



NEWSLETTER

A ROUND UP OF THE WEEK AT LAUREL PARK SCHOOL

Headteacher's Message - Adele Christofi

I'd like to say a big warm welcome back to our school community, I sincerely hope you all had a wonderful summer and are well rested.

Before I update you on a range of news I'd like to take the time to welcome our new staff to the school; Mr Ayerh joins us as our Assistant Headteacher in charge of the Sixth Form; Ms O'Flaherty joins us as our Head of Drama; Mr George joins us in PE, Ms Nicou joins us in SEN and Mr Mandrides joins us in our DT department. All of our new colleagues have made a great start, and we look forward to getting to know them as we go through the school year.

Likewise, I'd like to offer a warm welcome to our new Year 7 students. It was lovely to see them all arrive, eager, looking super smart and ready to start their secondary education with us. The students had a great introduction to the school, learning the new routines and spending quality time with their form tutors. On Wednesday they had their first lessons in English and maths and were beaming as they left at the end of the school day. I am already struck with their kindness, politeness and can see the great potential that they hold. We very much look forward to getting to know them this year.

This year we had our second set of exam results and attainment was in line with last year, with some areas of the school showing great improvement. Our journey is a 5 year one, so it is great to see so much success! We had a great number of students who achieved grade 7-9s across all their GCSEs and likewise a number of students who made superb progress during their time with us, with a significant number achieving 2 or more grades above their target grades. It's always heart-warming to see so many students who joined the school without any English succeeding and gaining a plethora of qualifications. This is a testament to the intervention, care and support we have in place for our young people. Triple science, computing and arts subjects showed great outcomes so we are confident that our razor-sharp approach to school improvement will pay dividends as we move forward.

Leading on from this, our Sixth Form is now live, and it was great to see a number of students from both Laurel Park and other schools such as Fortismere and St Andrew the Apostle join our sixth form. The students arrived at school in smart business wear ready to start their post-16 journey with us. We currently have two courses running - A triple level 3 qualification in Sport and Physical activity, this is the equivalent to 3 A-Levels, and the level 2 Beauty course, in our newly equipped beauty salon.

At the end of last term, we had our annual Sports Day, which for the first time ever took place at Lee Valley Stadium, and what an event it was! There was a fantastic atmosphere with all the students and staff actively taking part. The day saw some wonderful sporting activities, all of which were expertly coordinated by Mr Sroka and the PE team. The day truly encompassed Laurel Park's values.

We also celebrated our annual Culture Day and as always was lovely so see both staff and students attending school in their cultural attire and wearing it with such pride. Each department had a country and lessons that day were centred around learning of that country. Counties chosen represented the heritage of the students and staff in our school. This was supported by Chef Dan who put together an Asian feast for lunch! Again, a school event that showcased our school values in such a wonderful way.

This week, all of year 10 will be visiting Alexandra Palace to see An Inspector Calls, one of the set texts that students have to study for their English Literature exam, so I look forward to updating you on this visit next week.

As we start a new school year, I'd like to thank our parents by supporting the school with our new school bag. It makes a huge difference in terms of raising standards and expectations. Smith Schoolwear now has the bag back in stock, so can all outstanding bags please be replaced by Monday at the latest. If anyone is suffering from financial hardship, then please get in touch and we will do our best to support families.

Wishing you all a safe and peaceful weekend.

Ms Christofi
Headteacher



Beginning of term updates



PE Days

Students are expected to wear their full Laurel Park PE kit on their allocated PE day. If they are attending an after-school sports club on a different day, they are to bring their PE kit to change into after-school. GCSE PE students are to wear school uniform for their lessons unless directed by their PE teacher in advance. A text will be sent home to parents for when practical lessons are scheduled as part of their GCSE.

Year 8 Monday
Year 9 Tuesday
Year 7 Wednesday
Year 10 Thursday
Year 11 Friday

After-school clubs

Dive into excitement with our diverse after-school clubs! From the creative Lego Club and Drama Club to the action-packed Football sessions with Spurs coaches, there's something for everyone. Join the STEM Club for hands-on projects, showcase your dance moves, or get crafty with our DT Club. If you love games, board games and film-making offer endless fun, while the Book Club and Film Club provide a space for literary and cinematic enthusiasts. Running Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 3:15pm to 4:00pm, these clubs are the perfect way to explore new interests, meet friends, and make the most of your afternoons. Don't miss out—come join the fun!

