

# Lealands News

School Newsletter | December 2019



In this issue....



Lealands  
High School

...Notices, News & Updates,  
Sports Results,  
Presentation Evening, Blue Peris...

...Plus much more

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# In This Issue....

| Contents                                  | Page  |
|---|-------|
| Introduction from Headteacher Mr Burridge | 3-4   |
| Dates for your Diary                      | 5     |
| Value of the Month                        | 6     |
| School Notices                            | 7-13  |
| Sports Results & Updates                  | 14-17 |
| Mrs McMahon Retires                       | 17    |
| Lealands' Open Evening                    | 18-19 |
| Presentation Evening                      | 20-21 |
| Macmillan Bake Sale                       | 22    |
| Lealands Remembers                        | 23    |
| STEM at Lealands                          | 24-25 |
| Anne Frank Exhibition                     | 26-27 |
| Blue Peris 2019                           | 28-29 |
| Duke of Edinburgh                         | 30    |
| Fire Forward Project                      | 31    |
| Accelerated Reader Update                 | 32-33 |
| Christmas Concert                         | 34-35 |
| Donate A Prom Dress                       | 36    |
| Do You Want To Build A Snowman?           | 37    |
| Climb                                     | 38    |
| Sixth Form & College Open Days            | 39    |

# Introduction from Headteacher Mr Burridge

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Dear Parent/Carer,

I have just watched our annual Christmas Concert and I am sure that those of you who saw it will agree that our students again excelled themselves. This really got us in the festive spirit and the professionalism, talent and confidence displayed by all the performers was fantastic. We are all looking forward to the production of Beauty and The Beast next year and I hope many of you will join us support the students and experience what will be a wonderful performance. We also enjoyed some wonderful feedback from Parklea

Primary school, whose pupils got to see a special matinee performance.

You will see that we have been continuing on our journey up the mountain of success and this has included another mountain trip experience this term to Blue Peris, where some of Year 9 students had an excellent and challenging experience learning to push themselves and work as a team.

As we continue to extend learning and the experiences our students have to develop as citizens to be proud of, we were very pleased to again host the Anne Frank Exhibition. The messages that Anne's story brings to our students is powerful and moving as well as being so relevant today. We are fortunate to live and work in a diverse and multicultural area and it is so important that we all appreciate and value this fully.

Another highlight of the term was our annual Presentation Evening. This is where excellence is celebrated and acknowledged. Students from all year groups receive prizes and awards for each subject and their progress in school. The top awards go to our recently left Year 11 students and it is always a joy to see them return to receive these and tell us all about what they have been doing since leaving the school.

Our focus for teaching this term has been on supporting students to fully engage through questioning and the use of techniques for remembering key knowledge and information. All staff received training in November on how best to use our brains to learn and retain knowledge and information. Our Year 11 students will be receiving the same training early in the New Year to support them with revision for their upcoming GCSEs. I am very pleased with how our Year 11 students have been working and the effort they have put in to their recent mock examinations. We are looking forward to their results in the Summer.

You may be aware that we saw a significant drop in some of the headline figures for our

# Introduction from Headteacher Mr Burridge

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results this year. I would like to assure everyone that there were some very specific reasons for this and we had anticipated it. The government's measures do not well match what we believe to be right for our students which means that our Progress8 score is lower than others'. There were also a number of cohort specific issues which contributed to lower results than the school would usually expect. We have been working with the Local Authority as well as Teaching and Research Schools in the area to ensure that our students are getting the best possible academic outcomes. As a result, we are confident that our teaching is very good overall and our results this year will reflect the high quality experience our students get at Lealands.

This is the end of the first term for our new Year 7 students and I am very proud of how they have settled into the school and exhibit our values of respect, responsibility and excellence. I have just visited their weekly assembly and they were impeccable. Many of them are being rewarded with a pantomime trip which I do hope they thoroughly enjoy. I know the staff accompanying them are really looking forward to it.

Wishing you a happy and peaceful Christmas break.

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

# Important Dates For Your Diary

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**Christmas Dinner:** Wednesday 18th December

**End of Autumn Term:** Friday 20th December



**Staff Training Days:** Friday 3rd January and Monday 6th January 2020

**Spring Term Begins:** Tuesday 7th January 2020

**Year 9 Parents Evening:** Wednesday 15th January 2020, 4-7pm

**Year 11 Parents Evening:** Wednesday 29th January 2020, 4-7pm

**Lealands' Careers Fair:** Thursday 30th January 2020

**Year 10 Work Experience Begins:** Monday 3rd February 2020

**Year 8 DTP/Men ACWY Immunisations:** Monday 10th & Tuesday 11th February 2020

**Year 7 Parents Evening:** Wednesday 12th February 2020, 4-7pm

## Term Dates

**Spring Term:** Tuesday 7th January 2020 - Friday 3rd April 2020

**Half-Term:** Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February 2020

*Full term dates for 2019 - 2020 are available on the MyEd app or can be downloaded from our website.*

# VALUE OF THE MONTH

**December 2019**

**"Responsibility"**



**"A hero is someone who understands the responsibility that comes with freedom."**

***Bob Dylan (Songwriter)***

# School Reception Opening Hours

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THE SCHOOL RECEPTION IS OPEN FROM 8AM TO 4PM MONDAY TO THURSDAY AND 8AM TO 3.30PM ON FRIDAYS.



If you need to contact the school outside of these hours, or the reception line is busy when you call, we do have an answerphone service. Alternatively, you can email your query to **admin@lealands.luton.sch.uk**, or message us through our parent app, MyEd\*. These are checked regularly during school hours and your

message will be passed to the relevant member of staff/department and dealt with as soon as possible.

