



P&P Update



Spring Edition 2024

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



The daffodils, magnolias and tulips blooming around school have let us know that spring is here, and at P+P, we are looking forward to the end of Lent by celebrating Easter with our families and friends.

Speaking of Lent, in this newsletter you'll see what our students have been up to during this time to raise money for our school's nominated charity Nugent. And you can find out more about our international school trips, our 32nd annual Spring Concert series, see the best costumes from our World Book Day celebrations, plus some of the wonderful personal, academic, and sporting achievements of our students.

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, we will reflect and celebrate in our Easter liturgies, before entering 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 2023-24 academic year when they return on Monday 15th April.



Mrs D. Scott

Mrs Danielle Scott

Principal, Sts Peter & Paul Catholic High 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: Mr Hudson
Job Title: Facilities Manager
Nominated by: Multiple nominations



Joining the school just over 12 months ago, Mr Hudson has made an enormous impact and contribution to our school community in a relatively short space of time.

Always a positive and well-respected presence around our corridors and classrooms, he approaches every challenge big or small with a solution focussed outlook, working quickly, efficiently and always achieving the highest quality outcomes no matter the task.

In his time here, he has been quick to implement effective systems, making sure that staff voices are heard in a timely manner and that clear and satisfactory responses are provided quickly, helping everyone to move forward together to ultimately benefit student learning and staff wellbeing.

Building productive relationships with every department and faculty, his long-term vision to drive school improvement is second to none, and this enthusiasm for making things better, greener, and more efficient has gathered momentum and support amongst colleagues, the governing body, and our school partners alike.

From ensuring the smallest everyday repairs and snags around school are corrected, to planning, managing and overseeing the delivery of large whole school projects, like a brand-new boiler system, shiny new toilets, health and safety compliant fire doors, new flooring, and energy saving lighting, he can always be relied upon to deliver the very best for our students and staff.

Well done Mr Hudson, on this much deserved recognition!

HALF TERM 4

Name: Mrs Saunders
Job Title: Head of Music
Nominated by: Multiple nominations



With multiple nominations from colleagues, governors, and students, Mrs Saunders has proven to be a highly popular choice amongst both our school community and the local community.

Supportive, caring, and a dedicated advocate for our school, she has taken on new responsibilities in a new role this year as well as leading on projects and events in non-teaching time, showing time and time again her commitment to setting and achieving the highest standards for staff and students within the faculty.

As a formation tutor, she has seen success in achieving top spot places in both attendance hero awards and our Christmas hamper collection competition.

As a teacher, she inspires young people to enter the field of music and provides support and encouragement to help them aspire further than they believe themselves capable of.

As a leader, staff appreciate the support and guidance she provides, including during the final stages of an NPQLT.

Colleagues also recognise her enormous contribution to our local community, including attending sporting events in their own time, meeting with vulnerable groups, supporting Catholic life inside and outside of school, and leading on her own school and community-based events and fundraising.

One colleague wrote, "Mrs Saunders is an amazing advocate for our school and wider community. She embodies all of our core values and then some. She is the linchpin for some of our most vulnerable children who need an expressive outlet such as music."

One student wrote, "Mrs Saunders is always there to help any students who need to talk to someone, always respects the students and any aspects of their job, and is always there as a guide to anyone who needs it."

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.

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.

Scan here
to nominate



FAITH GUIDES US

I HAVE COME
THAT THEY
MAY HAVE **LIFE**,
AND **HAVE IT**
TO THE FULL

JOHN 10:10

FAITH IN ACTION UPDATE

Faith in Action students are beginning our spring project working with the Live Simply award pupils at St. Bede's infant school! We will be going each Friday after school to work on a project together.

Thank you also to our Fantastic Faith in Action students Euan and Brooke from Year 8 who read out stories from the Bible in our Resurrection Collective Worship! Their reading was fantastic and helped pupils understand the resurrection story even more.

THANK YOU TEAM P&P

A huge thank you to our team for their end of term donation to Widnes Foodbank.

Each term, staff make a contribution to our foodbank collection point in the school staff room, coordinated by Mr Kelly, who dropped off a donation of 49 kg of food equating to 117 meals for our local community. Well done team

AN EASTER BLESSING

God, may we feel the warm embrace of your love on this sacred day. May the glory of Jesus' resurrection remind us that with You, nothing is impossible or without hope. We pray in Your name.

