

Year 8 to 9 Transition Newsletter 2020

Thursday 5th June 2020



Mr Collins – Head of Year 9

Welcome!

I am Mr Collins and I will be your head of year in September, you may have seen me in the video I sent out earlier in lockdown. I do hope you are all still safe and well during this uncertain but more 'relaxed' time. I will be sending out regular newsletters to keep you updated with all that is going on.

First I have some information for your parents/carers and then I have something for you to get your teeth into now you are Ferndown Upper Students.

A message from Mrs Milsom:

A massive thank you to the many who have completed the online admission form and a reminder to those who haven't completed it, the deadline is fast approaching. If you haven't been able to access the forms, please follow this link... Please don't forget deadline is tomorrow.

Some wise words from a Current year 9:

We have had loads of letters sent through to us from current year 9's who want to share their support and advice with you. Moving onto a new school can have its challenges and what better words of advice but from the students who have just experienced it.

Daisy Poole, who came from **Emmanuel Middle Schools** has written the following:

Daisy Poole – Thornton – T6 – Emmanuel Middle School

You may be feeling worried about starting Upper School, so I am here to reassure you and let you know a bit about how I found it.

At first, I found the thought of going to Upper School really daunting and it made me want to stay at middle for as long as I could, however upper school is very different to middle school because of all the new opportunity's, new friends, new lessons and much more. I found that middle school was quite 'relaxing' and the expectations were very different. At the Upper School, the expectations are high (but if you follow them then they won't be a problem), teachers are very supportive, and you have more independence.

The tutor structure is really good because you have people from year 9 to year 11. They are all so lovely so it's nothing to be worried about. I found this really good when choosing my options, because I could ask some people what they were taking and how they are finding it, to get an idea of what I would like to do.

Making new friends was really easy, I just started talking to people I was put in lessons with and in tutor time and now I have some really great friendships. It can be daunting at first speaking to people you haven't done so before but trust me, it gets easier. At Ferndown Upper School the support is amazing. Tutors, teachers, students, Heads of Year and Pastoral are all happy to help you. If you have a problem, let them know and it will be sorted. I have to say, I do get a lot more homework compared to middle school and that's one thing I wasn't prepared for, but if you do the work and hand it in on time you don't need to worry about anything.

Praise points are points that get put on Go4Schools to praise you, you may also receive emails for good things. Personally, I think they are good, as teachers really recognise when you are doing well and it motivates you to keep going.

There are lots of after school activities to get yourself involved in. Don't mess around in general, miss deadlines, forget PE kit or be late. Do hand in homework on time, be responsible, polite and respectful. We all make mistakes, but Upper School is a place to learn from them even more so. And, if you follow the rules you will have a great time at FUS.

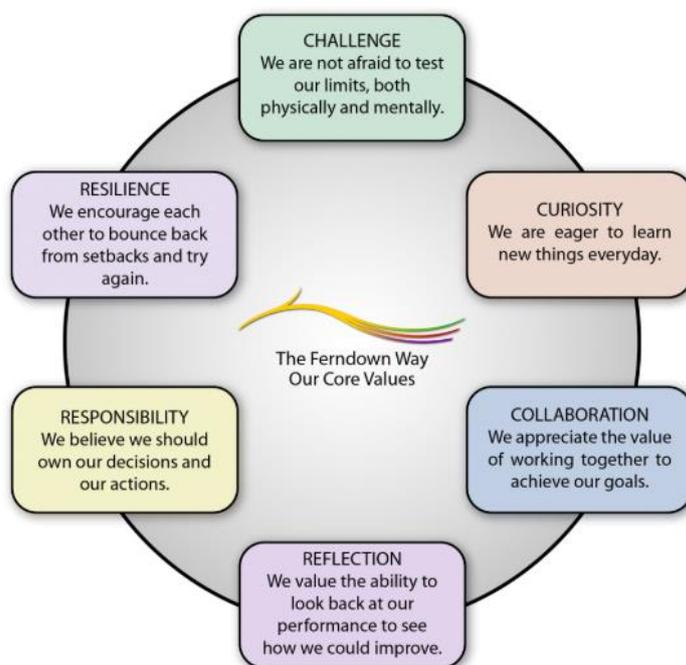
My year at FUS has been great and I hope you enjoy it as much as I have. Hopefully reading about my experience in Year 9, has made you feel reassured about some questions you might've had.

