



ST GABRIEL'S

ROMAN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

PRONUNTIO

April 2014



Ski Trip To Austria

On Friday 14th February 8 staff and 67 pupils of St Gabriel's boarded two coaches to head off to Naasfeld in Austria for our long awaited ski trip.

We were due to sail across the channel on the 11.15pm ferry, but high winds, massive waves and a broken ferry meant that we didn't actually sail until 8.00 am the following day. A night sleeping on a rocking coach in a Dover port car park was not the best way to begin our holiday, but the behaviour and patience of all of the pupils on both coaches was exemplary.

After all of the delays we eventually arrived at our hotel in Naasfeld exactly 24 hours later than anticipated. The Hotelier quickly made us feel welcome with a hot meal and a reassuring welcome talk. The ski instructors had agreed to extend lesson times so that the pupils did not miss any skiing hours. We were also told that the weather was so bad on the Sunday, torrential rain on the slopes, that we were in fact lucky to have missed the day!

Monday passed without too many incidents; just one injury that required a visit to the medical centre and a lot of happy children eager to ski again on Tuesday. Over the week most of the pupils made excellent progress and it would be great, if not a little surprising, to see them winning gold medals in future Olympic Games!

One evening many of us went swimming in a typical Austrian spa but sadly it was too cold to venture outside to roll in the snow before diving into the 35 degree pool, as is the norm in Austria, apparently. We also visited a traditional Austrian bowling centre where I have to admit that my team spurred on by me were far superior to the others.

I would like to thank all of the pupils who went with us on this trip for their pleasant company, good humour (even in times of adversity!) and excellent behaviour throughout the week. Without the help and support of Mr Faulkner, Miss Atherton, Mrs Davies, Miss Key, Miss Walsh, my better half Mrs Bate and our old friend Mr Ellis I cannot imagine how difficult this trip could have been. They were always helpful, professional and supportive throughout the trip and for that I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all sincerely. Mr Wray, our PGL representative also did a sterling job.

Even with ferry closures, injuries to children on the slopes, poor weather and having to watch 'chick flicks' all the way to Austria I can still say that the first ski trip from St Gabs for several years proved to be a great success.

Mr Bate

A short message from the head....

As we approach Easter, Lent gives us the time and space to reflect on where we are and what we have achieved. Reflecting as a school on the last term, I am amazed just how much we have moved forward together; a term full of wonderful experiences, opportunities and achievements. Whilst our core business is focused on improving even further the teaching that takes place, we must not lose sight of making the most of the gifts and talents of every young person and adult. Read through this term's edition of Pronuntio and see for yourself how those gifts and talents being used to the full.

Mr S.A. Smith



SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY

St Gabriel's RC High School

1954 - 2014

60th Anniversary / Reunion Celebration
Saturday 21 June 2014



Learn
Love
Believe

Concelebrated Mass led by
Bishop Brain
in the School Hall at 11.00am

School will be open after mass until 2.00pm

Evening Celebration
Elizabethan Suite, Town Hall, Bury
Tickets £20 including Buffet & Dance
Available from school (over 21 only)

Pupil Chaplaincy

Over the last 6 months, the Pupil Chaplaincy team here at St Gabriel's has begun to take shape and make an impact. Pupil Chaplains are taking the leading role in school liturgies and events, witnessing to the values of the Gospel and encouraging others to celebrate our faith.

This term, our Pupil Chaplaincy Team launched the season of Lent through a variety of Ash Wednesday reflections and services. The team planned and led a service of reconciliation for three separate year groups. Alongside the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the afternoon, pupils were able to examine their consciences and seek forgiveness.



The voluntary lunchtime ashes service saw over 90 members of our school community receive a sign of commitment to change their ways for Lent. The service was led once more by the Pupil Chaplaincy team. Pupil Chaplain, Sarah Jane Hartley Rudd (Yr 10) became the first member of the student body to distribute the ashes to the congregation beside Fr Chris.

Pupil Chaplains also hosted their first ever networking meeting with fellow pupil chaplains from St Cuthbert's RC High School, Rochdale. They discussed the ways in which Pupil Chaplaincy is benefitting their respective schools, success stories and their plans for future development. The day ended with a short liturgy prepared by the students.

