



St Mary's Catholic College

# NEWSLETTER

*Work together; Succeed together*

Autumn Term | 2023 [stmaryswallasey.com](http://stmaryswallasey.com)



# Open Evening

*Off to a hot start!*

There was an incredible turnout at our Open Evening in early September. We hope all prospective parents and students enjoyed their visit. Our students were a real credit to our community. There was an amazing buzz around the College and we can't wait to welcome our new year 7 students next September!



## Year 7 Welcome Mass

*Collective worship*

*"I was glad when they said to me,  
"Let us go to the house of the Lord!" -Psalm 122:1*

We welcomed our new students with their first ever mass as a year group. They shared prayers, reflections and sang together. The mass became a poignant moment, where strangers became friends, forging bonds that would extend beyond the walls of the church and into the heart of their shared education at St Mary's.



## Retreat Days

*Building faith together*

Throughout October all of year 7 attended a form retreat at Claremount church in Wallasey. The retreat theme was based on "Flying High" and was led by the Shrewsbury Diocese Youth Mission Team. Throughout the day students started their journey of faith by looking at themselves and their relationship with God. The activities throughout the retreat enabled the students to develop their courage and determination, and the pride in themselves throughout the activities was evident. With every child getting to know their form tutors and each other they had an incredible start to their formation and St Mary's.



# C Change Conference

*Developing creativity in our schools*



Holy Family  
Catholic Multi  
Academy Trust

*On Thursday 21st September St Mary's Creative Ambassadors became beacons of the C Change and our year 8 students participated in a live lesson masterclass led by keynote speakers.*



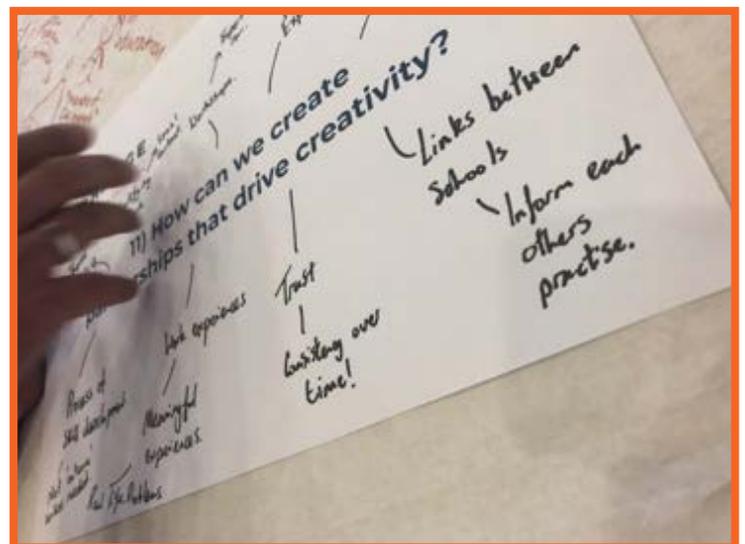
The C Change conference was a day of Pedagogy, Partnership and Power. A day of inspiration to explore cutting edge practice around creativity across our schools & community and St Mary's pupils were deeply involved. Our creative ambassadors have been exceptional all year with their development of creativity across the curriculum, but this day was where they shared their expertise and knowledge of what creativity is and how this can be used to develop areas of the curriculum and why it's so important for our young people.

Through an activity called table talks our pupils led questions with all the delegates debating questions such as:

*How can creative habits empower young people to have a voice in school/community?..*

*How can we ensure that creativity happens across the curriculum, not just the arts?..*

*Creativity leads to wellbeing because...*



Antonia in year 10 shared her question "How can we create creative partnerships between schools and communities?" Her opinion on this question was "Creating partnerships that drive creativity in schools and communities involves fostering collaboration between educational institutions, local organisations

and businesses. To achieve this, schools can establish programmes where students can work on real-world projects with local businesses, encouraging innovative thinking. Additionally, community organisations could offer workshops and resources to school, promoting creative extracurricular activities. Engaging parents, teachers and community leaders (e.g local MP's) in brainstorming sessions could also spark new ideas. By nurturing these partnerships we can cultivate an environment where creativity thrives, benefiting both students and the local community, as creativity leads to innovative solutions and a richer cultural tapestry."

As well as this year eight had a full history lesson, they were taught by Debra Kidd and Hywell Roberts (watched live by the delegates) who led them through a creative lesson on how and why Lord Lever built Port Sunlight to house the workers at his soap factory. They made choices and decisions on how to debate whether he did this for the good of the people or his own wealth.



Sian in Year 8 said "I enjoyed the lesson because it was an interesting way to teach and learn history. It was enjoyable and I can easily remember what the lesson was about. The way they taught was by acting out and describing what had happened in that time. They also allowed us to ask questions to Lever on why he used palm oil and why he built everything out of his own money. This is a lesson I will never forget."



The students were confident, engaging and were a credit to St Mary's. Sharing the power that creativity has on young people. One delegate commented "What confident and articulate young people we have, I am proud to have met them, and my future is in safe hands with these young people".



# World Mental Health Day

Supporting our young minds

#HelloYellow



*Pupils exchanged one piece of uniform for something yellow in return for a donation to charity. Supported by a cake sale we raised much needed funds to support young people in the UK.*

On Tuesday 10th October we came together and made World Mental Health Day that little bit brighter by wearing something yellow and donating to the Young Minds charity. We were blown away by our students' dedication, hopefulness and fantastic yellow outfits! As part of our 'Compassion' core value the whole college turned yellow to raise awareness. Young Minds is the UK's leading charity fighting for a future where all young minds are supported and empowered, whatever the challenges. They are here to make sure young people get the best possible mental health support and have the resilience to overcome life's difficulties. As a College we are committed to supporting their work.



