

Dear Parent/Carer

Parent/Carer newsletter: Friday 21 October 2022

October half term

School closes today and reopens for all pupils on **Wednesday 2 November**. We hope you have an enjoyable break.

Please find attached a flyer for GRAFT's changemakers who are running workshops throughout the holiday.

Across the Bay newsletter

The Bay Learning Trust is delighted to share its October newsletter, 'Across the Bay.' The newsletter is shared to provide you with a summary of the excellent work that takes place across the Trust. You can access the newsletter here: <https://sway.office.com/qFiWt53kFbTKCWoc?ref=Link>

Extra-Curricular updates

After a successful clubs and societies fair this week, we have a number of new clubs starting after half-term including Badminton, Board Games, Dungeons and Dragons, Film Club and Art club.

Please see the timetable of the many extra-curricular opportunities attached to our newsletter. Can we encourage you to encourage your child to try at least one of the wider school experiences available to them.

Arts award celebrations

Pupils who undertook the Arts award course last year, whilst in Year 9, received their certificates this half term. Please take time to read more in the article within the Lancaster Guardian. Well done to all pupils involved and thank you to Mrs Spence who coordinated the course.

<https://www.lancasterguardian.co.uk/education/lancaster-pupils-hit-the-right-note-with-arts-award-3884391>

Lion King Theatre visit

The Lion King trip will be taking place on Tuesday 1 November. Pupils involved in the visit need to arrive at school by 5pm, in their 'normal' clothes. The Palace theatre is a cashless venue, therefore all purchases in the theatre must be made on card. We will be returning to school at approx. 11pm and this will also be updated on the night on the school's Facebook page.

Commitment | Creativity | Community

Principal: Mr J Cowper
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THE BAY
LEARNING TRUST

Staying safe online

The Internet is a lot like a cave of wonders: filled with both treasures and danger. If you know how to walk through it, you will get access to unmeasurable knowledge and connection, but if you approach it without caution, it can turn into a nightmare. The guide below has some straight forward tips to support parents and carers in supporting their child being safe whilst online.

If you ever have any concerns or would like support with managing your child's screen time/online activities, please do not hesitate to contact their Head of Year.

<https://parentingpod.com/online-safety-for-kids-and-teens/>

CAT tests for Year 7 pupils

On Monday 7 November, pupils in Year 7 will be taking their CAT tests during periods one and two. These are not tests that can be revised for, but are important in supporting us to understand more about individual pupil's potential achievement. The tests focus on four key areas known to make a difference to learning and achievement. These are:

1. **Verbal Reasoning** – the ability to express ideas and reason through words is essential to subjects with a high language content, and the most obvious skill picked up by traditional assessment.
2. **Non-verbal Reasoning** – problem-solving using pictures and diagrams; skills which are important in a wide range of school subjects, including maths and science-based subjects.
3. **Spatial Reasoning** – the capacity to think and draw conclusions in three dimensions, needed for many STEM subjects, but not easily measured by other datasets.
4. **Quantitative Reasoning** – the ability to use numerical skills to solve problems, applicable well beyond mathematics.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Auger at the school.

Year 11 Parent/carer information evening and Mock Examinations in November

It was lovely to meet the Year 11 parents/carers who attended our information evening this week. The October holiday will be an important opportunity for pupils to revise and prepare for the mock examinations that they will sit when they return. Full details can be found on our website at the following link.

<https://www.lancasterhigh.lancs.sch.uk/students/year-11-revision-and-exams>

Staff vacancies

We currently have a number of support staff vacancies in school. We are looking to recruit a cover supervisor and two HLTAs. Please find more information on our website:

<https://www.lancasterhigh.lancs.sch.uk/job-vacancies>

Uniform and equipment

We place significant importance on school uniform and the presentation of our pupils and value your support in ensuring our pupils have a true sense of belonging to our community and represent our school positively in our community.

Over the school holidays, please can you check that your child has everything they need for their return to school on **Wednesday 2 November**. Can you also ensure hair styles/colours, false/acrylic nails, fake eye lashes, piercings etc. are addressed before they return.

Uniform and presentation expectations can be found on the school website by following the link. <https://www.lancasterhigh.lancs.sch.uk/students/uniform>

All pupils should also have the following equipment in a suitable school bag – reading book, black/blue pen, pencil, ruler and a school planner as a minimum requirement.

Should you need support in sourcing uniform or equipment, please contact your child's House Tutor in the first instance.

Thank you in advance.

Gregson Festival Group

Please find below a message from the Gregson Festival Group:

Dear All

We are happy to announce that enough funds have been raised for the Freehold & Ridge Community Bonfire & Firework Display to go ahead this year on **Saturday 5th November** on Miss Whalley's Field.

