

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Theme of the Week: Example



The theme for this week's collective worship and assemblies has been 'Example'. This was part of a half-termly focus on our **CONFIDENCE** core value. One of the strands of **CONFIDENCE** is the ability to identify and emulate positive and powerful role models in life. This week, we reflected on inspirational stories, such as the life of Glenn Cunningham, who was left unable to walk due to injuries suffered in a fire as a child. Through his own resilience, self-belief and determination, he went on to win an Olympic medal for running in the 1936 Olympics. We drew parallels between Glen's story and that of our Foundress, St Julie, and also reflected on our one true example, Jesus Christ.

IN THIS ISSUE

- HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE (P 1-3)
- RESONATE NEWS (P 4-5)
- CHAPLAINCY NEWS (P 6-7)
- CONFIDENCE COMPETITION (P8)
- CAREERS NEWS (P9)
- NOTICES (P 10 -11)
- SAFEGUARDING (P 12)



MR DUFFY
HEADTEACHER

Year 7 Parents Evening – Thursday 4th May

We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents of Year 7 that we will be hosting a face-to-face Parents' Evening on Thursday 4th May in which parents of Year 7 can meet with your child's subject teachers to discuss their progress through the year and how they can prepare for end of year assessments. Please continue to book your appointment slots with subject teachers through the course of next week.

Curriculum information



We would like to remind students and parents that you can access all subject curriculum information of our school website. This helps parents stay up to date on what your child is studying in each subject at each stage in the year. You also visit the **BBC Bitesize Top Revision Tips website page**, which can be accessed by **scanning or clicking on the QR code above**. These techniques support students in all year groups to revise and re-learn curriculum content throughout the year, which has proven to be better than 'cramming' in the week's leading up to exams and assessments. Students are encouraged to bring any flash cards, mind maps or revision posters into school to show us what has worked – **prizes are given to the best examples!**

For more subject-specific guidance, parents, carers and students can visit the **'Further Learning'** section in each subject page on our website. These can be found in the 'Subjects' section under the 'Curriculum and Students' menu. You will find links to several subject-specific websites and study guides.



'Super Saturdays' and Transition



This week, we hosted our first 'Super Saturday' transition morning of the year, in which we welcomed some Year 6 students who will be joining us in September. We would like to thank our parents and colleagues in our primary partner schools for promoting and committing to this initiative. Attendance and participation has been outstanding. We would also like to thank all of the Notre Dame staff who have made these Saturdays truly super! We hope everyone enjoys the next Super Saturday event on 6th May as much as this week's!

NEU Strike Action – Tuesday 2nd May

As confirmed last week, due to the number of colleagues taking part in the NEU strike action, we can confirm the following arrangements for Tuesday's NEU Strike Action day:

Tuesday 2nd May

Students in **Years 11, 13 and in Flourish will attend school for face-to-face learning** and should attend school at their normal time. **Students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 and 12 will be learning at home.**

As with previous strike action days, all work will be set via Class Charts. We thank all Notre Dame parents and carers for their support, understanding and patience in managing these days.

**WISHING EVERY NOTRE DAME FAMILY
A PEACEFUL AND SAFE WEEKEND.**

Mr Duffy

FRI 28TH APRIL
2023



NOTRE DAME
CATHOLIC
COLLEGE

Resonate News this week...



RESONATE

The Music
Education Hub
for Liverpool

Eurobrass and 100 Voices United Perform!

Students involved in our Resonate Music Hub's Eurovision projects had their first opportunity to perform this week in the City Centre, for Kind Charles III and the Queen Consort.

Their Majesties attended Liverpool to unveil the Eurovision staging at the M&S Bank Arena and also attended Liverpool Central Library to officially mark the Library's twinning with Ukraine's first public library, the Regional Scientific Library in Odesa.

