



# Meet the Senior Prefects 2021-22 team



At the end of September, Head of Year 11 Emma Love invited Year 11 pupils to apply for the role of Head Boy and Head Girl. The applications were very strong from the 21 pupils that applied. After much consideration, **Jayden Hutchison** and **Emma Spencer** (1) are the new Head Boy and Head Girl for the academic year 2021-22. Following this, the following pupils were chosen to be Heads of Houses:

- **Ffion Higson** (2) – SMT (Saint Mother Teresa)

- **Bethan Statton** (3)– TGT (Tanni Grey Thompson)
- **Ewan May** (4)– MLK (Martin Luther King)
- **David Mangenza** (5)– JP2 (Saint John Paul II)
- **Bienvenu Masikini** (6)– NM (Nelson Mandela)
- **Alesha Lane** – (7) OR (Saint Oscar Romero)
- **Kendall Price** (8)– MC (Marie Curie)

Congratulations to Jayden, Emma and all of the Heads of Houses. We wish you well in your roles over the coming year.

## Advent at St Illtyd's

The beginning of the season of Advent was marked at St Illtyd's with a week of assemblies for all year groups delivered by Head of Religious Education, David Brown. Throughout Advent, pupils have been using daily prayer resources in their tutor groups, focusing on Advent and preparing for the birth of Christ. Our photo shows our beautiful crib and Jesse tree on display in reception.



## HEAD'S MESSAGE | NEGES Y PENNAETH

Welcome to the Christmas Edition of the New Illtydian! You will find it full of the activities and achievements of our pupils here at St Illtyd's.

As you are more than aware, this term and last year has not been without its challenges for us all. Despite these though the pupils and staff have continued to do all that they can to make school as normal as possible. In doing so they have ensured that all continue to make progress. It has been impressive to see and the pupils and families of St Illtyd's should be proud of all that they have achieved.

Christmas brings with it the promise of rebirth and renewal. Like many we look forward to the New Year and



the opportunity to start afresh, renew our approaches and develop to be all that we can be.

The growth of the person and the gospel values that they display is an essential part of our mission here at the school. Patience, care, respect, tolerance, compassion and love are all values that we wish to see and that we strive to promote amongst our young people every day – at home and at school.

Some days are easier than others but it is by these values that we are all judged. As we move through this pandemic and beyond it is these very qualities which will stand us in good stead and allow us all to bounce back and prosper. In the words of St Francis of Assisi,

**“Preach the gospel at all times – use words if you have to.”**

Have a happy, merry and peaceful Christmas.  
**Mr DB Thomas, Head Teacher**

## Year 7 Craft Club

This term has seen the start of a new after school club for Year 7 – Craft Club. The club is run by EAL Teacher Maggie Powell and has proved very popular with 16 pupils signing up. This term pupils have made book marks, paper flowers and Christmas wreaths. Craft Club continues every Tuesday, 3.00-4.00pm in AR2. Please see Mrs May for a letter if you would like to join.



## Eco Club Update – Autumn Term 2021

### Litter

Litter is a main problem in our school with the caretakers collecting 2-3 bags after every break-time everyday due to the excessive amount of littering in the yard. So why is there so much litter? This could be because there are not enough bins in each yard. These bins are so spread out it causes less people to want to use a bin. This litter creates a bad image for our school. But just putting your litter into the bin has a massive impact on our school because: it saves time for the caretakers who clean up after breaks, lunches and after school, but it makes us look good too.

### Our action plan

Our school needs some new ways to stop littering. We get it, it is too far to walk half a mile to the nearest bin, and we are planning to get more bins to put around the school. But just because there aren't bins all over the yard, it does not mean that you can litter everywhere.

Once we sort out our littering situation, in the summer we are planning to make our own school garden with flowers and maybe fruits and vegetables. This would be made in the space behind the gates on the Year 8 part of the field.

