

ST PATRICK'S NEWS

JULY 2023



It has been another very successful year at St Patrick's. I can hardly believe it is the summer again! I have thoroughly enjoyed returning to school since my maternity leave; sometimes when we step back we can see more clearly and I have definitely had the time and space to be reminded what a special school this is.

On a personal note, the baby girl I fostered last June is now adopted and a fully-fledged part of the Byrne family - I hope she doesn't regret it!

We have had so many wonderful things happening this year. Year 11 set a fantastic example to the rest of the school about how to be hard-working and focused and I know Year 10 are ready to be our next leaders in September. We are excited to support them in their final St Patrick's journey.

Year 7 have now been with us a full year - they have settled so well and are now ready to lead the new Year 7's in September.

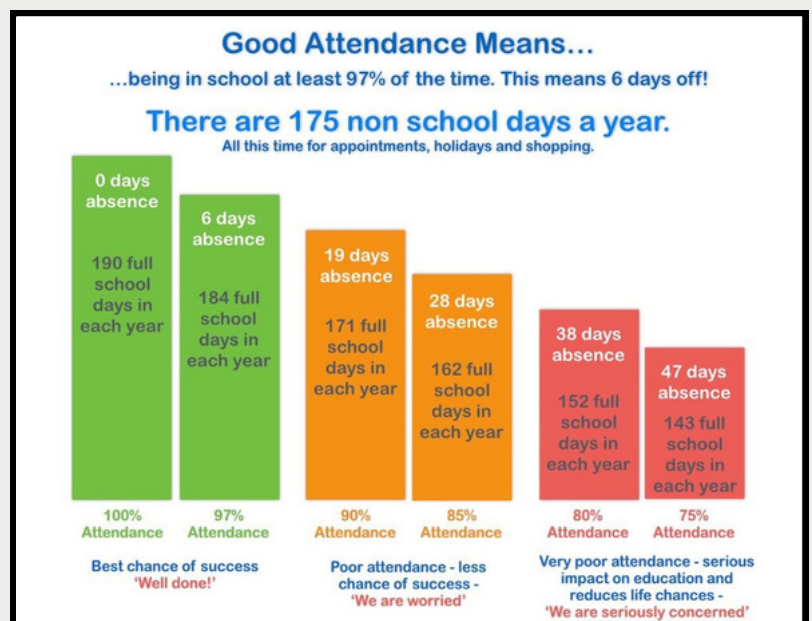
There have been so many successes and highlights this year - too many to mention. My favourite part of leading this amazing school is talking to our pupils every day - they make us laugh, feel grateful and challenge us in all the right ways.

I hope you all have a restful summer and we manage to get some sunshine - this may be wishful thinking!

Thank you for all your support - our parents and carers are our secret ingredient to success and we really appreciate it. One of the most important ways you can help your child is to ensure they are in school everyday. Please look at the chart below to show how just a few absences can affect your child.

Stay safe over the holidays and I will look forward to a new beginning in September.

Mrs Byrne



MAY WALKS

Every pupil was given the opportunity to take part in 'May is National Walking Month' where people were encouraged to get out and walk. As a school we supported Salford and took all pupils for a 2.5km walk during their weekly PE lessons. Not only was this of benefit to them physically but also proved a great hit mentally for both pupils and staff alike. The attitude towards the walks and behaviour when out of school was fantastic. A lot of pupils really enjoyed this week.



PORTICO LIBRARY

In June, Mrs Tandy-Hall took 30 Key Stage 3 pupils to the Portico Library in Manchester to take part in a creative writing workshop with a local poet and writer.



STAY SAFE THIS SUMMER

We are coming up to the time of the year where young people put themselves at risk by jumping into open water on hot days and as with every year, we have a duty to educate our pupils (and parents) to try to minimise our pupils from taking part in such activities.

