



St. Joseph's Catholic and Anglican High School

Ysgol Uwchradd
Gatholig ac
Anglicanaidd
Sant Joseff

ISSUE 6 FRIDAY 20TH JULY 2018

School Community Review

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. The service included moving prayers and words of affirmation for each of our colleagues who are leaving. We say goodbye to Mrs. Kim Owen who leaves St Joseph's after 12 years of devoted service to take

up another teaching post and Mr. Dave Lewis, one of our caretakers who is also moving on to pastures new. We wish them both well on this next stage of their journey.

As the service is a celebration of all that is good, the staff also marked the forthcoming nuptials of Head of English, Miss Gabrielle Bryan, teacher of Science, Mr. Matthew Timbrell and Teaching Assistant Miss Kiera Pugh all of whom are getting married in the summer. We also congratulated Mrs. Cerian Earing and Teaching Assistant, Mrs. Claire Hughes on the arrival of their beautiful baby boys.

Evening of Excellence: On Monday 9th July, St. Joseph's celebrated its annual Evening of Excellence. It was a wonderful celebration of all that is good about St. Joseph's school. It was a privilege to be entertained by our pupils as they showcased just

some of their many talents: we were treated to a mime re-enacting the Last Supper from our most recent whole school celebration of the Eucharist; a monologue from Blood Brothers and a beautiful performance of 'Bring Him Home' from the musical Les Miserables; a solo Welsh recitation; a role play presentation of the 'history of castles' and recitals of 'Stranger Sagas' for an English writing competition.

We were so very proud of our pupils; over 100 were awarded certificates from curriculum subjects in recognition of their hard work and commitment, achievement and success, positive attitude and behaviour. In addition, 18 pupils were singled out for special mention: Jack Jones; Niamh Collins; Shea Ferron; Ffion Price; Ruby Birchall; Sofia Dotolo; Isaac Hallam; Emma Hinde; Phoebe Hough;

Carys Jones; James Lloyd; Trishell Fernando; Mitchell Williams; Mary Hazel; Sophie Stansfield Jones and Millie Davies.

Congratulations to you all and to the many others who also, throughout the year are acknowledged by staff for their effort and achievement.

A huge thank you must go to Mrs. Nicola Ellis and Miss Beth Lewis who planned and co-ordinated the evening and to all those who contributed to the evening's success in any way.

Staff Prayer: This has been a highlight of the week throughout the year for many staff. The faithfulness of staff and their commitment to turning up each week to pray before school has been wonderful and in the absence of Rev'd Mary and Sr. Maggie, (who is recovering from a broken shoulder) the positive response from staff in volunteering to lead staff prayer has been overwhelming. Each colleague, leading staff prayer has brought their own gifts and talents and uniqueness, which has made the experience even more special. 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.

Mrs Roe

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.

Watch out Andy Murray!

This Summer term at St. Joseph's we have organised a tennis competition called the Road to Wimbledon. It is a national competition where the winners from the St. Joseph's competition will move to a county competition.

We had an Under 14 boys and Under 14 girls competition the winners of these events were:

Under 14 Boy
Llyr Stevens

Under 14 Girl
Sophie Pemberton

Well done to both of our winners and best of luck in the next round!

Mrs Tait

Thank you to the School Council

A big thank you to the members of the School Council for all their help and commitment during this academic year. They have all worked so hard introducing some new initiatives and making them successful. Diolch!

Mrs Greenhalgh

Goodbye and Good Luck to Class of 2018

On Friday 22nd June the year 11 pupils enjoyed an afternoon of shirt signing and celebration. They were invited in for their lunch and to spend time with their form groups and form tutors for one last time in school. All pupils that attended thoroughly enjoyed themselves and the afternoon was full of laughter and a few tears.

This was followed by the prom which took place on Sunday 24th at the Grosvenor Hotel in Pulford. It was an evening of smart suits and stunning dresses, and all the pupils had really put the effort in. They enjoyed a fantastic meal before dancing the night away right up until the end, at 11 o'clock. It was a fitting end the pupil's time here in St. Joseph's.

Mr Lambert

Thank you

Our Annual Evening of Excellence took place on Monday, 9th 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, Wrexham Parocilal (Educational) Trust and Wimyta Electrics Ltd.



