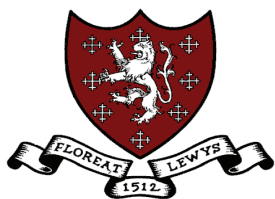


January 2010

Spring Term

# Newsletter



*Lewes Old Grammar School*

Dear Parents,

I would like to start by apologising for the disrupted start of term. Clearly the School is not responsible for the weather or the reliability of Met Office forecasts but I share your frustrations and concerns about the teaching time lost and the fragmented nature of the first two weeks of this term. Our catchment area is particularly wide with pupils and staff living in all parts of Sussex. This meant that local conditions varied considerably making the decision on closing the School particularly difficult. Overall, I had to be cautious ensuring that the welfare and safety of pupils, parents and staff were not compromised. Each separate decision on closing the School was never taken lightly and I hope that you feel that we got the balance right. We have learned various lessons from the experience and hope that, should a similar situation arise, we are better prepared to ensure that communications remain effective and disturbance to the curriculum minimised.

The library at the Senior School is now fully operational and I am delighted with the new facility. The restoration of Tyne House following the burst pipe has largely been completed and the library is now functioning well. The garden of Tyne House will be landscaped over half term and an outside work area will be part of the design. I am certain that the pupils will gain enormously from all these improvements. We must now move on to the redevelopment of Mead House to complete the remaining elements of our current development plan at the Senior School.

A planning application for the development of Morley House has been submitted and we are awaiting a response from planners. It has been given to the Conservation Officer, even though we are officially outside the conservation area, but I will keep you updated with our progress. We intend to build the only purpose built Foundation Stage Building in Lewes catering for pupils from 2 years old. This new building contains its own outside play areas and has been designed to ensure that it doesn't impinge on any of the existing space at Morley House. It will be built on top and around the existing School Hall and will encompass the current Nursery and Reception areas. It is a state of the art facility and has been specifically designed so that its construction will not affect the operation of Morley House. I have provided an artists impression of the new facility in this newsletter and I hope you approve of the design.

There has been a great deal of discussion in the media over the relative merits of the different qualifications now available to independent schools. You may also have read about the surge in university applications this year building on the record number set for 2009. It is clear that the UCAS process is becoming ever more competitive. An example of this would be the applications to read Medicine at our closest Medical School where nearly 40 candidates were competing for every place. The good offers that our students are receiving from the top universities confirm that A Levels in traditional subjects are still very much in demand. We will continue to monitor the position and review the qualifications available but at the moment we have no intention of changing the courses offered.

Plans to mark our quincentenary in 2012 are well under way. A sub committee responsible for the planning of events has met. A few details need to be confirmed but we have agreed an outline of how the year will unfold with fireworks, parades and the Olympics are all to the fore. A former pupil, James Bulley, has a senior role in the Olympic Delivery Committee and he returned late last term to speak to the senior pupils from Year 10 and above about the logistics of such an event. The highlight of his visit was when they all had the chance to handle the real gold medal won by Jonathan Edwards at Sydney 2000. James has put me in contact with other members of his committee and there is a realistic hope that our celebrations at School may be linked to events in London. I can promise you that that there will be much to look forward to and that our proud 500 year heritage will be properly celebrated. We have already booked Firlie Place for a grand Summer Ball in 2012 but as a dress rehearsal for this, tickets for this Year's Summer Ball are now on sale. Details of the evening are contained in this newsletter but I urge you to book early as places are limited.

Since 2004 I have initiated two quality audits to gauge your views on the School's performance. This year the trustees are undertaking a review of the School's brand values and strengths. The brand values are very important as they define how the School is promoted externally and how everyone that is part of the School, relates to it. It is very important that everyone involved in the School, staff, pupils, trustees and parents take part in the process as

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this will ensure that we have a thorough appraisal. A trustee, Amy Bell will be leading this process. Sessions with staff and pupils have been set up and we would like at least 12 parents, representing different sections of the School, to sign up for the parent session. It will take place from 7.00pm – 8.30 pm on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February. If you would like to take part please email me at [headspa@logs.uk.com](mailto:headspa@logs.uk.com) by Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February.

