



Shine



Issue 1

I am delighted to welcome you to St Mary's first Shine Bulletin. We will be sharing this celebration of St Mary's student achievements with you every month during the academic year. It has been absolutely wonderful to read about so many of the fantastic accomplishments of our students across such an array of activities, both within school and outside of school. As you will read, this includes contributions to the spiritual life of the school, great efforts within in Sport, Music and Drama, commendable efforts within a range of subject lessons and excellent fundraising for charitable causes.

It is superb to see that so many of our students are making the most of their God-given gifts and talents and we know that this bulletin only includes a very small selection of the many achievements of our students during the first half-term. We look forward to celebrating many more of our students' successes in the months to come. Thank you to all of our students and staff for their hard work and efforts since we returned in September. We really are very blessed at St Mary's to have such a tremendous student and staff body.

Miss Patterson, Head of School

An unbelievable 126 students across all Year groups auditioned for Mary Poppins We can't wait to see the show.

12 Year 13 students have now completed the JP11 award. The reflections they wrote on how young people can make a difference and what it means

to be a baptised member of a community were so good, that some students will be interviewed at the awards ceremony in March.

A fantastic achievement by Pawan Martin and Emily Mooney who both took on the challenge of running the Junior Great North Run. Pawan raised over £400 for Cancer Research and Emily raised £500 for PSP Association.



A huge congratulations to Anna Watson McKenna, Igi Gudel and Jacob Nelson who received a certificate from the Association Board of the Royal Schools for Music.



Well done to Paul Freeman who won County Road to Wimbledon Tennis competition. An excellent achievement and he also got to meet Tim Henman.

Congratulations to Morgan French, Ciaran Macdonald and Feitong Wu who played for Northumberland U16 chess team and won the Pennine cup at a competition in Pontefract. They beat teams from Manchester, Merseyside and North Yorkshire to the title. Well done to Ciaran who came first in the Minor Competition of the Northumberland Chess Congress and won the title for most improved player in the county.

Thank you to everyone who helped in departments on the Open Evening, our visitors were extremely impressed and you were all fantastic ambassadors of St Mary's school.

Thank you to the choir who sang so beautifully at Fr Conaty's remembrance service

A huge well done to Sophia Marshall and Joe Hughes who both did an excellent speech at the Open Evening in front of over 650 parents and visitors. They spoke with such confidence and enthusiasm.

YEAR 7

Emma Urwin and Izzy Scurfield
play for Heaton Hawks
and won their
football match
5- 1- well done!

David Lancaster was awarded with Student
of the month for his excellent work in Maths
and Languages. He has a positive attitude to
learning and he is always very supportive of
his classmates. Well done David!

Well done
to all of Year 7! You have made an excellent
start to your time at St Mary's and you
have really impressed us all so far
with your politeness,
your hard work, effort
and excellent attitude
to learning. Keep up the
fantastic work!

Well done to the Year 7 boys football team who have
won their first three matches against Newcastle
School for Boys, Gosforth Academy and Walker School.
Congratulations to Layton Campbell, Ibu Oluwole-Oni
and Stephen Husband who have been selected to play for
Newcastle City Boy's under 12 team.

A huge congratulations to the Year
7 boys Rugby team who won 30 -0
against Newcastle School for Boys.
The boys played really well and was
their first game as a team. Players of
the match were Stephen Husband and
Ross MacDonald. The team then went
to win matches against St Thomas More
Blaydon and Thorp Academy. Well done
to Stephen Husband who was awarded
player of the day for the second time.

Janneke Crowdy is now training six
times a week and competing
twice a month in
swimming. Keep
up the hard work
Janneke!

Congratulations to Adam
Frizell who attended
a Fortnite
competition
and came second.

Jamie Bouchard and Ruby Hamilton have been learning
to Kayak. They both had great courage and helped
someone who was in danger at the weekend. Well done
to you both!

YEAR 8

Olivia Dawe came first in her gymnastics competition- well done Olivia!

Joshua Quinn received his green belt in taekwondo and is now working towards a green belt blue stripe- well done Joshua!

Congratulations to Jinwoo Lee who achieved grade 5 in piano.

Congratulations to Ben Reid who won a bronze medal at a swimming gala representing Gosforth swimming club.

Hannah McLaughlin came 4th out of 39 in a climbing competition- great work Hannah!

Well done to Laila Batcheldor who competed in a level 7 gymnastic competition.

Well done to Hannah Douthwaite who won 'Dance Showbiz Competition'.

Congratulations to Aqsa Umair who received her brown belt in Jujitsu and is now working towards her black belt.

Year 8 boys rugby team played an excellent game against St Cuthbert's. Although the team lost the match, they played really well. Sam Cleife was awarded man of the match for his fantastic defence. Well done to the team!



Prince Edward visited Jesmond Dene Real Tennis Club last Wednesday, Matthew Dyter and Tom Hetherington played Prince Edward and beat his team 7-5. An amazing achievement boys!

Honey Slasor came second in a cheerleading competition- an excellent effort Honey!



YEAR 9

Charlotte Berry was awarded Year 9 student of the month for her outstanding effort in all subjects- congratulations

Congratulations to Ella Shanahan who was successful in getting into the Satellite County Team for Netball.

Well done Tanisha Ahmed who came second in a recent Arabic test in her local mosque.



