

# WITTH

## Achievement

VALUES • CHARACTER • COMMUNITY

## The Park | Autumn 2018



Leighton Park  
School

Leighton Park is a school that inspires achievement with values, character and community like no other. This is the Leighton Park difference. I hope that the following pages bear witness to some of the amazing achievements of the Autumn term across both the academic and co-curricular areas of school life. As this edition of The Park reveals, the opportunities for personal growth at Leighton Park, supported by our exceptional teaching and pastoral care, are unlimited. Having completed my first term as Head, I am proud to lead a school that values the infinite potential of each and every one of our remarkable students.

*Matthew Gidd*

Head



SIMPLICITY TRUTH RESPECT INTEGRITY PEACE EQUALITY SUSTAINABILITY



# Achievement

## Artists in Oakview

Artists in Oakview is an opportunity for the Art Department to publicly celebrate the talents of individual students showcasing their work to the community who visit the restaurant three times a day.

September's exhibition presented work by Upper Sixth artist, **Sophie Williams**, and featured large scale portraiture. Two of the portraits on display were created using a patchwork of collage, aiming to replicate the colours and creates of skin texture. The scale of each portrait is deliberately large to encourage the viewer to look beyond the person depicted and study the layers of brushstrokes and lines appearing as surface detail.

In November, fresh with inspiration from Venice and the myriad of live events she has visited, **Maisy Beardmore** (Year 11) was chosen as the showcased artist. Her GCSE work is an industrious celebration of the characters she has seen and met over the last six months.



## Independent Schools' Awards

We were delighted to be awarded 'Finalist' for the Innovation in STEM category on 8th November in the 2018 Independent Schools' Awards, acknowledging the investment and initiatives that we have undertaken for the benefit and encouragement of our students.



## Pioneering Golfers

Huge well done to our Golf Team for taking part in their first ever match at the Independent School Golf Association Matchplay Tournament on 25th September at Frilford Heath Golf Club!. Lucky to be playing in such lovely autumn weather, the team really enjoyed the chance to compete and are becoming increasingly competitive!



## Duke of York iDEA Award



**Richard Budge**, **Alex Yi** (both Year 8) and **Josh Woodlock** (Year 9) visited St James's Palace on 13th November for the launch of the Silver section of the Duke of York's iDEA Award. The boys were selected as they were the first in Berkshire to be awarded the Bronze award in a programme that enables young people to develop digital enterprise and employability skills for free through a series of online challenges and events including cyber security, e-safety, coding, animation and big data.

## Newcomer's Challenge

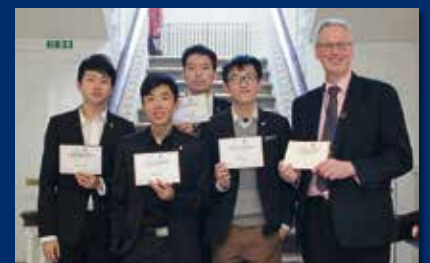


Over the summer holidays, our incoming Year 7s were challenged by Librarian, **Chris Routh**, to design a literary themed board game, with the entries assessed by our Patron of reading, **Julian Sedgwick**. Congratulations to **Isla Beardmore** for her Harry Potter Charms Game, **Anna Cawley** for her Follow the Yellow Brick Road (Wizard of Oz) and **Alex Stronach** for his Monster Mazehem based on Theseus and the Minotaur.



## Senior Maths Challenge

Congratulations to the Senior Maths Team for coming third in the regional finals of the UK Maths Trust Senior Challenge. They did so well to compete at the highest level in maths in the area.





# Rugby Success

The 1st XV were cheered to victory by an enthusiastic crowd of supporters on Friday 28th September at the Abbey Rugby Club, winning 67-19 at the annual Friday Night Lights game against Reddam House. Later in the term we welcomed back the unbeaten 1948 Rugby Team for their 70th reunion. The six surviving members of the team toured the grounds and met students, including Head Boy, **Chunya Munga** (Upper Sixth), a member of the present U18 England squad. Take a look at how the team back then compares to our 1st XV today!



