

# Saint Paul's Fundraising

## Rock Your Shades!

The School Council organised a successful "Rock Your Shades" Day when pupils were allowed to wear their sunglasses to school to raise money for the Teenage Cancer Trust.



## Fundraising for St Ann's Hospice

Three Year 9 pupils from have been working hard to raise money for St Ann's Hospice, one of the UK's largest adult hospices which is based close to the school in Heald Green. The pupils have been selling teddies in the school raising over £500.



**PTFA Fundraising**

**Francis House Fundraising**

Staff and pupils have been working hard to raise money for the school's Parents, Teachers and Friends Association.

The six Year 7 forms took part in the charity fundraising with one form, form 7A, standing out as they raised the most money for their selected charity, Francis House.

Pupils from years 7, 8 and 9 gave up their time at the weekend to help raise money by bag packing at local retailers.

The pupils took part in many fundraising activities including organising a cake sale, a sponsored silence and collecting any spare change to raise money for Francis House. As a reward the school thanked them by throwing a party with games and prizes.

The money raised will be used to support the pupils in a number of activities including the annual three day residential retreat.

## Pupils Aim for the Airways

A group of pupils visited the Key 103 media bus where they were given the task of producing an advert focusing on the problems which a criminal record can bring.

They then attended a session at Manchester Airport looking at employment opportunities at the airport and the crime record checks involved.

## An Evening of Music and Dance

The Summer Showcase of Expressive and Performing Arts was a great success with a wide variety of music and dance and

an innovative art exhibition during the interval. It was an excellent display of the creative talents at Saint Paul's.



## Cambridge University Visit

Students from Clare College, Cambridge University visited Saint Paul's to talk to their Gifted and Talented pupils about university life and what it could offer them. They discussed the social and financial aspects of university, what life at university actually involves and the unique advantages of Cambridge University.



# Safe Cycling

Pupils took part in the Bikeability scheme, the updated Cycling Proficiency Test, which is designed to give the next generation the skills and confidence to ride their bikes safely on today's roads.

"It is not just about teaching children to ride a bike to national standards but also about introducing them to cycling as

an everyday and fun activity and an alternative mode of transport," explained Ms Keary. "Cycling is great exercise and is a very efficient and eco-friendly way of getting around which we would like to encourage."



# Adopting a Soldier

A Year 8 form have "adopted a soldier", James Berry, who is an ex pupil of the school. James has already carried out a term in Afghanistan and is currently in the Household Cavalry with one of his duties being Trooping the Colours.

In the summer, James will be

returning to Afghanistan, the Year 8 pupils have committed to supporting the soldier by sending him packages of letters, goodies and photos.

This is a spin-off from a whole school shoebox appeal to collect morale boosting items for soldiers working overseas.



# School Prom

A fond farewell was given to all Year 11 pupils when staff and pupils joined together for the school prom held at the Cresta Court Hotel in Altrincham. The pupils went out in

style, dressed in their finest and arriving at the hotel in sleek limousines.

"It was a wonderful evening which we all enjoyed," said Mr Daron. "We wish our pupils every success and happiness for the future."



# Diary Dates 2010 - 2011

Monday 6th September 2010  
**Return to School**

Thursday 16th September 2010  
**Students, Teachers and Friends Association at 6.00pm**

Thursday 23rd September 2010  
**Open Evening 6.30pm - 9.00pm**

Friday 24th September 2010  
**Years 7 and 9 Photographs**

Tuesday 28th September 2010  
**Years 7 and 8 Parents Meet Form Tutor Evening 4.00pm - 6.30pm**

Thursday 30th September 2010  
**Year 11 Careers Fair**

Wednesday 6th October 2010  
**Year 7 Family Mass 7.00pm**

Friday 22nd -  
Friday 29th October 2010  
**School Closed for Half Term**

Monday 1st November 2010  
**Return to School**

Thursday 11th November 2010  
**Awards Evening for Years 8, 9, 10 7.00 - 9.00pm (Forum Hall)**

Sunday 21st November 2010  
**Christmas Fayre 12.00 - 3.00pm**

Wednesday 15th December 2010  
**Carol Service at St Anthony's 7.00pm**

Monday 20th December -  
Monday 3rd January 2011  
**School Closed for Christmas Holidays**

Tuesday 4th January 2011  
**Return to School**

Monday 10th January 2011  
**Year 11 Mock Exams Start**

# Italian Cooking

Year 7 pupils have enjoyed cooking some basic Italian recipes, which were even written in Italian, as part of a new initiative, the Innovative Curriculum scheme.

