

WHOLE SCHOOL

Dear parents and carers

I hope this finds you well.

Please make sure you have a read of this [month's school newsletter](#) – it gives a really good flavour of all the fantastic things that students have been getting up to recently, including successes on the sports fields and plenty of examples of social responsibility in action. There is also some very useful advice on tackling exam stress as well as an article on tackling loneliness as part of Mental Health Awareness Week. Special mention to Oscar and Sebastian for completing their superhero challenge to raise funds for Muscular Dystrophy UK: very well done, boys!

You will also see details below of a couple of assemblies that students have been given this term and I do encourage you to pick up some of the themes at home: the more we can work together to provide opportunities to explore these important issues and help educate young people, the better. We have done quite a lot of work this year on tackling racism and misogyny and I must say that the students have been really thoughtful and mature when given the chance to discuss the issues properly.

Finally from me for now, we have welcomed our first Ukrainian children to the school within the last couple of weeks, with a few more to arrive shortly. It has been heart-warming to see how many households in Lymm have applied to host families and we have really enjoyed meeting our new students: Ласкаво просимо! (Welcome!)

Have a lovely half-term.

Kind regards
Gwyn Williams

Heads of Year

Letters have already gone out to the relevant year groups, but just to confirm that there will be a couple of changes of Heads of Year after half-term.

Firstly, Miss Taylor will return to the Head of Year team as head of the current **Year 8**. Many thanks to Mrs Morris for looking after Year 8 whilst Miss Taylor was covering for Mrs Feast's maternity leave as Assistant Headteacher. As well as being Head of **Year 8**, Miss Taylor will remain on the senior leadership team as an Associate Assistant Headteacher with whole-school responsibilities related to Personal, social, health and economic (PHSE) and Spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) guidance. Please [click here](#) to read the letter sent home to Year 8 parents.

Secondly, Mrs Worrall is stepping back from her Head of Year responsibilities and Mrs Wagstaff will take over as head of the current **Year 7**. Mrs Worrall has worked incredibly hard over the past 8 years as a Head of Year and we are very grateful for all she has done. We are very pleased that Mrs Worrall is very much remaining a part of the school in her teaching role and that she will be taking over as tutor for 7TL after the break. Please [click here](#) to read the letter sent home to Year 7 parents.

Both Miss Taylor and Mrs Wagstaff will move into next year with these year groups, so students will have the same head of year in September as they will after half-term.

Assemblies on racism and sexual harassment

Two important assemblies have taken place this half-term and, in line with our desire to involve parents and carers more in our PSHE/SMSC programme, we thought it might be useful to share these. Please do try to find some time to have a chat with your children about these issues – the more school and parents can work together, the better we can prepare our young people to thrive in the modern world.

Mr Rutty gave an assembly to all year groups on the topic of ‘microaggressions’ in relation to race and ethnicity. You can see the slides Mr Rutty used by [clicking here](#), including a link to a video that students were shown a couple of minutes of. Mr Williams joined Mr Rutty to help reinforce the key messages, which were:

- Overall, Lymm High School students are remarkably tolerant and respectful of one another: that is one of the most positive features of our school community. Of course, though, we can all do more.
- Student voice activities with minority ethnic and mixed-race students show that, sadly, these young people do encounter ‘microaggressions’ on a fairly regular basis. The example Mr Rutty chose to focus on was the question: “Where are you *really* from?” He explained that, even if meant innocently, this could be perceived as questioning someone’s identity or even suggesting they are somehow not as much a part of our community as anyone else. Other examples of microaggressions might include asking to touch a person’s hair or making derogatory comments about ethnic food.
- More often than not, the people making comments are not intending to offend or cause harm. However, the students on the wrong end of it do often feel uncomfortable (or worse) as a result. Mr Rutty and Mr Williams were therefore encouraging students to be sensitive and think carefully before talking about any issues related to race or people’s heritage.
- Quite understandably, students being made to feel uncomfortable by these microaggressions are usually very unwilling to speak up. Indeed, very often they feel obliged to ‘go along’ (or even laugh along) with things rather than risk being seen to be ‘making a fuss’. It is therefore really important that all students are prepared to step up and challenge inappropriate language or behaviour.
- Many of these messages apply to all forms of discrimination, not just racism. For example, we need all students to be ready to challenge the casual use of homophobic or transphobic language ‘in the moment’ (and in a sensible, appropriate manner) rather than put the burden on victims to report things themselves.

