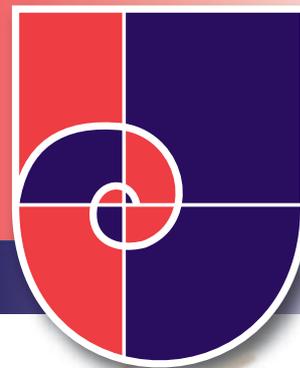


NewsLink

Landau Forte College Newsletter Summer 2009



Student Council: Looking Forward

The newly elected Chair and Vice Chairs of the Landau Forte Student Council introduced themselves to the students in the first Gathering of this term. The Chair, with the support of her executive team, has also been busy preparing the Student Voice Action Plan which forms an important part of the College Improvement Plan.

The Student Council is widely recognised for its ability to represent the ideas of the student body. This year, however, we are aspiring to raise the profile of the Student Council to a new level. We want to make our approach far more interactive and wide reaching. Through the newly elected tutor base representatives, students can voice their questions, queries or proposals to the Student Council. Equally, the Student Council will, through structured meetings, relay information or new initiatives to the representatives of each tutor base. Many students have strong opinions about the way the College functions and through becoming a member of the Council, students will have the opportunity to express their ideas and witness them becoming a reality.

The key objective of the Student Council is, as always, to improve the College. Members of the Student

Council will be involved with a review of learning as part of the whole College development work on teaching and learning. Alongside this, we hope to secure the Green Flag Award, gaining recognition for our efforts as an Eco School. We also hope to continue our involvement with a number of community projects to promote Landau Forte College within the city. In the coming year we will further develop interdivisional competitions to enhance our community and team spirit and reward our talented students. We also want to create a garden area, which can be used for learning sessions within the curriculum, extension and enrichment opportunities and as a communal area to highlight the importance of the outdoors further developing our credentials as an Eco-friendly College.

We are very fortunate at Landau Forte to have such an enthusiastic and dedicated student body and it is an exciting time to be a part of our College. We are looking forward to working closely with our students, staff and parents, so that each and every one of us can help to achieve this inspiring vision.

Hannah Nichols-Green, Year 12
Chair of Student Council



The Principal's Message

Welcome to the final edition of Newslink for the Academic Year 2008-2009. I hope you find the edition interesting and enjoyable. We wish our students who have taken their public examinations every success and look forward to receiving their results in August. We offer our best wishes to those students leaving the College this year as they move into further or higher education, or employment and I would like to thank them for their contribution to the College.

As always we have some Staff changing career direction. Significantly, this year we are losing two long serving and dedicated colleagues, Brian Collins, Vice Principal and Barry Thomas, Director of ICT and E Learning, who are both retiring from full time teaching. These have both invested large parts of their careers in Landau Forte College: Brian for more than 17 years and Barry 16 years. They have both been instrumental figures in the planning, development and success of the College and we shall miss them enormously.

Mr Collins has worked tirelessly, often behind the scenes, dealing with the technical complexities of running a large organisation of over 1200 people. Whilst he is retiring from working full time in education, he has exciting plans for the future and we offer our sincere collective thanks with every good wish for the future. On a personal note I would like to publicly record my gratitude and sincere thanks to him: as one my Vice Principals he has given me unstinting loyalty and support during my time as Principal.

Mr Thomas has led our ICT practice and development from those early days in 1993 through the information revolution of the 1990s into the 21st century. He has ensured we have kept up with the pace of change and has guided our development and innovation carefully, judiciously enabling our students to access and use ICT to impact positively upon their learning and wider education. Again I would like to publicly thank Barry for his support and commitment and importantly for his thoughtful innovation.

Robert Loomes, from Design and Technology, is also retiring from full time teaching. He has led our talented engineers over a number of years in

the Engineering in Education Scheme giving them the opportunity to work on sophisticated projects with engineers from the wider world. We thank Mr Loomes for his efforts and wish him well for the future.

Dan Credali, from Science, has been at the College for 10 years. He has made a major contribution to the teaching of Science. He has also, for a number of years, organised and led Operation Christmas Child for the College which has had a major impact both on our students and those who the Charity is trying to help. He will take up another teaching appointment nearer to his home in the West Midlands. We thank Mr Credali and wish him every success for the future.

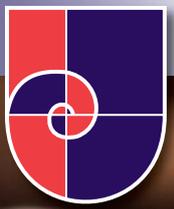
Matthew Kerry is leaving the College after just one year to relocate to the South of England, and we are sure his new school will benefit from the addition of a talented young teacher and we thank him for his contribution to Physical Education and Sport in the year he has been with us.

We would like to welcome new staff to the College: Daniel Bloomfield and Natalie Yarnell, Science; Mark Blyton as Curriculum Leader for ICT; Laura Ogden, Physical Education; Lynne Mullan, History and Cerys Pocock, English.

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to parents, staff, students, governors and friends of Landau Forte College for their support throughout the year. This year was particularly significant in that the work of the College and the many people who have contributed to it was recognised by Her Majesty's Inspectors through the Outstanding judgement we were awarded in the Ofsted Inspection.

I look forward to working with you in the next academic year 2009-10.

Stephen Whiteley,
Principal and Chief Executive



Designing The Future

The Sorrell Foundation Young Design Programme is an exciting programme that has developed from the Joined Up Design Programme for schools. It joins up primary and secondary schools with students at university and designers in industry. The students at the school act as clients, commissioning a school design project and the students from the university act as designers, with the focus on how to improve the quality of life in schools through good design. We were two of the lucky students from Year nine selected to participate in the programme.

The programme started with a challenge day at Derby University where we were given an introduction to the scheme and met with the University Design students. In the afternoon we worked with the designers to analyse some of the ergonomic problems that we have here at College. We also had the chance to show off our creativity: we were given one piece of A4 card and without tearing it we had to make as many different items as possible. This was really funny and we surprised ourselves as between us we came up with nearly 200 different ideas!

When we got back to College we only had one week in which to complete a mind map analysing all of the different aspects of College life and to prepare a design brief to present to our design team. This was quite a challenge but we finally highlighted the lack of social spaces for students to sit and chat and the need to make it easier for new students and visitors to find their way around College, as possible issues that could be improved.





Designing The Future continued

The following week the design team came to visit us at College and we presented them with the design brief. We split into small groups and each took a university student on a tour of the building to give them some firsthand experience of the problems. We even had the chance to take them to breakfast!

Over the next few weeks, the design team made regular visits to College and led a number of workshops where we got to develop our creativity and come up with ideas to help the student team generate their proposals. Not only did we use drawings to show our ideas we also had a go at modelling different structures using clay, but also by using our hands!

To further help our creativity and ideas the student team organised a visit to Conkers. We really enjoyed looking at the impressive architecture and interactive displays.