The new experiences were presented to them by Mrs Anna Maria Forti Sheikh and funded by Routes into Languages North West. Anna Maria's Fast Food Italian Style scheme has proved an excellent way to promote Italian and learn some valuable cooking skills.



# St. Paul's Catholic High School Summer Newsletter 2010

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Dear Parents

Another very busy year is almost at an end, where does the time go? It really has been an excellent year for Saint Paul's. We started the year celebrating our best ever GCSE results and had a visit from the Cardinal, we had a good Ofsted report in the spring and an action packed summer term with visitors in the school almost every day, culminating in a visit from Bishop Mark in the last week of term.

It is encouraging to know that Saint Paul's is also becoming increasingly popular with parents in Wythenshawe as we expect to be

full in Year 7 in September. It is also becoming a sought after place to work with the school receiving many applications for every available post!

Thank you once again for your support this year, at parents' evenings, school events and whenever we have required your help. A special thank you to the PTFA who work so hard for the school. Enjoy the summer break.

Yours sincerely

W. A. Daron  
*Head Teacher*

## Outstanding New Teacher of the Year

Ms Gallagher, Head of Humanities, has just won the third place award for the North of England Outstanding New Teacher of the Year. The awards are education's biggest annual celebration of excellence. Ms Gallagher

was also selected for an award two years ago by the Centre for Urban Education for her "Exceptional Commitment, Endeavour and Enthusiasm".

What stands out with Ms Gallagher is the interest and enthusiasm which you see in her pupils. One Year 10 pupil summed this up: "Ms Gallagher makes me feel confident and influences me. When I go in her lesson it is more like a hobby or a passion."

"We are delighted with Ms Gallagher's achievement," commented Mr Daron. "The award recognises her commitment, enthusiasm, strong leadership and power to inspire."

## Celebrating Ofsted Report

"Good teaching enables students to make good progress and achieve well. Relationships between teachers and students are strong. "They result in good behaviour" report Ofsted inspectors. The school has just received a good report following the visit of Ofsted inspectors to the school.

The report stated that the school is "enabling students to learn effectively and make good progress. Attainment is rising rapidly as a result. Achievement for all students, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities and those with English as an additional language, is good."

It added: "Care, guidance and support are at the heart of the school's work" and commented that "The school is a harmonious community in which students from different

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nationalities and racial backgrounds work together and socialise without problems."

The report was full of praise that "Students who join the school in Year 7 or at a later stage settle in quickly because

they are made to feel welcome and valued."

The school has double reason to celebrate having been recognized by the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust as being one of the 20 most improved schools.

## Performing Arts Award



Alison Dempsey was presented with a trophy in recognition of her contribution to performing arts at Saint Elizabeth's.

## Engineering Opportunities

A group of pupils took part in an Engineering Careers Insight Day when Kelly Services and Greater Manchester Police visited the school.

There was a presentation about the



different sectors within Engineering and the various career paths available. Then the Vehicle Workshop Services Manager from Greater Manchester Police showed the students how a standard car is adapted with different equipment and electronics so that it can be of as much help to the officers as possible in carrying out their duties. Pupils were shown video recording equipment, number-plate recognition, light systems and communications technology.

## Pupils Support Thai Orphanage

Year 11 students from Saint Paul's enjoyed the school trip of a life time when they visited a children's orphanage in Thailand, where they helped at a children's day care centre and a school for the blind.

Far from being a relaxing holiday, the students were busy helping painting the school, assisting with numeracy and literacy classes, taking part in dance and cookery lessons and conducting PE lessons for the children.

The students had to raise money to cover the cost of their trip and to support the valuable work being done for the many disadvantaged children in Pattaya. The students tried their hands at everything, from washing cars to packing shopping bags and even collecting old mobile phones.

## Rugby Trophies for Anthony

Saint Paul's are proud of their Year 7 pupil, Anthony Morris, who has won a number of trophies and medals over the past year playing Prop Forward for Trafford Hawks.



## Vocational Studies

Year 11 pupils have had the opportunity to spend part of their time studying vocationally related courses at Manchester College. Here they work towards achieving national vocational qualifications (NVQs) covering a variety of career related work including a focus on health and beauty, horticulture, floristry and jewellery making. This gives them the opportunity to try out various interests and identify which career may suit them best.



## Saint Paul's with the Queen on Commonwealth Day

Four pupils and the Head Teacher from Saint Paul's were invited to attend An Observance For Commonwealth Day at Westminster Abbey in the presence of Her Majesty The Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, and His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

Commonwealth Day is celebrated across the member countries of the Commonwealth and this year the

focus was on "Science, Technology, and Society". Saint Paul's was selected to attend the service as they are the first school in Manchester to have been awarded specialist status for Engineering.

