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LATIMER LATEST NEWS – 31 JANUARY 2020

Thank a Teacher

Great teachers show a real interest in who a student is; they listen to a student's thoughts; they inspire a student to learn; and encourage a student to achieve their best, whatever their goals are. At The Latimer Arts College, we recognise that the influence of a good teacher lasts a lifetime.

The national '[Thank a Teacher](#)' programme for this year is now open. Students and their parents and carers can say thank you to an amazing teacher and a card will be sent to them through the post, with your personal message, for free.

Thank you cards received before 12 February will give teachers the opportunity to enter the 2020 National Teaching Awards – televised by the BBC.

Learning and Progress

A goal without a plan is just a wish!

It is all in the planning! As the exam season countdown continues (**53** school days!), we are working hard with students on planning: planning their revision time; planning their revision notes; planning exam answers. Being organised and having a framework to operate within is as important to success as the actual revision that may be taking place.

We have provided a number of documents to support this, all of which have been emailed to students, parents and carers and appear on our [Exam Support Page](#). We strongly urge you to support your child with their exam planning over these crucial final few weeks.

In addition to this, as Term 4 starts, we will publish invitations to our **Easter Revision Programme**, that will be offered during the holiday period. We would ask that you keep this time free, pending the publication of the dates.

Learning and Study Support for All: Home Study through Home Access Plus+

A reminder that **all** students can access their learning from home through Home Access Plus+. This is a web based tool that allows remote access to personal files and shared areas stored on the College IT system. It allows users to work wherever and whenever they choose. All that is needed is a device with Internet access, then use one of the major web browsers e.g. Internet Explorer, Firefox, Safari and Google Chrome and the User's Guide which we have sent as an attachment with this Newsletter.

If students need any support with this, please contact the IT Helpdesk: ithelpdesk@latimer.org.uk

Year 8: Preparing for the World of Work!

It is such an exciting few weeks for our Year 8 students! Their Key Stage 4 Pathways Fortnight is launched on Monday. To support this process, a reminder that the **Year 8 Pathways Evening** is on **Tuesday 4 February** from 5.00pm. In order to support with this evening, students have been issued with a pathways booklet. Please remember to bring this to the evening. Pathways information can also be accessed on our website, under the curriculum tab in the Key Stage 4 Pathways.

Please note that in order to provide an informative experience for you, start times on the evening have been staggered and you will have received a personalised letter by email that contains specific details.

Students will then take part in the '**Take Your Child to Work**' day on Monday 2 March.

This will be followed by the **Year 8 Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE)** on **Thursday 5 March**.

We hope that all of these experiences will provide support for you and your child to make informative pathways preferences. Completed preference forms need to be returned to Student Services by Monday 9 March. Please contact Mr Matthews kmatthews@latimer.org.uk should you need any further support or advice.



Who wants to be a Millionaire?

Well, if it is a millionaire reader, we all do! Having strong reading and literacy skills is essential not only for success in school but also for life-long success. We are passionate about the importance of our Accelerated Reader programme in contributing to this. Those students who read a lot are investing in their future. Therefore, we are delighted to be able to congratulate our latest round of students who have read over one million words:

Brody Golding

Dylan-Jay Sidibe

Bethan Cundy

Fraser Wilson

Braylon Ori-Orison

"Well Read, Write Right" English Homework Challenge

Our Year 7, 8 and 9 homework challenge will also make a vital contribution to this. Launched for 2020, students will complete one task from their homework booklet each week, included with this newsletter, with the final task being due during the week commencing 27 April.

The tasks set every Week 2 of the timetable are reading comprehension tasks. Students are required to read the printed extract and then use it to find the answers to the questions. Through this, students will develop the skill of being able to identify and interpret explicit and implicit information and ideas and to select and synthesise evidence from different texts. These are directly linked to the English Language curriculum.

The tasks set every Week 1 of the timetable are writing tasks. Some are straightforward while others require a little more creative thinking. Students are expected to use the space provided to challenge themselves and each one comes complete with a new learning challenge - one that is designed to help them access the higher levels of the GCSE mark scheme.

Tasks will be assessed each week on the due date and epraise points will be awarded where students have challenged themselves.

Safeguarding

#DITTO: A free online safety magazine

Parents can access a free downloadable [e-safety magazine](#) that will keep you up to date with risks and issues and provide advice and guidance related to keeping children safe online. January's edition includes: enjoying and learning about technology.

