



# St. Anthony's Girls' Catholic Academy

*A Mercy Academy committed to excellence*

# Spotlight



**CHRISTMAS 2015**



# Welcome to Spotlight on St Anthony's

Dear Parents,

Wishing everyone a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Thank you to the whole community for their hard work to ensure the move to new facilities late October occurred to time and as smoothly as possible.

Particular thanks to our own premises and technical team who have worked hard with the Education Funding Agency, Kier (main contractor) and all the sub-contractors to ensure we have our lovely new premises which our girls and staff so richly deserve.

Thank you also to our neighbours who have been so considerate. We will finally be finished by September 2016 and look to a formal opening of the facilities after this date.

Please continue to ensure your daughter attends school regularly, is not late and works hard to achieve to the best of her ability, particularly if she is facing external examinations in 2016.

M. Shepherd (Mrs.)  
Head Teacher



## Fabulous new facilities for St. Anthony's

We would like to share with you some images:



# New School Building Programme



New classrooms



Drama Studio



New classrooms



Assembly Hall



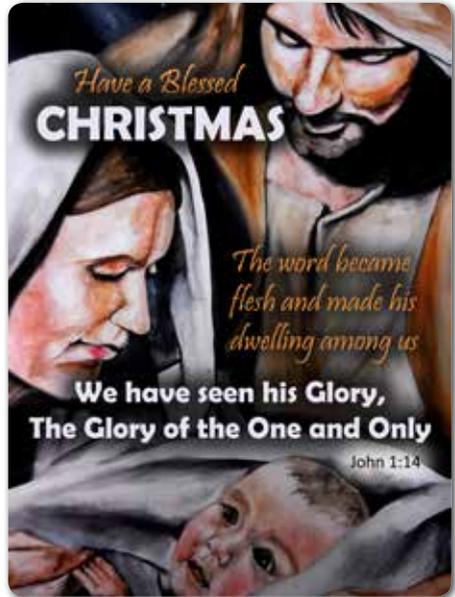
Excellent Dining Hall facilities



# Art

## St. Anthony's Christmas Card Designs

This half term has seen the production of our annual school Christmas card. This year has been a step up as we are sending out both a Fine Art and a Photography example. The nativity painting was produced by A-level artist Eve Watson who has demonstrated exceptional skill in her portraits. The Photography example was produced by Year 12 photographer Victoria Atkinson and demonstrates the bright colours and sparkle associated with this time of year. Both students have produced excellent work and their skills within each discipline are constantly improving. We have two excellent examples here which will reflect the creativity on show from all of our artists and photographers. I have no doubt that the people and establishments that receive the cards will be very impressed indeed. If this looks like something you would be interested in or if you have any extra-curricular Art or Photography work please share it with your Art teachers.



# Art



## The Big Doodle 2015 St Joseph's Catholic Academy, Hebburn

Eight Year 8 pupils from our school had the opportunity to take part in a series of Drawing workshops based around the theme of 'Line'. Each workshop was themed around different artists and allowed students to explore a range of different drawing techniques. They worked on both small and large scale drawings to help celebrate the Big Draw 2015.

Each teacher running a work shop had chosen an artist to focus their session on, and a specific art technique to introduce pupils to. Each student was given an A3 sheet with a template of a cube on it. They moved around the workshops and created a doodle from each of the workshops on each face of their cube. At the end of the day the students made their cube/drawing and had the opportunity to put the cubes together to make a 3D drawing throughout the space. The work was exceptionally impressive with two of our students picking up awards for their artwork. A great day was had by all and the work and attitude of our girls was exemplary.



# Business & Economics

## BTEC Business Placements

The Year 12 BTEC Business Level 2 students have started their placements and are enjoying the challenges working life can bring – early starts, late finishes, hard work and learning lots of new skills.

This year there are 12 girls on the BTEC Level 2 Business course and each of them have chosen placements they are interested in pursuing when they are older. Primary schools are still the favourite placement for many of the girls – going back to their primary school and seeing what daily life is like from a teaching and supervisory perspective. Georgia Tansey is at St Cuthbert's Primary school where she is helping out with Year 1 pupils "it's really hard work but I really like it, the pupils are really keen to learn and take advantage of all the help I can give them"

Brogan Black is at Southwick Primary school, she says "I love working with kids – no two days are ever the same! I really like the challenges working in a school gives you and this is something I would like to do when I am older"

The other students are at placements as wide ranging as Solicitors offices, hairdressers and Boots the chemist. Although its early days all the girls are enjoying themselves.

Lorna McDonald is at Hedley's Solicitors "I am really enjoying being part of the administration team at Hedley's everyone is really friendly and they have all helped me to settle in. I am looking forward to spending the rest of the year here as I think it's a fantastic opportunity to get some work experience.

Emily Welsh is at Boots the Chemist in the Bridges "I really like working in Boots and the staff are so nice. I am learning how to work as part of a team and am learning some good communication and teamwork skills"

As part of the BTEC programme students are learning about a wide variety of business topics, all of which will help them improve their business knowledge and skills which will help them in future working life. We are planning a visit to the Apple Store in Newcastle to learn about having an online business so come back and see how we get on in our next issue.

## Year 7 Enterprise

Year 7s are being set the challenge of setting up and running their own business that will focus on ethics and recycling. They will have weekly meetings, where they will work in small teams to create a product using recycled material, assessing the beneficial impacts that this will have on the environment. They will carry out research on their potential customers and devise a successful marketing campaign and pricing strategy. Prizes will be issued to the groups who demonstrate the best; group work, design ideas and presentation skills at the end of the competition time.

## Year 12 – Hexham and Newcastle Catholic Partnership Enterprise Competition

Two teams of St. Anthony's students travelled to St. Joseph's in Hebburn to compete against 7 other groups in a competition that allowed them to take on the role of business advisor to recommend future actions of a business outlined in a specified case study. They had to recommend a course of action for a Smoothie company, deciding on a possible: location, marketing campaign, product description and features, pricing strategy and to advise the business with its financial issues. The material that the students were provided with was based on that given to candidates going through the Accountancy qualifications, allowing the students to demonstrate and develop their problem solving, communication, team working, creativity and

presentation skills. Both teams performed very well with Courtney Collins, Louise Parker, Elle Horwood and Sophie Jackson taking second place in the competition and Eleanor Ash, Jennifer Connolly, Sophia Robinson and Lydia Ellison coming third in the competition.



# Business & Economics



## Year 13 – Sunderland University

Year 13 business studies students were given the opportunity to have a personalised finance lessons with one of the lecturers from Sunderland University, Kudz Munongi. Students were involved in a mini-break-even lecture based at St. Anthony's, where students had to decide at which level of output the business needed to produce at in order to make a profit. Kudz developed the lecture to talk about the exciting opportunities that are available at Sunderland University, including the wide range of business/ business related courses. He concluded the presentation with a very motivations description of how he got to where he is today, outlining that determination and perseverance is the key to a successful career. Ultimately this gave the students a good overall feel of what university life is all about at a time when they are completing their UCAS forms.

## Careers

### WORK EXPERIENCE

Well done to Year 11 who completed another successful round of placements for 2015!

We have just launched Work Experience for 2016 with Year 10 and the placement forms are coming in thick and fast! Deadline February!!

**Coming soon** .....lots of opportunities to participate in Work Discovery sessions throughout the city, and Guest Speaker Days, all in various Sectors – list of events to follow.

– Year 9 Introduction to Connexions with Tracey Dale on 1st December.

### ANTI-BULLYING CONFERENCE

Well done to Abbie Scott and Jamela Coloma who are our Anti-Bullying representatives.

They attended the annual Anti-Bullying Conference, which was a great opportunity to link with pupils from other schools, and learn how to raise awareness around bullying issues and to provide strategies to combat it.



### CITIZENSHIP

Year 9 are starting to think about their future pathways within their Citizenship lessons. The girls were invited to participate in a workshop hosted by the University of Newcastle. Working in teams the girls looked at what career choices they would like to do and how to reach their goal.



# Childcare

## Year 11 – Child Development

Year 11 students are well underway with their Coursework, learning about how children with additional needs can be helped to learn and develop. Some students who completed a work experience in schools or nurseries have been able to relate their roles into their assignments, helping them to reach higher grades.

They have researched and presented their findings well and continue to revise developmental milestones in readiness for their exam in January; we wish them luck!

Meanwhile the Year 10 girls have been learning about toys ie what makes a good toy, and how to provide safe and stimulating toys for a variety of



ages. The girls have shown their ideas to each other and have discussed how toys can promote holistic development.

## Year 12 – Child Development

Year 12 are settling nicely into both their Daycare and Primary School Placements. They have been putting the theory of Health and Safety learned in Unit 4 into practice in the workplace setting, already taking part in fire drills and trips/visits.



Olivia Wilson and the Nursery class at St Benet's Primary School celebrated Bonfire Night by 'finger splattering' fireworks!

## Year 13 – Child Development

Beth Kennedy is enjoying her placement in Tavistock Nursery where she has helped the children to collect leaves and explore the theme of Autumn. She is planning and encouraging children's sensory and language development by engaging the children to create collages and experience leaf rubbings.

Beth is in very safe hands as four students who qualified from St. Anthony's last term are now employed at Tavistock and are close to hand to offer her help and advice.

The photograph shows Sarah Simpson, Sarah Keegan, Sophie McClusky, Amy Wigham with Beth Kennedy.



# Chaplaincy

## “Good News!” from the Chaplaincy department!

### FAITH 15

The new academic year opened with a bang as “FAITH 15” was celebrated on 11th September at the Sports Central in Newcastle University.

“Inspired to Inspire” was the title and some 46 girls from Year 8 joined over 6,000 young people from all over the diocese to share their faith through dance, worship and personal testimonies.

Well done to our Youth Council members who took part enthusiastically in the event and joined the “welcome team”, guiding young people to their seats. Some of our girls took part in the celebration of the Word, carrying huge globes of light in procession to the stage.



### CONVENT TOURS

As part of their induction into the Mercy ethos of the school, all of Year 7 girls have visited Oaklea Convent, meeting many of the elderly sisters and learning about their years of service and dedication, as well as the history behind the school. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed their visit, especially to the gardens, chapel, community room and refreshments in the garden room.



### INTERNATIONAL MASS

Well done to five of our talented students who accompanied Miss Tersy Thomas in a beautiful opening dance sequence at the beginning of Mass which took place on Saturday, 24th October in St. Mary's, Sunderland.



