



St. Wilfrid's  
RC College

# Newsletter

Autumn Term 2019



2019/2020



Northern Saints  
Teaching School Alliance



Northern Saints  
Catholic Education Trust

# St Wilfrid's Newsletter

## Autumn Term

*Welcome to the first newsletter of this academic year. Once again this has been a very busy and successful term, which culminated in being named a World Class School! More information on this below, but I'd like to personally thank all those from the St. Wilfrid's community who have helped us to achieve this. As has already been communicated, as of 1 January I will solely be assuming the role of Chief Executive Officer of Northern Saints Catholic Education Trust so future newsletters will be edited by Mr Price, Acting Headteacher. Thank you for your ongoing support and have a very merry Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.*

**Mr T B Tapping - Executive Headteacher**



### World Class School

St Wilfrid's is incredibly proud to be awarded 'World Class School' status!

World Class Schools Quality Mark has been accrediting Ofsted 'outstanding' secondary schools in the UK since 2014. The assessment required us to demonstrate that our students are capable of compiling comprehensive evidence in support of our application. After exceeding a challenging threshold in our Key Stage 4 performance, students then developed a compelling case for accreditation through detailed auditing of the school's capabilities including video submissions and participating in an assessment centre event, at which their performances were measured against a challenging framework. Congratulations and thank you to our students, staff and community for all of their hard work during this process!



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### Catholic Ethos

At the start of the year we held our annual Year 7 Welcome Mass, at which we welcomed our new pupils to St. Wilfrid's with a Mass inviting their parents & carers to join us to celebrate them joining the school.

In October we celebrated the feast day of our school Saint,. At this, Year 7 and 12 pupils were chosen to represent the school in remembering Saint Wilfrid.

On 12th November, pupils, governors and staff were thrilled to welcome the Right Reverend Bishop Robert Byrne CO to St Wilfrid's RC College to celebrate Holy Mass with us. Our local clergy Rev. John Gibbons, Rev. Michael Weymes, Rev. Robert Kinlen and Rev Saji Thottathill concelebrated, while Rev. Michael McCoy, Dean of St. Mary's Cathedral and Head of School Chaplains was the Master of Ceremonies. Year 7 and 12 pupils were chosen to represent the school and they couldn't have given Bishop Robert a warmer welcome with their singing and participation. The Mass took place in Nichol's Hall which looked resplendent displaying two new banners created by pupils of Saint Bede and Saint Hilda, and also a new icon of our patron Saint Wilfrid. After Mass, Bishop Robert met with pupils, governors and staff.

The Year 7 Retreat took place at the beginning of November. Year 7 pupils and staff enjoyed time at the Emmaus Youth Village in Consett. The focus of the retreat was reconnecting; with themselves and with their faith.

Our shoebox appeal this year was for a local charity. Year 7-11 pupils collected items for the Woman's Refuge in South Tyneside. As part of our Angel Tree & Key Project, our Sixth Form students raised money and purchased Christmas gifts for young adults in the local area, ensuring that all receive a gift this Christmas.



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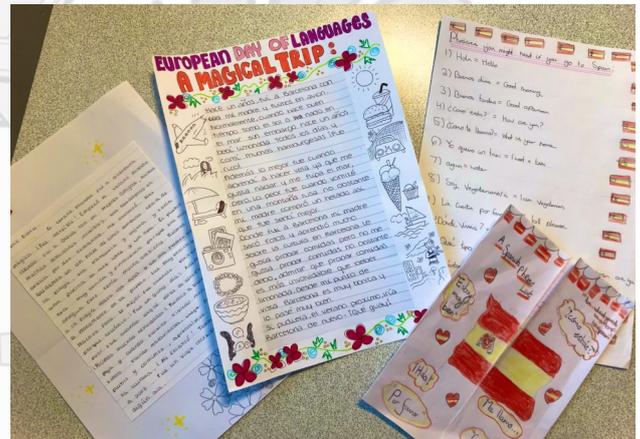
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### European Day of Languages

We celebrated European Day of Languages on the 26th September. Our pupils took part in languages games in form time, a whole school competition to guess which teacher speaks which language, a nationwide writing competition through the Association for Language Learning (photo attached) and we enjoyed a tasty MFL themed menu in Saint's Cafe. Our assembly that week also focused on St. Jerome - the patron Saint of MFL who also celebrated his feast day that week.



### Tyneside Cinema trip

Our A-level Spanish students were lucky enough to spend the day at the Tyneside Cinema in Newcastle for an Spanish Study Day. They watched the film Motorcycle Diaries and learnt all about Che Guevara's travels in South America. They spent the afternoon discussing university level language study with students from Newcastle University.



