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LATIMER LATEST NEWS – 5 JULY 2019



Dream Days to Remember Forever!

There have been so many magical, dreamlike moments at Latimer over the last few weeks: as you receive this newsletter we will have just held our Pride of Latimer Awards, we have celebrated with our Year 11 and 13 students; and, this week saw the grand opening of our 3G pitch. A memorable moment for Charlie Nixon, one of our Sports Captains, who scored the first goal!

Our students deserve the very best and now they have it – with even better to come once the Sports Hall (November) and the Science Learning Centre (2020) are complete. Eventually, the sports facilities will be open to our community but for now, our students can enjoy well-deserved exclusive access.

Learning and Progress

Parent/Carer Support Evenings: A Student's Life at Latimer

And as the wheel turns and we prepare the move up for a new academic year, we would like parents and carers to save the following dates in September:



Ready Set Go Evening: For parents and carers of our **new** Year 7 students on Tuesday 10 September

Ace Level 3 Evening: For those students who will be in Year 12 and their parents and carers on Wednesday 11 September

Ace Your Exams Evening: For those students who will be in Year 11 and their parents and carers on Tuesday 24 September

Through a carousel of fast-paced and interactive sessions we aim to equip parents and carers with vital information and strategies that can be used to support their child's learning and progress at this vital stage in their academic journey. More detailed information on each evening will be provided over the coming weeks.

'Moving Up': Year 7 September 2019

We look forward to welcoming our new Year 7 students (and our new staff!) on their moving up day on Monday 8 July. It will be fun-filled and action-packed – just a typical day in the busy life of a Latimer Learner!

Assessing and Reporting Progress from Year 9

At The Latimer Arts College, students start their GCSEs from September of Year 9 and are graded at 9-1, instead of A*-G. The table below gives an outline of how these “new” grades equate to the old style GCSE grades.

New grading structure	Current grading structure
9	A*
8	A
7	B
6	B
5	C
4	C
3	D
2	E
1	F
1	G
U	U

The old and new GCSE grading scales do not directly compare but there are three points where they align, as the diagram shows:

- The bottom of grade 7 is aligned with the bottom of grade A;
- The bottom of grade 4 is aligned with the bottom of grade C;
- The bottom of grade 1 is aligned with the bottom of grade G.

The Department for Education recognises grade 4 and above as a ‘standard pass’ and a grade 5 as a ‘good pass’. Currently, a grade 4 is the minimum level that students need to reach in English and Maths, otherwise they will need to continue to study these subjects as part of their post-16 education. There is no re-take requirement for other subjects.

When students start in Year 9 they will not be assigned a specific target grade for the end of their course, but instead will be placed into one of the following bandings:

- **Excellent:** Targeted to achieve Grade 9-7 at GCSE
- **Secure:** Targeted to achieve Grade 6-4 at GCSE
- **Developing:** Targeted to achieve grades 3-1 at GCSE
- **Emerging:** Unlikely to grade at GCSE

Staff will assess student progress in line with these bandings and report, via Personal Learning Checklists (PLCs), if a student is on track to achieve within these bands. When students move into Year 10 a specific target grade will be issued for each subject.

Reporting in Year 9 will continue as it has done in Year 8, with subjects issuing PLCs throughout the year, once topics and assignments have been completed. This will inform you and your child of the areas of strength and priority areas for improvement within a topic, as well as indicating how well they are performing against their target band. We will let you know when these have been completed so you know to ask your child how they have done! There will be the Year 9 SPRE in April as well as an end of year summary report.

Launching the L.O.R.I.C. Award: Leadership, Organisation, Resilience, Initiative and Communication

We are delighted to announce some changes to our Personal Development Programme (PDP) from September. We are excited to be launching the **PiXL LORIC Award** accredited through the NCFE (Northern Council for Further Education). This is a framework that will encourage and support students to develop those personal attributes essential for employability and life. The scheme will focus on developing these five key attributes, known by the acronym LORIC:

- Leadership
- Organisation
- Resilience
- Initiative
- Communication

We aim to launch the first level of the programme (PiXL Apprentice Award) with Years 7-10. This will allow all students to familiarise themselves with the platform during 2019-20. Going forward, we expect our Year 7s and 8s to work towards the Apprentice Award and our Year 9s and 10s to move onto the Graduate Award. Students will choose their own set of personalised activities (10 in total, 2 per attribute) to complete the award and will be supported by their tutor in the planning and completion of these.

Year 11 will be involved in Unifrog activities during LORIC sessions, which is a research platform that will ready them for applying to sixth form, apprenticeships or alternative further education providers.

Safeguarding

A Risk to Life: Unsafe Cycling

Sadly, we will be starting the process of contacting parents and carers to notify them that their child is banned from bringing a bike to College next academic year. A small number of students are not getting the message about wearing helmets and riding safely and we are sure that parents and carers would be horrified if they saw the danger that students are placing themselves in.

