

# LIMEHURST NEWS

AUTUMN 2019



Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to our end-of-term newsletter, where you can read about the many exciting things that have been taking place at Limehurst this term. It's certainly beginning to feel very festive. Our wonderful Christmas concert last week is being followed by the school canteen's Christmas meal on Wednesday this week, and then we'll be having our whole-school assembly on Thursday – singing voices at the ready!

This newsletter provides my first opportunity to draw your attention to our students' fantastic GCSE results last summer. Their results meant that, for the second year in a row, Limehurst was ranked in the top 4% of all schools nationally! We retained our position (for the third consecutive year) as the highest achieving school in Charnwood, and the Department for Education has classified our achievements as being well above average, which is its highest classification. I believe this to be a wonderful achievement for our school, and is a hugely merited reward for all of the hard work that we do on a daily basis. You can learn more about our exam results by going to [www.limehurst.org.uk](http://www.limehurst.org.uk) and selecting School Information and then Performance.

This achievement is all the more remarkable given the chronic state of school funding in Leicestershire. We have had to make many cuts over the last few years, which is so disappointing as ultimately the students miss out. Did you know that schools in different authorities are funded differently? Schools in Leicester receive £600 per student more than us; in Nottingham the figure is nearer £1,000. Imagine, given our already brilliant results, what we could do for your children with an extra £360,000 - £600,000. Now the election is over, I'll be sure to ask our new MP why Loughborough children are less deserving of proper funding than children in our neighbouring authorities.

At the time of writing, despite the copious amounts of rain, the weather has been relatively kind to us so far this winter. However, please do read the Bad Weather Procedures article later in this newsletter. It details how you can stay completely up-to-date with all school communications!

Finally, a reminder that we finish at 1.15pm on Friday 20th December. I wish all staff, students and their families a peaceful and relaxing holiday, and I look forward to seeing you on the first day of term, Tuesday 7th January.

Yours sincerely

Jonathan Mellor  
Headteacher

Science

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## TEENTECH & STEMSUNDAYS

### TEENTECH & STEMSUNDAYS

This year we have eight Y10 pupils signed up with the TeenTech competition in collaboration with Loughborough Grammar School.

On the back of our huge success last year we have high hopes for these enthusiastic students. They will work independently on their projects for the next few months and once a month will gain advice from STEM ambassadors during STEMSundays.

Mrs Patel  
Teacher of Science



## YEAR 9 ENERGY QUEST

On the 19th November we hosted the Energiser workshop and launched The Bright Ideas Challenge funded by Shell. Sixty Y9 pupils spent two hours in an interactive STEM workshop packed with hands-on activities, careers information and stories from real engineers working in the energy sector. Our pupils were enthusiastic and very competitive during their engineering challenge.

So far we have four teams that are working on their Bright Ideas Challenge during STEM club on Friday lunchtimes in Science 3. Do come along if you are interested in entering.

Mrs Patel  
Teacher of Science



## YEAR 11 TRIPLE SCIENCE STUDENTS

Tessa Northcott is a student at Leeds University, pursuing a degree in Food Science and is currently on an industrial placement at Unilever, London. She gave an inspirational talk to our Y10 and Y11 triple science students followed by a talk to the GCSE students taking food and nutrition. This was a breathtaking insight into the world beyond GCSEs

Mrs P Hirji  
Teacher of Mathematics & Physics



## SPECTROSCOPY

Spectroscopy is the study of the absorption and emission of light and other radiation by matter.

Spectroscopy in a suitcase is an invigorating workshop run by Leicester University through the Royal Society of Chemistry. Two Scientists from the University came to visit Limehurst and spent the morning with our Y10 and Y11 Triple Science pupils.



This was an amazing opportunity that all students thoroughly enjoyed and were left yearning for more on the world of Chemistry and Science.

Mrs Hirji  
Teacher of Mathematics & Physics

## ROYAL SOCIETY OF CHEMISTRY

During National Chemistry Week selected Y9, 10, 11 students had the opportunity to participate in a national competition ran by the Royal Society of Chemistry. They completed a mini quiz during their lunch times and then a Limehurst Academy team of four was put together to enter the main competition.

