



Headteacher Update – 23rd May 2022

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

What a bumper edition of Baines successes! Please do enjoy reading about our amazing students.

This is the last week before the May half term break, and we are working hard to keep the students focussed on their learning. Year 11 have made a fantastic and mature approach to their GCSE examinations and the first JCQ exam inspector was very pleased with our procedures. Year 10 had a special exam preparation assembly two weeks ago as they move in to their exam season. This starts after half term and is spread out over the next month or so because we try to give them an experience in the sportshall in preparation for next year and this has to work around the real year 11 GCSE examinations (which the government have spaced out more this year due to Covid). The year 10s have geography field trips, work experience and careers visits to college all in the next half term as we start their 12-month preparation for life beyond Baines.

We held our Founders Service last week, it was lovely that we were able to hold this (due to it being re-scheduled from the usual Christmas service). It was wonderful for our talented year 7 students to present and perform during this evening, so many have grown in their learning but also in their confidence. I think it was the most confident rendition of the Baines School Song since I have been in post – well done! It was a celebration of their achievements, handing out Form Certificates and BecomingX Challenge Certificates and badges. The speeches, readings and musical performances make me proud and excited for the talent of our students as they move up the school. Thank you to all staff and parents/carers who supported the evening and to Reverend Martin Keighley and the St Chad's Church team for enabling it to be hosted in our lovely Poulton Church. Photographs and report to follow in the next update.

Our staff have now started to visit primary schools to meet and start to get to know the year 6 students who will become our new year 7 in September. We look forward to welcoming them to our Baines family. This week we are hosting the final Moving Up Evening for Year 5 students, we look forward to welcoming the families who are attending (and thank the families who have already visited as they have been such positive evenings).

Standards have slipped...

Finally, from me, some of those basic standards have slipped over the last few weeks. It is important that we address those basics because they form the foundation of standards and if we let those slip, then sloppiness slips into the big things like learning attitude. On Friday I led an assembly to years 7-10 about ensuring our expectations are met with regards to:

- Uniform and appearance (especially jewellery, length of skirt, make up, shoes and correct PE uniform on PE days)
- Mobile Phones (and air pods/headphones)
- Lateness to lessons / toilet visits during lessons
- Equipment

While the majority of our students wear their uniform correctly and with pride, infringements are creeping in across all year groups.

Our policies on these are all clear, nothing has changed with regards to expectations but we will be insisting on the standards. It is not acceptable for students to come to school without equipment as they are not ready to learn. Students need a bag and their equipment which includes a calculator and reading book. We have confiscated more mobile phones recently; we will never stop a child from contacting parents/carers but they must ask permission before using their phone or we will make contact for them. Some students say they use their phone for their timetable or to tell the time. Please ensure your child has their planner with their timetable in it, they have all been given one of these. Please also ensure they have a watch so they do not need to use their phone for this. Our policy is 'out of sight, out of sound' and tucked into their pocket just encourages them to use their phone, so please ensure students turn off their phones and put it safely in their bag.

If your child feels ill during the day, they should not contact parents/carers and ask to be collected; they should go to reception to seek first aid and we will take it from there.

Jewellery and piercings have become a real issue: our policy is clear and I have added the guidance from our website at the bottom of this. The only jewellery permitted is a watch and one small stud style earring to be worn in the lobe of each ear. After half term, any other jewellery will be confiscated in the same way as the mobile phone. I have tried over the last half term to work with a system where asking the students to remove the jewellery is enough but it isn't, they put it straight back in or wear it the very next day. A number of students have been upset because they have lost sentimental jewellery items, this is one of the reasons we have a 'no jewellery' policy, please leave it at home.

Please also address the inappropriate lengths of some of the skirts. Our skirt should be knee length and not rolled over. After half term, students who roll their skirt will receive negative points because asking them to follow instructions has not brought about an improvement in standards over this half term so we are now having to implement a system like many other schools where sanctions are put in place for appearance infringements at the outset without that second chance.

