



OUR LADY'S CONVENT HIGH SCHOOL

Issue No. 455

Friday, 6th November 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to our new half term, I hope the half term break gave some opportunities for rest and relaxation. We now have a very busy term leading up to our Christmas holiday and, once again, we are seeking your help and support for our Christmas hamper project. Through your generosity, we are able to bring some Christmas cheer to hundreds of local residents:

Our Hampers need You!! - 6th Form Service at Christmas Project

Please remember our Christmas Hamper project, all the details were sent out in a separate letter—we are asking the **whole school** to support the 6th Form Hampers at Christmas project by donating FOUR food items. Every item can contribute towards improving someone else's Christmas, letting them know that there are people who care for them and to show them they are not alone.

*Please remember that nominations for new recipients are always more than welcome!!!

The Bear is Back! - a message from Dr Blackwell, Deputy Head

Friday 13th November is **Children in Need's** annual appeal day and we are going to have a non-uniform day to help raise funds for the charity. We are asking each student to pay £2. Students should pay by Wednesday 11th November. They can pay before school in the Dining Room. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

Sixth Form Information Evening – Thursday, 12th November 5pm to 7.00pm

We welcome all our Year 11 students and their parents to our Information Evening on Thursday 12th November, students from other institutions are also very welcome to attend with their parents. We trust you will find the evening very informative. Please do not hesitate to contact school if you have any specific queries.

On the same day, year 11 will be attending Sixth Form Taster Lessons so our current Year 12 students will have lessons or study periods 1 and 2, they will then attend their Servite placements period 3 and 4 as normal and the school day will finish at 1.25pm for both yr12 and yr13 students. All Sixth Form students should make arrangements with their subject teachers to avoid missing work. The study room, but not the common room, will be available periods 1-4.

E-Safety Information Evening

On **Thursday 26th November** we will be holding an E-Safety Information Evening. The evening will be delivered by a guest speaker, Luke Brent-Savage, who is a specialist in this field and Director of 'Education Child Protection'. As a result of parental feedback the evening will start at the slightly later time of **6:00pm and will finish at 7:00pm**.

The evening will provide you with some key information that you as a parent need to have so that you know your daughter is using the internet and mobile technology in a safe way.

It will cover some serious and potentially upsetting topics such *child exploitation, cyber-bullying* and *online grooming*. Unfortunately these are a fact of life in our electronic age of communication and we need to be aware of them in order to protect ourselves and our children against them. This information evening is a really good way to begin building up your awareness of those dangers and how we can manage them in a safe way.

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Headteacher : **Mrs Jane Gray**



Your daughter should have brought home a 'flyer' earlier on this week that provided more details about this event; if she didn't please ask her to look in her bag for it: it could be one of the most important information evenings you come to.

Sincere apologies but please note that the Dates for the Diary issued in September had some slight errors, please see **corrections below:**

Parents Evening	Year 7	Thursday, 21 st April 2016
	Year 8	Thursday, 14 th January 2016
	Year 9	Thursday, 3 rd December 2015
	Year 10	Thursday, 10 th March 2016
	Year 11	Thursday, 15 th October 2015
	Year 12/13	Thursday, 19 th November 2015
	Year 12/13	Thursday, 28th January 2016
All year groups (by invitation)	Thursday, 28 th April 2016	
Sixth Form Information Evening	Year 11	Thursday, 12 th November 2015
GCSE Certificate Award Evening	Year 12	Wednesday, 25 th November 2015
Year 11 Parents Information Evening	Year 11	Wednesday, 3 rd February 2016
Year 9 Parents Information Evening	Year 9	Wednesday, 10 th February 2016
GCSE Options Evening	Year 9	Thursday, 3 rd March 2016
Whole School Mass – school will close at 1pm on these days	Friday, 18 th December 2015	
	Thursday, 24 th March 2016	
	Friday, 22 nd July 2016	
Staff Training – school will close at 2.20pm on these days	Tuesday, 26 th January 2016	
	Tuesday, 14 th June 2016	
INSET – Staff Training school will be CLOSED all day	Monday, 4 th January 2016	
	Wednesday, 29 th June 2016	

Charity Collection – update from Abisola Ipaye, Charity prefect

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our collection recently for Water Aid which raised the sum total of £52.36.

Year 8 Write a Book Project – report by Ms. Rigney, assistant head of English

As part of a collaborative project between Art and English, our Year 8 students visited two local primary schools on 20th October. Students will spend time in both subjects this year writing and designing their very own children's book. The purpose of the trip was for the pupils to meet a Year 1 student and learn a little about them so that they can include some of the child's personal

details in the story that they write. Our Year 8s are now busily designing the settings for their books in Art, and creating their characters in English. When the books are complete, we will return to the primary schools and our students will present their primary pupils with their very own personalised book. We look forward to showing off the final product!

Theatre trip to Merchant of Venice - report from Ms Rigney, assistant head of English

As most of our students studied *The Merchant of Venice* as their Shakespeare text last year, Year 9 will soon be visiting the Ambassadors Theatre in London to see its new production. We will be attending on Tuesday 17th November, and should be returning to Manor House station by approximately 6pm. All letters have been sent out and reply slips are due back. If your daughter needs another letter, please see Miss Rigney or reception. This is an excellent opportunity for our students to experience a live production of Shakespeare.

