

Parent Bulletin

Week commencing Monday 22 January 2024 – Week 2

Dear Parents and Carers

I should like to start this letter by introducing two new colleagues, who have joined us as members of staff this term. We are delighted to welcome them, and we know that they will further enhance the quality of education and pastoral care we offer your children.

Mr Aidan Hodgson has become our Year 11 Leader. Mr Hodgson joins us having taught in two local schools and with experience as a year leader and responsibility for personal development. At Lord Lawson he will work very closely with Mrs Smith as we support students in Year 11 to prepare for their formal examinations and to plan for the next stage of their education. We hope that as many students as possible will wish to stay on to our sixth form. Around 100 have already applied for their place. One of Mr Hodgson's first duties will be to work with Mrs Smith to plan the Year 11 Prom, and I know that he is writing to parents on this subject this week.

Miss Sophie Whiting has joined our Physical Education department. Miss Whiting worked at Lord Lawson four years ago, as part of her professional training. We are very pleased to welcome her back, after her successful teaching of both PE and Dance at a high-performing local school.

There are a few other staffing changes. Mrs Michelle Glass, who is one of our cover supervisors, has moved over to teach Geography full time this term and next. Mrs Glass is a qualified and experienced Teacher of Geography, and she was previously a subject leader for Geography at another school. Miss Sally Mills, another of our cover supervisors, who is a qualified Teacher of Physical Education, will teach half a timetable of PE and will continue to cover classes for absent colleagues in other subjects for the other half of her timetable. We are fortunate to have such an expert team of cover supervisors, all of whom are qualified teachers and who can offer specialisms in a range of subjects.

It was good to see so many parents and carers of Year 11 students at our online parents' evening last night. I have asked Mr Cave to collect the views of parents and carers about our parents' evening system, to make sure that we are giving you the experience and the information you need to encourage your children to make great progress at school. Please take a few moments to complete this survey. Mr Cave will share the results with you as soon as they have been analysed.

We are also seeking your views on the catering services we offer at school. Our contracted caterers, Chartwells, welcome your feedback on their menus and some possible changes. Please refer to the information later in this bulletin. In parallel with this survey, our student council representatives will meet with our catering team to discuss menus and food choices. Whilst we cannot promise to meet some preferences (some students have told us they would like chicken nuggets and chips every day, which is clearly not a good idea!)

You will also see in this bulletin that our departments are increasing the levels of revision support available to students across the year groups, and particularly in Year 11, and we are proud to launch our Breakfast Fitness Club, a great initiative by our PE Department. I hope that many students will want to take advantage of these opportunities. We are also offering support for young carers, and for families who have experienced domestic abuse. Please see the details later in this bulletin.

With all good wishes,

Yours faithfully

Dr Andrew Fowler
Principal

Year 11: After School Maths Revision Sessions

Your child has completed a mini review in their maths lesson, which has been used to identify which topics they need to complete further work on to embed their knowledge. To support our students in this, we are hosting a number of revision sessions over the next two weeks, which have been listed for you below.

Monday 22 January:	Higher Topic 1 (LCM/HCF) in MA22 Foundation A, Topic 1 (Fractional Indices) in MA29
Tuesday 23 January:	Foundation B, Topic 1(FDP) in MA26
Wednesday 24 January:	Higher, Topic 2 (Standard Form) in MA22
Monday 29 January:	Foundation A, Topic 2 (Standard Form) in MA28
Tuesday 30 January:	Higher, Topic 3 (Index Laws) in MA211
Wednesday 31 January:	Foundation A, Topic 3 (Substitution) in MA20 Foundation B, Topic 2 (Standard Form) in MA23

Students know which sessions are relevant to them and should attend those.

We will be running a further series of sessions, details of which will be provided in future Parent Bulletins.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me on djackson@lordlawson.academy and I will be happy to help.

Mrs D Jackson
Subject Leader - Mathematics

Breakfast Fitness Club

From Monday 22 January, the PE department will be introducing a morning fitness club that will take place before school on Monday and Wednesday mornings, from 8.00 to 8.30am. This will run in the first instance up to February half term.

The sessions will be supervised by and open to the following:

Monday:	All year groups – supervised by Mr Wyllie
Wednesday:	Year 10 and 11 girls only – supervised by Miss Golby

This is a new initiative to provide students with the opportunity to use our new fitness equipment. We anticipate interest to be high and spaces are limited. Any student wishing to attend these sessions must sign up with the supervising member of staff as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Mr D Wyllie
Subject Leader – PE

Chartwells Catering Services

Our catering colleagues in Chartwells are looking for feedback on their services, to help further develop the food provision in school for students.

