

LOVE-RESPECT-FLOURISH

St. Mary's Catholic School Newsletter

Issue 19 - 3rd February 2023



**Be prayerful, be caring, be gentle, be fair,
be forgiving, be respectful, be a peacemaker, be brave.**

Mr Neves, Executive Headteacher

Every now and then a survey of children's aspirations for their future careers is conducted. The findings are generally published via different media outlets. In 2020 a large-scale survey questioned 2500 parents of children aged 4 to 16. Among the findings were the top twenty most popular careers that the respondents children aspired to. They included traditional roles such as doctor, nurse and police officer, but I am glad to note that, among the popular choices, children still dreamt of being a professional sportsperson or an astronaut. However, one sign of the times was the appearance in this top twenty careers of 'social media influencer'. As with any aspect of social media, this does have the potential to do good rather than harm. This reminded me of the aim we have in school to help our young people prepare for their future adult lives. However, more than just preparation for a certain career, the Catholic education offered at St Mary's strives to guide our students to a life of fulfilment, inspired by the teachings of Christ.



Last Sunday's Gospel reading (Matthew, chapter 5) recounted Jesus' lesson on this topic, in the sermon on the mount, in which the Beatitudes are introduced:

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of God.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the gentle, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven

These are the 8 Beatitudes. We can remember them easily using 8 simple phrases:

Be prayerful, be caring, be gentle, be fair, be forgiving, be respectful, be a peacemaker, be brave.

These underpin our mission to love, respect and flourish. Moreover, if our young people use these to guide their lives, they too can be powerful social influencers!



Monday 30th January, Year 8 Mass



St Francis of Assisi
CATHOLIC ACADEMY TRUST

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Week Commencing
Monday 6th February 2023**
National Apprenticeship Week

Wednesday 8th February 2023
Year 9 Options Evening

**Monday-Friday
13th-17th February 2023**
HALF TERM WEEK

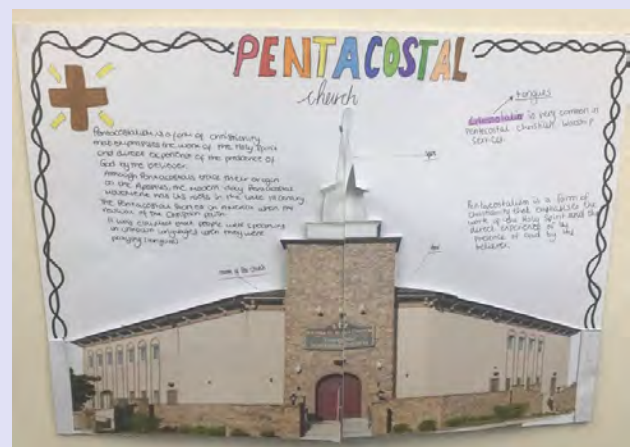
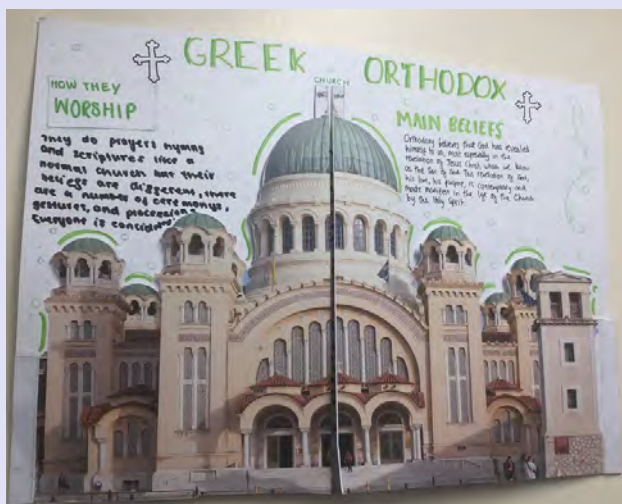
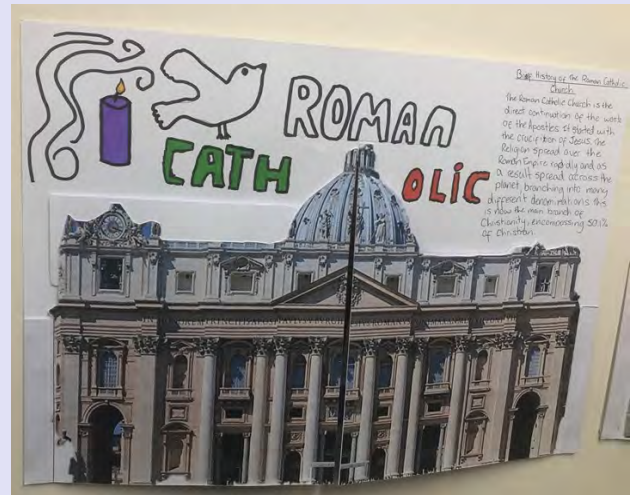
**Week Commencing
Monday 20th February 2023**
GCSE & A Level Mocks Start

