

ST WILFRID'S RC COLLEGE

TERMLY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2024 - AUTUMN TERM



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What a fantastic term we have had here at St Wilfrid's.

It has been an absolute pleasure to see all of the fantastic activities that have happened since September and to celebrate the excellent work of our pupils. We are so very proud of each and every member of our community. Our staff and pupils have worked incredibly hard.

I hope that all of our families enjoy a wonderful break over the holidays and we wish you all a Happy Christmas.

Mrs Lennox
Headteacher



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AT ST WILFRID'S

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

Each week, during Wellbeing Wednesday, pupils spend time working on activities that can promote better mental health and wellbeing. This term we have also celebrated World Mental Health Day. The theme of World Mental Health Day this year was "prioritising mental health in the work and school community". To show appreciation to staff for their hard work, thank you postcards were delivered to staff members around school and sweet treats left in the staffroom. Staff were delighted to receive postcards from our wonderful students.



ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

We marked Anti-Bullying week with odd socks day and our pupils were invited to wear their house colours for the day. Our Mental Health Ambassadors planned and delivered assemblies to tell everyone about this year's theme of "Reach Out".



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT AT ST WILFRID'S

SCHOOL COLOURS

We are delighted to award so many of our pupils their School Colours this term, School Colours are awarded to members of our community for their excellence in different areas. The table below has the names of this term's recipients. We are so proud of their achievements.

LEARNING AND SUPPORT	Emily 8C2 Kiah 8A1 Harriet 11C1 Isabelle 8C1 Isaac 8A1
LEARNING	Ayden 8MC1 Yazmin 9H2 Heidi 8C1 Precious 9H2 Rory 8A1 Rashme 8MC2 Riaz 9B1 Ethan 9H2 Amelia 8C1 Saxon 8A2 Marko 9MC1 Amber 8A2
FAITH	Luke 8H1 Jerom 9MC1
FAITH AND SUPPORT	Claudia 9B1
SUPPORT	Mia 9H2
FULL COLOURS	Sehaj 8C2 Dominic 8A2 Maci 8MC1 Maisie 8C2 Gurmilan 8MC2 Penny 8C2



CATHOLIC LIFE AT ST WILFRID'S

FEAST OF ST. WILFRID

We celebrated St. Wilfrid's Feast Day by coming together as a community for a whole-school liturgy. St Wilfrid's life offers us profound lessons; he was unwavering in his faith despite many challenges and was dedicated to a life in God's service. He built many churches, monasteries and religious institutions but was also quite a rebel; often clashing with other religious leaders leading to two separate exiles from his diocese!

Our Catholic faith is at the heart of everything we do here at St Wilfrid's and it is our aim to cultivate an environment where all pupils learn the importance of service to others and aspire to be as courageous as St Wilfrid.



FEAST OF ST. HILDA



We celebrated the feast day of Saint Hilda; one of our house Saints. Pupils were treated to green desserts and members of staff wore green to mark the occasion.

Hilda lived during a time of incredible religious and political change in Britain. Hilda's strength and wisdom was known throughout the country and her opinions were sought out by Kings and other powerful figures. Perhaps the most infamous legends about Saint Hilda was the tale that she was responsible for freeing Whitby from a plague of snakes by throwing them from the Abbey cliffs!

LAY CHAPLAIN

School Chaplains are called to be witnesses of the love and care of God and his Church for the school community.

Our new Lay Chaplain was commissioned at a special mass at Ushaw College this term. The mass saw staff from across our diocese come together to celebrate the special work that chaplains undertake in our schools.



KEY TO LIFE FOODBANK



Throughout October, we worked closely with the Key Key to Life Foodbank who provide emergency food and support to people in South Tyneside.

Thank you all for your generous donations for this wonderful cause. We are proud to support our local community; the donations will be greatly appreciated.

NORAH'S NORTH POLE

This year, we are proud to be supporting Norah's North Pole as we become Advent angels. Each tutor group has been working together to help raise money to donate presents to young people in our local community who will be going without this Christmas.

We are overwhelmed by the generosity shown by our pupils. Thank you so much for your efforts to put a smile on the faces of some children that have suffered hardship. It is very much appreciated.



PUPIL WORK- SPOTLIGHT ON OUR YEAR 7 PUPILS

HISTORY

Our Year 7 pupils have been learning all about Norman castles during their lessons. As part of their homework, they were set the task of creating their own versions of Norman castles.

Our talented Year 7 pupils came up with some extremely creative ways of demonstrating their Norman castles. Some of the pupils created posters and even models of castles!

What a wonderful effort from Year 7, well done.



