



Holy Family Catholic High School

September 2025-March 2026 Newsletter



Photographs from our “Loops for Lennon” events this week, in which we raised money for a charity called Love, Jasmine, an organisation that supports bereaved families. We have chosen this charity in memory of Miss Maslen’s grandson, Lennon, who was stillborn.

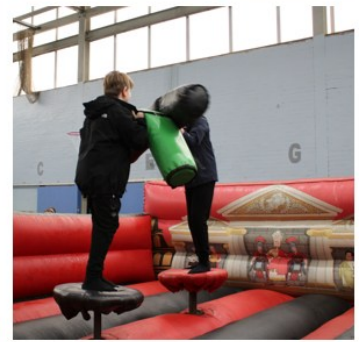
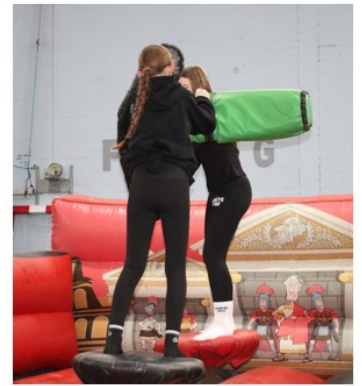


On Monday 23rd March, pupils took part in a charity walk, they came to school in their black PE kit, for a minimum donation of £1 and there was a cake sale at the end of each loop. On Friday 27th March staff took part in 20 minute loops in the fitness suite on the bike/rower/treadmill/x-trainer and there was a tuck shop for pupils.



On Friday 27th March, we hosted a Rewards Day in school, with a range of activities taking place including:

- * Inflatable obstacle courses and games
- * Giant board games
- * Easter Bingo
- * Interactive animal experience





Starting the year with “Team Building” activities. Year 7 visited CHET (Crosby Hall Educational Trust) Activity Centre and Sixth Form were set team building challenges.



In October 2025 Holy Family performed another fantastic musical—Annie.



Year 10 ASDAN Students Serve Up Success During *Annie Jr.*

In October, Holy Family was buzzing with excitement as our talented students took to the stage for the school production of *Annie Jr.* Behind the scenes, however, another group of stars were working just as hard — our Year 10 ASDAN students, who took full responsibility for catering for the entire cast and crew across all three performance nights.

From planning the menus to shopping for ingredients, preparing meals, serving food, and cleaning up afterwards, the ASDAN class approached every task with maturity, teamwork, and a real sense of pride. Their efforts ensured that everyone involved in the show was well fed and looked after, allowing the cast and crew to focus on giving their very best performances.

Each night, the students offered something new. They began with a pizza night, making a wide variety of fresh pizzas that proved to be an instant hit. The following evening, they organised a proper chippy tea — complete with beans, sausages, and curry — which brought a real sense of comfort and fun to the long rehearsal and performance schedule. For the final night, they served up a delicious chicken fajita meal, finishing the week on a high note. The food was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone, and the group received endless compliments for both their cooking and their positive attitude.

After finishing their catering duties, the students didn't stop there. They moved straight on to running the *Annie Jr.* tuck shop, which they set up, stocked, and managed entirely on their own. Their business sense and creativity came to the fore as they introduced their very own *meal deal* option and hand-made over 200 sweet cones — both of which were incredibly popular with the audiences. Through their efforts, they raised over **£500** for good causes, an amazing achievement that reflects their hard work and community spirit.

The Year 10 ASDAN class have demonstrated exceptional organisation, teamwork, and responsibility throughout the week. They supported one another brilliantly, worked under pressure with professionalism, and represented Holy Family with pride. Their contribution helped make *Annie Jr.* not only a theatrical success but also a wonderful example of how our students can come together to achieve something special.

A huge well done and thank you to all of the ASDAN students involved — you should be extremely proud of what you have achieved!



A level Science trip to Geneva

We arrived in a sunny and warm Geneva and spent our first day exploring the city on a walking tour. Highlights included the Broken Chair sculpture, the U.N. headquarters, a relaxing lake cruise, and the iconic Jet d'Eau. We rounded off the day with an evening of bowling and pizza.