It is so encouraging to see young people inspired by the Spirit and stepping out in faith. Pupil Chaplaincy is making a positive contribution to our mission here at St Gabriel's. In the summer term we hope to encourage more pupils to join the team.

Yr 8 Retreat Day

Year 8 pupils experienced an in-house retreat this term co-ordinated by the RE and Chaplaincy Departments. Our theme this year was 'Who Am I?' Pupils were given the chance to explore their own identity with an emphasis on relationships and friendships with others. They also considered their relationship status with God.

At the end of the retreat, pupils created their own Junk Model Jesus: interpreting the characteristics of Jesus through his physical appearance. Some pupils gave Jesus big ears because he is a good listener, others covered their junk model Jesus in Christmas wrapping to represent him as God's gift to the world. All pupils took part in a closing liturgy, recognising that we all bring our own gifts and personalities to school but that we work together as one family in Christ.

Year 7 and 8 Chaplaincy Workshops

This term has seen many year 7 and 8 pupils visiting Mrs Currin in the Chaplaincy in small groups to explore the importance of faith in their own lives. Pupils visit the chaplaincy from their RE classes for three sessions of exploration. Through games, art, craft and informal discussion, pupils are encouraged to ask big questions, consider their own responses and to work out a way to deepen their relationship with God.

What the students have to say about their Chaplaincy experience:

'I enjoy being prayerfully creative.'

'It brings out my true colours.'

'I loved being in Chaplaincy because it makes me feel happy. Before I went I felt sad.'

'I like being able to talk about emotions and discussing without trying to hide things.'

'Everything is awesome!'

Caritas Ambassadors

On 25th March, Grace Baldwin (Yr10), Linta Linson (Yr9) and Lenie Guira (Yr 8) were commissioned at Salford Cathedral Centre as our first ever Caritas Ambassadors. All three students are already active participants in our well established MAD group (Make a Difference).

Our students enjoyed a busy day of training and networking with other secondary school ambassadors, exploring the themes of Catholic Social Teaching. The day concluded with a commissioning service led by Father David Glover, Episcopal Vicar for Social Responsibility. With this appointment, our three Caritas Ambassadors are entrusted with the responsibility to promote and develop social action projects within school, our parishes and local community.

We look forward to exploring the ways in which our Caritas ambassadors can encourage us as a school to demonstrate our faith in action, and to support and embrace the social teachings of the Catholic Church.



Holocaust Memorial Day

The 27th January marked Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) and the theme of HMD this year was journeys, so we decided to take pupils on a journey of remembrance. In PRE, pupils learnt about a variety of relevant topics including different case studies of people who have been affected by genocide, racism, segregation, prejudice and discrimination. Different year groups also studied child soldiers, Rwanda and of course the Holocaust.

Mrs Harvey also joined forces with Mrs Currin, the school chaplain, and the pupil chaplains, to organise a whole school reflection event. Pupils and staff alike were invited to the hall during lunch to reflect in a memorable, respectful and relevant way on the loss of so many and consider what we can learn from their journey.

Participants wandered through the hall which was arranged to reflect an actual journey with different candlelit stations to stop and ponder at images both projected on the large screen and stuck around the room and a wide variety of visual stimuli. The atmosphere as pupils and staff reflected together was both haunting and profound.

We were invited to remove our shoes upon entry and to contemplate how uncomfortable that simple act made some of us feel. We also considered how so many people had everything ripped from their lives during this horrendous time in history.

At the first station, participants looked at different images of the types of propaganda experienced during WW2 and pondered the rumours they have perhaps spread about others that they wanted to say sorry for or times when they have not stood up for the truth. We were encouraged to write these ideas on a post-it note and stick them to an angry mouth shape.

Reflectors then considered the Star of David that Jews were forced to wear and reflected on the labels we place on ourselves and others. We were encouraged to symbolically remove these labels and post them.

Reflectors continued along the candlelit journey to a broken window which represented Krystallnacht and not just the broken shards of glass that lay strewn on the floor that day, but with them broken dreams, relationships and hopes. Participants thought of a broken dream or relationship they wanted to repair and wrote it on a piece of "glass" that they then stuck back onto the window, repairing it.

