

St Illtyd's Newsletter

Together in Christ we can make a difference Gyda'n gilydd yng Nghrist, fe wnawn wa-

Welcome

Hello Parents, Carers and Students and welcome to the first of our more regular newsletters to you. St Illtyd's would like to improve its' communication with parents, carers and students, and hope that this round up of news from the school will give you a better picture of school life and the great achievements we are seeing at the school. Copies of all newsletters can also be found on the school website. The BBC have been filming all month at the school, and the "Week In, Week Out" programme will be shown on Tues 4th March, 10.35pm.

Improving Communications with You

The staff at St Illtyd's are constantly looking at improving communications with you, and so in Autumn 2013, the St Illtyd's Parent Forum was formed. The Parent Forum meets regularly with the Executive Head, Mr Clinch, to discuss school matters and provide their viewpoints. From January this year, Mrs May was appointed to act as the school link with the Parent Forum, and will work closely with them to ensure we increase the level of communication with you. The school council will be meeting on a more regular basis so that students can have their say on school matters.

The Parent Forum has set up a St Illtyd's Facebook page and the school is using this to provide everyone with regular news. If you go onto the St Illtyd's page and "Like" it, you will receive these regular updates. To find our Facebook page, either search "St Illtyds Catholic High School" on Facebook or use the following link:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Illtyds-Catholic-High-School/196482680536296?ref=hl#!/pages/St-Illtyds-Catholic-High-School/196482680536296>

We will also be regularly tweeting and you can follow St Illtyd's on Twitter:

@StIlltydsCHS

Attendance on the up

We are pleased to report that attendance at St Illtyd's continues to rise. Overall attendance rose from 93.5% in December to 93.7% in January, with all forms achieving over 90% and nine forms achieving over 95%. We must all continue to work together to drive school attendance up to our target of 96%.

Hot off the Press! St Illtyd's New Uniform

We can officially announce that St Illtyd's students will be wearing a new uniform from September 2014. The Governors have approved re-instating the traditional school colours of green and gold. With the aim of improving the positive image of the school, the new uniform will include blazers and ties (both items will be provided by the school to every student). Further information will follow along with a look at the new uniform in a future edition of the newsletter.

School Council

Two school council representatives from each year along with our Head Girl, Emily Viggers and Head Boy, Richard Cottrell, will be meeting every half term to discuss school matters. This is a very important role for each of the representatives as they will be feeding back the views of all their peers in their year group. Their first meeting will be on Tuesday 18th February. More news on this next month.

St Illtyd's has continued to make improvements in the quality and consistency of marking and feedback to pupils. (Estyn, November 2013)

Literacy & Numeracy News

- St Illtyd's will be hosting a Spring Fair on Thursday 10th April, 4.00-6.00pm. The evening will consist of fun activities that will help you and your children with literacy and numeracy, alongside many stalls selling Easter gifts. It promises to be another great event in the St Illtyd's annual calendar. All welcome!
- A new reading initiative has started this month with one of our Year 7 classes in partnership with our Neighbourhood Librarian, Heather Williams. "Read Aloud" is designed to get students to read extracts from a book aloud to their peers, instilling confidence and encouraging an interest in reading.
- Staff recently attended training where the focus was on improving writing with the emphasis on boys. Staff were given lots of ideas and were able to share good practice and ideas with colleagues from our partner school, St Josephs. Staff plan to try out some of the ideas shared in lessons to aim to improve writing.
- Our numeracy focused morning took place on Friday 14th February. The morning was a great success with all lessons incorporating numeracy in their delivery.

Maths Success

Mrs Ferguson wanted to recognise the fantastic achievements reached by students in 8SI1. A number of students achieved over 70% in their last Maths test, with particular mention going to James Hare and Matthew Cussack scoring an outstanding 100% and Halle Meddick, Charlie Williams and Laura Swain scoring over 90%. Mrs Ferguson also wanted to recognise Christopher Hau for his continued commitment and dedication to Maths.

Exam Timetable

A skeleton timetable for the Year 10 and 11 May/June exams is now on display on the Exam's notice board and form tutors also have a copy.

