

Insight

The official newsletter of
St. Joseph's RC High School

Taflen wybodaeth swyddogol
Ysgol Gyfun Gatholig Joseff Sant

Autumn 2017 Hydref



A SPIRITUAL SEASON



We have come to the end of a long term and the whole school community is looking forward to a well-earned rest. The prospect of Christmas cheers us and lifts our spirits away from the cold, dark and depressing weather of the season.

Spiritually, we have been preparing the students for Christmas in our Advent assemblies, form reflections and in Mini Bac time during form period. There is a host of charity work that has been undertaken including forms gathering some quite remarkable food hampers for those in our community do not have the some of the basics that many of us take for granted during the festive season.

The kindness and generosity of our pupils and families never ceases to amaze me and I was delighted to hear from our Business Manager, Mr Rowland, that the school has raised over £25,000 for charitable causes over the last 3 years. It is our duty to proclaim Christ's birth and to ensure that the real message of Christmas is at the forefront of our hearts rather than the worldly commercialism that seems to begin earlier and earlier each year and detracts from the true meaning of Christmas.

I believe we have lived this during the season of Advent here at the school.



Serving God Through
Learning Together

Yn Gwasanaethu Duw Trwy
Ddysgu Gyda'n Gilydd



Contents...



pg 5



pg 7



pg 17



pg 19

Global Action Day	3	Harry Potter Day	16
STEM: Robotics and Drones	4	Cologne	18
Advent Message	6	Amazing Achievements	19
Charity Update	7	Wellbeing and Mental Health	20
SHOUTS Launch Event	8	Restart a Heart	20
Grease Tickets Info	10	Operation Makesafe	21
Diwrnod Shwmae	11	SJHS News	22
Glan Lyn	11	Ministry of Science, Hamburg	23
Liverpool Trip	12	Sixth Form at Westminster	23
Art News	14	Spring Diary 2018	24



Headteacher's Message neges y pennaeth

Mr T Brown Headteacher

This edition of INSIGHT contains some wonderful items and provides a great flavour of the work that has been going on this term. Certainly one of the highlights has been the Mental Health Conference held in October at which we were awarded our 'Dementia Friendly Award' by the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, Councillor Gail Giles.

In doing so, we became the first school in Wales to achieve 'dementia friendly' status. Over 60 organisations that work with young people were represented on the day and pupils from right across the age range at the school gave superb presentations on the mental health issues facing them and their peers. Everyone at the conference, including local government

representatives, made a pledge to take action to support young people's mental health. I would particularly like to congratulate Mr Humpage for arranging this very worthwhile community event led by the wonderful students of our school and which focused on making a difference to young people here and across Wales.

I am sure that you would like to join with me in thanking all of the staff and governors at St Joseph's RC High School for their continued tremendous hard work and commitment to the students of the school during the year.

On behalf of everybody at St Joseph's, we wish you, your family and the students a holy and peaceful Christmas and every blessing for the New Year.

*“What we plant in the soil of contemplation,
we shall reap in the harvest of action.”* Meister Eckhart



Global Action Day at SJHS...

Mr Nunn and a troop of students raised awareness, created positive change, and helped the environment to lead to a more sustainable future this term...

They did this through a St Joseph's RC High School's Global Action Day: planting bulbs to help fight Polio!

The bulbs were kindly donated by Rotary International and were part-funded by the Bill Gates Foundation. Special gardens had been dug in front of the school to bed the flowers - symbolic purple crocuses. The purple crocus is a symbol of mankind's battle to eradicate Polio in the world. A very worthwhile cause.

A big thank you to all the students and staff that helped plant crocus bulbs. We hope to see a lovely bed of flowers in the spring.



STEM:

Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths

ROBOTICS & DRONES

*“ The best Science workshop...
Niw even did Tai Chi for us”*

Today's talk was really cool!

It was fascinating to find out new things and have fun at the same time. The best part for us was meeting the robot called Niw. She was really cute and very clever - she even did Tai Chi.

We learnt lots about computer science and technology and how it is used in the world today, especially in the Navy and the Airforce. We learnt how to control a drone and its camera too.

We were even able to ask the robot questions and she answered them. It was the best workshop so far.