Participants concluded their journey by considering the brave actions of those who stood against Nazi rule and in particular those who risked their lives to protect and sometimes hide Jews such as Anne Frank who lived with her family in a hidden room behind a bookshelf. We were asked to think through brave actions we could take to stand up against the injustice we see in our world today and we had some personal time to reflect and pray before returning to the business and normality of school life.

The hall was transformed for the day into an oasis of calm and reflection for the many pupils and staff who gave up their lunch breaks to take a few moments to join us on a journey of remembrance. Mrs Currin and Mrs Harvey would like to thank all of the people who made this event so special and memorable and who took the time to reflect.



Council's Corner Year 7 Council

During our most recent meeting we discussed the issue of littering and what we can do about it. While most pupils at St Gabriel's take pride in our school, some are not as concerned with keeping our yards and corridors neat and tidy.

In order to raise awareness of this issue we delivered an assembly and launched a recycling campaign. We are encouraging our fellow pupils join the mission to stop littering and collect bottle tops instead of throwing them on the ground. These can be from water bottles, milk bottles, shampoo, detergent, etc.

Please join us in making a difference today!

The Big Pedal 2014

During the month of March, 15 pupils and 6 members of staff took part in the inaugural "Bike to School Week" (The Big Pedal 2014). The route covered an amazing 9 miles a day, starting at Holcombe Brook and following the Kirklees Trail. The pupils, who cycled in sunshine, wind and sometimes rain, showed a great deal of enthusiasm.

Watch this space for future biking events in the summer term!



National Science and Engineering Week 2014: Forensic scientists to the rescue!

Pupils in years 7, 8 and 9 were asked to solve a crime during this year's National Science and Engineering week. Addressed by Mr Smith during a video clip they discovered that a member of staff had stolen the Science teacher of the year award!! Throughout their lessons pupils analysed a range of evidence such as blood spots, footprints, soil and fibres to work out which suspect had committed the crime...Dr Hargreaves! Megan Donaghy, 8R said 'I found the lessons really exciting and I really enjoyed completing all the practicals. My favourite lesson was when we looked at the suspect's fingerprints and when we took our own to eliminate us from the enquiry!'

Other activities during the week included assemblies and lunchtime activities, such as making slime with household ingredients. Also 25 year 9 pupils were invited to spend the day at Manchester University for their Science Extravaganza. The morning was spent engaging in hands-on activities at the Science Fair such as: creating cell models from biscuits, testing the strength of different chocolate bars and then comparing their structure to materials used in buildings, and using computer science to create music from movement. After a break, the pupils enjoyed an informative and interesting session all about the brain led by a current PhD student from Manchester University. A lecture all about the cutting-edge technology and research surrounding the discovery and production of graphene (the thinnest yet strongest material known to date created in Manchester) rounded off a thoroughly enjoyable day for both students and staff alike.

Thanks to everyone who made this year's Science week an enjoyable and engaging event for all.

Miss Atherton



World Book Day

On Thursday 6th March the school celebrated World Book Day with a number of activities across the whole school. We had a book swap for staff and pupils, a 'Guess Who's Reading' competition and pupils were challenged by the Book Buddies to get caught reading. Pupils were also invited to take part in the English Department's lunchtime event: Horror through the Ages. Pupils had the chance to take part in a quiz, create book covers for horror novels and were challenged to write their own piece of horror fiction to be in with a chance of winning a prize.

Staff dressed in some wonderful costumes to celebrate the day: Characters from novels such as The Wizard of Oz, Wicked, Harry Potter, The Great Gatsby, Tom Brown's Schooldays, Oliver Twist, Mary Poppins and many more joined us in our day's activities!

In the afternoon, we had a surprise 'Drop Everything and Read' where all staff and pupils were asked to stop what they were doing and read their choice of book. Book characters and Book Buddies visited the classrooms during this time and were impressed by the calm and quiet atmosphere.

World Book Day was an opportunity for our school to promote reading for pleasure, something we value in school. Pupils should look out for our next reading-related event coming up next term!



