

FRI 8TH DEC  
2023



NOTRE DAME  
CATHOLIC  
COLLEGE

# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



## HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

*Dear Parents and Carers,*

### Year 9 Guided Choices

It was wonderful to welcome Parents and Carers of Year 9 students this week to our first Parents' Evening of the academic year. This was a fantastic opportunity for students, with their parents, to ask subject teachers advice and guidance regarding the options process ahead of the launch of our Virtual Options Event next week, **at 6pm on Thursday 14th December 2023.**



Focus on **YOUR FUTURE**

## Year 9 Guided Choices

Thursday 14th December 2023

Online subject presentations will be available to view on our website from 6pm to support you to make the right choice for your future.

## IN THIS ISSUE

- HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE (P 1-3)
- SCHOOL LIFE NEWS (P4-8)
- NOTICES (P9-10)
- SAFEGUARDING (P11)

MRS COSTELLO  
ACTING  
HEADTEACHER

Our Year 9 students and parents will be invited to tune in to our website from 6pm on Thursday to view our Curriculum leader's presentations about their subjects and what studying each one at Key Stage 4 looks like.

There will also be a presentation from Mrs Thomas to explain the Options process and what the next steps will be. We strongly encourage students and parents to watch the videos on the evening as we will be following up with Year 9 students to go through the next steps during PHSE lesson on Friday 15th December.

## TOP TIPS FOR PICKING YOUR OPTIONS

BBC Bitesize has lots of useful advice and guidance for students to help students prepare for selecting their options. Check them out here:

[BBC Bitesize Top Tips](#)

## Mock Exams Congratulations

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 feedback to students and support their revision over the coming weeks.

**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**.



If you/your child would like to share an update of your work experience placement with us to share, please email over any updates, comments or photos to [kbrown@notredame.liverpool.sch.uk](mailto:kbrown@notredame.liverpool.sch.uk).

## Sixth Form Parents' Evening - Thursday 14th December



We look forward to welcoming Parents and Carers of our Sixth Form students to their Parents' Evening next week. Subject teachers will be available between 3.30pm and 6pm to discuss your child's progress.

**We look forward to seeing you there!**

## ITV's New Year's Eve Big Bash!



It has been a magical couple of days for our Resonate Music Hub and Notre Dame Music department! After months of rehearsing, #100Voices United, a choir made up of secondary schools and the fantastic Ukrainian Children's Choir travelled down to Wembley Arena to record a performance for the ITV New Year's Eve Big Bash!

The event was hosted by Jason Manford and a star-studded cast including Take That, Chery Cole and headlining Resonate's own 100 Voices Choir.

16 talented students from Notre Dame took part and at every stage represented the college brilliantly, it was an experience they will never forget. (See more on page 6)

A special thanks to Miss Hart and Mrs Hambleton, and all the other heads of music who took part, it is the commitment and professionalism from these staff that makes these things work. Well done to all and we hope you can join us and tune in to ITV on New Year's Eve.

## Calendar Update - Additional INSET Days

We would like to continue to remind Parents and Carers of the update to our College Calendar and the additional INSET days that have been added following the Christmas break due to the process of joining St. Joseph's Catholic Multi Academy Trust in the near future.

The Inset days will take place 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  
**Cairo S**

Year 8  
**Dylan S**

Year 9  
**Narcisse M**  
**Jeremy MM**

Year 10  
**Sonny W**  
**Konnie M**  
**Sienna K**  
**Eva K**  
**Jaden J**

Year 11  
**Finley C**



Year 7  
**Joel O**

Year 8  
**Jaiden MJ**

Year 9  
**Ellie G**  
**Maggie E**

Year 10  
**Szymon R**  
**Niamh M**  
**Alexis M**  
**Lorcan M**  
**Alfie B**

Year 11  
**Anthony L**



Year 7  
**Ella- Louise B**

Year 8  
**Thomas W**

Year 9  
**Athul D**

Year 10  
**Conrad A**

Year 11  
**Nell S**



Year 8  
**Kaden H**

Year 9  
**David O**

Year 11  
**Polly P**

## Head of Year Breakfasts Continue!

This week we have continued to celebrate and reward our students who consistently display positive behaviour in school through our Head of Year Breakfast events.

This is a lovely opportunity for students to receive recognition for the contribution they make to the life of the school by consistently upholding our school's core values.

Well done to all who received an invitation this week! These events will take place every other week over the course of the academic year.





FRI 8TH DEC  
2023



NOTRE DAME  
CATHOLIC  
COLLEGE

## Christmas at Notre Dame!

The season of advent is upon us and it is wonderful to see our Christmas decorations return for 2023!

