



Longdean Link

Headlines

Edition 3– 14 October 2016

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends

Another busy half term is drawing to a close. Last week we held open evening and open mornings. These were well attended by prospective parents and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive. I would like to thank all the students who supported these crucial events for the school. I am sure the benefits of this positive evening will be seen when allocations for Secondary School are revealed in early 2017.

This half term we started a number of new initiatives to support our two school priorities of literacy and leadership. Every day Longdean Drops Everything and Reads, (D.E.A.R), for 15 minutes. This has already had a beneficial impact on student leadership. Students are openly sharing what they have read both inside and outside of classrooms and the importance of reading has been highlighted to everyone. We are now looking at introducing Accelerated Reader into our library to support students in choosing the most appropriate books for them and to utilise quizzes and tests to check their understanding of what they have been reading.

Since September homework has been set online using Show My Homework. This has proved very popular with students and has supported their organisation and study habits. It has also improved the ability of the school and parents to monitor and check that homework is being set and completed. This in turn has fuelled healthy discussions between school and home that have been focussed on student learning and outcomes.

This term we have also continued our work on coaching and developing student leadership. The sixth form leadership team and student voice bodies in the school have completed some workshops on their leadership skills that they have then applied to their meetings and work across the wider school.

I would like to end this edition of the Link by reminding parents of the revised dates for the remainder of the Autumn Term. These are outlined below:

School finishes for half term	12.30pm Friday 21 October 2016
Students return after half term	8.30am Thursday 10 November 2016
School finishes for Christmas	3.20pm Friday 16 December 2016
Students return after Christmas	8.30am Thursday 5 January 2017.


I hope all parents and students have an enjoyable half term break.

Best Wishes

Graham Cunningham
Headteacher

Numeracy


Thought of the Week



“There are two primary choices in life: to accept conditions as they exist, or accept the responsibility for changing them.”

New Life →
← Old Life

– Dr. Denis Waitley



of the JOKE WEEK

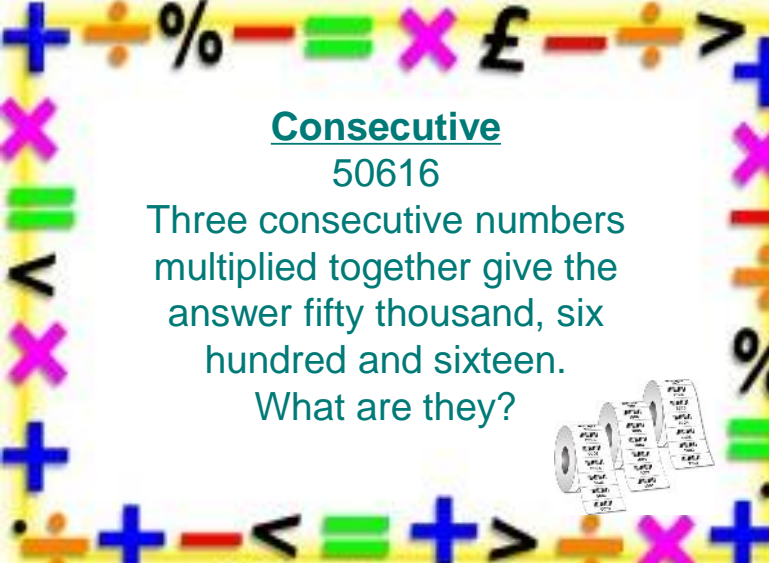
Did you Know...

YOU HAVE TO BE ODD TO BE NUMBER **ONE**

The word “underground” is the **only** word that begins and ends with the letters “und”.

Consecutive
50616

Three consecutive numbers multiplied together give the answer fifty thousand, six hundred and sixteen.
What are they?



