



May
2011

LGGS

Lancaster Girls' Grammar School

New Sixth Form Leadership

Congratulations to our new sixth form leadership team. The students were chosen following an intensive selection process which included nominations, letters of application, presentations to School Council and interviews.

The sixth form leadership team play an increasingly important role in the school. We have extended the team yet again in recognition of their responsibilities and workload with the creation of some new roles. These new posts include events management, chairing the newly formed charities committee and a new, larger transition team.

Continued on following page



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to all our students. I hope you all had an enjoyable Easter break and enjoyed the beautiful weather. This half term quickly sees the start of the exam season. We wish all our students well in their GCSE, AS and A level exams.

Special best wishes to our Year 13 students as they prepare to leave at the end of May. We have included some memories in the newsletter from our leavers.

Jackie Cahalin
Headteacher

Next Parental Advisory Group Meeting

**Next Parents' Advisory group meeting
7.00pm on
Monday May 23rd**

Our next meeting looks at the very important topic of homework. We will be looking at how parents can support their daughter's learning outside of the classroom, the use of ICT and homework tasks and the organisation of homework. We know that this is an area parents are interested in and look forward also to hearing your views about homework. Parents of all years are invited to attend and we would particularly like to hear the views of parents of Year 7 students regarding the transition



from primary to secondary school in terms of homework.

Please email:
PAG@lggs.lancs.sch.uk
if you intend to attend or wish to highlight an area for discussion, giving your daughter's name and form. It is useful if we have an idea of numbers intending to come to the meeting and any particular issues which parents would like discussed.



New Sixth Form Leadership Team

Head Girl	A Davies
Deputy Head Girls	J Hayhurst, E Quinn
Sixth form Leader - The Arts	D Whalley
Sixth form Leader - Sixth Form Council & Student observer on the Governing Body	G Nair
Sixth form Leader – Events	R Winfield
Transition Leaders	C Armit, L Fielding, S Ingram
Chairwoman of the Charities committee	M Kelly
Sports Team 2011-12	
Games Captain	L Green
Deputies	K Hesketh, E Wolstenholme
Dance Captain	E Costley-Wood
Hockey Captain	A Bush
Our new House Captains are	
Aalborg	H Buckley
Lublin	G Singleton
Perpignan	E Harrison
Rendsburg	E Mortimer

Memories from our Sixth Form Leavers

It seems cliché to say it, but time really has flown by. It is hard to believe that it was six years ago that I was entering then summer term as a year 7.

I still remember my first day as if it was yesterday and the feeling of worry that I would not make friends or that I would not enjoy LGGS, but now coming to the end of my time here at LGGS I realise how wrong I was on that first day. From the infamous year 7 French trip to my role as Head Girl in y12/13, each year has offered me a new and exciting experience and there has never been a dull day. Even on those days that involved numerous tests and a full day of lessons

Over the years I have made so many great friends ... and I know for certain that many will remain friends for life.

there would be an amusing happening in the Lunch hour or a lunchtime activity that would make the day new and individual. I can not remember a time when I returned home with nothing to say about my day at school! The highlight of my time at LGGS has certainly been my time as Head Girl and the SFLT end of term assemblies. Dressing up as John Lennon and performing as the Beatles, in addition to singing Grease and acting as Scrooge Jesmont in our rendition of the Christmas Carol is something I will certainly never forget, and let's be honest is only something you would get away with at LGGS. My time as Head Girl has been a great way to take an active role within Sixth Form and school life and give something back to a school that had given me so much. Over the years I have made so many great friends through taking part in numerous events and activities such as the music/drama festivals, school hockey and language exchanges and I know for certain that many will remain friends for life. With the year coming to an end and with University in sight I will be sad to leave such an amazing school and the friends I have made here. In a way I am a little jealous of those girls who still have years at this school ahead of them, but thanks to my time here and the skills I have gained I feel ready and prepared to leave and discover the wider world outside the 'LGGS bubble'. I will never forget all the memories I have collected during my time here and thank everybody for making those memories great ones.

