



Headteacher Update – 2nd March 2026

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

The students have been very busy this week; the Year 9 students have attended the Prosper Careers Event at the Marine Hall in preparation for options choices, Year 8 students have had their Workplace Explorer Day and our Year 10, and 11 students received their mock examination results. We are also extremely excited this coming week to welcome all the students who will be joining the Baines Family in September 2026!

Our Year 10 students have completed their GCSE Literature mock examination and received their result in a brown envelope, just like they will in August. GCSE English Literature is considered a demanding subject, particularly when aiming for top grades (7-9), as it requires in-depth textual knowledge, complex analysis, and the ability to write high-quality essays under strict time constraints. While it is generally considered easier to pass than English Language, it is statistically one of the harder subjects to secure a Grade 9. Speaking to our Year 11 students, they are so pleased they were given the opportunity to complete it in Year 10.

Year 11 students listened to Mr Mycock prior to their results, where he explained how much time they have left, and they can really look to consolidate and improve the results they receive. He posed the question: are they an ostrich (who puts its head in the sand), a meerkat (who sacrifices itself for its mates), or a lion, who works with its pack to ensure it gets the best results? We hope that all students use these results as a springboard to launch themselves into the next few months, in their final stages of preparation.

We will be running Easter School again this year where students will be invited to complete additional learning to boost their progress. This has proven to be both popular and effective in the past.

Year 11 art students had an inspiring day visiting The Grundy Art Gallery and viewing the 2026 Open Exhibition. They analysed techniques and media which local artists had chosen and considered how they could incorporate these into their own work. There was such a variety of work to look at. It was a very thought-provoking exhibition and will certainly inspire the students with their work.



Year 9 Prosper Wyre Careers Fair

On Tuesday 24th February Year 9 students attended the Wyre Council Careers Fair. The purpose of the Fair was to help young people to understand the variety of careers and opportunities available to them in the Wyre District and beyond. It was also to assist young people in identifying the various pathways into employment / careers and inspire them into careers they had not previously considered and encourage meaningful encounters.



Year 8 Work Explorer Day

On Thursday 26th February, Year 8 students took

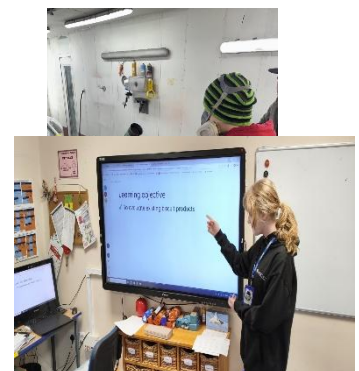
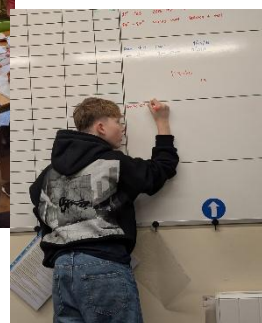
part in a Work Explorer Day. This initiative gave students valuable insight into the world of work, helping them to begin thinking about their future pathways and the skills required in different

careers. Students had a wonderful day with a range of invaluable experiences in:

- Teaching
- Construction
- 3D printing
- Car spraying
- Administration
- IT
- Retail
- Games design.



“Helping mum replying to emails, administration and have been speaking to customers on park, observed and clearing branches and tidying up with grounds man. Director treated us to lunch - KFC, great day so far.”

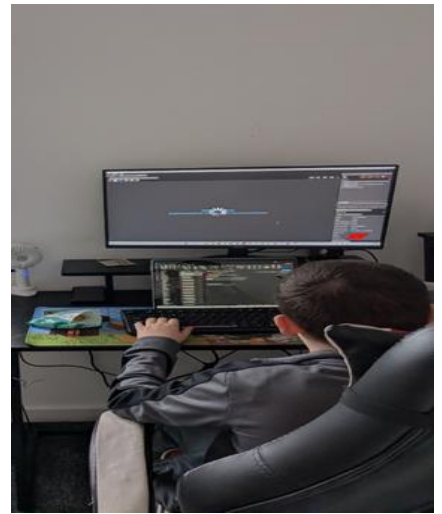


Mrs C J Doherty


Headteacher Update

2nd March 2026

‘Encourage, Engage, Empower’



Word of the Week

<p>Word of the Week</p> <p>elaborate</p> <p><i>(adjective)</i> Something with many complex or detailed (working) parts <i>(verb)</i> adding more information or detail; to expand on a point to help something to be worked out.</p> <p><i>The Latin 'labor' means 'work'. 'Elaboratus' means 'worked out'.</i></p> <p>Adjective: "The scheme was a very complex and elaborate one."</p> <p>Verb: "Could you elaborate on that, please?"</p>	
---	---

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.

The podcast below discusses the impact of social media and smartphones on children's mental health and development.

 **Podcast:** Brain Rot Emergency: These Internal Documents Prove They're Controlling You! (Spotify)
 Listen here: <https://open.spotify.com/episode/0Nm2czLB8Ei9HDKsblFwJv>

The discussion is eye-opening about how pervasive technology is in young people's lives, and how those impacts are being taken seriously around the world.

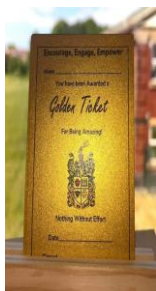
In fact, Australia has recently introduced world-leading legislation that bans children under the age of 16 to have access to platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, TikTok and others, forcing platforms to prevent under-16s from accessing them or face significant fines. The law is designed to protect children from online harms linked to social media and to support healthier development.

It highlights how parents, educators, policymakers, and health professionals are grappling with the effects of smartphones and social media on children's wellbeing.

Stars of the Week:



Golden Ticket Winners



7: Theo
8: Blake
9: Charlotte
10: Lilly
11: Jason
Well done to all our students who have been awarded Golden Tickets.

Students with the most positive points this week:
Year 7 → Kloe
Year 8 → Katherine
Year 9 → Josh
Year 10 → Salote
Year 11 → Jessica

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

Dates for your diary:

Date	Event
02-03-2026	Secondary School Offer Day
04-03-2026	Year 9 'Mop Up' Vaccinations
05-03-2026	World Book Day
06-03-2026	Year 11 School Photographs
09-03-2026	Year 9 Options Evening 5.30-7.30pm
16-03-2026	School Musical Dress Rehearsal 5-9pm
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
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

BAINES SCHOOL

PRESENTS...

#GreaseIsTheWord



SCHOOL EDITION

17TH-19TH MARCH

2026

LOCATION: SCHOOL HALL

TIME: 7PM

ADULTS - £8/CHILDREN - £6

