



St. Anthony's Girls' Catholic Academy

A Mercy Academy committed to excellence

Spotlight



CHRISTMAS 2014



Welcome to Spotlight on St Anthony's

New school update – November 2014

Our new school is being built as part of work undertaken by the Education Funding Agency (EFA) on behalf of the Secretary of State for Education. The structural steelwork is being erected to plan and to time for the main new school building. The whole project is reaching an exciting stage with staircases and floors now being visible within the structure.



We will be moving into this main new school building during October half term 2015. **Students will have a two week "half term" October 2015 to enable us to undertake this major move. This two week half term break will consist of the usual half term holiday week (Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October 2015) combined with the week prior (Monday 19th October to Friday 23rd October 2015).** This "extra" week combines a single "moving day" with four of our annual staff training days.



New School Building Programme



This two week October half term 2015 may also be of help to parents wishing to book a holiday during October. It is a “one-off” for 2015 and is purely to enable us to pack and move from the old school into the new. **Students will “break up” from school on Friday 16th October 2015 and return on Monday 2nd November 2015.** The last time we moved schools was the summer of 1939 (prior to the outbreak of the Second World War from Green Street to our current site). I am sure we won't be moving again in any of our lifetimes!

Once we move into the main new building in October 2015 the remaining stages of the

construction project will take place October 2015 – Spring 2016. This includes some refurbishment of the historic Westburn and Somerleyton buildings and the demolition of some buildings not included in our new school site. The construction of the Sports Hall (including four courts) and a dance studio will also take place. The contractor will also be working on the landscaping, car parking, and creation of external games areas etc. The whole project is due for total completion in the summer 2016.

M. Shepherd (Mrs.)
Head Teacher



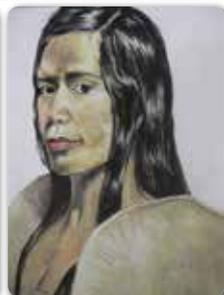
Art

Art News

We seem to have had a very busy start to the new school year with a variety of events and visits being undertaken by students from all Key Stages.



Ten students from Year 9 attended a Creative Drawing event at The Baltic in Gateshead which saw them drawing in some very interesting and unusual ways, while a similar number of Year 8 girls took part in The Big Doodle with other students from Partnership schools at St Bede's in Peterlee.



Many thanks to the Partnership, for organising these excellent events and extending the artistic experiences of our younger students.



Art



Year 13 students visited the BP Portrait Exhibition which is being shown at The Winter Gardens in Sunderland. This very prestigious exhibition was a great inspiration to the students who are working very hard, preparing portfolios of work for both exam submission and Art College interviews. Congratulations to them on their AS results and determination to succeed.



Our GCSE results were very good, due to the many hours of work and commitment shown by the girls. A large number have gone on to take AS Art with us this year, and they continue to produce an excellent standard of work, showing commitment and creativity, which is always a pleasure to see.

Our usual Durham Cathedral exhibition in January sees us being very busy creating work based on the theme of Awe and Wonder. Look out for some very interesting 3D work from Year 9 Art Club.

Our annual Continental Tour for Year 13, 12 and some Year 10 students is taking place in February and Barcelona is our destination. We are all looking forward to seeing the work of Gaudi and Dali whilst experiencing and being inspired by this vibrant city.



Business & Economics

Year 7 Dragons Den Enterprise Competition

Enthusiastic young entrepreneurs in Year 7 are taking part in a Dragons Den enterprise competition, where all profits made will be donated to Manzini Youth Care. The teams will prepare a business plan, produce products and sell them at school Winter Sale events. The teams will then present their enterprise ideas in front of a local business entrepreneur. It is an excellent opportunity to learn and develop many new skills in a real business environment including thinking, creativity, team working, decision making, communication and presentation skills. Good luck girls!

Year 10 – HNCP Enterprise Competition

In July 2014, two teams of Year 10 students (who are currently in Year 11) took part in the Catholic Partnership Enterprise Competition at St. Joseph's School in Hebburn. Their challenge for the day was to create a new board game that would meet a particular brief they were set. The girls were; Shauna Callaghan, Megan Snowball, Sophie Ward, Nadine West, Sommer Lane, Shiromie Lawson, Niamh Large, Jessica Barr, Megan Bell, Joelle McNay, Amelia Barker & Elle Coggins. The pupils developed their team working, entrepreneurial, task management, creative, communication, people and leadership skills through the task. One team even

used their knowledge of Romeo and Juliet for the basis of their board game. Both teams worked extremely hard and were a credit to the school.



BTEC Business Placements 2013

Year 12 BTEC Business pupils have started their work placements and are enjoying the challenges placement work can bring: early mornings, hard work and lots of valuable work experience! This year there are 8 girls on the BTEC Business course and each of them have chosen work-experience placements that offer them an insight into what working in a real-life job might be like when they are older.

The girls have chosen a wide variety of placements – from primary schools to parcel delivery offices – and even though it's early days, all are enjoying themselves.

Melissa Chapman, Kasie Hill and Emily Pearson are all enjoying placements at their old primary school. Kasie, who is at English Martyrs RC Primary said 'I really like being back at my old primary school, I loved it so much when I was younger I wanted to see what it was like coming back to help out by being a Teaching Assistant.' Melissa is at St John Bosco's where she is helping out in the main office.

'I am really enjoying working in the main office and am learning about the day-to-day procedures of how the office is run. I am learning a lot of new office

skills that will help me to get a job when I am older.'

Kennedy Ross is working within the Coroners Office at Sunderland Council. 'Working in the administration section is really exciting – no two days are the same! The people I am working with are all really nice and I feel like part of the team already. I like working in a team of people where we all pull together to get a job done. I didn't know what to expect when I started the placement but I absolutely love it and I am learning lots of new skills that I will definitely use when I am older.'

Sophie Smith is working at Buttercups Nursery where she has quickly become a valuable member of the team. Lesley-Ann, the Nursery Manager said 'Sophie has been a really good support to staff so far. She knows the children and understands the room routines and she will always ask if she is unsure about anything. She is a fantastic addition to our team and I know as the placement progresses she will go from strength to strength.'

The placements are in their early days but check out the summer edition of Spotlight to see how they're getting on!



Business & Economics

Year 12 – CIPFA Business Competition

On 7th November 2014 seven highly motivated Year 12 students accepted the challenge and took part in the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy Challenge hosted at Carmel College in Darlington. The challenge required them to work as a team to read through a pre-release case study and assign job roles to each other before the event took place. During the competition the students had to work together

and decide which services to cut in a fictional local council area, in response to a brief that they were given on the day.

They then had to deal with media, trade unions and local councillors, as well as various obstacles put in their way throughout the process that require them to re-evaluate their position on the decisions made. They successfully worked as a team, each member recognising their individual strengths and responsibilities and used these effectively throughout the process, which allowed them to exchange and discuss ideas, to work independently on their job role as well as well as develop their ICT skills through the internet research and the final report, presentation and press release that they had to create.

The girls worked extremely well and now benefit from a developed understanding of the complexities of working within public services. Sophia Robinson was awarded for her hard work and focus throughout the day. However all the girls (Eleanor Ash, Jennifer Connolly, Lydia Ellison, Sophie Jackson, Georgia Maw, Sophia Robinson and Drew Summerside), developed their presentation and team-working skills while working towards the overall objectives.



Year 12 – Business & Economics IFS Challenge

St. Anthony's is entering three teams into the IFS Challenge, where each team will be given a virtual £100,000 that they have to spend on buying shares in companies on a stock market game. The students will have to monitor what is happening in the UK and world economies and the business world in general to ensure that they make the right decisions when it comes to buying and selling their shares.

First prize for the competition is a trip to New York as well as receiving cash prizes for themselves and the school. This exercise is a brilliant way of bringing business and economic theory and putting it into practice and learning the role of a stock broker. The Business Team consists of; Jennifer Connolly, Lydia Ellison, Georgia Maw and Drew Summerside, the Economics Team consists of; Eleanor Ash, Sophie Jackson, Sophia Robinson and Abigail Sumner and the St. Aidan's Economics team consists of; William Blackett, Rudi Dillon, Mark Lewis and Daniel Stephenson. Good luck.

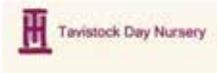
Year 13 – Accountancy Competition – HNCP

Charlotte Behan, Brenna Grey, Kate Lormor, Sophie Maddison and Emma Wilkinson all took part in the Hexham and Newcastle Catholic Partnership Business, Accounting & Skills competition on 14th July 2014 at St. Joseph's School in Hebburn. This day was planned as a competition to enhance and engage students in the world of business, accounting and finance. The team had to analyse a case study, identify challenges, offer solutions and present their findings to a panel of judges. The students developed problem solving skills, providing financial advice to the fictional business in the case study, to decide whether it should be located in the UK or abroad. The team were placed fourth in the competition and have been able to apply the analytical and evaluation skills that they learnt on the day to their coursework and exam preparation.



Childcare

Childcare News



Childcare Students in Year 13 are currently undertaking their practical placements in a range of Day Care settings around the city, which include Tavistock House Day Nursery and Busy Bees, working with children aged from a few weeks to 5 years.

The girls are finding this not only physically demanding but very rewarding and have experienced seeing children reach their milestones such as first steps and first words.

The girls have been very busy observing the children's development, planning activities and learning opportunities as well as facing the challenges of feeding times, making bottles and settling children to sleep.

Dealing with distressed babies and nappy-changing has been all in a day's work for some of them.

Although it is hard juggling their placements and coping with academic work the girls' responses are very positive.

Emily Wright says "I have made up bottles and got a baby to sleep in my arms in the comfy chair, it was magic!"



Molly Curle, Year 12 says "At placement I have enjoyed making playdough and working with the children in Years 1 and 2"



Amber Oakes made a display with Years 1 & 2 and says "This is the first display I've ever done – I'm really proud of it"

The Year 10 Childcare students had a very informative session in the chapel with Sister Josepha learning about St. Gerard Majella, the patron saint of Mothers.

They made posters and prayers and celebrated his feast day by offering special prayers for all mothers to be.



Childcare

Year 11 have begun their research into providing learning for children with additional needs and have drawn upon their work experience to help them with coursework using examples to show their understanding of how to include all children no matter what their individual need may be.

Placements in local schools and nurseries are proving to be a valuable learning experience for the Year 12 girls, as not only are they getting to play outside with lots of water and mud, but they are developing their communication skills by conversing with young children and supporting their reading and writing.

Some students have said they now know what it is like to "be on the other side of the desk" with their display work, planning and marking!



A special thank you and a Merry Christmas to all of our Placements, who have supported our thirty plus Childcare students every year. Their help and commitment contribute to the success of our students. Feedback from Placement Supervisors also proves that our students are totally committed and enthusiastic in all they do, once again upholding the fantastic reputation of St. Anthony's.

Careers Work Experience News

Once again another successful year for students on work experience! This proves how beneficial it is to the personal development of the girls, improving their interpersonal skills and confidence.

Employers were greatly impressed by the attitude, initiative and team-working skills of St. Anthony's pupils, which were included on the Employer Assessment Form for students' Record of Achievement.

Gillian Gartland, the EYFS Lead at St. Anne's RC Primary wrote of Amelia Brown "Amelia is a conscientious student, who has demonstrated that she can complete tasks to a high standard and is also able to use her initiative well. Amelia has a lovely calm, encouraging manner when working with children".

Helen Edwards, Head of Communication at North Yorkshire County Council said of Anya Mason "Anya has contributed to the work of the unit very positively. She is very polite and courteous. It has been a pleasure to work with her and she has been genuinely helpful. She has a bright future ahead!"

The Owner of Hair by Sharmime Salon said of Neve Griffiths "Neve was a pleasure to have in the salon and showed great initiative. She worked well in a team and was polite and courteous with the clients. I wouldn't hesitate to employ her".



Newcastle University visited **Year 11** students to give advice on making the right choice of A Level subjects. The session was interactive and enjoyable for all concerned and gave the girls some interesting information on student life at university.



