

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



HEADTEACHERS MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Bright Sparks!



This week has been a busy one for many of our budding university graduates. A group of our Year 10 students enrolled on the **'Inspire' programme** with University of Liverpool and took part in the first virtual session. A group of Year 12 students are also enrolled onto the **'Reaching Higher' programme** with University of Oxford. They enjoyed their first online session this week as they prepare to visit St Peter's College, Oxford in March. We all look forward to reading your Oxbridge applications!

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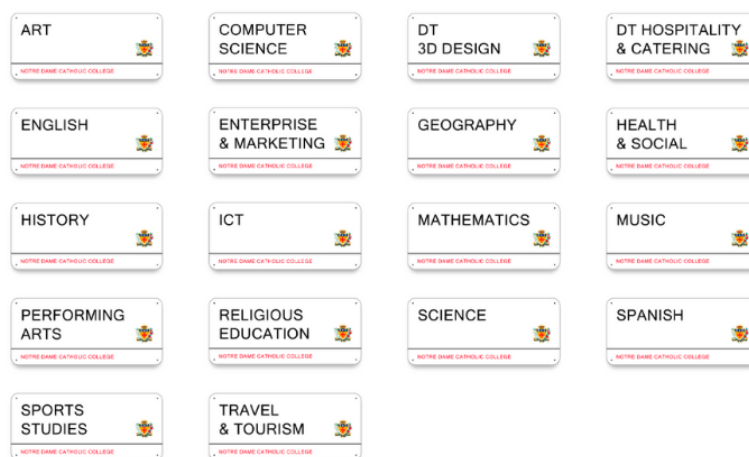
MR DUFFY
HEADTEACHER

We also have a group of Year 12 students on the Sutton Trust Programme for Law and Engineering and another 6 students on the **University of Liverpool Pathways programme**. Many thanks to the fabulous Kate Huyton, Barrister and Notre Dame alumna, for her guidance and support to a group of students who are looking to follow in her footsteps from Notre Dame into Chambers.

Year 9 Parents Evening and Year 9 Virtual Options Evening

We would like to thank all parents of Year 9 who attended last night's face-to-face parents' evening. It was wonderful to see so many parents in school. We hope you found the consultations with your child's class teachers informative and helpful and that you enjoyed seeing the work your child has been producing during the year.

At 5.30pm next Thursday (8th December), our virtual Year 9 Options videos will 'go live' on the [Year 9 Guided Choices page of our college website](#). Parents and students will be able watch an introductory presentation from Mrs Thomas and I, then you can watch video presentations from each of the subject areas. To accompany this virtual event, students will bring their options booklet and options form home next week. The deadline for options forms to be returned to Mrs Thomas is **Friday 16th December**.



Year 11 and 13 Mocks

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, Years 11 and 13 begin the mock examination series on Monday 5th December. We wish every student the very best of luck in these examinations and remind them to continue their revision and preparation over this coming weekend and throughout the mock week.



Students and parents can still visit the [BBC Bitesize Top Revision Tips website page](#), which can be accessed by scanning or clicking on the **QR code** above. Students are encouraged to bring any flash cards, mind maps or revision posters into school to show us what has worked – prizes continue to be given to the best examples!

Theme for the Week – Hope



Finally, during this first week of Advent, our theme for collective worship was Hope. Students have reflected on the hope that gripped early Christians as they anticipated the arrival of the promised Messiah. We also reflected on how, as Christians, we continue to share in this hope for a better world, free from despair and sadness, and how we can take comfort in knowing that Jesus is our hope. Jesus is often represented as light and he is known as 'The Light of the World' and how his example shines light into our lives today.

