Insight Summer 2021 Gwanwyn

The official newsletter of St Joseph's RC High School

Taflen wybodaeth swyddogol Ysgol Gyfun Gatholig Joseff Sant



SERVING GOD THROUGH LEARNING TOGETHER

YN GWASANAETHU DUW TRWY DDYSGU GYDA'N GILYDD

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Welcome to the final edition of Insight for this academic year.

I am sure none of us will forget the past 18 months. We have all faced challenges at an unprecedented level. However, the collective spirit of the whole school community has been inspiring. The success of St Joseph's RC High School

Headteacher's Message Neges y pennaeth

Mrs J Jarrett Headteacher

at this very demanding time could not have been achieved without the hard work and determination of our wonderful students along with the tremendous support from their families and our staff. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our families for their trust in us, their resilience and for helping us to be the best we possibly can.

I am always incredibly proud of the achievements of our students and this year even more so. This edition of Insight celebrates our young people's resilience at a very demanding time. It is wonderful to see and read about how our young people have positively faced adversity and continue to become ambitious, enterprising, ethical and confident individuals who will go on to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society.

I would like to leave you with a message of hope, love and peace...My hope for you is that you have a wonderful summer. A summer filled with love of one another, love of humanity, love of justice and love of life.

Take care and God bless. Mrs J Jarrett, Headteacher

"We have a responsibility to leave, for future generations, a planet that is healthy and habitable by all species." Sir David Attenborough



Tree-time!

Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship

In April, we were delighted to plant 101 native saplings on our school grounds. Year 7,8, 9 and Sixth Form students were all involved in the planting of Hazel, Birch and Holly to name but a few. We all look forward to seeing these trees mature over the next few years, as they to help tackle climate change and provide great habitation for birds and wildlife.

Tesco leads the way! Tesco and other large supermarkets are now recycling soft plastics! This means it is no longer excusable to throw these plastics in your bin/landfill. Please support this campaign from home as our planet needs help fast.

Diolch, Planet Earth!



SCHOOL RENEWAL

The summer holidays are going to be a very busy period for our Site and IT teams. Over the 6 week summer holiday, we have the following work planned:

New IT network upgrade and WIFI upgrade

Three new outdoor classrooms

A new canopy to cover a patio area on the Asda side

Painting of classrooms and corridors

Installation of new outdoor gym equipment

A new outdoor canteen Grab and Go Pod







Show racism the REDCARD

This term we invited guest speakers to hold a virtual lesson and discussion on the different types of discrimination faced by some in our diverse community. I was overwhelmed with the mature answers that Year 7 pupils shared and their level of understanding and awareness of what can be of a sensitive nature. The company supporting our event discussed with pupils the myths, misconceptions, and prejudices in all communities and how they can support each other to **#showracismtheredcard**.





Last Friday, we had our Show Racism the Red Card event. I, and many of my classmates, really enjoyed the one off event. I learned many things about this event, and it was very valuable for us. The presenter was a very nice lady who taught us a lot about racism and its consequences.

Written by Wiktor Dabrowski, 7E

I enjoyed the Show Racism the Red Card event because it taught me a lot about the cultures of different people. It helped me understand the different perspectives of people in society. The workshop showed me that racism is a bigger problem than we all thought. People face discrimination because of their sexuality, race, and skin colour.

I am very grateful for the opportunity to learn more about this topic.

Written by Jemimah Mitchell, 7E

"Hate. It has caused a lot of problems in this world but has never solved one" Maya Angelou

<image>

Summer Message



As a Catholic community, we have supported one another and held to the hope we have in an unchanging God, our rock Christ Jesus who is ever present. He has kept his promise of keeping us safely in the palm of His hand and as we put our trust in Him, He will continue to do so no matter what happens in the world around us.

Our students and staff have been able to focus on the variety of promises God has made to His people as the school year has progressed. As human beings, we cannot always keep our promises – we change our mind, circumstances get in the way, and we make excuses. However, God will not forget His promises for it is said in Jeremiah, "I am watching over my word to perform it." Does God's promise keeping always look the way we think it should? Not always.

