



# Fairholme Focus



## Senior School Success

A very hard working start to 2020 for all pupils, particularly those in Form VII who have been busy consolidating their learning and honing their examination techniques in readiness for sitting Independent School entrance exams. All their hard work has definitely paid off. Congratulations particularly to Sam and Dhyan, for winning King's Scholarships, to Lucie, Joshua, William, Lily and Giovanni for success in the King's exams, to Lily, Dhyan and Orla, awarded Ruthin Scholarships, and to Orla, Giovanni and Dhyan for their Grammar School success.



### Inside this issue:

Caterwauling	2
Marble Runs	2
Keeping Healthy	2
Leading in Literacy	3
Film Music	3
Key Dates	4

## Not Bad At Bad-minton!

This half term, the weekly badminton club decided to hold a doubles tournament and showcase their skills. 16 players entered the tournament and, following the knock out rounds, the final doubles match was watched by all the children. During the build up to the final there were some nail biting and intense games! Well done to Krish and Charlotte,

the overall winners. Thanks to all the players for taking part; it was pleasing to witness such good sportsmanship as well as the development of some super skills. There will be more tournaments to come, including more singles matches!

Children are encouraged to sign up to this club, particularly if they have not tried badminton before.



### Special points of interest:

- Not bad at Badminton – read all about the Badminton Club's recent tournament, here on page 1
- Kung Hei Fat Choy – thank you to our kitchen staff for organising our very tasty Chinese-themed lunch, read on page 3
- Two King's Scholarships and three Ruthin Scholarships awarded to Fairholme pupils – read Senior School Success, here on page 1
- Caterwauling – read about preparations for our Whole School Musical—'Cats' – see page 2

## Welcome to Alexa!



## Caterwauling!

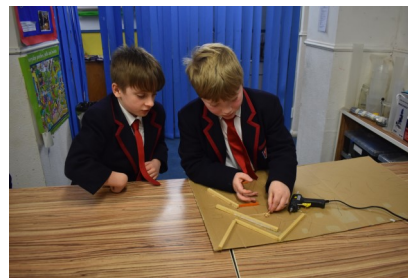
This half term we have started working towards our next musical show, 'Cats'. Many children, having seen the recent film which came out over Christmas, were already enthusiastically singing along to some of the Andrew Lloyd-Webber classics.

Since there are so many 'main' parts in this show, it was decided to cast as we went along – starting with a proposed cast and making changes to suit the various cat characters



involved. Music, ballet and drama departments have consequently been caterwauling their way through the script, trying to make sense of this clowder of Jellicle Cats.

Tickets are available on Eventbrite and can be easily accessed through the School Website events page. Feel free to invite as many friends and family as you can to ensure that we have a full house for each of our two performances and offer as much support as we can to our excellent young performers.



## Keeping Healthy

The Early Years have been busy keeping healthy this half term. They have learnt how to use tissues when coughing and sneezing and wash their hands thoroughly to stop the germs spreading. The children took on the role of a doctor, putting on bandages on their friends. The children have also been finding out about the work of the dentist and how to keep our teeth healthy.



## Marble runs

This term pupils in Technology Club have been busy designing and making their very own marble runs.

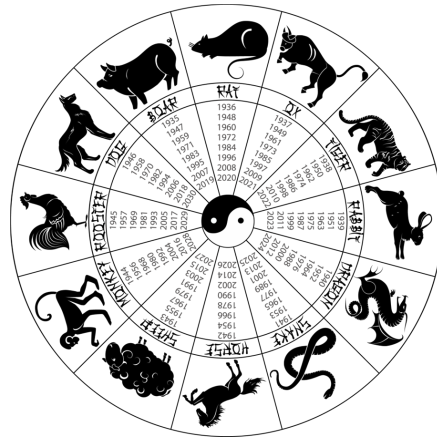
The aims of the Challenge were to design and build a marble run that maximises the time taken by a standard glass marble to roll from the top to the bottom, and to maximise students' learning about relevant science such as gravity, energy, friction, gradient and material properties.

For the build, the children used various materials such as cardboard boxes, lollipop sticks, wheels and match sticks.

# Kung Hei Fat Choy!

Pupils and staff alike had great fun at our Chinese themed lunch where we were given the opportunity to try out sweet and sour chicken meat balls, stir fry vegetable noodles and prawn crackers all eaten with chopsticks. The Delicious meal was rounded off with coconut rice pudding with mango sauce and sticky baked sesame banana with ice-cream.

Our Chinese New Year assembly included a Happy New Year song in Mandarin, reading of Chinese Couplets for good luck and discussion of characteristics of those born in each of the twelve animal years.



clever  
energetic  
imaginative  
honest  
talkative  
ambitious  
charming

Rat



## Film Music

This term, the musical appreciation part of assemblies has taken a turn away from the usual round of classical composers to orchestral film music composers.

Staff and children alike are now learning who the most famous film composers are and which films they have composed music for. Children have tried to explain how the music makes us feel to try to identify films and what they might be about.



