



2015 Edition

CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

Message from the Headteacher

The speed with which this academic year has flown by has been astonishing. Despite the weather being horribly inclement this week, the summer holidays are almost upon us.

As usual, at this time of the year, we bid farewell to a number of colleagues who are moving on to pastures new.

Our longest serving 'leaver' is Mr Barrie Ashmore, our beloved Senior Science Technician who has kept the Science department in order for some sixteen years. A former employee at the steelworks, he is both a genius and a genealogist. He knows so much about everything (often surprising subject specialists with his knowledge) and the family history of so many of our pupils and staff. His leaving speech was one of the funniest on record. We will all miss his kindness, generosity, honesty and good heart.

The school and the Art department are losing an exceptional teacher, Ms Stephanie Carpenter. She has been Head of Art here for some ten years and under her guidance the Art in the school has flourished. An exceptionally talented artist in her own right and a hugely gifted teacher, Ms Carpenter has inspired generations of young artists to fulfil their potential and to really enjoy the subject. Art results have been outstanding and the art displayed around the school will be a lasting testament to her dedication to the school and Ms Carpenter's inspiration of her pupils. She will be missed by all who knew, worked with, or were taught by her and we wish her every happiness in the future.

SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

Together we are the body of Christ

- In our school community we will
- show our love by helping and forgiving each other
- recognise that everyone is unique and celebrate their differences
- value ourselves, develop our talents and help others to develop theirs
- strive for excellence in everything we do
- grow closer to God in word, in Sacrament and in what we do
- live in partnership with all those around us
- respond to Christ's call to build His kingdom.

Mr Sam Williams, one of the finest young teachers ever appointed at Corpus Christi, is leaving us to take up the post of Head of Welsh at St Albans in Pontypool. He came to us as a student, at which stage he was already an accomplished teacher. An enormously engaging and successful teacher in the classroom, he was involved in a myriad of extra-curricular activities, such as trips to Disneyland Paris, Llangrannog, Eistedfodd (who will ever forget that waistcoat?) and, of course, his cameo role in 'Grease', singing '*Beauty School Dropout*'. We wish him every success, as he heads East on the M4, every morning. He has been told by many of us that, if all else fails, he can don his white suit and sing and dance to his new classes!

Three teachers who were appointed more recently are also departing. Miss Rhiannon Beveridge has secured a full-time Science post at Whitchurch High School, teaching KS3 to KS5, Miss Brodie Thomas is embarking on an amazing adventure, going off to teach in Burma, and Mrs Agnieszka Richardson has decided to return to being a 'full time Mum', looking after her two little children. We thank them most sincerely, for all their hard work and dedication and wish them every happiness in the future.

Miss Gemma Corfield, a past pupil who has been 'understudy' in the D&T department, covering periods of maternity leave, has secured a full-time, permanent post at Y Pant High School. We are delighted that she now has some 'security of tenure' and know that she will be very successful there.

Finally, we wish Miss Hannah Prosser every success as she embarks on the next stage of her career, undertaking a PGCE course in English, in September. She will be joined by Miss Sadie Bishop who, having helped out in the Mathematics department this year, is also going off to train as a teacher.

In terms of new roles in the school, warm congratulations are offered to Mrs. G Bussell (Associate Assistant Head), Mr K Burke (Head of Religious Education), Mr N Hampson (Head of Year), Mrs M Pratali (Head of Welsh Baccalaureate), Mrs N Thomas and Mrs N Evans (Assistant Heads of Year), Mrs S Love (Second in Welsh Department) and Mrs S Wilson (in charge of Home Economics). Mrs. M Hellerman has been appointed as Examinations Officer and Mrs. T Davies will be moving to Enquiries.

Reflecting on the year, I would like to thank all the staff and governors for their enormously hard work, the pupils for theirs, and you, the parents and carers of our pupils, for your support. It is when these three elements come together that we really live out our mission at Corpus Christi. The Estyn Inspection judged the school to be 'Good' and the Section 50 said 'Excellent'. The aspiration is to achieve excellence across the board. It is hoped that the eagerly awaited GCSE results in August will be another step in the right direction.

