



All Saints
Catholic High School

Heart to Heart

Spring 2021 Newsletter

All Saints Virtual Reality



We were delighted to remain fully open for all students throughout the Autumn term. Although we could not welcome parents and prospective pupils personally our promotional film gives an insight into life at All Saints. Once again we are oversubscribed for September 2021.



“ Many parents base their choice of secondary school on recommendations from friends and relatives who have direct experience of All Saints. Thank you. ”



Dear Parents/Carers/Friends of All Saints,

Whilst daily life changed for us all in 2020 All Saints proved to be very resilient in the face of such adversity. Our response to the complex challenges involved changes across the board. Rewriting the timetable; staggering start and finish times; introducing a one-way system; Key Stage lunches and strict seating plans were among the steps we took to enable the life of the school to continue to thrive. Yet it was the palpable spirit and sense of community, established in partnership with yourselves over the last 6 years, that was the bedrock for these measures.

It is appropriate here to thank you all, both individual families and partner organisations, for your very generous donations to the All Saints Kirkby Foodbank Appeal. The response this year was outstanding and a tangible expression of empathy for others in our community.

Last September marked the return of all pupils after the first lockdown and we were delighted to welcome them back. Moreover, it was clear that students too were excited and very keen to return to their school, which provides a safe and happy learning environment despite the continuing turmoil caused by the pandemic. The highly structured re-organisation of the school campus enabled us to limit outbreaks of infection and consequently attendance was robust. The enthusiasm and positivity of students were real sources of strength and inspiration to all staff. Their maturity, standards of behaviour, motivation and responsibility were generally excellent throughout the first term. In short, your sons and daughters were a credit to their families and school.

There were many positive learning opportunities during the term that you will read about in this newsletter. However I would like to draw your attention to just some. Development and innovation in the curriculum is very important and enhances learning for students. In September 2021 we are offering two further Sixth Form courses. The first, Sport Studies, will run in partnership with the Steven Gerrard Academy. The second, Protective Services, is a precursor to a very wide range of training opportunities; for example, careers as a paramedic, civil servant, police officer, firefighter or roles in the Armed Forces. Just as we are expanding the curriculum experience for our most senior pupils, younger students too are benefitting.

Once again we are oversubscribed for September 2021 with 266 first choice applications. Many parents base their choice of secondary school on recommendations from friends and relatives who have direct experience of All Saints. Thank you. This is a tremendous community endorsement. Our increasing applications for admission in Year 7 enable us to increase and enhance staffing. As a result we have been able to appoint 11 new high calibre members of staff, including some former pupils!

Virtual parents' meetings and promotional films are now integral features of life at All Saints, enabling us to share with you the daily life of the school, at least in part. Thank you to all our primary and secondary students and their parents who have participated. These technological innovations enhance the online learning and communication framework within which we are now operating. The first term of the academic year has been very rewarding and we aim to meet the demands of the coming term with the same creativity and resilience.

We look forward to personally welcoming every student back at the earliest opportunity. I hope you enjoy reading this term's newsletter and please do also check the school website for further updates and news. Thank you once again for your ongoing support.

Yours faithfully

Tony McGinness
Headteacher

Protective Services 2021

2020 has highlighted how essential the Protective Services are to the stability and safety of society. Does a career with the Fire Service, the Police, the Ambulance Service, the Civil Service or the Armed Forces appeal? This 2 year Sixth Form course could be for you. Available from September this year and details are on our website. Taster sessions were held last term.



Scholars' Programme Launch 2020

Our hugely successful Scholars' Programme 2020 was launched by Andy Griffith, an inspirational education consultant and author. The programme builds confidence and motivation as well as cementing partnerships with industry, commerce and higher education. In turn, these enrich learning opportunities within and beyond school.



Christmas Celebration Assembly

Do watch our Christmas Assembly production (Facebook 18 Dec 2020). Usually the whole school gathers in the atrium for reflection, music, dance and drama. This year was very different but we think you will enjoy it. Have fun recognising the members of staff from this talented line-up and who is that mystery Santa?



All Saints Catholic
High School
History Department
Pupil Praise - Year 11



Christmas Card Design

Congratulations to Year 7 pupil Isobel MacDonald who designed All Saints' official Christmas card for 2020.



A huge well done to the following students, for fantastic effort with their History work week:

Libby Bushell
Mia Smith
Katerose Morley

Bobby Briggs
Renee Curlett
Owen Dumbell

Remote Learning Recognition

Congratulations are in order! Departmental awards acknowledge the outstanding effort and self-discipline shown by these All Saints students in January 2021. Do check our social media accounts for other departmental awards. Well done to all.

"Aspire to be the best you can be."

All Saints strives to provide excellence and effort is always acknowledged. Students pictured here have certainly earned their Christmas break.

Do you recognise them?



