Welcome

Sometimes it is okay to get things wrong. It is through our mistakes that we grow and learn how to improve and develop. Three weeks ago, my Year 9 Drama group performed a short piece titled ‘Making Our Mark’; a performance based around prehistoric cave painting. I thought the class were ready to perform to others. I was led to believe they had rehearsed sufficiently and were revving their engines, ready to perform to Year 7 students; they weren’t.

I spent several hours painting scenery and gathering costumes for the class; I organised an audience and had the help of Mr Ahmed to set up the lights and sound. My Drama students were asked to arrive ten minutes early to class after lunch so that they could get changed; some arrived late. They didn’t fully know their lines; there were awkward pauses. The class would agree it was a minor disaster.

However, two things surprised me about that day; the first was how supportive the Year 7 audience were towards their peers. They knew the performers weren’t truly ready but they offered encouragement in their feedback. They were far more generous in their praise than I was. The second was how truly miserable the class appeared two days later when I next met with them. Getting it wrong had hurt them; they weren’t happy. In this case I was fortunate enough to be able to give them a second chance. A week later they performed the piece to a standard far beyond their initial delivery. I could see smiles on their faces; the class were genuinely proud of their achievements. When reflecting, I asked them what they had learnt. They admitted they needed to work faster and spend more time on line learning outside the classroom. Do I think I will see a repeat of this performance failure soon? I suspect not. Have the class gained from the experience? Absolutely as we have shared a tough moment together and it has brought us all closer and made us more honest with each other. This is the real benefit of challenge.

There are plenty more challenges on the horizon but this is a positive as I can look forward to seeing our students grow, learn, benefit and become strong.

Simon De Courcy
Head of the Creative, Expressive and Performing Arts (C.E.P.A.) Faculty
On Friday the 16th of October 2015, we held our special ‘Full Steam’ cross Arts evening of railway themed entertainment from 1949. Audience members purchased their first, second and third class tickets and were invited to join us on our branch line station as we waited for the next train to depart. The immersive theatre evening took place outside the school building and within our heartspace as Year 9 Drama students played the roles of station staff and interacted with audience members in short devised scenes.

Year 10 Drama students performed scenes from the Ealing Comedy, ‘The Titfield Thunderbolt’ whilst Year 10 and Year 9 Dancers performed a specially choreographed piece based around railways of yesteryear. There were digital art pieces on exhibition and a series of short rail animations too.

Music of a railway theme was performed by small groups and individuals from across the years within the Music Department and Year 11 Drama students performed self penned monologues based on railway journeys. At the close of the evening, the audience enjoyed a special railway themed supper of ‘pie ‘n’ peas’ and a sticky ginger cake dessert. A great and memorable evening was enjoyed by everyone!
On Thursday 19th and Friday 20th of November 2015, students from across the years performed our school musical. The show proved to be a smash hit with a full house and a receptive audience. Everyone was in high spirits by the close of each night!

“A Night On Broadway” Musical Show

Scripted by Mr. Dalby and led by staff from across the CEPA Faculty, the show was well received by the audience and cast alike.

“A fantastic evening!”
(Parent)

“Thank you and well done for a great show!”
(Parent)
Set across two time periods, the show reveals the importance of fighting for what you believe in and the power of protest. A tale of life stories and love!

‘A Night On Broadway’ Musical Show

“An excellent evening’s entertainment! Some very impressive performances!” (Parent)

Great songs and great moments!
Year 9 Dance and Drama Students developed their performances from the ‘Full Steam’ Showcase to offer a whole new theatrical experience. Actors produced digital monologues and street theatre whilst dancers adapted their pieces for a performance on the railway platform!

‘Mind The Gap’ Performance Showcase at East Lancashire Railway, Bury

Students performed on the platform to over 600 primary school students as part of the ‘Santa Special’ event and then in the Museum of Transport in Bury.

