

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Even though Christmas is nearly upon us, there is still so much going on! We shall be working right up to the end of term and it is important that we all maintain our high expectations of attendance and behaviour for learning. By the end of Term 2 students have completed 15 of the 39 school weeks of learning.

I am always delighted when I visit classrooms and see students actively engaged in their learning. A few students have been nominated by their teacher to receive the Principal's Recognition Award this term due to exceptional effort either within or beyond the classroom. I was also very impressed with the Year 8 students who sent me feedback on their experiences of Take Your Child To Work Day, most notably Bradley Jones, Cole Garratt, Jack Burwell, Hattie Thomas and Adam White.

Arrangements for the last day of term will be as follows:

Normal uniform but students may wear a Christmas jumper if they wish.

Lessons 1-3 will be as normal followed by a Christmas Quiz at tutor time.  
Students will then leave at 12:20pm.

The canteen will be open at break and until 12:30pm for students to pick up a cold lunch.

Term starts again on Monday 8 January 2024.

We wish you and your families a Merry Christmas, and thank you for your support and partnership during this busy term.



**ATTENBOROUGH**

**19692 Points**

**GILBERT**

**18469 Points**

**KAHLO**

**17603 Points**

**TULL**

**20068 Points**

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# Safeguarding and Well-being

Please find below a message from the Safer Roads Manager for Northants Police, on behalf of the Northamptonshire Safer Roads Alliance (NSRA), regarding purchasing e-scooters for Christmas.



As we approach this festive season, we wanted to take the opportunity to address an emerging trend that has raised concerns in the community, that is the use of electric scooters, commonly referred to as "e-scooters." The safety and well-being of all road users are of paramount importance and in particular our children. We know e-scooters have become increasingly popular and whilst we understand the appeal of these devices, we believe it is crucial that we inform you of the legalities and potential dangers associated with them.

**LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS** E-scooters, like any other motorised vehicle, are subject to laws and regulations. The use of private e-scooters on public roads and footpaths is currently illegal in the UK. Parents and guardians should be aware of the legal implications and responsibilities that come with these devices to avoid potential legal issues. E-scooters available under the local trial operated by VOI are age restricted to persons 18 years and older who must hold a driving licence.

**SAFETY CONCERNS** There are substantial safety concerns associated with e-scooters which can reach significant speeds and may not always be equipped with adequate safety features. As such, accidents and injuries related to e-scooter usage have become increasingly prevalent. These injuries can range from minor scrapes and bruises to more severe incidents, including head injuries and fractures.

E-scooters are particularly risky for young riders who may not possess the experience or judgment needed to navigate challenging traffic situations. Given the legal complexities and safety concerns surrounding e-scooters, we strongly discourage parents and guardians from considering them as gifts for their children. Instead, we encourage parents to explore safer and more age-appropriate alternatives that promote outdoor activity, exercise, and personal growth while prioritising safety. Traditional bicycles, skateboards, and protective gear are excellent choices to consider.

## 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

## Mock Exams and Mock Exam Results Day

Year 11 and Year 13 students braved the chilly conditions to take on the challenge of mock exams over the last couple of weeks. These are vitally important in preparing students for the fast approaching summer exams and we hope students have approached them in this manner so they can get useful information about topics to focus on and the process of sitting exams. On the subject of summer, the provisional timetable for exams has been released and will be shared with students in January as part of their results day process.

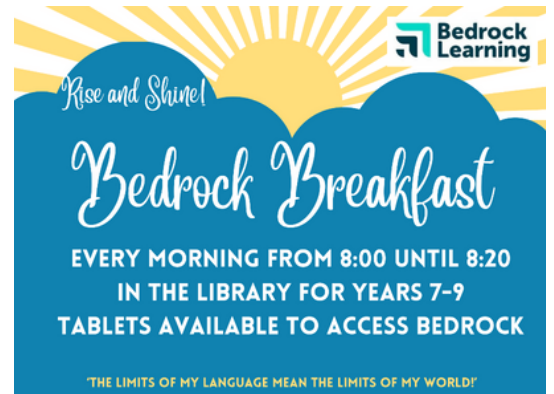
On Wednesday 10th January Year 11 will receive their results in a special assembly – this will be an opportunity to prepare them for the real results day on August. Reports will be shared with parents and carers after this and the Year 11 SPRE will take place on Wednesday 17th January. Attendance at this SPRE is vital in order to support your child through the last few months of their education.

