

Community

The newsletter of Landau Forte Academy Amington



AMBITION • BRAVE • KIND

A productive start to the Academic year here at Landau Forte Academy Amington



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of term I am so proud to look back on an extremely productive start to the academic year. It has been fantastic to see our students working hard in lessons as well as taking part so enthusiastically in a wide range of extracurricular activities. Our young people continue to be an absolute credit to our school and to the wider Landau Forte Amington community, and I thoroughly enjoy working with them every day.

As always, I would like to thank you as well for your continued support. No school can thrive without good relationships with their students' families, and I really do value the support of our fantastic parent and carers. I have been really impressed with the great attendance we have seen at our various drop-in sessions run so far this term, and I am happy to confirm that these will continue throughout the year.

I am also delighted to share a small sample of the fantastic achievements from this term:

- Well done to our Cambridge National Sport students who, under the guidance of Ms Halifax, prepared and delivered a thoroughly engaging coaching session to students from Florendine Primary School.
- Congratulations to our amazing Ms Shirley who has achieved accreditation as a Lead Practitioner in English. This is a fantastic achievement and is recognition of Ms Shirley's commitment to the profession and our students.
- Our Careers Advisor, Ms Merryweather, worked with local businesses, colleges and our Landau Forte 6th Form to deliver a fantastic Careers Fair for our students.
- Fantastic effort from our wonderful Year 11 students, our Year 11 team and our brilliant exams team who delivered an impeccable set of mock exams – we are looking forward to the results!
- November saw the start of our breakfast club that is free to all students. The safeguarding and pastoral team welcome in excess of 80 students each morning to enjoy hot chocolate and toast to set them up for the day ahead. This will continue in the new year and we look forward to welcoming more students.
- Mrs Poole, our new Child and family support worker, has already had a positive impact supporting a number of families to access the support and information they need. Please see the academy website for information on the service she provides.continued overleaf

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Community



ACADEMY PAYS ITS RESPECTS ON REMEMBRANCE DAY



Students serving in Scouts, Guides and Army Cadet groups pay their respects on the 11th November

continued

Following this well-deserved break we are looking forward to welcoming all students back to the academy on **Tuesday 3rd January at 08.40.**

After the Christmas break we will also be launching a new Homework initiative to provide families with greater clarity around what homework their child has been set and when it is due. We will send out more details in due course, but it means that parents and carers will have much more oversight of what their child should be doing by using the EduLink app.

For the new term we will also welcome a new Subject Lead for Computer Science and a new Lead Practitioner in Science. I am also very pleased to confirm that no teaching staff are leaving the academy at this point in the year.

I would also like to take this opportunity to note that next term may bring its own challenges. As you may know, the teaching unions are currently balloting for strike action, and we shall know more about this in the New Year. Please do be assured that whatever the results of these ballots we will do our very best to remain open so that our students can attend their lessons as normal. While our usual service may be disrupted, we will do everything in our power to ensure students do not experience any issues with their education. We will of course keep you informed throughout this process.

However, for now I will finish by hoping you all have a restful and relaxing break, and I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Mr A Deen
Principal

The Academy fell silent at eleven o'clock on the 11th of November as pupils and staff paid their respects to members of our armed forces past and present.

The Last Post was sounded and a two minute silence was observed. This was followed by the sounding of Reveille. The Foyer was adorned with garlands of poppies made by students.

YR11 UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE



Year 11 Students took part in an interactive event at Harper Adams University in Newport to get a deeper understanding of the opportunities available to them and to experience University life.

The day involved CSI maths, economic trading and a tour around the campus.



