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Autumn Newsletter 2018

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# Live Love Learn





## The Sixth Form Leadership...



**Joel Waddington – Head Boy**

My name is Joel Waddington and I'm currently in year 13 studying Maths, English Literature and History. I chose these subjects as I enjoyed them at GCSE and wasn't sure what path I wanted to go down after sixth form and knew these would allow me to keep my options open. These subjects have challenged me academically but in a way that I find interesting and exciting.

The reason I came to sixth form at Holy Family is because of the relationships I had with the teachers and my familiarity with the environment. As I knew A levels were going to be a challenge, and I did not want to add to the pressure of performing well academically by having to meet new people and learn a new environment. Since starting my A levels I have decided that I want to study English and History at university. I have decided to make this my goal as I have found these two subjects particularly enjoyable to study as they allow me to develop my own opinions and arguments.

I feel that at Holy Family I am in the best possible place to be as successful as possible in my A levels as the teachers know how I learn personally and have a real interest in seeing me succeed.

**Noemi Bernardini – Deputy Head Girl**

As a foreign student, I started school at Holy Family in year 10. After taking my GCSEs I decided to stay at Holy Family Sixth Form as I already knew most of the teachers, whose teaching methods helped me achieve great results in year 11. I am currently studying English Literature, History and Psychology with the idea of continuing my studies to become a psychologist.



**Sadie Maude – Head Girl**

My name is Sadie Maude and I am Head Girl. I am currently studying Media, History and Sociology for my A Levels and next September I hope to go on to study Journalism at University.

I hope to promote a more inclusive feel throughout Sixth Form and the lower school.



**Billy Greenwood – Deputy Head Boy**

I have been at Holy Family since year 7 and decided to stay here to study Psychology, Geography and Computing. After sixth form I hope to go to university and qualify for a Masters degree in Psychology, to start a career in cognitive behavioural therapy.

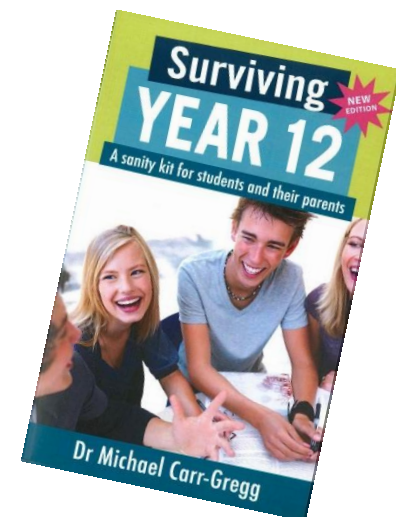
During Year 12 I was able to go to Lourdes, Poland and Iceland with different departments of school. These were all eye openers each in different ways. I would highly recommend these trips to anyone who gets the opportunity as they're truly amazing. I have also had the opportunity to take part in the Progression Module, visit open days and visit university fairs with sixth form which have each been very beneficial in my application to university.

# Student Spotlight

## Carrie Ward & Lucy Bryceland

Carrie and Lucy are both students who started in year 7 at Holy Family and after successfully completing their GCSEs, enrolled at Holy Family Sixth. Here they share their top tips on surviving the first term in year 12.

- Start as you mean to go on. Start a good routine which works for you and can easily be adapted when needed.
- What you achieve in your GCSE's does not determine how well you do in A levels. Everyone starts learning at the bottom.
- Start the year with a positive mental attitude. Look for positives throughout the day, mistakes will be made and should be learnt from.
- Choose subjects you are passionate about; if you didn't like it at GCSE, you probably won't like it at A level either.
- Use study periods wisely. At the beginning it will feel like you have too many and don't have a lot to fill them with, but they come in use very quickly!
- Make use of all the resources available. Use the computers, tables and printer in the LRC.
- Don't leave things to the last minute. You will get more homework so you can't leave it as you won't get chance to finish it.
- Ask your teachers if you don't understand something.
- Don't worry about making new friends. People in your subjects have the same interests as you.
- ENJOY IT! 😊



**Carrie**

I am studying French, History and English Lit. I enjoy all my lessons and hoping to achieve in all of them. I feel that if I have any problems in lessons or with homework, I can ask my teachers for help. At first I wasn't sure if I wanted to attend HF6, however it is now one of the best decisions I have made!

