

...Legally Blonde

What another simply exceptional production by our talented Musical Theatre Company! The performances of *Legally Blonde Jr, The Musical* absolutely thrilled the three sell-out audiences. Mr Mackenzie congratulated the performers in a message on Monday, saying "Omigod, you guys were unbelievable!" We are so fortunate as a school to have such a high-quality creative arts provision and students who throw everything into each and every performance to deliver events that would be worthy of the West End. Well done to everyone involved on stage and behind the scenes!



... Spring Concert

Thursday saw us draw a busy term to a close with a fantastic Spring Concert in the School Hall. Talented GCSE and A Level musicians showcased their examination work alongside performances from the orchestra and choirs. A brilliant night was had by all – especially with the added premiere

of the 'Bear Song', a creative marvel from our song writing group and soon to be revealed on YouTube for the world to enjoy!



...Careers Fair

On Wednesday, we opened the doors to our annual Careers Fair in the Sport Hall with over 45 organisations, delegates and higher education institutions displaying their programmes and courses. Students from across the whole school spent time navigating the stalls, collecting information, chatting to representatives, and gathering the obligatory freebies! Our thanks to Mrs MacDunne, Mrs Haughey and the wider Careers Team for co-ordinating this brilliant event.



...Oliver King Foundation

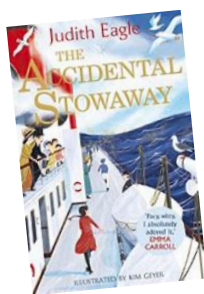


This week, we were thrilled to receive our new defibrillator from Mark King of [The Oliver King Foundation](#). Oliver King was a 12-year-old boy who attended King David High School in Liverpool, whilst winning a swimming race in a PE lesson he tragically suffered a sudden cardiac arrest due to a condition known as Sudden Arrhythmic Death Syndrome (SADS). This condition kills 12 young people under the age of 35 every single week in the UK. Sadly, there was no lifesaving defibrillator on hand, and for every minute that passed his chances of survival dropped significantly. In his memory, The Oliver King Foundation's work has saved many lives, placing over 5,900 lifesaving defibrillators across the UK and 135,000 staff trained in CPR and defibrillation. Mark King visited Formby High School to present us with our new defibrillator following staff training earlier this

term. Many of you will have seen coverage on the local and national news around the value of such resources in schools and we are particularly grateful to Mark and his team for their support.

...Students Branch Out into Environmentalism

Year 7 and Year 8 Geography students got their hands dirty planting trees on the school grounds last week. The objective of the session was to raise awareness of global warming and climate change and the impact that reforestation could have on atmospheric carbon dioxide levels but also to increase the biodiversity of the school site. The front field copse and back field hedgerow will hopefully create an area that can be used in the future for Biology lessons to investigate plant and insect biodiversity, and will improve the aesthetic appeal of the site as the trees begin to grow.



This issue's library recommendation is Book 2 of Sefton Super Reads Book 2, *The Accidental Stowaway*. This book sets off in Liverpool and heads off to New York with Patch becoming an accidental stowaway. The adventures for Patch begin in this fast paced beautifully written book. Filled with interesting historical facts and fantastic characters this book, part of Sefton Super Reads 23, is a must read! *When Patch runs up the gangway of steamship RMS Glorious, she isn't planning to hang around. But if she leaves her hiding place the constable might catch her: sitting tight is worth the risk. Too late, she realises the ship is setting sail! Patch has become an accidental stowaway. Luckily, Patch's unconventional past has made her fearless when it comes to fending for herself, and besides there are friends in high and low places to be made onboard.*

... Library Corner

... Attendance Matters

We are pleased to end the term with a continuously improving attendance figure. This is currently at 91.3% across Years 7-11. Whilst this figure puts us above national and local average, we are keen to ensure that we are not complacent our attendance is still below our pre-pandemic levels. We look forward to seeing our students return after the Easter break with a focus on being in school on time every day during the Summer term.

...High Speed Network Manager



Mr Leatherbarrow (Network Manager) not only completed the Tokyo Marathon on Sunday, 5 March 2023 running on behalf of Japan Para Sports Association charity (www.parasports.or.jp) but he also earned the prestigious 6-Star Abbott World Marathon Majors medal too! He, and many of the runners participating, had waited for this moment since first earning a place in the 2020 race, which was reduced to an elite only field as the COVID-19 pandemic emerged to curtail international travel and mass participation events all over the world. The wait continued through 2021 and 2022 before travel restrictions for Japan were relaxed to allow overseas visitors to enter the country. To complement his seven-year Six Star journey (London 2016, Chicago 2017, Berlin 2017, Boston 2018, New York 2019) the 2023 Tokyo Marathon set a new

Guinness World Record for the most people (3,033) to earn a Six Star medal at a single marathon. So, not only is Mr Leatherbarrow now officially a member of the Six Star Hall of Fame (of only 11,000 runners worldwide), he's also an official Guinness Word Record participant! That's what 'Determined to Achieve' is all about!