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Music Success

We would like to congratulate the following pupils:

Year 8

Caleb Landan

Grade 1 Singing (Merit)

Ethan Le-Cheminant

Grade 1 Singing (Distinction)

Mia O'Brien

Grade 3 Violin (Merit)

Year 9

Megan Barlow

Grade 3 Singing (Merit) &

Grade 6 Flute (Pass)

Grace Morgan

Grade 3 Singing (Merit)

Orlagh Scott

Grade 3 Singing (Distinction)

Year 10

Alisha Carr

Grade 6 Saxophone (Merit)

Shea Ferron

Grade 5 Singing (Merit)

Henry Scarsbrook

Grade 8 Piano (Pass)

Mr Sammons

National Spelling Bee

Every September, the Modern Languages Department enter all Year 7 pupils into the Routes into Languages Spelling Bee competition, a national competition where pupils learn to translate 25 words from English into French or German and then spell as many words as they can in one minute. At the end of the autumn term, all pupils compete with a number from each class

going forward to round 2, where they are given another 25 words to learn. After the third round, two pupils from each language then take part in the Spelling Bee final where they have a total of 100 words to learn.



Five thousand students in Wales began the competition way back in September and last week, 4 pupils from St Joseph's competed in Swansea and faced stiff competition, along with 75 other competitors. Jeri Quibuyen, 7 King and Danny Manoj, 7 Devereux took part in the French competition, and despite their best efforts, sadly did not make the top 4. In the German competition, Melisha Gunasekera, 7 Kolbe came fourth overall, whilst Vilas Lavan also from 7 Kolbe won and was presented with a cup. I am so proud of all 4 competitors on what was nerve-wracking and challenging experience. Ausgezeichnet! Gratuliere! Fantastique! Félicitations!

Mrs Large

Even though it was buzzing in the Spelling Bee finals, I had a great time and really enjoyed it I tried

my hardest and that was all we had to do to achieve something.

Melisha Gunasekera

The Spelling Bee made me buzz with excitement. Me, Danny, Melisha and Jeri travelled to Swansea University and it was great fun! On the day, I did not expect a high result and I was feeling really nervous, but there is no need to feel nervous if you constantly practise, practise, practise! After the German heat and in the real final, I tried as hard as I could and won first place out of over 5000 entrants in Wales. I was given a huge silver cup and a smaller trophy to keep. I had lots of fun in Swansea.

Vilas Lavan

The Spelling Bee was great fun and although Jeri and I did not get through, the spelling bee cupcakes were an amazing consolation prize!

Danny Manoj

The Spelling Bee final was a fun experience and we enjoyed every minute of it.

Jeri Quibuyen

Skills Certificate Challenge

Year 10 have had a very busy couple of weeks! As part of the Community Challenge (which makes up part of their GCSE Skills Certificate Challenge) they needed to plan, deliver and reflect on lessons delivered to Year 6. The intention of the 'Community Challenge' is to develop pupil's **Planning and Organisation** and **Personal**

Effectiveness skills. They were asked to identify, develop and participate in opportunities that will benefit a community (in this case the school community!). They needed to complete Skills Audits, produce group and individual action plans, lesson plans, health and safety considerations etc.

On Tuesday, June 26th and Wednesday, June 27th Year 10 were given the responsibility of delivering their planned lessons to the new intake of Year 6 pupils. They were heavily involved in the Year 6 'Rocket' induction week and have had excellent feedback from the younger pupils. As usual, the pupils were a credit to the school and fully participated in all aspects of the challenge. They have now completed all three of the challenges. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff who helped and supported this challenge and to the pupils for their enthusiasm, maturity and contribution to this challenge, you're a wonderful group of people to work with. Ardderchog Blwyddyn 10!

Mrs Jones

Last week, Year 9 pupils were all involved in the first of their three challenges as they will complete as part of their **GCSE Skills Certificate Challenge**. The **Global Citizenship Challenge** focuses on the skills of **creativity and**



innovation and critical thinking. They have been taught the skills during their History and Geography lessons so they were well prepared to take on the real challenge. The topic they were given was 'Sweatshops – good or bad? They had needed to analyse sources, write standpoints, contribute to class debates and produce a raising awareness item on their point of view and reflect on what they had done.

This was an opportunity for them to tap into their personal creativity. We were truly blown away by the quality of their raising awareness items, we had canvas paintings, washing machine/lines models, bunting, board games, songs, t-shirts, animations, YouTube videos etc. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff who helped and supported this challenge; it wouldn't be possible without them. Based on what we witnessed last week Year 9 have made a very successful start to their Skills Certificate Challenge GCSE. Gwaith anhygoel Blwyddyn 9!

