



Holy Family Catholic High School

Christmas 2022 Newsletter



December 2022

Thank you so much for your kindness and donations for our 2022 Christmas Appeal. This week we delivered lots of food and gift hampers to families and charities in our community, and to the Waterloo Foodbank.

On behalf of all the staff, I would like to wish you and your loved ones a very merry and peaceful Christmas, and the very best for a happy New Year.

Best wishes and God Bless,

Mr Symes



Photographs from Our Walk of Faith, Church reflection service at St. Mary's in Little Crosby, Christmas jumper day, Christmas market and Christmas lunch on Monday 19th December





**Wishing you all a
very happy
Christmas!**



September 2022—Our new Year 7 pupils started their lives at Holy Family with teambuilding activities at CHET (Crosby Hall Educational Trust).

I enjoyed CHET (because it was fun and I made friends) Maizy

Sixth Form team building at Crosby Lakeside

On Friday 16th September Year 12 and 13 enjoyed a team building day down at Crosby Lakeside. They took part in paddle boarding, kayaking and raft building. This helped Year 12 to get to know some of our Year 13 pupils as well as being good fun in the sunshine! The pupils particularly enjoyed a swim in the lake at the end.



SEND Coffee Morning

On September 30th, we had our first SEND Coffee Morning in school and decided to tie it in with the Macmillan Coffee Morning. "The World's Biggest Coffee Morning" is Macmillan Cancer Support's biggest fundraising event. Each year, people in the UK and worldwide host their own Coffee Morning to raise funds for the charity.

The event in school was well attended and we raised a lot of money for the charity, but obviously, we could not have everyone in school all at once. Before the end of term, the SEND department plan to hold a second coffee morning but with an Autism focus to support families with children who either have a diagnosis or who are currently under assessment for Autism, Michelle Williams from OSSME has agreed to attend.



Geography residential October 2022



Our first residential to Lake Coniston and what a fantastic time the students had.

Day 1 involved an amazing visit to The Coppermine's glacial features and an unexpected very wet experience crossing the Tarn! Spirits were high throughout the very wet conditions and in the end due to so much rain pupils had the opportunity to see multiple waterfalls which were an extra bonus.

Day 2 was just as brilliant - canoeing on Lake Coniston, Ribbon Lake followed by gorge walking up a waterfall. Quote "that was the best thing I have ever done".

Day 3 finished with a visit to Windermere and the Tree Top adventure course. Our evenings were filled with the unforgettable Charades, a wonderful noisy bonding experience for all! Fantastic attitude from every student that attended.

The Geography team can't wait to do it again next year.

Merry Christmas from Geography

Maths Coaches

Well done to the Year 10 Maths Coaches who are now putting their training into practice. They are helping a number of our Y7 students to improve their basic maths skills. The coaches are showing empathy and demonstrating an excellent understanding of how to break maths skills into simple steps.

The coaches are excellent role models to the younger students and to their peers. Their resilience, patience and reliability, will stand them in good stead for their future.



The Sound of Music

Recently, Holy Family put on a show, The Sound of Music. Students from different years came together to put on what turned out to be a fantastic show.

The students involved began their hard work in February, auditioning for the roles they wanted. Once that had been decided the cast began their rehearsals working hard in the evening, at lunches and even on weekends. We became close with our fellow cast members, forming friendships with many different people. For eight long but enjoyable months we worked on getting the play perfect. The drama department helped in so many ways to ensure that we did our best and made it an unforgettable performance. Not only did the Drama department help but many teachers were involved in helping with the set, costumes and props.

We did six shows over the course of three days, each one as good as the last. We stayed later after the school day had ended and had lots of fun preparing and getting ourselves ready for the show. Many people attended the performances and thoroughly enjoyed it. It is an experience I will never forget and hopefully something me and many others will be able to do again. Can't wait for next year's!

Yvie Allen Year 9



Photos from our October Well-being Walk which was followed by hot chocolate



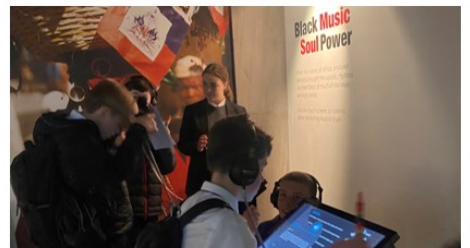
In October, our Year 12 Spanish class went to Ursuline Primary School to help the pupils learn some Spanish and teach them a little bit about Spanish culture. We started with an assembly in which the children were introduced to the country and the language, and after that we went into the KS2 classrooms with the class teachers to model the language for them, teaching them things like colours, numbers and animals. We also played games and helped to teach them about some of the more famous architecture in Spain. As a reward for our efforts, we were served lunch, which consisted of some yummy tapas!



