

***Togetherness *Kindness * Respect * Achievement * Determination * Opportunity**



Students enjoyed a fun packed week of sports with a variety of activities with some record breakers in high jump, long jump and shot.

Y7 spent their Sports Day at Woodburn Stadium which gave them an insight into professional sports.



This Girl Can!

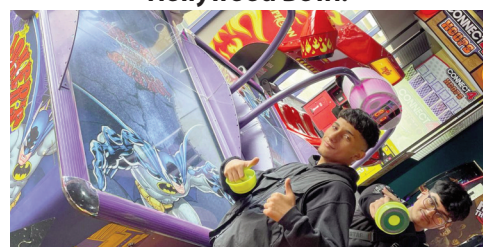


Y9 students went to EIS and Ice Sheffield to participate in different sporting activities as part of the 'This Girl Can Project'.

They participated in glow raving, yoga, boxing, ice skating, rugby and finished the day with a colour run. Lots of fun had by all!



Y7 and Y8 'Togetherness' activities at Hollywood Bowl.



Young Writers



Congratulations to some of our young writers whose work has been picked for publication in a young writers' anthology.

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 6 September 2023

First Day of Term for Y7, Y10 & Y11

Thursday 7 September 2023

All Students in School

Thursday 21 September 2023

Parent Drop-ins (9:30am & 3:15pm)

Friday 22 September 2023

School Closure Day

Thursday 28th September 2023

Y5/Y6 Open Evening

Thursday 5th October 2023

Y11 Parents' Evening (3:30 pm- 6:00pm)

Thursday 12th October 2023

Y7 Tutor Evening

Thursday 19th October 2023

Awards Evening

News

OPPORTUNITY

Well Deserved!

All students who achieved above 95% attendance and an excellent record of behaviour were given the opportunity to go to Alton Towers for the day.

A great day was had by all, plenty of excitement and memories were made.



Look out for the next trip advertised from September!

SAVE THE DATE!

Adventure! Y8 Residential
September/October 2023
Lots of games and activities including...
Assault Course
Abseiling
Zip Line
Walking
Heslop Wood Activity Centre, White Lane, Chapeltown, Sheffield, S35 2YH

You are invited to Fir Vale School
Y5/Y6 Open Evening
5pm - 7pm
28th September 2023

We'd love to meet you and your family and show you our wonderful school. Can't make it? Why not book a tour during the normal school day?
Contact: goxley@firvale.com or phone Fir Vale School on: 243 9391.

YOUR CHANCE TO MEET/SPEAK TO THE HEADTEACHER OR SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM...
PARENT DROP-INS
Thursday 21st September 2023
9:30am & 3:15pm

Achievement	Determination	Kindness	Dates For Your Diary - 2023/24	Together	Opportunity	Respect
Parents' Evenings (5:30pm - 6:00pm)						
Thursday 5th October 2023	- Y11					
Thursday 12th October 2023	- Y7 (Year Evening)					
Thursday 2nd November 2023	- Y10					
Thursday 11th January 2024	- Y8 & Y9					
Thursday 18th January 2024	- Y11					
Thursday 25th January 2024	- Y9					
Thursday 29th February 2024	- Y9 (Closed)					
Thursday 14th April 2024	- Y7 & Y11					
Thursday 25th April 2024	- Y10					
Parent Drop-ins (9:30am & 3:15pm)						
Thursday 21st September 2023	- Y11					
Wednesday 17th January 2024	- Y8 & Y9					
Thursday 11th January 2024	- Y8 & Y9					
Thursday 13th June 2024	- Y8 & Y9					
Thursday 3rd July 2024	- Y8 & Y9					
ClassCharts (www.classcharts.com/parent/)						
Download the app on your phone for information about your child's education.						
School Events	Fir Vale Values	School Events				
Y5/Y6 Open Evening (5:30pm - 6:00pm)	KINDNESS	Winter Showcase				
Thursday 28th September 2023	Thursday 21st September 2023	Tuesday 13th December 2022				
Next Steps Event (Careers Fair)	ACHIEVEMENT	Awards Evening - 6pm				
Tuesday 7th November 2023	Thursday 13th December 2022	Thursday 19th October 2023				
Y11 Annual Conference	DETERMINATION	Whole School Reward Trip				
Tuesday 20th November 2023	Thursday 13th December 2022	July 2024				
School Closure Days: Friday 22nd September 2023 Friday 24th November 2023 Monday 8th January 2024 Monday 15th April 2024 Friday 24th May 2024 Monday 17th June 2024						

Look out for our up to date fridge magnet (2023/24) out in September 23.

Better Learners, Better Workers Graduate!

