

## Message from the Principal

Welcome to our first newsletter of the school year 2019/2020. I am pleased that all students returned to school refreshed and positive about their learning. The start of the year is always challenging not least as we have a fresh cohort of students. I am delighted that our new Year 7's have settled in well and have added fresh vibrancy to the school.

As part of our whole school approach to drive up standards of achievement the school has recently taken part in two external reviews. These evaluative activities, whilst identifying next steps, affirmed many positives in relation to the school's practice; some of the key findings include:

- Outcomes are rising for all pupils and for disadvantaged pupils. This is no longer an expectation or simply an ambition. Arduous work has started to bear real fruit.
- Senior leaders show a very high level of moral purpose, care and sense of direction. There is plenty of evidence of some really effective painstaking work by senior leaders.
- The learning walks showed some high expectations by staff in lessons across the curriculum. Staff demonstrated strong subject knowledge and explained things well and efficiently.

School Leaders and Governors would like to thank all of our families for their continued support.

Finally, it was wonderful to see so many students at Lyndon School receive awards at the annual Summit Learning Trust celebration for their efforts and achievements during the academic year 2018/2019. Congratulations once again to Marim Abohendia, Zehan Ahmed, Tia Ajimal, Kaleem Ali, Nabeel Ali, Laaiqah Arif, Poppy Beech, Mason Beirne, Daniel Bromley, Shymika Brown, Alyssa Campbell, Lamisa Choudhury, Lily Claydon, Liam Clifford, Denisa Corlan, Cameron Dainty, Bianca Decu, Isobel Douglas, Kloe Fletcher, Eliot Gambino, Abi Holman, Theo Hutchinson, Ruqqayah Iqbal, Katie Janes, Tavinder Kaur, Adina Khan, James King, Sam Lees, Melanie McLaughlin, Nisa Mubashar, Serrell Tafari, Kacey Mumford, Ben Palmer, Nikita Parmar, Anum Rahni, Evie Rose, Charlotte Simpson, Lily Staley, Estela Tayong, Conor Thompson, Heston Thompson, Macey Ward, Amara Webley, Aysha Zeeshan, and last but not least Zidane Zidane!

**Finally, we wish all of our families a wonderful half term break and look forward to welcoming all students back to school on Monday 4th November 2019.**

**Mr Butt—Principal**

## Award Winning Student

President of the Solihull Chamber of Commerce, Robert Elliot, presented the first Solihull Chamber of Commerce President's award to Isabella King, Year 11. Isabella was awarded this special award for demonstrating stellar entrepreneurial skills which impressed the Chamber President.

Robert met Isabella in June this year having presented an assembly to Year 10 at Lyndon School. At that meeting Robert learnt that Isabella had set up her own business to raise funds for an adventure ahead. Isabella, set up her own small company selling stationery in order to raise funds for a World Scout Jamboree trip to West Virginia, USA in the summer. The jamboree was attended by 60,000 scouts from across the world, with 36 scouts, including Isabella, from Birmingham attending the event.



Robert presented Isabella with her award at Lyndon School. Robert said: "I am delighted to present Isabella with the first Solihull Chamber of Commerce President's award. "I wanted this award to go to an organisation, an initiative, or a person that had left a lasting impression on me since I started my presidency.

"My passion is business engaging with education, in fact it is my aim as president this year to boost business engagement with educational institutions across Solihull and beyond. Isabella displayed some fantastic entrepreneurial skills, is a true team player and ultimately succeeded in achieving her goal. Well done Isabella on winning this award, it is very well-deserved.

Well done Isabella from everyone at Lyndon, we are all very proud of you.



## EVENTS

### Principal's Pick of The Week

**Yr11** Lacey McNally, Conor Thompson, Jay Hickman, Shantel Hamilton, Reuben Jarvis, Marcus Walker, Max Thomason, Usman Ali, Serrell Tafari, Mia Zimmerman

**Yr10** Olyver Bhattacharyya, Joel Donnelly, Erin Koziot

**Yr8** Aleena Saleem, Leah Burrows, Samahir Imran, Paige McClure, Evie Rose, Ellie-May Curtis

**Yr7** Ciaron Condron



We held a coffee morning at Lyndon to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support on Friday 28th September and we raised £304.49.



