

St. Joseph's Catholic and Anglican High School

Ysgol Uwchradd
Gatholig ac
Anglicanaidd
Sant Joseff

ISSUE 4 FRIDAY 31ST MARCH 2023

Reflection by Our Chaplains

Whole School Eucharist

On Friday, 17th March we celebrated the Feast of Saint Joseph, our patron saint, at our whole school Anglican Eucharist.

The Right

Reverend Gregory Cameron, Bishop of St. Asaph, was celebrant and preacher, and the theme was 'Rooted in Love.' It was a great occasion, as always, and the students participated enthusiastically in

the service. Liturgy does not happen spontaneously, but is carefully crafted and rehearsed; thank you to all those who oversaw practice sessions, served



at the altar, led the music, decorated the space, and worked to turn our sports hall into a place of worship.

The Bishop continued his visit after lunch by participating in Noonday Prayer in the chapel, followed by a question time with pupils. The pupils prepared really thoughtful, challenging questions, ranging on topics from assisted suicide to women's ordination to the importance

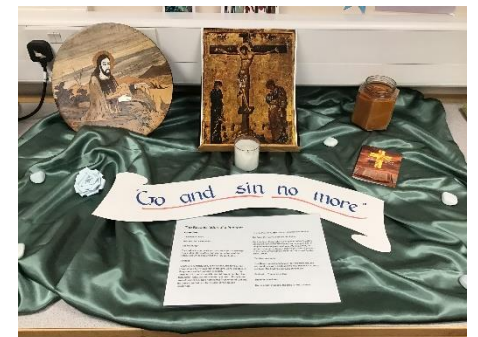
of maintaining ecumenical relations. We very much appreciate how much time Bishop Gregory spent with our school.

Charity work

We have been so impressed with the way everyone has supported our various charity appeals to raise money to help those in Turkey and Syria affected by the earthquakes. From stalls to non-uniform days to raffles, pupils, teachers, and parents have pitched in to help raise money for the cause. Thus far we have raised £2,021. Thank you very much for your generosity.

Reconciliation

In the final week of school the RE department led reconciliation services for pupils, as is our



traditional way of marking the season of Lent. Priests from the community joined us so that we could offer pupils the sacrament



of confession. This year's theme was "I am taking the chains off your wrists and setting you free" and comes from the Book of Jeremiah (40.4).

Lenten Assembly

We ended the term with this year's Lenten assembly, which was a virtual journey on the Way of the Cross (or Stations of the Cross) following the events of Christ's

final hours. It began with his trial, then the journey

to Golgotha, his crucifixion, his death, and finally his burial in the tomb. Many thanks to the senior prefects who helped narrate the stations, bringing them to life. What better way to bring the spring term to a close than in preparing our hearts and minds for the passion of Christ.



This half term has been chock-full of activities; on the first week back, we marked St. David's Day, Ash Wednesday, and World Book Day. We had prayers that week reflecting each of these themes. On Ash Wednesday, the chaplains opened the chapel at lunchtime in order to distribute ashes to those who wished to receive them, both pupils and staff. We were impressed with the turnout and the reverence shown while waiting to receive the ashes.

The second week's theme was Lent: Almsgiving. Normally, the staff receive a small gift from the chaplains relating to the theme (this could be sweets, bookmarks, candles, prayer stones, etc.) following Friday morning staff prayer. However, because the theme was almsgiving, we instead asked the staff to donate spare change or any amount of their

choice to give to an organisation aiding refugees from Ukraine. The staff (and a few pupils) managed to raise £200 for UNHCR

(United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees)! We'd like to thank everyone for their generosity and giving spirit.

The third week the theme was Lent: Prayer. The chapel was open four days that week, and we were happy to be reunited with our regular pupils once again. In our

Justice and Peace offering, the pupils wrote beautiful prayers for the people of Ukraine. Although we ended up having to close the chapel again that Friday due to rising Covid cases, we enjoyed our brief stint and are eagerly awaiting our return sometime after the Easter Holidays.

