

Insight

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

Taflen wybodaeth swyddogol
Ysgol Gyfun Gatholig Joseff Sant

Autumn 2015 Hydref



PUPILS ACROSS THE WORLD

Growing Global Citizens for today and the future.

At St Joseph's we strongly feel that our curriculum and ethos has always succeeded in helping to shape our pupils into becoming the global citizens of today and the future. We are a school blessed with cultural diversity, and we are very proud of the everyday actions our pupils and staff demonstrate. They show a deep rooted respect for the earth's resources and people. Every year our pupils raise thousands of pounds in charity events to help less fortunate people in our local, national and international community and every year many trips are organised that help to widen pupils cultural understanding, appreciation and respect. This term, four of our sixth form pupils have been selected by the Rotary to receive funding towards international youth camps and we have also hosted visits from international pupils and teachers. Within school we also focus heavily on sustainability. 5000 plastic bottles have already been saved from landfill since September and we also recycle just about everything possible!

Our next steps are to ensure that our forty Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship (ESDGC) reps help develop the three year action plan, prioritising on international links and our ESDGC responsibilities.



Serving God Through
Learning Together

Yn Gwasanaethu Duw Trwy
Ddysgu Gyda'n Gilydd

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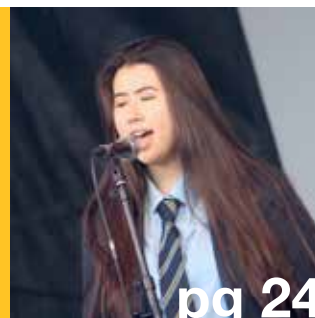
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Headteacher's Message neges y pennaeth

Mr T Brown Headteacher

This term has been a very busy one for both pupils and staff as we continue to work together on our school improvement journey.

The range of stories in this edition of our newsletter demonstrate the wonderful opportunities our young people have to develop as well rounded, global

citizens within our nurturing environment, which places Christ faith at its' heart.

We were delighted to be selected this term as one of the Welsh Government's 'Pioneer' schools that will help to shape and develop professional learning for education staff across the region. This is testament to the vibrant learning culture that exists in the school for

both student and staff as we 'Serve God through Learning Together'.

As we approach the end of the calendar year, we also embark upon the start of the pilgrimage that is the Jubilee Year of Mercy established by Pope Francis. It runs from 8th December 2015 to the 20th November 2016 and Pope Francis desires that the year "will be steeped in mercy, so

that we can go out to every man and woman, bringing the goodness and tenderness of God." We will look to celebrate this at St Joseph's at every opportunity through our prayer life and our actions throughout the year.

In this season of Advent we wish you peace, joy and contentment now and in the New Year.

Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship (ESDGC)

A big thank you to the pupils that represented their year group so eloquently...

Rhys Thomas, 7V
Jelena Lazic, 8T
Callum Penn, 9S
Anna Brown, 10O
Louie Shepherd, 10V
Matthew Roche, 11P
Bethan Doughty, 12A
Joe Whittington, 13X



International visitors

On November 10th we were delighted to host five international teachers from Italy and the Netherlands. It was a pleasure to meet these teachers and to learn about their education systems. They were very complimentary about what they had learnt from senior staff, and observations of pupils and teachers during lessons. A special thanks goes to the Science, PE, Geography and Maths departments for their support.

We were not content with just one set of visitors! On November 11th we offered seven International University pupils a chance to see our school in action. St Joseph's pupils from each year group welcomed them to the school and gave inspirational speeches about themselves and their aspirations. Bethan Doughty also assisted Mr Nunn in giving the pupils a guided tour during lesson time.

Our future plans are to link up with these Dutch and Italian schools and also to offer more opportunities for international visitors to come in and support our pupils. This will help to develop and strengthen our pupils understanding of their responsibilities as local, regional national and global citizens.



Paris...

Midnight at Asda, a few lonely shoppers are joined by over 40 excited Year 8 pupils, ready to embark on a tour of the most romantic city in the world. Of course, romance wasn't on our minds... Disneyland was! We only had eyes for a human sized rodent with enormous ears. Little did we know Paris was to deliver so much more than Walt's Wonderful World. After waving to our parents, the curtains were shut and everyone got some shut eye...not!!! The music was blaring, snacks were out and the journey began. Our driver had the patience of a saint as Trap Queen played for the tenth time.

We saw so many things...The Stade de France from the track, to the changing room, to the taped crowd roaring as we ran out of the tunnel was an experience I won't be forgetting in a hurry! The Arc de Triomphe was 284 steps of very hot, leg burning torture, but the view from the top was worth every moment. We could see the whole of Paris - spectacular! The view was breathtaking and everyone loved it. The trip showed us French cultures such as food, art, architecture, sport and fun and we were able to experienced all of these things on a daily basis. A trip none of us will ever forget. **Written by Tegan Waters**



At the top of the Arc de Triomphe!!



