

NAVIGATE



THE LONDON NAUTICAL SCHOOL

LEADING NAVIGATING SUCCEEDING

December 2024



The autumn term is always a busy but special time, made even more significant this year as we prepare to join the City of London Academy Trust in January 2025. This marks an exciting new chapter in The London Nautical School's history, and one we approach with great optimism.

It has been a pleasure to witness our talented students achieving so much this term. With an incredible 38,000 positive reward points awarded since September 2024, many students further celebrated their success during our end-of-term Reward Assemblies. Their hard work and dedication continue to make us proud.

This bumper Christmas edition of *Navigate* is packed with highlights: from debating success and Gardening Club updates to author visits, sports triumphs, trips to the London Youth Summit to discuss eliminating misogyny, and a memorable visit to Trinity House, where students explored its history and connections to our school.

A heartfelt thank you to our sponsors, whose unwavering support enriches our students' experiences: The Honourable Company of Master Mariners, Trinity House, The Worshipful Company of Shipwrights, The Baltic Exchange Charitable Foundation, The Marine Society, The Worshipful Company of Scientific Instrument Makers, Maritime Strategies International, The Stelios Philanthropic Foundation, Viking Maritime, and Greenwich Hospital.

Wishing all our students, staff, and families a joyous and restful festive season.

Mr Schofield (Headteacher)

Trinity House

In October, a special group of students were given the opportunity to visit Trinity House and take a tour. Trinity House has a unique history, dating back to the reign of Henry VIII.

“Trinity House is a charity dedicated to safeguarding shipping and seafarers, providing education, support and welfare to the seafaring community with a statutory duty as a General Lighthouse Authority to deliver a reliable, efficient and cost-effective aids to navigation service for the benefit and safety of all mariners. The Corporation of Trinity House was incorporated by Royal Charter in 1514 to regulate pilotage on the River Thames and provide for aged mariners.” (TrinityHouse.co.uk, 2024)

The Students had a great time, learning about the history of Trinity House, its importance today and long support and association with London Nautical School, for which we are very grateful.



HMS Carrier Ship The Queen Elizabeth

In September LNS students received a very special invitation to board the Royal Navy Carrier Ship HMS Queen Elizabeth II.

This was a fantastic trip, giving our students an insight into how the Royal Navy crew live, serve and work together on board the ship.

“HMS Queen Elizabeth is one of the largest and most powerful vessels ever constructed for the Royal Navy. This awe-inspiring warship can accommodate up to 40 aircraft. As well as state-of-the-art weaponry and communications systems, HMS Queen Elizabeth boasts five gyms, a chapel and a medical centre.

The flight deck of HMS Queen Elizabeth comes in at an enormous four acres and is used to launch the fearsome new F35 Joint Strike Fighter fast jet. Four fighter jets can be moved from the hangar to the flight deck in just one minute. The ship’s two propellers weigh 33 tonnes each. The powerplant behind them generates enough power to run 1,000 family cars”. (royalnavy.mod.uk 2025)

As well as receiving a tour, students got to experience an array of different activities from holding weapons, using climbing walls and seeing how the crew medics tend to the servicemen and women.



London Youth Summit

On Wednesday 4th of December 2024 two of our Mental Health Ambassadors from the school and the Vice Chair of the Equality Council attended the London Youth Summit run by the Metropolitan police force. This event was aimed at empowering young people to find their voices surrounding the issue of misogyny.

The event saw 300 young people come together from schools across London. The summit was a unique opportunity for students to engage in dialogue around misogyny. The Summit contributed to their awareness of signs of abusive relationships, increased their trust in reporting and helped to improve young people's confidence to safely call out misogynistic behaviour; this in turn reduces misogynistic behaviours.

Increasing young people's safety and confidence in this area supports them in how to report inappropriate content and reduce the risk of them joining toxic support networks.

The boys had a really thought provoking and interesting time at the summit, and they have come away with plenty of ideas to integrate into school life.



London Youth Summit

Silent Shards in the City

By Frankie McShane

(reflection from the Met' misogyny talk)

I'm just a girl on the streets of London,
Walking through crowds but feeling undone.
I speak in whispers, soft as the rain,
But no one listens, and I stay in pain.

They call me loud, they call me quiet,
But either way, I'm not allowed to fight it.
In the city's hum, my voice gets lost,
Like a single note in a sea of frost.

At school, at home, in the crowded Tube,
I'm defined by the gaze that they all imbue.
They say I'm too much, then too little,
Caught between their words, sharp as a bristle.

I hear them laugh, their jokes so cold,
Like I'm a story that's already been told.
I try to speak, but they shut me down,
I wear my silence like a heavy crown.

