

Message from the Principal

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2023, I am pleased that all our learners have returned to school refreshed and eager to continue their learning.

Included in this edition of the newsletter are highlights of events that have taken place since the start of the academic year.

Have a wonderful half term break and we look forward to welcoming all learners and colleagues back to school on Monday 27th February 2023.

Mr Butt—Principal

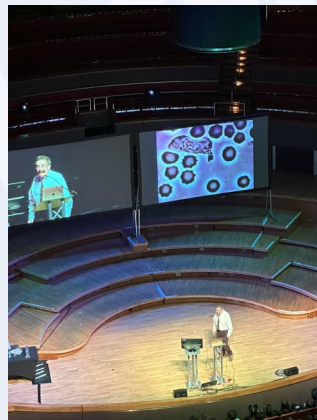
Congratulations

Congratulations to Nishwan Rega in Year 11 who was the winner of the 100% attendance ipad raffle prize draw in December. Congratulations!



Science Live Event

Monday 30th January 2023, 49 Year 10 Learners visited Birmingham Symphony Hall to see and hear from five of Britain's top scientists, all working at the cutting edge of their specialisms. There were top tips on examination success from an experienced science examiner. Each learner received a well-produced booklet with details about each scientist, the lectures and some general articles about studying science and working as scientists, as well as a number of pieces from an experienced chief examiner on success with Science GCSE.



All Learners thoroughly enjoyed their day.

Festive Cheer!

Year 8 Learners spread some festive cheer to the residents of Arden Lea Care Home, Solihull. They designed Christmas cards and sent them to the residents with words of joy for Christmas. Our learners shared a facetime call with the residents, who were delighted to receive the cards.

BEBRAS Competition Winners

In late November KS3 learners participated in the Computing BEBRAS national challenges. Learners in over 50 countries participate to engage in world Computing Challenges which are promoted by Oxford University. Please see the link below for more info: <https://www.bebbras.uk/>

The results came through early December and Lyndon School did better than last year. This year we had 14 learners who achieved in the top 10% nationally. To put this into perspective, our learners were in the top 10% of 360,000 participants.

Congratulations to: Isobel Massey, Sebastian Houghton, Nathan Wharrier, Ella Biddle, Tamsin Dalton, Aimee Dawkins, Mohamad Mando, Amber Nutting, Brooke Skeldon, Komeyl Heydari, Oliver Walker, Lewis Jones, Tyrell Barnett, Ana Mihai



Principals Pick of The Week

Hannah Tang Year 7 awarded excellent homework in art

Amber Pickering Year 9—excellent contributions to a Trust meeting with Senior Leaders

Connie Lester Year 11—winning a dance scholarship.

Year 7 Learners—Luke Dainty, Izah Mahmood, Madison Lane who all produced some beautiful road safety posters in Miss Brogan's Personal Development Group

Nishwan Rega Year 11—Excellent performance in his French mock speaking exam.

Reporting an Absence—Please use the Absence Line

All absences must be reported to the Attendance Officer before the start of school by 8.30am, on the absence line, giving the reason for absence. If it is a prolonged absence a call is required, each day

Absences can be reported via the school absence line on 0121 743 3402 (option 1).

County Cricket Selection

Eesa Hassan, Year 8 has been selected for the Warwickshire County Cricket development programme, following an intensive 5 week trial before Christmas. This is fantastic news and we are very proud of Eesa's achievements and wish him all the best of luck for his future in County Cricket.



Oxford University

Year 11 learners got a chance to visit Keble College, one of the colleges at the prestigious Oxford University. Learners received a warm welcome from learner ambassadors where they received an aspirational talk about the variety of courses and life experiences that are available to learners wishing to read at Oxford University.

After a break for lunch in the famous Great Hall, learners were given the opportunity to 'Oxplore' and develop their understanding of critical thinking/debating skills. This followed by a tour of Oxford before returning home. It was a fantastic day developing the curiosity and raising the aspirations of our Year 11 learners.



