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The Lowry Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

Weekly Parent Communications



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Principal's Notes

Dear Families,

I hope this letter finds you well. The weather has certainly become much more seasonable, and autumn is very much in the air. We've had more than a few downpours this week, so may I kindly remind children to bring a coat to school each day. If the heavens open on their way in, it can make for a very uncomfortable morning in soggy uniform!

For PE lessons, staff always make careful decisions depending on the conditions. If the weather is very bad, we move lessons indoors where possible. If it's only a light shower, teachers will decide whether to pause briefly for shelter or to continue safely outside. Please be assured, your child's wellbeing is always at the heart of these choices.

Over the coming weeks, we'll also be talking to students about winter bugs and viruses, and the importance of good hygiene. We're encouraging everyone to wash or sanitise their hands before eating, which can really help to prevent the spread of unpleasant sickness bugs. To support this, we'll be placing additional hand sanitiser around school – a little reminiscent of the COVID days – but purely to help keep everyone as healthy as possible during the winter months. I know I'd much rather clean my hands than deal with one of those nasty bugs!

In this week's mailing, you will find our updated Quality of Education newsletter. In it, we share some key highlights from the classroom and across the curriculum. We've also just relaunched homework for all students this year. Please do support your child in ensuring deadlines are met – and remember, we have classrooms open at lunchtime and after school to help with Spark homework completion.

We've included a Year 7 update too, so that our new families can get a flavour of what their sons and daughters have been up to. A big thank you to Mrs Smith, our Transition Lead, for putting this together.

Finally, a word for our Year 11 families. Our students have made a fantastic start to their final year of GCSEs. I've been particularly impressed with their commitment to Period 6 lessons and their excellent attitude overall. Well done, Year 11 – keep it up!

Thank you as always for your continued support. Please do take the time to read the attached letters carefully, as they contain important information for you and your child.

Warm regards,
Claire Coy





Content List

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Class of 2030

A fantastic start for our new Year 7!

We've had a fantastic start to the term with our new Year 7 students, and we wanted to share some of the exciting things they have experienced in their very first week at The Lowry Academy:

- Arriving on time each morning, looking smart and prepared for lessons at morning line-ups.
- Getting to know their Form and their Form Tutor and practising learning how to tie a tie!
- Reading *After The War* by Tom Palmer – we're especially looking forward to welcoming the author into school later this term.
- Attending their first assembly with Mrs Coy, our Principal and Mr Travis, their Head of Year.
- Finding their way around school and arriving promptly to lessons, helped along by transition music between classes.
- Exploring a wide range of subjects: from *What is Geography?* and expectations in P.E, to Mime and Movement in Drama, Singing and Learning Notes in Music and starting their Design Technology rotation.
- Receiving library passes from our school Librarian, Mrs Mason, giving them the chance to choose books they're interested in and enjoy some quiet reading time.



Food, Glorious Food – It has been wonderful to see so many of our new students making the most of our **Breakfast Club**, which is free for all students every school day from 7:30am to 8:15am. Bagels have also proved to be a popular choice at morning break, and Year 7 have enjoyed extended lunchtimes as they settle into their new routine. Our 'Spicy Chicken and Chips Friday' was a particular favourite!

A message from our Principal, Mrs Coy...

"I've been so impressed that so many of our new students have been awarded Golden Tickets and Value Cards for demonstrating our school values, having such a positive attitude to learning a new routine, and excellent behaviour in lessons and on the corridors. What an amazing start Year 7!"



