

Insight

Summer 2013 Haf

The official newsletter of
St. Joseph's RC High School

Taflen wybodaeth swyddogol
Ysgol Gyfun Gatholig Joseff Sant



MISS S JENKINS OBE

On Thursday 13th June Miss S M Jenkins received her OBE from HRH Queen Elizabeth at an investiture Ceremony held at Buckingham Palace.

Miss Jenkins was awarded an OBE (Officer of the Order of the British Empire) in the New Year's Honours List, in acknowledgement for her extraordinary services to education. Speaking after the ceremony, Miss Jenkins said, *"The trip to Buckingham Palace was amazing. My family and I had a fantastic time."*

Sue Jenkins is an exemplary leader who has worked tirelessly to get the best from everyone. Her selfless approach and commitment to both staff and students is an inspiration. She takes interest in every student, knowing and caring for them as individuals. She is a genuine role model for both staff and students in her tenacious approach to teaching and learning.

Sue Jenkins began her career at St Joseph's RC High School as Deputy Headteacher in January 1992 and became Headteacher in April 1997. During that time the school has become sector leading being awarded seven grade 1s in all of the Estyn key questions in spring 2007; a grading that was supported by the Section 50 inspection which looked at the Catholic life of the school. This outstanding endorsement was further supported in January 2013 when Estyn inspectors judged the school's overall current performance and its prospects for improvement to be 'Excellent' – the highest overall gradings a school can receive. Of the 15 judgements that are made in an inspection, St Joseph's RC High School achieved 15 'Excellent' gradings out of 15. These gradings were also supported in the Section 50 inspection which described the school as having a *"vibrant Catholic ethos [which] permeates every area of school life."* Mr Paul Bennett, Chair of Governors, said, *"Miss Jenkins is an inspirational Headteacher whose selfless inner drive has always been to do the very best for her students and the community she serves, and we are all very grateful to her."*



Serving God Through
Learning Together

Yn Gwasanaethu Duw Trwy
Ddysgu Gyda'n Gilydd

Contents...



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Welcome to the Summer Newsletter. It's hard to believe that another academic year has passed so quickly. It has been a very busy and successful one for the school, pupils and staff.

As Estyn said following this year's inspection, "Pupils are very proud of being part of St Joseph's Roman Catholic High School...Their positive attitudes to learning have a very strong impact on attendance, behaviour and standards."

We couldn't agree more! We place a strong emphasis on positive relationships and everything in school is focused on ensuring students' progress and personal and spiritual development within and beyond the classroom. We are grateful for the way our students have worked so hard this year and for their contribution to the sporting,

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Acting Headteacher's Message neges y pennaeth dros dro

Mr T Brown Acting Headteacher

cultural and religious life of the school. We are also grateful for the amazing dedication and creativity of our staff whose stamina and effort have helped to continue to ensure success for our students.

The award of an OBE to Miss Jenkins is testament to the inspirational leadership that she has provided to St. Joseph's. The whole school community was immensely proud of Miss Jenkins' achievement. It is also recognition of the

outstanding journey that the school has undertaken over the last 15 years. I know that our wonderful Headteacher Miss Jenkins has been in everyone's thoughts this year during her illness. We continue to think and pray for her.

It is the time of year when we have to say goodbye to a number of staff who have provided great service to the school. We thank them for helping make the school what it is and for making a difference every day in our school community. We wish

them well whether moving on to pastures new or retirement.

Enjoy this snapshot illustrating the richness of life at St. Joseph's RC High School. On behalf of everyone at the school, I would like to thank you for your tremendous support which, as always, means that we are able to help your child fulfil their potential.

I wish you a joyful and restful summer break and look forward to working with you in the Autumn.



The Carnegie Medal 2013. Established in 1936, the Carnegie Medal is awarded annually by The Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP) to the writer of a book of outstanding literary quality for children and teenagers.



Book Club goes to Rougemont

Once again our reading group stepped up to the plate to read the challenging Carnegie Medal shortlist for 2013, widely regarded as the gold standard of the children's book world. This year we were invited to Rougemont School to take part in a discussion about the books shortlisted. Each student delivered a short presentation to put forward their case for the title that they felt should win the coveted prize.

As always the shortlist consisted of incredible stories with powerful narratives that held us captivated. Family death, facial disfigurement, genocide, and the devastating aftermath of the 2010 Haiti earthquake were some of the themes we encountered; difficult subjects all beautifully written about, and it was with some difficulty that we eventually chose 'Wonder' By R. J Palacio as the groups' favourite.

Year 7 S Balouch, H Mathieson and C Middleton

Year 8 J Celtel, A Pollock, T Zammimba, J Rochester and E Gil



ART

Not only did we have one moderator but two!! They were both extremely impressed with the array of work produced, in particular large scale pieces of work, specialist materials eg. glass fusing, and commented how wonderful it was to see traditional fine art work produced.