Thursday 23rd February 2023
Year 9 Parents Evening

Celebrating Christian Unity

Christian Unity Week and interfaith dialogue in the RE Department

'We have more that unites us than divides us' RH Jo Cox MP



Holocaust Memorial Day Assembly



On Friday 27th January we commemorated Holocaust Memorial Day.

To help us commemorate this important and solemn occasion we were joined by Dr Tom Keve. Dr Keve is himself a Holocaust Survivor, surviving the horrors of the Second World War as a child with his family. He spent an hour retelling his story to Year 11 and Sixth Form pupils.

The pupils represented the school in exceptional fashion, listening in silence and asking questions of Dr Keve after his testimony was finished. The whole event was incredibly moving and was very important to allow us, as a community, to stand together against anti-Semitism and in commemoration of those lives that were lost in the Holocaust.



Year 9D Holocaust Memorial Day Prayer service
The pupils were very thoughtful and reflective. A beautiful prayer service.

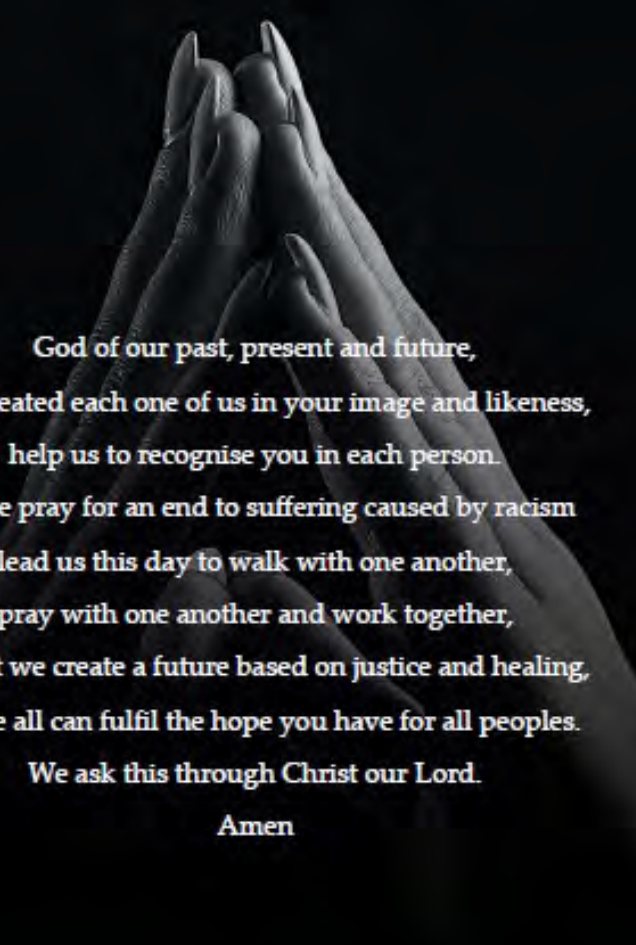


Racial Justice Sunday, 5th February 2023

The theme for Racial Justice for this entire year is:

All are included in the mission of Christ and His Church.
Let us walk together, pray together and work together

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

A black and white photograph of two hands clasped in prayer, with fingers pointing upwards. The hands are positioned centrally behind the prayer text.

God of our past, present and future,
you created each one of us in your image and likeness,
help us to recognise you in each person.
As we pray for an end to suffering caused by racism
lead us this day to walk with one another,
pray with one another and work together,
so that we create a future based on justice and healing,
where all can fulfil the hope you have for all peoples.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen



***“All are included in the mission of Christ and His Church.
Let us walk together, pray together and work together”***



Battle of the Bands

Year 9 Battle of the Bands

Well done to all the performers who took part in the competition.



