

St. Joseph's Catholic and Anglican High School

Ysgol Uwchradd Gatholig ac Anglicanaidd Sant Joseff

ISSUE 5 FRIDAY 26TH MAY 2023

Reflection by our Chaplains

These past six weeks have flown by, helped by the extra coronation bank holiday this month. At the moment we are in the thick of GCSEs for Years 10 and 11 and exams for Key Stage 3, and the pupils appear to be getting into the rhythm of it now.

On the 10th of May we held our Year 11 Service of Celebration, the first complete one since before Covid. The theme of the service was "Trust the Lord with all your heart" and included

scripture readings, music, prayers, reflections, offerings, gifts, and anointing. Just as the pupils were welcomed into the school in Year 7, they marked the end of their time here by being anointed with holy oil to send them forth to continue their learning, in whatever form that might be. Many thanks to the pupils who spoke, read, danced, sang, and performed; it was beautiful, and a lovely tribute to their five years of high school. We are so proud of them and cannot wait to see where they go in life!

During **Christian Aid Week** we were fortunate to have some guest speakers from the community lead the assemblies

for the year groups. Thank you to the Rev. Canon Dr. Jason Bray, rector of St. Giles and vice chair of

St. Joseph's governing body, and to the Rev. Canon Jonathan Smith, vicar of St. Margaret's & St. Mark's and leader of the Wrexham Mission Area. We are blessed to have the support of our local clergy in bringing to attention the important work done by Christian Aid and their partners.



While Christian Aid assists people in need worldwide, the focus for this year's Christian Aid Week is on helping farmers in Malawi. Since it is one of the charities supported by our Year 8s, we held a fundraiser during Christian Aid Week to raise money for this incredible organisation.

The films we have watched together in the chapel this half term have been Inside Out and Onward. After the films we spoke about the importance expressing our emotions, how to cope with difficult emotions, family relationships, sacrifice, and how to support one another in times of fear and uncertainty. These conversations are important, and we are consistently impressed by the wisdom, depth, and insight the pupils share with the group.

In Bible Study Club, we aim to be an open place where pupils have time to go deeper with their faith and have the freedom to ask questions about anything in the Bible. Because of the bank holidays in May we weren't able to meet as frequently this half term, but we did manage to cover topics such as sin and forgiveness and the Holy Spirit. If you are curious and want to explore your faith, we meet every Monday from 3:30-4:30pm in the library and would love to have you join our discussion!

We pray that you have a wonderful half term. Enjoy the sunshine!

Your chaplains

TCC

On the 22nd of May the TCC (Together Creating Communities) group of young activists hosted a meeting with Headteacher Mr Wilkinson to introduce their No Hungry Learners campaign that seeks to ensure no child goes without food at our school. The

group presented the results of their school questionnaire and the aims of the campaign, which include a future meeting with



county and national leaders as well as a presentation of their findings in a Wrexham Council meeting in July. Many thanks to Daniel E, Ffion G, and Sofia W for their hard work and passion for the cause, and to Mr Wilkinson for his time and support.

Rev Stroud

Mobile Phones

Mobile phones and other electronic devices such as iPods, iPads and cameras are not allowed 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. Your continued support is much appreciated.

Mr C Wilkinson

Praise Indeed!

Dylan Blackwell and Krish Lavan are currently studying Level 2 Engineering at Coleg Cambria and

were both given college Praise Cards on 17th May by their tutor Mr Gough to acknowledge their outstanding hard work and attitude towards success. Well done to both!

Mrs Arnull

SPARX MATHS

Congratulations to all the pupils who have completed their Sparxs homework by the deadline!

Shout outs!

- 7 Devereux with the highest completion – congratulations and
- Romero with biggest the completion improvement - a great improvement

Congratulations to these pupils who have reached a new XP level

> Nadia D Glaira P Adriana B Kairan R Oscar T Kai P Hermione B Lord Meildor J Logan S Jack L-P Natalia S Lily B

And a final congratulations to 241 of you who have improved your times tables this year!

Keep working hard with your Sparxs Maths - end of year prizes will be up for grabs in July, for classes and individuals.

Mrs Jobson

School Trips...