A Level



Pencil Drawing by Olivia Sully-Karlis

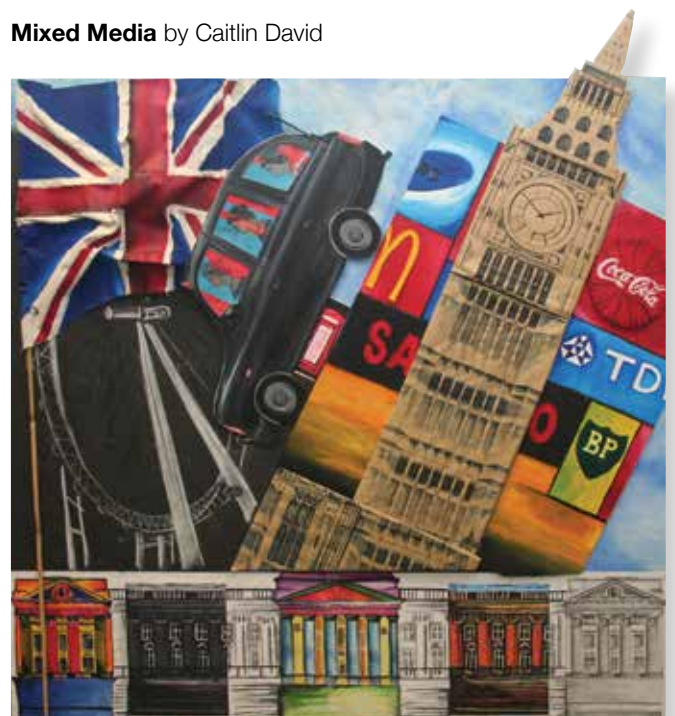


Pencil Drawing by Danielle Madden

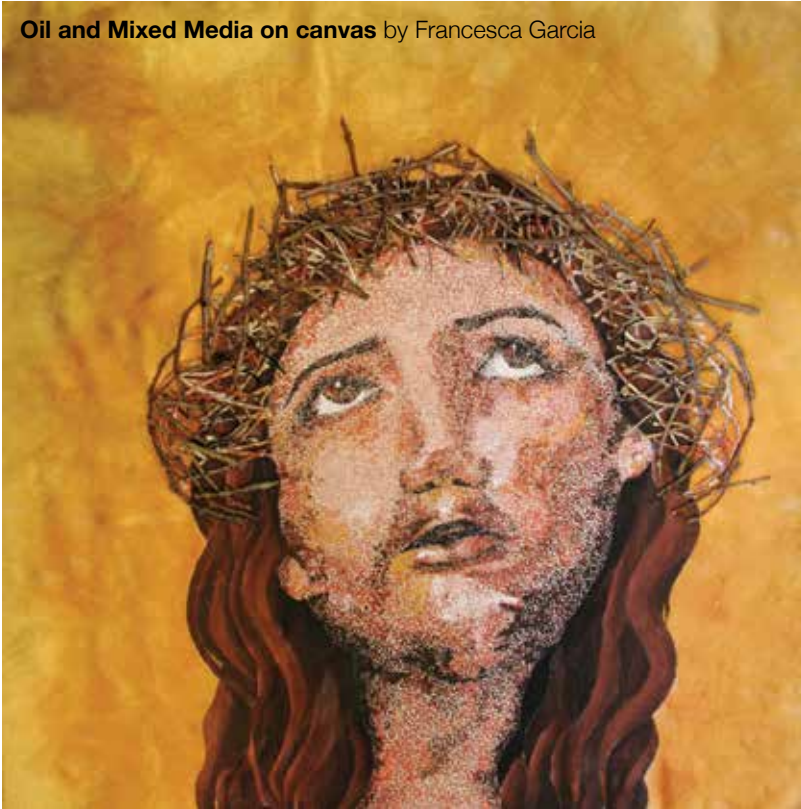
Oil painting on board by Philomena Dineen



Mixed Media by Caitlin David



Oil and Mixed Media on canvas by Francesca Garcia



Oil painting on board
by George Goom



Mixed media installation
by Georgia White



Mixed media installation
by Lily Stevens

ART

The recent moderator was overwhelmed with the diversity of work produced using specialist materials and techniques, and thoroughly enjoyed the presentation of the students' displays.

GCSE



Large painting on canvas by Fiona Fessey

Linograph by Fersha Gauran



Mixed media
by Nikita Tejaa



Oil painting on canvas by Sean Graham



Large pencil Drawing
by Abigail Hinds



Mixed media
by Nia Fallon



Sketchbooks by Saleha
Shah and Fersha Gauran



At 9am on May 21st we set off for the 24 hour journey to Calella.

Finally, we arrived at our destination at 10am the next day and we decided to go straight down to the beach and chill – literally! The sea was freezing! After the beach we ate dinner then went to Calella town centre, it's a true Spanish area and we had to use some haggling skills to drop the prices of things we wanted to buy.

