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## LATIMER LATEST NEWS – 19 OCTOBER 2017

They say that time flies when you are having fun and this term has raced by! It has been an absolutely fabulous term: our Year 7 and Year 12 have settled in well; our students in all year groups have been absorbed in their learning; and we have valued the increase in parental engagement through your attendance at our Curriculum Information Evenings.

Our Open Evening and Open Days were a privilege to be part of and what was apparent was the immense pride that we all have in our school. We have had more than three times the number of applications for our Arts College places this year and my only hope is that all Year 6 students who love Latimer as much as we do, have the opportunity to join us next year!

Yours sincerely

**Ms Siobhan Hearne**

Principal

### Urgent: Uniform Reminder

On the whole, our students look smart and there has been an extremely high compliance in relation to our jewellery rules in Term 1. We are grateful for your support with this as it has contributed to what has been a superb term in relation to the positive learning climate.

However, there is one area that is a significant issue that needs to be addressed in preparation for the start of Term 2 and for which we need your full support.

A significant number of our students are wearing what we are told are termed as 'ankle-grazers': slim fit, shorter than full length trousers. These are **NOT** an acceptable school trouser and we have communicated with parents and carers on several occasions, including prior to the start of the academic year about our uniform policy which is:

***'Plain black full length school trousers or plain black school knee length skirt: please note that leggings, lycra skirts, jeans and chino trousers are not permitted.'***

Where parents and carers have supported us in purchasing appropriate school trousers, what we are also finding is that many students whose trousers are not 'ankle-grazers' are rolling their trousers up to make them shorter!

From the start of Term 2, any student who is wearing 'ankle-grazers' will be sent home to get changed into full length trousers and any student who chooses to roll up their trousers to  $\frac{3}{4}$  length will be placed in our daily detention. We will ensure that this is made absolutely clear to students so that there can be no misunderstanding.

## Learning and Progress

### KS3 Curriculum and Assessment: check out our website!

Our website now has comprehensive details about the [Key Stage 3 curriculum](#) for Year 7 and 8. Please visit the website and click on any of the subject tabs to access specific topic information and assessment criteria that students' work will be marked against.

Year 7 and 8 parents and carers should expect their child to be bringing home their exercise books! You will see our new PLC (Personalised Learning Checklist) wheels filled in to show how a student did in their recent classroom assessments as well as an indication of the effort that they are putting in and the progress that they are making.

### **Year 11 and 13 Public Examinations: the countdown continues!**

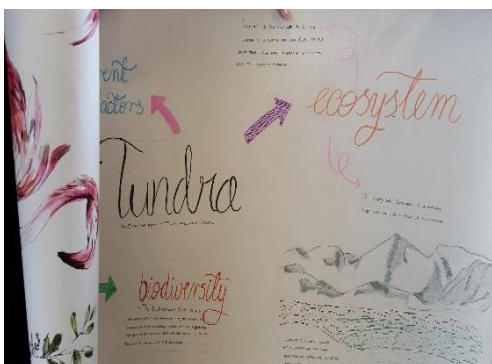
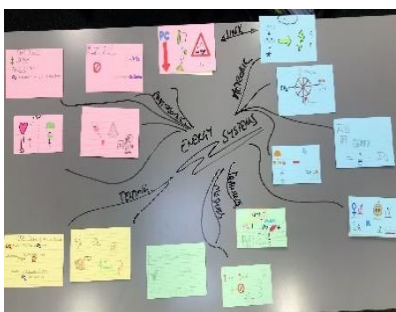
Our programme of support to prepare students for their public examinations continues:

- **1:1 Meetings:** All Year 11 students have had a meeting with a Senior Leader or an Achievement Leader. Ideas about future plans have been discussed and short term priorities for success agreed. We would be grateful if parents and carers can discuss these with their child and support them to achieve their targets.
- **Mock exams:** These will take place in December, with the schedule being confirmed with students at the start of Term 2. A revision schedule needs to be planned out and time spent on revision over half term. Please remind your child that they cannot get this time back once it is gone!
- **Revision Support:** Year 11 have been issued with a set of revision guides and they can access Tassomai Science, GCSEPod and Memrise.
- **Sixth Form: Mock Interviews: To support Year 13** students with preparation for university and apprenticeships, these interviews will take place on the evenings of Wednesday 8 and Thursday 9 November, with representatives from the world of work leading each interview. Students will have a workshop in advance to support with their completion of personal statements and CVs.
- We invite all Year 11 students and their parents and carers to attend our **Year 11 SPRE on Tuesday 14 November**, where feedback will be given to support the mock exam preparation, and our **Sixth Form Open Evening on Wednesday 22 November** where we will showcase the post-16 opportunities that Latimer can offer.

### **Slow and Steady Wins the Race!**

It is never too early to start and in order to maintain a steady pace of securing skills, knowledge and understanding over KS4, we recommend that once the teaching of key topics/units in each subject is completed, Year 9 and 10 students produce their own revision resources.

