

# Lealands News

School Newsletter • Issue 29 • March 2016

Name:



***In this issue***

***Literacy Week***

***Dance Show***

***BBC School Report***

***Plus much more...***

***Aspire***

***Believe***

***Achieve***

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# Introduction from Headteacher

## Mr Burridge

There are occasions when I get to stand back and just feel really proud of our school and our students. It was a real pleasure, recently, to welcome the Director of Children's Services to the school for a visit. She was incredibly impressed by all we have to offer and especially by our students who were articulate, polite and friendly. This was also true on a recent learning walk conducted by some of our Governors. Governors felt that the school was very calm and orderly with high levels of engagement and interest from students in their lessons. It is always great to get positive feedback to pass on to students and staff as young people so often get a bad press and we know the vast majority of the students at our school are caring, mature and polite young people. Our student leaders are excellent examples of this and you will have seen them helping at many events; noticeable by their purple coloured ties. As a school we are continuing to develop more and more opportunities for students to show and develop leadership qualities. This work is now being coordinated by Mr Ashby and we expect it to grow further in the future.



I think this edition of the newsletter is a real celebration of our school and the many opportunities we provide as well as the fantastic response we get from our students and parents. You can read about many achievements and exciting events that have taken place in sport, performance, literacy, computing, maths and technology. This edition also contains information about the recent work experience that Year 10 students completed. We feel that it is so important to give students a taste of the world of work and this also often motivates them to really do their very best when they return to school.

We have recently received details of the new Year 7 students who will join us in September. We are, again, over-subscribed and will be taking in 210 Year 7 students to replace 128 Year 11s who will soon be leaving us. Plans have already begun for this further increase in student numbers and you may have noticed a number of adverts for teaching staff which we will need in September for the increased numbers.

You will be aware that we are working to help all our students become RICC (resilient, have initiative, communicate well and be creative). Year 7s have done lots of work on this and RICC cards are now available to all students so that they can demonstrate their RICC skills and be rewarded for this. As part of this, we are really encouraging students to take greater responsibility and ensure they are all fully equipped for lessons. Business students are helping with this by selling stationery before school and at break and lunchtimes.

In order to support Year 11 students with revision and study skills, we have invested in specialist companies who have come into school to teach the latest techniques for studying and revising. This has also included GCSEPod - an extensive online resource of videos and information to support learning of specific subjects and topics. In addition, the school is a member of the Pixl club (Partners in Excellence) which provides the school and students with many excellent resources. The latest introduction has been a maths app which will be introduced in Year 11 assemblies next week - we may even allow students to get their phones out in the hall (just to download it) for the first time ever! This will certainly be a test of the wifi network!

Next term we will be trialling the use of more technology in school with the introduction of some iPads. We have done a lot of work to research how these are used in other schools around the country and what benefits (as well as challenges) they will bring to our school. Next term's trials will be exciting for both staff and students. We will also be developing our virtual learning environment, 'Firefly'. Now that the school's IT infrastructure is working well, it is time to start being more innovative with computer technology and this is being led by Mr Dowling.

Easter is very nearly here after one of the shortest terms I have known. It has certainly been packed full and this is especially true for Year 11 students who are busily preparing for their GCSE exams. Year 9 students have also had the challenge, this term, of selecting options for their GCSEs next year after a very well attended options evening. We have tried to communicate all the changes as clearly as possible, but if anyone has any questions please don't hesitate to contact Mr Little who is in charge of the curriculum.

I hope that you enjoy reading this edition of the newsletter as much as I did and I hope you have a very peaceful Easter.

**Mr J Burridge**  
**Headteacher**

## Important Dates



**Flatford Mill Geography Trip** - Friday 1st April - Sunday 3rd April

**Year 7 Lion King Matinee Trip** - Wednesday 20th April

**Trip to Warwick Castle** - Wednesday 27th April

**Concert by Enfield Citadel Band with Lealands High School Choir** - Saturday 7th May, 7pm

**Production May Ball** - Friday 20th May, 6.30pm - 10.30pm.

## Term Dates

**End of Term** - Thursday 24th March

**Half-Term** - Monday 30th May - Friday 3rd June 2016

**Summer Term** - Monday 11th April 2016 - Thursday 21st July 2016

**Autumn Term 2016 Begins** - Monday 5th September 2016

The full term dates for the academic year 2016-2017 are now available to download from our website **[www.lealands.luton.sch.uk](http://www.lealands.luton.sch.uk)**

## Contact Information



It is extremely important that we have up to date contact information for all students. Any changes to a student's address, parental contact telephone numbers or email addresses should be passed to Mrs Lawes in the Finance Office as soon as possible either by telephone on **01582 611600** or by email to **[admin@lealands.luton.sch.uk](mailto:admin@lealands.luton.sch.uk)**.

## Parking Reminder

For parents and carers who use St John's car park to drop off and pick up students from the school, please remember that it is also the main access for the Church. There have been incidents reported to us where delivery drivers and waste disposal lorries have not been able to access the Church because cars have double parked and blocked the entrance and exit. We know that it can be difficult to find safe parking near the school, especially at those peak times, but please remember to be considerate of the organisations, businesses and residents close



## Value Of The Month

### VALUE OF THE MONTH

**March**

**"Self Belief"**



If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward.

**Martin Luther King Jr.**

## College Open Days

A reminder that there are a number of college Open Days coming up in the next few weeks.



