

Children In Need - Successful Again!

On November 15, for the tenth year running, Landau Forte's Children In Need event proved highly rewarding, as we hosted numerous activities in order to raise funds for the worthy charity.

In two weeks the conservative working environment was transformed into a feast of festivities. The activities ranged from the traditional food stalls to beauty salons, from quiz games to cocktail stalls. For the more energetic students, there were a range of sporting activities including penalty shootouts and basketball tournaments. And, of course, the ever-popular "Splat the Teacher" was featured, where the tutors 'volunteered' to be splattered by students who were eager for revenge – or a good laugh, anyway!

Fancy dress was also a popular theme on Children In Need day. A number of student council members, in full fancy dress, went into Derby city centre and raised approximately £1,000 in donations from the general public. Miss Fawcett looked the part dressed as a glamorous Moulin Rouge showgirl, and in the true spirit of things, the Languages team discarded their day-to-day attire and donned the college uniform.

Yet again, two breathtaking, sell-out talent shows were produced, with acts from the entire spectrum of performing arts activities, which raised £300. They featured an array of dancers, musicians and singers, all possessing the



Mr Jarrett sings the blues!



The Languages Team goes all out

energetic enthusiasm that made this event so successful. A week later, Simon Smith and Greg Jackson performed their own show, featuring many popular songs and some of Simon's own material.

Radio Derby and a Nottingham television station were invited to the College, to report on our various events. Thanks to enthusiastic contributions of staff and students alike, Landau Forte College managed to raise a total of £4,616; everyone's contribution is greatly appreciated. Student Council member, James Burke, said: "The Student Council are delighted to have increased last year's figure by 31%."

Finally, an enormous thank you goes out to everyone who made the day possible. The whole day was successful due to a huge amount of teamwork and co-operation from all college members, but especially the Student Council. It was a fun-filled day which raised a lot of money for a worthwhile charity; the hope that 2003 may see less children in need, perhaps, is the most rewarding thing of all.

Lianne Hannigan and
Leanne Warner, Year 12

Principal's Message



Shanghai) was a truly memorable experience and the Chinese welcome and hospitality was overwhelming. Through workshops and staff development I was able to share some aspects of our work with Chinese colleagues. The schools I visited have given me some terrific memories, not least 1900 students doing daily exercise in the playground and classes of 64 for English lessons!

We have established links with two schools, which will hopefully lead to co-operation in the future. The schools are Jinhua Middle School No. 5 and the Shanghai Wu Ai Senior High School. The Vice-Principal from Shanghai, Ge Joing has already visited the College.

In addition to these links we have two groups of students who, along with students from Ecclesbourne School, Duffield, will take part in a Robot Construction activity supported by the British Council. The students will have a live Internet link with the China Middle School, Shanghai who are also taking part in the project. We are hoping to be able to take a small number of students to visit China later in the year and we are investigating the possibility of a Chinese teacher working at the College for part of the next academic year.

As we move towards the spring we are well into preparations for public examinations, with students, particularly in Years 11 to 13, working to meet the challenges that lie ahead in both the completion of coursework and the final examinations. Expectations are high and those expectations need to be matched with determination and hard work. We wish them well.

Stephen Whiteley
Principal

Since the last edition of Newslink many exciting and interesting events and activities have taken place, which I hope you will enjoy reading about. During the autumn we began the process of allocating places for Year 7 students for September 2003. Again the College was very heavily over-subscribed with more than 700 applications for the 156 places available. We are now faced with a similar over-subscription problem for post-16 places, where there are 270 external applications for between 30 and 40 external places. We already have 120 applications from existing students who, provided they meet the criteria, will be awarded a place.

In late October, I was invited to visit China with the British Council, sponsored by the HSBC. The objectives of the visit were to share our experiences and expertise on some of the major challenges that face education and to develop links between our schools. The visit to Shanghai and Jinhua (a city 4 hours to the south west of



The Principal with Ge Joing,
Vice Principal, Shanghai
Wu Ai Senior High School



Daily exercise for 1900 students at Jinhua Middle School No. 5

Paper Examinations: a Thing of the Past?



The face of the future

The Paperless Examination Project is a joint project run by Edexcel and the Northern Ireland Examination Authority. The project's aim is to deliver GCSE examinations through the use of computers. At present, the project is in the trial stage, with ten schools in England and Wales and ten schools in Northern Ireland being involved in piloting the GCSE examinations in both Science and Geography.

In February 2003, Mr Charles, who is in charge of all the technical aspects and Mr Thomas who is running the project, will be testing the system on approximately 52 Year 11 students at Landau Forte College. The examination results will not count, however the tests will be extremely good practice for the students who sit their GCSEs later in the year. Next year other subjects will be available on-line, including ICT.

The on-line examinations will consist of roughly one-third multiple-choice questions and two-thirds written answers, which the students type into the computer. The written answers are e-mailed to the examiners, who mark the papers on-screen. The software on the system automatically marks the multiple-choice questions.

Whilst still having much room for development and improvement, the paperless examination project has made an impact on students and teachers alike, throughout the United Kingdom. The Northern Ireland Council for Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment (CCEA) development manager, Roger McCune is delighted with the outcome of the examinations so far: "The success of the trials brings computer-delivered examinations closer to being a reality. If the project continues to run successfully, electronic delivery of the whole examining process could become a reality."

Lianne Hannigan, Year 12

Expanding our Community



Students from Gayton Junior School

In recent years, the College has formed a network with a series of Primary Schools to provide Numeracy and ICT lessons. The schools involved include St James', Boulton, Markeaton, St Mary's, Wilmorton and Brackensdale Primary Schools. In the spring of 2002 we took a further step to integrate ourselves with this community by sharing our CAD/CAM (Computer Aided Design and Computer Aided Manufacturing) resources and expertise.

The Technology team, represented by Mr Needham and Mr Bellamy, took the lead in providing the children of Cherry Tree Hill, Gayton, Emmanuel and Dale Primary Schools with access to our CAD machinery, which the schools could not provide themselves. The technology allows the pupils to design and make a whole range of products from name plates and paper clips to personalised signs.

Our staff installed the appropriate software and provided training for the Primary School

teachers, allowing the children to create initial designs at their own schools. These designs were then sent into our College via e-mail and the children then had the opportunity to see the production process give shape to their designs when they visited the College in October. Then, after seeing the technology in action, the children took part in a session that helped them to experiment with new ideas with the guidance of the Technology staff.

This is an on-going project which Mr Holmes, the Primary School Liaison Officer, would like to expand, as we look forward to developing a broadband link between the College and the schools. This will provide on-line video facilities for the children to be able to see the production of their designs from their own classrooms. Not only do we wish to take the technology further, but the College would also like to extend the number of schools involved. In sharing with other schools we hope to enable all the staff and students to benefit from the differing resources and expertise on offer.

