



Holy Family Catholic High School



Sixth Form Newsletter

December 2021



Dear Parents and Students,

What a fantastic term it has been here in Sixth Form. Students in Year 12 have embraced Sixth Form life and have got off to a really good start in their new subjects. We have been able to go on trips again which has been lovely after the last couple of years.

Year 13 are now very nearly there, with their UCAS applications and it has been lovely hearing of all the offers they have received from their Universities. Lots of our students have been having virtual interviews too and have impressed us with their confidence and ability. A big thank you on behalf of Year 13 to Mrs Critchley and Holly our careers advisor, who have both worked tirelessly to ensure they had the best UCAS applications possible.

Year 12 students are being encouraged to undertake virtual work experience and to take part in lots of the virtual events going on at Universities. We would encourage parents to spend time with their son/daughter, looking at what is available at our local Universities and further afield. We want to ensure that this time next year, our year 12 students have lots to write about on their UCAS applications.

Finally we wish all of students, staff and parents, a very Merry Christmas, stay safe and we look forward to welcoming you back in January

Mrs Gillian Beddow (Head of Sixth Form)



Key Information

17th December

Last day of term Year 12/13 only

5th January 2021

Sixth Form in for testing (PM)

6th January

Lessons start for 6th form

13th January

Year 12 and 13 Parents Evening

W/C 31st January

Mock Exams start

2nd February

Sixth Form Open Evening (for Year 11 students)

14th—18th February

Half term

March 7th

Year 13 Barcelona Trip

March 16th

Edge Hill University Visit (Year 12)

COVID

Use a mask when moving around the school or in public areas with members of staff

e-mail: g.beddow@holyfamilyhighschool.co.uk

Twitter@HFCHS6thform

Enrichment

Alton towers

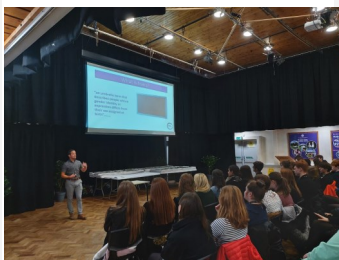
Our sixth form attended Alton Towers on a rewards trip to allow the Y12 and Y13 students to build rapport and friendships after being isolated due to coronavirus. The trip also allowed us to get to know our teachers in a less formal setting, strengthening the relationships within the sixth form. The trip also gave us independence and was a refreshing day out from our normal routines.



Poppy Bermingham—Byrne Year 13

Christian Owens — Talk from GenderSpace

Christian came in to talk to Year 12 and 13 about his experience as a transgender male in the police force. He really opened our eyes to the difficulties he has faced throughout the last 20 years and made us all think about how we can be more inclusive at Holy Family.



Edge Hill—PCR and Gel Electrophoresis

On Friday 10th Dec we took 30 Year 13 students to Edge Hill University to carry out experiments involving DNA. After a short introduction students first completed PCR – this is a technique used to amplify DNA and is currently the process used to process COVID-19 samples. As well as understanding the process we were lucky enough to use specialised equipment that we don't have access to in schools, the automated pipettes being one of them. This equipment allowed us to measure precisely very small volumes of liquid. After a short campus tour the second session involved the students 'running' the DNA samples that had been amplified in a process called gel electrophoresis. The staff were really impressed with how well the 6th form students carried out this process and said their results were of university standard! As usual the students were a credit to themselves and the school.



Shout Outs

The following students have been nominated by staff for their amazing effort and progress this half term. Well done!

Sports Studies

Year 12—Louis Ungi

Medical Science

Year 12—Alex Roper and Olivia Hamer

Year 13—Joe Jennings

Travel and Tourism

Year 12— Alicia Kirkham

Year 13— Tom Whittle

Chemistry

Year 12— Matthew Blackburn and Rebecca Rimmer

Year 13 Joley Morgan and Jess Quinn

Biology

Year 13—Jessica Murphy /Alicia Cornmell and Charlie Goodwin

Year 12—

Business

Year 13—Joe Mepham and Amelia Connolly

Year 12— Alicia Kirkham and Louis Ungi

Physics

Year 13—Joel Lewis

Year 12—Josh Taylor

Computer Science

Year 12—Jack Bevin

Enrichment

Year 12—Computer Science Trip

Y12 Computer Science took a trip out to the World Museum in Liverpool. Explored through prominent and cutting-edge research projects, and special commissions and projects by international artists, 'AI: More than Human' is an unprecedented survey of the relationship between humans and technology. The exhibition tells the rapidly developing story of AI, from its extraordinary ancient roots in Japanese Shintoism, to Ada Lovelace and Charles Babbage's early experiments in computing, through to the major developmental leaps from the 1940s to the present day.



