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FARNBOROUGH FOCUS

Giving everyone the chance to shine brightly

March-April 2016



Doing
the
right
thing



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This Term, The Farnborough Academy hosted a taster session in their Technology classrooms for Year 4 pupils from Whitegate Primary, Dovecote Primary and Glapton Academy. See Page 3 for more information.

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Interview Skills Day

On Wednesday 13th January we held an Interview Skills Day for all pupils in the class of 2017 (Year 10). This involved representatives from businesses and colleges coming into the Academy to conduct a 'mock interview' with every pupil. The pupils prepared their CV's and personal statements to take into the interview with them and

following the interview received feedback from the employer re elements which went well and any improvements needed. The pupils responded positively to the experience and found the process to be very useful in preparing them for future interviews. Feedback from the employers was excellent and they were very impressed with the

way the pupils conducted themselves throughout the day.



A word from the Head

The days are getting lighter, the daffodils are blooming, spring is on the way! It's always nice to see the end of the long winter months and prepare for the summer. In schools, summer is linked to exams and for our Year 11 pupils they will sit these exams in May and June. They have worked incredibly hard this year and as I write this they are completing a second set of mock exams. When we reviewed last summer's results we kept coming across the same issues. More exam practice needed, hence the mocks, and more private study, hence after school revision and homeworks. If your son or daughter is preparing for the summer exams then please encourage them to revise at home and balance their time between studies and recreation.

We continue to work to develop the academy and the experiences that pupils are having here. Mr Crompton and I regularly meet pupils to discuss their views and understand their experiences. They report that they feel safe at school and know who to go to if they have a problem. They have noticed that we have reviewed homework procedures and that it is now being issued regularly. Overall they are happy to come to the academy and would recommend it to others. These same thoughts are echoed through parental surveys that are completed at Parents' Evenings. Your feedback is valuable.

As part of the Trent Academies Group we have external reviews to monitor how we are progressing. Last week we had a former OFSTED Inspector visit to meet pupils, walk through lessons and discuss systems with members of the leadership team. He was impressed with what he saw noting that "Students behave well in lessons and in their social time. Staff and students have worked hard to create a harmonious community where students and staff show a great deal of respect for one another."

You may have seen in the recent press coverage that the government is proposing that there will no longer be a need for schools and academies to have Parent Governors. Time will tell whether this will come to fruition but at present The Farnborough Academy Governing Body has two parent governors. They are Mr. Ian Bannerman and Mrs. Sarah Varley. The Governing Body is playing an active role in working with the staff and pupils to continue to improve the academy. More details of who the governors are can be found on the website.

As mentioned previously we have reviewed the holiday pattern for the 2016/17 year. It has now been agreed that the academy will revert to a single week half term in October. This is in line with many county schools and the majority of the Clifton Primary Schools. Please have a look at the term dates on the website before booking any holidays. The INSET days are still to be confirmed.

Thank you for your continued support of the academy.

The Farnborough Academy

Art Visits

Nottingham Contemporary

The Farnborough Academy Art Department is continuing in its participation with the Nottingham Contemporary, Schools Programme, for another year. This is a fantastic opportunity for pupils to showcase their talents and achievement in Art and Design.



On Tuesday 2nd February, Year 10 pupils had their first workshop with the artist Associate Sam Metz, who introduced us to the art exhibition 'Monuments are not to be Trusted'. This is a thought provoking exhibition that contains 100 pieces of work by 30 different artists that explore ideas of identity, inequality and consumerism. Pupils took part in fun, group activities that encouraged them to discuss mature concepts, relevant to past and present. In the 'space' art studio, pupils created their own ideas and symbolism, which will be used in future photographic and film work.

Pupils will take part in a later workshop which will enable them to explore mixed media techniques and symbolism to create personal outcomes that can be shown in a final exhibition in the gallery. Watch this space for future imaginative artwork!



Tate Modern Visit

GCSE Fine Art and Photography Year 11 pupils visited the Tate Modern London on Wednesday 20th January. This was an exciting day out, where pupils viewed famous artworks in a world renowned art gallery surrounded, by iconic architecture.

