



# FHS NEWS

OCTOBER 2022

## WE ARE WORLD CLASS



**D**uring the Summer Term a group of students who have been working on the World Class School reaccreditation through the year attended the yearly Symposium event at St Marylebone CE School, to accept our award.



As part of the day, the students engaged with speakers on the theme of the UN sustainable development goals - our group focused on 'peace and justice', through the over-arching theme of 'how can we use social media for change?'

The students engaged in a 'concept and creation session', whereby they had to work quickly to develop an idea of how to use social media for change. They came up with #happynothate, an idea for artificial intelligence software that encourages people's social media feeds to filter the happy and positive news of the moment rather than hate. Their idea was voted the best and it will be put forward to the UN.

World Class School reaccreditation means that we have demonstrated that our students are World Class. It was a rigorous process working with a variety of students from different walks of life, and doing enrichment activities to demonstrate their world class skills. In addition, Emma Holland was a runner up in the awards for Student Character of the Year, so huge well done to Emma.

Speakers included an ex-BBC Evening News editor and who discussed how to be critical and identify fake news; a representative from the UK Foreign and Development Office; and a marketing expert from Snapchat who has a background in Peace and Conflict studies and explored how to use social media for positive change.

Thank you and well done to all students involved in the process.

## WE WILL ROCK YOU!

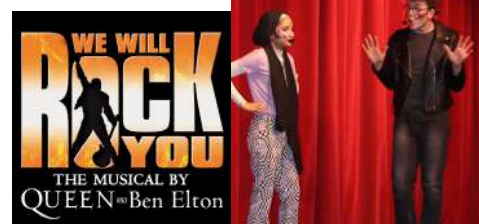
**I**t gave us immense pleasure to be able to present Featherstone High School's first show since the Covid lockdowns.



We kicked it off with a bang, presenting the all singing and all dancing popular West-End musical 'We Will Rock You'.

The cast and crew put on three performances, one for local primary school pupils and two to a packed audience of parents, staff and students.

Ms Harvey, Director said: "I am so privileged to have had the opportunity to work alongside some very talented singers, actors, dancers, artists, musicians and stage technicians who have worked extremely hard (up to 6 hours a week for the past term) to deliver all aspects of the performance, and we are enormously proud of their efforts."



Congratulations to all the students and staff involved.

**TURN THE PAGE TO READ ABOUT OUR FANTASTIC GCSE, A LEVEL & LEVEL 3 BTEC RESULTS**

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# CELEBRATING OUR RESULTS



**STUDENTS AT FEATHERSTONE HIGH SCHOOL CELEBRATED FANTASTIC RESULTS & SECURED PLACES AT TOP UNIVERSITIES, INCLUDING MEDICINE AND LAW COURSES & COMPETITIVE APPRENTICESHIP SCHEMES.**

**S**taff at Featherstone High School (FHS) are delighted with just how well students have done in their A level and BTEC examinations.

With 26% of A level grades at A\*- A and 60% at A\*-B , the school's results are significantly up on 2019, the last set of public exams. In addition, BTEC results are also very pleasing with a massive 63% of grades at Distinction\* or Distinction .

11 A level students achieved straight A\*s and/or As, with 21 BTEC students managing to get straight Distinctions or Distinction\* grades.

GCSE students also achieved very strong results. Nationally, schools have seen a drop in their results from 2021, but FHS has bucked the trend by equalling and, in some measures, beating last year's grades.



## A LEVELS 2022

A\*- A: 26%  
A\*- B: 60%

**4 students accepted to study Medicine**

## LEVEL 3 BTECS 2022

DISTINCTION\* - DISTINCTION: 63%  
100% PASS RATE

## GCSES 2022

9 -7: 29%  
9-5: 67%  
9-4: 81%

GCSE English & Maths Grades 9-4: 81%



Three A Level students (Mayur, Tanvir and Adil pictured) from the same form group were all able to celebrate getting top grades and a place at Queen Mary University, London.

Adil (A\*A\*A) is going to study Maths and Computer Science. He said: "I'm over the moon today that I got such good grades! The teachers put in a lot of hard work to help us".



