



St Illtyd's wins Young Carers Award

St Illtyd's would proudly like to announce that we have won the award for Best Practice of Young Carers in Cardiff and we are delighted to share this good news with you. We are only one of two secondary schools in the whole of Wales who have been able to achieve this so far. We feel truly honoured to receive this prestigious award.

As a school we are all trained to identify and support Young Carers within our school.

Mr Fleet and Mrs Macintosh are the first point of contacts when a new young carer is identified or needs any support.

Mr Fleet and Macintosh work closely with Lisa Thomas and Julie Griffiths from the Young Carers Team in assuring the correct support is given to the young persons and their families.

Pictured receiving the award from Lisa Thomas from Carers Trust South East Wales are Head Teacher David Thomas and Assistant Head of Year 11 Lynne Macintosh.



Further information on the Young Carers programme at St Illtyd's can be accessed on the school website: www.stilltyds.org.uk/young-carers/
LYNNE MACINTOSH, ASSISTANT HEAD OF YEAR 11



Thank you Asda!

We would like to thank the Laptops for Schools team at Asda for the donation of ten laptops and support bundles containing headphones, dongle and data to support our pupils' learning. The donations have been made possible thanks to Asda's partners Dell and Vodaphone, so we would like to thank them also. We are extremely grateful to colleagues at our local Asda Pentwyn store for nominating us for this donation.

Head Teacher David Thomas said, "We can't thank Asda and Dell enough for choosing our school to receive these laptops, they will go a long way in helping to break down digital barriers and help with any education remotely now and in the future."

HEAD'S MESSAGE | NEGES Y PENNAETH

Welcome to the latest edition of the New Illtydian and one that concludes this challenging year for us all. The run up to Christmas was more than tough at times and a prelude to the lockdown that followed in January. Many of us found it harder than the previous lockdown for so many reasons – not least the weather.



Despite all that was going on, looking back it is amazing that we found our way through it and in many cases prospered. Leading the way were our young people and the resilience they have shown since returning is a credit to them and to you, their families. We all know it has been far from easy for anyone but our strength as a community and the relationships we have had stood us in good stead and allowed us to bounce back quicker and stronger than expected.

That is what we have done. Year 11 hit the ground running and it has been a case of working hard to secure their grades and ensure that they all achieve what they deserve. We wish them all well in their future endeavours. The efforts of Year 11 have been mirrored in all the other year groups who have impressed with their attitude and maturity in making up for lost time. A lot of

this can be seen in this edition and it has been a privilege to see the school come "alive" again. We are getting back to some sort of normality, but we are still operating under Covid conditions with all that that entails.

I must take this opportunity to thank you all for your patience and understanding when we have positive cases. Being asked to self-isolate is the last thing any of us want to hear but the way that everyone has dealt with it has been exemplary. Also, the amount of good will messages we receive for the young people and their families who have had a positive test has been overwhelming. Despite the knock-on effects of such a case, the care and consideration for others always comes through. It makes a real difference. Thank you.

The school continues to improve and emerging from Estyn monitoring this year is further evidence of that. As a result, we are in a very good position to carry on raising standards and to continue supporting all our pupils to achieve all that they can. Next year is going to be an exciting time and we will keep you informed of how St Illtyd's is developing further.

Until then have a great summer. Enjoy the break and we look forward to welcoming new and existing pupils back in September. Take care.

MR D B THOMAS, HEAD TEACHER

The 1959ers



Two 'Old Boys' from the old St Illtyd's Grammar School for boys in Splott who started in 1959, and were in contact with each other, decided in 2008 that it would be a good idea to hold a school reunion each year. Both of those boys contacted more 59's and, by the following year, there were eighteen who met in the 'Gatekeeper Pub' in Westgate Street. There was a lot of catching up on old times, stories about the rugby and cricket teams, the interaction with the teachers, school trips, general banter and leg-pulling, and after a few pints (or several), they all gave a rendition of the school song. The pub is usually busy on Saturdays, especially when there is an event at the Principality Stadium. After the school song there was sometimes a lot of clapping, but the 59ers thought it must be sympathy.

