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LATIMER LATEST NEWS – 18 JANUARY 2019

Happy New Year: here is to a successful 2019

We wish all in our community the very best for 2019. It will certainly be an exciting one for our students as they watch the creation of their new Sports Hall, 3G pitch and Science Learning Centre.

Please be aware that if you do visit the site, parking is at a premium due to the building works.

Please do also take the time to visit our relaunched website, new for 2019. Please note that the **quick links** area, which many students use, is at the top of the welcome page!

Learning and Progress

GCSE and A Levels: The Final Countdown (64 school days and counting...)

Years 11 and 13 have now had their mock papers returned and, following the Year 11 SPRE and the forthcoming Year 13 SPRE (**Wednesday 23 January**), there should be a clear understanding of the priority areas for each student to focus on in this final exam countdown. A few to highlight are:

Exam Support Page: We have set up a webpage dedicated to Year 11 and 13 exam preparation and will continue to populate this with information and exam support strategies over the coming weeks. This includes tools to support students with planning out their revision and a list of the daily revision sessions that will be offered, for which we will also send out regular reminders.

GCSE Examination Schedule: Please be aware that there will be a significant number of GCSE practical exams taking place over the next two terms, prior to the examination season starting in full.

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. Listed on the **Exam Support Page** is all 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.

Year 11 Future Destinations Evening: Please do come along with your child on **Thursday 31 January** to this new event where we hope to raise your awareness of options post-18, to support with decision making at the end of Year 11. **Invitation letters** have been issued and we would be grateful if you could confirm attendance so that we can make the necessary arrangements.

Easter Revision Programme: As Term 4 starts, we will publish invitations to revision sessions that will be offered during the Easter holiday period. We would ask that you keep this time free, pending the publication of the dates.

Marking the Moment: Year 11 and 13 are significant milestone years and with that in mind, students will inevitably want to capture the moment! Individual and Year Group photos will take place on **Wednesday 30 January**. You may want to plan those hair appointments now!

2018 Exam Season Certificates

Please be aware that those students who sat examinations last summer are now able to collect their examination certificates from the College. Please drop into Visitors' Reception or contact exams@latimer.org.uk

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 will receive their pathway information on Monday 28 January at which point their Curriculum Pathways Fortnight will commence. This will be supported by:

KS4 Pathways Evening Tuesday 5 February - 6-8pm

Year 8 Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE) Tuesday 26 February - 5.30-8.30pm

The deadline for returning completed preference forms to Student Services is Monday 4 March 2019.

- **'Take Your Child to Work' Day - Wednesday 27 February:** Many thanks to the parents/carers who have responded with information of where their child will be going for their work placement - there is such an incredible variety of exciting opportunities and we cannot wait to hear all about their day at work! We can appreciate that it may take some time to organise this for your child and so if you have not yet responded please contact Michelle O'Brien: MOBrien@latimer.org.uk who will be able to support.



Just look at the success our students have had with their literacy in Term 2:

- We had **2322** visits to the library during lunch times!
- We issued **1460** books!
- Well done to **Olivia Jack** who was our top borrower with **22** last term!

As part of our Accelerated Reader programme:

- Our Year 7 students have read **19,507,604** words this year so far and passed **587** quizzes
- Our Year 8 students have read **21,304,476** words this year so far and passed **530** quizzes
- Therefore, collectively, they have read **40,812,080** words this year and passed **1,117** quizzes!

Safeguarding Update

Attendance: Final day of term

We were disappointed with the drop in attendance on the final day of term. Whilst we appreciate that the afternoon saw the curriculum disbanded, we did undertake a range of community events which is an important part of our ethos and something that we are proud of. In addition, normal lessons did continue up until lunchtime and those students who did not attend have missed out. We do expect students to attend on the final day of Term 3 and we will send specific reminders to those who were not present on 21 December.

