

Students launch UKHarvest Food & Fuel Project

On Tuesday 21st February, the Lower Academy welcomed guests from the food rescue charity UKHarvest and, UK Power Networks with a new environmental project aimed at reducing food waste.

Year 7 students spent the morning learning about 'Food & Fuel' and how nutritious meals can be produced efficiently and keeping the cost of food down whilst maintaining the delicious taste of healthy cooked food. Students had the opportunity to put this into practice as they were tasked with producing meals cooked in air fryers. Students excelled at the task and delivered delicious veggie burgers and fries.



The Basildon Lower Academy were lucky enough to be selected as the school to launch the Food and Fuel education programme. The project, run between Cadent, UK Power Networks and UKHarvest, aims to reach up to 20,000 students and their families in 70 schools across the East of England. The project also aims to support the financial and physical wellbeing of young students and their families by offering workshops, lessons, web-based assemblies and online cook-alongs.

"I really enjoyed this experience. I learnt how to use an air fryer and how to save money when choosing ingredients for healthy meals." Musfira.A

"This was a lot of fun especially as I love cooking. My favourite part of the lesson was choosing the ingredients we needed, and using the air fryers. Our visitors were so friendly and helpful and I'd love for them to come back." Kamile.P

"I enjoyed this experience so much. Making burgers was a little bit messy but it was really good fun." Summer C.T

As part of the project, our guests very generously donated 15 air fryers and 15 slow cookers to the school's catering department to use for future lessons.



Free Afterschool Teatime Club - Years 7 & 8

In order to support families with the cost of living, we are delighted to offer an after-school Tea Time Club **free of charge** to our Year 7 & 8 students.

The club is available from 3.30pm – 5.30pm (Mon-Fri) and will provide students with **Active Fun**, enrichment activities including drama and cooking. **Each student will receive Free Hot food and refreshments.**

Spaces are limited and the club will only be able to accommodate students who are pre-booked. This allows us to staff accordingly, and to provide enough hot meals for each student.

Each week, you will be able to log into your ParentPay account and book the days you require your child to access the club for the following week.

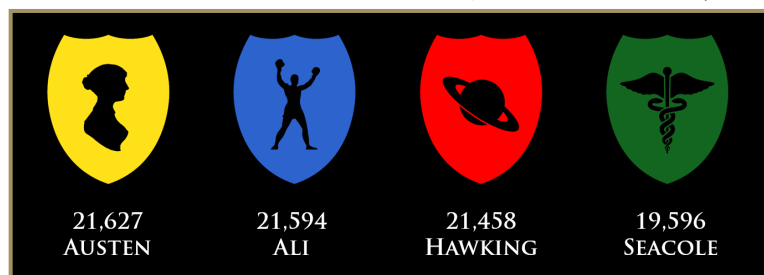


If you wish to utilise this club for the week ahead, please log into your ParentPay account and follow the steps listed below.

1. Log into [ParentPay](#)
2. Click on 'pay for other items'
3. Click 'view' next to the Teatime Club payment item (this is a free club, no payment is actually required)
4. Tick the consent box and click on 'Book Meals and Places'
5. Select the drop down 'After School' and the date of the week you wish to book for
6. Scroll down the page and click on 'Book a session' for each date you wish to book and it will turn green. You will need to scroll right to reveal the whole week
7. Scroll down and click 'Confirm bookings'
8. Your bookings have been confirmed

If you need to cancel a session please go back to step 6 and click on 'clear day' on the dates that you wish to cancel and save your changes.

House Points - Week Ending 24th February



Home Learning

If you have any queries regarding home learning, including access issues or, to celebrate the work your child has completed at home, please visit the [Contact Us](#) page via the Basildon Lower Academy website and select the option for Home Learning/Homework.

School nurse drop-in

If students are worried about their health, would like a confidential chat or would just like to find out more about how our school nurse can help them, the nurse can be found:

Every Thursday Breaktime
Location: The Lower Academy Wellbeing Centre



SEND Department Coffee Afternoons Every Wednesday 2:30pm – 3:30pm

We are delighted to offer our parents/carers the opportunity to meet with members of our SEND Department to discuss your child's progress. Coffee afternoons are held at the Lower Academy from 2:30 - 3:30pm every Wednesday.



To book an appointment please visit the [Contact Us](#) page via the Basildon Lower Academy website and select the option for General Enquiries.

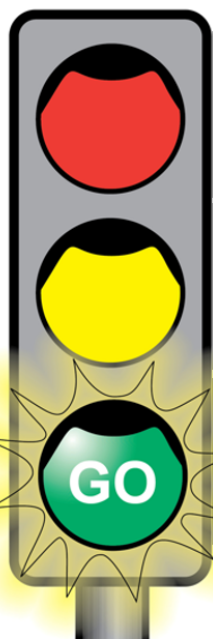
Attendance Expectations

There is a clear link between academic success and attendance and as such our expectations for attendance are that:

- Parents have a legal duty to ensure their child attends regularly.
- Students should have 100% attendance each year.
- Students with attendance below 95% are of concern.

ATTENDANCE

Every Minute Counts!