The next task was to wait for the university designers to create the final design and we were very pleased with the results. The project concluded on Saturday 8th June, as we gave a very successful presentation to the University and the Sorrell Foundation.



We all thoroughly enjoyed participating in the Young Design Programme and have learned that design is a fun and creative activity. I think it has definitely inspired some of the Year nines involved to consider design as a future career!

The photographs were taken by Graham Toney a second year Photography student at Derby University. Graham won the first prize from the Sorrell Foundation for these photographs.

Rafi Hussain and Bhavan Chahal, Year 9





In Deutschland

On February 1st 2009, a group of nine students from Landau Forte College in Derby and our tutor Mr Calow set off to Osnabrück to take part in our College's long-established work placement exchange with Gesamtschule Schinkel. We were very nervous as well as excited about this opportunity, and we couldn't wait to use our German skills in Osnabrück. We started learning German in Year seven and this was the first opportunity for many of us to use our German knowledge in real life situations.

On the first day we attended a Civic Reception at the Rathaus where one of the Osnabrücker Bürgermeister (Deputy Mayor) gave a speech about the history of Osnabrück. She asked if we wanted the speech in English, but as we were there to learn, we opted for the German version instead. We could understand more than we expected which was very pleasing; we had obviously learnt more than we had realised. Afterwards we were given a tour around Osnabrück by the Derby City Envoy, Alexandra Ward. It turned out to be the first tour she had given, but she handled it like a pro.

During the middle weekend of our stay we took the train to visit Berlin. We visited a number of places including the "Bundestag" which is the German Parliament. This was a fascinating building to see and is well worth visiting. We also visited the Brandenburg Gate, which we all thought was very impressive. Whilst in Berlin we viewed one of the last parts of the

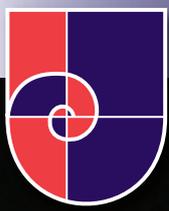
Berlin Wall which is still standing. This is a living piece of history that represents the division of Berlin into East and West after the Second World War.

The main objective of the visit, however, was a two-week work placement at a company or workplace, organised by Anne Sander of Gesamtschule Schinkel. I worked in a law firm; other students worked in places including a veterinary surgery, the Council House and a Kindergarten. We all enjoyed the experience of working in Germany immensely.

The opportunity to speak another language is an invaluable skill. Not only does it allow you to interact in a different language, it gives you the opportunity to see how another country's heritage and culture differ compared to England. I would definitely recommend to anyone who is learning, or thinking of learning a language, to take the opportunity and do a work placement abroad because it is well worth the time and effort. Lastly, I would like to thank on behalf of my group the Landau Forte College German team, Anne Sander and Manon Huff of Gesamtschule Schinkel in Osnabrück, the work placement firms and all of our host families, whose help made the whole experience possible.

Robert Hudson, Year 12





¡Hola España!

As part of our AS language studies we were fortunate enough to complete a work based placement abroad. Our destination for the 10 day exchange was Granada, a traditional but lively city located in Andalucía.

After a long day of travelling, we arrived at Granada airport and travelled by taxi to Granada College, a local bilingual school. We were all very nervous but incredibly excited to meet our new friends and we were certainly not disappointed as they made a real effort to make us feel at home.

Over the exchange we all worked in the school and I had the pleasure of helping in Cadiz and Paris, classes so called after European cities. Although my work as a

teaching assistant was very tiring, I had an absolutely fantastic time and I know that all of my fellow AS Spanish students thoroughly enjoyed their experience too. During our time in Spain we were able to fully participate in every day Spanish life, for example my host Ana took me to her flamenco classes in the evenings. Other Landau Forte students spent this time visiting the beach, eating Spanish cuisine or shopping.

We hope that the Spanish students that will visit later this year will be able to develop their English language skills and that we will be able to repay their wonderful hospitality. The exchange programmes at Landau Forte College are a fantastic opportunity for any linguist to develop their language abilities and I would strongly recommend that Spanish enthusiasts in younger years take part in this wonderful experience in the future.

Georgina Donohue, Year 12



Bravo Anja!

Anja Pilav visited our partner school in Soissons, Northern France, to carry out her work placement this year. She stayed with a French family and experienced life as a French teenager. Her main impressions were of fantastic food: "much better than in China" and of rather quiet evenings in this small French town.

Anja worked for two weeks in the Lycée Gérard de Normand, where she was made very welcome in the Information Centre. As well as being able to write a blog for everyone back at home in the UK to read she had the chance of attending some A level sessions with her partner, Yasmine.

This two week placement was a real challenge for Anja, coping with all these new experiences. She is very proud of all she accomplished and of her ability to be so independent. Well done, Anja!

J John



Golden Achievement

At Landau Forte College we are proud to celebrate success in every form, whether academic, sporting or through the arts. One of our Post-16 students has achieved amazing success this year through her talent, hard work and dedication.



In March 2009, Christine McDonagh, a Year twelve student who joined Landau Forte College last September, travelled to California to compete in the Pan American Ju Jitsu Championships. Christine competed in a series of five fights, which each individually lasted for six minutes and all of which she had to win to progress further in the competition. Christine did win all of these fights and was awarded the gold medal for her weight category which is an amazing achievement, especially as the standard of competition was so high!

Christine took up Traditional Ju Jitsu at the age of seven, and more recently in 2007 she began training and competing in Brazilian Ju Jitsu. She now trains five times a week, and increases this to six times a week in the run up to important competitions.

She is a senior black belt in Traditional Ju Jitsu, which is the highest commendation that can be achieved, and a blue belt in Brazilian Ju Jitsu and also helps to

coach juniors at her club. Christine began taking part in Ju Jitsu competitions at a young age, and positive experiences in her first major competition led to her training for and competing in even bigger competitions.

Christine's ambition for the future in Ju Jitsu is to come first in her category at the European Championships, the Pan American championships and the World Championships in one competing year, as her competitive streak means she likes to win. Christine also intends to study Sports Physiotherapy at university, whilst still training and competing in Ju Jitsu and feels her background knowledge of the sport will be very beneficial to her throughout her university course. Unfortunately, Ju Jitsu is not an Olympic sport but if it was, Christine would be very keen to represent Great Britain as she enjoys the sport so much and would recommend it highly to anyone who is thinking of taking it up.

We are very proud of Christine's international achievement and wish her every success in the future. Watch this space!

Olivia Stillwell, Year 12



Adventures On The Duke of Edinburgh Award

The Duke of Edinburgh Award programme is a real adventure from beginning to end. It doesn't matter who you are or where you're from. You just need to be aged between 14 and 24 and realise there's more to life than sitting on a sofa watching life pass you by. You'll find yourself helping people in the community, getting fitter, developing skills and going on an exciting expedition.

