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LATIMER LATEST NEWS – 12 JANUARY 2018

Learning and Progress

Year 11 Ace Your Exams: helping parents and carers to play their part

Our Year 11 students engaged superbly with their mock exam season at the end of Term 2. We can genuinely say that their purposeful and committed approach to this learning opportunity is the best that we have ever seen and they are to be commended on their effort.

But, sadly, there is no time for any of us to rest on our laurels: students need to learn from this experience and make the most of the final **68** school days before the first GCSE exam (please note that some practical exams will have already taken place before then!) and our Ace Your Exams programme attached sets out the full support that will be on offer. Some key events from this to highlight to you are:

- **Mock Results Day:** On Friday 19 January, students will be issued with their mock examination results and parents and carers should look out for this report. Following this, they will be able to prioritise the key topics that they need to close the gap on. Staff will also be doing this and it will inform their planning over these final few school weeks.
- **“Ready, Set, Go!” GCSE Revision Workshop Tuesday 23 January at 6pm in the Masque Theatre:** This evening will be delivered by [Mad4Life](#) and will be invaluable in providing parents and carers with practical revision strategies that you can support your child with as well as information on key dates and deadlines. Although Year 11 students are welcome to attend, this session is aimed primarily at parents and carers and contains the content of a session already delivered to students.

Feedback from last year’s event was overwhelmingly positive and we would be delighted to see you there. It really will be a couple of hours well spent!

Equipment: If there is one concern that did arise from the mock examination process it is that many students were not fully equipped for all exams. Below is a list of the equipment that we recommend **ALL** students in **ALL** year groups have, along with some tips and suggestions that could help to gain an extra few marks that could be the difference between one grade and the next:

- Black pens

Tip: find a style of pen that your child finds comfortable to write with - they will write a lot and it will help with their stamina if they are more comfortable

- Basic Maths equipment, which means a pencil, ruler, a protractor and a compass

Tip: clear rulers are better as students can see the information that is under the ruler without having to keep moving it out of the way

- A scientific calculator

Tip: The Casio FX83 is recommended as the way that it calculates some equations is more helpful to students than other calculators

- Coloured pencils (for Design and Technology exams)

And not forgetting A Level Examination Preparation!

Time is ticking too in the countdown to A Level examinations. Sixth Form students will be issued with their **mock examination results** on Friday 19 January. The reminder about equipment above is also relevant to Sixth Formers!

Sixth Form Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE) is on Wednesday 7 February. They may be young adults but they still need your support, guidance, and perhaps occasional nudging, if they are to secure success in the Summer and so we urge all parents and carers to attend. You will have an opportunity to discuss with subject teachers and tutors what the priority areas are for your child to focus on in the run up to their examinations.

Supporting Future Choices: Year 8 Pathways Events

A reminder that we will be delivering a range of events for Year 8 students and their parents and carers in Terms 3 and 4 to support with making informed decisions about future pathways:

- **Key Stage 4 Pathways and Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE)** - Students have received their pathway information and their Curriculum Pathways Fortnight has commenced. This will be supported by:

KS4 Pathways Evening Wednesday 17 January - 6-8pm

Year 8 Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE) Thursday 1 February - 5.30-8.30pm

The deadline for returning completed preference forms to Mrs Turner in the Sixth Form Centre is Monday 5 February 2018.

- **'Take Your Child to Work' Day** - Parents and carers across the UK will be taking their children to work on 21 February 2018. We hope that all of our Year 8 students will be able to participate in this national event.
- **Big Bang Event** - As part of our Raising Aspirations Programme, we will also be taking Year 8 students to the Big Bang @ Silverstone on Wednesday 28 February 2018.

To support career planning, as part of the pathways process, this event will open up the world of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths (STEAM) to our students. There will be a wide variety of interactive exhibitors, hands-on workshops, competitions and shows for students to participate in.

All documents for these events have been published and can be accessed on the [Letters](#) page of our website or can be provided in printed format on request. For further details contact Ms Pankhania: jpankhania@latimer.org.uk

Learning and Study Support for All: Home Study through Home Access Plus+

Following requests from our students to be able to access their learning from home, all students can now use Home Access Plus+. This is a web based tool that allows remote access to personal files and shared areas stored on the College IT system. It allows users to work wherever and whenever they choose.

All that is needed is a device with Internet access, then use one of the major web browsers e.g. Internet Explorer, Firefox, Safari and Google Chrome and the attached User's Guide.

