



ST GABRIEL'S

ROMAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

PRONUNTIO



Dec 2018



Christmas Card Design

This year the St. Gabriel's customised Christmas card was designed by Year 8 pupils, Oliver Smith and Olivia Crosland, who worked together to capture the spirit and light of this festive and holy season. The pupils expressed their ideas using ink, collage and oil pastel. We hope that the school community will enjoy their imaginative design.

Welcome to our Christmas Edition

It has been a very busy and exciting term with a number of successes and achievements. We had a wonderful musical evening in November with many outstanding performances. As you read this latest edition of Pronuntio you will see how our school focuses on its mission statement and the distinctive Catholic nature of what we are all about – developing the whole child through the curriculum and enrichment experiences.

I do hope you enjoy reading through Pronuntio and recognise the successful and wonderful faith community that we are at St. Gabriel's. At this time of year, in preparation for the birth of Our Lord at Christmas, we remember these words:

"I have come that they may have life and live to the full" – John 10:10

I wish you all a very happy and holy Christmas.
God bless.

Mr A Loster, Acting Headteacher



Bury In Bloom Winners

Huge congratulations to Olivia Crossland who was the overall winner for the Bury in Bloom Poster Competition. The poster represented the transformation of dull, built up, concrete areas of Bury into bright, colourful areas filled with blooming flowers and wildlife. This year there were over 350 entries and the standard was extremely high. The certificates were presented by the Mayor, Councillor Jane Black, at an awards ceremony in the town hall after which the Mayor invited us to join her for afternoon tea in celebration. We are very proud of Olivia's achievement: well done!



Castlerigg Memories

On Monday 3rd December, 49 Year 10 pupils, accompanied by Mr Taylor, Miss McLoughlin, Mr Booth, Mrs Phillips, Mr Smith and Mrs Loster, embarked on a week-long journey to Castlerigg Manor in Keswick. The week was packed with activities and team building exercises, to creative tasks, such as producing the story of the Prodigal Son in a certain dramatic style. Never before has the Prodigal Son been performed in so many ways!

There were also more reflective activities such as opportunities for prayer, clay figure making and music workshops. The week flew by as there was so much to do and be involved in. It gave everyone the chance to reflect on their own lives and learn how to spend some time with God as well as getting to know other people in Year 10 (and the teachers) better. Our pupils returned spiritually uplifted and ready for the next stage of their faith journey. There were opportunities to take in the stunning views of the Lake District with a walk every afternoon. The group enjoyed walks to the Castlerigg stone circle and also to the beautiful, craggy top called Castle Head viewing point to admire the Borrowdale Valley. There were plenty of sad faces as the team left Castlerigg, but hopefully there are plenty of memories of a wonderful week.



Interfaith Workshop

This year, Bury's Faith Forum organised an event during Interfaith Week at Guardian Angel's Parish, which 20 of our pupils got to experience. The event focused on looking at how faiths are lived and how faith affects our lives. The aim of this event was to engage young people to learn how different faiths are living in our communities. The workshop allowed the pupils to understand different faiths and also gave them the opportunity to ask any questions they had regarding religious beliefs and teachings.



Living our Mission

Staff CPD Ethos and Spirituality - On Thursday 6th September 2018, Fr. Chris Gorton led a CPD Session for Staff on Catholic Ethos and Spirituality which was very interesting and entertaining. We then split off into Year Team groups and examined materials which explored different and more creative ways to pray with our pupils. The new Prayer Book for Year 9-11 was also launched with Staff and this has been well received by the older pupils and is enriching their prayer experiences.

Just Youth Year 7 Retreat Days - Just Youth led the Year 7 Retreat Days. The theme was on how pupils can be Beacons of Hope in their everyday lives. The activities which the pupils experienced were thought provoking and relevant to their age group.

Pupil Chaplains - We now have 22 Pupil Chaplains and 15 MAD group members. We are holding our meetings in the Resource Centre as we cannot all fit into the Chaplaincy Room. Anyone who is interested in joining either groups should speak to Mrs R Middleton or Miss L McLoughlin

All Saints - All Saints Form Liturgy was completed by all forms. This focused on the different lives of saints and praying for past loved ones.

