

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

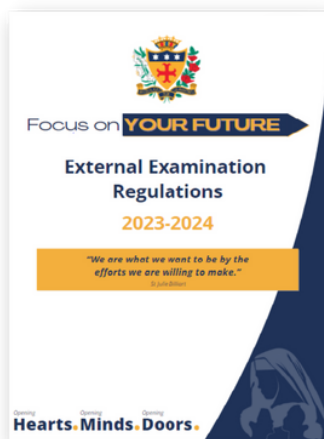


HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Focus on **YOUR FUTURE**

Year 11 and 13 Mock Examinations



"We are what we want to be by the efforts we are willing to make."

St Julie Billiart



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Our Year 11 and 13 Mock examinations are underway and will continue until next **Friday 8th December**.

Students have made a fantastic start to their first round of mocks. This is not only an invaluable benchmark for students to support their revision and preparation over the next few months, it is also a useful insight into the examination procedures and behaviours they are expected to maintain during the exam period. To support this, each Year 11 student received a guide book to external examinations and the essential regulations they need to know during assembly this week. [This is available to view now on our website here.](#)

MRS COSTELLO
ACTING
HEADTEACHER



Students have been provided with revision lists and materials in all examined subjects, either in class or via Class Charts. Please support your children in committing time out of school hours to prepare for these important examinations.

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.

Parents / Carers, please note, if any scheduled afternoon examinations finish before 3pm, students will be dismissed early and will leave directly from the Sports Hall. Timetables will be shared on our website this coming week.

Theme of the week - Love one another

Our Collective Worship theme this week was 'Love One Another'. We have asked students to reflect on positive changes they would like to see in the world and to think of how they can live out Christ's Teaching to love one another, particularly as we enter the season of Advent.



Our Student Council Awareness campaign also continued this week with a focus on Men's Health and Wellbeing. Students shared facts and tips to promote positive health messages for young men, encouraging men to speak out more if they're struggling, particularly in regards to feelings and mental health.

As always, we thank students for their hard work and efforts in creating these invaluable resources for our school community.

Year 9 Parents' Evening - Thursday 7th December

We look forward to welcoming Parents and Carers of our Year 9 students to our first Parents' Evening of the academic year next week. Subject teachers will be available between 3.30pm and 6pm to discuss your child's progress. This Parents Evening will be particularly useful as it comes a week before we launch our Year 9 Options, where our students will decide which subjects they would like to select to study in Years 10 and 11. Therefore we strongly encourage attendance to ensure you can ask our subject teachers for advice and guidance regarding your child and their future pathway.



Celebrating our Students - Head of Year Breakfast Events

It has been wonderful to celebrate our students' who are continuously reflecting our core college values through their consistent good behaviour. We have relaunched our 'Values Stars' reward scheme, where students with the highest number of Class Charts points in each year group are named as our Value Star for Charity, Courtesy, Confidence and Courage.



In addition to this, we have launched our new initiative to celebrate students with consistently good positive behaviours through our Head of Year Breakfast events. Each Head of Year this week, invited up to 10 students from their year group that they identified as displaying consistently excellent behaviour, and living our core college values to a special breakfast during form time. The students had an opportunity to come together in a private space and spend time with their Head of Year whilst enjoying hot chocolates and pastries!

It was my pleasure to say well done to the students who were selected to attend. We look forward to continuing these events throughout the year to acknowledge those students who are making positive choices on a daily basis. **Well done!**

Calendar Update - Additional INSET Days

We would like to remind Parents and Carers of the update to our College Calendar.

As you will be aware Notre Dame Catholic College is in the process of joining St. Joseph's Catholic Multi Academy Trust in the near future and I hope I will be able to give parents more information on the date of conversion before Christmas. Since the beginning of this term the Senior Leadership Team have been working closely with the CEO and the Director of School Improvement for St. Joseph's CMAT and in order to continue this work, with the teaching and support staff, the governors have **agreed to additional Inset days on Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th January.**

This means that all students will return to school after the Christmas Holidays on **Wednesday 10th January.**

WISHING EVERY NOTRE DAME FAMILY A PEACEFUL WEEKEND.