Chaplaincy

Chaplaincy News



Once again, this Autumn term has been a happy and fulfilling time for us in the Chaplaincy Dept. As well as all our regular activities (Masses, Briefing Prayers, Services, Assemblies) we have been so delighted with the way our chapel has been used. It is always available for quiet times for staff and pupils. Bereaved students and teachers, too, find solace in the sacred space there. We have also used the chapel for the Year 9 Rosary during the month of October; the event on St. Gerard Majella; liturgical dance practices; and reflective times of prayer, offering students an experience of Meditation, linked to the RE curriculum.

The Friendship Club is also thriving this term. We meet on Wednesday and Friday lunch-times in the kitchen! It's great to see the mixture of ages, with the older girls supporting the younger ones, and all getting on so well together.



One wonderful thing has emerged from the loss of our old school buildings: the Science benches have

been cut and transformed into a beautiful cross thanks to Mr. Steve Jordan and the staff and girls in the Design Technology Dept. We love having this memory of the past that we can bring into the future. We intend to have the cross in our new chapel, but we have already used it for our Bereavement Service on 3rd November, to good effect.

We wish you and your families all God's blessings for Christmas and the New Year.

Lourdes – Summer 2014

In the summer of 2014, a group of St. Anthony's students went on the Hexham and Newcastle Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes. Throughout the week they assisted sick and disabled pilgrims, not only with their everyday tasks but with their faith journey. The girls had the privilege of meeting many inspirational people who have influenced their lives, by developing their faith and sharing memories.



Chaplaincy



“St. Anthony’s girls did us proud!”

“An exceptional set of junior helpers!”

S.V.P. Holy Island Camp

This was the verdict given by the Committee on the girls who volunteered for the S.V.P. Children’s Camp on Holy Island this summer. Following a Selection Interview and one full day’s training including safeguarding and risk assessments, the girls engaged enthusiastically in the many activities on the Island, together with other volunteers, giving a holiday in a Catholic, Christian atmosphere to some 72 girls from across the diocese. Activities included Treasure Hunt, Mini-Marathon, Beach activities, Land Art, Talent Show, Shopping in the Village, Art and Craft activities and many more. The girls’ wholehearted approach supported the ethos of the Camp in their relationships with all involved at Camp. They fully supported the prayers and preparation for Mass including dance, singing and creative worship.

Well done to Sandra Sibby and Sonal Mendonca who attended the first half of 2nd Girls’ Week and to Heather Edmundson, Taryne Gaddi, Nicole Eligio, and Charlotte Behan who attended the first half of 3rd Girls’ Week, followed by Sarah Fowler, Sarah Hill, Caitlin Byrne and Charlotte Hopper who took over for the second part of the week. A fantastic demonstration of fun, energy and commitment which will have transformed the lives of those they served!



Design Technology & Computing

Dress a Girl at Manzini

"Imagine a world where every girl owns a new dress."

During the summer term Year 7, 8 and 12 students gave up their lunchtimes to make dresses for girls at the Ngwane Park Girl's Home in Manzini. In July 2014 staff volunteers visited Manzini and distributed these dresses. Feedback from staff was that the girls in the home were delighted to receive the dresses. This term student volunteers will continue to make dresses to be taken to Manzini next summer. A fantastic effort by all involved.



Year 10 Master Chef Competition

After a huge amount of interest in the Year 10 Catholic Partnership Master Chef Competition, Mollie and Chloe battled through and came in first place!

In past years St. Anthony's have received 2nd and 3rd prize, so it is amazing to come away with 1st prize this year.

The Master Chef Competition was held at English Martyrs School, Hartlepool, and the design brief was to create a two-course meal for under £5 which is going to be judged by a professional Chef!

All of the entries in the competition were fantastic; however the winning menu was a yummy lemon chicken risotto and a Gü style chocolate orange pot!

Miss Swainston and Mrs Hearn are both looking forward to the competition!

Mollie Moore 10SCa & Chloe Softley 10SRo



Primary Links

The primary links programme in Design Technology is running again this year, where primary students from our feeder schools are invited in for an afternoon of Product Design. This year the students are making a frog pencil holder, and gaining experience, using a range of hand tools, workshop power tools and are gaining some experience of using the Academy's computer controlled machinery.

The Year 5 students enjoy the experience and take home a completed outcome at the end of the session.



Year 5 students showing their finished frogs.



Design Technology & Computing

Cooking and Nutrition

'Compulsory Cooking for all'

St Anthony's are celebrating food, cooking and nutrition being made compulsory this year for all the pupils as part of the new National Curriculum and School Food Plan, starting in 2014.

Food teachers are very happy that it has been recognised how vital Food lessons are for pupils' health and well-being. Pupils learn about where food comes from, how it is grown and produced, how it is prepared and cooked, and the science behind nutrition, food safety, cooking and taste. In Year 7 we focus on "Me-sized meals;" teaching about healthy eating and how pupils can improve their diets, particularly eating more fruits and vegetables. In Year 8, the project is called "Teenage Teas;" students learn a wide range of cooking techniques and cuisines from around the world. By Year 9 they are confident enough to create and modify recipes to make them tastier and healthier" and the first project students work on is developing a new bread product for a supermarket bakery.

As a treat 9 SA brought in ingredients from home to bake cup cakes to sell in aid of their Year group charity. Students raised over £30 – Well done! A big thank you to parents for supporting this good cause.

Years 7, 8 and 9 students entered a Halloween style Great British Bake Off where they competed to see who could decorate the spookiest and scariest cupcakes. The cupcake were sold in aid of Manzini and raised close to £80. Well done to everyone who took part.

The winning pairs were:-



Year 7 – Sandra Soggy & Annette Toji



Year 8 – Abi Davies & Amelia Pickman



Year 9 – Lily Saddington & Lauren Taylor



English

National Theatre War Horse Project

In the Spring and Summer terms, students in Year 12 were given the fantastic opportunity to work with the National Theatre Education department to create a performance commemorating the centenary of the outbreak of World War I. Having attended two workshops and a performance of 'War Horse', we were given the brief to create a piece of theatre of our choice. Our two groups – one studying English Literature and one studying Drama – took very different approaches, creating two contrasting but equally thoughtful pieces. The first used letters to follow a soldier's experiences of war, and was based on the students' own family history research. The second focused on the lives of the women left behind, coping with the news from the Front.

We chose a variety of performance approaches – shadow theatre, projection, soundtracks, narration, voice-overs, monologues and improvised text – to create our pieces. Hollie Coxon and Anthony Hope from the Sunderland Empire's Creative Learning team helped us to realise our ideas. A culmination event was held in July at 'The Canny Space' – the former Holy Trinity Church in Sunderland's East End where we spent the whole day rehearsing and then gave two performances to invited guests. Ours were the last two pieces in the programme. The audience commented afterwards on how powerful, moving and thought-provoking they found them. We were surprised and delighted with the response we got and amazed at how far we'd come from the initial ideas we'd had. Truly an experience we won't forget!



English



Jen Szandrowska, Eleanor Duncan and Emily Oliver in action during the year.

Creative Writers' Celebration Event

Following all of the brilliant work undertaken by our Year 11 creative writers Eleanor Duncan, Olivia Johnson, Emily Oliver and Jen Szandrowska, the girls attended a celebration event in September at The Discovery Museum, Newcastle; the aim of which was to share the experiences and talents they had been honing over the last six months.

Everyone who attended was highly impressed with what the girls have achieved – a large part of which was inspiring our younger pupils to begin to write creatively and helping them to develop their talents.

The Year 11 pupils gave a short presentation in front of a varied audience and came across as confident and enthusiastic young people with an

impressive range of talents – exactly what they are! They received certificates, badges and information about how to take their own writing forward. We look forward to reading their work as successful, published writers of the future.



Year 12 Pat Barker Lecture

As our Year 12 English Literature students are hard at work studying towards their first piece of coursework, it was highly useful that Pat Barker (the writer whose book, *Regeneration* we are currently reading), gave a free lecture at Newcastle University in which she talked about her writing and some of her thoughts about aspects of WWI.

A number of our students voluntarily attended this after-school event and found the experience to be both interesting and beneficial. Amongst the students who attended, Heidi Newton and Fay McFarlane were very positive about the experience, saying that it has given them greater insight into some of the characters and experiences Barker writes about.

Keep up the enthusiasm, everyone!



Extended Curricular

Extended Schools

The extended schools programme is continuing to be a great success with students from our primary feeder schools and also from our own Key Stage 3 students.

Around 45 students, from Year 5 to Year 9, attend the Cook-It and Arts and Crafts activities after school at St. Anthony's. Not only do they make great products and tasty meals to take home, but the primary students are getting an insight into how secondary school works and are able to mix with students from different schools, easing the transition into secondary school.

While the Cook-It classes are fully booked at the moment, there are still a very few places left for Arts & Crafts club on a Wednesday night. For further details of the extended schools programme, please look on the academy website.



Making Salt Dough decorations in Arts & Crafts Club.



Girls from primary schools enjoying the cooking activities at Cook-It Club.



Geography

Year 12 River Residential

Year 12 visited Egton, in the North York Moors, to carry out river-based fieldwork. After arriving at the river, the girls used a range of measuring equipment to investigate how the river changes as it flows downstream. They measured features of the river at three separate locations, such as its width, velocity and gradient, looking at the different landforms at each place. They then went back to the accommodation and worked hard to analyse their results, drawing graphs and cross sections and also trying some statistical techniques! The following morning they visited the village of Lealholm to practice their field sketches, but not before having a lovely English breakfast cooked by Mr. Hermon!

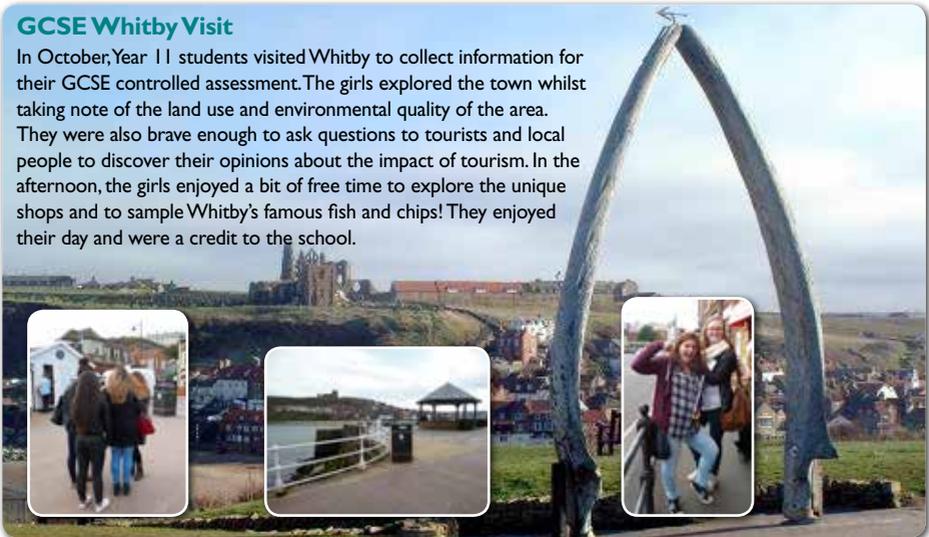


Year 7 Photography Competition

This term Year 7 pupils have been involved in a Catholic Partnership photography competition! Students have been asked to submit photographs with the theme of 'Seasons' to be entered into a competition with all other schools in the Hexham and Newcastle Catholic Partnership. Accompanying the photograph, they will include a 140-character description of the 'Geography' behind the photograph. The winning photographs will be announced early next year! Fingers crossed for St Anthony's!

GCSE Whitby Visit

In October, Year 11 students visited Whitby to collect information for their GCSE controlled assessment. The girls explored the town whilst taking note of the land use and environmental quality of the area. They were also brave enough to ask questions to tourists and local people to discover their opinions about the impact of tourism. In the afternoon, the girls enjoyed a bit of free time to explore the unique shops and to sample Whitby's famous fish and chips! They enjoyed their day and were a credit to the school.