Dilpreet, pictured, achieved (D\*D, D\*) at BTEC. Despite receiving offers from all of her chosen Universities (including two Accounting Degree courses with paid work placements with PWC), Dilpreet pursued her dream to get accepted onto a highly competitive, paid apprenticeship with IBM which will lead to a Level 4 qualification.

Mr Wadwa, Headteacher, said "We are extremely proud of how well all our A level, BTEC and GCSE students have done given the unparalleled challenges they have faced. Many of our families have been disproportionately impacted by the loss of learning suffered during the lockdowns. These excellent results are a reflection of the exceptional levels of resilience our students have shown and the unwavering commitment and efforts of their teachers."

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# HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

We returned to school in September buoyed up by some excellent public examination



results. Despite all the disruption to their education, last term's Year 11 and 13 students demonstrated just how resilient and determined they are by achieving some fantastic A level, BTEC and GCSE grades following the return of public examinations. 60% of our A level grades were at A\*- B and 26% at the very top end of A\*-A. 63% of the grades for BTEC level 3 students were at Distinction\* - Distinction. Computer Science retains its position as the most popular degree choice for Featherstone students with 18 Featherstone undergrads signed up and our progression rates on to medicine remain high with 4 students securing places at medical school. Year 11 also did fantastically well

with 81% students passing 5 or more GCSEs at the strong pass grades of 9-5. Our GCSE Valued Added score is likely to be exceptionally high when the GCSE national database is analysed.

September is always a very busy period as we welcome new colleagues and begin a variety of new courses. We also host two big events in our calendar – Awards Evening and Open Evening. We welcomed Kathryn Burn to our Awards Evening as our guest speaker. Kathryn is a successful entrepreneur and was runner up in the popular BBC series The Apprentice last year. Kathryn gave us an interesting and insightful talk of how she went about setting up her online business and the determination and hard work that went into making it a success. We were also treated to an inspiring video message from a former Featherstone student, Deborah Bronnert, who is now the British Ambassador to Russia. The

Ambassador congratulated all prize winners and hopes to visit us very soon.

Governors are delighted to announce the appointment of Mr Nathan Walters, as the new Headteacher of Featherstone High School and Executive Headteacher of the Grand Union Multi Academy Trust. Mr Walters is currently Headteacher at Thomas More School in the London Borough of Croydon and will be starting his headship at Featherstone from 1st January 2023. Mr Walters will be attending our school on several occasions during the course of this term to ensure a smooth handover from January 1st.

Thank you in anticipation of your continued support throughout this academic year.

Mr Wadwa, Headteacher

## UK ACTIVE AWARD

As the most prominent awards for serving the sector, the UKactive Awards recognise and celebrate excellence and innovation across health, wellbeing, sport and fitness in the UK.

On Thursday 30th June 2022, Featherstone High School Sports Partnership won the UKactive 'Developing and Supporting

Communities following on from Covid-19' Award at a national ceremony in Birmingham.

The Sports Partnership has worked hard to bridge the gap within our communities to ensure no child is left behind. Intervention programmes were implemented across our network, providing opportunities for all target groups to become and remain physically active.



## HEALTHY SCHOOLS

We are delighted to announce that Featherstone High School have been awarded Bronze Healthy Schools Status.

This award involved undergoing an audit to demonstrate that best practice is in place for safeguarding, exercise and physical health, food and nutrition, mental wellbeing and student voice. Mrs Carey and The Ealing Health Improvement team identified a range of strengths, particularly with physical exercise, mental wellbeing and student voice. We aim to build on this award to move up to Silver in the near future, focusing on wellbeing and healthy minds.



@FeatherstoneHS



@featherstonehighschool



@featherstonehigh

# ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION



[PLEASE VISIT OUR INSTAGRAM PAGE TO SEE LOTS MORE OF OUR STUDENTS' FANTASTIC ART WORK](#)

## YEAR 10 CERAMICS

Our year 10 GCSE ART and DESIGN pupils are busy making their amazing ceramic vessels!



## INSPIRE TRIP

Students attended their final Inspire Trip of the Year in the Summer Term.

They really enjoyed their experience and would like to continue onto the Year 12 and Year 13 programme.

