

23 October 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

A huge thank you to you, our parents and carers, for your support this half term. We have had an encouraging start to our academic year, and I cannot believe it is nearly half term already! Our School Improvement Advisor completed his first school review, and he noted the following:

*There is a palpable feeling of calmer corridors and social spaces at lesson transitions, break and lunchtimes. Staff and students appreciate the improvements in behaviour with higher expectations from the senior team and new systems.*

*The impact of a new Head of Year team is reported as positive by staff and the support provided is more appropriate and timely.*

We are aware that there are still improvements to be made, and we are working hard as a school to ensure that we meet the needs of our students and provide them with the education they deserve and need to go on to be successful.

## Improving study habits

Years 10 and 11 can prove a stressful time for students. To conquer low-level anxieties, they will often invest their nervous energy into creating beautifully crafted colour-coded study plans rather than actively engaging in the hard thinking that defines successful revision. To support our students to manage effective study habits and routines, during assemblies last week we talked to them about key revision strategies that we would like them to use. We will weave these into our classroom practice as well as embedding them in their homework tasks to support our students to develop good study habits and healthy routines for revision.

## 'Wear it Pink' Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October

Thank you for your support of our first ever 'Wear it Pink' day in aid of the UK's largest breast cancer charity, Breast Cancer Now. Our students really got behind the campaign and were hugely imaginative in their expression of wearing it pink! Two of our Year 11 prefects, Lottie Pearce-Bourne and Maddie Romeo were responsible for the vision and organisation of the day, ably supported by the rest of their prefect team. Lottie and Maddie even convinced Mr Adams to complete a fitness challenge alongside them and the total amount raised was an amazing £452.55. Huge thanks go to both Lottie and Maddie for their hard work and determination in bringing this day to fruition, you are fantastic role models for our students to look up to.



### **National showjumping representation**

Last weekend, Ellenna Lewis (Year 10) riding Proud as Punch represented Lacon Childe and Shropshire County at the NSEA National Show Jumping Championships at Addington Equestrian. This is a premier equestrian competition venue in the UK, set in the heart of Buckinghamshire. Ellenna competed in two classes at Addington and finished in a commendable 24th place overall, an amazing achievement on this National stage. Don't they look amazing in this photo? Congratulations Ellenna you are a fantastic ambassador for our school.



### **Harvest**

Our Lacon Childe School family is extremely special, and this has once again been reflected in the fantastic response to my annual Harvest assembly and challenge. This year, as a result of your generosity, we have been able to support our local foodbank in Cleobury Mortimer with a fantastic parcel from each tutor group.

A special thank you also goes to our KS3 form tutors Mrs Davies-Treble, Mrs Hillhouse, Mr Treasure-Evans and Miss Davis; and our KS4 tutor team of Mrs Eades, Mrs Youngson, Miss Johnston and Mrs Gilder for participating in my house 'Ready Steady Cook' challenge.

### **World Tennis Tour – Shrewsbury**

Congratulations to Noah Weston in Year 8 who was chosen to be part of the ball crew at the World Tennis Tour held in Shrewsbury on Sunday. It was a fantastic experience for Noah, and he was able to watch professional tennis players up close as part of his role.



### **Ski Trip 2025**

There will be a meeting for parents of students who are on the school ski trip in March on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 5.00pm, for approximately 45 minutes in the school hall. We will be covering itineraries, accommodation, clothing and equipment, packing lists and can answer any questions you have. If your child currently has the passport that they will be using for the trip, if you could please bring this with you so that we can start to collect passport numbers. Also, if your child has a medical need that you wish to discuss you will have to chance to do so also. If you have any questions before then please email Mrs Harding: [ailsa.harding@laconchildeschool.co.uk](mailto:ailsa.harding@laconchildeschool.co.uk)

### **FSM Voucher – October Half Term**

Please be advised that the October half term free school meal vouchers for those students eligible have been ordered and should be with parents today.

### **Reminders**

#### **PD Day**

School will be closed to students on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November. During this day, staff will be looking at key educational research, cognitive science and learning about how to ensure that learning is optimised in every lesson through effective teaching employing research driven methods. We look forward to welcoming them back after a restful and relaxing half term on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November.

