

CHURCH LAWTON SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER | OCTOBER
2024



AN AMBITIOUS SCHOOL
FOR AUTISTIC
CHILDREN



OUR VISION

Our vision is to create a world that works for autistic children and young people, by providing an exceptional educational offer, so that they achieve success now and are well-prepared for adulthood.

COURAGE
DETERMINATION
TEAMWORK



PRINCIPAL NOTES

Paul Scales



I hope this message finds you well as we welcome the beauty of the autumn season at Church Lawton School. I am pleased to share with you the latest news and updates from our vibrant school community.

But first, a poem from one of my favourite poets, Percy Shelly. He found constant inspiration in nature and the seasons.

*O wild West Wind, thou breath of Autumn's being,
Thou, from whose unseen presence the leaves dead
Are driven, like ghosts from an enchanter fleeing,*

*Yellow, and black, and pale, and hectic red,
Pestilence-stricken multitudes: O thou,
Who chariotest to their dark wintry bed.*

*The winged seeds, where they lie cold and low,
Each like a corpse within its grave, until
Thine azure sister of the Spring shall blow,*

*Her clarion o'er the dreaming earth, and fill
(Driving sweet buds like flocks to feed in air)
With living hues and odours plain and hill:*

*Wild Spirit, which art moving everywhere;
Destroyer and preserver; hear, oh hear!*

*The trumpet of a prophecy! O Wind,
If Winter comes, can Spring be far behind?*

CELEBRATING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

I am delighted to announce the impressive accomplishments of our Year 11 and Year 13 students in their recent exams. Their success is a testament to their perseverance, resilience, and the tailored support provided by our dedicated staff. We are incredibly proud of their individual progress and growth.

A WARM WELCOME

A heartfelt welcome to the new students who have joined our school this term. We are excited to have you, and your family become part of our community. Our school is a place where each student is respected, valued, and encouraged to be themselves. We look forward to supporting every child in their learning journey.

CONSTRUCTION SIMULATOR

We have been fortunate to have a construction simulator on-site, an experience that both our staff and students have wholeheartedly appreciated and enjoyed. This simulator has not only provided valuable hands-on learning but also ignited a passion for creativity and innovation among our students.

As we move forward, I encourage you to stay engaged with our school's activities and initiatives. The collective effort of our school community is what makes our school a truly special place. Thank you for your ongoing support and dedication to the success and well-being of our students. Together, we will continue to create a nurturing and enriching environment where every student can flourish.



SUBJECTS & TOPICS

Karen Woodall, Deputy Principal

Special Events & Curriculum Days

- **5/11/24** - Yr 10, 11, 12 & 13 trip to Chester University.
- **W/C 11/11/24** - Mock SATS & mock Yr 11 exams.
- **18/11/24** - Tempest pupil portraits.
- **29/11/24** - BTEC Music trip to Foxbarn Studios.
- **3/12/24 & 5/12/24** - Parents evening.
- **4/12/24** - Primary trip to the pantomime.
- **9/12/24** - Christmas Fair PM.
- **17/12/24** - Lower school nativity performance.

Donaldson

Maths - Addition and subtraction.

English - Non-fiction texts. Theme; jobs and careers.

History - Lives of significant people . Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole.

Science - Living things and their habitats.

RE - Christianity. The Christmas story with nativity performance.

Shakespeare

English - Victorian literature. Oliver Twist.

Geography - Human and physical geography of the United Kingdom, mapping skills.

History - Ancient Egyptians.

RE - Christianity. The real meaning of Christmas.

Maths - The four operations; Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

Art and Design - Textiles, design, make and evaluate.

Computers - Video Production.

Develop the skills of capturing, editing, and manipulating video.

Darwin & Thompson

Maths - Darwin - Addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions.

Thompson - Ordering integers and decimals; Decimal, fractions percentages equivalence.

English - Class text 'Room 13' by Robert Swindells.

Science - Evolution.

History - Immigration/Windrush (Black History).

Geography - Human and physical geography of Europe.

Art - Journeys Computing; Creating media.



Secondary Maths

Yr 8 – Working in the cartesian plane, representing data, probability.

Yr 9 – Three dimensional shapes, constructions and congruency.

