

LATIMER NEWS

2024-25

ISSUE 5:
JANUARY 2025

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

A belated Happy New Year to you all!

We are delighted to welcome three new permanent and experienced teaching staff to Latimer. Mr Mackie and Mr Brainwood who have joined the Science team and Mrs Jasper who is teaching Psychology and Criminology.

Students returned ready to learn and participate in the many enrichment activities on offer. Please have a look at the [enrichment programme](#) for this term and encourage your child/ren to attend at least one club a week. This will support their well-being, personal development and be an opportunity to learn something new.

Term 3 is a short term but we have a lot of learning to pack in as well as the many fantastic opportunities beyond the classroom. This includes the amazing Dragons' Den Experience for the whole of Year 7. Our thanks go to all the business links who gave their support to the students, and of course to the Dragons for judging the final presentations.

This term also sees the start of our SPREs - Student Progress Review Evenings - virtual parents evenings where you have the chance to speak to your child's subject teachers and hear about their learning and how they can make further progress. Attendance at these events is a crucial part of the partnership with school. If you are unable to attend or have any feedback about the timing of the evening or other barriers to engaging, please let us know - email: mail@latimer.org.uk with the title SPRE.

The term ends with our Latimer Dance show on 11th February, a chance for students to showcase their talents and hone their performance skills. For tickets visit the [Masque Box Office](#) website.

Other Notices:

- Please send in any unwanted trainers/football boots that are still in wearable/reasonable condition to the PE department.
- We currently have a Parent Governor vacancy and will be emailing parents/carers with details of the Parent Governor election process next week. If you are interested in becoming a Parent Governor, please look out for the email, which will tell you how to put yourself forward for the role.
- Finally, a reminder to parents/carers to please **not** include fizzy drinks and nuts as part of your child's snacks and packed lunches, as these items are not allowed on site and will be confiscated.

Mrs K Murphy - Principal

ATTENBOROUGH
56346 Points

GILBERT
56850 Points

KAHLO
54440 Points

TULL
51683 Points

SAFEGUARDING

Staying safe when out and about - information aimed at older students

In 2016, a member of the Sexual Violence Prevention Team in Lincolnshire, Inspector Hayley Crawford, introduced 'Ask for Angela'. It allows people being harassed in pubs, clubs and bars to request help from staff by asking for their fictitious colleague, Angela.

While the system has been widely adopted within the UK and in other countries, a recent report from the BBC highlighted that many venues displaying 'Ask for Angela' posters did not have staff who knew, understood or were trained to respond to a request for 'Angela'.

This will prompt venues to review their practices and hopefully make situations safer in the long term. For students who are going out socially, we want them to have a range of strategies to keep themselves safe.

We speak to students in school about their physical safety and would encourage these conversations to happen at home too.

The key strategies shared by the police are:

- 1) Make sure someone knows where you are and update them if you change venue.
- 2) Keep location status on for specific people only. Ensure a friend or family member has your location so they can find you if you need them.
- 3) Stay with your friends when you go out. Look out for each other and make sure you have a clear plan of where to meet, should you get separated.
- 4) Never accept a drink which is handed to you when you haven't seen it being made. If you are drinking from a bottle, keep your thumb over the top and don't put your drink down and walk away.
- 5) Seek help if you feel unsafe or unwell. Find a friend or a member of staff and get the help you need.

Child Criminal Exploitation

Children and young people can sometimes be drawn into activities without their knowing or desire and become entangled in criminal activity. Charities such as the [Ivison Trust](#) work closely with young people and families impacted by exploitation of all forms. They work closely with the police and other agencies for long term change in areas where gangs are prevalent.

How might young people become involved in criminal activity?

Often, young people are drawn into a world of exploitation through friends who may introduce them to older siblings, cousins or other friends. They may treat them very well initially, buying gifts or taking them to places like McDonald's or engaging in social activities, creating a social contract. Then, the young person is asked to do a favour for someone within the wider group. It is at this point that often they feel unable to say no, given they have gained so much from the group.

SAFEGUARDING

What can parents do?

On the charity website you can hear from a parent whose son had been groomed. There had been a number of signs, but others had reassured her that it was normal teenage behaviour. She urged every parent who is worried to raise a concern.

What to look out for:

- Changes in appearance or demeanour
- Weight loss or gain, or significant changes in eating patterns
- Going missing or arriving home after an agreed time
- Anxiety around phone use, or others seeing their phone
- 'Life litter' – unexplained money or products, receipts from places you have not taken them to, car keys (often kept by young people when vehicles have been stolen to order), bank cards (with a different name).