Student Safety: Roadworks at St Botolph's Road / Barton Road Junction

We have had communication from a representative from Redwell Homes, who are carrying out the current 10-week roadworks at this junction, as they are deeply concerned about student safety. It would appear that our students are ignoring the designated safe pathway round the roadworks and that, as some have headphones on and/or are looking their phones whilst passing through this area, they are putting themselves in danger at what is a very busy and congested spot.

If your child does walk this way to College we would urge you to speak to them about not putting themselves at unnecessary risk.

Courteous Parking in the Community

As we start 2019, please can we remind parents and carers about parking with courtesy in and around the College. In particular, please do not block the driveways of local residents as this does cause them distress.

Aiming High: Raising Aspirations and Expectations

Labour Market Information: As part of our Raising Aspirations and Careers Programme we are ensuring that students understand the Local Labour Market information so that they can make informed choices about their future Pathways. The [National Careers Service \(NCS\)](#) have produced some fantastic posters to demonstrate the current national labour market information. These posters are included with this newsletter and are well worth a read.

Year 7 Dragons' Den: In order to support with the development of skills from marketing, research, team building, communication, presentation and, of course, creativity and innovation, on **Wednesday 23 January** Year 7 students will have the opportunity to work with industry experts to plan and pitch a new product in a growing Labour Market: The Food and Drink Industry. Student will develop many skills We look forward to welcoming our "Dragons" who will include the Mayor and we are grateful for the following companies who are sending a representative to work with the students for the day: Rockabilly Rose, Job Centre Plus, 1st Reaction Security, Carter Estate Agents, Wicksteed Park and National Accident Helpline.

Enriching the Educational Experience and Celebrating Success

We look forward to celebrating all of our students' successes in 2019. Please do remember to let us know if your child achieves success outside of College – we would love to know about it.

Sporting Success

The year is getting off to a flying start for these students who, following their performance at the District Championships have been selected to represent the Kettering and Corby District at cross-country at the County Championships in January. Congratulations to:

Olly Ashton, Ben Brooker, Josh Clutton, Luke Cole, Charlie Duck, Chloe Lee, Charlotte Lund, Isabelle Lund, Shay Piggott, Jen Robinson.

Other News

Caterlink Spring Menu

First of all, we wish everyone a very Happy New Year from the Caterlink team. Please do take the time to review our [Spring Menu](#).

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!

Emergency Procedures: Snow!

As colder weather, with a risk of snow, is being forecast for next week, we have included with this newsletter, as a reminder, a copy of the College's Snow Procedures.

As mentioned in an earlier newsletter, one of the strategies that we may adopt in order to keep the College open if there is prolonged and heavy snowfall, but to ensure that students are safe, may be to shorten lunchtimes and finish the College day slightly earlier. This will only be as a last resort and, should we be in the position of considering this, we will let you know with as much notice as possible.

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 23 January	Year 7 Dragons' Den Event Sixth Form Student Progress Review Evening, 5.30pm-8.30pm
Wednesday 30 January	Year 11 and 13 Photos
Monday 28 January – Friday 8 February	Key Stage 4 Pathways Fortnight
Thursday 31 January	Year 11 Future Destinations Evening
Tuesday 5 February	Year 8 Pathways Evening, 6-8 pm
Tuesday 12 February	College Dance Show
Friday 15 February	Year 12 Loughborough University Visit End of Term 3
Monday 25 February	College re-opens to students: start of Term 4 <i>This will be Week 2 on the timetable</i>
Tuesday 26 February	Year 8 Student Progress Review Evening, 5.30pm-8.30pm

Wednesday 27 February

Thursday 7 March

Tuesday 12 March

Wednesday 13 March

Friday 29 March

Thursday 4 April

Friday 5 April

Year 8 'Take Your Child to Work' Day

Parent Forum 6pm Music Room 1 (Masque Theatre)

Collaborative Concert, 4pm (Masque Theatre)

Year 10 Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE), 5.30-8.30pm

Spring Music Concert, 7.30 pm (Masque Theatre)

Year 9 Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE), 5.30-8.30pm

Year 7 Castle Visit

End of Term 4