

NEWMAN NEWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CARDINAL NEWMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL



www.cardinalnewmanschool.net



Cardinal Newman Catholic School



@CNSLuton

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**Cardinal
Newman**
 CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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Headteacher's message

Welcome to the first edition of Newman News since I have been the Headteacher. It is incredible to think that I have only been at CNS for 3 months and already feel so much part of the furniture. As I sit here on a rather chilly December morning I remember the first time that I walked through the doors into reception at the beginning of April of this year and saw the 'Links in a chain' poem to my left and felt very at home. This has not changed. The staff, pupils and parents have made me feel very welcome and I am so excited about what the future will hold for this wonderful school.

The theme this year for the staff and the school is 'Good to Great'. The school is a really, really good school and the staff are working incredibly hard to ensure that it becomes the great school that we all know that it can be. In January, we start to celebrate achievements and rewards by using the quote that Pope Benedict XVI used by displaying our 'Made for Greatness' posters. Everyone is made in the image and likeness of Christ and therefore we are made for greatness, not only to be recognised through our achievements but by virtue of simply who we are.

This term has seen so much happen that it is hard to capture it all in this Newman News. One thing that I hope you can see and experience whilst reading this is how proud we are of all our pupils. Staff go above and beyond to ensure that all in the school community flourish and achieve their considerable potential and this newsletter gives you a small flavour of this. Please do make sure that you follow us on twitter @CNSLuton, Instagram @CNSLuton and Facebook as well. There are regular updates of what is going on at school and some wonderful images of how CNS pupils and staff are enjoying their time and journey to greatness!

As we turn our attention to Christmas, we should remember that for too many young people across Luton, the holidays are not a time of peace and rest. Please pray for these children and their families and, if possible, find a way to invite them to be part of your plans over the Christmas break.

Finally, I ask that you pray for our mission as we move into the new calendar year. Our mission is that we journey "Together towards Our Lord, through learning, love and faith." Please pray for us and please pray for our mission.

Wishing you all a peaceful and blessed Christmas.

Andrew Bull

Headteacher



Chaplaincy - Induction Mass for Mr Bull

On Tuesday 19th September, Mr Andrew Bull was formally inducted as Headteacher of Cardinal Newman Catholic School by Mgr Kevin McGinnell, on behalf of Bishop Peter. During the Mass, attended by staff, governors, directors, students and their families and Mr Bull's family and friends, he committed himself to strengthening the faith of young people and demonstrating the values of the Gospel. Prayers were offered by the whole community for his leadership. Thank you to everyone who came to show their support.

Miss Porter Chaplain



Chaplaincy - Year 7 Retreats



I learned that we are all different in our own way and we shouldn't try to be someone else, or compare ourselves to others.

I learned that God is always with us in everything we do and that he loves us, no matter what!

I enjoyed watching some of the film 'Wonder' and the prayer with postcards.

It helped me to make friends and think about God in a different way.

It helped me connect and make a friend.

I had fun on the retreat and am excited about the next 5 years!

I learned that everyone is made for a purpose.

Chaplaincy - Year 12 retreats



Chaplaincy - Year 7 Welcome Mass

Bishop Peter joined us on Thursday 3rd October to celebrate his 15th consecutive Year 7 Welcome Mass. We are very grateful that he supports our school every year by welcoming our new students in this way. We were delighted that Mgr Kevin and Fr Eustace were able to join us, as well as Deacon Jim Hannigan who coordinated our team of altar servers and Deacon Jim Grennell. Our focus was the upcoming canonisation of Blessed John Henry Newman, which would take place in Rome 10 days later. Bishop Peter wrote the following day to congratulate our students on their exemplary behaviour and the reverence with which they participated in Mass.

Miss Porter

Chaplain



Carol Service 2019

At the beginning of Advent, we began a new year in the Church. Throughout this year in the Catholic Church in England and Wales, we are marking a Year of Scripture, where we are focussing on celebrating, living and sharing God's Word. It is called 'The God Who Speaks', because God has not only spoken to us in the past, but continues to speak to us today.

This was our theme as we celebrated a wonderful evening of carols, readings and drama led by students and staff. Thank you to the Friends of Newman for their continuing support with refreshments.

We were pleased to raise £211.61 for CAFOD which will go to support numerous emergencies around the world: including 8 million people affected by the drought and food crisis in Zimbabwe and Zambia, 3 million people affected by the typhoon recently in the Philippines, refugees from Myanmar (the Rohingya people) and the displaced people of Syria and Lebanon

Miss Porter
Chaplain



Christmas Party for Children with Disabilities and Special Needs

We were delighted to welcome 37 children and their staff to our annual Christmas Party, hosted by the Year 11 Prefects.

Children came from The Chiltern School in Dunstable, The Lady Zia Wernher School, Woodlands and Richmond Hill.

Students from the Year 13 Health and Social Care group shopped for presents and prepared all the food, coordinated by Mrs Burns. Students from Year 9 Food Technology group made cupcakes under the guidance of Mrs Wint and the Prefects exhausted themselves for over 2 hours making sure our visitors had a magical time. Even Santa put in an appearance! Thank you to all those who participated in the Non-Uniform Day in November which enabled this to happen.

Miss Porter

Chaplain





RE Department

It has been a busy term in the RE department with lots going on in and outside the classroom! We started off as strong as ever, retaining the whole teaching staff. This stability can only be good for this subject which truly is the 'Heart of the school'. We pray that God may keep this team together for many years to come.

Advent Calendars

In Key Stage 3 we have had a very busy time. Year 7 have been producing some spectacular Advent Calendar's that contain a good deed for each day to help them to reflect on the coming of Christ. This year we shall be awarding the very best Advent calendars during the final assembly and they have done themselves really proud. We can't for the judges to reveal the winning calendar. This homework has linked very closely to the theme for prayer in the Chapel during RE lessons this term.

Each class, accompanied by their RE teacher and an Advent Wreath, have been led in prayerful reflection on the true meaning of the season.

L Makokha

Head of RE



Missio

In November we were blessed with a visit from Fr Wayne the Diocesan director of the Missio (the Pope's official charity for overseas mission). He spoke to five year 9 classes. Vincent Masterson a former student who's currently studying Politics and Economics visited all year 11 classes and spoke to them about his experiences of studying Ethics and Philosophy at Newman 6th form college. Outlining its usefulness in the dynamic world that we live in, Vincent encouraged them to take up the course as one of their A-level options.

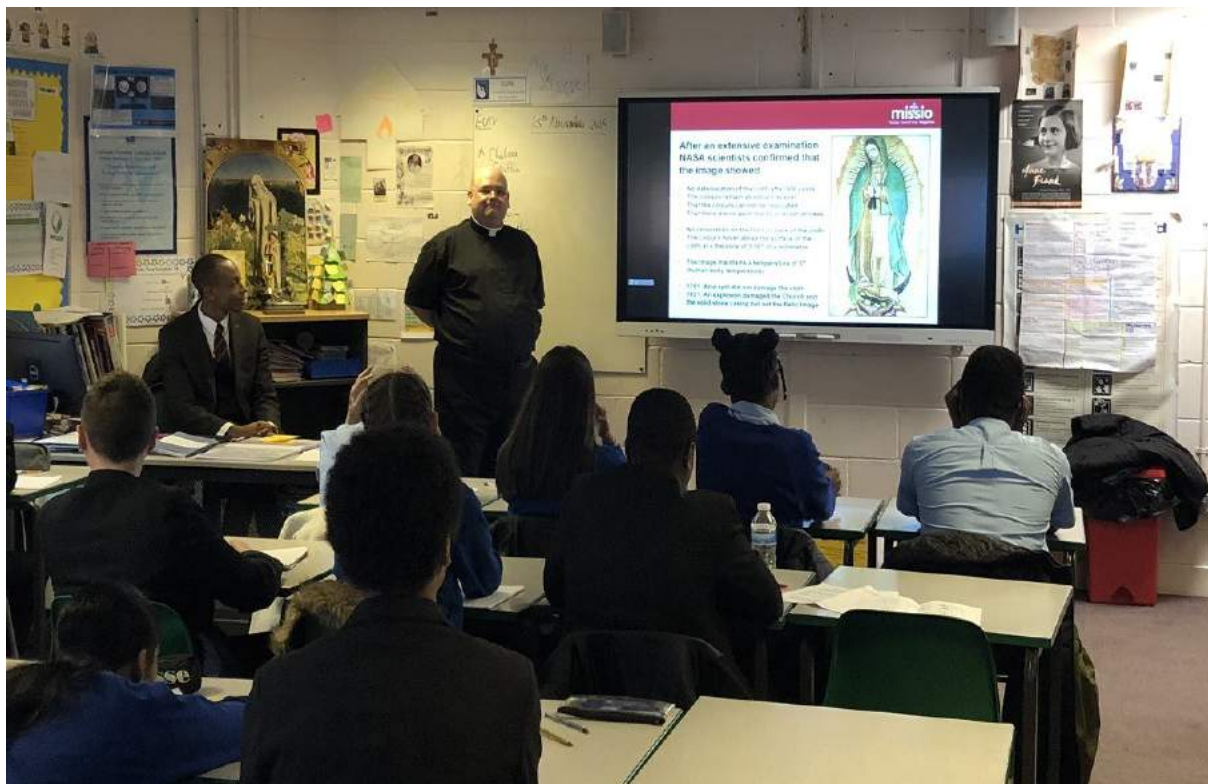
In the true spirit of Ecumenism and inter-faith dialogue, the year 12 Ethics class have been doing prayer reflections in different languages and/or different religious styles. We have been doing this in response to Pope Francis call for the same: "Interreligious dialogue cannot be limited merely to the few, to leaders of religious communities, but must also extend as far as possible to all believers, engaging the different sectors of civil society. Particular attention must be paid to young men and women who are called to build the future... It is always worth remembering, however, that for dialogue to be authentic and effective, it presupposes a solid identity: without an established identity, dialogue is of no use or even harmful. I say this with the young in mind, but it applies to everyone."

