

The Ferrers News



18th July 2018

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This term has been packed full of: Performances from talented musicians, actors, dancers and artists during Arts Week; sporting achievements; transition events for our new Year 6 into 7 and Year 11 into 12 students; careers and futures events for Year 10 and Year 12 students; forensic scientists from visiting primary schools; film makers hitting the headlines in London; Duke of Edinburgh activities; debating; Business Dragons competitions and a lot of hard work from the students during their exams week. After a truly exhausting term for all and as we end the academic year, we would like to thank parents, carers and students for the support they have shown.

In keeping with our motto of 'Aspire, Achieve Acclaim' and as we put final plans into place for the 2018-2019 academic year, we are very excited to be in the final stages of launching our 'Raising Aspiration' Programme supported and enhanced by our business directory of local business contacts. To support in raising attainment and progress, we have a new and revised feedback policy which will help students identify clear steps for improvement. In addition, teachers will have a specific focus on questioning, pace and challenge in lessons. To celebrate and acclaim students' success, the Achievement Pyramid that has been trialled throughout term 5 & 6 will be fully launched in the 2018-2019 academic year. Students can collect their achievement badges and rewards when they hit the thresholds set.

We would also like to reassure you that following the release of the Ofsted report last week, all leaders and governors are committed to addressing the areas identified within the report to bring about rapid improvement for the students who are already at the school and for those joining us in September. We will ensure that parents and carers are kept fully up to date on all areas identified for improvement as we move into the next academic year.

However, we do need to ask for your continued support as parents and carers. The school cannot make rapid improvements without your backing and so it is essential that you work in partnership with us by ensuring that your child:

- Attends school every day and is on time – please refrain from taking time off for holidays and appointments
- Comes to school ready to learn with a positive attitude, the correct equipment and uniform
- Upholds high standards of conduct

Parent and Carer Information Booklet - key information relating to the start of the next academic year is contained within this information booklet and can be found on our website at www.theferrers.org. There are some minor changes to the internal timings of the day, important 'Who to Ask' questions, and supporting information to enable a smooth transition between year groups or schools. We would also like to also let you know in advance that we will be moving across to a new platform for sharing homework, attendance and behaviour called Go4Schools. Student and parent login details will be distributed at the start of the next academic year.

Anti-Bullying Update

The Student Union have been conducting some excellent work investigating the perceptions of bullying in and around the school. Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 have had an opportunity to share their views and members of the Student Union have analysed the student surveys.

By reviewing and listening to the student responses, from September we are:

1. Re-writing our anti-bullying policy with the Student Union involvement. This will be shared with the whole school community including parents early next term.
2. Continuing to work closely with the police and other local schools as students talked about their feelings about staying safe in the wider community (for example, the Greenway)

3. Changing some of the break and lunchtime duties to zones so staff can be accessed more easily particularly for the younger students
4. Opening up the 3G pitch for supervised activities during the lunchtime (trials very successfully this term)
5. Continuing our journey working towards gaining the 'BIG' award (Bullying Intervention Group)

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind you about the Parent Forums which will be set up termly from September. The focus and agenda for the Forum meetings will be sent out in advance. Please register your interest if you wish to attend by contacting the school.

Girls Physics Challenge

Four of our able Year 10 female physicists took part in the Girls Physics Challenge at Sir Christopher Hatton School. The theme of the challenge was thermal engineering and the girls had to design and make a model space shuttle which would withstand the high temperatures the shuttle faces when re-entering the Earth's atmosphere. The competition was stiff with a number of local schools competing for first prize, however, after a tense final (with our students going first) and consequently having a long wait – the final group failed to match our result and we were declared the winners of this year's challenge. A huge well done to Poppy, Lily, Katherine and Isabel for their winning design and to Mrs Kenton for organising the trip for us.

Year 10 Geography Field Visit to Stanwick Lakes

The Year 10 Geographers recently completed their second field visit to the exotic locale of Stanwick Lakes! They spent the morning collecting information about the visitor numbers, the attractions and investigated how people are affecting the environment. They were well behaved and a credit to themselves around the public areas of Stanwick Lakes.

Once back at school, students completed the write-up of their investigation by interpreting data, drawing graphs and evaluating what they did. This will help them to complete their Unit Three examination on June 13, 2019.

Dragons' Den

Year 10 students William, Ellie, Muhammed and Kieran represented The Ferrers School at the Dragons' Den Competition held at the East Northamptonshire Chamber in Thrapston which was hosted by TENC. The students competed against teams from Manor School, Huxlow School and Rushden School to pitch the next best new business idea to a team of local business owners. Our team presented a personalised cushion business called 'Keepsake Cushions' which was very well presented and the students did us proud. Unfortunately on this occasion we did not win, but would like to congratulate our team who represented the school professionally and confidently during the whole day.