Year 8 pupils Music Trip to the Slavery Museum

In October, Year 8 went on a trip to the Liverpool International Slavery Museum and the Museum of Liverpool as part of a music trip. The Slavery Museum was the main part of the trip, to allow Year 8 to investigate the origins of Blues music, which originated from the slave trade. They were given a booklet of questions, to which they had to find the answers.

They all enjoyed the trip, and found it very informative and fun, especially the Yellow Submarine Karaoke!



Music Department Highlights!



Liam Year 7. Making amazing progress since starting to learn the drums in September



First DJ lesson for Aiden



Some of our choir singing to raise funds for Christmas presents for patients at the Royal Liverpool Hospital

Crime Scene Simulation

Year 13 Criminologists and Year 12 Forensic Science students took part in a Forensic Workshop on Friday 4th November. Students heard about the work Shelley Edwards and Ed Spencer from Merseyside CSI team do on a daily basis and learnt about how forensic evidence is extracted and processed.

Students then took part in their own criminal investigation, which involved processing a mock crime scene, interviewing witnesses and using chromatography, to process handwriting found at the scene.



Processing a mock crime scene



Using chromatography, to process handwriting



Interviewing witnesses

Many thanks to everyone involved. I am sure this day has helped students with their Level 3 courses and possibly their career choice! Mrs Critchley

The Mentors in Violence Prevention Programme

In early November, a number of Year 9 pupils were trained as part of the Merseyside Youth Association's "Mentors in Violence" Programme (MVP).

The programme was first developed as a sports culture initiative in 1993 by Dr Jackson Katz and his colleagues at Northeastern University's Center for the Study of Sport in Society.

The decision was made to introduce MVP to Scottish secondary schools as a preventative approach to tackling violence, bullying and abusive behaviour; in 2011, a pilot programme began in two Scottish secondary schools. An evaluation of this pilot highlighted positive outcomes in attitudinal change, suggesting individuals felt more empowered to support and even challenge their peers when faced with situations they recognised as unhealthy. The decision was therefore made to roll the programme out across Scotland.

Upon completion of the MVP Programme, pupils and staff identified an improved ethos within the school and a reduction of barriers between older and younger pupils. Mentors and staff identify a positive impact on mentors' confidence and the enhancement of a range of skills such as leadership, teamwork and presentation skills.

(MVP) recognises the role of relationships in achieving its objectives; it aims to raise awareness of a range of important issues that are impacting on communities.

By providing opportunities to discuss a range of behaviours and attitudes within the context of health and emotional wellbeing, the programme equips young people with the skills to recognise the differences between what are appropriate and acceptable behaviours and what are not, adopting strategies that enable them to safely challenge inappropriate behaviours. Funded by the Merseyside Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP), The Mentors in Violence Prevention programme has been delivered throughout the Liverpool City Region by Merseyside Youth Association since 2020.

The MVP programme defines violence as including verbal, emotional, physical and/or sexual abuse. Defining violence in this way highlights that various forms of abuse can cause serious harm in relationships.

Through this academic year, our trained mentors will deliver a series of sessions to Year 7 pupils.



Remembrance Day Friday, 11 November 2022

We will remember them! Poppies made by Year 8 pupils and Year 10 pupils made the 'We Remember' lettering



GCSE Drama Trip to London

On 23rd November Holy Family Drama Department headed to London, to assist our Drama students in their studies towards their GCSE Drama exam, staying at The Royal National Hotel, for two nights.

We took part in a whole host of activities, including a backstage tour of the National Theatre, a backstage Tour of the Shakespeare's Globe Theatre and took part in a 'Making a Scene' Workshop and a Stage Combat Workshop.

We had a wonderful time touring London's must-see sites, visiting Covent Garden for the Christmas Markets, a visit to the Natural History Museum and of course, a visit to Buckingham Palace.

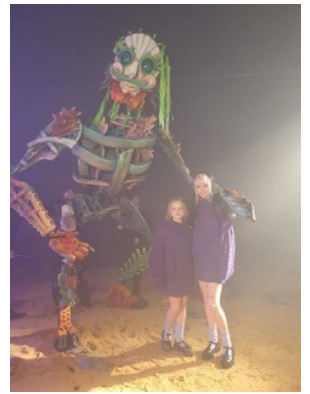
In the evenings, we also had two trips to the theatre to see Life of Pi at the Wyndham Theatre and Matilda, at the Cambridge Theatre.

