



1ST MARCH 2024 | ISSUE 20

# FERRYHILL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

INTEGRITY | CREATIVITY | EXCELLENCE

## A JOYOUS RETURN TO CLASSROOMS

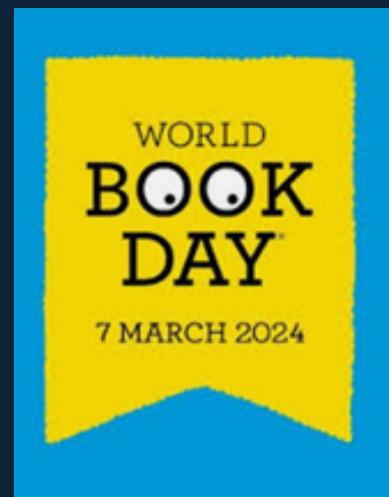
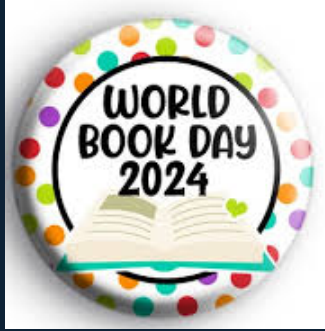
We are thrilled to announce the reopening of some of our classrooms to Ferryhill students. We now have a number of fully refurbished classrooms ready to welcome students back. This week students have returned to our original rooms to focus on learning after a rather challenging period. The excitement resonates not only among the pupils but also within our dedicated staff, who are equally delighted to resume teaching in our original classrooms. The positive energy is palpable as students express their joy at being back in familiar settings.

The journey toward a full school reopening has commenced, and we are able to provide a more traditional educational experience for all once again. As we embrace this new chapter, we extend our gratitude to parents for their understanding and support during the temporary closure. Together, we look forward to a successful and fulfilling academic year.

Welcome back to the classrooms where dreams and knowledge flourish!



# WORLD BOOK DAY



March 7th is World Book Day. The theme this year is Read Your Way and calls on everyone to let go of pressure and expectations, giving children a choice – and a chance – to enjoy reading.

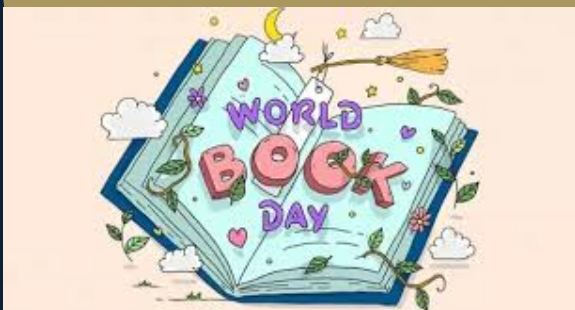
To celebrate World Book Day and promote reading for pleasure and enjoyment, Ferryhill School will be holding a Year 7 Big Read.

This will involve students being introduced to a new story and hopefully finding enjoyment and excitement in the art of story-telling. Students will be given a copy of the story to take home and some information about the author so they are able to explore further once at home. At school, students will end their school day by listening to the story in an atmospheric setting and get a chance to discuss their thoughts and ideas. The intention is to have students leave school with a new story in their heads. Hopefully, one they will want to talk about at home.

As well as the above, lots of other activities will be taking place across the school. We will be holding a 'Find the Book' search, which involves students taking part in a book treasure hunt. Successful students will receive a new book as their 'treasure' reward.

We will also be holding a book cover design competition with prizes handed out to the winners and staff will be sharing their favourite novels and childhood reads in displays around the school.

So, save the date, World Book Day will be celebrated in style at Ferryhill School.



## DURHAM POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER VISIT

On Monday 26th February, Joy Allen Durham Police and Crime Commissioner launched the Platinum Commissioner's Challenge with all the Year 7 students at Ferryhill School.

The Platinum Commissioner's Challenge has been developed and supported in partnership with Joy, Durham's Police and Crime Commissioner, the North East Business Resilience Centre (big thank you to Jack Gooday for his amazing knowledge and skill), Ferryhill School leaders and Glenys from Approach Too. The Challenge will see 180 students complete a series of tasks which will help keep themselves, their family and friends safer, stronger and more resilient to cybercrime.

Glenys from Approach Too said "Smartphones, computers and the internet are such a fundamental part of modern life it's difficult to imagine how we'd function without them. From online banking and shopping, to email and social media, it's more important than ever to prevent cyber criminals getting access to our online accounts, data, and devices. Simple steps can help us stay safe and secure online, and that's what the Platinum Commissioners Challenge is all about."