C Jesmont *Head Girl 2010-2011*



Memories from our Sixth Form Leavers

My time at LGGS has been more than just 7 years at secondary school. I have always felt like part of a large community, and getting involved in as much as possible has enabled me to make friends across many years. I took part in Junior Drama in year 7 dancing, singing and having a great time. This introduced me to the interhouse rivalry that accompanies Junior Drama, Music Festival and Sports Day. As a 6th Former, being involved behind the scenes in running these events, I understand the stress in organising the lower years to sing, dance and work in unison, however seeing the final performance is a very proud moment and makes your time spent very worthwhile.

Interhouse competitions have provided some of my happiest moments at LGGS, and I formed friendships with girls both younger and older than myself. Extra-curricular activities have been plentiful, I have loved being part of the joint schools' orchestra, the band - German exchange and the annual play, but I have been most

After competing consistently throughout my seven years at LGGS, I was rewarded by being elected Hockey and Deputy Games Captain.

heavily involved with sport at LGGS. After competing consistently throughout my seven years at LGGS, I was rewarded by being elected Hockey and Deputy Games Captain. This has given me an opportunity to give back to a part of the school that has given so much to me, from lunchtime sports clubs to interschool matches and the first hockey tour to Barbados! I have been lucky enough to have had the support from all my subject teachers to maintain my sport throughout school life whilst sustaining my academic studies. The spirit of LGGS will remain with me, and my memories of dressing up and singing on stage as though this happens every day will not fade over time. LGGS has been truly fantastic, and I have been lucky to have spent time learning in a friendly environment with teachers with which I can build relationships and with friends that I will never forget.

K Abraham *Deputy Games Captain 2010-2011*

LGGS Leadership Team 2010-2011



Form mentors After feedback from our current prefects and discussions with our younger students we are changing the role of the prefect to a more supportive role of form mentor. Sixth formers will work closely with a small family of younger girls providing support, advice and guidance. All the form mentors are to be trained in their new role and we are delighted by the positive response from Year 12 students with many of them wanting to take on this new role and responsibility.

e-news

Some special moments captured
2010 - 2011

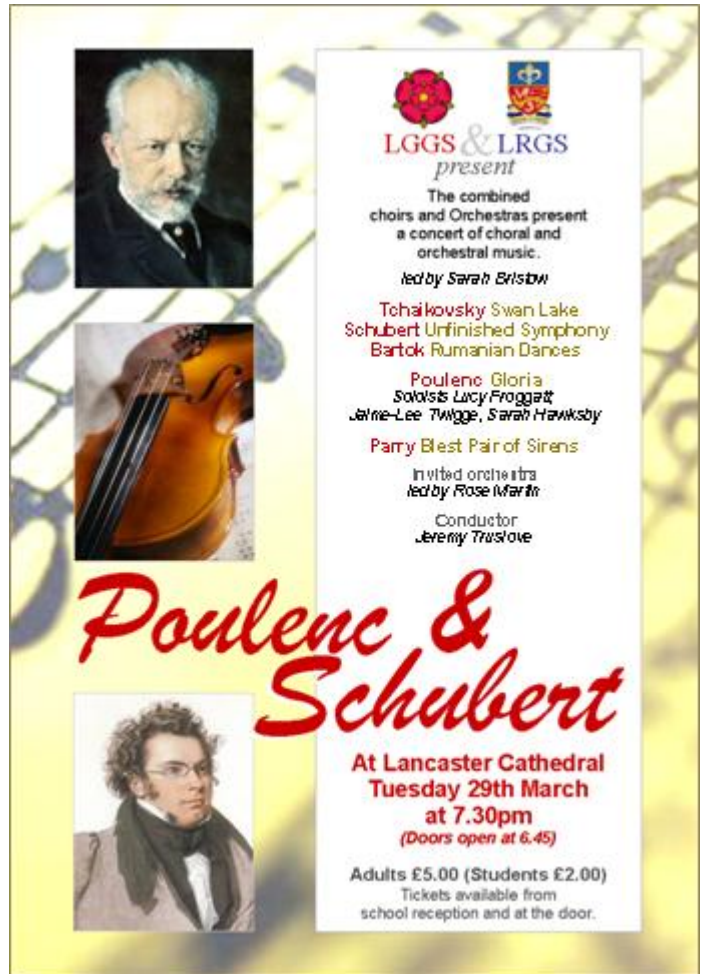


“Special best wishes to our Upper Sixth Students as they prepare to leave.” Jackie Cahalin

Choral and Orchestral Evening

2011 LGGS and LRGS Choral and Orchestra Concert

This year's concert of choral and orchestral music at Lancaster Cathedral was an inspiring and beautiful collection of music including pieces from Schubert and Poulenc. The combined orchestra led by S Bristow is particularly strong at the moment. It is very pleasing to see the talent we have in the lower school as well as the very strong performances from our older students. I am sure a highlight for many would have been the three soloists' performance in Gloria, with L Froggatt, S Hawksby and J Twigge all singing beautifully.