This year the Bronze group have been on two practice walks: one to Dovedale and the other to Hathersage. These two walks were used to allow students to develop the basic skills of navigating using a map, a compass and observational skills. The students then embarked on their practice overnight expedition walking from Ashbourne to Wetton on the first day and Wetton to Parsley Hay on the second. Students were keen to get to camp, making very few navigational errors where they enjoyed putting up their tents, cooking and relaxing on the campsite. The students really did make the most of the practice, impressing all the tutors involved, which should stand them in good stead with the assessed expedition at the end of June.

This May saw three well-prepared, well-trained, tightly-knit Silver Duke of Edinburgh groups set off from Brassington in the blazing sunshine. Their goal was to navigate over 30 miles of rough terrain in 3 days, camping under canvas and cooking nutritious meals along the way. Two of the groups put their training to good effect and arrived at the first checkpoint on time, although the other group immediately found the going tough. Changes had to be made. Kit bags were re-inspected and several non-essential items were removed: John 'sweet tooth' Dudley had a kilo of sugar confiscated but he was allowed to keep his 8 packets of biscuits. Scott 'Thermos' Gregson had 3 flasks of tea confiscated. However, Day 1 continued without a hitch with all 3 groups arriving at the windy campsite at Haddon Grove Farm in mixed spirits. Exciting dinners were cooked and tents erected. In contrast, Day 3 was a sunny affair; after 30 long miles all 3 groups arrived exhausted and, as noted by the bus driver, very smelly, back in Brassington. Not only had they carried some very heavy packs but they had also endured many blisters, aches, pains and sunburn. Well done to all those involved; we cannot wait for the assessed expedition.

S Owen and R Holroyd



Doctor Who Special



During the last two weeks of Term 4 a 'Dr Who Special' event was held in the Information Centre to promote the great selection of Dr Who books available for students to borrow. The collection ranges from the retro episodes in the days of the doctors played by John Pertwee and Sylvester McCoy up to the recent series with Christopher Eccleston and David Tennant.

The promotion included early morning and evening showings of episodes from the two recent series, displays around the College and a 'Test Your Dr Who Knowledge' quiz with 30 challenging questions for the keen Dr Who fan. Prizes of collectors' figures, sticker books and model making kits were awarded to all entrants.

C Holme



Wat-er Success!

One of the major objectives of the Eco-Schools Project this year was to ensure that the pond once again became a viable eco-system. There were several problems that needed to be addressed before this could happen.

First of all, we needed a general clean-up. The area around the pond had become overgrown and covered in litter – some of it thrown over the fence by passers-by! In February, thirteen Year twelve students volunteered to help the gardener Andrew, and Miss Watson, clear the area around the pond. Students not only cleared up litter, but also dug up some of the more rampant shrubs and bushes, so that the pond would be more accessible to learning groups in future. It took all day and was hard work, but the team were very satisfied with their results and we were very lucky with the weather!

For the next stage we had to get the professionals in. The gardener Andrew worked on the pond for several days, removing the old, ripped lining and replacing it with a new one. He then landscaped the area around the pond to make it more attractive for wildlife.

Once the pond was ready for planting, it was time for students from Landau Forte College to get their hands dirty again. Students from Mr Loomes and Miss Watson's Tutor Base spent some time helping the gardener to bed down some plants. The plants included oxygenators, such as Hornwort and also the following species:

Lily: Nymphaea Marliacea Carnea
Iris Ensata (Kaempferi)
Iris Pseudocorus 'Variegata'
Grasses: Glyceria Maxima 'Variegata'
Caltha Palustris

The re-vamped pond has several features which support wildlife:

- A graded edge down to the pond which makes it easier for amphibians and other creatures to move in and out of the pond
- Different depths, which will provide habitats for different kinds of wildlife
- Plants which provide shelter for and are attractive to insects

The next challenge with the pond will be to make sure it stays in such a good state, so that it can be used to support students with their learning. In time, it is hoped to find more ways to bring wildlife to the pond area, for example by installing bird tables and bird boxes. However, already the wildlife of Derby has noticed the difference and in particular, a pair of Mallards has decided to make the pond their home for a while. They can spot the difference – can you?

L Watson





Learning About The Holocaust

As the coach ground to a halt by the side of the muddy road it was the sheer scale of the place that first took our breath away. A collective shiver ran down the spines of the group as we gazed up at the infamous watchtower and the rusting railway line that runs straight through the heart of the vast complex. We had all seen interpretations of Auschwitz concentration camp on film and television but nothing had quite prepared us for this.

The weather was suitably bleak with dark clouds, snow and a savage wind. We were all clad in modern winter clothing yet the bitter cold still managed to seep inside our bodies as we trudged through the camp. How on earth did people survive in such conditions wearing only a pair of striped pyjamas? Conditions inside the huts weren't much better. It is hard to imagine the hell inmates had to endure. Over 1000 prisoners were crammed inside each small cabin, night and day. If you didn't die of starvation, a beating or disease, then the dreaded gas chamber was likely to seal your fate.

As we trudged back to the coaches in darkness I began to realise how important it is for us to learn about the reasons that allowed the Holocaust to happen. 1.5 million men, women and children were murdered at Auschwitz, yet remarkably, due to the strength of the human spirit a few thousand brave souls still survive to bear witness.

J Keene

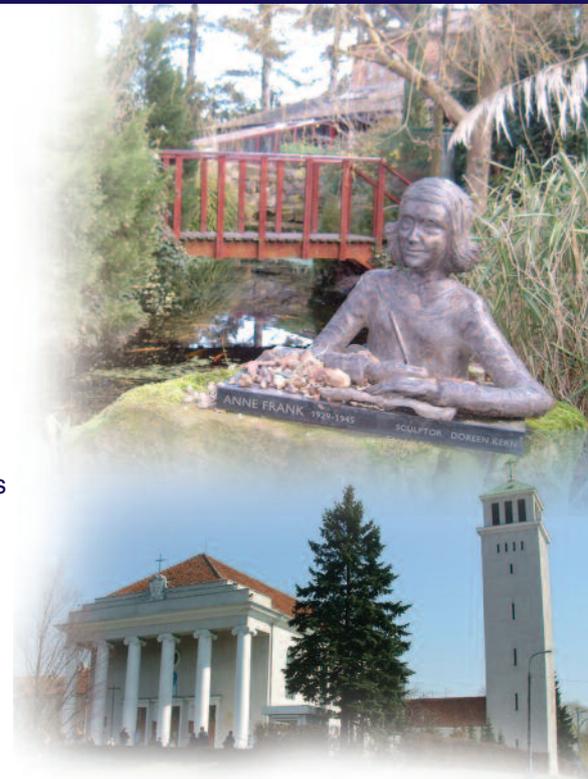
As part of the Year nine curriculum at Landau Forte College we learn about what life was like in World War Two. Within the lessons we got a chance to visit The Holocaust Centre, which is an interesting and educational way to learn about not just the Holocaust, but the terrible things that happened to our ancestors during World War Two.

