

Newsletter

Friday 8th October 2021

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Open Evening

Firstly, we would like to thank all parents and children who joined us for our Year 6 Open Evening event last Thursday – despite the torrential rain! It was wonderful to be able to host such an event in person again after last year's virtual event. 'Thank you' to the many students who came back to school in the evening to help out and for making our visitors feel so welcome. A particular 'well done' and 'thank you' to Amy, Sophia and Liam who spoke so confidently and affectionately about the college as part of the headteacher's presentation – you did us proud!

Careers 'Provider Event'

During Friday's staff INSET day, we hosted a Further Education Provider event for students in Years 10 and 11. The event allowed students to speak to up to 17 different post-16 education and training providers including Notre Dame Catholic Sixth Form College, ASK Apprenticeships, Carmel College, BE MORE Apprenticeships, Hugh Baird College, Mode Training and many more. The event was designed to support students in making key decisions about their future education and career. It was very well attended by our students who found the event incredibly helpful. A special 'thank you' to all of our provider partners who attended the event and to our Careers Coordinator, Mrs Hall, for planning such a well-organised and informative event.



Continued.....



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Headteacher message	1/2
National Poetry Day	3
Geography Newsletter	4
Parent Pay	5
Safeguarding	6/7
Whisper	8
Covid Advice	9/10
Attendance & Uniform.	11/12

Year 7 Dedication Service – Thursday 14th October

This Thursday (14th October), we welcome Year 7 parents to a face-to-face Dedication Service, which will be hosted by our College Chaplain, Miss Wall, our Head of Year 7, Miss Wishart and the Year 7 Pastoral Team. The service celebrates your child's induction into the Notre Dame family and will begin at 2.00pm. After the service, parents will also have an opportunity to meet your child's form tutor and find out how your child has settled in to life and learning here at Notre Dame. We look forward to seeing you there.

Sixth Form Open Evening – Thursday 21st October

Finally, we would like to invite all students and parents of Years 10 and 11 to attend our Sixth Form Open Evening, next Thursday, 21st October. Doors will open at 6pm and there will be a presentation from the Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form at 6.30pm. Parents and students will be able to visit stalls for each of the courses offered at our Sixth Form College, meet the teachers and find out about the content and entry requirements of each course. We look forward to seeing you there.



We wish every Notre Dame family a good week ahead

Mr Duffy

NATIONAL POETRY DAY

National Poetry Day was held on Thursday 7th October. The theme for this year was "Choice" Here at Notre Dame we celebrated by:-

These are some of the ways we will celebrate:

- Form tutors told students about their favourite poem and why.
- Students were encouraged to also ask their subject teachers what theirs is
- Students wrote a 'haiku' about 'choice' in your English lessons and shared these with their class. The winners were:-

Oscar Disley in Year 7 Byron Stewart Year 8 Paul Johnson Year 9.

- Students from different year groups read poems about 'choosing' to be better Using our 'four Cs'- charity, confidence, courtesy and courage

THE ROAD NOT TAKEN

ROBERT FROST

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

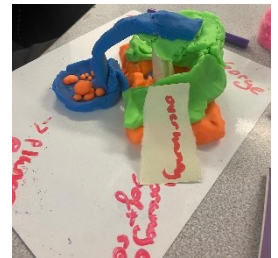
GEOGRAPHY NEWSLETTER

It has been an exciting start to the new academic year in the geography department at Notre Dame, as we have been lucky enough to welcome two new members to our team, Miss Carey, who completed her teacher training with us a few years ago and Miss Allen, a former student who was taught by Mrs McNulty, Mr Campbell and Mrs Brennan! They are both really enjoying being back at Notre Dame and have loved meeting all of their new classes.

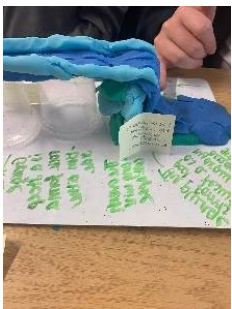
Over the past few weeks, year 7 students have been thinking about what makes Liverpool a great place and how we can use our map skills to prove this! It would be great if you could gather even more evidence, maybe a trip to the Albert Dock or your local park to take some photographs?!

