



REMEMBERING RABINDARA NATH PATHAK, MBE

It is with great sadness that we at Featherstone High School mark the passing of Rabindara Nath Pathak MBE, a highly respected and valued member of our school community.

Mr Pathak was associated with the school since the 1970s, living locally with his four children who all attended Featherstone High. He joined the Board of Governors as a parent in 1974 and then as a councillor from 1976 and became the Chair of the Governing Body in 1984.

During his tenure as Chair, Mr Pathak oversaw the unification of the school's two sites and the construction of the B Block classroom building in 1996. He dedicated significant time and effort to securing matched funding for a successful Sports Lottery award, which provided outstanding sporting facilities – including the all-weather Astro pitch, the MUGA and the Sports Centre – for both the school and the wider local community.

Mr Pathak also served the community as Mayor of Ealing in 1987/88 and was made a Freeman of the Borough of Ealing in 2002. As Chair of Governors, he played a key role in lobbying Ealing Council for the reinstatement of the Sixth Form and proudly opened the new Sixth Form building in 2010. He also guided the school through its transition to academy status in 2011/12.

In 2010, Mr Pathak was awarded an MBE for services to education. Featherstone High School hosted a reception for staff, friends, family and members of the local community to celebrate this well-deserved honour. In 2014, we marked his remarkable 40 years of service as he stepped down as Chair of Governors. He continued to serve the school as a member of the Grand Union Multi Academy Trust Board until 2022.

We are deeply grateful for his five decades of dedicated service. Mr Pathak was instrumental in the growth and development of Featherstone



High School. He supported the school through Ofsted inspections and oversaw the appointment of two Headteachers, Ms Thelma Cox and Mr Gerry Wadwa, along with many other senior leaders and staff who remember him with great respect and affection. He helped shape our school into the outstanding institution it is today.

MP VISIT TO FHS

Thank you to our MP, Deidre Costigan for taking questions from our School Council and A Level Politics and History students.

The students came well prepared and had some tough questions for a Monday morning! They thoroughly enjoyed the visit and we want to thank Deidre for making time to visit us.



Q&A WITH A MEMBER OF THE LORDS

We were very proud to welcome Sue Garden, Baroness Garden of Frogmal, a wonderful title for a very down to earth and fantastically knowledgeable lady whom our students were thrilled to meet.

She gave us a great insight into the workings of the Lords, her views on the matters of the day and advice for those interested in a life in politics.



LORD PROFESSOR ROBERT WINSTON

We enjoyed a wonderful end to Science Week 2026 with a visit from Lord Professor Robert Winston.

He has been visiting Featherstone for ten years now and we feel very privileged that he takes the time to speak to our students on matters of science and politics, answer their questions and sign autographs!



HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

PRIDE, PURPOSE AND A LITTLE BIT OF SUNSHINE

As we move further into the term, it has been a genuine pleasure to see the sun beginning to shine through after so many weeks of relentless rain. The lighter mornings and brighter afternoons seem to have lifted everyone's spirits, and there is a renewed sense of energy around the school site. Long may it continue!

This is, of course, a particularly important time for our examination year groups. Students in Year 11 are currently undertaking their mock examinations. These assessments are a crucial milestone, providing valuable experience of formal exam conditions and helping students and staff identify next steps in learning. I have been impressed, as always, by the maturity and focus shown in exam rooms. Our young people are approaching this

challenge with determination, and we are proud of the resilience they continue to demonstrate.

Visitors to the school frequently comment on the exemplary standards of uniform and conduct displayed by our students. It is always gratifying to hear external validation of what we see every day: young people who represent their families and our school community with pride. Their courtesy, confidence and readiness to engage in conversation never fail to leave a positive impression.

Just before half term, we enjoyed two fantastic themed weeks. Our long-standing Science Week once again proved to be a highlight of the calendar, with a range of engaging activities, competitions and visiting speakers designed to spark curiosity and deepen understanding. Just a week

before this, we launched our Healthcare Science Week. Although still in its infancy, it was met with tremendous enthusiasm from students and staff alike. It was wonderful to see so many exploring the diverse career pathways within healthcare and related scientific fields.

As ever, there is a great deal happening both inside and outside the classroom. From enrichment activities to academic interventions, rehearsals to fixtures, our school remains a vibrant and purposeful place to learn. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Mr Walters, Headteacher



JACK PETCHEY NEWS



We were honoured to host the Jack Petchey Regional Final attended by the Mayor of Ealing.

This was a prestigious public speaking competition for Year 10s. Our three FHS students performed brilliantly, showcasing confidence, clarity, and fantastic communication skills. Huge thanks also go to our talented young musicians and our former runner-up for joining the judging panel



Feathersone students were very well represented at the Jack Petchey Foundation Awards in Ealing.

The ceremony was presided over by the Mayor of Ealing who presented nine of our students with their awards in front of a maximum capacity audience.

They were recognised for their actions and commitment which all embodied our School Values: Care, Inclusion, Partnership, Respect, Challenge and Resilience.

THANK YOU CARDS

YEAR 7 COMMUNITY AMBASSADORS MADE A VALENTINE THANK YOU CARD FOR EVERY MEMBER OF STAFF AT FEATHERSTONE!



