



Durham and Cleveland LTA British Tennis Awards

Kirsty M, Lucas P, Kieron D, Archie L and Molly D attended the 7th Annual Durham and Cleveland LTA British Tennis Awards at Sunderland Football Stadium, collecting a Runner Up award and certificate recognising them for their services to British Tennis and being nominated for the Education Award Category. These students were nominated by Moira Smith, Chair of Guisborough Tennis Club, for their commitment to officiating at our CSSP Cluster, Partnership and Tees Valley Y3 and Y4 Tennis competitions, having taken part in an officiating course for Tennis. They regularly took part in the Tennis after school Sports Club last year and attend coaching opportunities at Guisborough Tennis Club. Some are now helping as coaches at the restart of the Tennis Club this term. They were outstanding ambassadors for LJS at such a formal event.

LJS Dance Show

On Thursday 27 April between 7pm-9pm, we will be holding our spectacular annual Dance Show in the new school's main hall. Tickets are available from the Finance Office, priced at £4. Once again this promises to be an outstanding event and we look forward to seeing you there to view the amazing dance talent of LJS students from Y7 through to Y11.



SAVE THE DATES!

'Race for Life'

We will be holding our own LJS 'Race for Life' on 4 July on our athletics track and fields. All students, staff, family and friends are welcome to take part in this fun event and raise as much money as possible for a fantastic cause. It will take place between 4pm and 5pm - pink and blue fancy dress or colour scheme is recommended!



Y9 LJS Leadership Academy

The 28 Y9 Leaders who form the LJS Leadership Academy, as part of the Cleveland Schools Sports Partnership Leadership Academy, have a drop-in session every Monday lunchtime where they have the opportunity to reflect on the previous week and forthcoming events. At the start of the year students apply for a place to help and support sporting events which take place for the Guisborough Primary Schools and the wider CSSP, gaining valuable life skills. The Leaders have officiated and supported at Tag Rugby, Indoor Athletics, Badminton, Swimming Galas, Cross Country and Netball. They have also had the opportunity to attend Young Leader Training in Netball, Badminton and working with children with special needs. They have proved themselves to be reliable, giving 100% to the events and activities they have been involved in and have acted as superb Ambassadors for LJS.

Laurence Jackson School A Specialist Sports College



LJS newsletter



SPRING 2017

www.laurencejackson.org

Headteacher's 'blog'

- MARCH 2017

The Spring newsletter is another bumper edition which showcases the many and varied achievements of LJS students and staff. At a recent staff training session, I featured over 20 significant events which have taken place since the turn of the year and I never cease to be amazed by the energy and dedication of staff in providing high quality enrichment activities for LJS students.

Despite all the challenges with the budget, workload and red tape, LJS staff are still prepared to go the extra mile to provide memorable opportunities and experiences, which help to make ours such a vibrant school with an impressive reputation in the local community.

At this time of year, Y11 take centre stage as they prepare for their exam season. We have to accept that Y11 will

be our main priority for the next few weeks as we support and challenge them to achieve the best possible outcomes.

They are certainly working hard at the moment but need to raise their game to the next level to hit aspirational targets. Trial exam results were slightly disappointing overall but we will use that information to guide students into filling any gaps and trust that parents will support us by encouraging attendance at workshops and revision sessions.



There is no such thing as a daft question and we encourage students (and parents) to raise any concerns at the earliest opportunity. Please do not hesitate to contact Mr Tuck,

Y11 Year Leader, Mrs Symington, our Student Welfare Manager, Mrs Carter, our Raising Standards Leader, or any of the subject staff or leaders if there are any genuine concerns.

Our core purpose is for parents and school to work together, with students at the heart of everything we do, to improve exam results and consequently life chances.

Working together we will succeed.

