

# Fitz Flyer

## School Newsletter

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Head of School: Mr. Will Speke

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Students, Parents and Carers,

1. Early closing reminder
2. Careers information provision
3. Online Open Evening – Thank you
4. Legally Blonde the Musical update
5. Social media updates
6. 'Period 6' study support
7. Lunchtime clubs
8. LRC – Request for books and board games
9. Food Technology – Appeal for donations
10. Science updates

Students have made a brilliant start to term 2, despite the additional changes and challenges imposed by the current Lockdown. While it is frustrating for us to be restricted in the activities we are able to offer this term, Fitzharrys School is still buzzing with activity and learning every day. New lunchtime clubs, a 'click-and-collect' library service, lunchtime sports competitions and a range of academic support are all in place. We look forward to offering a wider extra-curricular programme again soon, but in the meantime our superb staff continue to stretch and challenge all students in lessons and with homework. E-Praise is working well for setting homework for students, we encourage all parents and carers to please sign up in order to support your child in completing tasks successfully and on time.

### **1. Early closing reminder**

A reminder that all schools within Abingdon Learning Trust will close early, at lunchtime, on Friday 20th November and Tuesday 8th December to allow for a deep clean in each school.

For Fitzharrys students, this will mean leaving at 1.10pm on these days. The bus companies have been informed of these changes. Sincere thanks for your continued support and understanding.

### **2. Careers information provision**

We are currently planning our careers information provision. Normally, we would invite parents into school to talk about their careers, but due to current social distancing measures, unfortunately this will not be possible this year.

Instead, we are inviting parents to record a short video presentation about their career and journey from GCSE to current job, as this would provide an incredibly useful resource that we could show to students in Year 9 and above, to give them a feel for the possibilities out there in the world of work.

If you are a parent/carer who can support us by producing a video presentation, then please add your details to this short online form:

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=qtEM4g\\_ZUUGcXLtrguCldRe6xoibvN9LrtB2ff2u7hUN0s0TE9UNDZaVEI1M0xZNE9XMk44WjVOMy4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=qtEM4g_ZUUGcXLtrguCldRe6xoibvN9LrtB2ff2u7hUN0s0TE9UNDZaVEI1M0xZNE9XMk44WjVOMy4u)

Thank you in advance for your invaluable support.



### 3. Online Open Evening – Thank you

Thank you to all our students who supported the planning and production of our Online Open Evening, appearing in our videos and photos – we are grateful to you all for your wonderful support and very proud of the way you represented your peers and the school. We have had a huge amount of positive feedback from the wider community. Well done all.

### 4. Legally Blonde the Musical update

Many thanks indeed to all who bought tickets for our whole-school production: *Legally Blonde the Musical*, back in the spring term, which was due to go ahead in March 2020. As you may remember, the cast and crew had prepared the whole show and were ready to take to the stage the following night. They gave one superb matinee performance to Fitzharrys students before Lockdown forced the cancellation of our evening shows.

We were hoping to reschedule these evening performances but the ongoing and ever-developing situation sadly means that this has become unworkable and it is unlikely we will be able to reschedule the performances this year.

Student Services has a full record of purchased tickets. If you wish, these can be exchanged for tickets for future school shows when circumstances allow, or if you prefer refunds will of course be available via Student Services.

However, if you would like to donate the cost of the tickets towards the considerable running costs of producing *Legally Blonde*, the Performance, Arts and Technology faculty sends sincere thanks to you for your generosity and for supporting the creative arts at Fitzharrys.

### 5. Social media updates

As well as our main school accounts, there is now a growing list of faculty and department-based accounts too, showcasing examples of pupils' work, practical lessons and club activities. Follow for the latest updates!

FACEBOOK ACCOUNTS		TWITTER ACCOUNTS		INSTAGRAM ACCOUNTS	
Main School:	@fitzharrysschool	Main School:	@fitzharrys	Main School:	fitzharrys
Arts:	@artsatfitzharrys	Maths:	@MathsatFitz	Music:	fitzharrysmusic
FSA:	@FSANews	English:	@EnglishatFitz	SWMs:	fitzswm
		Science:	@FitzharrysS	FSA:	fsanews
		FSA:	@FSANews60		



## 6. 'Period 6' study support

For Key Stage 4 students we are offering 'Period 6' sessions, which run after school in East Block for Years 10 and 11 on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Miss Pharoah publicises a programme of academic support to help students with homework and revision. Please do encourage your child to attend, it is having a great impact on those already going.

