

WHOLE SCHOOL

Dear parents and carers

In many respects, the start of term has been somewhat overshadowed by the sad news of the death of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II. Students spent time reflecting upon her life in tutor time last Friday and we have had assemblies all week celebrating her achievements and the lessons we can all learn from her. Queen Elizabeth obviously very much embodied the values of social responsibility that we place so much emphasis on at Lymm High School and we have been extremely impressed by the maturity shown by students in mourning her passing. We have further activities planned for the coming weeks and, as you know, school will be closed for the bank holiday on Monday.

Aside from this, the start of term has been exceptionally positive; indeed, it is difficult to put into words how lovely it has been to have a completely 'normal' start to the school year after all the upheaval everyone has faced since that dramatic day in March 2020 when we went into lockdown for the first time. I must pay tribute in particular to the new Year 7 cohort, who seem to have settled in remarkably smoothly - it's been a real pleasure chatting to them at social times and I have been very impressed by them in all the lessons I have visited so far. Long may it continue!

With best wishes for enjoyable and successful school year,

Kind regards Gwyn Williams

Cars on site

We have been asking cars not to come onto the school site at the beginning and end of the day since the start of term because of the works at the front of school. Having been a little worried that this might cause problems on Oughtrington Lane, we have been very pleasantly surprised to find that the opposite has been the case; because there are no queues inside the school grounds, there have been no issues with traffic becoming backed up on the road outside and traffic has actually been flowing much more smoothly (and more safely). In addition, the school buses have found it infinitely easier to get on and off-site, which has really helped with punctuality and safety on site. We are therefore making this move permanent and ask that parents/carers dropping off and/or picking up students in cars continue to do so outside of the school grounds – ideally, as far from the school site as possible. Cars will no longer be allowed on site before school or at the end of the school day. Please also avoid dropping students at the Lodge entrance to school in the mornings as this area needs to be kept clear for staff coming to school.

We will continue to make arrangements for those exceptional cases where parents or students need to come on site (something that also seems to be working very well so far) so please just email Mrs Mogey in Student Services if you do need special arrangements of this sort to be made. Many thanks for your continued support with this: the vast majority of people have been very understanding and considerate about where they are stopping cars and it has made a big difference.

At the same time, please note that we do encourage students to walk or cycle to school. It might be worth pointing out that the cycle racks at the very front of school do get quite full, but there are additional spaces next to the Leisure Centre if needed.

Signing students in and out of school

The procedure for signing students out of main school during the day is via a touch screen in reception. Parents need to sign out their child on the screen, stating a reason for the absence. Parents should only sign their child out once it has been confirmed with Student Services that the child is leaving school.

Students returning during the school day can sign themselves back in without their parent being present. They can sign themselves back in using the touch screen in reception or the one in Student Services.

Students arriving late to school in the mornings can use the screen in Student Services.

Please <u>click here</u> to view the slides shared with students about this new procedure.

Medical Facilities at Lymm High School

If your son/daughter feels unwell during the school day, there is a medical room based in Student Services. This facility is for emergency first aid only.

We do not have a qualified doctor or nurse on site so we cannot diagnose any illnesses or medical problems that a student may have. If your child is unwell then please contact your local GP in the first instance.

We can administer First Aid, but we do not have, nor can we give out, any medication to students unless it has been prescribed by their GP and they have been instructed to take it during the school day. Parents must then fill out the appropriate school medical forms. All medication must be in the original labelled packaging with the pupil's name on it and full prescription details as dispensed by the pharmacist. No loose medication will be accepted. All medication is then stored in locked cupboards in the medical room. Students should not be carrying boxes of medication (e.g., Paracetamol/ibuprofen) on their person in school.

For further information please direct your enquiries to our First Aider Andrea Rogerson via the school's telephone number 01925 755458 (ext. 123).

Uniform expectations

Thank you to all parents for ensuring we've started the new year with the great majority of students upholding our high standards of uniform and appearance. For a reminder about our expectations, including the use of jewellery and make-up, please <u>click here.</u>

Careers Support – a plea for help!

Careers Education is an important part of our personal development programme in school, which we deliver using the Unifrog platform during dedicated form time sessions (see below).

We are very keen to provide students with the opportunity to engage with employers as this provides students with the very best advice and guidance. If you are willing to support us with the events we hope to run this year (which include CV masterclasses, a careers fair or supporting us with mock interviews), please do get in touch with Lisa Hughes: lhughes@lymmhigh.org.uk.

Unifrog careers platform

Year 7–11 students will see the launch of our Unifrog careers platform next week. Parents will also receive a code so they can access this information too.

The Unifrog platform is designed to support learners in making the most informed decisions about their futures and has a range of tools that are suitable for all year groups. It provides a wide range of information related to their interests and aspirations which include:

- Exploring Pathways personality quizzes, career and subject profiles, and webinars.
- Recording self-reflection about extracurricular activities and key employability skills.
- Opportunities search tools showing live vacancies/courses/placements for apprenticeships, universities (in the UK and abroad), further education, virtual work experience and much more.
- Applications tools to help students build applications for a range of pathways (e.g., CVs).

For more information, go to www.unifrog.org or contact Mrs Hughes lhughes@lymmhigh.org.uk.