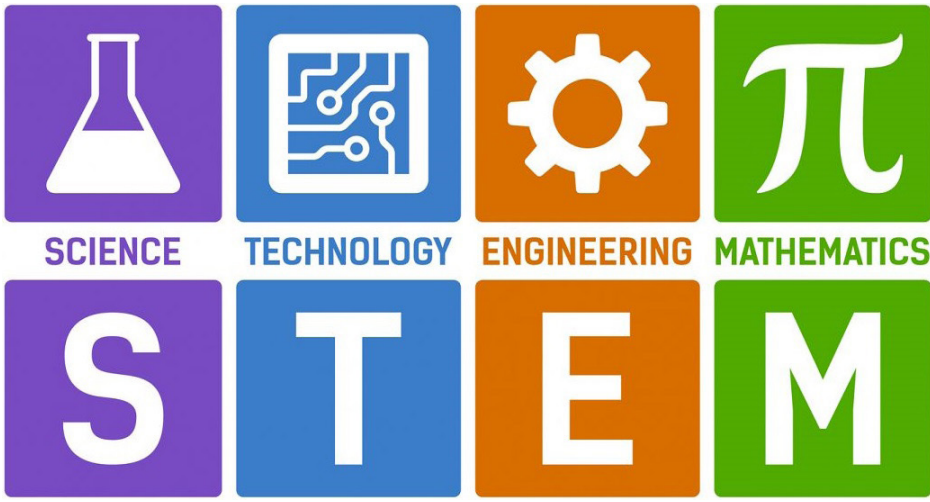
PLASTIC WATER BOTTLES

Our Student Leadership team have been working on a Climate Change project thinking about how we, as a school community, can do our bit of good for the environment.

One of the foci of this project is reducing the amount of single use plastic we use in the academy. With this in mind we will no longer be issuing students with cups to

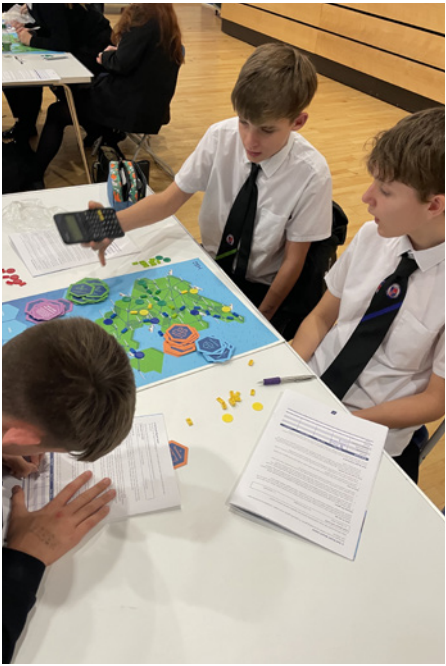
get water and will be looking at the products we sell in the restaurant.

From January, we are encouraging all students to bring their own refillable water bottles in order for them to use the water coolers in the restaurant. We would also take this opportunity to remind families that fizzy drink and energy drinks are not permitted in the academy; students should be drinking water or juice.



Year 8 students enjoyed a day with Smallpeice working on careers within the HS2 project including design and engineering.

Students had a great time and Smallpeice will be returning soon!



ACADEMY FOUNDER PAYS A VISIT



On the 25th November we were honoured with a visit from the President of Landau Forte Charitable Trust and principal Founding Sponsor, Mr Martin Landau.

Mr Landau and guests were here to celebrate our fantastic achievement in last year's Ofsted inspection. They had a tour of the Academy and met with students and staff.

He was presented with a gift of GCSE students artwork on canvas as a reminder of his visit and of the hard work and effort by our wonderful students who are a credit to our academy.

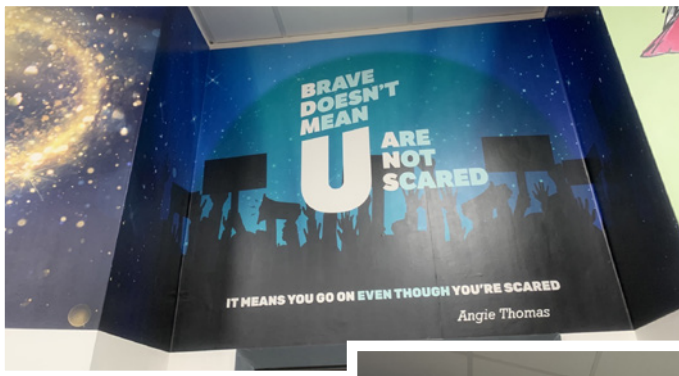
ACADEMY LIBRARY

Following the launch of our wonderful Amington Library in May we have been fortunate enough to add some wall art to this incredible space! The motivational quotes that now cover the walls come from some of our staff and students favourite books such as Matilda, Harry Potter, The Hate You Give, Little Women and The Hunger Games. All of which encompass our values of being 'Brave, Ambitious and Kind'.