To support this, following on from the KS4 Curriculum Information Evenings for parents and carers, all students in Years 9 and 10 have taken part in a similar Study Skills workshop this week and have been issued with a booklet of revision and memory techniques. Please ask your child about this and ask them to access their school email account to pick up the presentation and resources.



In lessons, we are also using a wide range of fun (and sometimes quirky) techniques to make learning fun and therefore more memorable.

If you have any spare items like wallpaper, paper tablecloths, balloons or spare bits of card, we would be delighted if you could send them in – they will come in very handy!

## **Sixth Form Bursary**

This fund has been allocated to individual schools and colleges offering Post-16 education for the provision of bursaries to three priority groups, categorised as high, medium and lower priority special consideration groups.

Receipt of a bursary is conditional on the student meeting all expectations set by the school. Please visit our website: [16-18 Bursary Policy](#) to see if your child may be eligible for this financial support or contact our Sixth Form Centre Manager, Ms Magee: [smagee@latimer.org.uk](mailto:smagee@latimer.org.uk).

## **Safeguarding Update**

### **Promoting Tolerance and Understanding**

As part of our ongoing Personal Development Programme and to raise awareness of 'National Hate Crime Awareness Week 2017', students have explored what a 'hate crime' is and how they can be vigilant, both within school and out in our local community. In addition we were fortunate to have the Manchester Police host sessions for students in Year 11 linked to Knife and Gun crime, where students had the opportunity to learn about a variety of crimes and their consequences and even meet the drug tracker dogs!

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

Last week the students in the Humanities department had a hands-on RAF experience with a former serviceman and parent, Mark Jackson. Students tried on pilots' flight equipment which included helmets, anti-g trousers and life preservers. They learned about how the conflicts since 1999 started and the impact of these with real life experiences and saw some conflict medals as well.

We are always grateful for parent/carers who volunteer to enrich our Raising Aspirations Programme – please contact [JPankhania@latimer.org.uk](mailto:JPankhania@latimer.org.uk) if you would be interested in supporting.

In November as part of our Raising Aspirations Programme we are thrilled to be welcoming Stephen Page, Chief Executive of Faber & Faber Ltd, as our guest speaker. Faber & Faber is a publishing house based in London, which remains one of the world's leading literary publishers. Previously Stephen held roles at Harper Collins Publishers and 4th Estate Ltd. In a previous life Stephen attempted to be a successful rock musician with a band from the Midlands - we very much look forward to giving students the opportunity to attend his workshop.



Year 10 Skills Show Event: 16 November all reply slips need to be returned and please examine the online tools with your child prior to the visit.

Year 7 Enterprise Event: 5 December, when all Year 7 will be taking part in a Dragons Den Vs The Apprentice event to develop their enterprise skills.

Year 8 Take Your Child to Work Day: Wednesday 21 February, when Year 8 students will be able to go to work with you or a family friend - please start to think about their placement for the day, further details to follow.

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

To enrich the GCSE History experience, students were visited by Front Line Living History for a Battlefield Medicine Workshop. This was an excellent opportunity to experience first-hand what it would have been like for medics on the front line during World War One (WW1).

The sessions were led by Richard Townsley, who is an experienced historical interpreter with years of expertise in WW1 battlefield medicine, and our Year 11 historians' senses were bombarded. Overall the experience was will undoubtedly give students an advantage when they take their Medicine Through Time examination and their GCSE Historic Environment Study of WW1 Medicine.

### **Macmillan Coffee Morning**

Thank you to our whole College community for the support that you gave to our Macmillan coffee morning. The event organised by Wicksteed House raised over £100 more than last year, with the total currently standing at £536.

## Sports Success

Three great sporting victories over the last fortnight:

Year 8 Boys' Football team beat KBA 2-0 in the County Cup

Year 10 Boys' Football team beat KSA 5-2 in the District League

Year 10 B Team Boys' Football Tournament – Latimer entered 2 teams and they finished 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>

Year 8 and 10 Netball teams both reached semi-finals of their district tournaments

Girls' Senior Hockey team beat Prince William 5-2

## 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.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Thursday 19 October                       | End of Term 1 for students                        |
| Friday 20 October                         | Training Day: College closed to students          |
| Monday 30 October                         | College re-opens to students: start of Term 2     |
| Wednesday 8 & Thursday 9 November         | Sixth Form Mock Interviews (from 6pm)             |
| Tuesday 14 November                       | Year 11 Student Progress Evening, 5.30-8.30pm     |
| Wednesday 22 November                     | Sixth Form Open Evening (for Year 11) 6.00-8.00pm |
| Thursday 7 December                       | Parent Forum 6pm Music Room 2 (Masque Theatre)    |
| Friday 8 December - Wednesday 20 December | Year 11 and 13 Mock Exams Window                  |
| Thursday 14 December                      | Christmas Music Concert, 7.30pm (Masque Theatre)  |
| Thursday 21 December                      | End of Term 2                                     |
| Wednesday 3 January                       | Training Day: College closed to students          |
| Thursday 4 January                        | College re-opens to students: start of Term 3     |