

LOVE-RESPECT-FLOURISH

St. Mary's Catholic School Newsletter

Issue 9 - 11th November 2022



***'When you go home, tell them of us and say,
for your tomorrow, we gave our today.'***

Mr Neves, Executive Headteacher

The month of November is dedicated to remembrance. Following All Souls' Day last week, we continue to pray for those near and dear to us who have died; a beautiful book of remembrance has been put together for the St Mary's community, and all those listed will be remembered in prayers in school. However, remembrance takes on a special meaning this week as we prepare for the national Remembrance Day.

On Sunday we expect to see our new King lead the ceremony at the Cenotaph in London, at which we will remember all those who lost their lives in conflicts around the world since the Great War of 1914-18. Before that, today we came together as a school community to commemorate Armistice Day - 11th November - and, as is traditional, held a two minute silence at 11 o'clock in memory of those who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country. The whole school community assembled on the tennis courts, and the ceremony was led by twenty students dressed in the uniforms of their cadet organisations. The Head Pupils laid our wreath at the base of the school cross and led the Bidding Prayers for the community.

The History department then recalled accounts of six people who lost their lives in wars ranging from the Great War, World War Two, the Falklands War, Iraq and Afghanistan. These were deeply moving and personal accounts—the people being direct relations of the speaker.

Anice C in Year 10 then played 'The Last Post' on her trumpet followed by two minutes of silent prayer. Mr Carroll, our Vice-Chair of Governors then took to his bugle to play the 'Reveille' to close proceedings.

At this time of year I am always moved by the famous quote by John Maxwell Edmonds that is traditionally used at Remembrance Day ceremonies:

***'When you go home, tell them of us and say, for
your tomorrow, we gave our today.'***



St Francis of Assisi
CATHOLIC ACADEMY TRUST



Remembrance Day 2022



Remembrance Day is an annual event, where we remember all the people who have lost their lives while serving in the armed forces. It is also called Armistice Day or Poppy Day.

In the UK, Remembrance Day has been a tradition since the end of the First World War. It is also celebrated in many countries across the globe. People from different backgrounds, cultures, and religions come together to honour Remembrance Day.

We remember the bravery and courage of those who fought in the World Wars on Remembrance Day. We also think about the soldiers who are stationed in war zones all around the world and serving in the armed forces today.

Remembrance Day is celebrated every year on the 11th of November. This is because during World War One, the conflict ended "at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month". The Armistice was when the war ended, which is why Remembrance Day is also called Armistice Day.

Wearing a poppy throughout November is another popular way to commemorate Remembrance Day and helps us show our respect for those who have died. The reason poppies are used to remember those who have given their lives in battle is because they are the flowers which grew on the battlefields after World War One ended. The red poppy is a sign of remembrance and a symbol of hope for a peaceful future.



***"They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
We will remember them."***

And so we pray...

God our Father, your Son Jesus gave up His life to free us from the power of sin and death.

He showed us that the greatest love is in giving up one's life for others.

Today we remember those who fought and died for our freedom.
We ask you to bless and console them together with their families.

Help us to understand the sacrifices they made in leaving their loved ones to face the horrors of war.
May we never forget their generosity.

May your Holy Spirit give us the courage to resist evil in all its forms and show us how to be peace-makers through prayer and action, lest we forget those who fought, suffered and died, that we might have the freedom we enjoy today.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.

Amen.



Remembrance Assemblies

This week's assemblies were devoted to a time of reflection in honour of those that lost their lives during the First World War.

St. Mary's Learning Coordinators and student spiritual leaders led their year groups in prayer ahead of Remembrance Day – 11th November 2022.

Students were encouraged to donate to charities by purchasing poppies on site and to watch the live broadcast of Remembrance Sunday over the weekend.

Previous years had seen HRH The Queen Elizabeth lay a wreath on the Cenotaph in London, but this year HRH King Charles III will be marking His first Remembrance Sunday since taking the throne.