The following day was packed with fascinating visits to the anatomy exhibition, the Museum of Scientific Instruments, the botanical gardens, and the observatory. In the evening, we enjoyed a Chinese dinner before heading out for some laser tag and escape room fun.

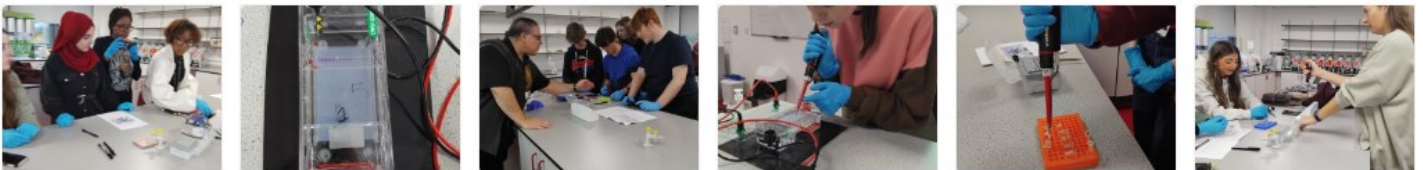
On Thursday, we travelled to the capital, Bern, where we enjoyed scenic walks along the river, saw the famous astronomical clock, and took in the beautiful surroundings. A visit to the Einstein Museum was a particular highlight. That evening, we had great fun playing crazy golf.

Friday brought an exciting visit to CERN, including a workshop led by the wife of one of our former students. We created cloud chambers and used them to detect cosmic rays, alpha particles, and muons—an amazing hands-on experience.

All in all, it was a truly fabulous trip!



Year 13 Biologists, Medical & Forensic Scientists visited Edge Hill to complete practical work for their courses. They extracted DNA, before carrying out the Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) to amplify DNA segments & then they analysed the DNA segments using Gel Electrophoresis.



I'm a Teacher ... well done to the staff who took part in the Holy Family bush tucker trial.



Year 7 Celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany at St. Mary's, Little Crosby



Holy Family High School choir sharing Christmas cheer at The Royal Liverpool Hospital



Music trip to Manchester - Jan 2026

Going on the Manchester music trip for the first time, I didn't know what to expect but I really enjoyed the three days of music colleges, a musical, cinema, bowling, talented musicians and of course, music, which filled the trip.

Visiting and listening to adults and children who are gifted with the creative talent of music was awe inspiring, and a true eye-opener and honestly, quite humbling. The talent seemed to come naturally to the musicians in RNCM, and the fact that the people performing were teenagers, added to the experience, nearly bringing a tear to your eye. The chilled and relaxed vibe of the Halle brought people together to enjoy music with a sense of informality, but the musicians were more than gifted, nevertheless. Watching the BBC Philharmonic practice was an unforgettable experience and made me feel like I was watching something top secret. Seeing the Oscar winner Jessie Buckley steal our hearts and our tears on the big screen truly made the trip, as well as a few spares at bowling – which for me, is unheard of.

Overall, the trip was a memorable experience filled with gifted people, a little cheese from Bodyguard the Musical, laughs, tears, awe, and to top it all off, a Premier Inn breakfast. I mean, what more could you want? **By Nevaeh Marsh**

Cheetham's School of Music

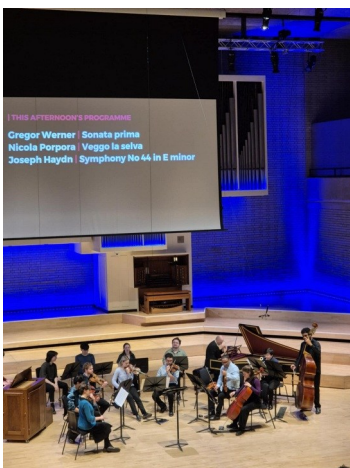
On Tuesday 27th January, a select number of pupils who do music in KS4 took a trip to Manchester to explore all things musical in the area. On our first day, we visited Cheetham's School of Music. Cheetham's is a boarding school, which may sound daunting, however they have bursary fund in place for students where you only have to pay a certain amount depending on the combined income of the child's two parents, which makes it a lot easier for musical children who come from economically deprived areas to access the music education they need to thrive.

