



Lymm  
High School

FOUNDED c.1592



LHS Mock Election  
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The results are in  
from our LHS Mock  
Election.

Cheshire Champions!  
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LHS crowned rugby  
Cheshire Champions  
for third time in four  
years!

# NEWSLETTER

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## FESTIVE CHEER AT LHS CAROL SERVICE 2019

Students welcome the Christmas season with annual festive carol service.

Lymm instrumentalists and singers once again took to St Peter's Church in Oughtrington on Monday 16th December to perform in the annual Christmas carol

service.

Reverend Michael Burgess, invited the packed congregation to join the school in celebrating the festive period whilst looking to the

year ahead. Lymm High School students, as well as staff, joined forces with the congregation, in the singing of favourite festive hymns

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including; Once in Royal David's City, Hark the Herald Angels Sing and O Come all ye Faithful.

Fantastic as ever, was our title-winning String Ensemble, who played a stunning set throughout the evening ranging from Holst's 'In the Bleak Mid-Winter' to 'It's Beginning to look a Lot like Christmas' by M. Wilson.

There were also excellent readings from Lymm High School's Head Boy and Head Girl as well as our recent Year 7 writing competition winners.

Particularly poignant, were performances from the Lymm flutes, Year 13 Trio and the

LHS Girls' Choir.

The school's Brass Ensemble, also stunned the packed church with a rousing set which included 'Instant Christmas Concert', 'Frosty

the Snowman' and 'Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer' to bring the evening to a stirring conclusion.

"Thank you to all those in our school community

who attended our Christmas Celebration" said

Mr Starkey, Head of Music. "It was such a lovely evening and we're very proud of all the students involved. It was a showcase event exemplifying the excellence of our students."

"...it was a showcase event exemplifying the excellence of our students"

# LHS MOCK ELECTION

## Lib Dems win big in one election: the LHS school 'mock elections'

Students representing the Liberal Democrats won nearly a third of the 'seats' in the mock election organised by Lymm High School.

The Liberal Democrats might have suffered crushing disappointment in the general election, but the party cleaned up among the school student vote.

In the run-up to the general election, Lymm High School held its very own mock election with interesting results.

School candidate Joe Slater, representing the Liberal

Democrats won nearly a third of the 'seats' contested, with 552 votes overall.

Over 1598 individual voting slips were posted into the ballot boxes during the school's mock election and it was fantastic to see so many young people actively engage in politics and current affairs.

In second place were the Green Party with 418 votes.

And while the Conservative Party won a substantial majority in the real thing, this did not reflect in the student mock election result with neither of the main parties

running in the general election gaining sufficient votes.

The idea of a mock election is for students to gain a hands-on insight into how an election works, by running for office, exploring manifestos, canvassing support, designing campaign posters and then casting their votes.

A mock election also provides a great opportunity for students to learn important skills such as public speaking, critical thinking and team working and, importantly, it also gets young people into the voting habit early.





## MOCK ELECTION RESULTS



Liberal Democrats	35%
Labour	18%
Conservative	13%
Green Party	26%
Brexit Party	5%
Spoilt Ballots	3%

■ Liberal Democrats 
 ■ Labour 
 ■ Conservative 
 ■ Green Party 
 ■ Brexit Party 
 ■ Spoilt Ballots

# STRING & BRASS SPECTACULAR



The senior string group kicked off an action packed few days for the music department by entertaining the shoppers at The Golden Square on Thursday 12th December.

Many people stopped to listen to the fantastic musicians who played non-stop for an hour, with renditions of classic Christmas songs and carols.

Twenty string students took part in the performance in the centre performing well-known songs such as 'Jingle Bell

Rock', 'Deck the Halls' and 'Re-write the Stars' from hit film The Greatest Showman.

They received a great reception from the public, with one passer by commenting: "We were just in Warrington Golden Square and the Lymm High orchestra were there performing. What a bunch of talented people and an absolute credit to a fantastic school!!!!"

As part of their packed Christmas schedule, the string musicians also gave a fantastic

performance at Lymm Golf Club on the following Friday evening along with the Senior LHS Brass Band.

The brass band also enjoyed a shining moment at Lymm's Dickensian festival, spreading the festive cheer as hundreds braved the cold to celebrate the season on Saturday.

The music department's packed schedule culminated in the annual Lymm High School carol service with a number of notable performances to a packed congregation.

