

LATIMER NEWS

2025-26

ISSUE 3:
NOVEMBER 2025

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This week I have been delivering assemblies reflecting on what we have achieved so far this academic year. Students have participated in a range of sporting, Performing Arts and academic activities, displaying our core values throughout. In school we have seen amazing examples of teamwork, respect and excellence, we know students are involved in a wide variety of activities beyond school too.

Ruby Isaac in Year 13, a junior road race national champion and junior hill climb national champion, was awarded Sport's Person of the Year by Active Harborough on Wednesday. Congratulations Ruby on your impressive achievement!



Unifrog is the key platform for capturing these achievements and so we are encouraging students to log on and make a note of the wonderful things they do. Students log these activities using the activities tool on Unifrog.

24 Days of Presence

Although the Christmas adverts have appeared on the TV, we still have a few weeks left until the end of term and a lot of learning to fit in. Year 11 are completing their mock exams and we are pleased with their attendance focus. The 24 days of presence competition was launched this week and the winners so far are:

7G1 8T1 9A1 10T1 11T1

24 Days of Presence is simple — be present, take part, and get rewarded for great attendance!

Every day of great attendance helps your child's learning, and gives them the chance to win prizes as a form and individually. Let's make the last 24 days before Christmas count!



We understand that it is sometimes harder to motivate your children to get up and come to school on a cold, wet dark winter day, but it is so important to encourage high attendance as missed learning can cause unnecessary worry and ultimately impact outcomes and future pathways.

If you need support please contact Lucy Price, Attendance Officer - lprice@latimer.org.uk.

Mrs Murphy - Principal

SAFEGUARDING

Is my child too ill for school?

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school when they are unwell so we want to share a link to a government web page which you may find helpful.

Please click [here](#) to access the guidance.

Body Image

I am sharing a new trend for 'Looksmaxxing' - especially amongst young men. The BBC has published an article about how the desire to look good is shown through a processing of bulking and cutting. This routine sees young people (often boys aged 12 – 18), increasing their calorie intake significantly for a number of weeks before cutting – reducing it to lose weight and define muscles. This, along with intense workouts, is to achieve a particular physique, often celebrated through the hashtag “#shreddedphysique”.

While there is real merit in living healthily, balancing diet and exercise, dieticians warn of the risks of this cut and bulk process. Quite often the additional calories are from highly processed foods, and the rapid change between high and lower consumption of calories can put significant strain on the body.

At school, we explore what it means to live healthily in PSHE. We are conscious, however, that online content can lead to changes in behaviour and some young people experience body shaming through taunts or images sent via social media. Please be vigilant about checking the content your children are seeing, and the messages they are receiving.

If you have any concerns about behaviours you feel may be unhelpful or unhealthy, or if you need to report an incident of body shaming, please don't hesitate to contact your child's Form Tutor or Head of Year.

Dark nights and safety

Please may we remind students to be vigilant when walking home on darker nights. Avoid areas where they are alone and ensure they don't get lost in their phone/airpods to the extent that they don't see dangers.

Wellbeing Drop-in

Starting in the coming weeks, we will be offering a drop-in twice a week at break for wellbeing. Students are welcome to come along and have a chat about their wellbeing and mental health. This will be advertised in the coming fortnight with the room confirmed.

Mr S King

Assistant Principal / DSL / Senior Mental Health Lead

HOUSE NEWS

Attenborough



Term 1 saw Attenborough House hit the ground running, with the incredible work of all students leaving us tied in first place! In September students were challenged to find those 1% improvements, those areas that they could make small changes to be even more successful and they have done that fantastically.

We have seen a phenomenal number of positive points so far this year, surpassing 30,000 points already! Along side this the teamwork shown through the various house competitions helped us to tie for first place with Gilbert in these competitions. Obviously the target for Term 2 is to keep improving and make that top spot our own! Additionally the last few weeks has seen huge numbers of Attenborough students applying for the various leadership positions, from Student House Leader to Student Council. It has not been easy for staff selecting the students for those roles due to the exceptional quality of our applicants but I want to wish all those students taking up these roles the best of luck in them this year!

Gilbert



We have had an excellent start to the term for the Gilbertarians, filled with achievements and moments of pride. One highlight has been awarding our new Character Award to Tasker in recognition of his exceptional volunteering efforts outside of school. His commitment to helping others truly reflects the values of our house.