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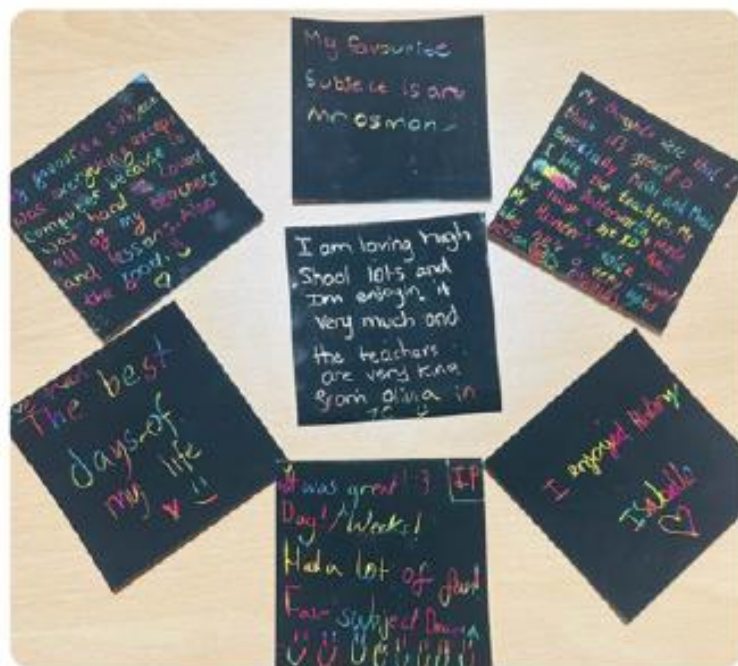
This week, all Year 7 students have completed tests to help us understand their reading age. This ensures every child is taught at the right level for their academic ability and allows us to provide additional support where it may be needed. We know this is a big change for them, and they are doing so well adapting to their new environment.

We have also been really impressed with their confidence and resilience as they quickly learn to navigate the school building, arrive to lessons on time, and ask for help when they need it.

Making new friends takes courage, and it has been wonderful to see how friendly and welcoming this year group has been. There will be even more opportunities to build friendships during form time, lessons, break times, and from next week, at our after-school clubs.

"A fantastic start for our new students – I am incredibly proud of them and all they have achieved so far. We'll continue to work on timekeeping, resilience and organisation. It's been a pleasure getting to know Year 7!"

Head of Year, Mr Travis



Half Term Challenge

From time to time, we will be asking for the support of our parents/carers - and this is one of those times.

Homework will be allocated to every student each Friday, starting on **Friday 19th September**, with a deadline of **4pm the following Friday (26th September)**. Each child will therefore have a full week to complete their homework.

We kindly ask for your support in helping your child establish this new routine. All students have been given their school email address and password, and they have already practised logging into the school system so they are ready to access their **Sparx homework** for Maths, Science and English.

Additional support is also available in school at breakfast, during morning break and lunch, and after school in **L8**.

If you have any questions about any aspect of your child's first year at The Lowry Academy, please don't hesitate to contact Mr Travis (Head of Year 7) or Mrs Smith (Transition and Community Lead) via Ask Lowry (ask.lowry@lowryacademy.org.uk).

Quality of Education

Curriculum Spotlight



Our students have made a fantastic start to the new school year. Year 7 have settled in exceptionally well, embracing academy life with enthusiasm and showing great maturity as they begin their secondary school journey. At the other end of the school, Year 11 have returned with focus and determination, fully committed to making the most of their crucial GCSE year. Across all year groups, we continue to drive forward our vision of a 'Culture of Excellence', where high standards, hard work, and ambition ensure every student is supported to achieve their very best.

Grammar Stream



We are delighted to announce the launch of the Grammar Stream at The Lowry Academy. The Grammar Stream offers a rigorous, knowledge-rich curriculum, with high expectations and tailored opportunities to stretch students' thinking and achievement across all subjects. This exciting development reflects our commitment to ensuring every child fulfils their potential, and we look forward to working with parents and carers to support and celebrate the success of our Grammar Stream students. The Launch Event will take place on Tuesday 30th September, and those students who have been selected will be informed very soon.

MiSST



We are excited to share that The Lowry Academy has joined the Music in Secondary Schools Trust (MiSST) programme, which will provide every Year 7 student with their very own instrument (trumpet) to keep and learn. Students will be receiving their instruments in the coming weeks, and we will be holding a special Launch Event to celebrate this fantastic opportunity for our young people. This marks the beginning of an inspiring musical journey for our students, and we look forward to welcoming families to join us in celebrating this milestone. More information to come!

