



St. Joseph's Catholic and Anglican High School

Ysgol Uwchradd
Gatholig ac
Anglicanaidd
Sant Joseff

ISSUE 6 FRIDAY 21ST JULY 2017

Round up by the Chaplains, Sister Maggie and Reverend Mary

Celebrating the Good: One of the sad moments at the end of every year is the annual gathering to thank members of staff who are leaving our school. Our community is close-knit and supportive, and saying goodbye to friends and colleagues who are leaving, retiring, moving on or moving away is always a hard thing to do. The staff all gathered on the last Monday of term for a service of celebration of all the good things that will remain as we remember colleagues who leave us this year and praying for God's continued blessing upon their lives. Amongst the highlights of this service; as we said farewell to Joanne Goodison, Susan Poole, Sam Peck, Poppy

Prince, John Kennedy, Vikki Seddon, Alex Halpin and Alison Griffin was a rousing rendition of Abba's "Thank you for the music" by the staff choir as well as moving prayers and words of affirmation for each of these colleagues.

Ten year anniversary:

Events to mark our ten-year anniversary as a joint faith – Catholic and Anglican School have been a feature of the entire school year at St Joseph's and will continue next term through to the end of the calendar year. The extended Mission Week at the start of the year has continued to bear fruit in the lives and work of pupils. It has felt very fitting that our school has also been featured in a project across the UK celebrating church schools, called "Ten Leading Schools". Our school is



particularly commended in this work for the way in which prayer is taught, practiced and respected in our community. A book, celebrating the merits of Church schools, in which our school features is being published at the end of August and we look forward to receiving copies of this in due course.

Taizé: One of the most enjoyable things I do each year is to take a group of pupils to the ecumenical community at Taizé in France, for a week of prayer, work and learning alongside others from all over the world. I often wonder "How might church communities better reflect God's love and welcome?" and "In what ways can people of all ages engage with the Gospel and uncover the depth



of their relatedness to God and to the whole of creation. The Community at Taizé offers a unique setting for the exploration of such issues, and it has a profound impact upon those who visit. This year we took ten pupils to Taizé. We had an amazing time and our pupils were great ambassadors for our school. Amber Brannan and Kaci Adamson in Year 10 gave an amazing account of what they had learned and experienced in a meeting with one of the Taizé brothers and with another UK group. I am especially grateful to the staff: Michelle Woodward and Steve Davies, who is of course a deacon in the Catholic Church, who helped me to lead this trip.

Staff Prayer: The bold decision of our headteacher and Senior Leadership team to make more space for Staff Prayer this year has been one of the most rewarding activities for us as chaplains. The faithfulness of staff and their commitment to turning up each week to pray before school has been wonderful to observe and we, as chaplains, feel so supported and encouraged by the whole school community. As the next school year looms on the horizon there are many opportunities to think about how we can continue to grow in prayer, in welcome and in faithfulness. We hope that all who belong to our community will have the space they need to relax and be refreshed for the new school year over the holidays and we look forward to seeing pupils and colleagues on results day and in September.

O God of all beginnings and endings, we thank you for the gift of this school year. It has been a time filled with grace and blessings and with challenges and opportunities. Give us the rest and refreshment we need this summer. Let our efforts bear fruit. Bring all of our plans to a joyful conclusion, And bless us, according to your will. Watch over us in the weeks ahead, Guide each day as you have done this past year. Amen.

Sister Maggie and Reverend Mary

Hillbury House

As part of GCSE Health and Social Care, Year 10 pupils undertook training in Hillbury House 'SmartCare' Training Centre. They had training in care values, sensory loss, assisting with eating and manual handling using specialist equipment. It was a very practical experience for the pupils and we are very thankful to the staff at 'SmartCare Training' for the valuable experiences our pupils have had. Our pupils learnt a lot from the experience and it has really made them think about the needs of other people.

Mrs L McKeown

Here's what the pupils had to say ...

I really enjoyed our two visits to Hillbury Care Home because it was different to what we usually do. It was really fun to use the equipment and to work as a team. I would love to go again in the future and learn more!

Mary Moran, 10 Cassidy

We are very grateful that we got the opportunity to experience training in Hillbury House. The staff were helpful and we felt

confident to ask questions if we needed to. After this experience we have learnt how difficult it can be to work as a carer, that they look after all ages and people with different conditions, but we were told how rewarding it was to the staff. We felt what it was like to lose all of our senses, but we also learnt life is definitely not over for the residents in the homes. We would like to thank all of the staff for this great opportunity.

