

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

LOVE • LEARN • LEAD



Volume 1 | Issue 26
May 24th, 2024

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SCHOOL THAT MATTERS: A TRIBUTE TO YEAR 11 AS THEY LOVE, LEARN, LEAD AND LEAVE

So, after five years our Year 11s leave today and we will be very sad to see them go. They joined us in September 2019 and who, at that point, could have predicted what would occur just seven months later?

Their Year 7 was interrupted by the first COVID lockdown; their Year 8 by the second and the challenge of 'bubbles', pupils moving in and out of school as they went into isolation; Year 9 was more settled, but COVID still had a huge impact on attendance, staffing and the smooth-running of school. Some semblance of normality only really returned when they entered Year 10 and started their studies that would eventually lead them to the exams they are sitting this summer.

In my opinion far too many people have commented negatively about young people in the past few years, especially in relation to the impact of the pandemic. I think they have been inspiring, showing the resilience they are often told they lack in the face of often overwhelming obstacles. It is no wonder that across the country we are seeing a huge increase in young people's mental ill-health and a decline in school attendance. That said, our Year 11s have consistently attended well and have always presented as a very tight unit, well supported by our staff. We're very proud of them and grateful for all that they have brought to our school.

One of the distinctive features of a Catholic education is the bond between each of us that reminds us we depend on each other, that we see

the human, the unique person in one another. St Ambrose Barlow is a better, more interesting, more vibrant, lively place for the contribution each of them has made, even if they don't yet realise it themselves. Whether or not they know it, whether or not they feel it, they have so much to show for the last five years. And we, as a school and as the adults who make up the staff of this school, are richer for the presence of each of them. Special thanks and recognition must also go to you, the parents, carers and family members who have supported them and us throughout the past five years. Sad though we are to see them go, we are excited for the next step on their journey and look forward to hearing all about their achievements and remaining part of the lives they lead in the years ahead. We all hope that whatever else they do they are, in St. Paul's words, always 'ambitious for the higher gifts', the greatest of which is love.

Of course, our school contains another four year groups, full of brilliant young people who have also been part of this journey and whose skills, talents and achievements we celebrate in this newsletter. As we break for the half-term I wish them and you well and happy, and hopefully sunny, week off.

Ben Davis
Headteacher



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CALENDAR

Year 7 Parents' & Carers' Evening
Thursday, 13th June 2024

Year 11 Prom, Worsley Marriott Hotel
Thursday, 27th June 2024

Year 6 Transition Day
Thursday, 27th June 2024
Friday, 28th June 2024

YEAR GROUP LEADERSHIP



Year 7
Year Manager: Mr Healey
(Senior Leader: Mr Jordan)



Year 8
Year Manager: Mrs Vincent
(Senior Leader: Mr Jones)



Year 9
Year Manager: Miss Moore
(Senior Leader: Mrs Johnston)



Year 10
Head of Year: Mr. Pemberton
(Senior Leader: Miss O'Leary)



Year 11
(Senior Leader: Mrs Tulloch)

AROUND OUR SCHOOL THIS WEEK: HIGHLIGHTS

1

As part of Mental Health Awareness week, our staff are taking part in their very own #momentsformovement challenge called, "The Steps Challenge" - It is an excellent opportunity to improve physical health and boost our mood. Plus, it's a fantastic way to embody the spirit of mental health awareness by taking steps towards a healthier mind and body. Keep your eyes peeled on our social media posts and stories for our progress across the week!

2

A reminder to our Year 11 students and families that the revision timetable is available to access via our school website under 'Exams and Revision'.



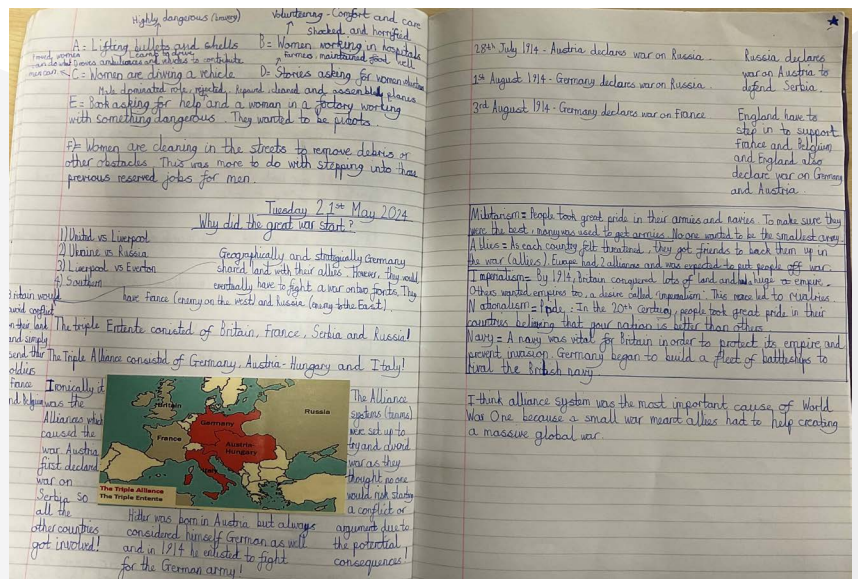
ART FOCUS

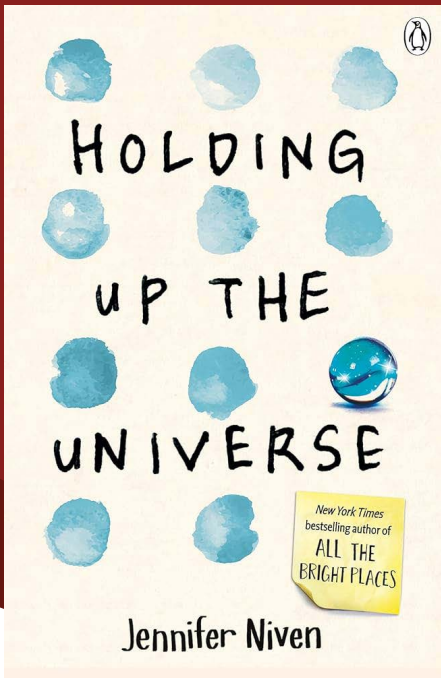
Artwork by Ruth in Year 10, acrylic painting of family portrait in the style of Eugen Dick.



HISTORY FOCUS

Year 7 students have been learning about WW1. This lesson considered long term causes of the First World War. This session focussed on causes such as militarism and imperialism, before students reached their overall judgement to consolidate the learning of the lesson.





BOOK OF THE WEEK


Holding Up the Universe by Michelle Niven

Everyone thinks they know Libby Strout.

I know the part I want to play here at MVB High. I want to be the girl who can do anything. Once dubbed 'America's Fattest Teen', she is only seen for her weight. Not the girl underneath. Since her mum's death she's been picking up the pieces in private, alone with her heartbroken father. But now, Libby is ready. She's ready for high school, for new friends, for love and for every possibility life has to offer.

Everyone thinks they know Jack Masselin too.

Be charming. Be hilarious. Don't get too close to anyone. Yes, he's got swagger, but he's also mastered the art of fitting in. What no one knows is that Jack has a secret: he can't recognize faces. Even his own brothers are strangers to him. He's the guy who can re-engineer and rebuild anything, but he can't understand what's going on with the inner workings of his own brain. When Jack and Libby meet, they discover that the more time they spend together, the less alone they feel.



PE FOCUS

Mental Health Focus: Year 8 students practising their routine for our summer showcase!



#MoveMoreForMentalHealth