



CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

AUTUMN NEWSLETTER

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents & Carers,

Autumn is most definitely upon us and the first half-term of the year has almost been completed. It has been a busy six weeks, but everybody has settled down well and there is a purposeful atmosphere around the school. All our new staff and pupils look as if they have been here forever!

Many of you will have been following the amazing fundraising for Chris Babu that has been going on this term. The Cardiff Half-Marathon saw teachers and past pupils join together and take to the streets on the morning of Sunday 2nd October.

It was a glorious day for competitors and spectators alike. All our runners, young and older, completed the challenge. A number of sponsored Year 8 pupils also took part in the Family Fun Run which had been organised at the same time as the Marathon.

Donations through the dedicated Justgiving website page amounted to just over £7,000 while cash donations and other fundraising activities in school netted a further £7,000.

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.

There have been sponsored silences, sponsored badminton, a 'Shoot the Hoop' competition and much, much more. A number of individual tutor groups collected in around £400, which was astonishing. Our pupils are so enterprising when they put their minds to a task, and generous to a fault.

The next major fundraising event will be the 'Extra Special Spring Ball', which is going to take place on Saturday 20th May at the City Hall. Over the years there has been a great deal of talk about having some sort of reunion to celebrate the passing of the years since Corpus Christi School was set up in 1987 and even since the new building was opened in 1996. Fundraising for Chris has provided the impetus and we would love to welcome groups of past pupils (of all eras!), parents (past, present and even future!) and present and past staff. In short, we would like to welcome anybody who has been, or is, associated with the school. It promises to be a splendid evening. Further details can be found on the page following and we would be delighted to see you there!

Another hugely exciting event that we are in the midst of during the final week of half-term is, of course, the annual school production. Anybody who saw a preview at the Open Evening, or who tuned into 'Made in Cardiff' last Friday evening, will know that it is a truly epic production, full of the most talented young people imaginable. Incidentally, 'Made in Cardiff' is presented by Sian King, a former pupil. It is wonderful to be able to follow her career which is clearly taking off!

I would like to draw your attention once again to the new regulations regarding footwear. Further clarification was put on the school website a number of weeks ago and all pupils will be expected to be in regulation footwear when they return to school after the half-term holiday. I would like to thank the majority of parents who have cooperated and accepted the changes and, indeed, to all parents who send their children to school every day looking so smart. Nobody at school wants to have to start imposing sanctions after half-term because of non-cooperation, as this detracts from the purpose of the school, which is to have all pupils settled, working hard and making progress. It will, however, be unfair to the vast majority who comply if a small minority 'get away with it'. In the interests of justice, this will not be allowed to happen.

With reference to the core purpose of the school, Year 11 pupils will be facing two Numeracy and two Mathematics examinations when they return after the half-term 'holiday'. If they are to perform well and to try to emulate the amazing Mathematics results (89% A*-C) of 2016, the break will not be much of a holiday!. I would like to thank, in anticipation, the members of staff who will be coming in during half-term to revise with them. We hope that all the pupils will do their very best!

I wish you and your family a restful break.

Yours sincerely,

Angela Thomas

Corpus Christi High School proudly presents



Tuesday 18th to Friday 20th October at 7pm
(doors open at 6:30pm)

Adults £10 Concessions £8

Tickets on sale from Mrs James or on the door

Examples of Unacceptable Shoes – as stated in the May 2016 Newsletter



Converse (or similar) leather or canvas hightop



Converse (or similar) leather or canvas trainers



Vans canvas X trainers (or similar) styles



Vans canvas slip-on (or similar) styles



Nike (or similar) leather or canvas trainers



Lacoste (or similar) leather style, Velcro trainers



Dr Martens Boots



Stan Smiths (or similar)

Examples of acceptable shoes



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Tuesday 18th October	Les Misérables Production 7pm
Wednesday 19th October	Les Misérables Production 7pm
Thursday 20th October	Les Misérables Production 7pm
Friday 21st October	Les Misérables Production Final Night 7pm
Friday 27th October	End of the half term