Simon Davis, Year 13

Landau Forte Coll

This year the College celebrates its 10th anniversary. Since its opening the College has gone from strength to strength and over 2500 students have passed through its doors. Mrs Coffey, the newly appointed Vice-Principal, reflects on the past decade:

"Little did I know that when I applied for a job as History tutor, I would today be Vice Principal at Landau Forte College; the College was built on the premise of making the impossible, possible, and limitations were a challenge! Joining the team back in 1993, when the College was just one year into operation, was an exciting prospect.



Retrospection: Mrs Coffey, Vice Principal

"Two years into teaching, I was presented with the opportunity to really bring the past alive for the then Year 7 and 8 students at the College. When I joined, I was the only History specialist and William the Conqueror was a tourist! It was a really exciting time for me, the opportunity to practice what I had come to feel about education. If we don't celebrate success, young people may not see what can be achieved. It's not enough to give young people an opportunity, we've got to teach them how to take it.

"Learning is a 'people' thing and a process we should never stop. The past nine years have been decisive in my career and in my life; I've been married and had two children in this time. I have seen the College grow and flourish, witnessed so many memorable events, and had the privilege to work with some of the most forward-thinking people and first-rate students. I am sure the College will continue to flourish as we push through the boundaries and remain at the cutting edge of education. Looking forward to the future, I know one thing is certain: I'm still learning."

Several of our current tutors have been at the College since its creation. We interviewed two of the original tutorial staff about their memories of the past 10 years and their predictions for the future.



The Principal, Chairman of Governors, the Baroness Bridgestocke, Jonathan Shieff, former Chairman of Governors, Martin Landau, the main sponsor and Peter Shackleton, former Principal, at the official opening of the College.

College: Ten Years On



Interview with Mr Holmes

How many years have you been at the College?

I have been here since the College opened in 1992. I have always been a Geography tutor, although then I had to teach other subjects as well.

Have you noticed any considerable changes?

Physically, I have seen the College become more spacious. Before the E corridor was built it could become very congested.

The College has also changed socially. In the beginning, there were much smaller tutor groups and fewer staff.

The growth in numbers has also meant intellectual changes. There is lots more flexibility and creation. There is more of a push to innovate now, but you have to respect what is successful: evolution rather than revolution.

What has been your most memorable event?

Going to London for the Duke of Edinburgh gold awards.

What do you foresee for the College in the next 10 years?

It will expand and develop with further growth and other College links.



Interview with Mrs Holland

How many years have you been at the College?

I will have been here 10 years at Easter.

Have you noticed any considerable changes?

There are a lot more students now. Originally there were only two year groups at the College, Years 7 and 12. There have also been quite a few staff changes. However, the students are still enthusiastic.

What has been your most memorable event?

Occasions where the staff are involved in performances. Staff used to perform alongside the students in the earlier Children in Need concerts, such as performing in a staff band. I also have fond memories of the students in my own tutor group. The ski trip last year was particularly memorable, and a token of how much I enjoy being part of the PE team.

What do you foresee for the College in the next 10 years?

I am looking forward to the continued growth of the College. We are currently making strategic plans for the future.

Nigel Black, Michael Bima Herz, Simon Harvey and David Holmes, Year 12

Operation Christmas Child



Tutees prepare their gift

For the third consecutive year, Mr Credali has orchestrated the Operation Christmas Child charity project on behalf of the College.

Each tutor base compiled a shoe box filled with toys, sweets and basic toiletries, as well as the College receiving several personal contributions of boxes from staff and parents. In total, over fifty boxes were

collected throughout the College. These then went on to be distributed along with six million others that were collected this year, worldwide.

This Christmas operation, now in its second decade since formation, is the biggest international gift-aid charity worldwide.

The simple idea of a child filling a wrapped shoe box with presents they would like themselves and sending it to another child was the original idea of David Cooke from Wrexham. The charity aims to give the shoe box to a child who has never received a Christmas present in its life. To the child the shoe box means so much. It is often treasured forever.

Mr Credali adds: "Operation Christmas Child shares the true meaning of Christmas with millions of poor, suffering and sick children." For this reason, the College continues to support this pioneering charity.

Rosie Emeny, Year 12

"So Here it is, Merry Christmas..."

Crackers at the ready, mince pie in hand, and a cup of Christmas cheer nearby, our neighbours were ready to be wowed by the best musicians, dancers and singers the College has to offer.

City. While the drama group served up a Christmas feast to our guests, the Singers drew the event to a close on a festive note.

As a special treat, Santa Claus made a dramatic entrance, handing out cards and presents whilst delivering a tuneful recital of Jingle Bells – Blue Peter here he comes! Then it was all over and smiles filled the theatre. One veteran remarked: "The best one yet!"

James Burke, Year 13



...Everybody's having fun!"

On Thursday 19 December, we opened our doors for the annual 'Senior Citizens' Tea Party', where around thirty local residents had been invited to attend our Christmas Show, and they were in for a real treat!

Orchestral delights came from Sticky Keys, the senior Jazz

Band, whilst the Bb Posse, introduced an air of nostalgia with 'When I'm 64'. Honk, the Year 7 Band that lives up to its name, recited some well-known Christmas Carols.

Furthermore, the Year 10 GCSE group performed a modern arrangement of Once in Royal David's

Junior Maths Challenge

The number 2002 is a palindrome, since it reads the same forwards and backwards. For how many other years this century will the number of the year be a palindrome?

A 0 B 1 C 9 D 81 E 90

Turn to page 12 for the answer.

Citizenship Award



Helen James receives her award from Mr Collins, Vice Principal

At the end of last term, Helen James in Year 12 was shocked to receive the Landau Forte Citizenship Award. This award is given to a student in Year 11 who has shown an outstanding commitment to activities inside and outside of College.

Helen received this reward for her work in College as part of the Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award, which involved community service, developing skills and demonstrating commitment.

Helen assisted Mr Gamblin and Mrs Pioli in Numeracy lessons for primary school students in Years 5 and 6. She carried this community work out during term time in Years 10 and 11. Although she admits that it was hard work, Helen described it as a lot of fun.

Another challenge for Helen was being the compère of the European Evening in both 2000 and 2002. During the 2002 Evening, she took on an even greater role as part of a team who

provided the catering. She described it as a "nightmare" to organise, as everyone forgot crucial items of food, but still found it to be a very positive experience.

