

LVS OXFORD SHOUT OUT

FRIDAY 21 JUNE 2024

A WORD FROM MELANIE WALLER
VICE-PRINCIPAL

It's been another busy couple of weeks at school. We were thrilled to receive a response from King Charles regarding the wonderful letters our Year 7 students sent out in February. In this edition, our new CEO, Chris Welham, introduces himself, as does our Chair of Governors, Pauline Ross.

The students have enjoyed various trips off-site, including visits to Coombe Mill and Fairytale Farm, as well as pasta-making sessions. I popped into their pasta-making sessions and must say, the smells were delicious.

Have a lovely weekend and enjoy the sunshine

Mel

CHRIS WELHAM CEO OF LICENSED TRADE CHARITY

I wanted to introduce myself as the new CEO of the Licensed Trade Charity (LTC owns and manages the LVS schools) and to give a huge shout out to our teams across the organisation and particularly to you, our parents, colleagues and students at LVS Oxford. Leading our charity since March this year, I have been hugely impressed by the dedication, compassion and strength of our people and the clarity of focus we have on ensuring that our schools are a sanctuary of growth and learning where every child is seen, valued and given every opportunity to succeed. With your support as parents, we can continue to enable our students to reach their full potential and be the best they can be. Our charity has a proud tradition and genuine passion for making a difference in the lives of others. Our history in education stems back to 1803 when we opened our first school and ever since then we have embraced innovation while remaining deeply rooted in our traditions of care and excellence.

My background is in licensed hospitality leading operations teams for nearly 30 years. I've held a variety of Executive and Board roles in different contexts including public, private and not for profit organisations. It is a privilege to lead this great institution and to plan how we can continue to have a solid platform to transform the lives of those who need our support, emotionally, practically and sometimes financially. It's often easy to get lost in the numbers, the strategies and the ideas, but at the heart of it all, success is down to one simple, yet profound factor: our people. So, I celebrate the people who lead and work in our schools and the relationships that we collectively have established that have our students and their best interests at the heart. Thank you for placing your trust in us to support and nurture your children to unleash their potential at our wonderful school LVS Oxford.

Best wishes Chris



PAULINE ROSS – CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

I have been a trustee of the Licensed Trade Charity for 16 years. I became a Governor of the school when the Charity bought the building in 2012 and I have been Chair of Governors since 2017. I began my working life teaching Mathematics and Computer Studies but after 14 years I had a complete change and became a licensee of a public house which I continued to do until I retired. I love my involvement with LVS Oxford. The staff work so hard to make it a great place for the students to grow and become independent.



CATCH UP WITH ZACK AT BLENHEIM PALACE

It was wonderful to visit Zack during his third week of his apprenticeship at Blenheim Palace. I was absolutely blown away by his confidence and mature attitude towards his work. When I asked Zack what he most enjoyed about working at Blenheim, he said, "Although it's busy here at Blenheim, there is a calm atmosphere that makes me feel peaceful. I love working with the customers, whether it's selling or checking their tickets. The people I work with help and support me, and the best thing is I get paid tomorrow." Zack will be back at LVS tomorrow for the leavers' afternoon tea—can't wait to see them all! Mel



In February, our Year 7 students wrote to King Charles, expressing their condolences for his mother's passing, discussing his diagnosis, and asking if he would become our patron.

Here are a couple of the letters our students sent, along with King Charles's thoughtful response. (Apologies for the photo quality.) All the Year 7 students were thrilled that the King took the time to reply to their letters.

KING CHARLES



This brings you my warmest thanks for your incredibly thoughtful message. It was wonderfully generous of you to take the trouble to write as you did, and your kind words were most uplifting.

Charles R

Spring Hill Road,
Begbroke
OX5 1RX

King Charles,
Buckingham Palace Road,
London
SW1A 1AA

Dear Your Majesty,

I was so sorry to hear about your mum and dad passing away and your diagnoses. Are you happy otherwise and are your servants helping you with everything.

from
Kyle (7+)

LVS Oxford School
Spring Road
Begbroke ✓
Oxon

King Charles
Buckingham Palace ✓
London

21st February 2024 ✓

Dear Your Majesty,

I am so sorry to here about your diagnosis of cancer and you are the first king to make it public. By doing this you have probably saved hundreds of thousands of lives.

