A Landau Forte College Derby Publication

newslink

Spring 2017

SPRINGTIME!

A look back to Spring/Summer

IN THIS ISSUE:

Mock Election

Summer Gala

A-Level Art

Year 13 Prom

LANDAU FORTE COLLEGE DERBY

Multi-Games Court

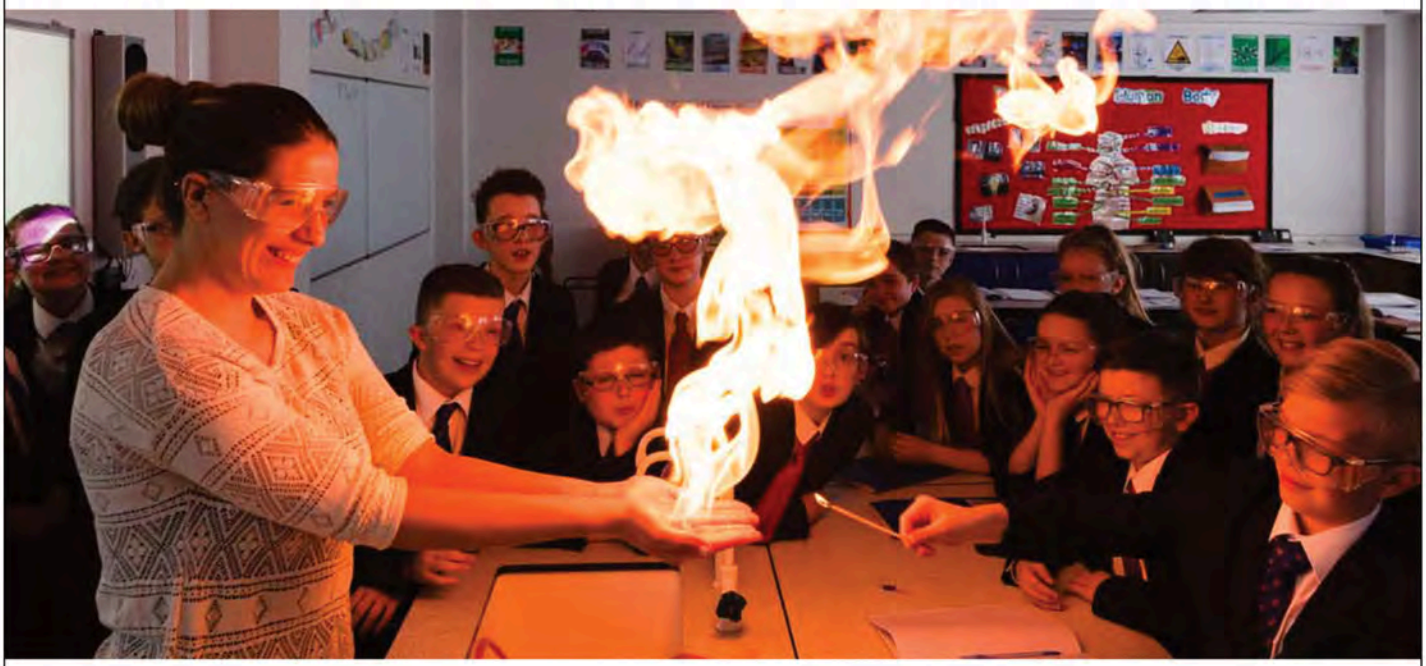
We are delighted with the redevelopment of the College's Outdoor Multi-Games Court over the summer, which is part of our rolling long-term plan to renew or replace all of our facilities. The 9-week work on site followed months of planning and design, to ensure the world-class surface is ready for a wide variety of sports in all weathers.

1,800 drainage holes were drilled, 4 tonnes of black rubber for the shock pad laid, 1,800 square metres of artificial turf carefully rolled out and glued in place before the markings for each of the sports was painstakingly cut-out and replaced with contrasting coloured turf. Finally, the whole surface was 'dressed' in 2 tonnes of sand, brushed in for a smooth playing surface, essential for top performance.

It is not just our students who will benefit; the local clubs and sports groups who hire the courts at evenings and weekends will also be able to use the brand new facilities. The Sports Hall, Theatre, meeting rooms, and classrooms are also available for hire for very reasonable rates, every penny of which we invest back into the College.

For more information on what we can offer you, please call Jessica on 01332 204040.

Receive up to £30k to train as a teacher at Landau Forte College Derby SCITT and give children in Derby, Derbyshire and Tamworth the opportunities they deserve.



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Principal's Message

Welcome to the latest edition of Newslink; a roundup of Spring/Summer 2017

As we look back at some of the achievements and successes of last term, I am delighted to have welcomed students back for a new academic year at the College. Our new Year 7 cohort have made an excellent start to their secondary education and our new Year 11s and 13s are visibly rising to the challenges of these vitally important next three terms.

Once again we celebrated some very strong GCSE and A Level results this summer. I would like to congratulate students for some excellent individual and combined successes at GCSE, which saw the College's outcomes and progress measures improve for another year. Likewise, our Sixth Formers graduated with excellent results in their A Level and vocational qualifications, securing places at top universities across the country. We continued to build on our strong track record of Oxbridge admissions with an incredible four students taking up places at Oxford University this autumn. Congratulations to them all – and good luck to our Year 13 students currently completing their university applications.

These results demonstrate just what can be accomplished through dedication, ambition and effort; and I know that they act as an inspiration to our younger students so that they understand just what is possible from an education at Landau Forte College Derby.

As ever, this school year is full of opportunities for our students not only to excel in their academic talents and interests but to explore a broad range of enrichment and wider development activities. Very shortly, our Year 7 and 11 students will be attending residential visits designed to support their learning. For Year 7, this will be a chance to build friendship groups, grow in confidence and develop resilience alongside their new peers; for Year 11, the focus will be on exam preparation and techniques for success.

I would like to thank everyone associated with the College – students, staff, parents, friends and governors – for your ongoing support. I hope you enjoy this latest edition and I look forward to meeting with many of you over the course of the academic year.

Alison Brannick
Principal

Literacy Update

Author Visit

On Wednesday 14th June Mr Dobson took 11 Year 7 students to the University of Derby to see the children's author Christopher Edge. We listened to an intriguing talk from Christopher that began with a science test and encompassed such issues as Schrödinger's Cat, space travel and quantum mechanics! Christopher was then interviewed by a professor from the university and the audience were then invited to ask questions – two of our students, George Hague and Tyler Hall, asked probing questions that were well received by the author. The visit was organised as part of Derby Book Festival and we look forward to working with them again next year.

