

# FOCUSON...



Issue 208  
13 June 2025

## Celebrating our school and community

### ...MTI Junior Theatre Festival



Our Year 8 and 9 Musical Theatre Company performed 'The Little Mermaid Jr' back in November. Following this performance, they recreated a short version of the show to compete at the MTI Junior Theatre Festival at the ICC in Birmingham during half term. Over 60 Youth groups including children from the UK, USA and Europe competed across the weekend with a fifteen-minute snapshot of various musicals.

FHS MTC came home with the **Best Ensemble** trophy and Maisie and Nancy from Year 9 were chosen as our All Stars to perform on the main stage in the closing ceremony. Miss Llewellyn featured in the teacher dance delighting students with her 'Hot to Go' performance. The company enjoyed fantastic theatrical workshops learning original choreography from 'Hamilton'. Alistair Brammer from 'Wicked, Miss Saigon and Les Mis did a Q and A with the audience and a performance by Lucy Jones from 'Wicked' completed the evening.

During the day students were given the chance to audition for the International All Stars. The All Stars are a group, specially selected from across the globe to go to New York and Atlanta to trial and perform new musical works for Broadway writers and work with Broadway directors and choreographers. We are absolutely delighted that our Year 9 musical theatre performer, Francesca, has been chosen to be part of this elite group to represent the UK and of course our Musical Theatre Company in the USA. Over the coming months Francesca will be fundraising to help her reach her goal to go on the trip to be a part of this elite company. The Dance Department are hosting a Choreography Competition on Monday 7 July at 6pm in the Drama Studio, the proceeds will be going towards the trip and further details are to follow! We look forward to keeping you posted on her progress... anyone wishing to support her efforts can visit her [gofundme fundraising page by clicking here](#).

### ...National Youth Theatre

A massive shout out to Maisie (Year 9) who has recently auditioned for, and been offered a place with, the prestigious [National Youth Theatre \(NYT\)](#). This is a huge achievement for Maisie who was selected from around 6,500 applicants across the country, competing for just 700 places, for ages 14 to 25. She'll be taking part in the summer intake course this August and will remain a member of the NYT until she is 25, giving her opportunities to audition for productions and develop her acting skills at a national level. Maisie is absolutely thrilled, especially as it's incredibly competitive and rare to be accepted at her age.



### ... Invitation to a Saturday Sing-along!



If you're free on Saturday lunchtime, our Music Department will be delivering an open 'singalong' workshop at The Atkinson as part of the Southport 'Learning Town' Festival. Between 1.00pm and 2.00pm, we will be welcoming as many people as possible to join us to learn our amazingly infectious and catchy Mersey anthem 'Above Us Only Sky'. It doesn't matter how experienced a singer you are (or not!), come along and get involved – family,

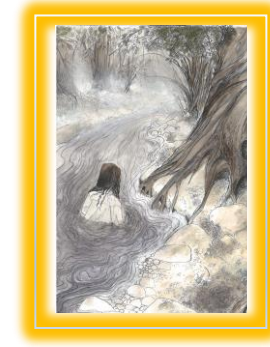
friends ... anyone! Here's the track to get you inspired: [Formby High School 'Above Us Only Sky' lyric video - YouTube](#)

## ...A Summer Celebration

Exciting news about an upcoming joint concert featuring Voiceworks Choir and Formby Choral Society taking place on Saturday 21 June (7:30pm) at FHS. This special event promises to be a true celebration of talent, collaboration, and the magic of summer. One of the highlights of the evening will be the premiere of *Song of the Summer*, an original composition co-written by Voiceworks Choir and Mr Heatherington. This brand-new song is set to capture the essence of the season. The debut performance will showcase the combined voices of both choirs, making for a truly special moment you won't want to miss.



