



Headteacher Update – 6th November 2023

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

Last week was a very busy one for the Baines Family. Thank you to parents and carers for the positive emails and comments that have been sent in and to all our students who were just amazing last week. I know staff were very appreciative on what was two very busy days.

There are a large number of enrichments offered at Baines School. Please encourage your child to speak to their Progress Tutor about these so that we can try to capture their interests. There are lots of PE clubs on, however there is also a Politics group, chess group, Escape Room, STEM and Mandarin Club is starting again. If you know there is a club that your child would be interested in, please contact school so we can see what we can do!

We have a new member of staff - Penny our wellbeing dog has now started! She proved to be very popular with both staff and students on Friday. Penny will be slowly introduced into the school as part of our commitment to student wellbeing.



Anti-Bullying Week
Baines School will once again be taking part in Anti-Bullying Week from Monday 13th November. The theme this year is **Make a Noise About Bullying** and all week we will be celebrating how safe, supportive and caring Baines School is and what we do to raise awareness about bullying. Watch this space for more information - please note we will be running our **Odd Socks Day** on Friday 17th November where students are encouraged to wear odd socks to school to celebrate their individuality and acceptance of others. There will be prizes available for form groups with the most odd socks!

I have mentioned about parking a few times in the Headteacher Update. Thank you to parents and carers who have stopped parking on Stafford Ave. We are still getting a few concerns raised, especially where the white posts are. Please be mindful that due to illness, some of our neighbours need 24-hour excess to driveways. Counsellor Clempson visited on Friday to see what else could be done to ensure that our students are safe when arriving and leaving school.

Year 8 Consultation Evening is on Thursday and it is an excellent opportunity for parents and carers to meet with teachers to discuss their child's progress. If you are struggling to make this time though, please contact your child's Progress Tutor, so we can look to support you with an alternative arrangement.

Our Christmas Fair is on Friday 1st December 3 – 6pm. If anyone is interested in having a stall, please email Mrs Pyatt (lyt@baines.lancs.sch.uk). We always ensure that we do not double up on stalls, and it would be really nice to have a range. We already have Body Shop, some craft stalls, candles, jewellery, cakes and I believe Father Christmas is popping in to his Grotto where children can see him. Our Student Council and Eco-Council will also have their own stalls. The stalls are £10, we provide the tables, and all proceeds go to student council projects.

Year 7 camp will soon be here and the students are very excited. Mrs Russell spoke to parents and carers last Friday regarding the visit. If you missed this or want more information please contact school.

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:

Mr Shillitoe (DSL – Assistant Headteacher)

Mrs Moxham (Pastoral Manager)

Mrs Doherty (Headteacher)

Mrs Streetly (Assistant Headteacher Wellbeing and Mental Health)

If you have any ideas how you feel we could improve our safeguarding of students, please feel free to email Mr Shillitoe (rsh@baines.lancs.sch.uk)

Please see below the link to advice for parents and carers about sexuality and sexual orientation

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/sex-relationships/sexuality-sexual-orientation/>

If you are worried about the mental health of your child, or need some food from our food hub (tins, pasta, cereal etc.), sending home, please contact the wellbeing team on wellbeing@baines.lancs.sch.uk. We will be extremely discrete.

Golden Ticket Winners



Year 7: Jacob
Year 8: Jaida
Year 9: Callum
Year 10: Stass
Year 11: Nat
Well done to all our students who have been awarded Golden Tickets.

Form winners for the most positive points include:
Year 7 → 7CTY
Year 8 → 8KJO & AMN
Year 9 → 9CDS
Year 10 → 10JBR
Year 11 → 11JLY

Stars of the Week



Mrs C J Doherty

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'Encourage, Engage, Empower'

Dates for your diary:

Monday 6 th November 2023	Theme of the week - Remembrance Year 11 prelim examinations all week – option subjects
Thursday 9 th November 2023	Year 8 Consultation Evening 4-7pm
Monday 13 th November 2023	Theme of the week – UK Parliament Week and Anti-Bullying Week
Wednesday 15 th November 2023	Year 11 Class of 2022 GCSE Awards Evening 7pm Year 7 Camp departs
Friday 17 th November 2023	Year 7 Camp returns Odd Socks Day
Monday 20 th November 2023	Theme – Careers and Reverse Advent Launched
Friday 24 th November 2023	School closed – INSET Day

Clare Doherty
Headteacher