Thank you to Durham Constabulary Assistant Chief Constable Tonya Antonis for coming along and inspiring the Year 7 students and as always huge thank you to Chris Orton for all his design wizardry and Mr Handley for his patience, enthusiasm and support.



# SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

Ewan John in Year 9 has been selected for the Under 14s Newcastle Falcons Academy. Ewan has played rugby for Bishop Auckland Rugby Club since he was 4 years old and has shown great talent and a strong work ethic throughout the years. Being selected for Newcastle Falcons Academy is a fantastic achievement and we wish Ewan the best of luck.



## INDOOR ATHLETICS



In December Ferryhill School took 4 teams to compete in the County Durham indoor athletics competition ran by Go Well. We had 8 male students from Year 7 and Year 8 and 8 female students from Year 7 and Year 8 who all battled it out against Greenfield to try secure a place in the finals. Our boys teams managed to be triumphant against the Greenfield boys, making their way into the finals but unfortunately, our girls were pipped to the post. On Wednesday 28th February the finals were held at Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre. Here, there were teams from all over the county who have won their local areas competition just like we had. Other schools in attendance were Durham Johnston, Tanfield, Easington and Teasdale. The boys from each year grouped work extremely hard in the events they were participating in, showing great effort and sportsmanship in cheering on their teammates. After 9 tough events including speed bounce, standing long jump and a 6 lap individual race the results were in. The Year 8 boys team finished 5th in the county and the Year 7 boys team finished 3rd in the county. It was a fantastic afternoon, where the students displayed determination, focus and resilience – well done to all girls and boys who took part!

# EASTER RAFFLE



FERRYHILL  
SCHOOL  
INTEGRITY | CREATIVITY | EXCHANGE

JOIN OUR GIANT  
**EASTER  
RAFFLE**

Lots of wonderful  
treats to be won!

**£1.00  
A STRIP**

Tickets can be bought from  
Mrs Langdale - Lower School  
Mrs McGuiggan - Upper School  
Mr Wood - Both sites

Raffle Drawn - 26th March  
Cash Required

Lots of Easter Eggs  
A big Easter Treat Hamper  
Box of cupcakes



The Easter Raffle is running across  
Upper and Lower School.

Tickets are £1 a strip

Main prize – Easter Sweet Treat  
Hamper

Lots of Easter eggs

Box of Easter cupcakes

Tickets can be bought from:

Mrs Langdale – Lower School

Mrs McGuiggan – Upper School

Mr Wood – Both sites

The winners will be picked at random  
on Tuesday 26th March

Good luck.



## ‘JOB OF THE WEEK’

As part of the Year 9 tutor programme and to help expand student knowledge and understanding of some of the many different job roles available to them after school, students have been looking at different job roles.

This week’s ‘Job of the Week’ is a -Wellsite Geologist

[https://youtu.be/4FIZqtindec?  
list=PLVEWa7uIDT769WGUTc\\_-lOca4dJRIPatZ](https://youtu.be/4FIZqtindec?list=PLVEWa7uIDT769WGUTc_-lOca4dJRIPatZ)



# EMPATHY WEEK

## Empathy Week

Empathy Week runs from 26th February to 1st March. As educators we know the importance of nurturing our students' empathy and understanding.

### What is empathy?

Empathy is the ability to understand and share the feelings of another person.

### How do we show empathy?

Listen to others and share your experiences.  
Put yourself in someone else's shoes.  
Focus on similarities rather than differences.



### Why is empathy important?

Empathy helps you see things from another person's perspective and sympathise with their emotions and build stronger relationships - at work, school and in your personal life.

Here at Ferryhill School we believe that teaching and demonstrating empathy is a life skill. It allows us to make sense of ourselves as-well as those around us.

## INTERNET SAFETY TIP

### Child Exploitation and Online Protection

If you or a friend want to report abuse on line look at the Think You Know website, [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk) (CEOP) and click report abuse, use Childline or talk to an adult you trust. No matter how small you think it is, don't be afraid!

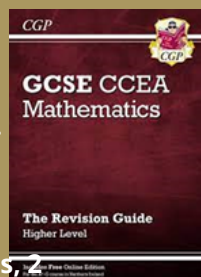


School equipment now available to buy on ParentPay.  
Casio scientific calculator and pencil case (pencil case, 3 black pens, 2 green pens, 2 pencils 2 small & 1 large ruler, rubber, pencil sharpener, compass, protractor, glue stick & 2 highlighters - £10.00.

