

## Celebrating our school and community

### ...NODA Awards

On Saturday 17 February, members of our Musical Theatre Company (MTC) attended the glamorous NODA (National Operatic and Dramatic Association) Awards at the DW Stadium in Wigan. The event was organised by 'Region 6' of the National Operatic and Drama Association, covering amateur and youth theatre productions from Chorley, Ormskirk, Southport, St. Helens and Wigan. Over 300 guests and nominees attended and members of our talented MTC were nominated in no less than 11 categories – the table below shows the incredible results, with **FOUR** winners announced from Team Formby High! The staff and students are extremely proud of their achievements and are delighted at their accolades! Next up is a bigger, regional (North West) event in May for the winners – to be held at the legendary Winter Gardens in Blackpool.

Elliott as 'Emmett Forest' (Legally Blonde Jr - Spring 2023 production)	Best Leading Male Character in a Youth Musical & Best Leading Male Character in a Youth Drama	Nominee
India as 'Deloris van Cartier' (Sister Act Jr)	Best Leading Female Character in a Youth Musical & Best Leading Female Character in a Youth Drama	Nominee
Elliott as 'Eddie' (Sister Act Jr)	Best Supporting Male Character in a Youth Musical	Nominee
Alex as 'Monsignor O'Hara' (Sister Act Jr)	Best Supporting Male Character Comedy Performance in a Youth Musical	Nominee
Lana as 'Paulette Bonafonte' (Legally Blonde Jr - Spring 2023 production) Lana as 'Mother Superior' (Sister Act Jr)	Best Supporting Female Character Comedy Performance in a Youth Musical	<b>WINNER</b> Mother Superior!
Mrs Harrocks & Miss Llewellyn (Sister Act Jr)	Best Choreographer of a Youth Production	<b>WINNER</b>
Mrs Harrocks & Miss Llewellyn (Sister Act Jr)	Best Director of a Youth Musical & Best Director of a Youth Drama	Nominees
The Nuns (Sister Act Jr)	Best Youth Ensemble	<b>WINNER</b>
FHSMTC (Sister Act Jr)	Best Staging Technical - Youth Production	Nominees
FHSMTC (Sister Act Jr)	Best Youth Musical & Best Youth Drama	<b>WINNER</b>



## ...Totem Homecoming



As part of a project commissioned by Liverpool Biennial and Liverpool BID company, artist **Alicja Biala** created three totems for the Liverpool Biennial which have been proudly installed outside the Liver Building on the Liverpool waterfront for the past 18 months. Each totem visualises the rising sea levels across Merseyside (Liverpool, Birkenhead and Formby), predicted by scientists based on the rate of climate change and emissions, for 2080 – the year Liverpool will celebrate its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a city. The rusted portion of each totem represents the percentage of land in that area that will be within the flood zone, with the painted portion at the top visualising the percentage of land which will remain above the flood zone. FHS students from Art, Geography, and DT/Engineering took part in workshops with the artists

and engineers to learn about how the project uses the data as creative inspiration, explored structural techniques to create 2m high 'mini' versions in school, visited the Foundry in Liverpool to observe the casting process and attended the unveiling. Earlier this week, we were delighted to welcome the Formby totem to its new home, taking pride of place at the entrance of our school campus. Students are now working with Alicja to repurpose a third totem to create useful pieces which will be used to enhance the campus, with ideas including chairs, tables, bins and beehives! The students across these three subject areas have been inspired to develop further curriculum links around the project and explore further collaborations! More information about Alicja's 'Totemy' project can be found here: <https://www.totemy.org/en/10/index.html>



## ...Let's Talk About Amy

Our A Level Film Studies group have travelled to the British Film Institute (BFI) on London's Southbank today to take part in a study day dedicated to the documentary film Amy (2015), including the opportunity of a Q&A session with its director, Asif Kapadia. As part of their day, students will explore the blurred lines between documentary and fiction forms, watch the film together on the big screen before the opportunity to ask Asif Kapadia about his films and the filmmaking process.