**OAKLANDS COLLEGE**

Tuesday 26th April 2016

St Albans 5-7pm

Wednesday 27th April 2016

Welwyn Garden City 5-7pm

**Barnfield**

setting the standard

Thursday 14th April 2016 3-8pm

# Online Payments

Don't forget you can pay online using the '[Parents Payment](http://www.lealands.luton.sch.uk)' link from the homepage of our website: [www.lealands.luton.sch.uk](http://www.lealands.luton.sch.uk)

If you do not have your link code to login, please contact the school finance office on **01582 611600**. Parents can pay online for the following:

Voluntary Contributions	Events, Trips and Visits	Other
Technology Years 7,8,9 Textiles Year 10 and 11 Resistant Materials Year 10 and 11 Food Technology Year 11	Flatford Mill Blue Peris Prom PGL Claythorpe National Portrait Gallery Lion King	Science Revision Guides Music Lessons

The school prefers for all school meals to be paid for online. This gives you the flexibility to top up your child's account at home using a debit or credit card rather than having to use cash or cheque.

Access to the online payments can be found on our website using the link at the top of the page '**Parents Payment**'; this will take you directly to the registration/log in website.

Further details and an online payments instruction manual can be found on our website: [www.lealands.luton.sch.uk](http://www.lealands.luton.sch.uk)

## Success In Computing

Congratulations to the following students for their success in computing.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	GCSE ICT Y10	GCSE ICT Y11	GCSE COMP Y11
Charlotte Morris-Curtis 7IF  Candice Bent 7SS	Chloe Abbott 8CG  Rae Green 8SM	Melissa Walker 9VA  Victoria Angeli 9AC	Lamis Ahmed 10HH	Christinda-yansen Richard-Rodrigo 11MF	Kyle Farmer 11MF



# School Shop Relaunch

The Key Stage 3 business enterprise team at Lealands have been busily preparing for the relaunch of the school's stationary shop. This has involved creating a company name, logo, a promotional video and marketing the business to students in Year 7 to Year 11 during tutor time.

The enterprise team will be selling stationary products in the atrium at break times. To encourage sales each customer will receive a raffle ticket with their purchase and entered into an Easter prize draw. Prizes are Easter baskets filled with lots of yummy chocolate.

**Please come and visit us in the atrium now!**

## Sports News – Football Results

### Year 7

27th Jan—Lealands **3**—Lea Manor **2**

2nd Feb—Lealands **1**—Cardinal Newman **1**

4th Feb— Lealands **9**—Icknield **0**

9th Feb— Lealands **8**—Barnfield South **2**

25th Feb—Lealands **6**—Manshead **3 (Cup)**

### Year 9

27th Jan—Lealands **1**—Barnfield South—**10**

### Year 11

4th Feb— Lealands **6**—Challney **0 (Cup)**

### Year 8

21st Jan—Lealands **5**—Putteridge **0**

26th Jan—Lealands **3**—Ashcroft **1**

28th Jan—Lealands **7**—Barnfield South—**1**

**Year 10—Matches to be played within the next term**

## Football District Cup

Congratulations to the Year 8 football team who recently won the football district cup by beating Icknield High School 2-1.

Team: Mitchel Brewer, Theodore McPherson, Josiah Ramsay, Riley Towers, Tra Lucas, Ellis Brown, Jaheim Bakinson, Yaqub Ali, Kanu Gudza, Kacper Kurylowicz, Menelik Agu-Lionel, Anesu Dyrakumunda, Oskar Patrzalek, Devante King and Serhan Dogruer



# Sports News

## Year 7 Netball

Congratulations to the Year 7 Netball team who won the Luton Schools Netball competition on the 24th Feb.

The girls beat Ashcroft 12-0, Lea Manor 8-0, Stopsley 7-0 and Stockwood 6-0 to win the competition. They will now be representing Lealands at the County Tournament on Thursday 10th March.



## Trampolining Competitions

Lealands recently held the Luton Schools Trampolining Competition, in which Shannon Mongey, Year 8, and Tia Ebony-Travers, Year 11, both placed 2nd in their year groups. Congratulations girls!

# Student Voice

During Student Voice, we present our views on various subjects pertaining to the requirements of academics, sports, creative pursuits, behaviour and even facilities.

In my opinion, Student Voice meetings are busy but also fun and interesting. We go over both the positives and negatives of the term and representatives of each tutor group share and discuss things which they believe should be improved and/or added.

Last term many positive things were acknowledged, such as;

Timetables- having mixed groups rather than tutor groups allows and encourages students to step out of their comfort zone and make new friends.

Facilities- All are pleased with the facilities offered by the school, particularly the new PE equipment and the noodle bar.

Positive Roles- The introduction of leadership opportunities in Year 9 has been seen as motivational, with many hoping to be selected. The Peer Mentor Scheme is having a huge impact and Year 9 students are enjoying working with their younger peers.

Tutor Charities- Many are enjoying the inter-form attendance and achievement competitions mainly because they have chosen a charity and all winnings go towards it but also as they believe raising awareness is beneficial.

Learning- Having new and different teachers this year has proved beneficial to students as new strategies are being used and independent learning is being promoted. Students also feel that tutors are calmer and more relaxed.

Clubs- Many new clubs are being introduced such as The Card Club which many students enjoy and others such as STEM are being taken seriously by those who attend.

Using Blue Sky Thinking - many ideas were suggested such as a Year 9 Newspaper, An anti-bullying team (run by students for students) and several new club ideas including Photography and Gardening/Allotment.

Overall, I believe that Student Voice is a great experience for all who take part. It contains many great accomplishments and it is both a privilege and an honour to be able to help my school improve.