Helen continues to develop her musical skills at Derby Yamaha Music Centre, playing the Saxophone. This shows her commitment, which is a key component to the Silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Helen also swims for her local club. This allows her to develop her swimming skills, and demonstrates her ability to maintain a long-standing commitment to a sport. At the club she is an active swimming coach, helping the younger students. She has recently been rewarded with a well-deserved Coaching Certificate.

During the past few years, which she describes as "chaotic", Helen has exemplified what it is to be a Landau Forte student. She has demonstrated real dedication, together with a genuine willingness to take on huge tasks and extra responsibility. Presenting Helen with the Citizenship Award has allowed others to see Helen shine at what she enjoys.

Simon Davis, Year 13

Padley Centre Welcomes Donation



Staff and students admire the fruits of their labour

During the last Christian Harvest Festival, Landau Forte College offered the Padley Centre of Derby their support in collecting food items for the homeless people of our city. The task was entrusted to Miss Fawcett, Miss Archer and Mrs Holland. Each tutor base was given the task of bringing in as many non-perishable goods as possible, to which there was a huge response.

So much food was contributed that the humanities workroom was literally swamped with donations. The sheer amount of it meant that Miss Archer's desk was at breaking point for weeks.

At long last the collection day arrived and the food was taken to the Padley Centre. The humanities team was glad to reclaim some of their workspace and they felt a real sense of achievement in not giving in to the temptation of the box of After Eight Mints donated by one generous student.

The Padley Centre welcomed the stock of food collected with open arms and was very pleased with the students' contributions. Miss Archer was also pleased with the students' efforts and is hoping for a similar response next year.

Simon Harvey, Year 12

Catastrophic Crime

She was not a particularly nice girl – but did she deserve this?

Found lying on the floor of the college Sports Hall, Becky Boyle's corpse was as cold as stone. A case of murder was on our hands! The police were immediately called in and had gathered essential clues from the crime scene: fingerprints, possible weapons, even a suspect



The scene of the crime: Becky's body is discovered



Y7 begin their forensic testing

letter. But it would take some serious brainpower to make sense of them and solve this horrible crime.

Fortunately, Year 7 students at Landau Forte had recently completed the "Would You Drink It?" module, which taught them the scientific skills that would prove invaluable in finding the murderer. At short notice, they were called in to the Conference Room, where Miss Pearson, tutor and scientist, provided them with the available information concerning the final days of Becky Boyle's life. Armed with a detective notebook, the sharp-witted students spent the rest of the day in the Science labs, unravelling the mysteries hidden within the clues...

BECKY BOYLE'S BIG BASH

Our Internal Affairs correspondents for Landau Forte Newslink, also in Year 7 at the College, were first to break this exclusive story...

"It started as an ordinary Tuesday night when Becky attended a school reunion party held at the College. The hall was decorated, the music was playing and there was plenty of food for everyone. All her old school friends were there. Becky had made plenty of enemies during her time at school; she had got so many of them into trouble and done some horrible things to them. But surely, this was all in the past...

...or was it?" Year 7 investigated.

The victim was a twenty-five-year-old female called Becky Boyle. She was a local girl who spent most of her time working in a restaurant called The Harvester. She had dark brown hair, bluey eyes, was around 5'2" to 5'6" and she was quite a slim build as well. So far police have not been able to trace her family at all.

Becky and a small group of school friends had apparently hired out a room at Landau Forte College (situated on Fox Street) for a school reunion party shortly before the heartless murder was committed. Miss Boyle's body was found splayed across the spacious Sports Hall by the head-caretaker.

The police were called out straight away but no immediate clues were found. Fingerprints are being taken and given to the top scientists at Landau Forte. Also footprints, fibres, ink samples, starch (Becky was allergic to this) and pictures of the crime scene are being looked at. The police found a piece of paper in the bin saying: "I will get you back for this Becky Boyle."

me at City College



The starch test provides crucial evidence

The police chief states: "Very little info is available at present. We are watching five possible suspects, but we cannot release their names at this time. He also stated that: "We are now starting to eliminate evidence that was found at the school, and forensic scientists are working twenty-four hours a day to find out how she died."

The Principal of Landau Forte College was told about the murder shortly after 10.21pm when the body was found by a caretaker, who has also been questioned by the police. The caretaker, Berti McBonkers, 62, witnessed a person going back into the building at 10.10pm. Mr McBonkers found the body of Becky. He told us: "I saw someone entering the building at about 10.10pm but I didn't think anything of it. When I went in to check everything was O.K. and lock up, I found Becky lying dead on the floor, with a biscuit in her hand." The police are now looking at CCTV footage to see who re-entered the building, but the suspected murder may have sneaked in through a fire door rather than through reception.

Landau Forte College will be closed for three days due to this tragedy. Police believe that three men and two women may be connected to the murder of Becky Boyle. So far the suspects and motives are still mysteries in this dark, violent case.

The College, renowned throughout the county for its excellent reputation, is still recovering from the shock of such a brutal crime, especially as it occurred only twelve short months after a similar incident. Mr Whiteley, the college Principal, is said to be very much relieved that there are so many able students on hand to deal so promptly with such a shocking attack.

This truly is a well-orchestrated murder. We will give you more information as and when we receive it.

COLLEGE KILLER

News just in. After painstaking forensic research, the murderer has been identified! Jason Jones, a school 'friend' who also attended the party, is now being held for questioning. It appears that he returned to the Sports Hall, knowing that everyone else had left the party, and viciously hit Becky over the head with an empty wine bottle.

We can now reveal that, during their school days, Jason Jones had his clothes stolen by Becky on a swimming trip. He went home in trunks and wellies. This was not just any prank, but a cruel and twisted prank that left him with a cold and sights on revenge. But did embarrassment need the payback of death?

The victim's family are truly devastated. They were spoken to this morning and said they didn't have the energy or the heart to talk.

This tragic case highlights how devastating the effects of seemingly harmless pranks can be. It can only serve as a reminder to us all that bullies will get what they deserve one day, especially if Year 7 are on the case!

M Rooney, J Bolton, students from 7L2 and 7F2



Arriving at a logical conclusion

Curriculum

Kirk Hallam Project

Year 8 students share their experiences...

Each year the Mathematics tutors introduce a module called 'Getting To Know You' to Year 8 students. The module is all about data collection, graphs, pie charts and comparing data. The Year 8 students collect data from the Kirk Hallam Community Technology College students and compare them with their own group's data, and vice-versa.

Kellie Hancocks and Laura Hubbard, 8F2



Landau Forte students present to a Kirk Hallam audience

Using the data from the surveys we made graphs, pie charts and histograms to create an easy-to-interpret presentation. Firstly, 6 groups from each of the 6 classes showed their presentation to their tutor who then marked it. The winner out of each class went through to the next round. Three out of six in the next round were then chosen to represent the College at Kirk Hallam.

