

# NOTICEBOARD

## Spelling Competition

May saw the next installment of the Inter-House Competition with a KS3 Spelling Competition. Each form had to produce a spelling champion who progressed to the final which was held in the Library. With some very challenging words to test all the finalists, 8 Walsingham's Amelia Holroyd was crowned the winner with Kerrieneve Knight in second place. Pictured is Ameila with her Form Teacher, Miss Reynolds.



## Attendance Winners Half Term!!



**1<sup>st</sup> YEAR 8**

**2<sup>nd</sup> YEAR 7**

**3<sup>rd</sup> YEAR 10**

**4<sup>th</sup> YEAR 9**

**5<sup>th</sup> YEAR 11**

Congratulations to the 289 students who achieved 100% attendance for last half term, well done and keep up the good work!

## Readathon 2016

The Readathon took place in St Pius this term. It is a great way to encourage students to read, whilst raising money for some amazing charities. St Pius students raised over £300 and the money was spread between the charities with a percentage being given to the school to buy brand new books for our newly refurbished library. The Readathon is a fantastic way to raise money and encourage students to read and donate to the less fortunate.

Report by Eleanor Simonite

Pictured are prize winners Meg Jessop and Rosanna Clegg



## School Meal Prices 2016-2017

From 1<sup>st</sup> September, the price of school meals is to rise by 5p. The price still remains exceptional value at £2.25 for a healthy two course, freshly prepared meal. Also, if your child has not registered yet for the biometrics system – please ask them to see the Saint Pius dinner staff.

## Yorkshire Wildlife Park

51 of our Year 7 students went on a trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park as part of the school's Enhanced Learning Day activities on 24<sup>th</sup> June. Students enjoyed a full day looking at the animals after an educational session working with staff.



## Important Notice

Recent changes have taken place regarding the parking of vehicles outside schools where School Keep Clear markings (yellow zig zags) are present and the enforcement of those markings. It is important that all parents/carers are aware of these changes as there are significant implications with regard to enforcement.

Previously these markings were advisory and were used to highlight to drivers an area to be kept clear in front of the school entrance. This would ensure that children are clearly visible to drivers and that similarly pedestrians also have good visibility should they choose to cross at this point. The enforcement of these markings was previously carried out by the Police under the offence of 'Unnecessary Obstruction'. However, this depended heavily on the individual circumstances at each school and the dropping off and picking up of children whilst waiting on these markings was often tolerated, this has largely devalued the reasoning behind the introduction of the markings and it has become common practice for some parents/carers to use the School Keep Clears as a specific waiting area for dropping off and picking up.

In order to prevent this and to ensure that the markings are correctly enforced and respected in a uniform way at all schools within the Borough, the Council took the decision to introduce a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) which would make the School Keep Clear markings legally enforceable in a similar way to Double Yellow Lines. All School Keep Clear markings in the Borough now have a legal order which makes it an offence for any driver to STOP on the markings, this includes stopping to drop off or pick up children. There are now signs present at each end of the markings which state "NO STOPPING Mon – Fri 7.30am – 5pm on entrance markings". Outside of these times vehicles may be parked on the markings. The Council's Parking Services team of Civil Enforcement Officers will enforce the School Keep Clear markings and any vehicle parked on the markings will be subject to a Penalty Charge Notice. There are no exceptions for any vehicles to park on the markings and this includes those displaying a 'Blue Disabled Badge'. Parking Services may also use the mobile CCTV van to patrol School Keep Clear markings, this will photograph any vehicles parked on the markings and Penalty Charge Notices will be issued by post.

Any parents/carers who park their vehicles wholly on the footway, therefore diverting pedestrians from their desired line of travel and into the road, are committing the offence of 'Unnecessary Obstruction' (Contrary to regulation 103 of the Road Vehicles Construction and Use Regulations 1986 and the Road Traffic Act 1988). This offence can be dealt with by the Police via a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) or removal of the vehicle concerned, however I must point out that in order for this offence to take place a pedestrian MUST be actually attempting to use the footway when the officer attends. Similarly If drivers are parking wholly across a driveway or dropped kerb, therefore preventing egress from a residents property, then they are also committing the above offence of 'Unnecessary Obstruction' This offence can be dealt with by the Police via a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) or removal of the vehicle. The Council's Parking Services team may also enforce against any vehicle which is parked with at least one wheel into the dropped kerb.