Amber Brannan and Kaci Adamson

Past Pupil returns with South African Choirs

William Silk who emigrated to South Africa as a Year 8 St. Joseph's pupil brought 2 choirs to Llangollen Eisteddfod last week, from Kwa Zulu Natal – they gained 1st prize in the Traditional Folk Song (which included using white wellies as drums) and two 4th places as well as taking part in two Evening Concerts there. They concluded their two week UK Tour with a wonderful evening concert of Sacred & Secular, Folk and Modern music in our gym, raising over £1,400 for local charity Gobaith I Ethiopia and a morning workshop for Year 7 and 8 with visitors from St. Christopher's School. Well done all 110 singers, we loved every moment! The singers, dancing and percussion was truly inspiring. Many thanks to Mrs A Roberts, Tesco Charities Champion (and parents of former

pupils Joseph and Grace) for providing food for the choirs along with all the teachers, parents, pupils and friends of the school who gave food and their time to host the singers and prepare the buffet. Diolch!

Mrs J Goodison

Here's what the pupils had to say ...

It was very interesting to see the 'wellie dance' performed with lots of enthusiasm!

Morgan Burke

Full of energy and fun to watch. I really liked the part where they made the sounds of a typical rainy day in Africa with all the animals. An enjoyable performance.

Nia Bond

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Working towards more vegetarian options with TCC

The TCC group have been working on the issue of vegetarian choices in the restaurant at school. They did a survey of all the pupils in the school and discovered that 5% of the school population is

vegetarian. They also discovered that whilst the restaurant offers vegetarian choices on the menu everyday, many of the pupils aren't aware of the choices available; so recently, they held a meeting in the Conference Room with Colette, the cook, to discuss the issue. The meeting was very successful and the group will be continuing with the project until the Summer holidays. Among the things they plan to do is design posters to advertise the vegetarian options on the menu, bring Colette some ideas for vegetarian meals as part of a Wrexham Borough Council initiative and get the Council to supply updated information for the TV advertising screen in the restaurant.

Mrs M Woodward

CanSing

St Joseph's were proud to host their own CanSing Event in the School Gym on Friday 16th June opened by Suzanne Barnes, Director of CanSing and led by Ruth Evans, Animateur and Welsh National Opera singer. Joined by our invited guests from St Christopher's School everyone enjoyed rhythmic and vocal warmups then sang in English and Welsh, learning the new featured song, The Humming Chorus from Madam Butterfly. Staff and pupils alike joined in whole-heartedly to make this event a real success. Well done all of you!

Mrs J Goodison

TCC Concert!

Together Creating Communities Concert at St Giles Parish Church on Friday 23rd June St Giles

Church was aglow with the musicians from St Joseph's, St Mary's Singing Squad and "Elvis Cymraeg"! A wonderfully diverse concert raised much-needed funds for this worthy charity. I was so proud of everyone who took part: You are all stars for giving up your time and talents to perform and to help behind the scenes. A big thank you goes to all who attended the concert, over £470 was raised for TCC!

Nia Bond, Harriet Evison, Shea Ferron, Yasmin Rami, Alisha Carr, Scarlett Snape, Abbie Jones, Isabella Roberts, pHannah Pattenden, Celyn Jones, Ruby Booth, Chloe Lynch-Hughes, Molly White, Scarlett Williams, Rufus Edwards, Olivia Reynolds, Seren Leadill-Taylor, Rebecca Pitt and Katie Hill. Diolch yn fawr!

Mrs J Goodison

Glan Llyn

Once again St Joseph's pupils were a credit to themselves and the school in their excellent participation and behaviour at Glan-Llyn this year. The visit took place from 21st to 23rd June, 2017 when forty pupils attended the Welsh language activity course at the centre in Llanuwchllyn. All pupils took part really well in the many varied activities and enjoyed the excellent food and facilities provided by the centre. They responded well to the friendly, helpful, trainers who all are able to speak Welsh fluently and give instructions for the activities bilingually. It is hoped that another course will run next year for year nine pupils. Many thanks to Mr Donlon for

accompanying the visit with myself and Miss H Davies.

Mrs J Davies

Here's what the pupils had to say ...

I really enjoyed Glan Llyn! My favourite activity was the high ropes because I conquered my fears! I made some memories that I will cherish forever.

Mia Williams

Glan Llyn was an unforgettable experience. The instructors were very amusing and encouraged us to speak Welsh. Best school trip by far!

Carys Jones, Yanira Hernandez Williams and Nwa Hussein

We really enjoyed the whole trip but our favourite activity was the kayaking, because we fell in and couldn't get back in the kayak! The team had to help us get back in.