When we first arrived, we watched a lunchtime concert put on by the pupils. As it commenced, I was in awe of the level of talent and high esteem they are held to. A young girl performed the most gorgeous piece on a grand piano, one of the first times most of the children had ever seen a grand piano. All the performances were absolutely gorgeous and all the children who performed should be incredibly proud of themselves as they all did amazingly.

After the performance, we had a Q&A with three of the pupils. During this, we found out about boarding life at the school and how life inside the school actually is. The conversation was truly fascinating as we found out about what the lessons are like and how everyone has the opportunity to get in. By the end of the Q&A, all of us had all the information that we could ever need for if any of us ever wanted to apply here in the future. In addition, three of the pupils who came with us on the trip got to play on the grand piano as they actually play piano!

We all loved it and would go back if we had the opportunity!

By Jodie Hunter



Criminology Brain Surgery on 3rd February

Today Year 12 Criminologists made cauliflower brains to help understand the different lobes of the brain and the position and function of the amygdala, hippocampus and thalamus. They learned about brain research and watched an autopsy of the brain, to assist their understanding.



Visit from Mike Palmer MBE from 3 Dads Walking

On Monday 9th February, to kick-start Children's Mental Health Week, we were honoured to welcome Mike Palmer MBE from 3 Dads Walking and Nina Smith from Edge Hill University.

They delivered powerful assemblies to our Year 10, 11, 12 and 13 students, sharing stories of hope and the vital work they are doing within the suicide prevention community. They spoke openly about the importance of speaking up, having conversations, and looking out for friends. These discussions do not cause suicidal ideation — they reduce risk and stigma, and encourage young people to seek support when they need it.

Alongside the assemblies, students took part in cake sales and wore their PE kits with a £1

donation. Thanks to everyone's generosity, we were proud to present a £1,000 cheque to support PAPYRUS Suicide Prevention.

Thank you to everyone involved for making the day so impactful.



HOPELINE247
No young person should ever have to suffer alone with thoughts of suicide.
Phone: 0800 068 4141
Text HOPE to 88247
Email: pat@papyrus-uk.org
Support available 24 hours a day.
Language Line service available.

PAPYRUS
PREVENTION OF YOUNG SUICIDE



Year 7 at PGL - 4th to 6th March 2026

At the beginning of March, Year 7 went to PGL for a three-day residential trip. This was an amazing opportunity for team building, making new friendships, pushing themselves to try daring activities, and enjoying all of the fantastic experiences on offer. They took part in laser tag, archery, axe throwing, high ropes, Jacob's Ladder, and many more.



Katherine, who loved this opportunity, said:

"I loved PGL so much because the food was très bien and the activities were brilliant. The Giant Swing was fun, as we got to swing through the air. Raft building was also great fun, and the teamwork was incredible. The new friends I have made are really important to me, and I have found out more about my friends than I do in the classroom.

I found that the PGL teachers taught me that I can do whatever I put my mind to. Axe throwing was really good, as we learned how to use different types of axes, and the competition was really fun. The group leaders were really nice and encouraged people, although we did have to wake up early... Overall, the activities were really fun."



[Additional photographs can be found on our news page of the school website](#)



Science Week

This year's KS3 Science Week at Holy Family High School transformed our students into budding forensic scientists as they were welcomed into **CSI: HFHS — Crime Scene Investigation, Holy Family**. The project centred around a fictional mystery: the sudden and shocking "murder" of our beloved Headteacher, Mr Symes. Students were tasked with analysing the evidence, examining suspects, and ultimately deciding: **Was Mr Williams really the killer, or is there more to the story?**

Becoming Real Forensic Investigators

Pupils worked through a series of hands-on investigations designed to mirror real techniques used by forensic scientists. Guided by their senior crime scene investigator (otherwise known as their science teacher!), students collected, analysed and interpreted evidence to piece together what had happened.

