



The New Illtydian

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

A visit to Mansion House

Every year, His Grace Archbishop George Stack visits the Lord Mayor of Cardiff for a formal visit. For this year's visit, he invited pupils from Cardiff's Catholic secondary schools and Cardiff's Catholic sixth form college to accompany him on this visit. Invited were St Illtyd's, Corpus Christi and Mary Immaculate Catholic High Schools along with St David's Catholic Sixth Form College. Four Year 8 pupils represented St Illtyd's on this visit- Lauren Burns, Cohen Fender, Perseverance Mbango and Camille Miteleji. Together with His Grace, pupils met the Lord Mayor of Cardiff- Councillor Daniel De'Ath and learnt more about his role within the city of Cardiff. Pupils were able to ask questions about issues related to the city and that they were interested in. Cohen said "The Lord Mayor shared his knowledge of the charities he



works with" and Camille added "I feel blessed to have gone on this visit." Following the meeting with the Lord Mayor, pupils had a tour of Mansion House and saw the wealth of treasures that have been gifted to the city of Cardiff. They even got to see the bedroom that Nelson Mandela slept in when he visited.

HEAD'S MESSAGE | NEGES Y PENNAETH

It appears that I am not alone in feeling that this school year is flying along. Pupils, parents and staff are wondering where the time has gone and each half term seems to go past at an ever increasing rate.

Already the exam season is upon us. Year 10 and 11 oral and practical exams are in full swing and the written exams begin on 5th May. There is plenty of support available to our young people during and after school as well as in the holidays. Please see the website for details and as always if there are any concerns please let us know.

Outside the classroom, rehearsals are well underway for the school's production of Sister Act. The dedication of staff and pupils to this is a wonderful thing to see and a testament to the hard work involved in order to

be successful. This is reflected in the other activities that the school provides on the sports pitches and through the Duke of Edinburgh scheme and beyond. Our school is about developing the whole child so that they can achieve all that they can through their God given talents. Combined with this though is the hard work and resilience that we all need to achieve what we want to. These are the attributes we are striving to promote and the attitudes we wish to see in all the young people in our care. Pupils are doing this in all our year groups, day in day out, and are a credit to the homes they come from. For them it is not "I can't do it," it is "I can't do it yet." With this attitude



and approach there is no limit to what they can achieve.

On behalf of the staff I would like to thank you all for your continued support this year, it makes a huge difference. I would also like to wish all our pupils in all our year groups every success in their forthcoming examinations. They can do it.

Have a Happy and Holy Easter.

DB THOMAS, HEADTEACHER

NB: School starts on Monday 20th April, which is a Week 2.

Rewards Christmas Lunch



Our Rewards Christmas Lunch was a wonderful occasion. 91 pupils and their family members were invited to enjoy Christmas lunch in the school hall. Pupils were chosen either to reward their attendance & behaviour or by one of the school faculties to reward performance within these specific areas. A huge well done to all of the pupils and thank you to all of the family members who came along and supported them. A huge thank you goes to Mr Adam Fleet, the Wellbeing Team and all of the senior prefects for doing an amazing job in organising the event.

"Huge thanks for a lovely Christmas dinner. You all worked really hard and the senior prefects were amazing."

LUISA & EWAN MAY

"Could you please pass on my thanks to all staff and pupils involved in today's Christmas meal. Once again brilliant atmosphere and food was lovely. Thank you."

EMMA & KYLE BRYANT

Sister Act Save the date!



Rhearsals are in full swing for this year's school production- Sister Act. The production, with a bigger cast than usual, will take place on Wednesday 1st, Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd July at 7.30pm. Tickets will be on sale from the school reception nearer the time.



Ash Wednesday

The beginning of Lent was marked at St Illtyd's on Ash Wednesday. Our photo shows Head Teacher, Mr David Thomas and KS3 Deputy Head Teacher, Mr Paul Moriarty, distributing ashes to some of our KS3 pupils.

Chemistry at Christmas

Just before Christmas, eight Year 9 pupils were very lucky to go on a trip entitled "Chemistry at Christmas". The event took place at the University of South Wales' Glyntaff Campus and it gave our students an insight into the chemistry involved in making Christmas gifts. Amongst the experiments, students learnt how acids and bases can be used to make bath bombs and how salts can be used to make magic flame candles. They also learnt how oil and water can mix and made a hand cream. Organised by the School of Chemistry and Pharmaceutical Sciences and using their state-of-the-art laboratories, the event was designed to illustrate the relevance of chemistry in everyday life as well as inspire students to study chemistry at A-level and beyond. All eight pupils thoroughly enjoyed the day and the added bonus was that they got to take home all the gifts they had made.

