



Bishop Vaughan Catholic School **Ysgol Gatholig Esgob Vaughan**

Parents' Newsletter April 2015
Cylchlythyr Rhieni Ebrill 2015



On 27th January Bishop Vaughan School hosted the Swansea commemorations for Holocaust Memorial Day. Holocaust Memorial Day is an annual event which takes place on the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, one of the Nazi death camps. It also commemorates the victims of other genocides that have taken place since, in places such Rwanda, Bosnia, Cambodia and Darfur.

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Guardians, Staff, Bishop Vaughan Students,

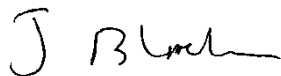
As I mentioned in the previous newsletter this is my last term at Bishop Vaughan and I retire at Easter. It has been a privilege to be Headteacher for the past sixteen years and I am indebted to so many of you for your help, support, proper challenge, and kindness during this time.

The care, encouragement, and expectations so many you have of your sons and daughters have been essential in securing the prosperity of the school. Very many students have done better, considerably better, than they thought could. One of the real joys of being Headteacher is seeing how our former students thrive in the many and varied occupations they follow. More important still is seeing the kind of people they have become, not self-centred, but, nonetheless assured and confident.

The school faces a number of challenges in the near future, especially with buildings and financial matters. For example, at the time of writing we await the outcomes of Judicial Review of the Local Authority Policy to remove the transport subsidy to Voluntary Aided Schools.

Governors have appointed Mr Paul White to be my successor. Mr White is currently the Headteacher of St John Lloyd School in Llanelli. I am sure he will be made very welcome at Bishop Vaughan. Mr White will take the reigns as of Monday 1st June. In the interim following my departure, Mr Matt Salmon, Deputy Head, will be Acting Headteacher.

I would end with my thanks to all my staff and governors, for their support, professionalism and commitment to the school.



Joe Blackburn

School Term and Holiday Dates 2014-2015

HALF TERM HOLIDAYS				
Term	Term begins	Begins	Ends	Term ends
Autumn 2014	Monday 1st September	Monday 27th October	Friday 31st October	Friday 19th December
Spring 2015	Monday 5th January	Monday 16th February	Friday 20th February	Friday 27th March
Summer 2015	Monday 13th April	Monday 25th May	Friday 29th May	Monday 20th July

Dates for your Diary

The last day of term is Friday 27th March 2015; school closes at 3.25 pm.

Pupils return to school on Monday 13th April 2015. This will be week one on the timetable.

Inset Days

Monday 20th July 2015.

Advance notice of Examination Dates 2015

The main external exam period begins on Friday 8th May 2015 and will continue to the end of June. Please be aware, however, that some examinations, especially orals and practical examinations are normally held before this date.

There will be National Reading and Numeracy tests for years 7, 8 and 9 to be taken between 29th April and 13th May 2015.

PLEASE NOTE:

The decision was taken by ERW, our regional consortium, that no absences due to holidays during term times will be authorised by Headteachers. This means absences that are due to pupils being taken on holidays during term time will be recorded as unauthorised.

As a school we actively encourage parents not to take holidays during term time so that children can fully benefit from the opportunities their school provides. If children are not in school, they cannot learn.

Easter Services

Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter are the central focus of the Church's year. The liturgical rites for each of the days are an essential support to understanding the Christian message. We urge everyone to attend their Parish church for the three occasions. Times of the services in the different parishes are printed below. We wish you and happy and Holy Easter.

Blessed Sacrament (Father J P Thomas)

Holy Thursday 7.30 pm
 Good Friday 3.00pm Solemn Liturgy
 7.00pm Stations of the Cross
 Holy Saturday 7.30pm Easter Vigil
 Easter Sunday 10.00am Mass

Sacred Heart Morriston (Father Jason)

Holy Thursday 7.30pm
 Good Friday 3.00pm Solemn Passion
 6.00pm Polish Stations of the Cross
 7.30pm Stations of the Cross
 Holy Saturday 10.00am Polish Blessing of the food
 8.00pm Easter Vigil
 10.30pm Indian Mass
 Easter Sunday 9.30am/11.00am/6.30pm Mass
 (There is also a Polish Mass at 8.00am and Latin Mass at 12.30 pm)

Our Lady Star of the Sea (Rt Rev Mgr Canon Kinrade)

Holy Thursday 7.00pm
 Good Friday 10.30am Walk of Witness
 3.00pm Solemn Passion
 6.30 Stations of the Cross
 Holy Saturday 8.00pm Easter Vigil
 Easter Sunday 8.30 am/10.30am Mass

St. Benedict's Clydach (Father Teyrnon)

Holy Thursday 7.00pm
 Good Friday 3.00pm Solemn Passion
 6.30 Stations of the Cross
 Holy Saturday 7.00pm Easter Vigil
 Easter Sunday 10.00am Children's Mass

St. David's (Canon Flook)

Holy Thursday 7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper
 Good Friday 3.00pm Solemn Passion
 Holy Saturday 8.00pm Easter Vigil
 Easter Sunday 11.00am/6.00pm Mass

St. Illtyd's (Father Thadathil)

Holy Thursday 7.30pm
 Good Friday 3.00pm Solemn Passion
 7.00 pm Stations of the Cross
 Holy Saturday 7.30pm Easter Vigil
 Easter Sunday 10.30am Mass

Our Lady of Lourdes (Father Thadathil)

All Easter Services this year are being held at Holy Cross, Gendros except
 Easter Sunday 11.00am Mass

St. Benedict's Sketty (Father Carlito)

Holy Thursday 7.00pm
 Good Friday 3.00pm Solemn Passion
 7.00pm Stations of the Cross
 Holy Saturday 8.00pm Easter Vigil
 Easter Sunday 8.30am/11.00am Mass
(These times have not been verified)

