Fulston



# Futures









## TERM 3

Welcome to our third Fulston Futures newsletter. This term we have some information on how Year 11's Kent Choices applications are progressing and a staff interview with Mrs Daw.

A reminder that parents can sign up to our Unifrog platform: there is a online session for parents coming up which will help with the basics of the platform.

## **Canterbury College Open Evening**

If any Year 11 students are interested in applying to Canterbury College, they have an open day on **28th January 4-7pm.** 



## UPCOMING UNIFROG EVENTS FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

#### HOME OR AWAY FOR UNIVERSITY: WHAT IS BEST FOR ME?

#### MONDAY 27TH JANUARY AT 4.3.0PM

Choosing whether to stay at home whilst you study, or move to a different area or country depends on lots of different factors and it can be difficult to make such a big decision! Hear from university experts about what you need to consider when making your decision including costs, opportunities and support, so you can prepare to embark on your next chapter with confidence and excitement.

#### THINKING ABOUT A GAP YEAR?

#### MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2024

Not sure about your next steps? A gap year could be your answer. Join this webinar to hear from the experts at Tilting Futures and Yipiyap to understand what is a gap year, the different types of gap years and how to choose the right gap year for you. You'll leave with the knowledge about the exciting gap year programmes available across the world!

#### Interested in an apprenticeship?

Rate my Apprenticeship have a wealth of information and a free webinar in January, <u>find out more here</u>.

# YOUR CAREERS TEAM

MRS E MASON CAREERS LEAD AND ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER

APPRENTICESHIP

MRS R DEMIAN CAREERS INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE COORDINATOR







#### PARENT SESSION: UNIFROG BASICS

#### WEDNESDAY 5TH FEBRUARY 2025

Join our webinar to find out how, as a parent or caregiver, you can use Unifrog to support conversations about your child's post-16 options and post-18 progression routes, including apprenticeships, universities, and careers. Delivered by Unifrog staff, the session will give you an overview of the key student tools for different year groups, highlight our resources, and show you where you can find out information about our upcoming events.



## PARENT CODE FOR UNIFROG

Unifrog is our Careers Platform which can be accessed from home and school. It has incredible resources to allow students to plan their future pathways. This includes events like the ones above and tools for finding Degree courses, Apprenticeships and much more. The more information students add to it, the more direction it can give them. They can even create their own CV with a click of a button.

Parent Accounts! If you would like one go to unifrog.org/sign-in and use the code FUMSParents

# **STAFF INTERVIEW**



This term we speak to Mrs Daw, our administrative assistant who has had a very varied and interesting career!

# Have you always done a similar role to your job now? If not, what does your career path look like?

I went to grammar school and knew I was not destined for university so I decided I would like to have a career within the arts sector as this had always interested me. I applied to Kent Institute of Art and Design to train as a window dresser when I was studying my A Levels. This was a two year course and part of it was to undertake work experience which I did at Burberry in London. I was lucky enough to secure a job when I left college at Marks and Spencer in their flagship store in Marble Arch, London. I was part of a team of window dressers and our job was very varied. This ranged from real chocolate mother's day window displays to installing huge christmas decorations to hammering shoes onto display boards in the store!

I also worked as a window dresser for Debenhams in Canterbury and Croydon and then became a mobile window dresser (covering the south of England from Bristol to Ramsgate) for River Island.

I unfortunately broke my wrist very badly and was not able to return to the job of window dresser due to the manual nature of the job.

I was told that a new store was opening in Sittingbourne called Homebase and I was luckily enough to be employed by them as a store trainer. This involved training staff in customer service skills which I found very rewarding as I got to talk to people a lot!

I had a career break as my daughter was born and then found myself working part-time in the office of a new primary school in Kemsley. I was the admissions and attendance officer there and my career in education started.

I have worked in education since 2004 and have been lucky enough to work in primary, secondary and also university. This has helped me massively in the job that I do now at FMS. I wear lots of different hats here - attendance, behaviour administration, first aid to name a few...

#### How did you decide what you wanted your career to look like?

I initially wanted to be a primary school teacher but when I transferred to grammar school at the age of 13 I struggled academically and found that I enjoyed the creative side of school far more. I have always been interested in art since I was a child and I tried to get an apprenticeship to become a signwriter but at the time I was told that females were not accepted into the role of a signwriter. I then explored art courses and found a display course at the college I eventually ended up attending. This gave me the qualification of National Diploma in Display. I would probably still be in a creative role if my path hadn't changed due to breaking my wrist.

#### What are your ambitions?

In an ideal world I would love to be an events coordinator - weddings, parties etc. Realistically, I really enjoy my current role and as love working with the students, I would really like to do more pastoral work in school. Also anything that involves talking!

### **7TH-11TH JULY 2025 : TIME TO GET APPLICATIONS IN!**

Thank you if you have already put your application through Unifrog to complete your Work Experience placement, this process is working really well and we have already been able to confirm several placements.

A reminder that the deadline is Friday 4th April 2025 for Year 10 and Friday 2nd May for Year 12.

If you need any guidance on the process please contact Mrs Mason (emason@fulstonmanor.kent.sch.uk) or Mrs Demian (rdemian@fulstonmanor.kent.sch.uk)

#### **KENT CHOICES- YEAR 11**

Well done to students who have already put their applications in. I am pleased to announce that nearly 50% of our Year 11 students already have an offer for post-16 study.

Kent Choices have another podcast coming up soon about applying for Apprenticeships, taking place Monday 10th February 6-7pm. You can find more details here.

#### UCAS- YEAR 13

With the UCAS Deadline fast approaching (29th of January!), we have been working hard to get applications in! The next step is applying for Student Finance- you can do this right now-even if you or your child doesn't have any offers yet- the sooner the better!

Also be on the lookout for communications from Universities; they will be opening their accommodation from February to April!

CHOICES

## **IN SCHOOL EVENTS**

CANTERBURY CHRIST CHURCH ASSEMBLY: YEAR 8 28TH JANUARY 2025

Canterbury Christ Church will speak to the Year 8 students about what Higher Education is and why they may be interested in studying at Christ Church. STUDENT FINANCE: YEAR 12/13 10TH FEBRUARY 2025

A chance to hear from CCCU about managing student finance at University. .

HOW TO START A BUSINESS: YEAR 10/11 3RD/4TH MARCH 2025

UC∧S

Year 10 and 11 will hear from Liza, owner of Bodylines in Sittingbourne about her journey of starting a very successful business.