- 226 people accidentally drowned in the UK last year. Don't become a statistic, stay safe around water
- Jumping into open water can be fatal. Cold water shock kills and you don't know what's lurking beneath the surface
- If you encourage your mates to go in the water it could be the last time you see them
- If you get into difficulty in the water, float to live
- If you see someone in difficulty in the water remember 'call, tell, throw':
 - Call 999 and ask for fire if inland or the coastguard if by the sea
 - Tell the struggling person to try to float on their back
 - Throw them something that floats
- Look out for hazards around water and stick to proper pathways
- Take any warning or safety signs seriously



BAY OF NAPLES TRIP

This May the humanities department escaped to the sunshine and took 40 Year 9 and 10 pupils for an unforgettable week residential to Naples, Italy. The trip was a memorable experience for all that attended with fun-filled days full of lots of activities including: climbing Mt Vesuvius, a visit to the historical city of Pompeii, a trip to the Amalfi coast and a trip to Capri. The trip was a fantastic experience which allowed students to engage with both their Geography and History lessons outside of the classroom. Students were immersed into the Italian culture (eating lots of pizza and ice cream) and spending time seeing the famous sights of on the Mediterranean coastline. Take a look at @stpatgeog on twitter to see the highlights of the trip.

From the success of Naples, the humanities department are already planning their next trip away, so keep checking form notices to find out more.



MONTON BEE RESTORED!

The Monton Bee has been repaired! Created by 2nd Monton Guides in 2018 to commemorate the lives lost in the Manchester arena attack, the bee has sat proudly on Monton Green for 5 years. Sadly, it was vandalised a few months ago but has now been lovingly restored as part of St Patrick's community badge that we are working towards for the Anti-bullying Alliance. It is now buzzing home to the guides and will be back where it belongs soon.



MANCHESTER REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

We joined together as a school community, on May 22nd, to remember the 22 victims of the Arena bombing on 22nd May 2017. As we have done each year, we commemorated the day with songs from our choir, from Hayley, Harry & Chanel and our amazing band. Our Year 11 students released 22 balloons as a symbol of respect and hope. Mrs Byrne opened the event, the Liturgy Group led the school in prayers and the teachers shared the poignant poem, This is Manchester, before Miss Cassidy closed the ceremony with the words, "St Patrick's is a hive of positivity, which buzzes with promise and dedication. Like bees, we symbolise hope, prosperity, and love. As we remember the 22 lost souls, with every other Mancunian, we remain a City united."



YEAR 7 SPIRITUAL RETREAT

As part of St. Patrick's Spiritual Enrichment programme, Year 7 experienced a day Retreat in June.

The Retreat was held at the Spiritan Centre in Lower Broughton, Salford. We have been delighted to re-establish our links with Just Youth/Spiritan Order- they had previously provided Chaplaincy support for our school in the 2000's and early 2010's.

The theme of the day was Forgiveness in the Community. Pupils took part in lively ice-breakers, dance, drama and role-play as well as activities which encouraged quiet reflection.

At the end of the day, all pupils agreed that Forgiveness is important in 2023. Feedback from pupils indicated that they had enjoyed the day. We look forward to continuing our links with the Spiritan Order in future years.



YEAR 8 CONFIRMATIONS

Throughout the month of May, over 60 of our Year 8 pupils were confirmed at their Parish (Our Lady of Hope, St. Teresa/Joseph, John Paul 2).

To celebrate their achievement, a special assembly took place on Tuesday 4th July.

Pupils were reminded that, as Luke tells us, in the Acts of the Apostles, they have now "received the Holy Spirit". As pupils have now committed to the Catholic faith, they need to make the right decisions in life - guided by the Holy Spirit.

Year 8 2023 Confirmation Team photographs were taken and a Holy Spirit (Dove) lapel pin badge was handed out to pupils to wear with pride.

Ice cream and drinks were served before pupils returned to class

YEAR 11 LEAVERS & PROM

Last month saw Year 11s finish their exams and leave St Patrick's. However, this was not the last time we saw them as around 80 pupils came on the Year 11 Alton Towers trip and 120 came to prom. Despite some torrential rain, Alton Towers was a huge hit and the pupils managed to enjoy the day while trying to stay as dry as possible.

Prom was at Gullivers World and thanks to the amazing work put in by Miss Davis and Mrs Lynch the event looked amazing and was a fantastic opportunity for Year 11s and staff to enjoy a final event together. Pupils looked absolutely fantastic and thanks to the photographer and photobooth available at the event there were plenty of serious and silly photos to remember the evening by. Anyone who was at the event will have the memory of Dan Benalam singing "Sweet Caroline" with them forever!

