

Lady Manners School

Headteacher's Newsletter

Issue 4 Spring Term 2023

Welcome to our second Spring newsletter.

This has been another eventful term which has seen many developments across the school. Students from all age groups have once again been adaptable and have produced excellent work, both within and outside of lessons.

Examinations, Catch-up Programmes and Intervention

We have maintained our catch-up programmes throughout the term and the work of our learning mentors is continuing with students across all year groups.

As the summer examination series approaches, additional classes have been organised for our Year 11 and Year 13 students. Revision lessons are taking place on a weekly basis across a range of subjects and these are well-attended by students. At this busy time of year, we focus on the coursework aspects of many courses, and students are busy completing their required assessments. Recent practical performance in subjects such as drama, music and sport has again provided an opportunity for our gifted students to showcase their considerable talents.

We are delighted with the progress of our Ukrainian students who are now fully integrated into the life of the school. Our English tutor has performed an outstanding job in teaching our Ukrainian students. Students are now gaining in self-confidence, learning key subject terminology and contributing positively in their lessons.

PTFA

We are extremely proud of our PTFA and the support it offers our school. We are delighted that membership of the PTFA has grown over recent weeks and our new Chair, Tracey Hall, has been relentless in her enthusiastic pursuit of new members. All at Lady Manners School are appreciative of the fund-raising efforts of this committee. Last year, funds were awarded that enabled us to erect an outdoor shelter, which is located between our Science and PD classrooms. We are currently trying to raise funds for an additional outdoor shelter. With this in mind, the PTFA has arranged a talent competition which will help to raise further funds and, at the same time, enable our students to perform in front of an appreciative audience! The event is scheduled for 8 July 2023.

Catering

Our catering team deliver a high-quality service to all of our students and staff and consistently meet the standards of the 5-star food hygiene award. Our service is non-profit making as all income is used to cover costs.

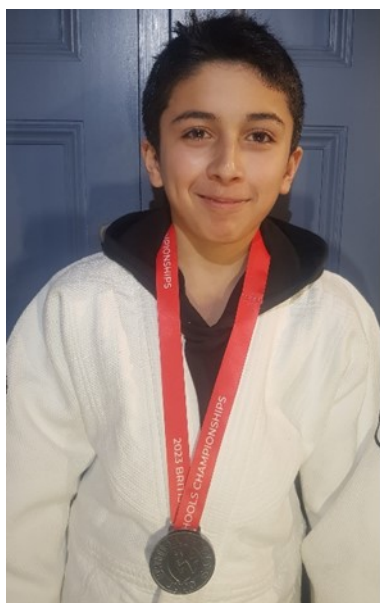
Due to the increased cost of food, supplies and wages, we will be increasing the price of meals from Monday 17 April 2023 to ensure the service continues to break-even. We will continue to provide the same high standard of service and value for money meals.

Adverse Weather and School Closure

In the event of any potential school closure, all headteachers have a responsibility to keep their school open for as many students as possible. Every effort is made to accommodate our students and the school is only ever closed as a last resort. However, in all decision-making, the safety of students and staff is paramount. Site conditions, transport issues and weather forecasts are always considered. We have a robust procedure in place in the event of bad weather, and bus companies and our premises team are always consulted ahead of any final decision. I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents and carers for their understanding and to praise our premises team who worked relentlessly to ensure the safety of our site during the recent period of extreme weather.

Events

Congratulations to all students who have taken part in school events recently and to those students who have represented the school across a range of sporting fixtures and competitions. Individual performers have achieved great success in recent weeks in sports such as archery, equestrianism, adaptive judo and skiing. We congratulate all of them on their achievements.



The Easter Concert was held on Thursday 30 March and a large audience enjoyed a series of exceptional musical performances. The event also provided an ideal opportunity to thank our talented Sixth Form musicians who will be leaving Lady Manners at the end of the academic year. We wish them all well in their future endeavours.