### JOHN PAUL 2nd AWARD

Congratulations to St. Anthony's Sixth formers!! We are delighted and extremely proud to be leading the way with 54 of our girls taking up the challenge of the Gold Award! In order to complete their 20 hours of service, girls are busy completing social action activities in the community as well as supporting the Chaplaincy and their parishes in a variety of works of service – watch this space!!!



Thank you to everyone who has been involved with the Chaplaincy in whatever capacity e.g. setting up for Masses, liturgies, assemblies, readers, worship, dance, friendship clubs etc..A very happy and peaceful Christmas to all.



# Design Technology & Computing

## Catholic Partnership Design a Mascot Competition

Students from Years 7, 8 and 9 were invited to design a school mascot which would then be produced and used at Hexham and Newcastle Catholic Partnership events. The competition was such a huge success that there were two chosen winners. The competition was judged by a selected group of Year 9 Textile students and the chosen designs are a Dragon and a Humming Bird.

Congratulations to Jasmine Staples (Year 10) for her very creative and fun dragon design, and also to Kadiza Begum for her beautiful humming bird design. They were chosen for their creativity and originality.

The designs are being produced by Jasmine and Kadiza with support from the members of Costume Club.

Year 7 pupils wrote a prayer or story to accompany their mascot design and the chosen winning prayer is written by Jade Winter (Year 8).

Many congratulations to all pupils who took the time to design a mascot and write a prayer or story, and thank you to all Year 9 pupils who supported and judged the competition. I was delighted with the enthusiasm and creativity of all the students who participated. Well done!



Winning design from  
Jasmine Staples –Year 10

Dear God,  
Help us to be strong today,  
Listen to the things we have to say,  
Guide us to the right path in life,  
Help us to do well in exams and  
strife.  
Help us to treat each other like  
a family,  
Let us be like you to the end of  
eternity.  
Amen

Winning prayer written by Jade  
Winter –Year 8



Winning design from  
Kadiza Begum –Year 8

## Jewellery Club

We have been busy making pencil toppers and wine glass charms. We are planning on selling these so we can buy some silver to use on future projects. All charms are hand made with love.



We are asking for donations for these charms £1 for 2 and the pencil toppers are 50p.

Thank you  
Caitlin Finlayson Yr. 8



# Design Technology & Computing



## Design Club Does VENTURA

Now in its sixth year, Design Ventura is a free national competition for students in Years 9, 10 and 11. It places design skills in a real world context, developing creativity, problem-solving, teamwork and enterprise capabilities. Design Ventura offers participants opportunities to visit the Design Museum and to encounter experts from Design and Business, online or in person. Competition prizes include the chance to see your work exhibited at the museum, support from experts to develop your idea, and one winning idea will be developed and sold in the Design Museum Shop.

Year 9 girls who attend Design Club on Thursday lunchtimes have been working very hard on their ideas for the past six weeks, but only one group's idea could be selected for submission to the judging panel in London. The winning team designed an interchangeable bag for people 'on the go', which can be written and drawn on, using fibre tip fabric pens, and can be detached from the ergonomic handles for machine washing. The product is environmentally friendly by promoting the reuse of the bag in place of plastic; it is made from recycled plastic and organic textiles.



Miss Hunter and the winning team (pictured with their competition entry) Brodie Bryden, Zoe Tippling, Alex Pearson, Bethany Mather and Sahaby Begum.

The winning design!



## HNCP MasterChef

Congratulations to Abbie Forrest and Bethany Henderson who have been chosen to represent St Anthony's in the Annual Catholic Partnership MasterChef event at English Martyrs, Hartlepool. The talented Year 10 pupils have designed, prepared and perfected a 2-course meal consisting of Chicken dish and an afternoon tea inspired dessert, all for under £5, which they are hoping will beat off the competition!

Good Luck, girls!



Bethany Henderson and Abbie Forrest



# Design Technology & Computing

## Martha's Kitchen

### School Food Champions Programme



In the summer of 2015 Mrs Sherriff was awarded the role of "School Food Champion". Schools across England were selected because they met the DfE criteria for low school uptake, but more importantly, because they have enthusiastic food teachers who are passionate about teaching cooking and nutrition to their pupils. As part of this program, Mrs Sherriff and Mrs Hearn have been working alongside the Catering Team to develop new and exciting menus that meet the criteria of the School Food Plan <http://www.schoolfoodplan.com/plan/>.

The School Food Plan was launched by the DfE in September 2014, and includes a new set of standards for all food served in schools. The new standards are designed to make it easier for school cooks to create imaginative, flexible and nutritious menus. At St Anthony's we have seen a whopping 20% increase in the uptake of school meals since September 2015.

The menus and allergen information are now available for parents and students to view on the Academy website. Please arrange to see us if you have a specific dietary need. Our School Nutrition Action Group (SNAG) will be reestablished soon and we are looking for student and staff volunteers to help us make Martha's Kitchen a fantastic dining experience! If you care about school food, then please join us and have your say about what improvements and changes we can make.

## Sixth Form Volunteering

### Dining Room Prefects

A new opportunity has been created for our Sixth Form girls to work as prefects in our Dining Hall. 40 Year 12 girls have volunteered to be part of this programme which is helping them to gain valuable work experience in a fast moving and demanding environment. In addition, this new role contributes towards the volunteering requirement for the new John Paul II Award, Duke of Edinburgh scheme, School Ambassador Award, whilst also being beneficial for UCAS applications. The girls have proven to be an excellent addition to the running of Martha's Kitchen and we hope to continue to build on this programme.

## Martha's Kitchen

### .....Come Dine With Us

Mrs Hearn & Mrs Sherriff ran a competition to name our new school dining hall. With over 250 entries, a combination of ideas from Sister Francis (Martha's Kitchen) and Sekeyna Abidi from Year 9 (come dine with us) were chosen by Mrs Shepherd.



Sister Francis, Sekeyna Abidi and India Mason

## Nudo Sushi Box comes to Martha's Kitchen!

All of our KS3 students used their creativity to design a new school meal for Martha's Kitchen. The winning entry came from India Mason (Yr9) who created 'Sushi Fusion'. We contacted Nudo Sushi Box, a new North East company, who came into school to discuss our ideas. We are expecting our first Nudo Sushi to be on sale very soon! Let's hope this healthy and tasty lunchtime option becomes a favourite with the girls!



A selection of our new prefects; Devon Hutchinson, Jessica Cheetham



# Design Technology & Computing



## Primary Links

Every year the Design Technology department work with primary feeder schools to bring Year 5 students into St. Anthony's to work within the department. This year, the students are making a space alien pencil holder. The first school to try out this project in our new workshops was St. Leonard's Primary School. The students really enjoyed their project, as can be seen by their happy faces.



## The Rocket Challenge, Hexham & Newcastle Catholic Partnership

This challenge is an exciting and practical way to learn about Technology, Maths and Science.

Hannah Blyth, Georgia Hales and Katie Bell were selected to participate in this Technology challenge at St. Joseph's School, Hepburn. Teams had to consider

how their rocket would travel the furthest, and work this into their design. Each team had to design the rocket, and then a pneumatic launcher fired the rockets across the field. A brilliant day was enjoyed by all!



## SAFC Merchandise Challenge

As part of Work Discovery Week, schools were asked to create a new item of merchandise for the female market.

Emily Beadling of Year 10 beat off tough competition from other schools and she reached the final at the Stadium of Light. Emily had to complete a very difficult Dragon's Den presentation in front of the judges at the Stadium. The judges were very impressed by Emily's professional approach and unique design.

Well done, Emily!



# English & Drama

## National Poetry Day – 2015

On Thursday 8th October – National Poetry Day 2015 – we had a visit from published poet Valerie Laws. Our Year 10 pupils were given the opportunity to attend a creative session in which she talked about her work, delivered some workshop activities and discussed ideas, experimentation and poetic inspiration. Who knew sheep could produce poetry?

A large number of girls chose to attend and very much enjoyed the session. We are looking forward to hearing about them writing poetry of their own.



The Year 10 pupils with Valerie Laws

## Poetry By Heart

Poetry By Heart is a national competition which encourages young people to enjoy poetry, develop their memory skills and gain confidence in performance and reading aloud.

POETRY BY  
HEART

This has fired imaginations within the English department and this year, Miss Donaldson has set up a club for all Year 10 and Year 12 students who are interested. The group meet once a week on a Friday lunchtime. Having just experienced their first session, there is a real buzz amongst the students around what poem they will choose and how much they will be able to recite! It really has been an exciting start and we look forward to seeing how successful our students can be!

If any other Year 10 or Year 12 students would like to attend, the sessions start at 12.20pm in MC13 and last about 30 minutes. You do not have to enter the competition unless you want to. Hope to see you there.

## Drama Studies: The Tragedy Of It!



The Classics and Drama students in the Sixth Form explored Greek Drama with Ross Wilkinson from Durham University. They delved into two ancient Greek plays, *Medea* and *Women at the Thesmophoria*, analysing how they portray the roles of women in Ancient Greek society. The students created their own dramatic response to the plays, acting out scenes with their own take. They were also very lucky to handle some ancient Greek and Roman artefacts, specially brought in from Durham University's archives. These included some unusual artefacts like a Roman roof tile with a paw print embedded into it and a pumice stone from the volcanic eruption in Pompeii.



# Extended Curricular



Well done to the girls from Years 9 -13 who helped give out the goodie bags to over 55,000 runners at this year's Great North Run. The girls worked extremely hard throughout the day to get ready for the runners coming over the finish line, and making sure everyone received their bags.

A big "Thank you!" to the staff and volunteers of the school who helped to make the event run smoothly: Sister Josepha, Miss S Cousin, Miss H Moran, Mrs Kathryn Smith and Mr Doug Rutherford. Without their help we could not take the pupils.



# Geography

## Year 12 River Residential

Year 12 visited Egton, in the North York Moors, to carry out river-based fieldwork. After arriving at the river, the students used a range of measuring equipment to investigate how the river changes as it flows downstream. They measured features of the river at three separate locations, such as its width, velocity and gradient, looking at the different landforms at each place. They then went back to the accommodation and worked hard to analyse their results, drawing graphs and cross sections, and also trying some statistical techniques! The following morning they visited the village of Lealholm to practise their field sketches, but not before having a lovely English breakfast cooked by Mr. Hermon!



## GCSE Whitby Visit

In September, Year 11 students visited Whitby to collect information for their GCSE controlled assessment.

The girls explored the town whilst taking note of the land use and environmental quality of the area.

They were also brave enough to ask questions of tourists and local people to discover their opinions about the impact of tourism. In the afternoon, the girls enjoyed a bit of free time to explore the unique shops and to sample Whitby's famous fish and chips! They enjoyed their day and were a credit to the school.



