

# THE WEEKLY WORD

The Lawrence Sheriff School Newsletter

<http://www.lawrencesheriffschool.net/weekly-word>



Lawrence Sheriff School Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales with company number 08963659 whose registered office is at Lawrence Sheriff School, Clifton Road, Rugby, Warwickshire, CV21 3AG

Vol.21 No. 23, Friday 9 March 2018

Edited by: Gillian Beardshaw E-mail: [tww@lawrencesheriffschool.com](mailto:tww@lawrencesheriffschool.com)

## First Word ... from the Headteacher, Peter Kent

2018 is an important year for me, marking as it does my twentieth year as headteacher of Lawrence Sheriff. One of the things I have been doing over recent months is reflecting on ways in which my job is different now from when I first started in January 1999.

I think that one of the biggest changes is the disappearance of the in-tray. I still remember my heart sinking when I returned from a course or a long meeting to find a towering pile of papers sitting there waiting for me. On Fridays the LA would send out a huge parcel of paper for each school and it would often take us several hours to wade through it before we found the important (or less unimportant) parts of the package.

I am not sure that I can name the point at which the in-tray disappeared, made redundant by the advent of the email and the internet, but it certainly has revolutionised communication in schools. In lots of ways this is hugely positive (I must admit communication on paper takes up far less of my time in 2018 than it did in 1999).

However, as with all changes there is a downside as well as an up side. Constant communication in the form of email means that one is never fully away from what is going on and may be one reason why some feel that the workplace in 2018 is more stressful than it was in 1999. As I have grown older, I must admit to ensuring that I don't send or answer emails late in the evenings and also try to minimise their use at weekends. If I send out lots of emails, others feel pressurised to do the same and it produces a less than virtuous cycle.

I continue to think that email is only suitable for some forms of communication. If I wanted to contact a parent in 1999, I would either ring them or write to them and I think that the same approach is still appropriate in 2018. Whilst an instant response to an email or letter may be an attractive idea, it is often not the best way to ensure that all issues have been considered and responded to in a measured and thoughtful manner. In my experience, a hasty response is rarely the best response. The saying 'the word once spoken cannot return again' has a lot of truth in it.

For similar reasons, I continue to be cautious about the school's use of social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter. Whilst these systems have a value in certain specific contexts, I am not sure what they would add to the range of communication tools that we already have available to us. At times, the instant communication that they offer can produce more problems than opportunities. **Peter Kent**

**Shopping online?** Access your favourite retailer via: <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/lawrencesheriffschoolpta> and the school gets a commission!



**LAWRENCE SHERIFF SCHOOL**  
A National Teaching School  
**RUGBY**

**TEACHER OF MATHEMATICS**  
**MPS/UPS**  
**Full time / Part time**  
**Required for September 2018**

'The values on which all of the school's work is based are very clear. You believe that students should be happy at the school' (Ofsted, 2013).

Lawrence Sheriff School is a boys' grammar school of approximately 900 students, over 300 of whom are in the sixth form. We believe that much of our success - including our consistently high Ofsted grading and our high rankings in DFE performance tables - can be directly linked to our emphasis upon LSS being a happy place to work for both pupils and staff.

The 2013 Ofsted report goes on to say that 'the school is a harmonious community where students with different needs can thrive; achieve highly in their academic work and enjoy a wide range of enrichment opportunities.' These comments sum up the distinctive ethos and values of the school.

We are looking to recruit a motivated, highly qualified teacher to teach Mathematics up to A-Level standard. The Mathematics department is situated in the purpose built Learning Resources Centre. It runs very popular and successful courses throughout the school up to Further Mathematics A-Level.

The successful individual will be an inspirational and innovative teacher who wishes to make use of a fantastic opportunity to further their career within an outstanding school where Mathematics has a high profile. This is a very special opportunity to further your career within an outstanding school and Lawrence Sheriff School is committed to the professional development of its entire staff through varied and interesting opportunities to enhance their practice.

For the application pack please visit the school website under 'Vacancies/Downloads'. To apply, please complete and return the job application and equality details forms by e-mail.