Good Luck!

Daisy 😊

Something to get your teeth into:

With the unknown of having a 'normal' transition period, I would really like to take this opportunity as a positive and start supporting you as a Ferndown Upper School student. I have been working with all staff here at FUS and they have been preparing some fantastic videos and tasks for you. These tasks are all linked to what you will be learning in September, so why not use this time to get ahead of the game. There will be 2 tasks set fortnightly, so you will have 2 weeks to complete them. These tasks all link to the 'Ferndown Way' as seen below.



All the videos, tasks and how you submit will be seen via the link below. As staff we will reward all students with house points who give the tasks a go and will give added house points to the best ones! Remember you have 2 weeks to complete these tasks so if you take a little longer to work you have ample time to work through it and ask for help. If you need help please send me an email using the address below!

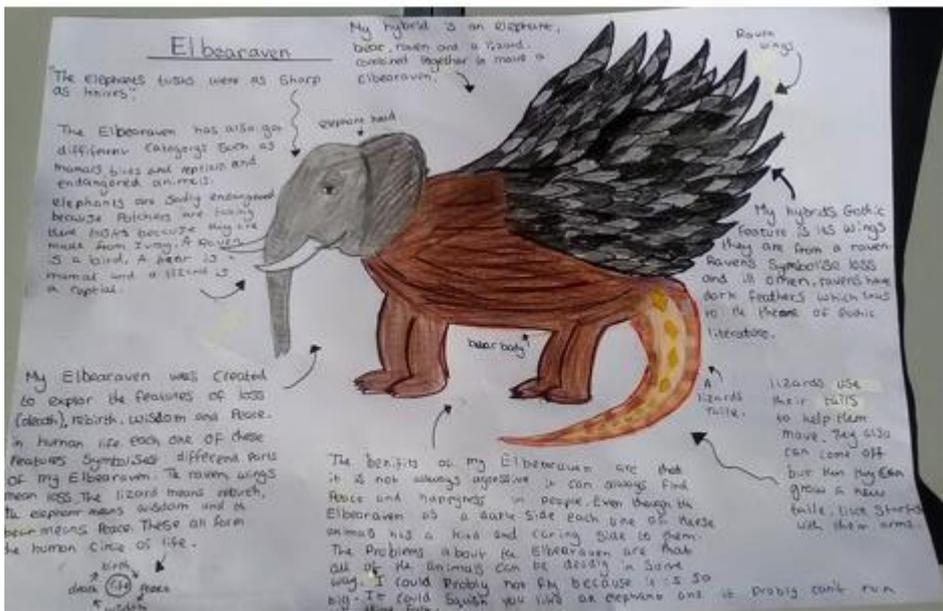
Please follow this link to access the videos, tasks and submission links:

<https://sway.office.com/IE1BC5kANpGczf02?ref=Link>

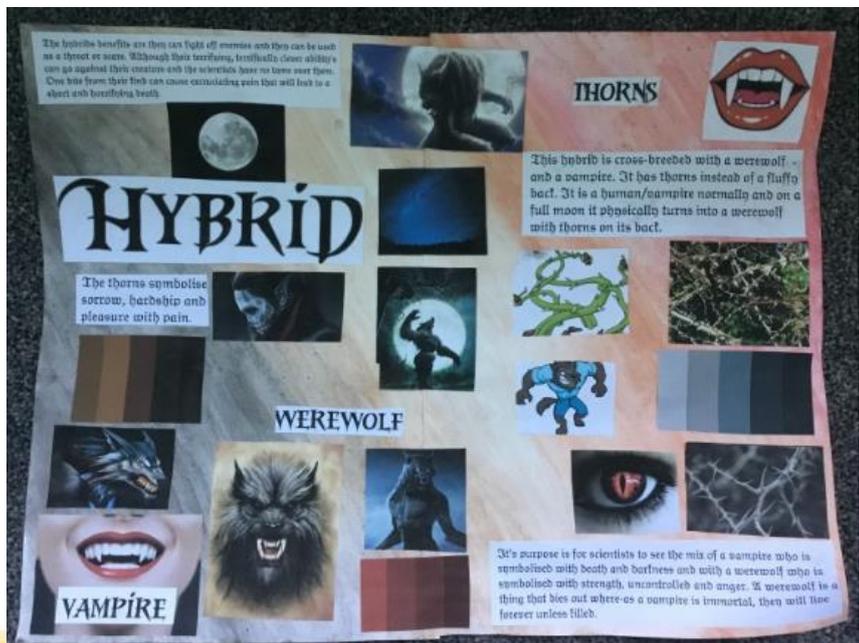
Any problems, please let me know jasoncollins@fernup.dorset.sch.uk

