

Happy New Year

As the Autumn term came to a close, I found myself reflecting on the incredible journey that 2023 had been for our school and the chaplaincy team; a year filled with challenges, growth, and countless reasons for gratitude. Our support for the Common Good continues across the school community. Thank you to everyone who has supported our students' and staff members' endeavours to make a difference to others. Let us take a look back at last term's achievements, giving thanks for being part of an amazing community.

Year 7 Mass of Welcome



Year 7 students had an exciting start to their first term at Cardinal Wiseman. At the end of their first day, Father Liam celebrated Mass with the students, members of their families and staff.

Mr Coyle read a beautiful reflection after Communion (see below) voicing all our prayers for the newest members of our community.



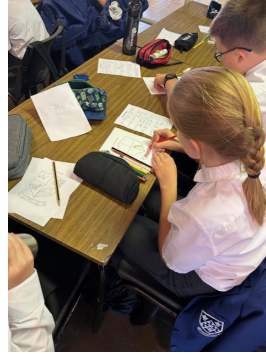
Welcome
Glad you're here!

*As you begin your first week at secondary school,
We pray that your days will go smoothly – that you get to class on time, that you won't forget anything or get lost and that you'll find friends in your form,
We pray that your teachers will help you to love to learn all about the world God gave us,
We pray that the new friends you make will be loyal, make you laugh and will make you a better person,
We pray that you'll have the opportunity to be the light of Jesus to someone every day,
We pray that you will always be kind even in the face of conflict or disagreement,
We pray that you will seek out the lonely person and help them find their place
We pray that you'll learn to be a great leader
We pray that you will do everything to the best of your ability - even when you don't want to, so you make your family even more proud of you,
We pray that you will be focused on the things your teachers are trying to teach you,
We pray that you'll have confidence from knowing you are a child of God,
We pray that if things go wrong, you'll always remember that God loves you and so do we
We pray that your parents, siblings, your whole family feel welcome and know they are an important part of your learning and our school community.
We pray that you'll find joy and happiness every day
We pray that you'll follow in Jesus' footsteps and grow in the wisdom of God
Most of all, we pray that this year will be filled with learning, growth, joy and fun.*

Year 7 Retreat



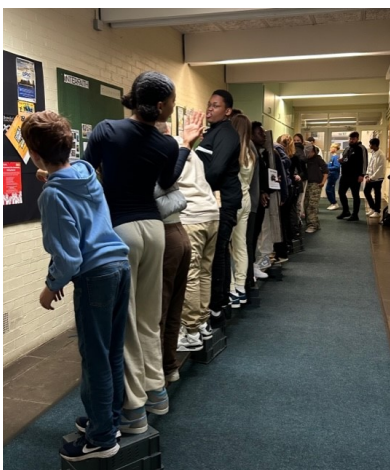
Within the first three days of term Year 7 students had attended their retreats in the Parish Centre of Our Lady of the Visitation. The theme of the retreats were 'Here I am, Lord' and focused on who the students say they are, who God says they are and who they want to be. Each tutor group made a Tutor Shield, and each student created their own individual shield identifying their gifts and talents.



Year 9 Retreat

In October all Year 9 students spent a full day at Ealing Abbey on retreat. The theme for their retreat was 'You are Worthy, You are Loved, You are Enough', based on Jesus' commandment for us to 'love one another' (John 13:34-35).

Students started the day with Mass in the Abbey and then attended sessions led by their tutors on team building, private reflection, prayer, playing games and making a decade of the Rosary. We are very grateful to Fr Ambrose for allowing us to host our retreats at the Abbey; all students benefitted from having such a great space to be in.



The Chaplaincy Team are proud to display their latest mosaic, which can be found outside the Chapel, in Bethlehem.

The mosaic was started at the Open Evening in September and was finished by many students and staff who visited the Chapel.

All Things for Christ

October—Month of the Holy Rosary



Once every week during October our Year 7 students, along with a class from Our lady of the Visitation Primary school, attended Our Lady of the Visitation Parish Church to pray the Rosary in honour of Our Lady of the Rosary. Students from both schools led everyone in prayer. It was lovely to see so many members of our community come and pray with the children, both family members and people from the parish community.

Remembrance

Year 7 celebrated Mass on 1st November, remembering all the Saints who have gone before us and who we rely on for guidance and intercessions. On the 2nd November, the Feast of All Souls, we held a memorial Service in our Memorial Garden, attended by family members of both staff and students who have died. After leading us in prayer Fr Joe McLoughlin blessed the memorial plaques. The morning finished with a reception in the school.

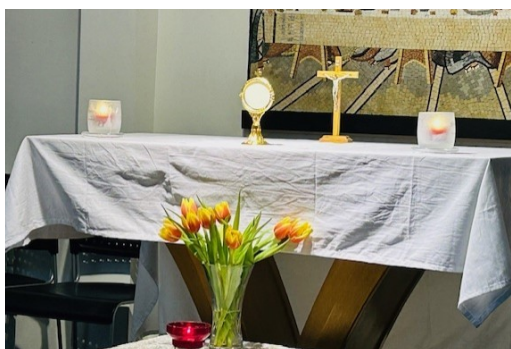
On Friday 10th November, students who are members of St Benedict's CCF led our Remembrance Day parade which was viewed live by our school community.