Sacred Heart Ystradgynlais (Father Teyrnon)

Holy Thursday 7.00pm
 Good Friday 3.00pm Solemn Passion
 Holy Saturday 7.00pm Easter Vigil
 Easter Sunday 11.30am Mass

Holy Cross (Father Thadathil)

Holy Thursday 7.30pm
 Good Friday 10.00 am Stations of the Cross for children
 3.00pm Solemn Passion
 7.00 Stations of the Cross
 Holy Saturday 8.00pm Easter Vigil
 Easter Sunday 9.30am Mass

St. Peter's (Father Thadathil)

Holy Thursday 6.00pm
 Good Friday 3.00pm Solemn Passion and Stations of the Cross
 Holy Saturday 6.30pm Easter Vigil
 Easter Sunday 9.00am Mass

Cathedral Church of St. Joseph (Father Michael)

Wednesday 11.30am Chrim Mass
 Holy Thursday 7.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper
 Good Friday 3.00pm Solemn Passion
 7.00pm Stations of the Cross
 Holy Saturday 8.00pm Easter Vigil
 Easter Sunday 8.00am/10.00am Mass

EXTERNAL EXAMINATIONS

Guidance to Candidates

Outside each examination room will be a copy of the regulations which have been agreed by all the examination boards. This sheet gives you further guidance to help you through your examinations so that you are quite clear as to what is expected of you. **Make sure you read both documents carefully and if there is anything you are unsure about, please ask.**

Some important points:-

- Follow your personal examination timetable closely. Keep it in a safe place.
- Make sure you know your personal candidate number. It is shown as 'Exam Number' on your timetable.
- Morning examinations start at 9.00am and afternoon examinations start at 13.00 (1.00pm) unless otherwise indicated.
- Aim to arrive at the examination room at least 10 minutes before the scheduled start time. If you are late it will cause you unnecessary anxiety, and if you are very late you may not be allowed in.
- You are expected to attend examinations in correct school uniform. **You will not be allowed into the examination room if you are not correctly dressed.**
- If you attend with unsatisfactory uniform, **entry in to the examination will only be allowed after your parents have been contacted and asked to deliver the correct uniform to the school.**
- Wait outside the examination room until you are called in. Remember to visit the toilet – you could have a long desperate wait otherwise!
- Bags and coats must be left at the back of the exam room. You will be allowed to take in **only what you need.**
- Pencil cases are not allowed unless they are clear. Pencil tins, boxes and 'solid colour' cases are not acceptable. A clear plastic 'sandwich-type' bag is just as good as a clear pencil case.
- Make sure you have the appropriate equipment for each exam – pen (plus spare), pencil, rubber, ruler, sharpener are essential. For certain exams e.g. Geography, Science, and Maths you may need to add compass, protractor, calculator, coloured pencils to your list. Check with your teacher. You will not be allowed to borrow any equipment during the exam.
- As soon as you enter the examination room you must not communicate in any way with anyone other than an invigilator (supervisor) until you leave the room after the exam.
- If you become unwell during the examination, raise your hand and inform an invigilator. If you have a specific medical condition, e.g. diabetes, make sure you bring the appropriate drink and snack which should be placed on the floor alongside your desk.
- You must remain in the examination room for the time allocated to the paper. If you have any time remaining use it wisely to check your work – you will not have another opportunity, and a correction made may result in a better final grade.
- If you are too ill to come to school you must let the school know by telephone at the earliest opportunity. You must also obtain a medical note from your doctor and send it to Mr Brown as soon as possible. It may then be possible to apply to the Examination board for special consideration so that you are awarded a grade.

- If there are particular circumstances such as recent illness or you are suffering from distress for a particular reason, and you feel it has affected your performance in an examination, inform Mr Brown and bring a letter from home.
- You may be entitled to special arrangements in your examinations such as extra time or help with reading. You will be informed of these arrangements before the examinations affected.
- **Mobile phones, iPods, MP 3/4 players nor any potential technological/web enabled sources of information are not allowed in the exam room.**
- **If you have an examination clash you must report to the main hall at 8.40AM on the day of the clash.**

What about results?

Examination results Summer series will be available on the following dates:-

A2 & AS Levels: Thursday 13th August 2015
GCSE: Thursday 20th August 2015

If you cannot collect the results in person you can

Either (i) Give a stamped addressed envelope to the office before the end of your exams, and your results will be posted on your behalf.

Or (ii) Ask an adult member of your family to collect your results on your behalf. If you do this they **must** bring with them a signed letter from you authorising them to collect your results.

Unfortunately, we **cannot** give out results over the phone.

Certificates

- **Certificates gained during summer 2015 will be available for collection from the school from December 2015**
- **It is important that you collect your certificates as they will be returned to the examination board after 12 months**
- **The examination boards charge £35 for a replacement certificate**

Procedure to collect Certificates

- Students that have left Bishop Vaughan need to phone the school giving their name and the date they sat their examination. Your certificate will be ready for collection from the school the next day.

JCQ Guidance notes

- Both pupils and parents should familiarise themselves with the JCQ guidance notes prior to the summer examination series. These notes are included for all pupils in year 10, 11, 12 and 13.

Finally, plan your examination preparation carefully and thoroughly, but most of all GOOD LUCK!

Mr A Brown, Exams Officer

School Uniform

To All Parents and Guardians

Please note that during the summer term only, students are permitted to wear the school uniform polo shirt instead of shirt/blouse and tie. There is no **requirement** to change to the polo shirt, it is an option if you so choose.

Please note if the weather is chilly and a jumper is needed this must be the standard school uniform jumper worn over the polo shirt if necessary. No other variations are permitted and students incorrectly attired will not join their class for lessons.

A noticeable minority of pupils are wearing jumpers which are not of the required uniform colour of maroon. The jumpers are several shades lighter than what has been the standard in the school for many years.