Monday 1st November	School opens.
Wednesday 2nd November	Maths GCSE Numeracy (Non-calculator)
Friday 4th November	Maths GCSE Numeracy (Calculator)
Tuesday 8th November	Maths GCSE (Non-calculator)
Thursday 10th November	Maths GCSE (Calculator)
Monday 14th November	Start of Year 7 Tests (all week)
Tuesday 15th November	Year 9 Digital Day
Wednesday 16th November	St David's College Open Evening (CCHS)
Monday 21st November	Year 7 Tests all week
Wednesday 23rd November	St David's College Open Day (Rest)
Thursday 24th November	Presentation Evening 7pm
Monday 28th November	Year 8 Geography Field Trip
Tuesday 29th November	Year 8 Geography Field Trip
Wednesday 30th November	Year 8 Geography Field Trip
Thursday 1st December	Year 8 Geography Field Trip
Monday 5th December	School Council Meeting
Wednesday 7th December	Year 11 Mock Exams start
Tuesday 13th December	Year 11 Mock Exams end
Wednesday 14th December	Year 11 Mock Art Exam
Thursday 15th December	Carol Service 7pm
Friday 16th December	Carol Service in school End of Term 1.30pm



Follow
us on

Twitter

@CorpusChristiHS

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

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

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



Raising funds for the

*Chris Babu
Trust Fund*

Thank you for your
support for this very worthy cause

Sample ticket

CORPUS CHRISTI HIGH SCHOOL

PROUDLY INVITES YOU TO AN

'EXTRA SPECIAL SPRING BALL'

20 MAY 2017

CARDIFF CITY HALL

7.00 PM FOR 7.30PM

3 COURSE MEAL ~ BAR ~ DISCO ~ RAFFLE
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

£50 PER PERSON

Chris Babu Fund

You may be aware that last year there was a terrible accident in Cardiff Bay in July 2015, just after the GCSE exams finished.. Youngsters frequently jump off into the water when the weather is nice. One of our Year 11 pupils jumped in and did not resurface quickly enough. He had to be rescued and resuscitated. He is still in hospital.

As a school, we would like to do everything we can to support Chris and we are fundraising enthusiastically.

We are holding an 'Extra Special Spring Ball' in Cardiff City Hall on 20 May with the aim of selling at least 400 tickets and would invite you and your family/friends to purchase tickets. It's a chance to dress up, enjoy a fabulous evening with live entertainment and with the knowledge that you have supported one of our past pupils.

If you would like to purchase tickets, or help in any other way by donating a raffle prize, please contact Mrs B Mullins, Heads PA, who will, in turn, contact you. Alternatively, please email her on bmullins@cardiff.gov.uk An instalment payment plan can be arranged to help spread the cost.







On the 12th October, the entire Year 10 visited SkillsCymru, at the Motorpoint Arena. SkillsCymru is a careers and skills event for Wales, located in Cardiff.

At SkillsCymru our young people were able to get involved with interactive features, hands-on demonstrations and challenging activities. They learnt about the huge range of careers, training and advice available in Wales, caught a glimpse into what their future career could be and gained a real insight into what that would be like.

Over 100 companies and organisations were available to enjoy meeting and influencing the next generation of Wales' leaders and workers. We hope they were able to inspire and motivate our young people face-to-face and inform them about careers they may have never considered. Organisations from key industry sectors were represented from Wales' leading employers and were on hand to provide young people with the advice and guidance they need to follow a career in their chosen industry.

Pupils were able to join in dancing, challenging Lego puzzles, baking and much more.

