

15th May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Summer 1 Week 4

Year 11 – First Full Week of GCSE Examinations

A huge congratulations to our Year 11 students, who have this week completed their first full week of GCSE examinations. They have approached every paper with maturity, focus and resilience, and the way they have conducted themselves around school has been a real credit to them, their families and our community. We have been so impressed by their calm determination and the support they have shown one another in the corridors, exam hall and revision sessions.

There is still some way to go, and we would like to remind families of the importance of routine: a good night's sleep, a proper breakfast, plenty of water and a quiet space to revise will all make a real difference. Please do continue to encourage your child to attend the after-school revision sessions on offer. Year 11 – keep going, we are so proud of you.

Change to Year 11 schedule - Tuesday 19th May

Next week, the exams continue at pace and Year 11 are expected to be in school every day for either exams or revision. On Tuesday 19th May, English Literature Paper 2 takes place at 9am and after which, most Y11 students will be allowed to leave site between 11.30am and 12.15pm. This applies to all students *except those who study Computer Science* as their Exam paper 2 is at 1.30pm. To support them, they will have a break after the English exam followed by an additional Computer Science revision session, lunch and then sit their exam in the afternoon.

Year 10 – Religious Studies GCSE Paper 1

Well done also to our Year 10 students, who this week sat Paper 1 of their Religious Studies GCSE. This is the first formal GCSE paper many of them have completed, and they should feel rightly proud of reaching this milestone. Pupils settled quickly, worked hard throughout, and represented themselves and the school superbly. Thank you to the Religious Studies department for the thorough preparation in the lead-up to the exam, and to families for your support at home. We look forward to celebrating the results in the summer.

Summer Term Careers Newsletter

We are delighted to share our Summer Term Careers Newsletter with you, attached alongside this letter. There is a great deal to celebrate, including the huge success of our very first Take Your Child to Work Day for Key Stage 3, the launch of College Sampling Days for this year's Year 10 pupils, our involvement in the Wigan MEGA Hub pilot, the inspiring Changemakers event at The Brick Community Stadium, and a wonderful update from former local pupil Rebecca Williams, now a PhD researcher at Cambridge.

If you work in engineering, law, technology or the creative industries and would be willing to support a future careers fair or enrichment day, we would love to hear from you. Please contact our Careers Co-ordinator, Clare Ashton, on AshtonC@lowtonhs.wigan.sch.uk

 **CARING, LEARNING
AND SUCCEEDING**

Drop-off and Pick-up

Could I please take this opportunity to remind all parents and carers to be considerate of our school's neighbours when dropping off and collecting children, particularly on and around Clayhill Grove. We have received concerns from local residents regarding parking across driveways, blocking access, and turning in private entrances. Please can we ask that you park considerately and legally, and leave residents' driveways clear at all times.

Year 9 Residential at Low Bank Ground

Some of our Year 9 students have enjoyed a fabulous few days at Low Bank Ground this week. They have enjoyed water sports, ghyll scrambling, tales around the campfire and, at the start of the week, group 1 had the privilege of witnessing the Bluebird K7's return to Coniston Water after 70 years. We're delighted that the students had all of these great opportunities this week and are very grateful to Mrs Ashton and Mr Glynn for making it all possible.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Yours sincerely
Jane Galbraith
Headteacher



WELCOME TO OUR SUMMER TERM NEWSLETTER!

TAKE YOUR CHILD TO WORK DAY

KEY STAGE 3

HUGE SUCCESS!

90% ENJOYED THE DAY

67% WENT IN PERSON

89% WOULD DO IT AGAIN

This year we launched our very first Take Your Child to Work Day for Key Stage 3 pupils and the response from our school community was fantastic. Pupils visited workplaces across more than 20 sectors, from hospitals and construction sites to film studios and Warrington Wolves.

The results from our pupil survey make for wonderful reading.

PUPILS WHO TOOK PART IN PERSON REPORTED GETTING FAR MORE OUT OF THE EXPERIENCE!

PLEASE SIGN Y10 PUPILS UP NOW FOR JULY 1ST!

SUCCESS & NEXT STEPS

Following pupil feedback, TYCTWD will become an annual event.

We are also planning to extend it to Year 10 in July.

Next year we will also provide Year 10 pupils with the opportunity to complete TYCTWD in September annually, and to complete a week's work experience in the summer term.

