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Visit from
Chris Cohen

Geography
Field Trip

Pupil
Leadership
Team

FARNBOROUGH FOCUS

Giving everyone the chance to **shine** brightly

September-December 2017



Doing
the
right
thing



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The Farnborough Academy has had some amazing events happen this half term, with the Christmas Concert showcasing a lot of talent! See inside for more events and photos from this term!

ALSO INSIDE:

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Attendance Challenge

At The Farnborough Academy we are constantly working to improve our pupils' chances of greater achievement. One of the key attributes to this is a good attendance. Pupils with good attendance often achieve higher GCSE grades when compared to pupils with poor attendance.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support with raising attendance. The school is now at 94.6% and very close to the national average. A great success... Well done all! To ensure attendance remains high profile in the academy, we feel it is important to acknowledge the pupils for ensuring they are here every day, on time.

In addition to weekly rewards for pupils with 100% attendance and improved attendance, 359 pupils were eligible for the cinema trip reward in November. This was for pupils with less than 5 behaviour points and over 95% attendance. A great time was had by all! Many pupils are on track for this term's reward of 'Ice Skating!'. We look forward to sharing pictures with you in our next newsletter.

Attendance week in December saw staff including Heads of Year and the Senior Leadership team visiting parents and families at their home, to offer support and this was very well received. Activities during the week included Form Time Learning activities, poster making for primary schools and tutor vs tutor attendance challenge. Pupils who knew their attendance won small rewards and the winning tutor groups in each year will be enjoying pizza on the last day of term.

Please continue to support your child's education and ensure you send your child to school every day unless genuinely ill.



Pupil Leadership Team

Taking on leadership roles such as sports captains, prefects, and participating as a member of a Student Council teaches students the art of responsible leadership. That is why we are excited that The Farnborough Academy is a school that offers excellent pupil leadership opportunities.

This past term, pupils have been electing their pupil leadership teams including school council representatives, prefects, sports captains, performing arts captains, charity captains and Year captains for the 2017-2018 school year. We have also elected a Head Boy (Daniel Wilson) and Head Girl (Ellie Fletcher) from Year 11. These pupils have been acting as ambassadors for the school, having represented pupil voice in school council meetings and worked alongside the senior leadership team to help shape our school on its journey to excellence.

We congratulate all the pupils who were elected, and we congratulate all the pupils who ran for election.



Captain Cohen

Chris Cohen, captain of Nottingham Forest Football Club, came into the academy to talk to the Pupil Leadership Team about what it takes to be a strong leader. The Pupil Leadership Team took it in turns to ask Chris questions they had come up with. One of the questions was, "As captain, how do you deal with the demands and disagreements in the dressing room?" Chris answered with "sometimes it can be difficult because there are some big characters in a dressing room. You have to just remember that everyone's opinion is valid and will be listened to." The pupils involved really enjoyed getting an insight in a captain's role and have taken a lot from the session.



Early Christmas at QMC

This year, The Farnborough Academy helped raise over £700 for the Children's Cancer Ward at Queens Medical Centre. In November, Mr. Halford, who helped to organise this fundraising, visited the QMC and put the Christmas tree up on the ward, with the patients helping to decorate.



Mr. Halford, Dionne Goodman and Joshua Davis visited the ward again on 20th December and were given a special opportunity to personally hand out these presents.

The staff on the ward thanked the pupils, and the academy for all their hard work and efforts in creating this day for the patients.



Geography Field Trip

Earlier this year, the Year 11 Geography pupils were accompanied by Mr Beeken, Mrs Barraclough, Mr Hickman and Mrs King on an expedition to the sand dunes at Theddlethorpe, just North of Mablethorpe in North Lincolnshire.

The pupils had to conduct data collection on how vegetation cover and acidity changes as you progress from the front of the sand dune to the back of it. On the day it was a chilly morning, and it looked threateningly overcast – there was much relief as I realised everyone had taken the suggestions as to appropriate attire seriously.



The relief was palpable when the pupils realised Mr Beeken had been left with no choice but to book the “Executive” coach as we embarked on our 2 hour journey to the North Lincolnshire coastline. The pupils were impeccably behaved on the journey and a testament to the academy. Upon arrival another coach pulled up next to ours with a cargo of Sixth Form Geography pupils – my heart sank as it seemed inevitable that they would beat us to the best fieldwork location on the dunes. Thankfully, we quickly mobilised, armed with our Quadrat’s, tape measures, trowels and trundle wheels! They were clearly intimidated by our professional nature as they skulked down to the sea front to count some waves.

