



Laurence Jackson School's Parental Bulletin

9th February 2024

Messages from the Headteacher

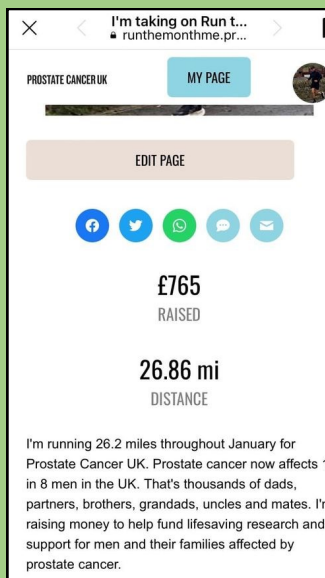
Thank you for your support this half term. Please be reminded that we break up for the holidays today, 9th February, and students return at the normal time on Monday 19th February. Please also be reminded that there is a PD Day on Friday 8th March and school is closed to students. Well done to our Year 11 students who completed their mock exams over the last 2 weeks. Year 11 have been sent a programme of revision classes taking place over the February half term holidays and we strongly encourage them to attend where possible. We were pleased to see so many Year 7 parents/carers at the face to face Academic Review Evening held last night and we had really positive feedback; the next event of this kind will be for Year 11 on 7th March - details can be found within this bulletin. Last week we sent parents/carers an invitation to the Headteacher Forum 4-5pm Thursday 22nd February—please check this letter on class charts and use [this link](#) to RSVP (this link closes at midday on Monday 19th February). I would like to use this opportunity to inform you again that we will be moving from Gateway to Arbor Pay for all payments in the spring term. Gateway will cease to exist as of midnight on Friday 22nd March. There will be a communication via class charts sent after the holidays with further details, including a timeline and what you need to do. Please be assured that we will support all parents/carers through the transition process. As a general note, please ensure that your child's lunch account on Gateway is always in credit if they have school dinners. As mentioned in last week's bulletin, the cost of school meals will increase to £2.75 from Monday 19th February.

Safeguarding Spotlight

Online Vulnerability Awareness Resources - Internet Watch Foundation

The internet is a wonderful facet of modern life. Humans have never had as much access to information than they have today, at the touch of a keyboard all knowledge can be acquired largely for free. But it has also made us contactable at all times, in a manner that goes far beyond the voicemails that used to typify telephonic communications. Now photographs, voice notes, and videos can be exchanged to any device at will. This has made young people more vulnerable than ever to unwanted messages and images. Research done by the Internet Watch Foundation, shows that 1 in every 4 teens has received unwanted sexual messages online. Awareness of how to mitigate this issue is vital to securing the young people of tomorrow, and to help in that endeavour the Internet Watch Foundation has created a resource pack. If interested please follow this link: <https://talk.iwf.org.uk/>

Celebrating Student Success



Huge congratulations to Archie P (Y10) who decided at the end of December, after seeing an advert on the TV, he would like to take part in January's Prostate UK 26.2 miles marathon to raise valuable funds for prostate cancer. He set a target of £100 and set about the challenge in January running after school in a variety of weathers and between his football training and games. Archie completed the challenge and raised an outstanding £765! What an incredible achievement Archie, we are so proud of you. You are a wonderful ambassador for LJS and a true role model for all young people.

Well done to our Year 7 girls 5-a-side team who WON the Redcar and Cleveland 5-a-side tournament on Wednesday—a brilliant performance!

Well done to our two Y7 boys' 5-a-side teams who represented LJS at the Redcar & Cleveland tournament this week. Both teams played superbly and we are delighted to have finished 2nd and 4th respectively.



SAVE THE DATE – YEAR 11 ACADEMIC REVIEW EVENING **THURSDAY 7th MARCH 3:15– 6pm**

Parent/carers of Year 11 are invited to attend a face-to-face meeting with their child's subject teachers. All parents/carers of our Year 11 will be emailed a letter soon with booking details. We look forward to seeing all of our parents/carers of our wonderful Year 11 students there!



FREE Cycling session available for 13-16 Year Olds

This half term at Middlesbrough Sports Village, in partnership with Community Ventures, utilising the fantastic Cycling facilities, there is an opportunity for teenagers to attend FREE cycling sessions during half term. This will help them learn more about the sport of cycling and take part in a range of different cycling disciplines including Road Racing, Mountain Biking, Cyclocross and Track Cycling.



Youngsters will also have the opportunity to try their hand at some cycle mechanics and learn basic skills of how to repair and maintain their own bikes. Thanks to Funding from the PCC - Spring Activity Fund we are able to offer these sessions free of charge however places are limited and must be booked in advance. Suitable for 13-16yrs, no experience necessary, all equipment provided and also food provided.

Book your spaces now : Bookings | NE Cycling Academy

Fundraising

Mrs Rowe is raising funds to cover some of the costs for a camping trip for her Jackson Club to Comondale on 17th May. First prize is a Easter egg hamper 2nd prize is a month's free membership at TNT. Students will be visiting forms to sell the raffle tickets starting from Monday 19th February.

One of our Y8 students, Mia B, is fundraising for a charity trip to Tanzania in the spring. Mia will be going round lower school form groups after the half term holidays to raise awareness of the charity work and the Guess the Sweets in the Jar competition. It is £1 per guess and payments are made by parents/carers via the Go Fund Me page—please see Mia's information flyer at the end of this bulletin for more details and the QR code that you can scan to enter.

Redcar and Cleveland Short Break Support for Families

Please see below the poster opposite advertising self-referral short breaks support. These services are available to Redcar & Cleveland children and young people with additional support needs and or disabilities, they don't need a diagnosis or to be open to social care to access. There is more detailed information on their short breaks webpage - [Short breaks for carers | Redcar and Cleveland \(redcar-cleveland.gov.uk\)](#)

Redcar and Cleveland's Short Breaks website link: [Short breaks for carers | Redcar and Cleveland \(redcar-cleveland.gov.uk\)](#)

Redcar and Cleveland's Local Offer website link: [People's Information Network | SEN and Disability \(peoplesinonet.org.uk\)](#)





Does your child have Special Educational Needs and / or a Disability (SEND)?

If yes, Redcar and Cleveland's Short Breaks Team have the following self-referral support available:

Free Stay and Play Sessions

After School, Weekend and Holidays Clubs

Free Activity Discount Cards (Max Cards)

The SEND Family Mailing List

For more information, please contact:

Shortbreaks@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk



Hello! My name is Mia and I am in Year 8. This Easter, me and my family are going to Tanzania to carry out volunteer work. We are volunteering with a charity called Go Make A Difference (GoMAD) in Tanzania. The charity helps by:

- building water tanks to collect clean rain water for families



- building goat sheds (for a scheme which donates a goat to local people to provide milk and an income)



- building clinics
- building toilet blocks for a local school
- planting trees with farmers
- providing menstrual health education
- improving malaria awareness
- assisting at a leprosy community



We hope to be involved with lots of these activities. We have never done anything like this before and we are all really excited, but nervous too! We want to raise money for the charity. I am fundraising by having a "Guess the number of sweets!" competition.

So... what can you do to help?

Guess the number of sweets in the jar.
£1 a guess (you can have more than one guess)

Scan the QR code you can put your **name, form and guess** as you donate on the JustGiving page.

Closest to the correct number wins the sweets!

I will be coming round Year 7 and 8 form groups after the February holidays to raise awareness.

