

NAVIGATE



THE LONDON NAUTICAL SCHOOL

LEADING NAVIGATING SUCCEEDING

May 2024



Please don't be concerned by our Year 7's brandishing axes, I can reassure you that this was part of their recent residential trip to Osmington Bay in Dorset! Not only did the boys get to enjoy a range of exciting activities but they managed to get a wonderful sighting of the Northern Lights! As always, our latest edition of Navigate captures some of the wonderful experiences that the boys have been involved with throughout the last action-packed term that includes; a trip to Williams F1 team headquarters; Sixth Form trips to Cambrils and Cern, a Tall Ships Voyage from Portsmouth to Plymouth and the Brilliant Club visit to Bayes Business School (City of London). More experience from this term will be included within our Summer edition.

Our 'Now and Then' feature is one of great significance as we look at the career of our eldest surviving former student, Victor Osborne. Victor, who now resides in Canada, attended Rotherhithe Nautical School in 1932, and at 105 years old provided us with a great insight into his experiences during an incredible career.

As always, I would like to express my gratitude to our school sponsors; The Honourable Company of Master Mariners, Trinity House, The Worshipful Company of Shipwrights, The Baltic Exchange Charitable Trust, The Marine Society, The Worshipful Company of Scientific Instrument Makers, Maritime Strategies International, The Stelios Philanthropic Foundation, Viking Maritime and Greenwich Hospital.

Mr Schofield (Headteacher)

Year 9 Take to the track

In the last week of the term, 29 Year 9 students had the exciting opportunity to tour the Williams Formula 1 team headquarters and participate in a STEM Experience Day to learn about careers in STEM-related fields.

During the day, the students engaged in three activities. In the first activity, students were placed in groups of five to take part in the Williams STEM Lego Mindstorms EV3 team challenge. This involved programming a robot, developing a brand, and presenting their project to the group.

After a short break, the students toured the Williams Racing Heritage museum, where a knowledgeable member of the Williams staff guided them through the engineering and history of the F1 team. They learned about the evolution of the team, from the first car driven by Alan Jones to the championship-winning cars of Mansell, Senna, and Hill. Later in the tour, students were able to handle and learn about the materials used in the construction of an F1 car and their properties.



For the final activity of the day, students participated in three 14-person F1 races in the esports lounge. There was fierce competition and some excellent driving on iconic tracks such as Silverstone and Monaco. The best drivers were those who skillfully avoided collisions in the first few corners and found empty track to race ahead.

Throughout the day, students were observed to see how well they performed in the different activities, and the winning five students were presented with Williams Racing hats. The experience was thoroughly enjoyable, and all students left with a greater appreciation of the various STEM skills that go into an F1 career, along with a Williams Racing goody bag.



LNS History Golden Hind Project

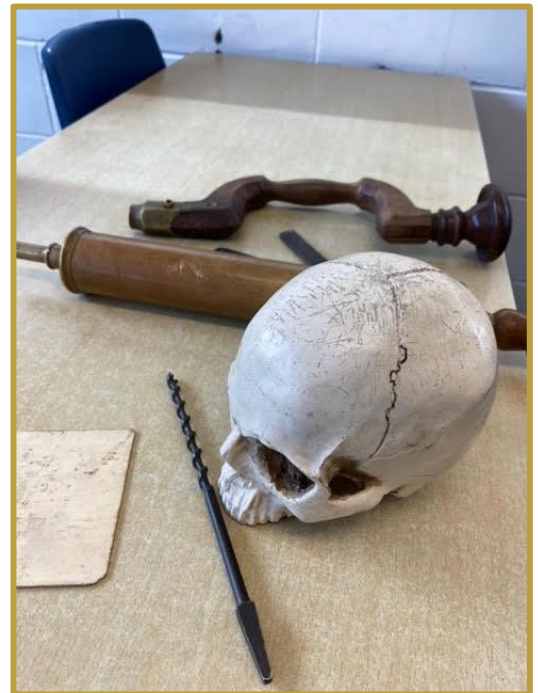
On Friday 26th April a representative from the Golden Hinde joined us to do a workshop with a group of Year 7 & 8 students. A future project run by these students will take place on board the ship in the near future.