Please remember that staff will telephone to respond and email responses are not usually made other than to acknowledge receipt. This is primarily to support staff workload issues so they can focus on planning and teaching.

\*Please do not try to message the school through our social media sites as we cannot guarantee these will be dealt with effectively.

## Collecting Students

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If you are waiting to collect a student after school please ensure these arrangements are set in advance as they will need to wait outside of the school gate for collection.

To ensure students' safety, we politely ask that parents **do not** park in the visitors' parking area unless previously agreed due to safety/mobility reasons.

Students are not allowed to wait in the school reception before or after school hours due to the variety of visitors that may be in the area at any time. Again, please ensure collection times are arranged in advance for outside of the school's main gates.

There can be a lot of congestion at the start and end of the school day, causing safety issues to pedestrians, residents and other drivers.

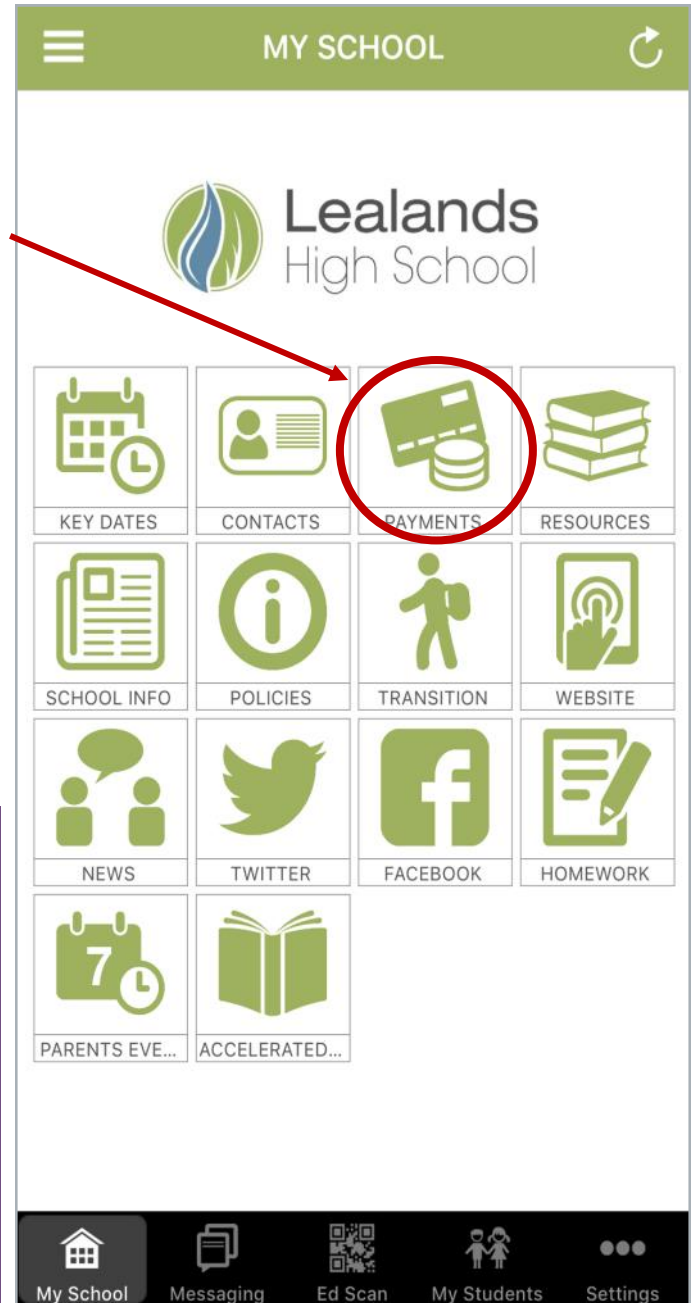
We understand that it can be difficult to find safe parking near the school, especially at peak times, but please endeavour to park and drive considerately and with due regard for the safety of others. Your support on this matter is much appreciated.

# £ £ £ Online Payments

You can pay for school dinners, trips, events, music lessons and school ties on our online payments system. This can be accessed by clicking the **PAYMENTS** button on our school app.

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.

Further details and an online payments instruction manual can be found on our website under the **'Parents' Information'** section.



**To set up online payments, you will require a link code. To get yours, contact the school Finance Office on 01582 611600 (option 2).**

**IMPORTANT REMINDER: The school is unable to provide change to students for the catering cash terminals.**

Ideally all payments should be made online and we strongly discourage students from bringing cash into school. In the instances where cash is used, please can you ensure you provide your child with the correct change before they come to school. Thank you.



# Severe Weather Procedures

Occasionally during the year, particularly in Winter, we experience spells of very bad weather (e.g. snow). During these times we will always do our very best to keep the school open. However, there may be occasions that we have to make the decision to close based on:



- the safety and wellbeing of students and staff
- the number of teachers who are able to safely travel to school to determine if we have adequate numbers of teachers to take classes
- the severity of the weather, which impacts on whether the school grounds are safe for students, teachers and visitors

In the event that the school has to close, we will always endeavour to give as much notice as possible. The school will follow these procedures to notify parents/carers:

- Update the school website - a message will appear in red running across the top of the home screen, this should be your first point of reference.
- App Message\* - parents/carers who have downloaded the MyEd App will receive a message directly to the app. \*Please ensure you have your notifications turned on on your mobile device so you are notified as soon as the message comes through.
- Text Message\* - parents/carers who have not yet downloaded the MyEd App, will receive a text message. \*Please ensure you inform us if any of your contact details change so we always have the most up to date information for you. Failure to do so may result in messages not being received.
- Social Media Updates - keep an eye on our Facebook and Twitter pages for updates.
- Inform Local Authority - The school will inform Luton Borough Council, who have a page dedicated to school closures. This can be found on their website at: <https://www.luton.gov.uk/seasonal/winter/Pages/School-closures.aspx#high>

# Important Contact Information

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It is extremely important that we have up to date contact information for all students. We may need to contact home at short notice, plus, important information is sent home via these methods and if contact details are incorrect, unfortunately, important information may not get passed on. In order to access the Epraise and MyEd systems you will need to have provided us with an up to date email address and mobile telephone number.