In our final week before the Easter Holidays, we prepared for Holy Week (next week) in our daily form worship as well as in the Lenten Assembly. The theme for this year's assembly (on iMovie) was meditations on the Seven Last Words of Christ on the cross, and it was a whole school effort. Many thanks to the pupils and members of staff who read the meditations and Mrs Taylor's Years 7-9 pupils who brought these holy words to life in their illustrations.

The Chaplains

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

Suspended Timetable Day

On Tuesday, 28th February usual lessons were suspended and a number of activities took place across all year groups.

Ysgol Eisteddfod

As part of our celebration of Welsh Week Year 7 and 8 were provided with the opportunity to participate in an Eisteddfod on Tuesday, 28th February.

A range of competitions took place including music, drama, singing and poetry and we were treated to some fantastic performances that certainly celebrated Welsh culture and heritage. The Welsh Department even included the Chairing of the Bard ceremony. Year 7 and 8 forms competed against each other and the atmosphere was electric.

There was an art competition where pupils had to draw and colour a dragon's eye, here are the joint winners:-



Oskar S, 7 King



Aisling C, 7 Devereux

Many congratulations to all pupils who took part or won an event. Diolch yn fawr to everyone especially the Welsh Department and the Eisteddfod Team.

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

"The Eisteddfod was brilliant, everyone got to go on the stage and perform a French and Welsh poem which was so fun.

In between performances everyone sung a rap called 'Rapsagliwn', it was amazing - we also danced to it too. At the end everyone had a chance to dance, play an instrument or sing in small groups or on their own.



Lots of people were very brave and they went on stage and showed us what they can do, everyone was amazing. Year 7 Devereux were shouting Devereux, Devereux, Devereux – it was so funny! I also sung a song called 'Easy on me' and came second. Overall the

Eisteddfod was brilliant and I can't wait to do it again!"

Brianna D, 7 Devereux

"Year 7 and 8 gathered in the gym for our school Eisteddfod on 28th February to celebrate our patron saint, St David. We had loads of fun! So many people took part and showed their talents. We had singers, instrumentalists, beatboxers and dancers! Everybody was amazing and everybody was given lots of applause and appreciation. Each Form class competed by singing and acting and reading!

Year 7 and 8 started the day by singing 'Rapsagliwn' which really got us ready for the rest of the day! It was brilliant. Mrs Large and Mrs Roberts helped pupils to perform poems in German and French, which were excellent. Well done everybody!

It was such a brilliant atmosphere and everybody was supporting each other. The only downside was that Devereux came first overall (just

kidding). Da iawn Devereux! Also a big diolch yn fawr to all the teachers who helped make this day so special, especially Mr Roberts and Mr Sammons."

Michael R, 8 Cassidy

"The Eisteddfod was a competition where Year 7s and 8s competed together on and off-stage. After

each competition the judges would give each Form a mark – 1st, 2nd and 3rd place and they would get a certificate.

The on-stage competitions included a German poem which had to be learnt and recited by each group; a Welsh song called 'Rapskaliwn' and some solo performances including singing and dancing."

Some of the off-stage competitions included art in which we had to draw and colour a dragon's eye; German in which we had to paint a poster about where God is in Wales; and drama in which we got into groups and performed a Welsh themed play."

David I, 7 Kolbe

Keep Xploring...

On Tuesday 28th February, Year 9 visited the Xplore! Science Discovery Centre. Pupils had the chance to engage with a large selection of educational activities that were on offer and to explore the exhibitions.



All the teachers who helped on the trip would like to thank the pupils for their excellent behaviour. It was a pleasure to spend the day with you.

Mrs Earing and Mrs Moate

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

"On Tuesday, Year 9s went to Xplore in town. There were so many things that I enjoyed about the day. From shocking Barbie with Static electricity to playing on the various science challenges! Personally, I enjoyed learning about how viruses spread! Overall it was an amazing day! Diolch yn fawr Miss Earing and all the teachers!"

