INTRODUCTION FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL, MR FISHER

It has been another very successful term at Laureate Academy, but for me it will be my last as I leave after nearly 14 years in this school community.

I have been privileged to serve this wonderful community in many roles, and more recently over the last 3 years as Head of School. I have been lucky enough to have worked with fantastic members of staff, who work tirelessly to ensure we deliver on our vision. I would like to thank all the staff of the school, past and present, for their relentless efforts to ensure this great school moves forward to become a place where children receive a genuinely exceptional standard of education.

I am proud to say the team I have led have ensured the school is left in a much better place than I found it, with significant improvements in results, systems and staffing. As a father, when you hand over your child to a school, one realises how important schools are. It is a hugely emotional time for any parent. As parents, we put our trust in a set of professionals at a school hoping they will want our children to be as happy as we do. In all my time at the school, I have always placed success and happiness at the centre of my drive and determination. The school now has a strong base to continue and accelerate the improvements that have been put in place. I also look forward to the new Principal, Mr Singh, being given a warm welcome in the summer term.

I have had some wonderful times at the school attending various trips or educational experiences that have enriched not just the children’s lives, but also my own. The school is defined by its students and that was the reason why I decided to join the school in the first place. I have been lucky enough to bump into past students outside of school and hear how my lessons or leadership have stayed with them, and this is what makes this hard profession worth all the hard work and the late nights.

To all the students, thank you for being great! I will always have a special place in my heart for this school and its community. I leave with a message, to the students, parents and staff: be proud of the school and community you belong to, never put a ceiling on your expectations and dream big.

UPCOMING EVENTS

5th – 10th April
MFL Trip to Freiburg

6th May
Bank Holiday

17th May
MFL Trip to Boulogne

20th May
GCSE and A Level exam begin

INDEPENDENT LIVING

Sophie Size, Year 13 Student

On 27th March, the entire sixth form were involved in an informative talk regarding the strengths and weaknesses of university. The University of Hertfordshire presented this, engaging the students through various tasks, such as playing ‘Higher or Lower’ and voicing our worries about our time at university.

The visitors were very informative and made the session very enjoyable for all students, providing vital information for our futures at university. They were willing to answer any questions we had and gave us a new insight into the advantages of going to university.
SMARTLY DRESSED STUDENTS
Mr Benjamin, Assistant Headteacher

Students at Laureate have come a long way with regard to their uniform and appearance. From the time students arrive to school in the morning, to when they leave in the afternoon, their attire and appearance is exemplary. In a recent discussion between the Local Council and Laureate staff, it was mentioned by council members that the school had one of the smartest uniforms in the Borough. Students at Laureate Academy take pride in their appearance and pay attention to the finer details of shirts tucked in and ties covering their top buttons. The vast majority are seen in school shoes, and blazers are worn at all times with pride. The attitude students have to their uniforms compliments the high expectations they have of themselves and the dedication they have to the school and to learning.

When students return to school after the Easter holidays, could parents please support the school by ensuring students arrive in discreet make-up and that jewellery is limited to small stud earnings in the ear lobe only and a wrist watch. Coats, jackets, hair accessories and socks must also be dark in colour (navy blue or black). Please ensure socks are ankle socks, as knee high socks are not allowed. As always, your support from home with uniform and appearance is much appreciated and we look forward to another term of smartly dressed students.

WORLD BOOK DAY
BOOKMARK COMPETITION
Mrs Turton, Literacy Coordinator/Librarian

Congratulations to Mia Smith, Year 8; Jasmin Coles, Year 10 and Caitlyn Moorcroft, Year 7 for being awarded the top three places in our bookmark competition. Their designs will be made up and given to our visiting Year 6 students when they have their taster day next term.

Please look after this page
Thank you.

1st Place - Mia Smith
ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME
Mr Tizard, Assistant Headteacher

It is great to see significant numbers of Laureate Academy students participating in the various Enrichment activities that take place at lunchtime and after school. The STEM Club students, as you will have seen have thoroughly enjoyed building their rocket cars, and getting the chance to race them, some amazing work completed by the students.

