

Dates for the Diary

Parent Forum Meeting

Tuesday 31st October 2023: 4.30-5.30pm

UK Parliament Week

Monday 6th - Sunday 12th November 2023

Armistice Day

Saturday 11th November 2023

Anti-Bullying Week

Monday 13th - Friday 17th November 2023

Year 7 AP1 Assessments

Monday 20th - Friday 24th November 2023

Student Value of the Term

**NO HUMAN
IS ILLEGAL**

House Points - Week Ending 20th October



3525
AUSTEN



3238
HAWKING



3141
ALI



3001
SEACOLE

Message from Headteacher

The last week of term was an extremely busy week at the Basildon Lower Academy. Students engaged in a variety of activities and workshops which supported their personal development and growth. PSHE lessons focused on Hate Crime Awareness Week, where students engaged in discussions centred around the 5 protected characteristics and what constitutes Hate Crime, and the consequences associated with it.

Year 9's embraced the opportunity to develop their knowledge and understanding surrounding digital careers and diversity, when they were visited by colleagues from Mastercard. The practical nature of the workshop fully engaged our students, developing their team building skills and knowledge of different workplaces, both of which will help them in the future.

We also had a visit from West Ham United midfielder Abbey-Leigh Stringer, who gave an insight into her own experiences and how she developed the resilience to overcome personal barriers to ensure she could become the best that she could be in her field. I'm sure her advice has inspired many of our students who got to meet her.

And finally, our students have been celebrating Black History Month. In addition to focused reading lists and 'words of the day', the Student Voice group independently planned and ran a Cultural Fayre which celebrated their different cultures. I am incredibly proud of all our students who were involved and look forward to seeing their plans to grow this celebration into another school wide event in the coming year.

L.Sherman



The academies have built very strong links with external partners which enhances the wellbeing provision they have available to students. Much of this provision is delivered for them on site by external partners through the wellbeing centre.



Wellbeing Award
for Schools

2022-2025

Hate Crime Awareness Week

During this year's Hate Crime Awareness Week, students learned about the severity and consequences of showing prejudice and hostility to others.

As part of Enrichment lessons, students discussed the importance of the 5 protected characteristics and looked into police statistics, including how many people have been convicted of a Hate Crime.

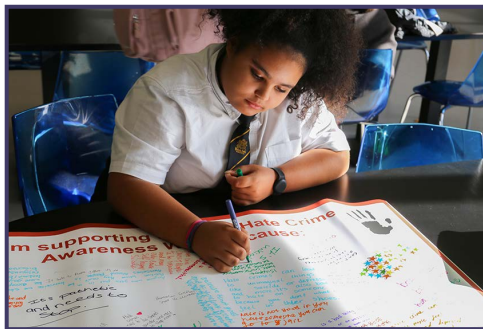
Students wrote messages of support on giant posters that will be displayed prominently around the school.

"It is important to stop Hate Crime, racism, sexism and anti-religion. Everyone should be described by their personality." Maddison.A - Year 7

"We were taught about the consequences and punishments for people who commit Hate Crime, it is not a suitable expression for anger." Annie.R - Year 9

"Hate Crime is a really bad thing because people can get really hurt." Maisy.P - Year 8

"A Hate Crime is absolutely unacceptable under any circumstance." Deividas.R - Year 9



Digital Careers and Diversity in the Workplace

Year 9 students recently participated in a workshop centred around digital careers and diversity in the Workplace; led by representatives from Mastercard.

During the workshop, students learned about the importance of being digitally literate and that having a healthy knowledge and skillset in a digital world will open the door for multiple career paths.

Our guests spoke about the significant advantages of a diverse workplace and how it draws on different experiences and viewpoints which strengthen a work force.

To demonstrate their teambuilding skills, our students participated in a project management role-play activity.

"The workshop was fun. I plan to be an IT Technician and a lot of the discussions were centered around the future of technology in the workplace." Deividas.R

"I enjoyed the workshop; it helped me understand that digital careers are not limited to Coding and Cyber Security. We learned about different career opportunities and how to pursue them, which is particularly important in the growing world of AI (Artificial Intelligence) and the Metaverse." Annie.R

"This was a very good insight to potential career routes I could look into. It was great taking part in the team building task too." Isabelle.P



Students Celebrate Black History Month

This month, Lower Academy students had the opportunity to dance to Caribbean music, read African poetry and share their thoughts on why celebrating different cultures is important to them.

Members of our Student Voice organised and led a Cultural Fayre with games, music and lots of authentic tasty snacks. Stalls, created by our students showcased traditional items which are important to their cultures, including Nigerian Waist Beads, West African clothing and traditional Caribbean board games.

Students in our SEND department focused on 'words that empower us', 'celebrating our differences' and explored different cultures and traditions within the black community.

Following the success of the event, students attended the drop-in session to contribute to the 'I have a dream wall' and sharing the things they have learnt and, how they would like to make a difference.

"We ran a stall with African food and drink for people to try. We also organised activities for visitors to take part in, including a matching flags to a countries game, word searches and drawing activities. It was a huge success." Feyi.B - Year 8

"The stalls were very successful, and a lot of students loved it. I really enjoyed helping." Maisy.P - Year 8



Students meet West Ham United Footballer Abbey-Leigh Stringer

Lower Academy students were recently given the fantastic opportunity to meet West Ham United Women's midfielder Abbey-Leigh Stringer.

During a Q&A session, Abbey-Leigh shared her life experiences and spoke about overcoming personal barriers and fears.

Students also took part in a workshop led by Madi Hooper, West Ham United Foundation Education Officer. The theme of the workshop was resilience, and the group worked as a team to act out choices they would make in problematic situations.

"I enjoyed learning about how Abbey-Leigh has overcome obstacles to get to where she is. I also enjoyed asking her questions." Riley.W - Year 9

"The experience of meeting Abbey-Leigh was fun, and she gave us all a signed photo. She taught me to try hard and never give up." Beau.L - Year 9

The visit was part of the Premier League Inspires programme and organised in conjunction with the West Ham United Foundation, who currently work with our students, delivering 1:1 mentoring sessions.



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



The admin team on both sites are welcoming to visitors and parents and have access to the new EAL translator tools which enable them to speak to each parent or child in their own language when needed.



Leading Parent Partnership Award

2023-2026

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.

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



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

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.

Free Fruit at Breaktime



Students can choose an item of fruit from the till area in the Dining Hall at breaktime each day.

SPOOKTACULAR FOOD

TO CELEBRATE HALLOWEEN THE DINING HALL WILL BE SELLING 'FANG-TASTIC' CAKES & BISCUITS AT BREAK & LUNCHTIME ON TUESDAY 31ST OCTOBER



ALL CAKES & BISCUITS WILL BE 50P EACH

To celebrate Guy Fawkes Night the Dining Hall will be serving fireworks themed food at break & lunchtime on Friday 3rd November



Catherine Wheel Cookies 50p each



Firework Cookie Pops 50p each



Bonfire Cupcakes 50p each

Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels

