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## Latimer Community Weekly Newsletter

Friday 22 May 2020



Dear All

Wednesday was 'National Thank a Teacher' day and we really appreciate all of those who sent in kind messages to staff at The Latimer Arts College.

However, as we end a term where roles have been reversed, I would like to pass on my thanks, on behalf of our staff, for all that you have done for your children whilst they have been at home. It has been such a pleasure, and has brought staff such joy, to see and hear all that our students have achieved.

I think that we have all learnt the true value of family over the last few weeks. If there is one positive that has come from our recent experiences, it is the blessing of the extra time that we have had with those we love, those that we sometimes rarely see from one week to the next.



It seems strange to wish our students a relaxing and peaceful half term, but they have been working hard this term and doing their best to manage a difficult situation that none of us would have wished for them. So encourage them to take a break next week.

We sincerely hope that the start of Term 6 will bring some positive news for us all.

Regards  
Siobhan Hearne  
Principal

### School Re-Opening Update

Following the [letter](#) issued on Wednesday, we are still no clearer to understanding what the expectations from the Government are about 'face to face' provision for Years 10 and 12 in Term 6. You can read the guidance [here](#).

We will continue to monitor this and will come back to you as soon as we have more information. In the meantime, we thank you for your patience and continued support.

### Educational Provision

Thank you for all of your support this term with Home Learning. Once again, we would like to reiterate that students should not worry about the 'gaps' that they may have in their learning. This is the same for all and when year groups return to school, we will assess gaps and put a plan in place to support students to catch-up.

Given that it is likely that our students will not be returning next term, over the course of Term 6 we will continue to monitor and evaluate our Home Learning provision, identifying what is working well, where the challenges might be and considering how we can evolve it further. We recognise that there is some concern about the limited feedback to students and we will look closely at this.

In the meantime, please do continue to provide us with your feedback. It is very useful at this time.

### Term 6 Home Learning

**Week Commencing 1 June:** There will be no changes to the current provision or the way we are organising Home Learning. We will publish the second, and final, Foundation Learning Booklet for Year 11 prospective Sixth Form students.

### Week Commencing 8 June:

**Years 7 and 8:** These students will be issued with their next booklet of activities.

**Year 9:** Following feedback about the level of challenge in the booklets for this year group, we will be reverting to individual lessons set for Year 9 through SMHW, following a revised timetable that will equate to approximately 3 hours of lessons a day. A timetable of what 'subjects' will be done on which days will be issued.

In addition to this, Year 9 can still complete the activities in the Home Learning booklet, should any students wish to complete additional learning.

**Years 10 and Year 12:** Will continue to have lessons set on SMHW and some subjects will start to introduce new topics.

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

Key information about [Home Learning](#) can be accessed on our website.



Well done to those students who are continuing with their Accelerated Reader programme.

As we approach the end of the term, we have 27 millionaire readers and together they have read 48,430,843 million words and passed quizzes on 744 books. Years 7 and 8 have read 135,184,547 words between them. This will help to pass the time in a productive way and will really serve them well for the future!

## Key Information

### Childcare Provision

We will continue to offer a childcare provision to children of critical workers. Please refer to the letter on Childcare Provision for Key Workers Term 6 Update on our website for clarification of the criteria for requesting this provision and details of how to do so.

### College Email Communication with Students

Please could we ask you to encourage your child to routinely check their College email. We are endeavouring to communicate with students directly via this method with key information that we feel they may need. Some staff are also sending reminders about home learning, and in particular about any quizzes and tests that have been set in order to give gentle reminders!

### Year 8 Pathways Choices

We are pleased to be able to confirm that we are on track with the Year 8 pathways process. At the start of Term 6 we will issue letters confirming student subject choices for their KS4 studies.

### Year 11 Yearbook

There are still some students who have not sent in their Yearbook information. We really would like to ensure that all students are represented. Please can you check with your child to see if they have sent their entry and encourage them to check their email account if they have not.

We will need to 'close' the Yearbook soon so that we can prepare for printing. If there are any questions regarding the Yearbook, please contact Mr Tamkin at [stamkin@latimer.org.uk](mailto:stamkin@latimer.org.uk)

### Pride of Latimer 2020

Staff will start to submit their nominations for the Year 11 and Year 13 'Excellence Award' and 'Spirit of Latimer Award' over the next few weeks: could you be this year's Pride of Latimer Winner?

### Super-Curricular Study

For any of our students who have their sights set on studying at the University of Cambridge, they have produced a selection of [reading lists](#) and suggested resources for students to independently explore and read around their chosen subject outside of the classroom. This would be ideal for any student in Years 11, 12 or 13 who knows what subject area they might be interested in or for those who might want to explore further.

## Year 13 Student Finance Applications

The Student Finance deadline for new university students in England is **25 May 2020**. Applying by this deadline guarantees students will receive their payment in-time for starting University, so we would urge students to complete the process now, if they haven't already done so.

## Safeguarding and Well-Being

Northamptonshire Educational Psychology Services have offered some advice and support for talking to children and young people, during this ongoing period of lockdown. Read the article [here](#).

