

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 18

Weekly Information Bulletin

Date: Friday 27 January 2023

Catholic Life - This year we are focusing on 'The Year of Sanctuary'.

Termly theme: Peace

Termly SJW Values – Eloquent and Truthful

This week in Weekly Worship... pupils focused on Holocaust Memorial Day which is today. Pupils listened by learning about what genocide is and were given examples of genocides that have happened around the world. The theme of this year's Holocaust Memorial Day focuses on ordinary people. Pupils responded by understanding that they are all ordinary people who are able to stand up to challenge prejudice and hatred. They were then able to go forth and think about how they as ordinary people can do extraordinary things. In form time, pupils watched video footage showing Auschwitz concentration camp as it is today. They reflected on how it made them feel, what they noticed about the conditions and what life must have been like for people there.

During Weekly Worship, "We remembered the loss of 6 million people and did it together as ordinary people." **Yoosuf Bouterse 9RES**

"The video made me feel remorse for the prisoners. I can't imagine what it must have been like for the victims." **Grace Irwin 9RES**

"The conditions are really bad and it looks terrible. Life would have been very rough for people that were kept there." **Malkia Reid 9RES**

This week in Afternoon Prayer... pupils prayed for Chinese New Year. This took place last Sunday. Pupils also prayed for Values@Day which took place on Tuesday. In this prayer, pupils reflected on how the various activities throughout the day can help them to make peace, create peace and be an example of peace. Pupils also prayed our St John Wall prayer. Towards the end of the week, pupils prayed for Holocaust Memorial Day which is taking place today. This enabled them to reflect on the events of the Holocaust.

"Afternoon prayer gives you time to reflect on new things." **Richard Oye 8PAW**

"I like how afternoon prayer is different everyday and always has a meaning." **Silvia Nah 8GRE**

NEU Teacher Strike - 1 February 2023 - confirmation of arrangements

The school has 26 teacher members of the NEU who may decide to take strike action on Wednesday 1 February. These teachers are not obliged to inform me whether they will strike or not, however, a number of them have indicated to me what their intentions will be. This has helped with carrying out a risk assessment to determine how the school can safely educate your children. There will need to be some changes but I am pleased to inform you that all children will be able to attend for at least part of the school day. In addition, pupils who are eligible will be able to receive a free school meal. In last week's newsletter I told you the draft proposals and am now able to confirm that the arrangements for next Wednesday should be as follows:

1. Year 7 pupils attend normal school hours wearing PE kit and bringing their normal school bag and equipment
2. Year 8 pupils attend school for the normal start time. Year 8 will complete assessments, have lunch and then leave the school site between 12.15 and 12.30 to revise at home for the afternoon. Year 8 pupils should wear normal, full school uniform and bring their equipment for assessments.
3. Year 9 pupils attend normal school hours wearing PE kit and bringing their normal school bag and equipment
4. Year 10 pupils revise at home in the morning for assessments. They then attend school for lunch between 12.00 and 12.30pm and complete assessments, finishing at the normal school end time. Year 10 pupils should wear normal, full school uniform and bring their equipment for assessments.
5. Year 11 pupils attend normal school hours, wearing full school uniform. Year 11 pupils should bring revision materials with them to school and also bring their PE kit to school.
6. There will be no supper club after school on Tuesday 31 January and Wednesday 1 February.

If any additional information comes to light next week, I will endeavour to inform you at the earliest opportunity if the above arrangements need to change. Thankyou for your patience and co-operation with these plans. **Miss Marston**



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Attendance – school awards received

Congratulations and a huge thank you to all those who are working towards improved attendance at Saint John Wall Catholic School!

Thank you to all parents, carers and pupils for promoting excellent school attendance which has meant we have been successful in being awarded these certificates! Top 25% of all schools in England, and top 10% of similar schools. Keep up the good work!

Mrs Crooks



Expectations

At Saint John Wall we expect all our pupils to aim for a minimum of 95% attendance, and we would like to congratulate the many parents and carers who make sure their children attend school regularly. We all know that absence disrupts the education of the individual pupil and in some cases the whole class.

Good habits

We foster our young people's gifts and talents so they are equipped with skills, knowledge and qualifications to create opportunities to be able to respond to God's calling.

This means that we aspire to give every child the opportunity to explore their vocation in life and practice key skills specifically being in school every day and on time. Good attendance ensures our pupils achieve their best both academically and personally, and also demonstrates reliability which will help prepare children for life beyond education and looks positive to future employers.

Our focus on the behaviour and attitudes of our young learners is supported by our personal development curriculum which gives pupils opportunities during the academic year to participate in workshops, collective worship, theme days, visiting speakers which offers pupils meaningful opportunities to reflect on their own journeys as well as hear from aspirational speakers whose own work ethics underpin the values we place on being in school every day.