All the students received a certificate for being part of the programme for 3 years, including difficult times during the Covid pandemic, completing lessons online and even winning prizes. These selected students have the potential to apply for the Russell Group Universities and have expressed an interest in doing so. Furthermore, St John's College promised that, should they apply in the future, they would be provided with support as part of the Inspire programme.



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# CURRICULUM WEEK 2022



**W**e were able to resume our fantastic Curriculum Week in 2022, giving students great opportunities to get out of the classroom, meet external guests and develop their cultural capital with a week long programme of activities.

## CURRICULUM WEEK EVENTS PROGRAMME

**YEAR 7** - Visits to places of worship, STEM workshops, Kew Gardens, & the Science Museum

**YEAR 8** - Careers workshop, Natural History Museum, Tate Modern, & STEM workshops

**YEAR 9** - Enterprise Challenge, Thames visit, & the British Museum

**YEAR 10** - Geography field trip

**YEAR 12** - University visits

## SCHOOL COUNCIL

**OUR YEAR 9 REP: AREENA (NOW IN YEAR 10) TELLS US ABOUT HER YEAR:**

**A**nother school year went by, a year filled with ups and downs, good days and bad days, tears and laughter but most important of all, a year filled with lessons. Lessons which have taught us right from wrong and given us all the ability to grow and move forward and have room for changes.

Being a school councillor gave me the opportunity to meet new people and find new perspectives on everyday things around me that I had never seen. It gave me the chance to hear thoughts and ideas from all of you and even the chance to make some of them come true and to keep improving our school to make it the best possible environment for all of us. Best of all, being a school councillor helped me to get closer to a

lot of you as I set myself boundaries and standards to go by so that I could make the best possible choices and hold up an immaculate reputation for our year group.

Although I made many mistakes they only helped me to get closer to becoming a better person because no one is perfect and we all make mistakes which we learn from. It has been a tiring year and in fact our first ever full year at Featherstone High School but again that didn't and shouldn't stop any of us from achieving our full potential and doing the best for ourselves. I strongly believe resilience is key to success and as I enter my final 2 years left at Featherstone and get closer to GCSEs it will only get harder but it is all worth it in the end.



This year we have said or we will say goodbye to some of our most amazing teachers and form tutors who have been with us from the start of our experience at Featherstone and wish them all good luck for their futures and careers too.

I hope I have fulfilled my role as a school councillor representative for year 9 to my full potential and wish our next school councillors, whether it may be myself, or two new people, amongst you all, the best and good luck.

Thank you, Areena.

**MS THOMPSON, WHO LEADS STUDENT VOICE, WILL BE RUNNING ELECTIONS FOR ALL YEAR GROUPS TO FIND OUR YEAR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES.**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT STUDENT VOICE PLEASE EMAIL: [STUDENTVOICE@FEATHERSTONEHIGH.EALING.SCH.UK](mailto:STUDENTVOICE@FEATHERSTONEHIGH.EALING.SCH.UK)**

**WE HOPE AREENA HAS INSPIRED YOU TO GET INVOLVED!**

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# LIBRARY NEWS



## YEAR 7 READ CHALLENGE

Year 7 students have been taking part in the READ Challenge, our in-house programme designed to encourage students to read widely and regularly and to develop a love of books and Reading for Pleasure. 21 students have read over 50 books! They each received a certificate and star badge. Some are pictured here.



Follow us on Instagram:  
[@featherstonelibrary](https://www.instagram.com/featherstonelibrary)

## STUDENT LIBRARIANS

A dedicated team of student librarians have worked in the Library throughout the year. They have helped to issue, return and tidy the books and also carried out other duties. A group of enthusiastic Year 7s were trained in the summer term and will continue to help in the new school year. We would like to say a big thank you to them all for their help and support.



## FHS LIBRARY IN NUMBERS

**14,166** books in stock  
**16,241** books borrowed last year  
**884** books borrowed by 7PKS (top form!)  
**952** ebooks read

## PICK & READ

Reading Champion Nidhi introduced a fun way of choosing your next book. It works like a lucky dip with book titles written on slips and placed in a jar. Students pick a slip and then borrow and read that book. It has been very popular and a good way to discover new series and authors.



