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## Latimer Community Weekly Newsletter

Friday 5 February 2021



Dear Parents and Carers

As we end another week of Remote Learning, we would like to thank you for all that you are doing to support your children.

The theme of this week's newsletter is 'feedback'. This is more by chance than by design! However, having a voice heard is really important: *'We all need people who will give us feedback. This is how we will improve.'*

So please do take the time to respond where you can and encourage your child to do so too and we will take the time to listen and improve where we need to.

Regards  
Siobhan Hearne  
Principal

### WEATHER WATCH!

We will be keeping a keen eye on the snow forecast over the weekend. There may be some potential disruption to our Childcare Provision again on Monday, should we see significant snow fall.

We will ensure that we communicate with parents and carers accordingly.

## Educational Provision

### How Are We Doing?

Although we still await clarity about the wider re-opening of schools, we do know that this will not start until at least Monday 8 March. However, the government are keen to point out that any easing of lockdown restrictions will be driven by the scientific advice. Therefore, our students will continue to learn remotely for at least three more school weeks and it is likely that for some it will be longer.

With this in mind, we are keen to establish your views on the quality of the Remote Education that we are delivering so that we can identify any improvements that need to be made moving forwards. We would be really grateful if you would complete this [Parent and Carer's Remote Education Survey](#) and encourage your child/ren to complete the [Student Remote Education Survey](#).

These surveys will take no more than 5 minutes to complete. Each student can complete their own survey and there is one parent and carer survey per family.

### Tutor Time Learning Activities

As a reminder, students should be joining tutor time on a Monday, for their Achievement Leader assembly, and on a Wednesday, for their Wellbeing session and Quizzzy Rascals quiz with their tutor and undertaking the lockdown challenge activity.

Please note that Monday's assembly will be a "live" one delivered to ALL students at 11.50am. It will be delivered by Mr Tamkin on the theme of Dreams.

**For some students, this means that their lunchtime will move to 12.25pm.**

## Providing Feedback to Students: Using 'Assignments' in TEAMS

Increasingly, we are using the "Assignment" function in TEAMS. This allows students to submit work for staff to give feedback and means that a student's work is stored and organised securely. If students (or parents and carers) are uncertain about how to use them then please see [this one minute video](#) outlining how it works!

We would also like to remind parents and carers that students can install Office 365 for free. Details about how to do this are included on our [Remote Education](#) website page.

## Free Motivational Webinars



GCSEPod are collaborating with Cameron Parker, a renowned motivational speaker, to deliver free webinars to motivate students and support with their wellbeing during this time of lockdown. These will focus on motivation, managing stress, avoiding burnout and staying focused. Students can remain anonymous and parents and carers can watch with them as Cameron makes goal setting, coping strategies and building confidence seem easily attainable.

These webinars are "events" and so they are not recorded as GCSEPod believe that a recorded version does not deliver the impact they want students to receive. Places are limited and need to be booked in advance.

Students can register for the webinars by clicking on the links below:

Tuesday 23 February - 6pm to 7pm: [Student Webinar - Stress to Success](#)

Wednesday 3 March - 5pm to 6pm: [Student Webinar - Student Event](#)

## Safeguarding and Well-being



We are delighted with the engagement in our Level Up programme, which has increased as the weeks have gone on. We had some particularly strong entries for the healthy meal challenge.

We are delighted to announce the Week 2 prize draw winners, all of whom will receive a £10 Amazon voucher:

Year 7: Jessica Head and Evie Saunders

Year 8: Abigail Balchin, Emily Bodsworth, Mollie Brophy-Williams  
Hayley Chapman and Zoe Wilson

Year 9: Tamzin Goosey and Alana Toms

Staff: Mrs Featherstone



## 'Young Healthwatch Northamptonshire' Survey

'[Young Healthwatch Northamptonshire](#)' have designed a survey around COVID-19 and lockdowns. This has been designed by young people for young people. The survey is confidential and the information will be made available to the public as well as decision makers in local health care services. Please find the [link](#) to the survey, which is for any young person aged between 11-19, living in Northamptonshire and will be open until the end of March. We ask you to share this with your child and encourage them to respond.

## Key Information and Updates

### Free Internet Access

If you have no, or limited, internet access, we may be able to help! We have some free BT Wi-Fi vouchers that we can issue to those who need them. Please contact Ms Pankhania: [jpankhania@latimer.org.uk](mailto:jpankhania@latimer.org.uk) for more details.

