

Ofsted: College receives Official Designation OUTSTANDING

Following one of the new shorter inspections for colleges judged to be outstanding in their last inspection, Ofsted inspectors have given the College the new official designation "an OUTSTANDING College". The College was inspected under five different areas and received the highest grade, outstanding, in each.

Effectiveness of provision: grade 1; Capacity to improve: grade 1; Achievements and standards: grade 1; Quality of provision: grade 1; Leadership and management: grade 1.

The inspectors stated: The college is outstanding in all aspects of its provision. Managers and teachers are wholly committed to the college's objective of improving students' achievements. There is a very strong focus on developing the full potential of every individual, and enabling students to achieve at every level. The college has initiated some very innovative work in supporting students' personal growth and development and enabling them to understand the many different ways they can learn. Students develop a strong sense of maturity and responsibility, and the ability to work independently. The culture of high expectations, combined with highly effective teaching and excellent support, enables students to achieve very well. The excellent achievements reported at the last inspection have improved further. Students on the vast majority of courses make very good progress relative to their starting points. Overall success, retention and pass rates at all levels are well above the average for similar colleges. Students value highly the range of opportunities available to them and the very high levels of academic and personal support they receive. Excellent teaching encourages students to become independent learners and to enjoy learning beyond the requirements of their examinations. The college's approach to self assessment is rigorous, self-critical and effectively secures continuing improvement, even where standards are already very high.

The latest report, Annual Assessment Visit as pdf (05/03/2007), can be found deep in the Ofsted website or on the College Website at www.farnboroughsfc.ac.uk - About the College, Contextual links, Ofsted Report April 2007.

Massive turn-out in Student Elections!

17 year old Mo Saqib, formerly of Cove School, has been elected to the prestigious role of Student President. He will lead a 12-strong committee which plays a significant role in the development of the College. Mo is studying Economics, German, Mathematics and Business Studies.

He said, "It's a fantastic feeling to be elected President of such an excellent student body as we have at Farnborough. I look forward to a year of even more success."

Each committee member has a particular responsibility and this year the new post of Environmental Officer was created, won by 17 year old Rosemary Pritchard who is studying Biology, Chemistry, French, German and History. She said, "I am looking forward to working with the College to develop more sustainable approaches to the running of the College and trying to reduce the carbon footprint."

College Principal, John Guy, said, "Everybody took a lively interest in the elections with a massive 78% turn-out."



The new Student Association Committee. Back row, l to r: Jerry Matthews (Events), Andy Nixon (Sports), Rosemary Pritchard (Environment); middle row: Ginny Smith (Teaching and Learning), Emma O'Neal (Community Links), Ria Zmitrowicz (Performing Arts), Hattie Leach (Charities); front row: James Hawkins (Publications); Lilly Walker (Secretary), Muhammad Saqib (President), Tom Morley (Vice President) and Ingrid Chiu (Treasurer).

Can you accommodate a Polish student who has won a 3-week Scholarship to study in College?

The College has established a partnership with Liceum Ogólnokształcące in Sulechów in Poland, the twin town of Rushmoor Borough Council. Two students from the school visited the College last year with scholarships generously provided by Farnborough Rotary Club and Rushmoor's Town Twinning Committee. The Scholarships have been made available again this year and two Polish students will join the A2 courses which begin in June until the end of the summer term. The two students have won their places after a gruelling selection process involving a wide range of tests and exams. Neither student has been to England before. We are seeking families with whom they may be able to stay for the three-week period while they will be here - please contact Jan Moore, Principal's PA, 01252 688208.



Mateusz Łukomski. I am 19 years old and I attend the secondary school in Sulechów. My father is an insurance agent and my mother teaches biology in the elementary school. I have a sister, Olga who is 8. I am interested in IT, learning foreign languages, travelling and reading. I am a very open-minded, cheerful and curious person. I am very happy, because of the opportunity to meet new, interesting people.



