



# ALL SAINTS' CATHOLIC ACADEMY



## Parent Bulletin - February 2025

**"Hope does not disappoint", but strengthens us in times of trial (cf. Romans 5:5)**  
- Pope Francis' Message for the 33rd World Day of the Sick.

### All Saints' Way

The All Saints' Way theme these past few weeks has been Think!



In all assemblies and Celebrations of the Word students have been asked to think about how they give their best in all that they do and make a positive contribution to the school community.



### FUNDRAISING

Our charity to support this year is **Cancer Research UK**, as voted for by most forms.



CANCER  
RESEARCH  
UK

***Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. Hebrews 13:16***

We are so proud of the fantastic fundraising events last week. Well done to all the Houses for the variety and creativity of the stalls and thank you to the staff and students who gave up their time to make the event so successful. Combined with the non uniform day and the Lip Sync Battle we have raised an incredible £2007 for Cancer Research UK and a small amount being used to renovate our sensory room.

In addition, we have also received this message about the foodbank collections we did in the Advent term. What a generous community we have!

Good afternoon,

On behalf of Sherwood Forest Foodbank, I would like to say a big thank you for the food donation.

The food weighed in at 92.85 kgs which equates to 288 meals for local people in crisis. We all really appreciate your support, thank you so much.

Best wishes

Sherwood Forest Foodbank



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ALL SAINTS' CHAPLAINCY

We Shall Serve



Young people from the All Saints' Chaplaincy Team and the De La Salle Hub joined representatives from across the Trust, including Bishop Patrick, for the annual Trust Synod Event, sharing their views on how to reach out to those who are marginalised and looking at ways to further enrich the Catholic Life of our schools, in order to share this in outreach to those in need. Our students were praised as excellent ambassadors and role models, for their views and for their support of their younger peers on the day. One of our young people joined the



Trust's new Eco Working Party, to look at ways of making our schools and our Trust more sustainable and environmentally aware. The Chaplaincy Team now has an Eco Mission Team, to support this initiative. They are working on the Eco Schools audit, to begin the process at school level, identifying further ways to support and care for our common home. Please get in touch if you have any ideas or ways to support this.



Here, some of our students shared in discussion with Mr McGeachie, CEO of the OLOL Trust, at the Synod Event. To see a 5-minute summary, including a message from Bishop Patrick, visit:  
<https://youtu.be/CtU5g-qPTww>



Two of our Chaplaincy Team interviewed Bishop Patrick for our Word of the Week video, which can be seen via:

<https://chosentoserve.co.uk/2025/01/27/scripture-3rd-week-of-ordinary-time/>



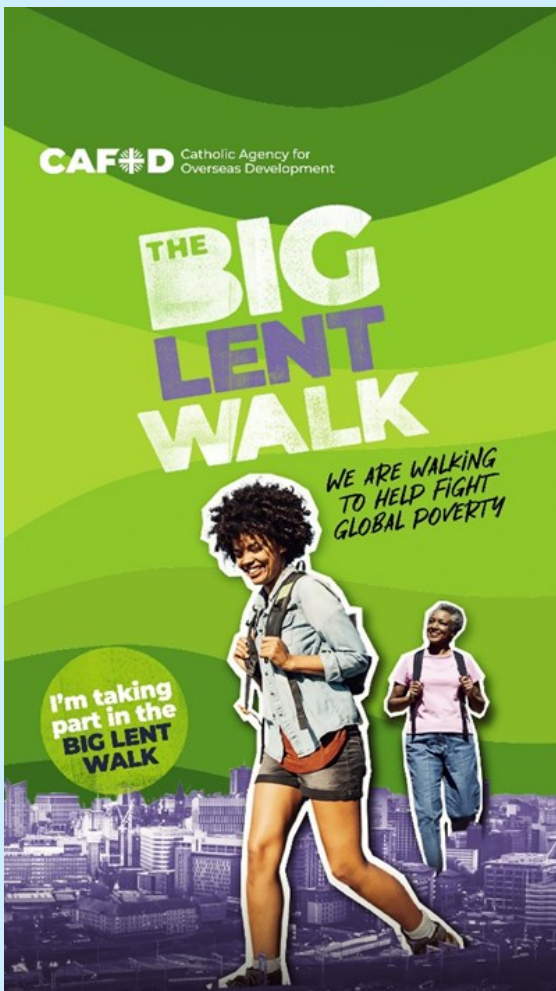


### ALL SAINTS' CHAPLAINCY

*We Shall Serve*

On February 11th, the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and World Day of the Sick, we joined with Our Lady in prayer, honouring our Trust Patron Saint and calling on her to support the needs of the sick. Our prayers continue for everyone in the All Saints' and wider community.

