

# Newsletter

Friday 4th March 2022

## Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

### Theme for the Week: Lent

This week's collective worship and assemblies were dominated by the beginning of Lent, which included our staff and students Ash Wednesday services in which Ashes were taken. These services provided students with an opportunity to reflect on the sacrifices made by Jesus both during his time in the desert and in his Passion. In doing so, we considered the sacrifices currently being made by those affected by the conflict in Ukraine.



### 'Opening Our Hearts' to the situation in Ukraine

Continuing on the theme of the Ukrainian Crisis, we have been amazed by the maturity and sensitivity with which our students have spoken about the situation. Form time discussions, inspired by our collective worship and reflection, compelled students and staff to fundraise in support of those affected by the crisis.



In just 3 days, staff and students managed to raise **£432.40!!** This has been spent on various items such as blankets, nappies, toiletries, sanitary towels, hats, gloves, scarves, socks, hand and face towels, children's toys, items of children's clothing and first aid kits etc. These have been donated to the Polish Integration Support team at the Polish Centre on County Road. Our **CHARITY** core value at its best. We could not be more proud of you all!

Finally on Ukraine, the Department for Education have produced some guidance for teachers and parents on how to speak to children about the Ukrainian crisis and how to avoid misinformation, which you can find by clicking on [this link](#).



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### **Careers @ Notre Dame – 'Opening Doors'**

This week has been another bumper week for Careers Education here at Notre Dame. Included in this week's newsletter, you will find a short article on two truly enriching experiences organised by our fantastic Careers Leader, Mrs Hall. Firstly, Tuesday's visit from former Notre Dame student, Kate Huyton, who spoke to Year 11 and 12 students about her journey to becoming a barrister at Oriel Chambers in Liverpool. Then Wednesday's Year 10 visit to the Liverpool City Region Skills show at the Liverpool Convention Centre. Many thanks to the students for their impeccable behaviour, to staff who supported the event and to Mrs Hall for organising the events.



### **'Opening Our Minds' on World Book Day**

Parents and carers will already be fully aware of just how important reading is to us all here at Notre Dame. Significant investment in our Form Time daily reading programme, our re-stocked and re-organised library, our reading support packages and our half-term of 'reading only' homeworks are just some of the ways we are driving towards our ambition for every Notre Dame child to read at or above their chronological age.



Continued....

Yesterday, we celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> annual World Book Day. Every student took part in our WBD Quiz during form time and at 10am, every member of our Notre Dame family **Dropped Everything And Read** (DEAR time!). Parents will also be aware that we are currently taking part in Liverpool' Readathon Challenge in which the city's children have been collectively challenged to read for 2 million minutes between 28<sup>th</sup> February and 11<sup>th</sup> March. For further details on this, [click here](#)



Wishing every Notre Dame family a peaceful and safe half term break.

Mr Duffy

# DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

In the words of Pope Francis

Fast from hurting words and say kind words.

Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.

Fast from anger and be filled with patience.

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.

Fast from worries and have trust in God.

Fast from complaints; contemplate simplicity.

