



INTHEKNOW

6 December 2019

www.fairfax.bham.sch.uk



The Eisteddfod 2019 Best of British

A reminder notice: The Eisteddfod performance evenings are on:

Wednesday, 18 December (Kenilworth and Stratford) 18:00 Displays 18:30 Performances

Thursday, 19 December (Warwick and Coventry) 18:00 Displays 18:30 Performances

Tickets go on sale today, Friday 6 December on ParentPay at 18:00. If you have more than one child at Fairfax, the option to buy tickets will be available on your eldest child's ParentPay account. We kindly ask that you only purchase a maximum of 3 tickets on ParentPay.

Attendance Matters

Parents/carers are reminded that attendance is directly linked to success at school. Please read the attached flyer on why attendance matters. #attendancematters

Contacting Fairfax Academy

We are aware that at peak times, due to the large number of parent/carers trying to contact the academy, it may prove difficult to get through to Reception via telephone. Please can we ask that parents/carers use the voicemail facility to leave their name, a contact number and a brief message outlining the query. Voicemails are listened to regularly throughout the day and will be directed to the appropriate member of staff.

Parking – Fairfax Road/Reddicap Heath Road

Could parents/carers please be mindful of local residents when parking and dropping students off at school, and ensure residents' driveways are not blocked and traffic is not adversely affected.

Spring Term 2020

An advance notice: please be reminded that students return to school at 08:35 on Tuesday, 7 January 2020.

Strikes Football Academy – Spring Term 1

Spring Term 1 places will shortly be available for students in Years 7, 8 and 9. A letter will be emailed to parents/carers with further information next week.

Please contact Mrs H Williams or email clubs@fairfax.bham.sch.uk with any queries.

PTA

There is a PTA meeting on Monday, 13 January 2020. All welcome. Please confirm your attendance by emailing pta@fairfax.bham.sch.uk.

House Charity Week 2020

An advance notice: please be advised that House Charity Week 2020 commences on Monday, 27 January 2020 with Coventry House Charity Day. Kenilworth House, Stratford House and Warwick House Charity Days are on Tuesday, 28 January, Wednesday, 29 January and Thursday, 30 January respectively. Further information will follow in due course.

Uniform Notice

Parents/carers are kindly reminded that students are responsible for keeping their own personal belongings safe, and Fairfax would discourage students from wearing or using expensive branded coats or bags.

Standards Reminder

- **Punctuality** A reminder notice: punctuality is a very important aspect of life. This is a key focus for Fairfax Academy as we prepare our students for the world of work, where there will be high expectations of attendance and punctuality. Registration begins at 08:35, and so we advise students to be in school no later than 08:30. Students who arrive later than 08:35 can expect to receive a same day after school detention for 45 minutes.
- **Eyelashes** A reminder notice: false eyelashes and eyelash extensions are not permitted.
- **Hair** A reminder notice: natural hair colours only. Extreme haircuts, including tramlines in haircuts or eyebrows, are not permitted. Any hair accessories or adornments must be black.
- **Piercings** A reminder notice: we allow one small stud in each ear. Any other piercings are unacceptable and must be removed for school.
- **Nose Studs** A reminder notice: nose studs are not allowed and must be removed for school.

Aerosols Reminder

A reminder notice: aerosols are NOT permitted in school. Students should not bring in aerosols to use in PE and instead, if they require additional deodorant or anti-perspirant during the school day, a roll on can be used. There are a number of students in school with asthma, whose triggers are aerosols, and the use of aerosols can and will lead to a severe asthma attack. Any aerosols used/found in school will be confiscated and taken to student support. A confiscated aerosol will need to be picked up by the student at the end of the day. Thank you for your support with this.

YEAR 7

An advance notice: 60th Anniversary Tie – to commemorate Fairfax's 60th anniversary, special limited edition school ties are available to purchase on ParentPay. Each tie costs £7.50 and students will be able to wear them for the rest of this academic year or keep them as a memento of their time at Fairfax. Once your order has been delivered to Fairfax, it will be issued to your child.

A reminder notice: if you would like to put a cap on the amount your child can spend in the Refectory please contact Reception.

YEAR 8

A reminder notice: Celebration Evening 2020 is on Wednesday, 8 January 2020. Awardee letters have been issued. Congratulations to our awardees!

A reminder notice: on Monday, 20 January 2020 the school nurse vaccination team will be coming into school to administer the HPV vaccination. Both male and female students in Year 8 are eligible to have the vaccination. Your son /daughter will have received a consent form from their tutor. Please complete and return the form to Student Support in the box provided, even if you do not wish your child to be vaccinated.