# History & Politics



## Beamish Adventures with Year 8

In the summer term rallying shouts could be heard from Year 8s in Beamish of “What do we want? Votes for women! When do we want them? Now!” It was the History department’s annual trip to Beamish to remember the women’s suffrage movement and make our own mark on History. The pupils dressed in Victorian clothing and marched through the Victorian streets of Beamish holding a rally for women’s rights. They then congregated in the Free Mason’s Hall for a debate about women’s suffrage, with many eloquent and enthusiastic arguments pouring forth.



## History Club’s Trip to the Magna Carta Exhibition

The History Club were very privileged to see an exhibition about the Magna Carta held by the Durham University’s Library, including an original early edition of the Magna Carta. The pupils also participated in a session exploring what the Magna Carta means to us today and what it means to be a citizen. They even managed to handle a copy of the Magna Carta and try to decipher it from the Latin!



# Horner's Fundraising Corner



This year's Macmillan Coffee Morning was held Friday 25th September; we had a bit of a twist on the fund-raising event. We had a Departments Bake-Off, which included European Languages Day. Each Department in the school was asked to bring in cakes represented by the country they had been allocated.

We raised **£192.98**; a great effort by all!

Thank you.

Miss Sheriff & Miss Horner

## International Links



### Daqing Student Exchange

St Anthony's are once again looking forward to welcoming a group of students from the Daqing Foreign Language School, China to study with us in January for a period of eight weeks. The group consists of fourteen girls who will be joining us and taking part in all lessons, fourteen boys who will attend lessons at St Aidan's and three members of staff. In the evenings the students will be taking extra English lessons with staff from the MFL department at St Anthony's. We are sure they will be really impressed with our new school and it will be a fabulous experience for our students to make new friends and learn more about Chinese culture.



# Learning Resource Centre News



We have had a busy start to the Academic Year with registration and inductions for the New Year 7 pupils. To get the girls back into reading after the summer break, all Year 7 girls have been given a book as a gift from the school. They got to choose from a selection of 12 different genres, so hopefully there was something of interest for everyone.



## Scholastic Book Club

Don't forget to look out for the Scholastic Book Club leaflets as they have some great offers in.



## Valerie Laws

Thursday October 8th was World Poetry Day, so to celebrate it a group of Year 10 girls did a workshop with the well known poet Valerie Laws.



A new Pupil Librarian Course started in October and 12 girls from Year 8 and Year 9 have signed up. The girls have to complete 10 skills sheets and they get to create bookmarks and posters to promote reading, write book reviews and to help with topical displays. When they have completed the course they will attend an award ceremony where they will each receive a certificate and get to meet a famous author.

Love the library and learn  
 Interesting books and information  
 Best place to read and do homework  
 Read different books  
 Adventure and art everywhere  
 Romantic books  
 Yes it so fun to read





# Maths

## A-Level Results 2015

Last summer the A-Level Results saw some outstanding performances in Mathematics.

At A2 Level 37% of passes were at A\* or A grade with 74% at the top grades of A\*-B and with an overall pass rate of 100%.

At AS Level 16% of passes were at A grade with 35% at the top grades of A-B and with an overall pass rate of 76%.

At AS Level Further Maths 10% of passes were at A grade with 40% at the top grades of A-B and with an overall pass rate of 90%.



Some of our successful A2 Mathematicians: *From left;* Charlotte Potts, Kate Hamilton and Naomi Lau

Congratulations to all who studied Mathematics with us and good luck with your future studies.

Anyone interested in AS or A2 Mathematics or Further Mathematics at St Anthony's is asked to contact Mrs Armstrong or Mr Dunn.

## Maths GCSE Results 2015

A huge well done to the Year 11 students who completed their GCSE course this Summer. 79% of students achieved grade A\*-C with 19% of students achieving grade A or A\*.

Outstanding results were achieved by many with the following girls being awarded the top grades of A or A\*:

Marcia Adams, Faizah Anjum, Toni Bevan, Amelia Brown, Georgina Buck, Shauna Callaghan, Eleanor Duncan, Tabitha Elwell, Rebecca Gair, Rebecca Green, Olivia Howard,

Amy Johnson, Olivia Johnson, Sarah King, Holly Lancaster, Sommer Lane, Anya Mason, Elizabeth Maughan, Anna McKie, Esther McNally, Kaylee McNally, Bethaney Miller,

Sadie Morron, Emily Oliver, Reshma Raji, Laurie Richards, Lauren Ritchie, Lauren Roberts, Jennifer Roe, Jennifer Smith, Olivia C Smith, Jennifer Szandrowska, Shojimol Tom,

Rachel Tunney, Rebecca Walley, Jennifer Welsh, Tayla Wilkinson, Heather Wilson,

Stephanie Wilson, Abigail Young.



Bethaney Miller and Anna McKie both achieved grade A\* and are now studying Advanced Level Mathematics.

**Congratulations to all students and good luck with your future studies and career choices.**



# Maths



## New Online Maths Resources

A reminder that the Maths department use two pieces of online software with pupils to support their learning:

### MyMaths



**MyMaths.co.uk**

MyMaths is a fully interactive online learning resource complete with interactive lessons, home works and games. Each pupil throughout the school who studies Maths has their own individual login so staff can set homework for students to complete at home. Students should see their Maths teacher if they forget their login details.

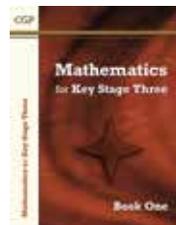
Students can login using any PC or laptop and the free Puffin Academy app allows them to access MyMaths on mobile and tablet devices.

This is an excellent revision resource for students in every year group to use to improve their Mathematics skills

#### **School Login details**

School Login: stanthonys1  
School Password: circle192

### CGP Online Textbook



Our Key Stage 3 and Year 10 students have all been given a passcode to enable them to access an online version of the textbook they use in their Maths lessons. This enables pupils to complete homework and personal study without the need to take home a textbook. The online version can be accessed from any computer once an account has been registered.

Remember to also check the school website regularly for new resources and revision materials.

## School Website Revision Materials

The Mathematics section on the school website contains many revision materials for students to use. These will be particularly useful around mock examination, key assessment and final examination periods.

Year 11 students in particular should ensure they are making use of these materials throughout the school year in order to thoroughly prepare for their final examinations. There are booklets covering most topics covered in GCSE Maths split into foundation and higher tiers.

Anyone needing any help accessing these materials should see their Maths teacher.



# Music

## A Spectacularly Stunning Sage Performance

In July, members of the Senior Choir performed at the biennial HNCP joint concert at the Sage, Gateshead, where each of the twelve schools showcase their own talent, and then they collaborate to perform a choral, orchestral and big band piece. This year the standard and talent was the highest we have seen across all twelve schools, and our Senior Choir were no exception.

The theme for the evening was peace, so the Senior Choir sang the hauntingly beautiful Seal Lullaby by Eric Whitacre to a stunned audience; they sounded and looked absolutely beautiful. All members then got involved with the joint choral piece, A Mass for Peace by Karl Jenkins, and some of our talented musicians joined in with the orchestral piece 'Jupiter' by Holst. A fantastic evening!



## Genfactor Superstars

Huge congratulations to Olivia Glover (Y9), Jane Usher (Y9) and Alice Liddle (Y11) who were all finalists in this year's Genfactor competition. Ran by Gentoo, the X-factor style competition drew to a close with a talent-laden final in October at Rainton Meadows Arena, Houghton-le-Spring. Olivia, Jane and Alice auditioned,



were put through 'boot-camp' and made it into the

last sixteen acts of the competition from several hundreds! The Senior Choir performed during the judge's deliberations and were able to cheer the girls on too! Despite not coming in the top three, the girls performed with confidence, maturity and style, and we are so proud of them all! Well done girls!



# Music

## Bienvenue à Paris!



In the final week of the summer term 28 members of the Senior Choir headed to Paris for our 2015 Choir Tour. We had the fantastic opportunity of singing in La Madeleine and in the Disney Dream Castle Hotel. Both concerts were performed fantastically featuring some ensemble pieces, the choir's favourites from their repertoire and of course a few French songs were a staple! Aside from the singing we spent a fantastic day in Disneyland, completing a workshop with a Disney cast member which was a once in a lifetime opportunity!

The choir also visited the Cité de la Musique, a museum containing some of the most important classical instruments dating from the fifteenth to twentieth century. Another highlight of the trip was seeing Vivaldi's Four Seasons in Sainte-Chapelle, a beautiful almost entirely stained glass chapel which truly took your breath away upon entering.

A special thanks must go to Mrs Dudley, Miss Duncan and Mrs Tomlin for putting on both a musical and taking the choir to Paris in two weeks. The entire choir can't wait to find out where we're off to next!

By Eve Hawes, Year 13.



## Redworth Hall Mass

In October, the headteachers and co-ordinators of the Hexham and Newcastle Catholic Partnership held their annual mass at Redworth Hall, Darlington, and this year it fell to St Anthony's Music department to provide the music for the service. Our talented Y13 and Y11 pupils sang, accompanied hymns and performed for all of the staff present – a nerve-wracking experience! A big thank you to the girls for sharing their talent with everyone (and a special thank you to our lovely Sr Josepha and Sr Francis for helping us!



# Music

## It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year!

All of our lovely ensembles are getting very excited (and very busy!) gearing up for their Christmas performances this year. The Senior Choir are performing carol services at Oaklea convent, Holy Cross Care Home and at St Mary's Church, and then they are joining our lovely Orchestra, Junior and Y9 Choirs, String Orchestra, Guitar Group and the Woodwind ensembles as well as some amazing soloists for the Christmas concert – the first in our brand new academy hall on Thursday 17th December at 7pm. Hope to see you there!

## Local recognition for our amazing Senior Choir!

Since their success at The City Sings in March, the Senior Choir have been inundated with requests to perform for the local community. The first of these was a performance at Ushaw College, Durham, where a few of the girls performed at an evening prayer service with the Dean of Durham.

Following this, they were asked to perform at the unveiling of the new St Peter's church and the monastic footprint. The choir sang plainchant on the arrival of the Mayor with the Codex, and performed hymns inside the church. This all came in the same week as the Sage performance, and the dress rehearsal of Into the Woods...!

As a treat for their hard work, we went for a meal at Angelo's restaurant in Sunderland, but couldn't relax there either! We were asked to perform for the staff in the restaurant... and even had to do an encore...!

We were then invited to perform at the unveiling of the illuminations in Cliffe Park, Seaburn, in November! Thank you to the lovely choir members that braved the cold (and the crowds!) to entertain everyone. You are de-lightful!