Finally, let's all take on the Church's challenge to listen to The God who speaks through scripture – it is the year of the Word.

From all in the RE Department we hope that you have a happy and holy Christmas season!

L Makokha

Head of RE



Sponsored Walk

All staff and students took part in the annual whole school sponsored walk on 18th October. It was a pleasant walk in our lovely local countryside and our prayers were answered as the rain stopped long enough for us all to enjoy rather than endure the walk. As we go to print, we are still collecting sponsor money via ParentMail. We have raised £7015.67 so far. Thank you to all members of our community far and wide who have given so generously.

As we are a Dementia Friend school, we will donate funds to help raise awareness of Dementia in our local community. We will also continue to support our links with schools/charities in Africa. Our fundraising will also be used to enhance the school reward system. Finally, our students' main charity choice for the year will be Keech Hospice Care in Luton.

A big thank you to all students, parents/carers and staff who have contributed either large or small. We really appreciate your donations and support.

Miss C Daly
Deputy Headteacher



Drama Department

Year 7 pantomime of 'Jack and the Beanstalk'!

On Thursday 5th December, the Year 7's were entertained by the fabulous 'Chaplin's Pantomime' theatre company who presented 'Jack and the Beanstalk' on the main stage in the school hall. The company was made up of five performers, (one of which was a past Newman student now working as a professional actress), each one playing a character from the famous fairy tale.

The Year 7's were a fantastic audience, really getting into the spirit of the genre, joining in with all the required responses, cheering and booing in equal measure! They all really enjoyed the live theatre experience, especially the, "He's behind you" sequence to 'The Lion Sleeps Tonight'!

The panto was both a great way of congratulating the year group on a successful first term here at Newman and kick starting the Christmas festivities!

Mrs McHugh

Drama Teacher



Drama Department

We have had a very busy Christmas Term in the Drama Department academically and with extra-curricular activities.

Curriculum:

Year 7:

Year 7 have settled into their fortnightly Drama lessons well and teachers are currently enjoying being entertained by the Pantomime performances the students have been working on at this festive time of year.

Year 8:

"Please sir, I want some more!" Year 8 are enjoying the increase of Drama on their timetable to once a week and have been enjoying the cross-curricular links with History and English that the current Oliver Twist Scheme of Learning has offered.

Year 9:

We have taken a new approach to Drama at year 9 this year by teaching one theory lesson per fortnight. This classroom lesson is to better prepare students for the theoretical demands of the GCSE course and students have been engaging well with the content. With Options just around the corner students will be given taster lessons of both GCSE Drama and VCERT Performance Skills. If students wish to continue their study of drama and performance they can select one of the courses as an option in Year 10.

Further information will be sent home to parents and carers in the future ahead of making the choices.

Year 13:

Year 13 will soon be commencing their scripted work which will involve a number of different plays and extracts to learn and perform with one part of the assessment being performed to a visiting examiner just before Easter. Year 13 will also increase their theory lessons to once a

Year 11:

Year 11 are soon going to commence work on Component 3, Texts in Practice. This scripted practical assessment will be performed to a visiting examiner just before Easter and will involve students working in pairs or groups to rehearse and perform two extracts from a play chosen for them by their teacher. Students will have a weekly practical lesson and there will once again be the expectation that students also rehearse outside of lesson to prepare for this assessment. Students will also have a weekly theory lesson to prepare for the Component 1 written exam they will sit in May. Revision guides are available to purchase on Parent Mail.

Year 10:

Year 10 have made a fantastic start to the GCSE and VCERT courses and we are excited to see the work they will produce in the future.

Drama Department

Exams

Both Year 11 and Year 13 have successfully performed their Component 2 exam pieces in November and are now busy working on the accompanying Devising Logs and Working Notebooks, make sure you meet the submission deadlines!

Workshops

As part of the preparations for their practical exams all of Year 13 and some Year 11 students participated in a number of practical performance workshops delivered by Paper Birds, Frantic Assembly and Tangled Feet. The knowledge and skills gained from these workshops was evident in the exam performances and the Drama Department would like to thank parents and carers for their ongoing support in running these workshops.

Trips

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe: Bridge Theatre, London 17th December 2019. This exciting trip was open to all our Drama Club members and we are excited to reward them for all their hard work this term. There will be a full review in the next issue of Newman News.

Touching the Void: Duke of York Theatre, London 5th February 2020. This trip was open to all Key Stag 4 and Key Stage 5 Drama students and we are looking forward to seeing this highly acclaimed production when it premieres in London. A full review to follow in the next Newman News.

Splendid Productions, Dr Faustus: January 15th 2020. We are delighted to host Splendid Productions as they perform their latest production of Dr Faustus to all Year 10, 11 and 13 Drama students as well as this forming part of the Year 9 Arts Award Live Performance requirement. There is a course requirement at GCSE and A-Level that all students should experience live theatre and as part of the exam write about something they have seen. By inviting Splendid Productions into school we are able to offer this experience at a hugely discounted rate for students and our long standing partnership with Splendid Productions gives the students lots of resources to help support their study of the performance including a copy of the play to watch a number of times to prepare for the end of course written exam.

Thank You

Thank to all parents and carers for all your support with student rehearsals and extra-curricular activities. We could not offer the opportunities we do to your children without your help.

Mrs Deveney & Mrs Wigley

Curriculum Leaders of Performing Arts

Drama Club

'How the grinch stole Christmas'

Drama club commenced for the start of the 2019/20 school year back in September. Students were already asking what the play was going to be for the Christmas production. I received many suggestions and then a student mentioned 'The Grinch'. I loved the idea!

We had the audition process and Emma McHugh and I both agreed instantly that the main role of the Grinch belonged to a brilliant and enthusiastic Year 7 student - Samuel Oware. He blew us away. From then on, Samuel and the rest of the cast worked their socks off putting the show together with only an hour a week of rehearsals.

The students should be so proud of themselves! With a cast of 85 very talented students, we have been able to put on a show that their friends and family were massively proud of.

The show went brilliantly and has received brilliant feedback. Special thanks to the Drama Department, Stan Carter, Paul Anderson, Finance Team, Year 13 students, Ruby Corrigan (Choreographer), Year 11 Students (Lighting and props), Jade McKinlay, Site Team and everyone else who supported the show.

Mr Mulholland

Drama Teacher



Drama Department

Year 6 Transition Workshop at St. Joseph's Primary School

As part of our ongoing transition programme, on Wednesday 6th November we shared a very special day of Drama Workshops with Year 6 students from St. Joseph's Primary School. Mrs McHugh, teacher of Drama and Assistant Head of Year 7 led the sessions supported by four current Newman students, who had all been students at St. Joseph's through their primary years.

"The day was fantastic, from the engagement of the pupils and them expressing their acting talents, to returning to my old Primary school as an Ambassador for Cardinal Newman and our great Sixth Form." - Joseph Yr 12

The focus of the workshop was, 'Together towards our Lord, through learning, love and faith' and how we approach our different journeys through life. The Year 6 students produced and performed some beautiful pieces, devised by themselves with the help of the Newman students.

The day was a resounding success, enjoyed by all involved and we are planning our next day of workshops at Sacred Heart Primary School in the new year.

