



Holy Family Catholic High School

Summer 2023 Newsletter



July 2023





ESF National Football Tournament

In April, Year 7 Pupils Paul Roberts, Charlie Campbell, Charlie Dunn, Sam Stichbury and Harry Davis took part in the ESF National Football Tournament in Skegness.

Their team Silcox Villa won the tournament and were presented with the trophy and their medals by Rachel Unitt and Kevin Keegan.



They also took part in the grand finals at St Georges Park (the home of the England National team) in June. They finished the tournament in 3rd place nationally out of 1200 teams it was a brilliant effort by the boys .

St Georges Park is a world Cclass facility and it was an amazing experience for the boys to play where the England National Team train .

Walk up Scafell Pike for [the Jade Roberts Project](#)

We did the walk, up Scafell Pike for suicide prevention because we wanted to spread awareness. Overall, we raised a total of £4265 for the charity the Jade Roberts Project. It was hard and challenging at times. Thank you for everyone who donated and supported us.

Maisie Jo Dunbavin, Lacey Mai Martin Lynch, Rubie Brockett, Jess Causer West. Well done girls!



Barcelona Girls Cup Football Tournament

Congratulations to Olivia Cullen in Year 10, who won the Barcelona Girls Cup Football Tournament with her team Ashton Town Ladies.

It was a brilliant opportunity for her and her team to showcase women's football, playing against competitive and difficult teams.

Their first game was Scotland. Her team came out with drive and passion which continued through the tournament. They beat Scotland 20-0!

The second game was against Germany and by this time they had a thirst to win. They went on to win 4-0.

The 3rd game was against a tough French team who were tipped to win. Ashton didn't let this phase them and they won 3-2 to take them into the semi-finals the following day.

Their 4th game, they came out with a fire in their eyes and won the semi against another English team 4-2.

On to the final they went with heads held high playing another tough, competitive team, Iceland. A nail-biting match saw the score line at 1-1 and possible penalties, BUT, on the final kick of the ball they scored! The champions of the Barcelona Girls Cup!



Congratulations to Zoe Bennett who currently has her work displayed in The Walker Art Gallery - such an achievement.

Zoe's work was entered into the DOT ART Schools competition and her work was selected as first place for our school. Well done, Zoe

Sky Music Hub concert

Music department went to the Sky Music Hub concert on Tuesday 27th June for an amazing concert featuring brass and wind bands, who treated us to a march by local composer W Rimmer right through to a medley of songs from Mamma Mia.

The second half featured the Aurin Girls choir from Hungary who are touring the UK. They sang songs by Britten, traditional Hungarian songs and a haunting performance of Eric Whitacre's 'Seal Lullaby.'

Such a lovely way to spend a Tuesday evening!



Dylan Summers White - National Trampolining Champ!

Congratulations to Dylan Summers White in Year 7 attended the National Trampolining League Division 2 Finals in Durham this weekend.

Dylan performed a new routine he's been training hard to perfect and absolutely nailed it.

He was crowned champion and was awarded a gold medal.

Well done Dylan!



Good Shepherd Mass

On Wednesday the 28th June twenty members of Holy Family School choir attended the Good Shepherd Mass at the beautiful Metropolitan Cathedral in Liverpool. On the day we had a short rehearsal before the mass. After practising the hymns, accompanied by the spectacular cathedral organ, we had a short break before the service.

Whilst the cathedral was busy during rehearsal, with 1000+ primary and secondary pupils, it was even busier during the actual mass, where another 700+ joined us in celebration. There were many students from other local schools, and Archbishop Malcolm McMahon celebrated the Mass. We had a wonderful day and enjoyed performing at this event.

