



Lymm  
High School

FOUNDED c.1592



Summer Fayre 2017  
Pg. 18

Roll up! Roll Up!  
Highlights from the  
Lymm High School  
Summer Fayre!

Founders Day  
Pg. 14

Looking forwards,  
looking back on  
Lymm's contribution  
to the community

# NEWSLETTER

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## STUDENTS SHINE ON RESULTS DAY 2017

Students and staff at Lymm High School celebrate, following another excellent set of GCSE and A Level results.

Results day is one of the most stressful days in any student's life, no matter what kind of character they are or which exams they are awaiting results for. But Lymm High School students

need not have worried because students wowed teachers with their performance in this year's exams.

There were cheers of joy – and some tears too – as students from the main school and sixth

form learned whether they had bagged the grades they needed to make the next step in their education or career, with many hoping to take up university places across the country.

CONTINUES ON PG. 3

# CONTINUED...

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A Level students were the first to find out how they had performed with their results announced on Thursday 17th August.

33% of all A' levels were graded at A\*/A, with 59% A\*-B grades and 85% A\*-C. The overall pass rate was over 99%.

Five high flying students - Francesca Brown, Aoife Davenport, Fan Grayson, Sarah McGrail and Victoria Ramsbottom achieved A\* grades in all of the subjects they studied.

In the face of a national picture in which there has been a drop in the number of A and A\* grades, Lymm High School students bucked the trend and have continued to perform extremely well. These young people now have real choices

open to them and a bright future as they move on to further and higher education and employment.

Cambridge beckons for Grace Rooney, 18, who got two A\*s and an A and will be studying Law.

Furthermore, 16 students gained at least two A\* grades, 26 gained straight A\*/A grades and a

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fantastic 72 students (representing 39% of all A' level students) secured at least one A grade.

Following on from our Sixth Formers' success our GCSE cohort have also seen outstanding exam results. Smiles were beaming from the faces of students as they discovered how well they had done on Thursday, August 24

## RESULTS DAY 2017

This is the first year that some subjects, (English and Maths), are graded 9 – 1 instead of using the A\* – C system.

The new courses are designed to be more challenging for pupils, setting them up for future academic, professional and personal success.

Understandably, there was a lot of uncertainty surrounding results in these new courses and so we were especially delighted to see 82% of students gaining at least Grade 4 in both the new English and Maths exams, which is up from 77% compared to the equivalent A\*-C measure last year.

The government is trying to place a good deal of importance on the number of students gaining at least grade 5 in both English and Maths and 65% of Lymm High students met this benchmark, which is likely to compare extremely well with schools right across the country.

Performance at the top end was also impressive, with 27% of students gaining at least five A\* or A grades and forty seven students gaining at least eight A\* or A grades.

Headteacher, Gwyn Williams said: "Once again, we are celebrating a great year of results from our students sitting GCSEs and A Levels and we couldn't be prouder of what they have achieved. Watching students opening their envelopes and seeing their faces as it dawns on them how well they have done is one of the best bits of the job and, from a head teacher's perspective, it is just as rewarding to see the looks it is just as rewarding to see the looks of pride on the teachers' faces."

We would like to congratulate all our students on their achievements and our staff for their dedicated support and encouragement.





# A NOTE FROM THE HEAD

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I hope you are all well and have had a wonderful summer.

Whilst staff have been in school since Monday, preparing for the new year, schools just don't feel right without children and it's been lovely to welcome everybody back today.

As you can see from the newsletter, there was no let-up in the last few weeks of the summer term as regards the number of activities taking place or the achievements of individuals and teams. Special mention must go to the cast of Snow Dragons for winning the one-in-a-lifetime opportunity to perform at the National Theatre: this is an incredible achievement, akin to footballers playing at Wembley or rugby players at Twickenham. We are exceptionally proud of them.

In the last three weeks of term alone, I had the pleasure of spending evenings at the DT/Art exhibition, the summer concert, Year 11 Prom, awards evening, the Y6/7 transition evening; a 'night at the musicals'; the Founders' Day Service; and the History exhibition.

