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## LATIMER LATEST NEWS – 16 MARCH 2018

It is amazing how fast time flies and it is hard to believe that we are now starting our planning for our induction programme for our new Year 7s in September! Those who have secured a place at the College will have received their notification and we very much look forward to welcoming those students who are members of existing Latimer families and those who will be new to our community.

We are just saddened that with 546 applications for 203 places we know that there will be some disappointed families out there!

Yours sincerely

**Ms Siobhan Hearne**

Principal

### Year 9 Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE)

We would like to invite Year 9 students and their parents and carers to the SPRE on **Wednesday 21 March** from **5.30 – 8.30pm**.

We are keen to ensure that we work in partnership to secure the very best progress for your child: with this in mind, we would be grateful if your child could attend the evening with you so that in each subject there is a clear understanding of current progress and priority areas for improvement for both you and them.

### Learning and Progress

For Year 11 and Year 13 we are almost there in terms of sitting vitally important exams! Both year groups should have clear plans for their revision programme over Easter. To help them with this we will be delivering some targeted revision sessions over the Easter break and individual letters with schedules on will be issued at the start of next week.

### Year 11 'Maths Monday'

For Year 11, in Maths, we need parents and carers to be aware that every Tuesday from next week, students will be issued with a practice paper, uploaded to Show My Homework. Then, to support them with any areas that they identify as a gap, they are invited to attend 'Maths Monday', at lunchtime the following week, in the Maths Learning Centre. Please encourage your child to both complete the papers and attend the Monday session.

### Revision Tools

We remind all parents and carers once again about the resources that students have at their disposal: their revision guides, GCSEPod, Tassomai Science and PiXL Apps for Maths, English, History and Geography. We would particularly ask you to encourage your child to revisit the Maths app which has been relaunched recently and now has very targeted questions based on tiers of entry.

Many teachers will have also recommended websites and YouTube channels that will be of use.



We have talked about partnerships during your child's time at the College and never more so will it be more important than now: your child will need support and encouragement from both you and the staff at the College over the coming weeks – please do not forget or underestimate the impact of small treats and rewards along the way!

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us and we will be happy to help in any way that we can: [mail@latimer.org.uk](mailto:mail@latimer.org.uk)

## Just launched: PiXL Timestables App Competition

This term we have launched a new app called PiXL Timestables for students of all years to use. It is an app that can be downloaded onto phones and tablets through the App Store and used on laptops via the website. It is perfect for short, sharp practice of timestables – an absolutely vital skill for all areas of maths and useful in everyday life!

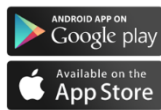
In the app, students can choose a particular timestable to practise or try a mixture of 25 timed questions to earn trophies. Students can even play against other schools across the country in the speed challenge of Raft Run.

We have a leader board in the Maths department and there will be prizes at the end of term for the student who has earned the most points in the app.

[timestable.pixl.org.uk](http://timestable.pixl.org.uk)



Welcome to the PiXL TT App

Login info:

School ID = LM4115  
UserID = IT code (e.g. IT1234)  
Password = IT code (e.g. IT1234)

The competition is hot and there have already been some impressive performances: Ruby Bushell (Year 7) with a score of 2618, Jayden Spence (Year 8) with 2277 (including over 1000 this week alone!) and Evie Keech (Year 9) with a massive score of 3467!

We are already noticing students in lessons feeling much more confident in their number work after using this app so it is time and effort well spent. There is plenty of time left this term to enter the competition and win a prize as well as improve in Maths so we encourage all students to get involved.



## Caught Reading!

It is that time of year again when we launch our annual photography competition. Cameras at the ready!



Students, staff and form groups are invited to take a photograph of family members, friends, pets or yourself 'reading' in unusual places. Be as creative and imaginative as you can!

E-mail or hand in your entry to Mrs Brooking (Librarian) [rbrooking@latimer.org.uk](mailto:rbrooking@latimer.org.uk) by Friday 20 April 2018. Include your name and form on your entry. Fabulous prizes are at stake!

## Safeguarding

### Useful resources to support positive self-esteem in children

There is growing evidence that boys do care deeply about how they look, and it can be something that makes them feel bad. The '[Boys' Biggest Conversation](#)' is a campaign to encourage teenagers and young men, across the UK, to talk about body image and the effect it has on their mental wellbeing. We will be discussing body image in tutor time and there are some great resources for parent/carers.

The ['Mindful Me'](#) activity guide, developed with psychologists and experts in body image and girl development, helps girls build body confidence and self-esteem. The activities include a focus on body awareness, mindfulness, self-kindness, empowerment and positive emotion.

['Dove'](#) has also created resources to support parents and carers in developing self-esteem in their children.