When possible, the group now hold annual reunions every first Saturday in July at the Gatekeepers. There are now 35 names on the email hub, which is almost a third of the 1959 starters. Not all can attend the reunions as some live in America, Australia, France, Gogo (near Malta) and England. Since the meetings started in 2008 the 59ers sadly lost four of the original reunion members. The mood at the meetings is like being part of a 'Band of Brothers'. There is no feeling of superiority amongst the group even though some have had more successful careers.

In June 2019, the annual reunion was held at The Cardiff and County Club in Westgate Street to celebrate 60 years of friendship with a 'shirt and tie' sit-down meal.

CHOOSING CAREFULLY

A lot has changed since the Grammar School days. Back then there were no GCSEs. Grammar schools had GCEs and Secondary schools CSEs. In St Illtyd's there was no coursework towards results, only exams. The standard was high, and if a pupil achieved seven passes, that would have been considered excellent, with five being the target for A level entry. The choice of subjects to be taken in exams was not as varied as today, and from their second year in 1960 onwards, each boy had to choose his subjects carefully to suit his career prospects. Subjects available included Religion, Mathematics (Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry), English language, English literature, Welsh, Latin, French, Spanish, Science (Chemistry, Biology, Physics), History, Geography, Music, and Art.

Recently, one of our group thought it would be a good idea to ask if there were any old photographs in the archives at St Illtyd's Catholic High School dating from our time at the school. He telephoned Luisa May, Community Focused Schools Coordinator, and Luisa very kindly invited two of us to visit the school to look at some of the pictures stored in the archives. It was a really interesting visit. Luisa gave us copies of many historical photographs



Brian O'Leary and Patrick Corcoran

The 2009 reunion



GREEN AND GOLD (SCHOOL SONG)

*To green fields set with golden flowers,
In ancient days St Illtyd came,
And there he set his College towers,
Where scholars flocked, drawn by his name.*

*GREEN AND GOLD, GREEN AND GOLD,
Strong be our hearts and bold,
To keep unsullied our great name,
Adding to ancient glory modern fame,
And ever honoured hold
The GREEN AND GOLD.*

*St Illtyd's deeds from age to age,
Have shone in spite of Time's fell hand,
And we in pride of heritage,
Blazon his name throughout the land.*

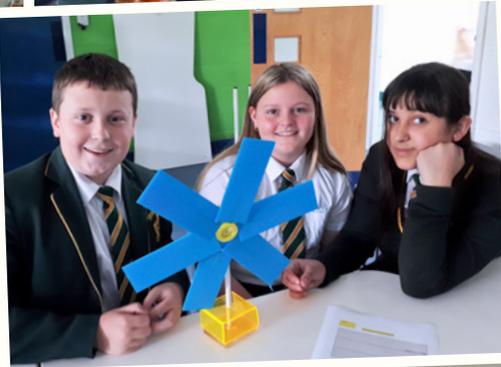
GREEN AND GOLD, etc.

*Green and Gold our banners fly,
'Signum Fidei' still prevails,
Let 'Duw a Digon' be our cry,
For School, our Home, and ancient Wales.*

GREEN AND GOLD, etc.

and showed us around the school. It has expanded a lot and the pupils are now boys and girls, not just boys like it was in our time. We were very impressed to see the hard work going on in all the classes as Luisa showed us around and there seemed a really good spirit everywhere we went. It's nice that the school, originally founded in 1923, is still full of life despite all the problems we have all had to face during the pandemic. Although our visit was a journey back in time (it's 62 years since we started at St Illtyd's) – our visit made us feel young again!

BRIAN O'LEARY AND PATRICK CORCORAN, CLASS OF 1959



Big Bang

Year 7 were lucky enough to engage with a week's worth of workshops looking at renewable energy with the Big Bang. This was a hands on workshop where they could design and build their own wind turbines. They then tested these to see who could produce the highest voltage, with one team achieving a record 19 volts! They have also taken part in a competition to design a new road sign promoting clean air in Wales. Well done to all Year 7 pupils involved.

CHRIS HALLIDAY, HEAD OF SCIENCE

F24 Car Club update

Back in Autumn 2019, we reported on the F24 Electric Car Club that the then Year 9 pupils had been involved in as an after-school club. Unfortunately, due to the lock downs, work on the car was halted. We are pleased to report that work on the car has now resumed, with the bodywork now complete. Our plan is to take the St Illtyd's car to Castle Combe Race Circuit in September so that our pupils get a chance to race the car against other schools. Look out for an update in our next issue.