The pupils then spent two hours collecting primary data – at points battling through vegetation to be as accurate in their measurements as possible.

This was a great success and we were incredibly proud of the manner with which the students conducted themselves. It felt more like an A level or university fieldtrip at points.

With the data collection complete, we had a bit of time left. So we headed to the Mablethorpe Seal Sanctuary to eat our lunch and explore what it had to offer.



We were surprised at the size of the sanctuary and pupils were afforded plenty of time to take in all of the different species. A major highlight was the fascination the pupils seemed to have with doing an impression of a parrot! I’m not sure how to describe it other than “interesting.”

Overall it was a great day that we believe not only equipped the pupils with the necessary skills to tackle their Geography exam in the summer but also enriched them with a great opportunity to visit an endangered animal sanctuary. The students represented Farnborough with pride and it was a privilege to accompany them.



Battlefields Trip

During October, 20 pupils from across Years 9, 10 and 11 went abroad to the battlefields of the First World War – both to support their studies for World History in Year 9 and to support the study of Medicine on the Western Front for GCSE.

Day 1 - The trip started at the very early time of 4am on the Friday morning, where the group met our two coach drivers for the trip. Luckily we ended up arriving at Dover slightly earlier than expected and so caught an earlier ferry across the English Channel. On arrival in Calais, we then drove into Belgium and visited Lijssenthoek Cemetery. In the spring of 1915, the first of a number of military hospitals were established and they continued to treat casualties up to the end of the war. Lijssenthoek is the second largest military cemetery in Belgium. We spent some time looking for the grave of Nellie Spindler, one of only two women from WW1 buried in the whole of Belgium.

We then went to Bayernwald German trenches, which are sections of carefully restored trenches from around 1916. This highlighted to some of the pupils how difficult it would have been to move around the trenches, especially with casualties. After this, we went into Ypres and spent some time looking around the town before a quick appointment with the chocolate shop on the square, where we bought chocolate and sweets for ourselves and our family back home. We ate dinner in a restaurant on the main square before taking part in the Menin Gate ceremony at 8pm, which happens at the same time every evening. It was a moving ceremony and everybody stood respectfully during the silence until the Bugler sounded the end of the event. We boarded our coach again and went to our accommodation to get a good night’s sleep before the next day.

Day 2 – This day was spent on a guided tour of the Ypres area, with a fantastic Guide who was very knowledgeable. We visited Hill 60, the site of a great underground mine explosion, and also Langemark German

Cemetery which was totally different to the commonwealth cemetery we saw the previous day. Finally we visited Tyne Cot Military cemetery which is absolutely huge, and was being set up for a remembrance event later that day and so every single grave stone had a small candle lit in front of it. We were then dropped off at the Passchendaele Museum where we could see various different exhibits about the war, including a recreated underground dugout system and a recreated set of trenches.

Day 3 – We spent the morning completing a guided tour of the Somme area in France. We collected our travel guide from Albert and departed for the local sites. We started with Lochnagar Crater, which is a huge crater hole 98ft deep made by a massive amount of explosives. The Guide told us about the great number of fallen soldiers and explosives that still existed under the soil of nearby farmers’ fields. Next was a visit to Beaumont Hamel Memorial Park, which is run by volunteers from Canada in memory of the Newfoundland Regiment. The original trench lines are preserved under grass, and there were several beautiful memorials around the park. We also went to Thiepval Memorial and Visitors’ Centre. Thiepval is impressively grand in scale, designed originally by Edwin Lutyens as a memorial to all the missing soldiers in the surrounding area. We spent time looking for the panel showing members of the Notts and Derby regiment.

‘It was very educational and luckily the weather was great. The city was beautiful. It was a one of a kind experience’ Nicole Bailey, Year 11.





Farnborough Careers



It has been a busy first term predominantly for year 10 and 11 as they get closer to making key decisions about their future.

The Farnborough Academy Careers Fair

We always host our own careers fair at the Academy which, this year, was open to years 9, 10 and 11 pupils and parents. This is always a hugely successful event as we have providers from a wide range of colleges, universities, local businesses, apprenticeships, Army, Navy, Marines and many more offering help and advice to pupils about their futures. The image below (left) shows pupils interviewing a pilot from Easy Jet.



