



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT UPDATE

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This newsletter captures progress made against our school improvement objectives over the course of the Summer term. It also includes enriching learning activities.



Governors Update

As Chair of Governors, it is with immense pride that I reflect on another successful year at Linton Village College. This year has been a testament to the hard work, dedication, and unwavering commitment of both our staff and students.

On behalf of the governing body, I want to express my deepest gratitude to our exceptional staff. Their passion for education and their commitment to the well-being of every student are truly inspiring. Whether it's fostering academic excellence or creating a supportive and inclusive environment, their tireless efforts contribute significantly to the success of our school.

This year has seen a continued focus on the holistic development of our students. We've witnessed a thriving co-curricular program, with students excelling in sports, drama, and the arts. They continue to impress us with their talents and dedication.

The pinnacle of our year was undoubtedly the recent Ofsted inspection, which resulted in a "Good" grade. This is a fantastic achievement and a reflection of the hard work and dedication of the entire school community. The inspectors praised our strong leadership, the quality of teaching and learning, and the positive culture that fosters students' personal development. We are committed to building on this success and ensuring Linton Village College continues to be a school where all students can thrive.

Looking ahead, we're filled with excitement for the next academic year. With the strong foundations laid this year, we will continue striving to provide our students with the very best education and opportunities. Thank you to all our parents, carers, and the wider community for your continued support. Together, we will ensure Linton Village College remains an excellent school where all students can flourish.

Dr Peter Woodroffe

Chair of Governors





SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT UPDATE

SUMMER

Senate Update

Over the past year, the Senate at LVC has been committed to leading and taking the initiative to make everyone's voice heard and school life that little bit better. From little improvements such as allowing students to stay in PE kit after period 5 physical education, to raising money through bake sales for lesser fortunate children in Kenya, the Senate is always leading in school affairs and setting an example for the student body. Here we hear from the three new members of the Senate.

Charlie Corbett As part of the new team of Head Students at LVC, I'd like to improve and encourage sports at lunchtimes. Keeping active through playing sports such as football or rugby on the field at lunchtime is a great way to remain active whilst also allowing students to forget about other stressful parts of school life and have a fun time with their friends. For these reasons I'm currently trying to implement either more weekly football club sessions or get goals onto the fields.

Kuba Chatkowski I am one of the other people making up the Head Student team next year. During the year, I will ensure regular events are held and that the student voice is always listened to. Leadership is the foundation of all things great, and I hope to uplift student leadership to new heights and leave LVC a more united place than I found it.

Stella Richards As part of the Head Student Team at Linton Village College I'd like to improve extracurricular activities for all students to help people to branch out of their comfort zones and to encourage students to be able to make new friendships as well as giving new places for the students to relax and de-stress. I believe this would help to make LVC become even more of a family than it already is. I hope this will help LVC to become an even more enjoyable place by the time I leave.

The Head Student team.

Rupert Warden-Hill

Stella Richards

Kuba Chatkowski

Charlie Corbett





An ambitious curriculum and high expectations

Curriculum update

During the summer term, colleagues have been reviewing and refining schemes of learning and some specific approaches to teaching and learning.

In a recent staff training meeting, we used the metaphor of a boxset to discuss schemes of learning. The box itself represents how the curriculum is structured in each subject from year 7 to year 11, each season signifies a series of lessons that connect and link together learning about specific subject knowledge and skills and finally, an episode represents an individual lesson. Just as George R. R. Martin carefully wrote and structured Game of Thrones, we must ensure that lessons come in the correct order, so our learners are not left confused!

A teaching strategy to ensure that learners are not left confused in lessons is scaffolding. Scaffolding supports students with learning. However, when ready, the supports are withdrawn. It is important that any scaffolding is temporary and is not relied upon in the long run by students. Visits to lessons by middle and senior leaders have focused on scaffolding throughout the summer term.

A school curriculum is never done. Schemes of learning and approaches to teaching and learning should be revisited so that improvements can be made over time.

Therefore, these things will remain a priority in the next school year.



