

Finham Park 2 News Updates

April 30th 2015 Issue 2



Message from the Headteacher Designate, Russell Plester

Welcome to our 2nd Newsletter. You will receive these at the end of every month to keep you up to date with progress for Finham Park 2 as well as give you more information so you get a real flavour of our school.

In this issue you will be introduced to some of the new teachers that Finham Park 2 has already appointed and ALL are extremely excited about getting started. There will also be information about the Transition process (though you will be getting more detailed letters about this over the next few weeks) and up to date progress on where we are

with buildings, transport and what the Election has in store for us! I hope you find the information useful.

With best wishes,
Russell Plester

I know I have met most of you by now but as I have asked all of our new staff to share a photo and something about themselves in this newsletter I should do the same. Apologies that there are 2 of me in this newsletter!

I am lucky enough to have taught in some fantastic schools in London, Birmingham, Solihull and now Coventry over the past 20 years. Taking on the role as Headteacher for Finham Park 2 was a complete no-brainer: The Finham Park vision and ethos simply works as it challenges youngsters with our 'World Class' aspirations, offers new and varied experiences and provides support where needed. My background is in science and psychology, and I'm very much looking forward to teaching some of our new year 7s science.



As well as working hard to ensure FP2 is a success I love to run, (although my marathon days are over!), mountain bike, play the guitar, continue to learn to play the ukulele, read and spend whatever time is left with my family.

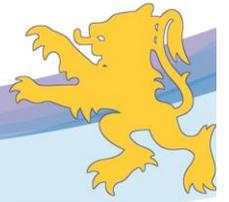


My name is Miss Spink and I am in my fifth year of teaching. I trained at the University of Warwick and grew up not far away, in Solihull. I am trained to teach English and Drama, and I like to use a variety of techniques, including drama, to get the best out of my classes. I like students to be happy in my classroom, as I think people learn better that way. I also love reading, and I love talking about books with students too.

I'm really excited about joining Finham Park 2, and can't wait to meet our first cohort of enthusiastic new students.

Finham Park 2

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I'm Mr Ludgate. Over the past four years I have had the experience of working in two of the best schools in North Lincolnshire and currently oversee the Humanities faculty in an 'Outstanding' academy. My undergraduate degree is in History and I did a PGCE in Religious Education.

I expect the highest standards of behaviour and attitude, but I will repay this with fun and exciting lessons. I also like to get students out of the classroom as much as possible and in my previous schools I have organised trips to Krakow, Barcelona, New York and ... Lincoln Castle.



I am really excited to be joining such a talented team of teachers and making our own bit of History. After all, we will be the founders of the best school in Coventry!



My name is Mr Hudson and I will be teaching Physical Education at Finham Park 2. I believe in creating an inclusive P.E environment where all students engage, succeed and enjoy their lessons. In a few months, you will be taught the importance of leading a healthy and active lifestyle, experience new sports and activities, use technology to enhance your lessons, and be influential in shaping a brand new P.E department.

A little about me: I am a keen sportsman (rugby, football and cricket) and charity adventurer. One of my passions is to raise awareness and money for charities by pushing myself, for example fire walking and high-altitude trekking in the Himalayas.

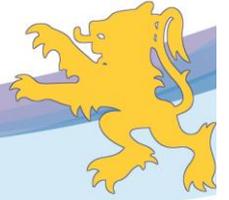
I look forward to meeting you all in September.

I'm Mr. Hartshorn. When not teaching awesome students to cook, taste and create amazing food or realise their creative potential in DT and Art, I try and get a tune out of the guitar or ukulele and improve my personal best for the 5k. I am an innovative DT and Art teacher and was proud to be awarded 'Outstanding New D&T teacher of the Year' in 2012. A recent extra-curricular project I am very proud of is 'Project RB' (which stands for Raymond Blanc): My year 9 students, chefs from Le Manoir aux Quat' Saisons and I prepared over 60 covers of 5 courses- 300 plates of food!- for parents and staff. I'm really looking forward to planning more exciting opportunities at FP2! I hope you all have a great summer and I am really excited about seeing you all in September.



