



newslink

Autumn 2015

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Frankenburg

Hop, SCITT and Jump!

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Principal's Message



Welcome to the first edition of Newslink for the new academic year and a special greeting to all of our new students and their families.

There have already been many events, activities and experiences that shape the unique education that our students receive. However, a highlight for the term has been the second National Student Conference, which was held at the College on 20th October. 130 students from across the UK joined us to discuss the question, "Are Schools getting in the way of a good education?" Our students played a

key part in the success of the event – leading workshops, filming the event for the live stream and organising the day. Students used Twitter to comment on the speakers and the live stream enabled schools from London, Ireland and Liverpool to join in too. The students created a blueprint for schools to consider and this will be presented to 800 head teachers at the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust (SSAT) National Conference in December. What an amazing experience for all those young people and an example of what can be achieved when you have resilience, confidence, curiosity and determination to succeed.

Sadly, one of our much loved and respected colleagues, Andrew Frankenburg, lost his 18 month battle with cancer in October and we are still trying to adjust to the loss. I know that his wife and family felt touched by the comments and tributes that were made in the book of condolence we presented to them.

Many of the articles in this edition of Newslink feature the successes of both staff and students. In addition, this term we have already welcomed back a number of former Year 11 students to the Presentation of Certificates on 5 November. Similarly we look forward to seeing some old faces at the Presentation evening for former Year 13 students on Monday 15 December. We have welcomed new staff and students to the College and this year sees our first cohort of SCITT trainee teachers.

After 15 years at the College, it is now time for me to seek new opportunities elsewhere. I have fulfilled many different roles in my career at Landau Forte and being Principal has been an absolute privilege. I have thoroughly enjoyed leading the staff and students towards continued success and I wish every member of the Landau Forte College community all the very best for the future.

S Bill

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A Tribute to Andrew Frankenburg



Andrew worked with us at the College for over 12 years. He was our friend and our colleague and to many students, he was the tutor who inspired them to love Mathematics. Andrew's passion for the subject was clear to everyone.

In his eyes, everyone should be fascinated by number and this approach enthused others in the same vein. We have heard from many students who tell us that Andrew was the tutor who encouraged, supported and challenged them to thrive. Some of those students are now adults, either continuing their studies or working in a range of industries. The common thread from all their stories is how much they appreciated the effort that Andrew went to to ensure their success.

Andrew and I shared a love of the outdoors. We had many conversations about the mountains, hiking and climbing. One of the first times I met him, we were talking in the restaurant just after the summer holiday after he had climbed a peak. The conditions had been awful: weather was

bad and so was the visibility. Andrew went to great lengths to explain to me how to read a map and navigate safely at altitude in this type of situation. Every step of the way was described, and every method of map reading defined for me. At the end of the conversation he asked, "So what is it that you do at the College?"

"I am a Geography tutor," I replied.

"Ah!" he said. From that point on, we were able to share our love of the hills, talk about climbs we had done and would like to do and I very much enjoyed sharing my wish list of mountains with him.

Andrew will be remembered for many things by the staff and students at Landau Forte College. Who could we forget his array of ties carefully chosen to promote discussion

and debate? Andrew loved to challenge people's thinking and would take every opportunity to fall into healthy and constructive argument. His badminton and running gear reminded most of us of the 118TV ad with the 1970's style of clothing, and the rest of us were simply offended by his taste. Many of our students are absolutely convinced that Andrew was a millionaire. Some think he had a large country estate with acres of grounds and several staff and there are even some who think he had the title of 'Herr Baron von Frankenburg'. Andrew carefully orchestrated these stories with the help of one or two members of staff. He played out the story with conviction and no trace of irony, but I have to put the rumours to rest now!

Andrew had such a full life both inside and outside of College. At Landau Forte, he participated in many activities beyond his subject, all of which he did with humour, passion and a quiet determination to ensure that everyone gave their very best self. We talk to our students all the time about resilience, confidence, and commitment. Andrew demonstrated all these qualities day in, day out, even when he struggled with his health. We say that to be brave and bold are positive behaviours and that failure isn't necessarily a bad thing. Andrew struggled sometimes with the latter but there is no one who could role model bravery better than he. It isn't goodbye to Andrew Frankenburg – instead we say "toodle pip!"

S Bill



3, 2, 1, Lift Off!



Landau Forte Lift Off!
Our fun-filled two week programme to help Year 7s settle into College was a roaring success. Thirty-seven students joined tutors for a variety of activities.



Vonyee, Daoud and Amelia were "nervous but excited" on the first morning. "I was nervous as I didn't know where I was going or who I was going to meet," Daoud commented. Vonyee felt "confused, because I didn't know anyone on Summer School and I didn't think I would make friends". Amelia thought, "it was going to be a fun few weeks and I was excited, I thought I was going to learn lots more than at Primary School." All the students had a particular highlight: Amelia enjoyed, "Circus Skills as I had learnt to walk on stilts before and was excited to do this again." Vonyee enjoyed the visits to Conkers and Warwick Castle as she thought they were "very exciting and I discovered things I hadn't done before", but Daoud "loved everything".