Who can parents raise their concerns with?

You can always raise a concern with us. We are well connected with local agencies and work alongside families to access support.

You can also contact Fearless or the local Police. [Give information about crime 100% anonymously | Fearless | Crimestoppers](#)

Educate Against Hate - Calendar 2024-25

The Educate Against Hate team have published their 2024-25 [calendar](#). The calendar highlights important awareness dates in the academic year which might provide opportunities to discuss things like online safety, Fundamental British Values and extremism with our students.

Online Safety

It is imperative that students who are gaming online protect themselves.

Online gaming is a perfectly enjoyable pastime, but when students are engaging with young people from other schools we want them to think about protecting themselves.

We have therefore provided a link to a useful [infographic](#) (image of infographic shown) to help support you with this.



LEARNING AND PROGRESS

Ace Your Exams: Year 11 and 13 Post-Mock Actions

Students have now received their mock exam results. We asked students to use these to reflect on how well prepared they are for the real exams, which are only 10 school weeks away. The key message following the mocks is that no matter what a student achieved, their future grades are not yet set in stone and are still very much in their own hands. To support students in these year groups:

**48
school days
until start of
exam season**

- We are arranging further study skills sessions
- Core subjects mock exams will take place after February half term
- We are also undertaking 1:1 meetings with Year 11s to discuss the next stages of their education
- Year 13 are being supported with their UCAS and Apprenticeship applications
- A range of support can be found on our exams support page [here](#) – this includes access to revision calendars with exam dates for the summer on them to help schedule revision now!

Following the Year 11 SPRE, if you would like to discuss next steps you can contact our independent Careers Adviser, Mrs Nicola Stanbridge, please email careers@latimer.org.uk.

We urge parents and carers of students in Years 12 and 13 to make appointments for the Sixth Form SPRE on Tuesday 4th February. This will provide subject staff with the opportunity to share the priority areas of focus for your child in the lead up to their summer examinations.

Year 11 students can also access our online resources:



Students can sign up for FREE at www.gcsepod.com using their School 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.



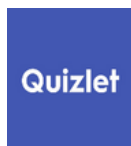
Tassomai makes learning and revising for GCSE Science effective and straightforward. Simply log in regularly and complete the assignments at the top of the list. The mission is simple - keep the pace of progress up to the speed prescribed - a task that requires a few minutes of attention each day. Website: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



Vocab Express is an online vocab learning application that has been set up to support students with learning their French vocabulary, which is vital to examination success. Students should access this daily.



Seneca is free for students to use. It will present them with key information and then test them on it in various ways. Some staff are setting revision activities through this.



Quizlet allows students to create their own quizzes, flash cards and other revision material for free. They can then print these off or save them to re-use. Students can also access other people's revision material on the site.



Students should use Sparx to help with practice Maths questions.

Year 7 Dragons' Den

The Year 7 students enjoyed a day off timetable creating their Easter Eggs. All the students did well, especially delivering their pitches to the Dragons in the afternoon. 7T1 were the winning tutor group with their Astro Egg. Thank you to all our visitors from Hi-Force UK, Rathgar, Weatherbys, DSV, EmpathAIs, Siemens Industry Software, Weetabix, Greene King and Aston & Fincher.



Careers with Animals Day - Saturday 1 March 2025

This is a FREE careers event set up by The College of Animal Welfare. It give students the chance to listen to presentations from organisations and professionals within the animal care and veterinary industry; gain advice, ask questions, and receive guidance on training. There is also the opportunity to meet representatives in the virtual exhibitor area, over the lunch break. If you want to work with animals and are looking to find out how you can make it happen, come along and gain the information you need to start your career with animals today! Visit the [website](#) for more details.

Apprenticeship Webinar

National Apprenticeship Week will be coming up w/c 10th February. As part of a week of activities, we suggest signing up to Starting Off's apprenticeship [information webinar](#) for parents/carers of school leavers on Tuesday 11th February, 6.00– 7.15pm.

CATERING NEWS

In Term 4 the catering team will be celebrating the Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day and Pancake Day with special menus on offer. Please see details below.



HOUSE NEWS

Attenborough



Term 3 has started incredibly positively for Attenborough House, including our celebration assembly in Week 1 where we reflected on the great work from students this year across the curriculum.