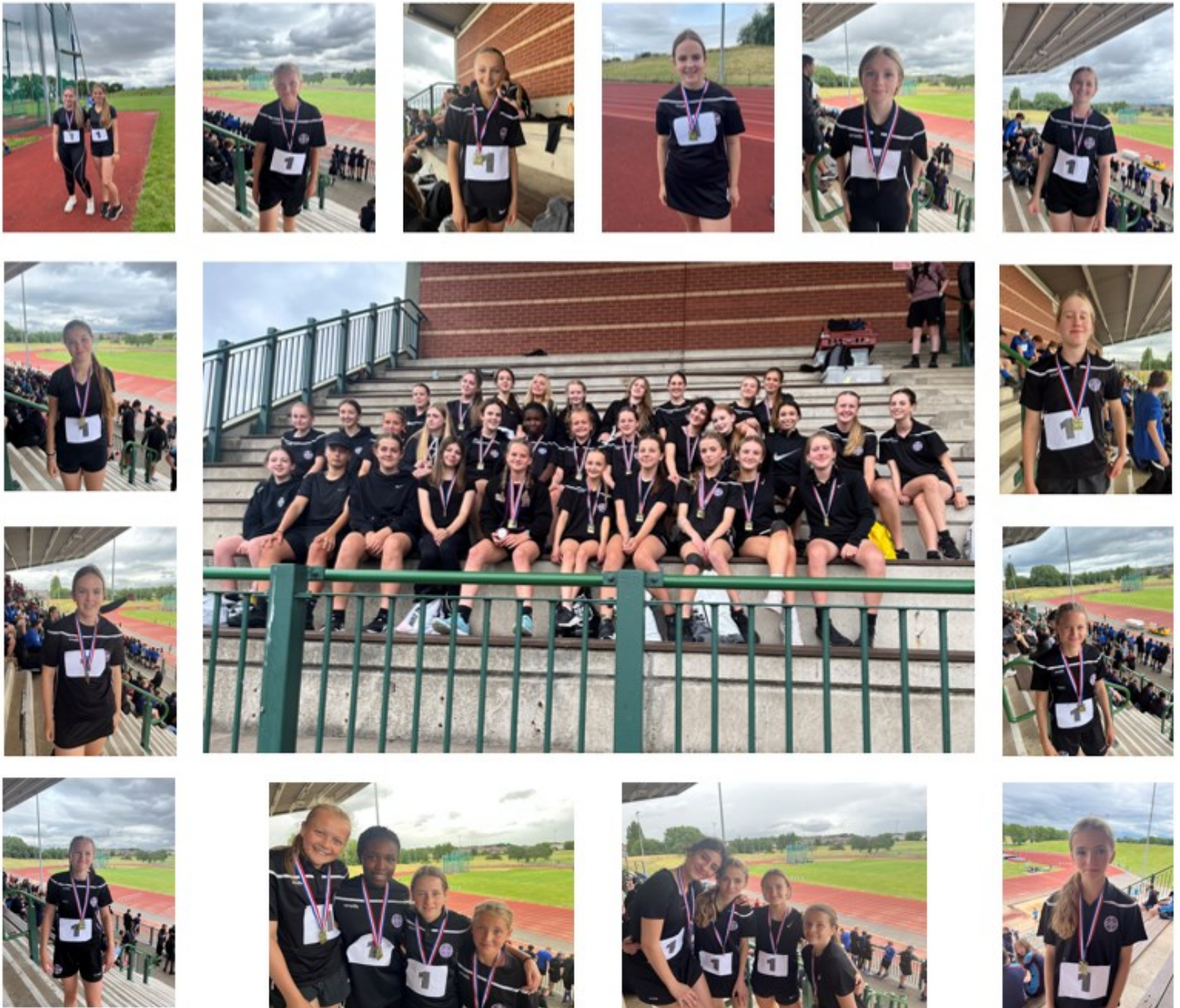


Pupils enjoying sampling Spanish food. Pupils were very adventurous and tried a variety of different foods - some they were trying for the first time! Amongst the food items were chorizo, jamón serrano, queso manchego, pipas and tortilla española. The verdict from all was a big thumbs up.

Year 8 pupils also sampled a typical French breakfast.