### Our meetings

Our meetings are led once a week by Isabelle Haines, who is the Chair of Eco Club. She keeps everything in line and makes sure we are up to date. Evan Vaisey, our Secretary, writes down the minutes and main things we talk about each session. Madison Grant is our Evaluations Officer and her role is to make sure that we measure our actions before and after to ensure we are making a difference in the work we do. I am the Communications Officer so my role is to write up articles for the school magazine and ensure our work is communicated to the whole school community. Every meeting, depending on what time of year it is, we have a different topic. Around this time of year, our main topic is about how we can prevent litter around our school area. We are planning to spread awareness of this through assemblies where we will all go up and tell everyone about the effects of littering. Then after that, we plan to ask Year 7 pupils to make posters about littering and put them over the school. Hopefully, this will raise awareness about keeping the Earth, as well as St Illtyd's, tidy and safe.

### Wates Residential Visit

A few weeks ago, the Eco Club went to the Wates Residential site next door to our school to learn about environmentally friendly buildings. We learnt that they put electrical chargers on their new houses that they are building at the moment. We also learnt that they build houses inside a warehouse, then take the house to the site over on a crane. This makes the work of building much faster, and it is so much easier since if they were to build a house, outside in Welsh British weather, it would be a serious health hazard. They told us that if the temperature outside was under 4 degrees Celsius, then they would not be able to lay the bricks down. Although some people may think that being on a building site is very messy and that no one takes pride in their workspace, the Wates site was neat and tidy and they take care in their place of work. The staff from Wates were nice and welcoming and we look forward to working with them in the future. We would like to thank Charlie Hargreaves, Community Investment Manager at Wates Residential, and all the team for their time on our visit.

SUMMER YACOOB, 8RB, COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER OF ECO CLUB

# Learning about the power of language

For the second year running, St Illtyd's has been taking part in the MFL Mentoring Project. The MFL Mentoring Project encourages the study of international languages at GCSE and beyond via a programme of face-to-face and online mentoring. This is done by partnering university students with secondary schools across Wales to increase learners' motivation for languages and to raise aspirations for higher education. Through a programme of six weekly sessions, young people are introduced to the diversity of languages, cultures and peoples in our world.

This year a group of six Year 9 pupils have been meeting every Wednesday after school. We have been partnered with student mentor Sheena Radja, a postgraduate student at Swansea University. Every week, Sheena has been guiding our pupils to complete the activities and engaging with them via Microsoft Teams, sharing her passion for languages along the way. Each week, a different theme is explored – Language as Identity, Language as Culture, Language as Connection, Language as Performance, Language as Translation and Language as Journey.

Our pupils have thoroughly enjoyed the MFL Club and it is hoped that this club will inspire them to choose to study languages at GCSE and beyond. We would like to thank Sheena Radja along with Glesni Owen and all the team at the MFL Student Mentoring Project.

[www.mflmentoring.co.uk](http://www.mflmentoring.co.uk)

LUISA MAY, COMMUNITY FOCUSED SCHOOLS CO-ORDINATOR



## Getting creative with coding!

Every year, pupils from St Illtyd's take part in several activities with First Campus. First Campus is a reaching wider HEFCW-funded programme aimed at widening access to higher education. All the First Campus programmes are delivered in partnership with higher education institutions and are designed to provide new opportunities for learning and to support the delivery of the curriculum in schools.

Previous activities that St Illtyd's pupils have taken part in with First Campus over the past nine years have included art & design clubs, a Study Skills Day, creative writing projects, Lab in a Lorry, RAP Tour, Scribblers Tours, Mission to Mars, STEM Live, Stock Market Challenge, University Inspiration Days and University Residential, to name just a few! We are extremely grateful for these First Campus activities and pupils have gained a lot from them over the years.

This November, two Year 8 classes had the opportunity to take part in a creative coding

session. Pupils familiarised themselves with Javascript coding language and by the end of the session were able to write simple code, thereby increasing their digital skills and understanding. Pupils learnt how to "decorate" a room by using coding. The sessions were thoroughly enjoyed by all pupils and enhanced their learning within the new curriculum Areas of Learning and Experience in Science & Technology and within Maths & Numeracy. Next term, these two classes have been invited to visit Cardiff Metropolitan University for the day to discover more about the EUREKA Robotics project that they have been working on there.