Miss Bulley, BECIT Curriculum Leader

Duke of Edinburgh Award

Following the success of the Duke of Edinburgh Programme this year we are pleased to announce that recruitment is now open for students moving into Year 9 (Bronze award), Year 10 (Bronze & Silver Award) and Year 12 (Silver Award). You can find out more about the courses www.dofe.org. Please contact Miss Alice Smith for more information at Alice.Smith@theferrers.org

Safeguarding Concerns over the Summer Holidays - Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (M.A.S.H)

The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) deals with referrals from professionals and members of the public who may have concerns about a child's welfare. These can be made anonymously if you have any concerns about a young person.

Safeguarding Referrals must be made in one of the following ways:

By telephone contact to the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH): **0300 126 1000**

By e-mail to: MASH@northamptonshire.gcsx.gov.uk

By using the online referral form found at: <http://www.northamptonshirescb.org.uk/more/borough-and-districtcouncils/> in an emergency outside office hours, contact children's social care out of hours team on 01604 626938 or the Police

Film Maker - Winners!

Congratulations to the students from The Ferrers Media Club who travelled down to London to the Finalists' Event for the Childnet Film Competition. Following a screening of the top 3 films from Primary and Secondary categories, the judges from the BBC, BFI, BBFC and BAFTA announced the winners. The Ferrers School won the Secondary category and came home with a whole film-making kit for the school. The film will also be used to promote Safer Internet Day next year.

What a fantastic achievement by, Orla, Clodagh, Chelsey, Ellie, Tilly, Nicole, Courtney, and Carrie Jayne. The Childnet Film Competition finalists' films are now up on the BBC Own It website.

<https://www.bbc.com/ownit/take-control/eman-childnet-film-competition>

Year 13 Leavers' Ball

What a fabulous evening! The Year 13 Leavers' Ball at The Park Inn Northampton on Friday 29th June was one of celebration tinged with sadness. Everyone looked glamorous and sophisticated and it was lovely to see staff and students from all three schools having such a wonderful time. We will miss all of our Year 13 students and wish them all the very best for the future.

Attendance Winners!

Attendance figures for the whole school are improving but we strongly believe that, with your support, the attendance figures can exceed the national average of 95% weekly. To do so we need your help in ensuring that children are coming to school every day and not missing key learning due to term time holidays and appointments in school time.

Congratulations to the following forms for having the highest attendance in their year group this week!

7JCR with 98.1%, 8MBI with 95.3%, 9CDA with 93.8% and 10SRO with 98.1%. Well done 7JCR! And congratulations to 8MKE who had the most improved attendance in the whole school.

Some of our students have also been taking part in an attendance competition to see if they could improve. 63 students of those targeted improved their attendance. Well done to all of those students.

Who will be the next attendance champions? Watch this space!

Sporting Achievements & Results

Year 7 (Under 13) County Athletics

Congratulations to the following Year 7 students who represented the Wellingborough & East Northants District at the U13 Northants County Athletics Championships at Rockingham Triangle, Corby on Monday 2nd July:

- Shannon won the 200m girls event
- Alex won the 200m boys event
- Oliver took 2nd place in Shot
- Ruby took 3rd place in High Jump
- Shannon took 3rd place in 4x100m relay
- Charlie & Ethan took 3rd place in 4x100m relay

Year 7 (Under 13) School Games Level 3 County Cycling

Congratulations to the following 6 Year 7 students who won the Level 2 district cycling tournament. As a consequence they were selected to represent the Wellingborough & East Northants District, winning the bronze medal at the U13 Northants School Games Level 3 County Finals at Moulton College on Thursday 5th July: Shannon, Grace, Lauren, Josh, Callum and Jack

Year 7 District Rounders

Congratulations to the following Year 7 girls who won the Level 2 District Rounders tournament at Rushden School on Tuesday 3rd July:

Shannon, Grace, Lauren, Ellie, Isabel, Khaylan, Caitlin, Jess and Ruby

Key Dates for your Diary

Date	Year group	Event
20 th July	Year 7- 10	End of Term 6
3 rd September	All	School closed for Training Day
4 th September	All	School closed for Training Day
5 th September	Year 7 - 12	Students return to school
5 th Sept	Years 7 - 11	School photographs
6 th September	Year 13	Year 13 students return to school
13 th September	Years 10 – 13	KS4 Celebration Evening
4 th October	Year 7	Year 7 Tutor Evening
19 th October	All	End of Term 1
29 th October	All	Training Day
30 th October	All	School re-opens for Term 2

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