Yours faithfully

MRS COSTELLO

Congratulations to our Values Stars!

This week, we have continued to share our Year Group Values Stars!
Congratulations to all.



Year 7
Joseph C
Mateusz P

Year 8
Jamie F

Year 9
Anthony W

Year 10
Charlie P

Year 11
Violet P



Year 7
Florence O

Year 8
Amelia S

Year 9
Thomas L
Alex M
Borys R

Year 10
Deimante B

Year 11
Elisa F



Year 7
Amelia S

Year 8
Ella R

Year 9
Sechil R
Mohamed E
Colin H

Year 10
Abigael A

Year 11
Dominic M



Year 7
Layla K

Year 9
Francis W

Year 11
Shea D

Punctuality Reminder

We'd like to take this opportunity to remind all students, parents and carers the importance of being on time for school.

All students should be in school for 8:40am and be in their form classes by 8:45 am. Students arriving at school after 8:45am will be marked as **LATE** to school

Any child who arrives in school **after 9:30am** will be marked as being **ABSENT** for the morning as the register is closed – this affects your son/daughter's attendance at school.

We'd like to thank Parents and Carers for their continued support in ensuring students arrive on time and ready to learn.



Year 11 Mock Interviews

Focus on **YOUR FUTURE**

This week, alongside our mock examinations, Year 11 students participated in mock interviews with employers from various organisations and industries. We invited over 20 employers to attend Notre Dame, including organisations such as Mott MacDonald, PSI Global, HMRC and the NHS in sectors including Marketing, Construction, Management, Health, Digital and more.



Our Year 11 cohort were an absolute credit to the school, arriving well prepared and **confident** to participate in what, for many was their first experience at an interview. Well done to all involved and a huge thank you to Mrs Hall for organising this invaluable experience for our students.



OPENING DOORS



"Notre Dame students showed **enthusiasm** and asked some brilliant questions."

Erin Fletcher
Senior Marketing Officer
at Crown Commercial



"The students I interviewed were really **confident** and honest. I think it's **brave** doing something like this for the first time, well done!"

Tom Woods,
L&R Roadlines

"I was a little nervous but I felt **confident** and prepared and I think it went really well!"

Zyann, Year 11



"They did great, all the students were **polite** and smiling when they arrived which makes a great first impression."

Sally Turner
Organisational
Development
Coordinator at
Liverpool Heart and
Chest Hospital

"It was a worthwhile experience. It has given me the **confidence** to go for the career I want."

Maisie, Year 11

"It was good, I now have the **confidence** to know I can do it again."

Cody, Year 11

"I think I did really well, I received clear and positive feedback."

Jana, Year 11

Year 11 Work Experience

We would like to remind Year 11 students and Parents that their Work Experience week is approaching. They will attend their pre-arranged placements between 11th and 15th December. Mrs Hall will be sending out further information this week via Parent App.

For advice and guidance on how to prepare for Work Experience, [please click here](#).

Christmas Token for the Sisters of Notre Dame

Students in our Charity Club and our Year 8 Faith in Action have been busy this term creating goody bags to be shared with the Sisters of Notre Dame later this month, wishing them a Merry Christmas.

Year 8s have helped to create the rosary beads. There are 20 more to complete the set, putting chocolates into the bags and making the labels.



Sixth Form Assembly with the Amy Winehouse Foundation.

We welcomed representatives from the Amy Winehouse Foundation to College this week to deliver an assembly to our Sixth Form students on the dangers of abuse, drugs and alcohol. The assembly was a powerful and emotional account from a survivor who is using her own life experiences to help young people know how to recognise when and where to seek support when they need to. Our students found the session extremely informative and inspiring.



