

ST PATRICK'S NEWS



EASTER 2024



We have had an extremely busy term that has gone in the blink of an eye with Easter being so early. There is so much to celebrate about our wonderful school.

I always start with Year 11 so this time I will focus on Year 9! Year 9 are currently choosing their GCSE options and are turning their minds to their future - it doesn't feel long since they joined us in Year 7 and now they are heading towards GCSE courses. We wish them well in making their decisions.

Year 11 have only a matter of weeks before their GCSE exams begin. We are so proud of how hard they are working and how they are rising to the challenge, keep up the hard work! All we want is for Year 11 to do their best and give their all.

So many of our children have done us proud this term in so many different ways. Just last week I dropped into a Year 8 Girls' PE class and watched them making their own TikTok dances - their sense of fun and enthusiasm was infectious and it was lovely to see them enjoying their learning.

We have had some fantastic individual successes too from the many children who have hobbies and sporting interests outside of school - it is always my pleasure to tell staff about children such as Ty and Panivino who won a football tournament in Malta, Harmony who performed brilliantly in horse riding, Grace our synchronized swimmer and Byron our amazing gymnast to name but a few of our talented youngsters.

One of the term's highlights for me was watching Year 7-10 in their whole year group singing lesson a few weeks ago. It has always been mine and Ms O'Hagan's ambition to have all of our children know and sing a few hymns together as one Catholic community and this year we finally achieved it. We had a lesson from a real chorister from Salford Cathedral and the children then sang the hymns at our St Patrick's Day mass at Holy Cross Church. We were a bit nervous that the older pupils in Year 10 wouldn't join in because it wasn't "cool" but they blew us away! After belting out 'Here I am Lord', one pupil (Tommy) said 'we smashed that', and I had to hide my giggles! It felt really special that we all sang as one and I look forward to more of this when our new Director of Music joins our school in June.

There are a few other staffing updates to share with you. Mr Dorrian, our outstanding Maths teacher, will take over as Head of Maths from September. He will no doubt be brilliant in this important role. Mr Budgett will also join the maths team permanently. He has had a number of roles in the school and finally settled in maths and we are very glad he has! Mr Turner, a former St Pat's pupil, has been appointed as a geography teacher for September - it is very lovely to have him back with us but now as a member of staff!

Finally, I would like to thank all our parents and carers for their support, especially with attendance. We have maintained our attendance figure for 10 weeks running now - a great achievement! Thank you to you all for sending your children in even when they are a bit 'under the weather' and avoiding appointments and holidays in school time.

Have a restful, happy and Holy Easter.

We will see all children looking their usual smart selves at 8.25am on Monday 15th April.

Kind regards,

Mrs Byrne

Please note that if your child misses their 9am or 1pm registration mark then they are marked absent for half a day, even if they only miss half an hour!

WORLD BOOK DAY

On Thursday 7th March, St Patrick's celebrated World Book Day. Our theme this year was Gothic Monsters and pupils were enthralled as staff dressed up to celebrate the occasion, with costumes varying from The Woman in Black to Wednesday Addams. Pupils engaged in a range of activities, such as find the raven (in the Library), design your own Gothic Monster, and Y7 and Y8 were treated to a stage production of Frankenstein in the school hall. It was a fabulous way to celebrate 'Reading for Pleasure,' and our Drop Everything and Read Audio session invited pupils to explore listening to spooky stories for free. Congratulations to 7SR and 10FW Forms, who won the World Book Day Quiz!



BATTLE OF THE BANDS

In January our Year 7 band, The Four Nations, competed in MAPAS' Battle of the Bands. They were up against 8 other bands from all year groups - and came **third place** overall! We are very proud of the effort and attitude they showed throughout. Well done Dregen, Louis, Jaiden, Nate and Malachi - you are so talented!



YEAR 11 MOCK INTERVIEW DAY

In January, we hosted our annual Year 11 Mock Interview Day. It was a fantastic morning, some of our pupils were with an interviewer for over half an hour just because they had so much to say! Some feedback from our guests...

"I am amazed at how articulate your pupils are, they really know how to command the room"

"The pupils I have interviewed are a credit to you and the school, they have impeccable manners"

"A range of really interesting young people who are clearly going to go so far in life"

Well done Year 11!



SHAKESPEARE FOR SCHOOLS

On Thursday 21st March, 15 of our students wowed everyone with their performance of Macbeth at the Shakespeare for Schools Festival in Manchester. Our pupils behaved so professionally throughout the day and their performance was truly amazing thanks to their hard work and Mr Steggles' very creative vision. Well done everyone!



CINEMA CLUB

The St Patricks cinema club has flourished this term and has gained lots of new members. The club has shown a varied programme of films which reflect the tastes and interests of our members (new and old.) Films shown include; Harry Potter, Big, Back To The Future and Chicken Run!

Here are some film recommendations from our members; Grace (year 8) would recommend watching Freaky Friday, a noughties classic starring Lindsay Lohan. Molly (year 7) recommends the slightly newer movie Wonka which she saw recently at the cinema.

