

Dear Parents/Carers

The Challenge of LPGS Building Conditions

Once again, I apologise for the need to close the school on the first two days of this term. It really was the case that we were unable to meet health and safety requirements because of the flood damage to our boilers. Although this disrupted learning and was most inconvenient, it served to highlight the state of our buildings. The main building at LPGS is over half a century old. Our students, thankfully, are very respectful of their environment and the building looks as if it has stood the test of time. In fact, it is in desperate need of repair.

The roofs leak and are not sufficiently strong to withstand heavy snowfall. We have terrible difficulties with damp in various parts of the building, particularly the Music room. In addition, there is an urgent need to replace all the windows in the main building. Not only is the condition of some of them now dangerous, but they don't close properly and there is a really wasteful loss of energy from the building. Some of the windows also let rain and wind in. We applied over a year ago for them to be replaced, but our bid was unsuccessful. We're now in the process of submitting to the Education Funding Agency – the government department responsible for funding academies – another bid to replace both the roof and windows in the main building. We're also really eager to improve the entrance to the school and the reception area more welcoming.

This year, we'll be appealing for contributions to our **School Building Fund**, which could supplement the government funding we need. Potentially, it's the beginning of an exciting new period of improving our physical environment – beginning with windows and roofs, improving the school entrance and possibly moving on to develop new facilities for Music. The Parent Staff Association's fund raising activities during this year will focus on these priorities, and we'll be asking for your help and that of any possible business sponsors or partners you know. Watch this space!



Making it easier to buy school uniform

I am sending a letter home to remind families about our uniform code. We are pleased that most students are following our expectations, and that our 'uniform strikes' policy of noting transgressions against uniform rules continues to be effective. In addition to this, I would like to remind you that the Uniform Code states that skirts should be on the knee or not longer than mid calf.

We want to make it easier to buy new or nearly new uniform from school. We are looking to organise a presence of our uniform suppliers at parents' events. In addition, the PSA will be organising sales of nearly new uniform. We'll let you know about these through Langley Mail.

LPGS is in **top 100** non-selective state schools for 2013 results

I am delighted to report that I have received a letter from David Law MP, Secretary of State for Schools, congratulating us on our excellent 2013 GCSE results. As he said, the percentage of pupils achieving five or more A* - C grade GCSEs including English and Maths 'shows that your school is one of the top 100 performing non-selective state funded schools in England.' Once again, I would like to thank our fantastic staff – teachers and associate staff – for all they do to enable our students to achieve their potential and of course, you, the parents, for your support for your children's success.

“Speed Networking” at the LPGS STEM Careers Evening

Thursday 16th January saw 38 of our Science and Technology students from Year 12 taking the opportunity to find out more about future careers in the first LPGS STEM careers evening. Students were able to 'speed network' with people representing a variety of different STEM-related careers ranging from Pharmacists and Medical Registrars to Engineers and Actuaries. Top companies such as GSK and Astrium Space Transportation were represented, and we were pleased that parents and governors in related industries were able to take part and offer advice too.

Students spent a few minutes speaking to each representative and were able to ask questions about daily life in their career, the pathway they have followed to get there, and the qualifications and skills required for the job.

Feedback from students was very positive with many of them saying that it had helped them to decide what career they would like to pursue or which university

course they should go on to study. The STEM ambassadors were impressed by the high levels of preparation that the students had made ahead of the evening and commented that they were a credit to the school; this was evident through the detail of the questions they were posed, the level of communication at each table and the interest in what the ambassadors had to offer.

Thank you to all the ambassadors, students, staff and site team who made this a really successful evening.

For further information about STEM related careers you could:

- Check the STEM noticeboard next to Room 15
- Contact Mrs Smith, Miss McDermott or Mrs Mann
- Speak to Mrs Carroll, Careers Adviser

Mrs Smith, Whole School STEM Coordinator



LPGS' Cricket Star in the making

We're really excited that Year 7 student Jess Golden has recently been selected for the U13 Kent girls county cricket team. The main photo below shows her at training with Charlotte Edwards - England captain- Lidia Greenaway- voted ' best fielder in the world' and Susie Rowe.



The picture on the right shows Jess being presented by Heather Knight with a special prize for successful captaining of Kent girls U11 Cricket team. Heather was interviewed on BBC 'SPORTS PERSONALITY of the year Awards' for their success in winning the Ashes. The bat was signed by Charlotte Edwards.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 12 th February	7.00pm	Tour Band Concert
Thursday 13 th February	4.00pm	Year 12/13 Parents' Evening
<i>Monday 17th—Friday 21st February - Half Term</i>		
Thursday 27 th February	7.00pm	Year 9 Parents' Evening
Thursday 13 th March	4.00pm	KS4 Evening for Year 9
Tuesday 18 th March	7.00pm	'One Night Only' Dance performance
Wednesday 19 th March	6.00pm	A2 Drama Presentations
Thursday 20 th March	4.00pm	Year 7 Parents' Evening
Tuesday 25 th March	7.00pm	Year 12 Higher Education Evening
<i>Monday 7th to Monday 21st April inclusive - Easter Holidays</i>		
Tuesday 22 nd April		Staff Training day – school closed to students

Best Wishes

Anne Hudson



VACANCY FOR MIDDAY SUPERVISOR

- Salary:** NJC Scale: Scale 1 Point 10 (circa £8.74 per hour)
Contract: Permanent (subject to probationary period)
Hours: 1.25 hours per day/5 days per week, 38 weeks term time

We are seeking an enthusiastic Midday Supervisor to join our team in supervising students at lunch time, and to undertake any practical duties e.g preparation of staff dining table, wiping student tables etc, relevant to this role.

**For further information and an application form please email
cyonge@lpgs.bromley.sch.uk**

**The closing date for applications is noon on Friday 7th February 2014.
Completed application forms should be submitted to
Mrs L Van Renselar.**

Langley Park School for Girls is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. Appointment will be subject to enhanced clearance by the Disclosure & Barring Service.