



Headteacher Update – 16th March 2026

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

One of the values that continues to be important to us is kindness. We talk to the students about the 3Ps – positivity, professionalism and perseverance. Kindness comes under 'Positivity'. We encourage the students to be positive in all they do. Being kind to others gives a positive feeling back to yourself; it improves both mental and physical health (it is proven that being kind reduces blood pressure and cortisol levels, whilst boosting serotonin and dopamine levels), it reduces stress and anxiety, it strengthens relationships and helps to develop a contagious positivity in our environment, and increase self-esteem and purpose.

One of the biggest challenges to kindness that we face every day is linked to social media, and the upset it can cause when it is not used appropriately. Some of our young people do not have the capacity to use social media with appropriate discretion and group chats or comments on videos and photographs can cause undue upset.

There has been widespread discussion about the impact of social media on young people - there is an interesting book 'The Anxious Generation' by Jonathan Haidt and a great documentary called 'The School that banned Smartphones' on Channel 4 on demand that can give a deeper insight into the risks that social media can pose. As a school, we have not changed what we have done previously. Students are allowed to keep their phones in their bags as long as they are switched off and not used, seen or heard.

We ask that you monitor your child's use of their phone and contact us if you need any support or advice. It is not necessarily what your child does, but what other people do (sometimes from all over the world), that poses a risk to children online. Support groups go as far as suggesting that allowing children unrestricted smartphone access is analogous to leaving them with a stranger, as it provides predators, bullies, and inappropriate content direct, unmonitored access into their private spaces. A smartphone acts like an unlocked door to a child's bedroom, causing risks, including grooming, exploitation, and psychological distress, similar to physical danger.

Sporting Update



The Year 8 Wyre and Fylde Rugby Tournament on Wednesday delivered an action-packed afternoon of school rugby, with Baines School producing an excellent set of results across three competitive fixtures.

Baines opened their campaign with a dominant **20–0 victory over St Bede's**, showcasing strong defence and clinical finishing. They followed this with a hard-fought **15–10 win against Carr Hill**, before narrowly missing out in their final match as **Lytham St Annes edged a 15–10 win** in a tightly contested game.

Try Scorers for Baines:

Kai – 3 tries, Hayden – 2 tries, Sonny – 2 tries, George – 1 try and Hughie – 1 try.

The squad showed excellent teamwork, resilience, and attacking flair throughout the tournament, making it a memorable afternoon of rugby for players and supporters alike.

Mrs C J Doherty



On Tuesday 10th March, our year 7 girls' football team travelled to Garstang for their first competitive 9-a-side fixture and produced an impressive performance, coming away with a convincing 6–1 victory.

From the first whistle the girls showed great energy, teamwork and determination, moving the ball well and supporting each other across the pitch, with everyone in the squad playing a key role in the victory. Phoebe was the standout scorer, and won player of the match, netting a brilliant hat-trick to lead the team's attack. Further goals came from Ruby, Ava and Rosie, each finishing their chances well to complete the 6–1 scoreline.

What impressed coaches most was not just the goals, but the communication and teamwork shown throughout the match. Football coach, Mr McIntyre, was full of praise after the game. "I was really proud of the girls. For our first competitive match they showed fantastic teamwork and great communication all over the pitch."

Girls' football training takes place every Friday after school from 3–4pm on the astro turf, led by Mrs Spencer, where players continue to develop their skills, confidence and love for the game. 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿



Wyre and Fylde Sports Hall Athletics Competition – Stanley Park

Students recently represented their school at the Wyre and Fylde Sports Hall Athletics Competition held at Stanley Park on Friday 6th March. The event saw pupils take part in a variety of indoor track and field activities, including the standing triple jump, speed bounce, shot put, obstacle relay, and a range of races such as the 2, 4, 6 and 8 lap events, along with 2- and 4-person relays.

There were several strong performances across the day. In the Year 8 girls' competition, Agnes, Poppy, Myla and Carmen delivered an excellent performance to win the 4 x 2 lap relay, showing great teamwork and determination.

Mrs C J Doherty

Headteacher Update

16th March 2026

'Encourage, Engage, Empower'

Year 8 athlete Carmen also impressed by winning the 6-lap race, while Poppy performed consistently well, finishing 2nd in both the two lap and four lap races.

In the boys' events, Sonny ran a superb race in the 4-lap event, finishing 2nd with a time of 57.05 seconds. Sonny also played a key role in two relay victories. Alongside Hayden, George and Henry, the team won both the 4 x 2 lap relay and the obstacle relay, demonstrating excellent speed and teamwork.