I can't escape, not in this town,
Where every corner wears a frown.
Where the men stand tall, their eyes like knives,
And I'm just a girl, struggling to survive.



I dream of a place where I can breathe,
Where I can be seen and not just grieve.
But in the heart of London, I'm too small,
Trapped in a city that won't hear me call.

If I scream, they'll call me mad,
If I don't, they'll say I'm just sad.
There's no in-between, no room to grow,
Just streets that take, and nothing to show.

In the pubs, in the parks, on the busy streets,
I'm nothing but a girl who's meant to repeat.
A reflection in glass, a shadow in flight,
With nowhere to go and no one to fight.

I try to smile, but it feels so wrong,
Like pretending I'm fine when I'm coming
undone.

Is there a place where I can just be,
Where will they see the girl inside of me?

But here in London, in this crowded space,
I'm just another face in the race.

So I stay silent, my heart a shard,
A girl lost in the city, broken and scared

LNS Gardening Club

The LNS Gardening Club continues to thrive, working with volunteers from Coin Street, our students have been visiting secret gardens across London and exploring the importance of gardening and how it can support our environment.

Students have also worked with Coin Street in their own garden, potting Geraniums and supporting the upkeep of this wonderful community project.



Debating Competition

On Thursday 14th of November 2024, Archie Patel, Zachary Simpson, Nikita Krekels, Aiden Shepherd, Mouhamad Ba Diop, Kays Khoudour and Daniel Hannam Valles visited St Joseph's school in Upper Norwood with Ms Jewitt to participate in the London Boys' School Network debating competition.

Our school debated on whether AI is affecting schools positively or negatively. We were not informed in advance which side we would take so had to be prepared for both. On the day we were given the position of "proposer" so had to argue that AI has a positive impact. We focused on how it can help teachers and provide effective homework.

Schools were judged by a panel on their performance, presentation and their knowledge. Even though we did not progress any further in the competition as we were up against an established debate team from William Ellis School who have been meeting every week for years, our team gave an excellent performance in our first ever debate and Nikita won a medal for his contributions. Rutlish School won the competition overall and now Nikita has been inspired to start a debate club at school.

Written by Ms. Jewitt with contributions from Nikita Krekels



Sound Art in the Art department.

Today we learnt about sound art. Mx Barker showed us that sound isn't always music but can be art too. We learnt about Pauline Oliveros and soundscapes. First, we had to listen to all the sounds around us in silence. And then we ripped up our worksheet! We did this slowly while Mx Barker was recording the sound. After a couple of minutes, we listened back to the recording and started abstract drawings inspired by what we heard.

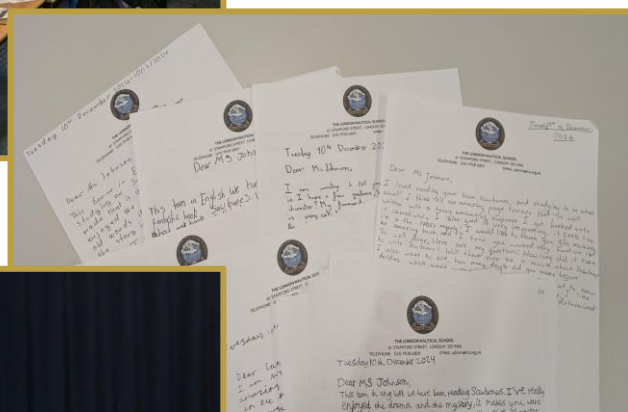


The next art we made was very exciting. There was a giant sheet of paper on the floor with wires coming out of it. Mx Barker did a demonstration and when they drew on the paper, it made a sound! Mx Barker had the paper connected to effects and a speaker. We then drew all together.

English Author Visit and Trip to the Old Operating Theatre

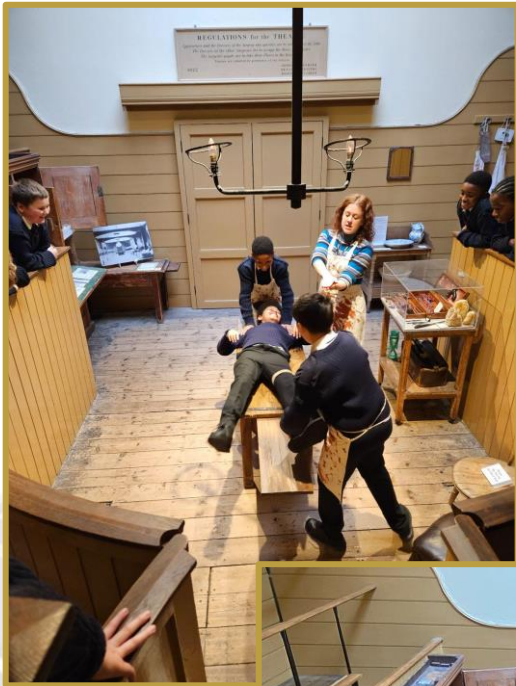
This term, Year 7 have been studying a modern novel to help them enjoy reading, teach them about the history of medicine through a young surgeon's apprentice called Ezra, and discover what makes a quality literary story.

