



St. Joseph's Catholic and Anglican High School

Ysgol Uwchradd
Gatholig ac
Anglicanaidd
Sant Joseff

ISSUE 11 THURSDAY 18TH JULY 2019

Reflection by Sister Maggie

Each week throughout the school there is a special theme chosen for prayer and reflection. This is used during class registration time each morning and also during year group assemblies once a week.

The theme for the week beginning 3rd June was Pentecost: which refers to the time God sent his Spirit to the Apostles. After His resurrection Jesus had visited them when they were locked in a room for fear of the Jews. He came to them and said "Peace be with you... as the Father has sent me, I am sending you – RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT."

To arrange the assembly on this theme I was privileged to have a



group of pupils from Year 9 Kolbe to help with the preparation and delivery of the assembly theme... they organised the PowerPoint and ensured they were on time each morning to check everything was in place in the social court; sound, lights and PowerPoint. When one member of the group was missing, another did the reading instead.

During the assembly we all reflected on what it means to be alive with God's Spirit, proclaiming the good news of the Gospel in our time. We looked at the gifts of the Holy Spirit and thought about how these might be lived out in today's world. We decided to reflect on someone who lived according to these gifts and we chose one of our Form Patrons: a young man called Sean Devereux

whose motto was: "While my heart beats I have to do what I think I can do; this is to help others who are less fortunate." Sean did this in the circumstance of war in Africa. He died at the age of 29 protecting vulnerable young people he was working with.

Having seen how Sean Devereux used the gifts of God's Spirit in his life, we then reflected on ourselves. God calls each one of us in a unique way to live life to the full as Jesus promised and to help others be aware of their uniqueness and beauty in God's eyes.

We ended with a call of Pope Francis to young people in our time "My dear young people, the world of today needs you, it needs your courage and hopefulness, your faith and perseverance... go forth and proclaim the good news."

Year 11 Prom

In May's issue, we have already reflected on a wonderful celebration of our Year 11 pupils in school before they left us. This was a truly moving and joyful celebration.

On 20th June we then celebrated their Prom at the Grosvenor Hotel in Pulford. This gave us, as staff, another opportunity to celebrate their growth and development over the years and to thank them as they continue on their journey.

We were blessed with a beautiful sunny evening as pupils, parents and staff gathered outside. There was ample time to greet each other and admire each other and share experiences. The girls were beautifully attired in dignified and graceful dresses worn with poise; the boys equally mature and confident in suits and ties.

Having had time to relax and greet one other, it was then time to progress inside the hotel itself where they enjoyed chatting together and dancing. It was a truly joyful occasion, the DJ was happy to play the music they requested. What was most special was the fact that, like school celebrations, the last piece of music they requested was a hymn. Everyone was dancing, and those who had been sitting around chatting were on their feet linking arms and singing with great enthusiasm. They did not need any words displayed – they all just spontaneously sang: *Praise the Lord o my soul, o my soul, worship his holy name. Sing like never before o my soul, worship his holy name.*

New Intake Evening

Having said "goodbye" to our Year 11 pupils we then had a New Intake Evening on Monday, 24th June for parents of our Year 6 pupils who will be joining us in September. This gave parents an opportunity to see the school and become more familiar with our educational programmes and activities. These are built on our Christian values which are at the very heart of all we endeavour to achieve with our pupils. This will in turn, ensure they grow in integrity and goodness. It will help them to live joyful and fulfilling lives in all they endeavour to do – TO BE.

We then had Year 6 pupils with us for a whole week in school. This gave them the opportunity to begin to find their way around school, to get to know staff, and other Year 6 pupils from different schools. This has helped them to begin to be integrated into St Joseph's.

As part of this induction process, some of our Year 10 pupils took leadership roles by working with small groups of about 8 Year 6 pupils. In order to help them with this, they were allowed to wear their own clothes as they do when preparing for, and practising for, an interview. The boys were smartly dressed in suits and ties and the girls likewise chose appropriate clothes in-keeping with a leadership role.

I had the privilege of watching them "on the job". They were wonderfully mature. What was especially impressive was the capacity of the Year 10 pupils to

control and engage the children. The atmosphere was calm and orderly as well as being of interest to the young pupils who were really engaged.

