

TERM 2 - 2025 NEWSLETTER



LAWN MANOR
ACADEMY



HEAD OF SCHOOL - UPDATE



As we reach the end of Term 2, I want to take a moment to reflect on what has been an incredibly busy and rewarding term here at Lawn Manor Academy. It has been wonderful to see our pupils embracing every opportunity in true 'Lawn Manor Way' style!

This term has been packed with enriching experiences: from exciting trips, competitions, our Lit Fest and our outstanding Careers Fair, which every pupil in the school attended, opening doors to future aspirations. I would like to congratulate our Year 11 pupils who worked exceptionally hard preparing for their first set of PPEs, and we are proud of their commitment and determination.

Christmas at Lawn Manor has been a truly special time. Our festive weeks included delicious Christmas lunches, the beautiful Carol by Candlelight Concert, and performances that spread joy in local care homes and at the OK4U Centre. These events highlight the strength of our community and the generosity of spirit that defines our school.

As we look ahead to Term 3, there is much to anticipate: Year 11 will begin their preparations for PPE2, and we have Personal Development Day 3 in January, offering another chance for pupils to broaden their horizons and develop essential life skills.

On behalf of everyone at Lawn Manor Academy, I would like to wish you and your families a wonderful holiday, and a Happy New Year. Thank you for your continued support - together, we make Lawn Manor a place where every pupil can thrive.



*Russell Langdown
Head of School*



A new school building is on the horizon at Swindon's Lawn Manor Academy.



Swindon South MP Heidi Alexander, the Secretary of State for Transport, recently made a visit to her former school.

During her visit, Ms Alexander met members of the school council and spoke about her career in politics and recent developments in education policy.

The MP described the visit as emotional and praised the pupils for their thoughtful questions.

(Image: Ms Alexander and Mr Langdown - Head of School)



MAKE A LOCAL IMPACT



Governors Wanted

As a governor, you'll help shape the future of Lawn Manor Academy, support school leaders, and make a difference for young people in Swindon.

Vacancies for Volunteer Governors

**Are you enthusiastic about education? Do you have a willingness to be a volunteer?
If so, Lawn Manor Academy needs you!**

We are looking for committed people to join our friendly governing body. Our governors come from a range of different backgrounds, skills, and experiences, but all share a common interest in wanting the best possible education for the children in our school. Governors are essential for the effectiveness and success of the school, and it is an extremely rewarding and fulfilling role.

Governors act as a critical friend, working voluntarily to strategically oversee the running of the school. In partnership with the trustees of Ascend Learning Trust, local governing bodies help to ensure that there is:

- 1) Accountability – justification for the decisions that are being taken
- 2) Oversight – scrutiny and investigation of the key decision-making and performance of the school
- 3) Assurance – confidence that the school is operating effectively and compliantly on a day-to-day basis and is on a stable footing.

They also ensure that the school is carrying out its statutory duties and is compliant in areas such as safeguarding and health & safety.

While experience would be a positive, it is not essential; training will be provided, and we are committed to ongoing development both individually and as a governing board. While knowledge of the education environment would be useful, a desire to help the next generation get the most out of their education and to positively expand their horizons is critical.

How to apply

Interested? Please email Andrea O'Farrell, Clerk to Governors at aofarrell@lma.ascendlearningtrust.org.uk for further information.

Remembrance Day



Pupils and staff came together to commemorate Remembrance Day and honour the service and sacrifice of those from worldwide conflicts.

We marked the day with a wreath-laying and a performance of The Last Post by music teacher Mr Saunders, followed by a 2-minute silence.

A Year 8 pupil played a piece on her violin, which was broadcast on the school's social media as a community-wide mark of respect.

Head of School, Russell Langdown said:

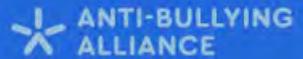
“Remembrance Day is a time for reflection and gratitude to those who gave their lives for our freedom today. It is inspiring to see our pupils engage with such sincerity and respect. Isabella’s performance and the laying of the wreath on behalf of all pupils show how deeply our school community values remembrance and the lessons of history.”