Mrs N Killen

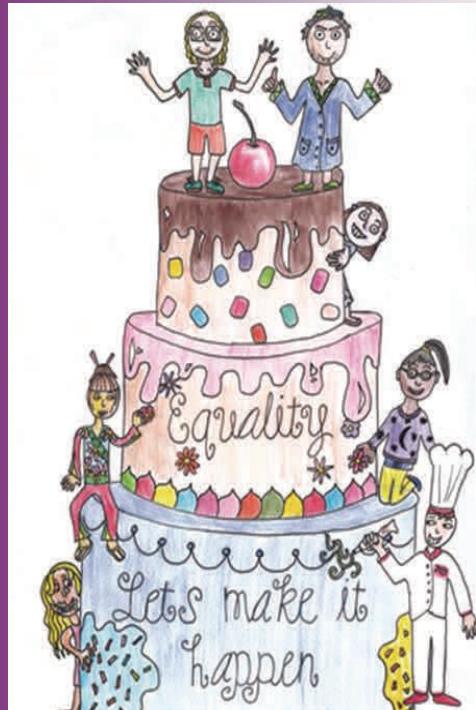
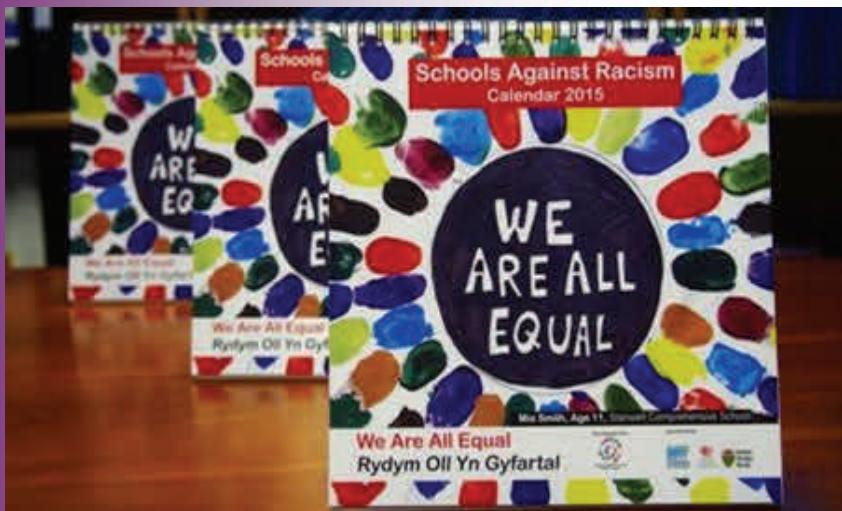


We have a long standing tradition of supporting this very worthwhile cause. Our gifts will be sent to the poorer parts of Eastern Europe in time for Christmas. We are collecting the following and would be grateful for any contributions:

Toothbrush & toothpaste, hat/scarf/gloves or warm jumper, soap, toy car for a boy, small doll or toy for a girl, sweets which are 'best before March 2017' (no chocolate, loose sweets, lollies, any other food or undated bags)

Other ideas:

- SOMETHING TO LOVE: teddy bear, doll, soft toy etc
- SOMETHING FOR SCHOOL: notebook, pencil case, pens, pencils, colouring pencils, sharpener, eraser, chalk, stickers
- SOMETHING TO WEAR: t-shirt, shorts, underwear, cap, beanie
- SOMETHING TO PLAY WITH: tennis balls, cars, skipping rope, marbles, musical instrument, yo-yo, finger puppets, wind up torch (no battery operated items)
- SOMETHING FOR PERSONAL HYGIENE: soap and facecloth, toothbrush, toothpaste, hairbrush, comb, hair clips/slides, scrunchies
- SOMETHING SPECIAL: carry bag, necklace, bracelet, craft kit, stickers, note or photo of yourself



RACE EQUALITY FIRST 2017 SCHOOLS AGAINST RACISM CALENDAR AND POSTER COMPETITION THIS YEAR'S THEME – NO TO RACISM!

As in previous years, pupils in Year 7 are being entered for the competition. They are asked to create either a drawing, painting, collage or photograph which they have taken, to reflect the theme. Pupils have been given a good quality piece of A4 paper on which to complete their competition entry. They have been asked to create their response at home before submitting it to their Art teacher by Wednesday 9th November 2016.