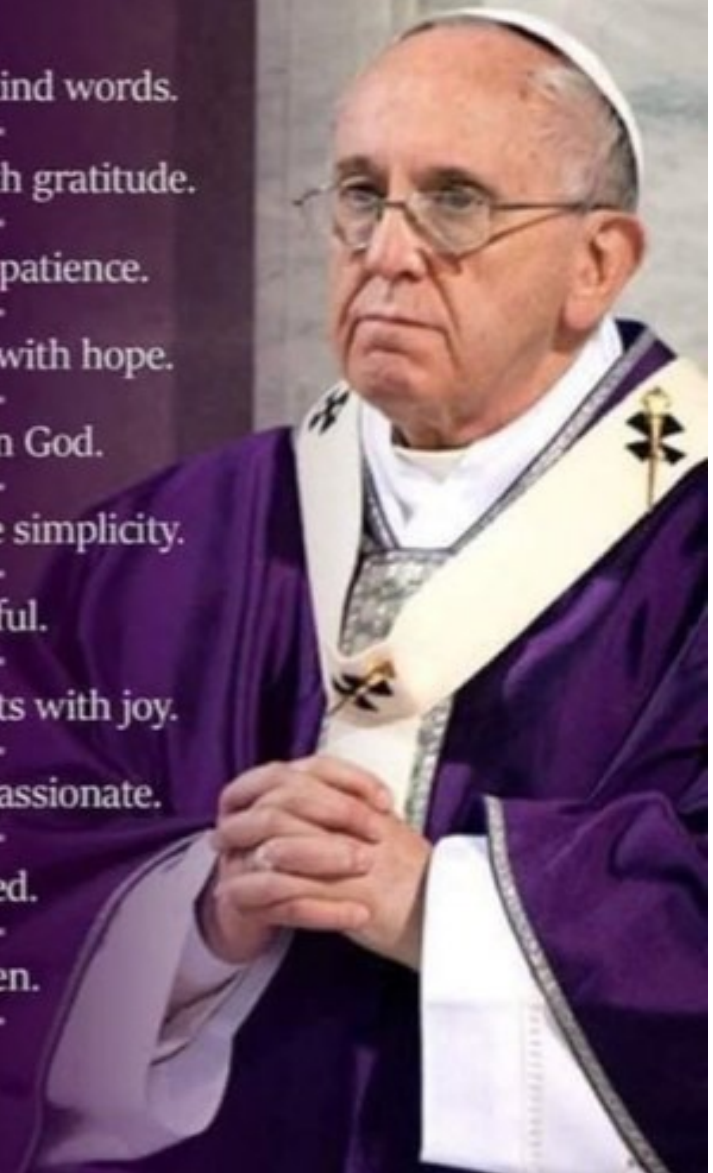
Fast from pressures and be prayerful.

Fast from bitterness; fill your hearts with joy.

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate.

Fast from grudges and be reconciled.

Fast from words; be silent and listen.

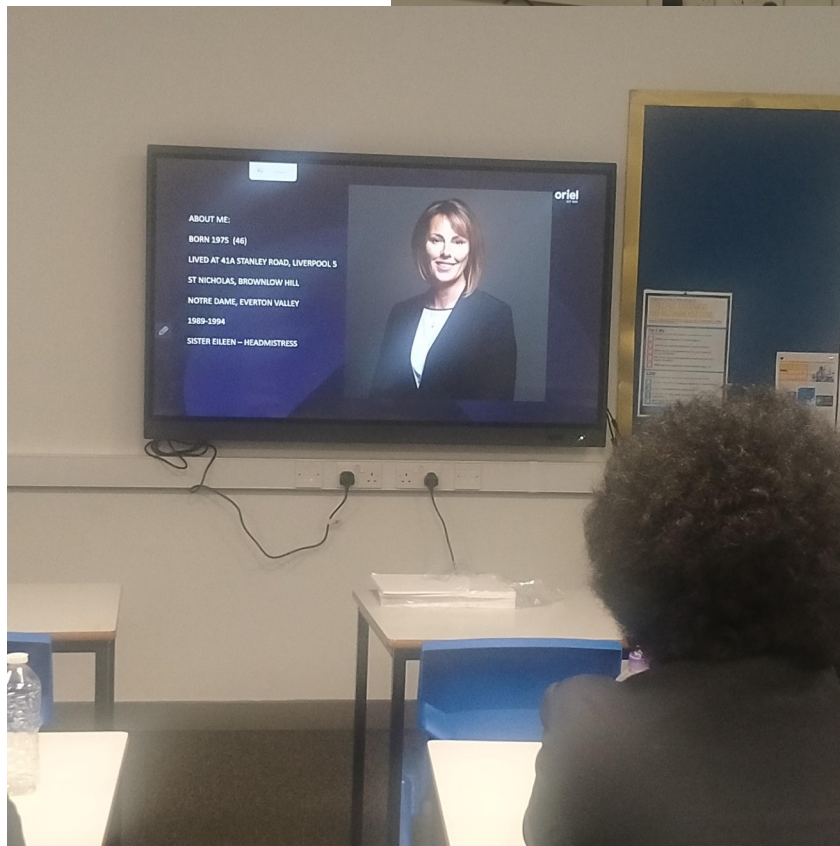


# CAREERS EVENTS

We were delighted to host an event on Tuesday 1st March when former student Kate Huyton came to speak to a number of our Year 11 and 12 student about her career as a barrister.

