

Unlocking Potential – Inspiring Excellence

Latimer Latest Updates: 11 November 2022



We now have the following social media accounts and we would be delighted if you could follow us to catch up with our latest news as it happens



@Latimercollege



www.facebook.com/LatimerCollege



[@latimerartsofficial](https://www.instagram.com/latimerartsofficial)

Unlocking Potential – Inspiring Excellence: Being the Best That We Can Be!

We are delighted that following the recent publication of the provisional performance data, the progress that students make at The Latimer Arts College in their GCSEs remains consistently **above average**.

Our Level 3 students achieved fantastic results! They performed exceptionally well and we saw the number of top grades rise dramatically with 32 A*/Distinctions* being awarded. This saw many students go off to university to study diverse subjects from Ancient History to Space Craft Engineering.

There is no better time to be a student at our College and the high quality learning experience that we offer is down to a real team effort. We would like to thank parents and carers for being an active and supportive part of this team.

Applications for places in Year 7 next year have now closed and we keep our fingers crossed that all those who would like a place at our College are able to gain one.

We hope that all those who attended our Sixth Form Open Evening found this an informative event. We would be delighted to receive your child's application. Please visit our [Sixth Form Curriculum and Admissions](#) website page for more information. Alternatively, please contact Miss Magee, Sixth Form Centre Manager: smagee@latimer.org.uk, who will be happy to help.

Learning and Progress

Year 11 and Year 13 Mock Exams: 9 days and counting

With the mock exam season only 9 days away, a reminder that our [Study Support for Students](#) website page lists the websites and apps which students may find useful, whilst our [Ace Your Exams](#) page includes lots of hints and tips, as well as a booklet with revision templates which can be used to help students organise their revision.

We also understand that exams can be seen as stressful and one of the best ways to beat that stress is for students to be properly prepared. However, should parents and carers need advice about how their child can deal with exam stress, please visit the [Young Minds](#) website or the [NHS website](#).

Summer 2023 Examinations: Draft Timetable

A first draft timetable for the summer exams has been released for GCSE and A Levels.

The GCSE summer examinations will run from 15 May 2023 until 21 June 2023.

The A Level summer examinations will run from 15 May 2023 until 23 June 2023.

Please note that an Exam Contingency day has been scheduled for 28 June in the event of national or local disruption to examinations. All students need to be available on this day.

Please be aware that this timetable is only a guide at this stage and is subject to change. It will be finalised early in 2023.

Improving Progress: Personal Learning Checklists (PLCs)

We encourage parents and carers of students in Years 7, 8 and 9 to look out for blue PLC sheets in their 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 and what their priority areas for improvement are moving forwards. This year, these will also be viewable via the School Gateway.

Should you wish to see what your child will be studying in each subject for each term, please visit the [Curriculum](#) pages on our website. Should you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Matthews, Assistant Principal: kmatthews@latimer.org.uk

Parent Carer's Voice: Contributing to School Improvement

We are delighted to host the first meeting of the academic year of our Latimer Parents'/Carers' Forum. The meeting will take place on **Tuesday 15 November from 6pm until 7pm** in Music Room 2 (upstairs in The Masque).

The Parents'/Carers' Forum works closely with the Senior Leadership Team to support College improvement. This is not the same as a PTA, there is no fundraising work involved, only a willingness from parent and carer volunteers who give up their time to engage in dialogue about College improvement. It provides an opportunity for the College to hear the parents'/carers' voice: for them to give feedback, evaluate College systems from a parent and carer perspective and to make suggestions for further improvements.

All parents and carers are welcome to attend. For more information please read our [Parent Carer Terms of Reference](#) or contact JPankhania@latimer.org.uk.

Reminder: Parental Voice Questionnaire

Can we ask those of you who have not yet had the chance to fill in our parental questionnaire to do so by 5.00pm on Wednesday 16 November. The feedback will help us on our journey of improvement. The link is included below.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=3tar8cxff02gPEHrF0qjOxkWZR6P175BkdPLo7KEaFNUM1E0NVI3NDBMVjlyWVVJSjBKSzVaNIQ3Vy4u>

Safeguarding and Well-Being

Clocks Back: Dark Nights Ahead!

Now that the clocks have gone back an hour, we would like to remind parents and carers to talk to their child about keeping safe on the way to and from school. [ROSPA](#) have produced a guide for parents and carers which can be downloaded from their website and which we highly recommend.

On writing, please can we ask parents and carers to ensure that if their child cycles to school, that they wear a cycle helmet and that their bicycle is roadworthy and has working lights.

Supporting our Young Carers at Latimer

We work closely with Northamptonshire Young Carers Service so that we can offer a fantastic provision for our students. A young carer is a student aged between 5-17 years who takes on responsibility for helping to look after someone (usually a family member) who has a long-term illness or disability. This could include a physical disability, learning disability, mental health problem or substance misuse issue.

