FHS NEWS

NOVEMBER 2026

WE ARE AN INCLUSIVE SCHOOL

Featherstone High Celebrates Prestigious Inclusive School Award!

We are delighted to announce that Featherstone High has been awarded the IQM Inclusive School Award, following a rigorous two-day assessment recognising our commitment to inclusion, ambition and excellence for all.

Assessors praised our dedicated teachers, focused students and supportive learning environment, describing students' behaviour and attitudes to learning as "exemplary".

Our high expectations and genuine care were also highlighted, with a representative from Refugee Education UK commenting that Featherstone High has "perfected the balance of tough love with ambition and grace."

Families praised our passionate staff and the positive impact they have on students' confidence and enthusiasm for learning. The report concluded that "Inclusion is interwoven into all areas of the school", with the assessor describing it as "an absolute pleasure to visit and to witness such excellent work."

This wonderful achievement reflects the dedication of our entire school community. We are incredibly proud of our students, staff and families for making Featherstone High a place where everyone can thrive!

CELEBRATING RESULTS

We are celebrating Outstanding Exam Results at Featherstone High!

We are delighted to celebrate record-breaking A Level results at Featherstone Sixth Form, with an impressive 36% of grades awarded at A–A*! Our BTEC students also excelled, with 100% achieving grades between Merit and Distinction*.

There was further cause for celebration as our Year 11 students achieved excellent GCSE results, with improvements across the board compared with last year.





These fantastic achievements reflect the hard work, dedication and determination of our students, alongside the invaluable support of staff and families.

APPRENTICESHIP



Congratulations to Areena, who has secured a Business Analyst Apprenticeship with the London Stock Exchange Group!

After completing work experience with LSEG, Areena was inspired to pursue a career there. Despite a competitive application process, her determination and resilience paid off!

Areena expressed her gratitude to all the teachers who supported her, particularly Mrs Sarang and Mrs Sharma, for helping her secure the initial work experience opportunity. A fantastic achievement and an inspiration to others to keep pursuing their goals. Well done, Areena!

COMMUNITY AWARD

Congratulations to Year 12 student Sukhmani, who has received the Southall Community Young Achiever Award in recognition of her fantastic work supporting Young Carers.

We are incredibly proud of Sukhmani's dedication to making a positive difference in the community. A truly well-deserved achievement. Well done, Sukhmani!



Sukhmani pictured with Jags Sanghera, Chair of the Southall Community Alliance

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

A Drop in Temperature, a Rise in School Spirit!

As we return for the second half of the autumn term, November is certainly making its presence felt. The temperature has plummeted, and the search for warmer coats and scarves has replaced any lingering hope of an extended summer. Yet, while the mornings may feel distinctly chillier, there is plenty at Featherstone to lift our spirits. We begin this half term with much to celebrate and a strong sense of confidence in the weeks ahead.

Before the break, Arts week and Culture day provided a wonderful reminder of the creativity and diversity within our school. Their success was about more than two highlights in the calendar: it was about giving our young people opportunities to express themselves, appreciate one another and feel proud of the community they share. I would like to thank everyone who contributed to these celebrations, especially our staff for their work in bringing them together and our students for embracing them so wholeheartedly.

There is also much to celebrate in the great success of our new 3G pitch. It is an exciting addition to the school and another reason to feel proud of what we can offer our young people. Alongside the arts and our cultural celebrations, sport plays an important part in ensuring a rounded school experience. These extracurricular opportunities matter not simply for the enjoyment they bring, but for the confidence, friendships and sense of belonging that we want every student to develop. Even with the colder weather arriving, there is no shortage of reasons to get involved.

Above all, we can all take pride in how well things are going across the school, guided by our shared values. Care, Respect, Resilience, Inclusion, Partnership and Challenge are not simply words to display; they underpin how we learn, work and treat one another. Inclusion has been particularly recognised through our recent accreditation with the Inclusion Quality Mark – a further testament to the wonderful school we are proud to work in.