## Calamity Jane



After almost 100 auditions for principal roles in September, the cast of Calamity Jane was announced and rehearsals are well underway! As we were faced with such talent this year, we decided to appoint a split cast, meaning two pupils share a role and will perform in two shows each. So far, the southern American accents are progressing nicely, and pupils are working hard to ensure they put on a fantastic show for you in March 2016! Chorus auditions will take place in January – keep an eye on the academy website and the music department's facebook page for information on how you can audition.



# Music



## More ABRSM Success!

Congratulations to the following pupils who have all passed ABRSM exams this summer:

Phoebe Cammiss	Grade 3 Flute
Grace Copeland	Grade 4 Clarinet with Distinction
Anna Donkin	Grade 4 Singing with Merit
Achsah Finney	Grade 5 Singing with Distinction
Charlotte Galloway	Grade 6 Piano with Distinction Grade 6 Flute with Merit
Emily Glancy	Grade 4 Clarinet
Bethany Griffiths	Grade 4 Singing
Natasha Hair	Grade 4 Clarinet
Millie Harrison	Grade 2 Clarinet
Anya Mason	Grade 4 Clarinet
Grace Mason	Grade 2 Flute with Merit
Aimee Poulton	Grade 2 Clarinet with Merit
Emmaleigh Poulton	Grade 2 Piano with Merit
Emma Robson	Grade 5 Singing
Rachel Stockdale	Grade 4 Singing
Daisy Swansbury	Grade 4 Singing
Sofia Trovero	Grade 4 Singing

A special mention goes to Achsah Finney, who received the Arthur Dickeson award for the highest mark in an ABRSM examination this year in Sunderland (and who takes the honours from last year's winner, Charlotte Galloway!) Achsah got a whopping score of 137/150 for her Grade 5 Singing exam – what a talent!

## Care Home Choir

We are amazingly proud of some of our Y13 and Y11 choir members, who have formed their own choir and voluntarily visit care homes in Sunderland to provide entertainment for the elderly and vulnerable. They perform at weekends and after school, and are getting that much of a reputation that care homes are getting in touch with them and requesting performances! Amy Watson, Y13, whose idea it was to form the choir said, "We want to bring happiness to people who might not have contact with many people. We choose to sing songs that bring back happy memories and we try to brighten their day". An amazing thing to do for the community, and such ambassadors for the Music department and the academy.



## Dates for your diary

Music for Youth  
**Saturday 23rd January 2016**

North East Festival of Youth Choirs  
**Saturday 27th February 2016**

Calamity Jane  
**Monday 14th – Wednesday 16th March 2016**

Antonian Awards  
**Thursday 17th March 2016**

Summer Soirée  
**Thursday 30th June 2016**

Annual Senior Choir tour (TBA)  
**July 2016**



## Barcelona Study Visit October 2015

What an unforgettable experience! Twenty Year 10 Spanish students were lucky enough to spend five days in sunny Barcelona over the October half term break. Both students and staff agreed that the trip had been a complete success with many varied highlights. The girls enjoyed a range of cultural experiences including tapas tasting, paella, salsa dancing, Spanish classes by the beach and visits to traditional Spanish towns and markets. We also had a fantastic time going behind the scenes at the F1 race track, learning all about the process of making wine at Torres vineyard and taking in the beautiful atmosphere of Barcelona's medieval quarter and Picasso museum. A key highlight for everyone was our guided visit to the Sagrada Familia; each year this magnificent building just gets more and more stunning. Our girls loved it and commented that the spectacular interior had taken their breath away. Both Miss Cousin and Miss Dixon would like to say how impressed they were by the impeccable behaviour of all the girls. They were enthusiastic, fun, polite and interested in everything they were experiencing. This fabulous trip will also be running next year. Anyone interested in coming with us should see Miss Cousin.



F1 Race track



A Fantastic view of Barcelona

## Catholic Partnership European Day of Languages

by Ola Kowalczyk, 9SA



On Thursday 24th September, I was one of nine lucky Y9's who were chosen to go and participate in cultural workshops at St John's Catholic School, Bishop Auckland, to celebrate European Day of Languages with other Catholic Partnership schools. We went with Miss Robinson who was also going to lead a workshop there. We mixed with other schools and rotated around different workshops: German Surprise, where we learned some basic German; Greek dancing, which was very fun although no plates were smashed; French Fairy Tales, led by Miss Robinson; Spanish cooking, based on the Great Spanish Bake Off; and finally a French and Spanish singing and music quiz. At the end of the event one or two participants from each group were awarded a prize of a Spanish or French dictionary, and from St Anthony's I was selected, alongside Jane Usher. Everyone agreed that it was a really fun day and it was much better than being in lessons!



Enjoying learning to do Greek dancing





## St. Anthony's European Extravaganza

Once again, St. Anthony's Girls' Catholic Academy hosted a European extravaganza that was truly sensational! The whole academy became distinctly continental to celebrate European Languages Day.

From prayers and greetings to presentations and foreign taster sessions, there really was a continental feel to every lesson. Each department was assigned a country and all teachers began their lessons with a few words in their chosen language – there was plenty of fun as teachers bravely tackled greetings in Portuguese, Polish, Swedish and Spanish. And the students had fun too! The fun didn't stop there though: students took part in 'Who wants to be a millionaire?' quizzes and competed to be the best at finding facts about the chosen country. It is even rumoured there could have been a few 'Euro Millionaires' at the end of some quizzes.

The Languages Department, understandably, took things a little further as they endeavoured to broaden students' knowledge of continental culture: taster lessons in Welsh, Italian and Irish were enjoyed by students and staff alike. Languages also hosted a fabulous European party with the creation and modelling of beautiful traditional costumes from across Europe; there were some rather competitive, and entirely continental, cultural quizzes too. Staff in the Languages Department led the way with their own costumes: Picasso was spotted dabbling with some paint, a Le Tour de France cyclist whizzed along the corridors, a Roman soldier stood guard over the department, Coco Chanel glided elegantly from one room to another, Rafael Nadal practiced his volleys, and a French mime artist performed to a small crowd.

Costumes were not confined to the Languages Department though, as the Art Department donned Russian dress, Maths staff starred as Abba, Technology performed as French mime artists, RE staff were in full Viking dress and there was a Flamenco dress spotted on Mrs Laydon. Staff also competed in a 'Great European Bake Off' competition with an array of baked delights on offer. The cafeteria also offered a range of continental dishes to tantalise taste buds – staff and students loved the European cuisine.

Everyone agreed that the whole St. Anthony's community had a fabulous time as they celebrated being continental, and they enjoyed raising awareness of other European languages and cultures.

It really was a wonderful European day!



Some of the MFL Department representing a variety of European countries.



Team Maths dressing as Abba to represent Sweden



French Mime Artists infiltrate the Technology Staff



Team Music tantalising us with Italian Pizza costumes.





# INTO WOODS



## 'Into The Woods and

After ten months of rehearsing the most challenging musical that the academy has ever faced, in the penultimate week of the summer term the show hit the stage. The show was performed in The Royalty Theatre, Sunderland, due to the building of our new academy facilities. Performing our academy production at a professional theatre allowed the cast to experience a working theatre, and was a truly unforgettable experience for all involved. We played to packed audiences across three nights, and we really didn't want it to end!

Amy Watson, a year 13 student who had the role of Narrator in the musical said: 'Performing at the Royalty was a totally different experience than doing the show on the school stage. We got an insight into the more technical side of theatre.' As well as this, cast members had their own dressing rooms which made us feel like professional actors!

Mrs Dudley, Head of Music and Assistant Director for this show said: 'Once again, we are incredibly proud of the hard

# THE WOODS



## Out of the Woods...!

work, dedication and professionalism the students showed throughout the rehearsal process and the three shows. This is the first time we have ever performed in a working theatre, and it was the first time we have only had one rehearsal on the stage before opening night! The girls are a true talent, and we are so proud of them all'.

On behalf of the entire cast I'd like to thank Miss Duncan, Mrs Dudley, Mrs Tomlin and Mr Brown, and all of the other staff members from all of the other departments around the school that came together to produce a wonderful show, which I'm sure the entire cast will not forget!

As announced at the final performance of 'Into The Woods', this year's musical is Calamity Jane! The cast are heavily into rehearsals and the show will run from Monday 14th until Wednesday 16th March 2016 in our brand new academy hall.



By Eve Hawes, Year 13.

## KS4 Paris Study Visit

At the end of the Summer term, a group of Year 9 and Year 10 students headed off to Paris for an amazing few days exploring the capital and experiencing the culture of France. We stayed in a great hotel just south of Paris where we were able to relax in the evenings and make use of the lovely facilities including a large swimming pool. Two days were spent in the centre visiting famous places like the Sacré Coeur and Notre Dame cathedrals. We were lucky enough to be right next to the Eiffel Tower one night when it was lit up which was very popular with staff and students alike! Day three was spent in Parc Astérix where the girls were really able to let their hair down and have some fun. The trip ended with a visit to a chocolate factory and lots of presents were also bought to take home. There were plenty of opportunities for the girls to practise their French and they were a real credit to the school.

On the Bateau Mouché



Outside the Louvre



Parc Astérix



The girls putting friendship locks on a bridge in central Paris





## MFL Bake Off Champions!

Every year, the staff at St Anthony's take part in the Macmillan Coffee Morning to raise money for charity. This year, the day coincided with the European Day of Languages so organisers Miss Horner and Mrs Sheriff decided to theme it around this, much to the delight of the MFL department! We decided to represent the whole of Europe, so we made 28 vanilla cupcakes and decorated each one with a flag from a member of the European Union. It was great fun but hard work, and we thoroughly enjoyed sampling some of the delights from around Europe that the other departments created. Our efforts were rewarded when we were given first place and received a lovely wooden spoon as our prize! We're hoping there will be more events like this for us to get involved in – we may even have to rope the girls in for inspiration next time! Thank you to all those who helped to organise the event.

Our beautiful EU cupcakes!



## In Honour of Tracy Craggs

We would like to thank the parents of Tracy Craggs who visited our school last term. Tracy was a Language fanatic and had, over the years, developed a great linguistic ability. During her time at St. Anthony's she studied Spanish and it was this that gave her a love of languages. She spent much time travelling and then settled to lead a much fulfilled life in Spain. Sadly, Tracy passed away at a very young age. Her parents have donated a very generous £2,000 to the Spanish Department at St. Anthony's. They believe she would have wanted to see the money go to our school, specifically used in the teaching and learning of Spanish. We hope to

buy a statue of a Spanish Saint for our beautiful new suite of MFL rooms in the new school building and will use the remaining money to reward pupils who perform well and give much effort to the subject with some vouchers to the Bridges Shopping Centre. Our thanks, thoughts and prayers are with the family. Rest in Peace, Tracy Craggs.