Our guide, Frankie brought with her some handling objects - from navigation tools and maps to medical equipment used by the barber surgeon on board the ship. The students' prior knowledge was impressive, and the group had some amazing questions and thoughts about these objects.

Each group were given an ailment and then they had to decide how the patient would have been treated - some treatments at the time were very painful, invasive or just weird!

The boys then got together and had a great discussion about the themes of their future project (pirates from around the world/women pirates, trade, battles etc) as well as what the project would look like - a display, becoming a tour guide for the day, making a movie or sound bites.

The boys were extremely enthusiastic and full of some amazing ideas - Frankie was very impressed by them and is very much looking forward to working with them again.



Sixth Form Trip to Cambrils

After three successful trips in Spain and India it was time to carry on with the trend. Students from London Nautical and Combe Wood left on the 10th April and flew from Gatwick to Barcelona. They were escorted by several staff who would be looking after them for the two weeks. The sun was shining when they landed, and the coach was there to transfer them to the resort in Cambrils. The resort is about 100 km southeast of Barcelona, so, after about an hour and a half they arrived at their destination.

This was quite a different kind of trip in relation to Seville. In Cambrils, we were staying in a holiday resort whereas in Seville we were in a hostel. Cambrils was luxury. Everything that you needed was there. Nice, tidy accommodation, three buffet style meals a day and a large swimming pool for all to use. The boys would be staying there for two weeks and would be taking part in football sessions with Spanish coaches and educational classes where they would be learning about Spanish culture and the language, plus also having to cook for themselves for at least 3 nights using a menu that should have a Spanish theme!

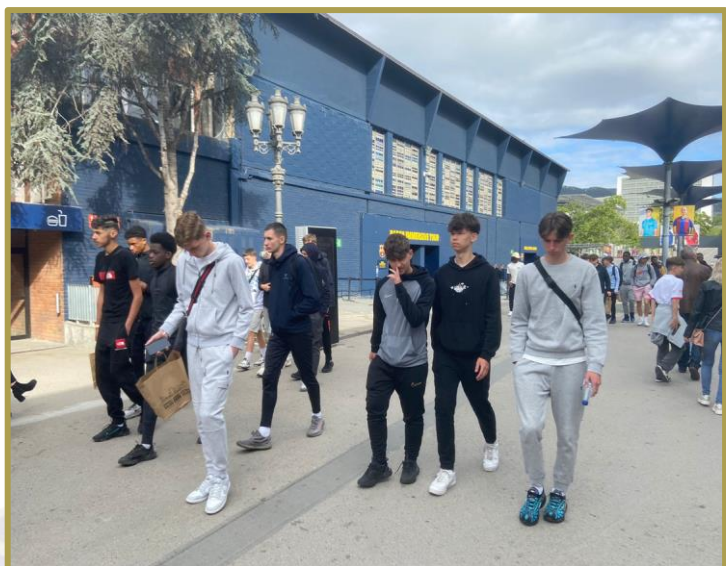


Sixth Form Trip to Cambrils

The boys were allowed free time to wander around the resort and use the facilities plus be able to visit the beach which was about a ten-minute walk from where we were staying. This proved to be quite popular!

There was bike hire, volleyball, padel and even the greatest sport of all time.... basketball. Much of the time was spent at the training facilities, which were about a fifteen-minute walk from the resort. A huge area with about 10 full size pitches on which the boys were given training sessions and were able to run their own programmes with the assistance of the Volenti coaches. The weather was just about right, sunny but not too hot.

If training was not on for the day, then the boys had to group together and come up with strength and weakness programmes that they had been learning about in their education lessons. The idea would be that they had to come up with a product that they could market and sell to the 'dragons'....Staff!!!



The boys were able to play 5 matches all together in the time that they were there against local opposition. Mr Shaw put his coaching skills to the test and managed to come away with a record of 2 wins and no losses!

A fantastic day trip to Barcelona had the boys going into football club's museum to marvel at the medals and trophies that had been won in the past. The stadium tour was off as it is been renovated and turned into a bigger and better facility.

They will have to wait until 2025 to see it. With the boys finishing their evening meals and watching Champions League football on cinema size screens in the resorts dining room, who could ask for more.