Have a lovely half term break and enjoy the Queen's Jubilee and I look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 6th June for the final jam-packed half term.

Stars of the Week (Week 1)



Stars of the Week (Week 2)



Successes

Lancashire Schools Golf Association Under 16 Championships

George in year 9 represented Baines in the Lancashire Schools Golf Association Under 16 Championships at Ashton and Lea Golf Club on Tuesday 10th May 2022. After posting a score of -5 playing off a handicap of 28, George was the winner of the nett competition in a field of 62 players.



Lancashire Schools Districts football



James in year 11 was selected to represent the Lancashire Schools Districts football team this year. They reached the English School's National Final and on Saturday they beat Hamshire 3-1 to become National champions. The team has also reached the Northern Counties Final against Cleveland which will be played on the 28th May.



Manchester Thunder Netball



Erin in Year 9 was selected to play netball for the Manchester Thunder team against Mavericks before the VNSL match between Manchester Thunder and Saracen Mavericks. Manchester Thunder is our closest elite netball team playing in the highest netball league in the UK. The match was played at Belle Vue. It was a close game with



Mavericks triumphing by 1 goal 55-54. Erin thoroughly enjoyed the day, was picked to play for Manchester Thunder in end of season finale.

Year 8 Tennis

Four boys from each year group have been playing tennis fixtures this half term. All fixtures are against independent schools so they are pretty tough opposition. We are really pleased we can give them the opportunity to experience competitive tennis. Last week, the Year 8's took AKS B team to a tie break!



Jayden – British Soap Awards

In my last update I told you about Jayden who stars in Hollyoaks. Many apologies, I said he was in year 7 but he is in year 8 and a silly mistake I made. As well as being in the running for the Best Soap award as part of the Hollyoaks cast, Jayden is also part of the family the McQueens.



Jayden Fox

Bobby Costello
Hollyoaks

He has his own nomination as Best Young Performer! What an amazing experience for this talented young actor. We are very proud of him and how he balances his work and acting.

Unfortunately, we cannot vote for him in this individual award, but please do get behind Jayden in voting for the best family as part of the McQueens

<https://www.britishsoapawards.tv/vote/category/1>

BAE and Lytham Rotary Club Technology Tournament 2022

On the 25th March, eight of our talented students in two teams competed in the BAE Technology Tournament organised by Lytham Rotary Club and BAE Systems. The challenge was to build from scratch a 'Flashing Beacon'. This was a fantastic opportunity to use mathematics, science and technological knowledge in an engineering challenge.

The teams of students were given pieces of wood, cardboard and other materials to construct their design. It had to contain an electrical circuit that would connect and cause the lamp to flash. Our teams chose a pendulum swing to cause the connection to be intermittent and flash. Their efforts were amazing and both teams produced great designs that worked. Our Foundation team of Magda, Olivia, Erin and Mary-Jane produced a fabulous design that flashed and contained some excellent technical parts to the construction.

Our Intermediate team of James, Reiss, Harry and Jocelyn produced a design that was strong and technically sound. It flashed the most times of all the designs that day and with the team's excellent portfolio, proved to be the best design of the day. The intermediate team won first prize and took home the Winning Trophy and returned to Baines as this year's champions!

We are very proud of both teams!!



Year 11 – Mr Flynn

The exam season is well and truly under way now. The year 11 students are working hard in revision sessions and preparing themselves the best they can for their exams. This is a busy time of year for year 11 as staff try to get the most out of the students. Please support year 11 by ensuring there is a routine for them to follow. Simple things like an early night and a suitable breakfast all help. This will all aid their concentration which is vital at this time of the year.

All year 11 students should have applied to a post 16 provider and heard a response. If this is not the case please can they contact Mrs Kinder (kki@baines.lancs.sch.uk) the Baines Carers Officer who can help.

Some dates that the students can look forward to are 'The Prom' on Monday 27th June at The Glass House, Staining. Another date is the 'Leavers Assembly' which will be on Friday 24th June.

