



Brownedge St Mary's Catholic High School

Let your light shine

# Shining Lights Newsletter

July 2016

*Celebrating success*

We hope you enjoy reading the bumper July edition of our school newsletter packed with highlights and information about activities and events that took place during the Summer Term.

## Tenner Challenge 2016 Award

Congratulations to Alison Rigby on winning the National Young Enterprise Tenner Challenge 'Most Inspiring Individual' in the 11-14 category. The Tenner Challenge, supported by the Business Growth Fund, aims to give young people aged 11-19 a taste of what it's like to be an entrepreneur. Participants are pledged £10 and have four weeks to make a profit and engage with their community.



Alison travelled to London, accompanied by Mrs Bradley, to accept her award. After visiting Madame Tussauds, Alison travelled with the other winners by underground to the Mishcon de Reya offices for lunch. The awards ceremony followed including keynote speaker David Stevenson, Apprentice candidate from Series 11. Out of over 3000 companies created for the Tenner Challenge 2016, only nine were selected for awards. Alison's company, Sketch-ie specialising in commissioned art, received the first award of the afternoon. There was just enough time to visit Platform 9 ¾ before catching the train home, Alison's bag weighed down with her impressive award.

## Year 10 trip to the Lowry Theatre



On May 17<sup>th</sup> 62 pupils and staff watched a truly dynamic performance of J.B. Priestley's drama, 'An Inspector Calls'.

This visually stunning interpretation had the audience rocketing out of their seats as the middle class home of the obnoxious Birling family exploded before their very eyes. Pupils witnessing this amazing performance are sure to be at an advantage when they are examined on the

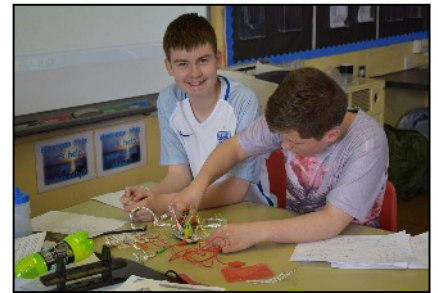
play in their English Literature GCSE examination in June 2017. The trip was enjoyed by all, Mr Hickin (Head of Maths) said, '**Riveting performance, in a super venue...time flew!**'

## Mary Day

Mary encouraged Jesus, saw his potential and supported him to reach it. During assemblies and throughout the day we looked at the miracle of Jesus turning water into wine at the wedding at Cana, focusing on Mary's role in sending the servants to Jesus, and encouraging him to help. We looked at who we are as St Mary's school; following in the footsteps of a courageous, brave and caring young woman, open to God's plan, who shares happiness, joy and love with others. We reflected on Mary being someone who knows suffering, pain, sadness and grief, and who will pray for us today.



We spent the day putting these values into action through supporting and encouraging each other. We had good fun in our own clothes, getting to know students in other years through activities all around school. The tug of war was as popular as always, and students' top highlights included Mr Lin's fancy dress and Mrs Bland's assemblies!



## Valedictory



On the 5th July our 2016 Valedictory was held at Shaw Hill Golf Resort and Spa Hotel. It was so exciting to watch all the students arriving looking extremely glamorous (that also included the boys).

What amazing vehicles they arrived in, including a fire engine and a horse and cart. The room looked fantastic and all enjoyed a delicious meal followed by speeches and even a Year 11 v staff

game show! A great night was had by all and we wish all Year 11 pupils good luck in their future endeavours, whatever they may be.

Photographs from the evening are now available to view and purchase on [www.eclipsephotos.co.uk](http://www.eclipsephotos.co.uk) in gallery/browndedge

## Trampolining

A brilliant achievement for Chloe Cattanach in Year 8 who represented the North West at the Regional trampoline competition in Birmingham in June. She achieved 4<sup>th</sup> place with a top scoring 2<sup>nd</sup> jump.

She will now represent her club at the Nationals in Telford in July. We wish you every success, Chloe - jump for the stars!





## MFL Day

On Wednesday 29th June, Year 7 pupils took part in a Languages Day. Special thanks to UCLAN and Cardinal Newman who came into school to run sessions on Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, German and French. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the experience of learning about another language and culture and they also discovered the benefits of learning a language and the career opportunities available to those with language skills.