# ADTEACHER

I would also like to thank everybody who contributed in any way to the summer fayre; it was a great success and we already have lots of ideas as to how to make it even bigger and better for next year!

Last year was really positive one for the school. I have updated the

school

improvement

plan and you can

read that by

clicking [here](#); as

you will see, we

are well on the

road to

achieving the

ambitious

objectives we set

ourselves two

years ago. In the review, I refer

to a report written in May by

our School Improvement

Partner – a very experienced

figure in the local authority

and someone who has led

many Ofsted inspections. Her

view carries a good deal of

weight, not least because she

has spent a significant amount

of time in the school over the course of the past 4-5 years and understands the history and context very well. We were therefore really pleased to hear that she now feels able to state that “The overall effectiveness of Lymm High School is very good with many outstanding features... The

‘I am more optimistic than ever about the prospects for the school over the next few years.’

culture of the school has changed considerably, particularly in the last 18 months. This is evident in the quality of leadership and management, teaching and

learning leading to improved outcomes, students’ behaviour for learning and positive staff morale”.

As you will see from the article, we had a very successful summer of exam results to underline these improvements and I must

congratulate all the students again for how well they did.

We know still have plenty of areas to develop – and, being such a big school, it will take time to master all of them – but I am more optimistic than ever about the prospects for the school over the next few years.

Let me finish by thanking you for your support during the course of last year. So many of you have taken the time to get in touch to thank individual members of staff for various things, and please do not under-estimate the value that they attach to such messages; they really do help make it all worthwhile. For my part, I remain thoroughly grateful for the opportunity to work in such a wonderful community, with such incredible young people, and am really looking forward to the year ahead.

Kind regards

Gwyn Williams

Headteacher

# NOTICES

## WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

**S**upport Lymm High School by donating £5 a month. Our students are incredible and they deserve the very best we can give them.

Unfortunately, the quality of education we provide is being threatened by government cuts to funding and we need the support of the community to help. One way in which you can do this is by completing a standing order form to donate as little as £5 a month. We promise you that any money you feel able to contribute will be put to good use! Click here to access the standing order form

Please do consider a regular donation: it really will help us make sure that our students receive the kind of education that they should have.

## PTA MEETING DATES

**T**he PTA will be meeting on the second week of each half term in the Library at 7pm.

NEXT MEETING: Monday 18th September 2017

This year meetings will alternate between Mondays and Tuesdays to give more people the chance to come along.

MEETING DATES:

Mon 12th Sep 2017 (AGM, with drinks and nibbles)

Tues 7th Nov 2017

Mon 15th Jan 2018

Tues 6th March 2018

Mon 30th April 2018

Tues 12th Jun 2018

## SNAP MAP

**S**nap Map was launched before the summer holidays and was promoted as a "new way to explore the world". The update to Snapchat shows publicly posted images on a searchable map. Snap Map lets people search for places such as schools and see videos and pictures posted by children inside. It also lets people locate their "friends" on a map that is accurate enough to determine where people live. There are obvious safety concerns for children and adult users of this app.

Snap, the company behind Snapchat, stressed "location sharing" was an opt-in feature.

Parents/carers are advised to check that their son/daughter has set the new Snap Map feature to Ghost Mode meaning that their location is not made available to any other users.

If your children, family or friends use Snap Chat, please pass on this information.

# NOTICES

## Y7

### PHOTOGRAPHS

School photographs will be taken for Year 10 and Year 12 on Monday 11th September. Please make sure students arrive to school dressed smartly and in the correct uniform.

### BLUE WHALE

Safeguarding and the welfare of our students is our top priority. As such, the school website safeguarding page is updated regularly and contains a wealth of useful information and advice. Please click here to view our most recent post regarding the 'Blue Whale' game for Parents and Carers.

### CASHLESS CATERING

A polite reminder:

Please can you top up your child's cashless catering accounts via Parent Pay to ensure your child is able to purchase food during their lunch break.

