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Latimer Community Weekly Newsletter

Friday 12 June 2020



Dear All

Over the last few incredibly difficult weeks, we have been uplifted by the news and photographs that you have shared with us and with the support and understanding that you have shown. There has been a recognition that teachers and school staff are facing similar challenges to everyone else as we try to go about our core business of educating our students with severe restrictions and vague, slow and sometimes contradictory guidance, from the Government.

We really do appreciate this support and it helps to drive us on; to motivate us to battle through the tough times; and to remain strong and resolute in our determination to do the best for our students.

However, as we start this week's newsletter, this is not how we are feeling!

We have to express our intense sadness and disappointment that a small number of parents and carers have taken to social media to negatively compare our provision to other schools in the area!

Please do not. Firstly, you are not modelling the best behaviours for your children and secondly, your judgement is not rooted in a deep understanding of the challenges that we face. If you want to know more, you only have to contact us and we will happily talk this through with you.

We cannot stress enough that each school has its own unique circumstances to consider in offering the correct and safe provision for its students. For example, some schools do not allow their students as much choice in their GCSE subjects options as we do at Latimer, making it easier for them to create more 'safe bubbles' for students to attend. Others have newer buildings, with larger classrooms, bigger communal spaces and wider corridors, meaning they can fit more students in safely at one time. All schools have a different staffing profile and some may have greater numbers of staff available to provide onsite support.

We constantly speak to the schools in the surrounding area to share ideas and learn from each other, so that we can all do our very best for all the children in this community in the current crisis. We can each do some things that the others cannot, but we are all doing our very best.

And please do not think that we are doing any less than our very best. I promised that we would not become complacent and we are not. I promised that we would work flat out to find better ways of doing things and we are. I promise that all we want is all of our students back safe and sound and experiencing the high quality learning experience that this College is proven to deliver.

We understand your frustrations about the current situation, many of us are parents too, but what we, and your children need at the moment, is your continuing support as we work unrelentingly through these difficult, trying and unique times.

Regards

Siobhan Hearne
Principal
On behalf of all staff at The Latimer Arts College

Educational Provision

Term 6 Home Learning: Week Commencing 15 June

Years 7 and 8: Students will be issued with their next set of project activities. To supplement the booklets, students can also access lessons from the [National Academy](#).

Staff love receiving the pictures and photos of the various projects that are being created; please continue to send them in as your child works through the projects which are set.

Year 9: Thank you for the positive emails we have received following the changes we have made, based on your feedback, to the Year 9 provision. A reminder that work will be set through Show My Homework and students should be following the revised timetable published and sent to them. They will continue to receive the home learning booklet as additional work for them to do if they wish to.

Personal Development: Years 7, 8 and 9 should also continue with their 'Motivate Me' scheme. This is a series of sessions to inspire our students to get motivated about their studies, life and their future opportunities. There are six sessions for them to take part in. In addition to this, the Achievement Team will be 'delivering' two remote assemblies over the coming weeks. More details to follow on this.

Year 10: Students will continue to have lessons set on SMHW and should be accessing new material now. Their face to face sessions will support this remote learning, in accordance with the Government guidance.

Year 11: These students should work through their Foundation Learning Booklet, if they are progressing to Level 3 studies.

Year 12: Students will continue to have lessons set on SMHW and should be accessing new material now. Their face to face sessions on Microsoft Teams will support this remote learning, in accordance with the Government guidance.

Key Information

Year 11 Leavers' Celebrations

Today would have seen the final GCSE exam, with the end of A Levels following next week. We share the disappointment that Year 11 students will be feeling over the next week as their cancelled Prom date approaches. Whilst we can make no promises, we will continue to look at whether there will be an opportunity in the future for our students to celebrate their time at Latimer and we will update you accordingly over time.

However, we do have a few leavers ideas that we are working on and we very much look forward to sharing more on this with you in the next couple of weeks.

Year 12 Face to Face Sessions

Year 12 will start their online Teams sessions on Monday 22 June. To support this, we have included a Year 12 **Microsoft Teams User Protocol** and the **Year 12 Face to Face Teams Timetable** that will be followed. We ask that you encourage your child to access all of their sessions.

