

# St Wilfrid's Catholic School

## Summer Newsletter 2025



### Welcome!

#### Dear Parents/Carers

It only seems like yesterday that we started back to school in September, with so much to do, but also with so much to look forward to; and now here we are, at the start of the summer holiday; where has the time gone? Every year seems to race by just that much quicker than the last, but each and every year, I never cease to be amazed at the achievements made by your sons and daughters; at the way in which they have seized their opportunities both in the classroom and beyond. Year on year, it is your sons and daughters who "raise the bar", whether that be through academic performance, through fundraising, on the sports field, or in the way in which they reinforce the community element of the school through the respect they have for each other and the relationships which they build.

Throughout the year, they have been supported by a fantastic staff team, who, through their hard work, encourage your sons and daughters to thrive. In doing so, we are able to live out our mission and remain a "flagship school". I cannot thank the staff more highly but also, "thank you" for the support you give to us as a school to allow us to help develop your children into being the very best version of themselves.

This newsletter will give you a flavour of what it's like to be a member of the community of St Wilfrid's; from fantastic performances in sport, a huge variety of educational visits, phenomenal fundraising achievements and a whole range of opportunities which just make St Wilfrid's an exciting place to be; I hope you enjoy reading it.

As we look towards September there are a number of new staff who will be joining us:

Mrs Afzal	Senior Science Technician
Miss Bennett	English Teacher
Mrs Bunce	Senior Admin/EV
Miss Graham	Social Sciences Teacher
Mrs Hoskings	Learning Support Assistant
Mrs Mangan	Creative Art & Design Tech
Mrs Najbat	Cover Supervisor
Mrs Shah	English Teacher
Mrs Seddon	Careers Co-Ordinator
Miss Strong	Subject Leader Media Studies
Mrs Svoboda	Finance Officer

We also say goodbye to those staff who are leaving us, especially Mrs Greenwood and Mrs Lintern-Goodall who, combined represent almost 50 years of working at St Wilfrid's. We thank them both for everything they have contributed and, in particular to Mrs Greenwood who is retiring from St Wilfrid's after 30 years and we wish her a long, happy and healthy retirement.

Mrs Dineen	Miss Grace
Mrs Greenwood	Mrs Lintern-Goodall
Mr Lonergan	Mrs Mashford
Mrs Mills	Mrs Moussaoui
Mrs Neves	Mr Radenhurst
Mrs Rayner	Mrs Sinclair

You have already been written to you with details for the start of term, so until then, I hope you and your families stay safe and well and enjoy the summer break; see you in September!

God Bless

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Michael Ferry'.

Michael Ferry  
Headteacher



# St Wilfrid's Day



On a hot and sunny Friday 14th July, our school community came together for a vibrant day of celebration and fundraising—our final push in support of our six house charities: Crawley Open House, Friends of Embark, St Catherine's Hospice, St Vincent de Paul Society, The Catholic Children's Society, and Chestnut Tree House.

This special day, dedicated to honouring our Patron Saint, is a cherished tradition where we step away from the usual timetable to reflect on his life and reaffirm our mission as a Catholic school.



The day began with a beautiful outdoor Mass in our inner courtyard, celebrated by Father Nelson, bringing the entire school together in prayer and unity. Following the service, students and staff made their way to the school field, which had been transformed into a lively fairground of fundraising fun.

A fantastic array of stalls awaited, including favourites like Sponge the Teacher, Sumo Wrestling, and the ever-popular Tombola. There was something for everyone—Glitter Tattoos, Gladiators, Penalty Shoot-Out, Tuck Shop, Candy Floss, and Treasure Lollipop, to name just a few.



This year, we introduced St Wilfrid's Karaoke—and it was an instant hit! Mrs Sparks did a fantastic job managing the song requests, and we were treated to some truly unforgettable performances. The karaoke brought a vibrant energy to the day, adding even more fun and laughter to the celebrations. It was such a success that it's already secured its place for next year's event!



In total with the money raised on the stalls and non uniform money we managed to raise £4,833. The best selling stall was 7BC who managed to raise £505.

This incredible day simply wouldn't be possible without the dedication and support of our entire school community. A heartfelt thank you goes to our support staff, especially the finance, premises and technical teams, whose behind-the-scenes efforts make everything run smoothly. We're also deeply grateful to our teaching staff, particularly the form tutors, who guided students in planning and running the stalls with such enthusiasm and creativity.



And of course, a huge thank you to all the parents and students whose energy, generosity, and participation made the day so special.

It was a truly memorable day filled with joy, laughter, and generosity, showcasing the spirit and unity of our school community.

# House News



## House Champions 2024-25

Augustine	Benedict	Catherine	Dominic	Edith	Francis
70,002	69,995	74,817	73,467	72,261	66,056

In an exciting end to the year, Catherine House were the 2024 Champions. The year has given many opportunities for the students to participate in the house system. Taskmasters, more ACE points, lots of representing the school opportunities, postcards home, form and Year quiz opportunities, mini competitions, fundraising points etc. It has been brilliant to see the students successes. The competition points, house points and fundraising totals were added on, and it was Catherine House that emerged victorious and enjoyed trips to either Guildford Spectrum or Out Of Bounds on Thursday 17th July 2025

## Top student achievers per house in 2024-25

Augustine		Benedict		Catherine		Dominic		Edith		Francis	
Name	Pts	Name	Pts	Name	Pts	Name	Pts	Name	Pts	Name	Pts
Jamanda Harper	1306	Saiyon Nimaladasan	1080	Olivwia Wielechowska	959	Maz Wildman	941	Lionel Fernandes	1038	Victoria Zabawa	560
Noah Allin	725	Jeeval Johnson	889	Sabrina Lodhi	790	Dawid Dymek	792	Eira Dutfield	851	Amelia Herdzik	549
Daisy Pullen	708	Arianna Fernandes	754	Sureethan Sureshkumar	771	Scarlett Bunn	774	Jack Martin	790	Holly Feaver	518
Barbara Fox	686	Jaxon Burns	652	Jozef Potok	758	Abigail Guarasci	669	Rose O'Connor	716	Holly Feaver	606
Gabriela Robertson	629	Reuben Chinapah	627	Catalina Guarasci	709	Btandon Jacques	610	Reuel Anoquah	789	Nicholas Bullem	515
Felissia St Paul	565	Niamh Thomas	621	Nina Harris	709	Leah Chacko	609	Safiyah Ali	716	Callum Stacey Agrela	511

It is a time for change for some of our House Leaders! A huge thank you to Miss Patience and Miss Perrin for being such brilliant house leaders and promoting the positive opportunities amongst the students and we wish them all the best moving forward.