An advance notice: Year 8 Parents' Evening is on Wednesday, 22 January, 15:45-18:45. Please be reminded that Fairfax uses an online booking system for Parents' Evening. Information about how to log on and book appointments will be sent on Monday, 13 January. If you have any concerns or queries about parents' evening please email parentsevening@fairfax.bham.sch.uk.

YEAR 9

A reminder notice: Celebration Evening 2020 is on Wednesday, 8 January 2020. Awardee letters have been issued. Congratulations to our awardees!

A reminder notice: a change of date to the HPV vaccination. Year 9 girls will be receiving their second HPV vaccination on Wednesday, 22 January 2020.

An English Faculty notice: please see the attached recommended reading list for Y9 and Y10 students for English.

YEAR 10

A reminder notice: Celebration Evening 2020 is on Wednesday, 8 January 2020. Awardee letters have been issued. Congratulations to our awardees!

An English Faculty notice: please see the attached recommended reading list for Y9 and Y10 students for English.

YEAR 11

A reminder notice: Celebration Evening 2020 is on Wednesday, 8 January 2020. Awardee letters have been issued. Congratulations to our awardees!

A reminder notice: the Y11 ICT Exam on Wednesday, 8 January 2020 will start at 13:50 and will finish at approximately 15:15. Students will receive a timetable for this exam just before the Christmas break.

A reminder notice: the 2020 Sixth Form Online Application Form is now live on our Academy website. The deadline for applications is Friday, 7 February 2020. Please visit <http://options.fairfax.bham.sch.uk/>.

An advance notice: the Year 11 GCSE Drama Practical Mock Examination is on Wednesday, 29 January (Group 1) and Thursday, 30 January 2019 (Group 2) at 15:30 in the Drama Studio.

YEAR 12

A reminder notice: Celebration Evening 2020 is on Wednesday, 8 January 2020. Awardee letters have been issued. Congratulations to our awardees!

A reminder notice: the academy's Attendance Policy applies to sixth form students and attendance is monitored on a half-termly basis. We ask that all absences are reported to the sixth form on the morning of the absence.

A reminder notice: all medical and dental appointments taken during the school day need to be advised to the Sixth Form administrator via students completing a 'Permission to be absent' form that they will find in the Sixth Form centre. Parents and carers will be asked to confirm the absence.

An advance notice: GCSE and A Level exam certificates from the Summer 2019 series will be available for collection from the start of December. Current Y12/Y13 students can collect their certificates from the Sixth Form centre and former students can collect theirs from Reception. Please encourage any older children who have not collected their certificates from the past few years to email exams@fairfax.bham.sch.uk within the next month to check if we still have them. We are only required to keep certificates for 12 months and have a large number of uncollected certificates. Please note that they are very expensive to replace.

A reminder notice: please be advised that any Y13 student who withdraws from the BTEC qualifications will be charged the registration fee plus any exam fees. For Y12, the deadline date for withdrawal without incurring a charge is 31 January 2020.

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An advance notice: Year 13 Mock Examination Week is Thursday, 9 January – Friday, 17 January 2020. All mock examinations will take place in the main school hall. Individual student timetables will be issued shortly. During the period Thursday, 9 January – Friday, 17 January 2019 students are allowed to study from home when they do not have an exam.

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READING LIST FOR YEAR 9 AND YEAR 10 ENGLISH

The following are recommended reads for years 9 and 10 to help prepare for the range of texts that may come up on the AQA GCSE English Language papers and support the contextual understanding of the texts studied for the AQA GCSE English Literature papers. This is not an exhaustive list but should give pupils a starting point to expand their current reading choices.

- The Fault in Our Stars by John Green
- A Monster Calls by Patrick Ness
- We Are All Made of Molecules by Susan Neilsen
- 13 Minutes: A Novel by Sarah Pinborough
- Paper Butterflies by Lisa Heathfield
- Every Day by David Levithan
- Rose Sees Red by Cecil Castellucci
- A Separate Peace by John Knowles
- Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro
- American Gods by Neil Gaiman
- Wuthering Heights by Charlotte Bronte
- Great Expectations by Charles Dickens
- Rebecca by Daphne Du Maurier
- The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck
- Atonement by Ian McEwan
- Long Walk to Freedom by Nelson Mandela
- The Wasp Factory by Iain Banks
- The Road by Cormac McCarthy
- All Quiet on the Western Front by Erich Maria Remarque
- I Capture the Castle by Dodi Smith
- Cider with Rosie by Laurie Lee
- Nineteen Eighty Four by George Orwell
- The Fellowship of the Ring by J R R Tolkien
- Gulliver's Travels by Jonathan Swift
- Oranges Are Not The Only Fruit by Jeanette Winterson
- Midnight's Children by Salman Rushdie