Parent Bulletin

Principal Dr A T Fowler

Issue 11: w/c Monday 23 November 2026 – Week 2

Dear parents and carers,

There is much to celebrate in our school community this week, with two occasions highlighting the commitment and generosity in our partnership that we value so highly.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Year 7 parents' consultation evening yesterday, Thursday 19 November. The high levels of engagement were wonderful to see, and I am very glad to see parents and carers for taking such an active interest in their children's learning. These conversations are an important opportunity to celebrate progress, ask questions and consider the next steps together. For parents and carers new to our school, they offer another opportunity for us to get to know one another better. They also bring two of our character traits to life: We are curious and We work hard.

I am also delighted to congratulate our whole school community on raising over £1,000 for Children in Need last Friday. Please see the pictures of children in costume later in this bulletin. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the cause and supported the fundraising. A particular 'well done' to our sixth form leadership team for their leadership of this event. This is a fantastic achievement to celebrate together and a powerful expression of We are kind and We get involved.

Whether through a conversation about learning and progress, or a contribution to a shared cause, these moments show what our character traits mean in practice. Thank you for the part you play in helping our young people to be kind, get involved, be curious and work hard. Please take a moment to talk with your child about ways they could

With all good wishes,

Yours faithfully

Dr Andrew Fowler
Principal

Character Awards

Here are a few of this week's character awards.

At Lord Lawson we are kind

"Gary has continued to show great initiative this half-term by taking responsibility for handing out the exercise books at the beginning of each lesson. This is a thoughtful gesture that demonstrates his kindness and consideration towards his classmates, while also helping our lessons get off to a smooth and organised start. Well done, Gary!"

Awarded to Gary in Year 9 by Mr Gomersall

"Freddie has consistently shown kindness by offering to help me at the end of each lesson by collecting all of the folders in, collecting the pens in, and tidying up the tables and mini whiteboards. Freddie's kindness has not gone unnoticed. Thank you, Freddie!"

Awarded to Freddie in Year 7 by Miss Pattinson

At Lord Lawson we are curious

"I have been so impressed with Katie's last two homework responses for GCSE Dance. Katie has shown curiosity for the depth of research and choreography responses, her additional consideration of questions and links between knowledge and personal interpretation has led to very insightful comments. I have been inspired by reading these as these are interpretations that I have never thought of. Be proud Katie and keep this curious approach up – curiosity is a choreographer's most helpful skill, and this will take you far. So proud of you!"

Awarded to Katie in Year 10 by Miss Brown

"Billy has shown a fantastic interest in our current topic of Space. He always comes to lessons with thoughtful questions and is eager to share his knowledge with others in the group. During independent work, Billy carefully records his questions so that we can revisit them later, demonstrating excellent curiosity and self-management. More recently, he has even taken the initiative to research answers outside of lessons and share his findings with me. Thank you, Billy, for being so inquisitive and enthusiastic. Your passion for learning has not only strengthened your own understanding but has also helped to build my knowledge of Space too. Keep up the excellent work, and well done!"

Awarded to Billy in Year 9 by Mrs Long

At Lord Lawson we work hard

"This award is for working hard outside of the lesson in psychology and forming a small study group who support and encourage each other. You have gone beyond the work that is set in lessons to find your own exam questions to practice as revision for assessments. Well done, seeing this level of hard work is excellent and puts you in a great position for achieving well in psychology."

Awarded to Mariya, Hannah and Alfreda in Year 12 by Mrs Rutherford

"Imogen consistently works extremely hard in her maths lessons. She listens to advice and is making excellent progress. Her recent homework (showing full working out and smashing every question!) has inspired me to give Imogen the Character Award. Well done, Imogen!"

Awarded to Imogen in Year 8 by Mr Bramham

At Lord Lawson we get involved
"A huge thank you to Hameerat for supporting during the 6th form open evening. You were a great ambassador for the school!"

Awarded to Hameerat in Year 13 by Mrs Boxall

"Thank you Liqi for presenting your timeline! It was lovely to hear a bit more about you and your background and I appreciate the effort you put into your presentation. I know that you found it a little nerve wracking, so you showed great character to get up there and do it!"

Awarded to Liqi in Year 12 by Mr Clarke

Year 9: News from the Frontline

Last week we were fortunate to participate in an outreach programme offered by the National Archives.