If there are any changes to a student's address, parental contact telephone numbers or email addresses, etc. please can you inform Mrs Lawes in the School Office as soon as possible on **01582 611600** or email [admin@lealands.luton.sch.uk](mailto:admin@lealands.luton.sch.uk).

We would also like to remind you to return your personal information forms when you receive them, even if there are no changes

Many thanks for your support.

## On Sale From The School Finance Office

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|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Lealands' Reusable Water Bottles  | £1.30 |
| School Ties   | £6.00 |
| School Lockers*<br>*Payment for lockers is not available online. Payment must be made to the Finance Office accompanied by a locker form signed by a parent/carer.<br>Locker forms can be obtained from tutors or the Finance Office. | £5.00 |

# Introducing Our Education Welfare Officer

To all parents of Year 7 students,

I am writing to introduce myself as the allocated Education Welfare Officer for Lealands High School. My name is Elaine Simpson and I can be contacted on 07769883139 – I am based at Lealands High School in student support but I work for Luton Borough Council.

My job is to promote and enforce regular and punctual school attendance for all students. The evidence is clear, the more regularly students attend school the better the results they will achieve. I monitor all students' school attendance through regular register checks. School staff and I often meet with students and parents to resolve attendance concerns before they become too serious.

Year 7 can be a difficult time for some young people and the transition from primary to high school is a big step. Whilst schools work hard to make the transition as easy as possible, some young people still struggle. Should you be experiencing any difficulties in getting your child to school, I am here to help. I have just completed my first register inspection and wanted to pass on my congratulations to all the students and parents at the great start they have made

94% of the students have maintained their attendance at 95% or above

**WELL DONE to all of you and keep it up.**

## Payment Schedules For Languages Trips

We would like to remind parents and carers whose students are visiting either Valencia or Normandy that any remaining payments are due by the following installment dates (the installments in red should have now been paid):

| Valencia                                      | Normandy                             |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| £125 Deposit                                  | £50 Deposit                          |
| £100 by Monday 25th November 2019             | £100 by Monday 25th November 2019    |
| £100 by Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2019 | £100 by Friday 20th December 2019    |
| £100 by Monday 27th January 2020              | £100 by Monday 27th January 2020     |
| £100 by Wednesday 26th February 2020          | £100 by Wednesday 26th February 2020 |
| £100 by Wednesday 25th March 2020             | £125 by Wednesday 25th March 2020    |

# Lealands' Social Media

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We encourage parents, carers and students to 'Like' our Facebook page and 'Follow' us on Twitter and Instagram. As well as posting news, updates and information about the school, we use them as a tool for communication; sometimes sending urgent alerts at short notice such as school closures due to snow.

For our pages to continue to run successfully, we require the support of all users. Please do not use social media to draw attention to specific incidents, post photos of students who are not your own or voice any concerns or grievances.

There may be times where, as a parent/carers, you don't agree with something the school is doing, or where you may have specific concerns. We welcome your feedback, and the opportunity to address any concerns you may have.

The most appropriate way to raise concerns is directly with the school, in line with our complaints procedure. Airing complaints or negative opinions on social media doesn't help the school to address the issue in the most constructive way.

We also ask that, if you become aware of a behaviour incident, or have any concerns about the behaviour of groups of students or specific students, you please raise these with the school directly.

Posting about incidents or behaviour concerns on social media limits the school's ability to conduct a full and fair investigation.

Posts and comments which are deemed to be unsuitable will be deleted, the perpetrators may be blocked and where necessary appropriate action will be taken.

We appreciate your help in providing a supportive, respectful environment for all of our students, parents and staff and hope you find our pages helpful and informative.



# Parental Communication & Engagement

At Lealands, communication with parents and carers is a key priority. Effective and live communication ensures you are continually aware about activities, events and updates on your child.

## Communication

To communicate with you we use My Ed, which is a free to download app to send you:

- important messages and updates
- send your child's/children's reports – keeping you updated on their progress

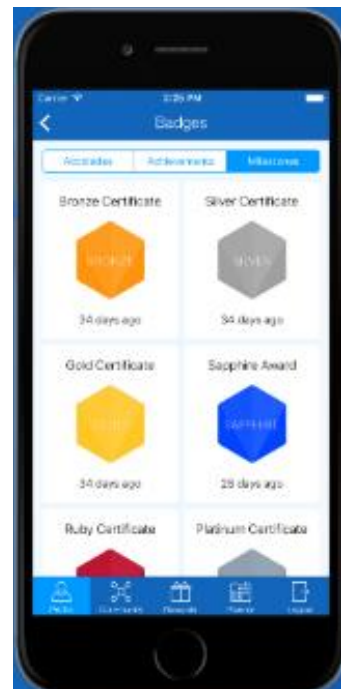
In addition to receiving information from us, you can use the free app to inform us of your child's/children's absences. You can also check on your child's attendance records and timetable and access all of the school's key dates, news updates as well as access to the Lealands High School website and social media accounts. All messages are sent via the app free of charge, enabling us to use our resources to support our students' education.



