

Summer 2024

Welcome to our Our Lady of Lourdes CMAT's newsletter
for our 36 primary and secondary schools across
Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire and Nottingham City

Newsletter

Our Schools Excel in Recent Inspections



Our Lady of Good Counsel, Sleaford: Rated Good.

Our Lady and St Edward's, Nottingham: Rated Good, with many areas judged Outstanding.

Moira Dales, Deputy CEO said, "I want to express my sincere gratitude for the incredible hard work and dedication displayed during our recent inspections. The results achieved are a direct reflection of the collective effort, commitment and professionalism shown by staff and supported by our wonderful school communities."

This term, several of our schools had Ofsted inspections, achieving impressive results:

- St. Joseph's, Shirebrook:** Outstanding.
- St. Norbert's, Crowle:** Good.
- The Good Shepherd, Arnold:** Good with the potential to be Outstanding if graded.
- Holy Trinity, Newark:** Good.
- St. Mary's, Grimsby:** Good.
- St. Bernadette's, Scunthorpe:** Good.
- Our Lady and St Edward's, Nottingham:** Good
- St. Peter and St. Paul's, Lincoln:** Behaviour and Attitudes, Personal Development, Leadership and Sixth Form all rated Good

Additionally, the Catholic School Inspectorate (CSI) inspected five of our schools, where the quality of Catholic Life and Mission, Religious Education and Collective Worship were graded.

- St. Edmund Campion:** Rated Good
- St. Teresa's, Aspley:** Rated Outstanding.
- Holy Trinity, Newark:** Rated Outstanding.
- St. Augustine's, Stamford:** Rated Good.

"Another great year for our Trust is coming to a close. We wish all of our staff, pupils parents and wider community a happy and relaxing summer holiday and look forward to seeing you all in September! To all our retiring staff members leaving this summer, we wish you the very best in your new adventures".

Click the logos below to read the reports:



Leading the Way in Pupil Progression

The Trinity School and The Becket School have been ranked by Nottinghamshire Live as being among the best for pupil progression in the area.

Each year, the Government compiles all the performance data from each school and college across the country to check pupils' progress. The Trinity has ranked in the top five best secondary schools in Nottingham and The Becket in the Nottinghamshire top five.

A big congratulations to all the pupils, staff and school communities that have made this incredible achievement possible.

Read the full article here: www.nottinghampost.com/news/nottingham-news/nottingham-nottinghamshires-best-worst-schools-9256915



St. Augustine's Stamford Award-Winning SENCO

Congratulations to Mrs Garland at St. Augustine's, Stamford who has won the Term Times Family Magazine SENCO of the Year award, sponsored by Kip McGrath Tuition Peterborough South.



Nominated by The Reading Doctor, Stamford, the impact Mrs Garland has on the lives of pupils and families at St. Augustine's has been recognised by the award and is very well-deserved.

Read the full article on page 13 here at termtimes.ltd.uk/magazine/termtimes-164

UNICEF Respect Awards

Two of our Trust schools have been awarded a Rights Respecting School Award by UNICEF UK this term. St. Norbert's, Crowle, were awarded Gold and St. Joseph's, Shirebrook, awarded Silver.

The Rights Respecting Schools Award is granted to schools that show commitment to promoting and realising children's rights and encouraging adults, children, and young people to respect the rights of others in their school community.

A huge congratulations to everyone at St. Joseph's and St. Norbert's for their hard work in attaining these awards.



SSPP Three Peaks Memorial Fundraiser

In June, staff at St. Peter and St Paul's, Lincoln, took part in the Yorkshire Three Peaks challenge in memory of their colleague, friend and beloved member of staff, Ms Bell who unfortunately passed away in December 2023.

The course was gruelling and the weather was far from ideal but the team banded together and pushed through the challenges that lay before them!

Congratulations to all who took part and the SSPP community for their donations. What a beautiful way to remember Ms Bell and to raise money for Marie Curie Cancer Research.

