

# Saint John Wall Catholic School

## A Catholic School For All



### Mission Statement

'To educate each and every unique child in our care to hear and respond to what God calls them to be'



Issue 26

Weekly Information Bulletin

Date: Friday 1 April 2022

**Catholic Life - This year 's theme is based on the Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13)**

**Termly theme: Achievement (rocky soil)**

**Termly SJW values – Learned and Wise**

Generous God, We thank you, and we praise you, for we are surrounded by your abundant gifts. The table you have laid is piled high, and yet too many people are turned away from the feast. Work through us, we pray, so that, as the tiny acorn becomes the mighty oak, our small acts of love may grow, bringing hope of a world transformed, where all may eat their fill.

Amen.

### Important Dates to Note

- **Year 8 and Targeted Year 9 Parents' Afternoon**  
Thursday 7 April 2022 – 3.00pm to 4.30pm
- **Easter Holiday**  
Monday 11 April 2022 to Friday 22 April 2022
- **May Day Bank Holiday**  
Monday 2 May 2022
- **Election Day – Remote learning from home**  
Thursday 5 May 2022
- **Year 11 Reward Trip to Alton Towers**  
Thursday 5 May 2022 – 9.15am to 4pm
- **Travel & Tourism Blackpool Trip – (12 Year 10 pupils)**  
Thursday 5 May 2022 – 8.30am to 5pm
- **GCSE/AS/BTEC External Examinations begin**  
Monday 16 May 2022

### Year 8 Pathways & Targeted Year 9 Parents' Afternoon

This will take place next week Thursday starting at 3pm to 4.30pm. We strongly urge all parents of Year 8 pupils to attend as this will be a great opportunity to see the progress your child is making and to ask questions to their subject teachers.

Last week you received your Pathways booklets. It is very important you take these home and discuss your preferences with your family. Parents' Afternoon is taking place on Thursday 7 April. Please bring your Pathways booklet with you. The deadline to hand in your preferences sheet to Mr Lloyd-Price or Ms Hanson is Friday 8 April.

If you have any questions about specific subjects, please speak to the teacher listed at the bottom of each subject page.

If you have any questions about the Pathways process, please speak to Ms Hanson, Mr Lloyd-Price or Mrs Chand.

### Jewellery Sale

Thank you to Mrs Forde for the jewellery sale last week for Mother's Day and a contribution from the sale of £50 was donated to the school fund.



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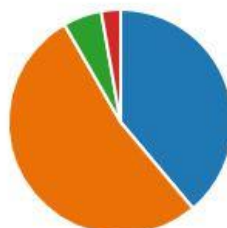
## Year 11 Parents' Evening

Year 11 Parents' evening took place on Wednesday 30 March and we had a high number of parents in attendance, with 85% attendance overall. It was a great opportunity to speak to parents about Year 11 grades and post-16 options. Thankyou to all parents and carers who attended. Some of the parent survey results are shown below.

By Miss Fox-Roberts

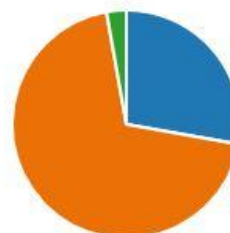
2. I find the newsletter interesting and informative.

Strongly Agree	14
Agree	19
Disagree	2
Strongly Disagree	1



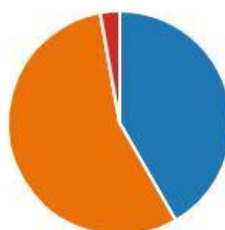
3. The school's Catholic ethos, values and attitudes have a positive impact on my child.

Strongly Agree	10
Agree	25
Disagree	1
Strongly Disagree	0



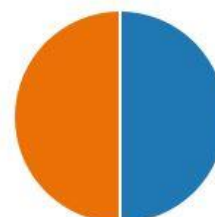
4. My child feels safe at school.

Strongly Agree	15
Agree	20
Disagree	0
Strongly Disagree	1



5. Myself and my child are aware of the behaviour and attendance expectations at Saint John Wall.

Strongly Agree	18
Agree	18
Disagree	0
Strongly Disagree	0



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## Lent

Lent is a time of giving; we can give money through acts of charity. We can also give time. This week, we gave our time to two separate groups. These were Amani – Centre for Street Children and St Chad's Sanctuary.

We look forward to continuing to work in our local community throughout the rest of the year.

### Amani – Centre for Street Children

Representatives of Amani visited Saint John Wall this morning to talk to a group of pupils. Amani is a social organisation that helps youth and homeless children.

Children stay in a shelter for a small amount of time to earn an education and eventually move back to their families.

*"I feel very grateful to have an education and some children in Tanzania don't because they are homeless."*

By Erika Dovleag 7HAY



By Mrs Crooks

### Year 7 Trip to St Chad's Cathedral

On Friday pupils from Year 7 visited St Chad's Sanctuary in the City Centre. The pupils learned about the refugee crisis and gave food donations from school which will be given to some of the most vulnerable people in our society.

