

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



HEADTEACHERS MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Theme for the Week - Peace

“Peace
begins
with a
smile.”
Mother Teresa



This week, the second week of Advent, our theme has been Peace. During this week, students explored how 'Peace' can mean quiet and calm, but it can also relate to a time where people are not fighting or disagreeing. We reflected on how, all over the world, there are people caught up in disagreements. How some of these disagreements are happening in wars, where there is danger and fear, and how some are happening within our homes and families, where there is disagreement and unhappiness. We also reflected on how we can bring peace into our own lives and that of others.

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MR DUFFY
HEADTEACHER

Mock Exam Congratulations – Year 11 and 13

We would like to congratulate all Year 11 and 13 students who have worked so hard during this week's mock week. Their hard work, focus and determination has been exemplary this week. Teachers will now embark on the task of marking these papers, ready to feed back to students through the course of next week (for Year 12) or on their return from work experience (for Year 11).

On that, we wish Year 11 a fantastic work experience week. We hope you enjoy your placements and the new experiences and learning they provide you. To all, remember to take core values with you: **CHARITY**, **COURTESY**, **COURAGE** and **CONFIDENCE**.



Year 9 Virtual Options Event

Thank you to all parents and students who accessed last night's **Year 9 options evening presentations**. We hope you found the presentations and the options booklets informative and helpful in supporting your child in making their course choices for next year. Any parents or students who were unable to access the presentations last night, can view recordings on my introduction, Mrs Thomas' explanation of the options process and each subject presentation from curriculum leaders on the [Year 9 Guided Choices page of our college website](#).

The deadline for options forms to be returned to Mrs Thomas is **Friday 16th December**.



School Equipment List



As many of students will be putting final touches to their Christmas present lists, may we take this opportunity to draw you attention to the school equipment checklist. These can act a perfect 'stocking-fillers' for Christmas and also ensure your son or daughter makes a fantastic start to the new term in January!

End of term arrangements

As parents and carers will be aware, our Autumn term ends on **Tuesday 20th December**. As in previous years, students will finish early on this final teaching day of the term, with all year groups **finishing at noon**. Year groups will leave via their normal exit points.

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

Mr Duffy

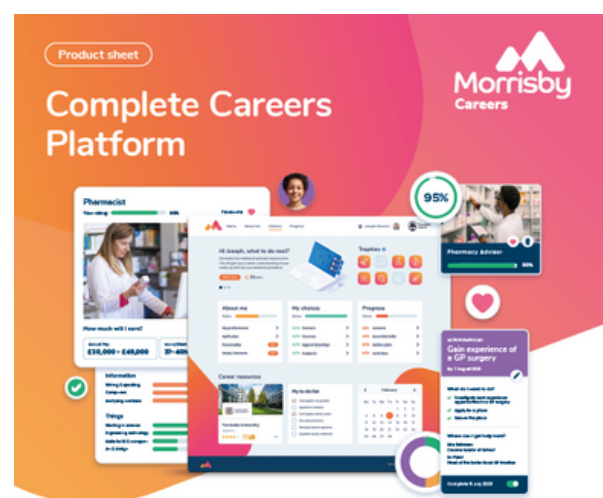
Year 9 Options Morrisby Careers

As our year 9 students consider their GCSE option choices, we would just like to remind parents and students that all students in years 8-13 have access to a high-quality careers platform called Morrisby Careers.

We would strongly encourage students who haven't already, to complete the Aspirations Quiz. On completion of this quiz, students will receive personalised career suggestions based upon their interests. This will support them to make confident GCSE option choices.

Students will have access to the following resources and tools:

- Immediate results on completion of a short interests-based questionnaire
- Aspirational career and subject suggestions matched to the individual
- Access to over 600 career descriptions including videos, case studies and useful links
- Information on entry requirements, routes to careers and salaries
- Flexible action planning tools and a careers locker to store documents experiences and interactions



To access the site please go to www.morrisby.com and click "Log In".

If you need help with your log in and password, please contact Mrs Hall, via Class Charts, who will be able to help you.