We would like to thank Parastoo Porhonar from Cardiff Metropolitan University for facilitating the sessions and Alexandra Nita, First Campus Officer, for arranging these sessions for us.

[www.firstcampus.org](http://www.firstcampus.org)

LUISA MAY, COMMUNITY FOCUSED SCHOOLS CO-ORDINATOR

## Congratulations!

Congratulations to **Oscar Kubieniec** (pictured) who passed his Grade 1 guitar exam with a distinction. And congratulations also to **Lauren Burns** who passed her Grade 2 guitar with a distinction. Well done to both of you!



# St Illtyd's goes racing!



For the past two years, a small group of current Year 11 pupils have been working on an exciting STEM project – Greenpower Education Trust's Electric Car Project. The project is funded by Siemens PLC and race days are funded by Renishaw.

The project involves building an electric car from a kit. The team of pupils (then in Year 9) stayed behind every week after school to build the car. We were extremely lucky to have help building the car with ambassadors from both Siemens and Renishaw. Unfortunately, the Covid pandemic put a halt to the build, but during the summer term, the car was finally completed. As you can see from the photos, the St Illtyd's car is painted in the school colours of green and gold. Our car is currently on display in reception if anyone would like to see it.

With the car built, we were finally able to attend our first race event and compete against other schools. On Sunday 5th September, the team attended Castle Combe Race Circuit in Chippenham to compete in the Greenpower event. After such a long wait, it was amazing to finally get to this point. The day was fantastic and thoroughly enjoyed by all pupils. The day consisted of two practice sessions followed by four races in which we were aiming for the highest accumulative mileage. Our car came 33rd out of 44 cars and the team were delighted to be awarded the "Best Newcomer" award.

All in all, this has been a superb project in which pupils have learnt new STEM skills and gained great joy. We would like to thank all the team at Greenpower – in particular Olivia Proctor-Moore, Gavin Woodruff and Stewart

Coulden-Smith who have been so supportive and answered all our questions throughout the project. Thank you to Siemens PLC and Renishaw for sponsoring the car and race day respectively and to the teams from both companies for their help with the build. And finally, we would like to thank our ambassador from Siemens Energy Ltd – Ciara Doyle, for all her help and support.

Our plan now is to seek funding for a second car so that we can offer this exciting STEM project to a new set of pupils. If any businesses would like to support us with funding, please get in touch to discuss this in more detail e: [Mayl23@hwbcymru.net](mailto:Mayl23@hwbcymru.net). For more information on Greenpower Education Trust, please visit [www.greenpower.co.uk](http://www.greenpower.co.uk).  
**LUISA MAY, COMMUNITY FOCUSED SCHOOLS CO-ORDINATOR**

# Spirituality & Chaplaincy at St Illtyd's

## What is the Jesuit Pupil Profile?

St Illtyd's has adopted the 'Jesuit Pupil Profile.' The Profile is a response to the question:

**'What kind of person would you like to be?'**

*Pope Benedict XVI – 17th September 2010*

The St Illtyd's Pupil Profile offers a vision of what it is to be a good person and aids the moral and spiritual development of our pupils and staff.



At St Illtyd's we focus on a set of virtues each half term. In the first half of the Autumn term, pupils were encouraged to be **Eloquent and Truthful** and in this half term, they were encouraged to be **Learned and Wise**. These virtues formed the focus of assemblies and prayer resources, with pupils being encouraged to use them wherever possible.

**We will help our pupils and staff to grow by encouraging them to be eloquent and truthful in what they say about themselves, others and the world.**

**We will help our pupils and staff to be learned, finding God in all things; and wise in the way they use their learning for the good of all.**

## Parish Leavers Mass 2021

On 15th July 2021, Year 6 pupils from St John Lloyd RC Primary School and St Cadocs Catholic Primary School came together to give thanks for their time at primary school and to look ahead to the next stage in their lives at St Illtyd's Catholic High School.