Mastery



KS3 students will soon take part in weekly Mastery sessions designed to strengthen their long-term memory and make sure key knowledge really sticks. These sessions revisit and review core concepts regularly, helping to combat the "forgetting curve" so that students retain essential knowledge over time. This approach builds strong foundations for learning and supports success across all subjects. Students will be provided with a knowledge organiser, which they should use at home weekly to self-quizz on the information they will be quizzed on in the following week's Mastery. Your support with helping your child to prepare for this on a weekly basis is appreciated!

Celebration Station



Our Celebration Station is held every Tuesday and Thursday lunch time. This is an opportunity for all students to show us work that they are proud of and talk about this with our Student Leaders. The focus next week is work that shows a strong start in all subjects with a focus on independent practice.

Home Learning



Homework isn't about "more work" - it's about better learning.

- **+5 months' progress:** Pupils who regularly complete homework make, on average, five months of additional progress (EEF).
- **Improves memory** – revisiting work after class makes it easier to recall later.
- **Boosts understanding** – gives you extra practice so knowledge "sticks" better.
- **Closes gaps** – gives you a chance to catch up if something didn't click in class.
- **Encourages resilience** – working through challenges builds problem-solving skills.

Homework will start from Friday 12th September with completion by 4pm the following Friday (Thursday 8am for Year 10).

Recommended Reads

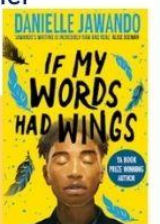


Values link: **Resilience**



KS3
D-Day Dog

By Tom Palmer



KS4

If My Words Had Wings

By Danielle Jawando

Author Tom Palmer will be in school on Thursday 25th September.

Rewards & House System

Points Update

House Points:

Pankhurst
7,564

Kingsley
7,752

Delaney
7,533

Turing
7,069



Attendance Points

Year 7

4,298

Year 8

5,150

Year 9

2,362

Year 10

3,887

Year 11

5,810



Golden Tickets

Year 7

1,035

Year 8

1,290

Year 9

900

Year 10

1,020

Year 11

735



Values Cards

Year 7

425

Year 8

255

Year 9

165

Year 10

100

Year 11

175

Total points this year = 31,937

Rewards & House Reminders

Upcoming house events this term:

Thursday 11 th September	Games on yard/Pods
Thursday 18 th September	House Dodgeball
Thursday 25 th September	House Tower building challenge
Thursday 2nd October	Games on yard/Pods
Thursday 16th October	House table tennis
Thursday 23rd October	House Family fortunes

Students can visit **The Celebration Station** every Tuesday and Thursday to share their fantastic work and collect Golden Tickets.

They can enter our raffle by posting their **Values Cards** in the blue post box to enter every Tuesday and Thursday.

Students can take part in our **weekly house events** to collect house points.

Rewards & House System

Celebrating success this week!

Well done to our top 20 students who have the most house points this year so far, and a special congratulations to Year 8 who are leading the way with this!

1,000 house points needed to get your bronze award!

Student	Year	Points
Koben V	8	206
Nyasha K	8	205
Esther A	8	197
Olly L	8	193
George P	8	192
Evan S	8	155
Clinton L	8	141
Somayah S	8	136
Hillary A	8	123
Lacey H	8	98
Nataniel C	8	96
Emily D	8	92
Ching Nam C	8	90
Omar I	8	89
Mikiyas T	8	89
Ali I	8	86
Hameedah H	7	83
Penelope R	7	80
Shah, Viha S	8	79
Maya S	11	77

Dates for your Diary

Please make a note of the following dates, further information will be sent to families closer to specific events:

Date(s)	Relevant to	Event
Monday 15 th - Friday 19 th September	Year 7	English and Maths Baseline Assessments in lessons
Tuesday 16 th September	Year 11	Parent Information Evening
Monday 22 nd - Friday 26 th September	All Families	European Languages Week
Thursday 25 th September	All Families	Author Tom Palmer Visit
Friday 26 th September	All Families	European day of Languages
Tuesday 30 th September	Year 11	Deadline for final payment of Y11 Residential
Thursday 2 nd October	Parents of Y5/6 Students	Open Evening
Thursday 2 nd October	All Families	National Poetry Day
Friday 3 rd October	All Families	INSET Day - School Closed to Students
Friday 24 th October	All Families	School closes for half-term at 3pm
Monday 27 th - Friday 31 st October	All Families	Half term