

Dates for the Diary

Armistice Day

Monday 11th November 2024

Year 9 AP1 Assessments

Monday 2nd - Friday 6th December 2024

Year 8 AP1 Assessments

Monday 9th - Friday 13th December 2024





Last Day of Autumn Term

Friday 20th December 2024

Student Value of the Term

NO HUMAN IS ILLEGAL

House Points - Week Ending 8th November

			
27,123 ALI	23,556 SEACOLE	21,892 AUSTEN	18,394 HAWKING

Leadership Message - Parental Engagement

As we work together to support your child's journey through Key Stage 3, I want to emphasise the crucial role that parental engagement plays in fostering a positive learning experience and academic success. Research shows that when parents are actively involved in their child's education, students tend to perform better academically, have higher self-esteem, and develop stronger problem-solving skills. At the Basildon Lower Academy, we are committed to building a collaborative and supportive environment that encourages you to engage with your child's learning journey.

During Key Stage 3, students experience significant changes in their academic and social lives as they transition from primary to secondary education. They are building essential skills and developing attitudes towards learning that will shape their future success. Your involvement at this stage helps reinforce the importance of education, supports their emotional wellbeing, and strengthens their resilience as they navigate these formative years.

Ways to Get Involved; Here are some ways you can stay connected and engaged with your child's education:

1. Stay Informed on Curriculum and School Events

- Keep up-to-date with our school website and newsletter to understand what your child is learning each term.
- Attend progress review events and other parental events to learn about our curriculum. These events also offer a chance to meet teachers and ask questions about how best to support your child.

2. Check-In Regularly with Your Child

- Discuss what they are learning and how they feel about their studies. Regular conversations can help you understand their strengths and areas where they may need more support.
- Be involved in setting realistic goals and celebrating their progress, whether in academic achievements or extracurricular activities.

3. Utilise Online Resources and Platforms

- We use the 'My Child At School' App to share behaviour and attendance information. Check in weekly to monitor your child's progress and stay informed.
- Encourage your child to use available online resources to supplement their learning at home. There are a variety of these that are used across different subject areas including MathsWatch, Kerboodle and Seneca.

4. Encourage Good Study Habits at Home

- Help your child establish a dedicated study space and set routines that balance study, rest, and recreation.
- Show interest in their assignments and, when appropriate, provide guidance without taking over.

Opportunities for your contribution and involvement are advertised on our newsletters, our website and often through reminder notification on the MCAS app. Throughout this year we will have opportunities through parent forum, parental drop-ins, SEND drop ins, progress review events, celebration events and parental workshops. I strongly encourage you to attend as many of these events as possible. We believe that, together, we can make a significant difference in your child's education and overall development. Thank you for your partnership and dedication to helping your child thrive in Key Stage 3!

Z.Spencer - Assistant Headteacher

Lower Academy Earns 'Music Mark School' Award for Outstanding Musical Education

We are delighted to announce that Basildon Lower Academy has been awarded the prestigious title of 'Music Mark School' by the UK Association for Music Education in partnership with Essex Music Service. This recognition highlights our ongoing commitment to providing accessible, high-quality music education that enriches the lives of our students and inspires a lifelong love of music.



Music Mark is a leading organisation advocating for exceptional musical learning both in and out of schools. Basildon Lower Academy's music programme has been acknowledged for its dedication to fostering musical talent and engagement among students, encouraging creative expression and personal growth.

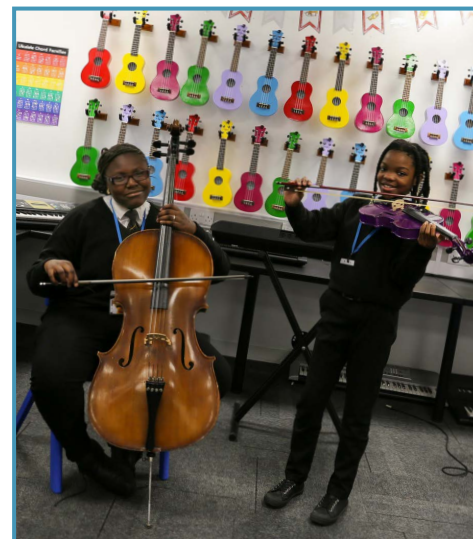
1-2-1 Music Instrument Lessons

To further support our students' musical journeys, we are excited to announce the expansion of our 1-2-1 music instrument lessons and in addition to piano, guitar, drums, bass guitar, singing and ukulele, we are now opening a waiting list for the following additional instruments; Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Violin and Cello.

