

LATIMER NEWS 2024-25

ISSUE 3:
NOVEMBER 2024

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It was a pleasure this week to award the first five students in the whole school their **BRONZE** Race to Rewards certificates and vouchers. These students, all from Year 7, have already achieved more than 200 positive House points for consistently demonstrating our core values - well done. Please ensure as parents and carers you are checking your child's Satchel:one points and encouraging them to aim for the key milestones of Bronze, Silver and Gold. I look forward to awarding more students as the term progresses.



It was lovely to see so many students and their parents and carers attend our Sixth Form Open Evening this term. Applications are flooding in so please ensure that the deadline of Monday 2 December is met then we can plan individual guidance interviews next term. If you have any questions please contact Ms Magee smagee@latimer.org.uk.

We are very excited that the new Sixth Form block will be officially opened on Monday 9 December. This will bring the Sixth Form into the heart of the school and provide them with a dedicated study and social space. There will be an opportunity for students and parents and carers in Years 10 - Year 13 to come and have a look on Tuesday 17 December between 5-7 pm. To sign up for a visit, please complete the [reply form](#).

Mock exams are underway for Year 13 and Year 11 students. This is an important part of the process of enabling them to achieve their potential in the actual exams in the summer term.

Polite Reminder: I would like to remind all parents and carers who drop off and collect their child(ren) from school to please be considerate to local residents by not blocking driveways, double parking etc.

Lost Property: We now have a page on our website dedicated to [lost property](#) items so that parents and carers can visit the page to see if they can identify their child(ren)'s belongings. Items that are not collected by the end of term will be donated to charity.

Charity Toy Drive: We are looking for donations of **BRAND NEW** toys for boys and girls up to the value of £15. These will be going to Kettering families in need to ensure every child this year has a happy Christmas. Families supported will be identified through Kettering Home Start programme. Please drop unwrapped donations off in main reception - deadline for donating toys is **29 November**. This charity toy drive is in partnership with Kettering Huxloe Rotary Club. Thank you in advance for your kindness.

Finally, I am very pleased to announce that we raised **£1419.00** for Children in Need.

EARLY CLOSURE

The school will close at the earlier time of **12.20pm** on the last day of term, **Friday 20 December**.

Cold food will be available from **12.20-12.40pm**.

SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding at Latimer and beyond

We would like to introduce a regular update around safeguarding in this newsletter - please see information below from Mr King, our new Senior Designated Safeguarding Lead at Latimer.

Mental Well-being: Firstly, thank you to those parents and students who have completed the online survey on mental health and well-being. I have just completed my training to become the school's Designated Mental Health Lead and part of this is to get a good understanding of what our students and parents and carers are saying. We are working with the MHST team in the area who are coming in to do sessions with our staff and students. Thank you for your suggestions of further improvements in this area. I will continue to update you as we develop further initiatives.

Safety in winter: A reminder for students to be safe when walking to and from school, especially on darker evenings. Wear bright items and when crossing the road, especially with airpods in, be extra careful.

Support for students from our LGBTQ+ community: A reminder there is a drop-in support group every Tuesday lunchtime in SS1.

Useful links and contacts:

Papyrus: Having suicidal thoughts, please call 0800 068 4141 or TEXT 07786 209697

Bullying UK: 0808 800 2222

Child Line: Talk to a child line counsellor, no problem too big or small! 0800 1111

Samaritans: Someone to listen 24/7 free of charge. 116 123 or TEXT 07725 909090

Compass: Support and advice for young people using substances. 0800 121 4043

Northampton CAB: Info/advice on issues facing young people. 03444 111 444

NSPCC: If you feel you or someone you know is a victim of abuse. 0808 800 5000

Stonewall: Support for anyone around issues of sexuality. 0800 0505 2020

Winston's Wish: Helpline to support young people with the death of a loved one. 08088 020 021

Apps: These free apps mean you can access support wherever you are!

Stressheads: Support to lower our stress levels.

Stay Alive: Support to those who may experience suicidal thoughts/feelings.

Self Help Anxiety Management (Samapp): Support and techniques to help manage anxiety and panic.

Moodometer: Created by the NHS. Allows you to track your moods and what has influenced it. Also provides ways to lift your mood.