“As we work towards our status as a Beacon School, driven forward by our commitment to Holocaust education, remembering and reflecting on the past is a key aspect of preparing our pupils to be well-rounded, informed, and responsible adults in the future.”





Anti - Bullying week 2025



To celebrate individuality and promote kindness , we invited pupils and staff to wear their odd socks - a fun way to show that we 're all unique and that our differences make us stronger.

Let's keep the conversation going and stand together against bullying.

Lawn Manor Academy has marked this year's Anti-Bullying Week with a special appearance from Swindon-born international martial arts businessman Matt Fiddes.

With a week-long timetable of activities that celebrated their pupils and this year's theme of 'Power for Good', Lawn Manor Academy was also invited to speak on a national anti-bullying panel to show how their commitment to anti-bullying is being implemented across the school.

"Work hard, stay positive, remember, dream it, achieve it, believe it, go after your dreams."

Assistant Headteacher of Lawn Manor Academy and Senior Lead for Anti-Bullying, Mr M Koza, was also invited to speak in front of other schools across the country about their work as part of their United Against Bullying Plus (UAB+) pilot programme. Spearheaded by the Anti-Bullying Alliance in partnership with Kidscape, the initiative worked with 18 schools across the country to provide school support and additional staff training.

Mr Koza explained: **"Anti-bullying is part of our school's DNA, and inclusion, respect and celebrating diversity are embedded into everything we do. We encourage pupils to make a difference and use their 'Power for Good' by giving them real responsibility and visibility"**

"Through taking on important roles such as 'Welcome Ambassadors' and peer mentors, our pupils model positive behaviour and inclusion. They take shared responsibility for co-planning events and signing the 'I RESPECT' charter each year reinforces shared responsibility and champions kindness and respect."

"Work hard, stay positive, remember, dream it, achieve it, believe it, go after your dreams."



Personal Development Day - 16.12.2025



A fun-filled day for all the pupils.

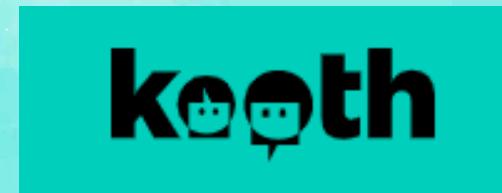
A special day where pupils engaged in activities focused on life skills, wellbeing, careers, character building, and so much more.

Activities included PSHE, RSE, careers education, cultural development, and essential life skills, such as communication, empathy, self-esteem, and resilience.

“Interactive and Experiential Learning: Engaging in collaborative problem-solving, hands-on challenges, and dynamic workshops that explore diverse environments and career pathways.”

Future-focused tasks covering topics like CV writing, university applications, and exploring different environments.

Wellbeing and Safety, addressing mental health, physical health, online safety, and managing emotions.



Personal Development days



- PD day 3 - Monday 12th January 2026
- PD day 4 - Friday 27th March 2026
- PD day 5 - Wednesday 22nd April 2026
- PD day 6 - Thursday 2nd July 2026





Children in Need Fundraising 2025 Turning Rain into Results!

A huge thank you to all staff who gave up their time to run events and make our fundraising for Pudsey such a success!

"Although heavy rain on the event day meant some activities had to be postponed until the following week, the incredible enthusiasm and generosity of everyone involved ensured we still raised an outstanding amount for this amazing charity."

From cake sales to tug-of-war, basketball challenges, penalty shoot-outs, and even ballet spins, the creativity and commitment were incredible.

Special thanks to Year 7 for their brilliant efforts in raising money to see Mr MacDonald undergo his daring hair transformations – from shaving to dyeing yellow and adding spots!

Your support, donations, and Pudsey spirit truly made the difference. Every penny raised will help change lives, and we couldn't have done it without you.

Thank you for showing that, come rain or shine, our community always comes together for a great cause.



Young designer showcases her talents for Old Town's First Day of the Dead Festival

A talented young graphic designer has been given the opportunity to showcase her talents thanks to this weekend's Day of the Dead Festival in Swindon.

The Old Town Business Association organised the festival, and the chair, Mr Talikowski challenged Lawn Manor Academy's Year 10 Graphic Design pupils to create a poster for the event.