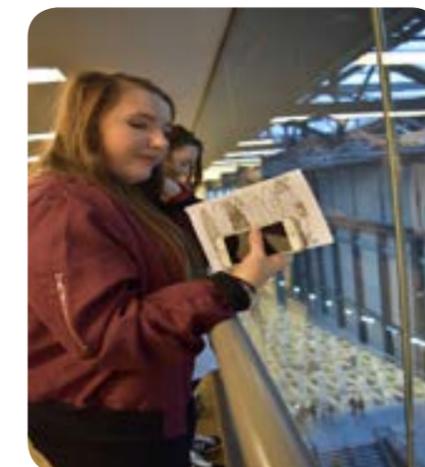
Pupils collected invaluable



information for their exam project and were able to see artworks in context such as the 'Weeping Woman' by Pablo Picasso. The weather was perfect and pupils captured spectacular views of iconic architecture such as the Millennium Bridge and St. Paul's Cathedral for further inspiration. Some pupils even captured a selfie with a celebrity! Look out for



this inspiration in pupils' future masterpieces, which will be on display in the summer term.



Primary Transitions

We have had an amazing few days here in Technology! We have seen over 150 Year 4 pupils come and join us to experience Product Design and Food lessons at The Farnborough Academy.



In Product Design we asked 'Does a Jelly have a Brain?' while the big question in food was 'Can you really put vegetables in cakes?' Some

Year 4 pupils worked in teams with the Farnborough Academy 'experts' making healthier chocolate beetroot muffins or orange courgette cupcakes. Other groups used CAD (Computer Aided Design) to create a shape for a sugar free jelly mould. They all left having had an exciting morning or afternoon with a goodie bag of cakes,



recipes, a jelly mould, a sachet of sugar free jelly and a very large smile on their faces. Well done to all the Year 4 pupils and The Farnborough Academy team of pupil 'expert' helpers. "Our pupils had a fantastic time and really benefited from the facilities at The Farnborough Academy. It was wonderful for them to use the kitchen facilities and product design plastic mould technology. The goodie bags were a lovely bonus and the children were keen to share these at home!"
– Tracy Haslam – Milford Primary School

NTU Employability Session

A representative from the NTU Outreach team came into school to work with 20 pupils who were unsure about which pathway to take at Post-16. The pupils were given a short talk and were then taken through a series of online tasks designed to explore their skills and interests.

The pupils were then able to investigate different career pathways using an online quiz tool to help them understand more about the type and level of qualifications required for their chosen career.

Pupils left the session feeling a lot more knowledgeable about possible pathways at post-16.

Year 10 Raising The Grade

Just before the Christmas break, sixteen Year 10 pupils from The Farnborough Academy visited Nottingham Trent University, along with other schools from across the city, to take part in a set of English workshops aimed at helping them gain a C or above in GCSE English. There were a variety of workshops including Dreadlock Alien, Creative Writing and Theatre Production. All pupils conducted themselves well in quite a daunting environment. The climax of the day was a poetry reading in a huge auditorium, with pupils having to take the stage in front of other pupils, teachers, students and

lecturers. Special mention needs to be given here to Tia Hartley, whose poetry composition was read out to the entire audience and Tiffany Spencer, who elected to read her own poem out in front of everyone. All pupils did the academy proud.



Humanutopia

We took a group of Year 9 and Year 10 pupils to Harvey Hadden, Bilborough to take part in workshops to develop:

- a positive attitude
- self management
- teamwork
- business and customer awareness
- problem solving
- communicational skill

All students took part in the activities and found the day interesting and helpful. Mia Sharpe even got up to speak to a hall full of students and staff from 8 different schools around 150 people. Well Done Mia! The pupils really got involved in the activities and mixing with other students from different schools and even made friendships from the day.

Click Silver

The Farnborough Academy had an exciting opportunity for Parents & Grandparents to be mentored by pupils on how to use the internet safely. The Click Silver programme was a six week course that aimed to make people in our local community more confident about using computers with skills such as:

- Basic computing, from turning on a PC, how to use a mouse, keyboard, etc.
- How to set up an email account, use the internet and use "social media" such as Facebook and Skype
- How to upload, download and edit your favourite pictures from your digital camera or phone
- How to make sure you stay safe while on-line and identify emails from the more dishonest members of society

Nine Year 10 pupils became mentors to people from the local community and the attendees could not have been more positive toward our pupils.