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My name is Miss Macdonald and I will be leading Maths at Finham Park 2. I love reading, theme parks, cats, travel (the most interesting place I've been to is Bulgaria) and of course Maths!

As a current member of the Maths department at Finham Park, I am very excited at being given the opportunity to lead the first stages of the Maths department at Finham Park 2. I'm looking forward to working with new colleagues alongside existing ones from Finham Park to ensure that every student at Finham Park 2 receives the same outstanding education as those currently at Finham Park.

See you in September!

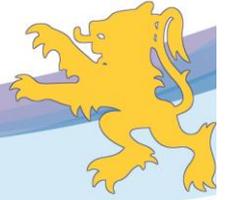
Hello! My name is Mrs. Gaynon. After training in Theatre and Professional Practice at Coventry University I spent several years touring schools in and around the Midlands with Malarkey Theatre Company, taking performances and workshops to a wide variety of educational establishments. After spending several years working as a laboratory technician in Birmingham I decided to complete my teacher training course at Finham Park and began her career as a teacher of drama. Now after teaching English, Drama, Art, Music and Science for 7 years at another local school I am really excited about starting at Finham Park 2. I have organised a wide variety of activities as a teacher including numerous critically acclaimed school productions, Schools Strictly Come Dancing and Edinburgh Festival tours to name but a few and I am looking forward to organising and directing many more exciting endeavors in the future.



My Name is Mrs Brake, and I will be Assistant Headteacher at Finham Park 2. I have taught Geography at Finham Park School since 1997 and became an Assistant Headteacher in 2009. As well as leading the professional development programme for all staff ensuring that they have outstanding teaching skills, I also work with other schools to provide training for their staff focusing on school leadership. Teachers should continue to be learners themselves and recently I was thrilled to complete my Masters in Educational Leadership and Innovation at the University of Warwick. I enjoy bringing my subject alive in lessons as well as giving students the opportunity to explore the world away from the classroom. This has included trips to Nepal, the USA, Morocco and of course regular visits to Plas Dol-y-Moch. I look forward to being able to create an innovative curriculum at Finham Park 2 that will inspire our students to widen their horizons and connect with our ever changing world.

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Site updates

Temporary site for September 2015:

Our contractors are already moving forward at pace to ensure we are ready to open in September. Most of the early work takes place off site as it is a modular construction so little will be seen until much later in the summer term. As soon as we have any pictures we'll share them with you. The vast majority of our lessons will be in this building.

At the same time we will be developing 2 brand new rooms: a Science and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) room. These will be in a part of the Finham Park School building next to our site, so will be easily accessible for our students. Other specialist rooms, such as Food and Music will be provided by Finham Park School during the first year. This will be a small part of the timetable.

Permanent site for September 2016:

We are hoping to hear some definitive news shortly. The pre-election period, whilst not a problem for opening Finham Park 2 (more about his below), has slowed down progress in negotiations. As soon as we have any clear news we will let you know.

Transport

We were extremely pleased to be able to offer 70 free places on the school bus- The Finham Park 2 Express! Only this week we have been finalising the route to ensure it is within easy reach of all students who have been given a place on the bus. As soon as the route is confirmed we will share it with you all.

STOP PRESS: we are delighted to be able to offer **FREE** transport to students who have been given a place on the bus for September **ALSO** on Transition Day on 8th July. More details to follow....

Transition from year 6 to year 7

Over the next few weeks you will receive letters providing you with more details about the transition process. Here are a few dates for your diary in the meantime:

- 27th June- afternoon tea for parents and students with FP2 staff at Finham Park School (3.30-5pm)
- 8th July- transition day for students and new parents' evening (6-7.30pm)

The Election

Whatever the outcome of the election on 7th May, we have been assured by the Department for Education that this will not affect the opening of Finham Park 2.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please get in touch:



www.finhampark2.co.uk



Finham Park 2



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