

The Ferrers News



2nd March 2018

High School Musical

If you didn't manage to secure a ticket for the school production of High School Musical last week, please make sure you put in advance orders for next year's extravaganza. We had two fantastic nights of entertainment in which all who participated truly excelled. A massive thank you and well done to the whole cast, crew, musicians and staff who in the words of the song 'Breaking Free' were Soarin' and Flyin'.

Year 7 Creative Writing Competition

To tie in with World Book Day, the Year 7 Ferrers News team thought that it would be great to have a creative writing competition for their year. They helped to design a poster, liaised with staff about possible prizes and will also deliver a presentation in assembly. This is the first whole-year writing competition that we have had and hope that it will be a real success with lots of entries. The closing date is Friday 23rd March. Year 7s have just completed a creative writing unit in English so should have lots of creative skills to show off!

We're a Digital School!

Our school is part of Parent Zone's Digital Schools Membership programme, recognising our commitment to keeping our pupils safer online, and making sure we work with you to achieve this.

Our Digital Schools membership gives you FREE access to Parent Zone's brand new Parent Lounge with:

- Online training
- Expert advice and information on all things digital
- Access to a free help service for all your tech questions



To get started, go to <https://parentzone.org.uk/parents/discover-parent-lounge>

- Click **ENTER PARENT LOUNGE**
- Click on the pink **ADD TO CART** button
- On the next page click **checkout**. You'll then be asked to enter your email address.
- On the next page, you will need to enter the coupon code **DSP16** to ensure you have free access. The code gives you a 100% discount.

Once you've completed the short registration you'll receive two emails - one confirming your order and one with log in instructions. After clicking the link in the email press the log in button to set a password, then you'll be directed to the Parent Lounge.

Once you have logged in the Parent Lounge will always be accessible at this link:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/parents/discover-parent-lounge>

General Data Protection Act (GDPR)

Under current legislation, we already have a duty of care to ensure that all data is kept safe and secure. With the new GDPR Act coming into force in May 2018 there will be an increased responsibility to ensure that all information, regardless of what form its kept in, is managed in the right way in compliance with this new Regulation.

Data collection sheets will be sent out to all parents in order to have specific approval from both parents and students (those over 13 years of age) to allow personal data, including photographs, to be used throughout

the school. Internet services delivered and accessed by the student e.g. Edmodo, Kudo (careers programme) will also require written permission.

PiXL Maths Leaderboard

Well done to the following students who are leading the PiXL Maths app in their years.

Position	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
1 st	Libbie	Muhammed	Taylor
2nd	James	Bella	Holly
3rd	Zack	Tom	Chibu

Year 11 - Don't forget to also use the PiXL English Lit, Geography and History apps for your revision

Year 9 Passion Projects

Year 9 have been involved in researching and presenting topics that are close to their hearts. This has involved a tremendous amount of time, energy, commitment and ingenuity. The students were asked to present their passion to other students in whichever way they thought was the most effective. This has then involved practical models such as a mechanical machine that played music, dance dvds, artistic boards showing art and creative designs, booklets on anti-bullying and even a 3d model of a parabolic curve. What was really impressive was the professionalism with which the students presented and explained their work to others. For the last two weeks, the students have been able to showcase their work and talent to other students across the year group.

Miss Hirsh, Miss York and myself are blown away by the talent and skills within the year group. We are really proud of them and the work they have produced.

Claire Fleming, Year 9 Student Progress Leader

Year 13 Dance Performance

On Thursday 8th March at 4pm our very talented Year 13 A Level Dance students will be showcasing their practical exam work to gain audience feedback in preparation for their final practical exam on Wednesday 21st March.

If you are free, please come along! There will be four solo performances choreographed in the style of leading Contemporary Dance practitioners Hofesh Shechter, Matthew Bourne, Akram Khan and Richard Alston danced by Ashleigh, Megan, Hope and Stevie Leigh. There will also be a quartet performance from all four students and their group choreography based on the concept of Pop Art and the different stages of sleep which will also showcase the talent of our KS3, KS4 and KS5 dancers. Hope to see you there.

Miss Hirtsch & Mrs Atkins, Expressive Arts

Medical Physics workshop

25 of our most able students took part in a Medical Physics workshop with Dr Abby Bell, a Physics specialist from The Institute of Physics. The students learned about the various professions available in the health field related to Physics.

Harleigh, Year 9, and Ben, Year 7, had the opportunity to have an ultrasound and the other students could hear their heartbeats through a speaker connected to the machine.

Some comments from some of the students who attended the workshop:

"We learnt about how X-rays work and that how X-rays let us see things of a certain density"

"I found it enjoyable and very interesting, it made me want to take a job like that as I would love it. I like physics even more now"

"I found it interesting and fascinating and I learnt all about total internal reflection"

"I though the workshop was amazing!! I really enjoyed all aspects of the work and learned quite a bit. I was proud to be involved with it"

"It was really interesting and gave you an idea if you might want a job in this area in the future"

The Big Bang



On Wednesday 28th February nearly 50 Key stage 3 students attended the Big Bang at Silverstone. Students took part in a range of S.T.E.A.M activities (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Maths). The Event was run by The University of Northampton and the NCOP outreach partnership University of Northampton's School Engagement Team.

Students took part in a range of workshops including:

Medical Mavericks: Careers in Health

A hands on workshop where students took blood, recorded and printed an ECG, tried keyhole surgery, and saw inside their own body with an ultrasound machine and took a picture of the inside of their own eye!