Over the past term, the Chaplaincy Fundraising Mission Team provided hope, alongside their School Council peers, supporting the local food bank and Cancer Research UK. For the food bank, the equivalent of 288 meals were collected in donated items and delivered over Christmas. A representative from Cancer Research UK is hoping to come and receive the cheque for their worthy cause soon...photos to follow! What a great effort from all in the All Saints' community!



The Chaplaincy Team are beginning to plan events, prayer and liturgy for Lent, which begins with Ash Wednesday on 5<sup>th</sup> March, where all in the community will be invited to receive their ashes.

Part of the Fundraising Mission Team's plans involve supporting CAFOD with the Big Lent Walk, encouraging everyone to take steps to walk 200km in 40 days to help fight global poverty. Further details to follow but thank you, in advance, for your support.

Our pilgrimage to the local 'Jubilee Church' continues with Y8 walking to St Philip Neri for their year group Mass on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February. Schools, parishioners and visitors are all being encouraged to visit the church over the course of the Jubilee, to share in prayerful pilgrimages and to offer prayers for those in need and for those unable to attend church, so our planned visits continue, along with our prayers.





## Parent Bulletin - February 2025



It is important for your child to regularly attend school for a variety of reasons - the learning and social skills developed, and for their confidence and self-esteem. Obviously, your child may miss school due to sickness or a hospital appointment but holidays should not be taken in term time. There are very few reasons a Headteacher can authorise a child being off school. Unauthorised absences may result in a penalty notice being given which is currently £160 (or £80 if paid within 28 days).

We also have a few children coming into school after 8.55am. Being late for school causes significant disadvantages to children. They not only miss the introduction to the lesson, but also the opportunity to meet and socialise with classmates before lessons begin. Children coming into class late causes disruption to the whole class and regular lateness may well result in your child being unable to reach their full potential.

Period 1 starts at 8.55am. If your child arrives to school after this time, then they will receive late mark and potentially a lunch detention or afterschool detention. This does not include students late due to the school buses.

If your child is going to be absent, please inform school using the Arbor App providing full details or by calling 01623 474700 and press 1 for pupil absence. A phone call or home visit will be made if we have not received any information that explains your child's absence by 9.30am.

### ATTENDANCE WHAT THE NEW RULES MEAN FOR ME

WITH EFFECT FROM 19 AUGUST 2024

I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for a week. Your holiday will not be authorised and you must talk to the school before you book anything. Because your child will miss 5 school days you will be given a penalty notice fine. The fine is £160 but if you pay it in 21 days it will be reduced to £80.

**1** **£160**

**2** FOR EVERY CHILD A PENALTY IS GIVEN  
+£160 +£160 +£160 +£160  
4 children & 1 parent = £640  
Reduced to £320 if paid in 21 days

**3** **10 IN 10**  
If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks and their absences are unauthorised, the school will consider prosecution.  
**1 DAY = 2 SESSIONS**

**4** FOR A FAMILY OF TWO PARENTS  
+£160 +£160 +£160 +£160  
4 children & 2 parents = £1280  
Reduced to £640 if paid in 21 days

If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence or pattern of irregular attendance...

**5**

**2ND TIME**  
2 parents and...  
1 child = £320  
2 children = £640  
3 children = £960  
4 children = £1280  
No discount for early payment

**3RD TIME**  
A penalty notice fine will not be given.  
Your case will be taken to court.  
A magistrate can fine each parent £2500 for each child.  
1 parent & 4 children = £10,000  
2 parents & 4 children = £20,000

**i** FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance](https://gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance)

### Reminders

Please could we ask that students come to school with their own water bottle, which can be refilled from the drinking water stations around school. Lots of students are coming out of lessons asking reception for water, but we do not have bottles or cups to provide students. Water is also available to purchase from the canteen.

Chewing gum is not allowed in school. Also, a gentle reminder that we recommend that students do not bring valuables into school such as mobile phones, electronic devices and large amounts of money. School cannot take responsibility for any lost items and will not carry out investigations into this.

Necklaces, bracelets and rings are not allowed in school. A crucifix or cross can be worn discreetly under the shirt. If excess jewellery is confiscated, parents can come to school to collect, or it will be returned to the student at the end of the half term. Thank you for your support with this.





## Safeguarding update

### How Safe is WhatsApp for Children ?

WhatsApp is one of the most popular instant messaging apps, used by over 2 billion people in 180 countries.

