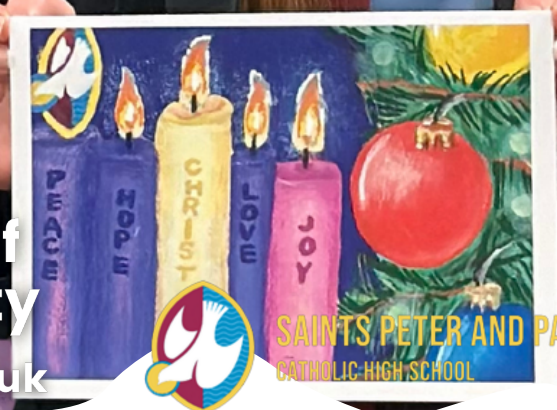




P&P Update

Winter Edition 2023

Merry
Christmas
and Happy
New Year



An inclusive community of
excellence and opportunity

www.saintspeterandpaul.halton.sch.uk



SAINTS PETER AND PAUL
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

A Christmas MESSAGE

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

December is always a truly joyful time in our school calendar, with this year proving to be no exception. Our students (and staff) have enjoyed a range of activities and rewards throughout the Advent period, including Christmas movie nights, Christmas jumper day, Advent services, and so many other wonderful events. You can find out more about what we've been getting up to this month in this edition of our school newsletter.

But it is the presence of our students and families in our local community that has shown how our faith guides us in celebrating the true meaning of Christmas and spreading messages of kindness and generosity to those who need it most.

From inviting local schools to join us in an afternoon of Christmas fun and singing carols in care homes, to collecting and preparing amazing hampers to donate to vulnerable families in Halton and Liverpool, our students have left a heart-warming and positive impression on those around us this Advent. I could not be more proud of the effort, consideration, and compassion demonstrated by each year group. Thank you.

And we've not just been working on Advent projects either. This half term, we've placed a strong focus on improving attendance levels throughout school. We know that through the winter months there can be additional challenges in ensuring your child attends school, but despite all of those, we have seen a considerable increase in students coming into school and staying for every lesson. We are extremely grateful to those of you who have sought support from us here in school to make sure your child is here on time and ready to learn every day, and thank you so much for your cooperation.

When we return to school in 2024, we expect to see attendance levels continue to rise, with a renewed focus on getting our basic standards and expectations perfect every day. There's more information on how you can support us in meeting and achieving these targets later on.

We continue to rely on working in partnership with our families to ensure our school routines, structure and boundaries combine to create an all round positive and secure experience of school life, and we can't thank you enough for all the support and reinforcement you provide from home.

I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy new year, and look forward to seeing all our students return to school on Monday 8th January at 8:40am.



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, and find new and better ways of working to support our students in achieving more than they thought possible.

HALF TERM 2

Name: Mrs Swift

Job Title: Senior Science Technician

Nominated by: Multiple Nominations

We are extremely lucky to have 'the best science technician' working at Saints Peter and Paul, who gives her all each and every day not only in her professional duties but in caring for those around her.

Senior Science Technician Mrs Swift has worked at the school for 9 years and in that time she has become an invaluable member of the science department and we are delighted to present her with the Half Term Hero award for half term 2.

Science teacher Miss Proctor said "She always looks after all members of the science team and goes above and beyond in providing practical (and personal!) support. She has had her fair share recently of personal difficulties yet she has always remained fully supportive of all of the school values and in all aspects of day to day school life. This nomination is to show that her efforts do not go unnoticed and that she is a truly valued member of our team."

In his nomination, science teacher Mr Carney said, "In addition to fulfilling her role to the highest level, she is always on hand to help our students wherever she can whether it's removing chewing gum from skirts and repairing glasses, bags and shoes or helping with medical situations and sometimes a comforting chat with an upset student."

