



# St. Joseph's Catholic and Anglican High School

Ysgol Uwchradd  
Gatholig ac  
Anglicanaidd  
Sant Joseff

ISSUE 9 FRIDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2020

## Reflection by Our Chaplains

Throughout the week the chapel is used by pupils to support them in their spiritual and mental well-being. Every day at break time the chapel is open for pupils to visit with a chaplain, pray, or de-stress by colouring / drawing. The colouring sheets either reflect the theme of the week or the religious or cultural season, and we display the completed ones in the chapel.

Following our return from the Christmas holidays, the chaplaincy team began offering services and activities during the first part of lunchtime (12:30-12:55).



To celebrate the uniqueness of each of our faith traditions, we begin the week on Mondays by praying together in the Anglican tradition, a service called Noonday Prayer. Starting in the summer term, we will be alternating Noonday Prayer with the Roman Catholic tradition of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, where the primary focus is meditation on the consecrated bread.

On Tuesdays, Ms. Woodward leads Justice & Peace, social justice activities often based on the theme of the week. Children have participated in activities reflecting on the Holocaust, Christian unity, Justice and Fair Trade.



Wednesdays Sr. Maggie teaches Creative Prayer and Calligraphy. This gives pupils the opportunity to be creative and reflective.

The pupils chose the name for our Thursday activity: Fiction & Flicks. Rev. Lara alternates between reading a book aloud and watching a film. We began with reading *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*. We end each activity by discussing the religious themes and morals we notice woven throughout the stories.

Since we are an ecumenical school, we end the week on Friday with Taizé Prayer. Founded in 1940, the Taizé Community is an

ecumenical Christian monastic fraternity in the village of Taizé in Burgundy, France. It is composed of more than one hundred brothers from Catholic and



Protestant traditions, who originate from about thirty countries across the world. Taizé has become one of the world's most important sites of Christian pilgrimage, with a focus on youth.

Their worship is best known for the simple, meditative chants (based on lines from the psalms or other scripture) that accompany it. St. Joseph's pupils have made this pilgrimage in the past, and we hope to do so again in the future.

All pupils are very welcome to participate in the activities and services we offer in the chapel; it is *your* chapel, after all! We look forward to seeing you.

We wish all of you a joyful and restful midterm holiday.

*Your Chaplains*

## Christian Unity Week

The theme of the Christian Unity Week 2020 was

"Unusual Kindness".

Pupils and staff came into the chapel for a lunchtime,



shared some cake and picked out a "task" they could do to show unusual kindness during the week.

## Wythnos Gymreictod 2020 Welshness Week 2020

We are celebrating Welshness week at St. Joseph's during the week of 2<sup>nd</sup> March. A number of activities linking to Wales have been organised for every year group.

We aim to celebrate the Welsh culture and practice using our Welsh skills throughout the week. We have a number of guests coming to take sessions –



including a Welsh singer, Welsh actors / productions, a variety of people linked to the world of Welsh sport and fitness, representatives from the Urdd, the National Assembly for Wales and Big Ideas Wales.

Our own teaching staff and chaplaincy team at St Joseph's will also be running activities and assemblies linking to Wales. The

Welsh Ambassadors will be teaching Welsh to Year 6 pupils from our feeder schools to support transition between primary and secondary schools.

On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March Years 7 and 8 will compete in our school Eisteddfod. We will chair the winning bard in the chairing ceremony and the Welsh Ambassadors will conduct a quiz about Wales. The Year 7 St David's Day trip to Disneyland Paris will then depart on the Friday after the Eisteddfod. We hope that pupils and staff enjoy the week of celebrations and will treasure and use the gift given to them as a memento of their week!

Remember to use your Welsh throughout the week and receive golden reward slips.... we will be holding a special prize draw for Tocynnau Gwobr Aur at the end of the week for rewards earned during Welshness week..... so **Think Welsh, Speak Welsh, Creu Cymuned Gymraeg!**

On Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March to Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March pupils are invited to wear a red /white / green accessory with their normal school uniform. Details can be found on the following page. The standards of clothing should be suitable for school.

Marie Curie Daffodils will also be available to purchase.

More details will be available on the school website. Mwynhewch! Enjoy!