Our House Leader for next Year are as follows:

Augustine House: Miss Thompson  
 Benedict House: Mr Dench  
 Catherine House: Mr Digney

Dominic House: Miss Neely  
 Edith House: Mr Ford  
 Francis House: Miss Harrison



# Drama News

## LAMDA

LAMDA Club began straight after the school production, with students meeting every Wednesday to workshop scripts and prepare a monologue and duologue performance for a visiting examiner from the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art. We are in our third year of entering students and this year's cohort was our biggest yet with 34 candidates entering from Grades 2 to 6, which is a Bronze medal. We are very proud of the way the students composed themselves on the exam days, they were so calm and focused and very mature. We can't wait to receive their results soon!



LAMDA is a qualification, with Bronze and above being worth UCAS points for university. The course is open to all students who are looking to gain confidence and experience in speech, communication, and performance. If you are interested, please look out for the opportunity next year in the spring term.

## KS3 Drama Club

KS3 Drama Club have had a fantastic year, exploring imaginative ways of creating all things theatre! Our final Summer term project was focused on the play 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' written by Roald Dahl, and adapted by Richard George and edited and directed by Mrs Yorke and one of our fantastic A level students, Leo Dicken.



The students worked hard and imaginatively to bring this classic British tale to life with some standout comedic moments, larger than life characterisations, super stagecraft and even puppetry! The final performance was a huge success with laughter, cheers and a hubbub of whispers proving that these KS3 budding thespians know just how to capture their audience. A huge well done to the KS3 Drama Club .



And finally.... the school production has been announced at the end of term and we can proudly reveal that St Wilfrid's will be staging Charlie and the Chocolate Factory in February 2026! The performing arts team are incredibly excited about staging this musical, please look out for audition notices in September.

Being on stage not your thing but you'd like to be involved in all the excitement? We will also be looking for new members to join our wonderful Tech Team in running the show and we will also need a stage manager – someone who is super organised, creative and imaginative at making props and helping to run rehearsals. This role would look great on your CV and personal statements so please get in touch with Ms Cearns if you are interested.



# Music News

In the Music Department we ended the year in our usual very busy fashion with a whole school Mass with the students leading the music and singing to celebrate our very own St Wilfrid's Day, closely followed by Wilfest, our mini-summer festival celebrating the musical talents not only our current students, but parents, alumni and staff too. Miss Betts, Subject Leader for Music commented, "Wilfest featured fantastic performances from first time performers, The Friday Morning Crew (Henry, Kayla and Oliver) and newest formed Year 8 Band, to regular soloists Maja and Leah, family groups with Pavni and Priya, and the Hurdman-Harrisons, three generations of St Wilfrid's students past and present, as well as our own staff band, Teachers and Student Unite! What a phenomenal way to end the school year."

On the last day of term in our final end of term liturgies, the live music was provided by our growing Worship Band and Choir to celebrate the end of this academic year.

For anyone who wants to get involved with making music, then remember that there are lots of opportunities to get involved both over the holidays and also when you return in September. The dates for the Winter and Spring Concerts are already in the calendar for next year, as well as the dates for the School Production. Do get involved!

Over the summer break, West Sussex Music are offering a range of summer music workshops, the details of which can be found here: [Holiday Activities - West Sussex Music](#) . Additionally, if your child is interested in taking instrumental or vocal lessons then the details of how to apply and the cost, help with cost, and all the information that you need can be found here: [Music lessons - West Sussex Music](#) or alternatively, you can contact Ms Betts or any of the Music Department staff.



# Dare to Dream



This term, Year 9s have taken part in the 'Dare to Dream' mentoring programme, provided by Love Local Jobs Foundation. Elekta, a company that provides up to date cancer treatment technology, sponsored the programme and worked with 15 Year 9 students. The intent of this programme is to help inspire and fuel students with ambition.

Jack Hayes, a radio presenter for Heart FM, presented 3 whole year assemblies that spoke about identity, character, self-belief, employability, resilience, and happiness. The atmosphere in these assemblies was heartwarming and you could sense the students indulging in every message. Additionally, 15 students went to Elekta to explore what happens day to day in real workplace environment. What an experience this was! Meeting mentors again and having a chance to create their own radio show. (They mentioned the food wasn't bad either).

As previously stated, 15 Year 9 students were selected to take part in mentoring sessions with employees from Elekta. The first day was an apprehensive start when meeting their individual mentors. However, they blossomed into developing a strong connection with their mentors and the self confidence in the students was amazing to watch over the 6-week period. Not only did they have to build a relationship with their mentors, but they also had a chance to build stronger relationships with their peers. The students had this to say about the programme:

*"It has taught me to me about my comfort zone and resilience. It has encouraged me to be more confident. Throughout the programme it has made me happy."*

*"This programme ensured children like us reach our full potential but never giving up and engaging in new and exciting things. It teaches us to love on another but especially love ourselves."*

This is something that has made us very proud of the whole year group. To have willingness to invest time in wanting to learn about how they can be more employable and be the best version of themselves is a testament to the year group. Jack on a numerous of occasions said, "These students are a credit to the school." Students simply loved Jack and we hope they have learnt a lot and can take a lot of the messages within going into GCSE in September.

In the words of Jack Hayes "Whatever choice you make, make sure it is the one that makes you happy... you bunch of Legends"

**Are you ready to dare to dream?**

# Business Studies News

## Dragons Den

The Year 10 Enterprise students have been working extremely hard to create social enterprise ideas aimed at tackling social issues they feel passionate about. These issues included mental health, animal neglect, palm oil use, lack of school funding, poverty, conflict, and climate change. Students put their ideas into practice by setting up their own mini social enterprises. Each team took part in a fundraising activity to raise start-up funds, created a business plan, and prepared a business pitch.