National School Attendance Award

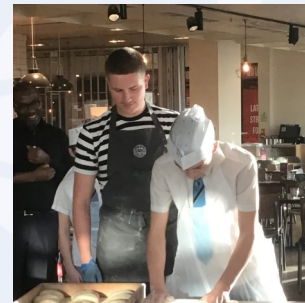
We are delighted to be in the top 25% of similar FFT Secondary Schools in England for the Autumn term 2022/23.

Congratulations to all our learners, our families, Governors and Summit Learning Trust.



Pizza Express Visit

Year 10 Hospitality and Catering visited Pizza Express Solihull, learning about the job roles and opportunities for careers within Pizza Express, along with the art of making the perfect pizza and ultimately enjoying eating it.



Solihull Sixth Form Thank you to Solihull Sixth Form College for coming into school in January to talk to our Year 10 learners about the college, courses offered, grades needed and other college expectations such as attendance and punctuality. It's never too early to start preparing for life after Lyndon School.

Road Safety Awareness

Congratulations to my personal development group, as well as producing some beautiful resources for the Global Show. They have all produced some absolutely brilliant posters to bring more awareness to road safety. We have discussed this topic at length and have some really strong ideas about what we can do moving forward to make ourselves safer.

A wonderful group and it is my pleasure to teach them.
Miss Brogan



Chinese New Year

新年快樂

Happy Chinese New Year

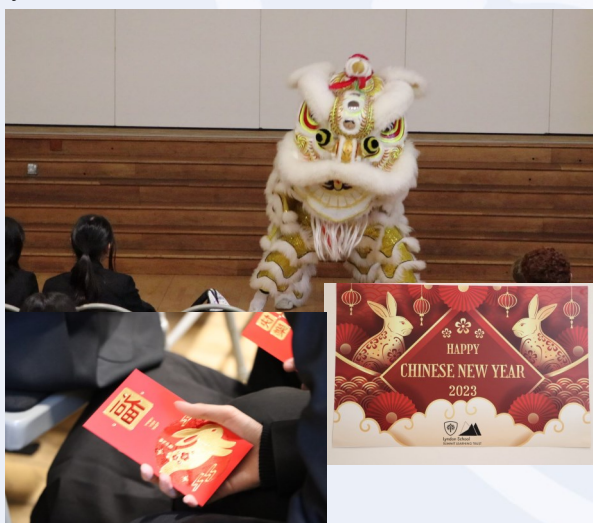
On the 23rd January our learners and staff celebrated Chinese New year.

The celebrations began with learners being treated to a fabulous menu of Chinese food, organised by Mrs Masters, our fabulous Canteen Manager and her team.

After lunch Mrs Phipps organised for our learners to watch a performance from the Chinese Dragon to wish everyone a happy new year.

At the end of the presentation learners were given an bright, beautiful red envelope (known as 紅包, hóngbāo) with a chocolate coin inside. At Lunar New Year, it's tradition to give this gift to friends and family to symbolise good wishes and luck for the new year ahead.

Happy New Year!



Virtual Apprenticeship Session

Our Learners enjoyed a virtual Apprenticeship session during tutor time in early February with Workpays. This was to inform them about the fantastic opportunities to secure an apprenticeship and enjoy being paid whilst gaining valuable work experience and a qualification. Learners thoroughly enjoyed this session and took a lot away from it.

Scholarship Award—Connie Lester

Year 11

Connie started at Chelis School of dance 10 years ago. During her time there she obtained a high standard of all genres of dance. She has had the pleasure of dancing at venues like the Royal Albert Hall and Disney Land Paris. Connie has collected a vast amount of medals and trophies over time and has worked extremely hard at dance dedicating most of her spare time to this.

Connie started to look at dance colleges to attend post Lyndon. Luckily the first college of her choice she auditioned for, offered her a place on the spot with a fully funded scholarship to study the Trinity Diploma of Professional Dance. The College she will be attending is The Hammond which is located in Chester.



The Lyndon Community are extremely proud of Connie and wish her well in her next adventure and look forward to hearing of her successes over the coming years.

