



ST EDMUND ARROWSMITH CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

# Autumn Newsletter

Twitter - @SEACHS1961

## Autumn Term

I absolutely love this time of year, with the anticipation of Christmas and spending precious time with family and friends. I like to think about Christmas as getting everything ready to welcome a special guest into our homes and our everyday lives. Celebrating Jesus' birth is a fantastic occasion and the expecting, waiting, hoping and praying during Advent allows us to concentrate on the true meaning of Christmas. It is brilliant that this newsletter shares all the wonderful achievements of our pupils over the last term. May the Lord bless you and your loved ones this Christmas time.

Mr Dumican

## “Eddie’s Chickens!”

We now have our own resident chickens living near the Science Department in a custom-made chicken coop!

The pupils who look after the chickens have named them! The chicken with the blue leg tag will be called Biscuit (name put forward by Hannah Whitlow, Julianna Van Mierlo and Emma Cocklin). The chicken with the green leg tag will be called Willow (name put forward by Gracie Quirk). The chicken with the yellow leg tag will be called Esther (name put forward by Charlotte Burke). The chicken with the red leg tag is called Cocoa and the white chicken is called Lucky.

Check out the next newsletter for updates on how the chickens are doing, or follow [@Eddies\\_Science](#) for regular updates!



## Key Dates

Inset Day - Monday 7th January  
School Re-opens - Tuesday 8th January  
Half Term Closes - Friday 15th February  
School Re-opens - Monday 25th February  
School Closes - Friday 5th April

## Uniform Reminder

- Outside coats or jackets should be plain black, without any logos or motifs. Outside coats or jackets must not be worn anywhere in the building. In cold weather however, **ONLY BLACK** outside coats may be worn over the blazer at breaks and lunchtimes.
- Smart watches are **NOT** allowed
- Piercings are not allowed and ‘recent piercings’ are not an excuse and are **NOT** to be covered with a plaster. All piercings **MUST** be taken out.

# Spotlight on Year 7



Wigan & Leigh Hospice

Year 7 should be checking the list of extra-curricular activities on the school website and clocking as many miles as they can....time is ticking...

Year 7 have been working particularly hard this term and have managed to get a total of 12650 achievement points. 7C have made a fantastic contribution during this half term and managed to secure first place for form achievement points. Congratulations to the following three students: Megan Stowell, Hannah Whitlow and Maggie Roberts who managed to get first, second and third place!

A special mention to Keira Mullins who has represented England in a world karate competition and won gold!

Year 7s chosen charity is Wigan and Leigh Hospice and we are doing lots of fundrasing for this very worthy cause.

Please follow our Twitter page @Year7\_SEA

## Attention on Year 8

In Year 8 we have 'Beat your Best' which follows on from 'Going the Extra Mile'. Each term, pupils who meet six of the eight set criteria will be selected for an end-of-term prize. Pupils who are successful will be invited to a period 5 Christmas party. For more information on what the criteria is, please speak to your Head of Year!

Five of our students have recently taken part in the Wigan Athletic Enterprise Programme. The pupils spent six weeks with a Wigan Athletic mentor, exploring ideas of how to get more 18-23 year olds to go to Latics games. They had to consider market research, finance and logistics. The pupils then went to the DW Stadium for the full day and presented to Jonathan Jackson (Chief Executive Wigan Athletic Football Club), Emma Joussemet (Premier League Senior Community Development Executive) and many more important individuals. Well done; you did us all proud!

We have a larger number of girls taking part in the Broadening Horizons Programme, 'The Fashion Show'. Carmel College have been in to school and delivered three sessions on confidence. Wigan and Leigh College will be coming in after Christmas to deliver six sessions on hair, beauty, fashion and much more! This will give the girls the skills to carry out their own fashion show!

Year 8 have started to work on their mental wellbeing. We are taking part in our whole school initiative, 'Mind Body and Soul'. During form time we have explored the importance of looking after our mental wellbeing. This term we have been looking into the first strand of mental wellbeing - 'Connect'. Pupils have discussed this in form time and been asked to share the way in which they are connecting with family and friends. We have ten wellbeing reps, two from each of our forms, who will attend training sessions.

Year 8 are continuing to raise money for our chosen charity, Mary's Meals!

Please follow @SEA\_Year8 for updates!

mary's  
meals

## Zooming In on Year 9

The year 9 challenge is 'Stand Out from the Crowd'. Year 9s are encouraged to share the ways in which they display their talents both in and out of school and how they contribute to the wider school life. They will be required to give a quick presentation about this on Review Day to their parents and are starting to record their information each term. Achievements will be displayed on the Year 9 notice board and we encourage pupils to start to bring in any photos of their achievements and write an Eddies tweet!

Abigail Carey is currently leading the way with 130 achievement points, followed closely by Madelaine Smith with 129. 9S are currently the leading form with over 1400 points so far! 9G are currently the best attending form, with 9H receiving the fewest lates!