It seems as if there is a supplier passing off these jumpers as meeting Bishop Vaughan requirements when in fact they do not. Parents/guardians are being misled.

I am well aware how expensive these items are, and there is no suggestion that they should be replaced or not worn.

However, when the time comes for natural replacement, through wear and tear or loss, I ask, please, that the correct colour is purchased. Two suppliers who sell the proper version are:

Bergoni
1 Cambrian Court
Ferryboat Close
Enterprise Park
Swansea
SA6 8QN
Tel: 01792 796880

J & S Products
74 Tycoch Road
Swansea
SA2 9EQ

Tel: 01792 206658

Please could parents/guardians of students also note that felt/fabric shoes, even if black in colour, are not considered suitable footwear for school. Please adhere to the footwear requirements as stipulated in the uniform dress code, a copy of which follows. Can I also underline that our school dress code does not permit hair colouring other than in natural colours (i.e. no green/blue for example).

Parents/guardians and students are respectfully reminded that if you choose to come to Bishop Vaughan School it is important you follow the requirements in respect of school dress and appearance. High standards in these areas support the school's high reputation. Students failing to meet this expectation, without good reason, cannot expect to be allowed into their class for lessons. Repeated failure to cooperate, quickly becomes defiance of school authority and there is the likelihood of serious sanctions.

The school is most grateful to the vast majority of parents/guardians and students who cooperate and support us in these matters.

Mr J Blackburn
Headteacher

School Uniform September 2014-August 2015

Year 7-11

- Pullover:** burgundy, v-necked with official school logo
- Tie:** Years 7-11 official school tie
- Socks:** with trousers, dark-coloured or white
with skirts, standard grey or white
- Tights:** should be flesh-coloured, medium grey or black, plain and seamless
NB socks or tights **MUST** be worn
- Blouse/Shirt:** plain light blue, standard school style. Not denim or fashion
NB During the summer term only light blue polo shirt with school logo, may be worn.
- Skirt:** mid-grey or black in material and standard design, standard knee length (knife or box pleat permitted)
- Trousers:** dark grey or black and standard design **NOT** fashion or jeans. No denim, leather, flares, corduroy, skinny or tapered styles, leggings etc
- Shoes:** black, dark brown or dark grey with flat or low heels. Ankle boots may be worn in winter provided they conform to the above regulations
Trainers are not permitted. Felt/fabric shoes are not permitted. Heavy boots (military, Ugg etc.) are not permitted
- Outer Garments:** Pupils may wear, coats, anoraks or cagoules. However, all outer garments, of whatever type, must be plain, dark and single coloured. Anoraks or cagoules must not be too long, too short, denim type, hoodies, tracksuit tops or cardigans

A luminous reflective strip is permitted and parents/ guardians are strongly advised to consider this.
No logos, writing, patterns of any description should be present. Denim is not allowed.
Hats e.g. beanies, baseball caps are not permitted in any circumstances. Head bands must be plain and dark.
There is no necessity for anorak hoods to be worn at school.
- Jewellery:** A single sleeper or a single stud of minimum size in the lobe. No other piercings are permitted e.g. stretchers, spacers, nose or tongue piercing. A medallion or chain may be worn if discreet. It must be removed for PE/Games. All other jewellery is forbidden. It should be noted that tattoos are not permitted.
- Make-up/Hair Dye:** Make-up is forbidden. If hair dye/highlights are used they should be a single natural colour with no extreme contrasts (i.e. purples, reds, dip dyes etc are not permitted), no 'designs' to be shaved into the hair. No 'skin head' type haircuts or shaved patches.

All items of clothing should be clearly marked with the pupil's name.

FOR ALL YEAR GROUPS – NO DENIM

School Uniform September 2014-August 2015

Games Kit

Rugby Shirt (boys):	burgundy with blue/white side panels
T-Shirt (boys):	burgundy with blue/white side panels
T-Shirt (girls):	white polo shirt with blue/white side panels
Shorts (boys):	burgundy with blue/white side panels
Shorts (girls):	burgundy with white trim
Footwear:	soccer, rugby boots and training shoes as applicable
Socks (boys & girls):	burgundy
Hooded Top (girls):	black with school logo (hooded top is optional)
Tracksuit bottoms (girls):	plain black (only to be worn in cold weather)

Shin pads are to be worn for all hockey and football lessons. Gum shields are strongly recommended for hockey, football and rugby.

Pupils in Years 8-11 can continue wearing the existing kit.

Sixth Form Uniform

Pullover:	navy, v-necked with official school logo
Tie:	Sixth Form official school tie
Shirt/Blouse:	plain white, standard school style (not fashion) <i>NB During the summer term only navy blue polo shirt with Sixth Form logo, may be worn.</i>
Skirt:	navy blue, knee length
Trousers:	Trousers: navy blue, black, <u>dark grey</u> , standard design. No denim, leather, flares, leggings, corduroy etc
Socks:	with trousers: dark coloured, or white with skirts: navy blue or white
Tights:	plain, seamless, navy tights may be worn
Shoes:	dark coloured with flat or low heels. Ankle boots may be worn in winter and sandals in the summer. Trainers and canvas shoes are not permitted
Topcoat:	dark blue/black/grey – single coloured only

Members of Sixth Form are expected to wear the uniform throughout the school day. A single sleeper or a single stud of minimum size may be worn in the lobe. No other piercings are permitted e.g. stretchers, spacers, nose or tongue piercing. If hair dye/highlights are used they should be a natural colour with no extreme contrasts (i.e. greens etc are not permitted), no 'designs' to be shaved into the hair. No 'skin head' type haircuts. Baseball caps are not permitted in any circumstances.

Any jewellery must be removed if in the judgement of any staff, instructors or technicians it constitutes a health and safety hazard, especially in laboratories, workshops and PE areas. Any jewellery must be removed if in the judgement of any staff, instructors or technicians it constitutes a health and safety hazard, especially in laboratories, workshops and PE areas.