## YEAR 9 HISTORY RESEARCH

The librarians have been supporting Year 9 students with their end of year investigation into Ancient Civilisations. Classes visited the Library with their History teachers for a lesson on research skills and how to use books and online resources to find information. This is an important skill which they can apply as they study for their GCSE and BTEC courses and beyond.

## BIG BOOK SALES

The end of year Big Book Sale of old library stock and donated books was very successful with students queuing up to buy books for summer holiday reading at just 10p per book.



## SPELLING BEE

Seven FHS students went to Greenford High School to enter the annual spelling bee competition.

They did very well and came second in the competition. The students received certificates and a silver medal each. Many of their parents also attended.



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# AWARDS EVENING 2022

We were delighted to welcome Entrepreneur, Kathryn Burn as our special guest at our Annual Awards Evening.

She really engaged and inspired our students with her speech. Kathryn said: "I felt a real sense of a community at Featherstone, where everyone really looked after and championed each other, which was so lovely to see."

Ms. Apinder Sidhu (School Governor) added: "Congratulations to staff and students on another great awards ceremony, that celebrated the success and achievements of all the students, This really is the highlight of my year as a Governor. Another successful year at Featherstone."



Kathryn Burn pictured with FHS Staff

# COOKING DRAGON'S DEN

Two of our year 9 students took part in an Dragon's Den session at Belazu last term, competing against four other school from the Ealing Borough. The Enterprise project is the result of collaboration with SchoolFoodMatters and Belazu.

We are so proud of our presenters Delisha and Abdullah and all the year 9 students that took part.

Looking for to next year!



# ORACY WORKSHOPS

Thirty year 12 students attended a full day workshop to support their oracy skills.

They had an engaging trainer who supported the students in developing the communication skills they need to enter the next stage of education, employment or training with confidence and a positive mindset. Here is some of the feedback from the students:

"The interview practice and feedback were extremely helpful. Seeing and hearing other interviewees helped increase ideas for my interview."

"I loved this! I learnt real life experiences from a really experienced trainer. I learnt how to be clear and motivational"

"This helped me overcome my shyness and made me realise how important communication is".

Everyone was awarded a certificate at the end of the day and three students were awarded a certificate for being



'oracy champions' who had shown a strong understanding of how to remain resilient when faced with challenging situations in interviews.

A group of year 10 students from our school: Isaak, Rehaan, Ramesa, Kiranjot and Mohamad led a new oracy workshop at Clifton Primary school.

This workshop was aimed at year 6 to help inspire and support their speaking skills as they move on to year 7.

It is also aimed at promoting the importance of oracy and encouraging students across the year groups to work collaboratively in this area. We want to begin with just doing an introductory session where students from year 10 who have gained confidence and proficiency in these skills can model and inspire this to younger students. It was a fun session with a class of 30 year 6 students, where the year 6 students did some warm up speaking games and then had to plan to sell an object in order to practise the concept of selling an idea. The year 10 students had a great time and enjoyed working with the younger students while they learned

how to be responsible and resilient in supporting their local community.



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# FEATHERSTONE PE NEWS

## ATHLETICS LEADERS

Our fabulous Year 9 leaders helped to run the Ealing School Primary Athletics event at Perivale track on July 7th.

Without their superb organisation and dedication the event would not have been able to run as smoothly as it did. They helped over 150 pupils throw, jump and run to victory in track and field events. Well done to everyone who helped to contribute to the day, we know it was exceptionally hot and tiring.



## ATHLETICS MEETS

Throughout June, selected students from Years 7,8,9 and 10 took part in the Ealing Borough Athletics Meets at Perivale Athletics Track.

Throughout the day students competed in many events such as discus, javelin,

100m, 1500m, high jump and many more. Through the blistering heat students demonstrated an excellent performance and represented the school excellently! A huge thank you to Perivale Athletics Club for hosting the event.

## GREEN QUARTER STREET ELITE

On Thursday 9th June, selected students from Years 7 and 8 took part in an Ealing Borough Green Quarter Street Elite event.

This consisted of several different primary and secondary schools within the local borough participating in a range of sporting events including Zorb Ball, handball, boxing, street dance and several other fantastic sports!

A huge thank you to Berkeley Group, who witnessed our students having a fantastic experience amongst other schools and organisations such as

Southall FC and the local Labour MP, Virendra Sharma who watched our students leading the entire street dance segment at the end of the event for over 10 different schools! Well done to our students for representing our school fantastically and participating in so many different events!



