



ST HILDA'S
CE HIGH SCHOOL

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Newsletter March 2018

Special Easter Edition

Mrs Code's Message

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for all of your very positive feedback after the last 'different look' newsletter. We are blessed with staff who really want to make sure that your sons' and daughters' experience of school is a really positive one.

I wanted to make sure that you all knew about things that are happening at St Hilda's organised by our very hard-working staff, both teaching and support staff alike! It has been a very busy term, as you will realise as you read further!

Thank you for your support and messages after having to close the school during the unexpected snow. It is not a decision I take lightly and I also understand the impact this has on your busy lives too. I am afraid that our site was not safe for students, and having witnessed crashes outside the school and a fall, my decision was the right one.

Our busy term since January has included so many opportunities for students; Year 10 Geographers went to Colomendy to complete their coursework. They missed our school 'snow day' and Mr Norton had to rearrange their activities on the Thursday due to the 'Beast from the East' disrupting their plans too! Year 13 Geographers had a very early start at Liverpool Airport to fly to Belfast to visit places of interest. Thanks to Mrs Murray and the maths department, we secured a very strong silver award in the Liverpool Counts Quality Mark assessment! Our assessor was really impressed by how we all use maths in the school, outside of maths lessons.

Year 8 and 9 parents and carers joined us for our one-to-one interviews regarding option choices. Both year groups had lots of information to help make the right choices; Guided Options Open Evening, assemblies, UCAS and applying to university sessions, taster days and a meeting with pastoral and senior leadership teams. It was a pleasure to have the time to sit down and speak to so many students, parents and carers.

We hosted a very special visitor too, Tomi Komoly, a Holocaust survivor, came into school to share his experiences with our students. He was born in Budapest in 1936 and experienced the anti-Jewish laws introduced during the 1940s by the Hungarian government. Tomi's story is a stark reminder of what did happen and lessons we need to learn.

We had fundraising and even a rap battle, organised by our students who will be attending the HOBY Leadership conference residential during the Easter holidays. Mrs McCann and Mr Martin deserve a special mention for their raps.

I had the privilege of attending Birkenhead High School to watch our choirs in a competition. This was a weekend of performance and the quality of choirs, musicians and dance was very high. I am so proud to say that both of our choirs won their categories and the Chamber choir received the highest score of any choir we have entered into such competitions. The Tone Roses, our staff, parents, college student band, also won in their category. A special mention to Ms Tamo for her very passionate solo at the start of 'I will survive'. Seeing so many staff and students giving up their weekend to compete, not to mention the hours of practice, was so heart-warming.

It was our Easter Eucharist today. It was a very special one as I was able to welcome back Mrs Benson, former headteacher, to say goodbye to our Chaplain, Gill Pinnington, who is leaving us after over 11 years here. Article to follow later in this newsletter.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and suggestions. I wish you all a very peaceful Easter and hope you have some time to rest and spend time with your families.

Goodbye Reverend Gill

I only joined the school in 2016 and met Reverend Gill for the first time that September. It soon became really apparent that Gill was great fun, wanted to encourage more students and staff to take part in our worship and that she absolutely loved the school! Rev Gill, as we called her, gave of her time so generously, coming in every Thursday for staff prayers and meeting with our student Worship Team regularly. She was always open to change and her sole aim was to make worship as much fun and as inclusive as it could be. Working with Gill and her vision, we made so many changes. Now our students run the Eucharist's we hold in school, music and dance form an important part of worship. She is happy to let the students take the lead and they really love her too. Watching their 'send-off' to Gill today brought tears to my eyes. Their gifts and words will remain with Gill for a long time. As an ex-St Hilda's girl, we are incredibly proud of Rev Gill.

We are so sorry to lose her, but know that her new parish needs her and will benefit from her down-to-earth approach and great sense of humour!

