

ISSUE 11 • JULY 2015

# HEART NEWS

**SACRED HEART CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**

"I would have founded the society for the sake of one child"  
MADELEINE SOPHIE BARAT



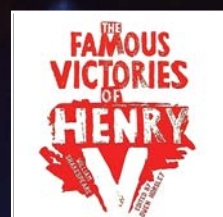
## TURNER GALLERY SUCCESS

Student exhibiting in galleries  
across the UK



## ROCK SCHOOL

Student gig at the O2 Academy





## BBC Newsround comes to Newcastle!

In the run up to the May General Election, Charlotte Haddon from Year 8 was given a very exciting opportunity to join the team of BBC Newsround and go behind the scenes of the RVI in order to investigate why the NHS is so important to our country.

Alongside a student from St Cuthbert's she joined Martin, the Newsround presenter, in interviewing an NHS Consultant about how the NHS works and what his opinions were as to why free healthcare is such an asset for the UK. The team were then given a tour around a Children's Ward and the chance to chat to some of the nurses and other members of staff about their experiences and what their job roles entail.

Given the chance at the end to personally reflect, both Charlotte and her fellow St Cuthbert's student made highly insightful comments about the level of team work they had seen in the hospital and how everyone works together to ensure that we have somewhere to go, and someone to treat us free of charge, if we become ill.

Overall it was a fantastic experience and Charlotte gained insights into both the work of the NHS and also how television programmes are planned, researched and put together – it's a very complicated process!

If you want to watch the clip, have a look at the Newsround webpage via this link:  
[www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/32556015](http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/32556015)

**Good work, Charlotte!**



## VISITORS TO SACRED HEART

This year we have been lucky enough to welcome two visitors to school who have helped us to reflect on this year's Sacred Heart Goal - Social Awareness.

Sr. Cecile Meijer rscj is one of the Society of the Sacred Heart's representatives at the UN. The Society has been present at the United Nations as a non-governmental organisation (NGO) since early 2003. Their aim is twofold: to share information with the order and the wider Sacred Heart family about critical world issues, and to give the sisters the opportunity to contribute their experience, reflection and analysis to the international policy debate.

Sr. Cecile was in England to deliver a prestigious lecture at Roehampton University but she took time to visit all the Sacred Heart schools in England. Her visit to Fenham was extremely popular - especially with A Level Geographers and members of the Justice and Peace Group.

**Sr. Cecile's talk covered issues as diverse as human rights, the MDGs (Millennium Development Goals), the environment and our planet, peace, poverty and people on the move (migrants, refugees, IDPs).**

The students welcomed the opportunity to pose questions to someone whose work takes them so close to the centre of political power and influence. However, it was also abundantly clear that they were talking to someone who was a member of the same worldwide family. It was a tangible reminder of the shared ethos of a Sacred Heart education and the need to put our Goal of Social Awareness into action.

Our second visitor was Eva Clarke who was born in Mauthausen Concentration Camp, Austria, on 29th April 1945. She and her mother are the only survivors of their family, 15 members of whom were killed in Auschwitz: 3 of Eva's grandparents, her father, uncles, aunts and her 7 year old cousin, Peter.

Eva visits schools on behalf of the Holocaust Educational Trust. She tells the story of her family's persecution in Nazi controlled Europe, her birth at Mauthausen and the way in which she and her mother survived the chaos of post war Europe.

Her story was received in complete silence by members of Year 9 and the Sixth Form and was followed by a range of thought provoking questions. Hearing about these issues at first hand reinforced the work being carried out in history lessons and again reminded the students of the need to be aware of world events.

**Following the talk, Eva met a small group of Sixth Formers including the Head Girls and the students who had visited Auschwitz as part of the Lessons From Auschwitz Project. Students also took part in workshops organised by the Holocaust Educational Trust.**







# The Royal Shakespeare Company perform at Sacred Heart

**On Thursday 2nd July, the Royal Shakespeare Company took up residence in our school hall to perform 'The Famous Victories of Henry V'. A matinee performance was given to our Year 7 students, followed by an evening performance at 7pm for parents, staff, and children from our local primary schools.**

The production is a condensed version of three Shakespeare history plays, Henry IV Parts I and II and Henry V. Directed by Owen Horsley and aimed at children aged eight to 13, it coincides with the 600th anniversary of the Battle of Agincourt which figures in Henry V.

After giving two performances at Newcastle Theatre Royal, the RSC gave two more at St Michael's primary school before moving to Sacred Heart. The North East tour is part of the RSC's Learning and Performance Network, a three-year touring and education partnership with 10 regional theatres, including the Theatre Royal, and schools in each area.

The show started with all cast members explaining the plot, and engaging everyone in some audience participation to add to the atmosphere of the performance.

In the touring production seven actors play a range of parts with Martin Bassendale as Henry V and Simon Yadoo as Falstaff.