On Monday 7th July, St Wilfrid's hosted an internal Social Enterprise Dragons' Den event—an exciting, fun, and innovative way for students to showcase their ideas, develop valuable skills, and gain support for their enterprises.

Each team planned, prepared, and pitched their social enterprise ideas to a panel of Dragons. The panel included Mr. Ferry; Amelia Gardener, owner of Horsham Coffee Roaster; Danielle Johnson, Equity Research Analyst; and Ben Perrin, Business Consultant. The day was a huge success, with every group delivering a professional and engaging pitch.

Huge congratulations to 'SHYVETT', who were the overall winners; 'HAVE ME COCONUT SHAMPOO', awarded Best Environmental Enterprise; and 'CHARMING GUARDS', recognised for the Most Creative Pitch.

On reflection, the Business Department is incredibly proud of what the students have achieved this year. We hope they continue to develop their entrepreneurial skills in the future.



## Chessington World of Adventures Trip

On July 10th, our Year 10 Business and Enterprise students had an exciting opportunity to visit Chessington World of Adventures for an insightful business and tourism talk hosted by the Merlin Entertainment Group. The aim of this trip was to understand the Merlin Entertainments business and how it operates, including an introduction to different departments, needs and opportunities that go into running a business. They learned about the strategic planning, marketing, and management techniques that drive the success of such a major tourist attraction. After the talk, students had the chance to explore the park and enjoy various thrilling rides, combining education with fun.



# British Museum Trip

In May, the History Department proudly undertook one of its biggest trips to date, with over 80 Year 8 students to the British Museum in London. The day was packed with excitement and discovery as students explored the museum's vast and diverse collections, which span thousands of years and countless cultures. From ancient civilizations to more recent historical periods, there was something to captivate every curious mind.

One of the most memorable aspects of the trip was the opportunity to view world-renowned artefacts up close. Students were particularly fascinated by the Rosetta Stone—an iconic piece that played a crucial role in deciphering Egyptian hieroglyphs. Walking through the Egyptian galleries, they encountered towering statues, intricate carvings, and beautifully preserved relics that brought the ancient world vividly to life.

It was a day filled with learning, inspiration, and a deeper appreciation for the richness of human history.



# Maths News

In May, a total of 156 students from Years 7 and 8 proudly represented our school in the UK Mathematics Trust (UKMT) Junior Maths Challenge - a prestigious national competition that encourages mathematical reasoning, precision, and creative problem-solving.

We are thrilled to announce that 68 students earned certificates in recognition of their impressive performance:

- 34 students were awarded Bronze certificates
- 23 students achieved Silver
- 11 students attained the coveted Gold certificate - an exceptional accomplishment!



Among the Gold award winners, six students demonstrated such outstanding mathematical ability that they qualified for the Kangaroo follow-on round, an invitation-only challenge for the top scorers nationwide.

Their success continued in the Kangaroo round, where two students earned Silver Kangaroo certificates, and three others were awarded Bronze Kangaroo certificates—a testament to their continued excellence and dedication.

Congratulations to all students who took part in this year's challenge! Your hard work, curiosity, and love for mathematics are truly inspiring. We are incredibly proud of your achievements and look forward to seeing what you can accomplish in future competitions, including the UKMT Intermediate Challenge.

# VI Form News

Introducing our new VI Form Head Students who head up our Student Leader Team for 25-26!

## **Ramona Brasovenu, Head Student**

I am extremely grateful that I have been chosen to be one of the VI Form Head Students here at St Wilfrid's. I aim to maintain a welcoming and pleasant environment for all current and upcoming students at this school by uniting them together through participation in extra-curricular activities, such as Culture week, which has been a great success this year and has had a massive impact on the school community overall. I want to encourage students to reach their full potential and get involved as much as possible to enhance the sense of diversity within the school which I feel builds on their ability to uplift others further on. According to 1 Thessalonians 5:11, "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.", I trust that the community will represent this verse throughout their time at St Wilfrid's.



## **Danna Charangwa, Head Student**

I am extremely honoured to have the privilege of being one of the Head Students here at St Wilfrid's. I have been part of this community since 2019, and I have been blessed with so many opportunities that have been presented to me over the years, nurturing my confidence and character. I hope that through the term as Head Student I can bring the same feeling and provide support, not only for my peers, but the whole school. As a student, if you feel something is missing in your school or there is an idea you would like to bring forward, we will always support you in this! Ultimately, we are a community driven by faith, love and friendship. "But love your enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High. For He is kind to the unthankful and evil," as a community we are there to pick each other up when down, to show care and support! Our aim is to constantly show love to one another as we have done over the years I hope to only strengthen it, throughout my time here leaving a legacy of love.



## **Adora Muringani, Head Student**

I am extremely thankful to be your next head student alongside Danna and Ramona. Although I joined St. Wilfrid's in Year 12, it already feels like I've been here for much longer, mainly because of the incredible community that surrounds me. It is truly an honor to serve as one of your head students.

As Mr Ferry always says, "This is our school," and I promise to lead by ensuring that every voice is heard, because each of you contributes to what makes St Wilfrid's special. Together with the student leadership team, I will strive to introduce projects that will support you as students and nurture your spirituality as well.

As stated in Matthew 20:26, ".....Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant." I will follow this by being a leader who follows Christ's example - one who acknowledges everyone, regardless of differences, and prioritises serving while leading.



# Photography Competition

'The St Wilfrid's Big Photoshoot 2025' was again popular this year and why wouldn't it be with a brand new SR camera, tripod and camera bag up for grabs. With over 150 photographs to go through Mr Tennant, Subject Leader for Art and Photography, had to whittle down the entries to a short list of 10 for Headteacher Mr Ferry to select a winner from. The theme for this year's entries was 'Joy'.

Mr Tennant said "It was wonderful to see so many joyful photographs this year and to see what gives the students a sense of happiness. This is the third year we have run the St Wilfrid's Big Photoshoot and the standard was exceptional again, each entry made me smile. It was very difficult to arrive at the final shortlist. There are some very talented photographers at St Wilfrid's and I hope many will go on to study GCSE and A-level photography with me in the future, if they are not already! Well done to all the entrants and keep snapping!"

