

Landau Forte College Derby magazine • Spring 2014

newslink

LFC RAISES £100,000 FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

IN THIS ISSUE

LFC Tutor Awarded
Royal Honour

Sustainable Trade at
LFC Fair

The Art of Learning

Senior Citizen's

Seasonally Scintillated



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GETTING INTO
TEACHING?

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YOUR TEACHING
SKILLS FURTHER?

WANT TO BE THE
BEST TEACHER YOU
CAN BE?

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Principal's Message

Welcome, once again, to the special world of Landau Forte College and an edition of NewsLink packed with the achievements and successes of our students and staff. As the following pages testify, recent weeks have been full measures of high energy events and activities which make the unique blend of an education, Landau Forte style.

The BBC visited the College recently as part of an edition of 'School Report' that will feature a programme written and produced by students sharing their reflections on the college day.

We are often asked by curious outsiders to comment on either our alternative term times, the longer and continuous day, vertical tutoring or no bells. They often think that we have recently responded to a new policy or political whim. We always try to explain that it is no single ingredient that creates the culture; no one hit wonder or simple solution.

It's all part of the package that places the student at the centre of what we do, and we have been doing it for over 20 years. What goes to make Landau Forte's USP? Of

course, it is all of the above underpinned by relentless drive and ambition for success.

Now past the midpoint of the academic year, the current term sees us clearly focused on those students who are approaching their final course completion and examinations. We look forward to celebrating their success in due course and what then? We will start all over again!

Liz Coffey
Principal

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LFC Tutor Awarded Royal Honour

Landau Forte College is proud to announce that our very own Mr Coffey is to be awarded an MBE for 'services to education'.

Mr Coffey, who has been teaching for a period of over thirty years, began teaching at Landau Forte College in 1994. Since then, he has shaped Performing Arts at the College where students have continually been given the opportunity to be high achievers and take part in fantastic performances such as appearing at Derby's Olympic Torch Relay Ceremony in front of 30,000 people.

The College's Youth Theatre, led

by Mr Coffey, has performed three times at the Schools Prom at The Royal Albert Hall and produced their unique style of music theatre at The Royal Opera House, Birmingham Symphony Hall, NEC, Disneyland Paris, and theatres in Derby and Nottingham.

Outside of the College, Mr Coffey has played a substantial role in community theatre groups including Derby Live Youth Theatre and Adult

Community Programmes. In addition to this, he has also been a longstanding composer for Derby Live productions.

Mr Coffey will be honoured at his investiture later this year, where he will join an elite group of MBE holders including singer Adele, and *Gavin and Stacey* actress Ruth Jones.

Tom Bingham, Year 13

I used to say,

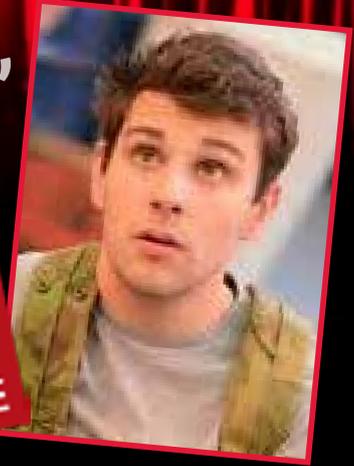
“I want to be...”

and then I said,

“I am going to be...”

now I can proudly say,

“I am an actor.”



DERBY
THEATRE

Living The Dream

I reached the 'I-am-going-to-be' stage four years ago while working at Landau Forte College as a Learning Support Assistant when I made myself some opportunities to get involved in amateur and professional projects within the Performing Arts industry.

We all know that commitment, dedication and a little talent are essential for success, but an actor also needs 'a break'. Mine recently arrived in the form of The Brian Weaver Fellowship at Derby Theatre.

Created by Doreen Weaver in the memory of her husband Brian, who was a keen actor, the Fellowship provides the opportunity for actors to appear in two Derby Theatre productions. The first of which is *The Odyssey* (currently being staged at Derby Theatre). It will also allow me to work on my skillset in between shows, with the help of Sarah Brigham, the Artistic Director at the Theatre, and other staff as well. The rehearsals have been brilliant so far and we are about to start production week, ready for

the show to go up on Friday 14 February!

Who do I blame for this passion for acting? Well Performing Arts at Landau Forte College and Derby Live Youth Theatre are in the dock for a start! My Landau Forte story still has another chapter, and being part

of the new Landau Forte Theatre Company in their production of *The Orchard* gives me the opportunity to work with professionals, while passing on the craft to student actors at Landau Forte College.

A Horvath

Alumni: Linda Ukhigova

“Ten years ago I would never have thought that I would be living in London, finishing my degree, working for Burberry and planning my future as a British Citizen”, says Linda Ukhigova, former student at the College.

I leapt at the chance to interview Linda as I prepare to play her in the forthcoming production of *The Orchard*. Linda explained how writing down her experience of the war in Chechnya not only inspired her A Level art work but also helped

to make sense of her world.

“My journey from the orchard in Chechnya started by crossing a border on foot under the threat of violence. By the time I arrived in Derby to start a new life with my family, the sound of gun fire, Russian planes and bombs seemed a lifetime away.”

“I joined Landau Forte College as a post-16 student in 2008. During my Art sessions, I was encouraged to reach into my past for inspiration. Writing the

commentary for my art project unlocked some very painful memories, however I welcomed the opportunity to make sense of it all.” The rest, they say, is theatre.

“*The Orchard* captures the courage, spirit and resilience of all children trapped in war.” Linda is proud to be Chechen and looks forward to a future where peace and safety prevail. Currently studying Accounting and Management at the

University of Westminster, Linda hopes one day to return to her homeland. She has visited rehearsals, shared her story with the actors and brought a unique insight into the real drama of a child caught in an adult war.

The Orchard will be staged from April 16 to 18. Tickets available online at www.landau-forte.org.uk or call the Box Office on 01332 386768.

Molly Coffey, Year 12



Uncovering the Hospital's Hidden History

As writers and historians, we were given the opportunity to collaborate with *Hidden Histories* and create a publication for the Royal Derby Hospital in order to help the visiting public, staff and patients learn more about the Hospital's history.

The outcome will be a professional publication based on creative interpretations of our findings to provide visitors and patients with a form of interesting and light-hearted entertainment while at the hospital.

To kick off the project, a group of us headed to the old DRI where we were able to access an archive full of fascinating old artefacts which represented the Hospital's history. The day was spent with the team deciding on which artefacts we'd like to take with us to two open days at the Royal Derby Hospital. We chose carefully with the open days in mind, as we sought to inspire passers-by into providing us with stories and information

based on their own personal reflections of the items. Our selection varied from old photographs and X-rays, medical instruments and dentistry kits to the stamp which Queen Victoria used on 21 May 1891 to open the DRI.

Following this, we collaborated within our team to organise and raise as much awareness as possible about the open days commencing on 17 and 18 January at the Royal Derby Hospital. During the open days we set up a display of the selected artefacts and set about gaining inspiration for the publication. One particular piece gained an immense amount of attention: the portrait of the surgeon **David Thomas**.

