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Epiphany and Easter 2023

Honourable Purpose | Respect
Co-operation | Stewardship | Compassion



A Welcome from our Principal



Welcome to the Aspire Magazine, reviewing the Spring term 2023. It has been a long, busy term with plenty of opportunities for our young people to shine.

Welcome to the Aspire Magazine, reviewing the Spring term 2023. Yet again, it has been a busy term with plenty of opportunities for our young people to shine.

The College production of Matilda, in February, was FANTASTIC! There have been trips to Valencia, Auschwitz & Iceland, as well as the Bridgewater Hall, Knowsley Safari Park, Blue Planet Aquarium, Speedwell Cavern, Manchester University, and the Synagogue. We have had successes in Public Speaking competitions and Football tournaments. Duke of Edinburgh expeditions have been undertaken, and EPQ Projects have been presented and submitted. Our Year 11 & 13 students are preparing for their exams, and they are looking forward to celebrating with their 'Leaving' Prom & Dinner.

Very sadly, we lost our much-loved friend & colleague, Mrs Ann-Marie Connor, over Christmas. She will, however, continue to be with us in spirit, watching over the wonderful work of our young people & staff, and we certainly felt her presence during our Diocesan Inspection at the end of the term – report to follow shortly.

I hope you enjoy your read of our latest magazine. Thank you to all of our contributors and all those who help put it together..

God Bless,
Tim Beesley
Principal

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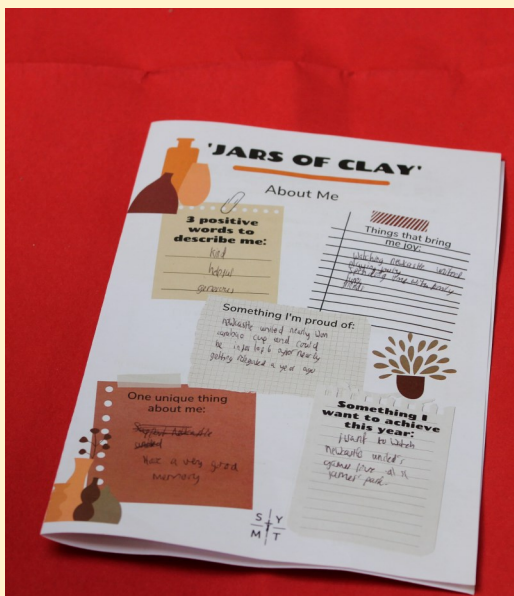
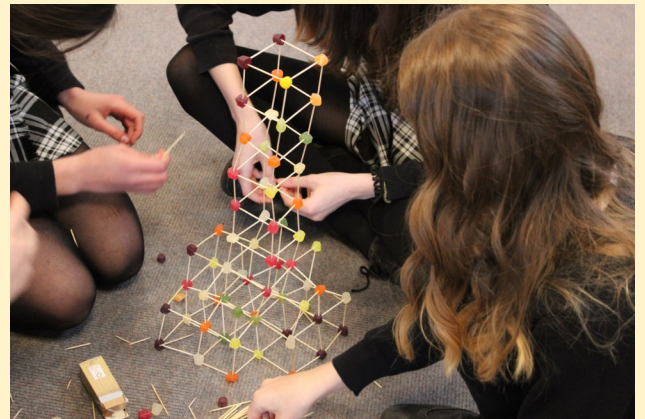
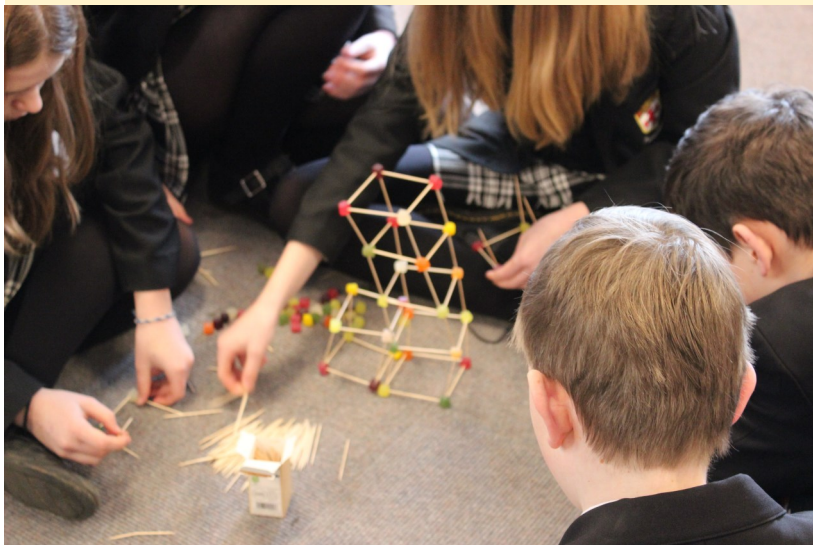
Faith in Action

Year 9 Retreat

The annual Year 9 retreats led by the Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team, took place in March. The theme of the day was 'Jars of Clay'. Students were encouraged to think about what a jar can represent: what it can hold and how it can crack but that it has a purpose and can be fixed when necessary. The schedule for the day was busy with a wide variety of activities and many opportunities for thought, prayer and reflection. The day started with a reflection and asked students to think positively about themselves and about how to let their own light shine. Then they moved onto the first creative activity of the day, design and shaping a clay jar which could hold a tealight. This was a enjoyable task for all involved and an opportunity for students to be imaginative in their creations. Session 2 of the day focused on resilience. In their teams, students worked to put puzzles together which contained words of advice - sharing ways to put themselves back together if they were a 'little broken'. Throughout the session, students were encouraged to share their own strategies. To round off this part of the day, the teams worked together, competing to build the strongest tower from midget gems, kebab and cocktail sticks.

