



## Headteacher Update - 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2018

Dear Parents, Carers, Students, Family and Friends of Baines School,

Hopefully by now, all of the students in Years 7 to 10 have received their codes so that they can access Class Charts. Please do ask them to show you how it works so that you are informed until you receive your personalised code for parental access.

### **Supply Staff**

There have been some concerns raised regarding the number of supply staff in school at the moment. Staff absence is something we want to keep to a minimum but there are times when this is unavoidable. I am pleased that there have been fewer incidences as a whole this academic year than previously but I do understand that it can be unsettling and causes concern. We are constantly working to minimise any impact on students and their learning.

Short term staff absence – some reasons for this may be due to short term illness or unavoidable medical appointments, staff development and school trips. This is when we have visiting supply teachers who cover the lessons on a day to day basis so the teacher may vary.

Long term staff absence – this is what we have when we are aware that a member of staff is likely to be away from school for a period of time. Some reasons for this are: maternity cover or long term illness. In such cases we do our very best to ensure that there is a high quality subject specialist covering the lessons. You will be aware that we have a few staff away at the moment. For almost all, we have confirmed a subject specialist who is covering the full timetable of that teacher and teaching the curriculum as planned by school. We do not view these teachers as supply teachers, they are timetabled in the same way as our existing staff and follow our policies such as setting homework, detentions and helping with clubs. This ensures we have consistency and that relationships can be built between staff and students to maximise the learning.

### **Road Safety – walking and cycling to and from school**

We have recently received feedback from a number of people who have shared concerns about the safety of some of our students when travelling to and from school. Some students are busy looking at their phones while walking and there was a situation last week where one student walked into the road without checking to see if cars were approaching but luckily the car stopped, the student continued walking and was totally unaware that the situation had occurred.

We are also receiving concerns about how students are cycling to school. There are a number of different issues regarding bikes:

- Some students without helmets
- Students with headphones and listening to music while cycling
- Students cycling on the wrong side of the road
- Students starting on the pavement and moving to the road without checking for traffic

We want all of our students to remain safe, so please talk to them about safe ways of travelling to and from school.

Good luck to our Year 11 and Year 13 students who have started (and completed) some of their practical examinations for example ICT, art, photography, GCSE PE moderation and language speaking examinations. There will be a letter coming out shortly for Year 11s to explain the final arrangements for the examination period (Main exams start 14<sup>th</sup> May).

### Star of the Week Awards



### Easter School Stars of the week

Luke Hollowell Year 7

A polite and well-mannered young man who plays every sport with excellent sportsmanship. Always says please and thank you in all aspects of everyday life.

Joe Baker Year 8

Excellent attitude towards others and helping guide and support younger pupils at the camp. Joe also showed a good response to learning new skills and trying all sports.

Jack Horsfall Year 9

Jack is natural leader who is willing to help others and the staff in running a smooth camp. The younger pupils look up to him and respect is always shown in both directions.

### Student Successes



Rohan Williams Year 7 had his grading for first kyu brown belt.

Taylor Hollingdrake Year 8 plays football for Fleetwood Town Girls. The team made the semi-final and won 5-3 and are now in the finals!

Katie Lee Year 7 has been selected to play for the Boy's Tennis Team for Moorland Tennis Club (due to a shortage of girl players). She's excited about the coming tennis season. Katie has won all her matches so far this season.

Jessica Ardron in Year 9 has recently qualified as a BTCA Tennis coaching assistant. She is currently coaching at Thornton and St Michael's Tennis clubs. Hopefully she will be able to coach some of our younger players over the summer term.

### **Fylde Jeweller Shortlists Three Young Jewellery Designer Finalists from Baines School**

A Fylde jeweller has revealed the shortlist of finalists in the first ever competition to discover a Fylde Young Jewellery Designer of the Year. **Entries from Baines School students Alix Barlow, Madison Aldridge-Parker and Zoe Twele have all been shortlisted.** The competition, organised by Claytons Jewellers in Blackpool and St. Annes inspired over 400 young designers to enter. The competition, to inspire the next generation of local jewellery designers, is part of the retailer's 30th anniversary celebrations since the opening of the St. Annes shop. For Claytons Jewellers, Graham Clayton said: "Wow! We have been overwhelmed by the response from Baines School to our competition. We always hoped that the Fylde area was home to some incredible creative talent. But, this has exceeded all our expectations. It's amazing. The standard has been incredibly high too. So now we have a big responsibility to make sure we pick a design which will represent the Fylde in the best possible light." The winner's design will be hand crafted by a Claytons bespoke jewellery designer before being worn for the first time by The Mayor of St Annes, Karen Henshaw, at a public function. The winning design will then be auctioned for charity as part of the St George's Day celebrations.

In addition to the title, the winner will also receive a replica of their winning design and a five-day pass for The Lytham Festival for two people.

This is a fantastic achievement with finalists from only three different schools (Baines, AKS and Lytham), so well done to Alix, Madison and Zoe – very exciting.

### **Samuel Yates Year 9**



On Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, Samuel competed in the Champion of Champions golf tournament. He came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the overall competition (under 18s) and got the highest score of those in the competition who were under 14. He played very well.

Congratulations Sam!

## Eve Whitaker Year 9

Fantastic news for Eve in Year 9 who has had her contract with Manchester City extended for another two years and to add to that success she was recently selected to go to the England Under 15s training camp in April. Eve said that this was a fantastic experience.