Should they need any support with setting up Teams, please contact the IT Helpdesk: ITHelpdesk@latimer.org.uk If this process is successful, we will consider ways in which we may be able to roll it out to more year groups in the near future.

In addition to this, Year 12 students who have registered an interest in attending an onsite day will be sent details next week of this session, which will take place on Tuesday 30 June. We may be able to offer a further session before the end of the academic year.

UCAS Process: Support for Students and Parents and Carers

A reminder that Year 12 should be working through their [Future Destinations Pack](#), which guides them through activities that will culminate in their applications being ready to submit. Please do take the time to look through the [UCAS Apply - A Parent and Carer Guide 2020](#) to support you in supporting your child through this process.

For further support, please do contact our Sixth Form Centre Manager, Sue Magee: smagee@latimer.org.uk

Year 10 Face to Face Support

We very much look forward to welcoming our Year 10 students back for some face to face support from Monday 22 June. As promised last week, to help with this process, we have produced a **Year 10 Face to Face Sessions Information Booklet** which we have included with this newsletter. Whilst this is written for the students, it should provide parents and carers with all of the information that they need to know about the return to school.

We ask that both you and your child take the time to read this next week as there is a lot to take on board and we have no flexibility with the arrangements.

An email will be sent detailing the days that your child has been allocated as well as the venue and seat number that they will be seated at for their onsite days.

In addition to this, all students will be asked to complete a **Closing the Gap: Review of Learning** grid that we will use to support for planning for the next onsite day and for future home learning.

Should you need any help or further advice, please contact either Mr Matthews: kmatthews@latimer.org.uk or Mr Harvey: sharvey@latimer.org.uk

Year 8 Pathways: Update

You will shortly be receiving a letter confirming subject choices for all Year 8 students for their Key Stage 4 courses commencing in the next academic year. We are excited about seeing them in Year 9 when they will start studying towards their GCSE and BTEC qualifications!

Year 7 Moving Up Programme

Whilst we are so disappointed that our new Year 7 students will not be able to visit us face to face before the summer, our Achievement Team are busy putting together a remote induction package for them. We will share this with you over the next few weeks.

Epraise: Recognising and Rewarding Our Students



The Achievement Team were delighted to hold the postponed Easter Epraise draw this week. Congratulations goes to Leo Dunham (C7) who was the winner of the Nintendo Switch. We will get this to you as soon as we can, Leo!

£10 Amazon Vouchers go to: Maisy Ashall (L5), Abigail Balchin (Ba3), Josh Beards-Glover (Ba6), Josh Capp (B2), Corey Cooke-Jordan (C1), Gabriella Grove (S5), Kayleigh Hodder (B3), Martyn Anthony Lane (Ba1), Ethan Randall (C4), Ella Robinson (S5).

£10 Steam Vouchers go to: Timmy Brukarczyk (Ba3), Kaylee Diamond (Ba3), Harrison Edwards (Ba3), Joshua Evans (W5), James Laing (B7), Madi Millard (L7), Aaron Reed (S2), Luke Speight (Ba7), Ellis Welland (W6), Fraser Wilson (Ba2).

Look out for these vouchers arriving in the post next week!

We now plan to hold a Summer Prize Draw so please encourage your child to keep completing their online assessments; to send in any work that they have done that they are proud of; and to send in their photographs of their other achievements so that staff can award points over the next few weeks.

Pride of Latimer 2020

We are very excited as Pride of Latimer nominations will be collated this week – we are looking forward to seeing who has been nominated!

Karl Sports: Uniform Ordering Update

A reminder that from Monday 15 June Karl Sports, our uniform supplier, will reopen. Over the coming weeks, should there be more clarity about the educational provision from September, we would encourage parents and carers to consider if new school uniform is required, particularly for our new Year 7 students.

Social distancing will be in operation in the store and therefore there will be a limited amount of customers that can be served at any one time. If you would like to book an appointment either email through the [website](#) or call 01536 601731.

Events and Alternative Learning Ideas



If you have exhausted your own bookshelf, and you are an existing member of Northamptonshire Libraries, you will have access to a huge range of e-books, newspapers, magazines and audio books online. These will also include some foreign language newspapers. All you need is your library card and PIN number.

