



ST PATRICK'S
CATHOLIC
COLLEGE

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FORMING LIVES READY
TO FACE THE FUTURE

NEWSLETTER

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Welcome from the Headteacher



In the month of November our Catholic Social teaching themes centre around similar ideas of solidarity, focusing on groups within the community who require our empathy and understanding. Solidarity arises when we remember that we need to stand side by side with one another, which we demonstrated during our remembrance week where we joined together in our poignant service.

As you will read across our newsletter we stood together supporting our Year 11 pupils in their practice examinations and with our local food bank providing donations through our harvest masses.

As Pope Francis says, solidarity is a commitment on those who are involved in education and the formation of our young people. Every day the pupils at St Patrick's Catholic College work together to support one another in their education and we build on this as a community.

Deborah Law



Remembrance

As a faith community, our daily prayers leading up to Remembrance Sunday were centred on honouring the sacrifices of the brave men and women who laid down their lives in the turmoil of war and conflict. Our heartfelt reflections also paid tribute to the profound work carried out by the Royal British Legion, underscoring their vital role in supporting veterans and their families.

Eager to contribute to the spirit of remembrance, our pupils dedicated themselves to crafting poignant poppies from wire and repurposed plastic materials. Inspired by the stirring Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red Poppy Display at the Tower of London in 2014, their collective efforts culminated in a striking poppy wall adorning the Reception area of our school, serving as a poignant reminder throughout the month of November.

In a heartfelt gesture of respect, some of our pupils visited Stockton Parish Church to plant poppy crosses in the serene Garden of Remembrance. Others participated in the solemn Remembrance Parade, laying a wreath at the Thornaby Cenotaph as a mark of deep reverence for the fallen heroes.

In the enduring words "They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them." May the spirit of their courage and sacrifice continue to inspire and guide us in the pursuit of peace and unity.

In the reflective moments of November, the poignant echoes of remembrance resonate not only within the walls of our school but in the hearts and minds of each member of our community. May the poppies, the prayers and the parades stand as perennial testaments to our commitment to never forget the profound sacrifices of those who secured our today.



Geography Field Trip

Year 11 pupils, as part of their GCSE geography course, are to complete elements of fieldwork that will form part of their Paper 3 exam. One based on a human study involving the impact of tourism in South Shields and the other part is a physical study looking at the impact of groynes at Hendon.

Pupils had to prepare in class beforehand completing their own risk assessments and data collection methods. They then went to collect the data at both sites. Pupils responded as true geographers facing the various autumn weather elements to complete this.

We rewarded ourselves with fish and chips!





CHRIST THE KING PUPILS ENJOY TASTER DAYS

Pupils from Christ the King primary school, our feeder primary school, recently had the delightful opportunity to participate in engaging taster days. Throughout their visit, the enthusiastic pupils immersed themselves in a day filled with scientific exploration, eagerly taking part in a range of experiments that not only ignited their curiosity but also showcased the wonders of the scientific world.

The classrooms buzzed with the energy of inquisitive minds as these young learners delved into hands-on activities. Our school community thoroughly enjoyed the vibrant presence of these young scientists, fostering a sense of camaraderie and excitement for the pursuit of knowledge.

YEAR 11 PPE'S

Prior to half term, Year 11 pupils embarked on their first PPE's of this academic year as they prepare for their GCSEs in May and June 2024.

Throughout Autumn, teachers have been revising with pupils in class and during enrichment to ensure they have the best possible opportunity of making a good start to their final year at St Patrick's Catholic College.

The pupils conducted themselves throughout the two weeks of exams impeccably and worked really hard to ensure they made progress from their end of Year 10 scores achievements.

We are so proud of the attitude and efforts of our Year 11 pupils since September and have no doubt this will continue as we head into their next PPE's after Christmas.



EXTEND THE LEARNING

Over the course of the last half term, pupils in Key Stage 3 embarked on a thrilling journey of experiential learning, marking a significant stride in our school's commitment to expand education beyond the classroom.

The fruits of their creative endeavours were unveiled during a lively showcase held on Friday lunchtime, where pupils proudly presented their innovative creations and received well-deserved praise for their dedication and hard work. The event was a testament to the incredible talent and enthusiasm of our pupils.

This exciting initiative is just the beginning, as we are poised to build upon this momentum by consistently providing opportunities for extended learning. Moving forward, the school will continue to send out 'extend the learning projects' each half term, ensuring that our pupils have ongoing opportunities to unleash their creativity, broaden their horizons and further enrich their educational experience.

GET IN TOUCH



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YEAR 7 PSHE FIRST AID

Year 7 PSHE class recently learned some life-saving skills.

They were taught the recovery position, CPR and the DR ABC first aid protocol. They even went a step further and practised putting each other into the recovery position. By learning the recovery position, these pupils now know how to help someone who is unconscious and keep their airway clear.

With CPR and the DR ABC protocol, they are equipped to respond in emergency situations, assess the situation and provide life-saving assistance. It's amazing to see young pupils taking the initiative to learn these important skills. They are becoming confident and responsible individuals who can make a difference when it matters most.

Massive praise to this Year 7 class for their willingness to learn!

HARVEST MASS

Pupils from our Faith in Action group in school took part in two Harvest Masses last month, one in Christ the King Church and the other in St Patrick's Church. In the lead up to the Masses we asked pupils for food donations for the local food bank.

We were really appreciative of the donations we received, especially during such difficult times. The pupils wrote their own prayers, on the theme of harvest, asking God to care for and give protection to those in any sort of need. It was a lovely start to them achieving their Bronze Award.

Well done everyone!



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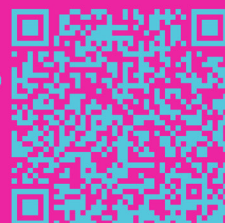
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