Eve continues to work and play hard...literally! At the end of a busy school day she travels to Manchester City for training most nights in the week as well as fixtures at the weekend. We are so proud of her achievements and she is a great role model as she balances her academic work with her sporting commitment. Well done Eve!



## Year 10 6-a side Football - Premier League Kicks' Cup 2018



The Premier League Kicks' Cup is an annual tournament between clubs from all over the country. Each club was represented by a team of 6 players, under 16s, and this year we had the honour of representing my home town of Blackpool.

It was an early morning start, with everybody arriving at Baines at around 7:15am. Blackpool FC representatives arrived to deliver our kits and take us to Wythenshaw, Manchester for this event. It was a long journey but we arrived there in plenty of time. All of the football pitches were set up very professionally. We were allocated to Pitch 11 where we were to play all of our group games for the rest of the day.

The first game began at 11:30am against Middlesbrough which we narrowly lost 1-0. We then went on to win two of our next games against Swansea and Plymouth, both 3 -0. We then went on to

draw against Crystal Palace, Huddersfield Town and Sheffield United 0-0. It came down to the last game which we had to win to get into the group stage knockout. It was against Millwall – a very good side who had not lost a game. We had a good start but then conceded which cost us the match and we ended with a loss.

We concluded with 3<sup>rd</sup> place in our group (out of 7) and a special visit from leading grime artist, Bugzy Malone, a good way to end the day.

By Marcus Jolly Year 10



### GCSEpod (Years 10 & 11)

GCSEpod use has really taken off and 100% of our Year 11 students are now engaged and have watched over 8000 pods between them! Our most popular subjects for Year 11 students are English Literature, the Sciences and Geography and there is significant competition between some of our students to reach the top of the leader board. Mr Mycock led last week's Year 11 assembly and discussed the different ways that GCSEpod can support revision - have a chat with your child about it and help them out!

Year 10 also now have access to the GCSEpod website and 85% of them have activated their account. If your child hasn't yet explored what GCSEpod has to offer, try logging in to [gcsepod.com](http://gcsepod.com) with your child's name and date of birth.

Last week our school hit the 10,000 pod milestone which is great news and shows that our young people are making the most of this fantastic resource! 10,000 pods is roughly equivalent to 600 hours of pods!

Please encourage Year 10 and Year 11 students to “Keep Podding!”



## BBC Radio 2 Competition – Write a 500-word Story

Ms Lister-Hindley encouraged all Year 7s to write a 500-word story to enter into the Radio 2 competition. We are thrilled to hear that **Riley McGilloway** has progressed through to the next round. BBC Radio 2 received thousands of entries (In 2017 131,798 children entered) and only 5000 stories go through to the reading agency stage.

From all the entries across the country, this is something to be really proud of. We hope in time we will publish the story so you can all read it.

## Year 8 Enterprise Programme

A group of our Year 8 students have been selected to take part in the Premier League Enterprise Programme. They have already enjoyed a day at Bloomfield Road and have started lessons this week. I'm introducing students to real business and entrepreneurship, the programme helps them develop eight essential enterprise and employability skills. Topics include; getting to know a business, pricing products and services, advertising and managing money and people. The programme helps deliver the Government's vision of motivating young people to learn and excel in their education and to see the relevance of their studies.



## School Angel – Raising money for school <https://www.schoolangel.org.uk/baines-school.html>

Just a reminder about our link to the charity School Angel, where any online purchases you make through the link on the Baines website will earn the school a small percentage of the money you spend. This does not cost you any additional money but the companies make a charitable contribution to our school. We now have just over £70.00 raised for school. Please continue to support us by sharing the link with family and friends for online purposes.

## Year 5 'Moving Up Evenings'

You will notice on the calendar we have a number of 'Year 5 Moving Up Evenings'. These are events aimed at primary children in Year 5. We know that many will already be thinking about which secondary school they would like to go to in September 2019. We also know that the Open Evening in September is exciting but very busy and for some children it is a little over-facing. So we are organising some events where the school is empty so that I can give a brief talk and there will be a short walk around the school when it is empty to help the children become familiar with the environment. It will also provide the opportunity for the Year 5 children to ask questions about school life at Baines. We have planned these events so that children from three schools attend each session, so they have the opportunity to visit with their friends.

### **Forthcoming Events:**

- Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> April – Year 5 ‘Moving Up Evening 6-7.15pm – Carr Head, Carleton Green & Poulton St Chads.
- Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May - May Day Bank Holiday – School Closed
- Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> May – Year 5 ‘Moving Up Evening 6-7.15pm – Breck, Staining, St John’s.
- Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May – GCSE & A Level Examinations Commence
- Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May - Year 5 ‘Moving Up Evening 6-7.15pm – Carleton St Hilda’s, Singleton, Layton & Norbreck.
- Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May – Year 13 Leavers Assembly and Ball

Please remember to keep us informed about any changes to phone numbers or email addresses and also any successes that your child may have achieved outside of school, we are always proud to hear about the things our students achieve in and outside of school.

I hope you have enjoyed reading about all of the events and successes over the last few weeks, Baines really has such a lot to offer our students and we love having the opportunity to celebrate the successes of current and former pupils.

**Nil Sine Labore**

**Alison Chapman**  
**Headteacher**