The four pupils selected to attend the service, including the school's Head Boy and Head Girl, were chosen based on their contribution and dedication to the school and their 100% attendance record.

## Celebrating Science

Pupils took part in the national Science and Engineering Week, a celebration of science, engineering and technology.

The pupils took part in a number of science based activities including a Science Triathlon where the activities involved Year 7s making a bouncing ball, a paper skeleton and a balloon driven car; Year 8s doing some chromatography on M & Ms, testing a homemade paper plane and building a suspension bridge and Year 9s building a paper



tower, making and flying a kite and cooking an egg with a candle.

Year 10 pupils took part in a Science Pentathlon where they collected various pieces of evidence from a 'crime scene' in order to try to solve a crime.

## Creepy Crawlies

The Wild Roadshow visited Saint Paul's when the pupils got to meet and handle a wide number of small animals including a snail, a lizard, a tarantula, a hedgehog and a centipede.

The event, funded by the Gifted and Talented scheme, enabled pupils to extend their knowledge of animal habitats, the environments in which the animals live and how they have adapted to live there, and animal classification.



## Talent at Saint Paul's

Gifted and Talented pupils took part in Talent Week, a celebration of all kinds of local talent.

Trained volunteers from BT worked with the young people from Saint Paul's to identify and share their talents, culminating in building an on-line talent brick. The organisers are hoping that they will be able to get 2,000 young people involved and then construct a huge talent wall in the Arndale Centre, Manchester.



## Space Rocket

Starchaser Industries, a high tech company that specialises in the development, operation and commercialisation of space related products and services visited Saint Paul's.

Starchaser staff spoke to the pupils about space travel, rocket building and the future market of space tourism. The pupils were able to see a real space rocket and view demonstrations exploring the themes of space travel.



## Visit to the Blue Planet Aquarium

A group of Year 10 pupils visited The Blue Planet Aquarium at Cheshire Oaks as part of their BTEC Art and Design brief.

The Textiles brief which the pupils were studying asked them to design and produce a wall hanging for the aquarium based on the sea-life they had seen there. So the first step was to visit the aquarium to make observational drawings and take photographs.

# Year 7 Challenge Day

Year 7 pupils, together with pupils from Piper Hill, took part in a Challenge Day as part of the National Science and Engineering week. There were two sessions, the International Marble Run, where pupils were split into groups representing a number of countries and continents, and the Labyrinth, where they worked together to solve a number of challenging problems.

The pupils were observed and then nominated for a series of awards: best team, best team player, best leadership skills, kindest participant, most enthusiastic participant, most competitive participant, most considerate participant, most creative participant and the participant with the best ideas. The awards were then presented in a special assembly to highlight some of the important skills of our pupils.



## Crest Awards

A group of Year 9 pupils have been working towards the British Science Association's Bronze Crest Award in an after school Science club.

The pupils have to design their own project, carry out practical work and then present this work in an attractive written format to communicate the main areas of research and learning. All projects must have links to the real world which led to both teams focussing their projects on finding a pH indicator which would reduce the cost to schools and, at the same time, reduce the carbon footprint involved in their supply.



# Diploma Festival

A group of pupils took part in a Diploma Festival, which showcased the work and skills of all the diploma lines in Manchester by bringing participant students, schools and colleges together alongside representatives from a wide field of professionals who have been involved in the development of the diplomas across the North West.

The Engineering students from Saint

Paul's took over a large part of the ground floor 'Showcase' which provided visitors with the opportunity to see the work of the students and watch live practical demonstrations. The Engineers worked in two teams to each build an electric car.



## Paris in Spring!

Where better to take pupils to experience the richness of art and culture than Paris which is the city where pupils studying Art and French visited as part of their BTEC



and GCSE courses. Students visited many cultural sites and had the opportunity to explore some art master pieces which tied in well with their classroom studies. The pupils immersed themselves in many aspects of French culture from visiting the bustling markets, to sailing on the Seine, visiting Sacre Coeur and climbing the Eiffel Tower.

The pupils also had to focus on recording examples of engineering and making short movies to demonstrate their observations.



## Diploma Graduation

Two Year 11 pupils, Emma Taylor and Mark Bond were recently awarded diplomas in Business Studies following a two year placement with the Royal Bank of Scotland.



## Art Pupils at Chester Zoo

A group of Year 10 pupils visited Chester Zoo to produce some primary research for their BTEC Art brief.

During the visit, the pupils were able to see a wide variety of animals, the zoo has over 7,000 animals representing over 400 different species. The pupils were able to use the school's brand new tuff cams to produce their own photo documentation.