- Socialisation or Social Isolation?
- IWF Update - Live streaming
- Social Media Pressures
- Monkey App

Well-Being Cafe for Young People

Mental health organisations in Northamptonshire who provide support for young people, have partnered up together to launch a new pilot offering, [Crisis Cafes](#), for those who find themselves struggling with their mental health or in a crisis.

Youth Works and the *lowdown* will provide a safe place for young people (between the ages of 12 and 18) to come along and receive support for their mental health or if they find themselves in a crisis. The Crisis Cafes are run by friendly mental health professionals who will listen and help individuals in their time of need by providing advice, support or signposting/referrals to the relevant team or organisation.

The Cafes are available to anyone between the ages of 12 and 18 living in Northamptonshire - whether they are in contact with mental health services in the county or not - every Thursday, 4pm to 8pm: Youth Works, Keystone Centre, 97 Rockingham Road, Kettering, NN16 9HX. Tel: 01536 518339

There is no need to call or book an appointment, the doors will be open for young people to drop-in between these times. Please note: the last drop-in is 7.30pm.

Aiming High: Raising Aspirations and Expectations

Move over Lord Sugar: there are new kids on the block!

Our students displayed exceptional LORIC skills as they participated in their Dragons' Den event last week. The pitches that they delivered to our Dragons, The Mayor of Kettering, our Vice Chair of Governors and directors from National Accident Helpline, were creative, passionately delivered and showed their great entrepreneurial skills.

We are delighted that our students were able to access the support of a range of representatives from National Accident Helpline, JobCentrePlus, Datarota, Sassy Communications, Ministry of Defence, SEMLEP and RS Components who spent the morning offering their expertise and advice to develop an advert for a new food or drink product. It is so important that we are able to enhance the curriculum for our students through providing them with access to the world of work throughout their time with us and so we pass on our sincere thanks to all those who contributed.



National Apprenticeship Week 2020 will take place from 3 to 7 February. National Apprenticeship Week is an annual week-long celebration of apprenticeships across England and is a time to recognise and applaud success stories across the country. Take a look at one of our alumni students, [Ellie Driver](#), who, after completing her A Levels at Latimer, has very successfully embarked on a veterinary nurse apprenticeship.

Preparing for Future Destinations

We are delighted that we will be providing our Year 12 students with the opportunity of experiencing university life as we visit the University of Loughborough on Tuesday 11 February 2020. This will provide an insight into what the future could hold for them once they have secured Level 3 success!

Enriching the Educational Experience and Celebrating Success

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 will be on sale from Monday 3 February 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!

Sporting Success

We are delighted that **all four** of our Year 7 and 8 indoor athletics teams have qualified for the County Winter School Games Finals on Tuesday 25 February. This really is a fantastic achievement and we are very proud of them all. We look forward to sharing their future successes with you!

We would also like to pass on our congratulations to the students who took part in the Cross County Championships. Special mentions go to:

Under 17 Boys: Luke Cole 4th, Josh Clutton 9th, Ben Brooker 22nd

Under 17 Girls: Charlotte Lund 4th

Under 15 Girls: Isabelle Lund 9th

Under 13 Girls: Tory Moisey 21st

Sports Facilities Hiring: Live from 1 February 2020!



A reminder that anyone interested in booking our sporting facilities can do so through Schools Plus from 1 February 2020. For any enquiries up to 31 January 2019 please contact Krista Torrens Sales@schoolsplus.co.uk or call 07732 689300.

From 1 February please contact the Schools Plus Customer Contact Centre on 0345 222 2323 or email enquiries@schoolsplus.co.uk (Mon-Fri 9am – 5pm).

Other News

Journey Planning: Roadwork Disruption

Just a reminder that there are 6 weeks of roadworks taking place at the end of Barton Road and the A14 junction. This means that the northbound side of Barton Road (towards Kettering) is closed from the A14 to Linnet Drive. This will inevitably cause disruption and should you use this route, we would ask you to consider your route and journey times in order to do all that you can to ensure that your child is not late for school.

Dates for your Diary

As we enter 2020, we would like to highlight to you 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.

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
Friday 14 February	End of Term 3
Monday 24 February	Start of Term 4: College re-opens to students <i>This will be Week 2 on the timetable</i>
	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)