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## LATIMER LATEST NEWS – 21 DECEMBER 2017

It is with some disbelief that we are writing our final newsletter of Term 2 and indeed of 2017 - to say that time has flown would be an understatement – but boy, have we packed a lot in!

At the start of this academic year we launched a focus on effort, reminding students that if they work hard, they will find success: continuous effort, not strength or intelligence, is the key to unlocking potential. It has been such a pleasure to see them rise to this challenge. We have been delighted to be able to celebrate and reward students for their hard work and we hope that the communication of this through such things as postcards and letters home has helped you as parents and carers to also praise your child. Success breeds success and so the more we can continue to recognise this in 2018 the better.

Our Year 11 and Year 13 examination students have worked incredibly hard during their mock examination season. Year 11 are better prepared than they have ever been, making purposeful use of their revision guides, online tools and revision techniques, such as mind-maps and flashcards, to get themselves prepared. They will be starting the final countdown to their summer exams in a really strong position.

We have also been thrilled with the opportunities that we have been able to provide each year group with as part of our Raising Aspirations programme, including a *'Dragons' Den'* Enterprise Day, *'Money Matters'*, *'Take Your Child to Work Day'*, a Careers Fair, the *'National Skills Show'* visit and students in Years 9, 10, 11 and Sixth Form have all had university visits. It is hoped that these employer and higher education engagement opportunities will support our students with making informed career choices in the future.

Throughout the year we have been humbled by the dedication that our students have shown to raising money for their House charities and, in recent weeks, the compassion that students have shown in putting together their gift boxes for the food bank. It was with a huge sense of pride that we sent our House Captains off to deliver these earlier this week and we are overwhelmed with the generosity of the whole College community.

And we end the year with our second Christmas Grand Vivo draw – by the time you receive this newsletter, we will have named the lucky winners of an Xbox One S, Dre Beats X Wireless earphones, £50 Steam Gaming Voucher, £50 Schuh Voucher, £50 House of Fraser Voucher and £25 Odeon Cinema Voucher. The fact that so many of our students were able to buy tickets is a sign of the hard work they have put into their learning this year and we have been able to award more Vivos than ever.

When we talk about success breeding success, for The Latimer Arts College 2018 looks like being a truly fabulous year: we have had more applications for Year 7 places than ever before and the highest number of students who have submitted Sixth Form applications and who wish to remain with us for their post-16 study.

We cannot achieve this without the commitment and dedication of our staff and the loyalty and support from our parents and carers – so thank you one and all!

### Goodbye and Welcome!

As the end of the year approaches, we say goodbye to some staff: Mrs Armitage, Cover Supervisor; Mrs Blake, Teacher of Science; Mr Gibson, Teacher of Maths; Mrs Moore, Science Technician; Mrs Rutherford, Teacher of English. We would like to thank them all for the support that they have given to the College.

We are delighted to welcome (back) Mrs Reynolds, who is re-joining the Latimer team as a Teacher of DT, in addition to Miss Roberts (LSA) and Miss Simons (English HLTA).

## Ready, set, go for 2018! Timings of the Day: Thursday 4 January

Please note that the times of lessons will change for the morning of **Thursday 4 January**, when our students return after the Christmas break, as follows:

8.30 – 8.55	Tutor Time
8.55 – 9.55	Lesson 1
9.55 – 10.55	Lesson 2
10.55 – 11.15	Break
11.15 – 12.15	Lesson 3

The change is for the morning only to allow time for tutors to support students to be ready to learn for the start of Term 3. It would be of great support if you could pay particular attention to:

- Ensuring that your child is at school by 8.25 am each day. **Please note that students who do not arrive by 8.25 am will be deemed as late and will be placed in a lunchtime detention.**
- Trousers: these should be full length; ‘ankle grazer’ trousers are not permitted.
- Make-up: we discourage the wearing of make-up at College but if worn it should appear subtle and natural. Students should not be wearing ‘highlighter’, which appears to be the latest make-up fashion.

A reminder that should students have gel or acrylic nails done for Christmas they must be removed ready for the start of the new term, along with nail varnish.

- Hooded tops: are not permitted and are not acceptable alternatives to coats.
- Phones and headphones should be placed in bags. If seen, these will be confiscated.

And so it just remains to say have a peaceful and restful Christmas break and we wish you all the very best for 2018!

Yours sincerely

**Ms Siobhan Hearne**  
Principal

**Mrs Sue Wood**  
Chair of Governors

### 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 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 (Week 2)
Monday 8 January	KS4 Pathways Introduction fortnight commences (for Year 8)
Wednesday 17 January	Year 8 Pathways Evening, 6-8pm
Friday 19 January	Year 11 and Year 13 Mock Results Day
Tuesday 23 January	Ready Set Go Evening 6pm (for Year 11 students and parents/carers)
Wednesday 31 January	Year 11 and 13 School Photographs
Thursday 1 February	Year 8 Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE) 5.30-8.30 pm
Wednesday 7 February	Sixth Form Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE) 5.30-8.30 pm
Friday 9 February	End of Term 3