

Parent Bulletin

Week commencing Monday 3 October 2022 – Week 1

Dear Parents and Carers

I want to start this week's newsletter by thanking so many of you for being part of our Open Evening on Tuesday this week. Over 300 students were involved in the evening, as tour guides and in the different activities in departmental areas. Some of you were actively involved as well, bringing your younger children round the academy; very many of you will have collected your child from school at the end of the evening. I have written to all students involved in the evening to thank them personally.

Open Evening is always an important event in the life of any school or academy. If parents and students cannot see the school, they cannot make an informed choice about their secondary education. We have clear evidence for this: in 2020, when we could not run an open evening, our admissions were around 50 students lower than for a normal year. Even though we had created and posted a host of 'virtual tours' and other videos, there was no substitute for the real thing.

This year, I once again went around our academy, with my wife, to see what our visitors were seeing and to meet parents and students. I saw Lord Lawson teachers and students engaged with Year 6 pupils, running a huge variety of different activities in subject areas from Art and Technology to English and PE, from Maths and Special Needs to Science, and from Psychology and Languages to Business and Geography. In the hall, Edward Slater played the cello beautifully for us, accompanied by Mrs Hall on the piano, and our head boy and girls and their deputies – Owen, Emily, Sophie and Emma – spoke inspiringly about what they have enjoyed at the school and how their teachers have equipped them for what they hope to do in the future.

I am aware that several parents and students did not manage to complete their tours on Tuesday, owing to pressure of time. There is a further opportunity to visit the school for a tour, in our Year 5 Open Evening on Thursday 10 November. Although this event is focused on Year 5 students, if you know of someone with a child in Year 6, who either could not come to Tuesday's event or would like to see more of the school, please spread the word about the Open Evening on 10 November.

This is a busy term for events in school. At the other end of the age range, we have our Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday 6 October. If your child is in Year 11, they will already have been told about this evening. I would strongly urge them (and you) to attend, even – perhaps especially – if they have not yet decided on what to do next. One week later, on Thursday 13 October, we welcome students in years 11 and 13 and their parents/carers to an information evening designed to help you get the best out of examinations.

Tickets for our academy production of *Matilda* go on sale from next week. With some great songs, and a cast of nearly 100, this promises to be a wonderful show. Those of you who were at our recent open evening will already have seen a preview of the show in rehearsal – it's looking great!

With all good wishes,

Yours faithfully

Mr A T Fowler
Principal

Prospective Sixth Form Open Evening

Our Open Evening for prospective sixth form students will take place on Thursday 6 October 2022, 6 – 8pm.

An information letter has been emailed to all parents and carers; our year 11 students have will be given an invitation with a return slip to complete.

Regards

Mrs A Jordan
Head of Sixth Form

Bookbuzz 2022

This year, Lord Lawson of Beamish Academy will once again be participating in the BookTrust 'Bookbuzz' scheme, giving our year 7 students the opportunity to choose a book to take home and keep from a list of 17 titles. All books have been carefully selected by a panel of experts to ensure quality, suitability and to encourage reading for pleasure.

During Library lessons, students will watch the 'Bookbuzz Film' and review the books on offer. Books will arrive in the academy and will be distributed by the end of this term. This is a fantastic opportunity and I encourage all eligible students to participate. Students can place their order with me in the Library.

For further information and to view the books on offer, please go to:

[Bookbuzz film 2022/23 - YouTube](#)

Please encourage your child to participate; together we can inspire a love of reading.

Thank you.

Miss B Dixon
Library Coordinator

SEND: In the Loop

On Wednesday, In the Loop, our group for hearing-impaired students, met for the first time this academic year. We shared some of the things the students feel we do well at Lord Lawson for students with a hearing impairment, such as staff being aware of good teaching practice with students with a hearing difficulty and staff understanding how to use the radio transmitters in their lessons. We acknowledged that there are always improvements to make, but students feel we are on the right track!

Students also discussed what they would like to do with the group going forward and had some great ideas such as: learning British Sign Language (BSL); planning whole school events such as Deaf Awareness week and Sign2Sing; inviting guests who share our experiences to talk to us and share theirs.

The group also discussed the possibility of holding a session in school and inviting the brothers and sisters of hearing-impaired students to the session, with the aim of building a more supportive network for all children with a hearing impairment. If this is something that would be relevant to your son or daughter they can speak to me in school, or you can email at: jkemp@lordlawson.academy if you would like further information.

