



# FHS NEWS

APRIL 2024

## DANCE FESTIVAL

Thank you to all the performers, the primary and secondary school teachers and parents who supported our 20th Dance Festival.

This fantastic annual dance event included 8 local schools and celebrated dance taking place in our local community.

A huge thank you to all the performers who danced in the show, the compères, and backstage crew. See you next year!



## INTERFAITH EVENT 2024

Featherstone Sixth Form students planned and hosted a wonderful event: the Southall Interfaith Exhibition which was funded by the Charity, Near Neighbours.

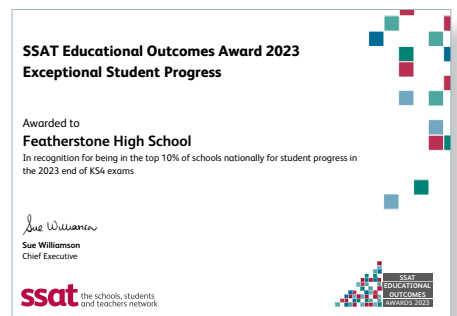
This sell out evening celebrated the diverse cultures and backgrounds that make FHS and Southall such a vibrant and inclusive community. Congratulations to all involved.



(Photo credit: Thishan)

## FHS STUDENTS MAKE EXCEPTIONAL PROGRESS

Congratulations to our students and staff for securing this award for Featherstone. It is testament to the hard work of our school community and the wider community that our students are in the top 10% nationally for progress made at GCSE.



## ARTS WEEK



Our first Arts Week took place last half term, lots more photos inside!



CARE

RESPECT

CHALLENGE

RESILIENCE

PARTNERSHIP

INCLUSION

# HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE



**T**S. Eliot wrote that "April is the cruellest month" and it is probably one of the most famous

opening lines of any poem written in the English language. It is not an easy sentiment to understand as surely April is the month of brighter mornings and evenings; the blooming of flowers and the optimism that comes from not having to put on several layers just to leave the house.

For Eliot, April is a cruel month because it starts a cycle destined to end in the depths of winter. This is not a cheery observation, but then he was writing just after the First World War and perhaps he tended to see things in a rather bleak way.

I think it is quite different! April is the month where the lighter days suggest how much can be achieved and students at Featherstone are preparing themselves for the inevitable challenge that comes at the end of the school year. For the exam years, this is set out very clearly but for every year there is the need to finish well as that is the best way of making the most of your time at school and, of starting the next year well.

The very best thing about April is that it is not too late from an education perspective and in the context of a school year. Even someone who has perhaps not made the best of the year so far can turn things around with a bit of effort. In fact, one of the very best things about schools is that anyone can change the way they are working or preparing or behaving almost

overnight. Teachers and support staff see the very best in our students and effort is recognised very, very quickly.

Therefore, we all have reason to be optimistic as we return to a term starting in April. There is still time; the days are lighter, and we may even be in for some slightly better weather. I am encouraged as ever by returning to school after a break and seeing the children so full of life and enthusiasm. I was also struck by how well we finished last term with the long list of thank you notices I made in the first staff briefing of the new term. We can all look forward to going from strength to strength. Maybe the great poet would have benefitted from a visit to Featherstone High!

**Mr Walters, Headteacher**

## AMBASSADOR'S RECEPTION

**W**e were delighted to welcome Sir Christopher Hum, Former Ambassador & College Master at Cambridge. During his time as a diplomat his postings included Hong Kong, Beijing, the European Communities in Brussels and Paris, and the UN in New York and Warsaw.

He spoke particularly of his time in China and life as the British Ambassador there.



He gave a real insight into the role and the amazing opportunities the job had provided.

## YEAR 11 REWARD TRIP

**M**s Butt and Ms Lavery took ten Year 11 students on a fantastic Year 11 End of Term Rewards Trip to Airport Bowl, Heathrow.

Last term, these students displayed outstanding behaviour, attitude to learning and adherence to our FHS Values. Their hard work and commitment to excellence was recognised and their success was celebrated in a joyous manner.



## ENTERPRISING!

**O**ur Year 12 Young Enterprise team had a successful day competing at the Young Enterprise West London competition.

They presented to a panel of judges and were interviewed about their business journey. They won the finalist award. Another one to add to the collection!