We heard amazing stories of Mr Thomas' previous surgeries. The days were a complete success; we had an incredible response and gained a range of stimulus to help create pieces for the publication.

Once the open days were over we came together as a group to share the information we had gathered. We are now finally on our way to writing up sections for the publication and assembling it all together. The experience has been utterly enriching and we look forward to seeing the final outcome of the project.

Yasmin Parveen, Year 13



Lest We Forget...

In line with recent changes in exam specifications, this year has seen our GCSE History students studying the causes and events of The Great War 1914 - 1918 as the Depth Study for their course.

With the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War upon us, Landau Forte College Derby were lucky enough to be asked by the Curzon Institute to consider hosting a lecture on the role of the Commonwealth in the First World War.

The event itself was staged for our 114 Year 10 historians on Monday 17 February and was an opportunity to explore an area of the war that is

underrepresented in the available textbooks on the topic.

Our speaker, **Inara Khan**, took the students through a summary of the build-up to war before focusing on some case studies highlighting the contribution of specific soldiers, including **Walter Tull** who had been a professional footballer before the war and was killed in action in France on 25 March 1918.

As the centenary gets closer we can all look forward to more events to commemorate what is a pivotal event in all our histories. Keep your eyes on the listings and your local papers for more, including a joint project here at the College with 'Six Streets History' involving a bid for Heritage Lottery funding.

A Brown

Year 10 Get Challenged!

The University of Cambridge Challenge Day took place on Wednesday 22 January at Emmanuel College, Cambridge and involved ten students from Year 10.

Landau Forte College joined seven other schools to take part in the day which included a wide range of activities to encourage students to consider applying to study at university in the future. The day started with an introduction to higher education and an explanation of what it is that means Cambridge University currently ranks third

in a list of the world's leading universities.

Students were then given a tour around Emmanuel College including the impressive library and lecture theatre. Following this there was an opportunity to participate in a debating challenge against students from another school. This was hotly contested and resulted in Landau Forte being victorious.

In the afternoon, the students were able to experience two university-style lectures from leading academics at Cambridge. The first of these

lectures focused on how DNA can be manipulated on a microscopic scale to make a range of intricate shapes which can hopefully be used to develop future medicines.

The final lecturer of the day presented students with an interactive explanation of how eyesight works in different animals, enabling them to see a range of colours much more varied than those detected by the human eye.

P Middleton



Sustainable Trade at LFC Fair

A long tradition at the College, Trade Fair gives Year 8 students the opportunity to participate in a truly cross-curricular project. This year did not disappoint. **Mr Dobson**, this year's Project Manager, led the students on an educational journey to enhance a number of key learning attributes they will be sure to use in their future at Landau Forte.

The event began by introducing the brief: to create sustainable products and to obtain the most orders on the all-important Trade Fair Day.

Next, the teams were announced. Expectantly, the students waited as their future team members were announced along with the team's director and assistant director. The remaining five members of the team chose their own positions from a list of: Global Economist; Global Communications; Ethical Economist; Creative Campaigner; Environmental Manager.

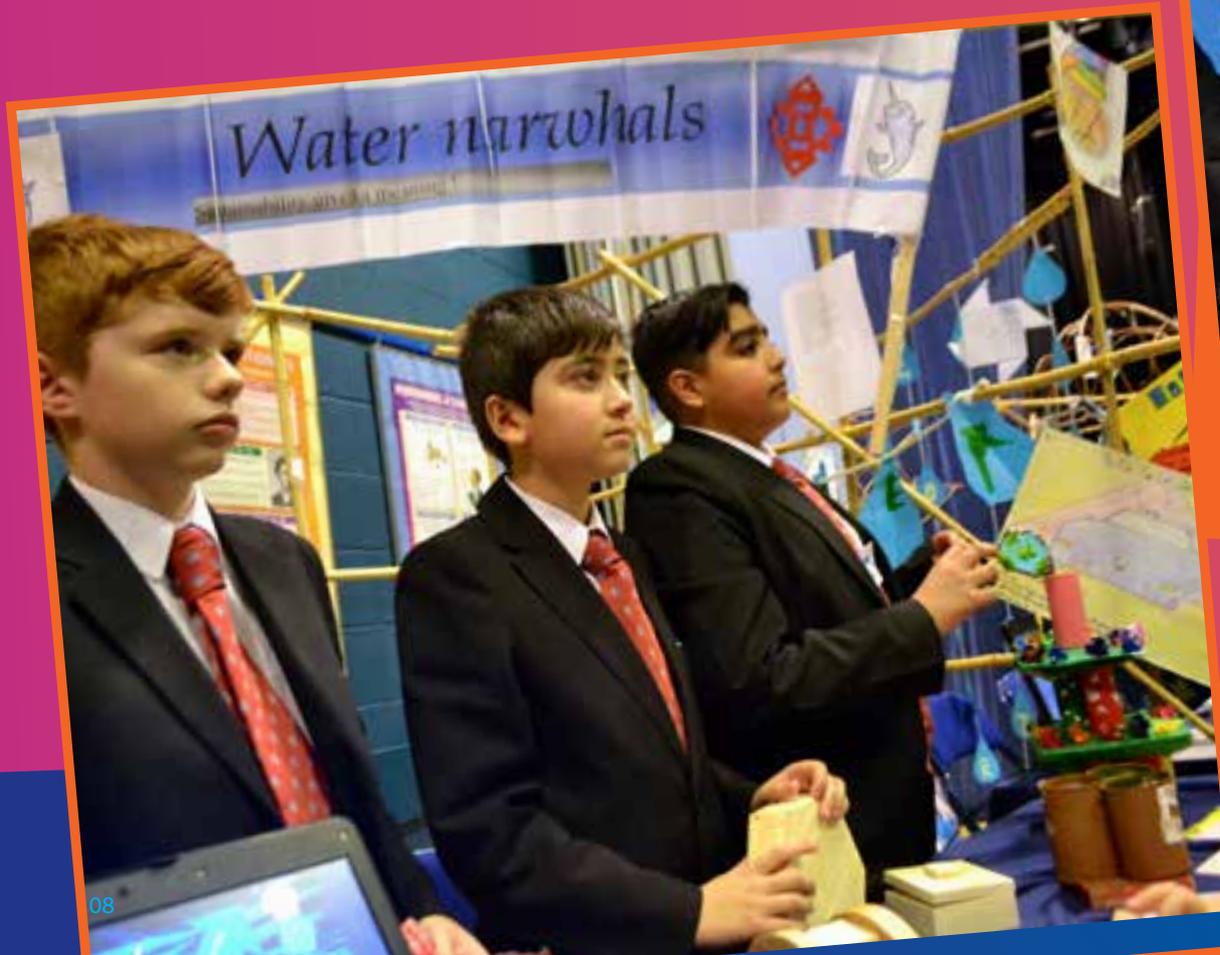
The teams had approximately three weeks to use their designated session times to

create products and features to enhance their stall for the Trade Fair. Some recognisable products included items made from recycled newspaper and others from reused wood. The students also had the chance to create stop motion animations – a process of taking numerous pictures and sequencing them to make a short video – educating the audience on a sustainable future.

