



St. Joseph's Catholic and Anglican High School

Ysgol Uwchradd
Gatholig ac
Anglicanaidd
Sant Joseff

ISSUE 2 THURSDAY 22ND DECEMBER 2022

Liturgy of Healing and Hope

As you know, we have been planning and building our memorial garden since last spring and it is now complete with the



arrival of a hand-crafted wooden bench, kindly donated by local wood sculptor Simon O'Rourke.

The garden is dedicated to the memory of our dear friend and pupil Kirsten Hall who died in 2021. On the anniversary of her death we held a prayer service in the garden during which Rev Lara

blessed the new bench and dedicated the garden to Kirsten's memory. Flowers to encourage wildlife and daffodils for the yellow - which was Kirsten's favourite colour - have been planted and the garden will flourish and grow over the years. We hope it will provide a place of peace and rest for all pupils in need of somewhere quiet to remember their loved ones.

Taize Cross

We have recently acquired a beautiful cross similar to the one used in Taize, France. We appreciate the help of the technology department in preparing it for use in our Taize services on Mondays during lunch.



Fiction and Flicks

During lunchtime in the chapel on Wednesdays we host Fiction & Flicks, where we watch films and listen to short works of fiction and tie them to our faith.

We finished watching *Lightyear* in the autumn and had a good discussion about mistakes, forgiveness, perseverance, friendship and empathy; we concluded that mistakes are a normal part of life that can lead to growth and progress, friendships are a major source of support for us, and that Jesus taught and showed us the importance of forgiving ourselves and others.

We are currently watching *The BFG* and should finish early in the new year.

Advent Reconciliation

The RE classes for Years 7-10 participated in services of Advent Reconciliation to help prepare their hearts for the birth of Christ.

The chaplains led a service in the chapel for the pupils in ENFYs.

Afterward, one of the pupils remarked, "I thought about the things that I've done wrong and I feel like I've been forgiven." We are so fortunate to be part of a school that prioritises faith, allowing us the time and space to get closer to God.

Advent Liturgy

We ended the term with our Christmas Liturgy. We would like to thank all those involved, but especially the pupils for their hard



work on a meaningful service that helped prepare our hearts for the coming of the Christ child.

We wish all of you a holy and blessed Christmas and New Year.

The Chaplains

Christmas Prayer

*Holy Jesus,
by being born one of us,
and lying humbly
in a manger,
you show how much
God loves the world.
Let the light of your love
always shine in our hearts,
until we reach
our home in heaven,
and see you on
your throne of glory.
Amen*

TCC (Together Creating Communities)

Since the end of half-term break, pupils have been meeting with Ruth Marshall, the Youth and Community Organiser from TCC. We have been exploring our common interests to find what issues in the community we want to address.

If any other pupils would like to join us, we meet on Mondays during lunch in RE3. If you have questions, please see Mrs D Ellis (maths teacher), Mrs. Moate, or Rev. Lara.

School Council

The school council has been working in three groups this term on three separate initiatives; these are the dining room and water fountains, the school yard and transport to school and promoting positive mental health attitudes.

The groups are led by the senior prefects and the members report back to the whole school through iMovie updates. In November four members of the council attended a Senedd Y Fanc event at the Guildhall in Wrexham, along with other high schools they were able to share their ideas and receive some school council training information.

The School Council members attended the "Liturgy of Healing and Hope" in November at the Memorial Garden. It was the school council who were responsible for all the fundraising for the garden.

Michelle Woodward

Christmas Fair

On Thursday 24th November Year 10 hosted their annual Christmas Fair as part of their Welsh Baccalaureate.

Over the last three months pupils have been working in small groups to build a business and create a business idea to raise money for Hope House Hospice. With over 25 stalls selling anything from popcorn to Christmas decorations, hot chocolates and

hot dogs, year groups were invited to get into the festive spirit. There was a fantastic atmosphere as pupils had their faces painted or posed for Christmas portraits with their friends. I am happy to say that all their hard work paid off and they raised a whopping

£1,600

which is absolute fantastic, da iawn pawb.

