



St. Joseph's Catholic and Anglican High School

Ysgol Uwchradd
Gatholig ac
Anglicanaidd
Sant Joseff

ISSUE 2 MONDAY 20TH DECEMBER 2021

COP26

On 12th November 2021, the last day of the COP26 Summit, we held an event in school that was initiated by members of the school council, who came up with a proposal to raise funds to clean the seas. The whole school took part (in their separate year groups so that social distancing could be maintained). An aerial view shows how the pupils formed the letters C O P 2 6 on the tennis courts, all wearing something blue or green to represent the sea and the earth. Once in position everyone made as much noise as they could for one minute by clapping, banging on drums, saucepans, playing musical instruments, and stamping their feet – this was followed by one minute of absolute silence. The event ended with a prayer for the earth. Pupils raised over £600 to be sent to the Marine Conservation Society to help to clean up the seas by

removing plastic waste from our beaches and seas.



Morning Form Worship

Form Worship has always been an important part of the pupils' day, giving them a short time to reflect and gather their thoughts on a particular theme, usually linked to the time of the year or the liturgical year. As meetings are further restricted and year group assemblies or briefings can't take place at present, form teachers and pupils prepare prayers to be shared in class and the chaplains also have been preparing short prayer

presentations for pupils and staff to use in form worship.

Christmas Blessing

Once again we are holding our virtual Christmas Blessing service, to be watched in form rooms on the final day of the term. The service is a collection of Bible readings and Christmas hymns, featuring music and artwork by the pupils. Five students, representing each year and house, have been chosen to read from Scripture. What better way to use the tremendous talent of the pupils in our school than in an act of collective worship? Many thanks to all who participated in and contributed to the service; it will be a lovely way to end the term together.

The chaplains wish all of you a safe and blessed Christmas and a very happy New Year. *The Chaplains*

Dear Parents and Carers

I just wanted to express my thanks to you for all the good wishes and messages I have received as I recover from Covid. You may be aware that I have been absent due to illness, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff and pupils for their efforts in what has been a disruptive half-term. I would also like to extend my thanks to all the doctors, nurses and health care professionals at the Countess of Chester Hospital, the covid 'hot hub' who have treated me over the past 7 weeks. It continues to be a long journey and I am still receiving ongoing treatment. However, I am feeling much better and will hopefully be returning to school in the near future.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the support you have given to the staff at St Joseph's in these difficult times and would like to wish you and your families a safe, Holy and Happy Christmas

Best wishes,

Mr C. Wilkinson, Headteacher

Year 10 Welsh Bacc

"The day was a great opportunity to prepare for our Christmas fair. We got to work with our team, improving our skills to work towards our Enterprise Challenge. Our form teachers provided us with plenty of guidance which gave us confidence in completing our work effectively. I am looking forward to the Christmas Fair."

Francesca Paletta

"In my opinion, I think the Welsh Bacc day was great! We were very productive, we worked efficiently as a group and trying to maximise our group potential. This day gave us valuable time to prepare for our school fair to raise lots of money for our Enterprise Challenge."

Fin Jones

"The day was an amazing way to maximise my groups individual skills, and helped give us confidence in doing our selected roles. We did an extreme amount of work, utilising our maths, organisation and cooperation skills."

Leticia Leitao

"Personally, I think that the Welsh Bacc day gave us the chance to work as a team and spend valuable time with each other but also work on our individual tasks. We were very productive and I am happy with the amount of work we did. We are confident we do well in our challenge and in the Christmas fair."

Molly Stanley

"The off-timetable Welsh Bacc day allowed us to work on our individual projects, enabling us to make progress. The day was a incredible opportunity to complete our Main Findings and get the beneficial guidance needed. It relieved a lot of stress because it enabled us to fully focus on one aspect of the project."

Grace Roberts & Ace Elano

Christmas Fair

On Thursday 25th November Year 10 ran their annual Christmas fair as part of their Enterprise Challenge towards the Welsh Baccalaureate. As the sports hall became a Christmas Market, selling everything from popcorn to treats for your dog, pupils from all year groups had a chance to visit the fair. Year 8 pupils said they loved pieing Mr Arnall and it made them feel all Christmassy, and Year 7 enjoyed all the different activities and sponging Miss Bird. Together Year 10 raised an amazing £2000 which will be donated to the Year 10 Charity, Hope House. A huge thank you to all who have supported Year 10, they have done a fantastic job, da iawn pawb.

