



19TH DECEMBER 2023 | ISSUE 13

FERRYHILL SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

INTEGRITY | CREATIVITY | EXCELLENCE

September seems like a distant memory and as come to the end of the Autumn term; I want to celebrate the wonderful school community that we have at Ferryhill School. Without all of our amazing young people, their families and our dedicated staff, I don't think we would have overcome the adversity that we have faced.

Since the COVID crisis our young people have continued to develop and demonstrate their resilience. Receiving the news that our school building had RAAC in late August was absolutely devastating for everyone yet we were determined that Ferryhill students would be back in face-to-face education as soon as possible. Students have again had to be resilient and adaptable to the changing locations of school but they have coped admirably. Students have not allowed the challenges of RAAC affect their learning and we continue to see extremely strong progress across all year groups in their recent school reports.

The remediation work to fix our school roof has begun this month and the DFE has just signed off all works that are needed to get all students back onto one site, with all classrooms open again. We expecting the first set of classrooms to be released back to us in the middle of February! I think it is fair to say that we will all be truly grateful to have our 'old' school back again.

Of course, we are still working hard to convince the DFE to build us a new Ferryhill School as your children deserve nothing less.

What has become clear is that our school has the best means of managing a crisis; by demonstrating our sense of community, extending our mutual support and sustaining our spirit of generosity. These are factors that reflect the Christmas spirit in normal times and I'm sure such characteristics will see us through the Spring term or however long it takes to return to 'normal'.

Myself, the governing body and all staff at Ferryhill School would like to extend warm wishes to all of our families for the festive season.

I look forward to welcoming back all of our students on Thursday 4th January 2024.

Word Millionaire Club

Who Wants To Be A Word Millionaire?

Every year, staff and students are excited to see which classes and students will get closest to being our Word Millionaires! Each time a student reads a book and passes the quiz on their book in their reading lessons, the number of words in that book is recorded and counts towards their total words read. Students in Year 7 and 8 are hitting some fantastic numbers already this term which is testament to their effort and dedication in their reading lessons – students are focused, understanding what they are reading and, most importantly, enjoying what they are reading.

Our top classes in each year group for this term are:

7A2 – 156,235 words

8A2 – 198,507 words

Our top students in each year group for this term are:

Year 7

1. Lula-B – 30,980 words
2. Jayden R – 29,139 words
3. Brooke T – 28,320 words
4. Charley S – 21,084 words



Year 8

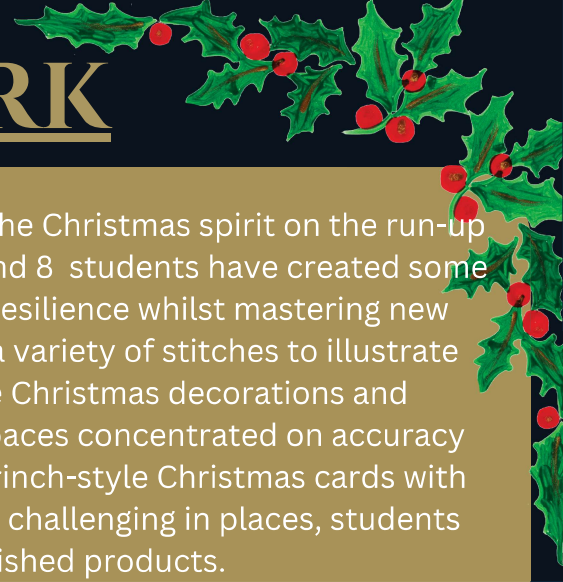
1. Kodie P – 77,564 words
2. James D – 48,166 words
3. Halle B – 42,176 words
4. Sophia J – 39,847 words



We're sure you agree that these are pretty impressive and with so much more reading time to come in 2024, these totals are set to skyrocket! Who will be our first Class Millionaires and individual Student Millionaire? Lets keep reading everyone – you are doing amazingly!



TECHNOLOGY WORK



YEAR 7 & 8

Lower School students have been getting into the Christmas spirit on the run-up to the end of term at Ferryhill School. Years 7 and 8 students have created some lovely pieces of textiles work, having shown resilience whilst mastering new embroidery techniques. Students have used a variety of stitches to illustrate their creativity in making beautiful, unique Christmas decorations and bookmarks to take home. Groups in our big spaces concentrated on accuracy and measurement to create some excellent Grinch-style Christmas cards with pop-up interiors. Despite the processes being challenging in places, students were rightly proud of their finished products.

Well done, Lower School and Merry Christmas!
Mrs Egglestone



YEAR 11 PARENTS

EVENING

Year 11 Parents Evening –
Tuesday 9th of January 3pm
until 6pm

Our parents evening will take
place at:-

Upper School Site, Coulson
Street, Spennymoor, DL16 7RS

Students will be given slips and
are to arrange their appointment
times with their class teachers.