There is still time to donate if you would like to, please visit: www.justgiving.com



Boost for Our Lady of Lincoln's Outdoor Projects



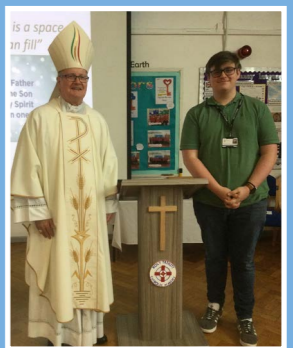
Our Lady of Lincoln Catholic Primary School has received a generous grant from the Dr M L Luiggi Trust to support their ongoing school projects and initiatives.

The grant will go towards creating a beautiful, purposeful outdoor sanctuary at the school and a new outdoor classroom for their Forest School.

We're so excited to share the progress of this exciting project!

Holy Trinity Welcomes New Sacred Spaces

Holy Trinity, Newark were visited by Bishop Patrick in May to officially open their School Chapel.



The Bishop also blessed the lectern made for Holy Trinity by The Becket School Sixth Form student Finan, as well as blessing their two Prayer Gardens funded through the Trust's Sacred Spaces funding.



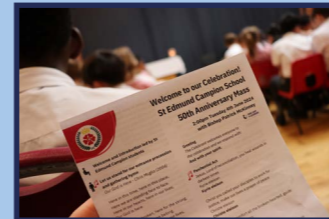
St. Edmund Campion 50th Celebrations

St. Edmund Campion, West Bridgford, celebrated their 50th anniversary in June, with a special mass led by Bishop Patrick and concelebrated by two former pupils, Father Simon Gillespie and Canon Joe Wheat.

It was a joyous occasion with representation from past and present staff, children, parents, and governors.

The guest of honour was Mr Sweeny, the first Head Teacher of the school.

Mrs Whittaker was another important guest and was one of the very first pupils when the school opened its doors in January 1974.



Pupils Enjoy New Friendship and Prayer Spaces at St. Patrick's Wilford

St. Patrick's, Wilford, were excited to use the Trust's Sacred Spaces fund to organise new prayer and friendship areas around the school.

The children gathered together to discuss the Synod and suggest ways to put their faith into action.

It was decided that to support those feeling lonely or in need of a good friend, new friendship benches would be placed around the school site for all to access.

Each bench has a special plaque engraved with Scripture chosen by the children which reflects the school's mission statement.

The EYFS unit also benefitted from this fund with a new outdoor prayer arch. Children sit here to say and write prayers and enjoy reading the prayers of others which hang from the vines above.

These areas have enabled the children to pray together, support one another and spread the joy of St. Patrick even further.



