

INTHEKNOW

Friday, 28 January 2022

www.fairfax.bham.sch.uk



School Shakespeare Festival 2022

Well done to our School Shakespeare Festival cast, who performed 'A Comedy Of Errors' at The MAC Birmingham last week! All students involved (Years 7 to 10) went above and beyond to make the show a 'funny, vibrant and extravagant' piece of theatre, with 'storytelling through comedy' at its heart. The show was very well received with audience members and School Shakespeare Festival staff members, with some commenting, 'I never knew the story of 'Comedy of Errors' before, but now I will never forget it!'

#personaldevelopment

#makingfairfaxproud

SIMS Parent App

A reminder to all parents/carers to check emails for a link to access our new parent SIMS App, which we will be using from now on to keep parents/carers updated about students' life at school. Please contact Miss Clarke with any queries.

PE Lessons – Winter Months

A reminder notice: with the colder months now here, we kindly remind parents/carers that students are advised to wear the following to keep them warm during PE lessons:

- Girls are allowed to wear black base layers underneath their PE skort and House polo shirt along with their black Fairfax fleece.
 - N.B. the black base layers should be a long sleeved top and base layer leggings (no fashion leggings permitted).
- Boys are allowed to wear a long sleeved black base layer underneath their PE tops, and base layer black shorts under their shorts. Alongside this, the boys' mid layer is available at Clive Mark and Crested Schoolwear.

PRIDE Group Reminder

A reminder notice: our PRIDE Group meets every two weeks. The group will next meet on Thursday, 3 February and then again on Thursday, 17 February. If you want to find out more, please come along or speak to Ms Ahmed-Lockley in A11 or Mrs Lam in C13.

Equalities Group Reminder

A reminder notice: our Equalities Group meets every two weeks. The group will next meet on Thursday, 10 February 2022. If you want to find out more, please come along or speak to Miss Gardner in C7, Mrs Buckley in G5 or Mrs Williams.

Attendance Matters

Well done to our students whose attendance has been high. A reminder that attendance should be 97%. Attendance improves achievement! Please support Fairfax in maintaining a high level.

Attendance CSAWS

Please be reminded that CSAWS (Central School Attendance and Welfare Service) may conduct a home visit to any family whose child has not attended school and no valid reason has been provided.

Term Time Holiday Requests


A reminder notice: parents/carers are kindly reminded that Fairfax Academy cannot authorise holiday leave during term time. Please be advised doing so may result in penalty charges.

Summer 2022 Examinations - Y11 and Y13

Please be advised that timetable overviews for the Summer 2022 examinations (Y11 and Y13) are available on the school website.

Local Community – Litter Dropping


A reminder notice: students are reminded to be respectful of their local community and environment and not drop litter either inside or outside the Academy. The Academy has received complaints from local residence with regard to litter dropping.



ATTENDANCE MATTERS


At Fairfax Academy we believe that excellent attendance and punctuality are the key to success. A missed school day is a lost opportunity to learn. Students who attend school regularly have been shown to achieve higher grades than students who do not have regular attendance.

ABSENCE



Children are required by law to attend school 190 days per year and the Government advise that students' attendance should be at least 95%. However, **95% attendance equates to 10 missed days of school; a massive 50 lessons!** Research has shown that students missing 20 days of school performed a whole grade lower in their exams than similar ability students with good attendance.


PUNCTUALITY



Poor punctuality can have a significant impact on learning time. Across a school year, being **5 minutes late per day results in a loss of 3 days learning per year.** Being **15 minutes late** every day will result in **10 lost days.**


Our school day starts at 8.35am and students should be through the school gate at this time. Students that are late into school will be issued with sanctions in line with our academy Behaviour and Discipline Policy.

APPOINTMENTS



Wherever possible appointments should be made out of school time. We understand that at times appointments in the school day are unavoidable. Please provide evidence of the appointment in advance, so that we can amend our school records, and advise the school who will be collecting your child during the school day.


ATTENDANCE



At Fairfax Academy we are committed to challenging poor attendance. In cases where a student begins to develop a pattern of absence, the academy will advise the parents/carers that we require an improvement in attendance.

When attendance fails to improve, the school reluctantly takes the line that legal action has to be considered, and the Court Section in Birmingham becomes involved. In previous academic years, cases have been heard, and either a fixed penalty has been issued, or a court appearance has been determined as an appropriate course of action.

HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME



Please keep in mind the cost to your child's education should they miss school. Please do not book holidays in term time. Holidays in term time will not be authorised.

95% ATTENDANCE = 10 missed days = 50 lessons!	5 MINUTES LATE PER DAY = 3 lost days learning per year	AVOID BOOKING holidays in term time
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YEAR 7

An advance notice: our second Enrichment Day is on Tuesday, 15 February and Year 7 students will be participating in English and MFL activities. Year 7 House Rugby and Hockey will also take place on this day, and students who want to represent their House should see their Head of House or Assistant Head of House.

A reminder notice: Year 7 Parents' Evening is on Wednesday, 23 March 2022, 15:45 -18:45. Please be advised that Fairfax uses an online booking system for Parents' Evening. Information about how to log on and book appointments will be sent to parents/carers w/b Monday, 14 March 2022. If you have any queries about Parents' Evening please email ff-parentsevening@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

YEAR 8

An advance notice: our second Enrichment Day is on Tuesday, 15 February and Year 8 students in school will be participating in Mathematics activities, and attend a LGBTQ+ Mental Well-Being Performance.