National Festival of Music for Youth

The Joint Vocal Group (a sixth form vocal group from LGGS and LRGS) and the Combined Orchestra (35 girls and 20 boys) recently performed in the first round of the National Festival of Music for Youth, held in Rochdale. The best ensembles from this round are invited to take part in the National Festival in Birmingham in July, and the best ensembles there may be invited to take part in the Youth Proms in the Albert Hall.

The adjudicators at Rochdale were fulsome in their praise. Comments on the Joint Vocal Group included "A fine performance from a first-rate chamber choir, with a beautiful blend of voices, and such a big sound from such a small group." Comments on the orchestra began:

"This orchestra is wonderful - so much energy and dynamism. It is an orchestra that listens to each other, with each player being sensitive to the needs of other players."

We wait to see if we have been selected for the National Festival!



Sports Success



LGGS Year 8 Athletics Team gain North West Champions title

Congratulations to the LGGS Year 8 Sportshall athletics team who competed in the Regional Finals held in Leigh in early April. The team won and became North West Champions, the only Lancashire side to do so in both the year 7 and year 8 girls and boys competitions.

Well done to A Kasam-Sharples, R Dale, E Pearson, A Terry, J Fox, O Hughes, M Corless, K Fairhurst and H Cleary-Hughes.

District Hockey Success

The LGGS Year 8 team played fantastically well at the District Hockey tournament, they were undefeated and did not concede any goals in all their matches thereby winning the tournament.

Well done also to our Year 7 team who came second.

Rotary Youth Speaks Competition

Congratulations to our junior team who were runners up in the regional final which enabled them to take part in the semi finals of this national competition which were held in Cheshire in March. The team was made up of M Jenkins, P Wain, K Rice and I Benson.

M Jenkins in Y7 describes the experience:

I had never done any public speaking before the competition and it really opened my eyes and showed me how much I now enjoy it! Standing up on the stage talking, felt like a privilege rather than the extremely nerve-wracking moment I thought it might be.

The subject all our speeches were based upon was **“Family - Happy Families?”** The speech I wrote described what family means to me, what it means to others, and families on the television, famous families and how family affects your future. It was really easy to write about but not quite so easy to remember! Unfortunately we didn't win the semi-finals competition **this time**, although we each won firsts individually in **“The best of the best”** awards throughout the two competitions. Speaking at a personal level, even though we

were not successful, we won something better: Pride, Confidence and Friendship, qualities to be treasured. The Rotary Competition was a brilliant experience and I encourage everyone to audition to take part in it next year. I have already started to think of new topics.





Friends of LGGS Supper Fun Run Tuesday June 21st



You may remember that we are changing the format of our **Fun Run** this year ...

Application forms are now available on the school website, Come and join in the fun!

GCSE, A level Drama and Theatre Studies Practical Assessments.

This year the year 11 students have been performing their assessed practicals for GCSE drama in the early evening which has meant many parents have been able to watch their daughter's performance. The quality of these pieces has been very high and we obviously have a very talented group of students currently studying GCSE Drama.

The Year 13 students performed their exam pieces to a packed audience at DT3 drama studio in Lancaster on the evening of April 8th. The first piece entitled '37 Incidents' was an extremely hard hitting and powerful piece on domestic violence. The students had worked with the Women's Aid in Lancaster as part of their research and members from this group were in the audience to watch the performance. They portrayed the day to day horrors of domestic violence extremely effectively and used humour appropriately to lighten the mood and create impact. The second piece took them through women's rights and looked at three important women in history, Emmeline Pankhurst, Rosa Parkes and Aung San Suu Kyi. This piece was extremely informative and successfully portrayed the bravery of all three women. It was an inspiring evening and thanks to all concerned and especially Ms Sheen for all her hard work and commitment with the practical assessments.