St Illtyd's Pancake Competition

Earlier this month, Mrs Ball set two of her ASDAN students, Amna Ali and Shaun Urch from Year 11 a challenge to organise an event from start to finish. ASDAN stands for Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network, and this challenge counted towards the



problem solving element of the course. Amna and Shaun had to organise, promote and judge a pan-

cake competition, something they had never done before. They rose to the challenge well, including organising a prize of a donation of a box of chocolates from Tesco, Llanrumney. The standard of entries was high, but they chose Phoenix Wallis in 7T as the winner because of the level of detail in her design and the range of ingredients she used. The photo shows Phoenix receiving her prize from Amna and Shaun.

Award Winners

Every month at St Illtyd's, we recognise the twenty students across all year groups who have made the most progress. We are delighted to announce the November/December winners as:

Megan Williams	7DR	Laura Morris	9CH
Fahadi Mukulu	7AR	Marlene Robalo	9GM
Nadine Johnson	7AH	Ellie Jones	9PT
Korneliusz Krzyskow	7AJ	Rhys Payne	10OC
Molly-Mae Barry	7DR	Faye Edwards	10JE
Jessica Lloyd-Burke	8RH	Kia Greedy	10OC
Christopher Hau	8RH	Soraia Robalo	10JE
Caitlin Burr	8RH	Celina Carter	10SK
Laura Swain	8RS	Craig Veryard	11MB
Harrison Taylor	8RH	Olivia Mountstephens	11SKJ
Jordelle James	9PT	Lailah Muscat	11 LW
Rachel Tee	9PT	Jamie Cowling	11SLB
Luke A Williams	9GM	Richard Cottrell	11RF

Sport Round Up

7th Place in Cardiff Games League Table

We are currently sitting in 7th place in the Cardiff School Games league table, which 21 schools across Cardiff and the Vale are currently competing in. Schools gain points on entering competitions and points for placings in these competitions. We have had success in basketball and badminton tournaments for both boys and girls teams and more recently in girls athletics. The next competitions are for football, cheerleading and Zumba, which will all be taking place before Easter. Well done to all who have represented our school in various competitions. You can view the league table at www.cardiff-games.com

Ann Smart Netball Tournament

The U16 netball team recently competed in the Ann Smart netball tournament held in Whitchurch. With a strong team captained by Emily Viggers, the girls played well against Llanishen, Radyr and Llantwit Major, but couldn't manage to win all games and did not progress to the final four in Cardiff. Well done to all who competed.

Netball Success

Morgan Horne has gained a place in the Welsh Regional Hub for netball the weekend of 15th/16th Feb. Emily Viggers and Tia Meddick, both have their first games for Wales netball this week.

Rugby Update

Our year 7s, 8s and 10s are all through to the next round of the Cardiff cup and our Year 9s are playing soon and will also go through. On Tuesday 4th Feb, the year 7s with only 13 players went to play St John College. They were outstanding and made St Iltyds proud. William Divine was awarded "Man of the Match". The whole team are showing true commitment to the game.

Follow us on Twitter @StIltydsPEDept for news on fixtures, results and other activities in the department.

Out of School Hours Activities

- Dragonfly will be running inspirational workshops after the half term with Year 11 students that will aim to tackle exam stress, revision and raising attainment.
- Year 10s have been invited to an after school "Stock Market Challenge Club" on Tuesdays, starting Tuesday 4th March. The club will give students an insight into dealing in a stock market using software resources. A team will be selected from those that attend to represent the school at an inter-school competition in April.
- St Iltyd's Fishing Club continues to meet on Tuesday and Friday lunch times in T4 and new members are always welcome. The Fishing Club go on weekend fishing trips twice a month and parents/carers are encouraged to join them. Exciting activities are planned for the Spring Term including sea fishing, an overnight trip and an inter-school competition.

Dates for the Diary

Thursday 20 th February	INSET Day
Friday 21 st February	INSET Day
Mon 24 th -Fri 28 th February	Half term
Mon 3 rd -Weds 5 th March	Year 11 Dragonfly Workshops (After school)
Wednesday 5 th March	Year 11 Photos
Thursday 13 th March	Year 10 Parents Evening
Thursday 10 th April	Spring Fair (4.00-6.00pm)

FREE Homework Club

All students from St Iltyd's are invited to a FREE homework club that has been set up by Communities First ECLP in conjunction with Cardiff Metropolitan University & Llanrumney Hub. Students are able to take along their homework, use worksheets provided and get help and advice from student tutors. The homework club takes place every Saturday, 10.00-12.00 in Llanrumney Hub.

Reflection of the Month

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails." – Corinthians