This celebration saw over 20% of students in Attenborough selected for an award, but a special mention must go to Yazid (Maths, Design and Music), Kamille (English, Science Dance and Drama) and Willoughby (English, Business and Design) for receiving nominations in multiple subjects. The assembly was also an opportunity for students to think about what they want to achieve in 2025 and we were very grateful to House Leaders Billy and Nicole for sharing their goals for the upcoming year and how they plan to achieve them, even if it means having to dig deep and show resilience to achieve them.

Finally, the celebration assembly allowed us to recognise all students within the house for their incredible work racking up the positive points on Satchel:one, as Attenborough House continued to lead on this showing the positive contributions students are making each and every day.

Gilbert



Gilbert's House Leaders, Archie (KS5), Bella (KS4) and Josh (KS3) delivered an outstanding assembly, confidently introducing themselves and sharing Gilbert's values and the Top of the Pyramid belief. Their presentation truly set the tone for the house. On top of that, our students had a slam dunk in the basketball competition, securing a well-earned first-place finish for Gilbert—an incredible achievement! Gilbert currently have the most points, but it is close!

Kahlo



It has been a month of celebration in Kahlo House. Led by our Student House Leaders Stanley, Carys and Alana, we have introduced our new Key Stage 4 Form of the Term with 9K1 taking the top spot for Term 2. There are still 4 more terms to go so there are plenty of chances for years 10 and 11 to take their place!

We have also been celebrating our students' success in their lessons with our subject awards, of which Kahlo saw a huge number in Term 2.

Finally we have been celebrating our Kahlo House bake-off winner Lizzie Turner, alongside our numerous representatives in House competitions. I am certainly looking forward to celebrating even more success for our Kahlo House team in the coming term!

Tull



Excellent work all round from Tull students since our return after Christmas. Students have been getting involved in House competitions and showing school values consistently around the school. A special mention goes to 7T1 who won this year's Dragons' Den event. There was some stiff competition but they showed great teamwork to come out on top.

HOUSE NEWS

House Competitions

Last week saw the first of our House Competitions for 2025 – a Basketball Shoot-out – in which Gilbert took a well-deserved first place. A special mention goes to Ben Todd, 7G2, who scored the majority of the baskets for his house and was the reason they managed to secure the win!

Well done also to our other Houses: 2nd place Attenborough, 3rd place Kahlo and 4th place Tull.

Our Next House Competition:

To mark Children's Mental Health Week 3rd-9th February, we are asking students to create something to raise awareness for children's mental health. They can use any creative medium to express themselves.

It could be a: piece of artwork, song, poem, short story (500 words), dance, poster - or anything they have crafted or created.

Entries can be submitted as a photo, video or word document and should be emailed to jmilton@latimer.org.uk by 3pm on Monday 24th February. Good luck!

Other Information

Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

We are very excited that we have been able to appoint 6 new anti-bullying ambassadors to join our existing team of dedicated students. There were many excellent applications, however with assistance shortlisting from our current team, the following students were appointed:

Clara Cowland

Mollie Macguinness

Chloe Smith

Freya Dhanesh

Emily Pack

Dexter Wills

Children in Need - Total Raised

We are delighted to inform you that Latimer raised £1,417.99 for Children in Need, for which we have now received a 'thank you certificate' from Children in Need. Thank you to all who donated.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Ethan Brock in Year 9 Kahlo House, who has been selected to play in a 7's rugby tournament for Eggchasers Academy. The event is in Lisbon in Portugal and the squad fly out on 14th February. Ethan is very excited and proud to have been selected from over 250 children for this event.

Congratulations also go to Harry Dell'Utri in Year 11 Tull House, who has won a place in the England Hockey Team.

Well done to you both!



SIXTH FORM NEWS

Subject Progress Review Evening – Tuesday 4th February

A reminder that the Subject Progress Review Evening for Year 12 and 13 students will take place on Tuesday 4th February. This is a valuable opportunity for parents and students to discuss progress and areas for development with subject teachers. Please ensure you have booked your appointments.

Finance Talk for Year 13 Students – Wednesday 5th February - 1pm

For Year 13 students considering university, we will be holding a Finance Talk on Wednesday 5th February. This session will cover important information about student finance, loans, and budgeting for university life. We strongly encourage all Year 13 students to attend.

University Applications

A huge congratulations to all our Year 13 students who submitted their university applications by the **UCAS Equal Consideration deadline!** We wish you the very best as you wait to hear back from your chosen universities.

A special congratulations goes to Maisie Morris for receiving an offer to study at the **University of Cambridge** – a truly outstanding achievement!

