

FOCUSON...



Celebrating our school and community

...We Will Remember Them

Throughout next week, FHS will be coming together as a community to remember and honour the fallen. Every morning, students will reflect on our theme of 'Sacrifice' within their tutor groups through the Thought for the Day programme.



This has been supported by our History team who have put together a daily slide providing incredibly thought-provoking profiles of war heroes, many with a local connection. This year, the History team has also introduced the Pop Up Poppies Initiative to create a constant reflection in school in honour of remembrance – inviting all staff and students to design a poppy for display around the Humanities

corridors with messages, information or notes about the fallen, including those linked to our local community. Throughout the week, we will also be supporting the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal through sales of poppies and RBL merchandise – please encourage your child to bring in some spare change if they can to support. On Friday at 11am the school will fall silent for two minutes of reflection in remembrance of the fallen. The week will culminate on Remembrance Sunday when student representatives will participate in the Remembrance Service and lay a poppy wreath at the Formby War Memorial on behalf of the school.

Pop up Poppies Initiative
Remembrance Week

- This year we will create a constant reflection in school in honour of remembrance and the fallen as we participate in the Poppy Appeal initiative.
- We have designed poppies through the year and it is the hope of this project that you will have a poppy made for you from the school's poppy press.
- On your next visit to the school we have designed a poppy press that you can use to create your own poppy along the corridors.
- We will include your poppy: History of the poppy, Local information about a fallen hero and a message of remembrance to the community.
- Finally, your poppy can be of any size and design, we will be happy to use it.

We will remember them... **Young Tom Bailey**
A Formby Boy in WWI

When he was 22 the "Great War" broke out and he was only 18 years old. He was sent to the front in France as the situation began to unfold. At this time there was no knowledge of what the nature of the fighting would be and the long, hard battles would continue. It was then that Tom was one of many young men who were determined to join up, persuaded by the desire of the time and the fact that he was leaving his small village. The call to fight for your country was strong, and by the end of October 1914 Tom signed up to Southport as Private Tom Bailey, 1035 1st/5th Battalion, the King's Liverpool Regiment.

The Battle of the Somme began in July. Tom was involved in the fighting to capture the village of Guillemont. He knew that Tom Bailey had his name on the early morning roll call, a few days before what would have been his nineteenth birthday.

Private Thomas Bailey
1035 1st/5th Battalion, the King's Liverpool Regiment

Discussion Questions:

- Why do you think so many young men were so eager to sign up during World War I?
- What do you think the conditions were like for the soldiers of the time?
- Why do you think the British government was so determined to win the war?

... Year 7 Halloween Disco



On Friday 13 October Year 7 students were invited to attend a spooky fundraiser! A group of Year 11 students attending the Camps International 2024 Borneo Expedition organised and ran the Year 7 Halloween Disco as part of their fundraising efforts. It was a night of fantastic fancy dress, great music and Halloween treats. The Year 7s were amazing guests at the event, taking part in musical statues, wrapping a mummy games and a costume competition. Pictured are the winners of the costume competition, a well-deserved ensemble of alien hunters from Men in Black!

Well done to the Year 11s and their DJ for a great evening of entertainment, and thank you to Year 7 for their enthusiasm.

...Future Chef!

It's that time of year again where Hospitality and Catering students get the chance to enter the school heat of the national 'FutureChef' competition by Springboard. Students made a variety of main course dishes in one hour independently, all presented to a very high standard, and tasting excellent. It was a very hard decision, but the students going forward to cook against local school across Merseyside are Bobby (10R) who cooked coronation chicken and Thomas (11O) who cooked chicken tacos. Good luck to both the boys and we hope you enjoy it.



...Spotlight on the Creative Arts



The internationally acclaimed 'Pearl of Africa Children's Choir' visited Formby High School on Tuesday October 17 as part of their tour to raise much needed funds for their schools and homes back in Uganda. Pearl of Africa Child Care is a charity whose main activity is raising funds for the schools and homes run by the Molly and Paul Child Care Foundation – a Ugandan non-government organisation which provides education, food, shelter and healthcare to children. Formby High School has close links with the choir and the students really look forward to their visit. This year was no exception.

Year 7 and 8 enjoyed an energetic workshop of singing and dancing and then a joint workshop with our school choirs in the afternoon. The choir entertained with exceptional harmonies, breathtaking vocal performances and the energy was infectious. The public concert was held at Holy Trinity Church, Formby and saw performances from the Pearl of Africa Children's Choir, Mundo Afrika, G:Force Gospel Choir and Voiceworks.