## Rewards and Achievement

To continually inform you of your child's achievements, we have recently launched a new app called Epraise. Epraise gives you the opportunity for live updates on how your child/children are getting on and helps to keep you up-to-date with what's happening at the school. As with My Ed, this is a free app you can download or register online. As soon as you have an account set up, you can view how many STEP points your child/children have been awarded, register them for clubs and activities and see what intervention sessions may be available to them. Rewards can be converted into prizes and your child can choose what gift rewards are available in the Reward Shop.

Both apps can be downloaded for free and are available for IOS and Android smartphones. In order to download the Apps , please go to the App Store or Google Play.



# Sports Results and Updates

| Year Group          | Event                           | Versus                       | Result      |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|
| Year 7 Girls        | Netball                         | Challney Girls               | Won 9 - 0   |
|                     |                                 | Icknield                     | Won 10 - 0  |
|                     |                                 | Denbigh                      | Won 17 - 0  |
|                     |                                 | Cardinal Newman              | Lost 18-1   |
|                     | Basketball                      | Denbigh                      | Won 12-8    |
|                     |                                 | Icknield                     | Won 17-8    |
|                     |                                 | Stopsley                     | Won 14-6    |
|                     |                                 | Chalk Hills                  | Lost 12-6   |
|                     |                                 | Chiltern Academy             | Lost 12-10  |
| Football            | The Marlborough Science Academy | Won 5-4                      |             |
| Football Tournament | Luton Schools                   | 1st Place                    |             |
| Year 7 Boys         | Rugby                           | Icknield                     | Lost 25 - 5 |
|                     | Rugby Tournament                | Luton Schools                | 4th Place   |
|                     | Basketball                      | Chiltern Academy             | Won 18 - 4  |
|                     |                                 | Challney Boys                | won 10 - 6  |
|                     |                                 | Cardinal Newman              | Lost        |
| Year 8 Girls        | Football                        | Cambourne Village College    | Won 3-1     |
|                     |                                 | Etonbury Academy             | Won 4-2     |
|                     | Netball                         | Challney Girls               | Won 17 - 9  |
|                     |                                 | Icknield                     | Won 21 - 1  |
|                     |                                 | Denbigh                      | Won 16 - 0  |
|                     |                                 | Cardinal Newman              | Won 14-9    |
|                     | Basketball                      | Icknield                     | Won 48-0    |
|                     |                                 | Stopsley                     | Won 41-2    |
|                     |                                 | Chalk Hills                  | Won 30-2    |
|                     |                                 | Chiltern Academy             | Won 31-2    |
| Year 8 Boys         | Football                        | Dr Challoners Grammar School | Lost 10 - 1 |

# Sports Results and Updates

|                      |                   |                              |   |
|----------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|---|
| <b>Year 9 Girls</b>  | <b>Netball</b>    | Icknield                     | Won 21 - 3                                |
|                      |                   | Cardinal Newman              | Lost 14-9                                 |
|                      |                   | Challney Girls               | Won 16-2                                  |
|                      | <b>Basketball</b> | Denbigh                      | Won 60-2                                  |
|                      |                   | Icknield                     | Won 26-10                                 |
|                      |                   | Chalk Hills                  | Won 40-0                                  |
|                      |                   | Lea Manor                    | Won 46-12                                 |
| <b>Year 9 Boys</b>   | <b>Football</b>   | Dr Challoners Grammar School | Lost 8 - 2                                |
|                      |                   | Cardinal Newman              | Lost 2 -1                                 |
| <b>Year 10 Girls</b> | <b>Football</b>   | Samuel Whitbread Academy     | Lost 12-0                                 |
| <b>Year 10 Boys</b>  | <b>Football</b>   | Marlborough                  | Won 5 - 2                                 |
|                      |                   | Manshead                     | Won 3 - 0                                 |
|                      |                   | Elthopre                     | Lost 6 - 3                                |
| <b>Year 11 Girls</b> | <b>Football</b>   | Longsands Academy            | Lost 3-0                                  |
|                      | <b>Netball</b>    | Icknield                     | Won 13 - 3                                |
|                      |                   | Cardinal Newman              | Lost 19-9                                 |
|                      | <b>Basketball</b> | Icknield                     | Won 31-14                                 |
| <b>Year 11 Boys</b>  | <b>Football</b>   | Sir John Lawes               | 5-2 win                                   |
|                      |                   | Kings Langley School         | 5-1 win                                   |
|                      |                   | Royal Docks Academy          | 8-2 win                                   |
|                      |                   | Stockwood park               | 4-0 win                                   |
|                      |                   | Cardinal Newman              | 2-2 (lost 4-3 on penalties)               |
|                      |                   | Beauchamps                   | 2-1 win (into the last 32 in the country) |

# Sports Results and Updates

Congratulations to our Year 7 girls who won the Luton schools football tournament and will now go on to represent Luton in the national competition. Well done girls, a fantastic achievement! Best of luck in the next competition.



All year groups took part in the girls' basketball finals recently and won all three games!

Year 8s won 36-6

Year 9s won 35-22

U16s won 26-22

They have all qualified for the county tournaments in January.







## Finance Officer, Mrs McMahon Retires After 26 Years!

On Tuesday 5th November, after 26 years service here at Lealands, our Finance Officer, Mrs McMahon said goodbye and began her retirement.