Holocaust Memorial Day

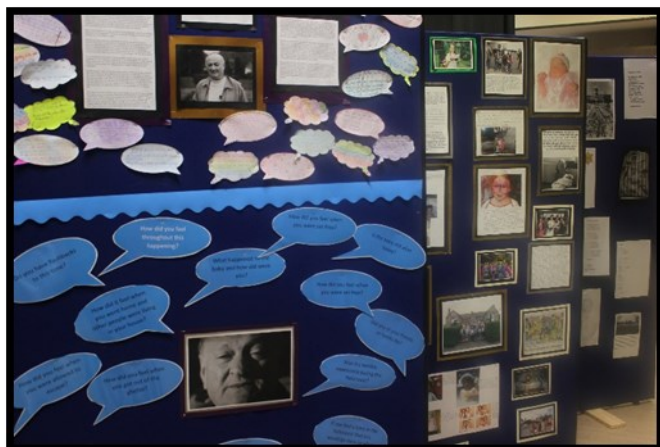


Bishop Vaughan School hosted the Swansea commemorations for Holocaust Memorial Day on 27th January. HMD is an annual event which takes place on the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, one of the Nazi death camps. In total, six million Jews were killed by the Nazis as part of their campaign of racial persecution and genocide. HMD also commemorates the victims of other genocides that have taken place since, in places such as Rwanda, Bosnia, Cambodia and Darfur. This year's Holocaust Memorial Day was particularly poignant as it was the 70th anniversary of the discovery and liberation of Auschwitz.

Nine primary and secondary schools across Swansea, as well as our own pupils, contributed to the programme of the memorial. Guests included the Lord Mayor of Swansea, Ceinwen Thomas, Chief Superintendent Phil Davies of South Wales Police, Chris Davies Chief Fire Officer for Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service and Norma Glass MBE of the Board of Jewish Deputies. Bishop Vaughan pupils played a leading role in the event. Morgen Ardouin, Jessica Gallivan, Aodhán Griffin Barr, Lauren Hutfield and Ryan Michlmayr of 10.2 compered the ceremony and helped set a sombre and reflective tone. Fellow Year 10 pupils, including Natasha Meyrick, Ira Go and Thomas Lamnea read poems they had written inspired by the Holocaust. Pupils from 8.1 presented a moving piece on the Warsaw Archive, a collection of memories and oral history that were secretly recorded by residents of the Warsaw Ghetto during the Second World War. Many other pupils across the school also produced poems, reflections and artwork that was displayed in the hall for guests to view, some of which can be seen on the next page. Pupils from Years 7-13 also attended the memorial and took the opportunity to pray for the victims of these terrible genocides.

After the event, Aodhán stated: "It was amazing for all of us to unite on such a monumental occasion. The contribution from every single school was both inspiring and thought provoking and I think that it was a fitting and respectful memorial to those who died".

Holocaust Memorial Day



UK Junior Mathematical Challenge

Here is a maths challenge question for you:

When painting the lounge I used half of a 3 litre can of paint to complete the first coat. I then used two thirds of what was left to complete the second coat. How much paint was left after both coats were complete?

A: 150ml B: 200ml C: 250ml D: 500ml E: 600ml

The solution can be found on page 23

UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge Results

On the 5th February 2015, 90 pupils from years 9, 10 and 11 were invited to take part in the UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge. In the test, the pupils had to answer 25 multiple choice Maths questions. The pupils did really well and the following were the best achieving in Bishop Vaughan with Jack Fitzgerald in year 11 achieving the highest mark in the school. Well done Jack!

Year 11

1st	Jack Fitzgerald	Silver Award
2nd	Marc Castro	Silver Award
3rd	Joshua Preece	Bronze Award
4th	Dion Peter	Bronze Award
Jt 5th	Megan Williams	Bronze Award
Jt 5th	Jameela Martinez	Bronze Award
7th	Laurie Stevens	Bronze Award
8th	Sebin Jose	Bronze Award

Year 10

1st	Alex Caswell	Silver Award
2nd	Aodhan Griffin Barr	Silver Award
3rd	Chiara Romanello	Bronze Award
4th	Jonah Fage	Bronze Award
5th	Soffia Cahill	Bronze Award
Jt 6th	BJ Pasion	Bronze Award
Jt 6th	Alys Williams	Bronze Award

Year 9

1st	Harrison Doherty	Silver Award
2nd	Ola Pawlikiewicz	Silver Award
3rd	Paul Crudge	Bronze Award
Jt 4th	Bartosz Wojcicki	Bronze Award
Jt 4th	Harvey Collins	Bronze Award
6th	Liko Gondwe	Bronze Award

The following pupils from years 9 – 11 also did very well but they just missed out on a certificate: Eloisa Maristela, Chloe Wheatley, Gian Hernandez, Nazanin Mehrabadi, Sheha Riyaz and Levi Williams.

There were some very challenging problem solving questions and only the top 40% in the country receive awards. Well done to everybody that took part.

The next challenge is on 30th April 2015 and this is open to years 7 and 8 students. For more information on this competition or for a copy of the questions visit

<http://www.ukmt.org.uk/>

World Book Day 5th March 2015



This year, on the 5th March, it was World Book Day. Natalia Marcinkiewicz, Lauren Holle and Marvel Biji helped organise and publicise the event held in The School Library. Over 50 pupils took part and the event was a huge success.

There were a number of activities to do during lunchtime, such as designing a book cover, reading a book of your choice, making as many words as you could out of book titles, solving book-title anagrams and lots more.

During last lesson, Ms Nicholson took us up to The Library to take part in some of the activities. There were competitions for the best book cover and the most words you could make out of popular book titles. The prizes were £10 gift vouchers for WH Smith, so we could buy a book of our choice.