Many Thanks.

### A FOND FAREWELL

The following staff said a fond farewell on the last day of term before the summer holidays:

Mr Christopher Burnett, Miss Colette Craddock, Mr Steve Cummins, Mrs Natalie Douglas (Eng), Mr Andy Forbes, Mr Darryl Heaton, Mrs Jayne O'Grady (Deputy Head), Miss Laura Parker, Mrs Caroline Slater, Mr Adam Williams (Assistant Head of 6th Form) and Mr Gemma Wrigley

A particularly special mention must go to Mr Burnett who leaves after 36 years at Lymm High School.

We would like to thank them very much for all that they have done and wish them all the very best for the future

### EASY FUNDRAISING

Summer turning to Autumn and students returning to school may have some of you online shopping for the necessary clothes, equipment or maybe just a bit of retail therapy! Remember to use easyfundraising, so the school benefits from your purchases too. If you haven't already signed up its really easy. Just follow this link <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/lymmpta/>.

In the last 30 days of the summer term our 119 supporters have raised £81.32 and we have gained one new supporter - if that was you - Thank You. Remember to ask your friends and families to sign up too. All the funds raised simply by shopping go to benefit all our children, why

# SNOW DRAGONS GOES NATIONAL



Performing Arts students from Lymm High School performed on the big stage in London as part of the National Theatre Connections Festival 2017.

The students were chosen from nearly 500 other companies and will be performing the play 'Snow Dragons' by celebrated, Liverpool-born playwright, Lizzie Nunnery, supported by top directors from the National Theatre.

Their performance took place on the prestigious Dorfman Theatre stage in London on 28th June and was one of ten performances taking place

over the course of the five-day festival. This is a huge achievement and we are incredibly proud of the 22 students involved who made up this extremely talented ensemble.

Former Lymm High School student James Allen, currently on a gap year prior to taking up a place at the Guildhall University in London, directed the play.

He also composed the musical score which was performed live by the Lymm High School String Quartet during the performance.

Prior to the production taking place, students were visited by a number of National Theatre representatives who were both overwhelmed by the quality of James' compositions and the attitude and talent of the students.

Adele Thomas, a director from the National Theatre tweeted:

“Spending the day @LymmHighSchool has made me so hopeful about the future. These kids are brilliant and their teachers, inspiring”

Working closely with the Adele Thomas and Jonnie Roirdan, a movement choreographer who is part of the highly acclaimed company ‘Frantic Assembly’ has been a real highlight of the process, and having them in our school, working closely with the cast is an incredible experience for all involved.

Zac Green, a Year 10 student described the experience as inspiring as ‘we have had the opportunity to work with professionals from the National Theatre who have been so helpful and have taught us useful techniques to further our knowledge and love of drama.’

Lymm High School’s Curriculum Leader for Performing Arts, Rachel Richards said of the event:

“We are immensely proud of the students who have taken this fantastic opportunity and made it a success. ‘The Snow Dragons’ ensemble felt extremely fortunate to have been given the chance to perform at the National Theatre last month and they and James Allen must be commended for their hard work, dedication and commitment to the performance.

‘We hope that they fully enjoyed this once in a life time opportunity. They all deserve the recognition and accolades they have received from the National Theatre and it was with great pleasure that they showcased their talent at the highest level.’



# A WARM WELCOME

On Wednesday 6th September, Lymm High School re-opened its doors to our new Year 7 students ready to embark on the next phase of their academic journey.

Throughout their first few days at the school students enjoyed a variety of fun activities as part of their induction timetable and are now busily settling into and enjoying their academic studies.

Students spent time getting to know their new form tutors, who are assigned to



guide them through their first year, before being officially welcomed by the Headteacher. They were introduced to the school's values and ethos and academic tutors were on hand to answer any questions they may have

had.

We have been impressed with just how well our newest learners have settled into life at Lymm and look forward to celebrating their achievements with them over the coming years.