We have some exciting events and activities planned at Notre Dame before the end of term.

Our Advent fundraising activity this year, will be raising funds for Asylum Link, Merseyside. They are a local charity which offer practical support for asylum seekers and refugees in Liverpool.

To support this, we will be hosting a Christmas Fayre for students in the Sports Hall on **Wednesday 20th December**. Each year group will be involved in organising a stall to participate in the Fayre and help raise funds for this worthwhile cause! Watch this space for more details of the exciting activities they have planned!

Students in Years 12 and 9 have also been busy creating a display board to help raise awareness about refugees and the work of Asylum Link, Merseyside. The board is on display at the bottom of the Spanish Steps in the Centre of the school.



**OPENING  
HEARTS**



## Carols by Candlelight, Wednesday 20th December 6.30-8.30pm

Our annual Christmas Carol service will return on the evening of Wednesday 20th December, 6.30pm – 8.30pm. We would like to invite Parents and Carers to attend our service for an evening of musical talent and advent reflections. This event is free to attend but does require a ticket to ensure we do not exceed capacity. Tickets will be available from student services next week. We look forward to seeing you there!



## Notre Dame Students participate in ITV's Big Bash

As mentioned above, we were delighted that 16 of our students had the fantastic opportunity this week to attend a trip to London to participate in the filming of ITV's New Year's 'Big Bash'. The trip took place from Tuesday - Thursday this week and our students performed within Resonate's 100 Voices Choir at Wembley Arena. Hear some of their thoughts on the experience below:



“

**“I found the whole experience unique and emotional and I’m so grateful for the opportunity” Joel H, Year 12**

”

**OPENING  
DOORS**

“

**“The trip to London was the best experience I have ever had. I would love to do it again.” CJ, Year 13**

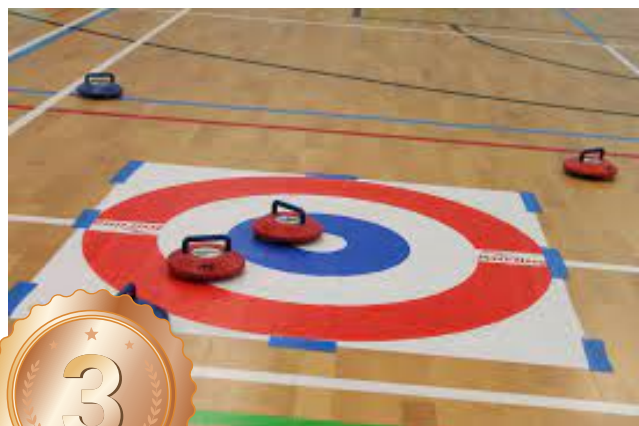
”

## New Age Kurling Competition.

This week, we took 16 of our SEN students to a New Age Kurling competition at Greenbank Sports Centre which was run by the Liverpool Schools Sports Partnership (LSSP). The students were a credit to the school and performed amazingly well throughout the day.

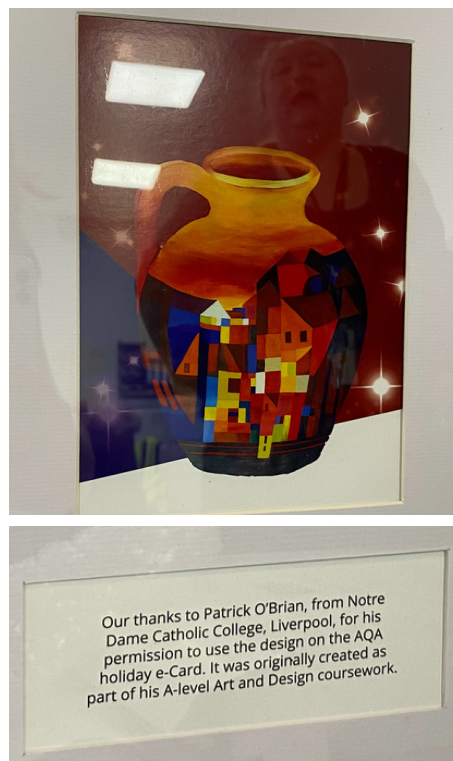
Each of our 5 teams played in 14 games, with all 5 Notre Dame teams making the **top 10** from 15 teams.

**A big well done goes out to Josh, Terence, Isla and Sophia who came away with a Bronze Medal.**





## NDCC Art Alumni Success



It was wonderful to welcome Patrick back to school this week to collect a prestigious honour from exam board AQA. Patrick's A Level Coursework was selected to be the design for AQA's official E-Holiday Card. The design was supplied in a frame to us from AQA and Patrick, who now studies Interior Architecture at Liverpool John Moores University, returned this week to collect his copy. A replica will be placed in our Art department to celebrate his achievement. Well done Patrick! We wish you all the best of luck in your future studies. Don't be a stranger!

