



All Saints Catholic High School

A Business & Enterprise College

Heart to Heart

April 2015
Newsletter



PRINCIPAL'S LETTER

Dear Parent/Carer

Following our Ofsted report that was published in January, I promised to update you on the progress we have made against our improvement plan to bring our school to greater success.

On 11 March 2015 we had a section 8 Ofsted inspection led by Mr Charles Lowry HMI, who has now written his report. I've placed his letter on our school website so you can download and read it now; it was available from the Ofsted website from Wednesday 1 April 2015. Our response to the Special Measures judgement is set out in our action plan and Mr. Lowry HMI has assessed it as 'fit for purpose', which means we can now continue to accelerate our work. Already we are beginning to see improved attitudes from our Key Stage 4 students, particularly Year 11, who are now just 18 teaching days away from the start of their formal GCSE examinations on Monday 11 May.

Mr Lowry will visit us again at some point in the summer term to review the school's effectiveness and how well we are making progress on all of the 16 Ofsted action points contained in our inspection report from 10 & 11 December 2014.

We are delighted that Mr Tony McGuinness is joining us to lead the school from Monday 20 April as the school's Principal. I am also personally pleased that I am able to stay on a little longer with you to support Mr McGuinness on some project work for a few weeks.

We had a fantastic school musical drama production this half term, where students from All Saints and from our partner primary schools worked together to give us excellent evening entertainment... twice! It was brilliant to see so many students working together on the ideas they had created.

Thank you again for your support for my staff and myself over the January term, as we strive to make our school "Good" again.

Yours faithfully

Heather Scott

Interim Principal

CELEBRATING LENT

Lent is a time for reflection as we anticipate the Easter celebration and the hope it brings. Father Nick has celebrated Mass weekly at All Saints to help us prepare. In his Easter message Pope Francis tells us to 'fast from indifference towards others'. Our school Mission Statement reflects his message, 'We will always value and care for all members of the community according to their needs.' At All Saints we foster these values of caring for others, encouraging our young people to become caring and compassionate.



'IF THESE WALLS COULD TALK'

'All the World's a Stage' at All Saints!

This exciting production was a sell out as students from All Saints, St Joseph's, St Laurence's, St Marie's, St Michael and All Angels, and St Peter and Paul's joined forces to take their audience on a journey through history.

Funded by the Arts Council and devised by the Empire Theatre's Creative Learning department, the project has involved workshops, rehearsals and a 3 day residential. The tuition, direction and advice provided by our professional partners from the Empire Theatre have been invaluable. There are plans for a future production at the Empire Theatre next year. If you were unable to get a ticket here is a snapshot of the action!



Each school was allocated a different era and through their theatre skills of acting, singing and dancing created superb performances.

St Marie's

1880s: second Industrial Revolution

All Saints BTEC group

1830s – late 1800s: Votes for women

All Saints Boys

1914: First World War

St Laurence's

1920s: American Prohibition

St Peter and Paul's

1950s and 1960s: Golden age of musicals and dawn of Pop

St Joseph the Worker

1980s: Punks and Skinheads; the miners' strike

St Michael and All Angels

2000s: 'Noughties' technology in all its forms



Early booking is advised for our next production!



SOLAR ECLIPSE COMPETITION

Following safety advice from Mr. Billington, students across the school were able to watch the solar eclipse. The competition challenged them to predict the temperature at the time of the eclipse. The winner was Holly Lynch, Year 8, who predicted the correct temperature as 3.1 degrees celsius.



MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Year 10 Gifted and Talented pupils visited Belvedere High School in Liverpool to explore the links between mathematics and science. The conference has been on a world wide tour, visiting countries such as USA, China and Australia. The guest speakers were highly qualified scientists and mathematicians who have worked all over the world proving or even contradicting theorems established by people such as Albert Einstein. Two of them, Tom Greggs and Mark Lewney, were themselves from Liverpool and both achieved 1st Class degrees at Oxford University. Each provided much food for thought.