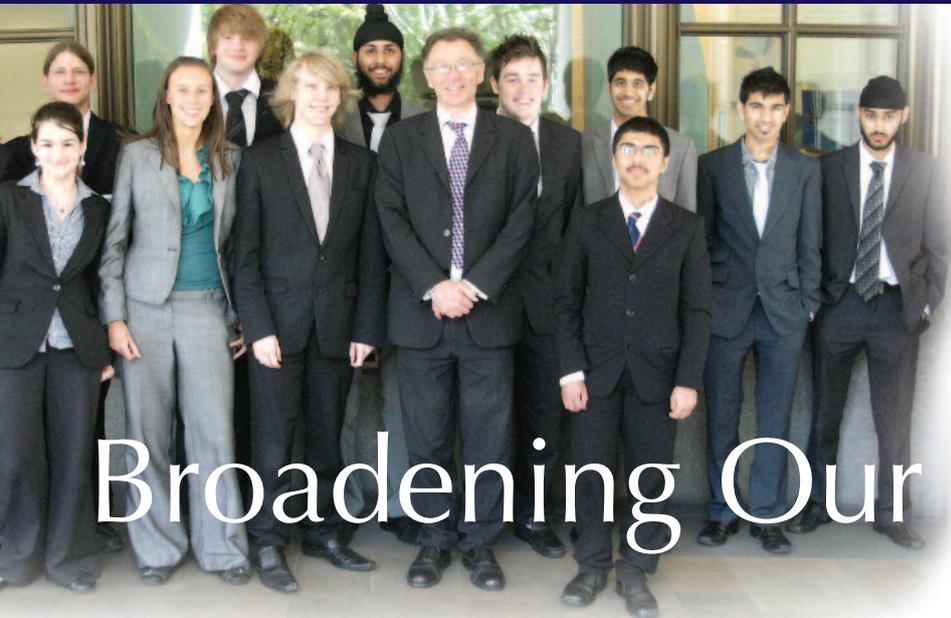
While at the Centre, we looked around outside and saw the wooden posts dedicated to people who died, and were taken into a hall to listen to a survivor of the war. It was an incredible story: he told us how a man was taking Jews to Britain to escape. Firstly the men and young boys were carted by train and sent off. Then the women and young girls were taken into the train, but on the journey a man directed the train the wrong way and sent the women and young girls to a labour camp: none of them were seen again.

I learned a lot from my own history: my great grandfather was an architect and designed over 200 buildings, many based in Poland. He was named "Camerlingo" which means Architect of the Pope and was shot on 6th January 1940, at the start of World War Two. It's a shame I wasn't able to talk to him and find out more intriguing stories.

"Those who cannot learn from History are doomed to repeat it!" – George Wilhelm Hegel.

Katherine Stewart, Year 9





Over the past few months, Post-16 students have participated in several exciting opportunities at College.

Broadening Our Horizons

In Term three a number of Post-16 students studying A-Level Mathematics and Business Studies were offered the opportunity to attend a Fund Management careers and Q&A session at Fidelity Investments. It was surprising but humbling to find that the talk would be headed by Anthony Bolton who is one Europe's most recognisable and successful investors.

The employees present in the session were very helpful, and seemed very satisfied as well as motivated to succeed in their jobs. The group found the day eye-opening as it demonstrated investment management to be very varied in terms of career opportunities, highly competitive amongst graduates, and that it provides a highly stimulating work environment.

In April this year Landau Forte welcomed Tony Edwards to speak to Post-16 students about the development of his professional career, the nature of

management and careers in engineering. Not before many other positions of responsibility, Edwards was head of DESO, Defence Export Services Organisation, between 1998 and 2002, having arrived from the TI Group where he had been chairman of the aerospace division, selling equipment such as propellers and aircraft components.

Citing his CV Edwards showed how engineers are able to challenge and further themselves by aiming to work for different companies but also by having the flexibility to work in various parts of the world. Edwards left students with the impression that whilst engineers do not perhaps receive the recognition they deserve compared to other professions the job itself is highly rewarding, testing and exciting.

Dominic Law, Year 13



Chinese Club

Did you see the Chinese cooking on LFC:TV recently? This was one of the great opportunities offered last term in the Chinese Club which was organised by Miss Liu.

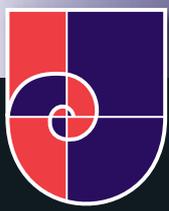
The club was open to all students and the activities focused on the culture of China and the rich traditions of the country. Students had the chance to cook famous Chinese food, like dumplings and spring rolls, to learn about the Beijing Opera and modern Chinese music, and to take part in some Kung Fu moves! The art extension activity also had a Chinese focus, with sessions on calligraphy and paper cutting with Miss Liu.

Erin Barry, Year seven said: *"Being able to learn some words in Chinese as well as cooking traditional food was a highlight for me."*

Miss Liu returns to work in China next year and we thank her for making it possible for us to find out about so many aspects of life in her country.

Lindsay Bowler, Year 12





Spring Awakening

In April students studying A-Level German in Years twelve and thirteen visited the University of Nottingham, to see a performance of Frank Wedekind's "Frühlings Erwachen" (Spring Awakening). The play, which was written in 1891, was performed in German by students from the University. Although at times it was hard to understand, the students relished the chance to experience German in a different form.

In order to help our students understand the play, the University organised a series of workshops before, during and after the performance. Chris Arran from Year twelve said, "Overall, I thought the day was interesting. I learnt a lot more about past German culture and the 'information points' with the actors were very useful as we could ask about the play if we did not understand it."

The play is about the restrictions that young people faced in the 1890s. It handles some difficult issues such as teenage sexuality and pregnancy.

For their AS Level speaking test several students had chosen the topic of Youth Culture and Concerns and they found themes in the play particularly useful when preparing for this.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the University of Nottingham who provided this experience to our students for free as part of their Widening Participation in Languages Scheme.

L Watson



To Bee Or Not To Bee?

After sailing through the local heat of the first ever national Times Spelling Bee competition on 30th March, Lilyana Jankovic, Laura Timmins, Samantha Inglis and I came to a very quiet College on the first Friday of the holidays. We were set to leave for Leicester to compete against nine other schools from the Midlands who had also won their local heats. Since January, we had been training as a group and meeting regularly in order to practise. Mrs Ellis encouraged us to use the Times Spelling Bee website which includes various activities to help you practise your spellings.