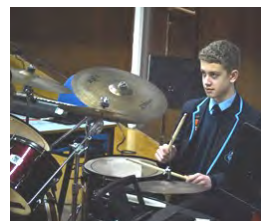
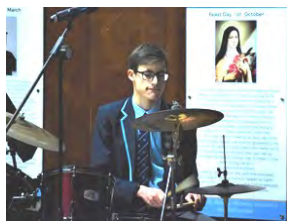
On Tuesday 23rd January we held our annual Year 9 Battle of the Bands.

The standard to which every band performed to was excellent. The judges, Joe H, Kyan P and I were very impressed with the talent of each band and were faced with a very tough decision with choosing our gold and silver award winners.

In total there were seven bands and 36 students in the competition. Songs ranged from 'Everybody Wants To Rule The World' by Tears For Fears, 'Don't Stop Believing' by Journey and 'A Thousand Miles' by Vanessa Carlton. The school hall was filled with Year 9 students and staff who had all come to watch the competition and support their peers.

The winning band performed 'Everybody Wants To Rule The World' and was made up of Kieran P (Piano), Freyden O (Vocals), Marlow W (Vocals), Keannan B (Piano), Daniel B (Piano) and Archie H (Drums). The silver medals went to Ruby C (Vocals), Abigail P (Vocals), Alexander P (Drums), Chantelle K (Bass Guitar), Asantwa A (Piano), Tilly K (Piano) and Isla-Carys W (Piano), who performed 'American Boy' by Estelle and Kanye West.

The Battle of the Bands was a great event and a wonderful opportunity for our Musical Talent in Year 9 to shine!
Congratulations to all who took part! Holly M, Year 12





Art Department

Artist In Focus...

Isabella N, Year 13 student



Why do you study or love Art?

Tell us about your journey and who you are...

Art has always been a passion and love of mine. I have always been told that as a child I was happiest with a paintbrush in my hand, which is still the same today. I love experimenting with different media, materials and techniques but most importantly, the self-expression through my artwork is therapeutic to me. Art does not feel like 'work' to me, it is my hobby and something I just love doing.

Who inspires you?

My dad was definitely my first inspiration – when I was younger we would just sit and draw my favourite cartoon character together, he truly is a natural artist. However, after exploring different artists in my GCSE and A level studies, **Sarah Graham** is definitely a contemporary artist that I look up to and take huge inspiration from.

Where do you want to go and what do you want to do when you leave St Mary's?

I am going to university to study law, but this doesn't mean my creative mind will be put to rest. I hope to still create art as a side-line to my main studies and hopefully in the future pursue it further. Travelling is also an aspiration of mine so I hope to see some famous artworks in and around Italy, France and the rest of Europe.

What advice would you give aspiring artists here at St Mary's?

Always listen to the creative side of you! I feel that Art doesn't sometimes get recognised with the same respect as Maths and Science within school, I want people to recognise Art with the same respect and importance it deserves. Let's be the ones to change this!



Year 12 & Year 13 ~ Bar Mock Trial!

On 31st January a group of Year 12 and Year 13 students took part in the regional Bar Mock Trial Competition, although this year for us, it was virtual.

Four of the Year 13 students performed the role of Barristers for the Prosecution and Defence of two cases, a charge of Actual Bodily Harm and a charge of Intent to Supply a Class A Drug.



Five students played the part of the Defendant and Witnesses. Two students acted as the Court Clerk and Usher, and seven students acted as Jury members for other schools.

The Barristers performed exceptionally well with their opening speeches, examinations and closing speeches. The Witnesses had to learn their roles and keep to their version of events during examination in Chief and Cross Examination by the competing school's Barristers.

A lot of time and effort went into the competition and every participant did an excellent job, I am very proud of you all!



Competing in these competitions gives students an insight into the legal profession, particularly the roles of Barristers, Court staff and the Judge. It also gives students knowledge of how a real trial would be in the Crown Court. Not only does it encourage those involved to critically think, build arguments and boost their confidence, it enables young professionals to develop their public speaking skills and employability skills.

Mrs Knight
Careers

Student Reports ~ Bar Mock Trial Competition

by Gabrielle A

The Bar Mock Trial experience helped me realise how witnessing a trial in court and actually being part of a trial are very different from each other. When I went to the Court in Chelmsford and saw some of the trials that took place, I had an idea of what court was like and the layout of the court. However, being in the Bar Mock Trial, I got to experience how it really felt like to be in court and it was very intimidating. I was one of the witnesses on the prosecution team and when the defence Barristers were asking me questions and trying to catch me out, or trying to find fault in my statement, it gave me a taste of what the people on trial went through emotionally. I really enjoyed the Bar Mock Trial and I hope to do it again next year. Going to the Court only gives you a visual idea of a Court Room but doing the Bar Mock Trial gives you the visual and emotional aspect of it.