The next main focus for the Year 9s will be their option process starting after Christmas - the Y9 parents' evening being a key opportunity for both parents and pupils to discuss the possibilities with subject staff.

Check out our Twitter account for exciting updates about the options process.

## Looking at Year 10 <sup>options</sup> 2019

Year 10, with the help and guidance of Miss Rampling and Miss Denton, have started a debating club. The first session will be about mortgages and financial advice.

The most achievement points go to Niamh Williams 48 points, Jacob Blears 38 points and Natalie Lachovska 34 points!

Attendance has been good so far this Year. Keep it up Y10!

## The launch of Mind, Body and Soul

Mind, Body and Soul is being implemented across the school to highlight the importance of a positive mental well-being and aims to suggest ways in which students, and our staff, can make our school an even happier place.

Since September a lot of work has taken place in school surrounding this; every year group has received an input from 'The Art of Brilliance' about how to be confident and pupils have focused on ways how they can 'connect' with others. We also have 24 Mind, Body and Soul Champions from Years 7 and Year 8 who have been trained to complete a whole school project about this. More information can be found on our new notice boards. The big question that everybody has been asking is... are you a mood hoover or are you a 2%er?



# FOCUS ON YEAR 11

Every week, members of staff are encouraged to reward pupils who show outstanding effort in class by emailing Mrs Doolan/Miss Hampson with positive comments. For every comment that is received, the pupil is given a ticket. This ticket is then put into a draw. Every term a name will be drawn and this person will receive a ticket to the Leavers' Do.

Here are some of the comments received so far:

- **Jack Roberts** - for consistently pushing himself and working hard in lessons and at home.
- **Millie Hampson** - consistent hard work.
- **Leonie Boland** - excellent progress on a recent assessment.
- **Shawna Wharton** - ongoing hard work in maths lessons.
- **Adam Bibby** - positive attitude.
- **Joe Whitter** - unfailing positive attitude
- **Callum Harcourt** - outstanding performance on recent mock exam
- **Caitlin Muirhead** - fantastic attitude in lessons and assessment tasks.
- **Rhys Findlow** - most improved geographer award - great attitude.
- **Charlotte Wilson** - exceeded her MAG in a recent unit test and was keen to attend intervention sessions.

## Mindfulness

The Year 11 team have put the following initiatives in place in order to support Y11 pupils and the pressure and anxiety they may well feel over exams and revision.

A Mindfulness Box has been placed near the Year 11 pastoral office. This allows pupils to voice any worries they may have in a private and less intimidating way.

## Y11 Key dates/Information

Parents' Evening – Thur 17th Jan  
Controlled Assessment Deadline – Fri 15th Feb  
Trial Exams – Thur 28th Feb – Fri 8th March 2019  
GCSE exams commence – Mon 13th May.  
Mindfulness sessions - tbc

## Achievement Points to Date

Lauren Cundliffe 68  
Libby Brown 60  
Natalie Howarth 53  
Millie Wrigley 53

**Mindfulness sessions** - A qualified mindfulness practitioner is offering her services to Year 11. She has offered to deliver mindfulness classes to pupils to help with their anxiety and stress. The cost will be approx. £5 per session. The entire programme should last approximately six weeks.

**Mentoring** – mentors from SJR and Winstanley will visit pupils from SEA who require some extra support with organisation/motivating. They visit school during core PE time.

Speak to Mrs Doolan and Miss Hampson for more information.

# My first term at Eddies

Entering the Year 7 yard on my first day of high school was one of the most nerve-racking things I have ever experienced. Despite an excellent induction in July, I was still apprehensive about the whole transition. Moving from a small primary to high school was a massive change for me; new teachers, new subjects, but particularly the fact that I didn't know anybody from my previous school. It was hard for me at first, but everyone has been really kind and reassuring, so that now I really feel like I belong to the Eddies family.

Lessons are fun, engaging and help us to learn about different subjects. Whilst initially it is difficult to get organised and remember everything that needs to be brought into school, we really are well supported particularly by our form tutor Miss Brophy. I particularly enjoy: geography where we considered town planning; history where we re-enacted the Battle of Hastings, music and of course PE. I have really appreciated the encouragement and support given to me by the teachers as I have settled into our busy school life.

I am very lucky to have made such good friends and the fact we all get on really well. The thing I have most enjoyed this term are the extra-curricular activities offered in school. I am so fortunate to go to a school that offers such a wide range of enrichment activities. It really does allow me to go that extra mile. I have made new friends and developed a range of skills by participating in new sports such as rugby and volleyball, experienced the thrill of scoring a try wearing the Eddie's jersey, and developed my confidence performing in both the school choir and concert band. There is always something to do and new opportunities in which to get involved – I didn't think I would enjoy Coding Club and now I am programming my own Micro:bit, have the courage to read a prayer in front of all my peers at the ecumenical service, let alone feeding back School Council discussions in assembly. If I was to give any advice to anyone joining the school, it would be to get involved. I am already looking forward to the challenges and opportunities the new term will bring.

