



Felixstowe Academy
To make our best better

Mr S Chamberlain, Executive Principal

Mr A Salter, Headteacher of Garrison Campus
Ms P Doyle, Headteacher of Maidstone Campus



A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL

Dear Students, Parents and Carers

Can I first of all thank all the staff and site team who managed to ensure that both campuses were made safe for students during the recent snow. My thanks also to students (and their parents and carers) for getting yourselves to the academy on time and ready to work.

I have now completed all my meetings with Year 11 students across both campuses of the academy and will publish my thoughts, actions and responses in the first newsletter after half term. I have to say that having spoken to them, I have found our Year 11 students to be polite, intelligent, articulate, well informed, keen to succeed and amongst some of the most pleasant students I have spoken to in over 25 years of teaching.

After the half term the academy Student Development and Wellbeing team will have finished their review of our behaviour and rewards policies across both campuses and will be focusing with students on the introduction of Discipline with Dignity across the academy and how this fits with our rewards and sanctions structures.

Last week, the academy used tutor time to focus on the importance of punctuality and attendance and attitudes and respect for one another. My favourite quotation from the tutor period presentation slides was this:

"Here I am. Occupying a little piece of the planet. Breathing in its air, living, dreaming, loving and enjoying what life has to offer. My being here means I am entitled to be here. And to have the space to be who I am. Like me, every other being is here. Occupying a little piece of the planet. Breathing in its air, living, dreaming, loving, and enjoying what life has to offer. Their being here means they are entitled to be here. And to have the space to be who they are."

We need to learn how to live and work together, with each other, not against each other, to achieve our aim of wanting to make the most of the time we have."

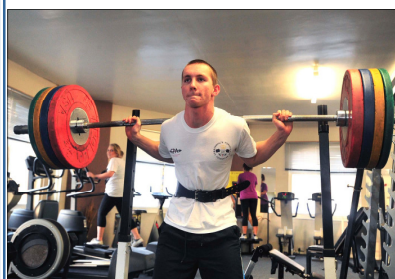
Discipline with Dignity is the basis of the behaviour management system within Felixstowe Academy. It is based on seven principles:

1. Behaviour change takes time.
2. Stop doing ineffective things.
3. I will be fair and I won't always treat people the same.
4. Rules should always make sense.
5. Model what you expect.
6. Responsibility is more important than obedience.
7. Always treat students with dignity.

We will be seeking ways to reward those vast majority of students who behave well and contribute huge amounts to the life of the academy. As Executive Principal, I, with the support of my Leadership team and Achievement Directors will also be focusing hard after half term on that small minority of students who may need additional help to meet our high expectations across the academy.

Mr S Chamberlain, Executive Principal

POWERLIFTING: Record-breaker Ben Cattermole took on the world and won when he clinched two titles at the 2011 Commonwealth Powerlifting Championships, in Bournemouth. We featured Ben back in December when he was preparing for the Championships and we are delighted and proud that he has achieved his ambition. He was the only English competitor in his 66kg class and did his country proud, powering his way to victories in the Three-Lift and Bench Press Competitions



"From a personal point of view, being in the right frame of mind mentally and overcoming the mind games is my biggest challenge. If you lift with your head, you won't fail."

Ben only took up the sport last year but is already making giant strides and lifted a new British combined weight record of over 422.5lbs in the squat, bench press and dead lift, before taking the individual bench press title. He said, "It was a tough tournament and I was pushed to the limit from both a physical and mental point of view."

Ben competes for the Suffolk Spartans along with training partner and Paralympic hopeful, Zoe Newson.

2011 proved to be a successful year for Ben when he won the Suffolk Coastal Young Sports Personality of the Year award. However, Ben clearly has one eye on the future and outlined his plans for the years ahead.



"Powerlifting will be at this year's Paralympics but not the Olympics although it will be in 2016, when the Games are in Brazil. That would be a brilliant target for me to aim for," said Ben.

Photos supplied by Evening Star
www.felixstowestar.co.uk
01473 230023

CONGRATULATIONS, BEN!

WISHING EVERYONE A PLEASANT, RESTFUL AND ENJOYABLE HALF TERM BREAK



Academies Enterprise Trust
To make our best better

Getting to know our GOVERNORS

I moved to Felixstowe in 1995 to raise a family in a caring community that was very welcoming and had lots of activities to offer. I trained for Hospitality Management in Felixstowe and progressed through Bar Manager and Assistant Manager training to Manager. When my first daughter started Deben High School I decided that I needed to work more sociable hours in order to spend more time with her and moved into Retail Management, managing a Ladies Wear outlet in Ipswich town centre. During this time I fell pregnant for the second time and planned to return to work after a short time on maternity leave. I was shocked, to say the least, to find out that I was having triplets!

