



The New Illtydian

TOGETHER IN CHRIST WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE • GYDA'N GILYDD YNG NGRIST, FE WNAWN WAHANIAETH



Hay Festival 2019

On the last day before half term, a coach full of excited Year 8 and 9 pupils set off for Hay-on-Wye to attend the Hay Festival Secondary Schools Day. At the event, pupils were able to listen to inspirational authors Marcus Sedgwick, Mae Martin and the highlight of the day, Michael Rosen. Michael Rosen is one of Britain's best loved writers and performance poets for children and adults. He has published around 200 books and is best known for "We're Going on a Bear Hunt".

Through listening to the authors and hearing them speak about what inspired them to get into writing,

pupils in turn were inspired in their writing and were inspired to read more for pleasure. Pupils were able to meet the authors and get books signed in the festival book shop, and many started reading their books on the way home. We are extremely grateful to the Arts Council of Wales who funded the coach and enabled more of our pupils to experience the day.

MRS L MAY, COMMUNITY FOCUSED SCHOOL'S CO-ORDINATOR



HEAD'S MESSAGE | NEGES Y PENNAETH

As we approach the end of another academic year, it is always a great time to reflect on the successes and joys that have been shared within our community this year.



An encouraging ESTYN report highlighted the strengths of the school and the areas where we need to improve. Our work with student teachers and placing learning at the heart of what we do is growing still further and we will be sharing this practice with other schools and the UWIC teacher training programme in the year to come. All of this is aimed at us raising our standards for the pupils in our care and in doing so striving to be a centre of excellence for all.

This year saw our pupils achieving some of the highest levels ever at the end of Key stage 3 and the forecast for our Key Stage 4 pupils is very encouraging and shows further improvement in key areas. The results in August will tell all. What cannot be in doubt is the hard work put in by our Year 11 and Year 10 pupils to achieve all

that they can. They have also received excellent support from our dedicated staff.

Our pupils have also shown off their skills in a number of other areas and these can be seen in the following

pages. We encourage everyone to throw themselves into the opportunities provided beyond the classroom and as a result grow as a person. Academically, physically, morally and spiritually they are developing all the time and we cannot thank all our parents and carers enough for their support and goodwill. When we are all together our young people prosper.

We are also a growing school. Once again for 2019-20 we are over-subscribed and we now have a seven form entry into Year 7 as opposed to the traditional six. As always we welcome these many new pupils and their parents and carers to the St Illtyd's family.

The school itself continues to improve in many other ways – this year we are seeing additional ICT and sports facilities as well as a

revamped dining area, inside and out. There will also be repainting and redecoration throughout and new displays. I invite all parents, both current and prospective, to come and see the school at our Open Evening next term and see for themselves the excellent learning environment we are developing here at St Illtyd's.

As with any year, we have staff who are leaving for new pastures, (they appear inside) and new staff who will be joining us. We wish them and our Year 11 leavers all the best for the future.

The school is growing in many ways but in all of that I thank our parents and carers for their on-going support. Your engagement with the school but also the trust you place in us to challenge and support your sons and daughters continues to make us an ever improving school.

I wish all of you the best for a happy and relaxing Summer Holidays and look forward to welcoming all existing and new pupils back on Wednesday September 4th.

DAVID THOMAS, HEAD TEACHER

Art Department New York & Washington DC trip

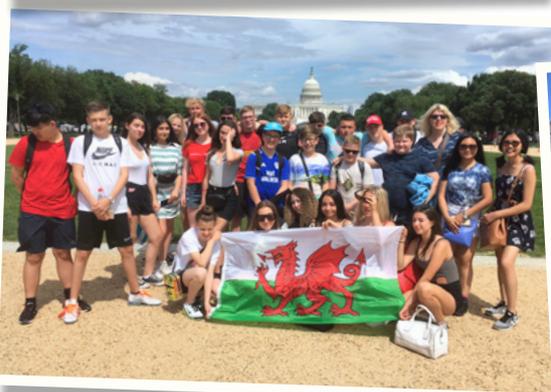
During the recent May half term, the Art department visited the sight of New York and explored the history and heritage of Washington DC. Miss AM Vella, the trip organiser was accompanied by Mr Rowe (Twitter guru) and Mr Dyer. The twenty-eight pupils from years 8, 9 and 10 helped make the trip a memorable and enjoyable experience.

On arrival the heat hit us and the drive through New York was itself an eye-opener; the hustle and bustle of the 'Big Apple' was certainly upon us. Visits included a boat trip to Ellis Island Immigration Museum passing the Statue of Liberty, visiting the National September 11th Memorial Museum, the Museum of Modern Art, Empire State Building and the NBC studios at the Rockefeller Centre. The new Ride Tour covered a large area of New York including Greenwich, an artist's haven and the streets around Time Square, where street artists performed for the audience on the bus to create an interactive ride.

