



Heart to Heart

October 2015 Newsletter



Welcome!

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to our first newsletter this year. September 2015 was the start of my first full academic year as Principal of All Saints and already there is news to report. We have introduced a new curriculum for Year 9; we have new behaviour and uniform policies; and we have built new science laboratories. Even so, there is still much to be done and we will always keep you informed of progress against our plans.

A particular highlight of our 2015 GCSE examination results was the excellent achievement in Mathematics, which led to 62% of students gaining A*-C. This made All Saints the highest performing Knowsley school in GCSE Mathematics.

Following scrutiny of our English GCSE examination results we requested re-marking. As a consequence some students gained higher grades and All Saints became the second highest performing Knowsley school in the 5 A*-C grades that include English and Mathematics. This is a national measure and most certainly pleasing but it is only the start of our journey towards 'outstanding'.

I am committed to raising all standards across the school. Appropriate curriculum, good teaching, hard work and application are all needed and All Saints will provide these. From the most academically able to the child with additional needs, our aim will be excellence. Sporting, performing and cultural opportunities will complement academic studies to provide a fully rounded education.

Thank you for your response in raising standards of uniform and general appearance. It has had a very positive impact on students and is reflected in their improved attendance.

Attendance at Open Evening was excellent and I was delighted to meet so many parents, carers and prospective pupils. Choosing a secondary school is a very important decision for any parent. In partnership with yourselves I am determined to make All Saints a school we are all proud of and the first choice secondary school for all Kirkby parents.

Once again thank you for your ongoing support and on behalf of the Governors and staff, I wish you an enjoyable half term break.

Tony McGuinness

Tony McGuinness *Principal*

Awards Evening Highlights



GCSE Examination Success



6 superstar students and A*/A grades across the curriculum

Congratulations to all **Year 11** students who achieved or exceeded their target grades. Worthy of a special mention are the following students who each achieved **9 GCSE** grades with a significant number at **A* or A grade**. **Ellen Oakley** achieved all **9** at **A* or A grade**.

Our super 6 are:
Hannah Connell, Ellen Oakley, Lauren O'Brien, Alex Westwood, Georgia Williams and Anthony Yates.



Mathematics Department – Knowsley GCSE Champions 2015

Excellent teaching, innovation and hard work led to **62%** of All Saints students gaining GCSE Mathematics at Grade **A* - C**. All Saints is the highest performing Mathematics Department in Knowsley at GCSE 2015.

All Saints Examination Highlights

- **62% of students achieved A* -C in Mathematics**
- **Over 75% of students achieved A* -C in the following subjects: Business, Core Science, Geography, IT, PE and Textiles**
- **93% of PE GCSE students achieved grades A -C.**
- **10% of students achieved the highest level grades of A* and A in Geography, History, Science, Spanish, PE, RE and Textiles**
- **In all, 110 A* and A grades were awarded to our students**



Sixth Form Welcome Mass

Sixth Formers celebrated the start of their studies with a Mass celebrated by **Father Nick Wilde**. Many students have spent their entire career at All Saints while others have chosen to join the Sixth Form from other schools. We aim to foster a sense of ambition, personal responsibility and compassion for others within a caring Catholic community.

Kirkby's Catholic Family of Schools

Headteachers from all **Kirkby's Catholic** schools meet regularly to discuss ethos, curriculum, educational provision and the transition from primary to secondary school. The last of these informs All Saints' transition programme, which includes the regular delivery of **Dance, PE and Spanish** lessons in primary schools. The whole programme culminates of course in our annual **Summer School**.

Head of Performing Arts Gains Recognition

We were delighted when our Performing Arts lead, Ms. Jodie Stott, gained a School Cultural Achievement of the Year Award. Ms. Stott was nominated by the Knowsley Cultural Hub for her work with the Empire Theatre involving both Primary and All Saints' students. Not surprisingly, the cast of Mamma Mia! were invited to perform once again at the award ceremony.



Awards Presentation Evening

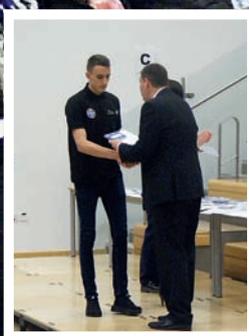
22 October 2015



The Annual Awards Presentation Evening welcomed Governors, Parents/Carers, pupils and friends of All Saints.

Awards were given for academic achievement, progress, enterprise, community, attendance, resilience in the face of adversity and contributions to the life of the school. We are committed to celebrating all aspects of achievement at All Saints.

The cast of Mamma Mia! provided outstanding entertainment!