Throughout November our students attended the Chapel for Remembrance Liturgies. We remembered and prayed for all those who we have loved and lost and all those who have no one to remember them. On Wednesday 24th November our focus was on all the persecuted Christians, especially those from all around the world who have died for their faith and love of Jesus. We thank Aid to the Church in Need for all the wonderful resources they sent us to help our students in their prayer.



Adoration

Adoration continues every Friday lunch time in the Chapel where those present offer up prayers for members of our community and remember those who have asked for prayers.



If you would like to have someone or a situation prayed for you can email your request to prayer@wiseman.ealing.sch.uk

Your intention will be prayed for every Friday during lunchtime Adoration in the school Chapel by members of our school community. Your prayer request will stay on the list of intentions for four weeks. All prayers will be posted as anonymous unless those requesting prayer let us know differently in their email.

Prayers of:
**Supplication/Intercession/
Petition/
Thanksgiving/Gratitude
Adoration/Blessing**



Winter Night Shelter December 2023



Menu

Leek and potato soup
and soda bread

Cottage pie (meat and
vegan versions)
Mushroom Wellington
Peas
Gravy

Apple pie and custard
Take away treats
Gingerbread men and
shortbread

This Year Mrs Buchan and her Year 10 students surpassed themselves with their amazing culinary skills, much to the delight of the Clients and volunteers of the Ealing Winter Night Shelter. Our students prepared and cooked for two of the four Fridays that Our Lady of the Visitation hosted the Night Shelter, for some of the homeless in Ealing. Everyone was treated to a three-course meal, with vegetarian and vegan options available and little treat bags of gingerbread to take away.



All Things for Christ

Advent

In addition to our weekly Masses, our Liturgy Leaders helped us get into the spirit of Advent by delivering a week of assemblies to all year groups. Their theme was 'Make room for Christ'. The second Week of Advent's assemblies were led by the Justice and Peace members who led our daily acts of collective worship on the theme of 'Peace'.

Fr Liam and Fr Tom came in at lunchtimes to offer the sacrament of Reconciliation to students and staff during Advent in preparation for the coming of our Lord.

On the last day of term all students attended a Year group Christmas Liturgy.



6th Form Visit to Elm Lodge

On 13th December, members of Year 12 joined Fr Liam and Mary at a beautiful Mass being celebrated at Elm Lodge residential care Home. The students packed little bags of treats for both the residents and staff, each personally labelled by the students.



Thank You

To all the parents and staff who supported our students children in the Winter Showcase and to all the staff, who without their time and dedication the event could not take place.

£179.00

This years money was collected for Amnesty International.

**AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL**



Thank You

To Miss Glampson, Miss Coughlan, Mr Johnson and all the staff who made the Year 7 Christmas Disco such a success. The students had an amazing time and it was a wonderful way to finish their first term at Cardinal Wiseman. All the money raised was for The Ealing Foodbank.



£700.00

All Things for Christ

Year 11 Justice and Peace

Despite it being the beginning of an exam year, our Year 11 Justice and Peace group still dedicated their lunchtimes to making their handmade Christmas cards for Missio. As always the cards were of amazing quality and they raised £120.00 for their chosen charity.



Years 7-9 Justice and Peace



This year the Younger Justice and Peace students wanted to try something new. After a lot of research they decided to buy and decorate Christmas Candles to sell to staff. The candles were lovely and the group made £106.00 profit which they sent to The Brain Tumour Charity. Below one of the members explains why the group chose that charity for their Advent fundraising:

**THE
BRAIN
TUMOUR
CHARITY**

***We chose The Brain Tumour Charity because my younger brother was diagnosed with a brain tumour when he was 7 years old and had to go through surgery and chemotherapy. But by God's help my brother is now 10 years old, has finished his treatment and is healed.
By Plosa***

Thank You

In October, our school community held another successful Hunger Lunch for CAFOD's Family Fast day appeal.

£1,040.00

Thank you to all who contributed, either by purchasing lunch in the canteen or donating into the collection.

A special thank you to Mrs Sylvester and all her team in the canteen who make each Hunger Lunch possible.



Fast, pray and give

Thank You

Huge thank to all those who took part and donated to our collection for non-uniform day. All the money was sent to Caritas Jerusalem.

£2,270.00

Caritas Jerusalem is a humanitarian and development organisation that represents the socio-pastoral services of the Catholic Church in the Holy Land.

Caritas Jerusalem helps individuals from all religious backgrounds in the occupied Palestinian territories and is a member of Caritas Internationalis, a confederation of 162 Caritas organisations operating in more than 200 countries.



