



ST GABRIEL'S

ROMAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

PRONUNTIO

July 2017



Manchester Bombing Bury Vigil

On May 24th, the chamber choir were invited to sing at a vigil that was held to commemorate the 22 victims of the Manchester Arena terrorist attack at Whitehead Gardens, Bury. The service was led by the Mayor of Bury, together with the Leader and interim Chief Executive of Bury Council. This was a very poignant service and the chamber choir were honoured to play a part in it.

Welcome to our Summer term edition of Pronuntio

As this school year draws to a close, we look back on some of the splendid learning opportunities that have taken place. It was remarkable, too, how we were able to catch the sentiments of the nation in relation to the atrocities and disasters that have punctuated this term. Nevertheless, we were really proud how our community responded and you can see some of the images captured above. Thank you to everybody who has made the term vibrant and rewarding. I hope you find plenty in this edition of Pronuntio to celebrate. Have a very restful summer break!

Mr S.A. Smith

Fantastic football success at Gigg Lane

At the beginning of May, Bury F.C. hosted the Year 10 and 11 Bury Schools' cup finals. St. Gabriel's managed to get both of our teams through to the finals. Year 10 faced St. Monica's and Year 11 came up against Bury Church of England High School.

The Year 10 boys played first in a very close and competitive match which finished 2-2. This resulted in an epic penalty shootout which was tied at 4-4 after the initial 5 penalties per team! It was now 'sudden death'! Our boys kept their nerve to come out as winners, 9-8, on penalties. A fantastic effort by all the team. Well done.

Next to play were the Year 11 team who were determined to emulate the success of the Year 10 team. A tense first half finished tied at 0-0, although St. Gabriel's had been on top. In the second half our boys kept up the pressure on the Bury Church goal and eventually got the breakthrough with a great strike from Ronan Shaw. The team went on to dominate the game and further goals from Jordan Swain and Sean Corcoran saw them run out deserved 3-0 winners. A fantastic result and a fitting way for the Year 11 lads to finish.





The Class of 2017

This term we've waved goodbye to our Year 11 pupils with a series of events to mark the end of their five year journey with us. First, we had our final assembly with a chance to say thank you to the form tutors and other members of staff who have guided the pupils through their time here. There were plenty of hugs and tears as we started to realise that our time together was almost at an end. Year 11 then finished for study leave at the end of May and it was fitting that we marked the occasion with our Leavers' Mass.

Exams continued with force across the first few weeks of June and we could see the toll that the stresses were causing on the Year 11s as they looked more and more tired but, finally, exam season came to an end and Year 11 started to celebrate their achievements and congratulate themselves for their hard work over the last few months.

Celebration Evening was a huge success, remembering many of the things that the pupils have done over their five years here: from trips to



after school clubs, sporting achievements, to music and drama – five enriched years, all adding to the experiences of a wonderful year group. Individual achievements were also applauded, including our sports stars, our 24 “Star” pupils, 7 pupils who achieved the amazing feat of 5 years of 100% attendance, two pupils marked out by Miss Doyle for the Head of Year award, the Journey award and the Joe Geeling award – all worthy winners and remarkable pupils.

Finally, we had the big send-off with the Prom. Sadly, the weather was against us so we couldn’t have our big photo on the steps of the Village Hotel, but the weather did nothing to dampen the spirits of all the pupils who rocked the dance floor the whole night long. For staff, it was wonderful to see how grown up our little pupils had become and we wish them well for the future.

You have been a remarkable year group and you will be missed. God bless.

Miss Doyle

D of E Award

By the time you read this, 41 Year 9 students will have finished their assessed Duke of Edinburgh expedition! Involving 3-6 months of volunteering, physical activity and skills development, the Duke of Edinburgh Award is not an easy enrichment activity, but it remains the most valued by employers: "employers want to attract the right candidates and they know that D of E Award holders have something special to offer." Peter Westgarth, Chief Executive of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

Two-tyred

Since the last issue of Pronuntio there has been a whole raft of cycling activities going on. From 27-31 March, thirteen pupils representing all year groups and six members of staff completed 'The Big Pedal'. This is a nationwide initiative to encourage people to walk, cycle or scoot to school. Thankfully it was mainly fine weather with only light showers on the Wednesday. Due to the huge generosity of friends and family we raised £260 for Bury African Outreach. This money will be greatly appreciated by the children at the Saint Gabriel's School in Uganda. One boy in Year Seven managed to cycle the whole week which amounted to a total of forty-five miles!

On 11th May sixteen pupils visited the Nationwide Cycling Academy in Philips Park Prestwich to experience an introduction to downhill mountain biking. No injuries and lots of adrenaline and enjoyment!

Throughout May, June and July, just to keep things ticking over, we introduced 'Ride Friday'. This, as the name suggests, involved riding in each Friday.

Bike Week (June 19-23) is our established annual summer term cycling extravaganza which culminates with Dress Up Friday and, like The Big Pedal, involves cycling the four and a half miles to school from Holcombe Brook Precinct, then back in the afternoon.

In the last week of the Summer Term, thirty children have signed up to take a Bikeability course. Some will be consolidating their skills and others will be learning new ones. Hopefully, all this cycling will result in many more healthy, happy and contented, young people. As we pedal off to return again, a big thank you to Mr Pepperday, for whom this was his last in a long line of bike events. He has moved on to become a cog in one of life's other wheels!



St Joseph's Penny Celebration Mass - Salford Cathedral

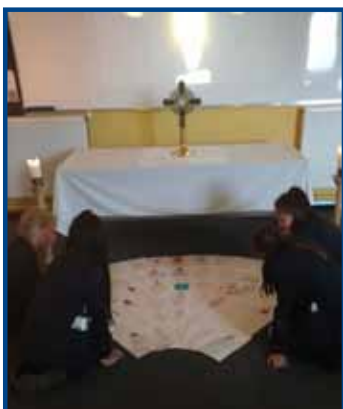
Each year, St Gabriel's pupils are invited, as part of their Lenten practice, to raise money for the St Joseph's Penny appeal to help the work of Caritas. Caritas is the official charity for the diocese, a merger of well-established charities. These include: The Catholic Children's Rescue Society, Catholic Welfare Societies, St Joseph's Mission to the Deaf, Catholic Family Care, Justice and Peace and Racial Justice. This year, St Gabriel's raised £3553 for the charity which is a remarkable achievement. On Wednesday 21st June, there was a Celebration Mass for this year's successful St

Joseph's Penny Fundraiser at Salford Cathedral, which was led by Bishop John Arnold. Various primary and secondary schools from around the diocese who contributed to the St Joseph's Penny appeal were invited to attend and the St Gabriel's pupil chaplains represented the school at the mass. In the homily, Bishop John spoke about the importance of us all being ambassadors of Christ by being charitable and looking after those less fortunate than ourselves. The organisers from Caritas also spoke about how this year's St Joseph's Penny money has been spent. The pupil chaplains were delighted to be a part of such a special event and had a fantastic afternoon.



Light Fever

This June both staff and pupils had the opportunity to experience Light Fever. Rooted from the Catholic Church and celebrated in countries all over the world, Light Fever grants an encounter with God, allowing an experience of His love and mercy through the Blessed Sacrament. All members of each form contributed to the thoughtful prayers and best wishes to those who are less fortunate. The candles lit strengthened our solidarity to our community and others around the world, as Jesus as our witness.



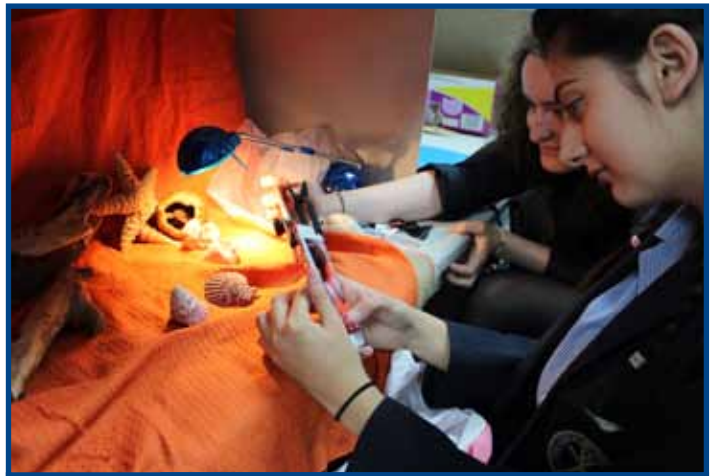
Theology and Philosophy

On Friday 16th June, 15 Year 9 pupils went to Holy Cross College to take part in a Theology and Philosophy A level taster session aimed at introducing gifted pupils to A level religious studies. The pupils spent 2 hours at Holy Cross in the RE department and experienced a number of different activities and learning sessions led by the experienced Holy Cross team. Pupils studied the work of the Greek philosopher Plato and looked at some of life's ultimate questions such as life on other planets, the universe and God. The pupils got a lot out of the experience and very much enjoyed the taster session; the pupils commented that some of the things they studied in the session were mind-boggling but had opened their eyes to philosophical thinking and the ultimate questions that we all want to know the answers to. We hope that the taster session has inspired the pupils to consider studying Theology and Philosophy at A level and University.



Year 10 Famous Icons

During their 'Identity' project Year 10 have developed expressive portraits based on famous icons. They experimented with drawing inks and fine-liner to produce bold and vibrant portraits inspired by Pop Art and contemporary illustrations.



Year 10 get creative with new technologies

Year 10 Art GCSE pupils have started to develop their photography skills using new mobile phone gadgets. They have experimented with a range of clip-on lenses, including fish-eye and macro lenses, that enhance the features of their own mobile phones. Pupils used these gadgets and filters to edit and manipulate their shots, and emphasise the intricacies of natural forms.



Year 11 Art Exhibition

2017 has been another very creative year for our talented GCSE Art pupils with many imaginative and skilful pieces of work showcased in the annual Art Exhibition. A wide range of themes and disciplines were explored during the course and the exhibition continues to be a great source of inspiration for our younger pupils. Our pupils have enjoyed investigating personal themes inspired by their favourite animals or interests which have resulted in larger scale 3D work, mixed media, Japanese lino-cut scrolls and etchings produced in response to The Whitworth Art Gallery exhibitions and workshop by the professional artist Alan Birch.



Bury Science & Technology Challenge Day

On Friday 30th June, 12 Year 9 pupils attended the Bury Science and Technology Challenge Day at Holy Cross Catholic College. After the short walk down the road, our pupils were split into pairs and then paired up with a couple from another Bury school to make a team of 4 - quite a daunting prospect for some of our young people! The pupils had to use their teamwork, problem solving and science and technology skills to complete 4 tough challenges. The first was to recreate an image of a person they had seen for only 1 minute using the latest E-Fit technology as used by the police force. In their medical challenge, our budding young scientists had to diagnose various health problems in individuals after being given limited information. Then came a robotics challenge where our teams had to programme a robot to drive around an obstacle course whilst avoiding certain dangers. Finally, pupils were given a motor, elastic bands and Lego, and asked to create a working vehicle: a task that most found quite difficult. Even though we were runners up in a couple of challenges, unfortunately, we did not win. However, all who took part had a very enjoyable day and we will certainly be back next year with a new team of 12. Many thanks must go to Mr Vincent and Mrs Kallee for attending the event with our young people and to the pupils themselves who were a real credit to our school.



Schools Direct

We are delighted to announce that all our School Direct ITT Students have passed their PGCE with QTS with flying colours. All of them achieved an 'Outstanding' or 'Good' overall grade and the majority of them have secured jobs in local schools starting in September.

Our Trainees have made a positive contribution to our alliance schools and their hard work will benefit future generations.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks to our partner schools: St Monica's, St Marie's RC Primary School and St Philips RC Primary School, Woodhey High School, Prestwich Arts College, Parrenthorn High School, Broadoak Sports College and Elton High School, who have worked with, and developed, our trainees this year. We look forward to working with them again in the future and hopefully extending our partnership further.

Thanks must also go to all of the professional and subject mentors who have taken so much of their time to support and guide our trainees on their placement, including our mentors at St Gabriel's.

The application process for 2017-18 begins in October so if you are interested in teaching and think it might be the career for you or a member of your family, don't hesitate to give us



a call or drop us an email and pop in for a visit. You can also find all the information you need on the school website.

Food News

Year 10 Food Preparation and Nutrition students have had a productive few months. Everyone in the class has succeeded in achieving a Level 2 Food Hygiene Certificate. This qualifies them to work in the Food Industry.

On June 13th St Gabriel's entered two teams in the annual Bury Junior Master Chef competition at Bury College. Isabella Bruce and Sophie Hopkinson won the award for the best dessert of the competition. Caden Gaunt and Callum Weldon also did extremely well with the meal they cooked.



Performing Arts

Sweeney Todd

We are delighted to announce that our next school production will be of Sondheim's cult and complex musical, 'Sweeney Todd'. Auditions took place in May and we were overwhelmed with the talent on display from students from all year groups. In the end we decided to have two casts for principle roles as well as a fantastic group of key ensemble performers and a supporting chorus. The production will be held on 22-24th November 2017 and more details regarding tickets will be available next term. Following the success of Les Miserables and Beauty and the Beast, we are really looking forward to working with our talented cast and confident that we can produce yet another fantastic production!

At this stage we are looking for sponsorship from any local business that could support the production in various ways. Also, if anyone has experience in costume, make-up, stage/set design and lighting/sound and would like to help out with the production we would be extremely grateful. If you'd like to get involved in any way please contact Mr Rushworth, at school, as soon as possible.

Rotary Musician of the Year

Three of our students were entered for the Rotary Musician of the Year award with much success. Last year, saxophonist, Nicholas Rushworth, got through to the district round in Congelton and won, going on to represent Bury in the regional round. He came 3rd in a very tough competition at Liverpool Cathedral. In May we had more success when two other students represented St Gabriel's and took part in the local round, held at Bury Grammar School. Emily Gaddes played tenor saxophone in the instrumental round and won! Lilian Noble performed in the vocal class and sang beautifully. Congratulations to all three students involved on an incredible achievement.