Marcin Mackiewicz. I was born in September 1990 in Sulechów. I have got elder siblings. Currently I attend the first class of Liceum Ogólnokształcące in Sulechów on a linguistic profile. I am learning English for about five years. Additionally I take active part in school's life. I enjoy music and sport. I am a member of a school basketball team and I belong to three music bands. I am looking forward to my visit.

Dame Kelly Holmes opens the new Sports Centre...



Extract from the Dame Kelly Holmes Diary on her website - www.doublegold.co.uk

25th April: I open a sports hall at Farnborough College and guess what it was named the Dame Kelly Holmes Sports Centre...how cool! I had a really good morning there as they ran an Olympic Day for local schools in the area. It was great to see the excitement and enthusiasm of the students and staff and the college. Steph Twell one of our up and coming young athletes is at the college and definitely has many fans from there wishing her good luck on her journey to possible Olympic Success!

Scenes from Rag Week - over £2000 was raised!



Copperlink Performance of Lion King

Students from Henry Tyndale Special School and the College staged a magnificent production of The Lion King before a packed audience of parents and friends in the Prospect Theatre just before Easter. The production was the culmination of the term's joint activities between the College and Coppers, the post-16 unit of Henry Tyndale School based in Fleet.

Each of the Coppers students was supported on stage by a college student. Second year student Abby Berridge masterminded the production as part of the enrichment activities in the College. She said, "It was a bit scary as we came towards the day of the production because so many things could go wrong – but everybody was magnificent and the show was a great success."



College Sportsnight Celebrations Pine Ridge Golf Club



**Chris Musgrove
Yasmin Jenkins**

Sportsman and Sportswoman of the Year

Chris is an all round athlete. He has led the College 1st XI football squad with distinction, including winning the County 6 a side tournament. He is an outstanding swimmer, having represented the College at the National Schools Championships.

Yasmin is captain of the College Women's rugby team which this season achieved the knockout stages of the National 7s at Roslyn Park. She is also a member of the College basketball team and is goalkeeper for the Berkshire Hockey U19s team.

Sports Department achievements

The rugby teams performed admirably at the national 7s at Roslyn Park. The men's team fell at the group stages but the Ladies reached the knockout stages which is a feat unsurpassed in recent years by any sports team at college.

The men's football team, after a very successful season, won the Hampshire Colleges 6 a side tournament, a prestigious competition which began in the early 1900s.

Finally, the badminton squad completed a marvellous season by winning the Hampshire Colleges league without losing a game. They then went on to win the end of season men's, ladies' and mixed double tournaments held here in Farnborough.

The Womens' Basketball team won the North East Hampshire end of season tournament.

Congratulations and thanks to all students who have participated in competitive sport this season.

AS and A2 Performing Arts Practicals All welcome

Students are nearing the end of their respective courses and will be performing various pieces for their final, practical examinations.

Each piece has been solely devised by the students themselves following set briefs as prescribed by the examination board. The AS students have decided to take a song or lyric from an existing source and develop a piece of work from this whilst the A2 students have each chosen a familiar children's story that they have re-interpreted in their own unique and original way.

The AS students will be performing their work at various points in the daytime on **Friday 18 May** in the Prospect Theatre, and the A2 students will be performing on the evenings of **Tuesday 22 May and Thursday 24 May** from 5.00pm onwards. All are welcome, entrance is free and your support and patronage would be warmly welcomed.

Future World Leaders Conference in Washington DC

Sean Crawford, Kate Fellows-Tully and Eleanor Kirby will be representing the UK at this prestigious conference to be held in early July. They will meet high ranking government officials from the United States and representatives from the British Embassy who will brief them on major world issues such as human rights, environmental protection and arms control. They will work with other student delegates to draw up communiqués on topical issues for discussion with over 400 representatives from all corners of the world in a mini United Nations conference.

Travel Scholarship Winners - 2007



Congratulations to the following travel scholars who have recently received their awards, and particularly to Judy Barker who also won the Jacqueline Findlay Travel Scholarship sponsored by the Blackwater Valley Rotary Club.

