



Lincoln Minster School

The best in everyone

A member of United Church Schools Trust

Principal: Mr Clive Rickart B.A. (Hons) P.G.C.E.

16 December 2011

Dear Parent

It seems no time at all since we were celebrating our best ever set of external examination results in August but there is no doubt that we have built on this excellent platform and that the school continues to flourish. Our Independent Schools Inspection report endorses this with six excellent judgements, two good with a significant amount of excellence, and one good. Although the report is required to follow a structure, the fact that the word 'excellent' is used twenty six times and 'outstanding' six times tells the story of a school that is forward looking and committed to securing 'the best in everyone'.

The final weeks of term are always very special. The Early Years Foundation Stage Nativity play, 'The Giant Star' was a joy to behold with so much fledgling talent, colourful costumes, a clear message and lovely music. The Prep School 'Christmas Celebrations' gave everyone the opportunity to perform through verse and music and the Ensemble Concert showed the huge range of talent and the very high standards that we have at LMS.

I am very proud of what we achieve at Lincoln Minster School and every day there is much to celebrate. We continue to develop and improve in all aspects of school life and it is a great joy to be part of all this.

Our Musicians have had an extremely busy but fulfilling term with the highlights being the extraordinary day at Westminster Abbey as part of the USCT/ ULT Choir singing the first performance of Howard Goodall's Oratorio 'Every purpose under the Heaven', the marvellous Cathedral concert and the first rate string recital - so many opportunities and so many fine performances.

The Cathedral Choir have had a fantastic term, with a huge number of commitments ranging from the Radio 3 live broadcast, the Bishop's Enthronement through to 'Carols by Candlelight' and the regular services, each one special in its own right. They perform at such a high level and are much valued. I very rarely single students out but I will make an exception here with the news that Edward Hewes in Year 13 is to be the Organ Scholar at Canterbury Cathedral in 2012-2013 – a remarkable achievement.

School Drama continues to thrive and the week of 'Oliver' was so special with memories for all involved to hold on to forever. What a privilege to be there for the performances on Friday and Saturday. The standard was exceptional with outstanding acting, brilliant direction and choreography, wonderful music and so many powerful performances. Team work and respect for others are key elements in such success.

Preparatory School (2-11 Years)

Lower School (2-8 Years)

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Upper School (8-11 Years)

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Senior School (11-18 Years)

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Our Sports teams have engaged an extremely busy team. There are very many opportunities and increased diversity with squash ever more popular, polo enthusiastically supported and fencing developing. The highly successful rugby tour to Italy in half term, the Leicester Tigers' rugby course, many, many competitive fixtures and the successes of the Under 16 Girls' hockey team in the East of England championship have all been enjoyed by so many.

Our boarding community has never been so cohesive with pupils enjoying a really good experience. Boarders are supportive of each other and develop excellent friendships both in their own year and across the age groups. The Boarders' Christmas service, formal dinner and disco was such a fine evening this week.

This is the most important academic term and we set extremely high standards. We have never had such a talented team at LMS and we are committed to delivering a depth of knowledge and understanding. Consistent hard work, a competitive edge and excellent teaching and pastoral care means that our pupils have the best possible chance of real success. For our external examination pupils, the Christmas time, although a time for families and friends, is one also for careful preparation to ensure that opportunities are not missed. So much is expected here.

Rebecca Burnett leaves us for pastures new and I thank her for the sterling work in careers and in our Sixth Form. Anne Moyes has retired and I thank her for all that she has given to LMS and wish her every happiness in the future.

It has been an outstanding term in so many ways and I thank everyone in our very unique and remarkable school community for making it so.

Christmas is such a special time. It is a time of giving, friendship, love and kindness. It is also a time of hope and expectation.

'There was the true light which, coming into the world, enlightens everyone'
John 1:9

With very best wishes to you and your family this Christmas,

With very best wishes

Clive Hickart