

February Parent & Carer Newsletter

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

This half-term has passed quickly but has been filled with activity, especially exam activity. So many students have had BTEC examinations over the course of the last two months. Well done to all of those students who worked so hard in preparation for this. Also, a massive congratulations to all those students who received their GCSE English and maths results in January – we were so pleased that so many students received at least a grade 4 in these vital qualifications.

I know that many families across our community will have been affected by the devastating death of Harvey Willgoose last week. All our thoughts and prayers are with those effected, especially Harvey's family and friends and all of those at All Saints school. We are dedicated to maintaining the safeguarding of our academy community. Within this newsletter there are links to resources from Sheffield Council and South Yorkshire Police signposting support and information services. If you have any concerns or worries, you can always reach out to our safeguarding team on safeguarding@longleypark.ac.uk.

Next half-term is the last half-term of teaching before we enter the exam season. It is vital that all students make every day count – structured revision, accessing support and completing assignments are all core parts of this. We only have seven teaching weeks until the exam session starts. In the next half-term, we will be starting our 'Make it count' campaign supporting students with resources, strategies and opportunities to develop their revision skills and get 'exam ready'. Please continue to support at home and provide challenge around how much time is being spent revising and preparing.

We hope that all students have a safe and productive half-term break. We return on Monday 24th February at 9am.



Make It Count – Countdown to Success!
With just 10 weeks until the summer exams, our Make It Count initiative is here to help our students stay on track and make the most of this crucial time. Each week will have a different focus, offering a variety of support sessions, revision drop-ins, exam-busting gym sessions, lunchtime plaza stalls, attendance rewards, and much more! This is their chance to stay motivated, boost learning, and look after their wellbeing.
Follow us on social media to stay updated on what's happening each week—let's make every moment count!

As part of our 'Make It Count' initiative, we are excited to announce the launch of Workshop Wednesdays! Starting after half term, students are invited to join us every Wednesday at lunchtime to learn effective revision strategies that will help them maximize their learning potential.
To make these sessions even more rewarding, all students who attend will receive freebies to support their learning!
We strongly encourage all students to take advantage of this fantastic opportunity to enhance their revision techniques and boost their confidence ahead of upcoming assessments.

What's happened this term?



Business, IT & Law



Business year 2 students are close to finishing their Unit 5 International Business assignments and are currently looking at cultural differences and barriers in international markets and reasons why businesses trade overseas. They have also completed their Unit 6 Leadership and Management exam and Unit 7 Business decision making exam with results pending in March. They will now move onto Event Planning and Pitching a new Business idea and are looking forward to their team building residential in April.

Business year 1 students have been very busy having visited Cadbury World for the day learning about retail, business operations and marketing as well as having fun seeing how the chocolate is made and packaged with a little taste test. They have been to Sheffield Hallam University and taking part in a successful marketing and branding task, the students did us and you all proud that day with lots of team work and quality presentations of their ideas. The students are also in teams working on their event unit with lots of charitable activities taking place including the care packages for the Archer project. What an amazing set of students we have working with our equally amazing business teachers.

Students in **Y2 A Level Business** have been focussing on business decision making this half term using a range of mathematical models to aide businesses in making decisions to support their progress. One technique is Critical Path Analysis which allows a business to identify which tasks within a project can be carried out simultaneously or be delayed without delaying a whole project. In Y1 students have been exploring the concepts of supply and

Computing Year 2 students are preparing to design and create a game for a teenage audience and are eagerly awaiting their Unit 1 exam results in March after successful trial exams in December.

The **Financial Studies** year 2 group sat both their Unit 3 exams, and they have all done excellently exceed previous exam results with many now on track for A and B grades as they move into Unit 4 content and further exams in March and April. The students have started to develop their knowledge about the sustainability of the financial services sector and how the media can impact the reporting and view of financial services. Students have been able to provide clear advice and guidance on the suitability of mortgages for different consumer groups recommending actions now and in the future.

The **IT** students have recently completed their Unit 2 database exam with lots of promising results expected in March following the December trial exam results. The students are now preparing for the Unit 1 trial exam in February after half term and also moving onto their social media unit and their gaming unit where they will be able to do more practical application of their skills using the gaming and social media software.

Law

This term saw the launch of the Fragoman mentorship scheme whereby 13 Law students have secured this prestigious scheme to be supported by a employee at Fragomen and have 121 sessions to build on their employability skills and be work ready and interview ready. **BTEC Law** – Unit 1 & unit 3 exams took place. Y1s are moving onto the criminal justice system. Y2 are now looking at consumer law. **A Level Law**– Y1 have completed criminal law and now looking at liability in Tort Law – claiming damages for negligence. Y2s are focusing on exam revision and technique.