Whether in a classroom, through a creative activity or on the pitch, our ambition is the same: for every child to feel supported, included and encouraged to do their best. Thank you to our families for your continued partnership. The temperature may be falling, but together we will keep our school spirit rising. Together We Achieve.

Mr Walters, Headteacher

STUDENT KINDNESS

After finishing their GCSEs this summer, Mohammedrasool and Deiwin returned during the holidays to give back to our community.

They helped pack backpacks donated by Sky, filled with hygiene products from The Hygiene Bank and school supplies, with support from Southall Community Alliance.

The backpacks were distributed to families attending our free holiday clubs, and the feedback has been incredibly positive. Hygiene poverty can often be hidden, so it was fantastic to see our students recognise the need and step up to help others.



AWARDS EVENING



Our annual School Awards Evening was a wonderful celebration of achievement.

We were honoured to be joined by the Mayor of Ealing, Cllr Faduma Mohamed and our inspirational guest speaker, Liz Mayon-White, an Atlantic Ocean rower, endurance athlete and cancer survivor. Liz shared her remarkable journey of resilience, determination and overcoming adversity, encouraging our students to embrace challenges, find joy in the small things and never stop striving to achieve their goals.

It was a memorable evening, celebrating the outstanding achievements of our students and inspiring them for the future.

LIBRARY NEWS

LIBRARY
Reading & Learning

NEW BOOKS!

This September the school received an exciting email from the Dept of Education informing us that we had been given £1400 to spend on books for the library to celebrate the National Year of Reading.

Librarian Miss Smith has ordered lots of lovely new books for all ages and abilities. Student Librarians Diya and Maryam got first pick of the new books – one of the perks of their job!



WELCOME

Welcome to our new Librarian Ms Ahmed who started at Featherstone this September.

Ms Ahmed has really enjoyed her first half term "My first half term at FHS has been magical. I've loved welcoming so many enthusiastic young readers through the library doors and watching their eyes light up when they discuss their favourite books."



NEW CLUBS

We have started two new clubs in the library this term.

The Read, Relax & Recharge book group meets every Monday week B after school, and new members are welcome. We are also running a Bookish Craft Club every Wednesday Week A lunchtime where students can make fun book related crafts to keep.







e-PLATFORM

Students have access to the eplatform library all year round but they may find it particularly useful during school holidays when the school library is closed.

Students can access the eplatform via the FHS student portal and choose from thousands of ebooks and audiobooks which they can download to their device via the eplatfrom app.

ePlatform

HALLOWEEN

We have been having lots of spooky fun in the library this October with lots of Halloween decorations, scary books to read and different activities for students to do at lunchtime!







ARTS WEEK 2026

Arts Week went off with a bang this year, with a fantastic range of workshops, trips and activities celebrating Drama, Dance, Music and Art. The week aimed to showcase creative careers and opportunities while giving students wider access to arts experiences.

In school, students enjoyed Taiko drumming, workshops with the University of Westminster, and sessions with creative agency onepointfive, exploring event planning, branding and presentation skills. Ealing-based Rebels and Pilgrims introduced Year 9 to creative careers, inspiring one student to comment, “Before this session I thought creative careers were limited... But now I think there are a lot of options.”

Trips included the Young V&A, Globe Theatre, Sky Studios, British Library and British Museum, with visits to the Royal Albert Hall and The Lion King still to come!

The week culminated in our annual Culture Day, a vibrant celebration of our school community’s diversity, heritage and inclusivity. Activities included poetry workshops, African drumming, Somali buraanbur, Morris Dancing, cultural artefacts, henna design and lunchtime dancing. Lessons also explored how culture influences different subjects.

Culture Day was a wonderful display of pride, acceptance and belonging, celebrating what makes our community unique.

Ms Horton extends her heartfelt thanks to all staff whose support made this fantastic week possible.



















COMMUNITY AMBASSADORS

We have had a fantastic start to our Community Ambassador Programme this year!

