

December 2022

Cardinal Allen Catholic High School



Happy & Holy Christmas



from Cardinal Allen

Also in this edition:

Goodbye and Good Luck!

Well-Being Support:

Shine

Kindness UK

Anti-Bullying

Scholar's News

“Thank you, Goodbye and Good Luck”

This Christmas we say goodbye to our Curriculum Leader for Science, Mrs Rebecca Hoy. Rebecca joined Cardinal Allen as a teacher of Science in 2006 and during her time has been Lead Teacher for Science and Assistant Headteacher, I know that she will be missed by pupils and colleagues and we wish her all the very best in her new role at Garstang Academy.

Miss Laura Allen is also leaving us at Christmas for a new venture outside of teaching. Laura joined us as Curriculum Leader for History in 2020 and in a relatively short period of time established very good relationships with pupils and colleagues. We wish her well in her new career.

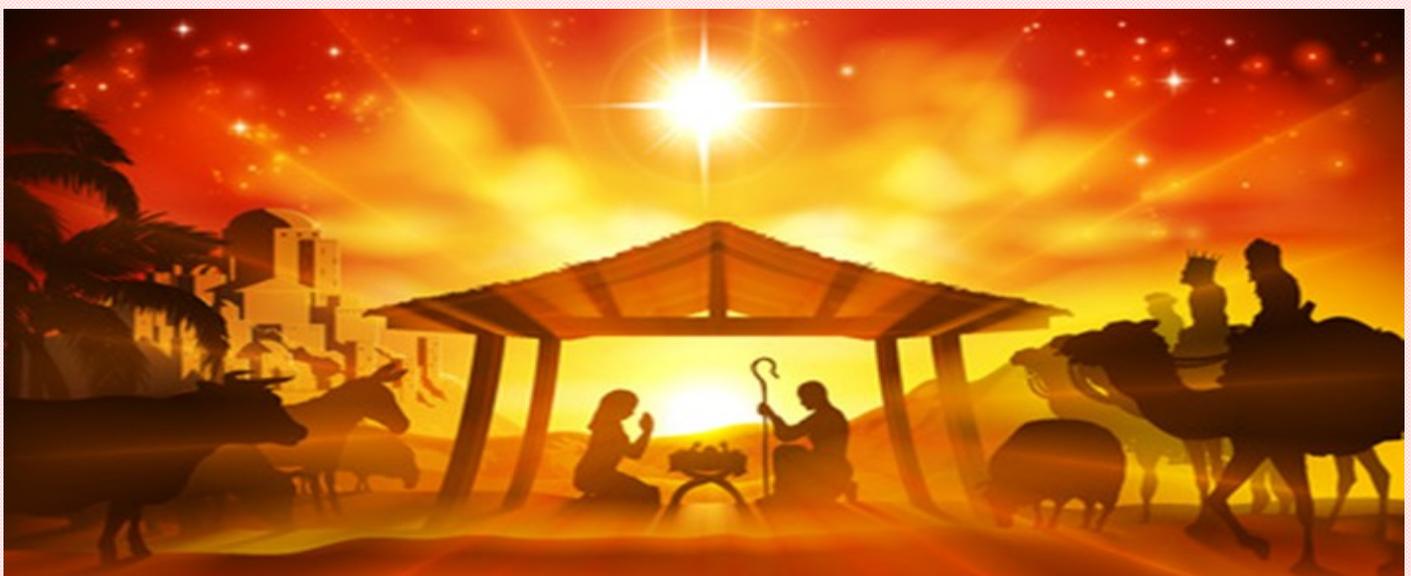
Finally, we wish Mr Tom Colgan all the very best as he moves to a position much closer to home. Tom, a former pupil, has done a great job in RE and we wish him and the family every success for the future.

Christmas Wishes

I would like to express my sincere thanks to all our pupils, their families, and the staff, for their support and encouragement this year.

The pupils have worked extremely hard both within and beyond the classroom and it continues to be a great joy to see them grow and develop into brilliant young adults—much of which is recorded on the following pages — so enjoy!

It just remains for me to wish you and your families a very Happy and Holy Christmas and all God’s blessings for what we hope will be a great 2023. Mr Cafferkey



MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

LANGUAGES CELEBRATION EVENT

On Wednesday 9th November, a number of staff and students came together to celebrate the different languages spoken at school and within the local community. A good time was had by all and everyone came away knowing more than they did when they arrived. The different languages included: Cantonese, Arabic, Italian, BSL, Slovakian, Polish



VISIT FROM TWO PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLERS FROM FLEETWOOD TOWN FC

<https://www.fleetwoodtownfc.com/news/2022/november/community-carlos-and-toto-speak-foreign-language-at-a-school/>

<https://twitter.com/ftfc/>



MFL Trip to Lille 2022

From Thursday ,24th to Sunday ,27th November, 7 members of staff and 61 students from Cardinal Allen travelled within three different countries (the UK, France and Belgium!). Students had the opportunity to practice their French, eat French cuisine (including snails!), make their own Belgian chocolate, run around looking for tangerines and watch the Lion King! They also visited the market town of St. Omer and the Christmas markets in the bustling town of Lille. We look forward to running the same trip next



Fancy a trip to the theatre this winter?

