

100  
Editions+

Celebrating our school and community

FOCUSON...



Issue No.172 – 19 July 2023

## ...Creative Arts Summer Showcase 2023

Last week's Summer Creative Arts Showcase was another incredible display of the talent of FHS students. Representatives from all year groups took part in music, drama, musical theatre and dance performances at The Atkinson Theatre, Southport on Wednesday 12 July 2023. The performances offered such variety, celebrating dance, drama and music, across the school. They included an extract from Alice in Wonderland, jazz and gospel music, dances inspired by Peaky Blinders and Matilda, and a slimmed-down version of Legally Blonde, our award-winning musical theatre performance. A special mention must be given about the incredibly high standard of our talented Year 7 students, most debuting on stage at The Atkinson. We can be confident that our longstanding creative arts prowess will continue for many years to come! Congratulations to all staff and students involved – what a great way to round off a hugely successful year!



## ...Music Transition Day



On 4 July, our Music Department welcomed 30 keen Year 6 musicians from a number of primary schools for a very special Music Transition Day. The students, who will be joining us in Year 7 this September, sang, created a samba band and wrote four 'transition' songs about starting a new school. Mrs Wilkins said "We had a great time performing and creating with the students, expertly supported by our Music Mentors from Years 9 and 10. We are really looking forward to seeing everyone join our extra-curricular clubs in September!"

## ...ABRSM Music Theory Exams

We are absolutely thrilled to be celebrating more ABRSM Music Theory exam successes! The Music Department offer 'massive congratulations' to the 11 students who passed their Music Theory exams in May this year. The students, from across all year groups, sat exams between Grades 1 to 5 and should be commended for all their hard work. One particular student gained 100% in her first ever Music Theory exam. Well done to all of you!



## ...Year 6 Maths Maze

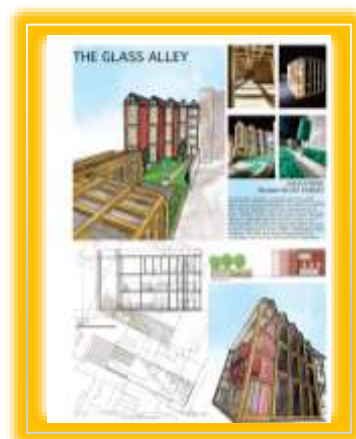


Last week we welcomed two of our feeder primary schools for the annual Year 6 Maths Maze competition, hosted by Mr Symes and his Year 10 class. The students from Trinity St. Peters and Redgate were split into teams of five to compete in a series of 15 mathematical and logic puzzle challenges, to engage and develop their problem-solving capabilities. The students were brilliantly well behaved and threw themselves into every challenge, no matter how difficult. In the end, Team 2 from Trinity St. Peters pipped

Team 2 from Redgate by just one point to seal the crown. Congratulations to Faith, Christos, Ruby, Jake and Georgia! We look forward to seeing all these students back in September, ready to learn at FHS!

## ...Students Structuring their Future

We were delighted to welcome back former FHS student, Jess, who left Year 13 last year to embark upon a degree in Architecture at the University of Liverpool. Jess came to speak to Year 10 and Year 12 students about her first year on the BA Architecture course, explaining how the degree is structured and providing a really in-depth study of the work covered in Year 1, showcasing some of her amazing work! Jess also spoke about the career opportunities this qualification may lead to and the students attending asked loads of great questions. They clearly valued the opportunity to hear first hand about the course, uni life and careers. Thank you very much, Jess, for your time and support!



## ...Year 7 Skills for Life

You may recall in our end of March 2023 newsletter, we wrote about receiving our new defibrillator from Mark King on behalf 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. Last week, Thomas (Year 13) who also delivers training for St John's Ambulance Service, delivered a session to all Year 7 students on basic lifesaving skills with CPR and defibrillators.

The session was very well received by the students who particularly enjoyed engaging in role playing to learn how to use these skills effectively in different scenarios. Hopefully, they will never be required but should they be, they have gained important confidence and awareness of what they could do until emergency services arrive on scene.



## ...Library Corner

The winner of Sefton Super Reads 2023 is *Fake* by Ele Fountain. Voted the most popular amongst our Sefton Schools voters, it was the winning entry for Formby High School too. Unfortunately, schools were not able to attend the awards ceremony as planned, but we have just been sent an online recording of the awards. To thank our Year 7 students who took part, they will be invited to an awards breakfast when we return to school in September. Don't forget whilst school is closed for summer our local



Sefton Libraries are open and ready for you to visit, not only for books but also DVDs, creative writing and reading groups, Lego sessions and much more.

## ...LFC Onside+

On Tuesday 11 July, all of Year 9 had the pleasure of watching the Year 9 'Derby (but different)'. The LFC Foundation have been running the Onside+ Programme with eight of our Year 9 students this term and the students have really taken the opportunity to showcase their talents and abilities. They devised the idea of a 'wacky' football match in order to raise money for a charity of local and national interest. The charity they selected was The Samaritans. Spectators on the sideline donated money in order to implement new rules to the game, such as players wearing wacky hats and wigs, holding an egg until it breaks, leaving the pitch to make a sandwich at the sandwich station on the sideline and wearing boxing gloves! One unlucky student even had to try to make a sandwich with boxing gloves on! Whilst all of this was going on, our LFC Onside+ students were selling ice creams up and down the sideline. The year group were immensely well-behaved and Mr Quayle would like to extend his thanks to the students involved in the planning and preparation, the LFC Foundation and all the staff from across the school who helped collate all the resources that we needed. With everyone pitching together, a fabulous £188.48 was raised for The Samaritans. Well done everyone and thank you to Mr Quayle for supporting the delivery of this important programme at FHS.

## ...Baking Tips from the Top!

Last week we have had a celebrity in our Food department! Lizzie Acker from the Great British Bake Off came in to do a cake decoration master class with a selection of Year 9 students. She taught the students how to make Swiss meringue buttercream, giving some amazing tips on how to colour the frosting and assisting students with their piping techniques. Lizzie also spoke about the importance of being aware of neurodiversity as she also suffers with ADHD, dyslexia and dyspraxia. We offer our sincere thanks to Lizzie – the students really enjoyed the session and hopefully we will welcome her back soon!



## ...A Message from the Chair of Governors

On behalf of the governing body, I extend our best wishes to Mr Mackenzie as he moves to his new post in September. A high standard of provision has been sustained at Formby High School throughout his tenure. This has served the community of Formby very well for over a decade. It is due in no small part to his commitment to the school and the quality of his leadership. We shall continue – to benefit from this legacy for some time to come. (David Pearson)

## ...A message from the Newsroom

We could not sign off the final issue of FocusOn... without a very special thank you to Mr Mackenzie. Over the last 172 editions, he has helped to celebrate the many successes of this great school, involving countless young people who have been part of Team FHS during his 11 years as Headteacher. On behalf of them and all the staff at the school, a big, heartfelt THANK YOU, Mr Mackenzie. We wish you continued success and every happiness in your new school.

## On the Horizon...

- ★ INSET staff only – 17 July (8:50-11am)
- ★ Rewards Trips – 19 July
- ★ Sports Day – 17 July (students to arrive 11:10am)
- ★ Celebration Assembly – 20 July