Mrs Devine

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

"The Christmas fair was very exciting as a group we did boba tea and raised £80. Pupils really enjoyed it and I was glad I was participating in the fair this year."

Beau M 10 Romero

"Our group 'Christmas Delights' sold glittery hot chocolate, candy canes, cup-cakes and gingerbread men at the Christmas fair this year. The candy canes were the most popular product and sold out first. It was lovely to see all the pupils enjoying themselves, there was a really good atmosphere. It was also nice to see what ideas other groups were selling too."

Teia M 10 King

"The school fair was a great and amazing experience to be a part of. There was a wide variety of stalls. There was everything from photos to sweets and chocolates. One of the most interesting stalls was the Beat Sabre. The atmosphere at the fair was terrific. There was Christmas music playing, lights and people playing. Each year group came to the fair, one at a time, and the place was packed with people

enjoying themselves. After the school day ended, parents and family came and eventually everything started to wind down. It was great fun for everyone."

Dylan Blackwell 10 Kolbe

Teams4U Shoebox Appeal



Teams4U launched their annual Shoebox Appeal in Wrexham. Teams4U Christmas is an all year round project preparing for thousands of Shoebox gifts heading to children and families in Eastern Europe. We would like to extend a huge "thank you" to all those pupils and families who gave so generously to this amazing local charity. 80 boxes in total were sent to Georgia in time for the Orthodox Christmas celebrations in January.

Mrs James

Year 9 Information Evening

This half term saw the start of the Year 9 Option process. The process began with the Information Evening, which saw

parents and pupils attend a series of talks given by Heads of Department. These talks were aimed at introducing the GCSE course to the Year 9 pupils and gave an insight into the general overview of the GCSE course as well as information on assessment methods and controlled assessment requirements.

The Evening concluded with 2 talks, one from myself about how Parent/Carers can support their child in Year 9 and another from Mrs Arnall about the Options Process. It was a real pleasure to see so many pupils and Parents/Carers engaging in the start of what will be a very important process.

Mrs James

School Visits

Manchester Poetry Library Trip

A group of Year 9 pupils visited the Manchester Poetry Library, which is part of Manchester Metropolitan University, on the 10th November. The group got to explore the poetry on offer in the library in the morning and took part in a workshop in the afternoon. The workshop focused on the link between poetry and Victorian greeting cards. Pupils were given the task of creating their own cards in the Victorian style which will be on display in the school's library.

Mrs Hatfield and Mrs S Taylor

Art Residential Trip

On 18th November Year 11 spent a long weekend on an Art Residential in Menai, working alongside art professionals learning new techniques. This exciting experience was enjoyed by 11 Art GCSE students who



returned home with a design board and final piece which can now accompany their coursework.

Different workshops looked at different art techniques culminating in various sculptures, portrait paintings, architecture card relief and intricate papercuts on the theme of Royalty.



It was a weekend of fun, laughter, copious amounts of food, new friendships and a huge amount of beautiful work. The tiredness on Monday morning when straight back into school was worth it due to the amazing experience had by all.

Huge thanks to Mr Farrell as always. St Joseph's pupils are an absolute credit with beautiful behaviour commented on once again by not only the venue but also by other schools... I am immensely proud of you all.

Year 7 Cinema Trip - Matilda

As a reward for their hard work this term in English lessons Year 7 were given the opportunity to see the new *Matilda* film at the Odeon Cinema in Eagles Meadow.

Year 7 have been studying Roald Dahl this term in their Autobiography and New Beginnings unit of work. The film was great and we loved the songs!

Mrs Crawford

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

"One time in an English lesson, we were talking about Roald Dahl books and how much we loved them, when I remembered that there was a new *Matilda* film coming out soon. We got excited and asked if we could go to see it as a class and Mrs. Crawford got just as excited and agreed to take us. We decided to invite the rest of Year 7 too! I love how the new film took bits out of the old film and made it

nostalgic and new all at the same time."

