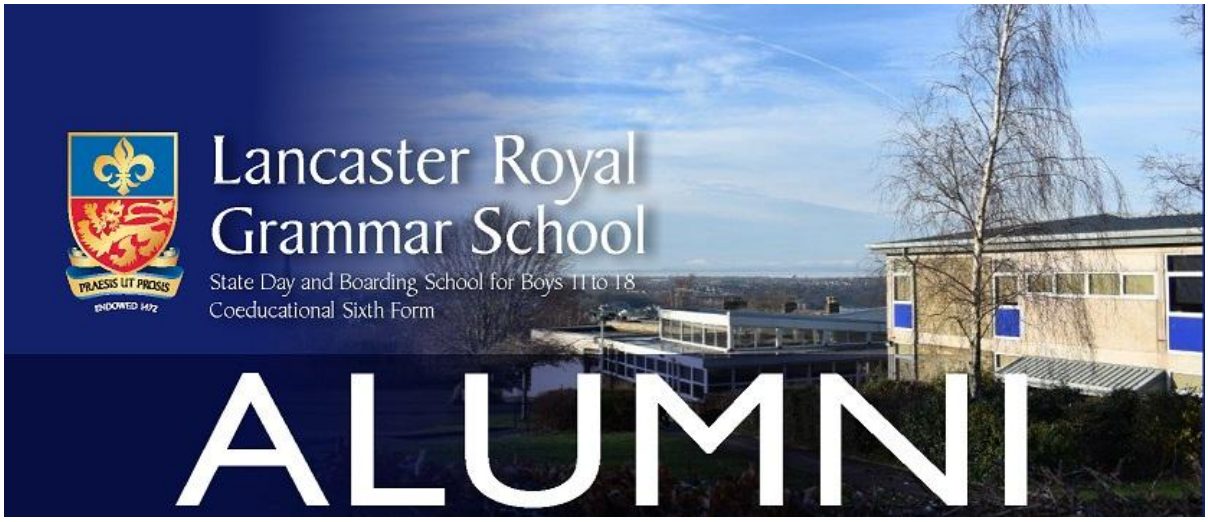


LRGS Alumni Newsletter

September 2026



A very warm welcome to you from LRGS.

The latest Headmaster's letter to parents can be found *here*

As always, we love to hear from our LRGS community so get in touch with your news and be sure to update us of any change of details

With best wishes,

Lorna and the Development team

LRGS Updates

Exceptional Ofsted outcomes

Pupils and staff here at school are celebrating remarkable double Ofsted success. LRGS recently received separate boarding and day inspections. Inspectors confirmed all aspects of boarding as Outstanding, and awarded two rare Exceptional grades which recognise practice amongst the very best in the country.

Inspectors wrote: "Pupils flourish in a culture where expectations of academic success and character building are high and unwavering." They found that "Leaders place a deep understanding of pupils' individual needs at the heart of their work."

Two aspects of the school were awarded the highest possible grade. Inspectors awarded Exceptional grades for Personal development and Well-being, and for Attendance and Behaviour.

Exceptional grades are very rare. Ofsted say: "We only award this grade when we see practice that is among the very best nationally." They indicate sustained and transformational practice.

A Strong grade means excellent, consistent practice well above the expected level. Inspectors found that Lancaster Royal Grammar School is Strong in all the following areas: Inclusion, Curriculum and Teaching, Achievement, Sixth Form provision, and Leadership and Governance.

They wrote: "Leaders champion pupils' whole development, not just their academic achievement."

Dr Chris Pyle, Head of Lancaster Royal Grammar School, said, "*I am hugely proud of our pupils and staff. It is wonderful to see their achievements highlighted in such glowing terms throughout every section of this report*."

"*The view of education that we champion at LRGS is broad and three-dimensional. This report celebrates the way that we combine the highest levels of academic achievement with transformational extra-curricular opportunities. Pastoral care and inclusion are the basis of everything we do. It is excellent to read the inspectors' praise for the quality of that culture. It runs through every part of the school."*

"It is also excellent to see the focus on our pupils' exceptional behaviour, their social responsibility, and how well prepared they are for life beyond school. It is lovely to see the recognition that our pupils flourish, in all their diversity."