On the following pages there is a flyer, which contains links to a series of Pop Up Menus for a range of food styles coming to our cafeteria this term. There is also a link to a short survey, which they would appreciate students completing, with your help.

Thank you for your support.

Mr J Pedlingham
Business Manager

Parent and Carer Wellbeing Support Group

Two of the North East's leading community counselling and support services, Impact Family Services and Bright Eyed and Bushy Tailed, have come together to offer an online support group for parents and carers who may be affected by domestic abuse.

If you are interested in sharing your experiences in a safe, supportive, and non-judgemental environment, then please join us.

Further information on dates and times can be found in the flyer later in this bulletin.

We hope to speak to you soon.

Layla
Impact Family Support Services

Simon
Bright Eyed and Bushy Tailed

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

We hope you enjoyed the festivities and are feeling fresh and raring to go.

We've got some cracking pop-ups for this term to add excitement to your dining halls. Join us for **Conscious Cantina** with dishes that are good for you and good for the planet. We also have pancakes with yummy toppings for **Pancake Day**, plus delicious dishes to celebrate **Chinese New Year** and also **British Pie Week**.

[Pop Up Menus](#)

SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

Your feedback helps shape the menus we serve every day.

From designing tasty recipes to choosing nutritious snacks, everything we do is driven by student insight. Please share your thoughts by filling out our short survey.

[Complete the Survey](#)



ANTI-WHAT?

Antioxidants are found in foods like fruit and vegetables. They help our bodies fight off cell damage and can reduce the risk of many diseases, including heart disease and certain cancers.

Try to eat some antioxidant-rich foods each day, including **bananas**, **berries**, **broccoli**, **eggs**, and **leafy greens**.

PARENT WELLBEING SUPPORT GROUP



ONLINE SESSIONS FOR PEOPLE AFFECTED BY DOMESTIC ABUSE

Alternate Mondays

Between 10am to 11:30 am: Starting January 15th 2024

Between 7pm to 8:30pm: Starting January 22nd 2024

- If you want to understand yourself better
- If you want to use knowledge for your own empowerment
- If you would like some honest and open company
- If you want to share your story in a safe environment
- If you are struggling at all and would benefit from off-loading your distress.

Then you've come to the right place.

This group is set up to be relaxed and informal. Nothing is expected of you, other than to be respectful to yourself and the other participants.

Possible themes may include: safe spaces, self-worth, the self, relationships, coping strategies, recovery, empowerment, change, wellness, looking to the future.



For a link to this group or for any questions you might have please text Layla (from Impact) on 07932952653 or Simon (from Bright Eyed & Bushy Tailed) on 07549698050.



Young Carers: Drop In Sessions

If you have a child who helps to look after someone in their family, and you would like them to receive extra support, please inform their year leader or myself and we can refer them to The Carers Trust.

Charlotte Osgerby and Christine Tindale from The Carers Trust host monthly drop-in sessions for our young carers in school, all of which are supported by me.

All the sessions are held on a Wednesday in the small conference room next to the atrium at lunchtime on each of the dates below:

31/01/24

28/02/24

27/03/24

24/04/24

26/06/24

Students must have a pass to attend which they can collect from me and must have this with them to show to staff to access the sessions.

On all other Wednesdays I am available for additional support; I will be based at the far end of the school library.

If you have any questions or would like further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at: mglass@lordlawson.academy and I will be happy to help.

Mrs M Glass

Young Carers Support

Upcoming School Events for the Spring Term

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

For your advance notice, the events for the Spring Term are listed below:

Date	Event
Wednesday 31 January:	Intermediate Maths Challenge Year 11 Blood Brothers Trip
Thursday 1 February:	Year 9 Parents' and Options Evening, 3.45 – 6.45pm. Appointments will be online.
Monday 12 to Friday 16 February:	National Apprenticeship Week – all year groups.
Friday 16 to Friday 23 February:	Ski Trip.
Friday 16 February:	Last day of school for staff and students – Half term holidays begin Saturday 17 February. School reopens for all students on Monday 26 February.
Wednesday 28 February To Saturday 2 March:	Berlin Trip.
Monday 4 to Friday 8 March:	National Careers Week – all year groups.
Thursday 7 March:	Year 8 Parents' Evening, 3.45 – 6.45pm. Appointments will be online. World Book Day .
Thursday 21 March:	Year 5 Open Evening, 4.30 – 6.30pm., for students who will be joining secondary school in September 2025.
Thursday 28 March:	Last day of school for staff and students – Easter holidays begin Friday 29 March (Good Friday). School reopens for all students on Monday 15 April.
Tuesday 2 to Saturday 6 April:	Lloret de Mar Sports Trip.