## Notre Dame Pantry Service

As a community, Notre Dame would like to offer the service of **"The Pantry"** to all of our families. The Pantry is a confidential service (foodbank) run by Notre Dame, whereby you can contact our school Chaplain, Miss Wall, to receive items of shopping, food and toiletries.

If you would like to discuss this further or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Miss Wall either by telephone and speak with her directly in confidence or email [rwall18.341@notredame.liverpool.sch.uk](mailto:rwall18.341@notredame.liverpool.sch.uk). You don't even need to share information with your child.



FRI 8TH DEC  
2023



NOTRE DAME  
CATHOLIC  
COLLEGE

## 100% Attendance Challenge - Can you win £100?!

We're one week in to our 100% Attendance Challenge!

All students who received 100% attendance this week have been entered into our prize draw. Keep up the good work for your chance to WIN £100 worth of Asda vouchers

CAN YOU ACHIEVE  
**100%**  
**ATTENDANCE**  
IN THE 10 SCHOOL DAYS LEFT UNTIL CHRISTMAS?  
There will be a prize draw on the final day of term  
for each Year Group (7-II) to WIN  
**£100 ASDA VOUCHER**  
per year group! GOOD LUCK!

15 DAYS TIL CHRISTMAS  
**Attendance Challenge**  
MON 4TH - FRI 22ND DEC  
FOR YEARS 7 - II

CAN YOU ACHIEVE  
**100%**  
**ATTENDANCE**  
IN THE 15 SCHOOL DAYS LEFT UNTIL CHRISTMAS?  
There will be a prize draw on the final day of term  
for each Year Group (7-II) to WIN  
**£100 ASDA VOUCHER**  
per year group! GOOD LUCK!

## OPENING MINDS

### New Parent Resource to support RSE: Ten:Ten

Our Relationships and Sex Education reflects our mission to 'opening hearts, minds and doors'.

As a Catholic school, our mission is to support the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all of our pupils, rooted in the wisdom and teaching of the Church. The education of children in human sexuality is an important responsibility. The Church teaches us that this is very much a partnership with parents, in which parents are the 'first educators' of their children on these matters; **and we in school are here to support you.**

We will be using a new programme to support the delivery of our RSE programme called Ten Ten. The programme has been approved by our diocese and is in partnership with the Catholic Education Service and the Department for Education to provide training for teachers in Catholic schools on Relationships and Sex Education.

Ten Ten have provided an Online Parent Portal which will be a tool we can use throughout the year to keep you informed and updated about the work we are doing in school. We will be asking for your feedback on the programme and resources in the spring term once all pupils have completed the first part of their relationships and sex education programme. **Further details will be sent via ParentApp next week.**

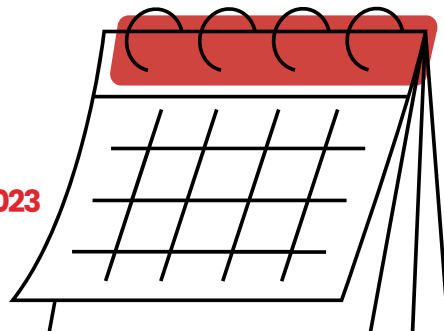


**Ten:Ten**  
Resources



## 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 **took place 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 on **Thursday 14th December 2023**



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.

## Liverpool City Council Parent Newsletter



[CLICK HERE TO VIEW](#)

The Newsletter includes information on services that can support parents during the month of December and into the New Year.

- Family Hub and Children Centres
- December Events Across The City for Families
- Winter health support
- Childcare
- Debt Advice
- Domestic Abuse
- Education Wonderhub Activities
- Employment Support and Adult Learning opportunities
- Foodbanks
- Mental Health
- Money Management and Financial help
- Parenting Programmes
- Parental Mental Health
- Support for Fathers

**Winter Half Term Club 2nd - 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](mailto:matt.rutter@liverpoolighthouse.com)

FRI 8TH DEC  
2023



NOTRE DAME  
CATHOLIC  
COLLEGE



**[View information from Liverpool City Council regarding E Scooter and E Bike Safety](https://liverpool.gov.uk/roadsafety)**



**[View information from Liverpool City Council regarding Parking Outside of School](https://liverpool.gov.uk/roadsafety)**

FRI 8TH DEC  
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

### 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/](http://www.notredameliverpool.com/safeguarding/)