“Wow! Year 7 have amazed us today in every aspect. They have impressed us with their manners, their effort and their resilience by starting to find their own around such a large school. I am incredibly proud of all of them.

Well done Year 7 – keep it up!” - Mrs Wagstaff

# A FOND FAREWELL

A man who 'has been at the heart' of Lymm High School is hanging up his clipboard and retiring as a school governor after over 30 years' service.

David Nicholson has been a part of Lymm High School for most of his life - as a student, as a local resident of Lymm whose children also came to the school, and as a governor for well over thirty years.

During his years of service David has seen a great deal of change. When he started at the school in the early 1950s, the school was housed in the old Oughtrington Hall. Over the years he has seen it grow and develop, gradually being surrounded by new buildings.

As a governor he has made a huge contribution over the years, ensuring that Lymm

High School is "the best that it can be" and has supported the school through several Ofsted inspections. He has been a key supporter of the school's music and performing arts and sporting accomplishments, attending many school productions and matches. David has particularly enjoyed working with the science faculty and chaired the governing body for some years.

Last week he bid an emotional farewell to the school he has spent the last three decades supporting. A special cake, with the Lymm crest was made for Mr Nicholson and he was

presented with a collage created by Year 13 Fine Art student Ellena Hudson, to remind him of his contribution to the school's development over the years.

Chair of Governors Keiron Walshe acknowledged David's dedication to the school saying:

'Since I became chair of the governing body, I've always been able to rely on David for wise counsel, especially in some difficult times. I am sure David will stay involved in the school in the future, and I know he will be much missed as a governor. His contribution has been invaluable.'



# FOUNDERS DAY



Lymm High School was proud to continue the wonderful tradition of celebrating its Founders' Day during the last week of their summer term.

**T**he theme this year was: 'Lymm High School on Founders Day: looking backwards and looking forwards, always giving our best to our community'.

Students were involved in a range of activities throughout the day, including a sponsored walk, a 'celebration of the year' assembly and three taught sessions.

During one of these sessions students looked at the work of

the Trussell Trust, a charity that runs a network of food banks across the United Kingdom, and demonstrated their support by donating food parcels throughout the morning. Overall students managed to donate just short of 250kg of food to local foodbank's in the area.

Mental health and wellbeing for young people was also a focus, with students reflecting on the brilliant work done by

the school's Year 9 Health Champions and chosen charity: 'The Julia Derbyshire Campaign'. This is a charity that campaigns for teen mental health and well-being and raises awareness around cyberbullying. All students accompanied by staff, raised money for the campaign during the morning by taking part in a sponsored walk in the school's locality. This was the third year the school has

undertaken a sponsored walk for charity and as always it was a successful and fun event for all involved. Also in aid of the campaign, students demonstrated a fantastic display of solidarity by gathering together in the school grounds and standing in position to spell out '#sassy'. The word 'Sassy', which stands for 'Support Against Self-harm and Suicide in Youth' was captured from the sky by drone and was posted across social media in order to raise awareness for the charity. Sixth Form students also marked the occasion in their own way by hosting a coffee morning and musical presentation for local senior citizens.

Looking back through history, students learnt about how Lymm High School has served its community, going all the way back to the school first being mentioned in documents in 1592! Students looked at the school's impressive building and also its hidden history as home to Belgian refugees during World War one, supported by none other Henry Ford.

The Lymm High School Founders Day culminated with a special Founders Evening celebration service open to the community and held at St Marys Church with the final figure from the day's events coming to an astounding £7014.49 raised for chosen charities.



# MEET THE NEW STAFF

Lymm High School now has 18 new teachers and support staff members in place for the Autumn term. They include new deputy Headteacher Mrs E Mills, who is also an English teacher and will oversee the school's raising achievement, exams, and PHSE.

The new recruits include: Four maths and two modern foreign language teachers, a chemistry, English and PE teacher, two history teachers, two teaching assistants and NQT'S and a student services officer.

Mr D Eyres, a teacher of Maths, has also taken on the role of Head of Year 8. Mrs E feast, who teaches English is our new Head of Year 9 and Mrs J Wagstaff has taken over as the new Head of Year 7.