Natalia U, 7 Romero

"It was a really cool film. I loved how Miss Honey had such an optimistic point of view of the world and Mrs. Trunchbull had a negative view of the world. The colours and the cinematography reflected this. I loved how the character grew over the course of the film. Matilda was hooked on revenge at the beginning but by the end she changed her outlook because she was happy."

Ruby M, 7 Romero

"I really liked the part where Matilda worked out what had happened to Miss Honey's father. These two characters had a really strong connection. The film showed how young people can get lost in books and that books can give you a wider imagination."

Amelia W, 7 Romero

Year 8 Disco

On Friday 16th December Year 8 enjoyed a Christmas disco at school with DJ Mr Trueman. The event was thoroughly enjoyed by pupils and staff. A range of festive tunes were played and pupils danced for the duration of the event.

Miss J Taylor

Year 8 Cinema and Shopping Trip

On Tuesday 20th December a Year 8 reward trip to the cinema took place to see *Black Panther Wakanda Forever*. This was followed by some time Christmas shopping at the Eagles Meadow Shopping Centre. Pupils walked

from school to the shopping centre and returned for 3.30pm. The trip was thoroughly enjoyed by all pupils.

Miss J Taylor

Year 11 Prefect Trip

After a very busy term, I want to thank all the Year 11 prefects for all their hard work and vigilance. On Friday 22nd December, they will have a well-earned reward of a shopping trip to Chester. Well done everyone!

Mrs M Davies

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

Being a prefect comes with great responsibilities, but it's also a great honour and has many advantages! For example, today all year 11 prefects have been Christmas shopping in Chester as a reward for all their hard work and efforts since September.

As a school community, we are all very excited to be able to celebrate our school's hardworking ethic and appreciate the happiness Jesus brings to earth during Advent time, after the recent years involving Covid19. As pupils, we value the amazing opportunities our teachers give us and we're thankful for the memories we can cherish forever!

"The beauty of Christmas is not in the presents, but in his presence" Matthew 1:23

Ellie K and Molly S

Year 7 Cinema Trip - Avatar

Today, all Year 7s went to see *Avatar*. What an experience and it was certainly worth the wait for the sequel to the original *Avatar*! The special effects were amazing! It was a great family film to watch! We had a fantastic time at the cinema and all pupils were a credit to the school. Diolch Blwyddyn 7!

Mrs Roberts-Thompson

Suspended Timetable Day

On Tuesday, 15th November normal timetable was suspended and there was a range of activities. This is a flavour of what took place.

Year 7 ICT Day

The theme for the Year 7 ICT Day was based around video games.

The aim of the day was to use the iPads with as many different applications. The activities on the day consisted of the following and the activities had the following feedback:

To create a video game character using Pixel Art with myself.

"I enjoyed the pixel art activity because we had so much freedom with our drawing".

Kairan R, 7 Kolbe

To create video game music using Garageband with Mr Sammons.

"I enjoyed the video game music activity, as I now know how to combine music to make them sound better."

Laura S, 7 Romero

To create a promotional video for their video game using Wick Editor animation software with Mr Lambert.

"I enjoyed the animation activity, as I learnt that I could draw on the iPads"

Seren B, 7 Devereux

To create a video game maze and using code within the Sphero application, code the Sphero Bolt around the Maze with Miss Jones.

"The best part of the day was using the Sphero's bots and navigating the obstacle course"

Henry W, 7 Romero

To write a video game review with Mr Long.

"I think everything was very well taught and there's nothing to improve."

Olivia P, 7 Romero

The pupils all completed the activities to a high standard and the completed tasks were shared on Instagram @sjwxmict and Twitter @SJ_WXM_ICT.

Thank you to all the pupils and staff involved to make it an enjoyable and special day.

Mr Trueman

Year 8 Wellbeing Day - Life to the Full

Year 8 enjoyed a fun packed day of activities centred around the theme of wellbeing.

Pupils completed a carousel of activities which included self defence, healthy eating, mental health awareness, online safety and peer pressure. A huge thank you to Miss Massey for organising the event and many thanks to all the presenters for their efforts supporting this very important and worthwhile day.