To crack the case, they rotated through several stations:

Fibre Analysis – Clothing Clues

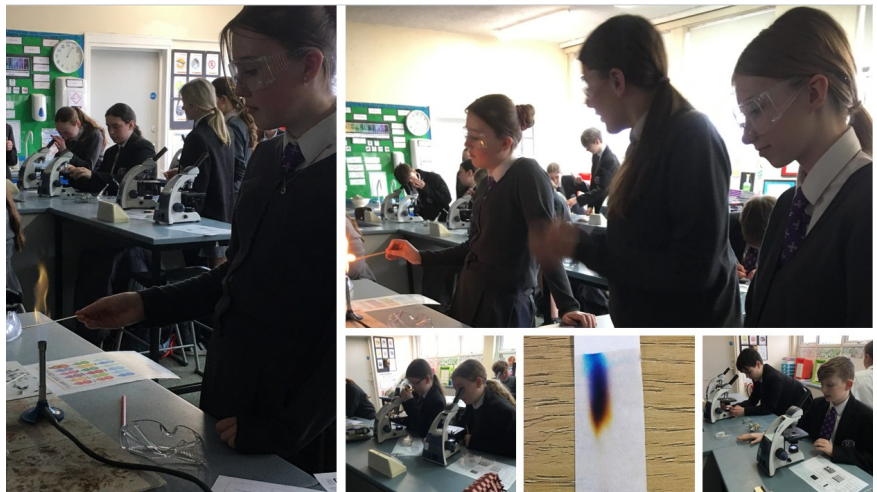
Torn fibres were discovered beneath the victim's fingernails, suggesting a struggle. Students used **microscopic examination** to study these fibres, comparing colour, shape and structure to those taken from each suspect. This helped rule out materials and link possible offenders to the scene.

Ink Chromatography – The Mystery Pen

A burst pen left a suspicious ink stain on the victim's shirt cuff. Using **paper chromatography**, students separated ink samples from different pens to determine which one matched the stain. This experiment helped them understand how mixtures can be separated into their individual pigments.

Footprints & Flame Tests – Muddy Evidence

A dirty footprint found outside the office offered another clue. Soil collected from suspects' shoes was analysed using **flame tests**, allowing students to identify metal compounds present in each type of soil. By comparing flame colours, they could narrow down which suspect's soil matched the crime-scene sample.



Fingerprint Identification – Who Touched the Planner?

Two sets of fingerprints were discovered on Mr Williams' planner: his own, and one belonging to an unknown individual. Students learned how **fingerprint patterns** fall into three main categories — arches, loops and whorls — then compared prints from each suspect to the mystery print. This activity helped pupils appreciate how fingerprints are unique, even among identical twins.

Drawing Conclusions

At the end of the session, students brought together all their findings to decide which suspect the evidence pointed to. They reflected on the scientific methods used and how each piece of data contributed to solving the case.



The project gave pupils a fun, memorable way to explore scientific enquiry, critical thinking and teamwork. More importantly, it showed them how the science they learn in class connects to real-world careers and investigations.

Science Week 2026 proved that KS3 students have sharp eyes, steady hands, and excellent detective instincts — and CSI: HFHS may well have recruited some future forensic scientists!

Year 12 visit Krakow

In February, our Year 12 group explored historic Krakow, the vibrant UNESCO-listed destination famous for its, well-preserved medieval Old Town, the vast Rynek Główny (main square), and the historic Jewish quarter of Kazimierz.

We also experienced an incredibly moving and reflective day when visiting Auschwitz and Birkenau, followed by the awe-inspiring Wieliczka Salt Mines. A day of learning, remembrance, and perspective that will stay with them for a long time.