Making A Difference

It's been another busy term for charity causes in the staffroom. Staff hosted their very own bake off with a judging panel for Macmillan, raising £131; proving that coffee and cake really are a teachers' best friend! This December, staff are wearing silver star badges to support the NSPCC and blue or orange stars to support Muscular Dystrophy UK. Each badge costs £1 and a total of £140 has been raised from the sale of these badges; thank you to everyone who ordered one.

On the 30 November we launched "Advent Friend 2018" with 70 staff members getting involved in the scheme this year. It is the third year we have organised this scheme and it is intended to raise some Christmas spirit in what can be a tough half term. Each member of staff that signs up is allocated someone else to be their "Advent Friend" and over the period of Advent, they are to do at least one thing per week to make their "Advent Friend" smile. Here at St. Gabriel's, we value the gift of friendship, and as part of the launch, a poem called "The Miracle of Friendship" was read out during the staff liturgy.

The Miracle of Friendship

There's a "miracle called friendship" that dwells within the heart, and you don't know how it happens or when it gets its start... but the happiness it brings you always gives a special lift, and you realise that "friendship" is God's most precious gift!



School Council taste the difference!

On Friday 9th November, 5 school council members were invited to bring a guest along to sample a new 'Street Food Concept'. Food was tasted and the pupils were asked to give their opinions and pick a favourite dish which will soon be available in the canteen for all pupils to enjoy.



Governor News

John Costello

John has been a governor for 31 years. In this time, he has worked closely with three Headteachers, supporting and challenging them, in the crucial role of Chair of Governors. We would like to thank him for his dedicated service and outstanding contribution to the school.



Fiona Robinson

Thanks also go to Fiona who added her expertise as a feeder primary Headteacher, executive head and St Gabriel's parent, to the role of Governor for the last six years. Her support for Catholic education in Bury from age 4-16 has been greatly appreciated.



Catherine Wells

Catherine's association with the school has spanned 12 years as Parent Governor and Foundation Governor. Her contribution to the Staffing Committee and governance at St Gabriel's will be missed.



Holocaust Memorial Design Competition

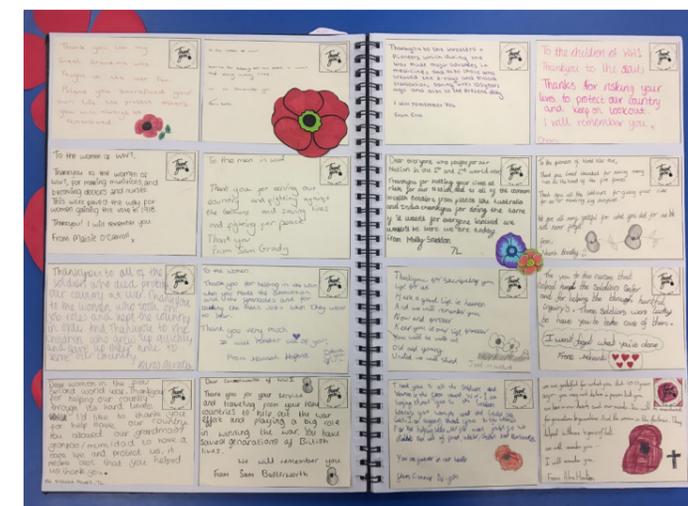
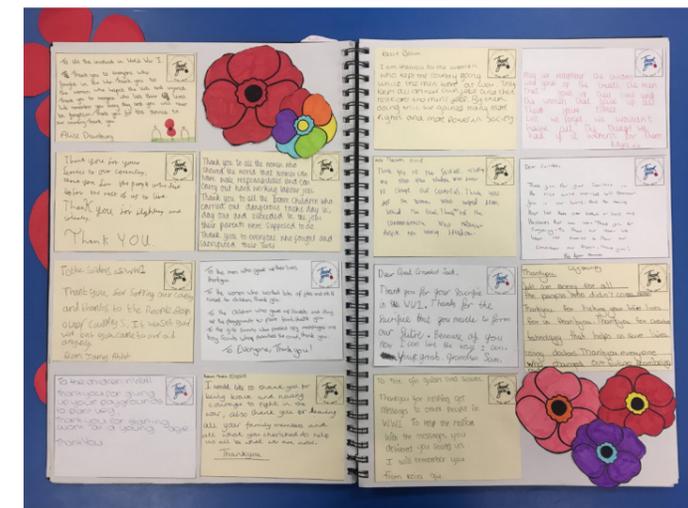
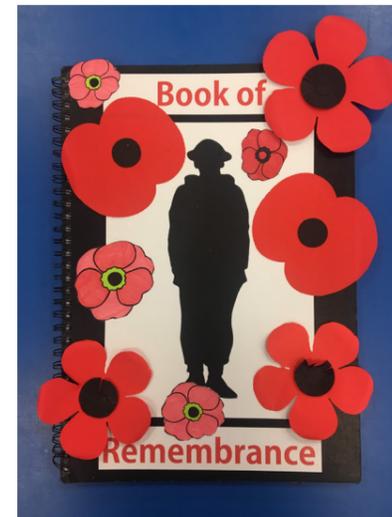
As part of Year 9's study of the Holocaust, students in Mr Tems' class were set a home-learning task to design a Holocaust Memorial to respectfully honour those murdered by the Nazi regime. Staff were moved by the respectful designs submitted and delighted with the creativity demonstrated. Particularly impressive were the memorials created by Holly Makin, Charlie Hughes, Harry McDermott and Jordan Kamaha. All of the designs will go on display at school and will also be sent to the Holocaust Educational Trust which works to educate young people from every background about the Holocaust and the important lessons to be learned for today.