History & Politics

Remembering the WWI Centenary

Y9 pupils have started studying WWI by looking at how the centenary of the outbreak of the war has been remembered. The girls looked at the different ways it has been commemorated and came up with their own ways of remembering this event. Pupils created some very thoughtful and imaginative ideas, including recreating trenches to give people an understanding of what troops went through, building a ceramic poppy tree in Mowbray Park and releasing balloons assigned to regiments and then burst, releasing red and gold glitter to represent poppies and the men who died during the war.



History Club - Time Capsule

History Club students have been working to fill a time capsule to commemorate the new school building. The time capsule will be provided by Kier, the building company, and a burial ceremony is planned for later this year. Items selected include a school planner, prayer book and bibles, photographs, a lunch menu and a spotlight brochure. Pupils had fun thinking about what life would be like in the future and sharing the current trends, including their passion for the Vamps. Various members of staff have also included 'a day in the life of' about the daily rewards and challenges of teaching.

Mrs Hoey's Korean Adventure

As part of a teacher-exchange programme Mrs Hoey travelled to Dangdong Middle School in South Korea. She spent 4 weeks observing lessons and teaching about British History and British Culture. The pupils were intrigued to learn about the many cultural differences between themselves and our British pupils. Many of our St. Anthony's pupils took time in the summer term to help make gifts for the Korean pupils, for which they were very grateful.



Horner's Fundraising Corner



Race for Life

Place for a race 2014

St Anthony's Academy has again hosted the Race for Life's 'Place for a Race'. The Year 7's took part on Monday 9th June and the Year 8 & 9 classes took part on Monday 16th June.

The event started at 12.00pm and lasted till 12.30pm. Every girl who took part received a medal and a bangle to help raise money for cancer research. Watch out for our next edition for Year 8 & 9 pictures and the total amount raised.

Miss Horner would like to thank all the Year 9 girls who volunteered their time to help run this event and give out the medals to all the runners; and also the Year 7's who took part.

The final amount raised was **£1343.30**.



St Anthony's Academy celebrated Macmillan coffee morning, raising **£213.00**. Miss Horner would like to thank everyone who donated cakes and biscuits and all the staff for their donations to help raise such an amazing amount of money for a good cause.

Wear it Pink in PE week 2014



The Physical Education department once again held a 'Wear it Pink in PE' to raise money for breast cancer. The girls were allowed to wear appropriate clothing during their lessons and donate towards this great cause. We raised **£240.91** in total. Well done to all the girls for their efforts.



International Links

Korean Teacher Exchange 2014

In July, Mrs Hoey and Mr Malkin took part in the second phase of the South Korean Teacher Exchange Programme, which had seen Korean teachers invited to the Academy in January. While in Korea, Mrs Hoey and Mr Malkin were given the opportunity to explore Korean culture which included spending 3 weeks in a Korean school.

Over the course of the 3 weeks, the pair visited a number of cities, including Seoul, Busan and Changwon, where they became immersed in the culture of the country. They were able to sample local food, visit many of the country's ancient and beautiful landmarks and even try on some traditional Korean dress.

Mr Malkin was placed in a high school (the equivalent to our Year 11 and Sixth Form) where he taught lessons in British Culture and Maths. Mrs Hoey worked in a Middle School (Years 8 to 10) and taught British Culture and History. Both were able to observe Korean teaching and were observed by up to 20 teachers at any one time, with the aim of helping the Korean teachers to develop more creative teaching styles.

Despite spending over 24 hours on flights and averaging around 5 hours sleep per night, they both had an incredible experience and would go back in a heartbeat!



Learning Resource Centre News

Learning Resource Centre



We have had a busy start to the Academic Year with registration and inductions for the New Year 7 pupils. To get the girls back into reading after the summer break, all Year 7 girls have been given a book as a gift from the school. They got to choose from a selection of 12 different genres, so hopefully there was something of interest for everyone.

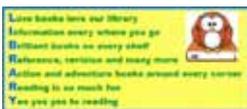
Scholastic Book Club

Don't forget to look out for the Scholastic Book Club leaflets as they have some great offers in. Collect them from the library.



A new Pupil Librarian Course started in October and 12 girls from Year 8 and Year 9 have signed up.

The girls have to complete 10 skills sheets and they get to create bookmarks and posters to promote reading, write book reviews and to help with topical displays. When they have completed the course they will attend an award ceremony where they will each receive a certificate and get to meet a famous author.



Accelerated Reader

Reading Club

Reading Club runs every morning from 8.30am until 9.10am in the library. It is run by Mrs Hall with help from Ms Jackson, Mrs Bolton, Mrs Stevenson, Mrs Grieves and Mrs Hartley.



We use a computer programme called Accelerated Reader which enables us to pick books from the library and then take a quiz on them.

The aim of our club is to get ourselves "caught reading." Not all books are fun for everyone so at Reading Club it's about finding books that we find interesting and not too hard to read. This term so far, we have taken over 182 quizzes and earned 88.1 points between us. We have also read over 460643 words.

Some of our favourite books include:



Horrid Henry and the Bogey Babysitter by Francesca Simon, Magic Mates and the Puppy Panic by Jane West and The Mystery Mob series of books.

We have found that reading aloud to someone each night for 10 minutes increases our reading ability.

The Stars of Reading Club this term have been:

The Most Words Read Award:

- Samantha Dickinson in Year 9 words read: 126,109
- Michelle Liu in Year 7 words read: 75,651

Most Quizzes Taken and Passed Award:

- Ellie Stanley-Roberts in Year 7 has taken and passed 15 quizzes this term.

All the girls have worked very hard.

WELL DONE



Literacy Events

Book in a Bag

From September 2014 all Key Stage 3 pupils have been encouraged to carry a book in their school bag and to read for 35 minutes a day. We have had an increase in fiction texts being loaned from the Library as well as pupils reading more during the school day including form time and lessons.

Encouraging reading for pleasure can have a significant impact on your daughter's overall attainment in all subjects. Thank you to all parents for their support with this initiative.



Chatterbooks

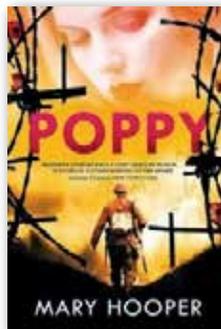
Chatterbooks Reading Club has had a fantastic start this term. Chatterbooks, a Reading Agency initiative, aims to encourage students to read for pleasure. Year 7 and 8 pupils attend every Thursday to discuss books they are reading, talk about their reading experiences and are encouraged and supported by their 6th Form Mentors.

Well done to all pupils taking part.

Lest We Forget Remembrance Reading

To mark the centenary of World War I we have been running a reading competition aimed at Year 8 and 9 pupils. During November pupils have been reading novels about periods of war and writing their reviews on poppies to display in the library. Prizes will be given in December to the best book reviews.

Some of the novels pupils have been encouraged to read include:



Music



The Hills were alive with the sound of the Senior Choir!

At the end of the summer, thirty-five members of the Senior Choir got on the coach to Manchester Airport, brimming with excitement and ready to begin their Salzburg adventure. After a stressful airport experience (travelling as a group of forty will do that to you), we arrived at the most beautiful village, in a hotel with the friendliest owners you could ever meet. After a well-deserved night's sleep, we were more than ready for a fun-filled musical week!

Throughout the week we were given the opportunity to perform in a number of prestigious venues; everywhere from the local Kuchl Parish RC Church and Salzburg Cathedral to the Mirabel Gardens and impromptu sing-alongs in the hotel lobby. We sang a range of incredible songs, including Eriskay Love Lilt, Ave Maria and Amazing Grace, and we even got the chance to sing a Sound of Music arrangement by the actual fountain from the movie!

Every part of the trip, from start to end, has left us all with memories to last a lifetime. Overall, Salzburg 2014 was a life-changing experience, and a truly extraordinary opportunity. We suggest everyone gets involved with an excursion like this one, trust us; you won't regret it!

By Megan Greener and Charlotte Potts (Y13)



Music

A Soirée under the stars... (and seagulls...!)

Thank you to everyone who came to support our annual summer soirée in July, which showcased the stunning talent of almost 150 of our students from across the Academy. Because of the demolition of Our Lady's Hall as part of the Academy building work, the event this year took place outside in McAuley courtyard, and involved performances from the Senior and Junior Choirs, Orchestra, String Orchestra, Brass Band, Guitar Group, Flute and Clarinet ensembles, Singing group and many soloists. Despite the teachers being on 'weather-watch' for the entire week, the rain kept off which made for a perfect night. The Senior Choir was so good that even some seagulls decided to join in with the final song!



Genfactor Finalists

Everyone's fingers and toes are crossed for our students Alice Liddle (Y10) and Ellie Hodgson (Y9) who are hoping to wow the judges in the final of the Genfactor talent show at the Sunderland Empire on Wednesday 19th November. Both girls underwent a series of auditions (including an X-Factor style bootcamp) to secure their place in the final. Alice will be singing and playing piano, and Ellie will be singing and playing guitar. Good luck girls!



Superstar Charlotte!

Huge congratulations to Charlotte Galloway (Y10) who has been awarded the Arthur Dickson memorial award for the best performance in a Grade 5 Piano examination from Summer 2013 to Summer 2014. Only one student gets this every year – certainly an accolade to be proud of! Well done Charlotte!



Santa Claus is coming to town

The lead-up to Christmas is always the busiest time of year for the Music department, and this year is no exception. All ensembles are busy preparing for the Christmas Concert on Thursday 11th December at St Mary's Church, where they will tell the story of Christmas night through carols, arrangements and readings, and then each ensemble will also perform a 'showstopper' piece.

The Senior Choir are preparing carol services at Oaklea Convent, Holy Cross Care Home, the Stadium of Light's Christmas Exhibition, and are singing in The Bridges shopping centre to raise money for the RNIB. Merry Christmas to all our supporters!



Music



A Breathtaking Evening at The Lion King

In October, the cast of last year's school production of Oliver went to the Sunderland Empire to see The Lion King. We received this treat from the music department for the

hard work put in by everyone during the show, but also because, unfortunately, Oliver wasn't touring at the time. It was an opportunity for all of us to enjoy the reward for all our hard work together, and it was also a good opportunity for us to watch the professional performers in such a massive show, which you'd usually have to go to the West End to see!

As we went to see the show quite early in the term, it gave us the chance to spend a night together and

share memories with the friends we don't see all the time.

The show was absolutely amazing, from the singing to the costumes, dancing and puppetry (some of us even had a few tears!) We all had a great time, being with good friends and watching brilliant performances - and we are very grateful!

By Emma Ford and Amy Watson (Y12)



Production Preparations

Preparations for our academy production of Steven Sondheim's Into The Woods are picking up pace following our casting in September. Almost 200

pupils auditioned for a part, with only 50 lucky girls securing a place in the cast or chorus. As the musical is

so complicated, students are working really hard to learn lines and tricky vocals, as well as stay in character and act at the same time!



The production will be performed in the Royalty Theatre in July 2015. Hope to see you there!

Look out for the Disney film version of Into the Woods starring Meryl Streep and Johnny Depp – in cinemas in the new year!

ABRSM/LCM examinations

Congratulations to all students who have passed examinations this year:

Rebecca Gair	Grade 1 Piano
Millie Harrison	Grade 1 Clarinet
Sadie Morron	Grade 1 Piano
Emmaleigh Poulton	Grade 1 Piano
Lauren Roberts	Grade 1 Piano
Livia Scott	Grade 1 Piano
Maisha Choudhury	Grade 2 Flute
Zeta Rutherford	Grade 2 Cornet
Emma Robson	Grade 3 Piano Grade 4 Singing
Annabelle Blackett	Grade 4 Singing
Charlotte Galloway	Grade 5 Piano
Emily Dodds	Grade 5 Singing
Emily Northorpe	Grade 5 Singing
Hannah Trotter	Grade 6 Alto Saxophone
Anna Lockey	Grade 8 Piano
Georgia McCluskey	Grade 8 Singing

To keep up to date all year round with news, events and goings-on in the music department, like our Facebook page 'St Anthony's Music Department'!