*"I thought the trip was very interesting and helped us to understand how asylum seekers need help from St Chad's Sanctuary."* By Miradi Pembele 7HAY

*"When we went to St Chad's Sanctuary I learned that they help refugees and asylum seekers by giving them food and clothing. They also provide hygiene products. I felt sorry for those who have to struggle when they come to our country but I'm glad that the volunteers can help them. The volunteers seemed really nice."*

By Africa Beauty Garcia George 7HAY

*"Today we went to St Chad's Sanctuary where people help refugees in need. The Sanctuary needs more donations so we hope people can bring in hygiene products for men, women and children as well as clothing."* By Deborah Agbolade 7PAW

*"When we went to St Chad's Sanctuary I felt shocked because I never knew that they needed so much help to support refugees. Abbie who is the manager there said that they are running out of some things and need donations of toothpaste, deodorant and things. They help the needy."* By Maja Karwanska 7PAW





## CAFOD Walk Against Hunger

Lombeh, the third child of Amie and Borbor, was malnourished. She was so tiny that a bracelet her mother Amie bought for her at the time now fits round her thumb. Amie and Borbor left no stone unturned to find help, but to no avail. Amie saw a group of new mothers coming along the road, their babies all healthy, and asked where they had come from. They told her about the Sisters. Amie went straight there. Even though they feared there was no hope for little Lombeh, they gave her benny mix – a local weaning food. Lombeh immediately began to improve. Now, aged five, Lombeh is a lively and energetic little girl, who can't believe the stories her mother tells her about when she was a baby.

As a school we have now walked 100km! Well done to all who have taken part so far. If you are able to sponsor our pupils and donate to our cause, please use the link below:

<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/saint-john-wall-catholic-school-walk-against>

Our Year 8 One World Group also met this week to discuss the progress of their campaign, and to also organise and discuss our action plan for the Live Simply Award that we are taking part in over the next few years. More information to follow!

## One World- Live Simply Corner

One way to live simply is to reduce the amount of meat that we eat each week.

Here is a great recipe to try at home:

<https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/sweetcorn-and-sweet-potato-fritters/>

## By Mrs Ellis

Next week, we will continue giving our time and money to those who need it most as we take part in our whole school sponsored walk. This is taking place on Friday 8 April. As a school we are trying to walk 200km as we 'Walk Against Hunger' with CAFOD.

Please sponsor your child for this walk, donate using our Just Giving Page:

<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/saint-john-wall-catholic-school-walk-against>

## By Mr Price



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## Solutions Not Sides

On Thursday, Year 9 had the opportunity to welcome Solutions Not Sides into school. Solutions Not Sides is an organisation that visits schools to talk about the conflict in the Middle East and discuss possible solutions without picking sides. The pupils were able to listen to Laura and Sharon, our visiting speakers, explain the history and root of the conflict between Palestine and Israel. Pupils listened to two videos showing the lives of two civilians affected by the conflict. These two civilians then dialed into the session via Zoom and our pupils were lucky enough to ask them questions about their experiences. It is very rare to have this opportunity and our pupils rose to the challenge asking some thought-provoking questions about what is happening in the Middle East. These questions included: 'How do you think the media contributes to this conflict?' 'Why do countries fund these armies when it is clear the conflict should stop?' and 'How are you fighting for peace?'.

Our visitors and staff praised Year 9 for their excellent behaviour in the session and their thought-provoking questions. Our Year 9 pupils considered how some of these solutions can be used across the world and applied to different situations. If you would like to know more information about Solutions Not Sides, please visit their website: <https://solutionsnotsides.co.uk/>

### Comments from pupils:

*"I became more educated on the situation between Israel and Palestine and what solutions there can be".*

**By Sophia Baloghova 9WIO**

*"I have learnt all people are the same no matter what culture, religion and so on. We must try and keep peace wherever we can".*

**By Emmanuel Ifeosame 9OWE**

*"I learnt how the Israelis and Palestinians have set aside their differences and come up with a solution to stop the conflict".*

**By Laaiba Akhtar 9OWE**

## The Great British Spring Clean

Year 8 have taken part in The Great British Spring Clean today. We were pleasantly surprised to see that our playgrounds were quite tidy and think the addition of our new blue bins have made it much easier for pupils to take care of their environment. We should be proud that we are caring for our environment as well as we are but we must remember to encourage everyone to use the bins! Every little helps!

**By Mrs Clayton**



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## Man Made Youth

Autin Dance Theatre's little brother company Man Made Youth are back with a **FREE** artistic programme for young men aged 12+ which includes dance and physical theatre workshops, creating indoor and outdoor work, as well as exploring digital programmes and screen dance.

They are currently inviting young dancers and interested participants to sign up to their Easter half-term intensive. It is open to all abilities. Any access requirements can be communicated in the registration form below.

The intensive will take place from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April to Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April at Midlands Arts Centre, MAC Birmingham. The 4-day residency will be in the English Studio and will run from 10AM to 4PM.

Each intensive is led by inspiring male role models in the industry to offer young dancers the opportunity to learn and create with professionals and to support your creative journey.

SIGN UP NOW: [bit.ly/manmade2022](https://bit.ly/manmade2022)

### Twitter

@autindt's youth dance company @ManMadeYouth are back with their FREE artistic programme for boys aged 12+ this Easter!

Monday 11th - Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April / 10am-4pm / @mac\_birmingham

SIGN UP NOW: [bit.ly/manmade2022](https://bit.ly/manmade2022)

#dance #physicaltheatre #screendance #performance

**MAN MADE YOUTH**

ARTISTIC PROGRAMME FOR BOYS AND YOUNG MEN\* FROM BIRMINGHAM AND THE WEST MIDLANDS (12+) IN DANCE AND PHYSICAL THEATRE WITH CHOREOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS, LIVE PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES AND DIGITAL ARTS.

**COMING SOON:**  
EASTER BREAK  
MONDAY 11TH TO THURSDAY 14TH APRIL 2022  
10AM - 4PM

**At English Studio, Midlands Arts Centre  
MAC Birmingham, Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham B12 9QH**

INFO: [HELLO@AUTINDT.CO.UK](mailto:HELLO@AUTINDT.CO.UK)  
SIGN UP: [BIT.LY/MANMADE2022](https://bit.ly/MANMADE2022)

Logos at the bottom: One Dance UK Member, dx, Birmingham City Council, Arts Council England, mac Midlands Arts Centre, CC, and AUTIN DANCE THEATRE.



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