



Newsletter

Issue 4: Friday, 5th October 2018



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parent/Carer

As the school has been graded 'Requires Improvement', Ofsted carry out Monitoring Visits. In July, an Inspector from Ofsted came into school. Following his visit, a letter has been published on the Ofsted website. In the letter it acknowledges that the school has put in place many processes to address areas highlighted in the last Ofsted Report.

The letter states:

"Governors are well informed about the context of the school and its key areas of strength and weaknesses. They have a clear and determined drive to support the school leaders to improve the quality of Teaching and Learning."

The letter states:

"Year 11 GCSE outcomes in 2017 show that pupils made good progress in mathematics. Leaders have rightly prioritised improving pupils' reading skills. Teachers in English have introduced a programme of reading support into the Year 7 curriculum, as well as developing a system of rewards and competitions. As a result, there has been a significant increase in the use of the school library and a notable increase in Year 7 pupils' reading skills this year."

The letter states:

"New leaders of English, mathematics and science have been appointed since the last inspection. These leaders share a clear vision of what needs to be done to refine and improve teaching in their departments. While there have been improvements in English, it is too soon yet to see the impact of these systems in other subjects."

The letter states:

"You have restructured your team who help those pupils who have SEN and/or disabilities. You have ensured that support staff are now better informed, with bespoke information about the needs of these pupils. Provision for pupils who speak English as an additional language is well organised and tailored to meet these pupils' individual needs. Consequently, this group make very strong progress from their starting points."

However, despite these positive comments, Ofsted have said that the school is not making rapid enough progress. Governors, Leadership Team and staff are committed to driving up standards and have put in place specific actions to address the areas of improvement identified in the letter.

P Davies
Headteacher

YEAR 7 UFTON COURT ADVENTURE



From 10th – 14th September Miss Ralston, Mrs Vacy-Ash, Year 7 Tutors and students had a wonderful time teambuilding at Ufton Court.

Despite only having been at Prospect for 3 days, students were asked to take themselves out of their comfort zones, leave mobile phones at home and take part in various activities designed to help them get to know each other, work as teams and develop their confidence.

We had lots of fun swinging across obstacle courses in the woods, making survival bracelets, learning circus skills, building campfires and making hot chocolate, before spending the night sleeping in the (haunted) Tudor manor house.

All the Prospect Staff who attended Ufton Court were very impressed by our students who were positive and tried everything – including all the vegetables at dinner!



CAREERS NEWS

(Siobhan Gallivan—Head of Department)

6th Formers - Great visit to the Emirates stadium with the 6th Form Students who met a wealth of universities and apprenticeship providers.

Year 9 - We are starting to think about our Year 9s trip to the university, where they will think about their option choices and how these might lead to career choices.

Year 10 - We have started our mentoring programmes for Year 10. We have invested in a new Year 10 programme and once all the necessary checks are processed we can start the programme in earnest.

Year 11 - Students had an excellent talk regarding applications to college. It was made clear that they will take attendance into account. You need to know your predicted grades and apply for more than one course. If you feel you are ready, you can make your own decisions about your future:

Reading Open Evening is: **Wednesday, 21st November** – register online.

All guidance interviews are on Fridays, so email for an appointment and inform your teacher where you are.

Interview with a Communications Engineer/Telephone Engineer

- 1. What did you want to be when you were at school?** Pilot – this was not possible as I was too short. There used to be minimum height.
- 2. What subjects did you enjoy and why?** Design Technology because I was able to design and make stuff. I am quite a practical person and enjoy seeing something I have made or fixed.
- 3. What subjects were a challenge?** Maths and English as I didn't enjoy them and I struggled with the writing.
- 4. What was your first proper full-time job after college/university/school?** I joined a Youth Training Scheme as a Trainee Engineer with Royal Aircraft Establishment. I enjoyed that because it was applied and practical and I could see why I was learning. I achieved in City and Guild qualifications: Electrical, Mechanical and Fabrication which meant that afterwards I could be an Apprentice anyway. Then I joined the Railway Training Scheme and worked for British Rail as a high voltage electrical engineer. I did very well and obtained an ONC BTEC in Electrical Mechanics with Applied Maths and Science. It was Applied Maths so I needed to know quite complex facts and I could relate to the real world as I had to be able to deal with real life distances relating to trigonometry.
- 5. How did you decide which was the right career for you?** I didn't - I tried different things until I found things I enjoyed. I do like to be out and about.
- 6. If you could give your younger self some careers advice what would it be?** Try harder at school.
- 7. If you could do any job or career what would it be?** Pilot
- 8. What do you enjoy about your job?** Different people and every day is different. Constant problem solving.
- 9. If you could change one thing about your job/career what would that be?** More accurate information from the customer. As sometimes customers lie about the problem that I am faced with.
- 10. What are the main skills you need to do your job?** Need to have training in engineering and an interest in IT. Good customer service skills. You need to treat customers as if they're your friends.
- 11. Are there any specific qualifications/skills needed? If so what?** A Levels/ BTEC Mechanical or Electrical Engineering.

PROSPECT VACANCIES

Part-Time Cleaner (£8.82 per hour), term time only
3 - 5 days a week from 6.00 a.m. - 8.00 a.m. or 4.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.
(Days and hours negotiable)

We are looking to appoint flexible, reliable, enthusiastic and hardworking cleaners to join our team to maintain a high standard of cleanliness within classrooms, corridors, offices and toilets.

This will require duties such as vacuuming, dusting and cleaning of washroom areas, tables, chairs etc. A good understanding of cleaning chemicals and equipment would be desirable.

Only applications on Prospect's application form will be accepted, which can be downloaded from the school website or by contacting the Office Manager, Mrs L Akister on 0118 9023152 or email lakister@prospect.reading.sch.uk.

Prospect School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful applicant will be subject to an enhanced disclosure and disbaring service check. Prospect School is an equal opportunities employer.

PROSPECT SCHOOL TRIPS

Date	Year Group	Details
Saturday & Sunday, 6 th & 7 th October 2018	All Years	Duke of Edinburgh Expedition
Friday, 19 th October 2018	12	Fright Night Thorpe Park CHERTSEY
Tuesday, 6 th November 2018	12	Safe Drive Presentation The Hexagon READING