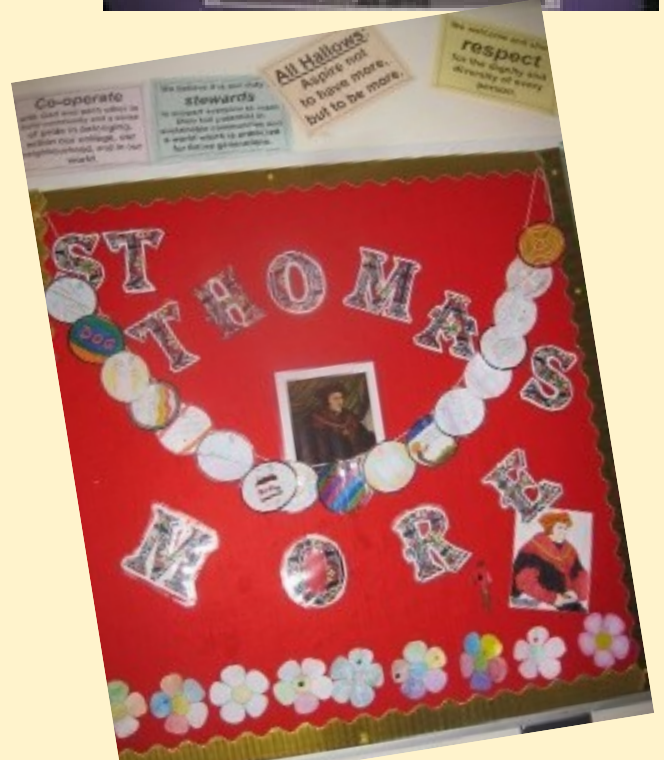
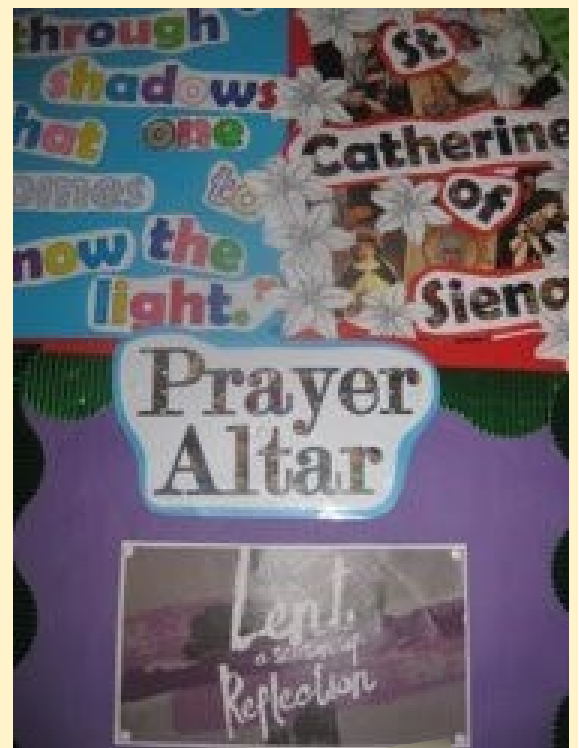
During the afternoon, the teams took part in a new version of snakes and ladders devised by the SYMT team- called Crosses and Cornerstones based on the Stations of the Cross, a truly amazing and inventive activity. The day then ended with a prayer and quiet reflection time. it was a very different day to normal but allowed the Year 9 students space to work together and get to know each other better, as well as reflecting on their faith and how it can support them.

Many thanks to Clare, Ashley and Sandy from the Youth Mission team who worked tirelessly all week to make the experience a very memorable one indeed!



Form Prayer Altars

Prayer stations and Sacred Spaces continue to flourish during Lent.



Reconciliation Service

In the last week of the Spring term, our students joined a live Reconciliation service streamed from the chapel. It was an interactive service with the choir singing and students reading prayers. Each student was given a stone and asked to prayer silently, reflecting on who they would want to reconcile with and why. The stones were then placed on the form prayer table to create a mound for a small cross to stand in as a visual reminder of the meaning of Holy Week. At the end of the service, two students from each form took a white ribbon to our Peace Garden to display, as a symbol of our desire for reconciliation and peace in our world.



SVP Youth Group News



The SVP Youth Group had a successful fund-raising event in February. They sold Chinese New Year envelopes to raise money for future SVP projects.

Inside the envelopes were chocolate coins and “jump the queue” lunch passes! Thank you to Year 7 and 8 who helped raise £40 with all the envelopes successfully sold..

Catholic Social Teaching Conference

On Wednesday 25th January, Mrs Livesey took Amelia, Emily, Eva, Yannis, Rion, Elizabeth, Issy and Cathal to a Catholic Social Teaching Conference at Chester Catholic High School. It was attended by other Year 12 and 13 students from across the diocese. The day began with prayers and ice -breakers led by Mrs Livesey, before the young people worked together to explore in more detail what Catholic Social Teaching is and how at All Hallows we take that teaching and put it into action.

Ben Gilchrist, from Caritas Shrewsbury, along with the Lay Chaplains of the diocese led the sessions.

Students watched video clips and took part in active sessions as well as discussion to understand in more depth what Catholic Social Teaching is and how it should impact on our daily lives.

The All Hallows students were proud to speak about the India Clinic and how successful we are at fund raising. Other schools and college told us about the project they are most proud of. There was a recognition that we all need to increase advocacy. A desire to campaign and raise awareness was the main outcome of the day as well as wishing the young people can work together in the very near future.

We thank the organisers, session leaders and Chester Catholic High School for hosting the day.

Chaplaincy Group News

The Chaplaincy Group were very busy in the first week back after the February half term holiday. They have led Year 7 students in an Easter Egg Hunt around the Peace Garden. The eggs contain suggestions of things we can do in Lent in order to pray, fast and give alms. They have also been selling Fair Trade Chocolate to raise awareness of that campaign as well as allowing us another way to live the gospel and the Catholic Social Teaching principle of “ Option of the Poor”.

The group also sold soup for the Hunger Lunch on Friday to raise money for CAFOD Family Fast Day. This is at a crucial time as the DEC appeal raises funds to help the people of Turkey and Syria as the slow recovery from the earthquake begins. Total money raised was £54.25.

Thank you to everyone who supported these activities this week.



CAFOD Presentation to Year 11 Students

In February Year 11 students listened to representatives from CAFOD in their RE lessons. Volunteers, Nicola and David from the Educational team came to speak to Year 11 about the work of CAFOD. This was beneficial for both revision of their GCSE content but also for students to gain a deeper understanding of the important work of CAFOD.

Nicola and David explained that work of CAFOD, ‘helps people to help themselves’ and puts faith into action. Students learnt how CAFOD put love and values into action through the work they do, campaigning for social justice and standing up against human rights violations. They also highlighted to students the links between the charity CARITAS and CAFOD, as they work together to act fast in crisis, demonstrating with their swift action to help Ukraine after the recent invasion.

Students were engaged and were fantastic in asking questions. For example, Tegan C who asked ‘How do CAFOD decide what campaigns they get involved with, Is that a hard decision?’. We thank Nicola and David for their time and engaging talk.



Reception Wall Hanging

We have a new wall hanging in reception at College which displays some of the Catholic Social Teaching principles. We will refresh this wall hanging regularly with new photos and use other CST principles, as students and departments demonstrate how we at All Hallows lives the gospel through Catholic Social Teaching.



GCSE and A Level Awards Evening

It was really lovely to be able to hold our Annual Awards and Certificates Evening following two years of Covid restrictions. The Classes of 21-22 and their families were invited into College so that we could publicly celebrate their achievements and they could be formally presented with their GCSE and A Level certificates. In addition, Subject Leaders nominated 2 students for Academic Achievement and Academic Progress Awards to acknowledge their significant academic achievement or progress. Special awards were made to Ethan R for overall A level performance, Liam K. and Igor K. for Vocational performance and Emilia K for overall GCSE performance. Special Awards were also made to Connor S for the resilience he has demonstrated since joining All Hallows, Marco F for his contribution to Sport while Ethan R and Phoebe P received the Emmaus Award which recognises student contribution to the Catholic Life of the College, for their work on 'Sexual Harassment' and for leading the fundraising activities for our India clinic.

During the evening, we were treated to superb performances by our College choir; Year 8 student, Adelaide S who danced 'Swanhilda's Waltz' from Coppelia Act 1 and Year 10 student Clo T who performed J. S Bach's Toccata in E Minor, No 1 and Chopin's Opus 9 No 1, Nocturne.