CHARLOTTE ALEXANDER-MARSH - journalism project in Kerala, India
EMMA ASHFORD, FIONA BEAN & NATALIE GIDNEY - project with street children in Kenya with Adventure Alternative

AMY BALDWINSON & GEORGIA STILWELL - sea turtle conservation in Guatemala with RealGap and teach underprivileged children.

JUDY BARKER - teaching at an English Centre in Istaravshan, Tajikistan

ELIZABETH BARNES - Springs Dance Company with performances and workshops in Europe and America

EDWARD BAUER & DANIEL FORSYTH - cycle from Land's End to John O'Groats for the College Ghana Link Project.

EMILY CALLAGHAN-SLOANE - intensive language course in Paris.

RACHAEL COATES & JESSICA TATE - Operation Raleigh trip to Borneo and Malaysia for local community environmental aid.

JONATHAN DRINKWATER & JADE LYNN - assist in a Malawi orphanage supported by the Beacon Church in Camberley

CLAUDIA FOXCROFT - Project Goa with destitute mothers and children

SHIRISH GURUNG - support families in Phumdi Village, Nepal

SOHAIL JANNESARI - HCPT Pilgrimage Trust trip to Lourdes

MHAIRI LIPSKI - community projects in Brazil with the Guide Association

PETER LOVELAND - 'Exercise Italia' with the Air Training Corps

OLIVER MAGEE - community projects in Nepal and Tibet with Greenforce

CHRISTOPHER MOORE - Greenforce projects in the Bahamas

SHAUNA PARTRIDGE & DANIELLE TAYLOR - teach English at a children's activity holiday in Austria with Croydon Crusaders

SOPHIE PORTEOUS - European Youth Sailing Championships in Sweden

JONATHAN TALBOT-HAMMOND - intensive language and tennis course in Vichy, France

MARIE-CLAIRE THOMAS - teach English in Ecuador with Eco-Volunteer

CLAIRE TOMLINSON - Project Trust with children in South Africa

STEPHANIE TWELL - European Track and Field Championships in Holland

Congratulations!

Stephanie Twell who came first in the London Mini Marathon

Mike Eager, Hannah Fairclough, James Fry, Sohail Jannesari, Muhammad Saqib, Annabel Walles and Charlotte Webb for winning three awards for their Young Enterprise company Bella Vie

Marisa Barnard, Georgia Stilwell and Simon Wood who won the Aldershot District Rotary Public Speaking Competition

Mike Eager, Rebekah Glass, Caroline West, Mike Brown and Geyan Suvendran for their excellent contribution as principal speakers at the international e-assessment conference in London

Peter Morris who has been awarded a Sixth Form Scholarship by the RAF

Jonathan Stevenson who has been awarded a Sixth Form Army Scholarship

Jonathan Smalley who has been selected to represent England in the British Schools International Match for small-bore rifle target shooting

Oli Jordan and Ben Wheelan who have both been selected to play rugby for Ireland under 19s squad

Amanda Higginbotham who has qualified for the indoor bowling National Fours Championship

Feedback

It is always very helpful to receive feedback on your perception of the College. If you have any comments concerning the first weeks of the new term or on the quality of education which we offer, we would be very pleased to hear them. In particular, please do not hesitate to let me know if you have any concerns.

John Guy, May 2007

Future Events at The Sixth Form College

Summer Concert

Carl Orff: *Carmina Burana*
Choral Society, Orchestra
and professional soloists

Rosauro: *Marimba Concerto*
Jason Chowdhury, Marimba

Mozart: *Exultate Jubilate*
Helen Lewis, Soprano

Friday 6 July 2007
7.30pm

Guildford Cathedral

Tickets from College Services priced £8/£6

Summer Fusion of Dance



Wednesday 23 May 2007
7.30pm
Prospect Theatre

Tickets from College Services £4/£2.

private view monday july 2nd from 7pm to 9pm
open to the public tuesday 3rd july from 9am to 4pm



a celebration of student achievement in

fine art
sculpture.ceramics
textiles
photography
graphics art
applied art

Dame Kelly Holmes
Sports Centre

A2 END OF YEAR SHOWCASE

Summer Leavers' Ball 2007



Lord Roberts Centre, Bisley

Friday 22 June

8.00pm - 1.00am.