## **Aiming High: Raising Aspirations and Expectations**

To build on this term's programme, we have further activities and events planned for Term 5 to support our students with making informed choices about their future pathways:

**Year 8** will take part in a **'Money Matters'** event, which aims to support students to increase their economic understanding. Parents and carers can enhance this learning by talking to their children about the cost of living! I bet they will be shocked at just how much a loaf of bread or a pint of milk costs, not to mention the price of houses and cars! We will also be introducing the £1 challenge to Year 8 students.....more information to follow!

**Year 9 and Year 12 Students** will be attending our **Careers Fair** in April. We must say a huge thank you to all who responded and offered to host a stand at this event.

## **Enriching the Educational Experience and Celebrating Success**

### **Sport Relief 2018: Show your 'Su-Sport' for a good cause**

We encourage all students to get involved with our range of sporting activities on Friday 23 March in aid of Sport Relief. In addition to this, we invite students to make a donation of £1 to this charity in return for wearing either their own sports clothes or alternatively to wear red and white clothes, as these are the colours of Sports Relief, on this day.

### **Star Performances!**

Once again over the last few weeks we have been privileged to showcase our amazing performers:

- A level and GCSE Drama students had their bodies and confidence pushed to the limits during a recent fabulous opportunity that they were given to work with *'Frantic Assembly'* who came in to lead a Physical Theatre workshop. The learning from this event will benefit students when they create their devised pieces of drama and we very much look forward to watching their performances!
- Congratulations to the Year 11 drama students who have now completed their Component 3: 'Texts in Practise'. Students were assessed on their performance of two extracts from one play. They have now completed 20% of their examinations. Let's keep up that pace in preparation for the other 80%!
- The audience were thoroughly entertained this week at our Collaborative Concert which saw our collaborative choir, involving students from Cranford Church of England Primary School, Barton Seagrave Primary School and Millbrook Junior School and The Latimer Arts College perform together; there were solo drums and ukulele players; and our Year 10 musicians demonstrated real musical prowess.

We would like to thank parents, carers and families of the participants for attending and supporting this wonderful event.

### **Kettering and District Eisteddfod**

On Friday 16 March Latimer's Vocal Ensemble will be competing in the Eisteddfod. Vocal Ensemble are a 3 to 4 part female harmony group. We have entered the Choirs 21 and under Class and will be performing the following songs from musicals: *'Seasons of Love'* from Rent, *'Someone to Watch Over Me'* from Oh, Kay!, *'One Hand One Heart'* from West Side Story and *'Defying Gravity'* from Wicked. The performers are passionate and talented musicians and love getting up on stage to entertain audiences. We look forward to the judges' feedback.

## Do you have an unloved or unwanted musical instrument at home?

If you are willing to donate this to us, we will gladly give it a new lease of life! Our Music students would love the opportunity to learn to play their first (or sixth) orchestral instrument: string, woodwind, or brass – all donations welcome!

## Sports Tour 2018: Hameln, Germany

Hot on the heels of our 2018 Ski Trip is the departure of our 2018 Sports Tour on Saturday 31 March 2018. The destination is Hameln in Germany with a whole host of exciting activities planned. Students will take part in two fixtures, will tour Dortmund Stadium and experience a theme park, water park, go-karting and tobogganing. We look forward to sharing our photos and stories in the April newsletter.

## Sporting Success

We still have sporting success to celebrate this fortnight, despite the weather doing its best to disrupt proceedings, and we congratulate our Year 8 Boys' Football team who won 2-1 against KBA.

## Dates for your diary

Please take the time to view our [calendar](#) and ensure that you are aware of all of the key dates for the year.

Wednesday 21 March	Year 9 Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE), 5.30-8.30pm
Friday 23 March	Spring Music Concert, 7.30 pm (Masque Theatre)
Wednesday 28 March	End of Term 4
Thursday 29 March	Training Day: College closed to students
Saturday 31 March -	Sports Tour (until Wednesday 4 April)
Monday 16 April	College re-opens: Term 5
Wednesday 18 April	Year 8 Money Matters Event
Wednesday 25 April	Year 9 and Sixth Form Careers Fair
Thursday 26 April	Year 7 Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE), 5.30-8.30 pm
Monday 7 May	Bank Holiday: College closed
Thursday 10 May	Parent Forum 6pm Music Room 2 (Masque Theatre)
Monday 14 May	Exam Season starts (until Friday 22 June)
Wednesday 16 May	Induction Evening 5.30-8.30pm for new Year 7 students joining in September 2018 <i>(Invitations will be issued for specific evening and time beforehand)</i>
Thursday 17 May	Induction Evening 5.30-8.30pm for new Year 7 students joining in September 2018 <i>(Invitations will be issued for specific evening and time beforehand)</i>
Friday 25 May	End of Term 5