



Follow us on Twitter @Latimercollege

Don't forget to join us on **Twitter** where our community is rapidly growing – do not miss out!



LATIMER LATEST NEWS – 9 NOVEMBER 2018

'Being the Best That We Can Be!'

We are delighted that following the recent publication of the provisional performance data, the progress that students make at The Latimer Arts College in their GCSEs is **above average** and we are in the **top 10** for progress in Northamptonshire.

This is down to a real team effort and we would like to thank parents and carers for being an active and supportive part of this team.

Applications for places in Year 7 next year have now closed and we keep our fingers crossed that all those who would like a place at our College are able to gain one.

Applications for a **Sixth Form** place should be submitted by **Friday 23 November**. More details of our offer and our prospectus can be accessed on our [website](#).

Learning and Progress

Thank a Teacher: Send a card campaign

Remember that if you would like to thank a member of staff at the College for the work that they do, please consider doing this through The Pearson Teaching Awards: Thank a Teacher campaign. Send a card for free: [*CLICK HERE TO SEND A CARD*](#)

Ace Your Exams: "By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail"

A reminder that our mock examination season begins on Wednesday 21 November (with some exams taking place before this). Individual timetables have been issued so that students know where they should be and when.

IT3 is open at lunchtimes for Year 11 students to come and revise in, with access to computers and revision resources, and subject revision sessions are being offered as follows:

	Lunchtime	After School
Monday	Computer Science/Maths	English
Tuesday	Maths/French/English	DT drop in/Music
Wednesday	Computer Science/History/Textiles	DT drop in
Thursday	Biology	
Friday	English/French/Geography	Chemistry

Year 13 are offered personalised sessions as agreed with each individual staff member.

In addition to published resources, students can also access our online resources:



Students can sign up for FREE at www.gcsepod.com using their College email account. Podcasts can be streamed or downloaded on PC, Android or IOS. Email ithelpdesk@latimer.org.uk if you require any assistance when using GCSEPod.



Tassomai makes learning and revising for GCSE Science effective and straightforward. Simply log in regularly and complete the assignments at the top of the list. The mission is simple - keep the pace of progress up to the speed prescribed - a task that requires a few minutes of attention each day. [Website: https://www.tassomai.com/login](https://www.tassomai.com/login)



Students have access to the PiXL Maths, Geography, History and English Lit apps to help with their studies.



We had **1612** visits to the library during lunch times in Term 1: that's an average of **54** students per lunch!

We issued **890** books last term, **614** fiction and **276** non-fiction. Well done to Erin Gray who borrowed 9 books last term, closely followed by Olivia Jack 8 books and Aidan Hayward 7 books.

Aspire: After School Study Support for Students



'**ASPIRE**' is located in the Learning Resource Centre (LRC) and IT3 and operates daily from 3.15 to 5.00 pm. All students are welcome to come along for any sessions that they choose and enjoy a drink/snack before settling down to complete their homework. Two members of staff lead the '**ASPIRE**' sessions and provide assistance to students, as well as liaising with teachers to ensure students are receiving the best support possible.

Resources are available to assist with completion of homework. For those students who have completed their work, we offer skills based additional learning, such as support with handwriting practice – essential skills needed for formal exams!

On their first visit to '**ASPIRE**', students will be given a letter to take home for parents/carers to sign giving permission for their child to attend. Please contact Ms Pankhania: jpankhania@latimer.org.uk if you require further information.

Uniform Reminder

A reminder that there is a renewed trend for boys having 'tramlines' cut into the scalp and that this is not permitted for boys or girls. Please do not allow your child to persuade you otherwise.

Safeguarding Update

Strangers online... or are they?

A common message given to young people is: do not speak to strangers online. This is primarily a safeguarding message; we recognise that strangers might pose risks and we want to protect our children from these. But, what is a stranger to someone online? Read this [very short blog](#) with further information.

To support online safety at Latimer we will be covering 'Breck's Story' in the coming term. For more information visit [The Breck Foundation](#)

YoungMinds Crisis Messenger: Text YM to 85258

The [YoungMinds](#) crisis messenger service provides free, 24/7 crisis support across the UK. Young people experiencing a mental health crisis who need support can text YM to 85258.

Traffic Calming Plea

We appreciate that parking around schools is an ever challenging issue – in the majority of cases schools are located in the heart of the community and were designed to be accessed on foot.

Our Castle Way and Grosvenor Way residents have always been supportive of the College and have worked positively with us, particularly in relation to issues around parking – and we would like to help them as much as we can.

Please can we ask that you give careful consideration as to whether your child really needs to be driven to College and indeed driven right up to the College entrances. Avoiding congestion around the closest streets to the College will not only support our neighbours, it will also make the access to College much safer for all of our students. Take a fresh look and put yourself in the shoes of our neighbours: what would you want if this was where you lived?