The pair were greeted at the top of William Brown Street by Resonate's brass band EuroBrass and Liverpool's 100 Voices Choir. Across the two groups there were students representing over 25 different primary and secondary schools, including members of our Notre Dame Catholic College choir, students from St Vincent's School for the Blind and a Ukrainian Children's choir.



Our EuroBrass band played fantastic arrangements as King Charles and Queen Consort Camilla arrived and greeted members of the public.



FRI 28TH APRIL
2023



NOTRE DAME
CATHOLIC
COLLEGE



Our EuroBrass band played fantastic arrangements as King Charles and Queen Consort Camilla arrived and greeted members of the public.

Our 100 Voices United Choir then began to perform for their Majesties as they entered the library with songs including 'You've got a Friend in me' and 'Stand by me'. Choir member and student at St Vincent's school for the blind, Emily, also had the opportunity to present Queen Consort Camilla with a packet of seeds and King Charles III spoke highly of the performances to our very own, Mrs Hambleton in Music!



A huge well done to all who took part! Students displayed fantastic **courage**, **confidence** and **courtesy** and did our Notre Dame community and our city proud!

“

"This is the most nervous I've been for a public performance but it was a once in a lifetime opportunity. I really enjoyed the whole experience!"

CJ Year 12

Notre Dame Catholic College
Chamber Choir Member

”

“

"I am really proud at what we've all achieved today."

Kashaya, Year 7

Notre Dame Catholic College
Youth Choir Member

”

Chaplaincy News this week...



Lourdes Pilgrimage – Student Reflections

Students, Bonnie, Joe and Tracey reflected on their recent pilgrimage to Lourdes this week with our Chaplain, Miss Wall.

Bonnie shared:

"My time in Lourdes with HCPT was, with no exaggeration, the best experience of my life. My week in Lourdes allowed me to re-explore my faith and discover my connection to my religion once again. The one moment I felt particularly overwhelmed was when mass at the grotto was held, seeing mass held at one of the most important Catholic sites on earth was a once in a lifetime experience, I will never forget.

Being involved in the choir was something we know is likely we can never experience again and I feel so incredibly lucky that we chose to go the year we could be involved with leading the masses. As well, the connections we made with each other was one of the highlights of my year. Not only did it allow space for the friendship between me and my two best friends, Joe, and Tracey, to grow, it allowed us the opportunity to create new friendships. Everyone in group 133 was so warm, welcoming, and amazing. They all treated us with such kindness and immediately welcomed us into their established chosen family."



Joe shared:

"One night, at dinner, Fr Sean told me that whenever I should visit Lourdes, I will come to love Our Lady in a brand-new way. I did not doubt him for a second, so for the whole week I lived in the excitement of a new revelation of my faith. One night, after visiting the chapel of light, our group crossed the river and went to the Grotto for some evening prayer. I went to the closest pew in front of the statue of Our Lady and knelt to say my prayers. When I looked up at her, and she looked down at me, I couldn't help but cry. It was a week following Good Friday, and I thought about her own tears that fell at Calvary. I thought about Bernadette, who so dutifully spread the news of the apparition despite being branded a mad woman. I thought about my grandmother, who made the pilgrimage during her own period of illness before I had been born. It was that night I learned that there was something so incredibly special about Lourdes. That night, when saying my last prayers before going to sleep, I realised that I had come to love Our Lady in a brand-new way, just like how Fr Sean had told me I would."

FRI 28TH APRIL
2023



NOTRE DAME
CATHOLIC
COLLEGE

Tracey shared:

"To go on pilgrimage during one of the most sacred celebrations of the Catholic faith will forever be a defining moment of my life. Lourdes was extremely beautiful from the buildings to the types of people who walked through its gates, and luckily for us, we entered the city with a group of people from Liverpool who were just as excited & eager as us. Not only because we were in the presence of Our Lady but, because Merseyside lead all the masses that week. Bonnie, Joe and I were in the choir with the friends we made that week who played the guitar, the piano or even sang solo. From Mass in the mountains at Gavarnie, singing Rise and Shine repeatedly, singing at the Torchlight Procession or our fancy dress party, it was an incredible week spent with incredible people.

