



## Headteacher Update – 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022

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

We are now halfway through this half term, and it is very busy as usual. Some of the events that happened in the last two weeks will feature in the next update. Some examples have been: one hundred and eleven year 7 students going to North Wales on camp and the students who remained in school completed excellent project work, developing their teamworking skills; we had a group who attended the International Women's event at Blackpool Sixth Form and a mixed group went to see Tim Peake at the theatre. Year 9 should have handed their options forms in by now (we do have a few students who have missed the deadline and need to get their forms in urgently). Year 11 had their photographs and mock results day on Friday. If they did not show you their grades, please ask to see it! Please see the update for further information about supporting year 11 in the next few weeks.

We have been getting a lot of queries about special educational needs recently, this has increased as the health services back log has lengthened. We are finding it hard to respond as quickly as parents/carers would like, because our staff are teaching or working with children during the school day. To aid this, we have created a new email address, please direct all SEND related enquiries to [SEND@baines.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:SEND@baines.lancs.sch.uk).

### Massive increase to fuel and food prices

As everyone will be aware, the cost of gas and electricity has increased such a lot recently. This is really hitting our school, because our new contract puts the cost at more than £55K more for one-year supply than the previous contract. We will be encouraging staff and children to turn off computer and lights when not in use to help. If you can reinforce, this approach may also help at home.

On a similar theme, we are no longer able to sustain the same prices for food because of the increase in costs. I am always reluctant to increase costs to children because it is vital that they have access to delicious nutritious food during the day. **From Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March we will be increasing the cost of all drinks and snacks by 5p and all main meals by 10p.** The FSM students will still be able to access the Meal Deal within their daily amount. Mr Noon works really hard to source high quality ingredients at competitive prices, we are still cheaper than many schools and I hope you will be supportive in encouraging your child to use our refectory. We are open from 8am for breakfast, at break for snacks and at lunchtime for meals.

Mr Noon and his team have been trialling new foods to try to encourage our students to eat healthily and to broaden their choices. In order to be fully compliant with the school food standards, we have reduced the number of days that the traditional sausage rolls are on sale, but have created the 'sausage roll/wrap' instead. Last week we had the most delicious filled potatoes with salad and this week we are trialling the 'Roast Beef Dinner Wrap'.

Please continue to encourage your child to work hard, to the best of their ability and to attend enrichment activities so they get the very most from their time at Baines School.

## Stars of the Week (Week 1)



## Stars of the Week (Week 2)



## Successes

### Hegarty Mathematics – Mr Harrison

First name	Years	Total questions answered correctly	Time spent doing Skills (hours)
Jay	11	870	16
Linden	9	306	2.5
Harry	9	296	3.3
William	9	268	1.6
Valentina	10	257	0.3
Filip	9	230	1.4
Victoria	9	213	0.8
Emma	9	197	0.5
Iona	9	196	1.8
Hallie	9	191	0.6
Lucy	7	189	2.4
Zaida	9	187	2.7
Isabelle	10	186	1
Liam	9	179	1.5
Lily	9	173	1.1
Callum	9	169	0.7
Daniel	7	167	1.3
Sonny	9	164	1.8
Adem	9	160	1.2
Carys	10	158	0.4
Harry	9	157	0.3
Megan	8	153	2.3

The number of students working independently is increasing throughout the school. The efforts of the students are being seen in lessons as the skills there are learning are being practised and the students

are seeing improvements. There will be a competition for the two weeks before Easter, the top 10 students who answer the most questions correctly will receive a chocolate bar of their choice.

I look forward to seeing how many questions students can answer. Students can select their own tasks to complete. They do not need the teacher to choose the tasks for them.

### Literacy Update – Mrs Streetly & Mrs Simmons



This March we celebrated 25 years of World Book Day. The ILC hosted a week full of activities, including creative workshops, design your own keyring and staff reading aloud at lunch. Over the course of World Book Day our staff read a section from Roald Dahl's short story, *The Hitch-hiker* in every lesson. By the end of the day students had heard the whole story and seemed to really enjoy being read to.



### Reading Plus

Many thanks to our students who are participating so well in Reading Plus, we have seen some really pleasing progress. Our top performers this time were, in the ILC: William, Aaliyah, Miles, Freya, Thomas; B1: Holly, Ruby, William, Cameron.

### Next week is National Poetry Week

We will be looking at a poem in progress tutor time and discussing the purpose of poetry. If you have a favourite poem you can discuss it at home.

#### Root of the Week:

'Vid/Vis' to see

Circum' meaning around

### Year 7- Mrs Russell

#### Class Chart Champions

Izzy R	Levi	Izzy F	Jake W	Ben F	Lucy D	Ewan L
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### Camp!



The Year 7s who went to camp were truly amazing. I am so proud of their resilience and positivity! Look out for our 'Camp News Article' in the next HTU, it will make you chuckle...

## **Year 11 Update – Mr Mycock**

Year 11 have had a very busy few weeks and their preparations for their final exams are in full swing! Last week they collected their mock exam results and are now in the process of celebrating their successes and addressing their gaps in knowledge and understanding.