Our tutor, Mrs Pioli, introduced us and then it was up to us. At first it was quite daunting, presenting to a Year 8 class we had never seen

before. We got to present three times to different classes. By the third performance, we were a lot less nervous than we were at the start and much more enthusiastic. At the end of the day we went back to College to tell our classmates about what we had done during the day. Overall, we thoroughly enjoyed the day and it was a great educational experience. I hope we can do another project similar to this one in the near future.

Christopher Wragg, 8L1

We all had to go to three classes and read out our presentation. It was very scary going in a classroom full of people you don't know. However, when we were leaving, I realised there had been no need to worry and that I had had a really good day.

Laura Bishell, 8L3

We thought the students at Landau Forte College acted in a friendly way towards us and we enjoyed the tour of the College. We felt we had a unique time at Landau Forte College. We really did enjoy doing this project and we hope that some good friendships have been made.

Gemma Gould, Georgina Langton, Jena Brown and Abbie Illife, Year 8, Kirk Hallam Community Technology College

Numbers Day 2002



Students ponder over the binary system

On November 12, Landau Forte College once again celebrated Numbers Day, a successful national initiative begun in the year 2000. This time, the number 10 was chosen, to coincide with the College's 10th anniversary.

Students experienced a multitude of activities throughout the day, across all areas of the curriculum. History students took part in a quick-fire quiz to name ten monarchs. In Religious Education, students were given 10 minutes to brainstorm 10 different ways to help those less fortunate than themselves.

Mathematics and ICT sessions gave students the opportunity to fathom the binary number

system, as well as challenging students with a variety of quizzes.

Once again, there was a restaurant quiz at breakfast and lunch times with all the questions, of course, centred on the number 10. There was also the testing maths trail, which was enjoyed by all. Alice Coupe, Year 8, said: "It was great because I've never done anything like that before!"

The display around the building was colourful, interesting and informative, thanks to Mrs McGregor. Thanks to everyone who helped to organise this event and for the students and tutors who participated with such enthusiasm and energy!

R Pioli

Enterprising Engineers



A CAD image of the team's successful prototype

December 2002 saw this year's team of bright young engineers taking part in a three day workshop for the Engineering Education Scheme at Loughborough University. The team, Safiyah Hashim, Timothy Keely, Joel Sainsbury and Jimmy Wang, beat off stiff competition back in September to take part in the scheme and represent the College. The four Year 12 students are working with local company, AEA Rail Technology, who specifically asked to work with the College after last year's successful collaboration.

The four students were required to design a piece of apparatus that would measure and electronically record wear and defects on train wheels. Since September, they had been involved in weekly design meetings and, along with two engineers from the company, had designed what they believed would satisfy the company's design specification.

So, from the drawing board, it was time to turn the design into reality in the workshops of Loughborough University. Each member of the team used their own particular strength to great effect: Timothy excelled in the machine shop; Safiya's patience prevailed in the electronics lab; Joel's expert 3D CAD skills made the manufacture of the product child's play and

Jimmy tied the whole group together with managerial confidence beyond his years. The team was assisted by the two engineers, Martin Bone and Michael Crosby, and by myself.

The manufactured prototype was highly successful and functioned exactly as intended, greatly impressing AEA Rail Technology and myself. The group will return to Loughborough University in May to present their final report to the Engineering Education Scheme award panel, which will help them to qualify for the Gold level of the Crest award. Well done, team!

C Doody



The triumphant team: Mr Doody, Joel Sainsbury, Mike Crosby, Martin Bone, Tim Keely and Safiyah Hashim

BBC Weathergirl Visits



An enlightening day was had by all

Year 8 and Year 12 geographers were treated to a visit by BBC East Midlands' weather girl, Lukwesa Burak, in December, to launch a weather competition and to discuss the nature of weather forecasting.

The competition, which was run by BBC East Midlands Today and the Derby Evening Telegraph, enabled one lucky eight to thirteen-year-old to win the chance to spend the day with a television weathergirl and then present the weather forecast live.

After the launch, when the Derby Evening Telegraph reporter and photographer had left, Lukwesa stayed to talk to Year 12 Geography students currently studying the workings of the atmosphere around us. She enthusiastically talked to us about the weather, her job within the BBC weather department and accurately predicted a snow-less Christmas.

We gained valuable information and knowledge about the recording and forecasting of the weather and some students were able to arrange Work Placement positions with Lukwesa. We thank her for her visit.

David Holmes, Year 12

Curriculum

Adult Education Update

Did you know that our Adult Education provision, in partnership with Broxtowe College, is going from strength to strength?

New courses starting this academic year included a Flash Macromedia MX Animation course. You can find out more about this and us by accepting our invitation to an Adult Education Open Evening, taking place on Wednesday 30 April 2003, from 6 – 9 p.m. Put it in your diary now!

You will be able to drop in on any subject and someone will be available to speak to you. From Accounts (including Sage) to European Computer Driving Licence; from Conversational Spanish to finding out about your favourite hobby on the Internet – and so much more! You can influence the courses we will be offering from September by telling us what you would like to do.

We are proud to announce that one of our students, Dean Burt, was presented with the Bradley Cup for Part Time Student of the Year at an awards evening that took place in December.

Due to our innovative teaching, our Home Interior Design Lecturer has arranged for the students to visit a Radleigh Homes site. They will be meeting the Interior Designer responsible for the Company's show homes and will be

guided round a 5-bedroom, 3-storey house seeing how the professionals do it. The students will be able to pick up tips to further enable them to complete the 4 assignments to achieve the Regent Academy/City & Guilds Introduction to Home Interior Design qualification.

Courses run throughout the year and include a day-time Summer College. Why not telephone us at any time for an informal chat?

A Jenner

**IT'S STILL NOT TOO LATE! NEW,
TAUGHT, COMPUTER
CLASSES COMMENCING
MARCH/APRIL:**

**Computers for the Terrified
Starting 1 April**

**Keyboarding – Learn to
Touch Type**

Starting 27 March

New CLAIT

Starting 1 April or 24 April

**...and the even better news is that
they are FREE of any fees!**



Dean Burt (right) accepting his Award from Duncan Sedgwick,
Chair of the Nottinghamshire Learning and Skills Council

Arts

Poetry Live 2000



Year 10 students brush up on their poetry

On the 28th January, 2003, 49 students and 5 members of staff made their way to the Royal Centre, Nottingham, to experience the Poetry Live Conference for 2003. This annual event allows students of GCSE English Language and Literature to experience the poetry that they are studying at first hand. Many of the

poets whose poems feature in the students' anthologies were present to read from their work and take questions from the audience.