Washington DC, the capital city was packed with historical features. Sightseeing tours included the White House, visiting Arlington Cemetery, the Changing of the Guards, Smithsonian National Air and Space Museums and many other landmarks of great interest.

Of course, visits to the shopping malls in both New York and Washington DC were an exciting detour and staff and pupils seemed to be energetically recharged with some retail therapy! "I have taken many trips to New York but never a group of pupils who managed to constantly shop, shop and more shopping in so many designer shops. It was a fantastic trip and all pupils were a credit to their families" said Miss Vella.

MISS AM VELLA, HEAD OF ART



At the Ground Zero Memorial and Museum we had a chance to reflect on the 2996 lives lost on the 11th September 2001. It was a very moving visit... I thoroughly enjoyed this trip and I wish I could do it all again. I'm really grateful to be given this wonderful opportunity.

EWAN MAY, 8SMT



New York was hands down one of the best experiences of my life. I got to experience an amazing city with all of my best friends.

FFION MORRIS, 10TGT

It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and we all enjoyed it so much! We were very tired afterwards but it was definitely worth it!

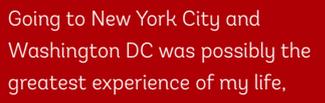
HOLLY TEE, 10TGT



The experience of this trip is something that will last a lifetime: I made the fondest memories with my best friends and got to experience things I wouldn't have been able to otherwise.

LAURA VIGGERS, 10OR

Going to New York City and Washington DC was possibly the greatest experience of my life,



seeing the great landmarks and going to the top restaurants like Planet Hollywood. For me, the greatest part of the trip was the Smithsonian Museum of Air and Space and seeing the rockets and planes of the past.

JAYDEN HUTCHISON, 8SMT



CAVC Design & Construction Challenge Champions

A huge well done to our Year 10 pupils who took part in Cardiff and Vale College's annual Design and Construction Challenge as part of Science and Engineering Week. They won team of the day and two of the team members, Joe Curran and James Gasteratos are pictured receiving their award in assembly from John Ennis, Head of Construction at CAVC and CAVC's Student Recruitment Officer Joanne Gower.

MRS L MAY, COMMUNITY FOCUSED SCHOOL'S CO-ORDINATOR



Cardiff 2030

During the summer term, four of our Student Council members had the opportunity to attend the latest Grand Council Event. A Grand Council Event brings young people from across the city together to share their opinions and views on important issues. We were able to spend the day with pupils and teachers from other schools within our cluster- St John Lloyd RC Primary School and St Cadoc's Catholic Primary School.



The theme of this Grand Council was to gather the views and ideas of children and young people, of what education could look like in 2030. The data will then be used to influence the Cardiff 2030 Education Strategy. Pupils took part in a number of talks and activities and ended the day presenting their findings to a room of almost 200 people. It was a great experience for them and a great opportunity to express their views and ideas.

MRS L MAY, COMMUNITY FOCUSED SCHOOL'S CO-ORDINATOR



Cardiff University visit

Just before the Easter break, a group of Year 9 pupils visited Cardiff University on a First Campus KS3 Campus Visit Day. The Campus Visit Days are designed to raise educational aspirations by giving pupils in KS3 an opportunity to visit a University Campus and take part in interactive information, advice and guidance sessions covering topics such as University Finance Myth Buster, Your Future Career, Why go to University and to pick the brains of current Undergraduates. In addition to these sessions, pupils were given a guided tour of Cardiff University. All pupils thoroughly enjoyed their visit. Our thanks go to Vicki Woods, Ffiona Mills and all of the student ambassadors for looking after us so well. We are also extremely grateful to First Campus at Cardiff University for funding a coach, enabling us to take more pupils.

MRS L MAY, COMMUNITY FOCUSED SCHOOL'S CO-ORDINATOR



Encon Construction ENCON Construction

Two groups of Year 8 pupils took part in a construction programme with Encon Construction on Thursday 20th June. Both groups were successful in making a 3D tetrahedron out of multiple mini tetrahedrons, building on team building skills in the process. Year 8 pupils learnt that triangles are the strongest structure and are used regularly in

the construction business through a hands on approach. Well done to all pupils who took part!

We would like to thank Encon Construction and Adrian Cole from Careers Wales for their time.

MISS E LOVE, HEAD OF YEAR 8



It is that time of the year when we bid farewell to some of our colleagues who are off on new adventures. We thank them all for their contributions during their time at St Illtyd's and wish them all well in their future endeavours.

**Des Foley –
Head of Design
Technology**

We say
farewell
to

Mr Foley who joined our school as a fresh faced newly qualified teacher in September 2012. He was quickly promoted to subject leader of Design Technology and has led this department with enthusiasm, determination and a unique sense of humour that will be missed by both pupils and staff alike. He has played an active role in school life and has supported the PE department with football coaching, the music department in the annual musical production and has always been on hand when his creative skills are required. Mr Foley is returning home to his native Ireland with his young family and will be taking up a position at Ramsgrange Community School. We thank him for all he has done for our school. Ramsgrange are lucky to have him and we wish him every success for the future.