The semi-finals were held at the Odeon Cinema at Freemans Park in Leicester. The first round, Spelling Play-Off, involves all of the teams and their members. The aim of this round was, clearly, to be the 'last man standing'. Unfortunately, neither Lily, Laura nor I were the last, but we certainly didn't go out first either. We completed the opening round with fourteen points, ranking sixth out of the ten schools involved.

In the second round, Quick-Fire Challenge, each team had a time limit of two minutes to spell as many words as possible, choosing from three categories: easy, medium or hard. However, compared to the easy words at the local heat, the words at the semi-final were much more difficult and therefore took longer to spell.

After such a successful win at the local heat, we were obviously very disappointed with our performance but left the Spelling Bee knowing that we really had tried our best and couldn't have done any more.

Ellie Spare, Year 7





Newspaper Madness!

On the 12th February the Information Centre was closed due to Newspaper Day. Newspaper Day was an event that all of Year seven had been preparing for. The students worked in groups of 5 or 6 and had lots of help making their newspapers from Post-16 students.

At the start of Term 3, Year seven learnt about newspapers. In preparation for Newspaper Day, all students had been gathering information about events and competitions that were happening all around the school. Throughout this term we were put to the test: writing articles and doing interviews based on events around College.

When the day finally came, the students had lots of information to put into their group newspaper. Some students had even gone to the trouble of borrowing a camera and taking shots around College. We had a great time working together as we put our stories into one booklet. The newspapers were read over and edited, then delivered to the students, who were pleased with their work. All students worked hard together and produced some lovely work.

The main events included in the Newspaper were Chinese Culture Day, the snow day and the new sports clubs, as well as interviews with the Principal and the new Chinese teacher, Miss Liu. The newspapers were incredibly detailed and all the tutors that took part in helping the students with their work were incredibly proud of the progress they had made. This was also a test of how well the students could work together as well as improving their progress in English.

Later, students received their newspapers at the end of the day, and were praised for their hard work and confidence. Students were allowed to take their newspapers home to show their parents their proud work. Overall we all had a fun day when we learnt more about newspapers: "Mine was really interesting and fun to read," said Komal Khan, Year seven.

Finally all the hard work that we had completed that term filled its purpose. Fantastic memories were made and good grades have been earned. Let's hope that next year's Year seven group do just as well as this year's!

Samantha Inglis, Aisha Ahmad and Reece Limbert,
Year 7





Engineering In Education



On the 28th April 2009, two teams from Landau Forte went to Eastwood Hall Conference Centre in Nottingham to be assessed on the 6 month engineering project completion. They all received a National Award from the Royal Academy of Engineering.

Our team consisted of five Year twelve students: Hema Mistry, Charandeep Tamber, Matthew Arran, Joe McWha and Vijay Gill. In October, we were interviewed and selected to participate in the Engineering scheme by 3 engineers from Bombardier. Our project was to design a new luggage storage system for Voyager type rail vehicles. We researched different storage methods and carried out a questionnaire at Derby train station. From the information we generated ideas to solve the problem. In December we went on a 3 day residential visit to Loughborough University and produced a scale model of a cross-section of the train with the storage system we designed built into it. This was followed by the production of a project report which took a long time and a lot of effort to put together.

Finally, the time came for the celebration and assessment day. We had to present our project to a panel of 6 judges who were professional engineers and a CREST award assessor. We were all very nervous but excited before entering the presentation room. Luckily, our presentation went really well and we got lots of positive feedback from the assessors. At the end of the day we all were presented with our certificates which made us feel that the time and effort put into the project was definitely worth it.

Overall, the scheme gave all of us a very valuable experience of interviews, teamwork, project management, communication and presentation skills. We would like to thank Mr Loomes for his time and support during the project. We would recommend this scheme to any student who would like a look at the innovative world of science and engineering.

Hema Mistry and Charandeep Tamber, Year 12

Tropic-tastic!

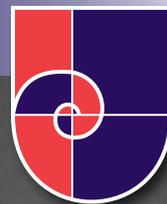
On Tuesday 2nd June a representative from Tropical Inc came into the College. He showed us a lot of different animals from the rainforest and from African deserts. It was really exciting to see so many different interesting animals and even get to touch them!

During the talk, he showed us various animals from snakes to meerkats and there was even some lucky people that came out to the front and got to either hold an animal or stroke an animal. I was one of the people that went to the front: I held a python and stroked a skunk. The animals felt surprising: the snake was very dry and scaly and very heavy to hold.

One of the most interesting sections was when he told us about the most dangerous animal in the world and apparently it is a human! We talked about how we are the ones destroying the planet through our treatment of the environment: that's why we are the most dangerous animal.

Mitchell Thorpe, Year 7





Numerical Inspiration!

At last the Mathematics Inspiration Event came to Nottingham! In March, forty enthusiastic Year eleven, twelve and thirteen Mathematics students accompanied by Miss Farley, Miss Farmer and Mrs Pioli ventured off to be further mathematically inspired.

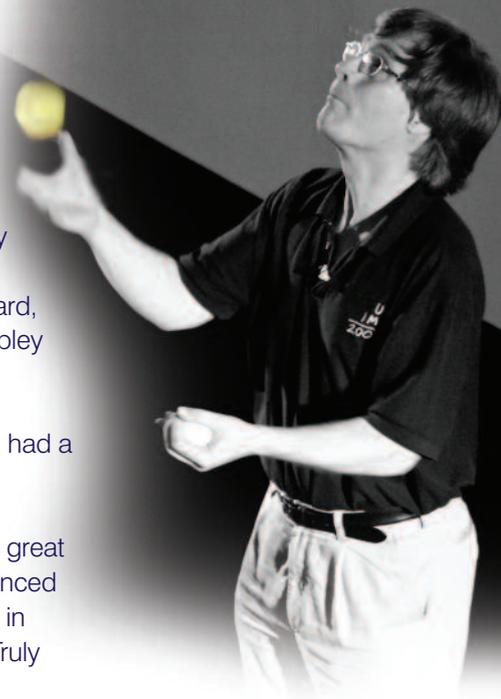
Surely Mathematics cannot be that interesting?! However, the students were inspired throughout the day by Simon Singh, Colin Wright and Rob Eastaway. You might not have heard of these people but their presentations and research have made them famous both in the literary and Mathematics world. Simon Singh has written several books and during his presentation he used probability theory to disprove all the revelations about codes that might exist in The Bible and Moby Dick, made famous in recent fiction such as "The DaVinci Code". He tailored the Mathematics so students could understand and his presentation promoted a lot of discussion.

Juggling and Mathematics: surely not?! Colin Wright has made up several new juggling moves and techniques by simulating what happens

mathematically. He managed to juggle seven balls by predicting the timing in the air and direction of flight. Meanwhile, Rob Eastaway showed us that some of the most the most technologically advanced designs start on the back of a post card, including the new Wembley Stadium!

