

December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Christmas is here! We have been back 15 weeks, a third of the academic year has been completed and so much has happened.

Well done to all our KS4 pupils.

LeAF welcomed Mr Massey as Head of Maths back in T1. The maths department, under his guidance, have focused on improving pupil's knowledge and skills in and outside of lessons. Sparx giving students a greater focus outside of lessons. We are rising fast up through the ranks across the country and are in third place against local schools on the Sparx Leader board, well done all.

School	UK Town	%	Rank	Trend
		FSM		
Glenmoor Academy	Bournemouth	21.9	41	▲ 3
Winton Academy	Bournemouth	20.8	78	▼ 1
LeAF Studio	Bournemouth	18.6	165	▲ 54
Avonbourne Girls' Academy	Bournemouth	27.3	170	▼ 9
Avonbourne Boys' Academy	Bournemouth	27.0	248	▲ 11
The Bishop of Winchester Academy	Bournemouth	24.0	472	▼ 9
St Peter's Catholic Comprehensive School	Bournemouth	13.0	569	▼ 37
The Bourne Academy	Bournemouth	34.6	682	▼ 58

Well done to Yr11 and 13

Well done Year 11 and 13 for completing their first set of mock exams. Pupils adopted a mature approach when adhering to the strict exam board regulations and this will put them in good stead for the summer. Please remember that geometry sets, and calculators make great stocking fillers!

Inclusion team update

This half term has been incredibly busy within the Inclusion team. There has been a lot of work put into reviewing all aspects of Inclusion within school, from attendance and punctuality to behaviour and safeguarding. We have consulted staff and pupils as well as taking feedback from some parents and, as a result, Mr Clark will be contacting all parents in the final week of term to share some big changes we are making to our behaviour policy as we strive to ensure every lesson is free from any kind of disruption. In addition, attendance continues to be a top priority for the school – we are aware that there is a lot of illness around at the moment, but parents are reminded that attendance is one of the single biggest contributing factors towards pupil attainment. Simply put, if pupils are not in then they are not learning, and this will directly impact on their GCSE and KS5 grades. This includes punctuality to school – we have recently amended our policy to ensure that any pupil who is late to school is monitored and sanctioned appropriately, as again this has a massive impact on a pupil's progress in school. We are pleased to report that our renewed focus on behaviour and attendance this term has had a significant impact on reducing these incidences, but it is now our intention to continue to raise our expectations in order to give every pupil the best possible chance to perform to their potential.

LeAF Studio

Sian Thomas, BEd (Hons), CEO - AAT

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On a separate note, can I please ask parents to be considerate when dropping off or collecting pupils from school. We have had several complaints from residents about drives being blocked, parents parking on yellow lines or even parking on the zig zags directly outside the school gates. We have also had a couple of near misses involving pupils so for the safety of all our community, please ensure you are parking responsibly outside of school. Cars are not allowed in the school car park unless by prior arrangement (e.g., collecting pupils who are ill or injured) and if you are allowed on site, please do not leave your car on the pavement directly outside reception as this is where pupils come out at the end of the day. We have contacted BCP for advice about this and they will be sending Civil Enforcement Officers out to monitor the situation if we continue to have issues with parents' parking.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

every school day counts | every minute counts

0 days off school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 4 days off school each year	98%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%	Slight concern
Equates to 4 weeks off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 6 weeks off school each year	85%	Very concerned

5 days absence over the whole year | 97%-100% |
Good chance of overall exam success and progress

20 days absence over the whole year | 90% |
Less chance of success. Harder to make progress

20+ days absence over the whole year | Under 90% |
Detrimental to success and progress

LOST MINUTES

=
LOST LEARNING

5 minutes late each day = 3 days lost
10 minutes late each day = 6.5 days lost
15 minutes late each day = 10 days lost
20 minutes late each day = 13 days lost
30 minutes late each day = 19 days lost



We have received several requests this academic year for term time holidays. LeAF Studio will not authorise term time holidays and will inform the Local Authority. Pupils should aim for 100% attendance to ensure opportunities are maximised, please consider when booking a holiday during term time the impact this will have on your child's education.

If your child is due to be absent from school, please ensure you contact each day of absence by either:

- Calling 01202 578886 and leave a message OR
- If Yr9 – 11, please email studioattendance@leafstudio.co.uk
- If Sixth Form, please email LS6Attendance@leafstudio.co.uk

SEND

Linwood Campus is offering 'An Introduction to Autism and Neurodiversity for Parents.'

This session will provide parents with a basic overview of how Autism and Neurodiversity may present in children and young people.

