

ST PATRICK'S NEWS

JULY 2025



Here we are at the end of another great year at St Patrick's. We have achieved so much and we are so proud of the hard work of all of our pupils.

Firstly, thank you to the unsung heroes of our school, our governors. They work tirelessly in the background to make sure our school serves our pupils fully. They also support me in my role and help me make important decisions - we are very lucky to have such a dedicated governing board who volunteer their time.

Thank you also to you, our parents and carers. Your support makes such a difference to our school community, whether it is making sure your child is well presented to school each day or attending parents' evenings, having your backing is key to your child's success and happiness.

This year, we have worked hard at setting stretching targets for our pupils. Our pupils have responded really well and teachers have been very impressed with how high children want to reach! The sky is the limit with their positive and ambitious attitude.

We have also focused on developing prayer and worship further. Since September, children have experienced a range of prayers in form time, and every Year 7 and Year 8 form now has two pupil chaplains to lead prayer and help their form to become more involved in their faith journey.

This summer, we sadly say goodbye to Mrs Conneely, Miss Costello, Miss Wood, Mr Steggles, Miss Hunter, Mrs Hardy and Mrs Lane. We thank these dedicated members of our team for all their love and care over many years. Special mentions must go to Mrs Hardy, who started with us in 2003, as a member of the kitchen staff. She worked her way up to being one of the very best form tutors and maths teachers. She will be so missed. Mrs Lane leaves us to retire after over 40 years teaching in Salford, and 36 years at St Patrick's! She has worked tirelessly to help those children who wanted to boost their reading, and is so passionate about literacy and studying English. As well as a fantastic teacher, she has served the school as a staff governor. I am delighted that she will be staying on as a governor to continue this important work.

Finally, our pupils have, yet again, amazed us with their talent, skills, commitment and kindness. I hope you enjoy reading about a small selection in this newsletter.

Have a restful summer - we are looking forward to another great year and especially looking forward to welcoming our new Year 7's and their families in September.

Best wishes,
Mrs Byrne

SALFORD CHILDREN'S BOOK AWARDS

Another spectacular year at the Salford Children's Book Awards, which took place on Tuesday 24th June at Salford University. We were one of 13 Salford Schools who have taken part in this year's event, which started in February with the short list of 6 books. All the pupils had been working hard, reading as much as they could in order to attend the award ceremony, which is open to Key Stage 3 pupils. We are so proud of Manxi and Layla who took to the stage to explain why they enjoyed *Code Name Kingfisher* by Liz Kessler, and present her with a small gift. Every pupil had previously voted for their favourite book and this year the winner is *Quiet Storm* by Kimberly Whittam, who is a local author. After the ceremony there is an opportunity to meet and take photographs with the authors. We are looking forward to The Salford Children's Book Awards 2026, and we hope more students will get involved.



FAITH IN ACTION AT LORETO

We had the pleasure of taking a group of our Faith in Action pupils to a Chaplaincy Day held at Loreto. This special event provided a meaningful opportunity for the students to deepen their understanding of faith and service. Throughout the day, the group engaged in a series of thoughtful activities centred around the theme of the Jubilee — a time of renewal, celebration, and hope rooted in our Christian tradition. The highlight of the day was the celebration of Mass in Loreto's stunning chapel, a sacred and peaceful space that added to the spiritual significance of the experience.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Last week, over 60 pupils and staff received the Sacrament of Reconciliation in school. We are incredibly grateful to Fr Martin, Fr Frank, Fr Ian, Fr Frankie, Fr Bob and Fr Emmanuel for joining us in school to make this possible.



YEAR 8 PUPIL CHAPLAINS

We are delighted to have appointed our Year 8 Pupil Chaplains during this last term. Our Chaplains will support us in leading Prayer & Liturgy at St Patrick's! We celebrated each Year 8 Form's 'Chapel Experience' during the last few weeks. These opportunities for prayer were created by the Pupil Chaplains, with a focus on the Jubilee theme 'Pilgrims of Hope'.



