# Langley Park School for Girls

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

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



10th October 2025

Dear Families,

Firstly, a heartfelt thank you to our Parent, Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA) for their invaluable support in running the pre-loved uniform sale earlier this week. Their efforts not only promote sustainability but also help families access affordable uniform options. We're also looking forward to the forthcoming AGM of our recently reformed PTFA, now known as *The Friends of Langley Girls* and to being in a position to plan a range of future activities and events which will bring together members of our school community, while also raising funds to support the school.

This week also saw a wonderful performance from our Music department, offering a sneak peek of the repertoire our talented choir and instrumentalists will be showcasing on their upcoming tour to Belgium and The Netherlands. The concert was, as always, a joyful celebration of musical excellence, and we wish all students and staff involved a safe journey and a successful, enjoyable tour over the half-term break.

Next week, our Year 13 students will begin their mock exams. This is a crucial opportunity for them to reflect on their progress, refine their exam technique, and identify areas for further development. Since returning from the summer break, our Year 13 students are focussed on their studies, as well as securing their next steps and making applications for university and apprenticeships. Our new Sixth Form Study Hub is a hive of activity during students' so-called 'free lessons' and at the end of the school day. I have no doubt they will show the ambition and determination which characterises students in LPGS6 in their approach to these important practice examinations.

Beyond the classroom, Year 13 BTEC Science students visited the Bromley Environmental Educational Centre at High Elms (BEECHE) on Thursday, exploring environmental science in a hands-on setting. Meanwhile, our Year 10 Photography students ventured to Borough Market and the Tate Modern, capturing architectural and structural imagery to inspire their creative portfolios.

We are pleased to welcome a new cohort of trainee teachers from University College London and Goldsmiths University. Their enthusiasm and fresh perspectives are already making a positive impact, and we look forward to the contributions they will make to our school community.

Many of you will be familiar with the work of the Bromley Y Mental Health Support Team (MHST) from the various activities their wellbeing practitioners carry out in school, including our parent/carer coffee mornings. They have produced a <u>short introductory video</u>, which we will be sharing with students in school and is also aimed at families to better understand the work they do and how it supports children and young people.

# **Reporting Absence**

Please can we remind parents/carers that, wherever possible, medical and dental appointments should be made out of school hours. Advance notification of these absences should be made via Studybugs; for emergency (same day) appointments please email notification to <a href="mailto:attendance@lpgs.bromley.sch.uk">attendance@lpgs.bromley.sch.uk</a>.

We also ask that absence from school should be reported using Studybugs, a secure online system. We request that parents/carers download our free Studybugs app or register on the <u>Studybugs website</u> using the parent/carer email address currently held by the school. Please notify us every day of an absence.

Finally, we've launched a consultation on school uniform this week, inviting feedback from staff, students, parents and carers. This is timely, as it aligns with the forthcoming national changes under the Children's

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Wellbeing and Schools Bill, which is set to come into effect from September 2026. The bill will introduce a cap on the number of branded uniform items schools can require—limiting it to three branded items. We support these changes to reduce financial pressure on families, promote equity, and ensure that no child is disadvantaged due to uniform costs. As a school, we are committed to reviewing our own policy in light of these developments, whilst ensuring we maintain our school's identity and students' pride in being a student at Langley Park School for Girls. We recognise that uniform removes peer pressure and achieves equity. Our consultation with students provides them with an opportunity for student voice and insight into the decisions made by governments, which affect our day-to-day lives. We welcome your views and encourage everyone to take part in the consultation.

With very best wishes.

Mr S Whittle Headteacher

#### **MESSAGES FROM STAFF**

#### **House Competition**

We are excited to share that the first House competition of the year is off to a fantastic start, with students earning house points through their brilliant contributions to our recent Open Evening. Points were awarded for participation across all year groups, with special recognition given to our Year 7 and 8 students who acted as guides for visiting families, and to older students who supported departments in showcasing their work. After a very close contest, **Lambda House** emerged as the winners, followed by **Sigma House**, who were just one percent ahead of **Kappa House** in third place. **Gamma House** rounded off the standings. It has been a great start to the year, and we're looking forward to seeing even more enthusiasm and teamwork as the house competitions continue.