Ultimately, we aim to prepare pupils for being active, generous and compassionate citizens, to be equipped with skills and knowledge to be active, valuable and reliable members of their community as well as stable employees in the world of work.

Punctual and regular attendance is an essential requirement for successful learning.

You need to be in school to achieve your best.

Pupils that are in school every day and on time are rewarded through our positive points system, year group rewards celebrations and form group celebrations each term. The pastoral team use attendance data to decide if pupils can attend trips.





Year 8 & Year 10 Assessment Week

Period	Monday 30 January	Tuesday 31January	Wednesday 01 February		Thursday 02 February	Friday 03 February	Monday 06 February
1 9:15 Start	Spanish Reading f/h 45 Mins French Reading f/h 45 Mins Polish Listening 1 Hour	RE 1 Hour	P1 (Year 8) 9:15 - 10:15	Year 8 Science 1 hour calculators	PE 1 Hour Sport 1 hour Music 1 hour 15 mins	History 1 Hour 15 mins	Art Assessment All Day
Break					Break		
2 10:50 Start	Maths (Higher Only) 45 Mins	Geography 1 hour10 mins	P2 (Year 8) 10:50 - 12: 00	Year 8 RE 1 hour	Science Combined 1 hr Calculators F/H SEPARATE Biology P2 1 Hour 45 Mins	Performing Arts 1 hour 15 mins Spanish Writing f/h 1 Hour 15 mins French Writing f/h 1 hour 15 mins	
			12:00 - 12:30 Lunch Year 8 and 10				
Period 3 12:05	Hosp. and Catering 2 hours 30 mins T1	IT 1 Hour	P3 (Year 10) 12:30 - 13:30	English Lit 1 Hour		Health and SC 1 Hour Computer Science 2 Hours	
12:35	Year 8 Maths F/H 45 Mins						
Lunch			13:30 - 13:45 Break		Lunch		
4 13:45 Start	Hosp. and Catering 2 hours 30 mins T1 Design Technology 1 hour 15 mins	Business 1 Hour	P4 (Year 10) 13:45 - 15:15	Maths 1 hour 30 Mins NON Calculator	Year 8 English 45m	Computer Science 2 Hours	

Remember on **Wednesday 1 February** some teachers will be on strike so Year 8 attend 8.50am to 12.15pm for assessments and lunch, then go home to revise.

Year 10 pupils revise at home in the morning and attend school at 12.00 for lunch then assessments.

Year 7, 9 and 11 pupils attend a full school day – see item on the front page of this newsletter about what to wear and what to bring to school.



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Catholic Life

St Mary's Coffee Morning

Today's visit to St Mary's has been a busy one. There was a big focus on fundraising for research into dementia with a bring and buy sale, an auction and a huge raffle. Pupils were using their finest tidying up skills as well as washing and drying up many, many mugs and plates. Next week there is a visiting speaker to share information about memory changes. Information about dementia can be found in the link below.

<https://www.dementiafriends.org.uk/>

By Mrs Clayton



Year 7 Chaplaincy Team

This term our Chaplaincy team are helping our local community by supporting St Vincent de Paul's 'Keep the Lifeline' Campaign. This campaign calls on the government to help families who are struggling due to the recent economic crisis. As a group, we discussed why it is important to help those who are struggling financially and spoke about what we can do to help. As well as this, pupils have been planning for CAFOD's 'Big Lent Walk.' This is a CAFOD challenge that helps to raise money for poverty by walking 200km over 40 days. Pupils have been discussing why we should take part in this and how they will get the message out in school. They have started this discussion by creating some bidding prayers for their weekly worship.



#Pray24Brum

On Friday 20 January, a group of pupils gathered in the Chapel to take part in #Pray24Brum. Each year during Christian Unity Week, Birmingham Churches Together provide an opportunity to celebrate unity across different Christian traditions. The theme of this year's prayer relay was 'Do Good, Seek Justice'. The relay ran for 24 hours with each hour of prayer being led by a different group.



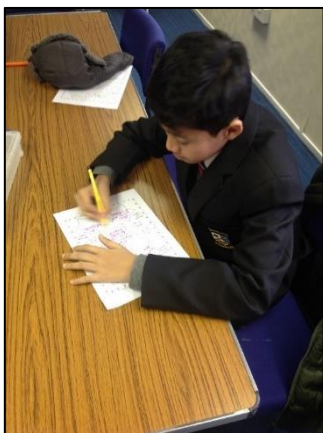
Year 8 Sanctuary Team

Our Sanctuary Team started the new school term by discussing the Catholic Social Teaching of peace. Pupils were able to think back to their first Weekly Worship to define what peace meant to them and have used the Youcat books to discover scripture that has helped them with their own understanding of peace. This month the Sanctuary Team has also helped to prepare for our school's Values@Day, creating resources on the theme of *Isolation*.