A special congratulations also goes to 7G2, who have earned the title of Form of the Term. Their hard work, teamwork, and positive attitude have really stood out — and they will be rewarded with a well-deserved box of Celebrations.

We are also delighted to announce our House Leaders for this year:

KS3: Ben Todd

KS4: Dorris Garrod

KS5: Ola Paczkowska

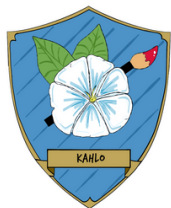
We are looking ahead with enthusiasm as we aim for a noticeable rise in positive points across the house. We will also be making a strong push to improve attendance—something that becomes especially important as we approach the busy run-up to Christmas.

Lastly, we want to offer a huge good luck to all our Year 11 students, who are proudly wearing their purple ties and working hard through their mock exams. Stay focused, do your best, and remember that the entire Gilbert team is behind you.

You've got this!

HOUSE NEWS

Kahlo



It has been another fantastic term for Kahlo House, filled with achievement, positivity and pride. Our students continue to embody our House spirit with their creativity, resilience and determination to succeed in all areas of school life.

We are thrilled to celebrate some amazing successes from Term 1! Kahlo House came joint 1st overall with Attenborough House — a huge achievement and testament to the consistent effort of our students. We placed 1st for behaviour, 1st for attendance, and 2nd for positive points, showing that Kahlo students truly set the standard across the school.

Our Form Versus competitions also saw some brilliant performances:

Behaviour: 1st place went to: 7K1, 8K1, 9K2 and 10K1

Attendance: 1st place went to: 7K1, 8K2, 9K1 and 10K1

Positive Points: 1st place went to: 7K2, 8K1, 9K2 and 10K2

These achievements highlight the consistency, teamwork and dedication shown by our students day in and day out.

We also want to extend a special congratulations to Ellis, who received our Kahlo Character Award for excellence in the local community - a true reflection of our house values in action beyond the classroom.

This term also marks the announcement of our new Kahlo House Leaders: Ellis, Scarlett and Grace. We are so excited to see the enthusiasm, leadership and fresh ideas they will bring to our house as we continue to grow and achieve together.

Finally, a massive well done to everyone involved in the Destination X competition, where Kahlo secured an impressive 2nd place! Your creativity, teamwork and problem-solving shone through once again.

Thank you to all members of Kahlo House for continuing to show such pride, positivity and passion. Let's keep up the energy this term and show once again why Kahlo is the heart and spirit of our school!

Tull



What a fantastic way to begin the term — with a whole house assembly celebrating our achievements, both as individuals and as a house! It was wonderful to come together and recognise the hard work, commitment, and positive attitude shown by so many members of Team Tull.

Now, as we move forward into the term, let's channel that same enthusiasm and pride into everything we do. Let's take our place in Team Tull and make a real difference in this term's house competitions, earning those valuable positive behaviour points along the way. Remember—every effort, every act of kindness, and every bit of teamwork contributes to our success.

HOUSE NEWS

TULL - continued

This term also offers so many opportunities to get involved. I encourage everyone to take full advantage of the extra-curricular activities on offer—whether it's sport, music, drama, or a new club. Step outside your comfort zone, try something new, and build your confidence and character.

We are also very excited to launch our Charity Challenge this term. Each form group has been tasked with planning and providing a food hamper for a family of four for five days. Students are thinking carefully about the nutritional value, variety, and non-perishable nature of the food items, as well as the recipes that could be created from them. It's been fantastic to see the creativity, teamwork, and genuine care that our forms have shown in approaching this challenge.

All hampers will be donated to the local food bank in the penultimate week of term, helping to support families in need within our community. If any students from other houses would like to contribute, donations of suitable food items can be made at main reception.

Let's continue to show what it means to be part of Team Tull — Together, United, Listening, Leading. Go Team Tull!

Race to 500

Congratulations to our first 5 Students to receive 200 positive points and reach Bronze in our annual Race to Gold. To reach this milestone so early in the school year is very impressive. Well done to Yazid, Becca, Junior, Evie and Layton!



Enrichment Club Spotlight

Interested in Tap Dancing? Join Junior Tap Troupe!