Poetry By Heart

At the beginning of February Lulu Shongedza in Year 10 took part in the Greater Manchester heats of the national competition Poetry By Heart, a competition to find the country's best poetry performers aged 14-19. Lulu had to learn and recite three poems, including one modern poem, one poem written before 1914 and one World War One poem. This task would be challenging for most people but Lulu was word-perfect and performed the poems in a sensitive and moving way to the audience and judges. The judges' comments reflected Lulu's outstanding performance. They said that they were 'transfixed' and called her delivery of the poem 'marvellous'. Well done Lulu!

Magistrates' Court Mock Trial

On Thursday 13th March, thirteen Year 9 pupils travelled to Burnley to take part in the Citizenship Foundation's annual Magistrates' Court Mock Trial competition.

These pupils had prepared extensively for this competition and are now legal experts, having had the opportunity to perform in a range of roles within a real courtroom. As part of their preparation, pupils had to learn about the law relating to the crime - in this case, handling stolen goods - and had to acquire all of the necessary information relating to their role. All of the pupils showed a huge amount of dedication and commitment in the weeks before the 'trial' and attended several preparation sessions, enabling them to perform wonderfully on the day. Although we did not win the competition, the feedback received from the judges was overwhelmingly positive, with one magistrate simply saying that they were 'a credit to the school'; we couldn't agree more. Particular highlights include: Heather's method acting which involved her covering her face in flour; Katie's probing questions which silenced the accused and the courtroom; Oliver's vehemence whilst defending his innocence and Aaron's helpful gestures when accompanying witnesses to the stand. Congratulations and thank you to all pupils who took part:



Chloe Marshall, Ella Bailey, Alex Lomax, Danyelle Sim, Katie Stansfield, Kiernan Tierney, Phoebe Boyle, Heather Cooper S, Hugo Knowles, James Kenny, Oliver Richards, Morgan Riley-Lanario, Aaron Bentley.

UK Mathematics Challenge

Once again, it is with great pleasure, that we announce the success of our year 9, 10 and 11 pupils in the Maths Challenge. Two of our pupils were lucky enough to be invited to take part in the follow-on challenges that took place on 20th March. Rowan Gaunt, year 10, competed in the one hour European Kangaroo and Harry Stainton, year 11, had the privilege of undertaking the gruelling two hour World Olympiad paper. Look out for their results in the next issue. Both Harry and Rowan achieved Gold Certificates in the UK challenge. A Gold certificate was also awarded to Carl Farrelly, who was very unlucky and only just missed out on an invite to the European round. The full list of Gold, Silver and Bronze winners is:

Year 11 - Harry Stainton, Carl Farrelly, Anthony Parkinson, Patrick Hanson, Nina Hodgson, Olivia Johnstone, Annabel Lair, Cory Dadak, Jennifer Armstead, Inga Dzewiatkowska, Joseph Bennett.

Year 10 - Rowan Gaunt, Jacob Walsh, Jake Chadwick, Grace Baldwin, Hamza Adnan, Stephen Mitchell.

Year 9 - Isabella Middleton, Katie Stansfield, Patrick Watson, Jack Murray, Zachary Chidgey.

Congratulations to all who took part.

UK Junior Maths Challenge

This challenge for year 7 and 8 pupils takes place on Thursday 1st May 2014. Some year 6 pupils from our feeder primary schools will also take part. Why not try these questions and see if you can get the correct answers. Remember that calculators are not allowed!

1. Pinocchio's nose is 5cm long. Each time he tells a lie his nose doubles in length. After he has told nine lies, his nose will be as long as a:
A domino B tennis racquet C snooker table D tennis court E football pitch
2. At the end of a hard day at the mine, the seven dwarves share out all their gold nuggets, making sure that they each get the same number of nuggets. If there are any left they are given to Snow White. Which number of nuggets would leave Snow White with the most?
A 300 B 400 C 500 D 600 E 700

Your Maths teacher will let you know the correct answers after Easter.