Amen.



WORKING TOGETHER FOR CHILDREN IN OUR COMMUNITY



This Lent our Chapel Student Leaders and Fundraising student leaders have been busy raising money for our school's nominated charity Nugent by setting up their own raffle and cake sale.

Thank you to everyone who donated via Parent Pay in exchange for a raffle ticket or cake token.



THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

The deadline to register for this year's sacrament of confirmation ceremony with Liverpool Archdiocese has now passed.

Our year 8 students wishing to make their confirmation have already made their first steps towards the sacrament as they received their confirmation assemblies from Mr. Lorne this month.

"CONFIRMATION IS A SACRAMENT THROUGH WHICH WE RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT TO BECOME TRUE WITNESSES OF JESUS CHRIST AND MAKE OUR FAITH STRONGER."



EASTER MASS TIMES IN ST WILFRID'S PARISH

St Basil

Friday 29 March – 3pm
Sunday 31 March – 9am

St Bede

Friday 29 March – 3pm, 7.30pm
(Watching at the Tomb)
Saturday 30 March – 8pm
Sunday 31 March – 11.15am

St John Fisher

Friday 29 March – 3pm
Sunday 31 March – 10.30am

St Michael

Thursday 28 March – 7.30pm
Friday 29 March – 11am (Children's Stations of the Cross), 3pm
Sunday 31 March – 9.30am

LET US PRAY

Please pray for our project with St. Bede's Catholic Junior School and our pupils undertaking this project. Pray that this would be a time where we can all work together and reflect on our faith.

Please pray for all our Year 8 students undertaking their confirmations.

Pray in thanks for our amazing Faith In Action award pupils and Chapel and fundraising student leaders who are working to make the school and community a better place.

Pray for our new Associate Assistant Vice Principal of RE who begins this June. We are very excited for her arrival and we pray that she feels welcome to our amazing school

WELCOME YEAR 6

We're so excited to meet you

In March, 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 2024, 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....

— “ —
IF YOU'RE FEELING AFRAID OF STARTING A NEW SCHOOL, DON'T WORRY, IT'S NOT AS BAD AS YOU THINK. EVERYONE IS REALLY FRIENDLY AND THERE ARE LOTS OF CLUBS TO JOIN.

Emily R. Year 7



— “ —
TAKE YOUR TIME TO GET USED TO YOUR NEW SCHOOL AND DON'T BE AFRAID TO MEET NEW PEOPLE AND MAKE NEW FRIENDS

Grace & Amelia Year 7



— “ —
DON'T WORRY ABOUT GETTING LOST. YOU'LL QUICKLY SETTLE IN AND FIND YOUR WAY AROUND. EVERYONE IS REALLY FRIENDLY AND YOU'LL MAKE GOOD FRIENDS QUICKLY.

Jaya & Beth, Year 7



— “ —
YOUR TEACHERS ARE ALWAYS THERE TO TALK TO. THEY HELP YOU ALL THE TIME.

George F. Year 7



— “ —
EVERYONE IS SO FRIENDLY AND THEY'RE HERE TO HELP YOU, SO IF THERE'S SOMETHING YOU DON'T KNOW, YOU CAN JUST ASK

Amra, Molly, Ruby-Mai & Lauren Year 7



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

To help you and your child 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, 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!



JUNE

26

Parent & carer welcome evening

27

Open evening

JULY

1ST

Transition day

2ND

Transition day

22-25

Summer school

We'll see you soon!



Earlier this month, our school hall was filled with nostalgia (and the odd air guitar), as our fantastic Music department hosted our 32nd annual Spring Concert series and treated us to an 'Indie Takeover'.

For weeks, our choir and instrumental musicians having been busy preparing for one of the most highly anticipated events in our school calendar, alongside some of the most talented primary school singers in Halton.

And all that rehearsal paid off and more as they entertained crowds of students, families, school governors and staff over three sold-out nights this March.

The Indie Takeover featured some of the most popular independent bands from the 90s and beyond, including Oasis, Paulo Nutini, the Cranberries, Keane, Coldplay and many more.

As well as the fantastic performances from our littler voices on the night, the audience were also treated to special arrangements from P+P singers, our guitar group, our British Sign Language Club and the ever popular Samba band

Mrs Saunders said "The spring concert such a highlight of the school year for us and we're always amazed and delighted by the overwhelmingly positive response we receive from students, families and the local community.

