

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I was delighted to see the large number of students who completed Term 1 with good attendance and only positive House points. There is a real buzz about the House Points; totals are updated weekly on the website and school screens (current points below). These totals come from points awarded in lessons, enrichment, for participation in sports or other competitions and behaviour that reflects the Latimer values.

This term we have joined the rest of Kettering to GO ORANGE and raise funds for #TeamSebastian. We have also marked Remembrance Sunday with a 2 minute silence, with the Last Post being played by a former student. Representatives from Latimer also laid a wreath at St Botolph's Church.

We were delighted to see so many Year 11 students, both from Latimer and nearby schools, come to visit us for Sixth Form Open Evening this term, where they received valuable information about our incredible curriculum and enrichment offer. If you missed this event or need more information please visit our [website](#). Applications are due in on 1 December.

Next week sees the start of Year 11 and Year 13 mock examinations. Please can we remind parents and carers that students need to arrive on time and have all the necessary equipment. This will include a black pen, a calculator, ruler, protractor and compass.

Our [Study Support for Students](#) website page lists the websites and apps which students may find useful, whilst our [Ace Your Exams](#) page includes lots of hints and tips, as well as a booklet with revision templates which can be used to help students organise their revision.

Some reminders for parents and carers:

Parents and carers should not be driving onto the school site to drop students at school except in exceptional circumstances such as an injury which prevents the child walking. Please drop off your children in Castle Way.

Attendance at school is vital as even one day off disrupts learning, so please encourage your children to be resilient as we enter the winter months when it can sometimes be harder to motivate ourselves to get up in the morning. Thank you for your support in this matter.

The school will close at the earlier time of 12.20pm on the last day of term, Friday 22 December. Cold food will be available from 12.20-12.40pm.

ATTENBOROUGH

15843 Points

GILBERT

14975 Points

KAHLO

14250 Points

TULL

15958 Points

**Unlocking Potential
Inspiring Excellence**

We are officially rated a "Good" School

 @latimerartsofficial  www.facebook.com/LatimerCollege

 @latimercollege  mail@latimer.org.uk

www.latimer.org.uk

Safeguarding and Well-being

Mental Health Support at Latimer

We understand that nurturing your child's emotional well-being is a top priority for all of us. We are dedicated to providing your child with the support they need to thrive, both academically and emotionally. We believe that every student deserves the opportunity to flourish and grow, and that is why we are excited to share our array of well-being services available right here in school.

Mental Health Support Team: Offer sessions of Cognitive Behaviour Therapy (CBT) for students who may benefit from this evidence-based approach.

Nurse Referral and Drop-In Services: For those times when your child needs some medical support or a friendly face to talk to, the school nurse is here to help. A nurse referral can be made if your child requires specific medical attention, or they can simply drop in at the Nurse Drop-In Service every Wednesday at lunchtime in the Learning Support area.

Local Youth Workers Service Drop-In: We have also teamed up with the Local Youth Service to provide an extra layer of support. Every Monday at lunchtime in the Masque Foyer, students have the opportunity to attend their weekly drop-in sessions. It is a fantastic way for your child to connect with professionals who are passionate about their well-being.

We are also working in partnership with **Souster Youth Counselling Services** and **Think for The Future Mentoring**, where students can join group sessions to build resilience or have counselling sessions.

We can also support with opening Early Help Assessments and referrals to other external agencies.

We want you to know that you are not alone in navigating the challenges of your child's well-being. Together, we can ensure that every student at Latimer is given the tools and support they need to succeed in both their academic and emotional journey.

If you think your child could benefit from any of these services, please feel free to reach out to us. Please contact Latimer's Senior Mental Health Lead - Ms Pankhania: JPankhania@latimer.org.uk

REMINDER - EXTENDED LEARNING FACILITIES

A reminder of our Aspire Homework Club, designed to support your child's academic success.

In the mornings from 8.00-8.20am, and after school Mondays to Thursdays from 3.00-4.00pm, we provide dedicated homework facilities in the Library staffed with trained professionals to assist students in completing their extended learning.

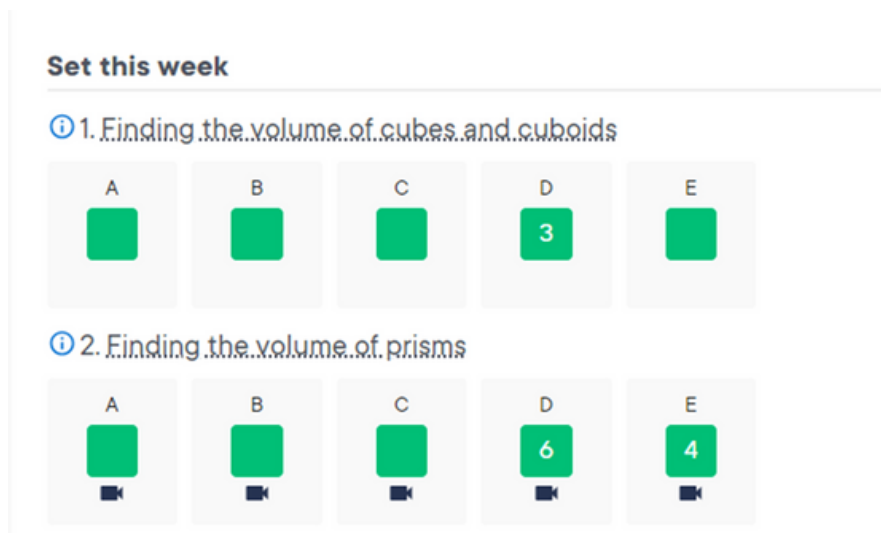
Additionally, during lunchtime, students are welcome to go to IT6.