Our next adventure was to central Barcelona and La Sagrada Familia Cathedral designed by the architect Gaudi – they have been building it for over 120 years. We then visited the famous street La Rambla which is where we saw shops, a Spanish market, street artists and street actors.

The next day we set off for Port Aventura theme park in Salou. There were many rides, including the biggest one in Europe 'Shambala', and the longest ride in Europe 'Dragon Khan'. There were also a lot of water rides such as the rapids and the log flume. We were also spoilt for choice on places to eat.

Eventually we went back to the hotel, had a quick swim and finished the day with a stroll down by the beach.

The next morning we drove up to Montserrat to visit the monastery. It was very interesting and the view was spectacular! We went into the church to watch a service and we lit candles for our loved ones and a special one for Miss Jenkins.

After the monastery we went to Barcelona Aquarium. There were hundreds of different types of fish and other animals such as penguins and iguanas. Later on we drove back to the hotel and walked back to Calella for the final time before our departure. We packed our bags and suitcases and headed for home, stopping at the beautiful Milau Aquaduct en route.

Overall we thought it was a brilliant trip and we would love to go again.

**by Bayanda Vundamina,
Rhys Whittaker and
Victoria Wareham 8E**



Barcelona

2013





St Joseph's RC High school welcomed 24 pupils from its feeder primary schools to take part in the Maths Excellence Day 2013.

Maths Excellence

All 24 pupils were treated to a Techniquet puzzle and logical thinking zone, where all pupils interacted with various games and puzzles. Some pupils even challenged the teachers to a game of 3D Connect 3 and NIM.

The day then allowed pupils to take part in some logical thinking activities organised by Mr Silvester and Miss Chamberlain. These included "Prison Cells", "20 Golden Rings" and a "Murder Mystery" which all pupils found challenging yet fun.

A challenging question was:

**SEND
+MORE
MONEY**

Each letter represents a number. The letter E is the same, the letter O is the same. Can you figure out the sum?

All 24 pupils were a credit to their primary schools and the Mathematics department looks forward to seeing the pupils in September.

20 Golden Rings

King Ratticus was coming up to his 20th birthday. He decided he wanted a special treat so he called for Goldie, his goldsmith, who could make anything out of gold. "Goldie, I want you to make me 20 gold rings, one for each year of my life, and one for each finger and toe. Oh, and by the way, see Queen Ratticus for payment.

Goldie went away and made the 20 gold rings. He then went to see the Queen for payment. "Well Goldie, they are excellent, but how much will they cost?" asked the Queen.

"My dear Queen, they are not cheap!" said Goldie, "They are one million pounds in all...or you could pay £1 for the first ring, £2 for the second, £4 for the third, £8 for the fourth and so on, doubling the costs for each ring."

"I can't afford a million pounds," said the Queen, "so I will pay by the second way, it will be much cheaper."

**Was she right? Did she save money or not?
How much did it cost her?**



GOLD AWARDED TO ST JOSEPH'S

The UK Junior Mathematical Challenge took place on Thursday 25th April 2013. Sixty pupils took part in the challenge and we had some excellent results this year.

This challenge is made up of 25 mathematical questions which are always challenging yet achievable. All pupils did their best and we were very impressed with the results the pupils have achieved this year. Congratulations to all who took part.

Gold Awards:

- Steffi Johnston Yr 8
- Robert Jamieson Yr 7

Bronze awards:

- Geraldine Fowles Yr 8
- Liam Gunter Yr 8
- Libby Hinds Yr 8
- Ieuan Phillips Yr 8
- Kiara Alzate Yr 8
- Jordan Ingles Yr 8
- Joel Rochester Yr 8
- Thomas Bromiley Yr 8
- Anna Sesevic Yr 8
- Edward McCarthy Yr 8
- Jozef Pearce Yr 8
- Erin Flaherty Yr 8
- Laura Brend Yr 7

Silver awards:

- Bayanda Vundamina Yr 8
- Luc Simmonds Yr 8
- Joshua Nadeem Yr 8
- Paul Rich Yr 8
- Jacob Griffiths Yr 8
- Haidar Mathieson Yr 7
- Daniel Jervis Yr 7
- Oliver Barton Yr 7

How many hexagons are there in the diagram?

A 4
B 6
C 8
D 10
E 12





Search pockets for evidence or clues

Always wear the correct clothing to avoid contamination of evidence

Year 11 BTEC Forensic Science students provided the crucial evidence to convict a Newport man of a drugs related murder in the car park of a well known furniture outlet in Newport town centre.



Forensic Science



CRIME SCENE

Photograph clearly so that all evidence is documented

Bag and label everything you find

In January witnesses rang the police to report a shooting in the car park of the furniture store. The police deployed a rapid response unit including the forensic scientists from St Joseph's. They quickly secured the area and carried out a detailed examination of the crime scene. The forensic scientists carried out an extensive search of the area, they photographed key pieces of evidence, and collected and documented many vital clues at the scene of crime.

