



19TH JANUARY 2024 | ISSUE 15

FERRYHILL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

INTEGRITY | CREATIVITY | EXCELLENCE

Stargazing at Ferryhill

Astronomy.

On Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings Year 7 students have been learning to use a telescope and focus it on different objects. On Tuesday due to the clouds (an astronomer's worst enemy!) students practised focusing the telescope at trees and school buildings and learnt to use the astronomy website called Stellarium to explore what is out there in our night sky.

Wednesday and Thursday nights students braved the bitter cold and identified different features of the moon that we could see from the tennis courts. Students had great fun having a hands-on go, applying learning from their lessons and asking many, many great questions! And jokes: What's an astronaut's favourite drink? Gravi-tea!



A NEW TERM EVEN MORE READING

In all of our learning spaces (big and small), we are still able to enjoy reading, both individually and as a class. Students are continuing to excel in their reading lessons, making great progress and enjoying a wide variety of books.

Reading is also continuing in other subjects too. Students in Year 8, who you see in these photos, have also started to read the fantastic novel, 'The Boy In The Striped Pajamas' by John Boyne in their English lessons and are so far really enjoying the book, making great predictions about what will happen next. Students also spent time learning about context of the book – looking at the Holocaust, concentration camps and the events of the Second World War.

We are looking forward to more great reading this year, and you'll definitely get to hear more about it in forthcoming newsletters!



READING CLUB

In English Club on Wednesday with Miss Major, Louis H Year8 created a marvellous description of a fun fair for the other members to guess what setting he was describing.
Well done Louis!

Upcoming Fundraising Events

- Saturday 27th January – Students have a tombola at Tesco Newton Aycliffe
- Sunday 28th January – Students have a stall at Oakleaf Sports Complex Newton Aycliffe
- Friday 16th February – Bake Sale – Lower School site – for all of years 7.8 and 9



Amazing. It looked amazing. Lights illuminating the sky as bright as the sun itself. Music boomed. Screamed out of children's laughter filled my ear drums with joy. The ~~smell~~^{aroma} of popcorn and sweets danced in the air as vendors would occasionally yell "get your refreshments here!". Over all the ~~conclusion~~^{conclusion} screams could be heard from all around as if you were surrounded by ~~ghosts~~ ghosts. The metal clanging against each other of the rides continued ~~by~~ moving ruined the atmosphere of excitement and joy. It seemed that the world had stopped ~~hating~~ hating for one night to enjoy rides, snacks and good times.

CHANGES TO BUS PICK UP TIMES

LEES CONTRACT 3502

Change of bus pick up times below

From Monday 22nd January the 3502 Lees contract will be picking students up 5 minutes earlier than the previous published times. Please ensure students are at their stop before this new time as the bus driver will only wait at each stop until the time given for each stop.

Please note in particular that Y10/11 students who get on this bus at the Leisure Centre will need to board at 8.07 thus arriving at school approx. 8.12am. Y10/11 students who board this bus at the main school site will also need to note the change in time so if students arrive at the school site after 8.20am they will be late as the last bus to leave site will now depart at 8.20am.

Please ensure you are at the main school site to be transported to Gateway site no later than 8.20am.

Sharon Avenue, Kelloe	7:45
Tate Avenue, Kelloe	7:46
Coxhoe Hall	7:48
Coxhoe Londis	7:50
Coxhoe Church	7:52
Coxhoe Tarka Centre	7:53
Coxhoe, Parkhill	7:55
Leisure Centre	8:07
Arrive at school	8:12
Gateway	8:17



BUS PASSES

All students allocated to buses should all have a Durham County Council (DCC) issued bus pass except those Y10/11 students who are currently transported to and from the Gateway site. Students need to show their bus pass when boarding the bus on a morning and when boarding the bus for the journey home from school every day.

If a student loses their pass, they need to apply for a new one at a cost of £5, which DCC charge, by contacting them on 03000264444 option 4. Once the pass has been ordered a temporary pass can be obtained from the school which can be used until the new pass arrives.

Please be aware that students may be refused travel if they fail to show their pass.

NOTICE TO PARENTS/CARERS

LUNCH ACCOUNTS

Can parents/carers who pay for school meals please ensure that student meal accounts stay in credit in order that food can be paid for as and when it is ordered and consumed. Where students don't have enough money on their accounts to pay for lunch, students will be allowed to get their lunch on that day and we will attempt to ring parents/carers to inform them that the account needs topping up.