Adding to the praise, Mrs Carey said, "She is tirelessly dedicated, and works so hard every day to make everything we ask for possible. Always supportive of staff and students alike, she takes the time to talk to and encourage every student she encounters"

On presenting Mrs Swift with her award, Principal Scott said, 'I am honoured to present the Half Term Hero award to Mrs Swift for her outstanding commitment to our students and her team. Reading through the nominations, it is clear to see how loved and respected she is by her colleagues and the positive impact she has made to improving standards within our school during her time with us. Congratulations Diane on this well deserved recognition.'



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.

A PRAYER FOR CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION WINNERS

JOINT
1ST
PLACE



Mariia D | Year 9



Ruby T | Year 8

Our art department received lots of fantastic submissions in response to this year's annual Christmas Card competition, and our talented artists didn't make it easy for our judges to select their top five.

A HUGE CONGRATULATIONS GOES TO OUR JOINT FIRST PLACE WINNERS...

Mariia D | Year 9 AND Ruby T | Year 8

Mariia's uplifting and delightfully detailed design caught our judges' eye. They said, 'Mariia's card design stood out with its attention to detail, bright colour palette, and a splash of humour. She has really captured a joyful Christmas day scene that I'm sure will be familiar to many, and we keep finding new elements to explore every time we look at it.'

Ruby's traditional design captured the true meaning of Christmas with her depiction of the Advent crown. The judges said, 'Ruby's choice of colour palette and strong Advent imagery meant that we could see this card being shared far and wide. Ruby also won our card competition last year, and she is quickly establishing herself as a talented artist within our school community.'

The winning designs have been shared with local colleagues and supporters and with our partners across the region. Well done!

OUR STAFF ADVENT SERVICE

Our team of staff gathered together for our annual staff Advent service to reflect on and prepare for Christmas as a celebration of the birth of Christ.

A heartfelt thank you especially to all our P+P Choir students who sang and signed 'O Holy Night' so beautifully, and to Year 8 student Isabella Mc who gave a stunning solo performance of 'Where Are You Christmas?' from the The Grinch movie soundtrack.

Our staff really enjoyed the 'Deck the Halls' singalong with you all too.

Guiding Star

Lord, the sight of the guiding star,
brought hope, courage and joy
to those who had journeyed to find you.

When our journey seems long,
when hope seems far away,
when our courage is failing
fill us with faith and trust;
shine your light on our fears,
lift our hearts with your joy.

Help us to recognise you
in our brothers and sisters
throughout the world;
show us how we can work together
so that we may all come to share in the life
promised to us by Jesus,
the Saviour of us all. Amen



CAFOD

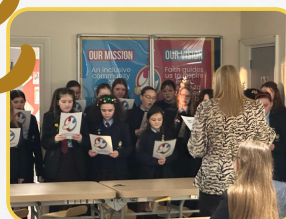
Well done also to...

**5th place winner |
Isla B | Year 7**

**4th place winner |
Kaitlin L | Year 7**

**3rd place winner |
Amelia L | Year 8**

“Love
Peace
Joy”



Oh Holy Night

Saints Peter and Paul musicians and singers spread some yuletide cheer this December with performances at Widnes Fellowship Centre, Halton View Care Home, St Patrick's Nursing Home, Millbrow Care Home and Madeline McKenna Court Care Home.

Our choir and instrumentalists lead their audiences in a festive sing-along, packed with their favourite Christmas songs, including 'Where are you Christmas?' from The Grinch, 'The Power of Love' by Frankie goes to Hollywood, Silver Bells, Half the World Away, 'Walking in the Air' from The Snowman, Silent Night and Merry Christmas Everybody by Slade.

Head of Music Mrs Saunders said, "They always look forward to seeing us each year, and we've helped residents and service users to kick start their Christmas celebrations. All of the students were amazing."



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY



Our students and staff got in to the festive spirit and joined us for our annual Christmas Jumper Day in school on Friday 8th December.



From tinsel and Santa hats to the jumpers themselves, it was great to see everybody enjoying the day and making each other smile.

Thank you to all of you who made a donation on the day, helping to raise a fantastic amount for Cash for Kids Liverpool, North West & North Wales in time for Christmas.



YEAR 4 CHRISTMAS BINGO & CRAFTS

We also opened our doors to some very special guests this month from St Gerard's Primary School in Widnes.

