



P&P

Update



Spring Edition 2023

AN EASTER
MESSAGE FROM
the Principal

WELCOME
Year 6

AND LOTS
LOTS *more...*

An inclusive community of
excellence and opportunity

www.saintspeterandpaul.halton.sch.uk



SAINTS PETER AND PAUL
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

HAPPY EASTER

from the Principal

Spring has well truly arrived, and here at P+P, there is a real buzz about the place with our students and staff achieving wonderful things in and outside of school.

As you will see from our newsletter, we have had a busy and fun-packed term with lots to celebrate, including our 31st annual Spring Concert series, World Book Day, and lots of sporting successes to name just a few.

And throughout this term, with so much going on, you have once again been there to support us in ensuring your child is ready and prepared for learning, and we continue to see really positive changes in school in regards to achievement, attendance, and behaviour. Thank you for continuing to reinforce the values and high standards of our school at home, helping us to create an optimal environment for learning and enabling your child to perform at their very best every day.

When we come back after Easter, we will enter exam season with our Year 9 students continuing their ASPIRE assessments, our Year 10 students starting their mock exams, and our Year 11 students beginning the final approach to their GCSEs. We wish each and every student the very best of luck and, as ever, we remain immensely proud of the effort and dedication they've shown to their studies and revision.

Until then, I thank you once again for the positivity you bring to our school community and I wish you all a peaceful and joy filled Easter break.

I look forward to seeing all our students feeling refreshed, energised, and ready for the final term of the 2022-23 academic year when they return on Monday 17th April.

A portrait of Mrs Danielle Scott, the Principal, smiling. She has dark hair and is wearing a grey blazer over a white top.

Mrs Danielle Scott

Principal, Sts Peter & Paul Catholic High School



We pray this Easter...

That you gave your one and only Son, that we might be called your children too, Lord, help us to live in the gladness and grace of Easter Sunday, every day.

Let us have hearts of thankfulness for your sacrifice.

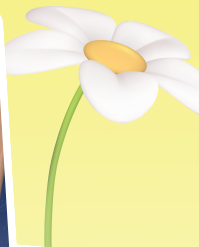
Let us have eyes that look upon your grace and rejoice in our salvation.



Help us to walk in that might grace and tell your good news to the world.

All for your glory do we pray, Lord,

Amen



GOOD SHEPHERD THANK YOU!

We're saying a massive thank you to all of you who have helped us raise over £400 for the charity Nugent through our Good Shepherd appeal.

Nugent provides support to children, young people, adults and families who are vulnerable or at risk across the North West, and thanks to your generous donations they'll be able to support even more people this year.

Our students have had lots of fun getting involved with all the Good Shepherd events taking place across school over the past few weeks, and have enjoyed taking part in bake sales, competitions and a raffle.

THE BIG LENT WALK



At the beginning of Lent, members of Team P+P laced up their walking shoes and started this year's Big Lent Walk.

Our team of staff members have been working and walking together to cover a massive 200km in just 40 days, to raise funds for our nominated school charity CAFOD to help fight global poverty

With the Easter finish line in sight, Team P+P have walked and run over 250km to date, hitting streets and trails in the north west, the Lake District, and even Rome in Italy, and have raised a fantastic £85 between them.

Well done to all of you!

If you would like to make a donation, please visit cafod.enthuse.com/pt/stspandp or scan here



WELCOME YEAR 6

We're so excited to meet you

In February, we received the amazing news that we'll be welcoming 280 new faces from primary schools all over Halton and beyond, to our school in September 2023, and we're feeling so lucky to have you!

Our current year 7s have well and truly settled into high school life now and we thought you might want to hear some tips from them about what they wished they'd known before joining their new school....

— “ —
WHEN I FIRST STARTED, I WAS A BIT WORRIED ABOUT GETTING LOST BECAUSE P&P IS A LOT BIGGER THAN MY OLD SCHOOL. IT'S EASY THOUGH, BECAUSE THERE'S A ONE WAY SYSTEM AND THE YEAR 7 ZONE. YOU SOON GET USED TO IT.

Patrick D. Year 7



— “ —
EVEN THOUGH SOME OF YOUR MATES MIGHT GO TO A DIFFERENT SCHOOL, YOU CAN STILL SEE THEM AFTER SCHOOL SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT MISSING THEM

Lewis R. Year 7



— “ —
BE KIND TO EVERYONE AND MAKE A GOOD IMPRESSION. MAKE NEW FRIENDS WITH PEOPLE FROM OTHER SCHOOLS AND TRY YOUR BEST AT YOUR WORK.