## Free School Meal Vouchers

All parents and carers whose children are entitled to free school meals should now be receiving weekly e-voucher codes via email. Should you have any difficulties accessing these, please contact Mrs Love, Student Services Manager: [jlove@latimer.org.uk](mailto:jlove@latimer.org.uk)

Over the half term break, Northamptonshire County Council will be providing vouchers and these will be emailed out to you by us before we break up for half term.

## Year 12 SPRE: School Cloud Feedback

Thank you to all of those parents and carers who attended our Year 12 Virtual SPRE and for completing the feedback survey. For those who have not yet been able to do so, the survey closes at the end of the day today and can be accessed [here](#). From responses already received, it will take less than 3 minutes to complete. We will share the findings from this in next week's newsletter.

## Sixth Form Part Time Work: Striking the Right Balance

We appreciate that many of our Sixth Form students now have part-time jobs. We are very supportive of this and recognise the benefits that part-time work can bring, beyond just the financial ones!

However, we have to remind parents and carers that the amount of 'shifts' undertaken in a week has to be balanced with the commitment that is needed to be successful with Level 3 studies. Despite the current school closure, it is important that students do not fall behind. With this in mind, we feel compelled to remind parents and carers that students should not be undertaking shifts during the school working day.

## Aiming High: Raising Aspirations and Expectations

### National Apprenticeship Week 2021

National Apprenticeship Week 2021 will take place from 8 to 14 February 2021. The annual week-long celebration of apprenticeships will shine a light on the amazing work being done by employers and apprentices across the country. This week will also recognise how employers of all sizes have stepped up to the challenge during this unprecedented time.

Students have received details via their school email about various webinars that are happening during National Apprenticeships Week. All of the activities are virtual, free, and there is something for everyone. It is the perfect week for everyone to learn even more about apprenticeships.

## Latimer Superstars



Well done to our new multi-millionaire reader. **Charlie Buckby**, Year 7, has now read over 3 million words in Accelerated Reader.

We would like to remind you of the many ways students can keep up with reading while in lockdown. Magazines, newspapers and online articles all count and are a great way to keep up with current events:

- **Community Libraries:** We would strongly recommend that all students join their local library service. It is **free** and libraries have a wealth of free e-books, e-audiobooks, online newspapers, magazines and subscriptions to academic journals and more. Click [here](#) to find out how to join online and the current status of Northamptonshire libraries.
- **Free E-books:** Students can also use this [link](#) to access a free e-book each week as well as other articles and resources.
- **Browsing our school library catalogue:** Go to the QUICK LINKS on the front page of the College website and select 'Eclipse Library' and 'Requesting Books'.
- **Accelerated Reader:** Students can also use the '[Accelerated Reader Bookfinder](#)'. Just click 'Student'. There is no need to put in a password, as it is open access. It is a quick way to find out which books have quizzes.



We are delighted to say that we have been able to award over 11,000 Epraise points this week – a new College record. This shows how hard our students are working on their Remote Learning and how eager staff are to recognise this.

We would like to congratulate all of those who have been rewarded points and would like to give a special mention to this week's top earners, some of whom have already appeared in our Top 3!

Year 7: Holly Greasley, Lewis O'Dell, Isaac Willis  
Year 8: Oliver Morgan-Wright, Beth Riley, Zach Skeggs  
Year 9: Maisy Ashall, Sophia Hoare, Ben Holder  
Year 10: Anika Dodd, Elliot Hardy, Grace Stevens  
Year 11: Sophie Ayre, Harry Leverett, Zoe Smith  
Year 12: Mia Baker, Olivia Burns, Emily Futer  
Year 13: Cameron Cassidy, Beth Oram, Ella Robinson

Next week, we will announce the top students of the term!

It is the final call today for students to give their feedback on the prizes they might like to spend their Epraise points on. Please remind them to complete the survey that has been emailed to them.



We have so many shout outs this week!

Miss Jenkins would like to give a special shout out to her Year 7 Maths class who are all working exceptionally hard. **Layla Perkins** and **Keisi Kocka** have particularly shone out and shown great confidence in their learning. This is brilliant to hear!

Well done to **Ben Holder** from Mr Smith for his superb attitude in his Maths lessons. Ben has been trying really hard throughout this lockdown, going above and beyond what is expected of him.

**Amy Ayris**, **Oliver Back**, **Lauren Wilson** and **Luke Wright**, deserve a mention for how well they are doing in MFL. Mrs Sumner is so impressed with their efforts.

