



THE LORD GREY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

A weekly newsletter for students, parents, staff, governors and friends of the school.

No. 41 Friday 28th September 2001

This newsletter will appear on Friday. Staff, students, parents or governors are welcome to contribute items of news or information. These should reach Jo Moloney by 10.00 am on Wednesday.



TUTOR TEAS

On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, it was pleasing to see so many Year 8 parents getting to know their child's tutor over a cup of tea. My grateful thanks go to Sue Telfer for arranging the event and to the Form Tutors and Senior Staff for giving up their time.

I am convinced that if we are to improve the partnership between home and school, and we must do so in the interests of improving learning, then the relationship between tutors and parents is of paramount importance. At its minimum, the relationship will last for four years.

The tutor is the parent in school, who represents the parent outside of school, and frequent dialogue is encouraged to maintain a healthy learning course for students ~ and to prevent minor concerns from growing. Parents must feel confident and able to contact the tutor about any issue, no matter how trivial it may seem. The tutor at Lord Grey School is concerned not just with welfare and pastoral issues but also with accelerating the learning process. Please contact the tutor over any and every issue such as, for example, homework, organisational concerns, absence and so on.

If any parent is still unaware of their child's tutor, please telephone our school office on 01908 379 131 and we will be pleased to inform you. It is vital that parents know how to contact the school, before any individual crisis emerges.

Please note that following the introduction of additional security procedures, apart from our parent drop in surgeries on a Wednesday and Thursday after school, parents should not be on the school site without a prearranged appointment.

TRAFFIC AT THE SCHOOL GATES

In recent months it has become increasingly apparent that our school suffers from heavy traffic outside the gates. This congestion presents clear issues of health and safety at the start and finish of the school day. Last week, I invited the local police to assist me in monitoring the situation. I am now reminding all parents to assist in our efforts to improve safety by exercising caution when parking near the school, and to be mindful of others.

All students must be punctual. From the moment that they leave their front door, to the moment they return, students are under full school discipline. Students are expected to come straight to school each morning and return straight home at the end of the school day. There should be no need for any student to make a detour to the local park or shops, without their parent's permission. If a student wishes to walk home with school friends, they must meet up on the school site before leaving our premises. Students must not congregate on the road or pavement outside of the school, nor must they loiter on public roads. I am sure that by being proactive about safety, we can prevent accidents from happening.

Despina Pavlou, Headteacher

BICYCLE PERMITS

If a student wants to ride a bicycle to school they must have completed and returned a PERMIT APPLICATION FORM by 8 October and obtained a BICYCLE PERMIT from their Head of School. These permits must be shown when required to a member of staff. The application form can be collected from reception.

As a school we wish to ensure that all our students, staff and visitors are safe whilst on the premises. Students cycling into school are an increasing worry. Many are cycling down the wrong driveway which is narrow and constantly busy with staff and visitors' cars and lorries delivering goods. If this continues, one day there will be a serious accident.

The school will not and cannot guarantee the safety of students who ride to school or on the premises; nor can the school ensure the security of the bicycle even when left locked in the places provided. Simple safety precautions will need to be observed by students with a bicycle permit, including not riding their bicycle on the premises and we also strongly recommend that students wear a bicycle helmet. Students who choose not to conform to the requirements will not be able to ride their bicycle on to the premises.

Vivienne Wood, Head of Upper School

SCIENCE STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

I am delighted to announce the first ever Science Students of the Week. All staff in Science can choose one student from all of their classes for this award. The award is for effort, academic success, attitude, improvement, helpfulness or a combination of these qualities.

David Kelly (8G), Adam Smith (8N), Thomas Sampson (9J), Sarah Wetherall (8F), George Scott (10L), Jay Mason (10L), Stephanie Woollett (8F), Mark Amphlett (10K), Adam Gregory (10L), David Courcoux (9D) & Kathryn Phillips (11H).

They have been presented with certificates in their Science lessons.

Bryan Carr, Head of Science

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Dear Parent/Carer

ARE YOU ENTITLED TO CLAIM FREE SCHOOL MEALS FOR YOU CHILD?

As you know, schools are inspected by Ofsted every few years. Some of the judgements inspectors make are based on how many children could have free school meals. However, we know that parents do not always take up the free meal, so schools' figures are often wrong.

Milton Keynes Council wants to help schools to find out the true picture, so that accurate judgments are made by the inspectors. It would help the school to know if you are entitled to claim benefits that mean your child could have free school meals. The Council also uses this information when it provides funds for schools.

We are therefore asking every family in our schools to help in this task by returning the slip below. This will mean that each school has accurate figures for Income Support or Job Seeker's Allowance (Income Based). Please help by returning the form to your child's form tutor as soon as possible.

You can be assured that the information will be held only by the school and will not be shown to anyone else without your permission.

Yours faithfully

DR JAMES McELLAGOTT
HEAD OF SCHOOL EFFECTIVENESS AND EARLY YEARS SERVICES

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To: Form Tutor, who will then pass on to B. Webb.