Evening of Excellence

On Monday, 8th July we celebrated our Evening of Excellence in school. It truly deserved that title. It is a very special evening when children receive accolades for excellence in a range of academic and other educational activities.

For these celebrations to succeed, a great deal of careful preparation is required: meticulous thought, detailed planning and organisation. We are indebted to Mr Wilkinson and the whole leadership team for their faithful dedication, commitment and guidance.

On the day of the celebration, staff had practised all day with the children. In the evening we all gathered: staff, children, parents and members of the Governing Body of the school together with clergy and special guests including the Mayor of Wrexham.



The school hall was packed, but when all were seated Mrs Roe began the celebration by welcoming everyone and leading into the opening prayer. We were

then invited to watch a PowerPoint presentation entitled: "LIVING LIFE TO THE FULL" which showed a wide range of photographs of children at work both in school and outdoors.



We then began the distribution of certificates which covered the wide range of subjects taught throughout the curriculum.

We began with Religious Education because the religious life of the school is rooted in Christian values and underpins and inspires all that we do in St Joseph's, but more particularly who we ARE.

Since parents rarely see the wonderful contribution children make to the school by their involvement in Liturgies, we gave an example of what the welcome group presented in the most recent school Eucharist.

This consisted of a silent mime where two dancers invited a range of small groups of 2 / 3 children to gather from different directions to come to the centre. This was done as the music played "Come as you are – that's how I want you." This culminated in a beautiful tableau where all gathered together to support and care for one another.

Interspersed between giving out of the certificates, we also saw examples of wonderful achievements of children in different contexts.

Four girls from Year 8 represented our school and country in the Urdd Eisteddfod in Cardiff Bay. They performed a set dialogue about the School Council having a suggestion box of how to improve the school. The adjudicator said they mastered a very difficult and challenging dialogue. They came 4th in the whole of Wales, just missing out being in the top 3. The adjudicator thanked them for their brilliant and amusing performance. This was most certainly true and they provided the whole performance for us on the Evening of Excellence.

Another wonderful small drama on a light hearted note was entitled "The good old days". This was presented by 4 pupils dressed in-keeping with the characters and wearing flat caps. They gave a truly delightful performance. It showed forth their brilliant and dramatic skills and capacity to engage their audience.

As well as subject based academic achievements, there was also the very important acknowledgement of personal and social qualities: young people who shine out as examples of "living life to the full"- bringing joy, compassion and loving care to others, through selfless generosity of spirit. Some of the awards were very specifically based on faith as for example: Contribution to the Christian

Community of our School and Outstanding Contribution to the Religious Life of our School.

One special award was given to Mrs McKeown's class, 9 Kolbe, as a group. This was given in acknowledgement of how the pupils had grown and developed as people when in her care, how she had nurtured and inspired them. It was also true that building on her loving care for them they in return became more mindful of her in the early stages of her illness and they did everything they could to care for her. They prayed for her and were devastated when they heard she had died.

There was one final award which was perhaps the most memorable of all. Mr McKeown and one of his daughters: Charlotte, were present at the ceremony. He sponsored a new award entitled THE LORRAINE McKEOWN CUP OF KINDNESS. This was presented to one of our pupils who excelled in all elements of kindness, generosity and loving care.

The Evening of Excellence proved to be a most amazing evening of joy and celebration: a beautiful blend of thanking God for academic excellence and rooted in the depth of Christian values. The whole atmosphere was full of words and gratitude for all our blessings shared with deep love for God, for others and for our own inner depth and beauty. The final prayer in the booklet reminded us of our school motto: I am the Way, the Truth, the Life.

Thanksgiving Celebration

On 15th July we had a wonderful Celebration Service of Thanksgiving for three members of staff who were leaving: Michelle Woodward, Donna Tait and Zoe Morrey, remembering their years of devoted service which ranged from 12-27 years.

We began with a reading from St Paul's letter to the Corinthians: "I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ. I thank you that you have been enriched in so many ways, especially in your teachers". This was followed by singing the responsorial psalm: "I thank my God each time I think of you and when I pray for you I pray with joy".