As we reach the end of this school year, staff, teachers and families can attest to how God has kept His promises for St Joseph's. The nature of this special community at St Joseph's necessitates faith – people are often moving on, children suddenly having to self-isolate, parents deciding on a different direction for their child - any number of things can change our student population. But one of the promises that God provides is that He will provide for our needs – *"And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus."* (Philippians 4:19) He has done that repeatedly over this past 16 months and we have faith that He will continue doing so.

As we rest over the summer, we know that God will give us strength and be with us through the process of returning and getting used to a very different school lifestyle once again.

As our school moves forward, it is important to remember yet another promise - that God will be with us. For it says in the book of Joshua, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go". I pray that The Promises of God: The Lord is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does" Psalm 145:13-14

What a year it has been once again. Some experiences have been disruptive and unsettling but we have increased our technology skills, learning new ways of connecting, through virtual means in our homes with family and friends.

as this school year slowly winds down and we prepare for the next, we can take comfort and strength from all the promises of God over the course of this 2020/21 year. As we all adjust to the daily changes happening around us, continue praying for our community, and our world! We know that in Jesus Christ, all hope is found.

At the end of this school year we give thanks to God:

For all the teaching and learning that has taken place in our school, both in and out of the classroom. For the talents and gifts 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. For the respect and care that have been given.

We give thanks for the friendships that has 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 – bless our students, 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 that we may return renewed and refreshed to continue our journey together. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen I didn't know how much power the Senedd had until we completed Project Vote in our history lessons. Project Vote really got me interested in politics because I didn't realise how much of a role we play in Welsh politics. Michael Ewenla, 8V

Jacey Brown, 8P

PROJECT VOTE



The 2021 Senedd election took place on Thursday 6 May 2021 to elect 60 members to the Welsh Parliament. Our students at St Joseph's took part in Project Vote, a parallel election designed for young people aged 11-15.

Our students' votes were counted with all the other young people's votes taking part across Wales, so that there was a set of results showing who young people under 16 would have voted for, if they could vote.

This was an excellent opportunity for our students to learn more about the Senedd, the importance of using our right to vote and the policies of the Welsh political parties. Our pupils also took part in mock political debates on issues such as education and healthcare.

There were almost 10,000 votes cast in this first ever parallel Senedd election for young people. Voting took place online and results were as follows:

Overall results for Wales

- Plaid Cymru 19 seats
- Labour 17 seats
- Conservatives 6 seats
- Green Party 6 seats
- Communist Party 4 seats
- Liberal Democrats 3 seats
- No More Lockdowns 1 seat

Our school constituency (Newport West)

- Kevin Boucher Reform UK 8%
- Jayne Bryant Labour 32%
- Jonathan Clark Plaid Cymru 8%
- Michael Enea Conservatives 15%
- Steve Marsh Freedom Alliance 4%
- John Miller Liberal Democrats 15%
- Amelia Womack Green Party 17%

This project was a success in ensuring our students become ethical, informed citizens. As this is such a vital aspect of the New Curriculum, the project will play a role in our History lessons with Year 9 annually.



















GO GREEN for mental health

Everyday at St Joseph's we focus on the importance of looking after our Mental Health. To make this focus even more prominent, we joined the national 'Go Green for Mental Health' awareness day on May 14th. Many students and staff wore green, donated to charity and most importantly continued to talk about what we can do to look after ourselves and discussed how other people we know, could be supported. A fantastic £443.37 was collected and donated to Newport MIND.

Please click on our Health & Wellbeing section on the website to access further support and advice.

SPORTS DAYS 2021

"I am pleased to announce that after the craziest of years based around restrictions, I will be offering each year group a sports day celebration this year".

As a department, we feel it is absolutely critical that we showcase our sporting talents and of course give the pupils an opportunity to celebrate with each other in year groups. Why? Because they absolutely deserve it. All students have shown incredible resilience this year and we are extremely proud of you all.

Finally, I guess it is fitting to also mention that this will be the final sports day some have at St Joseph's, as myself and Mr Carter are spreading our wings. This incredibly hard decision can only be softened by organising and celebrating our final appearance in St Joseph's colours and we hope to make it the best experience this year!