We will provide further guidance for parents hosting pupils at their place of work.

COULD YOU SUPPORT US WITH CAREER FAIRS OR ENRICHMENT DAYS?

We are especially keen to hear from anyone working in engineering, law, technology, or the creative industries. Please contact our Careers Lead at careers@lowtoncofe.co.uk

WORK EXPERIENCE GAVE ME...

Understanding of working life: Pupils described a real sense of what a working day looks like and how hard a job can be.

Practical skills: Communication, financial literacy, organisational skills, trades, and more.

Career awareness and self-knowledge: Many pupils confirmed or revised their career aspirations. One decided teaching 'wasn't for them' – itself a valuable outcome.

Character and confidence: Patience, resilience, and confidence were frequently cited as personal gains.

PUPIL VOICE AND FEEDBACK

PUPILS SAID...

Yr 9: 'I'm very glad I had the opportunity. It was a really good experience of what work will be like.'

Yr 8: 'I loved it. I was offered a Saturday job but I live too far away.'

Yr 9: 'It taught me just how hard a real job is – although I greatly enjoyed the day.'

Yr 7: 'I hope we do it again next year. I really learnt quite a bit and met new people.'

Yr 8: 'Honestly, probably the most fun I've had. I wish I got the chance to stay longer.'

Yr 9: 'I got a great sense of achievement. It was amazing being in the outdoors all day.'



INSPIRING FUTURES AT THE CHANGEMAKERS EVENT!

We had a wonderful day at The Brick Community Stadium with Year 10 girls as part of International Women's Week activities. Our pupils took part in the inspiring Changemakers event. It was a joy to see them speak with amazing women from a range of High-Profile careers (Law, Football, Rugby, Business and Event Management), learning about their journeys and discovering exciting possibilities for their own futures. After a shared lunch, our pupils enjoyed fun, hands-on workshops that encouraged teamwork, creativity, and confidence.

WHAT AN INCREDIBLE ENRICHMENT DAY! ED2 SPRING TERM 2

Our school was buzzing as we welcomed Regional and Local employers and industry experts for our second Careers Fair of this academic year. From interactive stalls (AA, Jet2.com) to hands-on demonstrations (DYSON Engineering), our pupils have been busy exploring a huge range of future pathways.

A massive thank you to our guest speakers (Fire - John Harding, BBC - Kate Lamb, EQ! Finance - Keith Thompson, GMMH NHS - David Bibby, Believe in Your Future Wigan Council, DIAS - Charlotte Braidwood, HOBY UK and Musician Charlie Aky) who shared their inspiring career journeys and gave our students a real-world look at life after school.

Whether it's apprenticeships, university, or heading straight into the workforce, the future is looking bright!



EXCITING NEWS!

EKO STEM back at Lowton!

We were delighted to welcome back EKO STEM to Lowton, with an inspiring session led by Claire Garside. Our KS3 pupils explored hands-on activities that sparked curiosity, creativity, and problem-solving. It was wonderful to see them engage with new ideas and grow in confidence as young innovators.

Thank you to Eko STEM for a joyful and motivating experience.

Lowton now part of Wigan MEGA Hub

Lowton are one of only 6 schools in the Wigan area to be invited to take part in the MEGA Hub pilot phase. Students don't just hear about Tech careers – they experience them – hands on, in a real college environment, like real professionals do!

FROM LEIGH TO CAMBRIDGE!

We hosted a very special guest: Rebecca Williams, a Cambridge University PhD researcher and former local Leigh student!

Currently completing her PhD in Neuroscience and specialising in dementia research, Rebecca is proof of what our local students can achieve.

She chatted with our pupils about her life at Cambridge and careers in Science & Research.

Rebecca shared her journey from school to Winstanley College to Oxford onto Cambridge University to complete her PhD.

It's always inspiring for Lowton pupils to see our community's talent giving back to the next generation.

SAMPLING FOR YEAR 10

We are entering a busy and exciting time for Year 10 pupils who will be taking part in a College Sampling Days at local colleges. Pupils have visited Wigan & Leigh College in March and have the choice to visit Winstanley, St John Rigby, Warrington & Vale Royal and Priestley College over Summer Term.

Reminder!

Any Questions?
Speak to your Form Tutor or visit the Careers Team in G6.

Mrs Ashton & Mrs O'Hara-Moore
are here to help!

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UNIVERSAL FRAMEWORK

