



Finham Park 2 News

Spring Term 1 2018-19- Issue 29



Message from the Headteacher, Russell Plester

The Spring term is always an exciting one: Year 7 are fully settled into FP2 life; Year 8 are choosing their GCSE options; Year 9 are stepping up to the challenges of their GCSE courses and Year 10 are already preparing for their GCSEs with just over a year to go before they begin! We are also planning our post-16 offer at Finham Park 2- watch this space for more news as our plans take shape.

The successes from last term have continued into the Spring term: fabulous events such as robotics competitions; design technology workshops (#Techwecan); Safer Internet Day; mock coursework week for food preparation & nutrition; Institute of Physics trip for some of our Year 9 scientists; as well as superb sporting events. In addition, we have recruited a team of intrepid student leaders who have been asked by Warwick University to help curate part of this year's British Science Festival- a real honour to be asked and a challenge I know our students will relish. Even more is planned for the forthcoming terms- various trips and the Star Studded Celebration of Success!

We know how beneficial taking part in extracurricular activities is for all students which is why we expect every student to attend *at least one* OOSHL (Out of School Hours Learning) activities every week- and we have over 50 to choose from- something for everyone! If your child would like to get more involved in activities mentioned in this newsletter or has ideas for activities we are not currently providing, please ask them to speak to their mentor or Mrs Brake.

As the school expands to 600 in September (once again we have had over 500 applications for 120 places for September 2019), we will of course need more staff and so have already started recruiting teaching and support staff. We will be making more appointments after half term. Our goal will always be to recruit the highest calibre staff to compliment the fantastic team we already have.

We continue with the aim to make Finham Park 2 a 'World Class' school, where the students have 'the times of their lives' and staff have the highest aspirations and expectations of our students.



Department Focus – Drama with Miss O'Donnell

Year 7

The Year 7s so far have explored various drama techniques through Roald Dahl's Revolting Rhymes and continue to use and learn new drama techniques every lesson. They have also developed their characterisation skills through looking at the different characters and golden tickers winners in Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. This half term they have been introduced to the role of devising their own pieces around a historical event or their choice in the style of Bertolt Brecht. They have all worked so hard and it has been amazing to see individuals grown in ability and confidence in such a short amount of time.



Year 8

We started Year 8 by exploring different genres of drama – Slapstick Comedy being the favourite. They all loved staging a Slapstick police chase to the theme time of Benny Hill! It was amazing to see how creative some of our students really are. In the half term leading up to Christmas, we used Our House the Musical as the stimulus to deepen the students' knowledge of character development and multi-rolling which are key skills for GCSE drama. The students also found Our House hilarious and they were all motivated throughout and couldn't wait to find out what we were doing each lesson. In contrast, this half term we have been looking at the theme of homelessness. In this module, the students had to perform a monologue from the perspective of a homeless person after we had explored many versions and eventualities. All students showed great amounts of empathy. I was extremely proud to see Year 8 students have the courage to perform a monologue they had written on their own.

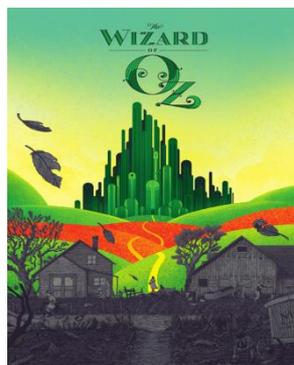
Year 9



The highly talented Year 9 class devised some amazing performances at the beginning of the year. Considering they are only in Year 9, I cannot wait to see what they will achieve in Year 11. If the work they have created this year is anything to go by, it will be astounding! We are currently reading and practically exploring Willy Russell's 'Blood Brothers'. All the students are highly engaged and we have all had a laugh at everyone trying their best scouse accent! Many of these students become alive under the stage lights and hold much potential that is yet to be unleashed.

Year 10

Year 10 students are currently working tremendously hard on their devised GCSE performances. Their creativity and talent constantly blow me away. The students will perform this exam in June for it to count towards their GCSE grade. Their eagerness and enthusiasm to achieve is commendable and I have no doubt they will all be successful in whatever they decide to do in the future with the skills that drama has helped provide them.