Learning and Progress

Sparx Maths

We have had feedback from our Parent Forum regarding the use of Sparx Maths. This is our new online programme which is there to support students' extending learning in Maths. We are aware of some issues with it logging "active" time from students and are addressing this with the company. However, the expectation is that students try their best.

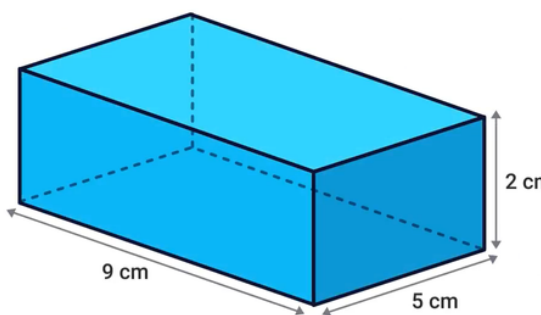
The image below shows what staff can see about student activity. The example below shows that a student has tried several times, and shows the resilience we want to encourage in our students. For example, on question 1D they tried 3 times before getting the question correct (green box with a '3'). On question 2D they tried 6 times and watched the video (the icon below the green box). It is this resilience we are trying to build in our students and this is the detail of information that Maths staff can see to assess how hard students are working.





One question is what do students need to do if they get stuck. One of the advantages of the Sparx programme is it tailors questions to the student's ability but also has videos available for each question for students to watch that will guide them through the topic (as shown below).

Calculate the **volume** of the cuboid below.

Give your answer in cm^3 .



Careers

National School and College Leavers Festival Tuesday 7 November

Last week, our Year 11 students had a successful trip to the National College and School Leavers Festival. During the event, students engaged with exhibitors to explore their offerings and participated in various activities, including a climbing wall, VR headset experiences, and interacting with a robot. When reflecting on their favourite aspects of the day, student responses included:

- "Connecting with individuals I could potentially work with"*
- "Discovering the diverse courses offered by each university"*
- "Discussing opportunities at art schools"*
- "Exploring information about airlines"*
- "Finding out about the army/met police"*

A great experience, to get them excited for their future, to motivate them for their mock examinations and to discover what they might explore next and of course to pick up some goodies!



We are excited to share that out of 170 Unifrog users within our region, we sit within the top 10 users for getting our students logging in to Unifrog. In terms of the UK as a whole, we sit within the top 10%!

This means we are ensuring that our students are consistently getting the chance to explore all the amazing opportunities to support with their next steps. Want to take a look yourself? Use parent code LASWparents to create your own account.

Northants Creative Industries Expo

This event, open to the public on Saturday 25 November, offers free talks and an exhibition where you can meet creative people working in a range of sectors: advertising, arts, design, events, fashion, film and tv, games, performing arts, photography, publishing, music, radio, theatre and journalism.

Talks include: 'Creating A Living: Transferrable Skills of the Artist' and 'Can I make a living doing something creative that I love?'

Book your free tickets here: [Schedule + Tickets | Northampton Film Festival 2023 \(eventive.org\)](#)



Careers Drop-In

A reminder that we run a careers drop-in session open to all students in the Library every Wednesday lunchtime. Students can ask quick questions or arrange appointments for longer queries with our independent careers adviser. Students can take part in a careers quiz as well, with the best entries winning a prize!

Wider Curriculum

Student Council 2023/24

A huge congratulations to our newly appointed Student Council for this academic year! After receiving many excellent applications, each tutor group now has one Student Council Representative who will go on to lead meetings in Personal Development Time and share the views of their peers in House Council meetings. We look forward to seeing the impact that you have this year.



Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

Following Anti-Bullying Week, applications for the next cohort of Anti-Bullying Ambassadors will be opening on Friday 24 November.

New ambassadors will join our current cohort who are working towards their RESPECT badge with the Diana Award. All information will be shared on Satchel:One.



Anyone interested in Basketball?

If there are any keen basketballers that want to play outside of school, then HOTSHOTS Basketball Club could be for you!

HOTSHOTS are now running a club at Kettering Buccleuch Academy (KBA) on Monday evenings from 5-6pm (except during school holidays).