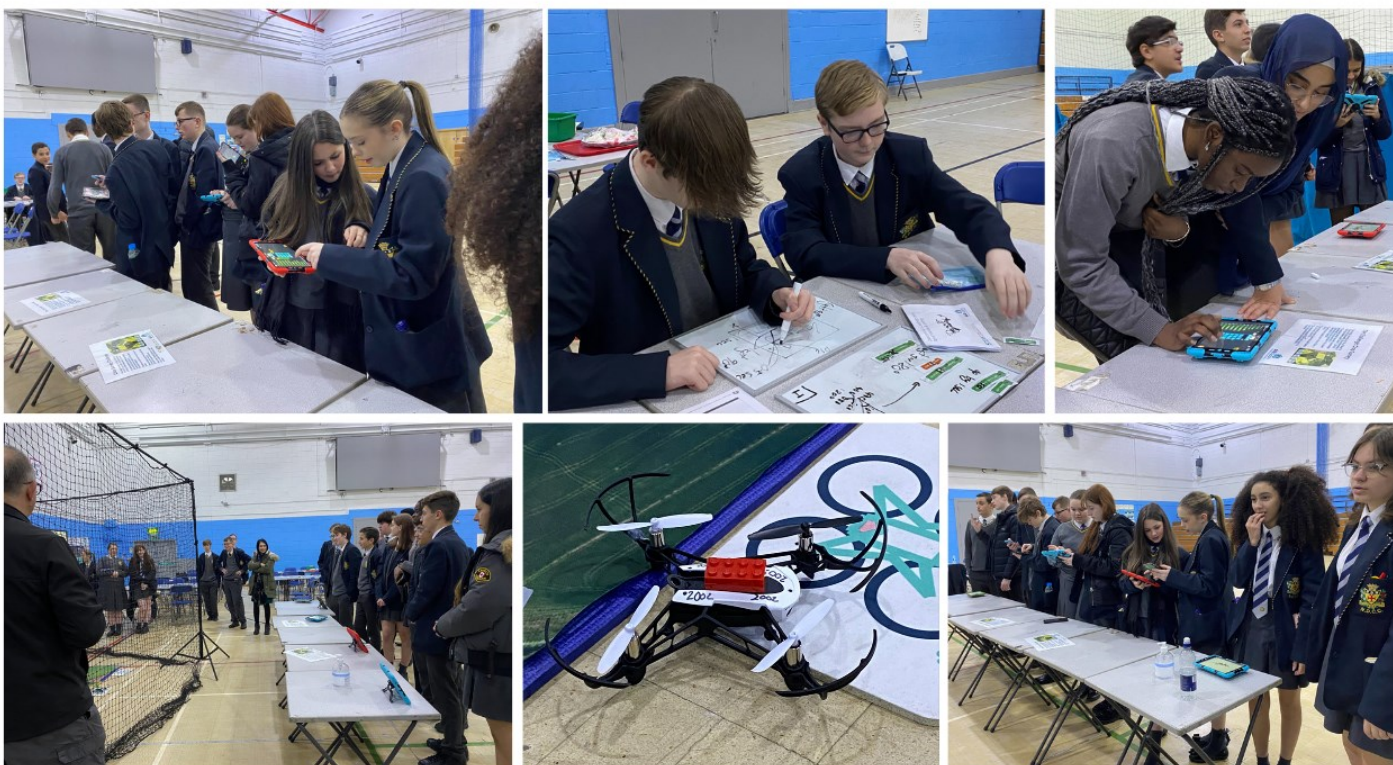
**WE WISH EVERY NOTRE DAME FAMILY
A PEACEFUL AND SAFE WEEKEND.**

Mr Duffy

Students Explore STEM !

Year 10, 11 and 12 students took part in a STEM workshop this week. The workshop: Drone Coding and Engineering, on Tuesday 29th November was delivered by Skills Supply.

Pupils learnt about different types of engineering careers and the importance of engineering and team work. Some year 11 students were surprised to find out about how drones were used in medicine and many other fields, for example, Amazon using drones to deliver packages in the US and hospitals using drones to send medicines across their campus.



The classes were split into small groups and asked to work together to build their own code in order to operate a drone. The students **relished the challenge** and very quickly and successfully made their drones go back and forth. The challenges became more complex as the workshop continued and it was great to see the learner's **problem solve** and show off their resilience.

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**OPENING
MINDS**

The majority of pupils completed the final challenge of surveying a landscape, taking a photograph, turning the drone around multiple times and landing back at base, all whilst being timed. Admittedly, some groups had landed many miles away from home so had long walks back.

They had plenty of **fun** and commented about how **interesting and engaging** the sessions were. **Skill Supply commented on how brilliant the students were and they would love to come back to teach them again.**

The Book Fair is back!