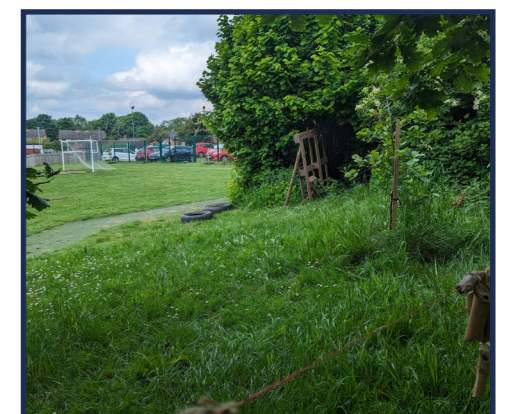
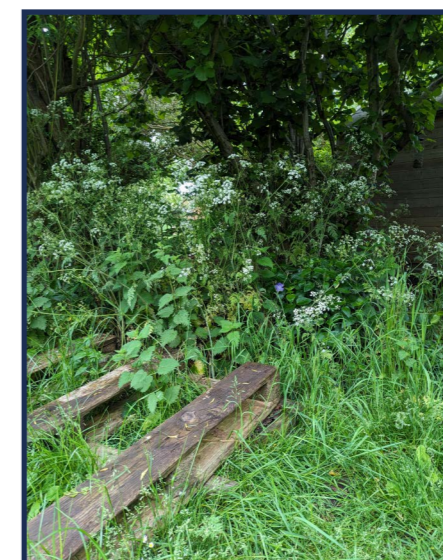
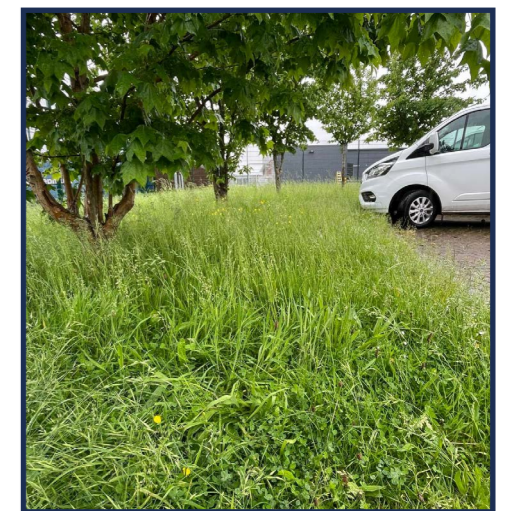
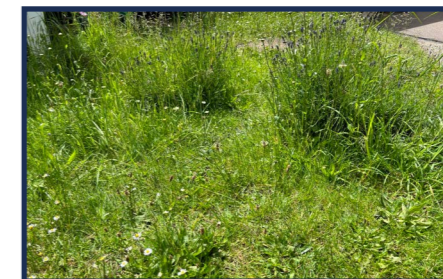
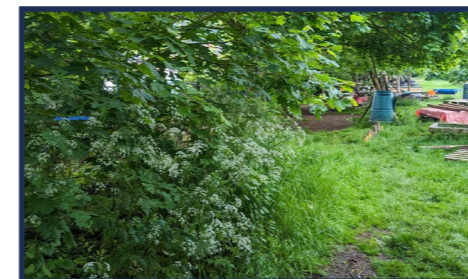
Supporting #NoMowMay in Our Schools

This term, our schools participated in #NoMowMay and left lawns and grassed areas untouched to let wildflowers grow.

Since the 1930's, the UK has lost approximately 97% of flower-rich meadows, and with them, vital food sources for pollinators like bees and butterflies. But there's hope — keeping our lawns longer can make a difference!

Allowing grass and wildflowers to grow benefits wildlife, tackles pollution and helps lock away carbon underground. With over 20 million gardens in the UK, even the smallest patches of grass can significantly impact nature, communities, and the climate.

To find out more about #NoMowMay, please visit: www.plantlife.org.uk/campaigns/nomowmay



Inspiring Activities in Our Lincolnshire Schools

There have been so many wonderful things happening across Saint Jude's hub during the Pentecost Term!

Saint Norbert's in Spalding enjoyed the sunshine in May when they took to the field for their own Lord's Prayer Labyrinth. As they journeyed around the labyrinth, they were met with different stations focussing on different lines from the Our Father along with a sensory experience. The first for example was 'Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by thy name.' This station was an opportunity to reflect on the importance of a name and how everyone deserves respect. The children were paired up in classes and it was wonderful to watch the older children supporting the younger children.

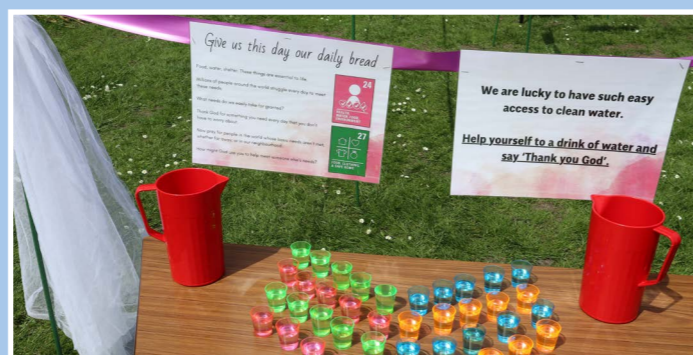
Saint Mary's in Boston have launched their own Faith in Action group this term and the willingness and dedication shown by the pupils has been brilliant. This group of children have met weekly and have worked together on their first project by raising awareness and funds of a particular disadvantaged community in India which is also supported by the parish community in Boston too. They planned and delivered their own Celebration of the word and invited their parents, parishioners, and special guests along to find out more. For their mission, they asked the whole school and the guests to decorate a kindness card which will be sent to as care home in India.