Soon the enriching fortnight was at an end and September 1st arrived. Walking through Reception I saw many faces full of anticipation as Year 7s' first day had arrived. Edward felt, "nervous as he'd never been in the College before and "didn't know who he was going to meet". His thoughts were echoed by Elbas and Hafsah who were both looking forward "to making new friends and doing different things from primary school". This was in sharp contrast to the views of Vonyee, Amelia and Daoud, who all felt they were ready and confident, and "able to help other students if they got lost".

Year 7 students have settled well, enjoying the variety of new learning experiences they have been exposed to during term 1. Elbas loves Design and

Technology as "my tutor is really funny and I really enjoy making things". His thoughts were mirrored by Edward who also feels more confident because "I know where I am going now and I have made lots of friends". Douad loves "tutor time because I have made lots of friends especially in the older years". Hafsah took a few days to settle but feels "confident and enjoys school". Their learning journey is now taken off!

H James

Daoud Khaliq, Vonyee Johnson, Amelia Treece, Elbas Ali, Hafsah Qayomi and Edward Brant.

Year 7

3, 2, 1, Lift Off!

My name is Saffy and I am in Year 7.

The night before I started I was very excited. I had already packed my bag during the day because I knew I needed to be very organised.

When I arrived at College, I had to wait in the Theatre. I felt so independent. All I had wanted since I started primary school was to go to this amazing place and now I was here.

My first ever session at Landau was Geography with Mr Gazda. He was very kind and helpful. He made the change from primary school to secondary school look like it was the best change that you could ever have in your life. To start the session we completed some ice breaker activities to get to know everyone. Afterwards, I was collected by a member of my tutor base and we headed off to tutor time. It was here that I met my PT and tutor group.

I have made a lot of new friends. I met some of them whilst waiting in the restaurant before our first session that day.

Whilst we were in Geography I made many other friends. When I came here, I realised that no other students from my primary school were beginning their studies here with me, so naturally I felt a little bit nervous, but I needn't have worried.

There are a range of extension activities to take part in after College: I really enjoy going to them. I am part of the college netball team and have already been given the opportunity to go to Spain for a week to play a tournament.

I really think you have to believe in yourself at Landau Forte

College. If you always think ahead there are many different ways you can extend your learning and help others too. I regularly complete extension activities and even in my short time at Landau Forte so far, I can see the difference this has made to my attitude and my learning. I am really enjoying my time studying at the College and I'm looking forward to what my future will hold.

Safiya Barber, Year 7



Broadening Horizons: Year 12 Opportunities Fair

On Monday 14th September, Year 12 had their annual 'Opportunities Fair'. Much like Fresher's Week at university, the students experienced all the extracurricular opportunities on offer at Landau Forte! Students were challenged to work in a team as part of the Engineering Education Scheme or within Business in Young Enterprise. For those who enjoy working with younger students there was the option to become a Peer Mentor or a Learning

Mentor supporting in sessions. There was a huge amount of interest from our young people in becoming Learning Coaches, where students and staff work collaboratively to continue to deliver outstanding teaching and learning. In addition to all the exciting opportunities on offer from within Landau, the National Citizen Service were also present. This organisation gives young people the chance to contribute to their wider community by working

collaboratively with others from across the city to plan and deliver a charitable project, something that looks great on future UCAS applications. All in all, the Opportunities Fair was a massive success with so many young people signing up for at least one activity outside of their academic interests.

J Burton



Taking a Step Further: Year 12 Induction

At the beginning of September, Year 12 students participated in two days of 'Induction' sessions before starting their courses. Here, students share their experiences.

The Apprentice-style task was a good idea, set up to help all students mix.

The task used a range of learning habits, such as collaboration, planning and effective listening. At the start of the day, it felt difficult to collaborate with students who were new to the College because we didn't know them. However, by the end of the day we were all collaborating effectively to produce a presentation pitching our ideas.

Charlotte Mould and Ryan Smith, Year 12

The addition of a full college day for Year 12 was introduced to help support our development as independent learners.

We are now required to spend our private study sessions in College, meaning we are effectively utilising our time to complete extension work and develop our subject knowledge. I hope this will build good habits that will serve me throughout Post-16 and into the future.

Holly Morgan, Year 12

The Induction period was really good as it gave me a chance to meet new people and get to know them by taking part in team building activities.

Coming into the college environment wasn't scary for me as I had quite a lot of friends here already, but I was nervous for starting my sessions in terms of the workload. The College is very easy to get used to and the days are getting better as I'm settling in.

Tanaz Neha, Year 12



Hop, SCITT and Jump: A Flying Start

Our new trainees have settled into college life swiftly. Here, they share their reflections of their first term in training.

My SCITT experience has been fantastic, engaging and testing so far. Through getting to know students, building a rapport with each individual has been a pleasure. I have already been involved with delivering sessions and I have become more aware of the challenges that it entails. During the professional development portion of our training, the trainees and I were involved in a 'micro-

teaching' exercise. This required each trainee to produce an explanation of an aspect of their subject to be delivered in four minutes. Judging by the quality of the exercise, I think that many others are also enjoying their journey towards becoming a fully-fledged tutor.

