

# Insight

Spring 2016 Gwanwyn

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

Taflen wybodaeth swyddogol  
Ysgol Gyfun Gatholig Joseff Sant



## JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY 2016

The Holy Year of Mercy began on 8th December 2015 on the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. The Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy is an invitation to all Christians to draw closer to Jesus who is "the face of the Father's mercy" We are called in many ways throughout this holy year to experience God's mercy, through the undertaking of pilgrimages, walking through Holy Doors, and undertaking corporal and spiritual acts of mercy. By drawing closer to God in prayer and through undertaking acts of mercy, we hope to share God's transforming love with every person and creature. The Year of Mercy concludes on 20 November 2016, the solemnity of Christ the King.

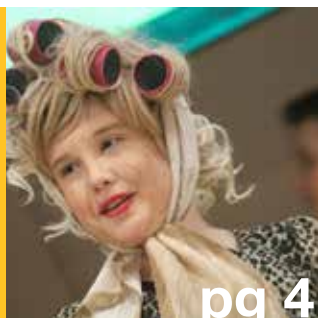
Mercy is at the heart of our faith. To truly grasp its meaning, we turn to God who is mercy. Throughout Scripture, God is referred to as merciful and loving. We believe that Christ reflects God's mercy and brings this to fulfilment. Throughout the Gospels, Jesus embodies mercy and love in each of his actions and words. On the Cross, Jesus pays the ultimate price and gives himself over to mercy, crying out to the Father to forgive our sins. Mercy is revealed to us through the Resurrection, when the Lord brings our salvation. In the words of Pope Francis, "*mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instils in us the courage to look to the future with hope.*" **Pope Francis invites all of us within the St Joseph's community during this Year of Mercy, to contemplate God's redeeming love, and to share compassion with one another.**



Serving God Through  
Learning Together

Yn Gwasanaethu Duw Trwy  
Ddysgu Gyda'n Gilydd

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## Headteacher's Message neges y pennaeth

**Mr T Brown Headteacher**

**Dear parents and carers,**

The students will all take part in Passiontide Services in the final week of term reflecting on the meaning of this time of preparation. The Paschal mystery of Easter celebrating the death and resurrection of Christ is the greatest liturgical event celebrating events from Palm Sunday, through Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil.

St Joseph's RC High School has had a very successful

term with many highlights. In this edition of 'Insight' you will see our wonderful community showcasing the breadth and quality of experiences that our young people have engaged in throughout the term. The smiles that shine from every page are a demonstration of the joy that is present in the daily life of the school.

This term the school was placed in the top Green category in the Welsh Government categorisation system. This means St Joseph's RC High School is a:

- Highly effective school which is well run
- Has strong leadership and is clear about its priorities for improvement.
- Has a track record in raising the standards that pupils achieve.
- Has the capacity to support other schools do better.

We are pleased to be in this category and it is testament to our fantastic staff and pupils who not only achieved the very best outcomes in the

school's history this summer but who make a difference to each other's lives every day. We are not complacent and look forward to working with the whole school community to ensure that these outcomes are sustained and that we do the very best for every child in our care. The role our parents and carers play in this success is pivotal and we are enormously grateful for everything you do.

I would like to wish you all a happy, blessed and Holy Easter and thank you all for your continued support of the school.

**Best wishes  
Trevor Brown**



*“Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning.”* Benjamin Franklin



## Progress Results

**On Thursday 25th we held our first ever Mock Results Day for Year 11.**

Mr Brown emphasised to the year group the importance of learning from the ‘current progress grades’ to ensure target grades are achieved in the May and June exams.

Following this, form tutors hand delivered a report to every student and their faces on opening the results displayed the full range of emotions! It was great to see students talking to their teachers and each other about their progress and what needs to happen next to to ensure they fulfill their potential.

A key route to success is 2x45 minute ‘effective’ revision sessions each school night and 6x45 sessions every non- school day and weekend. **Year 11..over to you!**

Use our revision book to help you reach your absolute potential. Just scan the QR code on the right with your smartphone or tablet.



# Eisteddfod

# 16

Years 7 and 8 celebrated St David's Day on March the 1st with a successful and enjoyable Eisteddfod.

Dathlodd flynyddoedd 7 a 8 Ddydd Gwyl Dewi ar Fawrth y cyntaf gydag Eisteddfod Iwyddianus a mwynheuol.

*“This morning was excellent, everybody had so much fun and it was a day we will never forget”*

**Amelia 7J**

Lots of individual talents were displayed such as brilliant vocals from Ann Mary Lukose and Kate Catella from Year 7 and Janice Prince in Year 8; an energetic dance routine from Isabelle Hurley in Year 7; and a traditional Indian dance from Niya Joseph and Teresa Vellachalil in Year 8.

Arddangoswyd llawer o dalentau unigolion fel canu anhygoel gan Ann Mary Lukose a Kate Catella o Flwyddyn 7 a Janice Prince ym Mlwyddyn 8; dawns egniol gan Isabelle Hurley ym Mlwyddyn 7; a dawns draddodiadol o India gan Niya Joseph a Teresa Vellacelli ym Mlwyddyn 8.

Mateusz Kuczynski from 8O played the clarinet beautifully and a huge thank you to Niya Joseph for all of her hard work learning how to play “Sosban Fach”, “Calon Lan” and the national anthem on the piano to accompany the pupils.

Canodd Mateusz Kuczynski o 8O y clarinet yn hardd a mae rhaid imi ddweud diolch yn fawr enfawr i Niya Joseph am ei gwaith caled dysgu sut i chwarae “Sosban Fach”, “Calon Lan” a'r anthem genedlaethol ar y piano i gyfeilio'r disgyblion.