Phoebe Hough and Neve Mullen

Activities Day Round Up

On Friday, 7th July Years 7 – 9 embarked on trips to various places. Here's what the trip leaders and pupils had to say about their adventures.

Cadbury's World

After a long journey to Cadbury's World on Friday, we all had a great time. The children, as always, were a credit to the school. The tour was good but my favourite part is the 4D cinema – the children filled the room with screams as our minds were tricked into feeling like we were on a rollercoaster!

Mrs K Owen

The trip was very good! I especially enjoyed the History

tied into it, along with the chocolate of course! The staff in school and in the factory were both amazing, giving us the best Cadbury's experience!

Orlagh Scott

Crocky Trail

92 Year 7 and 8 pupils had a fantastic time at Crocky Trail. Pupils spent half the day enjoying the wide variety of rides and activities within the park and the other half exploring the trail itself. Pupils and staff alike agreed that the haunted house attraction was terrifying! The behaviour and attitude of every pupil was exemplary throughout the day.

Miss G Bryan

The rides were really good and we enjoyed getting a bit muddy and wet on the trail.

Rose Doble and Kerry Meyers

It was really enjoyable. A great experience!

Ben Davies and Oskar Stejke

Chill Factore

The trip to the Chill Factore was fantastic fun and quite a remarkable sensation to be in Snow in the middle of July. On arrival we had our lunch and got kitted up with snow gear. After a short briefing we were had a great session playing in the snow, sledging and using the mini bobsleigh run. We all had a fantastic time and it was wonderful way to spend an afternoon learning how to ski on real snow.

Mr N Donlon

Twitter feed from a Parent/Carer: "My daughter has had an amazing time and thankful for a wonderful experience. Thanks to staff and

pupils for ensuring this trip was magical and memorable."

Trafford Centre

The trip to the Trafford Centre was very pleasurable. My friends and I had a great time walking around the shopping centre, I never felt bored as there were many shops and restaurants I would highly recommend going there with school.

Arianna Bennett

Squash and Golf

8 pupils from years 7 and 8 attended the squash coaching session in the morning hosted by Wrexham Brymbo Squash Club. The session gave pupils an introduction to squash and by the end of the session they were able to play games against each other. Thank you to Mr Jim Tunley the Secretary and Coach at Wrexham Brymbo Squash Club for the use of the courts and for putting on the coaching session.



In the afternoon the same pupils attended Clays Golf for a round of foot Golf and crazy Golf. The foot golf was a new experience for everyone and was enjoyed by all. Overall the day was very enjoyable with the pupils showing real talent in both the squash and foot golf. Thank you also to Miss Dixon for assisting on the day and can't wait to do it all again next year!

Mr T Trueman

Drama Workshop

This year's drama workshop was centred around Shakespeare and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The pupils engaged with the tasks and exercises with tremendous enthusiasm and commitment. It is always a pleasure to do the workshop and I particularly like to see the pupils using their Gospel Values and supporting each other.

Miss K Pugh

I enjoyed the drama games, they really helped us to work together later on. The play scene that we did from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* was really interesting and fun.

Raya Wardeh

The drama in activities day was entertaining and interesting. My favourite bit was when we learned some Shakespearean insults and words and did an exercise using them.

Declin Davies

Crafty Capers

A range of crafts including decorating bird boxes, batik, card making and kite making were participated in during activities day. The last hour was enjoyably spent enjoying the sunshine testing our kites.

Chester Zoo

A trip of 55 pupils went to Chester Zoo on activities day. We all had a really fun day seeing all the animals and some of us especially enjoyed the bat cave! Not me though! The pupils behaviour, as always, was exemplary and a great example for the school.

Mrs V Jobson

We really enjoyed the bat cave a lot because it was scary and it was awesome at the same time. We

really can't wait to go back there. We enjoyed going around with our friends and we all shared a delicious Slushy.

Tatiana Rita De Oliveira, Liliana Silva, Erica Coelho Da Cruz, Oliwia Zdanowska-Skibinska

We enjoyed the Islands at Chester Zoo because it felt like we weren't in Chester as there were lots of Tropical animals around. We also enjoyed having our mobile phones with us as we were able to take pictures and have memories to look back on. We loved going to the gift shop at the end of the day and buying gifts for ourselves and families.

Ellie Wynn, Jessica Roberts, Aspen Lindo, Rhian Jones, Ruby Whitehead and Grace Rowlands

France Trip 2017

On Sunday, 2nd July a number of pupils from Years 8, 9 and 10 embarked on a journey to Normandy, France. On Monday, the pupils dived right into the trip, kick starting it with a swimming trip! The pupils were kept busy during their time away, this included trips to Normandy beaches, Bayeux Tapestry, Montparnasse Tower, Bayeux market, bowling, Disneyland and enjoyed their last day on a river cruise! As always, the pupils were well behaved and a credit to St. Joseph's. Thanks goes to all members of staff who joined us on trip.