W Newey

Following my recent graduation and limited experience working with the College before August 2015, I was unsure of my expectations prior to my arrival. I was clear on what it meant to undertake Teacher Training and the many aspects that it would entail, but still I felt apprehensive about the expectations of me. However, this was unnecessary as I feel very lucky about my experience so far! My training here at Landau Forte College has given me a great insight into different teaching styles and the diverse nature of learners. I have been fortunate enough to witness a wide range of sessions



For Trainees

throughout the College, whilst delivering some activities within Spanish sessions. All staff and students are very welcoming and willing to help if I am lost or even if I am unsure what session it is, so thank you for the help! I am really looking forward to the rest of my training and getting more involved in college life as the academic year continues.

L Rowland

I have been training through the SCITT programme at Landau Forte QEMS, which is located in Tamworth, for nearly 5 weeks now. The culture shock of working within a school has all but worn off, and I feel as though I've never worked anywhere else!

Here at QEMS, many students now come to me for academic advice or queries which makes me feel much more like a teacher and less of a student or trainee.

Twice a week I travel to Landau Forte Derby, usually for

Professional Skills and Subject Knowledge enhancement. Initially, the new route was daunting but I now use the journey time to think and consider the new information I am learning. I have, however, quickly learnt that theory works well until you are in the learning space looking at the students sitting in front of you and realise that theory must now be put into practice. This is why I found our micro-teaching session so insightful. It was a brilliant opportunity which allowed me to put

into practice the strategies I had observed within learning sessions, but also to review my delivery, evaluating what had worked well and what hadn't. It is not very often that you can physically look back at yourself and use it to improve future sessions.

So far, I am thoroughly enjoying my training with Landau Forte College and I look forward to my future career in teaching.

K Brett

ALL AT C: Landau Forte College Host the National Student Conference

On the 20th October, Landau Forte College welcomed staff and students from other schools from around the country to take part in 'All at C', the second National Student Conference.

A range of guest speakers were invited to share their perspectives and insight into education, including: Professor Guy Claxton, author of 'What is the Point of School?'; Roger Maguire, former CEO of Sony Computer Entertainment,

Europe; Chris Wheatley, East Midlands representative for the Teaching Schools Council; and Dr Debra Kidd, author of 'Teaching: Notes From the Frontline'. They were faced with challenging questions, the most notable being 'How can 18 years

of education be judged based on one examination, on one particular day?'

In addition, numerous workshops took place throughout the day in order to help strengthen students' and tutors' understanding of

education as a whole.

The conference also gave students the opportunity to utilise social media to express their feelings about the topic of education. Some of the best tweets from the day included:

Why do we lose the awe and wonder of learning and asking questions as we get older? Why don't teachers try re-kindling that fire?

Are we taught to use the skills school embed into us, or are they given to us to be left to gather dust?

Why are students feeling disengaged from school? The segregation between adult and child is perhaps one reason...

Charlotte Green Eva Wan and Kobi-Kazia Thompson, Year 13

Conference Workshops

At the conference, the Student Learning Coaches ran workshops to focus on the 7Cs: communication, curiosity, confidence, creativity, collaboration, commitment and craftsmanship. Alongside Rodwell Ndengeya, I ran a workshop to consider the question 'What is communication?' and to explore the different techniques we use in order to communicate. Through discussion it quickly became apparent

that communication is not as simple as just talking to someone. Communication is a combination of using facial expressions, gestures and body language in addition to using our voices. We came to the conclusion that although we are only assessed via written communication, both visual and spoken communication can be just as valuable.

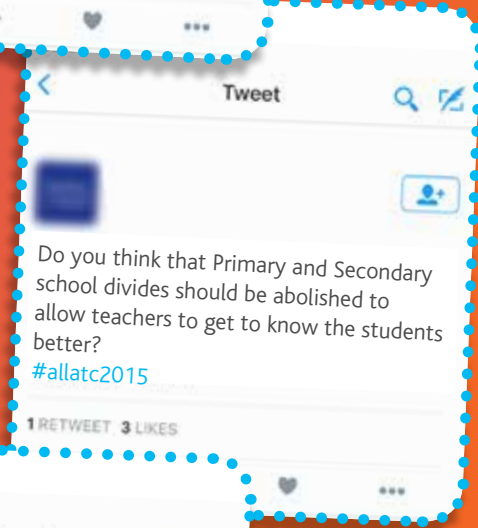
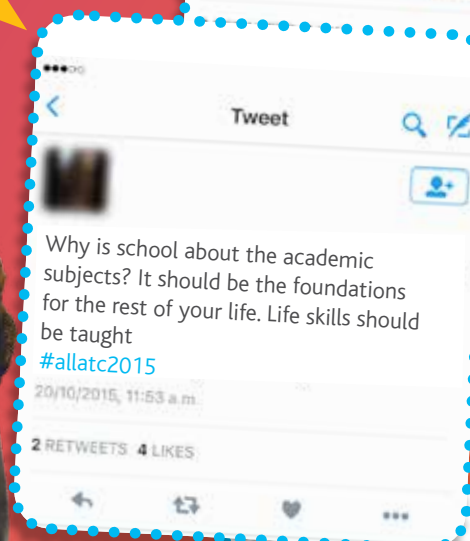
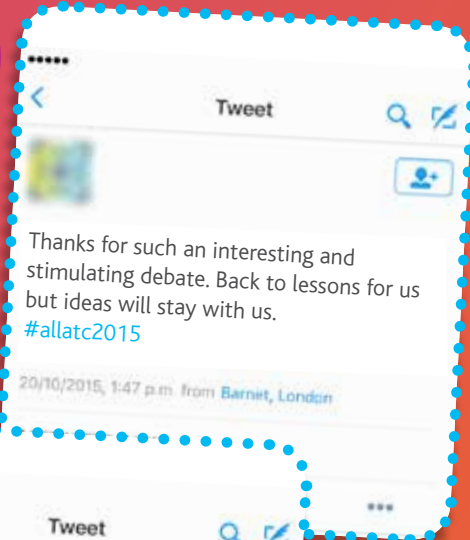
Tiara Samuel, Year 13



How can 18 years of education be judged based on one examination, on one particular day?