# Hockey Champions

A fantastic season for the Under 18 Girls' Hockey Team culminating in winning the Super 8 Hockey League with Reading Bluecoats. An excellent term of determination, sportsmanship and teamwork not only for the Under 18s but for all players across the school who have enjoyed competing, training and building up their skills over the last few months.



# ISA Swimming Champs



The Independent Schools Association Swimming Championships on 19th November were a fantastic opportunity for our swim squad to compete against other schools in the south west. The team garnered several medals in the individual races and relays with the senior boys gaining third place overall. Congratulations to Zack, Maia Stevens, Owen Say, Hamish X and Tom X. At the start of December Zack and Tom went on to compete in the ISA Nationals, and were delighted to win the event as members of the ISA South West squad.

# Advanced Performer Programme

Students who achieve a representative level of sport are offered individual strength and conditioning sessions as well as additional sporting opportunities via our Advanced Performer Programme (APP) to support their training outside school.

On 4th and 5th December the APP group enjoyed a trip to St George's Park, Derby, where they were put through their paces by coaches from Gamer Changer Performance. An array of physical assessments resulted in individual reports offering personalised capability feedback and a lot of (tiring!) fun for all those involved.



# Sports Scholars

We offer a number of sports scholarships every year to elite athletes in recognition of the additional commitment and drive they bring to the standard of sport in school. Although our sports scholars frequently train off site in county, regional or national teams their achievements are celebrated here and often inspire other students to try something new or to aim for excellence in their chosen discipline. This year GoPerformUK have joined us in a partnership supporting our scholars through



an holistic sports science programme, encouraging performance goals and providing injury support for our talented athletes.

# Netball Roundup

At Leighton Park we are committed to an inclusive approach to sport and throughout the Autumn term the girls have worked hard to develop their skills in netball, from a variety of starting points. Everyone has had a chance to play in matches, to learn new tactics and to grow their understanding of, appreciation for and capability in netball. We are looking forward to seeing their effort pay off in the Spring.





# Values

## DigiGirlz!

As no strangers to STEM challenges, eight of our Year 8 girls were excited to visit the UK Microsoft headquarters in Reading on Tuesday 20th November for the DigiGirlz event.

The project looked at creating a device that would help someone with a disability. Keen to help others, the girls worked hard in producing an innovative solution to their challenge.

"I really enjoyed going to Microsoft for DigiGirlz; I loved getting to create something! We made a lanyard that would help someone with a stutter to communicate and another group made a watch that would help someone with anxiety to relax through music and calm messages!" explained **Harriet Randall**.



## Mind Over Matter

Leighton Park's Patron of Reading, Julian Sedgwick, returned to the Park at the beginning of term to highlight the importance of key values such as integrity, peace and truth, reassuring students that, whatever you do in life, it is all right to make mistakes.

Julian greeted the new Year 7 Fryers and conducted a lively haiku workshop. Entertaining the whole room with stories of his own childhood ambitions, his interest in Asian cultures and his love for circus acts - even juggling apples and asking for a volunteer for a trick - Julian had students captivated!

"My favourite part of watching Julian's trick was when I realised he wasn't going to cut the apple and he was just pretending." laughed **Noah Ramos-Galvez**.



## Musical Medley



This term our wonderful singers and musicians performed at the RBH Intensive Care Unit's Memorial Service in commemoration of those who have passed away in the ICU in the past six months. Music can offer a valuable salve to grieving families and our singers were only too willing to do what they could to help. Later in the term, members of the Senior Choir visited a local retirement home, and yet again, were rewarded with delighted smiles and praise from the listeners that were highly appreciative of the festive music. Other musical events this term included the termly Soloists and Ensembles Concerts as well as the annual Jazz Infusions and Christmas Concerts that showcased an array of talented musicians performing a wide variety of music.



## Sustainable Thinking



On Tuesday 4th December, Design Engineer, Erica Purvis, delivered a sustainability presentation to Club STEAM and other interested members of the community. She revealed the imperative need for sustainability in each and every product through shocking statistics such as only 14% of the world's rubbish is recycled; one third of food is wasted globally and eight million tonnes of rubbish makes its way into the ocean each year!