Mrs McHugh

Drama Teacher



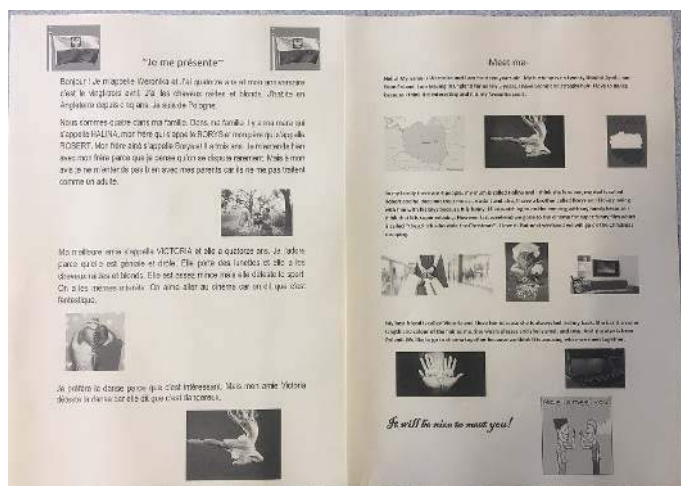
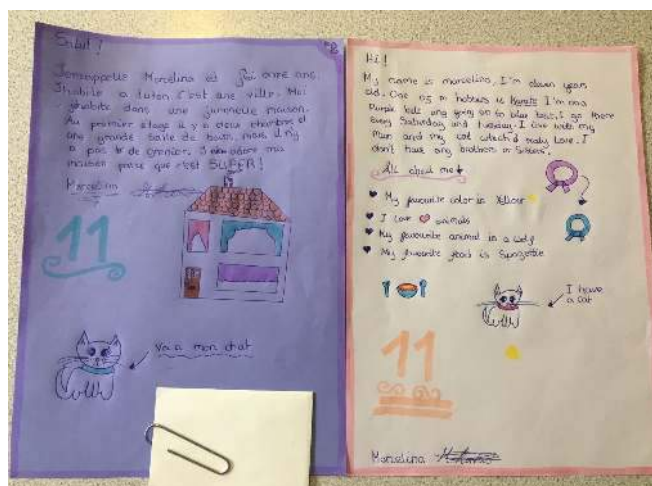
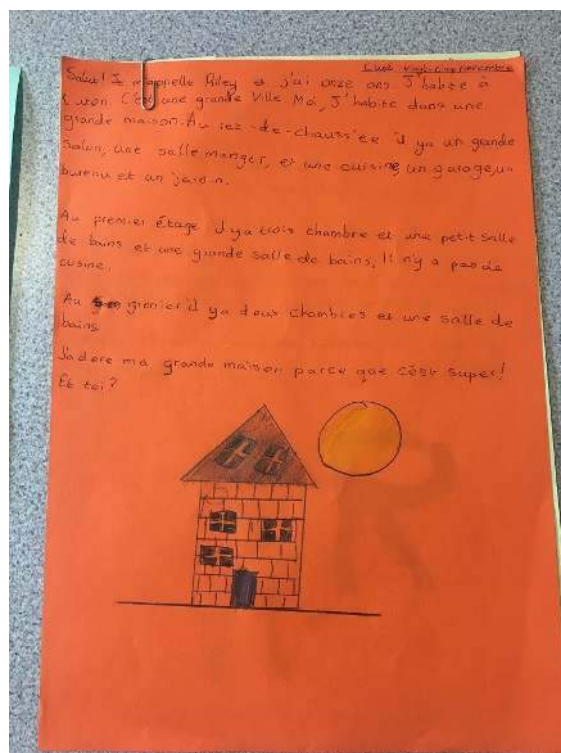
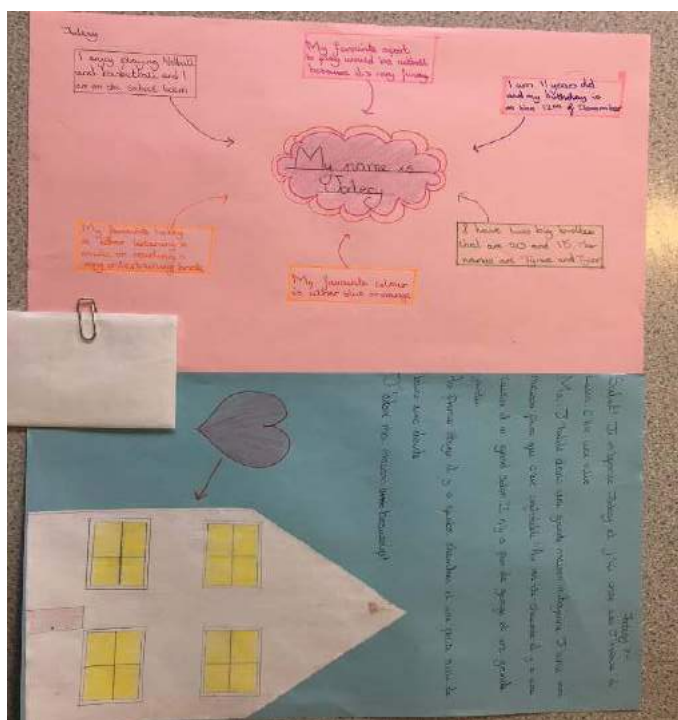
MFL

Year 7 letters to France

Some classes in Year 7 are sending letters to French students from Collège de Guinette in Etampes. Letters are written in French using what has been studied in class. Our students are introducing themselves but are also sending Christmas messages in English and further information about themselves. Please see below for examples of some of the letters we have sent. A response is expected to have reached us in the first couple of weeks in January.

Mr Y Le Coguic

Curriculum Leader for MFL



MFL

Erasmus - Year 11 trip to France

The year 11 French students spent 4 days in France as part of our Erasmus partnership with Collège de Guinette in Etampes. The partnership is funded by the British Council and the European Commission.

Day 1

We spent the whole day travelling all the way to Paris with a stop by the Eiffel Tower.

Day 2

Students spent the day at the French school where students took part in video workshops. They also spent time in class with their French hosts. Please click on the link to see what they got up to: https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=3xq-Ru_3E50

Day 3

We spent the day in Paris where students met again for a treasure hunt around Notre Dame Basilica. The activity planned for them in the morning unfortunately had to be cancelled due to heavy traffic. Students still had the chance to visit Les Tuileries Gardens, to enjoy the view from Les Galleries Lafayette and to see the Louvre Pyramid.

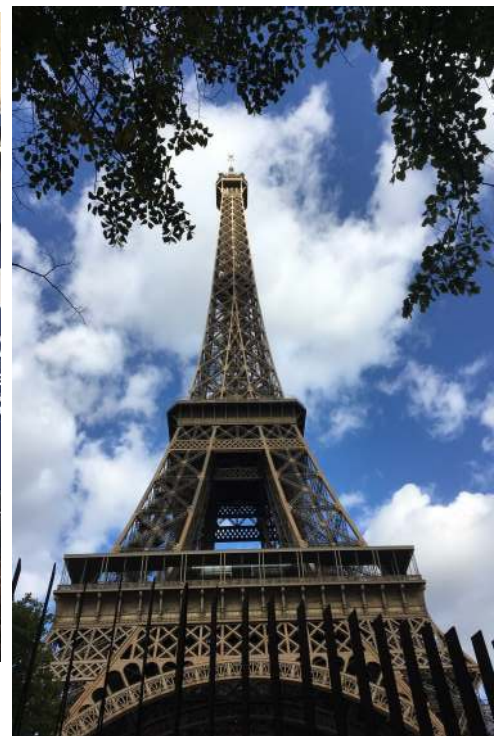
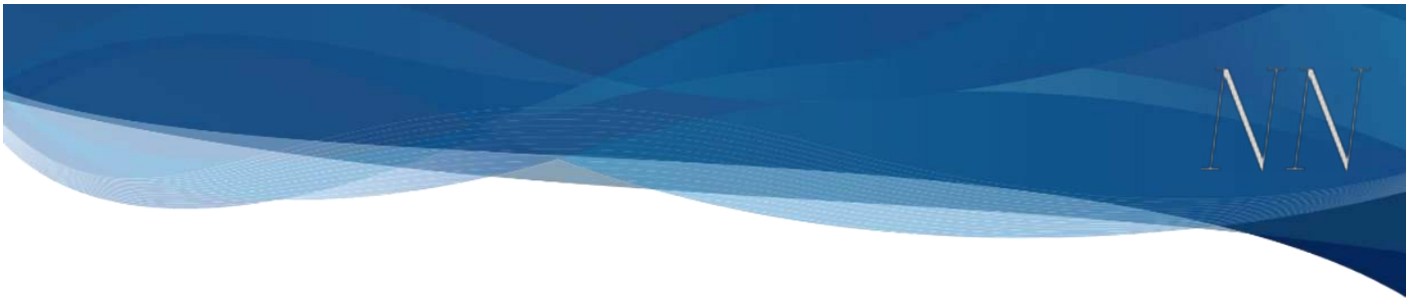
Day 4

The return journey allowed for a stop at City of Europe.

Mr Y Le Coguic

Curriculum Leader for MFL





What the students thought...

Dwayne:

I really enjoyed the taste of the French food, it was great trying something different and authentic. We also traversed a lot of Paris on foot (due to Mr Y's fast pace) but it was pretty enjoyable regardless

Orla:

I enjoyed trying my best to communicate with the other students and to experience what a day at school in France was like. It helped me develop my French.

Oliwia:

Je viens de rentrer de France avec un groupe de copains. J'ai pu pratiquer mon français, alors c'était utile. Malheureusement notre hotel était nul et les repas au restaurant n'étaient pas bons. J'adore la France parce que je pense que c'est joli.

Damilola:

I enjoyed playing basketball and talking with the French people. They were really nice and interesting.

Kiera

I loved the food and meeting friends and the map activity. I didn't like spending the WHOLE day at the school, it was a very long school day.