Year 12 & Year 13 ~ Bar Mock Trial!

Student Reports ~ Bar Mock Trial Competition

by Gerard M Y13

Recently, our school faced off against 12 others in a virtual bar mock trial competition on Tuesday 31st January. We had been preparing for months for this, which included practicing with rehearsals, organising our prosecution and defence arguments, writing out questions for witnesses and for our opening and closing speeches. We also had the chance to go on an informative school trip to Chelmsford Crown Court on Thursday 12th January, which helped us decide how to proceed with our preparation. On the day, we spent the whole day in B1 debating on Zoom calls, persuading mock juries, and eloquently arguing our cases.



Excitement filled the air as the bar mock trial competition itself kicked off with schools from all over the UK competing against each other. We were ready to put our skills to the test and show off our knowledge of the law. The competition was intense, with each school putting forth their best effort to prove their case. Our team of Barristers all worked tirelessly to argue our cases and scrutinise cross-examinations. They did an excellent job of presenting their case and answering tough questions from the opposing teams.

Our witnesses did their absolute best when acting as a wide variety of different characters. One witness has said, "As a witness my job was to memorise the statements from various people ready to become that person when going to the stand. I had to know the facts ready to undergo questioning by both prosecuting and defending Barristers. The main role I played was as the defendant in an assault case, which we sadly didn't win, this meant that I had to converse with the Barrister beforehand as if it was a real trial. We had to discuss the questions they'd ask, the stance I had to take and prepare for what the prosecutors would likely try to get me to say."

Although we did not make it into the top three, the experience was invaluable. Our team members gained a deeper understanding of the legal system and how trials are conducted. They also had the opportunity to work with others and improve their communication skills. The competition was also a great opportunity for our students to network and meet other aspiring lawyers from different schools. They learned from each other and made new connections that will likely benefit them in the future.

Overall, the Bar Mock Trial Competition was a thrilling and enjoyable experience for all involved. Our school may not have come out on top this time, but the lessons learned, and memories made will last a lifetime. We are already looking forward to next year's competition and hope to improve our performance.

by Tim

As preparation for the Mock Trial where I played the role of the Barrister, it was a very demanding role that required hours of preparation of questions and speeches. As a Barrister, I had to cross examine the opposition, others schools, in an attempt to find contradictions in statements provided. This was in order to convince the student-made Jury of finding the defendant guilty or not guilty.

The classroom which we were assigned to was set up to mirror a courtroom as the competition was done virtually. Although we did not win, I enjoyed the experience throughout and would participate again if given the chance. I am very grateful for the opportunity and the support provided by the teachers.





Introducing some of our new staff!

Miss Salter-Kay Learning Support Assistant

LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT



My name is Kathryn Salter-Kay, and I am delighted to return to St Mary's as a Learning Support Assistant.

I have just graduated with a Masters from Rose Bruford College of Theatre and Performance, and I have become a Learning Support Assistant because I enjoy supporting children in the classroom and helping them get the most out of their time at school.

I am also an actor and musician and am keen to take part in St Marys' musical and artistic life.

In my free time, I enjoy learning languages, reading, drawing, and following every new James Webb Space Telescope update that I can.

While I was at school myself, my teachers instilled a voracious love of learning any and everything that has lasted up to today, and that is something I hope to inspire in the children I'm working with.



TERM DATES REMINDER

Spring Term

Monday-Friday 13th-17th February 2023

HALF TERM WEEK

Students Return to School on Monday 20th February 2023

Spring Term Ends on Friday 31st March 2023

Summer Term

Students Return to School on Monday 17th April 2023

English Department News...

Young Writers' Annual Showcase



Congratulations to Year 7 student, Tariro M, who entered the Young Writers' Annual Competition. Tariro's poem has been selected for publication in a book called *Young Writer's Annual Showcase—Wonders of Imagination*.



Roses

*A rose is a flower, a precious thing to behold.
It smells like the sweet aroma of the world.
A symbol of happiness warmth in the cold.
Showing love is what we're supposed to do.
Caring for one another is what's true.*

The Young Writers' Annual Showcase was created to celebrate all forms of creative writing, from stories, to poems, scripts and everything in-between, with the aim to inspire children and young adults to become confident and passionate writers.