How can tutors help us to develop our curiosity, if they are not curious themselves?

Memory and understanding are two opposites. Exams only utilise the former and they don't prepare us for life



Landau Forte College Alumni: Sanel Susak

I was a student at Landau Forte College between 2002 and 2009 and studied Maths, Chemistry, Biology and English Language and Literature at A-Level.

I went on to study Law at Oxford University, a masters at University College London, and the Bar Professional Training Course at Nottingham.

My main goal career-wise is to become a fully-fledged barrister and I am currently working towards that as a self-employed County Court Advocate. One of the lessons I've learned in pursuing that goal is that you have to continue to believe in yourself no matter what set-backs you have and what challenges you face.

During my time at Landau, I was always a talented mathematician and scientist. Conversely, I was weak throughout the early years in English, due to it being my second language. However, I really enjoyed it and worked so

hard to improve in that subject that my best A-Level results were in English. I knew I wanted to have a career that utilised a subject I loved and that is one of the main reasons I chose Law, another being my passion for debating.

My experience has shown me that if you want something badly enough and work hard enough for it, you will succeed eventually, regardless of your talent at it.

I will always remember my time at Landau with fondness. I have many memories such as hosting LFC:TV, running the Debating Society and the fun I had with my friends and colleagues, especially in Chemistry A-Level and BTEC Art.





The Belle Ayres Go Out With a Bang!

The Belle Ayres were originally a performance group created during Post-16 Performing Arts, but their success took off in a major way; getting paid to do performances, such as the opening of the Velodrome.

And even after the founding members have left College, the demand for them remains and their legacy lives on. Joined by two current Post-16 students (myself and Katherine Welsh) the Belle Ayres were asked to perform one more time: at the Darley Park Concert 2015. With many of the group parting to follow university pathways, we decided to go out with a bang by dazzling the audience with our best set yet. We were all excited to bring out the air hostess costumes one more time! Knowing that thousands

were expected to attend definitely made me nervous; I had never sang to so many people before! But singing with such amazing and professional performers beside me took the weight off my shoulders and allowed me to rise to the occasion.

After a week of hard-working rehearsals, we created a 15 minute powerful medley of songs, with seamless transitions and smooth choreography to really give it a professional edge. Our mix included a combination of timeless classics with modern

songs to be able to entertain all ages on the night; suitable as the Darley Park Concert is family-friendly event. Our nerves grew throughout the day of the concert, as sound checks were completed and the audience started filling the vast space in front of the stage. Once the concert began and the first acts performed to the enormous crowd before them, we were called and took our position at the side of the stage. As the hosts announced us onto the stage, my heart sank as I began to walk on in front

of the thousands of people. But as we began, my nerves started to melt away and I grew in confidence due to the positive reaction that the audience gave us, including singing along and applauding between each song. As we hit our final notes the response from the crowd was overwhelming. The night was certainly a success, and the Belle Ayres went out with a bang, just like the fireworks at the end of the night.

Jadyn Thompson, Year 13



Going Out on a High!

As a Landau legend leaves us, Tony Coffey's Swan Song Soiree certainly hit all the right notes...

When a member of staff has led the Performing Arts team for 22 years; has produced countless high-quality and award-winning pieces of theatre, including taking performances from the Royal Albert Hall to Switzerland (and a whole host of venues and countries in between!), how do you say farewell? Well, in true Tony Coffey style, all the stops were pulled out and a true performance extravaganza took place! The archives were delved into, as former Youth Theatre members were invited back

and were delighted by a gallery of photographs as they first entered the Theatre, chronicling their numerous entertaining productions and causing much nostalgia, especially with the carefully created props and some very interesting costumes! As the audience took their seats in a beautifully transformed Theatre (from the photo exhibition you were sat at a table facing the performance space – cabaret style!) there were props from the past placed on each table: an array

of items from lanterns filled with fairy lights to cowboy hats, which continued to delight and surprise. The performances themselves were a whirlwind of highlights over the years; combining current students reprising classic roles; video footage on screen of other definitive productions; and more recent ensembles also performing live for our entertainment, such as the Belle Ayres. The evening's hosts kept the journey on-track throughout; warmly guiding

the audience chronologically through the archives; ensuring all the transitions were seamless – and even performing in many of the acts too! One of the many highlights had to be inviting former Youth Theatre members on stage to partake in the utterly hilarious Tinkerbell The Cow story, which involved blowing up rubber gloves and using them as cow udders! It was fair to say that the ability to entertain and really give to every audience member, had certainly not been lost.



