

# St Philip Howard Newsletter

ST. PHILIP HOWARD  
CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY



Term 1 2022

Come along with us on our journey...

Hello everyone and welcome to our St Philip Howard Catholic Voluntary Academy Newsletter for Term One of this Academic Year. Here, we will explore our school's endeavours throughout this term and look forward to what we have to come. We have categorised our news into stories regarding Catholic Life, Teaching and Learning and the SPH experience. In this edition, our main focus is on the SPH experience as our First Term has been filled with exciting and educational activities to help transition our pupils into the new school year. We are glad to welcome you along on our journey with us.

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## *Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* comes to SPH!

**Our Year 10 and 11 students watched the live performance of their GCSE text**

On the 2nd of November, Box Clever Theatre Company delivered a superb performance of Robert Louis Stevenson's *The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* to SPH's Year 10 and 11 students. This adaptation of the literary classic was performed with just three actors and was filled with suspense, horror and plenty of laughs. Students were captivated by the production and gained a greater understanding of their GCSE text.

Box Clever then held an acting workshop with the students, where we watched proudly as a number of our students volunteered to dress up and act on stage. The company will be visiting again next Term to perform *Romeo and Juliet*.



## Remembrance Day Assembly



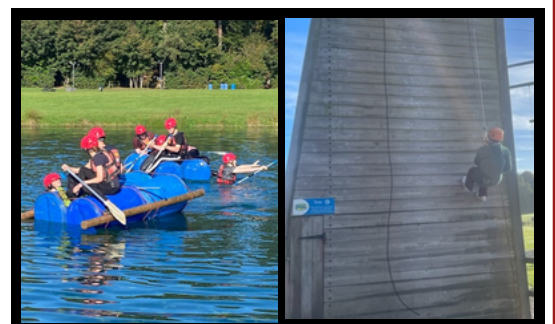
St Philip Howard remembered the service and sacrifice of those who have died in the line of duty in world wars and other conflicts. An assembly was held to commemorate this occasion and to remind our pupils to keep these individuals in their thoughts and prayers, especially at this time. The school also held a minute of silence as a sign of respect and time of reflection.

## Welcoming Future SPH students at Open Evening

We welcomed future SPH students and their families at our Open Evening which took place in October. Our different departments showcased their subjects through fun and informative activities. Our headteacher, Mrs Morris, gave a speech and parents and carers were able to meet our staff members and ask any questions. We thoroughly enjoyed meeting future members of #TeamSPH and we hope to see you next year!



**P** A number of our Year 11 students attended PGL, a trip which combines fun activities with revision sessions to create an enjoyable yet educational environment. Students participated in activities such as abseiling, raft building and zip lining. Mornings were taken up with revision whilst afternoons consisted of high-octane activities to develop teamwork and resilience within Year 11. In the evenings, pupils had time to relax and socialise in their dorms.



# Día de los Muertos

## Day of the Dead

Our Spanish department lead the celebrations of Día de los Muertos (The Day of the Dead) and taught us about this Mexican tradition. Prayer and remembrance are important aspects of The Day of the Dead and the day helps us to celebrate the lives of friends and family who have passed away. The department are showing the Spanish film 'Book of Life' every Thursday lunchtime, a film in which the protagonist is transported to the Land of the Remembered and reunites with his mother and ancestors on the Day of the Dead.



## Punctuation Show

Our Year 7 and 8 pupils had the pleasure of watching Barrie perform the 'Punctuation Show', an innovative way to get students engaged with learning about punctuation. Barrie's one man show combines a rock concert, comedy show and English lesson all in one performance.



# Restart a Heart Fundraising Week

Miss Aitken arranged various activities to raise money for a great cause during Fundraising Week, hoping to purchase a defibrillator and safe box to be placed within the Glossop community. Both students and staff got involved baking cakes for the cake sales on the 17th and 18th of October and staff vs pupils sports matches took place daily. We also had a non-uniform day at the end of the week. The entirety of Year 7 were trained to administer CPR, this training is invaluable as Miss Aitken herself had saved her father's life using CPR in 2021.