**Lucy**

I am studying Maths, Business and Music at A level. The lesson environment is completely different to GCSE's as the class sizes are a lot smaller and everyone has a chance to get involved with class discussions. Maths is my hardest subject, but being able to ask my teachers about things I don't understand during my free periods has helped massively.



## Bilal Ghani

Bilal was a new student to Holy Family and shares his experience of starting at Holy Family Sixth. He is studying Psychology, Applied Science and BTEC Sport.

" My first time in Holy Family Sixth, I was a bit nervous. I was myself and I had the comfort of being surrounded by helpful staff, my brother and a good group of friends. Work was a little overwhelming at first but once you know how to manage your time, you'll be fine.

My advice is to learn to enjoy the subjects you've chosen because you're going to spend 2 years studying them."



## Where are they now???



### **Azba Wahid – Head Girl 2015-16**

Azba studied English Literature, English Language and History.

Azba is studying Comparative Literature at King's College in London. As part of her course she will have a year abroad studying at the University of Carolina, USA.

#### 2 years later: My Final Year at King's

The first term of the 2018/19 academic year at King's College London has just begun, and this is the year I graduate with my BA in Comparative Literature. In my first week of University, I wrote an article titled, 'A Fresher's Diary: Starting Life at Kings', so here I am now – a lot has changed, and there are more changes yet to come.

I entered my first year at King's thinking I knew exactly who I was; an undergraduate from a town near Bradford (because no one knows where Keighley is), Pakistani origin, Muslim and an avid lover of the 'city life'. I thought I knew what it meant to be Muslim and Pakistani, but it was during my first two years that I really found myself. There are times when we have all been embarrassed of who we are, but it was my discipline, Comparative Literature, that allowed me to celebrate my culture and my identity. I find it incredible how much I have learnt about society, politics and philosophy through reading literature from other cultures and languages.

London has also helped shape my identity and cultural values. When I say London is my favourite place on the planet, I am not exaggerating. There are times where the vastness of the city has been overwhelming, but from this I realised the necessity of self-assertion. University life is about throwing yourself behind what you believe in; for me, this has been raising awareness for the Palestinian cause. I distinctly remember telling Mrs. Layas on results day how I was excited to take a Palestinian and Israeli Literature module, and from this stemmed my decisions to attend demonstrations and protests both inside and outside University. As a student, your voice is the most powerful instrument you have, both in terms of social justice and academia.

Despite my love for King's and London, I am actually spending my first semester of my final year at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Studying abroad has been the best decision I've made, right after deciding on King's. I never thought I would love Chapel Hill as much as I do. I've had the chance to pursue my literary interests in South Asian Literature, and this will now be the focus of my dissertation along with Francophone Algerian Literature. As well as this, I am taking a class in Anthropology, a discipline that I never thought I would do while I was in school.

The people I have met through my studies at University, both in London and Chapel Hill, have made me realise that your life and education cannot simply be reduced to categories and labels. It is not about subscribing to the ideals of other, but about creating your own, and for me this has been the most valuable experience of University.



# ENRICHMENT

## Our Sixth Form.....

71 students in Year 13

57 students in Year 12



### Inter-form Quiz

The forms in year 12 and year 13 students gather every Monday morning to battle it out in the weekly quiz.



On Friday 28th September staff and students from HF6 held their annual Macmillan Coffee Morning. This year we also included a raffle with the first prize being the amazing cake below made by one of our year 13 students. We raised £336.36 for this fantastic cause! Well done and thank you!



The LRC is a dedicated, quiet sixth form space for students to study throughout their time here. There is both computer and printer access, and here students will find University prospectuses, opportunities for work experience and key notices for the sixth form.



### Giving Something Back....

We raised £90 for the food bank and donated various foods with the reverse advent calendar.

Every year we have students who successfully complete a first aid course. Last year during the first term 45 students stayed after school 3-6pm to complete an Emergency First Aid course and a Basic First Aid course. In the course they learnt how to assess and deal with situations, as well as life-saving skills such the recovery position, bandaging and CPR.

#savealife



### Psychology Trip to Krakow

Every year around February year 13 Psychology students head to Krakow to visit Auschwitz.



### Sign Language Course

A sign language course ran for 6 weeks for sixth form students between February and Easter every Tuesday 3.15-4.15pm to allow students to learn a new skill.



attendance  
**MATTERS**

Excellent attendance and punctuality, along with hard work and effort will ensure the students keep on top of all their work and are successful in their subjects.