This leaves me one last thing and that is to wish all year 11 the best in their final exams.

Kindness Counts – Miss Twentyman

We are incredibly proud of Mya in Year 9. She entered a competition to design a mug for the charity, Kindness Counts and she has won the Lancashire Secondary School category.

Her mug design will be going out to all the businesses who support the anti-bullying charity. Well Done Mya, our Kindness Ambassador.



Eco Club- Mrs Holmes



'Our Eco Club/Committee are focusing on three topic areas: Biodiversity, School Grounds and Healthy Living. Members recently wrote an Eco Code. Look out on our Facebook post for a recording of our group performance of the poem'



Every Thursday-Key Stage 4 only
1.10-1.45pm

The ILC will be available to those
Year 10 & 11 students who want a quiet
space to revise.

Please be respectful of our KS4 pupils
who need this time to prepare for their
exams.

Music – Mrs James

We are looking for instruments that are no longer played and gathering dust, so they can be given a new lease of life. We are particularly looking for guitars (electric and acoustic), ukuleles, bass guitars, drumkits and amplifiers. We have a growing 'School of Rock' so all donations would be welcome.

Careers@Baines

Speed Networking

We are hosting a Speed Networking Event and are looking for employers to support our event. This event is being held on Thursday 30th June 2022, from 8.30am until 2pm. The aim of the event is help students explore a wide range of industry areas and to learn about the variety of different job roles within these sectors. This experience should support students with their career planning and broaden their occupational knowledge.

We are looking for employers from the following industry areas:

Healthcare
Law and Legal
Creative and Media
Beauty and Wellbeing

Science and Research
Business and Finance
Animal Care
Computing
Construction
Sport

Please get in touch with a member of the careers team if you are able to support or if you would like any further information about the Speed Networking Event. Careers Team: KKI@baines.lancs.sch.uk or CDO@baines.lancs.sch.uk

Year 10 - Work Experience

We are still seeking some professionals to support our work experience programme which will take place on the week commencing 20th June 2022. As a reminder, please see what this involves below along with the list of fields we are interested in sourcing student placements for.

- Purpose: To provide students with one day's work experience within their chosen career.
- Activity: This will entail an introduction to the career/industry (either by talk or presentation) and a set project or activity to complete and present to the professional at the end of the day.
- Format: This can be done remotely (virtual) or live (employers to come into school).
- Additional requirement: For this to count towards the Gatsby Benchmarks, the students must virtually visit the professional's workplace. This could be a small virtual ten minute tour or a pre-recorded video which can be shown on the day.

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

Astronomy
Science (Biology)
Architecture
Data Analyst
Travel and Tourism
Psychology
Graphic Design
Marine Biology

Please get in touch with a member of the careers team if you are able to support or if you would like any further information about the Work Experience Programme. Careers Team: KKI@baines.lancs.sch.uk or CDO@baines.lancs.sch.uk

Student Council

As we plan for our first ever Summer Fair, students are well under way with preparations

Year 7 Student Council – Cactus stall

Year 8 Student Council – White Elephant Stall

Year 9 Student Council – Games

Year 10 Student Council – Tombola

We also have charity week 25th June, and are planning on collecting food for Blackpool Food Bank. If you feel you can support this in any way, please either pass donations to your son /

daughter or bring to the front office. All students supporting this will be given class chart points. The Food Bank are looking for:

Long life milk
Instant mashed potatoes
Tinned food
Dried food
Toiletries

All donations are very gratefully received.

The student council is also supporting the organisation of Race for Life. As we did last year, all students will be able to run the Race for Life in school and raise money for a very worthy cause.