Written by Siona Jobi and Amelia Thomas, Year 7



BAE SYSTEMS

INSPIRED WORK

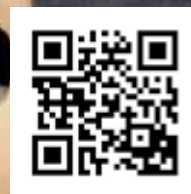


*This is a drone
the size of a fly!!!*





Check out these websites for more information on coding and robotics, use your smart device to scan the QR code



Advent

Now in those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea, saying, “*Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.*” For this is the one referred to by Isaiah the prophet when he said, “*The voice of one crying in the wilderness, ‘make ready the way of the Lord, make his paths straight!’*”

(Matthew 3:3)

Life is a constant Advent season: we are continually waiting to become, to discover, to complete, to fulfil. Hope, struggle, fear, expectation and fulfilment are all part of our Advent experience.

Advent, like its cousin Lent, is a season for prayer and reformation of our hearts. Since it comes at winter time, fire is a fitting sign to help us celebrate Advent. If Christ is to come more fully into our lives this Christmas, if God is to become really incarnate for us, then fire will have to be present in our prayer. Our worship and devotion will have to stoke the kind of fire in our souls that can truly change our hearts. Ours is a great responsibility not to waste this Advent time.

The Prophet Micah asked God what was God’s desire for his life. God replied, “*He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.*” (Micah 6:8)

Advent is the perfect time to clear and prepare the way. It is good for us to daily examine our lives with the light of the Holy Spirit and we can make an Advent examination. Are there any feelings of discrimination toward race, sex, or religion? Is there a lingering resentment, an unforgiven injury living in our hearts? Do we look down upon others of lesser social standing or educational achievement? Are we generous with the gifts that have been given to us? Are we reverent of others, their ideas and needs, and of creation? These and other questions become Advent lights by which we may search the deep, dark corners of our hearts.

May this Advent season be a time for bringing hope, transformation and fulfilment into the Advent of our lives. God desires our happiness and blessedness. God wants to lavish his grace on us and pour out his love into our hearts by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Advent Prayer

*God of hope, who brought love into this world,
be the love that dwells between us.*

*God of hope, who brought peace into this world,
be the peace that dwells between us.*

*God of hope, who brought joy into this world,
be the joy that dwells between us.*

*God of hope, the rock we stand upon,
be the centre, the focus of our lives
always, and particularly this Advent time.*

Amen



Charity Update

The CAFOD cow!

Delfina and Taomi, 9V raised £46 for CAFOD by holding a bakesale in school time. Yummy brownies and cookies were baked and sold! Well done, girls. Fantastic fundraising!



Easyfundraising...

Don't forget that every single time you buy something online this season - from stocking fillers to your festive food and drink or even a winter holiday - you could be raising free donations by shopping via easyfundraising. There are over 3,300 participating retailers including John Lewis, Amazon, Waitrose, eBay and Marks and Spencer, all ready to give us a free donation every time you shop online.

It's really simple, and doesn't cost you anything. All you have to do is:

1. Go to: www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/sjhsnewport/
2. Click Join Us and enter your details and click on Create My Account
3. Choose from over 3,300 retailers, do your online shopping as normal and our cause will receive a free donation at no extra cost to you for every purchase you make.

Friends of St Joseph's would like to thank you for your support.



“It was an honour wearing my uniform, representing the squadron to the whole community, and formally paying my respects to the armed forces.” Rhys Thomas, Year 9



Newport Remembrance Day Parade

Corporal Rhys Thomas had the great privilege of being a Standard Bearer for the Air Cadets in the Newport Remembrance Day Parade this year.

Cadets and staff from the Newport Air Cadets Squadron 210 (Mon) joined other organisations and members of the community on Sunday morning to remember the servicemen and women who have laid down their lives in the service of their country. It was a great honour.

Rhys also participated in the Great Gwent Poppy Run during November 2017 and his team received an award for being the first Air Cadets over the finishing line.

To add more adventures to his busy diary, Rhys was also involved in the Royal British Legion Poppy Day collection in Friars Walk, Newport on 28th October 2017, and successfully completed his expedition part for Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award recently. Congratulations Rhys, you've been busy!



SHOUTS



A restorative behaviour programme led by Mrs E Yates.

Estyn's Chief Inspector said: "Schools should be places where all pupils feel safe and able to learn. Bullying not only affects a child emotionally and psychologically, but can result in poor attendance and underachievement."