Accelerating Confidence East Midlands Airport

This exciting project was launched to all our year 10 pupils at the start of the term offering 10 pupils the opportunity to take part in a series of visits to the airport in order to build on their employability skills, grow in confidence and get an insight of all aspects involved with working at the airport. Pupils were invited to complete an application and we had a very encouraging response. We then had the very difficult job of selecting the final 10! To date



the pupils involved have already had 3 visits, all of which are filmed in order to track and feedback on their progress. The visits have included ice breaker activities, speed networking where the pupils had the opportunity to interview a range of employers from the airport including; a pilot, security, customer services and ground staff. The pupils have also taken part in a 'retail challenge' where they had to present their ideas to staff from the airport and their peers. We have already seen a noticeable change in the confidence of these pupils and we are looking to extend this type of opportunity to more pupils involving more businesses – watch this space!

Nottingham Trent University

In October a representative from Nottingham Trent University came to speak to year 10 in assembly about the number of opportunities and activities they can get involved in prior to leaving the Academy. The scheme is called NTU Progression and pupils can access this via www.ntu.ac.uk/progression. Some of the opportunities include potential work experience placements. If pupils or parents require any further information regarding this scheme they are welcome to contact Miss Boseley.



Ambition University of Nottingham

Also in October our year 11 pupils involved with the Ambition project at The University of Nottingham had their final campus visit. The visit included a look around the halls of residence to give the pupils an idea of the catering facilities, rooms and shared bathroom facilities. They also had



Farnborough Careers



the opportunity to talk to students to find out what it is like. The pupils also did a session on finance to help them understand how to budget if they were to attend university. Finally, they had the opportunity to interview a number of employers from the university including the Student Union and Student Welfare.

We have also launched the Ambition project to our current year 7's and the pupils selected are due a campus visit in January. Our current year 8's, who are involved in the project, have their next campus visit scheduled for February.

Bright Day(s) – Bright Futures

In October Bright Futures hosted the Bright Day for year 11. This included taking the whole of the year group to the careers fair held at Harvey Hadden in Bilborough where the pupils had the opportunity to talk to a vast range of colleges, FE, universities, sixth form, apprenticeships and have the opportunity to collect as much literature and information as they could. When the pupils returned to the Academy they took part in a number of tailored workshops linked with future pathways including CV workshops, sessions led by Nottingham Trent, Apprenticeships First, Nottingham University and British Gypsum. The pupils fed back that they found the day very useful in preparing them for their next steps.

In December Bright Futures hosted year 10 and the theme of this day was 'preparing pupils for work experience' The day started with a careers fair held in our main hall where a number of local businesses and colleges came to offer their support and advice to our pupils and guided them on their choices based on what they wanted to do in the future. This was followed by a number of tailored workshops to support the pupils with the process of applying including; CV

writing, application and letter writing, role plays and interview skills. We also had outside providers including Nottingham City Council, Addo Foods and Nottingham Trent University delivering workshops. The feedback from the pupils was that the day was very useful in giving them the tools to now look and apply for a work experience placement. Please also note that the dates for work experience this year are week commencing Monday 10th September – Friday 14th September 2018. for one week only. The pupils should start securing placements now! If you require any further information please contact Miss Boseley.



Event Spark

Our team of year 10 pupils involved in the Event Spark project have progressed considerably since our last update in summer. They are in the process of organising an event to raise awareness of anti-social behaviour in their community. They have been discussing the theme, location of the event and the type of entertainment. They have been working brilliantly as a team with support from the staff at 'Blue Monday Events'. It is proposed that their event will take place in March at a location in Clifton and we will be sure to let you know when tickets become available – watch this space!

Business Mentoring

Some of our year 11 pupils have been allocated a business mentor to support them in the lead up to their GCSE exams. We have mentors from large companies such as Rolls Royce and British Gypsum. The role of the business mentor is to look at the pupils' goals and aspirations and identify what action they need to take to assist in helping the pupils achieve these.



