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Latimer Community Weekly Newsletter

Friday 8 May 2020



Dear All

I send this newsletter with the hope that you are all well. I hope that you are all keeping busy. And I hope that the Government will share some positive news about the easing of lockdown restrictions in its announcement on Sunday! Whilst it is not clear what will be said about schools re-opening, I would like to reassure you that we are ready to spring into action to do whatever needs to be done for our students in this next phase.

I keep re-iterating how much we are missing our students and this remains true. However, I cannot tell you how delighted I am to hear of the things that they are achieving, despite the circumstances they find themselves in. It is 'education' in a different format, but it is 'education' nonetheless!

As you are aware, we launched our LORIC programme this year, and, boy, our students are displaying these skills in abundance at this time:

- Leadership:** They have had to lead their own learning;
- Organisation:** They are planning their learning day and organising their own timetable for the week (perhaps with a little nudge at times from you!);
- Resilience:** They are keeping positive and sustaining the restrictions of lockdown;
- Initiative:** They have had to be creative and find ways of keeping themselves occupied with what they have around them in the home;
- Communication:** Well, now they are all experts on Zoom, House Party and FaceTime!

Please remind them that they may not be at school but they are still learning skills for life!

Please reassure them that we will make sure they catch up with all their other learning when they return.

And please let them know how proud we are of them!

Regards
Siobhan Hearne
Principal

Educational Provision

Home Learning: Week Commencing 11 May

Years 7-9: Students will be issued with their next booklet with a range of activities for each subject for them to select to complete. These subject based activities will have a range of challenge, can be carried out in a variety of ways (for example, some may be practical, some online, some creative) and can be completed individually, with brothers and sisters and/or with parents and carers. The bird spotting was particularly popular last week!

In order to make improvements for next week, we:

- Are exploring how we can support with more effective access to the Maths resources.
- Have devised a suggested timetable for those who found it difficult to devise a timetable of their own.
- We have also taken on board feedback in relation to the suitability of some of the learning activities for Year 9. Should the period of Home Learning be extended beyond the end of Term 5, we will review this and consider implementing changes.

Please do continue to feed back to us. We made this change due to feedback from students and parents and carers who were feeling under pressure or concerned about completing work, and struggling with access to computers and internet. We hope that this change has addressed some of those issues and we will keep Home Learning under constant review. Getting the balance right to suit all of our community is a challenge, but we are committed to working hard to achieve this.

Years 10 and Year 12: Learning will continue to focus on activities that consolidate or extend prior learning, rather than introducing new learning.

These activities will be uploaded onto SMHW, following a student's normal timetabled lessons. However, there can be an element of students being able to make decisions about how they plan their time. For example, they may find it easier to do all of the 'revision' based activities for one subject on one day, rather than spreading it over the weekly timetabled lessons and then concentrate on another subject the next day.

Year 12 also have their 10-week 'Future *Destinations*' plan to work through.

Year 11: Students will continue with their 'Foundation Learning Pack' to help to bridge the gap between GCSE and A Level learning. We will issue a second and final pack at the start of Term 6, after which Year 11 will commence their 'study leave'.

Just a reminder that key information about [Home Learning](#) can also be accessed on our website.

Key Information

Keeping in Touch with our Students

From Monday, staff will be making phone calls to our students to check in with them to see how they are doing. We will also be contacting those students in Year 11 who have applied to join our Sixth Form.

Many of these calls may come from an unknown number or with no caller ID, so please do answer, if it is convenient to do so. Please bear with us as we plan to make individual phone calls and this will take a couple of weeks to complete.

Please can we also ask that you encourage your child to access their school email account as some communication from the College is being shared with them via this method.

Welcome to our Year 6 'Moving Up' Programme

We officially launch our 'Moving Up' programme this week and welcome parents and carers of Year 6 students who will be joining us in September. Although we are unable to meet face to face at this time, we have prepared some key information that we will share with you at the start of next week. We would be grateful if you could spend some time going through this with your child.

More information about induction for our Year 6 students will follow at the start of Term 6.

Uniform Orders

Our uniform supplier Karlsports are fully stocked and are ready to take online orders should any new uniform be required for when we return.

The website is www.ksschoolwear.co.uk. They can be located at: Unit 7, Trafalgar Road, Kettering, Northants, NN16 8DB. Tel: 033 000 80401. Given social distancing procedures in retail, Karlsports are requesting online orders. However, should you feel it necessary to try on a uniform item, their opening hours are 9am-5pm. These are subject to change and we recommend you contact them directly ahead of your visit.

A reminder that we may be able to offer support with uniform purchasing for those students who are eligible for the Pupil Premium. Please contact Ms Pankhania for more information: jpankhanian@atimer.org.uk

Government FSM Vouchers: Challenges with 'Edenred'

Many of you have experienced issues with accessing the Government's Free School Meal vouchers through Edenred. We are deeply sorry that this has been the case and we thank you so much for your patience.