This year's winner is Kieron Charman, 10KB. Kieron captures beautifully both the joy felt by his dog and the joy his dog gives to him. It shows great technical skill and detail. Well done Kieron, enjoy your new camera

The competition will run again next year so watch this space for next year's theme.



Winning Entry by Kieron Charman 10KB

# Science News

## STEAM Fortnight

As part of our STEAM fortnight the science department has yet again been busy with activities that encourage the students to take up not only careers based around STEM but also the arts. With a joint drama/science production, all Year 7 and 8 students were treated to a theatre visit from the company Songlopedia who presented their show 'Light fantastic' before they perform as part of the Brighton fringe festival.



## Herstmonceux Trip

Some Year 7 students had the opportunity to visit the observatory and science centre at Herstmonceux as part of their immersion day activities. This involved a visit to the telescope to learn about how it is operated as well as many fun hands on activities both inside and outside the centre.

## Educake

On Monday 14th July our homework provider Educake had their 10 year anniversary and the managing director Nicola Allen chose St Wilfrid's to help them celebrate. Each student was rewarded with a Freddo frog and many were interviewed to give feedback about how the website could be improved. Needless to say, the Educake staff were very impressed with our students and their engagement as well as the quality of their responses. A big thank you to all students who were involved



## Year 12 Field Trip

Biologists spent a day in Goff's park completing one of their required field work practicals. Here they learned important sampling skills using both line transects and random sampling techniques. Then it was back to the lab to carry out statistical analysis so they could accept or reject their null hypotheses.

# Science News Cont'd

## Year 7 Science Fair

On Thursday 17th July we celebrated the 4th annual St Wilfrid's Science fair. The Year 7s did us proud with an amazing display of independent work presented with knowledge, passion and confidence. Students produced work on a huge range of topics. Many had focused on the Science of their hobbies, from ballet and gymnastics to fishing and football. There were many looking deeper into topics we studied earlier in the year – space, forces, energy, separation techniques and the human body. Others focused on the environment with several projects on energy resources like fossil fuels, their impact on our planet and solutions such as renewable energy sources.

After much deliberation over a very long list of students nominated by teachers for each category we decided on 27 highly recommended projects. The winners in each category were: for research – Oliwia Wielechowska with her time travel, telescope project, for investigative work – Victoria Zabawa with her effect of acid on tooth enamel project, for presentation in the form of a poster - Amelie Piggott with her growth of seeds project and for engineering in the form of a model – Anabel Napoli with her mechanical hands and how they have been developed based on the structure of human hands. Our overall winner had made an amazing project investigating whether a 30 year old study by oxford university on the bacteria growing on money was indeed true or not. Reuben Chinapah had done a significant amount of research on the study and what he might find on notes from different European and African countries. He had also taken swabs of notes he had gathered on holiday and used agar plates to investigate the quantity of bacteria found. A well deserved winner! We are excited about where these students will take their STEM skills and talents from here.



# Year 7 Boulogne Trip

On Friday 11 July, 44 excited Year 7 students set off on a day trip to Boulogne, France. Following an early start, we boarded the coach and made our way across the Channel. Our first stop was a charming café in Calais, where students enjoyed a traditional French breakfast of freshly baked croissants and crusty bread. After a very early start, we had croissants and bread for breakfast in a café in Calais before travelling on to a snail farm just outside Boulogne. We learned all about how escargots are cultivated and then had a chance to try some snails. Lots of the group were pleasantly surprised by how tasty they were! Our next stop was a visit to the beautiful walled town of Boulogne, where students explored, practised their French and bought some fabulous berets. Last of all was the visit to the hypermarket, where students raided the Haribo selection and the teachers all headed straight for the stationery aisle. We arrived back to school exhausted but full of memories of a brilliant day.



# House Marathon

On Tuesday 29th April we hosted the 2025 house marathon. With the sun shining brightly overhead, around 60 enthusiastic students laced up their trainers to take on the challenge of running a mile—or, for the more ambitious, three—as part of their house teams.

This year's format saw Augustine and Edith competing as individual houses, while Catherine joined forces with Dominic, and Francis teamed up with Benedict to form combined teams. The VI Form played a vital role in the smooth running of the event, marshalling the course with enthusiasm and offering much-needed encouragement and water to the runners along the way.

Despite the physical demands of the course, every participant gave their all, pushing through fatigue and cheering each other on. The atmosphere was one of determination and camaraderie, and by the end of the day, all teams had successfully crossed the finish line. In a thrilling conclusion, it was Augustine who emerged victorious.

In addition to the athletic achievements, the event also had a charitable impact—raising over £300 for the various house charities. It was a fantastic afternoon that showcased the spirit of our school community and the power of coming together for a good cause.



# Chaplaincy News

## Sacramental life of the School:

Summer term ends with a liturgy based on the theme “Church”, inspired the reading at Mass on Sunday from St Pauls letter to the Colossians. We will reflect on this quote “We will never change the world by just going to church. We will only change the world by being the Church” and how we have lived up to “Being the Church” throughout this academic year. Here is a taste of some of the other highlights of this term:

**Weekly Mass:** Our 09:00hrs Friday Mass continues to be popular with students, staff and parishioners; all are warmly welcomed to share in this weekly celebration with us. We have had some specially themed Masses this term, including a Mass offered for the intentions of all our students who made their Confirmation this term; a Mass dedicated to staff leavers; a Year 11 Celebration Mass, just before the Year 11s started their exams they gathered together in the Chapel to celebrate, reflect and give thanks for their time so far at St Wilfrid’s. We also had a Year 13 evening Mass of celebration to mark the last time all Year 13s would be together at St Wilfrid’s and the start of their examinations; and our Last Mass of the School Year was our Whole school, open air, Patronal Feast Day Mass on St Wilfrid’s Day. This year the weather was amazing as was the singing and levels of respect shown by the whole school community. Special thanks to all who dedicate their time to our Masses, from our PALS team, including Nicholas Bullen, Scarlett Bunn, Jack Martin, Jonah Gater & Jamie Coomber, to our Altar servers, particular Jesse Warwick-Godfrey, Mei-Li Chan Chi An, Samuel Hamid, Carl Liray, Nathan Warwick-Godfrey to our readers (too many to name!) to our Eucharistic Ministers in particular and Mrs Baldwin for her weekly dedication to this service and last but not least, to our Worship Band & Choir, including Jakob Harrison, Joseph Singaporewala, Hugh Stapleton, Oscar Franke, Matilda Singaporewala, Keita Kurnia, Leah Birchmore, Maria Pascucci (to name a few), supported by Miss Mango & Mr Marr, for their dedication to the ministry of music for these masses. We extend our gratitude to our local Priests at the Friary who commit to celebrating Mass here with us every week and for those who come from further afield to support our sacramental life.