The concert is a celebration of the arts in all its forms. In addition to some beautiful choral music and a performance from our Year 13 Harpist, Heather, we're excited to feature performances from the **Musical Theatre Company**, which will bring excerpts from the musical, 'Into the Woods'. The **FHS Drama Group** will be performing moments from a 'Midsummer Night's Dream and a small Art exhibition from our senior students will be displayed. The concert will also feature a beautiful collection of original poems written by **Year 7 and 8 students**, showcasing the budding literary talent within our school community. Our **Year 12 Art students, Smaragda and Magda**, have designed the artwork for this special collaboration (pictured). **Tickets are available now**, so don't miss out—click this link and add the code for a school discount 'FHS10'. [Formby Choral Society's "A Midsummer's Night Dream" Tickets, Formby High School, Liverpool | TryBooking United Kingdom](#)



## ...Gold Arts Award



Congratulations to our Gold Arts Award students who have all successfully passed their Gold Arts Award. Gold Arts Award encourages students of the arts to become independent creators of a portfolio of work. The portfolio demonstrates new skills learning in their chosen field, a week of work experience, attending workshops in Universities, Galleries or Theatres and finally they become an 'artists collective' to showcase a performance of their work. This year's cohort presented a variety of disciplines including, Fashion Illustration, Fashion Design, Fashion Mannequin Creation, Filmmaking, Game Design and Scriptwriting. Many of our Gold Arts Award students and alumni are pursuing their art form to further education as the Gold Award is a springboard to their next step. This two-year 6th form enrichment course is worth 16 UCAS points or a 'B' at AS level.

## ...Sporting Matters

Year 12 students visited Edge Hill University last week for a Sport and PE taster day to give them a first hand experience of university life and the sports-related opportunities on offer. The students took part in a variety of practical and theoretical lectures, including Sports Coaching, Sports Therapy, Sports and Exercise Science and Sports Management. They had the opportunity to look around the campus and see the facilities the university has to offer, as well as speak with current students about their experiences at the university. Mrs O'Sullivan who accompanied them on the trip said "They were excellently behaved and respectful throughout the day, and I think it inspired some of them in relation to their future decisions."

Sticking with sport – regular readers will be aware that Mr Tynan will be heading off to Chicago this weekend to compete in the Hyrox World Championships, having put an incredible amount of time and energy into his training – from all of us, Mr Tynan, GOOD LUCK!



## ... Festival of Languages



The Modern Languages Department will be taking part in online tasters in other languages over the next three weeks as part of the Routes into Languages 'Festival of Languages'. Taster sessions will include Italian, Japanese, Portuguese and Catalan languages as well as Galician Folklore, Spanish cuisine and the Terracotta Army! All delivered by universities of Liverpool, Lancaster, Manchester Metropolitan and Manchester.

## ...Operation Prospect

Yesterday, students in Years 9 and 10 attended a special assembly delivered by Merseyside Police as part of 'Operation Prospect', an education project exploring knife and gun crime. This hard-hitting workshop was powerful and informative, highlighting the dangers of carrying weapons or being involved in serious violence and the consequences this can have. The session helped them to become more informed around these important issues, such as recognising the signs of criminal exploitation and the importance of raising concerns and how to do so. The students were brilliant and fully engaged in the session, approaching it with great maturity and respect.



Students and parents should now be regularly using their Arbor App and so can see 'live' attendance information being shared on this portal. We would encourage both to look regularly to track school attendance. The Attendance summary provides a helpful breakdown including showing attendance over the last four weeks. This includes their actual marks, possible marks and late marks too. Being on time to school, and to lessons, ensures a calm, purposeful start to learning with no time wasted. We welcome your support in prioritising attendance and punctuality as we move towards the end of this academic year.

## ... Attendance Matters

## ...Thank You

We would like to thank all the students, parents and staff who have engaged in the surveys shared with them this week, asking for their feedback on important matters. Your feedback is valued and essential to help inform the school's strengths and weaknesses and how we shape our strategic planning and tireless determination to improve. Parents, if you have not yet had the opportunity to submit your response, the survey has been shared with you via Arbor and there is still time to respond. Your time, and your valuable feedback, is much appreciated.



## ... Trustees

Earlier this week, members of our Board of Trustees were in school as part of their scheduled visits to enjoy a morning of activities with members of the school community. They received a presentation by our School Parliament followed by a fantastic discussion with students about their experiences of the school. They also enjoyed a tour of lessons and met with a group of staff to discuss some important areas of focus. Trustees would like to extend their thanks to everyone involved for taking the time to meet with them and for a fantastic morning in school!

## On the Horizon...

- ★ Y12 PPEs – 17-19 Jun
- ★ Y8 FOR Geography Fieldwork – 17 Jun
- ★ Drama Fest – 18 Jun
- ★ INSET (Staff Only) – 20 Jun
- ★ DoE Silver Expedition – 20 to 22 Jun
- ★ Y10 PPEs – 19 to 27 Jun