The SHOUTS workshop fully engaged each student, arming them with bullying statistics and hard-hitting information through films and presentations, fully involving them in the learning and discussion process. Each student was asked what he or she would LIKE to learn from the day...

A Year 12 student from St Joseph's RC High School said, "I would like to get a step closer to resolving bullying."

"I would like to have a feeling of empowerment to address bullying," said a Bassaleg School student

A Year 11 student from Brynmawr Foundation School said they would like, "A greater understanding of different types of bullying and bullies."

The rise in cyber bullying is a particular problem for schools because it is anonymous and pupils can be too embarrassed to report it. When asked what they had learned from the SHOUTS workshop, all students were very positive

"As teachers, we want to empower our students to have the skills for life. We are always so impressed with the enthusiasm of our young people to take on leadership roles. For this reason we facilitated an event to bring together students aged between 11-18 from across the Newport area at St Joseph's RC High School. The objective was to build a cohesive group of students and teachers alike to create a shared plan not only within our individual schools, but across Newport as a whole." Mrs E Yates



"I can prevent bullying when I see it. I just report it." Caerleon Comprehensive School, Year 7 student



"Bullies sometimes have reasons for their behaviour." Bassaleg High School, Year 7



"ANYONE can be a victim."



"I would like to get a step closer to resolving bullying."



"Help build friendships."

and had thoroughly understood and engaged with the restorative solutions to combating bullying within our schools. Year 13 John Frost High School students concluded, "Bullies have a story to tell and reasons for their behaviour too. We can see a restorative talking technique would resolve both the victims and the perpetrator's actions much quicker than normal punishment."

A Year 9 Llanwern High School student admitted, "I didn't realise that bullying comes in so many different forms and that ANYONE can be a victim."

"Having a restorative programme which can help build friendships and positive relationships", was a solution to bullying by a Year 11 Lliswerry High School student.

Thank you to all the students and staff representatives from Bassaleg School, St Julians School, Caerleon Comprehensive School, Lliswerry High School, Llanwern High School, John Frost School, Brynmawr Foundation School and St Joseph's RC High School.

St Joseph's RC High School presents



Get your tickets!



13-16th February 2018

Doors open at 6.15 show starts 7pm

£8 Adults, £5 Children/Concessions,

£22 Family (2 adults/2 children)

All tickets for sale at the Admin window



Diwrnod Shwmae 2017

Dathliwyd Diwrnod Shwmae llwyddianus gan yr Adran Gymraeg ac aelodau o'r Cyngor Cymreig ar Hydref 18fed gydag athrawon a disgyblion Blwyddyn 7. Cafodd athrawon Joseff Sant amheuthunion melys a sawrus blasus fel pice ar y maen, teisennau bach, bara brith a chawsiau Cymreig.

Doedd Blwyddyn 7, sut bynnag, ddim mor lwcas gan iddyn nhw barhau Arbrawf Bushtucker gyda blas Cymreig a cheision nhw danteithion Cymraeg fel cocos a bawd dafad a oedd yn edrych fel rhesins!

At ei gilydd, siaradwyd llawer o Gymraeg a mwynheuodd pawb y gweithgareddau.

Da iawn Ysgol Gyfun Joseff Sant!



To see the video go to our You Tube page
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ifo60vQrY4I>

The Welsh department and members of the Welsh Council celebrated another successful Diwrnod Shwmae on October 18th.. St Joseph's staff were treated to delicious sweet and savoury treats such as Welsh cakes, cupcakes, bara brith and Welsh cheeses.

Year 7, however, were not so lucky as they endured a Welsh themed Bushtucker trial and tried Welsh delicacies such as cockles and sheep poo looking raisins!!

All in all, lots of Welsh was spoken and enjoyed by all.

Da iawn Ysgol Gyfun Joseff Sant!

Fairtrade Aware...

St Joseph's is becoming Fairtrade aware!



The Fairtrade group were formed with the aim to make our school more 'Fairtrade Aware'. As a Catholic school, we are committed to living out the Gospel. A big part of this is not only reaching out to those in need but also ensuring that we live in a fair world with justice for all. Encouraging people to buy Fairtrade products ensures that the people who work hard to produce them earn a living wage, are not exploited, and work in adequate conditions.