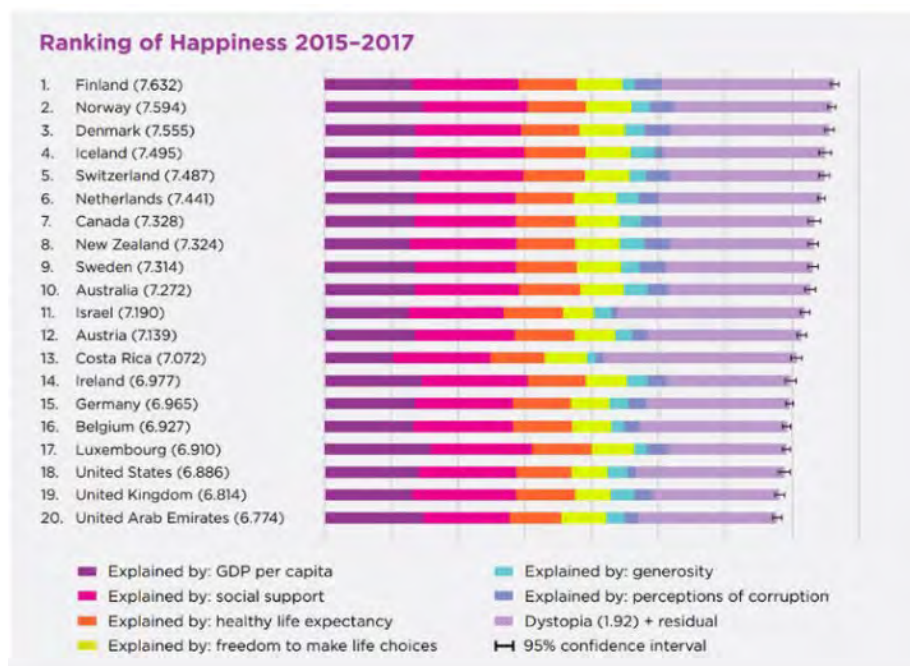
Good luck, Gill. Thank you for all that you have done and keep in touch!

International day of Happiness

St Hilda's took part in international happiness day on Tuesday 20th March 2018. During form time all students interviewed each other on how happy they are, if they are happy and what makes them happy. These results will be calculated and published to the school community.

According to a global survey United Kingdom is the 19th happiest country in the world. Finland is the happiest.

In addition to this all year 9 have undertaken a social enterprise event called humanutopia which looks at developing their self esteem.



Humanutopia



Year 9 students took part in a social enterprise event today on International Happiness Day to look at 'Who I am'. The aim of the day was for year 9 to look into their Hopes, Confidences, Happiness and Relationships. Year 9 had to think about and communicate with their peers to change their current outlook on life to being more positive and having more confidence in their life and hopes for the future life choices.

Health and Social care

Year 10 and 12 Health and Social Care students had an employment engagement and career talk with Dr Julia Webster. They discussed the passion, skills and needs of the health care industry and what is required by new recruits.



