps. In the memorial gardens, everyone was invited to add a stone to a special pile to remember the 1.5 million children who were murdered in the Holocaust.

The highlight of the visit was the survivor talk from Trude Silman. Trude was part of the Kindertransport, having to leave her family in Europe. She talked about how the majority of her family were killed in concentration camps and how she tried to find out what had happened to her parents. Trude answered questions from students to help them understand her experiences in more detail.

Mrs Clarke

"A fascinating story was told by a holocaust survivor which was both interesting and shocking at the same time. I couldn't believe what a terrible time she had as a child. The visitor centre is a brilliant way of getting the stories and emotions across to people"



Dear Parents

To make links with the community, Landau Forte Academy Amington would like to create a Parents' Forum so that parents/carers feel engaged with the Academy. The aim of the Parent Forum is to work in partnership to help your children to be happy, successful and responsible in the Academy and at home.

If you are interested and have some spare time once a term please contact
Miss Martin at Landau Forte Academy Amington on 01827 301800

SPORTING ACHIEVENTS

TERM ONE



CRICKET:

Winners of Tamworth and Lichfield Bill Jones Cricket Trophy Final

CROSS COUNTRY:

All the second s

Y8/Y9 Boys: (2nd TSSA Cross Country) Y8/Y9 Girls: (3rd in TSSA Cross Country) Y10/11 Boys: (1st)

Y10/11 Boys: (1st)

Congratulations to Tom Randolph who won all three races and Emma Harrison who managed to win one of the girls' races and come 2nd in the other two. The following students managed to come within the top ten for all three of the races: Ryan McEvoy, Dan Lockwood, Myles Richardson, Louis Jennings, James Bridgen, Holly Thompson, Jordan Kemp, Georgia Barlow, Megan Ellison, Saffron Farley, Megan Matthews, Amy Garratt.

GIRLS FOOTBALL STAFFS COUNTY CUP

U13s:

Round 1 - VS Windsor Park: (won)
Round 2 - VS Rawlett: (lost)

U16s:

Round 1 - VS Thomas Alleynes (won)

NETBALL TAMWORTH LEAGUE & TOURNAMENTS

LFAA VS LFA QEMS: Y7, Y8, Y9 and Y10 (won) LFAA VS Rawlett Y7, Y8, Y9, Y10, Y11 (won)

TSSA Y7A Tournament: (won) TSSA Y7B Tournament: (3rd) TSSA Y8A Tournament: (won) TSSA Y8B Tournament: (won) TSSA Y9 Tournament: (3rd) TSSA KS4 Tournament: (won)

Netball Matches v Schools out of Tamworth

Y8 Girls Netball VS Rainhill (Liverpool) National Cup: (lost 8-2) Y9 VS Lichfield King Edwards: (draw - 9-9)



BOYS FOOTBALL TAMWORTH LEAGUE

LFAA VS LFA QEMS: Y7 (lost), Y8 won), Y9 (draw), Y10 (won) LFAA VS Rawlett: Y9 (won), Y10 (lost), Y11 (won) LFAA VS Wilnecote: Y7 (lost), Y8 (won), Y9 (won), Y10 (won),

Y11 (won)

LFAA VS TEC:

Y7 (won), Y8 (won), Y10 (lost), Y11 (won)

BOYS FOOTBALL COUNTY CUP

Y10 VS Thomas Alleynes Uttoxeter: (lost on penalties) Y8 Round 1 VS Blessed William

Howard: (won 4-1)

Y8 Round 2 VS Sir Thomas Boughey: (won 4-0)

Y9 Country Cup Round 1 VS Staffordshire University Academy: (won 1-0)

Y9 Country Cup Round 2 VS Codsall: (won 2-0)

Y8 BOYS ENGLISH SCHOOLS NATIONAL LEAGUE

Round 2 VS John Henry Newman: (won 4-3)

SPORTING ACHIEVENTS

TERM TWO



TSSA BADMINTON TOURNAMENTS

KS3 Girls: (1st: Through to County Final)