Time flies and the two weeks were up before we knew it. Flying home to not so sunny England, some met by parents and other just meandering their own way down to the train station to catch a ride home and school the next day..... for some!



Brilliant Club

On Monday 29th April our KS3 and KS4 scholars graduated from their Brilliant club course. They enjoyed a visit to Bayes Business School, City of London University where they had some sessions to celebrate their newfound knowledge and highlight the skills acquired during their tutorials. They also spoke with student ambassadors, had a tour of the university and a keynote speech all emphasising that further education is well within their reach should they wish to pursue it.

We congratulate all our scholars on their achievements as they have completed seven tutorials with a PHD tutor on an innovative topic and also submitted at least a 1,500 word essay which is a great achievement.

It was a great day and the boys really enjoyed themselves!



Year 7 have fun in Osmington Bay

Year 7 had an amazing time at PGL this term, 4 days jam packed with activities. Focusing on boating, but including water sports, climbing cliffs, coasteering and paddle boarding to more adventure-based activities like tag-archery, zip lining, axe throwing and the high swing.

We quickly gained a reputation around the camp for our high energy levels and discipline. Wakeup call was at 06.00 am and all year 7s then made their bunks and cleaned their rooms until spotless, awaiting inspection. Morning parade was at 7.00 am and then we had breakfast ready for a day filled with fun team building activities.



With breaks for lunch and supper, activities ran until 8.00pm. Then it was down time, showers and lights out for 9.00pm. So, a very long day and a lot of energy used up.

You can imagine how quickly the boys fell asleep!

Some of the year 7s even got time to watch the Northern Lights and get chased by a badger!

Strong friendships were made and many memorable LNS moments had.



Year 7 have fun in Osmington Bay

We would like to thank Miss James for an amazing trip and Mr Parsons, Mr McFoy, Mr Simpson and Miss Daverin for their enthusiasm and support.



Sixth Form Tall Ships Youth Trust

On the 29th April 2024 our Year 12 Maritime Studies students took part in a sailing trip on the ex-round the world racing yacht Challenger Four. Unlike the Clipper round the world racing yachts sail with the prevailing wind. These racing yachts were built to go the wrong way around the world against the wind. Over the course of the week to Plymouth we semi raced against a team of young Barrett's homes apprentices on a matching yacht. The first leg was the short trip to Yarmouth, on the Isle of Wight.



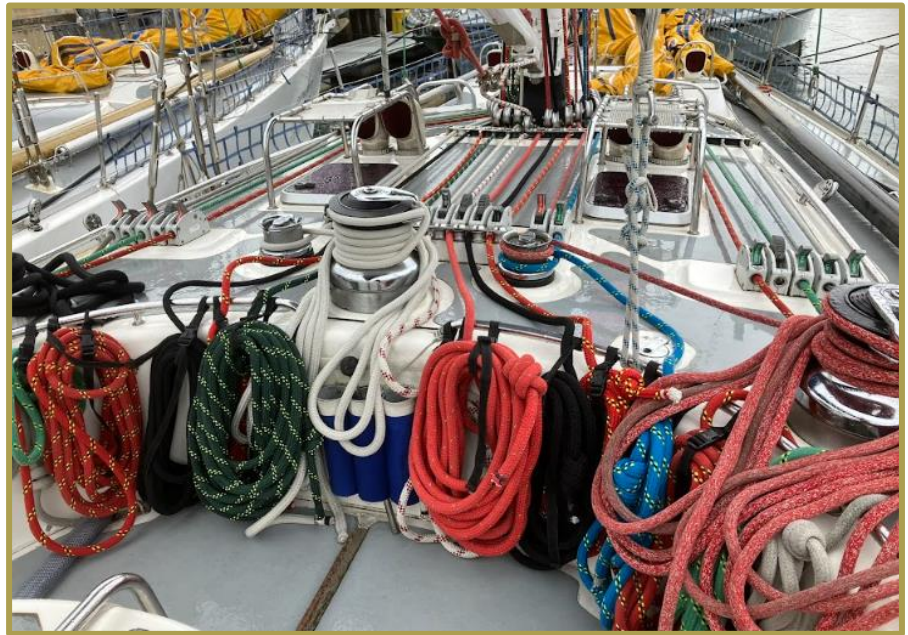
We were up at dawn the next morning to hoist the big mainsail and put in reefs for the strong wind we were going to have that day - the weather was superb. The photo below is in the shelter just before we hit the choppy water of the Hurst Narrows

Once we got clear of the Needles, Challenger Four was able to show us the rocket ship, that she is - almost part racing yacht part submarine, with side decks awash.