Broaden your Horizons...



17 Dec – 14 Jan	A Christmas Carol Octagon Theatre, Bolton
10 Jan - 14 Jan	An Inspector Calls Lowry, Salford
18 Jan - 21 Jan	Noughts and Crosses Lowry, Salford
14 – 18 Mar	An Inspector Calls Liverpool Empire

Or enter a competition?

24 Feb	Tower Poetry Competition	This prestigious competition is on the theme 'The Planets' this year. First prize is £5000.
24 Mar	Portico Sadie Massey Awards	Creative writing (must be set in the North of England) and a book review competition.
30 April	Step into the NHS	Students are challenged to choose an NHS career that interests them. Once chosen, they research the career's key responsibilities, skills, experience and qualifications via a job description activity sheet. This learning is then used to create a fun and lively job advertisement to appeal to their peers. Students can enter individually or in teams of up to four.



Debate Club...

Where? Room 4

When? Every Wednesday from 2.50pm

Who? Everyone is welcome!

What pupils say... 'Debate club is great, you can meet people from other year groups, chat about interesting topics and we have loads of fun'.

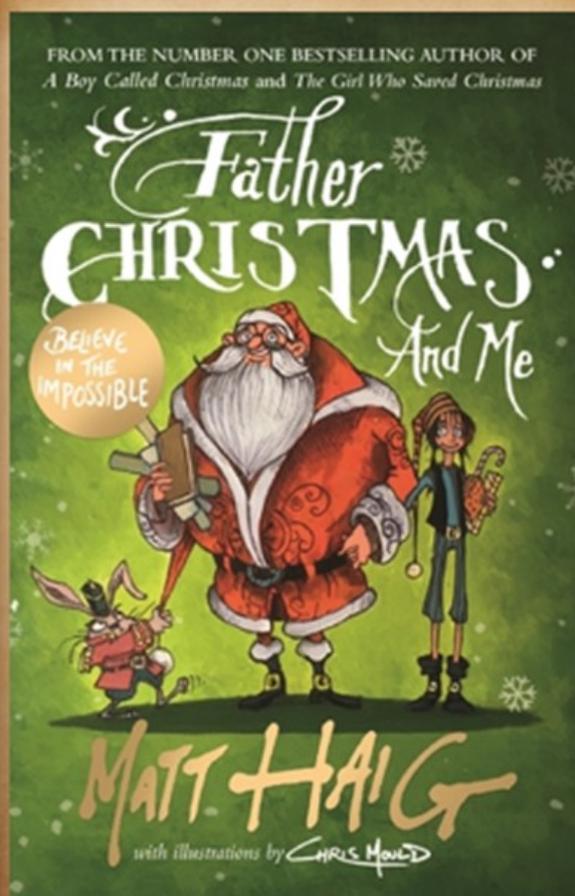
Building Vocabulary – 5 Top Tips

- 1. Develop a reading habit.** Vocabulary building is easiest when you encounter words in context. Seeing words appear in a novel or a newspaper article can be far more helpful than seeing them appear on vocabulary lists. Not only do you gain exposure to unfamiliar words; you also see how they're used.
- 2. Use dictionaries and thesauruses.** Online dictionaries and thesauruses are helpful resources if used properly. They can jog your memory about synonyms that would actually be better words in the context of what you're writing. A full dictionary definition can also educate you about antonyms, root words, and related words, which is another way to learn vocabulary.
- 3. Play word games.** Classic games like Scrabble and Boggle can function as a fun way to expand your English vocabulary. Crossword puzzles can as well. If you really want to be efficient, follow up rounds of these word games with a little note-taking. Keep a list of the different words you learned while playing the game, and then study that list from time to time.
- 4. Use flashcards.** A quick way to build a large vocabulary is to study a number of words via flashcards. In today's digital age, a wide array of smartphone apps make flashcards convenient and easy to organize. Aiming for one new word a day is reasonable. You can always go for more, but it may not be reasonable to assimilate dozens of English words every single day.
- 5. Subscribe to "word of the day" feeds.** Some web platforms will provide you with a word a day—either on a website, an app, or via email—to help you expand your vocabulary. You can add these words to running word lists.

It isn't always easy, growing up as a human in Elfhelm, even if your adoptive parents are the newly married Father Christmas and Mary Christmas.