Tony Gavin
Headteacher



Calendar dates for Term 3

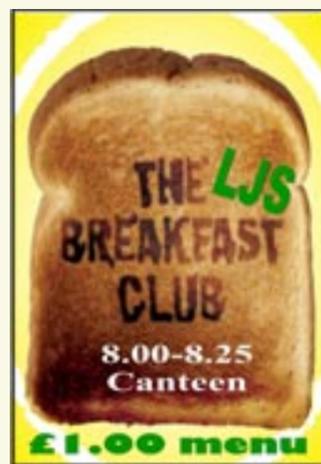
Easter break – Y11 Revision Workshops	
24 APRIL	School reopens at 8.25am
27	Dance Show 7.00pm – Main Hall
27	Junior Maths Challenge
28	Y10 Geography Option 2 Fieldtrip (all day)
28	Y11 Alton Towers Trip
1 MAY	Bank Holiday – School Closed
2	Y11 Exam season starts
3	Y10 Geography Option 1 Fieldtrip (all day)
4	Y11 PC4 issued to parents
6	English Lit P1 revision
8	Y10 Geography Option 1 Fieldtrip (all day)
9	Friends of LJS meeting - 7.00pm
9	Y8 Girls' HPV injections – activity room – Sports Centre
10	Y10 PC3 issued to parents
12	Options confirmed – letters to parents
12	Y10 Geography Option 3 Fieldtrip (all day)
13	English Lit P2 revision
14	PE revision sessions 9.00am–12.00 noon
18	Y10 Parents' Evening 4.00-6.30pm
20	English Lit P1 & 2 revision workshops
25	Y6 Drop in for concerned parents
25	Y6 Tag Teamwear uniform sales 3.00–6.00pm
26	School closes at 3.00pm for half term
1 JUNE	Maths revision – all day
5	School reopens at 8.25am
10	English Language P2 revision
13	Y7-10 Tag Teamwear uniform sales 3.00–6.00pm
13	Friends of LJS meeting - 7.00pm
20	Y6 Tag Teamwear uniform sales 3.00–6.00pm
22-24	Summer Concert
26	Y11 Leavers' Assembly
26-30	National Sports Week
28	Y10 PC4 issued to parents
28	Y10 College Taster Day
29	Y7-9 Enrichment Day
29-30	Y10 Making opportunities
30	Y7-9 Sports Day
3-7 JULY	Y10 Work Experience Week
3-21	Y6 Transition Weeks
3	Y7-10 Tag Teamwear uniform sales 3.00-6.00pm
4	Y7 PC3 issued to parents
4	Race for Life - 4.00-6.00pm
5	Y6 Induction Evening
6	Y11 Prom
10	Y8 PC3 issued to parents
11	Y6 Tag Teamwear uniform sales 3.30–6.00pm
14	Y9 PC3 & EKS3 TA issued to parents
19	Y10 Art trip
21	School closes at 12.00 noon
24 AUG	Exam results issued from 10am

Friends of LJS Update

Friends of LJS is a small committee of parents, staff and volunteers from the local community who co-ordinate money raising events for the benefit of students. In a school the size of LJS, there is always a big demand for extra funds to support and enhance student opportunities.

Money raised has been used to help fund an extensive range of activities within the school, for example, the overnight stay for the LJS debate team's trip to the finals at Eton (which we won), a selection of new instruments for the Music Department, MyMaths for the Maths Department and class planning software for the whole school. The money is also used to support the many school events that benefit the students and the wider community, such as the Annual Dance Show held each year. Meetings are held once a half term on a Wednesday evening from 7pm and usually last just over an hour.

The 200 Club also welcomes new members (£6 per yearly quarter), with monthly prize draws of £75, £50 and £25 available and a special draw for the Summer. For more information, please contact Mrs Spencer (spencere@laurencejackson.org) at school. Full details of The Friends of Laurence Jackson School events are available on the school website. We always welcome new members - the next meeting will be on Wednesday 10 May at 7pm in school.



SCHOOL EVENTS

Better Health at Work Award – GOLD

LJS has been awarded the 'Better Health at Work' Gold Award.

The school achieved a Bronze Award three years ago, progressing to the Gold Award this year and has been cited as a Redcar & Cleveland Council exemplar submission.

Carol Money, who is the school's ambassador for the 'Better Health at Work' scheme commented:

"I am pleased to be able to help Laurence Jackson to achieve the Gold 'Better Health' Award; we are one of only 13 schools nationwide who accomplished this in 2016.

It has been a fantastic opportunity to help ensure a healthy, positive and supportive working environment."

Y11 Update

This is the time of year when focus shifts to the main Summer exams. Y11 are busy finishing courses and revising, to be ready for their exams over the coming months. We have been thrilled by the response to our new 'Passport to Success', with Y11 students working extra hard to secure their achievement points for our rewards, such as Alton Towers and the Prom. Remember Y11 - every point counts – so keep pushing yourselves to aim for that magic 100!