Well done to Nicholas Rose who received his black belt in Karate.

Year 9 Charity Committee organised a Halloween Fayre, which took place on 26th October. They raised an amazing total of £190 for Newcastle Dog and Cat Shelter.

A huge well done to Edward Holland who has been picked for the Newcastle Falcons Developing Player Programme for Rugby.

Well done to Georgia Simpson who participated in a fun run and raised money for diabetes research.

Thank you to Jack Burke who picked up some money off the floor and gave it back to the person who had dropped it.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR SO FAR



Year 8 Boys Rugby



Year 8 visit to Thurston



6th Form visit to Zambia



6th Form visit to Zambia



Year 8 Girls Rugby



Year 8 visit to Thurston



YEARS 10 & 11

Students in Y11 English Language have all delivered speeches as part of their GCSE Spoken Language Endorsement in English. This was a nerve wracking task; students had to write their speeches and give them to their class using only prompt cards, and then faced challenging questions afterwards, but the students did fantastically well. They spoke passionately on a such a diverse number of topics, ranging from teenage mental health to the history of Jazz music! A number of students achieved distinctions for their speeches, and there were particularly exceptional performances from Isobel Guthrie, Gabriella Nagy, Eleanor Lincoln, Grace Taylor, Pawan Martin and John Carr.

A group of 10 Year 10 students have signed up for the CAFOD Young Leader's programme. They have already had one day of training and are now planning on raising the profile of CAFOD in school starting with Advent.

Mr Boyle has been really impressed by Year 10's attitude to learning at the start of their GCSE courses- keep up the excellent work everyone!

Congratulations to Georgia Wiseman who got a distinction in all of her recent dance exams.

Joseph McStay, Niall Boothroyd, Lewis Burd and James Hepburn have enrolled on the RFU Tugby Ambassadors course. This will mean that they will qualify to coach at a junior level and they will be qualified level 1 referees. Good Luck with the course!

Thank you to Alex Histed and Ben Jubb who have both refereed Year 7 rugby fixtures and been very supportive of younger students. Well done to Ben who also plays for Colts team at Northern RFC and has moved up two years.

Well done to Jake Davison who had an interview and was successful in getting his first job.

Ruby Wilson is teaching musical theatre, tap and ballet in her spare time. Ruby's dance group have also entered a prestigious dance competition called Pulse Dance- Good Luck for the competition Ruby!

Congratulations to Jamie Mundy who won his first boxing match.

Rebecca Leitch flew a plane for the second time recently and whilst doing this she was allowed to perform some aerobatics herself. She has also recently achieved her bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. Excellent achievements Rebecca!

Staff have been really impressed by the caring nature of many students around school who help and support each other so well.

Megan Darwood continues to play netball for the county.

SIXTH FORM

Thank you to all of the students who have successfully launched the Sixth Form Café. They have taken responsibility for the stock, sales, cash handling and customer service in an impressive and professional manner.



11 Students in Year 12 have enrolled for the JPII Award this year. They have already begun their work in the local parishes and are raising social awareness. Good luck to everyone!

A huge well done to Marcio who has been successfully leading Dance Club every Wednesday lunchtime and sharing his gifts and talents with younger students. He has demonstrated excellent leadership qualities and skills.

Hannah Lee, Ben Nelson Taylor, Mary Delariarte, Erin Ruscoe and Hayley Chan have volunteered to be buddies to the younger students. They have been really supportive and helpful and been a great friend to their younger buddies.



Thank you to Lucy Hobbs who gave up her free time to help out at the netball tournament which took place at St Mary's last week.

Thank you to Jack Ward, Sarah Mulgrew, Sam Jankowski, Maddy Brown, Rachael Tye and Ruby Taylor who have all led Drama Club with younger students. They have all demonstrated excellent leadership skills and have motivated the Year 7 and 8 students with their love of drama.

Thank you to all of the sixth form students who sang in the choir at Fr Conaty's Memorial Mass. Tim Jones and Matthew Brown played the violin and cello and provided beautiful background music after the mass at the reception.

Our school gym is managed by Year 12 students who have shown maturity and leadership skills. They make the gym an excellent facility for other students and are always willing to help others.

Good luck to the 13 students who are applying as early applicants to Oxbridge and for dentistry and medicine in the UCAS process. They have worked incredibly hard and produced high quality personal statements and applications.

Year 12 Day of Aspiration took place on Thursday 18th October and was a huge success due to the excellent involvement, attitude and effort of Year 12 students. They took time out of the busy week to reflect on where they are and what their aspirations are for the rest of the year. This involved Form classes working together as teams to complete tasks, shared lunch and the day concluded with a liturgy. The day ended with prayers and readings read by Ellen O'Brien, Anisha Smith, Aidan O'Toole, Rory Bell and Mrugaya Mulay.

Year 12 students have been helping at Maths Clinic and have been guiding and supporting younger students who need extra help in Maths. Keep up the great work!





It has been amazing to hear about all of the wonderful ways in which our students are making the most of their God-given gifts and talents both inside and outside of school. We are so proud of all of our students here at St Mary's and all of their successes and achievements. I am looking forward to the next issue of Shine and the fantastic achievements to come. Well done to you all and keep up all of your hard work.

Miss Lague, Assistant Head Pastoral



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