*Miss H Davies,  
Head of Welsh*

Clothing for the Week

Blwyddyn Year	Dydd Llun Monday 2/3/2020	Dydd Mawrth Tuesday 3/3/2020	Dydd Mercher Wednesday 4/3/2020	Dydd Iau Thursday 5/3/2020	Dydd Gwener Friday 6/3/2020	Dydd Llun Monday 9/3/2020
7	School uniform (With a red/white/green accessory)	PE T shirt, Joggers, Trainers, School Jumper.	School uniform (With a red/white/green accessory)	School uniform (With a red/white/green accessory)  7 Romero - PE T shirt, Joggers, Trainers, School Jumper.	Red, white, green colours. Jeans. (No charge)	School uniform
8	School uniform (With a red/white/green accessory)	School uniform (With a red/white/green accessory)	School uniform (With a red/white/green accessory)	PE T shirt, Joggers, Trainers, School Jumper.	Red, white, green colours. Jeans. (No charge)	School uniform
9	School uniform (With a red/white/green accessory)	Red, white, green coloured sports top/t-shirt or school PE t-shirt. Joggers, Trainers. (No charge)	School uniform			
10	School uniform (With a red/white/green accessory)	Red, white, green colours. Jeans. (No charge)	School uniform			
11	School uniform (With a red/white/green accessory)	Red, white, green colours. Jeans. (No charge)	School uniform			

# School Getaways...

## Soli House

Last week 39 pupils from across Year 10 attended Soli House Retreat. Soli House has, in the past, been a favourite experience of many pupils and this year pupils enjoyed a chance to develop their faith and also their friendship.

**Miss Massey, RE Teacher**

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

*"It was an amazing experience. The many enjoyable activities we took part in allowed us to get closer to both our classmates and God. It was a calming retreat which focused on our wellbeing and spirituality. I am definitely going again in Year 11!"*

**Scarlett Williams, 10 Cassidy**

*I had a great time in Soli House. I enjoyed talking to people who I don't usually talk to. The activities were fun and the team members were great fun. Also Soli House made you feel relaxed and at home."*

**Libby Ellcock-Brown, 10 Cassidy**

*"It was amazing. I got closer to all my friends and made some new ones. The activities were good team building exercises and were fun – the escape room especially. The team was also very nice and enthusiastic."*

**Celyn Jones, 10 Cassidy**

*"I really enjoyed Soli House because it was nice to relax and to just forget about all of our worries. Lots of people said it had changed their*

*faith commitment and I agree, and I am really proud of that."*

**Isabella Roberts, 10 Cassidy**

## GCSE Science Live

On Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February, 60 pupils visited the GCSE Science Live event in Birmingham. Pupils had the chance to see and hear five



of Britain's top scientists, all working at the cutting edge of their specialisms. Pupils also received top tips from an experienced examiner on how to be successful in their science GCSE. It was a great opportunity and the day was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

**Mrs Earing, Science Teacher**

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

*"We found the trip thoroughly enjoyable and educational. It was well organised and fun to take part in. We felt it was innovative, especially in explaining the details of nuclear fusion that will best benefit the economy and creating a new clean energy supply. However, our favourite scientist was Professor Lord Robert Winston who explained why fertility rates decrease in women as they age and how the embryo forms in the womb. Overall, we thought the day was a worthwhile experience, furthering our understanding of science and its connectives field."*

**Maja Piorunowska, Emma Stead, Beth Sidney and Demi Morris Year 11**

*"I found the trip very educational, which advised lots of us tips and*

*tricks to help us in our exams. My favourite part of the whole day was listening to Dr Kate Lancaster who was talking about nuclear fusion which I found very interesting. Thank you to the teachers and teaching assistants for a fantastic day and also an extra thank you to Mrs Earing for organising it all."*

**Ben White, 11 Kolbe**

## PiXL French Conference

The French Department organised a visit to the PiXL French Conference in Manchester on Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> February. The conference was designed to help Year 11 pupils get 'exam ready'. It



was interactive, motivational and helped pupils with a range of strategies and techniques to maximize their exam performance.

**Mrs Roberts-Thompson, French Teacher**

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

*"The PIXL course was an interesting and enjoyable experience and allowed me to enhance my French skills."*

**Aled Owens, 11 Kolbe**

*"I found the PIXL to be entertaining and effective in helping me with my revision."*

**Katie Stansfield Jones, 11 Devereux**

## It's crucial!

On Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> January the Crucial Crew made their annual visit to give Year 7 vital information about how to stay safe, and how to contribute to their local community. Thank you to all the following agencies who delivered excellent sessions:

Fire Service  
St John's Ambulance  
Cats Protection  
Transport Police  
Dogs Trust  
Food Standards Agency

## Scribblers Tour

Over the last two weeks, groups of students from Years 7, 8 and 9 have participated in the Hay Festival Scribblers Tour at Glyndwr University. Inspired by authors and interactive workshops, pupils built their own stories, expressing themselves through the power of writing. Year 7 and 8 pupils got to listen to Aneirin Karadog, a poet who normally writes in Welsh, whilst Year 9 took advice from author Patrice Lawrence, who encouraged pupils to find their unique storytelling skills.