## ...Attendance Matters

Students should attend school every day they are able to. This is especially important as we seek to improve attendance figures across the spring term; by doing so we can ensure students achieve well, develop good social skills, and feel a greater sense of belonging at school. However, if there is an instance where you child is absent from school, this please report this to the attendance line by 8:30. We would ask that parents are clear and specific about the reason for absence and state a possible date of return. Our Attendance Officer may contact you if these details are not left to ensure the absence has been properly addressed. It is important that parents are aware of the NHS guidance around illnesses and absences found [here](#); notably, we would encourage parents to always send their child to school in the first instance. We thank parents for their continued support in trying to improve attendance at Formby High School.



## ...Year 9 Options

The Year 9 Options process to select GCSE subjects is nearing completion following the online Options Interviews with parents/students earlier this week. We are very proud of the way students have approached these choices, they have clearly embraced all the support on offer throughout to guide them. A big thank you to Year 9 parents and carers for your support and partnership in this process!



We are passionate about reading at FHS and keen to ensure all our students develop a real love for reading in all its forms! Due to the number of activities taking place over coming days and weeks, our Library Corner segment of the newsletter has become a full page affair!

## ...Read for Good

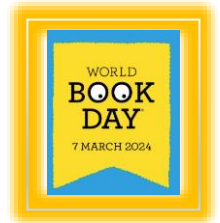


This sponsored Readathon has been running in schools across the UK since 1984, motivating students to read what they love and at the same time raise money to help seriously ill children by providing books and story tellers in Children's Hospitals all over the UK. Each year at FHS, we ask Year 7 students to take part in this sponsored read which not only gets them diving into their books but also raising funds to bring the joy and escape books can give to very sick children in hospital. We fully appreciate the cost-of-living pressures everyone is feeling right

now, but every penny raised will be gratefully received. Students will be provided with a sponsor form, and we thank everyone in advance for all their support. More information about Readathon can be found here: [www.readforgood.org](http://www.readforgood.org).

## ...World Book Day

As well as the Read for Good sponsored read, Year 7 students will have opportunities to celebrate World Book Day which takes place on 7 March 2024, through a number of activities taking place in our Library and beyond over the coming weeks.



## ...Design a Book Token

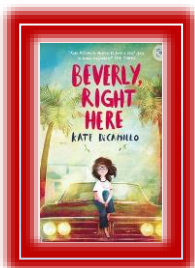
We are also taking part in 'Design a National Book Token' competition, inviting children all over the UK to get creative and share their love for books and reading by designing their own fabulous gift cards! The theme for this year is – READ YOUR WAY. A panel of judges will select a winner and runner-up in each age category: 9-12 years and 13-16 years. Templates can be collected from the Library and then returned completed to for entering. Good Luck!

## ...Kingsley & Co

On 27 February, we are delighted to be able to welcome a visit from Jake, a storyteller from [Kingsley & Co](http://Kingsley & Co), a children's literacy project and bookshop in Bootle. Kingsley & Co is a project of Ykids children's charity whose aim is 'to inspire children to exceed expectations and explore their imaginations through becoming engaged in literacy.' Jake will deliver an assembly to Year 7 and students will then take part in Kingsley & Co workshops getting involved in with stories, reading and adventure! We look forward to reading all about it Year 7!



## ...Book Corner



Finally, our library recommendation for this edition of Focus On is **Beverly, Right Here** by Kate DiCamillo, one of America's most beloved storytellers. *Beverly desperately wants things to be different. She decides to leave home and, after hitching a ride, winds up in Tamerly Bay, a seaside town with not much going on. And yet also quite a lot going on... Determined not to rely on anyone else, Beverly sorts herself a waitressing job and finds a place to stay. But she can't quite help forming connections with the people she meets: lonely Lola who wants someone to drive her to Bingo; a kid playing on the beach; handsome student Elmer. But how long can she really stay? How long can she ignore her past?* A thoughtful, touching book full of hope. Come up to the library to find out more!

## On the Horizon...

- ★ Y12 PPEs – w/b 26 Feb
- ★ Y10 Work Experience Week – w/b 4 Mar
- ★ Y9 Meet the Professionals – 29 Feb
- ★ Y11 PPEs – w/b 4 Mar