There then followed a reading from St John's Gospel which reminded us that, as teachers, we have the wonderful privilege and responsibility to live in accordance with Gospel values "Keep my commandments and remain in my love" and furthermore, to go forth and proclaim the goodness and joy of the commandment of Jesus "Love one another as I have loved you".

In the context of the above gospel message, it was fitting that the most powerful centre of our celebration should be to acknowledge the devoted commitment and the staff who were leaving. This was done by having individual staff members share their experiences of

working with the staff who were leaving us. This was the most poignant and powerful part of the whole celebration: to acknowledge the devoted commitment, giftedness and sheer goodness of the individual members of staff who were leaving.

It is difficult to express in words the whole atmosphere of this shared reflection. There was much laughter as stories were recalled. There were also tears of joy as the goodness of those who were leaving us were remembered. These mingled with the sadness at their leaving us. We will treasure these memories forever.

As we sent them forth, we asked God to be with them always and bless them on their future journeys. We then had a farewell blessing "As you go my friends, you travel, with Christ at your side. His light will show a path and be your guide... our hearts will hold you close.

Blessings on your journey: Michelle, Donna and Zoe. They will be greatly missed by all.

*Tad Tragwyddol
Y mae ei Mab ydy'r Ffordd,
Y Gwir a'r Bywyd;
Gad i ni gerdded yn ei
Ffordd,
Llawenhau yn ei wir,
A rhannu yn ei fywyd
wedi'i atgyfodi
Ym mhŵer yr Ysbryd Glân
Un Duw, yn awr ac am
byth.
Amen.*

School getaways ...

During the second part of the Summer term, St Joseph's pupils visited a number of places so read on to find out how they got on ...

Activities Day Crocky Trail

A large number of 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.

Mr I Barlow

"The weather was very warm and dry so this made it a great day. I really enjoyed it because I was with my friends and it was a fun experience. It was quite dusty because the mud had dried up. Before lunch we went on the rides and then the mud trail. I am glad we did it that way because I didn't want to get too hot before lunch. It was a really good day to spend with friends and celebrate the end of a good year. We also had a sing along at the end of the day. Thank you Mr Barlow!"

Neve Ransome, 8 Romero

Trafford Centre

During our time at the Trafford Centre, pupils explored the wide variety of shops that it had to offer with New Look, Topshop,

Victoria Secrets, Hollister, JD Sports and Jack Wills proving very popular. The pupils also enjoyed having lunch together with their friends and a take away Starbucks was enjoyed by many! The pupils behaviour whilst shopping and during the journey, was, as ever, impeccable and they definitely enjoyed the opportunity to spend some of their hard earned cash!

Mrs Z Morrey

"I am a shopping addict, I loved it! From clothes to food, I enjoyed it all. Spending the day with my friends, I loved the whole day."

Jan Kibitz, 9 Kolbe

Chester Zoo

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.

Mr S Tait

"Chester Zoo was a great experience and we had a really good day, The best part was when we saw the baby meerkats playing."

Rachel Bygrave, 7 Kolbe

Drayton Manor

The Activities Day trip to Drayton Manor was a great success. The weather was wonderful, and the venue offered a wide range of activities for the Year 9s. Obviously the rollercoasters were the main attraction, and it was strange to see so few of our pupils around and about, because they were spending most of their time hopping from ride to ride!

For those who aren't predisposed to thrill-seeking - like me! - there

was a zoo with lots of fascinating animals, including a pair of beautiful tigers, and the food was good. Once Trey Jones pointed me in the direction of the ice cream stall, I was laughing!

A brilliant time was had by everyone, and I'm sure next year's Year 9 will love it!

Mr M Griffiths

"I liked going around the theme park. It was fun going on the ride where you are a cowboy on a train, shooting at targets. The ice cream was very nice too!"

Trey Jones, 9 Kolbe

Llandudno Ski

The Llandudno Ski was a fantastic opportunity for pupils to try out a new skill. There were 23 pupils who arrived at the Great Orme for the taster session. After a short walk to up a steep hill we arrived at the centre where we were put into three groups. Skiing was great and all pupils took part and were skiing down a short part of the slope by the end. The other activity was a toboggan run. This was fun as it was fast and simulated a real life bobsleigh run.

At the end of the day there was just enough time to visit the pier where many pupils enjoyed a well earned ice cream. We all had a fantastic time and the weather was superb throughout.