**E**ight Year 12 students visited Royal Holloway for Rare Disease day.

CARE

RESPECT

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# Dairy Meadow Primary & Nursery School

Our school ethos is summarised in four simple words:

**Enjoy! Educate! Embrace! Empower!**

Dairy Meadow is a friendly two form entry primary school in Southall. Our aim is for all of our children to 'flourish' and become curious global minded citizens with a love for sport, music and the arts. We underpin our curriculum with our 4Es of 'Enjoy, Educate, Embrace and Empower'. We have a bespoke careers curriculum so our children can see their future selves and ensure that no pathway is blocked due to gender, class, creed or religion.



**We have recently had our OFSTED inspection where we have remained a 'Good' school.** The report says that "Pupils are looked after, behave well in and out of lessons, achieve highly, engage with the local community and understand the world of work".

**Our KS2 SATS results are above borough average** – Reading 84% EXS+ (29% GDS), Writing 78% EXS+ (18% GDS) and Maths 78% EXS+ (37% GDS),

We have a strong sports offer with our children taking part in borough wide competitions. There are also separate events for our Pupil Premium and SEND children. Year groups also get to work with Brentford FC in the Joy of Movement programme.

Music is also well taken care of with our Year 3s learning the J-Sax and individual tuition in piano, trumpet, saxophone and flute on offer. Our school choir entertained residents of local care homes over Christmas by singing carols. We've worked alongside St Paul's Girls School to compose and perform a piece of music. We also heavily invest in local music and have had a visit from tabla maestro Kuljit Bhamra and the Mozartists.

Our bespoke careers curriculum invites volunteers to speak to children about the world of work so they can connect their learning with future employment. We have had workshops from Brompton Cycles and JumpSec Cyber Security alongside more traditional careers fairs.

## READING BUDDIES



Dairy Meadow is so proud to be central to such a beautiful, strong community as Southall is. We pride ourselves on working in partnership with as many local schools, individuals and businesses as possible.

Our friends at Featherstone High School have been giving up their time to come and read to our children for many months now. It's testament to Mr Webb and everyone who has volunteered to take part in the scheme that we can connect learners of all ages across our wonderful town.



**Dairy Meadow**

Primary & Nursery School

[www.dairymeadowprimary.co.uk](http://www.dairymeadowprimary.co.uk)





# ARTS WEEK

IN PICTURES: WHAT AN INCREDIBLE WEEK!

In the 1970s and 1980s French Sociologist Pierre Bourdieu first made the link between someone's background and knowledge and their success in life. A person with "cultural capital" has the knowledge, vocabulary and habits that will enable them to get ahead in life. **WELCOME TO OUR FIRST ARTS WEEK: HELPING OUR STUDENTS GAIN CULTURAL CAPITAL FOR LIFE**



TAIKO DRUMMING



AFRICAN MASK PAINTING



MACBETH PERFORMANCE



BOLLYWOOD DANCING



MUSEUM "LOOTED ARTIFACTS"



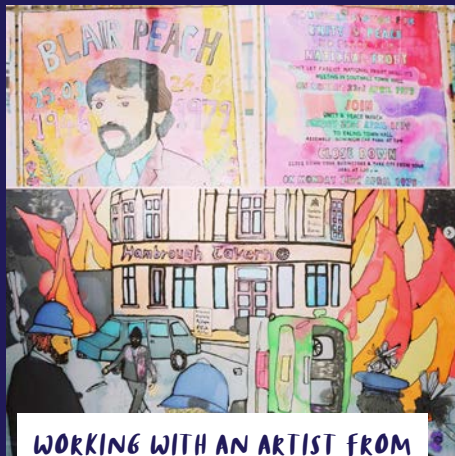
SIXTH FORM INTERFAITH EVENT



ARCHITECTURE WORKSHOP



SIXTH FORM GLOBE THEATRE TOUR



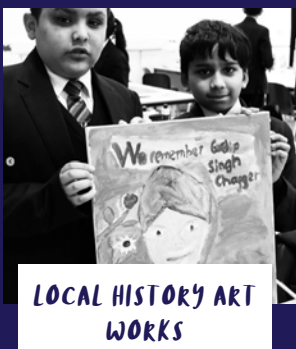
WORKING WITH AN ARTIST FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS



LOCAL HISTORY WITH THE SOUTHALL COMMUNITY ALLIANCE



VISIT TO THE FRAMELESS GALLERY



LOCAL HISTORY ART WORKS



TEXTILES



POTTERY



THE VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM



# THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF WORDS FESTIVAL 2024

The Wonderful World of Words Festival 2024 took place in March, with a whole month of special events and activities celebrating our love of books, words and reading.