The tutors and students had a very entertaining and intellectually stimulating experience and it was a great opportunity to see advanced Mathematics being used in such an inspiring way. Truly inspirational!

R Pioli



A Puzzle Of A Challenge

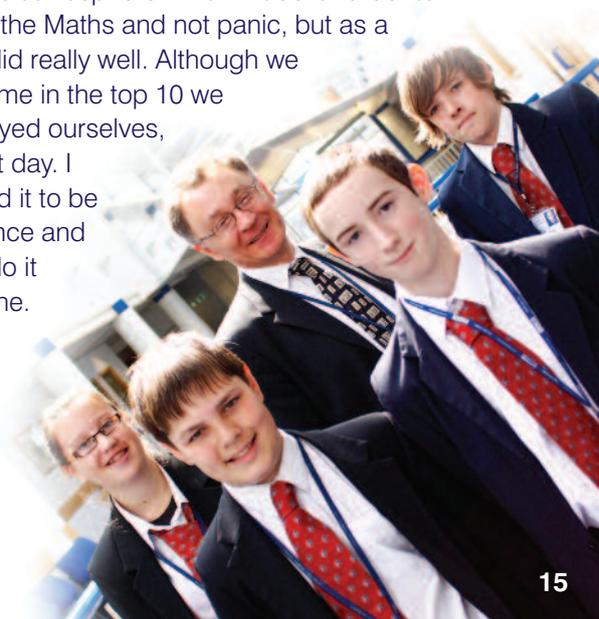
On the 26th March, I, along with three other students and Mr Frankenburg visited Swanwick Hall to compete in a Maths Competition. The team consisted of myself, Tyler Stevens, Matt Burke and Matt Harris.

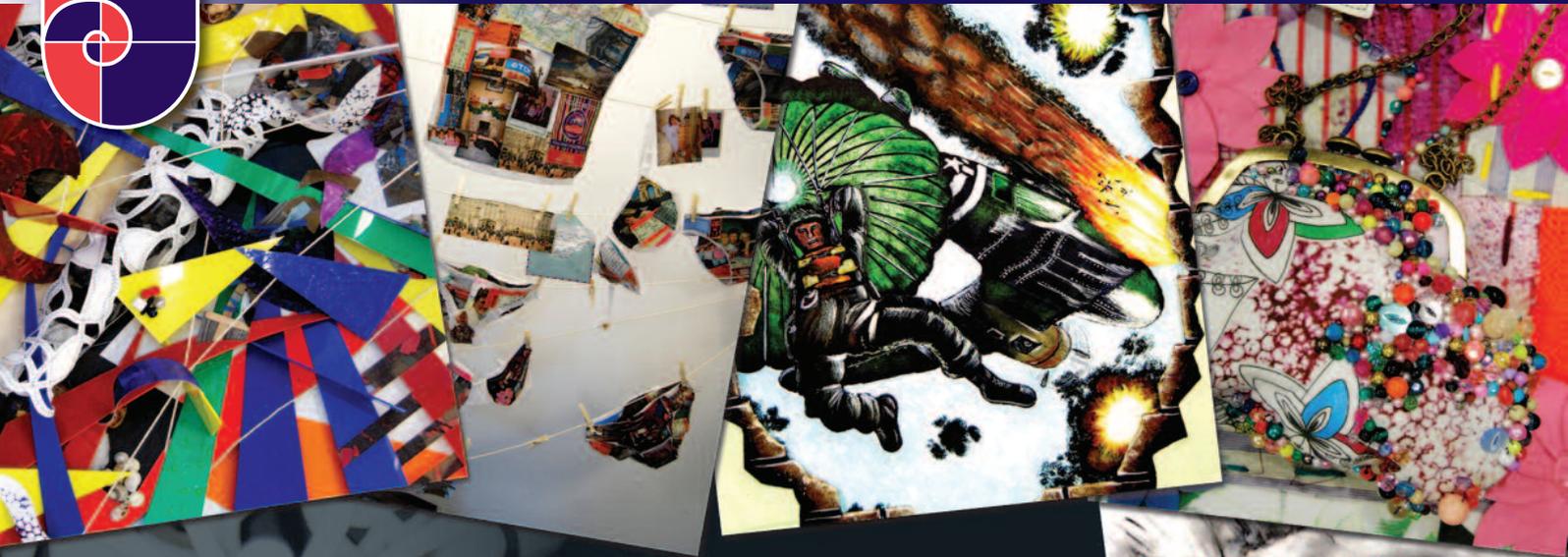
We took part in several Maths challenges as a group and competed against other schools. There were several different rounds including a relay race where we were in two teams of two, with one pair answering a question which then allowed the second pair to answer a different one. We also had a round answering 10 questions as a whole group. We then completed another round where we were split again into two pairs where one pair would answer a question, which then helped the second pair to solve the subsequent problem, so a wrong answer could spoil the whole round. The last round was a cross number: like a cross word but with numbers.

All the rounds were incredibly hard and we struggled to complete each round. I think the hardest round was

the relay race simply because I found the questions difficult and I didn't like sitting and waiting for the next question. My favourite round was the cross number because although it was hard I found it really fun to do and I liked working as a whole group. I found there was a very tense atmosphere which made it harder to concentrate on the Maths and not panic, but as a team I feel we did really well. Although we didn't win or come in the top 10 we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves, and had a great day. I personally found it to be a great experience and would happily do it again in Year nine.

Abigail
Woodward,
Year 8





Exhibition And Fashion Show

On Thursday 11 June, as an introduction to our studies of Fashion and Fabrics, our Year twelve BTEC group visited the 'Spotlight Exhibition' at Derby University, where graduates from the Markeaton Site displayed their final pieces. Within the exhibition, pieces ranged from beautifully hand-made wall hangings to elaborately painted porcelain vases. We spent some time talking to the artists and gained an insight into how they came to their final result and what they enjoyed most about their course.

Also, watching the annual fashion show was a fantastic opportunity. We were able to see all of the fashion students' collections from the university. The atmosphere was amazing and most importantly the clothes were stunning.