OPENING DOORS

Year 11 Work Experience

Year 11 students will be going out on work experience next week. A work experience placement, provides a valuable opportunity for students to gain a better understanding of the workplace itself; as well as developing key employability skills. We would like to thank our education business partner Elevate who have supported us by completing all the required health and safety checks and provided placements for students where required. **We do hope year 11 have a great week and we look forward to hearing how their week went when they return to school on 19th December. Good Luck!**



ELEVATE

The education business partnership

Carols by Candlelight is BACK!

We are delighted to be hosting our festive event, Carols by Candlelight next **Thursday 15th December** at **6.30pm**, featuring performances from our school choir and music department.

This is a **ticketed event with limited availability** due to capacity, therefore only 2 tickets per family will be provided on a first come first serve basis with priority given to those with children performing on the evening.

If you would like to attend our event, please contact the school office on 0151 330 5122 to secure your tickets.



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.

We'd like to remind students and parents that the deadline to donate to our Advent Appeal is **Monday 12th December**.

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 which can be left in Miss Wall's office.

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!



Notre Dame Catholic College Choir Performances



A huge well done to our Choir who performed last week at the Liverpool Citizens Pre-Founding Assembly at St George's Hall which brought together over 200 people and community leaders. It's wonderful to be able to start taking our Choir out in the community once again to perform and display their fantastic musical ability! They have a busy week of performances lined up in the run up to Christmas - watch this space!

Talented pupils enjoy music making!

On Wednesday 7 December, national music organisation Awards for Young Musicians brought together young musicians from the Resonate Furthering Talent programme to take part in a music workshop at Notre Dame. The workshop, led by Composer and Musician Alice Phelps, helped young musicians explore their musical creativity by letting them explore new instruments and discover working together in a group to produce new musical ideas.



RESONATE

Some of the students had never played with other musicians before so this was a great opportunity to see what being in a musical group is like. The Furthering Talent project targets support to individual pupils with musical potential and/or keen interest who may have a range of barriers that prevent them from accessing music lessons in school or privately. The students felt inspired and had a real sense of achievement by the end of the workshop- watch this space for more news on their progress!



Students Focus on Sustainability in Business



Year 8 students Michael & Lucas met with our School Business Manager, Mr Holden, to ask him questions related to the sustainability of our school.

Year 8 have been studying sustainability and recently completed fieldwork on this theme.

Mr Holden was very impressed by the students display of knowledge and **confidence**, saying,

"Michael and Lucas asked some really insightful questions in regards to the school's sustainability. We had a great conversation and they had some really interesting ideas too - well done to both."

OPENING MINDS

Notre Dame loves to Read!

The Scholastic Book Fair has been in our Library this week and we've had a fantastic response from students! the school beat our target amount of £300 which means by supporting our Book Fair, you have earned approximately £180 in rewards for new resources for our Library.

Thank you to all who supported the Book Fair - it's fantastic to see so many happy readers in the school! We hope you all enjoy.



Attendance Challenges

Keep up that Friday Feeling! Winner announced next week!

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 is in the lead - 7Dorothy is just 1 point behind
Year 8	8Francoise is still in the lead!
Year 9	9Dorothy is in the lead with 30 points - 9Patricia is just 1 point behind!
Year 10	10Thomas is in the lead with 41 points
Year 11	11Thomas are in the lead going into Work Experience Week!

1 week to go!

Please note, there has been a change to some of our Year Group Reward Trips. All winning forms from each year group will now be attending the cinema on **Monday 19th December**.

Keep up the Good Work!



Year 11 – Spring Term Challenge

Points = PROM!

After Christmas we will be launching a challenge for ALL YEAR 11 students to be in with a chance of winning their Prom Ticket. This will work on a points based system with students given the opportunity to earn points from the first day back after Christmas and run up until the final day of the Spring Term.

- **1 point = 1 week 100% attendance (including form time, every lesson and PHSCE)**
- **1 point = Attendance to ANY Afterschool Revision Session - the more sessions you attend the more points you can earn!**



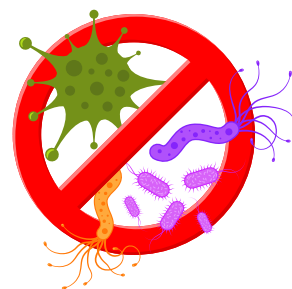
Any student who earns 50 points within the Spring Term will have their prom ticket paid for by the school (approximate value of £40). Details of our Year 11 prom are being finalised and will be shared with you shortly.