Accelerated Reader

Over the past fifteen months the College has been using the Accelerated Reader Programme. This involves the students in years 7,8 and 9 undertaking an initial test of their reading ability and then being given a ZPD (zone of proximal development) level. This level (which is a numerical range) helps the students to make choices about which books they should be reading to make most effective progress in developing their reading and vocabulary. We are seeing much more engagement with reading from the majority of students and the decision to encourage all key stage 3 students to read at the start of sessions will further enhance this. If you have any questions regarding this please email Mr. Dobson: **ndobson@landau-forte.org.uk**

N Dobson

Literacy: Looking Forward

In the new academic year 8 will be participating in Readathon. For a month students will be encouraged to read as many books as they can and to be sponsored for reading them. This will be a good opportunity for parents to engage with students and to discuss their reading habits as well as to raise money for very worthy causes CLIC Sargent and Roald Dahl's Marvellous Children's Charity. Due to changes in our term times for the first time ever we will be at College for World Book Day (Thursday march 1st 2018). We look forward to organising some reading-based activities for students in tutor time and elsewhere.

The Big Jump: Transitioning to Year 12

Each year, approximately one third of our Year 12 students join us for Sixth Form Education from other schools, some local, some from much further afield. Three students who joined us last September reflect on their experience and give their impressions on what can be a challenging transition, offering advice to those who are thinking of making the same decision.

"Moving from a school you've been at for five years can be quite intimidating and a daunting experience, it is probably the biggest change you will experience so far. However, it is one of the most rewarding and life-changing opportunities too. Being able to choose subjects you are passionate about and want to study means you enjoy learning much more and have a new outlook on education. You are surrounded by like-minded people and this helps you create strong friendships and bonds.

Be prepared and motivated to give yourself the best shot at succeeding. A clear focus and a strong mind are key elements during your sixth form experience. When you move from secondary school to sixth form you gain independence: the stepping stone to Higher Education and/or employment. You are expected to complete wider reading as well as extra study outside of College, equal or more than the amount of time you've put in for GCSE revision.

It is therefore vital that you use your study periods wisely! You're going to hear this lots throughout your first few weeks at any sixth form but it is the most important step to achieving throughout sixth form. With the jump from GCSEs to A levels, you gain a huge amount of responsibility for your own education, and it is important to learn how to manage your time and organise yourself from the moment you start."

Isabel Askey & Bethan Grigg

"You are not trying to fit in as you were never not a part of this school; everything is so natural and smooth and I guarantee you will not regret coming to Landau Forte College."

- Bethan

"My experience so far at Landau Forte has been full of personal development, support and positivity. In the words of Art Williams 'I'm not telling you it is going to be easy- I'm telling you it's going to be worth it."

- Isabel

"After leaving my previous school, the change to Landau and to Year 12 was drastic and somewhat challenging but in a constructive way. It quickly forced me to be more independent and guide my own learning more than in Year 11. During the middle of the year the workload increased but there was much assertive support from the staff that kept the pressure on and motivation high."

- Jacob

Y9 Camp 2017

Hesley Wood Scout Activity Centre

Year 9 made the journey northbound to Hesley Wood Scout Activity Centre in the heart of Chapeltown, South Yorkshire for their three day residential. Students arrived in glorious sunshine which turned out to be a frequent visitor for the week. Once the students unpacked they were introduced to their group leader who would lead them through some keenly contested team building activities for the afternoon. As expected, Mr Andrews and Mr Goring instantly took it upon themselves to instigate their old rivalry, however Mr Middleton quietly led his group 6 through the range of activities accumulating in the team building activities title.

Following an exciting afternoon of competition, Mr Fox took to the kitchen to produce his magnificent pasta dish which was enjoyed by all. With dinner eaten and free time enjoyed by the students, Miss Haigh and Miss Gaunt treated the students to a tricky quiz, with the teachers sneaking a final round victory to the dismay of the students.

The second day of the trip saw students participate in a range of activities. Many students soon found themselves either covered head to toe in mud from the obstacle course or particularly wet, having either fallen in whilst rafting or experiencing the occasional capsizing of their canoe. All in all, the students superbly represented the college as they all gave fantastic effort throughout the day of activities with plenty of smiles evident despite the mud and water.

The final evening of the camp was signed off with a trademark barbecue by Mr Goring. As the sun blazed over the camp, 'Sloppy Joe' burgers were served as the students enjoyed some al fresco dining. Post-barbecue, Mr Andrews and Mr Fox rallied up a game of intergroup kick ball rounders which saw many moments of sensational fielding and a couple of rounders for Miss Quinn.

The final morning saw many exhausted students clambering back on to the buses following an action filled week: a time in which the Year 9 students should look back on with immense pride following their outstanding efforts during their experience.

C Whiteley

Life @ Landau

Lots of faces stood in reception looking apprehensive, wondering what the day would hold. Parents and carers anxious about their little ones going off to 'big school'. Transition day had arrived: a day jam packed with activities and fun to help ease some of those nerves before September. The jump from primary to secondary school can seem like a big change but the day was designed to make the bridge between the two feel a little easier.

Students experienced a day in the Life of Landau Forte College and each group followed a timetable that included 3 learning sessions. From fireworks, working as a team, discovering whether 'television' is a Spanish or English word, and rummaging through junk to make a poem. Students were also introduced to the language of learning; perseverance, reviewing, planning and being open minded.

Going around the various groups during the day and seeing those anxious faces change to laughing and smiling ones made the whole day worthwhile. Students were excited to be doing new things that they have never experienced, such as lighting a Bunsen burner and getting hands on with tools.

The day ended with some reflection with Personal Tutors, encouraging the students to think about what they are most looking forward to about coming to Landau Forte College and what they are apprehensive about. The parents greeted their little ones at the end of the day and listened to the students recount how much fun they had. That first meeting of parents and carers with Personal Tutors is the building blocks of the home/college partnership and makes you realise how important the Life At Landau day is.

We welcome the new Year 7s with their brand new pencil cases, stationery and new P.E. kits and their freshly completed 'My Derby' summer project waiting to be shared. Hopeful, now that they have experienced what Landau Forte College has to offer, feeling eager to get going with a few less anxious nerves!

H James

Duke of Edinburgh: Bronze Level is an award programme that any Year 9 students can undertake. It consists of three categories: volunteering, skills and physical. Students can choose to do one for 6 months and the other two for three months, doing one hour a week in order to meet the criteria. For the physical and skill components we take part in two daytime walks and two overnight expeditions.

Over the last year we took part in training sessions in order to prepare us for the expeditions. This is where we were taught emergency procedures such as first aid, treatment of wounds and how to place someone into the recovery position. We had to learn basic cooking and how to efficiently erect and pack away our tents in the event of bad weather. In our groups we also planned routes and route cards on software called "Memory Map".