Finally, I'd like to say thank you to the Notre Dame community for helping us fundraise for our pilgrimage, the effort everyone put into helping us is an act of pilgrimage in its self and looking back it's truly amazing how invested everyone has been in getting us there and listening to our endless stories when we got back. Going on pilgrimage with an amazing organisation such as HCPT reaffirms your faith by seeing others put said faith into action. Maybe this will help some of you consider coming along in the years to come."



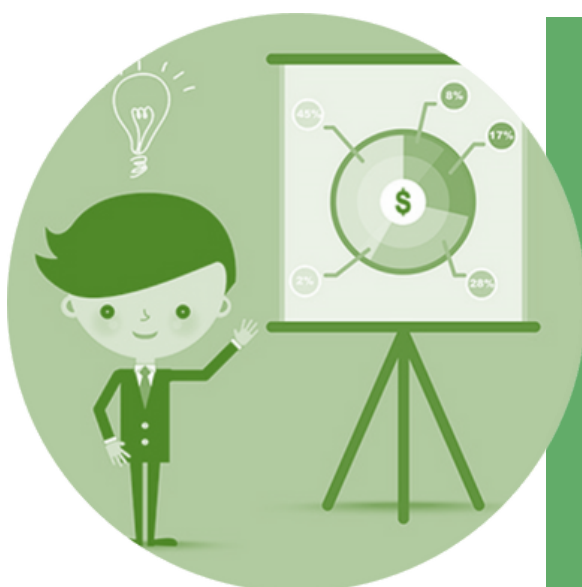
Confidence Competition



'How my Notre Dame curriculum has changed me'

Christine Counsell has been a leading school curriculum developer in the UK for the past decade. In her blog entitled 'The dignity of the thing' she said, 'A curriculum exists to change the pupil, to give the pupil new power.' Another educationalist, Mary Myatt, said that curriculum 'represents the totality of the experience of the child within schooling'.

With this in mind, we are launching our **Confidence Competition** for students to take part in this term!



The Task:

You have 500-words, written or spoken, to explain how your Notre Dame curriculum has changed you. You can focus on one particular subject, one particular experience or reflect on your general curriculum experience at Notre Dame this year.

Competition entries need to be submitted either in writing to student services or voices recordings can be emailed to kbrown@notredame.liverpool.sch.uk no later than 3.00pm on Friday 2nd June.

Entries will be shortlisted by the senior leadership team. Shortlisted pupils will be invited to read their entries out in front of a panel of staff, governors and parents.

Shortlisted pupils will win £10 One4All vouchers. Competition winners will win £50 One4All vouchers.

**OPENING
MINDS**



Careers News this week...



Year 10 Prepare for Work Experience

Last week, Mrs Hall delivered an assembly to year 10 students about work experience. All students will have the opportunity to complete a week's work experience during the week of 11th-15th December 2023. This will take place after year 11 mock exams and just before the Christmas break.

We are encouraging all students to begin contacting different employers asap to find their own placement. Deadline for self-placements is 17th July. For those students unable to secure their own the placement of their choice, we will ask **Elevate** our work experience partner to provide a work placement for them. To help with the administration of self-placements we will be using the **Unifrog Placements Tool**. As a school we subscribe to Unifrog, an excellent careers management platform that provides great resources for students to support their career planning and personal development. Information for parents will be sent out through ParentApps and uploaded to the [careers page on the website](#). If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Hall hallg@notredame.liverpool.sch.uk

Work Experience Resources

Year 11 Work Experience will take place 11th -15th December 2023.

Owing to the increased demand for work experience placements over the last year, we feel it is essential that our current Year 10 students begin as soon as possible to identify their preferred placement choice.