Kate attended Notre Dame, Everton Valley, between 1987 and 1994 and is now a senior partner at Oriel Chambers in Liverpool. Students were able to hear about her career journey and how Kate was able to overcome many challenges and obstacles along the way to success. The students found the session incredibly informative, asking lots of questions about the legal profession and how best to start out in this profession themselves.

We are really pleased that Kate and her colleagues at Oriel Chambers would like to partner with our school going forward to support our careers programme.



# L C R SKILLS SHOW

## WEDNESDAY 2ND MARCH

As part of their careers programme year 10 attended the Liverpool City Region Skills Show at the Liverpool Convention Centre.

Students were able to talk to and participate in a wide range of interactive sessions put on by the wide range of employers, education and training providers from the Liverpool City Region.

All the regional growth job sectors were represented including, healthcare, visitor economy, advance manufacturing. This was a great opportunity for our students to be inspired about their future careers, but also to have a better understanding about their options after year 11.



# ATTENDANCE

## Easter Attendance Challenge

*Starting Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022*

All pupils with 100% attendance on a Friday will go into a raffle to win a Letterbox gift.

There will be 5 Letterbox gifts one for each year group.

HOY will pick the winning name.



*Starting Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2022*

*100% until the end of term gets you into the raffle for the Easter Egg for your year group*

*And the form with the best attendance each week will also get a special treat.*

***Good Luck!***

# HELP FOR UKRAINE



Over the past couple of days students and staff have generously responded to Polski Merseyside's appeal to support Ukrainian refugees. This weekend, Polski Merseyside will be sending lorries filled with essential humanitarian supplies to the Polish/ Ukraine border.

Even with the short deadline, staff and students responded extremely generously, as always, by donating items and £432.05. This money has been spent on various items such as blankets, nappies, toiletries, sanitary products, hats, gloves, scarves, socks, hand and face towels, children's toys, items of children's clothing and first aid kits etc.

All donations have been taken to Polski Merseyside, based on County Road ready for the weekend's trip.



# PE NEWS



In PE lessons this term, one of the activities we have been focusing on is fitness; students have been learning about the components of fitness, methods of training and how to develop a fitness training programme. Mr. McKeon and Mr.

Mulgrew are currently running a cardio and weights class in the Lifestyles gym every Wednesday at 3pm. This has been very popular with our Key Stage 4 students.

## Girls' Football

On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March, Notre Dame is joining a national initiative to provide girls with the opportunity to play football. Key Stage 3 students can choose to take part in a variety of football related activities during the day, organised by Year 12 PE students, culminating with a 7 a-side tournament. If your daughter would like to take part in this event, she needs to bring her full PE kit/football kit to school on that day.



**A reminder that PE extra-curricular clubs are running every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 3pm-4pm.**

Badminton- Tuesday

Cardio and weights- Wednesday

Trampolining- Thursday





## **Co-producing Our Vision for Great Lives and Preparing for Adulthood (PfA) In Liverpool PATH Workshop**

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022 10.00am -14.00pm**

**Venue:** Zoom (link below)

### **Why are we holding this workshop?**

Liverpool local area successfully bid for PfA support from the National Preparing for Adulthood team to work on co-producing a local PfA vision and action plan. At this workshop we'll be working together to co-produce our vision and a plan of action of how to get there.

Learning from the SEND reforms shows that no one person, family, community, team, service, organisation or sector in isolation can improve outcomes with young people 0-25 with SEND. It takes team work and partnership, with everyone involved, working towards a clear vision. At this workshop we will be joined by the Preparing for Adulthood regional co-ordinator and a member of the National Development Team for Inclusion using the PATH approach to co-produce our vision.

