

Love & Justice

#allsaintsfamily

September 2025 Newsletter



IT DOESN'T JUST HAPPEN!



ALL SIXTH FORMERS **ACHIEVED** THEIR FIRST CHOICE DESTINATIONS!



RECORD GCSE 9-5 INC. ENGLISH & MATHS ACHIEVED!



OVERSUBSCRIBED IN EVERY YEAR GROUP!



All Saints Catholic High School



“Your children are at the centre of everything we do at All Saints.”



Dear Parents, Carers & Friends of All Saints,

I am delighted to usher in this new academic year by sharing news of our record breaking exam results once again. This time we achieved our best ever scores for students with “GCSE Grades 9-5 including English and Maths”, which is an excellent marker of academic progress for All Saints Catholic High School. Please turn the pages of this newsletter and enjoy the images of delighted pupils and parents receiving their examination results during the summer. It is our greatest reward as educators to celebrate with our children and parents as they look to the future with confidence based on grades achieved and excellent academic performance. The pictures tell the story.

We are also delighted with the number of Year 11 leavers taking up the offer of full apprenticeships with companies like MJ Quinn and The Forshaw Group, companies with whom we have forged close connections over recent years. It is so rewarding to know that just over 10% of our school leavers have secured paid employment within industry. Those pupils will ‘earn as they learn’ with employers and training providers we trust to look after them.

Also in Sixth Form, it is a delight to know our leavers have all secured their first choice placements, with many taking up offers within fields as diverse as mathematics, midwifery and sports psychology.

We will of course continue to drive and improve on all of these achievements in the coming years. Your children are at the centre of everything we do at All Saints. We are oversubscribed in every year group, we have strengthened our team of teachers and supporting colleagues substantially, and we are looking to the future from a place of strength and optimism.

We are also now within an Ofsted inspection window, and we know they will be looking for ‘typicality’, or what it looks and feels like to experience life and education at All Saints Catholic High School. The pages of this newsletter go some way towards exemplifying that ‘typicality’.

On behalf of our Staff and Governors, thank you for supporting our school.

Yours faithfully,

Tony McGuinness
Headteacher

YEAR 11

EXAM RESULTS

"The records just keep on falling!"

This year was our highest ever result for students achieving "GCSE Grades 9-5 including English and Maths", which is such an important marker for us all as a school and a family.

As well as the outstanding Grade 8s and 9s achieved by so many of you, we congratulate you all on 'the hard yards', the 5s, 6s and 7s confirmed during "Period 5" and "Saturday School" attendance. A huge well done to the "Class of 2025". We are all so proud of you!

Matthew Jorga - 7 grade 9s and 3 grade 8s - you will continue your journey at Winstanley College and go on to be a Doctor. We are so proud of you!

Isobel Macdonald - 5 grade 9s and 4 grade 8s - you will go on to study at Liverpool University and become a future Mathematician. We are so proud of you!

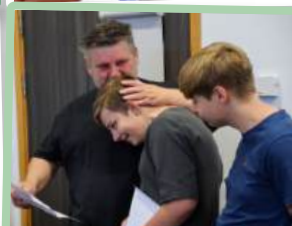
Poppie Ellis - never in doubt you would achieve 5 grade 9s and 4 grade 8s. Go to Winstanley College and become a future leader in Business. We are so proud of you!

Giovanna Vaz, Joshua Wockenforth, Sarah Oriaifoh - and so many more of you with your successful grades 9s, 8s, 7s, go on to lead in your chosen fields and vocational areas, and know we are all so proud of you!

To the 30 of you who achieved the grades to enroll within our Sixth Form, we are so proud of you. Enjoy your vocational pathways and Level 3 BTECs in 'Heath and Social Care', 'LLS' and 'Creative Media Production'. Now you know that hard work pays off!

To the 20 of you taking up apprenticeships within industry - MJ Quinn, The Forshaw Group, Sterling Plastering, Elect Construction and others - you will 'learn and earn', and know you played your part within such a successful year group. We are so proud of you!

You have been a memorable Year 11, and you've left us all with so many magical moments.



YEAR 13

EXAM RESULTS



Year 13 results, a product of "Hard Work and Commitment"

Congratulations to all our sixth formers on achieving an excellent set of results this year. Within all areas of provision, our pupils achieved their first choice placements. Highlights from results day include:

John Paul McGuinness - 3 starred Distinctions will go on to study Sports and Exercise Psychology at Edge Hill University. JP is well prepared, having completed over 1800 hours of work experience over the last two years. He has also undertaken curriculum visits to destinations as diverse as New York, Poland, Finland and Spain. Our warmest congratulations go out to JP and his family.

Libby Forshaw - 3 Distinctions in Health and Social Care, and will take up her first offer from the University of Manchester to study 'Midwifery'. Libby completed her NHS cadetship programme during her time at All Saints and will move into her chosen noble vocation.

Robyn Grant - will train to become a primary school teacher following Distinction and Merit scores in all of her sixth form subjects.