**This performance has been part of a longer term project between our school and the Royal Shakespeare Company, and we are very excited about welcoming them back next year to work with our girls on "A Midsummer Night's Dream".**



## Final Justice & Peace update of the year!

**As the year winds to a close, so does the fantastic work of Justice and Peace for the time being! The girls have done a fantastic job all year and have helped raise awareness of a variety of causes both locally and internationally.**

Here is a brief summary of some of our group's finer moments:

- Organising the 'Can for Christmas' appeal in December. As a school we all clubbed together and donated a can of food each. These were then distributed to the West End Foodbank and the Diocesan Refugee Project
- Raising awareness of the '5p bus' - this is a project run by St Cuthbert's Care and throughout the school girls donated clothes and a variety of other items to be sold on the bus, in some of Newcastle's most deprived areas, for only 5p
- Continuing to run a highly successful Traidcraft stall, the funds from which go to support communities and producers in developing countries
- Maintain high attendance at our monthly 'Bread and Cheese Lunches', where we also fundraise to support the young girl we sponsor in Rwanda
- Continuing to broaden our horizons and raise our own, and others, awareness of issues that need our attention both here in Newcastle and around the globe. We have heard from speakers from The Samaritans, Freedom from Torture, CAFOD and many more.

**I am sure you will agree it has been a fantastic year for the group and we are all really looking forward to continuing our good work from September, when I am sure we will be welcoming plenty of new members!**





## Year 7 Students Work with Animation Artist

**In May, we welcomed Guy Schofield, an artist from the Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art to work in the department on an animation project with Mrs Ashburn and 7G.**

The students listened to a piece of music then responded by creating a narrative to fit the mood. They worked in teams to produce characters, scenery and animated stories which were then filmed by the artist.

Some feedback from the sessions...

**"An amazing experience."**

**HOLLY DAVIDSON**

**"Really good fun to work with a real artist."**

**BETHANY ARMSTRONG**

**"Very different from our usual art lessons."**

**BETH DIMAMBRO**



## Sacred Heart Feast Day

# BEAMISH WILD

On the 12th of June year 7 went to Beamish Wild to celebrate Sacred Heart Feast Day.

**At the start of the day my friends and I were all very excited to get there and see what activities they had in store for us. When we arrived we listened to Miss Evans and she told us what activities we were going to participate in. The first activity was the birds of prey show. Everyone enjoyed the show, which was very interactive and informative. However, everyone was scared when the birds flew over their heads, but the birds were amazing and very fast when it came to flying.**

The next activity my group participated in was Jacob's ladder, Miss Gibson went first with Maheen and Elle. Maheen and Elle managed to climb a few steps on the ladder, but when it came to Miss Gibson she backed out.

Then it was shelter building Graham (one of the instructors) helped us and when it came to snapping the branches and he gave us good tips on where to put the branches when we were creating our shelter. Every group were involved in different sets of activities such as: archery, crate stack, treasure hunt and high all board.

Then when we had finished our activities we could go for lunch. That was when we went into the adventure playground and had lots of fun with our friends.

Overall I think that the exciting activities allowed us to bond and discover our sense of community with our peers.

**I would give the day 5 stars out of 5, because the activities, the weather and spending time with the year group made the day very enjoyable. On behalf of year 7 we would like to thank Miss Evans, Mrs Burgess and all of the staff that were involved in making the day a success.**

**BY EVIE MASON 7E**

## Newcastle Library Art Exhibition

**Work has been produced for Exhibition at Newcastle Central library by two groups of students.**

Year 10 and 8 students had the opportunity to work with Artist Effie Burns at Sunderland Glass centre. Their fused glass work has been framed and is on display at Newcastle Central library from 4th June for a week.

Year 8 students Textiles work responding to the local heritage and traditions of fishing and proggy accompanies the glass work. Colourful proggy wall hangings took inspiration from shapes from the sea including fish and shells.





# CERAMICS WORKSHOP

**25 Year 8 girls recently took part in a ceramic skills workshop after school.**

All of the girls were inspired by the recent Mariner9 exhibition at the Laing Art Gallery and produced their very own Ceramic Alien faces. All of the girls learnt how to create a range of forms and texture using clay. The finished work will be fired and glazed.



## GCSE and A Level Fine Art & Ceramic Exhibitions

**It has been a busy term for exams, moderation and final exhibitions of A level and GCSE work.**

A level ceramic work is on display in the Dance Studio Cabinets and Fine art work has been exhibited in the Ceramic studio and art corridors. An exhibition evening welcomed students, staff, friends and family to celebrate the girls' achievements. The work displayed paid testament to the varied talents and creative possibilities in the subject. Portraiture, textiles, amphora vessels, landscapes and mixed media work demonstrated the vast range of talents we have here at Sacred Heart.



Both Exhibitions have been used as a teaching tool for younger students to demonstrate progress, good practice and showcase the wide range of exciting ideas and media employed by the A Level students.

## TURNER GALLERY SUCCESS

We have the fantastic news of one of our year 13 Ceramic A level student's work chosen for exhibition in Galleries across the UK including the Turner Contemporary. Lauren told us how the work ended up on show,

**"I entered online and was chosen from people all over the country by a panel of art curators, educators artists and young people. It is currently exhibiting in the Turner Contemporary in Margate alongside Grayson Perry until the 6th September before going onto the Newark museum and art gallery in Leicester from the 16 January until 6 March 2016 and Quay Arts in Isle of Wight from 21 March until 1 May 2016. It will also be part of an online exhibition going live this summer."**

This represents the achievement and dedication Lauren has demonstrated towards art and specifically ceramics. The progress she has made since constructing her first clay pot in year 10 is outstanding. Well done Lauren!