Teams wrote poems to create a poem trail around the College which created an interactive encounter for visitors who participated. The creative campaign manager was in charge of designing the stall for the big day which would

inevitably attract potential customers aiding the teams in achieving their goal of selling as many products as possible.

When the big day finally arrived, responsibility was placed solely in the teams' hands as they arrived early in the theatre to prepare their stalls. They had until one o'clock to enhance the appearance of their blank stands to attempt to compete against their rivals, before the theatre doors were open to the first wave of business experts. The effectiveness of the teams relied upon the ability to show great maturity and handle themselves well under pressure.



curriculum

'The Principal interviews former student, Barrister James Burke for LFC:TV on his own memories of Trade Fair.'

At 1pm, the doors opened and the students embarked on the first challenge of negotiating with potential customers. Teams' communication skills were tested as they all aimed to meet the brief provided.

At 2pm, as the business audience left the theatre, parents and select students from Landau entered. They had the power to invest in the students' products, as the teams pulled out all the stops to haggle and gain the support of the customers. A particularly effective strategy seemed to be

enticing people with free sweet treats – an understandably successful method! At 3.15pm the event came to a close and the teams could do no more.

All in all, the Trade Fair journey offered Year 8 students an excellent opportunity to develop and express their newly learnt talents such as collaboration and communication and has surely been another year of excellent student learning.

Millie Weston, Year 11

Overall Winners – Fireflies

Best Multimedia Presentation – Toucans/Boa Snakes

Best International Communications – Poison Dart Frogs

Best Stall – Tapirs

Best Logo – Sea Turtles

Best Products – Saola

Ethics/Sustainability – Narwhals

Shining Stars:

Kiran Sidhu

James Pratt

Hasan Iqbal

Holly Topliss

Brandon Grewal

Harry Madden

Eddie Tsang

Sophie Doherty

Spencer Weston

Levi Treasure

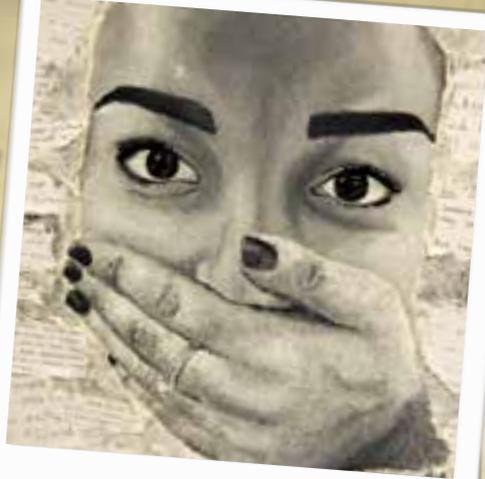


What is Success in Art?

This is what our Year 13 A Level Art students thought:



Jessica Morgan



Razan Ismael

Determination

Being proud
of what you
have achieved

Hard work

When the
creator is
satisfied



AimeeJo Norton

Your own
portrayal



Katie Spence

Being happy
and content with
your artwork

Art has not yet
achieved success
because if it did, all
our problems would
be solved



Dan Woolley



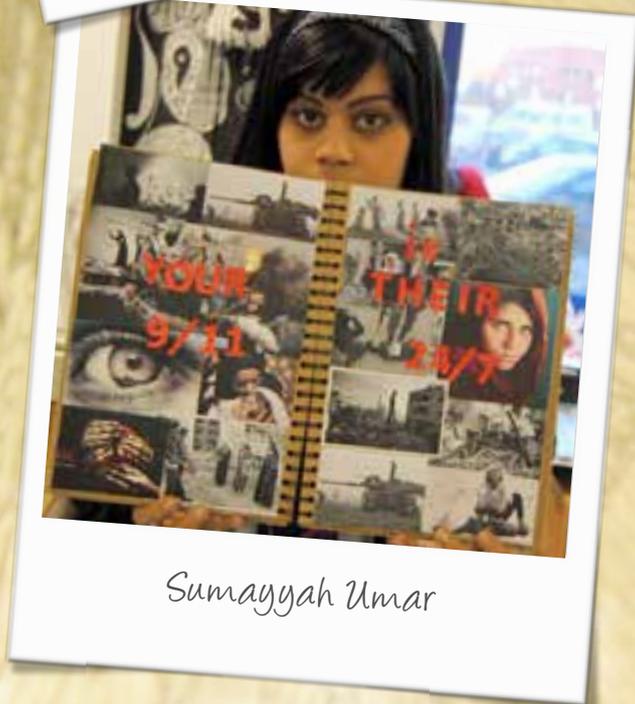
Emily Leonard

When people are interested and ask questions about the artwork

Fulfilment



Wahida Chowdhury



Sumayyah Umar

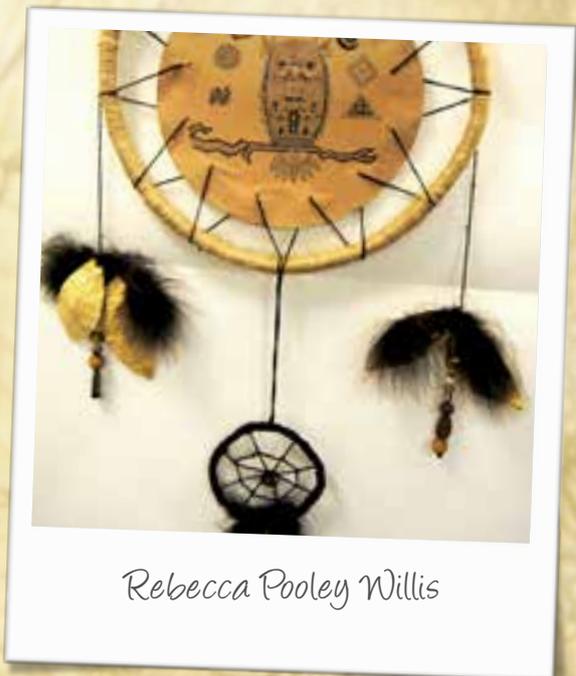
Inspiration



Apsara Gurung

Happiness in art expression

Inspiring other people



Rebecca Pooley Willis

Whatever you want it to be

When it looks 'good'

Recognition for what you do



Alyssa Aystria

Say HALLO, HOLA and NI HAO!

Languages are a big part of the curriculum at Landau Forte College. From Year 7 all students learn either German or Spanish, and in Year 9 those students who excel within their German and Spanish sessions have the opportunity to learn Mandarin Chinese.



At the moment, we have two language assistants who have come to Landau Forte College from Spain and Germany. **María Albertuz** is assisting the Spanish team and **Franciska Bauland** is supporting German learning sessions. This year, we also welcomed a new Mandarin tutor, Mrs Brealey.

What is your job here in college and what is your typical day like?

