



The Excellence Programme

Autumn 2018 Newsletter

Friday 14th September

Dear Pupils and Parents,

The Excellence Programme is delighted to begin its second year offering a variety of clubs, competitions, talks and events to enrich all keen pupils whatever their academic ability. A number of boys are now proud wearers of our excellence pin to mark their particularly successful participation in last year's enrichment programme. We hope to issue even more at the end of this session as we look forward to seeing increased numbers of boys taking part.

Our Oxbridge programme, which offers guidance and mentoring to those keen to apply to top universities, will be welcoming new applicants in L6 this term. A series of seminars, our Excellence Guide to Oxbridge and individual mentors will support students in every aspect of the Oxbridge journey.

We would also like to highlight a few key events taking place this term:

- Renowned historian, author and broadcaster **David Starkey** will deliver a special lecture on the reign of England's most notorious king and how the Reformation in 16th century Europe could be seen as the first Brexit. Booking details for this event were emailed to parents on the 11th September and can be viewed at the end of this newsletter.
- The **John Lyon Excellence Academic Society**, led by students, will be hosting its first event of the term on the 20th of September, 4-5pm. A number of John Lyon boys will be giving talks to their peers and staff on an academic topic of their choice with Q and A afterwards. All boys in Y7-U6 are invited to attend. Throughout the year Sixth Formers will be encouraged to volunteer to give presentations on topics that are of special interest to them. This is an incredible opportunity for boys to get inspired and share their love of learning together.
- Following on from last year's successful Spaghetti Bridge Competition, the Autumn term challenge this year is a **Balloon Car Race**. Boys will be designing Balloon powered cars to compete on Thursday 13th December. The Racing event will be judged by Prof Mischa Dohler FREng FIEEE FRSA FIET, Professor of Wireless Communications at King's College, London, and a driving force in research and innovation in Technology, Science and the Arts.
- This term sees the launch of the **JLx sessions**, which will give pupils a taste of what their teachers think is particularly peculiar and interesting in their subject discipline. Therefore, we have put together a varied programme of special one-off lunchtime lectures from each department for the entire year; dates and details are outlined in the body of the newsletter.

Please read on for details of enrichment events this term, and do email us, if you have any further enquiries: Excellence@jonhlyon.org

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Trafford and Dr Weinberg

THE JLx SESSIONS, Y7 - U6

Every week a JLx session will be running. Sessions will be run by a different department every week, aimed to share with pupils some exciting aspects of their disciplines.

AUTUMN TERM 2018	Subject of Session	Day, time and location
w/c 17 th September	Drama	Wednesday 19 th September 1.15 M6
w/c 1 st October	Chemistry	Tuesday 2 nd October 1.15 S2
w/c 15 th October	English	Monday 15 th October 1.15 M5
Half Term	Half Term	
w/c 12 th November	Biology	Wednesday 14 th November 1.15 S4
w/c 26 th November	Physics	Tuesday 20 th November 1.15 S8
w/c 10 th December	Computer Science and Digital Learning	Wednesday 12 th December 1.15 ICT

AUTUMN STEAM CHALLENGE Y7 - U6

Challenge

Build a Balloon Powered Car. Materials and design of your choice.

Three winning Categories

Prize 1: Fastest Car

Prize 2: Car that travelled the longest distance

Prize 3: Best Engineering Design

Building Sessions and Guidance

Weekly building sessions and guidance available by Dr Weinberg on Wednesdays 1.15-1.45pm in S8

The Race

Thursday 13th December at 1.15pm in the BCH

Judged By Professor Mischa Dohler FREng FIEEE FRSA FIET, Professor of Wireless Communications at

JOHN LYON EXCELLENCE SEMINAR Y7 - U6

First session of term Thursday 20st September 2018 4-5pm in MUH

All boys are invited to attend this series of inspiring talks given by Sixth Form pupils. This is an incredible opportunity for boys to get inspired and share their love of learning together.

OXFORD OUTREACH TALK

Thursday 20st September 2018 lunchtime

We are lucky to be able to host our local Oxford Outreach Officer, Dr Ruth McDonald, who will be talking to boys who are interested in the Oxford application process. Boys will also have an opportunity to learn more about Oxford University.

GUEST SPEAKER – NICKY MORGAN MP

Thursday 15th November 2018

We are delighted and honored that Nicky Morgan MP will be addressing our Y10-U6 boys in November. We will have an opportunity to hear about her interesting career as well as Brexit. As a previous Secretary of Education, she will have good advice for our boys about Academic Excellence.

AUTUMN WORKSHOPS: LUNCHTIMES, Y7 - U6

Oxbridge-style supervisions with Dr White

Philosophical discussion in the 1876 Reading Room, Mondays at 1.15pm for all year groups. Four seminars on Liberty:

1 st October	Historical materialism. Marx's economic determinism.
8 th October	Wittgenstein and language games. Can there be a private language?
12 th November	The Frankfurt School and the commodification of culture. Repressive desublimation
19 th November	Arendt and the <i>Vita Activa</i>



HENRY VIII AND THE FIRST BREXIT

David Starkey at John Lyon

Thursday 11th October, 7.00pm
Boyd Campbell Hall

In a very special John Lyon Excellence Programme event, renowned historian, author and broadcaster David Starkey will look at the reign of England's most notorious king and how the Reformation in 16th century Europe could be seen as the first Brexit.

This lecture is open to all boys, their parents and siblings.

Booking is essential and tickets will be available from Tuesday 11th September.

A link to book tickets will be sent by email to all pupils and parents on that day.

If you have any queries please email excellence@johnlyon.org

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AUTUMN STEAM CHALLENGE Y7-U6

BALLOON CAR RACE

The challenge: To design and build a balloon powered car

Design, building and guidance sessions run throughout Autumn Term, with Dr Weinberg every Wednesday from 1.15 - 1.45pm in S8

The RACE:

Thursday 13th December 2018, 1.15pm
Boyd Campbell Hall

The judge: Prof Mischa Dohler FEng FIEEE FRSA FIET, Professor of Wireless Communications at King's College, London, and a driving force in research and innovation in Technology, Science and the Arts

The categories: Fastest car | Distance covered | Best design

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