

# The Ferrers News



30 NOVEMBER 2018

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## Don't miss the Sixth Form Application Deadline

A reminder that applications to join our Sixth Form in September 2019 should be submitted by 7<sup>th</sup> December 2018! For further support or guidance, please contact Mrs Prince, Progress Leader for 6<sup>th</sup> Form: [Helen.Prince@theferrers.org](mailto:Helen.Prince@theferrers.org)

## Year 11 MOCKs – Week 2

Please find below the timetable for the second week of Year 11's MOCK Examinations. With a week to go students should be completing their final preparations for the exams and utilising GCSE Pod to support their studies. For any further information, advice or guidance please email Mr Albinson [Matthew.Albinson@theferrers.org](mailto:Matthew.Albinson@theferrers.org)

Date	AM - 9.00am	11.00am	PM - 1.30pm
Friday 7th December	Art	Art	Art
Monday 10th December	French Writing German Writing Computing	French Reading German Reading	PE Paper 1
Tuesday 11th December	Food		Business Paper 1 Dance Media
Wednesday 12th December	Geography	Food Practical (X)	History
Thursday 13th December	Drama Philosophy & Ethics Product Design Textiles		Music PE Paper 2 Graphics
Friday 14th December	Spanish Writing	Food Practical (Y) Business Paper 2	Spanish Reading

**SAVE THE DATE**

## Year 9 Preferences Evening - Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December 6.00 – 8.00pm

Following an assembly this week, the next few weeks will be a hugely important time for Year 9 as they identify their preferred subjects for Key Stage 4. Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December will be an opportunity to hear how the curriculum is structured in Years 10 and 11 and discuss with subject staff the

qualifications that we offer. Please remember to check your invitation letter for the time of your presentation. The Guided Preferences booklet can now be viewed on the school website and copies will be given to parents and carers on the evening. We look forward to seeing you on 6<sup>th</sup> December and planning the next phase of your child's education.

## Go 4 Schools

At The Ferrers School, we are committed to working in partnership with parents to fully support our students ensuring they maximise their potential during this essential part of their education. Providing parents with ongoing, up to date information regarding their child is key, and we have therefore introduced the use of GO 4 Schools.

Using GO 4 Schools, you will be able to view your child's progress online and access the following information at any time:

- **Homework** – Homework tasks due in the next 7 days
- **Attendance** – Shown from the start of the academic year
- **Timetable** – Your child's daily and weekly timetable
- **Behaviour information**

This information can be obtained by logging in on the Go 4 Schools system online or via the phone app, which can be downloaded from the app store. A letter, giving full details, has been sent home to you today and can also be accessed via our website; this includes details of a number of parental workshops we have set up to help register and navigate the Go 4 Schools software.

## Business Breakfast

We would like to thank all the businesses who attended our inaugural Business meeting on Monday. It was a pleasure to meet you and we are looking forward to working with you throughout the academic year to support our students as part of our Raising Aspirations programme.

## World Skills UK Live

There were so many enthusiastic, inspired and cheerful Year 10 students returning from the World Skills UK Live event: their evaluations suggest that so many of them are far more knowledgeable about their future pathways now. It was such a pleasure for us to be able to take our students to this event, they were an absolute credit to the school in the way in which they conducted themselves! We will continue to support Year 10 in school over the course of this year as we launch our '*Making the Grade*' programme for them. As parents and carers, please do keep the dialogue open with your child about future plans and you are welcome to contact our independent Careers Advisor, Kate Allen: [kate.allen@theferrers.org](mailto:kate.allen@theferrers.org) if you would like further support.

## Staying Safe Online

Ensuring that your child is safe online is something which all parents and carers need to remain constantly vigilant. [#DITTO](#) is a free online safety magazine which will keep you up to date with risks, issues, advice and guidance, with a view to enjoying and learning about technology. A new edition is released approximately every 6 weeks and can be downloaded at <https://www.esafety-adviser.com/latest-newsletter/>

## Take Your Child to Work Day

As part of **National Careers Week** on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March, Year 8 students will have the opportunity to go to work for the day with their parents. We will send more information about this shortly.

## Attendance

Our whole school attendance figure up to and including November 23<sup>rd</sup> is 95.77%. This is just short of our school target of 96%. The following form groups are in the lead for % Attendance and will be recognised for their great attendance in assemblies next week.

7JSC	98.48%
9FFR	98.34%
11TCO	98.08%
9LWI	97.76%
7TCX	97.56%
11RDO	97.39%

We also currently have 301 students who have attended every session since September 2018. Please ensure that you make appointments outside of the school day as research shows a close link between attendance at school and a child's achievement. All time out of school affects students' learning and achievements.

Minutes late per day	Equivalent of missing
5 Minutes	3.4 school days a year
10 Minutes	6.9 school days a year
15 Minutes	10.3 school days a year
20 Minutes	13.8 school days a year
30 Minutes	20.7 school days a year

**Lateness** - It is a parent's responsibility to ensure their children arrive at school on time. Lateness can disrupt the learning of others and can result in a student feeling greater stress and achieving poorer outcomes. 90 per cent attendance means that your child is absent from lessons for the equivalent of one half day every week. Over five years this is the equivalent of about one half of a school year. Being late adds up to a loss of learning. Please make sure your child arrives at school on time. If a student arrives after registration has closed, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised for that session.