We see large numbers on the Astro pitch every lunchtime, as well as in the Sports Hall practising their Basketball skills, and also in the Fitness room working on their strength and conditioning. The Library is also a hive of activity every lunchtime, with students getting the chance to challenge one another in a variety of board games, learn how to play chess, complete additional research for the academic subjects, or just to sit quietly and read. After school we are seeing more and more students taking advantage of our daily homework club, a sign of students taking more responsibility for their work, as well as a heightened aspiration to achieve even higher standards.

In the summer term, there will continue to be lots of enrichment activities available to our students and we hope to see lots of students taking advantage of these great opportunities.

After the excellent fund raising by Laureate Academy students and support from Future Charity the bike-shed is now a secure place to park bikes. The next project that we are trying to raise funds for is additional outdoor Basketball posts. Basketball has become such a popular sport at Laureate Academy, we simply do not have enough rings to satisfy demand, and shall be working hard to try and raise funds for extra hoops, as well as update the nets and rings on our existing posts.
WORLD BOOK DAY BAKE-OFF
Mrs Turton, Literacy Coordinator/Librarian

One of our World Book Day activities was a Book Bake-Off competition, challenging students to create a cake on the theme of books or one particular title. The response was incredible, highlighting the huge talent we have among our young bakers. Clearly, students had put several hours into their masterpieces and the judging was far too difficult for one person to undertake alone. Over 150 staff and students who came to the library throughout the day to view the cakes, were asked to pick their top three and rank them accordingly.

The winning cake was the Sorting Hat from Harry Potter books, created by Jolene Giles and Mia Smith (Year 8).

Second place went to Sky Evans’ (Year 7) Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.

Runner-up prizes went to: Billionaire Boy by Ben Baldwin (Year 7); Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Harry Hyder (Year 8); and another Chocolate Factory by Emily Gray (Year 7).

All the named winners received book tokens and certificates to acknowledge their achievement; all entrants received Laureate Awards for Aspiration in recognition of the quality of their baking.

Apart from the outstanding efforts from the bakers, it was especially pleasing to see so many students admiring the work and joining in with the voting. Congratulations to all involved!
WORLD BOOK DAY STORYTELLING
Mrs Turton, Literacy Coordinator/Librarian

The Science staff took storytelling to a new level to celebrate World Book Day on 7th March. Such is the interest from students in these events that, on this occasion, we had two sessions running at once, in specially decorated areas of the library.

The library was buzzing, with almost 40 students being entertained while eating their lunch. While Miss Surridge continued with Harry Potter and the Cursed Child which she’d started in an earlier session, Mr White caused much hilarity by using props to add effect to David Walliams’ Fing.

Thanks to the staff who gave up their time and the students who are such appreciative audiences.

SPEED-NETWORKING EVENT IN SCHOOL AND WORK EXPERIENCE FOR YEAR 10
Mrs Shaw, Careers and Enrichment Coordinator

I have recently joined Laureate Academy as Careers and Enrichment Coordinator. We are holding a speed-networking event with students at Laureate Academy on Wednesday 8th May, 8.45am to 11am and we would like to invite professional working adults to take part. On a carousel basis, speaking directly to small groups of students, you could help raise their awareness of the world of work, and give them an idea of career routes and employer expectations. If you are able to support this event, please complete this online form or contact me via email for more information: p.shaw@laureateacademy.org.uk

Thank you to the many parents and carers of Year 10 students who have encouraged their children to find their own placements for work experience week. It has been inspiring to know that you have engaged so positively with this process.

GIRLS NETBALL
Miss Harris
Head of Core PE and Extra-Curricular

The girls netball season has now come to an end with a great effort from all girls who participated in matches and training. The Year 7s and 8s ended their season with a versatility tournament against all of the other schools in the district, held at Ashlyns School. It was a fun way to conclude what has been a great season with many personal and team developments.