Yr 10 – Equations and inequalities, simultaneous equations

Yr 11 Pi - Changing the subject and Functions.

Yr 11 Theta - Using graphs, Expanding and factorising

Secondary History

Yr 8 – Why have historians described 1492 as a turning point in world history?

Yr 9 – Victorians (Significant Victorians and Victorian society).

Yr 10 - Tsarism to Communism 1894-1945.

Yr 11 - Medicine and the people C1000- current.

PE

Primary - Gross motor development.

Middle – Invasion games preparation.

Secondary - Invasion games.

BTEC - Unit 1 Fitness for Sport and Exercise.

Secondary Geography

Yr 8 – Global tectonics including rocks.

Yr 9 – Landscapes of the UK & coasts.

GCSE – Weather hazards and climate change.

Secondary English

Yr 8 - Studying the novel 'My Sister Lives on the Mantelpiece.' By Annabel Pitcher.

Yr 9 - Studying the novel 'Noughts and Crosses.' By Malorie Blackman.

Yr 10 – Studying the play 'An Inspector Calls.' By J.B. Priestley.

Yr 11 – Studying the novel 'A Christmas Carol,' By Charles Dickens.

Kappa – Speaking and Listening – Should Zoos be banned? Does social media have more drawbacks than benefits? Is animal testing ethical?

Secondary Science

Yr 8 -Cells, particles, energy and sound.

Yr 9 -Electromagnets, work, heating and cooling.

Yr 10 -Particles, bonding, structure and cells.

Yr 11 -Forces, waves, magnetism and electromagnetism and organic chemistry.

Secondary RE

Yr 8 – The study of Islam as an Abrahamic religion.

Yr 9 – Christianity (Changes and expressions of faith).



Secondary Music

Primary & Middle - Read and write music in the pentatonic scale. Composing, writing melody, harmony, dynamics, tempo lyrics together as a group. Performing on various instruments in the groups. Christmas performances.

Yr 8 – Read and write using the conventional staff. Working on playing melodies and chords on the keyboards.

Yr 9 – Logic Pro X and input these melodies and chords into the software.

Yr 10 BTEC - Unit 1 The Music Industry. Learning about job roles, companies and how the music industry works. Unit 7 Music Sequencing. Learning how to use Logic Pro X to produce music.

Secondary German

Primary and Middle – Family and pets.

Yr 8 – Media.

Yr 9 – Ambitions.

GCSE Yr 10 – Free time.

GCSE Yr 11 – Social and global issues.

Secondary Computer Science

Yr 8 – Internet Safety.

Yr 9 – Cyber-security.

Yr 10 – Computer Networks.

Yr 11 – Programming Fundamentals

Secondary Art & Design

KS3 Gamma – Textiles, embellishing items.

KS3 Delta – Composition and colour using the work of Wassily Kandinsky.

KS3 Epsilon – Designing a theatre set.

GCSE Year 1 - 2D mixed project around the theme of “Abandoned Places,”

BTEC Year 2 – Unit 4 - Researching and designing their own set.

GCSE Year 2 - Creating a final piece using different printing techniques.

GCSE Photography – Composition skills and studio photography.

Secondary Business Studies

Completing Business in the real world - units Business Planning and Expanding business.

Moving onto Influences on Business with the units

Technology and Ethical and

Environmental Considerations.

BTEC Food

Food of the World

Life Skills

KS3 – Relationships and consent.

KS4 – Post school life skills.

Future Skills

Group project to support and raise awareness to a charity.



SAFEGUARDING

Lorraine Clegg, Designated Safeguarding Lead



SIX TOP TIPS

For Parents To Keep Your Children Safe Online

Children and young people are bound to spend lots more time on devices since Covid. **DON'T FEEL BAD** – lots will be schoolwork or healthy ways of catching up with friends or having fun. There are many ways to keep them safe, healthy and happy.

Don't worry about screen time; aim for screen quality

Scrolling through social media isn't the same as making a film or story, or Skyping Grandma. Use the Children's Commissioner's 'Digital Five A Day' to plan or review each day together.



Check the safety settings are turned on

Whether it's your home internet, mobile devices, consoles, apps or games, there are lots of settings to make them safer. The key ones are - can they chat to strangers, can they video chat or 'go live', are their posts public? **Internet Matters** has hundreds of guides to parental controls.



