Fountaindale School

an academy within Nexus MAT

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Headteachers message to families - Autumn 2 / Friday 20th November

Belong, Engage, Enjoy!

Isaac Lamb - Funeral:

A large number of our staff team attended Isaac's funeral yesterday and spoke of what a beautiful and moving service it was. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate Isaac's life and reflect on the positive impact he had on those around him. Our thoughts continue to be with his family and loved ones.

Emmanuel Ainoje-Ohio - Funeral:

Today, we have shared a resource with pupils to sensitively inform them of Emmanuel's passing and to provide opportunities for discussion and support within school.

Emmanuel's funeral will take place on the morning of Monday 30th November. As a school community, we feel it is important that members of staff who knew and worked closely with Emmanuel have the opportunity to attend the funeral, pay their respects and support his family.

Classes that may be affected by staff attendance at the funeral will shortly receive a separate message outlining the arrangements and plans for that day. We would like to thank parents and carers in advance for their understanding and support as we work together to ensure that both our pupils and staff are supported during this difficult time.

Nottingham Panthers:

We are pleased to share an exciting opportunity from the Nottingham Panthers Community Programme. Families can attend the upcoming ice hockey match at discounted prices:

Nottingham Panthers vs Dundee Stars

🗓️ Friday 27th November
🕖 7:30pm - 10:00pm
📍 Motorpoint Arena, Nottingham

Tickets can be booked using the following link: https://buytickets.at/nottinghampanthers/2514115

Booking deadline: Tuesday 24th November 2026 at midnight.

When booking, please select Fountaindale School at checkout so that the Panthers Community Programme can allocate the associated donation accordingly at the end of the season.

Work Experience - Interviews:

Today, I had the pleasure of interviewing a number of pupils from Woodpeckers and Post-16 who had put themselves forward for internal work experience opportunities within school. The interviews provided a fantastic opportunity for pupils to demonstrate their communication skills, confidence and readiness for the workplace.

The roles available include supporting pupils at lunchtime and helping to assist in some of our younger classes. We were incredibly impressed by the enthusiasm shown by all those who applied and look forward to providing feedback to pupils next week.

Reminder: Fountaindale Christmas Fair - Saturday 5th December:

A little reminder that our Christmas Fair is taking place on the morning of Saturday 5th December in the morning. We are looking forward to welcoming families into school for a festive morning full of fun, games, stalls and Christmas cheer.

To help make the fair a success, we are also kindly asking for donations of prizes for our various games and stalls. Any donations, big or small, would be very gratefully received and will help us make the event extra special for everyone.

If you are able to donate anything, please send it into school with your child or pass it on to a member of staff.



Reminder: Transition Event for Year 11 and Post-16 Families:

We would like to invite parents and carers of our Year 9, 10, 11 and post 16 students to attend our upcoming Transition Event on Thursday 26th November - 1:30pm till 3pm.

This event provides an excellent opportunity to explore the range of options available to young people as they prepare for their next steps. We will be welcoming a wide variety of providers who can offer information, advice and guidance on future pathways, including:

- Further Education and Training
- Day Services
- Social Care Provision
- Employment and Supported Internship Opportunities
- Community and Independence-Based Services

Representatives from a range of organisations will be available to speak with families, answer questions and provide information about the support they can offer beyond school.

We strongly encourage parents and carers to attend, as this is a valuable opportunity to gather information and begin planning for future transitions.

Safeguarding Update: Online Safety and Gaming:

As we move towards the winter months and the upcoming holiday period, many children and young people may spend more time online, whether gaming, watching videos, using social media or communicating with friends.

We would encourage parents and carers to take an interest in the apps, games and websites their child is using and to regularly talk about staying safe online. Simple steps such as checking privacy settings, using parental controls, ensuring children know how to block or report concerns, and discussing appropriate online behaviour can all help to create a safer online experience.

It is also worth remembering that online interactions can have a significant impact on children's wellbeing. Encouraging breaks from screens, maintaining healthy routines and keeping communication open can help children navigate the online world safely and confidently.

Useful advice for parents can be found through the NSPCC, Childnet and Internet Matters websites.

Have a good weekend,

B Norman

Headteacher

bnorman@nexusmat.org

Fountaindale SEND Toddler Group

Does your child have special educational needs or disabilities? Come and join us for our SEND toddler group on the second and last Friday of each month. On the second Friday we do a toddler and parent swim, please ring **01623 792671** to book.

10:00 – 11:30

Please ring **01623 792671** to express your interest.



Make friends



Sensory room or soft play sessions



Toddler and parent swims

*Please note, groups will not run during school holidays.

Your child does not need an official diagnosis or EHCP to attend.

Siblings welcome

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