## 7. Lunchtime clubs

As announced in other recent school communications, in order to comply with government guidance during the latest Lockdown, recreational after-school clubs are not currently running. However, we do have several lunchtime clubs operating (all within bubble groups). A comprehensive list will be published in the near future.

A heads up for Year 7 students; some clubs open to you at lunchtimes include:

- Year 7 Lego Club  
Continuing this year, Year 7s can attend Lego Club on Friday lunchtimes in the Library.
- Year 7 Card Games Club  
If you are in Year 7 and have *Yu-Gi-Oh!*, *Pokemon* trading cards or other card games that you would like to play with your friends, why not join the new Card Games Club, happening on Tuesday and Thursday Lunchtimes in N5 (Art). Places are limited – sign up in the Art Office or email Mrs Bird at [kbird@fitzharrys.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:kbird@fitzharrys.oxon.sch.uk).
- Year 7 Science Club  
Taking place on Wednesday lunchtimes in SC2, Science Club will be making lava lamps, bath bombs, hovercrafts and more. Last term, they made slime, catapults, mentos rockets and Harry Potter potions!



## 8. Food Technology – Appeal for donations

Food Technology would be very grateful to receive any empty, large plastic tubs (such as the large chocolate or biscuit tubs) you may end up with in your post-Christmas recycling pile. Ice cream tubs are very useful too.

In addition, if you have a surplus of stainless-steel forks or tin openers taking up space in your kitchen, Food Technology would love these too!

Many thanks in advance for your donations.



## 9. Library - Request for books and board games

The library would love to receive any good-quality donations of books suitable for 11+ readers and any board games suitable for 11+. The library is currently designated as a Year 7 social space during break and lunch times, and they would appreciate any new additions to their area this winter.

## 10. Science updates

### Tassomai

ALL Year 11 students should be completing their Tassomai questions every day. This is a fantastic app which will help Year 11 to review all topics regularly and ensure they have a strong knowledge-base for their exams. It is research-based and the evidence shows that daily use of the app will improve your child's GCSE Science grades. Please encourage daily completion - 5 minutes every day will have a really positive impact. Any questions about this should be directed to Mrs Forder [cforder@fitzharrys.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:cforder@fitzharrys.oxon.sch.uk)

### 10-minute tests for Science

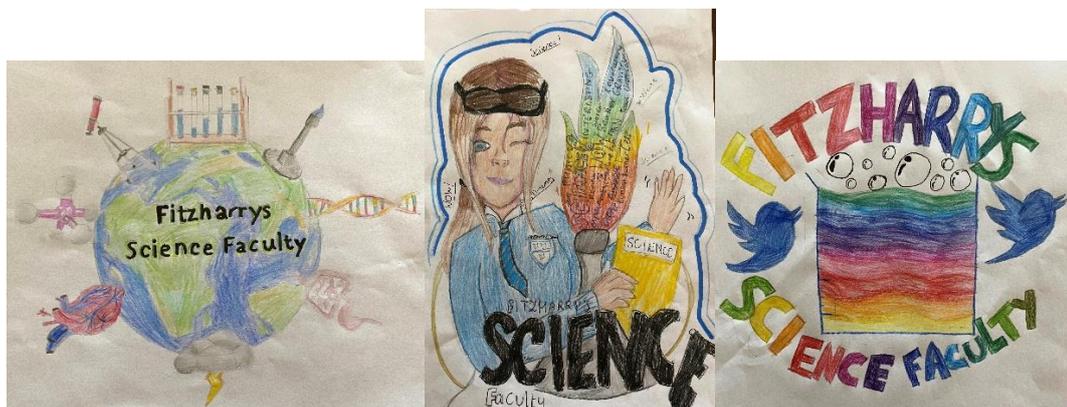
Every Monday Year 11 will complete a 10-minute test to review earlier topics. The topic is listed on the Year 11 noticeboard downstairs in science so students can prepare.

### Science revision guides

All students in year 10 and 11 should have the relevant science revision guides. These can be purchased from school through ParentMail.

### Science competition winners

Before half term, the Science department ran a competition for Years 7-11 to design the Science faculty's Twitter profile picture. The theme was 'something you enjoy about science'. We had an amazing response, with over 56 brilliant entries. It was very difficult picking a winner. However, Kimberly Gladwell's entry was eye-catching and thoughtful, showing a huge variety of the topics that she enjoys in science. Well done Kimberly, and Suzanna Moroszczuk and Evie Ford who followed in second and third place, respectively.



Thank you for your continued support.

With best wishes,

*Mr W Speke*  
*Head of School*