CARE

RESPECT

CHALLENGE

RESILIENCE

PARTNERSHIP

INCLUSION

SCIENCE WEEK 2026



EXCITING SHOW FROM THE ROYAL INSTITUTE



ALAN AKA "THE BIRDMAN"



VR WORKSHOP TRAVELLING INTO SPACE!



LORD PROFESSOR ROBERT WINSTON



DR KEN BRINGS SCIENCE & CIRCUS SKILLS TOGETHER



DRONE CODING WORKSHOP



ANIMAL AID



JAMES PEACH OF INNOCENT DRINKS, UBER, AND VINTED



CSI WORKSHOPS



ANIMAL ROADSHOW WITH AMAZING ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS



WINDMILL STEM CHALLENGE!



LEARNING ABOUT DNA



"WHAT IS A WATT?" WORKSHOP



WELCOMING IN LOCAL PRIMARIES TO BE PART OF THE FUN!



CURIOUS ABOUT SCIENCE WORKSHOP



MEDICAL MAVERICKS!



ROLLERCOASTER CHALLENGE

CARE

RESPECT

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HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE WEEK

Our first ever Healthcare and Science Week was an inspiring and informative experience for students across the school.

Students had the opportunity to meet nurses from the University of West

London, gaining first-hand insight into careers in healthcare. A key guest speaker session was delivered by Dr Jennifer Dixon, who spoke to Year 13, 12, and 10 students about their healthcare journeys and pathways into medical and scientific professions.

During lunchtimes, students took part in practical training sessions, including CPR and EpiPen use, helping them develop vital life-saving skills. The week successfully raised awareness, confidence, and interest in healthcare and science careers.

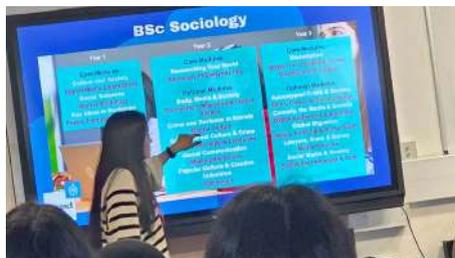


SOCIOLOGY NEWS

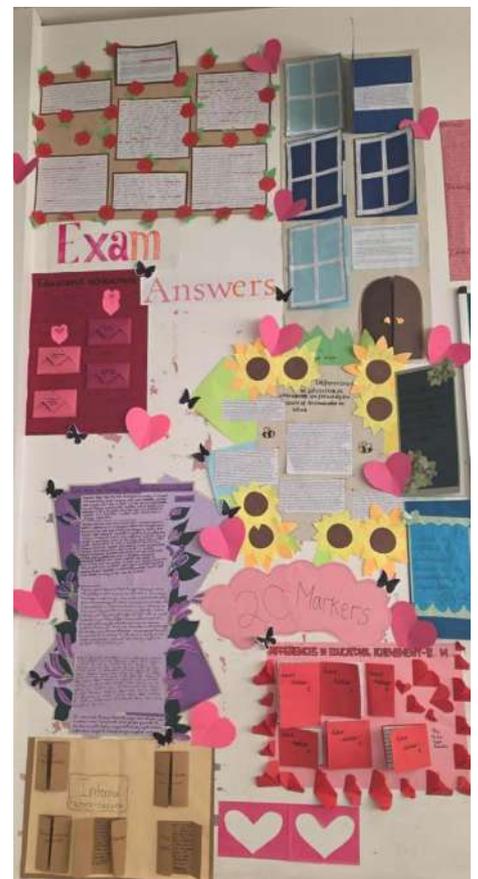
Our year 12 sociology students completed a thesis and interviewed teachers and students across Featherstone.

They produced some outstanding work and managed to collect data relating to education and research methods.

The students heard Dr Rohini Rai from Brunel University delivering a presentation on Covid 19 and linking this to Sociology.



Year 13 students took a trip on 2nd of March to St Anselm Church to learn more about Christianity. This will provide background knowledge for the unit on beliefs in society.



Group work questions completed by Year 12 and 13 students.

FHS LIBRARY NEWS



WELLBEING: HEALTHY BODY HEALTHY MIND

WELLBEING COLLECTION: THESE BOOKS CAN CHANGE YOUR LIFE!

The Wellbeing Collection is full of books recommended by Teachers, Learning Mentors and Health Experts.

Topics include teen life, coping with anxiety, worry and stress, and positive thinking and self-esteem. Reading these books can help students cope with the pressures of life, feel better about themselves and boost their health and confidence with information, advice and useful self-help tips and techniques.

Reading personal stories and fiction about other people's experience can also help us understand our own.

Find lots more useful books and great reads in the FHS ePlatform Wellness Collection.



A recent Fictional Fridays event focused on Wellbeing resources and activities, including mindfulness colouring.

YOUNG CARERS

We have compiled a book list of stories featuring young carers available to borrow from the Library.

For support or information, please contact Mrs Rughani based in the Orchard, email srughani@featherstonehigh.ealing.sch.uk, or speak to any Learning Mentor.

