

Parent Bulletin

Week commencing Monday 29 April 2024 – Week 1

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been another successful week in the Academy. Year 10 students have been enjoying their work experience placements, whether at the Academy or at other organisations. This is likely their first opportunity to experience the world of work. The lessons they learn are vital and help shape their future. If your child is in year 10, I hope you have taken the time to speak to them about their placements. Plenty of students come back from these with renewed enthusiasm for learning, having seen first-hand where their qualifications may take them.

Meanwhile, in the Academy, examinations for year 11 have begun in earnest; over this week and last many children have completed their 10 hours practical art-based exams. I have been dropping in to check on students and all have been positive about the experience and the outcome. Completing their first GCSE's is a huge achievement. Please congratulate any child in this position. I hope we can all build on this success, working together to support our children through the stressful exam period.

For the whole school, our assemblies this week have focused on showing respect to our environment, specifically, the growing issue of littering. As you can see from a notice later in this bulletin, this has become a problem not just on Academy grounds but also on buses. We need students to understand they show respect to their surroundings by disposing of litter in careful ways. Children here benefit from superb facilities but they only stay this way if we look after them. Similarly, Birtley and the surrounding areas will be better places if all our students learn this message and apply it to their community. If you could spend some time talking about this to your child it would make it clear that you know and agree with the message, therefore making it more likely for habits to change. In this, like everything here, "together we grow, learn and succeed."

With all good wishes,

Yours faithfully

Mr J Dicocco
Deputy Principal

Gateshead SEND LEGO Club

The Gateshead SEND Team are delighted to announce the first session of their pilot scheme: SEND Lego Club.

The club is aimed at children and young people aged 8+ who have additional or SEN needs. Parents and carers are also welcome.

The club will be trialled for the first time on Tuesday 30 April 2024 and will be based in the Chowdene Family Hub, Gateshead, NE9 7TU. The session will run from 4pm to 5.30pm, but you can drop in and out at any point during those times.

If the pilot session next week is successful, we will look to continue on a more regular basis. Should you have any feedback or ideas, please contact: AlexThompson@Gateshead.Gov.uk or phone 07783657601 for further details.

*Ms McCarthy
Deputy SENDCO*

A promotional poster for the SEND LEGO Club. The poster features a central white rectangular area with a border of colorful LEGO bricks in red, yellow, green, and blue. At the top of the white area is the text 'SEND LEGO CLUB' in a stylized font, with 'LEGO' in large white letters on a red background and 'SEND' and 'CLUB' in black. Below this, the date and time 'Tuesday April 30th 4:00 - 5:30pm' are listed, followed by the location 'Chowdene Family Hub'. A line of text reads 'Children and young people aged 8+ with additional needs - come along and build! Parents and carers welcome'. Contact information is provided: 'Contact: AlexThompson@Gateshead.Gov.UK 07783657601'. At the bottom, there is an illustration of four LEGO minifigures in blue overalls and red hard hats, engaged in building with various colored bricks. In the bottom left corner, the 'Gateshead FAMILY HUBS' logo is displayed, and in the bottom right corner, the 'Gateshead Council' logo is shown.

Chartwells

Chartwells – our school meal provider – are passionate about encouraging and enabling more children to make healthy choices and enjoy a nutritious school meal to get the most out of their day. The Chartwells culinary team are excited to be launching the new spring summer menu filled with crowd-pleasing classics and fresh, seasonal flavours as well as serving up some foodie fun with their themed menus.

During the summer term, there will be themed menus such as St George's Day in April, Mexican themed Fiesta Fun in May, and celebrating National Picnic Week in June. All menus for their themed events can be found using the following link: [Themed Pop up Menu](#)

Mr J Pedlingham
Business Manager

Mr G Dixon
Chartwells Catering Manager

ISSUE 03 | SPRING 2024

FOOD UNION EAT DIFFERENT

Your **NEW** menu is now **LIVE** and we have something different to tantalise the taste buds of all students, each and every day!

Our spring/summer menu is packed with deliciousness, including a tasty **Burger Bar**, lovingly **Loaded Nachos**, customisable **Mac Shack**, **Hot Dog Heroes**, delicious **Hot Deli**, on-trend **Street Food**, flavoursome **Friday Favourites**, plus plenty more – we can't wait to see you at the counter.



POP-UPS A PLENTY

To add even more choice to students' appetites, we have a whole term of pop-ups for you to look forward to as well!

There will be a May of **Mexican Mayhem**, **Street Food** specialities in June, and we will end the school year on a foodie high with **The All American**.