A reminder notice: Year 8 Parents' Evening is on Wednesday, 9 March 2022, 15:45 -18:45. Please be advised that Fairfax uses an online booking system for Parents' Evening. Information about how to log on and book appointments will be sent to parents/carers w/b Monday, 28 February 2022. If you have any queries about Parents' Evening please email ff-parentsevening@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

A reminder notice: Celebration Evening 2022 is on the new date of Wednesday, 6 April 2022. Awardee confirmation letters have been sent and seats will be reserved on the evening for all who have confirmed their attendance.

YEAR 9

A reminder notice: the Year 9 Options process is now underway. On Wednesday, 26 January parents/carers will have received the virtual presentation, and also Year 9 students will have received an email in their school email account, on Thursday, 27 January, with a link to choose their options. Information about each subject is available on our website: <https://www.fairfax.bham.sch.uk/academy-life/year-9-options-2/>.

If you have any technical issues or queries, please email ff-studentremotesupport@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

An advance notice: our second Enrichment Day is on Tuesday, 15 February and Year 9 students will be participating in Business & Computing, and Creativity & Design activities. Students will also attend a LGBTQ+ Mental Well-Being Performance during the day.

A reminder notice: Celebration Evening 2022 is on the new date of Wednesday, 6 April 2022. Awardee confirmation letters have been sent and seats will be reserved on the evening for all who have confirmed their attendance.

YEAR 10

A reminder notice: Year 10 Mid-Year Assessments in English and Mathematics will take place from Wednesday, 2 February until Friday, 4 February 2022. Students should have received their individual timetable in tutor time which provides information on exact timings, exam venue and seat number for each assessment. Replacement timetables are available on request from the Exams Office.

An advance notice: our second Enrichment Day is on Tuesday, 15 February and Year 10 students will be participating in Science activities and Inclusion PSHE sessions, and attend a Careers Event. Year 10 House Rugby, Hockey and Football will also take place on this day, and students who want to represent their House should see their Head of House or Assistant Head of House.

A reminder notice: Celebration Evening 2022 is on the new date of Wednesday, 6 April 2022. Awardee confirmation letters have been sent and seats will be reserved on the evening for all who have confirmed their attendance.

YEAR 11

A reminder notice: the Year 11 Parent Information Evening will move to a virtual presentation and this will be shared with parents/carers w/b Monday, 7 February 2022. Mathematics, English and Science will be the main focus of the information presentation.

A reminder notice: the 2022 Sixth Form Online Application Form is live on our Academy website. The deadline for applications is Friday, 4 February 2022.

Please visit www.fairfax.bham.sch.uk/academy-life/sixth-form.

An advance notice: our second Enrichment Day is on Tuesday, 15 February and Year 11 students will be participating in Philosophy & Ethics activities and 'Disrespect Nobody' PSHE sessions, and attend Careers Event. Senior House Chess, Spelling Bee, Table Tennis and Badminton will also take place on this day, and students who want to represent their House should see their Head of House or Assistant Head of House.

An update notice: the Year 11 Mock GCSE Drama performances have been rescheduled to Wednesday, 16 February and Thursday, 17 February 2022, without an external audience. The Year 11 GCSE Drama examination performances have therefore also been moved to Thursday, 3 March and Friday, 4 March 2022.

A reminder notice: Celebration Evening 2022 is on the new date of Wednesday, 6 April 2022. Awardee confirmation letters have been sent and seats will be reserved on the evening for all who have confirmed their attendance.

An advance notice: **the Year 11 Prom date and venue has now been confirmed as Tuesday, 28 June 2022, 19:00-22:00 at the SnowDome.**

YEAR 12

A reminder notice: Year 12 Parents' Evening is on Wednesday, 2 February 2022, 16:30 -19:30. Please be reminded that Fairfax uses an online booking system for Parents' Evening. Information about how to access the booking system has been emailed to parents/carers. If you have any queries about Parents' Evening please email ff-parentsevening@fairfax.fmat.co.uk.

An advance notice: our second Enrichment Day is on Tuesday, 15 February and Year 12 students will be participating in CEIAG activities and attend a Careers Event. In addition, A level Mathematics students will be invited to a masterclass during the day. Senior House Chess, Spelling Bee, Table Tennis and Badminton will also take place on this day, and students who want to represent their House should see their Head of House or Assistant Head of House.

An advance notice: Fairfax are launching our work experience programme to assist students in obtaining quality work placements for w/b Monday, 13 June 2022. All Year 12 students are expected to undertake work experience during that time and a letter to parents/carers advising you of the procedures will be sent.

A reminder notice: Celebration Evening 2022 is on the new date of Wednesday, 6 April 2022. Awardee confirmation letters have been sent and seats will be reserved on the evening for all who have confirmed their attendance.

YEAR 13

An advance notice: our second Enrichment Day is on Tuesday, 15 February and Year 13 students will be participating in CEIAG activities and attend a Careers Event. In addition, A level Mathematics students will be invited to a masterclass during the day. Senior House Chess, Spelling Bee, Table Tennis and Badminton will also take place on this day, and students who want to represent their House should see their Head of House or Assistant Head of House.

A reminder notice: Celebration Evening 2022 is on the new date of Wednesday, 6 April 2022. Awardee confirmation letters have been sent and seats will be reserved on the evening for all who have confirmed their attendance.

An advance notice: **the Year 13 Prom date and venue has now been confirmed as Tuesday, 28 June 2022, 19:30-22:30 at Moxhull Hall.**