The whole city laid out like a map.



Soooooo pleased I came to Paris...



Enjoying French culture in the sunshine!



Sacré-Coeur, stunning...



Just blend in like a local!!





The whole Paris gang at Sacré-Cœur



Copains...



Copines...



A very hot walk up the steps to the top of the Arc de Triomphe, phew!



Nous aimons Paris!



"My favourite bit was the boat ride down the Seine - but it was very, very hot!"

NYC

In October this year Art and Drama pupils made the transatlantic crossing on Virgin Airways to the United States of America.

“With a New York state of mind we headed over the Hudson River in the gaze of dusk to begin our NYC adventure. It will be a memory we will never forget, the lines of bright lights, bustling chatter and the total splendour of the city itself, looming over the horizon with an ominous yet exciting glow.”

“New York was filled with lights and busy, working people; the whole experience was bright and unbelievable.”

An arty perspective...

On our first day we went to the 9/11 Memorial, which was absolutely breath-taking. Two pools were surrounded by the names of the victims, and were a poignant memorial. They also brought home how huge the towers were and how big the tragedy of 9/11 was. It was really surprising and sad to see that on the memorial plaques with all the names there were members of the traffic control department and one name had 'and unborn baby' after it. That was devastating.

After the 9/11 Memorial we went on the Staten Island Ferry which was UNBELIEVABLE!! The ferry ride was surreal. It was really odd seeing Manhattan and the Statue of Liberty with our own eyes; it felt like we were standing in a postcard. The Statue of Liberty was amazing to see. It was about as American as it is possible to get. We got to see a fantastic view of New York and it was great fun going on the ferry.

We arrived at Central Park, and had the nice surprise of seeing horse and carriages in the middle of New York City. The park was beautiful, with lots of autumnal coloured trees offering a distinct difference between the bustling city and the calming park scenery. Playgrounds were filled with children, artists were displaying their work for us to buy and dogs were running around enjoying the open space as much as we were. The park was so big, that we would have to come back and explore more of what it has to offer another day as we had most definitely not had enough of it.

We visited Times Square a few times during our trip. It was absolutely awe inspiring. In the night it was lit up brightly by the flashing billboards and was full of people, with costumed comic book characters walking around. In the day it was just as full of people and just as awe inspiring but somehow calmer. When we went on the Rockefeller Centre tour we had the chance to see Times Square from above and it was odd to see that a place that seemed so huge and all-encompassing when we were in it was just normal buildings from above.

One evening we visited the incredible Ellen's Stardust Diner, a diner that mixed good old American food with even better old American Broadway. In fact, it brought song and dance to our table! The waiters and waitresses even danced on the tables! The music was everywhere; with young hopeful performers singing for an audience in between serving burgers, and the place came alive with applause between bites. The food was delicious; everything you could hope for in an American diner and the tips in the diner go towards singing and dance lessons, to get those waiters and waitresses a real chance to follow their dreams. So far, 21 have made it to the stage. The diner itself was small and cosy, but had an upstairs, which was where we were. The stairs were decked with seasonal skeletons and the chandeliers were all webbed up for Halloween, and the diner truly had its own fun and unique personality, and its unique place in New York.

Central Park seemed like the only escape from the wild city, as we entered there was a huge expanse of green in contrast to the grey and silver of the city buildings. It was easy to get lost amongst the many bridges, walkways and lakes along with the bustling ice rink. Overall, it seemed to be the calmest place in New York, which comforted us. It was an inspiring setting to draw the beautiful scenery, and enjoy a small amount of relaxing time before the crazy journey home.

Written by Ewelina Gil, Erin Hawkins, Jasmine Celtel and Aimee Pollock, Year 11





A dramatic point of view...

*“From start to finish,
New York was by far
the best school trip
I have ever been on.”*

Spending time in the big city with my closest friends was one of the best experiences of my life, being able to compare their culture and diversity to ours back home made everything even more exciting. Visiting all the tourist destinations, like going on the Staten Island Ferry to see the Statue of Liberty and the New York City skyline up close, was amazing!.

My favourite part was going to the top of the Rockefeller Centre. You could see the whole of New York!. Gazing over the roof tops and finally experiencing the sheer size of the city was awe inspiring. Going to see the Broadway show ‘Avenue Q’ was one of my favourite parts of the trip, the nature and humour of the show was hilarious - we could all have a good laugh and it will always be a wonderful memory.