Get your skis on...

Early on Saturday 1st April 39 St Joseph's pupils and 7 staff headed out to Les Deux Alps for the annual ski trip. The journey down to Dover was excellent until we hit the delays in Dover. The pupils were all very patient and we eventually made it to France the following day.

National interest was high and before we knew it Miss Breward was on National TV and Radio expressing our concerns and is now famous!



Although the journey took much longer than anticipated we arrived at the hotel all safe and sound and were ready for skiing the next day. The pupils were soon put into groups and progressed at a fantastic rate. After a couple of days all groups had moved to the big slopes and better conditions half way up the mountain and had learnt how to use lifts, ski down a gentle slope and turn using a snow plough technique.

There was a planned activity every night which included bowling, laser quest and a visit to a restaurant. Prayers and worship took place regularly and was led by Mrs Davies and one of the highlights giving was receiving gifts from one another.

At the end of the week, every group was able to ski from the top of the mountain down blue runs and some groups skied some red groups. The skill shown by every pupil was outstanding demonstrating smooth flowing turns and an ability to tackle different graded slopes.

The weather was fantastic throughout the week with blue skies and warm weather every day. This included the final

> morning when the whole group visited restaurant on the of top the mountain and enjoyed a welldeserved hot chocolate with all the trimmings.

It was a fantastic trip and thankfully the journey back went very smoothly with no delays.

The next trip will be to Italy during Easter 2024 and although fully booked up, please see me if you want to be included on the waiting list for cancellations.

Mr Donlon



Geography River Field Trip

On Wednesday 10th May, Year 7 visited the River Clywedog at Erddig to carry out some fieldwork investigations.



They were involved in measuring the river's velocity, width and depth. The pupils also encouraged to study the features of the river and then describe how they were formed using the correct terminology and knowledge their of river processes.

This sparked some very impressive question and answer sessions. The weather was good thankfully and the pupils enjoyed learning in a different outdoor environment.

Mrs Greenhalgh

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

"Our group really enjoyed using the orange to measure speed, walking in the river was also exciting. We learned a lot and now understand the river processes better."

William, Ryan, Ava, Jack, Bianca, Joules, Lena, Carolin and Patryk from

"The weather stayed nice for us. We now know more about the river features, the landscape was really cool! It was nice missing lessons and doing this activity."

Spencer, Tia, Nikodem, Kobe, Gabriela, Freya, Filip, Martyna, Dylan, Maya from 7RC2

History Quarry Bank Mill Trip

"On Wednesday 10th of May, Year 8 pupils attended a daylong trip to Quarry Bank Mill, Manchester, to give us more insight into the Industrial Revolution. This is the topic that we are studying at the moment.

We toured the mill in our forms. Our activities were to observe how cotton was produced and woven during the Industrial Revolution.

We also looked at how it was made before the Industrial Revolution, this is known as the Domestic Era.

We also then looked at the machinery and jobs involved in mass-production in the Mill. The mill was owned by Samuel Greg. We discovered how some workers actually died because of the working standards during the Industrial Revolution.

We also saw how, back in the 1800's, the workers lived and how they grew their own food. We learnt how young people working in the mill could be, the youngest age was 9 years. We found out about how much they would earn in a week, it also occurred to us that men were paid more than women and children.

We also saw how the mill was powered, thanks to a model showing us the sluice gates and the wheel that sent power to the entire factory.

To conclude Year 8 enjoyed our trip thoroughly with different pupils enjoying a large variety of things in the mill. Also our tour guides were amazing and very informative." Jack H, Oliver J, Lainey C and Hugo B, 8 Cassidy

"We have taken pupils to Quarry Bank Mill for many years and I have to say that Year 8 were one of the best behaved years that we have taken. Thank you to them for their excellent conduct. I would also like thank the staff accompanied us on the trip for their help."

Mrs Williams

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

"I liked the trip because of the machines, they were educational.

Andreia A, 8 Romero

"Quarry Bank Mill was very educational and it was fun to learn about all the machines used inside a factory"

Hannah W, 8 King

"I think it was very educational and a fun way to learn about a cotton mill"

Sofie R, 8 Cassidy

"I enjoyed the trip around the mill as it made me receptive to the historic events"

Sion O, 8 Devereux

"It was very fun and it was a great experience of the machines and the conditions that the cotton workers had to work in.