The forensics team were highly professional in their search, avoiding contamination at all points. They quickly established that a woman had been shot, and that she had a suspicious white substance concealed about her person.

One team of the forensic scientists carried out a series of experiments in their laboratories and established the identity of the victim. Blood, dental and fingerprint

NEWPORT MAN JAILED FOR MURDER

evidence was checked against police and NHS records and showed the victim to be Olivia Naylor (aged 29).

Another team from the St Joseph's Forensics department examined blood samples, hair samples fingerprints from the suspect and established that the murderer was Greg Connors (aged 25). The forensic scientists worked with Police officers to confirm that the person detained was in deed the murderer. PC Colin Parker, a senior forensics officer with Gwent Constabulary stated that the

quality of evidence that the St Joseph's team collected at the scene of crime is vital to ensure a conviction in these cases.

In a third investigation the forensics team determined the actual cause of death. Statements provided by the team for court based on their results suggested that the murderer was in fact attempting to buy drugs, which was the white powder concealed on the victim. Something went wrong during the deal resulting in a fight. The murderer was struck with a cricket bat by the victim. The murderer fell

to the floor, pulled out a hand gun and fired once at the victim, causing the fatal wound. PC Amy Williams gave the St Joseph's forensics team guidance about how to present this evidence in a court of law. She stated that all evidence must show continuity to avoid it being thrown out of court.

The St Joseph's forensics team said that they were delighted with the outcome of this case. This was a particularly gruesome crime, and our evidence was key in putting the perpetrator behind bars.

AS/A Level

Products designed and manufactured by AS/A level students succeeded in impressing the Awarding body, **resulting in 7 of the projects [★] being recommended for the prestigious innovation awards** to be held in October. All products demonstrated a wide range of techniques, processes and use of materials and were a demonstration of the students' hard work and commitment.



Jewellery Tree
by A Jacques



Rucksack by L Jones



Unit by J Balanon



Laundry Box by J Middleton



Laundry Basket by J Heard



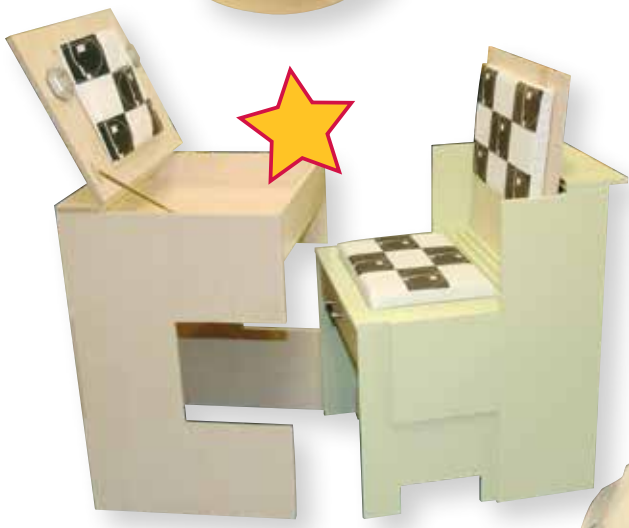
Pencil Desk by I Omusi

TECHNICAL



Leaf shelves
by A Astrologia

Table and chairs
by S Howe



Desks by J Hughes

Crisp dress
by D Wrozyna



Leaf Desk by H Plaister

OLOGY

GCSE

A wide range of innovative projects produced by GCSE technology students demonstrate their high level of skills and capabilities in Textiles, Resistant Materials and Product Design. **All work was of an excellent standard with Abigail Jarvis' work being recommended for the prestigious innovation awards competition [★].**

