

Dates for the Diary

Christmas Dinner (Free for all students)

Year 7 - Tuesday 12th December

Year 8 - Wednesday 13th December

Year 9 - Thursday 14th December

Parent Forum Meeting - Venue: Upper Academy

Tuesday 12th December 2023 - 4-5pm

Winter Wonderland Christmas Fayre

Tuesday 19th December 2023 - 3:30-5pm

Last Day of Autumn Term

Wednesday 20th December 2023

Student Value of the Term

NO HUMAN IS ILLEGAL

House Points - Week Ending 8th December



12,636
ALI



12,145
HAWKING



11,685
AUSTEN



11,680
SEACOLE

Leadership Message

Lower Academy students have been involved in STEM workshops over the past two weeks to immerse themselves in the wonderful world of science. With expert guidance, our students worked in groups to build, and programme motorised Lego robots to successfully navigate a set path across a map of the solar system. They also had an opportunity to fly drones and see how they function! All our students demonstrated excellent teamwork, perseverance and the ability to problem solve.

Our School Choir have been rehearsing this week for their debut performance at The Brentwood Centre on Wednesday, the 13th of December. They will be accompanied by Essex Youth Orchestra; it will certainly be a wholesome and festive event.

I have also seen some fantastic creative work in RSHE classes, some beautiful reading within English lessons and some culinary delights been produced in Catering!

Lastly, our Year 8 students paid tribute to Dr Benjamin Zephaniah this week after being informed that he sadly passed away. Students at the Lower Academy study his play 'Refugee Boy' as part of their Drama Curriculum.

E.Cahill
Deputy Headteacher



Non-uniform/Christmas Jumper Day 20th December

All students are invited to take part in this year's Christmas Jumper Day on the last day of term, Wednesday 20th December.

The Basildon Academies are raising money for Save the Children so we ask that a donation is made from all students participating in non-uniform. Staff will be at the front door with collection buckets to greet the students as they arrive.



There are 32 external agencies that the school have been successful in engaging to deliver provision through their wellbeing centres in addition to their own programmes and this is all carefully mapped and evaluated.



Excellence in Pupil
Development Award

Drone Coding Workshops

Last week, students across all year groups took part in a series of drone coding workshops. Our students demonstrated excellent teamwork to successfully code complex flight patterns of their drones.

"I really enjoyed learning to code the drone using controls on the laptop. I also learned how coding could help us access higher earning jobs with more opportunity for progression." Annie.R - Year 9

"The coding workshop was interesting because we could programme the drone to perform different tricks." Olivia.D - Year 8

"Programming the drone to do flips and move in different directions was interesting and fun. We could also see the view from the drone via it's built in camera." Boglarka.B - Year 9

"I found the drone experience really engaging. I was quite surprised how quickly the drones flip." Harrison.S - Year 8

"The drone workshop was amazing. I learned how to code and discovered different career opportunities involving programming." George.C - Year 9

"Learning how to code the drone to do stuff was a lot of fun." Jenson.B - Year 9



THE BASILDON ACADEMIES WORD OF THE DAY

11th December- 15th December 2023

Monday:
(UNICEF Day for Change)

Modification: പരിഷ്കരണം (parishkaranam) in malayalam
the state of being modified; partial alteration.

Tuesday:

Transformation: تبدیلی (tabdeeli) in Urdu
change in form, appearance, nature, or character.

Wednesday:

Variation: вариации in Russian
a different form of something; variant.

Thursday:

Alteration: wax ka bedelid in Somali
a change; modification or adjustment.

Friday:

Revolution: rewolucja in polish
a sudden, complete or marked change in something.

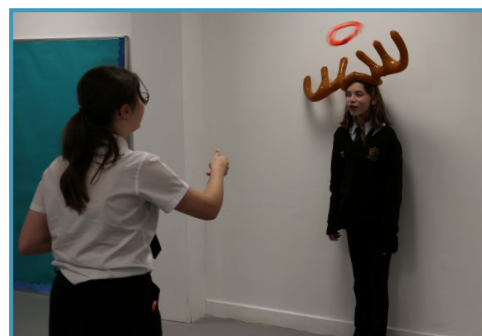
Winter Wonderland Christmas Fayre

We are delighted to announce that we are holding our annual Winter Wonderland Christmas Fayre at the Lower Academy on Tuesday 19th December 2023. The event is open to all parents, carers, families and students and will take place from 3:30 – 5pm.

Preparations are well under way; students are creating fun games and stalls in a bid to raise the most amount of money with all donations going to our chosen charity, Save the Children.

The Lower Academy Choir and Dance Club students have also been busy rehearsing for their live performances during the event. Hot food and drink will be available to purchase throughout the event and superb raffles prizes to be won.

We look forward to families joining us and getting into the festive spirit.



Students and staff have been busy preparing decorations and activities for the Christmas Fayre.

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

Free Online Counselling Service

www.kooth.com is a free, confidential, safe and anonymous way for young people, aged 11-26, to ask for help from a team of highly qualified and experienced counsellors and support workers.

Kooth is a well-established, award winning online counselling agency and is accredited by The British Association of Psychotherapy and Counselling (BACP).

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 Wellbeing Centre



Aspire - Believe - Achieve

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 must 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

 Essex County Council
Education

GOOD TIMEKEEPING



What to do the night before:

Get everything you need for school ready



Set your alarm allowing plenty of time

Make your lunch and drink if you bring a packed lunch to school



Turn off devices half an hour before bedtime

Have a good night's sleep - a minimum of eight hours!



Five minutes late per day soon adds up to three days of lost school time



Christmas Dinner

Year 7 - Tuesday 12th December

Year 8 - Wednesday 13th December

Year 9 - Thursday 14th December

Main Meal Options

Roast Turkey & Pigs in Blankets
Cauliflower Pithivier
Vegan Wellington

Served with: Roast Potatoes, Carrots, Peas,
Brussel Sprouts, Yorkshire Puddings,
Stuffing & Gravy

Dessert Options

Christmas Pudding
Mince Pies
Chocolate Yule Log
Mini Blackforest Gateau
Jelly

Christmas Dinner comes with fresh
fruit juice & a Christmas Cracker

Christmas Dinner is free to all of our students

Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels

