



The Excellence Programme

Autumn Term 2019 Newsletter

Friday 6th September 2019

Dear Pupils and Parents,

We are delighted to present you with the Excellence newsletter for the 2019 Autumn term where you will find our programme of enrichment activities listed. **Please go through the newsletter with your son and encourage him to attend as many events as possible.**

Following a very successful 2018-2019 academic year of events that included a visit from Nicky Morgan MP and the Ambassador to Sweden in the Summer term, we are looking forward to a 2019-2020 academic year filled with a variety of opportunities for John Lyon boys to learn and grow.

Academic Excellence is of course important to success but at the John Lyon School we believe that to achieve true Excellence, boys need to be given a well-rounded education that goes beyond the curriculum and covers a range of subjects.

By attending the JLx sessions, academic society meetings, entering available competitions and taking part in all the extra-curricular activities provided by the John Lyon School we believe that John Lyon boys are given the best opportunities for success in our fast-changing modern world.

We are very excited to be hosting our first ever TEDxJohnLyonSchool event on the 17th October where boys, staff and external speakers will deliver their take on EARTH. Due to the terms of our TEDx license, not all boys will be given the opportunity to watch the talks live, however viewing the filmed talks will be taking place in November for all pupils. Furthermore, all talks will be available on Youtube after the event. We are hoping that the TEDx experience will inspire the boys to watch further TED talks and volunteer to speak at future John Lyon events.

Speakers for the TEDx event have already been chosen but if you or your son would like to take part in the next series of lectures hosted at the School, please apply to give a talk at our Talks-on-the-Hill event taking place in February, see inside for further details.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Arjun Cheema and Asher Weisz for securing their places to read Chemistry and Classics respectively at the University of Oxford. We are also very proud of all the boys' fantastic GCSE and A-level results and congratulate them all.

If you have any enquiries: Excellence@jonhlyon.org

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Trafford and Dr Weinberg
Excellence Team Leaders

THE JLx SESSIONS Y7-U6

Every other week a JLx session will be running. These are 15 minute highly informative sessions each run by a different department, aimed to share with pupils some exciting aspects of their disciplines. By attending all the sessions we hope that pupils will gain knowledge in a variety of subjects including outside of their areas of interest.

Boys who attend all the sessions of the term will be awarded an Excellence pin at the end of term to reward their commitment to learning.

	Subject of Session	Talk title	Day, time and location
w/c 9 th September	English	The Great American Myth: Manifest Destiny	Thursday 12 th September 1.15 M6
w/c 23 rd September	Chemistry	Chemical Engineering	Tuesday 24 th September 1.15 S2
w/c 7 th October	Economics	Freedom of voice and freedom of exit: economics and private government	Tuesday 8 th October 1.15 TBI
Half Term	Half Term		
w/c 11 th November	Physics	How Physics has improved our quality of life	Monday 11 th November 1.15 S8
w/c 25 th November	Art Department	Architecture	Wednesday 27 th November 1.15 AD 1

OXBRIDGE Sessions

Sessions for L6 Oxbridge candidates

All sessions will take place at 1.15pm in the Wolfson suite, where Oxbridge hopeful applicants can be taken through each aspect of the process from preparing for admissions tests, to performing well in interviews and choosing the right course and college for them.

10 th October	Being an Oxbridge candidate at John Lyon	Mrs Trafford and Dr Weinberg
18 th October	Why Independent Thought is Important	Mr Pepperman
7 th November	Thinking Through a Problem	Dr White
15 th November	College Choice	Mr Pepperman
21 st November	Wider Thinking	Mr Rowe
28 th November	Interview preparation	Mr Sims

OXFORD OUTREACH TALK

Tuesday 17th September 2019 11.15am Y10-U6

We are lucky to be able to host our local Oxford Outreach Officer, who will be talking to boys who are interested in the Oxford application process. Boys will have the opportunity to learn more about Oxford University and what its various departments offer. The application process will be explained in detail and advice will be given on how to maximise their chances of a successful application. At the end of the talk, boys will be able to ask their questions.

GUEST SPEAKERS

Dr Robin Hiley OBE – OL 1962-1968

A career in Applied Sciences: Challenging and Exciting

Thursday 5th December 2019, 11.15am Y10 & Y11

Dr Hiley is an Old Lyonian - 1962-1968. He studied Natural Sciences at Cambridge and carried out research in lubricants chemistry at Imperial College for his PhD. Dr Hiley worked as a scientific civil servant in the Ministry of Defence throughout his career, retiring in 2012. Dr Hiley researched several topics associated with fuels and lubricants used by the Royal Navy and then worked on explosives, mainly in the Forensic Explosives Laboratory at Fort Halstead.

Dr Hiley was awarded an OBE for being instrumental in the delivery of capability to support counter-terrorism operations internationally and was deployed twice on operational tours as a scientific adviser - first to Iraq in 2005 on Operation TELIC and to Afghanistan in April 2009 on Operation HERRICK. During his four-month deployment in Afghanistan, Robin led urgent work to develop new improvised explosive device detection capabilities that are now deployed and saving lives in theatre.

Dr Hiley will be speaking to boys about the different exciting ways they can pursue a career in Applied Sciences.