## WORLD BOOK DAY

Staff and students celebrated World Book Day by dressing up as their favourite characters from books, and after school we held the first Featherstone World Book Day Quiz. Well done to everyone who took part and congratulations to the winning team The #1s (Jasmeen, Jasleen, Mysha and Galvin).



CAN YOU GUESS THE BOOK?



WINNING TEAM

## BOOK ART

Look what our students created from old books.



A NEW LIFE FOR BOOKS

## HARRY POTTER DAY

Everyone enjoyed a day of Harry Potter and Hogwarts themed quizzes, colouring, crafts and magic.



HOGWARTS COMES TO FHS!

## WORD GAMES

Students used their vocabulary and spelling skills to play fun word games including Articulate, Boggle, Scattergories and Scrabble. The popular Yes/No Challenge also returned.



GAME ON!

## POETRY PERFORMANCES

Top poets Neal Zetter and Karl Nova visited us again to perform their poems and entertain and inspire students in Years 7 and 8. Student librarians were also treated to special writing workshops as a reward and thank you for giving up their time to work in the school library.

## MANGA DAY

Fans of Manga and Anime had fun sharing books and films, and even creating their own stories.

## WORLD POETRY DAY

World Poetry Day was celebrated in the Library with a display of books and fun activities to get everyone rhyming and creating their own shape and acrostic poems. Some brave students also performed their poems.



POETRY PERFORMANCE



KARL NOVA



NEAL ZETTER



# PE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

## GCSE PE TASTER SESSION

During March Year 9 pupils took part in a GCSE PE session.

They participated in an agility competition, circuit, and GCSE PE football drills. They then looked at the GCSE course content, components of fitness and potential careers that they could follow.



## WEMBLEY

A group of students from Year 12 were invited to go to an FA insight day at Wembley Stadium.

They embarked on a transformative journey into the heart of football excellence. They took part in workshops looking at coach development, future roles available in football and how to enter the football industry.



## UNDER 14s GIRLS FOOTBALL

The Under 14s took part in three matches last term.

They played Northolt, Villiers and Brentside. They were unlucky with Northolt, who brought a very impressive side proving too strong for us. The girls didn't let that get in their way and

managed two very successful wins against Villiers and Brentside. Seeing the improvements that they have made over the year has been incredible, the passing and goals they scored showed determination and resilience. They worked together very well and are looking forward to next year's matches.



## NETBALL UPDATE

### YEAR 7 NETBALL

The Year 7 girls showed some excellent resilience and commitment to netball this year. They came up against some strong opposition in the netball tournament but gained some victories against Ealing Fields and Brentside. They also competed in a league competition and are looking forward to next year's matches!

### YEAR 8 NETBALL

The girls have competed well this year, achieving victories against Ealing Fields and Greenford. They gained a draw against Elthorne. They played well as a team, and managed to provide good competition against Drayton and William Perkin, however were beaten on those occasions.



### YEAR 9 NETBALL

The Year 9s had a great season. They managed victories against Greenford, Brentside and Dormers.

They competed well against Cardinal Wiseman but they lost 8-5 and against William Perkin 6-4.



# AWARD WINNERS PARTY!

**G**urdit Singh reflects on an inspiring evening at the Collaborate to Innovate (C2I) Awards Winners' Party!

I had the pleasure of attending the The Engineer UK Collaborate to Innovate (C2I) Awards Winners' Party, with Harman Anand and Reuben Teles. The evening was a testament to the transformative power of collaboration in engineering and scientific research, emphasising the vital role it plays in driving innovation.

I am truly grateful to have been recognised as a runner-up for the Young Innovator award. Congratulations to the Winners, AutoMate by Joseph Birch and

Finley Stirk! It was a pleasure meeting you both at the event, and I'm excited to see the future impact of your innovative work.

A highlight of the evening was engaging in meaningful conversations with industry leaders, including a conversation with Andrew Munday the representative for Babcock International Group who were the headline sponsor for the C2I Awards. It's inspiring to see companies like Babcock supporting and championing innovation in engineering.

