

NEWSLETTER 95

September 2010

WELCOME BACK

... to all of our young people. This year brings a lot of change, even for Years 8, 9, 10 and 11. The introduction of the new Vertical Tutoring system seems to have gone smoothly. With 65 different tutor groups, it means that our pupil teacher ratio will be such that we really know your child well. This tutor will be the 'face of Falinge Park' for most of our families ... so, apologies for those of you who got me!

ANOTHER SET OF RECORDS SMASHED

The main hall was packed with excited (and very wet!), Year 11s in August. The squeals of delight were louder than ever this year as our fifth successive set of improving results were opened. The school has already (before Appeals, re-marks, etc.), beaten its previous best in 2009.

5+ A*-C went up to 67% which makes us second best in the Township.

5+ A*-C including English and Mathematics went up by 5% to 50% which again is second best of the six Township schools. Each 'league' was topped by a different school so that in terms of consistency, Falinge Park has done best overall. Obviously these figures can change during the Appeals process, but I want to place on record my thanks to all of the staff, students and families that did so well. It is only a few years ago that results were in the twenty percents.

NUMBERS

As a result of the school's success in recent years, demand for places is high. Pupils WILL LOSE THEIR PLACE if they take unauthorised extended holidays during term time. It sounds harsh, but attendance is a prerequisite for success.

PARENTS & FRIENDS OF FALINGE PARK

Numbers who attend this friendly group are rather disappointing. In order to gauge interest we will be holding our first meeting of the year on Tuesday 14th September 2010 @ 6:15 p.m. in the School Library. Please come and join us – no appointment necessary!

Our first event will be a Camel Race later this term. There is no need to bring a bucket and shovel as the camels are made out of wood!

ABBA TRIBUTE NIGHT – 12TH NOVEMBER 2010 (7:00 – 10:00 p.m.)

Do you remember the 70s and 80s? This fun filled night sees a professional band playing hits from these decades. Fancy Dress will be in abundance, so break out your flares and platform shoes. Tickets are £10.00 each, this includes supper and a quiz. Further details available from school.

PUNCTUALITY

May I remind parents that children must be through the school gates by 8:25 a.m. Their first lesson begins at 8:30 a.m. sharp; they will be in trouble for lateness. Falinge Road is so busy, we strongly advise parents to:

- ❖ drop children off on Clarkes Lane or the other side roads around the school;
- ❖ look into sending your child on the school bus which is invariably on time in the mornings;
- ❖ encourage your child to cycle or walk to school. There is a cycle path along most of Falinge Road and cycle sheds at school.

UNIFORM

Friday evenings see our ever popular uniform detentions. Each year sees some new attempt to subvert our expectations about uniform. So at this time of year we spell it out.

SHOES should be plain black (except for reflective strips on some shoes for road safety). They should not be 'dolly' shoes without a strap to keep them on your child's feet. They shouldn't have jewels, etc., on them and they should be waterproof. Canvas is not appropriate in Rochdale's weather.

SOCKS, HEADSCARVES, HAIR TIES, etc. should be plain white or black.

SHIRTS should be tucked in and plain white or with the school badge on.

SKIRTS should be just above or below the knee. There are too many staircases in the school and nobody wishes to be embarrassed.

JEWELLERY ... a pair of small, plain stud earrings and a watch is all that is permitted to be on show. Other piercings must be removed or covered with a plaster.


MAKE-UP and NAIL VARNISH are NOT permitted!

TIES should have at least 6 coloured stripes showing and be worn covering the top button.

MOBILE 'PHONES/ELECTRONIC ITEMS ... should be checked into either of the two Reception desks. They will be returned at the end of the day.

HAIR – Governors have ruled that hair colour should be natural. Some subtle shades of red are appropriate – but blue, green and pillar box red are not! Designs shaved into the scalp are not acceptable. This is a case throughout the year and is not relaxed for weddings, celebrations, etc.

The great majority of families check their children comply with this throughout the year. Please remember that we want one set of rules for everybody on the site.



R.D. LONSDALE (Mr.)
Headteacher