## Year 12 Visits to Galleries and Degree Shows

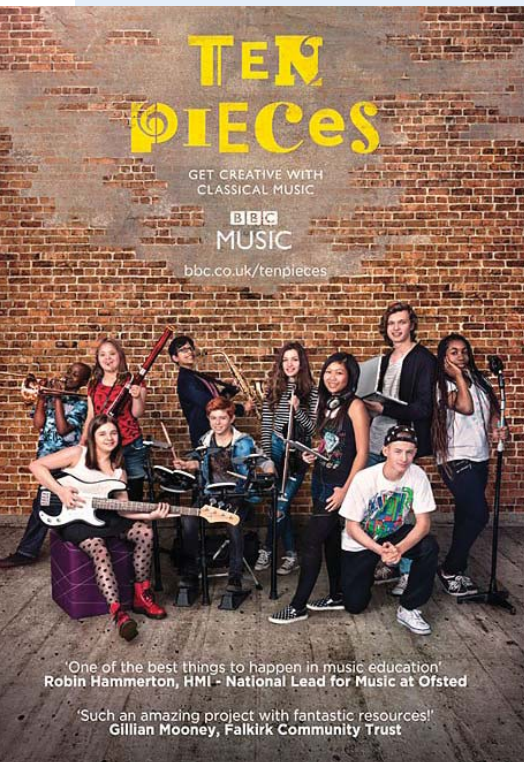
**Year 12 students have attended visits to the Northumbrian Undergraduate Degree show, Sunderland Glass Degree show, Biscuit factory, Laing Gallery, Hatton, Shipley and the Baltic Gallery.**

The various trips were designed to inspire their start to A2 studies by experiencing a variety of different art works and media. The University trips also demonstrated routes of progression to further education.

An additional trip was put on this year during year 12 study leave this year. We organised for Art students to visit the Edinburgh Degree Shows. This is an inspiring event presenting students with many exciting ideas and exploring possible routes of further education and progression.







## BBC Ten Pieces Project

**Students at Sacred Heart are very excited to be part of the BBC Ten Pieces project in 2015-16. This classical music project for secondary schools culminates in the chance to have a composition played at the internationally renowned BBC Proms Festival.**

The aim of the project is to "open up the world of classical music to children aged 11 and above, inspiring them to respond creatively to the repertoire. An inspirational new cinematic film will feature stunning footage of the BBC Philharmonic performing a new selection of orchestral music, representing a wide range of styles and eras relevant to the music curriculum."

GCSE and A Level Music students at Sacred Heart will attend a special film screening of the Ten Pieces in October 2015, and will then be invited to take part in creative composition projects in order to write music in response to the pieces.

High profile musicians including Nicola Benedetti, Cerys Matthews, Julian Lloyd Webber and Nitin Sawhney are all ambassadors for the project, which has been highly successful in primary schools across the country in 2014-15.

# ROCK SCHOOL



On February 12th 2015, the Rock school gig took place that the Year 10 and 11 Btec music class organised, alongside the music teachers Miss Bloomfield and Mr Oates. It took over 7 weeks to plan and organise. All of the students who took part were enthusiastic and made fantastic contributions.

We visited the venue a few weeks before the gig to plan out our arrangements and to have a tour of the O2 Academy which was a highlight of the planning process, we also had the opportunity to design and make our own merchandise which year 10 thoroughly enjoyed.

Year 11 created and designed band logos for those who didn't have a logo and created the social media accounts for the gig e.g. Instagram etc. When we saw the bands on stage and how well they performed we were so pleased our hard work had turned into a fantastic event for everyone to see.

**We were all given orange lanyards to show and represent Btec music and our roles for the night as Merchandise sellers, Photographers and Helpers to the public and the bands. Overall it was a fantastic experience and we learnt so much about the music industry and organisation.**

WRITTEN BY AMBER DISHMAN  
AND FRAN STOREY







## Northern Stage Easter Concert

**Over 180 students took part in the Music Department Easter Concert at Northern Stage in March.**

Students from Year 7 to Year 13 performed a huge variety of music featuring composers from Brahms and Herbie Hancock through to Taylor Swift, Handel, Dvorak and Elton John. The concert began with a performance from our resident Jazz group: zzaJ.

Also featuring in the first half were performances from the Chamber Choirs, String Quartet, Soloists and the Senior Choir and Orchestra. The first half ended in style with a spectacular joint item from the Senior Choir and Orchestra, who joined forces to perform the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's Messiah.

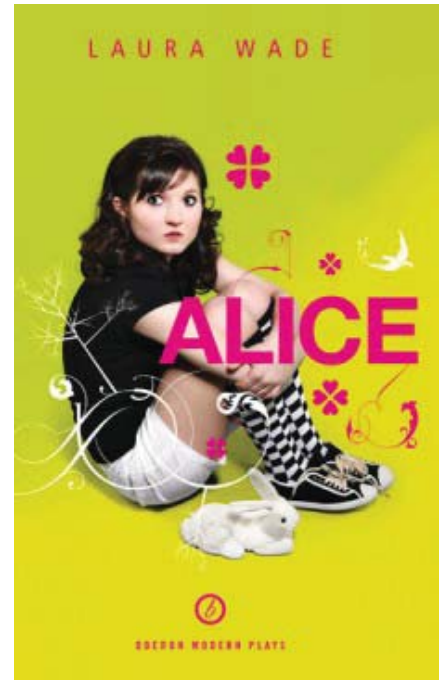
Five student rock bands: Skylight, Just War Theory, Abstract Silence, Project X, Depfs and Formidable Youth opened the second half, performing songs by Ed Sheeran and Mark Ronson to name a few.

The Junior Woodwind and Strings groups also gave fabulous performances of pieces from the soundtrack for Lord of the Rings and Dvorak's Slavonic Dances. The concert finished in celebratory style with the Junior Choir performing a medley of songs from the hit musical, The Lion King.