For Year 13, results are being shared by staff directly with students – please note Tuesday 30th January is the date for the Year 13 SPRE.

## Bedrock Learning

Vocabulary knowledge plays a central role in reading comprehension as a student's ability to make sense of a text largely depends on their ability to understand the language used.

Our Year 7, 8 and 9 students are regularly accessing Bedrock Learning and are exposed to a range of fiction and non-fiction texts. All students are expected to achieve a minimum of 20 points per week and a large number of students have achieved this and are on track to be entered into 'Bedrock Stars' with the opportunity to win a Google Chromebook or a £10 Amazon voucher.



Congratulations to:

### Year 7

Points Achieved: Gracie Burn; Zara Farrington; Abigail Burrage

Time Spent: Joe Nicell-Foster; Ajla Aliaj; Noah Pizzo

### Year 8

Points Achieved: Mercy Dyke; Noah Hallett; Max Ablett

Time Spent: Hattie Thomas; Ava Cullen; Bella Costa

### Year 9

Points Achieved: Mea Maguire- Bright; Skye Elston; Jack Callaway

Time Spent: Nicholas Wachsmann; Liam Hewitt; Mea Maguire-Bright

The student in KS3 who made the most progress was Kealan Green.

We have two Year 8 students who are so very close to achieving the 'millionaire reader' status on Accelerated Reader. Watch this space!

# Careers

## Year 8 Take Your Child to Work Day

The students who went out on Take Your Child to Work Day last month had a fantastic day experiencing a workplace, many for the first time. Thank you to all the parents and carers that were able to take their children to their work for a valuable experience. Students visited a variety of workplaces from nearly all the job sectors from schools and nurseries, dog walking companies, recruitment businesses to construction to manufacturing and energy companies, charity work and events management, local councils, transport companies, hairdressing and marketing, banking, the automotive and aviation industries and many more!



Students' preconceptions of where their parents/carers work were often challenged: the vast majority of students found the work more interesting and fun than they were expecting. However, some of students found a work day is much longer than a school day and much more tiring! A lot of the students also honed their tea-making skills!

## Watch this space!

Year 7 Dragons' Den is happening next term. On Wednesday 24th January, we are running an entrepreneurship day where Year 7 students will develop a product from conception to presentation before the Dragons, like the television programme. Students will work with local business links in their classroom initially before presenting to the Dragons in the afternoon.

## Year 11 and Year 13 Parents - Is your child considering an apprenticeship?

Read the latest [Parent and Carers Pack](#) to discover up-to-date news about apprenticeships including a case-study about an accounting apprenticeship and how to access past and upcoming parent webinars.

## Upcoming SPREs – Careers Adviser

Our independent careers adviser will be available to book appointments with at the Year 11 and Year 12 & 13 SPREs next month: Year 11 is on Wednesday 17th January; Year 12 & 13 on Tuesday 30th January.

The Careers Adviser can be booked on School Cloud as usual.

## Work in Theatre Course at Milton Keynes Theatre February Half Term – Year 9-13 (14+)

Interested in working in the theatre? This course covers workshops, tours, talks and practical sessions within technical departments, stage management, programming, theatre management, front of house, marketing, stage make-up and more! Sign up [here](#). Deadline 20.12.23.

### Work in Theatre Course Milton Keynes Theatre

Insight Talks from Industry Professionals  
Practical Workshops and Demonstrations  
within our state-of-the-art venue  
Real hands-on experience within many  
different roles and departments

Gain a broad understanding of the mechanisms of a  
receiving house theatre, the various roles available  
within the industry and a taster of what goes on behind  
the scenes at your local industry leading theatre.