Carol Ann Duffy, a close contender for the post of Poet Laureate, gave a particularly forceful reading of her work, especially the dark and powerful poem Stealing. Simon Armitage, a perennial favourite

amongst students, read a wide selection of his work and entertained the crowd with his earthy Northern charm. His comments following the poem were very enlightening to students, who made copious notes, supplementing the materials supplied by the event organisers.

Other highlights included warm and reflective readings from Gillian Clarke and Moniza Alvi. In contrast, lively delivery coupled with multicultural insight was the order of the day from John Agard. John Cooper Clarke perhaps stole the show with his witty repartée, which brought the conference to a climactic close.

On the whole, this was a great success and we would hope that students of future years avail themselves of this opportunity to develop their knowledge and understanding. I am sure all students who attended would agree.

B Corner

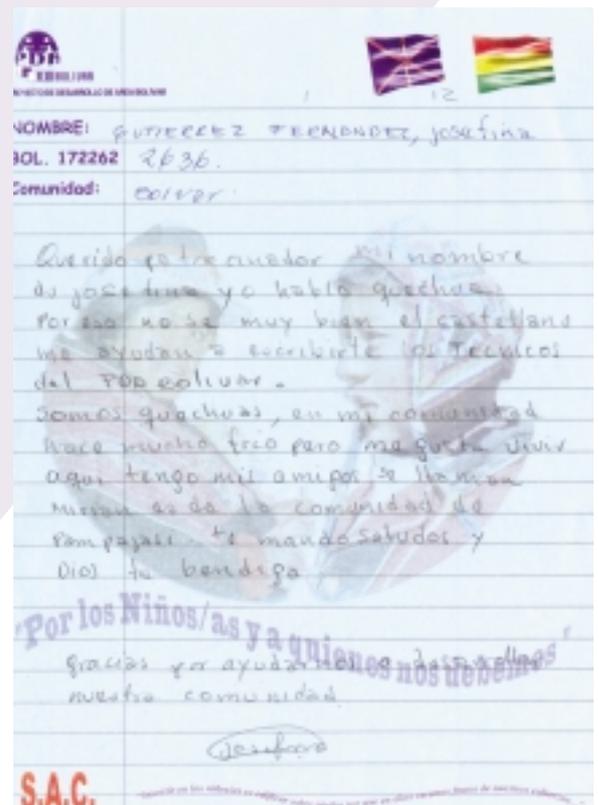
Message from Bolivia

Josefina's letter and drawing gives us a glimpse of her world through her eyes. However, the world around Josefina is not such a colourful picture. Bolivia remains the poorest country in South America. Two thirds of Bolivia's population is indigenous, yet they suffer discrimination at most levels of society. Josefina's people, the Quechua, take little part in the political process or formal economy, which remain under the control of a few wealthy city families who established their control during Spanish colonial rule.

Deforestation is Bolivia's major ecological problem. Land clearances for cattle ranches and coca plantations run at nearly half a million acres a year. Cocaine barons are highly influential in Bolivia, which is the world's second largest exporter, next to Columbia, of refined cocaine. As if this was not enough, the status of women is very low within the indigenous communities where Josefina lives.

Our production of Josefina at Derby Cathedral last summer highlighted some real life experiences that other children are suffering. Our continued support will help ensure that the Music Drama produced in Derby last summer will not come true for Josefina.

A Coffey



Josefina's message from Bolivia

Arts

A Load of Rubbish?

The other day I found myself talking to Rachael Allen, in Year 13, about the different functions a bath played in the home. This may seem odd, but I was talking to a student who had created a superb and extremely surreal piece of artwork last year. Of course, this was no ordinary piece of art, it was not something that would hang in your hall. Rachael had wrapped the entirety of her house extension in a blue material, creating what she termed 'installation art'.

This was only the beginning. Rachael then extended her study by looking at two artists who had influenced her house wrapping, Miriam Batten and Rachael Whiteread. The purpose of their works are to heighten a sense of the forbidden, as sections of the artwork are hidden from the eye. Unconventionally, she produced a contoured mirror to display her essay, as opposed to paper, and used

film projections of various art visits to display her findings on the artists.

Rachael is very sensitive to the fact that many people view contemporary art, like her house wrapping project, as "rubbish" and "trash". Ironically, she has presented her findings on the installation artists by projecting them onto pieces of rubbish like dustbins, tool boxes, large jugs, torn papers and dirty materials. Several representatives of the College, including Mr Whiteley, Mrs Holland, Miss O'Mara and Mr Andrews went to view her work, as well as Mr Rolley-Parnell, who made it all possible. Mr Andrews, Rachael's personal tutor, thought that it was "an astounding piece of work".

Rachael told me that she now "feels more in tune with the artists and can relate to them on a personal level", and has been able to understand the "criticism that faces modern contemporary art". By keeping in contact with Miriam Batten to delve deeper into the project, Rachael has extended the reach of our College in the art world and instilled in herself "an even stronger passion for installation art". Next year, she is hoping to go onto an art foundation course, which I am sure will allow Rachael to flourish.

Simon Davis, Year 13



The artist and her work

Winning Design

Art and Design has played a significant role in my life. Ever since I was younger, it's been my favourite College activity. The past two years have opened my eyes to printmaking and my projects have largely revolved around lino prints and layers of multi-media collage.

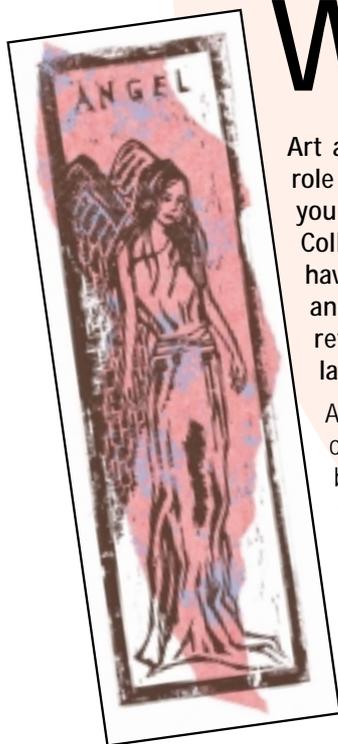
As soon as I heard about the Christmas card competition I thought it would be a fun challenge to create a card with my developing style. The idea of drawing an angel sprang to mind immediately.

The result would be interesting, since the subject was graceful and the method of printing complemented my image, but contradicted the elegance of the 'angel'.

At present I'm applying for a place on an Art foundation course for next year. Hopefully this will help guide me to the right university course, as I experience the many aspects of art covered at this level.