# Chaplaincy News Cont'd

**Year 9 Community Retreat Day:** This term we have had the opportunity to have the whole of Year 9 off timetable for a day in July that was full of fun, friendship and faith. The theme was "Looking Deeper" and was explored through a variety of activities including team building, mediation, prayer and relaxation. The year 9's were absolutely great in their behaviour and attitude to the day and this made it a great success and a fitting way to mark the end of their Key Stage 3 journey. For me it was a real highlight of my term to be able to spend more time with them in a relaxed environment and get to know them better on an individual basis. They really are wonderful young people and I am very lucky to get to work with them. Particular thanks to all the students who decorated the Chapel so beautifully for our Praying Through nature meditation. The Chapel look so beautiful!

**Bereavement Services:** This summer we have been running weekly support groups for our children who have experienced a significant bereavement or loss. The organisation behind the programme is called Rainbows. At secondary level the groups are called Spectrum. This term we ran three parallel groups, one tailored for KS3 and the other for KS4&5. Many thanks to Mrs Keynes, Mr Lewis, Mrs Harrison, Miss Thompson & Mrs Beck for their time and dedication in running these sessions. The programme culminates in a day off timetable for all participants to reflect on their weekly sessions and celebrate the bonds that they have made with their peers. If you would like more information about this group please don't hesitate to contact myself, Mrs Franke, the lay Chaplain, and I will be happy to talk through the programme and the suitability of any particular young people for the course. We will be running Rainbows again for more students in the Autumn term.

**Boost Group:** Based on the same successful principles as our Rainbows group we also run a peer support group for student who would like to improve their self-esteem and confidence levels. The group is called Boost. Again, if you would like more information about this group please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Franke, the lay Chaplain, who will be happy to talk through the programme and the suitability of any particular young people for the course.



**Year 12 Community Day:** in addition to our enrichment activities for Year 12 students, we held a Community Day for them on Friday 23rd May. The aim of the day was to give the Year 12 community an opportunity to reflect and recharge after the challenges of Their first year in our VI Form. The programme for the day started with Mass in the Chapel and had time built in for relaxation and reflection, culminating in an end of year celebration.

## Diocesan News & Events

### **The Good Shepherd Celebration:**

In June a group of students who have been central to our Faith in Action Events in school attended the diocesan celebration of education as our representatives. They joined student from other schools for this special occasion at Arundel Cathedral.



# Chaplaincy News Cont'd

**Confirmation:** It has been a great pleasure to attend some of the Confirmation Masses of so many of our young people within the Crawley Deanery. Most Confirmations took place at Arundel this year. Please look out for announcements in your Parishes in the Autumn term for the details to apply for the Confirmation process of 2026. Details will also be advertised in school. Please be aware that our Diocese is encouraging candidates to apply "when they feel ready" rather than when they reach a certain age or school year. This means in recent years we have seen a move away from just our Year 10 students applying and now we have many more students making their Confirmation in Year 9.

**Lourdes:** On 24th July, 32 students and staff of St Wilfrid's, will join another 700 people from across the Diocese to travel to Lourdes on Pilgrimage. Our students have been preparing for this trip for a while now, meeting with their groups and finding out more about pilgrimage to Lourdes. As ever, St Wilfrid's is the best represented school on the pilgrimage, continuing our now great tradition of our young people putting their faith into action. Look out in September for photos and updates from this year's pilgrimage and details about how to join next year.

We will bring the prayers and intentions of the whole St Wilfrid's community to Our Lady at the Grotto.



## National News & Events

### Faith In Action Awards

This year 14 students worked towards achieving their Bronze, Silver or Gold CYMFed Faith in Action awards. This involved serving the community both inside and outside of the school through organising donations, volunteering at local services, performing in school liturgies and running school campaigns.

This term they ran an environmental campaign to celebrate ten years since the release of the late Pope Francis's encyclical Laudato Si. This involved running a school competition, providing learning resources and organising a whole school clean-up of our shared spaces. They submitted a final piece of work this term that was the culmination of their experience.

The Bishop recognised their achievements most recently through an awards ceremony at Worth Abbey where they received their certificates and badges. These students have done excellent work this year for our school community and the wider community in Crawley.



# Chaplaincy News Cont'd

**CAFOD:** This summer term a group of outstanding Year 12 students graduated from their CAFOD young leadership award. Throughout the year students have raised awareness about the work of CAFOD, and have also raised essential funds to support CAFOD in the work they do. Over the year they have raised just over £1000 for CAFOD. On the day of the celebration they took part in reflective workshops with schools from across the country. They had a key note speaker with a member of parliament about how to influence and make change in their local communities and beyond. The day culminated in a liturgy in St George's Cathedral where students received recognition for the hard work as young leaders.'

The CAFOD Young leaders led a session on Saint Oscar Romero with the Faith in Action Group. The group looked at the life of Oscar Romero, how CAFOD assisted Romero in his life, and why Romero can be considered as a modern day prophet.

**Lourdes:** On 24th July, 32 students and staff of St Wilfrid's, will join another 700 people from across the Diocese to travel to Lourdes on Pilgrimage. Our students have been preparing for this trip for a while now, meeting with their groups and finding out more about pilgrimage to Lourdes. As ever, St Wilfrid's is the best represented school on the pilgrimage, continuing our now great tradition of our young people putting their faith into action. Look out in September for photos and updates from this year's pilgrimage and details about how to join next year. We will bring the prayers and intentions of the whole St Wilfrid's community to Our Lady at the Grotto.