**Please do not submit CVs, as only the job application form will be considered.**

**Closing date for applications: Midday Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

Contact: Mrs Tracey Howcroft / Mrs Debbie Brannan  
Tel: 01788 542074, Fax: 01788 567962, Email: [recruitment@lawrencesherrifschool.com](mailto:recruitment@lawrencesherrifschool.com) |  
School Website: [www.lawrencesherrifschool.net](http://www.lawrencesherrifschool.net)  
Lawrence Sheriff School, Clifton Road, Rugby, CV21 3AG

*Lawrence Sheriff School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.  
The successful applicant will be required to undertake an Enhanced DBS Criminal Records check.  
For further information on 'keeping children safe in education', please visit:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education-2>*



**LAWRENCE SHERIFF SCHOOL**  
A National Teaching School  
**RUGBY**

**HIGHER LEVEL TEACHING ASSISTANT (ASSOCIATE TEACHER)**

Higher Level TA scale points 28 - 31 (£24,964 FTE - £27,668 FTE per annum),

Starting salary (point 28), circa £12,421.57 pro-rata per annum

Part time – 21.5 hours per week (Tuesday to Thursday), term time and training days

'The values on which all of the school's work is based are very clear. You believe that students should be happy at the school' (Ofsted, 2013).

Lawrence Sheriff School is a boys' grammar school of approximately 900 students, over 300 of whom are in the sixth form. We believe that much of our success - including our consistently high Ofsted grading and our high rankings in DFE performance tables - can be directly linked to our emphasis upon LSS being a happy place to work for both pupils and staff. The 2013 Ofsted report goes on to say that 'the school is a harmonious community where students with different needs can thrive; achieve highly in their academic work and enjoy a wide range of enrichment opportunities.' These comments sum up the distinctive ethos and values of the school.

We are looking to recruit a higher level teaching assistant (HLTA) to provide cover for classes in the event of planned or unplanned absence by teaching staff and to work with individuals and groups, under the direction of a teacher, to support learning. The successful candidate will deliver lessons in areas such as PSHE and citizenship, where work is planned and prepared by subject leaders and to support staff and students in all areas of the curriculum to enhance students' development.

Lawrence Sheriff School is committed to the professional development of its entire staff through varied and interesting opportunities to enhance their practice.

For the job description/person specification and application forms, please visit the school website under 'Vacancies/Downloads'. To apply, please complete and return the job application and equality details forms by e-mail. **Please do not submit CVs, as only the job application form will be considered.**

**Closing date for applications: 9.00am on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

Contact: Mrs Tracey Howcroft / Mrs Debbie Brannan

Tel: 01788 542074, Fax: 01788 567962, Email: [recruitment@lawrencesherriffschool.com](mailto:recruitment@lawrencesherriffschool.com)

School Website: [www.lawrencesherriffschool.net](http://www.lawrencesherriffschool.net)

Lawrence Sheriff School, Clifton Road, Rugby, CV21 3AG

*Lawrence Sheriff School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.  
The successful applicant will be required to undertake an Enhanced DBS Criminal Records check.  
For further information on 'keeping children safe in education' please visit:  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/keeping-children-safe-in-education-2>*

## **Brooke School mentoring program**

The Brooke School mentoring program is a long-standing program run weekly from September through to April to provide Science lessons to a small group of Brooke school students from years 7 or 8. The sessions are run by Mrs Large our SEN Learning Mentor and supported by Mrs Gardner our Science Technician. The Brooke students are supported either 1:1 or 2:1 by year 12 or 13 students in the Lawrence Sheriff 6th Form community.

Each week we provide a range of fun, science-inspired, arts and crafts activities. Such activities include the children making their own working rockets, a mobile of the Solar System, making their own alien spaceship to develop their learning about the Solar System in a fun and achievable way.

When it comes to why we joined, many of us firstly chose to volunteer because we either had nothing else we preferred to do on a Wednesday afternoon, or because it looked good on our CV's. But, as the weeks has gone by, all of us now agree that we have formed special working relationships with our Brooke School partners, and have had a lot of fun doing it. Whilst the Brooke school students have learnt a lot about science, technology, engineering, and maths, as well as having developing their social skills and building new trusting relationships with us, we as mentors have also learned a lot from our counterparts.

In terms of developing their learning, the Brooke School teachers that come to support their the students have said, on multiple occasions, that their students are progressing well because of the program, and exhibit new and promising traits during the session. They have been increasing their engagement in certain tasks and also speaking more and more as they form a better relationship with us. They come to the sessions with individual targets to meet in terms of their own personal learning and social interaction goals, and many students have met and even surpassed these targets, which is absolutely fantastic! Whilst the program helps the Brooke School students with social interaction, it also helps us learn how to interact with people with specific learning difficulties which we may not have had experience with yet in life.