If you would like to sign your child up to learn any musical instrument, please read the [Music Lessons Letter](#) and click on the link appropriate link to register.

Please note that only new students need to register. All existing student lessons will automatically continue, unless you have given notice to stop before October half term.

Miss Stoddard
Music and Performing Arts Lead and Creative Arts Lead



Students Commemorate Remembrance Day Through Reflection and Learning

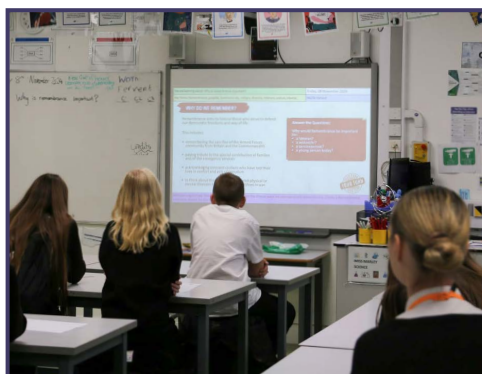
Lower Academy students recently took part in a range of meaningful activities, providing an opportunity to deepen their understanding of the past and the significance of Remembrance.

Students participated in an Information Hunt, where they explored historical sources to learn about the two World Wars and other significant global conflicts. They also engaged with war poetry, analysing the deeper meanings behind the verses, and look at Remembrance traditions, including how they are observed in the UK, and an exploration of war memorials from around the world.

Groups of students also designed commemorative posters and contributed to a Reflection Tree, writing personal messages that hung as a heartfelt reminder of those lost in conflict.

"We watched a video about people who have lost many loved ones, and it was very sad. We also learned about Remembrance traditions including the meanings behind the different coloured poppies." Khaleesi.A – Year 8

"Remembrance Day is important because it reminds us of the soldiers who sacrificed their lives so we can live in a peaceful world." Ilya.M – Year 9





Year 9 Options - Expression of Interest

This week we are launching the options process with Year 9 students. At this point we are asking for students and families to read through the Options Booklet which is available on our website and indicate which options they are likely to choose by completing an expression of interest form which will be sent to all students school email address on Monday 11th November.

Year 9 students will have an assembly on Thursday morning, where I will explain the process in more detail, this presentation will then be available on the website for parents/carer to view. It is important to note that this will not be the final choice for the students but allows us see which subjects the students are interested in studying in Years 10 and 11.

To view the Options Booklet on our Lower Academy website [click here](#)

S.Szuszkiewicz
Deputy Headteacher - The Basildon Upper Academy



Key Stage 4 Options Booklet September 2025

Helping you choose your path to success



ASPIRE - BELIEVE - ACHIEVE

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.

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

Young Minds

[Young Minds](#) is the UK's leading charity committed to improving the emotional wellbeing and mental health of children and young people. Just as people's bodies can become unwell, people's minds can become unwell too.

Young Minds offer information to young people and children about mental health and emotional wellbeing. If you need to talk, they can let you know about organisations that listen, plus they offer online support and info.

YOUNGMiNDS

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

Online Safety Hub Recommended Resource of the Week: Navigating the Need for Parental Controls

In the digital age, children have easy access to technology, and it's essential for parents to ensure their online experiences are safe. [Click here](#) to access information regarding online parental controls.