"The talk was eye-opening. I would be interested in finding out what we can do to encourage businesses to be more environmentally friendly," enthused **Sophie Williams** (Upper Sixth).

"Hearing what organisations are doing to make products more sustainable was incredibly thought provoking and I'm sure it will influence the way I look at products in the future." reflected **Lexi Price-Lonsdale** (Upper Sixth).

Our very own Plastics Campaign Club is looking at ways of making the School more sustainable following the inaugural meeting of the group in November.



# Quaker Schools Week



Quaker Schools Week began on Monday 1st October with the Sixth Form fundraising group, Amicus, raising awareness of the deprivation which exists across the UK. Throughout the week students and their families contributed to a Food Bank collection which Amicus delivered to Reading Food Bank to help those in need.

On Tuesday, Sally Nicholls visited the school to run a workshop with Years 9 to 11 and discuss her latest work, 'Things A Bright Girl Can Do'. The book resonates with relevant themes for Quaker Schools Week and links to two significant anniversaries we are marking this year - the 100th anniversary of both the end of WWI and of some women gaining the vote.

The Cookery Club dedicated their weekly session to the creation of some delicious bakes for a local care home and students from Years 7 to 11 enjoyed getting messy whilst preparing gifts for the elderly. On Thursday, a group of eight students went to the Mulberry House care home to deliver the scrumptious goodies and also shared an aural feast with musical performances of modern classics and old favourites.

Other events included Year 10s welcoming a group of refugees aged sixteen and seventeen to the Park for lessons and sport, Year 7s venturing to Reading Meeting House to learn more about Quakerism and a whole school

themed mufti day with students wearing international dress or colours of a country.

The highlight of the week for Upper Sixth Formers, **Emma Hipkins** and **Faye Mui**, was their trip to Yorkshire for the annual Quaker Pilgrimage, informally known as 'Foxtrot'. "Quakerism can be what you make it but at its heart it is wanting to reflect and connect." explained Emma. "I'm not really a hiking kind of girl but it was fun and we made a lot of new friends that we're keeping in touch with through a group chat." added Faye. "It was a really different atmosphere," concluded Emma, "Everyone wanted to be there, it was really special."

## Head, Hand and Heart

Always keen to help others and support the community, whether it be local or international, Leighton Park students have been giving their time generously this term to support a variety of charitable causes.

The staff kicked off the charitable efforts by baking tasty treats for the Macmillan coffee morning on Friday 28th September, raising £254 for the cause.

Members of Field House supported the Link to Hope shoebox appeal and after much packing, wrapping, and distribution, we are delighted to announce that we managed to pack and wrap over 40 boxes. The boxes were then transported to underprivileged communities in Eastern Europe where they will be given over Christmas time to bring hope to people living in severe poverty.



In the run up to Christmas, Sixth Formers also arranged for the school to be a local donation point for Reading Family Aid, encouraging members of the community to donate any pre-owned or unwanted toys that could be re-gifted for children in need in the Reading area.



# Character

## STEM-sational!



Continuing our drive towards official status as a STEM Centre of Excellence, our students have benefitted from a multitude of opportunities this term whether through Club STEAM or trips to enhance their classroom learning.

From learning all about the pharmaceutical industry with Pfizer's 'Science in a Box' event, to seeing how carbon fibre is made for Formula One, to picking the brains of new product designers and visiting the V&A for a prototyping workshop, Leighton Park students have had an eclectic range of incredible experiences to develop their potential and build upon their interest in a variety of STEM disciplines.

"I really enjoyed the Pfizer event in the Houses of Parliament as there were many different stations with board games and fun activities to explain the different roles within the pharmaceutical industry," commented **Aki Gurung** (Year 8).