Year 4 pupils took part in Christmas themed crafts and activities, decorating their own handprints to create a beautiful Christmas wreath for display in our school Chapel, before taking part in a fun-filled session of Bonkers Bingo (and Brussel sprouts) with our resident bingo-caller Mr Rhodes.

Mr Rhodes said, "The pupils from St Gerard's were an absolute joy to spend time with today. They had such a good time and were such a credit to their school. I hope they come to see us again in the new year."

Thank you so much Year 4, it was so lovely to meet you all. Come back again soon!



Thank you so so soooo much for all your wonderful donations to our Reverse Advent Calendar appeal.

We've been able to fill so many hampers to the brim with food and household items and you've helped to make a massive difference to the lives of so many this Christmas. Take a look at just of our amazing formation group hampers here:



STAYING WELL OVER CHRISTMAS

FREE ACTIVITIES & FOOD OVER THE CHRISTMAS BREAK

Visit www3.halton.gov.uk/Pages/health/hit/start/haf.aspx to find out more

Halton Borough Council are funding **FREE** activities & food during the Christmas holiday period to school aged children from Reception to Year 11, who receive benefits-related to free school meals.

From dance and drama to football and sports clubs, the Halton Borough Council website has a full list of activities on offer, and details on how to register.



ALDER HEY SYMPTOM CHECKER



Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust

Before attending A&E, please check the Alder Hey Symptom Checker.

If your child becomes unwell over the Christmas break, you can find information and advice on several of the most common illnesses in children before you make a decision to use A&E.

VISIT OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE

WWW.SAINTSPETERANDPAUL.HALTON.SCH.UK/
[WELLBEING](#)

THE P&P PANTRY

The P+P Pantry is supported by MCKS Charitable Foundation UK to provide essential supplies of food items, toiletries, and preloved uniform at no extra cost to those who need it most in our school community.



If you and your family would benefit from discreet and confidential access to staple cupboard items each week, please use our pantry service here in school.

Please visit our school website and search 'pantry' for more information.

PLEASE NOTE: Bookings will need to be made each week if you wish to attend.

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

FOR WELLBEING SUPPORT OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL VISIT...



KOOOTH.COM



SPEAK TO A QUALIFIED HEALTH PROFESSIONAL



Whatever's on your mind, ChatHealth can help.

Even if you just need someone who understands or want advice for a friend.

Kooth's live chat hours over the holiday period

24th December (Christmas Eve) - 4pm - 8pm
25th December (Christmas Day) - 4pm - 8pm
26th December (Boxing Day) - 4pm - 8pm
31st December (New Years Eve) - 4pm - 8pm
1st January (New Years Day) - 4pm - 8pm

Other days over the holiday period will follow our usual live chat hours of 12pm - 10pm on weekdays and 6pm - 10pm on weekends.

kooth.com



TAKING TIME FOR REFLECTION

In September, we launched 'The Reflection Room', a replacement for seclusion, a safe space in school where we proactively address challenges and help students understand the expectations we have here at school.

WHAT IS THE REFLECTION ROOM?

Reflection allows us develop problem-solving skills and resilience when faced with challenges.

The Reflection Room is used as a way to break cycles in negative behaviour patterns, by allowing our students time to reflect, reset and re-charge before returning to the full school timetable.

It gives staff and students the chance to unpick behaviours and incidents, allowing students to voice their concerns about what matters to them and ensure that they feel heard.

HOW DOES REFLECTION WORK?

To support individual needs and differences, Reflection can take place with:

- Year Mentors
- Behaviours Inclusion management
- or the Senior Leadership team

We support in a 1-1 or group setting where we discuss a range of topics, including pastoral support for our students who may be finding it hard to regulate their emotions.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A STUDENT IS RE-REFERRED TO REFLECTION?

When a student completes time in Reflection, they are given the opportunity to return to lessons the next day, as long as they comply and show that they want to make positive changes.

