

# Newsletter

Friday 25th March 2022

## Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Theme for the Week: Lenten Sacrifice

This week's Lenten theme for collective worship was Sacrifice. Inspired by the sacrifice that Jesus was preparing himself to make, we took further inspiration from the **COURAGEOUS** St Oscar Romero, the Archbishop of San Salvador who was murdered whilst saying Mass after speaking out against inequality and corruption in his native El Salvador. We also, again, took inspiration for the **COURAGE** and sacrifices being made by the people of Ukraine at this time.



### National Day of Reflection

On Wednesday, we also marked National Day of Reflection which provided us all with an opportunity to remember those close to us who we have lost. This year's reflection was particularly poignant in the wake of the pandemic and it also gave our Notre Dame family an opportunity to again remember and pray for Amelia, Ava and Mrs Calvert who we have lost in recent years. Thank you to all staff and students who contributed to our Wall of Reflection on which messages of love and remembrance were placed and thank you, as always, to our Chaplain, Miss Wall, for guiding us through the day.



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## **National Neurodiversity Week**

This week also marked National Neurodiversity Week. This is an agenda that is very close to our hearts here at Notre Dame. Every day this week, we have celebrated the strengths of different types of neurodiversity, culminating in a coffee and cake event yesterday, hosted by members of our Year 7 specialist teaching group. Thank you to Mrs Fitzpatrick for leading us through such a fantastic week.



## **We Are With You Assemblies**

This week, we also hosted a series of assemblies from 'We Are With You – Liverpool' that explored the dangers of using drugs, smoking and vaping. The risks discussed included those to young people's physical and mental health. We would like to congratulate all year groups on their maturity and the seriousness with which they took these incredibly important messages.



## Return of 'Lates' Detentions

Finally, today, we have informed all students of the return of daily 'Lates' Detentions from **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March**. These will be incurred by students who are **late to school or to lessons**. Parent, carers and college staff will all agree that the best place for your child to be is in their lessons. We can also state with conviction that the start of a lesson is invariably the most important part as this is when new learning is connected with what students have previous been taught and the lesson is placed in context. Students who miss the start of the lesson often struggle to catch up and learning can be lost. To help with this, the bell that marked the end of a lesson has been replaced with a 3-minute piece of music that students will quickly become VERY familiar with. Students must be in their next lesson before the music ends. Detentions incurred will be communicated to parents via Class Charts and will be completed on the same day they are issued, with a maximum length of 35 minutes. If there is any reason why your child needs to defer their detention to the next school day, please contact us.



Wishing every Notre Dame family a peaceful and safe weekend.

Mr Duffy



## Courtesy Stars of the Week

Courtesy is one of our four Core Values at Notre Dame and it is our Core Value focus for this term. Below are the names of students who staff feel deserve wider recognition for living this value out

### **J. Childs (Year 9)**

"He is always polite friendly and happy to help. On parents evening he carried my books down for me."

### **J. Alhamoud (Year 9)**

"She is the first person in Year 9 to complete her courtesy card challenge."

### **O. Horner (Year 8)**

"For always being polite, helpful and enthusiastic in Food lessons."

Mrs Collings

### **K. Skinley (Year 11)**

"I have noticed lately that he has really matured. He is always polite and well-mannered and will often stop for a conversation. He is becoming a lovely young man. Recently he was so proud of how he did in his exams (he phoned his mum and I heard).

### **N. Jones-McGrath (Year 9)**

"Always polite and courteous, and went the extra mile the other day holding a door for me, although I was a distance away and

### **E. Hughes (Year 9)**

"Starts to give out books without asking every lesson!"

### **E. Rimmer (Year 7)**

"Not just to recognise her actions this week, but she is always helpful and kind. She comes to the lesson with a smile on her face, saying hello when you see her in the corridor and always offering to help such as handing books and worksheets out."

### **Kowalska (Year 10)**

"She kindly offered to lend her pen to a student in class this week as I had run out and she is always so polite when asking me a question and towards her

### **M. Murray, O. May, I. Austin, G. Conlon, M. Cotton, C. Hodson, M. Elwrfalli and J. Woolley (Year 7)**

"Fantastic team work, organisation and communication skills shown on Thursday serving staff at breaktime. So proud of you all."

### **C. Westhead (Year 11)**

"She volunteers at Resonate Music Studios every week, helping staff, pupils and parents and is just such a huge support. CJ is always friendly and cheerful and ready to turn her hand to any task asked of her and I personally genuinely look forward to our chats each week when I always learn so much from her about the student experience. What an absolute credit she is to Notre Dame and a wise head on young shoulders!"

**Well done to each of you !!**



# 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



## 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

## 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

## CRISIS DROP-IN'S

### Across 3 Community Hubs



<https://ypas.org.uk/services/whats-on-calendar/>

## Childline - [www.childline.org.uk](http://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