Year 7 & 8 Attainment & Progress Information Evening – report by Mr. Smith

Thank you to all the parents who attended the Year 7 & 8 Attainment & Progress Information Evening at the end of last half-term. While it may have felt that you were bombarded with information I hope you found that information to be of use in understanding what the school is doing in relation the Attainment and Progress and why we are doing it.

A further thank you to those parents who put their names down volunteering to assist us with our ongoing work of preparing student 'report' for parents that tells you what you need to know whilst at the same time being accessible to you. Mr Tierney has e-mailed you a list of dates; please do select the date that you are able to come and meet with us or contact us directly if you haven't yet received this e-mail. We look forward to seeing you again soon.

A Level Drama and Theatre Studies trip to Mary Ward Centre, Russell Square – report by Mrs. Read, Head of Drama

On Thursday 22nd October, the A level Drama and Theatre Studies students attended the Mary Ward Centre in Russell Square to experience a truly inspiring Brechtian Theatre experience. Brecht challenges his audiences by making them think and as an audience we were involved in this performance, with actors being amongst us, in the audience. At one moment an actor sat on the laps of the students and at another point, I was on-stage acting alongside the actors. This experience was created by actors from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (RADA); we had the opportunity to ask them questions about the process of creating such a unique performance, which was invaluable to the students. This was an exciting trip, helping the students to realise the power and potential of Theatre.

Sixth Form City of London visit – report by Mr. Bailey, Head of Sixth Form

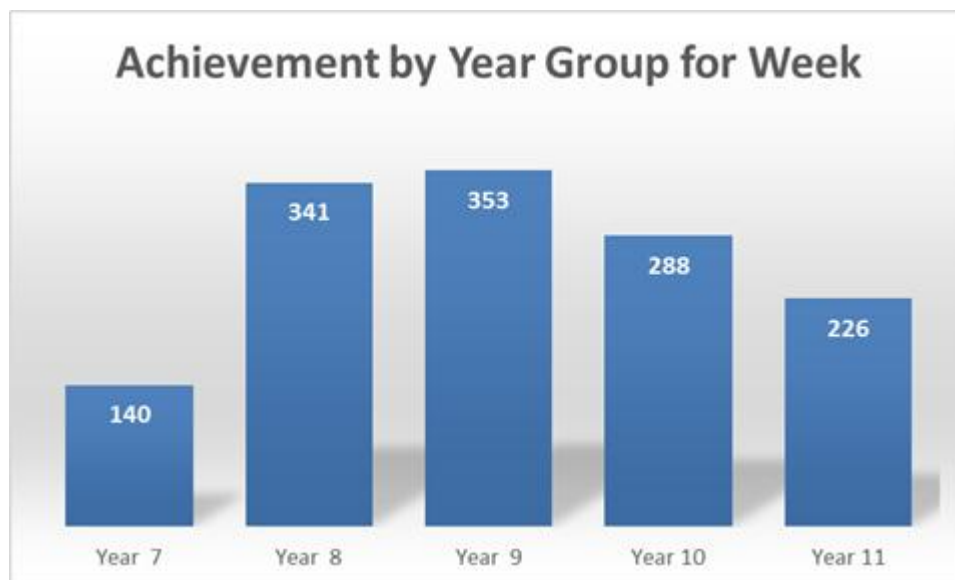


18 members of our Year 13 cohort were fortunate to be offered the opportunity for an Interview Skills session in the City of London. Our destination was the 26th Floor of Salesforce Tower just minutes away from Liverpool Street Station. We were greeted by several professionals with a varied set of backgrounds. Split into teams, each professional guided our Year 13 students in terms of how to perform within an interview situation. Two actors had been

employed to perform a variety of role play situations which were subsequently discussed. By the end of the two hour session our students had a clearer idea as to what their own strengths were and how best to sell themselves within a university interview. Reports following the event were positive and our students felt that the afternoon had been a valuable learning experience.

Recognising Achievement – update from Mr. Smith, Assistant Headteacher.

The table below shows the total number of achievement points received by each year group for week ending 23rd October 2015.



Editor’s note: Well done Year 9 – you rose to the challenge!!

Student of the Month

A very brief reminder to parents that as part of the school reward system we be naming the new Student of the Month for each Form class next week – look out for next week’s newsletter to find out which student in your daughter’s Form received the award.

Attendance and Punctuality – Information from Dr Blackwell, Deputy Headteacher

The table below shows the Form within each year group achieving the best attendance and the form achieving the best punctuality for the week ending 23rd October 2015.

	Attendance		Punctuality	
	Form	%	Form	%
Year 7	7H	99.7	7J	98.3
Year 8	8H	98.1	8J	98.7
Year 9	9H	99.1	9P	98.7
Year 10	10H	97.3	10P	98.37
Year 11	11M	99.3	11J	98.627

Yours sincerely

Mrs. Jane Gray
Head Teacher