Langley Park School for Girls

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



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

13 December 2024

Dear Families,

As we approach the final week of term, the generosity and community spirit of our students, families and staff has shone through.

Our Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children was a tremendous success. Thanks to the enthusiasm and generosity of our students and staff, we raised an incredible £487.84. This will go a long way towards supporting the charity's work with children in need around the world. You have also demonstrated kindness and generosity through donations to the local foodbank. These donations will directly support those in our community who are struggling at this time of year. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who has supported these charitable causes.

It has been an especially busy week for the Music Department. At the Year 7 Music Scheme Concert on Monday, Year 7 students demonstrated their newly acquired skill in playing the violin, trombone (or pBone) and introduced the audience to a less familiar instrument, the Dood (a cross between the Chalumeau and Clarinet), which they had also mastered. This is such a wonderful opportunity for our students and I commend them on picking up these skills so quickly. I also thank parents and carers for your support and encouragement at home – I can only imagine how noisy some of your households have been at times!

Wednesday's Winter Concert was another highlight of the week. It was a truly entertaining evening showcasing the incredible talents of our students. So much music making takes place at LPGS before school at 8.00am and throughout the day with choirs, concert bands and orchestras rehearsing throughout the week and over the course of this term. The concert was a wonderful celebration of our students' dedication and passion for music. Congratulations to all who performed and thank you to those friends, families and staff members who supported the event.

I have particularly enjoyed talking with Year 11 students around school following the recent Sixth Form Open Evening. We will be looking to take every step possible to enable our current students to study their chosen combination of subjects/courses on receipt of applications and look forward to providing further personalised information, advice and guidance to our students in the new term. I encourage all to explore our <u>Sixth Form prospectus and course information booklet</u> and the <u>subject/course videos</u> on our school website.

As the weather grows colder, we would like to remind students of the importance of wearing coats to school. With students spending time outside during break and lunch, except on particularly wet days, it's essential they are dressed warmly. Additionally, students will be moving between lessons across the school site, and wearing a suitable coat will ensure they stay comfortable throughout the day.

Whilst the Christmas period is joyful for many, for others it can be an especially difficult time. We wish to remind everyone to reach out for support if things feel especially tough. There are a number of local and national organisations available to help during the festive break and we have signposted these in this weekly letter. You will also find details for other organisations on the dedicated page of our school website.

Finally, I would like to take a moment to remind all parents and carers about the importance of road safety around the school and in Hawksbrook Lane. We have seen significant congestion, particularly at drop-off and pick-up times and I recognise the ongoing impact of the roadworks and temporary lights outside school. Please do consider avoiding unnecessary journeys by car and, where possible, use alternative means of transport or park a short distance away to reduce traffic. Ensuring the safety of our students as they travel to and from school is of paramount importance, and your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

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I look forward to celebrating students' achievements in our Achievement Assemblies next week and know that all will be looking forward to a well-deserved break during the festive period.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and we look forward to an exciting and festive final week of term.

Yours faithfully,

S J Whittle Headteacher

MESSAGES FROM STAFF

Year 8 Values Competition

I launched a values competition in Year 8 at the start of the year and have been collating the entries and judging them. I'm delighted to announce the winning entry is a poem by Amelia T-J in 8LF. I think it sums up our values well and has a great message behind it.

LPGS

Amelia T-J 8LF

In the corridors where knowledge flows, Six values guide as each day grows. **Belonging** forms a strong base, A shared space, a welcoming embrace.

Kindness winds through every act, A gentle touch, a simple pact. **Respect** stands strong, a determined beam, Honouring each voice, each dream.

Ambition sparks the pursuit to rise, To chase the stars, to touch the skies. **Determination** drives the heart, To make, to play our part.

Equality ties us, side by side, Ensuring fairness, far and wide. Together, these values carve our way, Building a brighter, happier day.

