# Langley Park School for Girls

Enabling everyone to thrive – acting with kindness, determination and respect.



Headteacher: Mr S Whittle, MA (Cantab), PGCE, NPQH

10 January 2025

Dear Families,

I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful Christmas break. It is clear from my many conversations with students this week that they benefited from the break, with sleep frequently being cited as one of their many highlights. I can therefore only imagine how challenging it will have been for some reacquainting themselves once again with an alarm clock and adapting to the extremely cold weather this week.

At our INSET day on Monday, we launched our new teaching and learning strategy, which is designed to ensure the most effective teaching and learning in our classrooms. I cannot think of a more appropriate way to start the new year than this focus on our core purpose as a school. As teachers, we worked collaboratively to plan lessons and implement approaches to adaptive teaching following training and drawing on the latest educational research into teacher pedagogy.

Alongside this, we were also introduced to The Wellbeing Hub by Teen Tips, an online resource which we are investing in as a trust across all schools to promote the wellbeing of our school communities. This will provide invaluable training for staff and access to a wealth of resources for use within school and by students and families. Further information will be shared as we implement this in the coming months.

We also welcome the following new staff to the LPGS community:

Mrs Hayes, Teacher of Health & Social Care Ms Kawooya, Teacher of Business Studies

It is common at the start of a new year to look forward, to make commitments and resolutions, as we seek to develop and establish good habits. I naturally encourage students to build on their successes and the progress they made in the Autumn Term, while encouraging us all to be the very best version of ourselves in 2025. I will seek to practise what I preach and to ensure that my attendance at the gym extends well beyond the first few weeks of January!

A number of Sixth Form students have this week been completing public examinations in vocational subjects and we have received the results of November exams in GCSE English and Maths. It has been great to see students improving on their achievements in the summer in resit examinations. Our Year 13 students have been submitting university applications to UCAS and those students who participated in interviews at Oxford and Cambridge before Christmas expect to hear imminently about whether or not they have been offered a place – fingers crossed!

The school's leadership and management of safeguarding was recognised as a strength during an independent safeguarding review carried out in school this week, which is especially pleasing. The review looked at all aspects of the school, our robust and rigorous systems, organisation, management of safeguarding cases and support for students. Insights from students and staff informed the review and we will naturally look to respond to the suggestions for ways in which we can develop and improve further our practices.

Finally, the Troubadour Theatre, Wembley welcomed our musicians on Wednesday evening for the high speed production of Starlight Express, a reward trip to recognise the commitment our students give to the musical life of our school.

Langley Park School for Girls, Hawksbrook Lane, South Eden Park Road, Beckenham, Kent BR3 3BE

Tel: 020 8639 5200 • info@lpgs.bromley.sch.uk • www.lpgs.bromley.sch.uk

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I wish all our families a happy, healthy and prosperous new year and look forward to seeing our students developing, thriving and achieving success throughout 2025.

Yours faithfully,

# S J Whittle Headteacher

#### **MESSAGES FROM STAFF**

# My Child At School (MCAS)

Thank you to those parents/carers who signed up to the My Child At School (MCAS) service last term. We believe this will be a useful tool for maintaining communication between school and families.

If you have not yet actioned this, or did not receive a link, please follow the instructions in this <u>letter</u> to set up your account. MCAS can be accessed via a web browser or the MyChildAtSchool mobile app.

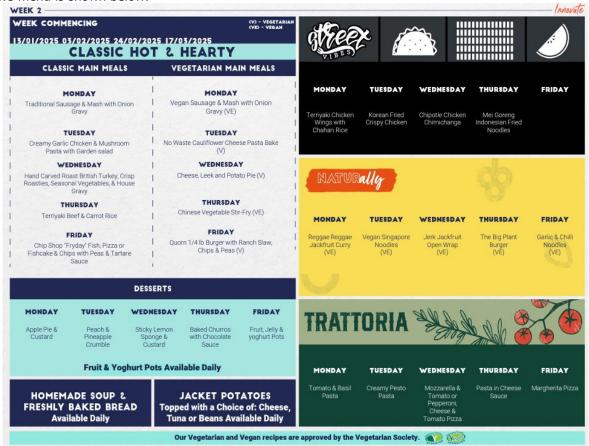
Please note that following the introduction of MCAS we will no longer be using EduLink.

