



Fairholme Focus

Lifetime Achievement!

Looking back over this term as a whole, I am amazed by how many ambitions and targets have been achieved by so many pupils at Fairholme in just a few short weeks. This term, however, it is not just the pupils achieving greatness!

It was a great pleasure to be able to attend the Welsh Independent Schools Council (WISC) Annual Conference in Cardiff earlier this term. Independent Schools from all over Wales were represented and some very compelling and engaging speakers facilitated lively discussion around topics such as wonder and curiosity, trans issues, Estyn inspections and mental health.

At the Evening Dinner event, the marvellous news was announced that our very own Elizabeth Turner had won the WISC 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award! We were delighted to hear the WISC Chairman's entertaining summary of how Mrs. Turner's hugely positive and uplifting influence on pupils and staff at Fairholme over the last 25 years has been an impressive force for good.

We can now very proudly state that Fairholme boasts an award winning staff to enhance the lives of our pupils and to take us into 2024 and beyond! Well done, Mrs. Turner! *EP*



The Lifetime Achievement award is for people in our schools who literally commit their life to the good of the children in their school. They tend to be the centre of everything, they're very much the beating heart of almost everything that's good in that school and their influence is always positive and uplifting for the pupils, for the staff and also for parents. This year's winner absolutely typifies that kind of person.

We have some truly brilliant people working in all of our schools and I'm bound to say it was a really hard decision, so I just want to talk to you about this year's winner. They've been in their school for about 25 years; you read what they've done in this school, the list is ludicrous, they've been running various sports, been involved with music, they run the pastoral care system, they are very much the go to person when things aren't going right for both pupils and staff.

Apparently, they also have an unnatural ability of remembering every child's birthday in the whole school, some sort of mastermind thing, which I find ridiculous but very, very impressive. So, Fairholme Prep School, they really do know, what was really struck by the writer, they know how lucky they are to have this person in their school, so it gives me great pleasure to award this year's 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award to Mrs Liz Turner!



Welcome to Ali Asghar, Noah, Nancy and Mia!



Inside this issue:

Jnr. Claus Team	2
Christmas Jumper Day	3
A Shining Performance	3
An historic Visit	4
An Eerie Event	5
Footballing Fun	6
Key Dates	6

Special points of interest:

- Singing at the Lovelight Christmas Concert for the tenth year – catch up with news and photos, page 3
- Read about how pupils are raising money for cancer charities in 'Challenge for Charity' on page 4
- Enjoy news and photos from Drama Workshop in 'Return to Neverland' – page 5
- After School clubs – read about Clubs held so far on page 6

Light Up a Life

Thank you to St Kentigern Hospice for inviting Fairholme pupils to the fabulous event., 'Light Up a Life'! Well done to all pupils, making use of woolly hats and scarves and singing beautifully on a bitterly cold day, outdoors!



Papa Panov

Our final Christmas Assembly this term was led by Form VII, telling the story of Papa Panov, waiting for Jesus to arrive on a cold Christmas Day.

Involving Christmas carols and Early Years snowballing, the moving story was told, before singing our fun carols to celebrate the last day of term!

Christ

Jnr. Claus Team

All the children were very excited on the last Monday of term when the Jnr. Claus team were on the move, distributing gifts and spreading Christmas cheer throughout the school!

With much 'Ho-ho-ho-ing', Santa, Mrs. Claus and the elves with bells posed for many individual and group photos, finally finding their own gifts at the bottom of the sack!



Cathedral Classic

Our final Christmas Event was the very special Cathedral Carol Service, involving our children's choirs, soloists, instrumentalists including saxophones, clarinets, flutes, guitars and harp, as well as percussion and the whole school recorder consort! Christmas readings were delivered by our prefects with confidence in classic Fairholme style.



Bryn Derwen

It was a privilege to sing at Bryn Derwen Care Home during the last week of term. The children were delighted to be invited to sing and very pleased with their chocolate biscuit and squash rewards!



Christmas

A Shining Performance!

A shining performance! Our younger pupils entertained an appreciative audience with a glittering performance of 'Shine, Star, Shine!' It is a pleasure to see such young talent emerging - well done to all cast and crew! We are looking forward to seeing much of this emerging talent put to use in our next school musical and drama workshops! Thank you to Mrs. Gains, Mrs. Turner and all the team for their excellent work with the children.

Ten Years at Lovelight

It was an honour to sing for the tenth year running at the Lovelight Christmas Concert, 2023, this year alongside the fantastic choirs - Cor Meibion Colwyn, Sing with Us Llandudno, Bangor and Wrexham and Ysgol Y Llys, in support of Tenovus Cancer Care.