Mr J Acomb, Head of Year 8

Christmas Card Competition

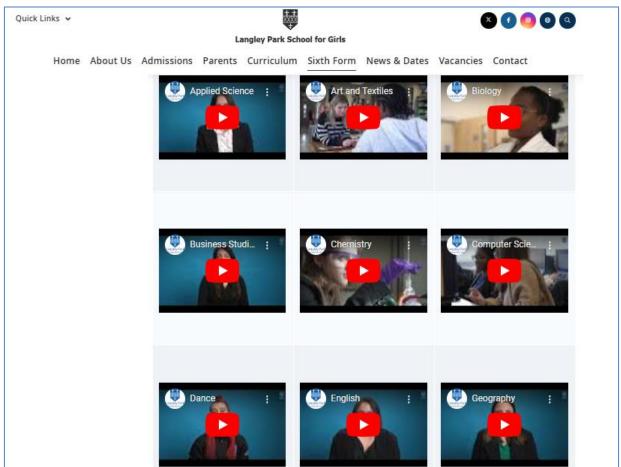
We had over 40 entries for the Christmas Card competition this year, raising £42 for Sammy's Foundation, a new charity being set up in Kent in memory of Sammy Alban-Stanley, teaching skilled heritage crafts, such as traditional upholstery, French polishing, passementerie and wood-carving to driven young adults with complex neurological conditions. A selection of entries are shown below, the winner will be announced in next week's achievement assemblies and shown in the end of term newsletter. Thank you and well done to all those who entered, there are lots of very creative students in our school!



Miss S Crowe, Teacher of Art

Sixth Form - Supporting Your Next Steps





INFORMATION

Support During the Christmas Holidays

Our school website provides holiday wellbeing and safety resources for a range of organisations and signposts support on the dedicated wellbeing page of our school website.

If you are think a child or young person, under the age of 18 years is being abused or neglected, please contact the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)/Children and Families Hub within the borough in which the child resides:

Bromley: 0300 303 8671 or ask for Children's services via 020 8464 3333

Croydon: 020 8726 6464 Lewisham: 020 8314 6660 The Police should be informed about a child who is at risk of harm via 101. In an emergency dial 999.

Advice for parents and carers to keep children safe from abuse and harm can be found here.

Our holiday wellbeing and safety resources guide signposts the following support:

Bereavement Child Exploitation Children's Safety Counselling Services County Lines and Child Criminal Exploitation Drugs and Alcohol **Eating Disorders** Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Foodbanks Health Advice Mental Health and Wellbeing Online Grooming Online Safety Radicalisation and Extremism Self-Harm Sexual Identity and Gender Identity Suicidal Ideation Sexual Health Young Carers

End of Term Arrangements

On Friday 20 December, students will have period 1 and 2 lessons as normal, followed by break and form time. Students in Years 10-13 will be dismissed from 11.50am and students in Years 7, 8 and 9 will be dismissed from 12.45pm.

Return to School

Please note on Monday 6 January the school will be closed to students for a INSET Day. Students will return on Tuesday 7 January at 8.30am, it will be Week A.

Flu vaccinations

If your child missed their flu vaccination this week, you can book an appointment directly with the Immunisation Team by calling them on 020 3903 3375.

Bromley Schools' Collegiate



Bromley Holiday Activities and Food Programme

You can now book your child on to the Holiday Activities and Food Programme during the winter holidays. There are several exciting activities available, including nutritious meals. The offer is free to all children who are eligible for benefit-related free school meals. Each provision will offer eligible children the opportunity to enjoy fun activities that will enable them to develop new skills, build confidence and meet new friends outside of term time.

Do feel free to visit Bromley Council's website at Holiday activities and food programme - London Borough of Bromley or email HolidayActivitiesandFood@bromley.gov.uk and book directly with the provider of your choosing. Please book this as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.



Christmas Trees

As in previous years, Other Earth Christmas Trees have offered to support the school by donating £5 per Christmas tree to our school fund. They are selling trees from Bromley Football Club or via their website, www.otherearth.co.uk.



OD Cuaco Cricket Club



UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 17 December Thursday 19 December Friday 20 December Monday 6 January Tuesday 7 January Thursday 23 January 2025 Thursday 6 February 2025 Thursday 20 March 2025

Thursday 1 May 2025 Thursday 15 May 2025 BTEC Dance Sharing Evening Christmas Lunch Last Day of Term Inset Day Students return to school Year 9 Parents' Evening Year 8 Parents' Evening Year 7 Parents' Evening Year 12 Parents' Evening Year 10 Parents' Evening

Details of sports fixtures can be found on Firefly