Here's to the spirit of collaboration and innovation that continues to shape the future of engineering!



## MUSIC AWARD

**O**ur Featherstone High School Short Circuit band excelled at the North London Festival in Free Church Hampstead Garden Suburb.

The students were awarded medals for their exceptional performance!



## COOKING COMPETITION

**Y**ear 9 Food students have been taking part in a Belazu competition.

Students worked in groups of three to design and make a sauce from a variety of fresh ingredients. Well done to the winning team: Mahir Iffat, Vinpreet Khurana & Deiwin Kanit. Pupils, with the

support of the whole class, will now be competing with 7 other local schools to win the chance of their sauce being sold nationally for supermarkets such as Waitrose & Tesco. Good luck to those who are chosen to complete a Dragons Den style presentation to the Tasting Panel at Belazu in Greenford on the 24th April.



## DUKE OF EDINBURGH

**Y**ear 11 got their first taste of life on an expedition when they embarked on their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh practice hike around Richmond Park on March 23rd.

45 students traded pens and pencils for maps and compasses and successfully navigated their way around the 10km course, encountering deer, skylarks and the occasional hailstorm. The Richmond Park Rangers were impressed with their skills and we're now looking forward to

the assessed expedition in the Surrey Hills in June when students will add in an extra day and a night of camping. Well done everybody!



## VISIT TO GSK

**S**even Year 12 girls attended the International Womens Day event at Glaxo Smith Kline House.

The event was a huge success, with the chance to hear speeches and a panel discussion from inspiring women with various jobs and backgrounds in the STEM industry. The students actively engaged in the networking and gained insights from GSK employees who were all really impressed by the students' engagement.



# BATTLEFIELDS HISTORY TRIP SHAKESPEARE

Forty Year 9 and 10 students had the opportunity to visit Ypres in Belgium for a memorable residential History and Battlefields trip visiting sites, museums and cemeteries.

Whilst the students were accompanied by FHS teachers, an expert Tour Guide was able to explain the significance of key battles in WWI, signposting memorials and describing what life was like for soldiers living and fighting in dreadful conditions. The highlights for the students were the visits to the chocolate shop, the interactive Passchendaele Museum and the Menin Gate Last Post Ceremony. Finally, during the Last Post ceremony, four students laid a poppy wreath for those who had sacrificed their lives in WWI with our poignant inscription, 'Featherstone Remembers.'



Sukhmani Purewal and Sujee Piratheepan have rehearsed tirelessly and were chosen from Mr Manzini's Shakespeare Performs club to enter the first round of the Performing Shakespeare Competition.

They presented an inspirational performance based on a scene from Romeo and Juliet where Sujee played the role of Juliet and Sukhmani played the disgruntled nurse.

The competition inspires students to express their passion, ideas and imagination through the medium of performance, while simultaneously developing fundamental oracy skills. The competition not only brings to life the Shakespeare study requirement in the curriculum in an innovative and exciting way, but it also enables students to develop their creativity, their confidence and their ability to express themselves – crucial skills for the classroom as well as the wider world.

## UKMT MATHS CHALLENGE

Congratulations to all our talented Year 10 and Year 11 students who dedicated their time and effort to participate in the Intermediate UKMT Maths Challenge!

Your passion for mathematics is truly commendable and your participation showcases your individual mathematical talent. We would also like to give a special congratulations to Hetvi Patel, pictured (best in year 10) and Hashir Khan (Best in school). We are incredibly proud of your achievements and the dedication

you've shown towards enhancing your mathematical skills. Well done on your outstanding performance!



## CAREERS VISIT FOR YEAR 12

Ten students from year 12 took part in a visit to the SEGRO facility in Greenford, meeting employees of this international commercial property management company' to find out more about the wide range of career opportunities available.

The event, organised by Spark! Included a visit to Brompton who design and

manufacture innovative folding bikes for commuters across the world



## AMBASSADORS

Year 10 recently welcomed Business Ambassadors to their PSHE lessons.

Scientists, civil servants and tech entrepreneurs were amongst those who spoke to students about their career journey and inspired students to 'aim high' by considering a wide of progression routes.



@FeatherstoneHS



@featherstonehighschool



@featherstonehigh



# OXFORD UNI VISIT

A group of Year 12 students were invited to visit the Oxford University Materials Science Department on the 13th of March.

