

# excel

Summer 2011  
Issue 8

THE NEWSLETTER OF  
FLIXTON GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

Flixton Road, Urmston, Manchester M41 5DR. Telephone: 0161 912 2949  
E-mail: flixtongirls.admin@trafford.gov.uk Website: www.flixtongirls.trafford.sch.uk

## Outstanding Features

Dear Readers,

I am delighted to be able to share with you the outcomes of our Ofsted report which represents the results of our work together in less than three years since the previous inspection. It has been with the support, understanding and patience of all stakeholders that we have together, been able to bring about such significant and positive change for the benefit of our girls and our community.

I encourage you to read the report in full but here are some of the highlights:

**"The school provides a wholly inclusive environment where all students are valued and encouraged to achieve..."**

**"Procedures and provision and for safeguarding are outstanding..."**

**"Students are friendly and polite..."**

**"Care, guidance and support are outstanding and have had an immense impact on improving outcomes for students..."**

**"The impact of the specialism both in the school and in the local community is outstanding..."**

**"Excellent displays and the orderly environment in classrooms combine to create a very good climate for learning..."**

**"The school is highly effective in its commitment to promoting equality of opportunity and tackling discrimination... and this permeates the life of the school at all levels..."**

**"The school prepares students well for the next stages in their lives..."**

**"In the best lessons, students are highly engaged and challenged, enabling them to make outstanding progress..."**

**"The school is passionate in its aim to ensure that individual students' needs are met, whatever their circumstances..."**

**"The school's contribution to community cohesion is outstanding and is a strength of the school..."**

**"The school benefits from the support of a capable and knowledgeable governing body..."**

The Governors seek to build on this success through the change of status to an academy along with many outstanding Trafford schools. You may feedback your views on this through our consultation (details available on the website). This is a very exciting time in our development as we seek to transform our good provision to outstanding in all aspects building on our reputation in the professional community where **"External agencies consider the school to be a leader of good practice."** (Ofsted 2011).

Thank you for your continued support for the school.

Julie Hazeldine, Headteacher

## Wizard of Oz

Hot on the heels of Sir Andrew Lloyd Webber's search for a Dorothy, we too began our search for a Dorothy, a Scarecrow, a Tin Man, a Lion, a Wicked Witch and Munchkins, to name but a few, to star in our very own production of The Wizard of Oz.

The production was a huge success. "Congratulations on their huge success, the school met their aspirations, you empowered them to perform during this production and this was an excellent piece of work. Well done." Mrs Deakin, Parent.



## Ruby Red Slipper Sausage with a Hint of the Wicked Witch!

Congratulations to Anna Estkowski (Year 7) for the winning design - Tomato with Garlic and Chilli.



## TAG Team at FGHS

As we launch our new Gifted and Talented programme as TAG TEAM (Talented Able Gifted), students at FGHS were tasked with designing a logo.

Congratulations to Year 10 student Ellen Lockley who created a luggage label style design, using FGHS corporate colours. Our Gifted and Talented programme gives particularly capable students the chance to shine and be stretched in their learning.



# Academic News

## Celebrating RE

The Year 11 full course RE GCSE pupils took part in a Festivals and Celebration afternoon as part of their course and in taking part in celebrating RE month.

The girls explored different festivals and celebrations that are celebrated across the world religions.

*"I really enjoyed tasting the different types of food."*

- Beth Dunkerly

*"It was a fun afternoon."*

- Ella Warburton



The girls got a chance to play Holi which left a few of them very colourful!

## Year 10 student at European Cheerleading Championships

Year 10 student Hayley O'Farrell will be proudly representing the UK at the prestigious European Cheerleading Championship to be held in Slovenia on 2 and 3 July 2011.

The competition represents the pinnacle of cheerleading excellence and will see squads from across Europe compete to be crowned the best cheerleaders.

Hayley is a member of the Red Hot Flames who cheerlead for the Salford City Reds Rugby League Club and has been cheerleading for more than ten years.

Hayley comments: "I've loved cheerleading since I was really young and will be so proud to be representing my country in Slovenia in the summer."

Lisa Austin, Assistant Headteacher and Director of Specialism (Sport) at FGHS, comments: "Hayley has worked incredibly hard to get to this level in her sport and we're enormously proud of her achievements. The whole school are looking forward to cheering her on for a change in July!"