Saint Augustine's in Stamford engaged fantastically with the Diocesan Lord's Prayer Project, with every class learning the Our Father in a different language. Throughout school, the Our Father was prayed in Spanish, French, Polish, Romanian, and even in sign language! We have enjoyed visits this term from Mary's Meals and CAFOD. The Chaplaincy Team decided to fundraise for Mary's Meals by selling ice lollies after school. When Ann from CAFOD visited, the children joined in excellently with the workshops. It was brilliant to hear EYFS learning the nursery rhyme about Human Dignity to the tune of Row, Row, Row Your Boat.

Saint Mary's in Grantham have been busy tidying and enhancing their beautiful prayer garden. It is looking fantastic and is a wonderful space for the children to pray in or simply take time out for reflection. In June, Saint Mary's held a 'Disconnect to Reconnect' day which meant they didn't use technology in any of their learning all day to highlight the amount of energy we use and to encourage people to spend more time with one another. Parents and families were also encouraged to get involved by extending this theme into the evening by reading, exercising or getting creative together. This linked in really well to their current efforts towards the CAFOD Live Simply award.

Our Lady of Good Counsel in Sleaford held a beautiful retreat day in May led by their Chaplaincy Team, the Shining Stars. With various stations to visit ranging from Mary (due to it being the month of Mary) to various principles of Catholic Social Teaching, children were exposed to lots of wonderful pieces of scripture and some lovely follow up activities too. The atmosphere was incredible, and it was a great way to celebrate the last day of a busy term. They have also been busy planning a new outdoor sacred space which they hope to be able to update you on soon.

Article by *Lucy Wright, Lay Chaplain*



Lessons of Faith And Wisdom For Our Pupils

During their Briars retreat, year 6's from St. Mary's Grimsby and St. Joseph's Cleethorpes had a special visit from the Apostolic Nuncio, His Excellency Archbishop Miguel Maury Buendía. During his visit to the Briars, he, along with Bishop Patrick, answered questions from the young people, about his work, his faith, and his opinions on pineapple on pizza, with one year 6 receiving an autograph from the Apostolic Nuncio.

He shared with the young people that God called him to the priesthood when he was sixteen years old, and that as Apostolic Nuncio his job has lots of different aspects. He also gave some advice to the young people, stating that it is sometimes difficult to follow the path God sets for us as it is constantly changing. It is important to be in constant conversation with God, even when we feel distant from him.

Whilst he couldn't speak for Pope Francis, in what his message for the young people in the Diocese of Nottingham might be, he reiterated the Pope's message for all young people – that they are the future.

As it was Bishop Patrick's 9th Anniversary as Bishop of Nottingham, he was also asked about what he enjoys as our Bishop. He very much enjoys visiting all the different parishes and schools of the Diocese.

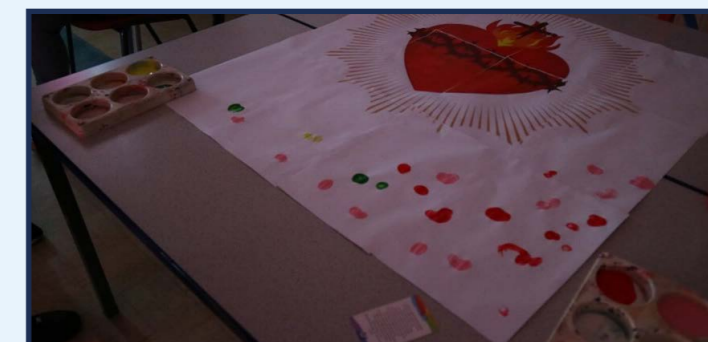


Pupils from St. Bernadette's Scunthorpe encountered Jesus through Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. In the year of prayer, we have been exploring different ways of praying and how we like to speak to God. This will help to inform what goes into our new outside prayer space and how it is used.

