



INTHEKNOW

Friday, 17th July 2026

www.fairfax.bham.sch.uk



Fairfax Summer Musical

Congratulations to the cast and production team of our Summer Musical 'High School Musical'. The performance nights were exceptional! Well done to everyone!
#makingfairfaxproud

Farewell to staff

We would very much like to thank Mrs Boyce, as she retires, for her 23 years of commitment and service to Fairfax. In addition, we say thank you, farewell and best wishes to Mrs Skipp as she retires after 18½ years of supporting and working with our young people.

We also wish Mr Khan, Assistant Principal, all the very best in his new role at another school. Farewell too to Miss Brooks-Henderson and Miss Yip who leave Fairfax today with our very best wishes.

We thank all our staff for their commitment to Fairfax.

#makingfairfaxproud
#youwillalwaysbefairfax



House Athletics Championships 2026

Congratulations to champions Kenilworth House who won in all 4 categories at this year's event.

Year 7 Minors Winners

Year 8 Juniors Winners

Year 9 & 10 Inters Winners

Year 11, 12 & 13 Winners

In addition, we congratulate Coventry House who won Boccia.

Also well done to our students who broke 9 records throughout the course of the day.



Summer Ducklings

At the end of June, five ducklings hatched from eggs kindly donated by Ash End House Farm. Students named them Missy, Sunny, Quacktin Kirk, Beau and Sasuke.

A huge thank you to Miss James, Mrs Coulson and Mrs Lawlor, who ran the lunchtime Duckling Club and helped care for the ducklings throughout their time at school. The ducklings were also looked after during evenings and weekends, bringing plenty of joy to staff, families and neighbours.

The ducklings will be rehomed to a nearby stable, where they will enjoy happy, lifelong homes. While they will be greatly missed, we are delighted they have found such a wonderful place to grow up.

Education Awards Winners

Congratulations to Mr Ravenscroft who won Teacher of the Year at the Midlands Education Awards. A very well deserved award to someone who has opened up so many opportunities for students interested in sport.

In addition, Fairfax Academy won the Wellbeing Award.



Thank You to Our PRIDE & Equalities Group Students

An enthusiastic thank you to all the students who joined our PRIDE and Equalities groups every Monday lunchtime. Your enthusiasm, openness, and commitment to creating an inclusive and supportive community have made these sessions a welcoming space for everyone.

We appreciate your participation and look forward to continuing our work together next year. Same times, same place with Mrs Hussain! Monday lunchtimes in A14.



Opening of Sensory Room

We were privileged to welcome Ade Adepitan MBE, Paralympian, TV Presenter and Wheelchair Basketball player to formally open our new Sensory Room.

Following an extensive refurbishment, funded by Sutton Charitable Trust, Ade opened the new sensory regulation room within the SEMH centre, designed to provide a calm and structured environment where students can manage sensory overload, regulate their emotions, and confidently return to learning.

Culture Day

A huge thank you to all the students who participated in and supported this year's Culture Day. Your enthusiasm, confidence, and willingness to celebrate the rich diversity of our school community made the day a fantastic success.

A special thank you to our talented dance group, fashion show participants, silent disco attendees, and the students who worked with our visiting performance poet. Your creativity, confidence, and pride helped make the day truly memorable. We would also like to thank everyone who formed such a respectful and supportive audience throughout the celebrations.

We are equally grateful to the many students who explored Culture Day through their lessons, helping to make the day a meaningful learning experience across the school.

A special thank you also goes to our Sixth Form team for their support in organising and running the silent disco.

Culture Day was a wonderful celebration of our diverse community, and it was inspiring to see so many students learning from one another and celebrating what makes us unique. Thank you to everyone who helped make the event such a memorable occasion.

To see highlights from the day, visit our X page: @fairfaxPSHE.

PSHE & Equity

Thank you for continuing to engage thoroughly with the PSHE & Equity provision. Spring and Summer terms have seen First Aid training delivered by St John Ambulance, Me & Money Personal Finance workshops delivered by Mental Health UK, PSHE EmpowerED STARS praise postcards issued worth 5 merits each.