Farnborough Careers



Ideas for Careers

Selected pupils from year 11 are also involved in this new initiative. The team from 'Ideas for Careers' have been into the Academy to work with the pupils on developing key employability skills. They also give them guidance on applying for college, jobs, and apprenticeships. In addition to this they have had the opportunity to meet employers from different sectors and ask them about their career paths. The main aim of the sessions is to ensure that these pupils are fully prepared for life after Farnborough.



National Citizens Service (NCS)

A representative from NCS came to our year 11 parents evening to talk to pupils and their parents about this great opportunity which pupils can sign up to and involve themselves in when they leave the Academy. They will also be coming into

every year 11 tutor group in January to talk about the scheme and hopefully sign up a few more pupils. The scheme is a great way to start your summer holidays and helps build confidence, develop skills employers' value and meet new people. To find out more visit www.ncsefftrust.co.uk



Futures

Our two futures advisors started interviewing our year 11 pupils in September to ensure they are on track for their plans 'post Farnborough.' Every pupil in year 11 will receive at least one interview. Once we are happy that all year 11 are prepared we will then start interviewing year 10 to discuss their plans for leaving Farnborough. The futures advisors provide every pupil with an action plan to guide them.

Creative Connections with The Farnborough Academy

Back in September 2016, we were approached by the Nottingham Contemporary to take part in a Creative Partnership with the National Portrait Gallery in London. This would be the first time that the National Portrait Gallery would take their Creative Connections project out of London into schools around the country with a generation donation form the Paling Family. We jumped at the chance to be the Pilot School for this amazing programme that connects schools and their pupils with their wider community, as well as the Creative Industries, building stronger connections.



The Project involved a series of workshops for 20 GCSE Art and Photography students with the social documentary Photographer Katherine Green

CREATIVE CONNECTIONS: NOTTINGHAM

in London and within the Clifton Community. Katherine's aim was to present an exhibition of new work with the students, that documented insights into the Clifton community, identities and stories through photographic portraits inspired by the National Portrait Gallery collection of Nottingham based portraits.



Two exhibitions were planned, first at the Nottingham Contemporary followed by one at the National Portrait Gallery. The NC Exhibition opened with a fantastic showcase event that invited everyone from the Clifton community that had been involved in the project. This proved to be a real success bringing many different groups together in the centre of Nottingham, with guest speakers and up and coming Nottingham Musicians. It also achieved significant local press attention, by being celebrated on the Front page of the Nottingham Post; and broadcast on BBC Nottingham News and BBC Nottingham Radio. The exhibition continued throughout the summer, with over 2000 visitors including MP Lillian Greenwood. There was overwhelming, positive feedback on the students and Katherine's work, in particular about having a local based exhibition that celebrated people's lives and stories as well as the talents of the students. Well done to Sam Baker; Regan Coles, Erin Connor; Lauren Faulconbridge, Maiya Ward, Alex Lane,

Ana-Maria Nikova, Emily Prestifilippo, Ashwini Rai, Bayleigh Thomas, Natalie Topley, Thomas Vincent, Ellie Fletcher, Autumn James, Tina Lawrence, Janet Liki, Zoe Mathers, Viktorija Sevruk, Kalun Urchin, Charlie Wade.



The Success has continued with the Exhibition being hung in a prime location within the National Portrait Gallery. Again there was an opening event on the 5th October, which invited guest speakers and people from the Clifton Community to see their portraits taken by the students and Katherine, displayed in the centre of London. This Exhibition will continue to be held until 25th February 2018. It has already had been seen by thousands of visitors from the national and international community and represents a real sense of pride and strength from people within the Clifton community.





Working with Nonsuch



The Performing Arts Faculty are working closely with the Creative Arts Organisation, Nonsuch, to set up a revolutionary collaborative, three-year theatre programme, funded by the Children & the Arts. This programme is called Start. This is a UK-wide programme that gives children access to high quality arts experiences which also enables them to increase their confidence, boost their self-esteem and raise their aspirations. Nonsuch is a cultural studio, based in Nottingham who pioneer cultural freedom and who deliver large scale community programmes.

Over the 3 years Nonsuch will provide pupils with the opportunity to engage with fresh, contemporary performances with proven social value for the city on a local and personal level in cultural venues and that respond to issues identified as important for young people.

