



# Fairholme Focus

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## Opening Doors

The weather was kind to us on our Open Day on Saturday 10th March 2012. In bright sunshine, the Mayor of St Asaph, Councillor Andrew Thomas officially opened our new classroom block and reception area. The ceremony, witnessed by existing and prospective Fairholme parents and children, was heralded by a fanfare, com-

posed and performed by the school wind band. Subsequently, visitors were given guided tours of the school's facilities by Form VII pupils, who drew much praise for their knowledge, enthusiasm and good manners.

The Mayor expressed his pleasure at being part of what was a special day for the school and

enthused over the improvement in facilities, the long association of Fairholme with St Asaph and its growing role as part of the local community.

We are very pleased with the level of interest generated by the Open Day which has already resulted in many new pupils set to join us after Easter.



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## New High in Academic Standards

We are very proud to announce the excellent entrance examination results achieved by Form VII this year. We have been offered an outstanding 9 places at King's School Chester as well as achieving 100% success in Wirral Grammar School 11+, Queen's, Rydal and Abbey Gate. Among the offers received were 2 academic scholarships and 2 music scholarships.

These results confirm Fairholme's reputation for academic excellence, a reputation that is being enhanced by the continuing development of sector-leading practice in the school.

Dedicated and experienced teaching staff,

providing individual attention to each child, pupil target-setting and progress tracking and modern ICT facilities are resulting in a stimulating environment for learning and development and the foundation for continuing academic success.



### Special points of interest:

- Eisteddfod Success – see page 3
- Enjoy pictures from our School Production of 'The Tempest' on page 2
- World Maths Day – see new developments on page 2
- Read about Charles Dickens' Birthday and Form VII's presentations – page 4



## All's Well That Ends Well!



This Term culminated in our whole school production of 'The Tempest'. The children have spent the term working very hard in both music and drama and delighted parents and guests with their performances.

to have been part of the cast.

friend pointed out that he was on 'Prospero'. We always make sure that we are 'ahead of the game' academically at Fairholme, but this I find particularly impressive!



Our whole school production is an excellent chance to develop teamwork and communication skills and all the children have gained in confidence, some nervous prior to the event but very glad

All the classes have read an adaptation of the story together and children are now fully conversant with Shakespeare's story. It has been a pleasure to see the children so excited by a story which many may have thought was a little beyond them. Popping into After-School Club the other day, one of our four year olds announced he was drawing 'Caliban' while his

Well done to all the marvellous cast in such a successful two days and many thanks to Mrs. Hennie for all her fantastic work with singers and musicians, Mrs. Williams for her help with soloists and Mrs. Matthews for ideas and help with our actors.



## Changing Seasons

During this half term Form I have been finding out about seasons and the changes that happen during each season. They have thought about different clothes they wear in each season and how the weather affects what activities they may do.



## World Educational Games

This year, World Maths Day was extended to include competitions in Maths, Science and Spelling. The children enjoyed competing with others of their age across the world.

and maths and to explore many science topics. We were amazed at the number of little ones whose names appeared on the leader boards.

The eventual winners were Smruthya in Maths, James in Science and Christian in Spelling. A great effort from everyone, well done!

This was a great opportunity to practise spelling

## Doing the Little Things

St. David's Day was celebrated in both lower and upper assemblies. Many daffodils were evident as the children started a day intent on 'doing the little things', advice given by St. David to his followers.

and their suggestions on this day to make sure everyone had someone to play with, sharing their toys, helping anyone who hurt themselves were certainly taken up and continue each and every day.

The children are always very good at looking out for each other at school

St. David's day ended with Miss Waugh keeping children in After School Club busy, making collages of all things Welsh!





## Form V Investigate

This half term Form V pupils have worked in pairs to interview each other about their relationships with their families and others. We first learnt about journalists and how they have to make notes when interviewing someone. Each person in the pair was given a set of questions. One had a set about relationships and the other the set about families. When the interviews were complete, the children wrote magazine articles.

On a lighter note, Form V children have also been enjoying making pom-poms!



## Book Fair

Another successful book fair was held this term in our new dining room. All the children had a chance to buy books from the new selection from Scholastic. Thanks to everyone for supporting this event where we raised £192 to spend on new books for the school.

## Roar!

During this half term the children in Kindergarten have been learning all about animals. The children brought in photographs of their pets and talked about them to the class. In the role play corner the children have been busy dressing up as zoo animals.....roar!



## Eisteddfod Success

Four members of our Welsh Club, Alice, Dylan, Henry and Fergus were brave enough this term to enter singing and reciting competitions, in Welsh, at the Rhuddlan Area Primary Schools Urdd Eisteddfod held at Ysgol Dewi Sant. They all performed extremely well and Fergus, having made it through his preliminary round, came first in his Recita-

tion competition for Welsh learners, aged 8-10. His performance was indeed impressive and very entertaining, even for those of us unable to speak the language!

Congratulations to all Clwb Cymraeg members for all their hard work. Da iawn a llongyfarchiadau mawr i chwi gyd!

## A Trip Down Memory Lane

During their History lessons this term Form VII have been finding out about what life was like in Britain during World War II. Mr. Davies, grandfather to Hannah in Form II, very kindly agreed to come and talk to the class about his experiences of growing up at this time. Mr. Davies covered a wide variety of topics during his informative talk, includ-

ing rationing, school life and blackouts.

Amongst the memorabilia that Mr. Davies had brought along with him was a Hornby train set which is 70 years old and still in good working order! Thank you to Mr. Davies for a most entertaining and engaging insight into life in wartime Britain.

## Some important dates for your diary

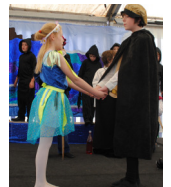
Date	Forms	Event
Monday 7 May pm	Form IV	Trip to St. Kentigern Church
Tuesday 8 May am	ALL	School Photographs
Tuesday 8 May (After photographs)	Form V	Trip to St. Asaph Cathedral (Please bring packed lunch this day)
Tuesday 29 May	Forms VI & VII	LAMDA Exams
Wednesday 30 May	Forms IV & V	LAMDA Exams
Friday 1 June	ALL Parents welcome	Jubilee Sports' Day
Monday 11 June – Friday 15 June	Forms III – VII	Revision Week
Monday 18 June – Friday 22 June	Forms III – VII	Summer School Exams
Thursday 5 July 2.30pm	ALL Parents welcome	Summer End of Year Service St. Asaph Cathedral

## Charles Dickens' 200th Birthday

To celebrate Charles Dickens' 200th birthday, Form VII have been preparing various presentations for upper school assemblies reviewing six of Dickens' books – Great Expectations, Oliver Twist, A Christmas Carol, David Copperfield, Bleak House and Hard Times.

Presentations were lively and highly entertaining, and included character studies and self-written drama sketches based on favourite parts of each book.

We have copies of abridged versions of each of the texts in the library for anyone who was inspired by any of Form VII's work.



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