



## Newsletter May 2025

I would like to begin this newsletter by wishing our Year 11 students the very best of luck with their exams. Students in Year 11 have worked very hard and, so far, their exams have gone smoothly. Good luck Year 11 – I hope your exams go well and that the final few weeks that you spend at Limpsfield Grange are happy ones.

As part of the WACI curriculum we work with students in the areas of independence, with a focus on careers education and employability. Students across the school have worked with Innervate who provide careers guidance and support. Innervate work with students to develop self-awareness, decision-making skills, and transition management skills. We have also invited a range of outside speakers into school to talk about their jobs and careers, speaking to students about the importance of qualifications and work-based learning. Students have really enjoyed asking adults questions about the world of work, and the sessions have been very informative.

We have also hosted PhD student Sam Dexter this half term. Sam is researching autistic young people's experience of careers advice, and how this prepares autistic young people for their lives beyond education. A record number of students have signed up to talk to Sam about careers education, often asking Sam some interesting and challenging questions about how his research will be used in the future. Sam has really enjoyed his time at Limpsfield Grange and said that the students were eloquent and passionate about their futures.

Earlier this month I was invited to give expert testimony to the House of Lords' Autism Committee. The committee is reviewing the Autism Act 2009, with a view to making suggestions about how the Autism Act could be improved in future. I reflected on the challenges which face autistic students in a range of schools and settings; and made suggestions for positive changes which could be made. It was an honour to represent the views of the school on this important matter.

I hope you all have a wonderful half-term holiday. We look forward to seeing students back in school on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> of June 2025.

With best wishes,

*Sarah Wild, Headteacher*