## Pastoral Curriculum

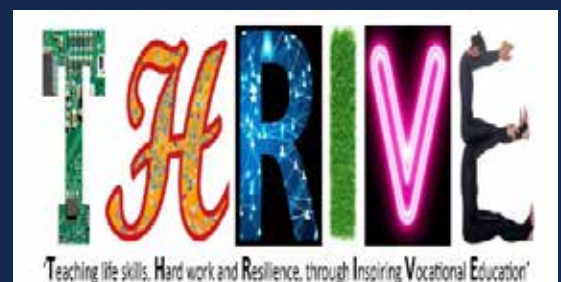
As part of my role in school I oversee the "pastoral curriculum" This includes Pastoral, Social, Health, Economic Education (PSHE) which is delivered to all students at 09:00hrs every Wednesday morning and also lead the Careers provision for the school. Our Careers programme is known as THRIVE (Teaching life skills, Hard work and Resilience through Improving Vocational Education) Thrive sessions happen every two weeks at 9am on a Thursday morning and are supplemented by Thrive immersion activities, assemblies, trips, Careers fairs, subject lessons, individual careers guidance and weekly newsletters.

Links to what students have been studying in these areas of Pastoral Curriculum can be found here:

[St Wilfrid's Catholic School - PSHE](#)

[St Wilfrid's Catholic School - THRIVE Our Careers Programme](#)

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind you that weekly THRIVE newsletters are updated on our Website which collate local Careers related opportunities [here](#)



### Dates to look forward to:

8th September:

Year 7 Welcome Mass  
09:00hrs (The very first thing they will do in their new school)

12th September:

VI Form Welcome Mass

2nd October:

Diocesan Secondary School  
Pilgrimage to Arundel  
Cathedral

# Wellbeing Garden

This term, in the Wellbeing Garden, we saw the return of the Canada geese pair who promptly remade their nest on the little island in the middle of the school pond.

Before long, 6 eggs could be seen in the feathery nest and all goslings survived! The students were delighted and we have enjoyed watching their speedy growth from yellow balls of fluff and feather to carbon copies of their parents.

Also down at the pond, a grand shelter/lodge was built after a successful bid for funding by our Safeguarding Team. This now allows the WBG group to be able to shelter from inclement/scorching weather while making the most of our time in this area; it is a far cry from our holey tarpaulin shelter! Other classes have been sharing the space too, which is fantastic, as the lodge can easily house a classful of students.

In the Wellbeing Garden itself, the gardeners have trialled a huge raised bed influenced by Hügeltkultur. It is a work in progress and although we have planted flowers and veg in it already, we will continue building the layers throughout the autumn and winter months, ready to grow our spring seedlings next year. Our garden follows polyculture principles so we have packed the beds with flowers, fruit and veg and it really has worked well for drawing in the pollinators this year. This really has been the best year in ages for bees, ladybirds, aphids, caterpillars and butterflies! Thank heavens as we have noticed a serious decline in previous years.

In some of our sessions, the students took it in turns using the bowsaw, under Mr Radenhurst's watchful eye, to make wood rounds. They then painted them, ready to decorate the interior of the new wooden lodge down at the pond; they were very proud of their finished items.

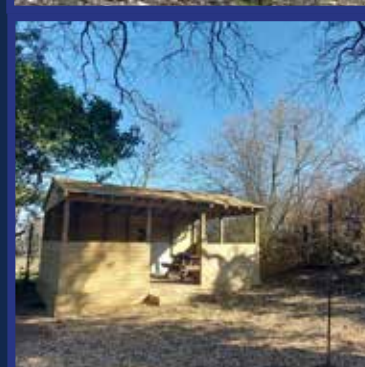
This year, we trialled our college students (who attended 3 days a week) with a Horticultural BTech award. They threw themselves into the tasks and were rewarded with a pass! Excellent effort all round.

We have had an abundance of fruit and this year but we had to be quick to pick as, with the weather being so hot, the fruit was liable to shrivel! (We lost a lot of lettuces to bolting in the heat too!)



# Wellbeing Garden

In addition to our success with sweet peas and nasturtiums this year, Leigh, one of our marvelous maintenance team, sowed some wildflowers over the bund surrounding the garden and the results were nothing short of magical. I have bought many a box of wildflower seed in the past for it to come to nothing but this year's sowings have produced the best results I have ever seen - a big thank you, Leigh! This has, no doubt, been instrumental in bringing in the pollinators.



# Safeguarding News

As the summer holidays approach, it's important for families to stay mindful of safeguarding — both offline and online. While the break offers a great chance for young people to relax, explore interests, and spend time with friends, it can also come with increased risks. As always, our priority is the wellbeing and safety of our students, and we encourage all parents and carers to remain actively involved in their children's summer experiences.

With longer days and more free time, young people often enjoy greater independence. Whether they're heading to the park, meeting friends in town, or attending festivals or events, it's important they understand how to stay safe. We encourage parents to discuss safe travel routes, the importance of keeping in touch, and how to respond if something feels unsafe or uncomfortable. Remind your child to trust their instincts, stay in well-lit and public areas, and keep their phone charged when out.

## Online Safety During the Holidays

Young people are likely to spend more time online during the summer — whether gaming, using social media, or chatting with friends. It's essential that they understand how to stay safe in digital spaces. We recommend parents regularly review privacy settings on apps, encourage open conversations about online activity, and remind children never to share personal information or photos with strangers. Discuss the risks of online grooming, scams, and cyberbullying, and ensure your child knows how to report anything that makes them feel uncomfortable.

Keeping communication open is key. If your child feels able to speak with you or another trusted adult, they're more likely to seek help if needed. There are also many excellent resources available to support families, including ThinkUKnow, Childline and the NSPCC. These websites provide advice, activities, and reporting tools tailored for young people and parents alike. Click on the logo to take you to the website

We wish all of our families a safe, happy, and restful summer break. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you need further support or advice around safeguarding by emailing [dsl@stwilfrids.com](mailto:dsl@stwilfrids.com)

## Mental Health

Although tempting to throw all routines out of the window, it is actually beneficial for young people to maintain a loose structure to their days during the summer holidays. By all means, enjoy the lay ins but keeping a consistent sleep schedule and planning time for relaxing, hobbies and social activities can all help to uphold a sense of purpose and prevent boredom.