The group made a fantastic start by designing posters for all form rooms. They were then set the task of introducing the 'Fairtrade Advent' campaign to Year 7 and 8. They devised and led assemblies to both year groups showing courage and conviction. Every form group in Year 8 and Year 7 now have Fairtrade Chocolate Advent calendars with a picture of the real meaning of Advent on them. The Fairtrade enterprise meet on a weekly basis and are keen to continue introducing new ways to make St Joseph's a Fairtrade school. They have lots of exciting ideas lined up for 2018.





Years 10-13 experienced the best Liverpool had to offer in the world of Music, Art and Drama...

After an early start, followed by a six hour coach journey, we arrived at Albert Dock in Liverpool where we took the opportunity to look around. We popped into a few little shops and cafes before we returned to the coach and began the Beatles Magical



LIVERPOOL

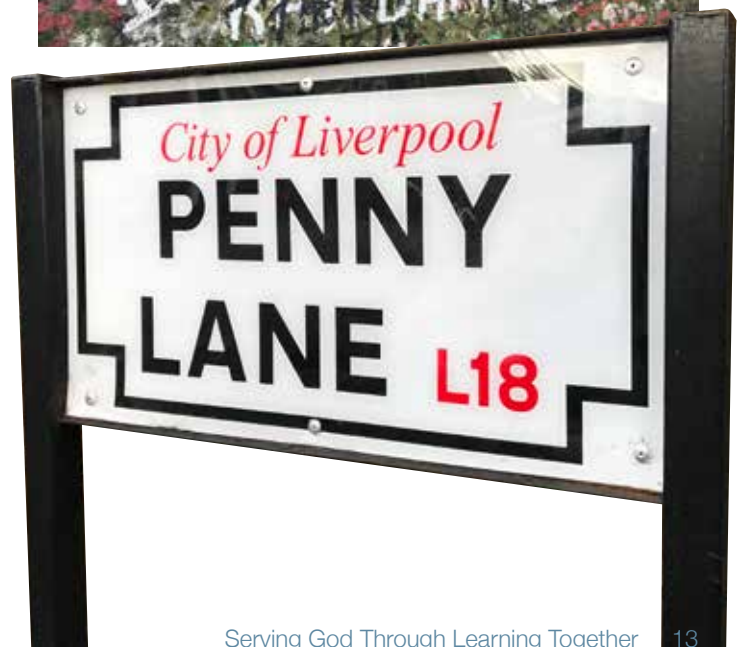
Mystery Tour! Everyone was taking photographs, asking questions, listening to music written by the Beatles and having a good time. The Magical Mystery Tour was very interesting, we went to all of the houses that the Beatles were brought up in and went to some of the special places that had inspired songs by the Beatles, such as 'Strawberry Fields' and 'Penny Lane'. It was a great experience to be able to learn about how one of the most well known bands of all time came to be. The tour ended at the iconic Cavern Club, one of the first places that the Beatles performed. The Cavern Club was packed full of people enjoying live music - we were even allowed to sign our names on the walls alongside hundreds of other fans from over the decades.

After dinner at Pizza Express, we went to the Liverpool Everyman Theatre to watch "Around the World in 80 Days". I really enjoyed the play, it was funny and very enjoyable for everyone.

The next morning we went to the Walker Art Gallery. There were amazing sculptures and paintings created by very talented artists. I particularly loved the 'Equality' exhibit - it brought awareness to the accomplishments people have made over the years. Next we visited the Tate Modern, where there were many very modern art pieces, even some Pop Art by Roy Lichtenstein.

"I preferred the Walker Art Gallery, even though the Tate had some really good, thought-provoking pieces, I preferred the meaningful art displays that those in the Walker offered us."

Written by Shauna Gibbons, Year 11





Above left: pencil drawing by Oktawia Fabijan van Tierderen

Above right: painting by Elena Matthews

Right: lino print diptych by Natalia Kacsmanska

Below left: computer graphics by Aimee Pollock

Below right: sketchbook study by Freya Jones





Above: multi Media by Oktawia Fabijan van Tierderen

Left: pencil drawing in progress by Elena Matthews

ARTN News

Follow your dreams in Art...

TALK WITH SUE WILLIAMS FROM SWANSEA COLLEGE OF ART, UWTSO

Ms Sue Williams gave up her precious time to come and talk to our Year 11, 12 and 13 art students about some of the courses they offer and what they could experience and achieve when taking a course such as Fine Art at University.