**By Nevada Claxton, Year 9**



# Sky Sports Day

On Wednesday 3rd February, a group of Year 8 students were chosen to take part in a Sky Sports Living for Sports programme. This is a free initiative open to UK & Ireland secondary schools that uses sports stars and skills learnt through sport to build confidence and develop life skills.



“When I first came to the programme I met the Sky Sports mentor, Lesley Owusu, whose story is amazing. In the few hours we were there, Lesley taught us many life lessons and things to live by. One of which was that being an athlete wasn’t about being strong but also about having a strong mind and that being organised is key. Lesley told us that when she was at school, her brother realised she was a lot faster than the other girls. If her brother hadn’t paid attention to this Lesley wouldn’t be where she is today.

Lesley also gave an inspirational assembly to our Year 9 students. She will be returning to Lealands in May and this time she will be spending the entire day with us. We are really looking forward to seeing her again”.

**By Nea Morris, Year 8**

# Winter Games

In December some of our best sports leaders participated on a course in social media at Bedfordshire University. To complete the course and gain their qualification they were tasked with covering the Winter School Games event at Inspire Sports Village on Friday 4th March. They did a fantastic job and received glowing reports from all the organisers.



**Congratulations: Anais Justin, Ashley Keenan, Charlie Nelson, Karim Latchman, Shekinah Kama, Faith Douglas, Clare Frost, Leah Davies and Chris Tamina.**

## Two of our Sports Leaders reported on the event:

The Luton and Bedfordshire opening ceremony of the Sainsbury's Winter School Games 2016 kicked off with a bang with an amazing performance of "Girl On Fire" by Melissa Norwood to promote the sporting campaign, This Girl Can.



Representatives from schools across the county crowded in the sports hall at inspire to witness the inspiring display of performers and to listen to the sport attributes of the school games. School flag bearers entered the room and went up on stage to show off all the qualities a good sportsman has. Elliott Browne, the guest

speaker of the event, then went up onto the main stage. Elliot is a gymnast from Luton that has recently been accepted into the team GB national squad. He went up in front of the crowd along with two sports ambassadors from Lealands High School to ask Elliott general questions of his life and recent gymnastic events. But despite the talk of his 2014 world champion title the highlight for me was the comment of his strict diet not consisting of too many "crème eggs".

To complete an already brilliant opening ceremony we then had a jaw dropping acrobatic gymnastic routine performed amazingly by Ianais and Tasha. As well as this a special dance treat was also supplied to us by the amazing dancers of Hillsborough School. They didn't disappoint and wowed us all with their quickstep feet. As a finale to the excitement Elliott then did a ten second countdown for the official start of the school games. "Let the games begin".

Throughout the day many swimming races were held for Years 7,8,9 and 10. They



## Winter Games

consisted of breast stroke, back stroke, butterfly, front crawl and medley (all four). All of the competitors looked like they were having a really enjoyable time and looks of determination were evident. Despite the competition, it was lovely to see everyone cheering on their team mates in races and even fellow swimmers.

In the sports hall, a range of athletics activities took place throughout the day. The schools that took part were: Pirton Hill Primary, Hazeldene Lower, Haynes Lower, Greenleas St Leonards, Lawnside Lower, Hillsborough Lower and Riceley Lower. All schools seemed to have enjoyed themselves and everyone got involved. The races were action-packed and all competitors did extremely well. There were many different obstacles, which really challenged the children and opened them up to new tasks. Despite how young the competitors were, their level of team work was outstanding! To add extra excitement, the school teachers got to take part and compete against each other as a friendly. This filled the students with adrenaline and got them cheering on their teachers.

Another sport that was hosted at Inspire on the day, was table cricket. The game is based on cricket, as the ball is served and hit with a bat to various parts of the table to gain points. It seems quite easy but it is very challenging and fun. The participants ages were mixed between Key Stage 2 and 3 and started at 11:45am. The students taking part showed great attitude towards the event and I can assure you they enjoyed it thoroughly. It was quite competitive and interesting. The feedback received was great with no criticism. A huge well done to all who participated.

Also hosted at Inspire was Boccia. Boccia is a game similar to curling. The objective is to get as close to the white ball as possible. The game is played seated with two teams (Red & Blue). The participants ages were mixed between Key Stage 2 and 3 and the players did their best. Overall it was a great event and the feedback was positive. The School Games values were worn with pride and stood out during the sport.

Overall, this event was huge and majorly important amongst Bedfordshire. The V.I.P guests seemed to have enjoyed it also. The Mayor of Luton had been interviewed by two



# Winter Games

Sports Leaders and had said that it was lovely to see the amount of local talent being shown in many different ways. It was certainly a day where everyone who took part and experienced it shall never forget. Roll on the next school games!

**By Anais Justin, Year 9**



Representatives from different schools across Luton & Bedfordshire crowded into the Inspire sports hall to witness the opening ceremony.

The mixed ages of people were welcomed by the beautiful singing voice of Melissa Norwood.

The ceremony then continued with some of the inspiring students of Luton & Bedfordshire showing off their team flags and telling us their meanings. We had the teams Passion, Respect, Self-belief, Honesty, Determination and Teamwork. We were then entertained by a few performances, one of which was by two fantastic gymnastic regional winners Natasha Wollis and Lanay they were amazing. Then Hilborough Primary School performed a delightful dance piece. Elliot Browne was interviewed by Anais and Clare. He gave all teams a good motivational speech and the School Games began!

