

Parent Bulletin

Week commencing Monday 5 February 2024 – Week 2

Dear Parents and Carers

It was good to ‘see’ so many of you at last night’s evening for parents and carers of students in Year 9. I hope you found the discussions valuable and that you were able to gain the information you need to support your child in making good progress in their subjects, and in their choices for next year. The information brochure for options has been produced; this has been distributed to students, and a copy is on our website: [Options-booklet-2024-Low-res.pdf \(lordlawson.academy\)](https://lordlawson.academy/Options-booklet-2024-Low-res.pdf).

After each parents’ evening, Mr Cave sends out a short electronic survey so that we can hear your views and responses. It takes just 2-5 minutes to complete. Response rates have been good for the three surveys we have held so far this academic year. We very much appreciate your feedback, and we will share the results with you when they have been analysed.

Several of our teachers and leaders have recently completed National Professional Qualifications (NPQs). They received the results of their assessments this week. I offer my warmest congratulations to the following colleagues, who after studying for a year have obtained these further professional qualifications:

Miss Ness (Subject Leader: Business) - leading teaching
Mrs Malloy (Deputy Subject Leader: English) - leading behaviour and culture
Mr Cumiskey (Acting Year 8 Leader) - leading behaviour and culture
Mrs Robinson Dodd (Deputy Subject Leader: English) - leading teacher development
Mrs Rutherford (Subject Leader: Social Sciences) - leading teacher development
Mrs Long (Professional Tutor) - leading teacher development
Mrs Bell (Teacher of History) - leading literacy

These national professional qualifications were fully funded by the Department for Education, and were delivered by Ambition Institute, a national training organisation for education which whom we have chosen to work for our school improvement and training initiatives. It is significant that so many of our middle leaders are keen to develop their skills: working with Mr Dicocco and Ms Ford, they will use what they have learned to improve the quality of teaching and learning across the school. This commitment to staff development is one of the reasons that Lord Lawson has been able to improve so quickly over the past few years. Your children are already benefiting from the insights into cognitive science their teachers have gained and the skills they have developed.

You will see from our Careers Bulletin that next week is National Apprenticeships Week. We have seen an increase in popularity and variety of apprenticeships over recent years, and particularly since the COVID pandemic. Apprenticeships are practical training courses that may be started aged 16 or 18. For some students, these are suitable courses following GCSEs. Many other students find that the range and status of apprenticeships available at age 18 – in other words, after sixth form – is broader and richer. At this age, degree apprenticeships are also available from some employers, who pay for students to complete university degree courses as well as receiving a salary for their practical training. These vocational options offer alternative routes into further study and careers.

Many of our students prefer to follow the traditional route of university study. I want to offer my congratulations to two of our current sixth form students, Lucy McGuinness Brown and Navjot Kaur, who have both received offers from Cambridge University. Lucy intends to read modern foreign languages, and Navjot intends to read medicine. Other students have also received offers of places at different universities, across a wonderful range of subjects. We are very proud of them all.

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 12 February:** Higher, Topic 5 (Error Intervals) in Ma28
- Tuesday 13 February:** Foundation A, Topic 5 (Reverse Percentages) in Ma29
Foundation B, Topic 5 (Percentage of an Amount) in Ma22
- Wednesday 14 February:** Higher, Topic 6 (Create and solve equations) in Ma20
- Monday 26 February:** Foundation B, Topic 6 (Basic Probability) in Ma28
- Tuesday 27 February:** Foundation A, Topic 6 (Ordering Standard Form) in Ma23
- Thursday 29 February:** Higher, Topic 7 (Sharing in a Given Ratio) in Ma23
Foundation A, Topic 7 (Pythagoras) in Ma25
Foundation B, Topic 7 (Substitution) in Ma27
- Monday 4 March:** Higher, Topic 8 (Volume of Cones/Pyramids) in Ma28
- Tuesday 5 March:** Foundation A, Topic 8 (Relative Frequency) in Ma22
Foundation B, Topic 8 (2D shapes) in Ma26

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

Personal Development: Mental Health

February is the UK mental health awareness month. Throughout weeks commencing Monday 5 and Monday 12 February, all students in years 7 to 11 will complete a lesson on the topic of mental health.

The lesson includes content from the 'Here4You' campaign. The campaign sees six of the UK's leading mental health charities uniting to support young people's mental health, and to provide guidance for parents and teachers. All schools in the UK are urged to participate in mental health awareness month.

Parents and carers can find lots of useful advice, from FAQs to downloadable packs, to help support the brilliant young people in their lives using the link below:

[Here4You - No One Should Feel Alone](#)

If you have any questions regarding the upcoming mental health lessons, please email me at: lcumiskey@lordlawson.academy and I will be happy to help.

Mr L Cumiskey
Year 8 Leader and PD Coordinator

Year 8 Subject Parents' Evening

The year 8 subject parents' evening is scheduled to take place on **Thursday 7 March 2024**, 3.45 – 6.45pm.

The evening will once again be online. Further details will follow in the coming weeks, please check the parent bulletin and alerts you may receive via Class Charts.

Mrs S J Wakefield
PA to SLT

Reports on My Child at School (MCAS)

The reports for year 9 students are now live on MCAS.

If you have forgotten your login details for MCAS, please contact Mr Davison at: ddavison@lordlason.academy who will be happy to help.

Mrs S J Wakefield
PA to SLT

Instrumental Ensembles

Lunchtime instrumental rehearsals are continuing this term. Students who receive lessons in school will be fully aware of these groups and should already be attending. Students who may participate in lessons outside of school are very welcome to come along and join in the fun!

Strings: For students who play violin, viola, cello, or double bass – Every Wednesday at 12.45pm in PA12

Wind: For students who play flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, cornet, trombone, etc. – Every Thursday at 12.45pm in PA12.

Activity passes and further information can be obtained by contacting Mrs Gray (agray@lordlawson.academy) in the performing arts Department.

Thank you.

Mrs A Gray
Teacher of Music

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:

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
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.