Phoenix was chosen as the winner thanks to her design promoting the event this weekend.

Phoenix said:

"I also did this because I wanted to highlight the diversity of different skulls, people attending the event, and those we will be celebrating at the event. I love illustration and really enjoy studying Graphics at Lawn Manor Academy and hope to do this in the future."

Mrs Morrison, Graphics subject lead at Lawn Manor Academy, added: *"This was an amazing opportunity for all of our Graphic Design pupils to take a real-life creative brief and create a piece of work that they feel meets that."*



Celebrating Diwali with Year 7 Lantern Designs

Before half term, the whole of Year 7 took part in a creative challenge to design lanterns in celebration of Diwali, the Festival of Lights, which is celebrated by millions of Hindus, Sikhs, and Jains around the world.



1st Place
Velanie
Fitzroy
20 HPs

Diwali symbolises the triumph of light over darkness and good over evil.

We were thrilled with the entries, which not only brightened our day but also added such colour and joy to the social sciences corridor.



3rd Place
Isabelle
Pleydell
10HPs

A huge thank you to everyone who took part!



Wiltshire College
& University Centre

CAREERS FAIR

CHALLENGE | ASPIRE | NETWORK



COMMONWEAL



A massive thank you to everyone who joined us for our Careers Fair. We were so grateful to the colleges and employers who gave up their time to speak with our pupils and inspire them about their future opportunities.

It was fantastic to see so many pupils engaging, asking questions, and thinking ahead!



Explore interests, jobs and careers today you can do this by talking to employers.

CHALLENGE | ASPIRE | NETWORK



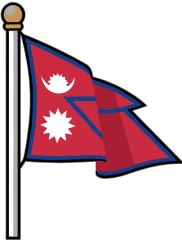
United College Sixth Form
The best in everyone™
Part of Swindon Academy & United Learning



The Ridgeway School
& Sixth Form College



Inspiring and Creating Futures For All



Global Connections at Lawn Manor Academy

Lawn Manor Academy was honoured to receive a special gift from Glory School Nepal.

Our schools first connected in 2019, sharing good practice and learning about each other's cultures and experiences.

Sadly, COVID-19 halted our collaboration in 2020, but not before we presented to over 50 Nepalese Headteachers about tackling pandemic challenges.

Recently, Dr C Tipper and Ms B Harkness visited Glory School, where the link with LMA is still fondly remembered.

As a token of esteem, Principal Karna sent a beautiful plaque, which was presented to Mr Koza, | Assistant Headteacher

Here's to friendships that cross continents and inspire learning.



LIBRARY NEWS



Swindon Youth Festival of Literature
2025, which is celebrating
18 years!

12 participating Swindon Secondary Schools are proud to have been present at the 18th annual Swindon Youth Festival of Literature

WOW !!!!! What a week, we all had a fab time.



The Literature Festival is a great way to celebrate the love and importance of reading, and our pupils certainly embraced it.

We took 6 pupils to Ridgeway School to do an Inter-school Book quiz with 11 other schools.
Our team put in a great effort.

Thank you to the staff members and pupils who helped with the events.

The feedback that has come back from our visiting authors and primary school staff has been positive about our Library and the events.

All pupils who took part in a workshop have given great feedback too. They have been rewarded with an HP for taking part with such enthusiasm.

Headline Event - author Phil Earle- Yr 9 Trip to The Wyvern

Primary Event, visiting author – Gareth P Jones – Yr 5 pupils from all our feeder schools who were involved.

Visiting Poet Ash Dickinson

Main Event, visiting author – Ele Fountain

Inter school book quiz

library

**'It's the most wonderful time of the year'... It's December.
The library was full of festive fun with lots of Christmas books to loan out.**

Pupils popped in to:

'Yuletide' Yr 11 Heaven on Mondays

'Festive' Film Club on Tuesdays

'Christmas' Quiz Night & 'Baubles' Bingo on Wednesdays

'Jingling' General Library & 'Charming' Chess Club on Thursdays

PLUS- FREE themed Christmas bookmarks

'Lawn Manor's Winter Wonder Library' had a large selection of Christmas books and displays.

'Happy Christmas to all'





What a magical start to Christmas.

