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## LATIMER LATEST NEWS – 26 JANUARY 2018

### KS4 Pathways: Year 8

Thank you to all parents and carers who attended our Pathways Evening for Year 8 this week. Just a reminder that you will have a further opportunity to speak with teaching staff on Thursday 1 February at the Year 8 Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE).

Completed preference forms need to be returned to Mrs Turner by **Monday 5 February**. Please contact Mr Matthews [kmatthews@latimer.org.uk](mailto:kmatthews@latimer.org.uk) should you need any further support or advice.

### Learning and Progress

#### Exam Countdown...Making every day count!

Year 11 and 13 students have received their mock exam results and the final countdown to exams is now well and truly underway. With only **63** school days to the **first GCSE paper** (with many practical exams already having taken place) and **73** school days to the **first A Level paper**, every day really does count! Things that can help:

**Attendance:** Students need to be in College every single day (and be on time!). They need to make full use of each and every lesson and work hard in all classes. In this way, they will already be doing 25 hours of purposeful study a week!

**Revision Sessions:** Staff will be offering Year 11 and Year 13 a wide range of revision sessions at lunchtimes and after school. Students need to be there! There will not be time to re-run revision sessions and re-visit topics already covered.

**Home Study:** Time must be set aside at evenings, weekends and during the holiday periods, for revision at home.

**Revision Materials:** Year 11 have been issued with a full set of revision guides and have access to a range of apps and online revision tools (a reminder of these is attached). Students need to maximise their usage of these.

**Parental Support:** Thank you to those parents and carers of Year 11 students who attend our 'Ready, Set, Go!' Evening. We hope that this has provided you with very practical ways in which to support your child.

**Sixth Form Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE):** A reminder to parent and carers of Sixth Form students that this is on **Wednesday 7 February**. They may be young adults but they still need your support, guidance, and perhaps, an occasional nudge in the right direction, 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.

**If there is anything further that we can do to support, please do not hesitate to contact us!  
By working together in partnership, we will secure success!**



Our Aspire homework service, which runs every day until 5pm, is rapidly growing and we are delighted that the number of students attending has doubled since last year! Students can complete homework, revision and extra challenges with the support of two members of staff. We have resourced the service so that students can access revision guides, course textbooks, stationery and computers in order to support their studies. A snack is also provided!

Please do encourage your child to attend: all students are welcome and if you would like to find out more please contact Mrs Bowers [ABowers@latimer.org.uk](mailto:ABowers@latimer.org.uk).

## Every Lesson Counts!

It is always a pleasure for us when we are able to recognise those students who have secured 100% attendance and so many of our students achieve this. Good attendance is vitally important (as well as being a legal requirement) as it allows young people to keep up to date with learning, to form strong friendships and it prepares them for employment from an early age. Please support us in encouraging your child to aspire to good attendance.

We may all fall ill at some point, but common colds or appointments should not prevent attendance at school.

If your child has persistent absences due to illness, we will require confirmation via a doctor's/medical note/appointment cards etc.

If absences are persistent and reasons for it cannot be substantiated, we will ask parents/carers to attend a meeting with a view to putting support in place to improve attendance. Ultimately, continued poor attendance can lead to a referral, which may result in prosecution by the Educational Inclusion Team.

It is also important that we remind you that, under DfE rules, head teachers **may not grant** any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Parents and carers may be given a fixed term penalty for taking their child on holiday during term time without consent from the College. These penalties can range from between £60 and £120 and are payable within 28 days. Each parent and carer may be fined for each individual child. Penalties are imposed by Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) and the monies collected do **not** come to the College. From September unauthorised holidays which result in absences of 10 school sessions (the equivalent of 5 days) or more may be referred for fixed term penalties.

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

A reminder that all students can access their learning from home through 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](mailto:ithelpdesk@latimer.org.uk)

## Safeguarding

Through our Personal Development Programme (PDP), delivered during assemblies and tutor time, we are continuously ensuring that our students know how to stay safe. The NSPCC have been broadcasting a TV advert to raise awareness of how parents can help younger children keep safe from child sexual abuse. If you've missed it, you can watch it [here](#). There is also a supporting short film: '[Preventing Child Sexual Abuse](#)'

Sixth Form students have participated in an assembly exploring consent recently, with a very entertaining yet serious message about [consent](#) that did get the students talking!

## Aiming High: Raising Aspirations and Expectations

**“Take Your Child to Work Day”**: A reminder for Year 8 parent/carers to please return your information so that we can confirm where the students will be going to work shadow on Wednesday 21 February. If there are any queries please contact [JPankhania@latimer.org.uk](mailto:JPankhania@latimer.org.uk) so that we can support you in finding a suitable work placement for your child.

