

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Sixth Form Open Event

We would like to begin this week's newsletter by thanking all Year 11 students who attended last night's Sixth Form Open Event. We hope all students (and attending parents) found the event and their subject taster sessions informative and helpful.



Our Sixth form Team will begin interviewing students next week and we ask all Year 11 students to complete their declaration of interest and return these to Mrs Brown in the school office.

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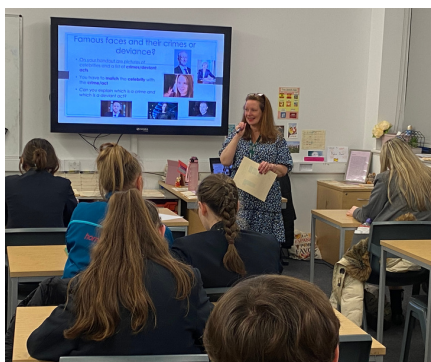
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MRS COSTELLO
ACTING
HEADTEACHER

FRI 26TH JAN
2024



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Feast Day Celebrations

We would like to remind students' and parents' of our upcoming Feast Day celebrations next **Friday 2nd February**, 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 this day, all students will finish school at 12.00 noon.



Alumni news!



**OPENING
DOORS**

We were thrilled to see a member of our Notre Dame Alumni feature in the local news this week, after graduating with a first-class honours degree from **Cambridge University!** Former student, Eva Carroll, graduated with a First-Class degree in English Literature from one of the best universities in the world, ranking in the top 10% of her subject. This is an incredible achievement and we were delighted to hear of Eva's success!

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Eva shared her advice to our current students to inspire them to work hard and *focus on their future*:

"When I was a student at Notre Dame sitting on the Spanish steps about to go into my GCSE exams, studying at the University of Cambridge didn't really cross my mind. I didn't think I could get a place there, but I did. It was an experience of a lifetime and opened so many doors to the world for me. If you are passionate about a subject and want to learn all you can about it, then Oxford or Cambridge is for you. If I could tell my younger self at Notre Dame something, it would be to believe in yourself more. I know from experience that Notre Dame has so many kind and clever students, and the world is yours to explore and become the best version of yourself possible."

This lovely news comes just weeks after 2 of our current Year 13 students' received their conditional offers for Oxford University and we look forward to hearing many more alumni success stories as we continue to *open doors* to success! Thank you to Eva for sharing her kind words.

You can view the original article featuring Eva via the [link here](#).

WISHING EVERY NOTRE DAME FAMILY A PEACEFUL WEEKEND.

Yours faithfully

MRS COSTELLO

Congratulations to our Values Stars!

Congratulations to all our Year Group Values Stars!



Year 7
Alfie A

Year 8
Summer C
Noah J
Lily-Rose B

Year 9
David O

Year 10
TBA

Year 11
Theo V



Year 7
Alfie A

Year 8
Ella R
Layla B
Kitty F

Year 9
Heidi O

Year 10
TBA

Year 11
Maya F



Year 7
Bubacarr M

Year 8
Abdulaziz BB
Amer BG
Samuel D

Year 9
Abigail T

Year 10
TBA

Year 11
Melia B



Year 7
Jessica M

Year 8
Izabella B
Davi DOB
Joud A

Year 9
Nancy HN

Year 10
TBA

Year 11
Arafah O



Super Stars!

Well done to the following students with the highest number of positive points in their Year Group this week!

Year 7 - Bubacarr M

Year 8 - 8 Mary-Anne

Year 9 - Mia S

Year 10 - TBA

Year 11 - TBA

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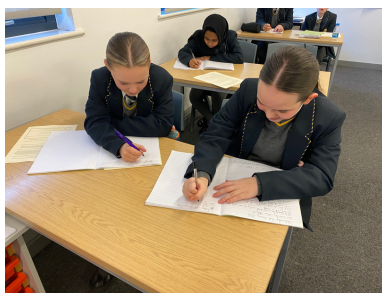
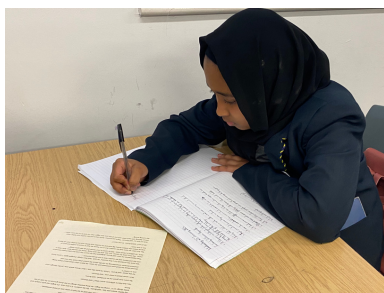
Holocaust Memorial Day in English

On Friday 26th January, to mark Holocaust Memorial Day in English, Key Stage 3 classes explored extracts from books set during the Holocaust including 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas' (Year 7), 'The Diary of Anne Frank' (Year 8) and 'When the World was Ours' (Year 9).

As well as this, students crafted their own poems focused on this year's theme, '**Fragility of Freedom**'. The best creations will be shortlisted by staff in the English department before the winner is chosen by Mrs Costello and crowned Notre Dame's very own Poet Laureate! Good Luck!

Holocaust Memorial Day

LO: To explore and discuss a variety of important texts to mark 'Holocaust Memorial Day'.



Fixtures this week!

The following fixtures were played by our boys Basketball and Football teams this week:

Tuesday – Basketball

The boys had their first match in basketball against North Liverpool Academy and UTC Life Sciences in a 3 way tournament. The boys with limited knowledge, but eagerness to learn, played their heart out against a very well organised NLA, however, came up short in the first game with a defeat 6-2. They pulled it back in the second game when we took on UTC Life Sciences and won 4-0 with an outstanding performance from Josh in year 8. **Well done!**

We then played NLA for a second time and came out victorious 8-6. This is going to be a monthly competition moving forward and the kids really enjoyed the event.