KS3 Boys: (2nd) KS4 Girls: (4th)

KS4 Boys: (1st: Through to County Final)

TSSA INDOOR ATHLETICS

Y7 Girls: (2nd) Y7 Boys: (4th)

Y8 Girls: (1st: Through to County Final)

Y8 Boys: (4th)

BOYS INDOOR CRICKET LEAGUE

VS Wilnecote: (lost)



NETBALL TAMWORTH: LEAGUE & TOURNAMENTS

LFAA VS TEC:

Y7 (won), Y8 (won), Y9 (won), Y10 (won)

LFAA VS LFA QEMS:

Y10 (won), Y9 (lost), Y7 (won)

LFATA VS Wilnecote:

Y7 (won), Y8 (won), Y10 (won)

LFATA v Rawlett:

Y7 (won), Y10 (won)

NETBALL MATCHES: EXTERNAL

Y7 VS Holy Trinity Birmingham: (won) Y7 VS King Edwards Lichfield: (lost) Y10 VS Lichfield Cathedral School: (draw: with six players)

GIRLS FOOTBALL

Y7 TSSA Futsal Tournament: (2nd) Y8/9 TSSA Futsal Tournament: (won) TSSA Y8/9 7-a-side Football: (won)

BOYS FOOTBALL TAMWORTH LEAGUE & TOURNAMENTS

Y7 TSSA Futsal Tournament: (3rd)
Y8 TSSA Futsal Tournament: (2nd & 8th)
Y9 TSSA Futsal Tournament: (7th & 8th)
Y11 TSSA Futsal Tournament: (2nd)

BOYS FOOTBALL COUNTY CUP

Y9 VS Sir Thomas Boughey School Quarter Final: (won 4-2) Y8 VS Clayton Hall High School Quarter Final: (won 5-2) Y9 VS Repton: (lost 3-1)

Y8 BOYS ENGLISH SCHOOLS NATIONAL LEAGUE

Round 4 - VS İdsall School: (won 4-1) Round 5 - VS Cheslyn Hay: (won 4-1)

Round 6 - VS Sheffield: (won 6-0)

INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Ellie Bruton was selected for the final English Schools football trial, where she represented the North of England in a match against the South.
 - Tom Randolph finished 19th in the European Cross Country Trials

ERM THREE

Y8 BOYS ENGLISH SCHOOLS **NATIONAL LEAGUE**

Round 7 - VS John Port High School: (won 3-2: final 16)

Round 8 - VS Thomas Telford: (lost 3-2)

TSSA BOYS BASKETBALL **TOURNAMENTS/MATCHES**

Y10 Winners TSSA Tournament progressed to County Final Y7 VS LFA QEMs: (lost 13-11) Y8 VS LFA QEMS: (lost 44-6) Y9 VS Y10: (lost 48-22)

TSSA BOYS DODGEBALL TOURNAMENTS/MATCHES

Y10 Winners TSSA Tournament progressed to County Final Y7 VS LFA QEMs: (won 3-2) Y9 VS Y10: (lost 3-2)

BOYS RUGBY

Y8 VS Rawlett: (lost 35-7)

GIRLS FOOTBALL

Semi Final County VS LFA QEMs: (lost 5-2)

STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY **SCHOOLS BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIPS**

KS3 Girls: (3rd in group) KS4 Boys: (3rd in group)



NETBALL TAMWORTH LEAGUE & TOURNAMENTS

LFAA VS Rawlett:

Y10: (won 13-5) Y7: (won 6-0) Y8: (won 11-1) Y11: (won 16-8)

Y9; (won 5-3)

Y9 VS Wilnecote:

A Team: (won 4-2), B Team: (lost 3-4)

LFAA VS LFA QFMS:

Y7: (won 6-0) Y8: (won 12-3) **Y9: (lost 10-8)** Y10: (lost 7-3)