## Careers Fair

**SAVE THE DATE**

As part of our Raising Aspirations Programme preparations are well underway for our Careers Fair for Year 9 and Sixth Form students, to be held at Wicksteed Park on **Wednesday 25 April**.

This is an exciting opportunity for students to engage with employers and find out about future careers and pathways. If you have a business that would like to have a stall at our Careers Fair, please contact [JPankhania@latimer.org.uk](mailto:JPankhania@latimer.org.uk) as soon as possible. It was an incredible success last year and we are hoping it will be even bigger and better this year!

## Enriching the Educational Experience and Celebrating Success

### Hearts of Gold!

Once again we saw the generosity of our community as Barton House raised £150 for the British Heart Foundation by running a spectacular tombola stall. Thank you to everyone who supported this event.

### Ski Trip 2018

Amazingly, there are now only 2 weeks left before our 2018 ski trip departs! Snow conditions are unbelievable at present with the best snowfall for several years in many parts of the Alps - currently 270cm and counting!

As per the message sent home last week, please can parents and carers make sure that you provide us with a single sheet photocopy of your child's passport/EHIC card or, alternatively, just send in the documents themselves and we will keep them until we leave.

The current estimated departure time on Friday 9 February is 8.15pm but please check your emails on a regular basis over the next fortnight for any further updates.

### Rising to the 'Maths' challenge!

Two exciting annual enrichment activities are coming up this term in Mathematics.

The UKMT Intermediate Team Maths Challenge will be taken by selected students from Years 9 and 10 on Thursday 1 February. This is an individual challenge comprising 25 multiple-choice questions of considerable complexity. Many of our students have a track record of excelling at this type of challenge and we look forward to celebrating further success this year.

Try challenging yourself – here are two questions from previous papers. (*\* Answers at the end of the newsletter!*)

1. What is the value of  $\frac{2}{5} + \frac{2}{50} + \frac{2}{500}$  ?

- A 0.111      B 0.222      C 0.333      D 0.444      E 0.555

2. Each of the diagrams below shows a circle and four small squares. In each case, the centre of the circle is the point where all four squares meet.

In one of the diagrams, exactly one third of the circle is shaded. Which one?



Also, the in-College Team Maths Challenge for teams of 4 students from Years 8 and 9 will take place on Tuesday 6 February. This always generates a lot of excitement and an enthusiastic response from our students as they compete against each other. One team of four students will go on to represent the College in the Regional Final in April.

### Year 11 and Year 13 Leavers' Photos

A reminder that these will take place on Wednesday 31 January 2018. All students must be in full school uniform/Sixth Form Dress Code to appear in the photographs.

Please note that Year 11 individual photographs will take place at lunchtime. Students will remain in the Sports Hall until their photograph has been taken. It would be helpful if students make the necessary arrangements for lunch: ideally students bring a packed lunch or buy a sandwich at break time to eat in the Sports Hall whilst they await their photograph.

## Performing Arts News

Following an intensive three hour workshop for our Year 11 GCSE Dancers, focusing on the written paper, we hope that our students now have a really good insight into how to respond to longer mark questions on the written paper more successfully! The students were able to talk about their work in detail and will hopefully be able to translate this into writing for the exam. Well done Year 11 on your purposeful efforts in this session!

Our wonderful dancing talent will be showcased at our annual College Dance Show which will be taking place on Thursday 8 February. We have a mixture of year groups who are so excited to be performing and we hope that you can join us. The evening will start at 7pm in the Masque Theatre and tickets for the performance are available from the Masque Theatre Box Office on 01536 414141 or from the website [www.masquekettering.co.uk](http://www.masquekettering.co.uk). Tickets cost £5.00 and £3.00 for concessions.

## Sporting Success

We start 2018 as we finished last year, with more sporting success!

We are delighted that our Year 8 Boys' Football team beat Caroline Chisolm 3-2 in the County Cup to progress to the semi-finals, for which we wish them the best of luck. In addition to this, our Year 8 Boys' Basketball team beat KSA 21-12.

Not to be out done, our Year 11 Football team were victorious against Sponne, winning 5-4 on penalties in the County Cup!

## 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](#) that may be of interest to parents and carers – or you may know someone for whom a term time, school based job would be ideal! Please check our website for details.

## 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 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)
Friday 9 February	End of Term 3
Monday 19 February	College re-opens: Term 4
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

(\*Maths Challenge Answers Question 1. D and Question 2. B)