When a student is re-referred, it can mean that further support is required around the choices they are making in school. Further support could include:

- being placed within a different Reflection area.
- using a specific timetable for your child to attend when in reflection.
- a parental meeting, depending on the effectiveness of previous discussions with your child and what it means to them.

reflection

/rɪ'flek.ʃən/ _ noun

the process of taking a step back to find perspective, reduce stress, and recognise areas in need of attention to become a fully aware and understanding participant of life.

understanding who you really are and who you want to become.



A TYPICAL DAY IN REFLECTION



START OF THE DAY

- Students report to reception
- Mr Todd will give the student a seat, a table number, and take their lunch order



11:25 AM

- The student's year team will collect them from the reflection room to complete reflection activities



11:50 AM

- Students will be returned to their allocated reflection room to complete work



12:45 PM

- Students will have lunch in either the school canteen or in their reflection room



1:15 PM

- Students return to reflection and complete any tasks or homework on Sparx, Educake or ClassCharts using a laptop/computer/ or on paper



END OF THE DAY

- Students are escorted to the school gates via reception to leave school.

If you would like to find out more about Reflection at P&P, please telephone 0151 424 2139 to speak to a member of the Inclusion team.

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO



FAITH IN ACTION COP 28 CONFERENCE

Representatives from our Faith in Action student group had an amazing day at the mock COP28 UAE UN Climate Conference run by the Liverpool World Centre.

RE teacher and Chaplaincy Co-ordinator Miss Smith said, "We have made speeches and engaged in global negotiations representing the EU and the Marshall Islands, and listened to a panel of different business, charity and university representatives. We came together to discuss how we can take what we've learned and make some positive changes within our school community and then finished our amazing day by listening to a speech from The Mayor."

Our pupils made Miss Smith and Mr Johnson so proud and event organisers commented on how fantastic our pupils were and how articulate their speech and questions were.

AIMING HIGH. ASPIRING FURTHER.

This month, a group of Year 10 students visited Cronton Sixth Form College for an introduction to their 'High Achievers' programme.

The programme aims to enable high-achieving students with access to prestigious universities such as Oxford and Cambridge and courses including medicine, dentistry, and veterinary.

Our students took part in inspiring taster sessions, providing them with a first-hand experience of subjects including law, psychology, and maths.

Year 10 Year Mentor Mrs Duffield said, "The students behaviour, attitude, and confidence were amazing, and it was a pleasure to escort this group on what was my first trip out with them." Great work Year 10!



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW YEAR 7 ART LEADERS

Our art leaders for the 23/24 academic year have been selected because of their creative talents and their commitment to supporting our art department & developing the art opportunities on offer at our school. Well done to all of you.

This year's Art Leaders are Averie L, Evelyn R, Gabriel W-B, Hollie B, Imogen M, Isabelle D and Martha G



SPORTING SUCCESS FOR STS PETER & PAUL

Our Year 11 boys rugby team took on a strong Warrington side in King's Leadership Academy and came home with a win.

The triumphant P+P lads came away with a fantastic final score of 28 - 4, with our very own Jack M delivering a stand out performance on the field.

Great work team, we are so proud of you!

Our Year 8 girls football team have gone from strength to strength this half term,

Winning 4-0 in the under 13 Cheshire Cup versus Kings Leadership, Warrington and defeating Blacon High School with a winning score of 4-1 at the full time whistle!

Brilliant!



STUDENT SUPERSTARS Half term 2

STUDENT SUPERSTAR

"SAMUEL HAS AN OUTSTANDING BEHAVIOUR AND ATTENDANCE RECORD AND HAS STARTED YEAR 9 WITH GREAT ENTHUSIASM AND COMMITMENT TO HIS LEARNING. WE'RE VERY PROUD OF HIM"

Mr Shrop Year 9 Progress Leader

SAMUEL | YEAR 9

STUDENT SUPERSTAR

"AMY IS ALWAYS POLITE COURTEOUS AND GIVES HER BEST IN EVERYTHING SHE DOES. EVEN WHEN PLAYING IN INTERNATIONAL TENNIS EVENTS ALL OVER THE WORLD. SHE NEVER FALLS BEHIND IN HER STUDIES"