Franciska: *I help students with their grammar, pronunciation and fluency in small groups, working for four hours per day. I spend half the time in learning sessions and the other half I work*

in smaller groups, generally with years 10 to 12.

María: *I am often in sessions helping with grammar, and I work in small groups or one-to-one speaking sessions. I also run sessions on cultural aspects of Spain.*

What have been your most positive experiences and biggest challenge?

Mrs Brealey: *I enjoy teaching hard-working and very able students, although I have high expectations and sometimes struggle to get them to work more independently.*

María: *It's been rewarding*

learning from the tutors and seeing different techniques in the classroom, but sometimes I find it difficult to understand the English used.

What differences have you noticed between Landau Forte College and the schools in your country?

Mrs Brealey: *There are longer school hours in China, and the children work harder with more pressure and homework.*

Franciska: *We have no uniform in Germany and the days aren't as long. We separate children according to their abilities and we use chalkboards.*

Why is it important to learn a language?

Franciska: *It's very important to be able to communicate with other people and understand their points of view.*

María: *Knowing a language isn't just about the actual language: it's the culture, the traditions and the ways of life of the people who speak it.*

Mrs Brealey: *There are so many cultures and countries; it's a huge world full of different people. It is good to be able to communicate with them.*

Ellie Shervill, Year 11

Getting to Know Mr Plant

Mr Plant joined Landau Forte College at the start of term 3 as our new Leader of Learning Support and SENco. **Josh Pinn**, Year 7, sheds some light on getting to know him better.

Where did you work before Landau?

I worked in an International Boarding School in the Swiss Alps.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I like to be out in the mountains: rock climbing, mountaineering or skiing - that is when I have spare time. I also really enjoy being with my family and friends.

What is your favourite food?

Sausage, chips and baked beans.

What did you aspire to be when you were younger?

When I had my careers interview at school many years ago I aspired to three things: 1) a professional rock climber; 2) a stuntman; 3) a forest worker. I've been lucky enough to do two of them!

What is your favourite film?

Star Wars.

If you could save one thing from your house what would it be?

Pictures.



What super power would you like and why?

The ability to heal.

What 4 words would your friends use to describe you?

Young at heart, calm, caring and honest - I hope!

Who would you want to play you in a film of your life?

Harrison Ford.



Psychologists in Conference



On 10 January, Year 12 Psychology students attended a variety of psychology workshops at The University of Derby to support their college-based studies.

The day began at the main doors of the University at 9am. At 9:15, after the stray students arrived and the mandatory group photo had been taken, we made our way to the lecture theatre. Here we were given our schedule for the day. We started with an introduction to psychology by a lecturer at the University and were introduced to the other colleagues

attending; we then made our way to the first workshop.

Many workshops ran at the same time, so the ones each of us attended depended on our interests. The University offered insights into topics such as: stress, pain, phobias and ghosts. A favourite topic among many of us was pain. The workshop allowed us to see how distraction changed the amount

of pain we could withstand. The lecturer demonstrated this by asking volunteers to put their arm in almost freezing water and seeing how long they could endure the extreme temperatures. One variable changed between the first and second volunteers, the distraction word, which enabled the volunteer to hold out for longer! Half way through the

day, we had a break where we ate lunch and explored the University.

Overall, we greatly benefitted from this educational visit as it was insightful to see the University functioning and it made us think about possible careers in psychology.

P Butler



Visualising the Velodrome

Visiting the construction site for Derby's Velodrome allowed students to make our BTEC learning real. Bowmer and Kirkland's site manager, Keith Robinson, gave us a tour and lots of technical information.

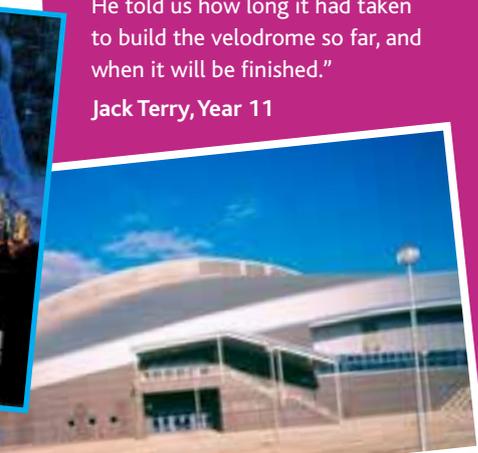
"We went to the newly constructed Derby Velodrome on 17 January 2014. The visit was devised so that the students could look at construction practices in the real world. We were escorted around the building by **Keith Robinson**, the site manager for Bowmer and Kirkland. He told us how long it had taken to build the velodrome so far, and when it will be finished."

Jack Terry, Year 11

"When we arrived, we put on steel-toed boots, hard hats and high visibility jackets. We came to a large room with a lot of piping and insulation that was to be put in for the track-laying to be complete. After a talk by the project manager, we went into the large arena where there was scaffolding all over the sides of the velodrome. Also, we had a tour around the outside of the velodrome and the fitness suite, where we could overlook the iPro Stadium. The visit really helped my understanding of the construction industry."

Steven Burnell, Year 11

L Brannigan



17 Castles... Only 6 Winners!

Last month, castles were appearing in the IC as part of the History team's annual Castle Competition. There were seventeen entries, each one incorporating a variety of different materials.

Miss Taylor was impressed with Matt Bubbs' edible castle as it was innovative and well thought out. A special congratulations to Ben Phelps who had a battery to light up his castle! Ahmad Ismail displayed great detail with his duck pond and sheep, whilst Declan Powell's castle had an armoury inside.

Miss Taylor stated that 'the

castles were of such a high standard' and the castles were judged by Mrs Coffey, Bridey Atkinson and Lewis Richardson.

Well done to Zoe Marshall who secured 1st place in the motte-and-bailey competition. Also, congratulations to Niall Oswalds who was given 2nd place. Highly commended was Adrian Biddle with his castle. Commendations to Jordyn Seaton who was awarded 1st place in the square keep category. Additionally, well done to Lucas Ingle who achieved 2nd place with his state-of-the-art castle. A further congratulations to Dawid Stodolny.

Chloe McGovern, Year 11

Get Creative

LFC's Creative Writing Extension runs weekly for students who enjoy writing. Here are some of the reasons students get involved:

- I have a voice, somewhere I can write my screams,
- I can meet with people who share my interests and thirsts,
- Stories, plays, poems galore, something fun and even more,
- Each subject and form opens opportunities,
- It's a safe place to express emotions in a healthy way,
- It ignites your imagination and the perfect environment with your friends,
- It helps me fight through the rest of the day,
- I can tell the world everything and anything with the pen in my hand.

