



Headteacher Update – 13th January 2025

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

Thank you for your support this past week as we worked to ensure students were kept safe and warm during quite a frosty week! Students were allowed to wear PE tracksuit and trainers on Friday and again today to ensure they are warm and have good grip on their shoes. We also kept the hall and sports hall open for students at break and lunchtime to ensure students had somewhere warm and dry to go. The students were exceptional; very sensible and mature.



It is with great sadness that I share that Jessica Smith who graduated from Baines School in Summer 2022 passed away on Sunday 5th January 2025.

Jessica was one in a million and although struggled with ill health she always had a smile on her face which would light up a room, was really funny and had a kind word for everyone.

She really enjoyed Hospitality and Catering and loved performing.

Jessica was well liked by her peers and staff, she was funny, feisty and quick witted. Nothing held her back; she wanted to be involved in everything.

She was absolutely obsessed by BTS and would talk to everyone about them, filling us in on their news and singing their songs. To say she was obsessed was an understatement!

When Jessica left Baines she went on to have placements at the Medical Library at Victoria hospital, the Imperial Hotel and the School Placement Team at the council, all the while battling her epilepsy and medication changes. Jessica has left an impact on many and she will be very much missed.

Sweet Child by Donna Ashworth

When a light is as bright as the light you
shone
There's no such thing as truly gone

When a smile is as precious as the one you
wore
You nestle in hearts forevermore

When one so loved is taken too soon
The love that is left could outshine the
moon

So much love with no place to be truly at
peace
So we love you more bittersweet release

Sweet child you were here for so little in
time
But the hole that you have left grows ever
wide.



Andrew Snowden MP

On Friday we welcomed Andrew Snowden MP for Fylde to Baines School, where he went on a tour of the school visiting a range of lessons, met students who work in our internal alternative provision unit The Hive, and had a question and answer session with our Head Students, and was bowled over by Penny our wellbeing dog! We talked about a number of pertinent issues and challenges which schools face and how Andrew could support us. Andrew asked the students what their plans for the future were and the students asked a range of questions to Andrew such as what it was like in the Houses of Parliament, how Andrew became an MP and if it was illegal for a dog owner not to pick up after their dog! (Thanks Jack!).





Kristy Year 10



Kristy in Year 10 won the Lancashire Cross Country Championships last weekend at Witton Park in Blackburn. She now qualifies to represent Lancashire in the Inter Counties Championships later in the year.

Careers Update

MEET THE PROFESSIONAL MARKETING MASTERCLASS

Come along to learn more about a career in marketing and the role of a digital marketer!

Date: Wednesday 15th January 2025

Time: 1.20pm until 1.50pm (During lunch)

Location: L11 / L12

Register your interest with Miss Kinder

We are hosting a Marketing Masterclass next week on Wednesday 15th January, during lunch time in L12. This is a great opportunity to learn about the world of digital marketing! If you study Business or Creative iMedia at school then it would be great to see you there! Students must register their interest by dropping into L13 to see Miss Kinder or by sending her an email at KKI@baines.lancs.sch.uk

Year 11 Mock Employer Interviews

We are excited to be hosting Employer Mock Interviews for our Year 11 cohort on the morning of Tuesday 14th January 2025. Every Year 11 student at Baines will be given the opportunity to have an individual interview with an employer, where they will present their CV for review and will also receive feedback. Mock interviews are a great way for students to practise their interview techniques and gain valuable experience and confidence within an interview setting. This experience will help prepare students for their upcoming

Mrs C J Doherty

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'Encourage, Engage, Empower'

college interviews and for any future job interviews.

We would like all our students to be able to present a high standard, quality CV to their employer as part of this event. Students have been given dedicated curriculum time during RESPECT lessons to create a CV, so please can we ask students to ensure these are up to date and that they remember to bring these along with them on the day.

Students are allowed to wear smart business attire on the day of the event (suits, shirts, pants, blouses, blazers etc) or they can wear full school uniform if they do not have anything appropriate for a formal interview setting at home.

We wish our Year 11 cohort the best of luck in their interview and hope they enjoy this experience.