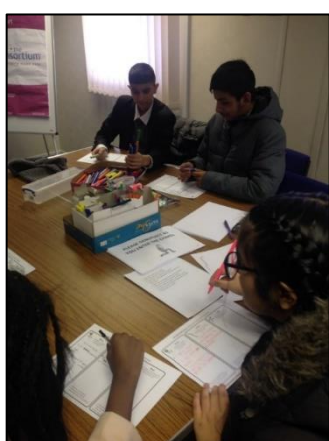
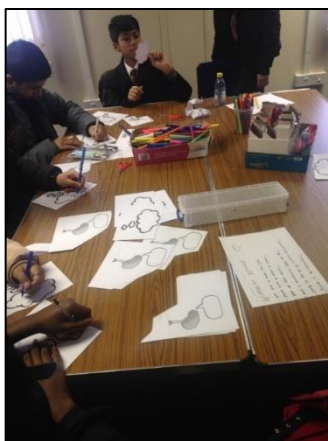
Chapel at lunch times

There have been a range of activities in the Chapel at break and lunch times so far this term. When pupils came back in January, they spoke about the New Year and reflected on what went well last year and what goals they had for the upcoming year.



Mindful Monday

Pupils have been taking part in lots of different activities for Mindful Monday including mindful word searches and different reflections. Reflections have included pupils answering different questions about what mindfulness is to them and what techniques they use to be mindful. Pupils have also filled in reflection sheets allowing them to focus on successes, challenges and any new ideas for the future.



Peace

So far this month, there has been a large focus on peace in the Chapel, as this is our new Catholic Social Teaching theme. Pupils have discussed what peace means to them, how they can keep in peace in school and what they do to find peace themselves. Pupils did this by colouring in pictures of the world whilst thinking about world peace and writing their own thoughts onto a dove, which is a symbol of peace.



Worship Wednesday

As part of Worship Wednesday, pupils have been looking at the Gospel readings each week. At the beginning of the term, pupils discussed the Baptism of Jesus. As part of their coloring in exercise, pupils also discussed the importance of water and thought about the many ways that they can use and save water. More recently, Worship Wednesday focused on the Third Sunday in Ordinary time. Pupils thought about what we can do to help when people are sad or lonely and how they can shine their light for others.



CAFOD activities

Pupils also spent some time exploring the work of CAFOD. We used one of CAFOD's online games, the paper plane unfair game in which pupils had to try and make a paper plane with their non-dominant hand. However, other things such as time were up against them. The aim of this was for pupils to think about what it can be like for individuals who have everything rigged against them and how life isn't always fair. We discussed the work of CAFOD and the groups of people that CAFOD can help.



Year 8 One World Group

This month our Active Travel Ambassadors have been out within our school community to ask big questions on the way in which we travel to and from school. They have also completed a school audit.

At the moment, the vast majority of pupils travel to school either through walking, or getting the school bus. The team have now been challenged to come up with some ideas on how we can reduce traffic on the road outside of school, and encourage pupils to walk for part of their journey to school.

Next month we will be sharing with you the importance of *Active Travel*, and share some of the work the group has been doing alongside the department for Transport.

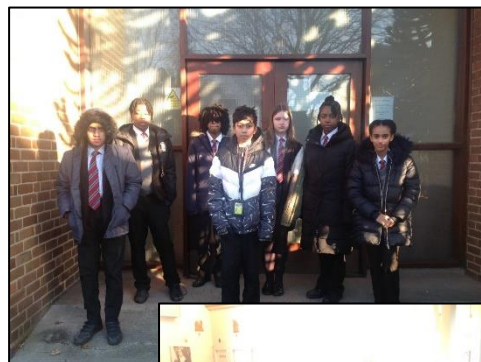


Visit to St Teresa's Church Perry Barr

Pupils from Year 7 have visited St Teresa's Parish Church in Perry Barr, having the opportunity to experience Mass in the local community as well as meet Fr Peter and some of the parishioners. All of the pupils really enjoyed their time at the church.

"It was very peaceful." **By Julia Kaza 7REG**

"It was a good time to think and reflect." **By Javon Dillon 7REG**



Trip to Saint Chad's Sanctuary

Pupils from Year 7 were able to visit Saint Chad's Sanctuary, a charity in the heart of Birmingham City Centre. They were given a tour and were able to hear more about what the charity is doing to help support refugees and asylum seekers new to our city. We are so grateful to everyone who is still sending in clothing donations for the charity and we will continue to take those with us at the beginning of each month. Thank you for your support!