What Did We Miss?

The Farnborough Academy Christmas Concert took place just before Christmas. Here are some photo's of the event.



Year 9

Business Project

The MFL faculty decided to run a project with pupils as they were considering their KS4 options, aiming to excite interest in the subject. Partnering with a City Centre Hotel, pupils were challenged to come up with fresh ideas about how Strathdon Hotel can help guests from other countries find out



about facilities in the rooms and discover what's so great about Nottingham. Working in their normal classrooms and with their usual teachers, students learned about the challenge through a video clip from the Hotel Manager and received background information about its location, facilities and interest in customer care. They also knew he would be viewing their work and judging which would be most suitable for use by the hotel, when greeting guests from abroad. Working in small groups, students had a few weeks to prepare a leaflet about Nottingham, translated

into either German or French and hand-illustrated. A staffing crisis at the hotel prevented the manager from attending the final assembly, although he provided a 'Sorry I can't be with you' video clip with a message about the quality of the work, his intention to include copies of the work in welcome pack for foreign guests – and the two groups he judged had produced the best work.



Naples 2016

The trip got off to a flying start, even though Saul Kearns tried to get left behind by leaving his passport on the plane. We spent the first day trekking to the top of Mount Vesuvius, one of the world's most dangerous volcanoes, due to the 3 million people living at the foot of it. Pupils were in awe at the sight of the steaming volcanic crater and learnt how when it erupted in 79AD its force was so powerful that it took over 1000 metres off the top and had an ash cloud 25 miles high. We set off down the road to Pompeii via an Italian Restaurant where pupils got their first tastes of authentic Italian pizza. In the afternoon we visited the historical town of Pompeii where pupils got to see first hand the

devastating power of that famous eruption. That evening, back in Sorrento, Mr Johnston of former Great Britain bowling fame, challenged the pupils to a 'strike off', the pupils took on that challenge, particularly Katie King who managed to be top of the leader board but unfortunately not beating Mr J. The third day was spent visiting Herculaneum, which was devastated by the same volcanic eruption, however it was not buried in ash it was buried in pyroclastic lava flows, where temperatures were so hot people's brains exploded, pupils got to see the skeletal remains of this destruction. In the afternoon we made our way to the sulphur stench of Solfatara, which is a sunken volcanic cra-

ter and part of the Phlegraean Fields super volcano. In the evening we made our way high up on to the hillsides of the bay where pupils were introduced to an Italian Cooking School, Miss Baum's pizza dough sadly failed, however Chantelle Lawrence made a dough of restaurant quality, pupils were then treated to a top quality Italian meal where they made their own pizzas and watched them cook on the stone oven for a mere 1 minute. Overall an extremely successful trip with pupils having a highly enjoyable time, some great memories and experiences that the pupils will never forget!

Year 8 Cheese Matters

This half term, Year 8 pupils took part in the "Cheese Matters" event, organised by Mrs Watson. Whilst the name suggests a dairy-based activity, it's actually old American slang meaning money – therefore, the event was centred around financial lessons. The event gave the pupils a chance to learn about financial planning, what was meant by debt, and the

importance of managing money responsibly. The pupils were engaged throughout, working together in groups to complete financial planning tasks. Pupils then had to present their findings back to the year group as a whole. It was fantastic to see the year group come together and solve problems. This opportunity will give them the upper-hand when financially planning in the future!



Hope Church

We are very fortunate to have two volunteers from Hope Church (a local community link) who come into the academy every Friday to work with a selected number of class of 2020 pupils on a mentoring programme. They also run a lunch club on the same day for the pupils and their friends where pupils are invited to play team building games and socialise with other pupils.

There has been a very positive response to the project resulting in the pupils now attending clubs and groups out of school which are also organized by Hope Church.