**YOUNGMINDS**  
fighting for young people's mental health





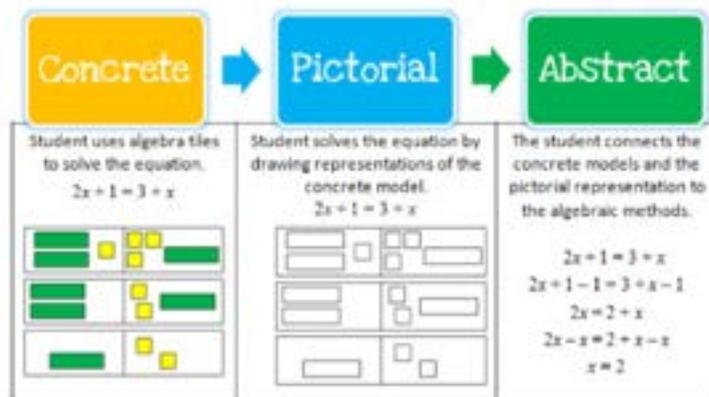
# Department Focus: Maths

## Numbers and knowledge

*We are thrilled to share the fantastic strides our students are making in Maths. At St. Mary's, we believe that maths is not just about numbers; it's a journey of discovery, problem-solving, and building a strong foundation for future success. In this article, you'll find a glimpse into our innovative teaching methods, the engaging activities that make maths come alive, and the impressive achievements of our students. Join us on this mathematical adventure as we celebrate the joy of learning mathematics at St. Mary's!*

### How we teach maths at St Mary's...

We teach your child maths using something called the CPA approach. First, we start with real things they can touch and play with (that's the "Concrete" part). Then, we show them pictures or drawings to help them see the maths in a simpler way (that's the "Pictorial" part). After that, we move to using just numbers and symbols (that's the "Abstract" part). This way, we make sure they really understand the maths instead of just memorising it. We want to make maths fun and easy for them, helping them get better step by step!



### Year 7 Autumn term

Our Year 7 students dived headfirst into the year by investigating the fundamental concepts of maths. From numbers and place value to addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division, our budding mathematicians honed their skills with precision and efficiency. Navigating the realms of fractions, decimals, and percentages, they seamlessly transitioned into the captivating world of geometry and measures, exploring angles, polygons, and spatial reasoning. The term also saw them tackle a variety of problem-solving tasks, also building resilience and creativity. As we celebrate their achievements, we eagerly anticipate the mathematical journey that awaits our Year 7 students in the upcoming term..

### Year 8 Autumn term

In an engaging autumn term, our Year 8 students continue on their dynamic mathematical journey in St Mary's. Beginning with algebraic adventures, they delved into variables, expressions, and equations, establishing a strong foundation for future mathematical challenges. Their proportional skills focused students on the exploration of ratios and proportions, while statistical mastery equipped them to analyse and interpret data with precision. Geometry took centre stage as they navigated advanced concepts in 2D and 3D shapes, angles, and volumes. The term also saw them develop problem-solving prowess, applying mathematical thinking to complex challenges.

### Year 9 Autumn term

Our Year 9 students engaged in a rich and challenging exploration of mathematical concepts. Focused on advancing their mathematical proficiency, they delved into sophisticated topics such as algebraic expressions, equations, and inequalities, honing their problem-solving skills. The term also saw a deep dive into geometry, where students explored the properties of angles, lines, and circles, laying the groundwork for more intricate geometrical concepts. Moreover, Year 9 tackled advanced statistics, mastering the art of data interpretation and analysis. As we celebrate their dedication and accomplishments, we look forward to the continued growth and intellectual adventures that await our Year 9 mathematicians.

## Year 10 Autumn term

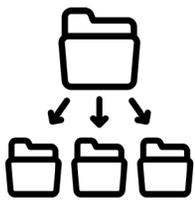
Our Year 10 students have mastered algebraic expressions, solving equations with equivalence, and calculating the  $n$ th term for a variety of sequences. Refining their skills in decimals, standard form, and investigating using the product rule for counting the number of possibilities. Additionally, they've excelled in finding the Highest Common Factor and the Least Common Multiple of numbers and been able to solve a variety of problems using this. They have extended their learning in statistics as they have interpreted, analysed, and compared data distributions, and presented findings in various diagrams.

## Year 11 Autumn term

This year, Year 11 excelled in solving ratio problems within real-world contexts and expressing intricate relationships between quantities. They have built on their knowledge solving proportion problems, including best buys, currencies, and rates of pay, has been a focus, showcasing their practical application of their maths skills. Moreover, our students have investigated how to calculate the lengths of hypotenuses and shorter sides in right-angled triangles and applied trigonometric ratios like sine, cosine, and tan to find angles and lengths. Their knowledge of real world finance has grown as they confidently navigate percentage calculations for profit or loss.

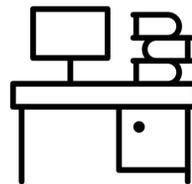
### How to revise for Maths...

Here are some helpful tips to make you more confident and successful in maths:



#### Organise Your Topics:

Divide what you have learnt in lessons into manageable chunks. Prioritise areas that you find challenging and allocate more time to those. Having a clear plan helps you cover all necessary content.



#### Variety of Practice:

Don't stick to one type of resource. Use your exercise books, spars, past papers and revision guides to get a variety of perspectives on topics. Different resources can provide different insights.



#### Past Papers Practice:

Practice with past papers from previous years' exams. This familiarises you with the exam format, question types, and helps you manage your time effectively during the actual exam.



#### Seek Help When Needed:

If you encounter difficulties with certain topics, don't hesitate to seek help. Talk to your teacher, classmates, or even online forums to get clarification on concepts you find challenging.