ENERGISE TO REVISE

It's important students fuel their body correctly when they are revising, as this can take a toll on energy levels. Feelings of hunger create brain fog, whilst being overfull results in sluggishness, both resulting in them not performing their best. Make sure meals are balanced with:

- 1 third carbohydrates
- 1 third fruit/vegetables
- 1 third dairy/protein/fats



FOOD UNION
BY CHARTWELLS

Ski Trip 2025: Extension to Form Return Date

Further to my message in the parent bulletin last week, completed expressions of interest forms for the proposed Ski Trip 2025 can now be submitted up to Wednesday 1 May. This extension is to accommodate year 10 students who are out of school on work experience this week.

The submission date will not be extended after 1 May.

Students can collect a letter with further information from Mrs Hulme in MA29. Students should collect the letter at the start of lunchtime.

Mrs S Hulme
Teacher of Maths and Trip Leader

Important Message About the Scholars Bus Services

Due to a noticeable increase in concerns raised by the drivers of Gateshead schools scholars' buses, Go North East are now monitoring the cameras of every Gateshead scholar service bus on a daily basis.

The issues reported by drivers include students littering the bus, throwing items at other students, failing to follow the instructions of the drivers which can be a health and safety concern, fighting on the buses, and generally being unpleasant to others.

On each bus service, there are cameras that cover all areas of the bus. This CCTV will be provided to schools to review if issues are identified.

Should any Lord Lawson students be observed acting inappropriately on any of our scholars' buses, sanctions will be issued within school. Incidents may also be reported to Northumbria Police and the privilege of using the scholars' service may be removed from a student.

Our students have been advised of this information in tutor time this week. Should any student have a concern in relation to their journey on a scholars bus, they should speak to their year team.

Mr I Cooper
Deputy Principal

Year 7 Subject Parents' Evening

The year 7 subject parents' evening is scheduled to take place on **Thursday 2 May 2024**, 3.45 – 6.45pm, and will take place online.

If you have not as yet booked your appointments online via School Cloud, please do so as soon as possible. If you are experiencing any difficulty logging onto the system, or have forgotten your login details, please contact Mrs Spraggon at: sspraggon@lordlawson.academy and she will be happy to help.

Mrs S J Wakefield
PA to SLT

Exam Stress Dropin Sessions

Gateshead Children and Young People's Primary Care Mental Health Service team offer children, young people and their parents/carers support to manage low mood, anxiety and emotional regulation difficulties.

The team have planned regular drop-in sessions for parents and carers on specific mental health presentations. Initial feedback from parents has been positive for example, "Very helpful, thank you for the resources. I really appreciate your support".

A common issue around this time of year is the exam stresses many children experience. To support our Gateshead community the team have arranged a number of sessions for this particular issue. Why not drop-in and meet children's therapists to find out how exam stress can present in a child, and what you can do to support them? There will be various free resources to take away with you.

The sessions are planned to take place on the following dates at a number of different venues:

Date	Time	Venue
Monday 29 April	2pm to 3pm	Gateshead Central Library, Prince Consort Road, Gateshead, NE8 4LN
Tuesday 30 April	2pm to 3pm	Larkspur House, Larkspur Community Primary School, Beacon Lough East, NE9 6SS

We hope many of you will take the opportunity to access one of these sessions.

Mr I Cooper
Deputy Principal

Upcoming School Events for the Summer Term

At the beginning of every term we 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. The events for the Summer Term are:

Date	Event
Thursday 2 May:	Year 7 Parents'/Carers' Evening, 3.45 to 6.45pm, online.
Monday 6 May:	Early Spring Bank Holiday (School closed to staff and students)
Tuesday 7 May to Wednesday 26 June:	GCSE and A Level External Examinations
Friday 24 May:	Last day of school for staff and students – May half term begins Monday 27 May (Late Spring Bank Holiday). School reopens for all students on Monday 3 June.
Wednesday 26 June:	Year 10 into year 12 Taster Day.
Wednesday 26 June:	Transition Evening for parents'/carers of pupils who will be joining us in September 2024.
Friday 28 June:	Year 11 Prom.
Saturday 29 June:	Year 13 Prom.
Monday 1 and Tuesday 2 July:	Year 6 Transition Days – for pupils who will be joining us in September 2024.
Monday 1 to Friday 5 July:	Year 12 Work Experience Week.
Wednesday 3 July:	Year 11 into year 12 Transition Day.
Monday 8 to Wednesday 10 July:	Year 12 – Life After Lord Lawson.
Monday 8 July:	Year 7 Awards Evening, 5.30 – 6.30pm.
Tuesday 9 July:	Year 8 Awards Evening, 5.30 – 6.30pm.
Wednesday 10 July:	Year 9 Awards Evening, 5.30 – 6.30pm.
Thursday 11 July:	Year 10 Awards Evening, 5.30 – 6.30pm.
Monday 15 July:	Sports Day – All students.
Friday 19 July:	Last Day of Term for Staff and Students.
Thursday 15 August:	KS5 (A Level) Results Day.
Thursday 22 August:	KS4 (GCSE) Results Day.