Pupils from the chaplaincy teams at St. Mary's Grimsby and St. Joseph's Cleethorpes worked together to lead a Celebration of the Word on the Sacred Heart of Jesus in each school. We were asked to consider all the ways we show love to others and the ways we are loved by God, before making a promise to love like Jesus loves and making our own thumbprint heart surrounding the image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The hearts will be displayed in each school as a reminder of that promise.

16 staff from St. Mary's Brigg travelled to the Yorkshire dales to take on the three peaks challenge. 9 staff completed all 3 peaks, to help raise money for a remembrance prayer garden, for a year 1 pupil who sadly died in January of this year. At the top of each peak, they left yellow roses, in remembrance of Evelyn.

Article by *Libby Mellows, Lay Chaplain*



Holy Trinity Chess Teams Clinch Third Place

Congratulations to the chess teams at Holy Trinity, Newark who came third at the Newark Schools Chess Tournament in a close-fought battle this term!

The teams entered the last round in second place, at the end of the second match in the final leg they were drawing in first place. Then in the final match, they ended in third place with only 2 points between them and the 2nd and 1st place teams.

A particular well done to Henry who won all three matches and won a medal as well as a trophy. He also has won all three matches in the three tournaments that have taken place with the Newark Schools this year, which is a major achievement. Congratulations Henry!



Rain or Shine, Blessed Robert Fundraising Fair

Despite the wet weather, the Blessed Robert Widmerpool Family Picnic (adjusted slightly to the Fundraising Fair) was a great success with families showing their support, come rain or shine!

The donations of books, cake and your time were gratefully received. A special thank you to Mrs Bolger for such talented face painting and to their Year 6 volunteer helpers.



Shirebrook Pupils Design Dwayne the Train!



Pupils at St. Joseph's, Shirebrook, were invited to design a locomotive for WH Davis, a train manufacturer located just across the road from the school. With many school parents working there, this project was a fantastic way to strengthen their local connections.

The pupils worked diligently on their designs, and WH Davis, in collaboration with AURA Brand Solutions, selected their favourite design and name to decorate the locomotive. This locomotive will now be used on-site to move carriages.

Reflecting on the project, Headteacher Dani Seaman said: "I was exceptionally proud of the creativity the children demonstrated when creating their designs. It was a pleasure to work with a local company to strengthen connections and allow the children to see their excellent work on display."

Game, Set And Match For Children in Boughton

Pupils at St. Joseph's Boughton enjoyed an incredible day at the Wimbledon Championships in July.

They had a tour of Centre Court, enjoyed the famous Wimbledon strawberries and cream and watched a men's singles and mixed doubles match.

Afterwards, they were also able to take their Year 6 children to Warner Bros Studios to learn about filmmaking, special effects and the world of Harry Potter.



Heartfelt Art for Local Lincoln Hospital

Year Two students at Our Lady of Lincoln have linked their Art in the Community Project this term with their Missionary Discipleship work.

The students designed and created a large heart to be displayed at the local hospital, symbolizing love and support for the community. This initiative was a heartfelt response to the needs of those experiencing difficult times, especially those visiting the hospital chapel.

The heart features a box filled with messages of love and encouragement, written by the children to uplift and support anyone who takes them.

Annie, a Year Two student, beautifully encapsulated the project's spirit, saying, "We want to send out messages of love."



Eggcellent work from St. Augustine's

Pupils at St. Augustine's, Stamford have grown, hatched and nurtured new life in the form of eight amazing ducks.

