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Headteacher's Summer Newsletter - July 2022

Welcome to our Summer Newsletter and my final update of this school year. It gives me great pleasure to extend this welcome to the parents of our Year 7 students who will join our Lathom family in September. We are so looking forward to you starting with us.

Ofsted Inspection

As you are aware, school was inspected by Ofsted on 14 and 15 June. This was a hugely positive experience for Lathom and I cannot wait to share the final report and outcome with you, once it is published.

Thank you

As we reach the end of term I want to take the opportunity to say an enormous thank you for your support during this school year. It has been another year which has brought so many challenges and difficult times for all of us, both in school and at home, and your messages of thanks, support and good wishes have meant a great deal to everyone at school.

Your messages were particularly important to us in the Autumn Term when we suffered the tragic loss of Carly, one of our Year 7 students, due to illness. Your kindness and generosity, both in words and in supporting our fundraising for Alder Hey Hospital, supported our students and staff through the darkest of times – thank you.

It has been a very busy year and an exceptionally action packed Summer Term with a huge variety of activities and trips for students in all years. There has been lots of celebration too with our School Summer Awards being given out this week. Students have also had the opportunity to win some amazing prizes and rewards, through Bedrock and the Accelerated Reader scheme, for pushing themselves with their reading - such a vital skill to develop especially after so much time away from school in the last two years. Our Attendance Reward Scheme has also been back up and running to promote good attendance to school and to recognise where students improve their attendance, particularly in the face of adversity at the current time. We sincerely hope that when we return in September we will continue to deliver a really packed programme of activities, experiences and rewards to support our students in their learning and personal development, particularly given how much they have missed out on in the last two years.

Staffing Update

As we come to the end of the year, I want to let you know about some staff changes for September. At the end of term we say goodbye to Mr Harrison, Ms McDonough, Miss Botts, Ms Morris and Mrs Wilcock. I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to them all for their hard work and contribution to our school community during their time at Lathom and wish them every success and happiness for the future. I would like to reserve a special mention for Mrs Wilcock who has served this school community and our families for an impressive 18 years! We wish her and her family every happiness in their move to Scotland.

Due to the continued growth and popularity of our school, I am delighted to welcome some new members of staff to our team for the new school year:

Mrs BaxterLearning Support AssistantMr HoldingSecond in HumanitiesMrs BorrettTeacher of ScienceMr MurrayLearning Support AssistantMr CarwayTeacher of SpanishMiss WrightTeacher of Mathematics

Ms Forber Teacher of Spanish Mr Hay Careers Advisor

We also have some staff taking on new roles from September including within our Pastoral Support Teams. Here are the teams for your information:

	Head of Year	Assistant Head of Year	
Year 7	Miss Sullivan	Mrs Connolly	
Year 8	Mr McPhail	Mrs Grice	
Year 9	Mrs Sefton-Miles	Mr Coles	
Year 10	Mr Sykes	Mrs Newnes	
Year 11	Miss Forster	Mrs McCarthy	

Premises Update

As part of the ongoing development of our school facilities, lots of work will be taking place over the summer break including the continuation of our full redecoration programme, a new roof on the Science block and a brand new heating system for the whole school. We know that this will further improve our learning environment. In addition, we are improving the social areas where our students spend their break and lunchtime and extending our car parking for staff and visitors.

Return to school in September 2022

Date	Arrangements	Further Information	
Friday 2 September Staff INSET day Scho		School closed to students	
Monday 5 September	All year groups back to school	School starts at 8.45am as normal	
		Buses will run as normal.	
		Our new bus route starts from Up Holland and Old Skem. The timetable can be found	
		on the school website.	

On our return to school in September, please ensure that your child has the correct equipment for learning and is wearing full uniform, including school shoes. If you have any issues regarding uniform or equipment please contact your child's Assistant Head of Year and we will support in any way we can.

If you do need support or advice through the summer, please contact us on familysupport@lathom.lancs.sch.uk This email address will be monitored throughout the summer holidays and a member of the Leadership Team will reply to you as quickly as possible.