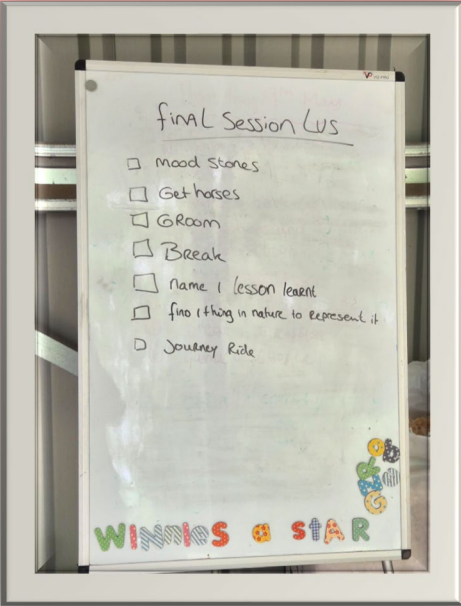
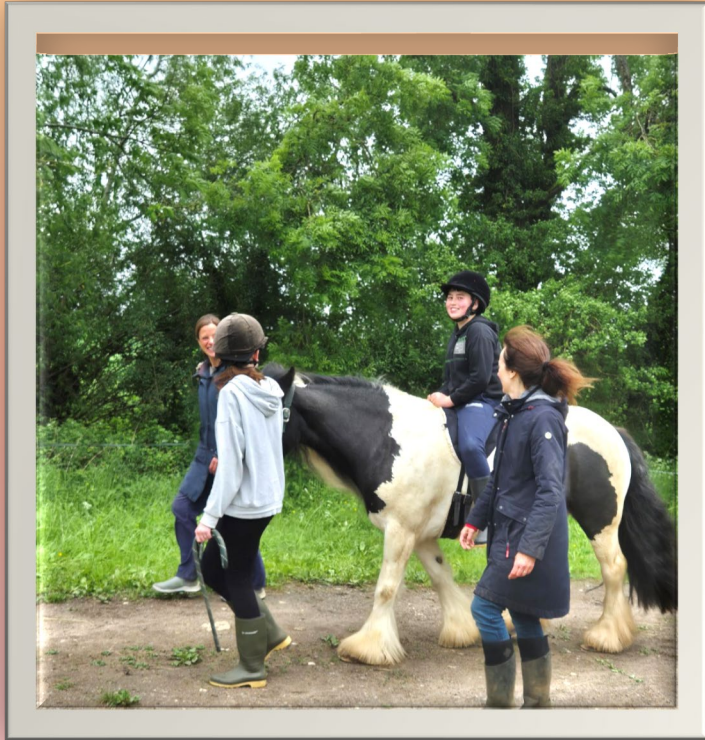
Your mother was our patron and we would like ask you to also to be ours. Or please come and see us.

Yours sincerely ✓

Riley

✓
with help

Thursday, May 23rd, marked our final visit to Equilore Horse Therapy. The students who attended had a fantastic time working with the horses—Winnie, Zekie, Gerry, Buddy, and Elsie—and let's not forget Kwispel the dog.

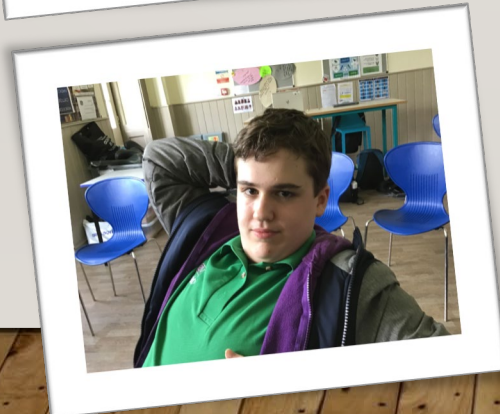




STUDENT SHOUTOUTS DANIEL MUGRIDGE



Photos from the recording of 'Parallel World,' Daniel Mugridge's radio play.
The play will be heard at the end of term in a farewell assembly.



