

27 November 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for all your support and patience following the snow and rain over the last week. We wanted to apologise again for the issue caused with the late notice of the bus cancellation. In the event of future school closure or bus cancellation, we will contact you via SMS and email via Arbor.

### **Responsibility Assemblies**

This week, our assemblies across the school have been based on responsibility and what it looks like for us as individuals, including personal responsibility and taking ownership of the things we need to do. We also considered different types of responsibility and how these impact on us in our daily lives, such as moral responsibility, legal responsibility, family responsibility, community responsibility, responsibility to customs, traditions, beliefs, rules and personal responsibility. Students were able to consider the levels of responsibility and will hopefully be sharing with you at home as to how they are going to take ownership and become more responsible in different aspects of their daily lives.

### **Year 11 Mock Examinations**

Mock exams for our Year 11 students begin this Friday, lasting until Friday 13th December 2024. Students are currently preparing carefully in their lessons for these important examinations. All content teaching and homework has now stopped, any work set by teachers will be focussed entirely on revision and examination technique. No homework will be set for Year 11 in the last week of term. These exams will take place in our school hall and will be completed under formal examination conditions. The mock examination timetable is available for Year 11 Parents/Carers to view on our school website as well as via both the parent and student Arbor app. Please make sure your child refers to this examination information as it will help them enormously in terms of their revision plans and organisation during this exam period. We wish all our Year 11 students well at this important time in their educational journey. Further information from Mr Roff will follow.

### **Online safety: social media and mental health**

An estimated one-third of children have a social media account, so it's important that parents/carers know what content young people are consuming, what they're posting and the interactions they're having. On social media, it can be easy to go down a rabbit hole that isn't beneficial to our wellbeing. As platforms grapple with managing 'legal but harmful' content, lives are being impacted – sometimes to tragic effect. We might be daunted by the scale of the tech giants and their content which enthralls young people, but we can still help children to be mindful of their mental wellness: recognising when something isn't OK and knowing what to do about content that upsets them. Please find attached a PDF guide in which you'll find tips such as how to hide content, setting daily limits and discussing what your child has seen online.

### **Year 9/10 Writing workshop**

On Monday we were visited by two professional writers from The Arvon Foundation. Lou Minns and Emma Beynon, who brought their lovely positive energy to us after the bad weather. They ran two workshops with small groups of students in Years 9 and 10. Lou helped them create some wonderful Gothic fiction and Emma worked on writing their own poetry. It was incredibly inspiring and engaging, for both the students and the English department who plan to use some of their ideas with the whole school. We were incredibly lucky to be given this opportunity by the Arvon foundation, who applied for funding, meaning that Lacon Childe worked with these professional writers free of charge. All our students were a delight to have in the workshop, and Lou and Emma were very impressed with them. They also commented on what a lovely school Lacon Childe was. A huge thank you to Mrs Shepherd for organising this amazing opportunity for our students.

## **Duke of Edinburgh – Bronze**

This week we are completing individual progress checks with our Year 10 Bronze DofE students. We would like all of them to have completed their awards by the Christmas break. We are reminding them how to upload their evidence and the process by which assessors for each of their sections need to complete their reports using eDofE. Please support them at home so that we are able to sign off their awards and present them in our end of term assembly. If you have any questions or queries regarding this, please email [rachel.croxtonbroome@laconchilideschool.co.uk](mailto:rachel.croxtonbroome@laconchilideschool.co.uk).

## **School Uniform**

After 30 years of trading the School Shop in Kidderminster will close its doors for the final time on the Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December. We understand that this year has been both a turbulent and difficult time for the company and the service they delivered fell well below their previous high standards. As a result, all current stock is being sold at a 50% discount. We have already been in contact with potential new suppliers for the next academic year and hope to have details of our new supplier early in the new year. As a result of a move to a new supplier please be aware that some of our uniform items may be subject to slight changes. We are hoping to keep these changes to a minimum and there will be no need to purchase new uniform unless your child has grown out of their current uniform.

## **County lines and exploitation awareness training schedule for Parents/Carers**

Thank you to those of you who attended the free county lines and exploitation awareness training we signposted last week and for the feedback that you found it really useful and informative. For those who were unable to attend we have attached a summary for you.

## **Free Parenting Groups from January 2025**

The Parenting Team will be delivering free **Understanding Your Child from toddler to teen** and **Understanding Your Child SEND from toddler to teen** groups from January 2025 (poster attached). These 10-week groups aim to:

- Promote understanding of children's behaviour within the context of developmental issues
- Promote the development of parent/child relationship
- Increase confidence and self-esteem in both parents and children
- Give parents a strategy for repair when things go wrong
- Promote reflective, sensitive and effective parenting

We are also offering free **SLEEP TIGHT groups** from January and February 2025 (poster attached).

These 5-week workshops cover:

- Recognising the role of sleep hygiene to improve sleep
- Identifying causes of sleep issues and appropriate practical strategies to try
- Completing sleep diaries and identifying potential sleep issues

I have also included our poster to promote our Parenting Help and Support Line.

Please do not hesitate to contact us directly if you have any questions: [parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:parenting.team@shropshire.gov.uk) or give us a call on 01743 250950

## **Reminders**

**PTA** – The PTA AGM will be held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 6pm via Teams. To anyone who would like to attend, please contact [laconchilde\\_pta@outlook.com](mailto:laconchilde_pta@outlook.com) so a link can be sent for you to attend.

## **Letters and information for Parents/Carers:**

[Autism](#)

[PTA Update](#)

[Shropshire Family Info Service](#)

[Book Swap](#)

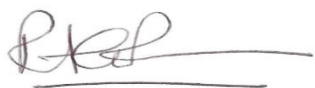
[Sleep Tight Poster](#)

[Understanding your Child Poster](#)

[Parenting help and support](#)

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us via email [admin@laconchilideschool.co.uk](mailto:admin@laconchilideschool.co.uk)

Yours sincerely



Rachel Croxton-Broome  
Head of School




Ruth Allen  
Consultant Executive Headteacher

### Trips and Shop Payments

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

Item	Information	Payment Due
Year 7 KS3 Design Technology Contribution	Voluntary Contribution	
Year 7 London Trip		01/12/24
Year 9 French Trip		01/12/24
Year 10 Poland Trip	2 <sup>nd</sup> payment	02/12/24
Year 10 Science Revision Books		
Year 10 Design Technology Revision Guides	Textiles, Food and Resistant Materials	13/12/24
Year 10 GCSE Fine Art Contribution	Voluntary Contribution	
Year 10 GCSE Materials Contribution	Voluntary Contribution	
Winter Concert Tickets	Available to purchase in the shop	16/12/24

### PE Fixtures

	Date	Year	Sport	Venue & Start Date	Staff
	Thursday 28th November	Yr11 Boys	Rugby	Away - Lacon vs Chantry finish 5pm	PC

### Dates to remember

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November  
 W/B 2<sup>nd</sup> December  
 W/B 9<sup>th</sup> December  
 Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December  
 Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December  
 Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December  
 Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January  
 Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January

Year 12 Presentation Evening  
 Year 11 Mock Exams – all week  
 Year 11 Mock Exams – all week  
 Book Swap - Library  
 Christmas Lunch  
 Christmas Concert  
 Last Day of Term

PD Day – No students in school  
 All students return to school

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**[www.lacon-childe.org.uk](http://www.lacon-childe.org.uk)**

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