Our guest speaker, former student Dr Laurence Middlemiss, presented both an entertaining and inspirational speech about his studies both at All Hallows and The University of Sheffield and of the opportunities these have opened for him in the world of Chemistry and research. Laurie is a postdoctoral Research Associate in the Department of Chemical Engineering at The University of Sheffield.



Students Create Holocaust Memorial

In their history lessons at the end of January, KS3 students have taken part in a college wide project to develop a mural for Holocaust memorial that will be built in the Peace Garden. Students learnt about the impact and memory of genocides and reflected upon the consequences for 'ordinary people' - the theme this year for Holocaust Memorial Day.



This is the finished product was very striking.



Chinese New Year Celebrations



To celebrate the Chinese New Year, our Mandarin students took part in lots of activities.

From 18th to 20th January, our students in Years 7 to 10 had special Chinese New Year Classes. During these lessons, students learned how to say, 'happy new year' in Mandarin, discussed what Chinese people do for their Spring festival and they made lanterns. Students made lots of efforts in the class and they were so delighted to give the lanterns to their family and friends.

On 22nd January, our drum band gave a drum performance at Macclesfield town hall to celebrate the Spring festival. Their wonderful performance inspired many people.



On 25th January, our Year 7 and Year 8 Mandarin students had an MEP (Mandarin Excellence Programme) trip to the Confucius Institute of University of Manchester and were joined by students from Tytherington and Cowley Schools. During the day, students had cultural workshops on paper cutting, Calligraphy and knot making. At lunch, students enjoyed delicious Chinese food such as fried rice, spring rolls, sesame chicken and Chinese tofu in a Chinese restaurant. After lunch, students went shopping in the Chinese supermarket. This trip brought students closer to Chinese culture in addition to their Mandarin language lessons at school and helped foster their understanding of Chinese customs and daily life.



On 26th Jan Thursday, our Year 9 and Year 10 Mandarin students made Chinese dumplings. In the process of making dumplings, the students learned about Chinese food culture and cultivated their teamwork skills. They were all very happy to taste the dumplings they made!



The Chinese New Year Poster Competition

During the event, many students designed exquisite Chinese New Year posters, student Annabel R is the winner of the competition and she received a Chinese dictionary as a reward.

We also thank Siri D, Eylul I, Ben H and Iris D for participating in this event, and they also received some lovely stickers as rewards.

Through this event, the students have a deeper understanding of the Chinese New Year and enhanced their enthusiasm for learning Chinese. We hope that more students will participate in similar activities in the future and experience Chinese culture together.



Snow Day Fun

How often do we get to spend PE, Break and Lunch being this creative?



Year 10 Fundraising

In January Alice W in 10 A was selling 2023 calendars to raise money to go to the World Scout Jamboree in South Korea this summer. Alice and her family created these very professional looking calendars themselves. Each month includes a local walk, a bake recipe, nature facts and illustrations from an artist friend. All proceeds will go towards helping Alice and Luke M (in Year 9), as well as eight other scouts across Macclesfield and Congleton to attend the Jamboree. The sale will also help subsidise the cost for scouts from less wealthy countries too.



Bird Boxes

Brilliant bird boxes made by Paul E in Year 10 and Mr Duffield, one of our fantastic teaching assistants.

Matilda!

After months of hard work by a talented cast and crew, our students had a busy week performing first on Monday to students from our feeder primary schools, and then to their parents and friends for three consecutive nights in the school hall. Several standing ovations recognised how excellent our fantastic cast were and how well the play had been staged and directed. The students performed on a specially constructed stage with a professional set and wore amazing costumes that really enhanced their characters. It really was, as promised, a production to rival those in the West End! Well done to all involved and we hope they enjoy their well earned rest over half term.



Year 11 History Trip to Poland

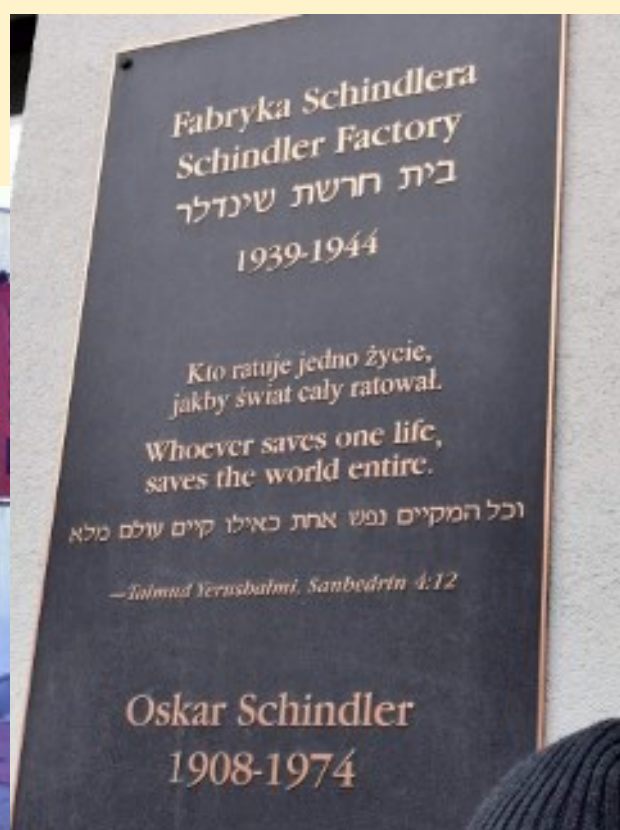
Over half term, a group of Year 11 historians and their teachers travelled to Krakow to explore the city and visit Auschwitz.

Day 1. We had a guided tour of Krakow Old Market, the Jewish Quarter and Wawel Royal Palace and Cathedral, this is where Pope John Paul II held his first ministry.

Day 2. We visited and were guided around Auschwitz I and Auschwitz II (Birkenau). In the afternoon we returned to Krakow and visited Oskar Schindler's factory which is now a museum of Krakow during WW2. Schindler was responsible for saving 1200 Jews during the Holocaust through employing them in his enamel and munitions factory.

On final day we visited the Galicia Jewish museum in Krakow. Here we discovered Jewish culture and traditions before the Holocaust and how this changed in Krakow during and after the War. We then were privileged in meeting and listening to the story of Holocaust survivor, Hanna Kleinberg.

Mr Eardley



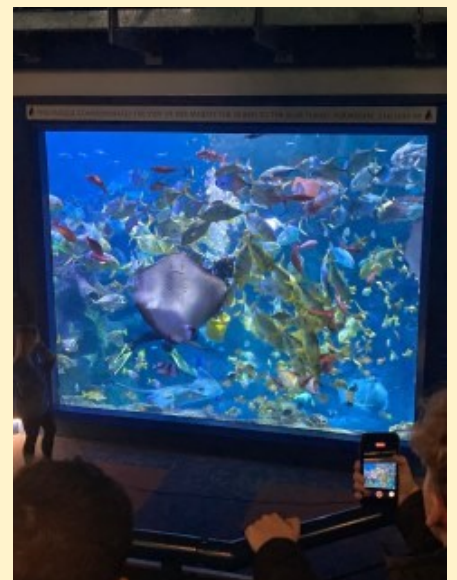
Year 8 Geography Trip to Knowsley Safari Park

This week our Year 8 students travelled to Knowsley Safari Park for a day of varied activities relating to their current Geography lessons. Students had a talk on careers available at the park and they watched a sea lion display. Also on the agenda was a walking tour around the enclosures, as well a drive through the park.