Students continue to enjoy this calm space and foster a love of reading by engaging with the Amington Reading Challenge. We are so pleased to have had a number of students expand their reading choices by selecting books from different genres with the support of Miss Smith. Winners of the challenge will be awarded with book vouchers to spend! In addition, we had our first meeting with our new 'Reading Ambassadors' who are actively promoting reading around

the academy and across the curriculum. Keep an eye out for some book reviews and reading recommendations from our ambassadors around the building.

Just a reminder that the Library is open from 3-3:30 Monday-Wednesday and 'Book Club' is in E04 every A Week Tuesday with Miss Houlston and Miss Levell. New members are always welcome



CAREERS FAIR - 8TH DECEMBER

On Thursday 8th December 2022 the Academy held a careers fair in the theatre. We were excited to give our Year 9, 10 and 11 students the opportunity to explore their options after KS4 and allow them to approach employers, as well as local education and training providers.

Representatives from sixth forms, colleges, universities, training providers, employers and others were in attendance and crucially they answered any questions students might have. This allowed our students to find out more about industries they are interested in

joining and make useful contacts for the future. It also permitted them to debunk myths about particular careers, sectors and courses.



The following providers exhibited at the fair:

- University College Birmingham
- South Staffordshire College
- Landau Forte Academy Sixth Form
- King Edwards College
- Burton and South Derbyshire College
- Aston University
- Birmingham University
- Tamworth Football Club
- DWP
- Royal Navy
- St Johns Ambulance
- NHBC
- Redrow
- Central Hub Logistics
- Ask Apprenticeships
- Keepmoat Homes