"A good day out and fun skiing as it was a good opportunity to try a new skill."

Jack Roberts, 9 Devereux

Cadbury's World

As part of activities day some of our pupils went for a day that was choc-full of fun! Visiting Cadburys world in the home of chocolate, Bourneville, the pupils started the day with an exciting 4D experience where they got to ride a virtual river of chocolate and jump onto the crunchie rollercoaster to get that real Friday feeling!

They then began their tour (starting with two free chocolate bars!) through the Aztec jungle learning about the origin of the cocoa bean. They found out through some interactive films the history behind the creation of the Cadbury factory and the story of the Cadburys brothers.

It was then into the chocolate making zone where they pupils learned to temper chocolate and piped their own names onto giant marble slabs. Following some more free chocolate they got to see how chocolate shells were made and were given a fresh sample of melted chocolate on which they could put their own toppings! The tour ended with the magical Cadabra ride and into the world's biggest Cadbury outlet store! Safe to say there were some chocolatey hands and faces on the bus ride home!

"I really enjoyed my day out at Cadburys world. I loved all the free chocolate. The rides and the attractions were really good too!"

Toby Higgins, 7 Romero

Pottery

The Pottery Day that took place in school 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 had not 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.

Mrs M Woodward

"I enjoyed the pottery. I had a lot of fun playing with clay and making a bowl out of paper mache. I made a house out of clay and an egg holder."

Sebastian Blaszczyk, 8 Romero

Drama

The Activities Day workshop is always a pleasure to facilitate and this year was no exception! The theme was Silent Movies and the Charlie Chaplin era. The pupils worked hard and engaged with all of the activities, which led them toward producing, rehearsing and filming their very own silent movies! The movies were a roaring success and attracted an audience of eager spectators. I would like to thank all the pupils who were involved for their hard work and commitment to the project! Da lawn pawb!

Mrs K James

"The drama workshop was a fun and entertaining way to learn about drama and silent movies. The mini activities between

rehearsing were brilliant even though I was a little embarrassed when we performed for the Art group. Overall a great day and definitely worth the price of...free!

Caleb Hallam 7Dx

Look out for the Welsh edition of the school Gazette which has been produced by the Welsh Ambassadors to highlight the



initiatives linking Bilingualism and Cwricwlwm Cymreig at St Joseph's which they and the Welsh Department have been involved with this year. ...DIOLCH!!

Details of the Year 9 trip to Glan Llyn in June and the Urdd Eisteddford can be found in the Gazette too.

Young Artist

Huge congratulations to Rebecca Pitt, Year 9 Romero. She entered the Junior Section of the North Wales Open Exhibition, currently on display at Theatre Clwyd in Mold, with her beautiful painting of a girl with red hair called "Midday Darkness" and she has been awarded "Curator's Choice".

As she has won this accolade, she will now exhibit six more

paintings in the Christmas exhibition at the Theatre so she will be busy creating these over the Summer holidays.

Well done Rebecca, we are so proud of your wonderful achievement!

Mrs Woodward

Wrexham Museum

On Wednesday, a group of students from Years 7, 8 & 10 visited the "Football Forever" exhibition at Wrexham Museum. The exhibit tells some of the great stories of Welsh football, with a terrific range of artefacts, including the shirt in which Wrexham legend Joey Jones scored his only goal for Wales, and the plaque presented to the national side after they reached the quarter-finals of the 1958 World Cup.



The pupils were selected because they have a keen interest in football, and they had a great time looking at the exhibits. The exhibition runs until next January if you want to have a look for yourself!

Mr M Griffiths

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 at the end of June, 4 pupils from St Joseph's competed in Bangor University and faced stiff competition, along with competitors from across Wales.



Safiya Wandji and Georgia Ellams, 7 King took part in the French competition, with Safiya placed 4th overall in Wales. In the German competition, Joseph Greenall, 7 Romero came second

overall, whilst Emma James also from 7 Romero came first 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 R Large

Snowdonia Geography Trip

On Friday, 12th July Year 9 pupils who have opted to take Geography GCSE next year travelled to Snowdonia to develop their understanding of geography.