## ROUNDERS

### YEAR 7 ROUNDERS

This summer we represented Featherstone High School whilst playing matches against different schools.

We played Cardinal Wiseman, Greenford and a few more. In total we played 4 games. We won 2 out of 4 games. This experience was really fun as we got to play for our school and with our friends. We went with Miss Lavery who cheered us on throughout the games no matter if we lost and or won. We would love to play again and look forward to next year. Write up by Brinda.

Overall the girls finished in 2nd place in their South Ealing pool.

### YEAR 8 ROUNDERS

Hi my name is Soundarya and I am the year 8 Rounders Captain.

The rounders season was really fun. The team has played amazingly with a lot of hard work, resilience and determination. Some games were really challenging but we coped with it really well and gave it our best to win the games. I'm very lucky to play with such wonderful people in my team and hope that we will be able to do this next year. Well done team!

Overall the girls finished in 2nd place in their South Ealing pool.

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# NATIONAL SCHOOL SPORTS WEEK

National School Sports Week took place from the 4th to the 8th July.

Pupils were given a selection of activities to choose from. The range included; Skateboarding, Bollywood Dancing, Volleyball, Basketball, Football, Gaelic Football, Hockey, Softball and Tag Rugby. On the last day of National Sports week the PE department held a rewards afternoon. This was held for pupils who had shown a large commitment to extracurricular activities and/or had shown high levels of achievement and enthusiasm during their PE lessons.

The afternoon's focus was on the school's value of Partnership. Pupils were given tokens by the PE department for displaying this value through the different activities, which included an inflatable assault course, team challenge activities and tug of war. The winning year groups were the Year 8s who won by two tokens!



**BOLLYWOOD WITH COACHES**



**TAG RUGBY**



**HOCKEY**



**GIRLS FOOTBALL**



**SKATEBOARDING WITH COACHES**



**BOXING**



**FOOTBALL**



**TEAM BUILDING CHALLENGE**



**TUG OF WAR**

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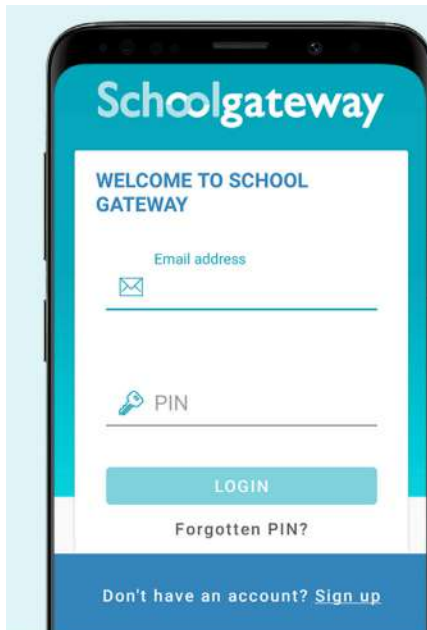
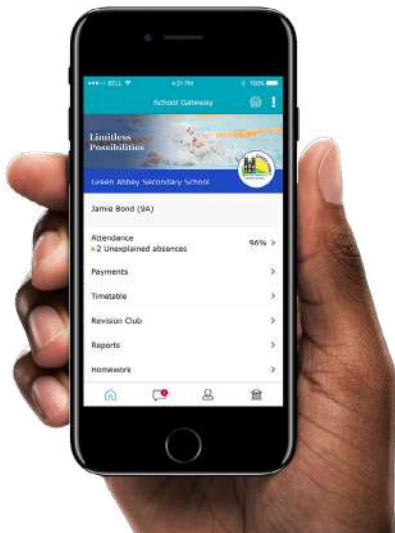
# PASTORAL MATTERS

## SCHOOL COMMUNICATION APP

Please download the School Gateway app onto your smart phone and ensure that you switch on notifications.

Via this app you can send and receive messages to school, look at your child's attendance, punctuality, school reports, achievement and behaviour points as well as their timetable.

<https://schoolgateway.co.uk/>



### How to activate your account

1. Download the Android or iPhone app.



2. Press **'Sign Up'** then enter the email and mobile number your school has on record. If you're not sure if they have the right details, it's best to check and update first.