89% & below

Drastic effect on academic achievement

95-99%

Less chance of success. Harder to make progress

100-99%

Good chance of success and progress

Absence from school

Children are required by law to attend school 190 days per year. The government states that every child's attendance should be above 95%.

How do YOU measure up?

Attendance	Days Absent	Weeks Absent	Lessons Missed
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	50 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	100 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	150 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	200 Lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	250 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	290 Lessons
65%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	340 Lessons

Absence Procedures

To report a student absence please visit the [Contact Us](#) page via the Basildon Lower Academy website and select the option for Attendance.

- Parents/carers should contact the school by 8.30am each day their child is absent.
- If no reason has been received for a child's absence, the Academy will initiate first day calling.
- Parents/carers must provide medical evidence to support all absences due to illness or medical appointments.
- Wherever possible parents/carers should make appointments outside of school hours but if this is unavoidable students should attend school before and after the appointment.
- If no appropriate medical evidence is provided then the Academies cannot authorise an absence. (ie. medical appointment card, prescription, doctor's letter.)

For further information and guidance regarding attendance and absence please visit our website:



Year 7 Students of the Week

Mathematician of the Week	Charlie.B
English Scholar of the Week	Bobby.K
French Linguist of the Week	Kaci.C
Engineer of the Week	Oliver.W

Year 8 Students of the Week

Mathematician of the Week	Sienna.J
Scientist of the Week	Riley.W
French Linguist of the Week	Bradley.J
Geography Genius of the Week	Andrew.J
Performer of the Week	All students who participated in Music Industry Taster Day

Year 9 Students of the Week

Mathematician of the Week	Bianca.D
Scientist of the Week	Landen.L
Historian of the Week	Sophie.A
Geography Genius of the Week	Andrew.J
French Linguist of the Week	Helen.D
Artist of the Week	Christian.G
Performer of the Week	All students who participated in Music Industry Taster Day
Computer Scientist of the Week	George.R

Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels



Year 9 Options Process & Transition to the Upper Academy

Over the course of term 1, Year 9 have been working hard beginning their first foundation GCSE content whilst getting ready for the options selection process. The information below is intended to provide an overview timeline of the activities which students will engage in to support their transition to the Upper Academy.

February 2023	Options Information Sessions delivered by subject teachers during lessons
March 2023	Options Selection
May 2023	Parent/Student 1:1 Meetings
June & July 2023	Year 9 End of Year Assessments
w/c 10th July 2023	Year 9 Transition to Upper Academy - Options Tasters

The Government has an ambition for all students to complete the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) as research shows that this suite of subjects provides support for English & Maths achievement, creates greater opportunities post-18 and supports routes into higher education. Year 9 students will be selecting a Humanities subject and 2 further options to complement their compulsory suite of English Language, English Literature, Maths, Combined Science, French, Core PE, PSHE & Enrichment.

Please do continue to encourage students to complete tasks at home using online platforms on a regular basis. Our remote learning team continue to provide support via remotelearning@basildonacademies.org.uk Please do not hesitate to contact them if you need any advice, guidance or support in accessing out of hours learning.

We will be in touch in the coming months regarding the Options Selection process, which will include an opportunity for you to meet with a member of the leadership team 1:1 to discuss your child's options selection and link to post-18 ambitions.

The curriculum, student briefings and assemblies, the website, and the displays and messaging throughout the school all give mental health and wellbeing a high profile and promote its importance to all members of the school community as well as providing guidance to those seeking support.



Wellbeing Award
for Schools

2022-2025

Free Online Counselling Service

www.kooth.com is a free, confidential, safe and anonymous way for young people, aged 11-26, to ask for help from a team of highly qualified and experienced counsellors and support workers.

Kooth is a well-established, award winning online counselling agency and is accredited by The British Association of Psychotherapy and Counselling (BACP).

Safeguarding

Safeguarding our students is at the forefront of everything we do. Parents and carers can access information via the following link www.escb.co.uk which offers guidance and signposts to resources on various safeguarding issues. Please contact our safeguarding officers if you have any concerns about your own child or another student at the Academies.

www.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/safeguarding

Dates for the Diary

World Book Day

Thursday 2nd March 2023

National Careers Week

Monday 6th - Sunday 12th March 2023

International Women's Day

Wednesday 8th March 2023

British Science Week

Friday 10th - Sunday 19th March 2023

Student Value of the Term

**WOMEN'S
RIGHTS
ARE HUMAN
RIGHTS**

Aspire - Believe - Achieve



Free school lunch for all students

We are delighted to announce that a free lunch
will be available to all students every Monday & Friday
between now & the Easter Holidays

A free school lunch is a hot meal or sandwich/baguette/roll and a dessert



6th - 12th March 2023

To celebrate British Pie Week The Dining Hall
will be serving a different choice of pie every day
in addition to the normal lunchtime menu.

Monday: **Cheese, Onion & Potato**

Tuesday: **Steak & Kidney**

Wednesday: **Chicken**

Thursday: **Minced Beef**

Friday: **Chicken & Vegetable**

Aspire - Believe - Achieve