Over the last few weeks pupils have been learning about what makes a landscape distinctive. Upon arrival we walked up to Cwm Idwal and observed the glacial environment, vegetation, culture and landscape. In the afternoon, we visited Betws Y Coed where we looked at the impact of tourism and pupils developed their fieldwork skills, completing environmental surveys, traffic counts and questionnaires. It was a great day out!

Mrs A Devine

I thought the Snowdonia trip was really fun and interesting. I liked exploring the little town and meeting residents.

Alex Autiero-Shaw, 9 Romero

I enjoyed visiting Snowdonia because it was interesting to learn about the surrounding areas.

Celsie Hewitt, 9 Romero

PE Update

It has been another successful summer season for St Joseph's at school, county and regional level. On Monday, 8th July we celebrated our Sports Day where

numerous school records were smashed.

There was amazing support by the



pupils and where pupils and staff danced to Mr Griffith's excellent playlist.

There were a number of outstanding performances, but the Victor and Victrix Ludorums were Jake Wilkinson and Lily Davis in Year 7, Julia Blaszkiewicz and Harvey Davis in Year 8, Elijah Marvin and Ruby Booth in Year 9, Jacob Wilmott, Jakub Sczcupak and Hira Sahi in Year 10.

"I think Sports Day was an amazing day, especially as Romero were the best form in Year 7 and overall! My friends and I are proud of each other for how hard we worked, but especially Jake as he



won the Victor Ludorum. I believe all forms will work hard to do even better next year. Thank you to all the teachers that helped run sports day"

Nathan Brylowski, 7 Romero

"I think that sports day was really good. My friends and I are all proud of each other for taking part in so many events and for supporting each other. Thank you to all the teachers but especially Mr McComb and Miss Halliwell for organising sports day, it was the best day!"

Lily Davis, 7 Romero

The Year 7 girls athletics team put in an amazing set of performances to be crowned County Champions with the Year 7 and 8 boys teams coming in third place in the same championships. Higher up the school the u-15 boys team achieved third place in the regional finals. Elijah Marvin was a Welsh finalist in the 100m and 200m.

In football we have had excellent news as two girls have been signed by Aston Villa, well done to Leah Burke and Abby Sheriff.

We look forward to replicating this success in September and hope to see plenty of new faces to our extra-curricular clubs.

Mr K McComb

ICT Reminder...

Please transfer usernames and passwords for the network and Hwb into new planners before discarding old planners. This will prevent unnecessary password issues in September. Thank you.

Mr P Chambers

Skills Challenge Certificate

Year 9s have been involved in the first of their three challenges 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.

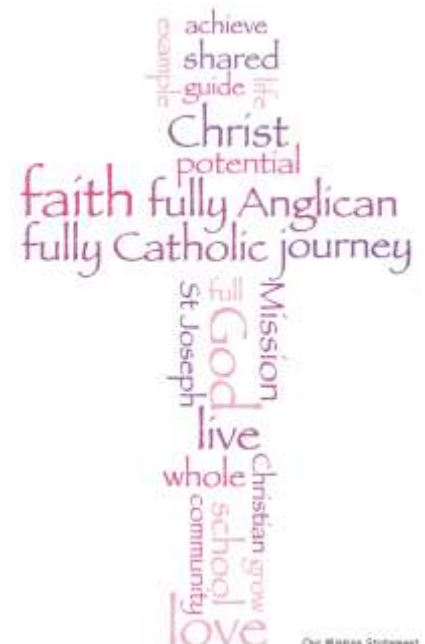


This was an opportunity for them to tap into their personal creativity. We were truly blown away by the quality of their raising awareness items, we had canvas paintings, washing machine/lines models, bunting, board games, songs, t-shirts, animations, YouTube videos etc. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff who helped and supported this challenge; it wouldn't be possible without them.



Based on what we witnessed Year 9 have made a very successful start to their Skills Certificate Challenge GCSE. Gwaith anhygoel Blwyddyn 9!

Mrs A Devine



Bonjour la France...

On Sunday, 30th June 60 pupils from Years 8 and 9 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 the trip.

Mrs L Roberts

Llangollen International Eisteddfod

On Thursday 4th July, 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. This was one of the highlights of our year and is definitely an event that they would want to return to another year.

