Foxford Focus

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Edition 25 • November 2024

Update from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/ Carers

Welcome back to Autumn 2! We hope you had a lovely break over October half term.

We had an amazing first half term and it was lovely to see so many of you attend the Welcome and Rewards Evening. We intend to have more Reward Evenings this year so please look out for your invitations.

You will have been told by your child that we have several new staff in the Senior Leadership Team please read about them in their pen portraits. It is great having them on board at Foxford as they have so much experience to bring to our school. They all look forward to working with you in the coming term.

This half term we have some exciting events going on in school. We have some students visiting the Houses of Parliament, a group of students going to Warwick University and our Christmas Graduation Events which you will hear all about in the December Article.

Just a reminder that school is closed on Friday 6 December and will reopen on 9 December for the final 2 weeks of the half term.

Please keep an eye on your emails for when Christmas Jumper Day is and our Parental events for this half term.

As always please contact the Year Leaders if you should need to contact us about anything.

Mrs Gallagher
Headteacher

Calendar

Thursday 7 November	Year 13 UCAS / Student Finance Evening
Friday 22 November	Year 9 Say Yes to Learning
Thursday 28 November	Sixth Form Open Evening
Thursday 5 December	Year 11 Parents Evening
Friday 6 December	Training Day
Friday 20 December	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 20 December	Last day of Autumn Term

Free Parent Arbor App

Please download the free Arbor app.

We are now using the app to send 'In App' messages, trip payments and consent and school shop items.

You will also be able to view your child's praise points, Behaviour points, attendance and timetable.

The app will enable you to check your child's emergency contact details are up to date, as we no longer issue paper forms for this.

The app can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play Store.

If you have any problems, please email foxfordmail@castlephoenixtrust.org.uk

The Lord Mayor's Remembrance Day Service and Parade



Sunday 10 November

10.30am

War Memorial Park

Say Yes to Learning

Year 7 and 8 students really enjoyed our Say Yes To Learning sessions this Half Term. These sessions allow students to participate in teamwork and relationship-building sessions for two hours, where they come together in the Refectory to challenge themselves with "The Apprentice" style problem solving and teamwork tasks. There was lots of fun to be had, with stickers and Haribo galore! Students were able to mix and work with peers who they would not normally work with, helping them build friendships and introduce themselves to new people, developing their confidence. Students worked in teams and had to present in front of everyone else; a daunting task for some, but all students grasped this opportunity with courage and resilience. Two students from each session were also nominated to win a £10 Amazon voucher for their hard work and effort. Feedback from students was overwhelmingly positive and many talked of the skills they had developed that could be transferred into their subject areas. Well done, Years 7 and 8!



Teach She Can

Tech She Can is an exciting new project for Year 7 students, focused on changing the ratio of females working in and aspiring to have technology-based careers. 25 students in Year 7 have been selected to take part in a workshop each half term, which promise to be interactive and highly engaging.



The first session took place in the final week of October and was based around the theme of technology for sustainable transport. Students considered the impact that transport has on our planet, and the technology required to power different types of transport. Students found out about the different ways that drones can be used, and even had a go at programming a colour sensing robot! The session ended with students designing a new mode of transport that would have positive benefits for the environment.

We look forward to welcoming the Tech She Can team back into Foxford next half term.

SEND Coffee Morning

Foxford hosted a SEND coffee morning for Key Stage 3 parents on 8 October. Parents were introduced to the newly expanded SEND team, which is now led by Mrs Norton. The team also includes Ms Emran as Assistant SENco, Mrs Miller as Strategic SEND Lead and Mrs Hambridge as Year 7 SEND transition lead. It was useful for parents to be able to put faces to names, and refreshments were enjoyed whilst listening to presentations.

We were joined by a member of Coventry's Complex Communication Team, and the school's linked Educational Psychologist. Both gave information and guidance on how to support young people with a variety of SEND needs, with a particular focus on managing the transitions between home and school.

After the success of our first in-house SEND event, we are now planning an event for our Key Stage 4 and 5 parents in the new year, with a focus on manging revision and exam preparation.

Coventry SEND Support Service

Complex Communication

Year 10 M-Path Workshop

On Wednesday, 2 October, we welcomed Alex, a representative of M-Path, an organisation that works with students on topics such as mental health, stereotypes and gender expectations. All Year 10 students had an assembly followed by an hour-long workshop in smaller groups. The students engaged well with Alex, contributing to group discussions and challenging gender stereotypes. The students were positive following the workshops and found them useful, with most of them feeling that they had learnt something new about the subject.

M PATH

Welcome Evenings & Year 5 and 6 Open Evening

This term, welcome evenings for all year groups have taken place and, for the parents and carers in attendance, have proven to be an excellent way of communicating. We look forward to building upon this throughout the year with parents' evenings and other events that allow us to keep that contact with home going. It is so important that school and home work closely together to ensure the best quality education for all of our students.