Mrs L Roberts

The week was filled with interesting and fun activities with lovely weather to match. I particularly enjoyed going to the Bayeux Tapestry as I found the

audio guide very informative. Having previously learnt about the Bayeux Tapestry in school it was interesting to see it from a French perspective. We also visited the American Cemetery, the atmosphere was very peaceful and it was a very beautiful place. Towards the end of the week we had the chance to visit Disneyland Paris, the parade and the evening fireworks were spectacular, the way they did it was amazing! To end our week we went on a boat trip down the River Seine, by this point we were all very tired and it was nice to have a relaxing trip along the river. It is definitely a week I won't forget ... especially the snails and frogs legs!!

Emma Stead

Spelling Bee Final

On 5th July, 4 year 7 pupils participated in the Welsh Final of the National Spelling Bee Competition in Aberystwyth. After an eventful journey, Gabriel Pebeyre and Katie Jones took part in the first round of the French final and were sadly knocked out by stiff competition from pupils who were spelling more than 15 words a minute in French. Our two German pupils made it through to the final round and Alyssa Aranas came a very impressive 4th and Seweryn Dzikowski a spectacular 3rd. This year the standard of the competition was the highest it has ever been, with over seven thousand pupils entering. Congratulations to all who took part!

Mrs R Large

Get to know the Technology Department

The Design and Technology department has three full time and one part time teaching staff. It has very good facilities and is housed in a purpose designed zone with the following spaces:

- Resistant materials workshop.
- Product design classroom equipped with computers
- Food technology classroom
- Design/graphic products classroom equipped with computers
- Textiles classroom

Design and technology is taught on a carousel system in years 7, 8 and 9. There are a number of projects carried out that cover a broad spectrum of skills and areas of the curriculum.

In Food Technology pupils have focused practical tasks to develop a range of basic skills as well as lessons in food hygiene and safety and healthy eating. In year 8 practical skills are further developed through Welsh food products. Year 9 focus is on developing and producing healthy meals. During the three years pupils gain in confidence during practical lessons and are very proud of the products they make.

In year 7, in Textiles, the focus is on designing skills and hand sewing techniques. These skills are used to produce a decorative felt pouch for an item of their choice, typically a phone or standards card holder. In year 8

pupils move on to consider the decoration of fabrics producing reusable bag which many pupils design for shopping, makeup or football boots. In year 9 pupils use the skills and knowledge gained in years 7 and 8 to work on preventing fraying and using standard component parts to produce a full project designing, making and evaluating a zipped bag.

In resistant materials year 7 pupils work on Steady Hand Games, building a foundation of skills in practical work involving working with different materials as well as a basic introduction to electronics. Traditional workshop skills are built upon in year 8 with the Welsh Antique Toasting Fork, where pupils work from designs that they have produced using CAM (Computer Aided Manufacturing). They also produce a construction diary, which looks in detail at the tasks that they have carried out. Year 9 pupils use OHMS law to determine the power of resistor needed to be used in a Night Light project, having produced designs and working through the design process to achieve these.

In Graphics, in years 7, 8 and 9 pupils study CAD/CAM and other design processes. Projects include design and make of 'Keyring Cymraeg' in year 7, the design of a Welsh Antique Toasting Fork in year 8 and Dino's Diner Project in year 9.

Practical work is a very important element of the Key Stage 3 curriculum.

There are currently 3 GCSE courses in the department:

- WJEC Food and Nutrition

- WJEC Design and Technology – Product Design

- WJEC Design and Technology – Graphic Products

A summary of the courses and assessment can be found on the school website.

There is a craft group available for Key Stage 3 pupils Thursday lunchtime in the Textiles room for activities such as knitting, crochet, plaiting and making stuffed animals. For Key Stage 4 pupils there are 'catch-up' lessons available in all Technology areas on Thursday evenings 3.30-4.30pm to offer extra support for pupils if required. *Mrs L McKeown*

Comic-Con

On April 9th, Seren Edwards, Lois Davies and Rosie Price attended Comin-Con. Rosie cosplayed as the Tenth Doctor and K-9 and entered the masquerade in which she came first place for the junior awards. Well done! *Miss T Lynch*

Hail and Farewell!