Our talented Lawn Manor Academy pupils lit up the Steam Museum with their very first Christmas performance.

Dazzling dances and joyful singing, they truly kicked off the festive season in style.

We couldn't have been prouder.

What an incredible way to spread the Christmas cheer.



Christmas Card Competition 2025



Year 10



Year 10



Year 10



Year 9

Here are the nominations for our Annual Christmas card illustration competition held within our Art department. This competition has taken place for over 15 years.

We are delighted to announce that our Senior Leadership Team selected 4 entries for our Ascend Learning Trust Christmas Card competition.



Year 7



Year 9

The Art department is proud of every one of our budding artists.



Year 7

We would like to thank everyone involved. Over 100 entries were submitted, with a sparkling 21 amazing entries .

We love how they brought the magic of Christmas for everyone.

In a Trust-wide Ascend Learning event, Lawn Manor Academy achieved success by being selected as the overall winner.

- Serena R - Year 8



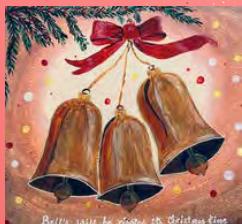
Year 9

Winner

CONGRATULATIONS



Year 7



Year 8



Year 8



WHY WE SHOULD ATTEND SCHOOL

- REGULAR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF GIVING CHILDREN THE BEST POSSIBLE START IN LIFE.
- THE AIM SHOULD BE TO ATTEND 100% OF THE TIME.
- PUPILS WHO MISS SCHOOL FREQUENTLY CAN FALL BEHIND WITH THEIR WORK AND DO LESS WELL IN EXAMS.
- GOOD ATTENDANCE ALSO SHOWS POTENTIAL EMPLOYERS THAT A YOUNG PERSON IS RELIABLE

More time in school =
MORE TIME TO LEARN!

Equals to 4 school days off each year	100% Perfection
Equals to 7 school days off each year	98% Impressive
Equals to 9 school days off each year	96% Good
Equals to 11 school days off each year	95% Nearly There
Equals to 18 school days off each year	94% Needs to Improve
Equals to 2 months off each year	90% Danger Zone
	80% Danger Zone

On
Track

At
Risk

Off
Track

ATTENDANCE

ATTENDANCE



HAPPY CHRISTMAS !!!
FROM YOUR
HEADS OF HOUSE

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THE STAFF AND PUPILS WHO HAVE
TAKEN PART IN COMPETITIONS SO FAR.

THERE WILL BE PLENTY MORE COMPETITIONS TO GET INVOLVED IN WHEN WE RETURN.
DON'T FORGET.... EVERY HOUSE POINT COUNTS !!





School Nursing

Swindon



We'd love to see you at our School Nurse Forum;

- ▶ GET TO KNOW YOUR SCHOOL NURSES
- ▶ WHAT WE CAN OFFER
- ▶ FOCUS AREAS WE CHAMPION
- ▶ OPEN Q&A AND ANONYMOUS CONSULTATIONS
- ▶ WHAT'S NEW IN SCHOOL HEALTH

SCHOOL NURSES DELIVER THE HEALTHY CHILD PROGRAMME,
CHAMPIONING THE 6 HIGH IMPACT AREAS;

- SUPPORTING RESILIENCE AND WELLBEING
- IMPROVING HEALTH BEHAVIOURS & REDUCING RISK TAKING
- SUPPORTING HEALTHY LIFESTYLES
- SUPPORTING VULNERABLE YP & IMPROVING HEALTH INEQUALITIES
- SUPPORTING COMPLEX & ADDITIONAL HEALTH & WELLBEING NEEDS
- SUPPORTING SELF-CARE & IMPROVING HEALTH LITERACY



**THURSDAY 22ND JANUARY
2026**

10AM - 12.30PM

**SPORTS HALL,
KINGSDOWN SPORTS
CENTRE,
HYDE ROAD, SN2 7SH**



To book a space, click on the QR.

or contact

SwindonSchoolNurseTeam@swindon.gov.uk

Swindon Christmas Crisis Support

Essential Contacts for Families Over the Festive Season

School is closed over the Christmas holidays. However, the Safeguarding Team can be contacted over the Christmas period at safeguarding@lma.ascendlearningtrust.org

The email address will be monitored during working hours, Mon-Fri except bank holidays.