Good luck!
Answers in the next edition of the Longdean Link
Mr El Amine - Maths Teacher and Numeracy Coordinator

Last Issue
Answer:
4 Choc
2 Tea

Art Competition

Dacorum Paralympic and Olympic local Hero's Art Competition

On 26 October 2016 Dacorum Borough Council are holding an event in the town centre to celebrate the on-going success of **Max Whitlock** as an Olympic champion and also to honour him with the freedom of the Borough.

The event on the 26 October is in recognition of Max's achievements over the last 4 years. These include the team and pommel horse Bronze medal at the 2012 Olympic Games, World pommel horse champion and team Silver in 2015, all round Bronze, floor Gold and pommel horse Gold in the 2016 Olympic Games.

Competition Details

Entrants must be aged between 12 – 19 years

Design a postcard on the theme –Dacorum's Olympic & Paralympic hero's inspired me...

Please write your full name, contact details and age on the back of your art work.

Closing date is the 19 October and all entries should be returned to the school office. The entries will then be collected in person by a member of the Neighbourhood Action Team.

There will be 3 places judged from the above category. All winners will receive a medal which will be presented on a podium by Max Whitlock on the day of the Dacorum event on the 26 October 2016.

Arrangements will be made by the Council to send all entries to schools in Tokyo, the hosts for the Olympics in 2020.

Dacorum Borough Council is also in the process of arranging a Civic event for **Jess Stretton** for her wonderful achievements including winning a Gold medal in the 2016 Olympic Games. The event will also honour James Rodwell for his achievement in winning a silver medal in the rugby 7's.

Dacorum is very proud of all of their achievements and will certainly be recognising them.

Information

Dear Parents/Guardians

Did you know that all students can download a free copy of Office 365 which includes Office 2016 onto a maximum of 5 computers?

Students can do this simply by logging on to the Learning Platform and locating the information and instructions under:

Students/Office 365 ProPlus

For more information or help please email: ICTsupport@longdean.herts.sch.uk



Independent Learning and Homework at Longdean

Please remember to discuss your child's Independent Learning and sign their Independent Learning Planner. Students record an overview of their homework set in their Independent Learning Planner. Students are supported in taking responsibility for their own study, and supplementing study set with e-learning. We recommend half an hour a night, Monday through Thursday, on sites such as Sam Learning, GCSE Pod, BBC Bitesize, Linguascope and MyMaths. Links to these sites can be found on the Exam Support and Homework sections of the LLP.

Mr R Muskett - Assistant Headteacher



<http://www.gcsepod.com/parents> for a parent's guide

www.samlearning.com Centre ID: HP3LS Username and password are in the format: DDMMYYII, for example Mr Muskett's would be 050582RM.

www.mymaths.co.uk - students have an individual username and password from their Maths teacher

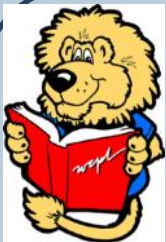
Literacy Link

S.P.A.G.

Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar

There are many terms used in education and one that has been cropping up more and more in recent times is **SPAG**. Students are now awarded marks in nearly all external examinations for Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPAG). With this in mind the school has been focusing on aspects of SPAG each half-term.

This half-term, the focus has been on the correct use of capital letters. Students have been tested on the correct use of capital letters during form time and teachers have been focusing on this in their lessons. Year 7 students are also expected to bring their dictionary to each lesson to support Spelling and Grammar.

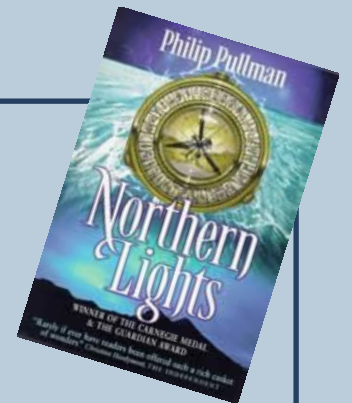


Book of the Week.....