# Manzini

## Manzini News

Dr Emery and Mrs Laydon along with Karen, a representative from Sunderland University, Chris an MYC trustee, and two newcomers – Grace and Janet – spent 12 days in Manzini in July of this year.

We had a fantastic time and we thank you for your continued support and encouragement – it really does change things for the children on Manzini.

Once again we worked closely with Enjabulweni School, a school that provides a free primary education to the most deprived children in Manzini, including those in the Manzini Youth Care homes. We were asked to help particularly with the Grade

7 classes (the equivalent to our Year 6 pupils) who are struggling with their English studies. To this end we helped with evening tutoring sessions and visited a number of other schools in the area to collect examples of good practice and managed to acquire some excellent resources which could be shared by the staff and pupils at the school.

We were shocked to discover that the government no longer provides the school with textbooks; it is classed as a private school as it is an NGO (Non Government Organisation) school and not government registered. We have returned home determined to campaign on this issue on behalf of MYC.

We visited Hope House, a hospice for the terminally ill and we continue to be moved by the efforts of Sr. Elsa and her staff to care for the children and adults suffering from AIDS and TB. We met a young child with epilepsy who had fallen into a fire and needed an operation to help him walk. A colleague from Sunderland University funded some specialist equipment to help him and we left a small donation with Sr. Elsa, on your behalf.

We were honoured to visit a pre-school run by **The Missionary Sisters of Mary, Help of Christians (MSMHC)**. We were delighted when the children sang to us!

Another moving assembly came on the last day when the Enjabulweni children sang and danced in their usual wonderful manner.



# Manzini



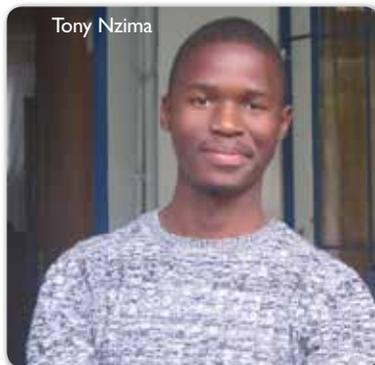
Children's Home

We have also agreed to link with St Anne's Catholic Girls' School, a Salesian High School in the Malkerns, in Swaziland. We look forward to this new venture.

The Chief Inspectors for Pre-School Education in Swaziland asked to meet with us. They have asked us to share with them our experience of good inspection practice. Mrs Miller will have her work cut out for her when she visits in July 2016! We will also use the links we have with Sunderland University to facilitate this.

We have used a small amount of your fundraising and money raised by Sunderland University to employ a tutor to work with the boys two evenings per week to help prepare for their English exams.

Tony Nzima is an ex MYC young man and he has an excellent command of English – we hope you agree this is money well spent. We are in the process of sending more funds out to provide a printer and scanner for Tony as buying past exam papers for his pupils to practise on, is proving very expensive. In the long term it will be cheaper for Tony to scan and print his own materials. He has asked us to say a big thank you to everyone for the opportunity given to him to support the boys, and also for the resources made available to him through your continued fundraising – THANK YOU!



Tony Nzima



# Manzini

We spent time in the new girl's home, renewing old friendships getting to know the new girls and organising games. We discovered significant disrepair in the home and have funded some maintenance work, and paid for the girls to have new mattresses for their beds. We were delighted to hear that the South African High Commission is taking responsibility for decorating the home as part of the Nelson Mandela Day celebrations. We also distributed clothes and toiletries to all the children in the MYC homes.

The new girls' home still needs a bit of work doing to it, but with the support from St Anthony's, Sunderland University and other sponsors, it will continue to be a safe haven for many girls in years to come. Bonsile (bottom right) is an ex MYC girl. At the moment she is studying for her nursing degree helped by three personal sponsors from the UK. Many of the girls in the new home are

from McCorkindale's children's home, a project supported by St. Anthony's for over 10 years. Bonsile had not seen her 'sisters' since the move – it was a beautiful reunion for them all.

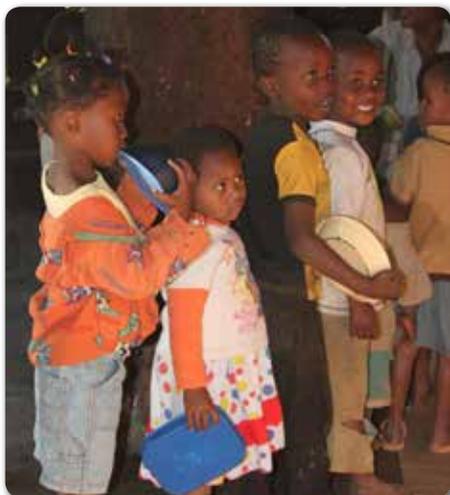


Another beautiful sunset in Manzini and the end of a very productive visit.



Although this is only a snapshot of our two weeks in Swaziland we hope it encourages you to continue eating/baking etc. in order that we can continue to support this charity – with whom we have become a lifeline in so many ways.

Very many thanks for your continued support with our global partner.



# Pastoral Year 7



## Fundraising for the Royal British Legion

Our Year 7 students have been fantastic in raising a total of well over £300 for the Royal British Legion. The money has been raised through sales of merchandise including bracelets, wristbands, poppy reflectors and much more. We hope to continue raising even more for our chosen Christmas charity!



## The F1 Challenge

There was a lot of interest from Year 7 in this year's F1 Challenge, where girls have to design and create a model racing car and have the chance of going to London and then possibly a Formula 1 venue anywhere in the world. There were only spaces for 2 teams, so the 14 teams that showed interest were given a challenge to decide who should represent the school. The chosen teams were 'I&' and 'The Formulæettes'. We wish them all the best of luck!

## Year 7 Transition Day

"Just look how they have grown!" It doesn't seem two minutes since the summer term when the transition days took place. It was a busy time and all the girls enjoyed the experience of meeting up in St. Anthony's and embracing the opportunity to make new friends.

As they visited various subject areas and engaged in new activities they met up with new teachers and were guided around the school by friendly "buddies" who spent the days with them, giving them assurance and answering their many questions. Since September they have grown in confidence, found their way around the new school and timetable, and demonstrated a mature attitude to work and an enthusiasm for learning. Congratulations to all!



## Inter-House Football

This year's Inter-House Football Competition was fiercely competitive in Year 7. A large percentage of the girls took part and entered into the spirit of the competition, with the White Team coming out victorious! Mr Malkin has passed on the names of some of the girls to Sam Allardyce as they would do a better job than Sunderland's current crop, while Mr Holgate and Mrs Garside (form tutors) were delighted to finally win something, and have high hopes for future success!



## Y7 Mandarin Club

Mandarin Club has just started for Year 7, and all the Year group are welcome to join in! We will be learning to speak some Mandarin, as well as learning about the culture of China, doing some Chinese calligraphy and crafts, and getting involved in preparing for a visit from our Chinese students from Daqing Foreign Language School, who will be studying at St. Anthony's for 8 weeks after Christmas. We will also be celebrating the Chinese New Year on February 8th. The club takes place on Thursday lunches in MC13 from 12:20-12:50. For more information or a lunch pass please see Miss Robinson.



# Pastoral Year 8

## 100% ATTENDANCE

The following Year 8 students have so far this year achieved 100% attendance. This is a fantastic achievement and we will be looking to monitor this through until the end of the academic year. Form tutors are working closely with their students to emphasise the importance of students getting into school and only being absent for emergencies. All Year 8 students aim to have their attendance above 96% and realise the importance of coming to school even if they have a sore throat or stomach, headache or a minor cold. Well done to those students who have surpassed this target so far.

Letitia Adamson	Georgina Donkin	Greta Kleinovaite	Caitlin Patterson	Wiktorija Szerszen
Grace Allan	Fiona Felix	Emily Lanaghan	Abby Phillips	Sophia Tan
Chloe Allison	Caitlin Finlayson	Rio-Leigh Leng-Adams	Connie Pinder	Eve Teasdale
Faye Barker	Elena Gee	Emily Lincoln	Jaymee Ramos	Grace Terry
Ashley Barrett	Danielle Gomez	Grace Loftus	Laurie Rand	Charlotte Thompson
Lucy Blyth	Olivia Gowan	Aisha Lord	Alexandra Reay	Annette Toji
Elisha Boyes	Ellie Graham	Jessica Malkin	Leia Robinson	Dikan Tony-Obot
Bernie Busil	Erin Green	Abigail Martins	Aparna Saji	Naomi Tucknutt
Lara Carson	Mia Handy	Erin Mcdonough	Caitlin Sherwood	Courtney Ward
Sophie Chambers	Jessica Hardy	Louise Mcloughlin	Avneet Sidhu	Kate Webster
Madysen Ciaraldi	Lucy Helens	Chloe Moon	Chloe Simpson	Charlotte Westwood
Lucy Cooper	Katie Henderson	Helena Morrell	Lovepreet Singh	Jessica Whittington
Aimee Crann	Bethany Henry	Olivia Morton	Madeleine Smith	Jade Winter
Jordan Crawford	Marie Isahac	Lucia Old	Sophie Snowball	
Oluchi Davidson	Eve Jackson	Lily Paget	Ellie Stanley-Roberts	
Sophie Dodd	Olivia Jackson	Lydia Paget	Paulina Szerszen	

### Year 8 – Cafod Collection

Year 8 students worked together as a Year group to raise the most money for the Cafod Collection. As well as donating their spare change, some Form Groups also baked cakes and carried out other enterprising activities in order to raise as much money as possible.

The next challenge that Year 8's are carrying out is to collect toiletries for Saint Vincent De Paul (SVP) to be distributed to those in need. Students will be looking to bring in; soaps, shampoos, creams and other vital toiletries which will be donated to; Women in Need, The Apostleship of the Sea and Streetcare.

Year 8 is a very generous group of students who realise the importance of supporting good causes.



### Year 8 – Friendship Group

Year 8 Friendship Group started this week, with girls demonstrating some fantastic creative skills and getting into the festive mood with designing Christmas crackers and gift boxes. The girls were able to work as teams to support each other and to use the resources which were made available to them to cater the products for their chosen audience, whether that is their parents/carers, siblings or friends. Sister Josepha joined us to offer support and guidance with the process and to support the girls with putting the products together. Friendship Group is taking place on Thursday lunch times in Saint Anne's and is open to any students in Year 8.