Year 8 have made a fantastic start to their new unit about climate change. When they were thinking about the evidence for climate change, Mrs McNulty told her class how she was struggling to find conkers for her autumn display, so she was delighted when a group of students brought her the ones they had collected during PE!

If you have been watching the news lately, you may have seen footage of the volcanic eruption on La Palma, year 9 students will now be able to tell you all about why this has happened as they have recently been studying the causes of volcanoes and earthquakes, a great opportunity to chat about what they have been learning in school.



Year 10 and 11 students are starting and continuing, work towards their geography GCSE. Miss Carey's class were very excited when they saw she had brought the Play Doh to one of their lessons and didn't even mind when she told them they would still be doing work! The end result was fully annotated models of waterfalls and explanations of their formation. Judge the results for yourself.



Year 12 and year 13 were a little bit confused when they were given glasses of water and paperclips for one of their lessons, it wasn't a new health craze! They were asked to balance the paper clips on the surface of the water to demonstrate surface water tension, believe me, it is not as easy as it sounds, have a go yourself and send your pictures to our geography twitter account.

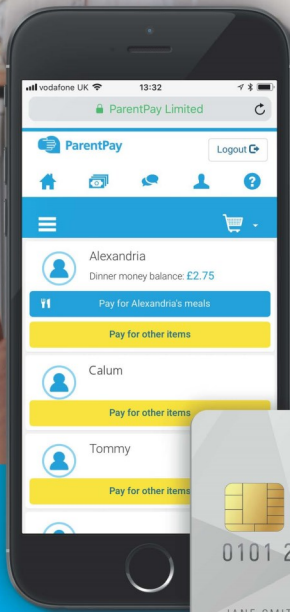


Finally, we have been so delighted to see lots of familiar faces and new faces at our recent open evenings and information evenings, check out the pictures on our twitter account, we could not believe our luck when David Attenborough agreed to stop for selfies at our year 6 open evening!

THE EASY WAY TO PAY

We're using ParentPay so parents
can easily pay online for school
dinners, trips and clubs.

No stress, hassle free.



**SIMPLE
QUICK
SAFE**



www.parentpay.com



ParentPay
COUNT ON US

VISA

VISA Checkout



SAFEGUARDING REMINDERS



Important Contacts

If you currently need support for your mental health or well being these are some of the organisations who are happy to listen and help

Anxiety UK

03444775774 (Helpline)

075374160905 (Text)

Childline

0800 1111 (Free 24 hr helpline)

Papyrus Hotline

(Under 35s at risk of suicide or concerned for another)

0800 068 4141

07786209697 (text)

The Mix

(Support & Advice for under 25s)

0808 068 4994

85258 (Text THEMIX)

Young Minds

0808 803 5544 (Parent helpline)

85258 (Free 24hr crisis messenger, text YM)

Young Stonewall

Information & support for young people who identify as LGBTQ

0800 050 2020

Samaritans

Support for anyone who needs to talk

116 123 (Call)

Bullybusters

0800 169 6928

Please refer to the school website for further contact details/ websites

If you feel a child is at risk

(suffering harm, neglect or abuse)

Any member of the public can contact

Careline on 0151 233 3700 or

Merseyside Police on 0151 709 6010

CAMHS Crisis Care Team

Supporting children and young people in crisis regarding self-harm, suicidal ideation and acute mental health difficulties. Speak to a mental health practitioner 24hrs/day

Childline - www.childline.org.uk

• Childline is available to you if you have any concerns about:

- Bullying
- Abuse (physical, sexual, psychological, emotional, neglect)
- Your body and self esteem
- Your feelings
- Friendships
- Sexual advice
- Home life and families
- School

• You can ring them on 0800 1111 or message them online here <https://www.childline.org.uk/registration/>

• There are loads of resources available for you to download and read as well <https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/>



Domestic Abuse/Violence

Please remember, in an emergency dial 999 for immediate assistance.

You can call 999 without speaking then pressing 55, or tapping or coughing into the phone.

