



LANSDOWNE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Dear parents and carers,

Happy New Year!

Welcome back to the new term. I hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas break with your families.

A Positive Start to 2025

It has been wonderful to see our students return to school on Tuesday with such enthusiasm. Their conversations about their holiday experiences have brought real energy to the school, and I've been delighted to hear about the variety of activities they enjoyed. The first week back has been very encouraging. During my visits to classrooms, I've been impressed by how quickly students have re-engaged with their learning routines. They have demonstrated the positive habits and attitudes that help them make good progress, and it's clear they are ready for the term ahead. In Friday's assembly, 12LT shared their new year's resolutions with the school community. It was particularly pleasing that many of these focused on their aspirations for school – a testament to their commitment to their education and personal development.

Young Vic Theatre Partnership

I'm delighted to share some exciting news about our ongoing collaboration with the Young Vic Theatre. We have been working closely with their outreach department for nearly two years, and last term marked a significant milestone in this partnership. I had the privilege of attending the final performance of work created by some of our students, and I was genuinely impressed by what they achieved. The quality of their performance and the confidence they displayed was outstanding. This partnership continues to provide our students with unique opportunities to develop their creativity and self-expression, and we look forward to building on this success throughout the year.



Looking Ahead

I hope the transition back to school routines has been smooth for everyone. Thank you for your continued support in ensuring our students are ready to learn and make the most of the opportunities available to them.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend,
Francis Downing
Head of School

Class of the Week
in KS3

Congratulations!

7SM

Class of the Week
in KS4/5

Congratulations!

11TF



After School Cubs Update

There will be no After School Clubs on 13th & 15th January.
After School Clubs will resume on Tuesday, 20th January.

Next Friday's
Assembly Class

13AJ

on 16th January
at 9.35am

Stunning Samosas



The topic of Term 3 is Food Science, when we will explore what happens when we cook food. This week, our KS3 students have started to experiment the effect of dextrinization on food: when baking, we could see our Samosas turning golden brown, and then smell a yummy, toasted aroma. We can't wait to experiment more (also, the Samosas are so rich in flavour)! Our Year 9 students are showing you in the pictures how to fold perfect Samosas so that you can all try to make some in these cold winter evenings! —Ms Ravazzolo

Preparation

- 1) Preheat oven to 200°C.
- 2) Prepare the filling: peel and grate the carrot; peel and finely dice the onion.
- 3) Fry the onion in the oil for 4-5 minutes. If you want, also add some garlic powder.
- 4) Add the chilli and spices and cook for a further 1 minute.
- 5) Add the potatoes, carrots and water to the onion mixture, fry gently for 5 minutes.
- 6) Add the peas, the spinach and coriander. Remove from the heat and allow to cool.
- 7) Lay 2-3 sheets of filo pastry on the work surface.
- 8) Cut into 10cm wide strips.
- 9) Place 1x 15ml spoon of filling in the bottom left-hand corner. Sprinkle some feta cheese on top. Fold over to make a triangle.
- 10) Repeat this process.
- 11) Place on a baking sheet and repeat the process.
- 12) Brush the samosas with olive oil and bake for 10 minutes.

Ingredients

1/2 carrot
1/2 onion, garlic powder (optional)
Chilli flakes
1 tsp spoon Garam masala
1/2 tsp turmeric
2-3 tbsp spoons water
25g peas (frozen)
100g spinach (frozen)
1 pack filo pastry
50g feta cheese
Olive oil



Creative Response, a Taking Part project with the Young Vic

For a period of twelve weeks, we partnered with the Young Vic Theatre and sent group of Lansdowne students to participate in weekly workshops. While the workshops had acting activities and challenges, scenes and scripts, it was also a chance for our students to increase their confidence, communication abilities, and modes of expression. Each workshop started with drama games, the favourites being Budge and Protect the Egg. Then our students tried improvisational activities as well as scripted scenes. Here we saw their creativity shine, as well as an improvement in enunciation, voice projection, and body language. This culminated with a performance in front of an audience, something the students had never done before. Seeing their exultation at the end of the performance, and how proud they were of themselves, was an incredible sight. Well done, boys. We look forward to working with the Young Vic again. —Mr Flannigan