The competition is open to all schools in Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan. Race Equality First will select 13 pictures for their 2017 calendar and two designs that will be converted into special posters. Winning Schools will be awarded a prize of £150 and each winning child will receive £50 in vouchers, a certificate and an invitation to attend a special Calendar and Poster launch along with the head teacher and head of Art.

The competition is a great way of engaging young people in the issues surrounding race equality. We believe that the school has a fundamental role in promoting and valuing equality and diversity and in eliminating racism in our community. We hope you will join us in this initiative.

Mrs V Monkley
Head of Art

ROALD DAHL 100

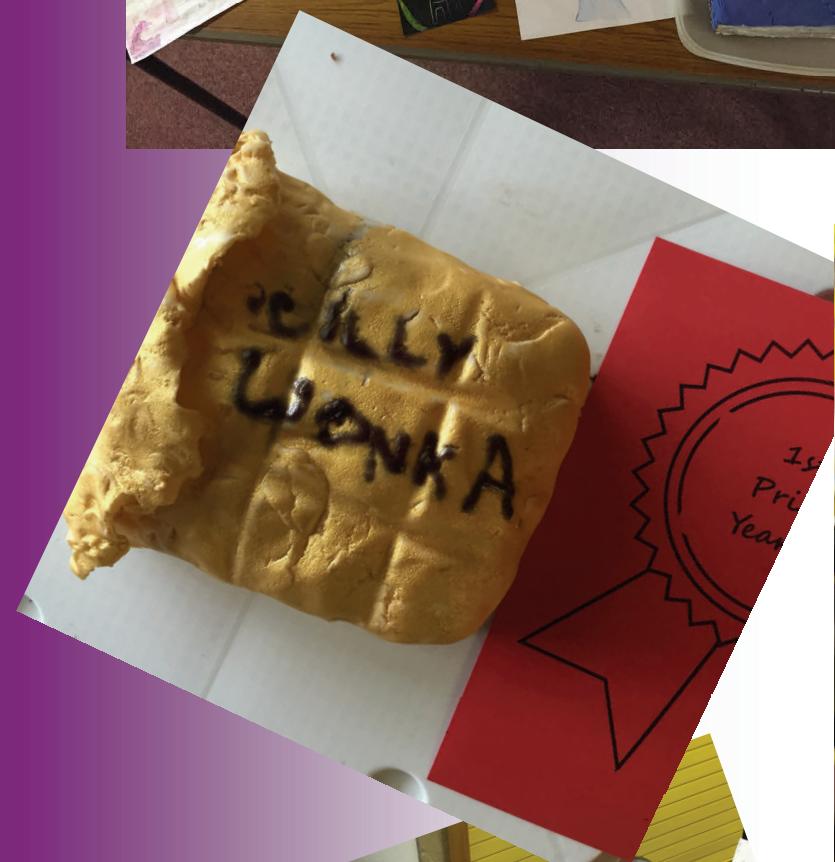


The English Department celebrated 100 years since the birth of the gloriumptious human bean, Roald Dahl with a week of celebrations in the run up to the 'City of the Unexpected' weekend in September.

The 'Inspired by Roald Dahl...' art and writing competition for Year 7 and Year 8 had almost 160 entries, while the lunch time cinema rooms where pupils could watch 'Matilda', 'James and the Giant Peach' or 'Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory' raised £102 for Chris Babu.

The Dahlicious first prize winners of the competition were Eliza Karpowicz in Year 8 for her Wonka Bar cake and Liam Millard in Year 7 for his 'going into space' dream jar. Charlotte Whitlock came 2nd and Afrin Mekkunnel came 3rd in Year 7, while Emily Rutter and Patricia Guerrero's joint entry won 2nd prize and Emily Backhouse received 3rd prize in Year 8.

The English teachers would like to say a phizz-whizzing thank you for all your marvellous entries: we loved them!



EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES 2016



Billing Brookfield SL. 2016
9am - 3pm
European languages exhibition
and migrant dinner
Evening

Celebrate
with us!



