# Langley Park School for Girls

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

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



20 June 2025

Dear Families,

I am sat writing this message at the end of an untypically hot week, which we have all enjoyed and endured in equal measure. I do hope that our students, staff and families find ways to keep cool and stay safe during the weekend ahead, while enjoying the wonderful weather.

On the topic of safety, whilst open water can look inviting, we remind our young people that lakes, rivers, reservoirs and canals can be extremely dangerous. Strong currents, hidden obstacles and sudden drops in depth make them unsafe even for strong swimmers. We should stick to safe, supervised places which are designated swimming areas.

On Monday, we had the Women's Super League Trophy in school. The trophy was won earlier this year by Chelsea Women's FC and students had an opportunity to pose for photographs with the trophy in school with friends. I have no doubt that this will have inspired our young women – who knows this may not be the last time some of them are pictured with the trophy!



On Thursday our Year 9 students participated in a Public Services Careers Day with the support of the Metropolitan Police and Army. Engaging in sessions with the Targeted Support Group (TSG), students tried on uniforms, handled riot gear, had an introduction to self-defence and even arrested and handcuffed Mrs Kourtaa! Three sessions were led by the army focusing on teambuilding, communication and logic, with teams competing in physical and mental challenges. Our school completed a physical and logic challenge in the fastest time of any school, demonstrating the impact of girl power! #THISGIRLCAN

I experienced my first ever Year 11 Soirée at LPGS on Thursday evening when our students came dressed to impress and danced the night away with friends to celebrate the end of exams and completion of Year 11. Congratulations to the organising committee of students for pulling off such a great event, which was as enjoyable for staff as I know it was for students.

The celebrations continued this morning with our celebration assembly, the sharing of memories and good luck messages with students and staff. Students' attire was somewhat less glamorous today but all the more creative as customised shirts were glammed up before they were signed by friends and staff. There were times when I

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was wondering whether I should be collecting students' autographs rather than them asking me to sign their shirts. I have no doubt they will go on to achieve great things and look forward to welcoming them back for our Sixth Form Taster Day and to celebrating their GCSE results with them in August.

Following last week's Head Prefect interviews, I am delighted to introduce the Head Prefects and Deputy Head Prefects to the LPGS community.

# Head prefects - Sahar A and Adonye O Deputy Head Prefects - Tishe F, Millie C and Isabella T

Today marks the last day of public examinations for our Year 11 and Year 13 cohort and I can confirm that we will be retaining the newly introduced lesson timings for the remainder of this term and into next year, in light of the benefits to the day-to-day organisation of the school. As previously communicated, the school day remains unchanged with students expected to be in school by 8.30am and the day finishing at 3.10pm.

Finally, I shared the story of 'the cracked pot' with students in this week's Langley Lowdown. It is a traditional parable about a water bearer who carries two pots on a pole each day to fetch water from a stream. One pot is perfect and always delivers a full portion of water. The other pot has a crack and leaks, arriving only half full.

Feeling ashamed of its flaw, the cracked pot apologises to the water bearer for not doing its job properly. The bearer then gently explains that he had noticed the crack all along and had planted flowers along the side of the path where the cracked pot dripped water. Over time, those drops had watered the flowers, creating a beautiful path and allowing the bearer to collect them for his home.

The story teaches that our flaws and imperfections can lead to unexpected beauty and goodness. What we see as weaknesses can be our greatest contributions—if we embrace them with understanding and compassion.

With very best wishes for the weekend.

Yours faithfully,

# S J Whittle Headteacher

#### **MESSAGES FROM STAFF**

#### Arrangements for the start of term – September 2025

Monday 1 September – Inset Day (staff only in school)
Tuesday 2 September – Inset Day (staff only in school)
Wednesday 3 September – Year 7 and 12 Induction days, Y13 exam resits
Thursday 4 September – All year groups in school

#### **Sixth Form Taster Dav**

Year 11 students who are attending the Sixth Form Taster Day will receive an email on Monday with full details of the day. Please remind students to check their emails for this important information. We look forward to seeing them on Thursday.

