

St Michael's Catholic College

Summer Term



RESPECT | UNDERSTANDING | AFFECTION | HUMOUR

RUAH

“The breath of life that animates the soul”



ST PETER AND ST PAUL FEAST DAY

Very few Holy Days of Obligation still fall in the usual Church week as most have been moved to be celebrated during Sunday Masses. This is not the case for the Feast Day of St Peter and St Paul who are considered to be the cornerstones of the Church and the patron saints of Rome.

St. Peter was one of the 12 apostles, as well as the first pope and founder of the Roman Church. He was martyred sometime around AD 64 in the circus of Nero. Since he was not a Roman citizen his death was crucifixion.

According to tradition, he requested to be crucified upside down because he did not consider himself worthy to die in the same way as Jesus. He was buried in the Vatican Necropolis which was next to the Circus.

When the emperor Constantine converted to Christianity, he decided to build a church in the saint's honor above his grave. We all know this church today as St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican City.

St. Paul was also an apostle, responsible for much of the New Testament. Although he never met Jesus, he is widely acclaimed as one of the most important apostles who spread the word of Jesus and the nascent Christianity. 13 out of the 27 books of the Bible are attributed to St. Paul.

During Nero's persecution of the Christians, St. Paul was martyred as well. Since he was a Roman citizen his death was the more lenient beheading. According to tradition, his head bounced three times, creating a spring of water with each bounce. Today you can still visit a monastery and drink the water from these springs!

St. Peter and St. Paul's day is the feast day that honors the martyrdom of the two saints, sometime between AD 64 and 68. While the church recognizes that they may not have died on the same day, tradition says that this is the day that they were both martyred in Rome by Emperor Nero.

The day is a solemnity or a feast day of the highest rank. This honor is reserved for only the most important events, like events in the lives of Jesus or Mary. Therefore this emphasizes just how important the two saints are to the Catholic faith.

At school we had a lunchtime service led by Miss Casey with music from Mr and Mrs Laurence.



CHARITY WEEKS: MAZZARELLO AND SAVIO



Being part of St Michael's community means charity is essential to what we do. During Mazzarello charity week we were honoured to take part to do our bit. We sold snacks at tuck shops and had a Piñata smash, which was the first time we had ever done this at St Michael's. This made all of us taking part feel like what we were doing, had a purpose. The experience helped to show me that when you give a little of yourself it can help more than you think.

Some collections are still taking place, so our final total is not yet ready to be revealed. However, we know it is at least £100 and hope to find that it comes to a lot more. We have chosen to donate our fundraising efforts to CAMFED.

Kimora-Lee H – Year 8

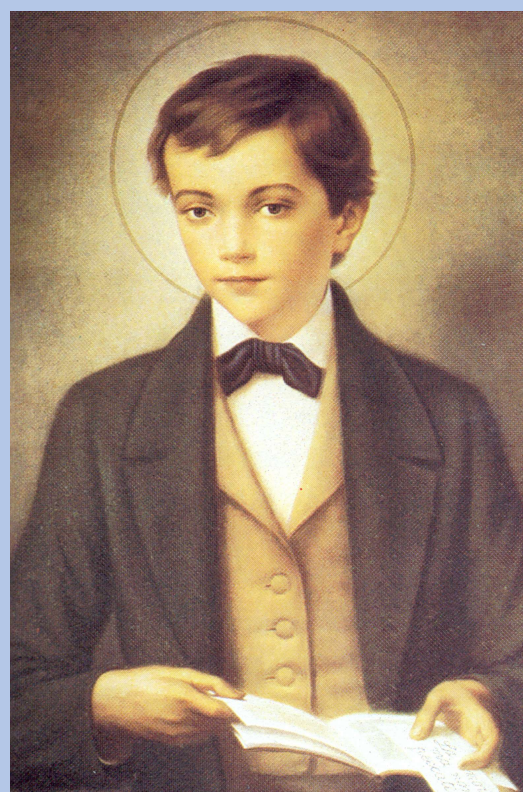


Savio and Mazzarello had their charity weeks very close together, but this did not stop either group being able to put on some fantastic events.