Royal Shakespeare Company

Congratulations to A McKay in Year 11 who has successfully applied for a placement with the Royal Shakespeare Company this summer.

This is a very competitive area and she has done very well to gain a place.

Newnham College Essay Writing Competition

Many congratulations to G Thomas-Parr in Year 13 who has received a **"Highly Commended"** certificate and award from Newnham College, Cambridge for her outstanding essay which we entered in the Virginia Woolf essay writing competition.



Celebration of Talent

Thank you to all the LGGS families who supported our Celebration of LGGS Talent evening last half term. I am sure you will agree it was a fantastic evening. The evening raised £435 to be split between the Red Cross appeal for the Japanese earthquake and Dramatic Need a charity chosen by O Broadbent, Assistant Head Girl for the Arts, who very successfully organised and ran the evening.



Year 9 Visits to Lancaster University

Year 9 students who have chosen to study two Modern Foreign languages for their GCSE options recently visited Lancaster University for the day. This account is by J Tobin.

I thought this trip was a really good opportunity for everybody taking two languages to learn more about different cultures and develop their language skills. On the day we took part in a range of fun, language activities including, a French workshop with a French student, an Italian lesson, a political debating session on the European Union, a Spanish salsa dancing lesson, 'Build an Eiffel Tower' workshop and a 'Learning about different cultures' workshop. These were all really good, however, I particularly enjoyed the Italian lesson as I learnt new phrases and the Spanish salsa dancing lesson. I also liked how it was at the University because it really gave us the feel of what it would be like to study languages after LGGS. I think everyone thoroughly enjoyed this trip and I hope LGGS organises another one again!

Another group of Year 9 students wishing to study Art GCSE also visited the University.

Here is A Watson's account.

On the 30th of March, a group of year 9 pupils went to Lancaster University for an Art day. All the pupils invited to go were those who had chosen art as a GCSE option for next year. The trip's purpose was to show students what it was like to study art at University, as well as showing all the variations of art techniques and methods, as well as giving them some inspiration for their artworks. This event also involved a group of students from Central Lancaster High School who carried out the same activities as the LGGS pupils in the morning, and then joined up with them in the afternoon.

The morning began with a brief introduction on what would happen throughout the day. There were then 5 stations which each group spent half an hour at each. Firstly there was a tour of the Art department of the University. There was also 4 art workshops which were each themed with one aspect of fine art; painting, drawing, lights and plaster.

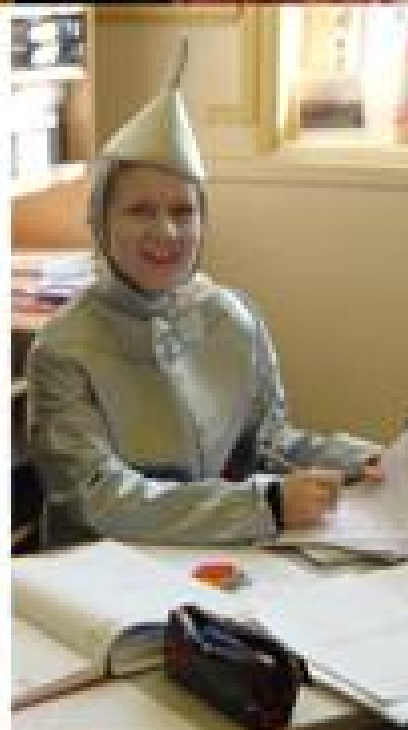
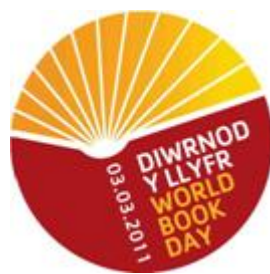
In the afternoon all the groups from both schools came together to create two big pieces of artwork. They used some of their creations from the workshops; shells from the plaster workshop and fireworks created by light. These were used to create the first piece, a beach scene with neon shells scattered along the front of the beach made with real sand, and hundreds of fireworks lighting up the night sky. For the second piece everyone got into groups and was given an individual piece of a kind of jigsaw puzzle. Each group was then given an indication of what to do and then set about painting it in their own way. At the end the students from Lancaster University slotted all the pieces together to create a surreal version of the art department buildings.