They have also produced some [guidance](#) on family life for parents and carers, as we are currently spending far more time together.

## Coping with Social Media Addiction

A Unifrog student survey found that 30% of students are currently spending over 6 hours a day on social media. This [Know-How](#) guide has advice for any students concerned that they are spending an unhealthy amount of time online. It looks at some of the key studies on social media addiction, the 6 questions to ask yourself if you think you may be addicted and where to get help.

## News and Events

### Northamptonshire Virtual Games – Week Three

On your Marks! Get Set! Go! This week's challenges are from Athletics. Can you set a new personal best as you Sprint, Jump and Throw?



- Challenge 1: Shuttle Run Six
- Challenge 2: Super Speed Bounce
- Challenge 3: Champion Chest Push

Be sure to log your activities on the website:

<https://www.northamptonshiresport.org/school-games>

Find out more about this week's activities [here](#). Keep safe, stay happy and keep exercising!

## Community Corner

Our students have been exceptionally busy this week, completing the exciting activities that they have been set for their Home Learning. It is heart-warming to see that they are learning new skills, even if from afar!



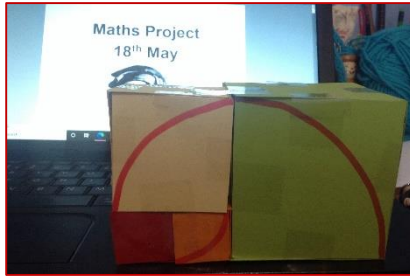
Polly Butler prepared and cooked breakfast for her family last week as part of her home learning activities and they said it was delicious. Well done, Polly!

Libby Kilbourn-Wagg made fairy cakes for one of the English learning tasks: 'Monster cakes to present a monster'. What great imagination!





As part of their Maths project, Maisy Ashall has made a Fibonacci spiral with oil pastels and Ellie Mitton has completed a golden rectangle. Well done to both of you.



What a creative week some of our students have had! Hayley Chapman enjoyed creating the elements flashcards for her home learning and told us they are working to help her recall all the elements. She has also completed the heart DT/Art Challenge work.



Mollie Buck has been helping her mum make beautiful guardian angels and rainbows for her NHS colleagues that work at St Mary's hospital. The staff commented that, 'The beautiful array of colours sparkling as the sun shone down on them was a joy to be seen and made them smile.'

As part of the English Home Learning activities Emily and Liam Bodsworth created their own 'House of Games' activities for the family – well done, you guys 'smashed' it!

And with the arrival of sunshine, it has been time to put our students to work in the garden. The DIY skills that our students are learning are phenomenal.



Marcus Bowie has learnt to plaster the walls whilst he has been at home – what an incredible skill - well done, Marcus!



Henry Rendell has been very busy helping at home last week, their fence had blown down with the February storms and lockdown has allowed them to finally replace it. Henry helped dig the footings for the posts and screwed most of the panels on! Excellent new practical skills learned, Henry!

Oliver Morgan-Wright has made a stunning cupboard out of old pallets with his dad – well done on learning new skills, Oliver!



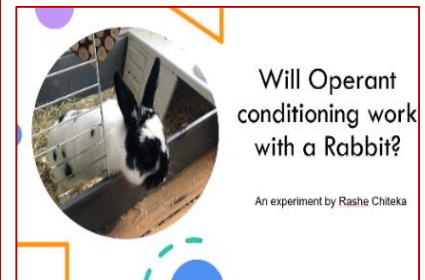
And our Year 12 students are working hard. The Year 12 Psychology students have been very imaginative in displaying their representations of the Psychology concepts they have studied already. We were so impressed we are looking forward to showing them off to the GCSE Psychology students too.



Beth Oram is demonstrating someone having an EEG (with PET/MRI scans on the walls of the room) for cognitive neuroscience.

Abigail Stone shows her artistic representation of the 'The Tripartite Personality' and Ella Robinson has created an optical illusion as part of the perception topic.

While Rashe Chiteka has conducted the classic Skinner's Operant Conditioning experiment with her rabbit Chloe!



Victoria Vokins has been enjoying using watercolours and has created a wall of stunning artwork.



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

Lisa Clarke, Dominic Colledge, Tom Dunn, Chelsea Eady, Ryan Flower, Chloe Harvey, Cory Ives, Lauren Jolley, Samuel Jones, Oliver Keech, Emily Mallett, James McKay, Leo Mensah, Ellie Muddiman, Loui Newcombe, Molly Noble, Mia Orage, Rihana Parmar, Miles Pepe, Josh Simpson and Alix Stead.

## Friday Family Fun: Quiz Night

For those of you who have been missing our Friday tutor time quiz, we have another one for you to take part in. How will you and the family do this week?

If the quiz isn't for you, can you solve this riddle?

***A boy has as many sisters as brothers, but each sister has only half as many sisters as brothers. How many brothers and sisters are there in the family?***

The answer will be published in our next edition.

## And finally...

Students may not have been 'in school' but, as this newsletter shows, so many of them have worked hard and learnt new skills this term. They should now enjoy a very well-deserved half term!