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Every Monday afternoon pupils are invited to the school Chapel for Eucharistic Adoration. Adoration is a centuries old tradition within the Catholic faith. Our pupils are encouraged to spend time in silence before the Eucharist, as well as listen to scripture and a reflection.



By Mrs Ellis and Mr Lysaght



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Values@Day – Year 7

On values@ day, Year 7s were focusing on developing a project to help make a difference in our local community in the fight against climate change. We had visitors come in from the Young Green Britain Challenge, and pupils were challenged to find out what problems we are facing in our community related to climate change, what are the causes, and what are the effects. They completed problem trees, developed a project, and presented it to each other. They will continue working on this project throughout the year, and at the end of it, one team will be able to take part in the national challenge in London! Pupils really enjoyed the day, and the visitors even said SJW had some of the most creative ideas they have heard from all the schools they have visited so far.



"We learnt how global warming is affecting the planet and I enjoyed making creative ideas to tackle the problem."

By Lydia Binyam 7ESM

"I learnt about climate change and what we can do to reverse this. It was a fun day."

By Sameer Sabharwal 7JAS

"I really enjoyed how I was able to expand my knowledge about climate change. I am really looking forward to the young green Britain challenge."

By Gloria Osazemwinde 7JAS



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Values@Day – Year 8

Year 8 worked with visitors from Hyett Education in a robotics workshop where they had the opportunity to create and program their own robots. This forms part of our National Curriculum offer in computing.

Pupils also worked in small groups to focus on our termly theme of peace. This included a session looking at how we can promote peace through the medium of sport.



"It was a very fun day and experience and I learnt a lot – especially about peace and sport"

By Miradi Pembele 8HAY

"The activities that we took part in were very fun."

By Valentina Opoku 8HAY

"I really enjoyed building and programming a robot."

By Ella Prescott-Hopkins 8GRE



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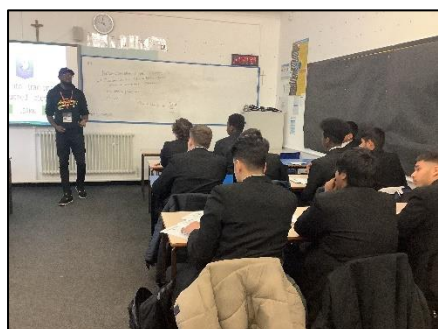


Values@Day – Year 9

Year 9 welcomed Rackeem from Bouncing Statistics who led them in a motivational workshop. They also met Delroy from 2020 Dreams who focused on the concerning issue of County Lines – he discussed the warning signs our pupils should watch out for whilst out and about.

Linking in with our termly theme of peace, pupils focused on different types of conflict around the world and how we can take a stand in solidarity with people who are victims of war.

Mr Woodward, Miss Levine and Mr Lysaght took 40 Year 9 history pupils to the Birmingham Police Museum in town. Pupils had a fantastic day looking and learning about how crime and punishment has changed throughout time, how policing has changed and the history of the Birmingham lock up.



"I really enjoyed the trip. It was interesting to see the cells where prisoners were held, and learn about all the different types of crime throughout time."

By Mercedes Johnson 9WOO

"I had an enjoyable time. I got to look at cool drones, and how small the cells were, and also solve a burglary crime"

By Jalal Aziz 9BAR

"I had a really good day and learnt all about the history of the police force in Birmingham."

By Kelly Odiase 9BAR



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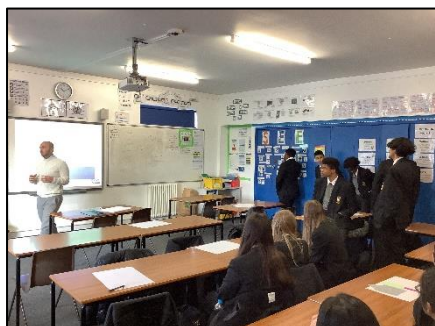
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Values@Day – Year 10

Year 10 looked at the dangers of drugs and the internet whilst exploring the theme of inner peace. PC Manns and PC Davis came into school to discuss recent current affairs, with a particular focus on misogyny.

The English department looked at our theme of peace through the medium of poetry. Pupils created their own poems to reflect this theme.



"Thankful for all the visitors who gave presentations on crime prevention, the dangers about drugs. I really enjoyed it."

By Abhishek Sabharwal 10HAL

"I learnt that making peace is one of the best things to do and that we should always try to promote peace to make not only yourself but others feel valued and happy."

By Kyra Mills 10HAL

"I learnt that creating peace is important as well as looking after yourself and not giving into peer pressure."