Annalisa:

I enjoyed going to the school as they had many fun activities set up for us and it was fun to experience some French lessons.

Mathusha:

Now that I have returned from the French trip, I have enjoyed seeing the French landmarks and experiencing the differences in the culture.

Catherine:

I enjoyed seeing French landmarks, like the Eiffel Tower. I also enjoyed learning about the French culture and spending time in a French school with students.

Ruby:

I have returned from my trip to France and it was great! On the Wednesday we went to the Eiffel tower and it was magnificent, However, the first hotel food was not very good. My favourite part of the trip was visiting Paris.

Emily:

On the Erasmus trip, I enjoyed communicating with the other children and developing my French. I would have liked to have more time to spend in their lessons.

Vanessa:

I enjoyed visiting the Eiffel Tower although I was slightly scared! It was breath-taking to go to the Sacre-Coeur. The part I didn't like was the hotel, but it was still comforting having my peers around me.

Music

Amelie Rocha 8GR undertook her ABRSM grade 4 in violin in the summer and obtained her first ever distinction with a fantastic mark of 131/140. In her previous beginner grades 1-3 she scored merits so to get a distinction in her first intermediate grade is an achievement she is very proud of.

Amelie also performed in the 'Bring it Back Children's Variety Show 2019' at the Grove Theatre in September as the only solo musician playing violin to Boyzone's 'No Matter What'.

She is an active member of our school orchestra and has now just been entered in the Bedfordshire Musical & Drama Festival next spring where she will be playing one of her grade 5 pieces with the hope of coming first place this year. Good Luck Amelie!



Mr S Carter
Head of Music



Eco Club

The geography department have set up a Year 7 Eco Club that we hope to extend to other years as ideas begin to take shape. Here is a word from the students involved:

"Hello, we are Eco Club! We are here to make cardinal Newman a more environmentally friendly place - but we can't do that on our own! We need your help. Make sure you always recycle, don't use single use plastics but most importantly, be an eco-friendly student of CNS!"

Mrs R McGuire

What are we doing?

- Asking teachers to cut down on their use of laminates.
- Undertaking an environmental review as a first step to hopefully becoming an eco-school.
- Asking the canteen to cut down on plastic spoons.
- Looking into planting more trees.
- Reducing litter.



The Art and Design Department

Year 10 kicked off their new coffee shop logo design project with Artist and illustrator Katie Allen.

Students create 'analogue typography' from tea and coffee related objects. After a short photography lesson, students photographed their work and then edited them in Photoshop using our new computer suit and digital editing packages. Students have created really high quality outcomes and developed their photography and digital editing skills. Well done year 10!

Miss Edwards



Icon painting Workshop

On Monday 4th November, we had a very special day in the Art & Design department. Our talented Year 8 students took part in an Art workshop, attempting an ancient discipline of icon painting.

Students were introduced to spiritual process of silent prayer, as they were seeking to portrait the image of Holy Mary.

It has been an amazing experience for all of us. The spirit of Holy Mary was with us throughout the day. Our Year 8 students have produced some outstanding icons which will be blessed at the end of the year during the mass.

The icon of Mary, the mother of God, painted by Sean Jose 8W, has been used for Cardinal Newman's official Christmas Card!

Mrs B Kravcova



Textiles

Thank you to the Textiles department for producing this beautiful dress for Open Evening in October. Our Year 6 visitors helped create individual poppies that were fitting onto the dress.

This took pride and place in the reception area in respect for the people who have fought for our country.

Mrs Bignall
Head of Art



The Art & Design Department

The Art and Design department welcomed an Architecture degree student, Helaena Blanch to share her experiences to our A Level Art class last month.

Helaena talked to our students about how to create a design portfolio, ready for University interviews, what a design course is like, tips about University life and shared her experiences of working in Architecture firms.

Our students found it helpful and inspiring.

Please follow us on social media!

Instagram @cnsartdesign

Twitter @cns_art_design

Mrs Bignall

Curriculum Leader for Art & Design



Masterpiece of the Month

Great Masterpiece of the Month for September/October from our talented Year 7 students. Such creativity and imagination!



English Department

It has been an exciting term in the English department as the students begin their foray into new works of literature and flex their writing skills. Our KS3 students started the year with Debate Weeks to challenge them to confidently and articulately defend their position on a variety of topics. This ranged from discussions on whether to include war poetry in our curriculum to whether Victor Frankenstein had the right to create life in his monster.

The students surprised us with their passion, rollicking rhetoric and of course well-formed arguments, well done to our KS3 students!

The standard of homework this term has been very impressive from the KS3 year groups with lots of tea-stained letters, detailed research posters and some fantastic creative writing projects. We have been utterly impressed with the time and effort students put into their independent study, all skills which will aid them in their future GCSE studies.

At KS4 our year 10s have been plunged into Victorian England to experience the mystery and horror of 'Jekyll and Hyde', just as scary as the transformation in the music video for Thriller which had a few students jumping out of their seats. A number of the year 11s have impressed the English team with their attendance at Monday after school revision sessions and with some of their excellent preparation for the mock exams. Mind-maps and flashcards have proved particularly popular for memorising quotations and the CGP revision guides in the library have sold out (they will be replenished for the new term).

The year 13s ventured into London for a scintillating conference on one of their A Level texts, Othello, which proved to be an informative day for all, from feminist interpretations to a practical break-down dealing with extracts in the exam. A joint theatre trip for both year 12 and 13 has also been planned to see The Taming of the Shrew in February and we look forward to that date in the diary.

The English department have been busy themselves with the arrival of twenty (!) new display boards which they have adorned with lots of beautiful student work. The winner was Mr Bingham who had collected lots of work pertaining to Gothic Fact and Fiction which included work from a range of year groups. However, it was Mrs Nicholl's Frankenstein board that impressed the Head of Art Mrs Bignall and featured on the CNS Art department's Instagram.

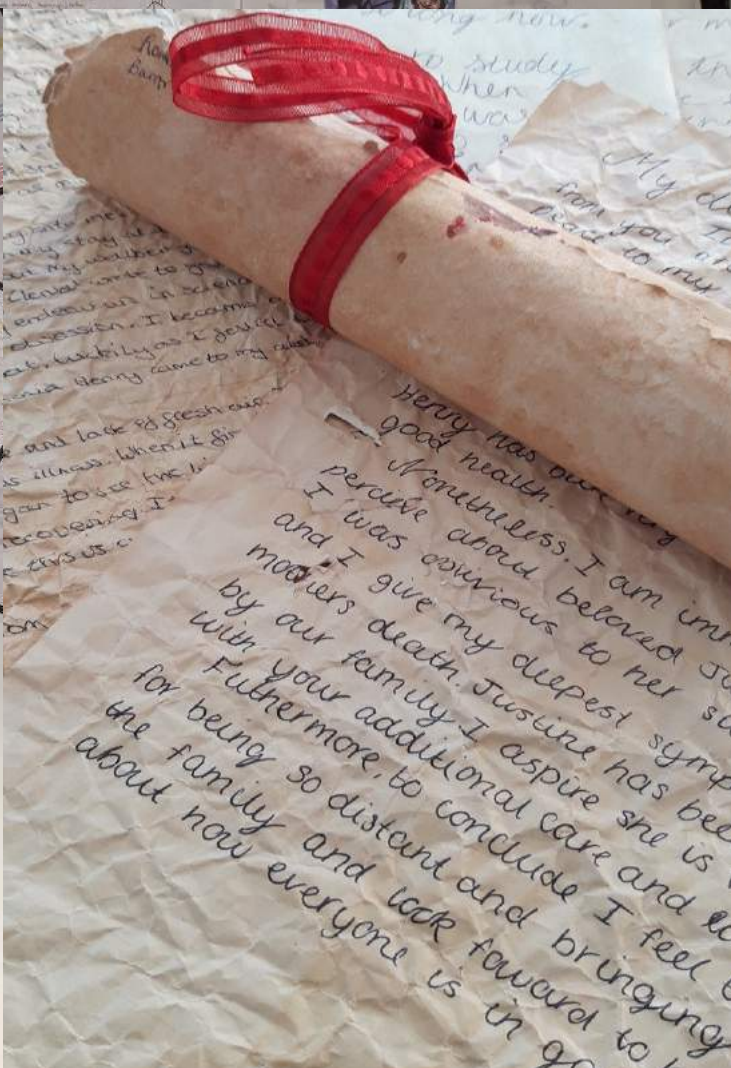
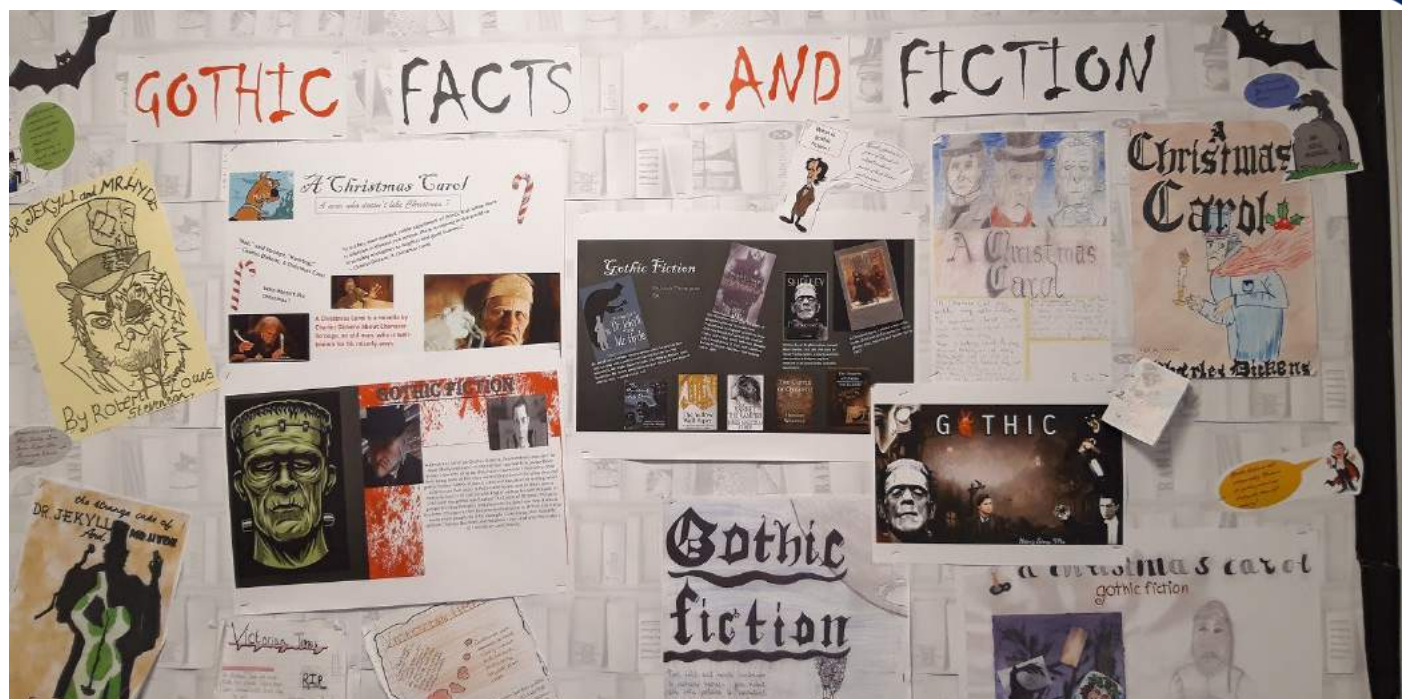
We have much to look forward to next term as the Poetry by Heart competition gains momentum as winners from each of the KS3 classes battle it out to compete regionally and then hopefully nationally. Mr Brown's creative writing club are looking to put together a portfolio of their creative work which we look forward to also. A coach load of the year 11s will be venturing to Cambridge for the Poetry Live conference, a chance to hear from the poets that they are studying in the Power and Conflict anthology (a surprise to many year 11s that, yes, some of the poets are indeed still alive). It is an exciting opportunity and will hopefully bolster their confidence for their Literature Paper 2 come the exams.