I feel privileged to lead this wonderful school and more so than ever before, I feel so PROUD of everything that our students are achieving. They have faced so many challenges this year and in their work, and around school, they have conducted themselves with determination, understanding and respect. We have been living and working in the most unusual and exceptional of times for the past two years and the circumstances we have found ourselves in as a result of the pandemic have tested us all. Our team here has risen to every challenge we have faced and has found a way, with great creativity and imagination at times, to overcome them. I could not be PROUDER. Their dedication, resilience and hard work cannot be overstated and I thank each and every member of our school community sincerely for their commitment, support, compassion and care. It means more than words can say.

I hope you all stay well and have a lovely summer, and I look forward to seeing everyone back at school in September.



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Mrs Galbraith Headteacher

LIFE AT LATHOM

Since the start of Summer term, we have seen our students really engage with their learning both in and out of the classroom. They have had some amazing opportunities to work together, and work with visitors to school on our PROUD days. Visitors have impressed with the mature and thoughtful way that they have approached their learning and personal development and here are a few of our Summer term highlights.

English fun and achievements

During the summer term, a group of budding writers from Years 9 and 10 met every Tuesday to write for pleasure and



to develop their skills. They also consumed quite a few biscuits! Our students wrote from the viewpoints of well-known villains (who knew that Cinderella had been such a rebellious handful as a stepdaughter?), experimented with withholding information and 'showing not telling', entered the 'Empowered' poetry-writing competition and worked on precision with 100 word stories. Creative Writing Club has been a great success, so well done to its members who have been enthusiastic and so supportive of each other!

The English department also hosted the National Teen Book Club in June. Avid readers from Years 9 and 10 met each Wednesday after school to join up with other schools, guest speakers and authors online. NTBC gave us the chance to read and discuss 'The Crossing' by Manjeet Mann - a devastating story of a young refugee. Our students really enjoyed this book - they think you would too! National Teen Book Club also ran a national writing competition and our very own Scarlett in Year 10 won it with her poem! Well done Scarlett!

Billionaire Boy Trip

In June, 50 students from Year 7 and 8 visited the Liverpool Empire Theatre to watch Billionaire Boy as a reward for their amazing effort on Accelerated Reader and Bedrock to improve their reading and vocabulary over the academic year.

'A Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time' Trip

On Wednesday, 23rd March, 2022, a group of year 11 students attended the Empire Theatre in Liverpool to watch 'A Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time'. The play had been studied for part of their English Literature exam, and we were delighted to have the opportunity to watch it performed live on stage! The play tells the story of a 15 year old maths genius with Asperger's Syndrome who embarks on a journey to discover who was responsible for the death of his neighbour's dog.

It was a wonderful afternoon spent with a wonderful group of students, and we thoroughly enjoyed every minute.

PE Update

- 1. Students had huge success at the recent super 8s athletics competitions. Huge congratulations to those involved. The following students both achieved first place in their respective events:
 - Finley $C 1^{st}$ place in Y7 long jump (4.44m) and 1^{st} in 800m (2.29m) both new Lathom High school records.
 - Ethan $H 1^{st}$ place in Y8 200m (25.3) also a new school record.
- 2. The Y8 girls came 3rd in the district rounders competition. Huge congratulations to all the girls who took part.



3. <u>Athletics Leaders</u> - 6 Y9 students have qualified to be athletic leaders this term. Esther A, Evie D, Cohen J, Craig B P, Dylan M B and Ste M

4. District Athletics at Robin Park

Gold Medal Winners at the recent event were

Y7 Boys Shot - Dylan D

Y7 Boys 800m - Finley C

Y8 Boys Javelin - Jack F

Y8 Boys Discus – Jayden W

Y9/10 Boys Shot - Ryan W













5. Sports Day Winners

We enjoyed a fantastic day last Friday for Sports Day. Overall tutor Group Winners are:

 Year 7
 7R

 Year 8
 80

 Year 9
 9L

 Year 10
 10R

iMedia Trip - An amazing day at Harry Potter World!!!!!!

The students and Professor McGonagall had an amazing Harry Potter experience back in March. Students watched Harry Potter movies on the journey down eating pastries and crisps.

Once inside the studio students roamed freely and were able to see the real sets used in the Harry Potter films, as well as countless props and special effects. We spent several hours discovering how the films were made, going 'behind the scenes', seeing props, costumes and the amazing sets themselves.

We walked through the haunted forest and on one part of the tour students were able to experience a game of quidditch flying on a broomstick!

Students filled themselves up in the dining areas and most had to try the

famous butter beer!

Students said it was a fantastic day even though some were not Harry Potter fans.