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Wednesday – Football

Our boys team played an away fixture against St Edmund Arrowsmith CE from Whiston in the Merseyside Cup. Unfortunately, we played on a wet and boggy pitch that our team found tricky to navigate! The boys are working on building their team work skills to stick together during a the game to ensure we play together as a team. We go again and have a fixture again next Tuesday against NLA!



KS3 Boccia Tournament

It was our pleasure to host the LSSP KS3 Boccia tournament this week in our school Sports Hall, where there were amazing performances from our students!

We entered 8 teams into the competition across 4 separate leagues and from this we came runner up in all 4 leagues, unfortunately just missing out in making the semi-finals. Our students were a credit to the school!

At this event we had our year 10 sports leaders running the event with the LSSP. We had some amazing comments from the other schools in the way our leaders conducted themselves and supported their teams throughout the day.

The event was a huge success and a big thank you to those taking their time out to help.



Sacrament of Confirmation

If you are in Year 8 and above and would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation you can now register at www.liverpoolcalled.co.uk.

Confirmation is a sacrament through which we receive the Holy Spirit to make us stronger and more perfect Christians and true witnesses of Jesus Christ.

The preparation for the sacrament will begin in school with an introduction to the sacrament from Animate, the archdiocesan youth ministry team.

Alternatively your child may be asked to watch four short [introductory videos](#).

For more details speak to Miss Wall or your RE teacher.



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION
FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN YEAR 8



REGISTER AT
WWW.LIVERPOOLCALLED.CO.UK

Registration Open:
15 Jan to 15 March

SCAN HERE



Archdiocese of
Liverpool

Admissions Consultation

As you are aware the school will be joining St Joseph Catholic Multi Academy Trust (SJC MAT) early in 2024. As part of that transition SJC MAT will assume the responsibility for admissions. The Trust have reviewed our current policy and propose minor amendments from 2025-2026. Further information on the proposed changes can be found on our [website Admissions page](#).

As per the [DfE School Admissions Code \(September 2021\)](#) the Trust are required to consult for a period of no less than six weeks and our consultation will be open from **14th December 2023 until 31st January 2024**.



Data Collection - Please return for Monday 29th January 2024

Students received a copy of the data we currently hold for them in their school records this week. We kindly request that Parents/Carers check this information is correct over the weekend and make any necessary amends or updates. If the information is correct, please mark the form 'Correct'.

Please ensure to update this form with any allergies or medical conditions if they are not already listed.

Forms must be returned to Student Services on Monday 29th January. Any forms not returned will be treated as correct. Thank you for your co-operation.

Safeguarding Message: Operation Encompass

Notre Dame Catholic College works with the police in Operation Encompass. Further information can be found [here](#). This means that when there is an incident of domestic abuse in the family home the police share the information with a key adult in school.

This information allows school staff to offer immediate support to any pupils who have experienced or witnessed domestic abuse.

Children are negatively impacted by experiencing domestic abuse and without early intervention and support this negative impact can last through a child's life course.

Domestic abuse can impact upon social, psychological, physical, emotional and behavioural outcomes with an often negative impact upon a child's academic success. Experiencing domestic abuse has been identified as an Adverse Childhood Experience. More information can be found on our [Safeguarding Padlet here](#).

Statutory definition of domestic abuse



There is now a statutory definition of domestic abuse covered in the Domestic Abuse Act 2021. Behaviour of a person towards another person is "domestic abuse" in the following circumstance:

The two people are each aged 16 or over and are **personally connected** to each other, and the behaviour is abusive.

Behaviour is "abusive" if it consists of any of the following:

- a) physical or sexual abuse;
- b) violent or threatening behaviour;
- c) controlling or coercive behaviour;
- d) economic abuse;
- e) psychological, emotional or other abuse;



Domestic abuse and children

In the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, children are now recognised as victims of domestic abuse in their own right. A child is regarded as a victim of domestic abuse in the following circumstances:

- Where a child sees or hears the abuse.
- Experiences the effects of domestic abuse.
- Is related to the person being abused or the perpetrator.

This is a tremendous move forward in the safeguarding of children who experience domestic abuse but also has implications for all professionals who work with children.

Domestic Abuse Act 2021 definitions

In detail, any reference in the Act to a victim of domestic abuse, includes a reference to a child in any of the following situations:

- a) sees or hears, or experiences the effects of, the abuse, and
- b) is related to either the adult victim or the perpetrator.

A child is related to the adult victim or the perpetrator if:

- a) the person is a parent of, or has parental responsibility for, the child, or
- b) the child and the person are relatives.

In this section:

"child" means a person under the age of 18 years;

"parental responsibility" has the same meaning as in the Children Act 1989.

"relative" has the meaning given by section 63(1) of the Family Law Act 1996.



Dear Parent/Carer,

Our school is part of Operation Encompass which is a national scheme that operates jointly between schools and police forces.

Operation Encompass is the reporting to schools, prior to the start of the next school day, when a child or young person has experienced domestic abuse.

As a school we have ensured that a member of our staff, (Designated Safeguarding Lead) known as a Key Adult, has been trained in the Operation Encompass procedures allowing us to then use the information that has been shared, in confidence, to support the child/ren in our care.

The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 identifies children who experience domestic abuse as victims of domestic abuse in their own right.

We are keen to offer the best support possible to all our pupils and we believe this will be extremely beneficial for all those involved.

Signed



Mrs. A M Costello
Acting Head Teacher



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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
Mrs P Shrimpton - Attendance Officer
Mrs K Sweeney - Special Educational Needs
Mrs S McKay - Assistant Office Manager
Mrs E Garvey Y7, Miss C Lee Y8, Ms R Glorman Y9,
Mrs S Doran Y10, Mrs S Styles Y11, Mrs J Kildare Sixth
Form - Pastoral Assistant Heads of Year

www.notredameliverpool.com/safeguarding/