

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 9

Weekly Information Bulletin

Date: Friday 10 November 2023

**Catholic Life - This year we are focusing on 'Year of Live Simply'.
Termly Theme: The Common Good - Live in Solidarity
Termly SJW Values – Compassionate and Loving**

This week in Afternoon Prayer... *"We prayed for All Saints. We thought about all those Saints in Heaven that are known and unknown. We also reflected on All Souls and thought about all those people who have died. We took time to think about all these individuals. I like Afternoon Prayer because it teaches us about Catholic Life and allows us to think about different people when we pray."*

By Chinomso Isife 7PAL

This week in our Weekly Worship... *"We were reminded about the importance of having the right uniform and equipment including a pen, pencil, ruler, rubber and a purple pen. Weekly Worship also focused on the importance of punctuality and how school we miss out on if we are late. We were also told how to become successful through being the best we can be and that we can achieve through showing respect. I like Weekly Worship as we can communicate with God and talk about lots of different topics."*

By Tobias Kroschen 7HAB

This week, we continued with our class Masses at St Augustine's Church.

"We went to the Church, and it was nice being in the presence of God. I was really happy to be asked to do a reading in the Mass in front of my class."

By Dante Blair 8LEV



Dates to Note

- **Values@Day**
Wednesday 15 November 2023
- **MAD Museum Stratford - 30 Year 7 pupils**
Wednesday 15 November 2023 - 9am to 3.30pm
- **Aston University Campus Experience Day - 30 Year 8 pupils**
Wednesday 22 November 2023 - 9am to 3.10pm
- **Year 7 and Year 9 Assessment Week**
Monday 27 November 2023 to Friday 1 December 2023
- **Year 11 Parents' Evening and invited Year 10s**
Thursday 7 December 2023 – 4pm to 6pm
- **Christmas Jumper Day**
Tuesday 19 December 2023
- **INSET DAY – School Closed to all Pupils**
Friday 22 December 2023
- **Christmas Holidays**
Monday 25 December 2023 to Friday 5 January 2024
- **INSET Day – School closed to all Pupils**
Monday 8 January 2024

Welcome to New Member of Staff

We would like to welcome a new member of staff Miss Götz, who is working with us as a pupil coach.



"I am looking forward to working with pupils individually and in small groups to help motivate pupils and to help them fulfil their potential."



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Raising Money for the British Royal Legion



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Lights, Camera, Action with the BBC

On 26th November we had one of our alumni pupils return to Saint John Wall to work with our Year 10 Performing Arts pupils. Theo Johnson is now a highly successful entrepreneur, film maker and actor. Accompanied by the BBC, pupils took part in a workshop where they learnt about Theo's journey into the industry and how he has made a success of his career. The pupils also learned about the various roles within the BBC, in particular news coverage and the filming equipment. The interview and workshop aired on BBC midlands Newsround on Friday 27 October.