“

“It was a useful and emotional insight. I’m sure it will have helped anyone here who may be struggling to know where to turn.” Keira -Rose, Year 12

”

“

“It was good to hear someone share their actual real-life experience rather than it feel like a lecture. It was more relatable and honest.” Poppy, Year 12

”

FRI 1ST DEC
2023



NOTRE DAME
CATHOLIC
COLLEGE

100 Voice Rehearsals

ITV Crew and cameras attended Notre Dame this week as we hosted pupils from 15 different schools across the city region including Notre Dame Catholic College's Choir who are involved in Resonate's 100 Voices Choir.

The pupils gathered to rehearse and record in preparation for an exciting live performance which will take place this wee. 16 of our students will attend a residential trip in London this week to participate in the performance. Watch this space for more exciting details!!



Student Council Share their Views!

Our Student Council met with Acting Head Teacher, Mrs Costello this week to address the views and concerns and proposals of the student body.

The aim of the meeting was to work together to improve the life of the school and experience for all. Students discussed a number of topics that they feel passionately about, exploring issues and solutions to areas including lunchtime dinner queues and toilet policies.

Our student body was extremely eloquent and reasonable voicing their opinions and impressed Mrs Costello with the **confidence** and maturity they displayed to share their proposals for improvement.



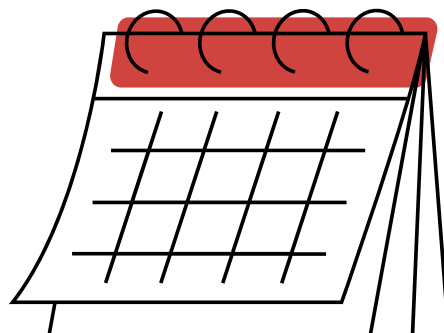
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Dates for your diary - Parents Evenings

- **Year 7** Parents Evening will be on **Thursday 7th March 2024**
- **Year 8** Parents Evening will be on **Thursday 9th May 2024**
- **Year 9** Parents Evening will be on **Thursday 7th December 2023**
- **Year 10** Parents Evening will be on **Thursday 21st March 2024**
- **Year 11** Parents Evening will be on **Thursday 18th January 2024**
- **Sixth Form** Parents Evening TBC



Further information including times will be shared nearer to the date.

Please be advised any changes to the above dates scheduled will be shared via ParentApp, Class Charts, our Newsletter and the school website.

Message from the Liverpool Lighthouse:

2ND DECEMBER | 1PM
Chitty Chitty Bang Bang
Shirley & Long

SCAN QR CODE TO RESERVE YOUR SEATS OR FIND EVENT ON TICKET
SOURCE: LIGHHOUSE CINEMA PRESENTS CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG

AT THE LIVERPOOL LIGHTHOUSE, OAKFIELD ROAD, L4 0UF
YOU CAN CONTACT US ON 01514762342 OR VIA EMAIL AT [INFO@LIVERPOOLLIGHTHOUSE.COM](mailto:info@liverpoolighthouse.com)
FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS WWW.LIVERPOOLLIGHTHOUSE.COM

WINTER HOLIDAY CLUB

2TH - 5TH JANUARY 9-1PM EACH DAY
AT LIVERPOOL LIGHTHOUSE, OAKFIELD ROAD, L4 0UF
FOR 7 - 13 YEAR OLD'S

FOOD, DRINK AND SNACKS WILL BE PROVIDED FOR ALL CHILDREN
WITH A HOT LUNCH SERVED AT 12:30PM EVERY DAY.
Places can be booked through email or phone call
Matt.rutter@liverpoolighthouse.com
07708668657

Lighthouse Cinema screening – “Chitty Chitty Bang Bang” on the 2nd December at 1pm.