At venue 360, Handball and Rowing were taking place. Different schools were competing against each other in these two sports. Both competitions were very intense. Handball was very interesting and very competitive and the girls and boys were enjoying themselves. The scores were very close between the schools and everyone was pushing really hard and trying their hardest and staying positive. Everyone was very supportive towards their team mates and they had good sportsmanship. A girl called Emily said "It doesn't matter if we win or loose its all about the fun we have as a team". And she was absolutely right. Rowing was a very exciting sport you could see all the hard work everyone was putting in, it was impressive. The support they showed one another was really good. Giving out medals to the children that were rowing was an excellent experience we congratulated everyone who took part in that sport and we had an amazing time doing it.

**By Shekinah Kama, Year 9**

# Year 10 Work Experience

## 1st February – 12th February 2016

During February, our Year 10 students took part in a two week work experience programme. This gave our students the opportunity to spend two weeks with a local business or school, learning and acquiring new skills, as well as experiencing work life first hand in their chosen field.

Our students worked in a number of organisations from well-known retail outlets to local schools and nurseries, garages and restaurants.

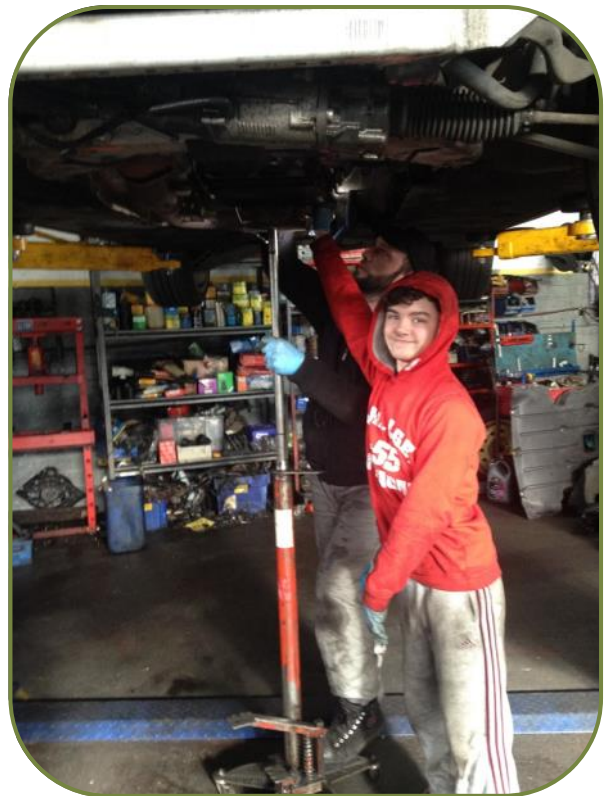
It was a great success and I would like to congratulate all our students for their hard work and commitment in completing their two week work experience.

**Mr Quddus - Work Experience Co-ordinator**

**Here are some of the accounts taken from students:**

For my work experience I wanted to work with cars and motor bikes and was given a placement to work for a local garage, Mann Auto Centre. The owner and staff at Mann Auto Centre were really helpful and they gave me a lot of advice on how to run and manage a garage workshop.

My working hours were from 9am till 5pm and during my two weeks I learnt a lot about mechanical engineering such as re-mapping an ECU which powers a car's engine as well as repairing and rebuilding various engines. My role was very practical and I really got my hands dirty changing oil filters and working on a greasy bike repairing its chain which runs and operates the back wheel.



I really enjoyed working at the garage and it has made me realise that I love working with cars and bikes and one day hope to be a qualified mechanic.

**Sam 105PR**

**Mann Auto Centre**



# Year 10 Work Experience

## 1st February – 12th February 2016

For my work experience I was placed at Bramingham Primary School for two weeks from 8.30am-3.30pm.

I worked with a variety of children from all different backgrounds and ethnic groups including pupils with disabilities.

My duties included supervising the children at all times making sure they were safe and happy. I took part in a variety of support roles such as one to one reading and report writing and also with outdoor activities such as PE.

The staff at Bramingham Primary School were very supportive and they were always around to help. They made me feel very welcome and treated me like a member of staff.

I thoroughly enjoyed my two weeks and would be happy to go back and help.

**Joash Roberts, 102HH**

**Bramingham Primary School**

For my work experience I wanted to work in catering and was given the opportunity to spend two weeks at the lounge café located inside Stopsley Baptist Church.

My work experience went really well and I learnt a lot about the catering industry; especially about running your own restaurant.

My responsibilities varied each day and during the two weeks I helped serve customers, prepare lunches, set tables and help the kitchen staff.

I got the chance to prepare starters, such as soups as well as help with main courses such as salads and crepes and also helped prepare and cut vegetables.

Overall it was an excellent experience and I recommend the lounge cafe to anyone who is interested in working for the catering industry.

**Joshua Ephgrave, 104CR**

**Stopsley Baptiste Church**



# Year 10 Work Experience

## 1st February – 12th February 2016

For my two weeks work experience I worked at a garage in town called Pitstop Motors.

My working hours were from 9am till 3pm and the staff were really friendly, making me feel like a part of their team. On my first day I was given a tour of the garage and was provided with gloves, overalls and steel capped boots to meet with the health and safety laws.

During my two weeks I learnt a lot about fixing and servicing cars.

My role was hands on and very practical as I had to change tyres, fit exhausts pipes, change oil filters and replace brake discs and pads.

I really enjoyed my work placement and I gained a lot of sound advice on how to start and manage a business.

