

# St. James' News

St. James' Catholic High School

*A Specialist Humanities College*



**CHRISTMAS 2011**



First of all, may I wish you and your family a happy and holy Christmas. This term has been another successful and positive one for the St James' community. Like last year we started the academic year celebrating the school's best ever GCSE results with 74% of our students achieving 5 or more GCSE A\*-C (including English and mathematics) and 86% achieving 5 or more A\*-C.

There were a number of exceptional performances, these included:

Daniel Hovington	11A*
Katherine Roddy	11A*
Jamie Taylor	10A* 1 A
Sandra Madathilethu	9A* 3A
Peter Feehily	9A* 2A
Melissa Costagliola-Ray	6A* 4A 1B
Matthew Lawrowitsch	5A* 6A 1B
Catherine Livesey	5A* 6A
Kieran Brown	4A* 5A 2B
Fiona Howarth	3A* 7A 2B
William Ravenscroft	3A* 7A 1B
Andrew Ewing	2A* 8A 1B
Clare White	11A

On 1<sup>st</sup> November, at our 2011 Presentation Evening at Stockport Town Hall, a very special occasion was made all the more memorable as we listened to our guest speaker, Paschal Uche. Paschal made an address to Pope Benedict, on behalf of Catholic youth, during the Papal visit in 2010 – he spoke eloquently to us and made a real connection with the young people present.

I am pleased to welcome the following colleagues, who joined the staff this term. We welcomed Miss Bradshaw to the Faculty of Creative Technology, she has taken over from Miss Waggett, Mr Gold to the Science Faculty covering for Mrs Brown's maternity leave; Miss Lyons (an ex pupil) in the Faculty of Creative Technology, covering for Mrs Bickerton's maternity leave, Mrs McGarr, the new Deputy Director of the Religious Education Faculty, Miss Molyneux has joined our PE Faculty and Mrs Whelan who has joined our Faculty of Modern Foreign Languages. Mrs Dardis has also joined the school as Pastoral Manager and we are looking forward to welcoming Mrs Burras to the pastoral team in January 2012. Mrs Brown has joined the school as our English TA and recently Mrs Li has joined the Mathematics Faculty as a TA. Mrs Evans, Miss Farrell and Mrs Jones have joined the SEN team.

With Mr Lowry on secondment at Ofsted and myself in the position of Acting Headteacher, Mrs Mullen has continued in the role of Acting Deputy Headteacher and Mrs Morgan has continued in her role of Acting Assistant Headteacher KS3. Also, as a result of Mrs Bickerton's and Mrs Healey's maternity leave the following staff have taken on temporary roles, Mrs Wilby as Director of Maths, Mr Holbrooks Head of Year 10, Mr Cross Head of Year 10 and Mrs Whelan as Gifted & Talented coordinator.

## Luke, Chapter Two

*And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.*

*And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."*



Mrs Vaal, Pupil Support Teacher, will be on sabbatical for the next two terms and has been replaced temporarily by Mr Stubbs.

Mr Eyres, our ICT technician, is retiring in January 2012. Over the last few years he has played an invaluable role in the developing use of ICT at St James'. He has been a highly valued member of our community and has carried out his role with great dedication and commitment to the school. I am very sad to see him leave and wish him a happy and healthy retirement.

Our PTA have continued to provide great support to the work of the school. Always present at school events to offer refreshments, they have continued to raise money which has provided a much needed boost to subject and department funds. At their meeting in November, successful bids totalling £2,129 were made by subject leaders. Also in November, Mr Chris Syddall retired after 5 years as Chairman of the PTA. He has led the committee with great energy and enthusiasm. I wish to record my thanks for his work and we are pleased that he will continue to be a committee member. Chris has been succeeded by Mrs Sue Kilburn. New members of the PTA are always welcome. Please consider whether you could attend the meetings – these are six times a year and the next meeting is on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2012.

Our pupils continue to enjoy and benefit from our rich and varied enrichment and extra-curricular programme. This busy term has included many trips and events. Trips included the German exchange, Alton Towers rewards trip, Western Front (History), Clothes Show (Art/Textiles), Christmas Market (Modern foreign Languages) and a theatre trip to see Dirty Dancing.

Other events have included the Careers Cafe (Year 9), Stockport Young Stars, Family Literacy, Year 7 Welcome Mass and Welcome Disco, mathematics

workshop (delivered to Year 11 pupils by students from Manchester Metropolitan University), English workshops (again, for Year 11 pupils), the Expressive Arts showcase and a variety of sporting activities. You can read more information about many of these activities in other parts of this newsletter. I would like to thank all the staff involved for providing this programme of events for pupils and parents, for your support too.

A voluntary Mass each half term has continued this year and have all been very well attended. We continue to be grateful to our parish priests for celebrating Mass with us, both at the voluntary Masses and the whole school Masses and Holy days of obligation.

Please take time to read our newsletter – I am sure that there is much that will be of interest. I would also like to take this opportunity of thanking you for your continued support, my colleagues for all their hard work this term and the pupils for being a pleasure to work with.

J Barnes  
Acting Headteacher

#### **PARKING ON SCHOOL SITE**

**We are aware of the lack of space on the school site for car parking and we would, therefore, recommend that parents drop off/pick up pupils from outside the school site. We have had complaints from neighbours who are struggling to get on and off their driveways due to parents parking inconsiderately or because there is a queue of cars behind the school buses at 3:15**

**Your co-operation would be greatly appreciated.**

**J Barnes – Acting Headteacher**

#### **SCHOOL WEBSITE**

**On the “Beyond the Classroom” “School Trips” page on the school website there is a now a document called “School Trips 2011/2012” we hope you will find this a useful resource**



Lord,  
in the darkness of these Advent nights  
let me be guided by the light of your word.  
Give me the humility to be led by you  
and the wisdom to learn from you.

AMEN

# ST JAMES' PTA

## Supporting the School

**500 Club  
Winners**

July	August	September
£250 P Flanagan	A Mitchell	L Doherty
£150 A Crompton	M Carrington	S Chase
£100 A Peters	J Jones	C White

Not a bad return for £4.33 a month!

If you would like to join the 500 club, standing order forms are available from the school website or school reception.

## PTA GALA DINNER

St James' PTA wish to announce their Gala Dinner  
Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2012  
The Hallmark Hotel, Handforth (formerly the Belfry)

The evening includes a champagne reception, DJ and a four course meal at a cost of £40 per head. It is always a fantastic night and this year we have appearing Soul and Motown singer Wayne Allen, vocal entertainer of the Year 2009. Wayne performed at Coleen Rooney's 21<sup>st</sup> birthday party and was flown to Italy to perform for guests at her lavish wedding to Wayne Rooney.

Tables can seat 8-12 and can be reserved as a whole table or as individual places.

Parents who would like to get to know new people, especially those in your child's class or Year group, let us know and we can place you on an appropriate table.



For further details & tickets please email/phone

Sue Kilburn  
Judi McGhee

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As many of you will know, Chris Syddall has been the chair of the PTA for the past 6 years and has put in a lot of time and effort to make it the success it is today. He now feels that the time has come to step down and let somebody else take the hot seat! Chris will still be very much part of the PTA and will continue to offer his time, knowledge and experience. I am sure you will all join us in expressing our sincere thanks to Chris for all his hard work and dedication over the last 6 years.

### PTA meetings

A big **thank you** to those new parents for coming along. We would love as many people as possible to attend our meetings and, as a parent, you are automatically a member of the PTA. We meet a few times a year to discuss fund raising and how funds can benefit the school. The next meetings are Mon 9<sup>th</sup> January 2012, Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2012, Tues 1<sup>st</sup> May 2012, Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2012.

## RE FACULTY

### GCSE RESULTS 2011

Congratulations to our 2010-2011 Year 11 students! **84%** of them got between A\*-C for their R.E. GCSE exam, which is fantastic!

This result was even more significant as it was the first time our students had studied a new unit which looks at topics such as Peace and Conflict, Crime and Punishment and Medical & Environmental Issues- resulting in some very lively discussion in class! Well done to them all and thanks to the teaching staff who worked very hard to help the students reach their target grades.



### Our Parish Priests

Back in September 2010, the department, with the help of Sue Mayo, set out to develop further the Catholic ethos of the school and the local parish priests are encouraged to come in to say Mass, Morning Prayer and generally have more of a presence in school.

A year later we met with the priests after school and along with the Headteacher, discussed how it went and how it could be improved for the next academic year. Many issues were discussed but it was felt that overall it was a success and not as scary as they thought it would be! Fr. Chris has kindly agreed to help the Music department with some new hymns and Fr. Geoff would like to get involved in the Rosary. We look forward to working with them all again in 2011-12.

### Advent Services

Our annual Advent Services began at the end of November and, in keeping with the theme of this year's Christmas Mass, we looked at "Christmas Around the World- past, present and future".

The Year 7 pupils enjoyed their first ever service which was a mixture of prayers, reflections, readings and film clips- an ideal start to the Advent season in preparation for Christmas.



### Christmas Mass

Christmas Mass this year was celebrated by Father Chris and looked at "Christmas Around the World- past, present and future"- an ideal choice from the Humanities department who did a superb job in helping us all celebrate this very special time of year.

### Taizé 2012

Following the success of her visit to Taizé with 2 Year 10 students in July 2011, Sue Mayo led a number of assemblies in November, aimed at Year 10 students. With plans to visit Taizé again next year, Sue, along with two young men from the Taizé community, outlined a typical visit to Taizé and what was involved. There was also a special Taizé-style Morning Prayer with prayers and songs that was very well attended. Letters will soon be going out to Year 10 students inviting them to go to Taizé in France and be part of this very special place- an experience that will no doubt live with them for a long time.

Our Voluntary Masses were said by Father Paul in September and by Father Chris in November and were well attended by pupils and staff. We all had the opportunity to have a Whole School Mass for All Saints' Day which was a lovely start to the month of November, which we have designated as our month of Remembrance. Our Head Boy and Girl and Deputy Head Boy and Girl assisted in this by reading and saying the bidding prayers.