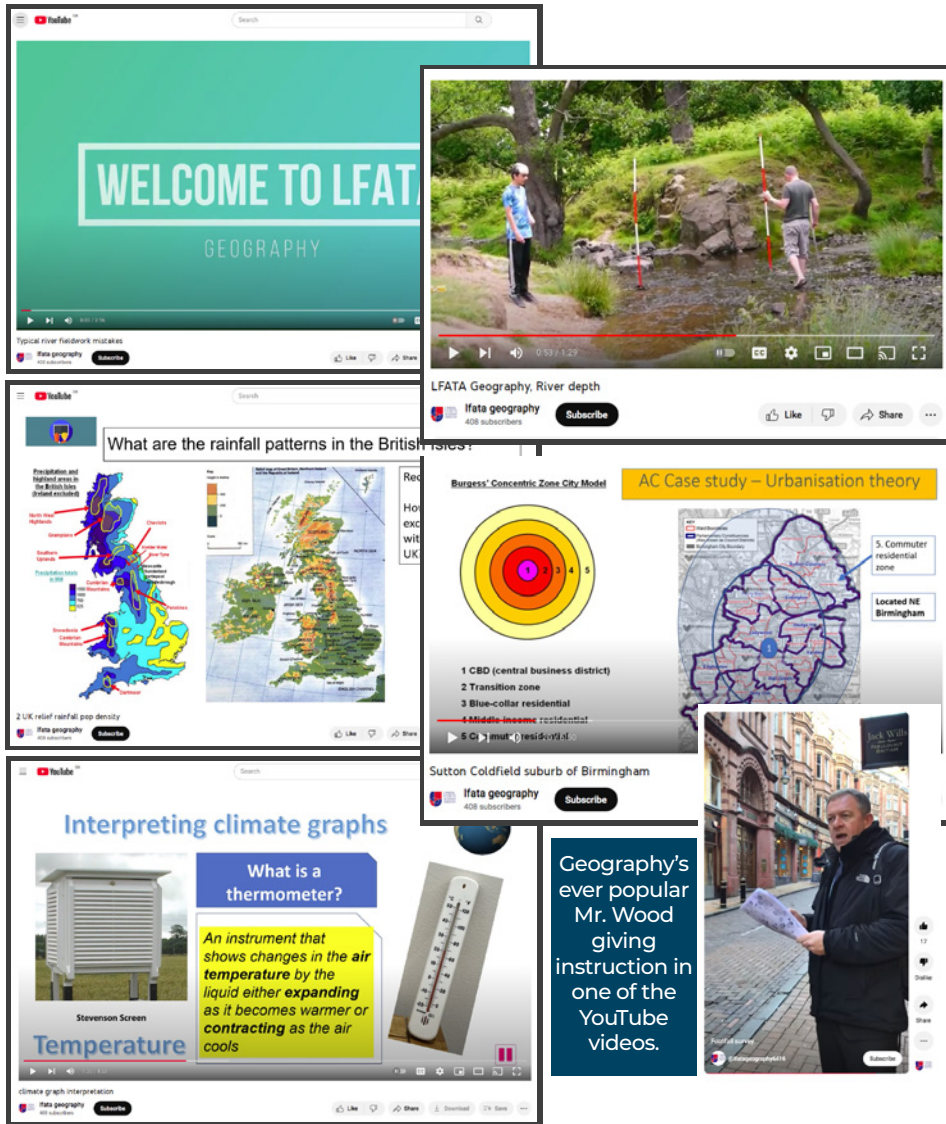


Curriculum News

GEOGRAPHY

The Geography department are celebrating another successful year of it's YouTube Channel to provide lessons and information for students.

The videos are highly successful and are proving to be an invaluable revision tool for our GCSE students. The Channel can be found [@lfatageography6416](#)



GEOGRAPHY CLUB

We will be running a range of activities such as crafting volcanoes and ecosystems, competitive quizzes (with prizes!!), scavenger hunts to test your map skills and much more.

The club is free and a fantastic opportunity to find out more about the planet we call home!



Our current project is to craft volcanoes. Year 7 are crafting a classic composite volcano while the Year 9 group are challenging themselves by crafting a destructive plate boundary so that their model shows how volcanoes are actually created.



FREE
All students welcome
8.10 - 8.35am
Toast & Hot Chocolate available
enter through the canteen doors (under canopy)

7-a side Football Tournaments

Year 7

The team played well and won the tournament on goal difference to pip Rawlett to the District Championship.

Year 8

The year 8 7 a side team played really well and threw themselves into the tournament. Despite losing their first game against Rawlett, they came back and won the remainder of the games finishing second in the tournament. Dom Clay was impressive in goal, Grayson Bell was a rock in defence and Dylan Swan was creative in midfield. Well done.

Girl's football U13 Staffordshire Cup

The girl's football team have been working hard to create a strong team. They won 6-4 in their first round of the cup and are awaiting their next opponents who we will meet at the start of January!



Rugby

Year 7

With plenty of numbers for training, the year 7 rugby team played their first ever rugby game against King Edward VI Lichfield school in very wet and dark conditions. There was lots of promising play throughout the match and as the match went on, more confidence in the tackle and the carry were shown. Unfortunately, the opposition were well drilled and the year 7 team lost. A lot of experience was gained and the team will build on this after Christmas.

Year 8 Rugby

So far the Year 8 team have played one game against Lichfield Cathedral School. They were very physical and came out winners 25 - 20. Well done

Basketball

Year 9

Basketball is back! There has been a big push to re-establish basketball within the academy. The Year 9 team played their first game against a well-established and drilled King Edwards Lichfield team. Unfortunately the team were beaten 61-2 but all of the players enjoyed themselves and a lot was learnt from the experience.



Sports Hall Athletics

Year 7 boys

Lots of good activity was shown in the first sports hall athletics for year 7. With obstacle relays, vertical jump and plenty of running on offer, there was plenty of competition against the local schools. Well done to all involved.



Inter-House Competitions

Over the past two weeks the students have been fiercely competing in House Sports Competitions. At this time, we do not have the results but the following competitions have taken place;

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Cross Country	Cross Country	Cross Country
Boys Rugby	Boys Rugby	Boys Rugby
Girls Netball	Boys Hockey	Boys Hockey
	Girls Rugby	Girls Netball
	Girls Netball	Capture the Flag
	Capture the Flag	

Extra-Curricular Clubs

As a department we are working tirelessly to bring a vibrant extra-curricular programme back into the academy. We have seen an encouraging number of students staying back after school to improve their skills and knowledge. Sports clubs are open to all students.