French Spelling Bee

Many Year 7 pupils faced a huge challenge this term as they participated in the National Spelling Bee Competition. The first round was completed in class and 50 French words had to be learnt then spelt out correctly using the French alphabet including accented letters in 1 minute. The best were entered for the whole school final with an additional 50 words to learn. This was won by Luisa Shield (7L), Shaheer Pervez (7L), Abigail Thomas (7W) and Adam Lord (7A) who went through to the Regional Final at Manchester Metropolitan University. This time with 150 words to learn and spell. This is their report:



We travelled to MMU on the tram with Miss Williams and Miss Holt. We felt nervous but used the journey time to do some last minute practice. En route we also stopped for a McDonald's milkshake to calm our nerves! After signing in and having some more refreshments, we went to a lecture theatre and competed against 10 other schools. We were one of the last schools in our round so were able to check-out the competition, some of whom were amazing. When it was our turn, Miss Williams said we looked as cool as cucumbers but inside we were shaking. 16 went through to the final including Luisa who said, "I was excited to get through but dreaded having to do it again." The finalists were amazingly fast and sadly Luisa did not make it through to the final at Cambridge University.

We would like to thank all the teachers who helped us plus Beatrice, Colleen and Rebecca from year 9 who gave up their lunchtimes to practise with us. We would definitely recommend the competition to next year's pupils. It took a lot of concentration, effort and determination but it has helped us to improve our vocabulary and was fun. We are also looking forward to helping next year's competitors.

Performing Arts

On the 15th and 16th January St Gabriel's hosted an 'Expressive Arts Project' for 180 Y5 students from six feeder Primary Schools. The Primary Schools involved were Holly Mount, Guardian Angels, St Marie's, Our Lady of Lourdes, St Joseph's and St Bede's and St Joseph's Ramsbottom.

This event combined the Performing Arts, Technology and Arts departments together. The topic of the project was 'African Sahara' focusing specifically on the concept on 'Sunrise' and 'Sunset'. The Y5 students were divided into groups of drummers, singers, performers, artists and graphic designers. The work that was created from the project was showcased on the evening of January 16th; the evening was extremely and well attended by parents. A massive thank you goes to those Y9 and 10 students who acted as Expressive Arts Ambassadors for the event.



GCSE Performing Arts Evening

On the 12th March an audience of around 250 people watched a dress rehearsal for a new devised performance created by the Year 10 and 11 GCSE Performing Arts students. The performance, titled 'Look How Far We've Come', celebrates Manchester and takes a glimpse at what this city has produced. The cast was made up of 80 performers who all sang, danced and acted without ever leaving the stage for the hour-long show. 'Look How Far We've Come' was performed in the round which made it extremely complex to stage however, it was worth it as it allowed the performers to interact with the audience and even get a few doing press-ups!

The show was created in response to this year's Performing Arts exam brief which stated that the students should produce a festival performance celebrating local history. It was finally performed in front of the Chief Examiner for Performing Arts in the country, who afterwards stated that the performance was the best piece of ensemble theatre she had ever seen!

Success

Congratulations to:

- Jack Sindall (Y10) for performing both musically and professionally in the 'Rotary Young Musician of the Year' regional final.
- Nicholas Rushworth (Y8) for becoming a member of the National Air Cadets Marching Band playing Saxophone. Nick will be attending an Easter course at RAF Halton as well as performing at 'The Wasps' Rugby Stadium, Twickenham. He will also be performing at the 100th Anniversary commemorative Celebrations of the First World War in France and Belgium in November.

Well done to both students!

Future events

- Performing Arts Festival

The annual Performing Arts Festival is back! From April 7th-11th (at breaks and lunchtimes) the Performing Arts department will be showcasing some of the work that takes place in GCSE Performing Arts, Music and Drama. On Monday and Tuesday lunchtime there will be an 'Open Mic' event and on Wednesday and Thursday 'PAW Fest' will return. 'PAW Fest' is a music concert that showcases the pop/rock talent within the school and has been organised by Y10 and Y11 students. On the Friday evening it's the Y11 Music 'Performance Evening' in which GCSE Music students perform their practical coursework to parents. This will be set out in a cabaret style and offers a chance for students to demonstrate all their hard work to friends and family. All events will take place in the Drama Studio.