Extra-curricular summary

Our extra-curricular clubs have continued to thrive with much success this year. Our three school choirs have gone from strength to strength, with repertoire including 'Sister Act', 'Skyfall' and even 'Chocolate Dreams'! New for this year, the Performing Arts Department has also hosted Ukulele Club, Music Technology Club, Music Theory Club and Brass Ensemble. We have also recently formed our very own Worship Band, who will perform at the forthcoming GIFT Day event on 6th July, when we will welcome our Bishop John Arnold to St Gabriel's. Thank you to all pupils and parents for all your commitment and support, and we look forward to next year!

GCSE Geography Fieldwork

During the week of the 12th June, Year 10 Geographers carried out fieldwork in preparation for their Skills Paper exam. The pupils carried out fieldwork in two locations, Salford Quays and The River Irwell at Burrs Country Park. The work involved pupils carrying out various surveys to judge the environmental success of the regeneration of Salford Quays and the impact that the weirs have had on the River Irwell.



History Essay Writing Competition Winners!

This year we held the second St Gabriel's History Competition. Students were asked to discuss who they thought was the most underappreciated hero or heroine in History. A variety of historical actors were discussed from Jonas Salk to Napoleon. After much deliberation I am pleased to announce the following winners:

- 1st prize – Felix Knowles (Frederick Barbarossa)
- 2nd prize – Fintan Beirne (Plato)
- 3rd prize – Sofia Galasso (Maurice Hilleman)

Mr Tems



PGL

On Friday 28 April, after lunch, 140 pupils and 17 staff members made the trip down to Boreatton Park in Shropshire for our annual Year 7 pastoral trip. After a 2 hour journey, we arrived at the centre in time for dinner and the pupils were put into their activity groups for the weekend.

On the Friday night, pupils enjoyed playing games with the PGL staff and then went to their cabins. After a lively first evening with some bumps, bruises and tears, all eventually got to sleep but were up and raring to go (some at 6am!) on the Saturday morning.

Over the course of the Saturday and Sunday, our groups took part in raft building, giant swing, orienteering, abseiling, trapeze, tunnel trail and problem solving. Our pupils did themselves a lot of credit, most of them relishing the challenging of the activities and representing our school extremely well.

We got away with the weather this year with very little rain and mild temperatures, although those that ended up in the lake will certainly feel like they were in the Arctic!

We rounded off the weekend with a PGL disco on the Saturday night (a highlight for most) and then a lovely service on the Sunday morning before breakfast. Suffice to say, everyone loved their weekend and PGL 2017 was a great success.

A huge thank you must go to all the staff who gave up their weekends to make the trip possible, but also to our pupils who were a credit to the school and gave every challenge their all.



Sports Leaders.

Congratulations to the Year 10 Sports Leaders, who successfully ran a multi-skills circuit for the Year 6 Induction day. All pupils demonstrated fantastic leadership qualities and in doing so, contributed to their hours for the Level 2 qualification.



Year 8 Football WINNERS

A massive congratulations to the Year 8 Girls football team who have won the Year 8 Bury School Games tournament. Not only are they the Bury and Catholic winners they have won the ultimate competition to put them forward into the Regional School Games tournament in Manchester.



Year 7 Rounders

The Year 7 Rounders team have been training hard to learn the rules and tactics for the Bury and Catholic Rounders tournaments. They worked hard to produce excellent performances at the Catholic Rounders tournament in Oldham.



Year 8 Rounders

Two teams of fantastic quality have performed well in both Bury and Catholic school's competitions. They reached the semi-finals in the Bury School competition, showing determination and enthusiasm. Please keep up the commitment for the Catholic Competition.

Athletics

Well done to all our athletes who took part in the Manchester Catholic Championships and the Bury Schools Championship this week.



Mia Linaker-Walsh Year 8A

Mia Linaker-Walsh has been hitting the headlines in the world of tumbling and proving to be an outstanding Sports Ambassador for St Gabriel's and Bury. After a serious injury, Mia has fought back and demonstrated amazing resilience to qualify for the 2017 Trampoline Tumbling and DMT British Championships in September at the Liverpool Echo Arena. She will be joined by her sister Maisie (currently at OLOL) who will be joining Y7 in September. Maisie also qualified in 3rd place in double mini trampoline and trampoline.

At the competition in September, the top 4 children will be selected to represent Great Britain in the World and European Competitions in November. It's certainly not going to be easy but Mia's mum tells us that both girls are training really hard and even doing without a holiday this summer!

We are really proud of Mia as her foot is still causing a lot of pain - 8 months on from snapping her foot in half and shattering four metatarsals into a million pieces from the tip of her toes to her ankle. She has fought back well and came 5th out of 27 elite 13-14 year old girls (only 11 children gained the qualifying execution score). The pictures show Mia performing injured! We can't wait to see her perform fully healed in September.

Good luck to both girls for The British Championships.

