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## LATIMER LATEST NEWS – 22 NOVEMBER 2019

### Breaking News: Breaking Ground for Science Learning Centre

Monday 25 November will see the ground being 'broken' for the start of our Science Learning Centre build – finally! We have waited a long time, but once completed next May, the wait will have been worth it! We will include updates on the project in forthcoming newsletters.

## Learning and Progress

### *Failing to Prepare is Preparing to Fail!*

The mock exam season is now upon us. If taken seriously and prepared for fully, the feedback following the mock exam process will be invaluable in identifying priority areas for improvement in the final exam countdown. Many Year 11 students have had a 1:1 meeting with staff in order to support their preparation for these examinations and following feedback from these we must again remind parents and carers of the range of support material that is on our [Year 11 and 13 Exam Support](#) website page. Please do look at this and signpost your child to it.

Year 11 students can also access our online resources:



Students can sign up for FREE at [www.gcsepod.com](http://www.gcsepod.com) using their College email account. Podcasts can be streamed or downloaded on PC, Android or IOS. Email [ithelpdesk@latimer.org.uk](mailto:ithelpdesk@latimer.org.uk) if you require any assistance when using GCSEPod.



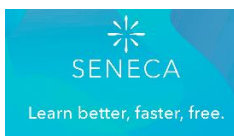
Tassomai makes learning and revising for GCSE Science effective and straightforward. Simply log in regularly and complete the assignments at the top of the list. The mission is simple - keep the pace of progress up to the speed prescribed - a task that requires a few minutes of attention each day. Website: <https://www.tassomai.com>



Students have access to the PiXL Maths, Geography, History and English Lit apps to help with their studies.



Vocab Express is an online vocab learning application that has been set up to support students with learning their French vocabulary, which is vital to examination success. Students should access this daily.



Seneca is free for students to use. It will present them with key information and then test them on it in various ways. Some staff are setting revision activities through this.



Quizlet allows students to create their own quizzes, flash cards and other revision material for free. They can then print these off or save them to re-use. Students can also access other people's revision material on the site.

Please do not hesitate to contact Mr Harvey, Vice Principal [sharvey@latimer.org.uk](mailto:sharvey@latimer.org.uk) if you would like printed copies of any of the above resources or additional help and support with revision planning for your child.

## **BTEC Examinations Season**

January sees BTEC examinations for Year 11 and 13 and the first round of BTEC Examinations for Year 12. Students should be starting their revision now.

### **Don't miss out on a chance to join our amazing Sixth Form!**

A reminder that applications to join our Sixth Form in September 2020 should be submitted today! For further support or guidance, please contact Mr Matthews, Assistant Principal: [kmatthews@latimer.org.uk](mailto:kmatthews@latimer.org.uk)

### **Improving Progress: Personal Learning Checklists (PLCs) and Closing the Gap**

We encourage parents and carers of students in Years 7, 8 and 9 to look out for blue PLC sheets in your child's exercise books. These will give you an indication of the progress that your child has made in topics in individual subjects since September.

A [Key Stage 3 Curriculum Overview](#) booklet (for Years 7 and 8) outlines our assessment system and there is individual subject information on the [Curriculum](#) page of our website.

Should you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Matthews, Assistant Principal: [kmatthews@latimer.org.uk](mailto:kmatthews@latimer.org.uk)

### **Helping Us to Help Your Child**

Our Parent/Carer Forum gives parents and carers a voice to support with ongoing College improvements. The next meeting will take place on **Wednesday 27 November at 6pm** in Music Room 2 (in The Masque). The Forum is an excellent way to build a positive partnership between parents and carers and the College. For more information please contact Ms Gallon, Assistant Principal: [kgallon@latimer.org.uk](mailto:kgallon@latimer.org.uk). All parents and carers are welcome to attend.