Daniel E, 9 King

Today we went to Xplore science discovery Centre and did 3 workshops. One workshop talked about cells and the transmissions of viruses and bacteria and how easily they can spread. Another workshop talked about structures and forces, we did team building exercises including building bridges with blocks and creating a maze for a marble. The last workshop talked about static electricity and had magnets which revolved around magnetism. Lastly, we had the opportunity to go around the exhibition area which had things like forces, light, sound and energy. Overall, this experience was educational and we as Year 9 have expanded our knowledge on numerous topics in science.

Aria P, 9 King

Community Challenge

Following on from the WBQ Enterprise Challenge, on February

28th Year 10 embarked on the next WBQ Challenge.

The intention of the 'Community Challenge' is to develop pupil's **Planning and Organisation** and **Personal Effectiveness** skills. They will be asked to identify, develop and participate in opportunities that will benefit a community (in this case the school



community!).

As usual, the pupils were a credit to the school and fully participated in the skills lessons taught. They will be heavily involved in the Year 6 'Rocket' induction week in June. They will be expected to become 'teachers' for two whole days and help to demonstrate what St. Joseph's life is like. I can't wait to see what exciting and inspiring lessons they come up with in PSE lessons over the next few months!

Mrs S Jones

Community Challenge Co-ordinator

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

Year 10 spent a day preparing for the Community Challenge Day. I learned a lot of valuable skills including transferable communication skills. Mrs

Hatfield delivered a session on Health and Safety in the Workplace whilst Mrs Russell led a lesson on the importance of setting Aims and Objectives. I look forward to using these skills to plan and teach the Year 6 students when they come up for Rocket Week later in the year.

Magdalena M, 10 Cassidy

The Community Challenge Preparation Day involved a carousel of lessons. We began in the Social Court where Mrs Jones lead us through prayer and introduced us to the aims of the day. Mrs Breward's session was particularly valuable, she led with a workshop about SMART measures and the value in understanding how to set them. It was an informative day which developed a variety of skills.

Emma F, 10 Cassidy

Careers Fair

On Tuesday 28th February, Year 11 took part in a Study Skills Day. They were given the opportunity to visit a Career's Fair, where they were able to speak to different businesses and employers.



They also had sessions on: improving their CV, money and finance, exam timetabling and how to effectively revise. The day



was a great success, and gave the pupils all the tools they need for their GCSEs and beyond.

Mrs Davies

Ipsen Visit

During Science Week -Thursday 16th March - volunteers from Ipsen Biopharmaceutical visited our Year 8 pupils. During the session, pupils had the opportunity to ask questions about the volunteers'



various roles and then visited various stations of different activities, including transferring microbes onto agar plates and chemical assays.

Pupils were very inquisitive and enjoyed taking part in the afternoon session where they learnt more about STEM careers. The freebies given away were very much appreciated too!

Diolch yn fawr to our Year 8 pupils and diolch to all the volunteers

from Ipsen Pharmaceutical for a great afternoon.

Mrs Earing

"I enjoyed dressing up in laboratory PPE and the painting activity was fun. We placed our fingers on agar plates to see what bacteria there was on there. I'm excited to see the results from the agar plates."

Nicola S, 8 Romero

"I learned that there are particles in the air that that can make us ill."

Praise O, 8 King

"It was very interesting learning about what scientists do in their jobs. The ladies who came in were all lovely."

Lainey C, 8 Cassidy

Cookery Club

Thursday evenings are becoming quite busy in the food room. We have been producing a wide range of dishes including cakes, apple "roses", stir fried and sticky Asian



chicken, cinnamon buns and churros. The club has grown very quickly and we presently have around 15 students who regularly attend.

Mrs Tompkins

Exciting new project...

We are very excited to announce that we are starting to set up a Forest School on our grounds!