This marks the last time we will see most of our Year 11s until results day and we would like to wish them all the best and thank them all for their immense contributions to our school over the last 5 years. You will be missed!



SALFORD CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARD 2023

Pupils from Years 7, 8 and 9 represented our school at SCBA ceremony at the New Adelphi Theatre at Salford University.

Blessing Eigbefoh and Vinny Rothery took to the stage to speak about one of the short-listed books, and we were all thrilled to be able to meet the six short-listed authors, and hear them talk about their books.

Michael Mann was announced as the winner, for his first novel Ghostcloud.

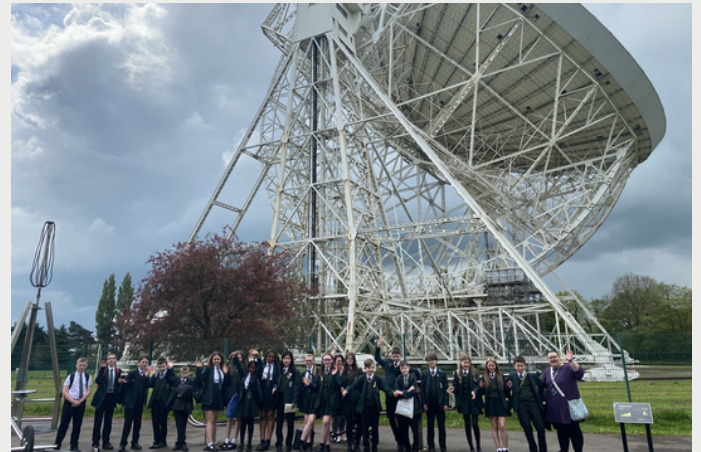


JODRELL BANK TRIP

As part of the Science Curriculum, we took Year 7 to Jodrell Bank in May to attend the 'Jodrell Bank Centre of Engagement' Programme provided by the University of Manchester.

The day featured two workshops, involving an inflatable planetarium, a visit to the Newton and Space station and interacting with the variety of exhibitions on offer.

There were opportunities for children to ask questions about space, stars and the expanding universe to experts in this field. It allowed for a deeper understanding of what life is like for an astronaut aboard the Space station through a variety of practical activities and demonstrations. The activities linked closely to the Forces and Space topics, which pupils have studied this year.



NEW SENIOR PREFECT TEAM

We are also thrilled to introduce our new Senior Prefect Team for 2023-24 and our new Head Pupils, Grace Griffin and Joel Bates.



FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS!

Our St Pat's football teams completed the treble back in May! Our Year 7, Year 10 and Year 11 teams won their respective cup finals. We couldn't be prouder, well done boys!



Year 7 Champions



Year 10 Champions



Year 11 Champions

INTEGER: STORIES INSPIRED BY NUMBERS

Numbers are everywhere, from our phones and watches to calendars, prices and even the temperature. During one of their Maths lessons, Key Stage 3 pupils were challenged to write a 100-word story inspired by a digit. Congratulations to the 21 pupils whose work has been printed in the Young Writers Integer edition, which is now available to read from the school's Library.

Check out this fabulous story:

Patient 24

I was alone in the dark misty room. My heart was beating faster by the second. My eyes begin to close as I hear 'Patient 24.' I rapidly got up; my legs weak beneath me. "Patient 24, welcome to your first day here." Then the little door opened to reveal a tall, slender woman. She angrily grabbed my arm. She took me to a room which had the number 24 written on it. My thoughts raced, my head throbbed, I couldn't breathe. I suddenly fell to the floor. Then it all went black. I woke up alone.

MR ECCLES - LET TEACHERS SHINE WINNER 2023



Mr Eccles has been awarded a grant of £25,000 to develop an educational podcast produced and hosted by students that will help them prepare for their GCSE exams, he hopes the new project will inspire students, and help young people from disadvantaged backgrounds to gain better exam results.

The podcast, called RevisePilot, will cover a different subject of the curriculum in each episode, covering difficult concepts and content.

[READ MORE HERE](#)

STAFF CHANGES FOR 2023-2024

The end of the school year sadly brings us the news of some staff leavers.