Mrs J Kemp
Cover Supervisor and HI/VI Liaison

Year 11: GCSE Dance Exam

Year 11 GCSE Dance students have their solo practical exam on Tuesday 4 October. Students are aware of the arrangements and must remember their light-coloured performance clothing.

If you have any questions about the exam, please contact me at: sbrown@lordlawson.academy and I will be happy to help.

Miss S Brown
Subject Leader –Performing Arts

Wellbeing and Mindfulness Club

Mindfulness and Wellbeing Club is a club where students can learn a little more about their own mental health and be given strategies on how to manage their emotions, deal with stress and ground themselves when things all feel a bit much. The club will take place on a Friday lunchtime in MA23; Week 1 is open to KS3 students and Week 2 is open to KS4 students. Please see Mrs Long (KS4), Miss Mouat (KS3) or Mrs Kemp (KS3 or 4) for an activity pass.

Mrs J Kemp
Cover Supervisor

Remembrance Service

Remembrance Day at Lord Lawson is a time that we all reflect on those who have been affected by war, those we have lost and those who still fight the private battles brought on by war. We hold a Remembrance Service in school and this year we would like to see as many students as possible involved.

All students are invited to be part of the service, but we would particularly like representation from Cadets, Scouts, Girl Guides, and any other uniformed service. We would also like students who would be confident to read as part of the service. We will meet every Wednesday until Remembrance Day, on November 11, to rehearse. Meetings will be from 3.15 until 4.00pm in MA23; students are expected to attend all rehearsals.

Mrs J Kemp
Cover Supervisor

Year 13: Parent/Carer Higher Education Online Session

Oxford for North East would like to invite you to an online event on **Tuesday 4 October, 6.00 - 7.30pm**, to discuss the costs and benefits of higher education in relation to all universities, with selected elements also of relevance to those who are applying to Oxford/Cambridge.

In the session, we will focus on effective ways parents and carers can support their child's progression to higher education. We aim to build confidence and knowledge about the benefits and costs of going to university and offer you the opportunity to ask questions and hear from students from North-East England who are currently studying at Oxford. We will assume no prior direct experience of higher education on your part and would welcome questions about any aspect of the student experience, costs, or admissions and applications.

We will offer a range of sessions for parents/carers over the course of the 2022-23 academic year: this is most clearly aimed at parents/carers of sixth-form students who are nearer in time to making a potential application.

If you would like to join us, please fill in this registration form: [Oxford for North East Parent Carer session registration](#).

We will use the details from your registration to send you the Teams link in the 24 hours before the session itself. We will give you the opportunity to ask questions in the session, but this registration also enables you to pre-submit questions, which we will address without attributing them to you.

Mrs A Jordan
Head of Sixth Form and Careers Lead

Year 11 and Year 13: Exam Preparation Evening – Thursday 13 October 2022, 4 – 6pm

Advance notice for students in years 11 and 13, and their parents and carers, that we will be hosting an exam preparation evening in school, on Thursday 13 October.

Further details will be emailed directly to parents and carers.

We hope to see as many of you there as possible.

Mr J Dicocco
Deputy Principal

Academy Production 2022: Matilda, The Musical Junior

Our 2022 Academy Production: Matilda, The Musical Junior, will have four public performances across the evenings of Tuesday 18 to Friday 21 October 2022. Each evening performance begins at 7pm.

Tickets go on general sale from Monday 3 October, and are available from our academy reception at a cost of £6.00 per ticket. Please note tickets are non-refundable. If you require any adjustment or access to seating in the main hall please contact myself directly as soon as tickets are purchased.

If you have any questions regarding our production, please email me at: sbrown@lordlawson.academy and I will be happy to help.

Matilda promises to be a very exciting show. We are so proud of our cast for their commitment and efforts towards the production.

Please ensure you purchase tickets early to avoid any disappointment.

Thank you

Miss S Brown
Subject Leader - Performing Arts



Lord Lawson of Beamish Academy
Presents

► Rectangular Snip



ROALD DAHL'S
Matilda
THE MUSICAL
JR.

Book by
DENNIS KELLY

Music & Lyrics by
TIM MINCHIN

Tuesday 18th - Friday 21st October 2022
7pm Start - Main Hall

Tickets £6.00 (Non-refundable) Available from Academy Reception

Please note that due to restricted space should you require any adjustment or access to seating in the main hall please contact Miss Brown upon purchase of tickets. Late arrivals will not be permitted into the hall until the interval to maintain the health and safety of our students during the performance.

