Baines School
Nil Sine Labore



Headteacher Update – 16th November 2026

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

Our weary travellers returned on Friday after three days at camp. The year 7 students had a fantastic time taking part in numerous activities. Thank you to Mrs Russell, Mrs Streetly, Miss Stanley, Miss Lobley, Miss Gallagher, Mr Watters, Mr Broadhart, Mr Sharples, Miss Simpson, Miss Fell and Miss Nicholls for taking the students and ensuring they were well looked after and made memories. We will share more photos and details next week.

🌟 **BAINES is BACK!!** 🌟

On Tuesday Miss Gallagher, Mrs Porter and Miss Stanley took our dance group to perform at the Dance Festival at Blackpool Tower.

Miss Gallagher has worked hard with the students every week to ensure not only do they learn and develop their skills, but they develop their confidence and have fun in an extremely inclusive environment.

The students took to that stage and performed beautifully. They danced with confidence, enthusiasm and so much heart. Every single one of them should be so proud of themselves.

This was about more than just dance. It was about creating opportunity, teamwork, confidence, believing and seeing what our students are capable of.

Our students spent time with students from the other schools participating and encouraged them during the day. To hear the other students chanting 'Baines' whilst our students performed was humbling.

We are so incredibly proud of all the students (and Miss Gallagher!).












Hospitality and Catering

Our Year 11 Hospitality and Catering students have been practising their skills, and this week made some very impressive (and tasty!) chicken koftas. The students made their own pickled vegetable garnish, their own mayonnaise that they could flavour with their own choice of seasoning, then deboned, minced, flavoured and shaped their own chicken koftas – all in 90 minutes with time to spare for washing up!






Attendance is going from strength to strength!

Over the last 3 years we have seen a significant improvement in the attendance of our young people which is resulting in them knowing more, remembering more and building reliable relationships with their peers and with school, all of which lead to tangible improvements in life chances, whilst making amazing memories!

In a recent report from the Department for Education, we are named as being one of the four top performing schools for attendance, when compared to similar schools, and we have already begun work to support other schools in similar circumstances across the northwest.

The bulk of the improvements that we have seen are a result of our parents and carers not allowing their child to take a day off for a minor ailment. They have instead encouraged their child to attend school to ensure that 5.5 hours of unmissable learning are attended, making a real difference to their progress in school.

Please remember that if your child is suffering from an ailment that could be treated by a trip to the pharmacy or by using over-the-counter medication, we expect them in school to make the most of their lessons.

We look forward to continue to see our attendance grow from strength to strength!

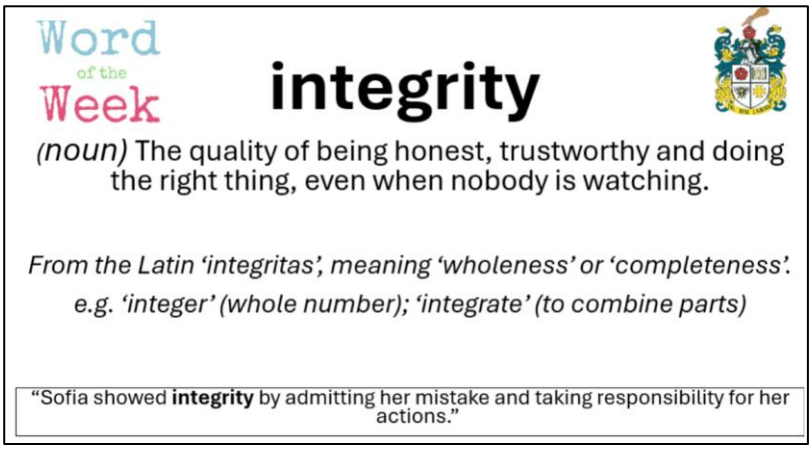
Christmas Fair

Our Christmas Fair is only two weeks away! If you have any donations for the White Elephant Stall, Bottle Tombola, Tombola or Raffle, we would be incredibly grateful. All monies raised go towards things for the students through the student council. We have purchased basketball hoops and football nets, balls, and chess boards – all to be used during break and lunchtimes. We have also used the money to purchase benches to remember members of the Baines Family who have sadly left us.