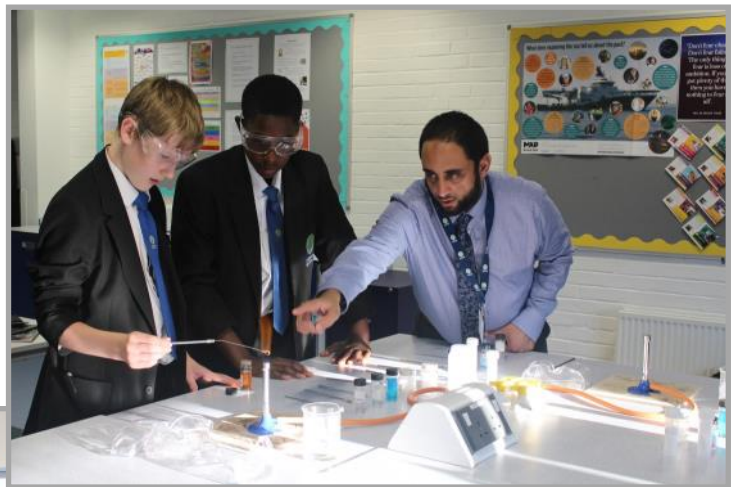
She began her career at Lealands in the school library but has been involved with the school's finances for the past 20 years. Everyone at the school will miss her immensely, but we thank her for all her hard work and dedication over the years and wish her all the very best for her next chapter. Happy Retirement!



# Lealands' Open Evening

In October, Lealands opened it's doors to Year 6 students and their families at our annual Open Evening. The school was a hive of activity, with some fantastic demonstrations of learning.

We would like to thank everybody who came and showed an interest in our school and we hope you enjoyed the evening. Thank you to our students who facilitated many of the tours and activities and to the staff for all their efforts in making the event so successful.



# Lealands' Open Evening



# Student Successes Recognised At Lealands' Presentation Evening

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The academic successes of students past and present were celebrated recently at Lealands High School's prestigious annual Presentation Evening.

Over 300 students, their families and staff, filled the decorated Sports Hall to celebrate the hard work and achievements of students from the previous academic year.

The school's mission statement 'Supporting everyone to climb the mountain to success' was fully demonstrated with students winning awards for their successes in a variety of categories, including; progress, excellence and subject commendations.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of our most prestigious awards. Thirteen successful students from the 'Class of 2019' were invited back to receive individual trophies based on their own personal successes.

Presenting the awards and inspirational guest speaker for the evening was, former student and entrepreneur Peter Wood. Peter attended Lealands between 2001 and 2006. After leaving, he began his entrepreneurial career in the area of cryptocurrency; building his own company Bitbroker which turned over 100 million within four years. He went on to create the company Coinburb, for which he is now CEO. Peter had come back to Lealands previously this year, to talk to students about their aspirations and possibilities open to them after leaving school. Lealands were excited to invite him back for this occasion.

The ceremony also included students reviewing the highlights of their year, speeches from Nicole and Nitin – last year's Head Girl and Head Boy and Saruna and Robbie – our current Head Girl and Head Boy. As always, it was a very memorable occasion and a fantastic way to celebrate how the journey through Lealands is 'worth the climb'. We would like to congratulate all of our winners and thank everybody who came and supported on the evening. **More photos are available on the Gallery page of our website.**



# Student Successes Recognised At Lealands' Presentation Evening



# Macmillan Bake Sale

On Friday, 27th September, Lealands joined the 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning', by hosting a cake sale in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support.

The cake sale; which took place during Tutor Time and Break Time; was organised by our new Year 7 students, with the help of their Head of Year, Mr Dummett and Pastoral Support Manager Miss Lawrence. A huge variety of cakes, cupcakes and biscuits were either baked or donated in preparation for the sale.

The Macmillan cake sale is an annual tradition at Lealands High School and this year the school managed to raise just under £200 for the charity. Many thanks to all who contributed, whether that be donating, baking or buying.



# Lealands Remembers

At 11am on Monday 11th November 2019, Lealands' students and staff gathered together around the school's memorial garden to observe a 2 minute silence in an act of remembrance.

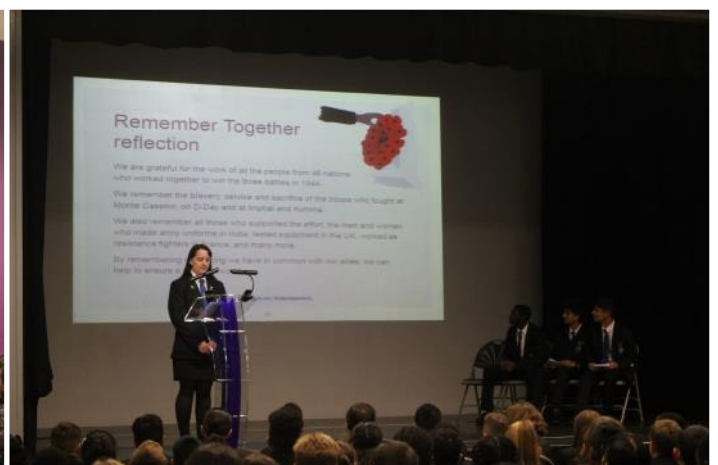
The silence was led into by Mr Patterson, playing 'The Last Post and Reveille', whilst the school community bowed their heads to remember those who have given their lives during conflict.

Following the silence, Head Girl, Saruna and Head Boy, Robbie recited a poem for Remembrance Day and headteacher, Mr Burridge, laid a poppy wreath next to the memorial tree.

One by one, a student from each tutor group laid a poppy cross in the garden next to the wreath.



