

Laurence Jackson School's *Parent Bulletin*

17th July 2026

Key Messages

We break up for the summer today and would like to wish all of our students and parents/carers an amazing break. To celebrate the fantastic year we have had, please view this [YouTube video 'LJS - A Year in Review'](#) (click to view) We look forward to welcoming students back in September. A reminder that 1st September is new Year 7 only, 2nd September is Years 7 10 and 11 only, and 3rd September we welcome all year groups back.

Students have been told that their timetables are available on Arbor during the final week of the summer holidays. In terms of how classes are organised, following on from previous bulletins, a reminder that the class codes shown on timetables are automatically generated and do not indicate a student's ability. Most classes are taught in mixed-ability, and these groups are reorganised each year. Students will usually be taught with different classmates across different subjects, and are grouped by ability in Maths from Year 7, using KS2 and internal assessment data. In Year 9, Science and Languages are also grouped to support appropriate GCSE tier entry. Teaching groups are reviewed throughout the year and may be adjusted based on academic and pastoral evidence. Further curriculum information is available on the school website. We have this week sent out a letter on class charts regarding uniform expectations - please read these important messages particularly in advance of the new year. We have also sent out this week an allergy survey - we would be grateful if you could complete this by the end of August.

Our heartfelt thanks to Mr Jerz from the Site Team, who is retiring after nearly 10 years helping to keep our school running smoothly. We also say farewell to Mrs Shaw, ENCO, who will also be retiring this summer. Mrs Shaw has made a significant contribution to our school community and has a big impact on our students and families. We wish her every happiness as she begins this exciting new chapter. Our thanks also go to Mrs Weedall, who leaves the Student Support team today. We are grateful for her help and support to students and wish her every success in the future. We would also like to offer our congratulations to Miss Lightfoot ahead of her wedding this summer and look forward to welcoming her back in September as Mrs Froom.

Happy Holidays to you all!

Mobile Phones

In line with the latest statutory guidance regarding mobile phones in schools, from 1st September, once students enter the school gates, mobile phones must be switched off and kept out of sight until they leave site at the end of the day. Phones are not permitted on site at all - they should not be used anywhere within the school building or anywhere within the school gates. Any student found using a mobile phone between 'gate to gate' will have their phone confiscated. We appreciate your support in reinforcing this expectation with your child. This will be reinforced with students in September when they return. As always, if you need to contact your child during the school day, please do so through the school office.

Safeguarding Spotlight

Over the summer holidays it's important that students keep themselves safe and where possible look out for others in need of help. Here are some helpful numbers that we have shared with students this week. If you or someone you know is in danger or who is missing, contact 999, immediately.

If you or someone you know is experiencing a mental health crisis and need immediate support, tell an adult as soon as possible who can call CAMHS crisis team on 0800 0516171 or 03000 132000 option 6. We know that lots of students will spend lots of time online over the holiday. Ensure you are SMART when you use any online platform and keep yourselves safe. Please see within this bulletin a helpful poster to support online safety.

Summer Reading Challenge

Students can choose from two reading challenges this holiday:

- Level Up - for confident readers who enjoy sustained reading.
- Training Programme - inspired by Couch to 5K, for those who are building reading stamina.

Paper copies of the forms needed for the challenges were available in school, and electronic versions will be shared on Class Charts. We encourage all students to get involved by choosing a challenge and something to read. Students who complete a challenge and share their progress in September will receive achievement points and be entered into a prize draw. Notes can be recorded on the challenge sheet or on lined paper. We will be promoting the challenges through social media and weekly updates.

LJS Careers Conference Thursday 15th October

We are currently inviting employers and post-16 providers to take part in our annual Laurence Jackson School Career Conference on Thursday 15th October 9am-2pm. We would be delighted to hear from employers from all sectors, as well as colleges, training providers and universities. If you, a family member, friend or colleague would be interested in attending, please ask them to email careers@laurencejackson.org for more information. Your support and connections can make a real difference in helping our students explore the wide range of opportunities available to them.

Youth Parliament survey

Lucy Allan from one of our Trust schools has been elected as member of Youth Parliament for Redcar and Cleveland. As part of her role, she has created some online surveys aimed at gathering independent information on uniform, particularly where neurodiversity is concerned. Please find the time to complete the short online survey by clicking on [this link](#).



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BE SMART ONLINE

S

SAFE Keep your personal information safe. When chatting or posting online don't give away things like your full name, password or home address. Remember personal information can be seen in images and videos you share too. Keep them safe to keep yourself safe.

M

MEET Meeting up with someone you only know online, even a friend of a friend, can be dangerous as this person is still a stranger. If someone you only know online ever asks you to meet up, for personal information or for photos/videos of you then tell an adult straight away and report them together on www.thinkuknow.co.uk

A

ACCEPTING Think carefully before you click on or open something online (e.g. links, adverts, friend requests, photos) as you never know where they may lead to or they may contain viruses. Do not accept something if you are unsure of who the person is or what they've sent you.

R

RELIABLE You cannot trust everything you see online as some things can be out of date, inaccurate or not entirely true. To find reliable information compare at least three different websites, check in books and talk to someone about what you have found.

T

TELL Tell a trusted adult if something or someone ever makes you feel upset, worried or confused. This could be if you or someone you know is being bullied online. There are lots of people who will be able to help you like your teachers, parents, carers or contact Childline – 0800 11 11 or www.childline.org.uk

BE SMART WITH A HEART Remember to always be smart with a heart by being kind and respectful to others online. Make the internet a better place by helping your friends if they are worried or upset by anything that happens online.

WWW.CHILDNET.COM