Our first expedition took place over two days at the end of April. We had to work as a team, taking turns to navigate, trekking along our route and meeting the staff members at certain checkpoints. During the assessment stage our navigation skills, time keeping, cooking skills and team work are all assessed.

One of the best things about the experience was the amount of positivity and encouragement throughout the walk. It was really nice to see that everyone was getting along together and everyone made an effort to meet someone new. We made friends with people we had never spoken to in College before and maybe never would if it wasn't for the training and expeditions and the help of Miss Hicks, Mr Shakespeare and Mr Owen. It's a superb way to learn some new skills and to get to know new people!

Maria Varney & Courtney Cowley

Landau Forte Alumni

Aggie Milner, University of London Officer Training Corps

When I first started University I knew that I wanted to join several societies, namely Netball and Yoga, I didn't think for a second that I would end up joining the British Army Reserve!

I first heard about the University of London Officers' Training Corps (ULOTC) at my University Freshers' Fair where I noticed a stall surrounded by men and women dressed in military uniform with the slogan "A student life less ordinary" across the back. The following week I attended an information evening at a local Army unit followed by a selection weekend at Pirbright Army base where I met all of the other applicants.

The University Officers' Training Corps (UOTC) is a Type B Army Reserve unit, but is very similar to a University society. It presents university students with a unique opportunity to develop themselves as leaders and challenge themselves by experiencing life in the British Army. UOTC members are classed as Officer Cadets and are members of the Army Reserve, paid when on duty (this includes being paid to go skiing for a week in France, along with sailing around Denmark and hiking through Spain amongst other things). Although UOTC can feel like a big commitment compared to many other University societies, the skills and opportunities that it offers are not comparable. As an Officer Cadet I am required to take part in one training night per week after university, one military exercise weekend per month and a 3-week annual training camp in the summer (often abroad), despite this commitment UOTC can be flexible when it comes to needing time for University assignments and therefore fits in well with my university life.

Throughout my time as an Officer Cadet I have actively taken part in military exercises, where I have lead platoons of up to 30 men and presented detailed attack and contingency plans to groups of up to 50 Officers and Officer Cadets. Alongside this I have also taken part in adventurous training, sport, community projects and expeditions both in the UK and overseas. Although a large part of UOTC revolves around taking part in cold and muddy exercise weekends and range shooting exercises, the other side of it is far more glamourous. Throughout the year there is a variety of strictly black tie parties and dinners, which royalty have been known to attend, where everyone can let their hair down and enjoy the benefits of life as an Army Officer.

Before I joined UOTC a career in the military wasn't something that I had largely considered but my time as an Officer Cadet has given me an insight into the challenge and adventure that a career as an Officer in the British Army would bring and as a consequence I have recently submitted my application for Sandhurst. Whether you are considering a career in the military or not, UOTC is like nothing you will have experienced before and really does lead to a 'student life less ordinary' along with friends that you will have for life.

Aggie Milner

Song Writing Workshop

Musician Rich Cottell came into work with some of our Y8, 10 and 12 students.

In addition to sharing information about how the music industry works (including some interesting revelations about X Factor!) Rich led a workshop on how to write songs; breaking down the process for this and areas to consider. Students were then placed into groups and using the skills they had learnt, each group was able to create their own song, including lyrics; melody; verse; chorus; and more!

Each group utilised the skills within their groups and a variety of instruments were used and harmonies created amongst the singers. Rich also performed some of his work to a Y7 audience and some of the students were able to get up on stage with him! A great experience for all involved.

A Wrampling

Leavers' Prom: 2017

The beautiful rolling hills of Derbyshire were the setting once again for our Year 13 Leavers Prom of 2017. Shottle Hall played host to Landau Forte College Leavers, this time in late June and the venue was superb. Students and staff joined together to celebrate memories and achievements of the students time spent at Landau Forte College.

Awards were presented to a very surprised Gillian Kachembere for Prom Queen and Joel Shinu who was voted by students for Prom King. On the evening Noah Butler-Roberts was voted best dressed male and Saffron Jackson best dressed female, although the choice was very difficult as all of our students had made a huge effort for the evening.

A speech by Ellen Sanghera (head of student council) was inspirational and uplifting, encouraging her year group to seize the moment and make the most of every opportunity. Never stop chasing your dreams Year 13. Good Luck to you all!

Thanks to Katrina Whitaker for photographing the event: http://www.kitkatpaddywak.co.uk

T Fazekas

Bringing History to Life

As part of their Lessons from Auschwitz programme two Year 13 students, Ryan Smith and Philip Hutchinson organised for a Holocaust Survivor to visit the College and speak to Year 8.

"Lessons from Auschwitz" is a programme run by the **Holocaust Education Trust** every year. Part of the experience is a one day visit to Auschwitz itself which both students found incredibly powerful and emotional. This was supported by seminars before and after the visit to help students to process and make sense of what they have seen and felt, supporting them in feeding back on this to younger students within their respective schools. For both boys the decision to invite in a Holocaust survivor was the obvious way to do this to best effect.

The next question was which year group to focus on. With the change to a two-year KS3, Year 8 had missed the visit to Beth Shalom which is taken in Year 9. Therefore it was decided to deliver an extended gathering to this year group, led by the Holocaust survivor. Ryan and Philip took the initiative, contacting the HET, speaking to Senior Leadership within the College and arranging provisional dates for the visit to occur. Both boys showed great organisational skills, being a credit to the College.

The Holocaust survivor who had been kind enough to give his time for the gathering was Simon Winston. Simon had been born in 1938 in Radzivillov, a small town in what was then Poland and is now the Ukraine. The students listened intently as Simon explained the importance of speaking to students as he does, trying to combat the prejudice and intolerance that could lead to similar occurrences. They were particularly entranced by his harrowing story of how his family hid from the Nazis in various places before finally being able to come out of hiding when the war ended in 1945. Pictures that Simon showed captured their imagination as he detailed how Jewish people had smuggled gold and other precious materials in articles like shoe heels and brushes in the hope that they would escape and be able to rebuild their lives somewhere else. Tears were choked back as he described the fate of the baby, born in a hiding place that could have given away the position of those hiding out there. In his description of life in Britain after the war, Simon gave students food for thought, highlighting the continued prejudice he faced and the intolerance that existed in British society.

Students speaking after the event commented on how brave he was to talk of these experiences and Simon himself said that it had taken many years for him to decide to tell his story. The whole experience was a fantastic opportunity to engage with this period of history.