Drama students created their own monologues which they filmed for an online performance. The pieces were adapted for an audience of primary school children.

Students learnt about street theatre and adapting to a different audience.
“Brilliant pieces; very enjoyable!”
(General Public Audience)

“Very focused performers!”
(General Public Audience)

‘Mind The Gap’ Showcase

“Well rehearsed; very impressive!”
(General Public Audience)
All money raised was donated to charity. Well done to all the performers and organisers for their hard work!

Led and organised by Year 11 student Saida Hadriz, our students from across the years gathered together on Wednesday the 16th of December 2015 to perform in a special talent show.

A tough judging panel of staff and students
Picnic At The Stones

Friday 29th April 2016
2.45pm until 9.30pm

A visit to ‘Long Meg And Her Daughters’ Stone Circle, Penrith for a Student Picnic and Outdoor Art Workshop.

Includes a visit to Mayburgh Henge and ‘King Arthur’s Round Table’ Henge, Penrith

Cost: £3.50 per student
Bring your own picnic food.
See Mr De Courcey for more details.
A cross-curricular, cross-schools project about community, identity and belonging

THE EARTH WORKS PROJECT

A Showcase Event at Manchester People’s Museum on Sunday the 19th of June 2016

September 2015 saw Ms Wystawnoha bring together schools and staff to launch ‘The Earthworks Project’ here at Falinge Park High School and Performing Arts College. The project aims to explore the notions of community, identity and belonging in creative and compelling ways. Each school has interpreted the potential of the project in their own unique manner and many establishments have taken the focus of prehistory and the text of ‘Maroo of the Winter Caves’ by Ann Turnbull as a starting point for their work with classes across different Key Stages. Other schools have taken a look at the text, ‘Ug’ by Raymond Briggs which explores the ambitions and dreams of a boy living in the Neolithic.

Here at FPHS, the staff have been leading a series of workshops and creating some participatory and interlinked performances. Cross-curricular work across many different Faculties has led to some unique and surprising outcomes that we are keen to share at our showcase event in June 2016 at The Manchester People’s Museum, near Spinningfields.
Falingle Park High School and Performing Arts College, Rochdale is proud to present...

**SCAR OF THE SABRETOOTH**

Written by S. De Courcey

A Drama about Community and Belonging

10th June 2016
at Falingle Park High School from 5.00pm until 6.30pm
Tickets £3.50 (No Concessions)
Tickets In Advance Only
Refreshments Served

and

19th of June 2016
at The Manchester People’s Museum
at various times
Invitation Only; Admission Free

Visit us at www.falinglepark.com
or contact 01706 631246
We are delighted that Healey Dell Archaeological Society will be joining us in our work this term as Lady Lavender Saint John, the famous Edwardian Archaeologist and one of the founder members of the Society will be leading a lecture about the famous Neolithic and Bronze Age discoveries made upon Knowl Hill and Rooley Moor in Rochdale in the Summer of 1916.

It seems that the excavated sites and artefacts that were unearthed at this time have close links to the story being enacted in our forthcoming drama, ‘Scar of the Sabretooth’. We hope that our audiences can discover a little more about the characters on stage through some participatory theatre.

There are three performances on offer this term as we perform ‘Dig 1916’, ‘Dig 2016’ and ‘Scar of the Sabretooth’ at the same events in June. Perhaps you can figure out how the performance pieces are linked in some way?

Two of the performances will require the audience to complete an Excavation Notebook and audiences will get their archaeology notes stamped upon completion of four activities. There will be a great prize for the best notes completed on each performance day.

People will get a little taster of the shows at the forthcoming Awards Evening in May with a special performance sketch titled ‘An Old Flame’. For more details about the forthcoming performances and how they all link to ‘The Earthworks Project’, visit the special annexe linked to our school website. A single ticket for all three shows can be purchased from school in advance only at break times, lunch times or after school from the CEPA Office, priced £3.50.
An educational lecture and display of rare ancient treasures from our recent archaeological expedition in the borough of Rochdale by Lady Lavender Saint John.