Thank you to the Literacy Teaching Assistants, some of the English Teachers and The Literacy Council for making this event possible – happy reading.

By Aimee Wiggins, Year 9 (Past Rapid Readers pupil).

BOOK TITLES GAME

Using the letters from the following book title and author's names make as many words as you can. (Your target is at least ten words).

The Boy in the Dress by David Walliams

- | | |
|--------------------|-----|
| 1. Example: waiter | 11. |
| 2. | 12. |
| 3. | 13. |
| 4. | 14. |
| 5. | 15. |
| 6. | 16. |
| 7. | 17. |
| 8. | 18. |
| 9. | 19. |
| 10. | 20. |

Kintbury

On Monday 2nd February 2015, eighteen pupils from year 11, including ourselves, travelled to the St Cassian's Centre known as Kintbury. A retreat where you encounter sincere friendliness, discover the real environment for reflection and find God in prayer whilst having loads of fun. After going last year, we thought we knew what to expect, but as the team said; "No Kintbury experience is ever the same".

When we arrived, we were reunited with the pupils from St Joseph's Port Talbot, most of whom we had met last year. Then we were officially welcomed by the team leader Sean, who told us a little bit about the centre and its background. We were given the fun challenge of making our beds and told to regroup in the De La Salle Room. In the De La Salle Room, we were given the opportunity to make new friends, relax, and try out some of the activities provided, this included: giant jenga, chess, hula hooping and the favourite...spinning plates!

After a very welcoming dinner, we were led to the Damian Lundy Room, where we took part in a few activities. One of our favourite activities was being assigned a prayer buddy. We were asked to always keep our prayer buddy in mind during the trip and talk to them when we had chance. We were then assigned to our groups where we would spend most of our time during the retreat. In our groups we discussed themes like Reconciliation and Good News. We were given inspirational presentations by our group leaders, telling us of personal struggles and how their faith changed their lives.

Some of our favourite moments were the meditation in the Cedar room, group activities and not to mention the gift of snow on the second day. Of course, the snow enhanced the "Emmaus Walk" - a walk in which we could get to know our group better, as we were able to have snowball fights. We also appreciated the moments in the quiet room, where everybody got to share feelings and their experiences.



Also, we would like to thank our teachers. This experience would not have been possible without Mr Scannell and Mrs Perwick who gave up their time to enable us to have this wonderful experience.

Kintbury was an amazing and unforgettable experience. It is a place where it is easy to believe in God; through the leaders, the atmosphere and the pupils. We encourage anyone who hasn't yet had the Kintbury experience to go.

Muyembe Mwanza and Elizabeth Crudge 11.3



This year I was given the opportunity to go to Saint Cassian's Centre, Kintbury. Over the course of the four days we took part in many different activities and games in our small groups and also in a large group. As we went with pupils from St. Josephs Port Talbot, it was a fantastic opportunity to make lifelong friends. We all had lots of fun especially because we were lucky enough to have snow and many snowball fights. At the end of the week we were all given something special by our group leaders to remember Kintbury by and keep for the rest of our lives. Overall it was great to get away from our everyday lives and take a step back and reflect.

Thomas Hutchins 11.7



Flame



On Saturday 7th March, a group of pupils attended 'Flame 2', which was held in Wembley Arena. We were all very excited on our journey to London, especially those who had attended the first Flame event in 2012!

Flame is an event that brings Catholic youth from across Britain together. It was a brilliant opportunity as on that

Saturday there were 8000 young people in Wembley Arena, so it allowed us to meet a range of new people.

I thoroughly enjoyed aspects of the day, although one of my favourite parts was the talk given by the Cardinal Tagle, who was from the Philippines. His talk was very meaningful and made me think about what being a young Catholic today really involves. Everyone also enjoyed the music provided by Matt Redman (who is a two-time Grammy award winner) and the activities that were held outside Wembley Arena throughout the day.

Overall it was a fantastic day, and we are all really grateful to Miss Smith, Mrs Hansen and Mr Crudge for taking us. It was a great opportunity to learn more about our faith and I hope that there will be another Flame event in the near future.

Emily Davis 12.4

Work Focused and PSE Days

A variety of personnel came to the school and gave pupils information and ideas on how to deal with life outside school and prepare them for the world of work. There were many activities planned for the students from a number of external providers. Pupils were delivered presentations and activities on anti-social behaviour, self-harm, drugs and alcohol education and financial planning. A key speaker was Mr Jamie Denyer who has spoken in numerous countries on the risks of aggressive behaviour and assault.

The pupils were also involved in gaining knowledge of the world of work. These sessions involved looking at what CV's should contain and how to make it stand out to the employer.

The Fujitsu company continued their support of the school and gave pupils an insight into body language, how to create a CV and how to conduct ourselves in an interview situation. Further to this, the pupils took part in a the Kudos computer based careers programme.

Mike Jones
Assistant Headteacher

Send My Friend To School

BVS Pupils Shortlisted for Prestigious Award



The previous newsletter contained information about the work of Aodhán Griffin Barr and Lauren Hutfield in support of the Send My Friend to School campaign. As a result of their efforts, Aodhán and Lauren were shortlisted for the prestigious position of Young Ambassadors for the Global Campaign for Education. They were one of only four sets of applicants to be interviewed for this role. Below, they discuss their experience.

When we heard about the Young Ambassador positions in September, we both knew immediately that we wanted to apply and began campaigning on behalf of Send My Friend to School. The campaign is run by the Global Campaign for Education (GCE) and works to raise awareness of the millions of children who are unable to access education worldwide and to put pressure on the UK government to take action over this issue. We publicised the campaign in school, culminating in a very successful visit from Sian James MP and Mike Hedges AM. They pledged support for Send My Friend to School and promised to raise the issue at a national level with government ministers. The Young Ambassador positions were the next step in our campaigning efforts. These high-profile roles require two UK students to be the faces of the Send My Friend to School campaign. The winners would travel to Bangladesh to investigate the success of the campaign, as well as attend events and meet politicians in the UK to publicise the work of the GCE and Send My Friend to School. It was a daunting prospect but we were both confident that we had the enthusiasm, skills and passion to take on this role.