Maths



Some of our successful AS Mathematicians who are now studying for their A2 qualification in Mathematics: From left; Charlotte Potts, Kate Hamilton and Naomi Lau.

A-Level Results 2014

Last summer the A Level Results saw some outstanding performances in Mathematics. At A2 Level 15% of passes were at A* or A grade with 54% at the top grades of A*-B and with an overall pass rate of 100%.

At AS Level 33% of passes were at A* or A grade with 59% at the top grades of A*-B and with an overall pass rate of 93%.

At AS Level Further Maths 14% of passes were at A* or A grade with 57% at the top grades of A*-B and with an overall pass rate of 100%.

Congratulations to all who studied Mathematics with us and good luck with your future studies.

Anyone interested in AS or A2 Mathematics or Further Mathematics at St Anthony's is asked to contact Mrs Armstrong or Mr Dunn.

Maths GCSE Results 2014

A huge well done to the Year 11 students who completed their GCSE course this Summer. 77% of students achieved grade A*-C with 23% of students achieving grade A or A*.

Outstanding results were achieved by many with the following girls being awarded the top grades of A or A*: Jessica Alldis, Ann Andreas, Elloise Applegarth, Heather Boal, Lillie Borreson, Lauren Broom, Sophie Burnett, Emily Chisholm, Samantha Davenport, Rebecca Dixon, Ella Farrell, Emma Ford, Anna Foster, Emily Fox, Anna Greaves, Bethany Ho, Emma Hughes, Faye Huntley, Sophie Jackson, Gabrielle Kay, Savannah Lawrence, Rachel Lim, Hershey Lozada, Kate Mackinnon, Georgia McCluskey, Carmel Moran, Heidi Newton, Ellie Patterson, Alexandra Peace, Jessica Phipps, Riya Raju, Bethany Richardson, Della Sabu, Kate Thynne, Eve Walker, Eve Watson, Emily Woodley and Tamin Syeda.



Georgia McCluskey and Ann Andreas both achieved grade A* and are now studying Advanced Level Mathematics.

Congratulations to all students and good luck with your future studies and career choices.



Maths

New Online Maths Resources

This year the Maths department have two new pieces of online software we are using with pupils to support their learning:

MyMaths



MyMaths is a fully interactive online learning resource complete with interactive lessons, home works and games. Each pupil throughout the school who studies Maths has their own individual login so staff can set homework for students to complete at home.

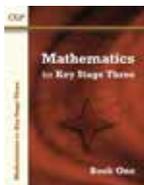
Students can login using any PC or laptop and the free Puffin Academy app allows them to access MyMaths on mobile and tablet devices.

This is an excellent revision resource for students in every year group to use to improve their Mathematics skills.

School Login details

School Login: stanthonys1
School Password: circle192

CGP Online Textbook



Our Key Stage 3 students have all been given a passcode to enable them to access an online version of the textbook they use in their Maths lessons. This enables pupils to complete homework and personal study without the need to take home a textbook. The online version can be accessed from any computer once an account has been registered.

Remember to also check the school website regularly for new resources and revision materials.

Year 11 Revision Guides

All Year 11 students should now have revision resources from the Library. These resources are for their use until after the final Maths examination in June 2015 when they should be returned to the Library. Pupils in previous years have commented on their usefulness in helping to prepare them for examinations, especially with individual study.

If pupils have not yet been to the Library for these materials they should do so as soon as possible in order to help prepare for forthcoming assessments and examinations.

Accelerated Maths

The Maths department are pleased to announce the launch of the Accelerated Maths Programme. The programme has recently commenced and involves 50 students from Years 8-11 who attend one lunch time a week in order to improve their Mathematics skills. So far the students involved are enjoying the opportunity to complete this online programme and many have attempted this also from home using the home-connect section of the Renaissance Learning website.

Venue: Resources Room

When: Tuesday (Y8/11) and Thursday (Y9/10) lunch times 11:50-12:20

Who: Years 8, 9, 10, 11

Staff: Mrs Armstrong, Mrs Bolton, Mrs Dugan, Mrs Grieves, Mrs Hartley, Mrs Stevenson.

Senior Maths Challenge 2013-14

Ten pupils have achieved an award in the UKMT Senior Maths 2013-14. The challenge for pupils in Years 12 is based upon problem-solving, using Mathematics.

The top award of Silver and the Best in School goes to Dana Lim.

Annabelle Joyce also received a silver award.

Bronze awards go to Annmary Roy, Ellie Spraggon, Jessica Dow, Catherine Taylor, Kate Lormor, Olivia Gough, Abby Rodgers and Zoe Laidler.

All the students have studied Advanced Level Mathematics and Dana, Annabelle, Kate and Olivia also study Further Mathematics.



St Anthony's, Example of Our Creativity & Artistic Work



This year has seen work of outstanding quality from all key stages. In Key stage 3 students looked at "Landscape" and "Architecture". Examples of Key Stage 4 work are as a response to the theme "Environments".

The girls in AS work...
The girls studying A...
As always it has been



rk



ed to the theme "Identity".

2 choose their own theme such as "Realism", "Vanity", "Culture" and "Magic".

en a pleasure to work with such dedicated students.



8F3 Talent Contest



In the summer term 8F3 decided to get creative and design their own talent contests! We had been studying vocabulary about talents and ambitions, and as we had a lot of talent in the group we wanted to show it off! The girls were put into groups where they assigned themselves parts of a competitor, a judge or a presenter, and they wrote their own scripts to perform to the rest of the class. The quality of work was outstanding, and Miss Napier even popped in to see the wonderful work on show! The girls pictured were our performers- we were treated to violin playing, Bollywood dancing, singing and magic tricks! Perhaps some of this year's Y8s will decide to have their own talent contest too – watch this space!

Celebration of Languages Day

On Thursday 25th September a group of Y9 students spent the day celebrating Languages at St John's School, Bishop Auckland. The day began with a performance from the Pearl of Africa choir, all the way from Uganda. The choir consisted of around fifteen children from the age of 10, as well as two professional trainers. They sang traditional African songs whilst dancing and playing African instruments – a very talented bunch! There was a question and answer session after the performance, and we found out that the choir rehearses for two hours every day in preparation for their annual visit to the UK. This year the children were staying with host families, and they said they particularly enjoyed eating KFC and Shepherd's Pie! At the end of the day, some of the girls bought jewellery from the

Year 10 Paris Study Visit

Twenty-seven Year 10 girls had the time of their lives in July when they spent 5 days visiting Paris. An action-packed itinerary ensured that the girls got to see a lot of the wonderful city and really experience French culture. We visited the Sacré-Coeur, took a boat trip down the Seine, climbed to the top of the Eiffel Tower, got very wet on the water rides at Parc Asterix and did many more exciting things! Miss Robinson, Mrs Collins and Miss Cousin who accompanied the girls also had a great time and were very proud of how well the girls behaved throughout the trip – they were a real credit to the school. We hope they will remember the visit for years to come, and hopefully the girls going on the trip next year will have just as good a time!

Enjoying a boat trip down the Seine



The group outside the Centre de Pompidou



Victoria Atkinson, Emily Barnes and Emily Oliver outside the Sacré-Coeur



choir to help fund orphanages and children's homes in Uganda. St Anthony's students attended four workshops during the day- Japanese, Hindi dance, French fairy tales and Greek. Lily Frankland (9SCa) was awarded a Spanish dictionary in recognition of her enthusiasm and engagement. Hannah Marshall (9SRo) described the day as educational and enjoyable, and hopes to be able to go again next year!



Lily Frankland receiving her prize!



Languages Primary Festival at St Mary's

On the 25th June Miss Robinson took the Sixth Form Language Leaders to St Mary's Primary School for the annual Languages Festival. The girls ran activities in both French and Spanish, including food tasting (the olives were not very popular!), painting flags and a French and Spanish quiz. The Y3 pupils really enjoyed the day and went home very happy with their French and Spanish stickers. The Y12 students have been working with Miss Robinson throughout the year, learning about teaching techniques and how to teach foreign languages. They worked in small groups to deliver lessons to the Y3s every week, covering topics such as body parts and birthdays. Some of the girls want to go into teaching, whereas others just wanted to do something a little different during the Sixth

Form Enrichment time. They have all enjoyed the experience, and the primary festival was definitely a highlight. Well done girls!



Chinese and British Sports Festival

Year 7 pupils were put to the test in June where they competed against other Sunderland schools in a Chinese and British Sports Festival. The festival was run to celebrate the links we have with schools in the Harbin province of China, and our partner school No.69 Middle School will be running a similar festival in the near future. The girls who attended had to do all sorts of activities, linking also with this year's Commonwealth Games held in Glasgow. The Highland Games event was a huge hit, and although the girls found the table tennis competition challenging, they really enjoyed taking part and playing against other schools. At the start of the afternoon, we also did a morning exercise routine which Chinese students do every morning to wake them up and get them ready for the school day – maybe it will catch on here!



Mandarin Taster Sessions

A group of Year 7 students were able to experience Mandarin-speaking first hand when two native speakers came to teach them some basics in July. In just over an hour, the girls learnt how to say hello, introduce themselves and count to 10. The Chinese teachers also taught them a little about the culture of China and how tones work. In Chinese there are four tones and this affects the pitch of your voice, as it can change the meaning of what you are saying. Although Chinese is quite a hard language, the girls coped really well and made a lot of progress. Hopefully some more Year 7 girls will join Mandarin Club this year.

Year 12 Language Leader Award

Nineteen Year 12 students began their Young Language Leader Award this autumn term.

Throughout the course so far, which is running in Year 12 Enrichment curriculum time, the students have looked at:

- The qualities of a good teacher
- How to set up and deliver a lesson
- How to teach younger pupils about the culture and customs of other countries.

Throughout the year they will be teaching French lessons for Year 3 and 4 pupils in St. Benet's Primary school and at the end of the course they will also organise and run a Language Festival for students in a local primary school.



Barcelona Trip October 2014

On the 23rd October, twenty-seven excited St. Anthony's students gathered at Newcastle airport ready for a trip of a lifetime to Barcelona! For many years this trip has proved an enormous success with our Spanish students, and this year was no exception. The group comprising Years ten, eleven and thirteen students behaved excellently and their conduct and attitude were highly praised by Michael Chapmen, the tour company manager, who described St. Anthony's as the best school he has ever worked with. The trip was jam-packed with activities designed to take full advantage of all Barcelona has to offer. Students got a special behind the scenes look at the F1 circuit and the Torres vineyard and received a guided tour of La Sagrada Familia. They enjoyed both the Picasso Museum and the Science Museum, and were treated to a 3D film in the latter. Students also visited a typical Spanish town, Vilanova, and experienced Las Ramblas and La Boqueria market. The girls were given the

chance to experience true Hispanic culture with salsa dancing, tapas tasting and paella for dinner. In addition, the Sixth Form students completed a treasure hunt across the city, successfully negotiating trains, buses and the metro. They described their day as exciting, fun and worthwhile. Overall, a great trip and one which we cannot wait to repeat next year! Any current Year nine girls studying Spanish should see Miss Cousin for information about Barcelona October 2015.

Enjoying some paella and pizza.



Visit to the F1 race track.

St. Anthony's Goes Continental

St. Anthony's Girls' Catholic Academy certainly knows how to celebrate in style – continental style! To celebrate European Language's Day, the whole academy embraced a distinctly European culture.

Everything had a distinctly European flavour to it: there were French and Spanish prayers and hymns during assemblies, Spanish songs sung, Mediterranean music playing, and even a rumour of some Irish dancing.

Each subject department represented a different European country, and staff became quite competitive in their costumes for the day. The Italian Super Mario Brothers were spotted in the Maths Department teaching Italian sums, and there were Russian Cossacks in the History Department. The Technology Department made their own German lederhosen and spoke in German for most of the day – they even sang 'Happy Birthday' in German to celebrate a student's birthday. There were several Señoritas and Señoritas in the English Department who greeted their classes with 'Buenos dias' and 'Hola', and who enjoyed Spanish paella for lunch.

