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LATIMER LATEST NEWS – 14 FEBRUARY 2020

High Expectations = High Standards

There is absolutely no doubt that having high expectations leads to high outcomes. Running a tight ship has contributed to the delivering of strong student progress and, at The Latimer Arts College, we remain resolute in this. Our [Uniform Policy](#), which, by choosing to send their child to our College, all parents and carers agree to support, contributes significantly to this.

Therefore, as we are now half way through the academic year, it is a good time to remind all that in Years 7 to 11 we do not permit the following:

- Any earrings that are not in the lobe of the ear. Helix and cartilage piercings are not permitted and have never been part of our uniform. Up to two pairs of studs in the lobe of the ear are all that are permitted. Please note that these should be small studs. ***We are starting to see very large, decorative earrings being worn and these are not permitted!***
- Nose studs, and this includes clear bars.
- 'Lines' cut into the hair or shaved hair. Please do not allow this to happen over half term as it will not have grown out for the start of Term 4.

Please do not allow your child to tell you otherwise, nor allow your child to arrive at College breaching these rules! We will implement sanctions in line with our [Behaviour for Learning Policy](#) and this is not negotiable. We will also impose a lunchtime detention for those students who are not wearing their blazers at the expected times.

Learning and Progress

Supporting us to Maintain and Raise Standards

Our Parent/Carer Forum gives parents and carers a voice to support the College to maintain high standards and improve further.

The next meeting will take place on **Tuesday 25 February** 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 kgallon@latimer.org.uk. All parents and carers are welcome to attend.

Examination Countdown: A goal without a plan is just a wish!

As the exam season countdown continues, so should the planning and the subsequent execution of this planning. A reminder that help can be found on our Year 11 and 13 [Exam Support Page](#).

Year 11 will undertake a second round of mock examinations early in Term 4, with some mocks also taking place for Year 13. This will allow students to fine tune their revision, focussing on key topics where they can close the gap and pick up vital marks. To support you as parents and carers, we include some guidance on revision for you with this newsletter as a separate attachment.

Selected Year 11 students will be issued shortly with invitations to our **Easter Revision Programme**. We urge parents and carers to ensure that your child embraces these opportunities and attends all sessions they are invited to. Feedback from past years indicate that they have an invaluable, positive impact on outcomes. There will be further revision sessions offered during the May half term break, but by then the students will already have started their exams! Whether students are attending or not, the Easter period is an essential time for revision for all students. When students return, there will be a matter of days before the hectic exam schedule starts.

Working in Partnership: Year 8 Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE)

Thank you to Year 8 parents and carers for attending the recent pathways evening, which is part of our support for you and your child as they reach the next crossroads in their educational journey. To further support with this the Year 8 SPRE will take place on **Thursday 5 March from 4.30pm-7.30pm** and we look forward to meeting with you again on this evening. Please check that your child makes appointments for you!

Safeguarding and Well-Being

Protecting Your Child

As part of the national vaccination programme, Year 9 will have their teenager booster vaccinations (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Polio and Meningitis ACWY) on either 24 or 26 February.

Many parents have already completed the e-consent form – this must be completed, whether you want your child to be immunised or not. Please be aware that, if no consent form is received before vaccination day, the School Nursing team may give your child the opportunity to self-consent on the day. The e-consent form can be found at: <https://www.nhft.nhs.uk/teenage-booster>

Reading Well Booklist for Children

The charity, The Reading Agency, has launched a [Reading Well](#) for children booklist to support children's mental health and wellbeing. The list covers areas such as anxiety, bereavement and bullying with books by Michael Rosen, Tom Percival, Zanib Mian and Joseph Coelho, selected by leading mental health experts to support the mental health and wellbeing of children.

'Red Box' Scheme: Access for All

You may have recently heard in the news that all schools in England will be able to access free sanitary products, as part of a "fully funded" government scheme to tackle period poverty. At the College we are proud to say that we felt this was so important that we already provide a variety of sanitary products and freshening up toiletries for our female students through our 'Red Box' scheme. Please remind your daughters that we have plenty of supplies and they can come and use the service as often as they like, via our Student Services reception.

Aiming High: Raising Aspirations and Expectations

A Curriculum for Lifelong Success: Developing Employability Skills

As you are aware, we launched an improved Personal Development Programme (PDP) this academic year and in particular introduced the LORIC award, Careers Sessions and the Wellbeing sessions. It is so important that we ensure that these are befitting of our students and we have been overwhelmed by the positive feedback from a recent student voice survey.

In summary, students were incredibly positive about the changes:

- They enjoy the new PDP that we are delivering and they understand the importance of these areas and the skills that they are developing;
- The majority of our students have tried something new as a result of the LORIC award and our students agree they want to complete these tasks to gain the award;
- Students like the Careers and Wellbeing sessions and see the relevance of these to their own personal development.

However, our students have told us that they would like more support with writing CVs and understanding finance and so these are two areas we will certainly include in our future planning.

The school workshops programme brings industry professionals into schools to inspire and educate students about the world of work.

On **Wednesday 26 February** our Year 12 Students will take part in discussions and activities to provide them with information about the “hidden job market”. They will hear first-hand advice from industry professionals and students will have the opportunity to practise networking in person with employers before examining how they can attempt to seek opportunities online through speculative emails and social media. This opportunity will provide our sixth form students with guidance on the skills needed in the workplace in preparation for undertaking their work experience from **13-17 July 2020**. A letter has been issued this week and we enclose a copy again with this newsletter.

