



FHS NEWS

MARCH 2025

SCIENCE WEEK 2025

RIP UMESH SHARMA CHAIR OF GOVERNORS



This year's Science Week was incredible!

Guest speakers, workshops and special lessons took place over the week, giving students an opportunity to hear from experts and get hands on science experience.

We also invited primary schools to join in the fun, laying on special workshops.

It was a privilege to host leading fertility expert and Member of the House of Lords, Lord Professor Robert Winston who spoke to our Sixth Formers. Also



pictured are students exploring the solar system via virtual reality and a show by the Royal Institute (pictured above). More photos inside.

We remember Umesh Sharma who was a dedicated servant of Featherstone High School for the last thirty years. He was a man of service who made a strong contribution to the local and wider communities for his entire adult life. He passed away on the 20th February.

His association with Featherstone went back to the early 90s. His two sons both came here and did well, giving Featherstone a special place in Umesh's heart. He served as a governor; as Deputy Chair of governors and for the last two years as Chair of Governors. He was a man who could always be relied upon; a man with a vast reservoir of knowledge, life experience and wisdom and a Chair of Governors who could be utterly depended upon. He will be sadly missed but we remember him with gratitude and warmth.

MUSIC SUCCESSES

We are proud to announce that our school has once again emerged victorious at the Croydon Performing Arts Festival music competition!

Our talented Short Circuits band (below) with Mr Adams, Ms Zou and Mr

Osborne took to the stage delivering an electrifying performance that won the competition. Their hard work, passion, and teamwork shone through.

A second group of students have won the Best Drive and Energy award, along with a £150 cash prize, at the Encore Music Competition and secured 2nd place overall.

The competition was fierce, making this achievement even more remarkable. Huge congratulations to our incredible students (pictured right).



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CHALLENGE

RESILIENCE

PARTNERSHIP

INCLUSION

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

SLEEPING THROUGH THE STORM

SI love the following story, and it has great application for our life at Featherstone: A young man applied for a job as a farmhand. When the farmer asked for his qualification, he said "I can sleep through a storm." This puzzled the farmer but he liked the young man so he hired him.

A few weeks later, the farmer and his wife were awakened in the night by a violent storm ripping through the valley. He leapt out of bed and called for his new hired hand, but the young man was sleeping soundly.

The farmer and his wife then inspected the property. They found the farm tools had been placed in the storage shed, safe from the elements. They saw that the bales

of wheat had been bound and wrapped in tarpaulins. The tractor had been moved into the garage. The barn was locked tight and even the animals were calm and had plenty of food. All was well.

Then the farmer understood the meaning of the young man's words, "I can sleep through a storm."

Because the farmhand did his work well and worked hard and faithfully when the skies were clear he was prepared for any storm.

The moral of this story is clear: if we tend to the important things in life; if we get our preparations right and if we work well when it is possible we will be able to survive the storms that sometimes arise in life.

So it is with education and with life at Featherstone.

If all pupils can do their work; gain their grades; develop their characters; imbue the values – they will be ready for whatever life may throw at them. This is a brilliant aim and one that so many who have passed through Featherstone can already bear testament to.

We have had a great term so far. Thank you to everyone who has made this possible including all our families. Life is good at Featherstone because we know that; Together we Achieve.

Mr Walters, Headteacher



HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY



We were honoured to contribute to Ealing's Holocaust Memorial Day 2025 alongside the Mayor, Councillor Yvonne Johnson.

Guest speaker Seymour Kelly shared his mother's harrowing Holocaust experiences. Featherstone students read pledges emphasizing the importance of understanding the Holocaust and other genocides and the role young people play in rejecting hate and discrimination.

JACK PETCHEY SPEAK OUT

Year 10 student, Mehrish attended the Jack Petchey Speak out challenge regional finals for Ealing securing second place out of 800 students with her speech "There's Hope in a Smile".

Mehrish took part in a workshop organised by Mrs Amiri comprising a large group of year 10 students. This focused on developing young people's communication skills, building confidence in public speaking, and



providing a platform for them to share their perspectives on topics they care about, empowering them to "speak out" on issues important to them.

SPARK! EMPLOYMENT SKILLS

Spark! arranged for selected students from Year 12 to spend a morning at Greenford Park, a facility managed by international property company SEGRO.

They first toured the Brompton bike factory, speaking to staff who design and manufacture the innovative folding bike which is exported to 45 countries across the world. After this they visited ETC Lighting who specialise in designing



lighting consoles for theatres and arenas across Europe and Asia. The next stage of the programme will involve students receiving mentoring from SEGRO staff.

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SCIENCE WEEK 2025



Hands on explosive science show!