Thank you to all who contributed to such a worthy cause with all your donations and for supporting us to raise a fantastic amount of money.

### Plastic Bottles Request

The technology department will be working with the Science Department to create a greenhouse using plastic bottles – in readiness for the Vegetable Gardening Club next spring. Please could students bring in clean, **clear** plastic bottles (with or without lids) of any size and take them along to S101 in the Science block.

### European Day of Languages

On 23rd September to celebrate European Day of Languages our wonderful canteen staff put on a European themed menu. Students and staff alike enjoyed cuisine from France, Germany, Spain and Italy with the Pretzels being a total sell out! Many thanks to everyone for getting in the spirit and remember "Keep calm and learn languages!"

### World Mental Health Day



October 10<sup>th</sup> 2019 was World Mental Health Day and Lyndon's Mental Health Ambassadors decided to raise funds for "Young Minds", a brilliant charity that supports young people with mental health issues. A cake sale was held and 'Be Kind Always' badges were also sold in memory of Molly Bolton, a former Lyndon student. A fantastic total of over £330.00 was raised and the Ambassadors would like to thank everyone who supported the event.



### Careers

We have had a very busy start to this term with a number of careers events and sessions.

We kicked off with Careers Assemblies for Year 8, Year 9 and Year 11 students, delivered by Robert Elliott from Hogarth's Hotel and President of Solihull Chamber of Commerce. Robert challenged assumptions and talked about the many different roles in Hospitality and Catering as well as touching on the local labour market in Solihull and Birmingham. Mr Elliott is due to come in later this term to talk to Year 7 and Year 10 students.

Cambridge University also came into school to give an aspirational talk to students in Year 7, Year 9 and Year 11 about Cambridge University and university life in general.

Our Year 10 students will be undertaking work experience later this year so we invited Tarmac into school to share information on CV writing and they offered some useful tips to help students when they come to write their CVs.

We were also lucky to have the Royal Marines deliver a Leadership and Teambuilding session with a group of Year 10 and Year 11 students. Students were informed about recruitment into the Armed Forces and then took part in a number of physical activities.

Finally, our annual Careers Convention was a very busy and successful evening for students and parents/carers. We had over 60 organisations attend consisting of colleges, sixth forms, universities, training providers and local employers. We have had lots of positive feedback from students and parents. Feedback from the visiting organisations was excellent, with many commenting on how engaged and professional our students were.



# INFORMATION

## Reminder to Parents/Students

**Open dyslexic font is free to download from the internet and is really helpful for anyone who has dyslexia.**

## Keeping the School Informed

Thank you to all the families who have already returned the Data Collection Sheets, and we are in the process of updating the school systems to reflect any changes. **If you haven't yet returned your Data Collection Sheet, please can you do so as soon as possible, many thanks.**

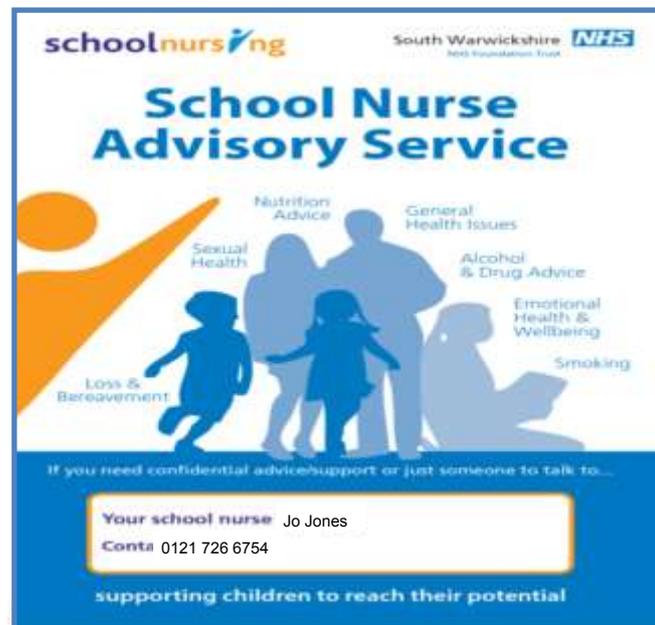
These sheets are vital as they enable us to be up to date with any changes, whether these are changes to named emergency contacts, addresses, phone numbers, or regarding your child's health.