We filmed an application video that showcased our work so far, as well as containing messages of support from our friends and peers and asked Miss Siddika to write supporting statements for us – she has helped us with the campaign from the start and we really valued her support. Once we submitted our application, we had a nerve-wracking wait for a response from the GCE. We finally heard back a week later – we had been shortlisted!

The finals took place in London in December and we had two weeks to prepare a presentation for the panel of judges, which included a journalist from the Guardian and the head of the GCE. On the day itself, we travelled to London with Miss Siddika. Despite a few broken down trains and missed Tube stops, we made it to the offices of ActionAid with just enough time for some last minute practice. Our presentation went very well and the judges praised us for it. We were asked some tough questions which we felt we tackled well.

Send My Friend To School

The GCE contacted us a few days later to tell us the results... we hadn't won. Instead, two pupils from a school in Cardiff had been chosen for the role. Although we were disappointed, we received fantastic feedback from the judges and were asked to be involved with future events in the UK, which we are looking forward to.

The whole experience was very rewarding. The application and interview process were demanding but we have developed many valuable skills as a result and had a great day in London, so we have no regrets about applying. We are excited to continue with the 2015 Send My Friend to School campaign when it is launched later this year and would be more than happy to share some tips if any pupils want to apply for the Young Ambassador positions next year!

Aodhán Griffin Barr and Lauren Hutfield (10.2)

Football Team News



Year 7 are in the top eight schools in all of Wales, losing their first game all year in the quarter against Glantaf School in Cardiff. They are likely to win their group in the Swansea Schools Cup to qualify for the semi-finals.

Year 8 have won all five games so far this year scoring an average of nine goals a game and conceding just one. They topped the group and are into the semi-finals of the Swansea Schools Cup.

Year 9 lost in the 2nd round of the Welsh Cup. If they win their final group game they will qualify for the semi-finals of the Swansea Schools Cup to defend their crown.

Year 10 are in the top four schools in all of Wales, with the semi-final of the Welsh Cup being played on the 25th March away at Llantwit Major. They won all five games in their group and comfortably into the semi-finals of the Swansea Schools Cup which they won last year.

Year 11 –were champions last year and they are again into the semi-finals of the Swansea Schools Cup. They will top their group if they win their final game against runners up last year - Pentrehafod.



Overall 37 games have been played so far this year - Won 31, Drawn 2, Lost 4.

School Council

Bishop Vaughan welcomes the newest members to the School Council



Hello everyone my name is Nataya Carroll. I am 12 years old and my tutorial is 7.1. I am representing Year 7 within the school council.

At first I was running for class councillor and when I got the job I was so happy. I read my speech out to all of Year 7 and I was successfully chosen to represent the year group.

My experience has just began and I've already had an amazing opportunity of being on the panel who interviewed for the new Headteacher.

It was such an amazing day out and I had lots of fun. I love my job and I am so pleased to be a part of the team.

Nataya Carroll

Hello, I'm Marvel Biju from 7.6. I have been elected as Year 7 school council representative.

After giving a speech we had to wait for a whole week for the results of the vote to come in. In assembly Miss Mainwaring announced the results and I was delighted to have been successful.

Shortly after the election it was very exciting to travel by coach to a local hotel to be involved in the panel interviewing for the new Headteacher.

It was a great day and the hotel was very impressive.

I am really excited for what my role will bring.

Marvel Biju

ESDGC



Eco Schools – Healthy Living & School Grounds

This term the Eco Committee has been working hard to raise awareness of healthy living and improving the school grounds. The Eco Committee has been working closely with Organic Centre Wales to look at ways of developing horticulture around the school and is funded by BOBL – Better Organic Business Links. Last year pupils set up an Eco garden but are looking to strengthen and develop the facilities. Herbs and vegetables produced from the Eco garden are already used in some cookery lessons but it is hoped by developing the facility produce can be used by all cookery classes and by the schools canteen. The Eco committee and school council have met on a number of occasions this term to look at using funding provided by Organic Centre Wales to develop our schools facilities by planting more perennial herbs and introducing a hydroponics system.

Competition – Design your own Orchard

The Eco committee are asking pupils to get involved in designing a school orchard. Please produce plans or drawings of what the school's orchard would look like and give details on how the school could use the orchard. You might like to mention the types of trees and fruits that you would like to grow.

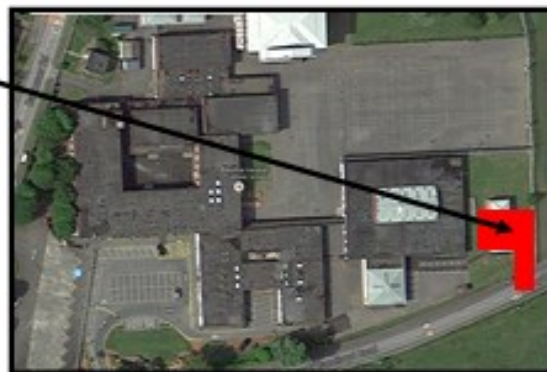
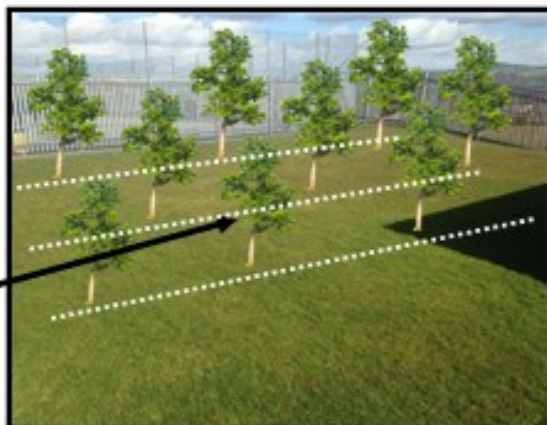
To establish an Orchard fruit trees need around 3 meters of space. We could fit around 30 developed fruit trees in this site.