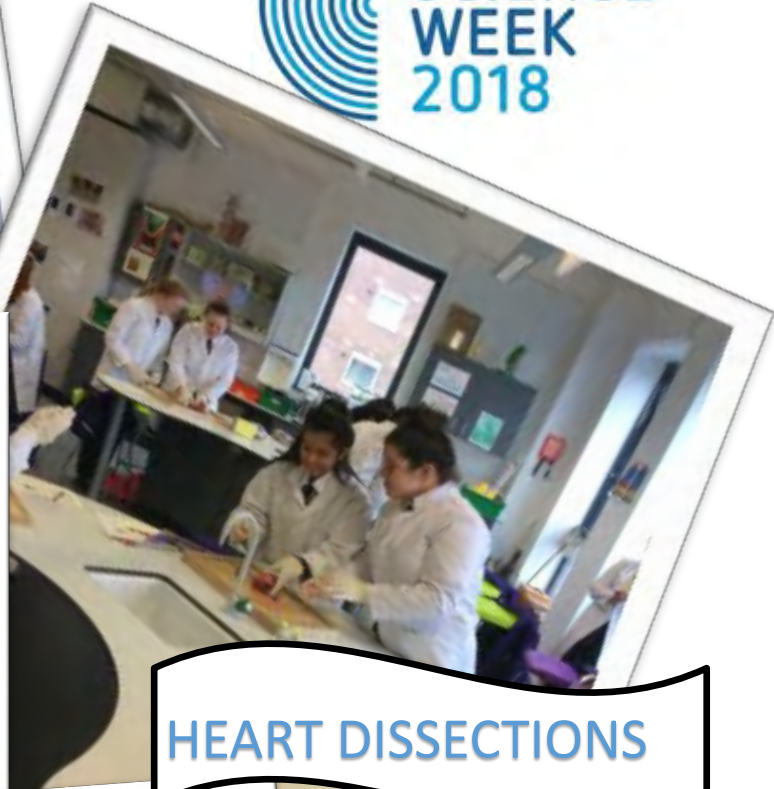
STEM

16 High achieving students who enjoy STEM subjects visited Blackburne House to gain valuable information and advice on careers in the construction industry. The aim is to raise awareness to job roles that are not your traditional 'dirty' roles but those which require an excellent skill set and attitude. The students were able to talk in depth to female ambassadors who work in the construction industry. They also ran fun activities for the students to take part in.





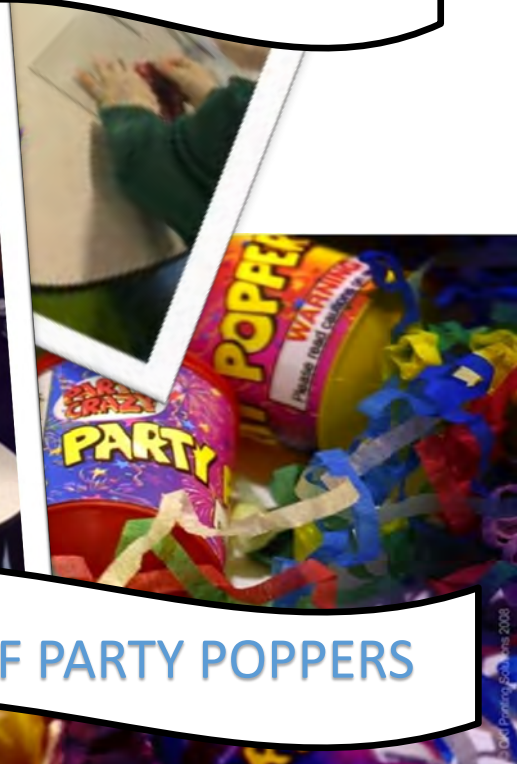
BODY IN THE LAB



HEART DISSECTIONS



DNA FINGERPRINTS



SCIENCE OF PARTY POPPERS



Science 'Wall of Fame'

Will you be a Science Star??

Every two weeks Team Science staff will identify students who have been their 'STARS'

Look out for your name on a star on the Wall of Fame!!

Monday Master Classes for year 11

Science Masterclasses began on Monday 5th March at 3.00 pm.

74 students attended the first session – what a fantastic turnout!!

All year 11 are welcome to come for targeted 20 minute sessions or visit the 'drop-in' to support revision in Biology, Physics and Chemistry.

See schedule on the Team Science News board each week.

Don't forget your reward card - Points mean prizes!

Choir Competition

On Saturday 17th March St Hilda's Chamber Choir, Lower School Choir and our sister choir The Tone Roses took the Wirral Festival by storm. All choirs won their classes with excellent scores and comments from adjudicator Sam Dunkin. The choirs were praised for their blend, choice of pieces and impressive sound. Mrs McCann would like to mention the soloists - Amber Gerrard, Oscar Haydn and Freya Ambrose - they did an excellent job. All members were exceptional accolades for the school and we are very proud of their achievement.

If you would like to hear the choirs and our other ensembles please come along to our Spring Concert on Thursday 12th April 7pm. Tickets available from Mrs McCann/on the door.



St Hilda's Beekeeping club

The St Hilda's beekeeping club have been selected as finalists in the Liverpool Echo Environment awards in the "***Sustainable Schools Award***" category.

Thanks to the hard work of pupils and staff that helped make it happen, and to the Blackburne house BeeYou project for funding it. Look out for the winners in the Liverpool Echo after the awards evening on 26th April.



Year 7 Chocolate bar project

The year 7 Business have proudly completed their “**Chocolate Bar Project**” that they have been working on really hard for the whole half term.

Students had to come up with an idea of a new and a unique product, “Chocolate Bar”, that stands out and remains different from any other chocolate bar brands available in the market.