<u>Lego Robotics Regional Final – Edge Hill University</u>

In April, 10 students from year 9 and 8 went to Edge Hill University to compete in the regional finals of the Lego Robotics Challenge. Students had to build and programme a robot using Lego to go as fast as it could forwards and backwards in a straight line along with many other challenges. This was the first time the trip had been done by the school and for the first couple of hours we were in the lead. Students were a credit to Lathom and were given a guided tour around the amazing facilities at Edge Hill University. Next year we are going for the win!







3D Printer Workshop - Digital Skills Program

In July, 60 year 8 students were treated to a workshop on 3D printing by Creative Education funded by BAE Systems. Thanks to "Creative Education" and BAE Systems as they have donated a £5000 3D printer to the school. Students were shown how to use the software to create rockets which were launched outside during the day. They were also shown the possible jobs of the future using these amazing printers. These included creating casts for broken arms, creating 3D chocolate masterpieces and even 3D printing buildings in the future on the moon and Mars. We will be working with Create Education in the future and there is talk of a trip to BAE Warton soon to see how they use their 3D printer to maintain aircraft.







Hour of Code in KS3

We live in a world surrounded by technology. And we know that whatever field our students choose to go into as adults, their ability to succeed will increasingly depend on understanding how technology works. Students in Computer Science lessons over the last few weeks have been signing up to take part in "An Hour of Code". More than 100 million students have taken part in the scheme to show how easy it can be to have these 21st century skills. Students could choose one of the activities from their own version of flappy bird, Minecraft, Mario's Secret Adventures o or simply created code using Scratch. Upon completion of the hour of code students were issued with a certificate. Well done to all those that took part.



Enterprise and Marketing – Lathom's Rising Entrepreneurs Deliver Professional and Successful Business Pitches, Dragon Den style!!!!

Throughout April and May, our year 11 Enterpise and Marketing students delivered their Perfecta Pizza Business Pitches and impressed an audience, a panel of judges! They developed their knowledge and understanding of enterprise concepts into real customer profiles, promotional plans, marketing and pricing strategies with professional pitches that attracted investors and showcased the viability of their product proposal. The students also designed logos, created product packaging with original logos and also used celebrity endorsements during their successful Business Proposals. Amazing job and well done to those students!







Fundraising

Mrs Sefton-Miles had a successful charity event for year 8 raising £690.90. Huge congratulations to all the fundraisers





Art Exhibition

We were delighted to be asked to take part in an exhibition at Up Holland Community Hub that celebrated our Community.





Year 9 and 10 Trip to London

Some of our Year 9 and 10 students enjoyed a fantastic Maths Trip to London. Some of the highlights of the trip were a visit to the Natural History Museum, a ride on The London Eye and the Emirates Air line, plus they



got to see the 600th performance of the West End Show "Wicked".





Year 11 - PROM

Great night was had by all, celebrating hard work and finishing High school. The class of 2022 had a fabulous time at Briars Hall. Huge congratulations to you all and good luck for the future.



Duke of Edinburgh Awards



Last week saw the inaugural Duke of Edinburgh expedition around Rivington. Students have been working hard all year through a variety of tasks to fulfil their volunteering, skill and physical aspects of the Bronze award. Alongside

these sections they have also been preparing in small teams to plan, produce and navigate 2 days of walking around the Rivington area, whilst carrying all their essentials to be able to camp and eat along the way.



Students had an excellent time and developed a number of skills along the way. The resilience shown by many to be able to make it through both days was exceptional. The evening activities, preparing camp, setting up tents and cooking food was a delight to witness with everyone having fun and in high spirits.

The night was complete with students sitting around eating giant S'mores (marshmallow and chocolate on a biscuit) and throwing around the nerf ball. There were even some moments of astonishment, despite what they tell you - the students can wash up!



After a 'good' night's sleep camp woke to the hustle and bustle of the packing up the kit and preparing breakfast. This set the tone for the day as students marched on to complete a successful expedition which even saw groups navigating over Rivington pike and one cruise over Winter Hill.

An overall success for all students and as a group all staff were very PROUD of their efforts.