Young Hero Award

Congratulations to our Year 11 student, Belle, who recently won a Young Hero Award from Darley Dale Town Council. Belle spends a lot of her own time helping neighbours and has taken a leadership role with the Scouts. She has also recently taken up flying lessons. Well done, Belle!

National Offer Day

March 01 was National Offer day for students who applied to join Lady Manners School in Year 7 from September 2023. In line with previous recent years, I am delighted to report that demand for school places has been high and we look forward to welcoming our new entrants at the start of the new academic year.

Trips and Visits

To complement all of the clubs that run in school, we have been delighted that the variety of school trips has increased again, following the pandemic. This year, students in different year groups have had the opportunity to take part in Geography field trips, a History and Art trip to London, various theatre trips, a Drama residential in London, Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, a German trip to Berlin and a German exchange, a visit to the National Videogame Museum, a trip to the 'Knitting and Stitching' show, a trip to a bakery factory and a trip to the Buddhist Centre....to name but a few!

It has been wonderful to put all of the learning that we do in the classroom into context and to enhance the students' experience in a range of subject areas.

Faculty Focus

The main aim of our termly newsletter is to provide parents, carers and students with information about our school. This term, we have adapted the format of our newsletter to include details about the subjects we offer. As you may recall, we introduced a new faculty structure at the start of the academic year (September 2022) and now have seven curriculum faculties which run alongside an Inclusion Faculty. Information will be provided about a different faculty area each term and we hope this will be of interest to all members of our school community.

This term our faculty in the spotlight is **Global Studies**. The Global Studies Faculty comprises three curriculum areas: Geography, History and Modern Foreign Languages. You can read about some of their work below.

This term in the History Curriculum Area

This half-term, all students have had an assembly on the role of five women in the twentieth century to celebrate Women's History Month. There is also a display in the History Curriculum Area about women who have had an impact on British History over the past two thousand years, from Boudica to Stella Remington, former Director General of MI5. The display introduces women who have pioneered sport, led men in battle, ruled England and fought for the right to vote. In Year 9 lessons, students have also been learning how women contributed on the Home Front, when they were mobilised to support the war effort.

This term in the Languages Curriculum Area

We were thrilled to once again welcome students from the Kaiser-Heinrich-Gymnasium in Bamberg for the home leg of our German Exchange.

From 21 to 30 March, the students stayed with host families and took part in school lessons, trips to Liverpool and York, scone baking competitions, a bowling evening and much more! The students from Germany enjoyed finding out how school life here differs to school life at home and also enjoyed getting to know their exchange partners.

We are now very excited to return to Germany in July for the second part of the exchange trip.



Busy Bees!

Our Year 8 language students have taken part in the second round of the translation bee - the inter-form final. They had to translate as many sentences in the future tense as possible into the language they are learning, in one minute. The competition was intense and all students performed extremely well, with the top scorer translating 17 sentences in a minute!

Congratulations to Hannah, Barney and Erin who will now have the opportunity to represent the school in the regional finals for the East Midlands in May.

This term in the Geography Curriculum Area

Year 10 geographers took part in a fieldtrip to examine urban change and challenges in Sheffield. They explored the landmark regeneration of Kellam Island, and investigated the success of Sheffield's approach to integrated transport. Comments from students are below.



Studying the impacts of regeneration and seeing it in person helps us to develop key skills, such as analytical skills and observational skills.

It has been a very educational and enjoyable trip and it is important that we do this kind of trip as it helps to build knowledge and give a more in-depth answer in our GCSEs.

Looking Ahead to Next Term

Following the Easter break, we will be entering the examination period and students will be sitting public examinations. Students have worked extremely hard and we wish them all every success. A number of events are planned for other year groups, including a Commemoration Service at Bakewell for our younger students, in appreciation of the life of Grace, Lady Manners.

We wish you all a safe and enjoyable Easter break and we look forward to seeing students again on Monday 17 April.

Mr Peat
Headteacher
Lady Manners School