Year 7 completed a sponsored walk which raised over half of the total funds. The walk involved the pupils using a map to independently guide themselves around Mossy Lea/Doctor's Gate, meeting various teachers along the way.

The total amount raised in Fundraising Week was...

**£1726.93!**

St Philip Howard sends a massive thank you to everyone who participated and donated. With the funds we raised, we were able to pay for a defibrillator and safe box for the community.





## Sister Judith Visits SPH

Inspirational speaker Sister Judith Russi visited SPH to share her wisdom and insight into living in accordance with Catholic values in school. She spoke to both staff and students to both motivate and inspire us as we venture into this new academic year. Importance was placed upon caring for the environment and making a difference to the world. Sister Judith stressed how even one individual can make a massive difference.



## Forms Leading Liturgies in Assemblies

Each form within every year group has planned and delivered an assembly. The assemblies are interactive and involve the delivery of a liturgy. The liturgies follow the themes of the four Sundays of advent; hope, peace, joy and love. Every member of the form takes part, either doing a reading, holding a poster or candle, giving technical support or handing out resources.



## Helping others



At St Philip Howard, we strive to help others in our everyday lives. This term, we wanted to help those in our local community during this difficult time of increasing costs of living. SPH's Gratitude Club are therefore supporting the Elim Church with their Warm Tuesdays Drop-in Café. Every Tuesday, the Church welcomes people in for hot food, drinks and a calm space to use with free wifi. Students have donated various items of food to assist the Elim Church on their philanthropic mission.



## SRS Feast Day

St Philip Howard joined the rest of the schools in the St Ralph Sherwin Multi Academy Trust for the Feast Day on 2nd December. Kevin Gritton, our CEO, launched our new Mission, Vision and Virtues to nearly 1000 members of staff. We listened to inspirational speaker Sister Judith Russi and celebrated Mass together with Father Simon Gillespie.



We believe it is important for our pupils to attend Mass regularly. Therefore, each one of our classes has attended at least one Mass this term and will attend at least one each half-term moving forward. Near the end of each term, we also attend an end of Term celebration Mass.

## Our Residential Retreat to the Briars

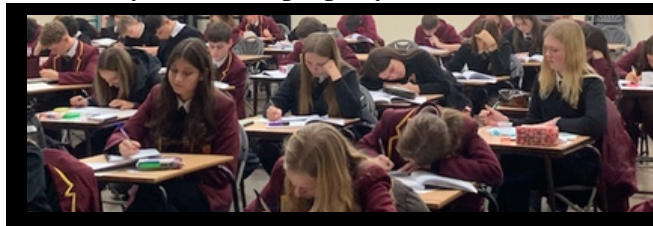
A number of our Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 pupils attended a three day residential trip to the Briars Catholic Youth Retreat Centre. Our focus on this trip was familiarising the pupils with the Gospel Values and discussing how these can be implemented into our everyday lives. The pupils were immersed in teachings about Catholic life, values and virtues through fun group activities and creative sessions. The pupils were able to strengthen bonds with one another whilst creating fun memories that will last a lifetime. Before departing for the Briars, pupils also had the opportunity to do some rock climbing and group activities.



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$$d = \sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2}$$

Ahead of their Term One mock exams, a number of our Year 11 students attended a Pomodoro style revision session in the school hall. The Pomodoro technique has been found to be an effective revision method and consists of revising in 25 minute increments, followed by a five minute break. The revision session was followed by some free pizza, which staff and students both enjoyed. We hope to keep running this style of revision sessions as it provides our pupils a great learning environment in which they can focus properly on their revision.