The Chairing of the Bard Ceremony was another highlight of the Eisteddfod, which saw pupils being crowned the champion of an English competition that they had entered. Both winners from Years 7&8 were escorted to the stage by Mrs Davies and Mrs Purcell, draped in a red cape, and then paraded in front of their Year group to receive the accolade of being the best writer by Mr Loader.

Uchafbwynt arall yr Eisteddfod oedd Cadeirio'r Bardd, a welodd disgyblion yn cael eu coroni fel pencampwyr cystadlaeth Saesneg a enillon nhw. Hebryngwyd y ddau enillydd o Flynyddoedd 7&8 i'r llwyfan gan Mrs Davies a Mrs Purcell gan wisgo clogyn coch ac wedyn parediwyd nhw o flaen eu grwp Blwyddyn er mwyn cael yr accolad o fod yr ysgrifennwr gorau gan Mr Loader.

## Eisteddfod winners

Year 7	Year 8
Poetry recital 1st 7V, 2nd 7O & 7P, 3rd 7S	Poetry recital 1st 8O, 2nd 8E & 8H, 3rd 8S
Sosban Fach singing 1st 7T, 2nd 7O, 3rd 7S	Calon Lan singing 1st 8O, 2nd 8S & 8E, 3rd 8J
Overall winner - 7O	Overall winner - 8O
<b>Winner of the chair Glemin James</b>	<b>Winner of the chair Zaid Mathieson</b>

## Enillwyr yr Eisteddfod

Blwyddyn 7	Blwyddyn 8
Cyd-adrodd 1af 7V, 2ail 7O & 7P, 3ydd 7S	Cyd-adrodd 1af 8O, 2ail 8E & 8H, 3ydd 8S
Canu Sosban Fach 1af 7T, 2ail 7O, 3ydd 7S	Calon Lan singing 1af 8O, 2ail 8S & 8E, 3ydd 8J
Enillwr dros dro - 7O	Enillwr dros dro - 8O
<b>Enillwr y Gadair Glemin James</b>	<b>Enillwr y Gadair Zaid Mathieson</b>







# Easter Reflection

*“The great gift of Easter is hope – Christian hope which makes us have that confidence in God, in his ultimate triumph, and in his goodness and love, which nothing can shake.”* Basil C Hume, (1923-1999) Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster



Two thousand years ago, in the Middle East, an event occurred that permanently changed the world. Because of that event, history was split. Every time you write a date, you're using the resurrection of Jesus Christ as the focal point.

What's so important about Easter? It's important because it proved that Jesus was who he claimed to be. He was God in the flesh, and he came to earth to save us.

Three events occurred in a dramatic succession on that Easter weekend: the trial of Jesus, then the death of Jesus, and finally the resurrection of Jesus.

You know the story but it's important to remember that Easter is not some memorial to a nice, good religious teacher who lived 2,000 years ago. It's a celebration of the fact that he is alive today. We are living proof and approximately one billion Catholics will celebrate this Easter.

## Scripture text

*“...as to his divine holiness, he was shown with great power to be the Son of God by being raised from death”* (Romans 1:4)

Easter is the good news about God's Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who came as a human baby, born into King David's royal family line. Four historical records say he showed himself to 500 people at one gathering. Can you imagine witnessing his death and then seeing him walking around Jerusalem three days later? What an amazing thing! When Jesus was hanging on the cross, the sceptics and critics mocked him and said, *“If you're the Son of God, why don't you just pull yourself down from that cross? Why don't you just come down and show that you're really God?”* Jesus had something more spectacular planned. He said, *“I'm going to let you bury me for three days, then I'll come back to life to prove that I am what I am.”*

What does this mean to us today? In one sense, Jesus Christ is still on trial. He's on trial in the heart and mind of every person who has not yet acknowledged him as the Son of God, the Saviour of the world. The real importance is that Jesus came to SAVE us! Jesus came to show us how to be the best human being, to be as God desires us to be; and to reach our eternity with confidence because of our attachment and friendship with him. He gave us his all and this is celebrated at every mass, and especially at Easter.

Pope Francis says, *“Let us not be closed to the newness that God wants to bring into our lives! Are we often weary, disheartened and sad? Do we feel weighed down by our sins? Do we think that we won't be able to cope? Let us not close our hearts, let us not lose confidence, let us never give up: there are no situations which God cannot change, there is no sin which he cannot forgive if only we open ourselves to him.”*

This Easter season, let the risen Jesus enter your life, welcome him as a friend, with trust: he is life! If up till now you have kept him at a distance, step forward. He will receive you with open arms. If you have been indifferent, take a risk: you won't be disappointed. If following him seems difficult, don't be afraid, trust him, be confident that he is close to you, he is with you and he will give you the peace you are looking for and the strength to live as he would have you do.

## Prayer

**Lord, the resurrection of Your Son  
has given us new life and renewed hope.**

**Help us to live as new people  
in pursuit of the Christian ideal.**

**Grant us wisdom to know what we must do,  
the will to want to do it,  
the courage to undertake it,  
the perseverance to continue to do it,  
and the strength to complete it.**



# School Comms

## New On-Line Payment System Goes Live from Monday 14th March 2015

**St Joseph's are very pleased to confirm that the new school online payment and communication system went live on Monday 14th March 2016.** Parents and staff are able to make online payments for school meals via the free Schoolcomms smartphone app or via the school website using debit or credit cards. As parents/carers, you are also able to view your child's school meal balances and top them up at any time, as well as viewing what your child has purchased. Schoolcomms is used by over 2,000 schools across the UK and is known to be easy to use, effective and reliable.