Sixth Form Tall Ships Youth Trust

The students needed to quickly learn the ways of the “snake pit”, winching techniques, and what each control line does. The photo below shows both racing yachts alongside each other in Weymouth, with the snake pit tamed and tidy.



Next morning was another very early start to get around Portland Bill early for the long trip across Lyme Bay to Brixham.

This was the longest leg of the voyage. But we were rewarded by lots of wild dolphin sightings, with the marine mammals coming very close to say hello!

Towards the end of the day, because we wanted fish and chips in Brixham both boats started engines. The next day the wind was forecast to be back up to gale conditions, so it was changing the sails to storm sails, for more exciting sailing past Salcombe.

Listening on VHF radio we heard 2 Mayday calls from other yachts. By evening the wind eased for a last sunset sail as we approached Plymouth.



Year 10 Spiral Skills

A group of Year 10 students have been participating in a programme called Spiral Skills this term. Spiral Skills aim to bridge the education-to-employment gap. Spiral Skills collaborates with a diverse network of individual professionals and organisations to open young minds to new pathways, build their professional networks, and improve their access to work.

So far, the students have participated in workshops that are aimed at developing and advancing soft skills that will benefit them in the workplace/career in future. The focus has been on active listening, communication, problem by undertaking tasks such as Bridge Building.

Spiral Skills will also support the students with a 3 day work experience at the end of term. We are grateful to Lambeth Made who have generously funded this opportunity for our students.



Year 9 take on the Dragons

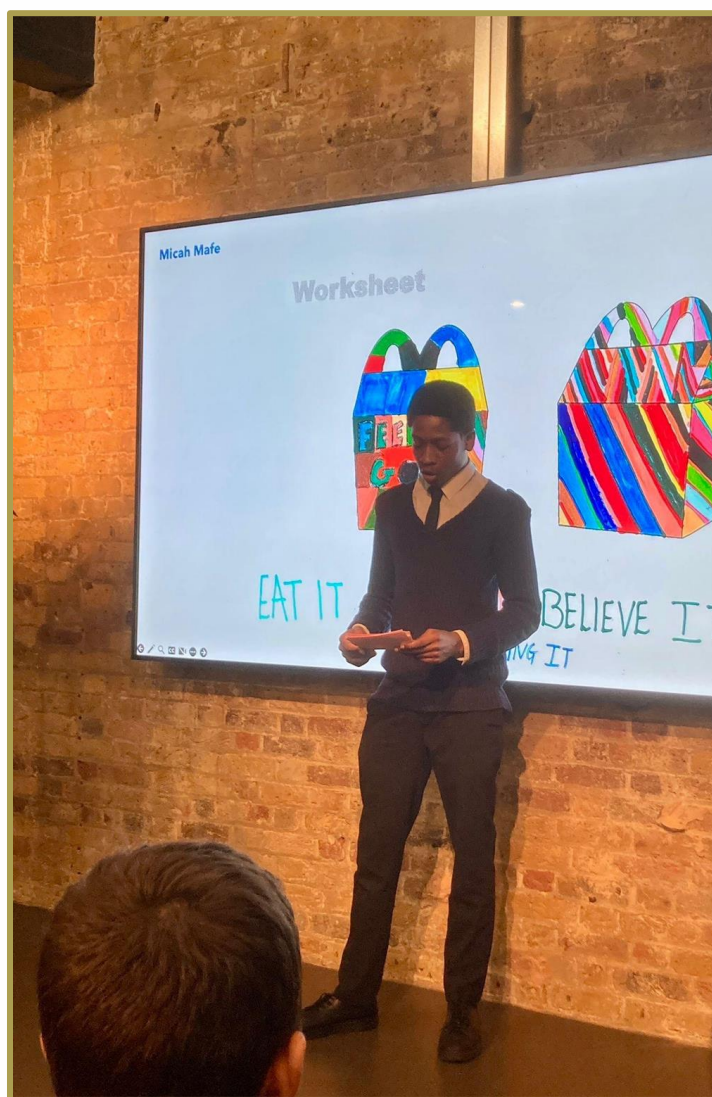
During careers week in March, Year 9 started working on a project to design packaging for a Happy Meal box and a pair of Adidas trainers with international company, TMS.