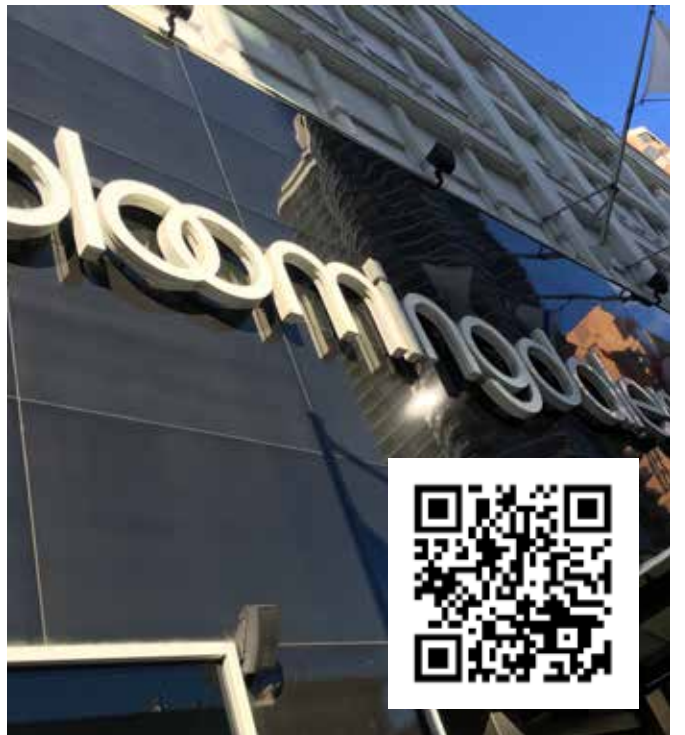
Visiting New York was an experience of a life time and because I shared the experience with my closest friends, it made it ten times better! I will never forget it.

Written by Katie Vaughan





Times Square, Staten Island Ferry, Top of the Rock at Rockefeller Center, Grand Central Station, MoMA, Broadway Workshop, Broadway Show Avenue Q, Central Park, Fifth Avenue, Hard Rock Café, Wall Street, 9/11 Memorial, Battery Park, Ellen’s Stardust Diner, Bloomingdales...





Madrid2015

Our trip to Spain, October 2015...

Written by Ciaran Mulcahy-Jones, 11S



Our amazing Spanish trip to Madrid took place from the 22nd to the 26th of October 2015. It was jam-packed with culture, fun, football and even a celebrity along the way! We departed by coach from the Asda car park at 05:45am on the 22nd of October headed for Heathrow Airport, ready for our two hour flight to Madrid on British Airways!!!

We arrived at Hotel Mediodia, in the late afternoon. Our hotel was great and had a beautiful view of Acocha, the main train station in Madrid. We then had a look around the local area including the lovely market square La Plaza Mayor, before going to bed.

On Friday we visited the Bernabeu stadium, home of

Real Madrid F.C. Sadly there were no footballers around but the tour, along with the Stadium, was out of this world. We got to see the pitch, the changing rooms and even the trophies!

After several hours at the Stadium, we went to El Sol shopping district, followed by pasta for dinner at Taberna De Baco. We ended the night with a peaceful game of bowling; teachers and pupils battling it out to see who can get the most strikes! The winner was Miss Watts.

On Saturday we went on a four hour coach tour of Madrid. We saw the Palacio Real de Madrid (royal palace) and stopped off at the beautiful royal gardens. After

the tour we decided to return to La Plaza Mayor market place and for some of us, we are very glad we did as when we went into one of the markets, San Miguel, we met Paul Hollywood from The Great British Bake Off!!!

After our brief chat with him, we were whisked away to go back to the hotel to prepare for dinner. We ate at Museo de Jamon, or the ham museum where we had a lovely meal of chicken and, yep you guessed it, HAM!

On Sunday we then went to Prado Museum, where we observed beautiful paintings from various places and artists. Sadly, we weren't allowed to take photos but we all still had a great time.

We finished off the afternoon with a visit to El Rastro flea market, where we bought various items from souvenirs to socks!! Then we went back to the hotel to get changed for dinner at Restaurante Sanabria, which was once again a fantastic meal.

On our last day, we went to the Museo de la Reina Sofia, where we saw amazing abstract art including over 5,000 bells hanging from the ceiling. We then returned to the hotel where we finished packing and departed for our flight home at 6:25 pm.

Altogether teachers and pupils had a massively fun but at the same time educational trip.



Star spotted...Mr Paul Hollywood



Jardines del Museo del Prado



Mrs Blake and Miss Watts relax



Classic photobomb!!!



"The Bernabeu Stadium was out of this world"



Press conference at Bernabeu...



Plaza Mayor, Madrid.



Una cena fabulosa...

SJHS & United World Schools

Teach the Unreached...

Earlier this year, we were fortunate enough to cement our relationship with UWC Atlantic College by becoming an Associate Partner School, which will enable us to attend many of their conferences and additional courses. We are now thrilled to announce that we have successfully become a partner school with United World School, a charity which works to improve education and the opportunities for young people across South-East Asia.

Established in 2008, UWS works in remote areas of Cambodia where literacy rates are amongst the lowest in the world. Children are born into poverty and have limited choices or opportunities with regards to their futures. Many simply remain living in the same small village their entire life, working the fields in order to source enough food to survive.