Our first Band Night in ten years was a huge success, seeing bands from Years 10,11 and 13 as well as our staff band perform. We are kick starting this year with a bang as we develop our Rock Music programme including visits, career talks and brand new equipment so watch this space!



We are delighted to announce that our Music Department has been shortlisted for the prestigious **Outstanding Music Department of the Year Award**. The Music & Drama Education Awards recognise the remarkable impact that individuals, companies, charities, schools, and other entities have on enriching the lives of others through the realms of music and

drama, two crucial elements of the performing arts. The awards ceremony takes place on Thursday, 22 February 2024 at the London Marriott Hotel, Grosvenor Square.

On Wednesday 18 October, our Year 12 and 13 A Level Drama students attended London for a two night residential. Students watched four professional productions, each varied in style and genre, and also had the opportunity of exploring the culture of London. All students were fantastic and represented the school exceptionally well.



Based on the much-loved film, this show is a story of music, mishaps and nuns on the run. Disco diva Deloris' life takes a surprising turn when she witnesses a murder. Placed under protective custody, she is hidden in the one place she shouldn't be found – a convent! Encouraged to help the struggling choir, she helps her fellow sisters find their true voices as she unexpectedly rediscovers her own joy of gospel. Our award-winning Music Theatre Company present this joyous and uplifting tale of finding your voice

and singing out with your sisters by your side. With infectious and rapturous original music by Alan Menken (Newsies, Beauty and the Beast, Little Shop of Horrors), Sister Act JR. is the feel-good musical comedy that will have audiences jumping to their feet and dancing in the aisles! Join us as we transform the magnificent Holy Trinity Church Formby into both convent and night club for three glittering performances on Friday 24 November (7pm) and Saturday 25 November (2pm and 7pm - [Book your tickets via Eventbrite here](#)).



Keep in touch with our [Box Office](#) web page and watch out for future events to hit the box office, including the much-awaited Panto (13-15 December) and Christmas Concert (19 December).

...Attendance Matters

Attendance continues to be a high priority focus for us at Formby High School. You will no doubt be aware that research shows strong links between good school attendance and school achievement. However, it also has positive social and emotional effects on our young people too. Attending school regularly allows them to build strong friendships, cultivate good relationships with staff and creates a sense of belonging. When in school, our young people can fully immerse themselves in everything school life has to offer. Our attendance for Autumn Term so far is 93.2% and this continues to sit above both national and local average, as well as being higher than this time last year. That being said, we would welcome your continued support in ensuring your child attends school every day that they are able to especially as we move through the rest of this half term.



This year's GCHQ language competition for Year 9 students begins next week and our five teams are ready to go! With teams made up of a mixture of talented linguists, mathletes and polyglots we are off to a good start! Good to luck to all taking part!

...GCHQ

...UKMT Senior Challenge

Congratulations to our Year 12 UKMT challengers who turned up on a windy Tuesday evening to take the UK Mathematics Trust Senior Challenge. A special mention for James, who achieved a Gold certificate and who has been invited to participate in the next round on 15 November - well done, and good luck with the next level. The paper was tough, but it allowed them to extend their logical thinking, as well as their mathematical skills. Here is a question from the paper for you to try over the weekend!

How many lines of three adjacent cells can be chosen from this grid, horizontally, vertically or diagonally, such that the sum of the numbers in the three cells is a multiple of three?

A 30 B 24 C 18 D 12 E 6

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16



...Sixth Form Matters

This week students in Year 12 and 13 welcomed a visit by Holly Pritchard who came in to speak with them about the flexible Scottish degree system and the experience of being a student in Glasgow. During half term, Year 12 and 13 Gold Arts Award students enjoyed a trip to Manchester Met University, courtesy of Julie Hodson Senior Lecturer in Fashion. The students enjoyed a lecture by senior members of the Misspap group, on entering the fashion industry. Our Gold students have also been offered Head Office trips to fashion houses such as Matalan, Boohoo and The Very Group which will count towards their Gold portfolios worth 16 UCAS points! Finally, don't forget it is our flagship

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING on Thursday 16 November – we hope to see all Year 11 students and their families there!



On the Horizon...

- ★ Y11 RAP Parent Information Evening – 6 Nov
- ★ Y8 (MBY) Subject Consultation Eve – 9 Nov
- ★ Remembrance Sunday – 12 Nov
- ★ Dance Trip Liverpool Empire – 15 Nov
- ★ SIXTH FORM OPEN EVE – 16 Nov
- ★ Y13 PPEs – w/c 20 Nov