It allows you to send and receive messages, as well as make voice and video calls.

You can connect with people individually or join group chats where lots of people can contribute.

All you need to set up a WhatsApp account is a phone number.

However, children and young people can easily subvert the restrictions placed on its access.

Although rated at 16+, all that is required is a phone number. All it takes is one child in a class to be on whatsapp, and all the others will

wish to join. This can lead to increased vulnerabilities for child users. The NSPCC has released its own analysis about the dangers of the app.

If interested, please follow the link below:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/2023-01-12-is-whatsapp-safe-for-my-child/>

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many apps which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about WHATSAPP

WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service, with around two billion users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls. Its end-to-end encryption means messages can only be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp can read them. Updates to its privacy policy in 2021 (involving sharing data with parent company Facebook) caused millions to leave the app, but the new policy was widely misinterpreted – it only related to WhatsApp's business features, not to personal messages.

**UK AND EUROPE 16+ REST OF THE WORLD 13+**

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### SCAMS

Fraudsters occasionally send WhatsApp messages pretending to offer prizes encouraging the user to click on a link to win. Other common scams involve warning someone that their WhatsApp subscription has run out (aiming to dupe them into disclosing payment details) or impersonating a friend or relative and asking for money to be transferred to help with an emergency.

#### DISAPPEARING MESSAGES

Users can set WhatsApp messages to disappear in 24 hours, 7 days or 90 days by default. Photos and videos can also be instructed to disappear after the recipient has viewed them. These files can't be saved or forwarded – so if your child was sent an inappropriate message, it would be difficult to prove any wrongdoing. However, the receiver can take a screenshot and save that as evidence.

#### ENABLING FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp has unfortunately been linked to accelerating the spread of dangerous rumours. In India in 2018, some outbreaks of mob violence appear to have been sparked by false allegations being shared on the app. WhatsApp itself took steps to prevent its users circulating hazardous theories and speculation in the early weeks of the Covid-19 pandemic.

#### POTENTIAL CYBERBULLYING

Group chat and video calls are great for connecting with multiple people in WhatsApp, but there is always the potential for someone's feelings to be hurt by an unkind comment or joke. The 'only admin' feature gives the admin(s) of a group control over who can send messages. They can, for example, block people from posting in a chat, which could make a child feel excluded and upset.

#### CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a WhatsApp chat, you only need the mobile number of the person you want to message (the other person also needs to have the app). WhatsApp can access the address book on someone's device and recognise which of their contacts also use the app. So if your child has ever given their phone number to someone they don't know, that person could use it to contact them via WhatsApp.

#### LOCATION SHARING

The 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, allowing friends to see their movements. WhatsApp describes it as a 'simple and secure way to let people know where you are.' It is a useful method for a young person to let loved ones know they're safe but if they used it in a chat with people they don't know, they would be exposing their location to them, too.

### Advice for Parents & Carers

#### CREATE A SAFE PROFILE

Even though someone would need a child's phone number to add them as a contact, it's also worth altering a young person's profile settings to restrict who can see their photo and status. The options are 'everyone', 'my contacts' and 'nobody' – choosing one of the latter two ensures that your child's profile is better protected.

#### EXPLAIN ABOUT BLOCKING

If your child receives spam or offensive messages, calls or files from a contact, they should block them using 'settings' in the chat. Communication from a blocked contact won't show up on their device and stays undelivered. Blocking someone does not remove them from your child's contact list – so they also need to be deleted from the address book.

#### REPORT POTENTIAL SCAMS

Young people shouldn't engage with any message that looks suspicious or too good to be true. When your child receives a message from an unknown number for the first time, they'll be given the option to report it as spam. If the sender claims to be a friend or relative, call that person on their usual number to verify it really is them, or if it's someone trying to trick your child.

#### LEAVE A GROUP

If your child is in a group chat that is making them feel uncomfortable, or has been added to a group that they don't want to be part of, they can use WhatsApp's group settings to leave. If someone exits a group, the admin can add them back in once; if they leave a second time, it is permanent.

#### THINK ABOUT LOCATION

If your child needs to use the 'live location' function to show you or one of their friends where they are, advise them to share their location only for as long as they need to. WhatsApp gives a range of 'live location' options, and your child should manually stop sharing their position as soon as it is no longer needed.

#### DELETE ACCIDENTAL MESSAGES

If your child posts a message they want to delete, WhatsApp allows the user seven minutes to erase a message. Tap and hold on the message, choose 'delete' and then 'delete for everyone'. However, it's important to remember that recipients may have seen (and taken a screenshot of) a message before it was deleted.

