

## ...Sefton Young Artist of the Year 2023



Earlier this year, we entered a number of students into the 'Sefton Young Artist of the Year' competition which is run by The Atkinson gallery in Southport in partnership with The Arts Society Southport. The competition was open to young artists in school Years 7-13 who live or go to school in Sefton. The quality of entrants was phenomenal as evidenced by the [online gallery](#). We are delighted to confirm that Niamh (Year 8) won her age category with her 'Melted

Chocolate' pastel pencil piece and two Year 11 students received 'Highly Commended' awards for their entry: Matilda's 'A Walk in the Woods' and Tom's 'Our World'. The winners have been invited to display their work in The Atkinson Foyer from 15 July 2023 and will receive a prize (donated by The Arts Society Southport) at a Prizegiving Event at The Atkinson on 15 July. Well done to Niamh, Tom and Matilda, and to all our artists for their incredible work!



## ...Drama Fest 2023

Formby High School's first ever Drama Fest will take place next week. For our first year the productions we have chosen to perform link to identity and standing up for what's right. This year's festival will see performances involving our Year 7-12 students who will showcase their incredible talent as they take you on a journey of self-discovery and morals. It would be fantastic to see as many people there as possible to support our wonderful students.

[Tickets now available via Eventbrite – click here!](#)



**Year 9 and 10**  
**'GIRLS LIKE THAT'** by Evan Placey  
Thursday 22 June  
Act 1 (7pm)



**Year 9-12**  
**'DNA'** by Dennis Kelly  
Thursday 22 June  
Act 2 (after interval)



**Years 7 and 8**  
**'Alice in Wonderland'**  
Friday 23 June  
(7pm)

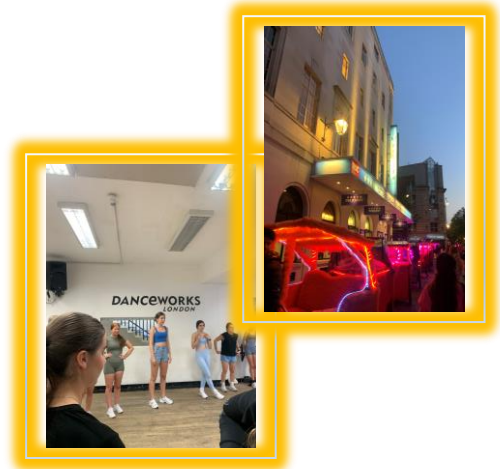
## ...ESFA District Champions!



A massive shout-out to India, Megan and Maisie (Year 9) who were part of the Sefton U14 Girls Football team who were crowned District Champions at the English Schools Football Association (ESFA) District Final played at Stoke City's ground on 2 May. An incredible achievement, girls; well done!

## ...London Calling

A group of students from Years 9-10 have just returned from a residential Dance / Music trip to London where they enjoyed some of the best of the creative arts! Students attended the West End show 'Matilda' at the Cambridge Theatre as well as a workshop experience which was introduced by with one of the show's principal actors Sam Lathwood. Students also enjoyed a vocal workshop delivered by Fran Femech, a West End musical theatre director. What a fabulous experience for the students who had a fantastic time and represented the school brilliantly with impeccable behaviour.



## ...Public Speaking

Year 8 have been taking part in a Public Speaking Competition this year, with the first round starting in their English lessons. Each teacher then nominated students to go through to the final. 10 students competed in the grand final which took place in the school hall with Mrs Grant and Mrs Marl, delivering speeches on a range of issues about which they felt strongly. It was a fabulous event and a great opportunity for students to practise oracy skills essential in the modern world. The students all received a chocolate and a certificate, and the winner was presented with an Amazon voucher. Well done to all involved!

