



Headteacher Update - 16th July 2018

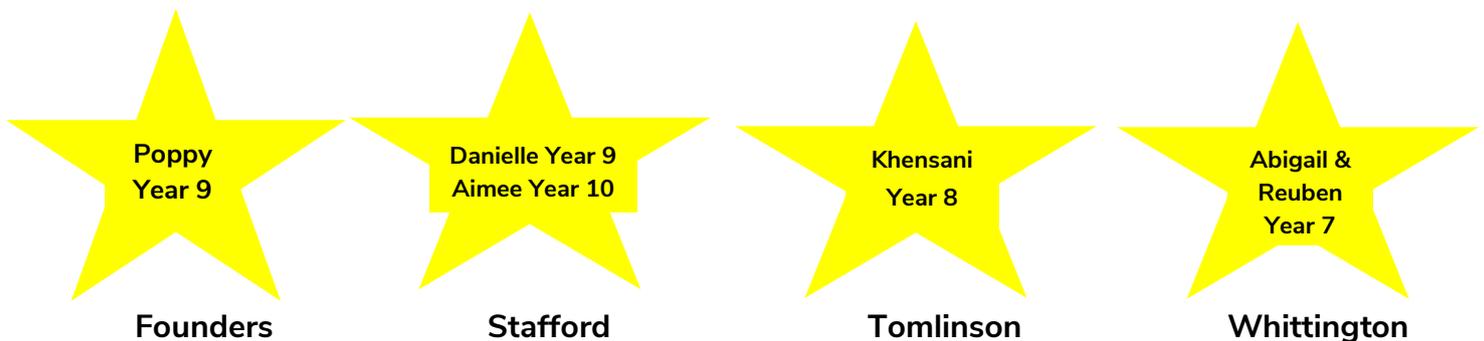
Dear Parents, Carers, Students, Family and Friends of Baines School,

This is my final letter of the academic year. Firstly, I would like to thank everyone for welcoming me so warmly to Baines this year. It has been wonderful working with our students, staff, parents and community groups and I have very quickly settled in to Baines and wouldn't want to be at any other school.

There have been a number of changes at the school and next year there will be more exciting changes as we introduce new things to the school. In September we are making some changes to the behaviour and pastoral system in school. The main change is to the use of mobile phones in school. By the end of today, all students will have heard about these changes in a special assembly. There is a separate letter coming home about these changes. Please read the letter and discuss with your child / children so they are clear that mobile phones should be turned off and in bags so that they are not seen or heard in school.

Last week we welcomed back Mrs Cuthbertson and today Mrs Petricco returned, both from maternity leave. I would like to thank Ms Sakly and Mr Young for their hard work and excellent teaching over the last year.

Star of the Week Awards



A Fond Farewell to Staff

The end of the academic year brings about a number of staffing changes. I will introduce the new staff to you in September, but now it is important that we thank those who are leaving and wish them the very best for their future.

Mrs Robinson, our Deputy Headteacher is retiring this summer. She has been at the school since 1989 and is the heart of Baines. She is an incredible person who has had such a positive impact on the lives of many people through her excellent teaching as a language teacher and the fantastic enrichment activities she has introduced and organised over the years. The Bikeathon and Race for Life are just two of the events she has led in that we are proud of. Thank you to Mrs Robinson, we hope you will come back and join us for some of our future events.

Two other long-serving staff who are retiring this summer are **Mr Raeburn**, Head of Religious Education after 28 years and **Mr Cotterall**, English teacher after 25 years. Again both have been

highly respected staff who have contributed such a lot over the years. They both leave legacies for the school with the Nepal Trip being organised by Mr Raeburn and the Bikeathon was Mr Cotterall's idea, some eighteen years ago.

Other staff who are moving on to new roles are: **Dr Bradburn**, **Ms Latham** and **Mr Thomas** in the science department, **Ms Wallace** and **Ms Rodgers** in English, **Mr Worth** in Business Studies, **Miss Smith** from Languages, **Mr Joyce** in History and **Mr Boothroyd** in the Pastoral Office. On behalf of the staff, students and parents at Baines I would like to thank them for all their hard work and the things they have achieved while at Baines School and wish them the very best for the future.

Some final celebrations to share with you:

In my last newsletter I informed you that two students had been shortlisted for the Winter Gardens 140th Anniversary Art Competition. I am thrilled to inform you that Phoebe in Year 10 won the competition.