Get your children to show you their apps and games

You don't need to know all about the latest app or game, but if your child shows you what they are doing and with whom, you'll probably see if it's appropriate or not. Remember 18 games are not more advanced – they are harmful to children! For parent guides to apps, including recommendations for kidsafe apps and video platforms, search for **Common Sense Media** or **NSPCC's NetAware**. And why not download the **BBC Own It** app?



Don't try to hide news about scary things in the news

If you don't talk about it, your children might read inappropriate pages, believe scare stories or simply catastrophise in their heads. Why not watch **Newsround** together and talk about how they feel – there is guidance from **Childline** to help you.



Remind them of key online safety principles

There are too many to list, but remember human behaviour is the same online and offline. Remind your children to be a good friend, to ask for help if they are worried or if someone is mean, not to get undressed on camera and most important of all... if somebody tells them not to tell or ask for help because it's too late or they will get in trouble, **THAT'S A LIE!**

If you aren't sure, ASK!

Your school may be able to give you advice, but there are plenty of other places to ask for help as a parent or a child, whether it is advice or help to fix something. Lots of sites are listed at reporting.lgfl.net, including ones to tell your kids about (they might not want to talk to you in the first instance).



Follow the links above, visit parentsafe.lgfl.net for much more or follow us @LGfLDigiSafe on Twitter or Facebook

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Here at Church Lawton we want our pupils to thrive and to become responsible, respectful and safe learners. By bringing your child to school, you are helping us to do this!

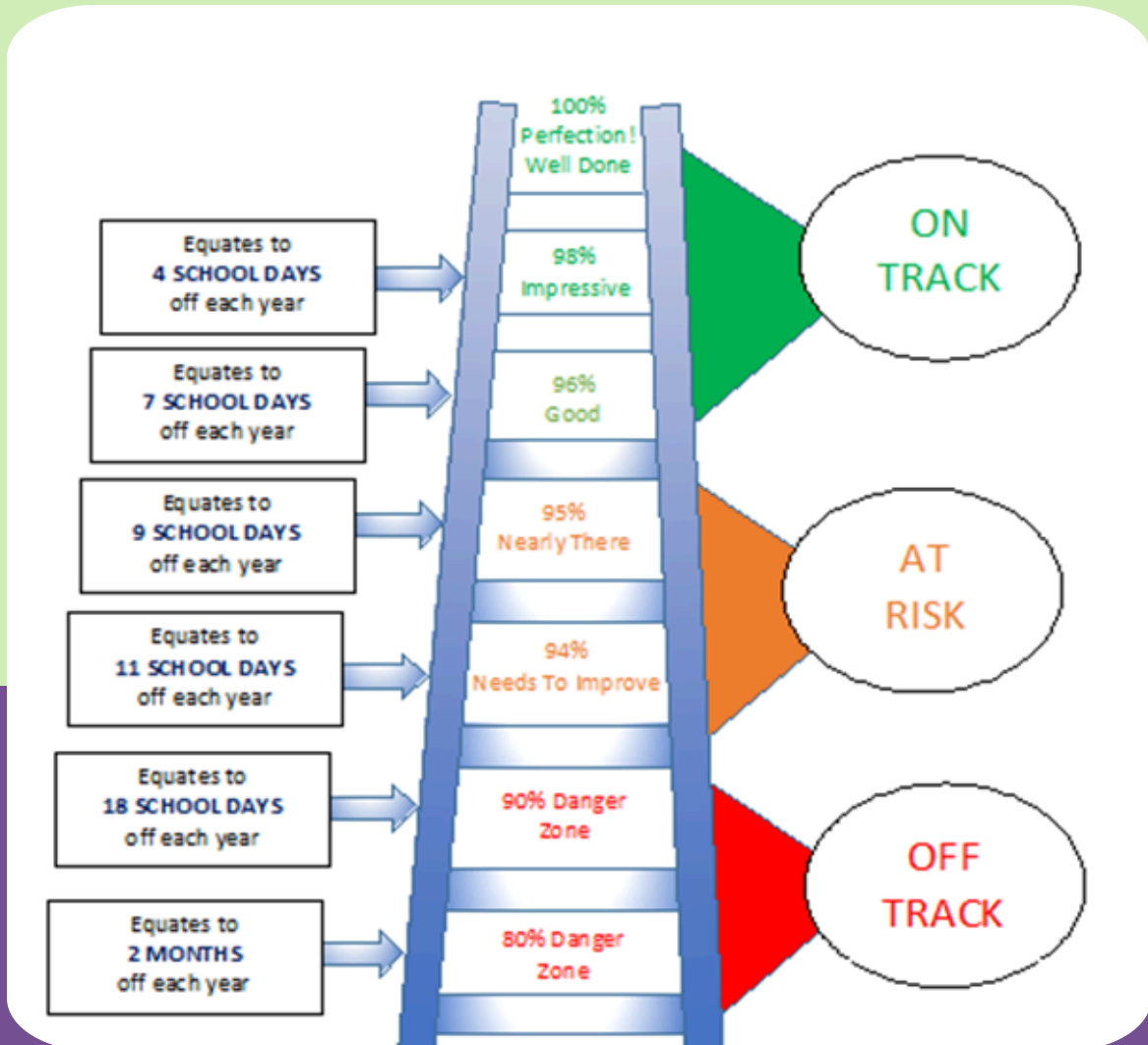
Please ensure that your child attends school and work with them on making their attendance excellent.