**Hamid Khan, 106NM**

**Pit-Stop Motors**

For my work experience I wanted to work in fashion and was given the opportunity to spend two weeks at the retail outlet Blue Inc. located at the Mall.

I was really nervous at first, as I had to arrange my own interview but once I had my interview with the manager Tracey I was really excited to start work. I found the staff really friendly and always willing to help if I was stuck or needed anything.

For the two weeks, I did a variety of jobs including meeting and greeting customers at the front of the store, helping with sales, answering queries, stock taking and helping monitor the fitting rooms. I was also responsible for making sure the shop floor was tidy, before it opened to the public every morning.

I really enjoyed my work experience as I learnt so much about how a business runs and makes a profit and the importance of customer service.

I would recommend Blue Inc. to anyone who wants to learn about working in retail fashion and sales.

**Ashley Jongwe, 102HH**

**Blue Inc.**

# Year 10 Work Experience

## 1st February – 12th February 2016

For my two weeks work experience, I worked at Costa, the coffee shop chain at the Mall in town.

I was really nervous on my first day as I didn't know what to expect but at the same time I was excited because Costa is a very popular coffee shop



Once I started my placement and completed my induction I felt comfortable as the staff were really friendly and made me feel very welcome.

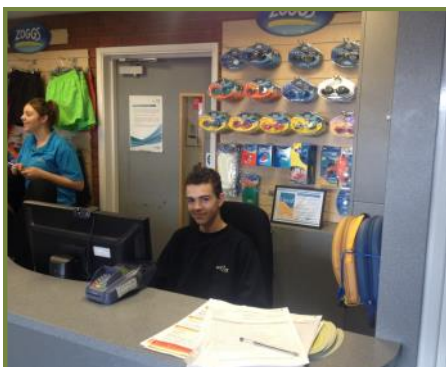
My working hours were from 9am till 3pm and I was responsible for serving customers, making sure sandwiches and panini's were grilled and served on time as well as helping out in the kitchen.

I was trained on the till and also shown how to make a variety of hot and cold drinks such as Mochas, Cappuccinos and Coolers. During quiet periods I had the chance to shadow experienced staff at the front of the café. I really enjoyed my time at Costa, and the experience helped me raise my confidence working in a fast paced environment as well as understanding the importance to work hard in- order to achieve a career which is enjoyable and rewarding.

**Astier, 103SD**

**Costa Coffee**

*More photos from the Year 10 work experience.*





# Year 10 Work Experience – Photos





# Work Experience References

Following the two weeks work experience, here are some of the references we received back from the employers.

*"We had the pleasure of working with Nabiha for the last 2 weeks. She is a very willing worker, everything you ask her to do she does. We have enjoyed working with her."* **Alicia Nursing Home**

*"We really enjoyed having Jade in our class. The children adored her and she was very hard working and happy to undertake any task given to her. She would be an asset to any working environment and I wish her luck for the future."* **Southfield Primary School.**

*"It has been a real pleasure having Weronika working with us, she has fitted in well with all the staff and she will be missed. She is always willing to help and has achieved all the tasks asked of her. I wish her well for the future".* **Keech Hospice Care.**

*"Joash has been nothing short of a pleasure to work with. He is extremely personable, pleasant and polite. Joash has shown himself to be a mature, responsible and courteous young man who holds himself to exacting standards. I feel that Joash's natural interest in learning, drive and sunny disposition will serve him well in life. I'm sure he will find success in whatever he decides to turn his hand to".* **Bramingham Primary School.**

*"Tasmia has worked really well with the children. She has followed the routine using her own initiative and followed all the policies and procedures. She is a great member of staff to work with. The children have enjoyed playing with Tasmia, she has interacted really well with them".* **Leo Cubs Nursery.**

*"Samantha has had a very positive placement. She has acted on all instructions and used her initiative. She became a valued support in the classroom and shall be missed".* **Pirton Hill Primary School.**



# Literacy Week and World Book Day

Monday 29th February - Friday 4th March was Literacy Week here at Lealands, which included World Book Day on Thursday 3rd March.

The purpose of the week was to promote the importance of literacy across the curriculum so that students understand that basic literacy skills are essential in all lessons and not just in English.

The week included an inspiring visit from local author, Stephen Kelman, who presented his books and his experiences of being an author to students throughout the day. (See the full report from his visit on page 24)

To encourage and inspire the students to continue to read for pleasure, they participated in a number of events and reading based activities. Assemblies and all Key Stage 3 lessons across the curriculum had a Sherlock Holmes inspired focus.

In science, art and technology, students were learning about fingerprinting and analysing footprints. In history, students learnt about Victorian London and in geography, students were looking at maps of Whitechapel in London.

During lunchtimes, Year 9 students were running a 'Book Swap' in the atrium. It offered the opportunity for students to swap books they either didn't like or had finished reading with a different one.

On the final day of Literacy Week, staff and students came to school dressed as their favourite book characters. It was great to see everyone make such a fantastic effort with their costumes and many prizes are due to be given





# Literacy Week and World Book Day

out in rewards assemblies at the end of term to congratulate students on the fantastic effort they put in during the week across the whole of curriculum.

**Well done Lealands High School!**





# Literacy Week and World Book Day





# Literacy Week – Author Visit



As part of Literacy Week and World Book Day, Lealands was delighted to welcome local children's author Stephen Kelman to host workshops and an assembly about his job as a writer.

