

**St Paul's**  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

# Annual Report



## View from the Head

I am delighted to introduce this year's annual report. It provides an excellent snapshot of a year in the life of our St Paul's community.

It offers a wonderful opportunity for us all to review what amazing things our community has experienced and achieved during the last academic year. The wide range of experiences really encapsulate what St Paul's strives to provide for the children in our care; a truly holistic education that is designed to nurture the unique gifts and talents that each individual

has been blessed with. I continue to feel an immense sense of pride when I look through this annual report.

I offer my thanks and appreciation to each member of our community for continuing to make St Paul's such a special place to learn.

*J. A. Hoarty*

**Jo-Anne Hoarty**  
Headteacher



Please check our website [st-pauls.org.uk](http://st-pauls.org.uk) for news and information about the school. Keep in touch through social media. We're on [Facebook/stpaulsmk](#), [X/stpauls\\_mk](#), [YouTube \(St Paul's Catholic School Milton Keynes\)](#) and [LinkedIn \(St Paul's Catholic School Milton Keynes\)](#).



# GCSE results recognise students' hard work and commitment

St Paul's Catholic School is delighted to report some outstanding individual achievements by its students in their GCSE qualifications this summer.

Jo-Anne Hoarty, Headteacher at St Paul's Catholic School, said: "We were very happy to welcome Year 11 students to collect their GCSE results. The grades they received reflected a great deal of hard work and commitment over the last five years. We are so pleased with their results and they are thoroughly deserved."

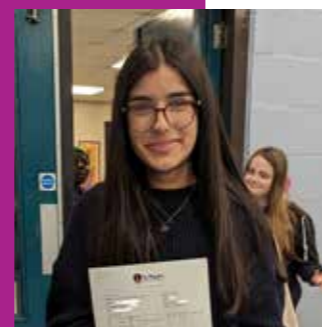
Congratulations to every individual who has secured such excellent grades today. We are particularly impressed by the achievements of:

Manuella Abakah, Ore Afolabi, Naomi Butt, Aurora Chan, Hayley Cheung, Clarence Del Rosario, Cian Devereux, Yasmine Fadel, Shahir Haque, Reuben Hodgkinson, Ryan Kilgannon, Konrad Kosciukiewicz, Frank Mmamelu, Sophia Nganga, Chinelo Ogbuju, Christelle Okito, Sarah Peace, Danielle Siong, Alessia Zeolla and Muhammad Zubair. Between them, these students achieved 60 grade 9s and 67 grade 8s.

Special mention also goes to Felix Soji who has only been in the UK since January and achieved seven GCSEs (four at grade 6 and a 7, 8 and 9) and Jordan Kibanza who went above and beyond achieving over his expected grades.



A level results were impressive too, with students going on to study a range of subjects leading to careers in areas including Interior Design, Computer Science, Biomedical Science, Psychology and Counselling, Automotive Engineering, Children's Nursing, Social Work, Medicine and Human Resources.



Jo-Anne added: We are very proud of all our students for making the most of the opportunities offered by St Paul's, particularly during this challenging time, and are especially pleased that so many of them have chosen to continue their education in our award-winning Sixth Form.



## Work related learning day

Work Related Learning Day, where students in Years 7 to 10, and in Year 12, participate in activities designed to prepare them for the world of work, is one of the most popular days in school.

**Year 10** teams created, manufactured and marketed a soap brand in a Soap Enterprise Challenge. They made a range of sweet smelling, fun products and launched them to their classmates.

**Year 7** students enjoyed mindfulness, smoothie making, art for wellbeing and Duke of Edinburgh style challenges. They also took part in sporting activities including table tennis, football fitness, boxing and frisbee.

**Year 8** loved their STEM activities which included launching rockets on the school field, meeting exotic animals, practising medical procedures, doing Maths challenges and learning about space travel in an inflatable planetarium. We are grateful to organisations including Network Rail, The Open University, Red Bull, Teaching Talons and Medical Mavericks for providing such fantastic experiences.

**Year 9** had a Steps into Work Day and did fun team challenges where they built towers with newspapers, had 'find your job' workshops and took part in virtual career workouts with employers. Thank you to Worktree for helping to arrange the workshops and activities and to the employers for giving students such a valuable insight into their jobs.



Mrs Palmiero, Head of Careers at St Paul's, said: Work Related Learning Day is one of the highlights of the year and we were so happy to provide a rich variety of experiences for students. The day was enjoyed by all.





# Culture day recognises our diverse community

With over 60 native languages spoken at St Paul's it is true to say that we are a very diverse and inclusive community. We celebrate this every year with a joyful Day of Culture where students and staff across the school are invited to wear their national costume or some clothing or accessories that represent a culture they identify with.

We also had some amazing cultural dance performances in the theatre, DJ sets from one of our former students at break times and displays of national flags around the MUGA.