Mr Lambert

We went to the Eisteddfod and had a really good time. We listened to music all over the world from places like Canada, Wales and many more. There were lots of stalls where you could buy and find out about things like owls, water filters, straw and a circus. We tried loads of new foods from around the globe e.g. Iran. Overall we had a really good time and would visit again.

William Lloyd Jones and Sohaib Muhammad

Engineers in the making...

Plastipak and Make it Engineering

This term 16 pupils volunteered to take part in a manufacturing enterprise challenge. We were not really sure what the day involved and we secretly hoped for a nice lunch and that was about it. BUT, when we arrived at the Ramada Hotel we were greeted by our hosts Plastipak and Make it Engineering.

We were split into 2 teams and were competing against other schools from Wrexham and Chester. We had to design a product (drink) and also think of ways to encourage people to recycle our product. It was a



fantastic day and I am pleased to say one of our teams WON !!!!!

We are now through to national finals that will be held in October in the Sir Matt Busby Suite of Old Trafford! A great day and I hope that the team become the National Champions in October - watch this space.

Mrs D Tait

Go4Set Challenge

Over the last 10 weeks 12 of our wonderful Year 8 girls have been competing in the Go4Set challenge sponsored by Airbus to design their own Eco Factory. It forms part of a continuum of schemes administered by the Engineering Development Trust with one common mission; to inspire students towards STEM related careers by linking education and industry in real life situations using hands on learning and skills development.

There is a massive push in the UK to increase the number of pupils pursuing careers in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) related careers. Research has shown that the exposure of younger age groups to businesses based within STEM encourages more students to choose post-16 courses in these subject areas, thus support from both Education and Industry is essential for this initiative.

By providing a real life STEM based project, Go4SET aims to raise pupil awareness through work related learning within an industrial context, and empower young people to make informed

decisions about their Key Stage 4/National 4 and National 5. The pupils benefit from project management experience as well as personal development skills to enhance their team working, creative and innovative skills.

Over the last 10 weeks the girls have worked tirelessly afterschool guided by mentors from airbus, dedicated their own time to create their own model of an eco-factory, a report to explain each step along the journey and finally a presentation to outline their vision.



This week the project came to its final stage and the girls presented their fully composed models and reports to a team of assessors at Airbus. They spent the day with their display stands which many of you may have seen in school. They went into the offices at airbus and gave a presentation to the panel followed by an intense Q&A session about their project. They then stood with their displays and sold their vision to all the other Airbus mentors, many managers and teams from schools across North Wales.

Their hard work was rewarded and they graduated as Bronze Industrial Cadets – a nationally recognized accreditation within industry – almost the manufacturing equivalent of Duke of Edinburgh. This project has given them a head start in

their paths towards a STEM career and valuable skills which they can take forward with them into their future.

Dr A Heath

Duke of Edinburgh

Since January the Year 9s have been working hard on their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award. They have four parts to complete: skill, volunteering, physical and expedition. We have some amazing skills being learnt from cooking to crochet to writing in Sri Lanka!

Volunteering has varied from helping at Brownies to working at the hospital café. It has been amazing to watch the pupils get involved in activities and become a more active citizen within their communities.

We completed the expedition assessment in June. I am pleased to say ALL 42 pupils passed with flying colours!! They walked up Moel Famau and navigated their way down to the campsite near Mold carrying a third of their body weight on their back. The second day was a breeze for this hardy bunch finishing at Loggerheads.

I am so proud of ALL the pupils, each having their highs and lows but they worked as a team to get through it and I must admit I have shed a tear at how proud I am of them ALL!

I also have to give a massive 'shout out' to all the staff that helped out. I counted 30 over the

2 weekends that either stayed for the whole thing or manned a checkpoint.

And finally to Sion, Hefin, Jenks and Gwyds from Glan Llyn. They taught the pupils amazing life skills... camp craft, navigation, map reading and team work in a way that we never could! I am so grateful!

Mrs D Tait

There were so many lows during the weekend but the highs were doubled. On the first day we walked an extra 4 hours than we should have because we got lost. Honestly it was so hard but when we got back to the camp, we were welcomed by the most wonderful camp mates who insisted on helping us prepare. We were so thankful that everyone was so kind and all the instructors and teachers helped us out so much and encouraged us to keep on pushing. It was one of the most amazing weekends of our lives. Thank you so much Mrs Tait!