Netball VS Outside of Tamwor

Y7 V\$ King Edwards Lichfiel (won 14-13) Y8 VS King Edwards Lichfield: (won 4-2) Y10 VS King Edwards Lichfield:

(lost 20-13)

STAFFORDSHIRE WINTER GAMES

Y8 GIRLS INDOOR ATHLETICS: 9TH



Y10 DODGEBALL: 5TH



Y10 BASKETBALL: 10TH





ETHAN BILLINGE



At Ethan's swimming presentation in January, he gained first place in the 11 year old boys category; winning three gold medals in butterfly, backstroke and Individual medley (25m butterfly, 25m backstroke, 25m breaststroke and 25m freestyle in one race) and two silver medals in breaststroke and freestyle. This is the third year running that he has achieved **first place**. He also broke seventeen club records in a variety of distances and disciplines. Ethan currently holds seven club records: 100m/200m backstroke, 200m, 400m and 1500m freestyle, and 100m/200m IM. He is the only swimmer in his club to swim the 1500m (60 lengths) in a race in 2013.

Finally he was awarded a special award by the Head Coach for Lichfield Swimming Club as 'Most Improved Boy' over the past twelve months. He swims six times a week, along with galas and 'open meets' at the weekends.

Staffordshire Championships

Ethan attended the Staffordshire Championships over the weekends of March 1/2 and March 15-16. These championships see swimmers from all over Staffordshire competing. He qualified for thirteen out of seventeen events, the most within his club of Lichfield.

50m, 100m and 200m backstroke
50m butterfly and breaststroke
50m, 100m, 200m, 400m and 1500m freestyle
100m, 200m and 400m IM

He achieved personal bests in all events except 50m backstroke, and broke club records in 1500m, 200m, 400m lM, 400m and 200m backstroke. He participated in the City of Birmingham Open Meet from 18-21 April. **He competed in eight events which were:**

1500m Freestyle: Achieved a gold medal, pb and club record of 19:29.59

400m Freestyle: Achieved a pb and club record of 5:01.73, narrowly missing the Midlands qualifying time of 5:01.70.

100m Backstroke: Achieved a Midlands qualifying time, gold medal, pb and club record 1:14.03.

200m iM: Achieved a pb and club record 2:49.96.

200m Backstroke: Achieved a Midlands qualifying time, gold medal, pb and club record 2:37.43.

100m Freestyle: Achieved a pb and club record 1:07.82.

200m Freestyle: Achieved a Midlands qualifying time, pb and club record 2:23 48

ecord 2:23.48.

50m Freestyle: Achieved a pb.

Ethan is the first swimmer in his club this year to achieve Midlands qualifying times.

Congratulations Ethan!

100% ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to all that achieved 100% Attendance this year!

Jamie Allen **Emily Banks Toby Barnes Kat Bartlett** Kyle Berwick Ethan Billinge **Emily Bird Roxanne Bisset Alex Brazington** Katie Brenchlev **Nath Brooks Ellie Cassells Sophie Cassells Edward Chipman** Amelia Cocksedge **Lauren Coffey Daniel Cross Sophie Cross Jonathan Cunningham Elise Dickie Thomas Gessey-Jones** Scott Glover Tom Green Elisha Guest **Emily Hakes** Reece Halfpenny Rebecca Hallam **Emma Harrison** Regan Hathaway **Jordan Haynes Ryan Haynes Finley Hodson-Cox** Sally-Anne Hollyoake **Thomas Hudson Ethan Hutchings Lewis Jeffrey Louis Jennings**

Louis Johnson-Tiso **Bradley Jones Lewis Jones** Jav Kara **Aaliya Kennedy** Joshua Law **Connor Lawley Jacob Mardling Megan Matthews** Jade McIntvre Tamzin Moreton Joe Moraan Craig Mundy Megan Oberg Kyran O'Brien Matthew Parkinson **Craig Patrick Daniel Patrick David Patrick** Alex Pega **Thomas Perry Jack Preece Jack Pugh Harry Ralph Daniel Robins** Ciara Ryder **Louise Sadler Corey Sheehy** Ellie Simpson Liam Smith Sasha Steeley **Chloe Stringer Brandon Sutton** Ben Taylor **Aaron Tomson Lucy Varley Emily Watkins** James Woodcock

60

JK H

MATHS CHALLENGE

On 1 May, 7MA1, 7MA2, 8MA1 and 8MA2 participated in the Junior Mathematics Challenge, organised by the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust.