The Scholastic Book Fair will be in the School Library next Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. There will be 100's of books to browse and buy just in time for Christmas. Happy reading!



Advent Appeal

This Advent our school community will be supporting local teenage mothers who are in need. It can be easy for us to forget that Mary, the mother of Jesus, was once a teenage mother in need.

All form classes are invited to make a shoebox or gift bag filled with items for the young mums-to-be and/ or their baby.

The shoeboxes/ gift bags can be left in Miss Wall's office and the deadline for donations is **Monday 12th December**.

Your filled shoe boxes/ gift bags will then be dropped off at Family Nurse Partnership, Yew Tree Centre, based in Huyton. This is an organisation which works with first time mums under the age of 19 throughout the duration of their pregnancy up until the child is aged 2.

If you could support please ask your child to bring items to their form tutors or Miss Wall - it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you in advance for your support and generosity!

**OPENING
HEARTS**



A Future in Law

We received some **fantastic feedback** this week from Kate Huyton, Barrister at Harrington Street Chambers, who has agreed to mentor 2 of our Year 12 students, Joe Riley and Tracey Bassue. Kate, a **former student of Notre Dame Catholic College** was extremely impressed following one of their sessions this week and provided the following feedback to our Careers Advisor, Mrs Hall:

"The students were an absolute delight. They conducted themselves in a mature and respectful way in Chambers with me, the staff and other barristers that they met. They are an absolute credit to themselves, their families and the school and I was delighted to see them again."

Kate's colleagues were so impressed with their conduct that they have asked both Joe and Tracey to apply for a Mini-Pupillage with Chambers when they are in their 1st year at University. Usually applicants have to wait until their 3rd year to be considered so this is a **wonderful achievement**.

Joe and Tracey were able to observe Kate as she conducted a financial remedy case. Joe, who has ambitions of becoming a Barrister himself, said,

"It was a brilliant experience, I felt like a real Lawyer and it was wonderful to see different aspects of family and financial Law that I'd not considered before."

Well done to both Joe and Tracey for their excellent display of our core values of **courtesy** and **confidence**!



OPENING DOORS

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas! **Resonate Christmas Concerts**

Resonate Music Studios hosted their end of term Christmas concerts this last fortnight. Nearly 200 music students aged 4-18 from schools across Liverpool came together to perform for friends and family members at our two locations, Bellerive FCJ College on 22 and 29 November, and Notre Dame Catholic College on 30 November.



FRI 2ND DECEMBER
2022

Performing groups were SuperStarter, Super Strings, Let's Play, Resonate Brass and Resonate Youth Philharmonic (run in partnership with The Liverpool Philharmonic). The audience enjoyed a mostly festive programme including Jingle Bells, I wish It Could Be Christmas Every Day and A Million Dreams.



Resonate would like to congratulate all the students who took part for their excellent performance. A big thank you to their friends and family who supported them so far this year and to all who gave donations- this money will go towards subsidising the cost of these ensembles to ensure as many young people as possible are able to access Resonate Music Studios!

Message from Liverpool School Immunisation Service

The Liverpool School Immunisation Service will be attending Notre Dame Catholic College on Friday 13th January 2023 to offer pupils in years 7, 8 and 9 their annual flu vaccination.

The vaccination is free and is a quick and simple spray up their nose to help protect them against flu. Flu can be an unpleasant illness and sometimes causes serious complications. Vaccinating your child also helps to protect vulnerable family members and friends by preventing the spread of flu.

Year 9 students will also be offered the HPV Vaccination on the same day as the Flu vaccination. Parents of students in Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 can complete their child's consent form and access more information via the link below:

<https://econsent.merseycare.nhs.uk/>

(Please be aware that this form works best when opened in Google Chrome)

If you would prefer a porcine free injectable flu vaccination you can also choose this option by declining the flu spray and then consent for the porcine free vaccination. If you don't want your child to receive any flu vaccination please complete the form declining this offer, as this will avoid further communications from the service.

If you are unable to complete the online form, please contact the Immunisation Team team who will be happy to help. If after completing this form, you attend the GP or wish to amend the form you must contact the immunisation team directly and not your child's school.