We are so proud of you all and recognise the hard work and commitment shown during your time at All Saints - **Erin Sanders, Lacey Noonan, Libby O'Callaghan, Connor Preson, Harry Dack, Eva Cashen** (A-levels including A and B in Art and Graphics), **Louisa Parker** (starred and triple Distinction), **Ella O'Shea**, and all the rest of you - take a bow and go on with our best wishes.

You will always be a part of the All Saints family.

Quote from Harry Dack - "All Saints has got a family feel, and there are staff to support you every step of the way."



CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

"Go forth in Love and Justice"

At All Saints we continue to live by our mission statement of "Love and Justice", developed by Father Nick Wilde some 35 years ago. More recently we have established a visible presence of clergy within the school, with our own Deacon Michael Bennett bringing an expertise in pilgrimage and retreat.

- Our Don Bosco youth club continues to grow, with many pupils enjoying the play and friendship of twice weekly sessions.
- This year the school has retreated to Dolly Hall on no less than six occasions.
- Our fourth annual visit to Lourdes took place in July - where once again we felt the privilege of carrying the prayers and good wishes of our wider Kirkby community across to the shrine of Our Lady at the grotto.
- Prayer and liturgy during form time is clearly established. We open the morning, within every form class and whole school assembly, with our pupils given the opportunity to be still and to be open to the word of God through scripture.

During a recent visit from Bishop Tom Williams, he took great delight in speaking to pupils and staff on an intimate and personal level. He went away from All Saints feeling really encouraged and impressed by our transparent faith and belief in our mission statement.



Our Annual Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2025

During their trip to Lourdes our pupils pack in so many events. This year, as well as visiting the Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes and lighting our candle in The Chapels of Light, our pupils also visited San Sebastian on the Bay of Biscay, and took a day to explore the historical fishing port of St-Jean-De-Luz on the Basque coast. For those who choose to take part, the pilgrimage to Lourdes is a magical and lasting experience.



Mrs Towler is our senior leader in charge of attendance.

She is determined to keep us where we are now, which is above national average with regards to whole school attendance figures. She says it's a simple equation, and proven statistically that "being in school every day helps fulfil and maximise the potential of our pupils".

We know attendance sets them up for the future, and that's why we offer - attendance breakfasts for the top forms in each year group, voucher rewards to pupils with exemplary attendance, school trips linked to attendance.

"Come into school and you will do well!"

ATTENDANCE WHY IT MATTERS

DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT

English

Our English Department delivers the core English Language GCSE and a second successful English GCSE for Literature. Obviously the department is a huge part of the beating heart of the school, and is passionate about achieving the best possible outcomes for all of our pupils. We have gone from strength to strength in recent years, and are proud to regularly achieve the best scores within the borough of Knowsley.

Scores like that "Don't just happen!" - our mutual success is built on lasting relationships between staff and children, as well as a vibrant and challenging curriculum offer. We want to provide the best for the children and work collaboratively on keeping lessons fresh and engaging.

Of course many of our staff work as examiners for various examination boards. So we know exactly what our children need to do to achieve great GCSE scores.

Our teachers: Mrs Roberts, Miss Onwu, Miss Johnson, Mrs Hardy, Mr Lee-Jones, Mrs Baker, Miss Halsall, Mr Evans, Miss Gargan, Miss Keeton, Miss Hagan, Miss Stowers, Miss Harrison.



SCHOLARS

NEWS

Our Year 8 scholars took to exploring the stars during a recent visit to Jodrell Bank in June. During their time at the UNESCO World Heritage Site, they whispered into "Whispering Dishes", looked into the theory of black holes, and all got to stand under the dish of the UK's largest radio telescope.

Our Year 10 scholars have been looking into "Memory and Motivation" recently. Then Mr Dearing encouraged them all to present their findings in front of an audience in the school library area. Our pupils like a challenge!



In July all our Year 7s explored the beautiful wooded river valleys and dramatic cliffs of Loggerheads Country Park in Denbighshire, Wales. Mr Volante led us up the lung-busting ascent to the views of "Scouse Mountain" (Moel Famau) and beyond. The climb was worth it and the kids enjoyed their selfie shots at the top.



Our Year 7 scholars also took part in a fantastic visit to Chester in July, where they paraded as Roman soldiers and marched around the historic city streets carrying their shields and swords at the ready.

DROP DOWN

DAYS



Mr Hay is our in-house Careers Advisor.

Alex Hay is doing a great job as our in-house Careers Adviser. This year's careers and apprenticeship numbers suggest Alex is reshaping destinations for many of our Year 11 leavers. In 2025 he has managed to pathway over 10% of our school leavers onto 'learn and earn' apprenticeships. That will provide so many of our youngsters with opportunities to secure their financial futures within industry.

"Speed Dating"

"Speed Dating" is an established part of what we do at All Saints. This time our Year 9s took part in a Q&A round with 23 employees from across the public sector. The pupils were given a snapshot of what it is to be a professional in various fields. They heard from the experience of nurses, firemen, army and navy professionals, doctors, ambulance workers and paramedics. Questions were abundant and seeds would have been planted!