Year 9 Geography Trip to the Blue Planet

Our students travelled to the Blue Planet Aquarium in Cheshire Oaks on Thursday for a curriculum related visit. Whilst there they listened to an engaging talk from Aquarium experts on the dangers of ocean plastic pollution; a fantastic link to their current topic in Geography of Coasts. After this students were taken on a walking tour of the aquarium by AHCC staff, they particularly enjoyed the shark tunnel and aqua-theatre shows.

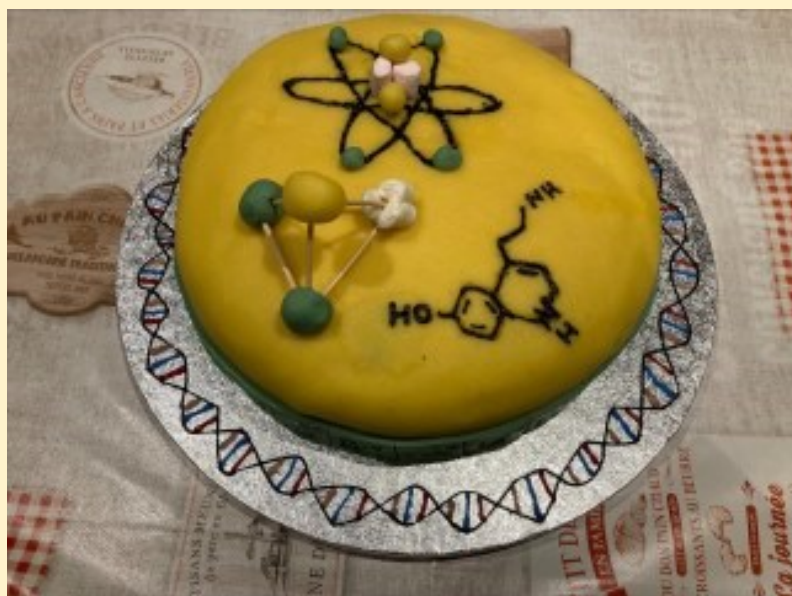


Science Week Bake Off

As it is National Science Week, the Science department have been arranging some special activities for students to get involved with to help promote this. Here are the entries from the science bake off. We were very impressed with the effort and creativity put in by our students to help celebrate National Science week. All those who entered received achievement points and the pleasure of indulging in a slice of their own bake afterwards!

Our winner was Caitlin B in 7C who created a bake depicting Beaker the scientist from the Muppets! Caitlin will receive a gift from the British Science Museum as her prize.

Thanks especially goes to: Caitlin B (Year 7), Mathilde M (Year 7), Leila P (Year 7), Amy C (Year 7), Guilherme SFB (Year 8), George O (Year 8), Scarlett N (Year 8) and Ben N (Year 9).



Student Sporting Success

Athletics

In February our Year 7 & 8 athletes who represented the College at the Macclesfield & District Indoor Athletics competition held at Knutsford High on Thursday this week.

There were some standout individual performances from B. Pugh (Yr7) S. Waterworth (Yr7) L. Taylor-Wilkinson (Yr7) H. Graves (Yr8) E. Clarke (Yr8) and G. O'Donnell (Yr7) in their events

Our Year 8 girls team finished second which was a brilliant achievement and reward for a great team performance on the day.

Great work all!

Miss Thomason



Girls Football

In February our Year 7 Girls football success and to the Year 7 girls football team who recently played a 7-a-side tournament at Wilmslow High School. They were amazing despite the awful weather! The rain and wind did not stop all evening, but it didn't stop these girls playing some great football. They finished joint top on points, but narrowly missed out on being crowned Champions on goal difference. Huge progress is being made; they should be proud of their performance! Goals - Lacey W(2), Maisie F(2), Imogen F (1). Player of the tournament - Lily M

Year 8 & 9 Boys Rugby Team

In early March The team took on Macclesfield Academy this week, in a tough fixture. With only one substitute, All Hallows were under a lot of pressure for the majority of the match but managed to come out victorious in a 12-8 win. The boys showed real character and resilience to work really hard until the final whistle. Congratulations to everyone involved. Try Scorers: Luke G - 3, Jack R - 3, Jake S - 3, Lucas N - 2 and Alex C - 1.



Student Sporting Success

Trampolining

Congratulations to Ava R who competed in the Northern Trampoline Zonals in Belfast in early March. She represented All Hallows Catholic College as an individual. She came an amazing 2nd and has now qualified for the Finals in March in Northampton. Well done Ava, what a fantastic achievement!



Boxing

Well done to Mia K, who competed in Liverpool and got another unanimous win. She was also very compassionate to her opponent who didn't collect her medal, so Mia got it for her, took it to her and put it around her neck. Great work, Mia!

Public Speaking Competition Winners

Our Year 8 Intermediate public speaking team WON the Rotary Youth Speaks District final yesterday, an incredible achievement which they have worked extremely hard towards and should be very proud of. Each of them also won the individual award for best Speaker, Chairperson and Proposer of the Vote of Thanks, again another impressive accolade.

Well done to Abu Hurairah F, Lucy B or Jack T for their excellent performance.

Mr Megson



Excellent English Work

'I'm a Celebrity' Topic

Year 7 Students have been completing a series of homework tasks for their project, 'I'm a student, get me out of here!' and Lacey, Nell and Maisie have made this beautiful cake version of their desert island!



Mrs Atherton's class have been making models based on the non fiction unit of work, 'I'm A Celebrity Get Me Out of Here!' During this unit students got to study and write vlogs, travel articles, survivor accounts and interviews. They also made these fantastic models of their islands



Year 10 War Poetry Lesson

Mrs Lewis took her Year 10 English class to our Peace Garden to read 'Exposure' by Wilfred Owen as part of their GCSE English Literature preparation.

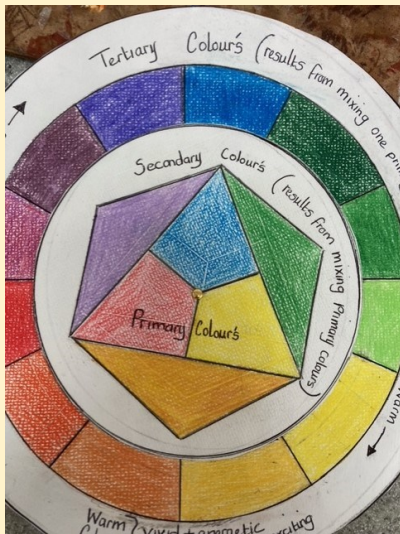
Amazing Art Work

Well done to Tilly C and Alice W for their fantastic responses to the work of Artist Jane McKeating in GCSE Textiles.