UWS change this. They build, run and maintain schools in these villages, offering the children an education and their parents some hope. They also change lives. In remote Cambodia, 23% of all children die during infancy. Since UWS have started building schools, this has been reduced to 12%. Put simply, UWS build schools and support communities by providing a free basic education, which can be achieved for £1 per week.

As a school, we are the first Catholic, first state, and first school in Wales to achieve this partnership with UWS, and we have been teamed with a school in the village of Som, in North-East Cambodia. **Our challenge is to raise £5000 over 18 months to support the construction and maintenance of the school for a year.** This will go towards employing and training a teacher, providing stationery for the pupils and basic building materials. A group of Year 12 pupils are running this, but we are branching out into Year 10 and hoping to involve as many in the school and wider community as possible in reaching our target.



united world schools

Please look out for us at school functions and events and please give as generously as possible. If you would like to contribute via our justgiving page then this can be accessed on

www.justgiving.com/SJHS-UWS



www.justgiving.com/SJHS-UWS

Advent

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.

Life is an Advent Season

The world is not as just, not as loving, not as whole as we know it can and should be. But the coming of Christ and his presence among us, as one of us, give us reason to live in hope: that light will shatter the darkness, that we can be liberated from our fears and prejudices, that we are never alone or abandoned. Pope John Paul II, once explained that, Christmas is not simply the remembrance of the Event that took place 2000 years ago when, according to the Gospel, the power of God took on the frailty of a baby. It is really about a living reality that is repeated every year in the heart of believers.

The mystery of the Holy Night, which historically happened two thousand years ago, must be lived as a spiritual event in the 'today' the Pope clarified. *"The Word who found a dwelling in Mary's womb comes to knock on the heart of every person with singular intensity this Christmas."* Advent is the perfect time to clear and prepare the Way. Advent is a winter training camp for those who desire peace. By reflection and prayer, by reading and meditation, we can make our hearts a place where a blessing of peace would desire to abide and where the birth of the Prince of Peace might take place.

Daily 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 and talents that have been given to us? Are we reverent of others, their ideas and needs, and of creation? Advent calls believers to become aware of Christ's coming and to act accordingly.

“And the Word was made flesh,
and dwelt among us.” (John 1:14)



*God of Love,
Your son, Jesus, is your greatest gift to us.
He is a sign of your love.
Help us walk in that love during the weeks of Advent,
As we wait and prepare for his coming.
We pray in the name of Jesus, our Saviour.
Amen.*



Maes Ebbw

Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship (ESDGC)

In July, the ESDGC committee was delighted to visit Maes Ebbw school. It was great to meet several of the teachers and pupils during their assembly and we were very pleased to be able to donate a cheque for £200. Maes Ebbw school will use the money to buy touch sensory equipment for pupils with severe learning difficulties.

The money was raised following the launch of the 'Uptown Junk 1' recycling initiative in which two pence of sponsorship money was collected for each plastic bottle collected, and hundreds of plastic bottles were recycled by staff and pupils. Please support Uptown Junk 2 this year. We plan to save hundreds more bottles from landfill and we hope from sponsorship that we can give an even bigger cheque to help our neighbouring school.

“In a gentle way, you can shake the world” Mahatma Gandhi

Many thanks, Planet Earth!



Charity Update

Cafod: Hunger Lunches have raised £103

Macmillan: Staff Coffee Morning raised £281

Ty Hafan: 11J made some beautiful rag wreaths and raised £160

This summer saw the refugee situation in Syria reach crisis point. Appeals from major charities were put out to the people of Britain to donate unwanted clothes, blankets, towels and other goods that could be used by men, women and children who had fled the country. As always the response of pupils and staff was overwhelming with enough donations to fill eighty seven bags being brought to the school. These were delivered to the British Red Cross who have sent them to refugee camps throughout Europe.



ASPIRE.

Design a Theme Park inspired by Shakespeare's' plays!

The theme park trade fair took place in the Sports Hall in June. It was a very lively event which created interest and excitement throughout the school. It provided the Year 8 with an opportunity to display all the creative work they had put into planning a Theme Park based on the work of William Shakespeare.

Initially the pupils were challenged to use their reading skills to research Shakespeare and his plays. Also, the challenge was to research some of the rides and designs of the famous theme parks all over the world. The pupils planned, budgeted and, using a variety of creative methods, produced models or visual aids to encourage the judges to stop at their trade stand.

The judges were particularly impressed with the confidence demonstrated by pupils who were keen to discuss their ideas and present their bid with enthusiasm and energy. Three forms decided to tackle the task as a whole class with 8H being recognised for building a model to indicate the whole layout of their park.