## Girl Band Visit - Watch Out for Majesty!

On June 8<sup>th</sup>, we organised a pop concert in school to promote e-safety for the children. As you know, social networks and Internet usage can be a danger to young people, and we wanted to get the message across to them to take care online in a really fun way.

An upcoming girlband, Majesty, are currently on a themed school tour. Majesty have been travelling to various areas around the UK and visiting schools throughout the summer. The girls not only performed for the pupils, they also delivered a strong eSafety message.

Years 7 and 8 really enjoyed the concert and 30 pupils joined the girls for a dance and a song on stage. The band finished with a Q&A session and an opportunity for pupils to meet the artists and get a picture or signed flyer.



## Code Craft

On Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June Brownedge St Mary's hosted Code Craft 2016, a computing competition for local secondary schools. Code craft brought Year 9 and 10 students together to take part in a series of challenges to test their programming, design, creativity and team work. Five teams from across Lancashire took part in the event. During the morning the students worked on solving programming problems to test their computational thinking skills and in the afternoon the teams worked on designing and building an app to support the Olympic games.

The competition was very close, the eventual winners being Holy Cross Catholic High School. The event was supported by Maplin and Plexio UK, who provided excellent prizes for the winning students and their school as well as sending judges to the competition. The students and staff in attendance all thoroughly enjoyed the challenge of the event and are looking forward to next year's competition.

## Sports Day

On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July, the weather just about stayed dry in order for the school's Sports Day to run. The day was a mix of field events in the morning and track events in the afternoon with each competitor representing their house. The pupils ran, threw and jumped with great enthusiasm and produced an event played out in perfect spirit.

In the end Kolbe came out on top but all the pupils who competed and staff gave their maximum and demonstrated a true Olympic spirit: **Citius, Altius, Fortius!**



## Vocations Day

Each year we invite guest speakers into school to share how they answer God's call in their lives. This year our Vocations Day took place on the 30<sup>th</sup> June and speakers included Cllr. Tim Young, Fr John from Tabor, Christine Dewhurst from CAFOD, Maria Hall, Olive Duddy and Joy Wanless. We also heard from some of our own staff and governors, including Mrs Fordyce, Mrs White, Mrs Evans, Mrs Bland, Mr Reynolds, Mrs Oddie, Mrs Ormerod, Mr Fetherston and Mrs McDonagh. It was great to see so many different ways in which God calls people, through religious life, volunteering, teaching or family life – what is important is that each person uses their God given talents to the full, and keeps communicating with God!

## Duke of Edinburgh Expedition



At the beginning of July, 7 students completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh expedition. The group had previously undertaken training in navigation and camp craft and now had chance to put their skills into practice.

It was a challenge for many of the group as they set off on Saturday morning in a torrential downpour with full packs on, but in high spirits they were on their way. The weather improved for them throughout the day and they enjoyed toasting marshmallows on an open fire in the evening before a good night's sleep in their tents. Sunday brought better weather and a good walk in around Rivington before we sent them all home for a well deserved rest!



## MENSA Success

Huge congratulations to our new MENSA members. Twenty pupils entered in this year's cohort of MENSA applicants and from these, seven pupils were invited to join! Well done to the three Year 8 pupils, one Year 9 pupil and three Year 10 pupils. All together, this means that we can celebrate 18 MENSANs amongst our pupils - definitely something to celebrate.





## Prize Night

On Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June we celebrated our 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Prize Night at Browndeg St Mary's church. Awards were distributed across all subject and pastoral areas from Year 7 through to our major prize winners in Year 11. Our guest of honour was a friend and familiar visitor to school, Mr Rik Waddon, a British road and track racing cyclist and twice silver medal Paralympian.

Rik gave an inspirational speech and talked about using his experiences as a professional athlete and the journey he went on to achieve his goals. As is customary on the evening we announced our new senior leadership positions in school and congratulations go to Thomas Hocking and Mukda Buarod, our new Head Boy and Girl and Harry Porter and Charlotte Evans, our new Deputy Head Boy and Girl.



## Activity Day - Goodness, Truth and Beauty



On the 5<sup>th</sup> July we ran an activity day for Year 7, 8 and 9 on the theme of "Goodness, Truth and Beauty". In house groups we looked at the values we have for ourselves and the world around us; we also spent time thinking about how we can look at the world in a new way and what we can do to make our community a better place. Staff organised activities on values, loving memories, debates and speech writing and beauty in art just to name a few.