Extra curricular programme timetable will be below on newsletter.

Next week is Week 1

GCSE RESULTS!

On August 22, 2024, emotions ran high as they opened their results—there were tears, laughter, and moments of pure joy. The school community felt an immense pride in their hard work and dedication. Each student achieved so much, marking this day as just the beginning of their next adventure.

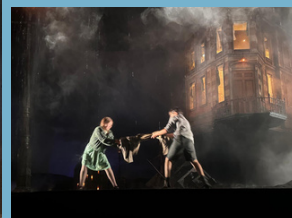


Welcome to our Year 7 families

A warm welcome to our new families joining us in Year 7. Welcome to the Laurel Park community. This newsletter will be sent out to you every week with important information, upcoming dates and news articles about events taking place in school.

Please do also follow our Instagram page [@laurelparksch](#) which gives more information as well.

Our new Year 7 students have settled in quickly to life at LPS. We are very proud to share that Rosie has been trading the boards at Alexandra Palace Theatre in *An Inspector Calls*. Our Year 10 students even got to see her perform this week! Well done Rosie - what an amazing achievement.



LPS EXTRA - Autumn 2024

All Clubs are 3.15pm to 4pm

CLUB	FOR	DAY	LOCATION
Board Games	All Years	Monday	O6
Lego Club	All Years	Monday	O5
English - GCSE Revision	KS4	Monday	O1
Step into Dance	All Years	Tuesday	Studio E
Origin Stories - Humanities	KS3	Tuesday	P13
KS4 Book Club	KS4	Tuesday	
AQA UAS in SEN Qualifications	Year 10,Year 11,Year 12	Tuesday	
STEM Club - KS3	KS3	Tuesday	E4
STEM Club - KS4	KS4	Tuesday	E3
Film Club	Year 10,Year 11	Tuesday	
Football	All Years	Tuesday	Astro
MfL Culture Club	Year 8	Tuesday	P5
Bounce Trampolining	All Years	Tuesday	Gym
Maths GCSE Revision	YR11	Tuesday	
Maths GCSE Resit	YR12	Tuesday	
Basketball	KS3, KS4	Tuesday - W1	Sports Hall
Volleyball	KS3, KS4	Tuesday - W2	Sports Hall

LPS EXTRA - Autumn 2024

All Clubs are 3.15pm to 4pm

CLUB	FOR	DAY	LOCATION
Drama Club	Year 7, Year 8	Thursday	
DT Club	KS3, KS4	Thursday	
Boxing	Year 11	Thursday	Sports Hall
From Screenplay to Cinema. How to Make a Short Horror Film	Year 9, Year 10, Year 11, Year 12	Thursday	
Reading for Pleasure	Year 7	Thursday	O1
Numeracy Club	KS3, YR10	Thursday	J4/J3
Chess Club	YR10	Thursday	J3/J4
GCSE Revision	YR11	Thursday	
Coding Club	KS3	Thursday	ITK
Football	KS3	Thursday	Astro
Netball	YR7, YR8	Thursday	Sports Hall
Creative Writing	Year 8, Year 9	Friday	O1
Football	YR9, YR10, YR11	Friday	Astro

Pivotal Netball Academy

PIVOTAL
NETBALL
ACADEMY



Autumn Saturday Netball Coaching

Learn to play netball in a fun & nurturing environment
Children of all abilities aged 4 to 15 years old welcome

Highlands School, Enfield N21 1QQ

9-9.55 Reception to Year 5

10-10.55 Year 6 to 10

£12 per class or £10 Early Bird*

(*when you book at least 48 hrs in advance)

**BOOK
A FREE
TRIAL**



**7
SEPT**

**14
SEPT**

**21
SEPT**

**28
SEPT**

**5
OCT**

**12
OCT**

**19
OCT**

**26
OCT**

**9
NOV**

**16
NOV**

**23
NOV**

**30
NOV**

Pivotal Netball Academy

Autumn Netball Camps

10% SIBLING DISCOUNT

Our Holiday Camps have four sessions per day:

One: Fun and engaging warm up activities

Two: Attacking skill practices in a range of scenarios

Three: Defensive skill practices in a range of scenarios

Four: Game based activities, where skills can be applied to a match or tournament



TUE 29 OCT

WED 30 OCT

10am - 3pm

Reception to Year 10

Highlands School, Enfield N21 1QQ

£32 per day

**PIVOTAL
NETBALL
ACADEMY**



07392 018 982

www.pivotalnetball.com

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO MANAGE CONFLICT EFFECTIVELY

Disagreement is a natural part of human interaction. This can seem particularly true when dealing with the sensitive issues that arise for secondary-aged pupils. This guide brings you 10 top tips which can help prevent conflicts arising or mitigate their impacts when they do.