This will enable police to respond

Women's Aid

0808 2000 247 (24 hr helpline)

Men's Advice Line

0808 801 0327

Worst Kept Secret Helpline Merseyside

0800 028 3398



SAFEGUARDING

CONTACT US

Email: sg@notredame.liverpool.sch.uk

Emails are answered within 24 hrs Mon—Fri 9-3

Phone: 0151 330 5122

PC P Wood Schools Safer Police Officer



The Safeguarding Team

Headteacher – Mr P Duffy
Deputy Headteacher - Mrs AM Costello

Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs E Brennan – Senior Assistant Headteacher



Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads

Mrs J Littleboy – Assistant Head of Year
Mr D McKeon – Leadership - Director of Behaviour
Mr A McVerry – Leadership - SENCO

PC P Wood – school's safer police officer
Leadership/ Alternative Provision – Miss H McCullen
Attendance Officer – Mrs P Shrimpton
Special Educational Needs – Mrs K Sweeney
Pastoral Assistant Heads of Year – Ms R Glorman Y7, Mrs Doran Y8, Mrs E Garvey Y10, Miss C Lee Y11

WHISPER



whisper@ndcc

Who can use whisper@ndcc? *parents/carers/students*



- Do you need to inform the safeguarding team about a safeguarding issue?
- Would you like to do it anonymously?
 - *Neglect * Abuse * **Bullying** *Sexual harassment *Peer on Peer abuse *Threats
 - ***Criminal exploitation** *Drugs/Alcohol ***Worried about a friend**
- Use the QR code to access the online form or <https://forms.office.com/r/WfTPCfWANz>
- You can either fill in your name on the form or you can fill out the information anonymously – it is up to you! If you fill out your name and leave a contact number we will contact you.
- We **all** have a responsibility to help our young people before they come to harm
- The online reports will be monitored during term time and will be checked on a daily basis Monday to Friday
- **Remember – if someone is at risk you should phone Careline 0151 2333700 , if it is an emergency phone 999**

COVID ADVICE

Schools have been communicating directly with families and carers and keeping their individual websites updated and should always be the first place to go for advice about plans for getting back into the classroom.

However, we have put together the following frequently asked questions to answer some of the general questions about going back to school...

How do the [self-isolation changes of 16 August](#) affect school attendance?

If children and young people (aged 18 years & 6 months and under) have not tested positive for Covid, and they are not otherwise ill they are expected to be in school.

Anyone aged under 18 and 6 months who has been a close contact of someone who has tested positive is no longer required to self-isolate unless the child also has symptoms. They are advised to take a PCR test but they do not have to isolate whilst they wait for the results.

Students who are aged 18 years & 6 months and over will be treated as adults under the guidance and will not be expected to self-isolate if they have had a close contact provided they have received both Covid vaccinations and 14 days have passed since the second dose.

You can find out where drop-in Covid vaccination clinics are on [Liverpool CCG's website](#).

I think my child has Covid, what should I do?

If your child has symptoms, [please book a PCR test](#) and isolate until you have the results. If you receive a positive test result the child should self-isolate following the national guidance. If you need support whilst your family is self-isolating there is information on the [council's website](#).

Will children still be expected to take lateral flow tests (LFTs)?

Testing is voluntary, but it is encouraged as it is still one of the best ways to break the chain of infection.

We're encouraging secondary school pupils to take an LFT **before** they return to school.

When schools return, government guidance will be followed:

Nursery and primary school children – Do not need to take LFTs.

Secondary school pupils and college students – In the first week of term, two LFTs will be taken at school three to five days apart. In following weeks, two LFTs to be taken at home each week until the end of September.

Will testing continue after the end of September?

There will be a national review of all testing in September 2021 and this will inform the role of testing in school and other settings

What should I do if my child has a positive result on a lateral flow test?

They should self-isolate immediately and you should arrange a PCR test as soon as possible. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>

Other members of the household do not need to self-isolate whilst you await the PCR test result if they do not have symptoms and are aged under 18 years or are fully vaccinated.

Will pupils still be part of bubbles?

Bubbles were introduced to limit contact between groups. Schools are no longer required to do this, but they may be considered if there is an outbreak at the school.

What happens if there are positive cases in schools?