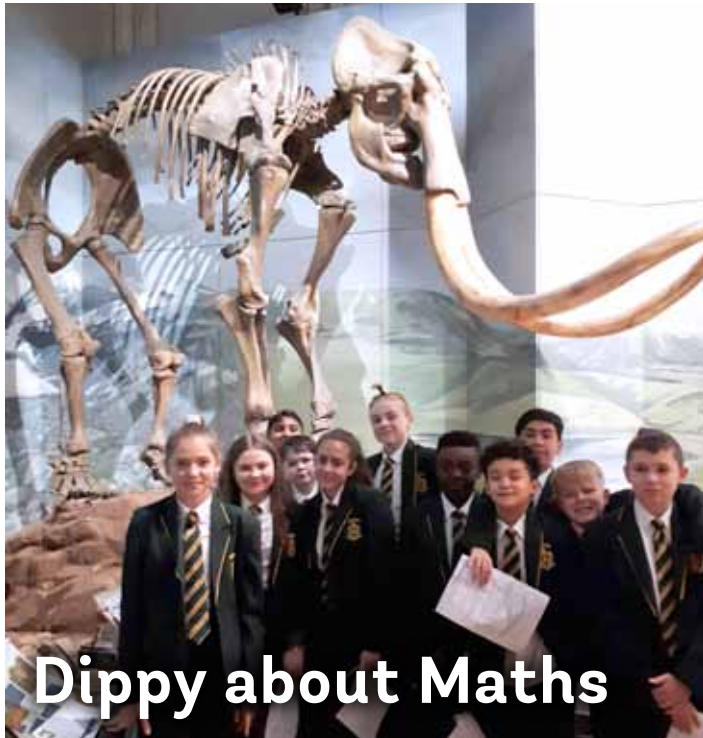
MRS L MAY, COMMUNITY FOCUSED SCHOOL'S CO-ORDINATOR



Creative writing celebration

During the autumn term, a group of Year 7 and 8 pupils took part in a weekly creative writing after school club with Miss Cooper in conjunction with First Campus. As a finale to the project, pupils were invited

to Cardiff University to take part in workshops on university life. Parents and carers were also invited to a celebration afternoon tea event to see their children's work on display. Well done to everyone that took part.



Dippy about Maths

In January, a group of our More Able and Talented in Maths Year 7 pupils went on a trip to the National Museum Cardiff to take part in an event entitled "Dippy about Maths". The day was based around Dippy the Diplodocus who is currently at the museum as part of a national tour. Pupils took part in a variety of fun mathematical challenges and were able to apply key mathematical skills outside of the classroom. Challenges included working out how fast dinosaurs moved and measuring Dippy himself. Pupils enjoyed taking part in all of the challenges and thoroughly enjoyed their visit. Our thanks to Central South Consortium and National Museum Cardiff for organising this event.

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

Year 9 Careers Day

The Year 9 Careers Carousel Day took place on the 5th December and was organised by Careers Wales. The whole year group were able to interact with a variety of employers including Cardiff & Vale UHB, St Johns Ambulance, GE Aviation, ISA (Hair and Beauty), Eagle Labs and the Army. Over the course of the day pupils took part in activities as varied as first aid, engineering, team work challenges and blow drying hair! The day provided a fantastic insight into future careers and helped Year 9 pupils in making their options choices.

**NICK SPARROW, CAREERS WALES
CAREERS ADVISER**



Key Stage 4 Enterprise and Employability Challenge – Velindre Dragons Den Event

As part of their Skills Challenge Certificate, our Year 10 pupils were tasked with developing a new product or service that would raise important funds for Velindre, a cancer charity that's right on our doorstep here in Cardiff. Pupils had to create and develop their business idea, then sell it 'Dragon's Den' style to a range of judges from The Welsh Graduates Programme and Cardiff Metropolitan University.

Throughout this challenge, all our Year 10 pupils learnt how to run a business and develop a successful business pitch – before selecting winning groups from each class to go head to head in the final. Every group and individual involved in the day was exceptional; demonstrating hard work, dedication and confidence in their deliveries. Our judges were astounded by their professionalism and ability to take constructive criticism and adapt their pitches to suit.