All Year groups across the academy celebrated a different country and culture during morning assemblies and prayers: Year 7 practised Portuguese, Year 8 were Spanish sensations, Year 9 flew the French flag, Year 10 were inspired by Italy, Year 11 polished up on their Polish and the Sixth Form students greeted Germany. Students were heard singing and praying in a range of different languages and there was a distinctly continental atmosphere across the whole academy.

The celebrations weren't confined to St. Anthony's as the Languages Department had co-ordinated events in many of the local primary schools. Activities for the primary school pupils included mini-European championships during PE time, flag colouring and labelling in Geography sessions, European assembly and lesson activities, and ideas for a Language hour in each school. The response from primary schools was brilliant and all reported that their pupils had really enjoyed their 'European Day'.



Russian Cossacks infiltrating the History Department.

It was the Languages Department, however, that really flew the flag for Europe with their European party, Welsh, French and Italian taster lessons, European fact-finding and a whole host of other ingenious, and distinctly continental, activities.

All in all, it was a day to remember – a truly European extravaganza!



Mr Malkin and Mr Pearson celebrating Italy.



PE's Portuguese Participants



Our Design Technology Dept. (Mr Jordan, Miss Brown, Mrs Abbs and Mr Bell) flying the flag for Germany.



Pastoral Year 7

Year 7 Accelerated Reader

This year all Year 7 pupils are taking part in the Accelerated reading Programme. This programme allows pupils to read novels matched to their current reading level, regular quizzes on the novels they are reading means that their reading progress can be monitored by staff and parents.



Year 7 parents can access information on their daughter's reading using Renaissance Home Connect. To login to Home Connect type the URL into your browser <https://ukhosted11.relearn.co.uk/2246254/HomeConnect> and enter your daughter's username and password.

Year 7 pupils have responded really well to this programme and it is lovely to see all pupils reading and progressing well.

Keep up the good work Year 7!



Christmas Charity

This Christmas, Year 7 has decided to raise money for Muscular Dystrophy. The pupils will be carrying out lots of fun fundraising activities in order to raise as much money as possible!!



Year 7 New Start

The Year 7 students have made a fantastic transition to St Anthony's coping extremely well with their introduction to and navigations around a larger school, adapting to a larger year group, a new fuller timetable and whole new way of doing things. Here are some statements about how the girls feel about their experience since joining our St Anthony's Girls' Academy community.

"The lessons are really fun and interesting. When I first joined I was a bit anxious but people have been there to help me so I am now settling in well. I have joined lots of clubs, made lots of new friends and there's still more to make"
Emily Tinkler



"I have settled in St. Anthony's really well. I have met lots of new friends so school is really fun!"
Sophie Lawton

"I have made new friends. I felt nervous before but now I am ready for every day. The lessons are really good and I enjoy school!"
Helena Morell

A growing number of girls are enjoying Fun and Friendship Club. If you would like to come Along, it is held on Wednesday and Friday lunchtimes in Somerleyton please see Sr. Josepha.



Pastoral Year 8

Rewards for Year 8 pupils.

Sunderland Football Club was kind enough to donate tickets for the Sunderland vs Everton match to St. Anthony's, so that we could give some lucky pupils in the academy a well-deserved treat.

In Year 8 we asked the Form Tutors to nominate pupils who they think deserved a reward in recognition of their excellent contribution to school life.

The girls who were nominated were

Isabella Daw

Molly Johnston

Terri-Ann Wright

Ashna Saji

Amelia Turnbull

Eleanor Gleghorn

Olivia Kerr

Neve McAvinnie

Hayley Calvert

Eleanor Lynn

Emily Brown

Ellen Barrett

Olivia Thompson

Zoe Tipling

Bethany Dixon

Misha Steele

Well done girls!



Christmas Charity

The Year 8 Council is in talks to decide on which charity Year 8 will be fundraising for this Christmas. The council representatives (named below) are listening to the opinions of others in the year group and will be voting to decide on the chosen charity by the end of this week.

Once the vote has been cast the girls in Year 8 will raise money by doing activities like guess the teddy's name, cake sales, movie club and many other activities besides. Let's see if they can beat last year's total of over £1800 to donate to the lucky worthy cause!

8SAa	Tiegan English
8SAo	Jayne Usher
8SCa	Jamela Coloma
8SCo	Mariam Shaikh
8SHa	Emen Hamid
8SHo	Amelia Turnbull
8SJa	Olivia Glover
8SJo	Fay Hildreth
8SMa	Georgia Hales
8SMo	Jade Surtees
8Sra	Naomi Laverick
8SRo	Amy Myers
8STa	Bethany Dixon
8STo	Courtney Paterson

Parable of the Talents

Year 8 have been working on fundraising for Manzini Youth Care as part of their RE work. They are using the Parable of the Talents as a basis to raise money for the charity. The girls have been grouped in teams of 3 or 4 and given a small sum of money which varies from team to team. The aim is that the teams use their own talents to think of creative ideas to raise as much as possible for Manzini Youth Care. So far girls have organised cake sales, completed sponsored silence events, raffled prizes. The project is still on-going but so far the results have been extremely promising. Well done girls!

Year 8 Homework Club

Mrs Hill has introduced the Year 8 Homework club on a Tuesday lunchtime which gives the girls the opportunity to do homework in school and make the most of the facilities available to them. This has become very popular with a group of regular attendees and several pupils who come on a 'drop in' basis. All Year 8 pupils are welcome to come along on Tuesday lunchtimes, have a bite to eat and do some work. Well done to all those who attend on a regular basis, keep it up!



Pastoral Year 9

Fairtrade

Fairtrade selling is underway this term with helpers from Y9. We have had a stall at Y6 Admissions Evening and sell every break time in different yards. We are having a Christmas raffle and will take Christmas orders from staff. We are also entering a Christmas card competition run by Traidcraft. Watch this space! We have lots of enthusiasm and commitment as usual. Well done to all girls who help with selling, and thank you for all who support our stall.



Other Fairtrade News

Last year's group of Fairtrade sellers won a Diana award for volunteering. They sold throughout the year and were fantastic ambassadors for St Anthony's. Well done.



Challenges

Year 9 girls have risen to the challenge of plant-nurturing this year. Each tutor group was given a plant to nurture and these were judged in October with interesting results. Many plants did not live and some that did were mutants! However we managed to nurture three interesting plants. Well done to the green-fingered among Year 9!



Anti bullying books have been given to tutor groups which they can work on during the year. They can fill the scrapbooks with poems, pictures, prayers, word walls or anything that they wish. Judging will be at the end of the year.

Charity

Charity events have been very important this term for the Year 9s. Cake sales have been running for Cafod, Manzini, and another charity which the girls will choose by the end of term. Over £100 was made for Cafod and the Manzini fund is on the way to £200 at present. Well done and keep up the good work!



Tutorials

Tutorials are now concentrating on Options for Year 9. This is an important time in the girls' lives when they think about their future career. Tutorials are concentrating on choices that occur in everyone's lives and this includes both academic and personal choices. Personal Development Day will concentrate on Fairtrade talks and life choices. I am sure this will prove very useful.



Pastoral Year 9

Year 9 News



Well done to Year 9 who raised an amazing £101.15 for our CAFOD campaign this term. This is a great amount that was raised by collections and cake-selling! A special thank you to Mrs Wolland who has worked tirelessly with the students to achieve this fantastic total.



Well done Lilly Thompson! Lilly entered a photography competition at Kirkley Hall Zoological Gardens last month. Lilly had won with her photograph of a Yellow Sailfin Tang fish. Her prize was a family pass to the Zoo and she also gets her winning photograph displayed at the Zoo.

Year 9 Football Stars

Congratulations to three Year 9 pupils who have experienced great success in Football this term. Kelsey Thompson (9SR), Emily Hutchinson (9ST) and Holly Brace (9ST) have gone through a number of trials to play Football with the County and Sunderland Academy. The girls have battled against other girls across the region to all gain places with the county team and Emily and Kelsey to also gain a place at the Sunderland Academy. Well done girls and best of luck for the rest of the season.



Well done to 9SHo who presented their Year 9 assembly on the importance of mental health awareness. It was great to see all members of the form participating together, passing on important information to all of the staff and students. Excellent effort girls!



Well done to Bethany Henderson from 9SJ who has successfully completed a daring zip-wire across the Tyne. Bethany did this to raise money for Grace House, a charity which strives to help and support families across the North-East. A fantastic total of £637.10 was raised and we are sure that this will make a difference to the lives of many. An amazing effort Bethany.



Pastoral Year 10

Year 10 Pastoral News

The pupils in year 10 have made an excellent start to their GCSE courses. The pupils are working hard and enjoying the challenges that GCSE's bring. Many pupils have already purchased revision guides to help them to study for their subjects. We encourage all pupils to ensure that they stay organised with regards to their homework and coursework.

We have had some excellent form class assemblies already this year focusing on the traditions of Halloween and Bonfire night. The assemblies have been planned and led by the pupils. We are looking forward to more form class assemblies throughout the year.

Success at the Showing Jumping National Championships

Anna Ball has recently taken part in the Show Jumping National Championships. Anna has been riding for 11 years; she really enjoys riding and has owned her own horse for just over a year. She came third in the show jumping regional finals which meant that she qualified for the National Championships which took place at the end of September. In the 3 Day Show Jumping Event Anna achieved 6th place in two different categories, a 5th place rosette and a second place in the Pairs Event as well as a trophy.

Well Done Anna for this fantastic achievement.



Anna Ball – Year 10

Success for Emmie and Lilly Thompson

Emmie and Lilly had a busy summer; they both completed their Bronze Arts Award and are half way through their Silver Award.

The girls also made a short film which they entered into the Berwick Film Festival. Emmie and Lilly won the 2014 Young Film makers Award for their film "Mitchell Goldfield". They were one of five shortlisted for the award from South East Scotland and North East England. They won a Trophy and £250.00. Well Done Girls! A fantastic achievement!

The film Mitchell Goldfield has also been short listed for an Award at the Kids for Kids UK Film Festival 2014. Emmie and Lilly have been invited to London to view the shortlisted films. The winner of this National competition will be announced on the 15th November. Fingers crossed!!

The girls have also been campaigning to save Humbledon Hill. This land in Sunderland is an Ancient prehistoric bronze age defended settlement partly protected by English Heritage. The land is

under threat from a developer who wants to build 13 eco homes on the site.

The girls have been working really hard making posters setting up a Facebook and Twitter pages 'Save Humbledon Hill'. The Sunderland Echo has been covering their story. You may wish to support the campaign started by the girls.



As a school we are very proud of both Emmie and Lilly and their fantastic achievements. They are both highly talented, committed and dedicated pupils.



Pastoral Year 10

E-Safety Animation

Congratulations to Emmie Thompson who entered a competition run by the Well Versed Project. Emmie produced an animation on e-safety which was included in the final film produced by the Well Versed project. She was one of only 20 pupils in the UK who were selected to have their animations included in the final film. The film highlights the importance of e-safety to young people. It is an excellent resource and is being used in assemblies

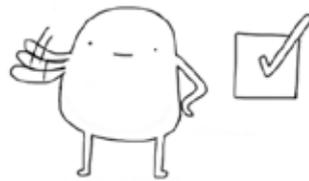
and tutorials in St Anthony's as well as in schools across the country.

As she was successful in having her animation selected to be part of the final film, Emmie was invited to the Google headquarters and the YouTube studios for a guided tour. She had a fantastic time and met the YouTuber PJ who selected and edited the video clips. PJ was very impressed with the content and the high standard of the clips.

Please see below the stills from Emmie's animation:



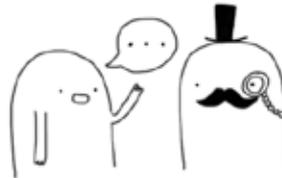
It can be fun to chat with your buddies online,



But make sure to check if the person's alright



Even though they might seem like a friend



You can never quite know who you're really talking to



Their profile could be fake, put on, or pretend!