The ethos and behaviour of Y11 students makes us very proud. It is humbling for Mr Tuck to be able to start assemblies and big events by sharing how well the cohort are performing. Please keep it up!

The much anticipated trip to Alton Towers will be on Friday 28 April. This will be a chance to have some fun before the big exams start.

We have so much intervention going on at the moment, Boundary Leapers in Maths, Likely Lads, mentoring... there is so much to play for! Y11, we are right behind you!

Prefects

We recently made our selection of Prefects from the current Y10 cohort. Applications were incredibly strong, with formal interviews being held for 12 students in front of a Panel consisting of Mrs Downs, Miss Sarginson and Mr Bastin (Governor).

We are thrilled to be able to announce that Zach D will be Head Boy and Kiera J our Head Girl, ably supported by Deputies Kellan H and Kate G. To support our work with anti-bullying, Ethan S and Lydia M will lead this team and for crucial events Scott J and Molly D will also be involved. Eleanor R and Robert T will be supporting our new intake during transition, and Maddie B and Scott A are working to support the curriculum of Arts and Sport respectively. A massive congratulations to all students who were chosen.

We wish our new team the very best of luck and thank the outgoing Y11 team who are now focusing their attention on exam preparation! Not long to go now!

Routes into Languages visit for Y9

On Tuesday 31 January, 145 Y9 students enjoyed a presentation from 3 language student ambassadors from Newcastle University. They learnt that 75% of the world population DOES NOT speak English, amongst other interesting facts as to how studying a language will enhance your career and

your salary and make you more intelligent! They also took part in French and Catalan interactive language activities. The ambassadors commented on how attentive and interested our students were.

Options for 2017-18

The options process has just concluded for Y9 students, after a series of assemblies, activities, discussions, meetings and 1:2:1 interviews with students and parents/carers. The Options Convention Evening and joint Y9 Parents' Evening held on Thursday 25 February was very successful, with a record attendance figure of 88%. The 1:2:1 interviews which took place provided the opportunity for some interesting discussions and ultimately confirming the informed option choices.

Work will now begin on the timetable - letters of confirmation will be sent home to parents/carers by 12 May.





Duke of Edinburgh & ICC Solutions - Exporting Excellence Competition – Winners

Cadie M, Abigail M, Katie J, Chloe C, Allyce R & Archie L, attended the Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) & ICC Solutions Exporting Excellence Competition in Warrington, to compete against five other schools. The students had to deliver a ten minute presentation on their chosen export product and prepare an exhibition stand for the panel of judges.

Prior to attending the competition, the students had to choose a country that delivers the Duke of Edinburgh Award and select a product or service that they could export to this country. The chosen country was Uganda and they decided to export life-saving skills and floatation aids, due to Uganda having the 6th highest drowning rate in the world.

The students met every Thursday to research enterprise and exporting skills and also spent a day with Mr Shakesheff (LJS Governor) and Ms Irving at Casper Shipping to look in detail at exporting to foreign countries. Mr Shakesheff arranged for the students to take a trip along the River Tees to look at the different types of cargo ships and their containers and they even managed to see the local seal colony. Ms Irving shared her vast experience in exporting to foreign countries and gave them sample copies of all the necessary paperwork students would need to export their product and gave them details on how to work out the cost of exporting.

On the day of the competition, the LJS students came up against five other

strong teams who had also thoroughly completed their research into exporting. They engaged the judges in life-saving skills at their exhibition stall and delivered their presentation in a clear and concise manner, which resulted in them winning first prize in this prestigious competition, being presented with a stunning crystal trophy and a cheque for £2,500 from DofE ICC Solutions to buy Duke of Edinburgh equipment.

The students are using the skills and knowledge they learnt in this competition for their 'Skill Section' of their DofE Bronze Award.



Educational Visits

During the Easter holidays there are visits to Malaga and Iceland.

26 students accompanied by 3 staff will visit Malaga for a week's Spanish immersion and cultural visits. The students will be visiting the sights of Malaga including the Alcazaba and Gibralfaro, as well as the Bull Ring and Football Stadium. They will also have fun bowling on the beach. Furthermore, the students will not only be having a Spanish lesson but will also be using their Spanish throughout the visit for various purposes. Look out for our update in the summer newsletter! ¡Hasta luego!