Performing Arts goes from Strength to Strength

What a fantastic year our **Performing Arts Department** had in 2014/15. Working with the Liverpool Empire All Saints gained funding from the Knowsley Culture Hub. This initiative led to our productions of **Scrooge**, **If These Walls Could Talk** and **Mamma Mia!** A particular highlight was the drama residential involving professional performers and both Primary and All Saints' pupils. Our excellent reputation for quality performances also led to an invitation to perform at Knowsley Celebration of Achievement.

We were also delighted that students who entered for the London College of Music exams achieved a large number of **'Merit'** and **'Distinction'** grades. Such is the popularity and success of Performing Arts at All Saints that we have increased staffing with the appointment of two new dance teachers.



Unveiling of Kirkby's Thrones

All Saints was invited to perform at the official unveiling ceremony for Kirkby's 'Three Reading Thrones' in Kirkby Civic Square. Their purpose is to provide an inspirational environment for storytelling, reading and relaxation.



WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING 25 SEPT

Macmillan Cancer Support: World's Biggest Coffee Morning

Open Evening is a Huge Success

All Saints' Principal, **Tony McGuinness**, and staff were delighted to welcome so many parents, carers and prospective pupils to **All Saints' Open Evening**. Our guests were able to enjoy interactive activities in all departments, meeting staff and current pupils. Mr. McGuinness outlined his ambition for All Saints, *"I am determined to make All Saints a school we will all be proud of and the first choice secondary school for all Kirkby parents."*



Classes at All Saints stopped at 2:30 pm on **Friday 25th September** as students and staff joined forces with organisations across the world to raise money for the Macmillan charity. Cakes were baked, bought and consumed as we all reflected on those family and friends who benefit from the outstanding work of this charity.



7 iPods won!



Mr. McGuinness visited primary schools to present iPods to the seven lucky primary school draw winners. Every pupil who attended **Open Evening** was entered into the draw. The photograph shows two of the lucky prizewinners.



Summer School 2015

All Saints Summer School was action packed with our prospective **Year 7** students experiencing a range of exciting opportunities. Orienteering in Delamere Forest; practising for **'The Bake Off'** in Food Technology; **Sports Day** competitions; and **Music, Dance and Drama** in Performing Arts were all part of this memorable week.

Of course, students who took part have now completed their first half term at All Saints!

Science Internships with Mast Laboratories



Georgia Gorman, one of our **Year 13** students, was successful in her application for an internship at **Mast Laboratories**. Working in a microbiology quality controlled laboratory on a variety of scientific experiments, Georgia gained invaluable experience. Her manager reported, "Georgia was an exceptionally hard worker." Georgia reported, "the best part of my internship was being confident enough in what I had learnt to demonstrate to visiting Italian and German students."



Career Academy and Internship Celebration

All Saints works with many leading companies who provide fantastic employment and internship opportunities for our Sixth Formers. We were delighted to welcome representatives from Abbey Logistics, Co-op Bank, Frontline, Lloyds Bank, Mast Laboratories, Merseycare, QVC, RBS, Santander and the Walton Centre, who all contribute to our programme and extend the learning environment for Sixth Form.



All Saints win Knowsley Robotic Challenge

Congratulations to our winning **Year 10** team: **Rosie Butler, James Craven, Reese Fitzsimmons** and **Skyler Hayes**, who competed against schools across the Borough. Their task was to build a successful working robot that went into battle in the **'Tennis Ball Tussle'** against robots designed by other schools. **They won!**

Our **Year 9** team: **Mathew Fowler, Tom Hake, Owen Sandford** and **Alex Wooley-Carroll** reached the semi-finals and gained valuable experience for next year. Year 10 were awarded £750 worth of equipment and will be competing in the regional finals. The goal is to be crowned ultimate champions!





**The Big
Bang**
North West

Big Bang Fair North West

The Science department's reputation for innovation and providing first hand experience for students underpinned the Year 9 visit. The emphasis of the exhibition, which was organised by Engineering UK, was on providing interactive activities in DNA studies, future-electronics, new technology, radiography and forensic science. Clearly, it was a valuable experience as students reported,

“ I enjoyed
having a go
at the robots ”

“ We learnt about
apprenticeships
and bursary
funded courses ”

“ I've never seen
a 3D printer
before. It was
very impressive ”



What are they up to now?