STUDENT SHOUTOUTS

BRAYDEN CLARE-MALONE YEAR 7Y

INSPIRED BY SHAKESPEARE'S STORY OF MAGIC AND MISCHIEF IN "A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM."



YOU WILL NEED A SPRINKLE OF FAIRY DUST, HANDFUL OF VAMPIRE FANGS, DOLLOP OF TOAD SLIME, SPOONFUL OF RAT TAILS, SPLASH OF TROLL TOES, 3 HANDFUL OF PHOENIXES FEATHERS, 2 PINCHS OF POISONOUS PARSLEY, 4 SPOONFUL OF WEREWOLF SALIVA AND YOU NEED TO MIX IT AS IT BOIL. IT WILL MAKE YOUR TEETH IN FANGS, YOU WILL YOU GROW LONG TAIL, YOUR SALIVA WILL BE POISONOUS, YOU GROW FIREY WINGS, YOU WILL BE HUMONGOUS, YOU WILL BE BOUNCY, YOU WILL BE SPARKLY AND YOU WILL BE HAIRLY.





LOWER SCHOOL PASTA MAKING SESSION



On Tuesday 18th June lower school students had a master class in Pasta making from Tom Allen Sodexo Development Chef.



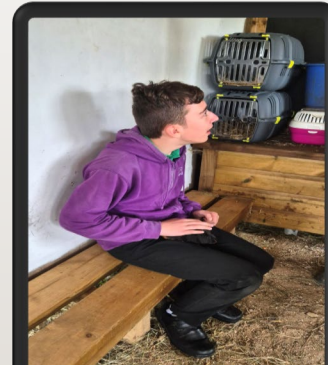
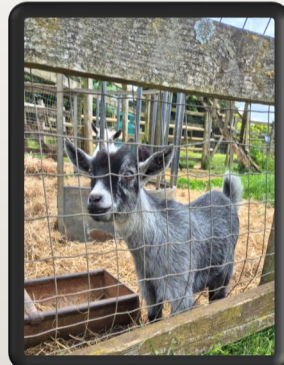
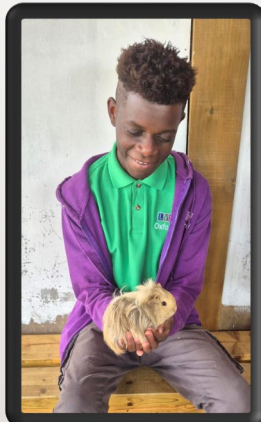
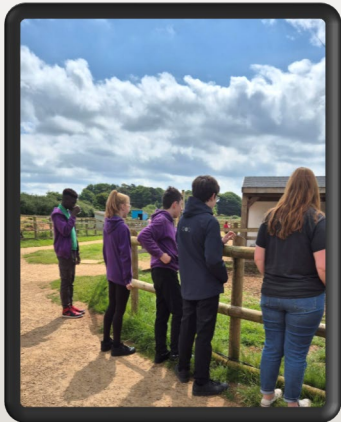
YEAR 8 TRIP TO COOMBE MILL

Students worked with Cotswold National Landscape to explore the environment at Combe Mill. The students participated in pond dipping, science experiments, river surveys (which involved using waders and measuring tools), a forest walk (including plant id) and games. A great day was had by all. We were especially lucky as the weather held out.



Year 9 – Visit to Fairytale Farm

Some of our Year 9 students recently visited Fairytale Farm, one of our work experience partners, to learn more about what they would be doing during their placement in Year 10. Fairytale Farm's manager, Adele, guided the group, explaining the duties involved and introducing them to the animals. The students thoroughly enjoyed the visit and asked Adele many questions about the farm and work experience. For one student, it was particularly special as he had always wanted to meet a goat, and he was able to cross this off his bucket list.