**MR I SMITH, ASSISTANT HEAD
TEACHER**



**Lloyd Rowe –
Head of Welsh
Baccalaureate**

We say a
farewell
to

Mr Rowe who joined us in April 2015 as subject leader for Welsh Baccalaureate Skills Challenge. Mr Rowe has built this department from the bottom up and his enthusiasm and drive has meant that the pupils at St Illtyd's are able to gain a qualification and also experience a wide range of opportunities outside of the classroom. To name but a few, these have included working with charities, community participation, visits to Parliament, WE day, Dragons Den and scholarships. He joined us from Maesteg Comprehensive and will be returning to that neck of the woods taking up a new position in September at Bryntirion Comprehensive School. We thank him for all he has done for our school. Bryntirion are lucky to have him and we wish him every success for the future.

**MR I SMITH, ASSISTANT HEAD
TEACHER**



**Juliet Scully –
Science Teacher**

Mrs Scully
joined us in
September

2018 having completed her PGCE at Cardiff Metropolitan University the year before. From the moment that she joined us we realised that her calm and kind personality would fit in really well with our pupils and staff. Mrs Scully has worked extremely hard in her first year with us organising a school trip to "We the Curious" and leading the science transition project for our Year 6 pupils. In her private life, Mrs Scully is always open to new adventures and this is why she and her husband have decided to move to Canada this summer in search of a new future for their family. Mrs Scully will continue to teach in Canada and we know that the school she ends up in will be extremely lucky to have such a wonderful teacher and colleague. We will miss her very much and are in no way jealous of her new life. Thank you for everything that you have done for the department and for our pupils- we will be sad to see you go.

**MRS M JOHN, ASSISTANT HEAD
TEACHER**



**Bernadette Hurley –
School Chaplain**

We say
farewell
and

thank you to Mrs B Hurley for all she has done this year as School Chaplain. She has developed Catholicity throughout the school in a short space of time and will be missed by pupils and staff. Mrs Hurley has developed daily prayer resources, promoted the St Illtyd's Pupil Profile, organised Mass and services and has involved our primary schools and the community in the daily life of our school. These are just of few examples of her work promoting spirituality and Catholicity in St Illtyd's. We wish Mrs Hurley the very best in the future.

**MR P MORIARTY, DEPUTY
HEADTEACHER**



GE Aviation Year 8 Girls STEM Project

Our partnership with our Business Class partners, GE Aviation, has continued this summer term with a STEM project for selected Year 8 girls. A group of 12 Year 8 girls have taken part in a STEM programme with David Hoare, PR & Communications Leader from GE Aviation. The programme involved the girls taking part in weekly sessions in which they had to design and make paper aeroplanes. The girls had to consider data capture and profit and loss in their planning. All of the girls got thoroughly involved and engaged with all aspects of the programme, making it a real success. The programme was completed with a visit to the GE Aviation site in Nantgarw where they delivered presentations and had a full tour of the site, including the testing facility there. Our thanks once again go to David Hoare for organising yet another engaging programme and visit.





Opportunity Knocks construction careers event

At the end of the Spring term, pupils from St Illtyd's were invited to attend an "Opportunity Knocks" construction careers event at The Powerhouse in Llanedeyrn. The event, organised by Cardiff Community Housing Association, allowed our Year 8 and 9 pupils to talk to construction industry experts about the vast array of roles available within this industry. There were many "hands-on" activities for our pupils to get involved with. Our pupils thoroughly engaged with all of the activities and the event provided them with lots of useful information for their future. We would like to thank Natalie Pillinger and her team at Cardiff Community Housing for organising this event and for funding our transport.



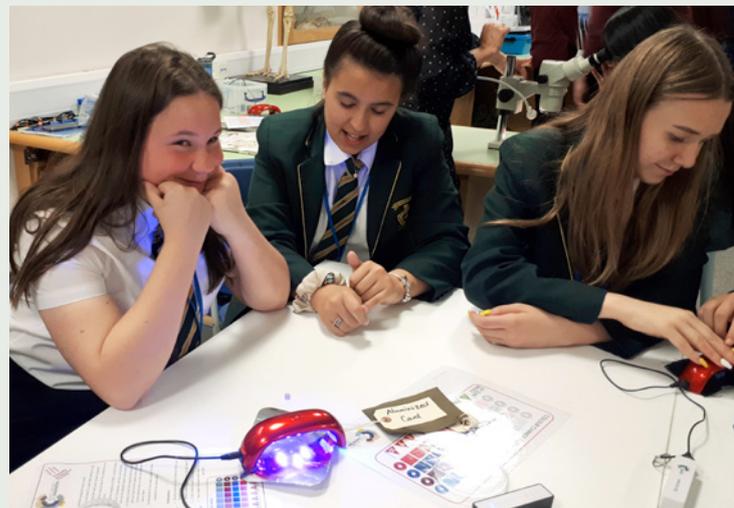
STEM Live – Mission to Mars

A group of Year 8 pupils were recently enrolled into a fictitious secret agency, the Ministry of Enlightened Theory and Skills (METS) and guided through a number of science, technology, engineering and maths activities.