Last year, Mr Woodward (TA) and I trained to deliver Forest School sessions and set a Forest School up. We have been taking the Enfys Centre learners outside



every Friday afternoon to participate in nature-based activities and learning. The learners are really enjoying it and so are we!

We have a shed and have recently been on a trip to help coppice some Willow and planted it to create a Willow tunnel. Soon, we will have a kitchen garden being set up and we are hoping to plant more trees and eventually have a pond on our top field. A couple of weeks ago, we helped the council to plant **120 trees** on a nearby field.

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

"I loved the day. I got to be with my friends and we got wet, but we had



fun. We planted trees. We used a shovel. We planted 120 trees. I will treasure it for the rest of my life."

Zack

"The tree planting was fun. I enjoyed going to plant the trees. It was food and fun using the spade to dig up the ground. Me and my friends planted 120 trees. We went to Rhydymwyn Valley Nature Reserve. We went to cut some Willow and we brought it back and planted it to make a shelter. I would like to see a pond at the back field and more trees and a lot of other stuff."

Harry

There are so many benefits to learning outside and we want to include more of our learners at St. Joseph's to join us. We just need a little bit of help please! If you would be able and willing to help



us in any way you can, we would be extremely grateful. Here is a list of items/work we need help with, but if you can donate in anyway, that would be amazing!

- Outdoor tools/ equipment
- Outdoor workbench
- Outdoor bench
- Plants (can be vegetables, trees, flowers)
- Any Wood (can be bits lying around that you don't need)
- Any cut trees or branches
- Hardwood that could be used as logs for sitting on in our log circle
- Spare wellies/outdoor boots
- Spare outdoor clothing
- Spare waterproof coats/trousers
- Setting up our kitchen garden
- Planting trees (probably towards the end of the calendar year now)

If you have any queries or would like to find out more information, please do not hesitate to contact me at school. I would be delighted to hear from you. Thank you!

Miss Ledsham

Year 11 Seren Trip

On Monday 20th March, thirteen Year 11 pupils had the chance to visit the Maritime Museum in Liverpool, to listen to taster sessions from Cambridge University. They were also able to



meet with students from the university and listen first hand to their experiences.

Mrs Davies

"It was a very informative event, which answered many questions I had and made me realise that Cambridge is more available to regular pupils who have strong passions than I thought before. All in all it was a fun and exciting experience and I thoroughly enjoyed the trip, especially because the pupils and teachers who delivered it were kind and spoke in a relatively casual manner."

Victoria J, 11 Kolbe

"This trip has been incredibly interesting and exceedingly informative! It was very eye-opening and allowed me to find out many things about Cambridge University that I didn't know previously! I particularly enjoyed

exploring the museum after the event, and learning more about Liverpool and the Titanic."

Rachel B, 11 Kolbe

"I thoroughly enjoyed the trip to Liverpool learning about Magdalene College. I found the lectures very interesting and the session led by the students was very informative. We learnt about the steps needed to apply to Cambridge University and we learnt about the experience of university."

Lottie C, 11 Romero

"We had the opportunity to listen to engaging taster lectures from top lecturers at Cambridge University. We were also able to listen to students from Magdalene College sharing advice and information about their experiences at the university, the support available there and the application process. It really opened our eyes to university life and inspired us to be ambitious in our future plans. Overall it was an amazing trip, ending with a visit to the Maritime Museum."

Year 11 SEREN Pupils

(Lucy E, Lottie C, Katie E, Teagan W, Fin J, Georgia E, Eleonora A, Victoria J, Rachel B, Emma F, Orpheus I, Molly S & Ellie K.

and were examined in the sports of Football, Netball, Badminton and Athletics. The moderator from the WJEC also went through their coursework and pupils being examined via video evidence for sports outside of school (equestrian, swimming etc).

The pupils have worked hard over the past two years (and prior to this) in their sports and the moderation days are the culmination of their school sport journey.