This term we have offered the following:

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Boys & Girls Badminton	Boys & Girls Badminton	Boys & Girls Badminton
Boys Rugby	Boys Rugby	Boys Rugby
Boys Table Tennis	Boys Table Tennis	Boys Table Tennis
Boys & Girls Basketball	Boys & Girls Basketball	Boys & Girls Basketball
Girls Netball	Girls Netball	Girls Netball
Girls Football	Girls Football	Girls Football

Curriculum News

SCIENCE

Titration experiment

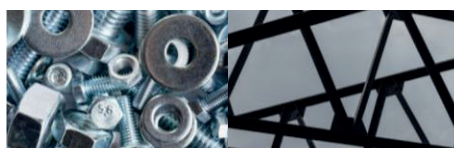
Over the last two weeks in science, our year 9's have been using a method called Titration to find out an unknown concentration of acid using a known concentration of an alkali. This method requires many skills and our year 9s have used their collaborative and communicable skills to collect accurate and reproducible results.



The technique of titration is utilised in a wide range of industries to detect and analyse different substances. For example, the process is used in food testing to discover the levels of vitamins, sugars or preservatives in foods and then provide that information for consumers to support their choice of food products to consume. Chemical companies also use titration to analyse different chemicals to use in fertilisers. This is extremely important for farmers and food production, to make sure that crops grow well and can provide all the nutrients people need within their diet.

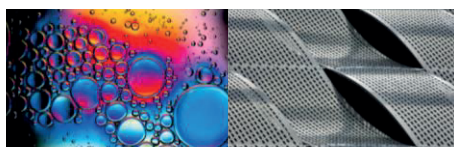


There are plenty of local companies, within the area, that utilise this technique in their food testing and chemical preparations. For example, Access Chemicals Ltd in Tamworth, Hedging Lane, offer a wide range of chemical processes and analysis. Titrations and other chemical techniques and processes are used to carry out their services.



ELECTROPLATING

CHEMICAL BLACKING



DE-GREASING & CLEANING

ALUMINIUM PROCESSES

Static electricity

Some of our students investigated how the van de Graaff works. Students were able to identify that a static charge built up in themselves when they touched this. As a result their hair stands up as each hair has the same charge and they repel each other. Static electricity is used in car factories when painting cars.



The paint is given a negative charge so they would be evenly spread. The car given a positive charge so that the paint will be attracted to the car, reducing paint loss and ensuring a good adhesion.

SCIENCE

Energy in food

Year 7 have been investigating the energy stored in foods and fuels. By burning foods and measuring the temperature increase in water placed above.

This technique is used in the food industry to measure the amount of energy in the foods that are put on sale in our supermarkets.



Each food sold will have the energy per 100g on the packaging. Companies such as Premier Foods in Stoke will carry out this experiment to measure the energy in the food.



ENGLISH



This term our KS4 students travelled to Aylesbury Theatre to watch Willy Russell's compelling melodrama 'Blood Brothers'. Throughout the performance, our students were engrossed in the tale of the two Liverpoolian twins who were separated at birth; a tale that sadly ends in tragedy.

All students were a credit to the Academy and gave excellent feedback about the performance. This experience will now be used to support the students in preparing for their GCSE examinations.



Aylesbury Theatre - venue for the production of Willy Russell's 'Blood Brothers'

ART

Photography Competition

Congratulations to all students that have participated in our annual Art Department Photography competition. This year's theme was entitled 'Festive' and was open to students of all year groups.

All entries were submitted to Mr Deen who was greatly impressed with all entries and selected this year's winning line up.

We would like to congratulate this year's Winner Sophie Growcott, Year 7. Well done to our two runners up James Cuff, Year 10 and Charlie Anderson, Year 7.

Thank you to all the wonderful entries, it was great to see so much enthusiasm from all year groups.



Runner -up
James Cuff - Year 10



Runner -up
Charlie Anderson - Year 7



The Winning Entry
Sophie Growcott - Year 7

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