It is, however, unfortunately, with a feeling of great sadness that we break up for the summer. Many of you will be aware that one of our Year 11 pupils, Chris Babu, is very poorly indeed as a result of an accident in Cardiff Bay a couple of weeks ago.

It would be remiss of me not to thank every single one of our pupils who came together, yesterday, for a very special liturgy to ask God to heal Chris. Their response, their reverence, their faith and their generosity in prayer speaks volumes about who and what we are as a Catholic school community. Please keep Chris, his mother and father and his sister, Sneha, in your prayers over the summer holidays so that, please God, we have good news about him for everybody when we return to school in September.

Finally, our pupils return to school on Thursday 3 September. I wish everybody associated with the school a restful and happy summer break.

Mrs. Angela Thomas



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



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Please check the
school website for
letters and news-
letters.

[http://
www.corpuschristi
hs.co.uk/](http://www.corpuschristihs.co.uk/)

Friday 17th July
Thursday 20th August
Tuesday 1st September
Wednesday 2nd September
Thursday 3rd September
Monday 14th September

Thursday 24th September
Wednesday 30th September
Tuesday 6th October
Thursday 8th October
Thursday 15th October
Friday 23rd October
Monday 2nd November

End of Term 1.30pm
GCSE Results Day
INSET Day
INSET Day
Term Starts for all pupils
Year 7 Photographs
Year 10 Information Evening
Sports Presentation Evening
Year 7 Welcome Mass
School Open Evening
Blood Brothers Trip
Year 11 Parents' Evening
School closed for half-term
School starts

**PLEASE CHECK YOUR CHILD'S DIARY REGULARLY
AND SIGN WEEKLY**

THE NEW SCHOOL DAY

8.50 – 8.55	Warning Bell
8.55 – 9.15	Assembly/Registration
9.15 – 10.15	Period 1
10.15 – 11.15	Period 2
11.15 – 11.35	Break
11.35 – 12.35	Period 3
12.35 – 1.35	Period 4
1.35 – 2.20	Lunch
2.20 – 3.25	Period 5

SCHOOL UNIFORM

At Corpus Christi we take pride in the high standard of uniform which is described below. Jumpers, ties and girls' trousers have to be bought from YC Sports in Crwys Road who are our approved suppliers. Pupils are not allowed to buy jumpers from other suppliers and sew badges on to them. From time to time during your child's years at Corpus Christi, the school may clarify or adapt its uniform rules in response to changing fads or fashions.

The following items are compulsory :

BOYS

Black traditional style trousers.

No jeans or 'jean-like' trousers.

No belts, buckles or adornments.

White long-sleeved shirt (winter)

White short-sleeved shirt (optional in summer). Both are to be worn tucked in.

Clip-on school tie - kept in good condition.

V-necked black pullover with badge.

This is a compulsory part of the uniform to be worn at all times unless at the discretion of the staff eg. hot weather

Black shoes or completely black trainers.

Black socks.

GIRLS

Black trousers with a moderate bootleg.

No 'skinny' trousers or 'jean-like' trousers.

No belts, buckles or adornments on the trousers.

OR **Black 'A' line or pleated skirt.** (The length of the skirt must be no longer than mid-calf and no shorter than just above the knee)

White long-sleeved shirt-type blouse (winter)

White short-sleeved shirt-type blouse (optional in summer). Both are to be worn tucked in.

Clip-on school tie - kept in good condition.

V-necked black pullover with badge.

This is a compulsory part of the uniform to be worn at all times unless at the discretion of the staff eg. hot weather

Black low-heeled shoes or completely black trainers. No boots are allowed.

Black knee length socks (not over the knee)
OR **thick tights** (winter). **Black ankle socks** (summer).

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Prefect

As above, but with a distinctive tie.

