

FOCUSON...



Issue 192
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Celebrating our school and community

...Record GCSE and A Level Results!

After years of hard work and months of revision and preparation, our Year 11 and Year 13 students excelled themselves in the summer examinations 2024. We could not be more proud of their achievements.

At **A Level**, an impressive 34% of entries were awarded A*A grades, with 59% entries graded A*B. Our students have secured places at prestigious universities across the country with many joining Russell Group institutions. Students will pursue further studies in a wide range of fields from Medicine and Veterinary Science to Business and Engineering, English, Music and PE. We are also delighted with the continuing increase in students pursuing high-quality degree-level apprenticeships in areas such as quantity surveying and law, civil service and policing, project management and electrical services. Achievement in the wide range of vocational and technical qualifications on offer was exceptional, with 71% of entries achieving the highest grades of Distinction or Distinction* and 94% graded Merit or higher.



At **GCSE**, our Year 11 results were excellent and a fair reflection of the commitment students showed to their studies. The proportion of students achieving the high grades was very impressive with a whopping 23 students attaining at least eight GCSE grades 7 or above. One student was awarded grade 9s in all 10 GCSE subjects whilst 11 students achieved grade 9s in at least five subjects. Overall, the results were very strong and a cause for much celebration amongst students, their family and teachers. Success extends beyond students' performance in GCSE subjects. In recent years, the school has introduced several new vocational courses to improve students' employability in growth sectors in the local economy. In Engineering and Catering & Hospitality our students have achieved exceptionally well, securing 29 Distinction*/Distinction grades across the two subjects, and many of them have chosen to continue pursuing their interest in these areas as they progress to post-16 study.



...Year 7 Welcome

We would like to take the opportunity of our first newsletter of the year to welcome our newest students and their families to the FHS community. We hope to be celebrating your successes and endeavours in this newsletter over the years to come! Year 7 have settled in very well, many of whom having already spent a week at Summer School back in August. They are beginning their secondary school journey in style, all looking smart and ready to embrace all FHS has to offer... just next week they will be representing the school at Open Evening as ambassadors. Miss Wareing is justifiably proud, saying "What a fantastic start to your FHS school journey! You have impressed everyone and have the makings to be an outstanding year group, well done!"



... Year 12 Welcome

Fuelled by fantastic GCSE results, exceptional teaching and support, not to mention a comprehensive curriculum offer, a huge number of our former Year 11 students have now joined Sixth Form at FHS. In addition, we are absolutely delighted to welcome 36 students (and counting) from other neighbouring schools. We are thrilled to see such buoyant numbers in Sixth Form which continues to develop and thrive. Our newly introduced Psychology A Level has gone straight into the top 3 courses in terms of students enrolled. Things are off to a positive and very busy start, and we look forward to reading our regular newsletter entries in 'Sixth Form Matters'.



...Open Evening 2024



Our flagship Open Evening takes place on Thursday 19 September (5:30pm to 7:45pm) where our whole school community opens its doors to prospective Year 7 students and their parents who will be submitting their secondary school applications next month. This is a fabulous opportunity to celebrate what FHS can offer, both in the classroom and beyond. All our staff and a vast amount of students support this event, including tour guides from Year 7 who have been here less than three

weeks themselves! We look forward to another successful event, ensuring everyone who passes through the gates receives our trademark warm welcome and 'Get Set for a New Day'!

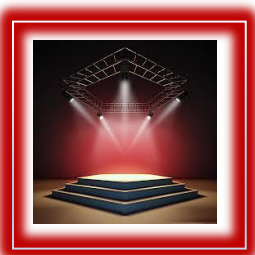
...Lifesaving Equipment

You may have noticed two new cabinets installed on the wall just outside the green gates at school. One contains a defibrillator and one contains an emergency bleed control kit. These kits are registered for community use, meaning anyone in the vicinity can access them in an emergency. Upon calling 999, members of the public in our area will be directed here and given the code to open the cabinet, which could save a life! FHS lies at the heart of its community and this is a great way to support it. The newsroom could not end this medical feature without sending our heartfelt best wishes to Mrs Huyton, our School Medical Officer, who is leaving us next week to embark upon a really exciting career opportunity with a professional sports body. Mrs Huyton has been an incredible asset to the school and the safety of all our community members – we will miss her but wish her all the very best!



