

# FOCUSON...



Issue 189  
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## Celebrating our school and community

### ...CREATE Family Arts Festival

Formby High School's 'Create' Family Arts Festival on Saturday 6 July promises to be a brilliant opportunity to bring our school and community together to celebrate all things creative and cultural. There will be performances from our dance, drama, musical theatre and music students, community performances from our primary outreach, visiting artists, art workshops and gallery from our art department, plus food & drink and an artisan market too. We are collaborating with 'Dream On Events' to create a bohemian tented village with opportunities to get practical or just relax and enjoy the performances. We are also delighted to welcome some special guest performers too. Watch our social media for pop-up announcements over the next few weeks! Ticket link <https://fhscreatefestival.eventbrite.co.uk>.



### ...A Token Gesture



Many of you will be aware of Tesco Formby's community programme, called Stronger Starts Grants, where shoppers can vote for grant donations to local community projects using the little blue tokens they receive when paying for their shopping. Over the last three years, Tesco Formby have funded over £20,000 in grants for local community projects in our area. We are delighted to confirm that FHS successfully applied to the programme to support the resourcing of our new SEND Unit. This means that during July, August and September, FHS will be one of three local projects on which Tesco customers can vote using their blue tokens. The more tokens we receive means the opportunity for more money: 1st place up to £1,500, 2nd place £1,000 or 3rd place £500. We would like to ask our community to rally around the cause and support us each time they shop in Tesco Formby between July and September by voting for our project with your tokens!

### ...LFC Community Award

We are very proud to announce Mr Quayle received a Unity Award at the recent LFC Foundation Community Awards ceremony. The award was presented to Mr Quayle for not only his support in helping to coordinate the LFC Onside programme at FHS but for often going above and beyond in this support. Mr Quayle has invested a lot of time and energy to ensure that FHS students involved can get the maximum impact from this fantastic programme. The Unity Award honours the values of the club and this community programme:

- Believe in each other's ability and expertise
- Work together to bring out the best in each other
- Collaborate for the common good, across all our communities



## ...London Visit



This week a group of FHS dancers, musicians and musical theatre students enjoyed a fantastic two day experience in London. As well as soaking in the sights the children enjoyed dinner at the Hard Rock Cafe and a theatre trip to a thrilling high energy performance of the musical 'Back to the Future'. This was followed

by a workshop led by industry professional Bryan Mottram from the show, teaching the students the vocals and choreography to the finale 'Back in Time'. Bryan then delivered a Q&A about his career, life as a performer and his role in the show. The teachers on the trip would like to thank all the students for their participation and impeccable behaviour. We all had a wonderful time!



## ...D-Day Commemorations

Few could fail to be moved by the incredible commemorative events which took place last week to mark the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Normandy landings. Whether via watching live TV coverage, news features, documentary programmes or indeed attending local events, we

have all been able to collectively pause to remember the incredible bravery of those who served and the fallen. A small number of FHS students who are RAF Cadets at Woodvale were lucky enough to travel to Normandy to participate in commemorative events as well as visit some of the historic locations and landmarks. They even had the great honour of meeting veterans of the landings who themselves have travelled back to Normandy for this important anniversary. We are sure that they will treasure their experiences for a

lifetime. Thank you to Luke for sharing the photos with us.



## ...Drama Fest 2024

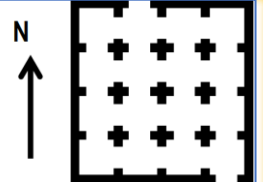
Our Drama Department students and staff have been working hard to create three short productions for this year's DramaFest: 'A Game of Tiaras', 'Teachers' and 'I Hate Shakespeare'. Over two evenings, audience members will have the opportunity to see individual shows or all three! Show nights are Tuesday 25 and Wednesday 26 June (6pm). Tickets are priced at £5 each and can be purchased via eventbrite: <https://fhsdramafest2024.eventbrite.co.uk>. We look forward to seeing you in the audience.