It was very exciting to see that each student is given their own workspace to help develop ideas and surround themselves in creative material to fire their imaginations.

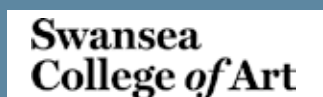
Swansea pride themselves on offering students some of the best staff/student contact time in the country, as well as traditional and state of the art equipment whilst remaining at the forefront of creativity and employment.

Swansea College of Art offers students a huge range of options in the field of art, including Fine Art, Photography, Music Technology, Computer Animation, Film & Television, Set Design, Games Design, Surface Pattern Design, Design Crafts, Glass, Product Design, Automotive Design, Transport Design, Advertising, Illustration, Graphic Design, Museum Studies, Performing Arts and Foundation A&D.

TALK WITH ABBIE BRACKPOOL FROM CARDIFF SCHOOL OF ART AND DESIGN

Cardiff School of Art & Design alumni, Abbie, came to talk to us about her experiences at Art School. It was inspirational to see some of the work she had created and what she had done after leaving education. She made Cardiff School of Art & Design sound very exciting and many of our students were very inspired by listening to her stories and seeing her slideshow.

Cardiff School of Art & Design, one of the five schools that comprise Cardiff Metropolitan University, is home to approximately 1200 students, united by ambition and a true passion for creative enquiry. They have workshops and studios that ensure you can operate as professionals from the moment you start your studies, and offer courses such as Animation, Architectural Design & Technology, Ceramics, Fashion Design, Fine Art, Graphic Communication, Illustration, Interior Design, International Design, Foundation Course, Photographic Practice, Product Design and Textiles.



Expecto Patronum...



Harry Potter Day

Gryffindor, Slytherin, Hufflepuff, Ravenclaw! Twenty years ago, these magical words and many more flowed from JK Rowling's pen, including the story of an orphan called Harry Potter who was freed from the cupboard under the stairs. This story became known as *'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone'*.

To celebrate the twentieth anniversary of this book release, the St Joseph's RC High School book group held a number of special events.

Earlier this year, we partnered Rougemont school creating new Hogwarts' houses; some of the imagination shown by the students was amazing. There



“This is a competition. We all want to win but today is a day not to create walls but to build bridges. To not respond to evil with evil but to defeat evil with good”

Professor Dumbledore



are definitely some budding authors within the group. Then in November, everyone interested in the Harry Potter books helped turn the library into Hogwarts for the day! The four houses, Gryffindor, Slytherin, Hufflepuff and Ravenclaw competed against each other in a number of games such as Quidditch and pitted their knowledge of Potter facts in some really hard quizzes.

Mrs Morgan, Mr Watts and Miss Passariello, and an alumni student Bethan, joined their house teams and aided their fellow student members towards the Hogwarts Cup.

A fantastic day was enjoyed by all. Slytherin beat Hufflepuff in the Quidditch final and went on to win the house cup. Congratulations to Slytherin and all the students and staff that took part in the Marauder's fun.



COLOGNE

with the Highlands East of Cologne Rotary Club



It was the first time I'd ever travelled alone, and I wasn't as nervous as everyone insisted I should be. I was excited, and eager to meet all the friends I was going to make.

Arriving at the camp, a hybrid of youth hostel, luxury hotel, conference space, and tourist attraction, I was bowled over by the modern space. I instantly became fascinated by the proximity of the church; the hotel was actually grafted onto one of its' walls. I was lead to the canteen, where I saw a group of teenagers sitting at a long table, I felt my first stab of nerves. Slowly, I felt my worry dissipate and chatted happily. Although some of my new friends had travelled by train and plane for two days, no one was tired. We soon took advantage of the wide grassy lawn and joined in with a game of badminton.

Day two saw us conquer the tree top climbing experience, which was far more challenging than I could have thought! The sheer height of the treetop routes are not to be underestimated. The next day, we visited the city of Cologne and Cologne Cathedral, the largest Gothic Cathedral in Northern Europe. It dominates the city, and you can see its distinctive silhouette everywhere in Cologne. We visited Schloss Burg on the fourth day, a beautiful castle in Solingen. Discovering the history of the place we were staying in was an enriching addition to our time in Cologne. Our time in the Knife Museum close by was also very interesting, and further cemented our understanding of Germany's culture and history.