## **Year 11 “Ace your Exams” Day and Parent/Carer Seminar – Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2022**

This day supports all of our students in reflecting on their performance in the mock exams and gives some further guidance in how to improve their preparation for the exams in the summer. Each 1-hour session will be led by "Elevate", an organisation who specialise in supporting young people in preparing effectively for exams and motivating learners to act on guidance given. At 5.30pm on 17th March, we invite all Year 11 Parents and Carers to school for a face-to-face seminar in the school hall led by Elevate to explore the themes and techniques used with the young people earlier in the day, followed by a short session led by Mr Mycock. This session will share top tips for supporting your child through the exam season and surviving it as a family! We look forward to seeing as many parents and carers there as possible at this invaluable event.

## **Supporting Progress**

A previously advertised event of Progress Afternoon has had to be adjusted as we feel that we can no longer send some students home to facilitate the event given the lost learning during the pandemic. However, having looked at our previous approach, now is a good time to change and we believe that we can have a greater impact in different ways.

Each subject area will be responding to the needs of their learners in different ways in the classroom, through tailored homework, use of GCSEPod and Seneca Learning, after-school or before-school intervention sessions and, most importantly through the mocks informing our teaching going forwards. Parents/carers may receive phone calls from some teachers to reinforce what is needed for their specific subject, but this will be on a needs-led basis.

The Year 11 Reports are in the process of being finalised, checked and quality assured. These documents also give some key advice for our young people moving forward over the coming weeks.

## **Year 11 Prom Invites**

As you will be aware the date of the Year 11 Prom is Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2022. Details of how to pay for the Prom, Hoodies and Year Books are all on ParentPay and students have been provided with a link to a Google Form to help design their Hoody.

The next few months are busy and stressful for many students. We are working hard to strike a happy balance between focused preparation and caring pastoral support whilst creating a drive to work hard. We understand that this time is also very stressful for parents/carers and hope that the events listed above will also support you in preparing for the exam season.

## **Creative Arts – Mr Shillitoe**

We are excited to announce our first face-to-face Performing Arts events since 2020! On Wednesday 30th March 2022, starting at 6pm in our School Hall, we will host "Curtains Up!", a celebration of music, dance and musical theatre performances from across the Creative Arts department. This concert will not only feature performances from a range of super talented students, but the entire concert will be planned and delivered by a committee of Y11 students. Furthermore, each item in the concert will link to the world of film, television and/or theatre. This concert will be free of charge. The concert starts at 6pm, and there will be no interval. We expect the concert to last roughly 1 hour in length. Doors open at 5.30pm.

Unfortunately, we are unable to accept 'walk ins' on the night. E-tickets must be obtained in advance.

Therefore, to book your free tickets, please click on the link below and follow the instructions provided. Please ensure you bring your e-ticket(s) with you on the night of the concert.

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/Baines-School/curtains-up/e-xekdkv>



## [Curtains Up! at Baines School event tickets from TicketSource](https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/Baines-School/curtains-up/e-xekdkv)

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## Careers@Baines

### Year 10 Work Experience Week Commencing 20<sup>th</sup> June 2022

We are currently looking for professionals who could support our work experience with our Year 10 students.

The idea is the students will have one day in their choice of career. This will entail an introduction to the career, then meeting with a professional who will give them an insight and then set the students a project to do, which they then need to present to the professional later on in the day. This can be done remotely or live. For it to count towards the Gatsby Benchmarks, the students must virtually visit the professionals workplace. This could be a small virtual ten minute tour / video etc.

We are currently looking for professionals who work in the following areas:

Engineering

Bricklaying

Marine biology

Science

Deep sea diving

Motorcross engineering

Computer science

Coding

Childrens' nursery

These activities only happen due to the kindness of professionals who support the careers work we do at Baines.

### National Careers Week

To celebrate National Careers Week, students have had assemblies linking to their focus for example Year 8 – What are their aspirations and how can we help them come true?

The students have also made aspiration boards in their form rooms, and participated in a quiz – What jobs have Baines staff had previously. See if you know the answers to the quiz below.



# Guess Who?



## Round 1

- Which of the following job roles did the Head Teacher used to have?
  - Accountant
  - Lifeguard
  - Florist
- Which Maths Teacher worked as a bar manager in Lancaster?
  - Mr Duigenan
  - Mr Harte
  - Mr Harrison
- Which Geography Teacher worked as a travel consultant selling holidays?
  - Mrs Petricco
  - Mrs Mycock
  - Mr Watters
- Which member of the Pastoral Team worked as a residential support worker for young people in care?
  - Mr Spence
  - Miss Twentyman
  - Mrs Waterland-Jones
- Which supermarket chain has Mrs Gibson worked for?
  - Marks and Spencers
  - Tesco
  - Aldi
- Which teacher worked as a professional dancer on cruise ships for 10 years?
  - Mrs Streetly
  - Miss Hutchinson
  - Miss Pass
- Which holiday chain did Mrs Moxham work for as a sports coach?
  - Haven
  - Pontins
  - Butlins
- Which teacher worked as a computer support analyst?
  - Mr Patel
  - Mr Cropper
  - Mrs Dawber
- Which English Teacher worked as a children's representative in Menorca?
  - Miss Dunstan
  - Mrs Moore
  - Mrs Russell
- Which teacher worked in London as a designer?
  - Mrs Angell
  - Mrs Burns
  - Mrs Giles
- Which member of staff worked as a dental ceramist?
  - Mr Lilley
  - Mr Vernon
  - Mr Sharples



## Student Council

Student council are organising for as many students as possible to join in raising money to support Saves the Children's fundraising for Ukraine. On Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March, students will be accessorising with yellow and blue, the colours of the Ukraine flag.