**FINAL STOCK Casio scientific calculator - £8.55.**

**Pink Casio calculator - £9.10.**

Pencil case (pencil case, 3 black pens, 2 green pens, 2 pencils, 2 small & 1 large ruler, rubber, pencil sharpener, compass, protractor, glue stick & 2 highlighters - £2.50.



## Equipment Packs

We now have A3 equipment pack wallets available to purchase from our ParentPay app. The price of these are currently £1.00. Pupils are also able to purchase these via our ClassCharts system using their achievement points.

# ATTENDANCE

Persistent Absence: The government class any student who has less than 90% attendance as “persistently absent”. This means a pupil will miss, on average, one day a fortnight. If this continues across a whole academic year, the student will miss more than a month of school. Government figures published last week suggest that nearly a quarter of secondary school pupils are persistently absent, and may receive fines as a result. To ensure your child maximises their time in school, and doesn’t fall behind their peers, please try to ensure they are in school as much as possible. You can check your child’s attendance on Classcharts.

## PARENT/CARER PARKING AT SCHOOL



### **PARKING - REMINDER**



Can parents/carers refrain from dropping students off directly into the main school car park on a morning amongst the parked cars. For those cars that are dropping children off they need to drive down the bus lanes and drop their children off at the bottom of the bus lanes and directly onto the path so children are not crossing the car park road in front of traffic including the buses. This is a safety issue and we want to avoid children being at risk from being knocked down. Similarly students should not be entering/leaving site on foot directly from the car park gates or the gates behind the bungalows near the tennis courts as these gates are for vehicle access only and not for student pedestrian access. The pedestrian gate is the gate that students should be entering the site from, again for safety reasons, at the front of the school down from the bottom car park gates.

At the end of the school day parents are not to park in the school car park or enter the site on foot to collect their child unless they have been provided with a permit from School. Due to ongoing works around the area there is a designated pedestrian exit to ensure students can leave the site safely. Thanks for your support observing these safety procedures.

# YEAR 11 MOCK EXAM TIMETABLE

Please see below the mock exam timetable for Year 11 students, week beginning the 4th March. Please can you ensure your child is in school on time, thank you for support.

Week	A	Lesson 1 8.30 - 9.30	Lesson 2 9.30 - 10.30	Lesson 3 11.00 - 12.00	Lesson 4 12.30 - 1.30	Lesson 5 1.30 - 2.30
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> March		History Paper 2 8.30 - 10.15			French listening F - 12.30 - 1.05 H - 12.30 - 1.15  French Reading F - 1.05 - 1.50 H - 1.30 - 2.30	
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March		English Language 8.30 - 10.15			Health & Social BTEC 12.30 - 1.30	
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> March		Maths Paper 3 9.00 - 10.30			ICT BTEC 12.30 - 1.30	
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March		Enterprise BTEC 9.00 - 9.45			Sport BTEC 12.30 - 1.30	
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March						

## MATHS HOMEWORK - YEAR 10

Moving forward after the half term break the Mathematics Department will be issuing paper-based homework on a fortnightly basis, in week A.

This will consist of a Maths GCSE practice paper once a fortnight, with Sparx Maths on the alternate fortnight. Students will have 1 week to complete the questions to the best of their ability. This will help prepare students with their GCSE exam and help them with the familiarity of exam papers.

If you have any questions, please email the department on [maths@ferryhill.school](mailto:maths@ferryhill.school)  
Mrs Clarkson  
Head of Department





# Parenting Together

NEW 2.5 hour  
friendly and  
informal  
workshop

Helping parents and/or friends and family who help bring up your child to:

- Think about how you deal with disagreements in relationships
- Manage family stress and improve communication
- Enjoy parenting together

To find out more or to  
book your place  
call/text/whatsapp  
07917 474 856 or email  
EPEC@durham.gov.uk

## Workshop dates

Monday 4 March, 6-8.30pm  
Wednesday 6 March, 9.30-12noon  
Monday 18 March, 6-8.30pm  
Tuesday 19 March 12-2.30pm

Venue TBC



Be the  
change you want  
to see



Make  
a  
difference

Work for your  
local council



# Period 6

We are excited to announce the new timetable of after-school revision sessions, Period 6, which are especially tailored for our Year 11 students.