Meanwhile, 51 Y11 students and 5 staff will set out on a long awaited trip of a lifetime to Iceland, the island where ice and fire meet! This is a fantastic opportunity for all involved to walk across the tectonic boundary between Europe and North America, visit the spectacular waterfalls of Skogafoss and Seljalandsfoss, and 'chill out' in the geothermally heated Blue Lagoon! Let the adventure begin... For full details please see the Summer Newsletter.

Thanks go to the staff accompanying these students.

Holocaust Memorial Day

Students from Y8 marked Holocaust Memorial day on 27 January by producing artwork within their Art lessons. Students worked with their teachers to remember and reflect upon those lost during the Holocaust and its survivors. Students produced artwork in a variety of styles following discussion and through looking at other artists who have commemorated this dark period of history. Art department staff were humbled by all the students' sensitive and mature response - Well done.



Kerrang Success

Y10 student Amy K's talent in Art has given her national exposure. One of Amy's drawings of the infamous American musician, songwriter and rapper Tyler Joseph was selected to feature in a copy of

the music magazine, Kerrang. If that was not enough, Amy had another picture selected of the American singer and songwriter Halsey, to be featured in the following issue.



Claim your free school meal...



...and everyone's a winner!

To find out whether you qualify talk to your school or your council about free school meals today.



Youth Parliament Elections

On 22 February LJS took part in the Redcar & Cleveland Member of Youth Parliament elections. Kellen H, one of our Y10 students, stood for election alongside six other students from local schools in the area. Prior to the elections, the young people had to produce a statement about why they wanted to stand and a video clip to help with their campaign. The candidates were competing for the 4,000 votes on offer at six of the Borough's Secondary Schools.

On 23 February Mr Gavin, Mrs Doyle and Mrs Spencer attended the official count, where Kellen received nearly a third of all the votes cast and was duly elected.

Kellen's task is to work with young people in Redcar & Cleveland to make sure their views and ideas are represented to decision makers on a local, regional and national level.

Kellen said: "It is an honour to become the next Member of Youth Parliament for Redcar & Cleveland, this is a great



opportunity to work with my fellow young people across the Borough and represent their views for the next two years.

I would like to pay my respects to all the other candidates, I was facing some really tough campaigners and I wish them all the luck in the world for the future."

Kellen can also look forward to attending the annual debate at the House of Commons, chaired by

the Speaker of the House, the Right Honourable John Bercow MP, to decide which issues will become the prioritised campaigns for the year ahead.

Run by young people, the UK Youth Parliament provides opportunities for 11-18 year-olds to use their voice in creative ways to bring about social change.

To find out more, go to www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/youthparliament.

Sydney Opera House Stars Perform in the Spring Concert

On Tuesday 4 April over 60 students took part in our annual Spring Concert. This year the Choir were joined by Opera Australia's Sarah Sweeting and Eddie Muliau, who also delivered a brilliant workshop during the final rehearsal. As well as performing their own items, Sarah and Eddie performed pieces by Bizet and Gershwin with the LJS Choir.

The rest of the concert featured the LJS Orchestra, Stage Band and Singing Shed Choir (led by singing teacher Laura-Anne Thompson).

Amongst the soloists in this year's concert was National Youth Choir singer and LJS student Charlotte P. This will be Charlotte's final concert with LJS - we wish her well next year as she attends the prestigious Chetham's School of Music.

As always, concert proceeds will go towards purchasing instruments for the growing number of students learning to play musical instruments at LJS. Should you wish to donate to this worthy cause please contact Jonathan Codling, Head of Music, for further details.



The Ultimate Art Accolade

Cleveland College of Art & Design (CCAD) run a series of National Art & Design Saturday classes for young people. They select students who are keen to develop their Art & Design skills and have a real interest in the subject. This year LJS Y10 students Olivia G, Leah G, Keira J, Amy K, Laura K, Elsie L and Ellie W were chosen.

