

LordParent Bulletin

Week commencing Monday 4 July 2022 – Week 1

Dear Parents and Carers

It feels unusual to be writing to you on a Thursday, but (I hope) you will all know that school is closed tomorrow, as we all take our Platinum Jubilee Holiday.

On Tuesday evening, many of you who are parents or carers to students in Year 8 were able to join us for our second Awards Evening. Mrs Liddle told me of her great joy at seeing the expressions on the students' faces as they were called up to receive recognition and their rewards, for attendance, effort and achievement across a wide range of subjects. Next Tuesday it is the turn of Year 9 students.

From next Monday, we will make a slight adjustment to our school day. The start and end of the school day are not affected, only the timing of lunch. We are taking the opportunity to go back to a single lunch. I would like to explain our thinking.

Before the pandemic, we used to have a single lunchtime. There were many benefits, including the opportunity to run clubs and activities across the school. There were some drawbacks, including a large queue down the Art corridor: although we had two 'sittings' for lunch, many students preferred to queue in the corridor on the chance they might get into lunch a minute or two earlier. When the pandemic struck, and social distancing had to be introduced, we could not continue with this arrangement.

The split lunchtime is now almost the last of our pandemic-related safety measures (the others are increased ventilation, and the availability of sanitising hand gel, which we will retain). All the others have been abandoned: face masks; COVID tests in school; teachers unable to leave their 'instructional zone' at the front of the classroom; a one-way system in the corridors; self-isolation, and so on. No-one misses them!

One of the most significant drawbacks of the split lunchtime is that half of the school is always at work while the other half is enjoying their break. For older students in particular, the noise of younger children playing outdoors, while classroom windows need to be kept open, is very distracting. Because of the long, narrow design of the school, all our classrooms have windows opening onto either the front or the back yards.

We have also made considerable progress and improvements in student behaviour and school organisation, to the point where we can re-introduce the single lunchtime and enjoy its benefits again. Students now enter the cafeteria from the yards, rather than queueing in the Art corridor.

From Monday, therefore, all students will have lunchtime from 12:30 to 13:15. Ball games will take place on the specialist all-weather pitch and the tennis courts, allowing a calmer atmosphere on the yards. An enhanced programme of extra-curricular activities is being put together. Year groups will have specific times for accessing the cafeteria, as they do now. We will evaluate the reintroduction of the single lunchtime over the next three weeks.

With all good wishes,

Yours faithfully

Mr A T Fowler
Principal

Rhineland Educational Visit – 16 to 20 July 2022

We are now in the final preparations for our educational visit to the Rhineland, Germany, which involves students from years 8, 9 and 10 who are studying German.

Students have completed some initial research and have a sense of the idyllic area they will be visiting. We have practised key everyday German phrases which they will use as a minimum during the trip. I am very encouraged by the courtesy, punctuality and enthusiasm of the group so far, and am confident they will gain an enormous amount from the experience.

If your child is involved in the trip, please encourage them to check their Teams notices regularly in the two weeks prior to our departure date.

Thank you.

Ms J Cross
Subject Leader - MFL

Year 8: HPV Immunisations

The above immunisations will be taking place in school on Friday 15 July 2022, for all year 8 students who returned their consent forms.

These consent forms were returned when the students were in year 7, but due to COVID vaccinations taking precedence at that time, they have not been able to take place until now.

Timings will be given to the students when the Immunisation Team provide us with the final list of students who have given consent.

If you have any questions or queries please contact me at: kmaynard@lordlawson.academy or on telephone number: (0191) 433 4026 extension 350.

Thank you.

Mrs K Maynard
Supported Learning Manager

In the Loop

Our newly founded club for students who have a hearing impairment (HI) has a name! We are proud to introduce In the Loop! We think that it is a particularly fitting name for a group of students who are literally "in the loop" and know what's going on, but also with its connotations to the loop system used by hearing aids.

The group meet once a half term and use the time to get to know each other and support each other, as well as making suggestions on how we, as an academy, make improvements to be more "deaf aware". This week we discussed some of the issues the students found difficult in school because of their hearing impairment; this will be collated and fed back to staff so that we can make changes to ensure that all of our students can access the work set for them.

The club is open to all students who have any kind of hearing impairment, whether or not they wear hearing aids. If you have any questions regarding the club or support offered for our HI students, please don't hesitate to contact me on at: jkemp@lordlawson.academy or via telephone on: (0191) 433 4026 extension 358.

Thank you.

Mrs J Kemp
Cover Supervisor/HI and VI Liaison

Years 7, 9, 10 and 12: End of Year Reports

In preparation for the publishing of end of year reports for your child later this term, please could you ensure that you are aware of your My Child at School (MCAS) login details.

If you need support regarding your access, please email: MCAS-2022@lordlawson.academy with all queries i.e. forgotten login details, unable to access the system etc.

Regards

Mrs K Hubbard
PA to SLT

Remembrance

We have some exciting plans for our Service of Remembrance this year in school, for which the theme will be "Those Affected by War".

I am planning an open evening on Thursday 10 November where we will showcase the students' work (it seems such a shame to have such fantastic art work and not be able to show it off). As part of this evening, each tutor group will be asked to prepare a piece for display, the focus of which will be one person or a group of people. We are looking for people to remember within our school community, so this is where I need your help. We want to remember those who served and those who lost their lives in their service to their country, in the traditional sense of "Remembrance", but we also want to remember those who have been affected in other ways: our emergency services, particularly in their work against terror threats and attacks, refugees and those who work to support them in their new homes, those who support our veterans' mental health etc.

Do you know someone who should be remembered for their service, for their good deeds or for overcoming war time experiences? Those who are still serving and those living with the scars of war, both mental and physical? Is theirs a story that should be told?

If so, please let me know via email, providing as much detail as possible e.g. name, rank, number, dates, photographs etc. Please send any details to jkemp@lordlawson.academy

Thank you

Mrs Kemp
Cover Supervisor

Job Vacancies

Compass-Chartwells Vacancy

Location: Lord Lawson of Beamish Academy



Job title	Catering Assistant: 1 x 20 hour per week contract; 1 x 16 hour per week contract.
Pay rate	National Minimum Wage.
Contract	Permanent – Term Time Only.
Additional Info.	Flexible working hours. Full training will be given to the successful candidate. Enhanced DBS clearance will be required and provided.

Key Accountabilities

- Comply with all client and company health and safety procedures and standards at all times
- Assist with food preparation, handling and storage
- Maintain all kitchens, equipment and surrounding work areas to the highest levels of cleanliness
- Ensure the correct use of all machinery and equipment
- Assist as and when required with the loading or unloading of deliveries and supply vehicles
- Complete all necessary training as required
- Perform other general tasks to support effective food service delivery as reasonably requested
- Operate a till and assist with service during students' lunch periods

Job Skills and Qualifications

Required

- Passionate about working in a food service environment
- Able to work positively with others as part of a team
- Friendly, helpful, calm and polite

Desirable

- Experience of working in a similar role

How to apply:

Application is via C.V. and should be received by noon, Friday 15 July 2022.

For further information or to submit your application, please email:

Jonathan.stanbury@compass-group.co.uk