Day five brought us back to Cologne, and though we did spend a little more time there, we visited the chair museum too. This brought us more in touch with Germany's contemporary history, and the evolution of popular design. A street tour of Cologne also delved into far more ancient history, and gave us a truly

great understanding of the ancient foundations of Cologne's cosmopolitan way of life.

The landfill site and recycling plant may not appear to be the ideal place to bring a group of 16 teenagers from 11 different countries but this day was fun and interesting! The great landfill had been terraformed into a false mountain, and at the top of this mountain there were trampolines, a wonderful view, and most importantly; a really big slide. Here, we absorbed some very important messages about the environment and sustainability. The barbeque at a Rotarian friend of our camp leader, Barbara Streicher, was also very lovely and rounded the day off beautifully.

Our visit to Aqualand marked our first week in camp. We had fun, bonded, and learned one way the people of Cologne relaxed; with death-defying waterslides and relaxing jacuzzis! The 40 mile cycle along a disused railway-come-track was more challenging, but we experienced Cologne's dedication to sustainable living. All in one day we experienced city living, adventure, rural Germany, challenge, and suburbia. The Panabora tree-walking balanced our intense cycling experience, and gave us time to reflect while we walked serenely through the treetops on bridges. We became quite aware of our closeness to the end of our 11 day stay in Cologne, and none of us wanted to say goodbye. Yet, on our last full day together, we visited FantasiaLand, an 'around the world' themed theme park, truly the best way to end such an exciting and fun-filled trip.

Written by Jasmine Celtel, Year 13



AMAZING ACHIEVEMENTS

Joab wins major national accolade...The Barbara Ward Award in Central London at the Celebrating Young People Awards

Joab, accompanied by his family Mr James and Miss Thomas, made his way to London this month as he had been nominated for a very prestigious award.



Joab is passionate about the environment, and leads St Joseph's in our work to tread more lightly on the earth. Joab is deaf, and uses his experiences to make others understand their gifts and responsibilities. He also helps students at a local special school to get to grips with their environmental responsibilities too. Joab is always looking to help with the next initiative.

Congratulations Joab, we are all very proud of your achievement. Well done.

“He is a brilliant, engaging, inspirational yet modest young man, fully deserving of any accolades. What impresses me most is how sincere, enthusiastic and resilient he is.”

Mr O James, Head of Year 9



WELLBEING AND MENTAL HEALTH CONFERENCE 2017

It was with immense pride that St Joseph's RC High School hosted its recent Wellbeing and Mental Health Conference in partnership with our friends from The Dementia and Alzheimer's Societies.

Those involved felt very privileged, honoured and humbled to work with our fantastic group of young ambassadors and the feedback the school has subsequently received from professional bodies has been staggering.

The event was a huge success due largely to the outstanding skills and qualities our young people displayed on the day and it was such a privilege to witness these individuals maturing into a kind, confident, considerate and socially minded young adults. As a Catholic community the serving and thinking of others is at the heart of what we do and by echoing the Head teacher's comments from our Insight magazine (Summer 2017) we look to the future and the part our young people can play in society;

'.....they will continue to grow in faith and use their talents to enrich the lives of others'.

The conference was aimed at breaking any stigma and shame with regards to mental health and coordinating our work with supporting professional organisations and charities in the wider community. Understanding, appreciating and responding to the needs of our pupils and families was a key driver, St Joseph's has a professional and moral duty to provide well qualified, skilled, ambitious and healthy young people for the local and wider community, therefore our focus on mental health needs to be about improving life chances and wellbeing.



RE-START A HEART DAY AT ST JOSEPHS...

Restart a Heart Day is an annual initiative which aims to train as many people as possible in CPR in one day, so that more people are knowledgeable in these lifesaving skills.

If you suffer an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest in the UK you have less than a one in ten chance of surviving. CPR stands for cardiopulmonary resuscitation. It is a lifesaving medical procedure which is given to someone who is in cardiac

arrest and it helps to pump blood around the person's body when their heart can't.

On Monday 16 October the Resuscitation Council (UK) along with the British Heart Foundation, British Red Cross, St John Ambulance and Ambulance Service worked together to help train as many UK school children as possible and make sure every child knows how to save a life. St Joseph's enrolled onto the initiative and gave professional training to 175 pupils so that they now have the skills and knowledge to help others. We were lucky to be joined by officers from White Watch at Duffryn Fire Station, colleagues from Aneurin Bevan Health Board and The British Heart Foundation who gave pupils first hand professional training and guidance.