Mrs Jones & Mrs Tait

Activities Day Round up

Crocky Trail

Over 130 Year 7 and 8 pupils had a fantastic time at Crocky Trail. There was lots of problem-solving, team work and laughter to be had whilst tackling the obstacles and games along the trail itself as well as lots of fun on the rides and activities of the park

area. The pupils' attitude and behaviour was absolutely fantastic and all the staff on the trip had a great day out too.

Miss Bryan

Our favourite ride was the Titanic. There were so many different slides; the Black Hole was the best one. We raced our way through the haunted dungeon.

Sam Kucharski & Max Bartley

The day was really well organised and flowed nicely. It was different to a normal school day – in a good way! We loved the trail and the park.

Jan Kibitz & Fabiha Chowdhury

Trafford Centre

76 pupils and 8 members of staff made the hour long journey to the Trafford Centre. During our time there the pupils explored the wide variety of shops that the Trafford Centre had to offer with New Look, Topshop, Hollister, JD Sports and Jack Wills proving very popular. The pupils behaviour whilst shopping was, as ever, impeccable and they definitely enjoyed the opportunity to spend some of their hard earned cash!

Mr Tait

Chester Zoo

A trip of 63 pupils went to Chester Zoo on activities day. We all had a really enjoyable day seeing all the animals and the boat ride in the sunshine! The pupils behaviour, as always, was exemplary and a great example for the school.

Mrs Jobson

My favourite part about the Zoo was seeing all the animals. I especially enjoyed seeing the monkeys and the bats swooping

above my head. I tricked Miss Davies that there was a bat of her head! I really enjoyed the trip.

Louis Graydon

Squash & Golf

I took 8 pupils out to play squash up at Wrexham Brymbo Squash Club where they had coaching from Welsh international Hannah Davies. All the pupils played really well and it was commented by the coaches that there was real talent amongst the group. In the afternoon we went to Clays golf club to have a go on the driving range. We all had a great day and would like to thank Hannah Davies and Jim Tunley at Wrexham Brymbo Squash Club for the session and Clays golf for looking after us.

Mr Trueman

Pottery

The Pottery Day' that took place in school during Activities Day was a huge success. The pupils that took part really enjoyed the activity and were keen to be involved again.

The pupils learnt how to work with clay and different techniques that they hadn't done before. These included; making pinch pots, coiling, making tiles, using textures in clay and modelling characters. They were all pleased with what they had made and that they had something to take away to remind them of the day.

Mr Farrell

The Pottery Day was my favourite part of Year 7.

Tallulah Davies

A really good day.

Aaron Diaz

T 'n' R

TNR is a great facility and on our doorstep in Chirk, the staff there were fantastic and the pupils had a brilliant time. We took part in climbing, canoeing, archery and shooting air rifles, I was really impressed with some of the skills shown by our pupils and I hope they consider pursuing some of the activities they tried. The sun was shining and I couldn't have asked for a better day for my last trip with St. Joseph's.

Mrs Owen

We went to T 'n' R Coaching in Chirk where we participated in many outdoor activities. We were split up into 3 groups that consisted of 11-12 pupils. One group would take part in canoeing where we paddled up the canal and would then turn back and head to the marina base, which was the point where many of us would race to see who was the best. Some people did fall in! Meanwhile another group was enjoying themselves climbing and also at the end raced. The other group was taking it in turns to shoot Air Rifles at targets like tin cans and frying pans. They would also have a chance to turn their hand to some archery where Riccardo in Year 9 hit a bulls eye and won the whole activity! Overall, everyone had a fantastic day and learnt lots of skills!

Amy Brook & Riccardo Dotolo

Beware of the kick back!

Scarlett Williams

Don't sit behind Juliana in a canoe – but she is the Queen of Climbing!

Evie Jones

TCC

Over the past year, the St



Joseph's

TCC group has worked towards a lot. Many members of the group identified vegetarian options as an issue. We managed to get the pre order screen changed, so all the vegetarian options were green, in all the High Schools across Wrexham. We held a meeting with Vanessa Heritage Smith, the Catering Manager for High Schools across Wrexham and a taster session for the Year 7s to encourage vegetarian foods. We have also been working towards a page on our school website and a display board by Drama to update pupils and parent/carers with what we have been doing. Next year we will be trying to achieve more issues like having a bus pass where you can travel to school from more than



one location, a shelter above the benches opposite the basketball court and making people aware of the harms of single-use plastic and litter and promoting recycling. Please feel free to come along to our TCC group on a Wednesday at 12:25pm in Mrs Woodward's room.