From the impact of space debris, to programming rovers and building sustainable houses, the pupils gained an insight into the challenges and opportunities that would present themselves if they were to colonise Mars, whilst picking up some vital science skills and knowledge along the way.

Run in partnership between Cardiff University and the National Museum Cardiff, the aim of STEM Live is to take pupils out of the classroom and into an environment where they can experience real life applications of their studies.

A brilliant day was had by all in a unique learning environment.
MRS L MAY, COMMUNITY FOCUSED SCHOOL'S CO-ORDINATOR





Sailing day on Adventure Wales

On a wet Saturday morning in June, a group of eight Year 10 pupils accompanied by Mrs Gwynne-Carroll and Mr Owen set off for Penarth Marina to join Adventure Wales, a vessel from the Challenge Wales fleet. They started the day with a full safety brief and training before setting sail for their destination of Weston-Super-Mare. During the day, with the weather improving, pupils took part in all aspects of sailing- from raising and lowering the sails to taking it in turns to steer the boat. As well as the sailing skills which developed throughout the day, pupils improved their communication and team building skills.

Despite the high incidence of sea sickness on this voyage due to the conditions, the day was thoroughly enjoyed by all eight pupils as well as the two members of our staff. All pupils identified that they felt they had learnt something new and the majority said they would welcome the opportunity to go sailing again. Mr Owen summed up the experience well by saying that the most significant outcome he identified was the bonding of all of the pupils that took part. We left the school with four sets of friends and returned at the end of the day with one large group of friends who all got on better with each other. The crew were brilliant and made the sailing day one that all will remember.

The Sea Skills Initiative continues to be a rewarding experience for our pupils and we are extremely grateful to Cardiff St David's Rotary Club and the Reardon Smith Nautical Trust for this wonderful opportunity.

MRS L MAY, COMMUNITY FOCUSED SCHOOL'S CO-ORDINATOR



Spirituality & Chaplaincy at St Illtyd's



We began this term by being **'Curious and Active'** (1), as part of the Jesuit Pupil Profile values. We concentrated on being curious about everything and being active in our engagement with the world.

Since then we have also been **'Intentional and Prophetic'** (2) like Oscar Romero who was intentional when he spoke out to protect the people of his country and prophetic when he said; "We must not seek the child Jesus in the pretty figures of our Christmas cribs. We must seek him among the undernourished children who have gone to bed at night with nothing to eat, among the poor newsboys who will sleep covered with newspapers in doorways."

The chaplaincy team were fascinated when they visited the Shroud of Turin Exhibition in Nazareth House in Cardiff (3).

Pupils delivered a moving Good Friday liturgy that reflected on Jesus' journey to Calvary and the effect that this had on His mother Mary (4).

We celebrated the month of May by taking part in devotions to Our Lady. The Rosary group welcomed Father Millar and Sister Marie to their meeting on the feast day of Our Lady of Fatima (5).

In June, the Eden Bus came to visit our school (6). All pupils had the opportunity to reflect on their self-worth as children of God and were reminded that they and those around them are worthy of respect. They took part in activities to promote their self-esteem.

We were extremely grateful for the efforts of Mr Davies from the DT Department, who restored our donated Tabernacle to its former glory (7).

The Chaplaincy Team have been making links with local parishioners including pupils from St John's College (8). We look forward to joining them at St Cadoc's Church for the next Friday Soup lunch and their end of year Mass.

On Tuesday 25th June, we were delighted to host a Mass at St Cadoc's Church as a 'Cluster' of schools. Staff and pupils alike were delighted to join together and celebrate our faith (9).