Stargazing Event

The summit Learning Trust held a stargazing event via the OGDEN Trust for learners and their families on Monday 6th February. The presentation explored the search for life in the universe, the James Webb Space Telescope and how astronomers search for new worlds beyond our own.

All learners enjoyed the experience and were fascinated at the presentation.





Learners 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** saying what time they have to leave lesson and to show at reception. Could you also please state on the note, if your child is leaving on their own or you are meeting them in reception. **Please remind your child to remember to make their way down to reception at the time you have asked them to.**

Learners who feel unwell during the school day_Please remind learners that if they feel unwell during the school day, they must visit First Aid or their Pastoral Manager to contact home.

Learners must not call home using their own mobile phones.

Equipment

Please remind learners to check their planner/timetable each day, to ensure they bring in the correct equipment for the day.

Please ensure that they have their planner, reading book, pen, pencil, ruler and full PE kit if they have PE on the day.

It is the learner's responsibility to remember their equipment and we cannot always guarantee we can loan items to learners or send equipment to them during the school day.

Attendance

Please can you report any absences before 8.30 am, you can leave any messages on the **absence line on 0121 743 3402.**

Please can you clearly state your child's name, year group and the reason for absence. Thank you.

Football boot exchange

We are arranging a football boot exchange within the PE Department to assist families in the current cost of living crisis. If you have any old football boots that are no longer required and would be happy to donate to the school, we would very much appreciate this. All used boots will be sanitised and cleaned before use.

Please ask your child to hand any donations into the PE. Many thanks

Food Bank

Lyndon school is a recognised centre to support families and individuals in crisis. There are many reasons why a family is in crisis and unable to access support to be able to buy food. We are here to help. As a registered food bank referral agency we can support a family to access food.

Contact Mrs O'Gorman for further information:

Jacqueline.O'Gorman@lyndon.org.uk

Sanitary Products

We are in a position to support learners who need sanitary products, they are allocated in the girls toilets and are also available for any learner that want to take products home:

Jacqueline.O'Gorman@lyndon.org.uk

Please Contact Mrs O'Gorman for further information

Uniform Bank

We have a Uniform Bank, if any learner is in need please contact Mrs O'Gorman/Pastoral Team for further details: **Jacqueline.O'Gorman@lyndon.org.uk**

Cycling to School

Please can parents and carers remind learners to take extra care when cycling to and from school. All learners must wear helmets.

Please also ensure that your child wears a suitable bike helmet, when cycling to school.

Breakfast Club

Lyndon is part of the National School Breakfast Programme and offers learners a toasted bagel before school every day. Breakfast is served every morning from 8.00 am in the canteen.

School Reception

Please note that Reception opening times are:

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday and Friday:
8.00 am—4.00pm

Tuesday 8.00 am—3.00 pm

Please ensure that learners are picked up from School promptly.

Return Phone Calls

Please be reminded that all phone calls should be returned within one working day; thus **by the close of play on the day after the request is made.**



INFORMATION



Attendance and Punctuality at Lyndon School

At Lyndon, we believe that excellent attendance and punctuality are both important in helping our learners to achieve their full potential. As such, at Lyndon School our expectations are that all learners should be at school and on time every day the school is open unless the reason for absence is unavoidable.

To meet our statutory obligations and to ensure our learners benefit from consistent high quality learning Lyndon School will:

Promote perfect attendance and work closely with our families to ensure all learners attend school each day.

Act proactively to identify and address patterns of absence which may hamper a child's life chances.

Communicate regularly with our families to provide information regarding their child's attendance and the impact it is having on their progress at the academy.

Working in partnership with various agencies to support the work of Pastoral Managers, Attendance Officers, and the Education Welfare Service Remember, excellent attendance is key to your child being able to fulfil their potential and make good progress in school.

Improving attendance: What parents and carers can do?