They had a welcome and introduction to the department, followed by a presentation titled 'From Battery to Solar: Green Energy Materials in 3D' by Professor Saiful Islam.

Then there was a taster workshop, a walk to Mansfield College, lunch at the college's Great Hall, another walk to the department, and a tour of the department's research programs.

The visit concluded with information on how to apply to Oxford, finishing with



a Q&A session with current students. It was an amazing experience for all involved.

# AWARDS CEREMONY

Featherstone works closely with local employability charity Spark! to introduce students to a wide range of employers and offer support for those seeking employment and apprenticeships after leaving school.

Each year Spark! hosts an annual awards ceremony recognising the work of employers, students and schools across West London. In the 2024 event Featherstone won two of the nine awards on offer,

Year 13 students Anmol Virdee and Karndip Singh were both nominated for Mentor and Mentee of the Year 2024 which recognises the impactful



mentoring relationships with employers. Congratulations to Karndip who won for excellent mentoring with Dave Baimbridge from SEGRO.

The school also won an award recognising the quality of careers education delivered by staff across the school.

## TERM DATES

May Day (Bank Holiday): Mon 6 May

Half-term: Mon 27 May to Fri 31 May

On line learning day & Induction Day Year 6: Fri 28th June

End of term: Tue 23rd July

Visit our website for the full calendar:  
<https://www.featherstonehigh.ealing.sch.uk/schoolcalendar>

# LITMUS PROJECT

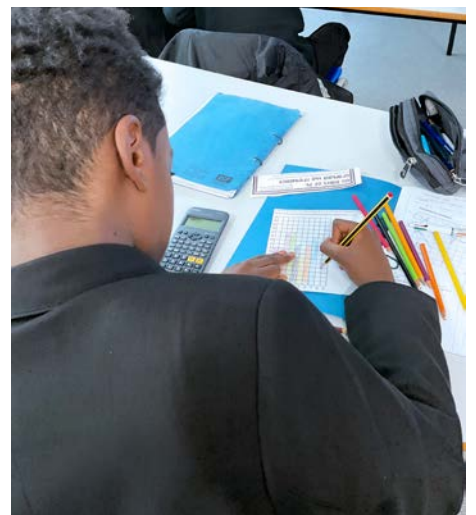
Jeeva Piratheepan in Year 10 was one of the winners of The Litmus Project, a fiction writing competition run by the University of Cambridge.

Her entry can be seen on their website:  
[https://thelitmus.trin.cam.ac.uk/fwp\\_portfolio/listen-to-me-by-jeeva-piratheepan-featherstone-high-school/](https://thelitmus.trin.cam.ac.uk/fwp_portfolio/listen-to-me-by-jeeva-piratheepan-featherstone-high-school/)

# PI DAY

Happy  $\pi$  Day!

A day to be irrational! The Maths Department ran special activities today to mark this significant little symbol. Ms Samson even donned a specially designed jacket!



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[Featherstonehigh1](https://www.youtube.com/Featherstonehigh1)



[@FeatherstoneHS](https://twitter.com/FeatherstoneHS)



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EVERYONE IS  
WELCOME AT  
THE CLUBS

# PE CLUBS SUMMER 2024

## WEEKS A & B



	Y8&9 LUNCHTIME 11.45-12.20pm	Y7 LUNCHTIME 12.25-1.00pm	AFTER SCHOOL 3.10-4.20pm
MONDAY			<p><b>Yr 7-11: Rounders</b> (Ms Mckeever &amp; Ms Lavery)</p> <p><b>GCSE PE Handball</b> (Mr Akyeampong)</p> <p><b>Bollywood Dance</b> (Ms Vaja)</p>
TUESDAY			<p><b>Yr 7 &amp; 8 Girl's NFL</b> (Ms Brodie)</p> <p><b>Dance</b> (Ms Hayes)</p> <p><b>GCSE PE Trampolining</b> (Ms McKeever)</p> <p><b>Yr 7 &amp; 8 Boys Cricket</b> (Mr Akyeampong &amp; Mr Oktay)</p>
WEDNESDAY	<p><b>Badminton</b> <b>Indoor Rounders</b></p>	<p><b>Badminton</b> <b>Indoor Rounders</b></p>	<p><b>Yr 11-13 Boys Cricket</b> (Mr Sandhu)</p>
THURSDAY	<p><b>Just Dance</b> <b>Dodgeball</b></p>	<p><b>Just Dance</b> <b>Dodgeball</b></p>	<p><b>Yr 9 &amp; 10 Cricket</b> (Mr Boateng)</p> <p><b>GCSE PE Netball</b> (Ms McKeever)</p> <p><b>Yr 7-11 Girl's Cricket</b> (Ms Lavery)</p> <p><b>K-Pop</b> (Mr Balakchiev)</p> <p><b>Yr 7-11 Climbing</b> (Mr Donovan)</p>
FRIDAY			<p><b>GCSE PE Yr 10 &amp; 11 Boy's Football</b> (Mr Boateng &amp; Mr Oktay)</p>