A reminder to parents that should your children need further support there are the online Knowledge Books on the Student area of the website which have extra material and support for each of the units they study in English.

The year 7 are soon to be concluding their study of Dickens' A Christmas Carol and so I will leave you with the words of Tiny Tim "A Merry Christmas to us all; God bless us, every one!".

Miss A. Dowdeswell

Curriculum Leader for English



Maths Department - Students of the Term

Motivation and success are what drive individuals in any profession. In the school setting, it is critically important that we celebrate and recognise the outstanding things that students accomplish, both inside and outside of the building. The recognition of students fosters strong relationships among students, families, departments and the community. This helps to create a positive school culture where students feel valued.

Mr J. Hussain

The following students were nominated by their class teacher for demonstrating outstanding progress in Mathematics. They were presented with a certificate and will have their name displayed in the Maths corridor for the rest of the term.

Congratulations to the following students!

Student Name	Tutor Group
Catherine Lempriere	7M
Peter Wabwire	7W
Sky Ihunga	7H
Abigail Ogunmefun	7A
Johan Jose	7H
Alicia Sotelo Sierra	7A
Jasmine Patrick	7HE
Ann-Elizabeth Ezeala	7G
Shannon Grant	7Gr
Ephraim Alengo	7G
Estera Nowakowska	7 Hu

Student Name	Tutor Group
Zara Fallon	9W
Karolina Riehs	9M
Kamil Wrucha	9W
Klaudia Kowalik	9W
Dominika Banaszak	9HU
Frazer Pereira	9w
Andrew Kazungu	9He
Izabela Zawislak	9G
Adam Upperton	9B
Jakub Skorzewski	9G
Chloe Mackenzie	9G
Tadian Tesha	9HU

Student Name	Tutor Group
Hope Georgia Campbell	8A
Joseph Boban	8M
Vaughan Connolly	8H
Shareen Lasam	8A
Wiktoria Suszynska	8H
Shayly Khemraz	8W
Caoimhe Murray	8G
Matthew Kamau	8Hu
Hillary Matiwa	8He
Freya Wallace	8G
Kacper Gadomski	8GR

Student Name	Tutor Group
Michael Sungu	10M
Samuel Franklin	10M
Maddison Gayner	10W
Kacey Wareham	10A
Conor Rankin	10H
Daniel Desir	10H
William Rand	10B
Daniel Ross	10B
Dominik Lecki	10HU
Mashroor Alam	10HU
Gabriel Michon	10HE
Daisy Ncube	10Hu

Student Name	Tutor Group
Kacper Mania	11W
Millie Davies	11M
Daisie Simmons	11W
Damien Johnson	11M
Freya Burke	11V
Afua Sarkodie	11A
Elliot Mullane	11GR
Emily Brown	11HE
Roisin Ely	11B
Sinead Bent	11B
Sebastian Litkowiec	11HU
Matteo Samaraweera	11HU

Hegarty Maths

Well done to the following top 5 users of Hegarty Maths! These students have done the most work on Hegarty Maths since the start of the year. They have not only put the work in during school hours but they have gone the extra mile. Never be 2² to work hard as it always pays off!

Year 7

Joshua Abissi 7G

Tex Glasgow-Ashton 7G

Shannon Tong 7HE

Patrick Hugo 7G

Johan Jose 7H

Year 8

Diya Penta Reddy 8GR

Lorcan Kelly 8A

Leo Clarke-Mondesir 8HU

Sean Jose 8W

Eleona Agyemang 8H

Year 9

Shaniely Edwards 9B

Takunda Tapfuma 9V

Matthew Kinyanjui 9M

Chloe Davis 9HE

J-Kwan Wilson 9V

Year 10

Ellie Court 10HU

Ibrahim Gbadebo 10H

Kristen Oboh 10G

Patrick Roots 10G

William Rand 10B

Year 11

Kayla Nepali 11A

Krzysztof Oskowiak 11B

Connor Anderson 11W

Karoline Tarnowska 11G

Emmanuel Effah 11M

Well done everyone!

Bletchley Park Trip

The Maths Department organised their first ever trip for most able students to Bletchley Park. The trip was open to the top two sets from Year 7, 8 and 9 and was sold out within one day. High demand meant high expectations and Bletchley Park delivered!

On Thursday 14th November, 40 bright students got ready to engage with British history and uncover the hidden world of maths. The staff at Bletchley Park were keen to show our students how maths was an integral part in helping to win the war. We were shown the grounds, the equipment, the room and the enigma machine. Our tour guide even showed us the spot where Sir Winston Churchill stood when he delivered his speech to the workers of Bletchley park.

Our lesson took us through the process of how to receive and decrypt messages sent during the war. Morse code is harder than you think! We were in awe of Bletchley Park and what it represented.

We hope to organise another trip in the future for those who missed out.

Mr J Miah

Most Able Co-ordinator



Mr Miah organised a trip for the most able students in year 7, 8 and 9 to show the importance of maths at Bletchley Park. Bletchley Park is known for its significance in the war, as it deciphered the codes given by the Nazi's in the Second World War. Throughout the trip we explored the park and manor. We were able to play with the enigma machine which costs £250,000! It was an eye-opening experience to see how people had to decode messages. We also tried to decode Morse Code, but it was too fast to understand! During the guided tour we had an engaging experience and learnt a lot about what it was like during this time period. The tour guides aunt worked at Bletchley Park as a translator for 7 different languages, so he was able to give a more personal experience. Our favourite part of the trip was the huts. It was very informative but also an interactive and fun way to learn. I would definitely recommend a trip to Bletchley Park to a everyone!

Hope Campbell and Veronika Popow 8A

Year 7 Weekend at Caythorpe

On Friday 11th October we were buzzing with excitement because we knew it was finally time to go to Caythorpe with our new friends. We were rushing to the coach with all our suitcases and sweets in our hands. When we finally got there, we knew our adventure was about to begin.