On Thursday 12 November, many of our year 9 students were fortunate to meet Private Thomas Parker, or rather Daniel Dixon, an actor taking on the role of Private Parker. Daniel was telling Private Parker's story, pieced together from a variety of information collated by the National Archives, which was then scripted and delivered by Daniel.

The monologue was full of many of the stories we deliver to students in history lessons; however, having the stories told by an actor in full WW1 uniform made the subject matter more relatable for students, who found the experience so engaging. We learned about Thomas's journey from farmhand to postal worker to officer, and the challenges he experienced in between. Students asked questions which were reflective and thought provoking.

As the outreach programme is a new initiative, we hope to be able to offer similar opportunities to our students in the future.

Mrs C Livesey
Teacher of History



School Photograph Collection

Further to the message in the parent bulletin last week, many students have already collected their school photographs. There will be a further opportunity for students to collect any that are outstanding next week.

If your child has not yet collected your order, assuming you requested delivery to the school, please ensure they are aware of the collection day relevant to their year group below:

Monday - year 10
Tuesday - year 9
Wednesday - year 8
Thursday - year 7
Friday - year 11

Students will collect and sign for photographs from reception during **tutor time** or, if they do not use the scholars bus service, at the end of the school day when they can collect at **3.30pm (but no earlier**). Students are not allowed to collect on behalf of anyone else unless it is a sibling.

Sixth form students are able to collect at any time during the school day.

Mrs A Laverick-Arnot
Administrator

Young Carers

The next Young Carers drop in of this academic year will be on Wednesday 25 November in the conference room at the bottom of the Technology corridor.

Students who are already known to us as Young Carers should have received their Autumn term pass from their tutor.

If you think your child is an unidentified young carer in school, i.e., they assist with the care of a family member who lives in their home, and you would like further support for them, please email me at mglass@lordlawson.academy and I will be happy to help.

Mrs M Glass
Cover Supervisor and Young Carer Coordinator

Music Success!

CONGRATULATIONS to Esther Marshall in Year 10, who this week was awarded Merit for Grade 2 clarinet by the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, **achieving 26 marks above** the pass mark.

Esther performed three pieces to an examiner, along with scales, sightreading, and aural tests. A lot of work went into the preparations for this examination and you should be extremely proud of your achievement, Esther.

Music lessons continue to operate on a weekly basis at Lord Lawson; students should check their lesson times at the start of the day to ensure they know when their instrumental tuition is taking place.

We are delighted with the uptake for music lessons this year and whilst most instruments are now at capacity, should anyone wish to learn a brass or woodwind instrument please see me in PA10 or email rhall@lordlawson.academy for further information.

Mrs R Hall
Assistant Subject Leader – Performing Arts

Year 13: UCAS

Year 13 have made a great start with their UCAS applications. Students have been applying for a wide range of courses/universities including Cambridge, Warwick and Durham. We are proud to hear that students are already receiving offers.

We encourage any student who wishes to apply for university to arrange a time to meet either me, Mrs Stephenson or Miss Milburn to complete their applications. Well done Year 13!

Sixth Form Team















Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service

A reminder that next week, on Monday 23 and Wednesday 25 of November, we have colleagues from the Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service in school to talk to all year 7 students about antisocial behaviour.

The sessions will centre mainly around the risks of fire setting. This is particularly relevant in our community where there have recently been a number of incidents in the local area where a minority of young people have indiscriminately set fires.

We hope that the information provided to students during these sessions will equip them with the knowledge to stay safe and to respect our wider community.

If you would like any further information about the planned sessions, please email me at cbramley@lordlawson.academy and I will be happy to help.

Miss C Bramley
Subject Leader – Personal Development

Children in Need 2026

Many thanks to all the students, parents and carers who donated to last Friday's Children in Need Day. We are delighted to share that as a community we collected **£1,139 for Children in Need**, a fantastic total.

Photographs of the day can be found later in the bulletin.

Miss K Milburn
Sixth Form Pastoral Manager

Year 11 (Class of 2027) Prom

The criteria for students to attend Prom next year has now been finalised. Please check ClassCharts for a letter that has previously been sent to parents, carers and year 11 students that explains the criteria in detail.