Dr Catherine Gainty

Medical critics of the 20th century and their impact

Monday 7th October 2019, 11.15am Y10, Y11 & Sixth Form medics

Caitjan Gainty is a historian of twentieth century medicine and technology at King's College, London. Dr Gainty is particularly interested in the systematisation of medicine and health care. She has worked to apply her historical research to contemporary problems in health care, partnering in this with medical practitioners, philosophers, and policy-makers to examine the ways in which medicine's history can usefully impact current and future health care decision-making processes.

She will discuss with John Lyon pupils some of the medical critics of the 20th century and how we see reflections of their criticisms in things like the anti-vaccination movement. This will hopefully be a good way of provoking questions about medicine itself and the social and political role it plays.

JOHN LYON ACADEMIC SOCIETY Y7-U6

A series of academic talks by Y8-U6 boys

Wednesday 2nd October in the BCH 4.00-5.30pm

Six John Lyon boys will be presenting short 5-10 minutes academic talks on various subjects. Boys of all years are encouraged to attend – pizza will be served at the end of the event.

TEDxJohnLyonSchool

Thursday 17th October 2019 3.00-6.00pm

We are delighted to be hosting TEDxJohnLyonSchool on Thursday 17th October.

This live event is limited to an audience of 100 guests. Some of the tickets will be given to the families of the speakers, and the other part of the tickets will be available to pupils, who will be able to apply for them on a first come first served basis.

Following the event, all talks will be available on the TEDx Youtube channel.

All John Lyon pupils will also have the opportunity to see some of the recorded TEDx talks during School events organised in November and December.

EARTH

Thursday 17th October 2019

3.00pm

John Lyon School

Harrow-on-the-Hill

Our theme EARTH will see pupils, parents, teachers and esteemed subject experts explore the Blue Planet's place in the universe, the beauty and power of our world, the landscapes and environments that shape our daily lives, the nations and tribes that label and define us, and solutions to some of the problems facing humanity.

For event and ticket information visit

www.johnlyon.org/TEDx



TED^x JohnLyonSchool

x = independently
organized TED event

Autumn 2019 STEAM Challenge Y7-U6

Thursday 5th December 2019 11.15am, BCH

For the third consecutive year we are excited to be running our Excellence Autumn STEAM Challenge. Following the Spaghetti Bridge and Balloon Car Race competitions, we are delighted to announce that the challenge of the year will also be a James Dyson inspired challenge:

Challenge: Build a cardboard chair that can be sat on

Prizes available: John Lyon Engineer of the year, Autumn John Lyon Excellence Award,

Materials allowed: Cardboard

Building sessions: Wednesdays 1.15-1.45pm in S8 with Dr Weinberg

All students, who enter the competition with a reasonable product will be awarded an Excellence Pin.

For further information about the challenge you can watch:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FuAqA_GhVQ0 or email Dr Weinberg FRW@johnlyon.org

AUTUMN STEAM CHALLENGE

Year 7 - Upper Sixth

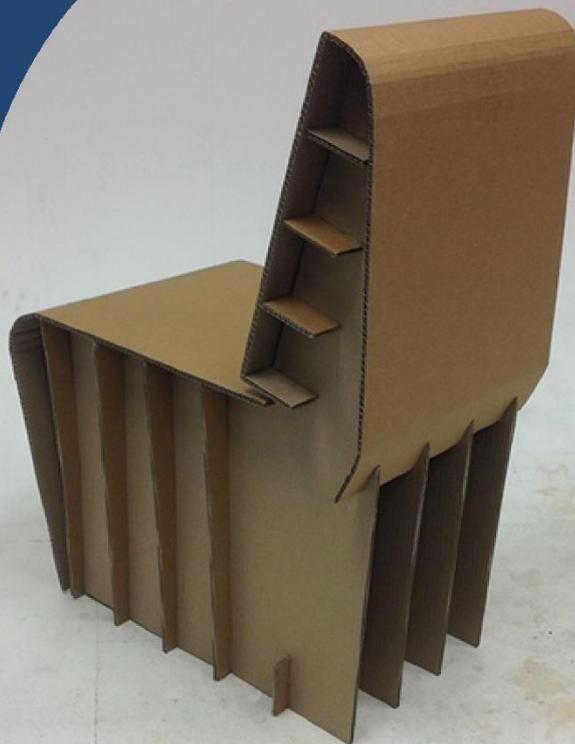
BUILD A CARDBOARD CHAIR

The challenge:

To build a cardboard chair that can be sat on. Students are encouraged to be innovative and creative in their design and construction.

Design, building and guidance sessions with Dr Weinberg:
Every Wednesday
1.15 - 1.45pm in S8

The final competition will take place on:
Thursday 5th December
11.15am in Boyd Campbell Hall



Call for speakers for the TALKS-ON-THE-HILL 2020 event

The Body

February 2020 event – Deadline for applications 1st December 2019

The Excellence Programme is delighted to be running for a second year, a themed multi-disciplinary educational event bringing together our School community and the Harrow-on-the-Hill local community: Talks-on-the-Hill.

The Spring Term 2020 event will see a series of short talks of around ten minutes each focused on a different facet of the chosen theme: The Body.

As a community event, we are hoping that the talks will be delivered by a range of speakers: pupils, parents, teachers and members of the Hill community.

If you would like to be a speaker or know of someone who would be suitable please email Excellence@johnlyon.org.