The traditional Lantern procession will leave the **Gregson Centre at 6:15pm**. The bonfire will be lit at **6:45pm**.

However, we really need your help to make this great community event happen.

We desperately need stewards for the Lantern procession and Bonfire & Firework display. We need volunteers to help with setting up and building the bonfire on the day of the event, and to help with the cleaning up of the field on Monday 7th November from 9:30am.

If you can volunteer for any of the above or you would like more information, then please contact Paul Batchelor via gregsonfestivalgroup@aol.co.uk.

SEND

Our weekly SEND clinic is open each Thursday between 2.30 - 4.30pm.

Please email lisa.maudsley@lancasterhigh.lancs.sch.uk to book a 15 minute appointment if you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's education or if you have any queries or concerns.

Our school library is open every day from 8.15am, during break and lunchtime, and after school and is staffed with Higher Level teaching Assistants (HLTAs) so please encourage your child to attend if they require additional support with their homework.

Term 2 SEND reviews for the following year groups will be held w/c:

Year 7: 7 November
Year 8: 21 November
Year 9: 14 November

A letter will be sent home with further details. Please email Mrs Ainsworth at sainsworth@lancasterhigh.lancs.sch.uk to make an appointment.

Escape 2 Make: There is a new fortnightly and free yoga club for 11 - 18 year olds at the Storey Institute. Relax and unwind in a peaceful welcoming space. Meet new likeminded friends your own age. Led by professionally trained yoga teachers.

<https://escape2make.org/registration-form/>

Mental health and wellbeing

How are you today? No really how are you?

We know that mental health does not discriminate and no one should be ashamed if they are struggling. Here's a useful self-care checklist:

Have you:

- Had enough sleep
- Eaten healthily
- Drank enough water
- Done some exercise
- Taken a break
- Spent some time in nature
- Meditated
- Connected with others

Take a minute and reconnect which will give you time to see things more clearly – remember to look after yourself and talk to others about how you are feeling.

Reading corner

Thank you to all pupils who entered the Bookmark competition. Winners will be announced after half term – Miss Newsham has got a difficult job judging! We've had some wonderful and artistic creations that really capture the magic of reading. Thank you all who have entered.

Library

Just a reminder that the library is open both before and after school for all pupils. Pupils can access the library to complete their homework, read or to access the internet. The library is staffed so there is always somebody to help them should they need it.

Bedrock Vocabulary 'top' performers:

Year 7

Greatest Improvement: **Valeriia O**

Most lessons completed: **Ava G**

Year 8

Greatest Improvement: **Josh B**

Most Lessons Completed: **Louie M**

Year 9

Greatest Improvement: **Arley D**

Most Lessons Completed: **David A**

Key reminders

Breast Cancer Awareness Month



October is breast cancer awareness month and over the last few years we have raised hundreds of pounds to support various charities who fund research into treatment and support those who suffer from breast cancer and their families.

This year we will once again be selling pink ribbons to wear for the rest of the month. They will be available for a minimum donation of 50p from Miss Timperley or your child's Head of Year.

Careers Updates

This term sees the start of open events for our local Sixth Form and FE providers. Please see the dates for your diary below. We will provide specific information about each event at the appropriate time.

- **Lancaster and Morecambe College:**
 - 30 November 2022 (T-levels information event)
- **Cardinal Newman College :**
 - Saturday 12 November 2022
 - Saturday 4 February 2023
- **LGGS:** 3 November 2022
- **Ripley St. Thomas:** 10 November 2022
- **Our Lady's Catholic College:** 17 November 2022
- **Kendal College:** 1 December 2022
- **Morecambe Bay Academy:** 7 December 2022

Lancaster and Morecambe College (LMC)

A wide range of level 2 and 3 courses are available at LMC, in addition to apprenticeship and T-Levels. To attend on the 13 October, you need to register before via the link below:

<https://www.lmc.ac.uk/events/he-and-fe-open-day>

Lancaster Girls Grammar School – Thursday 3 November

The entry requirements for LGGS are as follows:

A minimum of five GCSEs at Grade 6 or equivalent. They also require GCSE English language at Grade 4 as a minimum.

Grade 6 in the subjects to be studied at A Level, or in a similar subject if you have not studied this subject at GCSE. If you did not study separate sciences at GCSE then you need to achieve at least grades 6,6 in combined science to study A level physics, chemistry or biology.

To study A Level science subjects you must also have a minimum of Grade 5 in GCSE maths. To study further maths you must have at least Grade 7 in GCSE maths.