Remembrance 2018

To mark Remembrance in the centenary year of the Armistice of World War I, staff and students at St Gabriel's chose to reflect on all those involved in the war, not just those who fought. During assemblies, pupils heard about all who sacrificed, served and changed our world, including the Commonwealth, women, the arts, pioneers, and the armed forces, with a particular focus on local soldiers from Bury. The students then had the opportunity to say thank you to an individual or group during Form Time by writing a postcard, paying tribute to their huge contribution both during the war, and how they helped shape the world, after the war ended. These postcards were then collated and placed into a Book of Remembrance.

The Pupil Chaplains also created a beautiful Remembrance display in our reception to remind all staff and students passing by, of the terrible sacrifices made by those who fought in the World Wars. A minutes silence was held on Monday 12th November as the staff and students of St Gabriel's stood with the rest of the nation to mark this special centenary year.



Coffee Morning 2018

Thanks to all our pupils, staff and community who turned up in force to support Coffee Morning 2018 and make an amazing £2261. Lovely to see so many outstanding Year 7 entrepreneurs bringing their skills to the fair; we loved all the glitter, slime, donuts, waffles, pancakes, cake decorating and all the trimmings! This year the money will go towards improving the sports facilities and equipment at the Good Shepherd as outlined in the inspirational assembly from Miss McLoughlin and Mr Stewart. Special thanks to Deon Williams whose enterprising idea took the fundraising to another level.

Whether you helped or donated, came along or ate cake - thank you! The money raised will go a long way and make a massive difference to the pupils in Uganda, who, in turn, inspire us with their resilience, enthusiasm and achievements.



A Word from the Year 9 Team

September 5th saw our 'class of 2021' begin Year 9. It was a busy start to the year as well. We were delighted to see so many of our year group helping out at the Open Evening on 27th September. Our pupils did the school proud and it was wonderful to see their maturity in speaking to both younger pupils and their parents! Similarly, we were very pleased to see the year group represented so well at our annual Coffee Morning, both volunteering to help and attending with their families, to support our work with the Good Shepherd Orphanage. On Wednesday 10th October, the year group took part in 'Be Safe Be Cool', an off-timetable day where pupils received workshops about Crime and Prevention, delivered by the Police Force; Healthy Relationships and Consequences of Crime delivered by Prison Officers. Pupils also enjoyed a drama performance from Bury College and a talk on Counter-Terrorism from specially trained officers. The pupils were a credit to themselves throughout the day and they hopefully took a lot from it. January will bring an important and busy time for our Year 9s. Reports will be being sent home before Parents Evening arrives on 31st January.

