

Dates for the Diary

Settling Event

Monday 2nd October 2023: 4pm - 5pm

Lower Academy Year 6 Open Evening

Thursday 5th October 2023: 5pm - 7pm

Upper Academy Sixth Form Open Evening

Thursday 5th October 2023: 5pm - 7pm

Literacy & Numeracy Information Event

Monday 16th October 2023: 4pm - 5pm

Half Term

Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October 2023

Student Value of the Term

BLACK LIVES MATTER

House Points - Week Ending 15th September



2201
AUSTEN



2056
HAWKING



1951
ALI



1818
SEACOLE

Message from Headteacher

It has been a very busy week at the Lower Academy. I was delighted to visit lessons and see lots of students aiming for excellence with brilliant behaviour and exceptional quality of work. Year 9's were producing fantastic work in Art; their observational skills were amazing. Year 8's were getting to grips with ghosts in English, studying gothic literature while our Year 7's were developing their physics knowledge of forces.

Year 9 students engaged in careers workshops delivered by guests from the Department of Work and Pensions, where they had the opportunity to share aspirations and goal setting for the future.

On Tuesday, Football Beyond Borders (FBB) delivered assemblies to our Year 7 and 8's to inform them of their role within the school and discuss the extra-curricular opportunities available. FBB have worked in partnership with the Lower Academy for over a year now, supporting students in a mentoring role, helping them develop skills and attitudes to help them thrive. I was incredibly proud to see students who are part of the FBB programme, help deliver the assembly with FBB mentors, explaining why it is so important to them. I look forward to seeing the great work and impact FBB have this year.

On Friday an intrepid group of Year 9's visited Layer Marney Tower as part of an outdoor teambuilding day. Whilst back at school, the field was full of fun; Year 8 and 9 students were finally able to enjoy their golden ticket rewards event that was postponed from the Summer term. Students enjoyed themselves on inflatable activities and were eager to tell me how much they had enjoyed themselves. There will be further rewards events later in the academic year.

Please can I remind you all, as the weather is set to get cooler, that all students should arrive to school in full school uniform, including ties and jumpers (Year 7 and 8) and blazers for Year 9.

Mrs L.Sherman

Settling Event

Monday 2nd October 2023: 4pm - 5pm

Parents and carers can make an appointment to see a member of our Academy staff to discuss how their child is settling in and to raise any queries or concerns you may have as we start this Academic Year. Tours of our facilities are also available.

To make an appointment please visit the [Contact Us](#) page via the Basildon Lower Academy website and select the option for General Enquiries.

If you would particularly like to meet with a member of our SEND, Safeguarding or Attendance Teams, please make that clear in your request.

Open Evening

Thursday 5th October 2023: 5pm - 7pm

The Basildon Lower Academy will be welcoming students, parents and carers who will be transitioning to secondary education in September 2024. There will be an opportunity for visitors to tour the schools facilities, speak to key members of staff and meet our Headteacher, Mrs Sherman.

A complimentary minibus will be available for any of our visitors wishing to visit our Upper Academy.



Literacy and Numeracy Information Event

Monday 16th October 2023: 5pm - 7pm

Members of staff from all of our departments will be available to showcase and demonstrate how they promote and encourage Literacy and Numeracy skills within their subjects. As well as having example resources to take away, all of our staff will be available to answer any queries you may have.

All staff will be based in department areas on the Lower site; no appointment is necessary.

Football Beyond Borders

Year 9 students, who have been taking part in the Football Beyond Borders (FBB) programme, recently shared their experiences with their peers through a series of assemblies.

The assemblies were hosted by Lois.N, Harry.B, Riley.W, Zack.E and Reace.G, alongside FBB mentors Shona and Ryan. Our students described the different activities and learning that they have participated in throughout the last year and answered questions from students in the audience.

The Football Beyond Borders programme uses the power of football to help enable young people to achieve their goals & make their voices heard. Our FBB students are now in their second year of the programme and one of the aims of the assembly was to encourage fellow students about joining. (Places are limited.)

"I am really enjoying the Football Beyond Borders programme, because it is a place where I can enjoy myself and become a better person. I want to inspire young people to come to FBB because it will help give them an opportunity to work with the fantastic mentors." Harry.B

Well done to our FBB students who have shown fantastic engagement in the programme and for helping to present an engaging assembly to all year groups.



GOLD - RIGHTS RESPECTING

Wellbeing is prioritised for everyone in the school. As well as extensive curriculum content, the leadership have funded Wellbeing Centres on both sites. This support was spoken of very positively by students. Some have timetabled access but "There are break and lunchtime drop ins... anyone can go for help with any problem... it's very accessible."