This year, FP2 are putting on the performance of The Wizard of Oz. 45 students turned up to audition for the cast with more students wanting to help with either backstage, sound, lighting, set design, props or costumes. I am thrilled with how keen and excitable the students are about coming together and producing a holistic performance. Maya, Sophie, Clara and Ellie are helping this year as co-directors of the musical. A lot of the time their ideas are far better and more creative than mine, but they can sometimes get very carried away and sometimes believe we are performing in the West End and seem to be unsure what a budget is! However, their enthusiasm and love for performing is inspirational and they are a pleasure to direct with. We set the bar high last year with School of Rock but I know we can do just as well, if not better, this year!



Department Focus – Music with Mr Hunter

Recording Studio

The Music Department now has its very own recording studio and original tracks are flying off the conveyor belt already with students across all year groups contributing with their talents in song writing and production. Our very first album of original music from our students will be ready to be released in the summer term! A very exciting time ahead.

End of Term Gig

Our first End of Term Gig at St James' church just before Christmas was a roaring success. Thank you to all those who supported the event, helping to raise £180.00 for Youth for Christ. It was fantastic to get out of school on the weekend only to spend it being musical with our talented students! A big thank you to all of the performers, many performing for the very first time, who absolutely smashed it!

Year 9 and 10 Gigs

This term, our Year 9 and 10's are going to be putting on a series of gigs in and out of school as part of their coursework. Watch out for news on our school Twitter feed of when and where these events will be taking place- we would love you to attend! Auditions have already begun taking place and I have seen some terrific performances already.

Trombone Scholarship

We are pleased to offer 4 places on our Trombone scholarship. We are looking to award these to students with a fire and hunger to learn an instrument- this means practice and perseverance! We are able to provide a free loan of a trombone to successful applicants. If you are interested, please contact me at j.hunter@finhampark.co.uk with a short message from the student as to why they wish to learn and how they will demonstrate the resilience and perseverance to practice and progress.

Radio+ Coventry

This academic year we have now made five visits to play live on Radio Plus. The students who have attended and performed played multiple tracks, took part in interviews, and played some ridiculous games including myself losing a contest to eat as many Jaffa Cakes as I could in 60 seconds. Dry is not the word! A massive thanks to Jon and Dave who helped organise this fantastic experience, and a big congratulations to the students who represented themselves and the school brilliantly.





Southgate College Update – Mrs Hunter

Our ethos is developed to ensure that students in Southgate College work hard to be the best that they can be, both individually and as part of a team. The values we hope they will demonstrate are:

- Unity
- Courage
- Excellence

These values are shown day in and day out from our students. An example of unity which must be mentioned is the teamwork shown from our students in our first inter-gate football tournament last week where students in Year 9 came together from across all mentor groups to win all of their games – well done boys! Students are courageous and demonstrate excellence on a daily basis, facing their challenges head on and working hard to overcome their barriers.

The charity we have chosen to support as a college is CLIC Sargent, a very worthwhile charity that fights for children and young people with cancer. Southgate staff and students will take part in a number of fundraising activities throughout the year to raise money for this fantastic charity. So far, students have taken part in an inter-gate 'FP2's Got Talent' competition which was won by our very own Rayna Chimuka. We are all looking forward to supporting Mr Sigmundsson (alongside Mr Hudson, Mr Hunter and Mr Bailey) as they become "The Baldy Teachers of Finham Park 2", shaving off all of their hair on Friday 15 February to raise money for CLIC Sargent. Mr Sigmundsson will also be running the London Marathon and Coventry Half Marathon to raise money for this charity – on behalf of all staff and students at FP2 I want to say, 'Good Luck Sir!'. Other fundraising events, including our upcoming sponsored silence will take place throughout the year so watch this space!

SOUTHGATE COLLEGE STARS

EMMA ROCHE

Emma is a hardworking student who has fantastic attendance and punctuality, as well as a positive attitude that shines through! She is always happy to help others (both in and out of school) and is a credit to Southgate. Keep up the hard work Emma!!



JOSEPH BRUNT

Joseph is another student who does everything expected of him (and more). Following a tough start to the year due to an injury, Joseph has worked so hard to be courageous and overcome tough times to be the fantastic student he is today. Well done Joseph!!