As the evening's entertainment came to an end, it was overwhelming to see just how many former students wanted to stay and talk to their former tutors, and most importantly, share with Tony Coffey what a difference he had made in their lives. It was a top turn out, with engaging entertainment, and memories and moments shared on boards; tables; screen and live!! An extravaganza of the arts.

Was the evening a success?
Absolutely!

Did Tony Coffey go out with a bang? You bet!

Will he be missed? In bucket loads!

From the staff and students (both current and former) we thank you Tony Coffey! Bon Voyage!

A Wrampling



An Enriching Experience



Year 7 made the exciting journey to Kibblestone during Enrichment Week this year, where they spent two nights and three days. Students were placed into their teams, each having a team leader and the competitive rivalry began instantly.

Mr Goring and Mr Fox were particularly intent on stopping Miss N Haigh's group from winning again. The students got stuck into the competition and collaborated effectively with their team members to perform the best in each of the team-building activities on day one. Students took part in a nightline activity in which they made their way through courses in the woods with their team, blindfolded. Their hard work was rewarded with toasted

marshmallows on the camp fire and a few 'interesting' stories from Mr Goring and the Post 16 students.

After a night of very little sleep, the Year 7s were woken by their least favourite song through the loud speaker, a song they would come to love. Breakfast time was Mr Andrews' favourite part of the day. Whilst the weary students made their way into the food hall, they were joyfully greeted by Mr Andrews and his rendition of any Meatloaf song

or, in fact, any song made before 1990. Students played rounders, orienteered themselves around the countryside, splashed in the nearby streams, created shelters from wood and rope and became sumo wrestlers, amongst many other activities.

It was not long before students were ready for their big performance, the team sing off. With the Post-16 judging, it was a tough crowd to please. After thoroughly upsetting Miss N Haigh, probably paid to do so

by Mr Goring, the judges were wowed by Mr Andrews' team's performance and their dancing abilities.

Day three saw students have just enough energy for one last shot at gaining some points and changing the leader board. Led by Mr Fox, It's a Knockout was a fun and messy event before getting everybody back onto the coaches and waving them off.

N Haigh

An Enriching Experience: Marketing Derby



Oh, what a picture!

"Please may I have a selfie?"

Not the kind of question I was expecting from a Year 7 student on our Enrichment tour of the nearly-new Derby City Council offices!

It was decided that the Year 7 Enrichment visits needed a re-vamp. With the generosity of local business we pulled together an outstanding programme of events for the Year 7 students over the two

days that they were based in College.

Marketing Derby spokesman Andrew Lowe gave up his time to come and talk to the students about all the possible developments that were on the horizon for the Derby skyline. Over the two days we encouraged students to think about their own ideas and possibilities for derelict sites in Derby.

A lovely canal walk took us to

the I-Pro stadium, Derby Arena and The Roundhouse. Students were given a tour around the venues which enabled them to find out more about these organisations and the business elements of clubs like Derby County. The Roundhouse has retained many historic features and was inspiring and the Derby Arena tour hopefully encouraged students to re-visit and use the facility.

Nearer to home, students did the iconic Derby Ghost Walk led

by Edd Felix which has become a Landau Forte College 'rite of passage'. All students in the College have scary memories of being in the Derby Gaol, and the tutors have scary memories of the screams!

You might be wondering about the 'selfie' question I posed earlier? Yes, the highlight for one Year 7 student was indeed a selfie photo with the very obliging Mayor of Derby!

T Fazekas

Hesley Wood Scout Activity Centre

Year 9 Enjoy Enrichment

Last July, 144 Year 9 students attended the annual residential at Hesley Wood Scout Camp near Sheffield.

While waiting for the rain to stop, students competed in a spaghetti tower building competition. Post-16 students organised a quiz 'Which staff member did what?' where we discovered two members of the camp staff have represented GB in a sport and one once drove off a petrol forecourt with the hose still attached! The rain cleared up and we were able to complete a tour of the site and a quiz on Hesley Wood.

During the activity day, students took part in one water activity, either canoeing or raft building, and two others from a choice of archery, crate building, an obstacle course or climbing. It made for a busy day and we were lucky with the weather, although a lot of students ended up soaked through from falling in the lake anyway! As usual the staff at Hesley Wood provided a brilliant experience for all the staff and students.

In the evenings the usual games of rounders and football were played and students had time to relax and hang out with their friends. At the end of the week a water balloon fight ended in some very wet students and staff (Alex Albiston and Ameen Khan – I haven't forgotten)!

Students worked in teams and the teamwork displayed was outstanding. They worked together and took it in turns to cook and clean, and some excellent meals were had. The buildings were left in a better state that they started and with no fuss – parents, I am sure they can do it at home too!

All in all, a highly successful and enjoyable experience for the Year 9 students, post-16 students (without whom camp could not run as smoothly) and staff alike. Roll on next summer when we get to do it all again!

K Niven



In-tents Fun!

Archery, rifle shooting, abseiling and traversing are just a few of the many things we did on Year Ten camp. And there never seemed to be a dull moment, as the Post-16 students even led us through some activities and we all got to partake in games of volleyball and cricket.