I can't begin to thank 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 enough for their commitment to this event, and we really couldn't do this without them. Having this link between primary and secondary school is so important and so special. We can't wait to start planning next year's concerts, well, once we've had a little rest first of course"



"Really enjoyed the concert, the children and musicians were brilliant and the teachers had worked so hard to bring it all together."



"Was an amazing night, as always! All the staff and pupils must have worked really hard to prepare for it these last few weeks... Well done!"



"Absolutely brilliant concert! There's a few future stars in the making going by tonight's performances"



"It was an amazing concert. The children sang their hearts out. So impressed with the talent shown by the Primaries and P&P. Mrs Saunders was, as ever, fantastic. Well done all."



"Tonight our Choir took part in Spring Concert. The children were absolutely amazing and a credit to our school! Well done everyone, you are all wonderful!"



"What a performance! Everyone thoroughly enjoyed performing as part of the Spring Concert. Thanks to the talented musicians who accompanied the evenings performance for such a positive experience."

MEET OUR YEAR 11 HEAD PREFECTS

Our Year 11 head prefect were selected by their year team to carry out certain leadership responsibilities and duties within our school community at the start of the school year.

They are chosen due to their exceptional record of attainment and their positive contribution to school life at P+P.

Our Head Prefects hold the most responsibility of all our students and are called upon to be ambassadors for our school, whether that's delivering speeches, representing us at events, or serving as role models for their peers and younger students. They are always:

- **Role models for behaviour:** Our head prefects exemplify good behaviour and consistently meet and exceed our school standards and expectations.
- **Friendly and Supportive:** They are approachable and provide guidance to other students.
- **Positive Influences:** Our prefects contribute to maintaining a positive school environment.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

"I wanted to become a head prefect as I can give insight to the school community, as I have been here for 5 years and I think I can make some improvements to our school community.

For example, the memorial garden can be used as a safe space for people who struggle with anxiety or are just feeling bad that day. It can be accessed during break and lunch times as this would serve as a quite and calm place for people to calm down or just settle there thoughts .

What I like about our school community is that it is very diverse, with many different abilities, sexualities, cultures and beliefs.

I believe that it's a amazing school who try their best to include everyone and take it very seriously when people try and disturb that peace around school. It is honestly an amazing place.

I want to achieve the best I can in my exams and get onto my animal management course to further my future, as well make friends with the people I meet. I want to make my family proud and also make my sister Teya proud and live up to her name and what she stood for."

Ryan D | 11McGarry



RYAN

OLIVIA

JESSICA

CHARLIE

STUDENT SUPERSTARS

Half term 3 & 4

We celebrate our Student Superstar each week, in recognition of the fantastic part they play in helping our school to be a positive environment of compassion, respect and aspiration for all.



BRILLIANT CLUB

Our Year 9 The Brilliant Club members attended a special graduation ceremony at the University of Manchester and Breakfast with the Principal.

The Brilliant Club Scholars Programme aims to increase the number of pupils from underrepresented backgrounds progressing to highly selective universities, and since September these students have been taught at a university level by a University Professor, and completed a 2000 word essay on a topic.

Brilliant Club coordinator Mr Hardy said "It was a brilliant day and we were so proud to see our students graduate after all their hard work. After the ceremony, they also got to tour the university and get an insight into student life. It was very inspiring."



SPORTS SUCCESS FOR TEAM P±P

Congratulations go to:

- Our Year 7 boys athletics squad who competed in the Sports Hall Secondary Merseyside School Games final.
- Our Year 7 boys football team for taking part in the LFC Academy 'Ambition' event.
- Our Year 10 boys rugby team who made it to the semi-final of the North West Cup
- Our Year 11 boys rugby team who made it the final of the RFL Champion Schools NW Counties Cup. Turn the page to see the result....

P±P GO INTERNATIONAL

For the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic our students had the opportunity to travel further afield to support their studies this term.

Students from Year 8 to 11 got to experience a drama trip to London, a business studies trip to New York, an RE trip to Auschwitz and a science trip to Tenerife.

We were so proud of you all for your maturity, enthusiasm, and positive behaviour whilst away.