### Year 7 Welcome Mass

We officially welcomed our new Year 7 in October at our Family Mass. The theme was 'Let your light shine' and every form in Year 7 was involved in some way. It was a lively event, well attended by the families of our Year 7 pupils and we hope that the memories of this Mass will last for a long time after they have left St James' and that their light continues to shine on everyone. Thank you to Fr Paul who helped us celebrate our Mass.

The RE Faculty have revamped the wall in each classroom! 'The Wall' is a selection of activities which can be completed in class as extension activities. The activities on 'The Wall' are varied and challenging- they are aimed to stretch our gifted pupils.

Pupils can choose from a range of activities: Brain Stretchers, "Would You Rather" situations, level questions, GCSE questions, explain key beliefs and creating starters for lessons.

**Katie Appleby from Year 9 says:** "I chose the question "Would you rather be rich with no friends or poor with loads of friends." This got me thinking about what I would do if I was in this situation and whether friends are more important than money." This was really good because it was fun and a challenge."

**Lizzie Ainsworth from Year 11 says:** "I was asked to do a lesson starter in RE on Global Warming. It was challenging because I needed to do something which would keep everybody focused. I decided to play a pass the parcel "True or False" fact game whereby a box was passed around the room and when the music stopped, the person it landed on had to pick out a piece of paper, read it to the class then stick it onto the 'true' or 'false' side of the board. Although I was nervous because it was my own year group, it was something different and I enjoyed it because it was a chance to be creative and develop my knowledge and communication skills.

## Homework

Homework is an essential part of your child's learning. If pupils do not complete homework, it is impossible for them to achieve their potential. Your child is always to be set homework once a week on the following days:

Group	Night	Group	Night
7J	Wed	9J	Wed
7A	Wed	9A	Wed
7M	Mon	9M	Fri (red week) Thurs (blue week)
7E	Tues	9E	Fri
7S	Thurs	9S	Wed (red week) Fri (blue week)
7C	Thurs	9C	Wed (blue week) Thurs (red week)
8J	Mon		
8A	Fri		
8M	Tues (red week), Mon (blue week)		
8E	Wed		
8S	Wed		
8C	Wed		



Key Stage 4	
10X (JAM)	Mon
10Y (ESC)	Fri
11X (JAM)	Mon
11Y (ESC)	Fri

If pupils do not complete homework on time, they will be given a lunchtime detention. If it happens on more than one occasion they may be placed straight into an after school detention, (this is outlined in the letter at the front of your child's exercise book that you have signed). Please can you ensure that your child completes homework on time and to the best of their ability? From January, if your child does not complete homework then you will be informed immediately by letter or by telephone. Please do not hesitate to contact Miss Connolly in school if you have any queries or concerns regarding homework.

**Miss Connolly**

## Moodle in RE

This term, in both Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4, pupils have had an opportunity to discuss current issues on the Moodle Forum. Discussions have ranged from Year 7 discussion "Is Baptism the most important Sacrament" to Year 11 discussing "Was Gaddafi's death Capital Punishment?"

**Luigi di Vuono, 11E:** "I enjoyed using Moodle because it allowed me to see other peoples' opinions on different topics."

**Niamh Elstone, 11S:** "I enjoyed using the Moodle forum because I could give my opinion on what everyone else thought. I also liked arguing with everyone who didn't agree with me."

Moodle is available to all pupils. It contains powerpoints from each lesson, GCSE exam questions, podcasts and homeworks. So don't forget to log on and check it out for your year and subject!

## Student from MMU

My name is Miss Banks and I have recently graduated from the University of Bristol where I was studying Theology and Religious studies. I am now at Manchester Metropolitan University studying for my Religious Education Post Graduate Certificate in Education (teacher training!). I was extremely fortunate and got my first teaching placement here at St James' where I have had the fantastic experience of working in your amazing school. I have been teaching Religion to 7x1, 8y2, 9y3 and 11x4 and I have loved every minute of it. I got to witness some of the brilliant work that pupils across each year group produce on a daily basis. Also, every day I got to work with enthusiastic and intelligent pupils who never ceased to amaze me! I also really enjoyed being part of such an excellent department and working alongside such dedicated and fantastic teachers. Unfortunately, my ten weeks at St James' is about to come to end and after Christmas I will continue with my training at another school, in Warrington.

## Fund Raising

This year's Cafod appeal raised over £200- many thanks for that. The shoe box appeal saw 141 boxes being sent to children abroad who are less fortunate than pupils here at St. James'- again thank you to all those who spent time and money putting the boxes together.



## MERRY CHRISTMAS!

**The RE Faculty would like to wish  
all the pupils and their families a  
very Happy and Holy Christmas and  
all the best for 2012.**

## Christmas Prayer

*by Robert Louis Stevenson*

Loving Father,  
Help us remember the birth of Jesus,  
that we may share in the song of the  
angels,  
the gladness of the shepherds,  
and worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate  
and open the door of love all over the  
world.

Let kindness come with every gift  
and good desires with every greeting.  
Deliver us from evil by the blessing  
which Christ brings,  
and teach us to be merry with clear  
hearts.

May the Christmas morning  
make us happy to be thy children,  
and Christmas evening bring us to our  
beds  
with grateful thoughts,  
forgiving and forgiven,  
for Jesus' sake.



Amen.

**SUCCESS MAKER** Club is being attended very well and is a great success for both Year 7's and Year 8's. This is a computer programme for numeracy and literacy and runs each morning from 8:30 to 9:00 am. Well done to all those who attend.

It is run by Mrs Hall and Mrs Robinson

# KS3 PUPILS ACHIEVING 100% ATTENDANCE SO FAR THIS YEAR! CONGRATULATIONS TO:

## Year 7

Matthew Allen	Alicia Barlow	Conrad Barrow	Nadia Bracken
James Breckell	Elizabeth Brierley	Gabriel Calambro	Rebecca Chantler
Lucia Costagliola	Alexander Dalton	Daniel Everett	Jessica Fahy-Grant
Lydia Farnell	Roan Fitzpatrick	Maisie Jane Garvin	Molly Gilronan
James Hall	Sarah Hall-Murphy	Jasmine Hannon	Harriet Hassall
Daisy Hayes	Jayne Jewsbury	Emmanuel John	Ellie Jones
Olivia Levell	Alexander Lowrey	Isobel MacDonald	Georgia Maguire
Katie Marsh	Joseph McConnell	Francesca Cottrell	Ciara Mellor
Elizabeth Middleton	Thomas Newsome	Elizabeth Nicholls	Cait O'Dowd
Jennifer O'Mullane	Anna Pullar	Isaac Reed	Joseph Ryan
Bethany Stewart	Mary Sweeney	Freya Tan	Chloe Thomas
Isobel Thurston	Asha Turner	Megan Waldron-Green	Olivia Wheeldon
Ella Wild	Daniel Willoughby	Christopher Worthington	

## Year 8

Kate Appleby	Liam Barnes	Anna Bashforth	Ann Connor
Niamh Doherty	Lucy Donaghy	Michael Eachus	Rowan Frain
Morgan Gibbs	Callum Hale	Caleb Hall	Jack Hamnett
Joseph Hartley	Joe Henigan	Ellen Hind	Shona Hutton
Richard Kanegge	Tara Laffey	Olivia Lavelle	Charlotte Levell
Karmen Man	Carlos Nery	Joseph Newsome	Shane O'Connor
Alexander Porter	Rebecca Sainsbury	Olivia Salmon	Rachel Silcock
Dayna Simpson	Kristian Tan	Frances Tole	Patrick Walsh
Louis Whitehead	Jodie Worsley		

## Year 9

Daniel Bertozzi	Florence Burns	Ethan Mulvihill	Myles Delahoyde
Elizabeth Flynn	Benjamin Grannigan	Ellen Griffiths	Thomas Harrop
Lewis Hazldine	Ryan Jackson	Lawrie Jenkins	James Johnson
Alexander Jones	Talulla Kane	James Kenyon	Holly Lax
Isabella Lowrey	Luke McGhee	Helen O'Brien	Megan O'Callaghan
Mark-Edrian Pili	Sebastian Sharples	James Sweeney	Jasper Togonon
Charlotte Wood	Joseph Wood		

## KEY STAGE 4 – 100% ATTENDANCE – WELL DONE!

## Year 10

Joseph Bevan	Adam Bircher	Fariba Ghazizadeh	Cormac Golden
Daniel Heyes	Megan Hind	Megan Jackson	Sean Jones
Cincy Joy	Ellie Lavelle	Vincent McNutt	Thomas Millar
Liam Morgan	Kayleigh O'Connor	Tomas O'Neill	Conor Ryan
Shaun Sparkes	Toni-Marie Tweedale	Thomas Wharton	

## Year 11

Holly Carter	Hannah Davies	Troy Gordon	Alexandra Hillis
Elizabeth Kirrane	Sophie Lea-Griffiths	Dylan Leigh	Hannah Macdonald
Alexander McMullan	Daniel Nickerson	Patricia Paice	Kieran Perkins
Adam Pickup	Benjamin Spink		

## HUMANITIES FACULTY HISTORY DEPARTMENT

This Autumn the Year 10 pupils at St James' Catholic High School had the privilege of visiting the Western Front. The pupils visited sites in France and Belgium, one of the most notable was Tyne Cot, a Commonwealth war cemetery with 11,000 graves and a further 34,000 soldiers names listed on a wall at the top noting those without a grave. The place was immaculate and the tranquillity moving similar to another site we visited, the Menin Gate Memorial to the Missing, which was inscribed with the names of 54,000 soldiers who died and do not have a marked grave. We also had the privilege of experiencing the *last post* where a bugle is sounded every night under Gate in Ypres as a mark of respect to the fallen.



We then visited Lochnagar Mine, a huge crater created by a British mine and we then had an impromptu visit to an archaeological project near the crater known as the La Boisselle project. This was a unique experience and one that all pupils and teachers thoroughly enjoyed as we were one of the first people to visit the mine.