Headteacher: Mr A. Bishop  
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**Saint Pius X**  
Catholic High School

# SUMMER 2016 NEWSLETTER

## Farewell

**Our Headteacher, Mr Bishop, leaves us this summer after five very happy and successful years at St Pius. "I have loved my time at Saint Pius" said Mr Bishop "and thank all of the school community for their support".**

**In September, he will be taking up a new post as Executive Principal in a trust of Catholic schools. All governors, staff and students would like to send him sincere best wishes as he heads off to pastures new.**

## Message from the Headteacher

*Hello. I hope you once again enjoy reading about our students and all they have achieved this year. I am constantly filled with pride when I hear of their perseverance and achievements and see the smiles on their faces when things all go to plan. As you may be aware, I will be leaving Saint Pius at the end of this academic year to face new challenges as the Executive Principal of a Multi academy trust of schools. There is no doubt in my mind, that the hard work and achievements of all at Saint Pius are responsible for placing me in a position where I can move forward to this role. This is a great school and I have been very proud to be the headteacher. Thankyou for the many good wishes I have already received. I look forward to seeing Saint Pius continue to go from strength to strength and you will always be in my thoughts and prayers. Have a safe and happy summer.*

Mr Bishop

## Information for Parents

As you will be aware, parents are now able to make online payments for trips and uniform using School Gateway via the Parents' Section of our website. Many parents are now taking advantage of this convenient way to pay. We would like to encourage as many parents as possible to register for School Gateway and to move to making payments online rather than by cash or cheque sent in to school. Instructions on how to register are available on our website.

Parents can also now access our parent portal to view information on their child/ren's attendance, behaviour, achievement, homework and more. If you have not already registered, please visit our website and follow the instructions. Staff and students access the portal on a regular basis, so your child will be able to help you navigate around the site.

If you have any problems or queries on any of the above, please contact us via the contact form on our website or by email to [info@saintpiusx.school](mailto:info@saintpiusx.school)

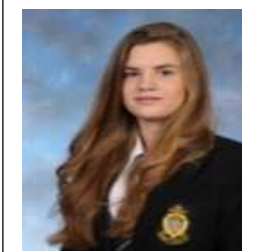
Many thanks,  
Louise Hatswell  
Director of Finance/Business Manager

## Abigail's journey of a lifetime

**One of our Year 11 students, Abigail Hampson, has recently been selected by the national organisation 'Journey of a Lifetime' to have the JOURNEY OF A LIFETIME. Schools throughout the country were asked to nominate students between the ages of 14 and 18 who had displayed characteristics that made them stand out in some way. She went through a rigorous selection process and was one of 18 successful applicants. Her month long journey will see her visiting Indonesia, Singapore, and Northern Australia. She will travel by plane, boat, helicopter and train and experience riding on elephants, making a raft to travel down rivers and watching the sun come up while sitting on the edge of a volcano.**

**Each applicant was asked to raise £650 towards the £6000 total cost of the trip. Fundraising activities included bake sales and many sponsored her for a sponsored silence.**

**Now that Abigail has finished her exams she is looking forward to the trip which starts at the end of July. Everyone at Saint Pius X wishes Abigail good luck as she embarks on this amazing adventure and we look forward to hearing from her and seeing her pictures on her return.**



# FOCUS ON CAREERS

## It's never too early!

Year 8 were treated to a performance about their Post 16 options by a theatre company employed by the University of Hull and their local federation of H.E. Partners. It's never been more important to know about your Post 16 options as early as possible and the students appreciated the interactive presentation with the very important message, "Don't leave your future planning to the last minute!"

## STEM of Events in Wath

Some of our Year 9 students benefitted from attending a Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) event at Wath Comprehensive this term. Representatives from global Engineering companies based in South Yorkshire as well as local universities enlightened our students about the huge opportunities that working in this sector can give. Learning that South Yorkshire is a world leader in Medical and Aerospace Engineering surprised a lot of students and the event produced a few budding Engineers! Keep working on your Technology, Science and Maths!

## National Careers Week (March 7<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>)

We had a busy week during National Careers week as many employers gave up their time to come and speak to students about their careers and show them the link between what students are studying now and what they can do in the future. Media students were lucky enough to listen to the deputy editor of BBC Radio Sheffield while art students witnessed a freelance illustrator of children's books talking about business start-ups. In addition to this, guest speakers came to assemblies to talk about Higher Education, the Armed Forces, Careers in STEM and exploring Apprenticeships. From Chemical Engineers, Advice & Guidance Practitioners, CEO's, Doctors and Health Visitors to our very own Mrs Hatswell, Director of Finance and Business Manager, we would like to extend a very big thank you to all who played a part in this exciting week! Feedback from students is that they were inspired by events this week and have been motivated in their studies as they start to think about their own career journeys.

## College and beyond

Year 10 students developed their knowledge of post 16 options at Dearne Valley College as they took part in vocational tasters that can lead on to courses at University. The Higher Education Progression Partnership group was on hand to dispel some of the myths around student finance and to talk about the thousands of courses that the students could go on to study. Well done to those students who took part in this informative day as your enthusiasm and desire to learn was commented on by staff at the college.

## An Appointment with the Doctor

Some of our Year 10 and 11 students took part in a Medical Day in Sheffield to find out more about pursuing a career in Medicine. Students met doctors and medical students from across the country and worked with them in groups discussing Medical Ethics, Anatomy and Physiology and Patient Diagnosis in A&E. As well as learning about the entry requirements for Medicine, students also became aware of the skills and qualities needed to become a doctor and they were assessed throughout the day on how well they worked in groups from other schools. Congratulations to all the students representing St Pius in such a positive way and in particular to Jun Jun Wang and Joanna Hewson on gaining an award for their excellent work in CPR!

