

All Hallows Catholic High School

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Headteacher: Mr C Horrocks B.A.



Newsletter Friday December 16th 2022

Free School Meal Support

For those pupils who are in receipt of free school meals, we are pleased to inform you that Edenred vouchers to the value of £30 are being provided for the Christmas period. Parents and carers should check their online accounts to enable them to access the vouchers which have now been dispatched.

Christmas Lunch

Yesterday, close to 400 pupils enjoyed a lovely Christmas lunch which was prepared and served by our brilliant catering staff. As you may imagine, a military style operation is required to make this a successful event for all. Many thanks must go to our catering staff and teaching and support staff, who all worked together to give the pupils a festive treat.

Senior Citizens Party

After an absence of two years due to the pandemic, we were so pleased earlier this week to welcome back onto our site members of the local community to celebrate Christmas with our pupils. The senior citizens were treated to food prepared by our kitchen staff and songs and dance from our pupils, whilst other pupils helped to serve them throughout the afternoon. I would like to thank all the people involved, especially Kate, our Chaplin, for coordinating the event, Mrs Colclough and the Performing Arts Department for organising the music and Mr McMullen for organising a quiz. Having said that, our visitors declared the quiz 'just a bit too hard' this year. 12 months to plan the next one, Mr McMullen!

Two Great Achievements!

William Moorhouse, our current Head Boy, has been successful in gaining a scholarship to study at Eton College when he leaves school after his GCSE exams. This is a remarkable achievement, which sees William following in the footsteps of Daniel Cunningham from last years' Year 11, who also gained a place at Eton. It will be nice for William to have Daniel there to 'show him the ropes'.

Also, we must celebrate the achievement of Poppi Watson a member of this year's Year 11 cohort, who has also gained a scholarship to train and study after she leaves us next year. Poppi recently came second in the U17 Red Rose Cross Country League despite being a year below the age group. Following this, she has been offered a scholarship in America due to her talent as a runner. Well done Poppi!

Christmas Retirements

As I informed parents and carers at the end of the last academic year, I will leave the school at Christmas to become semi-retired. Please see attached following this newsletter to read my final letter to you.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Westgarth, our Finance Officer, for her long and successful service to the school. She joined us 13 years ago from the world of banking and has been outstanding in her work carrying out the vital task of looking after the school's finances. She will be very much missed, but we wish her all the best in her retirement.

FutureChef Local Heat December 2022

On Friday 9th December, Alfie in Year 10 and Austin in Year 11 were the school heat finalists who travelled across to Blackpool & Fylde College, Bispham Campus to take part in the Lancashire & Cumbria heat of the competition. They were 2 of the pupils taking part in the largest UK local heat so the competition



Congratulations

was fierce. All students were required to cook 2 portions of a main course with a £5 budget and within a 1 hour time frame and serve. The competition was judged by chefs from leading food suppliers and hotels.

All pupils taking part worked incredibly hard using skills such as butchery, pastry making, pasta making, sauce making and much much more. The standard was exceptional. Both boys had worked fantastically well in what is a very tough, demanding and energy zapping time. After the judges reached their decision we discovered that Alfie had in fact won the heat! He was very shocked to say the least but we were very proud.

This great news means that he will now receive mentoring from a chef before taking part in the Regional final (Lancs/Cumbria, Manchester, Liverpool) in St Helen's in early January 2023. The winner of this heat will gain a place in the National Final at Westminster College, London. We wish him all the best for the next phase of the competition.

A little note from our Deputy Headteacher, Mr McMullen



This Christmas we mark the departure of Mr Horrocks who is semi-retiring. He will be leaving All Hallows after four and a half successful years. Mr Horrocks came to All Hallows as the school's fourth Headteacher in 2018. He had previously worked as Headteacher at St. Bede's Catholic High School in Ormskirk and St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic High School in Knowsley. Mr Horrocks had spent much of his earlier career in St Augustine's Catholic High School in Billington.

All Hallows has benefitted hugely from Mr Horrocks's leadership and this was particularly apparent as Covid hit the UK. Headteachers had to deal with a unique and unknown situation and had to respond to ever-changing guidelines provided by the Government. Our school community was led through these difficult times by a Head who clearly had one aim and that was to keep the whole community safe, whilst minimising as much as possible the disruption to learning and school life.

Post-Covid, Mr Horrocks has been keen to develop and support the return of all school community and extracurricular activities. As a former PE teacher, one of his great passions is sport and he has often been an onlooker at many of the sporting events over the past 4 years. Despite Covid, he has also enjoyed supporting musical productions and recent Christmas events. In the classroom Mr Horrocks has taught History and he has been a leading figure in the support provided to last year's Year 11 as they approached the first set of post-Covid examinations. Under Mr Horrocks's leadership this year group achieved some of the highest results ever achieved by All Hallows pupils.

His greatest strength has clearly been the value he puts into relationships. He has been greatly respected and loved by pupils, staff, parents and governors alike. He has lived out the Gospel in our faith community through his words and his actions.

His contribution to the success and direction of All Hallows has been significant and during his work for many years in both Salford Diocese and Liverpool Archdiocese he has contributed in a hugely important way to the provision and development of Catholic Education. Mr Horrocks is now leaving us to take up a part time role in Salford Diocese focusing on school improvement within a Catholic Academy Trust. He has made a difference to the lives of so many pupils and staff and he will be greatly missed. We wish him a long and happy retirement with his wife and family.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "C. Horrocks". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Mr C Horrocks

Headteacher