The children have gained so much from this amazing experience and have even invited governors and local schools to share in the joy!



Saint Mary's Choir Shines at Boston's Got Talent

Year 5 students at Saint Mary's, Boston, participated in Boston's Got Talent show this month, representing their school with a group choir piece singing 'Joyful, Joyful'.

The performance included dancing, rapping and even a backflip!

The hard work and dedication paid off, winning 2nd place in the school's category!

A huge congratulations to all who took part.



The Becket's West End Student Showcase



Nearly 100 students from Years 7 – 13 took part in this year's West End Showcase at the Becket School, West Bridgford with guest performances from former music students.

Performers showcased a range of musical theatre songs from more than a century of theatre dressed in their red-carpet finery. 150 guests were seated at tables whilst treating themselves to refreshments from the bar.



St. Teresa's Music Celebrations Peak in Spectacular Fest

St. Teresa's have had some fantastic celebrations of music throughout the year with performances at St Barnabas Cathedral, violin concerts and the Young Voices concert at Birmingham Resorts World Arena.

They ended the year with a music festival and concert, St. Teresa's Fest, featured professional performers who shared their skills and talent for the whole school community.

Inspired by these performances, pupils auditioned and showcased their talents. The festival included choir songs, dynamic dances from Mrs. Green's finalists and impressive solo acts from Key Stage 2 students.

The Year 5/6 dance team also reached the national final of the Great Big Dance Off 2024 in Oxford. The day began with an atmospheric warm-up outside the beautiful Christ Church College, setting the stage for an unforgettable performance. The dancers impressed the audience and judges with their routine, earning glowing applause and feedback.



OLSE Euro Football Fun



The House Captains at Our Lady and St. Edward's have been very busy organising competitions to celebrate Euro 2024.

Each class and office were entered into a sweepstake to see who will win. They also created a KS2 Euro league which was played each lunchtime as part of football club with Mr Jessop.

Thank you to all the children who took part, most children across Key Stage 2 represented their house in the games and those who didn't, cheered from the sidelines.

BBC Gladiators Boost Summer Fayre Fun



The Good Shepherd in Arnold were joined by BBC Gladiators' Giant and Steel at this month's annual Summer Fayre.

The event featured a variety of activities, including penalty shootouts, open mic performances, Gladiator duels, and much more!

An impressive total of £5,100.14 was raised during the event. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to making the event such a resounding success.

Looking for your next career adventure?



We have a number of teaching and non-teaching vacancies available in our trust.

If you are seeking a rewarding career with ample opportunities for growth and professional development, we want to hear from you!

Current vacancies:

- Site Technician
- Finance Assistant
- Office Administrator
- Administrative Assistant
- Midday Supervisors
- Teaching Assistants
- Grounds Officer
- Minibus Driver
- Cover Supervisors
- Lay Chaplains
- Careers Lead and Exams Officer

Visit our vacancies page to find out more:
www.ololcatholicmat.co.uk/work-with-us

Helping our families with financial support



Have you heard about our Trust initiative, the **Little Acts of Kindness Fund**?

The fund offers financial support for all eligible registered pupils attending our schools.

The fund helps families with any costs associated with their respective academy which includes paying for curriculum trips, school uniform, educational equipment, school meals, travel and more.

All requests will be considered against the rules and eligibility criteria detailed on our website.

To find out more about the fund and how to apply, please visit: www.ololcatholicmat.co.uk/our-trust/little-acts-of-kindness-fund

Have you got a story to share with us?

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this issue of the newsletter, we love showcasing the amazing accomplishments of our students and staff.

If you have a story you would like to share in the next edition, please email us at marketing@ololcatholicmat.co.uk or send us a DM on Instagram (@ourladyoflourdesmat), ensuring necessary consents are in place for GDPR purposes.

Don't miss out on the opportunity to share your school's stories and accomplishments with the Trust community!

Follow us on social media:



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