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...All the World's a Stage



We have just had our very first LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art) results in and our Year 9 students received both Merit & Distinction grades, with our top student getting a massive 90/100! Miss Donlevy says "Well done to those who took their exam, and we can't wait for the next lot of exams to take place." She wants to congratulate our GCSE students who achieved huge results this year, with two thirds of the cohort achieving grade 9-7. Well done everyone! Finally, don't forget that auditions

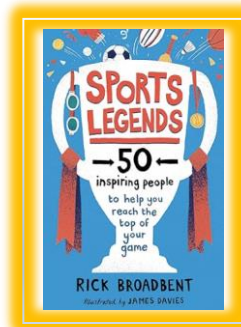
for this year's Year 7 and 8 pantomime, 'Little Red Riding Hood', which will take place on Tuesday 24 September at lunchtime.

...A Message from our Governors

Governors would like to extend their congratulations to our Summer 2024 examination cohort for their fabulous achievements and to thank all the staff and parents for their support in helping them reach such heights. If you are interested in becoming a Parent Governor and helping to shape the future for FHS, please contact us via clerktogovernors@formbyhighschool.com to find out more about this important role. We hope to be holding a parent governor election very soon!

...Library Corner

After a summer of Olympics and inspiring Para-Olympics, our first book choice of the new year just had to reflect this. Get motivated to reach the top of your game with 50 incredible true stories of sporting legends. Journalist Rick Broadbent has interviewed some of the greatest sporting legends. In this gripping collection of 50 true stories, he shares the most exciting and jaw-dropping accounts of success, failure, injury and bravery



in sport, which will in turn inspire you to find the confidence and resilience you need to reach the top! An ideal book for any young sports fan who enjoys reading about their favourite heroes. After taking part in our 15th Read for Good Sponsored Read, Formby High have been presented with a certificate to celebrate our continued support. This is a truly incredible achievement that we believe should be celebrated, and we received a certificate to mark our achievement and to showcase our commitment to reading for pleasure. On behalf of everyone Read for Good, Justine Daniels (Chief Executive) would like to say, "A huge thank you for your efforts over the years – it really does mean the world to us." Well done to all those students in

Formby High who have taken part and Year 7... it's your turn next to take part raising money to provide children in UK hospitals with books and readers. Finally, after school clubs in the library this half term will be Year 7 Quiz Nights on Tuesdays and All Years Chess Club on Thursdays! Speak to Mrs Ambrose or pop along to either, to see if you would like to take part.



...A Token of Support

It's the final push for us to secure first place in the Tesco Stronger Starts community funding and get up to £1500 to support resources for our Reaching High SEN unit. Parents and students can vote instore at Tesco Formby by posting their blue tokens in the FHS bucket up until **30 September!** Thank you for your support... as they say, "every little helps!"

...Taekwondo World Champs

We are extremely proud to announce that two FHS students have been selected to represent GB in the World Taekwondo Poomsae Championships 2024 taking place in Hong Kong this November. Olivia (Year 13) is a double European medalist who has been part of the GB Elite Poomsae squad for the last 9 consecutive years. Erin (Year 10) has also been selected to represent GB in the U14 Female Team at the event. You can read [more about this event here](#). Both girls are training hard whilst concentrating on their studies in these important years of their school life. We wish them both all the very best for November!



...Attendance Matters

We have been pleased with the strong start to school made by an overwhelming majority of students. Our average attendance each day has been around 95% and we would like to see this continue to increase over the course of this term. Parents will already be aware of the new statutory attendance guidance introduced by the government from 19 August 2024, and we thought it might be timely to remind parents of some of the key changes:

- Students arriving to school without a legitimate reason beyond 9:20am will be coded as unauthorised absence, rather than late.
- 10 sessions of any unauthorised absence over a 10-week rolling period will result in a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Parents can also read our updated [Attendance and Punctuality Policy](#) which might help to understand the processes we use around attendance here at Formby High School. One new aspect of this is that parents should now report their child's absence through the Class Charts app. Thank you for your support in securing such good attendance since returning for the new school year.

On the Horizon...

- ★ Open Evening – 19 Sep (5:30-7:45pm)
- ★ Y11 Geography Fieldwork – 24 Sep
- ★ Y13 Geography Fieldwork – 16 and 23 Sep
- ★ All Years School Portrait Photography – 26 Sep