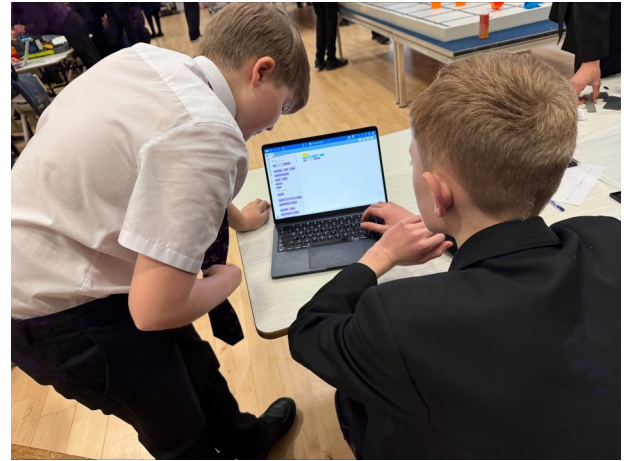
We visited Zakopane, taking the funicular train up into the stunning Tatra Mountains, soaking in the incredible views & fresh mountain air. After exploring the town, we rounded off the day with a relaxing visit to the thermal spa, the perfect way to unwind!

An amazing and thought provoking trip!

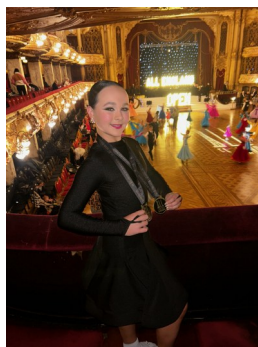


HF Robotics

HF Robotics played their first VEX robotics competition of the season. The team is now sponsored by Bakels who have kindly donated money for us to purchase the latest robotics kit. We are hoping it brings us some success this season.



Congratulations to Hazel who competed at the All England Ballroom & Latin Open Championships competition at the Blackpool Tower Ballroom on Friday. She made it through all of the rounds to reach every final for her events, she placed 4th in Latin and 5th in ballroom. Well done Hazel!

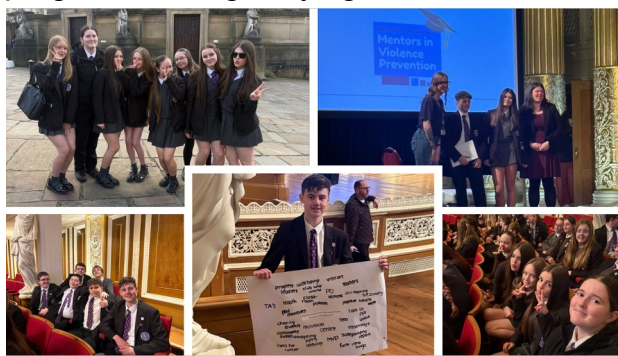


We are proud of Bonnie and her fantastic achievement at the Northern Zonal Trampoline Competition final. Her dedication and commitment to the sport are truly inspiring. Bonnie is a wonderful ambassador for both herself & the school. We wish her the best of luck in the upcoming final.



MPV

MPV (Mentors in Violence Prevention) is a peer-led program tackling bullying and harassment.



Students celebrated the success of their

involvement of the MVP programme, at the MVP ceremony at St. George's Hall.



The Great Egg Drop: Helping the Easter Bunny, One Landing at a Time!

This week, our school was buzzing with creativity, engineering, and a touch of Easter magic as students took part in the much anticipated Great Egg Drop Challenge! The mission was simple but exciting: design a protective structure that would keep a raw egg safe when dropped from a height—just like the Easter Bunny might need during those speedy springtime deliveries.

Armed with materials such as paper, cardboard, cotton wool, tape, straws, and anything else light and clever enough to cushion a fall, students set out to create their own “egg-saving” inventions. Labs turned into mini engineering workshops where ideas were sketched, tested, rebuilt, and improved. It was wonderful to see pupils working together, sharing ideas, and experimenting with different designs.

When drop time arrived, all eyes were on the landing zone. One by one, the carefully crafted contraptions were sent soaring from above. Some floated gently, some tumbled dramatically, and some made us all hold our breath! Cheers erupted every time an egg survived the fall, and laughter filled the lab when a few unfortunate eggs met a slightly messier fate.

Beyond the fun (and the occasional scrambled outcome!), the Great Egg Drop taught students important lessons about problem-solving, teamwork, resilience, and creative thinking. They learned that success often comes from trying, testing, and trying again—and that sometimes the best solutions come from thinking outside the box... or basket!

A huge well done to every student who took part. Your inventive designs are sure to inspire the Easter Bunny as they deliver eggs far and wide this spring. After all, who better to help with safe landings than our very own brilliant young engineers?