Thanks as always. One love, Mr S.































































































RUB CHALLENGE

A huge shout out to our Rubik's Cube geniuses who, last week competed in the 'Quickest Solve' Challenge.

All the competitors solved the cube in UNDER TWO MINUTES!! I know, amazing! Something many of us have never been able to do after years of practice, let alone at such speed.

Our winner, winning by a mere 6 seconds, was William in 8J with 40.42 seconds! Spectacular.

8J - William - 00:40.42	8P - Zohaib - 00:52.21
80 - Oliver - 01:59.17	8T - Joseph - 01:19.85
8S - Edwin - 01:02.22	8T - Adam - 01:57.03
8E - Rafael - 00:46.39	8V - Jairo - 00:51.23



To watch the video, simply click the screen image below:



SPERSTARS

Despite the difficulty circumstances over the last 18 months, we have a number of amazing pupils that have tackled targets head on. I'm sure you will be happy to join us to celebrate their fantastic sporting achievements...



This Girl Can! Massive shout out to Jess...

After a long weekend of qualifiers, it's official! Jess made it to the British Teen Championships 2021 in September. We are very, very proud of this young lady, and wish her all the best as she represents her country.



Morgan and Callum represented Wales this weekend in the Welsh schools event.

Morgan is represented Wales in the Long Jump and Callum Webb is represented Wales in the 100m Sprint. A spectacular achievement and we extend them both a huge congratulations.

Mr Taylor's Coast to Coast walk across Wales for Cancer.

Ascent - 22460m (the same as 2.5 Mount Everest's!)

"On 30th November 2015, just before my 23rd birthday, I lost my dad, Clive Taylor, after a long battle with cancer. My family was fortunate to receive the help of a Macmillan nurse who visited our home and helped to take care of my dad in his final couple of weeks with us.

Without the incredible care and support from a Macmillan nurse, I don't know how we would have been able to cope as a family. To this day, I'm forever grateful. Ever since then, I have always wanted to raise money so that another family can benefit from a Macmillan nurse just like we did".

£1148 is the cost of a Macmillan nurse to support a family in need for 1 week. To raise this money, Mr Taylor will be walking and wild camping for three weeks and 300 miles along the Cambrian Way National Trail, which is a coast to coast hike from Cardiff, in South Wales, to Conwy, in North Wales. His journey will take him through the mountains of the Brecon Beacons, the Cambrian Mountains of Mid-Wales and Snowdonia.

He has already donated \pounds 300 towards his target amount, \pounds 1 per mile, and any further donations you can give towards the \pounds 1148 target would be greatly appreciated. Just click on the JustGiving link below:

Donate to Mr Taylor's challenge



Goodbye & Goodluck

We are sorry to say farewell to several colleagues who have been promoted to other schools or moving on to new adventures.

In the RE department, Mr Clement, who was a past student, joined us in 2019 and is now moving on as a Humanities teacher at Archbishop McGrath High School. We are delighted that he is continuing his career in Catholic education and wish him every success; Mr Ham has been with us since 2019. He completed his PGCE placement with the Drama department and worked for a term in the English department before joining the RE department. We wish him well as he moves on to work for Coleg Gwent; Mrs Sharda began her teaching career as an NQT at St Joseph's in September 2020. We wish her every happiness as she continues with her teaching career; Mrs Corbett has been a very valued member of our Science department since 2010. She will be taking on a new and exciting role as Assistant Head of Science at St Joseph's Catholic Comprehensive School, Port Talbot. We wish her great success and happiness as she continues to make a positive difference to the lives of young people in Catholic education.

