

## *Marsh Mail*

The first week in June is when all students in Years 7-10 benefit from a programme of enrichment. The definition of enrichment 'the action of improving or enhancing the quality or value of something' makes it an apt title for the week's events; the opportunity to learn outside of the classroom and have access to new experiences certainly develops students' character.

Year 7s were fortunate to benefit from two educational day trips that informed their knowledge and appreciation of important historical events and scientific discoveries. They spent a show day at Duxford Imperial War Museum commemorating the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the D Day landings and another at the London Planetarium. Year 8s were immersed in different cultural experiences including an Indian day in which they made artwork and food to enjoy in a collective feast and learnt some Bhangra dance moves, a day working with professional musicians to find out about the music industry and a team-building day led by the Army.

The whole of Year 9 spent the week on a residential trip either in Paris exploring landmarks, the South West France engaging with water sports or the Peak District involved in adventurous activities. The opportunity to be away from home, experience new things and develop skills with their peers was immensely enriching. Feedback from parents and accompanying staff commented on students' enjoyment of the freedom and responsibility involved.

Meanwhile Year 10 students were engaged in a week of work experience. The majority of students sourced their own placements to sample the world of work in a particular industry. The exposure to a professional working environment certainly developed students' maturity and confidence and gave them an insight into work ethic and work place skills.

I am grateful for the hard work and energies that LVC staff have invested to make these extra-curricular activities possible. The planning and supervision involved in organising trips and events and conducting the necessary risk assessments is significant. From the smiling and exhausted faces seen in the photographs and moments from the week, it was all worth it.