Erin P, 8 Cassidy

Go girls!

On Wednesday and Thursday of last week, Year 9 pupils had the opportunity to visit ALS Global in Hawarden. ALS are laboratories that carry out analytical testing on soil, various types of water matrices, gases and vapours for a diverse client base.

The aim of the trip was to inspire girls to think about a career in a STEM subject. Pupils from all classes were asked if they had an interest in a career in Science and ended taking we uр enthusiastic young Scientists. Diolch for a thoroughly enjoyable day!

Mrs Earing



Here's what the pupils had to

"The day as a whole was great! We got to see a variety of areas showing the interesting and fun areas of science. We got to talk to some inspiring women who told us all about their journey into science! I would highly recommend this trip for those interested in science or thinking of a career in science."

Jessica and Nandi

"We were shown around a lab and we learnt what they do at ASL. We watched how machines work and the safety hazards that come with them. At ASL they basically do safety checks for soil and water for construction or agriculture sites. They provided useful tips for how to find our career path and how certain skills would benefit us. We all had a nice day out and learnt alot."

"Today was really interesting. At the beginning of the day we had a presentation full of interesting facts and information about chemistry. We then had a tour of the lab which was exciting, it was really cool to see what was there. We then had people tell us about their journey and how they got to work in science. The day was overall very informative expanded our knowledge chemistry."

Darcy, 9 Romero

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh **Award Practice** Expedition

On the weekend of 13th and 14th May a group of Year 10 pupils embarked upon their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh expedition.

They set off from a rendezvous point in Llandegla and navigated their way (with the help of the Urdd) over to Llangollen, and the campsite that they were staying at.

Whilst on site pupils practised campcraft skills and discussed the activities of the day. They camped overnight before packing up and continuing their journey through to their end point.



All pupils performed extremely well and they are now ready to take on the challenge of the qualification expedition in July. Let's hope that the weather is as good for them as it was in May! Mr D Lambert, Expedition Co-ordinator

STEM Workshop

On Thursday 27th April 30 Year 7 pupils took part in a STEM workshop. In this workshop, pupils learnt how a wind turbine works, how they are engineered and constructed.

Working in small teams, pupils used wind turbine model kits to build and measure energy generated. The original model was then improved to try to increase the energy output.

There was a great atmosphere throughout the morning, spurred on by some friendly competition. worked The pupils hard throughout the whole session and their behaviour was excellent. Da iawn blwyddyn 7!

Mrs Moate

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

"We learnt a lot about wind turbines and how it worked. We enjoyed watching how fast the voltage went. We did a lot of experimenting and fixing our errors. We thought it was very fun".

Ijilee, Amelia and Roksana, 7 King



"Today we made and tested some wind turbines - we learnt that from trial and error you can get better. We also learned how wind turbines generate power and how just a slight detail can change how it performs a lot."

"We have enjoyed making the wind turbines. We have had to make alot of changes but we got a fairly good score in the end. It was interesting to see what would work well and what would not, and how the turbines generate power. We also learnt to be patient with making them and trying again."

"It was very good. We got to see some very interesting videos. We learnt how a wind turbine works. We learnt about the components of a wind turbine, the aerodynamics and how long it takes to make a wind turbine. I liked that we got to learn how to build wind turbines and how they work".

David, Olaf, Kairan, Philip

Maths Day

Year 9 were treated to a day dedicated to developing their skills in Maths in ways which could be applied to life outside the classroom.

The morning was spent developing numeracy skills in the area of money, home buying and and mortgage renting They selection. had an opportunity for a time reflection as well as Maths games and Maths Watch where they were able to consolidate their learning.

All pupils were engaged and behaved throughout the day.

Mr Donlon

Revise, revise, revise...

On Wednesday, 10th May, Year 10 enjoyed a whole revision day to help them prepare fully for their up and coming GCSE's. I received some lovely reports from staff about how well behaved and appreciative the pupils were. This is what some pupils thought;

I hope you all continue in this way at home with your own personal revision over the next few weeks. Hard work will pay off. Thank you to all the teachers involved who went the extra mile for our pupils.