Next term at cinema club we will be watching some more great movies including; Spiderman: Across the spider verse, The Wizard of Oz, Hidden Figures and La La Land! Everyone is welcome to join cinema club and we are open to all year groups.



ST PATRICK'S DAY

On Friday 15th March, all members of our school community walked to Holy Cross church for our annual St Patrick's day mass. Everyone behaved impeccably and it was a great celebration all round. Grace in Year 9 also put on a short Irish dancing performance for staff during lunchtime. Thank you Grace, and Happy St Patrick's Day to all.



BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK

We celebrated Science week from 11th-15th of March, highlighting the theme of time with:

- Form time quiz
- PSHE activities on time
- Great British Science Bake Off
- PhD students from Salford University delivering workshops on cardiovascular research
- Greatest scientist timeline on the Science stairs
- Science time-themed lessons
- Famous quotes 'Time' quotes displayed around school

Pupils had to bake something at home along the theme of Time and were judged on their bakes taste, appearance and scientific link. We had an amazing 18 groups of pupils take part and 6 staff judges.

Thanks to all Science staff and all students who engaged in such a fun week.



HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL

Our school performance of High School Musical was unfortunately postponed in March, we are pleased to announce that the new dates are 18th and 19th June. We hope to see you there!

BIG LENT WALKS FOR CAFOD

In March pupils took part in the annual event of the Big Lent Walks, raising money for CAFOD.

Each form and their form tutor, got dressed up in colourful attire and fast walked the perimeter of the school as fast as they could, no running was allowed!

There were prizes for fastest form and most colourful form in each Year group. Some form tutors and heads of Year were hardly recognisable in their outfits! Especially well done to Miss Shepherd and her form for topping everyone else this year to be the best dressed form.

There was also a collection for CAFOD which as always was most generous from all year groups.

Furthermore, St Patrick's set up a Big Lent walk page on the [CAFOD website](#) where pupils have been uploading their walks to further raise money to make a whole school total of miles along with their fundraising.

Well done everyone once again on your efforts for CAFOD this year, we had lots of fun too!



FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow us on Facebook (search [St Patrick's RC High School](#)) and Twitter ([@stpatsrc](#)) to keep up to date with our latest news as and when it happens. You can also follow our PE department on Instagram ([@stpatspe](#)).

YEAR 8 NETBALL

Our Year 8 netball team won the Salford Schools Rally on 12th March, and they did this without losing a single game! They all played really well with some fantastic netball skills on show.



YEAR 11 PROM

Our Year 11 pupils are looking forward to their prom this year! A handful of pupils, including Tom, Florrie, Nicole and Aimie (pictured) very kindly give up their lunchtimes each day to sell ice pops and jubbies to help raise funds towards their school prom. All money raised goes directly towards the prom and means the pupils can have the very best night that they deserve, whilst keeping the ticket costs to a minimum. Other fundraising events have included bake sales and Hallowe'en, Valentines, Someone Special and Easter Egg prize draws. Well done to all of the Prom Fundraisers, they've done a fantastic job!



Y11 LEAVERS HOODIES

All hoody orders must be received by **Sunday 31st March**. [Click here](#) to order and enter code 26948YR11. The online shop will close on this date and no further orders can be placed.

BEING THE BEST VERSION OF YOURSELF

Thank you to parents for ensuring that your son/daughter arrives to school on time, equipped to learn and has full complete uniform.

As a reminder all pupils should have the following equipment every day and every lesson.

- Black/blue pens
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Calculator
- Planner



Equipment can be bought in school from our equipment shop between 8.15am to 8.25am from Tuesday 16th April. This will be ran by a small group of Year 10 pupils based out of G6. Pupils who require equipment from the shop need to have change ready to pay for items they require. On the 1st day back, Monday 15th April, Form Tutors will be doing an equipment audit, therefore please ensure your son/daughter has all the necessary equipment to start the summer term "ready to learn".

Uniform standards on the whole are excellent and it is often noticed and commented on as a real positive when visitors come to our School. As we move towards the summer term, jumpers are no longer compulsory, but they are optional to wear. When pupils return to school on Monday 15th April we want them to be starting the summer term off in a positive manner. Therefore, can you look at some of the points below to ensure your son/daughter is "St Pats compliant" when they return:

- No unnaturally coloured dyed hair or extreme hairstyles (this includes shaved lines)
- No false nails, painted nails, false eyelashes
- No jewellery or piercings
- Make up must be very, very subtle and unnoticeable.
- No fake tan
- Hair bands must be either plain dark green or black
- Socks are either white or black but without any logos. Socks should not be pulled up to the knees
- Shoes must be St Pats compliant. No trainer/trainer style and no "dolly shoes". Shoes must be plain black and be of a sturdy quality. Please do not purchase shoes based on the fact a specific shop sells them as school shoes. They may not be compliant with our policy and I would hate to think of parents wasting their hard earned money on footwear that cannot be used at St Patrick's
- Coats must be dark coloured and not worn inside the building
- Skirts must not be rolled up or pulled up
- Pupils require a school bag capable of holding multiple A4 size books, equipment, planner and possibly revision guides/knowledge organisers.

