

Parent Bulletin

Week commencing Monday 17 June 2024 – Week 1

Dear Parents and Carers

On Tuesday, our Year 11 students 'left' the academy. They sat their science examination, then they had some time signing shirts, talking to friends and taking pictures, and they had a short leavers' assembly with some reminders of their time at Lord Lawson. They then left school early with their copies of the Yearbook and their memories of an important rite of passage.

I have put the word 'left' in inverted commas, for several reasons. Many of the same students were back in the following days to sit some of their last examinations. We hope to see as many of them as possible at their prom on 28 June, and when they pick up their GCSE and vocational results on Thursday 22 August. And, importantly, we hope to see as many of them as possible next year in our sixth form. Whether they are moving on or staying with us, they will always be our Lord Lawson students, and we hope to see them again in the future.

I feel a particular bond with this group of students. I arrived at Lord Lawson just four school weeks before they did, in June 2019. They have therefore been the first year group that I have seen all the way from arrival to examination results. Together, we faced COVID, lockdowns and starting school again, coming to terms with all the different rules and regulations of the pandemic and its aftermath. Together we have transformed this school. Together, as you might expect me to say, we have grown, learnt and succeeded! I have valued the characters and contributions of these students, I am proud of the young people they have become, and I hope their futures are truly wonderful.

I have some changes to announce in our Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Department. Today Mrs Angela Ganning leaves us for promotion at another school. Mrs Ganning has worked in our Learning Support Room, helping students overcome difficulties with their learning, their concentration, their attitudes and their behaviour. I want to thank Mrs Ganning for everything she has done for our children, and we wish her well in the future.

I can also announce the appointment of our two Assistant SEND Coordinators. These are Mrs Jill Whittle and Miss Rebecca Mouat. Both Miss Mouat and Mrs Whittle have already been working for us as higher level teaching assistants; they now take up responsibilities in working with Mrs Potter to coordinate and direct the work of our SEND team to support many of our students. We look forward to their work in these new positions.

Finally, we were visited this morning by the Joint Council for Qualifications Examinations Inspector. He visits examination centres every year, quality assuring the conduct and supervision of examinations. The inspector declared Lord Lawson to be a 'Centre of Excellence' for examinations, and he highly commended our students, invigilators and examinations officers on the way that examinations are conducted. Having declared the school to be excellent in this respect, he told us, 'you could not do any more than you do to support your students in their examinations.' On your behalf, I would like to thank Mrs Cooksey and Mrs Ridley, our Examination Officers, our team of invigilators, and our pastoral and subject staff, for the support they give your children at this important time.

With all good wishes.

Yours faithfully

Dr Andrew Fowler
Principal

Academy Production 2024 – The Wizard of Oz, Youth Edition

This week the Performing Arts Department were delighted to announce the cast of **The Wizard of Oz, Youth Edition**. All Lord Lawson Performers have participated in a workshop style audition process and have been waiting patiently with much anticipation for the final cast reveal. The news was received from the cast with enthusiasm, team spirit and student pride in themselves and their fellow cast members.

Casting always brings some very difficult decisions, and this year was no different. All students involved in the audition process should be praised for their creativity, effort, professionalism and resilience. Whatever role students have secured they will play a vital part in the success of the production, and congratulations should be passed on to all students. All ensemble performers will perform in a number of character roles but have been divided into three main groups as we begin the initial staging of the production.

The Wizard of Oz will be performed in the penultimate week of Autumn Term 1 (not the final week as previous productions). Dates will be: Tuesday 15 – Friday 18 October 2024, with tickets going on sale in September. Further details about the production and tickets will be provided in parent bulletins nearer the time.

We look forward to welcoming any future Lord Lawson Performers from our new Year 7 cohort into our Oz cast from September.

Performers rehearsal will continue every Wednesday after school, 3.20 to 5pm, until the end of term. Main cast members will be asked to attend an additional weekly rehearsal and this will be agreed with them during the next rehearsal.

For further information about The Wizard of Oz, Youth Edition, please contact me via email on mail at sbrown@lordlawson.academy and I will be happy to help.

Miss S Brown

Performing Arts – Subject Leader



Lord Lawson of Beamish Academy proudly presents...

The Wizard of Oz Youth Edition: Leading Cast

Dorothy – Scarlett Malone
Toto – Ella Watson
Glinda – Heidi Laybourne
Miss Gulch/Wicked Witch – Jeannie Wetherell
Scarecrow – Louie Huntley
Tin Man – Ted Gladstone
Lion – Ellie Choake
Professor Marvel/The Wizard of Oz – George Anglesea
Aunt Em – Marla Eltringham
Uncle Henry – Ewan Cameron McIntosh
Nikko – Tom Lane
Mayor of Munchkin City – Finn Charlton
The Guard of Oz – Toby Cowan–Pickard

Understudies:

Dorothy – Ella Watson
Toto – Lucy Failes/Evie Harrison
Scarecrow – Grace Clelland
Tin Man – Finn Charlton
Lion – Toby Cowan–Pickard



Year 6 – Transition Events and Communication

Firstly, a warm welcome to the parents and carers of our year 6 students who are joining us in September.