#### Flashcards for Formulas:

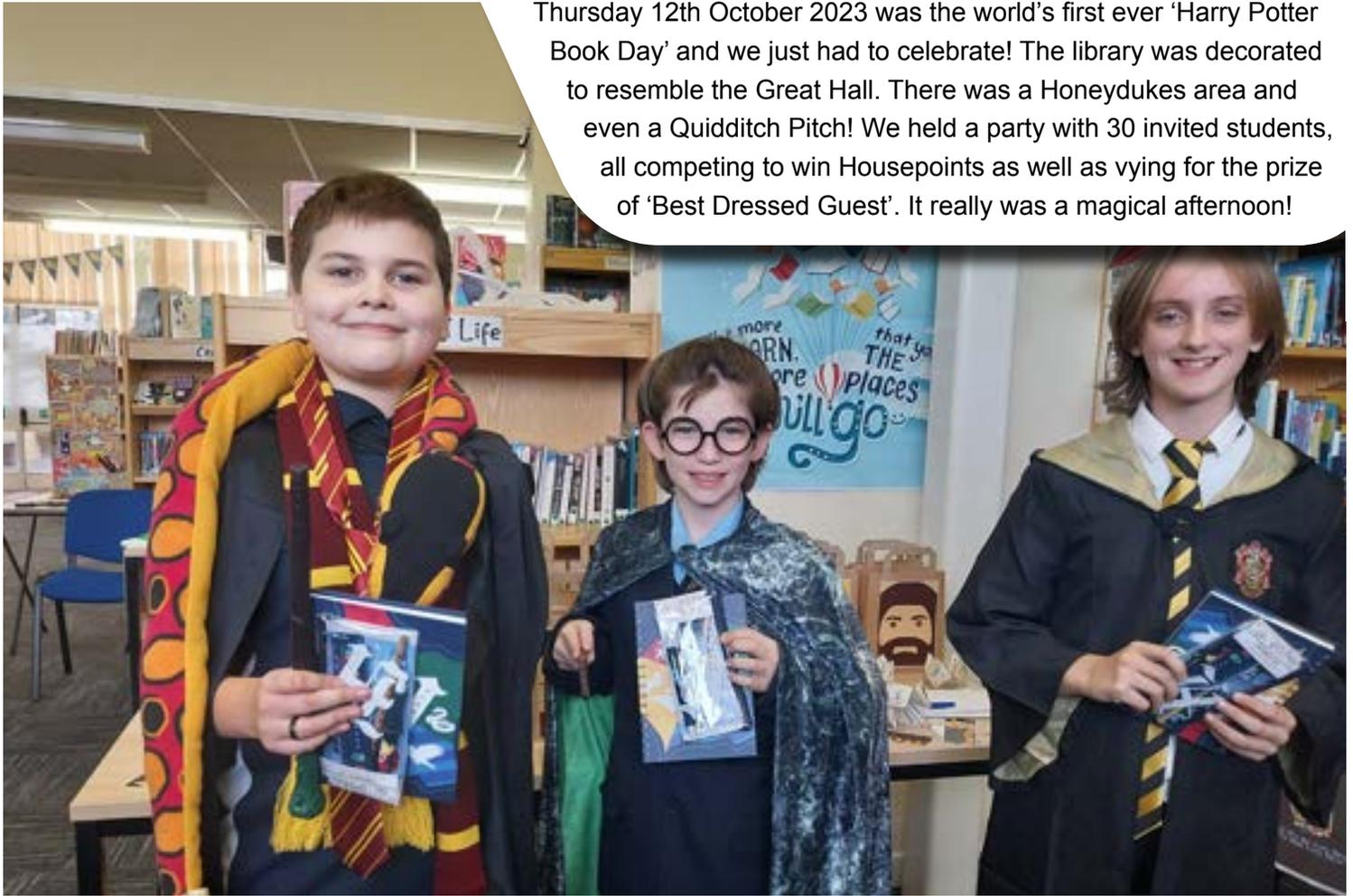
Create flashcards for important formulas, theorems, and definitions. Use these to test yourself regularly, reinforcing your memory of key concepts.

We are so proud of each and every one of them for their awesome achievements. Whether trying something new, an excellent test or supporting a friend with their learning, every success counts. It's fantastic to see everyone working hard and doing their best. A big thank you to parents, teachers, and everyone who supports our students on this journey. Let's keep cheering them on for more victories ahead!

# Harry Potter Day

*Library celebrations*

Thursday 12th October 2023 was the world's first ever 'Harry Potter Book Day' and we just had to celebrate! The library was decorated to resemble the Great Hall. There was a Honeydukes area and even a Quidditch Pitch! We held a party with 30 invited students, all competing to win Housepoints as well as vying for the prize of 'Best Dressed Guest'. It really was a magical afternoon!



# Healthy Lifestyles Days

*Year 7&8 students get practical*

In an effort to foster a well-rounded education that goes beyond traditional classroom teachings, we recently organised special days dedicated to promoting healthy lifestyles among our students in year 7 and 8. The days saw children stepping away from their regular timetable to engage in activities that focused on safety, first aid, mental health awareness, Internet safety and mindfulness.

Each of the days incorporated hands-on first aid training, where students learned essential life-saving skills.

Trained professionals guided them through basic first aid techniques, equipping them with the knowledge and confidence to respond effectively in emergency situations. From CPR to wound care, students actively participated in simulations, gaining practical experience that could potentially make a significant difference in real-life scenarios.

Breaking the stigma surrounding mental health was another vital aspect of the day's agenda. Students engaged in open discussions, workshops, and activities designed to increase their understanding of mental health issues. Our guest speaker from Kooth, shared insights and personal experiences, fostering an atmosphere of empathy and support and allowed our students to know where to seek support outside of school.

Mindfulness sessions offered a welcome break from the hustle and bustle of daily academic life. Students learned the art of being present in the moment, practising techniques to manage stress and improve focus.

Given the increasing role of technology in students' lives, the day also included workshops on Internet safety. We addressed the challenges and risks associated with online activities, educating students on responsible Internet usage and the importance of maintaining a healthy balance between virtual and real-world interactions.

This initiative reflects St Mary's commitment to nurturing well-rounded individuals who are not only academically proficient but also equipped with the skills and knowledge necessary for a healthy, fulfilling life.

It was an excellent experience, thoroughly enjoyed by both students and staff.

# kooth



Year 8 had a wonderful day during Healthy Lifestyles! They engaged in activities ranging from CPR, to teamwork, developing skills they will need in a world outside of school. A year 8 student, Eddie Boulton (8MK), commented, "it was an incredible day, and I have gained many skills which I can use both in and out of school".

# Anti Bullying Week

*Being kind to others*

Anti-bullying Ambassadors at St Mary's came together to promote equality, diversity, inclusion, and kindness within school. In our Anti Bullying week, the theme "Make a noise about Bullying" empowered them to do something positive to counter the harm and hurt that bullying causes.

The Anti-bullying Ambassadors are made up of 12 students from Years 9, 11, 12 and 13 and was originally set up in 2021 as part of the school's '#BEKIND!' campaign and has since continued to develop. To mark the end of Anti Bullying week, all children were invited to wear odd socks. This was to raise awareness of bullying, to remind each other of how unique we are, and how we can all work together to try to eradicate the issue of bullying.

During our Inspire lessons that week all our children explored the issue of bullying and what we can do as a college to eradicate it and how everyone is welcome and we have no outsiders here.

As part of the focused week the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors led collective worship each day in the theatre for each year group which included Music, Dance and Drama pieces from the performing arts pupils.