EXAMS

GCSE Exams 2024

I'm pleased to announce that the summer series of GCSE exams has concluded. The students who participated should be proud of themselves as they handled the process well.

GCSE results will be released by email on Thursday, 22nd August at around 09:00. Please provide an appropriate email address to receive the results. Certificates will be sent in November after the national appeals window has closed.

I am currently organising the mock exams for January 2025 and compiling the dates for the summer series of GCSE exams 2025. This information will be released soon. Chris Lacey

EXAM EXPERIENCE – HEAD STUDENTS TABI AND DANIEL

Revising for the GCSEs was no easy task, but it is very much worth it. The exams were super hard at times (partly because nobody had seen them!)

By far the hardest papers were the maths and geography papers. However, I am glad they are done, and I will not have to worry about them again.

As results day gets closer I am nervous, but I did my best. Nobody can ask for more.

Daniel Mugridge



I found the exams to be stressful and hard, however school provided a lot of help in various ways. For example, they set up revision days which were very useful and helpful. This calmed me and made me feel a bit more confident and prepared. I am really happy that they are over, and I will not miss them at all.

Tabi



HORTICULTURE YEAR 7&8

It was lovely to see the students enjoy harvesting the Rainbow Chard and Broad Beans which they had grown over the past months. They were thrilled with the size of the beans and proudly delivered the vegetables to the Catering team.

The result was a delicious salad for us to eat at lunch. Fabulous teamwork!

JOGGERS



SHOUT
OUT



WANTED

We would be grateful for any joggers and school polo shirts, especially navy (our new uniform colour starting in September, with green now designated for PE), that are in good condition. We always have a use for quality second-hand clothing. If you can donate, please send the items with your son or daughter to hand in at reception.

Many thanks

ONLINE SAFETY INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

Click on the relevant image
To view/download the full guide

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about
LIVE STREAMING

Live streaming involves broadcasting and watching videos online in real time, often on social media or via platforms like YouTube and Twitch. Viewers can interact through comments, chats and reactions during the broadcast: such instant engagement makes this an exciting way to share experiences, learn from others and build digital communities. Despite the many positives, live streaming also creates a potential platform for unsuitable content and poses some risks to children: it's essential to keep privacy and safety in mind and comply with each site or app's age restrictions.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AGE RESTRICTION
13+
16+ 18+
Age varies by platform

40%

It can be challenging for parents and carers to know whether children are spending too much time on their devices. Furthermore, it's even more of a challenge to know whether a child is addicted to the internet and social media. As technology is becoming more pervasive, children and young people are experiencing tech - related dependencies. Do we as parents and carers have the knowledge to identify and support children and young people who may be developing an addiction to their devices?

47%
of parents
said they thought their children spent too much time in front of screens

What parents need to know about
SCREEN ADDICTION



CHRIS'S 65-MILE ULTRAMARATHON



This weekend, I needed to demonstrate some of our school values - **determination, resilience and courage** - when I completed a **65-mile Ultramarathon**, running from midday on Saturday to 7am on Sunday. Highlights included watching the beautiful sunset and sunrise as I made my way round the undulating course.

I was inspired to undertake this challenge by my mother's long-term battle with Alzheimer's. When times were tough (there were quite a few!) I looked again at the beautiful landscape to settle my mind and be present in the moment - the woods full of tall Hollyhocks, the dappled light shining through the tree canopy, the dragonflies sweeping over the lake. I thought about my loved ones and friends. About 30 miles in, I even had a singalong with some of my running friends! Lots of cups of tea helped, too.

I must admit I cried when I finished. I am so proud of all the hard work I put into this - and I wore my medal non-stop on Monday! Staff and students have been so supportive over the last few months - I am lucky to work with such a wonderful team.



