Parent Bulletin

Principal **Dr A T Fowler**

Issue 21: w/c Monday 16 February 2026 – Week 2

Dear Parents and Carers

We received our Ofsted Report Card this week. I am sending a copy to all parents and carers. Our report card will also be posted on the school's website. Next week, Ofsted will publish the report card on its website. This is a good report, with many very positive comments about different aspects of the school's work, our students, staff, leaders and governors. There are also some pointers (called 'next steps' in the report card) about work that we are continuing to do to improve the quality of education we offer. Please take the time to read the report card fully.

Thank you to all parents and carers of Year 9 students who attended last night's Options Evening. Turnout was very good, despite the horrible weather. Speaking to people throughout the evening, their feedback was that they found the evening and the whole options process informative and helpful. We expanded the process this year, including videos from subject leaders, discussions during tutor time, and a much fuller programme of taster lessons. Students in Year 9 now have some important decisions to make; I know that many of them have already made up their minds. Please continue your supportive conversations, and please don't hesitate to contact us if we can help further.

We are continuing to consult on our proposal to extend the school day and to shorten the autumn and summer terms. Thank you to those of you who have already given feedback, via email, or through one of our consultation events. Your questions and comments, and the quality of discussion have been excellent. There are two more events planned for this coming week. We will also send out a very quick questionnaire today – thanks in advance for your time and support in completing this.

Finally, congratulations to our excellent mathematicians, who have achieved great success in the Intermediate Maths Challenge. Impressive work!

All best wishes,

Yours faithfully

Dr Andrew Fowler
Principal

Intermediate Maths Challenge: The results are in!

The Maths Department are delighted to announce the following results from this year's Intermediate Maths Challenge. All the students faced a challenging paper and were competing with peers across the country so huge congratulations to the following who were graded as follows:

Year 10: Addison Brown – Best in Year
Year 9: Chloe McRae and Ollie Sutcliffe – Joint Best in Year.

The full results, including the score achieved by students (out of 135) can be found below:

Year 10			
Addison	Brown	65	GoldBiS
Joseph	Curtis	64	Gold
Bailey	Hodgson	63	Gold
Ava	Turnbull	60	Silver
Nathan	Seddon	57	Silver
May	Harker	54	Silver
Elize	Estudillo	50	Silver
Chui Shan	Law	49	Silver
Bailey	Baldwin	48	Silver
Alfie	Bell	48	Silver
Inaya	Khalid	48	Silver
Kieran	McLain	48	Silver
Alfie	Aynsley	46	Silver
Harry	Fairbairn	46	Silver
Darin	Omar	46	Silver
Harry	Keenan	45	Bronze
Leia	Musk	44	Bronze
Sebastian	Swistak	44	Bronze
Isabelle	Skelton	42	Bronze
Maisie	Ewart	41	Bronze
Sami	Sasmazer	40	Bronze
Ralph	Slater	40	Bronze
Ellis	Kerry	39	Bronze
Francesca	Taylor	39	Bronze
Kahlan	Ridley	38	Bronze
Ethan	White	36	Bronze
Finley	King-Booth	35	Bronze

Year 9			
Chloe	McRae	59	SilverBiY
Ollie	Sutcliffe	59	SilverBiY
James	Hulme	50	Silver
Owen	Crompton	49	Silver
Esther	Marshall	48	Silver
Luke	Brighton	47	Silver
Harvey Jack	Clephane	47	Silver
Jack	Davies	45	Bronze
James	Marshall	45	Bronze
Elliott	Vincent	45	Bronze
Oliver	Cooper	44	Bronze
Thomas	McCaughey	42	Bronze
Arron	Fisher	41	Bronze
William	Purcell	40	Bronze
Tomas	Dawson	38	Bronze
Gethin	Burton	36	Bronze
Lawrence	Steel	36	Bronze
Wilf	Besterfield	35	Bronze

Mr L Robertson
Teacher of Mathematics

Year 10: Continued football success!

Congratulations to the year 10 boys football team who have reached their 3rd final in 3 years, after beating St Thomas More 2-1 in the Semi Final on Monday 9 February. The boys came from 0-1 behind to win 2-1 in dramatic fashion in the final stages of the game.

Thank you to the huge number of family members and students who came to show their support, especially as the weather was not the best.

This season's Gateshead Cup final will take place at Dunston UTS Football Stadium, on Thursday 2 April. Details will follow nearer to the date.

Mr L Cumiskey
Year 10 Leader



Billy Elliot the Musical:

Congratulations to all 11 of our Billy Elliot male lead role auditionees. You each performed with professionalism and emotion during Wednesday's audition and should be proud of your progress and achievements during a challenging series of activities.

The second round of auditions for this same group of Performers continues next Wednesday, 18 February, 3.20pm to 5pm. We look forward to seeing more exciting performances from you next week; good luck!

A reminder that Performers not auditioning for lead roles will return to Performers after half term on Wednesday 4 March, 3.20pm to 5pm as normal.

