

Parent Bulletin

Week commencing Monday 11 December 2023 – Week 2

Dear Parents and Carers

We held our sixth form open evening on Thursday this week. Many thanks to the families of our year 11 students who braved the truly atrocious weather to visit and find out about our sixth form offer. Our sixth form provision is good and is improving year on year. In recently published figures, we rank in the top third of the country for student progress. This is a massive accolade, and a clear marker of the quality of education we provide for students who choose to stay with us.

We passionately believe that staying on at Lord Lawson is the best choice for the vast majority of our current students. The relationships they have built with our teaching staff simply cannot be replicated elsewhere. By the end of five years, we know each student, their quirks, and vitally, how we can best help them learn. This knowledge is lost if they leave us. I am aware I am writing to all families, not just those with children in year 11, but this message is an important one whatever stage your child is at with us currently. I would hope you know and trust that we provide a good standard of education and excellent pastoral support. As ever, we are continually striving to improve further, nothing is more important to us than the progress your children make under our care.

Turning back to the weather, many students are arriving in school on chilly and wet December mornings without a coat. When we talk to them, they often say they didn't think it would rain or be so cold. I am well aware of the tiny probability that I am about to have a Michael Fish moment, but my recommendation to all would be we live in the North-East, it is winter, it is very likely to be cold and wet. Please try and convince your children of the need to always bring a coat, at least until Spring is sprung.

With all good wishes,

Yours faithfully

Mr J Dicocco
Deputy Principal

Year 11: Prospective Sixth Form Applicants

The next steps in your educational journey are both exciting and important. It is a time when you are able to choose subjects that you enjoy from a selection of academic and vocational courses. The qualifications that you gain in these subjects will allow you to progress to university, an apprenticeship or into the world of work.

For further information on our sixth form and application process, please use the following link to our website, or speak to your subject teachers or members of the sixth form team with any questions you may have.

[Lord Lawson of Beamish Academy: Sixth Form](#)

Mrs K Kendall
Assistant Principal

Student Attendance

As the industrial action taken by Nexus and Go North East bus drivers has ended, we would like to remind parents, carers and students, of our expectations regarding student attendance and punctuality to school.

As a school, we have been understanding with regards to students arriving late throughout the recent periods of industrial action. However, our expectations are now that students arrive to school and are through the main internal gates by 8.45am Monday to Friday.

We are aware there are a significant number of roadworks around the local area. It is important, therefore, that students give themselves sufficient time to catch a bus, and parents and carers who may bring their child to school by car ensure they allow extra time to account for roadworks and any additional traffic.

Attendance and punctuality are intrinsically linked to student performance and we thank you, as always, for your support.

Mr I Cooper
Deputy Principal

Flu Vaccinations

The following message is sent on behalf of the South Tyneside Immunisation Team.

Any student who missed their flu vaccination on Tuesday this week, or who had missed the booking deadline for consent, can book to have the vaccination at one of a number of clinics that are being held on the run-up to the Christmas period.

Please use the following link: [STIT Flu Vaccination Consent](#)

The code NB137942 should be used to identify the academy.

Mr D Brydon
Health Unit Officer

Girls Active

The PE department are launching a Girls Active morning club which will run every Wednesday starting 13 December 2023, to female students in Year 10 and 11.

The club will run from 7.55am to 8.35am and will have a focus around fun, fitness and participation.