We are proud of all our students and their hard work, and we look forward to supporting them through the next steps of this exciting journey.

Chemistry A Level Students Enter Chemistry Olympiad

Last Thursday, 23rd January 2025 our Chemistry A-level students took on the UK Chemistry Olympiad, an inspiring challenge that pushed their problem-solving skills and tested their knowledge in new, real-world situations. We will keep you posted with the results when they are published.



Sixth Form Notices and Important Dates

4th February

5th February

11th February

2nd April

Sixth Form SPRE, 4.30-7.45pm

Year 13 - Guest Speaker - Student Finance

Year 11 and Year 13 Leavers Photographs

Sixth Form Enrichment Trip

OTHER NEWS

Local Artist Spends Day in Art Department



On Thursday 23rd January the local artist Jack Watto visited Latimer to work with our Year 12 A Level Art students. He brought with him his current paintings from the collection 'Art for Planet Earth' that provoked many interesting conversations about climate change.

Students listened to Jack talk about his work and then took part in painting their own responses under his supervision. The students created some amazing experimental work and learnt a lot about the artists work during the visit!



February Half Term Holiday Activity Camp



February Half Term Camp

Earlybird Discount: **febearlybird25**

Ages: Reception to Year 11

17th to 21st February

Venue: Cottingham C of E Primary School

Visit: www.athenaactivities.co.uk Call: 07399 595022

Athena Activities will be hosting a half term Holiday Activity Camp from 17th-21st February, providing fun and engaging activities for children during the school break! The aim of these activities is to inspire creativity, build confidence, keep the children active and help them to nurture friendships.

Age Range: EYFS in Reception; Children in Years 1-6; Young Leaders in Years 7-11.

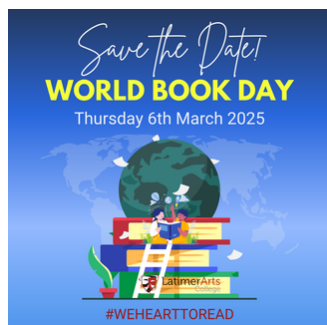
Time: 9am to 4pm (optional early drop-off at 8am and late pick-up at 5pm are available for an additional fee).

How to Book: Parents, Guardians and Carers can reserve a spot for their children by visiting www.AthenaActivities.co.uk. We are offering an Early Bird Discount until Friday 31st January, which is activated at the checkout by using the code **"febearlybird25"**.

LITERACY NEWS

LATIMER LOVES READING!

#WEHEARTTOREAD



World Book Day - 6th March 2025

We are looking forward to celebrating all things books on Thursday 6th March as we celebrate World Book Day! Students will be able to take part in a variety of reading related activities on the day itself and, after half term in our Year 7 and 8 Literacy lessons, students will be exploring the 2025 theme: Read Your Way.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Tuesday 4 February | Sixth Form SPRE, 4.30-7.45pm |
| Monday 10 February | National Apprenticeship Week (ends 14 February) |
| Tuesday 11 February | Year 11 and Year 13 Leavers Photographs |
| | Latimer Dance Show, 7.00pm |
| Friday 14 February | End of Term 3 |
| Monday 24 February | Start of Term 4: School re-opens to students (This will be Week 2 on the timetable) |
| | Year 9 Geography Trip to Wales (ends 26 February) |
| | Year 11 Mock Exam Season 3 (ends 7 March) |
| Thursday 27 February | Year 9 Teenage Boosters |
| Monday 3 March | National Careers Week (ends 7 March) |
| Tuesday 4 March | Year 10 SPRE, 4.30-7.45pm |
| Thursday 6 March | World Book Day |
| Friday 7 March | Year 7-10 'Move It' Dance Trip |
| Monday 10 March | British Science Week (ends 14 March) |
| Wednesday 12 March | Year 7 SPRE, 4.30-7.45pm |
| Friday 14 March | Kettering Goes Orange |
| | Year 8 Language Leaders Event, Barton Seagrave Primary |
| Monday 17 March | Year 8 Pathways Fortnight (ends 28 March) |
| Tuesday 18 March | Parent Forum, 6pm |
| Wednesday 19 March | Performing Arts Showcase, 7pm |
| Wednesday 26 March | Year 8 Pathways Evening, 5.30pm |
| Thursday 3 April | Spring Music Concert, 7pm |
| Friday 4 April | End of Term 4 |



More dates are available on our [website](#)