A Brown

History Facts : The Holocaust

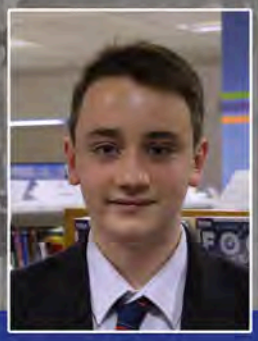
Also referred to as Shoah, the Holocaust was a genocide committed by the Nazi regime and their collaborators.

It is estimated that 6 million Jewish people were killed during the Holocaust (1.1 million of these being children).

The Nazis also targeted other minority groups who did not fit their idea of 'racial purity' along with anyone who they perceived as a threat to the regime. It is estimated that 11 million people perished in all including people targeted because they were homosexual, Jehovah's Witnesses, Roma or Sinti or had spoken out against the Nazi regime.

There were six death camps where the purpose was to kill – Auschwitz, Belzec, Chelmno, Majdanek, Sobibor and Treblinka – all concentrated in eastern Europe. Concentration camps were more spread out through Nazi occupied Europe and tended to be more like prisons were inmates were put to work in terrible conditions (although often inmates were worked to death).

There have been other genocides since the Holocaust, including Rwanda and the current issues in Syria.



Historians of the Year

It's the time of year again where, as tutors, we look at our Key Stage 3 groups (Years 7 to 9) and start to prepare cases for our students to be "Historian of the Year". This year's competition was fierce with only one overall winner possible for each year group.

For Year 7 the nominees were: Luke Willoughby, Laura Turnbull, Adyanna Manning, Ryan De Sousa, Paighton Smith, Josh Meadows, Scarlet Robinson-Stanley and Alice Bolton. Of these outstanding students it was decided that the overall award, the "Richard the Lionheart Award," would go to Alice Bolton for her sustained work ethic, always going above and beyond what is expected of her.

For Year 8 the nominees were: Jenna Delbridge, Emma and Louise Oswald, Bailey Thompson, Louisha Blakemore, Ruby Robinson, Elif Hussain and Daniel Guthrie. For his sustained excellence and sheer breadth of knowledge it was decided that Daniel Guthrie be award the overall award, the "Elizabeth I Award".

Finally, for Year 9, the nominees were: Holly Robinson, Samah Tahir, Tabitha Hartshorn, James Dark, Joe McDonald, Courtney Cowley, Ethan Cox, Maria Varney, Regan Stacey, Rahik Chowdury and Vince Hourd. Competition was tough again with the strong cases being made for the girls to take this prize. However, it was an unsung hero who took the day in the form of Vince Hourd. It was his drive to improve and always do his best that set Vince apart and means he was awarded the overall prize, the "Winston Churchill Award".

Congratulations to all the students nominated and in particular those selected for the top prizes. The fact that we struggled to decide is a reflection of the excellent work that goes on in our Key Stage 3 classes.

A Brown

New History Specification

This year sees the first full teaching Year of our new GCSE course and the first full A Level exam being sat for our new linear A Level course. We are pleased to report that both courses have been well received with both staff and students benefiting from the change in focus.

At GCSE we saw a change in exam board from OCR to AQA. This decision was taken after a great deal of discussion and careful weighing up of the options. One of the key factors being it was the only exam board that had only two, rather than three, final examinations for students to contend with. As a history team we were very mindful that students sit a number of exams in some subjects; we felt that anything we could do to contribute to reducing this would have a positive impact.

Our next decision was to decide which options to cover since the new specifications needed to cover 1,000 years of history, rather than the 85 years (1890-1975) that we had previously covered. Since we already cover Weimar and Nazi Germany and the Tudors at A Level, it was decided to give students some variety and not cover these at GCSE. By looking at Russia 1894-1945, and Conflict and Tension 1918-1939 for the GCSE Paper 1 we would be providing a good background for the Germany side of the A Level without being repetitive. The sections for this paper were completed in Year 10.

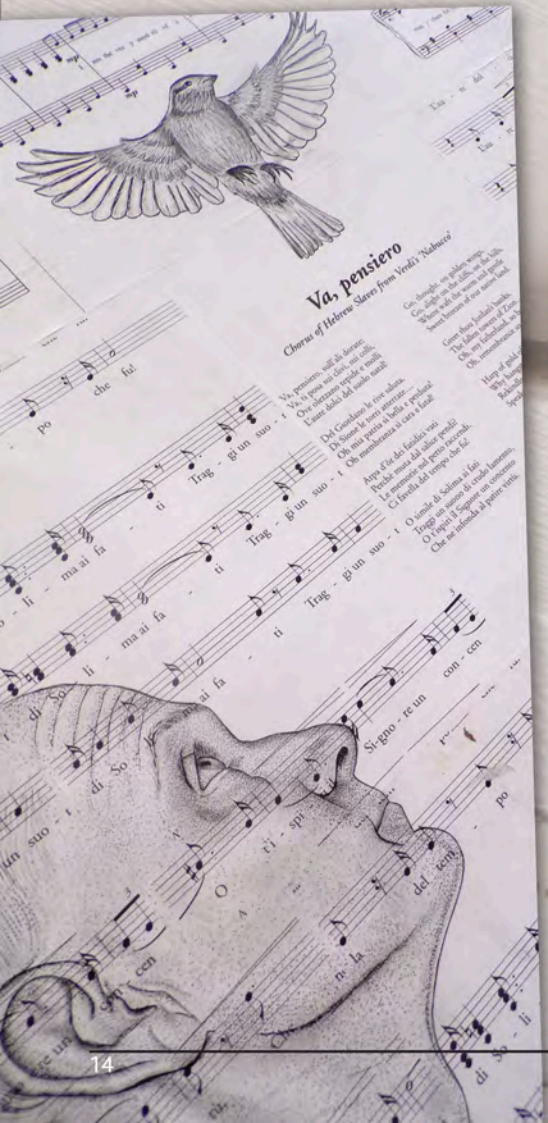
For Paper 2 we opted for the module that would plug a real gap in our nations shared history; Edward I. This also presents a real opportunity to consider how and why the UK looks as it does today, grappling with some fascinating medieval history on the way. Feedback from students suggests we chose wisely and they enjoy the chance to do something which has traditionally only been covered briefly in Year 7 (if at all) in more detail. In terms of the structure of the curriculum we have saved the best for last with the final topic for Paper 2 being a study of Medicine and Health in Britain c.1000 to the present day. This enables us to finish on a high note with a romp through some of the more gruesome aspects of the history of the last millennia.