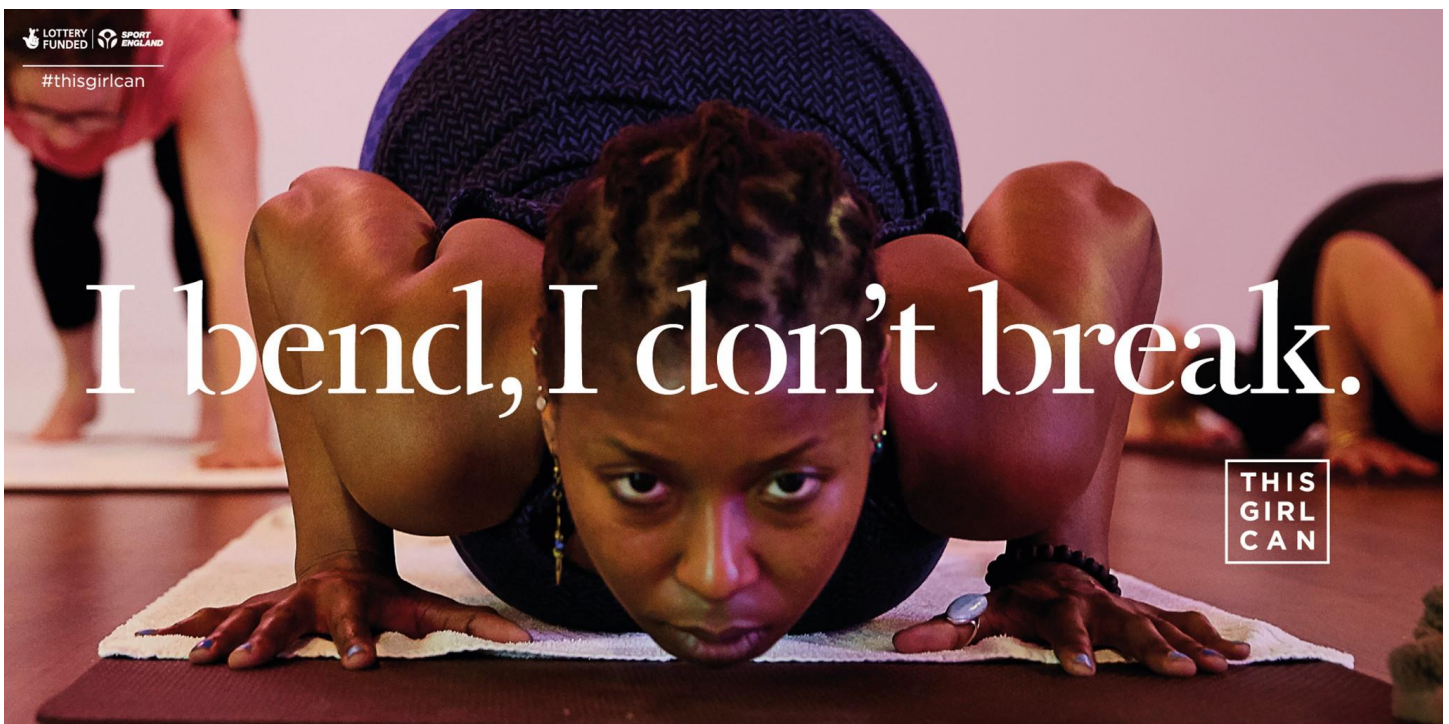
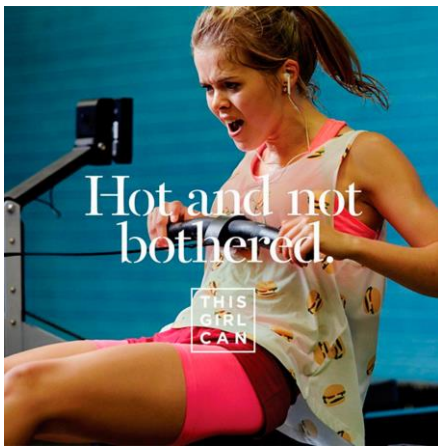
Sessions will include activities such as step aerobics, yoga, spinning, boxercise, body pump and dancercise.

Students wishing to attend should arrive to school in their PE kit, with their uniform in their bag to change into after the session. Students will receive a canteen food voucher for attending the session which they can use at break time.

I hope to see you there!

Miss Golby

Deputy Subject Leader – PE



Lord Lawson of Beamish Academy Pantomime: A Shrektacular Christmas

Thank you all for your support towards our first original Academy Pantomime, A Shrektacular Christmas. The event will be performed for one night only on the evening of Tuesday 12 December. The event is now sold out!

Cast members have one final compulsory evening rehearsal on Monday 11 December, 3.20 to 5pm. They will be off timetable on show day to participate in an essential health and safety and technical rehearsal. The rehearsal will finish at 3.20pm and students should return to the academy for 5.30pm for registration and performance preparation.

If you have any queries about the pantomime, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at sbrown@lordlawson.academy and I will be happy to help.

Miss S Brown

Subject Leader – Performing Arts



Lord Lawson of Beamish Academy
Presents
**A SHREKTACULAR
CHRISTMAS**
An original Lord Lawson of Beamish Academy Pantomime
Tuesday 12 December 2023
7pm Start - Main Hall
Tickets £6.00
(Non-refundable)
Available from Academy Reception
Is audience participation compulsory?
...OH YES IT IS!

Should you require any adjustment or assistance for access to seating please contact sbrown@lordlawson.academy on purchase of tickets. Late arrivals will not be permitted into the hall until the interval to maintain the health and safety of our students during the performance.

Visitors Survey

From Monday 4 December, for a two-week period, visitors to the academy will be asked to complete a short survey with regards to the reception area.

The survey will be on an iPad and will take only a minute or two to complete. It will be completely anonymous but will provide us with feedback to inform future decisions we make about redesigning the reception area.

Your support, as always, is greatly appreciated.

Mr D Cave
Assistant Principal



Lord Lawson Community Christmas Project: Give the Gift of Food this Christmas

This week saw the launch of our Community Christmas Project, which is being driven by our Student Council, in partnership with The Birtley Hub.

From Monday 27 November, we will accept food donations on behalf of The Birtley Hub (linked to the Birtley Foodbank) and will continue to do so for the four weeks leading up to Christmas.

Further information relating to the project i.e., suggested items for donation, appropriate packaging etc., can be found on our website by using the following link:

[Community Christmas Project 2023](#)

If you would like information on how to access foodbanks, or how you can volunteer at a foodbank across the Christmas period, then please use the following link: [Trussell Trust Foodbanks](#).

Thank you as always for your support.

Mr D Cave
Assistant Principal

Upcoming School Events

At the beginning of every term, we will publish a list of upcoming school events in this bulletin. Communication of some events, such as Parents' Evenings, will also be communicated separately via email, so please ensure you look out for these.

The events for this term are:

Tuesday 12 December: Lord Lawson Pantomime, *A Shrektacular Christmas*, ticket only event. Prompt 7pm start.

Thursday 14 December: Year 7 – Pantomime at Theatre Royal Newcastle: Pinocchio.

Year 13 Parents' Evening, 3.45 – 6.15pm – Appointments will be online.

Friday 22 December: Last day of school for staff and students – Christmas holidays begin Saturday 23 December. School reopens for all students on Monday 8 January 2024.