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LATIMER LATEST NEWS – 15 FEBRUARY 2019

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, to make it abundantly clear, 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.
- Nose studs, and this includes clear bars.
- 'Lines' cut into the hair or shaved hair.

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

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

49
school
days

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

Year 11 and 13 will undertake a second round of mock examinations early in Term 4. This will allow them to fine tune their revision, focussing on key topics where they can close the gap and pick up vital marks.

Year 11 students have been issued with invitations to our **Easter Revision Programme**. We urge parents and carers to ensure that your child embraces these opportunities and attends all sessions. Feedback from past years indicate that they have an invaluable, positive impact on outcomes.

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 Tuesday 26 February from 5.30pm-8.30pm and we look forward to meeting with you again on this evening. Please check that your child is making appointments for you!

Safeguarding

Secret Conversations on Facebook: A parent's guide

There's a little-known feature on Facebook that allows your child to send and receive private messages and images that you will not be able to see, even if you have the log in details to their account. Please do take the time to read this informative article about what parents need to know about [Secret Conversations](#).

Aiming High: Raising Aspirations and Expectations

'Take Your Child to Work' Day: Wednesday 27 February

A final reminder for Year 8 parents and carers that students will be going to work shadow on Wednesday 27 February. If there are any queries please contact Michelle O'Brien: MOBrien@latimer.org.uk.

Future Plans: Understanding the Local Labour Market

The South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership (SEMLEP) [Labour Market Information](#) (LMI) webpage has just been updated with details of the creative and cultural sector and a general overview of the Labour Market in the South-East Midlands. It provides a great opportunity to get an in depth look in the local labour market, the skills and job opportunities in the area.

2019: The year of the apprenticeship!

Included with this newsletter is January's 'Parent Pack' that contains lots of information and advice about apprenticeships. This month also sees the launch of the Department for Education (DfE) "**Fire it up**" campaign, which aims to raise awareness of [apprenticeships](#). You can show your support by using #FireItUp and #BlazeATrail hashtags.

Publishing Success

We were delighted to be able to offer our Year 10 and Sixth Form students the opportunity to hear from a highly successful and self-made publisher as we recently welcomed Debbie Williams, Professor at the University of Central Lancashire.

Debbie established the world's first and only student-led, student-run publishing house, UCLan Publishing. She drove all the way from Lancaster (in her classic Mustang!) to give a truly inspirational talk on the many aspects of publishing: from editing, design, type-setting, promotion, rights, marketing, sales and even working with Christopher Eccleston, to record an audio book.

She talked about her career working for Waterstones as a buyer during the height of Harry Potter mania and now counts J.K. Rowling as a friend; she even showed students her priceless signed first editions of the Harry Potter books.

Debbie hopes to inspire a wide and diverse range of young people to work in the challenging yet exciting world of publishing. She said, "The Latimer students were creative and inquisitive: a remarkable audience!" Students and teachers alike were left truly motivated after the event and talked about how "amazing" and "inspiring" they found the talk.

Future Destinations: Key information

Thank you to all those Year 11 parents and students who attended our new future destinations evening on 31 January. We hope the evening gave you some of the key information you might need to support making decisions and saving for post 18 intentions. There is always so much to digest in one evening that we have all of the [useful information](#) available on the sixth form pathways section of our website. You will find guides on UCAS, Higher and Degree Level Apprenticeships, Student finance and UNIFROG and should you have any questions please do contact kgallon@latimer.org.uk.

Enriching the Educational Experience and Celebrating Success



Thursday 4 July 2019: Pride of Latimer Awards:

A dream doesn't become reality through magic; it takes sweat, determination and hard work

With this year's theme of '**Dreams**' we are looking forward to commencing the nominations process in Term 4 for this year's awards. Please keep this date in mind – your child may be one of our winners!

Celebrating our future JK Rowlings!

Not publishers (yet), but published! Well done to Hannah Rhinds, Jasmine Lambert, Liam Colabuono-McDonagh, Alex Barton, Connor Morris and Morgan King who all entered their mini sagas into the Young Writers' *Survival Sagas: Mission Catastrophe* competition and have been chosen for publication.

And not to be outdone...

We are delighted to launch the Oxford University Flash Fiction Competition for those in Years 7-11 who wish to create a 100 word 'Flash Fiction' story in French.

The deadline for submissions is **noon on Sunday 31 March 2019** and MFL teachers will be explaining more about the competition in the coming weeks.

Dazzling Dance Performances

Congratulations to all the dancers who took part in the College Dance Show. It was a fantastic show and we are very proud of everyone who was involved. Thank you to all those in the audience who offered great support and appreciation.

PiXL Times Table Competition: just look at the numbers!

What an amazing team effort from the students in Years 7,8 and 9 who completed an astonishing **263,000** times tables questions in one week as part of the PiXL Times Table competition! Over **550** students contributed to our grand total. Special mention to the top users in each year group Katherine Rolfe (Year 9), who completed over **7000** times tables; Ruby Bushell (Year 8) ended on an impressive **5600**; and Erin Gray (Year 7) who completed over **6000**.

In terms of the House rankings, well done to Barton House who were our overall winners!

Rank	House	Term 2	Total
1	Barton	1825	1825
2	Botolph	1804	1804
3	Wicksteed	1747	1747
4	Castle	1653	1653
5	Latimer	1550	1550

Sporting Success

Well done to Charlotte Lund, Luke Cole and Ben Brooker who all qualified for English Schools' Cross Country after superb performances at the recent county event.

Other News

Supporting us to Maintain and Raise Standards

Our Parent/Carer Forum gives parents and carers a voice to support with ongoing College improvements.

The next meeting will take place on **Tuesday 7 March** 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 JPankhania@latimer.org.uk. All parents and carers are welcome to attend.

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.

Friday 15 February	Year 12 Loughborough University Visit End of Term 3
Monday 25 February	College re-opens to students: start of Term 4 <i>This will be Week 2 on the timetable</i>
Tuesday 26 February	Year 8 Student Progress Review Evening, 5.30pm-8.30pm
Wednesday 27 February	Year 8 'Take Your Child to Work' Day
Thursday 7 March	Parent Forum 6pm Music Room 2 (Masque Theatre)
Tuesday 12 March	Collaborative Concert, 4pm (Masque Theatre)
Wednesday 13 March	Year 10 Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE), 5.30-8.30pm
Friday 29 March	Spring Music Concert, 7.30 pm (Masque Theatre)
Thursday 4 April	Year 9 Student Progress Review Evening (SPRE), 5.30-8.30pm
Friday 5 April	Year 7 Castle Visit End of Term 4