Savio ran a few tuck shops across the differing year groups and there was lots of sweet and savoury treats available which were very popular with all pupils across the college.

In total Savio managed to raise £232.68 with most of the work being done by Year's 7 and 8.

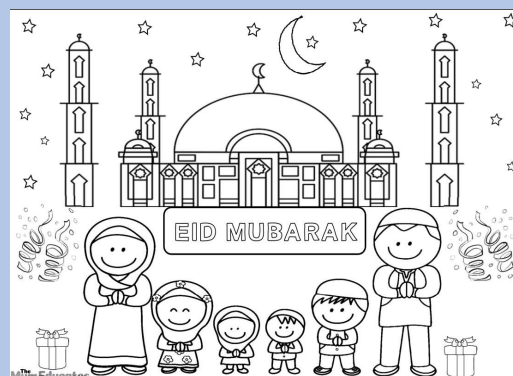
Well done to all those involved!!



WORLD RELIGIONS FOCUS: EID

As a college we continued to share aspects of our wider community with our pupils. Throughout Year 7 and Year 8 lessons pupils were taught about Eid-ul-Fitr and the background of Ramadan. We didn't have a large celebration this time as it fell during the bank holiday, but we are already planning for next year.

In lessons pupils learnt about the dedication of fasting and why this happens during Ramadan and how each Muslim breaks their fast at the end of each day.



The main aim of the lessons was to educate our pupils on the celebrations which take place to signify the end of this holy month in Islam. Families and friends come together to mark this, and it is a time to reflect upon the dedication it took for them all to complete the month of Ramadan.



Eid-ul-Fitr is sometimes celebrated for several days with parties, wonderful foods, music, dancing and lots of sweet treats. To match this, in lessons, we played some music and each pupil in Year 7 and Year 8 received a sweet treat.

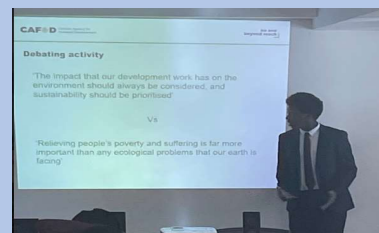
As mentioned above we are already planning more of a party type celebration for next years Eid.

YEAR 12 CHAPLAINCY TEAM – CAFOD PROJECT

On Wednesday, the St Michael's Sixth Form Chaplaincy team (Emmanuel, Janice, David, Joshlyn, Julianna, Maria, Gerard, Cecilia, Deborah, Destiny and Nathan) took part in a CAFOD programme called Young Leaders, where we met with several other Young Leaders from as far as Kent in St George's Cathedral. We were then put in groups of 4, where we were mixed with other schools and given the opportunity to talk with peers from other places, then spoke about what unites us together.

We as separate schools presented what we have done so far to those who are suffering from the inequality in the food system and who are suffering from hunger with many schools talking about how they raised money by doing events, like movie night, sponsored walks, fairs etc.

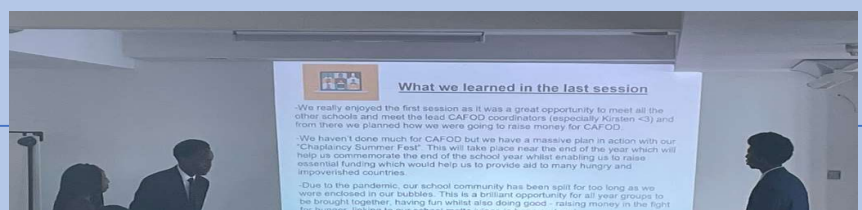
CAFOD looks at the 'why's behind the charity that they do and we went over what motivates us as young volunteers and why we want to be involved in charity. CAFOD is all about hope and giving hope to less fortunate people without uprooting their culture. The example given by Kirsten was the story about the monkey and the fish. There was a flood and the monkey climbed up the tree and saw a fish (which in his eyes was struggling), the monkey then 'saved' it from the water by putting it on the branch he was on. Despite being compassionate, he killed the fish due to his ignorance, CAFOD isn't like that. CAFOD makes sure to work with the communities that they are providing support to, likewise as young leaders we should take the same approach.