As it was raining we all ran to our rooms with our suitcases and put all of our sweets into our drawer (there was quite a lot and everyone kept coming into our room to take them.) We got our rooms ready and luckily, we were with our friends.

We went to dinner and then participated in an evening activity where we had to go around the site and look for a map of a country and answer 3 questions about it. Caythorpe was dark and we needed head torches to see the flags. It was very hard and we couldn't find the Africa flag so we got Mr Forni and Miss Streater to help us. The evening activity soon ended so we went to our rooms to get ready for bed, excited for the next day. The next day was a full day of activities, the first one being abseiling. Most of us had never done abseiling before so it was a great experience for us. It was really high and we had to climb up this spiral staircase to get to the top. It may have been high but afterwards we could all agree on how fun it was.



The next thing that we did was an activity called tunnel trailing, where we had to go into a massive hill with tunnels inside it. There were two types of tunnels, the black ones were big so it was easier to get through. The green ones were extremely small so you had to crawl like a snake to get through them.

Straight after that, we moved onto another activity. We couldn't wait as we were really looking forward to raft building! We had to work together as a group to work out how to make our raft so that it wouldn't sink. Thankfully ours didn't sink but afterwards we were all allowed to jump in. We could fall backwards into the freezing cold water. None of the boys did it. However, all of the girls did- we were proud of ourselves for being so brave! We even did it again!

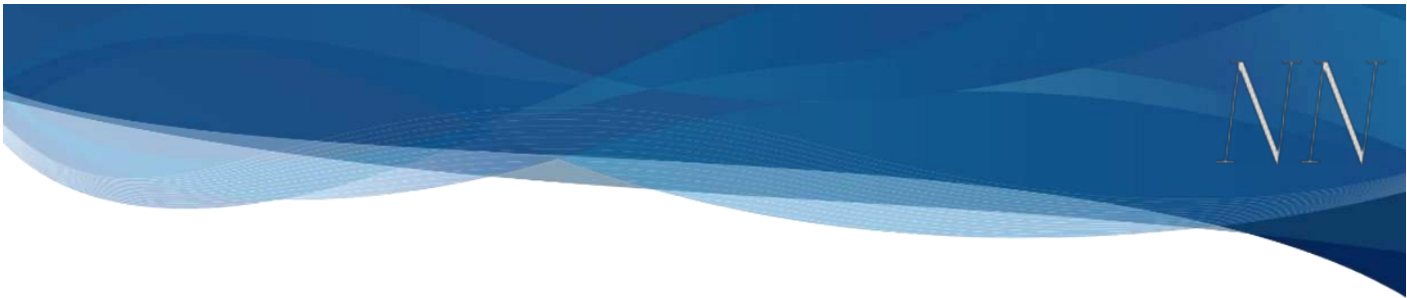
The evening activity was really fun as we had to find people dressed as characters to give us clues about who kidnapped one of the staff members. In the end we used our logic managed to get it right!

On Sunday (which was unfortunately the last day at PGL) we woke up early and got our bags ready. Then we had breakfast and continued to the first activity of the day which was a giant swing. It is a huge swing that you were attached to by a harness, your friends had to pull a rope to get you really high. When you thought you were high enough you had to pull a rope and you would drop and be left swinging. After that we went to the next activity which was a challenge course. It was a massive obstacle course that we had to help each other get across, it was a great team building activity.

After lunch, we had Aero Ball which was a fun trampoline basketball game. It was really fun though our socks got soaked because it had rained the day before. The last activity was archery and we played lots of different games in it. We used real arrows and it was really cool.

We really enjoyed our time at PGL, it was a great experience and it was good for making friends.

By Niamh and Catherine



History Department

Trip to the Imperial War Museum, London

On Monday 9th December, students in year 9 went to the Imperial War Museum in London. First, we visited the World War One trench exhibition and we were given the opportunity to explore and look at the artefacts. There were tanks and planes alongside a display of soldiers' uniforms and weaponry that would have been used at the time. There were interactive activities such as touchscreens and videos to watch. We even got a chance to try on a soldier's uniform and felt how their heads would be protected with heavy helmets.

After lunch, we had an introduction to the Holocaust, which killed 6 million Jewish people in the Second World War. We visited the exhibition on the Holocaust where we were given audio guides which gave us an immersive experience. We even heard real life accounts and stories from people who survived the Holocaust and saw artefacts and pictures from concentration camps. At one part of the exhibition there was a model of Auschwitz which offered a visual representation of the camp.

After the tour we stayed in the museum after finding out our coach had broken down! We were even given crisps, biscuits and pizza while waiting for a replacement bus. A few hours later than scheduled we arrived back at school. Despite this, we still enjoyed our experience to deepen our knowledge of WWI and WW2 and even when the coach was broken down it was still fun and memorable. We really enjoyed going to the Imperial War Museum.

Shanah Lasam and Kaitlyn Butterly 9Gr



WWI Battlefields Trip

I can truly say that the trip was an amazing experience. We saw so many historical landmarks. From battlefields to German graves it was all truly moving. On the first day we saw German trenches, restored a few years ago. This helped us to empathise with the soldiers and the conditions they faced living in the trenches for so many years. We also visited Menin Gate in Ypres. This remarkable structure commemorates missing soldiers of WWI, those whose bodies were never recovered. We had an opportunity to see the names of some famous war hero's and pay our respects to those ordinary boys and men who sacrificed their lives on the battlefields.

I also took a walk down to St Martin's Cathedral, this medieval cathedral was decimated during WWI, but later rebuilt in the 1920s using its original plans. Belgium is also famous for its delicious chocolate, whilst in Ypres we got to visit some of these chocolate shops and walk around the restored town.



One the second day we went to the Somme battlefield to grasp the layout of the Ypres salient. We then walked the same route soldiers wounded soldiers would have walked to get treatment. We put ourselves into their shoes by trying to carry other people to what would have been a Dressing Station. After that we went to a graveyard where I found a catholic boy who was in the Irish regiment. We went to the Thiepval memorial with the names of over 65,000 names of lost soldiers with 300 graves behind it, may people were looking up their names in the catalogues to see if they could find a soldier with their surname. We then ate dinner at a nice restaurant that used to be a dressing station for allied soldiers.

On the last day we visited a German graveyard where he layout was very different to other graves, there were multiple bodies in one grave marked by black crosses. Despite being the enemy at this time, their soldiers were still buried and the graveyards are still looked after. We also went to mines underneath the town of Arras, in France. These were used during both World War I and II. Soldiers would use these to retreat to, with miles of tunnels and lots of carvings in the wall. At the end of the day we went to a humungous graveyard where we placed a wreath on a grave of a boy from Luton, and we each placed crosses on a grave of our choice in our groups.

From both an historic point of view and a religious point of view, it was truly moving to see how many soldiers tragically lost their lives. But still we remember, Lest We Forget.

By Patrick Harkin 9M



Black History Month Competition

The History Department would like to congratulate Year 8 on their work for the Black History Month Competition in October. We were very impressed by the excellent research and creativity demonstrated by our historians. Work included books, posters, models, artwork and even a 'television' and puppet!

Our overall winner was Harri Barlow Smith.

Students whose work was highly commended include Jack Kelly-Baron, Jude Barry, Freya O'Donoghue, Vanessa Zoltak, Leilani Kyei-Adebyi, Tharuk Geeganage, Joseph Boban, Kayleigh Moran, Hope Campbell Smith, Sandra Dzidzic and Oliwia Grodecka.

Very well-done Year 8!

The History Department



Media Studies - Visit to Sky

On 10th December, we took 32 Year 11 students to the Sky Studios in London. They got to see where Sky news and Sky Sports News is recorded and then got to work themselves. Each group had their own studio to work in and created a news report on the growing influence of celebrities in society.

Mrs Roberts

Curriculum Leader for Media Studies



The PE Department - Year 7 and 8 Girls Basketball

We have had a fantastic season of basketball this year. This is attributed to the time and commitment that the girls have put into training on Monday evenings after school. We have had players regularly attending training developing their fitness, skills and team tactics. Even those who have not been selected for the school teams have continued to train with high levels of motivation and determination well done.

We have played and won all except one fixture so far showing strength in both teams. Well done to all players.

Miss Gazeley

PE Teacher

Result Year 7 A Team: Ifunanaya, Zafeera, Ann-Elizabeth, Jodecy, Soraia, Gabby, Phoebe. B Team: Charlotte, Jessica, Sky, Shardae, Judy

Fixture

Won CNS 10 V Chalk Hills 6

Lost CNS 8 V Denbigh 16

Won CNS 12 V Stopsley 3

Won CNS 10 V Chiltern Academy 8

Won CNS 28 v Icknield 4

Year 8 Marie, Pricilla, Leilani, Courtney, Sorom, Hope Karolina

Fixture

Won CNS 16 V Chalk Hills 8

Won CNS 20 V Stopsley 6

Won CNS 18 V Chiltern Academy 13

Won CNS 24 v Icknield 20



Five of us take the court with a bouncing ball
We dribble, pass and shoot in a hoop that is tall
We block shots and pick a player or two
We switch from defence to attack right in front of you
It's not just a game, it's much more
Steal, pass, dribble, shoot and score
Five of us working as one to beat the other team
No better feeling I could dream
Up and down the courts
Wearing our PE t-shirt and shorts
Prepared to win every time
Closer to county we climb

We're the queens of the courts...
think you're better than us?
that's cute.
If you don't succeed
it's because of us.
We're the team that your coach
warned you about.
Cardinal Newman
Name in lights
When you play us you sure will get a fright

By Marie Ngonga

Under 16 Girls Basketball

'The best teams have chemistry. They communicate with each other and they sacrifice personal glory for the common goal.'

