

ST PHILIP HOWARD NEWSLETTER

ST. PHILIP HOWARD
CATHOLIC VOLUNTARY ACADEMY



SPH - Heads, Hearts, Hands

TERM 1 ADVENT

Together on the Success Journey



Welcome to the St Philip Howard Catholic Voluntary Academy Newsletter. In this issue, we review the success of our students and our school community throughout the Advent Term. The Newsletter focuses on key areas such as Students' Personal Development; Teaching and Learning and the curriculum as well as elements of the Catholic Life of the school.

SPH

Open Evening

On 10th October, St Philip Howard hosted its annual Open Evening, welcoming prospective students and their families to explore everything that our school has to offer. The evening was filled with engaging activities, live demonstrations and the chance to meet our passionate teachers and students. Students showed great responsibility, with guided tours and helping with activities in all departments.



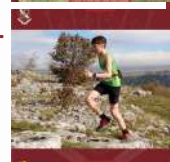
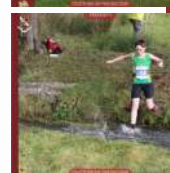
Welcome



National School Fell Race

A massive congratulations to our SPH student Oliver who entered the English National School Fell Race in Giggleswick on Sunday 6th October. Oliver came in second place in the year 8/9 boys race out of 72 runners!

The race consisted of a 42km run and a 206m climb, which he completed in 21 minutes and 22 seconds! This was an outstanding achievement. We are extremely proud of Oliver's accomplishment.



End of Year Performance

The students of SPH took to the stage to perform Matilda the musical, bringing the beloved story to life with energy, talent and heart. Students involved not only performed amazingly to the school but also to the Primary schools in the Ralph Sherwin Trust. The hard work from Mrs Dean, Mr Doughty and Mr Agboke really showed, as the performance was outstanding and a great way to end the Advent term.





CAFOD Family Fast Day

Students marked the CAFOD Family fast day, by coming together as a school community to show gratitude for what we receive. At lunch time, the students received a reduced meal from the canteen, which included a bowl of soup with a bread roll. This is a way for our students to reflect on the many challenges that millions of people face each day around the world who live in poverty.

Plastic Waste

The Eco Club led by Mr Greenwood aimed to tackle plastic waste while encouraging creativity and environmental awareness. Students collected discarded plastic bottles, caps and containers, transforming them into sculptures based on Sealife creatures. This demonstrated how waste can be repurposed into art and learning tools, showing students the importance of recycling and reducing plastic pollution. It was a powerful reminder that small efforts can lead to big changes for a cleaner, greener future.



A Big Well-Done to Demi

We would like to give a massive congratulations to Demi, a Year 7 student on her fantastic achievement at the World Kick Boxing Championships where she won World Titles in Portugal.

Demi Won:

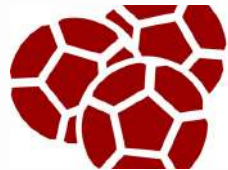
Gold - Light con World Champion under 30kg

Gold - Teams points World Champion

Silver - Open Weight points under 30kg

Silver - Teams light con

Silver - Points under 30kg



BOCCIA ENGLAND

Boccia

Boccia Students at SPH were given the opportunity to attend and take part in the annual Boccia games. Boccia is a paralympic sport introduced in 1984. Being one of the most inclusive sports, as every one is seated and given an assistant, Boccia is very similar to bowls and has been proven to increase confidence, improve coordination, agility and fitness. Students relished the chance to take part and learn a new sport.



Motivational Singer

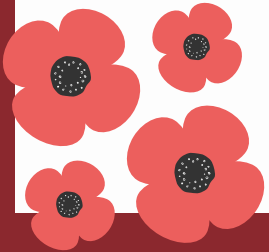
On 15th November, Years 7,8,9,10 joined to watch Joel Foster: a Motivational singer. Talking to the children about the mental health he went through in his school life through young adulthood, he used his songs to uplift the spirits of the children whilst educating them on techniques to deal with their own mental health and wellbeing.

Catholic

Life

Remembrance Day

On the 11th of November, a group of SPH students proudly represented the school at the Glossop Remembrance Day parade. They participated in the parade by placing the schools wreath at the town's memorial, paying heartfelt respect to those who had made the ultimate sacrifice in service for our country.