At these evenings, the importance of that home-school relationship was underlined. Attendance strategies as well as what is coming up for year groups was discussed. We also had the opportunity to introduce and provide login information about some of our online platforms, such as GCSE Pod and UniFrog.

On Thursday 26 September, Foxford opened its doors to Year 5 and 6 pupils and parents for the annual Open Evening. Perspective pupils and parents were greeted by Foxford students and attended a presentation by our headteacher, Mrs Gallagher. Every subject area had practical activities as well as showcasing our fantastic and exciting curriculum. Foxford students who helped and supported during the event were excellent and a credit to the school's community. Well done to all involved.

Awards Evening

We celebrated our wonderful students at our first Awards Evening. Parents were welcomed into Foxford to join us in congratulating students for their various achievements and contributions to Foxford life last academic year. Students were awarded for their effort and achievement in curriculum subjects, recognised for their participation in many sporting events and showing dramatic/ musical prowess and commitment in the fabulous Matilda show. Year Leaders also awarded two students per year group the 'STAR' of the year award, this award is for students who always go the extra mile and demonstrate our RESPECT values continuously is all they do.

Each student was awarded colour badges for their blazer, students are wearing these badges with pride. If you need help in sewing the badge on then we can do that for you.
The future Awards Evening will be in the Summer term; we look forward to seeing many of you then and celebrating with you.





Year 11 Mock Week - a Big Success!



Year 11 Mock Week might have started with a bang on the 21 October, preparations for these exams started well before this as we can see from the 80 students who attended the English revision sessions amongst many other subjects after school.

Mock exams are a vital part of the preparations for the final summer exams. They tell teachers what student know and understand and give students a chance to practice what they can do in the exam setting. It is critical they are attended just like the real exams even if students are not feeling 100%.

Results from Mock exams will be coming soon and provide you with a snapshot for where your child is and provide teachers with information on what the next focus needs to be. Working together we can smash these exams!

Year 9 Reward Event

At Foxford we are keen to recognise the achievements of our students. We held a graduation trip to Twycross Zoo during the summer term of Year 8, however, we still wanted to recognise the work of those students that graduated after this time. Therefore, we hosted a reward afternoon for 38 Year 9 students who were able to play board games with their friends for the final period of the day. They were supplied with chocolate and other treats to keep their brains ticking!

Digital Creativity at Foxford

This half term our staff have been treated to a menu of digital sessions to support student learning in the classroom. Colleagues were able to use the digital post-it application 'Padlet' to collate ideas and the 'Explain Everything' application to support modelling of exam questions. Our students are very fortunate to have teachers who are constantly developing their skills to best support their progress in the classroom.

Students that attend Foxford are lucky to have access to a range of digital hardware to support their learning. We link topics to real life scenarios to give students concrete examples to apply their knowledge to. We utilise our iPads to share student successes and to address misconceptions they may have.

Attendance Matters

At Foxford School we understand that one of the most powerful things a parent can do to help their child's progress is to send them to school every single day possible. We have seen the evidence of how the odd day off can soon mount up and become a pattern. To give our students the best chance of learning most effectively this year we are going to be really driving excellent attendance. Every single day in school matters and every day missed is 5 hours of learning gone.

Building a good habit of attendance starts in Year 7 and it sometimes means sending children to school when it might be easier to let them miss. Good parenting is making that difficult decision to protect your child's learning when it might be easier to take a day off.

Your child has a form tutor and year leader if you need support in building this habit of good attendance. We are all in this together, fighting for the best grades and development of your child and school is the best place for this.

Sixth Form Update

We were delighted to welcome our returning students into Year 13 and welcome our new crop of Year 12 students into Foxford Sixth Form. It has been an incredible first half term for us at Foxford, and we are incredibly proud of the start that the students made. It is amazing to think that we have already done so much, including our GREAT launch and relaunch, including the welcome evening for Year 12 parents, and the start of our iPad programme with Year 12 students.

Year 13 have already completed their first set of mock examinations and will be looking ahead to their UCAS applications and considering their post-18 destinations in the world of work, university and apprenticeships. We welcomed Lien and Tony from Coventry University to launch their Financial Planning competition, with first prize being a fully-funded degree, and we have so much more planned for next half term. We are also proud of our students that have taken the choice to apply for Medicine, Dentistry and to Oxford and Cambridge and met the application deadline of 15 October. Best of luck to them!

Keep your eyes peeled for our new Sixth Form Newsletter!

Year 7s Dive into Reading with Bookbuzz!

We are thrilled to share that our Year 7 students are taking part in Bookbuzz, a fantastic program by BookTrust that inspires a love of reading. Through Bookbuzz, each student has been able to choose a book from an exciting, diverse selection designed to engage young readers of all interests and abilities. The books are due to arrive later this half term, and we can't wait to see the enthusiasm they spark in our students!

