

# Parent Bulletin

Week commencing Monday 19 September 2022 – Week 1

Dear Parents and Carers

**School will be closed on Monday 19 September. This is a public holiday for the state funeral of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. No work will be set for students for this day. School will reopen on Tuesday 20 September at 08:40.**

I am sure you will have heard that we held a **fire practice** on Wednesday. This was our first fire drill of the year, and I am glad to report that the conduct of your children was absolutely excellent. It was the first day at work for our new site manager, Mr Whitaker, and he was impressed and reassured that we can safely evacuate the whole building in less than 4 minutes. It is important that we know our children and staff members are safe, and that they understand how to act in the event of an emergency.

We have also significantly improved site security through the installation of a **new side gate at the main entrance**. This new gate is connected to our Reception, through sound and video, so that visitors can identify themselves at the gate and can be admitted safely. The gate remains locked at other times in the school day, keeping all our children safe. If you are visiting the academy during the day, please use the buzzer on the gate to alert Reception.

I was showing a visitor around the school recently in the afternoon and evening. We dropped into a number of lessons and saw **excellent standards of behaviour and learning**. Later on, we visited the rehearsal for our academy production of *Matilda*, and were delighted to see around 90 students in the cast and chorus, learning their lines and singing the songs. We also saw a number of other **extra-curricular activities**, including a variety of sporting clubs. This combination of well-ordered lessons and a wide range of enrichment opportunities sums up what is so good about our school.

I would like to give advance notice of two school events. On Thursday next week, 22 September, we are putting on an evening for **parents/carers and students in years 10 and 12** who are studying **subjects that include coursework**. These subjects are mostly practical or vocational subjects. The purpose of the evening is to give information that will support parents/carers and students as they approach the coursework elements of their chosen subjects. Mr Dicocco has explained more about this evening in a notice later in this bulletin.

The other upcoming event is our annual **Open Evening for students in Year 6** and their parents. This is on **Tuesday 27 September**. Publicity for this event has already gone out to our partner primary schools, and there will be a banner outside the school gates very soon. If you have a child in Year 6, or you have friends, neighbours or family members with children in Year 6, please spread the word about our open evening. This is always a joyous opportunity for people to see our wonderful school in action, and I very much enjoy being able to meet prospective students and their parents/carers.

With all good wishes,

Yours faithfully

**Mr A T Fowler**  
**Principal**

## **Year 10 and 12: Coursework Preparation Evening – Thursday 22 September 2022**

Dear Parents and Carers

I write to invite you to our coursework preparation evening. This is being held in school on Thursday 22 September, from 4:00 until 5:30pm. The event is for parents and carers of students in years 10 and 12, and the students themselves. The purpose of the event is for everyone, parents, carers and students, to understand the requirements and study demands of any course the students have chosen, which may involve a large amount of coursework, rather than a single examination at the end of year 11 or 13. For most students, this will be up to 3 subjects.

The evening itself begins with a brief presentation in the main hall, which outlines the aims and structure of the evening. To accommodate all potential attendees, we have two presentation start times you can choose from: 4:00pm and 4:30pm. Please arrive 5 minutes before your chosen start time. Following this, you and the students will visit the relevant subjects to find out specific information about each course.

Students in years 10 and 12 watched a video in tutor time this morning, explaining the structure and aims of the evening.

This evening should help you understand what work your child needs to do over the next two years, and how to support them to achieve the best grade possible in the subjects they are studying which involve coursework.

We very much hope to see as many of you as possible on Thursday 22 September.

Yours sincerely

***Mr J Dicocco***  
***Deputy Principal***

## **A message from the Virtual School to all parents who are adopters**

The Virtual School, Gateshead, would like to inform all parents who are adopters in Gateshead that the next Network meeting will take place on **Wednesday 28 September at the Angel View Inn at 10am**. The focus for the meeting will be “**Trauma and the impact on children**”.

Further details are available direct from Jean Thompson at the Virtual School:  
[jeanthompson@gateshead.gov.uk](mailto:jeanthompson@gateshead.gov.uk) or on 07962 166742.

Thank you.

***Jean Thompson***  
***The Virtual School***

## **Academy Photographs: Years 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 - Monday 3 and Tuesday 4 October 2022**

Academy photographs are being taken on Monday 3 and Tuesday 4 October. The photographs are being taken in the main hall, the times and dates for each Tutor Group are set out below.

### **Monday 3 October 2022**

#### **Year 10**

10DB	8.50am
10DM	8.50am
10FB	9.10am
10EC	9.10am
10ATR	9.30am
10DGL	9.30am
10GP	9.50am
10KT	9.50am
10JGR	10.30am
10LR	10.30am
10MS	10.50am

#### **Year 11**

11CH	10.50am
11CDI	11.10am
11LS	11.10am
11LL	11.30am
11KG	11.30am
11JKP	11.50am
11LWD	11.50am
11SBN	12.10pm
11JF	12.10pm
11CD	13.20pm
11HT	13.20pm

#### **Year 12**

12VN	13.40pm
12BG	13.40pm
12SBW	14.00pm
12ACE	14.00pm
12CL	14.20pm

### **Tuesday 4 October 2022**

#### **Year 7**

7ACL	8.50am
7SHE	8.50am
7LCR	9.10am
7GGL	9.10am
7JBM	9.30am
7JHE	9.30am
7SMY	9.50am
7ARE	9.50am

#### **Year 8**

8SBS	10.30am
8RM	10.30am
8NSN	10.50am
8JRA	10.50am
8AMN	11.10am
8MG	11.10am
8AGY	11.30am

#### **Year 9**

9TMI	11.30am
9CCM	11.50pm
9RH	11.50pm
9LC	12.10pm
9SFR	12.10pm
9FR	13.20pm
9KF	13.20pm
9KD	13.40pm
9PWE	13.40pm

Please ensure your child attends in full uniform. Should you have any questions, please contact me at: [sspraggon@lordlawson.academy](mailto:sspraggon@lordlawson.academy).

