

# The Basildon Upper Academy Newsletter

20th February 2023

#### **Dates for the Diary**

World Book Day Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023

National Careers Week
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2023

**International Women's Day** Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023

**British Science Week** Friday 10<sup>th</sup> - Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2023

#### Student Value of the Term

# WOMEN'S RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS

#### West End School's Workshop Brings Macbeth to Life

On 7th February the Basildon Upper Academy hosted the 'Rehearsal Room' programme from West End for Schools in order to bring the play of Macbeth to life.

The workshops, led by trainer Jess, were attended by a group of Year 10 and Year 11 students who engaged in series of activities which both developed their knowledge and gave them further insight into the play through active learning strategies. This opportunity to work with a performer helped to use a range of strategies to understand the words by looking at the emotions behind them. Jess was really impressed with both the high levels of participation and insight the group showed regarding the play which made for a really successful day. Well done to all involved!

"The workshop was very educational and helped me better understand Macbeth. The activities were very engaging and Jess was very good at explaining different methods to learn the text." Shabat.D – Year 11

This was a very good experience and has helped me to better understand Macbeth." Angel.G – Year 11

"I enjoyed the Macbeth workshop. I now have a much better understanding of the play and has given me a lot of confidence to do well in my exams." Ajwa.C – Year 11















Strong, supportive, and mutually respectful relationships were evident throughout the visit and young people said that the increased emphasis on rights, respect and dignity has added to this, "If you respect people's rights, you respect them as a person." mentioned one student.

*Unicef RRSA Accreditation Report Gold: Rights Aware - July 2022* 

The curriculum, student briefings and assemblies, the website, and the displays and messaging throughout the school all give mental health and wellbeing a high profile and promote its importance to all members of the school community as well as providing guidance to those seeking support.



Wellbeing Award for Schools

2022-2025

#### **Safeguarding**

Safeguarding our students is at the forefront of everything we do. Parents and carers can access information via the following link <a href="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

## School 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 Upper Academy Wellbeing Centre

#### House Points - Week Ending 10th February



#### Spotlight on: A Level Art & Design



Art is a form of communication and expression - a visual language, which deals with the construction and interpretation, of both personal and cultural meanings. This course is designed to give learners an engaging and innovative creative learning experience, where art and design practices are integrated with contextual knowledge and understanding. The aim of this course is to build a broad foundation of critical, practical and theoretical skills which encourages creativity, analytical thinking and technical skills.

Full course information can be found by visiting the following link on our website: Art & Design

Year 11 students wishing to join our Sixth Form can apply via the following link: <u>Apply to join</u>

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

#### **Year 10 Work Experience**

After 3 years of disruption due to the pandemic, we are excited to have Year 10 work experience planning well underway. Year 10 students will be off site from Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2023 on work experience placements. Please encourage conversations at home about where students would like to do their work placements. If you need advice on how and where to source appropriate placements, please visit the <u>Contact Us</u> page via the Basildon Upper Academy website and select the option for General Enquiries.



#### **SEND Department Coffee Mornings**

We are delighted to offer our parents/carers the opportunity to meet with members of our SEND Department to discuss your child's progress. Coffee mornings are held at the Upper Academy from 8.45am - 9.45am every Wednesday.



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

#### 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).



#### Students of the Week

Congratulations to the following students who have been awarded Student of the Week for week commencing 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023.



Year 10 - Alfie.S (R10Y1)



**Year 11 - Wanwai.S (R11X2)** 



Sixth Form - Kelsea.M (R1213)

#### **Home Learning**

If you have any queries regarding home learning, including access issues or, to celebrate the work your child has completed at home, please visit the <u>Contact Us</u> page via the Basildon Upper Academy website and select the option for General Enquiries.

## **Aspire - Believe - Achieve**



#### **Attendance Expectations**

There is a clear link between academic success and attendance and as such our expectations for attendance are that:

- Parents have a legal duty to ensure their child attends regularly.
- Students should have 100% attendance each year.
   Students with attendance below 95% are of concern.