10th June 2016 at Falinge Park High School from 5.00pm until 6.30pm;
Tickets £3.50 (No Concessions)
Tickets In Advance Only; Refreshments Served

and

19th of June 2016 at The Manchester People's Museum at various times
Invitation Only; Admission Free
Contact 01706 631246
to book a ticket
or visit www.falingeypark.com
Healey Dell Archaeological Society will be presenting their latest discovery...

Dr. M. Chambers will be showing and discussing the finds from latest Neolithic excavations in the Rochdale area and offering a ‘hands-on’ demonstration of the latest technological techniques employed in the field.

10th June 2016 at Falinge Park High School from 5.00pm until 6.30pm; Tickets £3.50 (No Concessions)
Tickets In Advance Only; Refreshments Served and
19th of June 2016 at The Manchester People’s Museum at various times
Invitation Only; Admission Free
Contact 01706 631246 to book a ticket or visit www.falingepark.com
The late Summer of 3816BC and King Ulfar oversees the building of his burial barrow and the Great Henge. On the outskirts of his settlement, a shamen meets a strange young orphan girl, Scar and they form an uneasy friendship. Caught up in the murder of Ulfar’s son, Winter and crossing paths with a young thief, they must all decide where their loyalties lie in a story about community, identity and belonging. When Ulfar’s followers start to gather in the hunt for the murderer, Scar must decide whether families can be forged rather than inherited. The Shamen thinks that the mark down Scar’s arm was made by a sabretooth cat but they died out several thousand years ago, didn’t they? A prehistoric adventure of stones, bones and survival for all the family to enjoy.

**Scar of the Sabretooth**

Rehearsals are now underway for our major Summer term production, ‘Scar of the Sabretooth’ and Year 10 Drama students were somewhat surprised to discover that the drama is set in the Bronze Age rather than the Stone Age. The class have begun to research the period and they will be directing sections of the drama themselves. The audience are invited to decorate the set with rock art before the performance and this plays a significant part in the drama itself. It seems the audience can shape the story and what happens to the characters!

‘Project Earthworks’ has also included a ‘Caveman Camp’ for our local primary schools and there have been six activities and workshops leading up to an overnight camp using prehistoric materials.

The project has also featured a ‘Prehistoric Poems’ Workshop for Year 5 students led by Mr De Courcey and a Drama Workshop for Little Heaton Primary School. More on the final outcomes next edition!
Student Visit to Stonehenge and Avebury

On Friday the 11th of March 2016, Year 9 and 10 Drama Students took a visit to the Stonehenge Unesco World Site in Wiltshire. The small group paid a visit to the famous stone circle and other prehistoric locations in the vicinity.

Students visited Woodhenge, Durrington Walls, Stonehenge and the New Kings Barrows, the Stonehenge Cursus, the Neolithic Reconstructed Settlement and Museum, Silbury Hill, West Kennet Long Barrow, West Kennet Stone Avenue and Avebury Stone Circles.

The famous Sarsen Stones

The New King’s Barrows

Avebury Stone Circles

Woodhenge

The Neolithic Settlement
A family quiz, great entertainment and superb Greek, Spanish and Italian food, including vegetarian options on a warm Summer evening.

**Arts and Mediterranean Night**

Wednesday 6th July 2016
from 6.00pm until 8.00pm in the Heartspace

Tickets: £6.00 per person (including food)
Tickets available in advance only from the C.E.P.A. Office or school on 01706 631246 or via email to decourceys@falingepark.com

Food and fun for everyone
www.falingepark.com
School Choir at The Hebron Church and ‘The Festive Treat’ Event

On Monday the 14th of December 2015, our Music Department took the School Choir to the local Hebron Church in order to perform festive songs to the audience. The choir performed a combination of traditional and popular festive songs and the performance was very well received by the congregation.