WORLD BOOK DAY

From Wonka to the White Rabbit, our Year 7 and 8 students and staff got into the spirit of World Book Day 2024. Take a look at some of the fantastic costumes on display here:





WINNERS 2024

North West Counties Year 11 Final



CONGRATULATIONS TEAM P±P

RFL North West Counties Year 11

CHAMPIONS



18 - 6



The RFL North West Counties Year 11 cup final match took place on Tuesday 16th March 2024 at Thatto Heath Crusaders against St Peter's Catholic High School from Wigan.

Our team entered the game knowing they had to put in a top performance against the reigning National and North West Counties champion side St Peter's to take the win, and they did just that, with outstanding play and a level of intensity the opposition from St Peter's couldn't keep up with.



The match saw tries from Ollie R, Jack M and Owen J, with two conversions and a penalty from Jack C.

Player of the game went to Tom K who ran the game from the offset and tackled everything that came at him.

Coach Mr Burke said, "What a performance! I'm unbelievably proud of this group of lads, who throughout the entire tournament have supported and encouraged each other through every game, and dug deep when it mattered most to show the commitment and tenacity we knew they had within them to take the win. Well done lads on a very well deserved and hard earned title."



EASTER EXAM EGG-STRAVAGANZA

**YEAR 11
STUDENTS**

JOIN US FOR EGG-STRA SPECIAL
REVISION SESSIONS THIS EASTER

TUESDAY 2ND APRIL - THURSDAY 11TH APRIL

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK ONE 2ND APRIL - 5TH APRIL		FRENCH 10AM-2PM GEOGRAPHY 10AM-2PM	MATHS 9AM-12PM	SCIENCE 10AM-1PM ART 9AM-3PM HEALTH AND SOCIAL 10AM-11.30AM ANIMAL CARE 11.30AM- 1PM	BUSINESS STUDIES 10AM-1PM
WEEK TWO 8TH APRIL - 11TH APRIL	CREATIVE IMEDIA 9AM-12PM			FRENCH 9AM-3PM (APPOINTMENT)	

COMPASSION | RESPECT | ASPIRATION

EASTER EXAM EGG-STRAVAGANZA

2024

BUY A P+P STUDY
STARTER PACK FOR

£5

via
ParentPay

Includes:

- 1x clear pencil case
- 1x HB pencil
- 1x eraser
- 2x black biros
- 1x green biro
- 1x 15cm ruler
- 1x scientific calculator*



*recommended by Mr Lynch and the Maths dept
(needed all through school)



Our safeguarding team has grown.

If you need help or someone to talk to, these familiar faces are always there for you.



Mrs Forber Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mr Forber Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs Nightingale Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs Cunningham Inclusion Manager Safeguarding
Mr Caine Assistant Principal



Mrs Scott Principal
Mrs Woan Assistant Vice Principal
Mr Junaid Lead Mentor Children in Care
Mrs G Johnson Inclusion Manager Family Support
Mrs A Downey Year Mentor

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

YOUTH VAPING AND THE SALE OF AGE RESTRICTED PRODUCTS

There is growing concern about the prevalence of young people using vapes, also known as E-cigarettes, and the negative effects on their health and wellbeing.

“IF YOU HAVE NEVER SMOKED YOU SHOULD NEVER VAPE.”

Whilst vapes are an important and successful tool to help adults quit smoking, they have also come to be seen as a risk free alternative to smoking.

But with brightly coloured packaging and enticing flavours, increasing numbers of young people, with some as young as primary school age, seem to be taking up vapes with the long term associated health risks still unknown.

USE YOUR VOICE TO ADDRESS VAPE USAGE IN YOUNG PEOPLE

We're asking you to support Halton Borough Council and the public health department in developing a strategy to address vape usage among young people, by encouraging your child to take part in an online survey in school before the 30th April.

The survey is optional, but the more young people who take part the better a picture we will have of vape usage in Halton.

If you have any queries about this survey please contact the Halton Health Improvement Team on HIT@halton.gov.uk 0300 029 0029.