The Year 9 & 10 team were lucky enough to make it to the district plate final. Our competition was Ashlyns who had beat us earlier in the year. It was a very windy day which made passing and shooting very difficult. However, we came away with a win, and our very first trophy as Laureate Academy. The girls also got their own gold medal to keep as the 2019 champions!
YEAR 11 GCSE TRIP TO WALTON-ON-THE-NAZE
Mr Easthorpe, Head of Geography

Towards the end of the term three, a lucky group of studious Year 11 pupils got the opportunity to spend Valentine’s Day doing something that they love: evaluating the effectiveness of coastal management strategies along the Walton on-the-Naze coastline. 51 pupils spent half a day quantifying the amount of sediment on two beaches through the use of beach profiling and measuring the amount of sediment being trapped by the hardwood groynes. The weather played its part too!

This trip formed one of two parts, which all GCSE pupils have to complete as part of their preparation for their final exams in May/June of this year, a chance to apply the theory that they have learnt in class to a real life situation.

CARNegie SHADOWING
Mrs Turton, Literacy Coordinator/Librarian

Carnegie Shadowing has taken off in style this year, with over 25 students signing up to take part in our first Laureate Academy Shadowing group. Students were very excited at their first meeting, the day the finalists for the award were announced, eager to choose their first title and get reading. The aim is to read as many as possible of the eight books, between now and June when the award is made.

Once a week, we will meet up and discuss the books, write reviews, and share our thoughts prior to voting for, what will be the first, Laureate Carnegie Choice.

TEENAGE CANCER TRUST ASSEMBLY
Jessica Bond, Year 12 Student

I found the assembly on Teenage Cancer really informative; they gave us key information such as symptoms to spot and the types of treatments such as chemotherapy.

It was very hard hitting as they showed us real life stories that made me open my eyes to why it is important to spot the signs of cancer early and encourage others to do the same. It was also very helpful that they gave us an information card to take away for future reference.

FIRST AID COURSE
Drew Edwards, Year 12 Student

On 27th February a group of Sixth Form students took a First Aid course. It was a really useful course, and the instructor was great. We learned things like how to perform CPR, what to do if somebody is having a seizure, and how to deal with bleeding and burns. The course itself was both fun and informative.

While I hope to never have to actually use the skills I learned, it feels good knowing that I could be the one to save somebody’s life. It also provides some very useful practical skills. As an added bonus, having a First Aid qualification looks really great on a CV.
After several months of hard work, the EPQ evening was a chance for each of us to demonstrate our passion for our chosen topics. Everyone spent time meticulously arranging (and rearranging) their displays in order to produce something eye-catching that would make their project stand out amongst the other fascinating exhibits. For some, interactivity was key, whether that be exhibiting their glowing yeasts or quizzing the visitors on their knowledge of animated characters; others focused on the visual elements, presenting with largely detailed backdrops reminiscent of a crime scene, or adorning their table with the LGBT flag. Whatever their focus, everyone was keen to present – both to express their love for their area, but also in anticipation of the relief that would come when it was finally over, concluding the end to a huge amount of effort and determination. Despite the vastly different subject areas in the room – ranging from physics to psychology, the entertainment industry to political issues – we banded together and supported one another, each visiting the others’ stalls in order to learn more about their projects. There was a buzzing atmosphere of excitement and intrigue, not just from the visitors, but from all of the EPQ students as well. It was a long evening that seemed to fly by, with everyone absorbed in their individual talks. In a matter of hours, everything we had been working on for weeks had come to a close, leaving us feeling relaxed and prepared for our EPQ to draw to a close.

**DRAGON’S APPRENTICE FUNDRAISING SUCCESS**

Raheem Khan, Year 12 Student

In October 2018, we were presented with the opportunity to take part in the Dragons’ Apprentice challenge, with the task of turning £100 into £1000 for our selected charity (The Hospice Lottery Partnership) aided by our Dragon from Lloyds Bank. We’re proud to say we successfully achieved that goal and have had an amazing time participating in this event. Our first idea was to assist some A-Level music students in running a Halloween concert. The students were looking for assistance in coordinating the event so our team took the initiative to liaise with them, which resulted with us selling refreshments, food and raffle...
prizes at the concert. We also handled the marketing aspect in order to get people to come to the concert. We ran the event smoothly which allowed the music students to play their music, stress free.