All schools and colleges are required to have outbreak management plans. Action may need to be taken if certain thresholds are met. If risks change significantly the Director of Public Health is able to implement further or different measures to protect population health.

Will school continue to inform us if there are positive cases in school?

Public Health England are currently advising schools that it is not necessary to send *warn and inform* letters for each pupil case. Parents will be informed if additional controls from the outbreak management plan need to be put in place.

Meanwhile schools will continue to maintain COVID prevention measures. This includes maximising ventilation, encouraging good hygiene, thorough cleaning and ensuring that anyone with COVID symptoms or positive test results do not come in to school.

Will children be made to have a vaccination?

No-one will be made to have a vaccination, but having both doses of the vaccination is still the best way of preventing people from becoming very ill with Covid-19.

The national vaccination programme is now open to anyone aged 16 and over. Sixteen and 17-year-olds will be contacted by their GPs and are not able to book vaccinations online.

I would like my child to have a vaccination as there is someone in my household who is vulnerable but my child is younger than 16.

Vaccinations are being offered to 12-15-year-olds if they have an underlying health condition or if someone they live with is immunosuppressed. You should speak to your child's GP.

Will my child have to wear a face covering in the classroom?

Guidance states that face coverings do not need to be worn in the classroom. But if your child travels to school or college on public transport that is crowded and they can't socially distance it is a good idea to wear a face covering if they are able.

Parents are encouraged to wear face coverings at the school gates particularly if social distancing isn't possible.

Will normal school activities now be taking place?

Yes, activities such as sports, singing, playing wind or brass instruments, and going on trips and excursions are now allowed to take place.

My child is anxious about returning to school is there any support?

The last year and a half has been especially tough for our children and young people. If your child is worried about returning to the classroom please speak to the school in the first instance. They can also get help and advice online such as at www.kooth.com

ATTENDANCE & UNIFORM

Attendance and Punctuality

The school's attendance officer is Mrs P Shrimpton

From 3rd September 2021 all students are expected to attend school.

All students should arrive at school before 8:40 a.m. to ensure they have enough time to be at their form classes for 8:45 a.m. Parents/carers must ensure that students leave home in plenty of time to get to school on time.

Breakfast - Students are able to have breakfast in school after 8 a.m. in the lower canteen

Appointments - Please do not make medical / dental appointments for students during school hours. Any appointments during school time will only be authorised with a letter or appointment card.

Holidays - Term Dates are included in this newsletter - please do not book holidays during term times. Any holidays booked during term time will be unauthorised unless with the prior agreement of the headteacher.

Pastoral Team

If you need to speak to a member of the pastoral team you can contact them via class charts messages.

Mrs Brennan - Senior Assistant Headteacher

Mr McKeon - Leadership Team / Director of Behaviour

Mr Campbell - Leadership Team / Director of Behaviour

Year 7 - Head of Year - Miss Wishart Assistant Head of Year - Ms Glorman

Year 8 - Head of Year - Mr Appleton Assistant Head of Year - Mrs Doran

Year 9 - Head of Year - Mrs Crosslind Assistant Head of Year - Mrs Littleboy

Year 10 - Head of Year - Mr Bond Assistant Head of Year - Mrs Garvey

Year 11 - Head of Year - Mrs Smith Assistant Head of Year - Ms Lee

Uniform standards

Please find attached the appropriate shoe guidance which is part of our school uniform. Parents/carers were provided with a letter regarding uniform and the details of appropriate shoes in the summer term. The information is also available on the school website. If pupils come into school with the wrong footwear from Monday 6th September 2021 they will be given an alternative pair of shoes provided by school. Any queries please speak to your son/daughter's Head of Year.

ACCEPTABLE AND NON-ACCEPTABLE SHOES



**Polishable Shoe
Black**



**Polishable Shoe
Black**



**Polishable Shoe
Black**



Plain Black Patent



**Polishable Shoe
Black**



**Polishable Shoe
Black**



**Polishable Shoe
Black**



**Non-Polishable Shoe
Trainer**



**Embellishment not same colour as shoe
Embellishment not flat to shoe
Open toe**



Embellishment not same colour as shoe