WINNING TEAMS

Having seen six teams each, the judges cast their votes and selected a group they thought encapsulated all the qualities they were looking for; planning & organisation, creativity & innovation and personal effectiveness. The two winning groups were:

- **The Jingle Ladies** [*Christmas decorations*]: Rhianna Cusack, Nicole Evans, Isobel Baldwin and Lydia Napper
- **Gyda'n Gilydd Gallwn** [*Sponsored walk up Pen-y-Fan*]: Olivia Bennett, Kevin Chiduku, Nile Abraham, Matthew Harrison, Lewys Anderton and Thomas Ling

HIGHLY COMMENDED –

Paris Canterbury, Raj Kaur and Nicole Ralph

**JOANNE BERRYMAN,
SUBJECT LEADER FOR WELSH
BACCALAUREATE**





Goodbye & good luck Michele!

Our Family Cookery course at St Illtyd's is now in its eighth year and this term has seen our families learning to make fresh pasta & shortcrust pastry, making delicious family meals such as butter chicken curry and chicken & bacon pie and sweet treats including lemonade scones and pancakes. Our families have thoroughly enjoyed the course and learnt many new skills as well as gaining new ideas for family meals.

It is with sadness that this term we say goodbye to Adult Community

Learning tutor Michele Pardoe. Michele has been teaching our families at St Illtyd's for the majority of the past eight years and has shared a wealth of knowledge with them. We are grateful for the commitment and loyalty she has shown to St Illtyd's and we wish her well for the future.

Family Cookery takes a break in the summer term, but we will look to offer this course again in September.

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

KS3 Campus Visit

At the end of the autumn term, 57 Year 9 pupils visited Cardiff University for a KS3 Campus Visit. The visit was organised by First Campus and they kindly funded a coach that enabled us to take more pupils. Pupils took part in two workshops- one delving into the financial side of attending university and the second which explored the reasons for going to university. The visit was completed with a campus tour and a chance to ask questions with current students. We would like to say a big thanks to Vicki Woods, all the First Campus staff and the student ambassadors for this valuable and aspirational visit.

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



Girls Group

Girls Group is a fun, activity packed, confidence booster for Year 7 girls at St Illtyd's and it has been running for several months. It is run in collaboration with the YMCA. We are currently following a Girls Rights programme which is being run globally. The group is empowering and is a safe platform for our students to have their voices heard. Our thanks to the YMCA for this opportunity.

MRS R KAYE, ASSISTANT HEAD OF YEAR 7



Open Your Eyes Week 2020

In February, Year 7 listened to three presentations from different employers. The week was called "Open Your Eyes Week" and was designed to show pupils the array of different careers in different industries that are available to them. Year 7 received presentations from South Wales Police, Willmott Dixon and Principality Building Society. The presentations allowed pupils an opportunity to see career paths they may not have considered previously very early in their secondary school career. Pupils from Years 5 and 6 in our feeder Catholic primary schools also took part in the "Open Your Eyes Week" and had presentations in their respective schools making this a cluster wide event. The presentations gave our pupils a lot of information and helped them in their decisions on their future careers.

We would like to thank all of the employers that took the time out to come and speak to our pupils. We would also like to say a huge thank you to Vicky Poole and Hannah Jenkins from the Cardiff Commitment for organising the week for our cluster.

MR I PRICE, HEAD OF YEAR 7



Willmott Dixon



South Wales Police

JustB Ambassadors

During the autumn term, 29 Year 8 pupils were nominated by their peers as being the most influential in their year group. This group were then invited to take part in the JustB training programme and become JustB ambassadors.

JustB is a programme run by Public Health Wales that trains young people to be anti-smoking ambassadors. Young people attend two days of training plus follow up sessions to equip them with all the knowledge they need to fulfil their role. They learnt that cigarettes contain over 7000 ingredients including household bleach (ammonia), batteries (cadmium) and rat poison and that every year, 600 million trees are cut down to make room for tobacco plantations. They also learnt how smoking can affect health and the wide array of cancers that smoking can lead to.

Our pupils thoroughly engaged with and enjoyed the wide variety of activities. They completed the two days of training by signing a pledge to share their new found knowledge with their peers and help prevent the take up of smoking in the future. We wish all of the pupils well in their roles as JustB ambassadors.

MRS L HOBBS, HEAD OF YEAR 8 AND MRS W SHANAHAN, ASSISTANT HEAD OF YEAR 8



Hay Festival Scribblers Tour

During February, pupils from Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 had the opportunity to attend the Scribblers Tour at Cardiff Metropolitan University. The Scribblers Tour is part of the Hay Festival and allows pupils who cannot attend the festival to experience listening to and being inspired by authors. It is hoped that through these events, pupils are inspired in the power of writing and are inspired to read for pleasure.