Calm Harm: Activities to assist in the management of self-harm.

Grief support for young people: Information about grief, bereavement and the feelings we may experience when we lose a loved one.

Insight Timer: A large collection of free guided exercises to help relieve stress, improve relaxation and well-being.

Calm: A large collection of exercises designed to calm us down.

Winston's Wish: Helpline to support young people with the death of a loved one. 08088 020 021

HOUSE NEWS

Attenborough



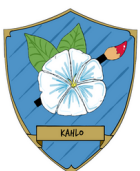
A huge well done to the Year 7s in Attenborough House for completing their house induction during Term 1. They were challenged with a series of tasks, to get involved in lessons, clubs and to get out there and meet new people - which they did brilliantly at. Keep up the good start Year 7! A massive congratulations to Niamh, Nicole and Billy for being selected as the Attenborough House Student Leaders and we are excited to see the fantastic work they put in this year. **Mr S Tamkin**

Gilbert



In Term One, the Gilbertarians embraced the exciting challenge of establishing their unique house identity, complete with a shared language and traditions that will inspire the entire year! We kicked off the term with a fantastic voluntary art competition, where a wave of purple-tie-wearing students came together to create incredible artwork that reflected the spirit of the house. Next, we rocketed into first place for positive points, proudly showcasing our 'Top of the Pyramid' mindset by working hard and consistently going above and beyond in showing respect and courtesy to teachers and staff. Although we fell short in the interhouse competitions, we demonstrated a fantastic display of togetherness. To close the term, all Gilbertarians wrote a postcard titled 'Attitude of Gratitude,' showing appreciation for those who support them at school. The next term awaits! **Mr L Hayo**

Kahlo



Kahlo House has kicked off the school year with an impressive display of teamwork, determination, and school spirit! Year 7 Kahlo set the tone for success by claiming victory in the first major competition during their team building day. This remarkable achievement highlighted their ability to collaborate and shine as a united team.

Our Year 7 and 8 students have also excelled in sporting competitions, demonstrating Kahlo's commitment to both athleticism and fair play. Their hard work and dedication have truly paid off, earning the house well-deserved recognition. Kahlo House currently leads the way in the House Cup. Additionally, we've secured 2nd place in both attendance and enrichment/club participation — a testament to our students' engagement and enthusiasm across all areas of school life.

A final congratulations to Stanley, Carys and Alana for being elected as our new Kahlo House Student Leaders. They will be leading Kahlo House as we keep the momentum going for the rest of the year! **Mr F Walmsley**

Tull



Tull students enjoyed coming together for their house assembly on the first day back and celebrating 2nd place overall last term. Congratulations also to all of our HEART winners, of which there were many, who received their recognition within the assembly. So far this term we have been working hard in our Future Me sessions to get ready for the Deck the Doors competition. Our mission this term is to do even better in this term's house competitions. **Mrs Al-Noah-Ponder**

HOUSE NEWS

Race to 500

Congratulations to our first students to reach 200 positive points this year. These students received a gift voucher in recognition of being first to reach this milestone in our annual Race to Gold which celebrates students receiving positive points at three key milestones - 200 (Bronze) 350 (Silver) and Gold (500).

Rewards Raffle

This year we are pleased to introduce a raffle where students reaching each milestone have a chance to win further prizes at the end of Terms 2, 4 and 6.

Club Spotlight

Flexibility Club - Monday Lunchtimes - DA2

Year 7 & 8 focusing on stretching exercises to develop flexibility.

Eco Schools - Wednesday Lunchtimes - HU4

Be an ambassador for our school environment and its impact on the planet. Work towards your Latimer Green Award!

House Competitions

The Great Christmas Bake Off has launched! Has your child got what it takes to be the next star baker? Get them to put their skills to the test by creating a sweet or savoury show-stopper inspired by a Christmas film, song or tradition. The closing date for entries is **3pm on Friday 13 December**. Pictures of their bakes should be emailed to Miss Milson - jmilson@latimer.org.uk.

From the start of Term 2 we have begun running weekly house competitions. We want to see a wide range of students getting involved and participating, showing off their problem-solving, communication and teamwork skills. Attenborough House led the way in Term 1, can anyone knock them off top spot in Term 2?