Pupils were welcomed to the St Illtyd's community by Head Teacher David Thomas, Deputy Head Paul Moriarty and Head of Religious Education, David Brown. Also present were Head of Year 7 Alex Briscombe and Assistant Head of Year 7, Lynne MacIntosh. Mass was led by Father Brian Gray who is the parish priest for St Cadocs Church, St John Lloyd Church and Blessed Sacrament Church as well as being the Chair of Governors at St Illtyd's. Pupils were joined by Head Teacher from St John Lloyd, Claire Hart and Head Teacher from St Cadocs, Rachael Fisher along with staff and governors from both schools. The Mass was a great celebration, enjoyed by all.



## Wicked!

What a great trip the Performing Arts Department had to London. We disembarked the coach at Covent Garden to watch some street performers. We then hotfooted it across London taking in some of the sights (from the London Eye and Houses of Parliament to Westminster Abbey),

before arriving at the Apollo Victoria Theatre to watch a breathtaking, spine-tingling performance of Wicked the musical. The moral of the story, to not judge a book by its cover and the power of friendship, is a great one. A fantastic time was had by all!

**JULIE SMITH, HEAD OF MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS**



## The trip to be remembered



During October half term, a group of ten Year 10 pupils along with Head Teacher David Thomas and teacher Ben Weekes spent six days on a sailing residential on-board Johanna Lucretia of the Island Trust. Here three of the pupils recount their adventure.

They met up at the school at around 12 o'clock, and the bus arrived minutes later. The group of friends were excited for this trip and had no idea what chaos would unfold whilst away.

After a fun bus ride of laughs, jokes and treats (found in the services midway), the group stopped at the docks awaiting The Island Trust's crew to arrive. After ten minutes, Mr Thomas realised the gang were an hour early. This didn't stop them! They walked to the nearby beach and watched it for half an hour or so and a crewmember (Dan) came to greet them.

The gang followed Dan with their bags and walked through the dockyard, with their heavy bags weighing them down. A solid 5-10 minutes later across a boardwalk, they looked up in awe and saw the boat: The Johanna Lucretia. As the largest vessel in the dock, Johanna Lucretia is a

gigantic boat with comfy seats and beds below decks, and a range of cabin sizes (two four-bed bedrooms and two two-bed bedrooms for the gang to stay in).

After a safety talk, they set off! The boat set off at a lightning speed of 4-6 knots. It doesn't sound like it was very fast, but it was enough to make the gang dizzy and weird, aside from the incredible N'rell and his endurance to keep strong (and the teachers).

The tasks to do on the boat were as follows:

- **Raising the sails:** The crew had to yell (in synergy) "2...6...HEAVE!" and pull on the ropes of the vessel, this attracted attention from other boats and people.
- **Scrubbing the deck:** After an early rise, the crew ate a scrumptious breakfast and had intervals on what to do in groups called "watches." These were the sides of the boat, simply put. Port side and starboard side. Scrubbing the deck got everyone engaged on one watch while the other watch cleaned up breakfast, and, unfortunately, the toilets.
- **Cooking meals:** Cooking the meals was what

## Careers Wales – Autumn Update

This term has seen us visit a film studio, a building site, a hair salon and attend a huge event dedicated to the creative industry. Employer engagement is an important part of careers guidance as it means pupils get a hands-on perspective of what to expect in the workplace. Adrian Cole, Business Engagement Adviser for Careers Wales is always on hand to arrange these opportunities on our behalf.

We started this term with an amazing visit to Urban Myth Film Studios in Newport (1), where pupils had the opportunity to take a full tour of the studio, currently filming War of the Worlds 2. We were allowed into an exact replica of the space shuttle & orbited the earth before having front row seats as the crew filmed a scene for the new series. A question-and-answer session proved interesting as we found out about all the different jobs involved in producing such a high-profile series; who would have thought a carpenter on set will average £250 per day!

Back down on Earth we were welcomed at the Cardiff Construction Academy courtesy of Wates Construction at the former Eastern High School site (2). We learnt that the site will see 214 new homes developed, including 44 Community Living flats for older people at Addison House, before answering questions about safety on construction sites and a question-and-answer session on the viewing platform led by the site manager. There

will be more visits here and the opportunity in the summer for pupils interested in a career in construction to gain work experience and their CSCS (site safety) card.