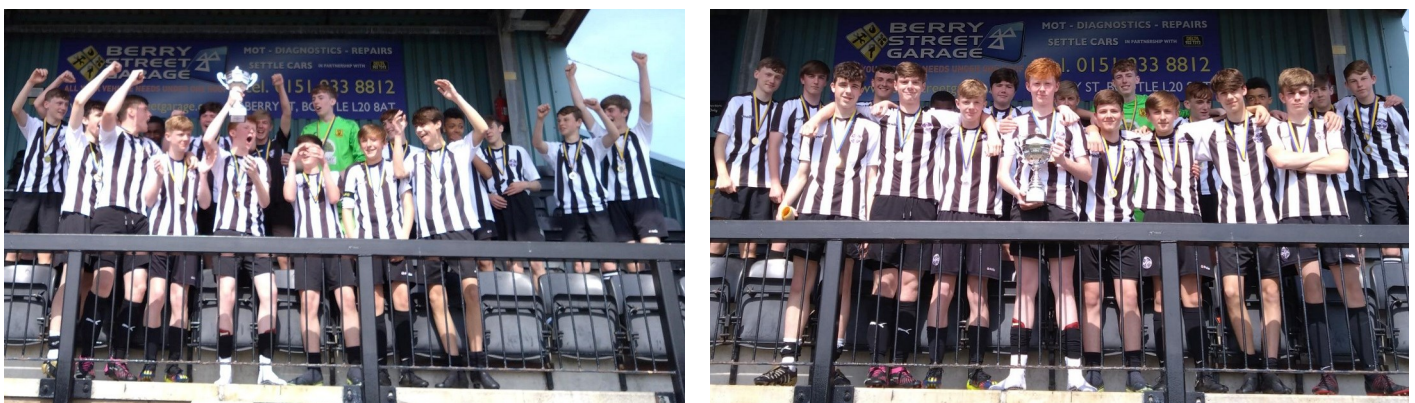


Winners of Division 3 at Sefton Schools Athletics



Year 7-10 girls took part in the Sefton Schools Athletics Division 3 competition at Wavertree. The girls performed well with received lots of Gold and Silver medals including relay winners in Year 7 and 9. We finished 1st overall and have been promoted to Division 2. Well done to all the girls who took part.

Year 10 Sefton Small Schools Cup winners



Year 12 Criminology: Crime scene to courtroom awareness



As part of UNIT 3, *Crime Scene to Courtroom*, Year 12 students have experienced a range of activities to prepare them for their studies in Year 13. In June students met for a Q and A session, with Charlie Southern, from Merseyside Police. Questions focused on careers within the police force to the full extent police are involved in cases from arrest, to providing evidence in court.



Students then visited Queen Elizabeth Crown Court and Bootle Magistrates Court, to observe offenders entering their pleas, receiving sentences and to witness key local trials. We spoke with a range of professionals, including judges, barristers and magistrates, who outlined the varied aspects of their roles in the criminal justice system.



On Wednesday 3rd July, students were fortunate to experience the world of the Crown Prosecution Service, where Jennifer Friday provided us with excellent examples of how a



trial is prepared, using key tests: Public Interest, Evidential and Threshold Test. Students enjoyed making decisions about whether real cases should proceed to court, using CPS testing methods. This was excellent experience for budding lawyers and a fantastic foundation for Unit 3.



Many thanks to Jennifer.

Maths School Team Challenge

Earlier this month two groups of pupils took part in the University of Liverpool Maths School team challenge. The team challenge is a competition pitching four of our strongest young mathematicians against their peers from across Merseyside.



Rounds such as the 'Shuttle', 'Relay' and truly epic 'Crossnumber' tested their reasoning and problem-solving skills, and required the teams to communicate mathematical ideas articulately to each other in order to progress.



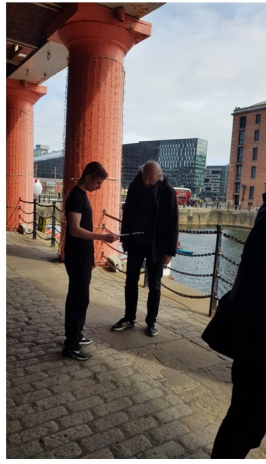
Our Year 10 team (Jolie G, Grace B, Jasmine M and Caitlin M) came 5th, whilst our Year 8's (Hugo J, Alex W, Fearne D and Maisie F) managed a very impressive 3rd place.