Aiming High: Raising Aspirations and Expectations



Year 8: Take your Child to Work Day

We very much hope that parents and carers (or friends and family) will be able to support our Careers and Raising Aspirations Programme by taking Year 8 students to work on Wednesday 27 February 2019. This will provide a fantastic opportunity for students to develop employability skills and learn about different careers and business. A copy of the letter sent this week can be found on the [college website](#). If you are having difficulty finding a placement please contact Ms O'Brien, our IAG Co-ordinator: MOBrien@latimer.org.uk

World Skills UK Live Thursday 15 November

A reminder that as part of our commitment to careers education, we will be taking all Year 10 students to the UK's largest interactive apprenticeships, skills and careers event, [World Skills UK](#).

The event is HUGE! We advise students to visit the website in advance so that they can plan their day.

A Career in Construction? 'Open Doors' may open doors for your child

Open Doors offer a unique chance to see behind the scenes at major live construction sites, inspiring young people to understand this growing industry and encouraging them to learn about how to start a career in construction.

Details of how to register for "Open Doors" being run in March 2019 can be found at www.opendoors.construction

In addition, please take a look at this [new construction game app](#) which can be downloaded for **free** from the usual online stores. It is a fun promotional tool for the industry which demonstrates the benefits of a career in construction through games-based learning.

Preparing for the Future

A reminder that, as part of our Sixth Form programme, we will be conducting interviews on Tuesday 13 and Wednesday 14 November from 6pm to prepare our young adults for life after Latimer. University applications through UCAS are now well underway in Year 13 and you can find out more about the process in our [parents' guide](#).

Enriching the Educational Experience and Celebrating Success

'Do Your Thing' for Children in Need

As one of the UK's biggest fundraising events, Children in Need brings the entire nation together to raise money and change children's lives. The Latimer Arts College has once again decided to get involved to help raise money for this incredible cause by holding a non-uniform day on **Friday 16 November 2018**. All the money raised will help towards transforming the lives of poor and vulnerable people, both at home and across the world's poorest countries.

If students wish to wear non-uniform on this day they should bring **£1** and hand it to their form tutor. Students are also encouraged to bring some change for any other activities that may be taking place during the day. Please see the [website](#) for further information.

Vocab Express: a performance of champions!

This year once again our students took part in the Vocab Express League of Champions competition, and what a competition it was! Collectively, our amazing students not only smashed our score from the previous competition by collecting a massive 809,815 points for French, but they also worked their way into 2nd place globally!

Castle House triumphed in the Inter-House competition and there were some outstanding individual performances, most notably from William Sorbie, who scored over 60,000 points, Mia Wood, who was not far behind with a final score of 56,310 and Madeleine Doughty who finished in 3rd place with 30,175 points. These students, along with top scorers from each house and year group, will soon be presented with their awards to recognise their excellent effort. Well done to all involved – we are already looking forward to the next competition!

Welcome 'Gizmo', Latimer's Latest Recruit!

We are delighted to announce the arrival of 'Gizmo', our new robot. Well done to a student from Millbrook Junior School who came up with the name as part of a competition run on our recent Open Evening.

Students in KS3 who wish to learn more about what Gizmo can do are invited to attend our lunchtime 'Coding Club', where we will be preparing our robot to enter for national competitions this year.



Sporting Success

Our commitment to the value of sports participation was demonstrated once again recently when we were one of only two schools to enter two Year 9 hockey teams in the recent district friendly tournament. Both teams played excellently to win 5 out of their 6 games, with some superb goals being scored.

Also, we were the only school to enter two teams into the Year 7 and 8 District Girls' Football tournament. Both teams played extremely well with one team triumphing as winners! Congratulations to: Lois Smith, Charlotte Passey, Lynley Wynne, Maisie Peel, Alana Toms, Imogen Smith and Lexie Bevin. All of these girls are in Year 7, so the future is bright!

Well done to our Year 8 Boys' Football team who won 3-1 against Brooke Weston in the District League.

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 13 & Wednesday 14 November	Sixth Form Mock Interviews (from 6pm)
Thursday 15 November	Year 10 World Skills UK Live, Birmingham NEC
Tuesday 20 November	Year 9 "Buzzed" Drama Event
Wednesday 21 November	Year 11 Mock Exams start (until Tuesday 4 December)
Tuesday 4 December	Year 13 Mock Exams start (until Tuesday 11 December)
Thursday 6 December	Parent Forum 6pm Music Room 1 (Masque Theatre)
Friday 14 December	Christmas Music Concert, 7.30pm (Masque Theatre)
Friday 21 December	End of Term 2
Friday 4 January	Training Day: College closed to students
Monday 7 January	College re-opens to students: start of Term 3

This will be Week 2 on the timetable