YUME Hair Salon (3&4) provided us with the opportunity to see first-hand the demands of working in the hair and beauty sector. Giovanna McCarthy, the Salon Owner & Managing Director, told us all about her career and owning two Cardiff salons, before we observed the stylists at work. It was beneficial to hear the story of how one of the stylists started as Saturday staff and four years later is a qualified stylist. Our pupils impressed the owner so much that she has offered one of them the opportunity to work on Saturdays and three CVs have been sent into her!

Finally, the Creative Pathways careers event showcased all the different opportunities in this exciting sector. We attended workshops on fashion, social media and radio presenting before finding out about apprenticeships at the BBC & learning how to take professional photographs.

Next year we are planning a visit to Porsche to find out about apprenticeships, more visits to Wates and walk arounds at Cardiff and Vale College.

I can be contacted on t: **07931166741** e: **nick.sparrow@careerswales.gov.wales** for anything to do with pupils preparing to leave school and next steps.

NICK SPARROW, CAREERS ADVISER, CAREERS WALES





everyone was looking forward to doing. The meals could be anything from jacket potato with Spaghetti Bolognese to the finest curry (thanks Harry). The young master chefs all prepared delicious meals.

• **Controlling the boat:** This included steering (very relaxing), raising the anchor, looking out for red and blue buoys, which bob up and down in the water and indicate which side of the water you should be on. It was a nice way to keep busy in the half term.

On the vessel, the route we took was often disrupted due to weather. The Island Trust fleet of vessels sail in the waters along the South Devon and South Cornwall coast, sailing east or west depending on the weather conditions. The

crew visited places such as the Tamar Bridge, which is over the Tamar River; The Hoe Park Memorial, near the lighthouse which was very windy; and even Saltash.

The crew even had individual tasks to execute on the voyage, for example, Cohen had to give information about Blackbeard the pirate while Kenneth had to tell a spine-tingling horror story, which left the crew in fear. Abdul had to ask ten questions to the crew while Esrom sadly failed to deliver his rap/poem about the voyage, which is truly saddening. But it was a fantastic experience overall!

**KENNETH MANZENZA, COHEN FENDER AND N'RELL BRIDGEMAN, 10HT**

*All the pupils and staff at St Illtyd's would like to thank the Reardon Smith Nautical Trust for their generous financial support towards this trip. We would also like to thank everyone at the Island Trust – both office-based staff and crew members – for their financial contribution towards this trip and for looking after us so well whilst on board.*

# Sports/Chwaraeon



Year 7 & 8 Netball



Year 10 Netball



Year 7 Rugby

## Netball, Rugby & Football news

### Year 7 & 8 Netball

On 17th November, the Year 7 and 8 netball teams enjoyed great fixtures against Mary Immaculate Catholic High School. Well done to Year 7 Player of the Match – **Mia Jones** and Year 8 Player of the Match – **Lara Bernard**.

### Year 10 Netball

Back in September, the Year 10 Netball team enjoyed a fixture against Eastern High School. Player of the match was St Illtyd's **Amelia Francis** – well done Amelia!

### Year 7 Rugby

The Year 7 rugby team have developed and honed their skills and techniques over recent weeks. There have been good numbers of pupils at training, which has helped the team's performances in their recent matches. Year 7 were beaten by a point away to Eastern High School at the start of the academic year but have since bounced back with an emphatic win against Cardiff West High School. We wish them the best of luck in their upcoming Cardiff Plate fixture!

### Year 8 Rugby

The Year 8 rugby team have played in some tough local matches over recent weeks. They have put in strong performances to beat St Teilos High School and Cardiff West High School. Forwards and backs have linked up well in open play to score some length of the field tries. We wish them well in their upcoming Cardiff Plate fixture.

### Year 9 Rugby

Year 9 have played a strong and exciting brand of rugby over recent weeks. They have beaten St Teilos High School, scoring some well constructed tries from their own half. They have also put in a big performance against Bro Edern High School, losing narrowly under the flood lights at Cardiff Met. We wish them all the best for their upcoming Cardiff Plate fixture!