As a College, we cannot knowingly allow our students to put themselves at risk and therefore the privilege of cycling to College will be removed for some. If you do wish your child to cycle to College, please make sure that the message is abundantly clear: they must wear a cycle helmet and they must follow road cycling rules.

Aiming High: Raising Aspirations and Expectations

Our commitment to raising aspirations will continue next year with the following events to look forward to:

Year 7: Team Building Day and Dragons' Den Enterprise event

Year 8: Take your Child to Work Day and Money Matters including the Pound Challenge

Year 9: Careers Fair

Year 10: World Skills Show at the NEC and Ace Your Exams Programme

Year 11: Ace Your Exams Programme

Sixth Form: Work Experience.

All year groups will continue to have Careers Education activities across the curriculum and during our Personal Development Programme to ensure they have all the knowledge and skills to make informed choices about their future destinations.

If you would like to be a guest speaker or support with any of our Raising Aspirations events next year please do get in touch by emailing JPankhania@latimer.org.uk

Enriching the Educational Experience and Celebrating Success

Vivo Grand Draw: Entries Ending Soon!

We ask that parents and carers remind their child that the Vivo system is finishing at the end of the academic year and no points can be carried over into next year. We are offering all students an opportunity to buy raffle tickets for our Grand Draw, for which there are fabulous prizes.

- Staff will award VIVOS until **Friday 12th July 2019**
- The final chance to spend VIVOS is by the end of the day on **Wednesday 17th July 2019**
- The Prize Draw will be held in the 'quad' during lunchtime on **Thursday 18th July 2019**

Record Breakers: Our Marvellous Mathematicians

We are delighted that our students have broken the Latimer record for the number of certificates earned in the UKMT Junior Mathematical Challenge, with a stunning 30 students being recognised. We would like to give a special mention to Anika Dodd and Max Arnold of Year 8 who earned Gold Certificates and Imogen Smith of Year 7 who earned a Silver Certificate and Best in Year. Many congratulations to all who took part!

Class of 2019: An Amazing Day to Remember!

We were so proud to be able to celebrate with Year 11 at their leavers' assembly and Prom. It is so hard to believe that another cohort of students has completed their GCSEs. The Prom was a magical occasion, made better by the kind support and donations from some of our business partners.

We would like to say a huge thank you to: Bugsy's Gentleman's Barber, Turner and Warren, Kerry-Louise Photography and Morrisons Supermarket. Our gratitude also goes to Michaela from Gracious Events for stepping in at the last minute to provide us with our chair covers; Lee Marshall for his ten years' service of being our Prom photographer; and finally Vikki and Kris from the Ritz for providing us with a fabulous venue, DJ and food!

Sporting Success

Not only are we ending the year on a real high in terms of our new facilities, but we are also proud to be celebrating some superb sporting success stories. Well done to Sophia Hoare, Aidan Currall, Caitlin Barrie, Isabelle Lund and Ryan Gardner who have all been selected for the District athletics team.



We also offer huge congratulations to Harry Faulkner who had a very successful Club Championships swimming for Wellingborough Swimming Club at the weekend achieving:

Bronze in 50m Backstroke

Gold in 100m Individual Medley

Gold in 50m Butterfly

Gold in 50m Freestyle

Other News

End of Year Arrangements: Change to the finish time

We wish to inform parents and carers that the College will close to students at **2.30pm** on the final day of term, **Friday 19 July**. All lessons will take place as normal, but in order to prepare for September, we are reducing the lunchtime on this day and, as Houses will take part in an afternoon of activities, tutor time will not take place.

Lawson's buses will pick students up at 2.30pm. However, Stagecoach buses are unlikely to arrive before 3.15pm.

Please Note: There will be no Aspire after school on this day.

Some Reminders: We Need your Support!

Hair Cuts: Please can we remind all parents and carers that students are NOT allowed to have lines cut into their hair or eyebrows. Our uniform policy is clear so please do NOT allow your child to tell you otherwise.

Fizzy Drinks and Sweets: We would also like to remind parents and carers that students should not be bringing fizzy drinks, energy drinks or sweets into College. We are not sure if students are purchasing bags of sweets on the way to school but we are seeing an increasing number of large bags of sweets being consumed during the school day.

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 9 July	Year 10 Geography Field Trip (until Thursday 11 July)
Friday 12 July	Year 8 Black Country Museum Trip
Monday 15 July	World Challenge Expedition Departs
Friday 19 July	End of Term 6
Monday 2 September	Training Day (College closed to students)
Tuesday 3 September	Training Day (College closed to students)
Wednesday 4 September	Start of Term 1: College re-opens to students
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

Other key dates:

Year 13 Results Day:
Thursday 15 August

**Year 11 Results Day and
Sixth Form Registration:**
Thursday 22 August