- Manchester Hub Massed Choir event- Bridgewater Hall

On June 14th 20 St Gabriel's students will be collaborating with 400 young singers from various schools throughout the North West to perform at the Bridgewater Hall. The massed choir will be singing extracts from Karl Jenkins 'Songs of Sanctuary'. This event is being organised by the Manchester Hub and promises to be a very enjoyable event. Thank you to all those singers who are taking part!

- Barcelona Music Tour

From May 24th- 28th 40 musicians from Y8-Y10 will be going to Barcelona for the annual Music Tour. The students will be performing in two concerts and will be singing a mixture of traditional and contemporary songs (including 'Happy' by Pharrell Williams). We also hope to do lots of sight-seeing and enjoy the Spanish sunshine!



Food Technology News

During this last term, Year 10 Food Technology students have been studying Food Safety and Hygiene. As part of their GCSE course they have taken the Level 2 Basic Food Hygiene Certificate. This is a City and Guilds certified qualification which is nationally recognised as compulsory for everyone who works in the food industry. The entire class completed the course and passed the written examination which gives them their first qualification at St Gabriel's. We are very proud of their achievements.

A group of Year 10 students have also taken part in a Bury College Taster Day. This was an opportunity to experience life at college in the Catering Department. Year 7 and 9 students have been working towards gaining Sainsbury's Active Kids Get Cooking Star Chef Awards. Year 7s have been designing and making snacks suitable to be eaten after sport. Year 9 have been working on a multicultural foods project whereby they had to design and make a pizza product.



PRE and St Gabriel's partner with Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service



Greater Manchester
Fire and Rescue Service

Mrs Harvey is delighted to advise you that Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service (GMFRS) are going to be our new neighbours and have recently purchased a site in Bury with the intention to build a new state of the art operational training facility. This new and exciting project is a major investment for GMFRS and we have high expectations for its future use and our partnership with GMFRS.

Safety education is a key part of fire prevention and GMFRS want to use this site to bring safety to life to improve the lives of the community. Once opened they want the public to be able to use the facilities and for the first time, the public will be able to see fire fighter training first hand so that GMFRS can highlight the wide range of emergencies attended. The community elements will include a public viewing gallery and interactive experiences which encourage visitors to think about safety in real life environments. Representatives from GMFRS have been liaising with Mrs Harvey and Mr Loster with the hope of looking at this project in more detail in PRE, pupils engaging in competitions, helping to design aspects of the site and of course once it is actually built, visiting and taking part in learning experiences.



GMFRS have worked hard to reduce the number of incidents and prevent the subsequent devastation in people's lives and they believe that by providing a memorable, interactive experience they will be able to complement the other prevention work carried out across Greater Manchester and will be working with St Gabriel's to provide memorable safety messages and education.

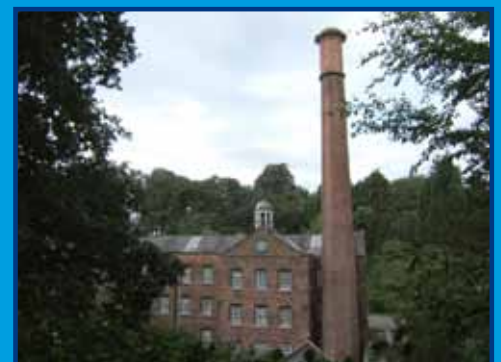
Further information about this new and exciting project can be found online;

http://www.manchesterfire.gov.uk/my_area/bury/bury-training-and-community-site.aspx

It is early days for the GMFRS operational training facility, but we are excited about the different ways our school community will be partnering with GMFRS in the future.

Quarry Bank Mill

On 27th and 28th February 110 Year 10 History students visited Quarry Bank Mill in Styal in preparation for their controlled assessment. The students discovered the reasons why the mill was built in a seemingly isolated village and explored how the industrial revolution transformed the production of yarn and cotton and turned Lancashire into the world's tailors in the process! Whilst visiting the small workers' village and the apprentice house they saw how different life was at Quarry Bank compared to the industrial centres of Manchester and Liverpool. Students left the site with pages of information to be used to explain what factors led to the mill being built and whether the workers were treated like slaves.



