



NEWSLETTER

Friday 15th December 2023

Headteacher Message

Dear Parent/Carer

With the end of the Autumn Term fast approaching, our pupils are continuing to respond well to the opportunities and rewards on offer to them at LDA. We have had a range of extra-curricular trips and visits taking place this week, including a Higher Achievers visit to Cronton College, a STEM Empower Event at Aintree Racecourse and a music trip to The Everyman Theatre to name just a few.

We were also delighted to welcome the Cells team back into school on Thursday to deliver to our Year 9 cohort on the risks of becoming involved in crime and anti-social behaviour. The Year 9 pupils responded incredibly well and they were so mature in their approach to the challenging content. Thank you to the Cells team for sharing their own, real-life stories with our pupils.

We hosted our former Year 11 cohort, the Class of 2023, back into school yesterday for their GCSE Certificate Evening. We all enjoyed hearing about how they getting on in their 'A' Levels, vocational courses and apprenticeships.

It was also a pleasure to welcome the Dean Trust Board of Trustees at LDA for their meeting on Wednesday and then on Thursday our own Local Governing Committee held their full governors meeting as their final meeting in the termly cycle. I thank Trustees and Governors for their continued support for our school community.

We break up for Christmas on Friday 22nd December 2023. The school day will finish at 12:50pm for all pupils on this date and free school meals will be available for those pupils who are eligible.

I hope you enjoy a festive weekend,

V. Gowan

Miss V. Gowan
Headteacher



Victoria Gowan
Headteacher



This week's numeracy puzzle

Phil and Karen go across (2 mins)

Phil goes back (1 min)

Mike and Jane go across (10 mins)

Karen goes back (2 mins)

Phil and Karen go across (2 mins)

Last week's answer

You have a boat and need to take a fox, a chicken and some corn across a river.

The boat will only hold you and one other thing.

If you leave the chicken alone with the corn, the chicken will eat the corn.

If you leave the fox alone with the chicken, the chicken's in big trouble.

How can you get them all across in the least amount of trips possible?



Year 10 Computer Science

Year 10 pupils have finished their Algorithms unit and are now practising their programming skills. The pupils are learning to program in the Python programming language, which is an industry standard language used by companies such as Google and Nasa! All pupils should be using the online resources through Google Classroom to practise their coding 2-3 times a week for 20-30 minutes a time. Any independent practice at programming will really set the pupils up for their GCSE exam on Python next year. An excellent, free Python coding course can be found at the following link:

<https://www.codecademy.com/catalog/language/python>

<https://www.sololearn.com/>



Mr Power
Head of
Department



Mrs Gilland
Classroom
Teacher



Mrs Phillips
Assistant
Headteacher

Year 11 Computer Science

Year 11 pupils have finished their Networks unit and are now beginning their advanced programming skills. The pupils are also learning to program in the Python programming language. All pupils should be using the online resources through Google Classroom to practise their coding 2-3 times a week for 20-30 minutes a time. There is also a revision lesson every Wednesday after school for any Year 11 pupils to attend. Thank you to those who have been regularly attending!

Any independent practice at programming will really set the pupils up for their GCSE exam on python next year. A great free Python coding course can be found at the following link:

<https://www.codecademy.com/catalog/language/python>

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Year 10 Digital Information Technology

Year 10 pupils have been practising analysing and creating a mock User Interface. These skills will be really beneficial when they begin their controlled assessment after Christmas. It is really key that pupils catch up on any work they have missed, all the work is available online on their Google Classroom.

Year 11 Business Studies

Year 11 have completed a mock GCSE exam, giving them vital experience at answering case study questions and applying all of their understanding within the time constraints. Pupils will be given their results soon and spend time developing their answers to try and achieve maximum marks on exam style questions. After Christmas pupils will be moving onto market growth, another key topic from the GCSE curriculum.

Pupils can scan this QR code which will take them to the course content for revision.



Year 10 Business Studies

Year 10 pupils in Business Studies have been learning about the marketing mix, involving how companies build their business around product, price and promotion. They have been learning the GCSE exam structure and using real life case studies for their analysis skills. All of the lesson materials have been placed on the Google Classroom to ensure that pupils that are absent can access the material to not fall behind.

KS3 News

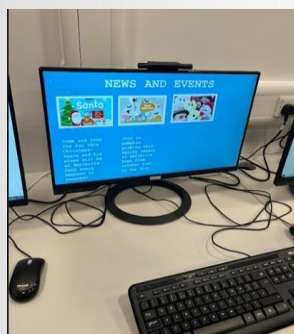
Year 9 Computer Science

Pupils in Year 9 have been learning some basic programming skills in Python. They have discovered how computers display information and record user inputs when you use different technologies. They will soon be programming an interactive quiz using real world code that could be utilised on a phone application.



Year 8 Computer Science

Computer Science pupils in Year 8 have been learning all about user interfaces. They have been discussing what features make a good user interface and the various ways that humans can interact with digital devices. They have been creating a mock user interface using Google Slides for a local farm that want to promote their business, showing all the key functionality needed for a real application.



Year 7 Computer Science

Pupils in year 7 computer science lessons have been learning about computer networks and how computers send data. They now know some of the network layouts that we use and can justify why we would need to use wired or wireless networks in a given scenario. Soon they will be learning about how data can be sent all over the world using data packets.

Careers Fair

Last week we held our Annual Careers Fair in school with over 30 external exhibitors in attendance. This ranged from employers, apprenticeship providers, training providers, universities and 6th Forms. All pupils were allocated time with their Form Tutors in advance of the event, to think about potential questions that they might wish to ask the exhibitors.

Feedback from our exhibitors was extremely positive with many saying it exceeded their expectations. Common themes included 'pupil behaviour is fantastic, they are polite, well prepared and engaging', 'staff are super supportive and kind and actively help to engage pupils in the event'. We hope that you child was inspired by this event and we look forward to making it even bigger and better next year!



This week's lego club photos