These sessions aim to provide focused support as students prepare for their upcoming mock exams at the end of February, as well as for their formal exams in the summer.

Your child's academic success is our priority, and we encourage their participation in these valuable sessions to enhance their understanding and boost confidence. Revision plays a crucial role in GCSE exam preparation, as it consolidates knowledge, reinforces understanding, and enhances memory retention. A study conducted by the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) revealed that students who engage in regular revision sessions tend to achieve higher grades compared to those who rely solely on classroom learning. Revision is at its most effective when it involves revisiting information over time, known as spaced repetition; this is what our Period 6 sessions provide.

Participation in after-school sessions serves as an investment in future success for students. Beyond immediate academic gains, these sessions instil crucial skills such as time management, discipline, and a strong work ethic. Research indicates that students who engage in after-school sessions, tend to develop a greater sense of responsibility and commitment. Therefore, by actively participating in after-school sessions, students not only enhance their subject knowledge but also cultivate a foundation of skills and habits that contribute to long-term success.

We would like to ask for your continued support in ensuring that students attend their scheduled sessions helping them to maximise their chances of success in the summer.

All sessions will take place from Monday 29th January, 2.30pm-3.30pm at Upper School 'Gateway' site with late buses being provided.

PLEASE SEE TIMETABLE BELOW

Mon A	Tues A	Wed A	Thurs A	Fri A
<b>Option B</b>	<b>Humanities</b>	<b>Science</b>	<b>English/Maths/Business</b>	<b>Business</b>
Art B TSU	Geog A + B PCO	<b>Rotation</b>	E1: English NDO	E1: Business MCG
Engineering B SSH	History A SHA	LDU KBR SKN JJO SMO	E2: English BSO	E2: Business LGI
Sports B PSM	History A JFR		A1: Maths BCL	
E2 Maths (A) DHO	ICT A DLE		A2: CWL	
	Health & Social A CHA		C1: Maths JEM	
			C2: Maths DHO + EAG	
			WR: Maths KMC	
Mon B	Tues B	Wed B	Thurs B	Fri B
<b>Option C</b>	<b>Humanities</b>	<b>Mix</b>	<b>Maths/English/Business</b>	<b>Biology</b>
Art C NCA	Geog A + B PCO	E1: Sports VWI	E1: Maths KMC	D1: Science SMO
Engineering C SSH	History B SHA	E2: Business LGI	E2: Maths (B) DHO	D2: Science KBR
ICT C DLE	History B JFR	A1: Business MCG	A1: English KCA	
Sports C PSM		D3: Science KBR	A2: Maths JEM	
Sports VWI		D4: Science KBR	C1: CWL	
Health & Social C CHA		D5: Science SMO	C2: MCG	
		WR: History SHA		

# SCIENCE AND MATHS TUTORING SESSIONS

Ferryhill School Science Department are very excited to announce an exclusive tutoring program that can significantly boost your Year 11 and Year 10's child's exam results in Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Maths as a part of our RAAC catch up strategy with the help of Kay Science.

**Start Date:** Begins on Monday, 5th February, with 4 weekly lessons in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Maths.

**How to Join:** Students use their Kay Science account login and password which is both their first name and last name in lowercase letters with the number 400 after. Eg. joeblogs400. Once logged in students click their name and then tuition timetable which will be a green button to start the live lesson.

**Timing of Lessons:** Lessons are from Monday to Thursday, 5:30pm to 6:30pm. Triple Science content specific lessons will start from Monday 4th of March at 7:00pm to 8:00pm.

**Scheme of Work:** Meticulously planned to go over the key content likely to appear in exams.

**Expert Teachers:** Led by three experienced teachers from London high schools with a combined 20+ years of experience and a track record of high pupil attainment.

**Direct Instruction & Feedback:** We will explain the content using dual coding under a visualiser, give students an opportunity to attempt exam questions, and then provide feedback on how to get top marks.

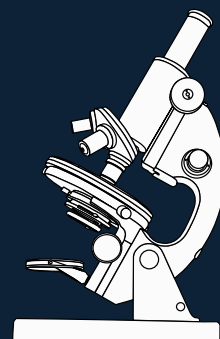
**Optional Homework:** There will be an opportunity for students to complete homework after each lesson.

Online tutoring sessions are **FREE** of charge for all Ferryhill School pupils (typically one hour of online tutoring can cost anywhere between £25 – 40 an hour.) This is a fantastic opportunity for our Year 11 and Year 10 students who have been affected by our current RAAC situation to help them get the grades they truly deserve. Please see the proposed weekly schedule attached.