In addition, on Monday 21st January we have our Year 9 RAP Day, focusing on option choices and careers followed on the same day by our Curriculum Evening at 6.30pm, to which all pupils and parents are invited to learn more about the choices our Year 9 pupils will be making. As a Year 9 team, we are delighted with the progress being made by our pupils and we look forward to continuing to help every pupil reach their potential. 2019 will be a big year for us and an important one; so we hope you all have a relaxing and Holy Christmas and a wonderful New Year!

The Year 9 Team

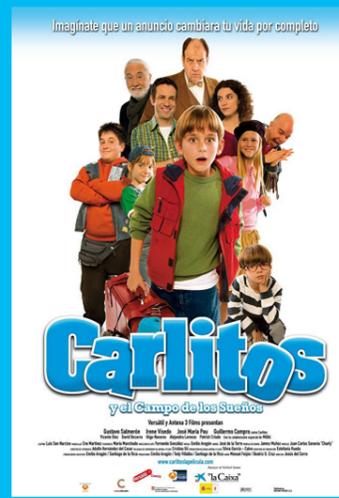


MFL News

Year 7 have made a very positive start to the accelerated Spanish GCSE. To celebrate their hard work, they will all be watching the Spanish film, Carlitos, before Christmas.

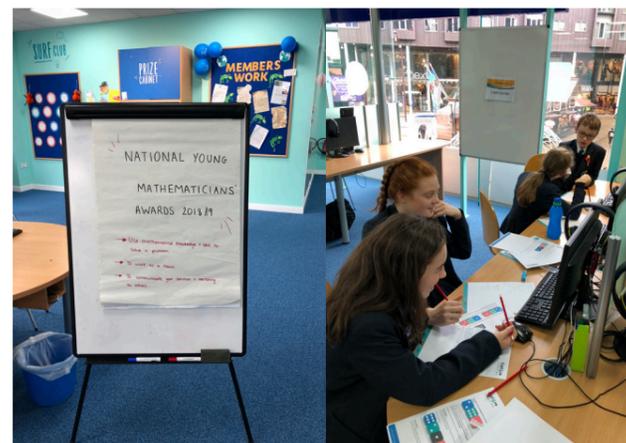
The Language Ambassadors have been running a lively lunchtime club on Mondays. The Year 7s can come up and practise their Spanish in the different games on offer with lots of encouragement and prizes from the Language Ambassadors. The Year 10s are busy preparing quizzes on Spanish Christmas to test their cultural knowledge, as well as working on their own GCSE studies.

We are on countdown for our GCSE trip to Sevilla in February. All the activities have been booked. We are visiting this fantastic Andalusian City and will see the Bullring and the football stadium. We will be watching, and dancing, Flamenco. We will, of course, be practising our spoken Spanish in a variety of situations: restaurants and shopping! ¡Bravo!



Maths Challenge News

'Four Year 8 students have competed in the National Young Mathematician Awards. They completed round 1 and have made it through to the next stage. We are excited to take on the next challenge!' Students- Jessica Connolly, Jack Varney, Helena Whelan and Cara Davies.



STEM Club

STEM club has been in full flow again this term with Year 7 getting involved in many different areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths, after school, on Mondays. The programme so far has seen students investigating Bioluminescence, Stomp Rockets, Mouse Trap Cars, Static Electricity, Egg Parachutes, Chemistry of Fireworks, Spaghetti Towers and most recently Animal Anatomy.



Primary Science Challenge Winners 2018



Performing Arts

45th Annual Christmas Carol Service

This important, popular school event was held on Monday 17th December in the school hall. The liturgy consisted of beautiful readings and Christmas carols performed and read by the school choir and various members of the school community. A happy and holy Christmas to you all!