LUIISA MAY, COMMUNITY FOCUSED SCHOOL'S CO-ORDINATOR



Coding Success Club

Every year we invite BAE Systems, the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force into the school for a STEM show for our Year 7 and 8 pupils. Unfortunately, this year this has not been possible so instead, BAE Systems, the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force have fully funded a Coding Success after-school club for Year 7, facilitated by the Smallpeice Trust.

The Coding Success programme is designed to excite young people about STEM and the school has given two LEGO Education SPIKE Prime kits to use in the club. Every Tuesday, pupils enjoy coding and programming the robots in the kits. The club is run by Mr Stuart Ellis, Teacher of ICT & Business and we are grateful for his time and commitment to the project. Pupils have been thoroughly enjoying the sessions and provided the following feedback:

"Coding Club is fun and enjoyable. We have been learning how to code a robot. We are learning about algorithms and have been using block coding, Python and Java." Logan Collis

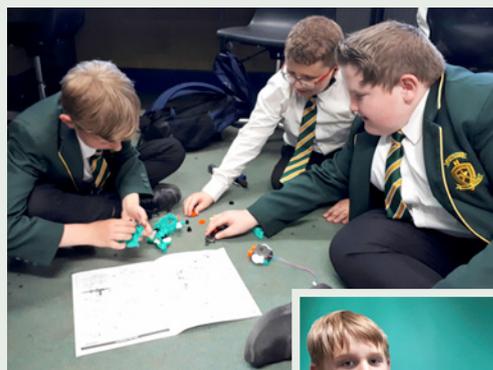
"Coding Club is very good, and I've learnt that the smallest pieces are the most important pieces." Evan Vaisey

"I love coming to Coding Club. I wanted to learn how to code and spend time with people with the same interests as me." Max Rutter

"Coding Club is a great place to go and relax at the end of the school day. I am having fun whilst working with my group." Lucas Howells

"Coding Club is fun. We are gaining a knowledge of programming and learning how to work as a team." Anon

LUIISA MAY, COMMUNITY FOCUSED SCHOOL'S CO-ORDINATOR





Farewell Year 11!

The time has come for our Year 11's to close the book on their life here at St Illtyd's and for them to start a new one. Although we are sad to see them leave, we are also so excited to see what the future holds for them. From all of us at St Illtyd's we wish you all the best. Now go chase those dreams!

ADAM FLEET, HEAD OF FACULTY FOR PROGRESS & WELLBEING/HEAD OF YEAR 11



Art & Design Club

This term we have run the National Saturday Clubs "Art & Design Club" at St Illtyd's as an after-school club. We are extremely grateful to First Campus at Cardiff Metropolitan University for giving us this opportunity and for providing all the teaching materials and resources for the club. Huge thanks to Head of Art, Miss Tamara Cosslett and Art Teacher, Mrs Gaynor Hurley for running the club every Thursday.

Here, Year 9 pupil Courtney Barrett gives her account of her time in the club.

Art Club is a club on Thursdays from 3.00-4.00pm for students who enjoy art and are looking to take the subject for GCSEs. As there are less distractions and more students that are looking to extend their art talent, we can have one on one with the art teachers. They make the club fun and full of opportunities, we look forward to attending every Thursday.

We have so far covered a range of art techniques and materials including collage, watercolours and stamp making. It all in all is a fantastic club that is able to help students expand their talents in art whilst preparing them for GCSEs in a relaxed and enjoyable environment.



Congratulations

Rachel!

All of the staff would like to wish Rachel Jones, our numeracy teaching assistant, congratulations and best wishes following her wedding on Sunday 4th July. The wedding was postponed last year because of Covid, and so we are all delighted for her.





Goodbye and good luck!

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.

Clare Bettridge

We say farewell to Ms Clare Bettridge who joined our school in December 2015. Ms Bettridge is retiring after over 30 years of teaching children with English as an Additional Language. Ms Bettridge will be greatly missed by both staff and pupils whom she has supported in her role as EAL teacher. Ms Bettridge will be remembered for her caring and kind nature and for the outstanding support she has given to our children. She has been there for parents of EAL children when needed and she was always there for our EAL children during lockdown.



The support that Clare has provided in her role is impossible to quantify. She has often been the friendly face that pupils first encounter when they join the school, providing warmth and reassurance as well as practical help. She has formed incredibly strong and lasting relationships with many pupils and their families over the years, which is testament to how much she has been appreciated and valued.

