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### **Open Evening 2022: 'Inspire'**

We are delighted that we will be able to host an onsite Open Evening this year on Thursday 6 October from 5.30pm to 8.00pm. We hope our students will volunteer to help out on the night.

Please note that on Open Evening day, **the College will close to students at 12.15pm** so that final preparations can be made for the evening.

## **Learning and Progress**

### **'Within our dreams and aspirations, we find our opportunities': Supporting You to Support Your Child to embrace the opportunities that they have!**

We are passionate about working in partnership with parents and carers to support the success of each individual student. We recognise that we need to provide some foundations for learning in order to make this happen, so we would like parents and carers to be aware of:

- **Homework:** Students will be issued with homework via Satchel:one. Please use your parent/carer log-in details to monitor your child's progress and encourage them to complete their homework on time. You can do this via the app or online.
- **Accessing the Shared Area:** To access College files at home and to share resources that teachers have created, students can use the Home Access Plus website <https://hap.latimer.org.uk/HAP/myfiles/>
- **Revision Guides:** All Year 11 students have been provided with a range of revision guides to support the preparation for their examinations next year. It really is never too early to start the preparation and with this in mind, it will not be long before we are providing Year 10 with theirs!



### **Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSE)**

As a College, we are committed to supporting our students to grow as people through a strong Personal Development Programme (PDP) centred around PSHE and RSE. Our programme has been specifically designed to meet the statutory requirements, in compliance with the PSHE Association framework, with age appropriate learning.

Our aim is to communicate to parents and carers the topics that each year group will study for any given term so that you can explore these with your child. Please see below the topics for Term 1:

	7	8	9	10	11
Subject	Citizenship	Citizenship	Citizenship	Citizenship	Careers
Theme	Celebrating Diversity and Equality	Celebrating Diversity and Equality	Rights, Responsibilities and British Values	Rights, Responsibilities and British Values	Life Beyond School
Unit	Celebrating Differences	LGBTQ+ Explored	Combatting Terrorism and Extremism	Exploring British Values	Your Future and Beyond

## Promoting Democracy and Healthy Debate: 'Votes For Schools'

We are delighted to launch a new Personal Development session for this year: Votes For Schools. Each week, our students will be presented with a 'Vote Topic' which they will discuss in their tutor group and then vote on. The aim of this session is to engage young people in political and social issues. Through weekly discussion and voting, not only are voters learning about the world around them, but they are also becoming active citizens and preparing for participating in our democratic processes as adults.

We have already discussed and voted on the following topics:

*Is it a good time to become prime minister?*

*Will the future feel different to the second Elizabethan era?*

Parents and carers can join in the conversation at home by visiting: [www.votesforschools.com](http://www.votesforschools.com) and we have included a guide for you with this newsletter. Please do speak to your child each week about what they have debated and how they have voted.



### Year 7 and 8 Students: What Book is in Your Bag?

Books can really enrich lives, allowing us to experience the pleasure of reading and reap the benefits that reading for pleasure has, not only on educational success but in enhancing vocabulary, developing empathy and so much more!

'Drop Everything and Read' (DEAR) provides an opportunity for Year 7 and Year 8 students (and their teachers!) to read for pleasure for 15 minutes each day. In addition to this, they will access our 'Accelerated Reader' (AR) programme which helps manage and monitor independent reading. During AR lessons, students can read a fiction book of their choice during this time, which may be one brought in from home or borrowed from our College Learning Resource Centre as 'Accelerated Reader' lessons get underway.

Please ensure that your child has a reading book in their bag every day to ensure they can take part in DEAR. They never know when they might be asked: "What book is in your bag?"

## Safeguarding and Well-Being

### Because we care...

We pride ourselves on the genuine care and support that we have for our students. Keeping them safe is our number one priority. Therefore, we have ensured that students have participated in our safeguarding assemblies: students learned and were reminded about keeping safe, the risks that young people face in modern society, and the importance of being kind to, and supporting, one another.

Whilst we do all that we can to promote a harmonious community, based around our values of Honesty, Respect and Teamwork, we do appreciate that sometimes, things can go wrong. Students have been reminded that adults are here to listen and help; they have been told who our Safeguarding Officers are and they have been signposted to our email address: [reportaconcern@latimer.org.uk](mailto:reportaconcern@latimer.org.uk) should they need to use it.

## Aiming High: Raising Aspirations and Expectations

The latest issue of Careermag for Parents is out now to help parents and carers to support their young people along the way with all things linked to careers and pathways choices. This issue covers lots of tips for post 16 and 18 options, the UCAS application key dates, how to talk careers with your children and much more! Have a read [here](#).

## UCAS Parent and Carer Guide

Year 13 students are currently preparing university applications, with the first application deadline of 15 October approaching for all students considering Oxbridge or medical courses. We encourage **all** students to complete applications and then, for those Sixth Form students who wish to apply to university, to have their applications sent by the end of November so that they have the best chance of being offered a place, with the final deadline being 26 January 2023.

