

St Patrick's Catholic Voluntary Academy in the Advent term 2022

What a packed and fun first term of the new academic year at St. Patrick's Catholic Voluntary Academy!

Nathan has now joined us full-time and, as well as providing a daily 'Wake and Shake' session each morning before the school day gets started, he also runs a variety of after-school sporting clubs and leads all PE lessons across the school including gymnastics, boxercise, ball skills, team games and dance.

Mrs Kelvey organised the ever-popular Halloween Party where the whole school had the opportunity to dress up and dance at an after-school disco.

All classes (Years 1 to 6) opened their doors and invited parents to maths sessions where they were able to watch how the class teachers taught an area of maths. The sessions were well-received and led to some very positive feedback.



Mrs Cajkler, Head of Science and Dr Joshi, from English Martyrs Catholic Voluntary Academy, visited our Year 6 pupils. Children were asked about their learning and

understanding of science. In pairs they carried out an activity which involved finding bacteria in their classroom.



Our pupils have been showing off their drawing, sketching, and painting skills during 'Art Week'.

This culminated in a most impressive exhibition held in the school hall where parents were invited to come and view their child's creativity before purchasing their work. Each class chose a different artist; we had a very wide range: Ed Sheeran, Peter Reynolds, Henri Matisse, Wassily Kandinsky, Vincent Van Gough, L S Lowry, Hokusai and Sally Trace.

Music has also been at the forefront this term. Miss Stanley - our Music Lead - has introduced a new scheme of learning and during our most recent unit - voice - all classes had the opportunity to record a song as part of a school CD.

In addition, children from Years 5 and 6 auditioned for a prestigious place in our Menphys choir; it was fantastic to see this momentous event returning to De Montfort Hall to raise money to support children and young people with disabilities. We must thank Mrs Weaver and Mrs Lynch for their support.



Year 6 pupils have been learning to play the recorder and performed a medley of Christmas songs during this term's final Star of the Week assembly.

We also had not one, but two Christmas plays this year. Our EYFS and KS1 children performed a beautiful traditional nativity whilst our Year 3 and 4 children demonstrated their acting and singing talent in a nativity story with a difference in 'Call the midwife'. In addition, all year groups were delighted to invite Santa into our hall and Mrs Kelvey took numerous photographs to capture the moment.

Mrs Machado has been leading some wonderful projects in school to work with some of our children who need additional support. Attention Autism is designed to help children with structure and attention skills whilst Theraplay focuses on self-control and feeling positive.

Years 5 and 6 experienced a morning at the theatre when they went to watch the pantomime, Cinderella, at the De Montfort Hall - an ideal trip for Christmas.



The Trust travelling crib was delivered to us by James, the Lay Chaplain at English Martyrs Catholic Voluntary Academy. We gathered for a whole school collective worship and then each class had the opportunity to reflect in our prayer room before Mrs



Noronha - along with two Year 6 pupils - delivered it to another of our Trust schools.

As always, this term has seen lovely masses - we thank Father Raphael - and child-led liturgies as well as a beautiful Christingle; many of which were supported by our wonderful chaplain, Miss Kearns.

We wish all our school family: governors, teachers, support staff, Office Manager, lunch time team, cleaning staff, Premises Officer, children and parents a happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.