MATHS

Maths students are ramping up their revision as the exams draw closer. They should be doing some maths every day in preparation for their summer exams. There are a plethora of resources available for revision through online platforms recommended by teachers. Don't hesitate to contact staff if you would like more information.

Humanities

In History students have been exploring the history of British monarchs William III and Mary II. Sociology students have been looking at how education impacts society and social inequalities. In Criminology, Y2 students have been exploring the role of punishment in a criminal justice system, considering the effectiveness of crime prevention policies.

STEM

This half term, our primary focus in the Science curriculum area has been preparing for the winter exams in Applied Science courses at both Level 2 and Level 3. We have been incredibly proud of the dedication and revision efforts shown by students, and we look forward to another excellent set of results on results day in March. For our second-year A-level students, targeted intervention groups running successfully, offering additional support as we approach the summer exams. We encourage students to make the most of these sessions and all available resources in the coming months to maximise their grades. In addition, A-level Science students will be provided with UpLearn accounts after the half term, an advanced learning platform designed to support independent study.

UpLearn is an online tutoring platform designed to help students grasp difficult concepts, reinforce knowledge, and develop exam confidence. We strongly encourage students to engage with this platform consistently, as it has been proven to significantly boost attainment and improve outcomes. With just a few months left before the summer exams, we hope all students take advantage of every opportunity to push themselves towards achieving their full potential.

Health

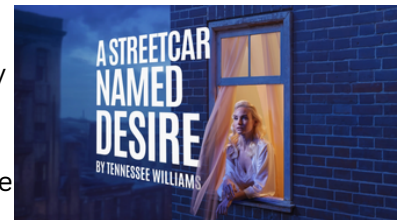
T-LEVELS
THE NEXT LEVEL QUALIFICATION

In Health and Social Care all level 3 groups have now completed their initial placements in a variety of settings including schools, care homes and community hubs. We have had some fantastic feedback from settings and are always looking for new places for students to complete their work experience. Don't hesitate to contact us if you could offer a placement. The second year extended diploma students have completed their exams and are eagerly awaiting their results in March whilst completing their final assignments.

The second year T Level students are planning for their Early Years formal structured observations in placement settings whilst the first years prepare for their Employer Set Project.

ENGLISH

In English, Literature students have started studying the Gothic and Romantic genres. They have developing skills in analysis and contextual linking, applying the social, historical, political, and literary contexts in which texts are produced to help understand texts on different levels. A Level English Literature students are also looking forward to their theatre trip, to see a production of Tennessee Williams's southern gothic tragedy - A Streetcar Named Desire, next half term.

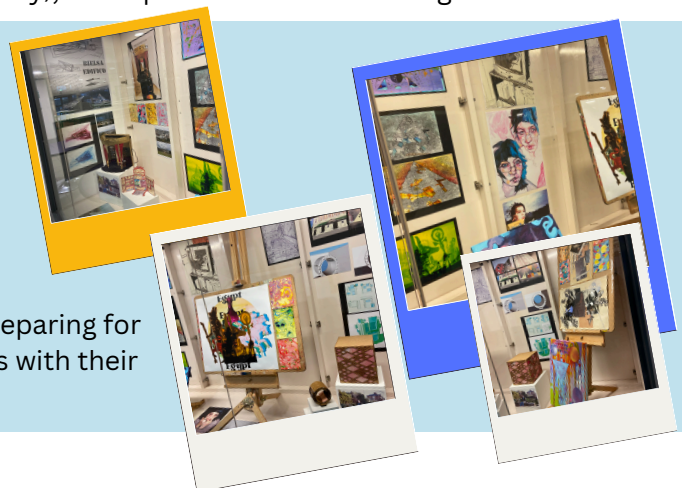


In A Level English Language our students have been completing the final parts of their coursework portfolios. They have each developed an independent language investigation, researching an area of personal interest (such as the way language use changes across different generations of the same family), and a piece of creative writing.

Creative Arts

2nd year **UAL Art & Design** students have curated an exhibition on the theme of 'dreams and reality'. Each student has produced work based on their own personal specialisms and career aspirations, and the class has worked together as a team to make the exhibition a success.

A-Level Fine Art, Photography and 3D Design students are busy preparing for the start of their exams next half term. We wish them every success with their chosen projects.



SKILLS FOR LIFE

In skills for life English classes, we have been continuing to build students skills to help them to further develop their confidence with English. Those who sat the exams in November received their results in January and should be so proud of the progress they have made. The outcomes achieved were the best we have ever seen in the November series.