Mrs Greenhalgh

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

"It was a very useful and informative day with lots of study tips on how to revise, exam

techniques such as good timing of questions for Physics, practice exam questions. We looked at poetry, extract and essay writing in English."

Samantha, Eva and Eleri

Gareth Morris Construction (GMC) inspire Year 10 **Technology Pupils**

The Year Design 10 Technology group were treated to a talk and discussion from representatives from GMC on Monday 15th May.

Paul from GMC and his colleagues came in to talk to the pupils about modern building practices and how pupils might become part of the building profession when they get older.

The presentation was centred around building projects Wrexham City centre and focussed on innovative techniques used to save energy and heating costs once the properties have been completed.

Pupils got a first-hand look at how these new techniques will benefit people in the future, and will be following the talk up with a site visit at some time in the near future.

Pupils will hopefully have had a think about their futures and the possibilities that the construction industry might have for them.

Mr Lambert

Maths Information Year 11

Following half term, there are two GCSE exams to be completed for Year 11.

Google Classroom contains various tips, documents and videos to help aid revision along with Mr Donlon's extra maths revision podcast that will be available a few days before each exam. Also available on Google Classroom is the advanced information containing a revision list for each paper.

To assist and organise revision a question a day is set via the MathsWatch VLE. MathsWatch also has excellent revision videos available for any topics of difficulty. All pupils should be integrating this system into their revision plans.

Corbett maths revision cards are also available to buy from Mr Donlon at £5 each which also contain links to the excellent Corbett maths website that contains videos on every topic.

Homeworks:

Online homework is set once a week for all pupils.

Year 7 and 8 access homework through the Sparx website and Year 9, 10 and 11 through MathWatch. Please encourage your child to complete this work as it is vital that all pupils keep up to date. Daily catch up sessions are available every lunch time in the Maths Department.

U13/15 **Athletics Shield** 2023 Results

Congratulations and well done to all 32 pupils who performed in the U13/ 15 Athletics Shield 2023 in Queensway Stadium on Tuesday 23rd/ May/ 2023.

Our Junior Girls 2023 team included; Sophie F (Year 8), Tanvee F (Year 8), Daisy M (Year 8), Megan H (Year 7), Scarlett P (Year 8), Sienna M (Year 8), Lily C (Year 7).

Our Junior Boys 2023 team included; Sion O (Year 8), Femi O (Year 8), Praise O (Year 8), Nathaniel R (Year 8), Igor Z (Year 8), David I (Year 8).

Our Middle Girls 2023 team included Zoe B (Year 10), Amy A-K (Year 9), Jessica O (Year 9), Eve C (Year 9), Evelyn L (Year 9), Lydia G (Year 10), Crystal A-M (Year 9), Phoebe S (Year 10).

Our Middle Boys 2023 team included Josh R (Year 9) Kasper G (Year 10), William E (Year 10), Nicholas S (Year 10), Toby W (Year 9), Oliver K (Year 10), Cole B (Year 10), and Daniel Taylor (Year 10).

All of the teams participated in all events that included Track Events (100 metre, 200 metre, 300 metre, 800 metre, 1500 metre, and 400 relay), metre Field Events (Discuss, Javelin, and Shot), and Jump Events (High Jump, Long Jump, Triple Jump).

With an outstanding overall performance from all teams on the day, St. Joseph's C&A High School Junior Boys, Middle Girls, and Middle Boys qualified for the North East Wales Athletics Round 2023. This event will take place on the 15th/ June/ 2023 at Deeside Athletics Stadium.

Massive congratulations to Zoe B who won the most points in the Middle Girls division and proudly collected the Victrix Ludorum Trophy. With an exceptional individual performance from Oliver B in the Long Jump, he recorded one of the longest jumps in his age category in Wales.

