

WHOLE SCHOOL

Dear parents and carers

I am typing this quite late at night, as I keep watch outside the dorms at Colomendy, waiting for 250 Year 9 students to fall asleep... I fear it could be a while yet!

It's been a long time since we've been able to run residential trips like this and it feels all the better for that. To be truthful, much as the staff could do with some sleep and much as some of us are trying our best to pretend we are grumpy with the children, it is actually impossible not to smile as we listen to them giggling away in their rooms and clearly having so much fun. I know I have some very precious memories from trips like these when I was at school and I'm sure everyone here now will remember it for many years – as indeed will the Year 8s who came earlier in the week.

I must also say that the students have been a credit to the school, themselves and to all of you with the way they've been conducting themselves. The staff at the centre have been exceptionally complimentary about their behaviour and good manners, which has been lovely.

It's only a week to go until half-term now and I hope you have felt as positive about the start to the year as I have. There are always plenty of things to work on, but the big picture is that the school is in as strong a place as ever; and weeks like this serve as a great reminder of how lucky we are to be able to work and study at Lymm High School.

Kind regards
Gwyn Williams

E-cigarettes (vaping)

Many of you will have seen a good deal in the press recently on the issue of 'vaping' in schools. There is no question of it being a growing problem across the country and that all schools are having to spend more and more time and energy dealing with it. On a practical level, it is more difficult to monitor than the smoking of cigarettes and this presents additional challenges for schools. There are also significant concerns about the way vapes are being marketed (in effect, they are being targeted at children) and a perception amongst some young people that they don't present any health risks.

Our policy at Lymm High School is straightforward: vaping is illegal for under 18s and students are not permitted to bring vapes onto site under any circumstances. In the last six months, we have increased levels of supervision of toilets and use of CCTV to monitor the site, and we search students for vapes where appropriate. The default sanction for anyone caught vaping in school is an exclusion/suspension (either internal or external) with even more serious sanctions available for repeat offenders or anyone trying to supply other students with vapes. As a general rule, we sanction all students in a group where vaping is taking place in the same way, regardless of whether or not they might have been vaping themselves: it is their personal responsibility to stay away from vaping and we are clear with them that we will not waste time on investigations into who exactly has taken how many puffs on a vape.

We are also clear with students that there is growing evidence of the risk to health presented by vaping, including the risks to mental health that come with addiction to nicotine. It should not be thought of as a 'safe' alternative to anything. We will continue to educate students about all this during the Life programme.

As a school, we will continue to be vigilant on the issue and, as always, rely upon your support. You can help by talking to your children about the risks involved with vaping, as well as reinforcing the fact that it is illegal and will certainly not be tolerated in school. If you feel you need any support, please do contact Student Services.

Drug awareness evening

This information evening led by the Warrington Young Persons Drug and Alcohol Service is for parents and carers on **Monday 17th October** at 6pm in the Main Hall. It is an opportunity to ask questions, dispel myths, and discover how best to support young people by raising awareness around drugs and substance abuse.

Doughnut Day

On **Friday 21st October**, the PTA will be selling Krispy Kreme Doughnuts at breaktime in the Main Hall and Lower Hex for students to enjoy as an end-of-term treat. These cost just £1 (cash only please) and all proceeds will go towards extra resources for students across the school.

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 [clicking here](#). 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 [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 this week's school lottery winner who won £68.10! 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

Year 9 CV Masterclass

As part of our careers programme, we have arranged for local employers to come and deliver a CV masterclass to all of our Year 9 students. This will run on **Tuesday 18th October** and we anticipate that these sessions will be very well received; a huge thank you to all of the parents who have volunteered to help!

Year 9 Take my child to work day

All Year 9 parents should have received [this letter](#) informing them of the 'Take my child to work day,' which will run on **Friday 9th December**. If you have any questions about this, please contact Mrs Jennings.

UPPER SCHOOL

'How to help your child revise' evening – Thursday 20th October

All Year 11 parents are invited to attend this event on **Thursday 20th October** from 6–7pm in the Main Hall. We will be sharing proactive tips on how best to support Year 11 students with organising their revision in the run up to the December mocks, as well as core subject-specific strategies.

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 [click here](#) to register. For more information, please [click here](#) for a letter from Mrs Jennings.

SIXTH FORM

Year 13 CV Masterclass

As part of our careers programme, we have arranged for local employers to come and deliver a CV masterclass to those Year 13 students who are considering options other than university. This will run on **Tuesday 18th October** and we anticipate that these sessions will be very well received; a huge thank you to all of the parents who have volunteered to help!

Safe Drive Stay Alive

A reminder that all Sixth Form students will visit the Safe Drive Stay Alive experience on **Wednesday 2nd November** (Year 12) and **Thursday 3rd November** (Year 13). Please [click here](#) for the letter sent out earlier this term.

Thursday 3rd November – Year 13 Parents' Evening

A reminder that Year 13 Parents' Evening will be held online on **Thursday 3rd November**. You will be able to book your appointments from **Monday 17th October** to **Friday 21st October**. Please [click here](#) for further details.