

Easter Newsletter

It is joyful to be heading into the Easter break with warmer weather, and some sunshine breaking through. It seems hard to imagine we had to close the school due to heavy snow, just a couple of weeks ago. However, we have managed to catch up with everything we had to postpone, particularly the Year 11 March mocks and NEA assessments. All students will be bringing home Spring Progress Reports by the end of this week.

I have been very impressed with the composure and focus that our Year 11 students have shown over the two weeks of mock examinations. The next step will be an analysis of where students need to work further on developing the knowledge and skills ready for the final exams in May. Year 11 students will be issued with a Revision Guide, on Friday, to kick-start their final revision programme. Alongside advice about effective revision strategies, there is specific subject guidance on what to revise, and resources to access online. There is also a daily/weekly planner for helping students organise their time over the remaining weeks, in the run up to the first exam.

It has been a busy time for extra-curricular activities, too, with notable sporting highlights being the Year 9 students becoming U14 County Plate netball champions, and Year 7 boys reaching the quarterfinals of the English Schools football competition. Over 40 students had a week of skiing in the French Alps, at half-term, and we have ended the term with inter-house swimming galas for Years 7 and 8.

We will be saying goodbye to two members of staff at the end of the week, both of whom have been a big part of Ludlow School for a number of years. Mrs Withers has been a teaching assistant for over twenty years, and will be retiring. Mrs Morrison will be leaving the English department. She joined us ten years ago as the Head of English, but returned from Maternity Leave on a part-time basis, as an intervention teacher. We thank them both for their care and support of our children.

This newsletter includes a flyer about becoming a Parent Member of our Local Academy Board. Please contact Sharon Vickers if you would like to find out more about what the role entails.

Best wishes for a lovely Easter break, with lots more Spring sunshine, I hope. We return for the Summer term on Monday 17th April.

Paula Hearle

Fire Evacuation and Lockdown Procedures

You may be aware that each half-term we carry out a Fire Evacuation drill in school, to ensure that everyone in our school community knows exactly what to do in the case of a fire. We are now also going to carry out Lockdown drills. This is the opposite of a fire evacuation of the building: rather than ensuring everyone can exit the building swiftly and safely, a Lockdown is when we need to get everyone safely inside. This may be in response to an environmental risk in the community, such as smoke or gas clouds; or it could be following information from the Police about an incident or disturbance in the area local to the school.

Spanish Week



¡Bienvenidos al mundo hispanohablante!



During the final week of last half-term, we enjoyed our whole-school Spanish week, giving students an insight into how the language and culture of Spanish-speaking countries around the world are relevant to their usual curriculum. In History lessons, students in KS3 looked at the Spanish princess, Catherine of Aragon, whose husband, Prince Arthur, died while on Honeymoon here in Ludlow! In Geography, students explored the Latin American countries whose first language is Spanish, and in Maths lessons, students had to work extra hard to complete tasks with numbers in Spanish! Students also had the opportunity to try out some Spanish food in the school canteen, as well as activities during the week including the longest 'Gol' cheer for budding football commentators!

Year 7 student wins Antarctica flag competition

Holly Baines, in Year 7, created a flag to represent Antarctica, for a competition by the Polar Network. The Polar Network asks students to produce a flag to represent Antarctica, with the best entries being taken to Antarctica by a researcher. Students then receive a certificate with the details of where their flag was photographed, as well as a photograph of their flag in Antarctica.



Photographs of the flag created by Holly were taken onboard RRS Discovery, in South Georgia. Holly's flag has been photographed with Emily and Angelika, they are Polar Marine Ecologists investigating plastic pollution from the surface to the deep waters of the Southern Ocean, which surrounds Antarctica. They also research the impact of plastic pollution on Antarctic krill. Krill are one of the most important animals in the Southern Ocean, since most other animals including whales, seals, and penguins feed on them. The data collected helps us understand the influences of climate change, fishing pressure and predation on this important Antarctic animal.

Ludlow CE School hope to secure space with researchers in 2024 for another student to have this opportunity. Well done, Holly.

Ludlow School Catering

The "Summer into Autumn" menu is now available on the school website. We have been working hard to keep costs as low as possible, but with average food inflation now running at 12.4%, we have had to review our prices. Many of our staple items, such as pasta and bread, have increased by 59% and 37%. The price increases on the menu are, on average, 10% or less. The Free School Meal Allowance remains at £2.50 (this was increased earlier in the school year) and covers the cost of the 'Main Meal Offer', and a bottle of water. We will keep the pricing structure under constant review. Should you have any queries, please contact Rowena Morris, Business Manager.