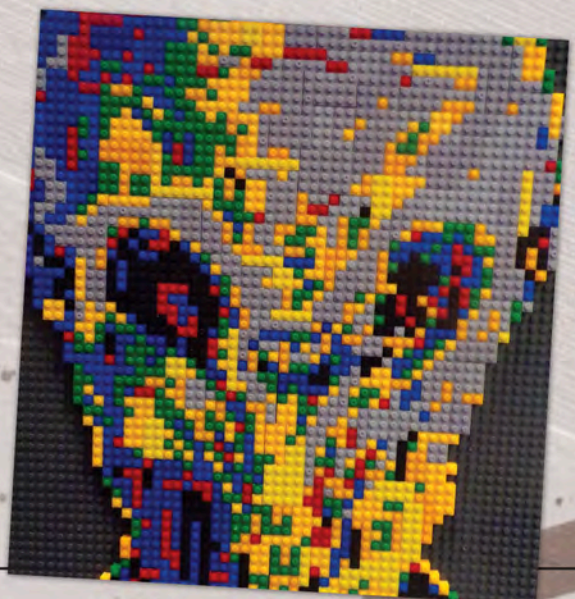
At A Level the course has changed to cover the entire Tudor period from the events leading to the Battle of Bosworth in 1485 to the death of 'Gloriana' Elizabeth I in 1603. For the first time students see the story from start to finish as the previous course had a gap from 1529-1547 which meant no study of the English Reformation! On the Germany side of the course students now cover the Weimar period 1918-1933 in depth, setting the Nazi period in its proper context in a way the previous course did not. Students also now consider Nazi racial ideology, something that is crucial to a full understanding of the period.

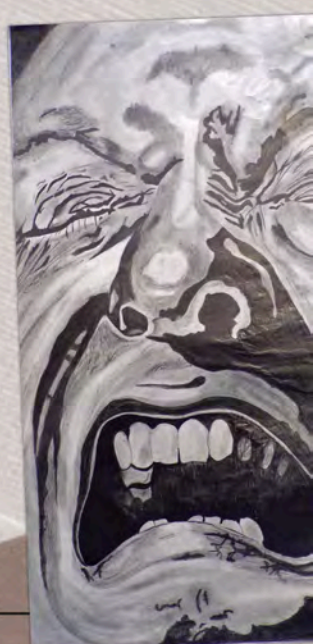
With two strong courses in place we look forward to a strong uptake for both GCSE and A Level.

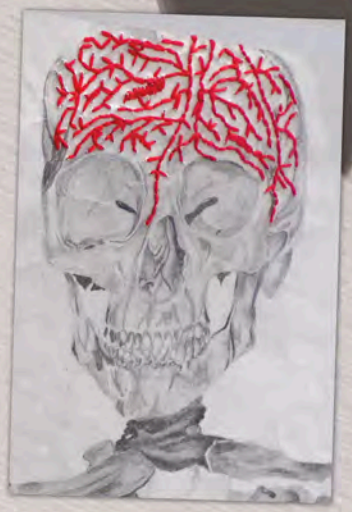
AQA

The Art of Year 13









They sketched, drew and doodled. They poured paint and ink. They cut and they assembled!

The Year 13 Art students of Landau Forte College Derby excelled themselves once again as they poured their hearts and creativity into another fantastic showcase of talent and diversity.

The annual A-Level exhibition is the culmination of a two-year journey as the students emerge from their personal creative worlds to share their body of work with us.

And this year's exhibition really did provide something for everyone; from life-sized cardboard sculptures to lifelike Photoshop portraits and much, much more in between. Take a look for yourself!

A Hulland

Summer Gala 2017

With the countdown to summer at the forefront of everyone's minds, and the exhaustion of a year of hard work felt by all (particularly at the end of the main exam season) it begs the question: Is there anything left in the tank? Can an action-packed show of music, dance and drama be put together that involves students from Year 7 right through to Year 13?

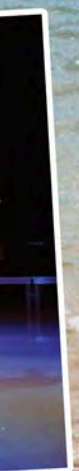
Of course it can! Once again the Performing Arts team combined the many talents of the students at College to create an evening of celebration that showcased all of their hard work. In addition to performances from all of the Performing Arts extension groups, there were even snippets from work created in the curriculum, and moreover, pieces that started within the curriculum and then spiralled outside of sessions too: an example of the dedication and commitment that some of our students give. If you add up the hours spent by our students in extension activities every single week, it really is impressive to see so many young people harnessing their talents and showing just what their enthusiasm and hard work can lead too. A huge well done to everyone involved!

A Wrampling

Singers & Band
You Can Get It

Guitar Group

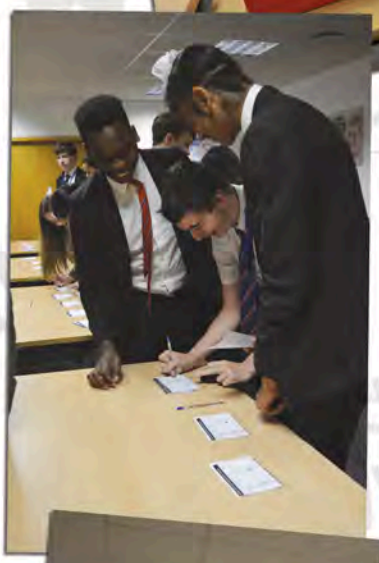
Y9 Curriculum
Ghost Dances



EDUSA
a Group

Flooty Tooties
Medley

Mock Election at Landau Forte



2017

The current Prime Minister, Theresa May, decided that a general election would take place on the 8th of June. This sparked the idea that Landau Forte College should host their very own mock election for students of all ages to participate in. The opportunity was presented to the Student Council to run the operation, a job that they were thrilled to be offered knowing that it meant doing something impactful and important for their peers.

Posters, advertisements and emails were made to promote the event to the pupils along with online resources such as quizzes and manifestos to help guide the students into making informed and educated decisions regarding their political preference.

On Polling Day, the voting was open several times during the day to ensure that everyone from Year 7 to Year 13 had the ability to vote. The Student Council felt that it was particularly important that all students had the opportunity to vote, in order to give a fair and proper result. A commendable 54% of students made the effort to vote, with Year 7 students being the most active voting group at 21%. After the rigorously scrutinised counting, Labour were the victorious party with 62% of the vote!

Overall, the Student Council and College were very pleased with how the election day unfolded. We hope the election showed all students that their voices matter and that they have every ability to affect change. We hope that the students feel more empowered, enlightened and knowledgeable concerning UK politics and that in the future this experience encourages them to use their democratic right to vote.

We thank everyone who voted and those who helped make the day special!

Taya Evans

Have Fun Finding A Fact Book!