Our KS3 ambassadors have been getting involved in a range of creative activities, while KS4 students have been working with KICK Charity to develop and pitch their own charity idea. Our KS5 ambassadors have successfully organised and hosted two events: The Culture Day Quiz and Henna workshop.







KEW GARDENS



Congratulations to Asma Abdi, Rahima Jama, Safia Abdullahi, Sihaam Hashi and Rayjoy Vales, who have successfully graduated from Kew Gardens' award-winning Youth Explainer Programme!

Students have learned from Kew's world-leading scientists and horticulturists, explored plant science and conservation, and developed valuable communication and presentation skills.

Kew Gardens praised the students for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. We are incredibly proud of their achievements and commitment to this fantastic opportunity!

RI SCIENCE WORKSHOP

Selected students from Year 7 were invited to the Royal Institution, an organisation for scientific education and research.

The students took part in a cosmetic science workshop, they made bath bombs and lip balms from scratch and got to take them home.

They learned to use a range of scientific skills including making observations, collecting data and analysing the results.



THERAPY DOG

We were delighted to welcome Biscuit, our wonderful therapy dog from Canine Concern, back to Featherstone High, along with her owner, Juliet!

Biscuit brought smiles, cuddles and joy to our students, making her visit a real highlight. Therapy dogs like Biscuit, accompanied by trained volunteer owners, can have a positive impact on wellbeing, providing comfort, companionship and emotional support to help students feel relaxed and happy. Thank you to Biscuit and Juliet for bringing so much positivity to our school.



BAKE SALE FOR MACMILLAN



Congratulations to our wonderful staff and students who raised an impressive £120 for Macmillan Cancer Support through a fantastic bake sale!

A big thank you to Ms Horton for bringing the cakes, and to those who bought and contributed to making the event such a success. Your generosity and kindness have helped make a difference!

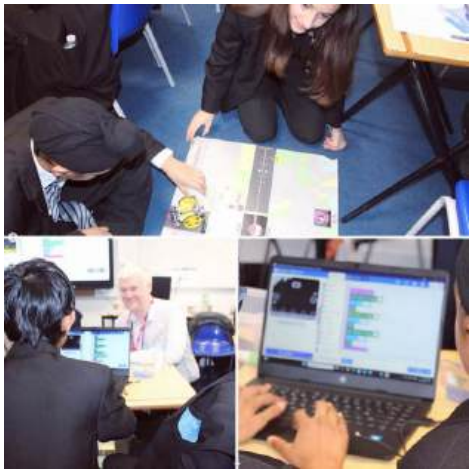
STEM CHALLENGE

Our Year 8 students had a fantastic opportunity to take part in the Heathrow STEM Challenge, enjoying an exciting, hands-on experience exploring the world of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

Students put their problem-solving and teamwork skills to the test as they learned how to code and programme robots, developing their creativity, confidence and technical knowledge along the way.

The challenge also gave students a valuable insight into the wide range of future careers available in STEM, inspiring them to think about the exciting possibilities ahead.

A brilliant experience for all involved and a fantastic opportunity to bring learning to life!



SPEAK OUT CHALLENGE

Starting our journey with the Speak Out Challenge with expert led interactive workshops for our Year 10s.

Students developed powerful speeches to share with their peers, working on their oracy skills, overcoming nerves and speaking passionately.





TALK THE TALK

Year 7 students took part in a fast-paced and engaging confident communication workshop that develops students' oracy skills and spoken confidence.

Thank you to Talk the Talk and their fabulous experts for working with our students - they loved it!





FOLLOW US:

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FREE SCHOOL MEALS

From September 2026, more young people have become eligible for free school meals (FSM).

Types of free school meal eligibility:

1. **Targeted free school meals**
   Children who live in households receiving Universal Credit and earning £7,400 or less per year are eligible for:
   Free school meals
   Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme
2. **Expanded free school meals**
   Children and young people who live in households receiving Universal Credit and earning more than £7,400 per year are eligible for free school meals only

What do parents and carers need to do?
Parents and carers must apply for free school meals via the Ealing Council website if not previously registered:
https://www.ealing.gov.uk/info/201111/education_grants_and_financial_assistance/701/free_school_meals

FOODBANK NEWS

Should you require a referral to Ealing Foodbank, please contact SID@featherstonehigh.ealing.sch.uk

They have informed us that they will only be able to issue a maximum of 6 vouchers in 6 months. The Foodbank Support Team can provide further onward support for families by assessing what help is needed and who can offer this.

