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17 October 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

I am writing to wish you all a lovely half term break. As per the calendar and dates on the website, we break up today for half term. This year, the SMART Trust are piloting a **two week half term break**, so we return to school on Monday 3 November 2025.

This first half term at the start of this academic new year has been a busy one, but there has been much to celebrate. I am acutely aware that I have not written to all parents (although I have met with many of you). Communication is an area we are now looking to strengthen, and quickly. We will do this across the next half term by:

1. Producing a fortnightly vlog to parents and carers.
2. Continuing to develop and evolve LCA's social media output but with an emphasis on student achievement and endeavours alongside key messages etc.
3. Regular department and year group messages via email to ensure parents are kept up to date on all the relevant information.
4. Using Class Charts to ensure announcements are shared with parents and that you can stay connected to how your children are progressing and learning.
5. Good old fashion half termly Headteacher updates via letter!
6. Parent Forum - this term was about implementing the new changes, so we were not able to hold a second Parent Forum. Therefore, the next Parent Forum will be Thursday 6 November. Please fill in the below form if you would like to attend and outline any topics you would like to discuss. One topic up for discussion is communication. All parents are welcome, it would be great to see as many of you as possible and to hear your ideas and point of views.

Key Updates

Year 11

This cohort have been phenomenal since returning to school into Year 11. They have worked hard and embraced the Year 11 strategy overseen by Mr Saberton, Associate Senior Leader and Raising Standards Leader. They are now starting their 5-1 Countdown, have had two sessions this week on effective revision strategies and approaches, have brought home their 40-Hour Revision Challenge cards, launched their own iStudy area and embraced their 3 additional mornings of additional Maths and English tutoring. They will be earning their leavers hoodies after the forthcoming mock examinations. We are immensely proud of them so far, but nothing has been achieved yet and we ask all parents and carers to make sure that their child is revising for their mocks and undertaking the 40-Hour Challenge.

Their revision session timetable in the lead up to the November mock exams is below:

Day	Revision Class	Time	Room
Monday	English	3:15pm – 3:45pm	111
	Art GCSE	3:15pm – 3:45pm	Art Room
Tuesday	Maths	3:15pm – 4pm	009
	Science	1:35pm – 2:10pm	Lab 3
	Computer Science	3:15pm – 4pm	DT8
Wednesday	History	1:35 – 2:10pm	006
	Science	3:15pm – 4pm	Lab 4
Thursday	MFL	3:15pm – 4pm	117
	Engineering	3:15pm – 4pm	DT3
	Geography	3:15pm – 4pm	Comm 1
Friday	English	3:15pm – 4pm	112
	English	1:35pm – 2:10pm	121

Year 7

Year 7 have had a brilliant start to their LCA career. They are a wonderful cohort, and we are lucky to have them here. Their Head of Year, tutors and senior leaders can see just how hard working they are as a cohort. The recent French pen-pal letters and the 'United by the Sea' art project has been testimony to their hard work and commitment to learning. They really are producing beautiful work in class.

Next time I write to you I will share more on Year 8 to 10.

Other news

This week we appointed a new science teacher, Luanne Cardis, as well as securing the support of an excellent science teacher, Kirsty Robinson, from Saltash CC for two days a week. Both have great track records and experience in the classroom. We have also appointed Mr Ciaran Collins as our Music Teacher. Ciaran has been on secondment with us from Coombe Dean School in Plymouth but now becomes a permanent member of the LCA Team. He is a teacher with the highest of unwavering standards, energy, passion and drive. He has already put the music department in a much stronger position. We have also appointed Mrs Oldham as Head of English. Quite simply, she is someone I respect and admire as she quietly and diligently goes about her daily leadership work, whilst what I call unconditional positive regard for the children entrusted into our care from the community we serve.