## On TRAC - House Points

### Top Three Pupils in the Whole School

Position	No. of points	Student	Form
Gold	827	Imania Yaqub	7SP/F
Silver	738	Ireland Hackett	7SP/F
Bronze	693	Nehreen Ayub	7SP/F

### Top Three Forms in the Whole School

Position	No. of points	Form
Gold	12717	7SP/F
Silver	9652	7JF/F
Bronze	6224	8EB/F

### Best Three Pupils for each House

Name	Form	Points	House
Bryony Lightfoot	8AH	258	Keller
Olivia Skinkis	7HC	250	
Jemma Gillings	7HC	239	
Imania Yaqub	7SP	827	Frank
Ireland Hackett	7SP	738	
Nehreen Ayub	7SP	693	
Kiera Byrne	8NC	329	Parks
Kayleigh Harrison	8NW	298	
Georgina Clarke	8NW	297	

### Best Three Forms for each House KS3

Form	Points	House
7HC	4801	Keller
7CO	4292	
8CJ	3095	
7SP	12717	Frank
7JF	9652	
8EB	6224	
7TE	5151	Parks
8NW	4741	
9SB	3982	

### Best Three Forms for each House KS4

Form	Points	House
11TH	2000	Keller
10LC	1172	
10IB	919	
11AB	2905	Frank
10RM	2349	
11NG	2278	
11AW	2517	Parks
11KA	1580	
10JL	1121	

### House Totals

Position	House	Points
Gold	Frank	50,569
Silver	Parks	29,185
Bronze	Keller	23,374

# Specialist Sports College News

## Ofsted comments

The following Ofsted comments are just a few demonstrating that the specialism is really at the heart of our improvements. I am very proud to share them with you:

*The impact of the specialism both in the school and in the local community is outstanding. This area of the school's work is particularly well-led and there is a determination to use sport to engage and inspire students to achieve their potential.*

*Students have a good understanding of factors that can affect their health and a large majority participate in some form of extra-curricular sport,*

*The school also hosted the Trafford Secondary Dance Festival. The specialism has driven many of these initiatives, giving students a variety of opportunities, such as working with local disabled people, helping them to improve their motor skills through the medium of dance.*

Lisa Austin  
Director of Specialism

## Sport Unlimited – A Success!

Funding which has been secured via Sport Unlimited has enabled our girls to access additional sport provision in activities such as trampolining, hockey and dance.

Our Year 11 BTEC and GCSE PE pupils have benefited from curriculum lessons in Outdoor and Adventurous Activity based at Sale Water Park. In addition to providing non-traditional sporting opportunities, the experience will allow our girls to be graded for the activities, enhancing their examination results.



## FGHS Footballers take Trafford into Greater Manchester Cup

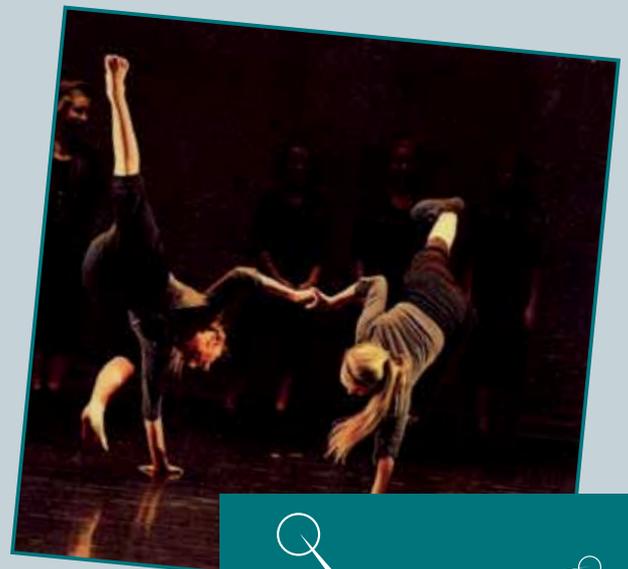
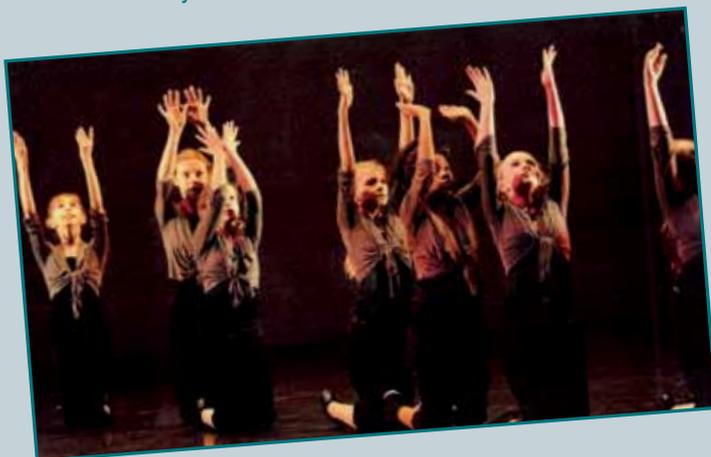
Congratulations to our Year 7 football team, as they beat Urmston Grammar 3-0 in the final, giving the team their well deserved Under 12's 7-a-side Trafford Cup.

