



Fountains High School

INFORMATION LETTER AUTUMN TERM 2 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your ongoing support, and to wish you all a very Merry Christmas.

Fountains High School has been a busy and exciting place over this last half term. Teaching and learning conferences throughout all of the departments have demonstrated just how much progress our students are making. The lessons are motivating and inspiring, and students are all actively engaged. The school provides an exciting curriculum and vocational offer that meets the individual needs of our young people.

Students have participated in many opportunities for enrichment including a visit to the Skills Show, a KS5 visit to the cinema and concerts at Lichfield Cathedral and the Mayors Christmas concert for the signing choir students.

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year!

Jackie Percy
Head of School

Children in Need Day

On 16th November Children in Need Day raised a grand total of £272.00.

A massive thank you to all who donated money for the privilege of wearing dotty clothes for the day, and to those that contributed towards the Bake Sale.

The day was a great success!

Christmas Jumper Day

On Wednesday 19th December, Fountains High School will be taking part in Save the Children's **Christmas Jumper Day**.

They are asked to simply stick on a silly sweater and donate £1 to save children's lives.

Christmas Carol Services

Our Christmas Choir Services will be held at St Mary's Church on Thursday 20th December.

The 10am service is for students and their parents or carers in KS3 and the Enhanced Learning Provision and the 1.30 pm service is for KS4 and KS5.

Due to the growing number of students in the school, there is not sufficient space for all of the students, staff and parents/carers in one event.

The Complex learning needs department has a new name which we feel better reflects the provision available for our young people.

It is now known as the
Enhanced Learning
Provision (ELP)

Sixth Form Enterprise Projects

Our Sixth Form students currently run various enterprise projects. These projects are really important for our young people as it provides them with valuable work experience, which is essential for them moving into adult life.

At the **Potting Shed** our students learning is currently focused on planting, tool recognition and working safely.

At the **Coffee Bean** our students are learning food preparation, serving and customer service skills.

The Enterprise Projects from January 2019 are as follows:

The Coffee Bean Café

Tuesdays and Wednesdays (term time only)

10:00am – 2:00pm.

The Pavilion, Clays Lane, Branston, Burton upon Trent

The Potting Shed Horticultural Centre

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays (term time only)

9:30am – 2:00pm

The Greenhouse Centre, Stapenhill Cemetery, Burton upon Trent

Dinner Money

A reminder that dinner money should come into school on a Monday morning in advance of meals being taken. This should come to school in a **sealed envelope clearly labelled with your child's name and form group.**

Dinner money will remain at £2.30 (£11.50 per week). If paying by cheque, please make payable to:

Fountains High School.



Please be aware that due to our new banking process, cheques may take up to 5 weeks to clear.

Child Protection/Safeguarding Policy

A reminder about our school Child Protection procedures.

Parents should be aware that the school will take any reasonable action to ensure the safety of its pupils. In cases where the school has reason to be concerned that a child may be subject to ill treatment, neglect or other forms of abuse, staff have no alternative but to follow County Child Protection Procedures and inform Social Services of their concern.

In case you have a safeguarding concern over the summer, we have put some useful telephone numbers and advice on our website:

www.fountainsfederation.co.uk

- Click Parents
- Scroll down to 'Safeguarding Advice' –

CONTACT DETAILS

Please remember to keep your contact details up to date. This is **essential** for us to be able to contact you in an emergency and for you to receive messages from our text messaging service.

Can we also remind you to inform the office of any change of address etc. so that we have the most up to date information held on file.

MOBILE PHONES

Please remember we do not allow the use of mobile phones in school. Therefore please **DO NOT** use them to take photographs of your child within the setting. All students are required to hand their phones in at the beginning of each day.

TOAST CLUB

Any pupils wanting to attend toast club in the mornings are quite welcome. It starts at 8:30 and just bring some money along – 10p per slice. Parents of Gluten Free children can you please let us know beforehand – this bread will be toasted separately.

STAR FOUNDATION

We have a Star Foundation Clothing Bank in the car park for old clothes, etc. School benefit from this clothing bank so please would you all consider using this when having a clear out!!

Supported Internships

At the first termly review of our Supported Internship Programme with Hobbycraft Distribution Centre, we are very proud to share with you the successes of our three sixth form students Lauren, James and Faisal.

They have been working within the E-Commerce department and have learned to order, pick and pack the items in preparation for them going out to the customer. They have also had opportunities to work in other areas of Hobbycraft such as dispatch. The students have been working for three days per week with their job coach, Lesley Blockley, and have found this an invaluable introduction to the working world.

The Hobbycraft staff and management team have only positives to share about our students. They should be extremely pleased with themselves.

The Fountains Federation Website

Please ensure you take some time to browse our Federation website.

www.fountainsfederation.com

The website has lots of information about our school as well as past and forthcoming events. Please note that there is no need to log into this website to access any information.