Violet D. Year 7



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

To help you get ready for year 7, you're invited to come into school to meet us and your soon-to-be fellow pupils, so you can get a feel for what high school is like before you join us in September.

Take a look around our Year 7 hub, chat with teachers, and experience the classroom through a range of fun and exciting activities.

Make a note of these dates, and we'll see you very soon!



JULY

3RD

Transition day

4TH

Transition day

5TH

Transition day

AUGUST

TBC

Summer camps

We'll see you soon!

A Night at the MOVIES

Earlier this month, our school hall was filled with the sound of music, as our fantastic Music department hosted our 31st annual Spring Concert series and transported us to 'A Night at the Movies'.

With our very own choir and school musicians taking centre stage to showcase their talents, months of preparation, led by Head of Music Mr Stacey and Music Teacher Mrs Saunders, resulted in a magnificent musical extravaganza which took place over three sold-out nights.

The spectacular event saw parents and members of the local community watch in awe as P+P students and over three hundred primary age pupils from local schools in Widnes, took us on an uplifting and emotional journey through some of our favourite movie soundtracks, including Despicable Me, Stand by Me, and The Greatest Showman among others.

Mr Stacey said "The event was a tremendous success and I feel absolutely honoured to have been a part of it. As a department, we are extremely grateful to all who helped us to produce such an extraordinary show, including the primary school leaders and staff, P+P student leaders, the P+P visiting music staff and, most of all, the students from our wider-school community who participated with such professionalism and passion."

Mrs Saunders said "The spring concert is always one of the highlights of the year for us in school. Staff and students, along with our partners at Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, St Gerard's, St John Fisher, St Michael's, Holy Family and St Basil's Catholic Primary schools, Moorfield and Ditton Primaries, St Bede's RC Junior School and Widnes Academy, know the importance of creating and nurturing links between us and our students-to-be in the area, and it's such a privilege to be able to visit those primaries and rehearse with them for the event. We're already looking forward to next year."



"What a fantastic Spring Concert. It was a brilliant show. Thank you"

St Gerard's Catholic Primary School



"So proud of our choir. What a wonderful evening!"

St Michael's Catholic Primary School



"What a performance! The children shone like stars"

Holy Family Catholic Primary School



"They did fantastic"

Parent at St Gerard's Catholic Primary School



"It was a lovely performance by all our children!"

Parent at St Michael's Catholic Primary School



"Amazing spring concert. Well done to all the children involved, you were fab."

Parent at Holy Family Catholic Primary School

HALF TERM HERO



Our Half Term Hero award recognises and celebrates the extraordinary members of the P + P team who help to drive positive change, raise standards, find new and better ways of working support, and help our students to achieve more than they thought possible.

HALF TERM 3

Name: Mrs Woods
Job Title: Design and Technology Teacher
Nominated by: Mrs Fraser, Teaching Assistant



Accomplished and diligent, Mrs Woods is much-loved by students and staff alike.

In recent months, she has played a vital role in leading the Design and Technology department, ensuring the DT curriculum and timetable for all year groups has been able to continue with as little disruption as possible.

In her nomination, Mrs Fraser said, "Mrs Woods has willingly adjusted her timetable to take on a heavy load of GCSE classes to help our students' learning to continue as smoothly as possible. This has certainly been a challenging time, yet through it all she has maintained positive, professional and continued to set the very high standards she holds for herself and the students she works with. Mrs Woods is an inspiration and has worked in adverse conditions with such grace and compassion. She truly is a star!"

On presenting Mrs Woods with her award, Principal Scott said, 'Mrs Woods quiet determination and steadfast dedication to her students and the team around her has not gone unnoticed, and what she has achieved during this time is highly commendable. She fully deserves this recognition and we feel extremely blessed to have her as a part of our P&P Community'.

HALF TERM 4

Name: Mrs Blagg
Job Title: Maths Teacher
Nominated by: Colleague



Always making her students a priority, Mrs Blagg is an outstanding teacher and hardworking contributor to our school community. She carries out each of her responsibilities with great diligence and a quiet confidence to deliver successful outcomes for all.

Outside of her teaching role, Mrs Blagg has played a key role in developing and delivering the whole school peer review process, as well as undertaking a National Professional Qualification in literacy in her own time.

Heather also acts an ambassador for our school through the regional Maths hub. It is her active collaboration with others and her commitment to this role, which ensures our students, and children across the entire region, benefit from her knowledge, experience and expertise, and places our school on the map for driving improvements and achieving success in maths education.