Further sources of information and support

- To report concerns about underage or illicit tobacco and vape sales in Halton contact Halton's Trading Standards team at Trading.Standards@halton.gov.uk
- Further information on the regulation of vapes is available on the Chartered Trading Standards Institute's vaping resource page:
- tradingstandards.uk/news-policy-campaigns/vaping-resource-hub/
- If you need support to stop smoking or vaping, please Contact Halton Stop Smoking Service on: 0300 029 0029 and Email: HIT@halton.gov.uk or visit Quit smoking this January - Better Health - NHS (www.nhs.uk)
- For further information and advice on tackling vape usage in schools contact the Health Improvement Team on 0300 029 0029 or HIT@halton.gov.uk Or visit Resources (halton.gov.uk)



Attendance

ARE YOU IN? MATTERS

When we talk about attendance at school, we are talking about so much more than 'bottoms on seats'.

Being in school is important for accessing education, but it is also key to developing vital life skills from making friends and taking part in extra curricular clubs to effective communication and developing their wellbeing in general.

But we also know that it can be harder for some children to attend school every day than it is for others.

If you are finding attendance at school a challenge, our attendance team are always here to provide you and your child with the support they need to access the education they're entitled to.

If you would like more details of how we can help, please do not hesitate to contact school or take a look at our school's 'Attendance For Learning' policy on our website.

Attendance Top Tip

Sometimes it can be tricky to know whether to send your child into school if they're feeling unwell. The NHS has a handy guide to help you.

Visit [nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school](https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school)

Did you know?

There are 175 non-school days in the year.

That's 175 days to spend on things like visits, holidays, shopping, and other appointments.

Unauthorised absences can have the biggest impact on attendance.

Here are just a few examples of when it's not acceptable or appropriate to miss school:

- Leave of Absence NOT approved by school, for example, holidays in term time
- Absence NOT reported on the day or supported by written explanation upon return to school.
- Absence of 5 or more days WITHOUT medical evidence.
- Routine Doctor/Dental appointments.
- Arriving late after registers have closed.
- Truancy (both internal & external).
- Shopping
- Hair cut
- Airport visits
- Birthday treats
- Days out / trips
- Looking after brothers and sisters at home
- Oversleeping
- Working

WELL DONE TO OUR AMAZING ATTENDERS FOR THIS TERM

WIN A £20 VOUCHER FOR
WITH OUR  **JUST EAT**
AMAZING ATTENDANCE AWARD

All students who have been on time and in school with 100% attendance from Monday to Friday in a single week will be entered into a draw to win a £20 Just Eat voucher to celebrate with with their family over a takeaway at the weekend!



Three of our Year 9 students were recognised for their heroism last week, after coming to the aid of a distressed infant on a busy road in Widnes as they made their way to school that morning.

The quick-thinking group stayed with the four-year-old and reported the lost child to Cheshire Constabulary, comforting him and keeping him safe until the police were able to reunite him with his mother.

The child's father said, "This morning, my four-year-old autistic son ran away from his mother and was unable to be found in between this time. After a frantic search with multiple people, he was identified by three pupils from Saints Peter and Paul High School, who held onto him and called the police. I cannot commend and thank these three young people enough.

Without their intervention, the circumstances and probabilities could have been a lot worse, and I would like not just to thank and offer my unwavering support for these three individuals in the actions they took, but also thank the school for educating and presenting this mindset in this type of situation."

School Principal Danielle Scott said, "We are immensely proud of the fast and thoughtful actions of Georgina, Sam, and Alfie, ensuring a positive outcome in what could have been a dangerous situation, and we are so pleased to hear that the young boy they found is now safely at home and doing very well. All three have been celebrated by their year group progress leader and members of our senior leadership today in recognition of the calm, mature and compassionate response they provided, and we are sure that their ability to keep a cool-head in stressful circumstances will stand them in good stead for the future. Well done to them all."



COMING UP NEXT TERM

MAY		JUNE		JULY	
1st	Final MFL GCSE exams	10th	YEAR 7 & 8 ASPIRE fortnight begins	1st - 5th	Enrichment week begins
2nd	YEAR 7 Parents' evening	12th	YEAR 9 Parents' evening	1st & 2nd	YEAR 6 Transition Days
4th	Anti-bullying day	19th	YEARS 7-10 Presentation evening	1st - 5th	YEAR 10 Work experience
6th - 10th	Mental Health Awareness Week	24th	INSET DAY		
13th	Written GCSE exams begin	27th	Open evening		
			Saints Peter + Paul Feast Day		
19th	Whit Sunday	28th	YEAR 11 Prom		

NEXT EDITION *Summer 2024*

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 2024

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bepandp