The Online Safety Hub is an online resource with lots of expert advice and guidance to help find out how to keep our young people safe online. You can access it for free here: [Online Safety Hub - The Basildon Academies](#)



Eco-Committee Leads the Way in 'Teach the Teacher' Climate Education Programme

We are excited to announce that Basildon Lower Academy's Eco-Committee is one of the first in the country to participate in the Teach the Teacher programme, an initiative led by the organisation Green Schools Revolution. This initiative empowers students to deepen their understanding of climate change and take an active role in enhancing climate education across the school.

Over the coming year, our Eco-Committee members will work closely with geography teachers, sharing insights to enrich lessons on climate change. Eventually, the program will expand school-wide, with all staff members attending a special lesson taught by the Eco-Committee. This unique session will guide teachers on how to embed climate change awareness into all subjects, ensuring our students gain a well-rounded understanding of this critical issue.

"We learned about global warming and its impact on the world, such as forest fires, droughts, and melting icebergs. We also discussed something called Climate Anxiety, which is when people feel worried about climate change, the effects of global warming, and what might happen to the world in the future." Alice.A – Year 8



Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels



BASILDON ACADEMIES

WORD OF THE DAY

11th - 15th November 2024
Anti Bullying Week

Monday: Remembrance Day	Commemorate (Verb) <i>Definition:</i> To honour the memory of someone or something, often with a ceremony. <i>Example:</i> On Remembrance Day, people gather to commemorate those who have served in the military.
Tuesday: Odd Socks Day	Unconventional: (Adjective) <i>Definition:</i> Not based on or conforming to what is generally done or believed. <i>Example:</i> Odd Socks Day encourages students to celebrate unconventional fashion choices.
Wednesday: World Kindness Day	Empathy (Noun) <i>Definition:</i> The ability to understand and share the feelings of another. <i>Example:</i> Empathy is a key aspect of World Kindness Day, as people are encouraged to put themselves in others' shoes.
Thursday:	Compassion (Noun) <i>Definition:</i> Sympathetic pity and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others. <i>Example:</i> Acts of compassion are celebrated on World Kindness Day.
Friday: Children in Need	Beneficiary (Noun) <i>Definition:</i> A person who derives advantage from something, especially a trust, will, or life insurance policy. <i>Example:</i> The charity event aims to provide support to every beneficiary in need of assistance.

Job of the Week: Sound Engineer

What does a Sound Engineer do?

Day-to-day duties might involve:

- planning recording sessions with producers and artists
- setting up microphones and equipment in the studio
- making sure the volume and recording levels are set correctly
- operating recording equipment and adding effects
- mixing tracks to produce a final 'master' track

Labour Market Information

UK jobs:

- 6,251 in your local area of Essex
- Hackney 8,587 jobs
- Hertfordshire 8,120 jobs
- Kent 8,466 jobs

What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

There are no set entry requirements, but you'll need a good knowledge of music and recording technology. You may also find it useful to understand physics and electronics

Let's Talk Money

UK annual median:
£32,914

SEND Department Coffee Afternoons Every Wednesday 3pm - 4pm

We are delighted to offer our parents/carers the opportunity to meet with members of our SEND Department to discuss their child's progress. Coffee afternoons are held at the Lower Academy from 3pm – 4pm 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.



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 must 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.
- Parent/carers may be asked for medical evidence to support absences after 3 days or reoccurring absence patterns.
- Wherever possible, parents/carers should make appointments outside of school hours. If this is unavoidable students should attend school before and after the appointment.

Please familiarise yourself with our attendance procedures found on the school website within the Parent Information section, so you know who and when you need to contact us. www.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/attendance



GOOD TIMEKEEPING



What to do the night before:

Get everything you need for school ready



Set your alarm allowing plenty of time

Make your lunch and drink if you bring a packed lunch to school



Turn off devices half an hour before bedtime

Have a good night's sleep - a minimum of eight hours!





TO COMMEMORATE ARMISTICE DAY
THE DINING HALL WILL BE SELLING A SELECTION
OF CAKES & BISCUITS FOR 50P EACH
ON MONDAY 11TH NOVEMBER



ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Lest We Forget



BBC

Children
in Need



On Friday 15th November the Dining Hall will be
selling a selection of cakes & biscuits for 50p each.
All proceeds will go to Children in Need.