



THE WEEKLY WORD

Edited by: Gillian Beardshaw

Email: tww@lawrencesheriffshcool.com

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

First Word ... from Peter Kent, Headteacher

Volume 22 Number 2

Friday 14 September 2018

I first wrote the article below in 2008. Since then I have re-run it every couple of years, each time updating the figures. When I last ran the piece a few years ago, I left myself a diary note to publish it again in September 2018.

Attitudes towards those of us who work in the public services appear to be cyclical. When I started teaching in the 1980s, I remember being told by almost everyone who knew me that I was making a mistake. Schools were poorly funded and those who worked in them were paid indifferently. It was therefore not surprising that as the 1980s and 1990s went on, shortages developed in key subject areas and many school buildings fell into decay.

From the late 1990s, a lot more money was invested in education and the general climate around schools became more positive. Sadly, in the current decade, that picture of optimism has declined. In any event, as with all public services, questions are always raised about value for money.

An example of this comes in the concerns regularly raised about public sector workers who earn more than the Prime Minister. In my experience, there is always understandable curiosity about how much the person at the top of an organisation is paid and for that reason since I was appointed in 1999 I have published my salary at regular intervals. Our most recent accounts, which can be found on the school's website, show that I am paid at approximately point L42 on the leadership scale (£108,976). For those interested in the detail, in the previous year my salary was £107,210.

On the occasions when I have provided substantial leadership support to another school (2008-09 at Blue Coat Coventry and also during 15 months between 2016 and 2017 at Northampton International Academy), I have received an allowance from the governors of the second school in acknowledgement of the additional work involved (in 2008-09 it was £12,000 and the figure was around £4,500 for the work at NIA). I am sure that the Prime Minister should be paid much more for her extremely important job, but there is no danger of my overtaking her. 'Headteacher paid going rate for the job' is not a very exciting headline, but I fear that it is the only one that describes my experience and that of most of my colleagues.

When I first wrote this article, the thought occurred to me that I had spent approximately half of my career working in the private sector (teaching in two independent schools) and half in the public sector. I have to be honest and say that I noticed no difference between the two. In both sectors, staff at all levels work hard to achieve the best outcomes for their students. Their motivation is not primarily financial, but not unreasonably, there is an expectation that they should receive a fair salary for carrying out a highly specialised job.

Peter Kent

Shopping online?

Access your favourite retailer via: <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/lawrencesheriffschoolpta>

Roger Cartwright

1947—2018

At the end of term we also heard the sad news about the death of Roger Cartwright, who taught History at Lawrence Sheriff for over 30 years from 1971 to 2003.

Roger was a caring and committed colleague with a deeply impressive knowledge of his subject (although Roger told me that his initial appointment owed a great deal to his ability to also coach hockey).

At a time when the importance of ethics in education is frequently discussed, Roger's strongly held values and principles served as an example to all of us.

Many current and former colleagues have contacted me to say how sad they were to hear the news about Roger and we would like to send our sincere sympathy to Roger's family.

Peter Kent

Mo Parr

1950—2018

During the summer we were saddened to hear of the death of Mo Parr, who was librarian at the school for 10 years between 1999 and 2009.

Mo was one of my first appointments when I became headteacher and she quickly made an energetic contribution to the life of the school, actively promoting the library and encouraging pupils and staff to make use of it at every available opportunity.

When Mo came to the school, the library was housed where my office now is, with Mo overseeing the move to the LRC in 2008. Pupils found her a friendly and welcoming member of staff and the library was a very popular place to read and study throughout her time at the school.

We would like to send our deepest sympathy to Mo's family.

Peter Kent

Computer Use

Morning and after school computer usage is available in **room 67**

(8.00 am – 8.50 am) and (3.30 pm – 5.00 pm)



TABLE TENNIS



Lunchtime Sessions:

Wednesday: year seven club members only (Lawrence Sheriff School)
Friday: club and school team members only (Lawrence Sheriff School)

Club Sessions:

Wednesday 6.30 pm—9.00 pm (Lawrence Sheriff School)
Sunday 10.00 am - 12.00 pm (Hill Street Community Centre)

Try them out - first two are free!

See the website for more info: www.RugbyTableTennisClub.NET



Blood and Transplant

We need more blood donors at:

The Indian Association

Edward St, Rugby, CV21 2EZ

Wednesday 24th October

12:30-15:15 & 16:15-19:15

Do something amazing. Give blood.

To book an appointment visit
blood.co.uk or call 0300 123 23 23

Download the app
NHS Give Blood



[GiveBloodNHS](https://www.facebook.com/GiveBloodNHS) [@GiveBloodNHS](https://twitter.com/GiveBloodNHS) [GiveBloodNHS](https://www.instagram.com/GiveBloodNHS) [NHSGiveBlood](https://www.youtube.com/NHSGiveBlood)

1617712

THE 200 CLUB IS HERE!

CASH PRIZES TO BE WON EVERY MONTH



JUST £12 PER YEAR

ALL MONEY RAISED GOES TOWARDS FUNDING
SCHOOL ACTIVITIES & EQUIPMENT FOR THE STUDENTS

GET YOUR NUMBER NOW!

To register your interest and get a number just email
parents@lawrencesherrifschool.com

We will then send you your number and payment details

Deadline 24th September



Lawrence Sheriff School

Parents' Association