We would also like to congratulate 3 members of staff who celebrated their weddings over the summer holidays. Miss H Pennack has now taken the name Mrs Barraclough, student services officer Miss R Eaton is now known as Mrs R Hunter, and Miss T Walsh has changed her surname to Mrs T Williams.

We look forward to working together with our new staff members over the coming years and wish them the best of luck in their new roles and a very warm welcome.



**Mrs Mills**  
Deputy Headteacher



**Mrs Wagstaff**  
Head of Year 7



**Miss Balcuna**  
Teacher of Maths



**Miss Heeks**  
Teacher of Maths



**Miss Bowker**  
Chemistry NQT



**Miss Cotter**  
Geography NQT



**Mr Eyres**

Head of Year 8



**Mrs Feast**

Head of Year 9



**Mrs Cattell**

Head of Chemistry



**Mrs Baldwin**

Head of Languages



**Mrs Williams**

Assistant Head of  
Languages



**Mrs Bronagh**

Teacher of Maths



**Mr Harris**

Teacher of History



**Miss Yates**

Teacher of History



**Mrs Ashford**

Teacher of Maths



**Mrs Whittle**

Student Services Officer



**Mrs Sheldon**

Teaching Assistant



**Mrs Varewdee**

Teaching Assistant



**Miss Pennack**

nka  
Mrs Barraclough



**Miss Eaton**

nka  
Mrs Hunter



**Miss Walsh**

nka  
Mrs Williams

# ROLL UP, ROLL UP!!! SUMMMER FAYRE



**B**efore the end of the summer term on a Saturday afternoon, Lymm High opened to the public for the annual school Summer Fair. Lots of exciting stalls were pitched around the school grounds, raising lots of valuable funds for our school and students.

The mornings drizzle didn't dampen visitor's spirits as the staff volunteered their time manning the stalls. This year, as well as the traditional long queue for face painting, guests could also have a go at zorbing,

try out the coconut shy, guess the name of the bear, ride the bucking bronco, negotiate the bouncy castles, spin round on the fairground rides, or join in any of the other exciting activities; everybody had fun.

By taking a chance on the tombola or the raffle, or spending big on the many stalls full of fabulous wares, we managed to raise an amazing amount of money. There was also a terrific display by the Lymm High school String Quartet and music students throughout the day.

In addition, we noticed that the queue for 'Soak the teacher with a sponge' didn't relent for quite some time, with Mr Williams son eagerly joining that particular queue!

We send out a huge thank you from all the students and staff and to our marvellous volunteers and helpers who make these days so special. And thank you to all who came to our Summer Fayre and supported our school.

We raised a truly amazing £3789.80

# SIXTH FORM PROM 2017

Our amazing Year 13 students ended their time at Lymm High School with a fantastic prom evening. Held at the beautiful Staham Lodge, students danced the night away and were joined by many members of staff. Photos from the evening:



# SHARING EDUCATION TOGETHER

Congratulations to student Connor for gaining the role of Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant's Cadet.



**W**e congratulate Connor Austin for gaining the role of Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant's Cadet. Connor has been an Air Cadet since 2012 and has been instrumental in the operation of his squadron and the development of younger cadets. He dedicates much of his time to organise fundraising events for charitable organisations such as Help the Heroes and The Royal British Legion. This award is only given to one

young person in the North West each year and is a reflection of Connor's hard work and commitment to the Cadets. It was an honour for both Mr Williams and Miss Moreno to be Connor's guest at the Presentation of HM Lord Lieutenant's Awards at Chester Town Hall on Tuesday 27th June and the school are very proud of his achievements.

## UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

**Year 7, Year 10 & Year 12  
School Photographs**  
Monday 11th September

**Sixth Form IAG Evening**  
Thursday 14th September

**OPEN EVENING**  
Thursday 5th October

**SIXTH FORM OPEN  
EVENING**  
Thursday 9th November



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