Within their presentation students touched on the four elements of marketing mix, since they had to decide; The Brand, the name, logo, features and packaging of this product.

They also had to define their Target Audience, the price they are charging their customers and the places where they are going to sell these chocolate bars.

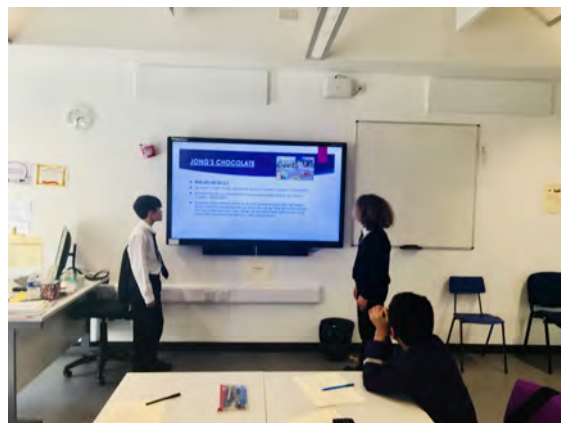
Adding to this, students had to create a catchy, attractive poster in order to raise awareness, bring audience attention and influence customers to buy these new tasty bars.

Groups took turns to present their work to their peers, they discussed positive feedback as well as their areas of improvements.

Presentation and communication skills were very impressive as students shared ideas, discussed points of view and took in constructive criticism in a very mature way.

Plenty of creative and innovative ideas have been displayed combined with excellent ICT skills.

Winners for the best presentation have been proudly awarded 5 House points each.



The Modern Foreign Languages Department wins award!

The MFL Department has been awarded a bursary of £1,000 by UK-German Connection, to support our highly successful links with our German partner school, St Ursula Gymnasium in Attendorn. We are delighted to receive this award again, particularly in the light of our successful application last year, which enabled 6 Year 11 pupils to attend an environmental summit in Attendorn, along with other pupils from Ireland, Norway and Lithuania. They had the time of their lives!

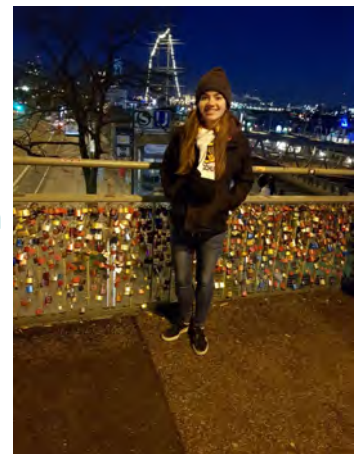
We will post plans of our next exciting project as they evolve!



Volunteer German Teacher

I'm Kiera and I am in my second year studying German and Spanish at the University of Liverpool. I have been volunteering in German lessons as part of a module at University which enables me to gain experience in a workplace and to develop a greater insight into what being a teacher is like in practice. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at St Hilda's and I have been astounded by the brilliant behaviour of all students, who are enthusiastic and willing to learn, and also how welcoming and helpful all the staff have been.

Each individual student and member of staff are a credit to the school, particularly in the languages department, where staff have an amazing energy, a desire to teach and are a source of inspiration for me. Danke schön St Hilda's!



Stitch a Tree Project

St Hilda's students are taking part in this years stitch a tree project.

This project aims to connect communities and individuals across the UK to show support for displaced people around the world. Participants are invited to **stitch a tree** which will later be arranged into a large embroidery called *Forest* by artist Alice Kettle. *Forest* will be displayed at the Whitworth, Manchester, in September 2018 and in progress at City Space Gallery, Winchester Discovery Centre, from 15th October to 26th November 2018.