Students have been working hard in lessons and have been rewarded with stickers for their efforts and achievements. The leader board is as follows:

Southgate	Stickers
04	1200
03	675
01	590
02	585
05	530

A **HUGE** congratulations to SG04 who have taken the lead with the most stickers achieved to date.

Attendance is key for all students – if they are not in school then they won't be learning. Here are the current figures for each of the mentor's groups:



- 5th place – SG01 – 94%
- 4th place – SG02 – 96%
- 3rd place – SG03 – 97.19%
- 2nd place – SG04 – 97.31%

I see Southgate as a strong team filled with over 120 students and staff. Together, we will work hard to support one another and be the best that we can be. It may not always be easy, but as a team we will put in the hard work to come out of the other side stronger. We will show unity and courage whilst striving for excellence in everything that we do. I am proud to be the leader of Southgate College and look forward to everything that we can overcome and achieve together.

Eastgate College Update – Mr Bolatti

Within Eastgate, our students are **hardworking, determined and supportive**.

Our chosen charity is Zoe's Place and we are now introducing another charity, The Air Ambulance.

So far this academic year to raise money we have held a cake sale alongside 'Finham Park 2 has Talent', and coming up very soon, The Wizard of Oz musical.

The table below shows the amazing work each gate is doing every day within Eastgate though **hard work, determination and supporting each other**.

EG04 is leading the way, but without doubt the other mentor groups will soon be catching up.

Eastgate	Stickers
04	1230
02	845
01	780
05	765
03	450

Attendance %	Gate
95.9 %	01
95.5%	04
94%	05
92%	02 and 03

100% attendance	Gate	100% attendance	Gate
Amy Brock	01	Flynn McCombes	05
Jasmine Sharma	02	Harry Randle	05
Spencer Wing	02	Deen Shafiq	05
Jessica Brady	03	Charlotte Stockley	05
Fern Kelly	04	Kelsey West	05
Stuart Macgillivray	04		
Tracy Ngome	04		

Eastgate College star is **Angel Pattison** who has over 150 stickers so far! This is shown by all the effort she puts in, day in and day out. She has reached her Bronze, Silver and Gold badges since September and is aiming to World Class to the third year in a row. Angel had also achieved her Bronze Accelerated Reader award. Very impressive!

College Star, Dawid Cimbak, was the first student in the whole of Year 7 to reach 100 stickers – reaching his Silver Award. He has done exceptionally well!

Message to Eastgate:

You are the person who is responsible for your happiness. We can only show you the path, but you have to make it. So, think about your life carefully and wisely. I know you can do very well in your life because I have seen that you have a very good ability to work hard. A person who works hard will surely gain anything he/she wants. Finally, I would like to say how happy and proud I am of Finham Park 2 and mainly Eastgate, not only for the great support I have had from all staff after the early arrival of Baby Luca. The students have been amazing, asking how he is, most students have been coming to me to check on Luca's progress, asking what's new, how he is doing with feeding and asking loads of lovely questions.



Westgate College Update – Mrs Stones

As college leader of Westgate, I am proud of the 'white tigers' who endeavour to work as a team to demonstrate our core values of:

- Respect
- Opportunities
- Aspirations
- Resilience



Individuals have made the most of the opportunities on offer to them such as OOSHL, Accelerated Reader Challenge, Maths Challenge and school sporting events to ensure that they gain success in all aspects of school life. Life can be tough at times, but Westgate mentors have worked tirelessly with their mentees to help promote resilience and respect in their everyday challenges. In fact, they have been AMAZING, leading by example in our values.

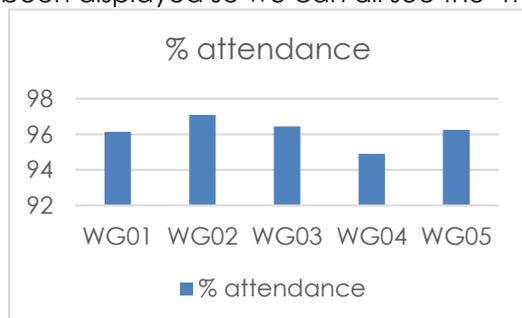
Westgate Mentor Leadership Team (WMLT) have continued to meet with me on a weekly basis to present the views of peers on impact items, such as our college theme tune, chosen charity, intra-college attendance competitions and fund-raising ideas. Using a collaborative approach, the WGLT have planned and organized fund-raising events such as a cake-sale, sponsored silence and our Valentine Photo Booth. Many more exciting events are still in the planning process... watch this space!