Looking ahead, there are plenty of exciting opportunities for students to earn house points this term. Our half-termly attendance competition continues to reward excellent attendance across all houses, while students can also take part in the **Black History Month competition**, celebrating culture, heritage, and creativity. In class, Key Stage 3 students will be participating in the **Computational Thinking Challenge**, a national competition that tests problem-solving and logic skills. We also have the **P Point competition**, which runs each half term and recognises students for positive contributions to school life. Students are reminded that every P point contributes towards house points! These are just a few of the many ways students can get involved, and we are looking forward to seeing their enthusiasm and teamwork shine through.

Mr P Seward, Deputy Headteacher

#### **PE Kit**

We currently have a substantial amount of PE kit that has been left in the changing rooms. These items will be collected and placed in the store.

If any of the kit is labelled with a student's name, we will inform your child's form tutor so it can be collected from the PE office. To help us return lost items quickly, please ensure all PE kit is clearly marked with your child's name.

Thank you in advance for your continued support in helping us keep belongings safe and accounted for.

Miss C Harris, Head of PE & Health Faculty

# **Our School Uniform Consultation**

You will have received a <u>letter</u> earlier this week and link to our parent/carer <u>survey</u> on the proposed changes to school uniform from September 2026. Your responses, and those of staff and students, will inform our next steps and the development of a revised uniform policy.



Mr Whittle, Headteacher

#### **Duke of Edinburgh's Award at LPGS**

We have a busy DofE programme offering Bronze, Silver and Gold levels. Please explore <a href="http://www.dofe.org/">http://www.dofe.org/</a> for initial information.

We offer all **year 9** students the opportunity to enrol for Bronze DofE this term. Please note the following dates:

Letter to year 9 parents before October half term

Enrolment in November 2025 following tutor group presentations and Q&A

Year 9 invited to one of two edofe Launch meetings: 20th and 28th November 2025 3.15 to approx. 5pm

Year 9 Bronze expedition training day in school Saturday 24th January 2026 9am-4pm

Practice Expedition: **28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> March 2026** Qualifying Expedition: **23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> May 2026** 

Silver DofE is offered from year 10 onwards and we offer walking or bell boat expeditions.

Meeting after school for students interested to enrol **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November** 3.20pm in the Lecture Theatre

**Gold DofE** – this group meet fortnightly on 1st and 3rd Wednesday afternoons in the dining room or  $6^{th}$  form Base from 3.15pm

There is interest in bell boating expeditions in March and July/August 2026.

Please email <u>DOE@lpgs.bromley.sch.uk</u> to express interest and for enrolment information.

# Save the Date! - DofE Celebration Awards Evening 13th November 2025

For invited Bronze, Silver and Gold students who have completed at least three sections of their Award by 5<sup>th</sup> November 2025.

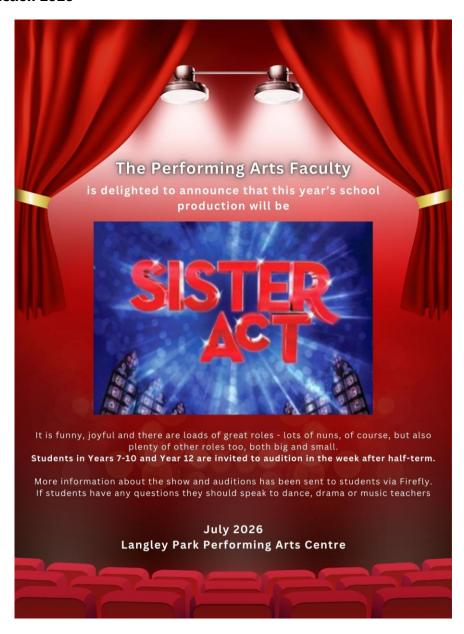
Please encourage your children to complete their physical, skills and volunteering sections upload assessors' reports to edofe over half term!

# Drop-in Q&A sessions, weekly for enrolled students

Mondays 3.15pm M009 Wednesdays 3.15pm dining room

#### Ms J Laurence, Duke of Edinburgh Award Co-ordinator

#### **School Production 2026**



Please see the links below for audition information and to sign up.

Audition information: <a href="https://lpgs.fireflycloud.net/school-production">https://lpgs.fireflycloud.net/school-production</a>
Audition sign- up form: <a href="https://forms.office.com/e/qRiX8BWRQC">https://forms.office.com/e/qRiX8BWRQC</a>

# Important Safeguarding Notice: Children's "Spy" Books (Information received from Bromley Education Safeguarding Officer)

We want to make you aware of a recent issue affecting some popular children's books by Andrew Cope, including the *Spy Dogs*, *Spy Cats*, and *Spy Pups* series.