Hopefully the weather is kind to us, making the summer holidays an excellent opportunity to get outside, keep physically active and try something new. Spending time with friends and family is also important for wellbeing. There are plenty of support services available year round if you are struggling with the lack of routine, and not seeing peers or adults who support you at school. Stem4 have some brilliant resources and specially designed apps to support teenage mental health. IF you are particularly worried about yourself, or someone you know, please contact your GP/ 111/ 999 (in an emergency).

Charlotte Rumbol, the DSL, will be holding an 'online safety information evening' for parents on the 11th September 16:30-17:30hrs and we would love to see as many of you there as possible!



# Sports News

## Sports Day

Sports Day 2025 was an eventful day where a record number of students were provided the opportunity to participate in our Athletics event. A run, jump and a throw were provided by the majority of performers, with their points contributing to the house. The sun was shining all day as the staff and VI Form helpers worked tirelessly to ensure all events (and the day!) were run methodically, that the banks and stands were kept tidy, refreshments were available to those in need and points were kept together to provide up to date winners at the end.

Just the one record was broken on the day with Lionel Fernandes setting a new Javelin 600g Year 8 record of 41m 30cm! There were some stand out performances in the high jump with some students jumping over 1.5m, shot putt (Oliver Chudy again over 11m), Henry Bromham and Leo Pilawski claiming sub 12 second 100m performances (hand timed). Preston Irving again under 5mins for the 1500m and Esteban Chery over 5m in the long jump (5.36m). Matilda Singporewala and Oliwia Gromek both under 14 seconds in the 100m, Matilda also over 4m in the long jump and over 7.50m in the shot putt showcasing her all around strength. The Year 7 Thomas twins, Orlagh and Niamh threw the vortex 28 and 24m respectively. David Peter Nzeama showcased his speed just finishing outside the boys 200m record. There were so many other fine performances throughout the year groups and some top scorers are broken down below. A special mention to Lionel Fernandes in achieving a perfect athletics score of 45 points.

The introduction of the new Year 7s have again reflected a strong athletics showcase in Dominic House, adding to the winning performances from year 8 and year 10 this year. The substantial margin that Year 10 Dominic won by, eclipsed Augustine's Year 9 efforts (one of the highest totals at key stage 3 on record) and led to a Dominic victory overall.



## Top Performers

Year 7		Year 8		Year 9	
David Peter Nzeama	34	Lionel Fernandes	45	Kuba Zmuda	42
Emma Tough	30	Oliver Chudy	43	Sam Roadley	37
Daniel Ripley	28	Matilda Singoirewala	42	Praveen Balakrishnan	37
Niamh Thomas	28	Kieran Buwure	36	Preston Irving	37
Orlagh Thomas	28	Santiago Bunn	35	Dean Roadley	34

## Year 10

Name	Event	Result	Name	Event	Result
Cole Irving	High Jump	1.50m	Daisy Pullen	Javelin	17.18m
Leja Vaitasiute	High Jump	1.40m	Jozef Potok	Shot Putt	10.15m
Leo Pilawski	100m	11.7s	Marco Vasquez & Leo Pilawski	Triple	9.8m
Leo Pilawski	200m	24.24s	Esteban Cherry	Long Jump	5.36m
Jerron Edwards	300m	42.97s	Josef Potok	Discus	24.58m
Cole Irving	800m	2.22m			

# Sports News

## Athletics Season

As a school, we offer multiple opportunities for students to showcase their sporting excellence by competing in Athletics in both district and county. And it has been a blast!

We started the season off with the Indoor Athletics Competition for Junior boys in which Miss Jennings took eight Year 8 boys to compete. Firstly, they smashed their area trails becoming winners of the Crawley area before going onto compete against all other district winners in the county trials. With outstanding performances from every single one of the boys they managed to become crowned champions of Sussex which is truly and incredible achievement, so an enormous congratulations to Mtho Moyo, Santiago Bunn, Macaragh McGovern, Oliver Chudy, Kieran Buwera, Riaan Mitchell, Lionel Fernandes and Henry Bromham.

We then took 30 students to the Crawley Area trials in which the school compete against seven neighbours to compete for a place on the Crawley team to represent the District in the Sussex trials later on. 18 of our students either won or came second in their event therefore qualified for the county competition later on in June.

Following on from the area trails we collaborated again with all the Crawley schools to run a Boys friendly meet as well as a Girls friendly meet. This is again a fantastic opportunity for aspiring athletes to practice their events and get into good routines for all competitions happening over the season and a brilliant chance for them to use the facilities down at the K2. In addition to this we participate in an Intermediate Friendly meet again, giving further practice for our young athletes. Finally, on the topic of friendlies, us as a school go the extra mile to organise a Year 7 and Year 8 friendly that we proudly host on the field here at St Wilfrid's. It's a brilliant occasion which brings even more students into the athletics world providing them an opportunity to compete against others their age.

Early in June saw our victorious students that qualified for the Sussex County competition to represent Crawley schools compete in a day full of entertainment and sporting prowess. We had 18 students qualify for the event which included for the boys; Preston Irving, Lionel Fernandes, Rylee Donaghy, Mtho Moyo, Tayan Mutagaya, Cole Irving, Lucas Russo, Layton Mamarot, Jozef Potok. Oliver Chudy; Oli competed in a high-pressured event which saw him take home bronze at the event, breaking a school record, well done Oli. Oscar Piggot, a disputed bronze medal in Shotput. Finally, very well done to Lynden Huggins, who Won gold in the Hurdles by fair distance. Moving onto the girls which included; Shevonne Mukasa, Alicja Synalik, Matilda Singaporewala, Leja Vaitasuite, Hazel Barradas and Rose Herbert.