### Year 11 Rugby

The Year 11 Rugby 7's team put in several resilient performances at the annual Cardiff Schools Rugby 7's Tournament. Despite having several players drop out of the squad, the team played

exceptionally well, losing narrowly to Plasmawr and Bishop of Llandaff. They finished strongly beating Plasmawr in the return fixture, finishing a tough tournament on a high. A great effort by all the boys who took part.

### Year 7 Football

The Year 7 football team travelled to St Cyres High School at the start of the academic year. Unfortunately, they came across one of the cup favourites in St Cyres, who proved too strong on the day. Well done to all players involved!

### Year 8 Football

The Year 8 football team put in a resilient performance against Radyr High School. Despite Radyr making a comeback, St Illtyd's managed to hold on and take a 4-3 win. In the next round, they faced Mary Immaculate High School. Despite having large amounts of possession and some good chances on goal, they were beaten 3-1. A great effort was put in by all members of the squad.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

# 2022

Please note the following dates for the academic year:

## TERM DATES

### SPRING TERM 2022

**Starts:** Tuesday 04/01/22

**Half term:** Monday

21/02/22 - Friday

25/02/2022

**Ends:** Friday 08/04/22

### SUMMER TERM 2022

**Starts:** Monday 25/04/22

**Half term:** Monday

30/05/22 - Friday

03/06/22

**Ends:** Friday 22/07/22

### INSET DAYS – Friday

28/01/22, Monday

28/03/22 and Friday

24/06/22.

The school will be closed for the May Day Bank Holiday on Monday 02/05/22

# Sports/Chwaraeon



## Congratulations to our Sporting Stars!

### Congratulations Millie!

Huge congratulations to Year 9 pupil **Millie Gold** who came first in the Welsh U15 3000m Championship Final. Not only did she win, but she ran the distance in a phenomenal 10 minutes 28.02 seconds! Millie was also selected for Team Wales at London Mini Marathon and Welsh Schools SIAB International. In the U15 girls race at the London Mini Marathon, Millie came 22nd with a time of 9 minutes 4 seconds and was the first Welsh finisher. We are all very proud of you Millie! As if this wasn't enough, Millie has also represented the school in the first U14 cross country league fixture and won! An amazing achievement. Well done Millie on all of your achievements and we wish you all the best for the future!

### Congratulations Shyla!

Huge congratulations to Year 9 pupil **Shyla Barrett** who represented Wales with her team in the Dance World Cup. She took part in 16 dances and won the gold medal with her team. We are also delighted to announce that Shyla has been selected to represent Cardiff and the Vale Schools in the U14 netball team. Well done Shyla and all the best for the future!

### Congratulations Ava!

Year 7 pupil **Ava Placide** took part in the Welsh Classic Gymnastics Competition in September and came first in the bronze category and first overall in the bronze competition. She will next be competing in the Classic Gymnastics Championships in Guildford in November. Well done Ava and all the very best for the Championships!

### Congratulations Lucas!

Congratulations to Year 8 pupil **Lucas Vega** who has signed for Newport County Academy. We are all very proud of you! Keep working hard!

### Congratulations Morgan!

Huge congratulations to Year 10 pupil **Morgan Williams** on passing his Taekwondo black belt grading. This is a huge achievement, considering that out of 1,000 students that take up Taekwondo, only one will become a black belt. Well done Morgan on this fantastic achievement! Then, in his first competition as a black belt, Morgan won a silver medal in the junior heavyweight category and won gold in the sparring tag team. Morgan – you continue to amaze us!



Morgan Williams



Millie takes gold!

WELSH SENIOR & U15 T&F CHAMPIONSHIPS

Place	Bib	Name	Cat	Cat Pos	TEAM	Time
1	225	Millie GOLD	U15G	1	CARD	10:28.02
2	263	Mabli PHILLIPS	U15G	2	CARD	10:49.81
3	218	Ella DAVIS	U15G	3	WREX	11:41.98
4	281	Claire WOOD	U15G	4	CARMA	11:47.57
5	280	Sophie HARTLEY-GREEN	U15G	5	SWAN	12:17.23
6	273	Arlanah THOMAS	U15G	6	BRIDE	13:14.03



Millie Gold



Morgan wins his Black belt



Ava Placide



Lucas Vega



Shyla Barrett