

High School

FOUNDED c.1592



2018 London History Trip Pg. 6

Students explore the sights of London to aid GCSE studies

#### Children in Need Pg. 18

Wacky costumes donned by Sixth Form students from Lymm High School for Children In Need.

# NEWSLETTER

ISSUE: NOVEMBER 2018 · WWW.LYMMHIGH.ORG.UK



## LHS PRESENT OLIVER!

### Lymm High School students wow with spectacular production of classic musical!

Food, glorious food!" has been on the lips of students at Lymm High School as students from across the school staged the hit musical Oliver!, based on Charles Dickens' book Oliver Twist.

Running from 13th-16th November, two of the four performances took place at the historic Parr Hall and featured over 400 students from nine local primary schools. Following the success of 'Les Miserable' last year, the remaining performances sold out to appreciative audiences of parents, students and staff in the Lymm High School Hall. CONTINUES ON PG. 3

## CONTINUED...





This raised some interesting challenges for performers, who have had to rehearse the scenes with two different stage spaces in mind.

As ever, the young school actors and musicians were incredibly professional and coped admirably with the demands, in addition to an intensive

rehearsal schedule and some complex singing and choreography.

Mrs Richards, Head of Expressive Arts said: "We are hugely impressed and grateful for student's hard work and commitment. It would be impossible to put on productions of this size and quality without this level of support from our students and we would like to thank them all for their enthusiasm and positivity.

'...We are hugely

impressed and

grateful for

student's hard

work and

commitment.'

"It has also been a pleasure to have worked closely with our primary colleagues and

> students. They have given up so much of their own time in order to provide the students with this opportunity and I am very grateful to them for their continued support and

commitment to this wonderful project."

As the audience took their seats with anticipation and excitement as the lights in the main hall began to dim at 7pm. Full of energy and vigour, the songs were belted out confidently and the cast had the audience bobbing along in their seats.

The enormous range of leading roles available meant that

nearly everyone had a moment in the spotlight, which was wonderful to see. The baddies were bad, the goodies were good, the funnies were (absolutely) hilarious, and the Dickensian urchins danced, picked pockets, and asked for more with genuine poverty panache.

Finley Camilleri was perfect as leading protagonist Oliver Twist, who caught the naïve innocence and strength of Oliver through his beautiful singing and acting performance.

Nancy, played by Aimee McLoughlin gave an emotional rendition of classic song 'As Long as He Needs Me' reminding the audience of one of the gang's fundamental beliefs: 'honour amongst thieves' and the lengths the poor had to go to during the 19th Century.

The Artful Dodger and Fagin, played by Megan Holliday, and Zac Green, were cast perfectly as the loveable rogues of the show.

Bill Sikes played by Harry Charvill, Will Bartlett playing Mr Brownlow and Ewan Phillips as Mr Bumble also gave excellent performances, supported by more of Dickens' much loved characters.

Supported by the superb live band and the stealthy set movers, the whole ensemble was a complete success.

Watching 'Oliver!' was like putting on a pair of comfy slippers and slurping a hot chocolate: heart-warming, satisfying and simply fabulous! In fact, it was so good: 'Please, Sir, can we some more?'







LYMM HIGH NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 2018















### HISTORY IN THE CAPITAL



#### Students explore historic London attractions to aid their GCSE studies.

F ifty-one Year 10 GCSE History students have just returned from a trip to London to support their GCSE course, exploring the Tower of London, the Imperial War Museum and Westminster Abbey.

"Why are the people who are commemorated in Westminster Abbey all men?" said one student after a tour of a building that pre-dates 1066. This thought-provoking question and the subsequent discussion that arose about how and who to remember from History, highlights why it is important for students to get outside the classroom and explore History in the world around us.

Students even had the opportunity to walk in the footsteps of one of the most notorious serial killers of the 19th century whilst on a Jack the Ripper walking tour of Whitechapel.

The students were immersed in a world of extreme poverty, crime and the lives of the London working poor.

They also learnt the origins of the phrase: 'daylight robbery' after being taught about the plight of poor Londoners forced to brick up their windows rather than pay an unfair window tax.

Our group of Year 11s were allowed access around the

#### LONDON HISTORY TRIP 2018

cloisters of Westminster Abbey and into the resting place of one of our fiercest monarchs and her family -Elizabeth I. They learnt about Elizabeth's relationship with her courtiers and how the Queen asserted her authority upon her subjects through a religious settlement that was designed to end a period of religious unrest and discontent.

At the Tower of London, students saw first-hand some of the forms of punishment and torture used on those imprisoned for the most serious of offences, from murder and heresy to treason.

"Would that not hurt?" asked one student as they examined the 'the rack', a medieval torture method designed to stretch out the victims and extract their darkest secrets.