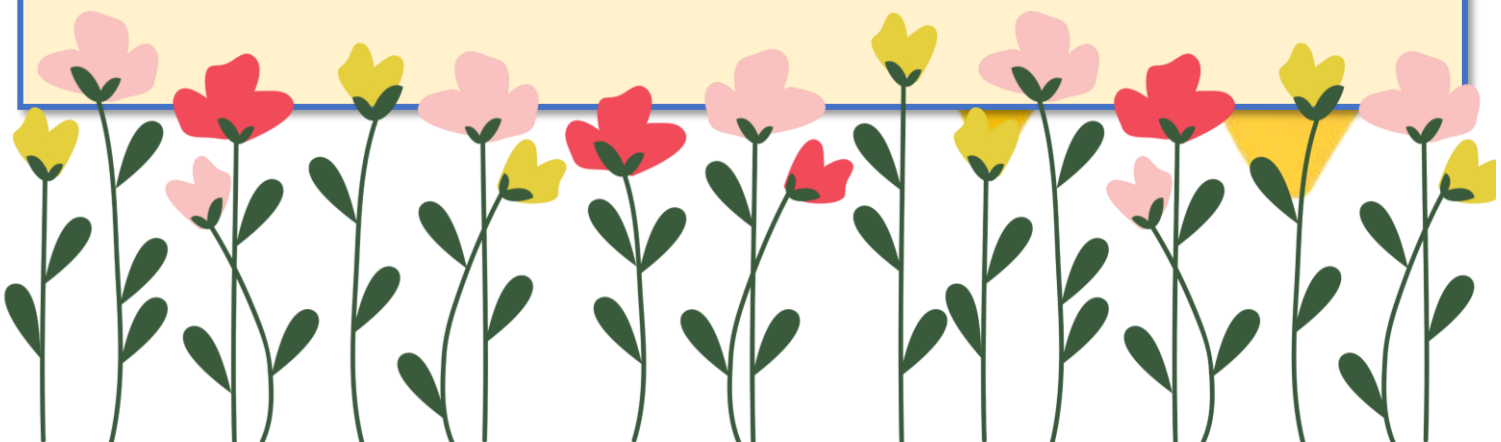
Ensuring ready, respectful and safe behaviour

Attendance

The improvement in Attendance has been very encouraging over this term and we hope to continue to see this next year. The whole school average is 91.4%, with the average across Years 7-10 being 92.5%. We know that frequent missed days is not only very disruptive to a child's education but can often be an indicator of other unaddressed concerns. We want to continue to support families with removing barriers to regular attendance so if your child's attendance is a concern, please don't hesitate to get in touch with either your child's form tutor or Head of Year.

It has been fantastic to see a significant improvement in students meeting our expectations with regards to being Ready to learn: in uniform, equipped and on time to lessons, which means the focus from the start of lessons is on the learning. Students have been a lot more respectful this year, both towards staff and students, and we have seen a reduction in the amount of disruptive behaviour seen around the College. We continue to strive for greater consistency in addressing student behaviour and to support the minority of students who are struggling to make the right choices.

Finally, an impressive 234 students (30%) have not received a single negative point all year, with a further 463 (55%) who have averaged fewer than 1 every fortnight. We can be proud of the achievements of our students and hope they enjoy a restful summer holiday.





Embedding ambitious, inclusive and enriching teaching and learning

Literacy at LVC

Over the course of this year, there has been an even sharper focus on developing students' engagement with reading. We know from conversations at Parents' Evening that our primary colleagues do an amazing job of enthusing students to read avidly but that this can fall away when they come to Secondary school and get swept up with new social opportunities or distracted by their smartphone!

Designated Literacy lessons in Years 7 and 8 have put reading fiction front and centre with pupils encouraged to read in groups to share and discuss the development of plot and character. We have also invested in Sparx reader – an intelligent system that recommends texts to pupils based on their reading age and keeps track of their accuracy and speed.

In KS3, form groups have been engaging brilliantly with a 'Register, Read, Respond' programme where tutors lead the reading of some topical non-fiction or latest bestseller. Over the course of the year, we've explored sanctions in football matches; controversy in the design of sports kit; representation and diversity in art, music and Literature to name but a few of the topics.

Not only has this afforded students to see ambitious vocabulary within a clear context, it has also led to some healthy and lively discussion!

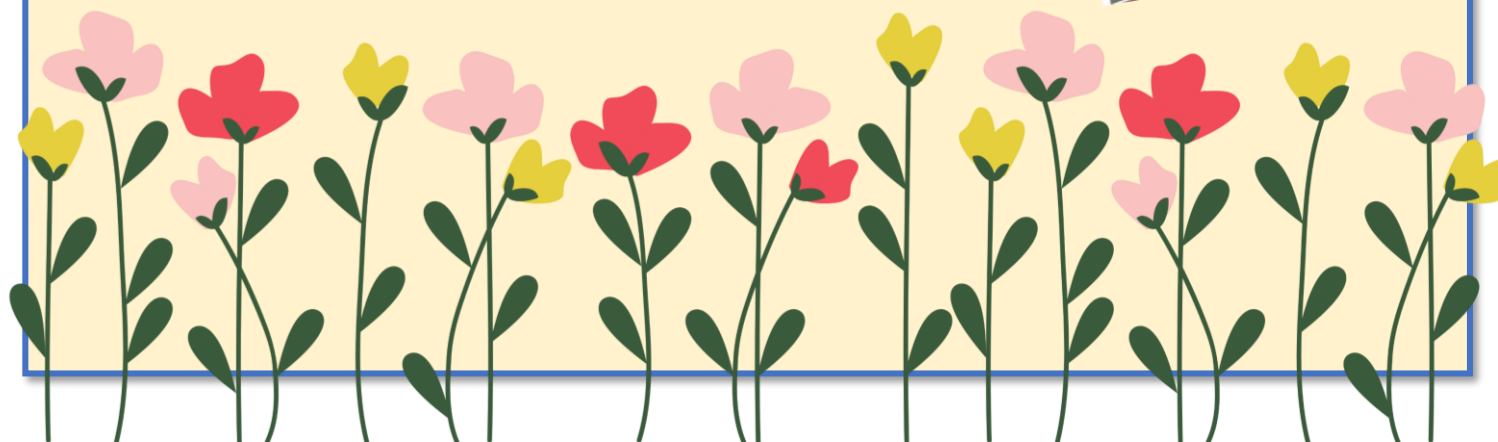
In last month's whole school training day, our keynote speaker and Anglian Learning colleague spoke passionately about the way that proficiency in reading unlocks all elements of the Secondary curriculum and paves the way for successful examination results. Just as importantly, I believe that teaching our students to read critically, to understand nuance and to grapple with the complexities of written texts rather than skimming over the surface of them is key to developing well-rounded citizens who are equipped to navigate our modern world.