CLOSE FRIENDS	STRANGERS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Best friend	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Mystery
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grandma	<input type="checkbox"/> William Who?
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sister	<input type="checkbox"/> Fiedly Fraud
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cousin	<input type="checkbox"/> Charles con-man

So only add friends that are closest to you!



Pastoral Year 11

Year 11 News

Congratulations to all girls who have achieved 100% attendance this term.

Attendance in Year 11 is so important if you are to achieve your potential in your GCSE exams.

- a child who is absent a day of school per week misses an equivalent of two years of their school life
- 90% of young people with absence rates below 85% fail to achieve five or more good grades of GCSE and around one third achieve no GCSEs at all
- poor examination results limit young people's options and poor attendance suggests to colleges and employers that these students are unreliable

During **Personal Development Day** at the end of Year 10 the year group was involved in an inspirational workshop led by Sr. Josepha. The theme was around breaking the chains which bind us. It involved the pupils making paper chains bearing the words and phrases of difficulties we face, so some craft skills were involved. We also displayed our work, which showed words on how it felt to be freed from our burdens. However the highlight was the activity, which involved toilet rolls and sellotape – the pictures speak for themselves!



Year 11 have had their mock examinations this December to prepare them for their final exams in the summer. This is a challenging year for any student sitting exams. Please speak to your form tutor, Mrs Charlton or Mrs Dugdale if you have any concerns about your exam performance.

Advent Charity – the charity we are supporting during Advent is known as Mary's Meals. They provide a lunch for children in many developing countries to support them and their families in education. Our input will be for each form to contribute the items to make up a back pack for one of these children to use for school. The charity has a list of preferred items, which can be pre-owned or from value ranges. You can follow the links below to find out more – the FAQ explain in more detail.

<http://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=mary%27s+meals+on+U+tube&FORM=VIRE1#view=detail&mid=708BB7EF5EBDFE4D56EE708BB7EF5EBDFE4D56EE>

<http://www.marysmeals.org.uk/what-you-can-do/backpack-project/>

CAFOD
Just one world

I ISC have given an assembly on the CAFOD charity this October to try to raise awareness for the "Make a place at your table" appeal which asks for £1 per week for a year to help others in need. A special mention needs to go to Mrs Garside for working with I ISC for selling cakes at break time and collecting during their assembly. They have raised £52 so far which represents a place at Year 11 table for 52 weeks. Well done! Thank you for all of your hard work!

A big thank you to all girls in Year 11 who have donated for CAFOD this Autumn during our form collections. To date Year 11 have raised £44.85. With the money that I ISC has raised that brings the total to £96.85 Well done!

Dates for your diary

Year 11 Admissions Evening (a full sixth form open evening)
Tuesday 13th January 2015

Deadline for Sixth Form subject choices/application form
Thursday 12th February 2015

Year 11 Leavers Mass
Friday 1st May 2015

Year 11 Leavers Presentation
Wednesday 24th June 2015



Pastoral Year 12 & 13

Sixth Form (Year 12)

Many congratulations to last year's Year 13 who left us in the summer for pastures new. 110 students went into Higher Education at 19 different institutions with 21 girls gaining places at prestigious Russell Group Universities. We would like to congratulate them on their success and wish them all the best for the future.

There were lots of changes to the Year 12 team this year and we are delighted to welcome Miss K Bown, Mrs L Dudley, Dr V Laval and Mrs S Ward as new form tutors.

Induction residential

In September, 134 Year 12 students once again visited the Youth Village in Allensford for their Induction Residential with the Youth Ministry Team. The theme this year was 'Tapestry' and through discussion, reflection and some energetic outdoor activities, the students looked at ways in which their lives are intertwined with those around them. This is the third Induction Residential and staff and students agree that it is an excellent way to start the year. There are 164 students in Year 12 this year, many of whom have joined us from schools across the city, and this event is a great way to make new friends and settle in quickly to the Sixth Form.



Amy Watson, Rachel Doyle, Lauren Broom, Emma Ford, Eve Hawes and Eve Watson prepare for a game of Catch the Flag at the Youth Village Residential.

Youth SVP

On the 11th November Michael Wilcock and Bill Lawson from the St Vincent de Paul Society came into school to officially commission us as a centre for the Youth SVP. The ceremony took place in Somerleyton Chapel and was followed by lunch. Over 100 Year 12 girls have volunteered to participate in projects in the local community with a core group of eighteen girls to lead them. With the support of Sister Josepha, Mrs Collins, Mrs Lanaghan and the RE Department, the students are working throughout the local community with Street Pastors, The Apostleship of the Sea and Asylum Seekers as well as with the Sisters of Mercy and Mini-Vinnie groups in our primary feeder schools.



Michael Wilcock and Bill Lawson from the SVP with members of the Year 12 Youth SVP Council

Raising Aspirations

On the 6th November an ambassador from Oxford University came into school to talk to Year 12 students about applying to university. This is part of our ongoing commitment to encouraging our students to aim as high as they can in the future, and is the second in a series of talks which will help students to make informed choices.



Hannah Mearns, Lucy Carter, Charlie Steer-Stephenson, Sarah Mearns and Sarah Barber from Year 12 with Shona Quinn from the Oxford University Outreach Team.



Pastoral Year 12 & 13

A Busy time for Year 13 Students

Chef Mark Earnden came in to provide an introduction to cooking healthily on a student budget. As usual the girls thoroughly enjoyed both the delicious food and Mark's cheerful approach. Mark provided a series of nutritionally balanced and cheap menus that can all be prepared on a hob, in limited student accommodation. The students not only were able to try the dishes but also helped to prepare them. They were less enthusiastic however when it came to the washing up!



Meriel Smithson helping Mark

University and Careers Fair

At the end of the summer term a Careers Fair for Year 12 students was held in Gabriel House as part of Personal Development Day. All the North East Universities were there, as well as Springboard, other Modern Apprenticeship providers and the Youth Ministry Team. It was a fantastic opportunity for the students to find out about the career and progression routes available.



Alex Pearson finding out about courses at Durham University

Sixth Form Festival



Kaitlin Common, Jane Thompson and Emily Harrison

The Sixth Form Youth Festival last July turned out to be an inspirational and moving day. Not only did it give the girls the chance to get together with students from other schools across the diocese but also to watch a very hard-hitting and thought-provoking drama about the issue of human trafficking. The play was produced by the Ten Ten theatre company and featured an outstanding one-woman performance. The students then participated in a debate about the problem, and discussed the ways they could campaign to raise awareness of the issue.

Oxbridge Advice

The Sixth Form was delighted to welcome back former student Jennifer Brown who has recently completed her History degree at Oxford University. She very kindly agreed to come into school to mentor our potential Oxbridge students through the application process and in particular help them to complete excellent and exciting personal statements. Jennifer gave up a considerable amount of her own time and is an inspiration to our present Year 13.



Jennifer Brown with two of the girls that she has helped, Meriel Smithson and Zoe Laidler.



Pastoral Year 12 & 13



Young Women into Leadership Conference Northumbria University

St Anthony's Academy Sixth Form was proud to have been invited to participate in this very prestigious event.

The North East's most influential women were all gathered at Northumbria University on Friday 5th September, to mentor and inspire the next generation of great scientists, doctors, academics, teachers and politicians. The Speakers included, Sunderland-born Premier League chief lawyer Jane Purdon and Newcastle University's Professor Ruth Plummer, a pioneering cancer research scientist. Dr Jane Turner, associate dean of business and

engagement at Northumbria University, and Mags Vaughan, chief executive of fair trade development charity Traidcraft, were also among the speakers. Meriel Smithson Head girl commented, "The whole day was fantastic, so inspiring and empowering"

For one student, Lucy Kay, the event has proved life-changing. Unsure of her pathway after A levels, Lucy was so inspired by one of the team of speakers that she has applied for a course on entrepreneurial business skills at Northumbria University.



Look out Lord Sugar, Lucy is coming!

Hexham and Newcastle Diocesan Youth Council Visit to meet the Bishop

St Anthony's four representatives on the Hexham and Newcastle Diocesan Youth Council, Kaitlin Common, Sarah Fowler, Emily Harrison and Charlotte Potts, were invited to attend an event at Cardinal Hume School to meet the Rt Rev Séamus Cunningham, Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle, and discuss ways to share the exciting news from the Bishop about the future for the Diocesan Youth Council, and how to inspire the involvement of more young people in the life of the Church.



Charlotte Potts, Sarah Fowler and Emily Harrison



Psychology

Northumbria University Psychology Department: 17th June 2014

This was a day of workshops specifically catering for the 12 HNCP schools which involved interactive workshops, such as participating in a study of caffeine intake and cognitive functioning, anomalous psychology and memory.

What Sixth formers said about the events:-

I really enjoyed the Northumbria Psychology day especially the anomalous aspect because we were involved in performing some psychic tests. On the whole, the day was very enjoyable. (Lucy Kay)

I enjoyed both university days as it gave us an insight to what university is actually like. It allowed us to experience the university as well as giving us fun tasks to complete. The food was also really nice from the Newcastle University trip. (Abby Rodgers)

I enjoyed the cognitive testing tasks in the caffeine workshop at Northumbria University. The atmosphere and the people made the experience enjoyable. (Ann-Marie White)

The Northumbria Psychology day was interesting and very enjoyable; being able to take part in the tasks gave a nice understanding of how to apply the work we were doing in class. It was a relaxed and fun atmosphere. (Tara Hodgson)

Newcastle University Psychology Department: 3rd July 2014

This open day was aimed at all Sixth Forms in the area and featured workshops on for example: The Cognitive Elements of Face Recognition; Do Animals Have Emotions?; Watching Eyes, and the Control of Anti-Social Behaviour.



Starting from back left to right: Bethany Leary, Abby Rogers, Lauren Moon, Lucy Kay, Lucy Ellis, Blythe Cameron, Huddah Khalil, Emma Tyzack, Megan Bennett, Megan Williams, Elena Poulet, Tara Hodgson, Sophie Baker.

SUSTAINABILITY – LIVING STREETS

St. Anthony's Living Streets News

At the end of the Summer Term we were involved in the Year 6 Transition Days. The girls had training from a facilitator from the Living Streets charity to deliver workshop sessions to the Year 6 pupils. The day was really hectic as the team had seven different form groups coming through the room in half-hour sessions. For each group they delivered a powerpoint, completed a matrix about the advantages and disadvantages of different modes of travel, distributed a copy of the St. Anthony's Walking Guide to help them in their first days at the academy, and helped Year 6 to write a pledge about how they would journey to school in September. The girls delivering the workshops did an excellent job – well done to all of them. (C. Greaves, H. Blyth, R. Bryant, N. Laverick, Roshini Raji, L. Shaji, C. Furtado, M. Sunil, H. Cowgill, A. Maw)

We had a nice letter from the Living Streets charity where they explained how work we had done on transition days the previous year had been used as a model for work they had done with six other schools, involving over 900 students.



This term we have been involved in another project – the St. Anthony's Walking Challenge. Our Smart Walk team went to assemblies for Y7, 8 and 9 to launch the project. For the two weeks before half term the girls logged their walking, either by using an app on their smartphone, or through the use of a pedometer and the Living Streets website. It was organised as a house competition, which White won the first week and Purple the second. Three girls won High Street shopping vouchers and others won badges. Well done to all those who took part! We are also involved in a Tyne and Wear Go Smarter survey of our journeys to the academy this term.



PE & Sport



City of Sunderland Tennis Summer 2014

Congratulations to the Year 7, 8 and 9 Tennis teams on another successful season.

A special mention to Bethany Ellison, who is now the City of Sunderland's Year 9 Champion, after beating opposition from other schools across the city.

Also, congratulations to Olivia Holden who came runner up in the Year 8 City of Sunderland tournament.