### **What is PATH?**

PATH (Planning Alternative Tomorrows with Hope) is a person-centred tool that identifies a specific goal or dream for the future, to work out the actions that need to be taken in order to make the dream a reality. PATHs can be used with an individual child or young person and as a group planning tool.

### **How Does a PATH work?**

We will start by looking at the group's dreams in relation to improving outcomes with young people with SEND as they prepare for adulthood. No limits or constraints will be placed on the group's dreams or the ideal future, so we can indicate what matters most to us. We will also share and feed in the views and ideas from children, young people and families to make sure they are central to vision.

We will then identify specific goals in relation to how we work together using person centre approaches that are both positive and possible. The group will imagine possible and positive achievements / goals that could be made over the next 1-2 years. This is then compared to how life is 'now'. We will all be heard: young people, parents/carers and their families, practitioners, managers, leaders and commissioners from across Education, Health, Care, the voluntary sector and other key partners.

We will then identify people that we can enrol to help achieve the goals and what we need to do to stay 'strong' and motivated. We will go on to identify ways to build strength to accomplish the goals and plan the steps needed to achieve them.

### **Why are we using PATH?**

PATH is an inclusive process to which everyone can contribute and is proven to deliver results

### **Who should come to the workshop?**

We passionately believe we are stronger together and warmly extend an invite to everyone and anyone who lives and works in Liverpool who wants to help improve the life chances of young people with SEND and enable them to live great lives now and as they become adults. We hope the event will be of interest to young people, parents/carers and their families, employers, housing providers, practitioners, managers, leaders and commissioners across education, health and care. Everyone is welcome!

Booking is essential – [please click here to book your place on our Eventbrite page](#)



## 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

### **M. Coulston (Year 10)**

"For collecting footballs that were stuck and volunteering to get others."

Mr Mulgrew

### **J. Davidson (Year 11)**

"Helping plug in laptop cables stating, 'do you want some help sir?' Your job is hard enough."

Mr Mulgrew

### **H. McMahon (Year 10)**

"Shows Courtesy every morning, by greeting me with a smile, saying good morning and asking me how I am. Starts my day on a positive. Thank you!"

### **T. Vulcanescu (Year 9)**

"He greets me every morning with a big smile on his face and a lovely good morning. He has fantastic manners, is polite and respectful. A real credit to his parents."

Mrs Littleboy

### **L. Diggins (Year 8)**

"For being enthusiastic every week at Eco club and helping to brush up in Food."

Mrs Collings

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

"She is so polite and always gives out my books without being asked."

Mrs McDonnell

### **R. Pemberton, L. Whitehouse, D. Guy and C. Hodson (Year 7)**

"For all the hard work they have done during Form Time over the past months. They have helped me keep uniform and equipment standards high by performing regular checks. They always carry a smile and ask me how I am and how my day has been etc. They always tidy up after themselves (and others) and are lovely to everyone."

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

"For saying 'Thank you Miss' after working with me in a reading session. She made me feel really appreciated. Thank YOU!"

Ms Murphy

### **L. Darcy (Year 10)**

"He has impeccable manners and always holds the doors for you. One particular time he waited for our Flourish group to come through and then still waited for myself and another staff member to come through."

### **K. Miello (Year 10)**

"He was very courteous when asked to wear a blazer and school shoes for the trip yesterday. He was very co-operative."

Mrs McDonnell

**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



YPAS North Hub  
Croxtale Road West,  
L14 8YA

YPAS Central Hub  
36 Bolton Street,  
L3 5LX

YPAS South Hub  
Lyndene Road,  
L25 1NG

See website and social media for times

We can support you through times of crisis

- STRUGGLING WITH YOUR MENTAL HEALTH?
- YOU OR YOUR CHILD ARE IN A CRISIS?
- FEELING LONELY & ISOLATED?
- NEED A LISTENING EAR?
- NEED A SAFE SPACE?

Liverpool CAMHS  
0800 1111



<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