Our Year 7 and 8 pupils listened to author Ali Sparkes speak about her path into becoming a writer. Although Ali received many rejections and knock-backs in the early part of her career, she has now gone on to become a writer of 51 books. She demonstrated that perseverance is key and not to let anything get in the way of what you want to achieve. Pupils then listened to award-winning poet Aneirin Karadog who introduced them to the mystical arts of Welsh poetic kung-fu, known as Cynghanedd.

Our Year 9 and 10 pupils listened to award-winning author Patrice Lawrence, who never believed that people like her could be an author. Patrice used her own story to help our pupils find their unique storytelling skills. Pupils then listened to contemporary young adult author Brian Conaghan who challenged pupils to create short dialogue pieces.

Our pupils thoroughly enjoyed both events and engaged thoroughly with the authors. Our thanks to all staff involved on the Scribblers Tours and to First Campus at Cardiff Metropolitan University.

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



Mensa Update

As reported in our winter issue of the New Illtydian, 15 of our pupils qualified for Mensa in the recent test at the school. Pupils have now joined Mensa and were delighted to receive their welcome packs and certificates. The 15 pupils who scored over 148- qualifying for Mensa and putting them in the top 2% of the population- were Gabriel Navarro, Cohen Fender, Ethan Davey, Lolani Lane, Logan Llewellyn, Danny Pillinger, Matilda Bates, Angelika Carpio, Dylan Gradkowski, Daniel Napper, Mohammed Majharul Islam, Alexis-Mae Mason, Miles Chatterton, Freya Shortis and Archie Jones.

David Richards, More Able and Talented Coordinator/Teacher of History, had the following to say: "We are all very proud of our pupils' fantastic achievement in the Mensa test this year, and they go on to join many other pupils here in St Illtyd's as members of Mensa."



One of the key things we believe in as a school is providing all of our pupils with the very best opportunities and experiences in order to assist in their own personal and academic development. The annual Mensa test we run in the school forms part of this process. We are delighted yet again that so many of our pupils have qualified this year, while many others missed out only marginally. This shows there is indeed a rich



seam of talent within the local area which we in St Illtyd's are privileged to work with on a daily basis. Both myself and my colleagues are very excited at being able to help and develop these gifted young people's skills and talents in the coming years.

As well as qualifying for Mensa, all of these pupils are genuinely nice young people who are kind, caring, and compassionate with a solid work ethic and a desire to do well in life. They fully deserve the recognition and the respect that this fantastic achievement brings."

Rightly so, this wonderful news has been covered widely by the press - this news has appeared on the front page of the South Wales Echo, on Wales Online, on HTV Wales news and in the Daily Express. *Group photo reproduced with kind permission of Media Wales.*

MR D RICHARDS, MORE ABLE AND TALENTED COORDINATOR/TEACHER OF HISTORY



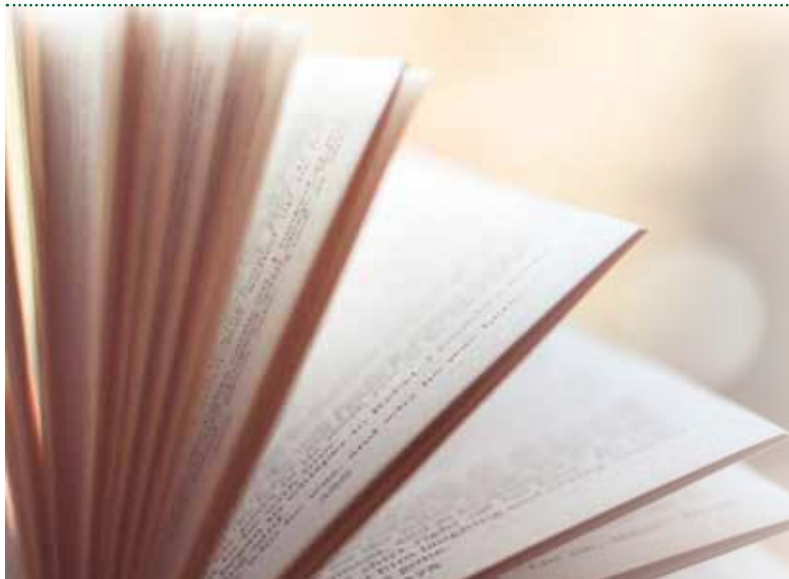
Photography at the Museum

To enhance their studies, at the end of February, our Year 10 GCSE Photography students were invited to the National Museum Cardiff to take part in photography workshops. Students used useful terms to describe photographic art and identified examples by analysing the galleries at the museum. Students then went on a trail within the museum to identify specific examples of some formal photography elements.