FOR CLUBS AFTER SCHOOL, MEET ON THE ASTRO. BRING YOUR FULL PE KIT.



Ealing Mental Health Support Team

# WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS/CARERS

SUMMER TERM 2024



Over the summer term, Ealing Mental Health Support Team will be running a variety of workshops for parents and carers of children who attend a school in Ealing.



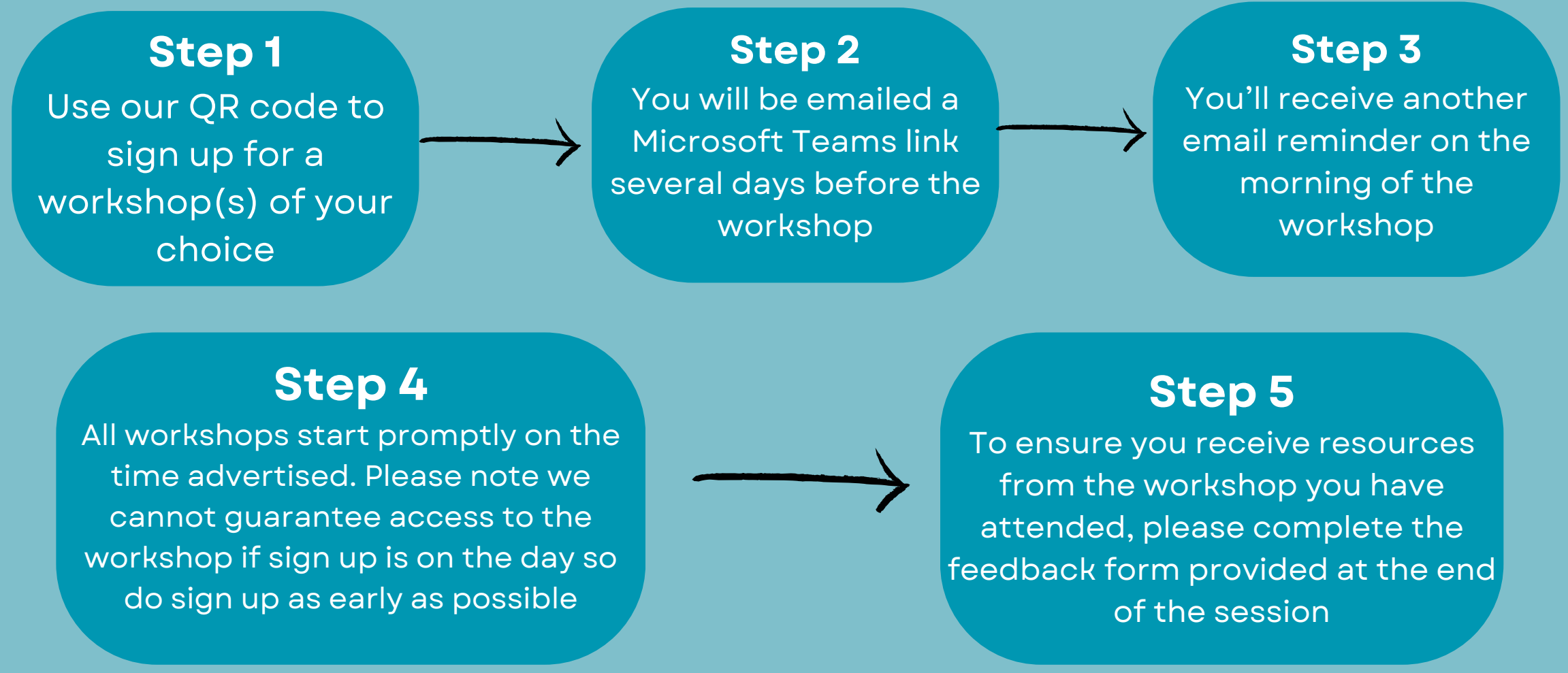
If you would like to sign up to one of our workshops, please do so on the below website or scan the QR code.



