Falconer School

Achieving the extraordinary together

Headteacher's Weekly Blog Friday 18 June

Dear Parents and Carers,

Students in Years 10 & 11 took part in a Career's focused week, which started on Monday with a visit to Woburn Safari Park. The boys also had visiting speakers and presentations from:

- Bank of England
- Army
- Services for Children with a focus on:
    - CV writing
    - Tips and insights into the World of Work
    - Interviews and confidence building
    - Sports focused careers

A special thank you must go to Ms Davies, Careers Leader, for organising the activities for the week.





Unfortunately, due to the continuation of Covid-19 restrictions, we are no longer able to hold our planned Celebration Day at the Bushey Metropolitan Club. We will be planning an alternative event, just for students and staff, to be held in the school on that date and look forward to returning to normal next academic year.





Year 8 PE and making cakes

In food lessons this week, Mr Taylor focused on dishes linked to the Euro's football tournament with each form group focused on different countries (display boards to feature in next week's blog!):



Year 7 – WALES (Bara Brith)



Year 7 –UKRAINE (Chicken Kiev)



Year 8 – FINLAND (Pulla bread)



Year 8 – PORTUGAL (Peri Peri Chicken)



Year 9 – DENMARK (Meatballs)



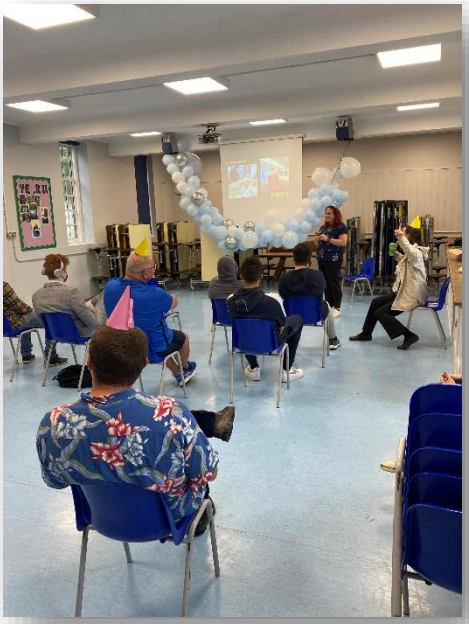
It was great to see one of our student's in Year 8 feature in a local newspaper for his fantastic charity work. Alfie has raised £540 for Great Ormond Street hospital who have supported him and so many other children with health issues.

To see the full article please click here: https://www.hemeltoday.co.uk/health/hemel-hempstead-schoolboy-raises-nearly-ps500-for-life-saving-childrens-hospital-3260179

If you would like to donate to Alfie's fund raising page, supporting Great Ormond Street hospital please follow this link:

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/alfie-hebborn?experiments=b2c_059_donate_to_yourself_v3&isMobile=false&successType=StaticDonateButtonClick

Today was a sad day for all as we said goodbye to our Year 11 students. Certificates, good luck cards, presentations and lots of food made for a lovely occasion. We will miss the Year 11 students but know they are going onto exciting new opportunities, mainly with Oaklands College.





Please see on the next page a letter to all secondary school parents and carers from the Education Secretary, Gavin Williamson. If any additional parents or carers would like to be issued with home testing Covid-19 kits please inform the school as soon as possible.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Ash

Headteacher

Education Secretary Gavin Williamson has today written to secondary school and college parents and guardians in England to talk about the importance of regular testing when it comes to keeping covid out of the classroom.

The Prime Minister announced on 14 June that step 4 of the roadmap would have to be paused for up to four weeks because of the spread of the new variant.

With the increase in cases with variants of concern, it is important to continue regular testing in order to detect cases of coronavirus, stay ahead of the virus and keep covid out of the classroom.

This means that regular asymptomatic testing for all will continue, and we need you and your children who are in secondary school or college to carry on testing at home, twice a week.

As you know, testing has been playing a vital role in our response to the virus. It is helping to break chains of transmission by identifying asymptomatic positive cases quickly. This means those who test positive can self-isolate, keeping other pupils and students in face-to-face education. Reporting all test results, positive or negative, helps the health experts have a clearer picture of any potential outbreaks in different parts of the country.

I want to thank you all for your efforts so far. I know that this has been an enormously challenging time for families, who have faced many pressures over the past 18 months. Your continued support in helping us fight the virus has been vital.

Secondary pupils and college students, households and their bubbles, along with school and college staff have now completed more than 50 million tests since these were introduced back in January. That really is an incredible number and we need you to continue your efforts.

It is wonderful to see so many children back in school and through your actions we can work together to keep everyone safe ensuring we can also keep your children in school with their friends.

Rt Hon Gavin Williamson CBE MP Secretary of State for Education