FOOD TECHNOLOGY



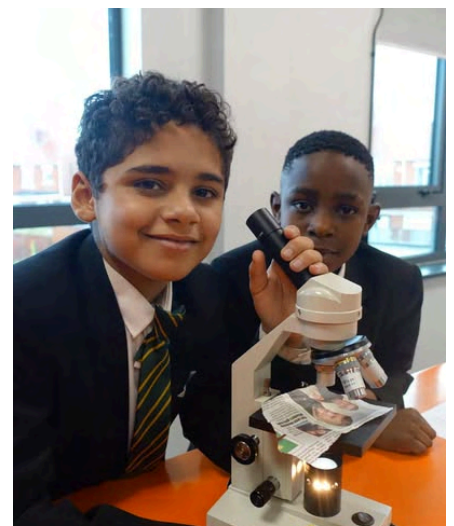
Pupils have been learning new skills in their cookery lessons and have been making their favourite pasta dishes.

SCIENCE

Pupils have been learning how to correctly use a microscope in their science lessons.

The pupils learned how to correctly place slides into the microscope, as well as how to adjust the focus on the lens.

This is an important skill that will support them in future practical lessons.



SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

UNDER 16 BASKETBALL

Some of our pupils attended the Under 16 Basketball Competition at Gateshead Stadium. The team were successful in winning the group, finishing unbeaten with 3 wins and 1 draw. They finished 2nd overall out of the South Tyneside Schools, meaning that they have qualified for the South of Tyne Finals which are due to take place in January.



The boys were excellent, and conducted themselves superbly across both afternoon of fixtures!

EQUAL ACCESS SCHOOL AWARD



A cohort of Year 8 and 9 girls represented St Wilfrid's at South Tyneside's girl's football Central Venue League.

The girls were absolutely brilliant; winning two of their three games. The team are now fourth in the league heading into their last round of fixtures in January which puts them in an excellent position for qualifying for the County Finals!

We were also presented with the Equal Access School Award prior to the day's fixtures with our club captain collecting it on behalf of the school. We are so proud of their achievements.

NEWCASTLE RUGBY FOUNDATION

St Wilfrid's pupils attended a rugby event organised by Newcastle Rugby Foundation in conjunction with Westoe RFC and South Tyneside School Sport Network.

It was delivered to Year 7 and Year 8 Boys and Girls as part of the Project Rugby and Women's Rugby World Cup 2025 programme. This is the first of three opportunities for this year.



CENTRAL VENUE LEAGUE

Our Year 8/9 football team kickstarted their CVL campaign this term. Despite being a newly formed team, the girls competed really well and were complimented for their conduct throughout the tournament by both the tournament organisers and referees. The team won two matches and narrowly lost two, standing them in great stead going into the second round of fixtures in November.



MMA



Some of our pupils were invited to take part in an introductory experience to MMA! It was an excellent opportunity for our Year 10 pupils, organised by South Tyneside School Sport Network and McNaldo's Martial Arts

CRICKET



One of our pupils has recently been the recipient of a number of awards for her efforts in cricket. She was awarded the girls under 13's top batting scorer and was in the top 3 for junior girl of the season!

PUPIL ACHIEVEMENTS

PSHE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Congratulations to our pupils who have been awarded the PSHE Achievement Award for their excellent efforts and superb contributions during the first PSHE rotation of the year.



PROUD OF OUR WORK



Pupils across the school have been celebrated as part of our Proud of Our Work events this week. Our Sixth Form Leadership Team visited every class in school to reward and recognise them for all of their hard work in lessons.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS CAROL CONCERT



Our Music Department hosted the annual Christmas Concert. The night included a range of sacred and secular music in celebration of Christmas, with performances from our orchestra, choirs and Sixth Form Band.

It was an excellent opportunity for our pupils to showcase their talents and we are so proud of all the pupils that participated. A special thank you to Mrs Lau and Mrs Gregory for organising such a special event.

WREATH MAKING

Lots of our pupils and staff joined together in a wreath making workshop. As you can see, our pupils did a brilliant job with their festive wreaths. This was a great way to get creative and unwind together as a community



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

It was wonderful to come together as a school community to enjoy Christmas lunch together. Pupils wore festive jumpers and accessories to enjoy a fabulously festive lunch.

Thank you to our amazing kitchen staff who always do such a fantastic job cooking for our school community.





We would like to take this opportunity to say **thank you** to all members of our community for their resilience, support and hard work this year.



We wish you all a safe and relaxing Christmas break.

Merry Christmas everybody from all at St Wilfrid's RC College!

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

God of hope,
Let us be grateful during this holy time of year.
Help us to show generosity and love
to those who have lost their loved ones and homes.

Help us to pray for those who are persecuted for their
rights and faith
Guide them with your light, bring them out of their
darkness.

Guide us to be men and women for others,
So that we may all celebrate and rejoice at the coming
of Christ.

Help us to be faith-filled and hopeful for the futures of
all our brothers and sisters worldwide.

Help us to support each other with our generosity.

Amen.