The top 40% of students nationally receive a gold, silver or bronze certificate in the ratio 1:2:3 and each institution receives a 'Best in School' certificate.

Students at Landau Forte Academy Amington achieved one gold, eight silver and fourteen bronze certificates. Over 240,000 pupils from across the UK sat the Junior Maths Challenge, with roughly the top 6% receiving a gold certificate, 13% silver and 21% bronze. Our highest achievers include; Alex Brazington, Josh Jones, Edward Chipman, Bethan Durham, Ryan Stirk, Louise Sadler, Charlie Pointon, Daniel Robins and Callum Barrett. Congratulations to those that took part and we are looking forward to taking part again next year.

9/560

 \gg



PERFORMING ARTS CLUBS

Drama: Tuesdays 3.50-4.30

Act out a character... In this club we create performances based on scripts and improvisations. We will be working towards specific performance dates.

GLEE: Wednesdays 3.50-4.30

Sing your heart out... In this club we create performances where we sing songs both in unison and in parts.

If you have seen the TV programme you know what it is all about.



Learn to use lights and sound in the theatre... in this club we work in the recording studio, do video editing and create light and sound setups. (Whenever possible we help out with events in schools).

DANCE: Thursdays 3.45-4.45

Participate in dance performances... in this club we create performances using a variety of choreography. This is where we have time to work on performance details. MUSICAL: Auditions coming soon...

We are in the process of finalising the next Academy production.
Keep an eye on the website for updates.



LRC NEWS

TRIP TO BIRMINGHAM LIBRARY

On 4 December 2013, a group of students from Y8 and Y9 who are Gifted & Talented in English were taken to visit Birmingham Library. The students arrived by train and then spent two hours touring the new library, viewing the galleries and exhibitions. The students were all very impressed by the building, the resources available and the great views across the city from the upper levels. Lunch was taken at the library, followed by an hour spent in the German Market before a weary but happy group of students and staff returned to Tamworth.



We were fortunate on 11 February to secure a visit by renowned poet and rapper Charlie Jordan. Charlie met with the whole of Y8 in the Theatre, encouraging them all to think about inventing poetry using their own names and inviting some of the students to share their verses. Charlie then recited some of her raps and poetry which were well received. For the remainder of her visit, Charlie led two workshops for Y8 students who produced some fantastic work. The day culminated in a 'Poetry Slam-Down', where the two teams went up against each other to recite their work.



NEW JUNIOR LIBRARIAN

January saw the addition of our second Junior Librarian. Bethan Durham went up against four other students who had applied for the role. She impressed with her all-round knowledge of the LRC and lovely personality. Bethan quickly fitted in and has become a valued team member.

"i and other students were invited to attend a poetry session with a poet called Charlie Jordan. We read some poems and then challenged ourselves to see who could make the most words rhyme with three others. We had to read them out against another group and the winners were to face the 'Poetry Slam-Down'. We wrote our own poems about the people or things that we love and at the end of the day, we read them out in a group and whichever group performed the best got a special prize! I really enjoyed the day and I hope there's another opportunity to do it again!"

Mia Curtis,



Ben Davis (a former student of Woodhouse High School) visited the Academy on 4 April with his recently published book 'The Private Blog of Joe Cowley'. Mrs Campbell (Director of Learning for English) taught Ben all through his time at Woodhouse. A group of students interested in creative writing were invited by the English faculty to meet Ben, and he read an excerpt from his book, took a Q&A session and then signed autographs for everyone.