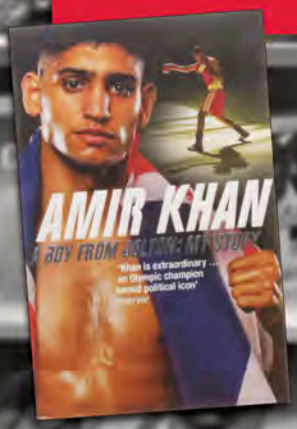
As you will know by now, the Year 7, 8 and 9 students are well into the challenge of the Accelerated Reader Scheme and have been reading and quizzing on an amazing number of fiction books over the last academic year.

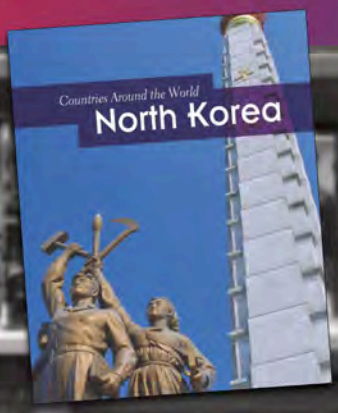
The next challenge for the Information Centre staff is to identify and process more non-fiction books to expand the students' vocabulary, knowledge and interests. This should also engage some of the students who are less keen on stories but will happily read information books. At the moment we have approx. 50 of these fact books on display in the Reading Corner, ranging from sporting personalities, Second World War facts, Countries of the World and animals. Generally they are levels 4 and above (yellow, red and black dots) but we are discovering stock that fits with the lower levels (green, orange and blue) and are labelling them ready for the students to find and enjoy.

So if you have a reluctant reader in your family, please encourage them to look for alternative reading material and have fun finding a fact book!

C Holme

Accelerated Reader™





MATHS PUZZLES

Beginner

24	/ 6	X 5	Double it	X 3	Divide by 10	Plus a third	Triple it	Minus a quarter	X 3	= ?

Intermediate

112	+ 16	Plus 5 eighths	Double it	X 4	Divide by 16	Minus a quarter	Half it	- 9	Divide by 15	= ?

Advanced

18	Square it	X 4	Minus 7 eighths	Minus 2 thirds	Half it	Square it	+ 209	X 3	Divide by 7	= ?

Answers on page 27 - no cheating!

Netball Roundup

We have had an extremely successful year with the netball teams this year. Once again we have seen outstanding commitment to training and fixtures. So many of our netballers have made significant progress, which has made it difficult when picking MVPs and Team of the Year for the annual sports awards.

Year 7

Year 7 were a little shy on the uptake of extra-curricular netball this year but gradually numbers began to grow. It soon became evident that this team has a lot of potential and it was clear they were going to be successful in the future. However, that success came sooner than expected! They drew one game and won all of their other games, making them successful league winners. Consequently the team has attracted more players which will make the squad stronger next year as they move up into a new league. A special mention must go to Niamh Dobson; she has been the most pro-active captain we have had at Landau. Great effort Niamh!

Year 8

This is a special netballing year group and this year have really blossomed into a fantastic netball squad. We have fielded two year 8 teams this year and having such a big squad has only made the girls work harder to earn their place on the team. We believe they will move up to the next league and will be well equipped to hold their own and challenge for a top 3 position. A huge thank you to Ellie White: she has been a great captain and has had the added challenge of having to often organise two teams.

Year 9

The Year 9 netballers are a wonderful group to work with: they all get along really well and this underpins their fantastic teamwork and success. This year they finished a respectable second place in the league and the girls are now excited to push themselves further to win the league next year. This will take some hard work and dedication alongside beginning their GCSEs but we are certain they will continue to make fantastic progress. We would like to take the opportunity to thank Eve Stewart for her fantastic leadership of the year 9 team. She is another proactive captain who goes above and beyond what is expected from her.

Year 10

This is the team we are most proud of. Each year they have improved on their performance, winning more games than the season before, finishing third in the league this time. We are really pleased with this progress and are excited to see if they can push towards becoming league winners by the end of year 11. Emily White has done a great job of organising this team and encouraging them through difficult games. Emily also fills in for the year 11 team along with Freya Owen when they are short due to extra GCSE revision and coursework lessons.

Year 11

The Year 11 squad have done a fantastic job to motivate themselves this year. Alongside a tough year preparing for exams they suffered disappointment when, despite winning the league, they were not promoted due to technical changes in the league rules. Undaunted, the girls remained strong and they drew their first game going on to win the remainder of their fixtures. This resulted in a second league win in two years. Thank you to Beth White as captain this year, she had a difficult time finding availability for fixtures due to GCSE studies but managed to overcome these challenges to field a full team for every fixture.

N Haigh

Trampolining

Well done to all the students that have taken part in trampolining extension earlier this year. We have had extremely high numbers throughout the year and look forward to seeing you all again this September.

Congratulations must go to all students that took part in the regional trampoline competition in Loughborough in December. All students performed fantastically well and represented the college with pride. At the regional competition Jake Smith and Isabelle Weall won their respective categories to become regional champions. Joe Davies, Jake Smith and Roy Williams also became Under 13 boys' team champions. Roy Williams and Jacob Davidson finished 3rd in their respective categories. Each of the named students qualified for the zonal competition in Cannock.

At the zonal competition, Isabelle Weall and Jake Smith finished first, becoming zonal champions and qualifying for the national finals. Joe, Roy and Jake finished second as a team and also qualified for the national finals. Unfortunately Isabelle was unable to attend the finals in Newcastle as she was recovering from an operation but she will be back next year to reclaim her national champion title. Jake finished fifth and the boys' team came in fourth. Congratulations to everyone that took part.

N Haigh

SPORTS AWARDS

Another great year for Landau Forte sports!

As always, there was a lot to celebrate in PE this year. With numerous successes in the local leagues and trampoline competitions, fantastic commitment to enrichment activities and outstanding progress in core and GCSE PE, there are far too many individual achievements to list them all here in the article. However, the PE team would like to take the opportunity to say a big thank you to everyone that has attended enrichment activities and contributed to the school sports teams. You all work extremely hard and give up a lot of your spare time: we have been immensely proud of the progress you have all been making. We would also like to congratulate all of the teams and individuals that have been successful in winning leagues and qualifying for national competitions.

N Haigh

Football Roundup

This academic year, boys football teams across all year groups have enjoyed significant success in both League and Cup action. This success has been rewarded with the Year 9 and Sixth Form boys being deservedly crowned as Derby City League Champions.

