Spirit

St. Julie's Catholic High School Chaplaincy Newsletter February 2014





In December our thoughts turned to Advent and the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. We celebrated both with two services that presented a great opportunity to reflect on the Christmas message and its meaning. The service was accompanied by beautiful singing from our school choirs, taking us through traditional favourites right up to a new arrangement of Wham's Last Christmas!

An offertory during the service allowed representatives from each vear group to present donations of Food that our students have made to Liverpool Cathedral's food bank. The amount collected was overwhelming to the point of presenting a logistical challenge in just how to move it all to the Cathedral, which you can read about elsewhere in this newsletter.



PFA Fundraising

The Parents and Friends Association have been working hard on behalf of our students to raise valuable funds for the school through a wide range of activities. Recently the PFA team have been selling refreshments during the interval of our Christmas Production, helping to run the Year 7 and 8 Christmas Bingo, organising a shopping trip to York as well as a Christmas plant sale!



Marie Curie Fund Raising



As our close neighbour, we have always strongly supported the work of the Marie Curie Hospice, and have continued to work on a range of fundraising activities throughout the year including fancy dress,

cake sales and performances. Our Chamber Choir have performed twice at St. Mary's Church in charitable concerts, and our Intermediate Choir entertained shoppers in Tesco with a recital of Christmas Carols.

Our music department have also nominated Marie Curie as their supported charity for profits raised during the BTEC and Open Mic night concerts.

Sixth form students in the Health and Social Care class have been able to benefit from work experience placements in the Hospice, and they found the experience so valuable that they were inspired to raise funds as a group, which they presented to representatives from the Charity.



Every Wednesday morning students and staff have been gathering in the school chapel to celebrate a prayer service. The services are led by a senior member of staff who plans the theme for the week.

The services provide a valuable moment of faith, prayer and reflection in the middle of the busy school week, and help us all in living out our mission statement.



Throughout the year, we have been supporting the Liverpool Cathedral food bank with donations from our staff and students. We're delighted to report that the donations that were gathered during the school Advent Services surpassed all of our expectations.

The principles of care and compassion defined in our mission statement were present in abundance as we needed the help of four staff and their cars to move the food donations to the Cathedral.

With the assistance of some of our Sixth Form students, the food was loaded directly into the Cathedral's van for direct delivery to the Hope Plus Food Bank where they will make a real impact to people within our own communities.

Thank you to everyone who has worked to make this donation possible. Sadly, this work is still sorely needed and we are continuing to ask for your generous support.



If you think now of the great legacy that the Sisters of Notre Dame have left here in Liverpool, Notre Dame Woolton which was later to become St. Julie's and Notre Dame Everton Valley and Mount Pleasant

training college which was responsible for training Catholic teachers and later became Hope University College, you begin to think of the thousands of families who have been touched by that vision which began here over 160 years ago from a small event which has sent thousands of ripples down those vears.



March 28th 1851 was a Friday. An ordinary day which turned out to have an extraordinary impact on the lives of hundreds of thousands of Liverpool people. Two Sisters stepped off a train in Lime Street. The Sisters had been called by Father James Nugent, founder of the Nugent

Care Society, to help educate the poor families in the area. They were joined later in the day by two other Sisters.

On Monday 31st March 1851 they started teaching in their first school, St. Nicolas's, and so began the thread which was to eventually connect so many or us together today.



The opening of our Faith Garden, a dedicated space for all students and staff to reflect.

As a proud Notre Dame School, we continue to enjoy the support of the Sisters of Notre Dame in countless ways that permeate every aspect of life in our school, from the practical and financial support of our trustees through to the experience and hard work of Sister Margaret

Walsh, our Chair of Governors, and the spiritual inspiration we can draw from the dedication, commitment and service of all of the Sisters.

The legacy of St. Julie also joins us as part of a global network with sister schools across the world, meaning that we can enjoy exchange visits and shared experiences with a wealth of international diversity.

We are always delighted to welcome the Sisters into our school for celebrations, award ceremonies and particularly events that are important to the spiritual life of the school, including the opening of our faith garden and the unveiling of the glass sculpture commissioned for our chapel.



Building Community Through Personal Action