Our Y9 Better Learners Better Workers (BLBW) students graduated from the programme at the Cutler's Hall.

They took part in a range of employer encounters, work place visits and an Army skills day, to develop their understanding of the world of work. Each Ambassador gained an employer-endorsed Skills Passport based on the BLBW Skills Builder Framework, co-created by employers with education partners. Well done to all the Y9 Ambassadors!



Momooreoluwa beat off competition from 12 other schools to be awarded the "Gold Ambassador" Award.

MOVING FORWARD

Headteacher & School Update

Fir Vale School is moving forward towards being part of a Multi Academy Trust.

Following a rigorous process, we have chosen United Learning Trust as our preferred future partner, based on their collaborative approach to working with schools, the breadth and depth of expertise across the trust and their proven track record of school improvement. United Learning Trust has some of the highest achieving schools in the country and governors are confident that being part of a large national trust that shares our values will enable Fir Vale to go from strength to strength.

This decision is subject to final approval from both parties; over the next few months, United Learning will undertake detailed due diligence of the school to learn more about the school, with the aim being that we can join the trust during the next academic year. We look forward to working with colleagues from United Learning during this process.



Rachel Smith, Headteacher

“We are very excited to share our good news.”

Same Ethos & Values...

United Learning aims to bring out the ‘best in everyone’ and provide children with an excellent education that enables children and young people across the country to achieve their full potential.

Their framework for excellence outlines the guiding principles which underpin excellence in educational provision; crucially, however, context matters and each school within the trust has its own character and identity while delivering against these guiding principles.

The framework for excellence is summarised as follows:

- o The best from everyone. Our goal is to bring out the best in everyone – so we must expect the best from everyone.**
- o Powerful knowledge. We aim to empower young people to be the authors of their own life story, through giving them the knowledge and understanding they need.**
- o Education with character. We seek to develop the whole person – so that young people’s cognitive development is matched by their roundedness and maturity.**
- o Leadership in every role. Every adult in school is a leader – we want them to have agency and take responsibility – and for young people to do so too.**
- o Continuous improvement. However good we are, we can be better, and we take conscious steps to become so.**

This fits with our values and mission to educate the ‘whole child’ We offer unrivalled pastoral support and give opportunities that will allow our students to flourish and leave with confidence and skills for their next steps in life. We look forward to a great partnership.

Fir Vale Values



United Learning
The best in everyone™

Support for Schools

The United Learning education team comprises of Regional Directors, all of whom have led successful schools in a range of contexts, and a team of subject advisors who work directly with Heads of Department and teachers to develop excellence in their specialism.

They also place an emphasis on schools working together, both at the local and national levels, to share strong practice and learn from one another.

Fir Vale will therefore benefit from expertise in other schools and be able to share what is great about our school.

The trust also provides excellent Professional Development for staff and opportunities for students due to their scale.

Our Curriculum leads have been visiting our primary schools to see their curriculum at work.

They have already started joining up the United Learning Curriculum, and ours so the transition is seamless.

ASK THE HEADTEACHER!

We will be running a series of meetings for anyone who wants to find out more about our journey from a Single Academy Trust to a Multi-Academy Trust.

Music Week!



Music Day is a special day to celebrate all the different musical cultures and traditions across the world!

Fir Vale students enjoyed a week of musical activities:

- **Folk Fusion with Mr Cullumbine**
- **South African Chant with Miss Koch**
- **Samba with Sheffield Music Hub**
- **Piano Performance**
- **African Drumming with Mr Ball**

Students received music awards for their hard work in music, and for an outstanding contribution to World Music Week!



THROUGH THE DECADES

The theme for the Summer Showcase this year was 'Through the Decades' and students performed songs and dances from the last 80 years.

From the 1950s Hand Jive to George Michaels' 1980 classic Careless Whisper, the students thoroughly entertained the audience with a variety of acts.

Look out for more performance opportunities next year.

Dance Talent!



Y10 dance students visited Clifton Community School to watch the technical rehearsal of Clifton's movement evening.

Our students were a credit to our school and teachers at Clifton commented on how fantastic they were while visiting.

Some of the Fir vale students were even confident enough to get up and showcase their own dance talent at the end of the rehearsal.



Gospel Choir!

60 students from Fir Vale took part in a Gospel Choir with Gwen Madden and her fantastic team.

It was an absolutely incredible day full of song and laughter, and the students made us all so very proud!

Thank you, Gwen



Mathematical Challenges in Constuction!

9 students visited the BAM construction site in Sheffield City centre to learn about careers in the construction industry.

100 million construction investments are being developed for future learning in higher education. Students experienced at first hand the size of this project and some of the mathematical challenges that had to be overcome to ensure the deadline to handover to Hallam University is met.

