

Summer 2026



ST HILDA'S
CE HIGH SCHOOL

Cornerstone CHRONICLE

Message from Mrs Code



As we begin a new academic year, I would like to take the opportunity to reflect on the summer term which was filled with such memorable experiences for our St Hilda's community.

The final term was a fitting celebration of all that makes St Hilda's such a special place. It was a period filled with opportunity, achievement, creativity and personal growth, showcasing the incredible talents, character and commitment of our students and staff.

One of the highlights was undoubtedly Cornerstone Week. This unique week exemplifies our commitment to providing a rich and varied education that extends far beyond the classroom. Students embraced an exciting range of experiences, from Duke of Edinburgh expeditions and work experience placements to learning British Sign Language, Mandarin and Capoeira, alongside workshops in drama, science, animation, yoga and much more. It was inspiring to see our young people stepping out of their comfort zones, developing new skills and discovering new interests.

Our Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh participants demonstrated exceptional resilience, teamwork and determination during their expeditions, while our Year 10 and Year 12 students represented the school superbly during their work experience placements. The positive feedback we received from employers was a testament to their professionalism, enthusiasm and maturity.

The performing arts also flourished, with our production of Grease proving to be a truly memorable experience. From the outstanding performances on stage to the dedication of our backstage crew, musicians and staff, the production showcased the talent, confidence and commitment that our students possess in abundance. We remain incredibly proud of everyone involved.

As we look back on the year, it is also important to recognise and thank those members of staff who left St Hilda's during the summer. Their contribution to our school community has been immense and we remain grateful for the difference they have made to the lives of our students and families.

We said farewell to Ms Bentley, who provided excellent support to our Social Sciences department while covering maternity leave throughout the year.

We also thanked Mrs Steele, who retired after four years as our non-teaching Designated Safeguarding Lead. Her dedication to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our young people made a lasting difference to countless students and families.

After five years at St Hilda's, we bid goodbye to Ms Watters, teacher of English and Head of Brodie House. Her enthusiasm, care and commitment had a significant impact on both students and colleagues.

We also thanked Mrs O'Neill, who retired after twelve and a half years as an HLTA. Her support for students was invaluable, and she leaves behind a wonderful legacy in the form of the St Hilda's garden, which will continue to be enjoyed for years to come.

Finally, we paid tribute to Mrs Lloyd, our Head of French, who retired after an extraordinary 29 years of service to St Hilda's. Her commitment to language learning and dedication to generations of students made a lasting contribution to our school community.

As we embark on another academic year, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all of our new Year 7 and Year 12 students. We are delighted that you have joined the St Hilda's family and look forward to supporting you as you begin this exciting new chapter of your journey with us.

While this edition looks back on the many highlights of the summer term and the last academic year, there is already much to celebrate as we begin a new one. In our September edition of the Cornerstone Chronicle, we will be sharing a full feature on the fantastic GCSE and A Level results achieved by our students this summer. We are incredibly proud of their hard work, determination and success, and look forward to celebrating these achievements with our school community.

I hope you enjoy looking back on the many successes featured in this edition of the Cornerstone Chronicle, and I look forward to the opportunities, achievements and experiences that await us in the year ahead.

Jo Code
Headteacher

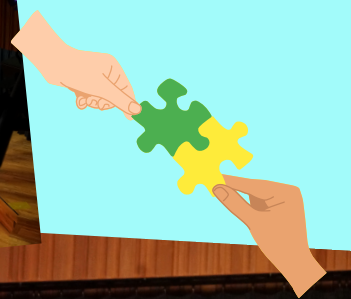


WISDOM - HOPE - COMMUNITY - DIGNITY - EQUALITY - DIVERSITY

Gold Award

We are delighted to announce that our Anthony Walker Ambassadors have been awarded the Tackling Racism in Schools GOLD Award in recognition of their outstanding commitment to promoting equality, diversity and inclusion across our school community. Throughout the year, the ambassadors met weekly to plan and lead a wide range of impactful activities. They created and produced their own educational video on recognising and challenging microaggressions, written and confidently delivered assemblies, spoken at events alongside students from other schools about their experiences of racism and the importance of being an active ally, and delivered workshops to our Year 8 students on allyship and identifying microaggressions.

