



Headteacher Update – 12th October 2026

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

This week we have had assemblies about how to develop our 3P's toolkit: positivity, professionalism, and perseverance. We covered the long exhale, deep breathing, embracing discomfort, modern day brave and challenging ourselves to maintain the motto Nil Sine Labore. It is important we never take the small things for granted, and should always feel proud of our achievements, however big or small they may seem to others, as we do not know each other's journey.



Prelim Examinations

Prelim examinations start for Year 11 this week, and Year 10 will also be sitting an English Literature examination.

	Date	Start	Subject	Length	Extra Time	Venue
Week 1	Monday 12/10/25	9:00am	No Exam			
		1:00pm	GCSE Maths Paper 1	90 (1hr 30)	113 (1hr 53)	Sports Hall
	Tuesday 13/10/25	9:00am	GCSE English Language Paper	105 (1hr 45)	131 (2hr 11)	Sports Hall
		1:00pm	No Exam			
	Wednesday 14/10/25	9:00am	No Exam			
		1:00pm	No Exam			
	Thursday 15/10/25	9:00am	GCSE Biology	105 (1hr 45)	131 (2hr 11)	Sports Hall
			GCSE Combined Biology	70 (1hr 10)	88 (1hr 28)	
		1:00pm	GCSE Geography	90 (1hr 30)	113 (1hr 53)	Sports Hall
	Friday 16/10/25	9:00am	GCSE Chemistry	105 (1hr 45)	131 (2hr 11)	Sports Hall
			GCSE Combined Chemistry	70 (1hr 10)	88 (1hr 28)	
		1:00pm	GCSE French Reading GCSE Spanish Reading	60 (1hr)	75 (1hr 15)	Sports Hall

Careers Fair

Our annual careers fair will run from 12 – 4pm on Wednesday 14th October. Students will be able to attend during the school day, whilst parents and carers can join for the final hour between 3 and 4pm. There will be a plethora of post-16 colleges to talk to regarding next steps as well as some of the larger companies in this area.

Star Books

Miss Dunstan has been running a weekly Star Books for students where they get involved in all things bookish, whilst (of course) having a hot chocolate!!

This week the students have been book bedazzling. They have designed their own bookmarks and given each other book recommendations using scratch off 'TBR' (to be read) cards.



Wyre & Fylde Football League - Round 1 Results

Baines teams got their Wyre & Fylde Football League campaigns underway last week, facing strong opposition across the age groups.

- Year 10 started with an excellent 4-2 win over Millfield.
- Year 9 were narrowly beaten 5-3 by Fleetwood in a competitive fixture.

Mrs C J Doherty

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'Encourage, Engage, Empower'

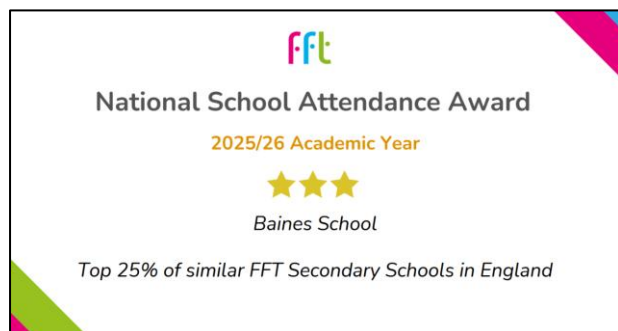
- Year 7 battled hard but lost 3-1 to Fleetwood.
- Year 8 suffered a difficult 11-0 defeat to a strong Fleetwood side.

Congratulations to all students who represented Baines School. We look forward to the next round of fixtures and building on these performances throughout the season. 🏆 💙 💛

Thank you as always to the PE Department for coaching and supporting our students.



Attendance



We received some more positive news about the attendance of our students when we received this certificate!

Thank you to all families for supporting our attendance drive, and to our staff for all they do every day to help young people enjoy school and make progress in their learning!

GCSE Creative Arts Update

Following the moderation of our art coursework, which saw our marks pulled down on results day in August, we applied for a review of the moderation and are absolutely delighted to say that the moderation was overturned and the marks reinstated. Any of our Year 11 summer leavers who were affected in both Fine Art and Creative Art will be contacted over the next few days to inform them of the grade they fully deserved, and have now been awarded.

Word of the Week

Word of the Week perseverance (noun) the ability to keep trying and continue towards a goal, even when something is difficult or takes time <i>From the Latin 'per', meaning 'thoroughly', and 'severus', meaning 'strict' or 'serious'</i> <i>e.g. 'severity' (the seriousness of something)</i> "Learning a new language requires perseverance, especially when you find some parts difficult. As a verb: "The Year 11 students persevered with their revision even when topics became difficult."	
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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 Moseley (DSL)

Mrs Doherty (Headteacher)

Mrs Streetly (Assistant Headteacher Wellbeing and Mental Health)

Mrs Fell (School Counsellor)

Miss Gallagher (DSL in-training)

If you have any ideas how you feel we could improve our safeguarding of students, please feel free to email

Mr Moseley (ams@baines.lancs.sch.uk)

If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact the school's safeguarding lead on

ams@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.

How to encourage productive learning

Information for parents and carers

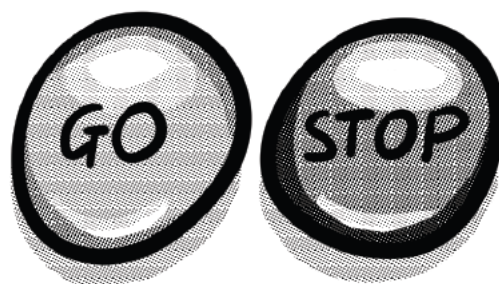
Did you know?



Having a tidy space can reduce stress and improve productivity. Another way to maximise opportunities for work and reduce distractions is to ensure the space is organised with everything needed for studying: laptop, books, pens and any other equipment. If you want to go a step further, plants are shown to not only create a calm space but also aid concentration.

Many people find approaches like the Pomodoro technique help to increase their levels of productivity as it allows for focused 'work' time for 25 minutes, and then a 5-minute reward break. It is often surprising how much we can actually achieve in short bursts of time when we are fully focused, with no distractions, and know that there is a clear end when we'll get to do something we want to.

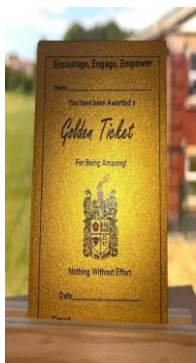
Experts in nutrition stress the importance of healthy diets for ensuring the most effective working of our brains. For example, although caffeine and sugar can provide bursts of energy, consuming these can lead to significant dips in focus and energy. We also know that easy swaps can lead to more balanced nutrition and energy levels, like using wholegrains, nuts and berries.



Stars of the Week:



Golden Ticket Winners



7: Melanie
 8: Emily
 9: Eva
 10: Hannah
 11: Finley
 Well done to all our students
 who have been awarded
 Golden Tickets.

Students with the
 most positive points
 this week:
 Year 7 → Alec
 Year 8 → Erica
 Year 9 → Evie
 Year 10 → Grace
 Year 11 → Riley

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

Dates for your diary:

Date	Event
Monday 12th October 2026	Flu Vaccinations Year 11 Prelim examinations– All Week
Tuesday 13th October 2026	Year 11 Assembly Cardinal Newman
Wednesday 14th October 2026	Careers Fair 12-4pm
Friday 23rd October 2026	Year 11 Prom Fashion Show – more details to be confirmed School closes for October half term at 3pm

Best wishes,

Clare Doherty
 Headteacher

Nil Sine Labore