The moderator was extremely complementary of all the candidates and Mr McComb and Miss Breward were very proud of the standard of sport displayed but also of the way the pupils conducted themselves all day.

A big thank you goes to Miss Birks and Mr Zukovic our Associate Teachers who were on hand all day getting pupils ready for their assessments, officiating and setting up and filming assessments.

Llongyfarchiadau blwyddyn 11, pob lwc yn eich arholiad Addysg Gorfforol ym **mis Mai**.

PE Department

PE Moderation

Congratulations to all Year 11 GCSE pupils who completed 50% of their GCSE PE qualification on Friday. They worked hard all day



“Talk the Talk”

The Talk About Communication Plus was a full day workshop that supports the development of verbal communication skills for a variety of life situations. Working in groups, pupils were set tasks throughout the day that focussed on honing the skills required for active 'group talk' – for meetings, interviews, seminars and the workplace.

Active listening, the art of negotiation and debating skills were explored through a variety of activities designed for pupils to experience differing roles and differing discussion environments.

Here's what the pupils from 9 Romero had to say...

"I really enjoyed the activities with did with our teacher from Talk the Talk. It was better working in groups rather than individually because it was even more fun that last time. The workshop has made me more confident and comfortable speaking in front of people."

Alise B

"Talk the Talk was enjoyable because we had the opportunity to say our opinions and work in groups. It gave us more confidence to take part in discussions and speak in front of others."

Amy A-K

"I absolutely loved Talk the Talk. It was a great experience for helping with confidence and presenting ideas to others. It was also a lot of fun as we were with different

people and we learnt something new together."

Hanna T

"Talk the Talk was fun and I enjoyed it a lot. I liked the activities we did to build our confidence at speaking to others but the best part was the debate in our groups."

Joseph B

Skills Wales Success

Last Wednesday 15th March Krish and Dylan were honoured to be chosen to represent Coleg Cambria in an event called skills Wales. It is a day where teams from other colleges are given engineering challenges and compete against each.

"We had to complete a series of challenges and I am pleased to report that my team came 3rd. We had to build a bulldozer using a Lego set and then race to move 50 marbles into a box."

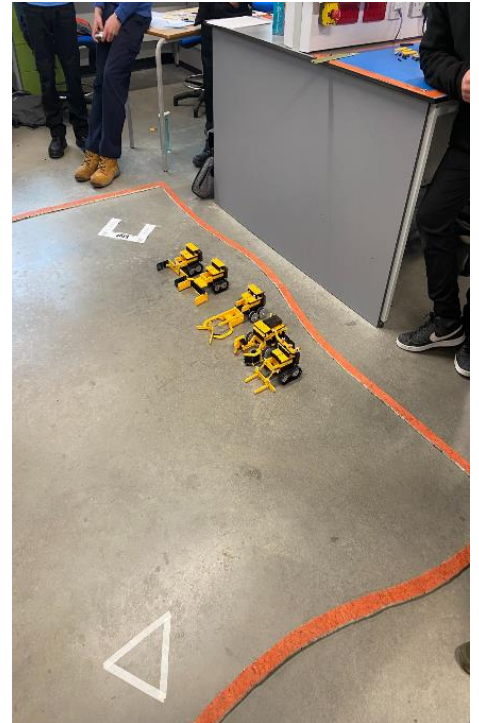
After we did the race we then had to modify it to move the 50 marbles. We had to devise a neat little trick to do this."

It was a great and really fun opportunity, I felt I improved lots of skills."

Dylan Blackwell

"I was also invited to participate in an engineering skills challenge that took place in Coleg Menai in Anglesey. I was given 3 hours to work as a team with 2 others to create a mini vehicle that would be able to fulfil different tasks such as collecting items."

Personally, it was a very unique experience that I enjoyed as there was lots of teamwork involved with other competition to face. We were also instructed to complete an obstacle course and after the organisation had given us marks on each task that we had to complete, my team had received 2nd place out of the whole of North Wales,



which I was very proud of, especially as it was my first time partaking in such an activity."