Liverpool School Immunisation Service 0151 295 3833



Attendance Challenges

IPad Giveaway!

Get that Friday Feeling and be in with a chance of winning a brand new iPad!

Students who have exceptional attendance on Friday 2nd, Friday 9th and Friday 16th December will be entered into a draw which will take place on the final day of term.

Please note: to be entered into the draw students must have good attendance up to and including each Friday before the end of term.

Good Luck!



Our Form Group Attendance Challenge continues! Take a look at this week's leaderboard:



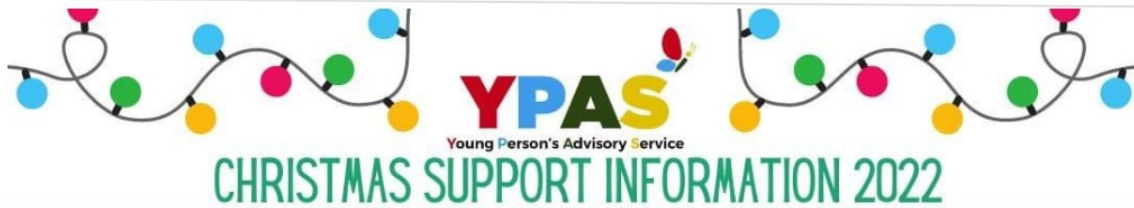
FORM GROUP CHALLENGE - ATTENDANCE

CURRENT LEADERBOARD

Year 7	7Francoise has taken the lead - 7Dorothy is close behind
Year 8	8Francoise is still in the lead!
Year 9	9Patricia is in the lead with 30 points - 9Dorothy & 9Thomas are so close!
Year 10	10Thomas is in the lead with 34 points - followed by 10Eileen
Year 11	11Thomas is still in the lead with 21 points! 11Eileen and 11Julie are gaining



Keep up the Good Work!



Alternative to Crisis- DROP-IN will be open 24th December 12noon -4pm
28th and 29th 9am-8pm, 30th 9am-6pm and 31st 12noon-4pm

YPAS is closed for staff training Thursday 23rd December 2022 (pm) Re-open Tuesday 3rd
January 2023 (am)

Additional support information that might be helpful for over the festive period.

LISTENING EAR

A confidential listening service for anyone over the age of 16. Tel: 0151 281 9716
or email: htl@bridgechapel.com to make an appointment.

Last day for appointments is Friday 16th Dec sessions will resume 3rd January

CITIZENS ADVICE

Closes 24th December-reopens January 4th.

For a range of support inc Benefit Advice Call: Tel: 0808 278 7840

QWELL

Online emotional wellbeing and mental health support for adults: www.qwell.io

NHS 111

Where trained health professionals can give you health advice and information
24 hours a day. This is a medical and dental service Calling 111 will support you
to access nearest walk in centres. Tel: 111

NSPCC

If you have any concerns at all about a child's safety or wellbeing, don't hesitate to
contact us.- Contact our Helpline on help@nspcc.org.uk or 0808 800 5000.

ACCIDENT & EMERGENCY: YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 16+

Young people aged 16+ showing signs of distress or becoming a risk to
themselves or others should be taken to A&E at the Royal Liverpool University
Hospital Trust or University Hospital Aintree.

This is a 24-hour service. Tel: 0151 706 2000

SHOUT

24/7 text service, free on all major mobile networks, for anyone in crisis anytime,
anywhere. It's a place to go if you're struggling to cope and you need immediate
help. Text 85258.



FRI 2ND DECEMBER
2022



NOTRE DAME
CATHOLIC
COLLEGE



SAFEGUARDING UPDATES

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

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

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



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



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

The Safeguarding Team

Headteacher – Mr P Duffy
Deputy Headteacher – Mrs AM Costello
Designated Safeguarding Lead – Mrs E Brennan

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 Safer Police Officer
Miss H McCullen – Leadership/Alternative Provision
Mrs P Shrimpton – Attendance Officer
Mrs K Sweeney – Special Educational Needs
Miss C Lee Y7, Ms R Glorman Y8, Mrs S Doran Y9, Mrs J Littleboy Y10, Mrs E Garvey Y11 – Pastoral Assistant Heads of Year

www.notredameliverpool.com/safeguarding/