Ticket prices: £3 Adult | £2.50 Child | £10 group of 5
[Link to buy tickets](#)

Winter Half Term Club 2th – 5th January – During half term Liverpool Lighthouse will be offering creative activities for children and young people aged 7–13. The week will be a load of fun games, exercises and drama scenes. The young people will develop confidence, skills and meet lots of new people and share the work they have created on the last day. A hot meal and snacks throughout the day will be provided for children participating to help families over the Christmas period. Food, drink and snacks will be provided for all children with a hot lunch served at 12:30pm every day. Time: 9–1pm each day To register, email: matt.rutter@liverpoolighthouse.com



MEASLES

Don't let your child catch it

– get them vaccinated with the MMR vaccine

The number of young people catching measles has risen. It's never too late to be vaccinated. You need two doses of MMR one month apart to be fully protected against measles, mumps and rubella.

It's time to make measles a disease of the past.

If you have symptoms of measles, stay at home and phone your GP or NHS 111 for advice. STAY AWAY from GP surgeries and A&E departments – you could spread the illness to others.

Measles symptoms include: high fever; sore, red, watery eyes; coughing; aching and feeling generally unwell; a blotchy red brown rash, which usually appears after the initial symptoms.

- measles outbreaks happen when not enough children have been vaccinated
- measles can be a very serious disease, leading to ear and chest infections, fits, diarrhoea, and damage to the brain. Measles can kill
- your child is at risk of measles if he or she hasn't had the MMR vaccination
- 2 doses of MMR vaccine are needed to get the best protection
- if your child is due to have had 2 doses of MMR but has not yet received them, no matter what age they are, you should contact your GP to get them vaccinated as soon as possible*
- if you can't remember if your child has had any, 1 or 2 doses of MMR vaccine, check his or her personal child health record (the Red Book). If this doesn't help, speak to your GP
- if you don't know how many doses your child has had, it's better to have 2 doses of MMR vaccine now rather than risk leaving them unprotected

*In response to a local outbreak then the 2 doses can be given one month apart from the age of 18 months.

i mmunisation
the safest way to protect your child

Some common questions about measles and the MMR vaccine are listed on the back of this leaflet

Answers to some common questions about measles and the MMR vaccine

Why are we seeing these outbreaks of measles?

Measles is a highly infectious disease, spreading quickly from person to person, especially in schools. A child with measles will infect almost all unprotected children they have contact with. Since the end of 2017 there has been an increase in measles globally which has affected the UK. This has resulted in some spread into wider communities, in particular in undervaccinated groups.

When are the MMR vaccinations usually given?

The best times are between 12 and 13 months of age and again at 3 years and 4 months, with one dose on each occasion. But, if your child wasn't vaccinated then, they can be vaccinated at any age with 2 doses one month apart.

Will there be any side effects to the vaccination?

Your child may get the symptoms of measles, mumps and rubella for up to 6 weeks after the vaccination but in a very much milder form. This proves that the vaccine is working and your child is building up resistance to future contact with the viruses that cause the 3 diseases. Not all children show these symptoms but that doesn't mean the vaccine isn't working.

Should parents in outbreak areas get vaccinated against measles?

As with many diseases, once you have had measles, you don't catch it again because you have built up a natural resistance to it. So, if you've had measles or 2 doses of MMR vaccine you do not need to get vaccinated now.

For more information about measles and MMR go to
www.nhs.uk/conditions/measles/



9 out of 10

unvaccinated children
can catch measles
if someone in their
class has it

Check your child is up
to date with their
MMR vaccinations



FRI 1ST DEC
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

REPORTING AN ISSUE ON SOCIAL MEDIA - A GUIDE

[Visit this guide here.](#)

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

Acting Headteacher - Mrs AM Costello

Acting Deputy Headteacher / Designated Safeguarding Lead - Mrs E Brennan

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads
Mrs J Littleboy - Director of Safeguarding Services
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
Mrs E Garvey Y7, Miss C Lee Y8, Ms R Glorman Y9, Mrs S Doran Y10, Mrs S Styles Y11, - Pastoral Assistant Heads of Year

www.notredameliverpool.com/safeguarding/