- Information about Autism and Neurodiversity including the three areas of difference.
- Parent input "What I wish I had known."
- Young person input "My experiences."

Please note that your child does not need a diagnosis to attend this session. No charge to attend. Please email: jackiehorne@linwood.bournemouth.sch.uk for session details / availability.

Careers Engagement Opportunities

It has been a remarkably busy term regarding careers which has shown our Performing Arts Post 16 pupils taking part in auditions and workshops which were delivered by prestigious universities and colleges at LeAF Studio. Our Post 16 Sport pupils had a workshop delivered by AECC University College which gave them an insight into courses available to them after they have completed their qualification. Please go to our school website for further information.

www.leafstudio.co.uk/parents-and-pupils/careers-information/

Year 10 pupils had the opportunity to go to a Trust Careers Fayre – this was a successful event whereby several pupils discussed their future pathways in a very mature manner with a wide variety of employers.

Thank you to our career's advisor, Katherine Speed who delivers 1:1 career advice to LeAF pupils alongside the career's fayres.

Training Fund

Please find details below of LeAF Studio and LS6's Pupil Support and Training Fund. We understand that the current cost of living crisis may not allow you to be part of this, but some parent/carers have requested further information and requested to sign up, so we are sharing to all.

What are we asking for?

All we ask is that parents/carers or friends of LeAF Studio commit to a monthly payment of at least £5 – **that is just £1.25 per week**, which for the level of training pupils receive in school still represents exceptional value. If every family generously contributed at least £5 per month this would provide LeAF Studio and LS6 with a total of **£1500 per month**. Meaning on some months, Sport and Performing Arts could receive an additional **£750 per month**.

What do you need to do?

If you can do so, please set up a standing order via your online banking using the details below. If you can, please do this and help us support your young people. Thank you in advance for your support.

Bank Details for Standing Order

Please pay:

Bank: Lloyds Bank

Account Name: LeAF Studio School

Sort Code: 30-91-08 **Account Number:** 58638468

Reference: LSTF (pupil name)

Examples of recent spending include:

School Wide

- Transport coverage for academic trips
- Table tennis tables for breaktime fun
- Picnic tables for the field

Sport

- New wheeled goalposts
- New team kits
- Updated gym equipment
- Professional training from external coaches
- Trips to professional clubs and facilities

Performing Arts

- Subsidised trips and performances
- Summer production costs
- Black out curtains for the studios
- Acro mats
- Tap floor

For further details, please visit our school website.

A message from KS4 Heads of Year

Year 9: You have settled in wonderfully and are already making an impact in your specialisms.

Year 10: Well done to those of you who have already got your Work Experience sorted. Keep up the hard work in securing your placements!

Year 11: Congratulations to those of you who already have offers for College, Sixth Form and Apprenticeships and good luck to those of you with upcoming interviews!

We wish you all a restful break and look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Mr Dennett, Ms Magookin & Ms Spencer

Sixth Form Update

Our Sixth Form pupils are working brilliantly towards their BTEC and A-level course with a highlight moment recently being the MasterChef style cooking competition in BTEC L3 Sport as the pupils prepared for their upcoming Nutrition exam.



As we head towards January and the UCAS closing date, our Sixth Form pupils continue to receive offers to study and train following completion of Y13, please regularly check the LeAF Studio social media for updates and offers.

Applications for LeAF Studio Sixth Form remain open, and we welcome applicants, please share with any pupils who are currently excelling in Sport or Performing Arts as we would love to hear from them – www.leafstudio.co.uk/apply

Our Sixth Form pupils have now been issued with lanyards which should provide them with pupil discount in some retailers and online. Further to this, pupils can use their LeAF Studio email address to obtain pupil discounts on popular pupil discount apps.

Thank you to all parents who attended our Y12 parents evening, it was so lovely to share crucial progress and developmental feedback regarding your children. We would also like to say thank you to those Y12 parents who recently completed the Y12 parental feedback survey which will further support us in developing our Sixth Form.

Our Sixth Form performing arts pupils are currently working on a performance piece to support the Abby's Heroes charity event in 2023. So far Coach Rachel has managed to fundraise over £600 which is used to cover the pupil transport to the venue and the remainder being donated to the charity. A huge thank you to Coach Rachel for her dedication towards this fantastic charity and wonderful fundraising event!

From the Sixth Form team, have a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

Performing Arts

Once again, it has been an incredibly busy two half terms for our Performing Arts department, the pupils and staff have been involved in numerous performances and events and there has not been a quiet week to date. Our Sixth Form Performing Arts pupils have been visited by **D&B Academy, Performers College, Sharpe Academy, The Brighton Academy, Addict Academy and Stella Mann College** over recent weeks – they are so lucky to receive these industry professional workshops from destinations our pupils regularly attend.

