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## LATIMER LATEST NEWS – 21 SEPTEMBER 2018

### Open Evening 2018: 'Shine Bright'

This year's Open Evening is on Thursday 4 October from 6.00 to 8.30pm. Thank you to those students who have volunteered to be Student Ambassadors on the evening. Please can you ensure that consent forms are returned by Monday 24 September.

Please note that on 4 October **the College will close to students at 12.15pm** so that final preparations can be made for the evening.

### Learning and Progress

#### Our Year of Dreams: First think, second dream, third believe!

We are now up and running with the new academic year: Year 7 have enjoyed their induction, students are familiar with their timetables and our focus is now solely on **learning** and **progress**.

The message from our start of year assembly was that students need to dream big and work hard to turn these dreams into a reality through personal commitment and independent study, alongside learning in the classroom. As staff, we are ready, willing and prepared to work hard to do all that we can to support students with their aspirations: we ask for your support in ensuring that your child is too!

#### Curriculum Information Evenings: An insight into student learning at Latimer

Thank you to those parents and carers who attended our Key Stage 3 (Year 7) and KS5 (Year 12) Curriculum Information Evenings this week. Those parents and carers who attended were overwhelmingly positive. We hope that you found them valuable in supporting you to support your child.

It was unfortunate that some parents and carers did not attend as evidence shows that students are likely to achieve better where there is a strong partnership with home. With this in mind, a reminder that the following will take place next week:

Year 11 Ace Your Exams Evening: Tuesday 25 September from 6pm

Year 9 GCSE Curriculum Information Evening: Wednesday 26 September from 6pm

**Please note** that these evenings are aimed at parents and carers only and **due to limited space, we will not be able to accommodate students/siblings at these evenings.**

Our Sixth Form Open Evening for Year 11 will be held on Tuesday 6 November at 6pm.

A Year 8 Pathways Evening will follow on Tuesday 5 February 2019 to support students and their parents and carers with expressing their GCSE subject preferences.

If you would like any further curriculum information, please either visit our [website](#) or contact Mr Keith Matthews, Assistant Principal: [kmatthews@latimer.org.uk](mailto:kmatthews@latimer.org.uk)

#### Helping You to Support Your Child: Resources to support Home Learning

**Accessing the Shared Area:** To access College files at home and to share resources that teachers have created, students can use the following website <https://hap.latimer.org.uk/HAP/myfiles/>

**Show My Homework (SMHW):** This is a great tool for you and your child to be able to monitor homework. Year 7 parent and carers will have received log-in details at the KS3 Curriculum Evening (with information being sent home for those who did not attend). All other parent and carer log-in details remain unchanged.



### Supporting your child: top tips

Did you know that you can download and print out multiple choice quizzes on Show My Homework? You could support your child with ROK (retention of knowledge) by testing them before any assessments and exams.

## Closing the Gap: responding to feedback to raise achievement

To further support your child's progress, teachers will be providing more detailed feedback on important or substantial assessments.

For those students in KS3 (Years 7 and 8), students will bring home their exercise books with a Personalised Learning Checklist (PLC) following assessments in each topic. Full details of the topics being studied can be accessed on our [website](#).

To help them close the gap teachers will provide focused feedback and we would be grateful if you could discuss this with your child and support them to address identified areas for improvement.

At KS4 (Years 9,10 and 11) and KS5 (Sixth Form) this detailed feedback will be linked to, for example, an exam question. The aim is to empower your child to improve an aspect of their work and make quicker progress.

## Safeguarding Update

### Employment Legislation: protecting the rights of your child

Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) are currently working with a number of local businesses across the county to ensure that children and young people 13 and over who are employed are protected by the legislation that sets out the working hours and type of employment permitted under Children and Young Person Act 1933 and Northamptonshire County Byelaws 1998.

It is the responsibility of the employer to apply for a work permit, conduct a risk assessment and ensure that directed working hours are adhered to. To view this legislation please visit:

[www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/cee](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/cee)

### Safe Cycling

It is encouraging to see that so many students are opting to bike to College. It is important that we help them to stay safe! To this end we have met with those students who bike to school to talk with them about the risks and responsibilities that cyclists have.

We have also introduced a bike pass scheme. For students to be issued with a bike pass we are asking that they ensure their bike is well maintained, that they have a lock and lights and that when riding to and from school they wear a helmet. We ask for your support in emphasising the importance of staying safe on the road and having the right equipment to cycle safely. Unfortunately, if students are not following these simple safety rules we will not be able to allow them to bring their bikes on to site.