As part of this unit, the English team arranged for the students to meet the author of the book: Catherine Johnson! She spoke to them about her career as a writer and how she was inspired to write the book. They had a brilliant time asking her insightful questions. Each student also wrote her a letter - she was very moved by their contributions and said she enjoyed her visit to LNS. We are looking forward to her response to our letters!



English Author Visit and Trip to the Old Operating Theatre

This December the Year 7 students got to go to a theatre of a different kind, they went on a trip to the Old Operating Theatre as part of their English studies. Pupils have been reading *Sawbones* by Catherine Johnson this term; a novel about a young surgeon's apprentice in Victorian London who goes on a wild adventure full of gravediggers, anatomists, stolen rubies and more. The Old Operating Theatre features in the novel, so the boys got to see a real location from the story! They watched a lecture on amputations and operations, and explored a museum full of pickled body parts, real skeletons and letters written by prominent surgeons hundreds of years ago. They have had a brilliant time learning about all things gory and gruesome.



Careers News

The Big Thinking Project

The Big Thinking Project is funded by Lambeth and is in place to support a group of Year 8 students. The programme is in partnership with Oxford University, Jesus College and is delivered by Matthew Williams. The focus is to raise the aspirations of students in pursuing a pathway into University.

We have had one session so far and will have the remaining sessions after Christmas. The programme will conclude with a visit to Oxford University in the summer.

Park Plaza Insight Day

One of the links that we have been working on as a school has been venturing into the world of hospitality.

At the end of last year, we had several meetings with the Park Plaza hotel chain with a view to arranging insight sessions for our 6th form students looking at different careers within hospitality.

In November we took a group of our Year 12 business study student students to Park Plaza Waterloo for them to gain experience in the different types of careers that are within the hospitality sector. Steph Hardy and her team really pulled out all the stops providing snacks and refreshments, but also and most importantly, a wealth of knowledge and wisdom into the different pathways that students could follow to get into careers within hospitality including marketing, accounting, data analysis and financial planning. This is a partnership that we are really looking forward to exploring with Park Plaza, especially for our younger students in the school, watch this space.



Careers News

Network Rail - Track to the Future

The Track to the Future Programme is run in conjunction with the Talent Foundry and is based on Engineering. This programme is for twenty 6th Form students to use their skill set in designing a new railway station. Volunteers from Network Rail have come in to support students in planning for their stations looking at the different aspects of the station's requirements. There are two sessions to go, the final session is at the Head Office of Network Rail and the students will be delivering presentations about their stations.



Centenary Partnership with Thomas Miller Maritime Insurance

One of our lucky maritime students will be the beneficiary of an amazing opportunity offered to us by Thomas Miller Insurance. As part of Thomas Miller centenary celebrations, they are offering one of our maritime students an exclusive twelve-month fixed term contract internship.

Representatives from Thomas Miller came into school in early December to announce the exciting opportunity for our 6th form students. The application deadline for this is in January 2025, and we will keep you posted with the outcome.

The great thing about this partnership is that Thomas Miller would like to carry this programme out over the coming years, and they see it as an opportunity that they could extend to two or three students within our Maritime pathway. We look forward to hosting more careers activities next year, and on Wednesday 5th March 2024 we will be holding a whole day School Careers Fair at school.

If you or your organisation would be interested in exhibiting with us, please email jgoldsmith@Ins.org.uk

Careers News

STEM Trip to Williams F1 Test Centre

As a teacher, you are always looking for extra curricular trips that will really add value to the students educational experience. Often, trips linked to careers, can provide this, along with raising aspirations for our students, that are both interactive and interesting.

I don't say this light heartedly, the trip to Williams F1 Test Centre is up there with one on the best we have ever run; for a 6am start at LNS, it had to be!

The trip was focused on targeting students interested in careers within Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. Formula 1 teams have an abundance of careers available in this field. The day had three parts.

Part 1 was a STEM workshop. Students had to work in teams to create the nose of an F1 Car. The objective was to design an object out of a carpet of materials to essentially, reduce the force of impact in a crash. Students had a budget that they had to work within, they had to test their product and make improvements before presenting their final design. There were some fantastic designs. The winning team were given a Williams water bottle as a prize.