On the very next day, the choir formed a central performance in our special ‘Festive Treat’ event held for the local community.

‘The Festive Treat’ Showcase featured food, music, gifts and entertainment for everyone to enjoy!

Brilliant Solos and Group Performances!

Sharing The Festive Cheer!
Mr Mvula has been busy co-ordinating our partnership work with Oldham Coliseum Theatre this year and students in Years 8 and 9 have enjoyed over six workshops in school through the Autumn and Spring terms. Students have visited the theatre multiple times this year to see performances such as ‘The Pitman Painters’ and ‘Educating Rita’ and attending a backstage tour.
ONE STARRY NIGHT

An Evening of Art, Music, Dance and Drama inspired by the Night Sky and a chance to use our telescopes (subject to weather conditions).

Friday 21st October 2016, 6.00pm until 8.00pm
Tickets: £5.00 (No Concessions) (including a great Autumn Supper; Vegetarian Option available)
Tickets from the CEPA Office or direct from school.
Visit us at www.falingepark.com
The Year 10 FPHS Dance Group is proud to present...

Back2Kidz Dance Show

Dance 2 Express; Not 2 Impress

Monday 23rd of May 2016
6.00pm until 8.00pm

Tickets: £4.00 (No Concessions)
Available in advance Only from the CEPA Office
at breaktimes, lunchtimes or after school
(Refreshments Served)

Auditions take place from the 18th of April to the 9th of May 2016 at lunchtimes in the Dance Studio
REMIX!

WEDNESDAY
27TH APRIL
2016
6.00PM
UNTIL
8.00PM

anything but ordinary

TICKETS AVAILABLE IN ADVANCE ONLY FROM SCHOOL OR THE CEPA OFFICE. REFRESHMENTS SERVED AND A GREAT PRIZE RAFFLE.

TICKETS:
£3.00 EACH OR £10.00 FOR A FAMILY OF FOUR.
Creative Partnerships

This academic year has seen the school embrace many creative partnerships with a range of organisations and establishments and this has been particularly true within the Creative, Expressive and Performing Arts Faculty. This collaborative work has meant new experiences for our students and the chance to work alongside professionals in a range of creative industries. There are some amazing opportunities ahead!

The ‘Tinkology’ Family Science, Technology and Engineering event was supported by the Comino Foundation and organised through the ‘Tinker, Tailor, Robot Pi 2’ Project. This was led by staff across faculties and continues to develop into the Summer term. Some great work has been done to date!

Mr Lawlor and Ms Rogerson are leading on a ‘Cultural Capital’ Project that will see the development of a great new Art Mural in the School Reception. To date, parents and student have been invited into school to discuss the aims of the project and the initial design work has taken place.

Ms Rogerson is leading on the ‘Digital Designer in Residence’ initiative which explores visual art and computer coding.

Mr Lawlor and Year 10 Art Photography students are undertaking the ‘I Am Creative’ Project with Odeon Cinemas throughout the year.

M6Theatre Company have performed a piece titled ‘Cheers’ which explores the impact of alcohol on families to some of our older students.
‘Speaking For Ourselves’ Project

Students have been exploring common values that underpin our school culture, ethos and our local communities. Through extended spoken discussion and role-play, we have been able to establish a set of manifestos that highlight these values.

This term, our Year 9 Value Champions will be working alongside Faculty staff to offer our students a special experience and leading on a range of assemblies and presentations.

“A great experience!”

This year has seen Year 9 students from Falinge Park High School working alongside students from St. Ambrose Barlow R.C. School in Swinton and Abraham Moss Secondary School in Manchester as part of a project titled ‘Speaking For Ourselves’. The initiative has used a range of methods to explore complex issues around identity, community and values. Students have examined challenging contemporary issues relevant to young people today using group activities and drama roleplays. In total, students have enjoyed four sessions or workshops at each of the schools and have become Value Champions!