To start the Programme we began with a visit to the theatre at NGHS, to see the show 'Tell Me Anything' by the critically acclaimed 'On the Run' Theatre. We took 100 KS3 students to see the production and they then took part in a series of active theatre

workshops that explored issues to do with self esteem and feelings, using the 'Seven States of Tension' as inspiration. Staff from the Academy and Nonsuch were amazed by the pupils maturity in discussing issues around mental health and their responses to the physical theatre production that explored these issues from a young person's perspective.

The day was a great success and pupils gained a real insight into physical theatre and possible careers with a real buzz of excitement. This event can lead onto pupils achieving the Arts Award qualification if they wish to, by documenting their participation and continuing with future workshops throughout the year (links on Show My Homework). There will be one more visit in the Spring term, and in the Summer term there will be a opportunity for pupils to showcase their talents during an end of year Academy Performance that combines Visual Art, Drama, Music and Dance. The next visit will take place on the 7th February to see an amazing Dance Production! Please see Mrs England, Mr Cook, Miss Vale, Miss Cashmore and Miss Wilshaw if

Farnborough's Charity Work

Our students never fail to surprise us with their compassion and generosity towards charitable causes. Throughout the school term, there have been several whole school fundraising activities raising money for the QMC Children's cancer ward, a charity agreed on by the school council. The penny Challenge raised over £500! The school raffle in the concert was also a great success. The money went towards Christmas decorations and presents for all the children on the ward. Pupils also gave up their Saturday to assist customers with bag packing at Morrisons, Clifton.

In addition to this, to support people in need at this time of year in our local

community, pupils and parents have kindly donated non-perishable food items to the local food bank at Hope Church. We were overwhelmed by the generosity of our pupils and parents and we look forward to taking the items down to Hope Church with the school choir on Wednesday 20th December. We may even sing a few carols!



Black Achiever's Award

Bella Nwaneto was nominated for a 'Young Black Achievers Award' for her 'Outstanding Academic Achievement'. On 9th November 2017, Bella had attended the awards evening at the Council House which was introduced by the Lord Mayor. At the end of the evening, Bella was announced as the WINNER of the 'Outstanding Academic Achievement' award which is well and truly deserved – Well done Bella!

Despite starting year 7 a little late within the year, Bella had instantly made a difference within her group. Her uplifting, friendly personality inspires others and she has helped other new pupils settle within the academy. Not only had she made a fantastic start to year 7, she has also excelled in most of her subjects including Computing and Science. We are sure that throughout the years Bella will continue to inspire and set an example to the rest of our pupils at Farnborough.

To add to this, she had recently become our Performing Arts Captain for Year 8 and exerts great confidence and determination in everything she approaches. A truly delightful, inspiring and well respected pupil and it was a great pleasure to nominate her for 'Outstanding Academic Achievement'.

Bella Nwaneto – "I felt very happy to be nominated for the award, let alone win it! My mum was so proud and she had the biggest smile on her face when I won."



Black Achievers Awards

Music

The Farnborough Academy music department have been very busy in the last term! We have been visited by professional musicians as part of the 'NUSIC' tour and the choir have performed at British Gypsum, Clifton Manor retirement community, Lark Hills retirement village, Hope Church and Christmas in the City in front of an amazing 850 people! The community really appreciated the choir spreading the Christmas joy with a lot of happy faces being seen.

Once again, the Christmas Concert has been a massive success with many students showing off how talented they are in the performing arts. Over 120 pupils performed or helped out in the Academy concert and have all worked extremely hard to rehearse the items that were heard. A lovely end to the term.





Farnborough Sports



Clifton Schools Sports Partnership Autumn Term Events 2017

Table-Tennis Festival

This was a table tennis opportunity for children in Years 4-6.

Children rotated around 'Skills Activity Stations' which were led by The Farnborough Academy Table Tennis Team and Clifton Table Tennis Volunteers. The children then took part in played a competition using their skills. All children were excellent learners and everyone received a medal for their achievements.

Remember that Clifton Table Tennis is your local friendly table tennis facility and is open to all ages. Thursday Term Time, Farnborough Sports Hall:

5-6pm Junior Coaching

6-7pm Junior Pay and Play

6-8pm Senior Pay and Play free taster session and everyone is welcome.



