

## The Basildon Lower Academy Newsletter

2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025

#### **Dates for the Diary**

**Year 7 AP2 Assessments** Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2025

**Beginning of Year 9 Transition to Upper Academy** Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025

**Sports Presentation Event** Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2025 - 4pm-5.30pm

**Cultural Fayre** Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2025 - 3.30-5pm

**Rewards Day** Friday 11th July 2025

#### Student Value of the Term

# **LOVE IS LOVE**

#### House Points - Week Ending 23rd May



#### Leadership Message

#### Safeguarding our Students is at the Forefront of Everything We Do

We follow a whole-setting approach to safeguarding, which ensures that keeping children safe is at the heart of everything we do; underpins all systems, processes, and policies. It is important that our values are understood and shared by all children, staff, parents / carers, volunteers, and the wider community. Only by working in partnership, can we truly keep children safe.

Sometimes it isn't always obvious what is making a child feel unsafe. We will share advice, signpost to support and bring in specialised agencies to educate, but each cohort will face different dilemmas and we need you as members of this community, to support us in identifying what is needed.

The importance of speaking out to let us know what the current issues are that are impacting you, and your children cannot be stressed enough.

#### Safeguarding and Wellbeing Parent Survey

We would like to thank everyone that has completed the online survey that was recently shared. It is not too late to share your views, so please take the time to complete the survey and be part of our forward thinking in supporting our children to feel safe. To complete the short survey, please click on the following link: Safeguarding & Wellbeing Parent Survey

#### **Need Additional Support?**

If you're looking to explore support from other agencies, the Frontline app can help. DOWNLOAD THE FRONTLINE APP Available to download via your app store, it provides direct access to a wide range of local services — many of which you can self-refer to.

The app is designed to make it easier for parents and carers to find help with family support, mental health, housing, finances, and more.

You can also access it online at www.frontlinereferrals.org.uk







S.Peake Senior Student Development Leader & Designated Safeguarding Lead

#### **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.

#### **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

## **Supporting Your Child's Wellbeing with Parenting Smart**

Parenting Smart, created by the children's mental health charity Place2Be, offers practical tips and guidance to support your child's wellbeing.

From managing screen time to handling big emotions, the website provides short, easy-to-follow articles and videos designed to help parents navigate everyday challenges with confidence.



Explore helpful resources here: <a href="https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/">https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/</a>

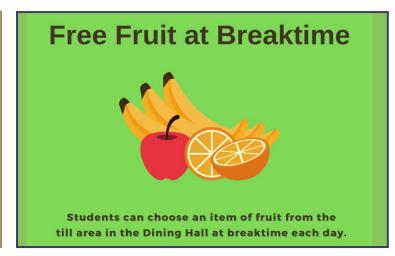
#### Student Nurse Drop In

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 SEND Department





#### **EBacc Excellence: Celebrating Continued Student Success**

Last term, Year 9 students were recognised for their outstanding effort and positive approach to learning across EBacc subjects. Certificates were awarded in a special presentation during the final week of term.

The EBacc Award continues to highlight students who demonstrate consistent commitment and excellence in subjects including English, Maths, Science, French, History, and Geography. Each winner received 30 credits and a certificate in recognition of their hard work and perseverance.

We're incredibly proud of our Year 9 students, whose dedication and ambition continue to shine across the curriculum.



#### **Lost Property – Final Collection**

<u>Young Minds</u> 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.



#### Cracking Codes and Holding Gold: Students Visit the Bank of England Museum

Year 7 students recently enjoyed an exciting and educational trip to the Bank of England Museum, where they took part in a variety of interactive and thought-provoking activities.

One of the highlights of the day was a code-breaking challenge, where students had to work together to crack a secret code and unlock a prize. With persistence, teamwork, and plenty of problem-solving, they eventually succeeded — and their excitement was evident when they opened the box to reveal their well-earned reward.

The visit also offered a fascinating look into the history and future of money. Students explored how currency has evolved over time, from ancient coins and paper notes to today's digital economy. They also learned about the important role the Bank of England plays in the UK's financial system and how it supports everyday life.













A particularly memorable moment was getting to see — and touch — a real gold bar, an experience that sparked lots of curiosity and questions.

Overall, the trip was an engaging and educational way to deepen students' understanding of economics, history, and the significance of national institutions.

### **RHS Recognises Lower Academy's Gardening Success**

We're proud to announce that the Lower Academy has been awarded the RHS School Gardening Award Level 1. This fantastic achievement recognises the incredible work of our students, who have transformed the outdoor quad area into a thriving garden and allotment.

From fruit and vegetable allotments to wildflower patches, insect hotels, and fruit trees, our students have created an eco-friendly environment that supports both learning and the local ecosystem. Their efforts have been rewarded with a certificate from the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS), along with a bundle of seeds and a gardening guidebook to help us grow our project even further.



