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Celebrating our school and community

FOCUSON...



Issue No.164 – 3 March 2023

## ...Vocal Sensations

Earlier this week, our musicians took to the stage for our Choral Festival at The Atkinson in Southport. The first half showcased the talents of our three school choirs – Voiceworks, Mundo Afrika and G:Force Gospel Choir – all starting with a dazzling, combined performance of Kate



Bush's 'Running Up That Hill'.

Special guests for the evening were the Leeds Conservatoire Contemporary Pop Choir, who



raised the roof throughout the second half with a spine-tingling set of pop and gospel classics, including everything from Adele to Coldplay, Chaka Khan and Beyoncé. Our partnership with this world-class conservatoire is growing from strength to strength and we are always delighted to host our friends from across the Pennines.

## ... Calling all Parents!



Our **Parent Voice Conference** will take place in the School Hall, on the morning of **Saturday 11 March** (between 9:00am and 12:00 noon) and will give us the opportunity to discuss a range of 'hot topics' with our parent partners to better inform us in steering the school forward over the coming years. Supporting the event, will be members of our Senior Leadership Team, Governing Body and the Friends of Formby High School (PTA). Following a light welcome breakfast and refreshments, we will share a series of short 'snapshot' presentations about key areas for development and facilitate discussion amongst parent delegates. Please bring a mobile device for some interactive info gathering

activities! Topics will cover: school vision and ethos; parents and our curriculum; information sharing and communication with parents; and our role and impact in the wider community. Please confirm your attendance using this Eventbrite link: <https://fhsparentvoiceconference2023.eventbrite.co.uk>.

## ...Sporting Matters

Some special sporting shout-outs for this issue: well done Erin (Y8) for winning Bronze in Taekwondo, representing GB in Hamburg last weekend. Well done also to Chloe for



representing school so well in the Northern Schools Trampoline Championships in Ireland, to the Year 9 boys football team for progressing to the semi-finals of the Sefton Cup and congrats to the Year 7 A (runners up) and B and Year 8

A (third place) football teams in the Southport and Formby competition!



## ... Library Corner

It is such a delight to see such a buzz around reading across school, and of course our Library is leading the way with an array of activities to promote the love of reading and reward our most avid readers...



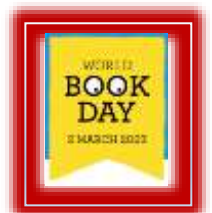
### Sefton Super Reads 2023 –

The final six books have been chosen by Sefton High School Librarians and we now need as many Year 7 and 8 students to read and judge them as possible. All scores across Sefton High Schools will be compiled, and the awards

ceremony will take place during the Summer Term when the winning author will be announced. If you would like to take part and attend the awards, head up to the library to find out more!

**Accelerated Reader 2023** – Between now and the end of term Mrs Ambrose will be keeping a weekly leader board for Year 7 & 8 classes who complete the most 'correct' Accelerated Reader Book Quizzes, ultimately winning goodies for the class with the most completed quizzes.

**World Book Day 2023** – To celebrate, a book quiz was held in the Library on Thursday with the winning student correctly guessing books from the book cover and quotes from books.



## ... Year 7 Reading for a Great Cause

The Readathon sponsored read has been running in schools across the UK since 1984. It was, and remains, a simple idea. Students are motivated to read what they love, and at the same time raise money to help seriously ill children, providing books and story tellers in Children's Hospitals all over the UK. Each year, we ask Year 7 students to take part in this sponsored read which not only gets them diving into their books but also raising funds to bring the joy and escape books can give to very sick children in hospital. We fully appreciate the cost of living pressures everyone is feeling right now but every penny raised will be gratefully received. Students have been provided with a sponsor form this week and we thank everyone in advance for all their support. More information about Readathon can be found here: [www.readforgood.org](http://www.readforgood.org).



## ... The Great FHS Quiz Night

At the end of February, our Friends of Formby High (PTA) held their annual quiz night, welcoming a packed hall of eager quizzers to their fundraising event. Quizmaster Colin Dryden steered proceedings with a range of challenging and entertaining question rounds. The event raised over £1000 which will go towards supporting good causes around the school. If you would like to get involved with our fundraising

projects, please email [fofhs@formbyhighschool.com](mailto:fofhs@formbyhighschool.com)

## ...Primary Dance Visit

Year 9 Dancers were invited to perform at Trinity St Peters on Wednesday 1 March to their lovely Reception class. Our students have been working hard on a mini version of 'Annie', including dancing, choreographing, script writing and acting with Mrs Whitehead. They had a lovely time at TSP, receiving lots of hugs from the younger students and a warm invitation from TSP to come back again for more!



## ... LFC Champion!



Gracie-May (Year 9) has been given the title of 'Champion of the Month' from the LFC Foundation for her commitment and overall attitude towards the LFC Onside Programme. Gracie-May gave her all in each of the sessions led by Peter Edwards. He has said that she was an absolute delight to work with and showed real leadership and initiative on the enterprise project that the students undertook. He says the award is thoroughly deserved and we wholeheartedly agree! Well done, Gracie-May, you should be very proud of your achievements.

## ... Attendance Matters

Our attendance figure is continuing to track positively and is currently 91%, which remains above national average. It is, however, below our pre-pandemic levels, something which we are striving to see a return to. We wanted to take the opportunity to remind parents that if there is a planned absence, they should complete the necessary Leave of Absence Request form available from the Main Office. This allows us to process requests appropriately. Where possible, students should arrange appointments outside of the school day but if this is unavoidable then parents should provide evidence of the appointment to the attendance team. We expect students to attend school before and/or after any appointments. Thank you for your continued support in ensuring attendance remains a priority.

## ...Sixth Form Matters

Sixth Form has been a hive of activity since returning from half term. Year 13 students have sat their final round of PPEs and Year 12 students have finalised arrangements for their Careers Experience week placements. Alongside this, students across both year groups have been engaging in a broad and varied range of supercurricular events with Dylan achieving sporting success, Sophie getting down to the last eight in the BVL Law Competition, alongside five students in Year 13 registering to take part in the 'Lessons from Auschwitz' Programme and seven Year 12 physicists being entered for the Senior Physics Challenge. We have also been really pleased with the numbers of students in Year 13 receiving offers from their first-choice universities, as well as those who are currently going through rigorous degree level apprenticeship interviews with organisations such as the BBC, Deloitte, and Samsung.

## ...A Message from the Governors

You will be aware by now that Mr Mackenzie will be leaving at the end of this school year to take up a position at a school on the Wirral and we offer our sincerest congratulations to him on his appointment. This represents a great career progression for him and we wish him every success in his new post. The Governing Body is now busily managing the recruitment process to find a successor to take over the reigns of this incredible school and lead it to new heights in years to come. This post will be an exceptional opportunity for the right candidate who can show the same energy and commitment to the development of the school; this is made so much more attractive thanks to the amazing students, loyal and talented staff, and not least our supportive and engaged parents. Governors are committed to finding the right person for the job and look forward to updating you further in the weeks and months ahead.

### On the Horizon...

- ★ Y10 Work Experience Week – 6-10 Mar
- ★ Y9 Meet a Judge Trip – 6 Mar
- ★ Y7 (FOR) Subject Consultation Eve – 9 Mar
- ★ Y11 GCSE Music Solo Exams – 9 Mar
- ★ Y12/13 English Trip to Haworth – 10 Mar
- ★ Y12 Career Experience Week – 13-17 Mar
- ★ Y10/11 English Theatre Trip – 16 Mar
- ★ Y9 HPV Vaccinations – 17 Mar