## Student access to Arbor

A reminder that the student portal for Arbor is now open and available for your child to log in to. All students in Years 8-11 have been shown how to do this and have received an email to their school email account explaining this process in case they have forgotten. The following link (included in their email) will take students directly to the correct site, this should be stored in their bookmarks for future use. <https://the-lacon-childe-school.uk.arbor.sc/>

Once students have logged in and set their own password, they will be able to see their attendance, timetable, and assignments (homework) information. They will no longer need to ask you about what homework they have. The link below (also included in their email) provides further advice on using the student portal. <https://support.arbor-education.com/hc/en-us/articles/360006651877-The-Student-Portal-Quick-tips-for-students>

## Uniform

As we approach half term, a reminder of our school uniform policy (<https://lacon-childe.org.uk/parents-carers-students/uniform>). If you have any concerns, please contact your child's form tutor or year leader in the first instance. Currently we have some concerns about trainers and non-compliant trousers and both of these items are detailed in the policy with examples of both acceptable and unacceptable items. We have a supply of new uniform in school, please contact us if you require help in replacing any item. We would also like to take this opportunity to remind families about our jewellery expectations. Bracelets and necklaces should be left at home, but one ring can be worn on each hand and only one stud is allowed in each ear.

## Trips and Shop Payments

The following are still available on Arbor to make payment for:

Year 8 Arthog Trip – Payment by 1<sup>st</sup> November  
Ski Trip final payment – due 1<sup>st</sup> November  
Year 10 English Text – Payment by 11<sup>th</sup> November  
Year 10 Revision Guilds

## Lacon Childe PTA - Rags 2 Riches collection Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November

Please help us to raise funds for school and dig out all of your unwanted clothing, paired shoes, belts, jewellery, bags etc. Remember, soiled clothing, bedding, printed items, socks or school uniform will be rejected, and we will be charged for such items, so please make sure you don't include any of these so that we can raise as much as possible. Bags will be issued this week via students for you and can be returned and dropped at school during reception opening hours up until 9.00am on the morning of Tuesday 19th November. Thank you!

## Letters and information for Parents/Carers:

[Shropshire FIS](#)

Tenbury Regal Half Term Activities – [Disney](#) & [Family Fun](#)

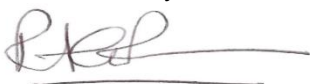
[Ludlow Assembly Rooms Half Term Activities](#)

[Seat Belt Message](#)

Thank you again for all of your support. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me on [rachel.croxtibroome@laconchilideschool.co.uk](mailto:rachel.croxtibroome@laconchilideschool.co.uk)

Wishing you a wonderful half term!

Yours sincerely



Rachel Croxton-Broome  
Head Of School



Ruth Allen  
Consultant Executive Headteacher

## Dates to remember

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October & Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October  
 Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October  
 Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October  
 Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November

Year 8, 9 & 10 SEN Interim Reviews  
 Year 10 English Poetry Assessment  
 End of term  
 Half Term

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November  
 Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November  
 Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November  
 Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November  
 Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November  
 Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November  
 Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November

PD Day (no students in school)  
 Remembrance Sunday  
 Year 11 Speaking Mocks  
 Ski Trip Meeting  
 Year 11 Year Group Photo  
 Rags to Riches Collection Day  
 Year 9 GCHQ Language Competition

## Fixtures

 LACON CHILDE SCHOOL ...more than just a school	Date	Year	Sport	Venue & Start Date	Staff
	Wednesday 23rd October	U16 Boys	Football	Away - Lacon vs Telford Priory finish 6pm	KW
	Thursday 24th October	Yr7/Yr8	Netball	Home Lacon vs OSH finish 4.15pm	ZT
	Tuesday 5th November	Yr9	Rugby	Home - Lacon vs Chantry finish 5pm	SA
	Tuesday 5th November	Yr8/Yr9	Netball	Home - Lacon vs OSH finish 4.15pm	ZT
	Wednesday 6th November	U15 Boys	Football	Home - Lacon vs Bridgnorth finish 5.15pm	SA

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The Shropshire Gateway Educational Trust

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