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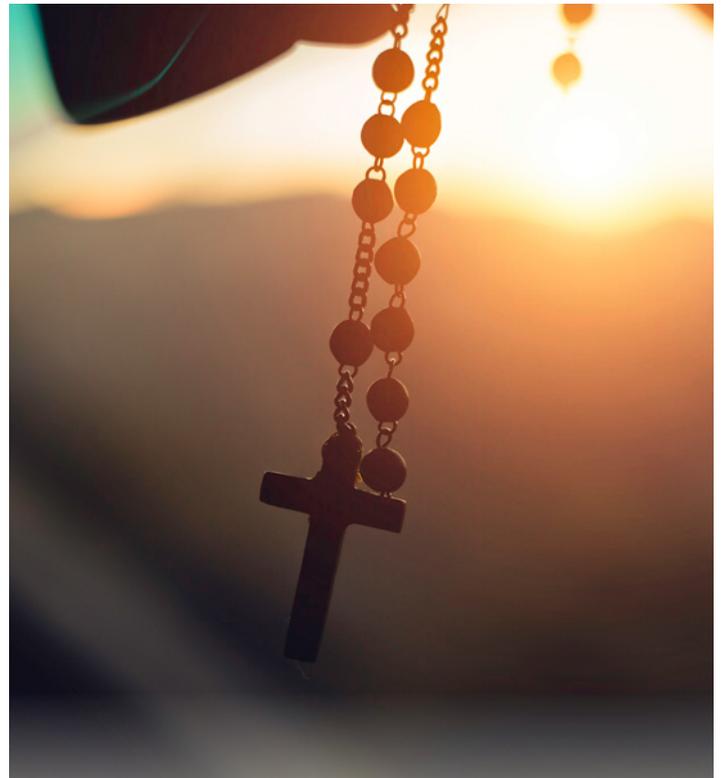
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My Spiritual Journey

This year has been a big change for me, this year I realized just how much religion means to me. Being religious is like a sense of security and it is also a chance to speak to God one on one. Being religious has helped me realize what kind of stuff I like to do like helping old people and just getting to know people for who they really are. For example, the chaplaincy team went on a trip to St Cadoc's Church hall to do a soup lunch for the OAP's. We set tables and served them their food, drinks and desserts.

In the Retreat in school, (a place where I usually go to) there is a special book called the remembrance book. I use it to write down prayers for my uncle Paddy. There is also a prayer tree there that is used to show prayers to people.

This year on 18th May 2019, I was confirmed. This was important to me because it was one of the final steps to becoming a real Catholic. Teachers in the school also supported me as well as family.

On Ash Wednesday the school did an assembly. A lot of the chaplaincy team helped including me. I was an usher, I led people to their seats and led them to the front of the hall to receive the ashes.

Some mornings in registration we have something called Rosary Group where we pray to Our Lady on her feast days. We pray for different things every Rosary Group. We have prayed for mothers and their unborn babies and learned about the times when Our Lady has appeared to children like in Fatima and Lourdes. People from our communities join us to pray the Rosary.

During form time I was nominated to be a Chaplaincy Captain. Being a Chaplaincy Captain is a real honour, it makes me feel proud of what I do. I really like helping Mrs Hurley with all the religious events going on around the school. The chaplaincy team once went to St Cadoc's church to do adoration. I really enjoyed the peace and quiet and felt very close to God.

Next year I would like to go to a religious place on a trip to see religious things and other religious people. I would also like to do more religious things inside the school like do the prayer properly in each lesson. I am also thankful that all of this happened this year, so thank you to all the people that helped me be able to do this. And a special thank you to David Manzenga 8MC for helping me write this article.

REGGIE CASSIDY, 9MC

Transition Programme at St Illtyd's

Our transition programme has continued this term at St Illtyd's. All Year 4 pupils from our cluster Catholic primary schools were invited up for a languages morning. Our Head of Modern Languages, Mr Hoare, began the morning by sharing facts and figures on languages from around the world. Pupils then split into smaller groups to learn some phrases in different languages from our Year 9 pupils. The

morning ended with them using the languages they had learnt in a fun passport activity. All pupils thoroughly enjoyed the morning.

All Year 6 pupils that are starting at St Illtyd's in September were invited to St Illtyd's for an enrichment transition day during June, which allowed pupils to get to know their new Head and Assistant Head of Year. Pupils spent the day as a small class, had a tour of

the school and were able to have questions answered about life at high school. This was followed up by a transition day in July where they were able to experience a typical day at St Illtyd's. Parents and carers were invited up in the evening to receive important information and to meet their child's form teacher. We look forward to welcoming all of our new pupils to St Illtyd's in September.



Wales Millennium Centre visit

As part of the Inspire to Achieve project, Careers Wales organised a visit to the Wales Millennium Centre in Cardiff Bay. The visit provided an exciting opportunity for our pupils to explore the varied jobs and careers within the creative arts in Cardiff.

Pupils had a full tour of the centre and had the opportunity to go back

stage to see preparations for the current stage show and gain an insight to how much work goes into each production. The visit was thoroughly enjoyed by all and pupils came away with a much better understanding of careers available to them in the future.



Writing workshops at St Illtyd's

As part of our programme to raise literacy standards at St Illtyd's, pupils have taken part in two writing workshops with visiting authors. The first workshop was with Karla Brading and the focus was on writing stories, forming ideas and making writing interesting. She specifically deals with more spooky writing, and so there were elements of this in her workshop.

The second workshop, led by Christina Thatcher, got pupils to experiment with writing poetry; ideas, editing and polishing their own poems. We are extremely grateful to First Campus for arranging for Christina to attend.

The pupils thoroughly enjoyed all of the workshops and samples of their work are below.

