

Langley Park School for Girls

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



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

5th June 2026

Dear Families,

Welcome back! I hope that our students, staff and families all had an enjoyable and restful half-term break.

Over half-term, more than 150 students took part in Duke of Edinburgh Bronze, Silver and Gold expeditions. Our Bronze cohort successfully completed a two-day expedition in the local area around Cudham and a group of 30 Year 10 students undertook their Silver practice expedition over three days in the Kent countryside near Canterbury. Meanwhile, 8 Year 12 students completed an impressive three-day Bellboating expedition along the Avon and Kennet Canal.

I am delighted to report that all students demonstrated our LPGS values of ambition, determination and kindness, along with excellent teamwork throughout. Our Year 9 students performed exceptionally well in completing their qualifying expedition, particularly given the challenge of the extremely hot weather.

Looking ahead, our Silver and Gold cohorts will complete their qualifying expeditions later this term, while continuing to work towards the Skills, Physical and Volunteering sections of the Award.

My sincere thanks go to Ms Osborne and Miss Bush, who stepped in at short notice to support the expeditions, as well as Mr Anderson and the wider team at Ben Bullen Adventures and Adtrek.

Mr Saunders, Miss Harris, Miss McGovern, Miss Tyler, Mrs Williams and Miss Cairns also accompanied Year 9 and 10 students on a successful and enjoyable sports tour to Salou, Spain. As with the expeditions, students excelled and impressed in equal measure, with staff members and the general public commenting on the exceptional conduct and good humour of our students. I congratulate all on being excellent ambassadors for our school.

Following the recent heatwave, there have been tragic reports nationwide of children and young people losing their lives in open water. This week, we have taken time in school to remind students of the serious risks associated with entering lakes, rivers and other unsupervised open water.

We have looked at key dangers, including:

- Sudden changes in depth
- Hidden objects beneath the surface
- Strong currents and tides
- Cold water shock, which can cause an involuntary gasp, panic and loss of breathing control within seconds

Young people can sometimes underestimate these risks, particularly when with friends. The RNLI's message is clear: **Respect the water, stay calm and always think twice before jumping in.**

Students have also been introduced to the "[Float to Live](#)" survival strategy, which can help in the event of difficulty in the water.

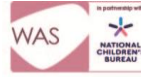
We would ask families to reinforce this vital safety message at home as we move into the warmer months.

Earlier this week, I wrote to families of students in Years 7–10 regarding changes to free school meal eligibility. Those currently in receipt of free school meals are required to be reassessed under the new criteria. To ensure that families continue to receive this important entitlement where eligible, I strongly encourage parents/carers to complete the necessary steps by 17th July. Full details are included below and in the letter sent home.

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2022-2025



Students have been invited to take part in the [Big Future Survey](#), launched by the Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza.

This national survey aims to gather the views, experiences and priorities of young people, helping to ensure that their voices are heard and considered in decisions that affect their lives. The Children's Commissioner plays an important role in promoting and protecting the rights, wellbeing and interests of children across the country. The survey link has been shared with students via Firefly, and I would strongly encourage them to participate.

We are excited to announce that tickets will be going on sale next week for our upcoming school production of *Sister Act*, which will take place next month. Further details, including how to purchase tickets, can be found in this week's newsletter. We very much look forward to welcoming you to what promises to be a fantastic show.

Examinations continue over the coming weeks, and it is always encouraging (and a great relief) when students leave the exam hall feeling confident in their performance. Whilst everyone's experience is different, the continuation of our pre-exam briefings, ongoing teacher support and students' own dedication are all contributing to strong preparation. We can ask for no more than students giving their very best, and they are clearly doing so. We wish all our Year 11 and Year 13 students the very best as they continue their exams this month.

There are many exciting events and activities planned for this final half-term of the school year. I look forward to sharing updates and to sharing updates with you through this weekly newsletter.

Mr S Whittle
Headteacher

MESSAGES FROM STAFF

Changes to Absence Reporting

From Monday 15th June, we will be introducing a revised system for reporting student absences. We are updating our processes to help streamline communication between home and school and to ensure that attendance information is recorded as accurately as possible. Moving to a single, consistent reporting method allows us to apply the correct attendance codes more efficiently, supported by clearer and more detailed messaging from parents and carers.

From Monday 15th June all absences must now be reported via the StudyBugs system. The school phone message system will no longer be available for reporting absences. If you call the school absence line, you will hear a recorded message directing you to use StudyBugs instead. StudyBugs is already a system successfully used by of our families, and a number of other schools locally and nationally - its proven effectiveness has been an important factor in our decision. We are confident it will help improve both the speed and accuracy of our attendance procedures.

How to use StudyBugs:

- The StudyBugs app can be downloaded to your smartphone
- Alternatively, absence reports can be submitted online via their website
- Full instructions on how to download and use StudyBugs are available on the school website here: <https://www.lpgs.bromley.sch.uk/home/parents/parent-apps/>

To support us in recording attendance correctly, it is essential that reasons for absence are as detailed as possible. Descriptions such as "unwell" or "sick" are not sufficient for attendance coding purposes. Please include specific symptoms or reasons so that we can apply the appropriate codes in line with statutory guidance.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank families for their continued efforts in supporting good attendance. Working in partnership with you is key to ensuring the best outcomes for every child, and we appreciate your cooperation as we introduce this new system.