Miss Smith Interim Year 10 Progress Leader

AMY | YEAR 10

STUDENT SUPERSTAR

"NOT ONLY HAS KLEVIS DEMONSTRATED OUR SCHOOL VALUE OF ASPIRATION BY ATTENDING MANY OF OUR ELEVATE AND REVISION CAFE SESSIONS, THE COMPASSION HE HAS SHOWN HAS BEEN TRULY INSPIRING AS HE ASSISTED FELLOW STUDENTS WITH THEIR REVISION TOO"

Mr Kelly Year 11 PD and Mission Lead

KLEVIS | YEAR 11

STUDENT SUPERSTAR

"MASON IS AN OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTOR TO OUR SCHOOL CULTURE AND EXTRA-CURRICULAR LIFE AT SCHOOL. HE POSSESSES A TREMENDOUS ENTHUSIASM FOR HIS LEARNING, BUT ALSO TO MY CHESS CLUB."

Mr Hooley Year 13 Personal Development & Mission Lead

MASON | YEAR 7

STUDENT SUPERSTAR

"CAIO LIVES OUT OUR SCHOOL VALUES OF ASPIRATION, RESPECT AND COMPASSION DAILY. HE WALKS AROUND OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY WITH THE BIGGEST SMILE AND A 'CAN-DO' ATTITUDE."

Mr Hooley Year 13 Personal Development & Mission Lead

CAIO | YEAR 8

STUDENT SUPERSTAR

"AIMEE HAS A HIGH NUMBER OF ACHIEVEMENT POINTS. EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE AND IS AN AMBASSADOR FOR OUR SCHOOL BY DISPLAYING ALL OF OUR STANDARDS AND LIVING OUT ALL OF OUR VALUES."

Mr Shrop Year 9 Progress Leader

AIMEE | YEAR 9

STUDENT SUPERSTAR

"LEWIS IS ALWAYS IN AND AROUND THE TOP 10 ACHIEVERS IN THE WHOLE YEAR GROUP. ALL OF LEWIS' TEACHERS COMMENT ON HIS POLITENESS, WORK ETHIC AND WHAT A POSITIVE ROLE MODEL HE IS AROUND SCHOOL."

Mr Hooley Year 13 Personal Development & Mission Lead

LEWIS | YEAR 10

ANTI BULLYING WEEK 2024

Tackling bullying in school remains one of our biggest priorities, placing respect for ourselves and others as one of our core school values.

In November, our students and staff took part in Anti-Bullying week awareness raising activities to help 'make a noise' about bullying and make it clear that it is not ok!

The week began with Odd Socks Day, which saw students and staff arriving at school with some rather snazzy and colourful sock combinations. Your odd socks certainly got people talking, so thank you for doing your bit to make a difference.

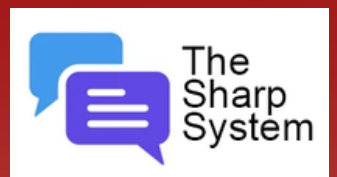


Our anti-bullying student leaders also helped to lead the way in conversations about bullying in formation time, and producing a thought-provoking video for our social media channels encouraging others not to stay quiet and raising awareness of the range of support on offer at P+P every day.

Well done to you all.



REPORT BULLYING IN CONFIDENCE



<https://saintspeterandpaul.thesharpsystem.com>



CLASS OF 2024 | GCSE LAUNCH

This month our Year 11 students heard from Paul Trainor and Greg Burke from Positive Synergy about unlocking their potential ahead of their GCSE exams.

Year 11 Progress Leader Mr Mullarkey said, "It's been a real eye opening day for us as well as our students, and we were so glad to see them listening so closely and getting stuck in to all the workshop activities. We hope they take away lots of useful advice and tips to help them get in the right headspace and make the most of the time they have left with us here at P+P"

Thank you also to all our Year 11 parents who attended our GCSE information session.

We hope you were able to take away some useful tips and advice to ensure we can work together to support your child in achieving their full potential when exam time comes around.