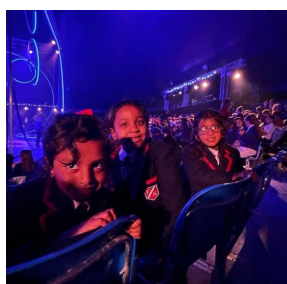


Christmas Jumper Day

We all enjoyed a great Christmas Jumper Day in support of 'Save the Children' last week with a hard-fought Christmas Spelling Bee and a delicious Christmas Lunch, thanks to our lovely kitchen staff from Newydd Catering!

Well done to our Spelling Bee winners — Sangeeth, Ali Asghar, Saindav, Alexa, Kian, Zita, Arabella and Adam!

Rock 'n' Roll Panto!



We were all very excited to attend Theatr Clwyd for the Rock 'n' Roll-Pantomime, 'Sleeping Beauty'! Excellent fun and inspiration for our woodwind and guitar players!

An Historic Visit

An historic visit from one of our most influential past pupils: not only did we welcome Dr James Davies, MP of our constituency, but two former Fairholme teachers, Mrs. Baker and Mrs. Davis, who formed his early years. They were delighted by all the new facilities offered here at Fairholme in a pupil-led tour of our school, and Dr. Davies endured a thorough questioning from our very own School Council, all part of UK Parliament Week 2023. We hope to see them all again soon.



Remembering

This year, Armistice Day was observed with a special Remembrance Assembly led by Form VII including war poems, hymns, morale-boosting songs from World War I and a clarinet performance of 'The Last Post'. Poppies were made by the Early Years, and members of Form VII and the School Council attended the St. Asaph parade down the High Street to the War Memorial. A two-minute silence was held at 11am, after which wreaths were laid at the cenotaph by various community organisations including Fairholme School and The Mount Day Nursery. It is a privilege for us to be part of this important demonstration of respect and gratitude for those who gave 'their today for our tomorrow'.

We will remember them.



Challenges for Charity

Well done to Scarlett and William for keeping so active and meeting the recent challenges set by Cancer charities.

Scarlett took part in the Skipping Challenge in support of Cancer Research - 100 skips a day for the whole of October, and William has been taking part in Push-Up Challenge Count Down to Christmas for Macmillan Cancer Support. Keep up the good work!

Perfect Prefects

Many congratulations to our newly appointed School Prefects. We look forward to you putting all your organisational skills into practice in the forthcoming months. Special congratulations also go to our six Ruthin School Scholarship award winners!

Make a Noise!

Make a noise about bullying! This year the children took part in a live lesson for anti-bullying week, looking at the words: power, intention, hurt and repetition, and how to speak out against bullying. We looked at how to tell friends when banter is starting to become hurtful and how it feels to give or get support.

We hope you all enjoyed and learned from the experience and can make a noise to stop bullying today!



Return to Neverland!

We had a great turn-out for Drama Workshop just before the start of term. Drama enthusiasts from Form I to Form VII came together once again for 'Peter Pan', and had great fun playing drama games, painting scenery and, of course, working on the final show for parents.

Some fantastic acting, dancing and painting skills put to good use in production and set design. Well done to all, thanks to cast, old Fairholme student helpers and musicians!



An Eerie Event

Children enjoyed a great Hallowe'en celebration with the finest fancy dress, a dastardly disco, scary snacks and perilous party games, featuring the timeless 'apple bobbing' and witches' hat hoopla. Thanks to Mrs Evans for organising this eerie event!



Harvest

Volume 15, Issue 1

Thank you all for bringing such generous harvest gifts for our Harvest Table this year, skilfully arranged by Form VI pupils.

We enjoyed a marvellous celebration involving music, drama, readings and poetry with contributions from all the children at our Harvest Festival, enjoyed by parents and pupils alike. Gifts will be taken to 'Save the Family', a local charity in North Wales and Chester which helps families in difficulty stay together.

Well done to all the children for taking part in our first Open Assembly this year.



Sports' Slot

Forms VI and VII enjoyed a fantastic netball and football tournament at The King's School earlier this term; pupils working well together as a team, taking part in eight matches each!

Some important dates for your diary

Date	Forms	Event
Monday 8 January – Friday 12 January	Form III upwards	Revision Week
Monday 15 January – Friday 19 January	Form III – VI	Exam Week
Monday 29 January – Friday 2 February	KG – Form VI Parents	Parents meetings
Saturday 9 March (TBC) 10am-3pm	ALL Visitors welcome	Open Activities Day
Thursday 21 March 2pm	ALL Parents & friends welcome	Whole School Musical

After School Clubs

After School Clubs have proved extremely popular this term! Children have been enjoying weekly football, badminton, drama and jazz clubs, drama and jazz clubs each performing a mini-show at the end of the final session.

Many more exciting times to come at After School Clubs next term!



Footballing Fun

Some fantastic footballing fun was had at the Fairholme Football Camps over the Summer break and over the October Half-Term - well done, everyone, for turning up come rain or shine, and thanks to our semi-pros for making our football camps such fun!



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