Please remember that if your child uses an asthma inhaler or an epipen, we would expect that they carry this in their school bag. All students who have inhalers or epipens prescribed for them should bring in a spare to be kept in school, and in these cases, we ask parents and carers to fill in a form.

## Students Leaving during the school day

If your child needs to leave school during the school day for an appointment, please send your child with the appointment letter or note to excuse them from lesson and to show at reception.

Please remind students that if they feel unwell during the school day, they must visit First Aid or their Pastoral Manager to make contact home. They must not call home using their own mobile phones.



The poster features the logos for 'schoolnursing' and 'South Warwickshire NHS Foundation Trust'. The main title is 'School Nurse Advisory Service'. Below the title, there are silhouettes of a family (a man, a woman, and two children) with various health-related terms listed around them: 'Sexual Health', 'Nutrition Advice', 'General Health Issues', 'Alcohol & Drug Advice', 'Emotional Health & Wellbeing', 'Smoking', and 'Loss & Bereavement'. At the bottom, it says 'If you need confidential advice/support or just someone to talk to...' and provides contact information for 'Your school nurse Jo Jones' with the phone number '0121 726 6754'. The slogan at the bottom is 'supporting children to reach their potential'.

## School Reception

Please note that Reception opening times are:  
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 8.00 am—4.00pm  
Tuesday 8.00 am—3.00 pm  
Friday 8.00 am—3.00 pm

**Please ensure that students are picked up from School**

## Parking outside School

May we remind parents and carers that if you arrive by car to meet your children after school to please park considerately.

Vehicles are not allowed on the premises unless you have a prior agreed appointment.

Thank you for your co-operation.

## Preparations for Shoebox Appeal

We have launched our 2019 Christmas shoebox appeal with assemblies and videos showing students where our boxes went to last year. You were all so wonderful filling 324 shoeboxes which were sent to children in Tulcea, Babadog & Braila in Romania. Thanks to your support there are children who were given a priceless gift of hope that someone, somewhere cares enough to send them a shoebox full of gifts that can make their lives more bearable.

Take a look at the picture of Natasha who lives in this hut with her 6 brothers & sisters, they have no running water or Electricity. Last year she received a shoebox, it must have made such a difference to her life.

It would be wonderful if you could encourage your child to take part in this worthwhile cause again this year.



Below is a list of items that we will be collecting during Tutor time every Friday morning until half term:

Toy, toothbrush, toothpaste, bar of wrapped soap, flannel, notepad or drawing paper, picture book or comic - (remember nothing with violence, also that the person who receives box may not understand English), pencils, pens, crayons, hat, gloves, scarf, small ball, puzzle or jigsaw, for boys: toy car, plane or similar. For girls: small jewellery set, doll, skipping rope or hair accessories, a personal message from you – it can be a card or letters, wrapped sweets with sell by date of at least March 2020, shoeboxes and decorative wrapping paper, contribution towards £2.50 per box to cover postage.

We thank you in advance for your support.  
Mrs Redpath and Mrs Samrai



## Vacancy for Parent Governor

There is a vacancy for a parent Governor at Lyndon School. Expressions of interest, including your full name, your occupation, what you would bring to the role of governor for the school and the name of your son/daughter, are invited by noon on Friday 8th November 2019, and should be sent to The Clerk to the Lyndon Governing Body at following email address: dawn.phipps@lyndon.org.uk

## KEY DATES & TERM DATES

### Key Dates

Half Term	<b>28.10.19-01.11.19</b>
Term Starts	<b>04.11.19</b>
Year 9 Parents' Evening	<b>12.11.19</b>
Staff Training Day	<b>29.11.19</b>
Term Ends	<b>19.12.19</b>
Staff Training Day	<b>20.12.19</b>
Term Starts	<b>06.01.20</b>