Playing in a professional venue like Northern Stage always proves exciting and there is no doubt that it gives students excellent experience in many ways.

It also hopefully helps to create memories of school that they can keep with them for a lifetime.

**As ever the girls rose to the occasion, giving performances of an excellent standard, executed with enthusiasm and energy. We look forward to next year's event!**



## Performing Arts June 2015

**At present we are preparing for two performances, the first being our annual senior show 'High School Musical'. Secondly, 80 students from key stage 3 and 4 have auditioned for a part in Laura Wade's 'Alice' which will be performed in November 2016. Casting the show is proving extremely difficult as the talent demonstrated was first class.**

Our Northern Stage project 'Big and Small' with Year 2's primary students was devised and performed this term, feedback from students, parents and primary staff was fantastic. Next year the project will be its tenth year, we hope to suitably mark this occasion.

Year 5 Festival Days were hugely successful again this year. Students enjoyed Dance workshops lead by Miss Baldwin and Y12 World Ballroom champion Georgia Wilkins.

Our annual 'Speech and Drama Competition' for Year 7 has been adapted to link with the RSC project. Each Year 7 form class is busy rehearsing a five minute scene from 'The Famous Victories of Henry V'. The contest will take place on Thursday 16th July with judges from The Theatre Royal and Northern Stage.

### DATES FOR THE DIARY

July 2nd - RSC performances of The Famous Victories of Henry V  
July 7, 8, 9th - High School Musical  
July 16th - Year 7 Speech and Drama

## JUNIOR RECITAL CONCERT

**Students from Year 7 to 9 were invited to take part in the Junior Recital Concert, held in school on the 18th June. Many bravely volunteered to share their talents with each other and an appreciative audience of teachers, parents and friends. The following girls performed at the concert and deserve a special mention for giving such great performances:**

Angel Zhang, Arthiga Kalaichelvam, Blessita Sabu, Cara Willacy, Lucy Moran, Joie Badilla, Paulina Bartolome, Yiping Lin, Chidalu Onyebuchi, Erin Harrison-McGrady, Georgina Kelly, Chloe Leadbeater, Honor Bourke, Elin Devine-Douglass, Ailbhe Sweeney, Sarah Orton, Lucy Carne, Dayna Robertson, Emily Fife, Hannah McGrady, Eva Ruane, Emily Robinson, Isla Thompson, Geneva Bartolome, Holly Noble, Lucia Bowers, Maggie Mi, Michalina Behrendt, Pari Balu,



Pheacc Tenoc and Tessa Stockwell.

Pieces played ranged from the Blue Danube Waltz by Strauss to Centuries by Fall out Boy, and some students also performed their very own compositions. Three bands from Junior Rock School (held on a Tuesday night after school every week) also performed for the first time. The evening was a great success and a timely reminder of the many talented musicians we have here at Sacred Heart.



# Academic heritage and success in the heart of Newcastle

**SACRED HEART HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS HAS BEEN DEVOTED TO THE EDUCATION OF WOMEN SINCE 1905. HERE, HEADMISTRESS MRS BATH TELLS US MORE ABOUT THE SCHOOL'S VALUES AND ITS SUCCESSFUL APPROACH.**

Sacred Heart High School is part of a worldwide network of schools founded in the 1800s by St Madeleine Sophie Barat, eight of which are in the UK. The network stretches from Hammersmith to Rome and New York City to Mexico City.

Our family of Sacred Heart schools was established after the French Revolution with the foremost intention of educating girls – the women of the future – who would make society a better place for everyone.

This burning ambition of our founder is still what drives our school in Fenham today, as we strive to provide a world-class education for the girls in our care – something we are very successful at achieving.

## A LONG TRACK RECORD OF SUCCESS

Sacred Heart has been an Ofsted Outstanding school since 2007 and is one of a handful of schools in our region to remain Outstanding under the new inspection framework.

Our results consistently place us in the top 100 of state funded schools nationally. Indeed, in the recent Times league tables, Sacred Heart was the top performing state school, achieving better results than some independent schools.

This year's GCSE results have been the best ever with 82 per cent of our students achieving five or more A\*-C grades including English and Maths at first entry, and this in a year of examination turmoil where results fell dramatically. Almost one in five girls also gained eight or more A\*/A grades which is a fantastic achievement. Nationally, only one in five grades are A\*/A, but at Sacred Heart this is now more than one in three, at 35 per cent.

## UNIVERSITY SUCCESS

Again our results at A level are superb. Students achieve both the highest grades and highest proportion of AAB grades at A level within state schools in the city. Last year 25 per cent of grades were A\*/A, one in five students achieved two or more A\*/A and better than one in three achieved two or more A\*-B. This ensures that our students leave us for Russell Group Universities to follow high tariff courses such as medicine, architecture, computing, dentistry and economics.

This year, three of our students have secured places at Oxbridge, whilst others are heading for local destinations such as Durham and Newcastle with whom we have forged close links. Other popular university choices include LAMDA, LSE, Imperial and UCL.

Our newly extended and refurbished Sixth Form centre offers superb facilities for study, which rival university campus facilities and enable our students to flourish as they prepare for their examinations and the adult world beyond.

Whilst our school is single sex in years 7-11, in the Sixth Form we welcome boys from our partner school St Cuthbert's, and so both genders are able to work together and share in common events that will prepare them for either higher education or the

world of work. We believe this approach works particularly well and our results are testament to this.