This was followed by a workshop involving visitors from TMS presenting ideas on; how to market a product, how to communicate its vision and expectations of a presentation. A groups of 10 finalists were then invited to the head office where they were able to present on their ideas. The staff at TMS were incredible complementary over our boys, they even said they had never seen such a buzz around their office on the day of the 'Dragon's Den' presentations.

The overall winner was Oliver Edwards, who has won a meal out for himself and ten friends. However, the competition was so fierce that a runner up prize was awarded to Micah Mafe. We certainly have a few budding entrepreneurs in our midst!



Oliver Edwards delivering his winning design pitch



Micah Mafe hot on his heels are the runner up.

Physics trip to Cern

In late April our year 12/13 Physics students took a trip to Cern, in Switzerland. The aim of this trip was to see the Hadron Collider and gain firsthand experience of Physics at work. They all have a great time, alongside the visit to the Hadron Collider they also visited the Red Cross, United Nations and the Science Museum. It was a fun packed three days!



Year 8 on course to the Lambeth Final

On 23rd May, the year 8 football played their Lambeth League semifinal against Bishop Thomas Grant at Selhurst sports arena. It didn't take them long to find the back of the net, with Alfie C-C scoring a header from 5 yards out. Rhys then swiftly made it 2-0 with a low effort hitting the post and going in. The boys were relentless in their pressing and through a couple of mistakes, made it 3-0 before half time. At the start of the second half Bishop Thomas Grant pulled one goal back, before Alfie C-C completed his hattrick with some great skill chipping the ball over the keeper for a simple tap in. The final score: LNS 4-1 Bishop Thomas Grant. They will now play in the final against either Elms Academy or Oasis Academy Southbank. Well done year 8!



Now and Then

Again, demonstrating what a unique institution London Nautical School is, recently we were contacted by an old boy who attended Rotherhithe Nautical School in 1932!

Mr Victor A Osborne (now living in Canada); upon completion of his school days joined the Royal Navy, Boy 1st Class, at just 14 years of age - signing up for three years and then for a further 12 years before leaving in 1949.



Victor's younger brother Tom, also attended Rotherhithe Nautical School and also served in the RN; Tom was one of the youngest Ordinary Seamen to be involved in the D Day landings.

Victor has the distinction of being the last surviving member of the crew of HMS Hood, leaving the Hood in September of 1937 before she was sunk during the Battle of Denmark Strait on the 24th May 1941.

His next ship was an Aircraft Carrier named HMS Eagle on the China Station and, still only 19, he was a Leading Torpedoman in charge of preparing torpedoes and Depth Charges, loading them under the torpedo bombers fuselage and wings.

Victor served on the Eagle till 1942 and finished the second world war in the Pacific on an Australian Destroyer, HMAS Quality, serving under US Admiral Bull Halsey, the ship acting as his courier and Kamikaze destroyer. Fighting in the last four battles of World War Two, Victor was present in Tokyo Bay around the time of the surrender of Japanese forces.

In yet another claim to fame Victor, arrived later in in life in California, where he helped build Disneyland, staying with a crew of electricians to maintain the park for some years.



HMS Hood

Thank you to Victor for contacting the school and for sharing his incredible story with us.

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Victor A Osborne



LNS news

The school bid goodbye to two of our most fervent supporter earlier on in the year. Captain Ian McNaught CVO MNM, stepped down as Deputy Warden of Trinity House; both Ian and Trinity House have been great supporters of the school over the years, and we wish Ian well in what we hope will be a long and prosperous retirement.



Our Sea Cadets, Chair of Governors and Headmaster wishing Ian “*bon voyage*”.



Commodore David Eagles RFA CMMar, retired from the Royal Fleet Auxiliary in April of this year – the school has been working hard with the RFA to establish a formal cadetship agreement and David was instrumental in developing this programme. All at LNS wish David the very best for the future.





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