# Six Teen Edition- 8, 9and 10 July at LPGS

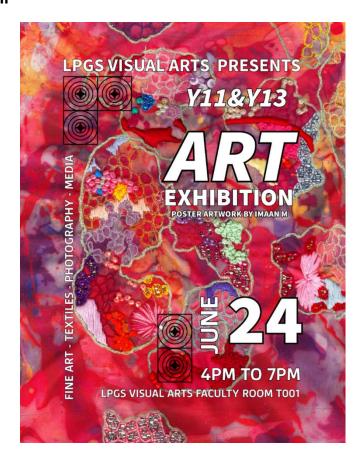
The Performing Arts Faculty are very excited about our upcoming production of Six Teen Edition here at LPGS in July. In case you don't know it, this is a piece of musical theatre about the six wives of Henry VIII. It's their chance to tell their stories from their perspective, or rather to sing their stories. It's relatively short, running at under an hour and a half, and every musical number is a gem.

Tickets are on sale now via <u>TicketSource</u>. There will be a licensed bar run by the PTFA, and we are planning to have a merch stand selling a small range of items, many of them hand made by our talented staff and students.



Ms H Stanley, Head of Perfoming Arts

## **Summer Art Exhibition**



Mr E Fox Joyce, Head of Visual Arts

#### **INFORMATION**

# **School Uniform Suppliers**

# **Bromley & Beckenham Schoolwear**

Bromley & Beckenham Schoolwear are open for telephone and online orders whilst they await new premises. If you wish to arrange to visit them, please contact them via their website or phone to make arrangements. Their contact details are available here: www.bromleyschoolwear.co.uk.

#### 121 uniforms

Uniform can also be ordered from **121 uniforms** via their website: <a href="www.121uniforms.net/langley-park-school-for-girls">www.121uniforms.net/langley-park-school-for-girls</a>.

We are hoping to arrange an event for our suppliers to visit the school for students to try on items with parents/carers and we will share further details when these are available.

#### "How to Look After You"

The Bromley Parenting Hub has teamed up with South East London Mind to run the webinar for parents "How to look after YOU". In our upcoming webinar, we will explore mental and emotional wellbeing, along with coping strategies and resilience to help parents navigate the challenges of parenthood. The session will be led by the Mindful Mums & Being Dad Service Manager at South East London Mind. Click here to access the Teams session



## **London Philharmonic Orchestra Junior Artists: Overture Day**

The <u>London Overture day</u> is taking place on Wednesday 30 July at St John's Waterloo, Waterloo Road, London, SE1 8TY from 10.30am—4.30pm. This Overture day is open to young musicians aged 11–14 who are Grade 4+ on their orchestral instruments.

LPO Junior Artists: Overture days are free, fun orchestral skills days where participants play alongside LPO musicians and get a flavour of what it's like to play in a professional orchestra. In this Overture day we will play a lively selection of music, including Jean Sibelius's *Finlandia*, Florence Price's *Juba Dance* and the video game theme 'Grasswalk' from *Plants vs Zombies*, by Laura Shigihara.

Young musicians will meet LPO players and <u>Foyle Future First</u> musicians and play together as an ensemble. They will also get tips on their playing and next steps in music, as well as find out what happens behind the scenes of a professional orchestra. At 4pm there will be a performance showcasing the pieces we have explored, which will be open to friends and family.

Applications are open to all but priority will be given to young musicians from backgrounds and communities that are under-represented in professional orchestras, who may be eligible for <u>LPO Junior Artists</u> in the future.

Please note that we are unable to accept applications from harpists, saxophonists or pianists.

For more information, and to apply, please visit our website. The deadline for applications is 9am, 23 June.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Monday 16 – Friday 27 June

Monday 23 June Thursday 26 June Thursday 26 June Monday 30 June Tuesday 1 July Friday 4 July Saturday 5 July

Tuesday 8, Wednesday 9 & Thursday 10 July

Wednesday 9 July

Monday 14 - Friday 18 July

Tuesday 15 July

Tuesday 15 July – 12 August

Wednesday 23 July

Y10 and 12 Trial Exams Y13 Leavers' Breakfast

Sixth Form Taster Day

Y7 (2025/6) Parents' Information Evening

Y7 Music Scheme Concert

Y6 Induction Day

Inset Day (staff only in school)

Six rehearsal

Six Teen Production

Y13 Prom

Y12 Work Experience

Sports Day

Camps International Peru Expedition

End of Term

Details of sports fixtures can be found on Firefly