



St Mary's

NEWSLETTER

Portraying our Parish Saints

As part of our work developing links with our local parishes, local priest Father Jonathon Bowes recently launched an art competition in school, in which students were asked to create artwork depicting the patron saints of our local parishes, St Teresa, St Lawrence and St Anthony. There were some fantastic entries and the artwork will be blessed by the Bishop at Confirmation Mass and then put on display within the Parish churches, a visual representation of the strengthening links between our school and our local parish communities. Well done to all who participated. Sarah Humphrey in Year 9's depiction of St Lawrence can be seen above and was part of a triptych design of all three saints.

Alina Rudzenis in Year 9 also completed a pencil drawing of Mother Theresa, overleaf, which has been sent to the Missionaries of Charity in Elswick, who have links with the work of Mother Teresa. This has also been recently blessed. Huge congratulations to the students.



Headteacher's Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,
We hope you had a lovely half-term break.

As you'll be able to read in this newsletter, our students continue to give so much to our school community and more widely. Examinations continue in earnest for our students. We are also planning lots of lovely 'end of term' enrichment for our students in Years 7-10 and Year 12, as well as planning for our Year 11 and 13 Proms.

We look ahead to a really enjoyable and successful final 6 weeks of the school year.

Very best wishes,
Miss Patterson, Headteacher.

Wilding Project

A group of students have been working hard over the past few weeks mapping the various habitats on the school grounds. The group have had a visit from Northumberland Wildlife Trust looking in more detail at the various nature parks in the North-East and thinking about what the group would like to start working on next.

The group have also been working with the North East Nature Park and have been mapping the wildlife that is found in the grounds of St Mary's.



Designing the Future of Newcastle

We're delighted to welcome architects from the firm MawsonKerr into the Sixth Form to speak to Geography students about how the high streets of Newcastle have changed over the past 100 years and how they might change in the future.

The students came up with several suggestions on how to improve the design of several high streets in the east end of the city, and how this could be implemented.



Personal Development Workshops

Over the past few weeks, the Sixth Form have held several personal development workshops with students looking at how to develop their employability skills in the future with local employers and universities. This has included looking at how to critically think and analyse information with Northumbria University, considering how to carry out a successful interview with the University of Sunderland, and considering to how to organise their time effectively.



World Trade

Recently, Newcastle University came in to school to lead a workshop with our A Level Business students looking at the concept of world trade. The students enjoyed taking the role of different countries and trading with each other.



Coast to Coast Fundraising Success

Ben Arend-Trujillo, Padraig Middleton, Ryan McCone, Alfred Lane and Fergus Whittaker in Year 12 completed a 92 mile 'Coast to Coast' bike ride in the half-term. The students raised over £3,000 towards their Sixth Form Expedition to Zambia in a few weeks and lots of this money will go to care packages for the communities in Zambia. Well done!



Congratulations Callum!

Well done to Callum Duncan in Year 11, who as well as revising hard for his GCSE exams, has also been representing his country in the Under 16 Rugby League team. Callum was selected to play for Scotland U16s in a match against England held in Cambuslang in Glasgow. Callum also has games coming up against Wales and Ireland. Having played Rugby Union for many years, Callum was encouraged to give Rugby League a try by one of his coaches only a year ago and has clearly made huge progress!



University Sessions

With Year 12 students starting to make decisions on which universities to apply to for their next steps in 2025, the Sixth Form have welcomed a varied number of universities in into the Sixth Form to speak to the students and to answer any questions they have regarding the different universities. The sessions from universities such as Lancaster, Durham, Teesside and Leeds Beckett have given the students a great deal to consider ahead of their final applications.



Year 10 Artists visit London

Year 10 Art Students had a wonderful day trip to London this week. Students visited the Tate Modern and the Natural History Museum to gather resources for their new coursework project. They loved taking in the sights on the South Bank and explored the work of artists past and present in the Tate Modern. The Natural History Museum experience was unforgettable, and students enjoyed taking in the iconic architecture and exploring the history of our planet.

Upcoming dates and events ...

Monday 24th June-
Year 7 Parents' evening (in school)

Friday 19th July- Last day of school before the summer break