### Year 8 Homework Club

Mrs Hill has introduced the Year 8 Homework club on Tuesday lunchtimes; this gives the girls the opportunity to do homework in school and make the most of the facilities available to them. It has become very popular with a group of regular attendees, and several pupils who come on a 'drop in' basis. All Year 8 pupils are welcome to come along on Tuesday lunchtimes, have a bite to eat and do some work. Well done to all those who attend on a regular basis; keep it up!



# Pastoral Year 9



On Friday 26th June 2015 and Monday 29th June 2015, current Year 9 students took part in the Safety Works trip,

where they worked with representatives from Tyne and Wear Fire Service, Northumbria Police, St. John's Ambulance, Nexus (for Metro Safety), Gentoo and Sunderland Council. Sunderland Council provided the transport to and from the interactive safety centre, where students took part in workshops focusing on: safety on the Metro, the role of Northumbria Police, the consequences of group and anti-social behaviour outside of shops and in back lanes, fire hazards in the bedroom, procedures in the event of a fire including making a 999 call, and how to put someone in the recovery position. The behaviour of the students was impeccable throughout the whole event and they were an asset to the school.



## Y9 Pastoral Activities H.Wolland



### Fairtrade

Y9 students have been willing to help with Fairtrade selling this year. We have a happy band of helpers who sell three times a week during Break. We have also sold at the Y6 Open Evening, and will sell at the Christmas Market. During Personal Development Day, Y9's will have a talk about Fairtrade so that the girls fully understand the ethics behind trading fairly.



### H Wolland Charity work

Charity work is well underway this term for Y9. They have readily made and sold cakes for Manzini and other charities of their choice. We will let you know the amounts raised in the next issue. Y9 also made over £40 for Cafod this term. Well done!

### Year Council

Y9 Council members have had a good start this year. They have many excellent ideas for improving the school and are fantastic ambassadors for Student Voice. Now that we have moved in to our new school they are keen to continue the good work and I am sure that they will enhance what is already a fabulous working environment. They are wearing their badges with pride.



# Pastoral Year 9

## Year 9 News

Since our Summer 2015 publication there has been so much to celebrate in Year 9. Numerous pupils have been at the forefront of activities

Well Done to Sekeyna Abidi (9SC) who won the competition to name our new school dining hall. Sekeyna says 'I thought of different names that would be good for the school and 'Come Dine With Us' came to mind. I entered this name because I thought it was catchy and obviously relates to the TV show.' Go to the Design Technology section for the full article.

India Mason won the 'Design your food competition'. She wrote this article explaining how she came up with the unusual dish.

I got my inspiration for introducing sushi to the lunchtime menu after a visit to the Nudo Sushi Restaurant. This gave me several ideas. The reason I chose to enter a sushi meal into the competition was because I thought it would be a unique idea, and I thought it would give various pupils the sensation and experience of trying a new exotic type of food.

Many of my friends are vegetarian and pescetarian, and I think they will enjoy some of the more healthy food options which have been added to the new menu. The dishes I will add into my new sushi fusion dish will be in two boxes. One with vegetable sushi for a new vegetarian option, the next box will be a fish sushi to which I will add salmon and tuna, on the side there will be wasabi and soy sauce.

I feel that Sushi will make a great addition to a school menu as it is nutritionally good, extremely healthy, has very little fat content and tastes great. There are also several other Japanese dishes that would also fit into a school menu, watch this space!!

Written by India Mason 9SAO

## Calamity

Well Done to Tammy Proctor (9ST) who won a Gold and Silver award for a Karate competition in Poland.



## Genfactor

Well done to Olivia Glover (9SJ) and Jane Usher (9SA) who were finalists in this year's Genfactor competition a talent competition which gives young people from across Sunderland the opportunity to showcase their talents. The competition based on the X-factor format, showed off the singing talents of sixteen singers, dancers and bands, aged 11 to 16, before a panel of judges and an audience of more than 1,000 people.

Although neither of the girls went home with a top prize, they should both be so proud of themselves for performing with such confidence and skill. Well done girls!



# Pastoral Year 10



## Year 10 Pastoral Team News



Well done to Year 10 and their excellent start to their GCSE courses. The pupils are currently working hard at their subject choices and seem to be enjoying the challenges of their new courses. It is important at this stage for the students to keep organised and complete all classwork and homework. Revision guides are available for lots of subjects to support their learning.

## Gymnastic



Well done to Lauren Conlin (10SM) whose Gymnastic ability and achievements continue to flourish. Lauren is hoping to qualify for the National Gymnastics Championships and is continuing to build up her grades to allow her to qualify. Lauren has just taken part and helped host the Sharlene Slater Competition in South Tyneside – this is a national competition which was this year held in our region. Lauren and her new trio group came in 6th place. The group have just started training together and we have high-hopes for their success.



Well done to Year 10 who raised an amazing £69.00 for our CAFOD campaign this term. This is a great amount that was raised by numerous charity collections. A special thank you to Mrs Hoey and the Year Council who have worked tirelessly with the students to achieve this fantastic total.



# Pastoral Year 11

## Personal Development Day July 2015

As part of the girls certificate towards working life, during personal development day 2015 the current year 11 girls attended an emergency First Aid session in the school gyms, the girls learnt what to do in an emergency situation from practicing Cardio Pulmonary resuscitation, Recovery position, how to deal with choking and suspected heart attack. The girls also had a little practice of bandaging each other. The girls really enjoyed this activity and developed an essential skill. Thank you to Miss Horner and Mrs Miller who ran these sessions.



## Year 11 News



School success starts  
with attendance

Congratulations to all pupils who have achieved 100% attendance this term. There are 66 pupils in the Year group who have achieved 100% attendance.

Attendance in Year 11 is so important if you are to achieve your potential in your GCSE exams.

- a child who is absent a day of school per week misses an equivalent of two years of their school life
- 90% of young people with absence rates below 85% fail to achieve five or more good grades of GCSE and around one third achieve no GCSEs at all
- poor examination results limit young people's options and poor attendance suggests to colleges and employers that these students are unreliable



Year 11 have had their mock examinations this December to prepare them for their final exams in the Summer. This is a challenging year for any student sitting exams. Please speak to your form tutor, Mrs Charlton or Miss Brown if you have any concerns about your exam performance.

Pupils are encouraged to attend the numerous revision and help sessions run by staff during lunchtimes and after school. Please see the website for further details.

We also encourage pupils to make use of SAM learning and GCSE POD which are online revision aids.

<https://www.gcsepod.com/>

<https://www.samlearning.com/>

Pupils can speak to their form tutors if they need further guidance on how to access these resources.



# Pastoral Year 11



## Year 11 Success Stories

### National Show Jumping Championships

Anna Ball is taking part in the National Show Jumping Championship at the Aintree Equestrian Centre. She competed at an event in Doncaster and came second, which enabled her to qualify for the National Championships. Anna will be riding her horse JD and will be competing in three classes at the championships. Good Luck, Anna!



### Sunderland Youth Parliament

Rachel Krajovska, Yasemin Dogan and Lucy Robinson are active members of the Sunderland Youth Parliament. Sunderland Youth Parliament is a small group of young people working together to improve the lives of young people in Sunderland. So far this year the girls have worked on the Make Your Mark ballots which involved organising the ballot in St Anthony's and other schools. Rachel and Yasemin have also met with Sunderland's MP's Sharon Hodgson and Bridget Phillipson, to discuss the problems young people are faced with. The girls are currently working towards the annual State of City Debate, to lead and debate upon topics which affect young people. Well Done, Rachel, Yasemin and Lucy; we will look out for you when you are our future MP's!!!



**Dates for your diary** – Please check our school website for updates on any upcoming events.

Year 11 Admissions Evening (a full Sixth Form Open Evening)  
Tuesday 12th January 2016

Deadline for Sixth Form subject choices/application form  
Thursday 11th February 2016

Year 11 Leavers' Mass – Friday 29th April 2016  
GCSE examinations begin – May 2016

Year 11 Leavers' Presentation  
Wednesday 29th June 2016



# Pastoral Year 12 & 13

## Sixth Form

Congratulations to last year's Yr 13 students who once again made us very proud with their excellent results. 80% have moved on to further education; many at prestigious universities including Oxford, Bath, Edinburgh, Durham, University College and Kings' College London. We wish them all the very best and urge them to keep in touch, using our alumni network Future First: [www.futurefirst.org.uk](http://www.futurefirst.org.uk)



Olivia Gough – Medicine, Rachel Parker Languages at Oxford University, Kate Hamilton – Medicine.

In September Mrs Russell took up her post as Assistant Director of Sixth Form working alongside Mrs Smith (Deputy Director) and Mrs Collins (Director). We were also delighted to welcome Mr Dunn and Mr Ratcliff to the Sixth Form Team. We are also pleased to have boys from St Aidan's joining us again this year in some of our A Level classes; this is part of the partnership work the two Sixth Forms have been developing in recent years.

## Going Forward

As part of our ongoing commitment to provide the best possible careers advice and guidance for our students, we held our second Careers Fair in Gabriel House at the end of the Summer term. Students in Y12 from St Anthony's and St Aidan's and students in Years 10 and 11 were invited to the event, which was an opportunity for them to focus on their future plans. Mrs Smith, who organised the event, arranged for representatives from all of the local universities and as well as some from further afield including Liverpool Hope and Leeds Universities. There were also representatives from the Army, Navy and Airforce, The Chamber of Commerce, Springboard and Connections.

## Induction Residential

Our fourth Induction Residential took place in September at the Emmaus Youth Village in Allensford. Over 140 students and staff spent 2 days (and nights) getting to know each other and preparing for the rigours of Sixth Form life through talks, reflection and some very energetic games. As always, this event really helped the students to settle in and make new friends and it was an excellent way to start the year- especially for those girls who have joined us from schools across the area.



Y12 students relaxing at the Youth Village after a day filled with hard work and laughter.



Y12 students reflecting upon the theme of Tapestry in the beautiful grounds of the Youth Village.



Sophie Jackson from Year 13 discussing future options at the Careers Fair.



# Pastoral Year 12 & 13



## John Paul II Award

This year the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle is launching the John Paul II Award which allows students to develop their personal skills while involving themselves in a range of projects in their school, community and parish. The participants are required to show commitment to serving others through their charity and voluntary work as well as completing a social awareness project. We are delighted to have the biggest group in the Diocese with over 50 girls in the Sixth Form already well on the way to achieving their Gold Award. Led by Sister Josepha the girls have been giving of their time voluntarily to help out with Chaplaincy work and raise awareness of social issues which affect our society. Girls from the Sixth Form were privileged to go to Mass at the Catholic Cathedral in Newcastle led by the Papal Anuncio.



Lauren Ritchie and Livia Scott spend time with Sister M Benedict as part of their John Paul II Award.