Hop to it, team—next year's challenge awaits!

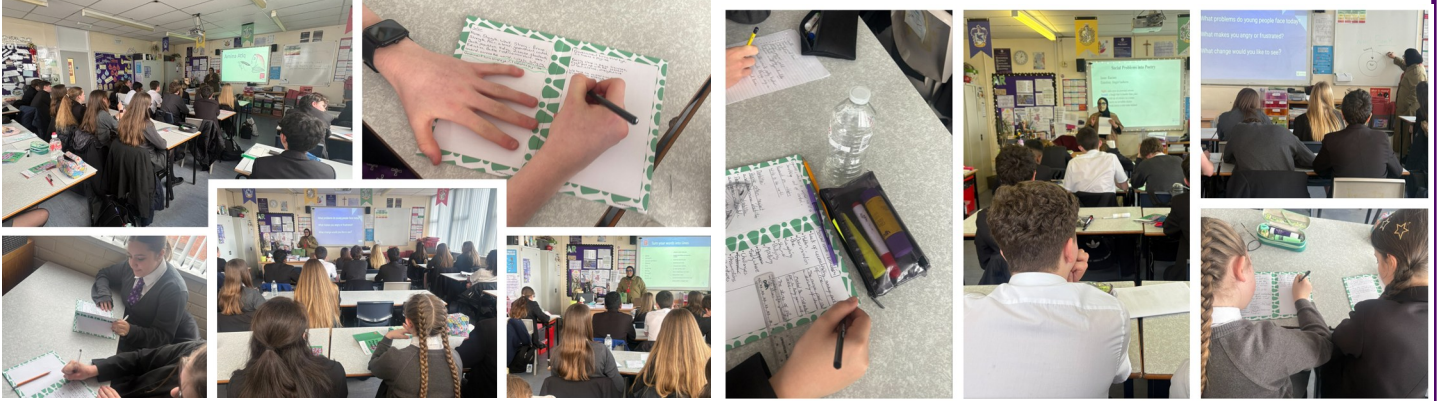


The Power of Voice

Students worked with local poet Amina Atiq and The National Literacy Trust to write change making social action pieces. This could take any form from a poem to a play script.



Students thought about things that are currently affecting them and how they could campaign for a better life.



Year 10 NCFE Food and Cookery

Year 10 NCFE Food and Cookery students have continued to make excellent progress this term, developing both their practical cookery skills and their confidence in the kitchen. They have been improving their techniques across a wide range of dishes, including making pasta from scratch using traditional methods, as well as preparing homemade pizza, fajitas and shepherd's pie. Pupils have also shown great curiosity and willingness to try new ingredients by marinating and tasting tofu and seaweed, broadening their understanding of flavour, texture and different food choices. It has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm, resilience and growing independence in practical lessons.



Year 10 and Year 11 ASDAN

Year 10 and Year 11 ASDAN students recently took part in a joint full-day First Aid course, where they developed valuable life skills and successfully gained a three-year certificate. Throughout the day, pupils learned how to respond calmly and effectively in a range of emergency situations, including checking a casualty's pulse, performing resuscitation, placing someone in the recovery position, and treating burns, cuts and other minor injuries. The course gave students the opportunity to take part in practical activities and build their confidence in helping others.



Our £10 Social Signature Challenge

As part of our Personal Development programme, forms where give £10 for our Social Signature Challenge, which was to make people smile.

The response to this was overwhelming, here is a few of our challenges;