Colour Wheel Work

A range of fabulous homework from 7G2, who have created their own Colour Wheel using a variety of materials. A very creative and inventive response of outcomes.



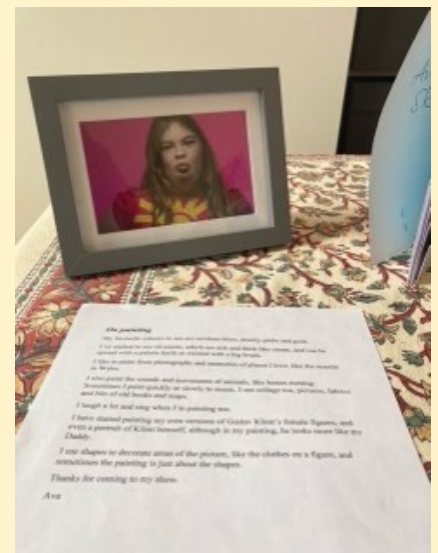
Macc Pledge Students Visit Macclesfield Hospital

On Thursday 2 February Mr Blades accompanied a group of Year 10 and Year 11 students, who are part of the Macc Pledge Explore Programme, to Macclesfield Hospital as part of the scheme. Here students learnt about various and more unusual roles in the hospital, such as Estate Management and Technical Support who mend expensive, live saving equipment. They were also shown how they train nurses and doctors to use defibrillators to save lives. Students were complemented on their maturity and behaviour during the visit and we look forward to other visits over the coming months as part of Pledge Explore.



Former Student Holds Art Exhibition

Congratulations to former student, Ava Reid who had their own Art Exhibition this weekend at Scoop and Scales Gallery in Macclesfield. It was a superb show and Ava sold numerous pieces of work. A great achievement!



Sixth Form News

Multiple Mini Interviews



One of the ways medical and dentistry schools select their students is through Multiple Mini Interviews. On Friday we were joined in College by Dr Tracey Mills from the Liverpool School of Tropical Diseases to help conduct the mini interviews. Students have to complete a variety of tasks on data, course knowledge, ethics as well as communication and teamwork. The students gave it a really good go and got a lot out of the experience. The students received feedback on their performance and we wish them every success in their upcoming interviews.



Careers and Apprenticeship Fair



We were very excited to invite a number of different organisations into College to meet with sixth form students to discuss careers and apprenticeship opportunities. We had representatives of accountancy firms, solicitors, banks, pharmaceutical and engineering companies to name a few. Students will have a chance to ask questions and find out about career paths. This was a great opportunity, particularly for Year 12 students starting to think about Life After All Hallows.

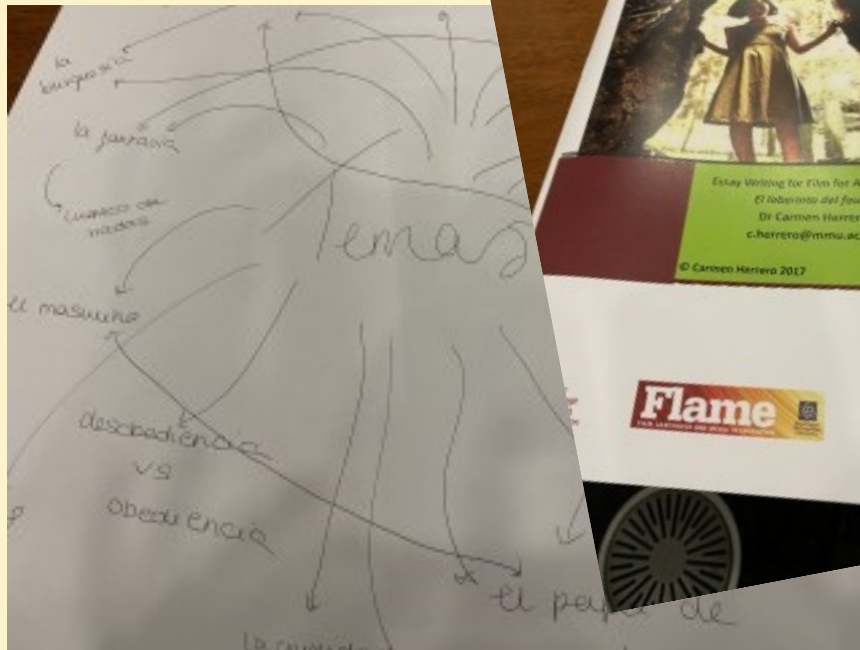


Spanish Workshop at MMU

On Wednesday 15th February our sixth form Spanish students attended an essay writing workshop at Manchester Metropolitan University. After an "interesting" train journey from Macclesfield to Manchester Oxford Road courtesy of Northern rail, we arrived at the Geoffrey Manton building and were warmly greeted by Dr Carmen Herrero, Principal Lecturer in Spanish Studies and Subject Lead for Languages at MMU. The workshops were organised and delivered in Spanish by Dr Herrero herself and focused on a popular film studied by our A-level Spanish students, "El Laberinto del Fauno" (Pan's Labrynth) by Guillermo Del Toro. Students gained some fantastic knowledge including how to structure an essay, argue and illustrate a point, focus on characters, themes and the director's style and build a phrase-bank to discuss the film. Students also learnt a wealth of new film terminology and were introduced to the works of other contemporary Spanish authors and film critics.

The students were a credit to the College and were completely engrossed in the lecture. It was particularly impressive to hear them discussing the film with Dr Herrero in Spanish! I am sure that this opportunity will not only help them to prepare for their A level exams but also give them inspiration to continue with their language to degree level.

Ms White



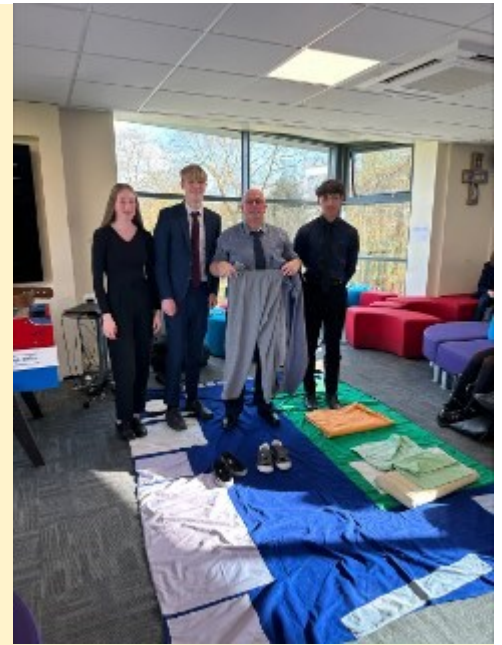
UCAS Discovery Exhibition

In March our Year 12 travelled into Manchester to visit the UCAS Discovery Exhibition. Virtually every university in the country is represented along with over 100 employers. It was a great chance for Year 12 to start to explore the plethora of opportunities available to them as they leave All Hallows. Whilst students did come back with many, many tote bags, pens and fidget spinner highlighters from different universities they also came away with a huge amount of excitement and inspiration for what their next steps might be.