Building community relationships

Sports Leaders

Once again our Sports Leaders excelled at leading activities in the Your School Games Tennis Festival. Our students displayed exemplary communication and empathy skills. Our Year 10 Sports Leaders ran the festival for nearly 100 Year 3 and 4 students from local Primary schools, Linton Heights, Castle Camps, Burrough Green and Great Abington. Well done to them for doing such an excellent job!





An enriching educational experience & Linton successes

LVC Creativity Week 2024 'Footprints'

We were very honoured to welcome Michael Rosen into LVC to launch our Creativity Week.

Creativity week is a week of events and lessons at LVC based around a theme. This year's theme was 'Footprints.' Michael Rosen is a British children's author, poet, presenter and academic and is now a professor of children's literature in the Department of Educational Studies at Goldsmiths, University of London. He has also served as Children's Laureate.

Following Michael Rosen's launch, subjects across the curriculum interpreted this year's theme. It was great to see the range of interpretations and learning across different subjects. A few examples of learning included Design and Technology teaching Year 7 how to design the footprint of a house and garden within a footprint shape. Geography created their own innovative/sustainable farming strategies linking to footprints on the land and reducing carbon footprint.

In Religious Studies, Year 9 considered the concept of the footprints – 'imprints' – that religion leaves on the lives of believers. In English, Year 7 collaborated with Michael Rosen to create a year group poem and individual poems with the overarching theme of refugees. Eco Club have created a mural out of plastic waste to highlight the importance of reducing waste and linking to plastic free July. Other subjects that interpreted the theme were Maths, Dance and Drama.

Students were able to reflect and make connections relating to the central theme of 'Footprints.' The impact for students' learning was both the transferable skills which they were developing, in addition to making connections across a variety of subjects based upon the same theme.

Creativity Week culminated in a celebration exhibition at the beginning of our Science and Arts evening. This work is important to us as school to demonstrate the collaborative nature of subjects, in addition to illustrating how students can respond in different ways to a central theme.



Darkwood Manor

A huge well done to the whole cast and crew of Darkwood Manor for a magnificent production. Darkwood Manor, this term's production was a triumph for the Arts at LVC.



Year 11 Leavers & Prom

We said goodbye to the class of '24 this term and welcomed them back for their Prom. The theme this year was 'A Night in New York' and yet again we saw the most amazing variety of arrival vehicles.



Arts Successes

GCSE Year 10 Dance students performed at the first Anglian Learning Dance Festival. The students showcased a vibrant GCSE piece in front of audience of over 200 students from across the Trust. It was also a pleasure to watch and gain ideas from other schools.

LVC music, dance and poetry students who were also invited to perform at the prestigious concert at the Corn Exchange recently, organised by Michael Rosen and HistoryWorks. It was a truly magical evening!



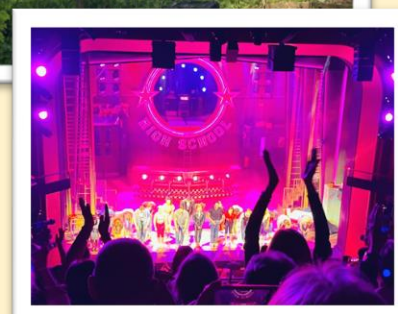
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Enrichment week

A highlight of this term was our Enrichment week. Students in Years 7 and 8 went on a variety of exciting excursions and trips. Year 7, as one of their days, was treated to a variety of workshops based around a Cuban theme.

Year 9 went further afield on residential adventures to London the Peak District and Greece amongst others and had the opportunity to develop transferable skills such as leadership, resilience, and teamwork.



Duke of Edinburgh

The Duke of Edinburgh Award has had a long history at LVC. We offer the Bronze Award which comprises of four sections to complete which involve helping the community, becoming fitter, developing new skills, planning, training for and completing an expedition. Our Year 10s went on their expedition to the Peak District in June.



Jubilee Cup

We took a team of nearly 80 students to compete in Jubilee Cup at Wilberforce Road Athletics Track this term. We had many outstanding performances and successes. These included:

- Cressida H – 1st in 1500m
- Craig C – 1st in 800m
- Lucy E – 1st in long jump
- Lily C – 1st Hurdles
- Isla Mc – 1st Hurdles
- Annabelle S – 1st 300m

Well done!