Lunchtime Concert at the Hidden Gem

On Tuesday 18th December, members of the Senior Choir performed a variety of carols and readings for this special lunchtime concert at the Hidden Gem church, a prestigious venue in Manchester City Centre. The audience consisted of members of the public who responded enthusiastically to our Christmas interlude. Congratulations and thank you to all our pupils involved.

A Night at the Musicals

On Tuesday 20th November, the music department put on their musical extravaganza in the school hall. This successful evening featured various solos, duets, trios and choral items showcasing our amazing musical talent at St Gabriel's. The audience enjoyed many songs from the shows such as Cats, Mamma Mia, Wicked and The Wizard of Oz to name but a few and we were even subjected to the Dentist song from Little Shop of Horrors! During the interval we enjoyed some of Mrs Mather's delicious cakes that were themed around some of the musicals we were performing. Thank you and congratulations to our talented pupils and their supportive parents and carers who were in attendance. It was a really special event.

Year 7,8 and 9 Rugby

A huge well done to all the pupils who have represented our Rugby team this year. To date we have beaten Woodhey, Bury Church and Bury Grammar around the Bury area which is very impressive. The game has been played in fantastic spirit and I really admire the pupils 'give it a go' mentality, especially for those who are new to the sport. Let us keep the momentum going and I look forward to our next fixture.

Mr Booth

Year 8 Basketball

Congratulations to our Year 8 basketball team who have secured 3rd place in the annual Bury Invitational Competition. The boys overcame some tough opposition in beating Bury Grammar and Elton High School in the run up to the final stages and eventually beating Woodhey to secure 3rd place! A super achievement. Thanks for your commitment and hard work, keep it up!

Mr Booth



Handwriting Club

A group of KS3 students are currently involved in Handwriting Club which takes place every Tuesday lunch time. They are currently completing fun writing challenges to help improve their handwriting. They are also in the process of entering the Young Writer's competition 'Mission Catastrophe'. Everyone has to write a 100-word mini-saga on a disaster. Students have to explain and describe what has happened, how it has happened and how it will end. The winning writers have the chance to win £100, a signed box set of "The Last Survivors" and a trophy! If you want to join, speak to Miss O'Rourke for more details.

Year 11 Basketball

Our Year 11 basketball team have had a fantastic season this year by reaching the Bury Finals and securing 2nd place, just losing out to a strong Phillips side - the only game the boys have lost all year!

This is a huge achievement for the lads and it has been an absolute pleasure working with such talented, dedicated and respectful young people. It's been great journey - thank you.



Achievement Stars

This year, pupils in St Gabriel's are awarded an achievement point for displaying excellent behaviour in class. These points are accumulated across the year and will lead to pupils winning certificates and prizes. The following pupils are the leading achievement point scorers for their forms so far this year! Congratulations to you all! Pupils highlighted yellow are top of the year!



Year 7		
Form	Name	Achievement Points
A	Amy Cunningham	113
L	Alexander Buckley	69
M	Daisy Howard	58
S	Nicola Mlodecka	99
W	Alice Wiacek	63
B	Jacob Archer	59
C	Agniete Sarka	75
J	Shanae Green	74
P	Iona Simcock	76
R	Ahmed Irfan	83

Year 9		
Form	Name	Achievement Points
A	Henry Do	66
L	Zara Gleave-Smith	159
M	Charli Wosser	93
S	Charlotte Daw	73
W	Ashley Baptista	60
B	Josie Radcliffe	51
C	Jiana Marcos	92
J	Hannah Halford	70
P	Holly England	59
R	Jennifer Murphy	74

Year 11		
Form	Name	Achievement Points
A	Alex McGrath	60
L	Matas Pikciunas & Stephanie Woodall	44
M	Luke Lomax	65
S	Mehrnaz Aghazadeh	42
W	Weronika Nowak	59
B	Ashlyn Jones	69
C	Ruby Stanley	90
J	Ethan Mvula	45
P	Isobel Routh	78
R	Megan Walsh	109