For parents and carers who are not familiar with the UCAS process, a [UCAS Apply - A Parent and Carer Guide 2022-23](#) can be found on our website to support you in helping you and your child navigate the application process and it provides tips on what to look for when researching a course.

## Enriching the Educational Experience and Celebrating Success

### Enrichment Opportunities

Does your child want to explore ancient ruins, battle monsters and trek across uncharted lands? Then our new Dungeons and Dragons club might be for them! Our extra-curricular clubs are back in full-swing for the new academic year! From our wide range of Sports and Performing Arts clubs, to our brand new Latimer Shakespeare Company and British Sign Language club.

This year we are committed to building upon our enrichment opportunities and striving to provide a rich and varied extra-curricular programme for our students that goes above and beyond what they learn in the classroom. Students will be regularly updated on our enrichment timetable during their Personal Development Time and we look forward to sharing some of their exciting experiences with you in coming newsletters.

### House Competition

We have now completed two full weeks in our newly formed Houses and the current E-praise results show us are:

	First Place	Tull House	11807 Points
	Second Place	Attenborough House	11688 Points
	Third Place	Kahlo House	10764 Points
	Fourth Place	Gilbert House	10363 Points

The first official house competition will take place at the end of Week Four. Can you guess what it involves?

*'I am not wet, yet dribbling I can be.  
I do not have legs yet I am often in mid-air.  
When I hear a buzz, I am ignored till I hear another.'*

### Enrichment Activities Consent Form

In order for students to take part in enrichment activities, including clubs and fixtures taking place outside of the normal College day, we require parents and carers to complete an Annual Consent form to enable their child to participate. Without a completed consent form, students will not be permitted to take part. You can complete the form [here](#) – it really is quick and simple to do. Alternatively, you can scan the QR code to access the consent form.



### Top Teams: Top Skills!

Our Year 7 Team Building event provided a great opportunity for our students to hone vital life skills such as communication, problem solving, working as a team, negotiation and resilience. This fast-paced event saw students working in groups to complete a range of challenges such as “ski walk” and “sky tower”. The students were buzzing with enthusiasm and were really focussed and tenacious in completing the challenges.

We are sure this will be a lasting memory for Year 7s at the start of their Latimer journey.

Huge congratulations to all the students for taking part and particularly the winning teams:

1st place = T2 with 361 points

2nd place = K2 with 304 points

3rd place = A2 with 301 points



## Other News and Information

**Did you know that just registering your child for Free School Meals means that the College gets extra money?**

With this money we could give extra help to students who need it. If you are registered for Free School Meals you could also get help with things like music tuition, school trips or other out of school activities, or there could be help to allow your child to continue into the Sixth Form.

If you want your child to have a free, healthy meal at lunchtime, that's great – they will get the free meal (saving you more than £400 a year). Even if you don't want the school meals, as long as you qualify and are registered, the College still gets the extra government funding.

No one will know you have registered and it will not affect any other benefits you are claiming. Our cashless catering system ensures no other student knows who is receiving Free School Meals. Please click [Free School Meals](#) to access the online application form.

## Accessing the 16 to 19 Bursary Fund for Sixth Form Students

If you have a child in our Sixth Form, you may be eligible to apply to access the 16 to 19 Bursary Fund. This fund provides financial support to help students overcome specific financial barriers to participation, so they can remain in education and support with costs such as transport, books, clothing and equipment. If, as a household, you earn less than £30,000 then you may be eligible for additional funding, so if you have not already been directed to this, you can find further details on our [website](#) of eligibility and how to apply for a bursary.

Should you need any help or support, please contact Miss Magee, Sixth Form Centre Manager: [smagee@latimer.org.uk](mailto:smagee@latimer.org.uk)

## 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.

Monday 26 September	Year 11 French Speaking Exams (ends Thursday 29 September)
Tuesday 27 September	Sixth Form Othello Trip (pm)
Wednesday 28 September	Maths Olympiad, Sixth Form Girls
Thursday 6 October	Year 6 Open Evening, 5.30 pm
Tuesday 11 October	Arts Places Workshop (TBC)
Friday 21 October	End of Term 1
Monday 31 October	Start of Term 2: College re-opens to students (This will be Week 2 on the timetable)
	Autumn Exam Series (ends Monday 7 November)
	Key Stage 5 Pathways Fortnight (ends Friday 11 November)

Tuesday 1 November	Year 7/9/10 Wellbeing and Personal Development Feedback Evening
Thursday 3 November	Year 8/11/12/13 Wellbeing and Personal Development Feedback Evening
Wednesday 9 November	Sixth Form Open Evening
Tuesday 15 November	Parent Forum, 6.00 pm
Friday 18 November	Children in Need Charity Event
Monday 21 November	Year 11 and 13 Mock Examinations (ends Thursday 1 December)
Friday 2 December	Training Day – College closed to students
Thursday 8 December	Christmas Music Concert, 7.00 pm
Friday 16 December	Term Ends