

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

A belated Happy New Year to you all!

We were delighted to welcome students back and are excited about the events planned for the spring term. 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.

This term I have already awarded two Principal's Recognition Awards to Stanley Norris in Year 7 and Ruby Milson in Year 8 for reading over 2 million words in Accelerated Reader! What an achievement.

I am also delighted to announce that the first 10 students have completed the RACE TO BRONZE (200 points) and received their voucher, certificate and a Latimer branded pencil. They are: Kaiya Tyagi from Attenborough House, Archie Stanley and Mason Stratford from Gilbert House, Samuel Wright from Kahlo House and Leart Aliaj, Archie Cale, Kealan Green, William Parry, Mason Sands and Finley Woodlands from Tull House. Well done!

By the end of the year ALL students should have reached this milestone and many will have reached SILVER and perhaps someone will reach GOLD. We will have to wait and see....all you need is positive points to be in the race.

Mrs Kathryn Murphy



## Snow Protocols: Welcome to Remote Learning!

We are now in the time of year where the weather forecast might start to suggest the chance of some snow! In many respects, the pausing of education because of 'snow days' should now be a thing of the past, given that we became accustomed to Remote Learning.

However, we need to be prepared with arrangements, just in case there was to be a bout of severe weather which could hinder the safe opening and operation of the school. This would be a mixture of lessons set on apps or websites, or remote live lessons on Day 1.

If the closure were to stretch into a second day, we would then expect all lessons to be delivered using the TEAMS app. This may be full or part lessons, but students would be expected to attend them online, as they would if they were at school. Further information can be found [here](#).

**ATTENBOROUGH**

**25168 Points**

**GILBERT**

**23121 Points**

**KAHLO**

**22404 Points**

**TULL**

**26200 Points**

## Inspiring Excellence

We are officially rated a "Good" School



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# SAFEGUARDING AND WELLBEING

## Attendance

As we embark on a new school term, we want to take a moment to emphasise the critical importance of regular attendance and punctuality in ensuring your child's academic success and overall well-being.

A consistent and punctual attendance record is the foundation for a successful educational journey. When students attend school regularly and arrive on time, they benefit from the continuity of learning experiences and build essential skills for their future. Research consistently shows that students with high attendance rates tend to achieve better grades and develop stronger social skills.

To support our commitment to maintaining a positive and engaging learning environment, we are pleased to introduce Mrs V Angel as our new Attendance Officer. Mrs Angel is eager to collaborate with families, offering assistance and guidance to those who may require support in achieving the best attendance for their children.

If you find that your family requires any support or has concerns related to attendance, Mrs Angel will be available to discuss strategies, answer questions, and work collaboratively to ensure your child's success. Please contact her on: [VAngel@latimer.org.uk](mailto:VAngel@latimer.org.uk)

Together, we can create an environment where every student can thrive.

## Behaviour

We would like to take a moment to remind you of our behaviour expectations and the tools available to support a positive learning environment for all students.

We believe that a safe and respectful learning environment is central for academic success. To ensure this, we kindly ask you to familiarise yourself with our behaviour policy, which outlines the expectations we have for our students in maintaining positive conduct.

We encourage you to use Satchel:One to monitor your child's progress, both in terms of positive house points and any concerns related to behaviour. This platform allows you to stay informed about your child's achievements, progress and negative points.

In the event of negative behaviours, students will receive a sanction. We believe in the importance of clear communication, and to enhance this, we have improved our system to include teacher comments on behaviour logs. This enhancement will provide you with valuable insights into your child's behaviour, helping us work together to address any issues promptly.

Please be aware that detentions for negative behaviour logs are scheduled during lunch times and after school. We believe that these consequences, implemented consistently, contribute to a respectful and focused learning environment for all students.

Your collaboration in reinforcing these behaviour expectations is instrumental in creating a positive school experience for everyone.

# 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 exams, which are less than 12 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:

**58  
school days  
until exams**

- We are arranging further study skills sessions
- We are planning more mock assessments to help prepare for the real exams
- 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](mailto: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 30 January. 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:



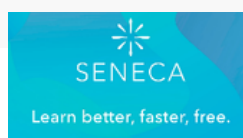
Students can sign up for FREE at [www.gcsepod.com](http://www.gcsepod.com) using their College email account. Podcasts can be streamed or downloaded on PC, Android or IOS. Email [ithelpdesk@latimer.org.uk](mailto:ithelpdesk@latimer.org.uk) if you require any assistance when using GCSEPod.



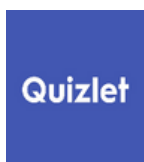
Tassomai makes learning and revising for GCSE Science effective and straightforward. Simply log in regularly and complete the assignments at the top of the list. The mission is simple - keep the pace of progress up to the speed prescribed - a task that requires a few minutes of attention each day. Website: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

# CAREERS

## **Year 7 Dragons' Den – Wednesday 24 January**

The final preparations are taking place ready for the Dragons' Den event on 24 January! Students will be developing their entrepreneurial skills during this drop-down day aided by business links, as well as Year 12 Business students, to create their product to present before our Dragons.

It will be a fun and engaging event. Working in groups, students will be tasked with developing and marketing a product, looking at Product Design, Packaging Design, Finance, Marketing and Advertising.

The students will present their completed group product to the 'Dragons'. In previous years, students have produced some truly innovative ideas, supported by lively and engaging pitches. We know the Year 7s will rise to the challenge and we cannot wait to see what the students will design!