Independent Learning

As a school we are having a big push on independent learning. This is to allow the students opportunity to review and practise the learning from lessons as well as prepare for future lessons. In a classroom, students benefit from teacher input, modelling of answers and collaborative learning with other students. Independent learning ensures that teachers provide students opportunities to demonstrate the extent to which they have understood and can apply the knowledge when working independently. It is also an opportunity for spaced practice – reviewing or revisiting prior learning to ensure it becomes embedded in long term memory.

It also develops perseverance and independence, preparing students for their future formal examinations. It teaches students to develop their time management, to plan and to organise their work and to prioritise. These are key skills in preparing for work life.

To support this, students will receive via synergy a timetable showing when their independent learning will be set and when it is expected to be completed for. Independent learning is a compulsory part of school life. Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 will be provided with one which covers the subjects in their year group, however students in Years 10 and 11 will be provided with a bespoke one which compliments their options. The timetable will include the digital platform used where appropriate.

Example:

Year 9	Platform	Day set	Day due
English	Seneca	Thursday	Thursday
Maths	Sparx	Wednesday	Wednesday
Science	Sparx	Wednesday	Wednesday
French	Sentence Builder	Week 2 Friday	Week 2 Friday
Spanish	Sentence Builder	Week 2 Friday	Week 2 Friday
Geography	Seneca	Week 1 Monday	Week 2 Friday
History	Paper based and online	Week 1 Monday	Week 2 Friday
RE	Paper based/Carousel	Monday Week 1	Week 2 Friday
Music	Synergy/Quizziz	Week 1 Friday	Week 2 Friday
Art	Paper based	Week 1 Monday	Week 2 Friday
Design	Paper based	Week 1 Tuesday	Week 2 Tuesday
Computer Science	IDEA	Week 1 Monday	Week 2 Friday

If you require further information please contact Mr Mates – gms@baines.lancs.sch.uk

Becoming a Study Sensei

On Thursday 9th January our Year 11 students were visited by David from Elevate Education. Below is a summary of what was covered to empower students take control of their studies:

Key themes

Start “making notes” (revising) - early is best and reduces pressure in the long run.

Commit to memorising notes – flash cards, mind maps etc

Make space for doing past papers independently when the above two are done

Use the specification

- Identify subject content and check accuracy with teachers (eg. where there are options)
- Identify where strengths and weaknesses lie and identify any gaps in exercise books / notes so that students can ask for help. A traffic light system was suggested.
- Become familiar with exam board websites – links through Baines website.

Use a note-taking planner

- Students should keep a weekly tracker of what they have achieved.
- Cross reference back to the specification (or learning checklists) so that students focus on the right things.

Use a folder for every subject

- Helps to be organised and makes sure that the order of notes can be maintained. This makes things easier to understand and remember long term.
- Re-writing notes is a waste of time – information needs to be summarised or changed so that students’ brains work to remember the information.
- Notes need to be structured / split – subheadings, space, colour.

Pay attention to space and colour

- Focus on trigger words that support remembering lots of other information. This also reduces the number of words that are needed in our notes.
- Colour coding improves our memory of key information with less effort.
- Reducing notes was modelled by David.
- Images and diagrams are easier to remember than lots of text – images with text help students remember the text too (dual coding).
- Mind maps can help students plan answers in an exam because they can remember a pathway of linked information.
- Xmind app can be used to turn notes in to mind maps.

ukstudent.elevatededucation.com with password rondo – bank of free resources to support revision.

If you have any further questions regarding this and how to support your child, please email Mr Mycock – amk@baines.lancs.sch.uk

The Year 11 Mock Exam Timetable has been shared and can also be seen in the Dates for your Diary section at the bottom.

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 Macfarlane (DSL – Associate 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 Mrs Macfarlane (jma@baines.lancs.sch.uk)

Over the next few weeks I will continue to share pages from 'Where's the Harm? A Guide for Parents and Carers on Keeping your child safe'. A copy of this has also gone home with Year 7 students. If you would like a copy, please contact school.

WHERE'S THE HARM - SEXTING

It may feel awkward, but it's important to explain to children the risks of sexting, how to stay safe and remind them that they can talk to you if something ever makes them feel scared or uncomfortable.

What is sexting?
Sexting is when someone shares sexual, naked or semi-naked images or videos of themselves or others, or sends sexually explicit messages.