By Mrs Breslin



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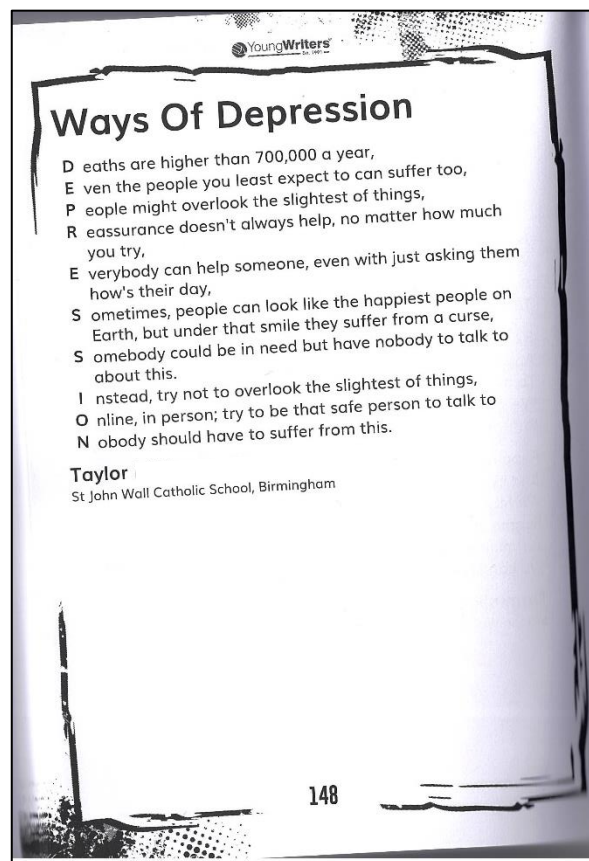
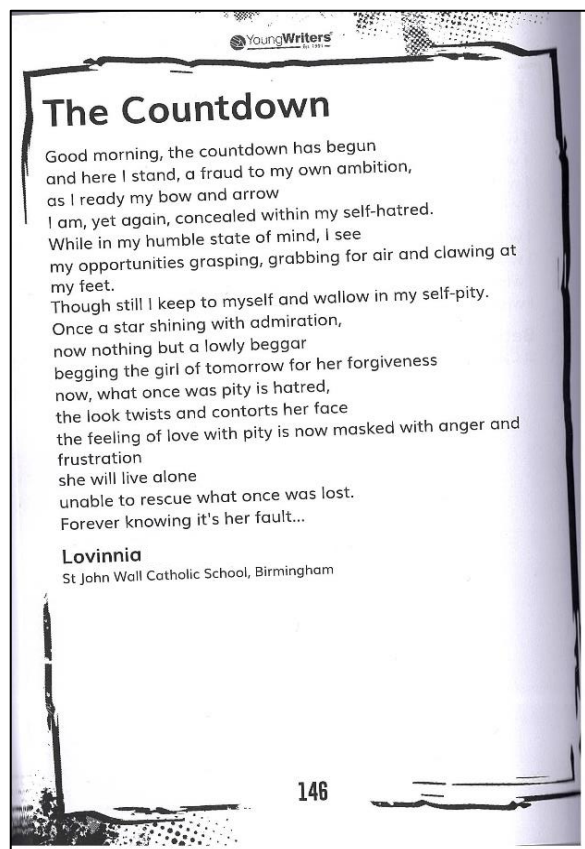
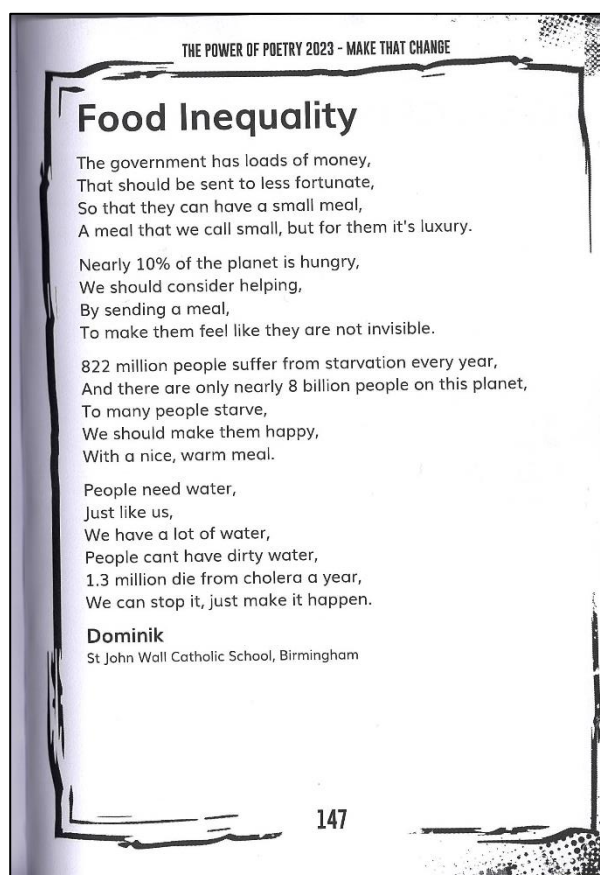


The Power of Poetry

The English Department here at Saint John Wall work with the Young Writer's award to showcase young adults' creativity and imagination through their writing. This can be through poems, short stories, mini sagas etc. The first competition we did here was the Power of Poetry. The pupils were required to write a poem to how we can make a change in the world; to write something you were passionate about. Every teacher used a lesson to Year 7-9 to give our pupils the opportunity to write a poem and send off their entry and many were selected to have their poems published in a hard cover book and also received a certificate for their original writing. It is a nice way to celebrate the talent and dedication of our pupils and we want to continue doing this with the next competition... **The Glitch:** mini saga story writing that is about an ordinary day turning extraordinary (our first dystopian style writing).