SUMMER AWARDS CEREMONY

Subject Awards

Year 7

Maths	Patricia O
English Literature	Olivia M
English Language	Ako S
Science	Erica A
Geography	Connor J
History	Nathan D
Religion and World Views	Erica A
Spanish	Lydia S
Physical Education – Boy	Finley C
Physical Education – Girl	Scarlett G
Design Technology	Shay R
Design Technology – Food	Willow C
Art	Maisie M
Music	Daniels D
Computing	Charlee B
Drama	Chloe H

Year 8

Maths	Finley J
English Literature	Ethan M
English Language	Jorgie-Lea Mc
Science	Michael W
Geography	Nathan C
History	Alise T
Religion and World Views	Kitija I
Spanish	Oumie C
Physical Education – Boy	Ethan B
Physical Education – Girl	Chloe R
Design Technology	Charlie P
Design Technology – Food	Riley B
Art	Layla P
Music	Macauley W
Computing	Nathan C
Drama	Grace A

Year 9

Maths	Julia L
English Literature	Cohen J
English Language	Julia L
Science	Arwen H
Geography	Dylan M-B
History	Alice M
Religion and World Views	Leaha F
Spanish	Bethany C
Physical Education – Boy	Cohen J
Physical Education – Girl	Evie D
Design Technology	Sam G
Design Technology – Food	Tom G
Art	Samanta P
Music	Charlotte O
Computing	Angel-Lea G
Drama	Daria G

<u>Year 10</u>

Maths	Keita B	
English Literature	Ellen W	
English Language	Emily C	
Science	Tj P	
Geography	Isobal C	
History	Caitlin R	
Religion and World Views	Abd A	
Spanish	Ella N	
French	Daniel M	
Physical Education – Boy	Harley M	
Physical Education – Girl	Eva S	
Photography	Maggie S	
IMedia	Linda L	
Art	Caitlin R	
Food Preparation	Aliesha W	
Computer Science	Alex L	
DT	Dean W	
Drama	Bradley W	
Business Studies	Linda L	

PROUD Awards

Congratulations to all Lathom students who have upheld our PROUD values and have been rewarded this term for outstanding effort, resilience, excellent work and noticeable and significant contributions to our school community.

Awards have been presented to the following students:

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Perseverance	Katalina A	Finley J	Cohen J	Keita B
Responsibility	Jess M-B	Hannah W	Dylan M-B	Maddie C
Ownership	Luca P	Alex D	Julia L	Lilli J
Understanding	Dylan D	Kaelum M	Maria K	Maggie S
Determination	Declan M	Lilyrose R	Carter W	Josh L
Overall PROUD	Nikola M	Jack G	Esther A	Bradley W

AUTUMN TERM REMINDERS

Thank you for your support in ensuring that our standards are as high as possible in all aspects of school life. Please could you ensure that you sort out any issues with your child's uniform over the holiday so that everyone returns after the break feeling PROUD of how they look in full uniform including school shoes, not trainers.

Full uniform consists of:

Navy blue blazer embroidered with school logo (Year 7 – Year 10) or Jumper embroidered with school logo (Year 11)

Plain white shirt/blouse
School clip-on tie
Black trousers
Navy pleated knee-length skirt embroidered with school logo
Black/navy socks or tights
Black School shoes

Please remember that hair should be natural in colour, make up should be minimal and natural looking and no nail varnish, acrylics or any other type of false nail/nail extension is allowed at school. The only jewellery permitted, for health and safety reasons, is a watch and a single stud earring in the lower ear lobe. Facial piercings of any type (including nose studs and tongue piercings) are not permitted at school.

In addition to their full uniform, all students must have a **school bag** large enough to carry school books and PE kit and full equipment for learning namely **pens**, **pencils**, a ruler, **highlighter pens**, their planner, a reading book and PE kit (when required).

Lathom is a no smoking site and all smoking, including the **use of e-cigarettes or 'Vapes' is forbidden**. As you are aware, any student found in possession of these items will have them confiscated and they **will be disposed of.**

Students should not have any type of fizzy or high energy drink in school. Any student found in possession of these items will have them confiscated and they **will be disposed of**.

The use of mobile phones and earphones is not allowed during the school day. Any phone or earphones seen in school during the day will be confiscated.

These reminders all relate to our existing school policies. They are not changes or anything new. We know that everyone has had to adjust to the challenges of life during the pandemic and we thank you for helping us to maintain our high standards and appreciate your support.

If you have any concerns about this, please contact your child's Assistant Head of Year at school.