Here is a handy guide provided by the NHS :-
<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Attending school has a number of benefits – Not only will your child learn curriculum-based subjects but they will also learn new skills and develop socially as well as preparing them for adult life by getting used to a daily routine.



LOOK ON MCAS AND SEE WHERE YOUR CHILD'S ATTENDANCE FITS INTO THE CHART BELOW.



USEFUL LINKS & CONTACTS

Cheshire East Free School Meals

Whichever local authority you reside in, you can check your eligibility by contacting Cheshire East Local Authority:

Email: freeschoolmeals@cheshireeast.gov.uk

Telephone: 0300 123 5012

Even if you're not sure whether you are eligible or not, or if your child is receiving Universal Infant Free School Meals, we urge you to check and inform school.

https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/school-meals/free_school_meals.aspx



AUTISM PASSPORT

The Autism Passport is a useful resource when visiting Court Rooms, Police Stations, GPs, Hospital and more. It supports the autistic individual by informing what reasonable adjustments are required in order to help with communication.

<https://dawnsupport.co.uk/autism-passport>



Family hubs support children and young people from 0-19 (or up to 25 for young people with special educational needs and disabilities).

<https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/livewell/care-and-support-for-children/family-hubs/family-hubs.aspx>

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Care-for-children-and-families/Family-Hubs/Staffordshire-Family-Hubs.aspx>

<https://www.stoke.gov.uk/FamilyHubs>

<https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/livewell/campaigns/covid-19-information-point/mental-health-information-point.aspx>

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Health-wellbeing-and-leisure/Keeping-well-and-staying-healthy/Mental-health-and-wellbeing/Mental-health.aspx>

https://www.stoke.gov.uk/info/20010/adult_care_and_wellbeing/377/support_services



SCHOOL INFORMATION

Reporting an Absence

The law requires parents or carers to ensure their child attends school regularly. Attendance at school is important and recent research shows pupils with the highest attainment have higher rates of attendance over the key stage.

Please telephone school by 8.30 a.m. every morning your child is absent, and state the reason for the absence.

Where possible, please make any Doctor, Dentist or Medical appointments either before or after school hours.

If appointments are during the school day please hand in a copy of your appointment card or letter to the school office, or alternatively, a screenshot.

Safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility, and it extends beyond the school gate so please talk to us and tell us why your child is not in school.

Medication

Students needing medication during school hours both Prescribed and Non-Prescribed, need to have a permission slip completed by a parent or guardian.

Please contact your child's key worker or the school office for the consent form.

Medication needs to be handed in to an adult on arrival at school. If your child arrives by taxi please could you ring or email the school to notify us of medication coming into school.