UoN Sports Journalism: Sports Commentating Workshop

Some of the biggest moments in sport have happened at Silverstone. But what's the science behind that story being told? Some of our students had a go at commentating on an F1 race and saw Behind The Scenes of the commentary box with the University of Northampton's Multimedia Sports Journalism team.

Cracking the Code: The Genetics of Superheroes

The comic books are filled with mutants; heroes and villains whose special abilities are genetic in their origin. But what are real mutants like, and could we one day use genetics to make us superhuman?

We asked the students what had inspired them the most throughout the day and here are some of the comments:

- We measured our pulse and it made me consider becoming a doctor
- The psychology stand, as I loved learning about the human brain and how it works
- The Airlander stand as it helped me understand the science behind engineering
- I loved being a commentator in the F1 box at Silverstone – I can't believe I stood where Lewis Hamilton has been!

The Business Club

We have a new lunchtime club on a Thursday lunchtime called 'The Business Club.' This is a drop-in session where students studying Business GCSE can come down and get extra help on topics, complete homework, find extra topics to revise/work to do at home, or support on topics they feel they are struggling with.

Sometimes, students will be 'invited' to attend if it is felt that they do need some extra help and support.

Why have one teacher when you can have 30?!

10q/En2 were tasked with taking one of the 15 poems from their AQA Literature anthologies in pairs or threes and producing a twenty-minute lesson based on their given poem – complete with objectives, starters and plenaries of course! The level of research conducted, alongside the high quality production of resources, handouts and annotations, have enabled them to take real ownership of their learning. All it has taken is an occasional 'chip in' from myself to address any minor misconceptions or to ensure that key elements of the poem are discussed, analysed and recorded. By tasking them with doing the basic research to understand the poems in the anthology, we are now ahead of the game, with more time available to spend honing key exam skills and techniques. Additionally, some students have commented on how 'difficult' it is to stand and deliver – no more back-chat from those in future then...!

For a control freak like myself, a bit of a gamble admittedly. On this occasion however, one which has definitely paid off. What's more, come revision time, we already have two or three ready-made 'experts' at each poem, ready to be the first port of call for their peers who require a slight refreshment of knowledge. Success! *Mr Downs, Year 8 Student Progress Leader*

Attendance Winners! Congratulations to the following forms for having the highest attendance in their year group!

- 7MMC 99.3% ATTENDANCE CHAMPIONS, for having the highest attendance in the whole school!
- 8BLE 98.3%, 9DHA 96.8%, 10SRO 97.7%, 11ESM 91.7%

472 students had 95% and above attendance last term and have now had another ticket added to the raffle. This terms prize is an ipad!

A special mention also to 7HDN, 8MBI, 9DRA, 10SRO and 11JPR who improved their form attendance the most in the year group. Whole School attendance for last week was 94.4%. We would like to exceed the national average of 95% weekly and need your help in ensuring children are coming to school every day.

Who will be attendance champion next week? Watch this space!

Sporting Achievements & Results

Swimming

Congratulations to Freya in Year 12, who will be participating in the British Swimming Championships this weekend. We wish her all the very best in her races.

Rugby

Both Year 7 (U12) and Yr 8 (U13) rugby teams have qualified for the Northants County Rugby Finals. Year 8 will play on Weds 7th March 2.00pm kick off at Old Northamptonians, Northampton and Year 7 will play on Weds 14th March 2.00pm kick off at Old Northamptonians, Northampton.

Come and join our Team: check out our current vacancies

Are you, or someone you know interested in working at The Ferrers School? We currently have vacancies and if you are interested, we would love to hear from you. Please follow this link for further details: <http://www.theferrers.org/page/?title=Vacancies&pid=8>

'Making the Grade' Programme for Year 11

	Monday 5 th March	Tuesday 6 th March	Wednesday 7 th March	Thursday 8 th March	Friday 9 th March
Time: 12:35	Business Unit 1 – Putting a Business L3	French Writing in 3 tenses L1 Mr Bialkowski			
Time: 15.30	German Imperfect tense for higher H2 Miss Jones	Biology Practical Biology S6	Chemistry Electrolysis S8	Maths 6-8: Solving Linear & Quadratic Equations using Graphs & Maths 3-5: Forming & Solving Equations (including Quadratics) All Maths room	Food NEA Make the Grade S2 Mr Headley
	Food NEA Make the Grade S2 Mr Headley	French Describing a picture L6 Mrs Wilson	History Medicine H18	Physics Practical Physics S9	Computing Simple coding D5a Mr Davison
	BTEC ICT Audio Assignment D5a Mr Davison	Food NEA Make the Grade S2 Mr Headley	Business Economic focus- small business D5a Mr Watson	Food NEA Make the Grade S2 Mr Headley	Textiles Exam Portfolio D4
	English Writing: Grades 7-9H23 Mrs MacLauchlan	Graphics Portfolio & Exam pre-release D4 Miss Leech	BTEC ICT Unit 3 - Distinction criteria D5 Miss Bulley	Product Design Performance characteristics of different materials including 'smart' and 'modern' D10	

Key Dates for your Diary

Date	Year group	Event
13 th March	Year 10	Year 10 Parents' Evening
14 th March	Y12	Year 12 Parents' Evening
22 nd March	Year 8	Year 8 girls 2 nd HPV vaccination
29 th March	Year 7	Year 7 Disco
29 th March	All	School closes for Easter break
17 th April	All	School re-opens to all students

‘Aspire, Achieve, Acclaim’