Wine holder by D Dineen



Lighting display by A Rooney



Evening Dress
by N Masini



Recycled dress
by A Jarvis



Recycled dress with interchangeable collars
by E Mone



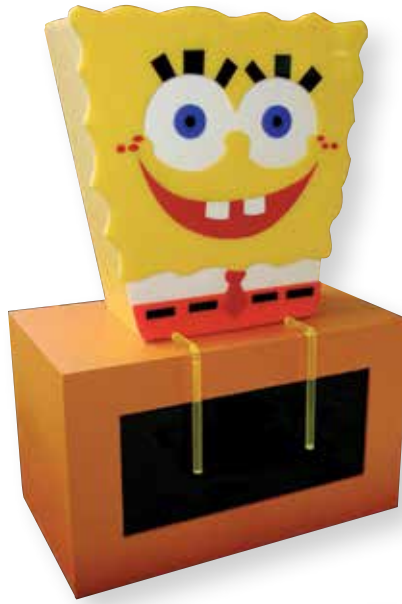
Cocktail dress
by G Hagir

TECHNICAL



Smart necklace by P Caguiwa

Interactive money box
by J Doogan



Interactive money box
by M Lewis



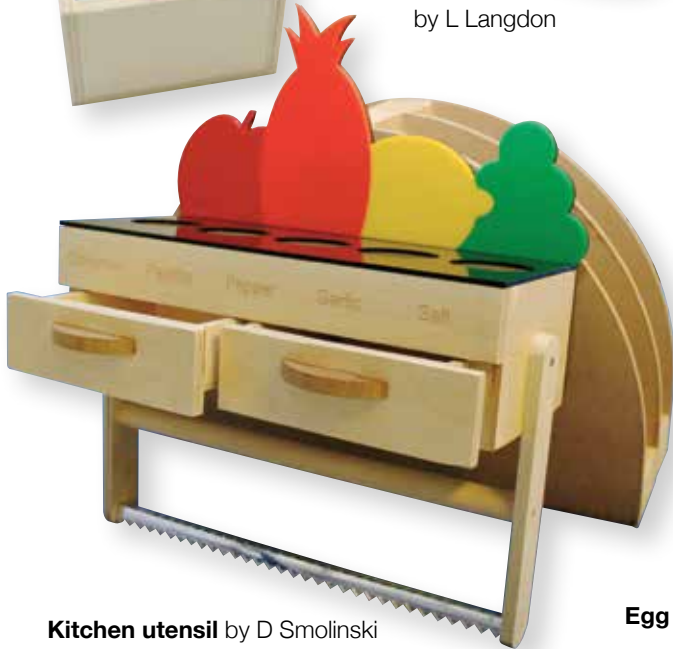
Mobile phone and packaging
by J Maybourne



Cutlery rack
by L Langdon



Egg holder by R Barry



Kitchen utensil by D Smolinski

OLOGY



Kintbury

In May, Mrs Dunn and Mr Brown travelled with 19 Year 10 students to St Cassian's retreat in Kintbury, Berkshire.

St Cassian's is a retreat centre for young people, funded by the De La Salle brothers where young people can develop their relationship with God, get to know and understand themselves better, and learn how to get on with other people in their lives. They can also make new friends with students from other schools. The Christian based programme is run over four days, and includes celebrating our faith through prayer and worship, enjoying special celebrations such as the Eucharist and discussing ideas in small groups. We also celebrated the birthday

of the founder of St Cassian's and explored faith through mediums such as music, drama and words.

The Kintbury experience is a great way to help you think about not only your faith, but yourself and how to grow positively. The leaders were great fun, whilst the solemn mood in the religious parts of the programme, like during mass and reflection, gave you time to consider the spiritual, emotional and physical elements of your life too.

At Kintbury you will find no televisions or computers but you learn to enjoy yourself with the non-material things, like friendship and finding God. The experience is truly a fruitful and happy one.

by Hope Johnson 10S



Cafod IF

This year CAFOD, along with over 200 leading charities, took part in the IF campaign against World Hunger.

The campaign is called 'IF' as it says that there is enough food in the world to end World Hunger 'IF' certain targets are met by governments. These include governments keeping their promises on aid, investing to stop children dying from malnutrition and help the poorest people feed themselves through investment in small farmers. Pupils from St Joseph's made a banner promoting the 'IF' campaign that was carried by the Cardiff branch of CAFOD at a march in London on June 8th that was attended by more than 45,000 people.

Charity wristbands promoting the campaign have been on sale in the school for £1 with all proceeds going to CAFOD.

Summer Reflection



On Friday 7th June the school celebrated the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The day began with Exposition of the Blessed sacrament and a short service in staff reflection and the RE classes throughout the day celebrated this very important feast in the chapel remembering Christ's love for each and every one of us.

The end of the school year means different things to each of us. Some of us will be moving on to new places, others to new responsibilities and challenges. Whether summer finds us working, resting, travelling or studying, in many ways it is a kind of late spring, signalling the end of one season and emergence of something new.

When we live by faith, every ending is the beginning of something new. Every 'thing' points beyond itself to a Presence without and within. Every person becomes sacrament, every colleague, a companion on life's pilgrimage. Time becomes a gift and seasons, rivers of grace refining and re-creating us to fullness of life. Our work in St Joseph's community is an icon of God's tireless labours to build up what is just, to strengthen the faltering spirit and to fire the imagination with endless possibilities for learning, for growing and for becoming one with God and each other.



Summer Prayer

Lord, at the end of this school year we give you thanks. We thank you for all the teaching and learning that have taken place in our school, both in and out of the classroom. For the gifts and talents that have been shared and the challenges that have been faced. For the burdens that have been lifted and the hurts that have been healed and for the respect and care that has been given. We give thanks for the friendships that have just begun and for those that have grown. For the faith that has been lived in our daily struggles. For the hope that has lifted our hearts on the dark days. And for the love that has kept us going. We give thanks for the community that we are and we ask you Lord to bless our students and teachers as they move on; may your Spirit inspire them with confidence and calmness. Bless our families as we take our holidays, may our time together leave us with memories to cherish.

