

FOCUSON...



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Celebrating our school and community

...Wow, what a year!

Hard to believe we are in our final few days of the school year and publishing our final newsletter of 2023/24 – what a fantastic year it has been! We hope you have enjoyed reading the news this year and celebrating our school and community. FHS students you delivered on our key commitments this year... you **Aimed High, Worked Hard** and **Showed Respect** – and we couldn't be more proud. Whether you have enjoyed achievements in the classroom, a sports arena, fundraising, performing, competing, coaching, reading, representing, mentoring or simply being the best of friends, we congratulate you all. To our staff and community supporters, thank you for all the hard work this year and for going above and beyond. Thank you, especially, to our parents who work so closely in partnership with us to support their child(ren) to thrive and achieve at school. Our community is founded on positive relationships, mutual respect and inclusivity and we thank everyone for the part they play. This year has also seen many challenges and obstacles to overcome, in each and every one of these there is a lesson to learn... **we are stronger together**. One more week to go... when it arrives, have an amazing summer break team FHS!



...PE goes Platinum!

We are delighted to announce that FHS has achieved the School Games **PLATINUM** Mark Award for the 2023/24 academic year. This is a Government-led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success. With so many of our young people competing in local inter-school competitions this year, we are extremely proud of our students for their dedication to all aspects of

school sport, including those young volunteers, leaders and officials who made our competitions possible. As part of our application, we were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas of participation, competition, workforce and clubs, and we are pleased that the hard work of everyone at our school has been rewarded this year.



...Bright SPARX

Formby High has been awarded a Sparx Maths 'Sparx Super Star' award for the school year. This is awarded to only the Top 15 schools in the country whose students make the most progress in their Mathematics homework. This is an excellent achievement and shows just how hard our students have worked this year. There has been a big push from the Mathematics department for all students to complete 100% of their homework, and this award recognises how students (and their parents) have risen to the challenge! Well done to everyone for their hard work and dedication.



... Mastering Mathematics



James (80) qualified for the Junior Olympiad, after achieving Gold in the Junior Challenge. A Merit was 20+ marks and a Distinction was 34+ marks – James gained an incredible 51 marks! This meant that he was also a Bronze medal winner, making him one of the **top 200 students in the UK** who participated. This is an outstanding achievement—well done, James!

Year 6 pupils from Redgate and Trinity St Peter's primary schools came to visit this week to take part in the annual Maths Maze event. As always, competition was fierce and the children enjoyed the activities, ably assisted by some of our Year 9 students. In the end, Trinity St Peter's clinched top spot. It was a pleasure to see them, the visitors were polite and well-mannered. We look forward to seeing many of you next year as new Year 7 students.



... Create Family Arts Festival

We had a great time hosting families for a fun packed afternoon of activities at our Family Arts Festival. We had performances from our Year 7-9 Dance groups, as well as another performance of the Key Stage 3 Drama production of 'Game of Tiara's.' Visitors also enjoyed a multitude of music performances, including our Voiceworks choir, special guests 'Hail' string quartet and the G:Force Gospel Choir. Congratulations and thank you to those students who performed their debut at the festival and to the student ambassadors, PTA and community members who volunteered to help on the day.



...Scouse Flowerhouse

The final part of our partnership with Liverpool Biennial will take place this Friday morning. The third totem sculpture has been repurposed into a plant pot and Scouse Flowerhouse ([Home - Scouse Flowerhouse](#)) will be delivering a workshop on soil, wildflowers and bulbs, in preparation for planting. For more information about this collaborative project, please visit: [Liverpool Biennial x BID | Alicja Biala: Merseyside Totemy - Liverpool Biennial](#)

... Sunday Service

On Sunday afternoon (14 July), Sefton's most funky, dynamic and hard-working community choir will take over Southport Market for a fantastic pre-football concert, full of gospel, soul, pop and R&B classics! Food & drink will be available from the market vendors and bar. Tickets available from <https://fhssundayservice.eventbrite.co.uk>



...Life Beyond the Classroom

This time of year is peak season for our school trips. Indeed, just as we go to press today, our intrepid Year 10 historians are returning from the world war Battlefields, a group of students are joining Camps International on an expedition to Borneo, a large group of Year 8s are heading to the Tennis Championships at Wimbledon and our Duke of Edinburgh's Silver Award group are embarking upon their qualifying expedition. Next week, of course, our Rewards Trips also get underway on Thursday 18 July. All these trips give our students enriching experiences outside of the classroom, a chance to bond with each other, learn new skills, discover new places and cultures.