To finish off, all the pupils were allowed to ask the students about studying art, as well as general questions about University. In my opinion, the trip was really useful and showed us that there's more to art than just painting and drawing and has given many of us inspiration for our future pieces. It was also a really good experience to find out what University was like.



World Book Day 2011 at Lancaster Girls' Grammar School

After a fun packed world book day in March, Year 7 and 8 pupils carried out a two week long sponsored Readathon in order to raise funds for the CLIC Sargent charity and Roald Dahl Foundation; charities which support young people with blood disorders, cancer and acquired brain injury. In total they raised £800 a very pleasing achievement.





D of E Award Scheme

Listed below are the students who have recently achieved their Duke of Edinburgh Awards at the level indicated.

Silver Level:

Year 13
S Hawksby

Bronze Level:

Year 13
K Bainbridge

Year 12

A Bush and M Giles

Year 11

G Aspinall, Z Bleasdale,
K Browne, R Bulman,
R Church, F Darlington,
E Dodd, E Evans, C Farey,
E Fox, H Gifford, M Golash,
H Grigg, S Hallam, Z Harding,
A Harrison, L Horner,
M Inman, I Introna,
K Jones, I Kenyon, C Letheren,
M McHugh, I Mechie,
R Paracha, L Parkinson,
A Pickthall, E Picton,
A Rice, R Riding,
M Satchwell-Hirst,
E Shaw, M Shields,
C Slack, A Snalam,
S Stewardson,
L Stewart, M Vaughan-Jones,
M Whittle and
H Winstanley

This is a record number of Year 11 students. Well done to all of them for achieving the award and thanks, as always, to all the staff who help with the expeditions and Mrs Cunningham for her leadership of the scheme.



Information for Parents and KS3 students

You may be interested in the following on-line course OLP, in collaboration with Lady Margaret Hall College, University of Oxford.

From Plato to PlayStation:

An Introduction to Philosophy: 8th May 2011
A fully funded one-day **on-line** course for able 11 – 14 year olds

This is an exciting opportunity to enjoy an intellectual challenge and stretch your imagination!

On our on-line learning platform, you will:

- enrich and develop your philosophical thinking skills
- enjoy the company of other bright students from around the country
- participate in debates, quizzes and research
- be inspired, challenged and motivated by tutors & academics from Oxford University
- have fun!

You will work with OLP tutors, and academics and tutors from Lady Margaret Hall, University of Oxford.

What do you need?

- access to the internet
- 2 to 3 hours of spare time between 12 noon and 6pm on 8th May 2011.
- a thirst for learning!

Fee: This course is fully funded, so there is no charge.

Where: ONLINE, on our learning platform.

When: Sunday 8th May 2011, from noon until 6pm.

Deadline: Registration closes on 7th May or when the course is full, whichever is the sooner.

What are we waiting for? Let's go..... Places are limited to 200, so early registration is advised.

To register:

1. Please go to www.olpoxford.org/learningplatform (our learning platform)
2. Click on the **From Plato to PlayStation** link
3. Follow the instructions.

Participating students will also have the (optional) opportunity to contribute to Oxford University research into the nature of higher-order thinking.

See you there!

LGGS

Lancaster Girls' Grammar School



SEPTEMBER 2012 INTAKE

Year 5 Information Evening and Open Evening

Dates for your diaries if you have younger daughters who are currently in Year 5, our information evening for parents which focuses on the admissions process is on:

Wednesday May 25th.

We are running two sessions, one at 6.30 pm and one at 7.30pm.

Our open evening

which is for parents and Year 5 pupils is on

Thursday June 30th and starts at 5.30pm - 8.30pm.

Future Events this Half Term

Friday 29th April

School closed - Bank Holiday

Tuesday 3rd May - Monday 9th May

Years 9 and 10 exams

Tuesday 10th May - Saturday 14th May

7L and 7M French Trip

Friday 13th May

Year 12 Study Leave begins

Monday 23rd May

Parents' Advisory Group Meeting 7pm

Wednesday 25th May

GCSE Artwork Exhibition 6pm-8pm

Wednesday 25th May

Year 5 Parents' Information Evening

Friday 27th May

School closes for half term