## THE WHOLE CHILD

The education of the 'whole child' is integral to our Sacred Heart philosophy. As we live in society with others, relationships are a vital part of this education. Much time and emphasis is placed on fostering good relationships, and showing consideration and respect for others.

We also provide a vast array of extra-curricular activities for our girls to experience. Indeed, many of our students participate in sport at regional and national level. As well as a packed programme of after school clubs, we run Duke of Edinburgh to gold standard, with expeditions taking place throughout the year. We want our school to provide life long memories for our students and as a result, we run annual trips to destinations such as Barcelona, Bergamo Italy, and the French Alps, with charitable expeditions to Morocco and Uganda.

Sacred Heart prides itself in its commitment to the performing arts, which means students can access fabulous facilities for music, dance and drama. Each year our students participate in a wonderful music evening at Northern Stage and this year the Royal Shakespeare Company will stage Henry Vth on our school stage using some of our students as actors.

## FAQs

### Do you have to be a Catholic to join Sacred Heart?

**No.** Whilst many of our students come from Catholic families, a large proportion are not and are from families who want their daughters to be educated in a faith setting. Each year about 25 places are reserved for girls who have a talent for the performing arts and want to attend a school that will enable them to develop their talents further. All of this is clearly set out in our admissions criteria, available on the Sacred Heart website.

### Can I visit Sacred Heart during the school day?

**Yes.** As well as official open evenings for prospective Year 7 parents and Sixth form, we run visits throughout the year, where parents are welcome to see the school in operation and ask questions to the senior leader who will conduct the tour.

**If you would like to visit Sacred Heart, contact Margaret Heron on tel (0191) 275 1910 or email [Margaret.Heron@shhs.org.uk](mailto:Margaret.Heron@shhs.org.uk). Sacred Heart Catholic High School, Fenham Hall Drive, Fenham, Newcastle, NE4 9YH.**









## Year 8 Travel to Westminster to Celebrate Eight Hundred Years since Magna Carta

Twenty seven pupils from Year 8 travelled to London to take part in activities hosted by the Houses of Parliament's Parliamentary Archives to celebrate the De Montfort Project, an outreach project inspired by the eight hundred years since the Magna Carta was sealed and seven hundred and fifty years since the meeting of the De Montfort Parliament in 1265. Both historical events helped to eventually pave the way for our modern, democratic Houses of Parliament.

**The pupils, selected for their achievements in History lessons, have been working in conjunction with the Tyne and Wear Archives at the Discovery Museum to learn about the life and impact of four local 'radical' politicians, Joseph Cowen, Lord Lawson of Beamish, Earl Grey and Ellen Wilkinson. After taking part in a workshop at the Discovery Museum pupils travelled to Westminster to visit the Parliamentary Archives and take part in further research activities.**

Melanie Wardle, Esha Zain, Jennifer Aziakanou, Bethany Battista, Jayden Fitzgerald, Libby Howe, Sophie Chapell, Victoria Chikwem, Yiping Lin, Lucy Moran, Cara Willacy, Mya Abdul, Sana Akram, Sabah Ditta, Hollie Finlay and Olivia Forster.



## St Mary's Lighthouse

Year 12 Biology A-Level students will spend 7th July at St Mary's Lighthouse on the surrounding rocky shore taking part in rock pooling, species identification and habitat sampling techniques (using quadrats and transects) with accompanying statistical methods.



Other highlights included a tour of the Victoria Tower, seeing some of England's oldest Acts of Parliament, one dating back as far as 1497 and England's longest Act of Parliament from 1821 which is nearly a quarter of a mile long and takes two men a day to rewind. Year 8 also saw Acts signed by Henry VIII and Elizabeth I and a banner exhibition charting major laws that have made a difference in Westminster Hall.

Following their trip to London Year 8 will undertake further work for the Project, including making a banner to celebrate the lives of the four politicians they have studied and attending an evening celebration at the Discovery Museum.

Pupils on the trip included Rita Maymbala, Jessie Mzembe, Tilly Symonds, Lauryn Airson, Indira Castillo, Georgia Child, Olivia Davison, Zenab Sohail, Nandi Mabaso, Adele Mumford, Madiha Tehmoor,



# Geography Trip to Italy

Earlier in the year, the Year 13 Geography students went on a 3 day field trip to Northern Italy. Accompanied by Mr Bradley and Mrs Banfield, the group visited a range of different places to learn about the human and physical Geography of the area.

They spent a day at Lake Como, going up into the mountains by cable car from the town of Lecco. This allowed them to observe first-hand the glacial features of this mountain environment. In addition to this, the group travelled to Milan and researched how the region had retained a strong cultural identity in the face of the growing globalisation of Europe.



The trip was a great success and the ice creams and exceptional coffee were an added bonus.

If you would like any more information about the trips and visits available to those who study Geography at Sacred Heart please ask any of your Geography teachers.

▲ AT THE TOP OF THE P'IANI DE ERNA CABLE CAR - 1300 M ABOVE LAKE COMO  
▼ AT LA CITTA ALTO IN BERGAMO, THE 'OLD TOWN' - ACCESSED BY FUNICULAR RAILWAY.



# Year 7 Retreat

In March, Year 7 took part in a retreat to the Youth Village. The topic of the visit was 'stepping back'.

**During the visit we did lots of team activities and reflection on our lives and what we have. The visit really helped us change our vision on everything we have to be thankful for and how we live. It helped us know when to stop, step back and appreciate all we have.**

As well as doing this we had lots of fun playing different games such as 'giant jenga' and 'protect the egg'. During the trip we had time to get to know one another better which helped us to become more confident around our friends.