The MFL department once again turned the European Day of Languages into a week long event. The European Day of Languages (EDL) is celebrated across Europe on the 26th of September every year. It aims to promote the rich linguistic diversity of Europe and raise awareness of the importance of lifelong language learning for everyone. The range of events included World Cinema showings, a German Christmas Market, a Parisian Café experience and, back by popular demand, the multilingual Photo Booth event! This year, pupils voluntarily donated money for entrance into these events and all proceeds went to the Chris Babu charity. Thank you very much to all pupils and teachers that took part and gave so generously.





EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES 2016



Wolongi Kolejimizde 2016. Yılı
29 Eylül - 10 Ekim 2016
arasında düzenlenen
Avrupa Diller Günü
Töreni

Celebrate
with us!



Geography fieldtrips

During the last week of term before the summer break, we took 70 students on a fieldtrip to Barcelona as part of their Geography GCSE course. We had a superb time and highlights included coastal fieldwork in Arenys de Mar, exploring and shopping in Las Ramblas, visiting Camp Nou and Water World, amongst others. The students were great ambassadors for Corpus Christi and we look forward to another wonderful trip abroad in 2017 when we take the Year 10s to Sicily.



Next term we take the Year 8s on our annual trip around Cardiff as part of their Shopping unit of work. We will complete fieldwork on how and why retail patterns vary throughout our city for different groups of people. The information letters will be sent out after half term.

Miss Crum

Year 10 Barcelona Trip



Faith-based Language Summer School at St David's College

Chinese, Japanese, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese and Russian are just some of the languages that pupils experienced during the St David's College Faith-based Language Summer School.

On 6th and 7th July, approximately 400 year 8 and year 10 pupils from Corpus Christi, St Richard Gwyn, Willows and St Teilo's Church in Wales High Schools attended a Language Summer School organised and hosted by St David's Catholic Sixth Form College. This was the fourth summer school organised by the College. This two-day event was aimed at encouraging young learners to continue to study a language at GCSE and beyond, extending the languages that they are already studying, introducing them to a range of new languages and showing them why languages are important in the world of work. Year 10 pupils focused on the business environment in order to show them the relevance of languages in the world of work.

The event was organised in partnership with Cardiff University, The Confucius Centre, our feeder schools and a range of employers who have generously given up their time to support the promotion and encouragement of languages. These businesses include: Schools into Europe, Capital Law, and Signature Leather. The pupils spent their time studying a variety of languages, hearing about the importance of languages in the business world, and extending the languages that they are already studying. The whole day was one of fun and enjoyment while maintaining the focus on learning.

Part of the event was filmed by ITV Wales and was later aired as part of a programme focusing on the decline of language learning and what is being done to combat it. To watch the recording and video slide-show, copy and paste the links below.

<http://www.itv.com/news/wales/2016-08-23/welsh-economy-losing-millions-of-pounds-because-of-poor-language-skills/>

<https://youtu.be/XUqYAqLQDbs>

The College and our feeder schools have been working closely in partnership with Cardiff University and employers over the last four years and are very grateful for the support we have received. A range of other activities have and are being developed with our partners.

POPPIES

After the half term holiday, we will once again be selling poppies to support the British Legion poppy appeal. Please encourage your child to buy a poppy which will be on sale in the Library. A book of Remembrance is also available for pupils and staff to commemorate a member of their family who has died.



Selection Box Raffle

Leading up to Christmas, we will be holding a Chocolate Hamper raffle in the Library with all proceeds going to the Chris Babu fund.

There will be two prizes and tickets will cost 10p each. The winning tickets will be drawn during the last week of term.





DISNEYLAND PARIS

REMINDER FROM MRS LOVE

6 September 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Thank you for returning the consent form and £20 deposit for the trip to Disneyland Paris in 2017. I can confirm that your child has a place on the trip.

Please be advised of the payment schedule for the remainder of the cost. If you could please send a **CHEQUE OR CASH** with your child by the following dates.