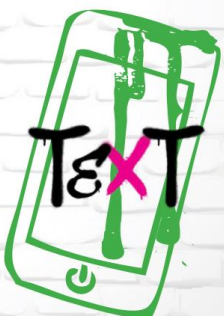
Why do young people sext?
There are many reasons why a young person may want to send a naked or semi-naked picture, video or message to someone else.

- Joining in because they think that "everyone is doing it".
- Boosting their self confidence.
- Flirting with others and testing their sexual identity.
- Exploring their sexual feelings.
- To get attention and connect with new people on social media.

They may find it difficult to say no if somebody asks them for an explicit image, especially if the person asking is persistent.

Childline have developed a useful tool to support young people who may feel pressured into sending inappropriate images. - 'Zipit' helps young people to stay in control and get flirty chat back on track.

For more information
Zipit:
www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/sexting/zipit-app



WHAT ARE THE RISKS OF SEXTING?

Young people may think 'sexting' is harmless but it can leave them vulnerable to:

Blackmail: An offender may threaten to share the pictures with the child's family and friends unless the child sends money or more images.

Bullying: If images are shared with their friends as a result the child may be bullied.

Unwanted attention: Images posted online can attract the attention of sex offenders, who know how to search for, collect and alter these images.

Emotional distress: Children can feel embarrassed and humiliated. If they are very distressed this could lead them to self-harm or attempted suicide.

How to talk to your child about sexting

- Explain your rules of having a mobile, tablet or smartphone.
- Ask them what they feel is acceptable to send to people, if they'd be happy for you or a stranger or other children to see certain photos. If the answer is 'no', explain that the image, video or message is probably not appropriate to send.

- Make sure they are comfortable saying no and that they know their body is private and being asked to share explicit images is inappropriate.
- Tell them what can happen when things go wrong. Do not accuse them of sexting, but do explain the dangers and legal issues.
- Make sure they know that you are always there for support if they feel pressured by anyone.
- Explain that they can come to you if someone asks to send them a nude picture or if they receive an explicit message.
- Let them know that you won't be angry with them, you are making sure they are safe and happy.

For more information
Search for:
Don't Fall for it - Say No
George's Story
Anna's Story
Teaser

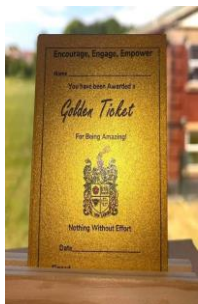
GROOMING

Courtesy of NSPCC

If you need any support with any of our safeguarding updates please contact one of the safeguarding team.

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



7: Theo
8: Mia
9: Alice
10: Lois
11: Eleanor
Well done to all our students who have been awarded Golden Tickets.

Students with the most positive points this week:
Year 7 → Hughie
Year 8 → Kush
Year 9 → Riley
Year 10 → Evie
Year 11 → Kayden

Form winners for the most positive points include:
Year 7 → 7COL
Year 8 → 8OGD
Year 9 → 9STE
Year 10 → 10OGD

Stars of the Week



Dates for your diary:

Monday 13 th January	Assembly – Resilience
Tuesday 14 th January	Year 11 Mock Interviews
Saturday 18 th January	Year 10 Poland Trip departs
Monday 20 th January	Assembly – High Expectations (Y7-Y10) Mock Exams (Y11)
Tuesday 21 st January	Year 10 Poland Trip returns (10pm) Carr Head Primary School Event 4-6:30pm
Thursday 23 rd January	Year 10 Consultation Evening 4-7pm
Saturday 25 th January	Musical Rehearsal – School Hall (9am-3pm)
Monday 27 th January	Assembly: Holocaust Memorial Day: For a Better Future Year 11 Mock Exams Week 1 AM-English Language Paper 1 (1:45) PM-PE Paper 1 (1:15)
Tuesday 28 th January	Year 11 Mock Exams: AM-Biology (Separate & Combined) PM-Maths Paper 1 (1:30)
Wednesday 29 th January	Year 9 Jodrell Bank Trip (TBC) Year 11 Mock Exams: AM-English Literature Paper 1 (1:45) Pm-Construction (1:15)
Thursday 30 th January	Year 11 Mock Exams: AM-Chemistry (Separate & Combined) PM-Geography Paper 1(1:00)
Friday 31 st January	Year 11 Mock Exams: AM-Maths Paper 2 (1:30) PM-French/Spanish Listening (H&F)
Monday 3 rd February	Assembly: Safer Internet Day Year 11 Mock Exams Week 2 AM-English Literature Paper 2 (1:00)
Tuesday 4 th February	Year 11 Mock Exams AM-Business (1:45) PM-French Listening (H&F)
Wednesday 5 th February	Year 11 Mock Exams: AM- English Language Paper_2 (2:00) PM-French/Spanish Reading (H&F)
Thursday 6 th February	Year 11 Mock Exams: AM-History Paper 1 (2:00) PM-RS Paper 1(1:30)
Friday 7 th February	Year 11 Mock Exams: AM- Yr10 English Literature Paper 1 (1:45) PM-Geography Paper 2(1:00)