Stephen was brought up locally, in Marsh Farm, Luton. He used his experience of growing up on an estate when writing his first book,

'Pigeon English'. This is a story about Harrison Opoku, an 11 year old Ghanaian immigrant caught up in gang warfare on a south London estate. Stephen had wanted to be a writer from a very young age and the shocking murder of Damilola Taylor in 2000, made him question the motive for one child killing another. This was the inspiration for his first book 'Pigeon English' and main character, Harri Opoku, whose life is changed forever when one of his friends is murdered.

As well as talking about his books, Stephen provided tips to the students about how to pen a successful piece of writing and how best to gain inspiration for a story.

Stephen held question and answer sessions throughout the day in Lealands' well-equipped Learning Resource Centre. He also kindly agreed to be involved in a recorded interview by Year 11 students, Rudo and Naa, as part of the upcoming BBC School Report event. At the end of the day he signed copies of his books for the students.





# Rotary Technology Tournament

On Friday 4th March, schools and colleges from around Bedfordshire came together to take part in the annual Rotary Technology Tournament.

The competition overall was rather challenging. It was unlike any challenge we have experienced before and with limited resources created a serious roadblock.

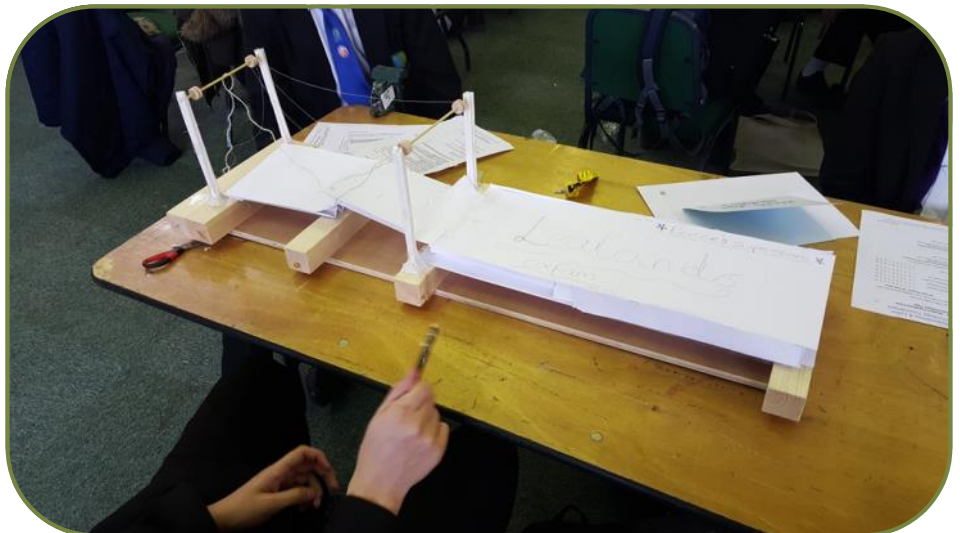
We began by reading over the brief and giving people various jobs. We worked on the portfolio (which was due in at midday) and initial ideas. I had the concept of a weighted pulley system, however, we ended up going for a more traditional pulley method. We all agreed that this was an enjoyable day and would like to compete again next year.

**Ethan Ruko, Year 10**



The day was really fun. We had limited time to get focused and ready for the day's challenge but we worked well as a team to complete the task. We had to design and make a bridge. We had to start with the brief and the portfolio which was done by Ethan. The construction of the bridge was the hardest part of the day even though we lost, it was worth it. The pulley system was our bridge's best feature.

**Harry Stewart, Year 10**



# Leadership Opportunities

**Aspire**

**Believe**

**Achieve**



**Lealands**  
High School

## What opportunities are there for you to be leaders at Lealands?

- Sports Captains
- Sports Council
- Student Voice
- Student Leaders (Year 10/11)
- History Leaders
- Literacy Leaders
- E-Safety Ambassadors
- Dance leaders
- Maths Leaders
- Language Leaders
- The Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Reading Mentors
- Peer Mentors
- Classroom Leaders
- Thinking Leaders
- Library Leaders
- Science Leaders
- Art Leaders

**Speak to a member of staff for more details!**

Do you want to take on some extra leadership responsibilities within school? Collect a RICC card from Miss Bews and complete 10 hours of voluntary leadership in the communication section and you will qualify to become a leader. Voluntary leadership can take place at break, lunch, after school or even out of school in the evenings or weekends - just get a member of staff to sign!

Initiative			Communication		

**RICC Card**



# Leadership Opportunities

Over the past 10 weeks, 20 Year 8 boys have been taking part in a leadership programme called the 'More Than a Goal' project funded by BBC Children in Need and run in conjunction with Luton Town Football Club.

The football programme reflected on the values that are required in the sport and the qualities professional footballers need to be successful. Students were then able to link these qualities and values to school life and more specifically, being successful within their lessons in school.

During the programme, students were visited by Keshi Anderson, a professional footballer for Crystal Palace Football Club and the programme ended with a stadium tour of Kenilworth Road, home of Luton Town Football Club. The boys really enjoyed the project and are now applying some of these qualities and values learnt such as 'respect', 'hard work' and 'determination' within class.