Student Name: _____

Form Group: _____

My family is:

Yes No

a) entitled to claim Income Support

b) entitled to claim Job Seeker's Allowance (Income Based)

(Please tick two boxes)

Signed: _____ Date: _____

(Parent/Guardian)

YEAR 10 –TEXTBOOKS

Dear Parents of Year 10 Students,

We all want our Year 10 GCSE students to have access to the best possible textbooks. Unfortunately, at present we are unable to supply the very latest, and possibly best, textbook for each student. Frequent syllabus and examination changes require heavy investment.

Aware that children have only one chance in their learning, we are therefore asking Year 10 parents to consider buying relevant textbooks on behalf of their child. The advantage of this would be that the textbook(s) would be their personal property and thus they would be able to treat the book(s) as they saw fit – annotate key passages; highlight or underline relevant sentences; write notes in the margin to help with revision etc. This, obviously, is not permitted on school property. School owned textbooks must remain in pristine condition. The purchase of textbooks will facilitate easier access to materials for homework and coursework.

Below you will find a list of recommended books. These are the core books needed throughout the two years of the GCSE courses. If you would like to purchase any of these please fill in the order form below and return it together with a cheque (made payable to The Lord Grey School) in a clearly marked and sealed envelope to Dr Jones by Monday 8th October 2001. It may well be that your son/daughter does not study all of the subjects shown below due to the options system. The books will be purchased on your behalf and passed on to your child.

We hope that after the successful completion of GCSEs in the summer of 2003 we will be in a position to buy back the (now second hand) textbooks from students who no longer require them. We also strongly recommend that you purchase an atlas, pocket dictionary and thesaurus for your child. These are available at any good bookshop.

If you have any questions or concerns about this scheme please do not hesitate to contact me.

Dr Jones, Deputy Headteacher

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To Dr Jones, Deputy Headteacher, The Lord Grey School:

I wish to purchase the textbook(s) ticked below for my son/daughter. I enclose a cheque made payable to The Lord Grey School.

Name of Year 10 student: _____ Form: _____

Signature of parent: _____ Date: _____

Mathematics:

- | | | |
|--|--------|--------------------------|
| Band A – Edexcel GCSE Mathematics . Higher Course. Heinemann publishers | £15.50 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Band B – Edexcel GCSE Mathematics . Intermediate Course. Heinemann publishers | £14.50 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Band C – Edexcel GCSE Mathematics . Foundation Course. Heinemann publishers | £14.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

History:

- | | | |
|--|--------|--------------------------|
| Band A and B – Modern World History . Core textbook. Heinemann publishers | £14.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Band C – Modern World History . Foundation textbook. Heinemann publishers | £14.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Business and Communication:

- | | | |
|--|--------|--------------------------|
| All bands – Business and Communications . Hodder and Stoughton publishers | £12.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Resistant Materials:

- | | | |
|--|--------|--------------------------|
| All bands – Working with Materials: Wood, Metal, Plastics . Collins publishers. | £12.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Food Technology:

- | | | |
|---|--------|--------------------------|
| Band A – GCSE Design and Technology: Food Technology . Stanley Thornes publishers. | £12.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Bands B and C – D.T. Design and Make It: Food Technology . Stanley Thornes publishers. | £12.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Textiles:

- | | | |
|--|--------|--------------------------|
| All bands – GCSE Design and Technology: Textiles Technology . Causeway Press. | £11.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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Graphic Products:

- | | | |
|---|--------|--------------------------|
| All bands – GCSE D&T: Design and Communication . Collins publishers. | £12.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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English:

Purchase of 'set texts' is strongly advised. Each class will study a different set text. The individual teacher will send out a letter with details of the recommended text purchase later in the course.

Languages:

Revision guides are available from the Languages Faculty priced £2.00 (normally £3.50 in the shops). Students should see their individual language teacher.

ICT: Revision guides are available for purchase from the ICT Department. Students should see Mrs. Gorman.

BINGO BONANZA!

LORD GREY ASSOCIATION

FRIDAY 5TH OCTOBER 2001
7.30PM MAIN HALL

£1 PER BOOK (5 GAMES)

**TEA & COFFEE WILL BE
AVAILABLE**

OVER 18s ONLY

RAFFLE

SPECIAL PRIZES



**A SUMMARY OF THE MINUTES OF THE LORD GREY ASSOCIATION MEETING,
10 SEPTEMBER 2001**

SWAP SHOP

A discussion on a “swap-shop” where families can exchange uniform with one another, and the possibility of combining this with future LGA events.

BINGO NIGHT

This will be held on Friday 5th October at 7.30pm in the main hall.

CHRISTMAS FAIR / BAZZAR

This will be held on Saturday 24th November. The LGA is asking that any volunteers come forward to run craft stalls, a tombola, sell raffle tickets (1st prize will be a food hamper, 2nd prize will be a chocolate hamper with many other prizes available.) 5,000 raffle tickets to be ordered.

CHRISTMAS TRIP

A trip will be arranged in time for Christmas shopping to either France or Lincoln. To be discussed with the coach company, and a date is yet to be arranged.

LGA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This is to be combined with the Governors Report to Parents, along with a cheese and wine evening. The Christmas raffle will also be drawn. This will be held at 7pm on Tuesday 27th November.

SUMMER FAIR

This raised £526. A hearty thanks to everyone who helped out ~ let's hope the forthcoming events will be just as successful!

NEXT MEETING

Monday 1st October, 6.30pm in the school Pavilion.

Melanie Stickland, Chair Of Lord Grey Association