**1st place: Seb**

Topic: vote out the Tories

**2nd place: Huxley**

Topic: cats are better than dogs



**3<sup>rd</sup> place: Pip**

Topic: the need for a Head Girl

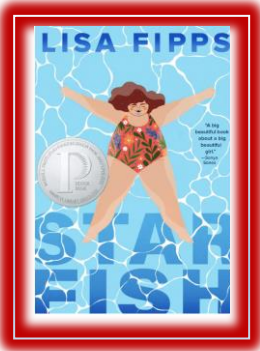
**Finalists**

Huxley, Seb, Ethan White, Max, Louie, Pip, Will, Jamie

## ...Attendance Matters

Students and parents will now be aware that 'live' attendance information is being shared on Class Charts. We would encourage both to look at this each day and ensure that it is 'green', with students attending school each day on time. Our punctuality drive is really having impact and we have been pleased with the response of our students. However, now that daily attendance information is being shared, we would ask that parents pay close attention to whether their child is punctual to lessons; if they are late, this will appear as 'yellow'. Being on time to school, and to lessons, ensures a calm, purposeful start to learning with no time wasted. We welcome your support in prioritising attendance and punctuality as we move towards the end of this academic year.

## ... Library Corner



Brand new to our library after being on a waiting list, this debut book by Lisa Fipps has over 50 nominations and awards so far! Written beautifully in verse and impossible to put down, it tells the story of Ellie, who after making a big splash at her own fifth birthday party has been bullied about her weight ever since. Making her own 'Fat Girls Rules' and finding her safe space in a fat obsessed world, Ellie likes to starfish in her swimming pool, getting away from the bullies and her pushy mum. Will Ellie be able to cast aside her 'Fat Girl Rules' and starfish in real life? This honest, heart-breaking yet hilarious book, focusing on body imagery, bullying and victim shaming, is a must read; it's both empowering and funny. We have two copies in the library – come on up to reserve a copy.

## ...Sixth Form Matters

This week has been a busy week for our Year 12 students, who have begun the process of exploring post-18 options. On Tuesday, parents were invited to an evening of presentations looking at universities, apprenticeships and gap years, exploring clinical courses and choosing



the right university. On Wednesday, eight students departed for Glasgow, exploring all the city has to offer and attending the open day on Thursday. The week finished with our 'Finding your Future' student event, with all Year 12s registering for UCAS and attending talks with both Career North and the University of Newcastle. Lots of our students are now beginning to independently explore open days and wider opportunities, with Henry and Tom successfully enrolling on LJMU Summer Schools and Tim taking part in



CISCO work experience, to name just a few. The Sixth Form Team would love to receive your feedback about the student/parent events held this week, to do so please complete this brief questionnaire via the following link: <https://forms.office.com/e/t3SVs44nPv>. Year 13 continue to impress with their mature and calm approach to their examinations, having now entered into the final week of A Levels. We wish them every success for any remaining examinations and look forward to celebrating with them at their Leavers Lunch next Friday.

## ...The Power of Language

The Modern Languages Department is in the midst of the Stephen Spender Trust poetry competition. Representatives from Year 7 to Year 12 have chosen a poem to translate into English and are enjoying the challenges of decision-making related to word order, rhyme and choosing the best translation from a choice of synonyms. Good luck to all who are taking part! One example is a poem from Amado Nervo, a famous Mexican poet, journalist and educator from the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. His poetry was known for its use of metaphor and reference to mysticism, representing both love and religion, as well as Christianity and Hinduism. Here is a short poem from Amado Nervo if you want to try your hand at translation at home or if you are aged 19+ you can choose a poem of your own from any other language and enter via the website in the 'open' category: [Open Entry – Stephen Spender Trust \(stephen-spender.org\)](http://stephen-spender.org).

### *El barquito de papel - Amado Nervo*

*Con la mitad de un periódico  
hice un barco de papel,  
en la fuente de mi casa  
le hice navegar muy bien.*

*Mi hermana con su abanico  
sopla, y sopla sobre él.  
¡Buen viaje, muy buen viaje,  
barquichuelo de papel!*

Are you still in contact with a penpal from when you were at school? A group of students in Year 9 and Year 11 are about to embark on their first email correspondence with French penpals from the Lycée Michelet in the town of Vanves, just south of Paris. Thank you to ex-student Ellen who is currently on her year abroad teaching in Paris as part of her Spanish and French degree course with Newcastle University who arranged the link-up for us. Merci!

## On the Horizon...

- ★ Y8 ORY Geography Fieldwork – 19 Jun
- ★ Drama Festival – 22 and 23 Jun

- ★ INSET Day (staff only) – 23 Jun
- ★ Y11 Celebration Assembly / Y13 Leavers Lunch – 23 Jun