It costs £5 per session and everyone is welcome - you can just turn up on the evening, no need to book!

For more information, please contact Mark, Basketball Coach, on 07775 670375.



Sixth Form News

What a busy time it has been in Sixth Form!

Sixth Form Open Evening

First of all, a massive thank you to all our Sixth Form students who volunteered their time to help with the Sixth Form Open Evening on 8 November. The event was very well attended with not a single spare seat left for the presentation in The Masque Theatre. Our ambassadors and subject specialist staff were all kept very busy throughout the evening, answering questions from prospective students and their parents/carers. For those students wishing to apply, who have not yet completed their online application form, please kindly use this link [here](#). The deadline line is **Friday 1 December**.

Year 12 Trip to the University of Northampton – UK University and Apprenticeship Fair

We took our Year 12 cohort to the University of Northampton and attended the UK University and Apprenticeship Fair on Friday 10 November. Students had the opportunity to speak to a multitude of exhibiting universities including Russell Group, red brick and modern institutions, alongside apprenticeship providers and local colleges. They also had the opportunity to attend a number of seminars that were running throughout the day including: UCAS Personal Statement and Application Advice, Why take an Apprenticeship, Choosing a University Course, Higher and Degree Apprenticeships and Student Finance.

This event was a great way to inspire our Year 12s to start thinking in more detail about their future destinations. They certainly had lots of questions and plenty to talk about on the coach back to school afterwards.

Year 13 Mock Exam Season – November 2023

Sending our very best wishes to our Year 13 students as they head into their Mock Examinations, with the first exam starting on Monday 20 November. Students have been issued their exam timetables and information letters have been sent home via email, with reminders of the exam procedures.

UCAS

Offers are already coming in for our Year 13 students that have already submitted their UCAS Applications for 2024 entry. For those students still working on their applications, a quick reminder that, ideally, we would like to have all applications sent off before Christmas where possible, and that staff are here to help if you need further support with this process.

Well-Being and Personal Development Feedback

Thank you to all those parents/carers that engaged with this process earlier this week. It was great to have the opportunity to feedback directly on your child's personal development and well-being in Sixth Form. Please do contact your child's form tutor should you wish to discuss any specific matters in further detail.

Sixth Form News

Sixth Form Student Leadership

Congratulations to our four new Year 12 Student Leaders, who were appointed following a formal interview process with staff and SLT. Each have been assigned a specific role within the student leadership team and we cannot wait to see the positive impact this will have in our learning environment. Well done to you all!

Mollianne - Marketing and Promotion of Sixth Form
Emma - Well-being and Environment

Carly - Teaching and Learning
Alex - Enrichment and Social Inclusion

Upcoming Events

Sixth Form Bake Off

The Sixth Form student body are in the early stages of planning a "Sixth Form Bake Off". If this is something you feel you would like to take part in, please speak to your Student Leaders.

Celebration Assembly

Not long now until we have the opportunity to share in our successes in Sixth Form so far this year. Lots of praise and prizes will be on offer. Who has stood out in terms of their contributions to the school? Who has really taken our HEART values to heart? Who will be our Student of the Form? Form of the Term? And, ultimately, our Student of the Term? All will be revealed in our celebration assembly.

End of Term Outing

Staff are busy planning an end of term outing for all of the Sixth Form students. Please do keep an eye out on your emails and be quick to respond!

Other News

Consultation Process - Admissions Policy for September 2025

The Latimer Arts College is proposing changes to the Admissions Policy for 2025/26 and is seeking feedback from our stakeholders on the proposal.

The consultation will be running from Tuesday 14 November to Sunday 31 December 2023.

You can reply to the consultation process [here](#).

#TEAM SEBASTIAN UPDATE

Once again we were amazed by your generosity. **£2,638** was raised on the Orange non-uniform day. The total raised now stands at just under **£7,000**.

To raise further funds, Team Sebastian are running an online **Auction of Promises** - please see [here](#) for further details.



Dates for your diary

Monday 20 November	Years 11 and 13 Mock Exam Season commences
Friday 1 December	Training Day - Closed to students
Thursday 14 December	Christmas Music Concert, 7pm
Friday 22 December	End of Term 2 - Early closure at 12.20pm (cold food will be available from 12.20-12.40pm)
Monday 8 January	Start of Term 3: School re-opens to students (This will be Week 2 on the timetable)
Tuesday 9 January	Parent Forum, 6pm
Wednesday 17 January	Year 11 SPRE, 4.30-7.45pm (remote)
Wednesday 24 January	Year 7 Dragons' Den Event
Tuesday 30 January	Sixth Form SPRE, 4.30-7.45pm (remote)
Monday 5 - Friday 9 February	National Apprenticeship Week
Wednesday 7 February	College Dance Show, 7pm
Tuesday 13 February	Year 11 and Year 13 Leavers Photographs
Friday 16 February	Year 10 SPRE, 4.30-7.45pm (remote)
	End of Term 2