This is a national issue, experienced by many schools. Please be assured, along with them, we have voiced our concerns about the challenges you have faced, hoping that improvements will be made. Please continue to get in touch with JPankhania@latimer.org.uk who will endeavour to support you.

Government Funded Laptops and 4G Routers

We have submitted our request for digital devices and 4G dongles (for disadvantaged Year 10 students and school children with social workers who do not already have them) to the Local Authority who are responsible for ordering and distributing the devices to us. They have acknowledged receipt of our order but we are not in a position to confirm when this will be fulfilled. We will keep you updated as soon as we hear anything.

Year 11 Yearbook

A reminder that we still fully intend to produce a Yearbook for our Year 11 students. In order to do this, we need some help! We kindly request that parents and carers of Year 11 students ask their child to check their inbox as Mrs Shore has emailed those that have not handed in their Yearbook comment forms. We want to do everything we can to ensure that all students are able to be included in the book and have their comments included.

If there are any questions regarding the Yearbook please contact Mr Tamkin at stamkin@latimer.org.uk

News and Events

Message from Latimer PE Department

We hope you have all been keeping fit, however you can! The PE team have been running, walking, cycling and completing Joe Wickes' workouts as I'm sure many of you have been too!

If you haven't started any exercise yet, it's not too late to begin! Find something you enjoy and work at a pace you want to. Taking part in any form of exercise is better than none at all! It will improve your mood, help your stress levels and is great for your self-esteem too!

How about taking part in Northamptonshire Virtual School Games 2020 – for more information, visit <https://www.northamptonshiresport.org/what-are-the-northamptonshire-vi> (paste this link into your browser).

Launched on Monday 4 May, each week, a set of three sporting challenges will be set for children, teachers and parents to try at home.



This week's challenges are:

- Dodgeball Slam
- Pepper Pot Shuttle
- The 5 D's Challenge

All activities have been designed so that no specialist equipment is needed and you can take part using only things you can find around your house. In addition to this, Northamptonshire sport will be providing weekly coaching videos to help and support you to improve your personal best in the challenges as well as launching a number of printable puzzles, quizzes and problem solving activities for you to try during the week. Give it a go and be sure to log your activities on the website <https://www.northamptonshiresport.org/school-games> (paste the link into your browser).

Keep safe, stay happy and keep exercising!

Summer Internships for students aged 15-18



InvestIn Education are offering STEAM-related Summer Internships in 7 different industries 'Live & Online' throughout July and August.

On these Internships, students can gain a 4-day summer work experience from the comfort of their own homes, with successful Doctors, Engineers, Computer Scientists, Investment Bankers, Psychologists, Architects and Entrepreneurs. The first 3 days are dedicated to immersive experiences of that career alongside top professionals and Q&A/virtual networking time with them.

Day 4 is dedicated to personalised career coaching - a sector recruitment expert will look at your credentials and create a bespoke development plan so you can maximise your chances of success. You can choose to attend either all 4 days or just the first 3.

Places for these STEAM-related Internships do have a cost and places are limited. If you are interested, then you are able to find out further information [here](#).

Government Virtual Cyber Initiative for Teenagers

The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport has announced an online initiative that aims to inspire school pupils to work in the cyber security sector through a range of extra-curricular activities including online classes. This provides the opportunity to learn and develop the important skills required for future jobs in areas like cyber security from home.

Thousands of young people are being offered the chance to join a [virtual cyber security school](#) as part of plans to make sure the country develops the next generation of professional cyber defenders.

At a time when schools remain closed to most children, the online initiative aims to inspire future talent to work in the cyber security sector and give students a variety of extracurricular activities to do from the safety of their homes.

Teens can learn how to crack codes, fix security flaws and dissect criminals' digital trails while progressing through the game as a cyber-agent. This will help them develop important skills needed for future jobs, particularly in cyber security.

Safeguarding and Well-Being

Boost your child's self-esteem during lockdown

Many young people will be finding lockdown life tough – they are stuck at home, cut off from their friends and unable to do many of the things they most enjoy. You cannot personally end the coronavirus epidemic, but you can use this time to help boost your child's confidence and self-esteem.

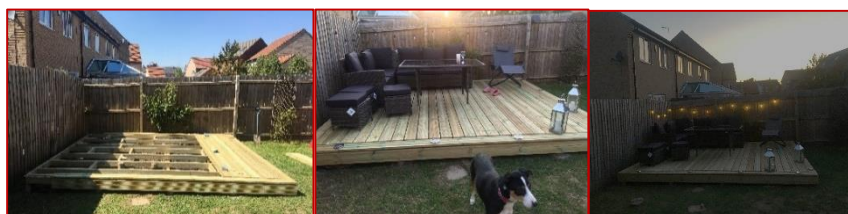
The Uniquely Me parent guide from the Dove Self-Esteem Project is designed to challenge appearance pressures. Click on this [link](#) to download the guide to give your child a positive wellbeing experience.