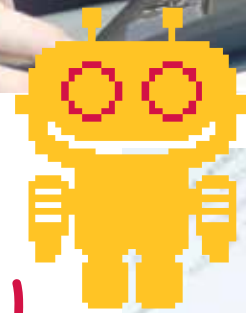
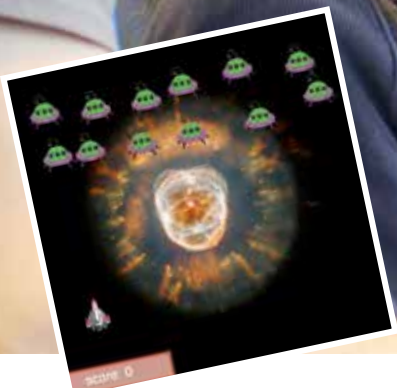
Overall results:

1st place - Shakes Pier, 8S

2nd place - Twisted Minds, 8O

3rd place - Shakespeare Wonderland, 8E



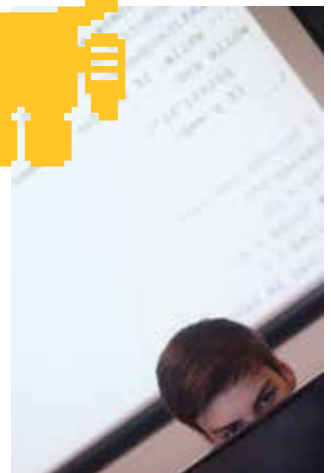
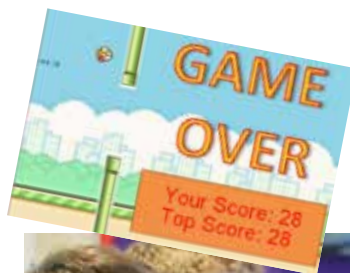


SPACE INVADERS AND CRAZY BIRD!

Year 10 GCSE Computing pupils took part in a University of South Wales TechnoCamps master class, building games in Java. The two games built were Crazy Birds and Space Invaders. Both games showed the pupils how to debug and add code and for the MAT learners there was the extra challenge of taking the games in a new direction, altering images and getting scoring systems working.

The pupils deserve a big pat on the back as the Greenfoot interface and language was completely new to them. It is always good to see pupils motivated and engaged; experimenting with code, hypothesising, speculating and asking questions of a high order to solve problems. The level of peer support in their work was a real credit to the group – da iawn pawb!

What is the point of making games? It is a great way of teaching complex coding skills in a fun and dynamic environment. The Greenfoot platform is part of one of their three final exams: a 2 hour on-line coding test where they have to solve problems using Java, HTML and Python. Many thanks to TechnoCamps for the workshop. PS: Mr Setchfield has the highest score in Crazy Bird so far!



PE



Transition Festival

Sadly the weather was not on our side for this event which meant the planned netball and football competitions had to be moved into the Sports Hall for two separate bench ball tournaments. Understandably, the young people were disappointed they couldn't perform in their chosen sport, but demonstrated excellent team spirit and commitment to performing to the best of their ability.

I know the whole PE department were pleased to see their level of enthusiasm, commitment and talent; certainly something to look forward to working with in the future. We were also very proud of our own young ambassadors who helped out on the day coaching small groups and officiating all of the games.

Pool A winners (Netball teams) St Patrick's
Pool B winners (Football teams) St Mary's Newport



Sea Cadets...

Beth, Year 9 has belonged to the Newport Sea Cadets since September 2013. They meet every Monday and Thursday and they do some amazing things.

"Two of my favourite things are the boating and sailing weekends, where I have learnt to sail a boat called a topper, and the camping weekends where we get the chance to all sorts of things like walking, map reading, cooking and rock climbing."

The best things for me so far has been doing the first aid training - I am now a qualified First Aider. This year's district competition was held at our unit in Newport. I hope go get the chance to go a ME (Mechanical Engineering) course soon too.



Swimming...

"My name is Mark, I am in Year 7 and I love sport." I am a competitive swimmer and train eight times a week for two hours a day and I swim around 5-6km per session.

Currently I am No1 in the Welsh Rankings in four events and 3rd on the official British Ranking in the 200m breaststroke. I also set up four Welsh group records.

What I have learned from sport is that it's not just a simple game but it can teach you about failure, joy, disappointment, excitement, winning and losing. It is important to choose a sport you love and how to warm up before training and stretch afterwards. It is also important to maintain a healthy diet. I like being able to help my teachers and my classmates during my sporting activities and PE lessons and I hope that one day I can inspire others.

I feel that in life it is important to have a dream and sport for me has helped me to live my dream. You should follow your dreams and to not let anyone stop you from reaching your goal! I recently competed for St Joseph's in the Urdd Regional Swimming Gala and I came first in both of my events 100m breaststroke and 200m individual medley and now I am going to progress to the National Finals in Cardiff International Pool on the 24th January 2016.

AMAZING ACHIEVEMENTS



Basketball...