By Benjamin Paul 7C



Follow our school PTA for updates -  
[@SEACHPTA](#)

## Science Achievement Points

Y7 Patrick Quinn - 12 POINTS  
Y8 Lily Wyatt - 20 POINTS  
Y9 Madelaine Smith - 24 POINTS  
Y10 Ethan Piper - 28 POINTS  
Y11 Abbie Upton & Abigail Rooney - 19 POINTS

Visit our website for more news updates  
through our headteachers' blog and news page  
- [www.arrowsmith.wigan.sch.uk](http://www.arrowsmith.wigan.sch.uk)



# English

The English department have had a busy autumn term. Not only have students been learning vital communication skills and improving their reading and writing in class, but our KS 4 students are also well on the way to being prepared for their GCSEs in English Language and English Literature. By the Christmas holidays, both Year 10 and Year 11 students will have sat at least one mock exam, and hopefully our students will have been employed at home revising and getting themselves prepared. Our Year 11 students have been especially grateful for the innovative 'Talking Hands' video clips, created by the English teachers to assist students with their poetry revision. These twenty-minute clips have been trending on SEA TV in the run up to the Year 11 mock literature exam and will also prove useful when preparing for the actual GCSE exams next summer.

The English experience at Eddies is not all about hard work and exams, and this term has seen a full range of extra-curricular opportunities being embraced by our students. In September, a coachload of Year 11s enjoyed a performance of 'Macbeth' at The Lowry and two coachloads of Year 10s went to see 'Blood Brothers'. Year 8 enjoyed the Spelling Bee competition, leading to the final watched by the whole year group in October, and the Cake and Classics group spent a lovely hour with Mrs Baylis and Mrs Scott discussing the children's classic 'Little Women.' Mrs Graham and Mrs McLoughlin report that the recent launch of this year's BBC School Report went extremely well. This year's budding journalists are full of wonderful ideas for news stories and, fingers-crossed, the school might get involved with an actual BBC report for the fourth year running. Mrs Taylor has selected her Stan Lee team and their meetings are going well.

Looking ahead, our Better Reading Partnership scheme is about to start, we will organise another Spelling bee in the new year, Mrs Taylor has got plans in place for a book fair in the spring and the next Cake and Classics reading book is Hinton's 'The Outsiders' – a stark contrast to the experiences of Jo March and her dear sisters.



Twitter page  
- @sea\_english



## Computing

Y7 Micro:bit coding club running every Thursday lunchtime (first sitting) with Miss Whittle and Mr Moores. This gives students a chance to get "hands on" with technology and learn about programming. Speak to Miss Whittle for more information.

### Term 1

Year 7 have been working on games development and programming with some fantastic mini games created in Scratch. Pupils in Year 8 have impressed with their Python coding ability when building a "chat-bot" which learns about the user as they answer questions. Year 9 have completed a variety of work, the highlights of which have been games created in the Unity environment with some excellent 3D games starting to take shape.

Follow us on Twitter - @SEACHSComputing

## Geography

- Homework help and research sessions: every lunchtime in Humanities 4,5 and 6 (all years)
- Year 11 Intervention/Revision: Wednesday 3.15-4.00pm
- Geography Club - Thursday lunchtimes from January, Years 7 and 8. Look out for more information in the department!
- Rewards - Watch out for the 'World Class Geographer' certificates outside each classroom. It could be you!

## Maths

- Year 7 Numeracy Club: runs every Wednesday lunchtime. Y7 pupils can earn bronze, silver and gold awards for demonstrating their numeracy skills.
- Maths Clinic: runs every lunchtime during the first half of lunch break in Maths 5 - this is for all pupils.
- Rubik's Club – pupils work to solve a range of different shaped puzzles based on the original Rubik's Cube.
- For more information on what's going on in maths, please follow our maths Twitter page @eddiess\_maths or speak to Mrs Evans.

# RE

Forms 7A-G have each had a lesson preparing to celebrate Mass on the theme of friendship, and pupils have reflected on the meaning of Jesus' commandment to love one another, producing some lovely candles as the focal point for the service. Masses have been celebrated by Fr John in the chapel, and have been a lovely celebration of school life.

Year 8 have been working hard on the lives of various inspirational Christians such as Sr Helen Prejean, Martin Luther King Jr, Rosa Parks, Oscar Romero and Nicky Cruz. 8X3 and 8Y5 have produced some impressive artwork on Nicky Cruz to contrast his life as a gangster with his life as a Christian.

Year 9 have tackled philosophy of religion this term by looking at how people come to believe in God and the events which may turn people away from God. They have responded in a mature way to a very complex topic. This has certainly been demonstrated in their discussions about examples of moral and natural evil. Keep up the good work Year 9!

Years 10 and 11 continue to study the AQA GCSE, both having studied Triune God and one ethical theme since September. For help in preparing for exams, keep checking the class files area and make sure to follow Mr McMillan on YouTube and Twitter. Keep an eye out for the RE Department on Twitter too for further hints and tips!