What is really heartwarming is that very often after these trips, a member of the public writes to us to commend our students on their behaviour. Just recently, we received a message from a Year 1 teacher at another school who wrote... *"I am the class teacher of 28 Year 1 pupils who visited Martin Mere last Friday. Whilst we were there we were on the park and we encountered pupils and staff from your school. I just wanted to say what a delightful set of pupils they were. They were polite and were really helpful to our 5 and 6 year olds. One young man, named Ethan, repeatedly brought the zip wire back so my pupils could have a go. He carried on even when I asked him if he had had enough! The staff were positive and friendly too and made our children's experience a happy one. Please could you pass on my thanks to the staff and pupils concerned."*



On Tuesday 2 July, a group of students in Year 6 continued their transition to FHS with a trip to Blackpool Zoo with two of our SEND Ambassadors, Roseanne and Sam. They had a fabulous day handling some animal artefacts, learning about the role of customs in protecting endangered species and seeing the myriad of animals. The weather was very obliging and many of the animals were out in the sunny weather. Several students conquered their initial trepidation and hand-fed the Lorikeets as well as going through the zones where the Ring-tailed

Lemurs and Wallabies were free-roaming. Mrs Dakin and Mrs Parnell reported that it was the most enjoyable school trip they had ever been on and they are looking forward to seeing the blossoming friendships develop further in September.



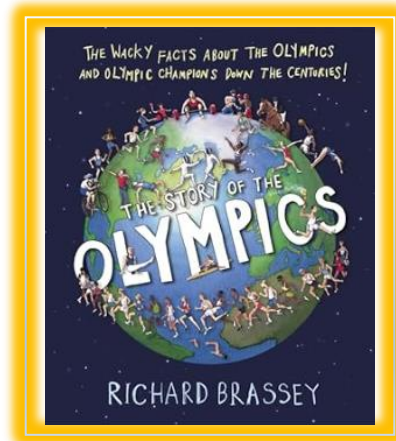
... A Token Gesture

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 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 with their little blue tokens!



...Library Corner

Our last Library recommend of this year is to get everyone ready for the upcoming Olympic Games 2024 in Paris. *This is the quirkiest guide you will ever read to the history of the world's most famous celebration of sport. From the story of how the ethos of the games of ancient Greece has been carried down and into the twenty-first century, to the individual tales of heroes and heroines, this is a lively, witty and entertaining guide for young readers everywhere.* As always with Richard Brassey's popular books, there are comic strips, fact boxes, hilarious captions and speech bubbles, in a book that's packed with amazing information and entertaining insight. Come up to the Library to read more!



...Year 7 Readathon

A massive thank you to our Year 7 students who raised money for Read for Good by completing a sponsored read to provide both books and readers for poorly children in all the UK's major children's hospitals. Read for Good have received sponsor money from Formby High and sent a huge "Thank You" to all those Year 7 students who took part raising much needed funds. Well done!

...Sefton Super Reads

Recently, a battle of the books has been taking part across Sefton's high schools: Sefton Super Reads 2024. After lots of reading and critical reviews from students across the borough, 'Stitch' by Padraig Kenny was awarded the champion book of 2024. On 28 June, Amelia (Year 8) and Faith, Amelia and Sophie (Year 7) represented Formby High School at the awards held at Crosby Library to see author Padraig receive the SSR24 award and also took time to browse around the library. The competition was close, with all six finalist books being worthy winners.



...Library Clubs

As the Library Clubs finish for the summer, our Librarian, Mrs Ambrose, would like to extend a big thank you to all those students who attend many weekly clubs held in the Library, with particular thanks to those students who put a lot of time and effort into making the clubs successful. She says thank you to everyone involved, keep reading over the summer and we look forward to re-starting the clubs in September!



...the last word

Whatever your plans for the weekend (there may be a sports fixture or two of interest), we hope it is both enjoyable and successful, and we look forward to the last week of term together before the summer break.

On the Horizon...

- ★ Sunday Service at Southport Market – 14 Jul
- ★ Y10 (A/B) Geography Fieldwork – 16 Jul
- ★ INSET Period 1 & 2 (staff only) – 15 Jul
- ★ Rewards Trips – 18 Jul
- ★ Sports Day (arrival at 11am) – 15 Jul
- ★ Celebration Assembly – 19 Jul