If you missed the Year 11 Parent Information Evening and would like to know more about how to support your child during this important time, please speak to your child's Formation Tutor for advice.



Attendance ARE YOU IN? MATTERS

...ON TIME?



For children and families with medical conditions, attendance at school can often be a source of worry.

If you haven't already, please contact your child's progress leader to discuss how we can best support their education and learning.

We're continuing to see positive patterns and improvements in our whole school attendance, but we know things could be even better!

That's why we'll be renewing our focus on PUNCTUALITY in the new year!

To start each week with a little positivity, every student with 100% punctuality from the week before will be entered into a special year group draw to win a prize on Monday morning.

ALL STUDENTS SHOULD BE IN LINES IN THEIR AREA OF THE SCHOOL YARD NO LATER THAN 8:40AM. EVERY DAY.

WELL DONE TO OUR AMAZING ATTENDERS FOR THIS HALF 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!



ATTENDANCE HEROES HALF TERM 2

Attendance Hero recognition goes to the formation groups with the highest attendance in the whole school each week. Well done to our top three forms with the best attendance for whole of the last term...

1ST



98.0%

EXCELLENT WORK
07 LORNE!!

2ND



96.7%

CONGRATULATIONS
07 PROCTOR

3RD



96.6%

WELL DONE
08 NASSIF & 10 PEPPERDINE

RAISING STANDARDS & EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS

Thank you for all your support

Thank you so much to our students and families for helping to drive our uniform and behaviour standards over the past term.

99.4%

of our students gained achievement points for arriving in appropriate shoes for school

98.8%

of our students gained achievement points for arriving in the appropriate tie for their year group

98.6%

our students gained achievement points for arriving in full school uniform

You have done a fantastic job so far and we are so close to reaching our target of 100% compliance.

We'd love to start the new year with 100% of our students receiving achievement points for full uniform when they arrive back on Monday 8th January. Can you help?

Please refamiliarise yourself with our uniform expectations here or via our website:



A light blue shirt
& branded tie

Optional navy-blue V-neck
plain jumper (no logo)

A navy-blue blazer
embroidered with our
school logo

Kilt-style skirt

Dark grey formal trousers

Navy blue long socks
if wearing skirt

Black socks
if wearing trousers

All shoes and soles must be plain black and polished
No trainer style or canvas shoes.
No logo or embellishments.

If you need to replace any lost or damaged items of uniform over the Christmas break*, you can purchase branded items from:

Laser Schoolwear,
56 Victoria Road,
Widnes
WA8 7RJ

or

Kits for All Ltd
14 Lugsdale Road
Widnes
WA8 6DH

***Please check opening times with the above uniform suppliers before making your journey.**

DATES TO REMEMBER

JANUARY 2024

4th | INSET DAY | Staff only

5th | INSET DAY | Staff only

8th | SCHOOL OPENS

8th – 19th | Year 7 & 8 ASPIRE weeks

10th | New York trip meeting

11th | Year 11 | Parents Evening

24th | Year 9 | Options Evening

27th | Holocaust Memorial Day

FEBRUARY 2024

3rd | Start of Advent

4th – 15th | Year 9 & 10
ASPIRE weeks

4th | Music visit to Widnes
Fellowship Centre

5th | Music nursing home
visit

5th | Flu vaccinations

7th | Year 9 Options
interviews

7th | Enrichment week

9th – 16th | HALF TERM BREAK

14th | ASH WEDNESDAY

19th | Year 11 mocks begin

MARCH 2024

7th | World Book Day

14th | Year 10 Parents'
evening

25th | Year 9 ASPIRE
fortnight begins

27th | Year 8 Parents'
evening

29th | BANK HOLIDAY



Take a look at our school calendar on our website
<https://www.saintspeterandpaul.halton.sch.uk/calendar>



NEXT EDITION

Spring 2024

Many thanks to everyone who has been involved in producing this edition, if you would like to contribute to future editions please contact: communications@saintspeterandpaul.halton.sch.uk
The deadline for submissions for the next P&P Update is 15th October 2023

Find us on



@PandPCHS



@StsPnP



bepandp