Junior Girls:

Javelin:

Sophie F - 2nd Place - 19.2 metres Shot:

Sienna M - 2nd Place - 6.89 metres

Overall Position: 5th Place

Junior Boys:

100m:

Sion O - 3rd Place - 12.5 seconds 200m:

Femi O - 2nd Place - 27.1 seconds 300m:

Praise O - 3rd Place - 45 seconds 1500m:

Igor Z - 2nd Place - 5.14.3 minutes Relay

Sion O, Femi O, David I, Praise O 1st Place 52.9 seconds Long Jump:

David I - 3rd Place - 4.12 metres Shot-

Praise O - 2nd Place - 10.22 metres

Overall Position: 2nd Place

Middle Girls:

Zoe B - 1st Place - 13.5 seconds

Amy A-K - 3rd Place - 30.3 seconds 300m:

Jessica O - 2nd Place - 48.6 seconds Relay

Zoe B, Amy A-K, Jessica O, Crystal A-M -1st Place - 56.2 seconds

High Jump:

Zoe B - 1st Place - 1.35 metres Long Jump:

Evelyn L - 3rd Place - 3.53 metres Javelin:

Jessica O - 3rd Place - 11.36 metres Shot:

Phoebe S - 1st Place - 8.05 metres

Overall Position: 1st Place

Victrix Ludorum: Zoe B

Middle Boys:

100m:

Josh R - 1st Place - 12.1 seconds Relay:

> Josh R, Kasper G, Oliver K, Harry W

1st Place - 49.3 seconds Long Jump:

Oliver K - 1st Place - 5.52 metres Triple Jump:

Cole B - 2nd Place - 10.27 metres Discus:

William E - 1st Place - 35.7 metres Javelin:

Harry W - 2nd Place - 30.11 metres Shot:

Daniel T - 1st Place - 10.86 metres

Overall Position: 1st Place

GCSE Results Day

Year 11 GCSE results will be available for collection from 10am 12noon on Thursday, 24th August. GCSE results for Year 10 will be available from 11am to 12noon, along with Italian, Polish and Russian. Unfortunately, in any school, given Data Protection protocols, results cannot be discussed over the telephone.

Miss Lewis

Lift off for Rocket Week!

As part of our Transition Programme Year 6 pupils have been invited to visit St Joseph's to take part in our famous Rocket Week starting Monday 26th June and finishing on Friday 30th June.

This is a wonderful opportunity for our new pupils to become familiar with the school and to get to know some of the teachers and make new friends too.

This exciting project involves pupils in a number of different subjects such as Science, English, Technology and Maths. children will be taking part in a number of activities and they will design and build their own rockets.

Although Thursday 29th June is Common Transfer Day Wrexham, we will be holding the Parents / Carers Information Meeting on Monday 26th June starting at **6.30pm** when we will all the relevant information regarding the move to secondary school.

There will be a disco for Years 6, 7 and 8 pupils on Thursday, 29th June, time to be confirmed. Tickets will be on sale to pupils during Rocket Week at a cost of £1. There will also be a drink and sweet stall at the disco.

We look forward to welcoming Year 6 pupils to St Joseph's.

Mrs L Roberts

Key Stage **National Reading Tests**

National Reading Tests for all Key Stage 3 pupils [Years 7, 8 and 9] will take place between Monday 5th and Tuesday, 13th June during normal English lessons.

Mrs Samuels

Reading **CUP** Scheme



Congratulations to the six pupils in Year 7 that have worked incredibly hard on their reading to complete the Reading CUP Scheme this vear.

Ava P in 7 Cassidy, Jasmine B in 7 Devereux and Tia D, Holly C, Spencer R and Maya Z in 7 Devereux.

Many thanks to Teaching Assistants Mrs Rouse and Mrs Savage for working with these pupils.

Mrs Samuels

Au revoir Year

On Wednesday, 10th May, the Year 11 Service of Celebration was a wonderful occasion and a fitting conclusion to their time with us, here at St. Joseph's.

We were incredibly proud of all our young people as they not only showcased their amazing gifts and talents, but beautifully led their parents, carers and each other, in prayer and worship.

As staff, we believe that each and every member of our Year 11 will make a difference in the world; not because of the career they choose to follow, but because of the person they **are**.

Mrs M Davies

Celebrating the **Arts**

The Year 11 pupils displayed their true talents in the expressive arts in the Year 11 Service of celebration on the 10th May where they combined their talents in Drama, Music and Dance. They have worked so hard in Expressive Arts showing true talent. Their creativity and commitment to help making the celebration beautiful commendable. They will truly be missed.