Potential site.

The deadline for entries is **Monday 13th** of April. Please hand entries to Mr Richards in B3.

Sixth Form Charity Group

Since the Christmas term the Sixth Form have been busy planning and identifying charitable events which they would like to take part in. This term the Charity Group have decided to take part in Fair Trade Fortnight. Pupils will be learning through assemblies about the challenges which farmers in developing countries face. A Fair Trade bake sale, sixth form charity fun run have been organised.



GEOGRAPHY: FIELD INVESTIGATION

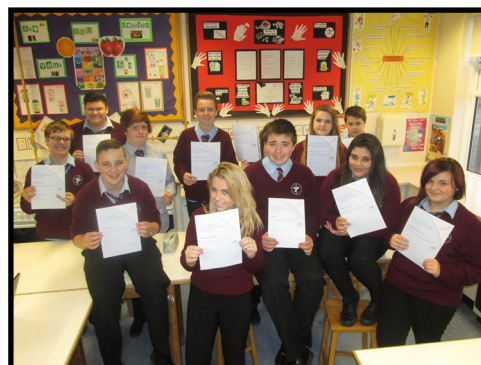


As part of the A-Level course students have been out investigating physical Geography in the local environment. Students were asked to investigate how physical processes can affect the river regime and landforms that they create. Pupils went on to the Gower Peninsula following the course of the River Ilston from source to mouth. The focus on the investigation how erosional processes altered the course of the river.



Year 10 Hospitality Group

Congratulations to Mrs Parker's Year 10 BTEC Hospitality Group for achieving the Chartered Institute of Environment Health Level One Food Safety Certificate.



Also thank you and congratulations to pupils in Mrs Parker's Year 10 BTEC Hospitality for their outstanding effort in the first round of the 'Aspens Young Chef of the Year 2015' competition which was held at school.

Special congratulations to Liam Sullivan and Keely Williams who will now compete in the regional finals to be held in March. Well done and good luck for the next round.

Healthy Eating Club

Wednesdays 3.30-4.30pm

We have had a busy term making a variety of healthy dishes.

One of these was a pasta dish, Arrabiatta meaning 'angry', so our sauce was hot and fiery! We made our own Coleslaw with the addition of apple and celery. We made a fruit crumble with an almond topping, a vegan dish inspired by Ms Nicholson from the English department who demonstrated the dish. It contained chestnut puree and it was delicious with a mushroom filling in a crispy plait.



One of the favourites was a healthy fruit cheesecake. Here are some of the pupils enjoying their efforts.

Mrs Pat Thomas
Food Technology



Food Technology

Rotary Young Chef Competition 14th January 2015 Morrison Comprehensive School



This was the first heat held in our area and the contestants had to prepare a two course meal in 2 hours and present it for two servings. They had a budget of £10 and the judges noted their hygiene, safety, order of work, costings, skills, presentation and the nutrition of the chosen dishes.

Our three contestants were all in Year 8 so they had very little experience of anything like this before. They were Ffion Wallis 8.1, Teagan Harrison 8.1 and Katie Bolam 8.1.



They worked really well under quite stressful conditions and produced excellent dishes which were wonderfully presented.



We did not win on this occasion but the experience and the confidence they gained was well worth it and.... we will be back next year!

Here are Ffion, Katie and Teagan holding their certificates that were presented to them by Mr Dudley Jones of Morrison Rotary Club. It was a pleasure to take these three conscientious pupils to the competition and they were a credit to BVS.

Mrs Pat Thomas, Food Technology



Pentrepoeth Dental Practice



Pentrepoeth Dental Practice in Morrison currently have spaces available for children to join their practice as NHS patients. Please contact the surgery on 01792 701440 for further information.

Maths Challenge Solution is D

After the first coat, half of the paint is left. So after the second coat, the volume of paint remaining is one third of half the capacity of the tin., i.e. one sixth of three litres = 500ml.

Senior Prefect Appointments

**Congratulations to the new Senior Prefects
appointed this term.**

We wish them every success in their new roles:

2015/16 SIXTH FORM COMMITTEE

Head Girl

Emily Davis

Head Boy

Thomas Crudge

Deputy Head Girl

Aimee Brudenell

Deputy Head Boy

Akeem Halimi

SENIOR PREFECTS

YEAR CAPTAINS

Year 7 - Phoebe Hughes and Cai Phillips

Year 8 - Tilly Davies and Sam Lewis

Year 9 - Caitlin Thomas and Thomas Griffiths

Year 10 - Natalie Hughes and Emmanuel Nasinda

Year 11 - Ffion Jones, Lauren Goodridge and Chris Alcantar

Sixth Form - Aimee-Louise Berry, Thomas Beaujean and Raymond Gundu

SPORTS CAPTAINS

Phoebe Hughes

Raymond Gundu

MUSIC CAPTAINS

Aimee-Louise Berry

Ffion Jones

Parents' Information

It is the responsibility of the parents to ensure their children receive a full time education – THIS IS THE LAW.

Parents must ensure that their children attend school regularly and on time.

It is a parent's responsibility to let the school know if their child is going to be absent by contacting the school using any one of the following methods:

Attendance telephone number (local rate): 0844 239 3548

Attendance text number: 07624 816695

Email: bvs-attendance@swansea-edunet.gov.uk

Alternatively the school's Attendance Officer's Mrs S Grigg and Mrs E-J Gwyther are available via the school's telephone number 01792 772006 Ext 219.