One of the most important ways a parent or carer can support the personal and academic development of their child is to ensure they attend every day and on time. At Lyndon, we have a clear expectation that learners should aim for 100% attendance every year. We recognise however, that illness happens, children can become unwell and there will be occasions when your child is too poorly to come into school. The academy expects the support of parents and carers in ensuring that children always attend, when possible.

Please encourage your child to come to school even if they are feeling slightly unwell. Pastoral Managers will contact you if it becomes necessary for your child to go home however, creating an ethos of getting into school, prepares them for further education and the workplace.

Where a child is unwell, parents and carers should ensure they follow the 'Reporting' procedures below.

Reporting an absence

All absences must be reported to the Attendance Officer before the start of school by 8.30am, on the absence line, giving the reason for absence. If it is a prolonged absence a call is required, each day

Absences can be reported via the school absence line on 0121 743 3402 (option 1) or by email to office@lyndon.org.uk

If you know your child is going to be absent due to medical appointment, please let us know in advance with evidence for the absence. In such instances, absences from school should be limited to the length of the appointment and traveling time.

Absence due to illness will be authorised unless there is a concern about the authenticity of the illness, in which case you may be asked to provide medical evidence. Unexplained absences will be unauthorised by the academy.

Examples of authorised absence

Medical or dental appointments. Routine appointments should be made for outside of school hours. Evidence of these appointments is required. The academy will only authorise a maximum of half a day's absence for unavoidable medical appointments (e.g., hospital consultant, CAMHS or orthodontist appointments).

College/employment interviews. Evidence is required.

Family funerals of close and immediate family members or recognised religious observations. (One day will be granted on prior notification).

For exceptional circumstances a Leave of Absence request form can be obtained from the school for completion. On receipt of this form the Principal will decide and write to you to confirm whether authorisation is granted.

Examples of unauthorised absence

- Unauthorised leave of absence.
- A full day absence for a medical appointment
- Absence not reported on the day or supported by written explanation upon return to school
- Arriving late after the register has closed (9.30 am)
- Truancy: isolation will be given as a sanction

Examples of medical evidence

- Medical appointment card or photo with one appointment entered
- Letter from a professional
- Medical note
- Medication prescribed by a GP
- Copy of prescription
- Print screen of medical notes
- Letters concerning hospital appointments
- Slip with date, pupils name and surgery stamp, signed by Receptionist

Request for leave of absence during term time

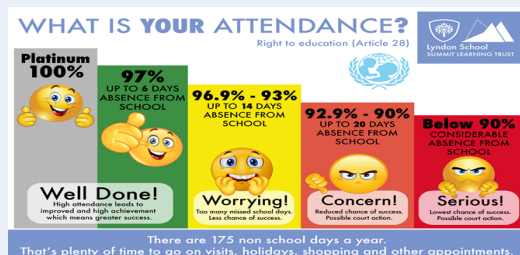
Parents/ carers should not take book holidays or similar arrangements during term time. It is unlawful for learners to be granted holidays during term time; therefore, the principal will be unable to give authorise absences unless there are genuine exceptional circumstances.

Punctuality

We ask that learners arrive at the academy prior to 8.30am ready to attend tutor time at 8.30am. If your child is going to be late, please call the main office to inform them of the reason. The school gates close at 8.30am and should any learners arrive after this time, they must sign in at the 'late desk', located at the Upper School Gate entrance. If a learner arrives late, without a genuine reason, they will be issued with a 20-minute detention which will need to be sat at the end of the same school day. For learners who arrive after 9.30am, without a valid reason, they will be marked as a 'U' which is an unauthorised absence.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding attendance, please contact your child's Pastoral Manager who will be able to advise and support you as well as putting you in touch with other agencies should this be required.

Thank you for your continued support in helping to raise attendance, punctuality, attainment, and achievement at Lyndon School. If you are unsure of any of the details regarding attendance, a full Trust Attendance Policy can be viewed on our website.



