



AUTUM 2 2023

News

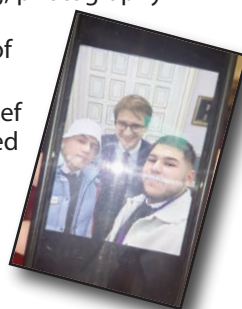
ACHIEVEMENT



Fir Vale school is celebrating winning the Positive Environment Campaigners category at the inaugural Sheffield Youth Voice Awards.

Students who had been involved in marketing, photography and helping their community in the 'Big Clear-Up', accepted the award on behalf of Fir Vale School.

They were congratulated by Kate Josephs, Chief Executive of the City Council and even snapped a selfie with Tom Hunt, Leader of the Council. Headteacher, Mrs Smith said "The students were a credit to themselves, our school and their communities - a well-deserved award and recognition for their hard work."



What a rewarding evening!



Fir Vale School's Annual Presentation Evening saw parents, staff and special guests applaud the achievements of our students for gaining the highest attainment or progress in a chosen subject.

To present the awards were Special guests the Lord Mayor Collin Ross and Susan, the Lady Mayoress. The Junior Leadership Team (JLT) gave their inaugural speeches and presented the evening. A number of students received £100 Environment Awards for their help and support in the communities 'Big Clear-Out'.

Headteacher's Update



A huge 'well done' to all of our students in this issue who have got attendance and achievement awards and also those who have got rewards for work in their subjects.



Alongside your great teachers and parents, you are what make Fir Vale School a great place to be.

Well done to all our community for fabulous fundraising efforts for humanitarian aid in the Middle East.

Read on in this issue for some of the highlights of this half term!

Have a great Christmas and a happy New Year!

Rachel Smith, Headteacher

The Tree is Up!



Thanks to Mrs Dodd and the caretakers for putting our tree up.

"Thank you for joining us on the Cadets Open Day at Fir Vale School. It was lovely to meet some of the parents and carers of our cadets."



As we move into 2024 we are planning a few more residential and lessons to really move the Combined Cadet Force (CCF) forward and your continued support is always appreciated."

Mrs Gillott, Contingent Commander.

On Track to Achieve



Paul Broadbent in the ITV filming studio with Raya Y10, sharing her experiences and personal growth."

The Kelly Holmes project is back and in full force! Y10 Students have been selected for this year's 'On Track To Achieve' programme. They have already met with Paul Broadbent (athlete mentor) and have visited the EIS for the launch event. The students will now part take in 12 sessions over the year to help boost their confidence and resilience.

Y11 Next Steps

Post 16 Providers supported our Y11s in making informed decisions about their destinations when they leave Fir Vale School. Colleges and 6th Forms were in attendance along with the Army, Royal Airforce and two sheffield football clubs promoting their community programmes.



Keeping Active



Y8 and Y9 Dragonball team played against other schools at the English Institute of Sport. Dragonball is a multi-skill sport where players use their hands and feet to kick, throw and pass the Dragonballs in teams to score goals. It's a great way to bring people together whilst keeping active. The team came 3rd in the competition. Well Done!

How they have GROWN!



Y7 girls, winners of our Sunflower Competition.

Super Cars!



Y7s had a supercar experience! The students were chosen because of the excellent start they've made to school.

Future Plans!



Y9 and Y11 students were lucky enough to be working with Dave Campbell on a Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) Leadership and Mentoring Programme. In the first session they discussed their hopes and aspirations for the future.

Bringing Joy!

Our Fir Vale Choir visited Abbey Grange Care and Nursing Home to sing Christmas songs for the residents. They sang so beautifully, and the residents absolutely loved singing along!



Dates for your diary

Monday 8 January 2024
School Closure Day

Tuesday 9 January 2024
All Students in School

Thursday 11 January 2024
Y8 & Y9 Parents' Evening

Thursday 18 January 2024
Y11 Parents' Evening

Thursday 17 January 2024
Parent Drop-ins (9:30am & 3:15pm)

Thursday 25 January 2024
Y7 Parents' Evening

Out and About

Happy Campers!



Y8s enjoyed an action filled two days at Camp this year!

A Bit of a Trek!



A very enjoyable trip to Derwent Dam. Students walked around the Dam and took in the breathtaking views whilst participating in team building and togetherness activities.

DofE



Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) introductory walk where parents and family members were invited to join us on a beautiful autumn sunny day to experience a day out in the Peak District, walking from Grindleford station to Endcliffe Park and giving the students a taste of what is involved in the DofE Bronze Award along the way.



The Camera Never Lies!



Mrs Smith, Headteacher and Mr Griffflow, art and photography teacher were incredibly proud to be invited to an exhibition of our student's photography at Weston Park Museum.

A small group of Y10 photojournalism students had their work selected to be displayed in one of Sheffield's most prestigious galleries as part of the "Slow Burn" programme.

Their work as photojournalists documented the 'Big Clear Out' at Page Hall and showed a real pride in their own skills and in their community.

Rosa Cisneros, show organiser said: "These children are wonderful ambassadors for their community - this is the start of something."



Sparx Reader Up and Running!



Running alongside Sparx Maths, students in Y7, Y8 and Y9 have now been uploaded onto the Sparx Reader programme.

KS3 students are set homework for both Sparx Maths and Reader every Wednesday morning and parents can check if their child has completed their Sparx homework in the normal way on Class Charts.

Each Sparx Reader homework takes around 30 minutes to complete but students are then free to continue reading and gaining Sparx Reader Points to climb higher up the league tables that are updated weekly by our librarian!

The higher up the league, the better the rewards, so let's get reading!

Furthering Talents!

Fir Vale School partnered with the Sheffield Music Hub and Furthering Talents to host students from across Sheffield in a steel pan workshop.

Miss Koch, head of music, was pleased to host students from all over Sheffield.

Headteacher, Mrs Smith, said: "I was delighted to hear our steel pans played so beautifully."

Fifteen of our students took part in a day full of music!



Talented!



We welcomed Kirsten and Henry from The University of Sheffield to perform for our students.

Our students absolutely loved seeing and hearing new instruments!

On The Big Screen



Y9 students who had 100% attendance were rewarded with a cinema experience using our big screen in the Theatre to watch a movie.

Refreshments and savouries were served before the film started.

Winter Showcase



The winter showcase was a festive celebration with singers, dancers and musicians entertaining the crowds. The audience enjoyed a hot chocolate and a mince pie as they soaked up the festive atmosphere in the Performing Arts department.



CARNIVAL TIME

Our Y11 Hair & Beauty students are getting very creative and colourful, creating their competition looks for Concept Hair, the theme is 'Carnival'.



Avid Readers!

Some of our avid readers took part in deciding the winning books for the Sheffield Childrens Book Awards 2023.

After reading, reviewing and voting on shortlisted books last year, they were invited to the awards ceremony!

They had a fabulous day out at the ceremony in the Lyceum and also got to meet the amazing S F Said to talk about his award-winning writing.



Sister Act



The KS4 Performing Arts students had a fabulous time watching Sister Act at the Alhambra Theatre Bradford. The experience helps them to prepare for their upcoming coursework. The students were an exceptional audience and enjoyed singing and dancing along with the show.