Well done to the Ben Ali (Y9), Jasmine Nong (Y10) and Trong Vu (Y11) for securing a place in the regional finals which will be held in the new year.

Mrs Patel  
Teacher of Science

## Y11 POST 16 APPLICATIONS

Y11's have had a busy time this term making the big decisions of where and what to study next year. Because it is an important stage in their education, they have had plenty of support along the way. We have had many of the local post 16 providers in school to talk to students, they have looked at the decision-making process in their personal development programmes and been encouraged to attend all the open evenings for the local providers.

Students have been encouraged to apply for at least two post 16 destinations and applications should have been completed by now. If your child has still yet to apply please do this as soon as possible; if unsure then contact me at school!

Miss Armstrong  
Head of KS4

## Y10

Y10's are getting to grips with their GCSE curriculums, they have completed a topic on how to manage their increased workload and stand them in good stead for the coming year.

## CAREERS ADVICE AND GUIDANCE FOR Y11

Many of our students have been very focussed on what route they would like to take in their chosen course and future career. Others have been less sure of what route to take but there has been plenty of advice available through our new 1:1 career advisor; Mr Farthing. Mr Farthing will also be available for advise at the year eleven parent evening on Monday 3rd February. Sessions can be booked via the usual appointments list but you can "drop in" if he is free.

## CAREERS IN SCHOOL

Careers advice, information and guidance is so important in school. It goes hand in hand with the subjects we teach and where they can take our students when they leave Limehurst Academy. That connection between subjects, and the world of work, is often highlighted when students are given the opportunity of a trip out of school. It has been a busy term in the Careers Department with a number of trips, visits and projects having been organised for students across the year groups.

## SCIENCE WORLD FAIR

On Thursday 10th October a group of Y10 students represented Limehurst Academy and Thermo Fisher Scientific at a "Science World" Industry Fair at Leicester Tigers. This was the culmination of a project that started in the summer term and entailed regular sessions where our students worked with Thermo Fisher employees around the theme of sustainability and environment awareness.

At the Science World Fair our students undertook the role of "Sustainability Ambassadors" and were responsible for engaging delegates in the activities in the "Sustainability Zone" including a "Pledge Wall", "Pledge Video" and a sustainability quiz. Our students performed exceptionally well on the day and received much praise for their efforts. Video of our students at "Science World" can be found at

<https://www.fishersci.co.uk/gb/en/events-exhibitions/science-world.html#genericTabContent1>

## TASTER SESSION STEPHENSON COLLEGE

On Friday 4th October we took a small group of Y11 students to Stephenson College for a vocational taster day designed to help them to decide about their Post 16 options. The tasters included animal care, bricklaying, plumbing and engineering and our students engaged fully in the activities on offer.

We were very impressed with the organisation of the activities and it gave our students a comprehensive insight into the types of courses and careers on offer to them when they leave Limehurst.



## CAREERS FAIR AT RAWLINS ACADEMY

On Thursday 7th November, twelve Y10 students went to a Careers Fair at Rawlins Academy, Quorn. This even aimed to help our students to begin thinking about what they might want to do when they leave school at the end of Y11. There was a very impressive range of organisations and companies represented at the Fair and it provided an excellent opportunity for our students to get more information about a range of careers and courses including engineering, construction, public services, food technology and care.

## VISIT TO ONYX INSIGHT ENGINEERING

On Friday 22nd November a group of Year 10 Science students visited Onyx Insight Engineering in Nottingham. The aim was to promote an understanding of careers in engineering. Onyx is a highly specialised company which focuses on developing hardware and software for the renewable energy sector. The day kicked off with a fascinating introductory talk about wind turbines and the incredible expansion of the industry over the last 10 years. We were also introduced to a number of staff working in the company, including software and hardware engineers, who all talked about their job roles and their career pathways.

We then went to the Onyx Insight workshop and maintenance facilities and our students were given the opportunity to investigate some of the machinery and equipment that is typically found on wind turbines. They were even able to climb up onto a generator and investigate the internal mechanisms with an endoscopy camera.

The morning concluded with a lunch and an opportunity for our students to ask further questions about the company and the careers on offer. There was also some very useful generic careers advice including the importance of work experience and presentation skills.