This year Westgate have chosen to raise money for two charities: Myton Hospice and Alzheimer's Society. WGLT are planning a visit to a dementia café to hopefully bring joy and entertainment to the 'customers', which is being supported by the local Alzheimer Navigator team.

Outside of school: Nora Szabo won the U13 team gold and individual bronze in a gymnastics competition; Liam Hughes has been selected to represent Coventry in an athletics competition to be held in Russia this July and we have many girls who have been selected to represent Warwickshire in rugby!

WESTGATE WOWS!

As a college, we have competed against each other to see who has the best attendance. Weekly graphs have been displayed so we can all see the 'movers'. Current attendance is:



Congratulations to WG02 for a fantastic 97.08%

WMLT will discuss your reward!

WGLT have proposed that we also reward the mentor group with the least behaviour points... watch this space!

"It's the eye of the tiger, it's the thrill of the fight. Risin' up to the challenge of our rival."

As a team we work together – students, parents and staff alike – to ensure that we rise up to all our challenges, so we continue to aspire to achieve great things. As leader of Westgate, I look forward to continuing to celebrate my white tigers' success.



Northgate College Update – Miss Rawlins

As College Leader, I endeavour to make sure that all my Northgate students follow our three core values:

1. Be **kind** to each other.
2. Be **honest**.
3. Always **try your best**.

So far throughout the academic year, our students have displayed these values in many ways. Through sporting fixtures, inter-gate tournaments and Macmillan cake sales, all of our students strive to show just how 'World Class' they are at all times and continue to be the best version of themselves each and every day.

Northgate's chosen charity for this year is The Helen Ley Care Centre in Leamington Spa. Helen Ley provides respite and full-time nursing care to people with neurological conditions. The care centre facilitates for up to 38 residents and hosts up to 400 residents a year. We are aiming to raise £500.00 for the Care Centre this year. All of the money we raise will benefit the centre in a variety of ways, including:

- £10.00 – Therapy sessions for residents
- £25.00 – One session of physiotherapy
- £50.00 – An outing into the community
- £100.00 – One session of hydrotherapy

So far, Finham Park 2 has hosted an inter-gate talent competition, which Northgate won overall, a cake sale which raised over £75.00 and 20 of our students are currently raising sponsors for a sponsored silence, which is taking place on Valentine's Day.

Let's try our best to hit that £500.00 target Northgate!

NORTHGATE COLLEGE STARS

LILLI FERRANDO

Lilli is a hardworking student who has fantastic attendance and punctuality, as well as a positive attitude that shines through. Lilli is a lovely student who continues to smile every day and is a credit to Northgate. Keep being amazing Lilli! 😊

KIAN DAVIES

Kian has worked really hard this year and after hearing some feedback from his teachers, his determination and attitude to learning should be recognised. Well done Kian, keep up the amazing work! 😊

Students have been working hard in lessons and have been rewarded with stickers for their efforts and achievements. The leader board is as follows:

Northgate	Stickers
04	1435
02	835
01	650
03	510
05	400

A **HUGE** congratulations to NG04 who have taken the lead with the most stickers achieved to date.



Attendance is key for all students – if they are not in school, they miss out on their own learning. Here are the current figures for each mentor group:

- 4th place – NG03 with 92%
- 3rd place – NG02 – 94%
- Joint 2nd place – NG04/NG01 – 95%

And the winner is NG05 with a fantastic 96% attendance! Well done all! You will be receiving a prize next half term for all your hard work.