The poem to the right was written by Adriana Vasiljeva Year 7, she shares her initial feelings about starting her journey at LFC:

S Reynolds and K Vaughan



As the years pass, so
Does my age I remember
The first day of coming
Here, how could I forget
I was scared, scared that
I would do something to
Stupid, I didn't know
Anyone or anything
So all I could do was
Just get on with it, when
I arrived at my first class
I was worried on how to
Make friends but lucky
For me someone I knew
Already was in my class
I was so glad that I wasn't
Alone, my first lesson
Was geography I was
Sitting next to people I
Did not know but it
Turned out that I would
Be very good friends with
Them, as we were doing
our work, the teacher
Allowed us to walk
about for a bit get
To know people
Better, so we
Did I didn't
Have to
Move
to move at all, I was kind of shy at first
but as the time went I got more social
the first friend I actually got was LEWIS
I got him as a friend because he was talk
ing about POKEMON my most favourite
thing in the world, a thing that I loved, but
I loved my family more... so when the
lesson was in the middle we went
for
breakfast! My first breakfast was FREE
I had tasty waffles and a bagel it was very
tasty not mentioning that I nearly choked
to my death! When the day finished I we at
home my mum asked me did you like your
first day at school, I was about to say
no
when I thought how many new friends
I got so I said yes not mentioning that I
had all the lessons I hated but if the teacher
was nice then the lesson was good tooooooo!
I was so happy when I finished school
I got a lot of friends no enemies and had a
good time, I couldn't wait to come back
here again, a year later when I was in
year eight, we were getting ready for
Trade Fair, it was very tough with all
the things being organized and made
everyone was doing their own thing
that's what the directors were for
and assistant directors, they
took in charge of their
team and told them
what to do

Making Decisions

"Norwegian? Why on earth would you want to study Norwegian?"

"Not just Norwegian, Dad. French as well... in fact, half of the degree is French."

"Yes but why Norwegian?"

"Well I figured that I needed to study two languages and since I only have French at the moment, I needed to study another from scratch. Besides, err... I like Vikings?"

"Well I don't understand. I'm just a simple chemist!"

"Unfortunately Dad, I'm not a chemist. I never studied GCSE Chemistry. I didn't pick it in Year 9 because the teacher was rubbish and always smelt of cigarettes!"

I remember clearly the day twenty-two years ago, when I started a degree course in French and Norwegian. My careers advice at school consisted of: "Andrews! Go and apply to university!"

My parents, in their desire to support me 'whatever', never spoke up either.

I lasted five weeks before I woke up shouting "Aaaarrrrrrgghhhhh! Norwegian? What have I done?" The following day I changed to a Maths degree.

The rest, I guess, is history.

Thank goodness things are different now.

M Andrews

As a Year 9 student aged 14, choosing my options was a very difficult decision.

I remember being hugely influenced by the choices of my friends at this stage in my life, and the options I initially selected were not the ones I wanted to do. Instead, they were the ones my friends were doing.

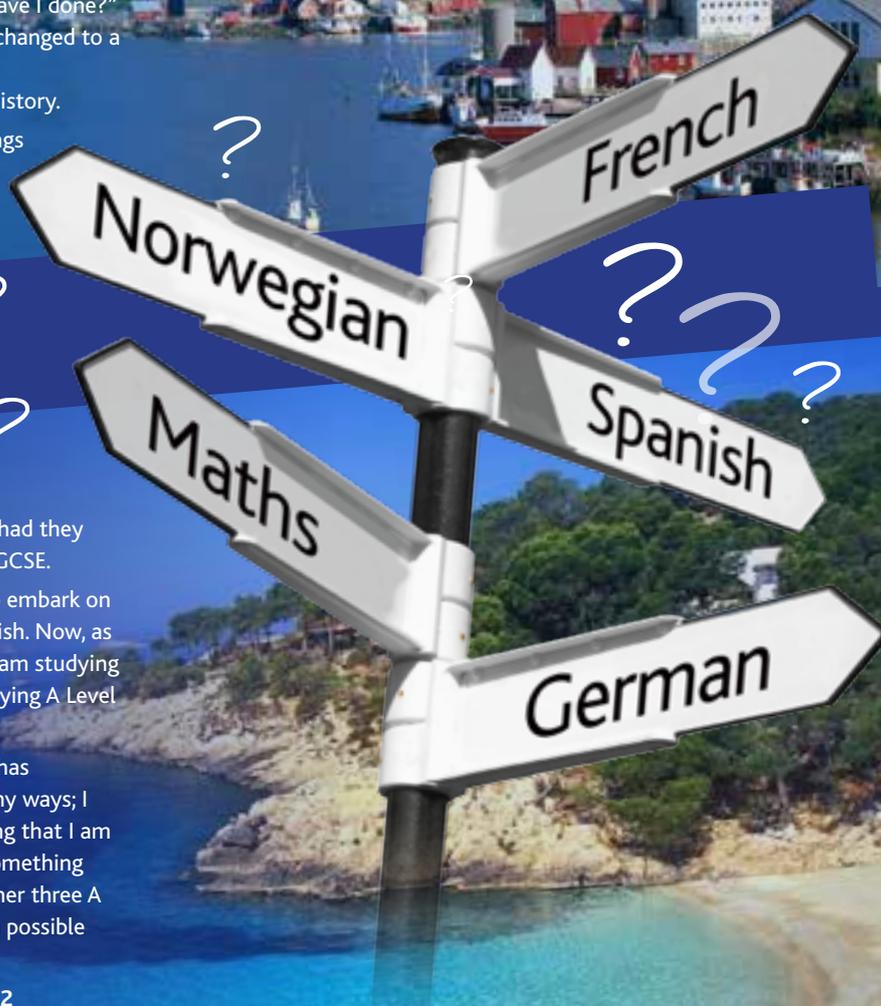
In this instance, I decided upon studying German, but after a few perplexing sessions of studying the language, I was confident that this was not the subject for me. And to make this situation worse, my friends were

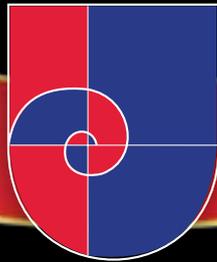
not in my class, nor had they chosen German for GCSE.

Luckily, I was able to embark on studying GCSE Spanish. Now, as a post-16 student, I am studying and thoroughly enjoying A Level Spanish.

Making this change has helped me in so many ways; I discovered something that I am naturally good at, something that enriches my other three A Level subjects, and a possible future career!

Lauren Ward, Year 12





Honouring Achievement in Year 11 and Year 13

Year 11

For some of the recent Alumni here at Landau Forte, the College held its annual former Year 11 Presentation Evening which was well attended by former students, parents, carers and tutorial staff.

The event took place in November 2013 at the College, as well as the great achievements and successes they have enjoyed since leaving. Also in attendance was the College's Principal,

Mrs Coffey, and Chairman of Governors, **Keith Doble**.

The event's guest of honour was **Liz Fothergill**, Chief Executive of Pennine Healthcare, which is a highly successful local business. Based in Derby, it is one of the UK's leading privately owned manufacturers of single use, sterile medical devices and Custom Procedure Packs.

Rodwell Ndengeya, Year 11



is given to every parent. **Mrs Coffey** applauds each student's achievement within College, whilst **Miss Grant** announces the award and gives an insight into the experience of the former student.

