



FORMBY HIGH SCHOOL

Determined to Achieve

AWO/LFO

19 October 2023

Dear Parents / Carers

With the first half term break of the year now upon us, it is my pleasure to be able to thank students and staff for their contribution to a positive start to the academic year. As readers of our regular newsletter 'Focus On' will be aware, this has been, as always, a busy half term. Our students have settled into the new year well and it is pleasing to see so many embrace the opportunities available to them. Over the course of my first half term at FHS, I have had the pleasure of attending our many school events, including Open Evening, parent information evenings, careers events and the exceptional Pearl of Africa and FHS Choirs performance this week. I cannot overstate the importance of such strong partnership between the school and our community, and I have been immensely proud to see this working so effectively.

I would like to take this opportunity to share a few important messages and updates with you in preparation for the next half term.

Sixth Form Open Evening (16 November 2023)

Following on from the success of our main school Open Evening in September, our Sixth Form Open Evening will take place on 16 November 2023 (6-8pm). I would like to warmly invite all of our Year 11 families to attend so that you can learn more about the opportunities on offer at our highly successful Sixth Form. More information will be shared with you very soon.

Non-Uniform Day for Children in Need (17 November 2023)

Our non-uniform days make a significant contribution to the charity fundraising we do in school each year. On Friday 17 November we will be once again supporting BBC Children in Need and students wishing to participate are asked to make a contribution of £1 via ParentPay using this dedicated donation link: [Non-Uniform Day Donation](#). Please could I ask for your support in ensuring students wear appropriate clothing on this day. In cases where we feel a student's attire is not suitable, we will contact home to request that this is addressed or may provide alternative clothing.

Site Safety – picking up/dropping off

Over recent weeks I have become increasingly concerned about the number of vehicles accessing the school site during busy periods at the start and end of the school day. A growing number of parents are entering the site to drop off or pick up children, meaning that the school car park and entrance can become congested. Given that daylight hours will soon be fading, please can I politely ask that parents do not enter the site to drop off or pick up children unless this has been agreed with the school. Instead, students should be dropped off/picked up on Freshfield Road and walk onto site. Please also be respectful to local residents and mindful of road signage when parking. If accessing the site, please adhere to the 5mph speed limit. A reminder that the school gates will be closed from 8:50am each day.

Attendance and Punctuality

Congratulations to the winners of our attendance prize draws this week! Ensuring good attendance remains a very high priority for school and we are pleased that our attendance rate compares favourably to other schools in Sefton. However, even a few days of absence can make a big difference to students' progress, and I would like to thank you for your continued support with this.

Headteacher: Mr A Wood BBA (Hons) NPQH

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Year 11 Raising Achievement Evening (Monday 6 November 2023 - 6pm)

Parents of Year 11 students will have received a letter from Miss MacDougall with details about this evening designed to provide you with important information about supporting our Year 11 students this year. We would very much appreciate your attendance at this event, and your ongoing support in ensuring your child fully understands the importance of the coming months and prepares effectively for their examinations both in school and at home. Please confirm your attendance by following this link: [Y11 RAP Event](#). This evening is for Year 11 parents only; students will receive information via assembly in school.

Sefton 'Team Around the School' Initiative

Formby High School is working closely with other schools in Formby as part of the Sefton Team Around the School initiative. This scheme aims to empower families and offer support with a range of issues. The team consists of professionals from all sectors with a wealth of experience in their chosen field. The hope is that, by working with parents in our community, we become more tuned-in to the challenges faced by families on a daily basis. You can find more information about the scheme on the Sefton Council website [here](#). Should you have any questions or like to know more about how this service could benefit you, please email Mrs Brooks (Pastoral Outreach Worker) enquiries@formbyhighschool.com.

Key Diary Dates for Autumn Term 2

- Return of staff and students (30 October)
- Year 8 (FOR) Subject Consultation Evening (2 November)
- Year 8 (MBY) Subject Consultation Evening (9 November)
- Sixth Form Open Evening (16 November)
- Year 13 PPEs (wc 20 November)
- Year 11 Maths PPEs (wc 27 November)
- Presentation Evening (30 November)
- INSET Day (Staff Only) (1 December)
- Year 11 Subject Consultation Evening (7 December) (in school)
- Year 10 Religious Studies Consultation Evening (7 December) (online)
- Year 7/8 Panto (13-15 December)
- Christmas Concert (19 December)
- Last day of term (20 December)

I hope you have a very enjoyable half term break.

Yours sincerely

Mr A Wood
Headteacher