

LATIMER NEWS

2025-26

ISSUE 4:
DECEMBER 2025

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This final week has been full of festive fun and celebration. Each year group has cheered and clapped as staff House representatives competed in festive challenges. The final results are: **Bingo** - 1st place Tull House; **Dodgeball** - 1st place Attenborough House; and **House Leader Assembly Challenges** - 1st place Attenborough House. Well done to all involved, especially those who attempted the blind tasting challenge... cold mushy sprouts is apparently not a new delicacy!

As well as these assemblies, students have been singing carols in our local care homes and baking festive cupcakes. The whole of Year 7 enjoyed a fabulous Christmas Carol Concert on Wednesday. Students have also been busy decorating their tutor room doors for our 'Deck the Doors' competition. Some amazing examples of artistic flair. The winners are:

1st- 10A2 2nd- 8T1 3rd- 8G2 4th- 7K1

Today finished with a whole school assembly on TEAMS rewarding students with high attendance on our winners wheel. All in all it has been a lovely way to end two busy, successful terms.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and best wishes for a Happy New Year.

Mrs Murphy - Principal



REMINDER

Parent Forum - Tuesday 6th January at 6pm
Venue: Sixth Form Centre

OPEN TO ALL

We look forward to welcoming students back on Monday 5th January.

Please read our recent letter regarding homework and the changes we have made to support student wellbeing.

SAFEGUARDING



Drink Awareness

As Christmas approaches there are sometimes festive parties and social activities for teenagers. Social events at bars, clubs or even house parties are likely to involve alcohol, and young people need to be mindful of the risks of drink spiking.

This term refers to a drink being tampered with - typically with a drug - without their knowledge. While teenagers may be aware of this because they have seen videos on their social media feeds, often they are unaware of the significant risks posed. Unfortunately, this can often be viewed as a practical joke, and it is typically more likely to happen to women and girls.

Common symptoms of drink spiking can include:

- Feeling nauseous
- Feeling drowsy, dizzy or faint
- Feeling drunk, sometimes described as feeling 'out of it', despite not having consumed alcohol
- Passing out
- Waking up feeling confused about events from the previous day.

Open conversations are a great way to prepare young people for such social environments and to counter the material they see online. Key protective advice includes:

- Go out with trusted friends and make sure you remain together
- Always ensure you see the drink being poured
- Don't taste or drink someone else's drink
- Throw away a drink which tastes differently from what you expected it to be
- Don't accept drinks from strangers
- Report concerns to an adult
- Remove themselves from a situation where they feel uncomfortable.

These topics are covered within PSHE in Key Stages and we encourage open conversations about them. If you have any concerns about your child, please reach out to their form tutor or a member of the pastoral team.

Safe Spaces

We have been in communication with Police about anti-social behaviour within our community. The vast majority of our students are well behaved and polite, both inside and outside of school. However anti-social behaviour by young people exists, and if it is in our community there is a likelihood it will be our students. When interacting with some parents/carers the Police have found they have been surprised when presented with evidence showing them that it is their child/ren involved - so we support the plea from the Police to you as parents/carers to ensure that in the holidays, evenings and weekends that you know where your children are, who they are with, and what they are doing. Thank you.

Wellbeing

As a school, we continue to work on developing our wellbeing provision. We have updated our website to include additional support and guidance. The new section can be found at: [Latimer Arts College - Wellbeing](#)

Update on Sanctions

The new C1 does not lead to a sanction. It is a reminder of expectations aimed at supporting students. This helps us monitor regular low level distractions so we can work with students and parents/carers to reduce any behaviours that disrupt learning.

HOUSE NEWS



Race to 500

At the start of Term 2 we rewarded our first 5 students who achieved Bronze (200) points on their Race to Gold journey. Students have all enjoyed our December double points month with over 200 more reaching the Bronze milestone and entry into the Term 2 prize raffle.