We were also given the big responsibilities on camp, such as preparing the food and serving to the other students. One of the most testing activities we did was the abseiling; testing both our courage and allowing us to support each other when approaching the edge of the cliff. An amazing facility at the camp was the indoor cave experience which was a test of both strength and endurance.

All in all, it was a fantastic experience with a lot of exciting opportunities and activities unique to Year 10 camp. I highly recommend it to all Year Tens! It is the last Enrichment Week some students will experience as they may leave Landau after their GCSEs – so it is great to know they have this experience and really leave on a high!

Lewis Middleton, Year 11



The Intriguing Visit to the Theatre in the Day-time

On Thursday the 24th of September, a group of Year 10 students had left College at 12:30 to watch a touring production of 'The Curious Incident of The Dog in the Night-time' at Sheffield Lyceum Theatre. Many of the pupils were unaware of the plot, therefore it was an exciting and unpredictable experience.

The play is set in the town of Swindon, England. The plot revolves around a fifteen-year old boy called 'Christopher' discovering the dead-body of his neighbour's dog, 'Wellington'. Throughout the play, he investigates the murder mystery whilst unfolding the secrecy surrounding his family. The audience can relate to everything that happens because it is all important and it is all linked.

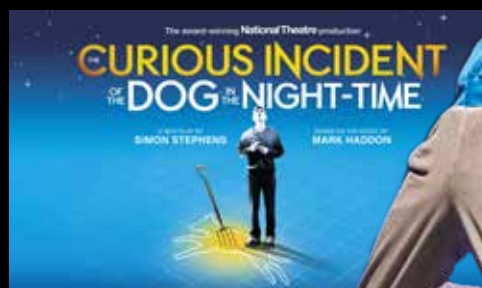
From the title, many of the students had expected the play to have the main focus on the dog: our assumptions were fulfilled for the first scene of the play. However, they were then

changed as the story started turning towards 'Christopher'. Watching this interesting play captured the attention of many which had left us wanting to read the book. The technology in the theatre was used successfully throughout the performance, making the story more dramatic, enjoyable and easier to understand.

Seeing and experiencing the play before starting to read it in our GCSE English sessions will make it easier to interpret the characters and grasp the themes and concepts of the story. It will also make it easier for students to discuss and write about the characters confidently.

Frankly, it's just more interesting having seen the play rather than simply reading it. Overall, all students had a fantastic experience and are looking forward to studying it in the weeks to come.

Beth Wong, Ravneet Sahota and Manisha Toor, Year 10



Bien hecho! Ganador! Perfecto!

Harleen's Flash of Inspiration



In August, Harleen Dhadli undertook the challenge to enter the MFL Flash Fiction Competition organised by the University of Nottingham.

Secondary school students in years 10 and 11 from the East Midlands took part. The task: write a 150 word story in Spanish. Harleen didn't hesitate to give it a go, even though it was not an easy task. She completed this as part of extension and was ready to submit her final piece at the start of September.

Harleen was delighted when she found out she had won the competition. Her short story will now be featured on the University of Nottingham's website and she has earned a £50 prize. Well done, Harleen!

F Holding

Perfecto! Bien hecho! Ganador!

Celebrating Languages

From language learning to treasure hunting on campus, we enjoyed a fun-filled day of learning at the University of Nottingham. On the 18th of September, Year 9 students from different schools in the East Midlands were invited to celebrate the European Day of Languages at the university.

We were put into groups and taken to different taster sessions in a range of languages, both European and from around the world. Our group did Dutch, then Spanish and finally Japanese. We learnt greetings and numbers which helped us carry out simple conversations. The pronunciation was quite tricky but we managed to

learn a few basics. During our second session we learnt about technology in languages as well. We watched a video in Spanish and had to write down our interpretation of what was going on. It was challenging but great fun!

At the end of the day we took part in a treasure hunt around campus. It definitely showed our competitive sides and helped us showcase what we had learnt throughout the day. It was great fun and a fantastic learning experience.

Hollie Powley and Emma Rogers, Year 9





Erstaunlich!

To Bee or not to Bee...

On July 3rd 2015, Miss Hannigan took Billal Idrees to Anglia Ruskin University in Cambridge to compete in the National Finals of the 'Routes into Languages Spelling Bee'.

Having already flown through the Regional Finals and appearing on BBC Radio Derby, Billal's speed and accuracy were enviable.

The students from all over England were tasked with translating and spelling as many words as they could in one minute. The atmosphere buzzed as the students took their seats and got in a few last minute practice rounds. Billal, who had been practising with his German Assistant, Mr Englert, in the car

was calm and composed as he took to the stage to compete in front of the entire German qualifying contingency, their teachers and the judges, one of whom was a native speaker.

Billal's skill was impressive and, although he did not win the overall prize, he is still a winner and did the College proud. We wish him the best of luck with his languages in the future.