We also managed a visit to Harry Potter World at the Warner Brothers Studios in Watford.



My day making a Music Video by Lottie

I was really excited when I found out I had the part in the video and we were going to London to film it. My mum said we had to go down the night before because I had to be on set for 9am, so we stayed in a hotel so we could get there the following morning on time. When we arrived at the studio I went straight into wardrobe where I tried on a few different outfits, when I had each outfit on, the wardrobe people took a photo and sent the photo to Amy so she could chose what we both wore in the video. Amy wasn't due on set till 12 so once the outfit was decided I then went into make up. I had my own dressing room and it was fab.



When we got there at 9am, the set was being built. At first it was a big empty warehouse, by about 10.30 it was being turned into a desert scene. There was lots of sand being shipped in and a lot of people building the set. Then I started to film my scenes with Eko, the giant puppet. Eko was controlled by 6 puppeteers, it was so cool. It was over 4 metres high, so I looked tiny next to it.

Amy came on set at 12 and it was funny to see us both dressed identical and it was the first time we had both met each other. Amy is lovely, she is 22 and from Ireland. Her favourite colour is purple and she wears it every day. I got to keep the whole outfit from the day, including the socks and shoes. She told me that when she was a child, she looked exactly like me, the same long blonde hair. I had the best time ever. I loved every single bit of it.

Lottie Brockett Year 7 (If you would like to watch the video see <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9tfY1CwFhWo>)

Year 7 Sleepover

On Thursday 8th December, Year 7 pupils took part in our annual Year 7 Sleepover. The aim of the sleepover is to raise money, via sponsorship, for the Indian Hope Orphan Project.



5K A DAY FOR 100 DAYS

Joel Winters' dad James, (Chairman of the SMILE project, which is part of the Big Trust Charity) has been running 5k a day

for 100 days, which finishes Christmas Eve, to raise as much money as possible for the SMILE project. Joel has been taking part in these runs as much as he can to support the charity. On Monday 12th December Joel joined his dad along with Liverpool ex-footballer Jamie Carragher, who ran with them on from Crosby baths.



USE QR CODE TO FIND OUT MORE INFO / DONATE



STEM Club

We have had such an enjoyable and exciting term in STEM club this year. Our students have tested their engineering skills by building the strongest weight bearing bridges and flotation devices, researched the nutritional needs of active soldiers and planned a ration kit to keep them sustained on active duty. We have turned cherry coke into water by distillation, and investigated the density of fluids by making our own rainbow columns. We have also investigated SMART materials and their applications and benefits to everyday life and made our own souvenir thermoplastic keyrings to take home!

As part of our new green initiative project at Holy Family our STEM students and 6th Form volunteers have actively taken part in #nationaltreeweek by planting a selection of native species such as Silver Birch, Rowan and Wild Cherry trees around the school grounds to develop habitats for our local wildlife, improve soil quality and drainage on site. These trees have kindly been donated by the Woodland Trust and will help the UK achieve its 2050 carbon net-zero target. Small groups of students were each responsible for planting their own saplings which will be part of our school environment for many years to come. We hope our students enjoy seeing them grow alongside them.

Our students and our STEM ambassadors have shown great enthusiasm and commitment, and we have seen their practical and teamwork skills grow in each session. We can't wait to welcome you back in the New Year for more Science fun!



The Windmill Foundation SMILE challenge

At the start of the year, a number of our pupils were selected to attend sessions with the Windmills project. The main aim of the programme is to empower our young people to be the best they can be by helping them to realise their potential and make a difference.

On Tuesday 6th December, we were invited to take part in our first group activity; the SMILE challenge. The pupils travelled to Crosby Village and upon their arrival, were separated into groups of three. They were then assigned the task of purchasing various items that could be broken down and separated into small parcels and distributed to people who meant something to them, in a bid to make them smile. The children worked really hard to pick meaningful gifts and upon their return to school, they handed them out to various staff members, explaining why they had been chosen and the difference that individual had made to their lives so far.

It was a delight to watch them interacting with staff, and the smiles that were exchanged were infectious. It was a great day from start to finish!



Latest from the Ski Trip to Bardonecchia in Italy

After being stuck in traffic for three hours and dragging our suitcase over a mile in the snow because the bus couldn't drive any further because of the snow, we made it!



Great first day!