Whilst some may consider the activities that we do in the program as being simple and unproductive, they are in fact perfectly suited for the students and are easy enough for first time mentors to adapt them to the student's needs. From this, we learn to complexities of such a task whilst still being able to deliver in a professional fashion... Not that fun isn't had at every stage of the process, resulting in us becoming friends with our partner.

As there may have been some trepidation amongst us before the program started, because of our overall lack of experience interacting with children with learning difficulties, we were all quickly put at ease by spending time with them. We would all recommend getting involved in the program to New Year 12's, not only for its blatant qualification merits, but for the amazing experience you will inevitably have.

## **Our sessions**



**Sharon Large, SEN Learning Mentor and Brooke School mentors**

## Grandborough Trust

**Grandborough Trust is offering up to 10 educational bursaries to young people in the parish.**

The Trust is looking to award small financial grants for:

### Higher Education:

to assist with living costs at university,

to assist with buying of books, I.T. equipment etc,

to assist in any costs incurred in **apprenticeships** or **internships**, including travel, books etc,

to assist in any costs incurred on a **gap year** where a person is **volunteering** for a charity.

### School:

to assist in any costs incurred in school trips, uniforms, school shoes and study costs (new folders, art requisites etc),

and to assist with any other costs in **educational activities** to any young person in **Grandborough Parish** whose parents are on the electoral roll .

**Please contact:** Michelle Johns, Clerk to the Grandborough Trust, 3 Hargrave Close, Grandborough CV23 8DS, or email: [mail@grandboroughtrust.org.uk](mailto:mail@grandboroughtrust.org.uk) if you would like to be considered, with a brief outline of what is needed and why.

Bursary applications will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis, and all applications will be treated in confidence.

**Deadline for applications: October 31st 2018**

## Warwickshire Education Strategy 2018 - 2023

We are looking forward to engaging with partners and stakeholders during the consultation period March 5th - April 2nd. We want to hear from a wide range of respondents.

Further information about the consultation, how to take part and the full draft strategy can be found here: <https://ask.warwickshire.gov.uk/communities-group/education-strategy/>

**See leaflet below for additional information**

## COMMUNITY SING-IN

**St Andrew's Church, Rugby**

**INFORMAL OFF-THE-CUFF COME-AND-SING  
CELEBRATION of:**

**Andrew Lloyd-Webber's 70th birthday (5 days early, but hey!)**

**SATURDAY 17th March 10-00 am till 12-00 noon**

Everyone welcome, ages 0 -100: just drop in at any time, join in, and bring your family and friends.

We'll learn two (three?) songs from 'Cats' from scratch (that pun tells you the sort of purr-fect morning you are in for!), enjoy a 'celebrity solo', pause at 11.15 am to buy a coffee and cake or biscuit,

and then perform (brilliantly!) for ourselves and anyone else who's there at about 11-40 am. No pressure, just fun.

No entry charge - donations welcome for the church's community work.

Unmissable event: Church capacity about 300, so get there early!!



**TABLE TENNIS**



### Lunchtime Sessions

Wednesday: year seven club members only

Friday: club and school team members only

**6.50 pm – 8.20 pm**

Tuesday: Two-a-side League (Includes beginners' division)

**Club Sessions: Try them out - first two are free!**

Wednesday 6.30 pm – 9.00 pm

Sunday 10.00 am - 12.00 pm

**See the website for more info: [www.RugbyTableTennisClub.NET](http://www.RugbyTableTennisClub.NET)**

## Warwickshire Education Strategy 2018 - 2023

### VISION

#### WE1

Promoting the best possible start in life through early education

#### WE2

Unlocking talent, building resilience and fulfilling the potential of our vulnerable learners

#### WE3

Empowering education communities so that Warwickshire's Family of Schools can thrive and there are sufficient good/ outstanding school places

#### WE4

Promoting employability that offers the best possible opportunities for all learners - so that the local economy can grow and young people can take on the responsibilities of adult life



### Warwickshire Education Strategy, Education and Learning

Saltisford Office Park  
Ansell Way  
Warwick  
CV34 4UL

**Tel:** 01926 742588

**email:** [educationstrategy@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:educationstrategy@warwickshire.gov.uk)

[www.warwickshire.gov.uk/ask](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/ask)



## Education Strategy Consultation

2018 - 2023



Working in partnership so that a good  
education is available to everyone

## Working in partnership so that a good education is available to everyone

Our new Education Strategy will guide and support education in Warwickshire for the next 5 years. It is very important to us that you have a say in what that strategy will be.



Please visit our questionnaire at [www.warwickshire.gov.uk/ask](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/ask) to register your comments.