Callum, Year 12 got accepted into the Wales U17 Basketball squad in September.

"We train in Cardiff University and it is really tough. It involves a 20 minute warm up, shooting practice, game situations and defensive positioning - all crammed into 5 hours throughout the day"

"The U17 team is a feeder team for the U18 team in preparation for the European Championships next year and I really hope to progress to that team."



Horse Riding...

Sian, 80, has been taking part in horse riding competitions and shows since the age of 11. Recently at the David Broome Events Centre she won two 1st place prizes for showing, three 2nd prizes and two 5th prizes. Sian's horse is called Frankie and he is 13 hands, 18 years old and in Sian's words he is *"fabulous"*.

This year, Sian is hoping to achieve even more, competing in riding shows in the summer. Da iawn ti Sian.



Cricket

Niall, 7E started playing cricket with his younger brother about two years ago at Malpas Cricket Club.

Soon enough he was playing for the older team with a harder ball. *"In one particular match I got two wickets in one over."* (An over is six balls).

It wasn't long before Niall and his brother were spotted by Gwent County Cricket and they are hoping to be selected to play for the main squad next season.

Sports Ambassadors



Congratulations to the following pupils who won awards at the presentation evening for Young Ambassadors on Friday.

Tegan Waters, Year 9
Overall Winner. School Sports Volunteer of the Year.

Georgia Shwartz, Year 12
School Sports Volunteer of the Year.

Elle Bentham, Year 11
School Sports Volunteer of the Year.

Martha Powell, Year 9
School Sports Volunteer of the Year.

PE NEWS

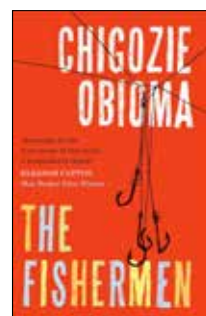
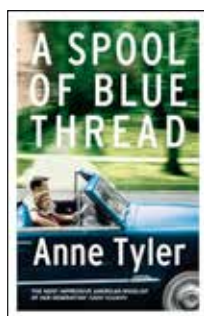
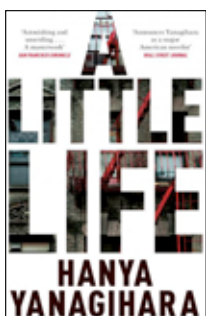
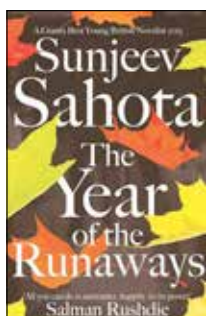
THANK YOU

A huge thank you to Persimmon Housing Group who donated £1000 to our PE department. This helped purchase a football kit, netball dresses and a hockey kit. Fantastic!

Our students look very professional and the feedback has been great at every sporting event.

We are very appreciative of your generosity. Thank you.





Man Booker Prize 2015

MAT literacy pupils read prestigious annual book award...

Some of our Year 12 & 13 pupils who are aiming to gain a place at some of the top universities in the country, have set themselves the challenge of reading all the books shortlisted for the prestigious Man Booker Prize.

Awarded annually, the Man Booker Prize promotes the finest in adult fiction by rewarding the very best book of the year originally published in English. It is the world's most important literary award and has the power to transform the fortunes of authors and publishers.

All the books selected for the award are of an exceptionally high literary standard, frequently challenging the conventional expectations of what a novel should offer, and reading them requires an exceptional level of commitment from the pupils in addition to the heavy workload of their A/AS Level exams.



"I've been in the school reading group since Year 7 and have always enjoyed the range and diversity of the books we've read and discussed. The Booker Prize has raised this to another level; the short listed authors are renowned for their ability to challenge the reader to question their traditional ideas of a novel. Reading and sharing our responses to the books has made this an enriching and valuable experience and really useful in preparation for studying English Literature at degree level".

Hope Johnson, Year 13

"The books on this year's short list deal with issues very relevant to the many problems that we are facing in Britain and around the world today: self-harm, gang crime, immigration and the exploitation of illegal workers, urban poverty and the futility of life to name but a few! Despite not being the easiest books to read, the quality of the writing and the questions they raise make it a really worthwhile project to be part of to prepare me for studying at a higher level."

Kira Jupe, Year 12

"Whilst I enjoy reading books that push me, it's sometimes difficult to know what singles a book out from the rest and makes it great. Reading the Booker shortlist as a group, and questioning why these particular books were chosen, helps me to get a better understanding and appreciation of the best in contemporary literature."

Paige Knight-Davies, Year 13

THE MOON ROCKS

“The whole experience changed our lives, it gave us a whole new found love for space”

Janice Prince 8V, Fona Biju 8P



Lunar Samples and Meteorites

Written by Olivia Kingston, 8T

On Thursday 15th October we saw lunar samples and learned about certain meteorites that landed hundreds of thousands of years ago. They were fascinating - we even viewed them close up with a magnifying glass. One of the coolest things we saw was astronauts food. We even tried space ice cream! It was one of the nicest things I had ever tasted. My favourite part by far was feeling and viewing the rocks. It was one of the best Science lessons ever...