Communication

The Parent Bulletin is issued weekly on a Friday, with key items of information, notices, and reminders for parents, carers and students. This will be different to the way many of you are contacted about information by your child's primary school. Many of you may be used to receiving letters home on a regular basis for such items, but we, as a school, communicate mostly electronically.

The bulletin is sent to parents and carers via ClassCharts. However, as we will not have year 6 students on ClassCharts until nearer September, we will email the bulletin to you in the interim period. Alternatively, you may wish to visit our website via the following link and read past bulletins, as a copy is also posted there on a Friday after it has been issued:

[Parent Bulletins](#)

New Intake Evening

You should have received a letter, either via the post or your primary school, about our New Intake Information Evening on Wednesday 26 June 2024.

This is an important introductory meeting, where Dr Fowler, the Principal, and members of our Senior Leadership Team will formally welcome you and your children to the Academy. You will be provided with key information regarding your child's education, and which class they will be in for the transition days on **Monday 1 and Tuesday 2 July 2024**.

To ensure everyone can be seated comfortably in the hall there will be two meeting sessions, which should last approximately half an hour.

Session one – 5.00pm to 5.30pm: All parents/carers and students from **primary schools with names beginning A to K**, e.g. Barley Mow, should attend this session.

Session two – 6.00 to 6.30pm: All parents/carers and students from **primary schools with names beginning L to Z**, e.g. Ravensworth, should attend this session.

Transition Days

On **Monday 1 and Tuesday 2 July** all year 6 students will participate in two days of activities, which will provide your child with an authentic taste of life at Lord Lawson, in preparation for their start with us in September.

Additional information about transition days will be provided at the New Intake evening and can also be found in the New Intake letter previously sent.

We are looking forward to welcoming your children on 1 and 2 July and are excited to have this opportunity to help them to feel as though they are part of the Lord Lawson community before they join us in September.

Mrs A Jacobson
Year 7 Leader
And Transition Coordinator

Mrs K Coates
Year 7 Deputy Leader

Laptops on Loan from Lord Lawson

A reminder for parents and carers that any student in year 11 or year 13 who have a laptop on loan from the school, must return the laptop by Wednesday 26 June.

We will be contacting parents and carers via email initially to advise you if your child has been identified as having a school laptop on loan.

Many thanks for your understanding and support.

Mr L Gale
ICT Support Manager

School Uniform Reminder

I am aware that we are coming to the end of this academic year. However, I feel it important to remind parents and carers that our expectations regarding students attending school in full and correct uniform have not changed.

Should you have an issue regarding your child's uniform, please either speak to the year team or ensure your child comes into school with a note from you, which they should take to their respective year team staff.

Mr I Cooper
Deputy Principal

Attendance Incentive

On Monday 13 May, we launched to students our attendance incentive for the end of the summer term. All students who meet the entry requirements will enjoy a 'Fun Day' during the last week of term, the day and date of which will be confirmed later, but I can confirm it will not be the last Friday of the summer term i.e. 19 July 2024.

Student attendance will be reviewed for an 8-week period, from Monday 13 May 2024 to Friday 12 July 2024.

The criteria for students to qualify for this incentive and reward is based on a 3-tier system, details of which can be found below.

- **Tier 1** : achieve 100% attendance and receive no C Codes
- **Tier 2** : achieve over 96% attendance and receive no more than 8 negative points
- **Tier 3** : Demonstrate a significant improvement in attendance and behaviour (a member of the school Senior Leadership Team (SLT) will take this decision)

Spot prizes will be issued throughout the 8-week incentive. Any student who does not meet the qualifying criteria will attend lessons on the day as normal.

Key points for students to remember are:

- **Their attendance for the incentive is measured between 13 May and 12 July**
- **Student behaviour points are measured between 13 May and 12 July**

This provides students who may have accumulated negative behaviour points or have had low attendance before 13 May, to have a 'fresh start' and begin the incentive review period from a '0' negative start.

- **Students achieving Tier 1** – will have automatic entry to the 'fun day'
- **Students achieving Tier 2 or Tier 3** – their entry will be dependent on spaces available
- **Students achieving Tier 3** – their entry is also based on the decision of a member of SLT

We have also given our students the opportunity to provide us with suggestions and ideas for some of the activities they may wish to be included on their day, such as:

- Inflatables
- Ice Cream Van
- BBQ
- Sporting activities
- Burger van
- DJ
- Sweet stall
- Silent Disco

Any suggestions or ideas students have should be passed to their tutor representatives, tutor, or any member of their year team.