Miss Taylor has delivered virtual assemblies on sexual harassment this week. You can see the slides that Miss Taylor used by [clicking here](#). The assemblies were tailored slightly differently for KS3 and KS4 students, but the common messages were as follows:

- Sexual harassment means ‘unwanted conduct of a sexual nature’ and can occur online or offline.
- Sexual violence and sexual harassment are *never* acceptable and will always be treated very seriously by the school. It should never be passed off as ‘banter’ or suchlike.
- Nobody should ever feel ashamed for reporting behaviours that have made them feel uncomfortable. Staff in school will always take them seriously and make sure they are well supported.
- As above, it is important everybody takes responsibility for ‘calling out’ inappropriate and/or concerning behaviours. We need more people to become ‘active bystanders’.

We will be running assemblies and other activities on a similar theme for Sixth Form students soon after half-term, following a series of student voice activities we are in the middle of at the moment.

As always, if any student or parent/carer is worried about anything, they should report it to a trusted member of staff or via the [TellUs app](#).

School communication

We are aware that some parents' emails from school are being diverted into their junk folders. Please remember to check this folder in case you are missing information from school.

Interhall events

PE are hosting their 'Games' Interhall event on the following dates:

- Monday 6th June: Year 8
- Tuesday 7th June: Year 9
- Thursday 9th June: Year 10
- Friday 10th June: Year 7

Students will be required to come to school in their PE kit. Additional Lymm High School/PE uniform can be worn to keep warm when coming and leaving the school. Students are advised to bring plenty of fluids for the day, sun cream if it is warm and also any medication if required. They must also ensure they have their books for the day in case the event is cancelled.

If you require further information on this, please email Mr Mason (smason@lymmhigh.org.uk)

Uniform recycling

If you have any school uniform (lower school, Sixth Form or PE kit) that you no longer need, please consider donating these items to school so they can be shared with those who need it. If possible, please wash items before donating.

There will be a drop off point in main reception after the half-term holiday. If you have any questions, please email nbeck@lymmhigh.org.uk

Honours Boards

Lymm High School has Honours Boards that display the names of all students who have, over the years, represented their county or country at sport. Recognition is also given to those students who are placed (top 3) in national competitions. We update the Boards every two years; therefore, any student from Years 8–13 who has achieved county honours in the period of time from September 2020 to the present day should be recognised on these boards.

If your son or daughter meets the criteria, please email the following details to Mr Hampton, Head of PE (jhampton@lymmhigh.org.uk).

- Student name
- Current Year group
- Sport
- County or Region (e.g., Cheshire or North of England)

- Age Group represented (e.g., U15's)
- Year(s) (e.g., 2020–2022)

Online school shop

Parents may not be aware that our school shop is now online. Uniform can be ordered on a 'click and collect' basis by [clicking here](#).

Cashless catering

Please remember to top up your child's cashless catering account via Parent Pay to ensure your child is able to purchase food at break and during lunchtimes. You can [click here](#) to view the lunch menu, which changes each day. The price list can be [viewed here](#).

Amazon Smile

You can help us raise money for Lymm High's PTA while online shopping at no extra cost to yourselves. All you need to do is sign up for the Amazon Smile Account by clicking here: smile.amazon.co.uk: [You shop. Amazon gives.](#) Any of your Amazon purchases will then benefit our school by giving us a little cash each time. Thank you for your support.

LHS Lottery

Congratulations to Mx. Sharp who was this week's school lottery winner! You could be a winner too! If you have not signed up for our lottery yet, please head to our dedicated lottery website [here](#). If you want to find out how the school lottery works, please [click here](#). Tickets are only £1 each week and your support would be hugely appreciated.

UPPER SCHOOL

Year 11 Revision timetable

Please [find attached](#) the revision timetable for the first week back after half term. All students are encouraged to use these sessions to support their ongoing GCSE preparation. The remaining revision sessions will be shared after the half term.

Year 11 Prom

A few reminders for Prom:

- Please pay any outstanding amount for the Year 11 Prom – all on Parent Pay.
- Please click this link for the [River Reeves Foundation Prom Recycling project](#).
- Please make sure all medical consent forms are completed and returned to the school shop ASAP.

A huge well done to all Year 11 for their amazing efforts the last couple of weeks with their exams: they have been incredible! I am so proud of the way they have handled themselves. I really hope they get some rest over half-term and then we will look forward to celebrating their leaving in their final assembly on **Thursday 23rd June**.

Mrs Wagstaff

Year 13 Prom

The Year 13 Prom is all arranged for **Wednesday 13th July** from 7–11pm at Statham Lodge. We are looking forward to the students celebrating at this beautiful venue with a red carpet and 3-course meal. If your child is planning to attend, please can you make sure that the following have been submitted to Mrs Hughes:

- Consent form AND Medical form signed and returned. [Click here](#) for copies
- Student food choice [submitted here](#)