If your child is a Young Carer, please do get in contact with Mrs H Angel: hangel@latimer.org.uk to see how we can support.

Cyber Security: Do you know your phishing from your smishing?

Or the difference between malvertising and malspam? Cyber security terms can be confusing. To raise awareness during cyber security awareness month we have an excellent cheat sheet to help build your cyber resilience that we have included with this newsletter.

Aiming High: Raising Aspirations and Expectations

Raising Aspiration: Accessing 'Unifrog' for All

In keeping with our commitment to provide students with outstanding careers guidance and tailored support when choosing their next steps after school, we are delighted to be able to provide all students in all year groups with access to 'Unifrog', an award-winning, online careers platform.

The Unifrog platform is designed to support learners in making the most informed decisions about their futures and has a range of tools that are suitable for all year groups. Each student will have their own personal account which provides a wide range of information related to their interests and aspirations.

Please check your inbox for further personalised details on how to access the system.

Enriching the Educational Experience and Celebrating Success



At The Latimer Arts College we are passionate about the value of reading, both for pleasure and as a vehicle for enabling students to access the curriculum. Therefore, we are delighted to be able to congratulate all of our students who have been avid readers in Term 1. In particular, well done to George Carr and Ruby Milson who were the top borrowers from our Learning Resource Centre in Term 1, having read 15 books each and David Rodrigues and Luca Lupici for reading over 1 million words in Accelerated Reader!

In total, Year 7 students have read **12,430,345** words and Year 8 students have read **9,721,401** words this year so far! That is a whopping **22,151,746** words in total!

Spotlight on Enrichment



Welcome to our regular update on enrichment activities across the College. All of the extra-curricular activities on offer can be viewed [here](#). This week we would like to introduce you to... **Science Club**

Students can make their own scientific discoveries and achieve the CREST Award, which is recognised by many universities and further education institutions. The most recent topic at Science Club involved deciding 'Which crisp is the crispiest?' Students have been able to take the reins of their experiments, with methods involving: crushing the crisps, attaching weights onto them and most commonly, burning them!

Why should you encourage your child to come to Science Club?

- Science Club provides a safe environment where students can let their scientific minds roam free.*
- Students can include the courses explored on their CV which is great for any future job, college or university applications!*
- Science Club builds crucial skills such as resilience and problem solving. Experiments can fail sometimes, yet this club reiterates that even the greatest pioneers of all time have once hit a hurdle!*

This runs every Wednesday after school until 4.00pm, students from Years 7-10.

By Grace Stevens – Sixth Form Leader

Leading the Way: Our House Competition Hots Up!

Our mid-term house competition for Term 2 is fast approaching. Results from our two Term 1 House Competitions were:

Escape room: 1st Kahlo House 2nd: Attenborough House 3rd: Tull House 4th: Gilbert House

Basketball: 1st Gilbert House 2nd: Kahlo House 3rd: Tull House 4th: Attenborough House

Can Attenborough or Tull House secure a win this term?

Celebrating our Math-magicians!

We are delighted with the success that our Sixth Form students achieved in the recent Girls' Olympiad:

Libby Quinlivan achieved a distinction; Niovi Konidou-Theodoropoulou a merit and Georgia Burns and Pippa Owen both gained participation certificates.

Children in Need: Together We Can Change Children's Lives

To support Children in Need, we are delighted to be able to offer students the opportunity to participate in a non-uniform day on Friday 18 November. We would like students and staff to join in, wearing any Children in Need merchandise (including Pudsey ears!) or other 'dress down day' clothes, ensuring that they are suitable for a school setting. We want to enjoy the day, and ask that students respect the opportunity that they have been given by dressing appropriately.

We would like to donate the money to two charities that support young people: the national **Children in Need charity** and **Souster Youth**.

Souster Youth have provided support for many of our young people since they have returned to on-site education following the pandemic. Souster have specifically tailored their small group sessions to meet the diverse needs of our students. Now, more than ever, we need to work together to improve the mental health of our young people in the UK and thanks to the support from this brilliant local charity we have been able to make an impact on those who have needed it most. If you would like any more information about Souster Youth, please visit www.sousteryouth.org/

We are recommending a minimum of a £1 donation in support of these charities, but larger donations can be made, from now until Monday 21 November via [School Gateway](#).

Other News

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.

Tuesday 15 November	Parent Forum, 6.00 pm
Friday 18 November	Children in Need Charity Event
Monday 21 November	Year 11 and 13 Mock Examinations (ends Thursday 1 December)
Friday 2 December	Training Day – College closed to students
Thursday 8 December	Christmas Music Concert, 7.00 pm
Friday 16 December	Term Ends

Please note that in order to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III, there will be an additional bank holiday on Monday 8 May 2023. The College will therefore be closed on this day.