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

"On 15th November our year group enjoyed a well being day which was full of wonderful activities that we will all benefit from. My favourite was the cooking as the presenter was nice and she told us about her business and how to accomplish your dreams. The day was great and I know everyone enjoyed this fun, educational event."

Bella J, 8 Devereux

"Our Wellbeing Day was brilliant! What I most enjoyed was all the fun activities we were able to do! All the activities were educational and fun and we always had something to do!"

One of our lessons was learning about the secret to success of a business, a Spanish FOOD business! Beatriz taught us everything about her business from when she was in Spain and when she travelled to Wales to the launch

of her famous paella in a bottle which won an award on TV!! Beatriz made us paella and it was delicious!

Another one of our lessons was judo self defence! It was so fun and I really enjoyed it. I can't wait to try some of these techniques on my dad!

We also had lessons on peer pressure, mental health awareness and Look who's talking. They were all very educational and fun! I really enjoyed this day and I hope I get another chance to experience one like it again! Thank you Miss Massey for organising such a brilliant day!"

Michael R, 8 Cassidy

Year 9 Study Skills Day

Year 9 had a full day off timetable to focus on the skills they need to establish in their studies in order to achieve their full potential.

The day was designed to meet



different needs associated with pupil performance and sessions were arranged to help with organisation and preparation, as

well as revision techniques which will help them to prepare for assessments and exams.

In addition to this the pupils spent an hour with a JuJitsu specialist where they worked in pairs learning the basics of self defence, and an hour in the school chapel enjoying a peaceful session of meditation which is an ancient practice aimed at enabling pupils to quiet their mind when they are feeling overwhelmed or anxious.

The fifth session was a team-building exercise named the 'Escape Room' where chocolate treats were the prize for those teams who worked well together in problem solving activities.

The day was very successful in that pupils were able to engage in extra-curricular learning whilst having fun and developing their study skills. All pupils engaged with enthusiasm and excellence throughout the day.

Mrs James

"I learnt about how my brain works so I can remember things and work things out."

Kacper M, 9 Romero

"We used some games and puzzles to make revision fun."

Amelia S, 9 Devereux

"The escape room was fun and challenging. We got to work with our friends which made it easier. Mrs Moate gave us help but not too much! I enjoyed it!"

Jessica W, 9 Cassidy

MFL Pupil Mentoring

This half term, a number of Year 9 pupils, Kai Wei C, Ffion H, Evelyn L, Zuzanna M, Kieran O, Emilia P, Sabrina P, Ffion R, Amelia R, Michael S, Hanna T, Gethin W, Lowri W and Clemmie W have been taking part in some mentoring sessions with Gemma, a student currently studying at Cardiff University.



These sessions have taken place at lunchtime and have covered varied topics such as

Language as Identity-Accents;
Language as Culture- Food;
Language as Connection-Geography;
Language as Translation – Animals;
Language as Journey

Pupils have learnt lots about themselves, their own language and that of those around them. Well done to those involved and there will be another session running in the new year, so watch this space.

Mrs Large

SEREN Masterclasses

This term SEREN pupils from Years 8-11 participated in a number of masterclasses; Year 8 Sustainability; Year 9 Engineering; Year 10 Psychology and Year 11 Genetic Engineering.

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

"The Genetic Engineering masterclass was very interesting and eye opening. We learned about the different universities and opportunities available for biochemistry. The tutor explained different degrees and careers within the subject, opening ideas for what we could do in the future.

Georgia E, Jasper E and Rachel B

Preloved School Jumpers

As a school, we regularly collect a large number of school jumpers which are left outside or in classrooms with no names to identify the owner.

We display them half-termly as 'lost property' for pupils and parents to retrieve but are still left with large numbers of jumpers unclaimed. In view of this we have decided to collect all good quality, unclaimed, jumpers; launder them and offer them to parents, free of charge, if their child is in need of a new jumper.

If you wish to make a small voluntary contribution to one of the charities supported regularly by our school, this would be appreciated but by no means expected. These will be available from school from the New Year. A list of the sizes available will be provided when we return in January so please contact the school switchboard if you would like a good quality second hand jumper for your child.