Before we finished our visit we went to the grave of a fellow pupil's relative, William George Bircher and commemorated All Saints Day where we spoke the prayer *the eternal rest*. Visiting the Western Front was extremely enlightening as we learnt about the tragedies, camaraderie and remarkable stories of World War One and it was also a very humbling

experience which I would recommend to anyone of my age.

Thomas Hurleston 10A

### The Trench Workshop

The Trench Workshop was a fun and interesting way for all Year 9 students to find out about World War 1 and living in the trenches. It involved everyone moving around different tables to look at artefacts such as rifles, gas masks and clothing. Everything was explained to use on the way around.

I particularly liked the part when we went up to the front to demonstrate some of the actual things soldiers had to do and the guide was very funny. We got lots of information that we can use in our tests and everyone enjoyed themselves.

Sebastian Sharples, 9C



## GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT

Another frantic term for Geography – massive congratulations to the current Year 11 Geography classes who sat the physical paper of their GCSE and achieved a fantastic set of results. 93% A\*-C with 52% A\*-A and 33% A\*.

The Year 9 classes experienced a wet, wild and windy visit to the River Bollin in October. The department has marked some outstanding fieldwork as a result. All pupils can access video and still footage using Moodle from their trip including the spectacular, and rather frightening, example of river cliff erosion.

Pupils need to log on to Moodle and search Y drive Geography.



## SKI TRIP 2012

We are taking a record number of pupils 59! to Santa Caterina Valfurva, Italy in April 2012.

Pupils who are going on the trip are reminded to ensure that they have handed in for photocopying purposes passports and EHIC cards and paid at least £500 into the finance department.

An information evening will be held in the spring term where Mr and Mrs Wilby will be able to give out information about the resort after attending an inspection trip during the Christmas holidays.



ALL PUPILS CAN VIEW UNEDITED FOOTAGE OF THE 2011 SKI TRIP TO BORMIO IN ITALY using the Moodle link – Y drive – Geography – Skiing.

Mr Wilby  
Director of Humanities

## A Christmas Message from Rev Sue Mayo



I wonder if three phrases that sum up Christmas are: Peace on Earth, Goodwill to Men, and Batteries not Included? Christmas is meant to be something a bit different isn't it? But it sort of ends up being the same – the same shopping, the same eating, the same boozing, the same credit card bill at the end..! Maybe this year, you're dreading Christmas. Maybe somebody you love won't be there or you just don't know where you're going to find the money to buy the kids' presents. Maybe, for you, it's just

another day and the sooner it's gone the better – bah humbug! Quite frankly, sometimes I feel a bit the same way. Or at least I do until I think about the real Reason for the Season. That little kid born in an animal shed to a girl who wasn't even married; no cot, no nothing, not even a room to sleep in, who, it turns out, was actually God's Son, the King of the whole universe. I think of the terrified shepherds when the angels belt out the news of his birth; the magnificent kings arriving from the east with their expensive presents, and I remember the way they all fell down at the baby's feet, worshipping Him. And when I do, I stop for a minute and remember that they called him the Prince of Peace. Maybe it doesn't really matter how big the tree is or how fancy the presents are. Maybe what really matters is that we remember that little kid, how much he loves each and every one of us, how his story turns out. Christians believe that Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us. The Reason for the Season is Him and his name is Love. Love's what's in the room at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen.

May the spirit of Christmas bring you peace,  
The gladness of Christmas give you hope,  
The warmth of Christmas grant you love.  
Merry Christmas,  
Rev Sue



## CONGRATULATIONS TO MR AND MRS WILBY WHO WERE MARRIED SUMMER 2011

*The first members of staff to marry in the school's history!!*



## CREATIVE TECHNOLOGY

### Welcome and Goodbyes

This term we said goodbye to Mr Bulfin, our ICT and Business teacher who has been covering for Ms Holbrooks. He has been an invaluable member of the faculty and his contribution will be greatly missed. We welcomed back Ms Holbrooks who returned from her maternity leave and will be resuming her teaching of KS3 ICT and KS4 Business and Communication Systems. Both staff and pupils were pleased to see her return to Room 70!

### Year 9 Photography Challenge

During this term, Year 9 pupils have had the chance to enter our photography competition. They were asked to submit their most creative picture along with an explanation of why they like it. We are looking forward to judging the entries and announcing the winner in January 2012. The prize is a £25 voucher for a shop of their choice.

### Year 7 and 8 Creative Technology Competitions

Please keep checking Moodle for details of our competitions. We want to encourage pupils to explore their creative side and showcase some of the fantastic talents we know the pupils possess!

### A Year 7 View of Lessons in Creative Technology

#### ICT

So far in ICT we have used some very different types of software. We have created spread sheets in Microsoft Excel, designed our name as a logo using Paint and made leaflets using Microsoft Publisher. Mr Bulfin and Mr Issak have been our teachers and we have enjoyed ICT a lot. Our next topic is learning about E-Safety which will teach us about staying safe online and always being respectful users of Technology.

By Olivia Wheeldon and Francesca Medina-Cotterill 7M

#### Technology

So far in Technology we have completed our Resistant Materials work and are now halfway through studying Textiles. In Resistant Materials our teacher was Mr Kirrane. We made three things: a jigsaw, a stationary holder and a biscuit cutter. Everything we made was exciting to do and we have enjoyed RM and would like to do it again. The stationary holder was the best so far but also the hardest so we worked together to help each other. The process was difficult because we had to think of a design and then make it using paper. We then had to choose a piece of plastic, drill the holes and then bend it. We were very pleased with the results.

In Textiles we are taught by Miss Bradshaw and Miss Lyons. We are making softies which we are looking forward to creating. So far we have really enjoyed our Technology lessons!  
Bethany Stewart and Paige Quinn 7M

### **THE GERMAN EXCHANGE 2011 (by Talulla Kane 9A)**

The German Exchange was a once in a lifetime experience that we are never going to forget. When the German pupils came over to England I'm sure they didn't have a clue what was going on but, thankfully, because of all the caring students that took part in the German exchange they felt incredibly welcome. They have all said that they really enjoyed their visit to England. The students from England were equally delighted to be able to visit their exchange student in Germany. When we arrived, we were all pretty nervous but, as we got to know everyone, we soon settled in. Each day we were able to take part in amazing activities and we also got to see some fantastic things, e.g. Tripsdrill, Heilbronn town hall and the castle at Heidelberg. We also got to experience some special times with the German families.



## ENGLISH FACULTY

The English Faculty has had an exciting autumn term.

We were thrilled with our 2011 examination results, 84% of our GCSE candidates achieved grades A\*-C and 97% of our KS3 pupils achieved Level 5 and above.

On Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November, AQA Assistant Principal Examiner Byron McGuinness came into school to run 2 AQA GCSE English revision classes for our Year 11 pupils; pupil feedback proved this initiative to be a great success. Meanwhile, all 4 English specialist classrooms' wall displays have been updated and brilliantly transformed, thanks to the hard work and expertise of Mrs Brown, the new English Teaching Assistant who started with us in September. She is a welcome addition to our team.

Mrs Brown has also run our faculty rewards system where pupils are regularly rewarded for effort, improvement and progress; she is also an invaluable help in the classroom, where she is giving specific help to some pupils across Years 7-11.

Mr Cross is currently organising a visit to the Lowry Theatre at Salford Quays, where 'An Inspector Calls' by J B Priestley is being performed in the New Year. This visit is being organised to help Year 11 pupils, who are studying the play for their GCSE English Literature exam in June. Places are limited so pupils need to book onto this visit as soon as possible!

As this busy term comes to an end, all members of the English Faculty wish the St James' community a happy and peaceful Christmas and a great start to 2012!

Mrs A Rigby  
Director of the English Faculty

### Message from our Medical Needs and Equality Co-Ordinator, Mrs Hughes:

Please could parents inform school if their child has a new medical condition or a change to an existing condition. Please could you also let us know if your child or someone in the family has a disability so that we can make adjustments to enable you to access school. Also, please keep us up to date with changes to addresses and phone numbers, including mobiles. Wishing you all a Happy Christmas

## LRC NEWS



Our annual storytelling event for Year 7s was held in the Learning Resource Centre on their PSHE day in October, and each form got to spend a lesson in there. We made the LRC into a Halloween grotto, and themed the whole thing on scary stories- as a Catholic school, we also took the opportunity to talk about the origins, myths and legends surrounding Halloween. While lots of pupils enjoy Halloween for the excuse to go out and eat loads of Haribo, we all agreed it's a load of old rubbish, but everyone loves a good scare!

We really wanted to celebrate the ancient art of storytelling, so we read stories to them all, and then invited them to share stories with us. Storytelling is the most enjoyable form of verbal literacy, and spoken communication is a skill for life.



As the library staff are easily scared, the stories were really quite mild! We added a few gentle visual scares, which the pupils revelled in- see some of their quotes from reviews they wrote afterwards! We really love those down-to-earth comments about how they found our "special effects" quite obvious! They're all too sharp for us! We also had a few good laughs- again see the reviews and quotes below. Poor Justin Bieber....

The two full reviews by **Zac Breen** and **Charlotte Kiessi** were chosen as the winners, and they have received a scary book prize each. All the reviews were so great, though, that we wanted to cram in a load of the quotes from other pupils too!

Mrs Hulme's English class wrote their own scary stories afterwards too- and **Natalie Showell** and **Rosie Cowgill** won a scary book each as a prize for writing the two best ones. Rosie based hers on a story we'd read on the day, and Natalie's was about an evil librarian- how could we not love that! It is a pleasure to put events like this on in school, when the pupils give us such a lovely enthusiastic reaction!

**Mrs "MwaHaHa" Smith and Mrs "There's-Someone-Behind-Yooooou" Morrin**



"We walked into the library and there was a screen behind a chair, covered in decorations. On a computer screen there was a picture of a zombie face, and Mrs Smith said it was the spirit of the library and it helped her and Mrs Morrin keep an eye on the pupils!