If you wish to study four A Level subjects then you must achieve Grade 8 in at least four GCSE subjects

Key dates for the Autumn term:

24 October 2022	School closed for half-term holiday
2 November 2022	School re-opens
W/C 14 November 2022	Year 11 Mock examinations
W/C 21 November 2022	Year 11 Mock examinations
1 December 2022	Year 11 Achievement Evening (2021/22 cohort)
15 December 2022	Progress Cards issued for Year 7 –11
16 December 2022	School closes for Christmas at 1.15 pm

Pupil praise

Congratulations to Lune House for receiving the most praise points last week.

1. Lune **1861 (14.8 per pupil)**
2. Clougha **1862 (12.0 per pupil)**
3. Storey **1656 (11.1 per pupil)**
4. Halton **1450 (9.4 pupil)**

Congratulations to the following pupils who had the most praise points in the last week:

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Sara E	Rufaro H	Issy B	Jack C	Daniel B
Isabelle M	Jayden K	Ibrahim S	Roland G	Gracie H
Ethan C	Leonardo C-D	Latifah P	Zack C	Paige S
Emmanuel J	Kaleb J	Darniah G	Shane H	Zain E
Jenny B	Sophie A	Caitlin S	Mia M	Thinzar K

Attendance

Well done to the following forms for having the highest attendance last week:

Year 7: Lune

Year 8: Lune

Year 9: Clougha

Year 10: Storey

Year 11: Storey

Special praise goes to the following pupils:

Year 7

Kameron T for his excellent work in RE. Kameron contributed wonderfully to class discussion and tried really hard with his assessed piece of work looking at the accuracy of religious stories.

Year 7y/En2 English group have been enjoying the drama with their foray into Shakespeare's Richard III. There have been lovely contributions from **Kameron T, Salvatore D, Caitlin W** and **David W**.

Sara E, Ava G, Brook G, Cadence F and **Lilly H** for attending netball club and putting in 100% effort.

Year 8

Sophie A who has shown resilience in geography this week and has been committed to her learning. She also displayed this in RE when she has upheld the highest standards in her presentation. Sophie has also been caring towards staff showing great community spirit. Well done and thank you, Sophie!

Kai H for making excellent progress in maths.

Well done to the **Year 8 Rugby team** who played Our Lady's and won 28-11. Well done to **Liam A** who played extremely well and was awarded player of the match.

Thank you to **Freya P** and **Lexie H** for selling pink ribbons during form time.

Well done to **Leonardo CD** for receiving the highest amount of praises this half term and also having the most community points.

Well done to **Ollie P** and **Lexi-Leigh S** for achieving the most amount of commitment and community points this half term.

Year 9

Congratulations to our new Pupil Wellbeing Ambassadors elected this week – **Jay G, James O, Matilda L** and **Kaan G**.

Well done to **Caitlin S** for attaining the most praise points this half term. Special mentions also to **Arek W, Maggie A, Leo G** and **Kaan G** for reaching the Top 5.

Ibrahim S for achieving the highest number of commitment points, **Kalya D** for the highest number of community points, and **Arek W** and **Kaan G** jointly had the highest number of creativity points.

David A and **Cameron B** for fantastic engagement in Bedrock Learning with 100+ points achieved this past week.

Stanley W for excellent progress in French.

Rhyley B for great singing in music.

Leah B for excellent home learning in maths.

Latifah P for commitment to learning in geography.

Thank you to **Amy M**, **Cameron-Rose O-B**, **Kayla D** and **Maggie A** who continue to do a fabulous job delivering snacks to duty staff at break time. Thank you, girls!

Thanks to **Aimee Mc** who helped to sell the pink ribbons for raising awareness of breast cancer throughout this week.

Year 10

Primrose M-D for excellent sketchbook work looking at the work of Jim Dine and drawing using a variety of mark-making skills. Well done!

Ella R for being very focused, asking questions, making sure she had made accurate corrections to her work and copied the notes even asking for a little extra time to add some additional information within science. A great demonstration of commitment. Miss Towner.

Congratulations to **Gabriel RS** who has received the highest number of praise points this half term.

Congratulations to **Zack C**, **Shane H**, **Jack P**, **Kevin M** and **Dobromir R** for receiving the highest points for commitment, community and creativity.

Year 10 Historians **Stan B**, **Tyler Y** and **Tyler P** for achieving outstanding marks in their first extended writing history GCSE assessment – well done to you all.

Year 11

Mia G in physics who has made real progress with the application of equations and calculating averages and has shown a really positive attitude to her studies.

Congratulations to **Millie J** who has received the highest number of praise points this half term.

Congratulations to **Paige S**, **Zunaira N** and **Benjamin M** for receiving the highest points for commitment, community and creativity.

Well done to all members of **11 Lune** in their commitment to learning and for having the best form group attendance for year 11.

Well done to **Klaudia B** for being resilient, polite and caring. Klaudia has really made a difference to Miss Meetha's week and made her smile – thank you!

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday.