School Term Dates 2022—2023

Autumn Term 2022		INSET DAYS
Half Term	Monday 20th – Friday 24th February 2023	
Term Ends	Friday 31 st March 2023	
Summer Term 2023		
Term starts	Monday 17 th April 2023	
May Day	Monday 1 st May 2023	(LEARNERS NOT IN SCHOOL)
Bank Holiday for the coronation of King Charles	Monday 8th May 2023	(LEARNERS NOT IN SCHOOL)
Half Term	Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June 2023	
		Friday 30th June 2023 (LEARNERS NOT IN SCHOOL)
Term Ends	Tuesday 25th July 2023	

Key Dates 2022 2023

Year 9 Progress Evening	7 th March 2023 4.00 pm—6.30 pm
Year 9 HPV Booster	10th & 17th March
Year 7 Information Evening 6.00 pm	21 st March 2023—6.00 pm
Year 9 Teenage Booster (DTP/MEN/ACWY)	21st & 22nd March 2023
Year 8 Progress Evening	9 th May 2023 4.00 pm—6.30 pm
Year 10 Work Experience Week	w/C 3rd July 2023
Year 8 HPV 1	7th & 10th July 2023
Year 11 Prom	Friday 7th July 2023
Year 10 Information Evening	11 th July 2023—6.00 pm

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

MONDAY				
Breakfast Club	Dining Hall	All Years	8:00 – 8:30	
Homework Club	TLC	Year 7 - 10	3:00 - 3:30	Miss Roslyn
Silver Alchemist	Music Room	Year 7 – 10	3:00 – 4:00	Performing Arts
Musical Theatre	Dance Studio	Year 7 – 10	3:00 – 4:00	Performing Arts
Netball	Sports Hall	Year 7 - 10	3:00 – 4:00	PE Team
Dodgeball	Gym	Year 7 – 10	3:00 – 4:00	PE Team
Rugby	Outside	Year 7 – 10	3:00 – 4:00	PE Team
Science Club	S204	Year 7 – 9	3:15 – 4:00	Science Team
TUESDAY				
Breakfast Club	Dining Hall	All Years	8:00 – 8:30	
Table Tennis	The Hub	All Years	8:00 – 8:30	
Dance Group	Dance Studio	Year 7 - 10	3:00 – 4:15	Performing Arts
WEDNESDAY				
Breakfast Club	Dining Hall	All Years	8:00 – 8:30	
Homework Club	TLC	Year 7 - 10	3:00 - 3:30	Miss Roslyn
Vocal Group		Year 7 - 10	3:00 – 4:00	
Maths Club	L304	Year 7 - 9	3:05 – 4:00	Ms Thai
Badminton	Sports Hall	Year 7 – 10	3:00 – 4:00	PE Team
Gymnastics	Gym	Year 7 – 10	3:00 – 4:00	PE Team
Football	Outside	Year 7 -10	3:00 – 4:00	PE Team
Engineering Club	POD's	Limited Spaces	3:00 – 4:00	Miss Jones
Model United Nations Club (Week A Only)	U202	Year 7 – 11 (20 spaces)	13:15 – 13:40 (Lunch can be brought to club)	Ms Ahmed
THURSDAY				
Breakfast Club	Dining Hall	All Years	8:00 – 8:30	
Table Tennis	The Hub	All Years	8:00 – 8:30	
Homework Club	TLC	Year 7-10	3:00 - 3:30	Miss Roslyn
Japanese Club	U103	Limited Spaces (Year 8)	3:00 – 4:00	Mr Francis
Dance Club	Dance Studio	Year 7 – 10	3:00 – 4:00	Performing Arts
Debate Club		Year 7 – 10	3:00 – 4:00	Mr Maiden
Computer Club		Year 7 – 10	3:00 – 4:00	Mr Bains
Basketball Club	Sports Hall	Year 7 – 10	3:00 – 4:00	Team PE
Year 7 Homework Club	U204	Year 7	3:00 – 4:00	Ms Ahmed
FRIDAY				
Breakfast Club	Dining Hall	All Years	8:00 – 8:30	
Homework Club	TLC	Year 7-10	3:00 - 3:30	Miss Roslyn
Year 7 Band	Music Room	Year 7	3:00 – 4:00	Performing Arts