## School Ambassadors

As part of their commitment to serving the academy, over 40 sixth form students regularly volunteer to work as Student Ambassadors. This involves acting as hostesses at Open Evenings and events and even helping in the new academy canteen. As well as gaining valuable skills for the future the students really have been a wonderful help to staff. As always, we are very grateful to them for their generosity and for all of the excellent hard work that they do.



Student Ambassadors ready for action: Jessica Cheetham, Valentina D'Amore, Martha Dale, Gabrielle Winton, Sarah Mearns, Marcia Adams, Hannah Mearns, Rebecca Charlton, Evie Rea, Devon Hutchinson.

Since September Y13 have been busy preparing their university and job applications and have been put through their paces in mock interviews and work experience placements in local hospitals, accountancy firms and primary schools. We have also welcomed many experts into the Sixth Form to offer the students advice and guidance, from writing personal statements to past pupils talking to the students about coping with university life.



# PE & Sport

## Cross Country

Congratulations to the cross country team. They took part in the annual Tyne and Wear Cross Country Competition on Monday 9th November. Despite what were probably the worst weather conditions the girls have ever had to contend with, they all did themselves proud. I was extremely impressed with every performance, they all finished the race with a smile on their face and were a real asset to the PE department. The Year 7 team came 11th, special congratulations to Evie Compson who came 10th place. The Year 8 & 9 team came 6th place and the Year 10 & 11 team won the Tyne and Wear competition. Congratulations to the intermediates, this is an amazing achievement and a huge well done to Sarah Knight for coming overall 2nd place and gaining a silver medal. Fantastic achievement girls well done.



## Badminton Champions

Congratulations to the KS4 Badminton teams who played exceptionally well at the recent Sunderland Schools' Badminton Competition. There were three St. Anthony's teams entered, with the 'A' team drawn in pool 1 along with the 'C' team, and the 'B' team entered into pool 2. All teams played some brilliant badminton, with the 'C' team narrowly missing out on qualifying for the next round, finishing in 3rd place in their pool. The 'A' team won pool 1, and the 'B' team won pool 2. Both teams will now represent Sunderland at the Tyne and Wear Badminton Finals in January. This is a phenomenal achievement given that there were 9 schools across the city competing in the event. Well done girls!



## U13 Football Success

Congratulations to the u13 Football team who have made an outstanding start to their season. The girls have made a solid start to their league campaign, and recently had an emphatic victory in Round 2 of the National Schools' Cup Competition. The girls were drawn against Kenton of Newcastle in this round. They were outstanding right up until the final whistle, winning 14-0. The girls will now play Whytrigg Middle School of Northumberland in the next round.



# PE & Sport



## Inter-House Football

Well done to all competitors who participated in the Inter-House Football in October. The Year 7 and 8 Competitions were won by the White Team, and the Year Competition was won by the Red Team. Overall, the scores were as follows:

1st	White
2nd	Green
3rd	Yellow
4th	Red
5th	Blue
6th	Purple
7th	Orange

Congratulations to all winners and competitors!



Year 7 winners



Year 8 winners



Year 9 winners

## France Water Sports Visit 2015

A group of 35 students visited the Ardeche, in the South of France, this Summer.

All girls experienced some amazing scenery whilst kayaking on a two-day descent, passing the beautiful Pont d'Arc.

We also took part in other outdoor activities, such as bouldering, rock climbing, tunnelling and high ropes courses. We also made time for a small visit to the small French town of Vallon.

All of the girls had an amazing time.



## Wimbledon Championships 2015

We visited Wimbledon again, this July, to watch elite tennis players compete in the Wimbledon Championships. The weather was glorious as we watched the Invitation Men's Doubles. The girls had access to Court 1 this year, and we were lucky enough to sit on Henman Hill to watch the Women's Semi-Finals. Serena Williams beat Maria Sharapova, earning her a place in the Final. Williams then went on to win the Championship.



# PE & Sport

## City of Sunderland Trampoline Competition

Congratulations to all girls who competed in the City of Sunderland Trampoline Competition. All girls performed extremely well. Extra congratulations to the following winners:

Megan Hodgson :Yr11 – KS4 Individual, Intermediate level

Amelia Hudak :Yr7 – KS3 Individual, Beginner level

Amelia Hudak, Evie Compson, Olivia Kennedy and Emily Adamson:Yr7 – KS3 Team, Beginner level

These girls are now representing Sunderland in the Tyne and Wear Trampoline Competition – Well Done, and Good Luck for the next round!



## Tyne and Wear Trampoline Finals - November 2015

The girls, who qualified for the Tyne and Wear Trampoline Finals, competed at Sandhill View on Saturday 7th November. The girls were representing Sunderland, which is a great achievement.

Huge congratulations to Amelia Hudak who was awarded 1st place in her section, beating off tough competition from schools from Tyne and Wear. The rest of the girls also performed extremely well and we are awaiting confirmation of their final positions.

Bottom photo (left to right):

Megan Hodgson (Yr11), Amelia Hudak (Yr7), Evie Compson (Yr7), Olivia Kennedy (Yr7) and Emily Adamson (Yr7).

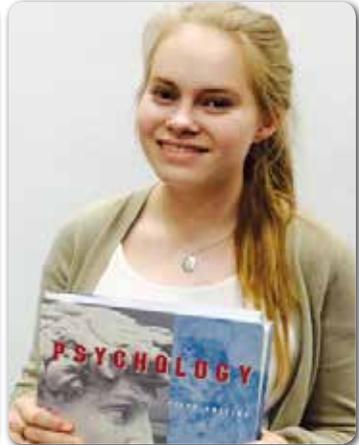


# PSYCHOLOGY



## UNIVERSITY OPEN DAYS

Starting from back, left to right: Courtney Knowles, Chloe Kennedy, Maxine McGough, Rebecca Hope, Heidi Newton, Riya Raju, Anna Greaves, Rebecca Heydon, Anumol Alukkal, Jennifer Connolly, Elli Patterson, Holly Fisher, Ellie Page.



The Psychology Department took students on 2 educational visits to local Universities:

### 1. Northumbria University Psychology Department: 17th June 2015

This was a day of workshops specifically catering for the 12 HNCP schools which involved interactive workshops, such as participating in a study of caffeine intake and cognitive functioning, anomalous psychology and memory.

### 2. Newcastle University Psychology Department: Friday 3rd July 2015

This Open Day was aimed at all 6th Forms in the area and featured workshops on, for example:

- The cognitive elements of face recognition;
- How do anorexic patients misperceive their own bodies?
- Watching eyes, and the control of antisocial behaviour.

What Sixth Formers said about the events:-

*"I really enjoyed the Psychology Days at Northumbria and Newcastle. It was a great insight into what Psychology at university is like. There was a knowledge competition at Northumbria and it was really great to win 1st prize!"*

(Heidi Newton)

*"I enjoyed both University Days as they gave me an insight as to what I wish to take at university. It was great for all of us to experience the university, and we also enjoyed the fun tasks they gave us to complete."*

(Ellie Patterson)

*"The trip was very informative and allowed me to get a feel of what it would be like to study Psychology at higher education. Students were also available to give us advice."*

(Maxine McGough)

*"The Psychology Open Day at Northumbria was both very enjoyable, and most informative. The tasks gave me an understanding of what it is like to study for a Psychology degree at university."*

(Riya Raju)

## Sociology Department

We were delighted with our results this Summer, especially at A2 Level, where girls achieved 77% A\* to B grades, and 100% A to D. Well done to all of the girls involved for their hard work and commitment!

We were also very pleased to welcome our new member of staff, Mrs Proud, to the Sociology Department where she currently teaches 'The Family' unit to Year 12. Year 12 have commenced the first year of the new 'A' Level, and are progressing well with the course.

Year 13 students are to have a lecture from Professor Simon Winlow, of Teesside University, on his famous work, 'Badfellas', about the nightlife and crime in Sunderland. Further details will appear in the Summer edition of Spotlight.

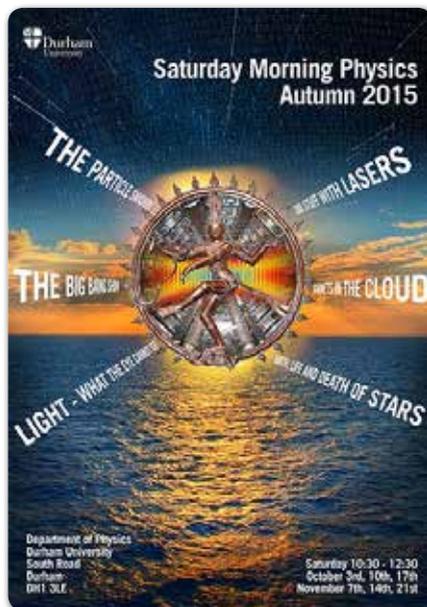


# Science



This Term the Physics Department of Durham University held a new outreach activity called 'Saturday Morning Physics' on six Saturdays in October and November.

The Sixth Form Physicists from St Anthony's attended and this enhanced their interest in Modern Physics. Some of the Department's world class Scientists talked on their fascinating research topics including Astrophysics, Cosmology, Materials science, Lasers, Quantum Mechanics and Particle Physics. The talks were supplemented by some hands-on activities and the opportunity to visit the research Labs and even use some equipment. Among the highlights were viewing images through Polaroids, working with Magnetofluids, visiting the High Energy Laser Labs and using the X-Ray machines to identify concealed objects.



Lille Borresen and Isla Rennoldson working in the X-Ray Lab.



Each week there was a quiz on the content of the lecture with Rachel Lim winning a Book at the 'Cool Stuff with Lasers' Lecture and Kate Summerson a Voucher at the 'Light – What the Eye Cannot See' Lecture



# Science



## Star Chemist

A big "Well done!" to Sandra Sibby who achieved an A\* grade in her Chemistry A level this year.

Huge congratulations and we wish you all the best in your future studies.



## Star Biologists

Huge congratulations to Gabrielle Fish, Kate Hamilton, Annmary Roy and Olivia Gough who achieved A\* grades in their Biology A levels this year.

Well done to all four of you, and we wish you all the best in your future studies.



Annmary Roy who is now studying Medicine in London at UCL



## ChemNet

Many of our sixth form students studying Chemistry have signed up to join ChemNet. In this free community, they can get:

- Free study help and careers advice from experts;
- Information about university courses and applications;
- Prizes and certificates for interacting on the website; and
- Opportunities to attend unique events

If you are 14-19 and would like to sign up as well, please go to <http://chemnet.rsc.org/home>

## First Science Workshop In The New Building

Year 5 pupils from Saint Leonard's Primary School, Silksworth were the first to do a workshop on separating techniques in our new building on Friday 6 November 2015. They were very impressed with the laboratory and enjoyed doing some practical work to extract salt from grit as you can see from the photographs taken at various stages of filtering, dissolving and getting to grips with the Bunsen burners.