## Countdown to Christmas:

### Higham Sparkle

Students from The Ferrers School choir sang at the Higham Sparkle Event on Saturday 17th November. They were the first group to perform on stage at 11am that day. Students performed a selection of Christmas carols and later the pieces they are preparing to perform at the Christmas Carol Service. All students and staff at The Ferrers are welcome to join the group who rehearse weekly on a Tuesday lunchtime in Music Room 1.

### Christmas Hamper Appeal 2018

For several years the students at The Ferrers School have been invited to take part in an annual Christmas Hamper competition. It will soon be that time of year again and we are looking for small food donations which can be parcelled up into hampers which are delivered around Higham Ferrers to warden controlled houses and other vulnerable members of our community. We also make a delivery to the Rushden Food Bank.

We are seeking just a small donation - for example, a packet of biscuits, box of mince pies, tin of soup, small Christmas pudding or something equally suitable - which would make a lovely surprise for someone if it arrived in a hamper in time for Christmas. We have had the pleasure of delivering hampers for a number of years and it really is a great opportunity for some of our students to integrate with the local community and bring some Christmas cheer! We really cannot express the gratitude and thanks we receive from those who receive the hampers and it is something which is very easy to be part of.

Each form will have the opportunity to enter the Christmas Hamper competition. Students and staff will vote for the winners on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December and we will be delivering the parcels on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December. The winning forms will receive a prize during the final assembly of the year.

If you can send in something which would be suitable for a hamper we would be very grateful. Should you wish to help or support this venture in any way, or if you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

## Christmas Dinner

Christmas dinner will be served on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December. If your child would like a festive lunch, please ask them to book at Student Services by Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December.



## Christmas Jumper Mufti Day

On the final day of term (Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December) we will be inviting our students to wear full mufti including a Christmas Jumper (there will be prizes for the best ones!) To support our ongoing charity work students can make a voluntary donation of £2.00 to take part in this event. £1.00 will go to Save the Children (the organisers and founders of Christmas Jumper Day) and the other £1.00 will go to charities selected by each year group.

Year 7 - Alzheimer's Research

Year 8 - British Heart Foundation

Year 9 - Cancer Research

Year 10 - Toilet Twinning

Year 11 - Prostate Cancer Research

On the last day of term we will be having a slightly earlier finish time of **3.00pm** after year groups have had an opportunity to celebrate their terms success stories in the end of year assemblies.

## Winter Weather and Emergency Procedures: Snow!

We have been fortunate for a couple of years not to have experienced much extreme weather over the winter period. However, we cannot rest on our laurels and each year we plan early for potential significant snowfall. Whilst students would delight in having 'snow days', as parents and carers we know that you will support us in our aim to keep the school open as long as it is safe to do so. We have included with this newsletter our **Snow Procedures**. At this point we wish to highlight that one of the strategies that we may adopt in order to keep the school open if there is prolonged and heavy snowfall, but to ensure that students are safe, may be to shorten lunchtimes and finish the school day slightly earlier. This will only be as a last resort and, should we be in the position of considering this, we will let you know. We may also call for the support of the local community in clearing pathways should this be necessary!

## Sporting Achievements & Results

### Year 7 Rugby Festival

The Boys competed brilliantly with plenty of students new to the sport taking part combined with a few experienced club players. The resilience and determination shown by all of the students was outstanding in some tough cold and wet conditions. Well done to the following students; Kai, Sam, Kieran, Shay, Joe, Marley, Kiegan, Matthew, Michael, Isaac and Alex.

### Girls Basketball

Both teams played very well as a unit considering they had never played in competitive games together. Team B successfully placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the tournament, with some fantastic shooting and

collaboration. Team A finished 4<sup>th</sup>. A very challenging and physical tournament that the girls thoroughly enjoyed. They represented Ferrers amazingly well!

Team A :Alex, Charlotte, Holly, Lucy, Jessica, Aiden, Bella.

Team B: Devon, Niamh, Grace, Charleigh, Matilda, Matilda.

Click [here](#) for a link to our Term 2 Extra-curricular Sports Timetable.

### Key Dates for your Diary

Date	Year Group	Event
5 <sup>th</sup> December	ALL	Winter Showcase
6 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 9	Preferences Evening
17 <sup>th</sup> December	ALL	Christmas Carol Service
20 <sup>th</sup> December	ALL	School closes for Christmas break
7 <sup>th</sup> January	ALL	Training day – school closed for students
8 <sup>th</sup> January	ALL	Term 3 – students return to school
7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 12	London Residential
13 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 13	Uganda Trip
15 <sup>th</sup> February	ALL	School closes for half term
25 <sup>th</sup> February	ALL	Term 4 - students return to school

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