



# LITTLEPORT AND EAST CAMBS ACADEMY

*An Active Learning Trust School*

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022**

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been an extremely positive week in the academy with the re-introduction of morning line-up leading to improved behaviour and uniform standards. For this reason, we propose to continue with this routine for the foreseeable future. This week we have conducted a considerable number of learning walks to review students' behaviour for learning in line with our expectations for students and I'm delighted to say that the majority of students are arriving to lessons on time, settling to their learning quickly and listening carefully to teachers' explanations of tasks. We continue to offer tours of the school so if you would like to come and see the improved classroom culture please do contact Jo Hedges ([Jo.Hedges@leacademy.org](mailto:Jo.Hedges@leacademy.org)).

## **Events for parents**

This week members of the senior leadership and transition team met individually with our prospective Year 6 families to start the beginning of their LECA journey. It was great to hear their excitement and we look forward to welcoming the new students to their induction days Wednesday and Thursday next week. We also welcomed our parent working party, to review drafts of a new rewards policy, lost learning protocol and home school agreement. We are hugely grateful for their time and contributions which will help us finalise the new policies and protocols for September. We will also hold our rearranged coffee morning next week, Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July at 9:30am. This is open to all families and it would be lovely to see some new as well as the regular faces!

## **Events for students**

We were delighted to re-introduce the LECA annual careers event which was attended by students across Years 7 to 10. It was a pleasure to welcome a range of professionals from different industries, including local employers in order to provide some inspiration for the future. The students' conduct was exemplary and the visitors were hugely impressed by their conversations with them. We all enjoyed our follow up conversations with the students about the interest sparked for future careers and ambitions and they seemed delighted with goodie bags and stationery they were given too! Our thanks to Mrs Smith for organising this fantastic event.

## **Scholar's Programme**

A group of Year 10 students have completed The Scholar's Programme this week led by a researcher from the University of Cambridge. Over the past few months, students learnt about the world of animal interactions: from birds that steal food by pretending to be meerkats, to mind-controlled zombie ants. They also had an insight into university-level research, seeing first-hand some of the ways a biologist from the Zoology department at Cambridge works. Part of this involved the students getting involved with the scientific process, coming up with

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hypotheses and ways to test ideas. The researcher, Maireen has commented, *“All of the students rose to the challenge, producing outstanding essays by the end of the programme. As a researcher visiting LECA, it has been a joy to work with such talented and enthusiastic students. Huge congratulations to everyone involved”* Our thanks also to Mrs Froment for organising this opportunity. We have some further plans to develop our partnership with the university next year – watch this space!

### **Students of the week/Safeguarding update**

I would like to extend my public thanks to the Year 8 students involved in Wednesday’s incident who stayed calm and followed instructions throughout the investigation. We continue to open G20 (on the ground floor) every break and lunchtime if students would like to speak to a member of the pastoral/safeguarding team for support about this or for any other reason.

The safeguarding team are excited to announce a new project beginning at LECA next week. The project is to create a student led working party around Mental Health. We have had lots of interest and already, some excellent ideas have been shared. If your child would like to be involved in promoting wellbeing at school and running a mental health campaign please do remind them we have our first meeting on Monday in G20. If you have any questions yourself, please do speak with Miss Elliott or Mrs Parsons-Mayle.

### **SEND donation**

I’m also delighted to announce that we have been awarded a significant amount of funding from the Fenland and East Cambs Opportunity Area organisation to provide assessment tools and specialist training for our SEND team in ELSA, Speech and Language and Lego therapy. Our sincere thanks to Mr Skillern, our Assistant SENDCo, for submitting this bid on the academy’s behalf. We are very excited about the way in which this will help improve our SEND provision.

### **Duke of Edinburgh**

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all students participating in the Bronze Assessed Expedition this weekend the very best of luck! We hope the weather forecast improves and the staff and students involved enjoy the challenge. Following the cancellation last week of the Silver practice expedition due to the instructor’s ill health, we are in the process of trying to rearrange this with the company and will contact relevant families when we have more information.

### **Year 10 Work Experience**

We would also like to send our best wishes to all Year 10 students who are participating in work experience next week and look forward to hearing how they are getting on in the working world!

Wishing you and your families a restful weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Lauren Phillips  
**Principal**