Her care for students has always gone above and beyond her job description; she has worked tirelessly to support young people and colleagues in every aspect that they need. Often her work has gone unseen by most, but she has been invaluable to our whole community. In school, her positive and friendly presence will be sorely missed.

DAWN JENKINS, ASSISTANT HEAD TEACHER AND MYFANWY BOWERING, HEAD OF FACULTY FOR COMMUNICATIONS

Gemma Carroll

Hwyl fawr a phob lwc i Mrs Carroll! We wish Mrs Carroll lots of luck in her new job as a Welsh teacher in Radyr. Thank you for all of your hard work over the last two years; you will be missed!



RACHEL HILL, HEAD OF WELSH

Bethany Green

We say farewell to Mrs Green who joined our school in 2017. Mrs Green starts her new job in September where she will become a fully qualified accountant. Mrs Green has been invaluable to the Inclusion Team and has developed skills of empathy and a never-ending supply of patience. Her relationship with the children is second to none and she will always know how to calm down any child who is upset or angry. Mrs Green takes small group interventions for numeracy and has enabled our ALN children to make progress and to develop confidence in maths and numeracy. We wish her the very best of success for the future and I know that the children she has supported will miss her as much as we will.



DAWN JENKINS, ASSISTANT HEAD TEACHER

Karis Ponting

It has been a pleasure to have Karis working in the department this year. Karis started with us in October 2020 to cover an absence of a member of the department. She quickly became part of the team and built a strong relationship with the staff and pupils. After only half a term with us we went into lockdown where we had to deliver lessons online. Karis rose to this challenge of working online and since returning to school in March she has been a great asset; teaching her own classes, supporting other classes and stepping in to cover other subjects when needed. We are very sad to see her go but she is off to Bryn Celynnog Comprehensive School in September and they are very lucky to have such a great teacher join their team. I wish her all the best in her teaching career.

SARAH KIELY, HEAD OF MATHS AND ICT

Michael Stutt

Mr Stutt has played a huge part in the success of the R.E. Department and the wider school community in his time with us. He is a dedicated and hardworking teacher who has lived the gospel values every day in school. He is popular with both staff and students and will be missed by all who have had the pleasure to know him. We wish him well for his future career and hope that he keeps in touch with his St Illtyd's family.



DAVID BROWN, HEAD OF R.E.

Tam Elguezabal

Prior to joining us in January 2020 as a Cover Supervisor, Tam worked here on numerous occasions through an agency and when an opportunity arose, she secured a permanent post. During her time at St Illtyd's, she has worked well with all departments and been an asset to the school, showing her enthusiasm and bringing her infectious smile. We all wish her a fond farewell and good luck in her new post.

LYNDA HAWKINS, PA TO SLT

Charlotte Nickson

Miss Nickson has had amazing two years here at St Illtyd's and settled in the department so well. She has taken on all challenges thrown at her including distance learning and forming a great relationship with her form class. We as a PE Department are so proud of all the work she has done during her time here, and Brynteg are very lucky to have her from September.



STEPH MACLELLAN, HEAD OF PE

Cardiff Youth Service Gets Digital Week with Technocamps

Are you a young person aged 11-18 who is interested in computer science master classes? We will be looking at topics such as web developments and Python. The sessions will take place online on Microsoft Teams from August 16th-19th at 11:00-14:30. You do not have to attend all sessions if you do not wish to and would need a device to take part. From completing this form <https://forms.office.com/r/xyWHi7kdD3> you will be contacted by a Youth Worker to introduce themselves and ensure you have everything you need to join in the sessions. After you have taken part, you will receive a bag full of Cardiff Youth Service and Technocamps Merchandise.



SPOTLIGHT ON ENGLISH

Covid Writing Competition

At the start of this year, our English department ran a writing competition in which pupils were asked to write about their experiences during Covid. The winners, as decided by the Senior Leadership Team were as follows:

1st Place: Logan Llewellyn, Year 8 – “The Pandemic” – won a £20 Amazon voucher

2nd Place: Dylan Grainger, Year 8 – “My Covid 19 Experience” – won a £10 Amazon voucher

3rd Place: Henry Waite, Year 7 – “This Is Me” – won a £5 Amazon voucher
Grab a cup of tea, sit back and experience a trip down memory lane as you read the winning entries.