Students will need to inform parents/carers of the situation when they get home that day. If we are unable to contact parents/carers to speak to and the same thing happens the next day we will send a SchoolComms message out advising of the money owed and that the student should bring a packed lunch into school for the next day if the account can't be topped up in the short term. It is parents/carers responsibility to ensure that there is enough money on their child's account to pay for food.

However, if there are any problems with topping up please contact the school office for your child's year group as soon as possible, so we can discuss resolving the situation with you.

YEAR 8 PARENTS EVENING

FEBRUARY 13TH

The Year 8 Parents Evening is on 13th February 3pm – 6pm. Not only is this an opportunity to speak to your class teacher about your progress within the subject, it is also an opportunity to speak to staff about option choices in preparation for Year 9. Staff from a range of option subjects will be available to talk to students about the courses and how they are assessed and answer any questions you may have. Miss Gibson will also be delivering an Option talk for parents who would like to find out more about the options process. More details to follow in the next few weeks.

GCSE English Literature Study Guides (for Years 10 and 11)

CGP study guides for the GCSE Literature texts that students study for their exams are available to purchase through Parent Pay. An English Language guide is also available. Each guide is priced at £3.20 (rather than the £6.50 if your order directly from the publisher!). There is a separate Parent Pay account for each guide. Please pay into the account which links to the guide you require. The order that the Literature texts are studied in is shown below; Language is taught throughout.

Further opportunities to buy the guides will, of course, be offered later.

Please note: these are the same guides that have been offered previously so if you have already bought them, please don't buy them again! We are unable to refund money if multiple guides are bought in error.



The deadline for this round of orders is: Thursday, 15th February at 3pm

The accounts are named as follows:

English: Poetry Study Guide (studied in both Year 9 and 10)

English: A Christmas Carol Study Guide (studied in Year 10)

English: An Inspector Calls Study Guide (studied in Year 10)

English: Macbeth Study Guide (studied in Year 11)

English: Language (skills developed throughout but specific exam teaching is predominantly in Year 11)

Please don't hesitate to email me if you have any questions: kca@ferryhill.school

Thank you.

Mrs Carter

Director of Learning for English

'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 Retail Buyer

Further information about this job role can be found by following this link

https://youtu.be/-DpUrmadIMc?list=PLVEWa7uIDT769WGUTc_-lOca4dJRIPatZ

Why not also check out a range of Careers Packages for secondary schools <https://bit.ly/5YrCareers> www.youtube.com



VACCINATION DATE CHANGE

DTP/MenACWY vaccinations for Year 9 students that were due to take place in school on 24th January 2024 have now been rescheduled for the 9th May 2024.

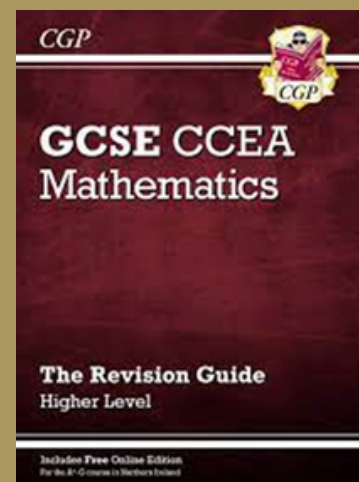


School equipment now available to buy on ParentPay.
Casio scientific calculator and pencil case (pencil case, 3 black pens, 2 green pens, 2 pencils 2 small & 1 large ruler, rubber, pencil sharpener, compass, protractor, glue stick & 2 highlighters - £10.00.

FINAL STOCK Casio scientific calculator - £8.55.