Year 5 and 6 City Sports Hall Athletics Competition

200 children from across the City came to compete for a place in the City finals. Well done to all the competitors for their sporting behaviour and competitive spirit. Thank you to our Farnborough Sports Leaders for officiating without you we cannot hold competitions! Molly Finch, Isabel Harrison, Imagen Mather, Jack Marshall, Katie Jackson, Shania Brown, Callum Smith, Connor Scutt, Leighton Chamberlain, Natalie Belshah, Ini Shanu, Laila Albukai, Josh Davis, Aaron Hayes, Callum Dexter, Ewan Scarlett, Luke McGahern

Key Stage 1 Gymnastics Festival

The aim of this festival was for children to be able to perform, as a group, the gymnastics routines that they had been practicing in their curriculum PE lessons with a focus on the key shapes of tuck, pike and straddle. The children rotated around five areas which were led by Farnborough Sports Leaders; Nicole Beardsley, Deborah Bosempen, Kadi Cotterill, Leah Green, Carly-Marie Hendrick, Caitlyn Kearley, Evie Machin, Onyx Millns, Jane Nwaneto, Talulla Panayi, Chloe Porter Alsop, Shelby Turver, Mackenzie Stevenson, Chloe Johnson, Maddy Cheetham, Siobhan Horrey, Teagan Searcy



Farnborough Sports



Nottingham Forest Training Award

There has been the reward of training at the Nottingham Forest training ground for those with excellent attendance and great achievement in lessons during this last half term. Students in year 7,8 and 9 have found this a very special experience and one which we will hopefully be able to repeat after Christmas.

Year 7 Sports Hall Athletics

This competition was attended by both a girls teams and a boys team from Farnborough in competition with 7 other city schools on our qualification night. Although we did not qualify for the overall finals we did have some great individual successes on the night with a number of first and second places being awarded to our students. Their behaviour and effort on the night was excellent and this along with their individual achievements should be something they are very proud of!

Year 10 & 11 Nottingham City Rugby Championships

The year 10/11 Farnborough Academy Rugby team were in action again this term off the back of some great success last year. We continued in great form reaching the final of the Nottingham City competition again held at Moderns RFC. The game was an exciting one against Trinity who have a

reputation for being a very strong rugby school. It ebbed back and forth with some great play from both teams in both attack and defence but unfortunately we came off on the wrong side of a very tightly fought contest. The boys should be immensely proud of themselves and know that they have been a credit to the Academy yet again. Well done on your silver medals!

Year 10 National Schools Cup Football

This is the first time The Farnborough Academy have entered into the National Football Cup for a number of years. Unfortunately we received a first round fixture against local Nottinghamshire opposition who just happened to be last years National Champions! Not to be discouraged our boys were in high spirits and we expected to give them a good game. We conceded a couple of goals early on but pulled one back before half time to go in 3-1 down at half time. The second half was well contested too and the boys did themselves and the Academy proud with a second half draw and a final score of 4-2.

City Sports Awards Evening

We would like to congratulate the following teams for and individuals for winning awards at the City Sports Awards Evening: Year 9/10 Rugby Champions, Year 9/10 Team Table-Tennis Champions, Year 9-11 Individual Table Tennis Champion and Sports Leadership Academy Champions.

Notts County Girl's Training

A massive well done to the following year 7 and 8 girls who have been training with Notts County on a Thursday after school and represented Farnborough in the Girls Football League Cup on Thursday 30th November:

Ella Barratt, Katie Hall, Scarlett Measom, Payton Coles, Chelsey Cassidy, Kiera Cooper-Lane, Demi Mai Finch, Megan Fox, Lexie Frearson and Shyla Warburton. Although the girls weren't able to make the semi final, they played together extremely well and behaved impeccably. They showed determination by not giving up and showed great sportsmanship. The team overall were a pleasure and hopefully they continue to train and gain success in the near future!

Clifton Schools Sports Partnership Table Tennis Festival 2017.

This was a fun taster session for our Clifton Primary schools lead by The Farnborough Academy table tennis players and Clifton Table Tennis volunteers – well done and thank you! Try a free taster session at Clifton Table Tennis, Farnborough Sports Hall, Thursdays Term Time 5-8pm – see poster for details.



Sports Leadership Academy

Well done to Zoe Jeynes and Ellie Fletcher who as Gold Ambassadors/City Champions delivered a presentation at the City Schools Sports Leadership Academy training event in October. Talulla, Jane, MacKenzie and Carly-Marie were selected as Silver Ambassadors to take part in the training and will be delivering table tennis to Year 7 throughout this term – good luck!