By Amelia Wrukowska 10GOS



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Values@Day – Year 11

Mr Holder arranged for the Fix-Up Team to present to our Year 11s on their Mock 2 launch day. The team worked with Year 11 motivating them and teaching them new revision techniques.

Pupils also had the opportunity to work with their form tutors discussing different revision techniques.

The day ended with a wellbeing and mental health session which included a guided meditation and a variety of reflective activities.



"I learned that confidence is key to your success as you should focus on your own achievements."

By Julia Zyla 11HIR

"I enjoyed this day and I learnt about the importance of revision and how it can benefit me in the future."

By Neeraj Kaler 11SIM

"I found values day very useful as we learnt lots of useful revision techniques and how to manage our revision."

By Simran Tiwana 11SIM



Year 8 French Restaurant Visit – Tuesday 24 January

On Tuesday 24 January, some Year 8 pupils were invited to a French restaurant for an authentic French breakfast. It took place at the Olive Grove in Cannock where pupils were greeted by waiters in a French themed restaurant.

Firstly, pupils reviewed different table items (i.e. knife, fork, spoon, plate...) and were encouraged to take their chance in trying to recite as many items as they could remember. Muhammad-Sahil Adam was the winner and received a medal!!

Pupils then had to choose their drink and food from a menu and order in French. On the menu were hot chocolate, juice, croissants, pains au chocolat and tartines with a variety of spreads (butter, nutella, honey, jam, etc).

This was a unique opportunity for pupils to test their speaking skills outside of the classroom as they had the opportunity to interact with the waiters on many occasions such as; communicating with the waiters about their food, asking for some refills and participating in some interactive activities.

Pupils have also learned more about the French culture such as what a "tartine" is, French people's food habits and all were able to wear a typical French béret.

I have been amazed by pupils who took part in this activity regarding their enthusiasm, politeness and engagement.

By Miss Gosselin

Studying a language at GCSE can be great for your personal and professional growth as it can teach you a range of skills that you can use later on in life. It strongly contributes to opening up opportunities to new cultural experiences.

Year 8 pupils and parents can discuss choosing French and Spanish with Mrs Wallace, Miss Gosselin, Mr Rosellón or Miss Lally.



"What I enjoyed the most was eating and speaking French the whole time"



"I think my confidence grew using French because I can speak it"



"I enjoyed the pain au chocolat the most in the French breakfast"



Year 11 Travel and Tourism Trip: Back to Back Houses/Ibis Hotel Birmingham

On Tuesday 24 January, a group of Year 11 Travel and Tourism pupils visited the Birmingham Back to Back Houses run by the National Trust and Ibis Hotel New Street Station. Both visits had the aim of enhancing pupil's knowledge of the importance of customer service in the Travel and Tourism industry. This is a topic that pupils are currently studying through their Unit 3 coursework.

Pupils had an enjoyable time reflecting on what good customer service looks like in two different Travel and Tourism settings. In the morning, the pupils were given a guided tour of the Back to back houses right in the centre of Birmingham. These are the cities last surviving court of back to back houses. They are preserved by the National Trust as examples of the thousands of similar houses that were built around shared courtyards, for the rapidly increasing population of Britain's expanding industrial towns. This allowed pupils not only to see the rich story of Birmingham's past but experience a location they had been learning about in class from a customer's point of view. Pupils were learned and wise in using knowledge that they had learnt through their coursework to ask thoughtful questions of the volunteers, who led the Back to Backs guided tours.

In the afternoon pupils visited Ibis Hotel Birmingham New Street station. This allowed them to see customer service from a different point of view. The staff at Ibis Hotel went out of their way to ensure that pupils had a pleasant experience. Pupils were treated to a range of complimentary hot drinks, juices, biscuits, and a selection of pastries!

After this, General Manager, Harpreet made space in his busy day to do a Q&A with the group. Questions asked by pupils ranged from the importance of customer service to Harpreet's experiences in the industry and how he became a General Manager. Harpreet was impressed by the level of questions the pupils were asking. To finish off the afternoon pupils got the chance to play a few games of snooker and have a go on the football table courtesy of the Hotel.

The Travel and Tourism group were grateful for the time and effort that General Manager, Harpreet and team leader Ashraf put in to welcoming us to the hotel.

We thank all the staff at Ibis Hotel for being so attentive and kind.

Pupils had a lot to reflect on during the bus journey home. Here is what a few of them had to say:

"It was fascinating to learn about the History of Birmingham through the Back to back houses."

Mohit Badhan 11BAT

"The trip has made me consider a future in the Travel and Tourism industry."