We got read a story called The Hitchhiker, it was scary but not scary enough to make me wet myself and if I was going to wet myself, it would have been with laughter! The scariest book was Justin Bieber, everyone screamed!

Behind the screen, Mrs Morrin was wearing skeleton gloves and putting her hands out to scare us!

I really enjoyed it and would do it again."

**Zac Breen 7M**

"It was like stepping into a danger zone. There was a yellow strip hung from the monitors so we couldn't get in. The girl at the front had to cut it with scissors. It was really funny.

Mrs Smith sat us down in lines, cross-legged, and we listened to a story about a girl called Rosemary, aware that the spirit in the library was lurking behind us!

"Would you like to see the scariest book in the library?" Mrs Smith asked us before holding up a magazine with Justin Bieber on the front. The result was hilarious. Everyone was screaming and backing away!

We were then told a story that personally I thought was more funny than scary, but still enjoyable. It was about a man in the night who kept hearing a call "Can you give me a push please?" And that was when we saw.....SKELETON FINGERS!

I'm not joking. Skeleton fingers were curling over the top of the screen, making spooky gestures. The spirit of the library, Justin Bieber and skeleton fingers....what next? You never know..."**Charlotte Kiessi 7J**

"When we lined up outside the LRC, well, I was expecting it to be boring, but it was actually really fun!" (**Ewan Lawson 7J**)

"The librarian came out of the library wearing a Tesco witch's hat (the label was sticking out)" (**Tom Berry 7M**)

"We had to cut a yellow tape saying "do not enter" to get through the door!" (**Megan Waldron-Green 7M**)

"Some of the decorations weren't that good though. You can get a roll of that "do not enter" tape at the Spar." (**Sarah Hall-Murphy 7J**)

"The decorations were really good- a faint light seeping through the tiny cracks in the window, spiders and cobwebs." (**Beth Stewart 7M**)

"Some devil's eyes were glaring at us on a computer screen." (**Jessica Fahy-Grant 7A**)

"It looked spooktastic!" (**Maisie Jane Garvin 7A**)

"We read some super cool books that you're not allowed to read in bed after dark." (**Rebecca Miller 7A**)

"Mrs Smith read us 2 or 3 horror stories which were all quite freaky and spooky. They left the story on a cliffhanger and left you wanting to know more." (**Emma-Louise Tweedale 7A**)

"There was a screen which Mrs Smith was sat in front of and every now and then some gloved fingers curled round the top of them." (**Francesca Medina 7M**)

"...so we were way into our story, suddenly these hands came out of nowhere doing a peculiar movement, like a Mexican wave with each finger." (**Isobel MacDonald 7M**)

"She showed us the scariest most horrifying book in the library, it was....JUSTIN BIEBER!!!!" (**Shaun Varley 7A**)

"Cheesy gags!" (**Alex Langdon 7A**)

"This was a scary but fun session. I wish we could have had longer." (**Sophie Silcock 7M**)

"It was really good fun and I would definitely do that again." (**Ellie Jones 7M**)

## YEAR 7

Year 7 have had a very busy term and have made a great start to their life at St James'. They are certainly "letting their light shine" which was the theme of our Welcome Mass, where each form took responsibility for a different part of the mass. It was a lovely opportunity to be able to share with parents and families all of the hard work and hopes and dreams of Year 7.

Getting to know each other at Linnet Clough on our retreat days was the highlight of the term for many of us. The adrenaline was certainly pumping on the cube, especially when we attempted the leap of faith. My screams alone could be heard for miles around. Just to add to the excitement of the day for 7A the gale force winds and fallen tree almost stopped us making it home. Mrs Morgan's persuasive skills were put to good use as she held up the buses by sweet talking the bus drivers!



Year 11s did a great job organising our Welcome Disco where we danced the night away. The photos speak for themselves on this one!!

It was then more dancing at the Christmas celebration disco – a rather sweaty event, but lots of fun.



Charity reps have worked very hard this term collecting tins for the Wellspring Centre at Harvest and shoe boxes for operation Christmas Child.



We were overwhelmed by the generous response of Year 7 on these two events and it just continued as each form planned their own Christmas fundraiser for their chosen charity of Help for Hero's, cake sales, sponsored silences, a tombola and lots more help us to raise lots of money for this worthy charity.

### 7A – Charity Tombola

On Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 7A did a charity tombola. The charity they decided to raise money for was Help the Hero's. We raised £109.88!!

We asked some people of their thoughts of what the tombola was like. Here are some of the things pupils said from the Year 7 forms:

- It was fun
- Cheap for the price of tickets
- That it was all for charity
- It was a good idea of fundraising by doing a tombola
- There was a variety of prizes
- That they were selling cakes on the side as well as the tombola
- They set it out in a very organised way
- That there were enough people being there to take over
- It was very well planned e.g. putting posters around school

When the tombola finished we had more people queuing out of the door. This would not go ahead without parents of children in 7A going out to get the presents. Thank you to everyone.

James Lowe, Benjamin Kirkman, Megan O'Donald 7A

I could not be more proud of Year 7 and can see already that this Year group are something very special. It has been a term of non stop congratulations and ATL scores, pizza lunches, coke & cakes, chocolate treats, vouchers, praise post cards home plus lots more have been our way of rewarding an incredible group of pupils. I am looking forward to next term already and wish all of Year 7 and their families a well deserved merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Miss Woods – Head of Year

On 7<sup>th</sup> September we all joined this exciting school, St James'. We were given our timetables, planners and books. When we met our teachers, some were nice, some were strict and some were funny!

In the third week of school we went on a trip to Linnett Clough, it was a very good day. The things we did included a trust exercise, friendship task and the cube. It was a great way to get to know the people in our form a little better.

By now we were settling in more. Towards the end of the half term we had a PSHCE day where we did lots of different activities while the rest of the school went to Alton Towers. We made smoothies and masks, had a visit from the fire officer, did a desert island challenge and listened to Halloween stories in the library. It was good to spend another day with our form. We have really enjoyed our first term at St James'.

Cain Sherratt and Faye O'Brien 7M

My name is James Lowe and I am in Year 7. My junior school was Cheadle Catholic. In the summer holidays I was thinking about joining St James'. I knew it would be the best school because my sister would be there for me and I would have more responsibility on my own, going on the bus.

When we were told that the Welcome Mass was coming up and 7A, my form were doing the Offertory I nearly cried because I was thinking that it would be really nice. All the candles, posters and stars, being taken, walked up through the different isles. Our mums, dads and brothers and sisters watching us walk while we take them.

I have made new friends. One of them is called Robert. He is there for me whenever I need someone to talk to.

My form tutor is Mrs Birch, my form is great and we all get along with each other.

James Lowe 7A English

## YEAR 7 WELCOME MASS

On Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October we had our first mass at St James'. All six Year 7 forms took part in this lovely occasion. 7J prepared some lovely opening prayers, 7A lit up the hall with candles and walked down the aisle, 7M entertained us with their drama sketch and 7C did the bidding prayers.

We worked very hard preparing our prayers and practising them with Mrs Zelinka to make sure that our voices would be heard clearly in the hall.

We loved this mass because we had the opportunity to see all these lovely activities and to come together with all our friends, families and teachers to celebrate the beginning of our school life at St James'.

The mass was led by Fr Paul who always makes us chuckle and it was an experience we will cherish forever.

**Rosie Cowill and Amealia Kelly 7C**

## My First Term at St James' – Jessica Lax 7E

The first term at St James' has gone so quickly and my favourite part of it was Linnett Clough. Linnett Clough is my favourite because it wasn't all about having fun it was all to do with teamwork.

At Linnett Clough I made many friends like Cait and Izzy, Charlotte and Francesca and that was because when I was on the cube, they were all cheering me on.

I like doing the team exercises too, I did it with Kieran who I don't really know or talk to and that was good because he trusts me now and I trust him too and that's why I like Linnett Clough.

## Being in Year 7 at St James'

St James' is fun  
You make new friends  
We have a laugh  
The dinners are great!  
I just love them  
Technology is brill  
Because it gives me such a thrill  
Making new things  
Bracelets and rings  
My form teacher is great  
She is called Mrs Birch  
And if I had a problem  
I would go and see her  
She helps me in every way  
In her form I'd love to stay

Shannon Mannering – Year 7 English

## SCIENCE FACULTY

When we returned to school after the summer break we were celebrating a wonderful set of GCSE results from our Y11 leavers.

CORE SCIENCE	55/72	76%	A* - C
ADDITIONAL SCIENCE	58/65	89%	A* - C
BIOLOGY	51/51	100%	A* - C
CHEMISTRY	51/51	100%	A* - C
PHYSICS	50/51	98%	A* - C
OCR National Award	39/42	93%	pass

Congratulations to them all for achieving so well.

We also need to congratulate our top set Year 9 pupils who sped through their Core Science curriculum at break neck speed to complete a full GCSE in one year. Again we saw outstanding results. Well done to them all and also a big thank you to Ms Mylott and Ms Woods for their hard work and dedication in preparing these pupils for the exam.

We were sad to lose Mr Lowry from the Science faculty teaching staff but have been pleased to gain the experience of Mr Martin to continue with the delivery of OCR National Award with our Y10 pupils.

We were also able to congratulate Mrs Brown on the safe arrival of her baby during the summer holiday. To cover her maternity leave we have welcomed Mr Gold to the faculty.

Mr Devine and Dr Nye continue with their excellent teaching, supporting pupils with their learning.

Mr Roberts and Ms Hyde, our science technicians, have supported the teaching and learning within the faculty and have become regular demonstrators in the classroom as well as at open evening.

I would like to thank all the staff for the hard work they have put in to developing the Science Curriculum over the past year. It is a pleasure to work with you.

