

# The Ferrers News

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**14 SEPTEMBER 2018**



Welcome to all of our new parents and carers and welcome back to our existing families. We have had a brilliant start to term and are well and truly up and running for the new academic year.

It has been a very busy but enjoyable first two weeks of term, not only have we had our KS4 and Sixth Form Celebration Evening involving well over 80 students, which epitomised our School Motto of '**Aspire, Achieve, Acclaim**', our sporting teams have already taken part in many successful fixtures as well.

Students have made a really positive start to their learning and I would like to congratulate our new Year 7 students who made the transition to secondary school look really easy! Well done to you all and keep up the good work.

We are busy collating all of the extra-curricular activities that will run over the next term and will share these with you shortly.

Look out for our newsletters every fortnight. We will send them out by email so please let us know if your email address has changed over the summer, a copy can also be found on the School Website.

Please do take the time to read them: we will try to ensure that they include essential information in as concise a way as we can so that we can keep you up to date with what you need to know. We would welcome feedback on any improvements that you feel that we could make to the information that we provide. We very much look forward to working in partnership with you all over the next academic year.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'A Smith'.

Mrs Angela Smith  
Head Teacher

## **Learning and Progress - Ready to Learn!**

Our start of the year School Information Pack for Parents and Carers contains key 'need to know' information so that your child is well-prepared for the academic year ahead. It has already been emailed out to you but can also be found on our website [www.theferrers.org](http://www.theferrers.org), or click [here](#).

You can also view our School Calendar for details of forthcoming events on our website or click [here](#).

## **Core Curriculum Information Evenings: Year 10, 6.00pm to 7.00pm on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2018.**

We invite Year 10 parents and students to our Core Curriculum Information Evening. This will provide invaluable information regarding GCSE studies in English, Maths and Science as well as online tools to support your child with their studies throughout Year 10 and Year 11.

### **Open Evening 2018 - Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2018**

This year's Open Evening for Year 6 students is taking place on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> October from 6.00pm to 8.15pm. Student volunteers welcome! Students who volunteer to help showcase subjects should be in full school uniform for this event. We look forward to welcoming all prospective students, parents and carers to see what Team Ferrers has to offer.

### **Safeguarding Update**

There have been significant changes with our safeguarding. We have improved site security and have a new visitor booking in system. We commissioned an external safeguarding audit and are pleased to report that the findings reported that:

“There has been a robust review of safeguarding through the last few months. Staffing, site and policy changes have been implemented leading to a very different overall ethos with regard to safeguarding” (Safeguarding children in education audit report 10/9/2018)

### **Our Safeguarding Team for 2018-2019**

We have an excellent Safeguarding Team at The Ferrers and there is always someone available to listen and to help you. Safeguarding information is available at the main school reception.



**Miss York**  
Lead Designated Safeguarding Officer  
Assistant Head Teacher

Others members of our safeguarding team are:

Mr Jackson (Progress Leader Year 11)

Mrs Dean (Progress Leader Year 8)

Mrs Prince (Progress Leader Sixth Form)

Miss Orage (Student Support Advisor)

Mrs O'Dell (Inclusion Support Advisor)



**Mrs Hawthorn**  
Deputy Designated Safeguarding Officer & Transition Manager

If you have any concerns over the wellbeing of a young person please get in touch. You can also contact Northamptonshire's Safeguarding Children's Board directly to report concerns. (This can be done out of school hours). The link below is a parent/carers guide.

<http://www.northamptonshirescb.org.uk/parents-carers/parents-mash-guide/>

### **Every Lesson Counts: Attendance Matters! Whole School Target = 96%**

Analysis of results show that it is a fact that those students who attend school, arrive on time and have the correct uniform and equipment have the greatest success – no learning time is lost for them! It is important to remind you that, under DfE rules, Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

**If you consider that your request falls into this category, you may apply for permission by completing an Application for Leave of Absence. This can be obtained from Student Services or click [here](#) to download a copy.** A response will be sent to you as soon as possible. If the absence requested is not considered to be an exceptional circumstance, and you nevertheless take

your child out of school, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised in line with Local Authority guidance.

**Therefore, in the case of an unauthorised absence, our Education Welfare Officer will be notified and a Penalty Notice could be issued. Please note that Penalty Notices are issued to each parent for each child taken out of school. A Penalty Notice is a fine of £60 which increases to £120 if not paid within the first 21 days. If the Penalty Notice remains unpaid, this will result in further legal intervention.**

### **Site Matters**

We are pleased to inform you that our newly installed security gates are now operational. This means that the school site is secure throughout the school day. The gates will be open at the start of school and will be closed at 9.00am. They will then remain closed until 3.10pm each afternoon. Access during the school day will be via an intercom for both pedestrians and vehicles. Parents wishing to collect their child by car at the end of the day will have access to the site from 3.10pm. For safety reasons, we politely request that you park in the car park and not in the bays at the front of the school.

