



Shropshire
Gateway
Educational Trust

Lacon Childe School

...more than just a school

Headteacher – Stuart Weston
Deputy Headteacher – Rachel Croxton-Broome



01 October 2025 (Week A)

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we enter week five of what is a long first half term, it has been good to see that our students are getting back into the routines of the school. During the first half term we are working on some of the routines that we want to happen consistently within the classrooms at Lacon Childe School. We are concentrating on the start of lessons to make sure that students are able to start working as soon as possible, this means when they get to their classroom, their teacher will be waiting, and the work will be ready for them as they enter the room. It may be surprising how much time can be lost at the start of the lesson, just a one-minute delay for each lesson means that students lose just over 16 hours of learning in a year, more than three days. We are also working on some learning behaviours, firstly asking for students to listen quietly when the teacher or other students are talking. This means that all of the students in the class get the opportunity to listen to their teacher or other students without distractions, meaning they get the most out of the lesson. Finally, we ask students to work silently during deliberate practice, essentially when they are completing tasks set by the teacher. This does not mean that all of our lessons are silent, collaboration is an essential part of learning and practical activities require communication between students. However, there is a large amount of research that shows we lose concentration when there are distractions, and we find it difficult to focus on a task. Asking for students to be quiet when they are working on tasks gives all students the opportunity to fully concentrate on their work.

Key Stage 4 course information evening

Last week we held the Key Stage 4 information evening which provided an introduction to our GCSE courses. There were presentations from members of staff including a focus on study skills, the importance of attendance and specific course information from English, Maths and Science. If you were not able to attend, the presentation from the evening is attached.

Term Dates

Please find the finalised term dates for the academic year 2026-2027 attached, these are also available on our website.

Cake competition to celebrate European day of languages

Last Friday we were inundated with cakes that had an international theme. There was a great number of cakes to choose from and the winners, including staff will add points to their House. Everyone enjoyed eating the cakes on Friday and there was enough to be able to have some on the following Monday too.



Sports Results

On Thursday 25 September, Lacon hosted Ludlow School for a fixture night full of competitiveness, teamwork, and excellent sportsmanship from both schools. Our Year 10 and 11 girls gave their all against a very strong side in netball, improving with every quarter, but sadly losing their first Three Counties League game. Congratulations to Molly Hickman and Dotty Owens who were recognised by their teammates as Players' Player! Well done to our Year 10/11 football, who drew 1-1, and our Year 8 boys' rugby team, who drew 4-4 in their game. We look forward to visiting Ludlow with more netball, football, and rugby on 16 October!

Lacon Cup Football Year 9

A massive well done to our Year 9 boys who represented the school superbly in our first Lacon Cup Football 5 a side tournament, coming up against some competitive schools in Tenbury and Bishops Castle. We got to the final against Tenbury after impressively winning the group games by beating both schools 4-0 and 5-0-. In the final we drew 0-0 and went straight to penalties which was a great test in which we unfortunately fell short. A great tournament which tested our resilience and our togetherness. Player of the tournament agreed by all teachers went to William Hopkins showing outstanding technical ability.

Lacon Childe PTA AGM

The Lacon Childe PTA AGM and wish list meeting will be held on Tuesday 14 October at 6pm on Teams. Anyone is welcome to attend. Please email laconchilde_pta@outlook.com if you would like a Teams invite.

Last academic year, the Lacon PTA spent £20,094.46 on 27 school projects. Some examples include: a new sound system for the school hall, two new cookers, coach transport to the theatre, new lighting in the drama room, vouchers for the post GCSE celebration evening, GCSE PE books, two new sewing machines, English books, a tumble dryer and much more!

Funded October half-term farming/environment/digital media workshops

Building on the work that they have been doing with the Hill Stories project, Piece of string media have been commissioned to deliver a series of funded outdoor workshops for families and young people in partnership with Vibrant Shropshire as part of the This is Shropshire Festival. They are collaborating with Cath Landles from Shropshire Hills National Landscape and local farmers. These are small-group one-day sessions from 10.00am-3.30pm.

Each group will explore a farm in the Shropshire Hills National Landscape, learn about what and how they farm, and how they work with the environment, and capture and share what they experience using photos, sound and video, working on iPads. There are two workshops during October half-term. Please see the flyers attached for more information.

Thank you for your continued support.

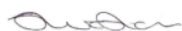
Attachments

[Term Dates 2026-27](#)

Shropshire Farming [1](#) and [2](#)

[GCSE Information Evening](#)

Yours sincerely



Stuart Weston
Headteacher

Dates to remember:

Thursday 9 October
Thursday 16 October
Friday 24 October:
Monday 3 November:

Intervention Evening – Year 11 (Invite Only)
Settling in evening – Year 7 only
Last day of term
Return to school

Love Lane, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire DY14 8PE

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The Shropshire Gateway Educational Trust