Annie Youd, Jessica La Polla, Jessie Hack, Trishell Fernando and Chloe Lynch-Hughes

Quote from Urdd

Firstly, to the pupils, we would like to thank you all again for a great weekend. We all really enjoyed your company over the weekend – you are a credit to your school and I'm sure your parents and school staff are proud of how you conducted yourselves.

Secondly, to the parents and carers, for signing your children up, giving them the opportunity to get out and enjoy the great outdoors and supporting them through their first expedition experience.

Au revoir...



Ms Woodward

Ms Woodward joined the St Joseph's in 1992 and since then has made a huge impact transforming the Art department into a vibrant hub for the pupils. She has taught in the RE department and written and developed the well-respected PSE curriculum.

In her 27 years here, pupils have been nurtured to become creative and artistic individuals and through Ms Woodward's calm approach, have been given the freedom to express themselves through Art.

Ms Woodward is naturally gifted herself, specialising in fine art and she continues to exhibit her own work.

On behalf of the thousands of pupils who have been taught by Ms Woodward and the huge numbers of those who have developed a love of art, we would like to say a massive thank you. Ms Woodward has made so many friends among the staff and the wider school community. She is a kind, caring and positive person who has offered support to the pupils in so many ways.

We wish Ms Woodward a long and happy retirement where she can explore new ventures and

spend precious times with her family.

Mrs M Clark



Mrs Tait (nee McHale)

I have known Mrs Tait since she was 11 years of age. She became one of my favorite pupils, hard working with a great attitude, a real pleasure to teach and I was delighted when she opted for GCSE IT. She passed with flying colours, of course, and went on to Yale to continue her IT studies. Her family has always had close links with our school, and I heard through the grapevine of her progress to University.

Time passed, and our paths crossed again, this time she returned to St. Joseph's as a student teacher and I was her teacher once again. She showed the same positive attitude and determination to succeed, and it was clear she had all the attributes to be a fantastic teacher.

The following summer, our Headteacher at the time appointed a new ICT teacher to meet the needs of a growing department and guess who got the job? Yes, it was Mrs. Tait and she has been a close and valued colleague since then. I could not have wished for a better person to work with, she has so many great teaching ideas and I know

she has been an inspiration to many, many pupils.

I am sure you will join me in wishing her every success as she moves on to the next stage of her career, as a Head of Department.

Mr P Chambers



Mrs Morrey

Mrs Morrey joined St Joseph's in 2006 as Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO). In her 13 years Mrs Morrey has nurtured all the pupils in her care as form tutor, teacher and SENCO.

In her role as SENCO she has been a caring, patient and supportive teacher and role model ensuring that all the pupils are well looked after and that their needs are met. Mrs Morrey has guided pupils teaching them kindness, how to be respectful of others and most importantly that they are all individuals with many gifts to offer.

On behalf of all the pupils who have been taught by Mrs Morrey, both past and present, we would like to say a big thank you! St Joseph's won't be the same without you!

Please join me in wishing Mrs Morrey good luck (not that she needs it) in her new role as ALNCO at the Queen's school.

Mrs R Lee

Contacting the 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 try 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 behavior will not be tolerated. Thank you for your co-operation. *Mr Wilkinson*

Follow us

Please follow us on twitter - we currently have 665 followers, let's increase this over summer!



@SJ_WXM

Don't forget to download the school app by visiting stjosephs.wales

Term dates for the 2019-2020 Academic Year

Autumn Term

Tuesday 3rd September 2019
to Thursday 24th October 2019

Monday 4th November 2019
to Friday 20th December 2019

Spring Term

Tuesday 7th January 2020
to Friday 14th February 2020

Monday 24th February 2020
to Friday 3rd April 2020

Summer Term

Tuesday 21st April 2020
to Friday 22nd May 2020

Monday 1st June 2020
to Thursday 17th July 2020

May Day

Friday 8th May 2020

Training Days

Monday, 2nd September 2019

Friday, 25th October 2019

Monday, 6th January 2020

Monday, 20th April 2020

Monday, 20th July 2020



Contact Details

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