OPERATION MAKESAFE



St Joseph's, GMPT, Gwent Police and 'Operation Makesafe'...

St Joseph's is very proud to be the first school in SE Wales to work in partnership with Gwent Missing Persons Team and Gwent Police in order to raise awareness and support the issue of safeguarding young people in relation to 'Operation Makesafe'. During National Safeguarding Week (Nov 13 2017) there were a number of assemblies that were held to showcase the dangers young people face and what they can do to protect themselves and others. Emphasis was placed on how to stay safe and the high risk young people put themselves in if they are 'absent' from school or they are 'missing'.

Operation Makesafe is an initiative focused on ensuring that communities in Gwent along with people working in the business sector are aware of the early warning signs of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). Officers are keen to raise awareness among parents and even children themselves who may not be aware that they or their friends are being exploited. CSE isn't always easy to spot, but there are signs to look out for which could indicate that it is taking place. The advice given to our young people and staff during assemblies was that if you come across a situation that looks or feels suspicious, talk to your teachers or contact the police quoting Operation Makesafe. Don't ignore your gut feeling that something is not right. Say something if you see something.

In order to support the messages behind Operation Makesafe and keep our communities safe and secure, St Joseph's would urge parents, carers and pupils to access the following links.



Use your smart device to scan the QR on the left to find more information on how to keep our community safe.





St Joseph's Dragon...

The Gwent Dragons have started a new initiative that intends to reward it's community in support of its rising stars.

Each of the Dragons most promising players were given an opportunity to give back to a place in their community they feel played an integral role in their sporting career. Alumni Leon Brown has pledged to our PE department the sum of £500.

We are all extremely proud of Leon and privileged that he has recognised some of the hard work and support he received at St Joseph's during and after his time at school.

We are sure he will go on to conquer the Welsh rugby world.
Thank you, Leon.



SJHS NEWS



Rising hockey stars

Congratulations to the U18 Hockey girls on winning the South East Wales U18 Cup, beating Caerleon in the Final. The squad are through to the Welsh Finals again for the second year running. The Welsh Finals will take place in March in Swansea.



Dance, Dance, Dance...

On Saturday 14th October, we all travelled on a coach to London the day before the show. When we arrived at the theatre, we saw the other dance schools straight away. It was so exciting! We all sat down in the auditorium and one dance school at a time, we all learnt a dance and a song.

Later on that evening, each school lined up ready to perform two dances. We were the only school to include tap in our performance and we definitely had the loudest cheers!! The show, was Halloween themed and, to create the big finale, all the schools performed the dance and song we had learnt one last time, but this time all together! It was an amazing experience, and one we will never forget.

Written by Mia, Skye, Jess and Tahlia from the Vanessa Clarke School of Dance, Newport



Fast break!

A huge congratulations to Ben in Year 10.

He has earned a coveted spot on the Wales U15 Basketball team. Watch this space for more news on wins and matches as they happen.

Superb achievement, Ben...well done.



Young designer...

National runner up...

Grace is a runner up in the national Helping Hand Environmental competition, alongside Keep Britain Tidy and Costa Coffee, to 'Design Your Own Litter Picker'.

Grace not only designed her own equipment, but will also be able to see the winning design come to life when Helping Hand manufacture the design and present it to the winners!

Well done Grace!

Benito's Success

Congratulations to Benito Carnevale who secured a prestigious Management Trainee apprenticeship with Kier Construction.

After completing his A Levels in June, Benito went straight to work for Kier having to start very early in the morning to reach his placement, but is clearly benefiting from this pathway to success. As part of his training, Benito will also complete a degree in Construction Management at Sheffield Hallam University, and has agreed to discuss this route to employment and study at our Year 12 progression evening in March. Well done Benito!

Ministry of Science, Hamburg

On 20th October, I was honoured to fly to Germany to represent Great Britain at the German Ministry of Science Environmental Seminar. Throughout the weekend, I learnt a great deal about the issue of rising sea levels and the effects of litter on our marine life.