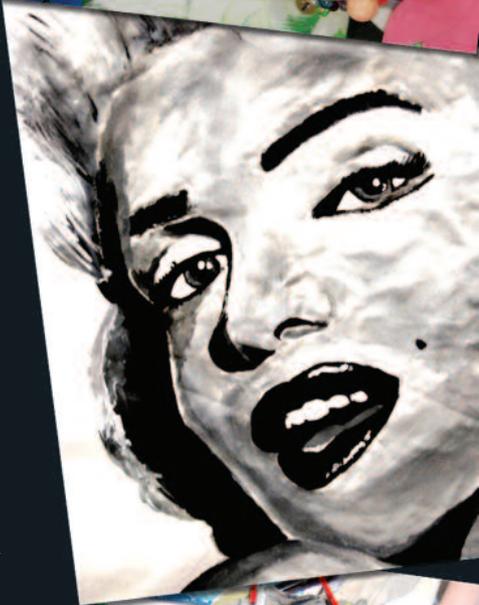
Everyone who visited the event gave positive feedback and therefore I would definitely recommend it, but particularly to next year's BTEC group. Even if you do not plan to go onto college or university, the exhibitions are a real insight to the world of Art, Design, Fashion and Textiles and a great source of inspiration for everyone.

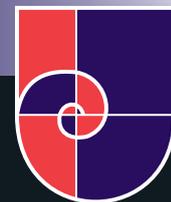
Sarah Allsopp, Year 12

Year 13 Art Exhibition

The photographs attached display some of the fantastic work that Year thirteen have produced and displayed at the Landau Forte College Exhibition. Well done to you all! Also congratulations to those that have secured a place in Derby College to do Foundation Art: Frances Brown, Katie Fitzpatrick, Laura Madeley, Emma Burton and Emma Taylor.

L Hopkins





Abba Good Night!

In April an SOS came through to the Singers group from Handshake Ltd. The request: for the group to appear on-stage during the Abba Mania performance at the Assembly Rooms. Performing two songs, 'I Have a Dream' and 'Fernando' was the name of the game, and always up for the challenge we responded: "take a chance on me!" Like super troupers the group worked away at once again preparing another highly impressive performance ready for the run of three performances beginning on April 29th. Consent forms were hurriedly sent out asking 'does your mother know?' and before we knew it the opening night was upon us!

Arriving at the Assembly Rooms our intrepid performers were led straight onto stage for a practice of bows but with no sound check! Then it was back to the green room to relax, grip back hair and mentally prepare for the upcoming concert in front of a sell-out crowd. As the singers lined up on stage in front of the raucous Assembly Rooms audience, the singers beamed with pride waiting for their moment to sing. As the band moved into the chorus of 'Fernando' the full-force of Landau Forte's Singers reverberated around the auditorium in what was an assured and powerful performance. The audience joined in for the subsequent choruses as several hundred people sang together in perfect harmony.

The final number for our performers saw them take centre stage as each singer had their own solo moment to shine, singing a line or two on their own. The audience went wild, with not only ecstatic applause but a standing ovation! The singers took their bows and left the stage triumphant, having given a performance worthy of Abba themselves.

This was a fantastic night as were the following two nights' performances, and whilst we didn't make any money, money, money we would like to say thank you for the music to Handshake Ltd. There was something in the air that night. . . . for Landau!

Congratulations to the singers: Evie-Mae McFarlane, Lyndsay Phillipson, Gina Ruangsuan, Molly Coffey, Amara Campbell, Alice Church, Hazell Wooton, Lilyana Jankovic, Ruth Webster, Katherine Winfield, Matthew Ripley, Terriane Lloyd-Jones, Bethany Robinson, Charlotte Hampton, Rachel Sharpe, Daniel Woolley, Olivia Burke, Hope Slater, Shannon Daly, Eleanor Moss, Frances Cadd, Katie Spence and Stacey Mortimer.

C Collington





Musical Mentors...

.....are a hit with our young instrumental players. No longer the lonely slog up and down the scales; having a 'buddy' to help, who has recently overcome the challenges of starting to play a musical instrument, is a terrific support. Along with weekly band practice and a learning session with the visiting peripatetic tutor, the young musicians are guaranteed to make good progress, but they practice on their own too!

"I really enjoy helping James become a trombone player. I demonstrate and offer practice tips, but most of all it's fun!" Says Nick Ward, who, in recent times, has performed with other musicians from Landau Forte College at the Royal Albert Hall and The Royal Opera House. Aspirations are high and we look forward to the opportunities to see the results of the Mentors in the theatre. Well done to all.

A Coffey





Music Exam Success

Like many of you this summer, there have been many students taking exams. For some students, those exams are in music. The grades taken ranged from one to six and instruments included flute, clarinet, saxophone, trombone and trumpet. This year I took my grade two in clarinet. After many lessons and practice to learn the pieces, scales and singing as well as I possibly could, I was ready to take my exam. My most challenging piece was 'Minuet' by Ian Denley. It was technically difficult and I had to play it very fast!

Before the exam, I was really nervous: anyone who has ever taken any kind of exam knows what it feels like. It seemed to go fairly well, but I still left feeling like I could have done better. Two weeks passed, full of anticipation, before I finally got my results. I was phoned by my music teacher, Mrs Hampton and as I realised why she was calling my heart started to practically throw itself against my chest. It was a real relief to find out that I had passed!

As for the other students, they all passed too. Well done to: Alex Withey, James Bates, Jessica Lambert, Lauren Millett, Lydia Wormsley, Lyndsay Phillipson, Matthew Arran, Nick Ward, Rachel Sharpe, Thea Turner and William Baggaley. Of course I don't think we all could have passed without the support of our music teachers Catherine Hampton and Kevin Holdgate. So on behalf of everyone, a huge thank you to you both!

Frances Cadd, Year 9

Junior Dancers Perform At The Assembly Rooms

On 23 March, the Junior Dancers were invited to perform at a U Dance Festival, part of the Youth Dance for England, at The Assembly Rooms in Derby. Fifteen other schools from the Derbyshire Region were also involved in the performance which lasted 4 hours and we saw a vast range of dance styles from Country Dancing to Hip Hop!

On our arrival, the stage looked enormous and we had to work out how best to use the space, from where we were sitting in the audience, since the performers weren't given any rehearsal time. Everyone was really excited about the piece we had created, to music from the soundtrack of "Kill Bill" and after a fun-packed warm-up led by the organisers, it was our turn! Our performance went really well with everyone giving it their best shot – Mrs Cresswell said we were amazing! We were so good, that we were also featured in the March episode of LFC: TV. Now we are looking forward to our next big performance at Sudbury Hall's Day of Dance on Saturday 4 July. Hope to see you there!



Fixture Round-up

Summary

We have had an extremely successful and busy year within our fixture programme.

- **Boys Basketball**

The basketball season is nearly at a close now. The Year 7 team continued their good start to the season by finishing first and second in their last two tournaments. The Year 9 team lost to Littleover but beat Woodlands to finish fourth overall in the league. The Year 10 team continued their excellent performance in their quest to retain the Derby City League title beating Woodlands, Lees Brook and Da Vinci, but narrowly losing to West Park in their final game to finish runners up. However, they beat St Philip Howard in the quarter finals and Dronfield Henry Fanshawe in the semi finals of the Derbyshire County Cup. They face West Park in the upcoming final. The Year 11 squad beat John Port, but narrowly lost out to West Park in overtime to finish third in the league.