**The boys who took part in the project are listed below:**

**Zain Azeem, Kacper Kozlowski, Christian Mbang, Jay McQuaile, Adeel Said, Alex Barbour, Leon Chapman, Rio Drew, Michael Yekwe, Yaqub Ali, Sean Hymus, Mohammed Adam, Khallil Muca, Charlie Jones, Deandre Simms, Joshua Ogden, Jaheim Smith.**





Hi everyone,

I want to tell you about my new voluntary role for a brilliant charity called CoppaFeel! In December 2014 I was diagnosed with stage 2 Breast Cancer at the age of 30. This came as a huge shock as I didn't feel unwell and I never expected that I could get breast cancer at such a young age. I was off school for most of 2015 while I underwent treatment which included operations, chemotherapy, radiotherapy and endless hospital visits. I didn't lose all my hair when I went through chemotherapy because I wore a cold cap. It freezes your head while they administer the chemo drugs. I



had to wear the cap for about three hours at each chemo session and it was so cold that when I took the cap off there would be ice on my head! It was definitely a challenge to keep it on but I was determined not to lose my hair. My treatment finished in September 2015 and I returned to work at Lealands a month later. I really missed school when I was off but it was too risky to work while having treatment because my immune system was too weak. Getting through the treatment was very challenging but I had a great medical team looking after me and lots of support from friends and family. Thankfully, I am in remission from Breast Cancer now and on medication to hopefully stop it ever coming back.

I think I was very unlucky to get Breast Cancer at such a young age but it is a very



common illness. Did you know that 1 in 8 women in the UK get Breast Cancer in their lifetime? Did you know that Breast Cancer can also affect men? Around 400 men are diagnosed each year in the UK. Breast Cancer is very treatable but it is very important that it is caught early.

When I first went to my GP I was sent away as he didn't think it could be Breast Cancer due to my age and a lack of family history. Luckily I went back for a second opinion! It is important to remember that lots of breast lumps are not cancerous but it's best to be safe than sorry and always get checked out.

CoppaFeel! was set up in 2009 by a lady called Kris Hallenga after she was diagnosed with secondary breast cancer (stage 4) at age 23. Secondary breast cancer means it has spread beyond the breast and is incurable. CoppaFeel! exists to:

- Encourage people to check their boobs/pecs regularly
- Educate people on the signs and symptoms of breast cancer

- Empower young people to go to the Doctors if they notice any abnormal change.

My role as a Boobette will involve me sharing my story and giving presentations in schools, youth clubs and workplaces. I am really excited to make a start and hope that by doing this I might make a difference to someone who is diagnosed with Breast Cancer in the future.

If you have any questions about CoppaFeel! please ask me or go to [CoppaFeel.org](http://CoppaFeel.org) for more information. CoppaFeel! offer a text reminder service to help you to remember to check yourself each month. All you have to do is text 'Boobettes' to 70300. Your first text is charged at the standard network rate but then it is free after that.

**Miss Feane - Reengagement Coordinator.**

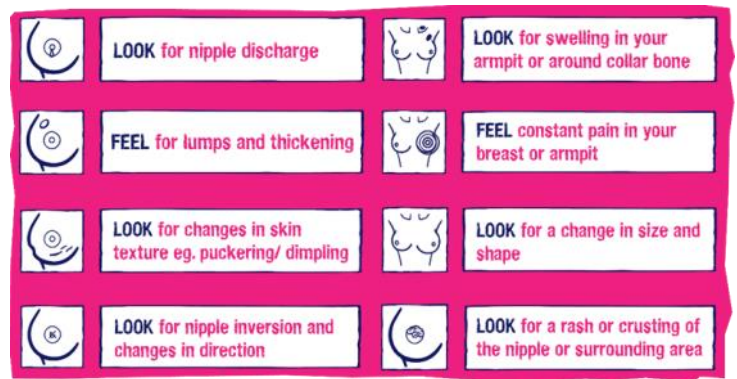
## Year 8 Girls Assembly

Year 8 girls, Lauren, Charlina, Kelsie-Ella and Samantha delivered a fantastic assembly to their peers on Tuesday 23rd February. The girls have all taken part in group sessions with Reengagement which focused on raising self esteem, building confidence, aspirations and communication. When the group sessions finished, they came up with the idea of an assembly so that they could share what they learnt with their year group. It's hard to cram the content of six sessions into fifteen minutes so they came up with 5 key messages:

- (1) Be kind to yourself
- (2) Accept yourself for who you are and how you look
- (3) Never share an inappropriate image of yourself on social media
- (4) Make your own decisions
- (5) Dream big!

The girls did exceptionally well and I think getting up in front of the rest of Year 8 demonstrates how they've grown in confidence.

**Great work! Well done girls!**



**Text 'Boobettes' to 70300**



# Coca-Cola Trip – Tuesday 1st March



Year 10 Business and Computing students visited Coca Cola Enterprises in Milton Keynes. The purpose of the visit was to learn more about how Coca Cola Enterprises use technology in their production methods and to gain an insight into their business strategies and methods. The students took a tour of the factory production line and watched the entire process of Relentless being made, from the cans arriving to the washing, filling, turning, coding and packaging. This is just one of the many products made at the Milton Keynes site.

## **Student comments;**

**Josh Ephgrave** - It was very interesting to see inside of the factory and see how my favourite drinks are produced and packaged. It was also quite surprising to find out that only 235 people were employed there and that they fill between 100-150 cans every 10 seconds. It was also very interesting to find out how they turned a small plastic tube into a plastic bottle in 0.3 seconds.

**Rami Bader** - The trip was very unique and different than anything I have seen. I was surprised when they said only 235 (50 per shift) employees work in the factory. It is beyond my imagination how a small test tube looking bottle could enlarge into a big bottle in 0.3 seconds. I was shocked when I heard 48 million cases are made every year and no waste is sent to landfills (all the waste is recycled). I enjoyed getting free drinks!