The key aims will be to make it easier via Schoolcomms for parents, carers and staff to pay any time at all and reduce the amount of cash being carried around school, as well as saving the school time and money on administration.

**A large number of parents, carers and staff have already downloaded the app. If you haven't done so as yet, you can still do so by following the simple instructions below:**

- If you have a smartphone, you can download the "School Gateway" app from the App Store (Android and iPhone). Both you and the school avoid incurring charges for text messages and future message exchanges will be FREE. It is quick and easy to do. All you need is the email address and mobile phone number that the school holds on record for you.

- Alternatively, you can visit the website [www.schoolgateway.com](http://www.schoolgateway.com) and click on "new user". You will receive a text message with a PIN number to log into School Gateway. If you experience any trouble when logging in, please contact the school on (01633) 653118 and we will update your details on SIMS. Details on downloading the app are also available on our school website, just click on the INTERACTIVE navigation button.

Please note that the option to use the cash terminals in school to credit your child's meal account with cash on a daily basis will remain in place. The next phase of the project will be to notify you by text or email when new items such as school trips (including on-line consent), music tuition or event tickets are available for payment on Schoolcomms. We hope this will be in place for September 2016.

It is important as we move forward that we are able to communicate with each other more effectively, not just for financial issues, but also academic ones. It is vital that we have an up-to-date contact email address and mobile number for you. If we don't currently have this information or you have recently changed details, please e-mail [cmills@sjhs.newport.sch.uk](mailto:cmills@sjhs.newport.sch.uk) if your child is year 7-11 or [pryan@sjhs.newport.sch.uk](mailto:pryan@sjhs.newport.sch.uk) if your child is year 12-13 and we will update our records on SIMS.

**We hope that the option to pay and communicate online makes daily life a little easier...**

## MEETWOOD FLAC 2016

No, it's not a spelling mistake! On 26th of January St Joseph's main hall stage was transformed into an intimate live music venue. As part of the A Level Performing Arts course Year 13 students treated a crowded audience to a selection of the hits of Fleetwood Mac. With a cute little twist on the original band's name students decided to present their performance as a night of 'Meetwood Flac'.

A wide selection of hits from across the Fleetwood Mac catalogue included; 'The Chain', 'Go Your Own Way', 'Don't Stop', 'Songbird', 'Landslide', 'Dreams', 'Big Love', 'Little Lies', 'Rhiannon', 'Rockin' Blues' and 'Rolling Man'.

A great night's entertainment was provided by the students with excellent vocal and instrumental skills enthusiastically showcased! Well done Year 13.





## Auschwitz, Poland

**On Wednesday 24th February, myself and three other members of the Sixth Form, Ruby, Jay and Mary, visited Auschwitz near Krakow in Poland.**

The horror of this word transcends the barriers of any language, and yet, it is just one small thread in what is so inadequately called The Holocaust. We were joined by a group of around 180 students from all around Wales as part of a programme set up by the Holocaust Educational Trust, an organisation that aims to keep the memory of The Holocaust alive for future generations. Before the war, the nearby town of Oswiecim was home to a thriving Jewish community of 12,000 people. Now, not one Jewish person resides there.

Each familiar story became an entire life; an entire community. Each statistic likened itself to a gaunt face or a trembling child, clinging onto the skirt of her mother as their future closed in on them and each flair of talent guttered out into that darkness. Too often do we think of this human tragedy as a story taught to us in a textbook. Seeing Auschwitz Birkenau closed that gap forever.

I can tell you now that there were no “monsters.” There was only man. It was man who tore the hair from thousands of women and children so that it could be used to fill the leather interior of a Nazi official’s slick black car. A graceful braid was once attached to the head of a smiling girl, who may have flaunted her golden locks at schoolboy admirers. It was man, clean shaven and smartly dressed, who rounded up everyone that this girl had ever known and herded them to the chambers at Auschwitz and other such sites. Imagine these people passing you by, one after another, childhood friends, relatives and teachers; people you had loved and even people

who you had grown to dislike. Those who taught you about faith and God, and those who have helped to define your beautiful and unique identity. Imagine the familiar faces of all those people whose stories you may never have had the chance to hear. Imagine, as you too are shoved to the back of that final procession.

All of this because of the faith they were born into, all of this because they happened to be born at the wrong time and into the wrong world. One point five million children, six million Jewish people, all turned to dust as the world stood silent.

To shy away from these facts would be an injustice, so too, would it be wrong to disregard the countless other victims of that terrible period, those who did not conform to Nazi ideals. Homosexual people, the Roma-Sinti people, political opponents, and even those who were mentally or physically disabled were all systematically murdered in camps scattered across Europe. In total, 11 million people perished during the Holocaust, and for what?

As part of his day job, Reinhard Heydrich headed the infamous Gestapo, a pillar of the Nazi terror state. In 1941, Heydrich became paramount in orchestrating the “Final solution to the Jewish problem.” As part of his day job, this man was responsible for the systematic slaughter of thousands of Jewish people, all from behind his desk. On the side, Heydrich enjoyed fencing, fancied himself a musician and after a particularly taxing day at work, he was greeted at the front door by his wife, Lina, and his children, Silke, Marte, Klaus and Heidar Heydrich. This was a man who had his own justifications for the persecution of the Jewish race. And he was not the only one. Across Nazi Germany, and later Nazi occupied Europe, ordinary citizens became implicit in the destruction of an entire race, culture and tradition, whether through direct or indirect action, or as silent bystanders. How then, does a civilian population descend into the depths of madness and inhumanity?