Pupils from Y9, 10, 11 and Sixth Form attended the **Bournemouth Schools Association Carol Concert** and beautifully performed their rendition of Ed Blunt's song – Ed replied to LeAF on social media stating "I

am so very honoured that you chose to sing my song at your carol concert- you sounded absolutely amazing! Thanks to each and every one of you”

Our Sixth Form Performing Arts pupils have visited local primary schools with their **community theatre touring performances**, celebrating Christmas through sharing important messages for the young children to take away. Each group created a 15-minute piece and we have received wonderful feedback from the school’s we have toured too.

Further to this, acting pupils attended a production of **Blood Brothers** at Poole Lighthouse, those attending have returned with a greater understanding of the production which has supported their analysis and knowledge required for their GCSE Drama theory exam.

Our musicians had their first specialism performance, **LeAF LIVE**, held here at LeAF where seven bands shared their songs and covers to their parents and friends – what a gig! Further to this a selection of our musicians joined our partnership Sixth Form, **BAMM at their Christmas Gig** at The Old Fire Station in Bournemouth. The opportunities just keep coming and coming.

Congratulations to our Y11 pupils who have recently taken their practical exams within the specialism, securing grades and marks that will culminate towards their end of course grade in the summer.

MOVE IT is well underway with four performance pieces currently being worked on and rehearsed – we are eagerly awaiting to hear if we have secured a spot on the prestigious main stage! A huge thank you to Skrypt Costume Hire who we are working with us on our main stage costumes.

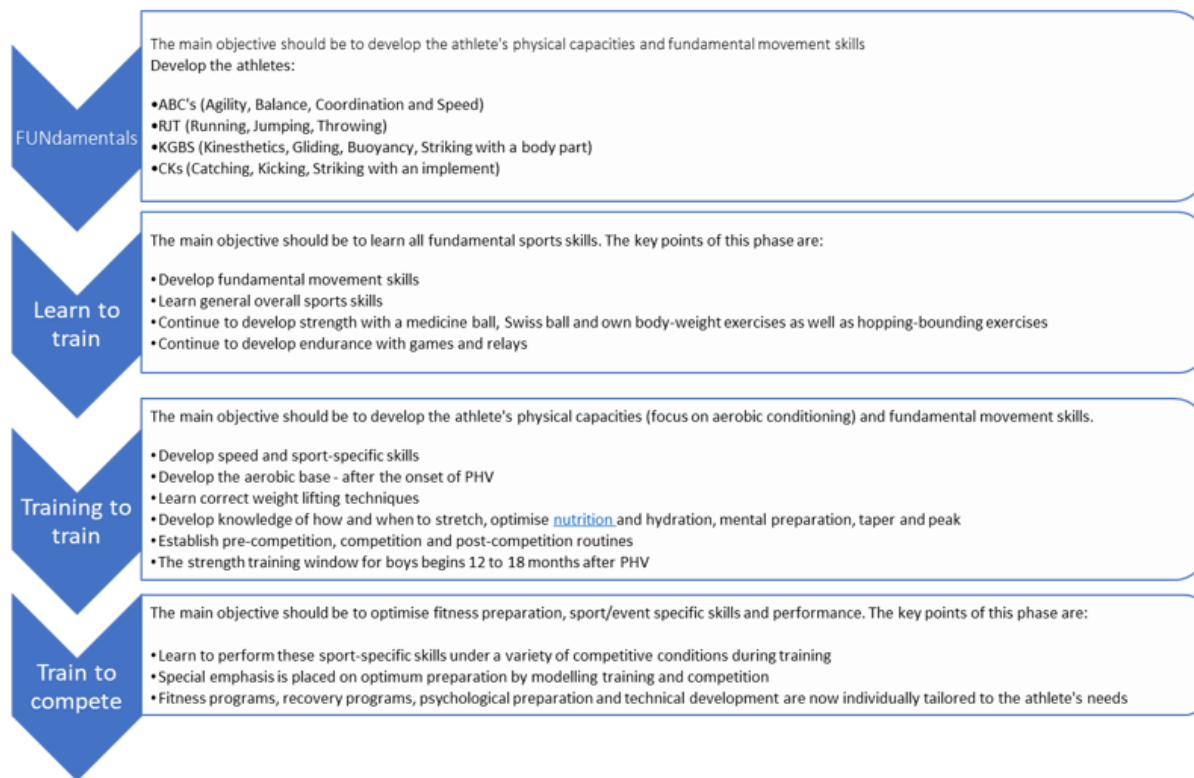
An Evening With is soon to take place, upon our return in January at Layard Theatre – tickets can be purchased via www.ticketsource.co.uk/leafstudio

As always, we look forward to bringing you more events and workshops in the new year. For now, Merry Christmas from the Performing Arts department.