Attenborough



It has been another whirlwind of a term, but the students in Attenborough have continued to demonstrate their teamwork and excellence throughout the term, amassing huge numbers of house points and keeping up the pace with Kahlo! Most recently forms have been working together excellently to produce their Deck the Doors design, which has been a fantastic opportunity for students to demonstrate teamwork in producing their Christmas themed doors.

Going into 2026 we are ready as a House to kick on and continue the huge success that we have had throughout 2025, which has seen a second consecutive Community Games Day Trophy, a Year 8 Form of the Year and the Values Cup win to mention just a few of the awards in recognition of the students' hard work this year. I want to wish all the best to all of the Attenborough students and their families (oh, okay and the rest of the Houses) over the break and wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Gilbert

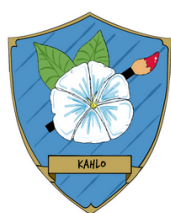


It has been a wonderfully festive term. As the days have grown darker, Gilbert students have continued to demonstrate enthusiasm, commitment, and community spirit.

This term, our students have excelled in a range of competitions, contributed to our eco-initiative through regular litter-picking, and supported the House by sending out resources to forms. We have also taken part in the 'Deck the Doors' competition and we have enjoyed seeing the creativity on display.

Looking ahead, we are excited to launch and support our new House charity, Animals in Need, in the coming term. Wishing you all a very Merry Gilbert Christmas.

Kahlo



It has been a wonderful and hardworking run up to Christmas for Kahlo House, filled with determination, community spirit and moments of real pride. Throughout Term 2, our students have continued to live up to our House values, showing creativity, resilience and kindness in everything they do.

I am incredibly proud of the way Kahlo students have approached this busy term. From maintaining high standards in lessons to supporting one another during a long and demanding half term, the consistency and positivity shown across the House has been exceptional. Even as winter has set in, attendance, behaviour and effort have remained among the best in the school.

This term, our Form Versus competitions once again highlighted the teamwork and friendly competition that Kahlo House is known for. Forms have worked hard right up until the final days of term, involving themselves in concerts, extra-curricular clubs and our annual 'Deck the Doors' competition.

As we close the term, I want to say a huge thank you to every member of Kahlo House for their energy, enthusiasm and pride. You have represented the House brilliantly and finished the term in true Kahlo style.

I wish all Kahlo students and their families a restful and well-deserved Christmas break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in the New Year, ready to continue building on an excellent first full term of the academic year.

HOUSE NEWS



Tull



Team Tull, thank you to all the form tutors and students this term for welcoming me to the House and supporting what was such a busy term.

The students in Tull have been working hard on their chosen charity task, preparing 5 days worth of meals for a family of four, considering the non-perishable food they could provide and thinking about nutrition and variety. Wow! They rose to the challenge and planned just that and provided the ingredients to be able to make the meal plans.

It was great to deliver the food parcels to the Food Bank with 3 students from the winning forms 7T1 and 9T1. Not only did we get to deliver all the food donated by Tull students and staff (thank you so much for all your generosity) but we also got to chat to volunteers there about the role Kettering Food Bank plays in the local community. They are truly an inspirational charity.

We have experienced success in the recent bingo house competition with teams finishing 1st, 2nd and 3rd out of 20. Thanks to all the students that took part and represented Team Tull. With another house competition being judged next week, let's hope our 'Deck the Doors' competition entries see us taking another victory. Fingers crossed this might see us move out of fourth place in the house competition. Tull's attendance continues to be good but we have a way to go in winning the positive points and reducing the behaviour points, but we are gradually creeping up. So let's keep supporting each other and celebrating our successes, I am sure we will climb to the top.

Club Spotlight

Stitchin Things

Are you looking to try a new hobby? Interested in creating things? Stitchin Things are looking for new members to join the club after Christmas break! Have a go at crochet with Mrs Langstone, try your hand at finger knitting or even cross stitch!

Details:

Tuesdays after school, in EN2 with Mrs Langstone.

No experience required, both beginners and experienced crafters welcome.