Bishop Gregory's Christmas Card Competition

1st prize:

Bethany G, 7 Romero



Very Highly Commended Certificates:

Alise B, 9 Romero
Darcey J, 9 Romero

Highly Commended Certificates:

Ijilee A, 7 King
Lily C, 7 Kolbe
Nadia Duda, 7 Kolbe
Gulcan Et, 7 Cassidy
Elora F, 7 Kolbe
Aleksander H, 7 Cassidy
Freya H, 7 Romero
Olivia K, 7 Cassidy
Maisy O, 7 Kolbe
Phillip P, 7 Kolbe
Lydia P, 7 Romero
Bianca R, 7 Romero
Oskar S, 7 King
Ellie T-S, 7 Kolbe
Laura S, 7 Romero
Eric S, 7 Cassidy
Eden T, 7 King
Evie W, 7 Kolbe
Natalie W, 7 Cassidy

PE Department

Llongyfarchiadau!

Congratulations to Jakub S,₁₁ Devereux who has been chosen to represent Wales Schools in the U16 squad and will be playing Australia schools on 17th January. Da iawn Jakub, we are very proud of you and look forward to hearing all about it next year!

Next Term - Key Stage 3 Curriculum Timetable

As we are moving towards the new curriculum for Wales, we are trialling a new format for lessons. This will be explained fully to all pupils in Year 7 and 8 when we return in the New Year. Year 9 will follow the same format of lessons but will remain focused on developing leadership skills in all of the activities.

	W/B	Devereux	Kolbe	King		Romero	Cassidy
Block 1	9/1	Badminton	Table Tennis	HRE		Badminton	HRE
	16/1						
	23/1	Table Tennis	HRE	Badminton		HRE	Table Tennis
	30/1						
Block 2	6/2	Rugby				Rugby	
	13/2	Rugby				Rugby	
	27/2	Rugby				Rugby	
Block 3	6/3	HRE	Badminton	Table Tennis		Table Tennis	Badminton
	13/3						
	20/3	Interform Competition				Interform Competition	
	27/3	Interform Competition				Interform Competition	

★ HRE = Health Related Exercise

★ Interform competitions will be for the 3 competitive sports covered this term

St Joseph's P.E Department Extra Curricular Timetable Activities to start WC 16/1/2023		
	Lunchtime 12:25 – 1pm	After School 3:30 – 4:30
Monday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KS4 Fitness – Fitness Suite Netball (all years) – Sports Hall 	
Tuesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basketball (all years) – Sports Hall GCSE Creative – Dance (See Miss Breward) KS4 Fitness – Fitness Suite 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Badminton (all years) – Sports Hall Gymnastics (all years) - Gymnasium
Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Badminton – Sports Hall KS4 Fitness – Fitness Suite 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Netball (Year 9/10 and 11) – Sports Hall Table Tennis (all years) – Gymnasium
Thursday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Futsal – Sports Hall KS4 Fitness – Fitness Suite 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Netball (Year 7/8 and 9) – Sports Hall Jujitsu - Gymnasium
Friday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GCSE PE Drop in – Sports Hall / PE Classroom 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Girls Football Training – Sports Hall.

Nadolig Llawn a Blwyddyn Newydd Dda to all our parents, guardians and pupils. We look forward to lots more excellent participation and sporting success in the New Year!

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

23rd December

Staff Training Day

9th January

Staff Training Day

10th January

School open to pupils

11th January

Year 11 Science practical examinations begin

11th-13th January

Year 10 English Literature mock examination

16th January

Year 10 Parents / Carers Evening
3.45pm-6.30pm

17th and 19th January

Years 7 – 11

Suspended Timetable Days

17th January

Year 11 Mock Interview Day

19th January

Year 11 Mock Results Day

23rd January

Year 11 Parents / Carers Evening
3.45pm-6.30pm

24th January

School Photographs Years 8 – 11

24th- 27th January

Year 11 English group speaking and listening examinations



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