"My favourite game was like 'Frustration' but there were also cards with successes and setbacks that could happen in the development of your drug. The end of the game was tricky as you had to throw exactly the right number to get your drug to the market or you got sent back to the beginning of the board. This was interesting because we were told that is actually what happens in pharmaceuticals, which must be so frustrating when people need that

medicine. The MPs we met were just like normal people, which I wasn't expecting and we also saw Teresa May going into a Brexit meeting; It was a really interesting trip." summarised **Harriet Randall** (Year 8).

Product Design A Level students got the chance to learn about manufacturing methods first hand as they visited Brick Kiln Composites, a specialist in the production of carbon fibre components, particularly for Formula One.

"The factory tour was amazing to see such high-quality parts being produced for use in a ground-breaking sport, and good to learn how materials can be combined to have superior properties." commented **Marcus Laing** (Upper Sixth).

"The trip gave me a unique insight into both working with composites and F1 manufacturing." added **Will Parsons** (Lower Sixth).

On a trip to the Victoria and Albert Museum, Year 11 students guessed their way through the purpose, ownership and materials used in a number of unusual Victorian objects then headed for the Japanese galleries for a spot of technical drawing. Back in the workshop they spent the afternoon developing creative ideas through a series of iterative designs!



A Level students built upon their design ideas after visiting the 100% Design Exhibition at the Olympia Exhibition Centre. "The trip gave me an insight into modern and upcoming design which I don't think I could have got from anywhere else. I would definitely go again and would encourage others to go too!" commented **Matthew Meade** (Upper Sixth).

"It was a really good experience to talk to some of the people at 100% Design and to see how designs can evolve and change with the introduction of new technologies and consumer needs." explained **Frederik McArthur** (Upper Sixth).



# It's a Treasure!



Thrilling action and adventure emanated from Main Hall between 28th and 30th November as students put on a superb swashbuckling performance of Robert Louis Stevenson's story, 'Treasure Island'.

The imaginative adaptation by Bryony Lavery first premiered at the National Theatre in 2014, stunning audiences as the archetypal boys' adventure story was turned on its head. With Jim Hawkins played by a girl, the script gained a whole new dimension, not to mention quite a few gender related laughs, to the dark tale of money and mutiny.

**Letitia Kansime** (Lower Sixth), embraced the role of the protagonist, Jim, and found the experience enlightening: "I really underestimated how much work goes into a production and how much the actor has to learn in order to be and breath their character to pull off a convincing performance. Not only am I grateful for the experience but this opportunity has also opened my eyes to the career possibilities in theatre because of how much I have enjoyed being on stage!"

The stage was transformed into a colossal ship sailing the high seas as the audience followed Jim on her quest for the hidden treasures of the infamous pirate, Captain Flint. With her friends, Dr Livesey and Squire Trelawney, and the far less reputable but much grubbier, crew of the cunning Long John Silver, Jim embarked on an adventure beset with follies and fortune.

Following specialist fight training workshops and sessions on the creation of convincing wound make up, not to mention a committed schedule of rehearsals throughout the Autumn term, students were prepared to deliver an authentic pirate-filled performance.

Long John Silver actor, **Alex Shean** (Upper Sixth), reflects on the preparation for the play: "Keeping up with the commitments for the rehearsals – and learning my lines! – has been hard but there has been no better feeling than at the end of a performance when everything has gone well and you can just take in the moment."

This year's production also saw Middle School students playing key roles; **Gregor Jones** (Year 9) put in an excellent performance as the mad marooned islander, Ben Gunn: "I have enjoyed taking part in the production and playing my character, Ben Gunn, because of the expression in his voice and the nervousness in the acting."

**George Lee** (Upper Sixth), who played Squire Trelawney, reflects on the unique Leighton Park ethos saying, "I have really enjoyed how we have worked together as a group; the community feels so much more than just a cast and because of that it really allows you to embrace performing and your character and allow you to develop your skills."

Letitia agreed, adding, "Performing at Leighton Park is special because of the community; it's definitely what I value most; the support you get from staff and the students and how they encourage you to go beyond your fears, which allows you to discover things about yourself you didn't know."