Some editions of these books include a printed web address at the back. This link used to go to the author's website, but the domain is no longer under his control. It has since been taken over by another party and now leads to inappropriate adult content.

The publisher, Puffin, has paused sales and distribution of the books and is working with schools, libraries, and retailers to remove copies from circulation. They have stressed that the website has no connection to the author or publisher.



# What this means for you:

- If your child has any *Spy Dog*, *Spy Cat* or *Spy Pups* books at home, please check the back for website links and make sure they do not try to visit the site.
- It is safe for children to continue reading the stories themselves the concern is only with the outdated link.
- We recommend talking with your child about the importance of not following web addresses in books without checking with an adult first.

#### Mr B Duskhu, Assistant Headteacher (Designated Safeguarding Lead)

### **Sporting Results/Fixtures**

We've had some mixed results this week with 4 wins and 3 losses. The U12s, U15s and U16s are still going strong in the English Schools' and Kent Schools' Competitions with some difficult fixtures to come. We had a great result in the hockey, playing against some well drilled private schools. There are lots of netball fixtures to come, with the league being released last week.



#### **Food Bank Collection**

We are happy to announce that we will be collecting donations to support Bromley Borough Foodbank this season. They are specifically asking for:

Tinned vegetables, soups and beans Tinned cold meats Tinned fruits and custard Rice

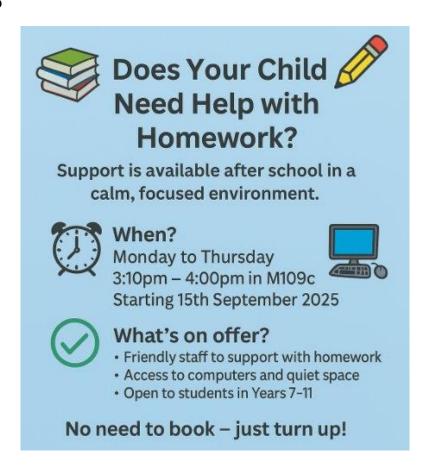
Please donate what you can by dropping off items by the doors to Reception before Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October.

If you would prefer to make a financial contribution, here is a Just Giving link: <a href="https://www.justgiving.com/page/harvest2025">https://www.justgiving.com/page/harvest2025</a>

Bromley Borough Foodbank has seen a significant drop in donations this year, so any donations are really appreciated. Thank you!

Ms N Frail & Ms F Rolston Ashford, Social Action & Sustainability Leads

#### **Homework Club**



#### **INFORMATION**

# **Teacher Training Opportunities at Bromley Schoools' Collegiate**





#### **CALENDAR**

w/c 13<sup>th</sup> October Y11 & 13 Trial Exams

 $16^{th}$  October PTFA AGM  $17^{th} - 21^{st}$  October Music Tour  $20^{th} - 31^{st}$  October Half Term

3<sup>rd</sup> November Return to School w/c 3<sup>rd</sup> November Y13 Trial Exams 10<sup>th</sup> November Y7 Mamma Mia A

10th NovemberY7 Mamma Mia Auditions11th NovemberY7- 11 Flu Vaccinations13th NovemberDuke of Edinburgh Award Evening

18<sup>th</sup> November Y7 Gamma & Sigma Mamma Mia Concert 19<sup>th</sup> November Y7 Kappa & Lambda Mamma Mia Concert

20<sup>th</sup> November 2026 Ski Trip Parent Meeting w/c 24<sup>th</sup> November Y10 & 12 Assessment Week

24<sup>th</sup> November – 1<sup>st</sup> December Spanish Exchange W/c 1<sup>st</sup> December Y7 & 8 Assessment Week 1<sup>st</sup> December Y7 Music Scheme Concert

4<sup>th</sup> December Sixth Form Open Evening W/c 8<sup>th</sup> December Y7, 8 & 9 Assessment Week 9<sup>th</sup> December SEND Parent Forum

10th DecemberChristmas Concert Auditions11th DecemberY11 Parents' Evening

w/c 15<sup>th</sup> December Y9 Assessment Week 17<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Concert