



The Blue Coat School

Newsletter 14 October 2016

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Headteacher's Message

As we reach the late stages of this half term, I am extremely pleased to share how well our new school day has settled in. I am very grateful to my colleagues who have carefully focussed on a number of improvements that have helped towards this including: our new late system, our new sixth form signing out process and our much improved routines for assemblies. All of these are helping to ensure the most orderly and calm start to each day at school. I take this opportunity to share our thanks and praise for how quickly and positively your children have adapted to these new routines.

In assemblies last week we looked at Black History Month and celebrated the many great examples of famous figures of Black heritage who, despite historic discrimination, were still ready to challenge themselves to do good. Talking to several students afterwards I was impressed by their determination to carry forward this very positive attitude to overcome the barriers and challenges they face in their lives. Working with such great students who are ready to learn new lessons from other's experiences and push themselves further is an inspiration for us all at Blue Coat to keep improving what we do for your children.

Mr M A Pennington
Headteacher

General Information

Road safety and courtesy: Thank you to all parents who show great care and courtesy to others when dropping and picking up children from school. We know it can very busy and your support is greatly appreciated. Observations from our senior leader's on duty and from our neighbours do tell us that things could be even better if:

- All parents avoid parking on yellow lines or road markings even if for short stays
- All parents check to see if their parking is restricting access to other's property
- All parents take great care to moderate their road speed.

Many thanks in advance for your contribution to keeping the students safe and maintaining good relationships with our neighbours.

Catering: We are delighted to announce that our catering department achieved the highest level of accreditation in a recent environmental health inspection. The team are also looking at new dishes to include on the winter menus and students can get involved and put ideas forward through the student council.

School Office: During the October half term the School Office will be closed on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Duke of Edinburgh: This September, 76 Year 11 students set out on their silver practise expedition. For 2 nights and 3 days those students navigated through extremely muddy terrain around Goosnargh, Preston. They battled to put their tents up in the rain and dealt with Glastonbury like fields but nothing could stop the perseverance of Bluecoat students. They showed the DofE leaders what they were made of; sheer determination to succeed. Huge congratulations go to those students and the best of luck to them on their qualifying expedition in October. A sincere thank you to our associate staff Mike Lennon and Julie Preston, and to our staff Mrs S Heath, Miss J Baker, Mr K Caulkin, Mr R Tyson and Miss J Long. Our next DofE events are:

Thursday 13 October 2016: Y9 Bronze award parents evening

Tuesday 18 October 2016: Y12 Gold award parents evening

Monday 14 November 2016: D of E celebration evening



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www.bluecoatschool.org.uk



twitter.com/liverpoolbcs

Development Fund: Thank you to everyone that has generously supported our Development Fund so far this year. Our Development Fund enables us to provide the 'extras' that make a Blue Coat School education so transformational and on behalf of our students. If you are interested in seeing what projects we were able to support in 2015/16 you can view our Giving Report online at <http://www.bluecoatschoolliverpool.org.uk/support-us/development-fund/> I look forward to keeping you all updated throughout the year on how donations are being used to provide opportunities for our students right across the School.

School show: This year's school show will be Sweeney Todd and the students are really looking forward to showcasing their talents. We are pleased to be able to offer you the opportunity to support our School Show this year by sponsoring the event. We are seeking a main sponsor of the show, our Gold Sponsor, as well as Silver Sponsors and we hope that you will be interested in supporting the School and our students in this way. All funds raised in sponsorship will directly support the School Show and we are grateful to everyone who has expressed an interest in supporting us in this way. For further information please contact our Director of Development, Cat Gransden, on 0151 733 1407 ext 207 or at c.gransden@bluecoatschool.org.uk.

Student's progress and achievements:

Thank you to those parents who have contacted School with details of the achievements of their children outside of school. As we further strengthen the role of our form tutors, it is very helpful for us to get a wider picture of all of our student's successes. Over the coming months we will be sending out gentle reminders and we do appreciate you providing this information which will allow us to recognise student contributions in a more comprehensive way.

GCSE Prizegiving: On Tuesday 1 November 2016, we are looking forward to celebrating with our current Year 12 students to recognise their GCSE achievements from 2015-16. The event will start at 2.00pm in the Shirley Hall and will conclude by about 3.00pm when we would be delighted if you can join us for light refreshments.

Personal Development:

The Blue Coat School has always been proud of its tradition of developing leadership skills across the student community through creating opportunities and activities in which these attributes can be demonstrated. The Senior Prefect Team is a key aspect of this and our Year 13 students are excellent role models and ambassadors of the School. They will be working with younger students to help enhance their experience of leadership. The skills promoted through this will support our students in their future plans and aspirations, giving them confidence and an advantage in the competitive arena to which they will be applying, whether in Higher Education or the world of work. A particular focus will be for Senior Prefects to work with each Key Stage School Council to build on the excellent work done so far and extend their experiences through a variety of ways.

Behaviour and Welfare: Your attention is drawn to the accompanying letter with the newsletter providing important information and updates regarding expectations, attendance and uniform. All of the information is available to download [here](#).

Year 13 Leavers 2016: It is a pleasure to report that the Year 13 leavers of 2016 have gone on to pursue the next step of their career with 79% of them gaining a place to study at their first choice University. Of these students, 74% gained a place at Russell Group Universities, with 8% starting at Oxford or Cambridge. Three Year 13s were successful in gaining a sponsored degree place, two with KPMG and one with Airbus. For those who did not take a place this year, they are busy working on their applications for 2017, having planned to take a gap year. We wish all of them the very best of luck in their new ventures, wherever they may be, and we look forward to seeing them on our Prize Giving Evening on 5 January 2017!