Year 8		
Form	Name	Achievement Points
A	Cara Davies	67
L	Michaela Buckley	88
M	Isabella Fox	77
S	Elissa Mills	84
W	Rosemary Bodlovic	62
B	Jessica Connolly	80
C	Hermione Whelehan	67
J	Macy Yates	66
P	Molly Nash	61
R	Niamh McLoughlin	72

Year 10		
Form	Name	Achievement Points
A	Charles Stanford-Campbell	60
L	Sara Raza	54
M	Wiki Luba	80
S	Theo Hadcroft-Plummer	93
W	Alan Padjus	81
B	Sara Mohammed and Joshua Prow	55
C	Malachy Brady	42
J	Callum McHale	57
P	Leonardo Kachingwe	60
R	Stan Graham	39

Leadership Congratulations

Congratulations to the following members of staff who have completed their Institute of Leadership and Management course: Miss McLoughlin, Mrs Vaughan, Mrs Rafferty, Mrs Walsh, Miss Maymon, Miss Mealey, Ms Freeman, Mrs Doonan, Miss Livesley and Mrs Whelan.



Cross Country

An outstanding overall performance from St Gabriel's at the annual Bury Cross Country event at Heaton Park. Firstly, well done to all pupils who took part in what was a wet and windy affair. A special mention goes out to following pupils...Joe Schofield (3rd place), Ella Thompstone (3rd place), Oli Donnelly (5th place), Jacob Allen (7th place), Liam McCheyne (11th place) and Imogen Watson (15th place). Anyone finishing inside 12th place has secured a place in the next round. A superb achievement; well done and thank-you for your hard work.



Year 7 Netball

Congratulations to the following girls who have successfully been selected to represent the Year 7 A and B Netball teams:

Amelia Crawford, Marla Davies, Megan Bowden, Natalie Powell, Alicia Starkie, Hannah Lockett, Nicola Mlodecka, Ciara Offomah-Asogwa, Mia Andrew, Emily Mae Rooney, Lily Stanley, Martha Liddle, Molly Jefferson, Iona Simcock, Niamh Brindley, Lily Shiels, Devonne Samuels, Maddie Ryan, Lilli Redmond, Harriet McEntyre, Maja Lekkoduch, Amelia Toponek, Molly Kelly

All pupils have been training hard to improve their communication, teamwork and skills.

Year 8/9 Netball

Fantastic commitment and determination from both the Year 8 and 9 netball squads. They have been training hard to improve all aspects of the game. The Year 9 girls have shown real teamwork in their Bury league games. Year 8 girls will start their games after Christmas. Results will be posted in the next issue.

Cheerleading

Cheerleading takes place every Thursday after school, in conjunction with Bury Street Shakers. The girls have been working very hard with their coach Zara Schofield on their dance routines and will be showcasing their talents at a performance in Manchester. Well done girls, keep up the excellent work.



Year 7 Girls Football

Congratulations to the Year 7 5-a-side girls' football team who are Bury champions. They played exceptionally well throughout the competition and produced a fantastic performance in the final in which they beat Elton High School 5-3. The girls now go through to represent Bury in a Greater Manchester Schools' Competition.

Well done to the following players:

Lily Shiels, Martha Liddle, Amelia Crawford, Marla Davies, Iona Simcock, Niamh Brindley



Year 10/11 girls football

The following girls represented St.Gabriel's KS4 football in the English schools competition v Wilmslow High School. Excellent performance from all involved showing great attitude and sportsmanship.

Lily Thompstone, Sophie Royds, Rosie Rafferty, Grace Makin, Grace Taylor, Katie Findlow, Uzma Afridi, Natalia Zakrzewska, Ruby Shield, Sophie Gartland, Shauna Redmond, Lucy Rose, Hannah Young, Tara O'Connor

Year 7/8 Girls Football Runners up

Congratulations to the Year 7/8 football squad who recently performed in the English Football league Girls cup. Outstanding performances lead by Isabella Kershaw, saw the girls win the group stages with results of 8-0 and 9-0 being the best. Then an extremely tough final to lose by 5-3.