This experience has resulted in a new page within my portfolio, which will benefit my future career.

Amy Blackwell, Year 13



Amy's winning design

Arts

Box Office Opens for Film Club

"The first rule of Film Club is that you don't talk about Film Club," and with this paradigm in mind - a pastiche of the famous motto from David Fincher's film *Fight Club* - we held our first meeting of the year.



Film Club members discuss the screenplay

The primary ethos of Film Club is that it should be an enjoyable extension session, where we aim to learn about and participate in film and filmmaking. It can be exclusively revealed that the members of Film Club have decided to produce their own short film, although, as it is a closed set, no further detail can be released at the present time.

What we can reveal, though, is that the students are learning the processes that film production goes through, for example: brainstorming, screenplay writing, storyboarding and set designing.

So far it has been an interesting experience and principal photography is due to commence very soon. Watch this space for details of the forthcoming feature attraction.

G Davies

Literary Leanings



Creative energy at Library Club

The Library Club has gone on to its second and third terms with a host of new activities and achievements. The focus has still been on literature, with theme nights for sci-fi, Halloween ghost stories and historical fiction.

But it's not all been reading: the group have demonstrated their knowledge with quizzes, have written reviews (come along to the Information Centre and read them for yourself – you may be inspired) and even built a castle!

We closed 2002 with a festive edition and readings of Christmas stories – even Mrs. Holme joined in! And we opened the New Year with a creative writing competition, giving the members a chance to exercise their imaginations to the full. This competition was won by Luke Calladine, who received a *Lord of the Rings* diary as star prize for his efforts.

There are numerous events planned for the rest of the term. Meetings take place fortnightly on Monday nights, week B, from 4.00pm until 5.15pm. New members are always welcome.

D Holme

Arts

Devised Work Competition 2002

November, the culmination of many hours of hard work and combined creativity came together to produce the Devised Work Competition 2002. Over 60 dance and drama students auditioned for a part in the final and an opportunity to display their efforts and talents to friends, colleagues and family.

This year, and with many thanks, the Devised Work Competition was judged by three professionals in the Performing Arts field:

Marie Allen:

Stand-up comedian currently touring the UK.

Allie Spencer:

Drama specialist, currently working in the education department for Nottingham Playhouse.

Lesley Shepherd:

Head of Dance at Roding Valley High School.

Each judge commented on the strong impression set by the Landau Forte students, and the positive experience created by all the finalists.

The Devised Work Competition was hosted by Simon Smith and Laura Lomas, two of our Year 12 Performing Arts students. Well done to them both.

Whilst the judges were making their final decisions, Landau Forte Youth Dance performed three original contemporary dance pieces, Eternity, Kota and Time Lapse, devised and choreographed by Miss Thackrah with the help of all the dancers.

Judging was tough with so many strong entrants, but finally the awards were decided upon.

And the winners were:



Most Original Piece of Dance:
Chantelle Archer and Charlotte Gibson,
Year 9



Most Original Piece of Drama:
Andrew Manning, Adrian Bradley and
Claire Vasey, Year 11



Outstanding Performance in Drama:
Katherine Fowler, Year 8



Outstanding Performance in Dance:
Heather Saul, Year 9

As always, events like the Devised Work Competition would not be possible without the help and hard work of everyone behind the scenes. We would like to thank Front of House, Box Office, Techies and Mr Rolley-Parnell for being there once again.

Congratulations to all who took part in Devised Work 2002!

S Aherne

Arts



Jim Hendley looking cool

PA Round Up!

A week of performances which included The Presentation Evening, Senior Citizen's Party and four Gatherings brought Christmas to Landau Forte College in the last week of term. Sticky Keys, our Senior Dance Band, The B♭ Posse, our Intermediate Band, The Singers and Dancers all helped to make the

celebration of Christmas special. Our Year 10 Performing Arts students reminded us all of the real meaning of Christmas, with their own arrangement of Once in Royal David's City, and, of course, there was the now-famous appearance of Honk!

Stars in Their Theatre

Jodie Lei, currently appearing on MTV with her new single and on tour with Blue, performed at the College in December. Following her excellent song and dance routines, Jodie invited some of our young people to perform to her. Jodie was really excited by the confidence and talent of our students.



Jodie Lei gives Katy Appleby and Simon Smith some hot tips on performance technique



Beethoven's Second Symphony gets the Viva treatment at Landau Forte College

'Viva', The East of England Orchestra rehearsed for their recent performance at The Assembly Rooms in Landau Forte College in front of Year 7 students. With some commentary and guidance Year 7 were given an insight to how orchestras work towards a top quality performance.

A Honking Good Christmas

Forty of our young musicians performed on stage for the first time in December playing their own version of Jingle Bells. Honk, as our beginners group is called, are all receiving lessons on woodwind or brass courtesy of the Jonathan Vickers Trust. Most of them are pictured here with Peter Ashworth, Chairman of Governors and a Trustee.



A Honking good thank you, Mr Ashworth

Arts

Spectacular Achievement in

This year students were invited to enter poems for the Young Writers' The Write Stuff poetry competition. Students in Year 9 were particularly encouraged to enter, as they had been looking at a selection of poems from the First World War. There was no set theme for the competition, but many students in Year 9 chose this area of history as the focus of their poetry.

The students were very successful: over thirty students had their poems published as a result of the competition. Here is a selection of their work:

N Dobson

All Around Me

*All around me,
People dying.
All around me,
People crying.
Is it the end? they all wonder,
The guns again begin to thunder.*

*All around me,
They appear.
I can hear them getting near.
All around me,
What shall I do?
Is this the end for me and you?*

Sheena Sandhu, Year 9

Number 67904

*Nothing but a number
Just a plain statistic
Protected by mere lumber
Which crumbles like a biscuit*

*Each day is filled with fear
In this dreadful pit
These pits are known as trenches
And this is where we sit*

Jon Ford, Year 9

Gunshots

*Gunshots rained down over the city
Civilians ran for cover
Soldiers took pity
Sad screaming mothers at the death of their child
As an English man dropped
An enemy smiled*

*Gunshots rained down over the city
We all duck for cover
We wish for amity
Will we make it out of this mindless mess?
This was the question that ran through your head
Or you would want what sad soldiers crave,
And that is to be dead.*

*Gunshots dart from side to side
As fear takes over a soldier's pride.*

Lloyd Yassin, Year 9

**I've Lost Count of the Days
I've Spent Here**

*I've lost count of the days I've spent here,
In the sunken trenches of gloom.
They say the end of the war is near
Although I can still hear the deafening screams of
my friends
And bombs clashing on the ground
Dust covers our frightened shaken bodies
We wade through knee-high sludge and blood
And wake up at dawn to stand to.*