Well! Almost 16 years of Music at St Joseph's and now the time has come to hand over the baton - as you can see from the photograph I am proud and pleased that Mr Oliver Sammons, singer and deputy director of Sirenian Singers, the adult choir in which I sing, will be taking over the Music Department in September so I can keep in touch with your future triumphs! From my heart I thank everyone who has been involved in any way to help further the experience and progress of our wonderful

musicians, my work at St Joseph's both in School and Community Events and the classroom has been a true vocation and an absolute pleasure - with the help over the years of too many people to name individually but of course without our wonderful



nine peripatetic teachers and Mr Barlow my job would be so much harder so **THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR THE MUSIC** and keep on the musicians - Dal a Ti - especially after you leave, remember - **IF MUSIC IS PART OF YOUR LIFE YOU WILL NEVER BE BORED AND NEVER BE LONELY!**

Mrs J Goodison

Dragons Lair

On Tuesday 4th July, we had our Business Pitch for Enterprise and we had to present

our charity event to professional business men and women. It was a very interesting day as it prepared us for future jobs and it gave us new skills that will definitely help us in the future too! *Elin Jones, Aubrey De Luna, Isabelle Collins and Jack Jones*



Musical Successes

Hannah Allen

Grade 3 Singing (Distinction)

Ellie Hulmes

Grade 3 Singing (Merit)

Georgia Griffiths

Grade 3 Singing (Merit)

Nia Evans

Grade 3 Singing (Merit)

Katie Samuels

Grade 3 Singing (Merit)

Micha Dodman

Grade 3 Singing (Merit)

Megan Barlow

Grade 1 Singing (Distinction)

Daniel Frankel

Grade 1 Singing (Distinction)

Orlagh Scott

Grade 1 Singing (Distinction)

Evie Huhtala

Grade 1 Singing (Distinction)

Freya Hollingswoth

Grade 5 Singing (Distinction)

Rebecca Snowden

Grade 5 Singing (Distinction)

Emma Hinde

Grade 6 Flute (Merit)

Megan Barlow

Grade 5 Flute (Pass)

Daniel Frankel

Grade 3 Cornet (Merit)

Grace Morgan

Grade 3 Cornet (Merit)

Tom Barlow

Grade 4 Euphonium (Merit)

Lewis Hughes

Grade 4 Cornet (Merit)

Zack Williams

Grade 4 Cornet (Merit)

Josh Evans

Grade 4 Cornet (Merit)

Congratulations goes to past pupil, Bethan Snowden who has recently passed her Grade 7 (Distinction) – da iawn!

Mrs J Goodison

Prestigious Awards Ceremony

Phoenix was invited to an awards ceremony at Coleg Cambria. She received the School Link Student of the Year award for her efforts on the Introduction to catering course. Phoenix was absolutely delighted at being acknowledged for her efforts and had a fantastic time at the awards ceremony.



Her tutor said the following:

"Pushing her own difficulties to one side, Phoenix has given so much support to a fellow student, who could quite easily feel isolated and lonely because of his hearing and sight impairment. She never allows him to feel left out of any activity. She shares her limited knowledge of sign language to help him engage into his study and at other times she will partner him on the dance floor during fun times. Everyone needs a Phoenix!" All of us in St Joseph's are extremely proud of Phoenix.

Mrs Z Morrey

Dates for the Diary

Monday, 5th September
School opens to pupils

Wednesday, 13th June
Year 9 Collaborative Induction
PTA Meeting (6.45pm)

Sunday 24th June
Year 11 Prom

Monday, 25th June
New Intake Evening (6.30pm)

Thursday, 28th June
Common Transfer Day

Friday, 6th July
Years 7-9 Activities Day

Monday, 9th July
Sports Day
Evening of Excellence

Friday, 20th July
School closes at 3.30pm

Thank you

Our Annual Evening of Excellence took place on Thursday, 13th July. It was a pleasure once again to welcome Parents/Carers, guests and pupils. Thanks goes to all pupils, their families, staff and supporters of the school for making this a wonderful event. As always, gratitude goes to our sponsors of the evening, Wimya Electrics Ltd, Regent House of Flowers and New Directions.

Term dates for 2017-2018 Academic Year

Autumn Term

Tuesday 5th September 2017
to Thursday 26th October 2017

Monday 6th November 2017
to Friday 22nd December 2017

Spring Term

Tuesday 9th January 2018
to Friday 9th February 2018

Monday 19th February 2018
to Friday 23rd March 2018

Summer Term

Tuesday 10th April 2018
to Friday 25th May 2018

Monday 4th June 2018
to Friday 20th July 2018

May Day

Monday 7th May 2018

Training Days

Friday 1st September 2017
Monday 4th September 2017
Friday 27th October 2017
Monday 8th January 2018
Monday 9th April 2018



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