

# The Basildon Lower Academy Newsletter

2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023

GAMES

### **Dates for the Diary**

**Year 7 AP Assessments** Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023

**Coronation Fayre** Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2023

**Bank Holiday** Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023

Year 8 AP Assessments Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2023

**Half Term** Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023

FOOD

#### Student Value of the Term

## CLIMATE CHANGE IS REAL

#### House Points - Week Ending 28th April



### Coronation Fayre - Thursday 4th May

We are excited to announce that we are holding a Coronation Fayre at the Lower Academy on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May.

The event is open to all parents, carers, families and students and will take place from 3:30 – 5pm.

Some of our Lower Academy students will be entertaining the crowd with a sneak preview of our upcoming summer show 'Matilda Jr' as well as our school Samba band performing throughout the event. Stalls are being run by students and staff who have been working diligently during enrichment lessons to create games and items to sell for the event with donations going to our chosen charity.

You may wish to make arrangements for your child to stay in school until 5pm, maybe with a little pocket money for donations too. All money collected will go to our chosen charity The Princes Trust.



MUSiC

### **Wellbeing Week**

Last week, Lower Academy students took part in a series of activities which focused on aspects of their wellbeing.

To help support and manage their own wellbeing, students engaged in various workshops on important topics such as Healthy Relationships, Hate Crime, Cyber Safety and Gang Awareness. Students also attended Mental Health Awareness and Anti-bullying assemblies, with School Nurse Dan delivering basic Physical and Mental First Aid training. In addition, Essex Youth Service provided drop-in sessions for students.

On Wednesday, parents and carers were invited to a Wellbeing Awareness Event where they had the opportunity to learn about the support available within school and the local community; including youth clubs, our young carers programme and, family support agencies.

To mark the end of weeks activities, students were treated to a live music performance from singer Natalie Gray, who also hosted a social media, body image and mental health Q&A session.

"The wellbeing week was very informative. I learned a lot of different things and we were encouraged to give our input into the group workshops." Aaron.M – Year 9

"Learning about mental health was very useful to us, we were told what support is available to us if ever we need help with our wellbeing. Overall the activities during wellbeing week were fun and it was good experience." Kamile.P – Year 7

"During the week I participated in wellbeing activities which included a workshop about anxiety and self-esteem and I found it extremely helpful." Danny.W – Year 9

"We learned how to do CPR and it was fun. We found it useful because if ever need it you can do it and save a life. We also learned how to do the recovery position." Ashton.K & Kolbey.B – Year 7





















Wellbeing is prioritised for everyone in the school. As well as extensive curriculum content, the leadership have funded Wellbeing Centres on both sites. This support was spoken of very positively by students. Some have timetabled access but "There are break and lunchtime drop ins... anyone can go for help with any problem...it's very accessible."

#### **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.

#### **Absence Procedures**

To report a student absence please visit the <u>Contact Us</u> 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: www.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/attendance

### **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 <u>Contact Us</u> page via the Basildon Lower Academy website and select the option for Home Learning/Homework.

### **Student 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



#### **Uniform Exchange Scheme**

If you have uniform that your child has outgrown, please bring it in and see if there is something in the exchange shop that has been donated that you can simply swap your item for. We are still gratefully receiving donations of blazers, shirts, trousers and PE kits that are in pre-loved condition and these can be donated via the reception office on either site.

Please remember, the Uniform Exchange shop is located at the Lower Academy, is open from 8am – 3:30pm Monday – Friday and is accessible via the school office.

## Safeguarding

Safeguarding our students is at the forefront of everything we do. Parents and carers can access information via the following link <a href="https://www.escb.co.uk">www.escb.co.uk</a> 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

### **SEND Department Coffee Afternoons**

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 <u>Contact Us</u> page via the Basildon Lower Academy website and select the option for General Enquiries.



To celebrate the King's
Coronation, the Dining Hall
will be selling cakes & muffins
for 50p each on Friday 5th May
at break & lunchtime