IF YOU PUT IN THE  
**TIME+  
EFFORT**  
YOU WILL SEE THE  
**RESULTS**

Get involved with enrichment or work experience you may need early.

# So Much To Do.....

Students have lots of opportunities to get involved with activities outside of lessons as part of their enrichment and Information Advice and Guidance (IAG) programme. Over the last year we have had talks from NCS and Leeds University, as well as school opportunities with Buddying and links with local Primary Schools and Airedale hospital.



IT ALL STARTS AT YES



The University of Leeds come and speak to all year 12 students about their 'Reach for Excellence' scheme. This is an opportunity for students to apply to go on various workshops and University seminars in preparation for Higher Education.

The students have to meet certain criteria and complete an application form by November of year 12.

### Data Collection Effort Grades

An 'Effort Grade' 1, 2, 3, 4 are recorded for both year 12 and year 13 students at data collections. **Last year at DC1, 88% of grades were either a 1 or 2,** and this increased to **92% at DC2.** We haven't had a data collection yet this year but we are expecting great things.



# The Progression Module



The Progression Module is designed to help Year 12 students make an informed decision about what course or career path to take. It helps students take a structured approach to researching, choosing and applying to courses in Higher Education. The module will enable students to develop skills in critical thinking, research, evaluation, interview skills and presentations.

As part of their study programme and tutorial course, all year 12 students will have the opportunity to sign up for and complete 'The Progression Module'. This is run in conjunction with Leeds Beckett University and works towards the UCAS application process in year 13.

The students will complete this during the course of the year and upon successful completion, will then attend a Graduation Ceremony in November of year 13. Students can gain 12 additional UCAS points which can be used at many local Universities.

Students will complete assessed tasks in 4 key units;

- 1 – You and Your Career
- 2 – Exploring Your Future
- 3 – Managing Your Money
- 4 – Marketing Yourself



*Leeds Beckett University*  
*Huddersfield University*  
*Leeds Trinity University*  
*Bradford University*

Our Catholic Life of the Sixth Form is extremely important and we are respectful and support each other with whatever our own faith is.

Every week during registration we have a weekly reflection and meet as a Sixth Form group for assembly every Friday.

## A Catholic Pilgrimage: LOURDES



I had the opportunity to visit Lourdes in year 12 as well as in year 10. This was especially good because I got to meet up with friends I made the first time I went and I found the whole experience extremely rewarding.

We had a lot more freedom in year 12 compared to when we went before because we are a lot older and more mature. It was such an enjoyable experience and it was amazing to be able to attend a one in a lifetime experience twice.

Ciara Clarkson, Year 13





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'Students have high aspirations, which are supported and driven by staff, and many go on to study at university or take up higher-level apprenticeships.' *Ofsted January 2017*

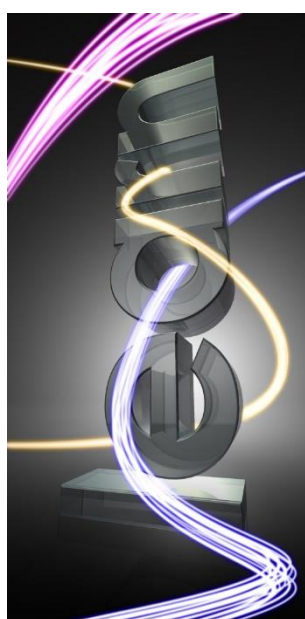
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'Students are safe and know how to keep themselves safe. The small number of students who retake their GCSEs in English and mathematics significantly improve their results while in the sixth form.' *Ofsted January 2017*

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'Students report that they feel well supported and that staff work hard for them. Leaders and staff provide high-quality pastoral care for students, based on a very thorough and detailed knowledge of each student's needs and aspirations.' *Ofsted January 2017*

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'Students report that they enjoy being in the sixth form and they feel that they have a 'good deal'. They know what to do to improve.' *Ofsted January 2017*

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'The school engages with local employers and industries to help students understand the wide range of opportunities that are available to them. It also provides detailed insights for students of the wide range of universities and higher education courses that are available. The careers advice and guidance that they receive are thorough and focused on their needs and aspirations.' *Ofsted January 2017*

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