Holocaust Survivor Visit

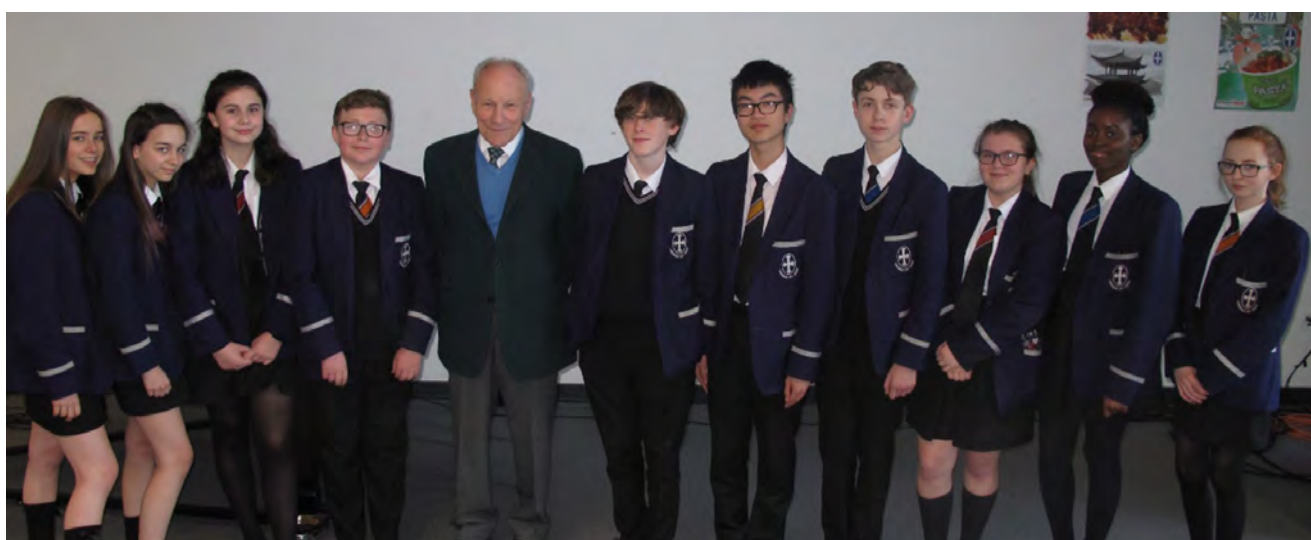


On Monday 19th March all of Year 8 and 9 participated in a visit organised by the History department. Tomi Komoly, a Holocaust survivor, came into school to share his experiences with our students.

Tomi was born in Budapest in 1936 and experienced the anti- Jewish laws introduced during the 1940s by the Hungarian government.

Our students have been studying Nazi Germany and the Holocaust in History. Students and staff were profoundly moved by his remarkable story.

We were very grateful that Tomi made the time to come and share his recollections of a life changing period of history.



Belfast 2018

Twelve bleary eyed students met at John Lennon Airport at 4.50am. Students expressed their delight at this early start!

A short flight to Belfast followed.

Once in Belfast our day of discovery began. A visit to South Belfast and the University Quarter led to the consumption of an Ulster Fry (Mr Martin insisted all students try the soda bread). Students now fed and watered were ready for the day ahead.

A journey east to Parliament Buildings (Stormont) was one of the high points of our day. Students were treated to an excellent tour by our guide Micky. Micky was equally as delighted to stumble across a group of Liverpoolians on tour. Students had a tour of the NI Parliament Buildings and gained some valuable insights into the peace process in Northern Ireland.



After our tour the trip moved on to the city centre. Students enjoyed time to have lunch, visit the tourist hotspots (Belfast city hall, Victoria Square shopping centre to name but a few). With leprechaun pencils purchased and local cuisine sampled (Nando's and Mc Donald's for most) it was off to the Crumlin Road Gaol (jail).

Belfast's oldest remaining jail was an intimidating place. Students commented on the fact it was ice cold on each wing. Some fabulous information from our guide followed and students got a real idea of the issues faced by prisoners and staff alike.

At the end of the tour we had the opportunity to visit the room that contained the hangman's noose. Students were glad to leave this eerie room behind.

It was then time to leave the Crumlin Road. The Peace Wall beckoned. Students were amazed by the fact in 2018 a 30ft wall divided people by religion.



Loggerheads Colomendy Trip

As part of the GCSE we have to experience at least 2 days of fieldwork, we spent 3 days at loggerheads studying the river. We went from Wednesday 7th March- Friday 9th March.

