

Dates for the Diary

UK Disability History Month

Thursday 16th November - Saturday 16th December 2023

Year 7 AP1 Assessments

Monday 20th - Friday 24th November 2023

Year 8 AP1 Assessments

Monday 27th November - Friday 1st December 2023

Winter Wonderland Christmas Fayre

Tuesday 19th December 2023 - 3:30-5pm

Last Day of Autumn Term

Wednesday 20th December 2023

Student Value of the Term

**NO HUMAN
IS ILLEGAL**

House Points - Week Ending 17th November



9,533
ALI



8,569
HAWKING



8,554
SEACOLE



8,381
AUSTEN

Message from Headteacher

Last week, our community was proud to support Anti Bullying Week's 'Make A Noise Against Bullying' campaign. Students took part in various activities throughout the week, including a 15-minute focus at the start of each day, giving students the opportunity to discuss the differences between banter and bullying. Students also reflected upon the importance of what we say, and the impact it can have on others. With plenty of fun activities in the restaurant during lunchtimes, it was lovely to see students celebrating friendship and demonstrating one of our Student Value's 'Kindness is Everything'.



The week was also packed with sporting endeavor and success, with many of our students representing the Lower Academy in the District Cross Country. Our PE department took a full representation of students from all year groups. I'm extremely proud of all of our students who represented the school and, I am particularly aware of how much commitment and endurance is needed for long-distance running. Several of our students finished in the top 20 places, a fantastic achievement. Our Year 7 Footballers braved some punishing rainy winter weather, to win their away fixture at James Hornsby School, well done.

I am pleased to announce that L.Gray is our new Quality of Education Lead for Year 7 and with the support of S.Cunningham, will ensure that our Year 7 students continue to be supported academically and pastorally.

And finally, good luck to our Year 7 students who start their AP1 Assessments today.

L.Sherman

AP Assessments

AP Assessments are a great way to assess what our students have learned since the beginning of the academic year. They provide our students an opportunity to showcase the progress they have made on their learning journeys.

Assessments are also a great way for teachers to find out more about students individuality, a lot can be learned about the way in which a student works enabling us to tailor future class activities.

There is a wide ranging and rich extra-curricular programme which runs before and after school. This is ever evolving to meet the wishes of pupils and the interests and passions of staff. Students report there is something for everyone!



Excellence in Pupil
Development Award

2023-2026

Anti-Bullying Week

As part of Anti-Bullying Week, students enthusiastically participated in a range of activities aimed at fostering our school community's respectful and inclusive environment.

Student events and activities included;

- Building Bricks: Students decorated 'bricks' with words of encouragement, including pledges to support each other and 'Make A Noise About Bullying'.
- Odd Socks Day: To celebrate our differences, the Wellbeing and SEND departments designed odd socks with key statements to stamp out bullying.
- Banter or Bullying Workshop: Although the two words are often used interchangeably, our students identified that there are key differences in their meaning and impact. Students also debated why some may say it's 'just' banter but what effect does that may have on the person on the receiving end.
- Giant anti-bullying themed word searches and colouring in activities during lunchtimes.

Anti-Bullying Week serves as a crucial reminder to foster respect and kindness. By raising awareness about the impact of bullying, the academies promote a culture where empathy prevails, creating a safer and more inclusive environment for everyone. Embracing respect is key to dismantling the cycle of bullying and building a society where individuals feel valued and supported.

"Bullying is horrible and no one deserves to be treated badly. Speaking up can help to prevent bullying."

Maddison-Rose.R - Year 7

"We all have feelings, just because we have a smile on our face, sometimes it doesn't mean we are okay. Respect everyone!"

Feyi.B - Year 8

"Bullying is wrong in so many ways. People should never go through something they're not comfortable doing and no one should be made to feel like they don't belong." Declan.P - Year 8

"I will show bullying the red card and fight it by using my voice." Luke.Z - Year 7

"Stop bullying now! Bullying hurts people on the inside." Khaleesi.A - Year 7

"Being bullied can have a negative impact on your mental health and school life." Maisy.P - Year 8



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.
- 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

Categorising attendance and learning hours lost

Descriptor	Threshold attendance	Actual attendance (days)	Whole days absent	Lost learning hours	Level of concern
Excellent	100%	190	0	0	Green
	99%	188	2	10	
Good	98%	186	4	20	Green
	97%	184	6	30	
	96%	182.5	7.5	37.5	
Cause for concern	95%	180.5	9.5	47.5	Orange
	94%	179	11	55	
	93%	177	13	65	
	92%	175	15	75	
	91%	173	17	85	
Unsatisfactory	90%	171	19	95	Red
	89%	169	21	105	
	88%	167	23	115	
	87%	165	25	125	
	86%	163	27	135	
Critical	85%	161.5	28.5	142.5	Red
	84%	159.5	30.5	152.5	
	83%	158	32	160	
	82%	156	34	170	
	81%	154	36	180	
	80%	152	38	190	

Could you be a Parent Governor?

As we are a rapidly growing academy trust we have opportunities for new parent governors to join our team.

Becoming a Parent Governor offers you the opportunity to make a real contribution to the academy community and to work together with the academy leadership, staff and other governors.

If this opportunity is of interest then please apply via our website; www.basildonacademies.org.uk/governance-vacancies

The closing date for applications will be 3pm on Friday 24th November.

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

Result of Parliament Week Ballot

During our recent UK Parliament Week ballot, Lower Academy students voted 83% in favour of lowering the voting age to 16.

Year 7 Football Success

Congratulations to our Year 7 Football Team who recently beat James Hornsby School 4-1.

Our goal scorers were Logan.G (2), Jeremiah.L & Owen.M
The Player of the Match was Cory.J.



**DO NOT MISS OUT ON THE NEXT OPPORTUNITY
TO PERFORM!**



Every Thursday
3.30-4.15pm
Music room E19
(top floor)
Collect a letter
from
Miss Stoddard or
reception



**CHRISTMAS
CHOIR**

Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels

