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Introduction

I managed to visit four schools this morning and got a real sense of summer term energy amongst us. Chew Valley had the intake day for new Year 7, both Ubley and Blagdon were in the thick of preparations for end of year shows next week, and Churchill Academy are on Activities Week. We put a huge amount of work, planning and energy into these events, but they are so important to the big experience of education that we aspire to in LSP. Thank you!

We have a few summer events of our own coming up. We bid au revoir and thanks to a number of departing chairs and heads next week (12th July at Flax) and we also have the Lighthouse Business Breakfast on Friday 14th July at Gordano. If you can join us at either, please do.

We had Ofsted with us again last week, this time at Ubley. Ian and his team gave an excellent account of the education delivered there and we will share the report in due course. SIAMS were recently at St Mary's and that report is now published. It is incredibly warm and praises Amy Townsend's inspirational leadership. Well done in both cases.

Lastly, we have a few further changes in the LSP central team. Clare Giordmaine has been our Communications Officer almost from day one. She is leaving us next week to take up a new full-time role in marketing with the RAC. We shall really miss her as she has been outstanding at her work and enormous fun to work with. Her role is being taken by the equally wonderful Diane Logan and we are therefore recruiting a new administrator to join Eleanor's team.

Gary

LSP Annual Planner 2023-24

This is now [live and ready to view](#). Thank you for your patience; we hope you find it useful.

Deadlines for finances and budgeting have not yet been confirmed, so we will let you know once these have been added.

The Annual Planner lists key dates, deadlines and details of activities across the Trust. It is highly recommended that Headteachers, School Business Managers, Clerks, Office Managers/PAs etc are regularly reviewing the planner. There is a [‘how to’ video](#) that you can watch to help you navigate and get the most out of the document.

Headteacher Appraisals in September 2023

All Headteachers have been sent a proposed date for their appraisal to be held between 18 and 29 September 2023. Please ensure you check this date with your Chair, and other Governors if applicable, before the end of this term and confirm to the Central Team as swiftly as possible so that we can confirm these in diaries.

If you need reminding of the suggested date, please email ecapel-davies@lsp.org.uk

Safeguarding Consultation

Thank you very much to those who read and commented on the Safeguarding Policy consultation last week. The draft policy will now be discussed at Trustees on the 19 July and the final version sent to school at the end of term so that you can add your school specific details ready for September 2023.

LSP Business Breakfast Reminder

You're invited to join us at the upcoming Lighthouse Schools Business Breakfast, which will be held on Friday, July 14th at Gordano School.

We are pleased to announce that Stephen Penfold, Head of Talent Development at Thatchers Cider, will be our guest speaker. The focus of this breakfast event is on Apprenticeships, and Stephen's presentation will provide an engaging perspective on how Thatchers identifies and nurtures talent, ensuring the sustainability of the business for future generations.

In addition, several apprentices will share their experiences and diverse career paths.

This event is completely FREE and includes a complimentary buffet breakfast. The full details of the breakfast are below:

Event details

Friday 14 July 2023

7.30am-9.15am

Gordano School, St Mary's Road, Portishead, BS20 7QR

Parking available on-site

To book your place, please reply to cgiordmaine@lsp.org.uk



Energy Efficiency - Summer Switch off!

With the summer holidays fast approaching, now is a good opportunity to ensure your school is ready for the summer period and running as efficiently as possible. Please work with your site team and estate lead, if needed, to ensure you switch off anything that's not required over the summer holiday period.

[Energy Sparks has a useful checklist](#) to help you review areas that you may want to switch off.

Some of these will be small savings, but we want to encourage everyone to look at any savings possible.

Budgets for the three-year period from 2023-24

Thank you for your hard work in preparing your 3-year 2023-24 budget plans on IMP. The Central Finance Team have now reviewed your submitted budget and the results of their review are available [here](#). Please enter your LAEst number to receive the information for your school. Please ensure that the outcomes of the review of your budget are shared with your LGB.

The budgets will be presented to the Board of Trustees on 19th July for ratification. We will arrange a meeting for the Autumn to begin our work together to resolve the deficits projected for 2024-25.

Budget Monitoring

Thank you again to School Business Managers, and any other staff involved, for producing your budget monitoring report as at 30th April 2023. The Central Team have now checked your submissions for reasonableness and have collated the information for the Board of Trustees meeting on 27th June. The outcome of our checks can be found on [Foldr](#). Please enter your LA and DfE number to find the information for your school. Please be aware that we do not have sufficient information to determine whether your projections are completely accurate or not. Checks have been carried out for reasonableness and information has been provided to indicate any areas that may need further investigation to ensure that your projections are accurate. If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Central Finance Team.

Audit Workbook

Thank you all for your patience, this year's audit workbook is now ready and will be made available to you by the end of the day. This year, business managers will all be added to a Teams group called 'LSP Finance Secure' within which, there is a channel for each school containing the workbook file for that school. You can open the file into the excel app and edit in there, meaning it will autosave to the Teams server. This will also allow the central team to action requests such as adding new lines etc without you needing to pause your work as it can be edited simultaneously. If you have any trouble accessing this group, or require any assistance, please contact the central finance team.