A MacLeod Acting Director of Science

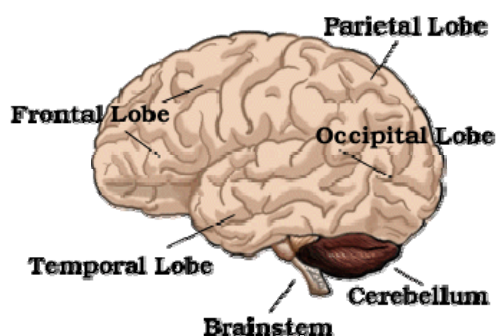


## The Dalton Lecture – by Jamie O’Dowd

On Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October a group of Y11 pupils went to the Royal College of Music in Manchester to listen to The Dalton Lecture which was hosted by The Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society which is one of the oldest learned societies in Britain.

The lecture was about neuro Science and we learned about how the brain reacts and changes during depression.

It was different to being in a classroom with a teacher because we were not asking questions, but this experience gave us an opportunity to see what it would be like at University lectures if we want to go on to study Science.



The science faculty have been delighted to reward so many pupils for their excellent achievements this term. Almost all pupils have received at least one of the new range of rewards gifts for achieving their target levels/grades. Wrist bands, pencils, pens, key rings and lanyards are just some of what has been on offer.

The task of nominating pupils from each year group for the Effort, Attainment, Improvement Awards has been more difficult than ever but after much deliberation we would like to offer our congratulations to:

Effort	Attainment	Improvement
<b>Year 7</b>		
Ben Church	John Mediavillo	Freya Tan
<b>Year 8</b>		
Jack Melia	Frances Tole	Alicia Cheeseman
<b>Year 9</b>		
Tiffani McGreal	Matthew Fox	Hannah Daniels
<b>Year 10</b>		
Jake Wright	Nuala Ginty	Becky Kelsall
<b>Year 11</b>		
Ashleah Cumston	Efia Mainoo	Luke Barnwell

## **FAB LAB**

We arrived in Manchester after a short coach ride from school. The Lab itself was full of interesting manufacturing equipment and tools, including laser cutters, ICT suites with the latest in CAD design and printing software.

We were introduced to the Fab Lab leaders and assistants who were all very helpful and described to us how the day would unfold. We were told that we would work in teams to design, build, manufacture, market and sell an airline company! The brief we were given included a number of interesting permutations; for example, we had to design the aircraft for a specific celebrity. We then had to sell our aircraft to three 'Dragons' who would decide if the aircraft was suitable for their celebrity client and if our efforts would be worthwhile!

Once we had been told what we were doing we had to decide what specific role each member of our team would have. The different roles included Managing Director, Marketing Manager and Head of Manufacturing. To do this we identified each individual's strengths and matched him or her to the job role description. We then had 90 minutes to identify our celebrity buyer (we chose Cheryl Cole), choose the aircraft that would suit her best, choose what would be in the aircraft and finally identify a company name, logo and marketing strategy. We got straight to it!

After break, our Head of Manufacturing began to build our chosen aircraft whilst our Marketing Manager and other members of the group discussed our marketing strategy. We were able to use design software to create a logo for our company, which we could make into a sticker to place on our aircraft once it was built. All the Fab Lab staff and St James' teaching staff were all very helpful and made sure that everyone knew what they were doing and were working together well. It was obvious to see that all the groups wanted to ensure that their company won the Dragons' investment!

The last hour was frantic! Our group worked very hard to put all the different aspects of our efforts together. We also had to create a presentation to show to the Dragons, which would be scrutinised and an overall judgement as to whether our aircraft would be purchased would be made. We insured that all members of our group had an input into its format and also all members of our group would have a specific part to play in the presentation.

Our presentation went very well! We were all very impressed with the other presentations as well. The Dragon's decided that there would

not be an overall winner as each group was successful in selling their aircraft! The Dragon's were also unanimous in deciding that each group's presentation had specific aspects that were outstanding! It was also amazing to hear that the leaders of the Fab Lab said that the presentations that they had seen were in fact the best that they had ever seen from any group of pupils attending the Fab Lab! An amazing achievement, which made us all feel very proud!

## **Fab-Labers**



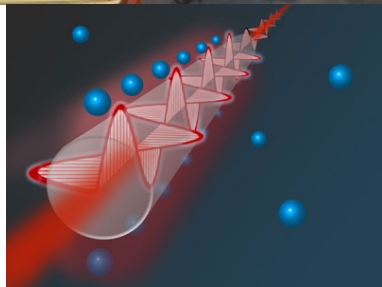
## SMART CLUB

The SMART Club (Science, Maths, & Revolutionary Technology) was set up in November this year. It was set up by four Year 9 boys, Patrick Bolam, Matthew Fox, Oliver Drouet and Christopher Wigfield. The club is run by the students and accommodated by Mr Bulfin. Since the club was formed we have managed to arrange to watch several documentaries one being of the famous physicist Dr Michio Kaku.

The club was formed first as an idea and then we decided to make it official due to our passion for science. We have now established this club and will be opening it up to the rest of the school. In the meetings the four of us and other members will be giving lectures on their desired subject within the topic of science and technology. If members wish to join please speak to Mr Bulfin, my fellow members or myself and we will hope to see you at the next meeting.

By Christopher Wigfield

SMART Members:  
Christopher Wigfield  
Patrick Bolam  
Matthew Fox  
Oliver Drouet



## HUMANITIES SPECIALISM

It has been another busy term for the Humanities specialist subjects. In August we again celebrated superb results for English, RE and Citizenship. The 5+A\*-C GCSE including English and Maths was a fantastic result, and confirmed both the quality of teaching in the English department, as well as the hard work of our pupils. Similarly, the RE faculty result of 83%A\*-C was another excellent performance, as was the 100% of pupils who achieved A\*-C in the GCSE Citizenship short course. For more details of work in the faculty, please see their individual faculty sections.

The school has continued to provide an excellent community programme this term, and this is testament to the superb work of our community coordinator Mrs Wallace. In particular, Year 7 parents and children have taken advantage of our long established family literacy scheme, and this term we have had record numbers for Ann Lyon's sessions. We were also delighted that our community work was recognised at the Stockport Young Stars event on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December. A team of Year 10 pupils (Jack Lavelle, Amy Pullar and Hannah Shaw 10C) had their outstanding community contributions celebrated, with Amy Pullar winning the award for outstanding community work.

In the meantime, we all wish for a speedy recovery for Mrs Wallace and her return to work in the New Year.

## Leading Edge partnerships

St James' continues to have strong partnerships with Stockport Academy, Cheadle Hulme High School, Kingsway School and Bramhall High School. In January, we will be providing more teaching and learning training for the Academy, and there will be more sharing of work between the four schools. In addition, we will be providing faculty leadership training for our cluster, which will lead to a teaching network that will benefit pupils both at St James' and across Stockport.



Hannah Shaw, Jack Lavelle and Amy Pullar

# St James' Faith Council 2012

Mr Keane will be launching the new St James' Faith Council in January 2012. Having delivered an assembly to all year groups about the Faith Council vision here are just a few reminders about why you should become part of the Faith Council:

**Social** – An opportunity to meet new people

**Constructive** – Be the change. Be the change you want to see

**Educational** – learn new things and ideas

**Charitable** – Be a part of making a difference to peoples live

**The future** – Representing St James' will always make a difference on your CV

...Be the change  
You can't spell Earth



...without R.E.  
St James' faith Council  
Be the change...

## Faith Council vision



- Make links with other faith schools
- Make links with a chosen charity
- Putting forward faith related fundraising ideas to senior management/governors
- Organisation of commemorations and festivities
- Raising the profile of our school

## How do I?

Log onto

moodle



Access Faith Council forum on first page and click on link.

In no more than 50 words tell me why you should be part of the faith council:

*"I should be part of the faith council because...."*

Representatives announced:  
January 2012

## MATHS FACULTY

We have had an extremely busy term in the maths department. Mrs Healey left us in November to go on maternity leave and has since had a baby girl! Mrs Wilby will be Director of Faculty whilst Mrs Healey is off and Mr Bulfin has joined the faculty and is taking over Mrs Healey's classes. Another new addition to the faculty is Mrs Li. Mrs Li is a specialist maths teacher who will be an additional help in some classes and will also be involved in 1:1 tuition for targeted pupils.

Year 10 and 11 have recently sat another GCSE module examination with some year 11 pupils sitting early entry mathematics GCSE. The results are due in on the 12<sup>th</sup> January so, fingers crossed, they will be seeing the success they deserve. Year 11 will be sitting their final maths examination in June 2012 with Year 10 sitting their final module in the following November. Years 7, 8 and 9 will be sitting their next assessment in January.



**Manchester Metropolitan University** - Over 40 trainee teachers used their skills to develop an action packed morning to help our pupils gain a C grade in January. The pupils worked in small groups with the trainees and revised topics such as Pythagoras' Theorem, Trial and Improvement and Calculating an Estimate of the Mean. It was hugely beneficial and the pupils thoroughly enjoyed it. We will be running it again before the Summer examinations for Year 11 and some Year 10 pupils also.

Mrs Wilby – Acting Director of Maths



### MESSAGE FROM CHARLES LOWRY

As you will have learned, I will be leaving my post at St James' in August 2012 and will not be returning at the end of my secondment with OFSTED. At the end of this academic year I will have completed twelve years at St James' and I wanted to take this opportunity of saying goodbye to all those wonderful people I have had the privilege of working with and for in that time.

I came to St James' in September 2000, having worked previously in three different local authorities and in five different schools. Taking the post was daunting to say the least, St James' had an excellent reputation, and one it still enjoys, for providing a first class education for its students with Our Lord at the centre and each child at its heart. My vision for the school has always been that it must be an extension of the Catholic Christian family where everyone feels valued for who they are and where we as staff work with you our parents and carers in helping our children to become what God wants them to be, our children feeling as safe in school, as they do at home. I sincerely hope that my colleagues and I delivered that vision.

As a team we strive unceasingly to drive up standards to maximise the life chances of our young people and I was immensely proud, when in August, we learned of our record results at GCSE. I, more than anyone, know how hard every member of the school worked to realise those results and I hope that you would want to join me in thanking every member of staff for what they did and continue to do for our students. I too want to thank them personally for all their hard work and support during my time as one of their colleagues.