The atmosphere was electric and demonstrated what a vibrant global community we have.



# Business partnerships help make work experience a success

At our Year 10 work experience week over 290 students went to a wide range of workplaces across Milton Keynes including educational settings, local businesses, retail, hospitality, charities, hair & beauty, law firms, healthcare services and engineering companies. Amongst these were some larger companies such as Santander, John Lewis and Subway that took over 10 students per business.

“ Jo-Anne Hoarty, Headteacher, said: “St Paul's would like to thank everyone involved once again for their amazing support and for all the positive feedback we have received about our students. Without these business partnerships such experiences would not be possible, and we fully appreciate the superb opportunities you provided our students with.”



# Art students create stained glass panels

Our talented Year 7 and 8 students have created some beautiful stained glass window panels which now adorn the windows of the Art corridor in K Block. The students painted their panels during sessions led by our Sixth Form A level Art students.

Students, staff and the wider St Paul's community have admired the panels. In fact, after we posted them on our social media, St Augustine's Church in Heelands contacted us to ask if our students would make some panels for them. Our Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 students painted the panels during Work Related Learning Day and we visited the church in September to hand them over. Mrs Reeve and Mrs Rubin from our Art Department installed the panels and we even had some assistance from Fr Emmanuel. He said he was ecstatic about the designs and was excited for the parishioners to see them. Fr Emmanuel has said a Mass for our students to thank them.



“ Mrs Reeves, Head of Art, said: “Our students have really enjoyed creating these panels and we're so happy that the parishioners of St Augustine's will be able to enjoy their artwork too.”





## Surprise visitor adds extra excitement to sports day

We had a very special VIP visitor to add even more excitement to our Sports Day. Fresh from his appearance playing for Austria's national team in the Euros, where he had a memorable encounter with French footballer Mbappe, our former student Kevin Danso came to visit his old school, St Paul's.

The excitement among our students was high and they loved having the chance to have their photo taken with Kevin and get his autograph. The queue to meet Kevin was huge and we are grateful to him for his patience in meeting students with smiles and some wise words of encouragement. What a lovely surprise!

## The voice of Horrid Henry captivates students



Voice artist, speaker and author, Lizzie Waterworth visited St Paul's to deliver inspiring talks to our Year 7 and Year 8 students. Perhaps best known as the voice of popular children's character, Horrid Henry, Lizzie has also voiced roles in numerous successful children's shows like Bob the Builder and Mush-Mush and the Mushables.

Lizzie captivated our students by talking about her career and also gave practical advice on how students can find their voice and boost confidence when speaking in front of other people. She later signed copies of her new book "How to Talk so People will Listen".

Our students were very enthused by Lizzie's talk and asked so many great questions. They also loved hearing her demonstrate some of her famous characters' voices.

Thank you to Lizzie for a fantastic visit and, of course, to our Library team for making this happen.

## Student Council and Student Leaders demonstrate service to the school community



Our Student Leaders and members of our Student Council had a busy year demonstrating how they could follow Jesus' example as servant leaders and serve the school community.

In December they visited Milton Keynes University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust to drop off donations for older people who were spending Christmas in hospital. Our Year 7 and Year 9 student Heads of Year explained to hospital staff how they had collected their donations and it was lovely to see how appreciative they were of our students' charitable activities.



Later in the year our students visited local charity MK Storehouse to deliver bags of clothing collected in our Great Spring Clean Out. Rachel from MK Storehouse explained how our donations will have a positive impact on the local community. She told them how clothing donations could help anyone from people who are in trouble to refugees that are invited to come and see which items might suit them. Students were excited to see the difference that the donations would make.



Students Leaders also visited many different departments during the year to show their appreciation to staff for the work they do behind the scenes to keep the school running efficiently. Staff from departments including catering, the site team, cover, faculty administration, reception, the general office and our science technicians were delighted to receive surprise visits with handwritten cards and cakes. Student Leaders also read out messages expressing their gratitude. Under the guidance of Ms Markatos we look forward to another exciting year of student leadership.







# School trips bring learning to life

Our students have been lucky to experience a variety of trips which have allowed them to bring their classroom learning to life, develop new skills and build their confidence whilst spending time and having fun with classmates and friends.



We've visited universities, theatres, art galleries, sporting institutions, museums, farms, cathedrals and historical buildings, to name but a few. Students have also had the opportunity to go on spiritual retreats and experience the great outdoors at our multi-activity residential sessions in Somerset. Duke of Edinburgh participants have explored the local area in Buckinghamshire and Bedfordshire and have gone further afield to the Lake District and South Wales.



“ Jo-Anne Hoarty, Headteacher, said: “These fantastic activities contribute so much to our students’ education and wellbeing and we are proud to offer experiences which are about fun, friendship and futures for all.”

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