Learn more about the different training and career  
paths available, and routes into the industry.

Previous courses have included workshops, talks and demos  
in lighting, stage make-up, marketing, front of house, sound  
design and stage, theatre and production management.

For more info:  
[MKCreativeLearning@theambassadors.com](mailto:MKCreativeLearning@theambassadors.com)

Mon 19 - Fri 24 FEB 2024 10am - 4pm Daily Ages 14 - 19 years  
£120 per person (bursary places available)

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# Wider Curriculum

## Race to....Launch



We are excited to announce our new rewards initiatives linked to the positive rewards points that students have been earning from their teachers on Satchel:one. We will be rewarding all students who reach a key milestone. We are branding this initiative the RACE TO... Bronze, Silver, and Gold.

The first 10 students to reach the milestone will be awarded a certificate and a voucher with any students reaching the milestone after this receiving a certificate and a special edition stationary item.

In addition to this we want to reward students who consistently do the right thing! So every term there will be a raffle to win one of two £50 Vouchers. To be entered into the raffle students must have above 96% attendance, received 25 or more positive points and received zero negative points in that term. The criteria reset each term so all students have 6 opportunities to be entered!

Well done to our first three Race to Bronze Winners: Kealan Green 9T2, Leart Aliaj 8T1 and Kaiya Tyagi 9A2 who were issued with their certificate and voucher this week in House Assemblies!

**Term 2 will also see the return of our 12 days of Christmas giveaway with a raffle to win one of four selection box prizes every day. To be entered students must have 96% attendance and zero behaviour points. All students will start with this as of Thursday 7th December as long as they are present on Thursday and don't receive a negative point during the day!!**

## Festive Fun at Year 7 Rewards Movie Night!

Our Year 7 students recently enjoyed a delightful evening filled with laughter, treats and the classic holiday spirit at their Rewards Movie Night. The chosen film for the night was none other than the beloved Christmas classic, 'Home Alone'.

The Year 7 students indulged in an array of treats and refreshments while watching the heart-warming adventures of Kevin McCallister. The air was filled with joy as they sang along to timeless Christmas songs, creating a festive atmosphere that brought everyone closer together.

The event was a resounding success, with smiles and laughter echoing throughout the night. It was a wonderful opportunity for our Year 7 students to unwind, bond with their friends, and celebrate their hard work and achievements.

As we reflect on this fantastic evening, we are excited about hosting more rewards events for all year groups in the future. These occasions not only recognise and celebrate the accomplishments of our students but also foster a sense of community and camaraderie within our school.

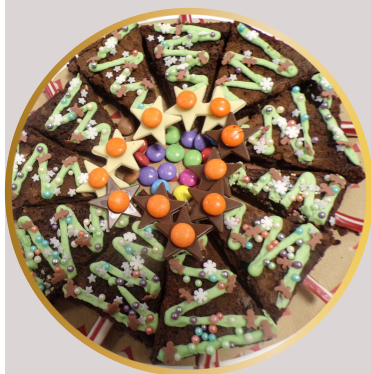


# Sixth Form News

What a busy time it has been in Sixth Form!

## **Sixth Form Student Leadership**

Sixth Form held their Student Forum this week, with the Student Representatives feeding back their peer's viewpoints to the Student Leadership body. Our newly appointed Year 12 Student Leaders have attended their first leadership meeting with the Year 13 Leaders and staff and we look forward to hearing the results and actions from their meeting in tutor time next week.



## **Sixth Form Bake Off - Tuesday 5th December**

Wow, what an event, thank you so much to all those students who participated in our first ever Sixth Form Bake Off. We were overwhelmed with entries into our competition and the quality of cakes produced was phenomenal. Our team of judges had a really tough time selecting the winning entries, which will be announced in tutor time on Friday 8th December.

## **Sixth Form Bake Sale - Wednesday 6th December**

Thank you to our Sixth Form Leadership team and their volunteer helpers, who expertly organised for all the cakes from the "Bake Off" to be sold on Wednesday, with proceeds going to #Team Sebastian. The total raised was an amazing £323.50 with further donations also paid online.