Remembrance Sunday
13 November



Photography Club at St Mary's

PHOTOGRAPHY CLUB

Student Report - Luke T, Year 9



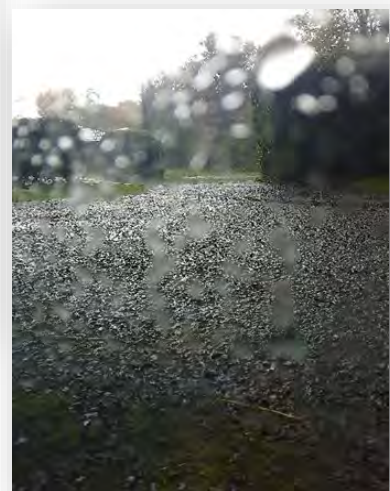
At Photography Club you will be able to learn the basics of photography.



I will teach you all the different techniques that you need to know.
There will then be a competition every term.
This will allow you to show off your skills and learn how to improve.
It is all about getting better and developing your skills.

**Come and join Photography Club, every Thursday
3:15-4:00pm in the Library**

Some examples of the photos entered in our last competition:



Basketball Masterclass



Our Year 7-10 Basketball Teams participated in an after school masterclass session run by Bishop's Stortford Vikings.

The purpose of the session was to provide the students with some specialist basketball coaching and encourage them to take the next step in their development and attend an outside of school Basketball club.

During the masterclass the students honed a range of their skills including passing and shooting. The coaching they received will serve all the teams well for their forthcoming school basketball season.



Year 7 & Year 8 Basketball Teams



Year 9 & Year 10 Basketball Teams

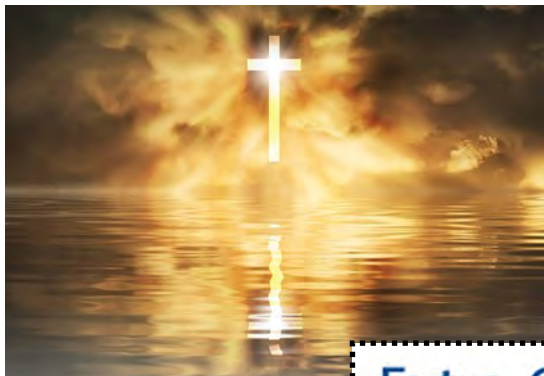


* NEW * Extra Curricular Clubs

Extra Curricular Clubs

This half term we have some new and exciting extra-curricular clubs on offer, such as Drama Games, Spiritual Life Club and an RE Drop-in Clinic.

Come along and join our wide range of activities. Regular attendance at a club will count towards your St Marys Award. Joining a club is an excellent way to meet pupils with similar interests and also take part in life outside the classroom here at St Marys.



Extra-Curricular
Activities
GET INVOLVED!





The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Year 12 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award 2022-2023



Starting in the next couple of weeks the school will once again be running the **Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award**. This opportunity will be for the **current Year 12** students, as they missed out in Year 10 due to the pandemic, and it will also add an excellent enrichment opportunity to their curriculum.

Last year, the school had 55 Year 12 students (current Y13's) complete the Bronze Award and early indications are very positive from the current Year 12 cohort following an Assembly presentation just before the October half term.

All Year 12 students and parents will be sent further details and an application form by email before Friday 18th November and you have **until 6.00pm on Thursday 24th November 2022 to submit your application on the DofE TEAMS Group** which will be set up when the application forms are emailed out.

The official DofE website is an excellent resource for both students and parents to pick up ideas for the first 3 components. The four components of the award for Bronze are:

- ◆ **Volunteering:** Bronze (3 or 6 months)
- ◆ **Physical:** Bronze (3 or 6 months)
- ◆ **Skills:** Bronze (3 or 6 months)
(One section above for 6 months and the **other two** sections for 3 months)
- ◆ **Expedition:** Plan, train for and complete **one Bronze:** 3 day, 2 night **Expedition**

Expedition Dates: 7.30am Thursday 8th June 2023 to 6.00pm (approx!) Saturday 10th June 2023

Mr P Dolman
School DofE Co-ordinator



#REDWEDNESDAY

**BREAK
SILENCE**

23RD NOVEMBER 2022

Red Wednesday 23rd November 2022

There will be an opportunity for students to wear something **Red** on Wednesday 23rd November and donate money to support and remember those that are persecuted for their faith/religion.

More information can be found on the website about how we can support.

<https://acnuk.org/our-campaigns/redwednesday/>

Christmas Card Competition



Calling all Year 7, 8 and 9 Students

DESIGN A CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

Theme: 'The shepherds found Mary, Joseph and the baby' (Luke 2:15-20)

Closing Date is 25th November 2022

Submit your entry to your RE Teacher by the closing date



History & Politics Department News...