One project the students were given was to produce a self-portrait. Their results were so successful that, along with other students from around the country, their work was displayed at the Victoria & Albert Museum - the ultimate accolade! On a day trip, organised by CCAD, the students went down to London to visit various art exhibitions, as well as seeing their work displayed in this prestigious venue.



Laurence Jackson Leisure Centre

Guisborough Leisure Centre at LJS will soon be re-launching under the new name of 'Laurence Jackson Sports Village - a centre for Champions'.

Please look out for more details on the school's website.





OPENING TIMES:

MONDAY	5-10pm
TUESDAY	5-10pm
WEDNESDAY	5-10pm
THURSDAY	5-10pm
FRIDAY	5-8pm
SATURDAY	9am-12noon
SUNDAY	9am-1pm

FACILITIES:

- A Full Size, Flood lit Artificial Grass Pitch
- 6-a-side Sports Hall
- Athletics Track
- Squash Court
- Badminton Courts
- Rock Climbing Wall
- Activity Room/Dance Studio
- BMX Track
- Meeting/Conference Room
- Playing Fields
- Fitness Suite - monthly membership and pay as you train available
- Classrooms, main hall and other areas within the school available for community hire

FOR ENQUIRIES: thurstonh@laurencejackson.org

ACTIVITIES IN THE LEISURE CENTRE ARE:

MONDAY	DESTINATION JUDO 4 - 6.15PM		GKR KARATE 6.30 - 8PM	
TUESDAY	NEW MARSKE HARRIERS 5 - 7PM	NORTHGATE BADMINTON 6.30 - 8PM	ABBEY BADMINTON 8.10 - 9.50PM	
WEDNESDAY	GYMNASTICS CLUB 5 - 8PM	REDCAR RUNNING CLUB 6.30 - 8PM <small>*FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH</small>	CIRCUIT TRAINING 7 - 8PM	HUTTON BADMINTON 8 - 9.40PM
THURSDAY	NEW MARSKE HARRIERS 5 - 7PM	PRIORY ARCHERY 7 - 9PM <small>WINTER ONLY</small>	PRIORY BADMINTON 8 - 9.40PM	
FRIDAY	BODY BLAST 6 - 7PM	PHOENIX BADMINTON 7 - 8PM		

These activities may be subject to change

There are also slots to hire per hour for football, badminton & squash

Tel. 01287 635471

Guisborough Leisure Centre

www.guisboroughleisure.co.uk

@guisboroughlc





SPORTS SPECIALISM UPDATE

There is never a dull moment in the PE Department and this term has been no different, with everything it seems going full throttle. Despite a number of obstacles and some unpredictable and unwelcome poor weather, the PE team and wider staff continue to amaze me with their enthusiasm, flexibility and commitment to the young people at LJS.

The 3G artificial grass pitch remains a hugely popular facility, which inspires students and staff who are lucky enough to use it on a daily basis. The abundance of enrichment sporting activities and extra-curricular competitions our students have the opportunity to take part in is phenomenal. One of my roles as Director of Sport is to coordinate the fixtures and enrichment programme. Each and every week students in every year group are involved in a vast amount of after school sports and competitive fixtures and without the support of the amazing teachers, these opportunities would be seriously limited.

Sporting Success this Term

The Winter term has proved once again to be a hugely successful one for our incredible teams and individual performers in sport.

At the time of writing, we still have 3 boys' teams involved in the **Football County Cup**, with the **Y8 and Y9 boys** already qualifying for the Final.

Our Y9 boys' Rugby team won the Redcar & Cleveland Tournament without conceding a try and went

forward to represent the County in the Tees Valley finals, finishing a credible 3rd.

We had a large number of students qualify for the Northern Finals of the Schools' Cross Country competition in the Lake District and from that many were selected to represent the region at the National Finals held in Norwich.

