

The Ferrers News



15 SEPTEMBER 2017

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 KS5 Celebration Evening involving well over 80 students, which epitomised our School Moto of **'Aspire, Achieve, Acclaim'**, we have also had auditions for the School Production of 'High School Musical' in which over 70 students took part, trying out for a leading role! 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 'Angela Smith'.

Mrs Angela Smith
Head Teacher

Learning and Progress - Ready to Learn!

Students returned to school this term looking very smart and wearing their uniform with pride, a reminder however that denim jeans and lycra skirts are not acceptable.

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 will be emailed out to you and can also be found on our website www.theferrers.org, or click [here](#).

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

At a Glance:

Core Curriculum Information Evenings: Year 10, 6.00pm to 7.00pm on Thursday 21st September, 2017.

This academic year sees the introduction of our Core Curriculum Information evenings in response to your feedback about how we can better help parents and carers to support their child's learning.

Make the Grade: Being Year 11 Ready and Beyond! Wednesday 27th September, 2017

Our Year 11 students are now entering the final stage of their GCSE studies. A Year 11 into Sixth Form event will be taking place on **Wednesday 27th September 2017** – more information to follow.

Open Evening 2017: Monday 16th October, 2017

This year's Open Evening for Year 6 students is taking place on Monday 16th 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.

Safeguarding Update Every Lesson Counts: Attendance Matters!

Analysis of results show that it is a fact 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 a parent believes such circumstances exist, they may apply for permission - a Leave of Absence request form can be obtained from Student Services.

Parents and carers may be issued with a penalty notice for taking their child on holiday during term time for 5 consecutive days or more without consent from the School. These penalties can range from between £60 and £120 and are payable within 28 days. Each parent and carer may be fined for each individual child. Penalties are imposed by Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) and the monies collected do not come to the School.

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.

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 done 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.