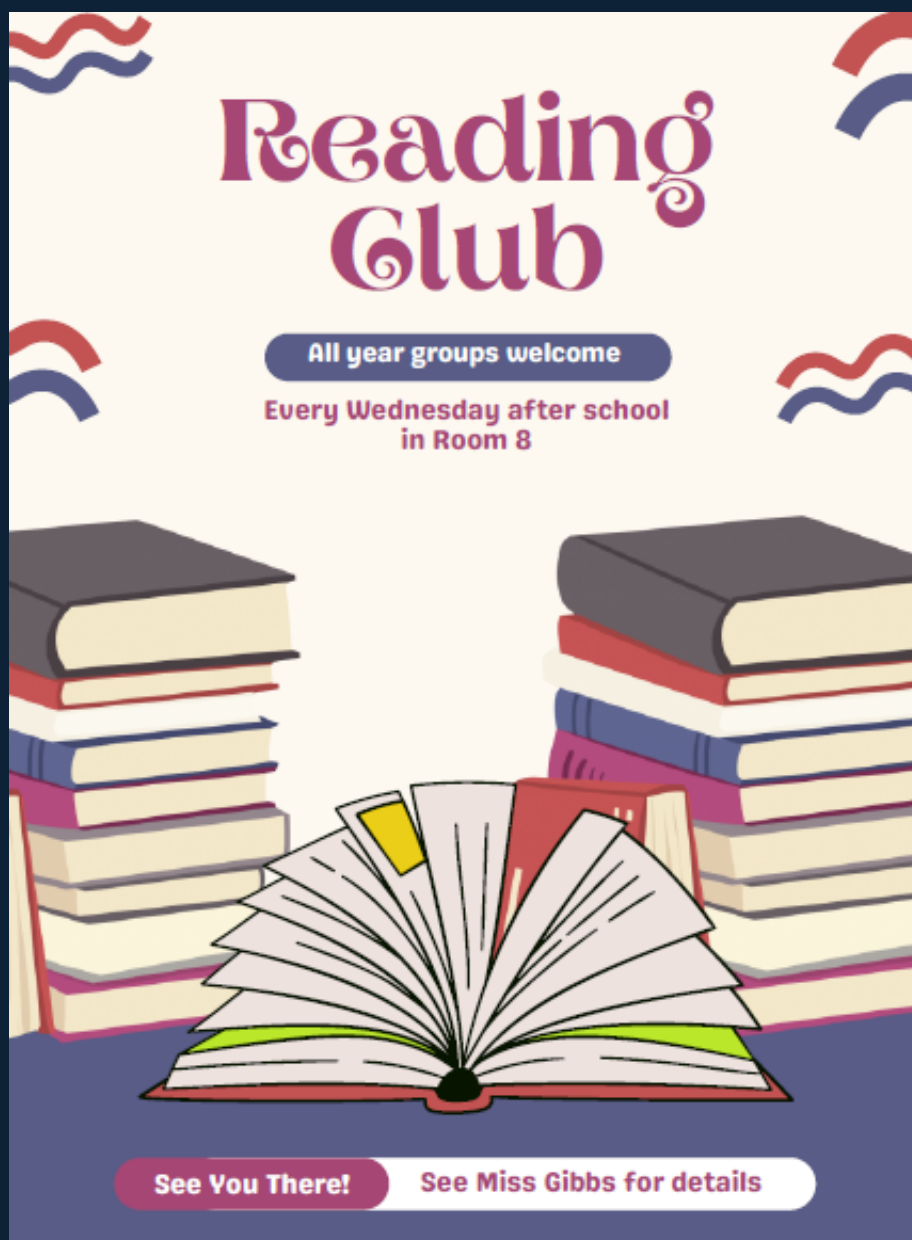
Pink Casio calculator - £9.10.

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.



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.



**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



Students are invited to Ferryhill Indoor Bowls

Friday evening 5pm till 6pm - Cost £1

WHY BOWLS?

SCHOOL GAMES

What are the benefits of playing my sport?

Bowls is a sport open to all, requiring players to get one or more of their bowls closest to the target ball. Whilst not physically demanding, it requires accurate rolling, tactical awareness and good teamwork.

TOP Tips!

One of the biggest selling points for the sport of bowls is the diversity of participants. It can be tailored to meet the requirements of all, regardless of age/ gender/disability/ethnicity. It is a game that all youngsters can engage in and enjoy.

"Target-based" activities offer a more appealing initial introduction to the sport to young players than its traditional formats.



Ferryhill Indoor Bowls Club

In the Sport & Education Centre on Lambton Road

Young player coaching & practise

Fridays 5pm - 6pm

Want to play for Durham County? Want to play for England?

It's more likely than you'd think.

There's a big need at all levels for young bowlers.

The next England superstar could well be you.

To book a place, call 01740 655544 or just come along, Fridays at 5pm



£1.00



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POLICE CADETS

If any students are interested in joining please read leaflet below.



Volunteer Police Cadets



What is involved?

You'll meet one evening a week at Firthmoor Community Centre Darlington, with additional dates for special events, volunteering and trips.

Wednesday evenings - Junior cadets aged 11-14 years.