Below are the published poems.

By Mrs Heathcote



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THE POWER OF POETRY 2023 - MAKE THAT CHANGE

Sombre

Consumed by isolation,
Surrounded by mere acquaintances,
Trying to piece together the puzzles of my mind.
The sound of silence,
Suffocatingly painful to hear.
Blinded by uncertainty,
With no light to guide me to a brighter path.

The blue moon shining through the bare trees,
Murky fog limiting my glossy vision.
A deep void surrounding me,
Trapping me in the forbidden corners of my mind,
Searching for answers unknown.

Strong-current rivers trek down my flawed face,
Coming to the unwanted realisation,
We all fight our own demons,
But are others fighting against themselves?

Hannah

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THE POWER OF POETRY 2023 - MAKE THAT CHANGE

The Future

People change through the years,
They sometimes are bright like stars,
Or dark like the night,
To be successful,
Study that extra mile,
Don't miss out on opportunities,
Think about your future career,
The talents and gifts you have found,
Will lead you somewhere,
And you'll be confident.

Maja

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YoungWriters

Take Care

Take care of our world
We really need to take care of it
Before it's too late
We should care because the world is God's creation
And we shouldn't destroy it
We should be more appreciative of the world
And not take it for granted
And please take this into your mind
Be more careful
Recycle, don't use plastic as often
Now please, do better
Take care.

Khushdeep

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Refurbishment of our PE Changing Rooms

At the start of the 6 weeks holiday, the changing rooms underwent a huge reconstruction and refurbishment. They have had a complete make over including new benches, clothes hooks and water fountains. The pupils have loved their first week and were mesmerised by the wow factor they had when walking through the door. We have also been provided with a new indoor facility, a studio. This week we have used it for dance club and to introduce boxing to our PE curriculum! Our school is lucky to have received this new, safe, modern space to use during PE, lifestyle and enrichment activities. Thank you to the support staff and everyone involved for all their hard work facilitating this fantastic new area for our pupils.

Miss Heathcote and I have been making use of the new classroom Studio for dance club in preparation for the Christmas pantomime. The space is ideal for girls to be able to showcase their talent and practise before the show!

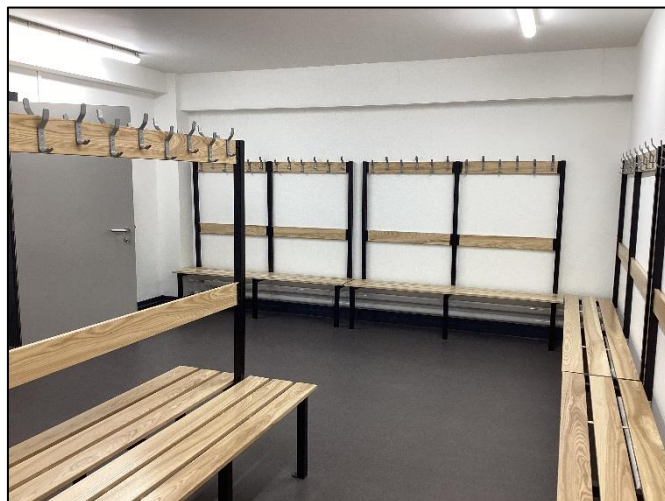
By Miss Young

"It has been really good to use the changing rooms and new studio for dance club with Miss Young and Miss Heathcote. They are very spacious and look amazing."

By Rachel Owusu 8ESM

"The new changing rooms are outstanding, they are very cool because they have water fountains in the wall."

By Akhil Ram 8JAS



Visit to St Mary's Coffee Club

Yesterday, we had a talk from Alzheimer's UK. Pupils were excellent and listened intently. We have several guests with Alzheimer's and dementia who come along with family members who care for them. Pupils showed a great deal of compassion listening to other adults talk about their difficulties and did an excellent job collecting cups and refreshing tea and coffee.

Next week is Tai Chi so pupils will be busy supporting those with mobility issues.

By Mrs Clayton



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- If you don't want to talk to police – contact Fearless online, without giving your name, at www.fearless.org
- Memorise or keep a note of a parent/carer's phone number in a separate place in case of emergency.