You can also use the following foodbank services:

Northolt Food Hub, Viking Community Centre, Radcliffe Way, Northolt, UB5 5HW. Fridays 10:30 – 14:30.

The Store Cupboard, Hanwell store-cupboard.org.uk
E-mail: SID@featherstonehigh.ealing.sch.uk if you would like a referral



Ealing Mental Health Support Team

WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS/CARERS

AUTUMN TERM 2026

NHS West London NHS Trust





Over the Autumn 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.

Back to School (primary students)

A workshop for parents/carers to support the transition back to school following the summer holidays.

Friday 18th September 12:00 -13:15

Supporting Emetaphobia (sick phobia)

A workshop for parents/carers to to support a child who may be experiencing emetaphobia.

Tuesday 6th October 12:00-13:15

Suporting Adolescence Anxiety

A workshop for parents/carers to understand more about anxiety in adolescents.

Friday 16th October 12:00-13:30

Supporting Positive Behaviour

A workshop to help parents/carers understand and support positive behaviour in primary aged children.

Tuesday 20th October 12:00-13:30

Autism and Children

A workshop for parents/carers to understand and support autism in primary aged children.

Monday 9th November 12:00-13:30

Understanding SEND

A workshop for parents/carers to understand and support SEND behaviours.

Wednesday 11th November 12:00-13:30

Understanding/Supporting Toileting Difficulties

A workshop for parents/carers to understand and support toileting needs.

Wednesday 18th November 10:30-12:00

Social Media and Self-esteem

A workshop for parents/carers to understand more about social media and its impact on self-esteem.

Wednesday 25th November 12:00-13:30

Autism and Adolescence

A workshop for parents/carers to understand and support autism in adolescents.

Wednesday 16th December 12:00- 13:30

EALING PARENTING SERVICE

FREE PARENTING WORKSHOPS
AUTUMN TERM 2026

Tues 15th SEPT

Employment, Retraining & Benefits
Delivered by Surria Ali & Thankaraj Karuakarun - Family Community Work Coaches
via MS Teams 10am-12pm

Tues 22nd SEPT

Fathers Group - title TBC
Delivered by Derek Willis - Ealing Parenting Service
*via MS Teams 10am-12pm *men only session*

Tues 6th OCT

Introduction of Internet Safety
Delivered by Hayley Jones - SAFE West Team
via MS Teams 10am-12pm

Tues 20th OCT

Fathers Group - title TBC
Delivered by Derek Willis - Ealing Parenting Service
*via MS Teams 10am-12pm *men only session*

Tues 10th NOV

Understanding Your Teenager
Delivered by Sabrina Meakins - SAFE Counselling
via MS Teams 10:30am-12:30pm

email parentingserviceadmin@ealing.gov.uk to register or for more info

Ealing
www.ealing.gov.uk

EALING PARENTING SERVICE

EALING PARENTING SERVICE

FREE PARENTING WORKSHOPS
AUTUMN TERM 2026

Tues 24th NOV

Contact
Delivered by Contact Ealing
via MS Teams 10am-12pm

Tues 24th NOV

Fathers Group - title TBC
Delivered by Derek Willis - Ealing Parenting Service
via MS Teams 10am-12pm *men only session

Tues 1st DEC

Domestic Abuse, Parenting & You
Delivered by Pat Chapman - SAFE West
via MS Teams 10am-12pm

Tues 15th DEC

Fathers Group - title TBC
Delivered by Derek Willis - Ealing Parenting Service
via MS Teams 10am-12pm *men only session

email parentingserviceadmin@ealing.gov.uk to register or for more info

Ealing
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