Keepmoat House Project

The newly revised Design & Technology curriculum places an important emphasis on pupils responding to genuine design and make opportunities in real contexts. The project with Keepmoat Homes has been a fantastic example of how Design & Technology teachers can work with industry partners in order to provide pupils with a realistic design brief. The pupils were asked to plan and design a public space in Lenton on the site of the old tower blocks. They had to consider the needs of local residents and work to a strict brief which was delivered via a short film that had been made by the team from Keepmoat. The pupils worked in small teams investigating the site, preparing a range of design ideas and then creating a final proposal using computer-aided design software. The team from Keepmoat Homes are coming into school next term to view the work pupils have produced and select the winning proposal. As a result of this project the Design & Technology team at Farnborough Academy are now seeking to redesign aspects of the curriculum to give pupils more exposure to real challenges involving local businesses and manufacturers.

Farnborough App Launches



Pupils in Year 9 have the option between a number of courses for their GCSE. To help them, we teach a unit on App Design and Development. We gave them a brief, make an app for the academy and over the course of 8 weeks to pupils research, design and create their own app. Pupils look at why we would make an app, and how they use a smart phone's hard-

ware and capabilities. From this, pupils can then produce hand-drawn designs to help plan what it will look and work like. We worked with a company called MultiPie, an app company in Nottingham, who shared videos with us of how they do things. This gave pupils a first-hand look at what it would be like as a career. Finally, pupils learnt how



to design and then program their app, creating two or more screens with interactive buttons. MultiPie's owners came in to meet the Year 9 pupils and shared their experience and tips on the career path. The feedback we received was great and some of the apps were really fantastic! I've still got a pupils' prototype on my phone!

Goals for Life

We are very fortunate to have gained the services of Notts County in the Community working with a group of Class of 2020 boys on a project called 'Goals for Life'. This is a 16 week project which we are currently part way through.

Goals for Life gives young people an informal, interactive way to focus their energy, providing them with positive role models and encouraging them to think about and explore their emotions and reactions through regular workshops.

Sessions are structured so the pupils have fun and stabilise their mood. Sessions are divided in two: football-based activities and mental health promotion workshops, allowing participants to

explore their feelings, using high profile, professional football examples. They address and manage their own anger issues; stress, anxiety and learn how to express themselves more effectively. This dual approach benefits participants mentally and physically. Coaching staff work as positive role models and build a rapport with participants, wallowing more open communication, increasing the success of the project for each individual.

The pupils involved have responded positively to the project and gained a number of new skills.

NTU Creative Writing

In conjunction with the First Story programme, The Farnborough Academy was invited to attend a whole day writing workshop at the University of Nottingham

Pupils undertook various workshops ranging from poetry containing iambic pentameter to producing abstract literature based around the word 'spring'.

Dionne Goodman and Sara Ali were handpicked by esteemed authors to read out their work to a packed hall full of academics, authors and other students – and they did so with confidence and professionalism

FARNBOROUGH SPORT

Do the right thing



Table-Tennis Season Finishes on a high

The Farnborough Academy has dominated the 2015-2016 City Schools Table Competition Circuit. Our players have collected an impressive four gold medals, four silver medals and one bronze medal. We are particularly delighted with our Year 9-11 Team Gold Medal in January – a well-deserved achievement for Jamie Lawson, Liam Bramley and Dominic Lambert.



The season ended on the 11th February with the Nottinghamshire English Schools Table Tennis Association Competition. All the top table tennis players in the county gathered to compete for a place in the National Finals. Jessica Widdowson took up the challenge and played her best table tennis to date gaining silver and an excellent GCSE practical assessment under immense pressure – well done! Liam Bramley rose to the challenge playing some superb shots, raising the bar for his own play – he then took on the challenge of umpiring the intense final. Dominic Lambert showed

magnificent focus, superb in defence with some well selected attacking shots. Jamie Lawson completely overshot his goal for the competition making his way with awesome play and hard work through to the final. Here he took on our nationally ranked number 6 player and we all watched with extreme pride as he took the Silver medal and seven points – a magnificent achievement! It has been a privilege to work with all our players this season because they put in such a huge amount of effort into their training always supporting and inspiring each other. Thank you to you all for shining so very brightly!



The Farnborough Academy House Games

The house matches took place shortly after Christmas with the girls playing dodge ball and netball while the boys were playing Rugby 7's.