*I've lost count of the days I've spent here
When am I going to go home?
When is this horrifying war going to expire
I can't remember my parents any more*

*I've lost count of the days I've spent here
I want to return back home
To the smell of my mother's cooking
And the sound of my father's voice*

Claire McNulty, Year 9

Arts

National Poetry Competition

A Soldier's Prayer

*It seems the more Jerries that I kill
My daughter seems further away,
So each night I say a little prayer
So I can stop and be closer to Faye.*

*Please lord save my little girl
Just tell her that little lie,
Not that her daddy is a murderer
And wants to be locked up or die.*

*So if you really care about my family
Just listen to this request,
Look after my wife and baby girl
And let them have a peaceful rest.*

Rebecca Hankin, Year 9

Call Me a Hero

*He helped cheat death several times when we fought together,
He saved me so many times and I will remember him forever
When I was starving he gave me his pack
And I never got to pay my debt back.*

*We were all a family living in the same place
And for the young ones we gave a brave face
Even if we were all scared
And all of them thought that we cared*

Kayleigh Holt, Year 9



The Write Stuff: competition winners

Answer to Junior Maths Challenge

Answer: A 0

Sports Report

Sports Round Up

INDIVIDUAL SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to the following students achievements in their respective sport:

- Tennis:** Robbie Davy-Cripwell, Year 11, won the International section B singles and doubles.
Harminder Mashiana, Year 12, will be attending David Lloyd's School of Excellence in Australia.
- Rugby Union:** Richard Huddleston, Year 10, has been selected to represent Derbyshire U15s and Charlie Woodward, Year 11, has been selected to represent Derbyshire U16s.
- Netball:** Sarah Guy, Year 11, Emma Wheatley, Year 10, and Suzie Cunningham, Year 10, have been selected to represent Derbyshire U16s.
- Gymnastics:** Kayleigh Fletcher, Year 7, is currently the British Sports Aerobic Champion.
- Football:** Jack Barker, Chris Thomas and Rob Williams, Year 7, Liam Berry, Year 10, and Nathan Croot and Gregory Babbs, Year 11, have been selected to represent Derbyshire District Schools.
Ashley Mather, Year 8, and Sebastian Szondi, Year 9, have been selected to attend Notts County F.C. School of Excellence.
- Cross-Country:** Megan Mellor, Year 8, and Aimee Booth, Year 12, have been selected to represent Derby West.
Aimee Booth has also been selected to represent the English Schools Cross Country Squad.
- Ten Pin Bowling:** Daniel Chan-Igoe, Year 11, is now ranked number 3 in the country.

TEAM ACHIEVEMENTS/RESULTS



- Cross-Country:** The Year 10 and 11 team participated in the National Championships held in Yorkshire.
- Trampolining:** The College squad has qualified for the Regional Championships.
- Basketball:** The Year 7 squad won the Derby District Schools Championship.
The Year 8 squad has made it into the quarterfinals of the County Cup.
The Year 8 squad won the Derby District Schools Championship.

A Leicester Riders player coaches Year 8

- Badminton:** The Under 14 boys, Under 16 boys and girls teams have made an encouraging start to the first badminton league.
- Football:** Year 7 and Year 9 are through to the quarter final in the District Schools Knockout
- Swimming:** The College swimming team won the Derbyshire Schools tournament



Sports Report

SPORTSPERSON OF THE MONTH AWARD

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded a shield in recognition of their achievement in their chosen sport:

September	Kayleigh Fletcher	Year 7	Gymnastics
October	James Jones	Year 9	Football
November	Richard Jackson	Year 9	Swimming
August	Gregory Babbs	Year 11	Football
December	Amy Spencer	Year 11	Cross Country
January	Aimee Booth	Year 12	Cross Country

POWERADE SPORTS SURVEY

Over 60 students who represent the College in football participated in a nationwide Powerade Sports Survey. They answered questions on their fitness, diet and leisure interests. In return the College was given 100 bottles of Powerade, which was shared amongst the students and staff involved.

AMERICAN FLAG FOOTBALL 'TASTER' DAY

In September, Gerry Anderson (European Development Officer who is 6 feet 10 inches tall and 19 stones in weight) and two of his smaller colleagues, who currently play American Football for the London Monarchs, visited the College. Throughout the day our Year 8 girls and Year 7 boys received professional coaching for skills such as passing, receiving and running 'American Style'!

They finished each session with a game of flag football, in which they were instructed in the laws, tactics and strategies. It resulted in a very successful and enjoyable day, which has generated interest in this sport.

DO YOU WANT TO GET FIT?

If you do, then visit the new fitness suite and aerobics studio in College. Modern equipment and machines including treadmills, rowers, weights, cross training, ab exercises and cycles have been added. Fitness club is offered every Tuesday and Thursday for year 10 upwards.

Bouncing All The Way to Lincoln



Aiming High: the Under 15 trampolining team

On Sunday 8 December, 15 students made the trip across to Lincoln where we all took part in the Regional Round of the National Schools Trampolining Competition. This is the second consecutive year that Landau Forte College has made an appearance in this competition.

We met at school at 7.00am and travelled down to Lincoln on the minibus. At 8.30am our Under 15 team consisting of Charlotte Reeks, Holly Dickson and Maryam Ghavam-Shahidi competed as individuals and as a team. Unfortunately, we didn't qualify as individuals, however, as a team we came first and therefore qualified for the next round.

The Under 13 team also qualified by achieving second place. In this team there was Amie Pople, Heidi Dickson and Kayleigh Fletcher. Amie not only qualified

as part of the team but also as an individual by bouncing to third place.

Stuart Parker, who competed in the Under 15 boys competition, also came third. This is a fantastic achievement for all of them, but especially for Heidi, Holly and Kayleigh as they have only been trampolining for a couple of months and for Stuart as this was his second ever competition.

Also competing in the Under 15 competition were Sarah Huddleston, Anna Spurling, Rebecca Simpson, Laura Harris, Sarah Kelly and Nathan Waters with Clare Lambert bouncing in the Under 19 competition. This was only Clare and Laura's second trampolining competition and for the rest it was their first. Even though they didn't qualify, all of them did exceptionally well and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Overall it was an enjoyable day, well done to all those who competed and good luck to those 7 who will be travelling to Chelmsford, Essex to compete in the next round.

Charlotte Reeks, Year 10

Student Sporting Profile

Name: Robbie Davy-Cripwell Age: 16,
Birthplace: Wolverhampton Sport: Wheelchair Tennis

I have been playing tennis for four years and I have won numerous singles and doubles titles at national and international level in divisions B and C. My most recent title was at Nottingham last November, where I won the singles and doubles title.