Mrs Devine

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

"Our Enterprise Challenge Christmas Fair group Blitzten, Bundles, organised three games, the winners of which would win a Christmas bundle of sweets, treats and festive gifts, we raised about £55. The event was very tiring but in the end, we had fun and raised money for a good cause."

Krystian Machon

"I thought the Christmas Fair was great! It was amazing seeing our hard work come together and seeing all the different types of stalls. My group raised over £20 and it was a good way to help others and was a great learning experience."

Fin Jones

"I am the managing director of the group 'Christmas Claus'. We produced a Santa's Grotto where pupils were able to have photographs with Father Christmas (Thank you Mr Price) and simple craft products including mini Christmas hats. The atmosphere was wonderful. Our group raised around £111. Our money will be donated to Hope House as a year group."

Zoe Cochran

Cardiff Student Mentoring: Hungarian Taster Session

All Year 8 classes have had the opportunity to meet Zita via video link in the last few weeks and have very much enjoyed learning a little of the language and culture of Hungary. It was amazing to see how many of the Christmas traditions were very similar to both those in Germany and Poland, however the language is so very different from anything we have ever seen before. Many of the students and Mrs Roberts and I all agreed that Hungary looks like a very lovely country to visit ... when we are

allowed. Boldog Karácsonyt
(Merry Christmas). *Mrs Large*

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

Jó Napot! (Good Day!) On the 8th of December, we had a guest speaker called Zita from Cardiff University via video in our German lesson. She talked to us about Hungarian Culture and the Hungarian Language and taught us some Hungarian phrases. Hungarian is a very small language compared to how many people speak English in the world and it is also very different to other languages. Hungarian Christmases are also very different. On the 6th December, children leave their shoes on the windowsills and if they have been good, Saint Nicolas (Mikulás) leaves them chocolates and little gifts in their shoes, but if they have been naughty, Krampus leaves them a bundle of sticks instead. On a Hungarian Christmas tree, which is usually put up on Christmas Eve, you can find different chocolate decorations, usually with coconut, jelly or caramel. The entire class really enjoyed learning about a new culture and would really like to do it again. Viszlát (goodbye).

Estella Evans and Lili Owen

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Remembrance Sunday

"On Remembrance Sunday, Melisha and I attended the service in Wrexham town centre. The service was attended by many school representatives, veterans and members of the public. After listening to the prayers and joining in on the hymns we were invited up to the memorial. We paid our respects and placed a wreath beside the memorial. After this, we continued to participate in the rest of the service."

Leon Taylor

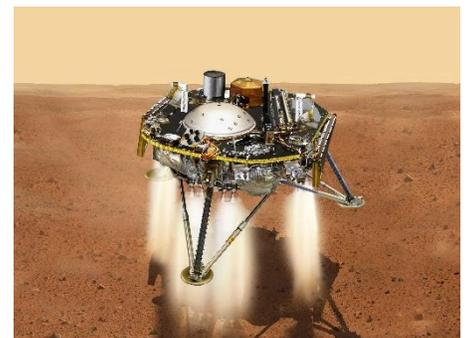


"On Remembrance Sunday, Leon and I went to the Remembrance Service. It was an honour to be part of the community and also to represent our school. It was an amazing sense of atmosphere; a feeling of wholeness and reverence. Laying the wreath in front of the memorial was incredibly special for me as the experience allowed me to feel a part of the ongoing memory, commemorating the great sacrifice of the lives lost. Not only did this signify those lost in the past, but it brings awareness of the current tragedies happening around the world."

Melisha Gunasekera

Year 8 Space Day

"On Thursday 11th November, Everybody in Year 8 became scientists for the day as we had a science day! This is what we did that day. My group in particular started the day by designing a rocket made out of paper and a funnel which we would launch later on in the day! (More on that later). After break, my class somehow got from earth to the new planet, Org, without even launching our rockets! Once we somehow landed, we examined the 2 samples, one we believed to be from the bottom of an acidic swamp while the other we believed to be from a desert on the planet of Org, to see if they contained intergalactic life! (In case you were curious, Sample B contained Alien Life while Sample A did not).



In session 3, we began to build our very own Mars Lander that would carry an "Eggstronaut" to Org! We watched an animation from NASA about how Mars Landers actually landed and got to work! After lunch, We were

given time to make some final preparations before we would test our Mars Landers! Our Mars Lander, UKSS (United Kingdom Space Shuttle), was unfortunately responsible for the death of two Eggstonauts 😊. However, the third time was a charm and we successfully landed our Shuttle without breaking the Egg 😊😊! Finally in session 5, we launched the rockets from the first lesson. Mine and my friend's Rocket was the second highest in our class! Overall, Thursday 11th November was a very, very good day in School and certainly made up for us having no Rocket Week in Year 7!"