Unicef RRSA Accreditation Report Gold: Rights Aware - July 2022

Home Learning

If you have any queries regarding home learning, including access issues or, to celebrate the work your child has completed at home, please visit the [Contact Us](#) page via the Basildon Lower Academy website and select the option for Home Learning/Homework.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding our students is at the forefront of everything we do. Parents and carers can access information via the following link www.escb.co.uk which offers guidance and signposts to resources on various safeguarding issues. Please contact our safeguarding officers if you have any concerns about your own child or another student at the Academies.

www.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/safeguarding

Volunteers for Educational Visit Chaperones

In order to support our ambition to get every learner onto an offsite visit this academic year, we are looking to create a team of parent and carer volunteers to be chaperones for our trips.

Each volunteer would be subject to Disclosure and Barring Service checks (DBS) completed through the school and, would undergo onsite safeguarding training with a view to being called upon when we need additional support with ratios of parents to students for school trips.

If you would be interested in registering for this support service and have availability during school time, please visit the [Contact Us](#) page via the Basildon Lower Academy website and select the option for General Enquiries.

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

Leaders model the importance of openness and building strong relationships with parents and the whole staff team have bought in to this. There is an embedded culture of seeking to be equal partners with parents.



Leading Parent Partnership Award

2023-2026

Uniform Exchange Scheme

If you have uniform that your child has outgrown, please bring it in and see if there is something in the exchange shop that has been donated that you can simply swap your item for. We are still gratefully receiving donations of blazers, shirts, trousers and PE kits that are in pre-loved condition and these can be donated via the reception office on either site.

Please remember, the Uniform Exchange shop is located at the Lower Academy, is open from 8am – 3:30pm Monday – Friday and is accessible via the school office.

Student Nurse Drop In

If students are worried about their health, would like a confidential chat or would just like to find out more about how our school nurse can help them, the nurse can be found:

Every Tuesday
Breaktime

Location: The Lower Academy Wellbeing Centre



Absence Procedures

To report a student absence please visit the [Contact Us](#) page via the Basildon Lower Academy website and select the option for Attendance.

- Parents/carers should contact the school by 8.30am each day their child is absent.
- If no reason has been received for a child's absence, the Academy will initiate first day calling.
- Parents/carers must provide medical evidence to support all absences due to illness or medical appointments.
- Wherever possible parents/carers should make appointments outside of school hours but if this is unavoidable students should attend school before and after the appointment.
- If no appropriate medical evidence is provided then the Academies cannot authorise an absence. (ie. medical appointment card, prescription, doctor's letter.)

For further information and guidance regarding attendance and absence please visit our website:

www.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/attendance



Inflatable Rewards Day

Last week, some of our Year 8 and 9 students enjoyed a fun packed day of inflatable activities as a reward for last year's good attendance, behaviour and positive credits.



Year 9 Inspired by Careers Workshop

The Lower Academy recently welcomed Andrea & Matt from the Department of Work and Pensions, who delivered careers assemblies & engaging workshops to our Year 9 students.

The main topics of the workshops included 'Setting yourself goals' and 'Future aspirations'. During the assemblies, our visitors discussed how the subjects students choose to study can link to their chosen career paths.

"This assembly has made me think that if want to get a job in the acting profession I need to follow my goals and believe in myself and ability. My confidence has grown a lot and I will try and achieve my goal." Evie-May.S

"To get the job you want you have to concentrate and work hard. The workshop made me realise that you don't 'just go for it' you need to build up over time and aim for the job you want to have." James.W

"When I leave college, I would like to become an artist and possibly design logos. Most things you really want will take time and effort to achieve." Amber.J



There has been a heavy emphasis on the training and development of staff to support them in supporting students. Examples of this include extensive whole staff training in Trauma Perceptive Practice (TPP) and ensuring all key pastoral staff are mental health first aid trained to enable them to triage student need effectively.



Wellbeing Award
for Schools

2022-2025



**WORLD'S BIGGEST
COFFEE
MORNING**



**MACMILLAN
CANCER SUPPORT**



On Friday 29th September the Basildon Academies will be taking part in the Macmillan Coffee Morning.

During breaktime a selection of cakes & biscuits will be available for students & staff to purchase in the Dining Hall. Each cake or biscuit will be 50p each, with all proceeds going to the cancer support charity.

Purchases will be made through ParentPay in the normal way.

Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels

