

WHAT IS THE LATEST FROM ALL HALLOWS?

The Liturgical Life Of The School

During the week commencing 25th March, our school received fantastic support from a number of members of the clergy to enable our pupils to access the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Each morning, a year group in turn attended a beautiful and poignant assembly and later each day pupils were afforded the opportunity to return to the Arts Theatre to meet with one of the visiting priests who heard confessions. As is customary, our pupils conducted themselves respectfully and many took up the opportunity to access the Sacrament. We must thank Fr Bideri, Fr Peter, Fr Michael, Fr Curran, Fr Roy and Fr Carl who all gave so much of their time to be with us throughout the week.

STEM Fortnight

During March a number of members of staff from several departments came together, under the leadership of Mrs Caw, to provide our pupils who have an interest in STEM subjects with the chance to take part in a number of activities. In the following accounts, some of the pupils who participated in various activities have written about their experiences.

On Wednesday 13th March, 48 pupils from Years 7-10 went to the Big Bang Fair at NEC Birmingham. We left school at 7:15am and arrived two and a half hours later. When we got to the Big Bang Fair we joined the thousands of other pupils to get our passes then we went off to explore around the show floor. We stayed in groups, tried out lots of different activities and watched theatre shows. There were many different stalls ranging from scuba divers (Navy) to slime making, career quizzes, ambulances, jets and more. There were also engineers and scientists we could talk to and ask them about their jobs. There were lots of exciting things to take part in and freebies to collect! We had a great time learning about STEM careers. (Clara Davidson Year 8)



On Tuesday 12th March, Mark from 'Learn By Design', a company aimed towards future engineers came to lead a challenge to 60 pupils from 8P and 60 pupils from 8G about STEM. We started the day by being introduced to Mark and Karen, STEM Ambassadors from United Utilities, and we all had a chat about what engineering means to us. Many people said it is fixing things or building cars, however Mark told us that engineering can come in many forms, like designing, humanitarian work, or by becoming pioneers and makers. Then we started to talk about different types of energy from non-renewable to renewable and how it is used in England. After break, we started making our model electronic cars in small groups. We had a supercharger which could be charged to 2.5 volts and two sets of wheels. We had to change the voltage and wheel position to make the car run as far as possible. After lots of trials and testing, we found out that the best voltage was 1.7 volts! The day was very interesting, and taught us a lot about the field of engineering. (Madeleine Hawtin Year 8)



On Tuesday 12th March, during STEM Club, pupils were given the opportunity to chat online to a group of scientists about the theme of imaging. Their roles ranged from researchers looking at cancer and imaging techniques through to working on MRI scanners, radiation therapists and other PhD students. They were able to ask them any questions they wanted from how they got into their current careers, what they studied at school and what exciting projects they were currently working on. The pupils engaged fantastically well and then went on to vote for their favourite scientists, to give them a chance to win £500 which would be used to support future activities. This is a great enrichment activity for pupils to interact with current scientists to see what is happening around them right now.

STEM fortnight also saw a number of our pupils competing in events against other schools in local and regional competitions. On Friday 15th March, five Year 9 pupils and three Year 10 pupils took part in the Lancashire area Rotary Challenge tournament. The event is a prestigious and well established competition that attracts a large number of schools from the local area. This year's event took place at Leyland Civic Centre and approximately fifteen local secondary schools were involved. There were also representatives from local and international engineering companies present to offer advice to teams and help with the judging. The task involved teams being asked to build a robot retrieval device powered by pulleys and a motor to pick up a 'contaminated' container. All Hallows entered two student teams, one in the KS3 event and one in the KS4 event. Both teams did fantastically well, producing working robots to successfully lift the contaminated container to safety. The judges were extremely impressed with both teams and awarded them both first prize in their categories. This is a fantastic achievement for All Hallows STEM students and to bring home both trophies is a superb success for the school. Well done to George Straker, Erin Cookson,



Sean Obi and Liam Anderson in the KS3 team and Will James, Luke Santarcangelo, Luke Dixon and Holly White in the KS4 team.



Friday 8th March saw the culmination of months of hard work by the Year 7 Robotics team with their Year 8 mentors. Since October last year around fifteen pupils have been working towards the regional competition which included a range of tasks to complete. Their round took place at West Lancashire College in Skelmersdale against eight other schools. They have been working hard to learn how to program, design and build a humanitarian aid robot as well as a speed robot, plus a presentation to a panel about how robots could support engineers when solving humanitarian aid problems.

The students joined together to demonstrate their organisation, communication and problem solving skills, dealing with time pressures and unknown challenges along the way. A fantastic run in the speed challenge and some superb teamwork skills in the blind challenge set the team up with high points but unfortunately they did not have quite the points tally to qualify for the national finals. They did however, deliver a spectacular presentation about a 3D printer that could be parachuted into disaster zones. It was powered by solar and wind power and used the packaging it was delivered in, as well as the biofuel in the area, to power the printer, enabling pieces of housing to be built for shelter. This secured them the Presentation Award on the day which they were overjoyed to receive.

Congratulations and well done to everyone involved but especially to Samantha Rawlings, Freya McGeoghan, Mason Upton, Thomas Parkinson, Miles Simms, Finlay Billington, Theo Hardacre, Allen Asa, Jacob Forster-Leith, Austin Ainsworth and their mentors Jack Worthington and Jacob Kimmins.



On Wednesday 13th March, as part of All Hallows' STEM fortnight, the school hosted the regional leg of the nationally recognised IET Faraday Challenge tournament. The event involved Year 8 teams from five local schools competing to create a prototype product based on a top secret engineering concept. Teams from Penwortham Girls, Hutton Grammar, Our Lady's Fulwood, Worden and All Hallows had to design, develop, manage money, create electronic circuits, use modelling materials and present a fully functioning prototype to their peers, teachers and a panel of judges including STEM ambassadors from Westing House. The competition was fierce and the day was hugely enjoyable for students, staff and STEM ambassadors alike. The IET co-ordinator was extremely impressed by the level of knowledge, understanding and skill shown by all students on the day. After a particularly close competition, it was announced that the All Hallows team comprising of Martha Gordon, Thomas Draper, Daniel Cunningham, George Swarbrick, Kathryn Ashcroft and Esme Kelly had won and they were each awarded a £10 Amazon voucher along with a trophy for the school. Huge congratulations to them, and well done to everyone who took part in a great day for STEM!

History Department Inspires Creativity

During March, our Year 7 pupils have been challenged to create their own "Castle in a Shoebox" in their History lessons and the results have been stunning with a huge number of outstanding designs on view which have taken many hours to produce. We've had castles made from Papier-mache, cardboard and even huge castle cakes which have been very popular with our students. The results are truly fantastic.



The list below provided by Mrs Ellis-Lomas gives KS3 pupils some historical reading suggestions to improve their literacy.

Y8-9

- ***Last train from Kummersdorf**-Lesley Wilson
The events of WW2 from two young Germans
- ***When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit**- Judith Kerr
An adventure story from WW2
- ***The Diary of Anne Frank**- Anne Frank
The diary of a Jewish girl in hiding during WW2
- ***Goodnight Mr Tom**- Michelle Magorian
The story of a London evacuee in WW2
- ***The Dam Busters**-Paul Brickhill
The story of 617 Squadron's bouncing bomb
- * **The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas**-John Boyne
The story of a friendship in the concentration camps of WW2
- ***The Book Thief**- Markus Zusak
The story of a little girl who steals books in WW2 Germany
- ***Max**-Sarah Cohen-Scali
A WW2 Thriller
- ***All Quiet on the Western Front**- Erich Maria Remarque
Classic WW1 drama

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: MRS ELLIS-LOMAS OR MR WALLBANKS!!

Sporting Success

Our pupils continue to excel in a variety of sporting activities both at and outside of school. Congratulations must go to Edward Cox and Harry Cox who have both been selected recently to play cricket for Lancashire this season. The County of Lancashire is strong in a number of team sports so it is a great achievement to be selected to play at county level.



After performing well and winning the South Ribble Tournament, we went on to represent the district at the County Finals, which were held at UCLAN earlier this month. We knew it was going to be a tough competition as schools such as Lancaster Royal Grammar and Garstang Academy had qualified and we had heard that they had some very good players. It was a great afternoon of high quality Handball and after several games, our hard work and great team spirit saw us qualify from the group stage to reach the knockout rounds. Our local friends Hutton Grammar School, who had qualified as runners-up from the District Tournament bowed out at this point after some very tough group games left them just short of qualification. We made it through to the semi-finals but just missed out on the final, losing 4-3 to Garstang Academy with two disallowed goals being the difference between two very strong teams. We were really proud of our performance and it was a great experience for all the lads, we will look to improve and hopefully achieve even more next year. (Report by Matthew Walmsley, Year 10)



Congratulations to the Year 8 Boys and Year 7 Girls Indoor Athletics teams who both qualified to attend the Lancashire Indoor Athletics Competition this year. In the South Ribble competition held in January the Year 7 girls team came 2nd and the Year 8 boys team came 1st place to secure their places in the Lancashire finals.



On Wednesday 6th March, eight boys from All Hallows visited Balshaws High School to play in the Elite Table Tennis Competition. Four boys competed in the Under 16's competition and four boys competed in the Under 13s. Most of the other schools in South Ribble took part in the tournament, making it a really competitive event.

In the U16 category, Noah Chappell-Elgie, Harry Cox and myself won all four of our matches and Ed Cox won three out of his four. Together this was enough to take first place and secure our place as tournament winners, making it a really successful evening. Then came the U13s, the younger lads also had a great night on the tables, winning most of their matches with some great performances. This meant that All Hallows came first in both sections which is a great achievement for all the boys. (Report by Joe Johnston)

Another great win for All Hallows 7A netball team who played away to Leyland St Marys on Monday 18th March. The girls played very well with great interceptions and passes throughout the match. Being an outdoor game, the rainy and wet weather caused a slippery ball, which made it a lot harder to play, but the team pushed on to win with a great score of 17-2 to All Hallows. Congratulations to Lucy Redfearn (GA) who received man of the match. We have currently won all our matches and look forward to our final game against Brownedge St Marys, where we hope to take it all the way! (Jess Fairclough, Captain)

The Year 7b Netball match on Monday 18th was superb and everybody played really well. It was a wet night and so keeping possession was key. Luckily, we won 22-0 but there are still some things the team needs to work on for our next match against Brownedge St Marys and for the tournament. Well played everyone! (Abbie Taylor – Captain)



The U15's Girls Cricket team are to be congratulated for having secured second place in the South Ribble Competition. The girls progressed through to the next round where they came second in their group. This represented a fantastic achievement in the face of very stiff opposition.



Freya Triumphs At International Level

Freya Abrams (Year 11) competed at the Ellan Vannin Gymnastics Championships in the Isle of Man . In the floor and vault competition she won gold for the floor, gold for the vault, gold as overall champion and gold overall champion for all ages for her level. What an amazing achievement at such a high level of competition!



News from Performing Arts

In the February edition of our school Blog we reported on the runaway success of our recent production of the musical Beauty and the Beast. On one of the evenings the show was performed we received a visit from a critic from the National Operatic and Dramatic Association who reviewed our production for his organisation's national publication. Please click on the link below to read his most positive review.

<https://www.noda.org.uk/show-reports/beauty-and-the-beast-1552930792>

Pupils from All Hallows attended the most recent performance by Newman College. It was a great experience and showed us how we can use our skills after leaving high school. The cast, which included many past pupils, was very talented and inspired all the pupils who want to continue growing as performers. The show portrayed how Newman College was formed 40 years ago. The story was very engaging and overall, it was a fun experience. We are so glad we had the opportunity to go. (Reporters - Ella Speakman and Ethan Briscoe)

Recently we participated in a dance workshop lead by Robert Belle from the Lowry Productions. Robert is a professional dancer and choreographer who trained at the Dutch National Ballet. It was a great opportunity to gather together the school's most keen dancers to practise at a very challenging level as part of the Lowry productions workshop. We started off the morning with stretches routines to warm up our muscles, we learnt 5 different sequences of stretches including press up, planks, arm swings and balances. Robert also taught us a more complex sequence from the corner which consisted of turns, leaps, jumps and floor rolls.



After our muscles were warm and we had a short break we started to open up our creative minds and create our own mini solo. Unlike any other dance shops we have attended before this one allowed us to open our creative minds and create a brand new sequence. We started by taking 3 separate moves from the warm up and combining them.

We were subsequently told to create a dance move as soon as we were told the phrase, 'crease' was the chosen one. For the next move we used the word 'open', with these 5 moves we combined them together into a sequence and use different levels to create dynamics.



Robert decided that it would look effective if we started to move more around the room in the sequence. His creative ideas, meant that we would use the first letter of your name for combined sequence. The workshop was a great opportunity to develop our skills in contemporary dance, open our creative minds and share different elements and skills of our routine.

By Ellen Cunningham and Sarah Van Zyl

On 2nd April, the Year 10 BTEC Performing Arts classes participated in a workshop with the UCLAN Dance Company. We performed contemporary travelling exercises across the floor to warm up our muscles.



The aim of the workshop was to develop our contemporary dance skills. We learned about dancing in a way that feels good to our bodies, without caring about how we looked from the audience's perspective. We worked with partners to travel across the floor and explored statements like 'turning, without turning, whilst turning' using different rhythms that we created with our feet and bodies.

After the workshop, we watched a performance from the UCLAN dance company entitled 'I'm Here'. The piece explored how 16 women's lives are all different and will lead to different things but they were here at that moment to perform and teach to us. It was performed by third-year degree students from UCLAN whose performance was filmed by a professional. The piece is choreographed by Rachel Kirsche who has had a professional career spanning 26 years and has won the Jerwood Choreography Award.

After the performance, we had a question and answer session with the performers. The performers explained to us about life at university and the pressures of a dance degree. We talked about the different backgrounds that can lead you into a degree at UCLAN.

Overall, it was a wonderful experience and very interesting to see the different dance styles in action.

(Reporters - Niamh Banks and Katie Melling)



Amelia Secures Prestigious Dance Scholarship

Amelia Maddox (Year 11), is commonly found participating in extra-curricular dance and supporting the liturgical life of our school in assemblies and Masses. The Sandham Fitchett Dance School pupil will now be able to follow her passion next year having secured a place at the Royal Northern Ballet School in Manchester. Amelia was required to attend a number of challenging auditions to gain her place at the much respected academy. Many congratulations Amelia!



United Utilities Vlogstar Competition 2019

Congratulations to Ben Hawarden in Year 8 who was shortlisted in the United Utilities Vlogstar competition. The aim of the competition was to raise awareness of what you should not flush down the toilet and the environmental and economic impact caused by flushing non-biodegradable wet wipes down the loo by creating a video 'vlog'.

Ben was shortlisted to the final 6 from hundreds of entries and the school really got behind the competition by voting for his vlog. He came 3rd overall which is a huge achievement.

Ben and Mr Adamson went along to the United Utilities Headquarters in Warrington to a presentation day and received a cheque for the school for £250. Ben also received a certificate and a £50 Amazon voucher.

Well done to everyone involved who submitted an entry form. Keep an eye out for the 2020 Vlogstar Competition!



Whole School Rewards

On return to school after the Easter break we will hold the first prize draws from our recently re-launched rewards system. Pupils who have been busily accumulating rewards points for both their academic and extra-curricular achievements will be entered into the draws which will take place in year assemblies.

In another change to our rewards programme this academic year, pupils in Years 7 to 10 will be visiting Blackpool on Thursday 11th July. This is an ambitious change to the format of the previous rewards trips as the whole school population will be catered for on one single day. If any school can do this successfully, All Hallows can!

PTFA Support

I am sure that many of you have encountered members of our school PTFA when attending our annual programme of events. We are indebted to this small, but effective group of volunteers who raise funds each year to support the provision for our pupils by donating to any number of departments across the school. I would like to take the opportunity to pay tribute to their commitment to our school and to remind any of our parents who would like to join the ranks that meetings take place at school on the first Tuesday of each month at 6.30 pm. All are welcome!

Year 11 GCSE Preparation

The school year revolves ever so fast. In early May, soon after we return to school after the Easter break, our current Year 11 cohort will begin its GCSE examinations. Both the stress and anxiety levels of our young people can become heightened at this time and we all need to offer them as much support and TLC as possible. Should any parents of Year 11 pupils feel the need to seek our help at this challenging time, please do not hesitate to contact key pastoral staff who will be only too willing to offer advice. I must pay tribute to my colleagues at this time, both teaching and support staff who are working tirelessly to guide our Year 11s to the finish line. An extensive list of extra revision classes both after school and during the Easter break is available for your information. We wish our Year 11 pupils the best of luck as they enter to final few weeks of preparation.

Goodbye To A Much Loved Colleague

On return to school following the Easter break we will be without Brendan Mulligan, our Technology Technician, who will be leaving the school after 8 years of dedicated service. Brendan will be missed by staff and pupils alike who speak highly of his work and warmly of his presence in our school. We wish him a long and happy retirement.





Dates For Your Diary

Tuesday 23rd April – Return to school following Easter break

Thursday 25th April – Year 9 Parents' Evening

Monday 29th April – Exam weeks (2) for Year 9 pupils