Miss Bush, Assistant Headteacher and Attendance Lead

Free School Meals Changes from September 2026

From 1 September 2026, all families receiving Universal Credit will be eligible for Free School Meals. This will increase the number of eligible pupils.

The Department for Education has advised that **all children must be reassessed** under the new criteria to ensure records are accurate.

FOR ACTION: If your child currently receives Free School Meals (FSM) and/or is eligible under the new criteria, please complete the form below (specific to students at Langley Park School for Girls) as soon as possible and by 17th July.

LPGS application link: [2026-27 Free School Meals Application - Langley Park School for Girls – Fill in form](#)

You may be eligible for free school meals following recent changes in criteria - applying is quick, confidential, and could benefit your child. Registering also helps the school receive additional funding to support learning and wellbeing for all students.



MORE CHILDREN CAN NOW QUALIFY

From September 2026:

- ✓ All families receiving **Universal Credit** can apply
- ✓ More children will now be eligible for **Free School Meals**

ELIGIBILITY EXPLAINED

◇ Targeted Support

Households on Universal Credit earning **£7,400 or less** per year

◇ Expanded Support

Households on Universal Credit earning **over £7,400** per year

IMPORTANT CHANGE


All other Free School Meal protections will **end in July 2026**

→ **Every child must be reassessed before the new school year**

✓ WHAT YOU NEED TO DO NOW

- ✓ Complete a short application form **for each child**
- ✓ Use the link provided by your child's school

KEY DEADLINE

 **17 JULY 2026 - Apply by this date to guarantee processing before term starts**

NEED HELP?

Speak to your child's school for your application link

✉ Email: fsm@bromley.gov.uk

Mr Whittle, Headteacher

Uniform Guidance

As part of our commitment to maintaining a positive and inclusive learning environment, we would like to remind parents and carers that the school's uniform policy includes the expectation that students' hair colour remains natural in appearance. Our uniform guidelines are designed not only to promote a sense of belonging and shared identity, but also to protect students from external pressures and trends that can distract from their education. By encouraging a consistent and appropriate standard of appearance, we aim to create a calm, focused atmosphere where all students can feel comfortable, be themselves, and thrive as valued members of our school community.

Therefore, we also ask families to be mindful of the influence of social media trends, which can sometimes lead to choices that fall outside our expectations. For example, the current trend of adding coloured streaks, such as purple, does not meet our definition of natural hair colour and is exactly the kind of external influence that our uniform policy is designed to protect students from. We greatly appreciate parental support in reinforcing these expectations. Where uniform requirements are not met and cannot be resolved promptly, students may need to be withdrawn from lessons until the issue is addressed.

Mr Seward, Deputy Headteacher

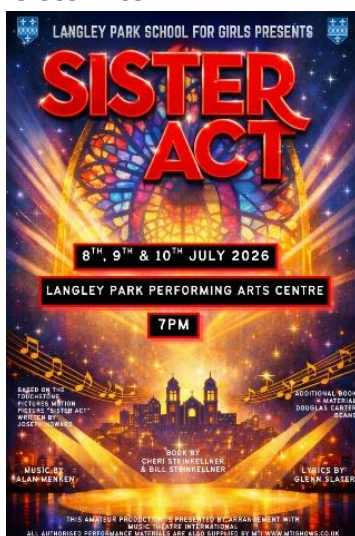
Langley's Got Talent

Our brilliant Year 7 performers have been hard at work this week as they gear up for Langley's Got Talent at the end of June. Their enthusiasm has been infectious - every rehearsal is filled with focus, creativity and plenty of laughter. Yesterday, the group took a short trip next door to collaborate with the boys' school, giving them a fantastic chance to rehearse in a new space, in front of new people and build confidence ahead of the big show. We can't wait to see them shine on stage.

Mrs Williams, Head of Year 7



Sister Act




A reminder that tickets for Sister Act will be available via [Ticketsource](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk) from Monday 8th June.

Ms Stanley, Head of Performing Arts

Visual Arts Exhibition

Langley Park School for Girls

Visual Arts



Exhibition

**23 June
2026**

Presenting work from our
GCSE and A-Level students

4PM - 7PM

Mr Fox Joyce, Head of Visual Arts

INFORMATION

The Wellbeing Hub



WEBINAR

The Wellbeing Hub
— from Teen Tips —

Join our upcoming webinar

Wednesday 10th June, 6:30pm (BST)

WEBINAR: Nurturing resilience: Nine ways families, schools, and communities can help children thrive with Dr Michael Ungar, Ph.D. Family Therapist, Canada Research Chair in Child, Family and Community Resilience, and Founder and Director of the Resilience Research Centre at Dalhousie University, Canada

To access the webinar click [here](#)

CALENDAR

w/c 8 th June	Y7 Assessments
11 th June	Y12 Parents' Evening (online)
w/c 15 th & 22 nd June	Y10 Trial Exams
22 nd June	Y13 Leavers' Breakfast
22 nd June	Y11 Soiree
23 rd June	Y11 Celebration Assembly
23 rd June	Visual Arts Exhibition
25 th June	Y8 Parents' Evening (online)
26 th June	Sixth Form Taster Day
29 th June	INSET Day (staff only in school)
2 nd July	Y6 Parent Information Evening
8 th , 9 th & 10 th July	Sister Act

Our full school calendar, including sports fixtures and extra-curricular activities, can be viewed [here](#).