Other Information

Latimer Student Council: Our 2024-25 Student Council representatives have been appointed and are currently discussing the Term 2 agenda. This agenda focuses on reviewing tutor time and house charity options.

Latimer Student House Leaders: This year we have introduced the new role of Student House Leader. This newly selected group of exceptional students made it through application, shortlisting and interview stages to become the faces of their House. We look forward to seeing the amazing things they achieve this year.



SIXTH FORM NEWS

Lights, Camera, Action! Sixth Formers Explore 'The Fall Guy'

On Tuesday 19 November, our Sixth Form Media students enjoyed an exciting trip to watch 'The Fall Guy', a blockbuster that not only entertained but provided a valuable case study for their exam and coursework. This action-packed film offered a wealth of examples of representation in the media and cutting-edge production techniques, sparking thoughtful discussions about how characters and narratives are constructed.

The trip reinforced key Media concepts, allowing students to analyse the portrayal of gender, stereotypes, and diversity, as well as the practical application of CGI and cinematography. It was a fantastic opportunity to see how theory translates into practice in the film industry.

We are excited to see how this experience inspires their upcoming projects! Keep an eye out for their creative work.

Year 12 – Future Destinations

This term, during Personal Development time, our Year 12 have been focussing on researching information about possible future destinations, and have all now been introduced to the UCAS Hub



The Hub offers students a number of tools geared towards career development and assists with informed decision-making, regards next steps after school. The Hub contains a wealth of information and guidance, quizzes, events, live webinars, and personalised recommendations. Students can use The Hub and their personalised dashboard to build out their choices and compare their options.

Year 12 have also had information during personal development time, about seeking work experience and how to create a cover letter seeking a placement. This is in order that students have plenty of time to research, plan and prepare for their work experience week, which takes place w/c 30 June 2025. If you feel that your business or company might be able to host one of our Year 12 students, please kindly contact smagee@latimer.org.uk.

Year 13 – Mocks and Timetables

Well done to all of our Year 13 students that have undertaken mocks already this week. The last timetabled Year 13 mock exam takes place on Tuesday 26 November, with all Year 13 resuming their normal timetabled lessons with effect from 8.30am on Wednesday 27 November.

Upon return, for those applying to University, the main focus will be on Personal Statements and University Applications:



**For applications to arrive to UCAS is
6.00 pm on 29 January 2025**

SIXTH FORM NEWS

This is the UCAS 'equal consideration' deadline, which means course providers must consider all applications received by this time equally.

Universities and colleges do not have to consider applications received after the deadline, although they can if they have spaces available, once the on-time applications have been considered.

Students seeking a Non-University route will be encouraged and supported in researching alternative pathways. If you feel your son/daughter would benefit from a careers appointment and may need additional support and guidance, please kindly contact vstanyon@latimer.org.uk, who will be able to book an appointment with our Independent Careers Advisor.

Understanding Student Finance - A Guide for Parents and Carers

As your young person prepares for university, understanding student finance is crucial. Join this insightful webinar led by staff from the Universities of Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire, designed to help parents and carers navigate the complexities of funding higher education.

This webinar will cover key topics such as tuition fees, maintenance loans, grants, scholarships, and the repayment process. The session will provide clear guidance on the financial support available and how to apply, ensuring that you can confidently assist your student in planning for the costs of university. Don't miss this opportunity to get all your questions about student finance answered.

This session is also open to students and young people alongside parents and carers.



This webinar is delivered jointly by the University of Bedfordshire and University of Hertfordshire as part of the Aspire Higher partnership. You can find out more on the Aspire Higher [website](#).

To register for this event, please click this link below:

[Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)

Sixth Form Notices and Important Dates

27 November	Cultural Cooking Sessions resume for Group B (wk2)
27 November	Year 13 resume normal timetabled lessons
4 December	Cultural Cooking Sessions resume for Group A (Wk1)
4 December	Year 13 – Guest Speaker – Safer Driving (2pm)
18 December	Christmas Bowling Trip (1-3pm)
20 December	Sixth Form Celebration Assembly

CAREERS



Year 10 Careers Event

As part of our Future Me Careers programme, Year 10 students attended the National School and College Leavers Festival at the NEC in Birmingham on 13 November.