Part 2 and 3 were on a rotation. Students were split into two groups. One session was a tour of the Team Williams museum which has the second largest collection of F1 cars, from Nigel Mansell's championship winning car to Ayrton Senna's and Damon Hill's car. Students learnt about the dynamic design of the cars and got to hold a steering wheel and sit in the driver's seat.

Whilst the tour was going on for one group, the others got to play on the F1 simulators. Students got to race, virtually, around Silverstone, Texas, Australia and Monaco. We were joined by F3 Williams Driver Luke Browning and Oleksander Bondarev. However, it was Year 9 student Joshua Pickersgill who claimed the biggest victory, he beat both round the Monaco track, in the rain and with damage controls off!

LNS Sports News

Football

This year has seen some impressive results for both Year 7 & 8 sides, progressing to later rounds of the London Cup's & ESFA. Year 8 have done especially well considering the size of this year group taking on much bigger schools and competing well. Year 10 started poorly losing all of their early games, however found some form to turn over Mr Naden's old school Graveney 6-2 in the South London cup. Year 7 have been the standout side winning most games, their two losses have been in closely contested matches, one to Forest Hill on penalties, a game they dominated from start to finish. Lastly, our Volenti Academy boy's have dominated in all competitions, the most impressive team being those involved in the FA youth cup, where they faced Burgess hill in the 3rd round. The winner's move on to face Chelsea away. Mr Goldsmith is taking credit for his leadership, however, is yet to be seen in his PE kit. Very questionable!

Cross country

We attended the Lambeth schools' event back in October, taking a team of years 7 -10. It was a typical wet and muddy day, with several boy's running in trainers. I know! However, even with the poor choice of footwear we saw several boy's finish in the top 10. Stand out performances were Alfie Lochhead and Francisco De Marino who both took 3rd place and were selected for the Lambeth LYG team.



LNS Sports News

Inter-watch

Since September, we have run competitions for basketball, football and indoor athletics (Year 7 only), the competitions have been well supported and played with a positive spirit on the field. We are planning more events to come next year.

Basketball

Basketball club has been well attended and we're starting to see this sport grow. Several boys are attending school early in the morning for the academy training, arriving as early as 6:45am three times a week. A special mention to Elijah Stephenson and Tommy Brown. So far, the 6th form have played a handful of competitive games. Feedback from the coach is they're moving in the right direction and getting better with every performance. Lambeth league games will start after Christmas for U14 & U16.

Cricket

After last year's reintroduction of cricket where we managed five wins out of six games. The boy's U15 side have started well winning a Surrey indoor cricket event and now progress to the next round. More details to follow.

Rugby

Training has seen great commitment from the students since its addition to the Extra-Curricular programme. The boy's played their first touch rugby tournament on Wednesday 18th December 2024, winning three games and drawing one. With limited practice, this was an impressive first event, and hopefully we will play some competitive full contact games in the new year.

SGO

We saw our first event of the year, a 3v3 basketball tournament organised by Mr Cabido with the support of our academy basketball lads and several Year 10 young leaders. This was attended by six local primary school's, who had a great time. More events to come in 2025.



LNS Sports News

6th Form Football Academy

The 6th Form Football Academy has had a tremendous start to the year. Our teams are entered in the National Youth Football League the English Schools FA Super Cup and the FA Youth Cup.

In September we welcomed sixty new members of our 6th Form Football Academy, and they have added a real tenacity to training and have increased the levels of expectation across all players.



In the lead up to joining the school, the students were fortunate enough to play showcase games against AFC Wimbledon, Sheffield Wednesday and MK Dons. Alpha academy students have also been able to participate in showcase matches with Player Path.

Player Path are an organisation who facilitate students who are interested in going out to the United States of America to study scholarships Post 18. Selected students have also been lucky enough to participate in a fitness testing day at Under Armour with many of the students receiving free training kit as a result of their performances.

But perhaps the best story of the year has been the success of the FA Youth Cup team, representing Merstham Town. The students involved are currently in the 4th round proper of the FA Youth Cup to play against Chelsea under 18s having beaten Burgess Hill in the 3rd round last night (18/12/24)

This competition is the biggest competition in Youth Football and to get to the third round has been an unbelievable feat in our first year. We wish the students all the very best and will provide an update in the New Year.

Three of our other teams are sitting at the top of their respective leagues which only goes to show the strength and depth that we have throughout the academy, and we are looking to build on those positions in the new year.



In the ESFA cup we finished top of our group playing against Harris Academy Orpington (Kinetic), Harris Academy Falconwood (Welling United) and Ravensbourne School. In the next round we will play against Cardinal Newman 6th Form, Sussex, which ironically has a number of the Burgess Hill players within it. Football works in funny ways. Again, we will keep you posted on our progress after the New Year.



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