The final part of the day was a creative challenge inspired by the work

of August Sander and was centred on portraiture. This was an extremely beneficial trip as students were able to reinforce learning they have already done in school whilst giving them an insight into the next module of portraiture. Our pupils thoroughly engaged with all elements of the day and gained a lot from the experience. Our thanks to Carla Price and the team at National Museum Cardiff for facilitating the day and kindly funding our transport.

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



World Book Day 2020

St Illtyd's celebrated World Book Day 2020 with a form time quiz and a shelfie quiz. Staff dressed up as literary characters and each pupil received a book token. Form classes and staff were invited to decorate their doors in a literary way and we had some fantastic results. The winning doors were:

- 7SMT - 101 Dalmatians
- 7MLK - Roald Dahl
- 9JP2- Our Favourite Books

Winning the staff prize were **Mrs Fry and Mrs Chapman** in the Year 11 office with a stunning door themed on **Romeo and Juliet**.

A huge well done to all our winners and to all form classes for your amazing efforts.

MISS M COOPER, LITERACY CO-ORDINATOR



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

2020

Please note the following dates for the academic year:

TERM DATES**Spring Term 2020****Ends:** Friday 03/04/2020**Summer Term 2020****Starts:** Monday 20/04/2020**Half Term:** Monday 25/05/2020 – Friday 29/05/2020**Ends:** Monday 20/07/2020**INSET DAY –**

Monday 20/07/20

The school will be closed for the May Day Bank Holiday on Friday 08/05/20

Did you know we're on Twitter?



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

@StilltydsPEDept

Amelia Francis



Sports/Chwaraeon



Year 9 Rugby 7's Tournament at Llanishen High

The Year 9 rugby team performed well against tough opposition on the 3G at Llanishen High School. All players passed and moved the ball well in what were extremely blustery conditions. We beat Cantonian High comfortably in the opening game, before losing narrowly (12-10) to the hosts Llanishen High. Our other match was against a well-drilled Bro Edern High, who beat us by playing with great speed and agility. Well done to all players involved!

Year 9 Rugby Team

The Year 9 rugby team are into the Plate Finals at the Cardiff Arms Park. We have beaten Eastern High, St Teilos High and Cantonian High to reach the finals. All players played with grit and determination to beat a strong Cantonian team away from home. Some key players were unavailable, however all players stepped up and played exceptionally well to grind out a hard fought victory, in what was a physical game.

Year 7 Rugby Team

The Year 7 rugby team have played some excellent rugby in recent months. We have lost narrowly to Cardiff High away from home (23-22) in a game that we were leading in until the final minute. We have also lost to an extremely well-drilled Glantaf team, who were too strong away from home. We look to finish the year on a high in the next few weeks!

Year 11 Moderation

The Year 11 GCSE Students completed their External Moderation on 27th February. They demonstrated the skills they had developed over the previous five years and really made the PE department very proud. A fantastic day.

Year 7 Girls Netball

The Year 7 Girls represented the school at the County Netball Tournament at Radyr High School where they

played fantastically, overall coming 3rd in their pool on the day. The girls played really well against very competitive competitors.

KS3 Basketball

Years 7, 8 & 9 Boys Basketball has seen a huge influx in attenders this year. The boys have been representing the school in a range of fixtures over the school year - coached by Mr Green. Each game, they are progressing well and this is demonstrated by the scores getting better and better each time they play. Well done boys.

GCSE Orienteering

15 Year 11 students competed in the Bristol Orienteering League competition at Stockhill in Mendips at the start of February. All competitors did well and all completed their courses easily. Two stand out performers were Lewis Carwardine and Patrick Carbis who placed 4th and 5th respectively in the Boys competition. Well done Boys.



Amelia Francis

A huge congratulations to Amelia Francis in Year 8 who has been selected to train and represent Cardiff in Netball. Excellent work Amelia, we are all very proud of you!

Soraya Makubuli

A huge well done to Soraya Makubuli in Year 7 who won the British Schools Judo 2020 British Schools Championships. Congratulations Soraya!

KS3 Basketball



Soraya Makubuli