We developed our debating skills in the teams that we were put in, arguing about current work issues about poverty, The two motions being charities should or shouldn't take pictures of emancipated, starving children and that charities should or shouldn't prioritize the sustainability and sustainable uses of resources over the development of an area. The main points being that it isn't okay to devalue the dignity of a non-consenting human being as they are made in the image of God, like any other human so we as humans have a responsibility to uphold the dignity and sanctity of all humans everywhere despite their circumstances and having possible benefits. Additionally, as stewards, we have a responsibility to take care of the environment as it has a direct impact on the development of poor areas in that biodiversity in nature helps give to those who are less advantaged to get the resources they need, like medicines from the rainforests. A misuse of the environment directly harms third world countries making them poorer and whilst the richer countries benefit from an exploitation of their resources, e.g. burning crude oils for fuel forms carbon dioxide, which dramatically increases the effects of climate change, this causes flooding in rural areas causing soil erosion to prevent farming. As young leaders we have a responsibility to voice our motivations for a better future and a better world for those who are suffering even in the UK.

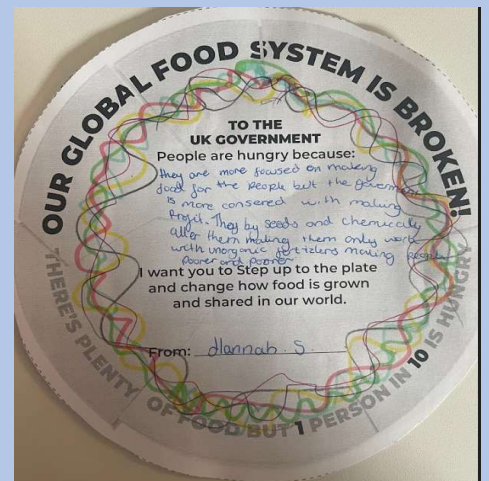
We learnt about the new project called 'Step Up To The Plate' and how it highlighted the food inequality worldwide. Kirsten told us about lessons and assemblies we could deliver when we returned to school, and Miss Casey put a plan in action to help us do this.

Emmanuel E – Year 12



YEAR 12 CHAPLAINCY TEAMS: STEP UP TO THE PLATE

Following on from their training day in May the Year 12 Chaplaincy team, (including all of our members which extends to Noel, Mackalia, Ezechiel, Faith and Tyrese who couldn't attend the training day) began to deliver special lessons to Year 7 and Year 8 Pupils about the Step Up To The Plate project. They led the pupils in an activity to help them understand the inequalities of food growth, distribution and wealth across the world. CAFOD provided templates so our young people could write messages to our government to make them aware of the issues in the world, many of which we will be sharing with CAFOD. The lessons were brilliant and the Year 12s are natural leaders, some of them signing up to teach extra lessons. On top of this, Deborah and Mackalia led assemblies each afternoon to the whole school so all our young people and staff were aware of this project.



A LOOK BACK...

Across these pages are a series of services, Masses, fundraising events and activities surrounding Chaplaincy this year, some of which didn't make it into previous bulletins. The pupils of St Michael's are dedicated and resilient and have showcased how well rounded and amazing they truly are through all of the things we have managed to achieve. These are all of these amazing things, and so much more..!!



CHRISTMAS HAMPERS FOR LOCAL OAP'S IN OUR COMMUNITY

MODEL UN SUCCESS IN YEAR 10



More Model United Nations success!


Rowlanda, Emily, Adrian, Jayden and Ryan spent two days at Halcyon International School in Mayfair at the MUN conference, debating issues such as drug trafficking, the rights of refugees and online security.

A very big well done to them for representing St. Michael's so well!


JUBILEE ART HOUSE COMPETITION AND YEAR 8 TRIP TO HORSE GUARDS PARADE



ROSARY IN THE CHAPEL FOR THE MONTH OF MARY




MAY: The Month of Mary



Join Miss Casey in the Chapel to pray part of the Rosary every **Tuesday and Thursday** breaktime to reflect on this important month of May.