Our Anti Bullying campaign does not end here. The ambassadors have been working hard to promote anti-bullying throughout the school in a range of ways including working with Tranmere Rovers football club. Students from all year groups are able to benefit from the activities and support services that are provided.

***In a world where  
you can be anything  
#BeKind #Reachout***



# Careers Fair

*Engaging with industry*

We hosted our annual Careers Fair on Wednesday, November 1st. The main sports hall was brimming with thirty-eight exhibitors which was more than double the number of participants compared to last year. Students from each year group had the opportunity to engage with representatives from a diverse array of companies, including well-known names like Airbus, DSG Accountants, and Stena Line. In addition, there were training providers and further education colleges like Wirral Met, Birkenhead Sixth Form, LMA, and more, providing insights into various further education pathways.

For those considering higher education, prominent universities like Liverpool John Moores, UCLAN, Lancaster, and Liverpool Hope were available to discuss higher education prospects.

Service-based organisations, such as the British Army, the Royal Navy, and the Police, were also present to elaborate on the numerous apprenticeship positions currently available and those on the horizon.

This careers event is a vital component of our ongoing program, designed to comprehensively inform our students about the myriad opportunities at their disposal. It also serves as a platform for them to connect with educators and organisations they may collaborate with in the future.



# F1 In Schools

## Silverstone trip

Fourteen Students from three SMCC racing teams had an unforgettable experience when they visited the world famous 'Silverstone circuit'. There was even a surprise visit from a former student.

  
**in Schools**  
UNITED KINGDOM



In partnership with the Silverstone Museum, the students from years 9 and 10, competing in the Development Class of the 2023 F1 in Schools competition; were guests of a four hour educational visit as part of their research into what makes an F1 team work, the history and evolution of car design, aerodynamic technology and to get a feel of an actual F1 car, well parts of one that is. Upon arrival, after a smooth 3.5 hour drive, we were greeted by the Silverstone Museum welcome team tour guides. After some quick health and safety and general rules, we spent some time in the F1 shop admiring a worn Lewis Hamilton race jacket, frame, and signed, for only £5000!. Students bought some keyring souvenirs before heading down to the race track.



Down some steep stairs and to the left was Luffield Corner, a long sweeping right-hand bend where cars can reach over 180 mph and is one of the popular overtaking corners on the circuit, due to the corner's exit. Out on the track was a race day, with a large variety of GT cars hitting their top speeds around the corner. Students stood amazed at the designs and sounds of the cars and were reluctant to go to the next stage of the visit, to an old part of the track that was rerouted shortly after a driver accident in the tunnel. This old drainage tunnel at Becketts corner, was the reason why, in 1987, the circuit had to be reshaped to be safer as the driver Roberto Moreno, driving a March Leyland F1 car lost control, hit the barrier and was flipped upside down as he crashed into the tunnel. It took race marshalls several minutes to free him and he was miraculously unhurt. Now the tunnel is used for visitors walking between enclosures on race day, and there is a big mural with Lewis Hamilton's face!

Heading inside we went to a corporate box alongside the track for a workshop on all things F1, and it was here that the students, and Museum staff, were treated to a visit from a former student. Ian Penny was a former St. Mary's student who returned as an IT technician for several years. He then applied for a similar role to Force India and was accepted for his dream job. Ian moved down to Silverstone and built his career in F1 so that when Force India became Aston Martin Aramco Cognizant Formula One team (or just Aston Martin F1), he was given a role within a small team with an incredible responsibility, that the full IT system for Aston Martin F1, is fully operation track side, and is receiving telemetry data from the cars, and sending and receiving data to their team of analysis at their headquarters in Silverstone. It takes a full 30 minutes to get the system up and running and if he is late or if there is a fault, it could result in the drivers not getting out to qualify, which would cost the team a starting position and could potentially damage the chance to earn driver and constructor points.



After holding pieces of Vettel's car that came from a crash in a previous season, the students (and staff) sat down to eat lunch and fire questions at Ian. The highlights of the questions came from Runa who asked about women in F1, specifically are there many and is it hard to get into F1. The answer was simply no, it is not hard, and about 50% of the Aston Martin F1 headquarters are women. Another interesting question was about the pathway to F1, where he admitted that he never went to college or university, hasn't gotten a degree, he simply wanted to work in something he enjoyed when he left school and he was ambitious, a story that many of the students could resonate with. Next year, with enough notice, will take us around the Aston Martin F1 factory across the road, a place not open to the public.



Ian opted to stay for a while as the students were given free roam of the museum and what made it even more special, was that no other school had booked a visit, and no members of the public were on site, so it felt very much like a VIP visit. The teams got to race scalextrik around a model Silverstone circuit (That Mr Roberts is desperate to get his hands on), sit in a former F1 car, and play with all the educational games that made the museum a truly interactive experience. Getting tired, and towards the end of our visit, we finished with their 3D Cinematic experience. We've been asked not to share what happens, so just imagine being inside a VR machine, but without the headset.

To top it all off before heading home, and after saying our thanks and goodbyes, we took a trip around the corner to the Hilton Hotel where we walked up to the restaurant and onto the balcony, which happened to just overlook the starting grid. As we were picturing the start of the race in our minds, out came the GT cars for another session. What a great way to end the day. SMCC Racing will compete in the Regional Finals on January 30th after a visit to our manufacturing partner Aston University in Birmingham, where the teams' cars will be made, tested, raced and evaluated, all important information required in the grading criteria for the competition.