The lectures included topics such as:

- Robot Fantasy, Android Dreams and the Emotion Chip
- Chaos and the Origins of the Universe
- The Future Ain't What it Used to be

JAGUAR LAND ROVER READING 'BUDDIES'

We are delighted to welcome Jaguar Land Rover staff, who will act as reading 'buddies' to Year 7 students. Reading for information and pleasure is a vital life skill and reading 'buddies' help provide encouragement and direction. This is just one of the many ways in which All Saints students benefit by being Jaguar Land Rover's partner school. Students were also delighted to receive Easter eggs from their reading 'buddies' as an added incentive!



'CHEMISTRY FOR ALL' PROGRAMME

Sponsored by the Royal Society of Chemistry, Year 8 students are working with Liverpool John Moore's University on a series of crazy chemistry experiments. The course was presented in Assembly and enthusiastically received by our young scientists. Who knows? We may have a future Einstein in our midst!



PARENTS/CARERS FORUM

Our first Parents/Carers Forum was held on the 4 March. Both our interim Principal, Ms. Heather Scott, and our incoming Principal, Mr. Tony McGuinness, attended to listen to parents'/carers' concerns and positive views about All Saints. The next meeting will be on Thursday 30 April at 6 pm. We hope you will be able to attend.

ART NEWS

The Visual Arts have a high profile at All Saints. Paintings, drawings and textiles need an audience and stepping into All Saints can seem like an art gallery with students' work displayed across the school.

'Spring Time' Art Competition: Kirkby Schools

We were delighted to give our students' talents a wider audience by exhibiting in this competition. All entries are on display at Kirkby Library until 3 April. All Saints entries are pictured below.

The first image is by Year 7 artist, Molly Eden, entitled 'Poppies'.

The second image is by Year 11 artist, Christie Goodswen, entitled 'Remembering Heroes'.



GCSE Examination Entries

All art students have to complete their practical entries for Art, Textiles and Graphics under examination conditions. Standards are high as you can see from the images below. We would like to congratulate all the Faculty's Year 11 students for the high standards achieved. Here are two examples:

Graphic Design



A colourful collage by Olivia Robinson

Textiles: Fantastic and Strange Section

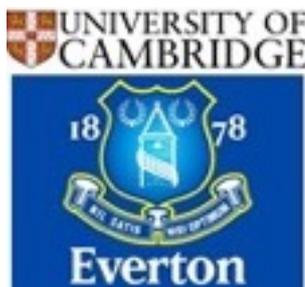


A striking hat produced by Elliot Canavan

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY COMES TO GOODISON PARK

Ellen Oakley, Year 11, reports:

On Tuesday 17 March we travelled to Goodison Park, home of the 'Blues', to take part in a day of lectures and activities based on university life. It was led by Magdalene College, Cambridge. It was an amazing day with sample lectures in History and Biology, a tour of the famous stadium and a question and answer session with current Magdalene students. It was an excellent experience that clarified confusing things like picking a college and the application process. It allowed us as students to think about our academic futures whilst providing useful advice and first hand accounts. Overall it was really enjoyable and informative. Thanks to Mr. Dearing for organising it and to Ms. Towler for taking us.



'PROM POINTS'

**WEDNESDAY 1 JULY 2015
THE DEVONSHIRE HOTEL**

Year 11 students are working hard to achieve the 120 points that are required in order to attend this year's Year 11 Prom. Points can be awarded for positive contributions to any aspect of school life.

ALL SAINTS CAREER ACADEMY BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS

March programme

Well established working partnerships benefit our students enormously and provide placements, paid internships and employment.

Detailed below are the March activities.

HMRC Volunteer

Interview technique training

HMRC Volunteers

Job application training for Civil Service

Royal Sun Alliance

C.V. writing workshop and meeting with business mentors from RSA, HMRC, Royal Bank of Scotland and Weightmans

PriceWaterhouseCoopers

Masterclass 3: Networking

WELCOME TO YEAR 7:

September 2015

We are pleased to be welcoming 163 new Year 7 students to All Saints next September.

