St Philip Howard Catholic Voluntary Academy

Newsletter

ST-PHILIP HOWARD

17.10.2025

From the Headteacher

Dear Readers,

School has been a hive of activity over the past two weeks! Alongside our regular teaching schedule, we've seen a flurry of enriching experiences for our pupils. Sixty students visited the Yorkshire Sculpture Park, capturing photographs and studying art to support their GCSE preparations. Another group of sixty pupils took part in a two-day Geography field trip, applying their classroom learning in real-world settings.

Today, the entire school came together for our SPH Experience Day, celebrating the values of our Patron Saint, St Philip Howard. Pupils have shown exceptional behaviour and attitude both in school and during external visits, including places of worship and the Holocaust Museum, where they demonstrated deep reverence and respect.

We also hosted our Annual Open Evening, which was a tremendous success. The event was bustling with prospective pupils and parents, many of whom commented on how well-mannered, knowledgeable, and passionate our students were. Their pride in the school shone through as they answered questions and shared their experiences.

A huge well done to all the pupils who gave up their time to help with preparations and support the evening itself. I look forward to seeing many of you over the coming weeks during our Year 11 and Year 7 review evenings.

Kind Regards Mr M Kays Headteacher





- Year 11 Parents
 Evening: Thursday 23rd
 October.
- Non-Uniform day – Food Bank collection, Friday 24th October
- October half term: Monday 27 - Friday 31 October 2025
- Year 7 Review evening Thursday 6th November.
- Year 11 Mocks Monday 17th November.

#TEAMSPH – Head, Heart, Hands, together on the success journey

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National Champion



Massive congratulations to Oliver Mannion, who won the English Schools National Fell Race for Years 8/9 in Sedbergh, The Howgills. Oliver triumphed in the challenging 4.9km race, which featured 306m of ascent, earning the prestigious title of National Champion.

Feast Day of St Philip Howard



Today we celebrated the feast day of St Philip Howard through our SPH Experience Day.

Throughout the day, children have been living out the values of our Patron Saint by engaging in a variety of meaningful activities. Although the official feast day falls on Sunday, 19th October, our celebration today was a wonderful opportunity to reflect on his legacy and embody his virtues.

World Food Day

This week marked the beginning of our food bank collection drive, supporting both the school's food bank and those in the wider Glossop community.

Over the next fortnight, our goal is to fill several shopping trolleys with generous donations. The campaign will conclude with a Non-Uniform Day on Friday, 24th October, where we'll celebrate the kindness and support shown by everyone involved.

Good Luck



On **Friday, 24th October**, Demi will be traveling to Canada to once again step onto the world mats and proudly represent our country. Her dedication and relentless training in the lead-up to this prestigious event have been nothing short of inspiring.

We wish Demi all the very best as she competes on the international stage. We're incredibly proud of her and can't wait to hear all about her achievements!

Yorkshire Sculpture park



KS4 GCSE Art Students Visit Yorkshire Sculpture Park

As part of our ongoing commitment to enriching students' learning experiences beyond the classroom, our KS4 GCSE Art students visited the Yorkshire Sculpture Park this week.

The trip offered a unique opportunity for students to engage directly with a diverse range of artworks—from the striking pieces of **Daniel Arsham** to the timeless sculptures of **Barbara Hepworth**. This hands-on experience helped deepen their understanding of key artistic concepts and broaden their cultural awareness.

Both students and staff had an amazing time.

From Student Leadership



It has been a busy couple of weeks for the student leadership team.

Last week we led Celebration of the Word every day on the theme of the Rosary. This week it has been our Year 10 Diversity and Inclusion Champions – Matthew, Katie, Alex and Deborah – who have been leading. The theme has been inclusion. Matthew tells you a bit more about this below.

Inclusion means making sure everyone feels welcome, safe, and able to join in and share their voice. No one should ever be left out because of things like their gender, age, race, disability or anything else. The challenge we gave our students this week was to think about what they can do to make people feel more included.