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1967-2019

You may have heard the very sad news that our Police Community Support Officer (PCSO), Alex Franklin, passed away suddenly in July. Alex worked tirelessly over the years to support the young people in our community, always seeing the good and potential in those that he worked with: he was a true advocate for the youth of our town. We know that Alex touched the lives of so many and will be very sadly missed.

As a College, we have organised a book of condolence so that our staff and students can offer their messages of sympathy. In addition to this, should any parents or carers wish to make a donation to support the family this can be done via Just Giving: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/alex-franklin> or donations can be made to Cransley Hospice or the British Heart Foundation.

LATIMER LATEST NEWS – 6 SEPTEMBER 2019

Welcome to all of our new parents and carers and welcome back to our existing families for what we hope will be an exciting and successful year for your children.

Well, we are well and truly up and running for the new academic year: as you receive this newsletter, Year 7 will be undertaking their Diamond Maze teambuilding challenge and getting to know each other and the staff at the College.

Look out for our newsletter updates every fortnight. We send them out by email so please let us know if your email address has changed over the summer – a copy can also be found on the College website. Please do take the time to read them: we try to ensure that they include essential information in as succinct a way as we can so that we can keep you up to date with what you need to know.

Please do let us know of any success that your child achieves outside of College – we would love to include this! We would welcome feedback on any improvements that you feel that we could make to the information that we provide.

We very much look forward to working in partnership with you all over the next academic year.

Yours sincerely

Ms Siobhan Hearne
Principal

Open Evening 2019: 'Dreams'

This year's Open Evening is on Thursday 3 October from 5.30pm to 8.00pm. We hope our students will volunteer to help out on the night. More details about arrangements will follow in the coming weeks.

Please note that on 3rd October **the College will close to students at 12.15pm** on this day so that final preparations can be made for the Open Evening.

Learning and Progress

A Level and GCSE Results: turning dreams into reality!

In August many staff and parents had the privilege and pleasure of sharing examination results days with our former Year 11 and Year 13 students. Seeing the sheer joy (and relief) on our students' faces reminds us of what we are all working in partnership to achieve!

Ahead of the publication of national data, we can confidently say that our students have, once again, secured strong progress. Whilst we very much pride ourselves on the progress that individual students make and recognise that not all students may secure the highest of grades, as a College our target was to support more of our students to aspire to, and achieve, a Grade 9 or Distinction* at GCSE this year. We are delighted to say all of our hard work and focus paid off: our students secured 36 more Grade 9s and 23 more Distinction*s. This is a stunning achievement!

'There is a power in people who dream big and work hard'

The countdown clock has begun to tick just that little bit faster now for our new Year 11 and 13 students. We will be doing all that we can to support them to fly over the next year. The question is: does your child have the resilience, determination and commitment to go for it?

Mock Exams
52 school days

Examination Season
145 school days

Our Support for You!

We recognise the positive part that parental support can and does play in the success of their child. Therefore, we want to do all that we can to support our parents and carers. Please do come along to our forthcoming information evenings. We commit to making these evenings informative, interactive (and as short as we possibly can!) but they really will contain relevant information to support your child with the stage of their education that they are at:



Year 7 *Ready, Set, Go*: Tuesday 10 September from 5.00pm
Year 12 *Ace Level 3*: Wednesday 11 September from 5.30pm
Year 11 *Ace Your Exams Evening*: Tuesday 24 September from 5.30pm

The relevant letter of invitation is included once again with this newsletter.

Our Sixth Form Open Evening for Year 11 will be held on Wednesday 6 November at 5.30pm.

A Year 8 Pathways Evening will follow on Tuesday 4 February 2020 to support students and their parents and carers with expressing their GCSE subject preferences.

If you would like any further curriculum information, please either visit our [website](#) or contact Keith Matthews, Assistant Principal: kmatthews@latimer.org.uk

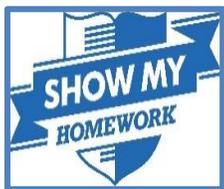
Back to School and Ready to Learn!

A reminder that our start of the year [College Information Pack for Parents and Carers](#) contains key 'need to know' information so that your child is well-prepared for the academic year ahead.

In addition to this, we publish a [Sixth Form Information Booklet](#) to support with those who are joining us for post-16 studies.