With thanks to Mr Hayes, Miss Millington, Mr Gifford and Miss Walton for their support and time during the trip.

The pupils had a fantastic time and were very grateful they even found time to get some personalised chocolates to commemorate their trip.

Miss Yates Teacher of History



## LYMM HIGH SCHOOL CAROL SERVICE

#### ST PETER'S CHURCH, OUGHTRINGTON MONDAY 17TH DECEMBER 2018 | 7PM

Please join us after the service for mince pies and refreshments at the church



## ARMISTICE DAY 2018



Hundreds of staff and students at Lymm High School observed a two -minute silence to commemorate Armistice Day.

A s they do each year, all students and staff from Lymm High School paid their respects to the fallen by observing a two-minute silence on Friday 9th November.

Armistice Day, which took place on 11 November, marks the end of the First World War and is a day to remember and honour those who have paid the price for our freedom.

The whole school lined up on the main schoolyard to pay tribute to service men

and women who have been or are involved in global conflict, commencing with the playing of The Last Post performed by Lymm High School brass musicians.

Two minutes of silence followed at 11am before the ceremony concluded with the playing of Reveille.

In the weeks leading up to the two-minute silence, students were also able to purchase Poppies at school during form and break times to demonstrate their support to the British Legion.

Students observed the twominute silence impeccably and their behaviour was excellent.

Staff were incredibly proud that they were able to offer a fitting tribute to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

## SANTA DASH 2018



### Students will 'Claus for a Good Cause' again this year to raise money for the school's Pitch In! Fundraising campaign!

E xcitement for this year's Santa Dash is building, with form groups competing to raise the most funds and reach their £500 targets.

Taking place this Friday 7th December, the whole school, including Sixth Form students and staff will join together to run, jog or walk a one mile course around the school grounds.

After crossing the finish line on Friday, student Santa's will also be treated to a Winter Wonderland themed Christmas market, with a number of Christmas themed stalls including; a chocolate fountain, glitter face painting, a Santa 'selfie' booth and even a chance to throw snowballs at a member of the school staff.

Our students have been busy collecting sponsorship money for the Santa Dash and it is hoped that funds raised from the sponsored dash, will be enough to reach the overall 100k total for Pitch In!

The Pitch In! fundraising project was launched at Lymm High School last year to build a brand new 3G pitch and floodlighting, to be used by students and the wider community.

Currently, the Pitch In fundraising total stands at £56,759.52, which means we are just over half way towards our 100k bid to the Premier League/Football Association fund – an incredible achievement in the year since its launch!

We have been delighted to see the levels of support there are for the campaign from students, parents and people of Lymm and it would be fantastic if we could live up to the achievements of last year again. Having a 3G pitch will make a huge different to all of our students and would be a huge asset for the community and we would like to thank you in advance for your generous sponsorship.

# LYMM HIGH SCHOOL



### RAISING MONEY FOR PITCH IN! FRIDAY 7TH DECEMBER 2018

NON UNIFORM DAY - FESTIVE THEME/FANCY DRESS QUIZZES | CHRISTMAS JUMPERS WINTER WONDERLAND | SANTA DASH

### BEAUJOLAIS EVENING 2018

Lymm High School PTA and Lymm Twin Town (French) Society unite for Beaujolais fundraising event

Ver 75 people enjoyed our last fundraising event, run jointly by the PTA and Lymm Twin Town Society.

The Beaujolais evening offered guests a two course French meal delivered by local parent and caterer, Seasoned Ltd, plus a tasting of Beaujolais 2018 and a wine talk from local wine experts, Dusty Road Wines.

The evening was enjoyed by members of the Twin Town (French) Society, parents and connections of the school, and the wider Lymm community.

As well as standard fundraising activities including a French quiz and a raffle offering over 30 prizes, many donated by local businesses, there was also a fun twist with the offer of a snail bar, which was a big hit with all its escargot-eating accoutrements.

All in all, a fun social evening, a great way to shout about two fundraising causes, and it raised just under £1000.

The PTA are now pushing forward with further fundraising projects for the 'Pitch In' campaign as the school approaches the deadline for the submission of their bid for the 3G pitch investment by the FA.

The school and PTA also have a number of plans in place to engage with local businesses. If you are involved in a local business with a CSR programme, a match giving scheme or interested in partnership and sponsorship opportunities for the 3G pitch project, please email ptachair@lymmhigh.org.uk this side of Christmas.

#### Next PTA event for your diary...

St. Patrick's Day Party Friday 15 March.







## ANIMALS IN CAPTIVITY



"They are not just animals. They are related to us. They value their privacy. Just imagine what it's like to be in there" (Sir David Attenborough).