We went to loggerheads as it offers an excellent site for a river investigation. On the Wednesday we investigated:

- The velocity of the river
- The depth of the river
- The flow of the river
- The size of rocks at different points of the river

We used a range of tools to do this such as:

Ranging poles, measuring tape, metre ruler and something that floats (stick or tennis ball) by doing these tests we were able to notice small changes that happen as you move further down the river.

First of all, we needed to investigate the velocity of the river. To do this, we used our ranging poles to mark each side of the bank of the river, then we used a measuring tape to measure the width in meters, then we went across the river measuring its depth every 50cm with a meter ruler measuring the height of the water. We worked in a group of around 7 to carry out each test on each site at the river.

As we moved further downstream the height of the water got lower because the river contained limestone which is permeable so water can go underground or get caught in a swallow hole.

The rocks got smaller as we went downstream because the speed of the river got slower so it couldn't carry larger rocks down the river.

The recent snow from 'The Best from the East' meant a lot of snow melt was added to the river, this meant that the river had a lot more water than usual and it was very deep and fast flowing in parts, but eventually we found a safe spot further downstream.



World Book Day

St Hilda's celebrated World Book Day on 1st March and, as usual, we had a great time. Pupils and staff came dressed as their favourite book characters, we shared a whole school read, wrote diary extracts as our favourite story characters and tried to match famous quotes with the people who said them. See below for a selection of photos.

Congratulations to our diary competition winner, Sarah Kneale (year 11) who wrote as Friar Lawrence from Romeo and Juliet. Sarah received a £10 Amazon gift card. Sarah also won our match the quotes competition, so with another £10 Amazon card will be well stocked on books!



Well done to our 3 costume competition winners who all received 50 house points each for their imaginative costumes. Jack Hadris, who came dressed as Newt Scamander from Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them, also received a £10 Amazon gift card.

Pupil Librarian of the Year

On Friday 16th March Mrs Hale (our Librarian) and Victoria Langford (last year's winner of this award, now in year 13) were invited to the Houses of Parliament to see a new, very deserving winner crowned as Pupil Library Assistant of the Year. The event was attended by authors, publishers, politicians, Librarians and Pupil Librarians from across the country. It was a wonderful celebration of school libraries and their importance to the wellbeing of all of our children. Vicky's speech focused on the difference being involved in the school library has made to the person she has become.

The Right Hon Stephen Timms, who opened the awards, was very impressed with Vicky and said that he could see the huge impact a School Librarian and awards like this one have on our young people. The new winner, Maia Hipwood from Howard of Effingham School, Surrey was named as this year's Pupil Library Assistant of the Year for 2018. The finalists had been asked to write a letter to the Prime Minister, letting her know how important school libraries are. After the awards, we all walked to Downing Street to deliver the letters.



FRIENDS OF ST HILDA'S

Family bingo and quiz night

(children very welcome)

Friday 13th April 2018

7-30-10pm

(doors open 7pm)

Pub style snacks / alcoholic and non alcoholic drinks
available on the night

St Hilda's CE High School (main building)

Tickets

Adults £1.50

Children 50p

Tickets will be on sale at break time from the finance office

St Hilda's College

The Sixth Form @ St Hilda's

I became a member of Merseyside police in April 2017. This experience was the best experience of my life and helped me to become an independent individual.

I have successfully finished my first year of training in which I was given the opportunity to participate in many community events in my police uniform as well as taking first aid, firearm and horse riding training. Within this year, I have worked with many communities and also participated in the pride march with other members of the Merseyside police truly showing our support. On March 14th 2018, I won the Police Cadet Ambassador award as well as my Silver Duke of Edinburgh. I have now become a cadet leader and looking forward to work with the future cadets and I aspire to become a member of the Merseyside Police.



WELL DONE SONAM, ST HILDA'S COLLEGE IS SO PROUD!

Mock Examination Dates

Year 10

Wednesday 25th April—Friday 4th May

Year 12

Friday 27th April—Friday 4h May

Year 7, 8 & 9 Assessments

Monday 21st May—Wednesday 23rd May

For more information and regular updates please go to our website at:

www.st-hildas.co.uk

Or follow us on twitter:

[@StHildasCE](https://twitter.com/StHildasCE)

*Happy Easter
From
All at St Hilda's*