All Saints Catholic High School

A Business & Enterprise College

SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS

STUDENTS NAME:	Danielle Byrne
PRIMARY SCHOOL:	<i>Holy Angels</i>
GCSEs	<i>English Language /English Literature Maths /Science /History /Geography /Textiles</i>
LEVEL 3 QUALIFICATIONS:	<i>English Textiles History</i>
UNIVERSITY:	<i>Liverpool Hope University (BA QTS)</i>
WHAT ARE THEY DOING NOW?	<i>Head of Primary School in Qatar Saudi Arabia. House Mistress/Primary School Teacher in China</i>
ADVICE FOR OTHER STUDENTS:	<i>Take every opportunity with enthusiasm. Seize every moment with determination and enjoy every minute.</i>



STUDENTS NAME:	Luke McVey
PRIMARY SCHOOL:	<i>St Peter & Pauls Primary</i>
GCSEs	<i>Maths C /English B /Engineering B /R.E. C /Science B /P.E. B</i>
LEVEL 3 QUALIFICATIONS:	<i>Science Distinction Sport Distinction* Business Distinction</i>
WHAT ARE THEY DOING NOW?	<i>Walton Hospital I am earning as I learn and my objective is to become a Clinical Health Support Worker.</i>
ADVICE FOR OTHER STUDENTS:	<i>Work hard and make the right choice. Do something you really enjoy.</i>



STUDENTS NAME:	Peter Bell
PRIMARY SCHOOL:	<i>St Mary's</i>
GCSEs	<i>English Language C /English Literature C /Maths C /Performing Arts B /ICT Merit /R.E. C</i>
LEVEL 3 QUALIFICATIONS:	<i>BTECH Double Business Distinction * BTECH Media Production Distinction</i>
UNIVERSITY:	<i>John Moores University Graduated</i>
WHAT ARE THEY DOING NOW?	<i>Married and working for the Nationwide Building Society. Started my Master Degree in September in Law and hope to do my PHD.</i>
ADVICE FOR OTHER STUDENTS:	<i>Never give up. The more you learn, the more you earn. You can achieve anything if you put your mind to it.</i>



New Science Laboratories

During the summer break our **Science Department** has been completely redesigned. Specialist laboratories now replace the former open plan design. This new environment is proving popular with students and staff as it is both practical and very conducive to learning.

Duke of Edinburgh Awards

In **September 2015** 22 students from **year 10** enrolled at **Bronze Award Level**. This involves going the extra mile, gaining new skills, pushing yourself physically, helping others and exploring new territories. At the same time, young people gather friendships, experiences and memories that will last a lifetime. The journey began in October with a weekend expedition to the **Welsh Clwydian Hills** and is due to complete next March. Further dispatches to follow!

Studying for Success: Homework

Self-discipline, hard work and consistent effort with study beyond school are all needed for examination success. Homework timetables are now available on the school website. Please check that your son/daughter completes their homework. Study facilities are available in school both before and at the end of the school day.

Primary Students attend Saturday Masterclasses

Students joining **All Saints** will experience academic challenge; discover opportunities in performing and creative arts; and receive coaching across the varied sporting and athletic disciplines. As a foretaste, literacy, numeracy and science masterclasses will start in **November** for able students from our associated **Catholic** primary schools.

Sporting Champions

At any one time All Saints has many championship winning teams. Here are the current honours held:

- Year 7 Boys Knowsley Indoor Athletics Champions
- Year 7 & 8 Boys Knowsley Indoor Cricket Champions
- Year 7 Knowsley Basketball Champions
- Year 8 Knowsley Basketball Champions
- Year 7 Knowsley Netball Champions
- Year 8 Knowsley Netball Champions
- Year 10 & 11 Knowsley Netball Champions
- Year 7, 8, & 9 Girls Knowsley Badminton Champions
- Year 7 & 8 Boys Knowsley Tennis Champions
- Year 8 & 9 Boys Knowsley Cross Country Champions

Already this term we can add two further successes.

Knowsley Netball Champions Years 10 and 11



For the second year running All Saints Girls are Knowsley Champions. Congratulations to the winning team, which can be truly described as 'formidable'!



Spectators Welcome All Saints to Premier League

The excellent facilities at All Saints continue to be the home ground for Kirkby Boys Football Team. All members of the Kirkby community are welcomed as spectators on Saturday mornings with the chance to watch the next generation of potential football stars. Players such as Leighton Baines, Rickie Lambert and Craig Noone all started their journeys to the Premier League at Kirkby Boys.

Leighton and Craig, of course, also honed their skills at All Saints!

Merseyside Cup Year 8 Boys

All Saints Year 8 Boys defeated local rivals Maricourt 4-2. Despite being 0-1 down the team showed great resilience and character. **Jack Delaney** scored a hat trick and **Kian Bell** also scored.



Key Dates

Term Dates

Autumn Term 2015:

3 September	Pupils return to school
26-30 October	Half Term
18 December	School closes for Christmas
Staff Training	1 and 2 September (<i>school closed</i>)

Spring Term 2016

4 January	Pupils return to school
15-19 February	Half Term
24 March	School closes for Easter
Staff Training	12 February (<i>school closed</i>)

Summer Term 2016

12 April	Pupils return to school
30 May - 3 June	Half Term
19 July	School closes for Summer
Staff Training	11 April (<i>school closed</i>)