This year's Bookbuzz selection features an incredible lineup of stories and topics. Among the chosen titles are:

- Like a Charm by Elle McNicoll – a magical adventure with a bold protagonist who discovers her own unique gifts.
- Tutankhamun's Treasure by David Long, illustrated by Stefano Tambellini – a captivating look at the wonders and mysteries of Ancient Egypt.
- Quiet Storm – an inspiring tale of a young girl finding her voice and navigating the world on her terms.
- Nic Blake and the Remarkables: The Manifestor Prophecy – a gripping fantasy about a young hero discovering her extraordinary lineage.
- The Lizzie and Belle Mysteries: Drama and Danger – a historical mystery that brings to life thrilling escapades in 18th-century London.
- Code Name Kingfisher – a suspenseful, action-packed adventure with a spy twist.
- Animal Record Breakers – a fascinating non-fiction book filled with incredible facts about the animal kingdom.
- Steady for This – a story that explores friendship, resilience, and finding one's place in the world.

We're proud to be part of Bookbuzz, which not only supports literacy skills but also creates opportunities for discussion, reflection, and personal growth. With books that span genres from fantasy to non-fiction, this program encourages students to explore new worlds, tackle diverse themes, and gain confidence in their reading. Keep an eye out for updates as the books arrive, and join us in celebrating our Year 7s' reading journey!



Focus on New Members of the Senior Leadership Team

Christopher Czepukojć
Deputy Headteacher
Quality of Education



My name is Christopher Czepukojć and I am delighted to have joined the Foxford Community as Deputy Headteacher (Quality of Education). My career spans twenty years in education; I started as a History teacher in Warwickshire, where my passion and enthusiasm for giving students the best possible life chances was forged. Over the years, I have worked in a variety of schools in many local authorities across the West Midlands, most recently as Headteacher in two schools in north Birmingham and the Black Country. These experiences allow me to harness the very best practice I have seen and work with colleagues at Foxford to give students here first-class provision and Quality First Teaching.

Away from school, I am a proud husband and father to my four children; you will see me enjoying family time, travelling both domestically and internationally and supporting Lincoln City FC along with my two oldest children who are also Junior Sky Blues. I look forward to working with you all as we grow our fabulous Foxford Community.



Bruce Rogers
Assistant Headteacher
Quality of Education and Digital Creativity

My name is Bruce Rogers and I'm delighted to join Foxford as Assistant Headteacher. I work within the Quality of Education team on Learning, Teaching and Digital Creativity. I'm teaching within the PE and English faculties. I have been teaching for 12 years across two secondary schools in Redditch and Birmingham. I have joined Foxford after being Head of Physical Education in my previous school.

Manchester United are the team I follow - which has caused some controversy after the FA Cup Semi Final against Coventry last season!

Kevin Copson
Assistant Headteacher
Behaviour and Attitudes for Key Stage 3



Hello, my name is Mr Copson and I am honoured to serve as Assistant Headteacher for Behaviour and Attitudes in Key Stage 3. My key focus is to ensure every student engages with their learning as well ensuring that students take an active part In the whole school community. By using our school vales of CODE; Challenge, Ownership, Dialogue and Engagement will enable students to make excellent progress at Foxford. I am committed to nurturing an environment where every student feels valued, supported, and encouraged to reach their full potential.

I look forward to working together to make a positive impact on the lives of our students.

Focus on New Members of the Senior Leadership Team

Ed Lawrence
Assistant Headteacher
Whole School Attendance and Key Stage 4 Behaviour



I feel it an enormous privilege to take up this post at Foxford School. Although I live in Coventry, I have spent the last 16 years in schools in Birmingham. Foxford is clearly moving forward and its focus on maximising outcomes for young people is brilliant to see. I believe passionately that young people should have no limits on what they can achieve, and Foxford students should not allow anything to get in the way their ambitions.

My subject is English, and it has been clear that the potential here is limitless in the classes I teach. I will be working closely with the Year Leaders and senior team to improve the behaviour in Year 10 and Year 11 and push the school attendance as high as it can go.

Fun fact; Outside of school I played Rugby locally and now referee rugby each weekend.



Darren Dhesi
Assistant Headteacher
Curriculum and Quality of Education

I am joining the school this year as the new Assistant Headteacher for Curriculum and Quality of Education, where I will also lead on our reading and oracy ambitions. Previously, I served as an Assistant Headteacher for Teaching and Learning at a school in Birmingham and I bring with me a wealth of experience from a variety of educational settings across the Midlands.

As a teacher of both Modern Foreign Languages and Economics, I am passionate about enhancing students' educational outcomes, engagement, and communication skills. I'm excited to support the school's curriculum development, working collaboratively to foster a strong culture of oracy, reading, and academic excellence, ensuring we provide all students with a high-quality, inspiring educational experience that prepares them for lifelong success.

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