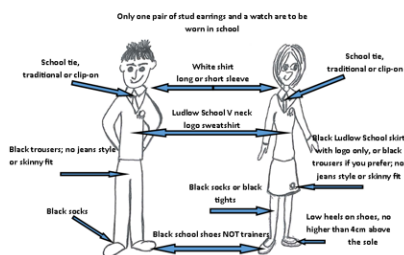
Reporting your child's absence

Please make sure you either make a phone call into school, or send an email to admin@ludlowschool.com, if your child is too unwell to attend school. This contact needs to be made *each day* of your child's absence, not just the first day. We also need *written confirmation* of the absence when your child returns to school, either as a separate letter, or a note in the Student Planner. We ask that all routine dental and medical appointments are not made in school time. However, if this is unavoidable, please send in a note with your child. It is very difficult for our Reception staff to manage last minute phone calls.

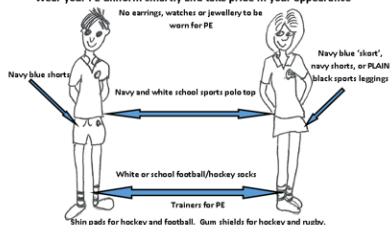


Uniform for September

Wear your school uniform smartly and take pride in your appearance



Wear your PE uniform smartly and take pride in your appearance



It may feel a little early to be thinking about uniform purchases for September, but we wanted to let you know that ClubSport will be bringing a pop-up shop to the school on Tuesday 4th July, from 5pm.

Thank you for your support with resolving some uniform issues, this term. Students are now routinely in black socks, and worn-out shoes are being swiftly replaced so that we do not have students in trainers.

'World Changes, God Remains'

All loving and inclusive Lord,

Thank you for our intelligence, and the resources provided to us from your sacred earth that allow us to help one another and those in need.

Let us appreciate those who care for us, who defend us and guide us through hardship.

We are thankful for your presence in an ever-changing world; you are the lighthouse that guides us through the storm.

The human race is a hurricane - chaotic, destitute and shamed. You, Lord, are the eye of the storm, the oasis in the desert, the greatest refuge.

Thank you for our ability to create new things, and the knowledge that it all begins with you.

In the name of Jesus, the light of the world,

Amen



Careers

Well done to Year 10 for securing a week of work experience. We just have a few students yet to find a suitable placement. It has not been an easy task and a few employers have had to step back at the last minute. Therefore, if there are any local businesses who would be willing to accept a student, I would be grateful to hear from you:

A.Griffiths-Jones@ludlowschool.com

It is now compulsory for schools to provide career guidance to all of KS3 and KS4. This is quite challenging with regard to Year 7 and Year 8, particularly as funding tends to be offered to KS4 students. However, Year 7 and Year 8 all 'attended' a virtual Science Careers Fair in the last few weeks of term. Students recreated activities showcased during the Fair, and we hope to continue this event over the next few years.

Year 11 college interviews are currently taking place. Applications should have been made. The local colleges have been into school to present assemblies, so, too, has the army. Prospectuses are available to read online, or copies can be supplied by Mrs Griffiths-Jones.



The government's intention to roll-out seven more T-Level qualifications this September has been delayed. Qualifications in hair, beauty and aesthetics, craft and design, and media broadcast and production, will be delayed by a year. The T-Level in Catering has been pushed back by two years. T-Levels are broadly equivalent to 3 A-Levels, but are more vocationally based. Don't delay. Apply today!

Reducing Parental Conflict - Workshop run by Shropshire council

Are you facing challenges with your partner? Could your relationship do with an MOT? Did you know that relationship stress affects your health and your children's too?

If you would be interested in attending a Relationship workshop, with or without your partner, to chat with other parents and professionals about relationship issues and how to move forward with them, please let Mrs Hughes know.



PSC Soup Kitchen

The PSC held its annual, fundraising "Soup Kitchen", during February. Pupils made a variety of soups, from vegetables grown from seed, in our school garden. Staff and pupils were invited to the PSC, over 3 lunch times, for a selection of delicious vegetable soups, served with garlic bread. £80 was raised for the school garden project!