## Art Inspiration



Lined with Renaissance and Gothic palaces alongside the canals, there was much to delight Art and Textiles Year 11 and Sixth Form students with their creative projects, as they absorbed the colour and culture of Venice on their visit from 21st to 24th September.

Closer to home, Year 10 GCSE students were more than happy to visit London's largest UNESCO World Heritage site, Kew Gardens, in the warm autumn sunshine on Wednesday 10th October. Students were amazed by the extensive range of landscapes and iconic architecture that was offered to inspire them, not to mention the largest and most diverse collection of living plants in the world.

## Football Fanatics

During October Long Leave, 25 footballers from Years 7 to 9 travelled to Eindhoven, Holland, for a five-day football tour. Keen footballers were able to experience new styles of playing and coaching to develop their skills for the season ahead.

Highlights of the tour included training with academy coaches at PSV Eindhoven at the outstanding De Herdgang training complex, a tour of Eindhoven and two very competitive evening fixtures against local Dutch opposition DVS.



## Travel Scholarship

On 1st November the Travel Scholarship 2018 was launched to Sixth Formers, as they had their eyes opened to the fantastic life-changing opportunities a gap year could give them and, in addition, give back to others.

With a desire to study Marine Biology at university, Old Leightonian, Alex Wilson, was awarded the Travel Scholarship two years ago so she could travel to South Africa and Thailand and work as a volunteer in marine conservation and diving. With the help of

the scholarship and the addition of Alex's hard-earned money through part-time jobs, she was able to gain first-hand experience at working in marine biology, confirming that it was the right choice for her career.

The launch concluded with the School's Gap Year Fair for Sixth Formers, providing practical advice and information on the choices available.



## FashTech

On 23rd November, a group of students from Year 7 to Lower Sixth attended the FashTech event in Reading. Competing against other local schools, students designed a wearable technology product and presented their ideas in a 'Dragon's Den' style to a group of business leaders. The students also received master classes in product design through video mentor sessions to help bring their creative ideas to life.

"It was a really exciting day; all of the talks were engaging and interesting. Pitching and sharing ideas was the best part by far." commented **Isaac Davies** (Year 7).



## Shakespeare Double Bill



Students were treated to a double bill of Shakespearean tragedy this term with a trip to Romeo and Juliet following Othello on consecutive days. Year 11 students ventured to Stratford-Upon-Avon for the RSC's performance of Romeo and Juliet, hot on the heels of a trip to the Oxford Playhouse to see Richard Twyman's production of Othello just the evening before.

Drama students in Year 10 and Sixth Form were mesmerised by the bard's tale of jealousy and prejudice.

In Stratford, Year 11 were lucky enough to enjoy a performance so compelling that some of the students were moved to tears. **Naomi Bonthron**, English teacher, reflected, "It was a really enjoyable trip with lots of students buzzing. The play itself was staged very well, with modern sound design and a really diverse cast."



# Glaciers, Geysers and Geo-thermal Pools!



From Monday 15th to Friday 19th October, 43 of our keen Geographers ventured to the best of the Icelandic sights during half term, as they became captivated by gigantic glaciers, explosive geysers and enticing geo-thermal pools.

Excitement and adventure permeated the trip as students experienced walking on a glacier, complete with crampons and ice axes, colossal geyser explosions, majestic rainbows, exploring lava tunnels and even managed to make time to visit a luxurious spa.



## Psychologists Visit Bedlam

At the beginning of term Upper Sixth Psychology students ventured to the original and oldest psychiatric hospital in the world, Bethlem Royal Hospital.

"It was a genuine insight into the minds of people struggling with mental illness whilst also allowing for a brief history of Bethlem itself," said **George Lee**.

Students explored the archives discovering records considering issues such as diagnosis and treatment as well as the use of restraint. They were given a closed viewing of the contemporary artwork produced by current patients and spent time analysing one of the hospital's more famous artists, William Kurelek's painting, 'The Maze' to help understand his illness. "It made me really appreciate the struggle that sufferers of Schizophrenia have gone through," commented **Paddy Mackay**, "And also enabled me to realise how serious this psychotic disorder is and how it can, and does, affect the lives of so many."