1 INSPIRE RESPONSIBILITY

The best approaches to conflict resolution are restorative. This means that rather than adults imposing their own solutions on children who have had a disagreement, they should work with them, allowing them to handle it can feel empowering to young people and will hopefully teach them to manage their own disputes as they move towards adult life.

2 ACTIVELY LISTEN

Remember to give every child the opportunity to voice their opinion, regardless of their age, stage of development, special educational needs, or other individual requirements. This can be done using a variety of different communication methods. For example, some children find it easier to express how they're feeling using pictures and drawings, while some prefer to write their ideas down.

3 BE CURIOUS

Demonstrating how to approach conflicts with a mature and empathetic mindset can set a good example to children, which can prove a useful skill for them later in life. Model this by asking inquisitive – yet respectful – questions about the issue at hand. Really try to understand where all parties are coming from, and share information between them when and where appropriate. This should encourage young people to mirror your behaviour, teaching them to be curious about the other sides of a conflict, and thus being more willing to hear them out.

4 PROMOTE DIFFERENCES

Children and young people may come from a range of different backgrounds and cultures or have protected characteristics which may cause them to see things from various angles. Having a school and community culture which celebrates and embraces diversity in all things – including diversity of opinion – means people are more likely to feel heard and understood.

5 BE SUPPORTIVE

Discussions may be sensitive or, in some cases, even trigger negative emotions. Pupils may have mixed feelings about the issue at hand. They could be nervous or anxious before even coming to the table to talk about it. Try and create a space where all parties feel safe, welcome and comfortable. Allow breaks and time-outs if the conversation gets heated, to prevent anyone from saying something they might later regret.

6 MENTALLY PREPARE

Think of how you can approach the conflict in a calm and regulated manner. Consider taking some extra time to prepare beforehand and finding somewhere quiet to relax. Even if you're not directly involved with the conflict, mediating can be a stressful experience in its own right. Make sure you're hydrated, fed and comfortable, and do the same for the young people involved. These may seem like insignificant factors, but it's important to remember that physical discomfort can trigger dysregulation, which can make it much harder to have a calm, productive conversation.

7 GET YOUR FACTS STRAIGHT

Make sure you have all the facts, figures and timelines of the situation prior to the discussion. This should be done as objectively as possible with the aim of resolving the ongoing issue. You may want to risk assess any problems that may arise and look for possible solutions during your preparation time.

8 STICK TO THE POINT

Make the reason for, and purpose of, any meetings or communications clear prior to setting them up. Provide an agenda. Act as a neutral chairperson who can keep all parties on track. Make sure everyone has a chance to air their concerns about the issue being discussed and try to avoid talking about unrelated incidents. Close off with some action points, detailing what everyone can do to resolve the conflict.

9 BE SOLUTION FOCUSED

It's often said that the art of diplomacy is about giving others ladders to climb down. This means the main aim of any meeting or correspondence should be finding mutually acceptable and amicable solutions. Parents, carers, teachers and pupils should be aware there may need to be a compromise for the common good – and, most importantly, the good of the children you're supporting.

10 DON'T IGNORE OR AVOID CONFLICT

No one benefits from allowing concerns and grievances to fester, as this can lead to further division and mistrust, and ultimately doesn't help the children involved. Use our tips to open meaningful lines of communication. These should help you find a suitable resolution and minimise the number of conflicts you're faced with mediating overall.

Meet Our Expert

Catrina Lawri is a neurodivergent former SENCO and advisory teacher. She founded her company, Neuroteachers, to improve inclusion for neurodivergent people. She works with nurseries, schools, colleges and businesses providing consultancy, training and mentoring to create belonging and understanding for people with the full range of neurotypes.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College