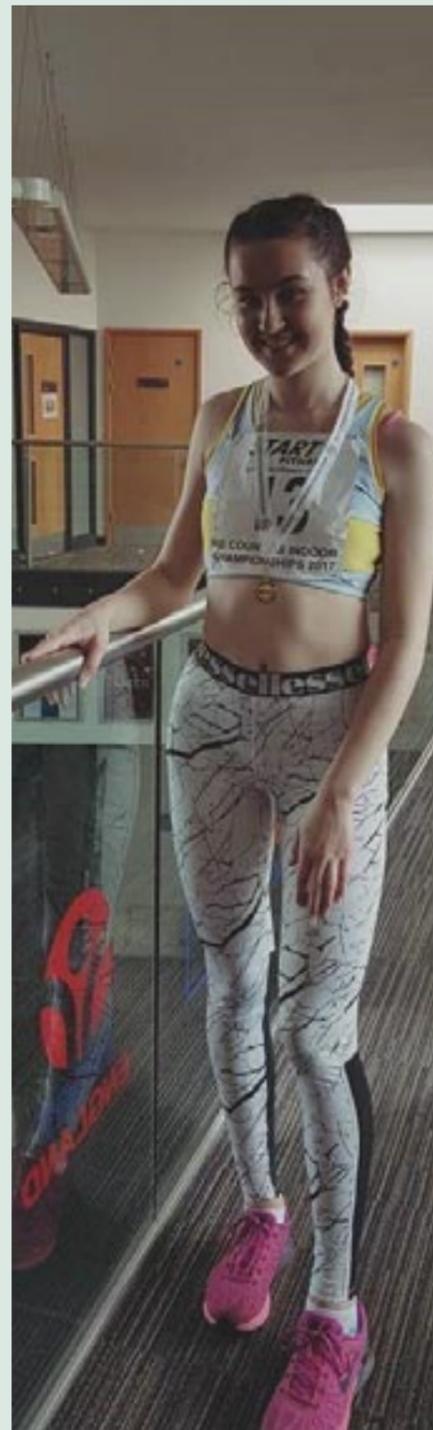
Our Y9 girls' Netball team continue to dominate the Redcar & Cleveland League and remain undefeated so far this academic year – they are a real force to be reckoned with!

In Basketball, our Y8 team were crowned Redcar & Cleveland Champions at the recent tournament held at Nunthorpe Academy.

Our awesome Badminton teams continue to have amazing success and our **KS3 girls and KS4 boys** were victorious in their respective Redcar & Cleveland tournaments. As a result, both teams went on to represent the County at the Tees Valley Finals held at Thornaby Pavilion. At this tournament, the KS4 team continued their success from last year, winning that round and going forward to the Northern Finals in Newcastle, where they finished runners up to a strong Gosforth team.

In Indoor Athletics, our Y8 girls were victorious and went through to the Tees Valley Finals.

We have had a number of winning boys and girls teams in the 5-a-side Football Redcar & Cleveland tournaments.



The girls' KS4 Trampoline team won the Redcar & Cleveland Tournament in December and competed in the Tees Valley Finals held in Billingham, finishing as champions.

As you can see, this has been another frenetic term for the PE Department and a hugely successful one. As a result, LJS remains at the top of the Redcar & Cleveland Premier League Olympic points table.

Individual Sporting Success

Amy C (Y11) is going from strength to strength in Athletics in 2016-2017. Most recently, Amy competed in the English National Indoor Championships on 26 February in Sheffield. After qualifying in the heats, she recorded a new Personal Best of 8.79secs in the semi final of the 60m Hurdles, taking her up to 4th in the national rankings. In the final, she just missed out on a podium finish coming 5th. Earlier in February, Amy won the North Eastern Indoor 60m Hurdles Gold medal in a new Championship record of 8.84secs. Later in the same event, she won Bronze in the 60m sprint in a time of 8.09secs. We are immensely proud of Amy's achievements and look forward to seeing what the rest of the season has in store!

Maddie B is a member of the Dance Magic elite competition squad and attended a competition called 'Diva Divo' at the Bridlington Spa concert venue. Maddie battled through consecutive rounds against young people from all over the world including England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland & Norway.

She reached the final stage, where she got to perform by herself in front of the judges and went on to win her section, becoming a Diva Champion, which is an incredible achievement.

Chess Champion

Congratulations to John H, who won our first Chess Tournament.

Top 100 Sporting Schools!

As a result of our relentless devotion to high quality PE and School Sport, LJS was recently recognised by the Youth Sport Trust, a highly powerful and respected organisation, as one of the top 100 sporting schools in the country. This is a huge accolade for the school, one which we should all be immensely proud of. It further confirmed my belief that LJS is a superb school, with wonderful opportunities for all our students - truly believing in the power of sport to change lives.

Mr Tyzack
Director of Sport