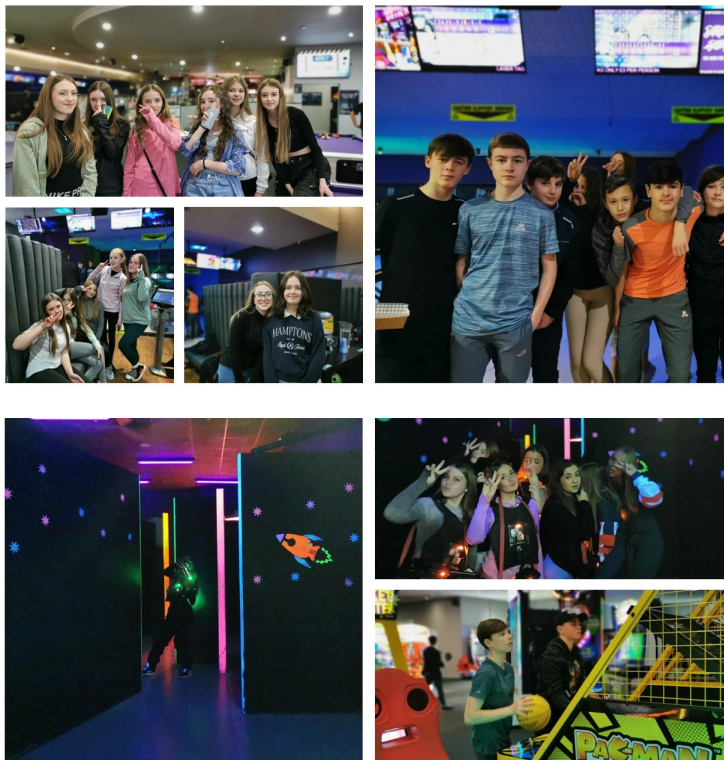
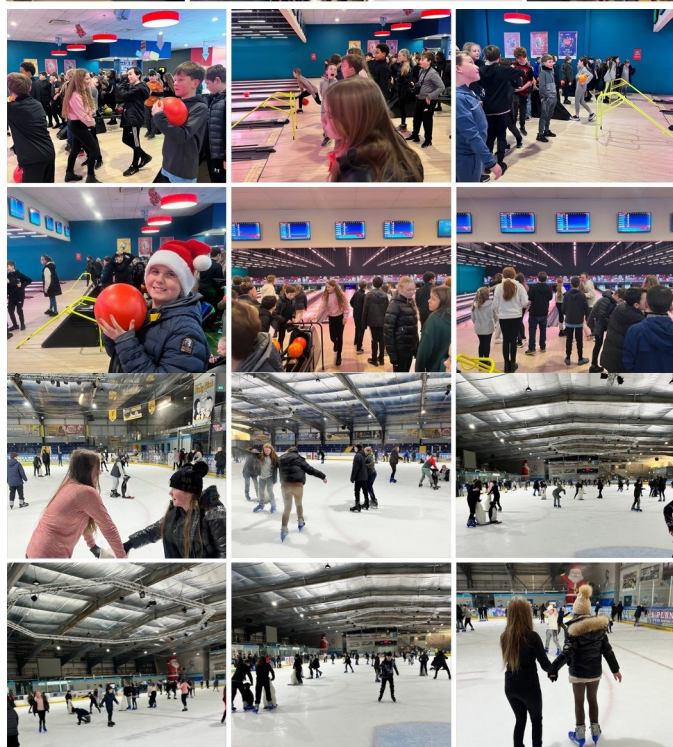


Pupils enjoying their rewards trips on Wednesday 14th December

Year 7 - ice-skating and bowling

Year 8 - trip to Bounce House in Liverpool

Year 9 and 10 - Tenpin Bowling



Dates to Remember

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| Wednesday 4th January 2023 | Term Starts—Week B |
| Tuesday 17th January | Year 11 Mock results day |
| Thursday 25th January | Year 11 Parents' Evening |
| Tuesday 31st January—Saturday 4th February | Sixth Form - Krakow Trip |
| Tuesday 7th-Thursday 9th February | Manchester GCSE Music trip |
| Tuesday 7th February | Year 11 Art Trip to the Tate |
| Thursday 9th-Friday 10th February | Bletchley Park & Freud Museum Year 12 & 13 |
| Thursday 9th February | Holy Family Careers Fair Y12/13 Parents' Evening |
| Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February | Half Term |
| Tuesday 7th March – Saturday 11th March | Berlin – Science A-level Trip |
| Thursday 9th March | Year 9 Options Evening |
| Thursday 16th March | Year 9 Parents' Evening |
| Thursday 30th March | Sixth Form - Liverpool Cultural Trip |
| Monday 3rd April – Friday 14th April 2023 | Easter Break |