After just over three years at home as a full-time mother (having triplets can bring a new meaning to this phrase!) I was keen to get back to work. I had joined the Deben High School PTA and was an active member of several of the Parent and Toddler groups locally and as soon as the children were in full time nursery I set out to achieve my goal of training as a teacher. Teaching has always been of professional interest to me and I was delighted to be able to join the school as an Instructor in 2001 within the Expressive Arts department. My degree in Creative Arts provided me with a good overview of how the Arts can develop creativity, thinking skills and self-confidence through Art, Drama, Dance and Music and enabled me to teach all subjects across the department. Over my ten years at the school I have had the opportunity to experience teaching many different subjects, be involved in the wonderful productions and see many of our students blossom into personable young people. I feel very fortunate to be a part of this community and work place. I believe very strongly that all students have the right to an excellent education that not only provides the knowledge and skills to help them achieve in exams but develops their self-confidence, esteem and sense of community. As a Staff Governor I would like to help support Felixstowe Academy in our quest to achieve this.



Alison McWilliam
Staff Governor

G A S P !

is a "Glee style" singing group for all students

Come and sing music from Glee, Cabaret, Rent and much more . . .

**Thursdays
3.00pm-3.30pm**

**in the Music Room,
Maidstone campus,**

ALL YEARS WELCOME

**If you are on Garrison site,
arrive as soon as you can.**

**Everyone
Welcome!**

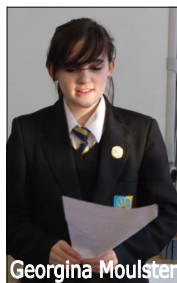
**See Miss Day for
more details
or turn up on the
day.**



A very lively debate took place last week at the Debating Club. Representing Year Groups from 7 to 10, students decided whether they wanted to support or oppose the motion, then moved into groups to discuss their arguments.

Two members of each group then put their views forward: **Bart Wakefield** and **Ellie Wood** for the motion and **Georgina Moulster** and **Molly Coupe** against it.

Following these submissions, the two teams argued across the floor in a very impassioned and articulate way, with



Georgina Moulster

well-reasoned and firmly held opinions on each side. The students had clearly done their research on the subject, and many quoted relevant statistics, particularly in comparison with the tragedy of the Titanic 100 years ago.

Miss Acheson, Miss Cox and Miss Norton listened carefully to all the arguments, awarding points for the quality of the speeches and of the arguments put forward and on the ability of each team to listen to the others. The students were congratulated on the excellent quality of the debate as a whole.

"The captain of the Costa Concordia, Francesco Schettino, should face life imprisonment for his actions."

Maths Revision Sessions



Wednesday Year 11

Thursday Year 10

Rooms 6, 7 and 11

Every Week

3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

**Essential for students re-sitting in
March and ALL linear students**

Thursday 3.00 – 4.00

Every Week

for Year 11 students
in Rooms G16, G17, G19,
G22 and G23



**Essential for students sitting exams
in March and/or June.**

Changes to the School Nursing Service

Many families in Felixstowe will have known **Cathy Tynan** who was a staff nurse in the School Nursing Team for some seven years. Cathy was successful in gaining a place on the Health Visiting Course in September and has been sorely missed. We are delighted that Anna-Maria Staines has been appointed to the Staff Nurse role.

The team are aware that parents and carers sometimes find it hard to access our service. WE are now offering a **Drop-In** at The Oaks Children Centre on the first Thursday of the month during term time, when a member of the Team will be able to help you with any concerns you may have about your child's health in relation to their education. The first session will be on Thursday 1 March between 11.00 and 12.00 while the Health Visitors are offering the Baby Clinic. Should this time not suit you, please call the office on **01394 458846** and we will be pleased to offer a mutually convenient time.

Debbie Boother, Community School Nurse



Anna-Maria moved into school nursing eight years ago from a background of critical care. Her special interest is in epilepsy.

She re-located to Suffolk and started with the school nursing team here in Felixstowe in January 2012.

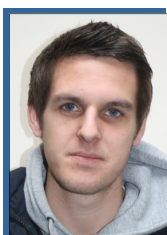
She sees her role is to help and assist students with any health or well-being issues that they may have.

NEW PASTORAL ARRANGEMENTS ON THE GARRISON SITE

The pastoral system in any school is fundamental in helping to develop the best circumstances for students to learn and achieve their individual potential, and plays a vital role in underpinning the curriculum.

We are therefore pleased to announce that we have appointed Achievement Directors to head up each year group and provide a focal point for that cohort. These people are as follows:

- Year 7: Mr Cumberland
- Year 8: Miss Marsden
- Year 9: Ms Saiko (*no photo available*)
- Year 10: Miss Last
- Year 11: Mrs Cooke



Mr Cumberland
Year 7



Miss Marsden
Year 8



Miss Last
Year 10



Mrs Cooke
Year 11

Their main responsibilities will be to:

- Lead the team of tutors
- Monitor the academic progress of each student
- Develop the ethos and maintain the highest standards of uniform and conduct
- Provide leadership to the year group and an important point of contact for parents and carers

We are confident that these changes will bring about significant improvements in the support that is provided for students and assist in the essential process of enhancing academic progress.

Mr Duffell, Vice Principal

FELIXSTOWE ACADEMY'S FIRST EVER PRODUCTION



An evening of musical theatre celebrating all things different
FELIXSTOWE ACADEMY'S FIRST EVER PRODUCTION!