- ◆ 7EP - Pupils were asked to name the dog. Nieve from 7LB chose correctly and named her 'Biscuit.' £50 was raised from this and will be donated to Sefton Community Pantry.
- ◆ 8LEI held a raffle and made £91.20 - thank you to everyone who bought a ticket. The winning ticket was drawn in form time and Mr Hope was the winner!
- ◆ 9AR visited our local hospice community and treated the staff to a well deserved hamper filled with treats and goodies to thank them for the incredible work they do every single day.
- ◆ Students from 10ARO created personalised positivity postcards, which were given to staff in school with positive and thank you messages for their hard work and dedication.
- ◆ 7NK decided to make a donation to Freshfields Animal Rescue Centre. They bought some pet food, supplies and treats.
- ◆ 9PG made cakes and sold them in school, making a profit of £63.13. Well done!
- ◆ 10SC decided to create Valentine Hampers for the staff and residents and Nazareth House.
- ◆ 8EB made and sold Valentine's Day products and so 50 people received a nice, sweet treat and a little positive message. They also raised £25 for Queenscourt Hospice in Southport.
- ◆ 8DMC decided to buy flowers and heart-shaped chocolates and took them to St Joseph's hospice.
- ◆ 8JBG decided to make bookmarks with kindness messages and give them out to 60 staff and pupils.
- ◆ 9KS and 10PJ decided to buy a selection of baby items for their £10 challenge and donated to Sefton Baby Baskets.

£10 CHALLENGE...



Social Signature
THE POWER OF YOU

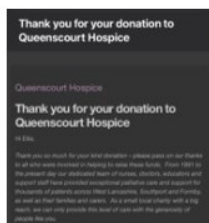
Your **Social Signature** is a set of superpowers that only you have that helps you make the world a better place. It's the mark you leave on the world by being kind, helpful and amazing.



NHS
Alder Hey Children's
NHS Foundation Trust



Nazareth House - Crosby



Careers Update

We are proud to celebrate a busy and inspiring period in our careers programme for Year 11 students. Our students have had the opportunity to engage in a range of activities designed to broaden their horizons and support their next steps beyond school.

Our Year 11 work experience programme has been a great success, with students gaining valuable insight into the world of work. Placements across a variety of industries allowed students to develop key employability skills such as communication, teamwork and problem-solving, while also building confidence in professional environments.



In addition, we were delighted to host our annual Careers Fair, welcoming over 28 providers including colleges, training organisations, universities and employers. Students had the chance to explore a wide range of pathways, ask questions and gather information to help inform their future decisions.

We also held a Careers Breakfast, which proved to be a particularly inspiring event. We were honoured to welcome back alumni from our school as guest speakers, who shared their personal journeys, experiences, pathways and advice. Their stories highlighted the many different routes to success and provided students with relatable role models.



Together, these events have played a key role in preparing our students for life beyond school, helping them to make informed choices and feel confident about their futures.



Engineering Box from the James Dyson Foundation

Our KS3 students have been learning about engineering and the work of James Dyson. We received an Engineering Box from the James Dyson Foundation for the school, which has given students hands-on experience with real engineering challenges. As part of the project, students have been taking apart, and reassembling hoovers to understand how the internal components work. They have also been studying engineering drawings, learning how designs are planned and communicated, and using a range of tools safely and effectively. This has helped develop their problem-solving skills, technical knowledge, and understanding of real-world engineering.



Las monas de Pascua

Six Year 7 pupils (Charlie, Sebastian, Alisha, Kori and Jessica) made their own versions of monas de Pascua this week, which is a traditional Spanish Easter cake.

During Semana Santa (Holy Week), Spain observes a period of solemn processions and church services, especially on Viernes Santo (Good Friday), when people avoid eating meat and instead enjoy dishes like garlic soup or cod stew. But the mood changes on Easter Sunday and Monday, when the Resurrection of Jesus is joyfully celebrated and families often eat lamb. In several regions of Spain, people also enjoy las monas de Pascua — beautifully decorated cakes topped with colourful feathers and big chocolate eggs or figures. Cake shops even compete to create the most spectacular designs, some so impressive they appear on the news! Inspired by this tradition, the pupils created their own bright and imaginative monas to celebrate Easter.



See the example of how they might look in a shop window in Spain – I think the Holy Family versions look just as good, if not better!

Mrs Bosanquet - MFL





ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
Borough of Crosby Branch

THANK YOU

Holy Family High School
YOU RAISED £23.22 FOR OUR 2025 POPPY APPEAL

Your contribution helps us to support the Armed Forces community, past and present.