Finally, we wish Mr Carter and Mr Sankala a very fond farewell. Mr Carter joined St Joseph's in 2005 and soon became an invaluable member of our PE department. Within a very short time, it became obvious that Mr Carter's caring and compassionate nature made him an ideal candidate for Head of Year. In this role he has excelled. He has constantly championed his year group to be the best they can possibly be. He has been relentless in his mission to provide the best possible care, support and guidance and has forged strong and trusting relationships with students and their families. We wish him every success and happiness in his role as Assistant Headteacher at Abertillery Community School. Sadly, Mr Sankala will also be leaving us. It was a lucky day for St Joseph's in 2004 when Mr Sankala was appointed as a PE teacher. From day 1 his passion to ensure that his physical education lessons developed young people's knowledge and understanding, skills capabilities and attributes necessary for mental, emotional, social and physical wellbeing now and in their futures was obvious to all. It is this passion that has led to him being an excellent Head of PE and we wish him great continued success in his new and exciting role as Head of Health and Wellbeing at Cardiff West Community High School

Thank you to all our departing staff for their commitment and dedication to the school and, most importantly, our students. They will be greatly missed.



Steven Seagull!

Many thanks to Ray from Caerphilly Bird Rescue!

Ray came to school on June 24th to rescue Steven a resident seagull that was injured. On his departure Steven asked that we thank Mr Rowland and all the pupils that were very kind to him at break time. Steven hopes to move to Barry or Newport Docks but has not ruled out a return visit in the future!

Summer Concert

Yes - you've guessed it! Our fantastic music department have written and produced - against all odds - the most wonderful celebration of music and pupil's talents to end our school year.

It was so wonderful hearing music in the school building once again. Thank you to Mr Green and Miss Doyle and all the pupils who sat patiently in their class and year bubbles to record layers of sound to produce this amazing piece of work.









Sophie



Bright Night Concert Music Throught the Decades

If you missed the launch of our amazing summer concert, then please click on the links above to view on our SJHS YouTube channel.



Bright Night Music Project

Click here to view on YouTube

















Music Through the Decades Click here to view on YouTube



Both these musical projects have been planned, created and produced by Year 12 Music students, and feature the school orchestra and pupils from Year 9 upwards. The students have also organised the projects to raise money for charity, and if anyone would like to donate, this can be done on your School Gateway app.



On Wednesday June 16th, many students and staff wore a red item to show our support for Velindre Cancer Centre and Wales in the Euros. Thanks to your generosity online, and through cash donations, we have raised £1020 for Velindre which is a simply fantastic achievement. Pipping our target by £20!!! https://velindrefundraising.enthuse.com/pf/tim-nunn



Velindre Cancer Centre provides specialist cancer and blood services across South and Mid Wales through Velindre Cancer Centre and the Welsh Blood Service. Delivering quality, care and excellence to their patients and donors is at the heart of their organisation.

#WEARREDFORWALES

NEARING PE

W GWISGO



\pounds 1020 raised for Velindre Cancer Centre

A huge thank you to everyone in our community who wore red on 'Wear Red for Wales' day and also all those that took time to donate to a very worthy cause.

#WEARREDFORWALES

GAILERY







Sketchbooks by Amna Faisel, Year 10 (top) and Trinity Phillips, Year 10 (above) Phoebe Sparrow, Year 13

100







Congratulations to Jasmine Gibson, Year 10 who has designed a mural for the entrance hallway at Newport's SMART Education Learning Centre. She developed the idea and completed the mural to an excellent standard.

"She is an asset to us and a shining example of the excellent education that you are providing. I would be grateful if you could celebrate this success with her!" Mr Richard McAndrew, Deputy Head of Centre

Dates for your diary 2021

Autumn Term TYMOR Y HYDREF

September	
2	Inset Day
3	Inset Day
6	Year 7 and 12 Academic Year begins
7	Years 8, 9, 10, 11, 13 Academic Year begins
16	School Photos (Years 7, 9, 11 & 13)
29	Year 7 Welcome Mass
October	
19-21	Open Mornings
25-29	Half Term

November	
4	Year 7 Pastoral Parents Evening
12	Pupils' Remembrance Service
29	Inset Day
December	
2	Year 13 Parents Evening
9	Year 12 Parents Evening
13	KS4 & 5 Celebration of Excellence
15	SJHS Families Advent Service
16	Pupils' Advent Service
17	Last day of Term

Please be aware that if there are any unforeseen circumstances, these dates might change.

Catch the St Joseph's RC High School news as it happens on: www.sjhs.org.uk twitter.com/sjhsnewport www.facebook.com/stjosephsnewport

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