The festival showcased a variety of post-16 and 18 options including apprenticeships, Further and Higher Education and general employment.



Students had the opportunity to engage with top employers, colleges, universities and training providers in what was an inspiring and interactive day.

Latest Choices Magazine now out!

The November edition of the Choice Magazine is now available to download [here](#). This magazine gives up-to-date advice for those looking for apprenticeships for their next stage after leaving Latimer.

If your child would like support from our Future Me (Careers) Team, please email careers@latimer.org.uk

CATERING NEWS



The Catering Team are running a '12 Days of Christmas' menu for students to enjoy in the lead up to Christmas.

OTHER NEWS

Year 7 Team Building Day

Year 7 had a fun and action packed team building day on 22 October. Thank you to the Problem Solving Company for organising the fun activities. The sun shone and all had a great day on the field.



Young Carers - Is your child a young carer?

A young carer is aged between 5yrs-17yrs. A young adult carer is aged between 18yrs-25yrs. They take on responsibility for helping to look after someone (usually a family member) who has a long-term illness or disability. This could include a physical disability, learning disability, mental health problem or substance misuse issue.

As a school we would like to be able to support our young carers and ensure they have a safe space to talk and someone to go to if they have any worries about their school work or education.

To help us to identify these amazing young people we ask you to complete a form which can be accessed [here](#) or email Heidi Angel directly hangel@latimer.org.uk.

UK Health Security Agency advice to reduce the spread of stomach bugs and winter illnesses - knowing when to keep your child at home and when to send them to school

Children are encouraged to stay in school with symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat or slight cough (if otherwise well and do not have a high temperature), but should stay home if they are displaying symptoms such as having a fever (they should stay home until the fever has passed and they are well enough to attend) or diarrhoea and vomiting.

Students should wash their hands or use the disinfectant gel available around the school – especially in the canteen.

Remembrance Day 2024

We were proud to commemorate Remembrance Day at Latimer. Students in Cadets, Scouts and, Guides were invited to wear their uniforms, which they did with pride.

Also, Ernie and Carys Toms represented our school and community with pride at St. Botolph's Church on Remembrance Sunday, laying a wreath and delivering a heartfelt note of remembrance on behalf of the students and staff of The Latimer Arts College.



OTHER NEWS

Supporting Our Community: Showing Our HEART

We were delighted to see HEART in action during our recent Harvest Festival Foodbank Competition. Staff and students from all four Houses rose to the challenge to support those in need, collecting an incredible range of food donations that were sent off to Kettering Foodbank.

Our values were embraced during the challenge:

Honesty - recognising the struggles faced by many in our community

Excellence - uniting to the challenge

Ambition - making a lasting difference for local families

Respect - supporting those less-fortunate with dignity

Teamwork - working collectively to make a meaningful impact



A heartfelt thank you to all participants for the donations received - your compassion epitomises what it means to be part of the Latimer family.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 5 December

Friday 6 December

Tuesday 10 December

Thursday 12 December

Wednesday 18 December

Friday 20 December

Monday 6 January

Tuesday 7 January

Wednesday 15 January

Wednesday 22 January

Thursday 23 January

Tuesday 28 January

Wednesday 29 January

Tuesday 4 February

Monday 10 February

Tuesday 11 February

Friday 14 February

Year 8 Language Leaders Event

Training Day: school closed to students

Year 7 Rewards Movie Night

Christmas Music Concert, 7pm

Sixth Form Enrichment Trip (pm)

Term Ends: Early closure - 12.20 pm

Training Day: school closed to students

Start of Term 3: School re-opens to students

Parent Forum Meeting, 6pm

Year 11 SPRE, 4.30-7.45pm

Year 7 Dragons' Den Event

Year 12 and Year 13 Chemistry Olympiad

Year 8 SPRE, 4.30-7.45pm

Intermediate Maths Challenge

Sixth Form SPRE, 4.30-7.45pm

National Apprenticeship Week (ends 14 February)

Year 11 and Year 13 Leavers Photographs

Latimer Dance Show, 7.00pm

End of Term 3



More dates are available on our [website](#)