Year 7 Parents' Evening	<b>14.01.20</b>
Year 9 Student Vaccinations	<b>29 &amp; 30.01.20</b>
Year 10 Parents' Evening	<b>11.02.20</b>
Half Term	<b>17.02-21.02.20</b>
Year 11 Parents' Evening	<b>25.02.20</b>

### TERM DATES – 2019/2020

AUTUMN TERM 2019	
<b>HALF-TERM</b>	Monday 28th October 2019 → Friday 1st November 2019
<b>STAFF ONLY</b>	Friday 29th November 2019 ( <b>STAFF ONLY</b> )
<b>TERM ENDS</b>	Thursday 19th December 2019
<b>STAFF ONLY</b>	Friday 20th December 2019 ( <b>STAFF ONLY</b> )
SPRING TERM 2020	
<b>TERM STARTS</b>	Monday 6th January 2020
<b>HALF-TERM</b>	Monday 17th February 2020 → Friday 21st February 2020
<b>TERM ENDS</b>	Thursday 2nd April 2020
<b>STAFF ONLY</b>	Friday 3rd April 2020 ( <b>STAFF ONLY</b> )
SUMMER TERM 2020	
<b>TERM STARTS</b>	Monday 20th April 2020
<b>MAY DAY</b>	Friday 8th May 2020
<b>HALF-TERM</b>	Monday 25th May 2020 → Friday 29th May 2020
<b>TERM ENDS</b>	Friday 17th July 2020
<b>STAFF ONLY</b>	Monday 20th July 2020 ( <b>STAFF ONLY</b> )
STAFF TRAINING DAYS	
STUDENTS NOT IN SCHOOL ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:-	
<b>Friday</b>	• 29th November 2019
<b>Friday</b>	• 20th December 2019
<b>Friday</b>	• 3rd April 2020
<b>Monday</b>	• 20th July 2020



# INFORMATION

## Timing of the School Day For All Year Groups

### Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

Assembly/Tutor	8:40 am – 9:10 am
Lesson 1	9:10 am – 10:25 am
Break	10:25 am – 10:45 am
Lesson 2	10:45 am – 12:00 pm
Lesson 3	12:00 pm – 1:15 pm
Lunch	1:15 pm – 1:45 pm
Lesson 4	1:45 pm – 3:00 pm

### Tuesday (Every week)

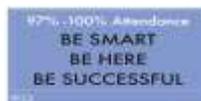
Assembly/Tutor	8:40 am – 9:10 am
Lesson 1	9:10 am – 10:10 am
Break	10:10 am – 10:30 am
Lesson 2	10:30 am – 11:30 am
Lesson 3	11:30 am – 12:30 pm
Lunch	12:30 pm – 1:00 pm
Lesson 4	1:00 pm – 2:00 pm
Student Dismissal	2:00 pm

## Attendance

Last academic year attendance was above the national average for the first time at 94.7% (NA 94.5%). There is still much work to do! We want to work with all parents to improve students attendance to a minimum of 97% and to prepare them for the wider world of work. We do recognise that children can be ill sometimes but we ask that you continue to work in partnership with us and always keep us fully informed of absences. This year we will send you an attendance update letter termly.

As you will also be aware, we only authorise leave of absence for students in 'exceptional circumstances'. If you do need to apply for this, you can request a form from reception. However, we should be clear that any holidays or extended trips will be unauthorised, as the expectation is that holidays/trips abroad are booked within school holidays.

Can we also remind you that we only authorise medical appointments for half a day so the expectation is students attend school before and/or after the appointment.



- Regular attendance at school means that your child can make the most of their education, improving their opportunities later in life.
- School can also help your child develop their social skills such as making and maintaining friendships.
- A regular and punctual attendance pattern will help your child when they enter the world of work.
- Research has shown a clear link between good attendance at school and the quality of the qualifications that students achieve.
- For every 17 days your child is absent their GCSE results will potentially drop by a whole grade (DfE research).