Truthfully, I cannot even begin to fully understand the answer to that question. I do, however, believe this: it was not some Jackal and Hyde transformation, nor can any supreme being be blamed for the persecution of the Jewish people. The answer lies far closer to home. Gradually, everyday people made choices that shaped their conscience and the history of their country forever. Gradually, the Jewish person was dehumanised, first through the eyes of an individual, then through the eyes of the masses, and finally, through acts of mutilation against the entire Jewish population of Europe. And there lies the contemporary relevance of the Holocaust for us today. As soon as we look upon each other as anything less than fellow people, the descent to inhumanity may begin. Such words as “Jew”, “victim”, “immigrants” and “refugee” have become mere labels that we too often use to try and define what should only be called “humanity.” I believe that this is our greatest challenge; to see the person behind the name, to see the person behind the number, to see the person that is reflected in us all.

**By Joseph Draper, Year 13**

# HISTORY

“

*To forget the dead is akin to killing them a second time”*

**Elie Wiesel, Survivor of the Holocaust.**



# Berlin



**From the 26th-28th of February 2016, we were lucky enough to spend the weekend in Berlin as part of our study of European history. As the capital city of Germany, Berlin has been a focal point of numerous major historical events, particularly during the war years of 1914-1918 and 1939-1945.**

We were fortunate to be located on Potsdamer Platz, granting us quick access to all the major sites of the city. However, up until 1989, it was an area of wasteland, colloquially referred to as 'No Man's Land'. It once served as the area between the wall that separated East and West Berlin, completely desolate and it remained in this state until the wall fell. After staying here, it is difficult to believe that just twenty seven years ago, this area of wasteland served as a place where many were killed in vain as they struggled to reach the Western side of the city. Today, Potsdamer Platz is a bustling corner of Berlin. Upon our late night arrival in Berlin, we were encouraged to explore the area surrounding our hotel. Such a vast range of buildings and landmarks met our eyes. Old fragments of the wall sat parallel to pristine multi storey buildings, and this really made us consider how the stern control of the Allied forces in this city post World War Two were present not so far in the past. On the same evening, we came across the iconic Brandenburg Gate – arguably one of Germany's most notable monuments. The sight of the gate at night was utterly spectacular, and inspired excitement within us all for what the remainder of the trip would bring.

Day Two in Berlin began with a tour of the city, during which we were given the opportunity to stop off and look around for ourselves. Our tour guide was very memorable; as a woman who grew up in East Berlin, she gave us a fascinating and, a times, deeply personal insight into life in Berlin when it was a city split in two. However, through our guide's childhood stories it became much simpler to visualise life in Berlin during this era as she explained the implications that it had upon her everyday life. For the two of us, we were struck by how



we take our own freedom and ability to travel for granted. In the afternoon, we took a tour of the Reichstag building. The Reichstag played a hugely significant role in the rise of Hitler, and so this visit was paramount for the group as the Nazi period is one which had been studied in depth since Year 11 for many of us. Considering its prominence in history, it was strange to see how contemporary the building was.

Much to our disappointment, our final day was soon upon us. We left the hotel early to embark on our tour of Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp. The sheer scale of Sachsenhausen camp was enough to make us stop instantly in our tracks. The clear structure of the camp's layout provides evidence for the facts that the persecution of so many was systematic and planned, something which lays bare the cold nature of the Nazi regime. The sights of narrow beds in wooden barracks are enough to stir up feelings of anger towards such events.

Our visit to Berlin concluded with The Story of Berlin Museum. This museum is unique in the fact that it strays from the conventions of a typical museum, and it portrayed Berlin through the ages in a rich and vivid way. Both of us are able to say with confidence that our visit to Berlin was easily the most engaging trip we have had the opportunity to take part in. It enhanced our grasp of German history and its place within worldwide affairs, and we are sure this will assist us as we take our A2 exam at the end of this school year.

**By Casey Boswell and Beatrice Crowley, Year 12**

## Hitler on Trial

On Monday 29th February GCSE History students went to Cardiff to watch a performance of 'Hitler on Trial'. It was a great success. Written by Josh Brooman and Chris Culpin, it challenges GCSE pupils to think about contrasting interpretations of Nazi Germany.

Before the performance we were given a 50 minute exam-busting workshop in which we were shown how exams are marked. This was most enlightening as it showed us important mistakes which are commonly made and then contrasted them with an answer of better quality.

We then watched a 75 minute performance of 'Hitler on Trial', in which we were to give a verdict on whether or not Hitler was guilty of crimes against peace. This showed the opposing arguments for the question 'Had Hitler had always intended going to war?'. He was found guilty after a close-run vote of 117 to 105. All in all it was a very enjoyable trip which mixed learning with fun and I would have no hesitation in recommending it to another pupil. **By Harri Thomas, 11S**





*“I have really enjoyed the Island Project together with my classmates and friends. It turned out to be a huge success where we were able to explore our imagination, artistry and teamwork. The whole experience was a combination of excitement, fun and stress; trying to work out what was needed for our project.”* **Kate Catalla**





**Best Dance 7T. Best Anthem 7H. Best Island Facilities 7O. Best Effort 7O.  
Best Map 7T. Best Costume 7S. Best Flag 7J. Best Currency 7E.  
Best Myth 7P. Best Dish/Food 7V.**

**Most Enthusiastic Pupil Isabelle Hurley 7O. Overall Winning Island 7T.**

**When our Year 7 students arrive from all our different feeder and non-feeder primaries in September, the Year 7 team continue to work with the Year 6 teachers and introduce a project which intends to unite all the students as one form.**

The event is called the 'Island Project' and revolves around each form designing individual villages that come together to form one unique island.