- **Year 10 Boys 5-a-side Football**

The Year 10 Boys competed in the Derby City 5-a-side tournament during Term three. They finished as winners of the Derby West group stages held at Lees Brook and therefore progressed to the finals with Derby Moor, Noel Baker and Murray Park. It was a closely fought league, but the boys came out on top, winning on the amount of goals scored. They are now the current 5-a-side champions of Derby.

- **Key Stage 3 Rugby**

It has been a fantastic year for rugby at Landau Forte. This has been the first year we have played full side matches against other schools all of whom have far more rugby experience than ourselves. The Year 7 team produced a tough, skilful performance against Noel Baker during which they displayed the hard tackling and agile back play developed in training. Callum Redfern was dominant at the breakdown causing a number of important turnovers and gained important ground for the team with his powerful running. Ranj Satar was the star of the backs with his Jonah Lomu style bursts creating havoc for the Noel Baker defence and leading to three tries, one as he crossed the line being held by three defenders and still managed to ground the ball.

The Year 8 team have also had a great year in terms of their rugby development. They have played two tough 15-a-side fixtures against Noel Baker and competed in the Derbyshire emerging schools festival. Around 25 boys have been involved throughout the year demonstrating a real enthusiasm for rugby and commitment to the College team. Special mention should go to Matt Ong for his dynamic performances as captain and to Ryan Hill and Jack Johnson for their tough tackling in the backs.

The Year 9 team has had a mixed year often playing against very strong rugby schools in festivals and matches. However all the boys involved have shown determination throughout with Reece Sims and Joe Wright the stand out players.

Our Year 10 squad continues to grow. The team is now playing more 15-a-side rugby and recently performed very well within the South Derbyshire league after an invitation to participate.





• Boys Football

The Year 10 team finished the season with two wins from their seven games. The Year 7 team finished the season well, winning their last two games to finish with three wins from their ten games.

• Boys Cricket

All squads are producing some good performances and cricket continues to grow within the College. The Year 8 cricket team produced a good performance in their opening game of the season against Murray Park, held at Mickleover Cricket Club. However, despite this start they were unable to chase down Murray Park's total.

• School-Club Link

The College has recently signed forms that officially recognise the School-Club link between the College and Mickleover Cricket Club. As part of the link our students play their home games at the Cricket Club whilst the College provides an opportunity for the Club to use our indoor net facilities. The long term aim of the plan is to provide our students with a structured opportunity to access cricket outside College and to get more of our students playing cricket at a local level.



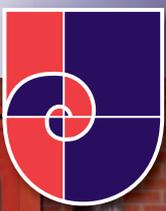
• Gymnastics

The Derby West Gymnastics team commenced their training at Landau Forte College earlier this year in preparation for the Derby Schools County Competition which was held at Alfreton Leisure Centre in May. The team comprised of twelve gymnasts, two of which came from Landau Forte: Tiela Brown and Catherine Harper. Over ninety students were present at the County competition and gymnasts had to perform three sections: floor, vault and body management. Each student gave an exceptional performance and we were delighted to achieve first place. This therefore gave Derby West the title of County finalists.

• Rounders

The Rounders season has started well for all our teams, particularly Year 8 who have continued their success from last year. The girls have a new team kit which consists of fitted embroidered t-shirts and skirts, which is proving to be a very popular development! Feedback from the teams has been very positive, as they feel more cohesive in addition to comments, especially from other schools, stating how smart they look!





- **Tennis**

The “Road to Wimbledon” tournament was underway during Term four with students from Years 7 – 9 competing. This was good preparation for the tennis fixtures against other schools and colleges which will commence mid-June. Tennis extension has been very popular with Key Stage 3 students especially, and we hope to see more and more students joining us. We have allocated two nights for tennis in the hope that this will accommodate more students who have other extension commitments.



- **Dance Leader and Sports Leaders visits**

During Year 10 our female students undertake a course in Leadership through dance. The second sets of visits took place this term which has led to all groups successfully completing the course. During the visit to Village Primary School, students had to plan, deliver and lead a series of tasks and devise a dance that would motivate both boys and girls.

During Year 11, our female students have the opportunity to further develop their leadership qualities through the delivery of the Sports Leaders Award. It culminates with students leading primary school children through fitness circuits which they have planned and devised themselves. All girls were a credit to Landau Forte and should be commended for such a positive achievement.

- **Movement Project**

This term, the College was invited to the VIP launch of the Derby “Movement Project”, an initiative aimed at providing opportunities for 11-16 year old females to become more active. The main focus for this initiative is through Street Dance with Landau Forte being allocated a Movement Co-ordinator to deliver Street Dance sessions within the curriculum and during extension sessions. 350 girls in Years 7 to 10 attended the event held at the Assembly Rooms in Derby. The launch day included information on health, diet, body image, confidence and obesity and included various performances, including a production by the Red Earth Theatre Company, a dance performance by the Movement Co-ordinators and an inspirational talk by Kymberlee Jay: a Nike sponsored Hip Hop dancer who hosted the event. The girls had a fantastic day and were a credit to the College with their behaviour and attitude throughout the day.



• Sport Success!

Landau Forte has its very own Sporting star this year: Harry Rudkin, in Year 10, British Judo Champion and player of both Rugby League and Rugby Union, who is being sponsored by his local Asda store in Spondon. Harry, who plays with the Leicester Tigers youth team and who would like to go professional when he leaves school, applied to the charity Sportsaid last year for funding, to help with travel costs both to Leicester and also to Sheffield, where he also plays with a Sheffield youth team. The charity works with Asda stores around the country to provide sponsorship for promising young athletes, and made contact with Asda Derby, who have given Harry £500 towards his costs. Throughout the summer there will be fundraising days at the Asda store in Spondon, for Harry and his fellow athlete Talia Anthony. Please wish him well in all his sporting endeavours, and good luck with his future fundraising!

• CSLA

This year, ten Post-16 students opted to complete the Level 2 Award in Community Sports Leadership. All students were successful in their training and will now be volunteering in the community to complete the course.

• Skip-a-thon

Due to our success last year, raising over £500 for the British Heart Foundation by taking part in a Skip-a-thon, we were pleased to be holding the event for a second time. One of our Year 10 students, Gurpreet Mundra, who contributed an exceptional amount last year exceeded her target this year and helped raised £392 for the charity. As a result of her efforts and donations as an individual she received a goody bag from the British Heart Foundation as well as having her picture and story in the Derby Telegraph. We are very proud of her.

We would like to say a big thank you to all students for your commitment and hard work within the fixture programme. See you next year!

The PE team



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