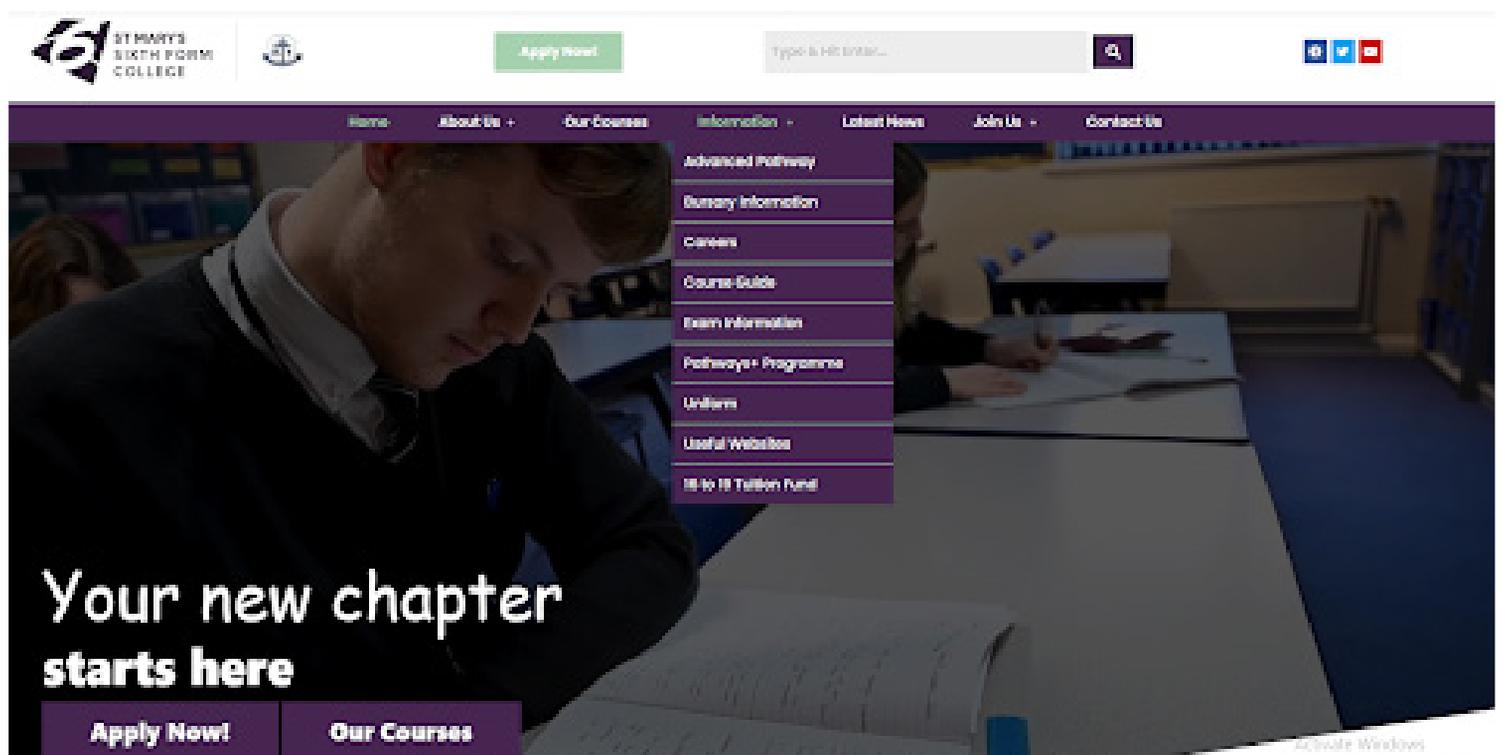
# St Mary's Sixth Form

## College information evening

At a busy time for Year 11 students have been looking to the next step and what to do after GCSE. With this in mind, many attended our recent Sixth Form information evening to find out about the progression routes on offer at St Mary's Sixth Form College.

The evening included a welcome and presentation from Headteacher Mr Maddocks and the Sixth Form Team. Our Head students James Brady and Lauren Smith spoke about their current experience and former student Mia Rimmer returned for the evening and spoke about her experience and how it prepared her for study at Liverpool Hope University.

"Tonight is about informing your choice with regards to the next step you take," said Mrs Witan as she went on to launch the new sixth form website and online application process which can be found at [www.sixthform.stmaryswallasey.com](http://www.sixthform.stmaryswallasey.com)



## Sixth Form Marketplace

### Year 11 shop for courses



A week on from the Sixth Form Information evening Year 11 students were invited to a Marketplace of the courses on offer at St Mary's Sixth Form College during inspire time. The session allowed students to once again speak to subject staff and ask any questions they may have had after taking time to explore and digest the course guide. The students found it really useful and appreciated having the opportunity to reflect on their choices with the support of staff.



## First Aid Training

### *Sixth Form qualifications*

At St Mary's we believe in equipping young people with essential life skills, and first aid training has emerged as a crucial component. First aid education not only fosters a sense of responsibility but also empowers students to respond confidently in emergency situations. By learning fundamental techniques such as CPR, wound care, and basic medical assessment, students gain practical knowledge that can make a huge difference in real-life scenarios. Beyond the immediate benefits of potentially saving lives, the inclusion of first aid nurtures a culture of compassion and preparedness, shaping a generation capable of making a positive impact on their communities.



## T-Level Education

### *Early years confidential*

T-Level Education and Early Years students have been learning the importance of maintaining confidentiality in the workplace. Students were set the very messy task of trying to get the contents of a hand cream bottle back in, after being squeezed out. The hand cream represented data of the pupils and families that they work with on placement at a local primary school, that once out of the bottle, it was at risk of being absorbed into the skin, and therefore not possible to be put back into the bottle. Despite students working very hard as a team, and improvising with various classroom equipment, they all ended up with very slimy hands, stating they will "Definitely never forget the importance of maintaining confidentiality!"



# University of Cambridge Trip

*Raising aspirations*



In a joint venture between our Trust Secondary Schools, some of our Year 11 pupils from St Mary's and St John Plessington enjoyed a residential visit to two Cambridge Colleges: Magdalene and Emmanuel.



On the first day they had an introduction to Higher Education pathways before being taken on a tour of Magdalene College by current Cambridge students, which included watching the 'punters' on the River Cam, flowing magnificently alongside the main grounds.

After a restful overnight stay at the local Youth Hostel, our pupils then embarked on a tour of Emmanuel College, getting the chance to visit the chapel, a listed building originally designed by Sir Christopher Wren. They then took part in a 'Study Skills and Critical Thinking' workshop, before returning to the Wirral. The pupils involved were a credit to their schools and the Trust throughout the visit.

This trip is part of our on-going 'raising aspirations' initiative.

# Bugsy Auditions

*College show well underway!*

We are delighted to share the exciting news of this year's College Show 'Bugsy Malone'. This Splurgetastic event will take centre stage at The Floral Pavilion from Tuesday, 13th to Wednesday, 14th February. The anticipation is palpable, and we can hardly contain our enthusiasm. After well-attended auditions, rehearsals began in October with students from Years 7-13. There is a real buzz in the air. This year many of our students are taking on the role of assistant directors. They are fully committed to the production, helping with rehearsals in music, dance, and drama, and assisting with direction and choreography.