If you are not a member of [Northamptonshire Libraries](#), you can join online and become a virtual member. Please encourage your child to sign up for an account if they do not already have one. Links to forgotten membership details are also here if you are a member but cannot find your library card or do not know your PIN number.

If you are wondering what to read, the TES (Times Educational Supplement) issued a list of [100 fiction titles](#) that every student should read before leaving secondary school.



Five books that caught our eye were:

1. *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon
2. *The Hunger Games Trilogy* by Suzanne Collins
3. *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak
4. *Private Peaceful* by Michael Morpurgo
5. *Wonder* by R.J Palacio

Northamptonshire Virtual Games – Week Six and Football is Coming Home!



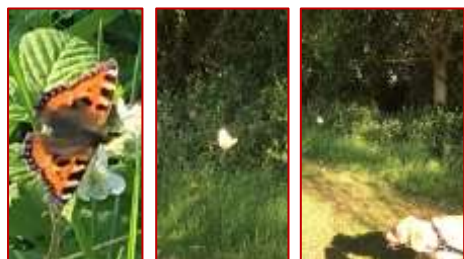
The three challenges are:

1. 'Keepy Uppies'
2. Keep Control
3. Foot Golf

All the information/videos you need for the challenges, resources to get involved and information on where to record scores, are now available on the [Northamptonshire Sport website](#). Remember the more attempts you have at each challenge the more Participation Points you gain!

Community Corner

Many students enjoyed the Humanities challenges last week and have sent us their work.



Sophia Hoare sent us her 'My Butterfly Spotting' pictures when out walking with her dog. She saw a *Small Tortoiseshell Butterfly* and a *Cryptic Wood White Butterfly*. For the Lightbox task, Sophia noticed that some of the butterflies moved in a sort of zig zag motion - not in a straight line. Well done, Sophia – in Psychology we teach the students about the 'Waggle Dance' that bees do which is a similar motion!



Jack Cleverly also spotted the Small Tortoiseshell butterfly and sent us his picture. It is amazingly detailed!

Brendan Innard created this lovely origami safari for his home learning challenge task. What a fantastic effort!



Kieran and Aman Beri have completed their French home learning task as a joint family project and created this spectacular monument – well done, boys!



For his French home learning activity, Connor Green made Crêpes servies avec: jus de citron, Sucre, fraises et crème and c'était délicieux!

Très bien, Connor!

We received some stunning home learning notes from Skyler Bettles for her Psychology work this week. Well done, Skyler. And Maisy Ashall has sent us some beautiful pictures of her design work – very creative, Maisy.



Our best wishes go to the following students who either celebrated their birthdays over the past week or will be celebrating them next week:



Jack Armstrong, Alex Baines, Danny Barker, Alexander Barton, Brianee Bellamy, Katie Boardman, Grace Boddington, Isobel Bodsworth, Lilly Brice, Jessica Brookes, Eboni Brown, Leah Brownless, Emma Burrows, Thomas Chapman, Lyla Chisholm, Harry Clark, Matthew Cooper, Keira Cox, Leah Croker, Sam Dawson, Ellis Dixon, Libby Evans, Alexander Falin-Bates, Anna Fellowes, Grace Field, James Fraser, Aadhil Ghany, Bobby Gibson, Harry Golding, Emily Greaves, Reuben Harding, Harley Hewitt, Habib Hussain, Liam Johnstone, Ola Kulinowska, Aleks Litvjakovs, Shannon Marks, Oran McCabe, Rebecca Meikle, Ellie Milne, Katherine Mitton, Wallace Oakes, Aaron Powell, Alfie Revell, Alfie Rootham, James Smart, Liam Symonds, Abigail Thurlow, Sam Toseland and Caitlin Welch.

Friday Family Fun: Quiz Night

It is frightening to see that it is Friday again (already!). Here is our Family Fun Friday Quiz for this week for you all to enjoy.



The challenge this week is to:

1: See how many countries you can you name?

<https://www.jetpunk.com/quizzes/how-many-countries-can-you-name>

or

2: Complete the Geography Dingbats Quiz that has been attached with this newsletter, along with the answers.

And finally...



We pass on our congratulations to Miss Edwards, Maths HLTA, who welcomed Rosie Annabelle Edwards, to the world on Thursday 4 June weighing 6lbs 9oz.