18

ANNIE

This year, the Performing Arts Department decided to go back in time and put on 'Annie the Musical'. We auditioned at the beginning of October and were pleased to see so many talented actors, dancers and singers showing an interest in the production

The enthusiasm of the cast continued throughout the rehearsals with cast readily giving up not only their afternoons but also their Saturdays to work with the band and participate in longer rehearsals. The doors opened on 19 February. Behind the curtains waited a group of excited students ready for a three night run. It was with great pride we watched students grow in confidence and enjoy performing to an audience.



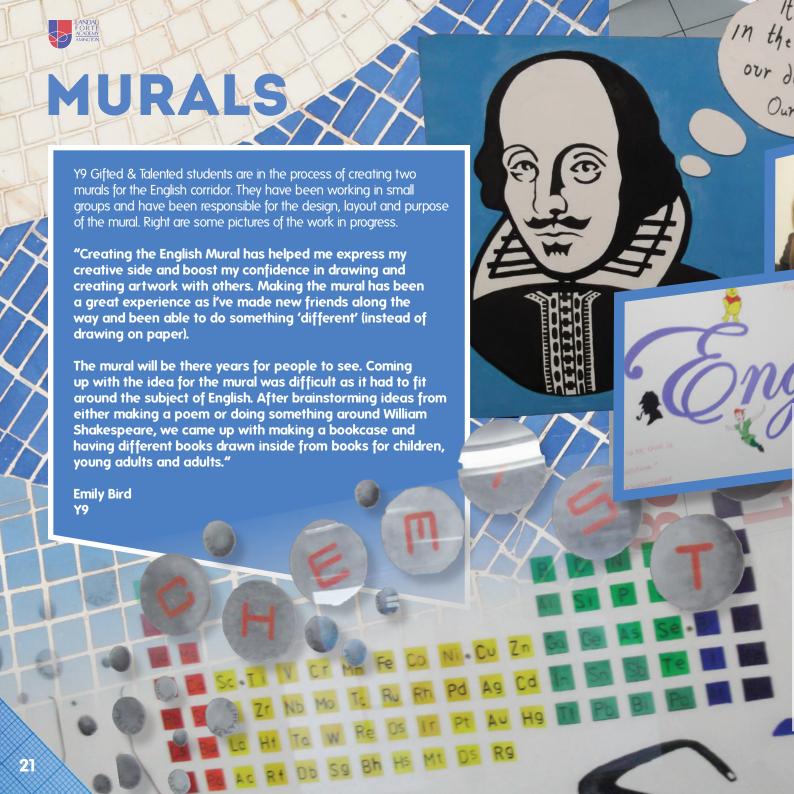
We would like to take the opportunity to thank not only students participating but also parents and others who supported the Academy production throughout the rehearsal process and not least by buying a ticket to see a performance.

"Annie was a very fun experience. I got to play Rooster, the bad guy who wants to kidnap and kill Annie for money. It was great doing the acting and singing the songs. It was also lots of fun being involved in the performances each night. i would recommend taking part in a production to anyone."

Jack Preece Y10









We say a fond farewell to our current Y11 students and we wish them all the very best for the future.

We also say goodbye to several staff this year, many of whom have been with us for several years. We wish you all the best of luck in your new roles.

A group of Gifted & Talented students in Art and Science designed and painted a Chemistry mural at the entrance of the Science corridor. Students were responsible for the design, layout, content and colours of the mural. The students wanted it to include the Periodic Table and key Science terms to help other students remember these (pictured left).

"Over a six-week period we worked on a mural in D corridor. The purpose of this was to help students remember or learn different things about Chemistry. While doing this, I learned that working together helps to get the job done quicker and that planning something out pays off at the end".

Louise Parr Y8

Selve S

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Wednesday 20 August:

Start of new academic year for Y8-Y11

Monday 25 August (Bank holiday)

Academy closed

Monday 1 September:

Start of new academic year for Y7

Friday 17 October:

Term 1 ends

Monday 3 November:

Term 2 starts