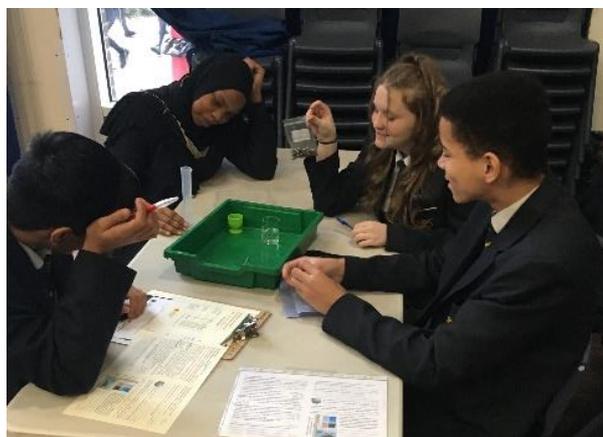
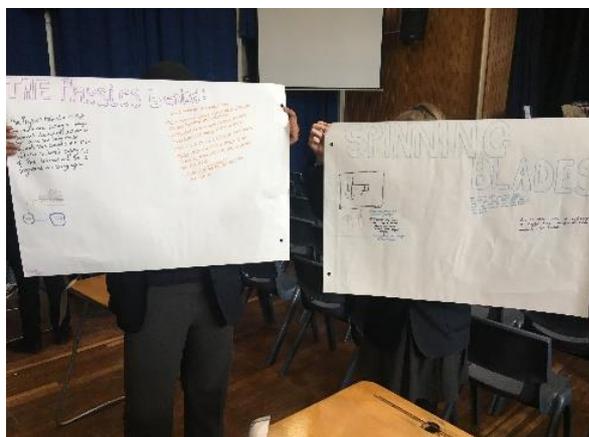
Every single student and member of staff who belongs to Northgate support each other and always grab the opportunities that Finham Park 2 provide for them. Despite the various challenges each one of us face daily, I want every single one of you to know that we are all in this together and none of us will ever be alone in facing anything life throws at us. We will always show kindness to one another, be honest and try our best in everything that we do. I am so proud to lead my Northgate family, and I cannot wait to watch all of my students grow into the amazing young adults they are destined to be!

Physics Competition

On Friday 1 February, four amazing Year 9 students went to Rugby High School to compete against 18 other secondary schools. At the competition, there were a mixture of schools including private and grammar schools. Students had to complete 6 different small experiments related to a physics topic, some of which we had not covered in lessons yet, and then three longer investigations which related physics into real life situations. Students were given a mark for each correct answer.

The second part of the day was a presentation. Students had to create a poster linked to one of the experiments that they had completed that morning. They then all had 3 minutes to present their poster to teachers who judged the physics knowledge and presentation of the group. Lastly, the students enjoyed a talk about cryptography and how physics can help with sending of private emails or messages.

Then the big moment arrived to find out who had won the competition. We are extremely proud to announce that Finham Park 2 came fourth out of the 18 schools. It is an amazing achievement as it was our first time entering the





Coventry Cyrenians

Once again Finham Park 2 pulled together to collate donations in aid of The Cyrenians. The Coventry charity has worked with homeless people for over 40 years and Finham Park 2 annually works hard to raise awareness and gather donations. Over Christmas, the Cyrenians provide meals, shelter and support for people who are homeless, hungry and vulnerable. The donations of gloves, socks, toiletries and tinned food helps the charity to provide this support.



This year mentor groups each had a box to fill with donations and each box was completely full in ready for the end of term collection. Finham Park 2 would like to thank everybody who helped contribute towards this cause, and a special thank you from the Coventry Cyrenians to FP2 can be found on their website. We look forward to getting the donation ball rolling again for next Christmas!

10 Triples' Trip to ALS Laboratory



The Year 10 students have been learning about growing bacterial in a lab. So, what better excuse to take a trip down Torrington Avenue to a working lab to see the theory in action. Students witnessed how scientists must be careful with labelling samples as in the labs they can do over 100 samples a day. The staff spoke about all the different processes and analysis of water samples that they could do. Students also talked to the staff about their general working day and the skills needed to work in a laboratory environment. A great couple of days experienced by all.

Trip to the Warner Brother Studios

The Harry Potter OOSHL club recently went on an adventure to the Warner Brother's Studios to see the making of the Harry Potter films. Students took part in a script workshop, and learned all about the process of making a film and the mind-blowing variety of people and jobs needed to bring these stories to life on the big screen. Students then had the opportunity to explore the sets, interact with props, and use green screen technology to explore London via broomstick.