If in any doubt about Uniform expectations (especially before purchasing shoes), please consult the School's website and/or contact the school to speak to your son/daughters Form Tutor or Head of Year.

STAFF UPDATES

We are sad to be saying goodbye to following staff members who are leaving us for pastures new:

Miss Icke - Teacher of Science

Mr Gregory - Teacher of Geography

Miss Waterhouse - Teacher of Music

Miss Salih - Teaching Assistant

Mr Gyeshi-Appiah - Teaching Assistant

We are also excited to be welcoming the following staff members to the St Patrick's Team:

Mrs Taylor - HR Assistant

Ms Healy - Design and Art Technician

Ms Mulholland - Director of Music

Mrs McIntyre - Science Technician

Mr Worthington - Teacher of Music



GCSE ART & PHOTOGRAPHY TRIP

The recent GCSE Year 10 Art & Photography trip to Manchester proved to be an enriching and inspiring experience for both students and staff alike. With an agenda packed full of cultural exploration and artistic immersion, the excursion unfolded as a memorable day filled with creativity and discovery.



The day commenced with an exploration of the iconic Castlefield Viaduct, a testament to Manchester's industrial heritage. The students were guided through the historic arches, where the juxtaposition of ancient brickwork and modern surroundings provided a captivating backdrop for artistic exploration. From intricate details to expansive views, the viaduct served as a perfect muse for budding photographers and artists to capture the essence of the city's evolution.

The highlight of the trip was undoubtedly the visit to the Manchester Open 2024 exhibition at HOME MCR. The gallery space showcased an impressive array of artworks from local talents, offering a diverse and thought-provoking insight into contemporary artistic expressions. Students were able to engage with a multitude of mediums, styles, and perspectives, sparking discussions on creativity and individuality.

The enthusiasm and passion of the students were evident throughout the tours, with each participant demonstrating a keen eye for detail and a unique approach to interpreting their surroundings. Their engagement with the exhibits reflected not only their artistic sensibilities but also their ability to appreciate and critique the work of others.

The dedication and conduct of our students were commendable, with each individual representing the school with poise and respect. Their inquisitive nature and willingness to learn were a testament to their commitment to the arts and their personal development.

Over 300 photographs were captured during the trip, serving as a visual diary of the students' exploration of the city. These images will now become an integral part of their coursework, providing a rich resource for creative projects and artistic development. The diverse perspectives captured by the students will undoubtedly contribute to a vibrant and dynamic body of work.

In conclusion, the GCSE Year 10 Art & Photography trip to Manchester was a resounding success. The exposure to historical landmarks like Castlefield Viaduct and the contemporary art scene at HOME MCR provided a well-rounded experience that will undoubtedly influence the students' artistic journeys. As these young artists continue to refine and develop their coursework, the impact of this trip will undoubtedly resonate in their future creative endeavours.





IN OTHER NEWS...



KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



W/C 22nd April - Year 7 Faith Experience
 29th April - Macbeth Performance
 2nd May - GCSE Exams begin
 2nd May - Year 8 Parents' Evening
 23rd May - Year 7 Parents' Evening
 23rd May - Year 8 Trip to Quarry Bank Mill
 24th May - School closes for Half term at 3pm
 3rd June - School reopens to all
 18th - 19th June - School Production
 20th June - Year 7 trip to Jodrell Bank
 26th June - Year 11 Leavers' Mass
 26th June - New Year 11 Information Evening
 27th-28th June - Year 6 Transition Days
 27th June - Transition Information Evening
 2nd July - Sports Day
 4th July - Year 11 Prom
 8th July - Mission Day
 9th July - Year 10 & Year 9 Award Ceremonies
 11th July - Year 8 & Year 7 Award Ceremonies
 15th July - Alton Towers Reward Trip
 16th July - Year 10 Invite Only Parents' Evening
 19th July - School closes for Summer at 1pm

FANTASTIC HARMONY

Harmony in Year 7 has spent her last few weekends attending the Royal International Horse Show qualifiers. She performed brilliantly, securing 2nd place with her pony called Thistledown King of the Road and 3rd with her pony Shanrye Finley. Well done Harmony, you are amazing!



BRILLIANT BYRON!

Year 7 student, Byron, competed at the English Gymnastics Championships in Telford. Byron competed in the U12'S Men's Artistic Gymnastics. Byron hoped to improve on last year's PB score of 67 and 10th place. He smashed it, achieving a new PB 71.05!

This earned him 2nd place overall out of 54 competitors. He placed 2nd vault, 2nd high bar, 2nd rings, 2nd pommel and 5th on PBars. Byron, you are an inspiration. Well done!



FANTASTIC HARMONY

KHS CUP WINNERS

Well done to Year 8 students Panivino and Ty who won the U13's KHS cup in Malta with Blackburn Rovers. The KHS Cup is a youth elite international football tournament. Well done boys!



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