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# Featherstone High School

Headteacher: Mr N. Walters

Founding Member of the Grand Union MAT



10<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **Re: General Update**

We have had a busy week, not just in terms of events, trips, parents' evenings and the normal day to day lessons but we have also been interviewing candidates to join our team for next year. I am pleased to say that we have been able to appoint some exceptional people to join the teaching staff going forward.

Thank you to the Sixth Form parents for their attendance at the Year 13 Parents' Evening on Wednesday. It was the first face-to-face Parents' Evening for a number of years. This really does have a positive impact on the children's drive and desire to be the best they can be. We all have work to do but I am confident that the cohesion, dedication and belief that I saw on the evening, and that I see every day in school will ensure that the students can achieve the excellent grades that they deserve.

Well done to the two Year 8 students who spoke at the English-Speaking Union Shakespeare Event a week last Monday. They represented themselves, the school and their parents really well and it was an excellent event for Featherstone to host as we welcomed 8 schools for the evening event. It was also a delight to have one of our Year 11 students as Master of Ceremonies for the evening. In addition, well done to all students who performed at the Ealing Encore Music contest a week last Wednesday. The judge at the end said it was 'West End' standard. They won a cash prize for the school and the prize for technical excellence.


World Book Day was well marked by staff and students last Friday. Do follow the school on social media to view the photos – <https://linktr.ee/Featherstonehigh>

There will be much going on over the next few weeks too and we hope to see all of the students involved. Please do encourage your child to take part in as much of school life as possible. Those who take part in extra activities do get so much out of the experience.

My challenge for us all over the next 4 weeks in the build-up to Easter is for us to get as close to 100% attendance as possible. Across the country since COVID, attendance has never returned to pre Covid levels and in schools, attendance has dropped from an average of 94% to below 92%. While our attendance remains fairly high the challenge is always to aim for 100%. Poor attendance does not bode well for children when they are in school or after they leave. All the research shows that the habits that they have in terms of attendance at school either has a positive or negative impact on their chances of success in the world of work. We need to all work really hard to ensure that we build the right habits that will increase everyone's chances of success. I will let everyone know at the end of this term how well we have done as a school.

Thank you all for your ongoing support. Have a great weekend with your families.

Yours faithfully,

  
Mr N Walters  
Headteacher