# LYMM

# BALL

LEAP  
INTO  
SPRING



LHS PTA



SAVE THE DATE

**SATURDAY 29TH FEBRUARY**

# FOOD FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON



## LHS students donate to Warrington Foodbank for Christmas.

**B**oxes of food have been donated to Warrington Foodbank in time for Christmas thanks to Lymm High School students, families and members of staff.

Warrington's local food bank is part of The Trussell Trust's network working to tackle food poverty and hunger in the UK. Food banks provide a minimum of three days emergency food and support to people in poverty or those in need.

Miss Hollis, cover supervisor for Lymm High School, delivered the donations of

food and non-perishable goods on Wednesday 11th December. The donated food will be sorted by the foodbank's team of volunteers and distributed to local people in need during the Christmas period.

Miss Hollis said: "We would like to say a huge thank you for all of your support and donations given to school for the foodbank.

"The volunteers were extremely grateful and as a school we were amazed at the generosity of our students, it was the largest single donation

given to the foodbank over this Christmas period. Lots of families will benefit from the donations that you have very kindly given!"

On the schools Instagram page, Warrington Foodbank commented: "You are all amazing people with hearts of gold. Thank you so so much, your generosity and kindness are greatly appreciated!"

Demand at Warrington Foodbank and at foodbanks across the UK has never been higher, so donations like this really do go a long way to helping those in need."



# XMAS TREE FESTIVAL

LHS students have once again worked hard to create a variety of Christmas tree decorations for this year's Christmas Tree Festival at St Marys Church Lymm.

With recycling a big part of the school ethos, students addressed the importance of re-using and re-purposing materials in order to reduce waste.

Students from the school's art club used recycled papers, buttons and ribbons to create a number of creative decorations on this year's tree.

In response to the festival theme "Christmas is coming", students also incorporated 'Christmas is coming' sheet music within their designs.

## SHOEBOX ANGELS

Lymm High School support  
Manchester Street  
Angels Christmas  
shoebox appeal.

Students from the school joined together again this year to help the homeless have a happier Christmas.

Following a marathon effort from students along with their extended friends, family and staff, Lymm High School managed to amass a huge number of shoeboxes filled with small gifts, toiletries and winter woollies.

The boxes will be distributed to shelters and homeless people living on the streets of Greater Manchester in the run up to Christmas.

Thank you to everybody who has helped to make a difference to people who would otherwise go without.





# OXFORD

## ACADEMY CONFERENCE

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Last month, Sixth Form students studying religion, philosophy and ethics were invited to attend a seminar run by Academy Conferences.

This intensive one-day program gave senior students the opportunity to experience exceptional quality learning with expert lecturers and speakers from Oxford University.

The seminar covered topics such as 'The Concept of God and Religious Language' and 'The Twilight of Atheism: Is religion needed for ethics or is science enough to keep us good?'

It challenged students to consider what is true, to question their own beliefs and to promote reflection on existential questions.

The session culminated in a debate centred on the question that 'different truth claims made by world religions shows that all religion is fundamentally false'.

Students engaged with the debate thoroughly and we were very proud of the positive contribution they made.

Well done to all involved!



# ARKWRIGHT SCHOLAR



## Year 12 student wins prestigious Arkwright Scholarship

**L**ymm High School student, Tom Antrobus, has been awarded an Arkwright Engineering Scholarship, the most prestigious scholarship of its type in the UK to inspire and nurture school-age students to be the country's future leaders of the Engineering Profession.

Tom was one of more than 400 of the country's most talented students to have been honoured at ceremonies that were held in London and Edinburgh on the 31st October.

As one of the UK's leading engineering programmes, the Scholarships are awarded to high-calibre 16 year old students through a rigorous selection process and support students through the two years of their A levels.

Since its inception, more than 5,700 young people have passed through the scholarship programme, including award-winning BBC presenter Steph McGovern, who forged a career at Black & Decker before moving into business journalism.

This year more than 1,370 students aged between 15 and 16 years old applied, following nominations from their schools.

Scholars are selected for their potential as future engineering leaders by assessing their academic, practical and leadership skills in engineering disciplines. These are gauged through a selection process comprising of an assessed application form including a teacher's reference; a two-hour problem-solving



aptitude exam; and a university-based interview.

The scholarships support students through their sixth form studies and encourage them into top universities or higher apprenticeships while offering access to a range of enrichment experiences such as industry conferences, Connect Days, mentoring, residential courses and university VIP days.

We wish Tom huge congratulations on his achievement and being awarded such a prestigious scholarship and look forward to following his progress through the 6th Form.

# CHILDREN IN NEED 2020



A sea of fancy dress costumes washed over Lymm Sixth Form last month as senior students embraced Children in Need's fundraising challenge.