Pour out your love on us Lord, that we may return renewed and refreshed to continue our journey together. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen

Scripture passage

And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful

Colossians 3:15



Yr9 Welsh Cup Final: BACK ROW: B Marshall, A Morris, C Mbongompasi, C Barnes, O Menayese, M Doyle, R Bird, C Morris, D Billingham, FRONT ROW: L Derrick, J Sperduti, J McDonald, E O'Keefe, J Batty, J Healey, C Doughty, C Chisholm, K Bassett.



Yr9 Newport Schools Rugby Union Final: BACK ROW: M Byles, H Mann, T Willits, O Menayese, C Mbongompasi, C McCarthy, C Morris, B Marshall, N Edwards, J Sperduti, S McLoughlin, J Healey, R Bird, J Curtis, A Morris. FRONT ROW: D Billingham, M Doyle, C Barnes, J McDonald, C Doughty, L Derrick, E O'Keefe, K Bassett, C Chisholm, J Batty, D Kasongo.

SPORTS Domination

Boys Rugby

Year 9 have had a superb year in both the Rugby Union and Rugby League competitions this year. Dedicated training has resulted in significant improvements in all facets of the game since September. This culminated in two finals for the boys,

who narrowly lost the Welsh Rugby League Cup Final at The Gnoll in Neath, to a strong school from Bridgend. The second final saw the boys record an outstanding victory against a great Bassaleg side, at Whiteheads Rugby Club. Mr Welch said *"There has been a fantastic team spirit this year and we look forward to joining up again in September"*.



Yr11 Newport Schools Netball Cup Winners: J Phillips, G Shwartz, L Griffin, O Beckett, R Jervis, C Finnerty, M Seiwright-Williams, F Manship, B Doughty.



Yr8 Rugby: BACK: R Reynolds, L Meyanese, J Pierce, A Connelly, J Barrat, B Mbongamposi, M Thomas, L Routley, D Richardson, B Powell
FRONT: I Phillips, R Mbongamposi, C Cinotti, D Jones, E McCartney, J Brunnock, A Alessandro, A Tabor, C Shakeshf, D Bonicci



Yr11 Newport Schools Football Cup Winners: J McDonald, E Menayese, C Emmott, A Coyne, T Pearson, C Jamie, J Ward, A Williams, J Tilley, R Menayese, J Beckett, B Johns (Assistant Coach) K Finnerty, C Lewis



Yr10 Newport Schools Football Champions: J Cueto, J Perkins, D Goodman, T Davies, K Bryan, R Meneyese, J Davies, D Ralphs, E Meneyese, A Ogun, J Roche, D Butler, F Rafferty, J Canavan, T Williams

CONGRATULATIONS FOR THESE EXTERNAL AWARDS TOO...



Welsh Trampoline Champion:
Bethan has become Welsh champion for the fourth time, the third time this year! This time in the Under 15 girls Regional G grade. Bethan also competed for the first time in the Synchronised Trampoline under 15 girls and achieved second place.



County Netballer of the Year:
M Seiwright-Williams



Karate Welsh Elite Squad:
C Morris & J Limburn

Boys Football

Year 11 Football Team competed in the highly competitive Newport Schools Football Cup at Risca United's pitch, Ty Isaf Park. After a hard-fought match against Llanwern High School, St Joseph's team won 3-2. The St. Joseph's boys dominated large parts of the match using a slick passing game, taking the lead early on with Elvis Menayese's cross after a great run down the left wing was converted by striker Joe Ward. St. Joseph's finally finished off Llanwern with a goal from Tom Pearson. Yr 10 Newport Football Champions 2013 beat Duffryn 4-3.

Girls Netball

Year 9 Netball Team have now qualified for the Nationals which will be held at NIAC on July 7th 2013. Due to the team winning the South East Wales Tournament and their success whilst away on tour, these girls will perform with pride and excellence in a very competitive environment. We wish them the very best. Mrs Yates said, "These girls have been an absolute pleasure to coach over the last three years and they should be proud of all they've achieved. I am particularly pleased with Myah's recognition at County standard because she possesses such excellent skill and team spirit"



C De Chong Yang, R Hedderman, D Burrige and A Saysell

Economics

Stock Market Challenge

This is the Year 13 Economics team who qualified for the regional final of the Stock Market Challenge. They had a fantastic day trading and being tested on their financial markets' knowledge. They performed brilliantly, not only

did they qualify in the top 25 regional finalists (out of 3000 entrants), but they managed to finish 4th on the finals day, narrowly missing out on an all expenses weekend in London for the national final!

WELCOME & FAREWELL



Congratulations to Mr Mark Rowland who took up the position of Business, Estates and Personnel Manager in April. We welcome him to our Senior Leadership Team and the St Joseph's community.



Friday 19th July 2013 will be an emotional day for all of the St Joseph's.