#### CHECK THE FACTS

You can now fact-check WhatsApp messages that have been forwarded at least five times, by double-tapping the magnifying glass icon to the right of the message. From there, your child can launch a Google search and decide for themselves whether the message was true or not.

#### Meet Our Expert

Parveen Kaur is a social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about improving digital literacy for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media arena and is the founder of Kids i! Clicks, a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.

**National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) @natonlinesafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 02.03.2022

CEOP  
Safety  
Centre



Keeping  
children safe  
online NSPCC



Social media  
advice hub  
Internet Matters







# Parent Bulletin - February 2025



**ALL SAINTS'**

## SAFEGUARDING TEAM

"We shall serve"

If you have a safeguarding concern, our team are here to listen to you and help you with any situations you may be facing. We will listen to you no matter what issues you may have so do come and speak with us.

### KEEPING STUDENTS SAFE



**DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead)**

**Mrs N Kilday**

Designated Senior Person KS3-4 for Child Protection  
Office in the PA Block



**Mr C Hutchinson**

Designated Senior Person KS5 for Child Protection  
Office near the staffroom



**Mrs S Corner**

Designated Safeguarding and Behaviour Lead Practitioner  
Office in N1

#### Designated Deputy Persons for Child Protection



**Mrs D Bamford**  
Office in X1  
(Learning Support)



**Mrs C Warriner**  
Office in the JPC  
(John Paul Centre)



**Mrs A Wain**  
Office opposite the library



**Miss H Flint**  
Office opposite M24



**Mr C Hall**  
Office in the PA Block



**Mrs J Thompson**  
Office in N1



**Miss L Nahal**  
Office in Sixth Form



**Ms J Webley**  
Office in the PA Block



**Mrs L Johnson**  
Office near the Staff Room



**Mrs P Gamble**  
Office in the Science Block

**Mr R della-Spina**



Designated Trust  
Safeguarding Lead

**Eva Callaghan**



Local Authority Child  
Protection Contact/  
LADO  
Contact: 0115 8041272

*It is the Lord who goes before you.  
He will be with you; he will not leave you  
or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.  
Deuteronomy 31:8*

## E Scooters

We have been asked by Nottinghamshire Police to inform parents and carers that E-Scooter use is illegal on public land and that police will be attending the area for operations and checks. The police may seize E-Scooters from any students found using them illegally and bringing them into school. E Scooters are banned from All Saints' Catholic Academy site and we have a duty to pass on the names of any students bringing them into school.

**GRADUATE  
FASHION  
FOUNDATION**

# The Young Talent of Tomorrow Design Competition

**Have a creative vision for the future?**

We invite you to create a garment on the theme of  
**'Imagining Tomorrow'.**

Open to: All students studying textiles, art  
or a relevant design subject between the  
ages of 11 - 18.

Deadline: 12pm  
Friday 21st March 2025



## Parent Bulletin - February 2025

# CAREERS



**Unifrog:** Students all use Unifrog within their Careers lessons. Parent/carers' are also able to access this platform using the details below:

[Sign In - Unifrog](#)

**Parent code:** ALSCparents



We will be celebrating **National Careers week** during 3rd-8th March 2025. Students will be completing activities within lessons and during tutor time.

For more information please visit: NCW One Stop Shop

**Careers advisor appointments:** Our Careers advisor will be available to make face to face appointments on the dates below between 15.45-18.30.

We will email closer to the date to make an appointment. Alternatively, you can email [Darby.R@allsaints.notts.sch.uk](mailto:Darby.R@allsaints.notts.sch.uk) directly.



### Parents Evening – Progress career dates (in conjunction with Progress Evening in school)

Year 10 – Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Year 9 – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June

Sixth form information evening – Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025

Careers reminder: Please remember you can also visit our school website: Careers - All Saints' Catholic Voluntary Academy - Mansfield.



### Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education, including Relationship and Sex Education:

A reminder to please go to our school website, following the link below to see up to date information on the Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education, which incorporate Relationship and Sex Education. [RSE/PSCHE - All Saints' Catholic Voluntary Academy - Mansfield](#)

In response to the tragic events that have taken place in Sheffield and Sweden recently, we send our prayers and thoughts to all of those affected. We would like to reassure you that we have a zero tolerance approach to all incidents linked to weapons at All Saints' and appropriate safety procedures including a clear lockdown policy which we practise regularly.