If you have any questions about Billy Elliot The Musical or Performing Arts at Lord Lawson, please contact me at sbrown@lordlawson.academy and I will be happy to help.

Miss S Brown
Subject Leader – Performing Arts



Caring for our school site and the wider community

Litter

As a school, we are an integral part of the local community, and it is important that we **all** show respect for the area in which we live and work. Recently, I have received several complaints about students dropping litter on their way to and from school. We regularly remind students of their responsibility to look after the community and our local environment. This message is reinforced through tutor time, assemblies and our personal development curriculum.

I would be grateful if parents and carers could remind their children of the importance of disposing of litter appropriately. Any waste should be placed in a bin. If students need to discard items on their journey to school, they should use the street bins provided or wait until they arrive on site, where there are several bins available on the approach to the building.

Thank you for your support as we work together to maintain a clean and respectful community environment.

Parking

I have made several requests to parents and carers to be mindful of their parking around the school site and within the surrounding housing estates.

Unfortunately, we continue to observe a significant number of vehicles parked on double yellow lines and on the pavement. I have also received several complaints from local residents regarding parents and carers blocking or restricting access to their driveways. These choices place our students at risk.

I am asking all parents and carers to make suitable arrangements to collect their children from a location that is safe, legal and considerate to our local community. Or, where possible, to encourage their children to travel to and from school by bus, on foot or by bicycle.

We also ask that you remind your children about choosing a safe place to cross the road. For example, crossing on a blind bend puts them at risk of being struck by oncoming vehicles. We have recently observed students crossing in locations that place them, and others, in danger.

Thank you for your cooperation as we work together to keep all of our students safe.

Mr I Cooper
Deputy Principal – Pastoral Care and Inclusion

Lost Property

Friday 20 February is the last day of school for this half term; staff and students will finish school at 3.20pm as normal.

Any lost property items that are not clearly identified as a students and have not been returned or claimed by their owner by Friday 20 February, will be disposed of.

Mrs S Wakefield
Office Manager

Neuro Support Events

Gateshead Family Hubs and Early Help are co-hosting Neuro Support Events, for families with children who have suspected ADHD or autism and/or families with children who are on the neurodevelopmental assessment pathway. The events hope to provide families with support and are held monthly at one of three of the Gateshead Family Hubs.

All of the sessions are drop-in sessions so you do not need to sign up. There will be a number of representatives from a variety of support services including: Gateshead Parent Carer Forum, Early Help, Family Hubs, Neurodiversity Citizens Advice, School Inclusion Team, SEN Support Space, Children's Society, CYPS 0 – 19 Health Service, and the Emotional Wellbeing team.

The dates and locations are:

Date	Time	Location
Wednesday 28 January	9.30 – 11.30am	Deckham Family Hub
Wednesday 18 February	12.30 – 2.30pm	Chowdene Family Hub
Monday 23 March	12.30 – 2.30pm	Blaydon Family Hub
Wednesday 29 April	9.30 – 11.30am	Deckham Family Hub
Wednesday 20 May	12.30 – 2.30pm	Chowdene Family Hub
Monday 22 June	12.30 – 2.30pm	Blaydon Family Hub
Wednesday 15 July	9.30 – 11.30am	Deckham Family Hub
No Event Over the Summer Holidays		
Wednesday 23 September	12.30 – 2.30pm	Chowdene Family Hub
Monday 19 October	12.30 – 2.30pm	Blaydon Family Hub
Wednesday 25 November	9.30 – 11.30am	Deckham Family Hub
Wednesday 16 December	12.30 – 2.30pm	Chowdene Family Hub

Mr I Cooper
Deputy Principal – Pastoral Care and Inclusion

Upcoming Parents' and Carers' Evenings

The year 12 parents' and carers' evening takes place in school on Thursday 5 March 2026. Details have been provided to parents and carers and the SchoolCloud system is open for appointments.

The year 10 parents' and carers' evening takes place in school on Thursday 12 March 2026. Details for this evening will be sent to parents and carers next week.

Both of these events are appointment based and are in-person rather than online.

Mrs S Wakefield
Office Manager

Lord Lawson
SIXTH FORM

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TOGETHER.

Knowsley
City Learning Centres

Online Safety Newsletter February 2026

Screen time and resilience: A psychologist's guide

The BBC have published an article with an expert in parenting and child development, Dr Martha Deiros Collado. It includes tips and advice to help you in supporting your child online.

The article explores nine ways in which you can help your child to develop their media literacy skills, for example how to encourage your child to challenge what they see online and how to start conversations using real life examples, as well as how to develop healthy screen time habits.

At the end of the article, there are links to further articles that may be of interest to you, such as how to manage your child's online world without clashing.

You can find out more here:

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zwb3tcw

Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You can use the translate tool on our web version: https://www.knowsleyclcs.org.uk/february-2026-secondary/

Using AI to alter images

AI image generator and moderator tools are widely available and often used by children. Whilst these tools can be used for creative purposes, we need to ensure our children are aware of the appropriate way in which to use them and the circumstances when they should not be used, even if harm is not intended.