3. Press **'Send PIN'**. You will receive a text message with your unique PIN.

4. You're now ready to log in and start using School Gateway.

5. If you don't have a smartphone or prefer to use a computer, you can set up your account using [the web version](#) of School Gateway.

6. See a video guide [here](#)

### How to log in

1. Once you have your PIN, go ahead and launch the School Gateway app on your smartphone or tablet.

2. Enter the email you have registered with your school and the PIN you received. If you didn't get a PIN, it is likely because your school doesn't have the right contact info. Get in touch with them to check.

3. If both the email and PIN are entered correctly, hit **'Login'** and you're ready to start engaging with your school.

4. You can also access School Gateway [on the web](#)



## POLICIES FOR PARENTS TO READ

Please click on these link on the left to read important polices that parents/guardians are required to read.

**STUDENT  
ATTENDANCE AND  
ABSENCE POLICY**

**BEHAVIOUR  
POLICY INCLUDING  
SUSPENSIONS**

**CHILD PROTECTION  
AND SAFEGUARDING  
POLICY**

GOVERNORS' VIRTUAL OFFICE



<https://thegvoffice.com/public/sls-featherstone/0>

## CHARITY EYE GLASS COLLECTION

We are collecting used & unwanted, good condition prescription eye glasses for charity. Please pass any glasses to the school receptionist.

# DECOLONISING DEVELOPMENT

On the 6th July 2022, Dr Winston Mano, Reader and Course Leader at Westminster University, talked to Year 11 and 12 students at Featherstone High School about how development needs to be decolonised as a matter of urgency.

Addressing the core of students, who were mainly from History and Geography, Mano explained to students that decolonising could mean learning the right lessons from history and unlearning toxic practices, and

that it could help put a stop to routine implantation of development templates from the West or the global North in global South. Decoloniality could centre actors and initiatives that have so far been excluded, adding their innovations and lived experience to reimagining development futures. It could be a necessary curative to tackling growing poverty and overall lack of sustainable development. It could push back extractive logics and other barriers that hinder development. It could allow for more listening and rethinking that

could enrich development. Rethinking and unthinking of the process of development could help undo racism, gender discriminations and other forms of othering in society. It could push back on hegemonic ideologies and help reverse the plight of the global South for who development has been elusive largely because of coloniality.

Development is a process that needs constant thinking and rethinking to make it even better. Mano concluded by emphasising the need for a pluriverse approach to harness wider efforts.

## MOCK INTERVIEWS

Over 300 students from Years 9 and 10 took part in a mock interview day with local employers on 8 July.

Over 30 employers volunteered to spend a day in school putting students through their paces in a mock job interview. Every student who took part excelled, demonstrating their maturity, professionalism and creativity to recruiters from a range of sectors. The

employers were extremely impressed by the quality of answers students provided for challenging questions, as well as the range of interesting questions that students asked about our visitors' careers. Throughout the year the school runs a range of activities for students to meet with local employers.

Please contact Mr Webb to find out more about employers participating in the programme.



## FREE UNIVERSITY, APPRENTICESHIP & STEM CAREERS GUIDE

Success at School Team are offering parents the opportunity to sign up to receive these brand new guides directly to their inbox.

The guides are packed full of useful information to help support their children with their career choices.

For more details and to sign up, click the link:



<https://successatschool.us3.list-manage.com/track/click?u=2c038531b25876a2c7c9cf8b1&id=070b70219c&e=9e47960237>

## DIARY DATES FOR PARENTS

Half Term: Monday 24th  
October to Tuesday 1st  
November 2022

Staff Training Day (School  
Closed): Monday 21st  
November 2022

Staff Training Day (School  
Closed): Friday 9th December  
2022

End of Term: Friday 16th  
December 2022

Christmas Holiday: Monday  
19th December 2022 to  
Monday 2nd January 2023

FEATHERSTONE HIGH SCHOOL  
11 MONTAGUE WAY, UB2 5HF

020 8843 0984

[INFO@FEATHERSTONEHIGH.EALING.SCH.UK](mailto:INFO@FEATHERSTONEHIGH.EALING.SCH.UK)

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