MISS M COOPER, TEACHER OF ENGLISH



Barren now, the house is still,
the vase gone from the windowsill.
The living room is empty too,
the sofas gone, so's the pair of work boots.

The kitchen has a hollow feel,
no plates or spoons or stainless steel.
The bathroom has been long forgotten,
no toothbrushes or towels of cotton.

The wardrobe moved out of my room,
the bed will leave, and I will too.
The house itself holds memories,
of me, my friends and my family.

By Alicia Owen, 8M&K

I am told it's rare,
And some people still stop and stare,
Because of my ginger hair!

The insults that you say,
"They are not meant to hurt anyway"
But they do every day!

Even though the insults range,
The effect that they have will never change,
And I am still treated like I am strange!

The annoying days go on,
Why can't people see that it is wrong?
I just want to get along!

Even now that I have cut it short,
And the battle to ignore them is trying to be fought,
But the mission to hurt me does not abort.

I know I am not strange,
So why should I change!

By Bethan Statton, 8T&T



My Happy Place

Acrylic paint tubes spilling out of the drawer
Paint brushes stiff and unwashed
Blank canvas stacked underneath
Palettes a rainbow of dried disarray
Cups full of dyed water,
Every discombobulation you could imagine!

A single lamp illuminates the mess I call Heaven.

Trinkets circle the edge of my desk.

My friend shouts down the phone that lays on my desk.

Stray pens and pencils thought to be lost are found on my desk.

All the mayhem you could think of!

A single lamp illuminates the shambles, I call Bliss.

This poem was written on the mishmash, I call my happy place,
My desk.

By Emma Spencer, 8MC

Welsh Baccalaureate

Welsh Baccalaureate Skills Challenge Certificate

The summer term has been yet another successful and busy time for our students. The Skills Challenge Certificate continues to provide our students with real life challenges, experiences and opportunities to develop essential employability skills which will be vitally important when moving on from St Illtyd's into further education or employment. Our Year 8 students have been preparing for the rigours of GCSEs by taking part in the First Give Programme. The students made links with local charities and organised a whole day of social action to fundraise and promote their work. Our school final was judged by the Lord Mayor of Cardiff, the MP for Cardiff South and Penarth, and also the Education Editor from Wales Online. I am incredibly proud of the achievements of our Year 8 students throughout this programme.



We have recently linked closely with the charity Keep Wales Tidy and Young Reporters for the Environment to write three exciting new Global Citizenship Challenge Briefs on very topical issues of e-waste, marine litter and plastic packaging. Our students have been developing a stronger understanding of global and local issues, by carrying out research and writing a personal standpoint, before producing a raising awareness pack for a specific target audience. I was delighted that our Year 11 student Vignaxi Kapdee was awarded 1st prize in the YRE 'Litter less' competition for her inspirational video to raise awareness of e-waste. During the second part of the summer term all of our Year 10 students have been taking part in our Community Challenge. Four classes in the year group have had the amazing opportunity to

develop important coaching and teaching skills at two of our local feeder Catholic primary schools or lead activities at a local care home for the elderly. Two classes have actively supported the youth homelessness charity Llamau by promoting their work at local supermarkets and building a homeless shelter to raise awareness. One class is making a fantastic new eco-greenhouse using single use plastic bottles which will be installed in our new school garden next year. The students have responded to these activities in a very mature manner and we look forward to excellent results again in the Skills Challenge Certificate GCSE this summer. I would like to wish our Year 11 students who are leaving us this summer term all the very best as they move onto Sixth Form College or employment.
LLOYD ROWE, HEAD OF WELSH BACCALAUREATE SKILLS CHALLENGE CERTIFICATE

Inspirational students shine in our First Give school final



Congratulations to Caroline Saad's form class - 8MC who have won our First Give school final and £1,000 for their class charity. The class have made a strong link with the charity Team 21 Friends and The Down's Syndrome Association Wales and have organised a wide range of social action and fundraising activities, their work is inspirational to our whole school community. Most notably, the whole form class walked up to the top of Pen Y Fan to raise awareness of Down's Syndrome and they have raised well over £1,000! All of our Year 8 form classes delivered excellent presentations during our final and our stellar judging panel consisting of Rt. Hon Lord Mayor of Cardiff Dan D'ath, MP for Cardiff South and Penarth Stephen Doughty and Wales Online Education Editor Abbie Wightwick had a very difficult job deciding on the winning class. Between all of the classes the students have raised nearly £2,000 for six different charities. All of our Year 8 pupils took part in this incredible programme of study which is a very useful preparation for the Welsh Baccalaureate Skills Challenge Certificate. Many thanks to all the Year 8 form tutors for making this year's programme another huge success.



The winning team: L to R – 8MC form tutor Caroline Saad, Emma Spencer, Lesedi Moima, Kaci-May Smith, Reese Archer, Matthew Parsons, Mackenzie Harry, Rebecca Evans and Kate Harris from Team 21 (Missing in photo – David Mangenga).