YEAR 10 ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY TRIP

What an incredible day with our Year 10 Art and Photography students on their visit to the University of Salford! Every student represented the school with pride—polite, engaged, and genuinely excited about the possibilities of life-long learning in the arts. There were jaw-dropping moments as they explored the inspiring degree shows and took part in thought-provoking Q&As with Salford's lecturers and students. It was especially moving to see new friendships blossom, helping some of our more reserved students feel included and supported. A truly amazing day where creative horizons were not just broadened, but set alight.

This visit also marked a fantastic finale to our outreach programme for schools, commissioned by the University of Salford (2018–2025). Now in its eighth year, the Encounters programme has aimed to promote the study of art and design at higher education level as a gateway into the thriving creative industries of Greater Manchester. It has brought young people face to face with inspirational creatives and their workplaces, igniting passions and opening doors.

A huge well done to Year 10—you were a credit to us all and a wonderful part of this final chapter!



OXFORD UNIVERSITY TRIP

In May, we had the pleasure of taking 23 pupils on an enriching trip to Oxford University and London. The adventure began with a visit to the Tate Modern, followed by a fun and challenging escape room experience. That evening, we immersed ourselves in the arts with a captivating performance of Romeo and Juliet at the iconic Globe Theatre.

The following day, we travelled to Oxford University, where students enjoyed lunch in the renowned dining hall. Our visit included a guided tour of Corpus Christi College, an engaging academic taster session, an exploration of the Central Library, and an insightful Q&A with current student ambassadors.

It was an inspiring and memorable experience for everyone involved.



YEAR 11 FAREWELL EVENTS

As another year comes to an end, we gathered to celebrate and bid farewell to our incredible Year 11 students with two very special events that captured the spirit, achievements, and memories of their time with us.

Leavers' Mass: A Moment of Reflection and Gratitude

Our Year 11 Leavers' Mass was a beautiful event, filled with reflection, prayer, and gratitude, which offered students, staff, and families a chance to pause and look back on their St Patrick's journey. The Mass celebrated not just their academic growth, but personal and spiritual development too—reminding us all of the values that will guide our students as they take their next steps. The mass ended with the Year 11 Leavers' Video - a compilation of photos, memories and messages that captured the friendships and special moments shared over the years. There were plenty of smiles, a few tears, and a deep sense of pride as everyone relived some of the most memorable chapters of their school journey. [Watch the video on YouTube here!](#)

Year 11 Prom: A Night to Remember at AJ Bell Stadium

On Thursday 3rd July, the class of 2025 swapped their school uniforms for suits, gowns, and dancing shoes, as they arrived in style at the AJ Bell Stadium for their Year 11 Prom. The venue sparkled almost as brightly as our students, who made unforgettable entrances and filled the evening with laughter, music, and joy. It was a perfect send off, a final shared memory before everyone embarks on new adventures in college, apprenticeships, or the world beyond school.

To our Year 11s: we are proud of everything you have accomplished. Your resilience, kindness, and enthusiasm will be remembered, and we can't wait to see what you achieve next. Go forward with confidence and never forget that you'll always be part of our school family.



SCHOOL CONCERT

On Tuesday 8th July, the music department held their Summer Music Concert in the main hall. The concert had over 50 pupils performing to a packed hall of parents, staff and pupils past and present. The school choir opened the concert and were followed by performances from a mix of soloists and bands. There were performances from every year group, including two Year 11 GCSE Music students who returned to school for one last time. The music ranged from Franz Liszt to Billie Eilish, including a beautiful performance by the Dance group led by two Year 9 pupils. When the Year 10 Music students performed Oasis, the lead singer, Libby, had everyone singing along to 'Don't Look Back in Anger'. The final performance of the evening involved a mass performance of Elbow's 'One Day Like This' and it was wonderful to invite our special guests, our Year 6's who start at St Patrick's in September, to come and join us on stage. It was wonderful to hear feedback after the concert, and it seemed that everyone we spoke to had a different favourite performance from the evening. We are incredibly proud of everyone involved in the evening and we cannot wait for our next concert!