Zoiya Kaval

"I had so much fun at both the back to back houses and the Ibis hotel. This trip has really helped me to understand the importance of customer service and how different companies can meet the needs of customers."

Maisha Sheikh Mst Begum 11BRE





Head of Year Messages

Year 7

We have been so happy to welcome back Year 7 this new year after a very successful parents' afternoon before the Christmas break. All parents will have received a copy of their child's report. It was wonderful to see so many of you in person to discuss your child's progress and achievement. If there are any parents who would like to speak to the KS3 team regarding their child's report, please contact the school office to arrange a call or meeting.

We are aware that many of our pupils will have received a new electronic device over the Christmas period. If your child has received a new phone, tablet, laptop or smart watch, I urge you to check their security settings and check in with them regarding online safety. All social media platforms come with a 13+ age restriction for good reason, to keep everyone safe. Open conversation is a must when talking to young people about social media to prevent incidents online that can harm or upset others.

We have recently noticed an increase in social media concerns with pupils in Year 7. Please read through the information below regarding how to protect your child online from Youngminds.

1. Have conversations from a young age
2. Lead by example
3. Ask your child about the apps and websites they use
4. Set boundaries - but be realistic
5. Reassure them that they can always talk to you
6. Talk about personal information
7. Talk about social media
8. Talk about gaming
9. Talk about cyberbullying
10. Act on warning signs

For more information please visit: [Social Media & Mental Health](#) | [Guide For Parents](#) | [YoungMinds](#)

By Mrs Ellis

Year 8

Preparations for our upcoming Pathways' Afternoon are now underway, and further information on this will feature in our newsletter each week. With this in mind Year 8 have started a 100% Cooperation week in school. This week focusses on behaviour in lessons and attitude towards those within our school community.

Should a pupil not cooperate in school, you will receive a letter and phone call advising you of this. Please discuss this with your child, as it is very important that they are fully focussed on their upcoming assessments and considering which options would be right for their GCSE's.

While we focus on behaviour in the classroom to support our pupils learning, we would like to ask all parents to speak to their children about their behaviour in the local community. We are very proud of our relationship with the local community and would like this to continue. I would like to remind all pupils that on their journey to and from school, they are representing our school. Please be considerate to those around you on your journeys to and from school and be respectful and polite to all you meet. Should you encounter any antisocial behaviour please report this to the school as soon as possible.

I would like to wish all our Year 8 pupils' good luck with their upcoming assessments next week.

By Mrs Ellis

Year 9

A big, welcome back after the Christmas break. I hope you all had a restful holiday. It was lovely to see all the pupils back ready for this term learning. This term we will be focusing on Sanctuary and our Saint John Wall values will be how to be eloquent and truthful. It will be lovely to see the pupils using these values in their everyday school life.

This week we had our second Values@ day in which the pupils were involved in many activities throughout the day. Some of the sessions were County Lines, Solutions not Sides, Ten Ten, Catholic Social Teaching – pupils' behaviour was excellent with staff and external visitors.

We will be looking this term at how to improve our pupil's attendance, it is important if your child is absent that you call into school in the morning, any medical appointments should be booked afterschool. If this is not possible evidence of appointments needs to be shown to the school office. Attendance is important for your child's education.

Please can parents make sure pupils are bringing in to school their equipment including bag and coat especially as the weather is cold at the moment. I am unfortunately seeing many pupils not following our expectations or standards in their behaviour whether this is in their lesson, break/lunch or during lesson changeover. It is important all pupils are safe and follow our one-way system in school. Punctuality is again a concern, the school day begins at 8.50am so pupils need to be in school before this time.

As always please take care and look after each other.

By Mrs Chand



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Head of Year Messages

Year 10

Welcome back Year 10 and Happy New Year!

During this week we had our second Values@ day. This day has given us the opportunity to broaden our knowledge of key issues that are present in society today. We have had sessions on Amnesty International, the Danger of Drugs, Online safety and our local police officers ran a session on Andrew Tate, as well as looking at Catholic social teaching.

I am pleased to see lots of pupils revising for their whole school assessments next week. Make sure you are completing your Examination Homework booklets. If you need any help with revision or time management, please remember your teachers are here to help you. Make sure you are getting enough sleep so that you can perform at your best in your assessments.

At the end of each school day, it is important that all pupils go straight home as the weather is cold and is dark early - be Safe, Just and Wise.

By Miss Timmins

Year 11

Welcome back after the Christmas break. It seems like a long time ago now, but I hope you are having a wonderful start to 2023! Lots of you have completed applications and have gone to interviews which I have been so proud to see you go off too. I would like to remind anyone who would like help with applications T2 is open during form on Wednesday and Thursday. If you have not been to open days yet, please follow [this link](https://www.birminghamcareersservice.co.uk/open-days/) (<https://www.birminghamcareersservice.co.uk/open-days/>) and it will show you some open day dates for the most popular colleges and 6th forms.