In her nomination, a colleague said "Heather always has time for others, from the children she teaches and their parents, to her colleagues here at school. Nothing is ever too much trouble. Even though she must be enormously busy with everything she does, she is always the calm and collected go-to person with a listening ear and a reasoned response for any problem. I feel extremely lucky to work with someone like Heather, and I don't think she realises just how much she is appreciated by us and the children around her."

NOMINATE YOUR HALF TERM HERO

Our nomination form is open every day of the school year.

Every member of our team can be nominated, as each and every one of them plays an important role in the delivery of quality teaching and support, whether or not their role involves direct contact with students or parents.

Scan here to nominate



If you've received exceptional support, care, or service from a member of our staff, you can nominate them as a Half Term Hero by visiting our school website or scanning here.

LEADING THE WAY IN THE NORTH WEST



Art teacher Mrs Clayton and History teacher Mrs Hallam, have been demonstrating the P+P approach to other schools in the region through the Liverpool Archdiocese Secondary Schools' Partnership (LASSP).

At the beginning of March, the pair represented our school in LASSP Heads of Department workshops.

Mrs Hallam was praised for her honest appraisal of her department's journey in responding to delivering the Key Stage 3 curriculum.

Paul Greenall, Partnership Director at LASSP "Mrs Hallam was excellent. Colleagues gained so much from her presentation and there was a buzz around the entire workshop as colleagues discussed casual reasoning and consequential thinking."

Mrs Clayton shared details of the P+P Art departments approach to teaching and learning.

Mr Greenall said "Colleagues really appreciated Mrs Clayton sharing her students' work and many questions arose around the projects and the materials used on these excellent examples of Art at St Peter and Paul's Catholic High School."

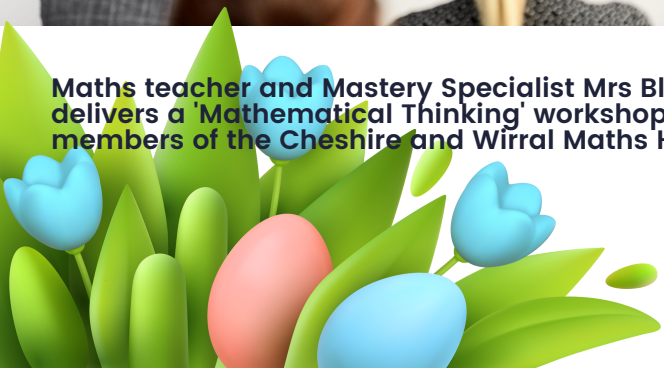


Art Teacher Mrs Clayton presents student work to Art Heads of Department in the Liverpool Archdiocese

SETTING SCHOOLS UP FOR SUCCESS



Maths teacher and Mastery Specialist Mrs Blagg delivers a 'Mathematical Thinking' workshop to members of the Cheshire and Wirral Maths Hub.



Going from strength to strength, the P+P Maths faculty is now established as a centre of best practice in the North West, with Maths teacher and 'Mastery Specialist', Mrs Blagg, providing education and support for teaching partners across Cheshire and Wirral.

As part of the National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics (NCETM) Cheshire and Wirral Maths Hub, the team collaborate with schools to support the continuous improvement of mathematics education for students from a range of school in the Cheshire East, Cheshire West and Chester, Halton and the Wirral districts.

Mrs Blagg said, "It is a privilege to have the opportunity to showcase some of the innovative and forward-thinking ways we work with our students, by hosting a range of continuing professional development (CPD) events and workshops for local maths teachers here at school and online. In these sessions, we've worked with other schools to guide their planning and lesson studies, and allowed them to observe our students in action. Being part of the Maths Hub, not only benefits our school through the support of action research, but enables students all over the region to access the very latest teaching approaches to set them up for positive success and achievement in Maths."

MEET OUR STUDENT LEADERS

Confident, assertive, and a friendly face in our school corridors, our student leaders play a vital role in school life.

From using their voice and raising awareness of important topics, to providing support for other students and our staff, they help to drive positive change and act as ambassadors for our school, representing us at local events and leading by example.

At the start of the school year, all students in each year group were invited to apply for a variety of student leader roles within our school. The successful applicants could then choose to champion one of the following areas:

ANTI-BULLYING

Our anti-bullying student leaders help with campaigns and activities to target the prevention of bullying.

They also help to raise awareness of the support available inside and out of school for those who are worried about bullying like Kooth and The Sharp System.

CAREERS

Aspiration is at the centre of all we do, and our career student leaders help to raise awareness of the education and job opportunities available to our students once they leave school.