Our students are currently working towards the Level 2 RHS Gardening Award and are enthusiastically making progress.

As the project continues to grow, we'll be sharing progress and celebrating the students' achievements throughout the year.

#### **Lost Property – Final Collection Reminder**

Lost property will be available for students to collect on arrival this Friday. Items will be displayed on tables just inside the gate. Any unclaimed items after this date will no longer be held. Please encourage your child to check for any missing belongings — we currently have coats, bags, shoes, and other uniform items waiting to be collected.

#### **New Recycling Bins Introduced in the Lower Academy Canteen**

As part of our ongoing commitment to sustainability, new recycling bins have been installed in the Lower Academy canteen. The new system includes three clearly labelled sections: Food Waste, Mixed Recycling, and General Waste. This change is designed to help students and staff dispose of their rubbish more responsibly.

While we know sorting waste might take a few extra seconds, it's a simple step that makes a big difference. By encouraging everyone to recycle food waste separately, we're reducing the amount of rubbish sent to landfill and promoting environmentally friendly habits.



#### Online Safety Advice: Unmasking Online Bias in Social Media

While social media is a powerful tool for information and connection, it's important for parents to understand how online bias can influence the way young people see the world. This guide explores how algorithms and echo chambers can shape opinions and offers practical advice on how to talk to your child about bias and help them think critically about what they see online.





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



## Extra-Curricular Clubs

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime: • Art	After School: 3.30 - 4.30pm  History  STEM  Science  Art  Drama  Athletics (Track)	Before School: 7.30 – 8.15  Basketball  Lunchtime:     Music  After School: 3.30 - 4.30pm  Maths  Science  Dance  Music  Athletics (Jumps/Throws)	Lunchtime: Music  After School: 3.30 - 4.30pm  Computer Club Choir	Lunchtime: • Art

## BASILDON ACADEMIES WORD OF THE DAY

2<sup>nd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Child Safety Week  Pride Month				
Monday:	Prevention (Noun) prevenire in Romanian Definition: The action of stopping something from happening or arising. Example: Child Safety Week focuses on the prevention of accidents and injuries among children.			
Tuesday:	Awareness (Noun) 理解 in Japanese. Definition: Knowledge or perception of a situation or fact. Example: Raising awareness about common dangers is a key goal of Child Safety Week.			
Wednesday:	Safeguarding (Noun) sauvegarde in French Definition: The measures taken to protect the health, well-being, and human rights of individuals, especially children. Example: Safeguarding practices are essential topics during Child Safety Week.			
Thursday: <b>World Environment Day</b>	Sustainability (Noun) 지속 가능성 in Korean Definition: The ability to maintain or support an activity or process over the long term. Example: World Environment Day promotes sustainability to ensure a healthy planet for future generations.			
Friday:	Equality (Noun) gelijkheid in Dutch  Definition: The state of being equal, especially in status, rights, and opportunities.  Example: Pride Month celebrates equality for all individuals, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity.			

## Job of the Week: **Microbiologist**

What does a Microbiologist do?

They study microorganisms such as bacteria, viruses, fungi and parasites.

They play an important role in healthcare, agriculture, food production and environmental science

They work to develop vaccines, antibiotics and other medical products

#### **Labour Market Information**

- UK jobs: over 97,714
- Entry level jobs: 875 jobs
- Mid to senior jobs: 742 jobs
- UK growth: jobs 41% post Covid pandemic



Practical experience working in laboratories is also highly recommended



salaries can rise to £40,000 per year with senior roles earning in excess of £50,000 per year

They can earn between £25,000 to £30,000 per year. With experience,

Leaders make highly effective use of a wide range of data to identify issues, track improvements and guide decision making both on individual pupils and collectively. Recently this played a part in identifying that uniform infringements were linked to the cost of living crisis and led to changes in the school's uniform.



2023-2026









#### **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



Did you 90% of young people with 85% fail to get know?

MISSING 1 DAY A WEEK



LOSING ONE YEAR OF SCHOOL LIFE.

## Good attendance means:

Being in school at least 97% of the time, that's at least 184 days a year.

162

Davs of education

days are **NOT** spent in school each year.\*

\* Plenty of time for shopping, holidays & appointments.

> 184 Days of 171

education

Days of education

143 Davs of education

> 75% 47 days absent

Davs of education

80% 85% 38 days absent

Days of education 90%

97% 6 days absent

100% O days absent

#### SERIOUSLY WORRIED

Very poor attendance has a serious impact & reduces life chances.

#### **VERY CONCERNED**

Poor attendance gives less chance of success.

#### **WELL DONE**

Good attendance gives the best chance of success.



All Gen Juice flavours now available Iced!

Available with reusable bottles

Small - £1

**Large - £1.25** 



**Available from lunchtime on 4th June**