...Vertigo

This Year 12 and 13 film students visited Home in Manchester to attend a revision day for Vertigo directed by Alfred Hitchcock; the students study Vertigo as part of their Hollywood film unit. Made in 1958, it tells the story of the detective Scottie who is forced to retire due to his fear of heights. When he is hired to follow the wife of a friend, it leads to a cycle of madness and lies. All the Film Studies students say that if you aren't familiar with Hitchcock, Vertigo is a great place to start. If you are in Year 11 and want more information about studying film next year, please speak to Mr Hughes or Miss MacDougall.



...Maths Masters

Congratulations to the 21 Year 11 students who passed their Level 3 Algebra qualification earlier this year. They showed hard work and determination by attending after-school sessions and studying for an additional qualification in Mathematics alongside their GCSE. Not only have they strengthened their algebraic understanding, but they are also ready to begin A Level Mathematics with confidence. We were delighted that Olivia and



Hannah scored 100% in this award, with another student narrowly missing out with a score of 99%. In Year 7 Maths, students were challenged to learn as many digits of Pi to celebrate Pi Day on 14 March. Our finalists rose to the challenge well, and Shea even broke our school record (previously 160) by managing to learn and recite 163 digits! Finalists were Shea, James, Will and Ivy – well done, everyone!

... Fundraising Week

The JLT and Sixth Form Ambassadors have organised a week of fundraising activities for the [Disaster Emergency Committee's Turkey-Syria Earthquake appeal](#). There has been an array of activities throughout the week, including JLT assemblies, staff karaoke, a cake sale, a non-uniform day, a raffle, staff vs students football match, and a sponge the teacher event (pictured) to which Mrs Harrison-Forsyth came prepared in her shower cap! We also received support from the community with local Turkish restaurant Efe's donating prizes for a raffle which included easter eggs and restaurant vouchers. So far, the total funds raised are £1194 (and still counting). Well done to those who got involved and a special thanks to the JLT, Sixth Form Ambassadors and staff who worked hard to organise events this week.



... Sixth Form Matters



It has been a busy couple of weeks in Sixth Form, with lots of events taking place. On Wednesday 22 March we held our Sixth Form taster afternoon during which current Year 11 students had the chance to experience what life is like at Sixth Form. The students took part in three subject 'taster' lessons and spent time in the Common Room meeting with Year 12 and Year 13 Subject Ambassadors.



We were also joined by many external applicants who enjoyed the chance to visit the school and get to meet staff and students in advance of joining us in September. We were really pleased with how well Year 11 engaged with the opportunity and very grateful to all our Subject Ambassadors who gave up their afternoon to help out. We have also had lots of visiting speakers over the past fortnight. Year 12 and Year 13 students have had the chance to meet representatives from Glasgow, Edgehill and Sheffield Universities for a range of talks about admissions, student finance and transition from sixth form to university. The Year 12 High Flyers group also attended a session delivered by former student Esther, who is currently in her second year of a Liberal Arts degree at Durham University. We have been pleased to see so many sixth form students making the most of these opportunities to help with their post-18 plans and look forward to lots more visitors next term.

... Sporting Matters

Lots of sporting shout-outs to end this term. Congratulations to the Year 9 boys' football team who won their National Cup semi-final (by a narrow score line of 8-1!) and now progress to their final at West Brom! In Cross Country, four FHS students have raced to gain themselves places on the Merseyside team that competed in various locations over the last week.



Layla (Year 8) competed in the National Schools' Cross-Country championships in Nottingham as part of the Merseyside junior girls' team. Competing against 42 other counties, Layla helped bring the team in 10th overall. Dan, Madison and Ava (Year 7) competed in a match against Cheshire

and helped Merseyside win this championship for the first time in six years. Congratulations to the following form groups, who won the cross-fit PE Interform competition this half term: 7M, 8R and 9H. Well done to our Year 9/10 girls for winning their football tournament on 23 March and to the Year 9/10 netballers who competed in the Southport and Formby tournament, with a 1st and 3rd place result respectively. Finally, great job to the Year 7 netball team who finished fourth at the Merseyside School Games.



On the Horizon...

- ★ Y12 PPEs – 17 to 21 Apr
- ★ ABRSM Music Exams – 19 Apr
- ★ UKMT Junior Maths Challenge – 26 Apr
- ★ Y10 Subject Consultation Eve – 27 Apr
- ★ Gold DofE Practice Expedition – 26 Apr – 1 May
- ★ Musical Theatre Company Trip (ICC) – 29 Apr



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