Alan aka "the Birdman"



The Mobile Planetarium



Lord Professor Winston



Dr Ken brings science & circus skills together



Drone coding workshop



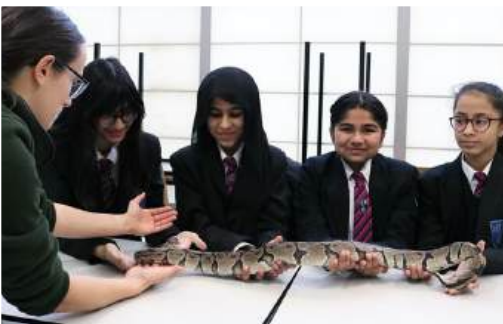
Visitors from the Canals & River Trust, Animal Aid, physicist Colin Stuart and the Centre of the Cell



The Zoolab creatures



James Peach of Innocent Drinks, Uber, and now Vinted



Animal Roadshow treating students to amazing animal encounters



Hands on Science challenged our students to a race, Newton style!



Major Scott Pallet, a senior medical microbiology and infectious disease registrar in the British Army



Staff from Elevation X led the "What is a Watt?" Workshop



We also welcomed, Havelock, Clifton, Wolf Fields St Anselm's and Featherstone Primary Year 6 pupils to work with our 6th Formers and Science teachers.



Bioengineering Outreach from Imperial College

YOUNG ENTERPRISE

Five year 12 students travelled to Spitalfields market to sell their products as part of the Young Enterprise Enrichment offering from the Business Studies department.

They set up a lovely stall and sold to other YE teams and the public. Their products were personalised mirrors, handmade flowers and bracelets. They did extremely well in a highly competitive environment.



FOOD MASTERCLASS



We held a fantastic food masterclass with Year 9s who worked hard to produce innovative new sauce recipes for Belazu Foods to taste!

Working with a wide range of ingredients, students whizzed up new creations for their peers, the organisers and Headteacher Mr Walters to sample!

HOMework CLUB

Monday to Friday
Time- 7.30 to 8.20

Venue: Reflection room

Bedrock learning
Sparx maths
Printing access / art supplies
Homework assistance
Access to computers

READ & WRITE LIKE A GEOGRAPHER

A huge well done to the Year 11 students who participated in the Read and Write Like a Geographer programme this half term!

Led by two student ambassadors (including an ex FHS student - Omkar) from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), the sessions took place after school, providing an enriching opportunity to develop key geographical skills. Your dedication and hard work have been truly impressive — congratulations on your commitment to the programme!



DIVERTING MINDS CLUB

Diverting Minds is about bringing students together as a whole and will welcome all students to an “after school club”, where they are able to play games such as: Uno, Articulate, chess and Monopoly.

This will not only improve the social skills of the students but also bring a more competitive side, when playing multiplayer games and bring people together.

Year 10 students, Mohammed and Deiwin won a Dragon’s Den style competition run by the ‘Kick’ charity to run their club to bring students together. Mohammed and Deiwin said:

“We believe that our goals can be met and achieved by simply bringing people together. Just like our school motto “Together we Achieve”, loneliness can be avoided and mitigated by bringing people together. One of Britain’s biggest problems revolves around mental health; companies and the media have said that the only solution to reducing the effects of mental health issues (with loneliness being a driving force) is the act of socialising and talking”.

The students have run a pilot club and are now finalising the event details. Please look out for posters and information on Sharepoint for times, location and how to sign up.



*Pupil feedback: “fun and enjoyable”.
“It promoted Inclusion”; “I loved it”;
“I made new friends”.*

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FHS LIBRARY NEWS

DISPLAYS & SPECIAL EVENTS



Recent book displays in the library have celebrated special events and highlighted books on a wide range of topics and genres, including: Valentine's Day; Science Week; and Funny Stories.



EPLATFORM

The FHS ePlatform is a library of 2000 ebooks and audio books available to students wherever and whenever they want.



As it is electronic they can even use it during the school holidays when school is closed. Access is through the FHS portal or ePlatform app. A great way to get reading!

VALENTINE'S DAY

CRAFTS & BLIND DATE WITH A BOOK!



LATEST EDITIONS OF FHS READS

The latest editions of the FHS Reads and YA Reads are full of recommendations for some great wintery reads, and also feature authors and genres and new additions to the library's shelves.

WWW.FEATHERSTONEHIGH.EALING.SCH.UK/READING

NEW YEAR 7 PUPIL LIBRARIANS

A group of very enthusiastic & community-minded Year 7s have volunteered to be pupil librarians, giving up their own time to learn new skills and work in the library at lunchtimes.