Each week the cast attends music, dance, and drama rehearsals. They are also often meeting up outside these times to put in the extra practice, it's lovely to see such a mix of students from all year groups working together so passionately. Year 7 student Amelia commented on how in such a short time at St Mary's she had become friends with so many people because of the show.

The art department and our art club students are hard at work creating some of the iconic props and Arlo, our site manager, is even building us a car! St Mary's College show is not only an opportunity for its students to showcase their skills and talents but also for our local partner primary schools to do the same. It offers them all a unique experience of coming together to create a show and perform it to sell out audiences on a professional stage.

The experience brings the whole community together epitomising our school motto, **Work together; Succeed together**. This year will be no exception and our production of Bugsy will see 150 St Mary's students together to create another show-stopping performance!!

**Save the Date - The Splurge is back on  
13th and 14th February  
Tickets available 22nd January 2024  
from the Floral Pavilion Box office**

# Bugsy Malone

COMING  
SOON!



# Music Department

*Live and Loud*

On Friday 13th October pupils from St Mary's joined together with pupils from St John Plessington to put on the latest in the popular series of Friday Night Live concerts at the Oakland Gallery, New Brighton. The stage was graced by talented musicians from year 10 to 13, with many pupils performing at Friday Night Live for the very first time. Pupils performed music in a range of different styles, with modern songs rubbing shoulders with old classics.

We hope to see you at the next concert, which will take place in the New Year!

# FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE!



**Holy Family Catholic Multi Academy Trust**

**OAKLAND**  
Contemporary & Street Art Gallery



## Dance Department

### *National Ballet workshop*



As part of an ongoing collaboration with the Liverpool Empire, our year 10 Dance students took part in a bespoke workshop. **Ballet Explored** is English National Ballet's annual schools' programme, which offers the opportunity for students to develop physical skills and creative thinking, express themselves in a supportive environment, and explore the possibility of a future in the creative industries. The programme went beyond traditional dance education by placing a strong emphasis on creative thinking. During workshops students were encouraged to explore their artistic expressions, fostering a creative environment that transcended the boundaries of conventional ballet. The year 10's had an amazing day of creativity.



## The Library

### *Non-fiction November*

Non-Fiction November is a national initiative to encourage people to read nonfiction books, particularly children and teenagers! It was set up by a charity called 'The Federation of Children's Book Groups'. Throughout the school during November and December we will be promoting the reading of non-fiction books alongside fiction, because 'non-fiction books need love too!' To start us off we have an exciting bingo type board full of nonfiction challenges for the students to take part in.



## Music Department

*Award for talented musician*



*Libon Soumah, one of our talented Year 10 Music students has won the prestigious 'Edith Hemingway Award for Young Musicians Trust' in the North West region. This remarkable achievement, accompanied by an £800 prize, highlights Libon's exceptional musicianship and dedication.*



Libon stood out among competitors to win the Edith Hemingway Award, recognising his extraordinary talent and commitment to music. This prestigious accolade showcases Libon's remarkable abilities and sets him on a path to success.

Libon plans to use the prize money to enhance his musical journey. He aims to purchase a better looper for his guitar and some new drum heads and equipment. These investments will elevate his performances and allow him to explore new creative possibilities.

For Libon, music is a means to evoke deep emotions in others. Whether through his compositions or live performances, he aspires to create a lasting impact on his listeners. Libon's ability to connect with people on an emotional level exemplifies his exceptional talent.

Libon acknowledges the support he has received from his music teacher, Mr. Faithful, and his musically talented family. Their unwavering encouragement has nurtured his talent and contributed to his growth as a

musician. Applying for the Edith Hemingway Award involved answering questions about his personal aspirations, and the impact of the prize money. Libon's submission included captivating videos showcasing his musical prowess and explaining how the award would further his musical endeavors.

Libon's journey as a young musician is marked by exceptional talent, dedication, and support from mentors and family. His recent achievement and passion for music make him an inspiration for aspiring artists. With the recognition he has gained and continued support, Libon is poised for a bright future in the music industry. We extend our congratulations and wish him the best on his remarkable journey.

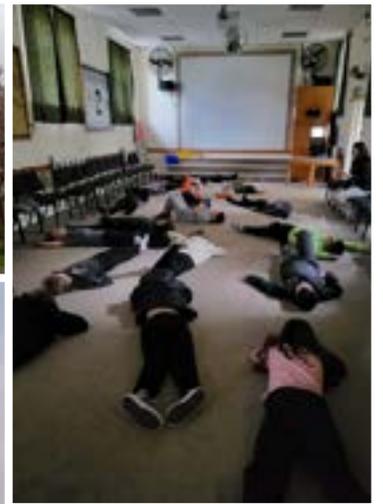
# Savio House Retreat

*Year 7 retreat and reflect*



*Year 7 continued their journey of faith with a visit to the Shrewsbury Diocese retreat centre Savio house where they immersed themselves into the theme of Advent.*

Activities encouraged them to look at the true meaning of advent and allowed them to experience what Hope, Peace and Joy truly mean for different people with one activity allowing them to immerse themselves into the life of a refugee finding out how hard it must be and then discussing in their groups what they can do the help. An examination of conscience and service of reconciliation showed the true respect that the students had for their faith and the retreat. With a wintery walk up to the 'White Nancy' showed determination and courage as they worked together to make sure they all succeeded in reaching the top and their goal. With lots of muddy moments the students enjoyed the exhilaration of achieving something together and took this enthusiasm into their mass preparation where each group created part of the mass focussing on Advent and the Feast of the immaculate conception of which they celebrated whilst there.



# Remembrance Day

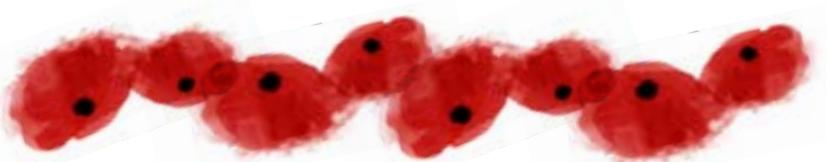
*Lest we Forget*

On Friday 10th November the school stopped and observed a 2 minute silence to remember all those who have died or been affected by war. Our 6th form students and student council along with several pupils in a service uniform gathered in our theatre for prayer and reflection. The whole school stopped in a 2 minute remembrance whilst the last post was played throughout the college.