All this, washed down with a delicious butterbeer! It was a fascinating and magical day out for all.

competition! Well done to all four students, you did us proud!





Library News! with Mrs Kerr

What a fabulous half term we have had in the library!

Student Librarians

The student librarians have continued to work hard to maintain the high standards expected in our fabulous library space. Alongside their day to day roles, I am proud to say that they have assisted in the adding of over 500 new books to our shelves this half term, including Accelerated Reader books, non-fiction titles, and foreign language texts.



Book Folding Display

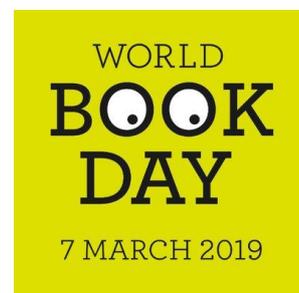
A group of students have also been giving up their break, lunch and after school time to help start creating a new library display using the art of book folding. The display will be ready just after half term, and it is already starting to look fabulous. I am extremely grateful to them for their help.



Accelerated Reader Success

Accelerated Reader Mentor Championship February 2019		
1 st	NG02	11 th EG01
2 nd	SG05	12 th NG01
3 rd	EG03	13 th EG05
4 th	SG04	14 th WG01
5 th	NG05	15 th WG05
6 th	SG01	16 th WG03
7 th	SG02	17 th NG04
8 th	WG04	18 th NG03
9 th	WG02	19 th SG03
10 th	EG04	20 th EG02

Our Accelerated Reader was won by NG02. This mentor group have between them read nearly 6,000,000 words since September! This is an impressive achievement and will be rewarded with a pancake breakfast on Shrove Tuesday!



World Book Day

Plans are underway for our World Book Day celebrations. This year we will be continuing with our project to provide a free book for every child, holding a treasure hunt, reading throughout the day, and staff will again be dressing up as book characters! We are also asking students and staff to donate their read books to the library to add yet more titles to our stock.



Parking & Road Safety



Thank you to parents and carers who have followed our request to not park on the pavement on Torrington Avenue this academic year- it really does make the roads much safer for students when leaving school.

If you do need to collect your child from school, please can you do so with care and consideration for others. The safety of our students as well as parents/carers and small children from the nursery is paramount.

Following on from this, please make sure your child has the correct gear for cycling including a suitable and safe helmet alongside reflective clothing and lights for when the days get shorter.

Equipment- being ready for learning

Please can parents help their children ensure they have all the necessary equipment for learning. We expect a minimum of: pen, pencil, (it's better to have a few of each), ruler, eraser, pencil sharpener, calculator, reading book, planner, and Children's University Passport. If students don't have the necessary equipment it can disturb valuable learning time.

Important dates for next half term

Start dates for the new academic year

15 February	Last day of Half Term
16 Feb – 24 Feb	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
7 March	World Book Day
13 March	Year 9 Vaccinations
15 March	Comic Relief
27 March	Year 7 Parents' Evening – OOSHL cancelled
12 April	Last day of Term – school finishes at normal time

Important dates for the complete year can be found on our [school calendar](#).

Free School Meals- are you entitled?

If parents wish to apply for school meals or want to check if you are eligible please go to the following website www.coventry.gov.uk/applyforfreeschoolmeals. Alternatively, parents can visit the Contact Centre in the city centre (next to River Island) where you can make an application. If you need any support or guidance with this, please contact the school office.



Attendance- advice to parents

- Our *minimum* expectation is **96% attendance**
- If your child is ill, please don't send them
- If they have a 'minor ailment' please send them in
- **We do not approve any holidays taken in school time**
- Please contact the school straight away to let us know if your child is absent
- If there are ongoing medical problems, please keep us informed keep us informed



Attendance during one school year	Equals days absent	Which is approximately weeks absent	Which means this number of lessons missed
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	45 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	95 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	145 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	190 Lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	240 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	285 Lessons
65%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	335 Lessons

Minutes late per day during the school year	Equals days worth of teaching lost in a year
5 Minutes	3.4 Days
10 Minutes	6.9 Days
15 Minutes	10.3 Days
20 Minutes	13.8 Days
30 Minutes	20.7 Days

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



www.finhampark2.co.uk



Finham Park 2



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