The entertainment for the evening includes a three course meal, Casino with croupiers, a scalextric track, two live bands and much more. Tickets for the evening cost £20 and will be on sale from the Finance Office from Thursday 17 May 2007.



Leavers' Photo 2007 Order via CristalWeb Now

Orders must be received by Friday 22 June 2007.
We recommend you order now lest you forget!

The Leavers' Photograph was taken on Friday 4 May and can be ordered on CristalWeb clicking 'online payments' and then 'course payments'. There will be two pictures, the formal one and the more informal one, where students are more relaxed! They represent a significant memento of the time spent at College (and would make an ideal present from parents to mark the end of students' hard studies). The proofs will be displayed outside the Finance Office when they arrive.

Mounted, Titled & Framed	@ £53.50
Mounted & Titled	@ £27.50
Presentation Box	@ £22
Photograph only	@ £18

Information and Dates

HE Finance Forms for all Students

Representatives from Hampshire Student Finance Direct will be at the College on 24 May to check official documents relating to HE financial means-tested support applications for all Local Authorities. This will reduce any risk of losing important documents in the post. Students should bring originals as well as photocopies (which will be kept). Please ensure you have:

1. Completed application form;
2. Student's Birth Certificate and/or Passport;
3. Parent/Guardian Inland Revenue P60 tax slip for the financial year 2006-2007.

Venue: Café Direct

Time: 11.00 am - 2.00 pm

Careers progression and future events

The College is proud of the careers support and guidance it offers for all its students and it is currently working towards the new Investor in Careers Award which is open to all educational institutions including schools, colleges and training providers. We have recently been recommended to go forward to the final 'panel' stage of the assessment process and look forward to receiving the award in July 2007.

Early Applicants are more likely to get offers

Internal Deadlines for UCAS applications are as follows:

Mon 24 Sept: Oxbridge, Medicine, Dentistry, Law

Vet Med, Sports Science, Physiotherapy

Mon 1 Oct: Dispatch before Reading Week

Mon 26 Nov: Dispatch before Christmas

Excellent Candidates do get rejections!

Our best candidates understandably choose to apply to the best universities but it is wise to include a less selective one too. Please be aware that students do not always receive 5 offers, especially for very popular courses such as Law and English.

Do not set your heart on one particular university - you may find yourself rejected inexplicably.

Open Day visits to Oxford and Cambridge

The College is organising visits to Oxford on Tuesday 19 June and Wednesday 27 June (please note that the trip on 19 June is full). There is a visit to Cambridge on Thursday 5 July. Students wishing to know more about these opportunities should speak with Helen Diffenthal (office in the Tutorial Corridor) or collect necessary paperwork from the Student Services Reception.

Friday 6 July - Moving On Day

This is a whole College event enabling students to participate in a wide range of lectures and seminars covering Higher Education and employment/training. Representatives from gap year organisations will also be present.

Important Term Dates 2007-

1st year Study leave	Friday 18 May 2007, 4.15pm
2nd Year Study leave	Friday 25 May 2007, 4.15pm
Reading Week	Monday 28 May - Friday 1 June 2007
A2 courses begin	Thursday 14 June 2007
Parents' Evening	Wed 4 July 2007 5.30pm - 7.30pm (A2 progression problems)
End of Summer Term	Thursday 12 July 2007 (4.15pm)
A and AS results	Thursday 16 August 2007
GCSE results	Thursday 23 August 2007
New Academic Year	Wed 29 August pm (enrolment begins)
Second Year return	Thursday 6 September 2007
Full Term starts	Monday 10 September 2007
Catch-up day	Friday 28 September 2007
Reading Week	Mon 22 - Fri 26 October 2007
Open Days	Wed 7 & Thu 8 November 2007
Christmas Vacation	Thurs 20 Dec 2007 - Wed 2 Jan 2008
Study days	Thurs 3, Fri 4 January 2008
Reading Week	Mon 18 - Fri 22 February 2008
Easter Vacation	Monday 7 - Friday 18 April 2008
Reading Week	Monday 26 May - Friday 30 May 2008
End of Summer Term	Thursday 10 July 2008 (4.15pm)