Roald Dahl's *Matilda The Musical JR.* is presented through special arrangement with
and all authorized materials are supplied by Music Theatre International,
New York, NY(212) 541-4684 mtishows.com

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

<u>Year 10</u>		<u>Year 11</u>		<u>Year 12</u>	
10DB	8.50am	11CH	10.50am	12VN	1.40pm
10DM	8.50am	11CDI	11.10am	12BG	1.40pm
10FB	9.10am	11LS	11.10am	12SBW	2.00pm
10EC	9.10am	11LL	11.30am	12ACE	2.00pm
10ATR	9.30am	11KG	11.30am	12CL	2.20pm
10DGL	9.30am	11JKP	11.50am		
10GP	9.50am	11LWD	11.50am		
10KT	9.50am	11SBN	12.10pm		
10JGR	10.30am	11JF	12.10pm		
10LR	10.30am	11CD	1.20pm		
10MS	10.50am	11HT	1.20pm		

Tuesday 4 October 2022

<u>Year 7</u>		<u>Year 8</u>		<u>Year 9</u>	
7ACL	8.50am	8SBS	10.30am	9TMI	11.30am
7SHE	8.50am	8RM	10.30am	9CCM	11.50pm
7LCR	9.10am	8NSN	10.50am	9RH	11.50pm
7GGL	9.10am	8JRA	10.50am	9LC	12.10pm
7JBM	9.30am	8AMN	11.10am	9SFR	12.10pm
7JHE	9.30am	8MG	11.10am	9FR	1.20pm
7SMY	9.50am	8AGY	11.30am	9KF	1.20pm
7ARE	9.50am			9KD	140pm
				9PWE	13.40pm

Please ensure your child attends in full uniform. Should you have any questions, please contact me at: 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

Gateshead Libraries

Gateshead library service do not just offer the opportunity to 'lend a book', they offer many services to the public, and some specifically for teenagers.

The 'We Choose' group, runs from Birtley Library, specifically for children aged 11 to 16.

Please see the following flyers for further information

Mrs J Kemp
Cover Supervisor



Gateshead Libraries

Rectangular Snip

WE CHOOSE

We Choose is Birtley Library Reading Hack Group
Meet Tuesdays 3.30pm - 5pm at Birtley Library
Learn new skills and gain experience through our volunteering opportunities for young people, designed by young people. Fortnightly meetings mean you'll have the chance to make new friends while you plan your own events, promote a range of young adult novels, and engage in activities that are important to you.

For age 11 - 16 years Free – Just turn up

Group meeting
13th September 3.30pm – 5pm

Local History Origami Boxes
Tuesday 27 September, 3.30pm – 5pm
Choose images from old maps and photos of the Birtley area and create origami shapes to take home.

Group meeting
11th October 3.30pm – 5pm

Stranger Things Quiz Night
Tuesday 25 October 3.30pm – 5pm
Test your knowledge of all Things Strange! Collect your wrist stamp before using your telekinetic powers in front of our Upside-Down green screen. Popcorn available in Joyce's Living Room.

Group meeting
8th November 3.30pm – 5pm

2kawaii4U
Tuesday 22 November 3.30pm – 5pm
Crafts and activities that are just too cute

The Nightmare Before Christmas
Tuesday 13 December, 3.30pm – 5pm
Activities with a non-Christmas theme!

www.gatesheadlibraries.com 4253/PS/2022

bringing words to life!
Gateshead Libraries

 Gateshead Council

Gateshead Libraries

WE CHOOSE



Are you aged between 11 and 16?



Do you like reading, movies or music?



Are you looking for exciting opportunities that enhance your CV?



'We Choose' are a young, like minded group who design, plan and deliver events for teens at Birtley Library.

We also organise and take part in workshops and activities



We meet every other Tuesday
at Birtley Library, 3.30 - 5pm



Call: 0191 433 6101 • Email: catherinecowan@gateshead.gov.uk

Djqifs Dibmmfohf

If you could work out that this says....

Cipher Challenge

We have the club for you....

- Learn the secrets of messages sent by spy's.
- Be able to work in a team to crack secret codes
- Take part in a nationwide competition with the University of Southampton and GCHQ.
- So come and join the the **puzzle solvers, linguists, mathematicians, and computer scientists**
- If you are interested, give your name to Mr Bramham, Mr Robertson, or your mathematics Teacher.
- Cipher Club will meet each Thursday lunchtime in MA28 and is open to students in Year 7 and Year 8