## D of E Update

Aimed at pushing young people beyond their boundaries, the Duke of Edinburgh Award is a fantastic opportunity to build confidence and resilience whilst making friends and having fun. This term, 25 Silver D of E participants enjoyed the mild autumn weather on their walk to Farley Hill, practising their navigation skills as they prepare for bigger expeditions in the Spring. Thirteen new Bronze award participants embarked on their first walk from Ruscombe to Waltham St Lawrence and mastered their basic navigational skills through compass work and measuring ground distance by pace count.





# Community

## African Adventures

October's Long Leave gave two groups of our lucky Sixth Formers the fantastic opportunity to visit Uganda and Tanzania. The Africa trips run biennially and are a long-standing feature of the Sixth Form experience at Leighton Park. Returning to the same communities each time has allowed us to build successful relationships of trust and respect over the years and to make a genuine difference to the lives of children financially less fortunate than our own students.

### Tanzania

The Livingstone Tanzania Trust supports local communities by providing tools and knowledge to prevent them from living in poverty and for nine days our students worked under their direction. Rolling up their sleeves, they built a cow shed, six handwashing stations and fenced off the fish pond at a primary school. They perfected their brick-laying skills and even learnt how to make topai, a kind of cement to go between the bricks. They also tried market shopping, ate with the local community and enjoyed a peace talk.

After working hard students were treated to a safari and visit to a stunning lake. 26 types of animals were spotted, including lionesses, elephants and an array of bright and beautiful birds.

"I think for me, one of the most valuable things I have learnt from this experience is to have greater appreciation for what I have in day-to-day life, as well as also making me develop a better work ethic." commented **Paddy Mackay** (Upper Sixth).



"Going to Tanzania was such an incredible experience; to get a different perspective and to see that our way of living isn't necessarily the right way of life." added **Millie Dean-Lewis** (Lower Sixth).

### Uganda

Travelling via Qatar the Ugandan group drove from the airport through rainforest and downtown Kampala, ending their journey with a boat tour on Lake Victoria, before joining the Jinja Education Trust (JET). The JET charity aims to improve the education, training and welfare of young people in Uganda so they can go on to acquire the necessary skills for a successful and fulfilling life. The group runs several schools and nurseries so our students got stuck in, painting classrooms, visiting a local orphanage several times and spending time with many members of local community.

"It's amazing how kids with so little smile as if they have everything. Excitement filled the air as we became familiar faces to many tiny hands reaching out and clasping onto ours. When it came time to leave, we all had to sneak out one by one to avoid making any of the children upset!" explained **Alaska Engelen** (Upper Sixth).



"Seeing the teachers' reactions to such small gifts that we gave them and working with the orphanages was amazing. I would recommend the trip to anyone; it was a trip of a lifetime!" enthused **Jasmine Phipps** (Upper Sixth).





## A Warm Welcome (Outdoors!)



The first weekend of the Autumn Term provides bonding time for our new students through the Sixth Form adventure weekend to Little Canada, a PGL venue on the Isle of Wight, and through our Fryer Camping on the Park for incoming Year 7s. Both groups forged new friendships and reinforced existing relationships at the end of their first week by having plenty of fun in the fresh air with games and activities as diverse as canoeing, tunnelling and drinking hot chocolate!



## Murder Mystery!

Reckitt House hosted its first murder mystery event in November, staging a lavish party at which one of the guests suffers an untimely demise. With everyone a suspect, the other guests were instantly suspicious of each other and were tasked with tracking down the killer through questions and clues. Compered by English teacher, **Leana Mikula**, the event was a great success, bringing together day and boarding students across all year groups within the House to solve the puzzle, get dressed up as their characters and enjoy some delicious snacks. "I'd like to do it again," commented Leana, "It is quite complicated so it takes some organising but it was fun; the students really enjoyed it and it's good to do something a bit different."