TCC Group

Llangollen International Eisteddfod

On Thursday July 5th, Year 8 spent the day at the International Eisteddfod in Llangollen. We had a fantastic day where all pupils had the opportunity to experience various music and dance performances from all around the world, take part in dance and circus workshops and gain a wider appreciation of what it means to be Welsh. We also gathered together to cheer on the Wrexham Youth Choir which included several St Joseph's pupils, past and present, perform three songs which gained them a fabulous third prize in their competition category. This was one of the highlights of our Year and, based on the testimonies of the children, is definitely an event that they would want to return to another year.

Mrs James

The Eisteddfod was really fun and memorable. Although it was a Welsh event, there was lots of people from different countries. It was good to catch up with friends and look at the Welsh stalls.

Niamh Gillon

Llangollen
2018

The Eisteddfod was one of the best days in Year 8!

There was a lot of different cultural backgrounds and languages, we met some Canadian friends too!

Grace Rowlands

Year 9 Visit Glan Llyn

Once again year nine pupils had a wonderful visit to Glan – llyn from 20th to 23rd June. The evenings were long and the weather was warm. The group of thirty seven excellent pupils made a 100% commitment to the many activities such as raft building, canoeing, rowing, ten pin bowling, climbing, swimming and the high ropes course. The location of the course is ideal as it is set amongst beautiful scenery in Snowdonia and the staff all speak Welsh which enables the pupils to experience living in a Welsh environment. Throughout the course everyone enjoyed the nourishing, tasty food served in the caban bwyta. They took part energetically in the disco which St Joseph's shared with the Welsh medium school Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg, who's pupils were staying at the centre at the same time as St Joseph's.

Next year's year nine pupils can look forward to the next year's visit as we have been fortunate to book a course in June once again. Pupils will soon be able to put their names forward to attend the 2019 course and a draw will be made to select the names of pupils who will be able attend.

Mrs Davies

The favourite part of the trip for me was the high ropes course and the descender because it was fun and the adrenaline of the jump off.

Daniel Frankel

I loved the whole trip but especially climbing and water activities. Even though I fell in the lake it was amazing.

Maja Pioronowska

The best part of the trip for me was the kayaking because we got to jump in the lake at the end. We got soaked.

Aimee Edwards

Urdd Success

During the Whit half term the Urdd National Eisteddfod took place



urdd.org

Urdd Gobaith Cymru

at the Royal Welsh Showground, Llanellwedd, Builth Wells. This is the largest youth movement in Europe with thousands of children taking part each year. St. Joseph Year 10 pupil Ruby Birchall, once again represented the school and the counties of Wrexham and Flintshire at the event. Ruby competed in the recitation for Welsh learners. Last year Ruby won this competition in the lower age group bracket but this year she was competing against older pupils from all over Wales. Following an outstanding preliminary heat, she went on to win the final with yet another amazing, faultless performance which wowed both the judge and audience. I would like to say a big thank you to Ruby and her parents for their commitment and support throughout the year. LLongyfarchiadau a da iawn i chi gyd!

Mrs Jones

Contacting the staff at school

Our preferred method of communication is a pre-organised, mutually convenient meeting.

Contact with staff can be arranged via the school at:

mailbox@st-joseph.wrexham.sch.uk

or through a request made at the school office.

We will endeavour to ensure that, where possible, phone calls will be replied to on weekdays within 48 hours as staff are unable to reply when they are teaching, in meetings or on duty.

Please be role models of polite and tolerant behaviour when visiting our school. Aggressive and abusive behaviour will not be tolerated. Thank you for your co-operation. *Mr Wilkinson*

Smart Watches

Smart watches should not be brought into school. Examination regulations ban the wearing of smart watches on the grounds of potential malpractice and cheating. However, there are other implications of smart devices which are of concern: distraction, loss/theft, and safeguarding issues. These devices fall outside our insurance policy. Thank you. *Mr Wilkinson*

Term dates for the 2018-2019 Academic Year

Autumn Term

Tuesday 4th September 2018
to Thursday 25th October 2018

Monday 5th November 2018
to Friday 21st December 2018

Spring Term

Tuesday 8th January 2019
to Friday 22nd February 2019

Monday 4th March 2019
to Friday 12th April 2019

Summer Term

Tuesday 30th April 2019
to Friday 24th May 2019

Monday 3rd June 2019
to Thursday 18th July 2019

May Day

Monday 6th May 2019

Training Days

Monday, 3rd September 2018

Friday, 26th October 2018

Monday, 7th January 2019

Friday, 19th July 2019

Monday, 22nd July 2019

School Contact Details



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