**Tashin Uddin** - This trip was extremely exciting and it was very interesting. It was very educational and allowed us an insight to how you manage a company, the different roles and different qualifications needed for different jobs and apprenticeships. I learnt that in order to do an engineering apprenticeship the minimum requirement was an English, Maths, Science and ICT GCSE which was not something that I had anticipated. Inside there was a lot of machinery at work which produced a great deal of noise and as a result we had to wear headphones in order to protect our ears and be able to hear our tour guide. We were also given historic facts about the company and about how many cans they made in an hour; 210,000 cans which astonished us. The history of Coca Cola was captivating and grabbed our attention. It was a good trip and I would recommend it to people who have picked Business or ICT as their option.

**Jade Murray** - At the end of the trip I noticed that at the exit there was a tree that was in the shape of a coke bottle, which I thought was pretty cool, this could have been a way of them advertising.



**Angelina Lin** - The trip to the MK Cola Cola Enterprise was an eye opening experience. As we entered the factory we instantly were hit with the strong smell of syrup. Seeing the factory and production lines in person is quite interesting, especially witnessing all of the different machines at work. Also, being told about the history of Coca Cola is interesting and finding out that it was originally intended to be a medicine for treating headaches! Coca Cola also owns other big brands like Capri-sun and smart water. Overall, I learnt a lot from the experience. However, the one problem I had was not getting FREE Coke!!!

**Harry Baker** - I loved the trip because we were able to discover the different qualifications and jobs available. We were given an interesting tour around the machinery used to produce the magnificent liquors (Relentless) and we were told historic facts that sparked our minds. Overall, it offered information that was educational towards maths, I.C.T., business studies and science. We were given an insight into some of the qualifications that they had available, giving us the salary and courses that would need to be undertaken. I was not anticipating the intense intellectual facts provided. We were even offered drinks, yum! Fortunately, the trip was intriguing and captivated our attention. I would recommend this trip to students who are looking for somewhere to start working on engineering, biology, business and I.C.T.



## Maths Challenge

On Thursday the 4th of February, selected students from Year 9 and Year 11 took part in the Intermediate Maths Challenge organised by the UK Mathematics Trust. The Intermediate Maths Challenge is a lively, intriguing multiple choice question paper which is designed to stimulate and challenge pupils.

Well done to all the students who took part. The following students were in the top 40% of results nationally and will receive certificates:

**Best in School Certificate and Gold Certificate:** Abisha Tharmaseelan

**Best in Year 9 and Silver Certificate:** Kisima Janneh

**Bronze Certificate:** Naa Ntodi, Matthew Fitzgerald, Samuel Ojo, Daniel Melly, Georgia May, Hannah Parker, Shania Mohit, Melissa Walker, Muhammed Majeed, Yasmine Karaboga

**Have a go at the following question from the 2016 paper:**

How many of these five expressions give answers which are *not* prime numbers?

$$1^2 + 2^2$$

$$2^2 + 3^2$$

$$3^2 + 4^2$$

$$4^2 + 5^2$$

$$5^2 + 6^2$$

A 0

B 1

C 2

D 3

E 4

## BBC School Report



On Thursday 10th March, students swapped the classroom for a media studio for the day to take part in the BBC School Report day.

Budding journalists, editors and reporters spent the whole day learning about: researching, investigation and gathering news stories; writing scripts; filming; editing and broadcasting.

To watch the completed broadcast, visit our dedicated BBC School Report website page, under the 'News & Events' tab on our website. [www.lealands.luton.sch.uk](http://www.lealands.luton.sch.uk)





## Dance Workshop

On Friday 19th February, Excelling and Aspiring dance students in Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 were fortunate enough to go to Aylesbury Waterside Theatre to take part in a private dance workshop with a member of Rambert Dance Company.

Rambert, also known as Ballet Rambert, is a leading British contemporary dance company. They have recently toured across the UK, and we were lucky enough to be taught some new techniques and small routines by a member of this dance company on the stage of the theatre! The lady who ran the workshop was very friendly, helpful, and full of energy, which made the class much more fun and enjoyable.

During the workshop, we learned different foot and body coordination exercises, sections of some contemporary dance routines, and we also turned a painting by Picasso called "The Three Dancers" into a small dance in groups of three, without letting go of each other's hands throughout the piece. As a result of taking part, we were invited to visit Rambert's base in London!

After the 2 hour workshop, we returned to school, and turned some of the things in which we learned at the workshop, into a dance piece for the dance show in just an hour.

All of the students had a great time, and we are very grateful that we were able to have this opportunity.

**By Anais Justin, Year 9**





# 'An Evening of Dance' 2016

On Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th March, over sixty of our students from Years 7 - 11 performed in our annual dance show, 'An Evening of Dance' 2016.

Lealands' performers were joined by the Next Generation Youth Theatre and Pirton Hill Primary School to perform to two packed out audiences.

On Tuesday 8th March, the students also performed to children from the local primary schools. The children were extremely entertained by what they were watching and it was a pleasure to perform to such an enthusiastic, well behaved audience.

Every year our show gets bigger and better and this year the show had more performers than ever before. There were 23 different pieces of dance all varying in music and style. Each piece had been put together and choreographed by the students themselves.

The work had been created during lessons and as part of our extra-curricular programme. The performers and students who operated backstage were all excellent and we thank them for their hard work and dedication in making this year's show another overwhelming success.





# 'An Evening of Dance' 2016





***Aspire***

***Believe***

***Achieve***

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