Most recently, they supported at our Career's Fair handing our information and guiding visitors to the right stalls and classrooms.



YEAR 7 STUDENT LEADERS



YEAR 8 STUDENT LEADERS

ECO

One of our core values in school is respect, which includes looking after the world around us.

Our Eco Leaders help to drive green initiatives around school and in the wider community, including making improvements to our school garden including adding a wormery, birdhouse, and water butt, and taking part in initiatives like the Royal Horticultural Society's Big Seed Sow.

This month the Eco team have taken part in the big British Spring Clean, picking up litter in our yards and on our school fields come rain or shine.

Well done!



You can spot student leaders by the badges they wear



FUNDRAISING

Throughout the school year, we host a range of fundraising activities for our nominated school charity CAFOD and other local charities.

Our fundraising leaders help to come up with ideas for events and challenges to generate donations that give something back to our local community.

So far this year, our fundraising student leaders have supported the Royal British Legion by selling poppies and have co-ordinated and collected donations of food and household products to create Christmas hampers for vulnerable families.



“
**THESE STUDENTS
ARE INSPIRING**

B. Dean - Social Media

”

MENTAL HEALTH

Showing compassion for other students and being there for each other is an important part of what our student leaders do.

Our mental health students leaders led the way during Children's Mental Health week in February this year, hosting awareness raising sessions, co-ordinating exercise and self-care activities, and signposting to mental health support available in school, including our after-school health and wellbeing clinic sessions.

**Scan here to meet
Mental Health
Student Leaders
Brooke & Lily as
they explain more
about what they
do....**



YEAR 9 STUDENT LEADERS



YEAR 10 STUDENT LEADERS

**Congratulations
go to Year 10
student leader
Eleanor W, who
was accepted onto
the NSPCC Board
for Change.**



YEAR 11 STUDENT LEADERS

**Thank you to all our student leaders for the
important work they do throughout the school year.**

**It is truly wonderful to see your confidence grow
and your leadership skills shine through.**

We're so proud of you all!



WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO...



This term has been jam packed with a whole host of events from awareness days to special visitors coming into school. Here's just a selection of what we've been getting up to...

SEND CAKE & COFFEE MORNING



Our Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) team hosted their first Cake and Coffee morning in school at the end of this term, inviting parents and carers of students with additional needs to meet them and ask any questions about the SEND support on offer in school.



Mr Caine, Assistant Principal Inclusion, said, "It was wonderful to have the opportunity to welcome so many of our families and meet some new faces. It's so important for us to have this kind of open conversation to build positive relationships with our families from the offset, so we can work together to provide the right levels of support at the right times for their child."

Future dates for SEND Cake & Coffee mornings will be announced soon.

STEM STUDENTS UPDATE



After working on their product concepts for months, our STEM team returned to present their 'Smiling Soap' project on the Unilever Bright Future Celebration & Awards Day and wowed the judges with their scientific insights and creativity.

Organisers All About STEM commented "It's fantastic that our teams have considered well-being as well as sustainability. Outstanding products with the 'feel-good' factor!"

Excellent work!



YEAR 7 TRIP TO CRANTON COLLEGE



In March, a group of Year 7 students attended Cranton Sixth Form College for an art and textiles workshop, where they learned how to use found objects to create sustainable pieces of artwork.

The work was displayed as part of a larger community based textiles piece showcased at Widnes Library's Halton Makefest celebrations.

Well done to all students involved and thanks to Cranton College for hosting us!

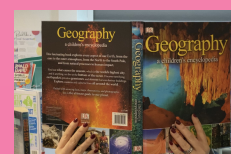


WORLD BOOK DAY 2023



On World Book Day 2023, our Year 7 and 8 students were invited to dress as their favourite book character and join all year groups in a range of literary inspired activities throughout the day, including guessing who our Masked Readers were and 'drop everything and read' sessions.

Later in the month, they were treated to a visit from Ben Davis, author of 'My Embarrassing Dad's Gone Viral', who was blown away by the insightful questions he was asked by our students.



HERE ARE THE YEAR 7 ART LEADERS

Committed to supporting our art department and developing the art opportunities on offer at our school, please join us in congratulating our newly appointed Year 7 Art Leaders.

The artistic team were chosen not only for their creative talents, but also because of their ideas and enthusiasm for promoting art here and in our local community. Well done!

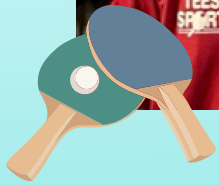


CONGRATULATIONS CHANTELE

One of our amazing Year 7 students Chantelle L won a gold medal whilst representing Cheshire in the National Cadet Junior league last weekend. Chantelle has represented P+P incredibly during school table tennis tournaments reaching the finals each time and has represented England at junior level in the past.