The Big Man himself (Santa) will also be putting in an appearance in his very own grotto!

Word of the Week



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.

Self-care for teenagers

Information for parents and carers

PiXL
partners in excellence

Did you know?



Self-care is anything you enjoy doing that helps make you happy and maintains your physical, mental or emotional health. Self-care helps parents and teens deal with life's everyday pressures in a more positive and rewarding way. Recent research has revealed that teaching teenagers how to balance their own needs now will help them in the future, while reducing some of the strain on their lives right now. Self-care can lead to healthier, happier, more adjusted young people.
Studies have demonstrated that when parents practice self-care, it's been shown that teens are encouraged to do the same, and take this positive habit into later life. So, your self-care helps teach your child how to look after themselves better.

Research shows that we need to build self-care habits from an early age so that when your child hits difficulties and roadblocks, they are able to navigate them skilfully and stay strong and steady. Self-care for teenagers is crucial with all the hormone changes, mood swings, struggles with self-image, self-esteem and building independence.



What can you do?

Helping your child learn self-care can help them get through tough times such as exams, challenges or adversities. Suggest ideas to them about how to take care of their physical health, mental health and to be creative. Ideas include exercising, walking, having a manicure, going for a haircut, seeing friends, having a bath, reading books, listening to podcasts or drawing.

Self-care works best as a routine to help your child feel energised and deal with pressures well. Talk to your child about the importance of doing things they enjoy and that make them feel happy. Bounce ideas around with them, put them in the calendar and support them as they do them.

Encourage your child to make self-care a priority, remind them about it every so often and help them with what you can do together. Doing self-care activities together not only helps your child to cultivate good habits, it also helps your mind and body be at its best. Ideas don't need to be time consuming or elaborate, and sometimes they might be indulging! Get started by cooking healthy meals together, pursuing hobbies, taking pride in each other's appearance, having fun, getting outdoors, volunteering, or by watching a feel-good film.



Stars of the Week:

Connie & Alex
Year 7

Kloe & Isla
Year 8

Georgia & Brooke
Year 9

Megan & Noah
Year 10

Eliose, Lexi & Ben
Year 11

Golden Ticket Winners



7: Melissa
8: Grace
9: Scarlett
10: Erik
11: Daniel
Well done to all our students who have been awarded Golden Tickets.

Students with the most positive points this week:
Year 7 → Nathan
Year 8 → Bobby
Year 9 → Michael
Year 10 → Megan
Year 11→ Marta

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

Dates for your diary:

Date	Event
Monday 16th November	Anti-bullying week
Tuesday 17th November	Year 7 Bikeability
Wednesday 18th November	Year 11 Class of 2026 Awards Evening
Monday 23rd November	Reverse Advent Launch
Tuesday 24th November	Year 11 Preston Field Trip
Wednesday 25th November	Year 11 Preston Field Trip Year 8 Consultation Evening
Thursday 26th November	Winter Wonderland Christmas Fayre 3-6pm
Friday 27th November	School Closed INSET Day
Wednesday 2nd December	Year 7 Elf Run (period 1)
Thursday 3rd December	Year 9 Workplace Explorer Day
Monday 7th December	Christmas lunch served all week Year 7 Theatre Trip
Wednesday 9th December	Year 11 Consultation Evening
Thursday 10th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 11th December	Year 7 Founders Service (1.30-2.15pm) St Chad's Church
Tuesday 15th December	Year 9 Rewards Afternoon
Wednesday 16th December	Year 10 Rewards Afternoon
Thursday 17th December	Year 7 & 8 Disco Year 11 Trafford Centre trip
Friday 18th December	School closes for Christmas holidays at 1pm

Best wishes,

Clare Doherty
Headteacher