Each one of my colleagues has had a positive impact on me both professionally and personally and I will be taking the opportunity, over the coming months, to thank them on an individual basis. I would also like to take this opportunity of thanking the governing body, a group of immensely talented and hard working individuals without whose support, drive and challenge I would have been unable to carry out my work.

St James' is a very special school and nothing has demonstrated this more to me than the support and messages of goodwill I have received since I decided to leave. These kind messages and support will always be remembered.

Please remember me in your prayers, as you will be in mine, and I hope that I will be able to always keep in touch.

With every best wish for the future

Yours sincerely in Christ – Charles Lowry

# Music

## School Production

We are delighted to announce that the auditions for the next school production will be in January. If you wish to take part you will need to prepare a short singing audition and a short scripted performance. More information will be available at the start of the new term.

## Extra Curricular

Rehearsal schedule

Band = Wednesday 3.15pm-4.15pm

Choir = Monday 3.30pm-4.30pm

All are welcome regardless of standard

## Instrumental Tuition

If your child is currently receiving instrumental tuition the next payment is due in January. Please send to the finance office (Shared = £71.95, Individual = £143.89).

If any pupil would like to start instrumental lessons in school please contact Mrs Keenan.

### Alicia's Make a Wish Charity fundraising

I'm Alicia Cheeseman in Year 8 and over a two week period I have been raising money for the Make a Wish Foundation. I know someone very close to me that Make a Wish Foundation has helped to make his dreams come true. So, he wanted to raise money for Make a Wish and I decided I would help him. I did a raffle and a cake sale. I have many people I need to thank for helping me. First of all, I need to thank Louise Finn, Dayna Simpson and Niamh Crowley for helping me and bringing in what I needed. Also I would like to thank Mrs Malins for supporting me and bringing in cakes for the cake sale, Mrs Lomax for taking my idea to planning and finally Mrs Keenan for supervising me in the cake sale. I would also like to thank Rory Brown, Ashna Sailus, Victoria Campbell and Hannah Brown for bringing in extra cakes for the cake sale. I'm very glad that I did this and I can't express how thankful I am to all of these people. I have very much enjoyed doing this fund raising and I would like to do it again.



## Achievement Points

Year 8 have been fantastic this term and have collected 2417 achievement points which is an amazing amount.

Charlie Abernethy (23)  
Will Aldred (20)  
Kate Appleby (20)  
Cathlynn-Joy Banda (21)  
Chantel Barry (27)  
Megan Birmingham (21)  
Joe Brennan (21)  
Louie Burton (22)  
Megan Carr (22)  
Ann Connor (23)  
Niamh Crowley (22)  
Katie Deegan (20)  
Naomi Neale (31)  
Libby Neary (20)  
Isabella Sertori (21)  
Maisy-Lou Taylor (22)  
Frances Tole (24)  
Emily Wash (23)

A particular congratulation goes to the following:

Lucy Donaghy (24)  
Ellie Doran (22)  
Rowan Frain (21)  
Thomas Gilles (25)  
Kieran Hardiman (21)  
Ellen Hind (21)  
Emily Jefferies (22)  
Tara Laffey (20)  
Olivia Lavelle (22)  
Rachel Mayo (20)  
Amy Mulholland (22)  
Daniel Murray (21)

On Tuesday  
6th December 2011

We took 36 amazing Yr10 girls to visit the clothes show at the NEC in Birmingham. A fantastic day was had by all and the girls were a credit to the school.

# CLOTHES SHOW LIVE



Klicea Anane with Lucian from Big Brother and Waterloo Road, at the Clothes Show Birmingham.



## YEAR 10

On the 6<sup>th</sup> of December Year 10s from Art, Textiles and Drama went to the NEC in Birmingham to see The Clothes Show Live. They went to see the different clothes and get inspiration for their work in school. X Factor contestants 'The Risk' were there and did a live performance as part of the show. The theme of the show was 'a night at the department store' and all the pupils really enjoyed it. As well as the show, the pupils were allowed to look around the many different stalls, they were selling everything from make up to clothes and accessories, all at discounted prices. Lots of famous brands were there such as Benefit, Barry M, Claire's, Top Shop and Superdry. There were also some famous faces, like the winner of Britain's Next Top Model, Jade and Lucian from Waterloo Road and Big Brother, who one lucky pupil managed to meet and get a photo taken with him! Over all, it was a very good day that everyone enjoyed and will remember for a very long time.

By Faith Parker 10E

On the 6<sup>th</sup> December 2011, 40 year 10's got the opportunity to go to the Clothes Show Live, which was held at the NEC, Birmingham. Only the people who decided to take the subjects Art and Textiles could go, so they could get inspiration for their GCSE work. The pupils and the teachers got the chance to shop in the busy stalls, full of offers from top brands, like Superdry and Pauls Boutique. They weren't just selling clothes, though. They sold everything from hair straighteners to makeup, from fake tan to clothes. After browsing the stalls, the pupils stopped off for some lunch, and then went to the stadium, to see the show.

As the pupils took their seats, some famous faces turned up. George Lamb and Grace Woodward presented the show, and then on came the Waterloo Road and Big Brother star Lucien, who showed a preview of his new song! Then, X Factor runners up The Risk did a breathtaking performance too!! Then, the lights came on, the music blared through the speakers and the models and dancers took their places!!

After 45 minutes of jaw-dropping dancers and beautiful models, the pupils got a second chance to go shopping, and they also got the chance to have their pictures taken with the stars of the show!!

Everyone had a great time, and it was definitely worth the coach journey!

By Paris Lane 10S

## YEAR 10

The Year 10s have had an exciting and eventful start to the year. Back in January 2011, they were all asked to start making choices about the different GCSE's they wanted to take and in September, the courses that they had chosen began. A challenging start to GCSE's.

On 20<sup>th</sup> October, the hard working pupils were rewarded with a lovely celebration breakfast courtesy of Mrs Wilby, and at the end of October the Year 10 History students enjoyed a fantastic trip to The Western Front.

Having already sat a Maths exam, the Year 10s will be receiving their results in January 2012.

We're sure that they will have lots to celebrate thanks to all their hard work.

Subject trips to the theatre to see "Dirty Dancing" and to The Clothes Show Live, have shown that there have been lots of opportunities for extra curricular activities for Year 10 to enjoy.

Mrs Holbrooks – Head of Year 10

## YEAR 11

It has been an incredibly busy Autumn Term for Year 11.

Pupils have had to make some huge decisions about their next steps, applying to colleges and choosing their courses. We had our Curriculum Evening and Careers Convention where staff, local colleges and representatives from apprenticeship schemes were available to talk to and advise pupils and parents. It was great to see so many of you there.

GCSE mock exams have been taking place giving pupils a real insight into the need for effective revision and preparation. Mock exam results are going to be given to students in the style of a formal results day when we return to school in January. English Language results will be given before the Christmas break, however, as pupils prepare for their actual GCSE English Language examination on **January 10<sup>th</sup>**.

Finally, we have our Christmas Activity on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December: a trip to the Oriental Buffet in Stockport or a DVD in school; a well-deserved break at the end of a demanding term. Wishing parents, staff and students a restful and peaceful Christmas,

Mrs Moss - Head of Year 11

### ELLA SIVORI 10M



Year 10's Ella Sivori continues on her path to stardom with an appearance at the Children in Need concert held at Blackpool's North Pier. The sell out crowd watched Ella perform and responded with a great reception. Ella was also lucky enough to meet celebrities from the world of TV and music, including Frazer from NBubz, stars from the TV series, Waterloo Road and The Only Way is Essex and also contestants from Britains' Got Talent.

Ella said "I loved every minute, performing is all I want to do and I can't wait to do it all again. I love singing, acting, dancing and piano playing and I am very grateful for the opportunities I have been given to perform and of course to help raise money for Children in Need"

Look out for Ella in the near future.

# SCHOOL IDOL

CONGRATULATIONS TO "THREE'S A CROWD" (Ben Peters, Alex Henshall and Francesca Sivori) & James Collins (Yr11 leaver), ON WINNING A PLACE IN THE GRAND FINAL OF SCHOOL IDOL 2011 WHICH WAS HELD ON FRI 11TH NOV AT THE NORTH PIER THEATRE BLACKPOOL

Competition was great and unfortunately our stars didn't win this one. However they have a bright future to look forward to.

*Members of Yrs 7, 8 & 9 have enjoyed being creative at the  
KS3 Art Club  
Room 69  
on Tuesday's 3.15-4*



Many thanks to all our participants:  
individual performers, Choir, Band,  
Drama students, Art club members  
- who made the evening such a  
success.