## Pick of the Archives

Members of the school community were drawn together by Archivist, John Allinson, on 20th November, for our own contribution to the national spotlight on historical treasures, 'Explore your Archives' week. An audience of parents, former parents, Old Leightonians and staff were fascinated and amused by the range of documents and photos shared. From the tear-jerking letter written to the school by the Head Benjamin Townson on the death of his son, to the brutally honest school reports, John entertained with his extensive knowledge and passion for Leighton Park.



## The Great Debate



One of Leighton Park's greatest traditions, the Jonathan Backhouse Hodgkin Speech Competition was determined to develop the students' skills of "thinking on their feet". The guidelines for the competition involve talking for three minutes uninterrupted, withstand eight minutes of heckling whilst continuing and then summing up in a further three minutes.

None afraid to tackle controversial subjects, Lower Sixth students **Millie Dean-Lewis, Shaun Uppal, Joe Barley** and Upper Sixth student **Josh Milhofer** spoke articulately and passionately, facing the traditional barrage of heckling with aplomb.

All members of the community from students to Old Leightonians, joined the candidates in Main Hall. Up first was Shaun with his argument, 'Why the burqa and niqab should be banned in the UK'. Millie stood firm as she argued 'We need to change the way we give aid'. Facing the most challenging heckling of the night, Josh did well to uphold his argument 'The Vicious Villainy of Veganism' and to close, Joe faced the dissenting crowd with his debate, 'Brexit voters should not be stereotyped as racist'. It was a tough decision for the judges as the four speakers delivered strong arguments but Joe was announced as the JBH 2018 winner for his skilful argument, delivery and handling of the heckling.

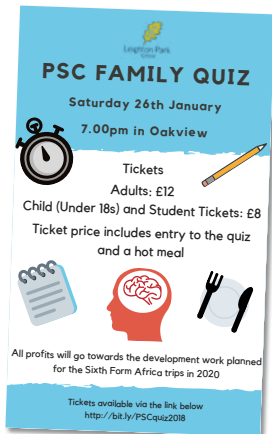




# Community

## Quizzers Book Now!

The PSC are hosting their annual Family Quiz on Saturday 26th January in Oakview from 7.30pm. Join us to pit your wits against the other quizzers: mixed age teams have a distinct advantage! Tickets are £8 for under 18s and £12 for adults. Book now at <http://bit.ly/PSCquiz2018>



## PSC Parents' Lunch

Smiles and satisfied appetites for parents, grandparents and guardians in Oakview on 12th October as the PSC's Parents' Lunch welcomed hungry guests. Keen to learn more about the food their children enthuse about on a daily basis, everyone was delighted to tuck into salmon en croute, vegetarian mushroom and spinach filled crepes or crispy chicken with lemon and tarragon, followed by a delicious selection of desserts.



## Honey Harvest

The school has a rich history of beekeeping, resurrected in recent years by the Greenfingers Club led by Head of Biology, **Gemma Sims**, and **Chris Lockwood**, Biology Technician. The group have harvested another successful honey crop this year with almost 100 jars of Leighton Park honey on sale to parents, staff and students in aid of the Jinja Educational Trust, the charity supported by the recent Sixth Form trip to Uganda.



## Lurner Prize 2018

Congratulations to this year's winner **Tom McLellan** (Lower Sixth) for his drypoint etching inspired by the locals of Venice. The runners up were **Alaska Engelen** (Upper Sixth) for her creative writing inspired by Michael Ondaatje's *The English Patient* and **Rufus McLeod-Williams** (Year 10) for his quirky cinematic take on being late for school. Drawn from a shortlist of twelve **Mark Wood**, Head of Art, describes the winners as "representing a spectrum of creativity across all disciplines".



## Supporting the School

The PSC have provided fantastic support for many Autumn Term events. From speaking to prospective families at October's Annual Open Morning or decorating Peckover for Christmas evening meeting to running the bar throughout the Treasure Island production, parents have given generously of their time and energy. Friends of Leighton Park Music, a group of current and former parents with a special interest in music, have kindly served refreshments at each of the term's four concerts. The Nearly New Shop is run by parent volunteers and is a helpful service available for all parents at the monthly Fryer Parent Teas. Thank you to all those members of our community who have supported the school.