It was a wonderful experience working with others and I am grateful to have been invited and given an opportunity to use my engineering skills."

Krish Lavan

Da lawn ti. You both have a great future in engineering. We are very proud of what you have achieved and for representing St Joseph's so well."

Mrs Greenhalgh

Easter GCSE Revision Sessions 2023

Date	Sessions for Year 11	Sessions for Year 10
Saturday 1 st April	Geography (Line 1) Mrs Arnall [9:00am – 12:30pm]	
Monday 3 rd April	RE - Mrs Roe [9:00am – 12:30pm] RE – Ms Massey [9:00am – 12:30pm] Drama – Mrs Clark [1.00 - 4.00pm]	Biology – Mrs Ellis 10L1 pupils [9:00am – 12:30pm]
Tuesday 4 th April	Chemistry – Mrs Moate Any Foundation Tier Pupils [9:00am – 12:00pm] Chemistry – Mrs Moate Any Higher Tier Pupils [1:00pm – 3:30pm] Biology – Mrs Ellis 11R1, 11R2, 11L2 Pupils [9:00am – 12:00pm]	Maths – Mrs Jobson – Open to ALL [9.00am - 3.00pm]
Wednesday 5 th April	D&T – Mr Farrell Any DT Pupils [9:00am – 3:00pm] H&SC – Mr Cook [10:00am – 3:00pm]	
Thursday 6 th April	Maths – Mrs Jobson – Any Higher Tier Pupils [9:00am – 12:00pm] Maths – Mrs Jobson – Any Intermediate Tier Pupils [1:00pm – 3:30pm] Maths – Mr Tait - Intermediate tier 11B2a [9.00am - 12.00pm]	
Tuesday 11 th April	German – Mrs Large [9:00am – 12.30pm] French – Mrs Roberts [9:00am – 3.00pm] Geography (Line 2) – Mrs Devine [9:00am – 12.00] PE – Mr McComb [9.00am - 12.00pm]	
Wednesday 12 th April	IT - Mr Trueman [9:00am – 3:00pm] IT - Mr Long [9:00am – 3:00pm] Biology - Mrs Earing - 11L1 - [9:00am – 12.00pm] Chemistry – Mr Timbrell 11R2 [9.00am - 12.00pm]	Biology – Mrs Earing – R1&2 Higher Tier [1.00pm - 3.00pm} Geography – Mrs Greenhalgh [9.00am - 12.00pm]
Thursday 13 th April	History - Mrs Williams [9:00am – 12:00pm] History - Mrs Jones [9:00am – 12:00pm] D&T – Mr Lambert Any D&T Pupils [9:00am – 3:00pm] D&T – Mr Cook Any D&T Pupils [9:00am – 3:00pm]	English Literature – Mrs Hatfield – Open to ALL [9:00am – 3:00pm]
Friday 14 th April	English Language – Mrs Hatfield – Open to ALL [9:00am – 3:00pm] English Language – Mrs Samuels - Open to ALL [9:00am – 3:00pm]	

Contacting the school

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. **Please do not use Google Classroom to try and contact members of staff, this platform is for Pupil learning only.**

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 1000 followers, let's increase this over Easter!



@SJ_WXM

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

Dates for the Diary

17th April

Staff Development Day
[School closed to pupils]

18th April

School opens to pupils

19th-21st April

Year 11 Welsh speaking exams
[Unit 1]

24-26th April

Year 11 Welsh speaking exams
[Unit 2]

27th April – 3rd May

Year 11 Art exam

1st May

May Day Bank Holiday
[School closed]

2nd May

Year 9 Retreat Day

5th May

MFL speaking exams

8th May

Bank Holiday in lieu of Coronation
[School closed]

W/c 8th May

Year 8 exams

10th May

Suspended Timetable for all year groups

19th May

Year 8 Fundraising Day
[£1 for non-uniform]



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