Term Dates 2024/2025

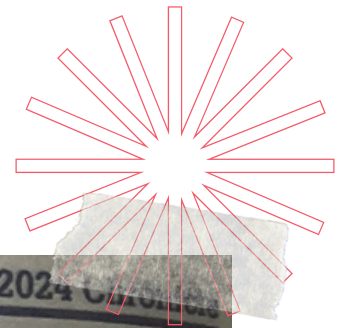
<https://www.churchlawtonschool.org.uk/page/?title=Term+Dates&pid=29>

OFFICE@CHURCHLAWTONSCHOOL.ORG.UK

01270 877601

[HTTPS://WWW.CHURCHLAWTONSCHOOL.ORG.UK/](https://www.churchlawtonschool.org.uk/)

SCHOOL NEWS



Wednesday, September 18, 2024

School scoops prestigious award

CHESHIRE'S Church Lawton School, a specialist school and part of the Liberty Academy Trust family, is celebrating after being awarded a prestigious Optimus Award for Leading Parent Partnership.

The award recognises the school's 'dedicated' engagement with parents and carers.

During a thorough on-site visit, assessors from Optimus Awards said: "Church Lawton School actively engages parents in their children's education through a

variety of initiatives aimed at building a strong school-home partnership.

"The impact of these efforts is significant, fostering a supportive and inclusive environment that enhances parental involvement and satisfaction. It not only supports the children's academic and personal development but also strengthens the overall community cohesion, making parents feel valued and connected to the school's aims and activities."

Principal Paul Scales said: "Our school culture

is built on mutual respect, understanding, and a commitment to creating a positive atmosphere for all.

"We truly value our partnership with parents and carers and we believe passionately that a joined-up approach between home and school is critical in helping our students – many of whom have complex needs – to achieve their full potential.

"We have worked hard to create an inclusive environment in which parents feel welcome and to make opportunities to

engage with us as flexible and frequent as we can.

"For example, through a dedicated Autism Lead and student key workers who serve as a direct point of contact for parents, ensuring their concerns are addressed promptly and effectively.

"We believe that by working together, we can create a supportive and nurturing environment that enables our students to thrive. It is great to have this, along with its positive impact on our students' achievements, recognised through this Optimus Award."



CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS

Parentkind – the charity that supports school PTAs - have teamed up with Asda, who is making millions of pounds available to donate to primary schools across the UK through their 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative – all you have to do is, opt in through the Asda Rewards app, choose our school and shop and scan in store or shop online at Asda.com, between 2nd September and 30th November 2024.



£453.21 RAISED FOR MACMILLAN



Adventure Learning

Kilnworx Climbing Centre allowed our youngest pupils to experience an exciting program of physical activities. The centre has two bouldering rooms and a large climbing hall, all of which allow the pupils to experience a variety of climbing activities. Over the weeks, pupils have continued to build their physical strength and confidence and enjoyed a new activity with their peers. All of the pupils have been able to improve their balance and co-ordination skills and build trust when working in a group. We are seeing them willing to have a go at activities that had previously taken them outside their comfort zone.



Teggs Nose Orienteering was very much enjoyed by our KS3 students. They spent the day in Macclesfield testing their stamina and map reading skills. The students focused on team building and keeping everyone's spirits high! It was a great day out exploring the beautiful British countryside.



Upcoming Adventure Learning

Gymnastics

Equality, Diversity & Inclusion

The Liberty Academy Trust has an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy which illustrates our commitment to promoting a culture of belonging for all staff and pupils across the Trust. By actively promoting EDI principles, we strive to empower every individual within our schools and across the central team to achieve their full potential and foster a sense of acceptance and belonging.

This term's spotlight has to be on a book we have in school called *Wonderfully Wired* (100 Inspiring Stories of Neurodivergent People Who Changed the World.)

You can access this at home using the links below.



<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61553108649776>

<https://www.wonderfully-wired.com/>

PRIMARY

What We Learned

Myths & Legends

Shakespeare class have been focusing on Myths and Legends in English. They had an interesting debate on whether the Loch Ness Monster is real. Then they each wrote an argument for yes or no depending on their opinion and read them out in assembly.

Canopic Jars

Egyptians are a subject of interest in Shakespeare class. They have made Canopic jars used in mummification from clay.

Poems

Donaldson class have been learning about alliteration and implementing it in their Poem writing. They shared their poems in assembly.