SALFORD SCHOOL ATHLETICS

What a fantastic day we had last week as our Year 7, 8, 9, and 10 pupils took part in the Salford Schools Athletics Championships at Cleveleys track!

We are incredibly proud to announce that St Patrick's were crowned Overall Champions, for the second year in a row! 🏆🥇

This outstanding achievement is a testament to the dedication, teamwork, and spirit shown by every single one of our pupils, and the unwavering support from our amazing staff. You've all done us proud!

Well done, Team St Patrick's! ❤️



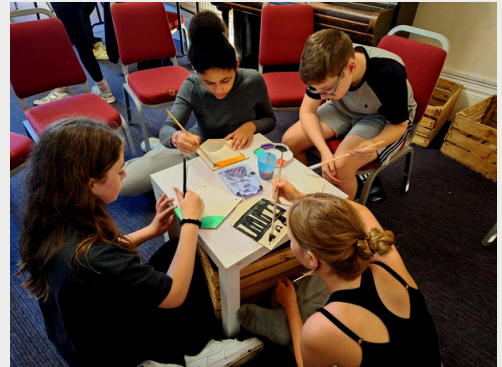
YEAR 10 WORK EXPERIENCE

In June, our Year 10 pupils took a big step towards their futures as they embarked on their Work Experience placements across a wide range of industries and sectors. From primary schools, retail stores, and healthcare settings, to engineering firms and office environments, our students impressed employers with their maturity, enthusiasm, and willingness to learn. The experience provided a valuable opportunity for pupils to gain a real-world understanding of the workplace, develop key skills such as communication, teamwork, and time management, and begin thinking about potential career paths.

We have received outstanding feedback from employers, many of whom praised our pupils for their professionalism and positive attitude. It's clear that our young people made a real impact and represented St Patrick's with pride and integrity.

CASTLERIGG MANOR

Back in June, 58 Year 8 children embarked on a residential in the stunning location of Castlerigg Manor in the Lake District. They took part in many activities linked to their spiritual development, enjoyed the beautiful landscapes and spent time getting to know each other whilst on retreat. Some of the highlights included a walk to Derwentwater, a party night, and a lovely mass to finish the retreat.



STAFF CHANGES

As we prepare for the start of the new academic year, we would like to inform you of some staff changes taking place at St Patrick's.

We extend our heartfelt thanks and best wishes to members of staff who are moving on to new opportunities. Their dedication and contributions to our school community have been greatly valued, and they will be missed. We are also pleased to welcome several new colleagues who will be joining our team in September. They bring a range of experience and enthusiasm, and we are confident they will make a positive impact on both teaching and school life.

We are sad to be saying goodbye to:

Mr David Steggles - Teacher of Drama

Miss Holly Hunter - Teacher of Humanities

Miss Kimberley Wood - SENDCo and Teacher of Maths

Mrs Lynn Hardy - Teacher of Maths

Miss Abbey Costello - Teacher of Maths

Mrs Lina Lane - Teacher of English - who is retiring after dedicating 35 years to St Patrick's!

Mrs Jeannie Conneely - Teaching Assistant

Miss Daria Paulopol - Progress and Wellbeing Mentor

We are excited to be welcoming:

Miss Natasha Cooke - Teacher of History

Mr Matt Carson - Teacher of English

Miss Ashleigh Wiseman - Second in RE

Miss Becky Barham - Teacher of English & Performing Arts

MISSION DAY 2025

This year's Mission Day was a resounding success, as students took part in a wide range of exciting activities. From thrilling rollercoasters at Blackpool Pleasure Beach, to a scenic hike up Rivington Pike, there was something for everyone. Other groups explored the wonders of the Manchester Museum and the fascinating sea life at the Sealife Centre. Some students got hands-on with history and technology at the NW Computer Museum, while others discovered the beauty of nature at RHS Bridgewater. For those who enjoy adventure, Kayaking and Watersports provided an exhilarating experience to round off the day.

