

FOCUSON...



Issue 185
12 Apr 2024

Celebrating our school and community

...Sun and Sports in Marbella

During the Easter holidays, 57 students from across Years 9 and 10 went on this year's netball and football tour to Marbella in Spain. The students had two days of training sessions with coaching staff in fantastic facilities, gaining lots of knowledge, improving their tactical awareness and playing friendly fixtures. The third day was a Tournament Day where football Team A won overall in their league and Team B came runners up



in their league. Along with enjoying the training and competitions, students also made good use of the full facilities on offer at the hotel, including pool tables, arcade, evening entertainment, pool and Beach Club. Mrs Melia said "The students were a credit to the school throughout the trip. They were polite, friendly and great company. I cannot speak highly enough of their conduct throughout the tour. We are so



proud of them all." This was echoed by a member of the public from their flight home who was so impressed with the students that she wrote an email to Mr Wood where she stated 'It was evident that they embody

the values of respect & responsibility. Their behaviour was exemplary, and they represented your school with dignity and pride. It is clear that they have been guided exceptionally well, both academically and socially. Please convey my compliments to the students for being outstanding ambassadors of your school. Their conduct reflects positively not only on themselves but also on the dedication and commitment of your staff.' Well done to all students involved and a massive thank you to the PE Department staff who accompanied them on this fantastic trip.



...Northern Cultural Education Awards



Bravo and congratulations to our Creative Arts team for being shortlisted for the Innovation and Leadership in Education Award at The Northern Cultural Education Awards 2024 hosted by Curious Minds. This well-deserved nomination recognises the incredible work of our students, staff and community creatives and we are very proud of you all! The ceremony takes place at the Edge Arena on Friday 24



May where FHS will also deliver a big stage performance to close the event, featuring multi-generational singers from across our community.

...Careers Fair

On Wednesday 27 March students in all year groups had the opportunity to attend our annual Careers Fair in the Sports Hall. We hosted professionals from a diverse range of companies and institutions such as the Royal Navy, Ford Motor Company, Parker and Crowther Vets and the Civil Service. The fair provided students with the chance to chat



informally with professionals about opportunities in their sectors and the training routes that they followed. Students were also provided with an excellent insight into the post-16 and post-18 options available to them from apprenticeships to college and university courses. The professionals commented on the exemplary attitude and behaviour of our students who were fantastic representatives of Formby High. The event was a huge success with students taking away a great deal of knowledge, inspiration and not to mention the stationery giveaways!

...#kNOwKnifeCrime

On Wednesday 17 April, schools from across Sefton will be supporting the #kNOwKnifeCrime campaign in the form of a mini relay involving primary and secondary pupils from right across the borough. 84 Sefton schools will be teaming up with the #kNOwKnifeCrime campaign and London Marathon 2024 to raise awareness and support fundraising for bleed control kits and cabinets to be placed outside schools in Sefton. Laura Hughes, part of the #kNOwKnifeCrime campaign, sadly lost her brother, Colin McGinty, to knife

crime in 2001 and has worked tirelessly on this campaign ever since. Laura has visited FHS on a number of occasions to help to educate our students on the wider impact of knife crime and talk about the KnifeSavers bleed control kits. These bleed control kits can help provide support for the bleeding caused by knife injuries to make the difference for a victim to survive an attack. The kits were developed by the Major Trauma Centre at Aintree University Hospital. Students participating in the relay will pass the 'bleed control kit baton' from one school to another in an event spanning right across the Sefton borough. If you would like more information on how to support the fundraising for bleeding control kits, please visit:

[Sefton Schools say #kNOwKnifeCrime | Charity Champions Liverpool & the North West | Liverpool & North Wales Cash for Kids - Cash for Kids \(cashforkidsgive.co.uk\)](#)



...Pi Challenge

Last term, Year 7 were challenged to learn as many digits of Pi to celebrate Pi Day on 14th March. Our finalists rose to the challenge, and our winner was Elif, who was able to learn and recite an incredible 124 digits! Well done to Elif and her fellow finalists, Aoife, Christo and Sophie. If you are interested diving into some recreational mathematics, check out our Mathematics Enrichment Padlet to see if you can find anything that sparks your imagination. [Mathematics Department Enrichment \(padlet.com\)](#).



...Languages, Life, Living & Employability

On the last day of term, the FHS Tapas bar was open for Mrs Duckworth's Spanish Life, Living and Employability (LLE) group. The students chose from a menu of Spanish food, such as jamón serrano, patatas bravas and olives. They ordered in Spanish and practised two of the most important words in any language, 'please' and 'thank you'. Gracias, Year 8, for your excellent attitude and willingness to try new things! This term we will be video linking to a school in Seville and learning about La Tomatina. Hasta luego!



...The Wuthering Heights of Haworth

On Friday 22 March, A Level English Literature students from Years 12 and 13 visited the Bronte parsonage at Haworth. As part of the visit, they enjoyed a presentation about the context and lives of the writers, followed by a sunny but very windy walk on the moors to imagine Emily's inspiration for *Wuthering Heights*! This was followed by exploring the town of Haworth, a tour of the parsonage and a workshop on critical approaches to *Wuthering Heights*. Students enjoyed the charms of Haworth and furthering their understanding of the authors of texts they are studying.