Community Corner



Grace and Ruby Stevens have been incredibly thoughtful and inventive whilst still doing their daily home learning. In making masks, they have practised their sewing skills following a pattern, using old clothing and material. They have made a window display to cheer up passers-by and have been very busy in the kitchen making weekly dishes, including chocolate twists, chocolate whirls, roulade, and gingerbread men. Well done, girls!

Lauren Holder's new hobby is 'flyball' with her dog Amber. Lauren has built Amber some jumps to practise. The flyball club also send her pieces of homework; one is to get a dog to balance on plant pots to strengthen the dog's balance and muscles. This is brilliant!



Meanwhile, Ben Holder has been busy helping his dad and Lauren build some decking in the garden. Looks beautiful and lovely to see him developing a variety of skills.



Grace Low in Year 7 sent in a beautiful picture of the skateboard she painted/customised. She has now had several orders and it is keeping her busy! Great enterprise skills, Grace!

Anthony Cooper is embracing the Home Learning Booklet and sent us a picture of the DT rocket car that he made. He was very proud of it and so are we! Well done, Anthony.



Our best wishes go to the following students who will all be celebrating their birthdays over the next week:

Poppy Bagshaw, Evan Barber, Caitlin Buchanan, Josh Capp, Gursharan Cheema, Scarlett Cumming, Evan Downhill, Andreea Dragan, Charlie Duck, Eliza Flint, Anais Fraser, Jasmine Gates, Nathan Gates, Phoebe Green, Jacob Huseyin, Brendan Innard, Jacob Jarvis, Hannah Lightfoot, Adam McFarlane, Jake Patterson, Harvey Peasnell, Samuel Pollard, Poppy Richards, Josh Saunders, Lorenzo Seminerio, Ellie-Louise Smith, Sam Thomson, William Thomson and Madison Williams.

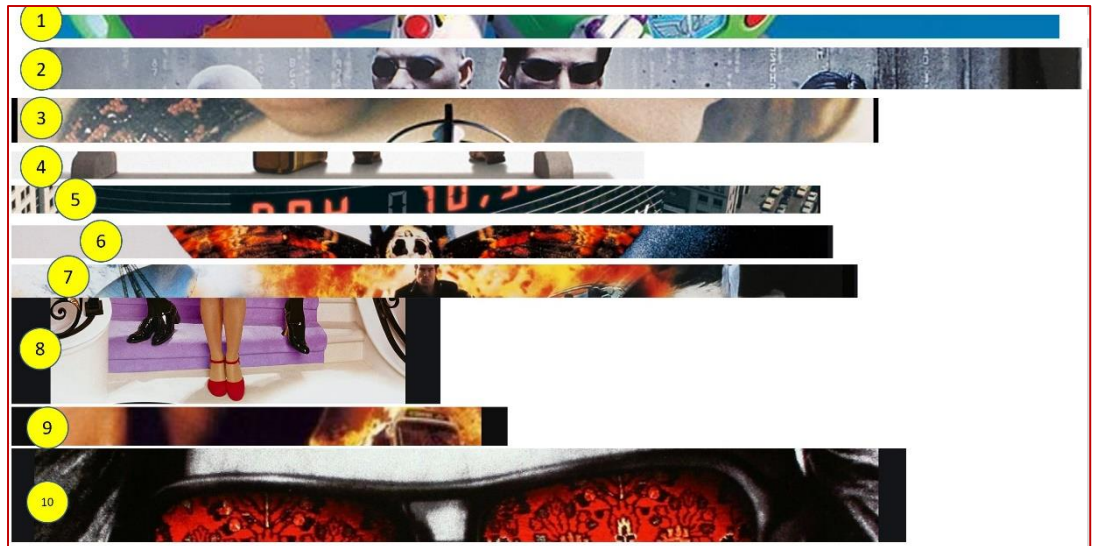
Friday Family Fun: Quiz Night

It is the end of the week and so it is Friday Quiz time! We hope that you enjoyed last week's quiz and hope that you score even more points this week!



Movie Quiz Challenge

This week we have a Movie Quiz challenge for you – look at part of the films below and name the films in the image (there are 10 films). Answers next week. Good luck!



And finally...



The **Northamptonshire Education Awards** recognise fantastic schools, departments and individuals within the education sector. They shine a spotlight on the hard working, talented teams in our county, the people who work hard for our community and those who inspire others. If you would like to recognise anyone within our school community, then please do follow the [link](#) to find out how to nominate.