Online Safety

Social media is certainly an effective form of communication, keeping us in touch with family and friends. The aim of this initiative was to help students to enjoy it safely. Students in Years 7 and 8 have been working with Mrs. Currie, our online safety and anti-bullying coordinator.



All National Online Safety we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information they need to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one platform of many which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

1. BE POSITIVE
Post about things that make you happy and that you're thankful for. It could brighten up someone else's day.

2. OFFER TO HELP
Sometimes a friend or family member might post a question online or ask for help with something they can't do themselves. If you know the answer or are able to offer help, provide support and send a response. Something that may be easy for you might be difficult for someone else.

3. SHOW APPRECIATION TO OTHERS
If somebody you know has done something good or shown kindness themselves, thank them for it. It costs nothing and showing them that you appreciate it means so much.

4. SHARE FUNNY VIDEOS OR IMAGES WITH FRIENDS & FAMILY
We often come across funny videos or images online that make us laugh and then we move on. If you found it funny, your friends and family might too. It could help someone smile who may be having a bad day.

5. LIKE, LOVE & CELEBRATE
If somebody posts something that you like on social media, like it, love it or celebrate it! It's a small gesture but could mean a lot.

6. VIDEO CALL YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY
It can be easy to be consumed by daily routine. Using apps like Zoom, FaceTime or WhatsApp are great for connecting with others far away and shows you're thinking of them even though you can't physically meet them in person.

7. TELL SOMEONE YOU'RE THINKING OF THEM
We can't always tell how people are feeling online and just dropping somebody a message to ask if they're ok or that you're thinking of them could literally make their day.

8. SHARE POSITIVE POSTS
If you see something online that inspires you, share it with people you know. An inspirational quote, a beautiful photo or a motivational video can lift spirits, improve self-esteem and help make people feel better about themselves.

9. HOST AN ONLINE QUIZ
Video conferencing apps are a great way to get friends and family together. If you know someone who is feeling lonely, host an online quiz and invite them to join in. It could really cheer them up.

10. THINK BEFORE YOU COMMENT
Sometimes thinking before you act can be just as significant as acting in the first place. Showing thought before you comment could stop you posting something hurtful, offensive or negative. It's always better to post positively or post nothing at all.

11. BE COMPASSIONATE & UNDERSTANDING
Being empathetic towards others and their situation is often an act of kindness and selflessness that gets overlooked. If you notice someone who is upset, drop them a message and offer to listen.

12. CONNECT FRIENDS & FAMILY WITH SIMILAR INTERESTS
You may know two people amongst your friends and family who you trust and know well who have similar interests and likes. Introducing them can be a great way for them to make new friends but remember to always ask their permission first.

13. RECOMMEND SOMETHING YOU ENJOY DOING TO OTHERS
If you enjoy doing something online, such as playing a game, or if you've found a great learning resource, share it with others. Even if you've watched a good film, letting others know can be an act of generosity that brings them excitement or pleasure at a time when they might need it the most.

14. PRAISE OTHERS FOR THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS
Sometimes your friends or family might post something online that they're proud to have done. It might be an exam they've passed, learning a new skill or just completing a task. Either way, it's always kind to recognise hard work and effort through praise and celebration.

www.nationalonlinesafety.com Twitter - @nationalonlinesafety Facebook - /NationalOnlineSafety Instagram - @NationalOnlineSafety

Chemistry for All with LJMU



Liverpool John Moores University provides excellent scientific experiences for our students, at both the university and All Saints. These attentive Year 9 students are clearly engrossed the Chemistry for All session.



All Saints Kirkby Foodbank Appeal 2020



Many thanks to parents, pupils and our many partners who contributed. The generosity was reflected in the sheer volume and quality of the donations. Many local families have benefitted in what has been an unprecedented year.



Remembrance Day 2020

Our Remembrance Day services are always poignant as the whole school falls silent to remember the sacrifices made by previous generations. Our service this year was held virtually but still conveyed the depth of feeling that this ceremony evokes each year.



St Peter and Paul's "A Play in a Day"

The partnerships with our associated primaries provide many opportunities via our well established Primary Liaison Programme.



Mr. McGuinness certainly enjoyed the performance of 'Play in a Day'. Year 6 teacher, Miss Georgia Connolly who produced and directed the performance, is a former pupil of All Saints.

Year 7 Stunning Stars!



These pupils were our stars this term for the outstanding support and kindness they have shown to others daily.

Well done, Paddy, Lydia, Poppie, Tyler and Lucy.

School Council



Welcome to our Year 7 School Council representatives. Advocating the views of their form members at Council meetings enables these students to bring about innovation and change. The role is a great personal development experience for them too.



Student Mentors

A professional 2 day training course delivered by MYA Raise Team was undertaken by 24 of our senior pupils. Students were taught very practical strategies for supporting others who may be struggling with their mental health and wellbeing. Smiling faces suggest the course were both informative and enjoyable.