This is Me by Henry Waite

It was the year of 2020 when I first heard of this bug.
It started in China and stopped us from having a hug!
I heard it was on purpose, then it was a bat!
I'd wake in the morning, watch the news, wide eyed and sat.
Soon it was worldwide, and people were dying.
I felt nervous and scared. I felt my brain frying!
Shops, cafes and schools closed and we had to wear masks.
2 metre distancing, levels, tiers and schoolwork tasks.

The news was really sad and our NHS packed.
The world was complete chaos and that was a fact!
Mum turned the news off, so I wouldn't feel upset
Our frowns turned to smiles on even our pets.
School work turned to online; I couldn't see friends
For now there were no teachers, textbooks or pens.

I started to show my Mum and Dad what I can do
They knew I was clever, but I learnt even more...who knew?
Communities came together I started to help out others,
Fathers, children, grandparents, strangers and mothers.

I felt happier spending time in our 'bubble'
Playing, learning, walks and fun was double!
Learning new hobbies, life skills, being happy, healthy and safe.
Even if I did this all in one place.

Although this Pandemic is really, really bad.
I will always remember the fun that I've had.
We never could have imagined having so much time together.
Making lots of memories I will cherish forever.

The Pandemic by Logan Llewellyn

I was listening to the news one day when something caught my eye,
A disease called Coronavirus was causing people to die.
It was happening in China, so I wasn't that affected
Though very, very quickly, it seemed the whole world was infected.
The UK is an island, so I was sure we'd keep it out
But Covid is relentless and it was soon here right throughout.
“We'll close the schools 'til Easter” Boris said on our TV
“Great!” I thought “Home schooling in my pjs will just suit me!”
But while the thought of lockdown firstly filled me full of cheer
As the weeks extended, it soon turned into fear.
We didn't go back to school after the two-week Easter break
And not seeing my friends, its toll was starting to take.
We were soon told that the schools were closed until the end of term.
To beat Coronavirus, Boris would have to be quite firm.
I couldn't see any people that didn't live with me
I was missing all my family but my cousins especially.
My great gran and my grandad were 93 years old
And as they were so vulnerable, their hands we couldn't hold.
Our greatest fears were realised, when we lost our dear Grampy
And Covid meant we couldn't have a funeral properly.
We felt the loss more deeply as we hadn't seen his face
But we'd stayed away from him for weeks to try and keep him safe.

It made me more determined to follow rules to the letter
Without us all complying the situation would not get better.
Lockdown wasn't all bad, we baked doughnuts with dad and mum
Board games with the family became our great new source of fun.
We became more thankful for the small things, that was without a doubt
We sat outside with neighbours – staying in was the new going out!
The rules began to ease as infections began to drop.
We all “Ate Out to Help Out” and supported our local shop.
Travelling was eased and there was no longer a ban,
We could now go and see family and wave at our shielding gran.
Life began to resemble something we could all remember
But that came to a grinding halt by the end of September.
We all went back to school and cases rose again once more.
Mark Drakeford said in October we'd lockdown like before.
We hoped a short, sharp lockdown would stop the virus dead
To all be close at Christmas, we'd have to stay apart now instead.
Unfortunately, our best efforts were not quite enough
We couldn't bubble up at Christmas, that really was so tough.
A further blow was dealt when the schools were closed again.
Covid was the nightmare that never seemed to end!
But we need to abide by lockdowns, even though they keep going on
So when we meet again with friends and family, nobody's gone.

My Covid 19 Experience *by Dylan Grainger*

I woke up one morning and they said, 'School was Online',
No walking to classrooms, no football at breaktime.
We can't see our friends they seem miles away,
Wake up, have breakfast, it's a Google Classroom kinda day.

Covid 19 has changed us all,
A world that seemed so big, yet suddenly seems so small.
Every Thursday we clap in the evening,
NHS heroes, working on the vaccine to keep us believing.

As we watch the government briefing we are told,
Hands, Face, Space.
We await the news of a vaccine but for now it's just
Track and Trace.

No celebrations or gatherings with family and friends.
For now, it's just Zoom calls and doorstep visits
Until this virus ends.

The footballer who challenged for a change,
He stood up to Boris with a fight,
So, no parent would have to see a child go hungry tonight.