# Science



## Bio-bodies Bake Off Competition

The Bio-bodies bake-off competition was run by the Physiological Society as part of Biology Week 9-17th October 2015. Biology Week is an event organised by the Royal Society of Biology to showcase the important and amazing world of the biosciences by getting everyone involved in life science activities. They organised over 100 events across the UK including lectures, Big Biology Days, quizzes, dinosaur digs, evenings of music and storytelling, nature walks and more. The Royal Institution's lecture discussed the topic of synthetic biology and a Parliamentary Reception at the House of Commons, brought together Ministers, MPs and RSB Fellows to recognise the vital importance of the biosciences in the UK.

The Physiology Society's National Bio-Bakes Competition was a great success with thousands of entries and they crowned three 'star bakers' for their biological masterpieces. Entrants had to use creativity and originality to produce a baked cook representing physiology. Finalists were decided by a Professor of Physiology and a finalist from last year's BBC Bake-off and then put to a public vote, with three cash prizes and certificates and wooden spoons for all finalists.

Fifteen fantastic St Anthony's cakes were entered into the National competition and they were all very imaginative and creative. Due to the large number of entries we decided to award internal prizes as well. Inspiring the future generation of biologists is a fundamental part of Biology Week and the creative Biologists at St Anthony's certainly showed talent and enthusiasm for the subject with their great bakes, well done to all of you.



National winner: 'Bun in the oven (2 months & 7 months)'



1. Ashna Saji, Merin Berry, Aparna Saji and Fiona Felix received the first prize for their amazing open-heart cake and were also **short-listed for the National competition.**

2. Second prize was awarded to Lauren Taylor for her face-muscle cake



3. Third prize was awarded to June Gomez and Aisha Haque for their amazing body cake.

Entries were also received from Clare Spoons, Courtney Mason, Diana Sabu, Annette Toji, Jeena George, Emily Marshall, Eve Parlein, Heather Wilson, Jasmine Stenton, Laura Galley, Louise Bradford, Melissa Johnson, Olivia Kerr, Bethany Dixon and Georgia Hales.



# Science



## Living Streets

In the Summer term the Living Streets members, who were in Year 7, organised workshops for the Year 6 pupils on the Transition days. They ran seven sessions where they delivered a presentation they had produced, and they worked with groups completing worksheets. Alison Fisher from Living Streets (the charity supporting the rights of pedestrians), who has worked with us on a number of projects, was also involved. We looked at a map of where all the Year 6 girls lived and discussed how they could have walking buddies for their journey to school. This has been commended to other schools as an example of good practice. They were given a special map of the streets around school to show their travelling options, using public transport and walking part of the way. A ten-minute walking circle was also on the map so that parents could drop girls away from the Academy and cut down on congestion in Thornhill Terrace.



During the Autumn term we have had three campaigns. Our first was Free Your Feet – this involved Year 7 and Year 8. The Living Streets group, who are now Year 8, delivered assemblies to these two Year groups to launch the event. There has been a competition where girls who had walked further to the Academy were put in a draw to win High Street shopping vouchers. The second campaign has been a Travel Survey for Go Smarter, where staff and pupils have given details of how they have travelled, and how they would like to travel here.

Our latest campaign has been around energy use in school – Switch Off Fortnight. Our lights in the new building do switch off if they detect no one has moved in a room – however, if the last person out actually switches the lights off, that will save even more energy. So the Living Streets team have been checking up! They have left certificates for the teachers which either congratulated them for switching off promptly, or reminded them politely to switch off the lights.

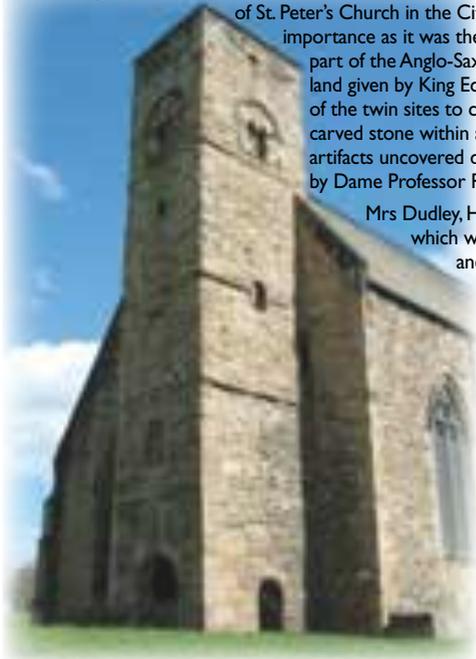
We are very grateful for the enthusiasm of the Living Streets Group in the Academy as they really put in a lot of effort for the whole community, both within the site and for the local residents. New members are welcome; we meet in 2:43 on Thursday lunchtimes.



## The Launch of St. Peter's

The RE Department joined forces with the Music Department to take part in the launch of the re-development of St. Peter's Church in the City Centre. St. Peter's is rich with historical and religious importance as it was the home of the Venerable Bede in the 7th century AD, part of the Anglo-Saxon Wearmouth-Jarrow monastery. St. Peter's, built on land given by King Egfrith to St. Benedict Biscop in 673 AD, is the earlier of the twin sites to come to life, and in the church can be seen the original carved stone within a reconstruction of the abbot's seat, among many artifacts uncovered during the 1960's archaeological excavation conducted by Dame Professor Rosemary Cramp of Durham University.

Mrs Dudley, Head of Music, composed her own hymn to St. Bede which was sung by our fantastic Choir, who lined the pathway and serenaded the Bishop and guests as they made their way to the Church for the opening ceremony. The Codex Bible which had been created by our Year 8 RE students was presented to the Bishop and is now displayed in St. Peter's for all to see.



## Exam Results Celebration

In Summer 2015 the RE Department had our highest results in five years. The Year 11 cohort managed to achieve 72% A\*-C in their two exams; Mark's Gospel and Roman Catholicism Ethics. This is a fantastic result and the whole RE Department wants to congratulate the Year group on their success. We are now approaching the Mock Season at St Anthony's Girls' Catholic Academy for this year's Year 11, and time is ticking towards the examinations in May. We wish all the girls good luck and send our prayers to help them through this time.



St Anthony's General RE

## Brand New General RE Course

In 2015 the Religious Education Department in St Anthony's Catholic Academy is launching our new General RE Programme.

Pupils will be offered a number of unique volunteering opportunities around the local area. Additionally, the new curriculum invites all students to directly engage with issues permeating our everyday lives. Pupils who do not select a volunteer placement will attend one lesson a week of General RE. In this time pupils will study current issues in society and learn how as a Catholic school we can help fight against injustice and poverty. Each pupil will complete a reflection diary each week upon their lesson of study. Topics that we cover include; homelessness, climate change, human rights, including trafficking, and how Catholic social teaching underpins all these issues.

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## RE Students Re-Create History

RE students in Years 7 and 8 have been busy getting creative and reflective in preparing a 'Codex' Bible in honour of the first ever 'Codex Amiatinus' written by St. Bede. Of the three Saxon Bibles produced at the twin monastery of Wearmouth-Jarrow in the 8th century, the original Codex Amiatinus, now in the Laurentian Library in Florence, is the only one that survives intact today. It is the oldest one-volume Latin Bible to survive in the world, and is important to Biblical scholars as well as being an artistic treasure. The original manuscript has been unbound by experts in Florence in order to produce a limited number of smaller facsimiles, one of which can now be seen on display in Sunderland City Library.



Year 8 students with Mrs Handley, Ian Parkin and Mrs Shepherd with samples of the Codex



Ian Parkin, Senior Project Manager for Sunderland City Council asked St. Anthony's students to contribute to this Codex in preparation for the launch of the re-development of St. Peter's Church in the City Centre. St. Peter's was home of the Venerable Bede in the 7th century AD, part of the Anglo-Saxon Wearmouth-Jarrow monastery. Students were asked the question "What does your faith mean to you?" and they produced creative reflections on this using inspirational quotations, personal experiences and artistic flare. All pieces of work have been bound together to create the Codex and presented to the Bishop at the St. Peter's launch.

## Sowing the seed: Taking Theology Further

A delight for any department is to see the number of students going onto university to take their subject at degree level. The RE department have the double delight of students not only going onto Theology degree courses but also expressing interest in going onto teach RE as a career afterwards. There is a current shortage of Catholic RE teachers across the country. Many dioceses including our own are looking again at how they address RE teacher recruitment.

At St. Anthony's we are already leading the way by establishing links with various University Theology departments and taking our Sixth Form students to visit. Other interested potential candidates have assisted RE teaching staff by helping to support some younger students in lessons. Our Theology students are due to attend Leeds Trinity University as part of the newly established link with our department. The RE department is committed to helping our students to take their learning of Theology further in the hope that some of them return to teach RE in the near future. *2 Corinthians 9:6 The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.*



# Ski

## SNOZONE CHRISTMASTRIP

Ski Club will be having another Fun Day at Castleford as we approach the end of Term. Our new beginners will get their first taste of Snow – which is always really exciting.



We also have time for some activities such as mini golf or bowling – and, of course, Christmas Shopping!



Happy Christmas to everyone in SKI CLUB from Mrs Almond, Mrs Armstrong, Miss Brown and Mrs Taroni – and let's hope we get some Snow for Christmas as well!



## School-led Teacher Training

### Are you interested in training to become a secondary school teacher?

Our school is part of a growing number of schools leading the way for more school-led teacher training. This is really important to us because it means we can choose the most talented people and develop them into becoming teachers. Being able to choose whom we train as teachers helps us in delivering the best outcomes for the students at St. Anthony's Girls' Catholic Academy.

We have vacancies now to start training from September 2016 in 11 subjects and we would be very interested to hear from you if you are thinking of becoming a teacher, or know someone who is. We're looking for people who have, or will have, a degree (2:1 or higher preferred), have a passion for teaching, and want to inspire young people to fulfil their potential.

If you are interested in the exciting teacher training opportunities available, please contact us by e-mail at [enquiries@st-anthonys-academy.com](mailto:enquiries@st-anthonys-academy.com), for the attention of Mrs. S.Ward. We can provide you with support and guidance on your application form and possibly offer you school experience if you just want a taster of what teaching could be like.



For further information on what becoming a teacher might involve more generally, you can also visit [www.education.gov.uk/get-into-teaching](http://www.education.gov.uk/get-into-teaching)

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