Some members of the team are shown here proudly wearing their Librarian badges.



OVERDUE BOOKS REMINDER

A number of students still have library books from last year. These are now overdue and should be returned as soon as possible so that others can read them. If there are any problems, please contact library staff.

FHS SPORTS LEADERSHIP

The Year 9 Sports Leaders have worked hard at three different events inspiring the younger participants.

They have run: the Year 3 and 4 Indoor Athletics finals at FHS; the Panathlon for SEN pupils and; the Year 7 and 8 Indoor Athletics London Youth Games regional finals.

The students represented our school very well, running events such as indoor shotput, vertical jump, standing jump, and sprinting finals. They have shown some brilliant leadership, explaining the events to the competitors, measuring accurately and judging the events. The Year 9s are now in contention to lead the London Youth Game finals. Well done!



NFL TOURNAMENT YEAR 7, 9 & 10

On the 12th February Featherstone High School hosted the Featherstone SSP NFL tournament.

The Year 7 mixed team and the Year 9 & 10 girls team competed against Villers, Ealing Fields, William Perkin and Alec Reed. They enjoyed the afternoon with some impressive set plays and organised passes which led to touch downs. This was a great opportunity to take part in American Football and try something new.



SPRING PE CLUBS

Have a look at the PE Extra Curricular Timetable. This will be the timetable up until Easter!

EVERYONE IS WELCOME AT THE CLUBS

PE CLUBS SPRING 2025
WEEKS A & B

	Y8&9 LUNCH	Y7 LUNCH	Y10&11 LUNCH	AFTER SCHOOL
MONDAY		Football - Week 1		Boys Basketball Girls Football GCSE PE Intervention
TUESDAY		Football - Week 2		Climbing Year 7 Boys Football - Week 1 Year 8 Boys Football - Week 1 KS2 Badminton - sports hall Dance Year 7 & 8 Football
WEDNESDAY		Football	Badminton	
THURSDAY		Football	Badminton	Year 9 Boys Football - Week 2 Year 10 & 11 Boys Football - Week 2 Year 9, 10 & 11 Football LPCF KS2 Badminton - sports hall Bollywood Dance
FRIDAY		Football	Badminton - Week 2	

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

Click Here: <https://www.featherstonehigh.ealing.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=74&type=pdf>

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Family Support Website

Browse resources, programmes and support services available for families.

Please scan the QR code:



Scan the QR Code and Scroll down to browse resources, programmes and support services available for families or Visit: <https://padlet.com/featherstonehigh/featherstone-high-school-family-support-6fnipm4nh102br3i>

STEM FUTURES: IMPERIAL COLLEGE

Sixth form student Safia, has been taking part in the STEM Futures Programme at Imperial College London.

The team at STEM Futures, sent us this message: "Safia has been a great asset to the programme and an excellent representative of Featherstone High School. She is a fantastic student – we have absolutely loved working with her over the last year – and we have no

doubt that she will go on to do great things in the future!

She has been a star student during the Bush Theatre Workshop (on public speaking, networking, and overcoming imposter syndrome), a great participant who really blossomed!"

Well done Safia!

**Imperial College
London**



The year 11 GCSE Art & Design students went to a trip to the V&A to get valuable research for their exam project.



REFUGEE EDUCATION UK

Ten students in Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 participated in an online workshop with Refugee Education UK.

This followed on from two successful workshops last year. The session was focused on educational pathways and careers. Students learnt about the

educational pathways of Hamid and Bilal; Refugee Education UK employees who travelled to the UK from Afghanistan. They were introduced to the National Careers Service and UCAS websites, and were able to ask questions about pathways and careers. They will be running an in-person session in school soon and we look forward to welcoming them.

unifrog

All students in school have a Unifrog account accessible by entering their school e mail address.

Unifrog is an online platform that helps students explore career and education options, and apply for courses. Parents can now access Unifrog by using the code FHSEparents.

CAMBRIDGE TRIP

Members of the FHS Scholars group recently spent the day at Jesus College, part of the University of Cambridge.

During a busy day students toured the college, founded in 1496, visiting the iconic chapel before hearing from undergraduates and tutors about how



to make a successful application to Russell Group universities.

TERM DATES

Curriculum Day coinciding with Eid al-Fitr: Monday 31st March 2025

End of term: Friday 4th April 2025

Easter holiday: Monday 7th April to Monday 21st April 2025

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



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Do you need to talk to someone?

THE REFRESH PROJECT



Our qualified professional will support you through free and confidential 1:1 sessions for up to 16 weeks.

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- ★ Explore how to feel empowered to make changes.

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Or email: therefreshproject@empowering-action.org.uk