We are also pleased to let you know that, following a successful bid for funding, we are in the process replacing all of our external doors and windows. The project is on track to be completed by the end of the month.

### **Duke of Edinburgh Bronze & Silver Award**

Time is running out to sign up for the Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award and places are going fast! If you would like further information, please contact our DofE Coordinator, Miss Smith, on [alice.smith@theferrers.org](mailto:alice.smith@theferrers.org)

### **First Ferrers Parent Forum**

As we advertised last term, our first parent's forum will take place on **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September 6pm-7pm.**

Our agenda items are:

1. Anti-Bullying – Bully Intervention Group Award and Accreditation
2. Improving school/home communication
3. Safeguarding

If you would like to attend this forum please email the school to reserve your place. The deadline for reserving a space at the forum is **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 4pm**. Please contact the school on [mail@theferrers.org](mailto:mail@theferrers.org) or alternatively call to reserve your space.

The purpose of the forum is to share with you the improvements at the school and use this as a tool to listen to your views and suggestions on how we can work together in order for us to support your child to be the very best they can be.

### **Book Buzz**

We are really excited to launch and take part in the Bookbuzz scheme for Year 7s this year, it's a great reading incentive. It's all about inspiring students to read, exploring different genres and choice. Every student will receive a brand new book to take home and keep, a great start to their school year.

### **Go for Schools**

We are delighted to be able to launch Go4Schools for students and parents this term. This is an online web-based portal to log details about your child's attendance, academic progress and behaviour.

A parent App will be available towards the end of September 2018 (more information to follow). Students' timetables, homework, attendance, achievement and behaviour points will be easily accessible. Students will be able to login using their school email account at;

<https://www.go4schools.com/students/Login.aspx?url=https%3a%2f%2fwww.go4schools.com%2fstudents%2fdefault.aspx%3fnla%3d0>

### **Revision Tools / Apps to Support Learning**

There are a number of very effective revision websites and apps that students can access to support their learning. These will prove particularly useful to Year 11 students in the coming months, but may also prove beneficial to students in other years groups.

GCSE Pod                    [www.gcsepod.com](http://www.gcsepod.com)  
Sam Learning                [www.samlearning.com](http://www.samlearning.com)  
Seneca Learning            [www.senecalearning.com](http://www.senecalearning.com)

PiXL Apps                    Maths, Literature, History, Geography

### **SEN Support**

If you have any concerns, queries or questions regarding special educational needs this year, please email our SEN administrative support assistant on [Krupa.patel@theferrers.org](mailto:Krupa.patel@theferrers.org). Mrs Patel also manages the diary of the SENCo should you wish to make an appointment.

### **Support for students in receipt of Pupil Premium**

Please be aware we now have a student support advisor who works very closely with students and families who are in receipt of Pupil Premium. Miss Bale will be working closely with students to remove any barriers that may prevent them achieving their potential. Miss Bale will be introducing herself and the rest of the inclusion team at an event to be advertised soon. If you would like to discuss pupil premium or matters relating to it, please do not hesitate to email [Alex.Bale@theferrers.org](mailto:Alex.Bale@theferrers.org)

### **Free School Meals**

Did you know that just registering your child for Free School Meals means that the School gets extra money? With this money we could give extra help to students who need it. If you are registered for Free School Meals you could also get help with things like music tuition, school trips or other out of school activities, or there could be help to allow your child to continue into the Sixth Form. If you want your child to have a free, healthy meal at lunchtime that's great – they will get the free meal (saving you more than £400 a year). Even if you don't want the school meals, as long as you qualify and are registered, the School still gets the extra government funding. No one will know you have registered and it will not affect any other benefits you are claiming. Our cashless catering system ensures no other student knows who is receiving Free School Meals.

### **Sports Update**

Click [here](#) for the extra-curricular sports timetable for this term. The link to the online PE Calendar for parents and students is <https://teamup.com/ksd8dx1pi3s1zx8k8e>

### **Contacting You:**

As we start the new academic year, it is vital that we have up to date information about each student. Please ensure that we have the correct contact details for you.

### **Contacting Us:**

We also need to remind you that, should you need to make urgent contact with your child during the School day, this should be by contacting Student Services. It is not helpful if parents and carers contact their child during lessons via text messaging or calls to a mobile. We will confiscate mobile phones if seen during lessons and students will be placed in our daily detention.

## Key Dates for your Diary

Date	Year group	Event
19 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 12	TENC Year 12 Parents' Information Evening
20 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 10	Core Curriculum Information Evening
26 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 11	TENC Year 11 Parents' Information Evening
4 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 7	Year 7 Tutor Evening
10 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 11	TENC Year 11 into 12 Evening
15 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 6	Open Evening
19 <sup>th</sup> October	All	End of Term 1
29 <sup>th</sup> October	All	Training Day
30 <sup>th</sup> October	All	School re-opens for Term 2

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