Our new Principal, Mr. Tony McGuinness, will join us at Easter so these students will be his first Year 7 intake group. Our individual Parent/Teacher/Governor meetings take place during the summer term and this initial meeting is the start of a partnership that will last through a pupil's school career. Parents, carers and students will have the opportunity to meet Mr. McGuinness, governors and staff.

YOUNG WRITERS POETRY COMPETITION

Twenty-one Years 7, 8 and 9 poets have succeeded in getting their work published. Young Writers is an organization that aims to encourage promising young writers. The following students have had their poems selected for publication:

Sam Sholicar	James Joyce
Jo Perry-Macfie	Siobhan King
Bridget Coppell	Olivia Molyneux
Beth Newsham	Lily Manns
Lewis Dake	Ella Baines
Stevie Foster	Caitlin Dunleavy
Jodie O'Hare	Sasha Mae Navis
Louise Foley	Mark Mathers
Morgan Linford	Rosie Savage
Jake Hill	Chloe Alix Sutton
Eva Collins	

According to the publisher All Saints pupils 'wrote some fantastic poems and we thoroughly enjoyed reading every entry.' Publication of Poetopia is scheduled for 30 June. Competition prize winners have yet to be announced.

'DROP EVERYTHING AND READ!'

This initiative will encourage Year 7 students to read, read and read. At given points in the week, students will have the opportunity to simply read. Our objective is to encourage a love of reading and a recognition of the language development it brings. Language is empowering and we want all our students to improve this skill, no matter what their current level. Do encourage reading at home by talking about books you have enjoyed and by promoting the use of your local Library. A visit by children's author, Cathy MacPhail, is also planned for next half term.



PE DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

March 2015

Year 9 Girls Football

The team will be playing in the Merseyside Cup semi final, having secured their place with a 7-0 victory over Calderstones High School Year.

Year 9 Girls Football

The team won a Merseyside community competition, organised by 'Everton in the Community'. The trophy was presented to captain, Ellie Edge.

Year 7 Boys Football

The team reached the Merseyside Cup semi final but were defeated by Deyes High School. The team showed great promise and should feel proud of their achievement as this is their first experience of the prestigious Merseyside competition.

Year 9 Boys Cross Country Running

The team won the Knowsley Cross Country competition with Sean Bannister achieving first place.

Merseyside Youth Games

All Saints teams represented Knowsley Borough in Year 7 Boys Indoor Athletics, Year 8 Boys Basketball and Year 8 Girls Netball.

EVOLVE CHARITY

Year 10 students will benefit from sessions delivered during PSHE by the Evolve Charity. The sessions will cover the dangers of 'legal highs'. Our aim is always to keep our students safe through knowledge so that they make responsible and informed decisions.

FIZZY DRINKS

The consumption of fizzy drinks leads to poor concentration and impairs learning. Fizzy drinks are therefore not allowed at All Saints. Bottled water is allowed during breaks and in lessons. Fresh fruit juice, milk drinks and water are available from the food outlets at each break.



UNIFORM

Thank you to all parents/carers who ensure uniform standards are high. Reporting to school in full school uniform is compulsory. Blazers must be worn in school at all times. During lessons they may be removed at the discretion of the teacher. School shoes must be completely black and able to be polished. Trainers or canvas shoes are not acceptable. A full uniform list is detailed in our prospectus on the website.



ATTENDANCE COUNTS

“Maximum attendance = Maximum Attainment”

Excellent school attendance is vital to academic success and enjoyment of all school has to offer. Thank you to all parents who ensure that their daughter’s/son’s attendance is excellent. Pupils must have 95% attendance to be considered for school visits or teams except in exceptional circumstances.

EXAMINATION SERIES

Summer 2015

Please note these very important dates.

Monday 11 May – Friday 26 June (GCSE, A Levels, BTEC and Externals)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SCHOOL TERM DATES

School Closes on	School Opens on
Thursday 2nd April 2015	Monday 20th April 2015
Friday 22nd May 2015	Tuesday 2nd June 2015
Tuesday 21st July 2015 Summer Holidays	

INSET DAY MONDAY 1 JUNE 2015

'IF THESE WALLS COULD TALK'