Students made donations to wear a variety of fancy dress

costumes in support of the annual campaign.

Students raised an impressive £1300 for the worthwhile cause and we're extremely proud of their willingness to give so generously to charity.

Head of Sixth Form, Mrs

Jennings, said : "I'd like to say a huge thank you to everyone who donated, it really does make a difference and shows just what a fantastic school community we have. We're all very proud of their efforts!"



# SECURING THE SOUP KITCHEN



Afritwin are continuing to make a difference to children's lives in South Africa.

**T**he Lymm High School Afritwin project has supported Chintsa East drop-in centre (soup kitchen), located in the Eastern Cape, on many occasions over the past few years.

The soup Kitchen was set up with the goal of providing a facility for vulnerable children to be cared for and fed where their parents are either absent or destitute. For some of these children, the only meal they receive is the one given for free at school.

The soup kitchen provides a meal for children at weekends and during the school holidays

when most would go hungry.

More recently, the Soup kitchen has expanded and now provides a homework centre to help children with their studies outside of school hours.

Last year Afritwin help to fund a toilet block which was greatly received. However the fence surrounding the site of the Soup kitchen was also no longer fit for purpose. We're pleased to say Afritwin have funded a new one which now not only keeps the children safe, but keeps the local chickens, pigs and dogs out!

# It's all About STEM

## Y9 MATHS ROADSHOW

The maths department were delighted to welcome members of the Liverpool Mathematics Society Outreach Team recently to facilitate a workshop for our Year 9 students.

The Fun Maths Roadshow has been designed to engage students with mathematical problem and puzzle solving.

Working in pairs or small teams, students were asked to apply their mathematical knowledge to previously unseen puzzles and challenges and over the period of an hour, were tasked to complete as many of these as possible.

The puzzles gave them an opportunity to exercise their logical thinking, apply number and reasoning skills and to collaborate efficiently within a team.

Students engaged positively with the opportunity to discuss the problems they were faced with and showed their competitive sides, striving to complete as many of the puzzles made available to them in the time frame!

## ENGINEERING YOUR FUTURE



Year 12 students visit 'Engineering Your Future' event at the Halliwell Jones stadium in Warrington. The group of students visited the Warrington stadium on Thursday 21st November where they attended a number of sessions led by professional engineers to find out about engineering career paths, what their jobs involve and how they ended up in their current roles.

Organised by All About STEM, the event is an annual showcase of what it means to become an engineer and to embark on a career in the engineering sector. During the day, students also took part in a series of workshops where they were tasked with finding solutions to problems such as building and costing flood defences, designing a bridge and building the electric circuit for a drone to direct it safely on its flight path.

The event also allowed the students to meet and network with employers and representative from various training organisations and professional bodies including the Institute of Mechanical Engineers and the Institute of Physics.

## LIVERPOOL MATHS CLUB

Is your son and daughter a passionate mathematician who loves to challenge themselves with learning new concepts? The University of Liverpool Maths Club is aimed at school and college students, from Year 10 up to Year 13, who are keen to experience challenging and enriching mathematics from beyond the school curriculum, and meet others with a similar interest. Maths Club meets monthly on Saturday mornings. Membership is by application. See for further details: <http://www.maths.liv.ac.uk/~mathsclub/>

# maths INSPIRATION

LHS students head to the Royal Northern College of Music for annual Maths Inspiration lectures. Year 11 and 12 students from Lymm High School took part in a series of lectures recently aimed to inspire students by presenting mathematics in the context of exciting, real-world applications.

Held at the Royal Northern College of Music, and hosted by professional mathematician, Matt Parker, students listened to a number of engaging speakers talk about how they use maths in their working lives.

Rob Eastway, the puzzle adviser for New Scientist magazine and bestselling author of 'Why Do Buses Come In Threes?' and 'Maths On the Back of an Envelope', spoke about how some think maths is about getting a precise answer. Often appearing on BBC Radio 4 and 5 Live to talk about the maths of everyday, he explained:

"There's a vital type of maths - 'impure maths' - which is done on the back of an envelope, where the answer is only a rough approximation. His talk demonstrated how back-of-envelope maths can help with anything from landing a top job to working out the chance of Earth being invaded by aliens.

Aoife Hunt, who works for Movement Strategies, a consultancy that specialises in analysing the movements of people, also spoke at the event. Her talk demonstrated how professional consultants use GCSE and AS Level maths to understand the movement of crowds – whether at Wembley Stadium, Glastonbury or Heathrow Airport.