Developing Football and Coaching Skills

Our students have had the privilege to work with Lucy Jelf and Adam Lawrence from Burton Albion Community Trust who are leading on the brand new Sports Leadership Qualification Level 1.

As a school we are very proud that our students are able to undertake this wonderful opportunity and we wish them every success for the future.

After School Clubs

Clubs for next half term are as follows:

Monday	Dance	£3	3.10-4.10
Tuesday	Able Too	£2	3.10-4.10
Wednesday	Table Tennis	£2.50	3.10-4.10
Thursday	Signing Choir	£1	3.10-400

They will re-commence week beginning 14/01/2019

Football Club will re-commence after Easter 2018 and when the clocks have changed back.

A polite reminder that clubs should be paid for in advance and the permission slip should also be returned prior to your child starting the clubs.

Reminders

Please can all students make sure that they are wearing school uniform. This, and all other clothing and equipment brought into school should be **clearly named**.

Students should also bring basic stationery equipment where appropriate, such as pens, pencils, etc.

False Nails

Please note false nails should only be worn by students in the school holidays as these prevent them from participating in school activities if worn in term time.

Signing Choir

Thank you to Signing Choir for their amazing performance at Lichfield Cathedral and the Mayors Christmas concert.

They will also be performing at the Poplars Nursing Home spreading some Christmas cheer.

Burton Albion Community Trust

You can subscribe to receive the most recent newsletter for the Burton Albion Community Trust through the website below:

<http://burtonalbioncommunitytrust.co.uk>

or go to the newsletter link below:

<http://us8.campaign-archive1.com/?u=f804414e22259ee903f88016d&id=8617d16ec2>

School Contact Details

Tel: 01283 247580

Email:

enquiries-high
@fountains.staffs.sch.uk

DOGS ON SITE

Please note that dogs are not allowed on the school site. The only exceptions are guide dogs and our own school buddy dog.

Parental Survey

In our most recent parental survey 97% of parents and carers would recommend Fountains to another parent.

98% felt their child was well looked after in school and making good progress.

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NCS

Congratulations to the 18 year 12 students that graduated the National Citizen Service this half term.

They participated in a residential activity at Standon Bowers with other schools, completed a discovery week and then a social action project where they raised money for Stand up to Cancer and Dementia with Friends.

Attendance

Attendance at school is extremely important and being regularly absent will affect your child's ability to learn and do well.

Attendance letters will be sent out to all students in school termly.

These use a traffic light system and the majority of our students are usually on green, which is above 95% and is classed as outstanding attendance. Amber, which is above 90% attendance, is considered to be good. For students falling below 90% we as a school have concerns about their attendance. Parents/carers will be asked to join us at an Attendance Clinic where any issues can potentially be resolved. We will request medical evidence of their illness or reason for absence.

As a school our attendance is at **92.5%** which is below our target.

Absences: It is the schools statutory requirement to record all absences by 9:15am; therefore the school has to record an absence as unauthorised if no absence reason is given. If your child is off school for whatever reason it is your responsibility to inform the school office (**and not escorts**) by **8:30am** by calling 01283 247580.

Medical Appointments: Parents should send in appointment cards for all medical and hospital appointments.

Authorisation of holidays

All schools have been requested by the Government not to authorise holidays during school term time. In exceptional circumstances, such as a family funeral, leave may still be authorised. A leave of absence form needs to be completed and returned to Mrs Sarah Gilraine, Executive Head, for consideration. When a child or young person has more than 10 days or more unauthorised absence over two half terms in a row, then a penalty notice may be issued to the parents/carers of that child.

Friends of Fountains

The Friends of Fountains continue to meet on the Primary Site half termly. All new members are welcome. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 15th January (7:00pm-9:00pm).

Unwanted Presents: If you have any unwanted gifts lying around your house, please feel free to donate them to the Friends of Fountains Association. These presents can be used as raffle prizes for the Easter Bingo and Summer Fayre.

Match Funding: If you know of anyone who works for an organisation, why not ask them about match funding schemes – some companies offer this as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme. Companies could be able to match fund a stall at our Summer Fayre, please make our Treasurer (Amy Dunne) aware on: adunne@fountains.staffs.sch.uk

Thanks to all that have supported the Fashion Show which raised £450 and the Christmas Fayre which raised over £2000.

Please check the Friends of Fountains Facebook Page and the school website for information about forthcoming events.

Parental Drop Offs

Due to an increased number of students being transported to school by their parents or carers, we feel the need to ask for your co-operation and extra vigilance at the beginning and end of the day. We are currently investigating ways in which the number of parental drop offs can be reduced, but in the meantime we ask if families work together to possibly car share, or for young people that are able to and live close enough, to walk to school.