After struggling for consistency in their previous two seasons, the Year 9 boys showed fantastic form throughout the year to gain the reward of a league title. After narrowly missing out on making the final of the Derby City Schools Cup, the team won convincingly in their league play-off semi-final to set up a final with Woodlands. The final, as a conclusion to the league season, did not disappoint, with great quality shown from both teams throughout the game. Undeservedly trailing 2-0 at half time, the team rallied and in a frantic final 10 minutes, which saw 7 goals scored, Landau Forte were the eventual league champions winning the game 6-4! It was a well-deserved victory, losing only one game over the course of the league season, with the team showing great commitment and attitude throughout.

The Sixth Form team enjoyed a 100% win record over the course of the season to convincingly win their league. The squad have been fantastically committed throughout the course of the season to effectively balance other commitments to give their all to playing for the College team. They have also displayed great teamwork and enthusiasm throughout the season, playing consistently outstanding attacking football to deservedly achieve success.

There have also been success stories throughout the season in other year groups.

In their first season, the Year 7 team enjoyed success both locally and nationally. As well as reaching the play off semi-final in the league, narrowly losing a close game against Littleover, they also reached the 4th round of the National School's Cup, enjoying a trip to Manchester where their cup run unfortunately ended against Manchester Grammar School. Nevertheless, after a fantastic first season, the team will be focussed on challenging for greater league and cup success next year.

The Year 8 boys have also experienced success this year in the league, reaching the play-off semi-finals, unfortunately missing out on a final place. The team have made significant progress and will aim to continue their improved form into next season.

After a difficult start to the season, the Year 10 boys enjoyed a run of victories to record a top-three finish in the league. After disappointing early losses, the team played some outstanding football at times to complete some convincing victories earning them a respectable league finish.

In all, it has been an extremely successful season for our Football teams and they will all be working to build on their achievements in the next season, when we will hopefully be crowning some more league and cup champions.

L Fox

Playing For England!

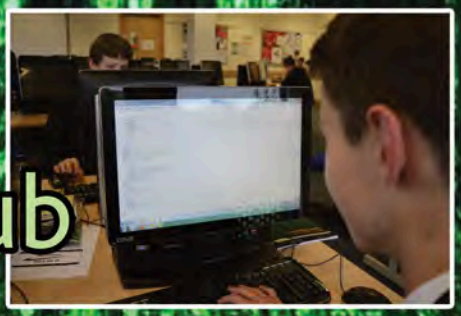
Paris McKenzie is a Year 11 student who has recently completed her GCSEs and is now intending to move into the Sixth Form to continue her academic studies. Recently however, she has received major international recognition for her sporting abilities.

Inspired by my older brother, I started playing football at around the age of 7. At first I wanted to spend all of my time just playing in the local park but, determined to be as good as the boys, I stuck to football and spent endless hours practising with my brother. I joined Derby Under 10s when I was 9 and was the captain of the boys' school football team at the age of ten. Due to travel commitments I left Derby Under 10s and joined the local boys team, Normanton All-Stars. After five years playing with the boys, I was scouted by Emily Westwood (the Birmingham City Ladies player) at a schools tournament. I successfully completed a four-week trial and have spent the last two years at Birmingham City. After two years of hard work and commitment, catching 12 trains to and from Birmingham a week, I eventually reached international standard and was recently selected for a week-long tournament in Italy. My debut came in our second match versus Slovenia where we won 1-0 - what an incredible experience!

Through the constant support of Landau Forte College and Birmingham City, along with a never-ending wish to succeed, I have been able to manage both my academic and football commitments and am on track for 9A*s at GCSE.

My ambitions following this experience are to progress through the international age groups, to one day be the England captain and help win the European Championship or even the World Cup.

Paris McKenzie



At Code Club we think everyone should have the opportunity to learn to code!

Code Club uses 'Scratch': the perfect programming language to start coding with. The club allows you to engage with likeminded people and share challenges and competitions with others. We have a wide range of attendees from Year 7 to Year 13. Many people have used Code club as part of their Skill or Volunteering requirements for their Duke of Edinburgh Award. It's a great opportunity to be sociable and learn something new.

Here are a few quote from our regulars:

"I can practice and revise with help from others."

"Coding club is good fun and helpful towards GCSE and A Level computer science!"

"Scratch is love, Scratch is life."

If you fancy a new challenge, come and see us on Thursdays in B6!

S Carter

Enrichment: Code Club

Enrichment: Chess Club

Teachers and parents would most likely agree that school should teach students to analyse and respond to different situations and help them to be able to deal with the consequences of their actions. These are the exact lessons that chess can teach! Chess playing not only improves critical and strategic thinking skills but requires evaluation, visualisation and calculation, all whilst having fun!

There is definitely a stronger tendency for boys to play and enjoy chess rather than girls. However, the girls at Landau Forte have risen against this notion! Landau Chess Club has seen an increase in female chess players and they are urging all like-minded students to come along and join them.

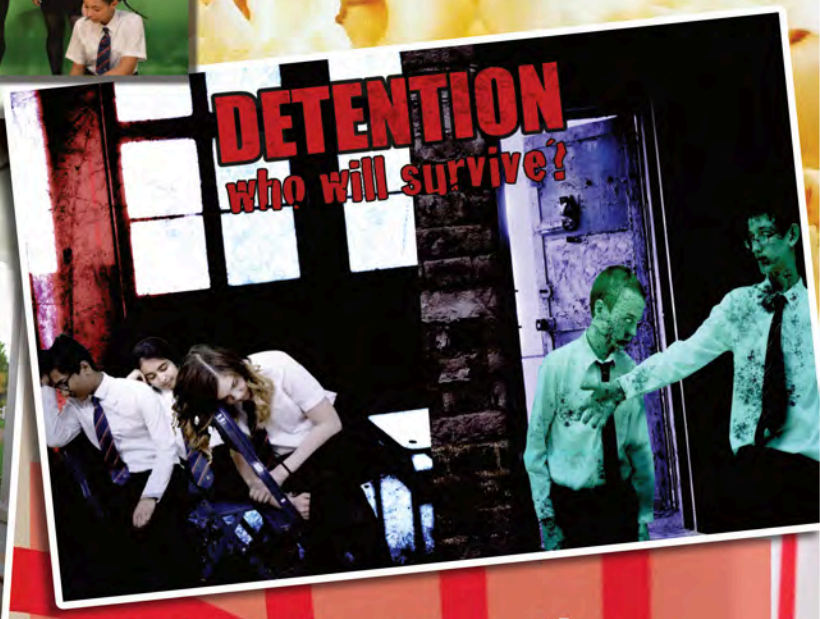
Here's what a couple of our regular Y7 students have to say:

"I enjoy chess club because there is a very calm and friendly atmosphere that allows you to concentrate but still have fun. It also allows you to understand the logic of the game. Miss Clapp is very good at chess and if you need to learn how to play, come on Thursday at 3.30 to the IC. You do not have to even know how to play, beginners and more experienced players are welcome!"