Extended Projects - new A2 students: opportunity for independent research

In 2006/7, the College pioneered work on the Extended Project which the government proposes to introduce in 2008, possibly for all students undertaking A level studies. There has been great national interest in this development and it has been featured several times in the national media (Independent, Guardian, Times Educational Supplement, BBC Radio 4 - see the College website *College Innovations* for links).

We will be developing our work further in 2007/8 for current first year students proceeding to their A2 courses. Briefly, they will be invited to think of a topic related to two of their A2 subjects, to undertake a piece of individual research over the summer holiday and to write a dissertation of 5000 words by the end of October. The dissertation will be bound as a university-style thesis and presented to the student at a ceremony in December. Each student will have a research supervisor from the teaching staff. The dissertation will be available to the selecting/interviewing universities prior to interviews in December.

Those students who participated in the Extended Project in 2006/7 found it a very positive experience, preparing them well for higher education - listen to BBC Link on the website.

The Extended Project is not a replacement of an AS or A2 - rather it supports and extends the studies which students undertake in their second year to provide stretch and challenge. Students will be invited to think about participation in the next week.

Confirmation of Subject Choices

New A2 Courses - and Parents' Evening

First year students will be soon discussing their A2 and AS subjects for September with their Personal Tutors. We recommend that **all** students follow **all** their AS subjects for the A2 introductory courses which begin on Thursday 14 June. For many students, the choice of A2 will depend on their AS results in August - it is not possible to take up an A2 subject in September if you have not attended the summer course.

All students must choose at least four subjects for their second year studies. Many choose 3 A2 and 1 AS, although a number take 4 subjects through to A2.

This is a real opportunity for students to add breadth to their education which is valued by employers and universities. A timetable with only three subjects is insufficient and leaves a student with over half the week free. We do not permit timetables with such little commitment of time.

For students with difficulty over choice, there is a special parents' evening on Wednesday 4 July, 5.30pm - 7.30pm.

Leavers - Clearance from College

Before leaving College, students must return their books and complete all clearance formalities. Students who are leaving must complete their clearance form which can be obtained from their Personal Tutor. To ensure that students can contact their subject tutors, we recommend that they clear on one of the following days.

Thursday 21 June am or Thursday 28 June pm or Wednesday 4 July. All students should be fully cleared by 4pm on that Wednesday.

The College WILL NOT meet reference requests for students who do not clear; examination results will be withheld until the clearance procedure has been completed.

Learning Resource Centre

Reading Week Opening Times

The Learning Resource Centre will be open during Reading Week at the following times:

Wednesday 30 May	10am until 4pm
Thursday 31 May	10am until 4pm
Friday 1 June	10am until 4pm

Please note that some members of the IT Support Team will not be in College. This may affect our ability to provide a normal level of service. For further information or to check the status of the network please contact the Help Desk on 01252 688271, especially if you are travelling from a distance.

EXAMINATIONS 2007

WRITTEN GUIDELINES

It would be timely to ask to see your son's or daughter's written guidelines about conduct during public examinations which were given out in December. A copy is available on CristalWeb.

Time and Date

Please check with your son or daughter that they have correctly recorded the TIME, DAY and DATE of their examinations in their diaries. It is a good idea to pin them up on the kitchen noticeboard so that no one is in any doubt. **TURNING UP IN THE AFTERNOON FOR A MORNING EXAMINATION WILL RESULT IN STUDENTS NOT BEING ABLE TO SIT THE EXAMINATION.** Examination timetables are available on CristalWeb, showing the location and seat number; **students must know their seat number.** Please also pay particular attention to any supervision requirements.