Outdoor Wear

Coat, fleece, anorak or mackintosh - in plain black. Leather or material of a similar appearance is not allowed. School scarf or plain black scarf.

Fleeces are allowed as long as they are:

Completely black. Different coloured linings or collars are not permitted.

Three-quarter length or waist length jackets are not permitted.

Hairstyles

Hair must be kept neat and tidy.

No shaving, patterns, outlandish styles or colours are allowed. Boys' hair must not be longer than the bottom of their shirt collar or shorter than a number '2' blade.

Jewellery and Make Up

1 watch and one signet ring are allowed.

Girls are also allowed one pair of small studs or sleepers in the lobes of their ears only.

No other form of studs or body-piercing is permitted

No make-up or nail varnish is allowed.

Inappropriate jewellery is confiscated for a month. Trainers and inappropriate clothing are kept for at least a week

Equipment

Children need, of course, to be equipped for lessons. All pupils must therefore have with them :

- Ruler
- Pencil
- 2 Pens
- Set of coloured pencils (not felt pens)
- Rubber

Pencil sharpener

Many parents/carers will be buying new uniform during the summer holidays. Please note that "Skinny" trousers and short, tight lycra skirts are NOT ACCEPTABLE. Also, footwear must be completely black with no coloured markings of any sort.

Thank you for your cooperation over uniform matters.

HOLOCAUST VISIT



On Thursday 25th June, Corpus Christi High School welcomed the inspirational Eva Clarke to speak to Year 9 and Year 10 History students. Eva Clarke is a Holocaust Survivor. She was born in a Nazi death camp in 1945. She came to the school to share her mother's brave and incredible testimony. The students were in awe of the story and this was represented in the question and answer session that followed the testimony. It was a day to remember for the students, and a day and an event that should never be forgotten. Mrs. Clarke's story is told in two books which are available for the children to borrow from the Library which she kindly signed for us. Thank you Eva, for sharing such an inspiring and important story. We are hoping to have a continuing relationship with Mrs. Clarke.



CARDIFF & VALE MUSIC SERVICE



Corpus Christi High School pupils were extremely successful at the recent Ensemble Auditions as follows:

Ensemble	Name	Instrument	Result
Advanced Percussion	Oscar Notley	Percussion	Successful
High Schools' Orchestra	Rebecca Edge	Flute	Successful
High Schools' Orchestra	Gwen Bevan	Violin	Successful
Transitional Wind Band	Gwen Bevan	Clarinet	Successful
Transitional Orchestra	Amelia Donovan	Violin	Successful
Youth Brass Band	Zak Lia	Eb Tuba	Successful



Spanish Spelling Bee – Las Abejas



Spelling Bee 2015 Champions!

On Thursday 2nd July Spanish students Alexandru Smarandescu and Justine Wan, Year 7, took part in the National Spelling Bee Final Competition held in Cardiff University, accompanied by Geraint Tansey, Mrs. Carrington and Mrs. Harvey.

Having made it to the final, Alex and Justine were already in the top 49 spellers in Wales, out of the 3695 who had started the competition at the beginning of the year.

The competition started with lunch and registration and both Alex and Justine were able to get in some last-minute revision before being hustled into a lecture hall to be introduced to the panel of judges – Paul Kaye, a European Union Commissioner who had travelled from London, Phil Murphy, a STEM ambassador and fluent French speaker, and two members of the Consejería Española from Manchester.

The competition looked fierce; schools from all over Wales were competing and some had brought large crowds of supporters. Both Alex and Justine stayed calm and even seemed to enjoy the building atmosphere of tension and nerves before we took our seats for round 1.

Each pupil had 1 minute to translate as many words as possible into Spanish and then spell them using the Spanish alphabet – before we knew it both Alex and Justine had been in front of the judges and other schools to try their best. Waiting for the results to be announced was excruciating; would the judges prefer our pupils with their perfect pronunciation, or go for other pupils who favoured speed over accent?