## Art Department

*Creative textile tribute*



Year 10 art students; Maddie F, Pheobe D and Holly W, used our Lunchtime extra curricular art club to create a textile response to the poem 'In Flanders Fields' for a remembrance day display. All KS3 students also created a poppy on which they wrote a message to the fallen and those affected by war around the world.



# Chaplaincy

## *Feast Day Mass*

The annual Feast day of the Immaculate Conception was celebrated at St Mary's on Friday 8th December with a whole school mass. Over 900 pupils and staff gathered together to celebrate mass with Canon Phil Moor and Fr Michael Coughlan on the special Feast day of our college. Pupils had an extended session where they also took time to reflect on the importance of the Feast day for us as a Catholic community and how we can live out our mission, vision and values daily.



## Music Department

### *Carol Services*

The music department has been very busy this half term in the build-up to Christmas. We took part in the HFMAT carol service at The Metropolitan Cathedral our choir sang beautifully and it was a pleasure to see all our MAT school perform together. The annual St Mary's carol service took place at Holy Apostles and Martyrs' Parish Church and finally, we again were brought together in the Village Churches Nativity. Our school playground became an evening of enchantment and celebration of the birth of Jesus with the Village Churches of Wallasey - a true example of community.



## Performing Arts

### *L1 Big Christmas switch on*

Our brilliant performers were fortunate enough to have been asked to showcase their many talents at this year's L1 Christmas Light Switch On in Liverpool on Friday 17th November. Nearly sixty students were selected to take part in a range of dance and choir pieces all surrounding the themes of Christmas and the idea of family, togetherness, celebration, and making dreams come true.



## Pantomime Trip

### *Year 7 Christmas treat*

As part of our Inspire programme, Year 7 visited The Floral Pavilion to watch this year's panto 'Jack and The Beanstalk'. They were captivated by the whimsical characters, and the playful interactions that unfolded. Amidst cheers and giggles, the pantomime was a delightful experience for all our children.



## Claire House Charity Day

*Raising money for good causes*

St Mary's community came together to celebrate Christmas and raise money for Claire House Children's hospice. Claire House is an amazing charity who helps seriously and terminally ill children live life to the full by creating wonderful experiences and bringing back a sense of normality to family life. They do this by providing specialist nursing and end of life care, as well as emotional support, Claire House helps families through some of the toughest times of their lives. Over the past week our students have been lucky enough to have Emma from Claire house come into our College and provide us with insightful assemblies. It was a great experience for our students and we thank Emma and her team for giving up their time to do this. St Mary's Charity day was such an inspiring experience for our students to be part of.

There was an exciting atmosphere across school as students were able to showcase their favourite Christmas items. The activities around school also kept the festive spirit high and helped us to raise lots of money for this amazing cause.

The spirit of charity and community remains ingrained in the ethos of our school. The funds raised will contribute to the amazing work of Claire House, thanks to the generous contributions of the St. Mary's community.



## Community Help

*Support through difficult times*

With Christmas often being a difficult time please remember there is help for you. If you need any help this winter with food, clothing (including uniform), heating or anything else please contact the SVP - Rose on 07905952798

Claremount Church have a small food pantry and very low price shop, if in need just say you are from St Mary's and they will help you out. The Charles Thompson mission 0151 647 7303 They provide many different forms of help.

If you are in need of new uniform try the SVP or wirral FUSS.

Caritas Diocese of Shrewsbury  
Wheatland Lane,  
Wallasey  
Wirral,  
CH44 7ED  
info@caritasshrewsbury.org.uk  
**0151 652 1281**

They have a number of programmes and support is available to all.

Please feel free to contact any of these at any time, they will be glad to help

# Extra Curricular

## Clubs and Interventions

### Lunchtime Sessions 1-1.35pm

#### Monday

Choir • DT Sparx Club • Futsal • Table Tennis • Girls Trampoline • Dodgeball • DT Formula 1 Club • Dance Club • Year 7 Drama Club • Open Class Dance Club

#### Tuesday

Keyboard Club • Ukelele Club • Creative Writing Club • Dodgeball • Futsal • Table Tennis • Girls Trampoline • Dance Club • Computing Club • KS5 Drama Intervention • Commercial Dance club • Worship (all years) • History Homework Club

#### Wednesday

Singing Club • Poetry Club • SMCC Dance Company • Computing Club • Football • KS4/5 Dance Intervention • Dodgeball • Futsal • Table Tennis • Girls Trampoline • Dance Club • Board Games Club

#### Thursday

Art Club • Jacqueline Wilson Book Club • Computing Club • Just Dance Club • Boys Drama Club • Youth SVP • Dodgeball • Futsal • Table Tennis • Boys Trampoline • Dance Club

#### Friday

Art Club • Maths Intervention • Writing Club • Chinese Club • KS3 Drama Club • Just Dance Club • Pilgrimage Group • Geography & Eco Club • Dodgeball • Futsal • Table Tennis • Boys Trampoline • Dance Club • International Languages Club

### After School Sessions 3-4pm

#### Monday

Art Intervention • Maths Intervention • Boys Football • KS3 Choir • Library-Craft Club • F1 in Schools Club • Recharge Homework Study Support • Health & Social Care Study Support • Childcare Study Support • Dance Technique Class • ICT Girl Code Club • Running Club • RE Intervention • Youth SVP (First Monday of each month)

#### Tuesday

Girls Football • Dungeons & Dragons Club

#### Wednesday

Art Club • Maths Year 11 Level Intervention • KS3 DT Food Club • Board Games Club • Recharge Homework Study Support • Rep Drama • SMCC Junior Dance Company • RE Homework Support Club • Psychology Revision Support • Girls Netball

#### Thursday

Business Studies- Study Support • Yr 11 English Intervention • Boys Rugby • F1 in Schools Club • Harry Potter Club • Recharge Homework Study Support • Health & Social Care Study Support • ICT/Computing-Raspberry Pi & Robotics • SMCC Senior Dance Company • Childcare Study Support • RE Yr 11 Intervention • RE A Level Revision

#### Friday

PE Football & Rugby Fixtures • Recharge Homework Study Support • Drama College Show Rehearsals

More information including room numbers and year groups can be found on our website [here](#)