L Hannigan





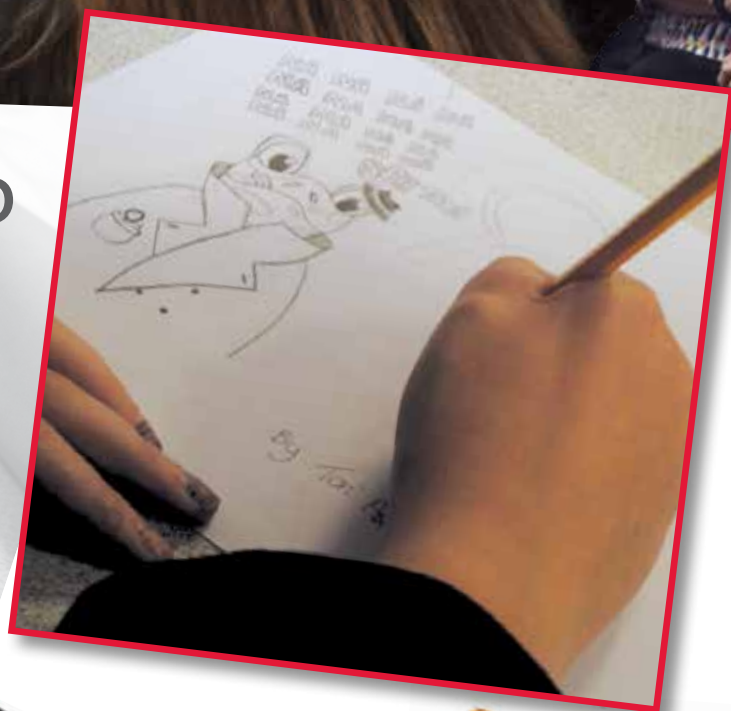
Illustration Workshop

This term Mr Hulland, the Art Team's Technician and Artist in Residence has been running the 'Illustration Workshop' which has been supporting students of all years with their illustrative drawing skills.

As an award winning artist himself, he has been able to share some of his techniques, knowledge and experiences within the industry with the students. Mr Hulland has gone on to show the students how they would work if they were to become an artist;

each individual was given three sets of different words which became their brief. They then had to go on to create characters and several story line ideas, which would collectively build up a final piece.

Jennifer Quinn, Year 13





Creative Collaborations

This term, Year 13 BTEC Art and Design students have collaborated creatively with Derby Senior Citizens in order to produce a special and personalised artwork, incorporating one of the biggest festivals of the year: Christmas!

Students and senior citizens met each other for a coffee afternoon and discussed what they presently do at Christmas and what they have all experienced over the joyful period in previous years. We participated in icebreaker games to share memories, including a web of questions and musical quizzes.

This is a project whereby the

students are able to personally give back to the community and get to know a different generation and learn from their experiences. Everyone can experience the true spirit of Christmas: giving something to a stranger, not knowing who they are or what they've gone through. No matter how big or small, a gift of kindness can mean more than you know!

Artworks will be exhibited at the Senior Citizen Christmas party hosted at Landau Forte College on 15 December 2015.

Jennifer Quinn, Year 13



Take Me To Church

As part of our GCSE Philosophy and Ethics learning experience, Mr Butler arranged for our class to visit St Alkmund's Church for the afternoon.

On the way to St Alkmund's Church, we crossed a spiky bridge, which used the towering poles as a way of displaying an unfortunate priest's head, who had come to a sticky end after disobeying the Church. On our way, Mr Butler and Mr Dobson entertained us with anecdotes of their childhood and what Derby used to be like with regards to ethnicities, religions, and origins.

Upon our arrival, Elaine, the youth worker, spoke to us about St Alkmund's and allowed us to ask her questions about her beliefs, being a Christian.

Later, she took us around the church, informing us of the

various purposes of the church. The visit overall was interesting and insightful because we got a sneak-peek at parts of the church that we would normally not see. Plus, we got cake!

In the future, we would like to visit other places of worship that we would not normally go to, such as Mosques, Gurdwaras and Synagogues. We feel that actually going to places of worship benefits us in a way that simply learning about religion in sessions doesn't because we get to view everything we've learnt about being put into practice.

Jaya Jaspal, Year 11



Spectroscopy in a Suitcase



Year 13 Chemistry students were recently lucky enough to be visited by the 'Spectroscopy in a Suitcase' outreach team, sponsored by the Royal Society of Chemistry. This enabled us to put our knowledge of chemical analysis into practice.

After being able to create infrared absorption spectra, the students got involved in a mock 'Who-done-it?' mystery. A variety of samples such as urine, drugs and possible blood stains left at the scene of the crime were analysed using both proton NMR and Mass Spectrometry to discover the identity of the guilty individual

who murdered Mr Green. The students used clues and police interviews to solve the horrific crime. The results they obtained from the analysis of these clues proved that Mrs Green was the culprit who murdered her ex-husband in a fit of jealous rage.

The students thoroughly enjoyed participating in this activity and had realistic insight to how the analytical techniques they have learnt are used practically within the world of crime.

Amira Maryam and Sanha Saleem, Year 13

Young Psychologists' Conference

In term 5, current Year 13 Psychology students had the opportunity to educate and amaze visitors about the importance and real life applications of psychology.



Throughout the term students explored one area of interest from the many topics of study, designed and carried out an investigation and then created a poster outlining their findings for their visitors.

Visitors to the conference included Derby University's Professor Nyatanga and his research associate, subject tutors, family members and other students with interest in psychology were present at this year's conference. The audience

were enriched and made aware of the students' passion, the reasons they believe psychology is of great importance to them and its use in our daily life.