# Sports News Cont'd

## Super 6

In June, 12 Year 7 students headed over to ICC for the Crawley School's round of the Super 6 Athletics competition. The event requires each student to take part in a track event, a field event and a relay, so every student involved demonstrated their all-round Athletic ability. It was a brilliant event and every student involved performed brilliantly – so much so both the boys and girls won the event, beating all the other Crawley Schools. This took them to K2 for the Sussex round.

The standard of competition was really high, but the St Wilfrid's students upped their game and competed really well with some students winning their events. Sadly, we didn't manage to podium at this event, but representing the Crawley Schools against the other top schools in Sussex is a fantastic achievement, well done to all of those involved: Emma Tough, David Peter-Nzaema, Sophia Ijeh, Meteusz Matlak, Bell Howes, George Lane, Isaac Charles, Orlagh Thomas, Abby Amenyogbe, Bobbie Brooke, Lyla Stimpson, Dylan Guidera, Sophie Wanyika.

## Town Sports Day

On Wednesday 16th July the PE Department made their way to K2 to participate in the yearly athletics Town Sports with a squad of 65 students. Several were missing due to the postponement of the original date, but the students that attended did the school proud.

We were defending our inter boys trophy, but despite some outstanding performances and further broken school records, we lost this. However, we came out with not one but TWO more records!

Our junior boys and junior girls squads made it a beautiful double as they competed resolutely throughout. Unfortunately we are not able to give the names of any individual and team relay performances as the final results from all the events have not come through. Overall, we came so close to the title, but we lost out by just 10pts to Oriel High School.



# Sports News Cont'd

## Rounders

The Under 13 rounders team showed great dedication this season, consistently turning up to club and always demonstrating hard work. The team showed resilience when playing tough games, ensuring that they remained focused on the game resulting in some very close high scoring games.

The Under 15 girls rounders had a tricky start to the season but recently beat ICC which was a massive achievement considering we had a team of 7 and they had 9! Our excellent fielding really sealed the deal, getting many of their best batters out early on in the innings. We are excited to buy a new rugby strip with some of these funds.



## Cricket

Our Under 15 cricket team are very much a team in transition with several students new to the game, so we had to call up 6 Year 8 students to support the team in some of the games. Although we fought well this year, the lack of experience and difference in size made it a tough set of fixtures but they turned up, had a go at different roles and will take a lot out of the experience.

We took a mix of our Under 13 and Under 15 cricket teams over to the County Ground in late June to watch Under 19s England v India. We were able to watch Rocky Flintoff get over 50 runs but England were bowled out for 176 and we had to depart before India then batted this off quickly to take the win. A valuable experience at a Cricket ground which the boys enjoyed.



## Football Leaders at OLQOH

A group of students from Years 8, 10 and 12 went across to lead the 'Discover Day' at one of our feeder schools. The girls delivered skilled based activities that focused on improving dribbling, shooting and teamwork amongst Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes. The leaders planned and delivered the sessions single handed, in which the students had fun and were able to show progression by the end of the day.

## Sports Presentation Evening

On Thursday 10th July we hosted our very first Sports Celebration Evening which saw almost 400 students and parents come along to a wonderful evening celebrating the extra-curricular sporting achievements across the school. Over 50 awards were given out to deserving individuals, with a player of the season for each team as well as an award for overall contribution to the sport. Volunteer of the year award going to Karl Wendi, and Tayan Mutagaya winning the John Blake Memorial Award. Guest speaker, Portugal footballer Bradley De Jesus inspired the audience, reminiscing on his time at St Wilfrid's where he balanced school work alongside being signed for Fulham at a young age.

Thank you to those who took the time to attend, bought tickets and helped to raise lots of money for our PE department, we are excited to buy a new rugby strip with some of these funds.



# Important Information

## Contact Details

Please could you make sure you update the Student Services Office with any change of address, new telephone numbers or email addresses as soon as possible to ensure we always have a method of contacting you.

## Attendance

At St Wilfrid's, attendance really does matter! Our students value their school and enjoy coming here. The results of this can be seen in our ever increasing improvement in attendance. Please could you make sure that you contact school on the first day of your son or daughter's absence or if they are going to be late due to a medical appointment by calling 01293 421421 and then press 1 for students in Year 7-11 or 2 for VI form, leaving the name of your child, tutor group and reason for absence before 9.00am where possible. You can also email [absence@stwilfrids.com](mailto:absence@stwilfrids.com). **Please do not email individual staff members regarding your child's absence.**

## My Child At School

Thank you for all your patience with the transition to making dinner money payments via MCAS. We are increasing our use of the app over the course of this year. Currently you can also see student attendance and behaviour information, and student reports are published here. If you haven't yet created your parent account, please go to [www.MyChildAtSchool](http://www.MyChildAtSchool) and choose reset password.

## Cashless System

St Wilfrid's is a 'cashless' school. This means all payments for educational visits, revision aids, etc will be made electronically via ParentPay which by now you are familiar with. Please contact Jacqui Robinson via [j.robinson@stwilfrids.com](mailto:j.robinson@stwilfrids.com) if you have any questions regarding this or require a reminder of your ParentPay login details.

## School Uniform - Sussex Uniform

Sussex Uniform provide all St Wilfrid's uniform stock to their premises in Horsham. Their address details are as follows: Sussex Uniforms, 8 Bishopric, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 1QR T. 01403 330218 E. [horsham.shop@monkhouse.com](mailto:horsham.shop@monkhouse.com). <https://www.monkhouse.com/school/st-wilfrid-s-catholic-school-urn-126095>

## Key Dates

4 September 2025	INSET Day - School closed	6 November 2025	Year 10 Parents Evening
5 September 2025	INSET Day - School closed	13 November 2025	Year 12 Parents Evening
8 September 2025	Year 7 & 12 Return to School	20 November 2025	VI Form Open Evening
9 September 2025	All years return to school	4 December 2025	Winter Concert
10 September 2025	School Photographs	17 December 2025	Year 7 & 8 Disco
2 October 2025	Year 7 Tutor Evening	18 December 2025	House Christmas Market
9 October 2025	Open Evening 19:00-20:00		Christmas Liturgy
27-31 October 2025	Half Term	19 December 2025	Autumn Term Ends