During the week leading up to Remembrance Day, a group of Year 10 students delivered an excellent assembly highlighting all of the different countries who became allies to the UK during World War 2.



# STEM At Lealands

## Recent Trips

London transport museum engineering day (Year 9)

Science Museum (Year 7)

Women In Engineering At Vauxhall (Years 9/10/11)

Alton Towers- Sub-Strain Experience (Triple Science - Year 11)

Beat the Flood (Year 10)

MBDA Glider Challenge (Year 10)

### **London Transport Museum Engineering Day**

On Thursday 7th November a group of year 9 students had the opportunity to attend an Engineering day at the London Transport Museum. During the day students had the chance to interview inspiring engineers, participation in an exciting hands-on 'Braking Eggsperiment' and explore the depot. The session was also CREST accredited by the British Science Association, which meant all participating students received a CREST Discovery Award.

**Miss Cole**

**STEM coordinator**

### **Science Museum**

The trip to The Science Museum for year 7 was on Tuesday 8th October, in the museum there was a talking hologram plant and astronaut suits. There was also telephones that you put against your ear and could hear olden day movies and songs. My favorite part about the day was when we saw all





# STEM At Lealands

the cool areophanes. Also we played interesting games on the tablets and learnt what's good and bad for our bodies.

**By Kayla 72CC**

## Beat The Flood

The Beat the Flood activity day was very interesting as it enabled me to learn more about engineering and the way that buildings are constructed. Also, I learnt key life skills as I was project manager. I learnt how to lead a team and how to encourage others to participate and include everyone's ideas and utilize their strengths.

**By Hannah 105YM**

## Women In Engineering At Vauxhall



# Anne Frank Exhibition

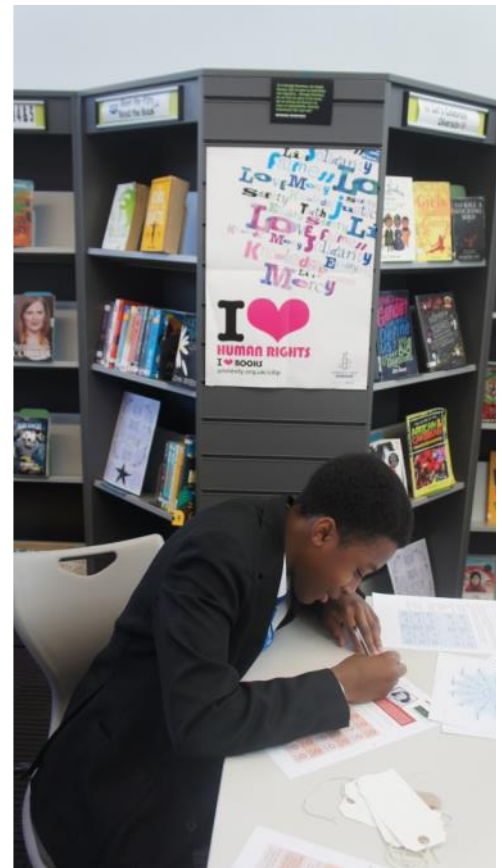
The Anne Frank Trust UK is an organisation that teaches about prejudices, discrimination and how that affects us as a generation. They explained this to us by teaching us about a girl called Anne Frank and her courageous story.

A group of Year 9 and 10 GCSE students were chosen as Anne Frank Ambassadors and then went through intense training with the Anne Frank trust. The training was for a whole day and an extra hour the next day. In training we discussed what we consider to be discrimination and some of the group were brave enough to share their own experiences. This was important, since afterwards we had the responsibility of teaching Year 7, 8 and 9 classes about Anne's story and what she went through in the Second World War. An exhibition was set up in the atrium and in pairs we took a group of students and explained our section of Anne's story. Being given this opportunity made me realise how

knowledgeable I was in this section, as I could've talked about it for ages!

The organisation gave a clear insight into the life of Anne Frank, which was then passed onto the classes we had to teach. Anne Frank's story inspired me, even though Anne was hiding and in constant fear of being caught, she still held onto her dreams of being a writer.

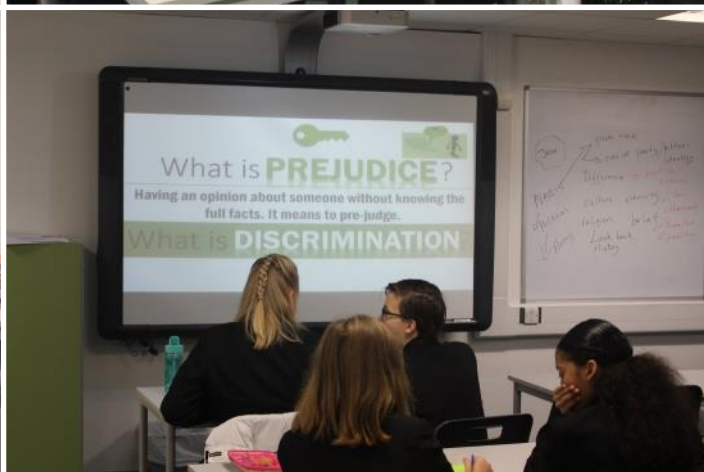
**By Dominika, Year 9**



# Anne Frank Exhibition



As a follow up to the tours of the exhibition that were kindly delivered by our students, the Anne Frank Trust came back to visit selected Year 7 and 8 classes to reflect on the exhibition and use the impact of Anne's story as an example of discrimination. We would like to thank the company and our tour guides for all of their hard work and the project was enjoyed by all involved.