A new club has launched this term – Junior Tap Troupe! For all of you keen tap dancers who want to learn and improve on your tap-dancing skills, this is the club for you! Join Miss Hammond and her troupe of tap dancers during Monday lunchtimes and dance like nobody is watching! Can you keep to the beat – come along and see! Don't forget your tap shoes.

Who: Tappers in Years 7 and 8

When: Monday lunchtimes

Where: EN4

Staff: Miss Hammond

Rewards Raffle

10 students have been rewarded for excellent attendance and zero negative points for Term 1, we will be doing another raffle this term for another 10 students to win a fab prize.

HOUSE NEWS

Year 7 Rewards Evening

We are looking forward to holding a Year 7 rewards movie event on Tuesday 16th December from 3.00–5.00pm. This will be an opportunity to celebrate those students who have shown a consistently positive attitude and strong attendance this term. Further details, including invitations, will be shared closer to the date.

Student House Leaders

Welcome to our 2025/6 Student House Leaders. Our leaders are the heart and soul of their house, fostering a sense of belonging and acting as a role model.

Their key responsibilities are to work alongside house leaders by speaking in house assemblies, preparing for house competitions, supporting their annual house charity and various school events during the year. Our leaders will be writing about their experiences in each newsletter.



Ola Paczkowska - Student House Leader KS5, Gilbert House

Recently I have begun my new role as Gilbert's Student House Leader for Key Stage 5. All the student house leaders have had their first meeting together and have received our house leader badges. As a house leader I need to ensure behaviour and attendance is on track and make sure the students come into school with a high morale. I visit Gilbert forms to encourage students to take part in the house competitions throughout the year. I will be contributing to many school events such as the Year 6 Move Up Evenings and Pride Of Latimer.

CAREERS

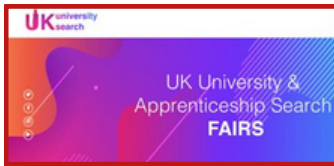


National School & College Leaver Festival NEC – 11th November

Last week our Year 10 students attended the National School & College Leaver Festival at the NEC in Birmingham. The event was a valuable opportunity for students to meet with employers, universities, colleges and other training providers to explore their options post 16-18. There were also hands-on activities such as a racing simulator which many of our students enjoyed. As a result of the event, many students reported that they felt inspired to further investigate apprenticeship and university courses.



SIXTH FORM NEWS



To inspire and motivate our Year 12 students who are starting to make decisions about their post-18 education and career choices, we took them all to the UK University and Apprenticeship Search Fair last week.



This event, held at the University of Northampton, provided our students with the opportunity to speak to a multitude of exhibitors including **Russell Group**, **red brick** and **modern institutions**, as well as **apprenticeship providers** and **local colleges**.



Students also had opportunities to attend vital seminars including: “UCAS Personal Statement & Application Advice”, “Why take an Apprenticeship”, “Choosing a University Course”, “Higher and Degree Apprenticeships” and “Student Finance”.

Year 13 Mock Exams



The focus for our Year 13 students at the moment is their mock exams. These assessments provide valuable insight into each student’s progress towards their Key Stage 5 targets and can be used to support future applications or next-step planning. For many, these results together with their work produced throughout Year 12, will provide the basis for their predicted grades for university applications.

We are extremely proud of the effort and commitment shown by our students. With continued preparation and support, we are confident they will approach these mock examinations with determination and a positive attitude. Where necessary, we will also take this opportunity to review individual progress to ensure every student remains on track to achieve their potential.

Sixth Form Rewards Event

We are delighted to let you know that we will be holding a Sixth Form Rewards Afternoon on Wednesday, 17th December, in the Masque Theatre. This event is a chance to celebrate students who have achieved excellent attendance and a consistent positive attitude to learning.

To ensure all students have the opportunity to earn an invite, Year 12 and 13 students have been given the chance to really make a difference over the coming weeks. The Sixth Form Team will review attendance and behaviour data, and students who meet the criteria of excellent attendance and a positive attitude to learning will receive their invitation by Friday 12th December.

Thank you for your continued support — we are very much looking forward to celebrating the hard work and positive efforts of our students!