What to look forward to:

Miss Pratt in English has shared some fantastic work that has been produced by some of her year 9 English class, Olivia Brown:



Olivia Duff:



Head Teacher: Philip Jones

Here is some Photography work from Miss Liddiard's class, Charlotte Hughes in year 9 produced this piece:

To create the photomontages, I looked through a search of 1940s/50s portraits of people to try to find images of people that could be used to create an interesting collage similar to John Stezaker. I chose to pick portraits of people from the 1940s/50s for ones that are in black and white because I felt they related more to John's work.



When researching some of John's creations, I came across one where he had rotated an image of a coastline as it lined up and matched the pose that a young woman was standing in. I knew this would be quite tricky to achieve but really liked the idea of it so after struggling to find a landscape that perfectly lined up with how the woman is posing, I thought that a similar photomontage could be achieved by rotating a picture of a mountain. This has worked well because the tops of mountains when turned 90 degrees line up and form one side of the skirt. As the original photo is in black and white too, the sunset from behind the landscape adds some pretty colouring but doesn't overpower the idea of the montage by being too vibrant. This has made the image really gratifying.

Another way that this collage has worked well is the way the woman is posing and how she is staring into a certain direction. It's almost as if she is staring into a mirror, that isn't visible in the camera lens, and is admiring her dress. The fact that the mountain image has been used on the side of the dress that she's looking at, really ties in well with this and could be the concept/meaning of the overall picture.

A lot of John Stezaker's photomontages involve portraits of two people that are cut so that they are matched together. I wanted to create one like this myself so browsed through images online of 1940s/50s portraits and paired two together.

Once I had found an image of a woman that had features that matched up similarly to the man's, I cropped, adjusted and slightly tilted it to get the best montage that I could. I think these two pictures have worked quite well together because the lighting and contrast is fairly similar, as well as the hair colour blending in really nicely with each other. The facial features such as the nose, and the fact that they are both smiling, also adds to this.

The meaning of this photo could be about a couple who share a strong love so that when they are apart, they still feel like one. However, this could be interpreted in different ways, just like a lot of Stezaker's montages.



This was the first photomontage I did so I wanted to use a photo of scenery from somewhere around the world or a landscape to overlap the portrait because I know that John Stezaker uses landscape/nature images when creating his photomontages.

I thought it would look quite interesting to cover the eyes with a picture of two tunnels so I found one on the internet and paired it with a portrait that worked affectively with it. I think this has turned out really well as the mountain which the tunnels are going through lines up perfectly with the woman's hair and the dark colours from the trees blend in well with the colour of the hair too. This has highlighted the tunnels more so that it draws your attention to it first as the focal point.

I also think that the shape and dark interior of the tunnels have made them look like serious/evil looking "eyes" which resembles the straight face that the woman has got.

This photomontage is harder to make out because the lighting and contrast is very similar between the two images and both the man and woman are posing alike too. This is one of my favourites out of the four that I put together because the two images align perfectly and looks somewhat realistic.

John Stezaker has created many photomontages where he has used portraits of two different people and has put them together so that the facial features line up. I wanted to achieve a collage that was inspired by this so found these two images of a woman and man who are facing the same direction and cropped + adjusted the second image to overlap so that the jaw lines match up. The woman's hand being placed on her own neck has also really added to the overall montage as it looks really affective and pleasing.



A massive well done to these students who have received lots of house points and rewards for their efforts.

With this in mind, the tasks that you complete could be shared on our next newsletter and you will be rewarded some BIG house points ready for September.

On that note, thank you for your time, please take care and stay safe. As staff, we cannot wait to meet you all in the near future.

All the best,

J L Collins

Mr Collins

Head of year