Mr P Seward, Deputy Headteacher

#### **INFORMATION**

#### **New Menus**

The new termly menu from Innovate is available <u>here</u>. The menu operates on a three-week rotation, next week's menu is shown below.



# **BYMT Jazz School Open Day**

The BYMT Jazz School Open Day will take place on Saturday 15 February 2025 at Bromley Youth Music Trust,

Southborough Lane and will be run by Mr Buster Birch, an award-winning Jazz Musician, educator and composer, along with professional teachers and jazz musicians.

It is open to pupils of ANY instrument who are approximately grade 3+ standard.

#### www.bymt.co.uk/courses/jazzday/

The timetable for the day:

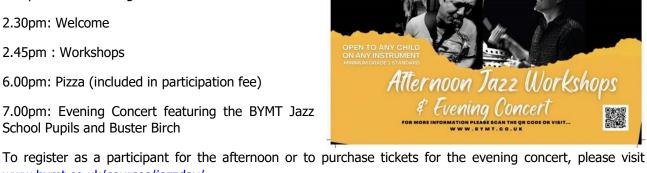
2.15pm: Arrival & registration

2.30pm: Welcome

2.45pm: Workshops

7.00pm: Evening Concert featuring the BYMT Jazz

www.bymt.co.uk/courses/jazzday/.



## **Reminder – Severe Weather Conditions**

# SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS

Here is a reminder of key information regarding school closure in the event of severe weather conditions.

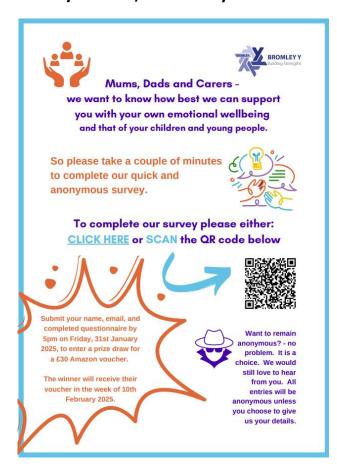
- . The decision to open or close the school will be made by the Headteacher
- The decision will be made by 7.00am
- The decision will be communicated on the school website and via e-mail. (You are advised to check this before sending your child to school)

If it has snowed, please do not assume that the school will be closed. The school will only close if it places the health and safety of staff and students at risk.

If weather conditions deteriorate whilst the school is in session, we will contact parents/carers to inform them of the situation via the website and e-mail. Students will be kept informed of the decision and guidance will be given as to the next steps.

We are committed to ensuring that all our students are able to maximise their potential and any decision to close the school will not be taken lightly. We will aim to remain open or partly open during inclement weather to avoid disruption to students' learning but will consider the conditions and safety of students on the school site, public transport as well as levels of staffing. Langley Park School for Girls has good public transport links and we rely on parents/carers to make appropriate decisions about student safety, appropriate clothing and footwear when travelling to school during such weather.

# **Bromley Y Parent/Carer Survey**



# **Bromley & Beckenham Hockey Club**



# **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Monday 20 January
Thursday 23 January
Friday 24 January
Thursday 6 February
Friday 7 February
Monday 10 – Friday 14 February
Thursday 13 February
Friday 14 – Thursday 20 Feb
Monday 17 – Friday 21 February
Monday 24 – Friday 28 February
Thursday 20 March
Thursday 1 May
Thursday 15 May

Thursday 16 January

Details of sports fixtures can be found on Firefly

Year 11 GCSE Maths & English Parent Workshop

Year 8 & 9 Bromley Y Coffee Morning

Year 9 Parents' Evening

Year 9 DTP/MenACWY Vaccinations

Year 8 Parents' Evening

**Futures Fair** 

Year 11 & 13 Trial Exams

Spanish Exchange Parent Meeting

Ski Trip

Half Term

Year 11 & 13 Trial Exams

Year 7 Parents' Evening

Year 12 Parents' Evening

Year 10 Parents' Evening