# Blue Peris 2019

On Sunday 17th November, we set off to Blue Peris Mountain Centre in Snowdonia. Twenty Year 9 students, full of excitement and probably a few nerves arrived with the thrill of a week of extreme activities ahead and not a mobile phone in sight!

After unpacking and making our beds, it was off for a brisk night walk before returning for a cup of hot chocolate and a snack. Some of our students were not as keen as others to get to sleep but eventually they saw the error of their ways.

Monday morning arrived and both activity groups headed off to Anglesey to try Sea Level Traversing. The weather was amazing and we were soon forced to take off some layers and slap on the sunscreen. Late November and we were working on our tans!

Over the coming week we explored pitch black mines, abseiled, built rafts and climbed a beautiful river during our gorge walk. At the top of the gorge there was a chance to jump into an icy plunge pool. Well done to Jess, Norris, Balders and Max Trumpington, the only students brave (foolhardy) enough to face this particular

challenge. We climbed mountains (Y Garn and Tryfan), real mountains!!

And then there was The Nightline. I am not sure what really happened up there on the hill behind Blue Peris, but they say the imagination is



# Blue Peris 2019

a powerful tool. I am sure most of what the “Night Liners” thought happened was actually only taking place in their heads.....?

Saturday morning arrived to the now infamous strains of “Get Up, Stand Up” and before we knew it we were on the coach and heading back to Luton. Tired, battered and bruised but ultimately filled with a tremendous sense of pride in what we had achieved together. Lasting memories, new friends and hopefully a newfound belief that anything is possible.



# Duke of Edinburgh Awards

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On Monday 2nd December, we were very pleased to welcome Emily Cooke to Lealands. Emily is our new Regional Operations Officer and was here to deliver an assembly to Year 9 students explaining what the Duke of Edinburgh has to offer. Emily talked about why the award is internationally recognised and how it helps students to stand out to colleges and prospective employers. There was a lot of interest and with this in mind, we arranged a meeting for students and parents to explain how the award is run at Lealands and how they can get involved.

Close to 40 students and their parents attended the meeting on Monday 2nd December. Emily was here again lending her support and after giving her presentation, was happy to stay behind to answer questions and offer advice. Students and parents were sent away with the task of exploring how they will be able to complete skill, physical and volunteering sections independently, in addition to the expedition section, which is delivered and managed by Lealands.

Mr Payne and Mr Morris are excited to see what the students return with!

In other DofE news we are delighted to be able to announce that 2 more staff have committed to supporting delivery of the award at Lealands. Miss Murtagh and Mr Purdy have agreed to become group managers. They will monitor edofe, the online platform where students update evidence for the three independent sections. Miss Murtagh has also signed up to deliver the expedition training relating to all things maps and map reading. We are very grateful for their support!



# Fire Forward Project

Back in September, nine Year 8 students began working with Stephanie Godfrey, Community Safety Officer for Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service. The project was designed to enable students to be able to identify risks and control measures around road safety, fire safety, water safety and arson reduction. It also asked students to identify something about themselves that they felt positive about and also identify areas that they would like to improve.



There were lots of workshops and teambuilding activities to help develop these vital life skills. The students also developed their communication skills through idea sharing and presentation tasks.

They were also incredibly lucky to have access to the Fire Fighters based at Studley Road. Across the 9 weeks, our students worked with all 3 Watches and got to use a lot of the fantastic equipment. On the final session, they got to use the hoses and even climbed the practice tower.

There was a lot of water and some very happy “junior” Fire Fighters! Throughout the project the behaviour of the boys was exemplary and I would like to commend everyone that took part.

**Well done Arjun, Ibby, Alfie, Liam, Kasey, Kayden, Zac, Nicholas and Z’Karee.**



# Accelerated Reader Update

Thank you for monitoring your child's reading this term. We have always stressed that armed with the right book; all students should enjoy this homework and is possibly the most enjoyable homework they will ever receive! We have had exceptional results, with students battling out for the top spot. This was highlighted through the competitions that we ran. One competition was our traditional form competition (see below). In another competition, not only did we spur on our students to read, but also our staff! A few of our staff members, who are big readers, created an Accelerated Reader account to see if they can read and quiz more than our students. At the moment, we have one student beating a member of staff with a whopping 241.5 points.

## How is your form doing in the Accelerated Reader competition?

**Accelerated Reader Year 7 League Table**

| Form | Points | Ranking |
|------|--------|---------|
| 77IM | 284.7  | 4th     |
| 76ER | 230    | 5th     |
| 71MW | 229.9  | 6th     |
| 78CL | 198.7  | 7th     |
| 72CC | 164    | 8th     |

**Accelerated Reader Year 8 League Table**

| Form | Points | Ranking |
|------|--------|---------|
| 83JO | 447.2  | 1st     |
| 85SW | 415.2  | 2nd     |
| 87MB | 260    | 3rd     |

**Accelerated Reader Year 8 League Table**

| Form | Points | Ranking |
|------|--------|---------|
| 82AE | 244    | 4th     |
| 88EB | 232.8  | 5th     |
| 86DY | 229.2  | 6th     |
| 84HK | 205.2  | 7th     |
| 81KA | 167.2  | 8th     |

**Accelerated Reader Year 7 League Table**

| Form | Points | Ranking |
|------|--------|---------|
| 74NP | 504.5  | 1st     |
| 73EM | 372    | 2nd     |
| 75ZW | 326.9  | 3rd     |

We encourage all students to read 20 minutes every day to help improve their reading age. After the December break, all Year 7s and 8s will be completing another STAR test to see if



# Accelerated Reader Update

their reading age has accelerated. All targets will restart after Christmas so the battle will commence once again! Please can we ask you to continue to monitor your child's reading and to check their reading log for comments. This involvement is paramount in assuring that your child makes progress.