Sport Specialism

It has been a busy T1 and T2 for the Sports Pupils at LeAF. Firstly, we are pleased to welcome both Mr Connolly and Mr Kowalczyk as experienced dual-career staff to our specialism. Mr Connolly comes from a professional rugby background as a player and continues to coach at the Bath Rugby DPP alongside teaching – LeAF will be fielding their first ever rugby team in the final week of term against Avonbourne, and we look to further the opportunities in rugby for our athletes in the coming months. Mr Kowalczyk recently graduated from Loughborough University with a Masters in Strength and Conditioning along with his undergraduate in Sports Science and brings further depth and knowledge to our elite athletes to further their marginal gains at the high levels they continue to compete.

Both Mr Connolly and Mr Kowalczyk have comprehensively updated our S&C programme within school formalising a clear Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) Plan which all pupils will partake in. Most pupils have mastered the FUNdamental movements within sport and have now progressed onto a ‘training to train’ programme for the remainder of the year. Our High-Performance athletes will progress onto a ‘Train to Compete’ programme which will be led by Mr Kowalczyk in High Performance sessions timetabled in the week.



The Sport Specialism has also seen a wide range of pupils representing LeAF at a variety of sports over the first two terms. Our Football teams have gained much success in National and County cups with both Year 9 & 10 Boys, U15 & U16 Girls teams reaching the Last 16 stage already in some of the competitions already! Both the LeAF Year 9 Badminton Boys and Girls A teams were victorious in the Bournemouth Badminton League which was a great achievement. Thank you to Mr Wong who accompanied the table tennis team at the Dorset Games earlier this month too! We are looking forward to competitive fixtures in Indoor Cricket, Handball, Volleyball and Basketball after the Christmas holidays.

Individual successes include Ryan O in Y13 who finished second in the World U23 Biathlon Championships this year, Drew B in Y12 who finished 5th in the U18 European Championships in Powerlifting. Ollie D in Y12 also competed at the Junior European Golf Open recently in Spain and has been selected in the Southwest England Golf U18s squad. Y9 Akai Carter-Bell qualified for the England Schools Skiing Finals. If you have any further sports news that we can celebrate, please do email into the sports department on dan.evans@leafstudio.co.uk.



Academically, our pupils have been progressing well in their studies. Year 9 have been developing their leadership and coaching skills in preparation for primary school visits in 2023 – well done to the pupils who attended the Leadership Academy at Bryanston and putting your newfound skills into practice! Congratulations. Year 10 have begun their practical assessment recording in Badminton and Football for GCSE PE and Year 11 BTEC Pupils are working through their 6-week training programme in lead up to Christmas. KS5 pupils have been working hard in preparation for their four exams in January – good luck to you all and make sure you keep up the revision over the break!

Careers wise, we have had visits from AECC, Solent University and took our Year 12 Pupils to Loughborough University. In 2023, we have trips to University of Bath, UCFB and Winchester University in the pipeline along with guest speakers across a variety of sports industries to run workshops and speak to our pupils.

The Sports Department wish all of LeAF's community a fun-filled Christmas break and we look forward to helping our pupils work off the excess mince pies in January!

End of term and start of T3 arrangements

Please remember LeAF will close at 12:15pm on Friday 16th December. School coach and minibuses have been re-arranged.

School re-opens to Year 11 on Tuesday 3rd January at 8:35am with all other year groups attending from Wednesday 4th January at 8:35am.

Future Dates:

- Tuesday 3rd January
 - Inset day – only Yr11 pupils on site
- Wednesday 4th January
 - Yr13 live BTEC PA exam
- Wednesday 11th January
 - Yr13 live BTEC PA exam
 - Yr12 live BTEC Sport exam
- Thursday 12th January
 - Yr11 Parent Consultation Evening (online)
- Monday 16th January
 - Yr13 live BTEC Sport exam
- Tuesday 17th January
 - Flu vaccinations
- Wednesday 18th January
 - Yr13 live BTEC Sport exam
- Thursday 19th January
 - Yr13 Parent Consultation Evening (online)
- Friday 27th January
 - An Evening With KS4
- Saturday 28th January
 - An Evening With LS6
- Monday 30th January
 - Inset day – only Yr11 and Yr13 academic pupils on site

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Yours faithfully



Mrs N Lapskas
Principal