Moving into the Summer term strengthening our School Council offer, whereby School Council Tutor Representatives will be elected this week to work with our Student Leadership Team and Ms Hau empowering our student voice across school. Additionally, for all students, School Council drop in sessions will be available next academic year Monday to Thursday each week at break time in B9. Please attend with any matters to raise with the team.

Please follow X page @fairfaxPSHE for updates

Careers

As we come to the end of the academic year it is good to reflect on the career related activities we have achieved through out this academic year. This week alone saw 4 of our students head to London to receive their certificates and books for winning the creative competition held The Academy of Real Assets.

Year 12 benefited from their first ever Future Finder week where they listened to talks from CTM Pathway, Aberystwyth university alongside listening to alumni who have come back and talked about their experiences since leaving school.

Our visits for each of the different year groups this year have been to the Big Bang and UCAS Discovery at the NEC. The first ever National Manufacturing Festival held at the Hawthorns. Birmingham Botanical Gardens, University of Birmingham, Birmingham City University and Oxbridge. Over the coming year we will be looking to enhance our career opportunities when we reintroduce experience of the workplace for Year 10s.

Our focus as a school is to ensure our students are well equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to make a well informed and realistic decisions for their future.



Maths – Sparx

A huge thank you for all your support with Sparx Maths this year. We are finishing the year with our fabulous students achieving some incredible milestones:

- Over **15,000 hours** of learning completed
- More than **1.7 million questions** answered
- Over **6,000 levels** completed

These achievements reflect the hard work and dedication of our students, as well as the encouragement and support they've received throughout the year. Thank you for being such an important part of their success!

Duke of Edinburgh Silver Expedition

A huge thank you to all the staff who accompanied our Year 10 and Year 11 students for their Silver DofE expedition.

All students enjoyed the 3 days.



School Photographs

An advance notice: Year 7 and 12 individual school photographs will be taken on Thursday, 3rd September, and Year 10 individual school photographs will be taken on Friday, 4th September.

End of Year Celebration



All year groups enjoyed time on the inflatables on Thursday, to celebrate the end of another successful academic year.

2026-2027 Term Dates

Please be advised that there has been a change to the dates for the 2026-2027 academic year, with one Training Day moving from January to May. Below are the finalised dates for the next academic year.

Autumn Term 2026

Term Starts: Thursday, 3rd September 2026 (**Years 7 and 12 only**)
Friday, 4th September 2026 (**Years 10, 11 and Year 13 return**)
Monday, 7th September 2026 (**Years 8 and 9 return**)
Half-term: Monday, 26th October 2026 to Friday, 30th October 2026
Term ends: Friday, 18th December 2026

Spring Term 2027

Term Starts: Monday, 4th January 2027
Half-term: Monday, 15th February 2027 to Friday, 19th February 2027
Term ends: Thursday, 25th March 2027

Summer Term 2027

Term Starts: Monday, 12th April 2027
Half-term: Monday, 31st May 2027 to Friday, 4th June 2027
Term ends: Wednesday, 21st July 2027

Bank Holidays

Monday 3rd May 2027

2026-2027 Training Days

Tuesday 1st September 2026
Wednesday 2nd September 2026
Friday 2nd October 2026

Friday 12th March 2027
Friday 30th April 2027
Tuesday 4th May 2027

Fairfax PTFA

An advance notice: the next PTFA meeting is on Monday, 21st September at 18:00.

Please email ff-ptfa@fairfax.fmat.co.uk for more information or to confirm your attendance.

Safeguarding Newsletter

Please see the link to our Summer Safeguarding Newsletter

[Safeguarding-Newsletter-Jul-26.pdf](#)

Holiday Safeguarding Notice

The holiday period allows families and students a wonderful opportunity to spend quality time with friends and loved ones, but sometimes families and individuals may require some additional support.

If you or someone you know requires additional support, please seek guidance from one of the suggested specialist teams listed on the poster which accompanies this edition of In The Know. Please note that school will not be open to pick up any concerns during the holiday period.