ATTENDANCE ADVICE FOR STUDENTS

As we approach the exam season, we wanted to take a moment to remind you all of the importance of attending every lesson in sixth form. We know it can be tempting to skip a class now and then, especially with all the distractions and commitments outside of school. However, regular attendance is absolutely vital during this crucial period. Especially for those that are considering progression.

Each lesson is packed with essential content, tips, and techniques that can make a real difference in your understanding and confidence. Missing just one lesson can leave gaps in your knowledge that may be hard to fill later. Besides, it's a fantastic opportunity to ask questions, engage with your peers, and really grasp those challenging concepts. Also, being present helps you develop a routine, keeping you focused and motivated as we head towards exam day. Remember, it's not just about hitting the books at home; the classroom is where the magic happens!

So, let's make a concerted effort to attend all classes leading up to the exams. We're all in this together, and your commitment will undoubtedly pay off. Keep pushing, and let's finish strong!

Parents views on attendance and lateness – we want to understand how we can work together better to support students with their attendance and lateness, to help us with this we need your support. Please take a few minutes to complete this short [form](#) to help us understand what the barriers are and ideas around overcoming these.

Upcoming events next half term:

- Level 2 Progression meetings
- International Women's Day
- Comic Relief
- End of term rewards event – This time the cinema /film to be decided by those who qualify for the event

Progression Week

14th-18th April

As we enter the final term, all thoughts are on what our young people will be doing next. Our Progression events are designed to inspire and energise students into taking their next steps towards employment, apprenticeships or getting ready for their university applications.

Throughout the week we will have large local employers in the sixth form, working with groups of students on applying their subject knowledge in the workplace. They will be conducting mock interviews and imparting the skills that employers want. On the Wednesday 16th April we will be hosting a progression fair. So far, nearly 30 employers, apprenticeship providers and universities have signed up to attend and showcase their progression options. That evening, there is a Parent's Evening, and we are working on ways you can interact with this event as part of that

Safeguarding @the sixth form

If you need to speak to somebody from the Safeguarding Team, please contact 0114 2625757, or alternatively email safeguarding@longleypark.ac.uk.

As part of our ongoing support for families, we wanted to introduce you to the newly launched Sheffield Directory where you are able to access a wide range of information, support, advice and guidance. This also includes access to local groups and activities within your local area - [Home Page | Sheffield \(sheffielddirectory.org.uk\)](#) There is a wealth of information available on the website about resources and services that may be helpful until you are able to speak to someone.

OUT OF HOURS CONTACT

If you have any concerns about the welfare of a child or young person during evenings, weekends, and holidays, please contact the Sheffield Safeguarding Hub on 0114 2734855 (24-hour service). If you think a child or young person is in immediate danger, please call the Police on 999 at any time.

If you are a student and are worried and feel unsafe then you can get help from Childline, a free, private, confidential service where you can be you. You can chat online or on the phone, 08001111, 24 hours a day.

Signposting Support



LPSF pantry

How to Access Support

Support from the LPSF Pantry is available discreetly. If you or someone you know could benefit from this service, please contact a member of our safeguarding team. You can reach out via email at safeguarding@longleypark.ac.uk or text 07721511649 to arrange a collection.

We are here to support you, and we encourage you to take advantage of this resource if needed. Stay safe and take care.

- [Download / circulate Cllr Dale's letter](#)
- [Letter for parents/carers](#)
- [Advice for parents/carers](#)

Please make sure you are sat in the correct seat for your exam.

Spring Exam Newsletter



We encourage all parents, carers, and students to read our latest Exam Newsletter, which contains important information about the upcoming exams.

Inside, you'll find revision tips, exam regulations, details on how to best prepare and a reminder about toilet breaks during exams. Students should be arriving to their exam 15 minutes before the start time.

Staying informed is the first step toward success, and this newsletter is a valuable resource to help students feel confident and prepared as they approach their exams. Don't miss out on the guidance and support it offers!

All up to date information can be found on our website.



We would also like to take this opportunity to invite interest to join our Academy Advisory Council (AAC). Each AAC consists of a group of people who could be parents, community nominees and academy staff. The key aims of the AAC are to act to support and challenge the Sixth Form leadership; to advise about local issues that we may need to consider; to represent the interest of the community in the running of the Sixth Form and to represent the Sixth Form in the community.

If you would be interested in supporting us on our AAC or know of a local stakeholder that could work with us, please do contact principal@longleypark.ac.uk.

There are regular updates on all our social media about student successes, events and important dates.

If you are not already following us, take a second now to click through and like or follow Longley Park Sixth Form Academy so that you never miss important news.