WARTS AND ALL
It's good to be different!
WEDNESDAY 29 FEBRUARY
THURSDAY 1 MARCH
FRIDAY 2 MARCH 7.30pm
at Felixstowe Academy
Maidstone Campus

Tickets £6, Concessions £3, available from Garrison Campus, Tel: 01394 282602 and Maidstone Campus, Tel: 01394 282628 email: garrison@felixstoweacademy.org / maidstone@felixstoweacademy.org

'Warts and All'

is our Academy production this year, and it promises to be an evening full of surprises.

We have taken numbers from a variety of musical theatre shows to create a production which gives the whole cast opportunities to shine. There are solo, small group and ensemble performances, with numbers from the school choir and our BTEC Performing Arts students as well. Themes and storylines are woven together loosely in sections, linked with improvised Drama from our young actors.

After we selected numbers we wanted to include, we discovered a theme about being different and accepting people for who they are. We felt this was a very relevant idea for all the young people at Felixstowe Academy, and the title of one of our musical numbers, 'Warts and All', became the name of the production. In celebrating difference, we hope to provide a feel-good evening for all - because 'out there somewhere someone's gonna love ya... warts and all'.

Both school productions last year sold out, so we're hoping to have your support again as we join together for the first time. Tickets will be available soon, from either campus. Thank you in advance to all members of the cast and crew; the show will only go on with your continued support, hard-work and commitment.

£1 discount on a ticket for both performances

'Victim, Boyfriend, Sidekick, Me' is part of the National Theatre Connections Project. A group of Year 10 and 11 BTEC Performing Arts

At 6 pm each evening:

'Victim, Boyfriend, Sidekick, Me'
by Hilary Bell

(Part of the National Theatre Connections Project)

Years 10 and 11 BTEC Performing Arts students

£5 adults

£3 concessions

students are rehearsing in a late after school session (5pm - 7pm on Wednesdays). A Connections Director will be visiting our Friday performance to give feedback in preparation for our final performance at the Theatre Royal, Norwich, in April.

A Girl commits a crime without punishment or remorse. Her Sidekick is ordered to serve a prison sentence. The Victim's Boyfriend offers his unconditional forgiveness. However, nothing is simple in Hilary Bell's play about guilt and retribution.

This is the first time we have taken part in the National Theatre Connections Project and we are very excited to be tackling this new and challenging play in a 'nationwide celebration of young theatre talent'.

Severe Weather Arrangements

Very occasionally, severe weather can create conditions which affect the ability to keep the academy open. A decision to close may need to be made in the following circumstances:

Severe weather occurs:

- When the academy is already open and the severe weather incident occurs or is forecast for the middle of the day;
- The night before a severe weather incident has been forecast;
- Early morning after or during a severe weather incident.

The main considerations in making decisions to close are:

- Health and safety of students, staff and visitors travelling to and from and around the site;
- Travel delays at the start of the day causing supervision issues in the academy;
- Ability to provide food for students and staff during the academy day;
- Effects of the extreme conditions on the academy site; and
- Travel considerations later in the day for a safe journey home.

Whenever there is an academy closure, parents / carers will be contacted in the following ways:

- via the website (on the front page);
- via text (if you have a mobile phone registered on the academy database);
- local radio stations.

Only the Executive Principal can make the decision to close the academy. All Headteachers in the Felixstowe double pyramid have pledged to work together to co-ordinate opening / closure in severe weather across the town.

The only definitive guide to school/ academy closures is the Suffolk County Council School Closure Website on <http://schoolclosures.suffolk.gov.uk/schoolsrolite.php?qtown=felixstowe>.

GIRLS NETBALL

Despite the unexpected results of both matches, both of our teams gave a very good account of themselves.

The Year 8 team lost 8 - 15 and the Year 9 team lost 5 - 17 to their counterparts from Woodbridge School.

The girls played much better than the score line reflected.

Better luck next time.

Mr Teye-Botchway.

Special thanks to Ellen Spalding (Year 11) and Rhiannon Barber (Year 10) who accompanied the teams and Mr Teye-Botchway to these matches and helped with coaching as part of their Sports Leaders course.



PE ROUND UP

Date	Team	Result
31 Jan	U12 Netball -v- Claydon	Cancelled
1 Feb	U13 Netball -v- Woodbridge	LOST 8 - 15
1 Feb	U14 Netball -v- Woodbridge	LOST 5 - 17
1 Feb	Boys Basketball -v- Holbrook	LOST 28 - 56

READATHON FRIDAY 10 FEBRUARY, 8.30 am - 7 pm

STUDENT TERM DATES :

SPRING TERM : 4 JANUARY - 30 MARCH 2012; SUMMER TERM : 17 APRIL - 20 JULY

Spring Half Term : 13 - 17 February 2012; Whitsun Half Term 4 - 8 June 2012; May Day Holiday 7 May

FOCUS ON FELIXSTOWE ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

IF YOU WOULD LIKE A HARD COPY OF THIS OR FUTURE WEEKLY EDITIONS OF 'Focus on FELIXSTOWE ACADEMY', PLEASE CONTACT EITHER CAMPUS

If you have any comments, ideas or contributions for us, we would love to hear from you.

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