Mass

Mass is celebrated by all year groups in school every term. Last term, we celebrated Advent in the lead up to Christmas. All year 7 and 8 students also attended Mass in their forms throughout the Advent term too. If you would like to join Mass with us in Church, please join on a Thursday or Friday at 10 AM.



Advent Mission

SPH students in their forms came together to compile a shoe box full of perishables, clothing and toys, which was then shipped off in time for Christmas for children in Ukraine. Not only does this help much needed children in a time of crisis, it also shows our own students the value of giving to others that may be less fortunate than us. This will teach the students the act of selflessness and the impact of actions, giving them a sense of understanding about others and their situations.



Parish Christmas Fair

Our chaplaincy team generously volunteered their time at the parish Christmas Fair, contributing to the festive spirit of the event. They organized a creative and engaging activity for the younger children, guiding them in making handmade bracelets. Their efforts raised an impressive £40 for the parish. Well done to all involved!



Feast Day

Feast day celebrations continued as students learned more about our patron Saint, St Philip Howard alongside the students Form Saints. This day focused on the value of 'responsibility'.



Celebration of the World

In the Month of December, the Chaplaincy Team also planned and led their Celebration of the World for all year groups on the Liturgical Theme of Peace. At the end, all students were given a sticker with a mission to act upon to demonstrate peace in their own lives and in the wider community.



TEACHING &

LEARNING

GCSE Results 2024

On Thursday the 22nd of August, Year 11 students gathered in the school Lunch Box to collect their exam results. We are immensely proud of the hard work, dedication and achievements throughout their academic journey with us here at St Philip Howard.

Congratulations to all our former Year 11 students on their well - deserved success!



For the Class of 2025, results were excellent with the year group achieving a positive progress score (meaning most students achieved or exceeded their targets) and this was for the second year in a row.

20% of all grades awarded were the top grades (7-9) and

55% of all grades awarded were a strong pass.

Learning Walks



School learning walks are structured visits where the senior leadership and middle leaders observe teaching and learning practices. These walks focus on positive behaviours for learning and progress.

CHQ Christmas Challenge Training

On the 12th of December during Lunch break, SPH teachers worked hard as a team to complete the GCHQ Christmas challenge 2024. They used skills such as perseverance, ingenuity and lateral thinking, this is then offered to all members of staff to further enhance students' learning and develop understanding about the geography of GCHQ. A Christmas card was then produced featuring a series of seven puzzles, which included skills, such as codebreaking, maths and analysing that tested lateral thinking.

Rewards Trip

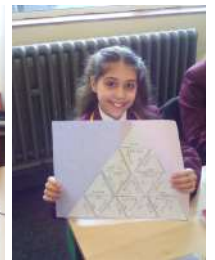


At the end of each term, Students are rewarded for the attendance, punctuality and positive behaviour by being given a the opportunity to attend a reward trip of their choice. This year, the choices included: Bowling, roller skating, shopping at the Trafford Centre or Rewards in School. The trip acts as a great memory and experience for all and was filled with joy and laughter throughout!



No Pen Day

Students and Teachers embraced a fresh approach to learning during 'No Pen Day' This innovative event encouraged everyone to set aside their pens and pencils and explore alternative ways to learn new knowledge and skills. From group discussions, show and tell presentations and using digital tools, this day helped students raise awareness of the challenges faced by children who have difficulty talking and understanding written text.



GCHQ



Extra Tuition

Students have been given the amazing opportunity to have online one to one lessons in Maths and English with My Tutor. Students receive tuition online to address key areas of personal development to support them to achieve true potential in Maths and English.



MyTutor



Department Evaluations

During the first term of school, departments are evaluated on all areas of the practice. This ensures high standard throughout the whole curriculum. In the Advent term, the focus was core subjects (English, Math's, Science and RE) Prioritising these as important to developing students ability to access all areas of the curriculum..



Subject Awards

On Monday the 16th December and Tuesday the 17th December each year group gathered in the school hall. Students were rewarded for their hard work and dedication to the academic year so far. Those who had demonstrated excellent effort were rewarded with saintly scholar awards and those who demonstrated excellent progress were rewarded with subject specialist rewards. Well done to all of our SPH subject winners!



Thank you for taking the time to read about the many events that we have and continue to take part in this first term. We continue to drive our motto: 'Team SPH: Heads, hearts, hands- together on the SPH Success Journey'.

We hope that you can see how each and every member of the team brings their ideas, values and actions together in unity for the success of our whole school and wider community.