Despite the weather, we began with a tour of Hamburg Harbour, one of the biggest in Europe, and had a look at the underwater Elbe Tunnel which opened in 1911. Further into the weekend we went to the coast at Friedrichskoog, visited the seal centre, and took part in seminar sessions in-between.

The extent to which a single bag of plastic can harm sea creatures is unbelievable. In this country, we have seen whales washed up on our beaches with their insides filled with rubbish, and often turtles eat plastic bags thinking they are jellyfish. It was equally as amazing to see the effect of rising sea levels. As a worst case scenario, the sea could rise by over six feet, which would entirely change the shape of countries as we know them currently.

That's why it's incredibly important for us all to do as much as we can - whether that be an individual binning litter or



a factory reducing their CO2 emissions - it all helps.

Overall it was a fantastic experience and I loved meeting new people from both Britain and Germany. As we forge our own way, strong connections between our young people are all the more important and I'm proud to say I've played a part in that.

Written by Alexander Willis, Year 11



SJHS Sixth Form visit Westminster, London

Written by Alessandro Alfieri and Steffi Johnston, Year 13

At the end of November, we were fortunate enough to have been asked to join a group of other students from the Cardiff Diocese to visit the Houses of Parliament. The aim of the trip was to expose young Catholic students to the workings of political power within our country. Upon our arrival, we visited the education centre where we were involved in a workshop, which was followed by a guided tour of the Palace where we were able to visit The Chapel of St Mary Undercroft. I found it fascinating as I have applied to study Architecture and to witness mesmerising iconography within the five vaulted bays was remarkable.

We also had the opportunity to sit within the galleries of the House of Commons, whilst they were in motion. This beneficial experience developed our knowledge on current issues within British society. In particular, they were discussing the budget during our visit as well as child maintenance. We were able to witness a bill being proposed and learnt about the steps taken to progress from a bill right the way through

to a new or updated law. The tour also included a visit to the Westminster Hall and a debate on whether the voting age should be lowered to sixteen, which caused quite an uproar amongst the students within the diocese, as there were many conflicting opinions!

Following this, we had afternoon tea on the Terrace Pavilion, where we were able to meet with a variety of MPs which allowed us to further our understanding of the history of Parliament and the current political state of the country. Lord Murphy of Torfaen spoke to us about his work in encouraging and promoting young students to apply to top universities around Britain through the Seren Programme. The overall experience was very enjoyable as it presented us with an insight into the foundations of political decision-making within Great Britain. It was brilliant to have an opportunity to speak to many politicians. We believe it is important that young people are educated on political affairs and this trip was a fantastic way to do so as it allowed us to evaluate our own.

Dates for your diary 2018

Spring Term

TYMOR Y GWANWYN

January	
8	Spring Term begins
8	Year 9 Foundation Progress Exams
11	Year 11 Parents Evening
17	Parent/Carer Digital Safety Evening
19	Year 11 Mock Results Day
25	Year 11 Pathways Evening

February	
6	Safer Internet Day
6	Year 11 Collaboration Parents Evening
12-16	Random Acts of Kindness Week
13-16	School Production of Grease
16	Inset Day
19-23	HALF TERM
March	
1	Eisteddfod
1	Year 9 Parents Evening
14	Year 12 Progression Evening
15	Year 8 and 9 Girls HPV Vaccinations
15	Year 9 Pathways Evening
19	St Joseph's Day Concert
19-22	Year 10 Kintbury Retreat
28	Year 9 Geography Trip to Cadbury World
30	Year 8 and 9 Skiing Trip to Austria
30-April 13	EASTER HOLIDAYS

Please be aware that if there are any unforeseen circumstances, these dates might change.

Catch the St Joseph's RC High School news as it happens on:

www.sjhs.org.uk

twitter.com/sjhsnewport

www.facebook.com/stjosephsnewport

St. Joseph's RC High School

Pencarn Way
Tredegar Park
Newport
NP10 8XH

Telephone: 01633 653110

Fax: 01633 653128

Email: sjhs@newport.gov.uk

www.sjhs.org.uk

Ysgol Uwchradd Gatholig Joseff Sant

Ffordd Pencarn
Parc Tredegar
Casnewydd
NP10 8XH

Ffôn: 01633 653110

Ffacs: 01633 653128

Ebost: sjhs@newport.gov.uk

www.sjhs.org.uk