Clifton Table Tennis Club
Farnborough Sports Centre
Farnborough Road
Clifton
NG11 8JW

Thursdays During Term Time
Junior Coaching 5pm-6pm
£2 Per session per child (10-12 years)
Senior Coaching 6pm-7pm
£3 Per session per child (13-18 years)
Senior Pay & Play 6pm-8pm
£3 Per Adult / £1.50 Student

Junior Coaching led by qualified DBS checked staff and supported by volunteers.
You will need to wear sports kit and bring a drink.
For more information
Please Telephone 0115-974 4444

Clifton Schools Sports Partnership
The Farnborough Academy

First Story

Our First Story creative writing group has had a fabulous term, working with writing-in-residence Paula Rawsthorne to produce stories for this year's The Farnborough Academy anthology. They've been writing about food, who they are, idioms, their favourite months and, of course, about Christmas. At the Christmas party, pupils shared stories about decorations justifying their position on the tree. Here is a story written by Phoebe Lees:

I sway in the wind every year. I create music for you. Do you know how much it pains me to create these tunes? My limbs smashing together for your benefit. Yet you ignore it. You talk about throwing me out every year because of my 'annoying noises'! I'll tell you something. Ignorance isn't bliss. You've ignored me and brushed off my presence whilst I'm purposely injuring myself, trying to be declared worthy of your attention! I even dress up in a fancy hat to hide my earmuffs! Yet clearly my music, pain and appearance do not matter to you! You should pay attention to me. You should keep me. You should treasure me. You should love me!

I bet you don't remember how I lost my eye. You don't? Thought so. I'll tell you. You, yes you, dropped me on my face! I felt that pain for weeks, years even! Actually, I still feel it. I mean, I am half-blind after all!

The truth is that I don't care if the reason you keep me is because of pity or guilt, just as long as you keep me. If you don't, well, I won't be at fault for what I do with my carrot.

So, I'll remind you again: ignorance isn't bliss.



Writing Success

Well done to Eliza Widdowson in Y8 whose six word story has been short-listed for a national writing competition. Her story 'Books house more magic than wands' is up against 18 other national contenders to win. Winners will have their stories printed on a pencil. Good luck Eliza!

Fostering a love of reading

All pupils in Y7-9 have started the school year with a fortnightly library lesson. These lessons allow the library staff to support pupils in choosing books they enjoy and to encouraging a love of reading. According to a recent report by the Booktrust, the enjoyment of reading is not only associated with becoming a stronger reader but also with improved writing, comprehension, grammar, vocabulary, attitudes, general knowledge, a better understanding of other cultures, community participation, empathy and decision-making! Please support your child to read at home by:

1. Modelling reading – if they see you reading, they are more likely to read too
2. Visiting your local library
3. Discussing what you are reading or what you've read in the past
4. Keeping reading material around – books, magazines, newspapers...
5. And, for the very brave, having a no tech day at home every now and then.

Library reading lessons are part of a wider school strategy to get all pupils not only reading but loving it!

Year 7 Bookbuzz

As part of their library lessons, all Y7 pupils have chosen one of 12 fantastic books offered as part of the Bookbuzz programme. These books now belong to pupils and they are expected to read them over the next few weeks and re-view them in the new year. We're looking forward to reading the reviews and finding out what the Y7s thought of their choices in the new year.



**Everyone at The Farnborough Academy
would like to wish everyone a
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**

DON'T FORGET

It is important to us that the contact information we have for your child is always correct and up to date.
Should details change please let us know as soon as you can.

For more diary dates, please look on the Farnborough
Academy website
www.thefarnboroughacademy.com

**GIVING EVERYONE THE
CHANCE TO SHINE
BRIGHTLY**



DIARY DATES

8th January 2018

Return back to the Academy

15th January 2018

Year 11 Mock Exam Results Day

26th January 2018

Year 11 Geography Field Trip to Birmingham

31st January 2018

Bright Day 3

8th February 2018

Class of 2020 Parent's Evening

16th February 2018

Break up for half-term.

26th February 2018

Inset Day

27th February 2018

Return back to the Academy after half-term

27th February 2018

Class of 2021 Parent's Evening

28th March 2018

Class of 2021 Parent's Evening

29th March 2018

Break up for Easter