The presentation evening gives the former students an opportunity for reunion, discussing their new lives, and also the chance to celebrate everything they accomplished during their time at Landau Forte College.

This year, **Suzie Hewitt** held the title Guest of Honour; she is a governor at College, whilst also being a consultant at the Royal Derby Hospital. It was great for Mrs Hewitt to share her career journey, offer her insights into her own studies and discuss the

challenges to which she had to rise. It was great to also have former student, **Ian Harrison**, who is now a physicist, come back to Landau Forte College to talk to students who are interested in gaining a PHD.

Two students, were acknowledged for their individual successes during their time at the College. **Beth Moore** received the Baljeet Garcha Science Award for her achievements in Science and the Nat West Finance Award was presented to **Andrew Brown** who was recognised as the most outstanding Business Finance student.

Sabrina Khan, Year 13

Year 13

On Monday 16 December, former Year 13 students came back to celebrate their achievements and the successes of Landau Forte College once again.

Every year, the students come back some months after they have begun to experience their new start since leaving Landau following their final exams. The

night includes awards, speeches, laughter, reminiscence and some great performances provided by the Performing Art students.

Tutors work hard to create snapshots of the student's time at Landau Forte College and the legacy they have left. These memories are provided to them within a souvenir that

LFC RAISES £100,000 FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

On 15 November 2013, Landau Forte College held its annual charity fundraiser in aid of BBC Children in Need.



The College raised a fantastic £9034.17 on the day which means over the years that we have supported the charity, the College has raised over £100,000 for the benefit of disadvantaged children up and down the UK.

The fundraiser – which is organised by the Student Council – began with post-16 students arriving at College bright and early in a vast array of fancy dress outfits, which included: 101 Dalmatians, Peter Pan characters and cheerleaders. Students then headed out into the City Centre where their loose change collections were topped off by a brilliant flash mob to the 'Cha Cha Slide' which brought St. Peter's Street to a halt as passers-by stopped to watch the entertaining spectacle.

Back at College, students donated £1 to come in wearing non-uniform. After attending the first few sessions as normal, it was time to set up tutor base stalls. There was a great vibe amongst the stalls which included penalty shoot-outs, a variety of different games and challenges, not to mention various food and drink!

As usual, the Children in Need Show proved a big hit with acts such as talented singers, energetic dancers and a hilarious Harry Potter monologue. A new addition to this year's fundraiser was our prize draw which offered some great prizes, including: a signed Derby County Football Shirt, Spa Treatment vouchers and a Build-a-Bear Teddy fitted out in Pudsey gear.

The College's huge involvement in Children in Need attracted lots of positive media attention from the likes of BBC Radio Derby and the Derby Telegraph.

As Chair of the Student Council, it was great to see weeks of hard work, organisation and planning coming together to form a hugely enjoyable and successful day for all involved. The annual fundraiser still proves to be a key highlight in the College calendar and I hope that subsequent councils continue to dedicate their energies into new avenues to ensure even more money can be raised in support of this great charity and Landau Forte's wider community.

Tom Bingham, Year 13

Engineering Education Scheme Visits Loughborough

As part of the Engineering Education Scheme, we were given the opportunity to work alongside JCB on a project to improve cab air conditioning and were lucky enough to be invited to attend a three-day residential at Loughborough University.

Essentially, the trip provided us with an uninterrupted period of time in which we were able to carry out any experiments necessary for our project. We also attended seminars that aimed to highlight how to tackle key areas of the project. On the first of the three days, we were introduced to the other teams taking part in the scheme, the itinerary of the stay, and the workshop in which we were to carry out our experiments. We set up our

equipment with the help of the Loughborough University staff, and began to carry out our tests. As a result of our weeks of preparation prior to the residential, we were able to begin our experiments on the first day and were the first team to finish.

The experience offered us a real taste of the type of education provided at university and allowed us to understand the level of knowledge that university students are expected

to gain through their course. Overall, we had a great time, built our skills, completed our experiments, and bonded as a team. We would strongly recommend anyone who is thinking about taking part in the scheme to do so.

**Celia Edwards-Grant,
Reece Limbert, Connor Rice,
Amber Short, Year 12**



Core Programme Make Over

In term 2 Mrs Burton and Andrew Lowe from Marketing Derby launched the new re-designed Core Programme. Students have chosen their own pathway from the themes of Business, Creative Arts, Science and Technology, and Volunteering.



Designed to enable our students to become outstanding independent learners, the College has developed individual pathways for our young people to follow during terms 3 and 4. On Friday 17 January, Graham Mulholland from EPM Technology and Michele Walsh from Ms MoneyMaker both gave inspiring talks which really engaged the students in creating their business ideas and plans. Joe Fairfax, a talented artist

(see photo), came in to launch the Creative Arts workshop. He pushed the students to think outside of their comfort zones in order to question if art can change people's minds or behaviours.

Simon Hancox and Naela Farooq of Community Action Derby came to connect our young people with volunteering in the local community. Students were encouraged to secure a placement to complete

at least 10 hours volunteer work with the intention of developing longer term placements. This will be an excellent addition to any UCAS statement. On 8 March, a group of five students, together with Mrs Burton, managed to collect £421 for Prostate Cancer as part of their fundraising efforts.

Ian Harrison, a former Landau Forte student, returned to the College to lead a session on Science and Technology

entitled, 'Should we always do what Science & Technology allow us to do?'. He is now a PhD Cosmology graduate and currently working for the University of Manchester at the Jodrell Bank Centre for Astrophysics.

The students' response to the day was outstanding and they now feel inspired to excel in their chosen area.

J Burton

When Opportunity Knocks...



Having had a few weeks to adapt to the demands of their new post-16 courses, all Year 12 students were invited to the annual Opportunities Fair in September. This event is held to showcase the wide variety of extension and enrichment opportunities that are available to broaden the education of students whilst at College and to complement their academic and vocational studies. Many of these activities are college-

based, such as Student Learning Advisors, Peer Mentoring, Sports Extension and the now well established ERIC & ERNI literacy and numeracy initiatives. However, some are external initiatives, like Amnesty International, and that provided by the National Citizen Service, which offers students the chance to experience some time away from home and take part in a team project that will help their community.

Stall holders were particularly delighted with the enthusiasm of students this year, with many reporting large numbers of students signing up for their activities. This has been apparent in recent ERIC and ERNI sessions when unprecedented numbers of Year 7 students have been benefiting from the time and efforts of Year 12 students.

Faith Chorley, new to the



College this year, commented: "The Opportunities Fair was really helpful. There was a wide range of activities up for grabs for people who were interested in different areas. It's good to be at a College that helps you not only with subject learning, but also with other activities that will look great on a CV, as well as helping us become well rounded people."

A Delbridge



It Ain't What You Do – It's The Way That You Do It

In October, Drugs Awareness Week took place at Landau Forte College – an event to raise awareness around the many issues surrounding all types of drug use. The key point being that if you know the risks, you can make informed decisions.