At this time Pope Francis has asked us to pray for peace during our prayers to Mary and this will be our focus during the prayers.

We have extra Rosary Beads, so please do come along!!



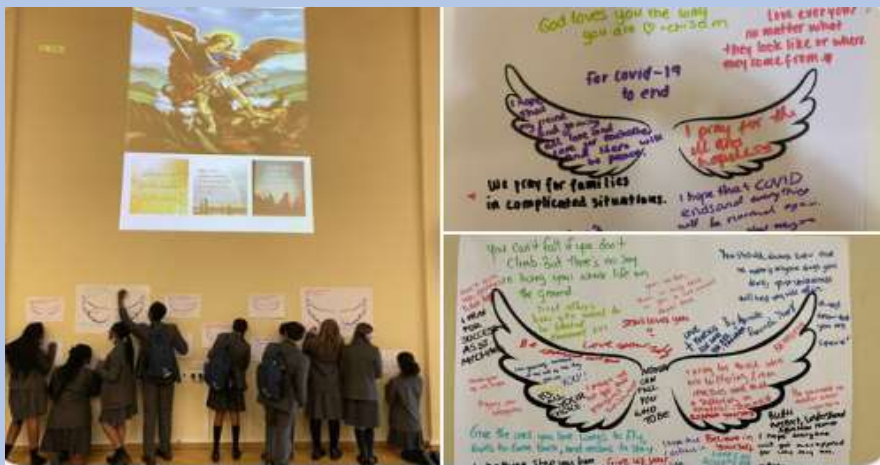
THE MOON AT ST MICHAEL'S!!!



YEAR 7 FAITH IN ACTION TEAM AT THE GOOD SAMARITAN MASS AT THE CATHEDRAL



THE WHOLE COLLEGE RETURNS TO HOLY TRINITY AT DOCKHEAD FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 2 YEARS TO CELEBRATE A LENTEN SERVICE



ST MICHAEL'S DAY

YEAR 7 WELCOME MASS



**A SPECIAL FOCUS ON WORLD RELIGIONS AND THE CHURCH IN COMMUNICATION IN THE WORLD:
SUKKOT, DIWALI AND HOLI**



**SO MANY FUNDRAISING
ACTIVITIES...**



**Faith in
Action
Café Faith**



Our Year 7 Faith in Action team has raised £222 for the Salesians in Ukraine!

Thank you to everyone who supported us!



UPCOMING

As the Bulletin goes out before the end of term, here are some of the events taken place in the last week of term we will update you about in the Autumn Term. Also make sure to look at the school Twitter for daily updates as to what is going on!

- Showcase Evening
- Careers and Enterprise Week
- Enrichment Week
- Sports Day
- International Week and Day
- Sixth Form at the Religious Conference in Westminster

A WORD AND A PRAYER

Ms. Corcoran - College Principal

As we approach the summer break and the end of another busy and successful academic year. We give thanks to God for the many talents and blessings of our students and staff which all contribute to making St Michael's Catholic College a happy, successful and welcoming place where everyone can play a part and be loved and respected for who they are and for being who God called them to be. We remember in our prayers those students who are waiting for their GCSE, CTEC and A' Level results and those in our community who are going through difficult times.

With every blessing,
Ms F. Corcoran
Principal

A Blessing for the Summer Holidays

Take time to claim your strength;
they are gifts of God.

Take time to have fun;
it's God's way of teaching you your strengths.

Take time to grow yourself;
only you can grow you.

Take time to trust yourself;
God trusts you.

Take time to be self-reliant;
it is better than being dependent.

Take time to share with others;
they will bless you, and you will bless them.

Take time to have hope,
you are a child of God.

Let's put ourselves into the hands of the Lord,
and pray that God will bless us and our families
during the summer break.

May we all help make our home a place of relaxation,
joy, love, peace and safety.

May we be generous and considerate,
not thinking only about ourselves,
but helping others enjoy the blessings of summertime.

Lord God, Creator of all things,
guide our steps and strengthen our hearts,
during the summer break.

Grant us refreshment of mind and body.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Miss Casey – Head of Chaplaincy

Wishing you all a happy and restful Summer!!