Attenborough Film Club

Attenborough Film Club involves us watching different series, all about wildlife and the environment. This term we have been watching the new Kingdom series. It is the third year and we are at record numbers who are regular and enthusiastic Year 8s and Year 9s who love the planet. We would love to see some new faces come along and share our love for the planet and wildlife.

Details:

Friday Lunch Time, in HU1 with Mr Tamkin.

Judo Club

Have you ever wondered what Judo is? Come along to our specialist Judo club with Mr Weller and find your new talent! Both experienced and beginners are welcome from Years 7, 8 and Sixth Form. Judo is graded in coloured belts, similar to many Martial Art forms. The belts go from Red, Yellow, Orange, Green, Blue, Brown to Black (Dan Grade). The first 4 belts are getting to grips with the basics and developing skill. Does this sound like a club you would love to be involved in? See details below on how to join!

Details:

Wednesday after school, 3.05-4.00 pm, meet at AD5 first.

Must have PE kit OR a Gi, but the Gi jacket we can lend.

No non-compliance points on Satchel:one in order to join.



Year 8 World of Work Day

Many of our Year 8 students had an amazing day on their Take Your Child to Work Day last month. A massive thank you to all the parents and carers who organised their children's workplace visits. Students experienced a huge range of job sectors, from beauty salons and hairdressers, schools and nurseries, design and engineering companies, gardening, manufacturers, painting, plastering and plumbing, as well as airlines, hospitals and financial services!



Students' comments demonstrate that they thoroughly enjoyed their day out:

'It was enjoyable and I learnt new skills'

'The children seemed to like me a lot'

'I hung a door and learned how to build'

'I learnt a lot about the business'

Some students commented that they would have enjoyed their day more if they could start later and get paid for their work!

Unifrog Parent/Carer Accounts

Coming soon...new parent/carers accounts on Unifrog, our careers platform.



With a new parent/carers Unifrog account, parents/carers will be able to:

Stay up to date: See your child's next tasks, unfinished actions, upcoming events, placements, and the interactions added by their teachers.

Try out: Try the student tools, e.g. find out what frog they are in the personality quiz.

Learn: Find webinars, fairs and guides aimed specifically at you as parents and carers.

Stay in touch: Sign up to Unifrog's monthly parent newsletter (which tells you about news and opportunities to do with careers and progression).

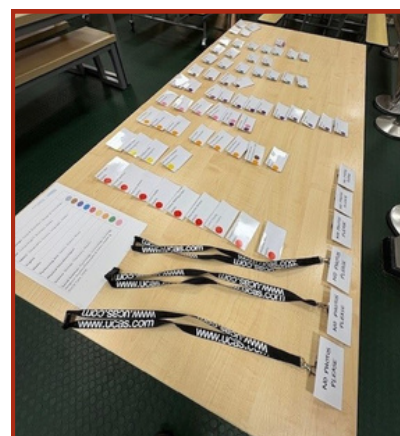
If you have already signed up to Unifrog, your old account and new account will merge into one. The new accounts are based on the parent/carers email addresses we hold as a school. Look out for further communication in the new term.



Business Networking Event

On Friday 5th December we hosted a Business Networking event where local businesses, alumni and Latimer staff connected with the aim of enhancing the careers provision at school, through visits to school as well as workplace visits. Over the coming months we hope to develop the ideas discussed into activities involving your children. Thank you to all the businesses who took part in the day:

East Midlands Ambulance Service	GNG Biddle Decorators Ltd
Hawsons Chartered Accountants	Hope for Families
KROHNE Ltd	Lodge Park Academy
Mayor of Kettering	Mercedes AMG High Performance Powertrains
North Northamptonshire Council	Northamptonshire Police & Fire
Pen Green	Precision for Medicine
Quality Life Physiotherapy	SATRA
Spire Occupational Health	Starting Off
TATA Steel	The 93% Club
The Bedford College Group (Tresham College)	The British Institute of Non-Destructive Testing
The Recruitment Bar	Unilever
Weetabix	



The business links had positive comments about the event: 'This was a fantastic day for us to be able to engage directly with teachers and hear about how we can best support their students'; 'The enthusiasm of the teachers for their students' future careers is clear'.