PAYMENT 1 - £80 BY 21ST OCTOBER 2016

PAYMENT 2 - £80 BY 25TH NOVEMBER 2016

PAYMENT 3 - £88 BY 14TH DECEMBER 2016

You may send in three post dated cheques if you wish, or you can pay the full amount.

If you have any queries or problems please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards

MRS S. LOVE
WELSH DEPARTMENT.

ATTENDANCE

The whole school attendance total is currently running at 96.49%. The Welsh Assembly Government's target for pupil attendance is **95%**. Anything under this figure could mean that the Educational Welfare Service will contact you to find out why your child has been absent from school.

It is a parent's legal responsibility to ensure their child attends school every day.

Parents responsible for children who exhibit poor attendance risk prosecution and a **Fixed Penalty Notice** fine being issued by the Local Authority.

Parents do not have an automatic right to withdraw their child from school for a holiday and, in law, have to apply for permission from the school in advance. Holidays during term time will not be authorised and will result in a **Fixed Penalty Notice** being issued by the Local Authority.

Absences due to Illness or Medical Appointment

Although you may have contacted the school by telephone or in person to notify us of your child's absence, you are still required to provide a parental note, e-mail or appointment card in order for the absence to be authorised.

Below is a current breakdown of each Year Group's attendance:

AUTUMN 2016	
Year 7	97.4
Year 8	95.6
Year 9	95.9
Year 10	96.8
Year 11	96.5

WHY ATTENDANCE MATTERS

<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Absence</u>	<u>Lessons Missed</u>	
100%	0 Days	None	J
99.5%	1 Day	5 Lessons	L
97.4%	5 Days	25 Lessons	L
95%	10 Days	50 Lessons	L
80%	38 Days	190 Lessons	L
70%	57 Days	285 Lessons	L

Missing lessons makes the work more difficult.
For every day you are absent from school **YOU** fall
behind in **5 Subjects**.
100% Attendance = ACHIEVING YOUR POTENTIAL.



FACTS ABOUT IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE

Regular absences from school can affect the following:

Attainment levels - the quality of school work and qualifications gained.

Absenteeism in the first month of school can predict poor attendance throughout the school year. Half the pupils who miss 2-4 days in September go on to miss nearly a month of school.

Research shows that missing 10% of school, or approximately 18 days in a year, negatively affects a pupil's academic performance. That's just 2 days a month and that's known as chronic absence.

The academic impact of missing that much school is the same whether the absences are authorised or unauthorised.

When students improve their attendance, they improve their academic prospects and chances.

The chances of children and young people being involved in anti-social behaviour increase.

Affects a child or young person's general well-being and long term life opportunities.

Taking your Children out of School may affect their Education, for example:

They may find it difficult to catch up on work they have missed, for example, if they need to complete any GCSE coursework or if they are due to take any exams or tests.

Sometimes, if children already struggle with subjects such as Maths or English, they may find it even more difficult after they come back from holiday.

Missing time during the first year at a new school or the beginning of a term can lead to problems, for example, knowing what to bring to lessons, timetable mix-ups, making new friends etc.

School routine - disrupting your child's learning and that of the other pupils.

What the law says about non-attendance:

Under Section 444 of the Education Act 1996, parents or carers may be taken to Court and prosecuted if their child does not attend school regularly and their absences are unauthorised (or in other words, the school cannot or has not given permission for them to be off school).



every day counts
ATTEND TODAY -
ACHIEVE TOMORROW!

TERM DATES 2016—2017

TERM	TERM BEGINS	HALF TERM BEGINS	HALF TERM ENDS	END OF TERM
Autumn Term	Thursday 1 September 2016	Monday 24 October 2016	Friday 28 October 2016	Friday 16 December 2016
Spring Term	Thursday 3 January 2017	Monday 20 February 2017	Friday 24 February 2017	Friday 7 April 2017
Summer Term	Monday 24 April 2017	Monday 29 May 2017	Friday 2 June 2017	Tuesday 18 July 2017

INSET DAYS:
September 1st and 2nd 2016
July 19th, 20th and 21st 2017

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