<https://forms.gle/X1XdeBmkkWVcNDic6>

If you have any questions, please do email us on: [Ealing.mhst@nhs.net](mailto:Ealing.mhst@nhs.net)

## PRE AND POST-ATTENDANCE GUIDE





## TRANSITIONS

This workshop is aimed at parents/carers of **Year 6 primary school** students who would like to know about how to support their child in managing the transition to secondary school and will provide strategies to promote wellbeing.

**Date: April 16th 2024**  
**Time: 12:30pm - 2:00pm**

## AN INTRODUCTION TO AUTISM

This workshop is aimed at parents/carers of children attending **Primary** and **Secondary**, who would like to know more about Autism and how to support children where Autism may be suspected or diagnosed.

**Date: April 19th 2024**  
**Time: 11:30am - 1:00pm**

## ADOLESCENT EXAM STRESS

This workshop supports parents/carers of **secondary**-aged children to identify and manage exam stress in adolescents, and will provide strategies to promote wellbeing in students before, during and after exams.

**Date: April 23rd 2024**  
**Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm**

## TRANSITIONS

This workshop is aimed at parents/carers of **Year 6 primary school** students who would like to know about how to support their child in managing the transition to secondary school and will provide strategies to promote wellbeing.

**Date: May 9th 2024**  
**Time: 11:00am - 12:30pm**

## ADOLESCENT EXAM STRESS

This workshop supports parents/carers of **secondary**-aged children to identify and manage exam stress in adolescents, and will provide strategies to promote wellbeing in students before, during and after exams.

**Date: May 21st 2024**  
**Time: 11:00am - 12:00pm**

## UNDERSTANDING BEHAVIOUR FOR CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS

This workshop is aimed at parents/carers of children attending **Primary** and **Secondary**. The workshop introduces how and why behaviours may occur in children with a range of additional needs, and how to support positive behaviours in children.

**Date: May 24th 2024**  
**Time: 11:00am - 12:30pm**

## SUPPORTING ANXIETY IN CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

This workshop is aimed at parents/carers of children attending **Primary** and **Secondary** who would like to learn more about how to manage anxiety in young people, as well as helping to build their confidence.

**Date: June 4th 2024**  
**Time: 11am - 12:15pm**

## AN INTRODUCTION TO AUTISM IN ADOLESCENTS

This workshop supports parents/carers of **secondary**-aged children. It aims to introduce parents to the changes and impact of adolescence within autism, equipping parents with strategies to promote positive mental health among autistic teenagers.

**Date: June 14th 2024**  
**Time: 11am - 12:30pm**

## UNDERSTANDING MENTAL HEALTH IN ADOLESCENT BOYS

This workshop supports parents/carers of **secondary**-aged children. It aims to introduce parents to the causes of declining mental health in adolescent boys and equips parents with strategies to promote positive mental health.

**Date: June 18th 2024**  
**Time: 12:00pm - 1:30pm**

## SUPPORTING POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR IN CHILDREN

This workshop supports parents/carers of **primary**-aged children. It introduces parents to common behavioural difficulties, factors that influence behaviour and strategies to manage your child's behaviour. It'll also consider the impact of screen time and how to promote boundaries with this.

**Date: July 11th 2024**  
**Time: 1:00pm - 2:15pm**

## TEEN LOW MOOD

This workshop is aimed at parents/carers of **secondary**-aged children, who would like to know more about what may cause low mood and gain knowledge of strategies that can help to improve low mood.

**Date: July 18th 2024**  
**Time: 11am - 12:00pm**

## SUPPORTING FRIENDSHIPS IN CHILDREN

This workshop is aimed at parents/carers of **primary**-aged children to provide information to help you support your young person with building and managing friendships, including supporting with social anxiety.

**Date: July 31st 2024**  
**Time: 11am - 12:00pm**