The team will go on to represent Trafford in the Greater Manchester Cup competition in both the 7-a-side and Futsal Competition.



## Dancers dazzle audiences at the Lowry

21 talented young dancers from the school took to the stage on Sunday 16th January for a thrilling performance at the Lowry Arts Centre's Quays Theatre.



# Community News

## Bored in the holidays?

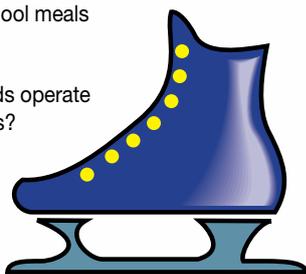
Find yourself getting bored in the holidays?  
Want something new, fun and exciting to do  
with your mates?

How about Ice Skating at Altrincham Ice Rink? Sessions cost £9 including skate hire and you can stay for as long as you like between 10am – 4.30pm.

For more information about holiday provision / to order tickets please contact Mrs Critchley. If in receipt of free school meals placements would be funded.

Also did you know that Soccer4Kids and Dance4Kids operate coaching sessions here at FGHS during the holidays? Sessions are open to anyone aged 5-14years and are offered at VERY competitive rates.

Ring Steve on 07940 412669 for more information.



## Get Fit Together

In June we are looking to host two fun sporting events for the family to get involved in:

- **Dad's and Daughter's rounders**  
Do you and your dad have a competitive streak?
- **Staff Vs Family Members rounders**  
Do you think your mum and dad could take on the staff at FGHS?

There will be a BBQ and refreshments made available. More information to follow soon!



## Financial Planning for the future...

Looking for advice on mortgages, life assurance, home insurance, redundancy insurance or pensions and investments?

Come along to FGHS and meet with representatives from Sense Financial for informal advice and/or to arrange a home visit, every Wednesday from 6.00pm to 8.00pm (term time only).



## FREE Adult Learner workshops

FGHS will be opening its doors to anyone who wishes to take part in FREE workshops as part of the celebrations for Adult Learners' Week (15 - 21 May).

The enclosed flyer gives more information on the sessions available and how to book your place. Places are limited, book before 17th May to avoid disappointment.

## Parent as Sports Coaches

You have probably heard leading sports people talking about the influence their coach has had on their careers.

The UK needs dedicated people to coach sport in schools and sports clubs. Whether they just want to play for fun or become a high level performer, everyone needs to start somewhere.

### Interested?

FGHS are looking to recruit either:

- parents who are qualified coaches who may be interested in running after school or holiday clubs at FGHS or one of our partner primary schools
- parents who are interested in becoming a coach – we would give you the support, advice, training and voluntary work placements to gain experience, with the longer term aim of helping you get paid employment in the Sports/Leisure sector – provided free of charge.

If you feel you have something to give please contact Mrs Critchley on 0161 912 2947 to arrange a convenient time to come into school and chat with us further.



## Adult Learning courses from Sept

The school works in partnership with Trafford College to offer a range of fun, informal, short courses.

In order to allow us to plan provision for the new academic year starting in September please kindly complete and return the enclosed questionnaire.

For additional copies or more information on a story within this edition please contact Mrs Critchley on 0161 912 2947 or [ccritchley@flictongirls.trafford.sch.uk](mailto:ccritchley@flictongirls.trafford.sch.uk)