Each form thought of a creative name for their village and designed features such as a national costume, flag, dance, anthem and even a national dish. Team Vortex excelled themselves with a very impressive homemade cake - yum!

The project was celebrated in the Main Hall where the students were able to perform and showcase their talents. The awards for 'Best Dance', 'Best Island Facilities' and 'Best Overall Island' were judged by Mr James, form reps and Sixth Form students to ensure no bias! .....The overall winner was 7T.



**Congratulations to all members of Year 7 for a truly enjoyable day where talents were able to shine.**



# YEAR 7 HOCKEY UNDEFEATED!!

**Congratulations to the two Year 7 teams (Apples and Pears) who have been undefeated in their league pool rounds. Excellent teamwork was shown by all pupils, with many of the games resulting in a four goal win.**

**Well done to the U16 pupils** who regularly attended training and matches during an extremely busy time at St Joseph's during their GCSE journey. Some very outstanding performances and teamwork shown through some very tough matches, especially the last game of the season. Da iawn girls

### Thank you...

A massive thank you goes to Georgia S (Year 12), Steffi J (Year 11), Niamh M (Year 11) and Carys W (Year 11) who have carried out extra coaching responsibilities throughout the season. Your commitment and team spirit has not gone unnoticed, and has inspired many of the younger pupils to attend training regularly. Very much appreciated indeed!!

Also a huge 'Thank you' to our regular supporters of parent and carers who have followed us weekly in many of our home and away fixtures, come rain nor shine!!



# Champion Gymnasts

**A massive congratulations to Shauna P, Francesca B, Cerys T, Lowri T and Amelia W. The 5 girls competed for the school in the Welsh Schools Floor and Vault Championships 2015/2016 in Cardiff.**

# U14 HOCKEY AN AMAZING SEASON

Another excellent season from the ever determined and fully committed team. All pupils gave 100% effort, come rain or shine for each of their league matches. The girls won all of their league matches, and drew one game, league winner result is pending so fingers crossed!.

**The U14 girls came third overall in the SE Wales U14 Cup. Very well done girls.**

# Hockey Stars...







Wales U20s Indoor Long Jump championships bronze.

Wales Senior Championships bronze in Long Jump.

Junior Wales gold medallist indoor athletics at High Jump and Long Jump.

British Junior Championships Long Jump bronze medallist.

British Junior Heptathlon Bronze medalist.

**Kellen J** has had a busy but very successful year in athletics. We are all proud of Kellen's achievements and wish him all the luck in the summer season.



## Sporting Excellence

**Congratulations to our hard working rugby league players who have been selected to represent East Wales rugby league:**

Year 9: **Callum P, Luca VS, Will FG**

Year 10: **Ben T, Ieuan S, Kris N**

Year 11: **Dan J**

Year 12: **Jake McD** (also S Wales Scorpions u18s)

Former pupil: **Connor A**

Fantastic to see **Max W** representing Wales U18s Vs England this year. Max has had a number of injury setbacks this season and we are all proud of his achievements.

Another congratulations to former pupil **Leon Brown** who is currently involved with Wales U20 six nations championship squad and are currently on track for a grand slam.



## CRICKET FOR WALES



**Congratulations to Rose E, Year 12 on her continued selection for the Wales U17 Girls; which will see her compete in the Wales U17 ECB One Day Competition.**

**Rose will also be competing for Wales Senior Women in the Royal London One Day Cup.**

**Congrats** to seven pupils for the U16 and U14 South East Wales Hockey selection. Both squads have been undefeated all season against the three other County areas in South Wales. Excellent performance by all.

**Steffi J, Year 11**  
**Kitty M, Year 9**  
**Carys W, Year 11**  
**Tegan W, Year 9**  
**Freya S, Year 10**  
**Martha P, Year 9**  
**Ffion P, Year 8**



## CARYS'S SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS HOLDS NO BOUNDS...

Carys is currently training with the Welsh U16 Hockey Squad (Outdoor), and has been an active member of the 360 and NAG programmes. **ALSO** a massive congratulations to Carys on her selection for the U17 Football Welsh Camp in February. Carys also gained her U16 Welsh Cap during her recent appearance in the U16 tournament in the Faroe Islands, where she played against Iceland and Northern Ireland.

### Further County Football Squad Selections:

U16 Carys W and Courtney W (Year 11)

U14 Natalia S and Tegan W (Year 9)

## GO BETHAN!

Bethan is currently training with the Welsh U18 and Senior Hockey Squad (Outdoor) and was part of the training squad for the Indoor Europeans. Bethan has also played in the National League, representing Swansea Ladies Hockey Club.

Bethan has been part of the U18 squad for the International Test series and has been selected to play in Switzerland in March.

# LAB in a Lorry!

**At the beginning of December 2015 the 'Lab in a Lorry' came to our school for four days.**

The 'Lab in a Lorry' is an interactive mobile science laboratory that gives young people the chance to explore science through hands-on experiments. It is operated by the Institute of Physics in partnership with the Welsh Government, the Schlumberger Foundation and STEMNET. It is staffed by practising scientists and engineers.