You can also view our [College Calendar](#) for details of forthcoming events.

Supporting You to Support Your Child: Show My Homework



The commitment of our teaching staff and students means that we are one of the best schools at using [Show My Homework](#). We look forward to introducing our new Year 7 and their parents and carers to this system. With this in mind, please note that Year 7 homework **will not be set** until week commencing **Monday 23 September**. All other year groups will have homework set from Monday 9 September.

Please note that student timetables can be accessed via Show My Homework.

'Aspire', our homework support session, runs daily in the Learning Resource Centre (LRC) from 3.00pm to 4.30pm and is supervised by two members of staff. All students are welcome to attend on any or all days. A drink and a snack are provided.

Safeguarding

Contacting You: As we start the new academic year, it is vital that we have up to date information about each student. Your child will be issued with a 'Personal Details' sheet for you to check and sign during the week commencing 16 September.

Contacting Us: We need to remind you that should you need to make urgent contact with your child during the College day, this should be done by contacting Student Services Reception. It is not helpful if parents and carers contact their child during the school day via text messaging or calls to a mobile as we will confiscate mobile phones if seen and students will be placed in our daily detention.

Allergies: We are aware that we have students who have severe nut allergies. Whilst we understand that many food products have some elements of nut based ingredients in them, we would be really grateful if you could avoid giving your child obvious nut based products in their packed lunch.

For those parents and carers who are providing packed lunches we ask for your support as we remind you that fizzy drinks and energy drinks are not permitted.

In order to ensure that we are aware of all food related allergies and intolerances or religious dietary requirements, Year 7 parents and carers will receive and complete a form at the *Ready, Set, Go* evening. For students in other year groups, if your child has developed any allergies in the last year, please request a copy of this form from Mrs J Fearnley, jfearnley@latimer.org.uk. Could you please return these forms either electronically or by hard copy to Mrs J Fearnley in the Student Services office or by email to jfearnley@latimer.org.uk.

Enriching the Educational Experience and Celebrating Success

Did you know that just registering your child for Free School Meals means that the College gets extra money?

With this money we could give extra help to students who need it. If you are registered for Free School Meals you could also get help with things like music tuition, school trips or other out of school activities, or there could be help to allow your child to continue into the Sixth Form.

If you want your child to have a free, healthy meal at lunchtime that's great – they will get the free meal (saving you more than £400 a year). Even if you don't want the school meals, as long as you qualify and are registered, the College still gets the extra government funding.

No one will know you have registered and it will not affect any other benefits you are claiming. Our cashless catering system ensures no other student knows who is receiving Free School Meals. Please click [Free School Meals](#) to access the online application form.

Other News

Bus Information

As we start the year, we need to make parents and carers aware of information that we have recently received in relation to the **Stagecoach Bus Service** that we were not anticipating. We are actively liaising with Stagecoach in relation to these unforeseen changes but as it currently stands:

- The 276 and 278 will continue to operate in the mornings as usual.
- At the end of the college day, the 276 will no longer be provided.
- The 276 at the end of the day will be replaced by the public bus service 48, which students can access via bus stops on Polwell Lane between 1515 and 1520.
- The 278 will still be provided. This has been timetabled to arrive at 3.15pm.

We will inform you if we have any further updates on this.

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 10 September	Year 7 Ready Set Go Evening for Parents and Carers
Wednesday 11 September	Year 12 Ace Level 3 Evening for students and parents and carers
Tuesday 24 September	Year 11 Ace Your Exams Evening for students and parents and carers
Thursday 3 October	Year 6 Open Evening, 5.30pm
Tuesday 15 October	Year 10 Northampton University Visit
Wednesday 16 October	Sixth Form Mock Interviews 6.30pm
Thursday 17 October	Sixth Form Mock Interviews 6.30pm
Friday 25 October	End of Term 1
Monday 4 November	Training Day (College closed to students)
Tuesday 5 November	Start of Term 2: College re-opens to students
Wednesday 6 November	Sixth Form Open Evening, 5.30pm
Thursday 21 November	Year 10 World Skills UK Live
Wednesday 27 November	Parent Forum 6.00pm
Friday 13 December	Christmas Music Concert, 7.30pm
Friday 20 December	End of Term 2