The photos below give an insight into the activities that our students took part in on the day.



## NATIONAL CITIZEN SERVICE

Another vital opportunity we promote for our students is the chance for them to sign up to the National Citizen Service in Y11. Although it can be described as a summer programme for teenagers, it provides much more than that! It is the personal development of individuals that is key; developing a range of skills and experiences that can be applied to their future careers.

N.C.S will be attending the Y11 parents evening so you will be able to get all the information you need and be able to apply.

## Y11 EXAMS

Y11 will be sitting their final GCSE exams in the summer.

The Examinations section of the website has important information such as the summer timetable, rules and regulations pertaining to exams including our internal appeals procedure non-exam assessments.

Please encourage your child to attend revision sessions that teachers have arranged during lunch and after school and to study independently. In addition, if your child needs help to ask his/her subject teachers.

If you have any exam related queries, please feel free to contact Miss Narsing.

### GCSE REVISION TIMETABLE

#### Monday

French Drop in session	Lunchtime	Miss Pitt
French speaking	Lunchtime	Mrs Haigh

#### Tuesday

ADT	After-school (3:00 – 4:00)	Miss McGillan
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#### Wednesday

History	Lunchtime	Mr Parrish
Science	Lunchtime	Mr Chamberlain
Languages	Lunchtime	Mrs Haigh
PE	Lunchtime	Mr Robinson
ADT	After-school (3:00 – 4:00)	Miss McGillan
Languages	After-school (3:00 – 4:00)	Mr Messali
History	After-school (3:00 – 4:00)	Mr Parrish

#### Thursday

History	Lunchtime	Mr Parrish
Languages	After-school (3:00 - 4:00)	Miss Pitt
Music	After-school (3:00 - 4:00)	Mr Simpson

## NORTH CHARNWOOD TABLE TENNIS

Both the U13 and U16 girls table tennis teams won the local round and went on to represent North Charnwood at the County Championships. The U13s finished 3rd in the County and the U16s narrowly missed out on bronze medals to Leicester Grammar. All 8 girls played extremely well and all games were really close. Well done!



U13 Team:

Anna Wakley, Shaela Azad, Chloe Muller, Tia Singala



U16 Team:

Sarina Vaidya, Libby Monk, Muntaka Khan, Hasinah Hossain

Miss Taylor  
Teacher of PE

Thank you and well done to all those students who have attend an extra curricular club and represented the school in football, netball, basketball, badminton and table tennis. Monday's basketball club (3-4pm) and Thursday's football training (4:45-6pm) will continue throughout the academic year.

On Friday 15th November Limehurst attended the disability athletics. 10 students represented Limehurst and a great time was had by all involved.

PE kit - Can students please make sure they are wrapped up warm for outdoor PE lessons. Students can either purchase a rugby top if they only have a polo top or wear a long sleeved under-layer under their polo top. Hoodies, coats, jackets and school cardigans/jumpers are not allowed to be worn for PE.

Mr G Glover  
Head of PE

# ADT News

This edition focusses on endings... and how they can really be beginnings!

The end of Primary School saw us welcome a new cohort of **Year 7** ADT pupils, and the end of KS3 saw us welcome a new cohort of **GCSE students**. Both groups have some incredible accomplishments so far, which we share with you here!

We hope you enjoy this quick peek at what we do in ADT and wish you all a restful break.



## Year 7 stARTs!

Have you seen the newest display in the corridor opposite Room 10? The Toolbox Project is well underway in the art department and Year 7 are showing some serious skill!

Take a look at works created by **Rio (7CK)**, **Habiba (7CK)**, **Laura (7JN)** and **King Faad (7JN)**

What an awesome start to the year!



“A picture is a poem without words.”