Sixth Form Core RE Sessions

In February, Year 12 students listened to Andy Platt MBE from HM Prison Manchester, who gave a detailed account of life in prison. With charismatic wit, he took the students on a fictional journey from Macclesfield Magistrate Court to prison and showed them items such as prison clothing and sleeping arrangements. He said he hopes to never meet any of them again, in a professional capacity!



Food Bank Talk

Our Year 12 students were privileged to hear from Dan Blackmore of Silklife Foodbank speaking during their Core RE lesson this week.

It was a great talk helping us to realise not just how the Foodbank operates but also how it is funded and supported, why and how some might find themselves depending on a Foodbank – even the most unlikely. This included cases of domestic violence, asylum seekers and refugees, etc. that take a long time for benefit claims to be processed; leaving a person or family desperate.

Dan was brilliant at showing our students how we are doing God's work and pleasing God through our donations of time (as a volunteer), as well as money and food. All types of donations are critical in providing bags to a single person, couples, families, extremely homeless people and those who are trying to find their way "back" from prison or addictions.

In addition, there are baby bags which provide nappies, wet wipes and other essentials that a baby will need and that, sadly, cost so much.



We heard how the Foodbank began "with a dream" which found the Silklife Church acting on this to feed the hungry. They still operate as an emergency provision (pointing their uses to the Food Pantry in due course). This support they provided saw a threefold increase during Covid and they provided 42,000 meals during this time.

This obviously had its own demands of space, money and volunteer time.

There are 17 places across Macclesfield that you are able to make donations if Silklife is closed but of course our own College do make donations too.

They are reaching out now in providing ethnically appropriate food from an African Supermarket. They have a limited amount of money for this and have asked that, if we didn't want to donate food we could donate money. Please use the information or QR code below to help to make donations directly <https://www.silklife.co.uk/foodbank>

***"Truly I tell you,
whatever you did for
one of the least of
these brothers and
sisters of mine,
you did for me."***

- Matthew 25:40



Our Broken Food System

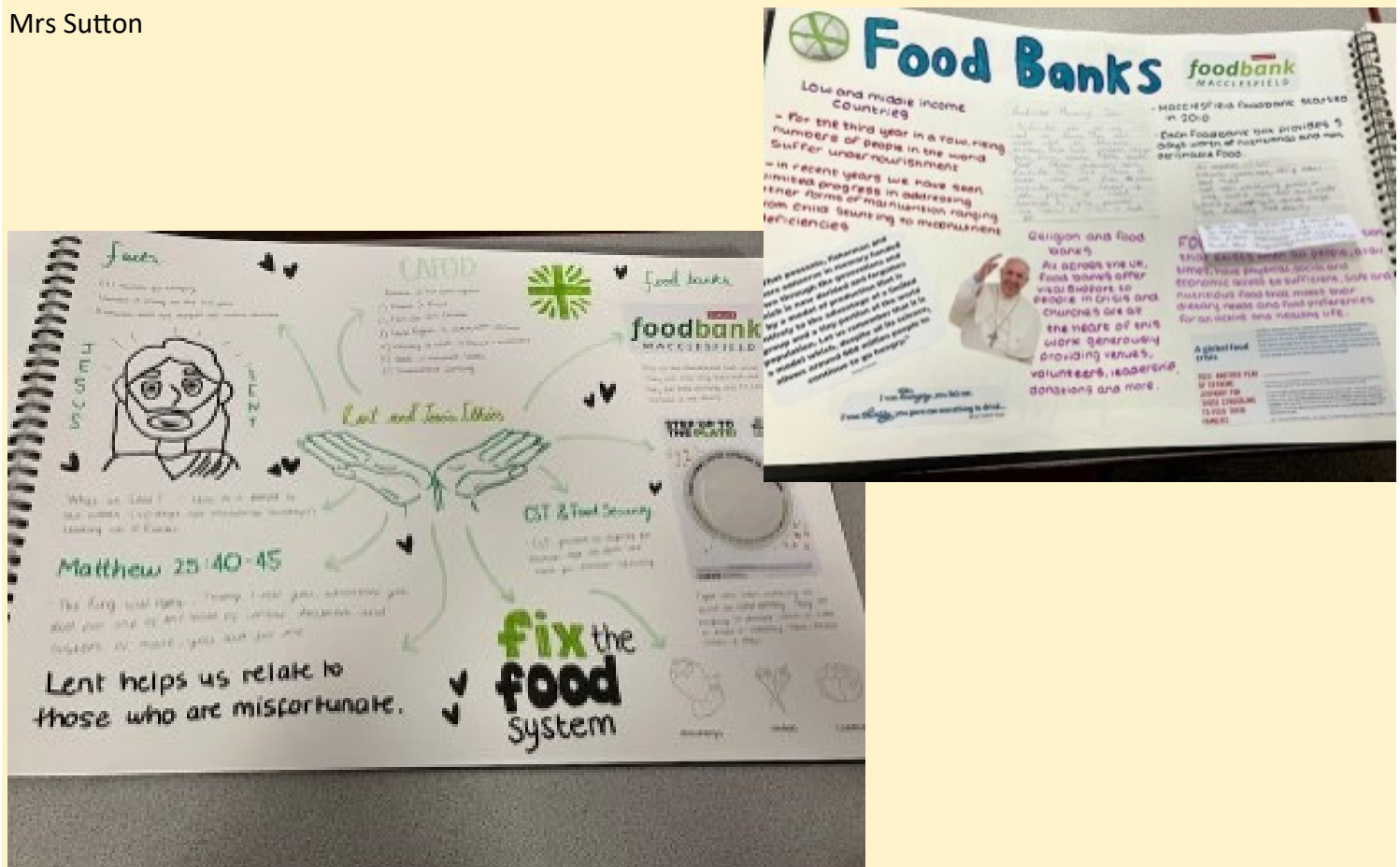
Year 12 students also researched the broken food system – using initiatives from CAFOD's campaign, and identified areas that might help to fix the system e.g. seeing Fairtrade as an option.

Findings include that: Pesticides that are used by farmers who are effectively forced by companies to buy a specific (i.e., the company's) seed that grows with a specific fertilisers can also cause harm to biodiversity and humans alike. For instance, one of the findings was that golf courses and hotels who use a pesticide to make it look well kept and attractive, actually led to an individual who lived close by had stomach cancer as a result of drinking the water effected by the pesticides. In addition, over 60% of the seed used by farmers is owned by just 4 companies, who also own the fertilisers and pesticides. For example, one of these is called Monsanto who you might know through Roundup, a well known weed killer used by many in this country.

One of the team researching provided this solution by the destruction of monopolies within the food system. They write: as we have seen, the issue of the food system lies not within the supply of food (which is in great abundance), but in the prices which food and the resources used to grow it command. Ideally, market forces (far greater supply than demand) would push the price down. But this mechanism is distorted by the monopoly powers held by large firms. This is seen in the ownership of legal rights to seeds (ownership of resources) amongst other practices. The existence of such monopolies can and ought to be destroyed by governments, or heavily regulated. Currently farmers must accept extortionate prices of seeds because very few suppliers exist – destroying these monopolies allows the market to become more competitive, forcing down prices and allowing small farmers to thrive, rather than only large farming companies who can afford to pay extortionate seed prices.