Year 7 students also competed strongly. Phoebe achieved 2nd place in both the two lap and eight lap races for the Year 7 girls.

At the end of the competition, the Year 7 boys and girls finished 8th overall, the Year 8 girls placed 5th, and the Year 8 boys finished 4th in their categories.

Mr Vernon, Head of PE, praised the students for their effort and attitude throughout the event. He said: "I am really proud of all the students who represented the school at the competition. They showed great effort, teamwork and determination in every event. It was fantastic to see them supporting each other and competing so well against other schools."

A huge 'Thank you' to our amazing PE department who run all the training and fixtures. Their inclusive approach means everyone has the opportunity to join in and 'Belong at Baines'.

Nil Sine Labore!

Art Success

We have a selection of KS3 artwork on Display at Blackpool School of Arts Gallery in the Seaside's Exhibition. The exhibition is open to the public until 10th April.

The standard of Baines artists' work is absolutely incredible! There was only a limited space, and we could have had 100s of pieces exhibited if there was the space.

In Year 8 Maisy, Noah, Alfie, Caitlin, Ruby, Lucas and Cait have work exhibited, and in Year 9 Laura, Mela, Lily, Millie, Izzy, Esmee, Amelia, Mia and James have work exhibited.

Congratulations to Maisy and Amelia who are the winners this year!



Celebrating success!



Well done to Alfie in Year 7 who has taken part in the Lancashire County Swimming Championships at the Manchester Aquatics Centre.

During the championships Alfie gained 11 long course PBs, a UK Ranking of 18th in the Open Male 50m Breaststroke, two gold medals in the 50m and 100m Breaststroke, a Silver Medal in the 200m Breaststroke and a Bronze medal in the 200m Individual Medley.

A huge well done to Alfie, surely an Olympian in the making!!

Word of the Week

Word
of the
Week

empathy



(noun) The ability to understand and to share the feelings of another person.

From the Greek, 'em' (in) and 'pathos' (feeling)

"One of the features of being a good leader is to show **empathy** at all times."
"He could **empathise** with her, as he had been in the same situation."

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 Doherty (Headteacher)

Mrs Streetly (Assistant Headteacher Wellbeing and Mental Health)

Mr Moseley (Pastoral Officer)

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)

If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact the school's safeguarding lead on jma@baines.lancs.sch.uk

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.

Below is a link to support parents and carers when children are faced with cyber bullying:

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-abuse-and-neglect/bullying-cyberbullying>

And the following link gives advice and support who are faced with cyber bullying:

Mrs C J Doherty

Headteacher Update

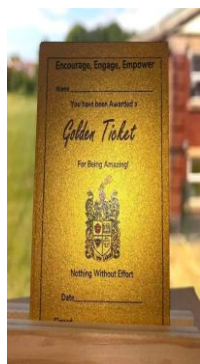
16th March 2026

'Encourage, Engage, Empower'

Stars of the Week:



Golden Ticket Winners



7: Joe
8: Bella
9: Annabel
10: Charlie
11: Harry
Well done to all our students who have been awarded Golden Tickets.

Students with the most positive points this week:
Year 7 → Phoebe
Year 8 → Luna
Year 9 → Georgia
Year 10 → Lewis
Year 11 → Jacob

Form winners for the most positive points include:
Year 7 → 7BID
Year 8 → 8MAX
Year 9 → 9COL
Year 10 → 10PAR

Dates for your diary:

Date	Event
16-03-2026	School Musical Dress Rehearsal 5-9pm Geography Field Trip
17-03-2026	School Musical 7pm start
18-03-2026	School Musical 7pm start / Year 11 Consultation Evening
19-03-2026	School Musical 7pm start / Year 11 Elevate Exam Preparation for students & parents
20-03-2026	BAE Stem Competition
23-03-2026	Geography Field Trip
24-03-2026	Year 9 Macbeth Theatre Trip
25-03-2026	Belgium Battlefields Trip (departs and returns on Sat 28 th March)
27-03-2026	School Closes at 3pm for the Easter holidays (school re-opens on Monday 13 th April)

Clare Doherty

Headteacher

Nil Sine Labore

Mrs C J Doherty

Headteacher Update

16th March 2026

BAINES SCHOOL

PRESENTS...

#GreaseIsTheWord



SCHOOL EDITION

17TH-19TH MARCH

2026

LOCATION: SCHOOL HALL

TIME: 7PM

ADULTS - £8/CHILDREN - £6