From John Williams' 'Star Wars' to Michael Giacchino's 'Ratatouille' we are identifying our top ten ready for a House competition at the end of term. Happy listening!

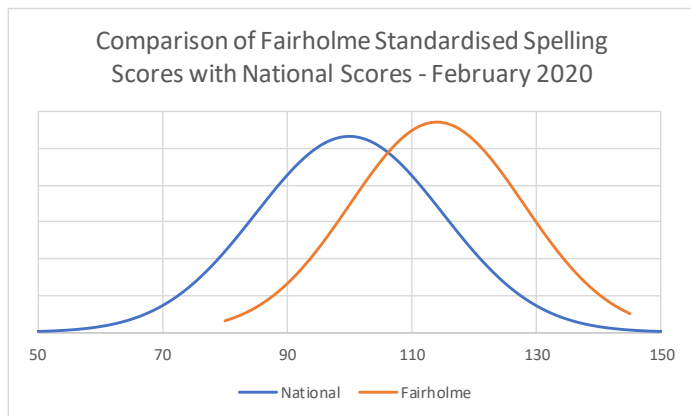
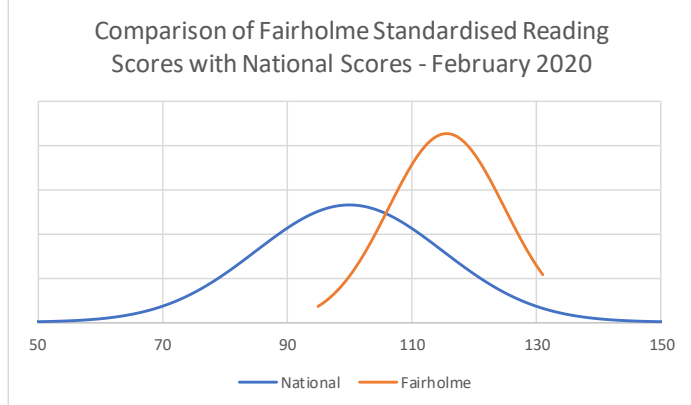


## Leading in Literacy

Parents will be aware of the strong emphasis we give to literacy at Fairholme. Children are encouraged to read at school and at home and take part in both individual and group reading each day. We operate a progressive spelling scheme that is computerised through 'Spellodrome' to give the children thorough practice in the spelling and use of the words they are learning.

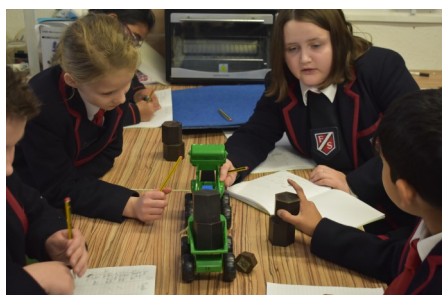
In addition to weekly tests and the twice-yearly examinations, the children periodically undertake external standardised reading and spelling tests which enable us to compare performance against the UK as a whole. The tests work by converting each child's score to a standardised value based on their age, with the average score nationally set as 100.

Our latest results for Key Stage 2, summarised in these graphs, validate the effectiveness of our schemes and show that Fairholme children perform significantly better than the national average within their age groups for both reading and spelling.



## Some important dates for your diary

Date	Forms	Event
Monday 2 March – Saturday 7 March	Visitors Welcome Taster Days Available	OPEN WEEK
Friday 6 March 9am	Parents Welcome	Open Assembly World Book Day
Thursday 12 March Friday 13 March, 3.30-5.30	Parents Welcome	School Uniform Sale (Forrester Sports) & Scholastic Book Fair
Thursday 26 March pm	ALL	Dress Rehearsal – Cats (attend school in black trousers, drama t-shirt and blazer)
Tuesday 31 March am	ALL	Dress Rehearsal – Cats (attend school in black trousers, drama t-shirt and blazer)
Wednesday 1 April 2.00pm	ALL—Parents Welcome (attend school in black trousers, drama t-shirt and blazer)	Cats Whole School Musical Production The Mount Theatre (Tickets available on Eventbrite)
Thursday 2 April 2.00pm	ALL—Parents Welcome (attend school in black trousers, drama t-shirt and blazer)	Cats Whole School Musical Production The Mount Theatre (Tickets available on Eventbrite)
Thursday 30 April	Form VI/VII	UK Junior Maths Challenge
Friday 1 May	Form VI team	Ruthin Maths Challenge
Thursday 7 May 2.30pm	ALL Parents Welcome	V.E. Day 75th Anniversary Celebration (Tickets available on Eventbrite)
Tuesday 19 May, Wednesday 20 May	Forms VI & VII Forms IV & V	LAMDA Speech and Drama Examinations



Phone: 01745 583 505  
Fax: 01745 584 332  
E-mail: [admin@fairholmeschool.com](mailto:admin@fairholmeschool.com)  
[www.fairholmeschool.com](http://www.fairholmeschool.com)

**Fairholme Preparatory School**  
Mount Road  
St. Asaph  
Denbighshire LL17 0DH