Each lorry is a self-contained experience - it rolls up and is ready to go! During the visit our pupils carried out experiments in light, scattering, optoelectronic in medicine and resonating a wine glass. The event was thoroughly enjoyed by all those who participated and strengthened their scientific knowledge.



*“The experience gave me more chances to think about my profession in the future as a scientist or even a nurse”.* **Maria Dampfi, 7V**



## THE FUTURE OF ENGINEERING...

In October six Year 12 students began their annual engineering project as part of the Engineering Education Scheme Wales. The project involved working alongside Eastman Chemicals. The students were presented with a problem that Eastman are experiencing on their site and given five months to design a solution to this problem. The students spent these five months working extremely hard on a written report, making a model of their design and planning a presentation to be given at the awards day at Swansea University on March 24th.

As a result of their hard work each student in the group has been awarded a gold CREST award, which is Britain's largest national award scheme for project work in Science, Technology, English and Mathematics.

**Congratulations to Jerrin Baby, Jake McDonald, Callum Doughty, Ewan Cook, Nikhil Jacob, Joyal Benny and Jakub Dziechciarz.**





This term has seen the start of a coding club that will give KS3 students the chance to learn a range of coding skills and use some of the technology that is available.

We have started with learning some Python code and HTML so students can create their own programs and develop their own web pages.

This week has seen the arrival in school of the micro:bit. As part of the Make It Digital initiative, the BBC has collaborated with over 25 organisations to create the BBC micro:bit, a personal programmable device, which will be provided, free of charge, to every child in Year 7 across the UK.

It provides an exciting and accessible introduction to coding on a simple hardware platform. Its purpose is to enthuse, excite and empower a new generation of digitally-creative young people. This is why the BBC micro:bits are specifically designed for young people themselves to own.

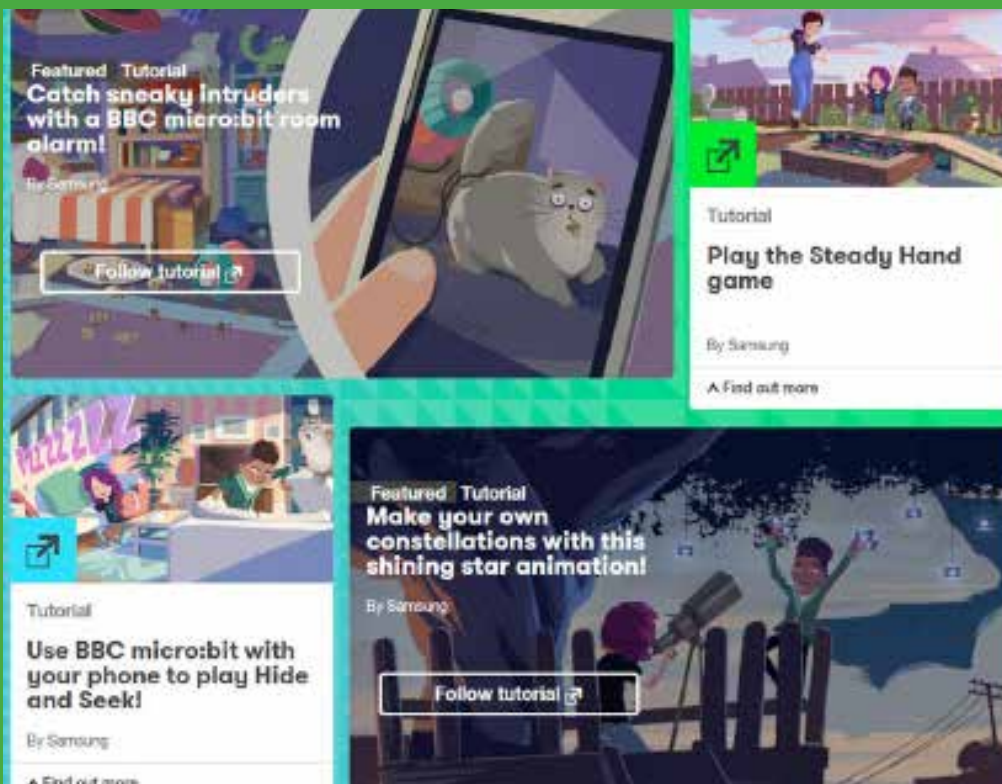
The BBC micro:bit will introduce students to the joy of computing. Making one's personal device do whatever one wants is empowering. Programming the BBC micro:bit will tap into a student's imagination and creativity. The device and programming environment provide a playful way to explore a multitude of computational behaviours.

Students who have a Raspberry Pie device will already be familiar with the kind of features, game making, sensing and coding opportunities that devices like these offer.

# CODE CLUB



Code club meets Monday at 1.25pm to 2.00pm in S1



**Examples of the kinds of things that can be done with micro:bit are:**

- Creating games that can be played on your tablet or phone
- Create devices such as burglar alarms
- Connect to your phone or tablet to develop code like Scratch
- Using sensors to detect environmental conditions

**The link to follow is: [www.microbit.co.uk](http://www.microbit.co.uk)**

# -25°

now that is really cold!!!







## The America ski trip was an incredible experience.

After two years of planning we finally set off at 5am from school to make our way to Heathrow. The first part of our trip was in Lake Placid where we skied at Whiteface for five days. The skiing was amazing and we managed to cover the whole resort, including a few of us being able to ski the 1984 Olympic downhill run – Skyward!

Students who were beginners made incredible progress and everyone was able to ski, even in conditions reaching -30C.