Photographs this year will be available to purchase online only, through Focal Point Photographers. Further details regarding the purchase of photographs will be detailed in the Parent Bulletin at a later date.

***Mrs S Spraggon***  
***Events Co-Ordinator***

## **Year 9 and 10: Northumbria Police Cadets Recruitment – Closing date 31 October 2022**

Joining the police cadets not only gives young people an insight into policing, but also gets them involved in their local community giving them the opportunity to develop many skills, including leadership. Enrolment into the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze and Silver schemes is also an option, and the three-year programme culminates with the chance to apply to be an Assistant Cadet Leader (18+). In summary, it is a great way to gain valuable life experience.

For further details and the application form, please visit this webpage: [Police Cadet Volunteers – Northumbria Police](#)



**Volunteer  
Police Cadet  
Scheme**

**Do you want to know more about policing?  
Do you want to make a positive difference in your area?**  
Be the difference! Apply for our Volunteer Police Cadet Scheme.  
To apply, visit: [careers.northumbria.police.uk](https://careers.northumbria.police.uk)

  **NORTHUMBRIA  
POLICE**

*Mrs A Jordan  
Head of Sixth Form and Careers Lead*

### **After-school PE clubs**

Our afterschool clubs have now started and are open to all students. Students may only attend on their scheduled evening, the details of which are listed below:

Monday: Year 7, 3:30 to 4:30pm  
Wednesday: Year 8, 3:30 to 4:30pm  
Thursday: Years 9 and 10, 3:30 to 4:30pm

Every week, a variety of physical activities will be offered to our students. No sign up is required; any student wishing to attend just needs to come to PE at the end of the school day on their respective evening. Please note that school PE kit must be worn.

***Mr D Wyllie***  
***Subject Leader - Physical Education***

### **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](mailto:jkemp@lordlawson.academy)

Thank you

***Mrs Kemp***  
***Cover Supervisor and Remembrance Coordinator***

## **Library lunchtime and after school activities**

Week commencing Monday 19 September, we will be running the following lunchtime activities in the library. Our library activities offer some fantastic opportunities to students across the school.

	Lunchtime in the Library	After school in the Library and Library ICT Suite
Monday	Homework and independent study group	Homework Club 3:20pm until 4:15pm
Tuesday	<b>Tuesday Newsday</b>	Homework Club 3:20pm until 4:15pm
	Homework and independent study group	
Wednesday	<b>Carnegie Shadowing Group</b>	Homework Club 3:20pm until 4:15pm (Library ICT suite only)
	Homework and independent study group	
Thursday	<b>Reading Ambassadors</b>	Homework Club 3:20pm until 4:15pm
	Homework and independent study group	
Friday	Homework and independent study group	Homework Club 3:20pm until 4:15pm

Items highlighted in yellow have a literacy focus and provide an excellent opportunity for our sixth form students to grow their skills in leadership. Sixth form students are welcome to come along to speak with Miss Dixon in the library to find out how they can support and lead our younger students in these activities. This provides our older students with valuable evidence of work experience that can supplement applications for higher education and work.

### **Tuesday Newsday**

On Tuesday lunchtimes, the library will stock a selection of the latest (age appropriate) newspapers and magazines.

Students from key stages 3 and 4 can read about and discuss the latest goings on in news, current affairs, science and technology, becoming more informed and involved with the issues that affect them.

Tuesday Newsday provides an excellent opportunity for interested sixth form students to help our younger learners with their understanding of current affairs, leading debates and questioning.

### **Carnegie Shadowing Group**

The Carnegie Award for Children's Literature is awarded every year and this year we will be starting extra early. We will look at last years shortlisted books and read the winning 2022 book, 'October, October' by Katya Balen, in preparation for shadowing the scheme from longlist to shortlist, to winner in 2023.

Primarily for key stages 3 and 4, though sixth form are very welcome to support.

/Cont...

## **Reading Ambassadors**

We are currently seeking volunteers to inspire our students to READ FOR PLEASURE. These students will need lots of ideas about how to do this and be prepared to lead the way! Students from all year groups are welcome to join. Activities may include appearances in tutor groups or assemblies, conducting surveys and questionnaires, delivering recommendations to staff, producing a school magazine with a literacy focus. Enthusiastic students are most welcome - sixth form welcome to participate and lead.

If any student requires further information, please ask them to see Miss B Dixon in the library. Passes will be required (with the exception of sixth form) and can be obtained from the library. Passes are not required for after school activities.

Students participating in activities with a literacy focus are welcome to bring a 'cold' lunch with them to the library.

The library is a great place to complete homework and study, and is already open for students to attend Homework Club after school. Homework help and ICT facilities are available.

Our opening times are:

Monday - Thursday: 3:20pm - 4:15pm

Friday: 3:20pm - 4:00pm

We look forward to seeing students participate in all our activities, benefiting from our wonderful library.

Thank you

***Miss B Dixon***  
***Library Coordinator***