SCIENCE WEEK

Library staff celebrated Science Week with displays of information books and science-fiction stories.

There were also quizzes, puzzles and fascinating facts to discover.



VALENTINE'S DAY

VALENTINE'S DAY CRAFTS, ROMANTIC READS, AND BLIND DATE WITH A BOOK!



READING BUDDIES

Students in Years 7 and 8 have made Thank You cards for their Year 10 and 12 volunteer reading buddies.

They have been meeting regularly to read together. This project challenges students to develop resilience, confidence and fluency in their reading with the support and encouragement of their older reading buddies.



NEXT WEEK!

WORLD BOOK DAY & WONDERFUL WORLD OF WORDS FESTIVAL



Look out for lots of special events, competitions and fun in the Library to celebrate our love of books, words and reading. [Click Here!](#)

LEADING THE WAY WITH OUR YOUNG CARERS

A fabulously colourful, calm and productive afternoon for our Young Carers: decorating biscuits, chatting, laughing and then sharing their creations with staff and their families.

Thank you to our cookery teacher and technician for helping them.

Here at Featherstone we are leading the way with our work with our Young Carers. The dedicated Young Carer Lead, Ms Rughani is helping students realise they are carers or they can refer



themselves. There is support given and activities are organised to help them

connect, make new friends and just take some time for themselves.

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

It was a privilege to be asked to be part of the Ealing Holocaust Memorial Day.

The School Council from Year 8, 9 and 10 represented the school. They listened to the moving testimony of

a Holocaust survivor's daughter and from faith leaders, The Mayor of Ealing, dignitaries and other guests.

Special thanks goes to to Anas in Year 10 for reading our school pledge and to Arya for distributing the stones to lay in memory of the dead.



SHADOW PUPPETS

We welcomed artist Haffendi Anuar to school to work with Year 7 students to create Javanese shadow puppets.

This is part of a larger project to encourage community engagement for a Public Art Project in Southall with Ealing Council.

Haff will be working on an art installation at the Dominion Centre, informed by his work with the community.

VISIT TO GSK

Ten students from Year 12 recently visited GSK's UK headquarters in central London to meet members of staff from the global Biopharma company and discover more about the varied career opportunities on offer.

A tour of the purpose built offices included a visit to the company's farm in the basement, growing vegetables for the on site restaurant using cutting edge hydroponics technology.

After a presentation about how clinical trials are used to get medicines approved for clinical use, the students set about planning their own clinical trial for a new asthma treatment and practised collecting vital patient data.



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CONSTRUCTION CAREERS

Fifteen students from Year 10 recently visited 100 New Bridge Street in the heart of the Square Mile to find out about career opportunities in the construction industry.

They toured the £260 million redevelopment project to see how the building has been reconfigured to house the UK operations of State Street Corp, a Boston-based financial services firm. The students were also rewarded with this fabulous view of the city!

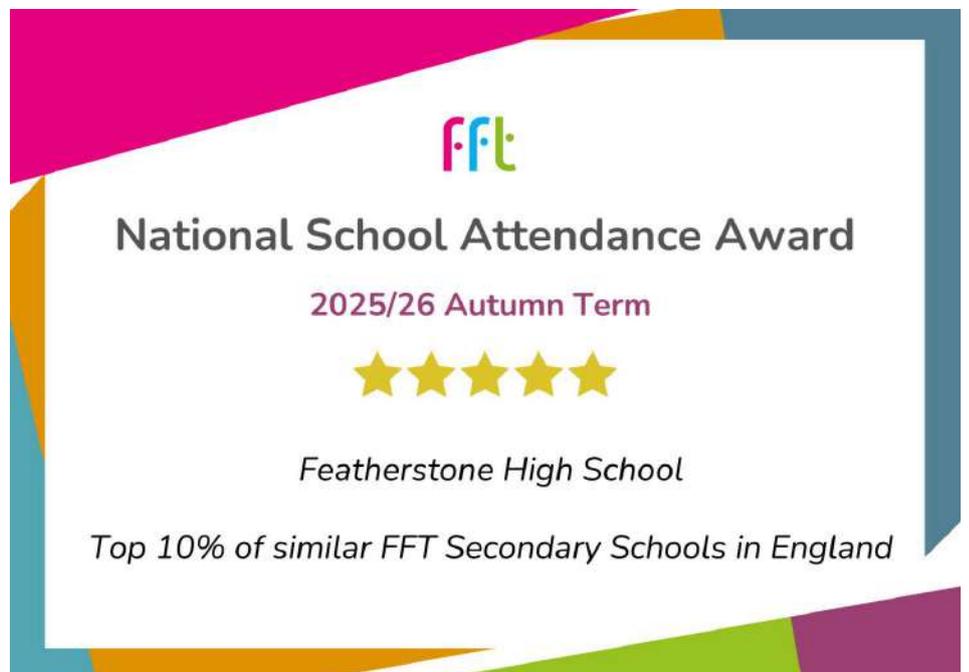


CHINESE NEW YEAR



We Celebrated Chinese New Year in the school canteen with delicious noodles and fabulous fortune cookie cakes!

ATTENDANCE AWARD



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>

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