Sports Consent Form

If your child is likely to be taking part in extra-curricular sport, please click on this link to complete a short form so the PE and Sport Faculty can gather students' information.

Photo Consent

At Lymm High School, we sometimes take photographs of students. We use these photos in the school's prospectus and newsletters, on the school's website and on display boards and TV screens around school. We may also use the images as promotion material in social media and local news stories, which helps us celebrate our students' achievements throughout their time at Lymm High School.

If you haven't already completed this Photo Consent form, please <u>click here</u>. If you have previously submitted a paper version of this form, please also submit an electronic version. **This is an important requirement for us, so we appreciate your help in getting these forms completed.**

Cross-Country races

Warrington Athletics Club organises three cross-country races a year for local schools. The dates of this year's races are:

- Saturday 1st October
- Saturday 19th November
- Saturday 10th December

This extra-curricular sport opportunity is open to years 7-11. Please <u>click here</u> for more information.

School shop

The school shop will be closed during term time every Tuesday and Thursday from 12 noon. However, parents can still order uniform online on a 'click and collect' basis by <u>clicking here</u>. If you have ordered uniform, please collect this after you receive your email confirmation.

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 <u>click here</u> to view the lunch menu, which changes each day. The price list can be <u>viewed here</u>.

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 this week's school lottery winner, Mx Harrison! 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.

LOWER SCHOOL

Knowledge Organisers for KS3 Students (Years 7–9)

This week, all Key Stage 3 students have been issued with new Knowledge Organiser booklets, containing all the important curriculum information they will need over the next term.

These contain the essential 'bedrock' knowledge that students need for their individual subjects, and help parents better understand what is being studied in class so they can support too. Knowledge Organisers will be used regularly for revision at home, as well as supporting independent work in the classroom. Teachers will set revision homework, and students will be tested in class to make sure the learning is stored in their long-term memory over time.

Students should keep their Knowledge Organiser in their school bag and bring it to school each day in the same way as their other equipment.

For more information on how to use Knowledge Organisers most effectively for revision, please see the linked slides here.

Year 7 IAG

Year 7's Information and Guidance (IAG) evening is taking place in school on **Tuesday 27**th **September**. Further information will be provided soon.

Colomendy trip for Years 8 and 9

A meeting will be held on **Thursday 29th September** at 6pm online to discuss information about the Colomendy trip with parents. Further details will be sent out soon.

Year 8 IAG

Year 8's Information and Guidance (IAG) evening is taking place online on **Tuesday 20th September**. Further information will be provided soon. Please <u>click here</u> to read the letter sent home yesterday.

Year 9 IAG

Year 9's Information and Guidance (IAG) evening is taking place online on **Thursday 22**nd **September**. Further information will be provided soon.

UPPER SCHOOL

Year 10 IAG

Year 10's Information and Guidance (IAG) evening is taking place in school on **Thursday 22nd September**. Further information will be provided soon. Please <u>click here</u> to read the letter sent home today.

Year 11 Revision Support

Parents of students in Year 11 are reminded that there is lots of advice and guidance to help them support their child through their final GCSE year on our school website; in particular, the Useful Documents section on this KS4 Revision page.

A 'How to Revise' support evening will also be held for parents on **Thursday 20th October**. Further details will be sent out nearer the date.

Sixth Form Open Evening

For parents and students in Year 11 who would like to find out more about coming to Lymm Sixth Form in September 2023, our Open Evening will be on Thursday 10th November 2022. This will be an opportunity for students and parents to tour the facilities, meet the Sixth Form staff, find out more about the subjects on offer and about life in general in the Sixth Form. Please <u>click here</u> to register and more information will be sent to you nearer the time.

SIXTH FORM

Unifrog careers platform

All Year 12 and Year 13 parents have received an email this week with information about Unifrog; an award-winning, online careers platform. All students now have their own logins for this platform and parents can also access it themselves using the code given in the letter. The Unifrog platform is designed to support learners in making the most informed decisions about their futures and has a range of tools that are suitable for all year groups. It provides a wide range of information related to their interests and aspirations which include:

- Exploring Pathways personality quizzes, career and subject profiles, MOOCs and webinars.
- Recording self-reflection about extracurricular activities and key employability skills.
- Opportunities search tools showing live vacancies/courses/placements for apprenticeships, universities (in the UK and abroad), further education, virtual work experience and much more.
- Applications tools to help students build applications for a range of pathways (e.g., CVs, Personal Statements, Common App Essays).

For more information, go to www.unifrog.org or contact Mrs Hughes lhughes@lymmhigh.org.uk.

Oxbridge Graduates

Dr Dodds is recruiting volunteers to support our Oxbridge applicants for:

- Maths
- Engineering
- Economics and Management
- Modern and Medieval Languages
- English Literature and English Language

The interviews take place in Early December and this support would be in the form of helping students prepare for interview (likely through running mock interviews). The sessions will be held virtually and support will be provided with guidance on the format and some questions to start you off.

This is a great opportunity for the students to be put through their paces by someone they don't know and makes such a difference so thank you in advance for anyone who can help us out! Please email fdodds@lymmhigh.org.uk if you can help.