Geography Trip to Manchester University

On Friday 7th April a small group of Year 9 students visited Manchester University to gain an idea of what it is like to study Geography at degree level and the university in particular. The day consisted of various talks and workshops along with a tour of the University, the highlight of which was the visit to the laboratories where we marvelled at the ultra-expensive equipment that students can use.

Mr Faulkner

A Bumper Term Of Sporting Success!

2014 has been extremely successful, so far, in terms of sporting success. Winning teams so far.....

Cross country.

ALL boys' teams emerged as winners in the recent Manchester Catholic Schools' Cross Country Competition. This has never been done by any school before and as such represents a fantastic achievement by all those involved. Congratulations to:



Year 7 team of: Callum Farrington, Jack Rees, Harrison Bodle-Smart, Ted Szpunar, David Maudsley, Max Bolus and Maxime Freyre.



Year 8/9 team of: Kelvin Cockcroft, Curtis Johnstone, Joe Whelan, Adam Mannion, Patrick Watson, Zach Chidgey, Matthew O' Reilly and Tanaka Bvakacha.



Year 11 team of: John Murray, Harry Stainton, Chris Wright, Liam Shaw, Luke Walsh, Taylor Gibbons and Giuseppe Hilson.

The girls' cross country teams also performed very well in the Manchester Catholic Schools' Championships this year. The year 7 and year 11 teams both finished 2nd overall, with the year 8/9 team finishing 3rd in their age group. A great effort by all the girls.



Year 7 team: Abbie Sheppard, Isabella Bruce, Tionne Jones, Danika Jones, Kayleigh Millerchip, Megan Simpson, Rebekah Whittle-Smith and Aoife Haigh.



Year 8/9 team: Freya Wright, Selina Cockcroft, Rebecca Gartland, Jody Reynolds, Holy Smith and Sadie Thompson.



YEAR 10/11 team: Orla Brady, Imogen Rees, Lauren Booth, Sophie Whittaker, Abigail Murphy, Laura Prendergast and Clare Murray.



5 a side Football

Year 10 emerged as the winners of the Bury Schools 5 a side competition, convincingly beating Parrenthorn 6-2 in the final. This is the third time in 4 years that the team has won the Bury competition. On the only occasion they did not win they were beaten in the final. Well done to the team of: Connor Schofield, Ben Hornsby, Nathan Healey, Lewis Batty, Callum Andrews and Jamie Hart.



Runners up..... Football news

The year 11 boys' football team had a fantastic run in the Manchester Schools' Catholic cup, beating St. Monica's and St. Mathew's on the way to the final. The final itself was a tense, closely fought game against St. Peter's. The game went to extra time and then penalties with St. Gabriel's losing 7-6 in 'sudden death'. A heart-breaking way to lose but the boys should be proud of the effort they put in throughout the competition.



Basketball

The Year 9 basketball team had a great first season winning all league games bar 1 to qualify for the play offs. In a tense semi-final the team beat Parrenthorn to qualify for the final. In the final itself, St. Gabriel's put up a great show narrowly losing to Philips High School. Well done to all.



As the netball season draws to a close, all teams have been training and playing hard to secure their league finishing positions for the final matches of the 2013/14 season and to beat any opposition at the end of season tournaments. All teams have competed in the Greater Manchester County and Catholic Schools tournaments, during which brilliant netball was played by all squad members. The final results for the Catholic tournament saw year 7 achieving sixth place, whilst years 8 and 9 finished in third position.

During the next few weeks, teams will be taking part in the Bury schools' tournament, where we look forward to continued commitment and enthusiasm from all year groups. The U14's have played in the Greater Manchester league this season, competing against various schools around the Manchester area. The last match of this league will be against Saddleworth School which resulted in a draw when we played them last; so hopefully a nail biting final game!

The Year 7 team have made a great start to netball at St. Gabriel's with each player making progress. We look forward to them continuing to go from strength to strength throughout Year 8. A huge thanks must go to the Year 11 Netball Leaders, who have contributed so much to the coaching and umpiring of the Year 7 team.

Good luck to Year 11 for the forthcoming tournament. You have all worked incredibly hard on and off court this season. Well done!

All results will be published in the next issue of Pronuntio. Thank you for a great season and for all your hard work this year.

Miss Rhind and Miss Maymon