SPORTS NEWS

Physical Education Clubs 2025 TERM 2 (NOVEMBER/DECEMBER)



All activities are open to pupils in the year groups indicated. Clubs are listed boys or girls due to the school matches we compete in and split due to the number of students but please speak with a P.E teacher if there is a club you wish to join and we look to accommodate you. All clubs are at lunchtime 12.15pm-1pm unless stated as an afterschool club which run 3pm-4pm. Clubs will change every term! School matches will take place after school and students will be told if they have been selected.

	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
Monday	FITNESS SUITE CLUB (TRV) AFTER SCHOOL	FITNESS SUITE CLUB (TRV) AFTER SCHOOL	FITNESS SUITE CLUB (TRV) AFTER SCHOOL	FITNESS SUITE CLUB (TRV) AFTER SCHOOL	Boys Basketball (PWO) FITNESS SUITE CLUB (TRV) AFTER SCHOOL
Tuesday	Year 7 Boys and girls volleyball (PW/CW) Boys Rugby (After school) BS	Year 8 Boys and girls volleyball (PW/CW) Boys Rugby (After school) BS	Year 9 Boys and girls volleyball (PW/CW)	Year 10 Boys and girls volleyball	Year 11 Boys and girls volleyball
Wednesday	Girls and Boys Hockey (ZMC/JHO) GYM Year 7 Boys and Girls Football club After school (SHA)	Girls and Boys Hockey (ZMC/JHO) GYM Year 7 Boys and Girls Football club After school (SHA) FITNESS SUITE CLUB (TRV)	Girls and Boys Hockey (ZMC/JHO) GYM FITNESS SUITE CLUB (TRV)	Girls and Boys Hockey (ZMC/JHO) GYM Boys Basketball (SHA) FITNESS SUITE CLUB (TRV)	Year 11 GCSE P.E REVISION CLUB MA8 FITNESS SUITE CLUB (TRV)
Thursday	Year 7 Boys Dodgeball (TMC) Girls Basketball (SHA/ZTU)	Year 8 Boys Dodgeball (TMC) Girls Basketball (SHA/ZTU) FITNESS SUITE CLUB (TRV)	FITNESS SUITE CLUB (TRV)	FITNESS SUITE CLUB (TRV)	FITNESS SUITE CLUB (TRV)
Friday	Girls Netball (CW/JHO/ZT/ZMC) Sports hall and courts	Girls Netball (CW/JHO/ZT/ZMC) Sports hall and courts	Girls Netball (CW/JHO/ZT/ZMC) Sports hall and courts	Girls Netball (CW/JHO/ZT/ZMC) Sports hall and courts	Girls Netball (CW/JHO/ZT/ZMC) Sports hall and courts

A Fantastic Evening for Our Hockey Teams!

The School hockey squads did us proud on Tuesday evening at Moulton College.

Despite the very cold conditions, the girls dug deep and delivered outstanding performances, with both teams finishing the night unbeaten!

- 🏏 U13 Team – Won 2 matches and drew 1
- 🏏 U15 Team – Won 1 match and drew 2



A huge well done to all the players for their determination and teamwork. Brilliant effort, girls!

OTHER NEWS

12 Days of Christmas

We are very pleased to announce that abm Catering will be running their popular 12 Days of Christmas menu again this year from Monday 1st December.

Christmas Jumper Day - 19 December

To get into the festive mood, students will be allowed to wear Christmas jumpers on the last day of term. All other uniform items to be worn as normal.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 24 November	Year 11 and 13 Mock Exams commence (until Friday 28 Nov)
Tuesday 25 November	Year 11 GCSE Drama Performance, 7.00 pm
Tuesday 2 December	Year 7 Chester Zoo Trip
Wednesday 3 December	Year 10 SPRE, 4.30-7.45 pm
Thursday 4 December	Years 9-13 Drama Trip
	Year 10 Geography Field Trip
Friday 5 December	Training Day: School closed to students
	Careers Networking Session
Thursday 11 December	Christmas Music Concert, 7.00 pm
Friday 12 December	Years 7-11 Flu Vaccinations
	Community Rotary Christmas Event
	Year 8 Language Leaders - Primary School Event
Tuesday 16 December	Year 7 Rewards Event - Movie Night, 3.00-5.00 pm
Friday 19 December	Term Ends (early closure 12.20 pm)



More dates are available on our website