Northern Lights by Philip Pullman

Lyra and Pantalaimon – her dæmon – live a fun, wild life in Jordan College, Oxford. Lyra's Oxford is in many ways similar to the one in our world, but the difference is that it is crawling with danger, dæmons, and gobblers...

Longdean school supports



Careers

Year 11 Pathways Day – Thursday 20 October 2016

Next Thursday Year 11 will be off timetable for a morning of activities to help students with their future planning. The day will begin with a presentation by BT on how to perform well at an interview. This will then be followed by 5 workshops as detailed below.

1. Longdean sixth form – Miss B Segalini - Head of Sixth Form.
2. College – presentations from West Herts College and Oaklands College.
3. Looking to the future – Mr Cunningham and Ms Sian Allsopp (Executive Director at Morgan Stanley)
4. Apprenticeships/Jobs – The Youth Connexions employment team Planning for University Mr MacDonald

Students will attend all the workshops but will choose between workshop 4 and 5.

We are looking forward to an informative and enjoyable morning. Please remember, if your son or daughter would like an individual careers guidance interview, to contact me on 01442 205785.

Year 11 Mock Interviews – Monday 21 November to Thursday 8 December 2016

We are very pleased to welcome back volunteers from BT, Dixons, Atlas Copco, the Army and Interserve.

These volunteers will be conducting mock interviews with Year 11's, each student will be given a 30 minute session with their interviewer.

This provides a very valuable experience for our students giving them real life practice of the interview situation. We are very grateful to the volunteers for giving up their time.

All Year 11's will be given an interview. After the interview students will receive verbal and written feedback to help them to perform to the best of their ability when it really matters.

We are looking forward to a successful and rewarding experience.

Mrs Cooke

Director of Learning for Careers

New Build

FINAL



Longdean School Association
Registered Charity No. 311044

0001

WEEK

NEW BUILD PRIZE DRAW



1st: £250 Cash
2nd: Samsung Galaxy S5 Neo
(sim free) worth £300
3rd: Giant Drinks Hamper
Plus lots of other great prizes



Draw will take place at Longdean School on Friday 25th November 2016 at 3pm

Promoter: Mr C. Barling, c/o Longdean School Association, Rumballs Road, Hemel Hempstead, HP3 8JB
Registered under The Gambling Act 2005 with Daconum Borough Council. Licence No. 4
Printed by www.naffickesdirect.co.uk

Tickets £1 Each

To be in with a chance of winning, all ticket stubs and payments must be returned to Finance by 21 October 2016



FURNITURE /IT SALE

As part of the process of the move into the New Building, Longdean School has a number of items which they will be selling to Parents, Guardians, Governors and Staff.

There will be Open Days during the week of the Archive Exhibition (31 October to 4 November—see below) and also on both the 8 and 9 November 2016 8.00am to 4.00pm for potential customers to come and peruse the items available. The items will consist of computer equipment and furniture.



A full list is currently being put together and will be available by the first Open Day. If you are involved with or know of voluntary or charitable organisations like churches, playgroups etc who would be interested, please feel free to let them know.

T. Doyle
Finance Director

Longdean School Archive Exhibition

Longdean School has an extensive collection of Archive material. This dates back to 1955, cataloguing the history of the two founding schools on the site, Apsley Grammar School and Bennetts End Secondary School. With the advent of the Comprehensive school in 1970, Longdean School was established by the merging of the two schools. The history of Longdean School is reflected in documents, photographs, newspaper articles and artefacts. It is a social history reflecting changes such as black and white to colour photography, technology through video and computing, and the continued development of buildings on the site. With the move into a new building, the old buildings face demolition and landscaping of the site.

To mark the event, a comprehensive Archive Exhibition is taking place during the half term with an opportunity to say farewell to the old buildings and wallow in nostalgia, reflecting 76 years of Secondary education. Everyone is invited to visit between Monday 31 October and Friday 4 November between the hours of 12pm and 7.00pm. You will all be welcome whether you have a direct connection or passing interest!