...Spring Music Concert

Congratulations to all our musicians who performed in our Spring Concert. It was an incredible evening showcasing the talent of our GCSE and A Level students in the incredible Tung Auditorium. Many of the performances were student led and we heard a variety of musical styles from rock and pop music from our rock bands and choirs, to our classical orchestra and senior ensemble. The highlight of the evening was a special performance by our Year 11-13 students in their jazz ensemble. It was lovely to hear and see the results of months of hard work from the students. We are so proud of all of them and we look forward to our next performance at our Summer Festival on Saturday 6 July 2024.



...Alumnus Inspiration

In the last week of last term, we invited one of our alumni students, James Moffatt, to talk to Film Studies and Music students about his career as a Film Composer. James spoke about the exciting projects he has worked on and his time in Los Angeles and London, working with academy award-winning composers. He spoke about his own film scores for Bafta shortlisted *'We are Dancers'* and documentary film *'House of Cardin'*. It was such a great opportunity for our students to see into the creative industry and to listen to a passionate industry professional. A huge thank you to James for joining us, the Q and A session could have gone on so much longer!



...Alumnus Achievements

A massive FHS shout out to former student, Lucas, who has just signed his first professional contract with Liverpool Football Club. Lucas has been with the Reds since the tender age of five and made his debut for the U18s as an U16 player last season. We look forward to celebrating your future successes, Lucas, well done!

...Library Corner

This issue features another of our Sefton Super Reads final six, *The Boy who Made Monsters*. Benji McLaughlin is a visionary. He believes in things that other people think are impossible, like that he and his brother Stanley will be happy in their new home in Scotland, and that the Loch monster exists, and that his parents will come home safely one day, even though they've been missing for months. When he finds out that his Uncle Hamish's Loch Lochy tourist business is struggling, and it looks like Benji and Stanley might lose another home, Benji's not worried. He has a plan. If he can show everyone that the Loch Lochy monster exists, people will flock to come and see it, and the business will flourish again.

This is already a popular book in our Library - come and get your copy to see what happens next!

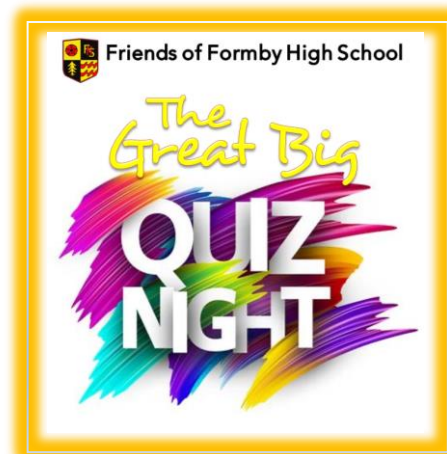


...Year 9-13 Teen Book Club

The new National Teen Book Club starts again on 24 April, and we are reading together *King of the Dead Things* by Nevin Holness, an urban fantasy about the magical underworld of London and Afro-Caribbean folklore. See Miss Waters or Mrs Ambrose if you would like to take part. Wednesdays in the library A6 3.30 – 4.30pm

...The Great Big Quiz Night

Our Friends of Formby High School (FoFHS) PTA extend a big welcome to members of our school community to join us for **The Great Big Quiz Night** on **Saturday 27 April**. Fundraising forms a major part of the work of FoFHS and over recent years this has included funding the school minibuses, the redevelopment of the School Library and creation of an 'activities quad' with outdoor table tennis tables and games. This entertaining event is always one of the highlights of our year and will take place in the School Hall, here at Formby High School, starting at 7.00pm. Tickets for the 'The Great Big Quiz Night' are now available priced at £10.00 and will include a light supper halfway through the evening. Guests are welcome to bring their own drinks and nibbles. Seating will be at tables in teams of up to 10. Smaller groups will be accommodated. Tickets are on sale via Eventbrite using this web link: <https://fofhsquiznight2024.eventbrite.co.uk>



...Governors' Corner

Governors would like to extend a warm welcome to Mr Richard Smith who joins the Governing Body as Co-opted Governor, supporting our Audit and Risk Committee. We are pleased to announce that former Parent Governors, Mr Myles Duckworth and Ms Cath McNamara, will serve a further term of office having been appointed Community Governors last term. At the start of this very busy and important summer term, the members of the Governing Body would like to extend their very best wishes to those students approaching their examinations in the coming weeks. To all staff and students, thank you for your incredible hard work and commitment; we look forward to reading more great news stories and celebrating successes with you!

On the Horizon...

- ★ DofE Bronze Safety Training – 16 Apr
- ★ Kevin Williams Memorial Penalty Shootout – 19 Apr
- ★ #kNOwKnifeCrime relay – 17 Apr
- ★ Y7-8 UKMT Junior Challenge – 25 Apr
- ★ Y12 University & Apprenticeship Fair – 19 Apr
- ★ FoFHS Quiz Night – 27 Apr