YOU CAN HELP US PROTECT AND TRACK YOUR PHONE IF IT'S STOLEN.

HERE'S 3 THINGS YOU CAN DO:

- Your phone will have security features such as a passcode or fingerprint/face ID. Make sure you use it to protect access to your phone.

- Tracker apps can help locate your phone if it's lost or stolen. Ask a parent to show you how to set one up.
- Record the phone's IMEI number in a separate place at home. Find this by typing in ***#06#**. You'll need to give this number to police if it's stolen.

NW031123



KEEPING YOU AND YOUR PHONE SAFE

Getting a phone is really exciting. You can stay in touch with friends and find out more about the world.



As police officers, our job is to keep you safe and stop people who want to steal property like phones, cash, earphones and even expensive coats or trainers.

You can help us do that by being careful where you use your phone and taking care of cash and other valuable items.

5 TIPS TO KEEP SAFE

- Keep your phone and valuables out of sight and in a safe place. Take care when you take them out especially near bus stops and train stations.
- Stay alert and remember earphones/headphones can distract you from being aware of someone approaching from behind you. Thieves can approach on mopeds, e-scooters and pedal cycles.

- Don't fight back, it's not worth the risk when a phone can be replaced.
- Tell us if someone robs you or tries to. It's important you get help straight away by dialling **999** using a friend or trusted adult's phone rather than contacting police when you get home. This gives us the best chance to catch the suspects, recover stolen items and make sure you're safe.



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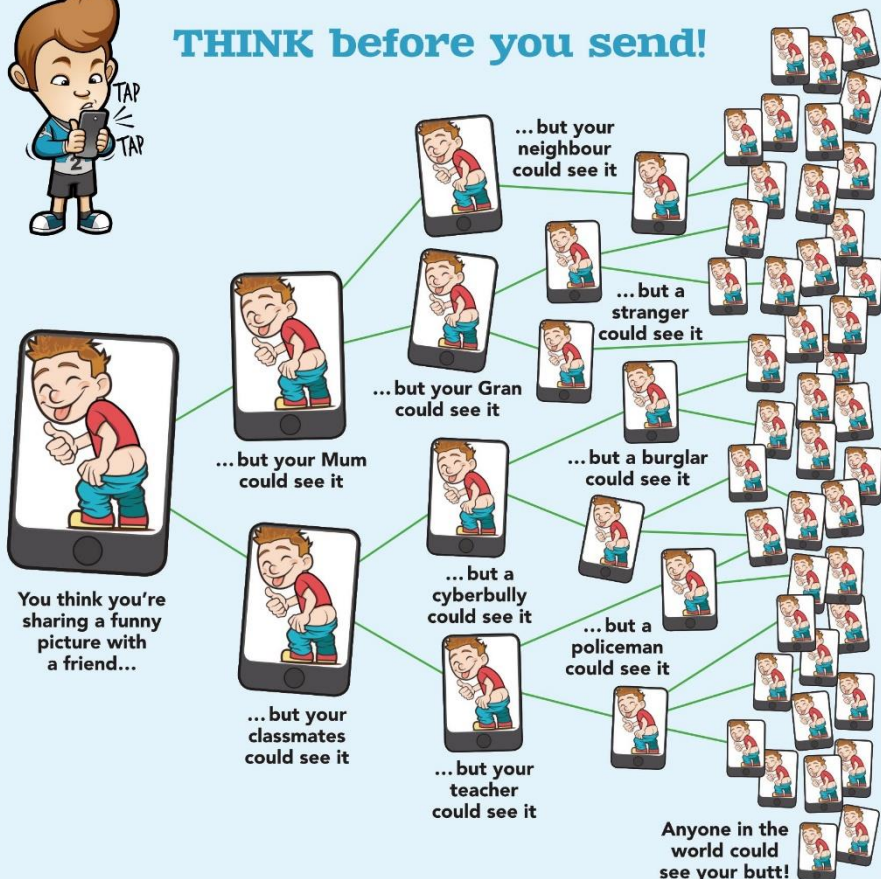


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Parent Guides to Online Safety



THINK before you send!



If you share it, you are involved

If you have, or forward an indecent image of someone under 18, it is a criminal offence. It can affect your future.



scan the QR code with your phone's camera for Parent Guides on how to help keep your children safe online



Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: info@skipsed.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Developed in partnership with



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