City of Sunderland Trampoline Competition – Oct 2014

Well done to St. Anthony's Trampoline Teams! The girls competed in the City of Sunderland Trampoline Finals at Sandhill View School. Congratulations to Leia Wilkinson who was placed 1st in the KS4 Intermediate section and Kirsten Winter who was placed 2nd in the Intermediate KS4 section. Congratulations to Megan Hodgson who was placed 3rd in the KS4 Elite section.



Interhouse Swimming Gala 2014

The results of the Interhouse Swimming Gala held in July 2014 were as follows

7th	with 97 points Red
6th	with 100 points Blue
5th	with 119 points Purple
4th	with 122 points Orange
3rd	with 139 points Yellow
2nd	with 162 points Green
1st	with 166 points White

Well done to all those girls who turned up and took part in their teams.

School Games – Silver Award

Congratulations to the PE department. They were awarded the School Games Silver Award for outstanding commitment to school sport and competition.



National Coaching Academy

Congratulations to Alex Miller and Katie Robertson in Year 13. They have been selected to take part in the Tyne and Wear National Coaching Academy. They will receive support with professional development and coaching experience. They will take part in modules and seminars that are delivered by professionals from the PE and sport industry.

Well done, girls, and good luck.



PE & Sport

Football News

Well done to the u13 and u14 Football team who have made a good start to their campaigns in the Sunderland Schools' league. The u13 team (pictured on the left) have won two out of their three games so far and are currently 2nd in the league. The u14 team (pictured on the right) are undefeated so far with 9 points from 3 games, having scored a fantastic 10 goals and conceding none. Good luck for the rest of the season, girls!



Congratulations to Holly Brace, Emily Hutchinson and Kelsey Thompson from Year 9 who were nominated to represent the u14 County Team. The girls performed brilliantly in the trials and were successful in being selected for the squad. The girls will play matches against other counties all over the North of England, and their next competitive match is against South Yorkshire on December 15th. Well done and good luck, girls..



Inter-house Football

The PE department and pupils from the Year 11 Leadership Pathway organised and led an inter-house Football competition in October. The standard of Football was excellent. The leaders in Year 11 were outstanding and ran a very successful competition. Well done to all pupils taking part.



Year 7 Winners
7 St. Clare: White team



Year 8 Winners
8 St. Margaret Clitheroe



Year 9 Winners
9 St. Teresa of Avila

The overall results for the whole competition are:

7th	St. Angela Merici: Purple
6th	St. Maragret Clitheroe: Red
5th	St. Hilda: Yellow
4th	St. Clare: White
3rd	St. Rita: Orange
2nd	St. Joan of Arc: Green
1st	St. Teresa of Avila: Blue



PE & Sport

North Durham County Netball Tournament

Well done the U16 Netball team. They competed in the North Durham County Netball Tournament and came 6th. The girls gave up their Saturday to compete against teams from all over North Durham County. All girls played extremely well and were a credit to the school.



City of Sunderland Netball Tournament

Congratulations to the Year 10 Netball team who came 2nd in the City of Sunderland Netball tournament. The girls played extremely well. We finished on 18 points, drawing with Monkwearmouth; therefore first position was awarded on goal difference. Just four more goals and we would have won!

Well done to the Year 11 Netball team who came 3rd in the City of Sunderland Netball tournament. The girls played well, winning three games, drawing two and losing one.

Netball Results

Year 7	
7a vs Farringdon	15-1
7b vs Farringdon	1-7
7a vs A360	6-0
7b vs A360	1-1
7a vs Biddick	19-1
7b vs Biddick	4-3

Year 8	
8a vs Kepier	4-1
8b vs Kepier	1-6
8a vs A360	2-4
8b vs A360	1-5

Year 9	
9a vs Kepier	26-1
9b vs Kepier	14-1
9a vs A360	14-4
9b vs A360	5-2

Year 10	
St. Anthony's v A360	8-5
St. Anthony's v Biddick	19-4

Year 11	
St. Anthony's v Biddick	12-0



PE & Sport

Wimbledon Visit 2014

Students from Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 joined members of the PE department at Wimbledon, during the second week of the 2014 Championships.

During our time at Wimbledon we were able to watch S.Wawrinka beat D.Istoman in the Gentleman's Singles Third Round. We also watched P.Kvitova gain a place in the Ladies' Quarter Finals, beating S. Peng. Before the rain suspended play we were able to watch some Ladies Doubles. The photograph shows the group on Henman Hill where we were also able to watch Djokovic earn a place in the Gentleman's Quarter Finals, beating Tsonga 3-0 (6-3, 6-4, 7-6).

Before heading home we visited Buckingham Palace where we witnessed the Changing of the Guards Ceremony. We hope to continue to visit Wimbledon annually.



SPORTS DAY 2014

The PE department would like to thank all of the staff and pupils at St. Anthony's Academy for a fantastic and very successful Sports Day. Congratulations to the overall winners, the Yellow team, and the runners up, the Red team. The whole day was a great success and the school raised £434 for 'Tiny Lives'. This is the charity that supports premature and sick newborn babies and their families on the Neonatal Unit at the RVI hospital in Newcastle upon Tyne.



Sports Day Results

	1st Yellow		
2nd	Red	3rd	Blue
4th	White	5th	Green
6th	Purple	7th	Orange



RE

Spirited Arts



Ten talented and creative groups of Year 9's entered the national RE competition, Spirited Arts, this summer. Students spent lesson time and some time at home making a piece of art work that represented their chosen theme, either the Golden Rule or Spiritual Journey. Several groups, pictured here, were awarded an "Excellent Entry" certificate in recognition of their achievement.

Takeaway Homework



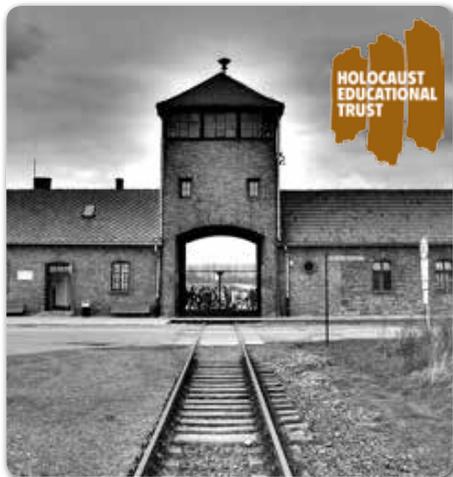
On completion of their topic about the Mercy Mission, Year 7 completed homework from their takeaway homework menu to put their learning into practice. Many chose the "chef special" option and baked a cake that represented the topic. Many fantastic cakes were brought to the lesson. Sister Francis and Sister Josepha were invited and were amazed at the effort and enthusiasm. Well done 7S2!



Faith Festival Update

Our annual Faith Festival is coming up once again! During the week from Monday 8th December, the whole school will participate in multi-faith events. This year we have visitors from the Sikh, Buddhist and Muslim religions, plus special lesson in RE looking at festivals, the most beautiful churches in the world and Hajj. These are not normally covered in our schemes of work so this is a brilliant chance for the pupils to experience the other joys of RE we don't get the chance to teach. The week will culminate in our annual Christmas Market, selling products in aid of the school's Manzini mission, Fairtrade, and our very own business enterprise, it's a great chance to get some of that Christmas shopping done, and all for a good cause!





Lessons from Auschwitz Sixth Form Visit

Over 2014-2015 the school is once again participating in the Holocaust Education Trust's Lesson from Auschwitz project. In October, two Sixth Form students took an exceptional 24-hour trip to Poland to visit the sites of the historic death camps. Alongside the HET's educators, over 200 pupils from all over the North East toured the location of the Great Synagogue and the two death campsites. This unique opportunity is part of a four-stage project in which the pupils become ambassadors for the school and spread the messages that they learnt during the process. We are currently in the process of producing an art structure as a memorial to the millions of victims killed during the Holocaust, which will be available to view in the New Year.

RE Entrepreneurs!

In response to the RE topic 'Are You There, God?', Year 8 have been providing the answer 'Yes!' Year 8 are showing the love of God to those in need by putting prayer into action. Inspired by The Parable of the Talents, each Year 8 class has been given £30 with the challenge 'Can you double it?!' The money raised is to go towards our School charity, Manzini.

So far, 8S1 have raised an incredible £383.18 by doing various fundraising activities at school and at home during half term. Activities have included bake sales, car washes, art auctions, trick-or-treat inspired fun, film clubs, and here you can see Steph Welsh who completed a 5 mile sponsored run with her Mum! I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all Parents, Carers, Grandparents and all those who have helped our Year 8



students to achieve such fantastic, fun results.

Cakes made for a bake sale by Olivia Thompson and Maia Veitch



Year 7 Visit to Oaklea

Year 7 students visited the home of the Sisters of Mercy in Sunderland, the Convent of Oaklea, as part of their work in RE this term. Students prayed in the beautiful chapel, sat in the refectory and chatted with the Sisters in the community room. They explored the peaceful gardens and even had the privilege of seeing the Archive Room which holds many treasured items from the early days of the community. Reverend Mother Dolores held a 'Question and Answer' session which gave the students a real insight into religious life today. We listened to many wonderful tales from the past, and discussed how life has changed in the convent in recent years. The girls were fascinated with the ringing of the bell! In true Mercy style the girls were given a warm welcome. We did not have a 'good cup of tea', but rather a chocolate bar and juice, which was most appreciated!

Many thanks to all the Sisters especially our tour guides for the day, Sister Francis and Sister Josepha.



Pilgrimage to Rome 2014

Our pilgrimage was aimed to develop the girls' spiritual life, to walk in the footsteps of the Martyrs and Saints of the Faith, and to be united in prayer with the Pope and the universal Church.

Our pilgrims prayed the Divine Office daily and we were extremely fortunate to have a group Mass at the tomb of St. Peter, which was beautifully celebrated by His Excellency, The Most Revd Arthur Roche (Vatican Archbishop: Secretary of the Congregation for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments). His Excellency explained that the question asked by Jesus to Peter is still being asked of each one of us today, "Do you love me?" It was also explained that when we returned to our homes, we must constantly bring to mind this question when following Christ. The girls were very moved by this Mass and spoke of this celebration as the highlight of the pilgrimage.

We also incorporated some of the historical sights of this beautiful city, such as the Colosseum and the Roman Forum; and sampled the delights of local cuisine in the beautiful sunshine. On the final evening the group enjoyed a delicious meal in the Piazza Navona surrounded by the hustle and bustle of modern-day Roman life. We all shared some very special, humorous and spiritual moments that will remain with us for years to come. One girl shared the personal impact of our visit, saying she had not been a regular Mass attender for some years, but this pilgrimage has inspired her to return to Mass with her Grandmother in her local parish.



Ski

Friday Night Ski Club 2014

Once again the girls of St Anthony's have been joined by pupils from many of the feeder Primary Schools to enjoy Friday nights having fun and learning how to ski. There can be up to 100 participants over the course of our two hour session and it is amazing to see how quickly the ski club members progress from the beginners' slope to the big main slope. The students range in age from 5 to 19 and it is never too late or too early to start – as long as you can get ski boots to fit!

Ski Club Flood-lit Skiing

We are all looking forward to the amazing skiing in AUSTRIA at EASTER in 2015. Our excursion day is INNSBRUCK where we will visit the world famous ALPEN-ZOO as well as SWAROVSKI WORLD where the crystals have been used to build amazing works of art. There are still places available for any girl interested in the trip of a lifetime! See Mrs Armstrong, Miss Brown, Mrs Roddam or Mrs Taroni for details.

Happy Christmas and New Year – and Happy Skiing everyone!!



Ski Club Christmas Snozone

The trips to the SNOZONE at Castleford in Yorkshire have become favourite events in the Ski Club Calendar. We are off to the SNOZONE again on December 13th to add to the excitement of the run-up to Christmas.

Skiing on snow will be a big change for those who have just started to ski this term and many of the participants in the Extended Schools Programme from the Primary Schools are set to join in the fun as well. We welcome the parents who are also joining us – for the Outlet Shopping - rather than the skiing!