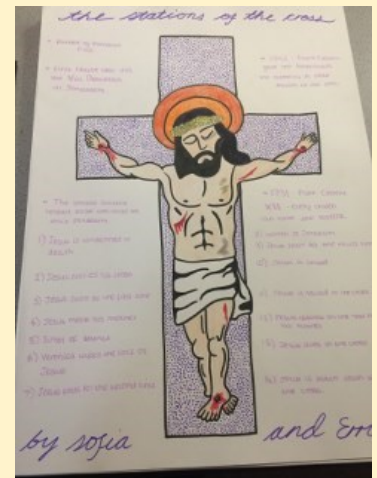
Thank you to Deniz and Hayden.

Mrs Sutton



Stations of the Cross

Year 12 had a fabulous lesson in Core RE in March, reflecting on the 14 stations of the cross placed around the college grounds. They reflected on the significance of the stations and the relevance of them today, then produced a creative class piece of work. There was a competitive element to the session as students competed in a stations of the cross scavenger hunt. The students learnt lots, and enjoyed racing against each other.



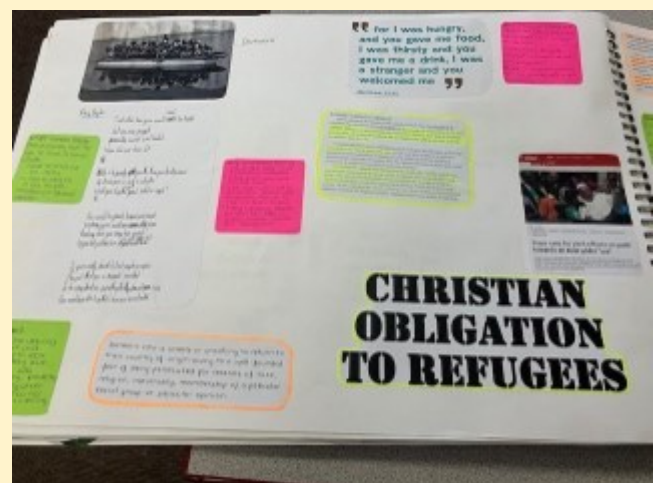
Refugees: A Christian Response

Our Year 12 students spent time exploring the issue and experiences of refugees and looking at a Christian response to the situation.

During our first period, we looked at Gary Lineker and Pope Francis' comments regarding refugees. Students discussed the government's stance on refugees, as well as the language used by the media. Also discussed were Gary Lineker's comments? Was it helpful for raising the profile of refugees? During the session, it was also a pleasure to welcome back Nikki Campbell, chair of trustees of Refugees Welcome (Cheshire East) into College. Nikki taught at All Hallows for 24 years, and also had family members who attended the College.

We heard the Parable of the Good Samaritan and we were asked to think about who our neighbour is. Nikki explained that she was an ancestor of refugees who would now have been in west of Ukraine. Even though this was a long time ago, she still feels a connection to Ukraine. Welcome Refugees was set up as a response to the Syrian conflict in 2014, this groundwork has also helped support refugees from more recent conflicts in Afghanistan and the Ukraine. There are Syrian families who live in both Macclesfield and Congleton now as a result. Help and support is given in both a practical way as well as supporting families to get the paperwork sorted to settle in jobs, homes and schools. Ukrainian refugees face different approaches and challenges. The scheme to support them, Homes for Refugees involves citizens opening their own home for Ukrainian refugees, showing wonderful generosity!

Questions we were asked to discuss included: Why do refugees need to leave? What attracts those fleeing to a certain country as refuge? Students were given time to consider these and other questions. We also heard from our students who are refugees too. When asked, 'Why England?' their answers included the language, as they could speak it already. The 'last straw' for them was the fact that men aged 18 men were being conscripted and as they didn't agree with fighting they decided to come to the UK.



Year 12 Biology Trip to Valencia

Our journey started with an All Hallows connection, as it turned out that our pilot was none other than former student, Kieran Truefitt, he did a great job getting us to Valencia ahead of schedule and ready to explore the city!

During our trip to Valencia, we visited a range of sights in the city all linked to the topics that we're learning about in our biology lessons. First up was the largest aquarium in Europe: the Oceanographic, where hundreds of different species including jellyfish, turtles and beluga whales all live. Being able to see these creatures up close was really exciting, especially with our backstage tour: learning about how the sharks are cared for and even walking above their exhibit. Next door in the science museum we got to explore the chromosome forest where we could learn more about each chromosome at the interactive stations. At the centre was a giant model of DNA displaying the structure we had learned in our lessons back at school. Lastly, we had a guided tour of Valencia's Bioparc in which we saw animals from each corner of the world and were taught about how the zoo caters to each of these animals in captivity - followed by a fun stop at the beach. Our trip to Valencia was definitely unforgettable and was an amazing opportunity to connect what we've learned in college to life outside of school.

A huge thank you is owed to Mrs Needham and Mr Howells for organising the trip and taking care of us whilst we were there.

Abbie M



EPQ/HPQ Presentation Afternoon

17 Year 11 and 13 students presented their final Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) and Higher Project Qualification (HPQ) research projects.

The presentations were fantastic, and all students presented confidently with expert knowledge in a wide range of subject areas. There really was something for everyone. All staff and students came away having learnt something new!

Students have been working on these research projects since September and it is a great opportunity for them to gain independent study and research skills, which are extremely valuable skills to have as they progress into higher education or the workplace.



These are the subjects our students chose to research for the EPQ:

Sam B "Are bacteriophages a reliable alternative to antibiotics in modern society?"

Florence N "Do GP's or other organisations such as higher institutions contribute more to delayed diagnosis of endometriosis in UK healthcare using information valid for 2014 to 2022?"

Francesca F "Discuss the misuse of antibiotics"

Amelie C "Evaluate the effectiveness of dicotyledonous plants active and passive responses in preventing pathogenic infection of plant tissues."

Xingde M "To what extent did the one-child policy in China increase female infanticide and affect the sex ratio?"

Dan F "Was disaster capitalism used on Puerto Rico's power grid post hurricane and did this make the situation worse?"

Lidia T "Could onshore shale fracking be the solution to the UK energy crisis, which began in 2020?"

Niamh F "To what extent is cosmetic dentistry ethical?"

Ella P "To what extent does underfunding in schools affect SEND students?"

David W "Can Hannibal Barca's military campaigning from 218 B.C to 216 B.C be considered as successful from a strategic, tactical and logistical perspective?"

Sam J "To what extent was Aileen Wuornos' psychopathic personality and traumatic past responsible for her killings?"



HPQ

Tabitha E "Evaluate whether media influence was the most significant factor in the downfall of the Cecil Hotel."

Alex E "Could sustainable energy for the future be found through space exploration?"

Annabel D "How do different species help scientific research into human longevity?"

Evangelina A "Is it more beneficial for registered mental nurses on the NHS to have more practical experience than classroom experience?"

Orla B "Evaluate the normalisation and consequences of rape in Greek mythology"

Thomas C "How is the magic kept alive when you see a musical theatre performance?"

