

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



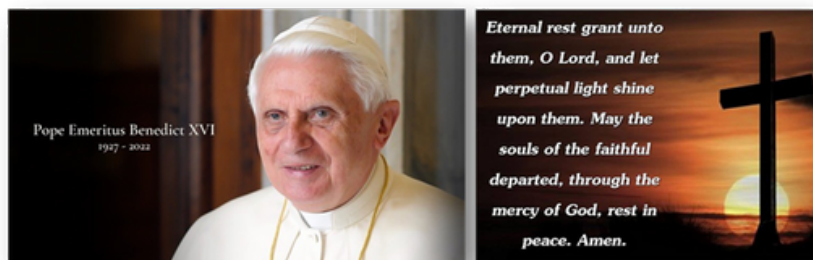
HEADTEACHERS MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year

May we begin the first newsletter of 2023 by wishing everyone a Happy New Year! We hope all Notre Dame families had a restful, peaceful and enjoyable Christmas with friends and family. We would like to take this opportunity to thank families for their many Christmas wishes and gifts; they were all very much appreciated.

Pope Benedict XVI



Sadly, we returned to the very sad news of the death of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. Together, we pray for the soul of Pope Benedict and ask that he be rewarded with eternal rest and happiness.

IN THIS ISSUE

- HEADTEACHERS MESSAGE (P.1-3)
- CAREERS ACCREDITATION (P4)
- SPRING TERM CHALLENGES – YR11 & ATTENDANCE (P5)
- NOTICES (P6-P7)
- SAFEGUARDING (P8)



MR DUFFY
HEADTEACHER

The gospel reading for his Requiem Mass was from the Gospel of St. Luke on Jesus' final moments on the cross and telling the good thief ***"today you will be with me in paradise"***.

Year 10 and 12 Assessment Week – W/B 9th January

As mentioned in last term's newsletters, next week (beginning Monday 9th January), is a formal assessment week for Years 10 and 12. All subjects provided students with revision lists and materials last term in hard copy or via Class Charts. Please support your sons and daughters to find some opportunities for final preparation and revision over the weekend.



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 be given to the best examples!**

Feast Day Celebrations

We would like to draw students' and parents' attention to our fast-approaching Feast Day celebrations. This year, celebrations will take place throughout the week beginning 30th January. Commemorating the day in 1804 when St Julie Billiart, Françoise Blin de Bourdon and Catherine Duchâtel committed themselves to God by a vow of chastity and the care and education of young girls. This was the founding day of the Sisters of Notre Dame in Amiens, France! This is a hugely significant day in our calendar and has traditionally been a day of celebration, prayer and reflection. Celebrations will culminate in a Feast Day Service on Friday 3rd February.

On this day, all students will finish school at 12.00 noon.

Mobile Phones in School

Notre Dame's position on mobile phones in school is clear. Students do not need their mobile phones in school; they should therefore not be seen or heard between 8.45am and 3.00pm. The school reception and student services desk are both fully staffed and trained to take messages from parents and relay them to your child – just like when we were at school ourselves. We have taken this position because there is a proven link between mobile phone use in schools and poor mental health of students, due to bullying and malicious communications.



On this, I would like to draw your attention to the letter that Mrs Brennan sent out via Parent App this morning, reminding all of our position on mobile phones and the actions staff can take if a mobile phone is seen or heard. This is in response to an increase in instances where a student's photograph has been taken without their knowledge in school. Whilst this might not be intended to be malicious, it often is, and it causes great anxiety to the student in the photograph. Such actions are not becoming of our college, our ethos or our **CHARITY** core value. We would appreciate it if parents could talk through Mrs Brennan's message with your son or daughter over the weekend to reaffirm the college's position and the reasons for it.

Sixth Form Parents Evening – 12th January

As mentioned at the end of last term, Thursday 12th January sees our face-to-face Sixth Form Parents' Evening. On this evening, we welcome parents of Year 12 and 13 to come and meet with your child's subject teachers to discuss their progress through the year so far.

Appointments are available from 3.15pm. Please book your appointment slots with subject teachers.



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

Mr Duffy

FRI 6TH JANUARY
2023



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High Quality Careers Provision!



We're delighted to share that Notre Dame Catholic College is, once again, nationally accredited by the Quality In Careers Standard as fully meeting all the accreditation criteria incorporating the Gatsby Benchmarks!

Our Careers Provision is an integral part of our school's commitment to open doors for all students by raising aspirations, providing opportunity and access to information and guidance from the moment they join us in Year 7 to Sixth Form and beyond.