I twas on this poignant description of orcas commonly known as killer whales - that our first Scholars lecture started. The 40-minute talk, led by Lymm High School's Head of English, Ms Jones, explored the contentious issue of keeping these beautiful mammals in captivity, and left many of us feeling deeply uncomfortable with the practice.

As will be the case with many of the subsequent lectures, this event was opened up to the school population, and it was certainly a good use of time, as confirmed by the large numbers of Year 11 students who attended.

Ms Jones encouraged us to think more probingly about the practice of keeping all animals in captivity, but the statistics around orca confinement were particularly shocking. While orcas in the wild can expect to live up to (in the case of females) a hundred years old, the average life expectancy for a captive orca in the USA is twelve years old, and the global figure is just half of that: 6 years. An orca in the wild travels around 62 miles a day; in captivity, movement is just 0.01% of that figure.

#### SCHOOL NEWS

Moreover, these enormous creatures are, Ms Jones explained, emotionally and socially intelligent.

We learned about spindle cells, which are associated with social organisation and empathy.

The number of spindle cells in an orca brain is relatively greater than the number of such cells in the average human brain.

The implication – that these animals are more socially adept and empathic than the humans who imprison them – is a troubling one.

An animal with such profound capacity for empathy and social connection should not, Ms Jones argues, spend its life in isolation – its only interaction being in the form of the tricks it is made to perform for its human captors.

To say that this lecture was thought-provoking is an understatement, and we all left with a sense of deep sadness for the diluted life that humankind forces these incredible animals to live.



### THE SCHOLARS programme

There is a full lecture programme throughout the term, with many events opened up to the school population.

They are an excellent way to expand your knowledge and understanding of the world, and encourage you to think more creatively about your own morals, ethics, beliefs and perceptions.

If you would like to attend the next open lecture, please check the daily bulletins for further details about date, venues and topics.

#### SCHOOL NEWS

# LGBT AWARENESS WEEK

Every year we deliver an assembly on LGBT awareness - the difference this year? The assembly has been designed, made and delivered by students!

L ymm High School was proud to run an awareness assembly again this year for this very important issue but even more so, because it was entirely led by our students.

Members of Lymm LGBTQ+ club have been working hard over the last few months to create an assembly to inform other students on terminology, the use of language, inspirational figures and a celebration of Pride.

During the assembly students launched a new project aimed at tackling homophobic language in school. As a result of the assembly a great many of our students have said they are now more aware of LGBT issues and would now think twice before using language that might be upsetting to others. The students conduct and presentation skills were exemplary! Well done to all involved.

The club welcomes all students who are interested in getting involved in making our school an inclusive, diverse, respectful environment!

It runs every Thursday lunch time in A206.

# PETER VARDY Conference

L t's not very often students get to meet real live philosophers mentioned in the exam! But this is how sixth form students studying religion, philosophy and ethics spent their day on Thursday!

Held in the beautiful Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral students were able to meet and hear from the legendary Peter Vardy!

Covering topics such as the existence of God and the nature of human consciousness students were able to debate key ideas with other schools.

A great day was had by all however unfortunately we didn't manage to get a selfie with Vardy!





### THE SUNDAY TIMES Schools Guide 2018

Discover the best UK schools with our 25th edition of Parent Power. Identifying the 2.000 highest-achieving schools in the UK, ranked by their recent examination results, our fully-searchable database allows you to find the top schools near to where you live

### SUNDAY TIMES School guide

The Sunday Times has recently published its latest Schools Guide, listing the highest achieving schools in the UK, and we have again been ranked amongst the top ten highest performing comprehensive schools in the whole of the North West, and the top 30 even when selective grammar schools are included.

The Sunday Times focus on numbers of students getting A\* -B grades at A' level and grades 9-7 (the old A\*-A) grades at GCSE.

Mr Williams said:

"These are not official league tables and the methodology in many respects is somewhat dubious so we take them with a pinch of salt.

"Nevertheless, they do provide further evidence of what a strong position we are now in as a school."

### CHILDREN IN NEED 2018

Wacky costumes donned by Sixth Form students from Lymm High School for Children In Need.

n Friday 16th November the 6th form students took part in our annual CIN fancy dress.

The variety of costumes this year did not disappoint, from traffic cones, bobsled teams, deliveroo drivers and a duplicate Mrs Jennings and Mr Brown, our students continued to surpass our expectations.

We were delighted that they raised £703.80 for such a worthwhile cause and we contine to be proud of their willingness to give generously to charity.









# CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

The weekend of the 30th November – 2nd December saw the annual St Mary's Christmas tree festival.

he festival is a fantastic opportunity for the community to come together and celebrate decorating Christmas trees with their own unique, usually handmade decorations.