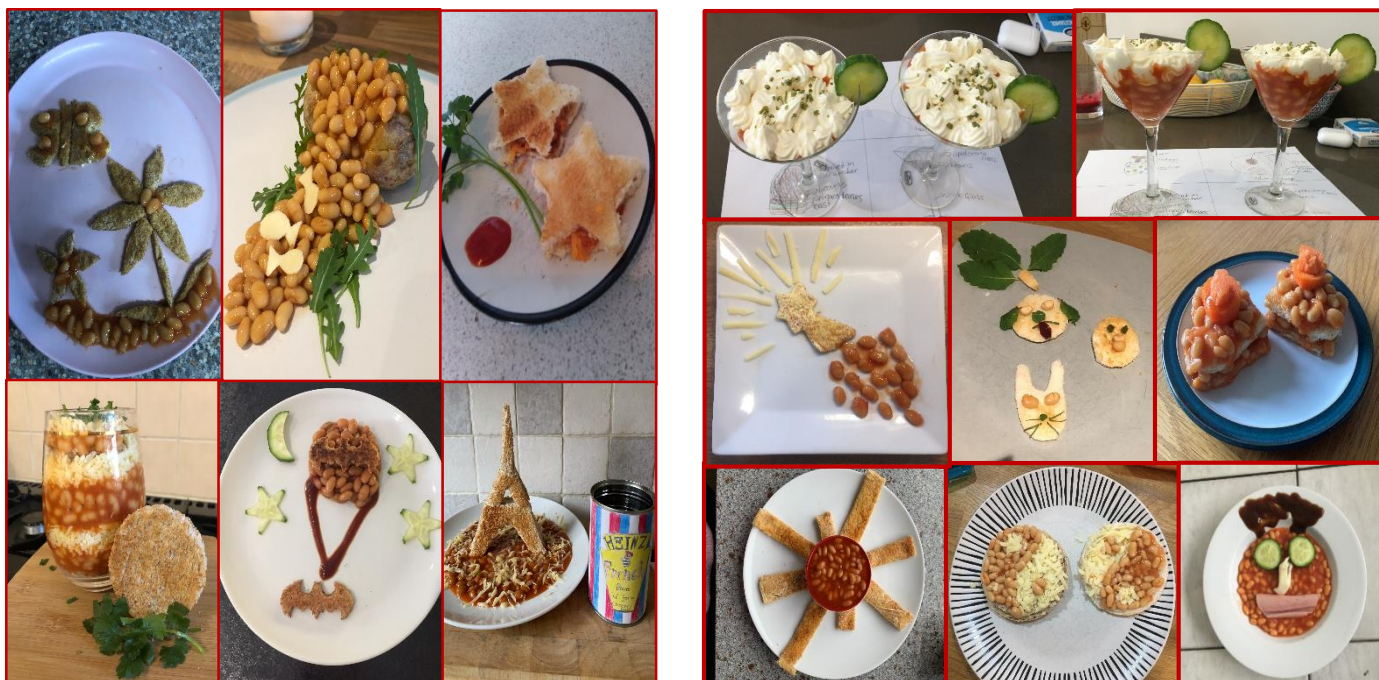
In English, **Oliver Grimster** produced a truly atmospheric description this week that wowed Mrs Horsley. His vocabulary and turn of phrase was particularly impressive!

Miss King is delighted with her **7R1** drama class. They are constantly engaged, asking questions and wanting to know more, sharing work and of course earning lots of e-praise points. She is so proud of their efforts and so are we!

And we want to say a well done and thank you to someone who has helped others this week. Getting to grips with the technology that we are working on is not easy and so the support that **Isaac Willis** has given to those in his group who were unsure how to use 'assignments' was of great help to Mrs Perrott.

It is true to say that we are absolutely overwhelmed with the creativity of **7G** who have risen to their DT challenge of '**Posh Beanz**'. The meals that they have produced are nothing short of amazing. (We also want to say well done to parents and carers as we feel that they have probably enjoyed this learning too!). We just had to include photos of some of the creations for you to marvel at!





## Team Latimer Community Corner

### Sofa Dance Challenge!

This week sees a final call for our Sofa Dance Challenge entries. Follow this [link](#) for some inspiration. Please send your clips to Mrs Ilersic: [kilersic@latimer.org.uk](mailto:kilersic@latimer.org.uk) by **Friday 12 February**.

### Dates for your Diary

**Please note that we will try our best to run these events remotely and will send you updates nearer the time.**

Friday 12 February

Monday 22 February

Wednesday 24 February

Tuesday 16 March

Friday 26 March

End of Term 3

Start of Term 4: *This will be Week 2 on the timetable*

Year 9 SPRE 4.00pm – 7.00pm

Year 8 SPRE 4.00pm – 7.00 pm

End of Term 4