## Learning Walks

At SPH, we ensure high standards are always met by our teaching staff. One way we guarantee this is through Learning Walks. Classes are routinely visited to make sure processes are being followed and the curriculum is being taught correctly and to a high standard. These small, regular inspections make sure that our standards do not slip and values are maintained.



## Year 11 Maths Intervention with Third Space Learning

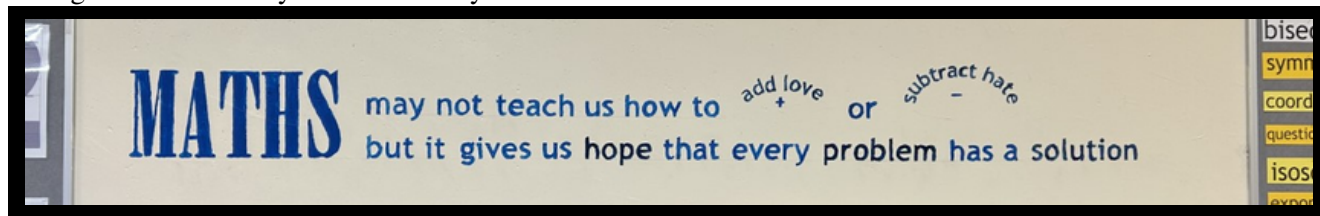
A number of our Year 11 Students have been receiving extra assistance with their Maths revision ahead of their GCSEs which will take place next year. Through the platform Third Space Learning, students have been paired with experienced tutors for weekly sessions. Through this extra support, we hope it will enable our Year 11s to reach their true potential in Maths and excel in their GCSE exam.



**THIRD SPACE  
LEARNING**

## Department Evaluations

During our first term, our different subject departments have been evaluated on both their teaching and marking, to make sure we are upholding the usual standards we expect at St Philip Howard. Particular focus has been placed upon the RE, Science and Maths departments, as we are keen for students to excel in these subjects throughout this school year and for the years to come.



## KS3 & KS4 Data Drop

The data for both KS3 and KS4 progress so far this year has now been submitted. Teachers have combined the academic results of each pupil whilst also recording their attitude to learning and uploaded these online. For the KS4 pupils, this data also includes their Mock Exam results. The next set of Mock Exams will be taking place at the end of March 2023. The results of these data drops will then be sent to parents and are used to monitor development.



# Peer Reading

SPH are excited to relaunch the highly successful Peer Reading scheme, starting in Lent Term. Selfless, supportive students from Year 9, 10 and 11 have volunteered to mentor young learners by reading with them once a week during form time. Through this, we hope to enhance the students' engagement with reading. It is also an opportunity for older students to support younger students with not only their reading, but building their confidence, strengthening relationships and promoting skills such as fluency. Our volunteers have received training so that they are able to support the younger pupils in the best way possible.



## Non-Fiction Novels Donation

The Library received an amazing donation of an array of non-fiction literature from the Institute of Physics. The books have contributed to expanding the non-fiction section within the Library and cover topics such as physics, transport, maths and sports. There is also a collection of biographies and autobiographies. The books have been displayed in the library as part of Non-Fiction November.



## Rewards Trips

To end our first Term back at school, a number of our pupils are attending rewards trips. Pupils are able to choose between a trip to Chatsworth House, Inflata Nation, Dino Golf or are able to participate in Rewards activities within school. The opportunity to attend these trips is based on a student's behaviour and attendance, and is a great incentive to encourage a positive attitude to learning.



## A practical Spanish lesson with 'Memrise'!

Year 7 worked hard and showed off their language skills in their practical Spanish lesson using the platform 'Memrise'. 'Memrise' is a learning tool which assists pupils with enhancing their language skills. Miss Garcia created a course for the class on the topic of "family". Students were then quizzed on Spanish vocabulary within this topic and this strategy is believed to enhance memory even more than traditional study methods. Every time a student would answer a question correctly, they would receive points and their names were added to a leaderboard. The winners received "euros", and so the competition was on!