# Sixth Form Festival

**On 22nd June twenty-four sixth form students attended the diocesan Sixth Form Festival at the Youth Village, near Consett.**

The weather was not looking great as we set off and as we got closer to our destination the rain really set in but we were not going to let it dampen our spirits! Upon arrival we joined all of the other students from various schools in the diocese in the marquee and began with some worship together - the upbeat music really got us up and dancing!

The theme of the Festival was 'Forgiveness' and we were joined by Father Jim Clarke, a Priest who had travelled from California to talk to us at the Youth Village. He spoke of his own experiences of forgiveness and, while acknowledging how difficult it is to forgive both those who have wronged us and ourselves, told us how important it is to keep working to try and achieve this. His talk gave us all a lot to think about and we were keen to discuss things further.

We then split up into small groups which gave us a fantastic opportunity to share our thoughts with other students we did not know. After learning the names of

those in our group in a highly entertaining manner (including hopping around on one leg, throwing a ball around and a member of our group doing a very energetic dance) we settled down to ask ourselves some questions about what forgiveness means. We really challenged ourselves, and each other, to think about things we had heard from Father Jim and by the end of our group session we had come up with a further question we wanted him to answer - which he did before the end of the day. By this point we were all rather hungry and dashed through the rain to the food marquee where we had a delicious meal together.



After lunch we were all given the opportunity to listen to Eva Clarke, a Holocaust survivor, give her testimony. Many of us from Sacred Heart had already heard her speak yet it was incredible to hear her story again and we all agreed that we took a message from it on this occasion that was different to that we had taken the time before.

**It was then time to close with a final message from Bishop Seamus and one more song from the band! All in all we had a fantastic day that was entertaining, thought provoking, moving and highly memorable.**





## Sacred Heart's Word Millionaires Celebrate Their Success!

On Wednesday 17th June, Sacred Heart's 83 Word Millionaires all gathered in the Library to take part in a celebration of their success. During this academic year, each of these students has read over 1 million words, and many of them have read a lot more!

As part of KS3's Accelerated Reader scheme, every student takes quizzes on the books they have been reading at home and at school and every time a quiz is taken, the system calculates the number of words read. Our top reader this year, Pari Balu, has read a total of 5,252,547 words this year. Congratulations Pari!

Students at the party enjoyed takeaway pizza, drinks and cakes throughout lunchtime whilst discussing their reading and favourite books with friends. The English department would like to congratulate every word millionaire and every reader in the school for their hard work this year!

**Our school has a great culture of reading, which is demonstrated every day. Keep up the hard work, and we hope to see you at the Word Millionaires' Pizza Party next year!**

# ARMY WORK EXPERIENCE



During the Easter Holidays an elite team of Year 10 girls braved the wilds of Catterick to partake in Army Work Experience week.

This included: shooting simulation; marching; field work; setting up camp (without tents) in the woods; trekking with a full kit including a replica rifle; camouflage activities; a 1.5 mile run; and a grueling assault course.

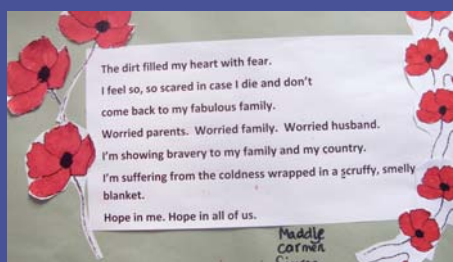
**The 18 girls who completed the course gained great insight into the importance of teamwork, encouraging others and working together as one unit, each of them a cog in a well oiled machine.**



# 'LEST WE FORGET'

**Studying WW1 poetry led 8B to create their own moving poems, some based on WW1, others based on experiences of fathers who had been in Afghanistan.**

The images of poppy has been used since 1921 to commemorate soldiers who have died in war. Inspired by the World War I poem "In Flanders Fields" by John McCrae. They are used in the UK and throughout the Commonwealth to commemorate their servicemen and women killed in all conflicts since 1914.



The remembrance poppy is especially prominent in the UK. In the weeks leading up to Remembrance Sunday, they are distributed by The Royal British Legion in return for donations to their "Poppy Appeal", which supports all current and former British military personnel.

Well done Amber, Tanya E, Maddie, Bethany, Faye, Tanya A, Carmen, Simran, Divine, Sabrina, Sara and Ellie.





## UKMT - JUNIOR CHALLENGE

**In May the 120 pupils from Year 7 and 8 took part in the UKMT Junior Challenge. 4 girls achieved Gold certificates, 13 Silver and 27 Bronze.**

Based on their high performance in the Intermediate Challenge, two Year 9 girls; Dulcie Robinson and Niamh Dixon, were invited by the UKMT to attend a Saturday Masterclass at Northumbria University. Both girls are looking forward to attending later this term.

## UNIVERSITY MATHS CHALLENGE UPDATE

The results from the prestigious University Maths Challenge were excellent. Four of our girls won prizes and were invited to the Presentation Evening, which was held on the 13th May at Newcastle University. The girls all tried their best when tackling these mathematical problems.

Our prize winners were Fatimah Nauman from Year 8 and Aalia Gani, Alisha Gany and Holly Noble from Year 9 and their feedback was overwhelmingly positive:

"Doing the Newcastle University Maths Challenge was a very good experience for me. I'm happy our teachers informed us about it as it gave us an opportunity to attempt questions of a type we are normally not given a chance to do in school. Despite it being quite time-consuming and challenging, it gave us an insight into the variety there is in maths. I benefited from it a lot as I learnt a few things of quite a complex standard by doing some research and with a little help from my parents.