Water Sports at Crosby Marina

In September we went on a teambuilding day at Crosby Marina, where we enjoyed a variety of water sport activities. The students particularly enjoyed the chance to try their hands at stand-up paddle boarding. They also split into teams and built rafts which they raced across the marina. We were lucky to have a lovely day for it and the students thoroughly enjoyed themselves. It was a great opportunity for Year 13 to meet some of our new Year 12 students. We are already looking forward to next year!



Shout Outs!

History

Year 13—Cole Jamie Lloyd

Year 12—Kate Christ

Criminology

Year 12—Conor Hallmark, Kate Christ

Year 13—Alicia Williams and Harry Lyons

Spanish

Year 12—Caitlin McDonald

Year 13— Danny Goodwin

Business

Year 12—Alicia Kirkham

Year 13—Joe Mepham and Amelia Connolly

Careers

What a busy term it has been getting all the UCAS forms sent off! Well done to year 13 and the sixth form team for all the effort they have put in to getting so many sent off so far. No doubt you will all be glad to see the back of personal statements after doing draft after draft! This year, paramedic science, quantity surveying, criminology, and computer science were popular applications while the more unusual courses applied for were Mechatronics engineering, Operating department practice, and Japanese. Good luck to everyone awaiting offers. After Christmas, I'm looking forward to meeting with year 12 to discuss future career ideas, work experience opportunities and anything else I can help with. Enjoy the Christmas break and book in to see me in the new year: careers@holyfamilyhighschool.co.uk

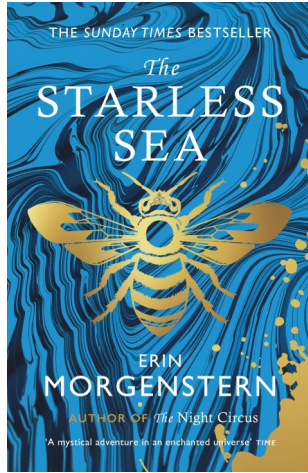
Enrichment

Book Review—by Alexandra Broadhurst

The Starless Sea by Erin Morgenstern Book Review

“Far beneath the surface of the earth, hidden from the sun and the moon, upon the shores of the Starless Sea, there is a labyrinthine collection of tunnels and rooms filled with stories.”

A story of stories, filled with fables and fairy tales, of diaries and star-folded paper entrapping a child’s nightmares. All leading to one place, *The Starless Sea*. Much like the ‘labyrinthine’ these stories are nestled within the book as books in their own right and Zachary Ezra Rawlins discovers one of them containing a story from his own life. A door he left closed, that will lead him to this very place. He meets a storyteller who has forgotten why he told them, a guardian who sacrificed her eye for foresight along with Fate and Time themselves whose stories are all written in the books they try to protect. Morgenstern contrasts traditional fantasy world-building as she offers no explanations for why things are the way that they are, the book expects a certain acceptance of the impossible as people accept a Fairy Godmother who can turn a pumpkin to a carriage or a wolf who can play dress up. Each story feels ageless as though you have been told them as a child a million times and yet so unique you know you have never heard anything like them before.



Enrichment

John Moores University Visit

On 17th November our sixth form students were lucky enough to attend an open day at John Moores university which, for some will have been their first experience of a university and all it has to offer. Students were able to book their place on lectures of their choosing included nursing, business, teaching and sports. Students made the most of campus tours and explored the accommodation facilities, discovering that thankfully, en-suite rooms are available to the modern student! For anyone interested in attending the next open day, it will be held on 17th June 2022.

Christmas Markets

We enjoyed an end of term treat at the Manchester Christmas Markets. Students in Year 12 and 3 went for a festive trip of shopping. Hot chocolate and sparkly lights. The students were a credit and thoroughly enjoyed themselves, it was nice to do something fun after a hard few weeks of coursework and assessments.