Snow is very different from the usual plastic surface that we ski on at Silksworth. The experienced skiers will be able to show their skills and get ready for the real thing – it's always a joy to get snow on the slope

New Beginners Autumn 2014

Ski Club new beginners concentrate on the instructor as they start to learn the basics in September.

On the right are the extended schools skiers on the nursery slope with the main slope and freestyle jump platform in the background. They have already moved through snowplough to turns and are using the poma lift on to first exit on the main slope. Well done everyone! Excellent progress!



in Sunderland – here's hoping for a 'bad' winter – with lots of snow! The beginners will be amazed by the difference.

The day will include other activities such as mini-golf or bowling and a meal as well as the chance of some Christmas shopping and festive carol singing on the coach.



Science

Biology Visit to Body Worlds exhibition at the Centre for Life



On July 3rd 40 Year 12

Biology and Human Biology students visited the Centre for Life for the day. They also got the opportunity to see the visiting BODY WORLDS Vital exhibition which made its UK debut at Life in May 2014 and has been extended until January 4th 2015.

The specimens on display in the exhibition were generously donated and preserved through plastination, the preservation process invented by Dr. Gunther von Hagens in 1977, while he was working as an anatomist at the University of Heidelberg. Everyone thought that the exhibition was fascinating and it was amazing to see the complexity, intricacy and beauty of the human body. It was a great opportunity to learn about anatomy, physiology, and health by viewing real human specimens. The exhibition included whole-body plastinates, a large arrangement of individual organs, organ and arterial configurations, and translucent slices that gave a complete picture of how the human body works. Students also got a chance to explore how best to fight life-threatening diseases such as cancer, diabetes, and heart ailments, through healthy choices and lifestyle changes. Everyone agreed that it was a great learning opportunity to see the human body as more than simple diagrams in text books.

During their visit the students also took part in a DNA workshop, where they got the chance to extract some of their own DNA and make it into a pendant, and to construct model genes for organisms as diverse as oranges and sharks. Students also got a chance to tour the other exhibits in the Centre for Life and add to their knowledge of Human Genetics and evolution. Finally, a hectic tour of the Rainforest in the interactive ride left everyone pretty wet and giddy, and we learned about the competition to send a remote-controlled vehicle to the Moon in the planetarium. The day was both fascinating and enjoyable and brought many aspects of the Biology A Level curriculum to life for the students.



Constructing genes in the DNA workshop



What an amazing individual achievement!



Congratulations to Sandra Sibby (Year 13) for being a successful applicant for the Nuffield Research Placement. Having made an online application (<http://www.nuffieldresearchplacements.org/>) during Year 12, Sandra received confirmation that she had been chosen during June 2014. Nuffield Research Placements (previously Nuffield Science Bursaries) provide over 1,000 students each year with the opportunity to work alongside professional scientists, technologists, engineers and mathematicians. Students in the first year of a post-16 Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) course are eligible to apply. Placements are available across the UK, in universities, commercial companies, voluntary organisations and research institutions.

Sandra was involved in a four-week project at Newcastle College during the whole of August. Some of the work was supported by her Project Provider, Mr Rhys Wilson, but a lot of the work was carried out independently by Sandra. The research project involved designing and making a portable, less expensive, gas chromatography machine to be used in schools.

The final stages of the project was to write a report of about four thousand words outlining what she had found out while completing the project, and to produce a poster summarising the whole project ready to be displayed on the evening of the ceremony. At the presentation ceremony Sandra was asked to present her findings to the audience. The project can be converted into a Gold CREST Award (<http://www.britishsienceassociation.org/crest-awards>) which is well recognised through UCAS applications.

If you would like to find out more about these projects please ask Sandra or visit the above website.

As Sandra said, "It is a great opportunity to enhance your unique summer holiday experience."

A* Grade Scientists

Huge congratulations to Hannah Murphy, Sophie Langdon and Anjana Varghese who achieved A* grades in their Biology A levels this year. Anjana also achieved the top A* grades in Chemistry and Physics to complete her Hat Trick!

Well done to all science students, and we wish you all the best in your future studies.



Hannah Murphy and Anjana Varghese



Science

Science Space Centre Visit

Return Mission Triumph!.....Star Date 16/07/2014 07.00Gmt

The Second Science Department Mission to explore the National Space Centre in Leicester blasted off on schedule in July with a crew of hundreds of excited Year 10 Antonauts and Year 12 Physicists.

Prior to launch, the Academy Catering Team had been hard at work, too. Trays of bacon baps for the Antonaut Crew (much better than actual Astronaut food) were ferried to the Launch Pad by the Ground Crew.

The Antonaut Space fleet set off for planet Leicester with a long 3.5 hour journey ahead. However, this is much shorter than the 3.5 days it took the Apollo Astronauts to get to the Moon.

At the Space Centre the fun began with so much to see and explore. The model of the Moon was impressive with a cutaway revealing samples of actual Moon Rock.

The Space Centre is full of original rockets and satellites, interactive displays, massive models of planets, life-size

Space Station modules, simulated Mars Surface, Shuttle Blast-off Area and many more Displays and Exhibitions.

The Planetarium show 'We Are Aliens' in 3D was fantastic, explaining the conditions needed for life. The Antonauts now know all about 'The Goldilocks Zone'

The 'Shuttle Launch' Simulator and 'Planet Crash Landing' Simulator were popular and the Antonauts emerged shaken and stirred!

Ambitious Weather Forecasts were broadcast on TV as Antonauts performed in front of blue screens much to their friend's amusement.

There were also many opportunities to learn about being an astronaut in a series of lectures.

A return Mission is scheduled for July 2015 for current Year 10 – so get in training for your Space Walk as the next set of Antonauts.



Manzini

Manzini Youth Care - Swaziland – July 2014

This year a group of teachers and Manzini Youth Care Trustees visited Swaziland. It was an amazing experience which gave us the opportunity to visit the many projects supported by Manzini Youth Care (MYC). We discussed plans for future visits and were able to establish how we can best support the excellent work done by this Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO). We continue to support MYC in so many ways especially by paying the teachers' salaries each month. We thank you for your continued support with the work we do and pass on to you from MYC, their grateful thanks for the support and friendship you give.

If you would like to donate to MYC please send money to O'Connell Office or cheques can be made payable to 'Swaziland St Anthony's School'. Thank you.

Here are a few of our memories:



Girls from St Anthony's, in their spare time, made dresses for the young girls in Ngwane Park Girls' Home. Mrs Sherriff with the support of Miss Hearn and Dr Emery organised this brilliant activity. The girls who made the dresses also attached letters for the Swazi girls, telling them a little about themselves. Excellent work girls, Ngwane Park young ladies loved your handiwork.

Last year the group who went to Manzini supported Lindiwe by clubbing together to buy her a tap. She now shares her water with local residents and sends her sincere thanks for the support given to herself and her family.



A delighted Lindiwe in her vegetable garden.

Having her own water supply enables Lindiwe to grow her own vegetables. This allows her to feed her children and grandchildren. Any surplus she is able to sell to her neighbours.

Donations of reading glasses by Marton Manor School in Middlesbrough were really appreciated. Staff from Enjambulweni Bridging School chose a

pair each and the rest went to St Joseph's Eye Clinic and into the local community.



The sun sets early in Manzini, so evenings are long. Mrs Miller taught Dr Emery to crochet and we spent many an evening crocheting squares.



This is our final piece, which we donated to the Children's Unit in Hope House.



And one for the Geographers – a passing Tornado as we were travelling home – Amazing!!!!



Many sick children spend time in Hope House and a high percentage are well enough to return home to their families. The names on the sunflowers are children who are now well and back at home. On the leaves of the flowers are the names of supporters of and donors to Hope House.



We spent a fruitful morning with the staff from Enjambulweni Bridging School. They asked us to help them create effective assessment criteria for their pupils. We shared lots of ideas and were able to put an assessment model for English into place which suits their needs.



Tony, an ex McCorkindale boy called in to say hello and introduced us to his beautiful partner Precious and their gorgeous son Abantu. Abantu means 'Man of the people'. Tony is at college studying, and in his spare time



Manzini

writes the most amazing poetry and autobiographical stories.



On our day excursion Sandile stopped at the roadside. This lady and her daughter are dyeing pine cones to sell on Manzini market for flower-arranging and Christmas decorations.



Sandile our driver took us to meet his family on their homestead where he lives with his brothers and their families.

Sadly his mother and one of his sisters-in-law died two weeks after our visit. Our love and prayers are with Sandile and his family.

Sadly his mother and one of his sisters-in-law died two weeks after our visit. Our love and prayers are with Sandile and his family.



World Cup fever – Swazi style!!!



Friendship shared.

Preparatory groundwork for the new playground area at Enjabulweni Bridging School. Donations from Marton Manor have supported this project.



Teachers and Trustees. Left to Right: Karen Tait - Sunderland University – Their students also support MYC.

Mrs M Miller - St. Anthony's teacher and MYC Trustee.

Christine O'Neill - MYC Trustee.

Dr Emery - St Anthony's teacher:

Teresa Whittaker – MYC Trustee

Mrs A Laydon - St. Anthony's teacher and MYC Trustee.



Helping out in the evening with homework at Enjabulweni Boys' Home.



Special times with the Founder of Manzini Youth Care (1978) Fr Larry McDonnell



Our farewell concert. We are always sad to leave Manzini, but Swazi song and dance never fails to lift our spirits!



It is always a great privilege to visit Sister Elsa and her staff at Hope House. It is very humbling to witness the great work they do for patients with HIV/AIDS. As always we left a donation from St. Anthony's to support their work.



Before leaving we were able to organise the installation of another tap with a donation from Sunderland University for this grandmother who has sole responsibility for her grandchildren. We are sure having a tap close to her home will greatly help ease the burden on wash day – See the pile of washing to the left of the picture!



One little girl admires her new dress.



The girls celebrate after doing a fantastic catwalk showing off their new dresses.



Learning a new skill in her new dress. We taught the girls to crochet.



Tony reciting his own poetry – What a performance. There wasn't a dry eye in the house!



Important Key Dates 2015

January	
5th January	Academy re-opens after Christmas Holidays
8th January	November GCSE Results Published
12th to 16th	Year 12 Mock examinations
13th January	Sixth Form Open Evening for Y11 Students (6-9pm)
February	
30th January	Year 9 Parents and Options Evening
13th February	Break up for Half-Term
23rd February	Academy re-opens after Half-Term
24th February	Y10 Parents Evening
March	
2nd March	Exam Functional skills English
3rd March	Exam Functional skills Maths
5th March	World Book Day
19th March	Spring Music Soiree
26th March	Antonian Awards evening
27th to 4th	Ski Trip Austria
April	
30th to 2nd	Music Examinations - GCSE and A Level recording
2nd April	Break up for Easter Holidays
17th April	Results of March Functional Skills Exams
21st April	Academy re-opens after Easter Holidays
29th & 30th	AS MFL Examinations
May and June	
1st May	Y11 & Y13 Leaver's Masses
8th May to 24th June	GCSE & A-Level Examinations
22nd May	Break up for Half-Term
1st June	Academy re-opens after Half-Term
23rd June	Y13 Leaver's Presentation Evening
24th June	Y11 Leaver's Presentation Evening

July	
1st July	Y12 Induction day
2nd July	Sports Day
6th to 8th	Y6 Induction Days
6th to 10th	Music Production and Y10 Work Experience
6th to 17th	Swaziland Visit
10th July	MFL Enterprise Day
13th to 17th	Paris Visit
14th July	Swimming Gala
15th July	Y10 National Space Centre Visit
16th July	Academy students break up for Summer
17th July	Staff Training Day
August	
13th August	A Level Results
20th August	GCSE Results and Sixth Form Enrolment Day
September	
2nd September	Academy reopens

St. Anthony's Girls' Catholic Academy

Thornhill Terrace, Sunderland SR2 7JN

Tel: 0191 553 7700 Fax: 0191 553 7699

Web: www.st-anthonys-academy.com

Email: enquiries@st-anthonys-academy.com

Twitter: [st_anthonys3](https://twitter.com/st_anthonys3)