A huge congratulations to the under 16 team who are entering the Luton Town finals. They have shown excellent strength and accuracy in their shooting. A special mention to Marjorie Asamoah and Cartier Downer as most improved players overall.

Under 16 Girls Basketball Team

Kristen Obah 10G

Ebony Williams 10Gr

Kelly Emenogu 10M

Sophie Edbaran 10B

Marjorie Asamoah 10A

Davina Agyemony 10A

Christine Njoku 10He

Antonella Obasuji 10A

Cartier Downer 10A

Kadesha Chokelal-Henry 10A

Miss Drewery

PE Teacher



Year 7 Netball

The Year 7 netball squad have been enthusiastic and have attended practices from the start of September.

Each athlete has made good progress with their basic skills and they are developing their understanding of simple tactical court craft and improving their decision making under pressure.

The School has been playing competitive matches as part of the local school's league. They won all their games and took take part in the Luton Schools final afternoon.

Results

v Icknield - won 11-1
v Chalk Hills – won 17 -1
v Lealands – won 11 – 1
v Denbigh – won – 17 – 0
v Challney – won 19 - 0

The Year 7 Netball Squad:

Ifunanya Umeano
Shaniah Maclean
Keviana Stephenson
Ellie Mooney
Eve Okamba
Keeley O'Regan
Neave Burke
Ann-Elizabeth Ezeala
Kacie Thomas
Niamh Forni
Charlotte Allgrove
Jodecy Zungurza
Zafeera Ighomrove
Kayla Obuh
Tegan Markey
Jessica Lutkiewicz
Chloe Cormack
Julia Paciorek

The team that contributed to winning their first Luton Schools title was:

Zafeera Ighomrove	A
Kayla Obuh	A
Jodecy Zungurza	H
Kacie Thomas	Gr
Ann-Elizabeth Ezeala	Gr
Ifunanya Umeano	W
Shaniah Maclean	W
Gabby Aletor	Hu
Neave Burke	G

Congratulations to them all. They are a delight to coach and so talented!

Mrs K Slawinski OBE

In the semi finals the team beat Putteridge 13-0 and went onto to win the final 7-3 against a competitive Lealands team.

U16 Netball

The U16 squad had the challenge of gelling together as year 10 & 11 players were joined together. They adapted well into their new roles and have been extremely successful. They are undefeated in the Luton Schools League despite a very physical game against Lealands. The results are:

CNS v Lealnds 19-9 (w)

CNS v Chalk Hills Academy 20-0 (w)

CNS v Icknield 14-0 (w)

In the Luton Schools finals, the girls faced an excellent Putteridge team, who kept to a 2-2 draw after the first quarter. After re-evaluating their performance, they went onto win by 8 goals. They then faced Lealands in the final. Again, they were a strong team, but Newman ran away winning by a huge margin (14 goals!)

The U16 squad - Milan Wacey-Stapleton, Sophie Egbaran, Niamh Flaherty, Shania Brown, Cheyenne Downer, Maddie Mitchell, Octavia Downer, Kelly Emenogu, Kristen Oboh & Teyhza Lucien.

Well done on a super season!

Mrs D Large

Head of PE



U16 Team

Year 8 and 9 Netball

The netball teams have experienced great success over the 2019 season. The players have trained hard and have all progressed with match play.

Year 8

The commitment from the Year 8's has been excellent. They won all of their games, but unfortunately lost to a good Lealands team in the league. The results of all the games were:

CNS v Icknield 7-1 (w)

CNS v Lealands 9-14 (L)

CNS v Chalk Hills Academy 11-2 (w)

CNS v Challney Girls 9-2 (w)

CNS v Denbigh 7-1 (w)

The team made it through to the finals and played Stopsley in the semi-final. It was a very close, physical game, but we were triumphant with a 4-1 win. They then faced Lealands (again) in the final. After a close first quarter, Lealands pulled away with the win. The girls should be very proud of the improvements they have made and we look forward to the county tournament in March.

The Year 8 squad - Nina Mellars, Abigail Osei, Courtney Kibe, Maisie McDonagh, Maddison Fontenelle, Scarlett O'Shea, Hope Campbell, Marie Ngonga, Hannah Marks, Casey Fontenelle, Eleona Aygemang & Ketsia Massasa.

Year 9

The team are a close-knit group of players who are adaptable and always willing to listen. In the Luton Schools final they played Putteridge, who they beat convincingly to be crowned Luton Schools Champions! Well done on a successful season! The year 9 team have been undefeated this season in the Luton Schools League. The results are below:

CNS v Lealands 17-8 (w)

CNS v Chalk Hills 25-1 (w)

CNS v Icknield 30 – 1 (w)

CNS v Challney Girls 26-1 (w)

The Year 9 squad - Temi Adeyemi, Alison Cawley, Wiktoria Hadam, Molly Maguire, Makhaela Karanja, Ella Vizard, Megan Earnshaw, Ellisia Mason & Rowena Barron.

Mrs D Large

Curriculum Leader for PE



Year 9 Team

Boys PE

Year 7 5-Aside Football

The Year 7s attended the Luton Schools Football association's 5-Aside football tournament last month and after being unbeaten, have the opportunity to represent Bedfordshire at the English Schools Football associations regional tournament. The boys played some fantastic football against some very talented schools in Bedfordshire. A fantastic experience so early on in their school career and a super effort from every player involved. Fingers crossed we can find the same success in the regional tournament.

Players:

Freddie Findlay
Kyan Okoli
Adam Hogman
George Wilde
Kyron Roberts-Edema
Dillon Conway
Finley McManus
Benedict Benagr
Ayokunle Ojo
Daniele Placi

Year 7 & 8 Futsal

Our Year 7 & 8 boys attended the Bedfordshire Futsal tournament hoping to repeat the success they found in the 5-Aside tournament. In a very competitive Southern Area finals consisting of 8 teams, both Cardinal Newman sides found themselves being challenged and tested. Eventually our Year 7 team finished second in the overall standings only to our Year 8 team. All students played fantastic and the school is extremely proud entering two teams finishing 1st and 2nd respectively.

Year 7 Team:

Kyan Okoli
Adam Hogman
George Wilde
Kyron Roberts-Edema
Finley McManus
Benedict Benagr
Ayokunle Ojo
Daniele Placi

Year 8 Team:

Freddie Findlay
Dillon Conway
Jakub Liszewski
Zach Howell
Nick Mahoney
Larry Tindi-Kagwa

Year 9 Rugby

Another successful season for our Year 9 rugby team who remain unbeaten in all Luton Schools rugby games for the second year running now. They will now be representing Cardinal Newman in the Luton Schools Rugby finals in January, hoping to win it for the second year running. The success of the Rugby team has grown the interest throughout the year group and has contributed to the wider school's success in getting more students into Rugby clubs. The credit of this can only go to the Year 9 Rugby team who are promoting such a positive activity to their peers.

Mr Emmett
PE Teacher

Newman Sixth Form Open Evening 2019

Over 250 potential students came to our college for our open evening on 14th November and were given insightful talks and tours to show how fantastic our college is.

Talks were given by Mr Bull, the headteacher of Cardinal Newman high school, Ms Blackbird, Head of Newman Sixth and a handful of students from Year 13 who are part of the exec committee.

These students shared their very unique experiences with the parents and students. The external student representatives were able to reassure students who didn't attend Cardinal Newman high school about how accepting our college is and how well they would fit in should they chose to join us.

Overall, the night was a real success and many parents and students were amazed at the variety of courses and teacher support that we have to offer.

Shannon Nuttall



Bar Mock Trial - Cambridge Heat

Saturday 18th November 2019

The Bar Mock Trial competition is a unique opportunity for students aged 15-18 from all over the UK to gain unparalleled insight into the justice system. The competition immerses students in all aspects of a criminal trial, as they take on the roles of barristers, witnesses, clerks, ushers and jury members. Students appear in real crown courts in front of real judges.

Our team of students were drawn in the Cambridge heat and travelled to the Cambridge Crown Court on 18th November to compete against schools from across the region. One trial involved a drug possession, with potential intent to supply, whilst the other involved a drunken assault occasioning actual bodily harm in a nightclub.

Students fought fiercely to either prosecute or defend each case and had varying success on the day. The jury returned a not guilty plea in our first case (Barristers – Annalise Ryan and Crystal Lai), resulting in our defendant (Caleb Gearty) receiving a conditional discharge.