Mr L Cumiskey
Year 11 Leader

Sixth Form at Lord Lawson

Open Evening

We wish to extend a large thank you to all of the year 11 students, parents and carers who attended our Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday 12 November. It was fantastic to have productive conversations with our brilliant year 11 students, and we cannot wait to welcome them to our Sixth Form in September 2027.

Post-16 Options Day

On Thursday 26 November all year 11 students will be off timetable as they will be participating in a post-16 options day. The day will begin with an assembly from Mrs Laidlaw and the sixth form student leaders.

Sixty of our year 11 students will spend the day experiencing a carousel of sessions led by Gateshead College, Newcastle College, Nissan, MGL and Ms Leigh, our Careers Advisor. These sessions will focus on applying for apprenticeships, research skills, interview and CV skills.

The majority of students will be spending the day in the sixth form, experiencing four different lessons which they have already selected. In the sixth form students study only three subjects, but the taster day is an excellent opportunity to sample a wider range of subjects to support our students in identifying the subjects they wish to study. To finish the day these students will be involved in a tutor session, experiencing the activities we focus upon in the sixth form. They will also be given the chance to enrol at Lord Lawson Sixth Form should they decide to.

We sincerely hope that this day proves useful for your child and helps them to visualise what their future may look like beyond GCSEs.

All year 11 students will be in non-uniform for the day. However, they are expected to follow the sixth form dress code which has been outlined in an information letter sent to parents/carers this week on ClassCharts. Students must also ensure they bring their phone pouch to school on the day as they will be expected to store their mobile phone as normal.

Mrs J Laidlaw
Assistant Principal and Head of Sixth Form

Sixth Form Open Evening





Children In Need 2026






















LORD LAWSON OF BEAMISH ACADEMY

Academic Year 2026 - 2027 Calendar

Autumn Term Begins	**Tuesday 1 September 2026**	**Staff PD Day - Academy closed to all students**
	Wednesday 2 September 2026	**Academy opens for staff and ALL students**
	Friday 23 October 2026	Last day of term - staff and students finish at 3.20 pm
Autumn Half Term	**Saturday 24 October 2026 to Sunday 1 November 2026 inclusive**	
Autumn Term Ends	**Monday 2 November 2026**	**Academy opens for staff and all students**
	Friday 18 December 2026	Last day of term - staff and students finish at 3.20 pm
Christmas Holidays	**Saturday 19 December 2026 to Sunday 3 January 2027 inclusive**	
	Monday 4 January 2027	**Staff PD Day - Academy closed to all students**
Spring Term Begins	Tuesday 5 January 2027	Academy opens for staff and all students
	Friday 12 February 2027	Last day of term - staff and students finish at 3.20 pm
Spring Half Term	**Saturday 13 February 2027 to Sunday 21 February 2027 inclusive**	
Spring Term Ends	**Monday 22 February 2027**	**Academy opens for staff and all students**
	Thursday 25 March 2027	Last day of term - staff and students finish at 3.20 pm
Easter Holidays	**Saturday 27 March 2027 to Sunday 11 April 2027 inclusive**	
Summer Term Begins	**Monday 12 April 2027**	**Academy opens for staff and all students**
Early May Bank Holiday	**Monday 3 May 2027**	**Academy closed for staff and students**
	Friday 28 May 2027	Last day of term - staff and students finish at 3.20 pm
Summer Half Term	**Saturday 29 May 2027 to Sunday 6 June 2027 inclusive**	
Summer Term Ends	**Monday 7 June 2027**	**Academy opens for staff and all students**
	Friday 16 July 2027	Last day of term - staff and students finish at 3.20 pm
Summer Holidays		
	*** Good Friday 26 March 2027**	**** Return to school date Monday 6 September 2027 tbc**

Calendar Dates and Upcoming Events for the Autumn Term

Date	Event
Thursday 19 November	Year 7 Parents and Carers Evening: 3.45pm to 7.15pm
Monday 23 to Friday 27 November	Year 9: Ullswater residential trip
Monday 30 November to Friday 11 December	Years 11 and 13 Autumn assessments
Thursday 10 December	Year 7 Pantomime
Tuesday 15 December	Christmas Showcase (timings tbc)
Friday 18 December	Last day of term for staff and students
Monday 4 January 2027	Staff Inset Day – Academy closed for students
Tuesday 5 January 2027	Academy open for ALL students as normal