Students discovered the unlikely connection between crowd flow and quadratic equations, and how computer games are being built to predict what you will do in an emergency.

Reader in Engineering at Cambridge University, Hugh Hunt, was the third and final speaker.

Awarded the prestigious Rooke Award for public promotion of engineering, Hugh is famous for his documentaries on Channel 4, including Dambusters - Building the Bouncing Bomb and Attack of the Zeppelins.

His research is in Climate Engineering and his talk addressed the mechanics of spin e.g. how spinning things such as gyroscopes actually work!

He gave insight into questions such as: 'Why does a spinning top stand up?' And, 'Why doesn't a rolling wheel fall over?'

The Maths Inspiration Lectures had a lot to live up to in name but they did truly inspire our students and staff about some very exciting and boundary pushing applications of maths in the real world.

We are looking forward to an equally exciting return visit next year!

# It's all About STEM

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### **Monday 6th January**

School wide careers week .

An opportunity for all students to discover what careers each of their school subjects can lead to

### **Thursday 30th January**

Vocational and Apprenticeship  
Evening – Year 9 and above.

**6pm**

Dave Armson from All About STEM  
will give a general overview on  
Apprenticeships followed by a  
careers market in the Lower Hex .



## TOMORROWS ENGINEERS



Year 7 students enjoyed a three-hour workshop on Tuesday 3rd December as Lymm High School welcomed Tomorrow's Engineers. The Tomorrow's Engineers programme, led by the engineering community, provides a platform for employers to work effectively with schools to inspire more young people to consider a careers in engineering.

Supported by two local STEM Ambassadors, students discovered what engineering was all about and what opportunities there are in pursuing engineering as a career.

The theme of the workshop was "Energy" and students took part in a number of different challenges and activities through the morning. Working in teams students were tasked with identifying some of the current energy challenges facing society including where we get our current energy sources from and how they may impact on the planet.

Students were asked to design an innovative and imaginative way that Lymm High School could be powered in 2050 and they came up with some very interesting ideas!

The final challenge allowed the students to work collaboratively in the design of a basic electric car that had to be operational and fit for purpose. Students had to consider the position of the wheels, how cog systems work, the need for balance and the streamlining of their cars. Once tested, students had to calculate how much charge would be required to travel the required distance.

## OXNET

Lymm High School students considering the University of Oxford welcome OxNet co-ordinator Felix Slade.

Scholars from Year 10 and 11 along with their Year 12 peers welcomed the speaker from Oxford University on Wednesday 8th November.

Felix is one of the coordinators of the OxNet programme with specific responsibility for recruiting students from the North West.

The North West is currently one of the lowest represented regions at Oxford and part of Felix's talk helped to dispel some of the myths about studying there.

During the visit, students discovered how the collegiate system worked and what a typical day as an Oxford student would be like.

Students listened as he discussed the role of tutors and the seminar system which sets Oxford apart from many other Universities. After encouraging students to apply, Felix suggested ways in which candidates could strengthen their applications.

Felix also spoke to the students about the OxNet programme and what it would offer them in terms of preparation for University (more details below).

We are very thankful for Felix for taking the time to visit Lymm High School and look forward to welcoming him back in future.



## THE OXNET PROGRAMME

OxNet is an Access initiative run collaboratively between participating colleges at the University of Oxford, led by Pembroke College, other Higher Education institutions across the United Kingdom, third sector organisations, and secondary schools acting as "hubs" in London, the North West and the North East of England. It is unapologetically academic in its focus, and has had significant impact in the local communities in which it has worked since 2008.

Each year OxNet runs a number of programmes to help prepare Year 12 students to embark on their higher education courses at academically rigorous universities such as Oxford. The programmes include Science, Humanities and Social Sciences, Modern Languages and Philosophy. Applications open on 29th November 2019 for this year's intake. We would encourage any interested student who is considering the University of Oxford as an option for further study to apply.

## CAREERS SPEAKERS

Next term, I would really love to organise a programme of Career talks open to students from Year 9 and above that will give them the opportunity to discover more about different careers and what people actually do on a daily basis. If you would be interested in getting involved – either in person or arranged via Skype please contact me on email –bdowdall@lymmhigh.org.uk

# GLORIOUS VICTORY

## CHESHIRE CHAMPIONS 2020

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**L**ymm High School lifted the Cheshire Schools U18 Cup last month, turning a 3-12 half time deficit around to beat Cheadle High School and once again be crowned Cheshire champions!