In the end Alex made it through to the final, with Justine missing out on just 1 point in order to go through. Like a true professional she put all her energy into helping Alex prepare for the final, testing him on the 200 words he may be faced with!

At 3:15, after enjoying some cake to boost our energy levels, we took our seats to watch the other languages compete in the finals, marvelling at how quickly they whizzed through the words and Alex began to look apprehensive about competing in front of such a large audience. Alex was up first and performed brilliantly, passing only one word but remembering his accents excellently. As we waited to see how well the others had done Alex ran over in his mind how he could have done better, but Geraint was able to distract him by performing some magic tricks with a pack of cards!

Finally, the moment of truth was upon us – how well had Alex done? The competitors names were read, in reverse order and it began to be apparent that Alex had done very well indeed! As second place was read out, we let out a cry of happiness – Alex had won the whole competition, he was the best speller in Wales! As we watched him collect his cup, trophy and certificate we all felt huge pride and gratitude that all his hard work had paid off, a fantastic achievement.

¡Felicitaciones Alex y Justine!

YEAR 11 PROM

It was a glorious sunny day so the fake tans weren't really needed! The excitement had been building over the months preceding the big event and it was finally here. The room had been beautifully decorated with the theme of fire and ice. Pupils started to arrive in a variety of transport from party buses to range rovers and there was a delicious mocktail on arrival which unfortunately was not red to match the theme! We were entertained for half an hour by a fantastic singer while Mr Lloyd practised his photography skills. When the doors to the main room were opened we were all amazed, it was mind blowing!!! Red and white everywhere, twinkling lights and a fabulous balloon arch with CCHS 2015 right in the middle! We all sat down to eat at about eight o'clock although really we were too excited to eat. Mr Lloyd continued to take photos as if his life depended on it while Mrs Love and Mrs Molcher moved stealthily around the room searching for potential winners of Prom King and Queen. The food was delicious and when we got to desert Mr Lloyd put down his camera (begrudgingly) to do his speech. At this point the anticipation of who was going to win the prom prizes was massive! Mr Lloyd gave a wonderful speech (which of course mentioned rugby) and the prize giving began. This year we had prom princesses and princes with extremely classy crowns. The winners of prom princes were, Joseph Griffiths, Harrison Ferguson and Tom Meehan. The prom princesses were Jaimee Barry, Plamedi Santima and Phoebe Williams. Next up was the prize for most original outfit which went to the winged Victorian themed Jess Moultrie. Best dressed couple without a doubt went to Maddie Bowlden and Michael Bignell who looked like they had stepped straight out of a Disney Movie. Mrs Love presented the next award for the Most Outstanding Contribution to Bromance. This award went to Connor Rees and Gareth Powell although Sion Williams was arguing that it should have gone to him! The big award of the night for prom king and queen went to two gorgeous people both inside and out, Eddie Nuh and Masara Jamal. A popular choice all round. After the awards the DJ turned the music up and the dancing began. Two hours later it was time to go home, it was a really memorable night, and I wish we could have done it all over again. Thank you so much to Mr Lloyd and Mrs Love for organising it, but most importantly for looking after us for the last five years.

Special thanks to Balloon Platoon, Village Florists, Photobooth Cymru and Jon Paul.

YEAR 11 PROM



TERM DATES 2015—2016

TERM	TERM BEGINS	HALF TERM BEGINS	HALF TERM ENDS	END OF TERM
Autumn Term	Thursday 3 September 2015	Monday 26 October 2015	Friday 30 October 2015	Tuesday 22 December 2015
Spring Term	Wednesday 6 January 2016	Monday 15 February 2016	Friday 19 February 2016	Thursday 24 March 2016
Summer Term	Monday 11 April 2016	Monday 30 May 2016	Friday 3 June 2016	Friday 15 July 2016

INSET DAYS: September 1st and 2nd
 July 18th, 19th and 20th

Girls & Boys PE Newletters can be found on Friday at
<http://www.joomag.com/magazine/corpus-christi-sporting-times-april-2014/0609765001396371278>