If you would like to be a part of our 'Future Me' careers programme, please complete [Raising Aspirations at Latimer Arts College – Fill in form](#)

INCLUSION NEWS



What a busy term! Yet again, another term of celebrating our wonderful students, getting to know them and listening to their voices. It has been a real honour to spend more time with our SEND students at Latimer. What an inspirational group of students. Here are some highlights:



This term, we launched our new neurodiversity club at Latimer. As an inclusive school, we feel strongly that we provide an opportunity for our students to explore ways to navigate and manage their experiences.

We have secured a central display board (see below) to help us raise awareness of inclusion, created a box to place our queries in so we can get support, learned about relaxation techniques such as lighting and music, created a space to express ourselves or to just be at least once per week and we have come up with some fun activities to help us relax. It has been messy (with paints, biscuits, decorating etc) and it has been wonderful!



Our minds are made up of wonderful, colourful and diverse sections: we have Mosaic Minds. We celebrate that.

Awareness is key, not just for our students but for our staff too. We have an open door policy where staff can speak to the team for support with strategies. To further support with this, we have set up a staff drop in every fortnight – this is really important to us because it ensures that staff working with your children are fully equipped to meet their needs.

Thank you for your support during this academic year so far, and we look forward to having an awesome 2026.

Have a question? Please email: sendhelpdesk@latimer.org.uk



Sixth Form Rewards Event

In return for their hard work, and meeting expectations in respect of good behaviour, attendance, punctuality and positive attitude, our Sixth Form students were rewarded with a Christmas Movie and some sweet treats.

It was a very close competition as to which movie would be selected, but the overall winner of the student vote was 'Home Alone 1'.

Congratulations and Well done to everyone who attended this rewards event!



PSHE

Below shows what students will be studying in PSHE during Term 3, and for the rest of the year.

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 5	Term 6
Year 7	Managing Change	Politics and Parliament	Celebrating Differences	Puberty and Body Development	Friends, Respect and relationships	Staying safe online and offline
Year 8	Equality and Diversity	Physical Health and Mental wellbeing	Identity, Relationships and Sex Education		Dangerous Society online and offline	Law Crime and Society
Year 9	Combatting Extremism and Terrorism		Essential Life Skills	Body Confidence	Sex, Law and Consent	Contraception and STI's
Year 10	Exploring British Values		Violence, Crimes and seeking Safety	Risk, relationships and Sex education		Exploring World issues
Year 11	Adult Health and Looking after yourself		Staying Safe	Fulfilling your potential	Sexual Health	EXAMS

OTHER NEWS



Does anyone have any old Latimer clip-on ties?

If anyone has any of the old clip-on ties (any colour, including red) we would appreciate donations to support the loan of uniform to students who arrive without full uniform.

RB

Red Box Signs - Sanitary Products

We have 8 areas across the school that any student can now go to ask for FREE sanitary products, students can take them home if needed. This is open to ALL students not just PP. This will start from 8th December. Please see image for locations. Students should look out for the Red Box signs.



Tresham Titans After School Club

Some of our students have been attending Tresham Titans After School Club during Term 2 where they were learning about gaming from Tresham students and then playing games online against each other. This club was free and organised by Tresham.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 5 January

Tuesday 6 January

Wednesday 14 January

Wednesday 28 January

Wednesday 4 February

Monday 9 - Friday 13 February

Tuesday 10 February

Friday 13 February

Monday 23 February

Start of Term 3: School re-opens to students
(This will be Week 2 on the timetable)

Parent Forum, 6.00pm

Year 11 SPRE, 4.30-7.45 pm

Year 12 & 13 Chemistry Olympiad

Intermediate Maths Challenge

Sixth Form SPRE, 4.30-7.45 pm

National Apprenticeship Week

Year 11 and Year 13 Leavers Photographs

Latimer Dance Show, 7.00 pm

End of Term 3

Start of Term 4: School re-opens to students
(This will be Week 2 on the timetable)