To kick start our  
Christmas celebrations  
The Faculty of Expressive  
Arts  
Showcased a  
phenomenal 37 acts of  
talent in an evening of  
entertainment on  
Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December

## SUBJECT REWARDS

**Congratulations to the following pupils who have received a commendation reward for either Effort, Attainment or Improvement**

### YEAR 7

Subject	Effort	Attainment	Improvement
RE	Josh Finucane	Chloe Thomas	Francesca Denny
English	James Leach	Phoebe Avery	Dylan Pollitt
Mathematics	Phoebe Avery	Ewan Lawson	Alex Langdon
Science	Ben Church	John Mediavillo	Freya Tan
Technology	Beth Chadwick	Alex Langdon	Liam Harris
Modern Foreign Languages	Cain Sherratt	Lucia Costagliola	Jasmine Hannon
Geography	Bethany Stewart	James Breckell	Olivia Levell
History	Maisie Jane Garvin	Kieran Hughes	Katie Marsh
ICT	Josh Finucane	Elsa Vaccari	James Leach
Art	Sophie Silcock	Isobel MacDonald	Matthew Charlton Edwards
Music	Olivia Hutchinson	Josh Finucane	Shanise Doran
PE (Boys)	Alex Lowrey	Jonathan Barton	Shaun Varley
PE (Girls)	Rebecca Chantler	Danielle Stringer	Maisie Jane Garvin
Drama	Rosie Cowgill	Tom Newsome	Matthew Charlton Edwards
Citizenship	Jayne Jewsbury	Felix Beranger-Renwick	

### YEAR 8

Subject	Effort	Attainment	Improvement
RE	Joe Brennan	Niamh Crowley	Jacob Riley
English	Katie Deegan	Elizabeth Welsh	Victoria Deeney
Mathematics	Emily Jefferies	Martin Owen	Chris Harrison
Science	Jack Melia	Frances Tole	Alicia Cheeseman
Technology	Charlotte Edwards	Kiera Joyce	Megan Carr
Modern Foreign Languages	Emily Walsh	Elizabeth White	James Robertson
Geography	Shane O'Connor	Lucy Donaghy	Joe O'Mullane
History	Frances Tole	Louie Burton	Jaida Madathilethu
ICT	Dayna Simpson	Maisy-Lou Taylor	Emily Jefferies
Art	Shona Hutton	Rowan Frain	Victoria Campbell
Music	Heather Curran	Thomas Gilles	Emily Jefferies
PE (Boys)	Connor O'Shea	Will Patching	Ross Wilson-Salt
PE (Girls)	Jodie Worsley	Naomi Neale	Ellie Doran
Drama	Chantel Barry	Heather Curran	James Kirk
Citizenship	Olivia Robinson		

## YEAR 9

Subject	Effort	Attainment	Improvement
RE	Ryan Jackson	James Sweeney	James Durcan
English	Jordan Hannon	Olivia Thorley	Joseph Wood
Mathematics	Ryan Jackson	James Sweeney	John Shieldss
Science	Tiffani McGreal	Matthew Fox	Hannah Daniels
Technology	Kate Darlington	Tiffani McGreal	Ryan Jackson
Modern Foreign Languages	Emilia Ryder	James Johnson	Molly Nugent
Geography	Donnacha Maguire	Alex Jones	Marc Wakfield
History	Molly Nugent	Matthew Jones	Lucy Clews-Jones
ICT	Chloe Wheeldon	Aaron Dougan	Sophie Greenwood
Art	Megan O'Callaghan	Flo Burns	James Durcan
Music	Millie Thomas	John Shields	James Sweeney
PE (Boys)	James Kenyon	Callum Roberts	Alex Lapi
PE (Girls)	Beth Walker	Ama Mainoo	Ellen Griffiths
Drama	John Shields	Kail Cumston	Millie Thomas
Citizenship	Donnacha Maguire		
Travel & Tourism	Patrycja Lacna	Megan Forbes	Lewis Igali

## YEAR 10

Subject	Effort	Attainment	Improvement
RE	Petra Brook	Anna Lightfoot	Megan Egan
English	Lauren Arrowsmith	Francesca Sivori	Tom Wharton
Mathematics	Will Shiel	Kate McDermott	Ianna Villaruz
Science	Jake Wright	Nuala Ginty	Rebecca Kelsall
Modern Foreign Languages	Tom Wharton	Anna Hutchence	Abigail Jackson
Geography	Rebecca Watkins	Joe O'Dowd	Liam Crompton
History	Victoria Gorton	Thomas Hurleston	Josh Hathershaw
ICT	Alice Lunn	Rebecca Houlton	Cameron James
Art	Klicea Anane	Nuala Ginty	Sean Jones
Music	David Sheard	Ella Sivori	Caroline Abbott
PE (Boys)	Jamie Reding	Thomas Hurleston	Nathan Albiston
PE (Girls)	Robyn Neale	Catherine Rafferty	Petra Brook
Drama	Chloe Walshaw	Alex Henshall	Toni-Marie Tweedale
Citizenship	Jack Lavelle	Amy Pullar	Hannah Shaw (10C)
Learning for Living /ASDAN	Klicea Anane	Victoria Hillis	Aimee Miller
Business & Communications	Toni-Marie Tweedale	Sophie Doyle	Faith Parker
GCSE Food	Hannah Shaw (10C)	Joshua Johnson	Jack Ward
GCSE Product Design	Jennifer Small	Liam Morgan	Alex Welsh
GCSE Textiles	Cincy Joy	Anna Hutchence	Lauren Arrowsmith
Public Services	Abigail Jackson	Kathryn Lane	Cameron James

## YEAR 11

Subject	Effort	Attainment	Improvement
RE	Kieran O'Neill	Gabriella Marshall	Patrick Dzvoti
English	Kieran Perkins	Adam Pickup	Luke Doran
Mathematics	Molly O'Shea	Jacob McGee	Aiden Owen
Science	Ashleah Cumston	Efia Mainoo	Luke Barnwell
Modern Foreign Languages	Kieran Perkins	Gabriella Marshall	Bethany Taylor
Geography	Molly O'Shea	Samantha Porter	Stephanie Jones
History	Charlotte Roden	Efia Mainoo	Gary Heyes
ICT	Daniel Sweeney	Amy Thiele	Samantha Murphy
Art	Kaydeon Bacon	Lizzie Ainsworth	Holly Carter
Music	Elizabeth Kirrane	Amy Thiele	Amber Roberts
PE (Boys)	Dylan Leigh Dodgson	Joe Seggie	Troy Gordon
PE (Girls)	Niamh Elstone	Lucy Dobson	Gemma Carr
Drama	Robyn Bowyer	Samantha Murphy	Louis Sivori
Citizenship	Ciara Octigan	Louis Sivori	
Learning for Living/ASDAN	Sam Vernon	Tom Barrow	Rebecca Norbury
Business & Communications	Luke Gleeson	Aine Timmins	Robyn Bowyer
GCSE Food	Bethany Walker	Caitlin Bermingham	Charley Waring
GCSE Product Design	Kieran Perkins	Jack Wall	Luke Gleeson
GCSE Textiles	Alexandra Hillis	Molly O'Shea	Charlotte Roden
Public Services	Abbie Moore	Abbie Rezzanno	Shane Harnett

### CAREERS CAFE

This term the Year 9s enjoyed an informative evening concerning future jobs that they may wish to undertake when they are older. In total 27 speakers were invited to talk to small groups of pupils outlining their occupations and qualifications that are required. The range of speakers varied, including a pathologist to a golf professional. This event gave a great insight for Year 9s choosing their options later on this year. The evening is now in its second year and was again a great success.

Miss Brooks – Teacher in Charge of Careers

### DRAMA

GCSE drama pupils enjoyed two trips to the theatre this term. The Year 11s went to watch "One Man Two Guvnor's" at the Lowry. This production starred James Gordon, better known for his role in Gavin & Stacey. His performance was outstanding and it is not surprising that this play is now to hit Broadway. The pupils got their first taste of commedia dell'arte, which translates as "comedy of skills"; an improvised style of theatre.

The second performance in contrast, was the musical "Dirty Dancing". This was based on the iconic film from the 1980s' and was certainly full of those well known phrases that we all know. It was a high energy performance and did not disappoint the audience.

Miss Brooks – Teacher in Charge of Drama

**MFL**  
**Manchester Christmas Markets**

The Manchester Christmas market seems to have become a yearly tradition in most Mancunian families over the years. Filled with pretty lights, Christmasy foods, festive spirit and friendly characters but, most of all, the German culture. Which is exactly why Mrs Whelan, the new MFL teacher, has organised a brilliantly anticipated Year 9 trip to it (for the first time in St James' history!).

On the 28<sup>th</sup> November 48 Year 9s boarded the coach (and a few on the minibus!) to Manchester for a wonder around and the taste of something new. Personally, I headed straight for the fudge (another little tradition in my family!) whilst, not surprisingly, I think, virtually everyone else screamed "chocolate shop" and stampeded their way through Albert Square before the teacher could even finish the words "off you go"!

Our German teachers had lovingly made a little booklet with a bit of information about the place in it. This came in handy when keeping track of the times we had to meet back up.

I think the main foods everyone was eating seemed to be the Bratwurst, which is a huge German hotdog, the hot chocolate and crepes. Everyone was either buying Christmas presents or just lots of sweets and chocolate for themselves!

On the walk back through Albert Square to board the coach a lot of celebrity hunting went on. When we bumped into a tall thin man in a City jumper, us girls just shrugged it off, that was until a huge number of the lads began asking for pictures and autographs. It turns out he was a football player for City! Don't know if any of you have heard of him? His name was Vincent Kompany? Oh well!!

Also, my mum texted me to say Rhianna had been sighted in Albert Square with a Bratwurst! Suddenly everyone had out their camera phones and were jumping and screaming to see her but, unfortunately, she wasn't spotted by any St James' pupils that day...

The ride home was a jumble of people showing off what they'd bought. Some had got scented soaps or candles, others traditional German presents of tree decorations for family and, of course, the trademark German market mug!

But whatever we came home with it will always be a memory of that great Monday afternoon.

Millie Thomas 9J



## PE FACULTY

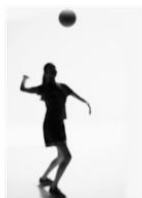
This term has been a really eventful one for the PE department. Many of the St James' sports teams have excelled in many sporting activities.

### Curricular PE

During lesson time we have been able to add variety to KS4 core PE. All of the Year groups have had the opportunity to attend fitness classes at Total Fitness. The Year 10 and 11 girls have participated in spinning, street dance and sessions in the gym to work on the pupil's cardiovascular fitness. This has been an enjoyable and valuable experience for all the KS4 pupils and something we hope will continue. Below is a statement written by a Year 10 pupil who has been attending the sessions at Total Fitness:

"This term Year 10's have had the opportunity to go to Total Fitness and use their facilities. Total Fitness offers us a variety of different activities that school cannot offer us in the curriculum, such as spinning, street dance and using the machines (treadmills, cross trainers and bikes). Many pupils have benefited from this because not all of them are members of the gym, so it means that for the course of 5 weeks they can do a regular amount of exercise in order to keep fit and healthy. This may encourage pupils to join a gym. The Year 10's that have been able to go have thoroughly enjoyed it and it is good that pupil voice has been listened to".