Childline – 0800 1111

Birmingham Children's Trust – 0121 303 1888

Police – 111 or 999

Parent/Carer Calendar

Please see attached a copy of our Parent/Carer Calendar for the Academic Year 2026-2027.

YEAR 6

An advance notice: Year 7 will start school on Thursday, 3rd September at 08:30, and should proceed to the Hall on arrival.

An advance notice: Year 7 individual school photographs will be taken on Thursday, 3rd September.

An advance notice: there will be a Year 7 Parent Information Evening at 18:00 on Tuesday, 29th September in the Hall. This will also be an opportunity to meet your child's House Tutor.

An advance notice: there will be a PTFA Welcome for new parents at 17:30 on Tuesday, 29th September in the Hall, prior to the information evening.

YEAR 7

An advance notice: Year 8 will start school on Monday, 7th September at 08:30, and should proceed to their tutor room on arrival.

YEAR 8

An advance notice: Year 9 will start school on Monday, 7th September at 08:30, and should proceed to their tutor room on arrival.

An advance notice: there will be a Year 9 Bronze DofE Parent Information Meeting at 17:00 on Tuesday, 6th October in the Hall.

YEAR 9

An advance notice: Year 10 will start school on Friday, 4th September at 08:30, and should proceed to their tutor room on arrival.

An advance notice: Year 10 individual school photographs will be taken on Friday, 4th September.

An advance notice: there will be a Year 10 Silver DofE Parent Information Meeting at 17:00 on Monday, 21st September in the Hall.

YEAR 10

An advance notice: Year 11 will start school on Friday, 4th September at 08:30, and should proceed to their tutor room on arrival.

An advance notice: there will be a Year 11 Parent Information Evening at 18:00 on Tuesday, 8th September in the Hall.

An advance notice: the Silver DofE practice expedition will take place on Thursday, 17th September – Saturday 19th September. Please refer to the trip letter for further details.

YEAR 11

A reminder notice: Year 11 Results Day for GCSE and Level 2 vocational qualifications will take place on **Thursday, 20th August 2026, between 08:30 and 09:30**. If a student is unable to attend results day in person and wishes to send a nominated family member/friend to collect their results, they must bring photo ID and a short note with them signed by the student stating that they have their permission to collect on their behalf. Please note that we are not allowed to release results to anyone else without written permission. If you will be away during results day, please contact FF-Exams@fairfax.fmat.co.uk to make us aware as soon as possible.

Information regarding the post-results services offered by each exam board and the relevant fees and deadlines are now available on the school website under Parents>Examination Information. The Exams Team will be available on results day until 3:00pm to support with post-results service queries.

If any Year 11 students still have a revision guide or workbook that was loaned to them, please return it to reception or a member of staff on results day.

An advance notice: Year 12 will start school on Thursday, 3rd September at 11:25, and should proceed to the Diamond Suite on arrival.

An advance notice: Year 12 individual school photographs will be taken on Thursday, 3rd September.

An advance notice: there will be a Year 12 Parent Information Evening at 17:30 on Tuesday, 15th September in the Hall.

An advance notice: there will be a Year 12 Gold DofE Parent Information Meeting at 17:00 on Tuesday, 15th September in the Hall, prior to the information evening.

YEAR 12

An advance notice: Year 13 will start school on Friday, 4th September at 08:30, and should proceed to their tutor room on arrival.

An advance notice: there will be a Year 13 Parent Information Evening at 18:30 on Tuesday, 15th September in the Hall.

An advance notice: there will be a Year 13 Gold DofE Parent Information Meeting at 18:00 on Tuesday, 15th September in the Gym, prior to the information evening.

YEAR 13

A reminder notice: Year 13 Results Day for A Level and Level 3 vocational qualifications will take place on **Thursday, 13th August 2026, between 08:30 and 09:30**. If a student is unable to attend results day in person and wishes to send a nominated family member/friend to collect their results, they must bring photo ID and a short note with them signed by the student stating that they have their permission to collect on their behalf. Please note that we are not allowed to release results to anyone else without written permission. If you will be away during results day, please contact FF-Exams@fairfax.fmat.co.uk to make us aware as soon as possible.

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