#### **Absence from school**

children are required by law to attend school 190 days per year. The government states that every child's attendance should be above 95%.

#### How do YOU measure up?

Attendance	Days Absent	Weeks Absent	Lessons Missed
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	50 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	100 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	150 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	200 Lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	250 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	290 Lessons
65%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	340 Lessons

#### **Absence Procedures**

To report a student absence please please visit the <u>Contact Us</u> page via the Basildon Upper Academy website and select the option for Attendance.

- Parents/carers should contact the school by 8.30am each day their child is absent.
- If no reason has been received for a child's absence, the Academy will initiate first day calling.
- Parents/carers must provide medical evidence to support all absences due to illness or medical appointments.
- Wherever possible parents/carers should make appointments outside of school hours but if this is unavoidable students should attend school before and after the appointment.
- If no appropriate medical evidence is provided then the Academies cannot authorise an absence. (ie. medical appointment card, prescription, doctor's letter.)

For further information and guidance regarding attendance and absence please visit our website:

www.basildonupperacademy.org.uk/attendance



**Aspire - Believe - Achieve** 





To celebrate Pancake Day on Tuesday 21st February The Dining Hall will be serving pancakes in addition to the regular dessert menu options.

#### **National Online Safety**

The online world is posing an ever-increasing risk to children, and it is important that schools, parents and carers work together to take an active role in teaching children about online dangers. Learning how to act safely when using the internet is an incredibly important part of safeguarding our children.

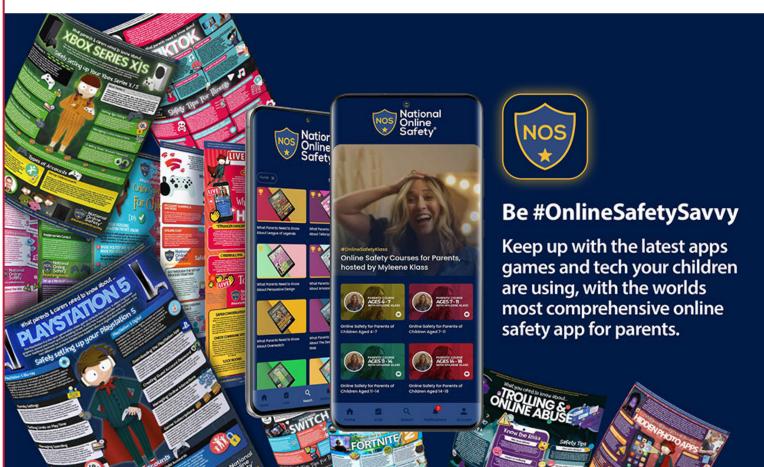
We are therefore delighted to announce that we have shown our commitment to protecting students online by working with National Online Safety- providing resources for all parents and carers. The resources include Parents & Carers courses, online video resources and weekly guides covering a huge range of topics, including:

- Online Relationships
- Fake Profiles & Social Bots
- Online Bullying
- Online Grooming
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Sexual Harassment & Violence
- Sexting
- Live Streaming
- Online Identity
- Screen Addiction
- Online Challenges
- Overspending
- Social Media Platforms

- Online Gambling
- · Radicalisation, Terrorism & Extremism
- Age Inappropriate Content
- Copyright & Ownership
- Hacking
- · Fake News
- Online Fraud
- Online Reputation
- Personal Data
- Pornography
- Targeted Adverts & Pop-Ups
- · The Dark Web
- Games & Trends



# Download your Free Online Safety App for Parents & Carers



To create your account, please follow <a href="https://nationalonlinesafety.com/enrol/basildon-academies">https://nationalonlinesafety.com/enrol/basildon-academies</a> and complete your details. When you're set up, you'll be able to set 'Parent/Carer' as your user type.

You can access National Online Safety online via any device- including via the brand-new smartphone app. To download the app, please go to:

https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/national-online-safety/id1530342372 https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=uk.co.nationaleducationgroup.nos