Daniel Edwards

"I really enjoyed how the day was organised. Firstly we planned to make the rockets, then we blasted them into space. The next lesson we found out if there were any microbes on the planet that we had landed on, and finally we made Space Landers for the journey back to earth. It was a very fun packed day, full of exciting activities and experiments."

Rhys Jones

"I liked the different experiments that were done especially the part when we launched the rocket with the compressed air. I also enjoyed the part when we searched through the different samples to see if there was life on planet Org."

Chloe Juarana

"I enjoyed the part where we made Mars Rovers and tested them. I also enjoyed eating the bugs, they tasted like crisps."

Emma Dobrzynska

Empowerment Poetry Success!

Over the last couple of weeks, many KS3 pupils have received letters to take home informing them and their parents/carers of the wonderful news that their entry into the Empowerment poetry competition (run by the national Young Writers organisation) has been selected for publication in a poetry anthology book. The letters contain instructions about how parents/carers can grant permission online for their child's poem to be published as well as an order form, should you wish to purchase any copies of the book. Congratulations to our successful writers; we look forward to seeing your poems in the published anthology soon.

Polite Parking

We are experiencing problems with traffic congestion on Erddig Road and Sontley Road. Please note that drivers should abide by the highway code at all times. No driver should park their car on the yellow zig-zag lines outside school! Please consider everyone's safety by parking away from the immediate school site. There have been a number of near misses in the past week or so – all of which are avoidable by being considerate to others. Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

Mr C Wilkinson

If you want me back, label me!

Can parents please ensure that school uniform, PE kit and tracksuits have names on the label please. This will greatly reduce the amount of lost uniform and PE kit and will also help us to return items to their rightful owner. Please remember items go missing and rarely make their way back but named items do! Thank you.

Thank you...

to all pupils and their families who so generously contributed to our annual shoebox appeal for Teams4U. We collected an astonishing 120 boxes which were collected by the charity on Monday. A special thank you to 9 Cassidy who won our form competition with 19 boxes and to 11 Kolbe for being close runners up with 18 boxes. This is such an important charity to support as these special boxes are likely to be the only Christmas gift that these children receive so, again, thank you, again for your wonderful generosity.

Mrs James and Miss Massey



Say it in Cymraeg this Christmas....



Merry Christmas	Nadolig Llawen	Na-doh-lig Ila-when
Happy New Year	Blwyddyn Newydd Dda	Bl-oi-ddin New-ydd Dd-ah
Present	Anrheg	Ann-rhh-eg
Star	Seren	Se-ren
Christmas Tree	Coeden Nadolig	Coy-den Na-doh-lig
Father Christmas	Siôn Corn	Shaun Corr-n
Snow Man	Dyn Eira	Dean Eye-rah
Reindeer	Carw	Ca-roo
Snow	Eira	Eye-rah
Christmas Dinner	Cinio Nadolig	Kin-yoh Na-doh-lig
Christmas Pudding	Pwddin Nadolig	Pww-din Na-doh-lig
Christmas Carols	Carolau Nadolig	Car-ol-ai Na-doh-lig
Stocking	Hosan	Hos-ann
Mince Pie	Mins Pei	Mince Pay
Decorations	Addurniadau	Add-irn-iad-ai
Angel	Angel	Ann-ghel
Holly	Celyn	Ceh-lynn
Lights	Goleuadau	Go-ley-add-ai



Dates for the Diary

Thursday 6th January

Staff Planning Day 1
(No online learning)

Friday, 7th January

Staff Planning Day 2
(No online learning)

Monday, 10th January

School open to pupils
Year 10 Parents/Carers Evening
(3.45-6.30pm)

Wednesday, 12th January

Year 7 English Day
Year 8 Maths Day
Year 9 MFL Day
Year 10 Wellbeing Day
Year 11 Mock Results

Thursday, 13th January

Year 7 Crucial Crew
Year 8 Science Day
Year 9 Wellbeing Day
Year 10 SCC Day
Year 11 Mock Interviews
and SCC GCSE Project

Monday, 17th January

Year 11 Parents/Carers Evening
(3.45pm-6.30pm)

Wednesday 19th January

School Photographs
(Years 9, 10 and 11)

Wednesday, 26th January

Year 10 Skills Certificate
Challenge

Friday, 28th January

Year 10 Art Residential

Monday, 31st January

Year 9 Parents/Carers Evening
(3.45pm-6.30pm)



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