We are asking Year 10 students (with their families support) to source their own work experience placement. To manage the administration of self-placements, we are using the **Unifrog Placements Tool** to collect information from the employer about their Risk Assessment and Health & Safety policy, as well as getting agreement from Parents/Carers for the placement to go ahead. Unifrog is a comprehensive careers platform that we subscribe to as a school and students will be given the opportunity to subscribe to this platform during the Summer 2023 Term.

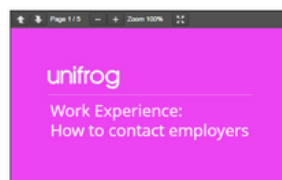
The deadline for all self-placements is 17th July. If a student is unable to find their own placement, we will work with **Elevate**, one of our work experience partners, to support finding a placement for them. Please be aware that there is no guarantee this will be in your child's preferred job sector. For further information, please see the resources below.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Hall, our Careers Advisor for further details and support.

Year 10 Letter to Parents – Work Experience Information



Video: How to use the Unifrog Placement Tool



Safari Park Experience!

Our students in Year 10 and Flourish took part in their first Work Skills session at Knowsley Safari Park this week.

Our group visited the park to learn about the various roles and employment opportunities within the Safari Park attraction that help it to function - from Zoo Keepers to Customer Service!

Mr McVerry said, "It is great to see our pupils fully engaging in all of the activities and supporting the staff at the Safari Park." We look forward to more updates!



FRI 28TH APRIL
2023



NOTRE DAME
CATHOLIC
COLLEGE



NOTRE DAME
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

PRESENTS

HAIRSPRAY

COMING THIS SUMMER!

We have begun rehearsals for Hairspray with a large cast of students ranging from Years 7 to 13. After running workshops and auditions last term we have now finalised the full cast list and are holding weekly rehearsals on Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

The rehearsals are supported by a large team of staff and a special team of set design and backstage crew working with Sister Margaret.

There will be 3 performances during the first week of July, including a special performance for our local primary schools! All staff, parents and members of the public will be invited to the evening performances so watch this space for further updates!!



Dates for the diary:

May Day Bank Holiday

School is closed for all on Monday 1st May 2023.



NEU Strike Day

The next NEU Strike Day will take place on Tuesday 2nd May. Students in Years 11,13 and in Flourish will attend school for face-to-face learning and should attend school at their normal time. Students in Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 and 12 will be learning at home on Tuesday 2nd May. All work will be set via Class Charts. All students will be back to school as normal on Wednesday 3rd May at the usual time of 8.45am (8am for any student who wishes to attend Breakfast Club). We thank all Notre Dame parents and carers for their support, understanding and patience in managing these days.



Year 7 Parents Evening

Year 7 Parents are invited to attend Parents' Evening from 3.30pm – 6.00pm on Thursday 4th May 2023. Please note, no appointments are required as all subject teachers will be available between these times. We encourage your son/daughter to accompany you to Parents' Evening where you will have the opportunity to discuss their progress with their subject teachers. If your child is not attending with you, we politely request that you ask your child or the school for a list of their subject teachers prior to your arrival. We look forward to seeing you next Thursday. Thank you.



Year 8: HPV Vaccinations

All Year 8 children are being offered the HPV vaccination at school on Tuesday 9th May 2023, which protects against a range of HPV related cancers.

Important action required Could we kindly ask that Year 8 and Year 9 parents/carers access the below link:

<https://econsent.merseycare.nhs.uk/> (This link works best via Google Chrome)

Please complete your child's consent form even if you DO NOT want your child to receive this vaccination, this will avoid you receiving further follow up correspondence from our service and assist with campaign delivery.

If you wish to change your decision at any time after submitting your form, you must contact the immunisation service.

Please do not re-submit a further consent form. If you would like to discuss anything further or require support, please don't hesitate to contact the immunisation service directly on 0151 295 3833.



Year 8 Parents Evening

Year 8 Parents' Evening will take place on Thursday 11th May 2023. Further details will be sent to Year 8 Parents via Parent App closer to this date.



FRI 28TH APRIL
2023



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 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/