CAREERS NEWS



READING NEWS

Annual Literacy/Reading Celebration 2024/25

Again this year we were excited to celebrate our successes in Literacy/Reading across the school. Awards were presented by Mrs Currie for IDL, reading and writing achievements, and by Whole School Reading/Oracy lead Mrs Owen for the completion of the Reading Development Course. Students also received awards for improved reading in their subjects.

There was lots to celebrate, and many pupils were delighted to "Be proud!" and receive their certificates in front of an audience of over a hundred parents. A big shout out goes to **Kai Matthews** (Year 8), **Amelia Mustard** (Year 7) and **Kai Pinnington** (Year 8) for showing the courage to read their testimonials in front of a packed audience. Well done you three!

The Headteacher, Mr McGuinness rounded off the occasion with a message for consideration. He wanted us all to recognise the importance of "Literacy and Reading" in the lower school years, suggesting our excellent results at GCSE "...don't just happen", but come through the hard work and commitment of these lower school initiatives.

So a "big, massive round of applause" to all the pupils, parents and staff involved with the "All Saints Celebration of Reading Event for 2025".



ENRICHMENT

NEWS

Condoover Hall

The girls football team spent a great weekend at Condoover Hall in July. Activities included aerial trek, high and low ropes, abseiling, trapeze, archery, watersports, and some emerging sports such as aeroball (which our students loved).

Comments from the girls included Cora, who said "By going to Condoover we all got closer", Niamh remarked "the weekend pushed us to do things we thought we couldn't do", and Skyla mentioned "lots of fun in the disco!"

Miss Mansfield was proud of them all, saying the pupils "raised a lot of funds towards the trip themselves and have shown great determination, effort and love for girls' football which has been rewarding to see." Congrats the Girls!



Disneyland Paris

Mrs Glover and the team enjoyed taking two coachloads of our younger pupils to Disneyland Paris during the spring half term. We all stayed at the Explorers Hotel for three nights and pupils had the run of the two Disneyland themed parks for the entire weekend. Everyone got stuck in and loved the rides. "Star Wars Hyperspace Mountain" and definitely "The Twilight Zone Tower of Terror" were amongst the favourites. Although the jury is still out on "It's a Small World"!

Aladdin

Our school performance this year was "Aladdin Jr". The show went on for three nights in July to a packed out audience each evening. The lead role was played by Connor Hesketh, who along with a fabulous cast showed just how talented our younger students are.

Geography Field Trip

This year our geographers visited Dove Stone Reservoir in the Peak District. Measurements were made and rock formations were studied, as the children made their way through the beautiful streams and countryside on their field trip project.



Gullivers World

The Year 7 pupils went to Gulliver's World this year for their end of year school trip. The sun was shining and the teachers were forced to sit on the back of the Log Flume because the children needed to be accompanied by an adult! That meant several times around for lots of staff, who at least enjoyed the kids getting soaked riding up front!



Blackpool Pleasure Beach

It took a full 10 coaches to ferry our Years 9 and 10 pupils to Blackpool Pleasure Beach for the day. Despite talk of "The Big One" being closed for repair, it wasn't the case. Some of us decided it would be fun to make that 233 feet climb and drop on more occasions than seemed sensible! Mobile phones were lost and found, TV cameras were talked to, and everyone came away excited by an amazing day on the rides. Thanks to Mrs Sweeney and everyone who didn't chicken out of the big rides!



Crocky Trail

Our Year 8s made their way to Crocky Trail for their end of year trip. Some fought like gladiators in sponge bound arenas, while others rode madly on inflatable red bulls! There was the crowd who wanted to pack out the top of the bouncing slide all day, and others who took to the refuge of leafy wooded pathways. Again, it was a thumbs up and appreciated by all.



END OF YEAR TRIPS

Sports will always be a big part of what we do at All Saints, and our PE team is passionate in pushing the children to achieve.

FOOTBALL

Congratulations to our own **Ellis Hickman** on signing his scholarship forms with Liverpool FC. We are all so proud of you! And thanks also for taking apart the staff in our recent "Staff v Y11 Boys" annual football match!



ANNUAL SPORTS DAY

Annual Sports Day is always a fantastic event at All Saints, with all children out on the school fields jumping around in sacks, sprinting for their lives, hurling rubber javelins or trying to pull each other across the line in the tug of war.

This year a special mention should go to Form H in Year 10, who have won the prize for best form every year since entry in Year 7. Mr Cummings, our Head of PE, has called that "Quite an achievement".



ACHIEVEMENTS

This year we are Champions in -

- 1 - Year 8 Boys Knowsley Football Champions
- 2 - Year 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 Knowsley Netball Champions
- 3 - Year 10 Boys Knowsley Basketball Champions
- 4 - Year 7 Boys & Girls Indoor Athletics Champions
- 5 - Year 8 Girls Knowsley Athletics Champions