“It was an amazing experience.”

Jamie Pegg 8E

“It was fascinating. I never thought in a million years that I would see something so special. As soon as I saw rocks from NASA I knew I was in for a treat.”

Tegan Gudden, 8S





A big thank you to Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum, for allowing us to use these two pieces by Welsh artist Ivor Davies.

ART Cardiff

by Freya Jones, Year 12



In November Year 12 Art pupils visited the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff. This trip was planned to inspire and encourage us to experiment with new techniques and take bold risks with our ideas. We got up close to the work of Shani Rhys James and marvelled in her technique of applying thick oil paint to a portrait for dramatic effect.

We also visited the Ivor Davies exhibition where we viewed his Retrospective Collection; art taken from throughout his life, including his mixed media pieces based on politics and society. Whilst viewing this exhibition, some of us were inspired by the context of his work. We were interested in

including further contextual understanding into our artwork to make our artistic enquiries more appealing.

This trip also included a visit to the Martin Tinney Gallery and Koywood Gallery to give us a sense of how our work could be presented if we wanted to further our careers. It also gave us an idea of how to express our artwork professionally. These visits inspired us to be more adventurous and to think outside the box, most great artists do. Not all art has to be complicated to be of a good standard. These galleries proved how a simple yet very interesting piece of art can convey a very deep message through expression.



ST CECILIA'S CONCERT JAZZ ENSEMBLE FRIARS WALK CONCERT BEATBOXING



This really has been a busy year so far here in the music department...

Not only have we welcomed Miss Evans, our new fabulous music teacher, to our St Joe's family but also we have had a quick remodelling of the practice rooms and even created some valuable office space or The Control Centre as we like to call it!

The remodelling of the practice rooms has meant that we now have tip-top spaces for over 150 of our pupils who regularly enjoy learning piano, drums, singing, guitar, bass, steel pans, flute, saxophone, clarinet, oboe, bassoon, trumpet, trombone, baritone, violin and cello! WOW.

Following the wildly successful visit from the beat boxing guru that is Dean, I'm not sure quite where we'll fit his beat boxing, DJ'ing and rapping lessons in the New Year...fit them in we will though!

The marvellous teachers of Gwent Music Services provide all of the above instrumental tuition and what a brilliant job they do. The pupils really do enjoy their time with these dedicated professionals.

The department has also been reverberating to a new sound this year. Thanks to the hard work and instrumental skill of Daniel Newberry (sax), Matthew Roche (piano), Luc Simmons (bass) and Nicholas Williams (drums) St Joseph's now boasts a top quality jazz combo who have been wowing in and out of school with their beautiful and lively jazz standards. We thought their sound couldn't get any better and then they went and enlisted the beautiful voice of Jennifer Marillat...pure delight!

Maybe you saw them playing live at the opening of Friar's Walk shopping centre where they drew a good crowd, despite the rainy weather. (At this point we have to be honest and admit that we have played no part in the top quality music they make, they've done it all themselves!)

Pupils studying at Key Stage 3, GCSE, BTEC and A Level have all been busy learning, practising and performing too. Our Year 12 Performing Arts A Level pupils have just recently treated audiences to a fantastic evening of entertainment at our joyful St Cecilia's Day concert.

The fast paced, busy school day holds many delights here in the music department, be that classroom learning, orchestra or choir rehearsals at lunchtimes or the huge number of pupils who make the most of the space and expertise available to them to do what they so clearly love... making music!