Thursday evenings - Senior cadets aged 15-17 years.

- Taking part in crime prevention initiatives
- Learning about the Police and Law.
- Visits to local Policing departments.
- Assisting with public safety events.
- Educational and awareness visits across emergency and community services.
- Team building exercises.
- Opportunity to complete the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.



Who can become a Police Cadet?

You need to be in or going into Year 7 or above and be under 18 years old, have lived in the UK for the last 3 years. You must live within County Durham and Darlington (Durham Police force area.)



How to become a Police Cadet...

To become a Volunteer Police Cadet, we ask that you contact the email address below for further information

Cadets@daac.org.uk

"Being a Police Cadet has opened lots of doors and created opportunities for me to move forward in life."

DO YOU WANT TO HELP TO PROMOTE READING IN SCHOOL?

BECOME A READING AMBASSADOR

SHARE YOUR LOVE OF
READING WITH PEERS

TAKE PART IN READING-BASED
ACTIVITIES IN SCHOOL

ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO
READ MORE

MEET LIKE-MINDED NEW
FRIENDS

MAKE BOOK
RECOMMENDATIONS &
SHARE IDEAS

TAKE PART IN SPECIAL READING
ASSEMBLIES

REPRESENT THE SCHOOL IN ALL
THINGS READING!



OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS IN YEARS 7-9.
PLEASE SEE MISS GIBBS FOR DETAILS OF
HOW TO GET INVOLVED!



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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

AEROSOLS

Aerosols are NOT allowed in school in any form ie deodorant, hairspray, dry shampoo etc. If your child is found with this in their possession, the item will be confiscated and will have to be collected by parents.



Family Hubs provide support to families from pregnancy to the age of 19, or 25 if your child has special educational needs and/or disability (SEND).

Our Start for Life offer covers everything you need during pregnancy, right up until your child turns two. This includes support and groups to help you:

- During pregnancy and after your baby is born (antenatal and postnatal)
- With feeding your baby – from support with breastfeeding, to weaning and eating healthily as a family
- Understand your child's wants and needs and how to support their development
- Get your child ready to start school or nursery

We don't stop at the age of two, we offer support as your child grows, through puberty and into adulthood. This includes information, online programmes and groups to help with:

- Understanding your child/teenager's behaviour
- Your child's wellbeing, both for you and your child
- Supporting your child with additional needs
- Your relationship and your family relationship
- Your child's health

We can also provide advice and support around:

- Domestic abuse
- Debt and access to financial support
- Housing
- Stopping smoking
- Help with childcare costs
- Emotional wellbeing
- Healthy eating
- Drug and alcohol support
- Employment and training

Ask us
about our
sensory
rooms

Everyone is welcome, why not drop in and see what's on offer?

There are 15 family hubs right across the county:

Bishop Auckland

📍 Walker Drive
Bishop Auckland
DL14 6QL
☎ 03000 266 390

Brandon

📍 Carr Avenue
Brandon
DH7 8NL
☎ 03000 269 820

Chester-le-Street

📍 Gray Avenue
Chester-le-Street
DH2 2EL
☎ 03000 268 643

Consett

📍 Chester Road
Moorside
DH8 8EQ
☎ 03000 268 634

Durham

📍 The Woodlands
Gilesgate
DH1 2EY
☎ 03000 269 833

Easington

📍 Whickham Street
Easington Colliery
SR8 3DJ
☎ 03000 268 486

Ferryhill

📍 Beaumont Street
Ferryhill
DL17 8PH
☎ 03000 269 021

Horden

📍 Ocean View
Horden
SR8 4EQ
☎ 03000 264 973

Newton Aycliffe

📍 Stephenson Way
Newton Aycliffe
DL5 7DD
☎ 03000 263 666

Peterlee

📍 Ellison Road
Peterlee
SR8 5NJ
☎ 03000 266 391

Seaham

📍 North Terrace
Seaham
SR7 7EU
☎ 03000 267 470

Stanley

📍 Clifford Road
Stanley
DH9 0AB
☎ 03000 266 150

Tudhoe

📍 Tudhoe Moor
Spennymoor
DL16 6EX
☎ 03000 267 488

Wheatley Hill

📍 Jack Lawson Terrace
Wheatley Hill
DH6 3RT
☎ 03000 269 850

Willington

📍 Chapel Street
Willington
DL15 0EQ
☎ 03000 268 445