One of the main highlight and excitement of the day was the 82ft inflatable obstacle course set up in the Sports Hall for an interhouse race in year groups.

We finished the day with a staff and student race, which was taken very seriously by all involved!

## Salters Chemistry Festival

On 24<sup>th</sup> June, 4 Year 8 pupils travelled to the University of Manchester to take part in the Salters Chemistry Festival. It was a fantastic opportunity for the students to practise their teamworking and scientific skills in a number of challenges set by the Salters organisation.

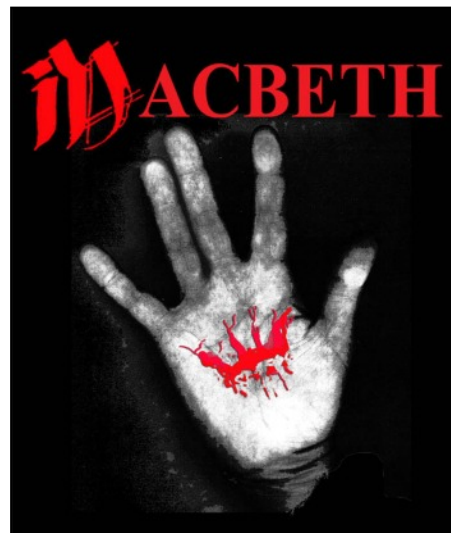
Competing with 22 other Northwest schools, the main part of the day was involved in performing a number of analytical techniques to solve a CSI style investigation. The pupils were able to use a variety of equipment in the huge university Chemistry laboratories. In the afternoon, the pupils watched a flash bang demonstration which they thoroughly enjoyed, judging by the 'oohh' and 'ahhh' sounds that were made!



## MANACTCO Theatre Visits

We have been fortunate to experience two visits from the theatre company MANACTCO in recent months. The first took place in March where the whole of Year 10 watched a highly entertaining version of J.B.Priestley's drama, 'An Inspector Calls' followed by an interesting interactive workshop. The character of 'Eric' was acted in a particularly convincing and amusing way which had the audience laughing uproariously at his drunken antics.

The second performance was of Macbeth. This performance was reviewed by Kaitlyn Rogers, a Year 9 pupil. "It was very interesting and intriguing. It kept the whole of year 9 entertained. The play was well acted; I thoroughly loved the performance. They took the role of the characters on very well even though they had to play multiple parts. They covered the whole story which meant we all understood it. All in all it was a fantastic performance and it kept all students in Year 9 enthralled."



## Wimbledon Championships



On Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June 10 pupils went on a day trip to The All England Lawn Tennis Club Wimbledon. Armed with tickets for both Centre and No1 court, pupils with Mrs Higham and Mrs Oddie set off at 5 am in anticipation of a enjoying a full day of spectacular tennis.



The weather was not particularly kind to us with not much play being seen on No1 court due to the rain, but all pupils managed some time watching play on centre court. The game of the day? It was definitely watching Roger Federer playing the British hopeful Marcus Willis. Federer won in straight sets but the game was a great one to watch with the crowd firmly behind the Brit and rapturous applause when he won the odd game from the mighty Federer.

The day was a long one but thoroughly enjoyable and the atmosphere on Henman Hill in the rain was not one to be missed.

## Lancashire County Medal Winners

Congratulations to members of Preston Harriers AC who competed in the Lancashire County competition held at Stanley Park on the 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> May. Notable results were:

Charlotte Crook, Year 11 - 1<sup>st</sup> in the 800m

Grace Brown, Year 7 - 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 800m

Kate Danby, Year 9 - 5<sup>th</sup> in heat 800m

Georgie Chesworth, Year 8 - 4<sup>th</sup> in heat 200m

Faye Houghton, Year 7 - 4<sup>th</sup> in the 800m and 5<sup>th</sup> in the 1500m

William Lancaster, Year 9 - 3<sup>rd</sup> in Shot Putt, 2<sup>nd</sup> in Discus and 3<sup>rd</sup> the Javelin





# Sports Results

## Athletics

The U16 girls athletics team came a creditable 3<sup>rd</sup> in the District championships against the 10 other schools in the area. Notable performances were:-