M. Kitchener
Archivist

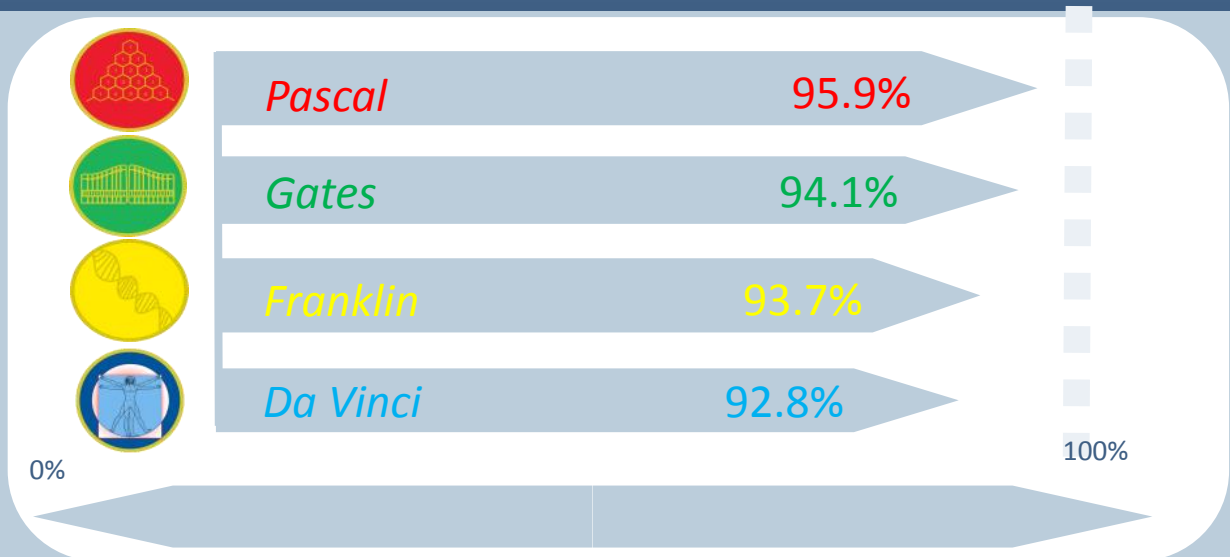
Important Dates



Longdean School
A School of Mathematics and Computing Studies

<p>Friday 21 October 12.30pm Thursday 10 November 8.30am</p>	<p>School Finishes Students return to school</p>	<p>Letters that have been sent home recently, via Schoolcomms where appropriate:</p> <table> <tr> <td>Year 7</td> <td>School Disco</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Year 10</td> <td>GCSE English Text Purchase</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All Years</td> <td>Change of Term Dates</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Years 7/8</td> <td>Masai Warriors</td> </tr> </table>	Year 7	School Disco	Year 10	GCSE English Text Purchase	All Years	Change of Term Dates	Years 7/8	Masai Warriors
Year 7	School Disco									
Year 10	GCSE English Text Purchase									
All Years	Change of Term Dates									
Years 7/8	Masai Warriors									
<p>Monday 21 November 7.00pm Thursday 24 November 5.00pm Tuesday 29 November 5.00pm Monday 5 December 5.00pm</p>	<p>LSA Meeting Parents' Evening Year 11 Parents' Evening 6th Form Parents' Evening Options</p>									
<p>Study Support Session: Saturday 15 October 2016 9.00am</p>										

Attendance



Would you like to add something to the next Link? Let us know using our email address:

admin@longdean.herts.sch.uk

Longdean School, Rumballs Road, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP3 8JB

Website Address: <https://moodle.longdean.herts.sch.uk>

Email: admin@longdean.herts.sch.uk

Link Dates

The Longdean Link is published every two weeks, via the Schoolcomms e-mail system to all those for whom we have an e-mail address, and on the LLP. Next issue: 18 November 2016