We Put Love Into Action

All Things for Christ

Year 7 Advent Charity

Our Advent collections for Years 7, 8 and 9 focused on the theme 'Bringing Joy'. Our Year 7 students collected chocolate which was packed and delivered with the help of our Year 10 and 11 students who are part of an ASDAN (Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network) course delivered through the school. The chocolate hampers were made for the students of St Elizabeth's school in Much Hadham. St Elizabeth's is a Specialist School for young people aged 5 - 19 years whose students are either residential or day students. St Elizabeth's supports and educates young people with moderate or severe learning difficulties (MLD/SLD), profound and multiple learning difficulties (PMLD) or other complex neurological conditions potentially caused or complicated by epilepsy.



*'Yesterday at the trip - our Asdan team went to St. Elizabeth to deliver chocolate hampers to the students of the school. Pauline the Chaplain shared the historical facts about the school and how long it had been in place. After that our Asdan team were invited to celebrate with the students as they waited for their Christmas Party to begin and the arrival of Father Christmas, it was a wonderful thing to see'.
Joshua Omombo*

'Yesterday my Asdan team and myself went on a school trip to St Elizabeth's school to deliver chocolate hampers that were collected and put together by our Year 7 students. The most rewarding thing was giving the hampers to the students of St Elizabeth's that both attend and live at the school, the smiles on their faces made me feel joyful. We were invited for lunch and the food over there was brilliant. We learnt about the history of the school, and it was very interesting'.

Bailey Mclean



Year 8 and 9 Advent Charity

Students and Tutors from Years 8 and 9 collected Christmas foods to create tutor hampers. Each hamper contained items such as Christmas cake, Christmas pudding, tubs of chocolates, boxes of biscuits etc. all things that for many may be seen as 'luxury' items. The hampers were truly fabulous and once wrapped were distributed to families within and around our own school and local community.



All Things for Christ

School Choir

Our school choir has had a very busy start to the school year. As well as leading our weekly celebration of Mass for each year group the choir has also attended the Westminster Advent Service in November, led the school carol service at Our Lady of the Visitation parish, visited Elm Lodge Residential care Home to sing carols for the elderly residents and recorded carols for the student and staff end of year liturgies. Below two of our Choir members, Adam and Emilia, share their experience:



Today, we travelled to the Westminster to watch the Catholic Children's Society Advent Service with other schools from all over the Diocese. When we arrived, we witnessed a colossal construction which was the Westminster Cathedral itself. The Cathedral is an impressive building, which has two huge domes towering over us in the ceiling.

During the service an actor, dressed up as the Angel Gabriel told the story of the nativity. There was an adult senior leading some of the carols and hymns, they were very good and sang like angels from heaven. When there was a hymn that I or anyone else knew we joined in straight away and as loud and clear as we could due to the size of the place. Along with the actors there was Lily the goat and Clover the donkey who we got to have a picture with after.



Just before we left, we met Bishop John Sherrington who asked us if we enjoyed the service. On our return to school, we caught a bus from the tube station and sang all the way back to school, much to the delight of the other passengers who clapped and told Mary and Claire how beautiful we sounded.

By Adam

Today, the Choir visited Elm lodge with Peter and our Chaplains and Miss Connell. We were very excited to sing Christmas Carols and songs for the elderly people who live there.

We sang as a group in a lounge area, everyone was so happy. We sang our very best and many of the ladies recognised the carols and sang along with us or waved as we sung.

When we had finished, we went around to talk to the people and to thank them for inviting us. A lady called Pat said that she had been crying with joy; it made our hearts swell with pride.

By Emilia



All Things for Christ

Acton Homeless Concern

The 6th Form Charity Reps got this academic year off to an amazing start. Following an assembly by Mal Hurdidge, a volunteer at the homeless charity The Passage, three of our Charity reps organised a shoebox appeal for Acton Homeless Concern. Below is a report from our Reps and the response from the Centre.



'Today, on the 20th of December, we delivered 82 shoeboxes to Emmaus house of the Acton Homeless Concern. On the day we visited, there was a women and children's group with around 30 in attendance. Some of our boxes were handed out to this group.'

We talked to the manager of the centre, Ian, and he told us a little about the centre and services they provide. The centre was first opened in 1989 and has been continuously serving those in need for the past 34 years. Presently, it feeds around 180 people a day and helps visitors with medical concerns, housing, clothing, and general advice. Although it

has a few permanent staff members, the centre relies on volunteers. The centre is always in need of donations and volunteers to help run it. We hope to run another collection for them later in the school year.

Thank you to everybody who donated and especially to those who helped in wrapping and packing. We received a record-breaking amount of donations this year. Thank you for your generosity'.



I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of Acton homeless concern to thank you and all the teachers, pupils, and parents of the cardinal Wiseman school, for the shoebox Christmas presents of toiletries etc recently received from you for the homeless and those in need who attend our centre.

With the support of this donation, we were able to ensure that the true meaning of Christmas was shared with those in our community who needed some good cheer and which, hopefully was brought to their hearts, because of your thoughtfulness.

Once again, thank you all so much.

Yours sincerely

Ian Breen