Monday 10 th February	Assembly: Apprenticeship Week / Safer Internal Day Year 11 Mock Exams Week 3 AM-History Paper 2 (1:40) PM-French/Spanish Writing (H&F)
Tuesday 11 th February	Year 11 Mock Exams AM- Physics (Separate & Combined) PM-Computer Science (1:30) Hospitality & Catering (1:20)
Wednesday 12 th February	Year 11 Mock Exams: AM-Yr10 English Literature Paper 2 (0:8) PM- PE Paper 2 (1:00)
Thursday 13 th February	Year 11 Mock Exams: AM-Maths Paper 3 (1:30) Wyre District Careers Events, Year 9
Friday 14 th February	Year 11 Mock Exams: AM-RS Paper 2 (2:00) Ski trip departs. Returns 22 nd February. School closes for half term at 3pm
Monday 24 th February	School Reopens Assembly: Random act of kindness week / Headteacher Assemblies / Year 11 Performance Review Assembly
Wednesday 26 th February	Inspector Calls – Year 10 Directed time – PODS PSHE Book Look KS3
Thursday 27 th February	Inspector Calls – Year 11 Year 11 Mock results – deadline for grades onto the system 10am Year 11 ACMON 2 – staff deadline 3pm
Friday 28 th February	Year 11 Mock Results Day Year 11 Performance Review Assembly (process begins)
Saturday 1 st March	Musical Rehearsal – School Hall (9am-3pm)
Monday 3 rd March	Assembly: National Careers Week & International Women’s Day Y11 Catering Exams
Tuesday 4 th March	Year 9 Consultation Evening 4-7pm Y11 Catering Exams
Wednesday 5 th March	Y11 Catering Exams
Thursday 6 th March	Y11 Catering Exams Year 9 DTP/Men Vaccinations World Book Day
Friday 7 th March	Y11 Catering Exams Years 9 & 11 School Photographs National Science Week starts
Saturday 8 th March	International Women’s Day
Monday 17 th March	Assembly: British Science Week World Poetry Day Musical ‘Get In’ School Hall – All Day and Evening
Tuesday 18 th March	Musical ACT 1 Dress Rehearsal 2-5pm, School Hall
Wednesday 19 th March	Musical ACT 2 Dress Rehearsal 2-5pm, School Hall
Thursday 20 th March	Year 11 Elevate Exam Support presentation and parent information seminars Musical ACT Dress Rehearsal 5-9pm, School Hall

Monday 24 th March	Assembly: World Poetry Day / Keeping yourself safe at Easter Musical ACT Dress Rehearsal 5-9pm, School Hall
Tuesday 25 th March	Musical Performance 7pm Start (School Hall) Y10 Performing Arts Assessments
Wednesday 26 th March	Musical Performance 7pm Start (School Hall) ASDAN Trip/Event
Thursday 27 th March	Musical Performance 7pm Start (School Hall) Y10 Performing Arts Assessments
Friday 28 th March	Y11 Performing Arts Exam
Monday 31 st March	Assembly: Celebration / Rewards Year 11 Preston Geography Field Trip Y11 Performing Arts Exam
Tuesday 1 st April	Year 11 Preston Geography Field Trip Y11 Performing Arts Exam
Wednesday 2 nd April	Primary Event Year 5 Soap Science Day Y11 Performing Arts Exam
Thursday 3 rd April	All Years Rewards Activities Year 9 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Practice Walk GCSE Photography Exam – Session 1
Friday 4 th April	School closes for Easter holidays at 3pm

Clare Doherty

Headteacher