Massive congratulations to all involved. We look forward to returning next year to hopefully bring home the trophy!

Geography Liverpool trip

Urban Regeneration - Wow, what a treat Year 10 had this summer term. Our Urban Regeneration fieldwork coincided with Eurovision! Our amazing Year 10's got to feel the full excitement and musical vibes across the city. An experience not to be missed.

While collecting data and completing their questionnaires, our pupils interview several people who had travelled across Europe for the event. Our data in a good way, had many anomalies!



Year 10 Lake Coniston trip 2023

This year our Year 10 Lake Coniston trip started with a dash and a race. Arriving very early at our destination, we were able to board an earlier train, but we had to disembark the coach in 90 seconds! Well done Year 10 at pulling together and moving very quickly! Later that afternoon we had a wonderful hike up through the glaciated landscape and saw some excellent examples of striations (ask your child, hopefully to explain!) We then enjoyed a wonderful cave visit where my nerves were on edge after being told that further back there was a 500m vertical mined shaft!

The first night's evening entertainment was an escape room, let's just say the girls won by a landslide. Later followed by a lovely to watch football match, and of course not forgetting Luca's Xbox that travelled to Coniston with us.

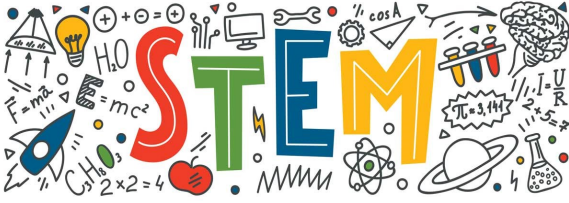
Day two was brilliant, canoeing on the Ribbon Lake, this time the boys won by a landslide! Followed by Gorge Scrambling up a waterfall. Quotes 'that was sick' 'that was heavy' 'that was the best thing I have ever done' Apparently, sick and heavy mean really good!

On the evening of night two, everyone was super tired, Joel even crawled into bed at 7pm, bless. After Miss Lee's super logo competition, very few wanted more quizzes and instead opted to lie down!

Day three tested many pupils' nerve and I was astounded by the bravery and determination of our pupils. Well done to you all. This year's trip was truly brilliant, the attitude of our pupils, the kindness they showed each other, and the team spirit made every bit of planning worthwhile. Thank you Year 10 for the memories, you were amazing!

Miss Lee, Miss McCluskey, Mr Horne & Mr Birkenhead





Our Key Stage 3 STEM Club have been incredibly engaged this school year, on a variety of challenging tasks and projects.

Our green thumbs have been busy. Alongside our Rowan, Silver Birch and Cherry tree planting on school grounds, we embarked on a spicy gardening

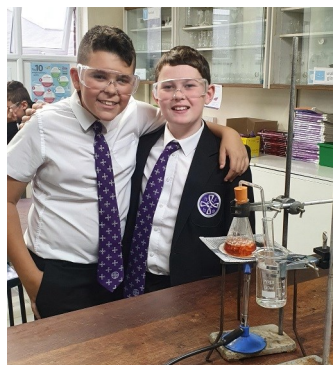


journey, sowing seeds of jalapeño, habanero, cayenne, serrano, along with the beautiful calendula and trailing nasturtium flowers.



We can't wait to witness the vibrant colours and taste the fiery flavours; we have our green fingers crossed that the whole school community can have a go at nurturing our sprouts in their very own homes!

But that's not all, fellow explorers! Our imagination reached for the stars as we delved into the mysteries of Mars with UK wide MARS balloon project. We designed mini experiments to be sent into space, contributing to our understanding of future Mars expeditions. It was a thrill to see our ideas soar high and touch the sky, paving the way for interplanetary exploration.



We dived into the world of biology and genetics as we extracted DNA from strawberries to uncover the hidden building blocks of life. We investigated the properties of surface tension and density in liquids, made chemical reactions with household substances and looked at the properties of smart materials. Our engineering prowess was put to the test as we challenged ourselves to design and construct bridges, carefully calculating their stability and testing the weight they could support to teach us the importance of structural integrity.