I will hopefully be moving into the A division this year, where I can gain a world ranking. I have also represented Great Britain at Junior level for the past two years, attending two Junior World Team Cups.

In January this year I will be attending an International Junior tournament in France where the top eight boys in the world are invited to attend.

When I am older I would like to be a professional wheelchair tennis player and go to the paralympics.



Sports Report

Surrey Rugby and Football Tour

Our rugby and football tour began at 5.00pm on Friday 6 September 2002. We were off on our first tour, all the way to The Royal Albert and Alexander School in Surrey. As usual, we stopped off at a service station and stuck to our strict athletics diet of burger and chips. On the bus we were entertained by the usual videos and Mr Maddock's snoring!



The touring teams

When we arrived in Surrey we were designated to one of the school's students and taken to the 'house' that they were part of. It was here that we met up with everybody else. Finally, we bedded down for the night at 2.00am after playing cards, table tennis and watching Sky Sports in the common room. We awoke the following day after having 4 hours sleep and again we stuck

to our athletics diet: we had bacon, eggs and fried bread.

Both teams then played their first competitive rugby fixture against our hosts who were renowned for their rugby. There were two teams, the A team drew 19-19 with Tyrone Taylor scoring a 'Barbarians' effort

try in the dying seconds of the game, whilst the B team made a valiant effort losing 47-0. After the games we then got ready for an afternoon at Chessington theme park, which was fantastic! We went on all the rides, despite Miss Smith 'chickening out' of a few. We returned to the school later that evening.

The school put on a disco that night and the Derby boys were grooving and shaking all night long, all to the delight of the Surrey girls! Another late night again, getting to bed at 3.00am. The following morning consisted of two football matches the A team won 5-2 and the B team lost in a nail biting match 4-3.

After the matches we had our Sunday lunch, followed by the awards ceremony which involved most valuable players in football and rugby, as well as the 'clown' of the tour and 'entertainer' of the tour. We also exchanged cups with the schools and some speeches were made. On the way back to College everyone was so tired that we all fell asleep.

It was a very enjoyable weekend in both sporting and socialising terms; we made some new friends and had a great laugh. I thoroughly recommend this weekend to Year 8 next year. Also, a big thanks for Mr Maddock and Miss Smith for putting up with us for all of that weekend.

Chris O'Neill, Year 8

The Wagon Wheels Tournament Comes Rolling Round Again!



Team spirit: the persevering players

On the 5 November 2002 two football squads went over to JJB Soccerdome to enter the Wagon Wheels tournament. The teams consisted of: Lauren Aherne, Jessica Archer, Jack Barker, Ryan Burns, Kendall Burton-Evans, Rebekah Burton, Luke Eley, Christina Ford, Liam Fox, Corey Freeman, William Hadfield, Jess Hassall, Laura Madeley, Chris Thomas, Robert Williams and Ben Wilton.

For both squads it was the first time they had ever entered a tournament of this nature, so it was with some trepidation that they stepped onto the field. In the girls' competition, despite all of their hard efforts,

they sadly lost the first match 1-0. However, they put that behind them and played well in the second match to draw 2-2. That put them all in a better frame of mind and playing like true professionals they won the third match 2-1. They proved that by keeping their spirits up they could get there.

The boys also played against some local teams, St Benedicts and Leesbrook. Unfortunately, the boys didn't win anything but they tried very hard. The boys were a great credit to College. Well done to Ryan Burns, who played in goal for the first time, and Ben Wilton, who played in defence for the first time.

A big thank-you to Mr Dobson, Mr Rowe, Mr Maddock, Richard Mold and Colin Jones for helping both teams through the tournament. Congratulations to both squads.

Rebekah Burton and Robert Williams, Year 7

Sports Report

Bazuka Swim Team Championships



Richard Jackson, Paul Donald, David Brooksby, Year 9, and Gary Heap, Year 8, all represented Landau Forte College in this annual national schools event. The regional competition took place in Grantham on Friday 22 November.

Swim Team make a splash at Bazuka Championships

They competed in both the Freestyle and Medley Junior Relays and produced excellent performances. In addition to being the first-placed school in Derbyshire, they were 8th and 9th out of all the Midlands schools

competing in the Medley and Freestyle relays, respectively.

Now that all of the National results have been compiled, we are pleased to report that they are placed 26th out of 230 schools in the Medley and 41st out of 216 schools in the Freestyle.

In order to compete in this national event, we require 4 male and 4 female swimmers from one of three age groups: Junior from Years 7, 8 and 9, Intermediate from Years 10 and 11 and Senior from Years 12 and 13. Hopefully we can enter more teams next year. All swimmers, keep up your training in 2003.

A Holland

Expedition Extra



Changing climates: from ice frost to gentle sunshine

The Year 2002 was a very successful year for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, with over fifty students taking part in expeditions at Bronze level. There were four expeditions in total and, unusually, some hot weather was enjoyed in the summer expeditions. The last autumn expedition in October, however, was a very different story with temperatures plummeting to below zero degrees on Saturday night, leaving the tents thick with frost for us to wake up to on Sunday morning.

This year looks like it will be even more successful with many of last year's Bronze students progressing onto Silver level and a large number of new Bronze students commencing training in preparation for their expeditions. The programme for this year's events is as follows:

Duke of Edinburgh 2003

Term 4 Week 1
Saturday 22 March

Sunday walk at Carsington Reservoir and surrounding villages 6 or 7 miles. Bronze students only.

Term 4 Week 6
Saturday 5 April

Practice walk in White Peak for Year 9 Bronze and Year 10, 11 and 12 Silver students.

Term 4 May Holiday
Sunday 18 – Tuesday 20 May

Expeditions for both Bronze and Silver students.

Term 5 Week 2
Saturday 14 – Sunday 15 June

Expeditions for Bronze students.

Term 5 Week 5
Tuesday 1 – Thursday 3 July

Expeditions for both Bronze and Silver students.

Term 1 Week 5
Friday 19 – Sunday 21 September

Expeditions for both Bronze and Silver students.

C Doody



Y9 Bronze explorers plan their route

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S Whiteley

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- Landau Forte Logo Items
- Seasonal Specials

The Landau Forte College Shop opened on Tuesday 2nd April, 2002 and is here to meet all student needs.

We have a range of both fiction and text books, alongside a large range of stationery, birthday cards, computer equipment, art supplies and maths equipment. We have new stock arriving regularly so come and visit us and see what we have to offer!



Open: Monday to Friday, 8:15am to 8:30am, 9:30am to 10:45am, 12:00pm to 2:00pm



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