Mission Day 2025 was a memorable celebration of learning, exploration, and fun beyond the classroom.

Take a look at some photos from the day...



YOUNG PHILOSOPHERS' SUMMIT 2025 AT LORETO COLLEGE

Written by Hollie B, Year 10

What an eye opening experience for each individual participating on the trip! With engaging classes varying from 'Pragmatism and Evidentialism' to 'Humans, Animals and AI systems', Loreto College offered a wide range of interesting, high level lectures. With help from Xaverian College and the Royal Institute of Philosophy, this experience enabled students to take a look into a day at the college, and dive into each classroom knowing a new, captivating lesson would await them. Engaging with other schools such as Loreto High, St Patrick's pupils were able to build upon other children's ideas and bounce from one suggestion to another, furthering their understanding of the topic they were discussing. The various strategies in which the staff at Loreto taught ensured inclusivity to all. From mind maps and debates, to physical activities, each teacher allowed the pupils to engage without struggle or confusion. In addition, prizes and praise were awarded in each lesson, encouraging confidence. Overall, with the enjoyment of having breakfast and lunch included, pupils were lucky enough to investigate a new, unfamiliar topic that St Patrick's doesn't quite offer yet.



PAT'S PANTRY

We are pleased to have Pat's Pantry; our very own food and household essentials provision (food bank) for our school community. Through generous donations from pupils, staff and friends of the school, we have a range of dry and tinned food that make up complete meals, plus sauces, drinks and snacks available, as well as toiletries, cleaning products and baby food.

Pat's Pantry will be open during the summer holidays on Wednesdays, between 10am - 2pm for anyone who needs to use it (or would like to donate anything). Please pop in the school during these times and ask for a pantry package and a colleague will be available to help you.

We have also collected pre-loved school uniform, so this will be available during the pantry opening hours for anyone who needs this.

If you would like anything from Pat's Pantry during school term, please email lynch.v@stpatricksrchigh.co.uk or call 0161 921 2303.

This is a confidential provision and a friendly helping hand to anyone who needs it.



IN OTHER NEWS...

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



1st September - Staff INSET Day
2nd September - School reopens to all students
3rd September - Year 11 Award Ceremony
4th September - Year 10 Award Ceremony
8th September - Year 9 Award Ceremony
9th September - Year 8 Award Ceremony
18th September - Y5 & 6 Open Morning
26th September - Year 7 School Photographs
17th October - Y11 Music Trip
24th October - School closes for half term
3rd November - School reopens to all students
14th November - Y11 School Photographs
19th November - Y11 Blood Brothers Trip
28th November - Staff INSET Day
1st December - School closed to all
19th December - School closes for Christmas

THOMAS RAISES OVER £1,000 FOR CYSTIC FIBROSIS TRUST

Back in May, Thomas C, a Year 11 student, took on the Great Manchester Run 10k in support of the Cystic Fibrosis Trust. He has already raised over £1,000 for the charity, which has provided vital support to him and thousands of others living with Cystic Fibrosis. An incredible achievement - well done Thomas!

If you're able to, please consider supporting Thomas via this link: [DONATE HERE](#)



ISLA TRIUMPHS AT NORTHERN FLAGS LACROSSE FESTIVAL

Isla S from Year 8 and her team, the Boardman Lacrosse U13 Bears Reds, won the U13 Cup at the Lacrosse Northern Flags Festival back in April. Well done girls!



Y11 RETURN FOR EXTRA LESSONS

A group of our Year 11s leavers returned to our classrooms! These extra-committed young people came into school to help prepare themselves for A Level Maths by taking part in a lesson with Mr Dorrian.



NEW SCHOOL EMAIL

Please note that we have a new school email address: enquiries@stpatricksrhigh.co.uk

While the previous email address will still be monitored for a short transition period, we kindly ask that you begin using the new address immediately to ensure smooth communication going forward.

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! enquiries@stpatricksrhigh.co.uk