Across the College, students from all year groups learnt about drugs in several different subject areas. In Humanities, students examined the influence of drugs historically; in Maths they looked at the cost of drugs; in Science they examined the effect of drugs on the brain; BTEC Art students created some fantastic pieces to highlight the role drugs play in everyday life; and PE students learnt about how doping and sports drinks affect performance. These were just some of the many different learning sessions that went on

throughout the College. The Solomon Theatre Company visited Year 9 students to perform 'Last Orders', a play based on real events. It highlighted what happened when two young girls chose to binge heavily on alcohol one night. After the performance, students had the opportunity to hot seat the characters about the performance. It was really interesting to hear what different people thought, with the whole process really challenging ideas about alcohol. We also learnt about drugs at

tutor time with the 'thought for the day'. Images related to drugs were used to promote discussion on key issues surrounding drug use. Students also had the opportunity to log attitudes, thoughts and beliefs about drugs throughout the week using their student guides. A hybrid-learning day on Friday drew together all of the experiences from the week. To help run this, learning leaders from each tutor base were selected. Learning journals were also created, which documented what different students had

learnt throughout the week. These journals were displayed on the lower mall so that students could see all of the different things each tutor base had covered.

Thank you to everyone at the College for making Drugs Awareness Week such a huge success. There's always room for improvement and next time we hope to make it even bigger and better! Here's to next time.

J Naughton





'Taking part in Drugs Awareness Week as a learning leader was a great experience. I was part of a team which informed all years of the College about drugs, a subject matter which could directly affect their lives. The week provided everyone with the opportunity to gain a better understanding about the types of drugs that are most commonly used and the

effects that these drugs have on the body. As a leader, I was involved with helping students in tutor base activities as well as presenting a presentation on the overview of what the College had achieved throughout Drugs Awareness Week.'

Kieran Bosworth, Year 13

'As part of Drugs Awareness Week I was chosen as a learning leader for my tutor base. The role consisted of attending workshops led by Breakout, a group which informs people (especially young people) about drugs, I then passed on the information to my tutor base (along with another learning leader). I also presented a gathering with three other learning leaders from different tutor bases.

I particularly enjoyed the workshops as they were extremely informative about

drugs and did not only talk about the dangers of "hard" drugs, but also mentioned legal drugs, such as alcohol and tobacco, and gave us statistics regarding drugs in the UK. At the end of the week, each tutor base created a presentation to sum up our learning throughout Drugs Awareness Week. I am looking forward to the next Drugs Awareness Week to see how it can be improved further.'

Irene Micco, Year 11



Leading Literacy to New Levels



This academic year, a new opportunity was created for our Year 12 students: Student Literacy Ambassadors. Alongside the Staff Literacy Ambassadors, their aim would be to continue to promote and enhance how literacy is used in College.

The first hurdle came with candidates having to write a letter of application. If a student can successfully and articulately compose this, then that is certainly a step in the right direction to being suitable for this role. Applications included profound statements such as: "Literacy is a concept that is vital in everyday life... from the fundamental level of enabling people to read or write or expand imaginations, literacy is essential to all subjects."

"A good grasp of literacy can open many doors in life..."

proficiency in literacy also cultivates good communication skills which are useful in almost any situation."

"Through my research I found overwhelming evidence that literacy has a significant relationship with a person's happiness and success. What better to provide our students and tutors with but happiness and success?"

The eloquently successful candidates were: **Molly Coffey, Isobel Davidson, Rebecca Howe and Laura Timmins.**

The position has also re-opened for application so there may well be more great communicators joining the student team. Although they will have missed some workshops, a visit to the Aesthetica Short Film Festival in York, and a great start to enhancing the College's ERIC programme (Everyone Reads In College), there is still much work to be done and plenty of exciting opportunities ahead.

A Wrampling



Extreme Magnification

Year 12 Biology students had the opportunity to visit Derby University to work with the Electron Microscope and Analysis Unit. The students were met by **Dr Graham Souch** who has recently applied forensic science techniques to better understand air pollution in his on-going research.

After being talked through the equipment in the Microscope Unit, students had a chance to work with the scanning electron microscope and view their own hair at up to 100,000 times magnification.

Before they could do this, Dr Souch had to run the hair through a machine which coats samples in pure gold in order to get the highest possible resolution. Students were able

to manoeuvre the viewing lens of the machine, which costs several hundred thousand pounds, and focus in on different areas of the specimen.

Next, Dr Souch showed the students several samples which he had prepared, from dust mites to pollen and even E.coli. He then demonstrated the x-ray micro analyser which is often used by forensic science students at the university to identify gunshot residue.

This was a great visit which allowed students to work with equipment that is used in international research which they would never have a chance to use in a learning session.

J Cox





Ward Volunteers Scheme

This year, twenty-two Year 13 students, who wish to pursue a career in the medical sector, were given the opportunity to become volunteers at the Royal Derby Hospital.

The year-long scheme provides students with the experience of visiting a ward once a week to offer assistance to nursing staff at meal times.

In addition to this, we seek to better the days of the patients by taking the time to talk to them, paint their nails, brush their hair, play games such as dominoes and bingo, and genuinely keep them company if they don't have any visitors. Doing this gives us a real insight to a hospital environment

which is valuable for our future career choices. However, the most important thing is that we aim to make a difference to the patients and their time in hospital, hoping they feel uplifted and more contented as a result of our input.

In December 2013, Royal Derby Hospital was delighted to receive an award for providing the most compassionate care to patients out of 112 hospitals nationwide. This award was in recognition of all the hard work

the volunteers put in and the care provided by the students.

The volunteering scheme has been such a rewarding experience to be involved with. The care we provide makes us all tremendously proud; it is a privilege to have the opportunity to give something back to the vulnerable members of our society and improve their hospital experience.

Jessica Morgan, Year 13



The Art of Learning

During October's INSET week, Landau Forte students were involved in an innovative and exciting opportunity to extend and develop their skills as learning coaches. The day was planned and delivered with the intention of training new and existing student learning coaches in the skills needed to support others to improve their own expertise in understanding how we learn.

Sixty-two students ranging from Year 5 to Year 13 completed an array of creative activities

designed to help them analyse learning. The students were encouraged to work with new people with different learning experiences, giving them more insight into diverse and varied approaches. All of the students demonstrated impressive introspection and were able to participate with striking honesty and clarity that made the experience both enlightening and inspiring.

The group benefitted greatly from the expertise of **Guy Claxton** and **Graham Powell**,

leading educational specialists who have worked with academic establishments all over the world. They delivered a series of workshops that highlighted the importance and value of coaching; techniques that could be used to coach and ways in which coaching differs from tutoring.

The day was organised by **Miss O'Mara** and **Mr Green**, who played an integral role in delivering some of the exciting activities. Students particularly enjoyed making a set of glasses

that artistically highlighted the way in which we view situations differently, encouraging them to acknowledge the importance of listening to the coachee. The visiting schools were able to take a range of resources away with them in order to establish their own student learning coaches and continue the journey we began three years ago.

C Noble

Can You Control Space?

