



ST AUGUSTINE'S RC HIGH SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2014



School Mission Week

Animate Youth Ministries were in school for a week at the end of February to lead the School Mission. Mission Week is a chance for the school, and the wider community, to come together to explore themes that are important to them. In the 50th year of St Augustine's, the school chose the theme of 'Stepping out in Faith'. This focussed on the idea of 'stepping out' in society: what this has meant for previous generations and what challenges it presents to young people today.

Following the opening sessions which introduced the theme of the week, pupils from all year groups were involved in assemblies and workshops. These included a "Deal or No Deal" game, an X-Factor assembly, a faith based Mexican Wave and a number of action songs that were practised through the week and formed part of the final Masses at the end of Mission Week. An enjoyable week with a strong message.

As part of the school's 50th anniversary celebrations, there will be a Golden Jubilee Party held on Saturday 21st June in school. Please visit the school website for more details.

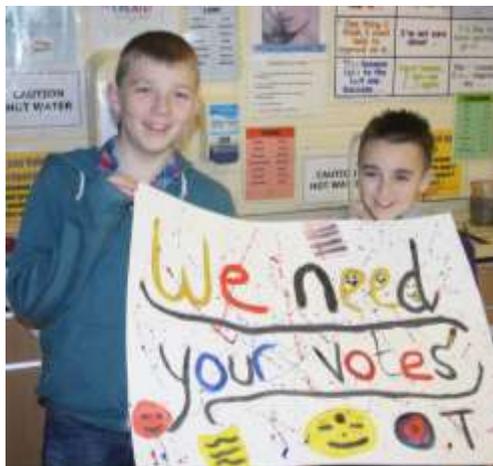


Texting Service for Parents

To ensure that you receive information about Parents' Evenings, school events and other news, please ensure that the School Office has an up to date mobile phone number.

Year 8 Democracy Day

Year 8 form groups spent a day considering the importance of democracy and why it is important to stand up for your beliefs. The day began with an assembly by Joyce Holden from Amnesty International, who spoke to the year group about the difficulties that some young people face in certain parts of the world. After this, each form group was given an issue on which to campaign and these were presented in the Hall at the end of the day. Issues including voting rights, the exploitation of child labour and censorship of the internet.



Snooker Superstar



As part of the Cue Zone project run in conjunction with North Lancs. Training Group, six times world champion, Steve Davis, shared his snooker skills and his tales from "I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here!" with our pupils. Steve has been promoting the snooker scheme which enhances numeracy skills and spent time signing cues, posing for photographs and giving an interview to two of our Sports Reporters, Breanna Howard and Sam Hedges.

Transport Update

Many thanks to all those parents who responded to the Lancashire County consultation on Home to School Transport earlier in the year. Despite an overwhelming objection to increases in the contributory charges paid by families attending faith schools, the Council decided to go ahead with the increased fees. All families affected by these changes should have been contacted directly by the Pupil Access Team.

Should you wish to voice your concerns about this matter, please do contact your local councillor or your local MP; for those living in the Ribble Valley contact is via the parliamentary website www.nigel-evans.org.uk.

Pendleside Hospice Fundraiser



Well done to Year 9 who danced their way through their PE lessons to raise money for Pendleside Hospice. The pupils were led by Kimberley Hill from Roefield for a one-hour "Phys-a-thon". Through sponsorship, the pupils raised over £1200 which was donated to Vikki Haydock from Pendleside during assembly. Our thanks to all who contributed to the event.



Stations of the Cross

Throughout Lent, pupils have been following the Stations of the Cross through shadow dramas, performed by Year 9 pupils. The assemblies feature a tableau of each Station accompanied by music, singing and prayers. Lent also provides the opportunity for pupils to attend voluntary Masses at lunchtime and we are extremely grateful to the local clergy for their ongoing support with Masses and Reconciliation.



Fundraising for Free

For a free and easy way to support the work of the school's PTFA log on to WWW.EASYFUNDRAISING.ORG.UK or visit the link on the school website.

The Sound of Music



It has been a busy term for the Music Department, with the Music Festival proving to be a showcase for the impressive talents of musicians at St Augustine's. The Swing Band also had a chance to perform to appreciative audiences during their recent tour to Scotland during half term.

We look forward to the 50th Jubilee Party on 21st June where past pupils will be performing music from the last five decades. Tickets for this event are now available from the School Office.

Dance Show



Congratulations to the group who took part in the Hyndburn & Ribble Valley Dance Festival earlier this month, featuring dances by local primary and secondary schools. The girls opened the show with an excellent performance based on "Colours of the Wind" from the film Pocahontas.

Dancers were all from Year 8; Elizabeth Griffiths, Molly Dixon, Annabel Wilcock, Amy Gill and Isabel Gregory.

Diary Dates

Friday 28th March
Monday 14th April
Friday 18th April
Monday 21st April
Friday 25th April
28th April—9th May
Friday 9th May

End of Term
Return to School
Good Friday (Holiday)
Easter Monday (Holiday)
Non-Uniform Day
Year 7 to 10 Examinations
Year 11 Leavers' Mass
Study Leave Begins



For recent updates on school policies, including Uniform & Appearance and Behaviour, please visit www.sarchs.com.