Admission was free to see more than forty Christmas trees that were out on display whilst enjoying several choirs and musicians, including the Lymm High School Brass Ensemble, who entertained visitors over the weekend.

Our Year 7 students were kept busy in November, making their own decorations linking to this year's theme 'it's Christmas'.

Students decided that they would create decorations based upon what Christmas means to them. Inspired by the amount of travelling that takes place over the festive season to see family and friends, our students used luggage labels to represent the theme of travel. Our Year 7's personalise these luggage labels by decorating and writing messages on them with mixed media.

We hope everyone who attended enjoyed reading their stories!



#### revision room is open attending these sessions. Well done to all who have been preparing hard for their Mock Exams!

Now the weather is getting colder, anyone staying after 4.30pm in the revision room on a Wednesday or Thursday will also get a hot chocolate!



### BREAKFAST **INTERVENTION**

Mrs Ryles-Dean was very excited to use her new teapot to make 35

cups of tea for eager Year 11 students who attended our 'Make it Stick' breakfast intervention session last week.

students who have been

rom 8am, the school to students who would like some extra time to revise and prepare for their upcoming GCSE Mock examinations.

We have been delighted with the number and dedication of





# CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL

Lymm High School joined the 2018 shoebox appeal to help the homeless in the Greater Manchester area.

e had a great response to our recent Shoebox Appeal for Manchester Street Angels! The charity, Manchester Street Angels, work with the homeless in Manchester and help those who become or could become vulnerable. We decided to support the charity this Christmas by getting involved with their 2018 shoebox appeal, and donated boxes filled with requested items in aid of the homeless and their dogs.

The LHS community did a wonderful job, putting together shoeboxes filled with toiletries, sweets, personal care items and clothes, which have now been collected and are on their way to help the homeless.

Students responded so well that it was a struggle to fit the shoeboxes into the car, which is an incredible achievement. Thank you to all who contributed items and completed shoeboxes, these will make a huge difference to the homeless this Christmas.



#### SCHOOL NEWS



## BOOKBUZZ 2018



#### Bookbuzz 2018 Choices Arrive in School

B ookbuzz is a reading programme from BookTrust that aims to inspire a love of reading by introducing new authors and genres to encourage reading for pleasure.

During ILC reading lessons at the beginning of the Autumn term all Year 7 classes watched a short film featuring authors and young readers describing the 14 books available in this year's selection. Individual book choices have now arrived in school and will be distributed to students by Friday 30th November.

For more information on the books and ideas for further reading visit www.bookbuzz.org.uk

Pupils who finish reading their books are encouraged to return them to the ILC's 'Swap Box' where they can deposit them and choose another book to read.

## HOCKEY LYMM V WILMSLOW

The senior team went out with the intention to win and were successful with an excellent 8-0 win. After Wilmslow only turned up with nine players Lymm kindly lent their two subs to them.

Lymm started strong and it wasn't long before Hattie found the back of the net. The determination of Lymm did not end and Hattie went on to score another five goals, along with Anna W and Georgina getting one each as well. We also have to mention Ella's amazing save, doing the splits to keep her clean sheet. Ending the game 8-0 to Lymm.

A great overall performance from the whole team, well played everyone.



## CROSS COUNTRY



e've had real success at the first two races at Walton Hall Gardens on the 13th October and 17th November.

We have some excellent runners finishing in the top places Erik Marshall (pictured), alongside some novice runners who are competing for enjoyment, the personal challenge and overall fitness.

Well done to all concerned.

# DANCING TO THE TOP



#### Lymm High School Student set to represent England at Dance World Cup

S asha Tomlin will be putting her best foot forward as she represents the country in an international competition.

The Year 7 student, from Lymm High School, will travel to Portugal in June for the annual Dance World Cup.

It is the greatest all-genre dance competition in the world for children and young adults with nearly fifty countries taking part in the competition.

Sasha will be competing for

her country as a contemporary dance soloist in the 11-14 year old category.

This is a great achievement and honour, as Sasha isn't even 12 until June.

We wish Sasha the best of luck and look forward to updating you on her progress in the New Year!

#### UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday 6th December Y7 Parents Evening

Fri 7th Dec Santa Dash LHS String & Brass Group at Lymm Golf Club

Sat 8th Dec LHS String Group Lymm Dickensian Festival

Mon 17th Dec Geography Field Trip Christmas Carol Service

Tues 18th Dec String Performance at Golden Square Shopping Centre

Thurs 20th Dec End of Term (Early closure 12.15pm)

> **Thurs 3rd Jan** Term Begins (students return)

Follow us on TWITTER @LymmHighSchool