Year 7X - Friday 8th July periods 1 and 2

Year 7Y - Tuesday 5th July periods 1 and 2

Year 8X - Monday 4th July periods 3 and 4

Year 8Y - Thursday 7th July periods 1 and 2

Year 9X - Wednesday 6th July periods 1 and 2

Year 9Y - Wednesday 6th July periods 3 and 4

Year 10X - Tuesday 5th July periods 5

Year 10Y - Friday 8th July periods 4

We will send out our 'Just Giving Page' after half term.



Themes of the Week

Last week the theme was Mental Health Awareness and next week the students will be looking at revision techniques to support them with their end of year exams.

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).

We are currently organising a Summer Fair!!! It will be on Friday 15th July from just after 3pm on school premises. We have changed the time to make it earlier for students to browse as well. If you would like a stall, please contact Mrs Doherty. The stalls cost £10 (they will be set up for you in advance), which we will ask to be paid upfront to secure your place. We are hoping to get a selection of stalls and the student councils will be supporting with our tombolas.

If anyone has any prizes which they are happy to donate, either for the bottle stall, the usual tombola or for the grand raffle, we would be extremely grateful! Thank you in advance for your support.

We very much value your input in shaping our community.

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)

Miss Hayes (Mental Health and Medical Lead)

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)

A reminder about some of the apps students may use and their age ratings:



As parents/carers start thinking about uniform and equipment for next year, we have developed our systems so that the Baines School tracksuit and calculator are now available to buy using your debit/credit card on our school website in an online store. We have had a phased approach to the introduction of the tracksuit to support finances. It is expected that the majority of all students should be in the tracksuit from September but definitely all KS3 (years 7, 8 & 9) students. Please follow the link below or use the QR Code provided to take you to our school shop. <http://baines.lancs.sch.uk/shop/>



Forthcoming Events:

27th May- School Closes for May Half Term at 2.50pm

6th June- School Re-Opens after the half term holiday

8th June- Year 7 Consultation Evening 4-7pm.

27th June – Year 11 Prom Arrival 7pm for 7.30 start– 11pm Glass House

Nil Sine Labore

Alison Chapman, Headteacher

Guidance on Appearance

Blazers must be worn at all times

Hats / Caps are not to be worn inside the school buildings

Outdoor coats are not to be worn inside classrooms

Shirts must be tucked in and top buttons must be fastened

Skirts must be of an appropriate length, no shorter than knee length and not rolled over at the waistband

Trousers / Jumpers must be Baines School design only

Shoes are to be black or dark brown only and of formal style, either lace up or slip-on. Velcro style trainers and black pumps are not acceptable. Shoe styles are not to follow the extremes of fashion and should be sensible, given movement around the site. Trainers can only be worn for PE activities

Socks / Tights must not be worn over the knee

Nails, for safety reasons, should be short and well manicured, without colour or glitter. False or acrylic nails must not be worn

Jewellery should not be worn other than a wrist watch or a single pair of small, plain stud earrings in the ear lobe. No additional items of jewellery such as bracelets, rings or necklaces are to be worn. Any piercings that contravene the rules will need to be removed immediately. Plasters covering piercings are not allowed

Tattoos are not allowed in school. The 'Tattooing of Minors Act 1969' makes it illegal for anyone to tattoo a young person under the age of 18. Henna tattoos and / or temporary tattoos are not allowed in school

Hair should be of smart appearance. No excessive styles, shaven heads or shaved lines. No severely coloured hair / streaks, only naturally occurring hair colour permitted. No hair braids or coloured hair extensions. Students are not to come to school with sections of their eyebrows shaven

General appearances should be appropriate to the school environment for which make-up does not need to be worn and false eye lashes are not allowed.

Students failing to meet the standards in uniform will be dealt with in accordance with all other breaches of school rules. The school reserves the right to confiscate items that do not conform to the uniform code. These items will be stored safely and will be returned to the individual at an appropriate time by a designated member of staff. If a student has an item confiscated that is of significant value, then the school will return it to the parent / carer on request. For security reasons the parent / carer must collect it personally, for which proof of identity will be required.



Mrs. A Chapman

Headteacher Update

23rd May 2022