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.MERSECARE.NHS.UK/](https://econsent.mersecare.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

MESSAGE FOR PARENTS FROM PROFESSOR MATTHEW ASHTON, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH



Liverpool
City Council

7 December 2022

MESSAGE FOR PARENTS FROM PROFESSOR MATTHEW ASHTON, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

We are seeing lots of children with winter infections. This message is to give you information about how to protect your child from common winter infections, and when you should seek medical attention. To prevent your child picking up or spreading infection, please encourage your child to wash their hands properly with soap for 20 seconds and use a tissue to cover coughs and sneezes. Clean and cover cuts and scrapes to prevent infections getting into the body. Make sure your child gets their flu vaccination as flu can make children poorly and more likely to get other infections.

The vast majority of coughs, colds and sore throats are caused by viruses, and children usually get better without any medical treatment. Often when a child has a sore throat caused by a virus they have a runny nose, cough and sometimes earache too. You can give plenty fluids and paracetamol to help your child feel better. They may find it easier to swallow soft foods. Antibiotics do not work on viruses.

You may have heard on the news that some children are becoming poorly with bacteria called Group A Strep. These infections are usually mild and may cause a strep throat or scarlet fever which can be treated easily with antibiotics. There is more scarlet fever than usual at the moment – but most sore throats are not scarlet fever.

Watch out for the signs of scarlet fever. This is when children get a combination of a sore throat, with fever, headache and a rough rash on the body which feels like sandpaper. If you see this combination of signs in your child, contact NHS 111 or your GP as your child may need antibiotics. If your child has scarlet fever, keep them at home until at least 24 hours after the start of antibiotic treatment to avoid spreading the infection to others. It spreads very easily through coughing and sneezing.

Rarely some children get more severe infections because the bacteria get into the lungs or into the blood stream (called "invasive GAS" or iGAS). Sadly, a small number of children in the UK have died from this.

If you feel that your child seems seriously unwell, you should trust your judgement.

Contact NHS 111 or your GP if your child is getting worse despite paracetamol or ibuprofen if:

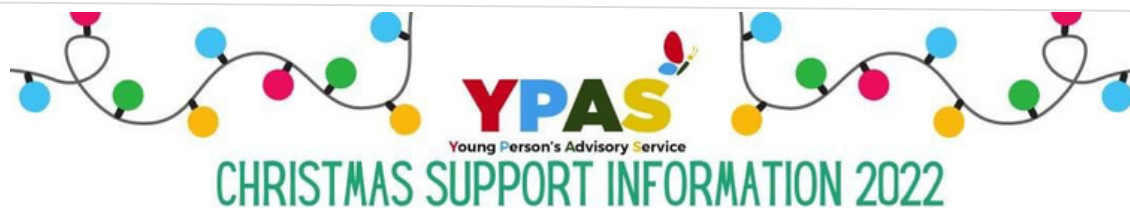
- the temperature has lasted more than 5 days
- your child is feeding or eating much less than normal, especially if they are drooling or appear in pain when swallowing
- your baby has had a dry nappy for 12 hours or more, or is crying without tears
- or your child shows other signs of dehydration
 - feeling thirsty
 - dark yellow, strong-smelling pee
 - peeing less often than usual
 - feeling dizzy or lightheaded
 - feeling tired
 - a dry mouth, lips and tongue
 - sunken eyes (dark circles under eyes)
- your baby is under 3 months and has a temperature of 38°C, or is older than 3 months and has a temperature of 39°C or higher
- your baby feels hotter than usual when you touch their back or chest, or feels sweaty
- your child is drowsy (much more sleepy than normal) or irritable (unable to settle them with cuddles, toys, TV or snacks – especially if they remain drowsy or irritable despite any fever coming down)

Call 999 or go to A&E if:

- your child is having difficulty breathing – you may notice grunting noises or their tummy sucking under their ribs or using their neck muscles to breathe
- there are long pauses (more than 10 seconds) when your child breathes
- your child's skin, tongue or lips are blue
- your child feels very cold or clammy to touch
- your child is difficult to wake up or keep awake
- your child has severe pains in their arms, legs neck or back
- your child has a painful, red area of skin, especially if it is getting bigger quickly

Professor Matthew Ashton

Director of Public Health, Liverpool



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 9TH 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/