Charlotte Crook- District Champion in the 800m and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 300m

Courtney Butler - 3<sup>rd</sup> Javelin

Leanne Yeomans - 3<sup>rd</sup> Long jump

Relay team; Charlotte Crook, Georgia Molyneux, Laura Holden, Leanne Yeomans - 2<sup>nd</sup>



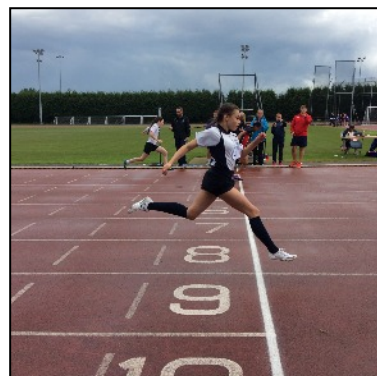
The following pupils represented the District in the County schools event which was held at Robin Park Wigan on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> June

Georgie Chesworth - Junior Girls 200m - 6<sup>th</sup>

Kate Danby - Junior Girls - 800m

William Lancaster - Junior Boys Discus - 2<sup>nd</sup>

Charlotte Crook - Inter Girls 800m - County Champion



Charlotte got the English Schools qualifying time for the 800m and competed in the National finals at Gateshead on the 8/9<sup>th</sup> July. She came 2<sup>nd</sup> in her heat with a PB and competed in the final the following day finishing 5<sup>th</sup>. Her time was 2:12 in the final and she was “really chuffed” with the result.

## Girls Football success

Milly Robertson, Year 9 plays centre back for Blackburn Rovers FC and over Easter played in an International football tournament in Dallas. Milly has also been selected for the U14 Lancashire girl's team and is captain. Lancashire have been involved in matches this season against all the other Counties in England and played Essex in the final at Birmingham City in May and won 3-2.



## Year 11 District Rounders

The Year 11 team of Catherine Snape, Charlotte Crook, Courtney Butler, Georgia Molyneux, Amy Firth, Nikisha St Louis, Hope Campbell and Gina Smith played in their final rounders tournament as being Brownedge St Mary's pupils and came runners up by half a rounder to All Hallows.

## District Tennis Tournaments

All the District tennis tournaments have been held at Brownedge St Mary's, the Year 7 and Year 10 came runners up and the Year 8 team won the competition.

Year 7 - Sammi Arnold, Madison Bell, Rhianna Halliwell, Louana Avison

Year 8 - Jemma Catterall, Holly Smith, Jorja Smith, Molly Johnston

Year 10 - Mukda Buarod, Leanne Yeomans, Hannah Bayman, Megan Fawcett.



## BAE Systems Challenge Competitions

In the months of February and March there were two opportunities for pupils to get involved in Technology Competitions. In February one team of 8 Year 9 pupils had a great fun and challenging day at the BAE Systems Make It Enterprise competition held at Ribby Hall. Pupils took roles of marketing, finance, logistics and build. Then they presented their idea to a team of experts in a Dragons Den style. A fun experience of marketing ideas, managing budgets, time constraints and working as a team.



In March we entered three teams into the BAe Systems Technology Tournament 2016 at Chorley Town Hall. Pupils were pitched against other schools to come up with a solution which challenged their knowledge and skills of design and engineering principles. A great fun day even though we didn't win.

## Farewell Gillian Cross

This year we have said farewell with enormous sadness to our much loved Patron of Reading, Gillian Cross, who has reached the end of her three year tenure with us.

In her time as Patron, Gillian has inspired and delighted the children, visiting us every year, and running workshops and talks. The English department will miss her enormously, and we would like to thank her for all that she has done for our school. Mrs Goldson said, "Reading is the greatest gift of all, and Gillian helped us all."



## Ruby Almeida Visit



We welcomed Ruby Almeida into school in April, a speaker for Quest, Pastoral support for LGBT Catholics. Ruby spoke to Years 7, 10 and 11 and participated in a Q&A session with all groups.

Ruby commented on the day "... the visit to Preston was a breath of fresh air filled with sunshine and wonder. I thank all the members of staff who made me so welcome and to all the students, especially Failenn and Liam, who were wonderful and inspiring."

**Enjoy the summer  
 See you in September**