QR



PARIS



NEW YORK



MADRID



REVISION BOOK



GCSE BITESIZE

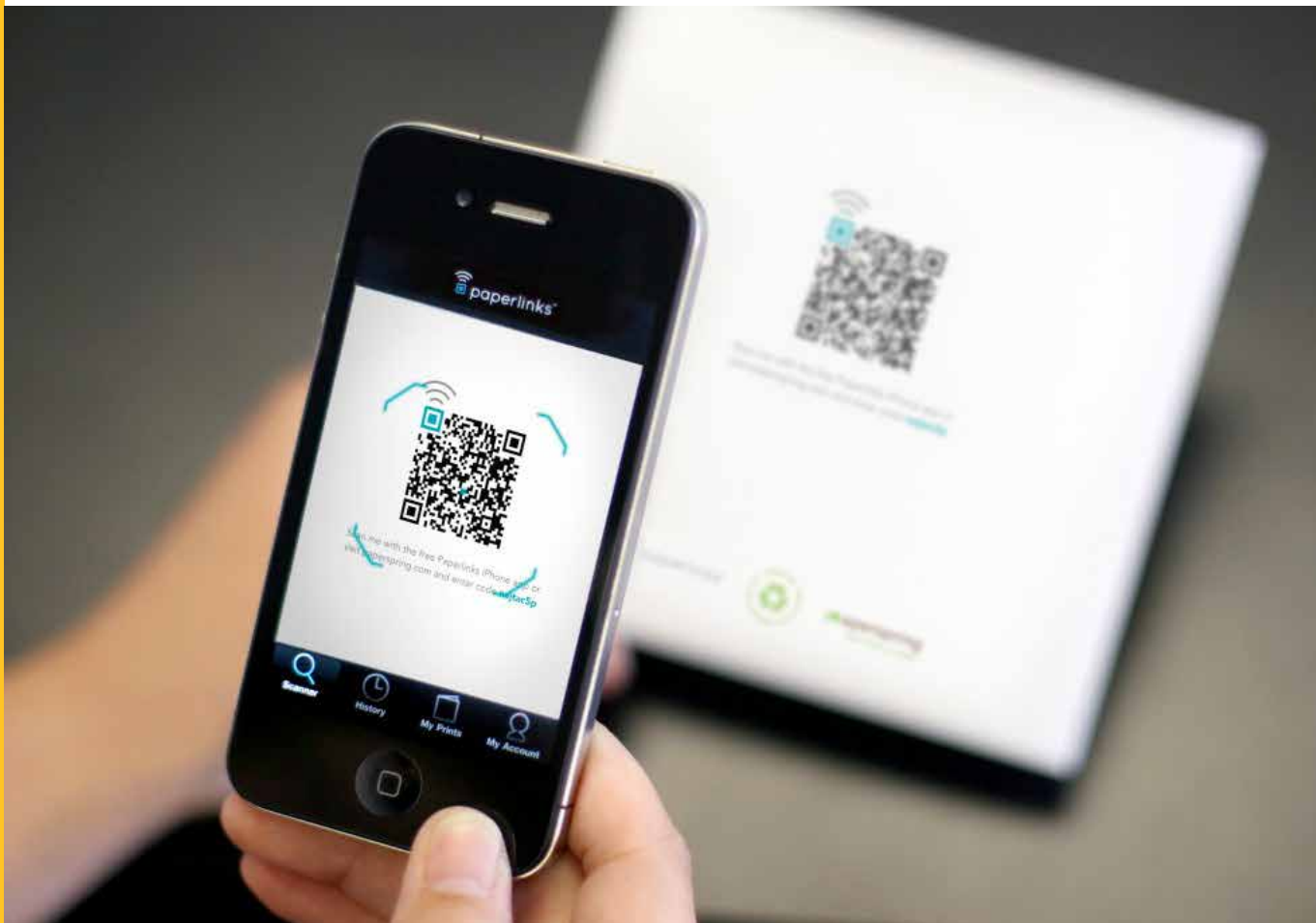


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Keep up to speed with all the exciting events and wonderful work that our pupils produce...



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What is a QR code? I guarantee that most of you have probably seen one, whether you know what it is or not.

If you have a smartphone, you can use these codes quite easily. All you have to do is download a QR code scanning app from your device's app store. Here is a list of good QR code scanners for each of the major mobile operating systems with direct download links.

- iPhone/iPad: App Store - QRReader
- Android: Google Goggles
- Blackberry: Free QR Code Scanner Pro
- Windows Phone: QR Code Reader

Once you have the app, simply open it on your device and it will show you a scan option that will look like you are looking through your device's camera. Simply aim at a QR code and scan! The page will open in your browser.

Dates for your diary 2016

Spring Term

TYMOR Y GWANWYN

January	
4	English and Science GCSE Examinations
11-22	Year 11 Mock Examinations
13	Year 8 Parents Evening
21	Year 9 Parents Evening
22-24	Welsh trip to Glan Llyn, Year 9
25	HPV Vaccinations, Year 8/9 Girls
27	Geography trip to Bristol Zoo, Year 9
28	Year 11 Pathways Evening

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

February	
3	Year 10 Parents Evening
5	Art trip to London, Years 10 - 13
5-7	Welsh Trip to Llangrannog, Year 7
9	Collaborative Year 11 Pathways Evening
10	Ash Wednesday
12	Inset Day
12-21	Skiing trip to Lake Placid, USA, Sixth Form
15-19	HALF TERM
26	English trip to WMC, Cardiff, Year 12
26-28	History trip to Berlin, Sixth Form
29-3 March	Kintbury Retreat, Year 11
29	History trip to 'Hitler on Trial', Year 11
March	
3	Year 9 Parents Evening
11-13	Geography trip to Afon Llywd, Year 10
16	SJHS Dance Show
21	SLB/MenAcwy Vaccinations, Year 9
22	Geography trip to Cadbury World, Year 7
24	Passiontide Service
25-2 April	Skiing trip to Austria, Years 7/8
25-8 April	EASTER HOLIDAYS

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