We continue to develop Drama, Music and the Arts at the School and the plans for the new Music School are very exciting. This year the Senior School will have two drama productions. There will be three performances of Cardboard City in the last week of this term and in early May three performances of Bugsy Malone. There will also be the biannual Performing Arts Festival in the last week of the Summer Term. This is where we showcase all aspects of Art that have taken place in the School over the last two years. We see this as a community event and I am very aware of the considerable musical, dramatic and artistic talent possessed by a number of our parents. If you would like to put your name forward for exhibiting any work or performing in early July please contact me at [headspa@logs.uk.com](mailto:headspa@logs.uk.com) by Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February.

Yours sincerely



R Blewitt

## LOGS Foundation Unit



Image looking towards front of building (from East to West) along King Henry's Road



Image looking towards rear of building (from North East to South West)



Image looking towards front of building (from West to East) along King Henry's Road

### TERM DATES

**Spring Term 2010**  
**HALF TERM** 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> February  
**End of term** 3.30 pm Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March

**Summer Term 2010**  
**Pupils return** Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April  
**HALF TERM** 31<sup>st</sup> May – 4<sup>th</sup> June  
**End of term** 3.30 pm Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July

**Autumn Term 2010**  
**Staff meeting** Thursday 2nd September  
**Induction day** Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> September  
**Pupils return** Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September  
**HALF TERM** 18<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> October  
**End of term** 12.45 pm Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December

**Spring Term 2011**  
**Staff meeting** Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> January  
**Pupils return** Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January  
**HALF TERM** 14<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> February  
**End of term** 3.30 pm Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April

### Language Competition

Back in November Lewes Old Grammar School hosted a “Modern Languages Competition” in the new 6<sup>th</sup> Form Centre. The other participants were Ardingly College and Eastbourne College.

The competition took the form of a number of games which tested the pupils’ knowledge of French, German and Spanish. Year 11 boys and girls spent the afternoon answering questions covering such areas as verbs, geography and culture. Each team was five strong and included specialists in each language plus two all rounders. Tyra Thompson represented us in French, Sarah Shepherd in Spanish and Hannah Stephings in German while Carl Robinson and I helped out across the board.

After a close competition, Ardingly ran out narrow winners. LOGS claimed second place and Eastbourne third although Ardingly’s victory seemed a little unfair when it emerged that the team had consisted of several 6<sup>th</sup> formers and a Swiss!

Nevertheless, we all enjoyed the afternoon and, who knows, may be we’ll go one better next year.

Jack Arscott



### Community Notice Board

Advertise your company and have a link to your own company web site.

Normally £25 for 12 months

2010 offer Feb – Sept £12.50

Registration Forms can be found at [www.logs.uk.com/parents](http://www.logs.uk.com/parents)

or contact

Business Development Officer

Stephanie Gould

[goulds@logs.uk.com](mailto:goulds@logs.uk.com)

### ROOM HIRE - Morley House

Subject to availability school hall, kitchen and classrooms available to hire for workshops and private tuition classes at weekends and holiday time.

Contact Business Development Officer

Stephanie Gould

[goulds@logs.uk.com](mailto:goulds@logs.uk.com)

Details can also be found at

[www.logs.uk.com/parents](http://www.logs.uk.com/parents)

### REVISION CLASSES FOR GCSE'S

To take place during the Easter Holidays

Week commencing 12<sup>th</sup> April 2010

(9.15am – 4.00 pm)

An opportunity to tackle specific problem areas, consolidate knowledge, boost confidence and offer personalised guidance.

Courses will include

Revision Skills,

Exam techniques

Working through past exam papers.