- Horace

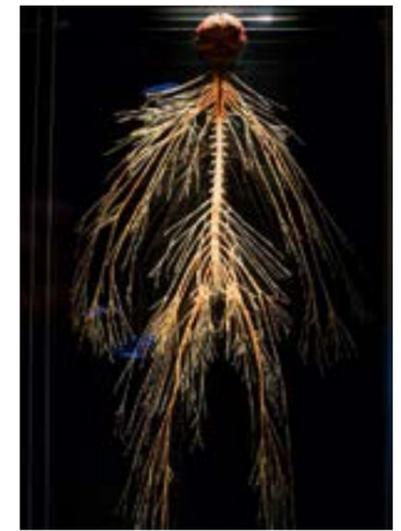


# BODY WORLDS

LONDON

Cross-Curricular Trip

P.E / Science / Textiles

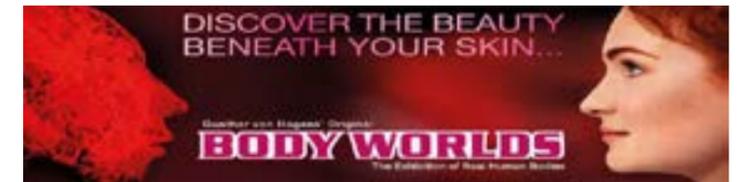


When we saw that the fascinating work of Gunther Von Hagens is now on permanent exhibition in London, we agreed that it was an amazing opportunity for our GCSE P.E, Science, and Textiles students to deepen their subject knowledge and gain inspiration.

The exhibition focuses on real life human bodies, that are displayed to show how we REALLY look on the inside! Our students benefitted from seeing how muscles work together to create movement, how delicate structures such as the nervous system form patterned pathways within our bodies, and the effect illness or disease can have on our organs.

A great time was had by all at this eye-opening exhibition!

Visit [www.bodyworlds.co.uk](http://www.bodyworlds.co.uk) to find out more



## STAFFING

### STAFFING

We have three staff who are leaving us this at the end of this term, Wendy Tyler leaves her role as a Teaching Assistant, and we are losing Rob Meacham and Rosie Girling from the teaching staff. Thanks to all of them for their hard work at Limehurst, and good luck in their future endeavours.

Joining us for the new term in January is Matthew Keeley, who will be part of the English department.

Mr J Mellor  
Headteacher

## SENTENCE COMPETITION

This term we continued with our weekly writing competition between tutor groups in each year. Each week on a Monday a sentence was distributed to all the tutor groups. Their task as a form was to improve the sentence by adding ambitious adjectives, adverbs or connectives. All members of the winning tutor groups received an extra point. The form members in each year group winning the competition the most number of times received a small prize as a reward for their hard work.

Examples of the sentences from the winning forms have been:

### 7NY

The once emerald leaves danced in the breeze before collecting on the damp, cobbled streets.

### 8HO

Windows were frosted with crisp, mesmerising patterns, dancing intricately across the glistening, glass canvas.

### 9ST

Winter came along in her long frozen dress; a fresh morning breeze floated around her.

### 10CA

Dusk dispersed devilishly, the existential evening eloped into the night as stars glittered in syncopation.

### 11CN

The biting zephyr elegantly laced and intertwined through the maze of trees- awakening organic leaves.

We encourage your child to read extensively as this will inevitably improve their writing skills

Mrs R Chauhan  
Head of EAL

## LIMEHURST BUDDIES

Our Buddy System, set up primarily to enable a smoother transition for new pupils commencing at Limehurst Academy is a great success. We would like to thank the following students for their fantastic work this term in helping the students to integrate quickly into their new school environment:

Fatima Sy (8HO)  
Chloe Muller (8MO)  
Danielle Dearn (9ST)  
Rajesh Roy (9WH)  
Abbie Hastings (10CA)  
Dhruvika Ghavda (10CL)  
Sophia Haertel(10CL)  
Raivo Miezis (10CL)  
Lauren Freer (10PI)  
Anna Karnilovic (11HI)

Mrs R Chauhan  
Head of EAL

## LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE

As some of you may be aware we subscribe to Creative Learning, this subscription allows us to borrow up to date books for use by both staff and students. This year we managed to exchange a large amount of books and will soon be having 900 new books in our Library both fiction and non fiction.

Please encourage your child to come and investigate the new titles.

Mrs Gavriel  
Learning Resource Manager

## COMMUNITY LIAISON TEAM

Sam and Lisa have enjoyed getting to know our new students and their parents over this term. They have held 2 Coffee Mornings which were well attended, a Family First Aid Course with 10 parents enrolled, a weekly Craft drop in session on Thursday mornings and 2 Parents evenings to which all parents were invited.