More focused support available is as follows:

Foodbanks & Christmas Meals

- Swindon Food Collective - 01793 680286-
info@swindonfoodcollective.org Opening times as below

Please see below our opening times for all distribution centres throughout the Christmas period.

Distribution Centres	Week 1	Week 2
	Monday 22/12	Monday 29/12
The Bridge, 8 Sheep St, Highworth, SN6 7AA	Open 10am - 12 noon	Open 10am - 12 noon
St Bartholomew's Church, Church St, RMB, SN4 7BQ	Open 1pm - 3pm	Open 1pm - 3pm
St Aldhelm's Centre, Edgeware Rd (off Regent St) SN1 1QS	Open 2.30pm-4.30pm	Open 2.30pm-4.30pm
Tuesday 23/12		Tuesday 30/12
St Peter's Church, Penhill Drive, SN2 5DU	Open 10am - 12 noon	Open 10am - 12 noon
St Andrews's Church, Moredon Rd, SN25 3DF	Open 12 noon - 2pm	Closed
Freshbrook Church, Worsley Rd, SN5 8NU	Closed	Closed
Wednesday 24/12		Wednesday 31/12
St John's Church Hall, Whitbourne Ave, SN3 2LG	Closed	Open 10am - 12 noon
Mr Michael's, Calne Rd, Lyneham, SN15 4PR	Closed	Closed
Discovery Church, Markham Rd, Wroughton, SN4 9EH	Closed	Open 2pm - 4pm
Thursday 25/12		Thursday 01/01
The Bridge, 8 Sheep St, Highworth, SN6 7AA	Closed	Closed
St Margaret's Centre, Kenwin Close, Stratton, SN3 4NY	Closed	Closed
St Aldhelms Centre, Edgeware Rd (off Regent St) SN1 1QS	Closed	Closed
Friday 26/12		Friday 02/01
St Timothy's, Grundy's, Liden Centre, SN3 6HP	Closed	Open 10am - 12 noon
St Andrew's Church, Moredon Rd, SN25 3DF	Closed	Closed
St Aldhelms Centre, Edgeware Rd (off Regent St) SN1 1QS	Closed	Open 2.30pm - 4.30pm

- **Salvation Army Swindon – 21 Fleet Street, Swindon SN1 1RQ | 01793 522689 | swindon@salvationarmy.org.uk Swindon Night Shelter**
- **(Christmas Meals) – Queen's Drive Methodist Church, Swindon | 01793 987716 | info@swindonnightshter.org.uk**
- **Swindon Borough Council Emergency Support – Local Welfare Provision | 01793 445500 | customerservices@swindon.gov.uk**

Urgent Help & Crisis Support

- Childline – 0800 1111 (24/7, free) Swindon CAMHS Helpline – 01865 902400 |
- oxfordhealth.swindoncamhs@nhs.net Social Care – 01793 464646
- Emergency Duty Service – outside of office hours – 01793 436699
-

Non Urgent Help & Support

- Kooth – www.kooth.com
- PAPYRUS – www.papyrus-uk.org
 - o Text: 88247
 - o Phone: 0800 068 4141
 - o Email: pat@papyrus-uk.org
- Harbour Project (for Asylum Seekers and Refugees) – 01793 611682

Adult Mental Health Help

- Samaritans – 116 123 (24/7, free)
- Shout – Text SHOUT to 85258 (24/7)
- CALM – 0800 58 58 58 (5pm–midnight)
- SANElne – 0300 304 7000 (16:30–22:30 daily)
- Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership - Crisis Support – 0800 953 1919

Domestic Abuse Support

- Paragon Swindon Domestic Abuse Service – 01793 610610 (24/7)
- Men's Advice Line – 0808 801 0327
- National Domestic Abuse Helpline – 0808 2000 247 (24/7)

Homelessness & Refuge Support

- The Haven Day Centre – Queens Drive – open from Christmas Eve until 3pm 29th December Threshold Housing Link – 01793 524661 | info@thl.org.uk Swindon
- Night Shelter – 01793 987716 | info@swindonnightshtelter.org.uk
-

New SEND Early Years Specialist Centre

A new Specialist Early Years Centre has opened at the Everleigh Centre site in Penhill. The dedicated team includes early years practitioners and two family support workers.