Miss Michelle Cassidy, Teacher of English - who leaves to be Deputy Director of English at Stockport School.

Mr Iain Hoy, Head of Music - who leaves us to be a Teacher of Academic Music at Chetham's School of Music.

Miss Hannah Lockey, Head of RE - who is leaving education for a new challenge

Miss Olivia Callaghan, Teacher of Science - who leaves us to be Second in Science at St Antony's RC High School

Mrs Fran Grubert, Science Technician - who will be retiring after 9 years at St Patrick's!

Mr Kevin Singh, Teaching Assistant - who leaves to begin his teacher training

Miss Laura Mellett, Teacher of RE - who leaves to be a Teacher of RE and PSHE at another school

Mr Jesse Mills, Teacher of Humanities - Teacher of History at Holy Family RC and CE College, Heywood

Mr Robert Donnelly, Teacher of IT - who leaves to be a Teacher of Computing and ICT at another school

Mrs Jennifer Iddon, Administration - who is going into early years.

Mr Omar Hayes, Teacher of English - who leaves to teach English part-time. He is looking forward to spending more time with family and friends and having the chance to pursue his hobbies

This term we have been thrilled to welcome the following to St Patrick's:

Mrs Jean Conneely - Teaching Assistant

Mrs Juliette Waterhouse - Teacher of Music

Mrs Ruth Daniel - Data and Exams Assistant

Mrs Rachel Icke - Teacher of Science

Mr Samuel Ingram - Teacher of PE

We are excited to be welcoming the following teachers in September:

Mrs Helen Stewart - Teacher of MFL

Mr Mark O'Donoghue - Second in Science

Mrs Valerie Moran - Teacher of Science

Mr Leighton Lawson - Teacher of Computing

Mrs Elizabeth Smith - Teacher of English

Mrs Aimee O'Brien - Teacher of English

Mrs Lucy Adams - Head of RE

Mrs Mia Dickinson - Second in RE

Mr Keiron Joy - Teacher of Geography

Say hello to your new Head of Year and Pastoral Team from September 2023!

Head of Year 7 - Mr Elliott

Head of Year 8 - Mr Ingram

Head of Year 9 - Mr Hindmarch

Head of Year 10 - Mrs Millar

Head of Year 11 - Miss Hogan

Pastoral Leads - Mrs Austin & Miss Browne



HEAD OF YEAR TEAM 2023-2024



*Mr Elliott
Head of Year 7*



*Mr Ingram
Head of Year 8*



*Mr Hindmarch
Head of Year 9*



*Mrs Millar
Head of Year 10*



*Miss Hogan
Head of Year 11*



IN OTHER NEWS...

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



21st July - School closes for summer at 1pm
24th August - GCSE Results Day
4th September - INSET Day
5th September - School reopens to all students
21st September - Open Morning (*Provisional*)
29th September - New Year 7 Photographs
2nd October - Year 8 HPV Vaccinations
20th October - School closes for Half Term
30th October - School reopens
17th November - Year 11 Photographs
1st December - INSET Day
4th December - School closed to all
5th December - School Reopens to all
5th December - Year 9 DPT/MenACWY Vaccinations
7th December - GCSE Award Ceremony
22nd December - School closes for Christmas

Y10 COLLEGE VISITS

Our Y10s had an amazing day at Salford City Colleges in June, gaining a valuable insight into what college life is like and a taste of potential course options. Thank you, Salford City Colleges!



LACTICS U16'S WIN THE PDL CUP



On Saturday 13th May, Wigan Athletic U16s defeated Peterborough United U16s 3-1 to lift the Professional Development League Cup.

Our very own Reece Greenhalgh in y11 played a pivotal role in the Lactics victory, scoring 2 out of the 3 goals! Congratulations Reece and teammates from all at St Patrick's.

WELL DONE OMAR

Huge congratulations to Omar Stunell in Year 11 who has secured himself a scholarship with Salford Red Devils. We are all so proud of you Omar, this is an achievement that you have strived towards since Year 7 and it just shows that with hard work, commitment and desire 'dreams do come true'.



If your child has any news they would like to feature in our next newsletter, please email us and we would be thrilled to share it! stpatricks.rchighschool@salford.gov.uk