If a student is **absent from a public examination** in the summer, then a member of the College staff will attempt to telephone the student's home. Students are generally allowed into the examination room during the first 30 minutes of the exam, but of course, the Examination Board may penalise the student heavily. Frequently, we are unable to make contact because the student has failed to update their telephone number or we are greeted by the answering machine. *Students should make sure that we have their current telephone number - Mobile numbers are particularly useful.* Occasionally, parents are contacted in error. We ask for your understanding if this happens. Our aim is to act quickly in order to get the student into the examination – detailed checking wastes valuable minutes. If your son or daughter is ill on the day of the examination and is unable to attend, please telephone the College Registry well before 9am (01252 688216).

Mobile phones iPods mp3 players Even mobile phones with battery taken out

These are NOT permitted in the examination room. Students should leave them at home or with a friend during their examination. Possession of mobile phones or mp3 players, **even if switched off**, in an examination can lead to disqualification. For a £1 fee covering the summer examination period, students may leave their phone and/or mp3 player in the Finance Office.

Revision, Study Leave and new A2 courses

Study leave for FIRST YEAR students begins at 4.15pm on Friday 18 May. Their A2 courses begin on Thursday 14 June and all students must attend.

Study leave for SECOND YEAR students begins at 4.15pm on Friday 25 May.

Please understand that the purpose of study leave is to enable students to study independently, each day. It is not intended as a signal for additional part-time work, summer parties, late nights and lie-ins.

Reprinted from The Guardian Monday March 27, 2006:

Exam authority finds rise in mobile phone cheats

Rebecca Smithers, Education Editor

them pass exams, according to material introduced by the government's exam watchdog. The first data shows that the number of pupils using mobiles to cheat in exams has risen by around 27% - to 1,887 students, according to the annual report found by the Education and Skills Minister. The report states: "The most common type of malpractice, accounting for about two-fifths of the total, was the introduction of unauthorised

Anybody who cheats in their exam will be disqualified from the exam and will lose their grade in that subject. Cheating compromises the integrity of the exam system and QCA is strongly committed to dealing with awarding bodies to ensure all forms. Over recent years a noticeable increase in the use of mobile phones has been seen in schools.

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Final revision notes

Do not have notes in your pocket during an examination, even if there is no intention to use them. If revision notes fall out of your pocket whilst pulling out a handkerchief, the College is required to report it and disqualification will almost certainly result.

Examination Charges

As clearly stated in the College Charter, the College will not pay examination entry fees for those few students whose attendance is poor. Letters have recently been sent to the homes of some students, warning that they are in breach of their Learner Agreement. They could be liable to a charge for exam fees.

On-line attendance viewing at home

Parents wishing to see attendance figures for students can view them on-line at home using CristalWeb. Students will be very happy to demonstrate this facility to concerned parents by logging on to the College website.

INTERNET RESULTS - AS and A2 Level Examinations - Thursday 16 August

Thanks to the work of former student Jeremy Skinner, the results will be available to students from 8 am on CristalWeb, accessible over the internet, **at home**. The e-Assessment Centre will be open from 9am for those who do not have access to the internet at home. All students should know how to access CristalWeb and need to remember their password. If a password is forgotten, it can be reset on-line at e-HelpDesk (with the answer to your secret question).

Although the results from CristalWeb will be correct, and can be printed off, they will not be accepted by universities or employers as evidence of achievement. The Examination Board Statements of Results will, therefore, be required.

Statements of Results with Strawberries and Champagne - 12 noon - 16 August

Exam board statements of results will be available for SECOND year students from midday, followed by a champagne and strawberry celebration at 12.30 pm. Parents accompanying their sons and daughters will be welcome to attend. Senior members of staff, Personal Tutors and Careers Advisers will be available after results to give support and advice. UCAS advises that students should be at home for results so that HE applications can be finalised.

First year students can collect their Statements of Results from 2.30 pm

Statements of Results are important also for AS students and they will be available from 2.30pm. First year students should not arrive early. They will get champagne next year if they work hard, but not this year!