## Do you read more than your teacher?

**Do you read more than your teacher?**



Open to the whole school!

These members of staff all have an Accelerated Reader account and are reading and quizzing as we speak!

|  |   |   |   |  |   |
|--|---|---|---|--|---|
| <br>Miss Book Destroyer Duge<br>66.7 points | <br>Miss Savage Seaton<br>28.3 points                     | <br>Miss Fear the Feane<br>28.3 points | <br>Miss Dole-Out-the-Points Doyle<br>136.2 points | <br>Miss Read-'Em-and-Weep Weingarden<br>111.5 points | <br>Mr Word Cleaver Beaver<br>59 points  |
| <br>Ms Star Reader Starzec<br>22.9 points  | <br>Miss And-'I'm-Going-to-Win Aderbigbe<br>163.3 points | <br>Miss All-da-Books<br>111.5 points | <br>Ms Flash Gordon<br>111.5 points               | <br>Mr Terminator Taplin<br>111.5 points             | <br>Miss Lo-Mass of Points<br>59 points |

Member of staff currently in the lead...



**Miss Bookham**  
**204.6 points!**

Current students reading more than  
Miss Bookham...



**Genevieve 83JO**  
**241.5 points!**

## Are you interested in teaching?

Chiltern Training Group will be in school during the Year 11 Parents Evening on Wednesday 29th January 2020. If anyone in the local area is interested in teaching they can come and chat to them at their table.

# Christmas Concert

On Thursday 12th December, our talented students took to the stage and performed to an excited audience at our Christmas Concert. The performers have been busy over the past few weeks rehearsing and perfecting their performances for the show. They also performed a matinee concert which was enjoyed by children from local school, Parklea Primary School and members of the Sundon Park Community Trust.

The concert included a variety of singers, musicians and dancers; celebrating the talents of all Lealands students from Years 7 to 11.

We would like to congratulate the students and staff involved for a wonderful show and thank everybody who came to support them.



# Christmas Concert



# Can You Donate A Prom Dress And Help A Student Get To Their Prom?

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All Dressed Up is a not-for-profit project that gifts donated new and preloved prom dresses to school students in Herts and Beds that need them. If you have a prom dress (all sizes, in clean ready to wear condition) that you could donate, you can drop or post it to:

All Dressed Up  
c/o Mall Management - Gallery Level  
The Mall Luton  
37 The Mall  
Luton LU1 2LJ

More info at [www.alldressedup.org.uk](http://www.alldressedup.org.uk)



# Do You Want To Build A Snowman?



*'Do you want to build a snowman?'*

Ms Reason and Mrs Hale have been amazed by the response to the Year 7/8 festive season art homework. Students were challenged to stretch their skills and create a 3D snowman in any materials. Our students have been creative, inventive and environmentally aware by producing snowmen (in all shapes and sizes!) from recycled and found materials, paper cups, cotton wool, fabric, origami.....even old odd socks (hopefully clean!). The snowmen have been proudly on display in Reception: well done to our creative and imaginative students. Happy festive season from the Art Team and we hope you get to build a real snowman....

*'let it snow, let it snow, let it snow'*





Lealands  
High School

**Excellence**  
**Responsibility**  
**Respect**

At Lealands we **CLIMB** the mountain to success

- C** **Contribute** positively to school life
- L** **Listen** when others are speaking
- I** **Ignore** distractions to learning
- M** **Maximise** our efforts at all times
- B** **Build** on successes and learn from failures

# Sixth Form and College Open Days

| College                       | Date                        | Time          | Campus                    |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Oaklands</b>               | Tuesday 4th February 2020   | 17.00 - 20.00 | St Albans Campus          |
|                               | Wednesday 5th February 2020 | 17.00 - 20.00 | Welwyn Garden City Campus |
|                               |                             |               |                           |
| <b>Luton 6th Form College</b> | Tuesday 7th January 2020    | 17.30 - 20.00 | Luton 6th Form College    |
|                               |                             |               |                           |
| <b>Bedford College</b>        | Tuesday 21st January 2020   | 17.00 - 19.30 | Bedford College           |
|                               | Tuesday 17th March 2020     | 17.00 - 19.30 | Bedford College           |
|                               |                             |               |                           |
| <b>Shuttleworth</b>           | Saturday 25th January 2020  | 09.30 - 14.00 | Shuttleworth              |
|                               | Saturday 14th March 2020    | 09.30 - 14.00 | Shuttleworth              |
|                               |                             |               |                           |
| <b>Central Beds College</b>   | Thursday 23rd January 2020  | 16.00 - 19.00 | Kingsway Campus           |
|                               | Thursday 19th March 2020    | 16.00 - 19.00 | Kingsway Campus           |



**Facilities For Hire**

**From £12.50 Per Hour**

**Ideal For Birthday Parties!**



Lealands High School

Swimming Pool, Sports Hall, Dance/Activity Studios, 3G Astro, Netball Courts, Community Function Rooms and School Hall.

For more details, visit: [www.lealands.luton.sch.uk/facilities](http://www.lealands.luton.sch.uk/facilities)



Lealands High School

**BOOK YOUR  
BIRTHDAY  
PARTY  
AT LEALANDS**



For details please visit [www.lealands.luton.sch.uk/parties](http://www.lealands.luton.sch.uk/parties).

\*Our party facilities are available as a venue only. Children will be the responsibility of accompanying adults. Any food required is the responsibility of the party host.