**At the Presentation Evening, I received a certificate. Individual photos were taken of the individual prize winners and a group photo for the certificate winners. Lastly, there was a mathematical talk from a few different members of the University Maths Department. To conclude, I was quite surprised that I was selected in the top 50 out of the 1000 entries and am hoping to take part next year as well."**

**FATIMAH NAUMAN, 8S**



## DNA Fingerprints

**The Spring term ended in a blast for Year 13 A-Level Biology students who attended the Centre for Life for one day in order to make their own DNA fingerprint.**

They were able to determine whether or not they carry a specific gene (for tasting a chemical in sprouts). As seen on crime shows on TV the students amplified their small amount of DNA in a process known

as PCR, they then added gene markers (fluorescence) and then ran their DNA sample using Gel Electrophoresis.

This makes a pattern similar to a bar code which is different for everyone, with the exception of identical twins. The session concluded with a discussion on why the distribution of this particular gene varies in different countries, and the possible advantage of having the gene.



## Year 9 Hit the Lake District

**On the 11th and 12th of May, 20 students from year 9 were selected to take part in a residential trip to The Lake District due to their achievements and effort in Geography and/or PE.**

The group left Sacred Heart on Monday morning and arrived at Newlands Activity centre ready for the afternoon activity of High Ropes. This involved lots of climbing up, and swinging from trees, as well as zip wiring across a fast flowing river. The support and encouragement between the girls was absolutely wonderful to see.

On Monday evening we went on an evening walk to Derwent Water which allowed the girls to see the natural beauty of The Lake District as well as soaking themselves by jumping in several puddles! On Tuesday morning, it was time for Ghyll Scrambling. After ensuring everyone had enough layers on (wetsuits, thick fleecy onesies and as many clothes as you could possibly fit into!) there was a short walk up to the top of the Ghyll before jumping into the icy water!

Ghyll scrambling involved sliding down rocks in the water, jumping into pools and floating with the current. It was absolutely freezing but there was no complaining. Again, the positive attitude of all the girls, as well as the encouragement they gave each other, was amazing. On arriving back at the activity centre, there was just enough time to get dry, warm up and have lunch before we left to return to Sacred Heart.

It's safe to say the journey back involved a very quiet group of (normally excitable) year 9s - exhaustion had taken over!! Well done girls, you were an absolute credit to both yourself and the school!







## Indoor Rowing Finals

This year, six of our girls qualified for the Tyne and Wear Indoor Rowing Finals and represented Newcastle at The Parks Centre, North Shields in March. As always the girls worked at their maximum levels and were very supportive to their Newcastle team mates.

In Year 7, Chloe Nesbitt took 6th place with Caitlin Reilly tucked in behind her in 7th.

In Year 8, Amelia Ojiako finished in 16th position.

In Year 9, Laurie Ingram rowed 906m in 4 minutes taking 7th place, Dulcie Robinson finished a very respectful 9th and Naomi Evans finished the race in 12th place.

**Well done to all the girls who represented the school and the city in this year's Indoor Rowing Competition!**

## Netball Tournament Finalists

Following the Newcastle Schools Netball Tournaments held earlier in the year, both the year 10 and Senior Teams qualified for the Tournament Finals Day which was held at Northumbria University's Sports Central on Tuesday 31st March.

Both teams played against Newcastle High School for Girls in their semi final. All the girls played really well, but unfortunately did not qualify for the final.

### YEAR 10 TEAM

Annie Miller, Emily Taylor, Livia Merle, Olivia Smith, Ana Amazega-Kutija, Oriema Chukwu-Etu and Michelle Mwangi

### SENIOR TEAM

Amy Baird, Alice Hall, Heather Topacho, Isla Cantle-Jones, Megan Jordan, Orla Ruane and Deborah Ajayi

## Ladies Taverners Cricket Competition

On Thursday 5th March, seven players and myself went to the Centre for Sport for an U15 Cricket tournament. I was the only Year 8, yet all of us had a lot of fun in and between matches, as we worked on our strategies and fielding positions.

We lost a few matches, and drew two, and in total we came fifth out of six teams. It was a fantastic opportunity not just to play cricket, but to look at skills in being a young leader. It was an absolutely phenomenal day for all of us, we all loved it and loved every match we played.

**PARI BALU Y8**

mining, water polo, triathlon, futsal, handball and cross-country. Among the schools involved are The Durham Federation (DGCBC and Tyndoune), North Durham Academy, The Hermitage Academy, Park View in Chester-le-Street, Tanfield in Stanley, Consett Academy and Durham Johnston. The event has been organised by Durham County Council and will see 45 13 to 15-year-olds from the county take part. Several venues across the county will be used, including the Graham Sports Centre at Maiden Castle in Durham. At the end of the second day pupils will exchange small souvenirs representing their local area or team sport at Maiden Castle Main Hall. That will be followed by a medals presentation and a farewell evening disco. Lucy Turzynski, the council's assistant international officer, said: "It is hoped the young people involved will find out more