Our Careers Advisor, Mrs Hall, is dedicated to driving our Careers offer and supporting students to navigate their options whether they are exploring Higher Education, Apprenticeships, Work Experience or employment opportunities. A huge well done to Mrs Hall and all involved in achieving this national accreditation!



"PUPILS AND STUDENTS FEEL WELL SUPPORTED AND HAVE ACCESS TO AN ENRICHED PROGRAMME FROM YEAR 7 ONWARDS THAT INCLUDES A RANGE OF EMPLOYER AND FE, AND HE ENCOUNTERS."

The Quality in Careers Standard National Quality Award for Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance Provision Assessor Report.



**OPENING
DOORS**

Spring Term Challenges

Year 11 – Points = PROM!!

We have launched 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.

Spring Term Attendance Challenge

Our Spring Term Attendance Challenge is now underway and will run from the beginning of this term, 4th January up until the final week of Spring Term (which ends on 31st March).

All KS3 & Ks4 students who achieve 100% attendance in this time will be rewarded with a cinema trip in the final week of term.



Our Form Group Attendance Challenge last term was extremely successful with the winning form groups enjoying trips out before Christmas to watch Avatar and Elf!



Good Luck all!

FRI 6TH JANUARY
2023



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Resonate Sessions

Resonate Music Hub's new Rock and Pop offer at Notre Dame Catholic College starts from Wednesday 18th January!

Wednesday 5.00pm – 6.30pm



Develop your band skills and play in a Rock or Pop band, Sing, Rap, play Guitar, Bass Guitar, Keyboard or Drum Kit.

For more information, see Mr Curtis based in the Resonate/Music Department or visit resonatehub.co.uk.

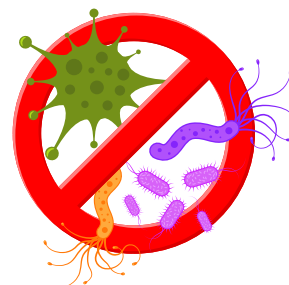


Message from Liverpool School Immunisation Service

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.MERSEY-CARE.NHS.UK/](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

Cost of Living – Liverpool City Council

January can be a difficult financial month for many families. If you are struggling with the rising cost of living Liverpool City Council have various resources you can access for support.

Please see listed below:



Many residents are currently struggling with rising living costs. That's why it's important to know what help and support is available now that could benefit you, a relative, friend or neighbour.

liverpool.gov.uk/cost-of-living

Struggling with the cost of living?

If you need money to buy food, sanitary products, essential items for children, essential clothing or cover fuel costs.

If you need white goods, furniture or help to set up home after suffering an emergency or crisis, call our Liverpool Citizens Support Scheme on freephone 0800 456 1523

Check if you're eligible for benefits

We've helped our residents claim over £10 million in additional benefits in the past year through our benefits maximisation service.

Get benefits advice or help claiming benefits at liverpool.gov.uk/bms or check if you qualify online at gov.uk/benefits-calculators. You can also call freephone 0800 028 3697

You can also speak to your landlord if you're a social housing tenant.

Get help with rent or Council Tax

If you're unemployed or on a low income you may be eligible to receive Council Tax Support. If you already receive this and are still left with a shortfall, you could get extra help through a discretionary housing payment. Visit liverpool.gov.uk/housingbenefits or call free phone 0800 028 3697

You may also qualify for a Council Tax discount or exemption - find out at liverpool.gov.uk/counciltax or call free phone 0800 028 3686

Worried about debt?

The council has an agreement in place with Citizens Advice Liverpool for providing debt advice and signposting to other advice organisations

For Citizens Advice Liverpool call 0344 848 7700 or visit www.citizensadvice.org.uk/debt-and-money

Homeless or in rent arrears

Housing Options provides help and advice if you are homeless or threatened with homelessness.

Call us on freephone 0800 731 6844

Struggling to feed your family?

If you are struggling to feed your family, you can get a referral to your local foodbank for an emergency food parcel from a range of agencies including, Children's Centres, Job Centres, GPs and many local community organisations.

For more information and details of your nearest foodbank visit liverpool.gov.uk/foodbanks

Community Food Spaces are places where local people come together around good food. Scan the QR code to find your nearest one.



For more information visit:

[LIVERPOOLGOV.UK/COL](https://liverpool.gov.uk/cost-of-living)

FRI 6TH JANUARY
2023



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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/