Pictured from top left; Kimberley Fuller, Debbie Cocking, Amy Oliver, Jun Jun Wang, Joanna Hewson and Namitha Dinesh.



## The World of Work

This term our students have been busy learning about employability skills. These skills are crucial when it comes to securing not only a place in work, but in Further and Higher Education too. Year 8 students embarked on a fact finding mission as they shadowed relatives and family friends going about their everyday jobs. Year 10 students have taken part in a two week work experience to understand more about the world of work. The verdict? The clear feedback from students was that they learned that in addition to achieving their best in their academic studies, developing their time keeping, working in a team, communicating well and using their initiative are also essential skills when it comes to securing employment. Huge congratulations to our students for representing the school in such a positive way whilst out in the wider community.

## Rare opportunity for St Pius pupils!

Our school was lucky enough to be the first school in South Yorkshire to be given access to Rotherham Hospital's Clinical Simulation Suite where health professionals undertake training. Our Y9 students worked with staff from the hospital to learn about the different kinds of jobs available within the NHS including professional administration routes.

Students were also given the opportunity to use medical equipment and to work with professional Moulage artists employed by the hospital to produce realistic wounds for training purposes.

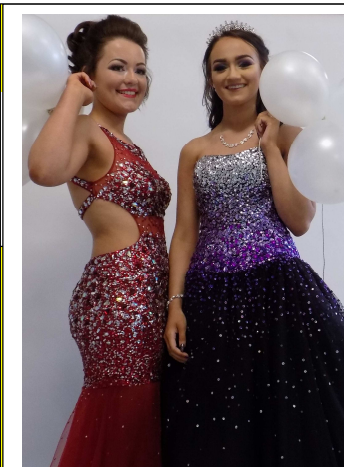
# YEAR 11

Revision; a word dreaded by some and relished by others in Y11. For some it was an opportunity to refresh memories and prepare optimistically for the exams. For others, it was a time of desperate cramming and realisation that the end is nigh. Many Y11 students attended after school revision and came in during Easter and May half term to improve their chances of success and their dedication should be celebrated. The exams passed off without incident and pupils were very well behaved and many were positive about their chances of success.

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May saw the Y11 Class of 2016 officially begin their study leave. For many, it was a time of reflection, tears and laughter and for a few it was time to celebrate leaving a school many had been attending for the last 5 years. The journey for the vast majority has been full of successes and achievements both academically and personally. For a small number of students their successes this year were rewarded with a voucher presented at the Leavers' assembly. Many ordered leavers' hoodies and attended the prom which gave them a last chance to celebrate with one another for a final time.

It has been a pleasure and a privilege to be the Class of 2016's Head of Year and I wish all Y11 students every success in the future.

Mr McGee.



## Student Voice

Student Voice have been working on fantastic initiatives both in and outside of school. Alex Hathaway, Maks Golus and Molly Crossmore are now working alongside the Rotherham Council Youth Cabinet with other young students in Rotherham, supporting a variation of projects which aim to make the lives of young people better. Miss Croft and Miss Poole would like to thank all our members for their continued hard work.

## UK Junior Mathematics Challenge 2016

Five of our Year 8 students received the following awards;

**Ben Yates – Silver and Best in Year**  
**Adrian Walkowiak - Bronze**  
**Lewis Brannan – Bronze**  
**Isabelle Goddard - Bronze**  
**Eleanor Walker – Bronze**

Six of our Year 7 students received the following awards;

**Nicole Mugwidi – Silver, Best in Year and Best in School**  
**Amber Cox – Silver**  
**Harold Cocking - Silver**  
**Jude Mainon - Silver**  
**Kyla Simpson- Bronze**  
**Harry Maden – Bronze**

## Term Dates 2016/2017

School opens 7<sup>th</sup> September 2016 to 20<sup>th</sup> October 2016  
**Half term 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2016 to 30<sup>th</sup> October 2016**  
 School opens 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016 to 16<sup>th</sup> December 2016  
**Christmas Holiday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2016 to 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2017**

School opens 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2017 to 17<sup>th</sup> February 2017  
**Half term 18<sup>th</sup> February 2017 to 26<sup>th</sup> February 2017**  
 School opens 27<sup>th</sup> February 2017 to 7<sup>th</sup> April 2017  
**Easter Holiday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2017 to 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2017**

School opens 24<sup>th</sup> April 2017 to 26<sup>th</sup> May 2017  
**Half term 27<sup>th</sup> May 2017 to 4<sup>th</sup> June 2017**  
 School opens 5<sup>th</sup> June 2017 to 21<sup>st</sup> July 2017

## Additional Days

1<sup>st</sup> May 2017 – Bank Holiday

## Inset days

5<sup>th</sup> / 6<sup>th</sup> September 2016  
 21<sup>st</sup> October 2016  
 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> July 2017