Tariro's piece called "Roses" will be featured in the published book, and a copy of this will remain in the National Archives of the British Library!

CONGRATULATIONS
WELL DONE!

Calling all Singers!



Starting **Tuesday** morning
in M1

GOSPEL CHOIR
8.35-9.00am
please register in M1

**** Starting after half term **** **Lunchtime** **Percussion Ensemble**



for Years 8,10 and 12
please register your interest next week

Year 9 Celebration of Success in Art... Exhibition coming soon!

Miss Nairn and Mrs Morgan-Wren want to commend the work of our fantastic Year 9 students this year.

Our recent project entitled '**Sweets and Treats**' has come to an end and the student outcomes are simply stunning. Please see a selection of completed student work below from all classes.

To show case our students fabulous work the Art Department have decided to have an **YEAR 9 ART EXHIBITION**

which will be able to be seen by all pupils next week in school and subsequently parents at the **YEAR 9 OPTIONS EVENING on WEDNESDAY 8th FEBRUARY.**

Please do come along to see our students work on show and discuss GCSE Art options with our Art Department staff. We really look forward to seeing all parents!



Year 9 Celebration of Success in Art... Exhibition coming soon!



A collection of eyeglasses and their cases. The cases include a black Converse case, a black textured case, and a case with a Union Jack pattern. Five pairs of glasses are shown below: black, clear, brown, black, and blue.



Please encourage your child to visit the Student Hub during break or lunch time to reclaim anything you might recognise in these photos or indeed any other item which they may have lost

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL CAREERS BULLETIN

National Apprenticeship week is coming up soon! Taking place on 6-12th February 2023, during this week pupils will be learning all about apprenticeships; what they are, how their subjects link with their future career choices, how to find an apprenticeship and how to apply. Pupils will have an Apprenticeship assembly, a dedicated PSHE lesson on apprenticeships and engage in form time interactive tasks.

Apprenticeships
National Apprenticeship Week
6th to 12th February 2023

Upcoming College Open Evenings

HRC Tuesday 7th February 5.30 -8pm

Haringey Sixth Form College –
Contact 020 8376 6000



UCAS **unifrog**

Amazing
Apprenticeships



GO EXPLORE



Tuesday 7th February 2023 -10:00 to 14:00

Radisson Blu Hotel, London Stansted Airport, Stansted, CM24 1PP

Stansted Airport Jobs Fair has some fantastic opportunities, from apprenticeships, entry level starter positions to experienced industry experts. Go Explore their OPEN DAY.

Weston Homes

Last week we advertised Weston Homes Open Day which took place on Saturday 28th January. We have received feedback from students and are pleased that many attended. The apprenticeship applications are now open, they close on 12th February. Follow this link to apply [Apprenticeships | Careers | Recruitment | Work for Us | Weston Homes \(weston-homes.com\)](#)

THE NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP SHOW

Wednesday 1st March 09:30-18:00. The National Apprenticeship Show – London & South East is the perfect event for School and College leavers, as well as young adults, to discover more about Apprenticeships across the region. Check out their website for more info... <https://nationalapprenticeshipshow.org/>



JOB OF THE WEEK

Barber

A Barber or a Barberess is someone who specialises in cutting men's hair and beards.

To become a barber you will need to go to college to study a Level 2 or 3 Diploma in Barbering or a T Level in Hair, Beauty and Aesthetics. You could seek a barbershop willing to take an apprentice as well as find a college that trains you one day per week to get your NVQ.

Skills: Creativity
Do you need a degree? No
Average Salary: £25,683

Higher and Degree Listing

Explore 350+ Higher and Degree apprenticeship vacancies in the February edition of the Higher and Degree listing 2023.

Discover vacancy details from over 65 employers, including locations, salary information and direct application links.

The Higher & Degree Listing is a bi-annual publication, with the next release planned for November 2023.

<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/resource/higher-and-degree-listing/>

ON DEMAND



inspiring future

icould

<https://icould.com/explore/#careersmaths>

Students, parents and carers!

Why not have a look through the inspiring the future icould student friendly site, there are lots of videos and resources looking at job types and employment sectors.

It could help you find your path...



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VsNHMTiq_1g&list=PLVEWw7uIDT769WVGUTc_-lOca4dRIPatZ&index=3

Watch the Job of Week Video here!