Mr S.J Knaggs (Chemistry Lead)



Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Week (w/b)	<b>Biology</b>	<b>Chemistry</b>	<b>Physics</b>	<b>Maths</b>
Week 1 5th Feb	Enzymes	Periodic Table	Renewable & Non-Renewable Res	Primes, Factors and Multiples / Standard Form
Week 2 12th Feb	Plants	Separation Techniques	Spec Heat Cap/Latent Heat	Percentages
Week 3 19th Feb	Photosynthesis	Bonding	Electricity	Algebraic Fundamentals
Week 4 26th Feb	Respiration	Groups of the Periodic Table	Electricity	Factorising / Sequences
Week 5 4th Mar	Circulatory System <u>Triple:</u> Aseptic tech/disks	Key Calculations <u>Triple:</u> Calculations	Particle Model <u>Triple:</u> Electrical Charges	Working with Equations
Week 6 11th Mar	Health and Disease <u>Triple:</u> Plant diseases	Acids + Alkalis <u>Triple:</u> triple content	Atom & Decay <u>Triple:</u> Gas Pressure	Formulae / Simultaneous Equations
Week 7 18th Mar	Reflex Arc & Glucose <u>Triple:</u> The Eye	Electrolysis <u>Triple:</u> Tests for ions	Forces <u>Triple:</u> Using Radiation	Working with Ratios
Week 8 25th Mar	Controlling Fertility <u>Triple:</u> Auxins/Thermoreg	Reactivity & Equilibrium <u>Triple:</u> Organic Chem	Hooke's Law <u>Triple:</u> Moments, Gears	Ratios in Context



# PARENT NOTICES

## **PARKING AT FERRYHILL**

Parents are not to park in the school car park or enter the site on foot to collect their child unless they have been provided with a permit from School. Due to ongoing works around the area, we have a designated exit to ensure students can leave the site safely.

## **COLLECTION OF STUDENTS FROM FERRYHILL SITE**

When collecting or dropping off a student during the school hours of 8:30am – 2:45pm, can we ask that parents/carers come to the new reception entrance based in room 10 which is signposted. The PE entrance used by students will be locked throughout the day and will not be manned by staff.

## **COLLECTION OF STUDENTS FROM UPPER SCHOOL SITE**

For parents picking up their child from the Upper School site, please do not park directly outside of the building as the school buses need space to park. By parking there it prevents students being able to board the buses safely. Please park on the opposite side to the Upper School building. Thank you for your support with this matter.

## **LOLLIPOPS**

Lollipops are not allowed in school, they are a potential choking hazard.

## **BEHAVIOUR ON SCHOOL BUSES**

Please ensure students are aware that their behaviour while waiting for and while travelling on the school bus is subject to the schools consequence system.

## **RECORDING ABSENCES/ATTENDANCE**

All student absences must be reported to school by 8:30am each day. This can be done by contacting (01740) 651554. Please then select **option 1** to be directed to Student Support. If there is no one available to take your call, please leave a message on the answer machine provided. Alternatively, you can email any attendance related queries to [attendance@ferryhill.school](mailto:attendance@ferryhill.school).

## **PE KIT REMINDER**

Can we please remind parents that students must have their PE kits in school on their PE day. Please remind your child to check their timetable daily.

## **LATE BUSES**

Please note late buses will not run for afterschool clubs. Your child will be expected to make their own way home.

## AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

After school activities will continue at Ferryhill site, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Sessions will run from 2:50 - 3:30pm, unless stated otherwise.



A colorful poster for the Reading Club. At the top, the words "Reading Club" are written in a large, purple, decorative font. Below this, a dark blue rounded rectangle contains the text "All year groups welcome" in white. Underneath that, in a smaller purple font, it says "Every Wednesday after school in Room 8". The background features several stacks of books in various colors (grey, red, blue, yellow) and a central illustration of an open book with white pages and a green spine. At the bottom, there are two white rounded rectangles with purple text: "See You There!" and "See Miss Gibbs for details". The poster is decorated with wavy lines in red, white, and blue in the corners.

**Monday - Trampolining :-  
Week A - Year 7 Week B - Year 8**

**Wednesday - Reading Club  
Wednesday - Football**

**Wednesday - Board Games Club  
Wednesday - English Club 3:00-3:30pm  
Wednesday - Film Club 3pm-4pm Room 6  
Thursday - Netball**