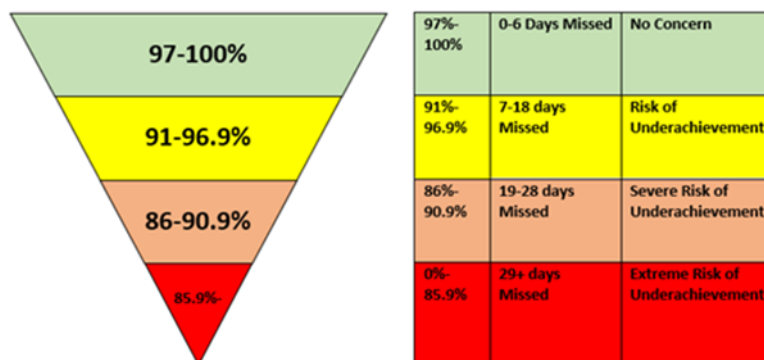
Homework and the ClassCharts App

The majority of students and parents/carers regularly use the ClassCharts Homework app, to track and access Homework tasks online. Our Parent View surveys confirm that this has been a really positive development, as parents/carers feel better informed and help to support their child's learning. It was also invaluable during the snow-closure days, as staff were able to swiftly set online learning. If you still have not accessed your login, please email your child's tutor or Curriculum Learning Tutor and they will arrange this for you.



Attendance Update

Good attendance is essential to progress in all years. Put simply: a child cannot learn if they are not in school, and frequent absence disrupts continuity in learning. Since the end of the pandemic, across the country, schools have struggled to get attendance levels back to acceptable levels. Absence remains a significant concern to us. This graphic explains the impact that repeated absence has on a child's ability to learn:



Please ensure your child attends regularly; our target remains at 96%.

Geography Field Work

Year 11 GCSE Geography students have been completing their fieldwork, in Ludlow. Students have investigated the extent to which inequality varies with distance from the town centre, and the extent to which visitors affect Whitcliffe Common. Students have to go through a fieldwork process of planning, data collection, and data analysis before completing a conclusion and an evaluation. In this photograph, Matthew and Ed are completing observations of the site, while Evan (in the distance) is speaking to a member of the public to collect further data



'Ready Steady Cook' Workshop

The Royal Navy Catering Team visited school on Wednesday 22nd March to deliver a 'Ready Steady Cook' workshop to Year 10 GCSE Food and Nutrition students. This is the second year in a row that students have had this fantastic opportunity to work in teams and compete against each other to produce a two-course meal. This year it was mushroom pies and fruit pavlova. The students were also given a presentation explaining the roles of the Catering Service's Branch and career opportunities, along with first-hand experience of what it is like to work on board a ship.



Are you interested in becoming a Parent Member of our Local Academy Board ?

- Make a contribution to the future of our young people at Ludlow CE School
- Help shape school improvement
- Become part of a Local Academy Board (LAB) who asks the right questions and listens to the responses
- Bring your own personal and professional experience to the team

Make a positive contribution to our children's futures

School governors, or LAB members, are people who want to make a positive contribution to children's education. The LAB has a key role in the development and oversight of the strategic development of the school. It is LAB members who oversee financial performance, and make sure money is well spent. Also, it is LAB members who hold the Leadership Team to account for the educational performance of the school and its students, and the performance management of staff.

Become a critical friend

A LAB member's role is about asking key questions; it is not about doing, or getting involved in, the day-to-day running of the school. Parent LAB members have a three-year term of office, and attend three LAB meetings a year, as well as sit on a sub-committee that most suits their interests, or skills, be it financial management, buildings and resources, or teaching and learning, as examples. You may be asked to become a Link LAB member of a particular subject in the school, to support its progress.

If you want to find out more...

- Email: s.vickers@ludlowschool.com
- Call: 01584 872691 to express your interest



Ludlow Church of England School

Key Dates

Date	Term
26th April	Y9 SLB Vaccinations
3rd May	Y10 Parents' Evening
W/B 15th May	GCSE Exams Begin
15th June	Y7 Parents' Evening
19th June	Y10 & KS3 Exams (TBC)
22nd June	Y8 and Y9 Field Events
23rd June	Y8 Arthog Trip departs / Y10 Field Events / Last GCSE Exam
27th June	Leavers' Day
30th June	Summer Ball
W/B 3rd July	Y10 Work Experience
4th July	Y6 Induction Day and Parents' Evening
5th & 6th July	Y5 Taster Days
7th July	Y9 Aim Higher University Trip
10th July	Y9 Healthy Life Styles A Half / Y7 Field Events
11th July	Y9 Healthy Life Styles B Half
12th July	Y10 Ludlow College Taster Day / Y8 Creative Studies
13th July	Sports Day (Track)
14th July	Sports Day (Reserve)
18th July	Awards Evening / Y10 GCSE History Trip to Ludlow Castle
19th July	Y10 GCSE History Trip to Ludlow Castle

Term Dates

Date	Term
3rd—14th April	Easter Holiday
17th April	Return to School for Summer Term
1st May	May Bank Holiday
8th May	Bank Holiday - Coronation
29th May - 2nd June	Half-Term
5th June	Return to School
21st July	Last day of Summer Term