Each competition was hotly contested with all the games being won by different houses! Pupils who would be involved in normal curricular PE lessons had the opportunity instead to watch these house matches take place. This provided the participants with an exciting atmosphere to play under.



The Year 11's took centre stage in the dodge ball games, having fitted the games into one lesson. The girls from Brabants and the boys from Whitehead were victorious!

The Year 10 games were again of a very competitive nature with the excitement building up days before the event! Injuries towards the end of the rugby matches marred the end of the matches but Whitehead

turned out winners in both the rugby and dodge ball. The Year 9 rugby games looked to have been decided before the events as a team of talented individuals were highly favoured to win. The team of Whitehead had other ideas though, as they fought valiantly and showed real team effort to pip Brabants to the win. The girls'



dodge ball title was won by Hynd as Megan Brown speared them to victory.

Year 8's turned out to be another double victory for Whitehead once again as the power of their rugby team overturned the pace from the opposition.

The Year 7's got their first taste of the house matches as they took part in the rugby and netball games. Excitement spread across the year group as the majority of the year all wanted to take part. Adlington house picked up points in the netball games and

Hynd seen off the other houses to claim victory in the rugby!

Points collated from these events will be added to the total at the end of the year which will decide the winners of the House team of the year.



Indoor Athletics

This term the Year 7 and 8 girls have been working really hard in the City Schools Indoor Athletics.

In training for the competition, the girls worked on their relay changes and adjusted the line up to give them the best opportunity of gaining a medal. With only days left until the competition, injuries hit the team hard leaving the team heading to the competition without a full team. The girls showed great resilience during their narrow defeat to Nottingham Girls High School in the semi-final!

Football

The Farnborough Academy Year 8 boys team were invited to play in the Trent Academies Group Football Tournament, kindly hosted by Nottingham Forest. Rushcliffe School and Arnold Hill Academy joined in with Farnborough with games being rotated. Despite not winning any of the games, Farnborough pupils did themselves proud! Making new friends from the other schools and having a fun afternoon!



The Year 8's have also started the league campaign with mixed results though as a staggering 14-0 win against Nottingham Free School was followed up by a tight 4-2 defeat to Nusa.

The Year 7 boys football team have entered the Nottingham schools 6-a-side league for the first time as Farnborough pupils. With performances being of a high standard, the team are on course for an appearance in the finals if current form continues.

Over the past couple of weeks, the Year 8 girls have been given training once a week with some of the coaches from Notts County. The girls went and played in a 5-a-side tournament and played valiantly.

Farnborough Rugby



The Year 10 boys entered the Nottingham High School Rugby 7's Competition for the first time. The annual competition is an invitational event against private schools. Farnborough had lost all 5 of their games but the spirit remained high and we were disappointed not to win one of the games, especially against Notting-



ham High School. It was a massive learning curve for the Year 10's who have said they have learned about themselves as a team and showed a lot of resilience and a 'never give up' attitude!

The Year 10 boys' league campaign started well



with two victories against Emmanuel and West Bridgford. The team has been



lead really well by captain Luke Allen, setting a great example and showing the commitment that all the other players followed. The team have one remaining



game left, against arch rivals Trinity. A win would see Farnborough progress into the quarter-finals of the County Cup!

The Year 8 team have not long started their season. The team have started well following wins over Djanogly, NUSA and Fernwood. Farnborough look to be on course for gold as they have followed up those wins with a draw against Bluecoat.





Sport Relief 2016



During March, The Farborough Academy hosted several sporting activities in a bid to raise as much money for the BBC Sport Relief Charity. Mr Palmer and Mr Johnston took on a number of pupils in a table-tennis challenge. Mr Jonston also set up a Rugby kicking challenge, with pupils having to kick from Level 1 up to Level 3. Finally, Central College supported our fundraising events as they set up a Darts 180 Challenge. Pupils had a few warm up throws before heading to the deciding dartboard. The aim was to hit the bullseye to gain 5 points. 2 points were given for hitting the outer 25-point circle. A total of £104.50 were raised by the Academy with Central College raising £83.90 with the Bulls Eye Challenge.