Staff and students would like to say a big thank you to Mrs D James, Mrs S Mone and Mrs P Meah who will be leaving us at the end of this term. Mrs D James was appointed as a RE teacher in September 2005. She will now be taking up a new position in our neighbouring Catholic school, St Illtyd's. Mrs Mone who began working at St Joseph's RC High School in September 2007 will be taking up her new position as Art teacher at Monmouth School. Mrs P Meah who has been working in the Mathematics department since September 2009 will be retiring. All of the staff and students would like to join together to wish you "Hwyl A Phob Lwcl!"



Miss Walsh, C Bodonia, C Burley, J Griffiths, T Jones and K Sunil

Eco Club Award

On Friday 22nd March, an assessor from Keep Wales Tidy visited St. Joseph's to review our Eco-School Green Flag status.



A representative body from the Eco-Committee which included Ieuan Berry (11E), Christel Bodonia (9J), Charlotte Burley (8S), Jacob Griffiths (8V), Thomas Jones (8E) and Kevin Sunil (7E) gave a presentation about our latest environmental projects.

We were successful with our application and were awarded our third Green Flag. Mr R.

Bebb, our assessor, wrote to congratulate us on our success and stated that he was "very impressed by the whole school's enthusiasm and the level of staff and pupil involvement with the programme". This was also an outstanding feature commented on by the Estyn inspectors in January.

Goodbye Norrie...



Saying goodbye to Mrs Norrie McLoughlin on Friday 19th July will bring both sadness and joy to the St Joseph's RC High School community. Norrie has been a much loved and hugely respected member of staff since she began working at St Joseph's in January 1980 as a secretary. Her present role as PA to Miss Jenkins, school bursar and governor has allowed her to play a very significant role in helping the school on its

journey to achieving excellence in all aspects of its life in our recent Estyn and Section 50 inspections.

Norrie is truly a unique friend and work colleague to both staff and students. Her great patience, understanding, compassion and sense of humour has meant that she has touched the hearts and minds of all of us. Her commitment and dedication to St Joseph's and Catholic education is second to none.

We all wish Norrie great fun and laughter in her retirement. We are all going to miss her and her words of wisdom. We all say a massive,

"Thank you Norrie."

by Jackie Jarrett

Interview with Mrs McLoughlin

Q: When did you first start working at St Joseph's?

A: 33 years ago in 1980 as a temporary member of staff in the general office. I then moved onto the role of librarian before becoming the chief clerk. My current position is the school's bursar and the Headteacher's PA.

Q: What has been your most memorable moment?

A: There are so many! The opening of the new school was fantastic, creating a wonderful atmosphere within the school. It was brilliant to be able to see the building being designed and built before we moved in.

Q: How has the school changed since you started?

A: The school has changed in many ways. The school is a lot more modern due to the construction of the new building. Also the exam results have rocketed which is a wonderful thing to witness. The Catholic ethos within St Joseph's has always been good and makes the school a lovely place to work.

Q: What will you remember most about St Joseph's?

A: Working with Miss Jenkins has been the experience that I will remember most. Miss Jenkins is an inspirational Headteacher and lovely colleague to have worked with.

Q: How do you intend to spend your retirement?

A: I intend to do a lot of travelling with my family. When the term finishes we are going to Mallorca before going to France in August and sailing between Greece and Turkey later on in the year. We have also bought some land next to our home, so a lot of gardening will be done!

Q: What will you take from your experience at St Joseph's?

A: I have developed a great love of people as I have been so fortunate to have worked with so many lovely and wonderful staff and students during the time I have been at St Joseph's. I would like to thank everybody at St Joseph's for making my time in the school so memorable and enjoyable. Thank you!

by G Mainstone and R Miller (Headstudents)

Goodbye Mr Bristow



I taught alongside Mr Bristow, in the Music Department at St Joseph's for five years. It is difficult for me to sum up how wonderful that experience was. Mr Bristow is the ultimate professional. He demands the highest standards from the students, making sure they take responsibility for every aspect of their musicianship.

He is the most organised person I have ever met! Every item in his room, including his filing cabinets, instruments and multiple boxes of equipment stands to attention when one enters his room. As a result, not one student can ever say to him when he asks for an assignment or composition,

"I'm sure I handed my work in to you Sir!" Working with Mr Bristow was simply fantastic; he is an inspirational teacher, pushing me out of my musical comfort zone and persuading me to play in the band for three school productions - something I had always avoided through sheer terror.

Mr Bristow has a mad sense of humour, one day he decided to 'drive' his chair through the adjoining computer suite into my room to demonstrate how not to use the chair inappropriately, he then proceeded to show me how not to swing around on the chair inappropriately, at which point it broke. He was completely devastated - how he was going to explain

this mishap to the fierce [previous] site manager Mr Mahoney? I'm not sure if he ever did confess, he may simply have used the chair in static mode until a new one was provided!