Notably, Barrister Alfie Colman and witness Sammah Syed receive judicial acclaim, with Alfie's tactics being compared to those of a Junior Barrister and Sammah providing not one but two convincing witness accounts for two separate trials! Barrister Shannon also deserves a mention for getting an accidental confession from the defendant in her trial; quite the feat from the giggly, nervous and perhaps underprepared witness in front of her!

Miss R McClean



"My experience was very eye opening into the world of law. As someone that doesn't take law it was fascinating to see first-hand, not just from programmes on Netflix! Getting a first-hand experience is undefeated in comparison to being in the classroom. It brings all the law together and develops your understanding much more".

Sammah Syed (Year 13 – witness)

"I had a really good experience of the Bar Mock Trial! Although we didn't get through to the next round, I learnt a lot about how the English court worked and I have a better understanding of the English Legal System. I also have a better understanding of the role of the jury and the barristers from the defence and prosecution team. The role of the judge is clearer to me! I really enjoyed the Bar Mock Trial overall".

Erin McCann (Year 12 - witness)

Safe Drive Stay Alive Conference

15th November 2019

As part of the Year 12 PSHE programme, students attended the SDSA Conference in Milton Keynes. In its 14th year, it was as effective as ever in sending the clear message to young new drivers, and prospective drivers that if they drive safe, they stay alive!

It is more than evident that the experience was one that was charged, emotionally challenging and educational. We will be keen to take students every year and hope that it makes each and every one of them think twice about their behaviour as a passenger in a car or behind the wheel.

#SDSA2019

Miss R McClean

"I was most impacted by the personal account of the mum. When she asked us to imagine someone close to us...I don't want to think about losing them".

Maisie Street

"Not what I expected"

Alanna Devlin

"It was hard hitting, but good".

Rebecca Richings

"It put me off driving as an accident can happen so instantly!"

Oliver Simpson



"I think the SDSA Conference was quite a morbidly jolly experience. Morbid in the fact that so much of human potential, potential futures and potential families were ruined by recklessness, selfishness and simple stupidity; the experience was jolly in the sense that any knowledge gained is quintessentially jolly as it allows all of us to move together towards a brighter future."

Adrian Kochan



"The experience was amazing, life changing and very inspirational!"

Ieuan Hutto

"The conference was needed".

Stephanie Chafer

"They try to scare you rather than teach you, but it was a reality check"

Ken Dogan



Career Inspiration Day at TUI Headquarters

Students from N6 were invited to attend a career inspiration day at TUI headquarters on Friday 18th October to learn about the company and the different apprenticeships it offers. Students enjoyed a day full of activities and were truly inspired by the wealth of different career opportunities they have on offer.

Pilot Careers Live Event

On Friday 1st November, two students from Year 13 attended the Pilot Careers Live event at Heathrow Airport, aimed at students who are wishing to become pilots.

There was an array of training companies such as L3, Airways Aviation, RAF and BA to name a few. Furthermore, Universities such as West London and Middlesex were also representing themselves as they are able to offer Pilot degree training schemes.

The students were given insightful advice on how to go about gaining training contracts.

Shannon NUTTALL - 13STLO



UKMT Maths Challenge - Senior Mathematical Challenge

The UK Mathematics Trust (UKMT) organises the UK's biggest national Mathematics competition. It is a fantastic opportunity for More Able mathematicians from schools across the UK to test their ability with their peers nationally. The UKMT is generally focused on testing pupils' core ability to identify patterns and use logic and as such does not require much prior knowledge. The challenge involves answering 25 multiple choice questions in one hour and is sat in school under normal exam conditions. Truly gifted individuals are then invited for further Olympiads.

The Senior UKMT Challenge took place on Thursday 7th November and the results are in! We achieved more certificates than last year which is absolutely fantastic!

We have **Anthony Moran** who will now progress to the Senior Kangaroo which is a follow-on round to the Senior Mathematical Challenge. It is a 60-minute competition consisting of 20 problems. Entry to the competition is by invitation only so congratulations to Anthony!

We have **Piotr Bacik** who will progress to the British Mathematical Olympiad Round which is a follow-on round to the Senior Mathematical Challenge. This is a great achievement so congratulations to Piotr!

The following students will be presented with a certificate. Well done to all!

Year 12

Best in Year Certificate

Javin Ramkissoon

Silver Certificate

Javin Ramkissoon

Bronze Certificate

Michael Oseigeorge

Ruwayfa Ahmed

Year 13

Best in Year Certificate

Piotr Bacik

Gold Certificate

Piotr Bacik

Anthony Moran

Silver Certificate

Sana Ali

Mr J. Miah who is responsible for organising the UKMT Maths Challenges says "The Maths Challenges are designed to challenge the top end students, to make them think while testing their problem-solving skills and also stimulating their interest in Mathematics. This is a fantastic opportunity for students to feel challenged in a competition that is held nationally every year. Well done to those students who took part!"

Lesson from Auschwitz Project

Earlier this year, Erin and Megan (year 13) went to Auschwitz, Poland. Each year, two History students from sixth form are invited to apply and join many sixth form students across the East Anglia region in the 'Lessons from Auschwitz' project. This year the programme also provided the opportunity for Megan to use this experience as the basis for her EPQ on the topic of 'To what extent is Holocaust literature a true reflection of the events that occurred'.

Ms Thoullass

"I first learnt about the trip when Ms Thoullass mentioned it could be of use in my EPQ. It is run by the Holocaust Education Trust and funded by the Department for Education. Before the trip to Auschwitz, we attended a seminar in London to prepare us. Here we listened to a testimony from Holocaust Survivor Susan Pollack, which was very moving and reminded us the importance of undertaking a trip like this.



A few days later, we got up early to arrive at Stansted for a 6am flight. It was only a day trip but we managed to fit a lot in. Once we arrived at Krakow airport, we travelled to the town of Oswiecim where we learnt about how the largely Jewish population rapidly declined with the onset of WWII. We then went to the Auschwitz Memorial and Museum where we went on a guided tour around the replica gas chambers and discovered more about the lives of inmates. It was really moving seeing the images familiar from textbooks actually in front of us. We ended the day by visiting the nearby Birkenau camp, which was the largest camp where over a million victims perished. The atmosphere was sombre. A memorial service at the end, delivered by a Jewish rabbi, was a poignant way to commemorate those who died and provided an important opportunity for reflection. We returned to Luton in the early hours the following morning.

A few days later, we returned to London for a conference with the other students who went on the trip to discuss our experience and how we can deliver the lessons that we learnt to our local community. For us we felt that our main lesson was an acute understanding of the harm that ignorance, prejudice, racism and discrimination can do. It is often said that we should learn History to avoid repeating the mistakes of the past, and whilst this unfortunately does not always happen the example of the lessons learnt from the holocaust should surely be shared to try and prevent such atrocities happening in the future. As such we are preparing to work with students from Key Stage 3 in January on an interesting, creative project in preparation for Holocaust Memorial Day.

Overall, Auschwitz is not a place I would wish to visit again due to how haunting the camps are, but it educated us in so many ways about the Holocaust. It was an incredibly moving and valuable experience that we will never forget".

Megan Mahoney

Criminology Conference 2019

On Tuesday 19th November, psychology students attended a criminology conference at the Friend's House in London. Several sessions were facilitated by guest speakers who spoke on their topic of interest.

Speaker 1 addressed domestic abuse and how it is prevented. With the shocking statistics the speaker presented, it was worth noting how the government attempts to prevent abuse by running abuse shelters and introducing laws that include abusive behaviour as a criminal offence etc.

Speaker 2 talked about hate crime and the different minority groups it covers. In Greater Manchester for example, subcultures such as goths or emos may be considered a minority group following the murder of a woman for being considered gothic.

Speaker 3 spoke on her story as the Mafia Princess. She told the audience on her struggles as the daughter of a mafia boss, committing crimes and knowing of serious crimes following the group. Students got to hear her reasoning behind why she had associated with the family at the time, linking to their understanding of why people commit crime.

Speaker 4 addressed the psychology of lie detection. The polygraph, shown in media and in American courts as a lie detector is not as effective as it seems. The audience were given a chance to test out their abilities in detecting when someone is lying.

Speaker 5 talked of his experience as a bank robber and how he reformed. Going from a life sentence to reforming and now being able to go to a bank to deposit and withdraw normally was fascinating to hear.

Students reported that overall they enjoyed the day and were very interested to hear the life experiences of criminals outside of textbooks and media, providing context to their studies in forensic psychology



Othello Conference 2019

Year 13 English Literature students attended a conference held by University lecturers on Othello, which is one of their set texts to analyse for their exams.

Four speakers addressed various elements of the Shakespearean play: the first addressed dramatic structure, the second looked at a comparison between Cinthio's "Moor of Venice" and Othello, the third covered feminism and the last described ways to deconstruct the text to grasp its intent. Students found the trip useful. They built on their existing knowledge of the play.

"I really liked the first speaker. He introduced some concepts I hadn't heard of before, like Anthropological dualism, and applied it to the play which was interesting to discuss."

Filip Majdzinski