After a wonderful time skiing, we then travelled to New York where we had a surreal first night viewing the skyline at dusk from the 'Top of The Rock' and we ate in Times Square! For the last two days we fulfilled our stereotypical role as tourists. From the Brooklyn Bridge to the Statue of Liberty, we had the chance to see the heart of the Empire State from all possible perspectives.

Away from all the excitement we took some time to visit the 9/11 memorial 'Ground Zero' and this was a truly moving experience. After ice-skating in Central Park we concluded our amazing adventure with a full-on shopping expedition, where many holes were burned in many wallets.

**By Bethan Doughty**



# BULLIES OUT!

## YEAR 10 PSE



As part of the WBQ an enthusiastic group of Year 10 students have set up a 'Bullies Out' group to help support younger pupils in Years 7 and 8.

Since October, the group have been preparing to unveil their initiative by undertaking a range of consultation and training events in order to meet the needs of Key Stage 3 pupils.

A day was spent with a National Training Provider in order that the volunteers understood the principles and techniques of being a peer mentor and the key responsibilities they will have. Through extensive research and interpreting views and opinions the group has found out that bullying is a concern to young people in today's society but many are unsure or afraid to speak out. The Bullies Out group have advertised their ethos in assemblies and form periods and will provide an opportunity for younger pupils to speak out as well as developing confidence, self esteem, support and encouraging pupils to play a more active role in our school community.



IT ISN'T BIG TO  
MAKE OTHERS  
FEEL SMALL.

## YEAR 7 AWARDS

CONGRATULATIONS TO YEAR 7  
PUPILS, WHO BETWEEN THEM HAVE  
RECEIVED OVER 20,000 PRAISES



# BULLIES OUT!

## YEAR 8 ASPIRE

*“Bullies want to abuse you. Instead of allowing that, you can use them as your personal motivators. Power up and let the bully eat your dust.”*



**Winners of Cyberbullying campaigns:**

**Winning video:**

8O – truly inspirational...

**Best article:**

8H – Erin, Annalisa, Mark, Ryan S and Jess.



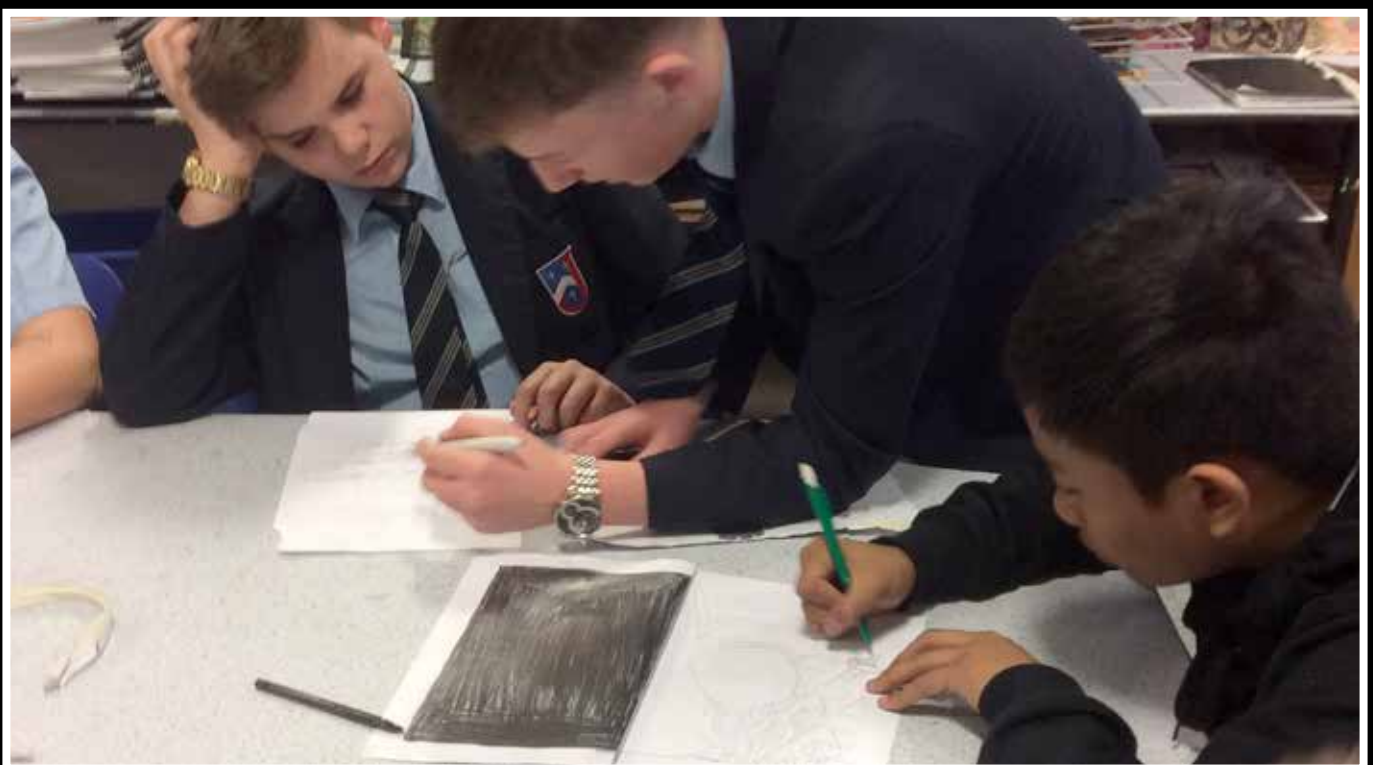
The Year 8 Aspire project, looked at Cyberbullying in all its forms and required pupils to research the effects of this on others both nationally and locally. The pupils has to create a newspaper article as well as a short video indicating the dangers of the ever increasing problem within our society.