The school car park can be very busy especially during the hours of 8:35am–9:10am and 2:45pm-3:20pm. Please can all parents that are collecting their children by car wait in the bottom car park for their child to be escorted to you.

School staff are not responsible for students arriving early to school each morning. Students are not allowed into school until 8:30am, if they are attending Toast Club, or 8:45am if they are not.

At the end of the school day, if you are collecting your child by foot can you please walk around the car park via the gated pathway instead of across the car park as this is unsafe due to vehicle movement. The collection point for this is on the pathway between C4 and the pedestrian gate.

Adverse Weather Conditions

If a decision to close the school is made due to adverse weather conditions, you will be notified by text message. You can also check the website and school social media further information.

Parents/carers are responsible for contacting transport.

Fountains High Poppy Appeal

Thank you very much for helping with the Poppy Appeal.

The new range of products available proved very popular with our students this year.

Let's Get Together!

Parent/Carer 'Get-Togethers' are an opportunity to meet other parent/carers, share our experiences – what works, what doesn't, what's available locally and have cake!

Dates for next term will be advised via a text message from school so please look out for these.

Any queries please contact Sarah Gilbert on 01283 247583 or 07817 836867.

Toy Donation

If you are having a Christmas clear out we would very much appreciate any donations of old toys. Things like building blocks, books, cars, car mats, games etc would be very gratefully received.

Medication

In line with our Medication Policy in school, all medication sent into school for pupils **must** have a dispensing label on it from the pharmacist; no loose pills will be accepted at any time.

If your child has an epipen, inhaler or other medication that may be needed whilst in school, please ensure that you have informed the School Nurse, Jo Mears. It is very important that all medication is labelled, in date and handed to the bus escorts with the appropriate form.

Any queries please contact the School Nurse

If there are any changes in medical needs please inform school as soon as possible.

Health Matters

A reminder to parents to be vigilant in checking their child's hair for head lice please by using a head lice comb on conditioned hair at every hair wash.

There have also been cases of threadworms in school. If you notice your child itching around their bottom particularly in the evening this may be a sign, the while family needs treating with tablets from the chemist.

Use

www.nhs.uk/pages/home.aspx for more information.

Festive Events

Tuesday 18th December

Christmas Disco ELP, KS3, KS4
Cinema Visit KS5

Wednesday 19th December:

Christmas Jumper Day
Christmas Dinner Day

Thursday 20th December:

Carol Concert
10am KS3/ELP **1.30pm** KS4/5
1.30pm KS4/5

Below is a link to our **KS3 YouTube Channel**

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCarR6TdFWqh5NUS3Qccyf7g>

Please take a look at this as students like to see how many view they get!!! 😊

Twitter

The Fountains Federation are now on Twitter.

Please follow us @fountainsschool or @fountainshigh



Fountains Federation

@fountainsschool

Generic special school for pupils aged 2-19yrs, providing high quality education and celebrating the achievements made by all!

#fountainsfederation

📍 Burton upon Trent, England

🌐 fountainsfederation.co.uk

Cracker



Cracker continues to work hard with our students and loves nothing more than supporting school events.

Here he is at the recent potting shed open day.

Diary Dates

- 21.12.18** School Closes for Christmas 3:10pm
- 07.01.19** School re-opens at normal time
- 14.02.19** School closes for half term
- 15.02.19** Staff Training Day (school closed for pupils)
- 25.02.19** School re-opens at normal time
- 12.04.19** School closes for Easter
- 29.04.19** School re-opens as usual
- 06.05.19** Bank Holiday – school closed
- 24.05.19** School closes for half term
- 03.06.19** School re-opens as normal
- 25.06.19** Sponsored Walk
- 04.07.19** Sports Afternoon
- 07.07.19** Summer Fayre
- 11.07.19** Transition Morning
- 16.07.19** Awards Assembly
- 17.07.19** Prom for KS5 and Y11
- 18.07.19** Leavers Buffet and Assembly
- 19.07.19** School closes for the summer holidays

School Transport

A polite reminder that it is parents / carers responsibility to liaise with their child's taxi operators / appropriate transport departments regarding the day to day pick up / drop off arrangements for your child.

If you do not have any telephone numbers school will be happy to provide you with this.

Burton Unwanted Bikers

Many thanks to the Unwanted Burton Bikers for supporting our Christmas Fayre and for once again providing our Christmas Disco.

The turn-out of bikers was excellent and we would like to thank them for their kind donations for our students.

MENCAP

MENCAP have very kindly donated £1000 to the Fountains Federation, which will be shared between the students over both sites. Key Stage leaders will ensure that the money is spent on worthwhile activities and visits for our students.

NOTICE

Please note the main pedestrian gate to the High School site will be locked every day from 9:30 – 2:30. Please use the main entrance for access to the school during this time period.