A reminder for both students and parents: One of the main rules for our PE at Farnborough is that everybody changes. If a student is ill or injured then they are still expected to change so that they can then still be involved in lessons by coaching or refereeing. It also stops their uniform from getting muddy or wet etc.

Due to the changes in school uniform and kit as of late, we are also bringing in changes for the PE Uniform. There are now new outdoor reversible shirts in black & gold which can be purchased from EMSD Uniform Suppliers. These are thicker and warmer than the polo shirts and can ideally be used for rugby, football, hockey etc. These are at a cost of £20/£21 and are to be bought as replacement shirts if students grow out of or lose their shirts.

A new addition (having listened to the student voice) is that of PE Hoodies which are also available to order from EMSD. They gave a bright yellow hood and the Academy logo on the front, as well as a printed surname on the back, to avoid any confusion in the changing room! These are only to be worn in PE rather than around school, but would be ideal for keeping warm before matches as well as for multi-sports or netball that take place outside.

EMSD – www.emsd.co.uk - sales@emsd.co.uk - 1 Clifton Road, Ruddington, Nottingham, NG11 6DD - 0115 9842654

A CRACKING READ

Book Group Members Meet Local Author

Some of our book group members recently visited local author Kim Slater at Ellis Guilford School.



Kim's book *Smart*, set in the Meadows area of Nottingham, was nominated for the Nottinghamshire Brilliant Book

Award and has just been announced as the award winner! Kim spoke to pupils about how she became a writer and where her inspiration for *Smart* came from. She also answered LOTS of questions

from the group of pupils from schools across Nottingham and signed copies of her books.



Carnegie Award

Our book group are now shadowing the Carnegie Award. Eight books have been nominated to win the award and our book group will read, review and judge them between now and June.

and *The Lie Tree* by Frances Hardinge, winner of the recent Costa Book Award. All pupils are welcome to come to the Carnegie Shadowing Book Group, which takes place on Wednesday lunchtimes in the library.



This year's short-list has some fantastic titles including *The Rest of Us* by two-time winner Patrick Ness



Creative Writing

Creative writing pupils visited the regional writing event at The University of Nottingham. Pupils from all over the East Midlands worked with professional writers all day to create poems and stories on the theme of spring. Some Farnborough pupils worked with local author Paula Rawsthorne to write short stories about their fantasy secret garden while the other looked at alternative ways to look at the word spring. Two

of our pupils, Year 8 Sara Ali and Year 9 Dionne Goodman, were even brave enough to take the stage to read their work out to a packed hall of pupils and teachers from other schools and professional writers!



The learning support staff have developed a brand new extra curricular programme for lunchtimes and after school. These are open to all pupils, so why not come along and try them out! Details are on the poster below

 The Farnborough Academy
Lunch and After School Activities

<u>Day</u>	<u>Lunch</u> 12:40-1:05	<u>After School</u> 3:05-4:00
Monday	Monday Meditation Room 21 	Homework Club Room 21 
Tuesday	Craft Club Room 21 	
Wednesday	Construction Room 20 	Book Club Room 21 
Thursday	Puzzle-mania Room 21 	Super Spelling Room 21 
Friday	Construction Room 20 	

As you will be aware, David Cameron made an announcement that the UK had a moral responsibility to those people living in camps surrounding Syria. In his announcement, he stated an expansion of the Vulnerable Persons Relocation Scheme, in place since 2014, which involves people, currently living in camps in Syria, Turkey and Jordan, being resettled in the UK over the next five years.

Like other areas around the UK, Nottinghamshire will play its part for families within the Relocation Scheme. The Prime Minister has stated vulnerable children would be prioritised and where required, our academy is prepared to welcome such children into our community.

Anna White

Strategic Director
Nottingham City Secondary Education Partnership (NCSEP)



DIARY DATES

19th April

Year 7 Parents' Evening

21st-22nd April

Year 11 Art/Photography Exam

26th April

Year 8 Literacy Day

26th May

Dance Festival

27th June - 8th July

Work Experience Week

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.

GIVING EVERYONE THE
CHANCE TO SHINE
BRIGHTLY