*Mrs K Hatfield, Acting Head of English*

## Year 11 Mock Interview Day

The feedback from our guest interviewers on the day was excellent, as always! Mr Wilkinson, Mrs Arnall and the team of Welsh Baccalaureate

teachers along with myself are extremely proud of the way Year 11 conducted themselves on the day. I know that Year 11 gained valuable interview experience which will help them in the future.

*Mrs E Greenhalgh*

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

It was phenomenal! All of us gained some very useful skills so that we can apply them to future job or educational interviews. We all received valuable comments and advice from the interviewers. We thoroughly enjoyed the day and it has given us home that we will succeed in all future interviews.

*Daniel Frankel and Emilia Eisenhardt,  
11 Cassidy*

## Young Carer Champions

Year 7 supported Young Carers by collecting for young people whose circumstances are difficult in order to ensure they would have some gifts for Christmas. Young Carers were thrilled and came in personally to thank Year 7, bringing with them a handmade



thank you card from one of the children who benefited from their generosity. Year 7 were touched to hear themselves declared

"Young Carer Champions". Well done everyone: we're all so proud of you.

*Mrs Roberts-Thompson, Head of Year 7*

## Year 10 Pre-Seren Day

We went to a pre-seren conference at the Beaufort Park Hotel. It was about revision tips and how not to stress. We learnt different brain games that helped us focus on learning. We also learnt different revision techniques we can use when we have our GCSEs. The leader was very organised with how he lay out the session and he made it enjoyable for everyone.

*Isabelle Winter, Chloe Lynch Hughes  
and Ellie Wynn*

We found our study skills workshop very enjoyable and informative. It should hopefully give us the knowledge and skills we need to revise in a more structured and organised way. The leader was very engaging and had our attention throughout the day, as he was creative and used interactive activities to teach us how to study in a structured and organised way.

*David Brylowski, Adam Taylor,  
Finlay Jones, James Cotter and  
Oliver Scarsbrook*

## Year 8-11 Photographs

Please note the deadline for online orders is Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> February however orders can still be sent to school until Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> March.

**Help us make a positive impact on the world in which we are living in today!**

**Recycling is important to both the natural world and us as human beings. Therefore, we must act fast as the amount of waste we are creating is increasing day by day.**

**In order to help, we are collecting the following items:**

**Used toothbrushes  
Used toothbrush heads  
Used toothpaste tubes  
Please recycle the above items – more is needed!**

**Empty plastic bread bags**  
Please include only bread bags which state they can be recycled. Please do not include croissant bags or bags that are shiny, scrunchy or have a 'waxy feel'

**Empty crisp packets**  
Please keep flat and only put crisp packets in the recycling bin (do not include crumble mix packets or other food products etc.)

**We ask for the above items to be collected at home and only be given in to reception once you have a substantial amount.**

## Recycling Schemes



You can drop off your **clean empty foil cat / dog food pouches** at the Cats Protection League centre on Bradley Road, Wrexham (the old fire station) between 11-3pm Wednesday to Monday (closed Tuesdays). (Pouches must be washed and completely empty).

Ysgol Clywedog, Ruthin Road, Wrexham are collecting **used pens** with the Terracycle Recycling scheme. They can be dropped off within school times.

Accepted waste in this programme: all writing instruments (except for wooden pencils and chalk) are accepted: any brand of pen, felt tip, highlighter, marker, correction fluid pot, correction tape, mechanical pencil and eraser pen regardless of their composition. They do not accept glue sticks, erasers, rulers or other cutting objects that could disturb the recycling process.

## Incredible Edible Community Garden Group

This Saturday between 2-4pm the Incredible Edible community garden group will be carrying out a 'digging' session on Mount street (at the back of Matalan). The aim is to create a community garden space for everyone to enjoy and to plant fruit, vegetables and herbs that anyone and everyone can take for free.