How will we ever replace such a talented teacher, he is held in such high regard by staff and students alike. We do have the consolation of knowing that Miss Morgan will manage a smooth transition par excellence, in a calm, professional manner. I cannot thank him enough for the care and respect he showed me throughout the five years of teaching alongside him. The legacy he leaves behind at St Joseph's such as the shows, concerts, community events, and charity fund-raisers, is immense.

by Mrs M Paterson



Professional Learning Community



“ 7Up has been brilliant, it has made me more organised and changed my attitude towards school.” Lena Demarco 9H

At St. Joseph's RC High School we are always looking for new ways to improve students' learning and personal development. The 7Up Programme, which was launched in 2011 went from strength to strength this year as new initiatives were launched to help students raise their achievement levels.

All teachers embraced the programme by helping to identify areas that could be improved, as well as providing extra support both inside and outside of the classroom. The PLC also looked to engage with parents by producing an innovative exam guide that gave advice and revision strategies. Every

Year 11 student received this guide that was designed as a separate bookmark for each subject, and feedback has been very positive. Further guides are currently being developed by the PLC for KS3 and KS5.

The work of the PLC has been recognised as sector leading by the Welsh Assembly Government, who made a film celebrating its successes so far.



PTFA Friends of St Joseph's

Car Boot Sale - July 14th

Start at 9am in school grounds. Any support would be appreciated (weather permitting). Parking is available onsite for buyers - 50p donation for local charities, Refreshments available
PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON THE GRASS VERGES

Next Meeting – September 11th, 7pm

Held at the school. Come and join the PTFA of St. Joseph's and help us support your school. We also look forward to meeting any parents from new Year 7 students too.

Contact deborahkd@googlemail.com

Congratulations FROM THE History Department

Well done to all Year 9 pupils who contributed to the Welsh Heritage Schools Initiative programme by completing an historical investigation on Tredegar House. A special thanks to Connor Morris, Stefan Garcia, Callum Doughty, Laura Williams, Rose Evans, Josie Ash, and Cerys Walsh who assisted Mrs Blackwell in presenting the project to the inspector in April. The competition was very difficult this year and the pupils have all been awarded special certificates of commendation for all their hard work in the project - they were very impressed.

Congratulations!

Mrs Blackwell

Italy here we come!

45 Year 10 Geography students are looking forward to visiting Solfatara, Mount Vesuvius, Pompeii, Herculaneum and the Amalfi Coast from 7th-11th July. *Hanno un tempo favoloso!*



Unwanted Items...

Mrs Davis (Senior Lab Technician) is collecting items to help raise money for various charities including St David's Hospice Care, Ty Hafan and Health Help International. If you have any of the items below she would be grateful if you could send into school with your children. Thank you.



- Broken Jewellery**
- Foreign Coins**
- Used Printer Cartridges**
- Postage Stamps**
(British or Foreign)
- Old Mobile Phones**
- Postcards**
- Unwanted Spectacles**

Congratulations to Holly

Holly (8H) was presented by The Right Worshipful Mayor of Newport this month with an Achievement Award for 'Loving High School and being well liked by the staff and pupils alike. Always smiling and happy and trying hard at all subjects'. Well done!



C Knapp, M Stepien, G Wassall, L Oliveira and J Morgan...

ENGINEERING SILVER

In October five Year 12 students began their annual engineering project as part of the Engineering Education Scheme Wales. The project involved working alongside Orb Steel Works. The students were presented with a problem that Orb Steel was experiencing on their site and given five months to design a solution to this problem. The students spent these five months working extremely hard

on a written report, designing a model and planning a presentation to be given at the awards day at Celtic Manor in March.

As a result of their hard work each student in the group has been awarded a Silver CREST award, which is Britain's largest national award scheme for project work in science, technology, English and mathematics.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Dates for your diary 2013-2014

A Level Results Day: 15th August, GCSE Results Day: 22 August

AUTUMN TERM TYMOR YR HYDREF

Sept	
2	Training Day
3	Autumn Term begins
3	Year 7 return
3	Year 12 register for courses
4	Years 8,9,10, 11 and 13 return
5	Year 12 return
9	Year 12 and 13 teaching starts
10	Photographer Year 7, 9, 11 and 13
19	Year 12 Induction Evening
26	Celebration of Excellence Evening
October	
2	Year 10 Information Evening
14	Vaccinations: Year 8 Girls HPV Year 10 Boys/Girls School Leaver
16	Year 11 Parents' Evening
22, 23, 24	Open Morning
24	Year 7 Tutors' Evening
28-1 Nov	HALF TERM

November	
14	Year 13 Parents' Evening
20	Year 8 Parents' Evening
25	Training Day
27	Year 12 Parents' Evening
December	
2	Vaccinations: Year 8 Girls HPV Year 10 Boys/Girls School Leaver
3	Year 13 Collaborative Parents' Evening
18	Advent Service and Christmas Celebration
20	END OF TERM

Training Days 2013-2014: 2nd September, 25th November, 21st February, 4th April and 21st July.

Please be aware that due to any unforeseen circumstances, these dates might change.

St. Joseph's RC High School

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