I hope you all enjoyed the Mock 2 Launch during our Values@day on Tuesday 24/01/23- it was lovely to see so many of you involved in the first session with our visitors and I would like to say thank you as we have had some fantastic feedback, the energy in the Gym was amazing!

That leads me onto Mock 2, it is fast approaching and I am sure you may all be aware but please ensure you are revising. This is the last big chance to show us how amazing you are and the progress you have made since Mock 1.

Please remember some of the tips from the wellbeing session you have had around looking after yourself, this is a key part of ensuring you are succeeding.



Have a wonderful week and enjoy the rest of your half term.

By Miss Reynolds

House News

Following many successful house competition entries over the Christmas period last term, I am excited to go into 2023 and see the work produced by forms using teamwork and creativity! Our current competition is the rocket launch competition, in forms pupils will be creating a rocket to be launched on the playground by Mr Hayaat. There will be house points available for best design and highest launch! Use your form time wisely using your science knowledge to create a rocket which will fly high into the air!

We also have our upcoming national football week where we will have X band vs Y band football matches and penalty shoot outs during lunch times. Keep an eye out for announcements for this exciting week in forms Values PowerPoint. Triple house points will be on offer for this week - that could change the leader board very quickly!

As always, thank you to our amazing Year 10 house captains who are working hard to support forms - keep an eye out for them around school wearing their house shirts on Fridays and speak to them for tips and guidance for each competition!

Leaderboard:

1st - Pankhurst
2nd - Gandhi
3rd - John Paul
4th - Mandela
5th - Luther King

By Miss Young



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Stars of the Month

Science

Year 11

Dimitre Vernon 11FOD - for effort and progress

Mohammed Hamzah 11HIR - for working well constantly

Bianca Lole 11BAT - effort and progress

Varlin Kaur 11LAL - excellent numeracy skills in Physics and presentation of bookwork

Daniel McDonough 11SIM - outstanding achievement in class and good bookwork

Year 10

Rashid Ahmed 10HEA - for effort

Sanamdeep Kaur 10HEA - effort and progress

Azhan Faisal –10GOS - excellent attitude to learning

Hannah Khan 10JON - excellent effort and initiative in lessons

Sebastian Paul 10HEA - excellent effort in class and learned and wise

Kyra Mills 10HAL - excellent effort in lessons to complete all tasks

Bethany Goring 10GOS - excellent effort in class to complete all tasks

Abhishek Sabharwal 10HAL - always on task and making progress

Sukhpreet Singh 11HIR - always on task and making progress

Year 9

Kelly Odiase 9BAR - excellent effort and good book work

Nilasha Kanna 9MCI - excellent presentation of book work

Karolina Urbaniak 9BAR - completing all tasks in class / learned and wise

Dilpreet Sandhu 9BAR – prophetic and learned and wise

Yoosuf Bouterse 9RES - always on task and making progress

Denzel Okyei 9MCI - always on task and making progress

Ameira Peart 9MCI - always on task and making progress

Year 8

Priya Kaur 8HAY - for effort and determination

Rayna Jassal 8GRE - effort and progress

Ishmael Clarke 8FOR - outstanding behaviour, book work and effort in class

Borys Morawski 8PAW - always learned and wise in class

Daiana Mancescu PAW - eloquent reading in class

Danvir Bains 8FOR - good book work and completion of all tasks

Riya Bains 8FOR - excellent presentation of work in book

Jaskirat Sahota 8FOR - always on task

Nikodem Siatkowski 8PAW - always on task and making progress

Year 7

Diya Sheemar 7ESM - for effort and progress

Oyinkansola Olayiwola 7JAS - always on task

Favour Basil 7RAH - always on task





Stars of the Month

Humanities and MFL

French

Hamzah Mohammed 11HIR
Muhammad-Sahil Adam 8AHM

Hannah Khan 10JON
Sumrit Lal 8FOR

Salah Alameen 9RES
Jason Nguyen 7RAH

For consistently being learned and wise and for showing excellence in their MFL lesson.

Spanish

Rayna Jassal 8GRE

Sara Antony 7ESM

Khaleel Cunningham 7LEV

For consistently being learned and wise and for showing excellence in their MFL lesson.

By Miss Gosselin

Reciprocal Reading

Sidra Hamarahim 7LEV

Sandra Dawicka 7JAS

Justin Holodeair 8FOR

For fabulous effort and engagement in Reciprocal reading.