When food banks became a lifeline and working from home
became the norm,
When Tik Tok dancing went viral
We learnt to weather the storm.

Arise Sir Captain Tom
You walked and raised NHS millions
You raised the nations spirits and for that
We salute and respect your brilliance.

So, for now we continue to stay at home,
Look forward and to pray,
That the world we currently live in can all reunite someday.

Year 9 Careers Day 2020

In December, Year 9 enjoyed a Careers Day - a day of presentations from different industry professionals. The aim of the day was to give pupils an insight into the variety of careers they can aspire to do when they leave school, and to help them with their Options subject choices in January.

Pupils had presentations from Newport Wafer Fab, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board, Wates Group, Cardiff City Football Club Foundation, BBC Wales and HQ Recruiting Group who recruit for the Army. Presentations were a mixture of live and virtual. The day was very informative, and pupils took the opportunity to ask lots of questions. Employers discussed careers in their sector and the advantages of having certain GCSEs in different jobs in their sector.

We would like to thank all the companies that gave up their time for our Careers Day. We would also like to thank Adrian Cole, Business Engagement Adviser from Careers Wales and Laurie Hobbs, Head of Year 9 for organising the day.



STAR pupils in numeracy!

Some of our KS3 pupils have achieved over and above expectations this term. These pupils have worked exceptionally hard in their numeracy interventions. They have attended regularly and attendance in numeracy interventions this term has been high. During the "pupil voice" session held on 27th May, pupils stated that the numeracy interventions had helped them with their work in maths and in other high numeracy subjects and they felt far more confident. Well done to our STAR performers!

Year 7 - Abbie Evans - Abbie worked extremely hard in registration intervention. She moved up to withdrawal intervention and achieved the highest score on the test for Year 7.

Year 8 - Malik Badjan - Malik did exceptionally well in his test at the end of term. His mathematical knowledge has grown considerably over the last term.

Year 9 - Grace Deguara - Grace not only works hard in intervention, she proved that doing some revision before a test meant she smashed the test.

DAWN JENKINS, ASSISTANT HEAD TEACHER & RACHEL JONES, NUMERACY TA



Abbie Evans

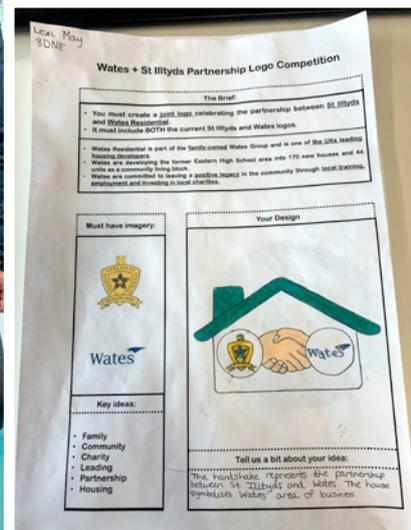


Malik Badjan

St Illtyd's & Wates – A new partnership



▼ Lexi's winning entry



We are delighted to announce that St Illtyd's Catholic High School and Wates have entered into a new three-year business partnership. Wates Residential is part of the fourth-generation, family-owned Wates Group and is one of the UK's leading housing developers. They are committed to leaving a positive legacy for the local community by targeting local procurement, the creation of local training and employment opportunities and investing in local charitable organisations and community groups. You can find out more about Wates by visiting: www.wates.co.uk. Wates are currently working on the old Eastern High site next door to our school. The site will consist of 170 new houses and 44 units as part of a community living block. This project is part of the Cardiff Living Partnership, working for Cardiff Council to build 1,500 high quality, energy efficient homes. To learn more about the venture, you can visit: www.cardiffliving.wales.

The partnership will allow us to make great links whilst Wates are carrying out the building work next door. Activities around the world of construction are planned with our pupils which will include site visits, careers talks and environmental projects.

To launch the partnership, a logo competition was held during the summer term, in which pupils were asked to design a logo to capture the new union. Over 100 pupils entered the competition and Wates then selected eight entries as finalists. Employees from across



Wates Residential were asked to vote for their winning design. Wates employees gave the following feedback:

- **Design Manager:** "What great designs, it was a tough choice."
- **Communications and Marketing Advisor:** "A great initiative, well done."
- **Regional Director:** "Professional artist in design number 1." (the winning design)
- **Construction Manager:** "Great work!!! Sheer artistic talent, such a hard choice."