"My experience of chess club has been really good. Everybody has been very welcoming. I found the competition very fun."

Chess club welcomes all students, male and female, to come along and learn new skills whilst socialising and having fun!

C Clapp



Movie Trailers

Year 9 Performing Arts Specialism Project

A group of us in year 9 were given the chance to create a film with our choice of genre. This was a good experience as the group was given a chance to explore different film genres, our group looked into the horror genre and created a horror film trailer. After creating the trailer we were given the opportunity to create a film front cover. The film front cover was very fitting to our trailer and created a powerful sense of dread. This also gave us the chance to enhance our skills in directing, acting and planning. I enjoyed researching the horror genre and how different aspects of horror are made. Overall, we feel that the project was a great success, many thanks must go to, Mr Baldwin (editing the front cover), Mrs Wrampling (directing us) and to anyone else that helped us in our journey.

Charlie Cook, Year 9

Weeping Window

"It looks like the window is crying."

"It's a waterfall of blood."

"Each one is unique because each soldier was unique."

These are just some of the comments made by Year 8 students when they visited the moving 'Weeping Window' installation by Derbyshire artist, Paul Clement. They had prepared for the visit by exploring what life was like for the soldiers of World War One and, during the final week of term, followed up by exploring how Clement and other artists create and communicate their point of view.

Year 7 also got to visit the installation, which has toured the country since leaving the Tower of London.

S Haigh

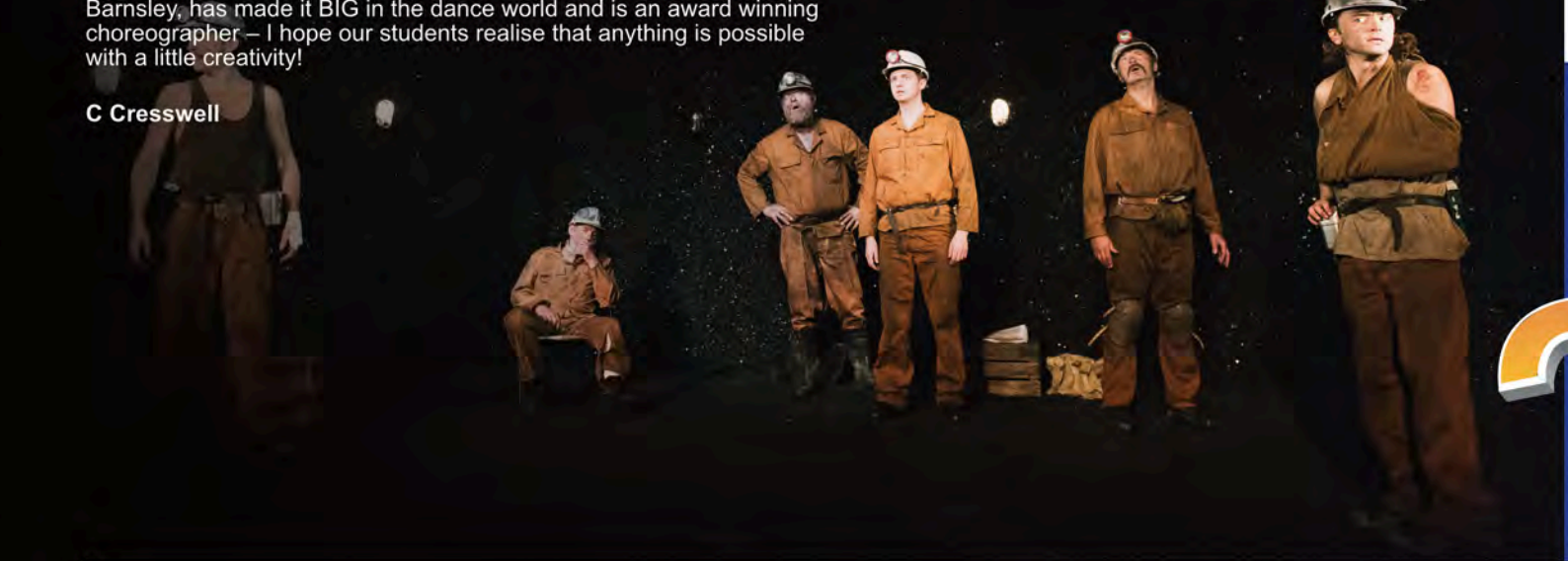
Theatre Visit

In May, Performing Arts took a group of students to see Gary Clarke Dance Company in a Performance titled 'Coal.'

This piece, created to mark the 30th anniversary of the end of the 1984/5 British miners' strike, is a riveting dance theatre show which takes a nostalgic look at the hard hitting realities of life at the coal face. Strong, powerful and emotive, Coal explores the darker underbelly of the mining industry unearthing the true nature and body wrecking demands of a working class industry now almost forgotten.

The piece showed our students story telling through dance at its best! The 5 male dancers were amazingly skilled in their art form and the piece explored the real life experiences of the choreographer who grew up in Barnsley during the Miners' strikes. The post-performance talk was riveting, (with almost 100 members of the audience choosing to stay) and turned into a political discussion about the current place and state of The Arts in Education. Gary, an everyday guy from Barnsley, has made it BIG in the dance world and is an award winning choreographer – I hope our students realise that anything is possible with a little creativity!

C Cresswell



We are excited to announce the launch of our amazing new birthday parties which will be based at Landau Forte College, Derby. The birthday parties have been months in the planning and we can't wait for your little stars to enjoy them.

The parties are designed for children aged 5 and upwards. The birthday child can choose their favourite activity or sport, such as football, netball, basketball, cricket, rounders, or performing arts, with the option of hiring a coach to practice some skills and get the best out of the experience. To help organise the big day, the party planner comes free.

All equipment specific to the activity chosen (such as footballs, bibs, cones) is included, so too are package-themed personalised invitations and a healthy finger food lunch. There's also an opportunity for a medal presentation at the end of the party. The parties will be held at College, either on the new Multi-Games Court, in the Sports Hall or in the Theatre depending on the type of activity chosen and, of course, the weather!

A complimentary group photograph is taken at the end of the party, sent to your little star to remind them of their big day.

If you would like more information or to book a party, **call Jessica on 01332 204040**, or visit **lfstars.com**

go to **lfstars.com**

MATHS PUZZLE ANSWERS

Beginner Puzzle solution = 108

Intermediate Puzzle solution = 2

Advanced Puzzle solution = 402

HOW DID YOU DO?

LANDAU FORTE COLLEGE DERBY

LANDAU FORTE CHARITABLE TRUST

A Landau Forte Charitable Trust Academy

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