Stefan Dahorea 10 JON

Faizal Ahmedzai 10 WIO

Muhammad Atif Hussain 10GOS

For good attendance in Pre-Teach vocabulary.

Lexia

Isaac Masamuna 7REG - making good progress with his handwriting.

Hazem Omar Rahma Ashrafani 8HAY

Valentina Opoku 8HAY

Arashjit Singh 8FOR

Hussain Ahmedzai 8FOR

All the Year 8s are for 'Excellent engagement in their Lexia intervention'.

By Mrs France

Girls PE

Makda Abraha 7LEV - for demonstrating great adaptive skills in football

Kemissa Ible 8PAW - for demonstrating great communication skills for the concept curriculum in volleyball

Deborah Habteab 9WOO - for increasing participation of being an active team member in basketball

Maria Simona Constantin 10JON - developing skills and confidence in basketball





Book Reviews

Hub Pupil Book Reviews

Star for a Day by Jean Ure

"Lacy is a girl who does Clog dancing. Lola is a girl who does Ballet dancing. They both become friends."

Star rating 5/5

By Farha Choglay

Pancake Face by Georgia Byng

*"This book is about a girl called Alice. People call her pancake face because she doesn't have a nose." **Star rating 5/5***

By Sidra Hamarrahim

My Dog Daisy by Jean Ure

*"This book is about a girl that really wants a dog, but her mom won't let her have one. One day she meets a lady and says that they can share looking after her dog. I really enjoyed this book even though it has a sad ending." **Star rating 5/5***

By Zlayka Farooq

Chocolate Wars by Andy Seed

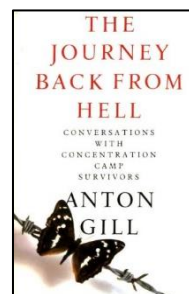
*"This story is about a dying chocolate tree. Some children try to save it because they love to eat chocolate. I recommend this book because who doesn't like to eat chocolate?" **Star rating 5/5***

By Fatoumata Drame

The Journey Back From Hell by Anton Gill

"I have been reading 'The Journey Back From Hell' by Anton Gill. Through extensive interviews and research, Gill has collated the personal testimonies of over 100 survivors of the Nazi concentration camps. Gill wanted to explore how these survivors have come to terms with their ordeals since World War II. Many have never spoken about their experiences to anyone, not even their own families. All have singular tales to tell of the physical and mental aftermath. But, above all, it delivers a message of hope. A harrowing yet inspiring book."

By Ms Flinn



Twilight by Stephenie Meyer

"This book is about a girl who moves home away from her mom because her and her husband are going traveling around the world so she is going to live with her dad and he is a cop. After she arrived her dad greeted her and showed her back to her old room from when she was little. Bella was enrolled to the nearest school in the area. Her dad had bought her a truck from his friend as like a moving in present for going to school. But she meets this boy called Edward Cullens and later on in the story she finds out him and his family are all vampires and she falls in love with him. They end up getting married and she gets pregnant and they have an immortal child but while giving birth she has to change into a vampire to be able to survive as the child was too powerful."

I loved this book as it had interesting dialect and different types of twists and turns in the story."

By Lucy Lloyd 9WIO

Rebecca By Daphne Du Maurier

"The book is absolutely amazing! It wasn't really interesting at the start, and Maxim's attitude got to me numerous times, not going to lie, but the last few chapters changed all my perspectives regarding it as it actually got me gasping and questioning my entire life. It's about a girl, who is a lady's companion, who marries an important man as a result of her going to New York with her lady. She is faced with the constant reminder of the Late Mrs de Winter by Mrs Danvers, the housekeeper."

By Sarah Manu 8MCI

Dork Diaries - Frenemies Forever by Rachel Renee Russell

"I read a book called Dork Diaries. The main character is called Nikki Maxwell. This character is a dork (but not in a bad way). In this story Nikki is being transferred to a school called North Hampton Hills International Academy for one week as part as a student exchange programme. North Hampton Hills (NHH) is a very prestigious school known for its outstanding students. Nikki's nemesis, Mackenzie Hollister started there 2 weeks ago. Nikki meets lots of different people at NHH, a new rival called Tiffany and a lot of people from the science club at their school. I personally liked the part when Nikki's little sister Brianna tries to earn her cooking badge and messes it up most of the time until Nikki and her crush Brandon help Brianna make mini caramel popcorn balls. My favourite character is Mackenzie even though she's a rival of the main character."

By Natasha Glenn 8BRK



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FREE
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THU 26 JAN  Premier League **Kicks** 

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Activities: Football, Dance, Table Tennis & much more

16:00 - 18:00
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B6 6QE
For information contact Kate
kr01@avfc.co.uk

Image credit: Premier League Kicks



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