If students need any support with this, please contact the IT Helpdesk: ithelpdesk@latimer.org.uk

Safeguarding:

Being a Lifesaver: The Anthony Nolan Charity

Following a presentation this week by Louise Wilson, Sixth Form students may wish to find out more about the [Anthony Nolan Charity](#). Set up by Anthony, who contracted cancer as a young man, the charity raises awareness of blood cancers and how young people can register to donate blood.

Enriching the Educational Experience and Celebrating Success

Our Shining Stars: Pride of Latimer Award Evening 2018

As we start 2018, we hope that all of our students will aspire to receive one of our Pride of Latimer Awards in July. Every single student in the College is eligible for an award: the winners will be those who are prepared to go the extra mile to achieve one!

The categories for this year will be:

Spirit of Latimer: This award celebrates hard work and effort, two key ingredients in securing success. Data from students' progress tracking, VIVOS, attendance and behaviour will all be used to identify those who excel in their commitment to their studies.

Academic Excellence: For Year 11 and Year 13 students who are on track to secure outstanding outcomes in each of their KS4 and KS5 subjects.

Student Choice: Students will choose their House/6th Form Champions for this category, electing students who demonstrate our College values through their contributions to activities and supporting their peers.

Creativity and Innovation: Students in all year groups can be nominated for their creative flair, their resourcefulness and their innovation, in addition to their contribution to creative extra-curricular activities.

Sports Personality: Students will be chosen for their contribution to sport, for working hard to improve their sporting skills and for those that have demonstrated exceptional sporting successes.

Community Spirit: Students who make selfless contributions to others will be chosen for this award: for example by raising money, volunteering work and supporting others in College and in the community.

Pride of Latimer Award: This prestigious final category is the best kept secret and the ultimate accolade! From all the award winners on the night, just 5 students will be named our overall 'PRIDE OF LATIMER' winners.

A Champion Battle!

After the best inter-House chess competition ever, with over 30 players taking part, congratulations go to Wicksteed House who were victorious and successfully defended their title.

The final between Barton and Wicksteed went right up to the wire, with Mrs Caldwell having to adjudicate on the final board between captains Connor Morris and Cameron Cassidy. Well done and thank you to all who took part for making it such a magnificent competition.

Six of the Best!

We have expected our students to work hard and put in consistently strong effort this academic year, and so many have done exactly that. It is with great pleasure that we were able to celebrate this through our Christmas VIVO raffle. Well done to the following students who were prize winners:

Hayden Matthews (£25 Odeon Voucher)
Leah Brownless (£50 House of Fraser Voucher)
James MacGregor (£50 Schuh Voucher)
Joshua Scott (£50 Steam Gaming Voucher)
Finleigh Pateman (Beats X Earphones)
Jacob Cartwright-Page (X Box One S)

We look forward to our students earning more Vivos over the coming term for their hard work and effort – and to congratulating more prize winners in the future!

Textiles Competition Winners

We are delighted that the following students were winners of a Year 8 Textiles completion held in Term 2: Eliza Flint, Leah Howlett, Habib Hussain, Euan Warner, Sophie Ayre, Wiktorina Gawlak, Skyler Bettles, Ellie Clark, Henri McNair, Kara Robinson-Evans and Alister Bonafia.

The completion was run in collaboration with 'Sonora', a new Mexican restaurant at The Yards in Kettering, where the winning students' work will be exhibited. Well done to all who took part on the fantastic quality of your products.



Caterlink Spring Menu

First of all, we wish everyone a very happy new year from the Caterlink team. We have another exciting programme of offers and 'Destination Days' coming up this half term.

Our main deal this term is 'Buy 9 main meal deals and get your 10th free'. Students can pick up a card at the counter in Picasso's to take advantage this great offer.

We also have two further concept days planned:

16th January: Hot and Spicy

5th February: Chinese New Year (a week early but this celebration falls in half term so we do not want students to miss out!)

Come and join our Team: check out our current vacancies

Are you, or someone you know, interested in working at Latimer? We currently have [vacancies](#), and if you are interested, we would love to hear from you!

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.

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)
Thursday 8 February	College Dance Show, 7.00 pm
Friday 9 February	End of Term 3
Monday 19 February	College re-opens: Term 4 Week 2 on the timetable
Wednesday 21 February	Year 8 'Take Your Child to Work' Day
Tuesday 27 February	Parent Forum 6pm Music Room 1 (Masque Theatre)
Thursday 8 March	Year 10 Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE), 5.30-8.30pm
Tuesday 13 March	Collaborative Concert, 4pm (Masque Theatre)
Wednesday 21 March	Year 9 Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE), 5.30-8.30pm
Friday 23 March	Spring Music Concert, 7.30 pm (Masque Theatre)
Wednesday 28 March	End of Term 4
Thursday 29 March	Training Day: College closed to students