The centre provides essential support for families, with an admissions process that prioritises those in greatest need. The facility promotes an engaging, calming, and inclusive environment, featuring:

- A soft play area
- A specialised sensory room
- A main playroom with age-appropriate books and activities
- A space for parents to connect and share experiences

To learn more, visit:

https://www.swindon.gov.uk/news/article/1257/council_expands_early_years_send_support_thanks_to_new_centre_in_penhill

Lawn Manor Academy SEND meetings

A termly Parent group for those who have children with diagnoses of SEND or neurodivergence (Autism/ADHD).

These meetings will potentially involve speakers and cover a variety of topics to support you and your child through their life at Lawn Manor Academy.

The meeting schedule is below – a survey will be going out to you shortly as well to get your ideas for subjects you'd like covered.

19th November 4 pm-5 pm

21st January 4 pm-5 pm

18th March 4 pm-5 pm

13th May 4 pm-5 pm

8th July 4 pm-5 pm

Please email:

ksproston@lma.ascendlearningtrust.org.uk for more details.

Down Syndrome and ADHD Awareness month

October is Down Syndrome and ADHD awareness month. To find out more please see the resources below.

Down Syndrome Resources:

- <https://downsyndromeuk.co.uk/support-us/down-syndrome-awareness-month/>
- <https://www.swindondownsgroup.org.uk/>

ADHD Resources:

- https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20226/adhd/1519/getting_help_with_adhd
- <https://adhd.uk.co.uk/>



For more information, please visit the
Meet the SEND Service page on the
Local Offer -
https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20190/send_local_offer

Contact the SEND Service

 Call the SEND Service on 01793 464641
Lines are open Monday to Thursday
8am-5pm and 8am-4.30pm on Friday.

Send Provision Expansion

Swindon Borough Council has increased its support for children with SEND by establishing 20 new specialist school places at Eldene Nursery & Primary School and Robert Le Kyng Primary School for September 2025. This follows the creation of 60 places in September 2024.

Funded by a £3.4 million grant from the Department for Education, the aim is to create up to 158 additional SEND places. More places are planned this year at Mountford Manor Primary and Oaktree Nursery & Primary School.



Go to <https://login.arbor.sc>

PARENTPAY

Purchasing items is easy and a variety of options are available to you, depending on how you wish to make payments. Here you will find a helpful guide on payment processes.

Parents and Carers

You can now access the following details securely through an app called Arbor: **Guardian Information, attendance, assessment, rewards, behaviour, clubs and trips.** Arbor allows us to communicate with you more efficiently and for you to see instantly how your children are getting on at Lawn Manor Academy.

Click below - **[Forgot your password](#)**

We are inviting all parents and carers to log in using the following 2 easy steps

[Log into the Parent Portal and the Parent App – Arbor Help Centre](#)

School Support

If you have any other queries, please contact

admin@lma.ascendlearningtrust.org.uk

The Arbor App can be downloaded from either the Play store on android phones or the Apple Store on iPhones. Arbor also offers access to many training resources which are completely free for you to make the most of!

[How to navigate and get around Arbor – Arbor Help Centre](#)

UNIFORM DONATION

LAWN MANOR
ACADEMY

PRE - LOVED
UNIFORM

Donate and Re-cycle

WANTED

Do you have any school uniform which you no longer need and could be used by others ?



We will welcome donations of:

- LMA Blazers
- School Trousers and Skirts
- LMA Ties
- LMA PE Items
- Footballs Boots
- Trainers

for more information

LAWN MANOR
ACADEMY

PRE - LOVED
UNIFORM

Donate and Re-cycle



Items can be purchased at reduced costs

These items can be donated to the Main Reception by Parents or by Pupils to Student Services.

08.00 - 16.00
(Term time only)

Thank You

Email :
admin@lma.ascendlearningtrust.org.uk

Tel : 01793 487286