The group currently meet every two weeks on a Saturday between 2-4pm at various sites around Wrexham. At the moment there is the Madeira Hill site and the Mount Street site will be prepared this Saturday. There will shortly be a future site in Rhosddu too. Anyone is welcome to join in (bring trowel /spade /gardening gloves) and if anyone would like to see a community garden in their local area just get in touch. The group is on Facebook: @incredibleediblewrecsam

## Become an Earth Protector

In November Pope Francis proposed that "sins against ecology" should be added to the teachings of the Catholic Church and that ecocide should be a crime. We, as individuals, can help in simple ways. Please visit the website below for more information:

<https://euro2.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.stopecocide.earth%2Fpress-releases-summary%2Fth2r9jedmf5y7tsdehmen4kxyf9gl7&data=02%7Co1%7Cmailbox%4ost-joseph.wrexham.sch.uk%7C44c9396759c44c3d1ff408d7aee6c01c%7C4f3foe52b734416494091b601d147993%7Co%7Co%7C637170178399116551&data=7Gkp58PFcEM5D14ZoFyl%2FUhNucR4f30%2BMF3ntykcjRA%3D&reserved=0>

*Mrs J Kightly*

## Amazing Castles

Year 7 have been making some absolutely amazing castles for History. Some of them were even edible, and we can tell you, they were delicious! They also made brilliant presentations about castles.

*Mrs Y Williams, Head of History*



## Dragon's Den

On Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> February the school's social court resembled something similar to Alan Sugar's office block in Canary Wharf. We were visited by 30 people from the business world who came to watch our Year 10 as they presented their business ideas.

Over the last term, the Year 10s have been raising money for Hope House and this week they were seeking further opinions on their business idea. They had to write business plans, describe what roles they had played within their team and show the 'dragons' the entrepreneurial skills they had



developed. We were extremely proud of them all.

*Mrs A Devine, Welsh Bacc Co-ordinator*

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

As part of our Welsh Baccalaureate Enterprise Challenge, we came up with a business idea which we then had to carry out and raise money for Hope House. After raising money, we came up with a way of presenting our business idea to pitch to the 'dragons'. We really enjoyed this experience as it allowed us to develop valuable life skills in an environment we felt comfortable in. We are looking forward to our next challenge and to improving our skills.

*Katie Hill 10 Romero,  
Katie Maclean 10 Devereux*

## Smart Watches and Fitbits

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. Fitbits are allowed in school as long as they only display the time and count steps. Thank you.

*Mr Wilkinson*

## Mobile Phones

Mobile phones and other electronic devices such as iPods,

iPads and cameras are not allowed in school.

In exceptional circumstances, if pupils need to bring a mobile phone into school then parents/carers must write to me asking permission beforehand and stating the reason for the request. If the request is granted, a contract will be signed to ensure that strict guidelines are adhered to e.g. the mobile phone must be kept in a case with the pupil's name clearly marked on it and the phone must be handed to reception immediately upon arrival and collected at the end of the day.

For those pupils with agreements in place, there are an increasing number of phones that are brought for safe-keeping in unsuitable cases and inadequately labelled. Therefore if phones are not presented in a suitable case/envelope the agreement will be withdrawn. Alternatively, clear plastic pencil cases are available to purchase from Pupil Reception.

*Mr Wilkinson*

## Parent / Carer Contact details

It is important that contact details for your child are kept up-to-date so that the school can contact you in case of emergency. Please would you therefore ensure you notify school if you change address and / or telephone numbers. Thank you for your co-operation.

*Mr C Wilkinson*

## 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](mailto: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*

## Follow us

Please follow us on twitter - we currently have 832 followers, let's increase this over half term!



**@SJ\_WXM**

Don't forget to download the school app by visiting [stjosephs.wales](http://stjosephs.wales)

## Dates for the Diary

### Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> February

School opens to pupils  
Year 7 Parents Evening

### Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> February

Estyn Parents Meeting [5pm]

### Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March

Year 9 Vaccinations [change of date]

### Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> March

Parent/Carer Voice [5-6pm]

### Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> March

School Eisteddfod  
Disneyland Paris Trip departs

### Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> March

CAMHS Parent Engagement Session  
[5-6.30pm]

### Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> March

Year 8 Maths Trip departs

### Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> March

Year 8 Maths Trip returns

### Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> March

Spring Concert [4-5.30pm]

### Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> March

Year 10 & 11 Theatre Trip

### Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> March

Non-uniform day [chocolate donation]

### Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April

Spring Bingo [7pm]

### Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April

School closes for Easter

### Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> April

Staff Development Day

### Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> April

School opens to pupils

### Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> April

Non-uniform day [£1 donation]



## Contact Details

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