**All students are welcome to join student council.**



## Themes of the Week

Our theme this week has been Careers and next week it is National Science Week!

## Friends of Baines

If you would like to be involved with our own version of a PTFA – Friends of Baines, please contact Mrs Doherty ([cdo@baines.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:cdo@baines.lancs.sch.uk)). We are hoping to start looking at organising more fund raising events after the success of the Christmas Raffle, including the possibility of hosting a car boot sale. These activities can only help with support from our Friends of Baines.

**We very much value your input in shaping our community.**

Please can anyone wanting to be part of the PTFA, let Mrs Doherty know if either of these dates are suitable for a meeting? Tuesday 22nd March 11.15 - 12, or Thursday 24th 3pm until 3.45pm.

## Safeguarding and Wellbeing

Just a reminder that if you or your son / daughter has any safeguarding concerns, please contact a member of the safeguarding team:

Mrs Doherty (Deputy Headteacher and Safeguarding Lead)

Miss Harkins (Pastoral Manager and Safeguarding Person)

Mr Shillitoe (Head of Creative Arts and Safeguarding Person)

If you have any ideas how you feel we could improve our safeguarding of students, please feel free to email Mrs Doherty ([cdo@baines.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:cdo@baines.lancs.sch.uk))

Please follow this link to the NSPCC guide about positive parenting if you would like to know more about children's behaviour, setting boundaries, rewards and discipline.

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/media/1195/positive-parenting.pdf>



### Forthcoming Events:

**17<sup>th</sup> March – Year 11 Elevate Seminar Day and Parent/Carer Seminar 5.30-6.30pm**

**30<sup>th</sup> March – ‘Curtains Up’ Concert 6-7.30 (Concert Rehearsal all day before the evening)**

**31<sup>st</sup> March – School Closes for Easter Holidays at 2.50pm for students**

**1<sup>st</sup> April – Inset Day – School Closed for students**

**19<sup>th</sup> April - School Opens after Easter break**

Nil Sine Labore


Alison Chapman, Headteacher



## Feed the Birds

During our weekly Eco Club, we had great fun making 'cupcakes' for birds and later sold them to school staff. We raised a total of £22.40 which has been donated to the fundraising for Isabelle Grundy.

Thanks again for donating, Baines High School Eco Club  
**£20.40**  
Baines Primary  
"Thank you for supporting the Pugh & Pugh's M4 for me!"



£200,000 to raise funds to travel to America with Isabelle for what could be life saving treatment, currently not available in the UK.



## Staff Suggestions

Mrs Petricco is flying the flag for Eco use in the home. Perhaps you can be persuaded to try one of the following products that she uses at home?



- bamboo toilet roll and tissues (all plastic free)
- bamboo reusable kitchen roll
- Laundry Eco Egg (eliminates the need to buy detergent and fabric conditioner = no plastic)



- reusable baby wipes
- Smol dishwasher tablets (no plastic packaging and all natural)
- Wild deodorant (refillable case, no plastic, all natural ingredients)
- Ocean Saver cleaning sprays (dissolve in water in a reusable bottle)

## Healthy Green Recipe

Supplied by Grace Y8

### Low Carb Keto Cupcakes Recipe



Please visit the web link below for ingredients and method.

<https://www.thatslowcarb.com/low-carb-keto-cupcakes-recipe/#wprm-recipe-container-6077>

## School Garden

Members of our Eco Club and other pupils, alongside Mr Spence, have begun designing and initial digging for our own school garden! Watch this space for future developments.





## RSPB Big Bird Watch

We took part in the RSPB's 2022 Big Bird Watch and were surprised at the variety of bird life that we spotted in our school grounds.



## Eco Club/Committee – Pupil Profile

**Name:** Amelie

**Form:** 8SMK

**Eco Committee Role:** Treasurer

**Why I joined Eco Club:** I joined because I believe this world needs a bit of help.

**Why I enjoy Eco Club:** I enjoy being in Eco Club because I enjoy hanging out with my friends and exploring different ways to help the earth.

## Watch this Space – upcoming events

- Eco Youth Conference at Blackpool Sixth Form
- Great Big School Clean
- Eco Committee Meeting Spring 2



A huge well done to Wyatt Yr8 for designing our own Eco Club emblem! Can you also spot it on the front of our newsletter?



## Get in Touch

If any pupils, parents/guardians or staff would like to get in touch with a member of the Eco Committee then please email:

[eco@baines.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:eco@baines.lancs.sch.uk)

(\*Please note – this email is monitored by both pupils and staff members)

We welcome any questions, suggestions, or possible content for our next newsletter.