On Monday 9th July we held our Celebration of Achievement evening. It was wonderful to see so many students receiving their awards with pride and being supported by families and friends. A truly lovely evening celebrating students who have displayed true Baines spirit this year.



On Tuesday 10th July we held our Summer Creative Arts Evening. The evening started with a gallery of art and design technology work, with some photographs from the catering department. Then followed an evening of drama, dance and music. We have such talent at Baines and this evening showcased the very best in our Creative Arts department. We hope you will join us next year for our future shows as we go from strength to strength.



Last week we also held our Sports Assemblies which are the Baines equivalent to the BBC Sports Personality of the Year awards. What a year we have had with many team successes and amazing individual performances, many of which you will have read about during the year. Over 100 students were invited to these assemblies to recognise their participation and commitment to Baines Sport. There were many winners and we are proud of them all, but I must single out two in particular. The Sports Personality prize was awarded to Jordanna in Year 10 – she has been training with the elite squad for England in Karate as well as winning two bronze medals at the Central England Championships. The Outstanding Achievement Award went to Rhianna in Year 10 – she successfully competed in the World Championships at the end of July in Birmingham and became European Jujitsu Champion. I hope that the sport and physical education continues to thrive and grow next year too.



Rewards Trip

On Thursday around 500 students attended the reward trip to Blackpool Pleasure Beach. They had a lovely day and luckily the weather wasn't too hot that day. I know that some students do not like rides so next year, there will be a number of trips for those who have had an excellent year with regards to behaviour points.

BecomingX – A charity to support achieving potential

We had our second visit from BecomingX on Monday 9th July. Andrew and Tracie Finlayson shared their story about how they grew up in Blackpool and how they developed their careers. They finished by telling the group of over a hundred students (from Years 7-10) about their expedition to climb Kilimanjaro in Africa. This was a real challenge for both of them and in their younger years they never imagined attempting anything so difficult but they achieved it. As a school we are hoping to work with the BecomingX charity next year so that we can encourage all of our students to achieve their very best, to push themselves and believe they can achieve great things if they try.

Year 7 Reading Millionaires – Accelerated Reader awards



All Year 7s have a reading lesson once every two weeks, where they use Accelerated Reader to complete quizzes on the books they have read. This gives them clear ideas on what their reading level is, which then inspires them to read more often, and explore different genres.

A big well done to Rachel, Jonathan, Joshua, Ollie and Danielle who all read the most words in their classes. With a special mention to Evie who has read over a million words, so is this year's "Millionaire Reader". These students were all presented with a certificate and a book from school to encourage their love of reading.

The Children's University



Last week we launched the introduction of the Children's University with Years 7 and 8. This is a national scheme which recognises learning out of lesson times. From September, most of our school extra-curricular clubs will be eligible, so are many organisations outside school such as scouts, cadets, swimming lessons and martial arts. There are also places who are members such as Blackpool Zoo, museums, libraries and Sea Life for example.

Every time a student attends an eligible club, they get the passport stamps by having their passport signed or stamped. If they have 30 stamps by the May deadline then they will be able to attend the graduation we will hold in school.

If your child would like to join, then letters were given out in assembly last week but more are available at the School Office. They need to hand in the slip and pay £1 for the passport (as school pays a membership fee). We now have some passports so that the students can start collecting over the summer holidays, for other students they may have to wait until September when we will launch it to the new Year 7 students.

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 over £80.00 raised for school. Please continue to support us by sharing the link with family and friends for online purchases. If you book a holiday online through this site, then the amount donated to the school is likely to rise quite quickly.

Forthcoming Events:

- Monday 16th July – Year 12 Rewards Trip to Level in Preston.
- Tuesday 17th July – Fun Day commencing at 10am – further information to follow for all pupils.
- Thursday 19th July – School closes for summer holidays at 1pm, the school buses have been arranged for this time.
- Thursday 16th August - A Level results day – 8am -11am Sixth Form ILC.
- Thursday 23rd August - GCSE results day – from 9am in the School Hall.
- **Tuesday 4th September – School Re-opens for all pupils.**

Thank you again for your support throughout this year. **I hope you all have a fantastic summer holiday. Please try to encourage your child / children to do some work so they do not forget their learning. I hope they re-charge their batteries and keep themselves safe over the summer to return to school on Tuesday 4th September, enthused and ready to work hard to achieve their very best in 2018/19.**

Nil Sine Labore

**Alison Chapman
Headteacher**