SAFEGUARDING – LOCAL OXFORDSHIRE SUPPORT SERVICES

- [Talking Space](#) - Over 18 - Offers you the chance to help yourself to cope with life's ups and downs, feel better and learn your own strategies for keeping well.
- [Sexual Health Oxfordshire](#) – For young people and adults. Offering a full range of services
- [Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Mental Health Helpline](#): A 24/7 mental health helpline for mental health advice in Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire.
Adults: 01865 904 997, Children and young people: 01865 904 998
- [Elmore Community Services](#): support for people with mental health difficulties and/or complex needs aged 18-65 in Oxfordshire.

Support specific to sexual abuse and violence

- [OSARCC](#) – Oxford Sexual Abuse and Rape Crisis Service, committed to supporting survivors of sexual abuse, rape, domestic abuse, and harassment. Offering a [free and confidential service](#) to women and girls who are dealing with the effects of sexual violence
- [Horizons](#) - The Horizon service aims to help reinstate a sense of safeness and well-being for children and teenagers who are experiencing distress as a result of sexual harm. Horizon is in partnership with [Safe!](#) which supports young people affected by crime. Horizon is open to children and teenagers under 18 and living in Oxfordshire.

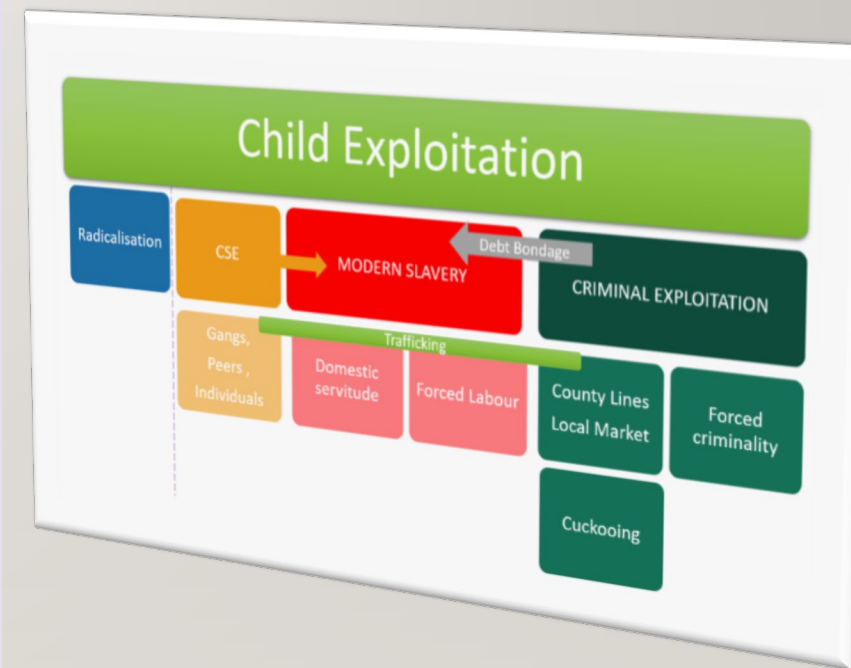
Email: oxfordhealth.horizon@nhs.net

SAFEGUARDING – LOCAL OXFORDSHIRE SUPPORT SERVICES

Child exploitation support and information

- **Thinkuknow** - This website is an excellent resource including films and advice for 5-7 yrs, 8-10 yrs, 11-13 yrs, 14+, parents, carers and professionals. This website links with [CEOP \(Child Exploitation and Protection\)](#)
- **Barnardo's** - Advice for parents, professionals, children and young people on the signs of sexual exploitation and how to keep safe
- **NSPCC** – Child sexual exploitation 'at a glance'
- <http://www.seeme-hearme.org.uk/> Advice and information about child sexual exploitation.
- <http://faceup2it.org/> This website was developed by FACE (Fighting Against Child Exploitation) to help other young people who are vulnerable or taking risks.
- **Runaway Helpline** is a free, confidential help line and online chat if you are thinking about running away, Call or text for free on 116000.
- **7 key facts about child exploitation** from the Children's Society

A complete list and link to resources can be found on the Step-Out website <http://www.donnington-doorstep.org.uk/step-out/resources>



SAFEGUARDING CONTACTS

Click on the relevant image
To view website