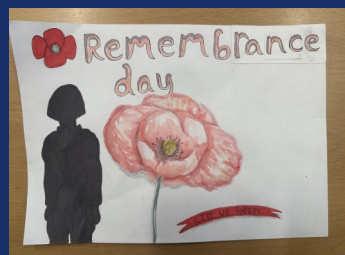
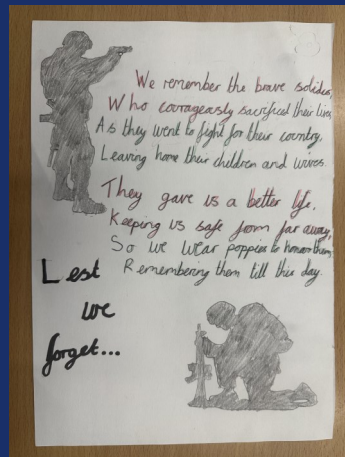




## Parent Bulletin - February 2025



Here are some excellent entries for the History competition in half term 2. Well done to Grace S in year 7 for her winning entry, with the lovely remembrance bear. Details of the next competition are below.



### KS3 HISTORY HALF-TERM 4

## Easter Competition

Decorate an 'Easter' egg with an image of your favourite significant historical female.

International Women's Day 2025

Paint an egg, or draw out your design. Add an explanation of what inspired you to chose that historical female.



Closing date: 31 March

PRIZES TO BE WON!

Good luck! If you have any questions please speak to your history teacher.

To submit your entry you can email a photo of your work to Miss Varney ([Varney.o@allsaints.notts.sch.uk](mailto:Varney.o@allsaints.notts.sch.uk)) or hand your design in to your teacher during your lessons.



It's really important we hold up-to-date parent/carers contact details for all students – including email and mobile numbers. Please could parents check all details are up to date on Arbor. Thank you.



A reminder to parents that students are not allowed to carry medication in school and all meds including paracetamol should be handed in at reception along with a medication form?

### UNIFORM DONATIONS

Do you have any old school uniform you no longer need and could be used by others?



We are collecting any uniform and PE kit that is clean and in good condition.

Items can be dropped off at reception





### Mental Health and Wellbeing:

Last week was Children's Mental Health Week, Place2Be have created a support sheet for families to help support with a young persons' Mental Health:



#### ① Encourage journalling

Just like Riley, encourage your older children and young people to express their emotions and thoughts through journalling. It can be less confronting than speaking out loud and is a helpful way to process what is going on.

#### ② Make space for reflection

When children and young people reflect on their different emotions, it can help them better understand themselves and what they need.

Go for a walk, drive, or try some mindful colouring or baking together.

#### ③ Be visual

Use imagery, such as emojis or flashcards to help children and young people recognise and label their feelings.

#### ④ Practice mindfulness

Try mindful activities, and quiet family time, to enjoy being in the present moment. This can help children and young people be aware of their thoughts and emotions and learn a useful new coping technique.

#### ⑤ Communicate

Feedback is crucial for helping us see our blind spots and gain greater insight. Children and young people are no different. Creating safe and supportive ways to share your own experience with your child can help them understand themselves and their impact on the world around them.



If you're a parent or teacher, you'll find loads of useful advice to help you support the brilliant young people in your lives – from FAQs to downloadable packs. [Here4You.co.uk](https://www.here4you.co.uk)

### Mental Health and Wellbeing reminder:

Please remember that the link on our website is: Mental Health & Wellbeing - All Saints' Catholic Voluntary Academy - Mansfield. The trust Mental Health and Wellbeing space link is: Mental Health & Wellbeing (mentalhealthandwellbeing.space) In addition, if you have any questions or specific concerns regarding your child's wellbeing then please email the address: wellbeing@allsaints.notts.sch.uk





# Aladdin

## The Panto!



Thursday 27 March, 6pm

Friday 28 March, 7pm

Saturday 29 March, 2pm

Adults - £7.50

Concessions - £5.50

### Parent and Carer Planner 2024-2025 Academic Year Term 2b

INSET Day on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February- Students not in school.

Students return to school on **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February.**

Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 12 Drama Controlled Assessment.
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 12 Drama Controlled Assessment.
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> February (all week)	Year 11 and 13 Mock Exams.
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March (all week)	Year 11 and 13 Mock Exams.
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 11 Drama Exam.
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 11 Drama Exam.
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> March (all week)	Year 12 Exams.
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 7 Progress Evening for Parents. In Person.
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 10 Mock Interviews.
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	School Show.
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	School Show.
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 11 and 13 Mock Exam Results.
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 12 Reports.

Students break up on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April and return to school on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April.