



Foxford - for Learning, for Creativity, for Success!

To: Parents/Carers of all students at
Foxford School and Community Arts
College

Monday, 12 September 2016

Dear Parent / Carer

We have had a good start to the new academic year. It has been nice to welcome new Year 7 students to Foxford, a year group which is now oversubscribed, as well as the return of other year groups.

Summer Results

During August we welcomed students into school to receive their examinations results. Firstly, A level students from our Post 16 were delighted with the outcomes they achieved, resulting in 92% going on to university. The remaining students are either taking a break or have taken up an apprenticeship. University places included two students going to study medicine together with others following courses at Russell Group universities. We are also delighted that Ryan Sephton starts at Somerville College Oxford this term to study Maths.

A week later we welcomed our Year 11 to receive their results. Again we are generally pleased with the results they achieved. The DofE have changed the accountability measures they use this year and so definite figures are not yet available for the school; however we look like we will meet the national average for the new Progress 8 measure.

Our School Site

Over the summer break our site staff have been busy managing much work taking place in order to enhance the learning environment for our students. This has included roofing work, creating a new classroom, decoration, doors and lighting being replaced and the gym floor has also been renewed. ICT equipment has been updated and replaced as necessary. We are currently developing plans in order to create further science laboratories in the school

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New Staff

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to the new staff we have this year. I am sure many of you will be meeting them in due course.

Teachers

Ms Greenhalgh – Teacher of Food and Nutrition
Ms Kirkland – Teacher of Science
Mr McCluskey – Teacher of Science
Ms McGrane – Teacher of English
Ms O'Neill - Teacher of English
Ms Van de Corput – Teacher of Spanish
Ms Parton – Teacher of Music
Mr Sampson – Teacher of Science
Ms Ball – Teacher of Dance and Performing Arts
Ms Carlavilla – Teacher of Science
Ms Pradhan – Teacher of English
Ms Jones – Teacher of History
Ms Edwards - Teacher of PE

Non-Teaching Student Support

Ms Milczarek – Teaching Assistant EAL
Ms Davidson – Attendance Officer

Supporting Students' Learning

All students have been given a planner. I hope your son/daughter has already shown you theirs. The planner is a vital piece of equipment as it contains student timetables, reward cards, calendar and homework log. It is also a tool by which the school can communicate with you and vice versa. We expect each student to record all of their home learning in it.

Homework is a good way to extend and reinforce the learning which takes place in the classroom. It may involve reading, research, revision, learning by heart or talking at home. Some students prefer to do homework straightaway at the end of the day and the school library – with computers – stays open to allow that to happen. I implore you to take note, by looking at your child's planner, of the subjects that are to be set each night and to support you child by ensuring that work is completed. Teachers are increasingly setting home learning tasks through Moodle-Do – our virtual learning platform. Students are able to access this through our website (www.foxford.coventry.sch.uk). The system allows students to send work back to staff online. Please take time to look at the school website and Moodle-Do regularly as they are a source of up to date information.

School Uniform

I thank you for your continued support in ensuring that all students are in correct uniform. We have had a good start to the term which needs to continue throughout the year. It will be increasingly important once the weather changes that a warm coat is worn to and from school. We expect our students to be in correct uniform all of the time. You can expect to be contacted if they are not.

Student Progress Reviewers

Each student has a Progress Reviewer who they will shortly have their first meeting with. Where possible this remains the same person as they had last year. Over the first half term all students will have a number of sessions with them.

You will be receiving progress review reports two times a year. In addition, for students in Years 7-10 parents will be meeting with their son/daughter's Progress Reviewer twice a year (in December and June) to discuss their progress. For students in Years 10-13 there will be traditional subject teacher Parents' Evenings.

Further information will be provided prior to the first Progress Review day in December.

Information and transition evenings will also take place for specific year groups at key times in the year.

Catering

Food is available before school and during both breaks from Foxy's Diner. If students wish to purchase food they need to do so through our cashless catering system. The cashless catering system does not allow students to go into debt; so I would ask that parent/carers ensure that students have enough credit on their account, money to put into the revaluation machines located in school or a packed lunch each day. Free school meals are credited at £2.75 a day.

Students are welcome to bring in packed lunches however I would like to remind you that we do not allow carbonated sugar drinks or energy drinks in school.

Calendar for the Year

I am including at the end of this letter a list of currently known dates for this academic year. Please make a note of these as we do not, as a rule, send out further reminders of all events.

Holidays in Term Time

I would like to remind you that we are not able to grant any leave for parents to take their children out of school during term time, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Government guidelines state "The current law does not give any entitlement to parents to take their child on holiday during term time. Any application for leave must be in exceptional circumstances and the Head Teacher must be satisfied that the circumstances warrant the granting of leave."

Parents wishing to apply for extended leave in term time must now complete the Exceptional Leave in Term time form, available from your child's Director of Learning or The Hub.

Taking an annual family holiday during term time is not an example of exceptional circumstances and therefore will not be authorised by the school.

If a parent takes their child on holiday in term time without the Head Teacher's permission, this will be recorded as unauthorised holiday on the student's school attendance record. If this absence exceeds 10 sessions (five school days) then the school will apply for a Fixed Penalty Notice to be issued in every case.

This has applied for all requests from January 6th 2014.

The aim of Foxford School's attendance policy is to enable the school to provide a consistent practice that encourages and facilitates the regular attendance of all students. Regular attendance at school is key to student progress and enjoyment of learning, and for this reason the school is dedicated to ensuring that its attendance policy is adhered to.

Open Evening

Our Open Evening for Year 6 children will take place on Monday, 26 September 2016, 6.00pm-8.00pm. Please, if you have younger children do bring them along and use this as an opportunity to see the site for yourself and experience some of the activities our students are involved in across the curriculum. In advance I wish to thank parents who have allowed their children to help at the evening.

Should you wish to contact the school at any time to discuss any matter concerning your child please do not hesitate to do so.

We have had an excellent start to the term which bodes well for the academic year ahead. I thank you for the continued support you give to your children and Foxford School.

Enclosed with this letter is your child's individual student Data Collection Sheet, which needs to be checked, amended if necessary, signed and returned to the school, also a copy of their timetable for you to have available for reference at home. We also ask that you check your child's planner and sign it on a weekly basis.

Yours faithfully

Ms R Williamson
Head Teacher

Head: Ruth Williamson BEd

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