

Open Morning- Saturday 21st September 2024

Dear Families

Firstly we would like to thank you for your cooperation with the changes to the car park: the benefits that the sports hall will bring will far outweigh the short term disruption. We would also like to congratulate all of the students on the way in which they have started the new term. It is a pleasure to see everyone back on site and getting on with the important tasks at hand, no matter what stage of education they are in.

As previously communicated, we are holding our annual open day on **Saturday 21st September**. This is always a celebratory event in which the whole community promotes the ethos and academic achievements of Simon Balle All-through School. As was the case last year, our open day is an all-through event, with the Larch Centre open to receive visitors looking for a reception place for their child in September 2025.

We expect all **secondary students** to attend school on the morning of Saturday 21st September. Students will be asked to help tour new parents around the school or be active in a classroom working within a particular department. They will need to **arrive on site by 8.10am** and register with a member of staff (details will be communicated to students shortly). Students must be in perfect school uniform (unless they have been invited to demonstrate a sport, in which case full sporting kit). Students can leave the site at 12.30pm. If there is an unavoidable reason as to why your secondary child can not attend the event, you must email their Head of Year.

We also invite all **Year 5 students, the Larch Student Leadership Team and selected Year 6 students** to be on site (arriving between 8.00am and 8.15am and leaving at 11.45am). Students will either be conducting parent tours in the Larch, helping in Larch classrooms or taking part in music or sport. Students must be in perfect school uniform (unless they have been invited to demonstrate a sport, in which case full sporting kit). We will send a Google Form soon to confirm if your Year 5 child is available to support.

The Governors grant an additional day of leave (November 29th) for all members of the community in thanks, therefore those secondary students who can not attend will remain in school until the normal dismissal time of 3.10 on Friday 20th September to support staff and departments. All other secondary students will leave the site, so it can be prepared for our visitors (we usually welcome over 900 people) at 1.10pm, following lunch and tutor time. The Larch will close at 3.15pm on Friday 20th as usual (with planned clubs continuing).

Over the next three weeks we will be speaking to the students and allocating tasks. As you know, our outstanding school continues to be one of the most heavily oversubscribed schools in Hertfordshire both at secondary and primary level. Parents are attracted by our values, ethos and insistence of the highest academic standards across the all-through school. We still have waiting lists for every year group; for this reason we want to continue to attract those families who share our passion for this vision. Thank you again for your support.



Kind regards

Rachel Kirk and Mike Moss