Y7 students were involved in decorating baubles for the Christmas tree festival at All Saints Parish Church. We had some amazing designs from our students.

Well done to everyone that took part.



**PERIOD POVERTY**—Red box project. We have been working with the red box project to give young girls access to free sanitary products.



## ROOM 10

### LUNCHTIME IN ROOM 10

Miss Reynolds and Mrs Bowler run a variety of clubs during lunchtime. Students have enjoyed taking part in the Craft Club. Please see below examples of their work



### THE FRIENDSHIP PROGRAMME

This term 'The Friendship Programme' has been a great success for a group of Y8 students. The programme aims to build confidence and self-esteem, develop social communication and promote building positive friendships. This term the group of students who have been involved have been absolutely fantastic! They have totally thrown themselves into the activities and challenges in the weekly sessions and it has been amazing to watch them grow in confidence and self-esteem. It's been an absolute pleasure to work with these students, who have made us smile and laugh every week!

Well done!

Mrs Bassford & Miss Barnsdale



## INFORMATION

### BAD WEATHER PROCEDURE

The best way to stay up-to-date with any decisions on whether the school is open/closed is to follow us on Twitter. Our handle is @LimehurstAc

We will also send out a text message, so make sure that we have your up-to-date details.

Finally, we will also put a message on our website, [www.limehurst.org.uk](http://www.limehurst.org.uk)

Please try all of these methods, before calling the school!



### BEHAVIOUR TO/FROM SCHOOL

Behaviour in school has been judged as Outstanding by OFSTED in their last two visits, and visitors to the school routinely comment on the calm, learning atmosphere.

We are very proud of this, and also of our community relations, so I am disappointed to have to report that we still – very occasionally - receive some complaints of anti-social behaviour by our pupils on the way to and from school. So far, in each case, I have been able to identify those responsible and they have been made to apologise to those reporting the incidents.

Please remind your child of their responsibilities while travelling to and from school, particularly if they are using public transport.

### POLICY ON DETENTIONS

I am sure most of you are aware that the Department for Education has removed the need for schools to give parents 24-hours' notice of after-school detentions.

As has always been the case, we reserve the right to keep pupils for up to 10 minutes at the end of school to discuss minor breaches of the school behaviour policy. Please rest assured that, where a longer detention of up to one hour may be appropriate, we would always contact you first to let you know.

### PUNCTUALITY

Parents are reminded that students will be kept for fifteen minutes at the end of the day if they arrive at school after 8.45am. Repeated lateness to school will result in more severe sanctions being applied.

## COMMUNICATION

weduc

### How to download & register your app

#### ♥ Step 1. Download the Weduc app



#### ♥ Step 2. Enrol using the enrolment code sent to you via email/letter

#### ♥ Step 3. Confirm your email address & phone number on the app

#### ♥ Step 4. Enter the pin sent to you via email/text

#### ♥ Step 5. Create a password

#### ♥ Step 6. Start using your app, now!

If you require any additional support, please contact your school

# TERM DATES

## SPRING TERM

School Opens Tuesday 7th January 2020  
Mid-Term Break Monday 17th to Friday 21st February 2020  
School Closes Friday 3rd April 2020

## SUMMER TERM

School Opens Monday 20th April 2020  
May Day Bank Holiday Friday 8th May 2020  
Mid-Term Break Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May 2020  
School Closes Friday 10th July 2020

## **2020-21 Term Dates**

## AUTUMN TERM

School Opens Wednesday 26th August 2020  
August Bank Holiday Monday 31st August 2020  
Mid-Term Break Monday 19th to Friday 23rd October 2020  
School Closes Friday 18th December 2020

## SPRING TERM

School Opens Tuesday 5th January 2021  
Mid-Term Break Monday 15th to Friday 20th February 2021  
School Closes Friday 26th March 2021

## SUMMER TERM

School Opens Monday 12th April 2021  
May Day Bank Holiday Monday 3rd May 2021  
Mid-Term Break Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June 2021  
School Closes Friday 9th July 2021

27 January 2020	All Y9 Students	Teenage Booster & Meningitis Vaccination
3 February 2020	Y9	Parents Evening
2 March 2020	Y11	Parents Evening