The winner, with 44% of the vote, was **Lexi May in Year 8**. Lexi was delighted to be presented with an Amazon Fire tablet by Chris Parks, Construction Manager and Charlie Hargreaves, Community Investment Manager from Wates Residential. Lexi's design has

been used by Wates' design team who have produced a digital version of the logo that will be used for the three years of the partnership.

Wates have also helped the school by building a fence to protect our new small apple and pear orchard which was given to the school by Natural Resources Wales. Wates have very kindly donated their surplus materials and their employees built the fence to protect the orchard.

We look forward to working closely with Wates over the next three years and will keep you updated with all the activities in future issues of *The New Illtydian* and across our social media.

MR PAUL MORIARTY, DEPUTY HEAD TEACHER



St Illtyd's delighted to win the Careers Wales Mark Certificate

St Illtyd's Catholic High School are delighted to announce that we have won the Careers Wales Mark Certificate. The Careers Wales Mark Certificate is an award designed by Careers Wales to recognise an educational establishment's commitment to continuous quality improvement.

The Careers Wales Mark has been designed to meet the Welsh Government's statutory entitlement for Careers and the World of Work for 11-19 year olds in Wales.

The Careers Wales Mark contributes to:

- **The 'learning core' of the 14-19 Learning Pathways**
- **Estyn's drive to build capacity for self-evaluation and improvement**
- **Aspects of the Common Inspection Framework (CIF)**

The school has worked hard to achieve this award. The school regularly hosts employer presentation weeks in assemblies for every year group throughout the year and organises a Careers Day for Year 9 pupils every year. Year 10 pupils learn about Employability in Skills Challenge lessons. Year 11 pupils are fully supported by the school's Careers Wales Careers Adviser, Nick Sparrow, in the next step of their journey.



Our photo shows left to right, Head Teacher David Thomas, Head of Faculty for Progress and Wellbeing/Head of Year 11 Adam Fleet and Careers and World of Work Co-ordinator from Careers Wales, Steve Lester.

Head Teacher David Thomas said "It is great that the hard work of Mr Fleet and the team has been recognised in this way. A lot of time and effort goes into ensuring that our pupils go onto further education, employment or training. Careers Wales are essential in ensuring that this happens, and it is great that we can work together to achieve this for all our young people."

Steve Lester, Careers and World of Work Co-ordinator from Careers Wales who presented the award said, "It was a pleasure to present the Careers Wales Mark Certificate to my old school St Illtyd's in Cardiff, it has certainly changed since my day when we were taught by the De La

Salle Brothers.

The level of enthusiasm shown to achieve the Careers Wales Mark, by all of the staff, and in particular Mr Adam Fleet who is Head of Faculty for Progress and Wellbeing as well as Head of Year 11, and the Careers Adviser Nick Sparrow is very motivational, as jointly they work tirelessly to ensure that the pupils gain as much as possible while enrolled at St Illtyd's.

This is the first time the school have gained this prestigious award, and with Adam and Nick keeping everybody informed about progress it is a real team St Illtyd's effort. Well done everybody and very well deserved."

Introducing... St Illtyd's Eco Club

We are pleased to announce that St Illtyd's now has an Eco Club and that we are part of Eco Schools. Our aim is to improve the school environment and to achieve an Eco Schools Green Flag. Year 7 pupils were nominated by their peers to become an Eco Club member. Eco Club consists of representatives from every Year 7 tutor group and they meet every Wednesday during form time with Mrs May. In addition, two Year 9 pupils act as student mentors.

This term, the Eco Club has been primarily working on an Environmental Review of the school, investigating the nine topics of Eco Schools- global citizenship, litter, waste

minimisation, energy, water, school grounds, biodiversity, transport and health, wellbeing & food. Our findings from the Environmental Review will dictate what we plan to work on in the new academic year.

Year 7 pupil Madison Grant has designed a logo for the club. All members have been collecting small plastic bottles that we plan to use to build an Eco greenhouse with Mr Healey later in the year. All our activities are communicated to the rest of the school via an Eco Board and this is updated weekly with the minutes of each meeting.



It has been a great start to Eco Club, and we will keep you updated on all our activities in future issues.

