



St Paul's
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Sixth Form Annual *Report*



View from the Headteacher

Dear Parents/Carers

I am delighted to introduce this year's Sixth Form annual report. The Sixth Form provision at St Paul's is exceptional. Our Post 16 students represent the very best of our school values and they continuously strive to do the very best that is possible. Their individual and collective passion and dedication demonstrates a real commitment to themselves as learners and to our school community. Each student within our Sixth Form clearly has a thirst for learning that I hope will stay with them beyond their time at St Paul's. Our Sixth Form students demonstrate the values of servant leadership on a daily basis and present themselves as exceptional role models for our younger students to emulate. We have many

exciting plans going forward, not least of which is our brand new Sixth Form building which will allow us to further enhance the excellent facilities we provide for our students.

I hope that you enjoy reading about some of the fantastic ways that our Sixth Form have contributed to the rich and diverse community of St Paul's.

J. A. Hoarty

Jo-Anne Hoarty



Please check our website www.st-pauls.org.uk for news and information about our Sixth Form. Keep in touch through social media. We're on [Facebook/stpaulsmk](#), [X/stpauls_mk](#), [Linkedin](#) and [YouTube](#) (search for St Paul's Catholic School Milton Keynes for both)



Celebrating

St Paul's students celebrate excellent A-level and vocational exam results

St Paul's Catholic School is delighted to report some excellent achievements by its students in their A-levels and vocational qualifications this summer. Students are going on to study a range of subjects leading to careers in areas including Law, Medicine, Human Resources, Engineering, Games Art and Design and Finance.



Jo-Anne Hoarty, Headteacher at St Paul's, said: "Students have worked incredibly hard to achieve such fantastic results. It is important to remember that these results represent seven years hard work. Our students have worked very hard to secure excellent grades that will enable them to move to their next steps."

Congratulations to every individual who has secured such good grades. We are delighted by their achievements and are particularly impressed by:

Onyi Agu-Ibe who has gained As in Chemistry, Maths and Physics and is going to the University of Birmingham to study Chemical Engineering with Industrial Study.

Emmanuella Asare who achieved As in Economics, Maths, Further Maths and her EPQ and will be studying Economics + Mathematics at the University of Nottingham or the University of Bath.

Kian Croxall will be studying Politics + International Relations at Loughborough University having gained A* in Geography, A in Core Maths and Bs in Biology, Politics and his EPQ.

Joel Debrah who has achieved A in Sociology and Bs in Business Studies and Economics and will be doing a Level 4 degree apprenticeship at BlackRock, a global leader in investment, advisory and management solutions.

Jordan De Orleans who has achieved As in Maths and Physics and B in Further Maths and will be going to the University of Sheffield to study Mechanical Engineering.

Lia Zaree Gabriel who has gained As in Chemistry, Maths, Physics and her EPQ and will be studying Chemistry with Medicinal Chemistry at the University of Warwick.

Daniel Gyabaah who will be going to the University of Manchester to study Computer Science having gained As in Computer Science, French and Maths and B in Further Maths.

Nefthalie Kikinga who has gained As in Psychology and Sociology and B in English Literature and will be studying Marketing at Aston University.



Martyna Kucylyma who will be going to Birmingham City University to study Psychology and Counselling having gained As in Polish and Psychology and B in Sociology.

Martin Law who has achieved A in Maths and Bs in Further Maths and Physics and will be studying Mathematics at Lancaster University.

Jua Mbikay who will be going to the University of Oxford to study Medicine having achieved A*s in Biology, Chemistry and Maths.

Lolade Omole who is going to study Law at Goldsmiths, University of London, having gained A in her EPQ and Bs in RE, Business Studies and Politics.

Matthew Sinnett who has achieved As in Chemistry, Maths, Physics and his EPQ and will be studying Astrophysics at the University of Sheffield.

Agata Swiatek-Brzezinska who will be studying Mathematics at the University of Oxford, having gained A*s in Chemistry, Maths and Further Maths and A in Physics.