Autumn Term Curriculum Topics

Below is a selection of the curriculum topics that our students have been focussed on learning this term in the History and Politics Department.



Year 7 The Roman Empire



Year 8 The Tudors



Year 9 The Great War 1914-1918



Year 10 Medicine c1250-present day



Year 11 The Rise of Hitler & the Nazi's



Year 12 Churchill 1929-1951



Year 13 The French Revolution

Bishop's Stortford Youth Project



thirst.
youth cafe

Tue, Wed, Thur, Fri 3-6pm

Sat 1-5pm

**Check social media for holiday
opening hours and activities!**

WHAT'S HERE?

XBOX SERIES X - WITH FIFA 23

NINTENDO SWITCH - WITH MARIOKART, SMASH BROS

**CHARGING POINTS, TABLE TENNIS, POOL,
SNACKS, MILKSHAKES AND MUCH MORE!**



WHO CAN COME? ANYONE AGED 11-18

Run by
Bishop's Stortford
Youth Project

Registered Charity Number - 1154678

DROP IN AND SEE US!



www.thirstcafe.com

[thirstyouthcafe](https://www.instagram.com/thirstyouthcafe)

[thirst cafe](https://www.facebook.com/thirstcafe)

[76 South Street, BS, CM23 3AZ](#)



Bishop's Stortford Youth Project Thirst Youth Café

Bishop's Stortford Youth Project (BSYP) is a small **registered charity** which supports over 500 young people aged 11 – 18 in Bishop's Stortford and the surrounding areas. It runs the **Thirst Youth Cafe** in the town centre (at 76 South Street, CM23 3AZ) which provides a safe space for young people to meet and make friends and take part in fun activities which increase happiness, wellbeing and mental health.

The cafe is exclusively for 11-18 year olds. No grown ups allowed except for staff!

During term time, Thirst is open for all 11-18 year olds, Tuesday to Friday 3-6pm and on Saturday 1-5pm. Extended opening hours during the school holidays.

Thirst provides access to experienced youth workers who are positive role models and can provide advice and support, if required, to help young people learn life skills, develop their potential and gain greater independence as they transition to adulthood.

BSYP also run a targeted mental wellbeing project via NHS referral, a mentoring project in local secondary schools, school holiday activities and opportunities for youth volunteering and social action.

For further information, please visit <https://www.thirstcafe.com/>



Tesco 'blue tokens' Community Grants

Until mid January, BSYP are in the vote for a community grant. Please help them make their 'healthy eating for healthy living' project reach as many young people as possible by asking for a blue token at the till and popping it in the BSYP slot in the token unit.



Calling all 11-18 year olds.
Need somewhere warm and dry this
autumn/winter to hang out with your
friends?

Looking to play some FIFA 23, Smash Bros or
Mario Kart...or have a break from screens with
some pool, darts, table tennis or board
games?

Then head on down to Thirst Youth Cafe
at 76 South Street in Bishop's Stortford
town centre.

No grown ups allowed except for staff!





LOVE-RESPECT-FLOURISH

#DedicatedtoExcellence

Christmas Appeal Donations for Catholic Children's Society

Please can students bring in any of the items on the list below and give them to their Form Tutor or hand them in at the Student Hub **by Friday 2 December.**



Catholic Children's Society

CHRISTMAS GIFT APPEAL

WE WOULD BE SO GRATEFUL IF YOU CAN DONATE NEW:

 Clothes, socks, hats, gloves, hot water bottles	 Tea sets, dolls, dressing up costumes	 Art sets, crafts, stationery, science sets, magic sets, books	 Sports equipment (particularly footballs)
 Lego, building sets, Play-Doh, train sets	 Cuddly toys, blankets, baby dolls	 Toiletries, jewellery, technology, board games	 Gift vouchers e.g. (One4all, Love2Shop, Amazon, Argos, supermarkets etc.)

Telephone: 020 4518 5305
Email: emilym@cathchild.org.uk
Address: 73 St Charles Sq, London, W10 6EJ
www.cathchild.org.uk
Registered charity number: 210920

We are hiring!



St Francis of Assisi
CATHOLIC ACADEMY TRUST

Click Here For Latest Vacancy Information

<https://www.stmarys.net/vacancies>