## ...Math Masters

A couple of weeks ago Eric (Year 9) and Amy (Year 8) were invited to prize-giving ceremonies at Liverpool University to celebrate their success in the Mathematics Education in Merseyside annual challenges. During the evening, they took part in a Maths treasure hunts, a computing quiz and the Fun Maths roadshow. They received vouchers and certificates, and both thoroughly enjoyed their respective evenings. You can see pictures of the evenings [here](#). Here's is one of the problems that Amy had to tackle in her challenge for you to have a go!

A bull is running through the above maze. He only visits each cell once, entering through the entrance door on the South side of the maze and leaving through the exit door on the North side. How many different routes are there where he visits all of the cells only once?



Reproduced with the permission of Mathematical Education on Merseyside

[Challenges – Mathematical Education on Merseyside \(mathsmerseyside.org.uk\)](https://mathsmerseyside.org.uk)

## ...Attendance Matters

In this final half term, attendance and punctuality continue to remain a priority. We have noticed a dip in our attendance which appears, in some weeks during the summer term, to be adverse to the national trend. It is absolutely vital that students in Years 7-10 and 12 finish the year strongly in terms of their attendance. We know that these consistent daily routines help with students' sense of belonging in school, both within their friendship groups and wider school community. Without doubt, being in school everyday supports them to achieve the best academic outcomes, take up opportunities presented to them and thrive socially. We urge you to avoid taking leaves of absence during the coming weeks and encourage your child to attend every day they are able to; knowing that this is in their best interests and will allow them to reap the benefits of strong school attendance.

## ...Sixth Form Matters

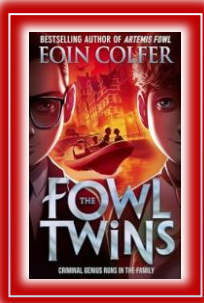
On Tuesday 4 June the two Year 12 English A Level groups took part in a subject taster and study day at Liverpool John Moores University. Students were given a taste of university level study and worked with experts in their fields with sessions on the texts and topics taught on their A Level courses. Professor Joe Moran looked at unseen modern poetry, Professor Colin Harrison looked at 'The Great Gatsby', Dr Rebecca Bailey presented on 'Othello' and there was also a session on applying contextual knowledge to Tennessee Williams' 'A Streetcar Named Desire'. Over a pizza lunch, Dr Michael Perfect talked to students about the transferable skills gained through the study of English at A Level and beyond. It was a really useful, informative and engaging day. Our university Open Day visits also begin today with a Year 12 group away at Leeds University... more news on this and other destinations to follow!



Well done to Coco and Erin in Year 12 who went to Ainsdale St John's Primary school to teach some Spanish. Mrs Evans said "The girls took everything in their stride and the children LOVED meeting them! They have definitely inspired all the classes they worked with. It was such an enjoyable and valuable learning experience for us all." What great linguistic role models, well done!

Finally, a big shout-out from Miss Donlevy to Callum (Year 13) who has successfully been offered a place at a top drama university for September. Callum will be attending East 15 after showcasing his talent to the panel at several rounds of auditions – a massive well done from all of us Callum!

## ...Library Corner



Our choice this issue is an epic adventure that is always a popular favourite in our library: *The Fowl Twins* by Eoin Colfer. *Myles and Beckett Fowl are twins, but the two boys are wildly different. Beckett is blonde, messy and sulks whenever he must wear clothes. Myles is impeccably neat, has an IQ of 170, and 3D prints a fresh suit every day – just like his older brother, Artemis Fowl. A week after their eleventh birthday the twins are left in the care of house security system, NANNI, for a single night. In that time, they befriend a troll on the run from a nefarious nobleman and an interrogating nun both of whom need the magical creature for their own gain.*

## On the Horizon...

- ★ Y8 (MBY) Geography Fieldwork – 18 Jun
- ★ Y11 Celebration Assembly – 21 Jun
- ★ INSET Day (Staff Only) – 21 Jun
- ★ Drama Fest – 25 and 26 Jun