Remember the **only legally acceptable reasons** for not being in school are:

- Medical related absences
- Religious day of observance

The School Can Help

If you are worried or feel there is a problem with your child's attendance, it is always best to talk to the school first, however, the school can help with a variety of issues such as:

- Bullying
- Exclusions
- Child Protection
- Advice and Support

If you want any help and advice about your child's attendance, please contact

Mrs J Rees (Education Welfare Officer) on 01792 772006 Ext 218 or

Mr N Williams (Senior Tutor for Attendance and Inclusion) on 01792 772006

Pupil Information

If any of your details have changed, please write or email the school so that our records may be updated. This includes any change to address, contact telephone numbers (especially mobile telephone and emergency contacts), place of work, doctor, or any new medical conditions of which we should be aware.

Could you please pass onto the school any relevant email address that we could use to contact you?



Attendance

The Education (School Day School Year) (Wales) Regulations 2006 states pupils are expected to attend school for 190 days a year. Moreover, there is a strong correlation between good attendance and high achievement as set out below:

95-100% attendance	Best chance of success	Your child is taking full advantage of every learning opportunity.
90-95% attendance	At least 2 weeks of learning missed	Satisfactory. Your child may have to spend time catching up with work.
85-90% attendance	At least 4 weeks of learning missed	Your child may be at risk of underachieving and may need extra support from you to catch up with work.
80-85% attendance	At least 5 ½ weeks of learning missed	Your child's poor attendance has a significant impact on learning.
Below 80% attendance	At least 7½ weeks of learning missed	Your child is missing out on a broad and balanced education. You are at risk of prosecution.

The decision was taken by ERW, our regional education consortium, that no absences due to holidays during term times will be authorised by Head Teachers. This means absences that are due to pupils being taken on holiday during term time will be recorded as unauthorised.

As a school we actively encourage parents not to take holidays during term time so that children can fully benefit from the opportunities their school provides. If children are not in school, they cannot learn.

100% Attendance

Congratulations to Year 7 for having the most pupils with 100% attendance during the Spring term 2015.

Year 7	-	78
Year 8	-	68
Year 9	-	71
Year 10	-	52
Year 11	-	65



DID YOU KNOW ?

*5 minutes late each day amounts to
25 minutes late each week amounts to
16 hours 15 minutes education missed during a school year!*



Bus Passes



Could both parents and pupils be aware that the children should carry their bus pass with them at all times. Pupils could be asked at any time whilst travelling on a school bus, to produce their bus pass as evidence that they are allocated a seat. If pupils have misplaced their bus pass please contact the school office who will organise a replacement.



Also pupils are not allowed to travel on any other bus other than the one that is printed on their bus pass. On several occasions lately pupils have tried to travel on different buses, e.g. to go over to a friend's place after school. This is not allowed and the drivers have the right to refuse entry to pupils who are not allocated to their bus. It is parents' responsibility to collect their children and take them to alternative venues after school.

Getting to School

Parents are politely reminded that pupils who cycle to school must wear a helmet and dismount once they enter school property. Students must not come to school by scooter as this is dangerous to both the user and to pedestrians. We would very much appreciate your co-operation in this matter.

Mr J Blackburn, Headteacher

Parking Outside Bishop Vaughan

A letter has been received from the School Community Police Officer asking us to pass on the concerns of local residents in relation to parking and vehicles causing obstructions outside the school from 3.00pm every afternoon. Police Officers will be patrolling regularly outside the school to take positive action regarding any vehicles which are parked in contravention of road traffic legislation.



Parking During Parents' Evenings

Local residents have expressed their concerns in relation to parking outside the school and vehicles causing obstructions. Similarly parents using the school bus bay on Parents' Evenings must ensure that they do not block their car in or obstruct exits or entrances. Please park with due care and consideration at all times.

Mobile Telephones

If pupils have mobile phones they should note that they are **not** to be switched on or in use inside the school. This includes the buildings, playground and playing field areas, before, during and after the school day.



Mobile phones are to be kept out of sight, either on the person or in the school bag. The school can take no responsibility for any loss or theft of mobile phones.

Parents and guardians are asked **not** to contact their children by phone or text during the school day. If an emergency message needs to be conveyed the school office will take the call and pass the message on. Similarly if a pupil needs to make an emergency call home he or she just needs to approach the office.

Failure to comply with these rules will result in the phone being confiscated and kept in the school office for collection by a responsible adult.



School Website

The school website can be found at:
www.bishopvaughan.swansea.sch.uk



Paying for trips

Remember, if your child is paying for a school trip, the Finance House is open from 8.30am until registration and at morning break and lunch times. **All cheques should be made payable to 'Bishop Vaughan Catholic School' and the pupil's name, tutorial and trip should be clearly written on the reverse.** Thank you.

Lost Property



We still have a number of items in 'lost property', which is now located in the Main Office.

None of the articles are labelled and cannot, therefore, be returned to their owner. If your child has lost any item, please tell them to come and check with Mrs Hancock or Mrs Aleman in the Main Office. After a period of time items not claimed will be given to a charity shop as there is no room to store them.

Lost property is available for checking at break and lunch-time.

PLEASE LABEL ALL ITEMS OF SCHOOL UNIFORM SO THAT THEY CAN BE EASILY RETURNED IF HANDED IN TO LOST PROPERTY.

Please can all parents and guardians be aware that the school cannot supervise pupils arriving before 8.40 am.



**Bishop Vaughan Catholic School
Mynydd Garnllwyd Road
Morriston, Swansea
SA6 7QG**

Phone: 01792 772006

Fax: 01792 790565

**E-mail: bishop.vaughan.school@swansea-edunet.gov.uk
www.bishopvaughan.swansea.sch.uk**