They also played a significant role in the planning and design of the new Anthony Walker Learning Centre at Liverpool's International Slavery Museum, with several of their ideas incorporated into the final design proposal. Alongside this, they have collaborated on creative art projects, they have taken part in the Liverpool Council Dragons Den proposals, designed and sold stickers to raise funds for the Anthony Walker Foundation, led our Community Iftar event, and organised a cultural bake sale celebrating the diversity of our school community. Their enthusiasm, compassion and leadership have been exceptional throughout the year, and they should all be incredibly proud of their achievement. Congratulations to every one of our Anthony Walker Ambassadors for being such inspiring role models and for upholding our school values so well, making a positive difference to St Hilda's.



Coding Club Celebration

Parents were recently invited into school to join our Coding Club students for a special celebration of their achievements this year.

During the event, students proudly demonstrated the projects they have been developing, showcasing their growing skills in programming, problem-solving and digital creativity. From interactive games to innovative coding challenges, the pupils impressed visitors with their confidence, enthusiasm and technical expertise. We look forward to seeing what our talented young coders achieve next!



Sports Day 2026 – A Day to Remember

Our 2026 Sports Day was an outstanding success, bringing together students and staff for a day filled with energy, determination and school spirit.

From the first event to the final race, students demonstrated exceptional behaviour and sportsmanship, supporting one another and giving their very best in every challenge. While the atmosphere was fantastic throughout the day, the standard of performance was truly remarkable. Students produced some sensational results across a range of track and field events, showcasing their talent, dedication and resilience.

In recognition of the exceptional performances on display, this year marks the first time that winning performances will be recorded as official school records. Several of these achievements were so impressive that they could remain on the record books for years to come.

A special thank you goes to our Year 12 student helpers, who were outstanding throughout the day. Their enthusiasm, organisation and support helped events run smoothly, and they proved to be excellent role models for our younger students. There may well be some future PE teachers among them!

We would also like to thank every member of staff who organised events, officiated competitions, recorded results and supported their form groups throughout the day. Sports Day is a huge team effort and would not be possible without their hard work and commitment.

Overall, it was a brilliant day that perfectly reflected our school values, with students demonstrating effort, teamwork, resilience and pride in representing their forms. Congratulations to everyone who took part and helped make Sports Day 2026 such a memorable occasion. 🏆 🏃 🏃



Grease is the word!

Our recent production of Grease was a phenomenal success, delighting audiences showcasing the incredible talent, dedication and hard work of our students. From the moment the curtain rose, cast members captivated the audience with their outstanding acting, energetic dance routines and powerful musical performances. Bringing the iconic characters of Rydell High to life, students performed with confidence and professionalism, earning enthusiastic applause and praise from families, staff and members of the wider community.

Behind the scenes, a dedicated team of students and staff worked tirelessly to ensure every aspect of the production was a success. From costumes and staging to lighting, sound and choreography, countless hours of preparation went into creating a truly memorable show.

The production not only highlighted the exceptional performing arts talent within our school but also demonstrated the teamwork, resilience and commitment that made the event such a triumph.

Congratulations to everyone involved in Grease. We are incredibly proud of all our students and grateful to the staff, families and supporters who helped make this year's production such a resounding success. It was a fantastic celebration of creativity, confidence and community spirit. 🥳🌟



Cornerstone Week 2026

Cornerstone Week was once again a highlight of the school year, providing students with a fantastic opportunity to learn beyond the classroom, develop new skills and create lasting memories.

Throughout the week, students took part in a wide range of activities, educational visits and enrichment experiences designed to broaden horizons, build confidence and encourage personal growth. Whether exploring new interests, working collaboratively with their peers or taking on exciting challenges, students embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm and maturity.

The week showcased the very best of our school community, with students demonstrating resilience, teamwork and a willingness to step outside their comfort zones. From local visits and workshops to wider cultural and educational experiences, Cornerstone Week offered something for everyone.

A huge thank you goes to our staff, who dedicated countless hours to planning and delivering such a diverse programme of activities, and to our students, whose excellent behaviour and positive attitude made the week such a success.