### 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 receives 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.

## **Sixth Form Identity Cards**

As part of our commitment to maintaining the security and safety of our students, we will shortly be introducing new identity cards for our Sixth Form students. These cards will be enabled with barcode technology and, once issued, these must be worn at all times. The cards will enable Sixth Form students to register their attendance electronically. It is imperative that students comply with this process to ensure that health and safety fire regulations are met, as well as allowing staff to ensure attendance meets expected standards.

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

### **Congratulations to...**

Even though the year has just got underway, our students are already securing fantastic achievements both in and out of school. Well done to Isabel Isaac who was awarded a Grade 8 in her Spanish GCSE at the age of 12! This is a stunning achievement. And starting early, Mollianne Carter in Year 7 climbed Ben Nevis during the summer holiday with her family. This is an amazing achievement for one so young – well done!

### **Macmillan Coffee Morning: Ready, set, bake!**

Preparing for the tastiest event of the year and raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support, students of Wicksteed House will be 'causing a stir' during lunch time on Friday 28 September in the Masque Theatre. Please encourage your child to come along and get 'a slice of the action' by participating in activities such as the Oreo Challenge, guess the weight of the cake, purchasing doughnuts, ice cream floats, pick'n'mix and much more!

A big well done goes to Jacob Aston who has already raised £100 for the charity so far!

### **La journée européenne des langues! Der europäische Tag der Sprachen! El día europeo de las lenguas!**

Following the success of last year's event, European Day of Languages on Wednesday 26 September will once again provide an excellent opportunity for our students to improve their cultural knowledge and learn a new language.

We will be joining thousands of people around the world by celebrating the diversity of languages spoken at Latimer. Students will be able to take part in free taster lessons in a variety of languages offered by their peers and members of staff, including Romanian, Polish and Russian, among others! There will also be a chance to try some international cuisine, take part in language-themed competitions and even attend an outdoor foreign film screening (weather-permitting!) at our lunchtime events. We hope to see lots of students there!

### **Our added extras!**

As the term progresses, so our [enrichment activities](#) will get underway. Please encourage your child to participate and try out new activities. Those who attend clubs will be rewarded with Vivos in recognition of their wider contributions to College life.

The Dance Department would like to thank everyone that joined a dance club last week! It was so nice to see the dance department thriving and to see students enjoying the clubs.

### **Sports News**

We are already celebrating the first of what will be many, many sporting successes this year with our Senior Girls' Football Team winning 4-0 against KSA and our Year 11 Boys' Football Team with a 6-1 win against KBA in their opening game.

And outside of school we are delighted to share with you that Georgia Ives and Mia Rose Baker have been selected to play for Wasp's U19 Northants club in Netball.

Congratulations to the following Year 11 students who were successfully appointed as Sports Captains for this academic year: Milly Stevens and Jacob Patrick from Barton House; Mackenzie Colson and Paige Arthurs from Botolph House; Jake Andrews and Lauren Bird from Latimer House; Beth Polo and Sara Scorrano from Wicksteed House, and Sarina Mann, Kean McCabe and Jolanta Kirchner from Castle House. They are currently training and will be running their first Year 7 inter-form competition on Tuesday 25 September.

## 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.

Tuesday 25 September	Year 11 Ace Your Exams Evening, 6-8pm
Wednesday 26 September	KS4 Curriculum Evening, 6-8pm
Thursday 4 October	Open Evening for prospective Year 7 students joining in September 2019 <b>College will close to students at 12.15pm</b>
Wednesday 10 October	Parent Forum 6pm Music Room 1 (Masque Theatre)
Thursday 18 October	End of Term 1 for students
Friday 19 October	Training Day: College closed to students
Monday 29 October	College re-opens to students: start of Term 2
Tuesday 6 November	Sixth Form Open Evening, 6-8pm
Thursday 6 December	Parent Forum 6pm Music Room 1 (Masque Theatre)
Monday 26 November	Year 11 Mock Exams start (until Friday 7 December)
Monday 3 December	Year 13 Mock Exams start (until Friday 14 December)
Friday 14 December	Christmas Music Concert, 7.30pm (Masque Theatre)
Friday 21 December	End of Term 2