Additionally, we took to the skies with our paper airplanes, experimenting with different designs to investigate the aerodynamics of flight. Who knew a simple piece of paper could teach us so much about lift, drag, and the thrill of launching our creations into the air.



We are so proud of all of our committed STEM Scientists for their dedication, enthusiasm and the energy they bring to each session.

We can't wait to see you again next year!



Mentors in Violence Prevention Graduation

The Year 9 mentors attended a graduation ceremony at the Shakespeare North Playhouse in Prescot in July.

Since September 2022 our team of Year 9 mentors have worked really hard to deliver the MVP programme in collaboration with the Merseyside Youth Association.

Our mentors attended a two-day training programme and then worked in groups to prepare and practice lessons which they then delivered to the whole of the Year 7 cohort. They delivered five sessions in all.

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.

Their commitment has been inspiring and, as a school, we could not be prouder of what a fantastic job they have done.

The Year 7 pupils thoroughly enjoyed the sessions and it was lovely to see how positively they reacted to fellow pupils exploring some sensitive issues, rather than boring old teachers!

Thank you so much to all our mentors.

Ashton Westbury, Isabella Mythen, Alex Vincent, Keira Williams, Erin Ryan Daisy Hope, Lewis Snellgrove, Zoe Bennett, Louie Alty, Dominic Jones, Ethan Stanley, Harry Stichbury, Jamie Aldridge, Silver Neill, Lacey Mai Martin-Lynch, Lily Richardson, Miley Sinnott, Maisie Wain and Joseph Delaney.



GCSE Music

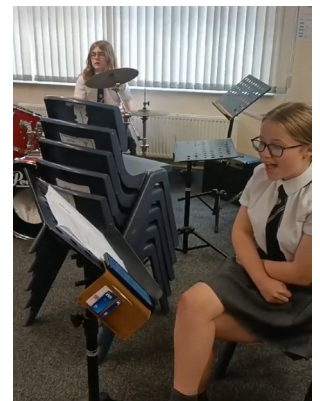
As part of our Year 10 course this year, we have had to do lots of recordings so the best way to improve is by performing often. Each week, during our Friday lesson, we have been given a blind task of learning a new song as a group.

We have built up quite a repertoire including songs like: 'Eye of the tiger' (Survivor), 'Stand By Me' (Ben E. King) and 'Memory' (Cats).

See the video on
Twitter

[https://twitter.com/
HFCHSThornton](https://twitter.com/HFCHSThornton)

[#HFCHSMusic](https://twitter.com/HFCHSMusic)



Holy Family Reading Festival

Holy Family pupils took part in a reading festival this summer term. Here pupils took part in the scholastic book fair, the masked reader challenge, and many more reading activities.

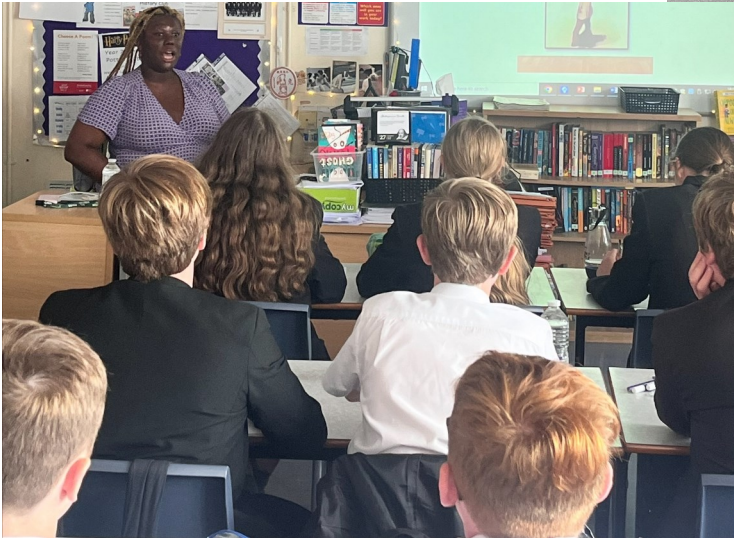
Author visits

Simon Adepetun visited our school and delivered a number of workshops with Year 7. Here pupils developed creative writing skills



and engaged with Simon's novels. Pupils got the chance to ask questions such as how to become an author and what it takes to write a good story.