### **Exam Certificates Ready for Collection!**

All that hard work and commitment was worth it! If you have a child who took a public examination in August 2019, they will now be able to see, officially in print, the examination success that they achieved as their exam certificates are now available for collection. Current Year 12 students can collect their certificates from the College Exams Office. For those who have moved from the College, they can collect their certificates from Visitors' Reception – please call and give us 24 hours' notice so we can have them ready for collection. Well done again to all!

## **Safeguarding**

### **TikTok: The Parent's Guide**

More than 500 million people around the world, many of them children, regularly use the app TikTok to create, view and share 60-second videos.

TikTok can be a great tool for self-expression and connect users around the world, so it is important that children are aware of the potential risks and learn how to use it in a safe way.

Read the [Parent Zone's Guide](#), which is full of sensible advice about how families can make the most of the settings and tools available to them.

## **Aiming High: Raising Aspirations and Expectations**

### **Year 8: Take your Child to Work Day**

As part of our Careers and Raising Aspirations programme, and to support our Year 8 students with preparing for the world of work in the future, we very much hope that parents and carers (or friends and family) will be able to support us by taking Year 8 students to work on **Monday 2 March 2020**. This will provide a fantastic opportunity for students to develop employability skills and learn about different careers and businesses.

Students have been issued with a [letter](#) - please dig it out of their bags! If you are having difficulty finding a placement please contact Ms O'Brien, our IAG Co-ordinator: [MOBrien@latimer.org.uk](mailto:MOBrien@latimer.org.uk)

## 'All About Apprenticeships' Parents' Pack

The new November [Parents Pack](#) has been published and includes a Degree Apprenticeship Open Day checklist, Engineering Apprenticeships Explainer, Life as a Sky Apprentice, House of Commons vlog and much more!

### Fancy this as a future career?



#### Jobs for the Future: Organ Farmer

Scientists can already grow some body parts using animals. But in the near future growing new human body parts will be commonplace. Imagine rows and rows of kidneys growing in a sterile environment. Someone will need to control the growth and harvesting of these. Science qualifications will be important for roles in this area!



**Working in Partnership for the Future:** We are delighted that we have a dedicated community champion, Lynette Stone from Morrison's Latimer Park Distribution Centre, who will be supporting our Raising Aspirations Programme. Lynette has already come in to College to recruit Sixth Form students for part time roles and donated some excellent raffle prizes and products for our breakfast club. The team from Latimer Park will be supporting

our Year 7 Dragons' Den event along with delivering guest speaker assemblies and many more activities.

We are very proud of the Business Links that we have, which really do enrich the students' curriculum and support student pathway choices. If you represent a company and would like to support our Raising Aspirations Programme, please give Ms Pankhania a call or drop her an e-mail [JPankhania@latimer.org.uk](mailto:JPankhania@latimer.org.uk)

## Enriching the Educational Experience and Celebrating Success

### Developing Skills for Life: LORIC Subject Winners

Our students have made such a fantastic start to the year that we have had the difficult task of having to identify the overall LORIC Subject Award winners. However, these have been chosen and prizes are being awarded this week. For those students who were in the running but just missed out, the next round of awards will be in Term 4 so please encourage your child to keep up the hard work and earn lots of epraise points in order to ensure that they are rewarded in the future.

### Our added extras!

Please encourage your child to attend our fantastic range of [enrichment activities](#) which have been updated for Term 2. All are welcome! Those who attend clubs will be awarded with Epraise points in recognition of their wider contributions to College life.

### Sporting Success

Well done to the U16 Girls' Football Team who became Kettering and Corby District Champions, beating KBA 2-1 in the final. A great team performance!

The Year 10 Girls' Hockey Team were runners up in the recent Kettering and Corby tournament, losing out by just one goal! The girls showed fantastic skills, which developed during the course of the league and have been enhanced by training on our new 3G pitch.

We are delighted that we have new, emerging sporting talent with our Year 7 Boys' Football Team winning 3-0 in the County Cup Football. They are now through to the quarterfinals and we are sure that they will win bring home the cup in the near future!