The students were questioned vigorously and Professor

Nyatanga marked them on their confidence, knowledge and ability to present their findings articulately.

Yesudas Joseph, Year 13



Recently, Year 9 students received a visit from Tropical Inc. to learn all about endangered species and their adaptations. Students were given the opportunity to see, and managed to touch, some endangered animals first hand. They got to see two pythons, a scorpion, a meerkat, two endangered owls, a skunk and even a tarantula!

Some of the students had the opportunity to have a meerkat on their shoulder, a tarantula in their hand and even hold a python that could grow up to 10 metres.

Some of the students described their experiences while holding the animals.

"When I held the tarantula, it felt like there was nothing there" - Arjun Chohan.

"The barn owl felt intimidating but also very majestic."
- Alexandra Smith.

"The meerkat jumped on my head, it was hilarious!"
- Adrian Biddle.

Robyn Shillingford, Arjun Chohan and Rihanna Williamson, Year 9



'A Whole New World': World Challenge, Tanzania

Following a period of fundraising, the World Challenge team set off to experience Tanzania in Term 5. Through diary entries and Twitter posts, the group were able to keep us up to date with this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

Day 1

We arrived at school at 8am, well most of us! (Ellie arrived at 8.25) We were all wearing our new, personalised T-shirts (excluding Jeremy). In the morning we made our final kit checks, shared out all of the group kit, and we were briefed on hygiene and how to make sure our hands were always clean. Before we knew it the clock struck twelve and we were ready for the off.



Day 2

We began our descent, soaring over the beaches of Tanzania and the city of Dar es Salaam. It had been over 24 hours since we first met in Derby and we had finally arrived in country after spending two years of preparation. We were all relieved and a little scared.



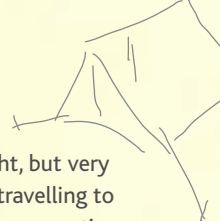
Day 3



Well I woke up with a mosquito net suffocating my face at 6.15am after sleeping through our alarm. Luckily alarm clock Faith saved the day! After being told we were late, we got ready by 7.40am to realise that there were only four people downstairs ready to leave. The transport arrived and after Faith and Irene had done their safety checks we all hopped on the bus and left Dar es Salaam to find Crocodile Camp. At 9.52 we had breakfast which was a banana! At 5.30pm we arrived at Croc Camp where we were all feeling a little emotional so we put our tents up, had some dinner and had an early night.

Day 6

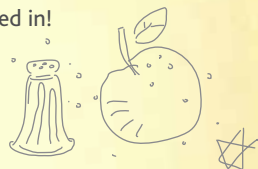
We woke up not so bright, but very early as today we were travelling to River Valley for our food preparation day. When we arrived at River Valley, we were greeted by Amanda an ex-pat who owned the campsite. She was full of knowledge and helped us to book our safari. Once we were all set up we started our food prep. The first thing we had to do was kill the chicken. Some of us wanted to get involved while others decided this was not for them. Once the chicken was killed we started to prepare other traditional dishes. The food was amazing and we all thought that we could now cook the food on our trek.





Day 5

Well, today for breakfast the menu was SALTED APPLES with rice pudding! The bag we thought was sugar turned out to be salt. After a long morning we started our late trek to the waterfall, which we thought was our final destination. After an hour of trekking we stopped for a drink and got bitten by giant flies that the 100% DEET didn't even get rid of. When we arrived at the waterfall we all stripped off to our swimming costumes and jumped in! We were clean again.



Day 8

We awoke at 5.30am and immediately burst into song to wish Lucy a very happy birthday. By 6.30am our safari guides had arrived to collect us ready for Day 2 of the safari. It started with a fantastic view of the sunrise which then was made better by seeing zebras, lions, leopards, hippos, giraffes, elephants and many more amazing animals. The two days spent on safari were amazing. When we arrived back at River Valley the staff had blown up balloons (very hard to find in Tanzania) put up banners and made a massive chocolate cake for Lucy. We had a great night celebrating her birthday.

Exerts from the group diary by Emily Woodward, Freddy Smith, Eleni Marshall, Sukraj Sandhu, Irene Micco, Kobi-Kazia Thompson, Faith Chorley, Helen Colls, Jeremy Mitchell, Ellice Wymer, Lucy Redfern and Octavia Izzard.



Sporting Celebrations

In... this year it was a pleasure to see the return of the annual Landau Forte College Sports Presentation evening, where students sporting achievements were celebrated in front of an audience of parents, students, staff and guests. Mrs E Coffey, presented the awards to over 100 students from across all key stages, who were recognised for their sporting successes within the curriculum and beyond. Here is just a selection of the sporting accolades that were noted-

MOST IMPROVED STUDENT

BOY: Jake Stevenson

GIRL: Scarlett Brett

THE SAM ROBINSON AWARD

BOY: Benjamin Murphy

GIRL: Kyra Jackson

YOUNG LEADERS OF THE YEAR

Kobi-Kazia Thompson

Cameron Wilton

SPORTS PERSON OF THE YEAR

BOY: Connor Parker

GIRL: Saffron Jackson

THE REECE JEFFREY AWARD

Miles Barton-Black

A thoroughly enjoyable evening was had by all.

P Harvey



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