World Book Day Doors

Our students and staff decorated their classroom doors to celebrate World Book Day. Forms were also able to take part in a quiz and read extracts from the website.



Farm Update: Sheep Move Home

In March Neil, Teddy, Mary and Rufus moved from the back of the College field to the enclosure with the goats. They are settling into their new home and already keeping the grass down.



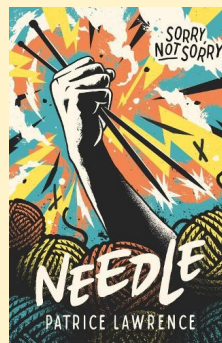
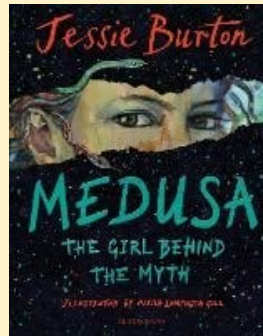
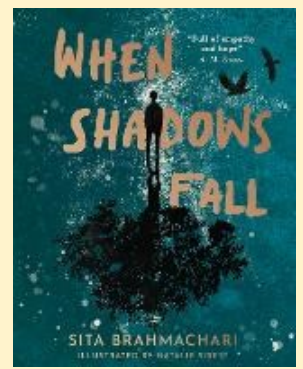
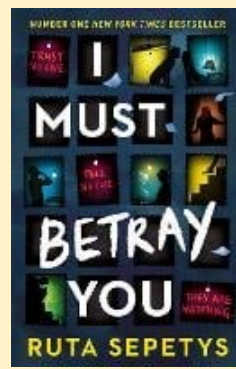
Year 11 Animal Care Group

In a break between mock exams, the Year 11 students set about adding a layer of bark to the muddy surface in the goats enclosure.



Recommended Reads for the Spring!

Why not dip into the Yoto Carnegie, Medal for Writing Shortlist—there's something for everyone!



Reading Success in Year 7 and 8

All students in Year 7 and 8 use the Accelerated Reader programme in their Library lessons. It has been another successful term, as you can see in the statistics below. Well done to all students and let's keep the momentum up for the final term of the year.

Year 7

Words read since January: 7,046,875

Word millionaires in the Year 7: Kitty Y and Eleanor P

Quizzes taken and passed: 975

The best quizzing form: 7 M

Form with the most 100% passes on the Accelerated Reader Quizzes: 7 M

100% Draw Winner: Ananya P

Year 8

Words read since January: 4,980,741

Word millionaires in Year 8: None yet but several students close to achieving!

Quizzes taken and passed: 662

The best quizzing form: 8 C

Form with the most 100% passes on the Accelerated Reader Quizzes: 8 C

100% Draw Winner: Finn W

Prayer: Resurrection Light

**Risen Christ, when darkness over-
whelms us
may your dawn beckon.**

**When fear paralyses us
may your touch release us.**

**When grief torments us
may your peace enfold us.**

**When memories haunt us
may your presence heal us.**

**When justice fails us
may your anger ignite us.**

**When apathy stagnates us
may your challenge renew us.**

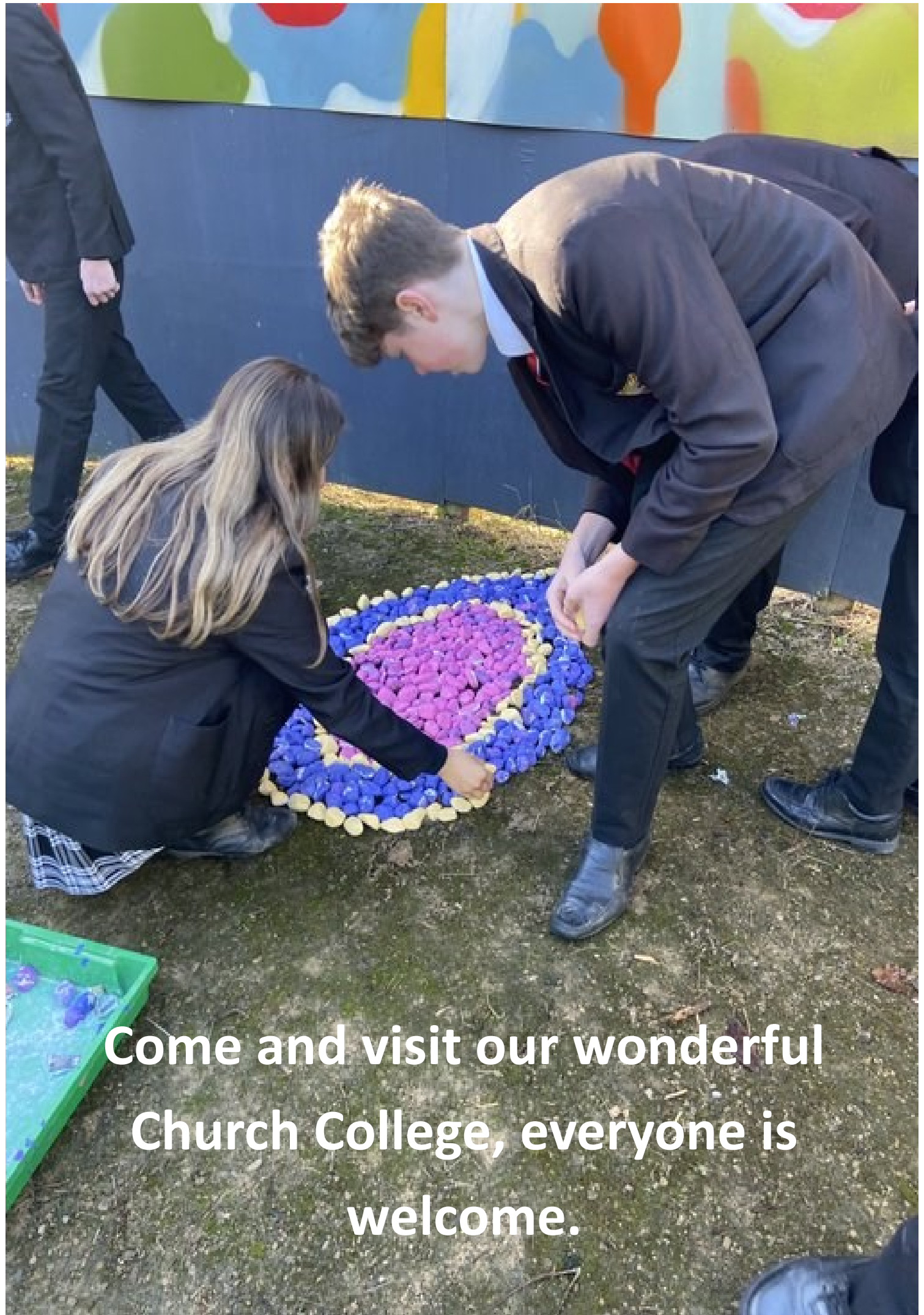
**When courage leaves us
may your spirit inspire us.**

**When despair grips us
may your hope restore us.**

**And when death threatens us
may your resurrection light lead us.**

Amen.

Annabel Shilson-Thomas/CAFOD



**Come and visit our wonderful
Church College, everyone is
welcome.**