Year 8 students share their thoughts...



Music Magic

Congratulations to the students who achieved excellent results in their recent instrumental examinations. A round of applause for them all!

Isabelle Moss, Year 10
Clarinete Grade 6 with Distinction

Holly Morgan, Year 10
Saxophone Grade 3 with Merit

Eleni Marshall, Year 10
Flute Grade 3 with Merit

Alex Albiston, Year 8
Trombone, Grade 2

J Davy



Christmas Fizz

The rehearsals were complete, the techies were in position and the performers were bubbling with excitement. The audience trickled into the theatre and I knew that they were about to be enthralled by some very special performances.

It began with a powerful solo from **Emma Smith** in Year 7 who sang the first verse of 'Once in Royal David's City', soon joined by the Singers. Atmospheric lanterns lit the dark blue space and took us on a journey into the true heart of Christmas where the tacky splendour of current commerciality was left far behind. The mood was lifted with 'Walkin' On Sunshine', which got heads swaying and feet tapping.

In a Year 10 pantomime Rudolph

suffered from 'man flu', and raised several smiles and chuckles. The performances flowed with ease and the students really stepped up to the mark. At the end of the first act, the Band chortled away with 'Match of the Day' leading into 'Silent Night', a sound that resonated throughout the corridors during the interval. In the second act the glittering performances continued. 'Toys on the Shelf' from Drama Group provided an entertaining

introduction to the second part and was followed by the Year 11 pantomime, where Mary and Joseph's story was given a 21st century revamp; fits of giggles rippled around the theatre with sparkling effervescence. The comedic moments were balanced with spells of dignified poignancy. Our post-16 Songsters sang 'Something Inside So Strong' in remembrance of our world hero and freedom fighter, Nelson Mandela. As ever, we closed the

evening with a couple of elevating sing-a-long carol songs.

This was another fantastic Christmas show including Guitar Group, Dancers, Flooty Tooties, Blazerz, Honk and Landin' Craft. All of the students did themselves extremely proud. Well done everyone – what a corker!

J Davy

Senior Citizen's Seasonally Scintillated

At the Senior Citizen's Party the tables were adorned with decorations and festive nibbles; if we weren't in the Christmas mood by then, we certainly would be as a result of the few hours that followed!

Enthusiasm positively radiated from the faces of the performers. A range of acts participated throughout the afternoon including sisters **Leah and Holly Morgan** who performed as a folk duo.

The audience members were

very complimentary regarding the professional nature of the event, the quality of the performances and the teamwork that had evidently gone into organising it. One couple was particularly touched by the war time songs, produced by the Year 12 students.

We look forward to welcoming our Senior Citizen's back next year for another abounding bauble-filled bash!

J Davy



The Review

Footballing Stars

Landau Forte girls' football team competed in the Derby City Schools football tournament...



at the Power League Soccer Dome at Pride Park. The girls played in three round-robin matches against Littleover, West Park and Woodlands, winning two out of the three fixtures. The spirit shown by the entire team was fantastic and helped them to achieve

three further victories against Shireland, Hasland and Bemrose. The girls were finally beaten by last year's finalists Woodlands, who won 3-2. Woodlands went on to make the final but were beaten on penalties by Ecclesbourne.

We're pleased to share their very impressive match results:

- Littleover 0-14 Landau Forte
- West Park 0-11 Landau Forte
- Woodlands 3-2 Landau Forte
- Shireland 0-7 Landau Forte
- Hasland School 1-7 Landau Forte
- Bemrose 0-12 Landau Forte

Congratulations to all members of the team:

- Paris McKenzie, Year 8
- Olivia Spencer, Year 7
- Naomi Lawrence, Year 7
- Charley Johnson, Year 8
- Robyn Shillingford, Year 7
- Beth Wong, Year 8
- Melissa Whitehead, Year 8

L Barron



Gymnastics Stars

Well done to those students who represented the College on 12 December at the Derby Schools Gymnastics Competition.

Level 1:
2nd Place: **Natasja Joyce, Year 11**
Level 3: 1st Place: **Natalie Auger, Year 8**
3rd Place: **Simran Jandu, Year 9**
N Haigh

Netball Stars

With over forty students attending this year, the quality of netball in College has thrived.

We would like to recognise the following students as 'Netballers of the Term' for their outstanding commitment, enthusiasm and the progress they have made:

- Term 1:
Holly Lloyd Jones, Year 9
- Term 2:
Ruby Lees, Year 7
- Term 3:
Parys Sharratt, Year 8
and **Emily White, Year 7**

As a result of the students' continued commitment, our U14 and U16 teams are currently placed third in their respective leagues. There has been a fantastic effort so far and there is not long left now until the end of the season – keep up the hard work ladies!

Huge congratulations are in order for the Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 teams who all won the Derby Netball tournaments in their respective age groups. We were fortunate enough to be able to send two Year 8 teams to the tournament, both of whom represented the College brilliantly and achieved the outstanding results of first and third position.

Finally, a big thank you to all the students for your hard work and commitment.

N Haigh



Terrific Trampolining

Regional Trampoline Competition

Since term 3 last year, students have been learning skills and routines in Trampolining extension.

On 2 December, thirty students travelled to Loughborough to compete in the regional finals. Students performed extremely well at their first competition with **Mujahid Zahoor**, Year 8 **Kabir Rehman**, Year 8 and **Joshua Payne**, Year 7 finishing in first place as the U13 boys team, qualifying

them for the next round of the National finals on 19 January. Unfortunately Josh missed the finals due to illness, but Muj and Kabir went on to deliver the highest quality performances they have produced to date and represented the College with pride.

Derby Trampoline Competition

On 12 December, we held our first Trampolining competition at Landau Forte.



Other schools from Derby were invited to compete at the event. The competition was a huge success due to the help and support of four Year 11 students: **Chelsey Culligan**, **Jadyn**

Thompson, **Xaffie Evans** and **Holly Lloyd-Jones**. They acted as a superb representation of the College's sports leaders and ensured the event ran without a hitch.

Derbyshire Trampoline Competition

On 22 January, twenty students took part in the County Finals at Littleover Community School.

Our most recent additions to the Trampolining team along with the Year 7 trampolinists took part in this event. Landau Forte was represented brilliantly and the students agreed

participating in the competition was a valuable experience. Trampolining extension resumes in term 5; come and join us if such opportunities interest you!

Level 1 Competition:

3rd Place: **Leoni Bird**, Year 9,
3rd Place team: **Leoni Bird**, Year 9, **Holly Lloyd-Jones**, Year 9, **Ellie Ong**, Year 7 and **Parys Sharratt**, Year 8

Level 3 Competition:

2nd Place **Natalie Auger**, Year 8
2nd place team: **Chelsey Culligan**, Year 11, **Sophie Hill**, Year 11, and **Xaffie Evans**, Year 11

3rd place team: **Joe Payne**, Year 9, **Josh Payne**, Year 7
Elisha Griffiths, Year 11, **Millie Simpson**, Year 7.





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