*The RBL Team
Crosby Branch*



We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Lynn Higgins and the wonderful team at [Sefton Community Pantry CIC](#) for their support of our vulnerable pupils. Their tireless efforts in providing food hampers, at Christmas and Easter, have made a tremendous difference in the lives of these students and their families.

Thank you all for your continued support.

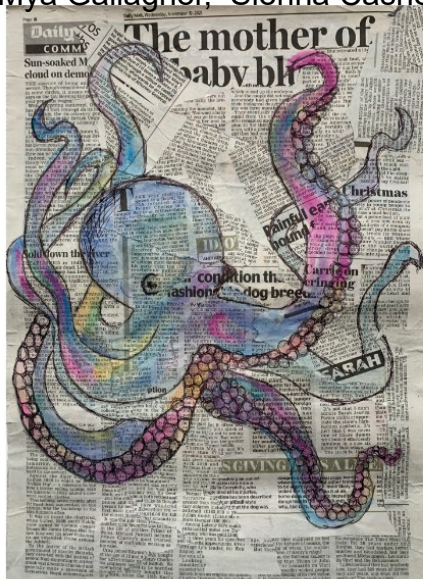


DOT Art Competition

Voting is now open for the DOT ART Competition!

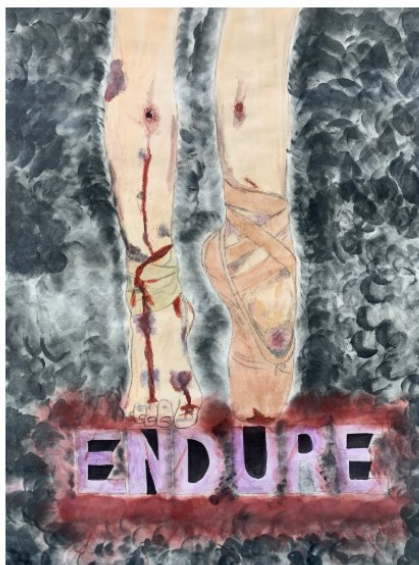
Congratulations to this year's top 3 Year 9 students:

Mya Gallagher, Sienna Cashen and Esme Gore for their fantastic achievements.



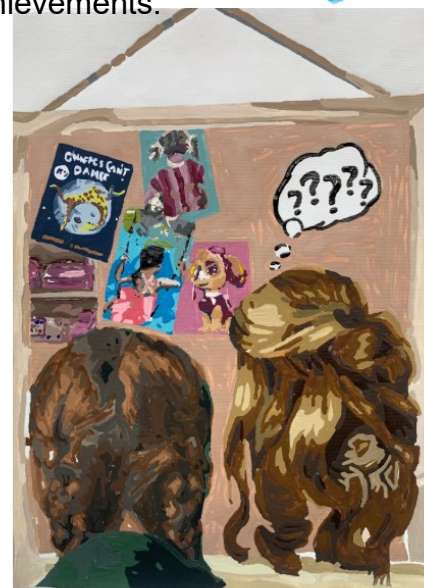
Octopus

Mya Gallagher



What The Audience Doesn't See

Sienna Cashen



Every Year You Get Older

Esme Gore

You can view their work and vote for your favourite piece at

https://schools.dot-art.com/schools/holy-family-catholic-high-school_599/

Dates to Remember

Monday 13th April	Term starts
Tuesday 21st April	Year 7 Parents' Evening H Band
Wednesday 29th April	Year 7 Parents' Evening F Band
Monday 4th May	May Bank Holiday
11th May—18th June	External exams
11th—22nd May	Year 7, 8 & 9 exams
Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May	Half Term
Monday 15th—24th June	Year 10 exams
Thursday 18th June	Year 11 Leavers Celebration 11-2pm
22nd-27th June	Year 12 Rome trip
Thursday 25th June	New Intake Taster Day / Evening
Friday 26th June	Sixth Form prom
29th June—6th July	Spanish trip
Wednesday 8th July	Year 11 prom at Formby Hall
Monday 13th July	Sports Day
Wednesday 15th July	Rewards trips
Wednesday 16th July	Student Festival
Friday 17th July	End of school year –finish at 12.15pm

