

4 September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back! I hope you have all had a great summer and had the opportunity to enjoy some quality time with your families. It gives me great pleasure to write this first Head's Update of the new academic year. It has been a productive start to our Autumn term for staff, who have had two full days of training. Day 1 included an important safeguarding refresher to ensure that all members of staff are fully up to date with changes to Keeping Children Safe in Education 2024. Day 2 afforded staff time to revisit and refocus on the high expectations we have for our students because we care about them. Students are here to learn and they deserve disruption free learning. Please remind your child/children to follow our key rule on their return to school - to follow instructions first time.

This morning, we welcomed our new Year 7, Year 10, and Year 11 students to school. It was great for the school to be filled with chatter and excited students again. They all looked very smart and grown up and we are pleased that they have returned so positively. We are looking forward to welcoming Years 8 and 9 back tomorrow.

As well as our new students, we also welcomed a number of new staff to Lacon Childe School: Mrs Aldridge-Bufton (Year Lead Y9 and cover supervisor), Miss Davis (Food Technology) Mr Treasure-Evans (Subject lead Geography), Mrs Treble-Davies (English and History) and Mr Urry (PE). We wish them all much success in their new roles.

Examination results

As you know from my letter during the holidays, August saw the release of our GCSE results. Although the pandemic is now a distant memory, we must not forget that all our students experienced an incredibly turbulent few years and the resilience they have shown under such conditions is remarkable. They are all inspiring and talented young people and we are immensely proud of them. We wish them all success in their next steps.

Arbor

Thank you for your patience with our new system Arbor. We are experiencing a few niggles, so please bear with us. Thank you to everyone that has already logged into the new system. If you have not, we ask that you please log on this week. From now, we will be using Arbor to communicate with you, for payments and will be launching the student version so that students can access their timetables and their homework shortly. Please log on via this [link](#) and click 'Forget your password?' to finish setting up your account. It is very quick and simple to create your new account. Arbor offers lots of support that can be access via this [link](#). Please contact nick.roff@laconchildeschool.co.uk for general questions and queries about Arbor and SGET.finance@laconchildeschool.co.uk

Former student

August also gave us the opportunity to watch and support 'one of our own' as Charlie Brown represented Great Britain in the Modern Pentathlon at the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris. Charlie took part in many of our sporting extra-curricular clubs and represented the school in a multitude of activities including our school show jumping team. What an amazing role model he is to our current students! We are hoping to welcome him back to Lacon Childe soon.



School Photographs

School photographs will be taking place for all students in Year 7, 9 & 11 on Wednesday 11th September. Parents will also have the opportunity for a family photo for siblings who attend Lacon Childe School. Year 11 will have the opportunity for friendship photos to be taken, more information will follow later this week.

Bike Show

The Borders Classic Bike Show is here again! This is the PTAs biggest fundraiser of the year, last year raising nearly £4,000 for school activities and resources and supporting Midlands Air Ambulance. We are in need of volunteers to help run the event, whether that is assisting with car parking, helping in the kitchen or selling tickets on the gate. The event is on Sunday 22nd September and runs from 10am -3.30pm but any help you can give would be appreciated, even if it is just for a couple of hours in the morning or afternoon. In the past, we have had many students also supporting us with help on the day; a great way to support school and show your commitment through volunteering in the community. Please email laconchilde_pta@outlook.com or contact the school office if you are able to help.

There will be many classic bikes on show, with votes for the best in each category. It is Triumph Motorcycle Club's 75th anniversary year this year, so there will be some truly classic Triumph's on display. There will also be some fantastic catering to enjoy including the famous all day cooked breakfast, as well as savoury rolls and home made cakes, so please tell friends and family to come along and visit if you are unable to help on the day. Thank you!

Toilet arrangements

We are currently refurbishing our toilet facilities in the sports centre and they will be ready for our Year 11 students to use by the end of this week. Years 7 and 8 will use the toilets on the main corridor, and Years 9 and 10 the toilets by Food Technology. Students will continue to get seven opportunities to use toilets throughout the day which ensures they do not miss valuable learning time. A reminder, that only those students with a medical pass will be able to use the toilets during lesson time.

Timetable/Homework

A timetable card has been issued to students today and will be given to Year 8 and 9 students on their return to school tomorrow. This card should be kept in their blazer pocket and shows their Week A and B timetables as well as their homework timetable. We will write to you next week explaining our new homework policy. Homework will be set using Arbor.

Getting the support you deserve

Is your child eligible for Free School Meals? We strongly encourage eligible parents/carers to apply for this. No one will know who has registered and it will not affect any other benefits being claimed. If you think your child qualifies for additional funding, please apply using this link [Apply for free school meals | Shropshire Council](#). This method of application is quick, easy and allows parents/carers to utilise the existing account set up initially to apply for a school place. Once you have applied, you will receive a confirmation email and the school will be informed directly.

Prize winners: Academic Year 2023-24

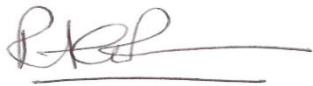
Finally, I would like to reflect on the end of last academic year. On the final day of term in July we had a wonderful day of celebration that included sports day and a fantastic whole school assembly during Period 5. During this assembly we were able to present special awards and trophies to the students in the attached prize winners document.

Letters for parents/carers

- Arbor Letter
- Arbor Payments
- Testicular Torsion Poster
- Clee Hill Rugby Club
- Borders Classic Bike Show Poster
- Awards 2024

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us via email admin@laonchilideschool.co.uk

Yours sincerely,



Rachel Croxton-Broome
Head Of School



Ruth Allen
Consultant Executive Headteacher

Dates to remember:

Thursday 5th September
Wednesday 11th September
Friday 13th September
Monday 16th September
Thursday 19th September
Thursday 19th September
Sunday 22nd September
Wednesday 25th September
Thursday 26th September
Thursday 26th September

All years back in school
School Photos - Yr7/9/11
Yr7 - Yr9 Flu Vaccinations
Jeans for Genes Week
Book Fair
Yr10 GCSE Parents Evening
Borders Classic Bike Show
Yr7 Castles Trip (Clee/Mortimer)
Yr7 Castles Trip (Stretton/Wrekin)
Yr7 Welcome Evening

Love Lane, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire DY14 8PE

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The Shropshire Gateway Educational Trust

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