### Netball



St James' Year 8, 10 and 11 netball teams have had very successful seasons in the Stockport Schools league with fantastic performances by the girls who are always committed and hardworking. As a result of their hard work, all three teams are the Stockport School's tournament runners up. They all had excellent tournaments and played brilliantly throughout. All three teams were narrowly beaten in one game, some by a single goal to just miss out on the title. Well done!

The Year 8 team represented the U14 St James' netball team in the Greater Manchester Netball Nationals at Bolton School in November. The girls performed well in a very difficult group and were also playing in the competition a year younger than expected. The girls had a great experience and played against some very tough competition. Thus, giving us great hope and

potential to do even better next year when they are competing in their own age group.

Likewise, the U16 St James' Netball team were represented in the Greater Manchester Netball Nationals largely by the Year 10 Netball team and only two Year 11 girls. Again, some lovely Netball was played and we have high hopes for the Year 10 team next year. Thank you girls!

### Hockey

This year has seen the Year 8 girl's hockey team win a mini tournament which consisted of Bramhall High School and Werneth High School. The Year 8 team won this mini tournament and the hockey they played was fantastic.

This year has seen the mixed hockey continuing from last year. Teams from Years 10 and 11 have so far competed against Marple Hall, with the Year 10 team leaving Marple with a win and the Year 11's being beaten by only 1 goal! Both teams played extremely well against very well organised Marple sides.

### Cross Country

St James' had two very successful teams entered in the Stockport schools cross country championships this year. Both the Year 7 and Year 8 teams were crowned champions. Below you can find the names of pupils on the teams and the results-

#### Year 7

Jasmine Hannon  
Danielle Stringer  
Robert Santo  
Joshua Finucane

#### Year 8

Lucy Donaghy  
Emma Donaghy  
Joe Newsome

### Badminton

Congratulations to the KS3 and KS4 boy's badminton teams on winning the Stockport Schools badminton championships in November. The badminton played by these was of an extremely high standard with parents and staff from other school's commenting on how lovely it was to watch. The KS4 badminton team consisted of an A team: Tom Hurleston, Jamie Reding, Cillian and Cormac Golden and a B team: Ben Peters, Nathan Albiston, Dylan Leigh-Dodson and Joe Seggie. The KS3 badminton team also consisted of an A team: Josh Hopwood, Lawrie Jenkins, Jasper Togonon and James Kenyon and the B team: Nathan Holland, Andrew Bellairs, Donnacha Maguire, Sebastian Sharples.

## **Football**

St James' have had a disappointing start to the football season. Sadly we crashed out of 4 out of 6 cups. The U15 team lost in extra time to Poynton in the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of the Cheshire Cup. This was made even more disappointing as we were 2-0 up with 15 minutes to go. The Year 7's lost 5-2 to the Academy. The Year 8's lost 6-0 to Priestnall. The Year 11's lost 2-1 to Harrytown. Only the Year 9's and 10's remain in the second round.

## **Girls Football**

This year has seen the introduction of competitive girls' football being played at St James' and what an entrance we have made. The Stockport School's U13 7 a-side girl's football league is devised into several smaller leagues. The league in which the U13 St James' girl's football team was associated with, involved teams from Bramhall, CHS and Kingsway. This league was won by St James', captained by Year 8 Ellie Doran and we are now through to the next round, which will start early next year. Good luck ladies!



The squad: Ellie Doran (Captain), Charlie Abernathy, Maisy Lou Taylor, Danielle Stringer, Anna Pullar, Abigail Cavender, Freya Tan, Rebecca Skingsley and Faye O'Brien.

The U15 St James' girl's football team did not compete in the Stockport School's 7 a-side girl's football league but they did compete in a tournament, hosted by Werneth. They had 4 very tough games against Werneth, CHS, Bramhall and Marple and they were unbeaten in all the matches they played. However, due to drawing two matches, we did not clinch the title but we were runners up. Well done!

## **ST JAMES' SPORT STARS!**

### ***Gabby Marshall Year 11 - Netball***

Gabby has had a very successful year. She has been selected in the long squad for the U17 England squad. She is also part of the Oldham and Northern Thunder teams. Gabby's participation in the Northern Thunder team is an U19's squad which is an excellent achievement for Gabby as she is one of the youngest members of the team. Well done Gabby!

### ***Kate McDermott Year 10- Netball and cross country***

Kate is a talented individual and she has had a very good year in both activities that she competes in. Kate plays netball for Didsbury and she is also playing County netball for Cheshire. Kate is also a competitive runner. She trains at Manchester Harriers and this year she has represented Stockport in cross country competitions. Well done Kate!

### ***Robyn Neale Year 10- Netball, synchronised swimming, swimming and tennis***

Robyn has an extended sporting repertoire as she competes in four different activities on a weekly basis. Robyn is a member of Didsbury netball club where she trains and competes regularly. She also competes in swimming and synchronised swimming competitions. Robyn is attending the synchronised swimming national competition in December and we want to wish her all the best of luck for that, Robyn also competes in regular matches and competitions for Bramhall Park tennis club. Well done Robyn!

### ***Becky Hoult Year 10 - Netball***

Becky has also had a very successful year in her netball. Becky plays for Tameside and this year Becky helped them to become the U14 national champions. Becky has also been selected to be a part of the North West netball academy which involves her committing to extra training sessions with the England Excel U17 + U19 squads. She is also part of the Northern Thunder Netball Academy. Due to all Becky's hard work she now has a trial in December to be selected for England. Well done and good luck Becky!

### ***Belle Walsh Year 10- Cheerleading***

Belle is a member of the very successful Rising Stars Cheerleading squad. She will be attending the Cheerleading World Championships in Florida, USA as Team UK in 2012. She also attended European Championships with the squad in 2008, 2009 and 2010. They have recently been placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the UKCA championships. Well done Belle!

### ***Molly Moran and Petra Brook- Year 10 Irish dancing***

Molly and Petra are both fantastic dancers. Although they are at different dancing schools, the dance genre they both specialise in is Irish dancing. Molly trains and competes at Ciera Kennedy dancing school and Petra is a member of Mehan dancing school. This year both girls have competed in the North West regional's Irish dancing championships. Both girls are hoping to get to Boston in the USA for the world championships next year. To actually be selected in any of these competitions and just the North West regional's alone is a tremendous achievement. Well done Petra and Molly!

### ***Ama Mainoo Year 9 - Netball***

Ama has also made excellent progress with her netball this year. Ama plays for Didsbury and she is also currently in the Cheshire county squad. Ama has stood out for club and county and is expecting to have trials in December to join the Northern Thunder squad. Well done and good luck Ama!

### ***Callum Middleton Year 9- Hockey***

Callum has been selected to play for the U14 UK Lions, which is an international side which compete in and outside the UK. Callum, the left winger, has had the opportunity to tour France this year and next year he has tours in Malta or Italy to look forward to. Well done Callum!

### ***Nathan Holland Year 9- Football***

Nathan has had a fantastic start in his football career, playing in midfield for Everton U14 team. Not only is he currently competing and training on a regular basis for Everton, but he has also secured a contract until the end of the U16 season. Nathan has had a very enjoyable season ranging from scoring winning goals in Amsterdam, to competing in the Premier League festival in London. Nathan has yet another tournament to look forward to in March when he will be jetting off to Prague. Good luck and well done Nathan!

### ***Will Patching Year 8- Football***

Will is yet another of St James' football stars and Will is playing for Manchester City's U13 team. Will, who plays in midfield, has had a brilliant season and gained the opportunity to compete in European tours in Italy and Portugal. Will is also touring again in Italy next year. Well done Will!

### ***Joe Brennan Year 8- Football***

Joe is currently on the books for Burnley FC, playing for the U13 football team. Joe is dedicated to his training and next year will be taking extra training sessions. Joe has managed to secure an extra 4 year contract, which is a fantastic achievement. As well as the extra training sessions Joe will be having next year, he also has a tour to America to look forward to. Well done Joe!

### ***Lucy and Emma Donaghy Year 8- Netball and Athletics***

Lucy and Emma have had hectic but fantastic years both in netball and athletics. They are both members of Stockport Harriers and they regularly compete in the U15 and U17 categories, which are excellent achievements considering their ages. Both Lucy and Emma have competed in many competitions this year including inter- county, northern and national competitions. They have done exceptionally well in these competitions and Lucy has also achieved her personal best time in the 800m of 2.23 seconds.

Lucy has been selected to run for Greater Manchester for the past 3 years. This year, as well as achieving her personal best, she has finished 8<sup>th</sup> in the UK rankings for the 800m and 11<sup>th</sup> in the UK rankings for 1200m.

Both girls have the McCain championships to look forward to in Ireland next year. Well done Lucy and Emma!

In addition to their athletics, they also both play competitive netball at a very high level. Both compete for Didsbury at club level and also compete at County level for Cheshire U14. Well done girls!

### ***Naomi Neale Year 8- Netball***

Naomi has made excellent progress within netball this year both for school and club. The Year 8 netball has been very successful, losing very few games. Naomi plays club netball for Didsbury. Naomi is also playing netball at County level for Cheshire. Well done Naomi!

### ***Beth White 8- Netball***

Beth is yet another Year 8 netballer on the school team and playing for Didsbury netball club. Beth has had a fantastic two years with her netball as she is also playing netball at County level for Cheshire. Well done Beth!

### ***Mrs K Booth***

### ***Teacher of Girl's PE- Team GB International Rhythmic Gymnastics judge***

The PE faculty are very proud to announce that, following the successful judging at the Delhi Commonwealth Games, Mrs Booth has been selected to represent Team GB in the judging panel for the Rhythmic Gymnastics competitions at the London 2012 Olympics. This is a tremendous achievement for Mrs Booth and a highlight of her career.

### **Well done Mrs Booth!**