## Other News

### Countdown to Christmas:

Each year it seems to come around more quickly and it is with some surprise that already, the countdown to Christmas is well under way!

**Epraise Prize Draw:** This will take place on Monday 16 December and for as little as 10 epraise points students can enter to win a range of prizes, including Apple EarPods and Amazon vouchers. Students should sign in to [www.epraise.co.uk](http://www.epraise.co.uk) to check out the rewards section to see what they are able to win and decide which of the draws they want to enter. They have to be in it to win it!

**Christmas Dinner:** Please see the [menu](#) for the College's Christmas Dinner which will be served by abm Catering Solutions on Wednesday 18 December.

**Christmas Jumper Day:** On the final day of term, Friday 20 December, students will be permitted to wear a Christmas jumper. Students who wish to participate in this will still need to wear their school trousers or skirts but will not need to wear school shirts, ties or blazers. For those who do not wish to participate, normal uniform should be worn.

Also on the final day of term we will be taking students in Year 7 to St Botolph's Church during Lesson 4 for a Christmas service with carols. Sixth Form students will take part in a team building activity at Beckworth Emporium.

**For all other students, normal lessons will take place and we would remind parents and carers that, by law, students must attend on this day. However, we will be shortening break and lunchtime and finish the school day at 2.15pm.**

### **Snow Contingency Procedures!**

We have been fortunate for a couple of years not to have experienced much extreme weather over the winter period. However, we cannot rest on our laurels and each year we plan early for potential significant snowfall. Whilst students would delight in having 'snow days', as parents and carers we know that you will support us in our aim to keep the College open, as long as it is safe to do so.

Our [Snow Contingency Procedures](#) highlight that one of the strategies that we may adopt in order to keep the College open if there is prolonged and heavy snowfall, but to ensure that students are safe, may be to shorten lunchtimes and finish the College day slightly earlier. This will only be as a last resort and, should we be in the position of considering this, we will let you know. It is vital that we have up to date contact details for you as we will communicate changes via text messages for speed – please let Student Services know of any changes.

We may also call for the support of the local community in clearing pathways should this be necessary!

### **Fancy Trying Something New?**

MyMusic Northamptonshire is running some 12-week projects in music for carers under the name RESONATE. They will be jointly run by Northamptonshire Carers and NMPAT. The first of these projects is for women over 50 in a caring role and begins on Monday 25 November. Another in the future will be for young carers.

Alternative care and/or transport can be arranged for those who wish to attend.

If you know anyone in a caring role who would like more details, they can email [jessicah@northamptonshire-carers.org](mailto:jessicah@northamptonshire-carers.org) or call Northamptonshire Carers on 01933 677837.

### **Dates for your Diary**

Please take the time to view our [calendar](#) and ensure that you are aware of all of the key dates for the year.

Friday 22 November	Year 11 Mock Exams (Until Wednesday 4 December)
Wednesday 27 November	Parent Forum 6.00pm
Monday 2 December	Year 13 Mock Exams (until Friday 6 December)
Friday 13 December	Christmas Music Concert, 7.30pm
Friday 20 December	End of Term 2
Friday 3 January	Training Day (College closed to students)
Monday 6 January	Start of Term 3: College re-opens to students <i>This will be Week 2 on the timetable</i>

Friday 10 January	Year 11 Mock Results Day
Friday 17 January	Year 7 Dragons' Den Event
Wednesday 29 January	6 <sup>th</sup> Form Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE), 5.00pm
Monday 3 February	Key Stage 4 Pathways Fortnight for Year 8 (until Friday 14 February)
Tuesday 4 February	Year 8 Pathways Showcase, 5.00pm
Tuesday 11 February	Year 12 Loughborough University Visit
Wednesday 12 February	College Dance Show, 7.00pm
Friday 14 February	End of Term 3