What are AI image generator and moderator tools?

It is when Artificial Intelligence is used to create or modify images, for example it could be used to swap faces, change expressions or for more sinister reasons, such as to remove clothes. These images are often very realistic and therefore difficult to see that they are fake.

Privacy concerns and consent

If your child is using these tools, they need to be aware of potential loss of privacy and the importance of consent. They should know that they should only use images of other people with consent.

What does my child need to know about using these tools?

- Children shouldn't use AI tools to manipulate images of school staff. Even if the child's intention is not malicious, children should not use AI tools to create or edit photos of teachers under any circumstances.
- Manipulation of images of friends or other children – if you are using images of other people, then consent **must** always be sought.
- The tools should not be used to create images that can embarrass or hurt others - this is a form of online bullying.
- Copyright issues – who owns the copyright? These images could be reused by others, which can affect their own digital footprint.

What should I do?

- Chat to your child if they are using these tools and ascertain the reason why. Ask them to show you the images that they have created.
- Check the age ratings of any apps/websites that your child is using and set up appropriate parental controls.
- Develop your child's digital literacy by teaching them to recognise online risks and to behave responsibly online

Further information

- https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-to-children-about-ai
- https://oursaferschools.co.uk/2025/02/18/understanding-image-consent-at-schools/

TikTok

You must be over 13 years of age to use TikTok. TikTok is a social media platform for sharing and watching short video clips. If your child is using TikTok then make sure appropriate security / privacy settings are applied.



Account set up

It is important that your child enters their real date of birth as accounts are tailored by age e.g., Direct Messaging is disabled for accounts aged 13-15. In addition, advertisements are tailored by age. By default, accounts for people under 16 are set to private. You can read more about the other settings available, such as switching off comments and restricted mode here: https://support.tiktok.com/en/account-and-privacy/account-privacy-settings/privacy-and-safety-settings-for-users-under-age-18

Family Pairing

Family Pairing allows you to link your own account to your child's account. You can then set controls such as restricted mode or tailor your child's 'For You' feed by selecting keywords that TikTok will use to filter out posts. You can find out more here: https://support.tiktok.com/en/safety-hc/account-and-user-safety/family-pairing

What do I need to be aware of?

- **Inappropriate content and themes:** whilst against guidelines, explicit and inappropriate content can be found on this platform, for example nudity/sexual content and hate speech. Some of the songs available to lip sync to may contain inappropriate lyrics/themes.
- **Challenges:** We often see viral challenges on social media, some of which can be **risky/dangerous**. Sadly, there are reports that children have died whilst attempting online challenges. Children may not yet have developed the skills and ability to critically analyse that what they see online is not always safe for them to replicate.
- **Stranger contact:** chat to your child about how people may not be who they say they are when online.

Refresh your feed

You can refresh your "For You" feed to update the content recommended: https://support.tiktok.com/en/account-and-privacy/account-privacy-settings/refresh-your-for-you-feed

Blocking and Reporting

Show your child how to use the safety features available.

Further information

- https://parentzone.org.uk/article/tiktok
- https://www.tiktok.com/safety/en/guardians-guide

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date released 01.02.26. The inclusion of any links does not imply any affiliation with or

Balance screen time tips

Internet Matters have created simple tips to help you develop healthy online habits for your child. They also answer key questions such as "how much screentime is too much" and "is gaming bad for children." Access this information here:

https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/creating-a-balanced-digital-diet-with-screen-time-tips

7 Steps to Good Digital Parenting

The Family Online Safety Institute have created seven steps to assist you as a digital parent. Find out more here:

https://fosi.org/program/7-steps-to-good-digital-parenting/

Children's Commissioner launches new guide for parents and carers

The Children's Commissioner has released a new guide to help you in managing your child's digital life. The guide was written with direct involvement from children.

It includes advice on setting boundaries such as no devices in the bedroom and how to chat to your child. You can find the guide here:

https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/blog/what-i-wish-my-parents-or-carers-knew-childrens-commissioner-launches-guide-for-parents-and-carers-on-managing-childrens-digital-lives/

Calendar Dates and Upcoming Events for the Autumn Term

Date	Event
Friday 20 February 2026	Ski Trip
Friday 20 February 2026	Last day of term for staff and students – school finishes as normal at 3.20pm
Monday 2 March 2026	Staff and students return to school at 8.40am
Thursday 5 March 2026	Year 12 Parents Evening 3.45 – 6.45pm (in-person event)
Thursday 12 March 2026	Year 10 Parents Evening 3.45 – 6.45pm (in-person event)
Thursday 26 March 2026	Year 5 Open Evening 4.30 – 6.30pm
Thursday 2 April 2026	Last day of term for staff and students – school finishes as normal at 3.20pm
Tuesday 14 April 2026	Naples Trip
Monday 20 April 2026	Staff and students return to school at 8.40am