## **National Apprenticeship Week 5-9 February**

National Apprenticeship Week is a week where we celebrate everything to do with apprenticeships! We will have speakers in to talk in all year group assemblies from companies who host apprentices. We will also have other things happening in school such as quizzes. Students and their parents/carers can log onto the Unifrog Apprenticeships Fair which is happening on Wednesday 7 February from 4.30-7.00pm. Students can register before the event on their normal log in. Parents/carers can register [here](#).

To help to get the most of the event, Unifrog have created a [worksheet](#).

Amazing Apprenticeships run a [careers podcast](#) called 'The Parent Perspective' which is one of a range of resources for parents/carers to support their children with careers advice and guidance. The latest is about an apprenticeship in engineering; others cover Army apprenticeships as well as the more unexpected places an apprenticeship can take you.

The latest [Parents and Carers Apprenticeships Pack](#) includes links to lots of supportive upcoming webinars.

## **Local Labour Market Information (LMI)**

Labour Market Information is any data or information about the labour market. This can include skills in demand, progression routes, education and training and career sectors or industries to name but a few. Our Local Enterprise Partnership – SEMLEP – regularly produces a [document](#) which informs us of this information and how it relates to our local area.

## **SEMCH Newsletter**

The South East Midlands Careers Hub has released its first careers [newsletter](#) of the year focussing on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the pursuit of Net Zero goals.

# WIDER CURRICULUM

## Year 8 Language Leaders become teachers for the afternoon!

On Friday 8 December, 25 Year 8 Gifted and Talented Languages students took centre stage at Barton Seagrave Primary School, becoming the teachers instead of the students for the afternoon. Their carefully planned activities aimed to encourage the younger students about their future MFL lessons at Latimer. The younger students were not only appreciative of their efforts but also very engaged by the quality of teaching they received.

Mrs Sumner, who has been running a Language Leaders program for over ten years, was incredibly impressed with the quality of teaching from the Leaders – going as far as to say it was possibly the best she had ever seen! Several Year 6 students expressed new-found excitement about learning languages. Their primary teachers, proud to see their former students in a new light, highlighted the Leaders' confidence and resilience when faced with a challenge as real strengths.

As the program unfolds, the next milestone is a grand showcase event in March. Our Year 8 students will take the stage, creating a cultural show filled with audience participation for all three Year 6 classes at once! Mrs Sumner and Miss Cvancigerova were both incredibly proud of our Language Leaders and we are excited to follow their next steps.



## Future Me/Unifrog

This term our 'Skill of the Term' is Aiming High. During Future Me, Years 7-10 are looking at their academic and career options using Unifrog. To find out more about the topics your child is covering in lessons and to complete the personality quizzes, please log in to Unifrog at home using the instructions set on Satchel:One!

## Anti-Bullying Ambassadors 2023/24

Congratulations to the following 10 students who have been successful in their application to join our current cohort of Anti-Bullying Ambassadors at Latimer! These students will go on to have their Diana Award training and work towards receiving their first badge.

Thank you to all those who applied; we received a huge amount of fantastic applications making the selection process an extremely difficult one. Please look out for when applications will re-open in the next academic year!

Amy Ayris	Alexis Barrow
Toby Brown	Indie Cale
Niamh Gallacher	Abigail Innard
Eryn Jones	Bella Noad
Elodie Scott	Alfie Wills



# SIXTH FORM NEWS

## Maths Success

Congratulations to our small cohort of Year 12 Maths re-sit students, who have now successfully passed their GCSE, good effort everyone!

Well done to all our Year 12 and 13 BTEC Students who have just finished off their recent set of exams, we can't wait to see the results of all your hard work

## Northamptonshire Safer Roads Alliance Visit

Thank you to Keith Millard from the Northamptonshire Safer Roads Alliance, who visited our Year 12 this week to deliver a thought provoking road safety educational film called 'My Pink Trainers' to raise awareness of the causes of collisions and the serious consequences these collisions could have.

The short hard-hitting film has been developed in consultation with young people and involves a road traffic collision in Northamptonshire, where a young person tragically lost their life.

One of the main points the students took from the film and discussion was around the fact that you don't have to break the law to be convicted of 'careless driving'. You don't have to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol or exceed the speed limit. A simple mistake can completely change the course of your life.



## SIXTH FORM - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<b>Sixth Form SPRE</b>	<b>30 January (4.30-7.45pm)</b>
<b>Year 13 Photos ( Individual)</b>	<b>13 February</b>
<b>Year 12 Work Experience Week</b>	<b>15-19 July</b>

# ENRICHMENT

## Sporting Success

The Year 8 Basketball Team got off to a winning start in the District League with a 20-16 win over Bishop in what was an incredibly close game. The teams were all square in the first 3 quarters and took the win in the final minute of the 4th quarter! A huge well done to the team!



# OTHER NEWS

## Catering News

The catering team will be celebrating Vegan January with their veganary menu on 25 January and also Chinese New Year with a special menu on offer on 8 February. Please see details below.



## 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 on Mondays to Thursdays from 3.00-4.00 pm, 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.

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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
	Year 10 SPRE, 4.30-7.45pm (remote)
Friday 16 February	End of Term 3
Monday 26 February	Start of Term 4: School re-opens to students (This will be Week 2 on the timetable)
	Year 11 Mock Exam Season 3 (until 8 March)



**More dates are available on our website**

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