The project is tailored to create opportunities for pupils to work within form groups to complete tasks which utilise and further develop their literacy, numeracy and ICT skills. The theme of this project (and others to follow during the year) consider the interests of young learners, as well as challenge them to solve problems they may face in everyday life or in the future workplace.



# ART News ///

As part of our community hours for WBQ, myself and a group of Year 10 art students have been busy providing and leading workshops for up and coming year nine artists. These workshops cover difficult and specialist processes e.g. sculpture, glass fusing, lino, digital art and more. They have been extremely successful, well attended and it has been beneficial for year nine because they are actually starting their GCSE Art early!! It has also been enjoyable to see them learn and to be appreciative of our expertise and time. **Joseph Windsor 10H**





# LONDON TOWN

**In the February half term, 20 GCSE and A Level Art students took a trip to London for an exciting museum and gallery experience.**

The object of the visit was to be immersed in the art and culture of the vibrant metropolis. The students visited three museums including the V&A, the British Museum and the Hunterian Museum of Anatomy and Pathology. Lots of observational drawings were made which will become fantastic starting points for their areas of research.

They were also treated to a tour of the Slade School of Art and a look around the studio spaces of the BA and MA Fine Art students; taking in the environment was awe inspiring especially the rich aroma of oil paint that permeated the building. Friday night was a chance to unwind with a dinner and a debrief at Pizza Express, followed by the lights of Leicester Square and a movie at the iconic Empire Cinema.

If that wasn't enough, on the second day the students took an open top bus tour around the capital taking in the sights of Buckingham Palace, St Paul's Cathedral and the Houses of Parliament (we had many with an excellent eye for photography in the group). A quick pit stop for street food and shopping in the Camden Lock Market followed by a few hours to soak up the delights and artistic wonders of the Tate Modern and the Bankside Gallery, taking notes and making more sketches.

**Returning to Newport late on Saturday evening, they were all stimulated by the range of artwork they had seen but also happy to rest their feet!**







Total raised:  
**£5000.00**

*Truly spectacular*

Fundraising shared between Dreams & Wishes, Latch and Clic Sargent..

## Fun & Fancy Run

The weather might not of been kind to us but it didn't dampen down the true St Joseph's spirit of our Key Stage 3 pupils.

We can remember the day with a smile due to the fun of the costumes, the determination of the students running in the rain and the generosity of our community to help us raise the £5,000 for the good cause so close to the school's heart. Well done to everyone who took part and thank you to our community for your continued support.







## World Record...

Jenna McDonnell styled 300 heads of hair in 300 minutes to break a new World Record at St Joseph's RC High School. She and her colleagues raised a massive £1,192.03 for the Ieuan the Lion Memorial Fund.

Congratulations Jenna and team.



## Premier League Reading Stars

The Premier Football League has an initiative to support children's literacy. They supplied a scheme of work, supplied resources and gave us access to a special website that let pupils see the skills that Premier League stars have.

Ten Year 9 pupils were chosen to take part in this initiative. During each lesson the pupils were given an activity related to reading, then a football skill - using the Sports Hall as a base.

Many Premier League teams such as Arsenal, Manchester United FC, Spurs FC, Manchester City FC, Leeds United FC and Chelsea FC supported us as well sending signed photos, programmes, letters etc. Mr Evans and Mr Watts met with the pupils once a week - they really enjoyed each lesson. It also produced some great results.

**Congratulations to Year 9 pupils  
Morgan C, Sophie A, Natalia S, Lucy T,  
George W, Emilia G, Toby M and Shauna P.**



# Dates for your diary 2016

## Summer Term TYMOR Y HAF

April	
25Mar-8Apr	Easter Holidays
25 Mar-2Apr	Skiing Trip to Austria, Year 8/9
11-13	Geography Trip to Afon Llwyd, Year 10
14-15	English Trip to Stratford, Year 13
25-28	Kintbury Retreat, Year 10
27-28	National Reading and Numeracy Tests
29	Training Day
May	
2	Bank Holiday
3-4	National Reading and Numeracy Tests
4-8	Sports Trip to France, Year 8/9
9May-10Jun	Year 12 Study Leave
12	English Trip to Vue Cinema Cardiff, Year 10/11
24	English Trip to New Theatre Cardiff, Year 8
25-31	MFL Trip to Barcelona, Year 8
26	Feast of Corpus Christi
30May-3Jun	Half Term

June	
6-17	Progress Exams, Year 7/8
13-17	Progress Exams, Year 9
13-17	Year 12 WBQ Week
20-24	Enterprise and Employability Event, Year 10
23	Geography Trip to Kenfig Reserve, Year 12
29	Feast of St Peter and St Paul
30	New Year 7 Parents Evening
30Jun -1Jul	History Trip to Belgium, Year 10
July	
1	Training Day
6	Key Stage 3 Celebration of Excellence
7	Sports Day
8	History Trip to Bullace Hill, Year 8
11	SJHS Summer Concert
12-15	Science Trip to Porthcawl Beaches, Year 12
16-20	MFL Trip to Paris, Year 8/9
20	Last day of the school year

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](http://www.sjhs.org.uk)  
[twitter.com/sjhsnewport](https://twitter.com/sjhsnewport)  
[www.facebook.com/stjosephsnewport](https://www.facebook.com/stjosephsnewport)

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