If you would like to read more about these exceptional results and / or read the full report, you can do so via our website.

PTI Department Development Programme success

LRGS has been awarded The PTI Department Development Programme Subject Mark for outstanding teaching in Physical Education, Modern Foreign Languages and Design and Technology.

The PTI launched the Department Development Programme in 2007 to recognise and reward school departments that develop inspirational ideas and activities which enhance teaching regardless of their pupils' backgrounds or abilities.

To achieve The PTI Subject Mark, departments have to demonstrate that they have increased the challenge within their subject curriculum, developed their staff's specialist subject knowledge, developed subject-based links outside school and enthused their pupils through subject-based activities beyond the curriculum.

Battlefields Trip

57 Year 11 History students travelled to the battlefields of France and Belgium this month, visiting locations including Agincourt, the Somme, the Lochnager Crater, Serre Cemetery and the Sunken Lane where hundreds of Lancashire Fusiliers perished on 1 July 1916. Students gathered at the Thiepval Memorial to lay a wreath for our three Old Lancastrians. Thank you to staff for organising a fantastic trip.





Annual Supper Run

Thank you to staff and the Friends of LRGS for organising and hosting another fantastic Supper Run! Congratulations to all runners, sharks, minions and horses for completing the course. Results are available via our website

Y11 prefects

Thank you to our Year 11 prefects for supporting our new Year 7s on their first day. The prefects have an important job and will get to know their form really well during the course of the year, providing someone Y7s can go to to talk or to ask advice, they will also be helping with fun activities throughout year.



Congratulations



A huge well done to James and Charlie for raising £1590 by completing a 15km run from the Ashton Memorial via the Douthwaite to Shireshead Cricket Club to raise money for The Teenage Cancer Trust.
They were supported by Charlie on his bike providing drinks, food and general encouragement on the way!

2026 Leavers Destinations



Top University Destinations:
Lancaster, Newcastle, London, Durham, Warwick, Manchester, Cambridge

Top Degree Choices:
Medicine, Engineering, Maths, Economics/Busines/Finance Law, History/Politics/International Relations, Computer Science

Apprenticeships:
Ten students secured apprenticeships in a variety of different disciplines: accounting, law, engineering and project management. Several others secured places on the PWC Flying Start Finance Degree which pays for tuition fees and work placements across the three years of the degree course.



Apprenticeship Providers:
RSM Accounting, MHA Accounting, Ernst Young, PWC, Mott MacDonald, Travers Smith, Rolls Royce, BAE, RAF

Alumni News

Sad News

Thomas Bryan Lambert



We were saddened to learn that OL Thomas Lambert (44-52) passed away on 6 September. Upon leaving LRGS, Thomas pursued a career in education, becoming a school Headmaster. Thomas remembered his time here at school with great fondness and was always interested in keeping up to date with school news.

Thomas' niece writes, "*As well as having a successful career in Education , my uncle was a man of many talents and wide interests. He took things very much in his stride both good and bad. He always enjoyed sport as initially a player and laterally as a supporter. He was an avid LFC fan, following each match on the radio.*
Even in his early 90s his quick sense of humour and love of life made him great company.
He was very proud to have been a pupil at LRGS."

Our thoughts are with Thomas' family at this sad time.

Brian Whitehead

We were sad to learn that OL Brian Whitehead (51-57) passed away on 8 April 2026. Brian remembered Lancaster and LRGS with such fondness that his wife, Pauline, travelled all the way from their home in Australia to scatter Brian's ashes here. Our thoughts are with Pauline, and their family and friends at this sad time.

