Baines School
Nil Sine Labore

Headteacher Update – 2nd November 2026

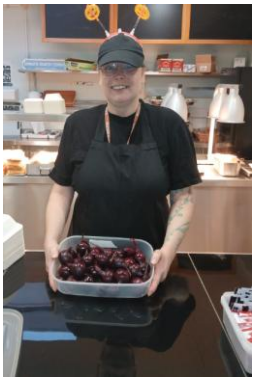
Parents, Carers, Students, and Friends of Baines School,

It has been lovely to welcome back our students for the next half term of learning, developing their skills and making memories.

Mr Spence has been growing vegetables for the last two years down in The Hive and, following a successful Greek meal last year, he (along with his team of gardeners), has donated some onions to the refectory. Our chefs have then used the onions in the tuna and red onion rolls!

Next year Mr Spence wants to focus on a salad harvest, rocket, spinach, salad leaves etc to enhance the school salads. By 2028 Mr Spence is aiming for us to be fully sustainable on homegrown produce!







On the last day of half-term, to celebrate the students completing their prelim examinations, Miss Kasmir organised for Year 11 students to be involved in a Prom Fashion Show. Students who volunteered were given the opportunity to model the clothes down the very first Baines School catwalk! By the end of the afternoon, some students had already picked out their outfit!!
It was lovely to see the students excited for the future, and to hear some of our Year 7 students saying how they cannot wait to be in Year 11 made the older students feel very much like the role models they are.

The students were then able to speak to the representatives from the businesses, which also included a make up artist (Make up by Yazz) and a hair stylist (Styled.by.Isabelle). We are really thankful to all of the local businesses who were able to support us giving up their time and helping us turn our first catwalk show into a success.

We were also able to showcase some of our 'free to borrow' dresses that we have available in school (some of which have been donated by Bridal by Brittany). If students wish to look at these dresses, they can email Mrs Porter at school and arrangements can be made to look at the dresses available. (info@baines.lancs.sch.uk)

Thank you to Miss Kasmir for organising the event and thank you to Bridal by Britanny and Squires for supporting the event and providing the outfits.

It was a great way to end the half term and celebrate the completion of the prelim exams.









Year 9 Netball



On Thursday 22nd October, both Baines Year 9 netball teams took to the court for a fixture against Fleetwood High School, showing great determination, teamwork, and resilience throughout two competitive matches.
The Baines Year 9 A team faced a particularly tough challenge against a predominantly Year 10 Fleetwood side. Despite playing against older and more experienced opposition, the team rose to the occasion, working hard in defence, moving the ball confidently through court and creating some excellent scoring opportunities. It was a closely fought contest from start to finish, with both teams battling for every possession. The girls showed fantastic composure under pressure and were rewarded with a well-deserved 4–4 draw. This was a brilliant team performance and a result to be proud of!

Meanwhile, the Baines Year 9 B team took on the Fleetwood High School Year 9 A team in another fiercely contested match. The girls worked tirelessly throughout, supporting one another, competing for every ball and showing real determination against a challenging opposition. Although the team narrowly missed out on the win, there were plenty of positives to take away, with great effort, teamwork, and some promising passages of play on display.

Both teams should be incredibly proud of their performances. These fixtures provided valuable experience and demonstrated the girls' growing confidence, resilience, and commitment to improving their game. A huge well done to everyone involved for representing Baines so positively and continuing to show such fantastic team spirit. Keep up the hard work, Year 9!

Nil Sine Labore!

Coffee Morning

On Friday 6th November from 10am – 11am we will be hosting a coffee morning with an opportunity for parents and carers to meet the Headteacher, Mental Health Lead, Sendco and Safeguarding Lead. This is an informal event, giving you the opportunity to speak to staff.

Please book onto the event by emailing info@baines.lancs.sch.uk directly. Booking is essential for attendance.

Christmas Fair

Our Christmas Fair is only three 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.



ParentPay

Please ensure that you keep on top of your account, as it is easy to forget. Our Finance Team does send out text reminders to anyone who is in debt however, we do not wish to offend anyone.

Entrance and Exit to the Main Car Park

Following the trial to switch the entrance and exit, we have decided to make it permanent. As a reminder, no parents or carers should be using the main car park to collect students at 3pm unless it is prearranged due to a mobility issue or a student is escorted out to parents.

Thank you for your continued support with this and for prioritising the safety of our students.

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.

Mental health

Information for parents and carers

PiXL
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Did you know?



Research states that mental health issues affect about 1 in 10 children. The emotional wellbeing of children is just as important as their physical health. Good mental health allows young people to develop resilience, cope with the ups and downs in life and grow into healthy adults.

Surveys suggest that most young people are mentally healthy but more children are having problems due to life changes, traumatic events, feeling vulnerable or not coping with difficult situations. The Guardian has recently published that tens of thousands of young people in Britain are struggling with their mental health and are seeking help online for problems.

Research indicates that common mental health problems for young people include depression, self-harm, eating disorders, post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety and panic attacks. Poor mental health in childhood affects educational attainment, increases the likelihood of smoking, alcohol and drug use, and has consequences for poorer physical health in later life.



What can you do?

Take time to do some research about mental health issues and symptoms with young people. Point your child towards websites or helplines that can give them information as well. Here are some useful websites to get you started:
www.mind.org.uk www.youngminds.org.uk

Seek further advice from a professional if you are worried or concerned about your child.

Talk to your child about any worries they have, be supportive and show empathy and understanding. Try to avoid persistent questioning but encourage them to open up to you and reassure them that you are there to help them. Try to make your child feel loved, trusted and safe.

Don't blame yourself for any problems your child is having as this will not help the situation. Be honest and explain that you are worried and help them access the right kind of help. Encourage your child to take up healthy habits to help them to maintain a positive state of mental health. Examples are:

- Healthy eating
- Good sleep routine
- Seeing friends and connecting with others
- Taking time out to relax
- Exercising
- Doing hobbies
- Spend time outdoors

Stars of the Week:

Stephanie & Peter
Year 7

Ashton & Nikita
Year 8

Willow, Jack, Alfie, Agnes, Pippa, Evie, Maisie, Noah J & Daniel
Year 9

Year 10

Rowan & Layla
Year 11

Golden Ticket Winners



7: Emily
8: Zane
9: Max
10: Jenson-Jay
11: Eva
Well done to all our students who have been awarded Golden Tickets.

Students with the most positive points this week:
Year 7 → Harry
Year 8 → George
Year 9 → Mia
Year 10 → Ollie
Year 11→ Dax

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

Dates for your diary:

Date	Event
Monday 2nd November 2026	School reopens Year 7 Remembrance Assembly
Tuesday 3rd November 2026	Year 10 Literature prelim
Wednesday 4th November 2026	Year 9 Remembrance Assembly
Thursday 5th November 2026	Year 10 Remembrance Assembly
Friday 6th November 2026	Year 11 Remembrance Assembly
Tuesday 10th November	Year 8 Remembrance Assembly
Wednesday 11th November	Year 7 PGL departs
Friday 13th November	Year 7 PGL returns Year 11 Cardinal Newman College Assembly
Monday 16th November	Anti-bullying week
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

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