Winning 20-19 in the final, which was held at Lymm Rugby Club, this is the third time in four years that Lymm High have won the cup title.

Speaking about the result, Mr

Pickles said: "The 1st XV haven't had the most successful time in terms of wins but when they came back from South Africa they seemed to have a better understanding of the culture and work ethic that's needed to succeed.

"I know they'll remember this for a long time and they'll be etched into the trophy forever."





# JUSTIN ROSE TELEGRAPH JUNIOR GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

Lymm High School Student Freddie Fairhurst wins net event for the Justin Rose Telegraph Junior Golf Championship final!

The Justin Rose Telegraph Junior Golf Championship 2019 – which took place on Monday 11 November to Saturday 16 November 2019 – hosted by Quinta do Lago, Portugal, is junior golf's 'major' and offers a chance for everyone to get involved.

The championship has seen over 600 qualifying events staged throughout the UK and ROI, with over 22,000 junior golfers taking part and hoping to win a place in the final.

Back in June, Freddie came 2nd on the national Net

leaderboard with a score of -13 at the Warrington Golf Club Open qualifying event.

His score made him one of four lucky net players to win one of the prized spots in the competition and through to compete in the 54 hole final on the prestigious North Course.

Freddie's performance on the North Course at Quinta do Lago did not disappoint, putting on a show that bodes well for his future.

The 11-handicapper posted four birdies on the demanding North Course and was quick to thank Rose afterwards for

giving him the chance to play.

"It was amazing to see Justin's involvement," Fairhurst said.

"He was really generous to offer the prize of the trip to the net winners. When I met him at the course he was incredibly welcoming. This was an inspirational few days and an experience that I will never forget."

As well as a clinic by Justin Rose, Freddie was also treated to a lesson at the Quinta do Lago Academy. Attending the gala dinner, where he received his trophy, was the perfect end to a heady few days.

# CROSS COUNTRY

The overall winners of the Neville Jones Warrington Schools Cross Country League were confirmed following the third and final round taking place at muddy Walton Gardens.

It was a successful day for Lymm High School on Saturday 7TH December, with two students winning both their age group races and overall league titles

Year 7 student Jack Marwood, after playing in a football match that morning, won his third race in the year seven boys' series in 11mins 25secs.

In the boys' under 13s age group he even took the pace

out hard from the start and led until around 400m from the finish when he was caught and passed by Oberon Kearney (Wirral AC) as his exertions from Saturday took their toll. Jack hung on to finish in second place on 14mins 01sec - A great effort!

Representing the girls, Jasmine Jones won the Year 10 and 11 race on the day and secured the overall title on four points.



## THUNDER NETBALL

Our Under 15's Netball team welcomed Manchester Thunder netball player Ash Neal to Lymm High School last month. Our girls enjoyed a fantastic training session ahead of their third round National 'Sisters n Sport' match versus Stonyhurst Sport.

We would like to say a huge thank you to Ash for delivering an inspirational coaching session.



# GIRLS FOOTBALL

The girls' football teams have had a fantastic 2019 season so far. With a record number of girls playing football, the sport at Lymm is just getting better and better.

All teams are entered in to the Warrington League, the Cheshire Cup, the ESFA National Cup and for the first time ever this year we have entered the SNS National Cup for our U13's team and our U15's team giving our girls lots of competitive opportunities. Recently the Year 10 team travelled to Shrewsbury to play Meole Brace High School in the Fourth Round of the National Cup. Captained by Sally Dodd we had tough opposition and at half time we were losing 4-0, however in the second half we played much better, scored a goal through Grace Unsworth

and kept the opposition down to scoring 2 in the second half. A massive well done to the girls involved in the fixture.

The Year 7 team are now through to the next round of the National Cup after travelling to King Egbert High School in Sheffield. With 2 great goals scored by Anais Talbot and Emeilia Lowe the girls went 2-0 up at half time, however it was a different game second half as the Sheffield school scored a goal and they were straight back in to the game. The girls hung on and were winners 2-1, we are now awaiting the draw for our next fixture. All teams are still involved in the Cheshire Cup and we look forward to plenty more football in the new year.



## INTERNATIONAL FENCING COMPETITION

Lymm High School student wins first English selection for international fencing competition in Finland 2020.

Year 9 student, Remi Tavernier, has much to celebrate having been selected onto the English Under 17 team for his first international fencing competition. The competition will take place in Finland at the end of January 2020.

At just thirteen years of age this is a fantastic achievement and we wish him the best of luck in the upcoming competition.