Samuel Tetteh who has gained As in Business Studies and Economics, B in Geography and C in his EPQ and will be going to Cardiff University to study Accounting + Finance.

Robin Webb who has achieved A in Maths and Bs in Economics, Further Maths and his EPQ and will be going to the University of Exeter to study Economics + Econometrics.



We would also like to congratulate Benjamin Wilson who is one of only two out of 7000 candidates to have secured an apprenticeship at Red Bull.



Jo-Anne Hoarty said: "We are immensely proud of all the work and achievements of our students. Our teachers have worked tirelessly to ensure students are all able to progress onto apprenticeships, further education and study, and we look forward to seeing what they will achieve in the future. Congratulations to all our Sixth Form students this year".

EPQ puts Max on the path to being a games designer

Max is keen to enter the world of character modelling and environment design in professional computer games and his hobbies provided the inspiration for his EPQ project. Max's EPQ was called "How can I use 3D design software like Blender to make physical figures based on Dragon Ball?". He said: "It gave me the perfect opportunity to blend my personal interests and my academic studies."



One of Max's A-level subjects was Design and Technology – Graphic Design so he felt he could use his tech skills to make a model of a Dragon Ball character using 3D software. The character he chose was Broly, a super strong being who appears in the Dragon Ball films. Max was keen to take this 2D character and make him into a 3D one.

He began by researching how to use Blender and found that YouTube tutorials were a good way of familiarising himself with how character design works on the 3D software. Max said: "Blender is like moulding clay, there are lots of useful tools that allow you to smooth your characters out. The Dragon Ball characters are generally smoother so are more manageable to get into a 3D form."



For the second half of his project Max had to build his character from scratch. He then had to 3D print Broly and paint him. His EPQ also involved writing a 1000-word essay and making a presentation to his class. He felt the presentation was well received.

He said: "The EPQ isn't easy, but I found that it was a great opportunity to expand on a subject I was studying and to include something I like doing. It certainly helped me to get a grade which was beneficial in getting into my chosen subject area at university."

Max sat A-levels in Graphic Design, Photography and Geography and is now studying Games Art and Design at Norwich University of the Arts. He would recommend an EPQ to future Sixth Form students and said: "I enjoyed creating a project which will help me pursue my ideal career as a games maker where you get to make your own worlds. My teachers, Mr Sharp and Miss Pitigala, and the D & T department were really supportive throughout."



Students see the road ahead with Volkswagen

Students enjoyed an inspiring day at the Volkswagen Group HQ in Milton Keynes when we took a group of talented students from our apprenticeship cohort to their "The Road Ahead" event, where they got a deep dive into the exciting career paths and apprenticeship opportunities within the VW Group.

The day kicked off with a fascinating history of the VW Group, followed by a networking session where students had the chance to connect with industry professionals from various departments. Mock interviews then took place giving students a real taste of what it's like to be part of such a leading company.

To wrap things up, we got up close to some incredible vehicles on display and even had the chance to try out VW's cutting-edge VR technology.

A massive thank you to the Volkswagen Group for hosting us and providing such a valuable, hands-on experience for our students who left with a fresh sense of inspiration and excitement for the future.

An award winning entry in Columbans' competition

Congratulations to Cassi in Year 12 who won joint third place in The Columban Missionaries in Britain and Ireland's 2024/2025 Schools Media Competition 'Jubilee: Pilgrims of Hope'.

Young people 13-18 years were asked to produce a piece of writing or an image that highlighted a community or groups bringing hope in the world in this Jubilee Year, making a difference locally, nationally or globally. Cassi said of her entry 'A Better Future Is In Our Hands', "I have painted a picture of my mum planting plants in order to restore some of God's work back into Earth and to help put a stop to the climate change crisis.

"The soil in the original picture I have changed into a plaster to show how a plant can heal the Earth. I have also scattered some relevant newspaper articles to encourage people to think about the seriousness of this issue and how it is affecting everybody, everywhere."