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### National Biology Week—October 2019

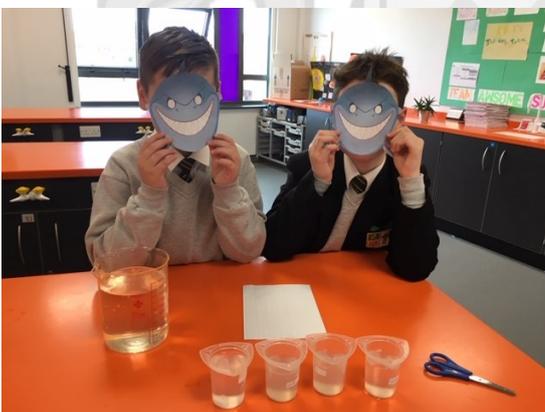
We had a fantastic time celebrating National Biology Week in October. As you can see, it was a really busy week!

Monday - sixth formers visited Fertility in the Toon in Newcastle.

Tuesday - Year 7's investigated 'can you smell as well as a shark' and made slime during their lunch.

Thursday - all years were invited to a zombie apocalypse and swab lab after school to see if students could survive different scenarios and whether bacteria grew by swabbing different surfaces. Sixth form were also involved in fancy dress.

Friday - Biology bake off on Friday. We had some fabulous entries, but the sixth form biologists and staff judged Ella Waters and Alex Connor (year 7) to be the winners with their eye cake.



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### Year 12 Mental Health Ambassadors

Meet our newly trained Year 12 Mental Health Ambassadors! This team will be working with our younger students to help them get the most out of their time at St. Wilfrid's, acting as super role models. From organisation and homework help to friendship issues and social skills, our team are there to help!



### Award winning catering staff!

We were thrilled in October when our apprentice chef, Josh Kane was named the WINNER of the national EDUcatering excellence award in the Newcomer of the Year category in London.

Many congratulations to Josh and his amazing colleagues in the catering team that have supported and guided him so well.



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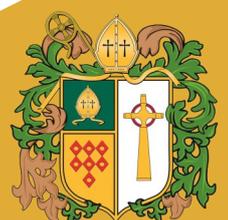
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### The Student Council

Student Council elections took place in September with manifestos and voting taking place in each year group. Two students in each form class have been democratically elected and have been attended Student Council meetings. This year we have our biggest ever Student Council!

Student Council have worked hard this year to ensure that the annual 'Make Your Mark' campaign involved all students within the school. Each year, students get the opportunity to vote to decide on which issue they would like the Young People's Youth Parliament to focus upon in the following year. Through assemblies where they outlined the importance of voting and through discussions during form time, the council ensured that students were informed about the issues that they could choose. This year, the issue we are focusing on is environmental issues.

In September, two Student Council representatives attended the unveiling of a blue plaque on Foyle Street, Sunderland to honour Dr Marion Phillips, Sunderland's first female MP. Along with invited guests and St Wilfrid's alumni NEFlow, the students heard all about the achievements of Dr Phillips and watched as Bridget Phillipson carried out the unveiling.



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### Sporting Achievements

To continue the incredible success of the last academic year where St. Wilfrid's RC College regained the title of South Tyneside Performance and Participation Champions for the second successive year, there have been a number of sporting achievements this term.

In football, the Year 7 boys have made an outstanding start to the year, winning every South Tyneside League fixture. The Year 10 boys football team have also reached the Third Round of the County Cup as well as the Quarter Final of the Londonderry Cup, where they will face St. Joseph's and St. John's respectively, in the New Year. In basketball, the Under 16 boys became South Tyneside champions, winning fixtures against Mortimer, St Joseph's A and St. Joseph's B, before defeating Whitburn 9-7 in a 'winner takes all' fixture. The boys will now go on to represent South Tyneside at the Tyne and Wear Finals. The Under 14 girls basketball team will also be hoping for similar success, after winning two games out of two resulting in them sitting top of their respective South Tyneside Leagues. Good luck with your remaining fixtures in the New Year girls!

We also had team success in trampolining, with our boys and girls development teams and girls intermediate team becoming South Tyneside champions. A special mention for Charli Egglestone and Neve Donaldson who claimed first place in their respective competitions. Further success in trampolining followed, with the boys development team claiming first place at the Tyne and Wear Finals. Well done boys!

The Year 7 and Year 8 Sports Hall Athletics teams also saw success at the South Tyneside event at Temple Park, with the Year 7 and Year 8 boys teams finishing second and third respectively and the Year 7 girls team claiming second place. The Year 7 boys and girls teams will go on to represent South Tyneside at the Tyne and Wear Finals. Our Under 14 boys and Under 16 girls badminton teams were also victorious at their respective South Tyneside competitions and will also go on to represent South Tyneside at the Tyne and Wear competition. We wish all our pupils the best of luck at the Tyne and Wear Finals.

Our cross country competitors also finished in third place overall in the South Tyneside championships, with Jake Waters and Amy Stewart winning the competition for their age groups and Rebecca Harrison claiming 3<sup>rd</sup> place. A fantastic achievement.

This term we have also had top three finishes in a variety of South Tyneside competitions, including the Under 16 girls table tennis, Under 16 boys badminton, and the Under 15 girls and boys sports hall athletics.

A huge well done and thankyou to everyone involved in sport at St. Wilfrid's so far this academic year.



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## WINTER CONCERT

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 7pm

Nichols Hall

Free admission but ticket required  
Tickets available from the Music Department



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