Year 10 students lead their Community Challenge

During the summer term all of our Year 10 students have been working outside of school leading a vast range of activities, including teaching lessons, leading coaching sessions and promoting the work of local charities by volunteering their time. The students are developing a vast array of essential skills with a focus on planning and organisation, and personal effectiveness. The students photographed in this report are working at one of our feeder Catholic primary schools or at a local care home for the elderly.



E-waste winner

We are delighted to let you know that St Illtyd's has had a winning entry in the 'Young Reporters for the Environment - Litter Less Competition in Wales'. Vignaxi Kapdee in Year 11 won first place, from entries across all of Wales, by making a short film to raise awareness of the increasing global issue of e-waste. This film formed part of her Welsh Baccalaureate Global Citizenship Challenge. The jury was very impressed with the amount of research that had gone into Vignaxi's film, "E-waste - Why Bother?", and the suggested solutions to the problem. Vignaxi wins £100 and will be presented with a certificate by Young Reporters for the Environment.



If you would like to watch Vignaxi's video - please use this link: <https://yrecompetition.exposure.co/wales-9>



Northern Ireland

BY PATRICK GORDON HOULSTON, 10JP2

I am now coming to the end of my first year of ASDAN. For the last ten hours, I have been researching the religious and political history of Northern Ireland, which will go towards my level two qualification. I kept a record of sources I have used and a learning log.

This has been a challenging and interesting subject to research. I have learned how Northern Ireland became part of the UK and how conflicts happen between different religions, cultures and much more.

From what I have found out, my opinion is that there was not much equality in Northern Ireland. Unless you were in part of the religious majority you wouldn't be treated fairly.

I think everybody should be treated fairly, as an equal, no matter what your religious beliefs and background are. Although Northern Ireland is a more diverse and equal country now, there are still problems to work out.



L to R: Ffion Morris, Holly Tee, Alana Green, Emily Crawford, Laura Viggers.



The school raising awareness by ditching single use plastic bottles

Vaughan Gething, Health Minister of Wales has paid a visit to pupils at a high school who've decided to cut down on the use of plastic bottles. Pupils from St Illtyd's Catholic High School, in Cardiff, believe that plastic bottles are contributing to the growing plastic pollution of the oceans and are on a mission to reduce their own plastic waste.

Vaughan Gething praised the ambitious group of Year 10 students for raising the issue and for their conscientious work in applying for funding from the Virgin Atlantic "Change is in the Air" Award, promoted by the WE movement following their success at the annual First Give Awards held at the Senedd last year.

He said: "I am very impressed with the hard work that students at St Illtyd's have been doing to help tackle the ever-growing problem of plastic waste in our oceans. The impact that plastic waste is having on our marine wildlife is shocking.

There are many changes we can all introduce

in our lives to make a real difference and reduce the amount of plastic that we use. I am delighted to support St Illtyd's in their efforts to reduce their use of disposable water bottles and become a refill school".

The group of girls, working towards their Welsh Baccalaureate, were inspired by 'Keep Wales Tidy' and initiated a project to cut down on the use of plastic bottles in the school by installing two water fountains and by providing every pupil with a reusable water bottle.

Despite the group being unsuccessful with this funding application due to its fierce competition, the WE Movement were so impressed with the girls' application that they recommended the project be funded by the Queen's Commonwealth Trust Award. A prestigious award that works to fund and connect young leaders who are working hard to change the world and solve problems in education, health and the environment.

The girls' hard work paid off, they were

awarded £2,000 and received a "shout out" by the President of the Queen's Commonwealth Trust at the WE Day event in March at the SSE Wembley Arena, in the presence of famous faces including key patron to the QCT Award, Prince Harry.

Pupils Holly Tee and Ffion Morris said: "We are delighted to have received this award and are hopeful that our project will make a difference in our school community."

The head teacher of St Illtyd's, David Thomas, said he was incredibly proud of the girls' efforts in raising awareness of this project and very thankful to Vaughan Gething for his support.

The water fountains have been installed over the Easter Holidays and the group launched the project with a week of assemblies starting the 6th of May. The girls have since encouraged pupils to use their re-usable water bottles, which were distributed last week.

ARTICLE KINDLY REPRODUCED FROM THE ABOUT TOWN WEBSITE

Confirmation at St John Lloyd Church

On Saturday 18th May, nine of our pupils received the Sacrament of Confirmation at St John Lloyd Church. They spent ten weeks preparing for this through weekly sessions at the church. The Sacrament of Confirmation is one of the three sacraments of initiation into the Catholic Church, the other two being Baptism and Holy Communion.

The service, led by His Grace Archbishop George Stack, was a beautiful occasion during which the Confirmandi were anointed with chrism and Archbishop George laid his hands on their heads, signifying the descending of the Holy Spirit. The Confirmandi received the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit: Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety and Fear of the Lord. The service was accompanied



by wonderful singing by the St John Lloyd RC Primary School choir. We wish all of our pupils well on their continuing journey of faith.