# Hot Chocolate Friday

*Pupils recognised for achievement*

- Year 7** Alex V, Amelia C, Riley R, Amelia C, Ava W, Poppy McG, Harry A, Tilly F, Meeya B, Ben A, Keira H, Noah P, Aden S, Megan L, Viktoriia G, Jason P, Bobby D, Josh H, Kenny B, Erin F, William B, William P, Ben B, Finlay O'C, Annabella W, Ella W, Alfie S, Alesha S.
- Year 8** Ivy H, Charlotte B, Scarlett D, Jake A, Eibhlin C, Stevie B, Ruby McC, Samuel G, Isabelle M, Leon R, Emi B, Harry F, Alice G, Sasha M, Conor B, Grace R.E, Tyler A, Owen P, Jessie H, Alfie McG, Sasha M, Ryan D.
- Year 9** Ryan G, Kady J, Chris K-P, Eve B, Sam S, Layla J, Aaliyah-A.C, Owen P, Katelyn S, Harrie Jo-D, Eve L, Regan W-J, Maddie F, Oscar S, Antonia H, Josh H, Elizabeth W, Ashton D, Katie K, Jack D, Peter W, Magdalena C, Harrison L, Lilly W, Isabelle C, Jacob K, Milosz S, Lacey M.
- Year 10** Finn W, Keira B, Amaia McC, Luke D, Jake M, Olivia C, Luke K, Maisie C, Riley W-J, Kelly A- S, George G-B, Tayla S, Amelia V, Matthew N, Jasmine B, Giulio F, Ethan L, Ebony R.
- Year 11** Erica M, Callum O, Hope B, Brandon A, Cecilia B, Teo B, Harry D, Christina L, Rylie A-V, Christina L, Rylie V, Jasmin T, Donisa G, Connor R, Rafeala B, Luke S, Elin O'B, Jack B.
- 6th Form** Lucia H, Lukas M, Ryan N, Hollie H, Keira B, Lucy B, Sophie D, Callum McM, Renne B, Jack B, Sean F, Lauren G, Matty A, Mia R, Ellie W, Sophie, Daniel K, Ella S, Ella B, Hannah C, Harry O'C, Alan M, Ruby N, Milly D.
- The Arc** Rhys S, Coral S, Oliver R, Jacob S, Ashley P.



# CAREERS BULLETIN #20

## JOB OF THE WEEK - THE GREEN ONE



### NET ZERO – 2050

This bulletin follows on from 'Green Careers Week' where we looked at 'green' jobs and sectors; jobs and sectors that are connected in some way to helping to protect the environment and the world we live in. The objective of 'Net Zero' (by 2050) is to ensure that any greenhouse gases (such as Carbon Dioxide) added to the atmosphere are offset by the same amount being removed. This is required if we are to halt global warming - the process by which the earth's average temperature has been rising.

The AUTOMOTIVE industry is aware that it needs to take ownership of emission output in the future and the reality is that if it does not comply with government requirements, legislation will be brought in to enforce compliance.

Check out the information below to find out more on the automotive industry and the future of jobs within it: **Green Careers - [automotive Sector](#)**

### WorldSkills Event - Spotlights

The 'WorldSkills' Event took place last week and the link below provides you with access to a huge range of labour market information across many sectors. There are several 'Spotlight' videos for you to watch. I have used AirProducts as an example (below), but you can watch whatever catches your interest (such as 'digital solutions apprentice' with Rolls Royce, for example).

**NOTE:** When you first click on to the link; you may need to key in '1' as the number of students watching and accept terms to watch – your booking ID has already been created for you – do not alter this.

<https://worldskillsukevents.org/ondemand/watch/78425958-6bd2-4b8d-a14d-2e14a4c4dd8d>

### Apprenticeships (example) – Year 11 - AirProducts

From supplying medical gases to healthcare facilities to supporting NASA's space exploration, this session offers students a unique opportunity to explore real sustainability initiatives and learn from Air Products professionals about the exciting pathways available for aspiring green careers.

Click on the link and scroll to 'Taking Green Global - Airproducts' video:

### Apprenticeships – Year 12 and 13 – Accenture

Accenture are a consultancy and technology company working across the globe. Ethical values are embedded in everything they do. They are currently advertising degree apprenticeships in consultancy (London based). The attached link also provides information on technology apprenticeships (based in Manchester) that will become available in the future.

<https://www.accenture.com/gb-en/careers/local/apprenticeships>



# Key College Dates

## Upcoming dates to remember

**Tuesday 9th January 2024**

ALL students return.

**Wednesday 17th January**

Parents Information Evening- Wellbeing

**Tuesday 23rd January**

Ski Trip Information Evening 6pm

**Thursday 25th January**

Year 9 Parents Evening (3.30-6.45pm)

**Wednesday 31st January**

Yr 13 & 11 RAP 6pm

**Tuesday 13th & Weds 14th February**

School Show (Bugsy) at The Floral Pavilion

Theatre in New Brighton @ 6.30pm

**Thursday 15th February**

Year 10 Parents Evening and Reports

Monday 19th-23rd Half-Term

**Saturday 17th-24th February**

Ski Trip to Italy

**Monday 26th February**

ALL Students Return

Year 11 & Year 13 Mock Exams begin.

**Wednesday 6th March**

New Year 7 Parent Zoom

**Thursday 7th March**

Year 9 Options Evening

World Book Day

**Saturday 9th March**

Saturday School Revision Session

**Tuesday 12th March**

Year 9 Healthy Lifestyles Day

**Wednesday 13th March**

Year 9 Healthy Lifestyles Day

Parents Information Evening- Online Safety and Anti-Bullying

**Saturday 16th March**

Saturday School Revision Session

**Wednesday 20th March**

Evening revision Session (Online 7-8pm)

**Saturday 23rd March**

Saturday School Revision Session

**Wednesday 27th March**

Evening revision Session (Online 7-8pm)

**Thursday 28th March**

End of term



As part of our commitment to recycling we are asking you to play your part by donating any uniform that you no longer need so that it can be reused.

**What we need:**

**Blazers   Jumpers   Skirts   Bags**  
**Shirts   Blouses   Trousers   PE Shorts**  
**PE Tops   Trainers   Lightly worn shoes**



**Put your uniform in the FUSS collection tub as you come into school**



St Mary's Catholic College Wallasey  
Performing Arts Faculty Presents..

# Bugsy Malone



13th -14th February 2024 6.30pm

Tickets on sale  
at the Floral  
Pavilion Box Office  
from  
22nd January!

