

BRIGHT MINDS, BOLD BLOOMS



Earlier this summer, Francis Holland Prep proudly presented our floral interpretation of 'Flowers in Fashion' for Chelsea in Bloom 2025. Showcasing the creative and collaborative talents of our pupils, staff and parent body, our display brought the 'Fearless Girl', a proud symbol of both Francis Holland Prep and our sister senior school, Francis Holland, Sloane Square, to life in glorious horticultural form.

Inspired by Kristen Visbal's statue which stands in New York, bravely facing down a charging bull, the Fearless Girl represents how our pupils, through engaging in our 8 Cs of collaboration, craftsmanship, curiosity, compassion, commitment, confidence, communication and creativity, grow into courageous and passionate learners. They are inspired and empowered to debate with gusto, reflect on the world around them with empathy, solve problems creatively and appreciate the bigger picture.

Our floral 'Fearless Girl' was covered entirely in moss and blooms, a book held firmly in her hand, dressed in our bespoke

tartan skirt and navy jumper - a piece of our school's identity and community. As well as a celebration of uniform as fashion, it embodied the values we cherish: pride in who we are, a blossoming curiosity and a lifelong love of learning - all nurtured within our walls at 15 Manresa Road, which was fittingly home to the former Chelsea Public Library. Our design thoughtfully incorporated dried, fresh, and handmade flowers - the latter carefully curated by our pupils aged 4-11.

We were delighted when we discovered that the 'Fearless Girl' had not only won a prestigious Gold Award - an incredible achievement with only 14 out of 130 participants being awarded Golds - but also got a special mention for the Innovation award. The Chelsea in Bloom judges were extremely impressed with the creativity and the sustainability of the

installation; particularly our pupils' handmade flowers from upcycled school uniform, underlining the vital importance of sustainable fashion and our commitment to the future of our Earth. This builds upon a long-held emphasis on creativity which has recently seen Francis Holland Prep be crowned winner of the national Muddy Stilletos Best Schools Dynamic Performing Arts Award 2025.

We could not be more grateful to the parents, staff and pupils who spent many hours planning, designing and installing our 'Fearless Girl': a real signifier of the strength and unity of our Francis Holland Prep community within the amazing local community we are lucky to call home. ●

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