



Gardening Club Brighten up the School

Our gardening club has been busy recently planting pots at the front of the school. The dedicated team of gardeners, led by Miss Pearson and Mr Taylor, can often be found looking after our raised beds or planting seeds in our brand new greenhouse which has been recently refurbished. Our gardening club are always in search of new projects so if you would like to get them involved in something you are planning then please get in touch, I'm sure they would be happy to help.

The pots and plants were purchased using some of the proceeds from the Christmas Fair and a very generous cheque from Mr Warburton who is a good friend of the school and often supports our gardening club.



Follow us on Twitter @TheLakesSchool

I am pleased to let you know that we have recently launched our school Twitter account to help keep you informed about life at The Lakes School. Our Twitter account is just one of a number of ways that we communicate with parents and the community but we understand that a number of parents will not use social media so you can be assured that we will still continue to keep you informed about life at The Lakes School through our newsletters, text messages and our website.



The use of social media by parents carries with it a great deal of responsibility, particularly in relation to schools and content that parents might post. We will shortly be sharing a policy with parents about the use of social media and internet sites which we will post in the policies section of our website. We would encourage all parents to read this carefully and to help us keep the school's online presence positive for all who wish to follow it. We look forward to keeping you up to date through our new Twitter account.

Ambleside Sports

Ambleside Sports are currently seeking applicants for our next batch of awards. More information is available on our website www.amblesidesports.co.uk.

Thanks to the Low Wood we are very pleased to be able to offer one full Teenage Membership (16 – 18) to the Low Wood Leisure Club. To enter please write and tell us in not more than 200 words how you would make the most of this membership. You might feel that a daily regime of exercise or weights might help your sporting progress or perhaps you might benefit from a programme of swimming.

The entry that the Scholarship Panel considers to be the best will win this fabulous offer. Please note that this round of applications as well as the Low Wood Membership will close on the last day of March. Applications for both to be sent to The Chairman, Jak Hirst, The Flat, 4 Lake Road, Ambleside, Cumbria, LA22 0AD



Jody Clark

Congratulations to Jody Clark, brother of Mickey Clark in Year 13, who has designed the portrait for the new coinage. Jody, pictured below (courtesy of the Royal Mint and the BBC) a Royal Mint engraver, has produced only the fifth coin portrait to have been created during the Queen's 63 year reign.



We're listening to our students

During the next two weeks, Mr Cunningham will be visiting a number of PSHE lessons to gather views about the school from our students. Listening to our students enables us to make improvements to the school and helps students understand that they have a voice in shaping the school's future.

Mr Cunningham will be spending time with classes in each year group and will be asking the students to think about what their teachers do to help them learn, how the school has changed during the last twelve months, what motivates them to do well in all of their subjects and what experiences they find most memorable from their time at The Lakes School.

Mr Cunningham looks forward to sharing the findings from these sessions after the Easter break. I would like to draw your attention to the 'Learning' section of our website which contains an increasing amount of feedback from students and parents. If you would like to find out more about what people are telling us about our school then take a look in the 'Your Year Group' section.

Calling all Young Photographers

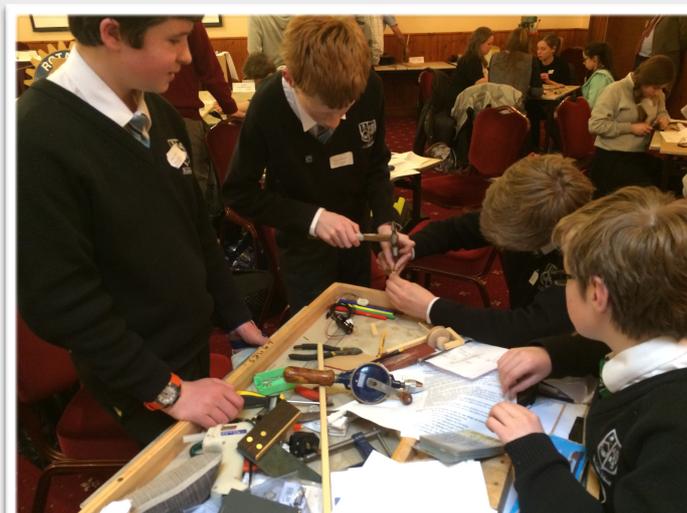
Have you got a cracking photo that you would like to see on our website? If the answer is yes then please see Mr Cunningham or simply email him with your images.

We are hoping to use some of our students' images to personalise our website. Thank you to Lottie Duxbury who has provided a lovely image of our canoeists for the 'Enrichment' page of our website.

If you think you have an image to suit one of our website pages then see Mr Cunningham today!

Rotary Technology Tournament

Congratulations to our team of talented technologists who took part in the Rotary Technology Tournament recently at Windermere Hydro. The team, pictured below, were competing against a number of schools from across the area and worked really well together to produce a self propelled system to cross an imaginary river out of a wide variety of materials.



Supporting our students through exams

We have recently written to the parents of our Year 11, 12 and 13 students to explain how we will this year be improving the way that we support our students in the run up to their examinations.

This year, our Year 11 and 13 students will begin their exam leave on Friday 22nd May 2015 and our Year 12 students will begin their exam leave on Friday 15th May 2015 - the Year 12s will return to Sixth Form on June 8th. This slightly later exam leave will mean that students will see their teachers for more lessons which will help to better prepare them for their examinations. We also know that this will help our students stay focussed and 'sharp' so that they are at their very best as they turn over each exam paper.

For the first time, we will also be providing exam warm up sessions for our students who will have a fifteen minute warm up with their class teacher prior to their exam. This will provide a great opportunity for class teachers to settle the nerves and provide any last minute reminders before entering the examination. Every little helps and we have already heard from a number of students who think this is a great idea. We are also looking at how we can provide relaxation sessions for students to help them cope with this busy period.

We would like to draw your attention to the calendar on our website which contains all of the information your child will need regarding their exams. By clicking on the summer examinations event in May or June you will be able to access links to the examination dates and other important documents relating to exam procedures which all candidates should read.

We look forward to supporting our students in every way we can during the next few months.