Nikita K, Charlie L, Orpheus I, Akash R, Khomotso M, Molly S, Micah H, Joseph G, Nicole M and Ellie K presented the perfect musical accompaniment to the blessings in the Year 11 Service of Celebration, sharing their vocal and instrumental talents with Year 11 pupils, parents and carers and staff. The Drama group provided an entertaining start to the evening, showing off their talents in impersonating their form tutors and head of year- all in good humour! Many thanks to the Year 7, 8 and 9 artists, who were instrumental in contributing to the artwork for the backdrop based on "Trust in the Lord with all your Heart".

Artistic talents celebrated:

Year 10 had the opportunity to go on an Art residential at the Conway Centre, which always provides pupils with additional

skills and experience. This year was no different with four of our following pupils giving the feedback...

"We took part in a workshop based on the theme Royalty. Throughout the two days we worked very hard on our project, however we had lots of fun. All the teachers were very nice and helpful and we came back with new creativity and time management skills. We also had a great piece of artwork to add to our coursework."

Wiktoria, Rosie, Kinga and Nadia

Year 10 are currently making cultural lamps in Art. Their outcomes are proving fabulous and each one unique. They should proud really of their achievements.

Artwork is celebrated on the Art Instagram page. If you wish to view the amazing creations members of your family have created, please send a request to stjosephscathol. It is truly worth a look!

What's on in Drama?

On Wednesday 12th July Year 10 Drama pupils have the privilege of attending a performance of Shakespeare's William Midsummer Night's Dream in Chester's Grosvenor Park Open Air Theatre. A Midsummer Night's Dream is one of Shakespeare's most famous plays and involves royalty, mischievous fairies, love tangles and classic comedy characters. Pupils will enjoy a

fantastical performance filled with the magic and humour for which the bard is renowned. A real theatrical treat after a year of hard work!

Calling Year 8 pupils!

The Drama department is pleased to announce that after half term there will be a Drama club in school for Year 8s. There will be a focus on performing scripts with a wide range of themes (comedy, drama, musical) for any budding performers. Please attend to hone the fantastic acting talent we know that year 8 pupils harbour! Further details to follow.

Music News

Congratulations to Eleri S for passing her grade 7 Flute exam and Theo E for passing his grade 5 piano exam.

Congratulations also to April and Jasmine P for their singing successes at Oswestry Music Festival.

Thanks to the school choir for performing beautifully in the service of remembrance for former Deputy Headteacher, Kevin Campbell and for taking part in the joint service of celebration of the coronation of King Charles in St Mary's Cathedral.

Mrs M Clark

Contacting the school

Our preferred method of communication is preorganised, mutually convenient meeting. Contact with staff can be arranged via the school at

> mailbox@stjoseph.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, 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 cooperation. Mr Wilkinson

Follow us

Please follow us on twitter - we currently have 1,092 followers, let's increase this over half term!



@SJ_WXM

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

Dates for the Diary

5th June School opens to pupils

6th, 8th, 12th and 13th June Year 9 Skills Challenge Certificate

> 26th - 30th June Year 6 Rocket Week

27th and 28th June Year 10 Skills Challenge Certificate

28th June - 1st July RE trip to Rome [departs 27th June at 10pm]

29th June Years 6, 7 and 8 Disco [time tbc]

> 3rd July Sports Day

6th July Year 11 Prom 6.30pm

12th July Year 9 Skills Challenge Certificate National Athletics Finals Year 10 Drama trip

13th July Suspended Timetable [Activities across year groups]

14th July Year 7 Fundraising Day [Non-uniform = £1 donation]

Year 9 Geography Snowdonia trip

15th July MFL trip to Germany departs

20th July School closes at 3.30pm

School opens Tuesday, 5th September



Contact Details

St Joseph's Catholic & Anglican High School Sontley Road Wrexham **LL13 7EN**

> **Telephone** 01978 360310

> > **Email**

mailbox@ st-joseph.wrexham.sch.uk

> Website stjosephs.wales