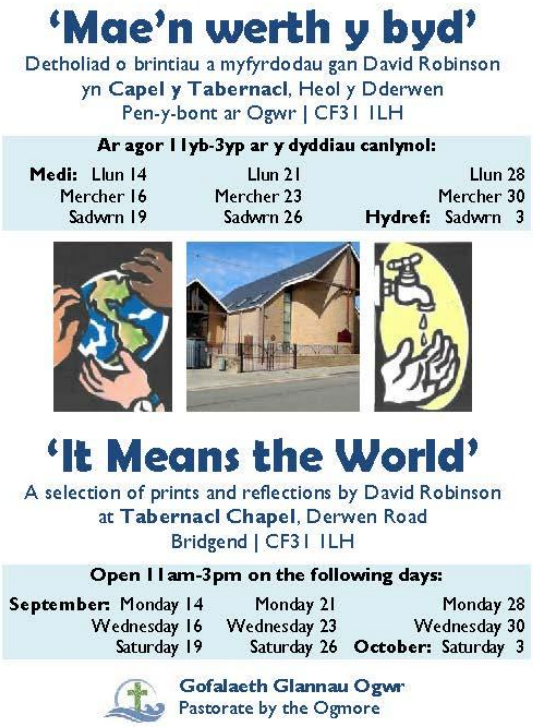
Alumni Updates

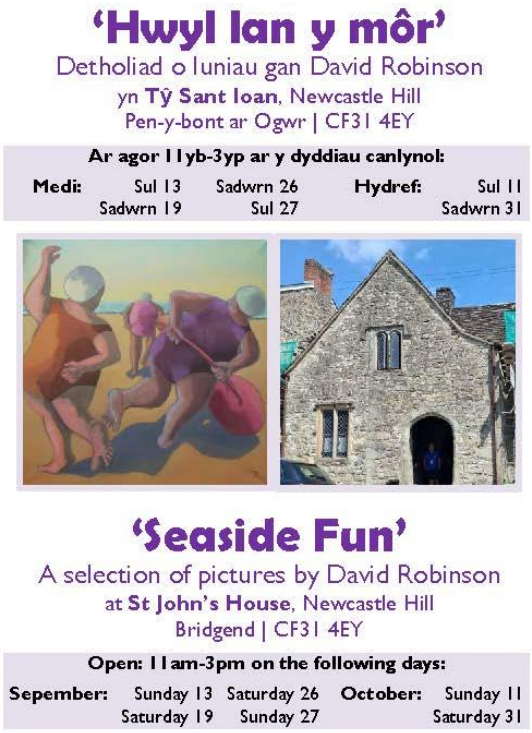
Congratulations to OL David Robinson (94-01) who has two exhibitions currently taking place.

The first exhibition, is at Tabernacl Bridgend and is a series of lino prints and reflections on environmental issues https://glannauogwr.cymru/en/english/

The second exhibition, at St John's House Bridgend, features a series of paintings and cards inspired by the local area https://stjohns-bridgend.org.uk/

Details for both exhibitions can be found below





Ben Cottam on BBC Radio 3

OL Ben Cottam (95-02) recently visited a church in San Francisco that reveres the jazz saxophonist John Coltrane as a saint, to honour the centenary of Coltrane's birth.

Ben created a feature for BBC Radio 3, the programme contains a brief LRGS reminiscence and notes that Ben first became interested in John Coltrane because of a poster for his album Blue Train that was on the wall in one of the English classrooms.

You can catch up with Ben's programme here

Future Event updates

Hong Kong OL Dinner on Tuesday 13 October at USRC

London OL Dinner on Thursday 5 November at RAF Club Piccadilly

OL'd Hammer on Saturday 19 December at school, please see below for details

Links to book a place at the above dinners will become available as soon as the details have been confirmed.

Please continue to check our website and social media pages to keep up with the latest news.

OL'd Hammer 2026



The LRGS Armchair Generals and Warhammer Clubs and the Old Lancastrians would like to invite any ex and current wargaming OLs to put the O and the L in Oldhammer and join them in the inaugural OL'd Hammer wargaming get together on site at school. The plan is for reuniting previous school club members, Old Lancastrians and meeting the current club pupils. Wargaming parents are also warmly invited.

A provisional date of Saturday 19th December has been arranged, and ideas are developing for display areas, gaming and a potential tournament.

Climb into your lofts, reach into the back of cupboards and dust off those old armies. Come along and show the current boys where it started and how it was done "back in the day" with an RTB01 Beakie or two, a classic wargame or "vintage" miniatures.

Get in touch with OL Club Chair Richard Brigg to register interest.

Update Your Details

How You Can Help LRGS

We thank you for your ongoing support of the school.





Privacy Policy | Unsubscribe

Lancaster Royal Grammar School
East Road, Lancaster, Lancashire LA1 3EF