Cooking Soup & Pizza



A Trip to the Church



MIDDLE

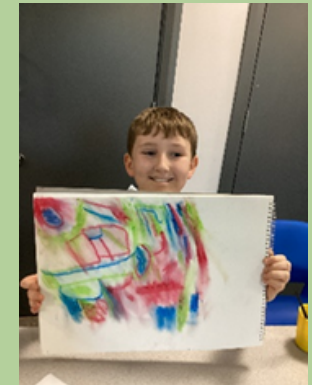
What We Learned

Thompson group have been exploring sequences and algebra; whilst Darwin have been looking at place value, number lines and the number system.

In English we have been using Room 13 by Robert Swindells as our starting point for some descriptive writing. In the book there is no Room 13 in the hotel and, eerily, there is no chapter 13 in the book either!

Science, meanwhile, has been extremely 'hands-on' as we explore the forces of gravity, air-resistance, friction and buoyancy through practical lessons in class and the Science lab.

Art has been very much about signs and symbols and art used for communication. The aborigines, for example, leave messages in the sand. Paul Klee In "Highway and Byways", uses rectangles and squares to symbolise the structured, man-made world, while the circles represent the natural and divine element.



Crewe Green Sunflowers



KS3

Photography Skills

Epsilon class have been learning various photography skills, focusing on composition skills including rule of thirds, leading lines, sub framing and camera angles. Here are some great examples.



School Community Stars!

Luis and Alfie have been dedicating their end of day form time to volunteer as school litter pickers, keeping the outside area looking much tidier and helping Cadbury form to be Form of the Week. Well done boys!



Baking for Macmillan



Construction Simulator



KS4

Reaseheath College

The Year 10 students have had a great start to Reaseheath this year. Our students are participating in: Cooking, Business, Agricultural Engineering, Agricultural Land Animals and Equine. Here's Ashton and Elliot working together on a lawn mower engine.



Our Year 11 students have settled back into their second year at Reaseheath College. Zach has been working with the meerkats in their temporary enclosure.



Art & Design

We are super proud of Ben who is working on a piece for his Year 2 BTEC First Award in Art and Design. This section is on the theme Theatre Stage Design.



Life Skills

In life skills, Omega have been learning about online safety. KC spoke to Primary students about the ways that we can stay safe online.



AUSTEN

Austen News

Team Building Day Success

We kicked off the year with a successful team building day, where students bonded through challenges that built teamwork and confidence.

Reaseheath College Trips

Students studying Mechanics, Business Studies, Catering, and Hospitality enjoyed hands-on experiences at Reaseheath College. Our catering students even made scones and soup, showing off their culinary skills!

Work Experience Placements

Three students completed work placements at a Vet Clinic, a Leisure Centre, and an Equine Centre, gaining valuable real-world experience in their chosen fields.

New Students & Careers Trip

We're thrilled to welcome two new students, both settling in well. The whole Sixth Form also visited a careers open day at UTC Crewe to explore future opportunities.



Form of the Week Award

Congratulations to our Sixth Form group for winning the **Form of the Week Award** — a reflection of their hard work and positive attitudes!

Proud of our Students

We're incredibly proud of all our students for their hard work and dedication this term. The staff look forward to seeing them continue to thrive.

Recipe Time

Pasta Bake

Theme:

Cooking on a Budget.



Ingredients:

250g Pasta
250ml Milk
2Tbsp Plain Flour
25g Butter
50g Strong Cheddar Cheese
Vegetables of choice

Equipment:

Chopping Board
Knife
2x Saucepan
Whisk
Colander
Ovenproof Dish
Weighing Scales
Heatproof Spoon

Instructions

Preheat the Oven to 180 ° c

1. Boil the kettle and then add the water to a large saucepan. Cook pasta per packet instructions.
2. Add the vegetables when the pasta has 5 minutes left to cook.
3. Once cooked, drain and leave to the side.
4. In a smaller saucepan, add butter and heat gently until melted.
5. Slowly add the flour and whisk until it forms a paste.
6. Slowly add milk and once it thickens add 3/4 of your cheese, whisking until melted.
7. Add pasta to an ovenproof dish and pour your sauce over your pasta.
8. Sprinkle on the remaining cheese.
9. Bake in the oven for 20 minutes or until golden.

Secondary students have been learning how to cook on a budget as part of their life skills lessons.