

FOCUSON...



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Celebrating our school and community

...Sixth Form Open Evening

Last night we hosted our 2024 Sixth Form Open Evening where staff and student ambassadors showed off all that is on offer to Year 11 students, both from FHS and other schools in the area. Once again, the evening welcomed hundreds of visitors who had the opportunity to tour all the subject areas, attend the main welcome presentations, hear 'mini talks' on a number of post-16 and post-18 pathways and, importantly, to get a real sense of what it is like to 'belong' to Sixth Form at FHS. It was a pleasure seeing the campus buzzing with activity and hearing lots of positive comments from students and their parents.



...Sixth Form Matters



This half term has seen the return of 'The Gift that Keeps on Giving' in Sixth Form where students are nominated by staff for their efforts and achievements throughout the week, culminating in Spin the Wheel to select the winners in assembly. We have been really pleased to see so many students nominated this week, some of them multiple times. This week's winners were Jake and Eleanor (Year 12) and Gabe and Jack (Year 13). This will continue for the rest of the half term and we look forward to celebrating more achievements!

Year 13 students continue to submit UCAS applications and we would encourage them to do so before Christmas if possible; we have set a pre-Christmas deadline of 5 December. Students can of course work to the January deadline if they prefer, although it is worth noting that students who have already applied are getting offers and interviews already.

Sixth Form charity events continue in the lead up to Christmas and we are currently collecting food items and cash donations (which will be used to buy items) for the Sefton Pantry appeal to help local families by giving them Christmas hampers. There will also be an opportunity to raise money on Christmas jumper day - watch out for more details on this and lots more festive fun to look out for over the coming weeks.

... Anti-Bullying

This year's national anti-bullying week focus is Choose Respect which is also a key component of 'The Formby High School Way'. To raise awareness around bullying, students have been working with their form tutors about choosing respect and next week Mr Fazal (Assistant Headteacher) will be delivering assemblies to all years. The topic of bullying can be difficult for some students to discuss and it's important to remind them that they will always find help at school. Students can always talk to any staff member they are comfortable talking to at school and the pastoral team are always ready to listen. If students find speaking to people directly challenging, they can use Class Charts to message a member of staff or use the [SHARP](#) system ([School Help and Advice Reporting Page](#)) to anonymously report concerns. Parents are also welcome to contact us at school so that we can work together to ensure our community is always respectful and supportive.



... Reaching High Unit Near Completion



We are so excited to see our Reaching High Unit reach the final stages of construction. Things are now progressing very well and we hope to be able to complete the interior fixtures and fittings during coming weeks with a view to beginning lessons for students in the facility in January 2025. These purpose built facilities will help us to build on the fantastic provision we

already have in place, as well as providing opportunities to renovate and refresh some rooms and office spaces in the main school.

...Children in Need

Thank you very much to all our parents, students and staff who have supported the Children in Need fundraising activities this week. This is one of our favourite charities and we support it as does so much to help young people in need across the whole country. Our elves are busy counting the pennies and we will report back with a total in due course. Thank you all for your generosity.



...Christmas Hampers



With a little less than six weeks to go until Christmas, our thoughts are turning to those families within our school community who are currently experiencing financial difficulties. Given the current economic climate more families than ever could do with a little extra help and support so we thought it would be nice to set up a Food & Gift bank at Formby High School. For those of you who would like to get involved, donations of food and gifts can be sent into school from 18 November up

until 13 December. All donations will then be made into hampers and distributed to those who need them most. Any donations can be handed in at Main Reception for the attention of Mrs Brooks. All donations, no matter how big or small, will be welcomed; all we ask is that gifts are new and food donations have a shelf life post 25 December. We appreciate that not everyone will be able to get involved, but for those of you who can we guarantee the hampers will be gratefully received and help spread a little festive cheer to a number of children within our school and their families.

...The Fitness Business

From Business Studies to world class fitness championships, our very own Mr Tynan (Subject Leader for Business Studies and Economics) has successfully qualified to compete in the HYROX World Championship Finals in Chicago in 2025! HYROX is a global hybrid indoor fitness phenomenon that combines running and functional workouts, testing participants' strength, endurance and overall fitness. After a strong performance in the Men's Pro Division at the recent competition in Birmingham, Mr Tynan managed to secure a top 5 finish in his age group, which was enough to earn him the spot for the World Championship finals. This marks the second time Mr Tynan has qualified for the world championships, following a 5th place finish in England and 15th in the world for his age group at the 2024 HYROX World Finals in France.

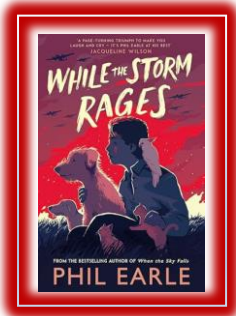


...Budding Scientists

On Wednesday last week, the Science Department welcomed 1st Southport Willow Beavers to L Building for an evening of experiments. The Beavers learned how to light Bunsen burners, made hovercrafts and discovered how acidic Coca Cola is. The evening culminated in setting fire to their leader, our very own Mr Duckworth! (Please do not try this at home).

...Shout Out

Well done to Harry (Year 9) and Coco (Year 13) who have both been awarded 'Commendations' in the national translation competition by the Stephen Spender Trust for their poetry translations which they submitted last year.



In the week where we marked Armistice Day, our Library book recommendation this week takes a look at how war impacts on family life in different ways. From the bestselling author Phil Earle, comes the remarkable story of Noah's fight to save his beloved family dog following the outbreak of the Second World War. *September 1939. The world is on the brink of war. As his dad marches off to fight, Noah makes him a promise, to keep their beloved family dog safe. When the government advises people to have their pets put down in readiness for the chaos of war, Noah and his two best friends go on the run to save his dog and as many animals as they can.* This is a page turning book that can

both make you laugh out loud and cry. This book takes you on a gritty adventure as well as a historical look at life during WWII. Come up to the Library to find out what happens to Noah, his friends and the animals they set out to save.

...The Little Mermaid Jr.

Just a reminder that this year's award-winning Musical Theatre Company production is coming up and promises to take audiences on a magical journey "under the sea" with Ariel and her aquatic friends in *Disney's The Little Mermaid Jr.* Our talented company will perform two evening shows

on Friday 22 and Saturday 23 November at 7.00pm, in the School Hall. Tickets are still available via Eventbrite: <https://fhslittlemermaidjr2024.eventbrite.co.uk>.



...Gold Arts Award Alumnus



Check out this fantastic blog post entitled the [Arts Award in Technical Theatre at FHS](#) which features on the Trinity Arts Award Website. The article, supported by Mrs Harrocks who runs the Award at FHS, is a tremendous overview of the power of creative arts and the opportunities they offer. Featuring a case study around alumnus, Thomas Charnock, a former 'Head Tech' at FHS, the article is a must read!

...Attendance Matters

We have set our students an Attendance Challenge through an initiative which will run over the next four weeks. Each week brings with it a fresh start for students to focus on achieving 97% attendance. If they do, students will be rewarded with merits and for those who sustain this over multiple weeks they will also receive a postcard home to recognise their efforts. Alongside this, we will run a weekly prize draw and will reward the tutor group with the highest attendance in each year. We look forward to seeing our students challenge themselves to be in school (on time) every day, and to continue to put themselves in prize draws with plenty to be won!



On the Horizon...

- ★ Presentation Evening – 19 November
- ★ Y12/13 Drama Trip Liverpool – 20 November
- ★ Y11 Spanish PPEs – 20/21 November
- ★ The Little Mermaid Jr – 22/23 November
- ★ Year 11 PPEs – w/b 25 November
- ★