

# The Basildon Upper Academy Newsletter

25th September 2023

## **Dates for the Diary**

Macmillan Coffee Morning Friday 29th September 2023

**Settling Event** 

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023: 4pm - 5pm

**Upper Academy Sixth Form Open Evening** Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023: 5pm - 7pm

**Progress Information Event**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023: 4pm - 5pm

**Half Term** 

Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October 2023

#### Student Value of the Term

# BLACK LIVES MATTER

## House Points - Week Ending 22<sup>nd</sup> September



### **Leadership Message**

Safeguarding our children is always a priority, whether we are a parent, guardian or a professional working with them day to day. Sometimes this task can be overwhelming, so it is so important that we work together to do this. I would like to introduce our safeguarding team at the Basildon Upper Academy:



Mrs V.Oddy Basildon Academies Trust Designated Safeguarding



Mrs S.O'Neill
Deputy Safeguarding Lead



Miss J.Stoddart
Deputy Safeguarding Lead
Alternative Provisions

Together, with all of our staff, we are here to offer support and guidance to our students and wider community. This is something I hold particularly close to my heart as I have been part of local our community for over 50 years; I myself, my children and countless family members have attended our founding schools, Barstable and Chalvedon and later the Academies.

The Safeguarding page on our school website offers lots of advice and guidance on current issues that you may have questions about, this includes advice around County Lines, Knife Crime and Exploitation: www.basildonupperacademy.org.uk/safeguarding

If you would like to share any concerns or have any questions, you can contact us at: safeguarding@basildonacademies.org.uk

Mrs S.O'Neill

Deputy Safeguarding Lead & Senior Student Development Leader

### **Jack Petchey Achievement Award Event**

Congratulations to Upper Academy students and staff who have recently been honoured by the Jack Petchey Foundation in recognition of their outstanding achievements.

Our award winners were invited to a special ceremony at the Towngate Theatre along with representatives from local schools. The prestigious awards were presented to our deserving winners by the Mayor of Basildon.

During the event, the cast of Matilda Jr performed an extract from the show.

The scheme is a reward and recognition initiative which enables schools and youth organisations to celebrate the achievements of their young people as well as receive additional funding. Over the course of the school year, students are nominated for the award in recognition of either a major achievement, notable progress or overcoming difficulty. Teaching and Support staff are nominated for their outstanding leadership. Recipients of the award also received £300 which can be spent towards resources for the school or funding school visits.

"The event was inspirational because every winner received an award for something that was unique to them. I enjoyed the evening and am proud to have received the amazing award." Hemanti.S - Year 11

"Not only was the ceremony eye opening and inspirational, but it was self-affirming. It made me believe that no matter where you come from, your successes are just as important! It was an honour to be there." Macy.M - Year 13

"The event was a great experience that I enjoyed with my family and friends. I felt proud to represent the school with my peers." Sabaun.A - Year 11



















### **Settling Event**

#### Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2023: 4pm - 5pm

Parents and carers can make an appointment to see a member of our Academy staff to discuss how their child is settling in and to raise any queries or concerns you may have as we start this Academic Year. Tours of our facilities are also available.

To make an appointment please visit the <u>Contact Us</u> page via the Basildon Upper Academy website and select the option for General Enquiries.

If you would particularly like to meet with a member of our SEND, Safeguarding or Attendance Teams, please make that clear in your request.

## Sixth Form Open Evening

#### Thursday 5th October 2023: 5pm - 7pm

On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October we will be welcoming prospective students looking to join our Sixth Form. There will be opportunities to see our A Level, BTEC and Traineeship courses that are available.



## **Progress Information Event**

Monday 16th October 2023: 4pm - 5pm

Year 10, 11, 12 & 13 parents & carers are invited to the Upper Academy to meet with our Senior Leadership Team, as they provide information on GCSE, BTEC and A Level Assessments. This will include how to support students at home with revision timetables, what to expect regarding examinations, both at mock stage and final summer assessments, collect resources to support revision for the first assessment point, and as tips for how students can support their wellbeing during this time.

Appointments are not required.

#### Students of the Week

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded Student of the Week for week commencing 18th September 2023.



Year 10 - Megan.L (R10X2)



Year 11 - Elizabeth-Marie.N (R11U2)



Sixth Form - Myleene.D (R1213)

## **Spotlight on: Esports - BTEC Level 3**



Do you enjoy gaming? Do you love the idea of competitive gaming and the challenge of difficult games? Would you like an understanding of how the professional Esports industry works? Perhaps you'd like a career as a professional gamer or to study Esports at university? Endorsed by The British Esports Association, the Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Esports will give you a solid foundation in understanding how the Esports industry works.

Equivalent to one A Level, and as part of our Esports pathway, this qualification can only be studied alongside two other qualifications worth 1.5 A Levels each, such IT or Computing.

Full course information can be found by visiting the following link on our website: <u>BTEC Level 3 Esports</u>

# Safeguarding

Safeguarding our students is at the forefront of everything we do. Parents and carers can access information via the following link <a href="https://www.escb.co.uk">www.escb.co.uk</a> 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.basildonupperacademy.org.uk/safeguarding







There has been a heavy emphasis on the training and development of staff to support them in supporting students. Examples of this include extensive whole staff training in Trauma Perceptive Practice (TPP) and ensuring all key pastoral staff are mental health first aid trained to enable them to triage student need effectively.



Wellbeing Award for Schools

2022-2025

## 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 Wednesday Breaktime

Location: The Wellbeing Centre



## **Free Online Counselling Service**

www.kooth.com is a free, confidential, safe and anonymous way for young people, aged 11-26, to ask for help from a team of highly qualified and experienced counsellors and support workers.



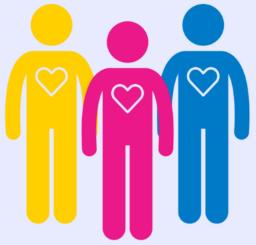
Kooth is a well-established, award winning online counselling agency and is accredited by The British Association of Psychotherapy and Counselling (BACP).

# Young Carers Club

# Mondays

Year 10: 3pm-5pm Year 11: 3:30pm-5pm

Venue: The Wellbeing Centre



Various activities each week including board games, cooking, photography, arts & crafts.

Refreshments provided. Talk to others, relax & have fun.

The range of opportunities for parents to be involved and/or get involved is constantly growing and at all levels the school are actively seeking to develop the opportunities they provide for families to be involved in the life of the school.



2023-2026







On Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September the Basildon Academies will be taking part in the Macmillan Coffee Morning.

During breaktime a selection of cakes & biscuits will be available for students & staff to purchase in the Dining Hall. Each cake or biscuit will be 50p each, with all proceeds going to the cancer support charity.

Purchases will be made through ParentPay in the normal way.



To celebrate Black History Month, each Wednesday in October we will be serving authentic dishes in the Dining Hall

Dishes for Wednesday 4th October:



Jerk Chicken



Cheeseburger Pasta



Orange Cornmeal
Cake & Cream