Careers Ambassadors take on a new role

This year our Careers Team created the position of Sixth Form Careers Ambassadors. The Ambassadors carry out a variety of roles including helping at school careers events, assisting Years 7 and 9 with the Unifrog careers platform, working with focus groups and helping with administrative tasks such as designing a careers logo and assisting with newsletters.



Mrs Palmiero, Head of Careers, said: "The Careers Team has enjoyed working with our Year 12 Ambassadors. They have been invaluable in helping with many aspects of our careers programme and also gained useful skills which will be important for their university applications, apprenticeships or work."



EPQ students meet online with Baroness Smith



Our EPQ students had a wonderful opportunity when they met Baroness Smith from the House of Lords. The meeting gave the Baroness the chance to see and comment upon Lola Omole's remarkable EPQ. For this, Lola redesigned a Judge's gown which, when opened, revealed beautiful fabrics and colours from Lola's own culture. Her aim was to modernise the traditional dress in the legal profession and allow it to also express the wearer's individuality.

Being the youngest Lord in the UK's history, the Baroness was very keen to discuss equality in the professions and the establishment and her thoughts and insights were inspirational. Our EPQ students shared their dreams and aspirations with the Baroness and had an honest conversation with her about their thoughts on diversity as they enter the professions themselves. We have no doubt at least one of our audience will be elevated to the Lords themselves one day and the Baroness said she was looking forward to working with them in the future!

Our student, Nahia, said: "Talking to Baroness Smith was incredibly engaging and informative. She was extremely open about her personal experience as well as certain experiences of individuals around her. Hearing about her career and what her job entails really opened my eyes as hearing someone's passion and enthusiasm for their career was very motivating. Baroness Smith surprised me as she is very aware of what future generations want to see be implemented or changed within certain spaces. I am very grateful for this experience!"

Students have a great adventure in Peru



Students from Years 10 to 13 embarked on a huge adventure when they went to Peru this summer. Local company Warmup generously donated t shirts for our intrepid explorers to wear on their expedition.

On their first full day in Peru our team were met with a welcome dance and then started working on a project to repair a wall at the entrance to a school. This involved taking out broken and fallen rocks and rebuilding the wall. They then moved on to repairing the school's driveway. The Head of Camps International in Peru said he has never known a group to work as hard as ours and to achieve what we had in four days!



They moved to the Sacred Valley and stayed in a lovely hacienda surrounded by mountains. Whilst there they worked at a waterfall project where they created a rest area for hikers at 3000m above sea level!

Students also enjoyed teaching local schoolchildren interactive songs – we think we have some budding teachers in the making.

An unforgettable part of the trip was visiting the beautiful lost Incan city of Machu Picchu where the group were able to walk around its many terraces, temples and plazas.

On their last day in Cusco they visited a temple, museum and market before moving on to Camp Moray, their final camp, which is high in the Andes at nearly 4000m. They stayed in tents and did some more project work in the community before getting their long flight home.

What an adventure for them all.



St Paul's alumni support current students



It's always a pleasure to have our alumni back at school for our careers events. Our current students really value talking to someone who has experienced student life at St Paul's and can speak about the next steps they took in their studies and their careers.

One of the highlights is our annual alumni day and we are truly grateful to the alumni who attended and helped to inspire and educate our students about careers and life during and after school.

Mrs Palmiero, Head of Careers, said: "Our alumni are the best. Their attendance at our Careers Fairs, Broadening Horizons and Career WorkOut sessions mean that we can offer such valuable insights to our students. We look forward to working with them at our future events."



Josh Shaw is now a Police Community Support Officer at Thames Valley Police and attended our Careers Fair in May. Josh had some brilliant discussions with our current students and we're thankful for the great advice he was able to give about his role and working for the police.

Saying goodbye in style

Our Year 13 leavers always get to say goodbye in style. At an individual tutor group celebration, Miss Goodman and Mrs Dodd organised a celebratory tea for their tutor groups with fancy china and cakes.

We also had an official BBQ and leavers' assembly which is a chance for the class of 2025 to get back into their old school uniforms one last time and to relax with classmates and staff before getting down to the serious business of exams.



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