

Head Of School Certificate goes to
Jayden
Well Done

Golden Award

This week the pupils who have received a 'Golden Award' Certificate are:

N1	Evie	3B	Theo
N2	Harry	3C	Nadia
RB	All Reception	4B	Kishen
RD	All Reception	4D	Sophia
1H	All Year 1	5I	Ellie-Mae
1R	All Year 1	5T	Mason
2B	Michael	6K	Holly
2D	Kylan	6M	Dylan

Weekly Attendance Award

The winning class this week is **2B** and **6M** at **100%**.

Well Done

The whole school attendance for this week is **92.9%**

The national average expectation is 96%

Welcome Back

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome you all back to The Ferns Academy after our summer break and also to welcome the parents of our new pupils in Nursery, Reception and across the school. It has been a busy, exciting and eventful summer for all of us but it was a pleasure to see all of the children arrive back on Tuesday with smiling faces, dressed smartly and ready to learn.

The last academic year at The Ferns brought great success that all of the community can be proud of including Ofsted grading the school good with outstanding behaviour, safety and welfare as well as Key Stage 2 SATs results that were well above the national average. To follow on from this, over the holidays we received data from the Department For Education that shows the progress that the Year 6 leavers made in their time at our school put us in line with the top 5% of schools in the country for progress in Reading, Writing and Maths.

I am sure that this year the success will continue and I'm looking forward to working with you and all of your children in order to help them reach their full potential.

With many thanks in anticipation of your support this year.

Mrs A Young
Head Of School

Celebration Assembly

Our celebration assembly is now being held on a Friday afternoon at 2.45pm instead of a Wednesday. If your child has been awarded pupil of the week, you will receive an invite by text on the Thursday evening.

School Trips

Children will be going on school trips within the first couple of weeks of each term for the “Big Bang” that launch what they will be learning about that term. This is part of the curriculum and it is essential pupils experience these trips because it gives them a better understanding of what they will be studying that term. Unfortunately, last year, due to some parents not contributing towards costs, school had to subsidise more towards the cost of these trips to enable all children to attend. Due to restraints on budgets, we will not be able to do this going forward which may result in us having to cancel curriculum and reward trips. This is something we would not wish to do but unless all parents support us in this we would have no choice in the matter.

Absence

If your child is going to be absent from school, please ensure that the school office is notified before 9.30am. Academy policy states that if a child does not have a mark in the register and no explanation has been given, a text will be sent immediately to the child’s main contact. If school are not informed before 9:30am then the child will receive an unauthorised mark on the register; this can consequently lead to a fine. The failure to respond to one of these texts will be classed as an unauthorised absence. Recently our attendance system has been picking up patterns in the days which some pupils are failing to attend school. Issues like this will be addressed at a formal panel meeting.

Finally many children are being collected during school hours in order to attend medical appointments. Unless it is an emergency, appointments must be made outside of school hours or during school holidays. We are unable to release children for such appointments without written confirmation from the medical profession.

URGENT!!! Free School Meals

Children in Reception, Year 1 and 2 are all entitled to a free school meal. Could we please ask that if you are entitled to claim for free school meals but have chosen not to renew because of the new Government initiative, still apply as this gets additional funding for the children.

Healthy Snacks

Snacks in school on Monday to Thursday should be pieces of fruit or another healthy alternative. If children bring unhealthy snacks on these days, they will be removed and be replaced with fruit. Friday “Treat Day” is more relaxed about what snack pupils have in school however large packets of crisps and large bars of chocolate are not appropriate. No lollipops. No nuts.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Letters have gone home for your child to sign up for extra-curricular clubs. Please discuss this with your child and return the form to the office as places are limited.

Parking

Please be mindful that the side street to the school car park is access for our school minibuses that transport the children to various activities during the week. We have had several occasions where the street is being blocked by parents/carers parking their vehicles to collect their child at the end of the school day. This is proving extremely hazardous and ultimately puts our children’s lives at risk. Could we please ask parents/carers to avoid parking here, Police have advised that we should block the entrance at the end of the school day to prevent this but hope you will assist in ensuring our children stay safe.

*** Please check diary dates – lots of events coming up *
Forthcoming Dates – Autumn Term 2016**

Tuesday 13th September	Y2 Trip
Friday 16th September	Y3 Workshop
Monday 19th September	Y5 Workshop
Monday 26th September	3.20 and 6pm Y6 Parents SATs Meeting
Wednesday 28th September	Y3 Swimming Programme Starts
Friday 30th September	PTFA Macmillan Coffee Afternoon
Wednesday 5th October	School Photographs

A Young

Mrs A Young
Head Of School