

19 March 2025 (Week A)

Dear Parents/Carers,

During this week's assemblies we have announced the appointment of our new Head teacher, Stuart Weston, who will start with us in September 2025. Mr Weston brings the leadership experience, educational expertise and commitment needed to continue to drive Lacon Childe forward and ensure that all students get the very best education. He has over 10 years of experience as a senior leader, is an experienced SENCo, pastoral lead and has a proven track record of school leadership and improvement. Between now and September there will be a series of opportunities for Mr Weston to be in our school to transition into his new role and prepare for September. There will be an opportunity in the summer for you, our parents/carers to meet Mr Weston and we will keep you updated about this.

Sparx Maths Homework

If students are struggling either with finding the time to complete their maths homework or with a question that they have found difficult, maths homework support is held in room 11 every Monday. This is a change from the Tuesday support session. Students can come and get some help or just get on with their homework and there will always be a member of the maths department there to help. This week we are launching an inter year group competition based on Sparx maths so students can help their maths class win by getting their homework done!

Year 9 consultation evening

Just a reminder that we are holding our year 9 consultation evening on Thursday 27 March from 4.30pm-7.00pm. You can book your own appointment times with teachers via the Arbour App. Please see attached letter for more information.

Online safety: online relationships & dating apps

Dating apps have grown rapidly in popularity since their introduction, transforming the way many people meet and form new relationships. Whilst these platforms are typically restricted to an audience of over 18s, there are still children and young people attempting to make use of them and exposing themselves to serious risks - from online harassment to abuse. As a parent/carer, it can be daunting to navigate this complex and ever evolving landscape, and to know how best you can support and protect your child who may be accessing dating apps. Please see attached a guide which breaks down the risks associated with these platforms and offers expert advice on how to safeguard children from such online safety concerns.

Aosta 2025

Last week 36 students and 4 members of staff headed to Pila, Italy for the Lacon Childe School Ski Trip 2025. Early on Sunday morning we flew from Birmingham and travelled from Geneva to Pila, arriving at the Hotel Miage just in time for dinner. That night students met our ski rep, Fez, a lovely Australian who was great at getting us excited about our trip before settling into their rooms, organising their ski gear and preparing for their first day on the slopes.

Monday morning dawned and we headed to ski fit where students were equipped with boots, skis and poles before heading up the mountain to meet their ski instructors. Stepping out of the gondola we found near perfect conditions. Blue skies, sunshine and fresh snowfall the night before – we could not have wished for better. The first morning the instructors spent time assessing students' skills and arranging groups to best suit the different abilities. After that there was no stopping our students. By the next day even those who had never been on skis before were headed up the mountain on chair lifts and gondolas away from nursery slopes

to tackle routes and runs to challenge their new skills. A group of students who were more experienced skiers found themselves on mogul runs and finding piste side jumps with their Argentinian instructor, Juan.

In the evenings we were able to walk into the town of Aosta to do some sightseeing and visit a local ice cream parlour, we had a night bowling and also an 'all you can eat' pizza night at a local restaurant. Each evening students wrote nominations for 'doughnut of the day', mostly given for spectacular crashes and muppet moments, with the winners for that day having to wear some suitably daft hats to identify them the following day.

As the week continued the progression made by Lacon Childe students was unbelievable. All students were able to ski red runs with one group even progressing to complete the hardest black runs. Thanks to the hard work of our instructors and the resilience of the students, all students had gained an impressive new set of skills. It was a pleasure to see them take on the challenge and support each other through the highs and lows of learning a new skill whilst being away from home.

As Friday afternoon arrived, after one last snowball fight and hot chocolate, we loaded forty weary bodies back onto the coach to Geneva headed back to Lacon Childe School.

The 2025 trip will be remembered for many things. More lost gloves and goggles than ever before.....more snow than we had ever hoped for.....no vegetables for dinner.....skiing in the clouds.....more doughnuts of the day than ever, the list goes on. However, the biggest stand out was the exceptional behaviour and good humour of our students. They were a pleasure to travel with and ski instructors, hotel staff and members of the public in airports all commented on what a credit they were to our school. Lastly a big thank you to the members of staff, Mr Roff, Mrs Stokes and Mr Blair for all of their hard work over the week supporting our students. A special thank you goes to Mrs Harding for organising and leading our ski trip, your hard work is very much appreciated.

The ski trip runs every two years. The next trip will be in March 2027 and will be launched in September 2025.



Year 7 Rugby – County Championship

Lacon's Under 12 rugby team showcased their skills at the county championships, demonstrating impressive teamwork and determination throughout the tournament. In the group stages, the team started strongly, securing a convincing 5-2 victory against Church Stretton. Their momentum continued with a narrow 1-0 win over Adams Wem, followed by a hard-fought 3-2 triumph against Prestfield. Notable performances came from players Noah, Nate, and Jay, whose contributions were vital in achieving these victories.

The semi-final saw the team facing Burton Borough, where they delivered an outstanding performance, winning decisively with a score of 5-0. Henry, Harvey, and Charlie stood out with their exceptional skills and teamwork, helping propel the team into the final. However, in the championship match, Lacon Childe faced a formidable opponent in Abraham Derby. Despite their best efforts, they fell short, losing 3-1. The team displayed great resilience and sportsmanship throughout the tournament, making their school proud. Overall, our Under 12 rugby team demonstrated remarkable talent and potential, and they can look forward to building on this experience in future competitions. Well done boys!



Year 7 and 8 House Matches – Football and Netball

There was an amazing atmosphere at our Year 7 and 8 house matches last Thursday when our students turned out in huge numbers to represent their houses in football and netball. Our students were a credit to the school, displaying many of our Lacon ME values and their level of sportsmanship was outstanding! A massive thank you goes to our parents/carers for allowing your child/ren to stay after school to participate and to Isla Caldicott, Molly Hickman, Ellena Lewis and Emilia McKellop (our Y10 sports leaders) for umpiring the netball games. In addition, I would like to thank Mr Adams, Mrs Aldridge-Buhton, Mrs Guise, Mr Hillman, Miss Martin and Mr Wood for their help and support in organising and running the event.



Comic Relief

On Friday 21st March we will be holding a non-uniform day and various activities all in aid of Comic Relief. Please ensure your child's clothing is suitable for school. This means no cropped or strappy tops. Underwear should not be seen and skirts or shorts are appropriate school length. In addition, any boots worn should not have steel toe caps. Full details are attached

PTA Race night

A reminder that our race night is taking place this Friday at 7pm. Please see attached flyer. If you are unable to attend, please consider showing your support by buying a horse for £5. Full details are attached for you.

Attachments

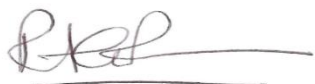
[Online relationships and dating](#)

[Race night flyer and information](#)

[Year 9 Consultation evening - reminder](#)

[Comic Relief 2025](#)

Yours sincerely



Rachel Croxton-Broome
Head of School



Ruth Allen
Consultant Executive Headteacher

Trips and Shop Payments

The following are available on Arbor to make payment

Item	Information	Payment Due
Year 7 KS3 Design Technology Contribution	Voluntary Contribution	
Year 7 London Trip		01/04/25
Year 8 Arthog Trip		21/03/25
Year 9 DofE payment	£50	07/04/25
Year 9 French Trip		01/04/25
Year 10 Poland Trip		03/03/25
Year 10 GCSE Fine Art Contribution	Voluntary Contribution	
Year 10 GCSE Materials Contribution	Voluntary Contribution	
Year 10 History Revision Guides		
Race Night Tickets		21/03/25

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The Shropshire Gateway Educational Trust