Chantelle has now added to her impressive resumé and has won gold against some of the very best young table tennis players the country has to offer.

Well done Chantelle, everyone at P+P is very proud of you!



THE BRILLIANT CLUB

A select group of Year 9 students have started their journey this year with The Brilliant Club on the Scholars Programme. As part of their induction session, students recently visited The University of Manchester. The day focused on an introduction to the course, developing Critical Thinking skills, a campus tour and understanding the role of universities in higher education. Following this initial session, students will be completing a research project tutored by a PHD lecturer in Epidemiology. Mr Dale said "As always, the students showed maturity and confidence while at the University. It is truly wonderful to have these positive representatives of our school in the wider community."



FUTURE DESIGNERS

Our talented GCSE Art students also had the pleasure of meeting fashion designer and former P+P student, Jonathan Ferris. Bringing some of his clothing designs to explore (and try on!), Johnathan worked with our year 11s, giving them advice and helping them to find their inspiration as they plan ideas for their GCSE exam in April.

Since completing his Art A-Level at P+P 11 years ago, Jonathan's passion for art has taken him on an exciting career journey. From studying Fashion and Technology at university, he is now working towards his MA in Menswear Design at Central Saint Martins in London and runs his own fashion brand with a friend.



SAFEGUARDING

MEET THE SAFEGUARDING TEAM

When students feel safe and supported in their school environment, they can reach their full potential.

In school, we have consistent and effective safeguarding procedures in place alongside quality pastoral care to support learners and staff at school.



Mr Forber
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Forber
Designated
Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Nightingale
Deputy Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Woan
Assistant Vice Principal

Mrs Cunningham
Lead Mentor

Mrs Scott
Principal

Mr Caine
Principal

If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact our Safeguarding Officers by emailing safeguarding@saintspeterandpaul.halton.sch.uk

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT THIS EASTER

You're not alone - Kooth are still available to access during the Easter holiday period.

If you or someone you know needs extra mental wellbeing support during the holiday season, Kooth are here.
Go to [kooth.com](https://www.kooth.com) for more.

What's on Kooth? 24th - 30th of April

Discussion board
Monday 24th of April
Coping with possible physical and emotional impacts of exam stress

Discussion board
Tuesday 25th of April
Avoiding comparison around exam time

Discussion board
Wednesday 26th of April
Coping with family pressures or conflict during exam periods

Discussion board
Thursday 27th of April
Exam stress as the days get closer

Live Forum
Friday 28th of April 7.30pm - 9pm
Live Forum: Coping with stress and nerves on exam days

Discussion board
Saturday 29th of April
Tips for coping after your exams

Discussion board
Sunday 30th of April
Finding ways to self-soothe

kooth



COMMENTS & COMPLIMENTS

ON OUR SOCIALS...

"Careers event at @StsPnP for years 9, 10 & 11. The most attentive and engaging group of children we've met yet. We chatted to lots of young, inquisitive future health care professionals yesterday about their career aspirations within the NHS."

"Brilliant! Team English still number one! Always the best time of the day when you had English next on your timetable at P and P. The staff always went deeper and took you on a journey. English was always where you could self develop as a person and really stretch your mind"

"Couldn't think of a more deserving teacher than Miss Downey (Half Term Hero) ♥ she's definitely a credit to the school and the pupils"

"Love Mr Gough, he helped my son out loads when he was there, and now he's great with my other son."

"The new laboratories are very smart. I have asked the students what their opinions are of the labs. They were all positive, they are so happy to be back in them following the refurbishment."

"So many of the ladies photographed here (on International Women's Day) shaped my life and made it better in ways they will never understand and I will remember that forever. They were there when I needed them the most. The school hires the most incredible bunch of ladies."

COMING UP NEXT TERM

MAY

4th | Year 7 Parents' Evening

15th | GCSE exams begin

29th – 2nd June | Half term break

JUNE

14th | Year 9 Parents' Evening

28th | Open Evening

29th | Feast of Sts Peter and Paul celebration day

29th | Year 11 prom

30th | Inset day

JULY

3rd – 7th | Year 10 work experience

19th | Break up for summer holidays

NEXT EDITION *Summer 2023*

Many thanks to everyone who has been involved in producing this edition, if you would like to contribute to future editions please contact: jenningsc@saintspeterandpaul.halton.sch.uk
The deadline for submissions for the next P&P Update is 7th July 2023

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@StsPnP



bepandp