‘Take Your Child to Work’ Day: Monday 2 March

Time is ticking down to the exciting day when Year 8 will be off on their work shadowing! All those who have arranged a placement for Monday 2 March should have received a letter – check those school bags if not!

If there are any queries please contact Michelle O’Brien: MOBrien@latimer.org.uk.

Enriching the Educational Experience and Celebrating Success



**Thursday 9 July 2020: Pride of Latimer Awards:
‘Some days, there won’t be a song in your heart. Sing anyway!’**

With this year’s theme of **‘Resilience’** we are looking forward to commencing the nominations process for our Pride of Latimer Awards in Term 4. Please keep this date in mind – your child may be one of our winners!

Countdown to Christmas...?



Well, it will feel like Christmas when we hold our Epraise Easter Prize Draw at the end of this term!

Following the success of the previous draw, we are delighted once again to be able to offer some fantastic prizes for students to spend those well-earned reward points on, including a Nintendo Switch, Vouchers and Easter Eggs.

Students have until **11am on 1 April 2020** to enter and the more points they earn the more times they can choose to enter and boost their chance of winning one of the prizes. **To enter the draw, students will need to log-in to their Epraise account, select the ‘Rewards’ tab and then click ‘Prize Draws’** where they will be able to see the different options that they can choose to enter, which start from as little as just 2 epraise points. Good luck to all of our students who take part!

Leading the way:

So far this year, students have been awarded over 250,000 epraise points in total and as we approach the mid-point of the year we would like to congratulate the massive achievement of Marcus Bowie as our first student to achieve the Ruby Milestone for reaching over 750 epraise points!

We would also like to say a huge well done to Maisy Ashall, Sam Toseland, Jacob Riley, Jacob Jarvis, Mya Cooke, Skye Meekins, Isabel Isaac, James Clutton, Dylan Jackson, Jack Baish, Nikita Jackson, Connor Green, Olivia Jackson and Alex Beards-Glover who have all received the Sapphire Milestone for hitting over 500 epraise points this year. How many will your child be able to achieve by the end of the year?

A Dance Date for Your Diary!

We are delighted to invite you to attend our annual College Dance Show on Wednesday 26 February from 7pm in the Masque Theatre. Providing an opportunity for our dancers to perform in front of an audience supports their self-confidence and performance skills and therefore we appreciate any support that you can give.

Tickets are now on sale from the Masque Theatre Box Office on 01536 414141 or from the website, www.masquekettering.co.uk. Tickets cost £5.00 and £3.50 concessions. We hope to see you there!

Growing Leaders for the Future

As part of our LORIC programme we are passionate about developing key employability skills and we aim to offer our students as many opportunities to display these as possible. We are therefore delighted to have appointed our next cohort of Sports Captains, who will now take over the reins from those who previously held the post. We wish the following every success over the next year:

Castle: Pippa Owen, Kian King, Maria Brear (Tournaments organiser)

Latimer: Millie Lovegrove, Charlotte Lund, Lauren Holder (Tournaments organiser)

Barton: Imarnie Begum-Buckley, Jack Armstrong, Chloe Lee (Publicity officer)

Wicksteed: Fin Marriott, Phoebe Stanley, Sam Dexter

Botolph: Skyler Bettles, Callum Slee

Sporting Success

And it is success like those listed below that our Sports Captains will be encouraging and supporting:

Our U15 Girls' Basketball team are district winners

Our Year 9 Boys' Futsal team are district tournament winners

Our Year 11 Boys' Futsal team are district tournament runners up

A very well done to all who took part!

Sports Facilities Hiring: Now Live!



A reminder that anyone in our local community interested in booking our sporting facilities can do so through Schools Plus. Please contact the Schools Plus Customer Contact Centre on 0345 222 2323 or email enquiries@schoolsplus.co.uk (Mon-Fri 9am – 5pm).

Other News

Meal Deals from abm Catering Solutions

Our catering providers, abm, are pleased to be offering a range of 'small' meals from 99p, for those students who do not wish to eat a full portion. Therefore, we encourage all to come and try some hot, homemade cooked food during these winter months!

Students can still purchase a 'cold' meal deal consisting of any basic baguette, 'cuplet' and small cake for £2.35.

Shrove Tuesday will be celebrated on 25 February, when pancakes, with either syrup or chocolate sauce, will be on sale.

Dates for your Diary

A reminder that the national May Day Bank Holiday **has been moved from a Monday to Friday 8 May for this year only**. This is so that there can be national ceremonies over the weekend to commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day.

In relation to the next academic year, although it seems like such a long time away, we would just like to highlight that, in a change to what we have done in the past, we have a **Training Day planned for Friday 4 December 2020**.

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

Friday 14 February

End of Term 3

Monday 24 February

Start of Term 4: College re-opens to students
This will be Week 2 on the timetable

Year 11 Mock Exam Season (until Friday 28 February)

Tuesday 25 February	Parent Forum, 6.00pm
Wednesday 26 February	College Dance Show, 7.00pm
Monday 2 March	Year 8 Take Your Child to Work Day
Tuesday 3 March	Year 11/13 Photos
Thursday 5 March	Year 8 Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE), 4.30pm
Wednesday 11 March	Collaborative Concert, 4.00pm
Thursday 19 March	Year 7 Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE), 4.30pm
Friday 20 March	Careers Fair: Sixth Form and Year 9
Thursday 26 March	Spring Music Concert, 7.30pm
Wednesday 1 April	Year 10 Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE), 5.00pm
Thursday 2 April	End of Term 4
Friday 3 April	Training Day (College closed to students)