MRS L MAY, COMMUNITY FOCUSED SCHOOL'S CO-ORDINATOR

First Campus student ambassador interviews

As part of their work towards the Prince's Trust Award, four of our Year 11 pupils took up the opportunity offered to them of sitting on an interview panel for First Campus. Every July, First Campus run a university residential for Year 9 pupils, a project that St Illtyd's pupils attend every year. To make this project a success, First Campus staff recruit a team of student ambassadors who look after staff and pupils from the different high schools during the residential.

Our four pupils- Jon-Benay Cook, Rhianna Gurney, Navjot Kaur and Kian Lewis first learnt interview techniques and what qualities the ideal candidate should possess. They then spent time taking part and observing group activities, followed by observing and taking notes of group presentations. They reported their findings to the First



Campus staff at the end of the day and this information will be used to help make the final selection of the successful candidates.

This was a really worthwhile experience for our pupils in which they learnt new skills and grew in confidence.

MRS L MAY, COMMUNITY FOCUSED SCHOOL CO-ORDINATOR

Sports/Chwaraeon

Sports Day 2019

Sports Day was a great success this year. Staff and pupils enjoyed the glorious sunshine and fast track, which made for some record breaking results! Sports Day 2019 continued the rivalry from each house. Competitors worked hard in the morning to collect points in the field events and the middle distance runs. School records came from Issac Laroche in the Year 10 Boys Shot Put and Kya Placide in the Year 9 Girls High Jump.

The afternoon session saw the whole school out on the field to cheer on their houses. Saint Mother Theresa came out ready, covered in their team colours and ready to battle, while Oscar Romero and Marie Curie fought for the top spot. It was excellent to see so many competitors. A record in the afternoon came from Geremia Darko competing for Oscar Romero in the Year 10 Boys 100m. It came down to the wire. Well done to all involved and a huge congratulations to this year's winner MARIE CURIE.



Geremia Darko



Issac Laroche



Kya Placide

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2019/20

Please note the following dates for the academic year:

TERM DATES

Autumn Term 2019

Starts: Monday 02/09/19

Half term: Monday

28/10/19 -

Friday 01/11/19

Ends: Friday 20/12/19

Spring Term 2020

Starts: Monday 06/01/20

Half term: Monday

17/02/20 -

Friday 21/02/20

Ends: Friday 03/04/20

Summer Term 2020

Starts: Monday 20/04/20

Half term: Monday

25/05/20 - Friday

29/05/20

Ends: Monday 20/07/20

INSET DAYS – Monday 2/9/19 & Tuesday 3/9/19, Friday 13/12/19, Friday 31/1/20 and Monday 20/7/20.

The school will be closed for the May Day Bank Holiday on Monday 4/5/20

Did you know we're on Twitter?



Follow us on Twitter for all the latest match results, news, fixtures and 5x60 activities.
@StilltydsPEdept

Sports/Chwaraeon

(cont./parhad)

Eve Jones – Platinum Young Ambassador

Year 10 pupil Eve Jones uses her role as a Platinum Young Ambassador to inspire young people in her school and community to be healthy and active. Her main goal is to show people how sport can be enjoyable.

She leads netball sessions in her school to give more girls in particular the opportunity to participate in a fun and safe environment and has recently started coaching tag rugby.

She hopes to use these experiences to build her own confidence, and pursue a future career in sport. Fantastic work Eve!

Eve's Top Tip for Coaches: "Believe in your own abilities and don't be and afraid to ask for advice."



U15 Girls Athletics

St. Illtyd's have had an excellent Athletics season this year. We have represented the school at Leckwith at every age and many competing in events they have not previously competed in. The highlight of the season came from the U15 Girls who qualified for the Cardiff and Vale B Final. The girls competed fantastically, filling every event.



Well done Kya and Michael!

A huge congratulations to two Year 9 students who have been selected to compete for Cardiff and Vale Schools at the Welsh Schools Championships on Saturday 6th July. Kya Placide is double County Schools Champion in the 100m and 200m and Michael Tang being the County Champion in the Boys High Jump. Each will be representing the County in their events. Good Luck!



Cardiff Schools Rugby

A huge congratulations to Zak Ellis-Hooper, Evan Hill (both Year 9) and Luke Jones (Year 8) who have been selected for the Cardiff Schools Rugby squad. These pupils have been through a rigorous selection process over the last few weeks, before being selected to represent Cardiff. Good luck in your upcoming training and matches boys!

Year 10 Boys Baseball

The Year 10 baseball team played a timed innings at Corpus Christi. Both teams played well in very difficult conditions. A solid overall team performance resulted in a closely fought fixture. Corpus Christi won the game 44-35. We will be looking to play a return fixture in the near future!