■ Pictured (top) are the five students from Biddlethorpe Judo

Domixanna Intini clinched silver for Walbottle Campus in the girls' year eight and nine under-57kgs category. Jack Ross celebrated bronze for Churchill Community College in the boys' years 10/11 under-66kg category. Other competitors included Max Hawthorne and Jamie Sharp who represented Waverley Primary. Tia Graham-Richardson represented Walbottle Campus and Michael Douglas flew the flag for St Cuthbert's High School. Five students from Wallsend's Battlehill Judo Club also attended the National Championships, where 525 competitors performed on seven contest mats watched by thousands of spectators. The students were each representing their own schools and fought well in a very tough competition. Ellie Hutton of St Columbus Primary School took part in the under-32kgs category. Kieran Tweedy was Astley Community High School's representative in the under-66kgs section. Ben Patrick of St Thomas More RC Academy was in the under-55kgs competition. Leah Anastasia of Gateshead College competed at under-63kgs level. Kyle Flannery of Maiden High School took to the floor in the under-60kgs event. Star performer of the day was Hutton in the year six and seven girls' under-

## British Schools Championship

In April more than 400 schools competed in the prestigious Judo British Schools Championship at the Ice Centre in Sheffield. Megan Douglas in Year 7 outstandingly claimed gold for Sacred Heart High School in the girls' year six and seven under-57kgs category.

**We are incredibly proud of the excellent effort and commitment Megan has demonstrated and congratulate Megan on her success.**





# U13 Football City Cup

**The Under 13 football team qualified for the City Cup Final after winning their semi-final match against St Mary's RC. The girls deserved their 9-4 victory.**

The girls played in the Final against Benfield on Wednesday 1st April. Hannah McGrady stepped in for Morgan Donald in goal, due to Morgan's absence, and played an excellent match. The girls played some very good attacking football but unfortunately were unable to beat a very competent Benfield goalkeeper who kept all shots out.

The girls lost the match 4-0 but as it is the case on many occasions, this is not a true reflection of the possession the girls had in the game and the contribution they made to the game.

## UNDER 13 SQUAD

Grace Ayre  
Emily Fife  
Sarah Kime  
Libby Howe  
Taibah Ismail  
Miriam Akhtar  
Morgan Donald  
Hollie Finlay  
Hannah McGrady  
Jacquelin Charanchi-Velastegui

## Sports Leaders Provide a Helping Hand

### Opening Ceremony of School Games Winter Finals

Tuesday 24th March saw the opening ceremony of the School Games Winter Finals at Sports Central. nine sports leaders were invited by the organisers to attend and help marshal the event.

The girls arrived mid-afternoon for a long run of rehearsals. At 5:30 the audience started to arrive. The girls directed them to their seats ready for the 6:30 start. Throughout the performance the leaders worked with the organisers to help the primary school athletes parade around the arena.

**The girls were very professional and demonstrated their ability to work alongside people they do not know.**



### Sports Hall Athletics Competition at English Martyrs' RC Primary

**Mrs Bould has been delivering Sports Hall Athletics lessons to the Year 3 students at English Martyrs' RC Primary throughout the Spring Term. As a finale to these sessions, an inter class competition was run in the last week of term.**

The Year 10 Sports Leaders assisted with this and did a fantastic job of running this competition. They were a credit to the school and the Year 3 children thoroughly enjoyed working with them.





# Sacred Heart Catholic High School Steps into First Place



**Students at Sacred Heart Catholic High School in Newcastle have walked away with the top prize in a Tyne and Wear walking challenge.**

The Year 7 and Year 8 students beat stiff competition from three other schools in Tyne and Wear to be named Tyne and Wear Spring 2015 Walking Challenge Winner, as part of the Schools Go Smarter Programme.

The challenge formed part of a 'transitions' project, developed to help students moving from first to secondary school make informed choices around sustainable travel.

The challenge was delivered on behalf of Schools Go Smarter ([gosmarter.co.uk](http://gosmarter.co.uk)) by Living Streets ([livingstreets.org.uk](http://livingstreets.org.uk)), and saw teams of students at Boldon School (South Tyneside), St Cuthbert's Catholic High School (Newcastle), St Anthony's Girls' Catholic Academy (Sunderland) and Sacred Heart Catholic High School (Newcastle) log the number of steps and miles walked over a four week period.

More than 200 Year 7 and Year 8 students at Sacred Heart Catholic High School took part in the challenge logging a total of 4,152 miles, which put them at first place. As well as claiming the title of Tyne and Wear Spring 2015 Walking Challenge Winner, the students also won a £300 cash prize for their school.

Alison Fisher, Transitions Project Coordinator at Living Streets, said:

**"From the very start of the challenge it was clear the students at Sacred Heart Catholic High School were really engaged in the project."**

"They produced posters to promote the challenge in school and they also helped plan and deliver school assemblies to encourage more students to take part."

**"The Sacred Walking Team also held lunch time sign up sessions to show fellow students how to sign up to the challenge online and how to record their steps with the help of a pedometer or free smartphone app."**

The Tyne and Wear Spring 2015 Walking Challenge aimed to address the 25% drop in student walking rates from primary to secondary schools. It was also designed to encourage more students at secondary schools to walk regularly.



## BIRDS OF PREY

At the end of the Spring term Year 8 had the pleasure of welcoming Ray from the Keilder Bird of Prey Center and six of his beautiful birds during a Science event.

**Each Class spent one hour with Ray and had the rare opportunity to be close to, stroke and even to hold some of the birds whilst heading about their amazing adaptations to survive in their habitats. The birds included a Long-eared Owl, a Barn Owl, a White-faced Owl, a Little Owl, a Vulture, and a Falcon.**



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