## **External Guest Speaker - Thursday 7th December**

Mitesh Chotai visited Year 12 on Thursday to deliver an assembly about the Sutton Trust Programme, which not only supports young people to access leading universities, but also offers an Access Apprenticeship Programme. In partnership with universities and employers, they run engaging programmes that give students practical advice and hope to leave them feeling inspired and more confident about their future.

The Sutton Trust Access Apprenticeship programme allows students to meet leading employers and like-minded peers, and learn more about how to access top apprenticeships. All of the programmes are completely free to attend. All costs, including travel, accommodation, food and activities are paid for by the Trust and their partners. Eligibility criteria apply and further details are available [here](#).

## **End of Term Outing - Festive Bowling Event**

As the term winds down, we are off to Thunderbowl on Wednesday 20th December from 1pm to 3pm. Students will be able to have fun and win prizes for their efforts on the day. Who will gain the highest score this year...?

# ENRICHMENT

## Sporting Success

Term 2 has seen a range of successes in sporting events for Latimer.

- Cross Country – a large number of students have qualified for the next round (County event)
- Year 7 Football Team came runners-up in the Kettering Year 7 football 7-a-side and qualified for the District football finals night
- Year 7/8 Girls' Basketball Teams took part in a friendly tournament securing a number of wins
- Year 7/8/9 Girls took part in a Tag Rugby match with KBA this month - 14 girls from Latimer showcased their skills as we continue to grow the game in school
- Year 10 Boys' Football team won the District Cup Final beating CTS 2-1 for the win!
- Year 10 Boys' Volleyball team won the district Volleyball tournament with the Year 9/10 Girls joint winners also!
- Year 10 Boys' Futsal Team were runners up in futsal tournament - losing out on penalties!
- Year 11 Boys' Basketball Team finished runners-up in the Kettering league with convincing wins over Montsaye and KBA this month



Participation rates at our enrichment clubs have been superb with so many students spending time at lunchtime improving their skills and having fun. Most recently 19 Year 7-9s took part in a hockey festival to celebrate their commitment to training and playing the game at school. Dodgeball club is thriving and basketball training ahead of the league games in the new year has been well attended.

**Sparx Competition**

**Years 7 – 10**

**80% and above with the highest XP?**

**You could win a £20 voucher!**

**You have 4 weeks from 27/11**

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**Sparx Maths**



# Other News

## Thank You!



The Latimer Arts College would like to say a big thank you for the kind donation of Innocent Smoothies from the Innocent Drinks company.

The drinks have been allocated to the students who attend the Grab & Go sessions.

Grab & Go offers snacks during the morning break to students who are entitled to Pupil Premium.

Any donations are always appreciated. For further information please contact Ms Jyoti Pankhania Assistant Principal via email [JPankhania@latimer.org.uk](mailto:JPankhania@latimer.org.uk)

## 12 Days of Christmas Menu

The catering team are running a 12 Days of Christmas menu for students to enjoy in the lead up to Christmas. Please see details below.





# Dates for your diary

Tuesday 12 December	Year 13 Houses of Parliament Trip
Thursday 14 December	Christmas Music Concert, 7pm (Sold out)
Friday 22 December	End of Term 2 - Early closure at 12.20pm
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, Mu2
Wednesday 10 January	Year 11 Mock Results Day Experience
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
	Year 10 SPRE, 4.30-7.45pm (remote)
Friday 16 February	End of Term 2



## Summer 2024 Examinations: Draft Timetable

A first draft timetable for the summer exams has been released for GCSE and A Levels.

The GCSE summer examinations will run from 9 May 2024 until 19 June 2024 for GCSE.

The A Level summer examinations will run from 13 May 2024 until 21 June 2024.

These dates do not include any dates for NEAs and Oral exams.

The contingency dates are the same for A Level & GCSE and they are 6th June in the afternoon, 13th June in the afternoon and the whole day of 26th June.

Please be aware that this timetable is only a guide at this stage and is subject to change.