

# The Excellence Newsletter

*Spring Term 2021*

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year!

Last term we were delighted to host a full Programme of Excellence events as scheduled, despite having to adapt to the continuously changing Covid rules. Psychologist Martijn van der Spoel shared with pupils some study tips, whilst author Jon Robinson described his journey to becoming an author. In addition to that, Year 7 and Year 8 pupils heard an inspiring Maths talk on smoke rings and shapes, while Year 10 and Year 11 pupils heard about Environmental Engineering from Imperial College Engineering PhD students.

JLx talks were delivered by the Politics, Art, Biology, RSP, English and Economics departments and we were delighted to host two meetings of the John Lyon Academic Society.

This term, we again have a very exciting programme of online events and competitions including two online evening events to which parents as well as pupils are invited: Talks-on-the-Hill and an evening with Lord Finkelstein. Some details about these events can be found in this newsletter but full details for booking and attending these online events will be emailed to you nearer the time.

I would like to remind you that the Excellence talks listed in this newsletter are enrichment provided to all students if listed as taking place for their year group and will take place instead of pupils' usual lessons. We include it in the newsletter so that you are aware of the guest speakers hosted by the School. However, in the Excellence Programme also attached to this email, is the list of optional events your child can attend and the competitions that they can choose to enter. We encourage pupils and parents to review the programme together and select which events to attend and which competitions to enter.

If you have any enquiries, or if you have suggestions for future enrichment activities please email me at [Excellence@jonhlyon.org](mailto:Excellence@jonhlyon.org).

Yours sincerely,

Dr FWeinberg

## EVENING EVENTS OPEN TO PARENTS



**Talks-on-the-Hill**  
*La Peste*

**Thursday 4th February 2021**  
**7.00 - 8.30pm**  
Online

An event bringing together the John Lyon School and the Harrow-on-the-Hill community, with speakers all talking on the topic of La Peste / The Plague. Speakers will each approach the topic from a different perspective: Medical, Historical, Literary.

**Confirmed Speakers:**  
Daniel Wong (Head Boy)  
Prof Hugh Montgomery, UCL  
Dr Lori Jones, Carleton

If you are part of the John Lyon School or Harrow-on-the-Hill community and would like to give a talk at this event and if you want to share with us your perspective on the topic, please contact Dr Weinberg, [FRW@johnlyon.org](mailto:FRW@johnlyon.org)

**JOHN LYON**  
HARROW-ON-THE-HILL

**EXCELLENCE PROGRAMME**



In conversation with  
**LORD FINKELSTEIN**  
Lord Daniel Finkelstein  
at John Lyon

**Thursday 11th March**  
**6.30pm**  
*Venue or online TBC*  
*Booking details to follow*

**JOHN LYON**  
HARROW-ON-THE-HILL

**EXCELLENCE PROGRAMME**

## GUEST SPEAKERS

### **False statements in election campaigns | YEARS 9 - 11**

**Professor Jeremy Horder**

*Monday 25 January, 11.15am*

Jeremy Horder is Professor of Criminal Law at the LSE. He graduated from the Universities of Hull (1984) and Oxford (1986) before taking up a Research Fellowship at Jesus College, Oxford, from 1987-1989. He then became the Porjes Trust Tutorial Fellow in Law at Worcester College, Oxford, from 1989-2010. He was Chairman of Oxford's Faculty of Law from 1998-2000. From 2005-2010, he was a Law Commissioner for England and Wales, with responsibility for criminal law reform, before becoming Edmund Davies Professor of Criminal Law at King's College London, from 2010-2013. He is an Honorary Bencher of the Middle Temple and holds an Honorary LL.D from the University of Hull.

We are delighted that Jeremy will be talking to our pupils about his current project: False Statements in Election Campaigns.

### **Mathematics: The Greatest Subject in the World! | YEARS 9 - 11**

**Dr Nira Chamberlain**

*Wednesday 10 March, 11.15am*

Dr Nira Chamberlain PhD HonDSc is one of the UK's leading professional mathematicians, the President of the Institute of Mathematics and its Application (IMA) and is a Visiting Fellow of Loughborough University Mathematical Sciences Department. Nira has two mathematical doctorates and is also listed by the Power List Top 100 Most Influential Black Person in the UK for three years running (2018-2020). Amongst a long list of other awards, Nira was in 2018 the Winner of the Big Internet Math Off title – World's Most Interesting Mathematician.

We are delighted that Nira will share with pupils his passion for Maths, pupils will also have the opportunity to ask him questions.

# THE GOLDHAWK LECTURE SERIES | SIXTH FORM

Goldhawk lectures take place weekly for Sixth Form, details of the sessions can be seen below:

Date	Speaker	Topic	Year group
12 <sup>th</sup> January	Jeremy Horder Professor of Criminal law, LSE	Homicide and Criminal Law	L6 & U6
19 <sup>th</sup> January	Dan Stone, Professor of modern history and author, University of London	What don't we know about the Holocaust	L6 & U6
26 <sup>th</sup> January	Jason Thomas, UCFB, Wembley	Careers in Sports Management and Media	L6
26 <sup>th</sup> January	Elevate	Study Skills: Ace your exams	U6
2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Lord Gadhia, Investment banker and member of the House of Lords	Politics, Philanthropy and the UK-India relationship	L6 & U6
9 <sup>th</sup> February	Dr Nira Chamberlain, Mathematician	Who would want to be a Professional Mathematician?	L6 & U6
23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Dan Burke, CEO of Young Harrow Foundation	The importance of charity in a pandemic	L6 & U6
2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Elevate	Study Skills: Memory Mnemonics	L6
9 <sup>th</sup> March	Emma Rosen	How to find a Fulfilling Career	L6 & U6
23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Emma Widdis, Professor in Russian and Film Studies, Cambridge	Putin, Film and why we should study languages, literature and cinema	L6 & U6
23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Elevate	Study Skills: Finishing Line	U6