No charge for LOGS students\*

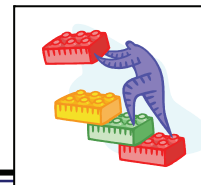
To book contact Business Development Officer

Stephanie Gould [goulds@logs.uk.com](mailto:goulds@logs.uk.com)

\*These courses are also open to external GCSE students and there is an offer of 10% discount to a LOGS student for each introduction and confirmed external student booking.

£80/subject for external students.

Price includes all refreshments, lunch and printed information supplied on the day.



### LOGS Summer Ball

Friday 2nd July 2010

AT

Lewes Town Hall

*Come and enjoy a sumptuous three-course dinner in the magnificent surroundings of this historic local building.*

*Sip a pre dinner drink on a summer's evening whilst listening to jazz sounds by 'Little Tin Gods'.*

*Dancing will be to 1 am to the live band 'Piazza'.*

*Tickets are £45 per person (incl. VAT)*

*Tables of 10 are available*

*\*Payment can be made by enclosing 2 cheques: one for 50% of the total price and another with the remainder on a post dated cheque for 1<sup>st</sup> June 2010.*

Don't miss this great opportunity for you and your guests to enjoy an evening of unrivalled entertainment, with superb food and drink!

*If you wish to attend but are concerned that you will not know any one else going ,we will endeavour to place you with people you know or on a 'year table'.*

BOOKING FORM CAN BE FOUND at [www.logs.uk.com/news](http://www.logs.uk.com/news)

or contact Stephanie Gould [goulds@logs.uk.com](mailto:goulds@logs.uk.com)

## Key Dates for Spring & Summer Term

### Spring Term

Saturday January 30 <sup>th</sup> 9:30 am	Senior School Entrance Examinations
Thursday February 4 <sup>th</sup> 7.00pm	Sixth Form Open Evening
Monday February 8 <sup>th</sup>	ISCO Tests for Year 11
Wednesday February 10 <sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm	Year 9 Options Meeting
Tuesday February 23 <sup>rd</sup> 7:00pm	Year 7 Parents Meeting
Thursday March 4 <sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm	Year 10 Parents Evening
Friday March 5 <sup>th</sup> 7:30pm	PTA Quiz Night
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> - Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 9 Trip to Ypres
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March 7:00pm	Year 12 & 13 Parents Evening
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> - Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	School Play - Cardboard City
Thursday March 25 <sup>th</sup>	Lanzarote Trip leaves

### Summer Term

Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Whole School Open Morning
<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May</b>	<b>Bank Holiday</b>
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	School Play - Bugsy
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> May 11:00 am	Year 11 Leavers Service
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	School Exam Week Years 7 – 9
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> June 7:30 pm	UCAS meeting with Year 12 Parents & Pupils
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Arts revue
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Senior School Prize Giving Ceremony

### PUPIL ABSENCE – SENIOR SCHOOL

If your child is absent, please contact the school as soon as possible, and before 9:00am

For your convenience you can leave a message on the answer phone before 8am, send us a fax, or email us on:

[office@logs.uk.com](mailto:office@logs.uk.com)

If your child arrives late, he or she must sign in at Reception in Tyne House otherwise this will be treated as unauthorised absence.

All phone calls and emails should be confirmed in writing to your child's tutor as soon as possible.

### WHOLE SCHOOL TRANSPORT YEARS RECEPTION -13

If you wish to use this service on an occasional journey basis, you must book a seat with Miss Elliott at the Senior School Office, tel: 01273 472634, prior to the journey.

The charge for an occasional journey is £5.00.

### REMINDER

If your child feels ill during the school day the procedure is as follows:

- Pupils see their Head of Year (or if unavailable, another Head of Year, Mrs Prior, Mrs Drunis or Mr Blewitt.)
- The member of staff will assess the severity and if they agree that they should go home they will endorse the Homework Diary and send the pupil to the office to phone home.

**Please note: The pupil should not phone home themselves.**

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**We're on the Web**  
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