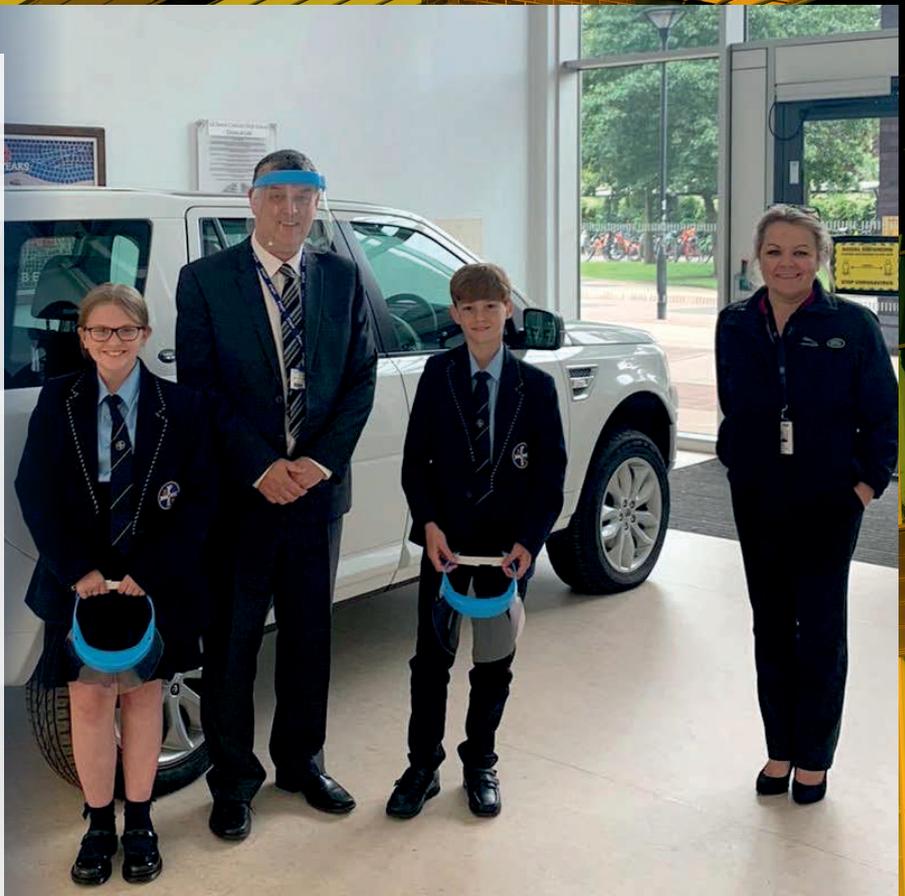
Specialist Leaders in Education

Congratulations to Ms. Walker and Mr. Bowie who have been accepted on the SLE professional course. It aims to develop leadership skills and improve classroom practice. Both are setting a powerful example of lifelong learning and aspiration to the highest standards.



JLR: With a lot of Help from our Friends

Once again JLR's expertise has benefitted All Saints. Visors to protect against Covid 19 transmission have been generously donated. Mentoring, engineering challenges and experience at Halewood are all part of the relationship. **Thank you, JLR.**



NEW COURSES AVAILABLE
KIRKBY
FROM SEPTEMBER 2021

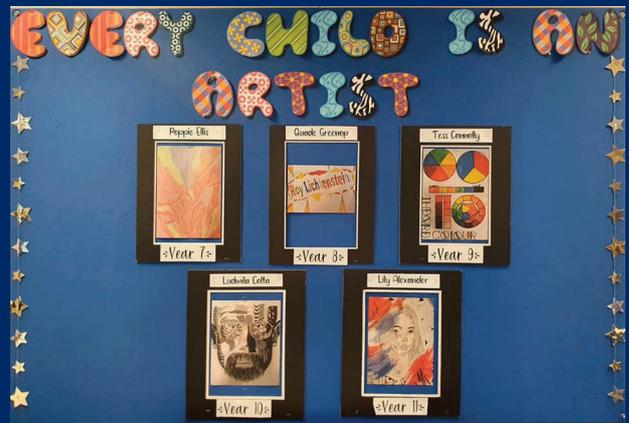
Sixth Form Curriculum Innovation

Steven Gerrard Academy

In September 2021 All Saints Sixth Form students will be eligible to apply for this new course which broadens further the wide range now available in our Sixth Form portfolio. Based at the Kirkby Steven Gerrard Academy the course provides a high quality experience for 16-19 year olds who are interested in pursuing further education and a career in football, such as coaching or other professions within the sports industry. Taster sessions were held shortly before Christmas.



STEVEN GERRARD
Academy



Every Child An Artist

According to the Art Department all our students are artists. Certainly the standard of work produced is very high and the display galleries throughout the building transform the school. It is almost like being in the Walker Art Gallery!