LUISA MAY, COMMUNITY FOCUSED SCHOOL'S CO-ORDINATOR

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
2021/22

Please note the following dates for the academic year:

TERM DATES

AUTUMN TERM 2021

Starts: Thursday 02/09/21

Half term: Monday 25/10/21 - Friday 29/10/21

Ends: Friday 17/12/21

SPRING TERM 2022

Starts: Tuesday 04/01/22

Half term: Monday 21/02/22 - Friday 25/02/22

Ends: Friday 08/04/22

SUMMER TERM 2022

Starts: Monday 25/04/2022

Half term: Monday 30/05/22 - Friday 03/06/22

Ends: Friday 22/07/22

INSET DAYS - Thursday

02/09/21 & Friday 03/09/21, Friday 10/12/21 (Reporting Day), Friday 28/1/22, 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

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Sports/Chwaraeon



Inter House Baseball Tournament

Year 7

The long-awaited Year 7 baseball tournament was held after half term. All from groups had eagerly waited to apply their skills and knowledge against their peers. With three diamonds being used and all PE staff umpiring, the scene was set for a base balling extravaganza.

The first matches were underway and resulted in some excellent batting and fielding skills from all teams. The winners in the first round were; Mr Jacob/Miss Cosslett, Mr Newson/Mrs Yellen and Mrs Burston.

Some teams found their rhythm in the second round and there were narrow victories for Mr Griffiths, Mrs Burston and Mr Walsh.

With no clear winners going into the third round of matches, everything was still up for the taking! After some last-gasp fielding and accuracy with the bat, the following teams secured third round wins; Miss Nickson, Mr Jacob/Miss Cosslett and Mrs Burston.

Congratulations to the overall winners of the tournament, Mrs Burston's team!

Well done to all who took part.

Year 8

The Year 8 baseball tournament that took place in May was a roaring success. All teams played with high energy and were extremely competitive throughout.

Well done to our overall winners, Mrs Davies' team!

- 1st Mrs Davies;** 21 points and a total of 89 runs
- 2nd Mr Brown;** 21 points and a total of 76 runs
- 3rd Mr Nelson;** 21 points and a total of 60 runs
- 4th Miss Gaydon;** 12 points and a total of 68 runs
- 5th Mrs James;** 12 points and a total of 56 runs
- 6th Miss Dalby and Mr Richards (combined);** 12 points and a total of 51 runs

Year 9

The Year 9 baseball tournament was our first tournament of 2021. We endured some difficult weather for baseball (four seasons in one afternoon) but all pupils played with real excitement and determination throughout. Congratulations to our overall winners, Mr Hoare's team!

- 1st Mr Hoare;** 30 points (won all their matches)
- 2nd Mrs Hopkin;** 21 points and a grand total of 90 runs
- 3rd Mr Tay;** 21 points and a grand total of 82 runs
- 4th Mrs Gwynne Carroll;** 21 points and a grand total of 78 runs
- 5th Mr Hills;** 3 points and a grand total of 59 runs
- 6th Miss Berryman;** 3 points and a grand total of 46 points

NATHAN WALSH, TEACHER OF PE



Year 7 team from 7NW (Saint Mother Teresa)



Year 9 Winning Team - 9ACH (Saint Mother Teresa)

Year 7

Congratulations to...

...Evan & Luke!

Staff and pupils would like to offer huge congratulations to Year 11 pupil Evan Hill who has been selected to play for the Cardiff Blues Academy and Year 10 pupil Luke Jones who has been selected to play for the Cardiff Blues U16s. We would like to wish Evan and Luke all the very best for the future.

has trained hard through lockdown and is now reaping the benefits with the restart of athletics competitions. Her current personal best time stands her in good stead to break the girls 800m record on sports day this year. A record that has stood since 1989! We wish Millie all the best for the rest of the season.

Welsh Schools final. We wish her all the best in what looks like a very promising future in athletics.

RUTH FRY, TEACHER OF PE/ HEAD OF YEAR 7

...Millie!

Congratulations to Millie Gold who is currently ranked 2nd in the Welsh U13 rankings for the 800m. Millie

...Kya!

Congratulations to Kya Placide in Year 11, who is currently ranked 3rd in Wales for the U17 women's 100m. Kya will represent Cardiff in the



Evan Hill

Luke Jones

Millie Gold

Kya Placide