Our second and final event was the quiz night which was independently hosted by the team. All aspects of this were organised solely by the team with Belinda and Claire (Hospice Lottery Partnership). The quiz night was a roaring success with a net profit of £1,015.60. We marketed the event to friends, family, students and teachers. One of our teachers, Mr Easthorpe, was the quiz master on the night due to his charismatic personality and was adored by the audience.

Our team sourced some great raffle prizes such as a round of golf at Shendish Manor. This resulted in a lot of raffle ticket purchases which was the main source of our income alongside the Lloyds price match. Despite the setbacks the quiz night was a huge success and helped us exceed our target of £1000.
Projects and Programmes for Young People in Dacorum

Targeted Prevention and Early Intervention to Enable Young People to Succeed

Area Team Manager, Karen Haswell
Youth Work Team Leader, Robert Brown
01442 853060
yc.dacorum@hertfordshire.gov.uk
www.yc.hertfordshire.org
@DacorumTeam

Enabling young people to succeed

The Swan Youth Project
137 - 139 High Street, Berkhamsted HP4 3HH
Monday 4.00pm - 6.00pm
For young people aged 13 - 17

Bridges 2 Beats
XC Centre, Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead HP2 4JS
Monday 6.30pm - 8.30pm
Breaking down barriers and reducing isolation through music.

The Monday Night Project
Bennets End Young People’s Centre, Kimpe Way, Hemel Hempstead HP3 8EN
Monday 6.30pm - 8.30pm
For young people aged 13 - 17

The Resilience Project
XC Centre, Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead HP2 4JS
Tuesday 5.00pm - 7.00pm
For young people aged 13 - 17 out of formal education

Youth At Risk
XC Centre, Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead HP2 4JS
Tuesday 5.00pm - 7.00pm
Supporting young people to prevent re-offending and to understand their consequences

Dacorum Youth Council
XC Centre, Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead HP2 4JS
Tuesday 7.00pm - 9.00pm
For young people aged 13 - 17 to have a voice in their community

Into the Frame Project (Including Emotional Wellbeing)
XC Centre, Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead HP2 4JS
Tuesday 7.00pm - 9.00pm
Young people aged 13 - 17 using music, media & photography to develop skills

Berkhamsted Street Project
Berkhamsted Snail Park (near Tesco)
Friday 6.00pm - 8.00pm
For young people aged 13 - 17

The Friday Night Project
XC Centre, Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead HP2 4JS
Friday 6.30pm - 8.30pm
For young people aged 13 - 17

The Discovery Project
Friday 6.30pm - 8.30pm (1st Friday of the month)
For details please contact Alex Dellier
Providing a supportive safe space for trans young people

The Friday Night Project
Bennets End Young People’s Centre, Kimpe Way, Hemel Hempstead HP2 4JS
Friday 7.00pm - 9.00pm
For young people aged 13 - 17

Hemel Hempstead Access Point
XC Centre, Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead HP2 4JS
Monday, Tuesday and Friday 2.00pm - 5.00pm
Provides free and confidential information advice, guidance and sexual health services including free condoms, chlamydia and pregnancy testing.

Girls Allowed Project
XC Centre, Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead HP2 4JS
Tuesday 7.00pm - 9.00pm
For girls and young women aged 13 - 17

Creative Spark Project
XC Centre, Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead HP2 4JS
Wednesday 6.30pm - 8.30pm for ages 13 - 17
Wednesday 7.30pm - 9.30pm for ages 18 - 24
For young people with learning disabilities

Independent Living Skills
XC Centre, Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead HP2 4JS
Wednesday 6.30pm - 8.30pm
Preparing young people, especially those leaving care for independence

Care Leavers Project (not currently running)
XC Centre, Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead HP2 4JS
Wednesday 6.30pm - 8.30pm
For young people aged 16 - 21 leaving care

Happy As I Am LGBTQI Project
XC Centre, Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead HP2 4JS
Thursday 4.00pm - 6.00pm for ages 13 - 17
Thursday 6.45pm - 8.45pm for ages 18 - 24
For further details please contact Heather Wallace
For LGBTQI young people

Supporting You @ the Emotional Wellbeing Group
XC Centre, Jarman Park, Hemel Hempstead HP2 4JS
Thursday 6.45pm - 8.45pm
For young people aged 13 - 17

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