Kuchenga Shenjé visited a group of Year 9 students over a five week period. Here students engaged with activism writing with The National Literacy Trust. The Power of Voice programme allowed pupils to take part in activist writing, writing about important issues that young people face in society.



Record numbers participate in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

This year has seen participation numbers increase, 94 candidates completed their bronze award and will receive their certificates and badges in August. Each of the candidates participated in a voluntary activity, physical recreation and they learnt a skill. This is aside from the two expeditions that each group had to undertake whilst completing the



award. These are achievements which are recognised by employees and universities alike. The award continues to attract more participants getting involved in the scheme. There were 43 candidates who enrolled onto the Silver Level of the award scheme. All candidates look forward to the expedition section of the award scheme and this year was no different. The areas that the scheme covered included the Yorkshire Moors, The Ribble Valley and the Forest of Bowland.

During the 2 expeditions the candidates covered a total of 60 miles of trekking, carrying their equipment, food and survival equipment in the case of an emergency. Throughout the expeditions the candidates displayed high levels of determination, communication and resilience as there were many times that they were tested with bad weather, high climbs such as going up Pendle Hill and having to fully look after themselves by cooking and cleaning at each of the campsites. However, there were many positive





things that the candidates enjoyed such as birthday celebrations, helping to free a sheep that was stuck in a cattle grid and visiting rival football clubs such as Settle United. The candidates had an amazing time and many of them are going onto register for the Gold Level of the award scheme.

The award scheme also has the three other

elements towards the achievement of each level. This year for the volunteering portion of the D of E Award Scheme the pupils completed 1014 hours of local community voluntary service between them.

Organisations such as the Plaza cinema, Jospice, Nazareth House and local primary schools accepted

our offer for our pupils to

do 8 weeks of voluntary work with them.

The award scheme continues to grow, the school has just registered all the current Year 9 pupils who will start their training in September and there are 98 pupils who wish to participate next term.



**YOUTH
WITHOUT
LIMITS**

Thank you

to
The Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants

from
Holy Family Catholic High School

who spent
1014 Hours

volunteering between
1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023.

We are immensely proud of the dedication, effort and achievement of young people making an impact in their community.

The social value of these hours is
£4877

RUTH MARVEL, CHIEF EXECUTIVE

June 2023

'Art Achievement' Awards

A huge Well done to... Charlotte Carter & Trevor Criddle in Year 7, Jess Young & Ethan Long in Year 8, Mia Gribbin & Jude Morton in Year 9, Charley Hallmark & Danny Brindle in year 10 & Lilly O'Connor in Year 11 for achieving this years 'Art Achievement' awards for their outstanding artwork they have produced throughout this year. I have been blown away by their talents. Miss Connolly





Good luck to our Year 13 and Year 11



Dates to Remember

Thursday 17th August 2023	A level results day
Thursday 24th August	Year 11 GCSE results day
Tuesday 5th September	Term starts for Year 7 and Year 11 pupils at 8.45am Enrolment for Year 12 (Surnames A-L)
Wednesday 6th September	Years 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 in school Enrolment for Year 12 (Surnames M-Z)
Thursday 7th September	Term starts for Year 13
Friday 8th September	Term starts for Year 12 School Photographs
Monday 11th September	Year 7 Trip to CHET (half of the year)
Tuesday 12th September	Year 7 Trip to CHET (other half of the year)
Monday 18th September	INSET day Open Evening 4.30pm—8.00pm
Tuesday 19th September	Late start for pupils 9:45am
Monday 23rd– Friday 27th October	Half Term
Monday 13th November	INSET day (school closed to pupils)
Friday 22nd December	End of Autumn Term—12.15pm finish
Monday 8th January 2024	Start of Spring Term