Please discuss these incentives and the qualifying criteria with your child and help them to be part of what will be a fantastic and 'fun' day!

Mr I Cooper
Deputy Principal

Year 11 Examination and Revision Schedule: Week commencing Monday 17 June 2024

Timings	Monday 17 June	Tuesday 18 June	Wednesday 19 June	Thursday 20 June	Friday 20 June
08:00 - 08:40 Independent revision - breakfast items will be provided	N/A	N/A	Further Mathematics (paper 1) MA27 - NSN	Hospitality and Catering TE15 - MN	N/A
08:40 - 08:55 Guided revision					
Pre-exam routines	08:55 - 09:00 Line up outside the exam location 09:00 - 09:02 Exam tips talk 09:02 - 09:05 Enter the exam location 09:05 - 09:10 Exam talk by invigilator				
09:10 - Exam start	N/A	N/A	Further Mathematics (paper 1) - 105 mins (3/0)	Hospitality and Catering - 80 mins (10/2)	N/A
10:10 - 10:30 - Break					
Arrangements after exam	N/A	N/A	105 mins - Students leave the school site	80 mins - Students leave the school site	N/A
11:30 - 12:15 Revision session (changes to P3)	Music Component 3: Appraising PA10 - RH	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
12:15 - 12:57 Lunch					
Pre-exam routines	13:00 - 13:05 Line up outside the exam location 13:05 - 13:07 Exam tips talk 13:07 - 13:10 Enter the exam location 13:10 - 13:20 Exam invigilator talk				
13:10 - Exam start	Music Component 3: Appraising - 75/94 mins (8/1)	Portuguese: Written - 80 mins (1/0) Polish: Written - 75 mins (1/0)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Arrangements after exam	75/94 mins - Students leave the school site	75/80 mins - Students leave the school site	N/A	N/A	N/A
15:20 Revision	N/A	Further Mathematics (paper 2) MA27 - NSN	Hospitality and Catering TE15 - MN	N/A	N/A

Year 13 Examination and Revision Schedule: Week commencing Monday 10 June 2024

Timings	Monday 17 June	Tuesday 18 June	Wednesday 19 June	Thursday 20 June	Friday 21 June
08:00 - 08:40 Independent revision - breakfast items will be provided	Physics Adv (paper 3) SC22 - JF	Chemistry Adv (paper 2) SC21 - SFR	Biology Adv (paper 3) SC27 - EC	N/A	Chemistry Adv (paper 3) SC21 - SFR
08:40 - 08:55 Guided revision			French Adv (paper 2): Writing MFL36 - AMD		
Pre-exam routines	08:55 - 09:00 Line up outside the exam location 09:00 - 09:02 Exam tips talk 09:02 - 09:05 Enter the exam location 09:05 - 09:10 Exam talk by invigilator				
09:10 - Exam start	Physics Adv (paper 3) 120 mins (9/0)	Chemistry Adv (paper 2) - 120 mins (8/2)	Biology Adv (paper 3) - 120 mins (12/2) French Adv (paper 2): Writing - 120 mins (2/0)	N/A	Chemistry Adv (paper 3) - 120 mins (8/2)
10:10 - 10:30 - Break					
Arrangements after exam	To go to the ILC/Common room for revision or leave site if all exams have been completed. If still have exams to complete, students are required to attend lesson relating to them	To go to the ILC/Common room for revision or leave site if all exams have been completed. If still have exams to complete, students are required to attend lesson relating to them	To go to the ILC/Common room for revision or leave site if all exams have been completed. If still have exams to complete, students are required to attend lesson relating to them	N/A	120 mins - Go to the common room/ILC in preparation for the leavers assembly
11:30 - 12:15 Revision session (changes to P3)	N/A	N/A	N/A	Mathematics Adv (paper 3) MA21 - BC	N/A
12:30 - 12:57 Lunch					
Pre-exam routines	13:00 - 13:05 Line up outside the exam location 13:05 - 13:07 Exam tips talk 13:07 - 13:10 Enter the exam location 13:10 - 13:20 Exam invigilator talk				
13:10 - Exam start	N/A	N/A	N/A	Mathematics Adv (paper 3) - 120 mins (30/1)	N/A
Arrangements after exam	N/A	N/A	N/A	To go to the ILC/Common room for revision or leave site if all exams have been completed. If still have exams to complete, students are required to attend lesson relating to them	N/A
15:20 Revision	Chemistry Adv (paper 2) SC21 - SFR	Biology Adv (paper 3) SC27 - EC French Adv (paper 2): Writing MFL36 - AMD	Mathematics Adv (paper 3) MA21 - BC MA25 - DJ	Chemistry Adv (paper 3) SC21 - SFR	N/A

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
Tuesday 7 May to Wednesday 26 June:	GCSE and A Level External Examinations
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.