Students return
to school on
Thursday 4th
January which is a
Week A.

ATTENDANCE

As the holidays approach, a
reminder that school
attendance is very
important. Pupils should
aim to be in school 100% of
the time, to ensure they
don't miss out on key
learning. If your child is so
poorly that they cannot
attend school, please call
01740 651554 and choose
option one,
or email
attendance@ferryhill.school

'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 Neurologist.

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

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oZt8-otJMHA>

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



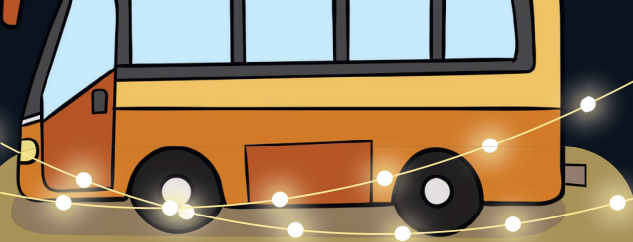
NEUROLOGIST

NHS EVENT

A group of Year 10 Health & Social Care students had the opportunity to attend an NHS event at Chester-Le-Street Riverside Cricket Ground. Students were given the opportunity to talk to various departments and teams from County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (CDDFT), North East Ambulance Service (NEAS), Tees ESK Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust (TEWV) and several different Universities. There are over 350 jobs different roles within the NHS and students had the opportunity to discuss many of the roles available in a vast number of different departments including

Estates & Facilities – Catering, Portering and Sterile Services
Clinical Engineering
Procurement
Workforce & Organisational Development
Communications/Marketing
Medical Doctors
Patient Services
Physiotherapy
Research & Innovation
Patient Experience – including volunteering opportunities
Finance
Pathology
Clinical Photography
Theatres & Anaesthetics
Critical Care
Paediatric Nursing
Community Nursing
Health Care Assistant
Apprenticeships

Students also had the opportunity to experience a simulation of a real emergency and how this unfolds from both the patients and the staffs' points of view.



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.

UPPER SCHOOL CHANGES TO TIMINGS OF SCHOOL DAY FROM JANUARY 2024

Time	Details
8:30- 9:30	Period 1
9:30-10:30	Period 2
10:30-10:45 Year 10 Break	Year 11 Registration
10:45-11:00 Year 11 Break	Year 10 Registration
11:00-12:00	Period 3
12:00-12:30 Year 11 Lunch	
12:30-13:00 Year 10 Lunch	
12:00-12:30 Year 10	First Half Period 4
13:00-13:30 Year 10	Second Half Period 4
12:30-13:30 Year 11	Period 4
13:30-14:30	Period 5
14:30	Students leave site



DO YOU WANT TO HELP TO PROMOTE READING IN SCHOOL?

BECOME A READING AMBASSADOR



SHARE YOUR LOVE OF
READING WITH PEERS

ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO
READ MORE

MAKE BOOK
RECOMMENDATIONS &
SHARE IDEAS



TAKE PART IN READING-RA
ACTIVITIES IN SCHOOL

MEET LIKE-MINDED NEW
FRIENDS

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!



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**

Monday - Reading Club

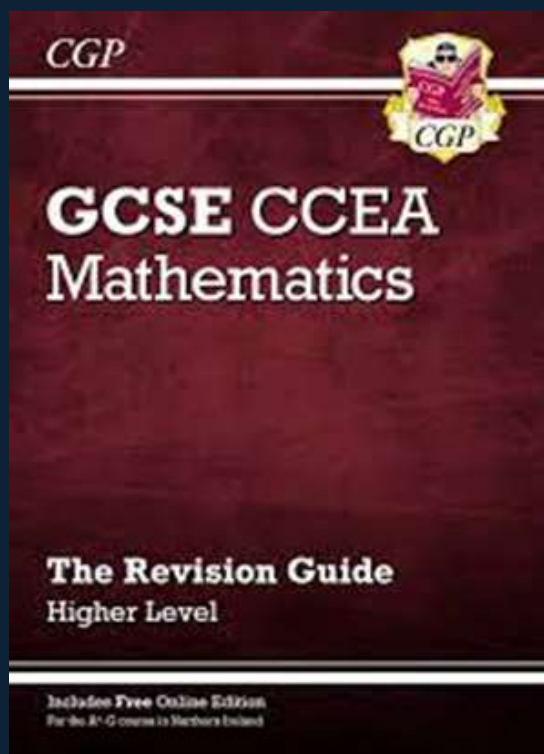
Wednesday - Football

**Wednesday - Board Games
Club**

**Wednesday - English Club
3:00-3:30pm**

**Wednesday - Film Club
3pm-4pm Room 6**

Thursday - Netball



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.



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.

LATE BUSES

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



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.

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.

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.



DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

FAMILY HUBS



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