Uniform

As mentioned previously, uniform is my line in the sand. It must be of a high, non-negotiable standard. Please check the link below and can we make sure that for Monday 3 November all students return with the right jumpers and their blazers as the weather no doubt becomes colder. Thank you for your help and support here! We need to improve uniform standards and keep them high. [Looe Community Academy - Uniform & Equipment](#)

Teaching and Learning

This term we have implemented a new Teaching and Learning Lesson structure. We have really pushed presentation and taking pride in work and books. The impact is clear when you walk around the lessons. We also have worked hard on lesson entry and exit routines, starter 'Do Now' tasks to build memory, and staff circulation to target and support students who need this support. This needs fine tuning and greater consistency across the school so will remain the focus next half term.

Attendance

Attendance is crucial for all learners to be able to achieve and do well. We are doing ok in that we have higher attendance than what we achieved last year, but there are still improvements to be made. We must make the curriculum so accessible and ambitious for all, that children do not want to miss a day! That is the goal, and we will get there. However, we do need to also celebrate good attendance, and so the Heads of Year and Mr Gilbert have organised celebration events whereby +1 Club students (those who have gone up to the next attendance percentage band or stayed high all half term) will have a movie reward. They deserve it! We have 325/510 students who will take part in the rewards, and these will take place during periods 4 and 5 today as follows:

- Year 7 and 8 (114 students) - film in the main hall Period 4
- Year 11 (64 students) - film and early lunch in the small hall Period 4
- Year 9 and 10 (147 students) - film in the main hall period 5

Each term the rewards will become greater, hold a higher value and be more innovative. School is also about having fun and coming together. Please understand though that no-one is penalised by this initiative. People do get ill and need to rest, and that is factored into the +1 Club Project.

Tutors 2025-26

Year 7

TRE	Miss Jarman (Miss Hurst – Mon)	119
POL	Mr Howarth	Lab 5
PEN	Mr Howe	Lab 3
KEV	Mr Thorpe	Lab 4

Year 8

TRE	Miss Baylis (Mrs Palmer – Fri Week B)	117
POL	Mrs Woollaston	Art
PEN	Mrs Tedder	Textiles
KEV	Mr Webster	Food Room

Year 9

TRE	Mr Mathias	011
POL	Mrs Scott-Hammond	008
PEN	Mrs Fowkes	116
KEV	Mr Thompson	DT3

Year 10

TRE	Mr Dourass	011
POL	Mr Deacon	008
PEN	Miss Sallows (Miss Hurst – Tues)	116
KEV	Mr Collins	DT3

Year 11

TRE	Mr Diggins	007
POL	Miss Oldham	111
PEN	Miss Slattery	009
KEV	Mrs Owen	112

And finally, some key dates for your diaries, for next half term:

Parent Forum	Thursday 6 November 6pm - 7pm
Year 8 Parent Evening	Thursday 13 November
Year 11 Mock Exams	Monday 17 November until Monday 1 December
INSET Day (school closed for students)	Friday 21 November
Christmas Show	Friday 19 December
Reports issued for Year 10 and 11	Thursday 18 December
Christmas Break	Monday 22 December to Friday 2 January
INSET Day (school closed for students)	Monday 5 January
Start of Spring Term (students back to school)	Tuesday 6 January

I feel lucky and honoured to work here at Looe Community Academy. It has the potential to be a 'gem' of a school; but only if we work together. The children here are fantastic, but you know that. They are a credit to you all and this community. The motto 'be the best that you can be' will always resonate with me as we continue to put people first, build a broad experience of quality and serve this community ('People-Quality-Community'). Enjoy half your term, I look forward to seeing you all soon and welcoming students back into school for the second half of the Autumn Term on Monday 3 November.

Yours sincerely

Paul Boyes
Headteacher

Parent Forum Evening - Thursday 6 November

Please fill in the below form if you would like to attend and outline any topics you would like to discuss.

Parent Name: _____

Student name: _____ Student Form: _____

Topic to discuss:

Please return to Headteachers PA Mandy Woollett at mwoollett@looca.net