For one thing, Elf School can be annoying when you have to sing Christmas songs everyday - even in July - and when you fail all your toy-making tests. Also it can get very, very cold.

But when the jealous Easter Bunny and his rabbit army launch an attack to stop Christmas, it's up to Amelia, her new family and the elves to keep Christmas alive. Before it's too late . . .



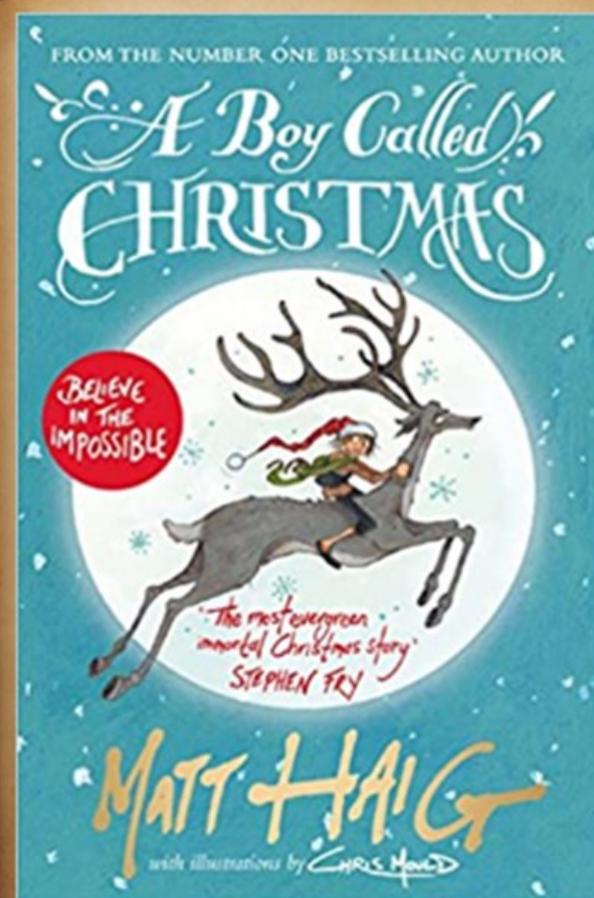
This is the true story of Father Christmas. It is a story that proves that nothing is impossible.

If you are one of those people who believe that some things are impossible, you should put this book down right away. It is most certainly not for you.

Because this book is FULL of impossible things.

Are you still reading? Good. Then let us begin . . .

A Boy Called Christmas is a tale of adventure, snow, kidnapping, elves, more snow, and an eleven-year-old boy called Nikolas, who isn't afraid to believe in magic.



Supporting Readers



Reading is the greatest indicator of future success in children. It is also incredibly enjoyable and beneficial to every aspect of their academic, emotional, and mental development. Everyone knows that reading is incredibly important! However, it can be hard to get children to read at home. Here are 6 steps to create a reading culture in your home.

RELATIONSHIPS



Reading is a great way to develop relationships. Make time to read together, discuss what you have read, and celebrate reading. Consider listening to audiobooks as a family, reading to a sibling, and promote the rich conversations you have about books. Enthusiasm for reading is vital: children who enjoy reading are statistically much stronger readers.

ROUTINES



Children now receive the majority of their reading from in game communications (video games), and social media messages. So, turn off the Wi-Fi and TV, and make time for reading. Remember, twenty minutes a night is all it takes to maximise academic progress. Set page or time targets to fit in with your home schedule.

RESPONSES



Book talk is an essential part of the reading process. Check in with your child about how their book is going and what is happening. Consider rewards for page progress and celebrate every book your child reads. "Tell me about..." "Are you enjoying..." and "Do you think that..." for example.

RESEARCH



Find the niche! Whatever it is your child enjoys, search for the book, series, or genre to keep them entertained. There IS a book out there for everyone! Look in local libraries, speak to their teachers or other parents, check bookstore websites, and create a buzz about reading with your child related to other topics they enjoy.

REFLECTIONS



Reading is a journey of discovery, which means children are constantly discovering things about what they enjoy and whether books are the right difficulty/interest level for them. Encourage your child to pursue what they enjoy! Work out what motivates your child to read and bottle that magic!

RESILIENCE



Finally, encourage resilience and consistency. If your child doesn't read one night, encourage them and support them to get back into the routine. In a world of distractions, reading can fall down the hierarchy! Encourage returning to an old favourite or begin a brand-new book - whatever it takes to get back on the reading journey.

WELL-BEING SUPPORT

SHINE

Our SHINE team, who work in our school to support parents and teachers with information, advice and guidance about how best to help children and young people who are experiencing new or emerging difficulties, delivered assemblies to all year groups. The assemblies talked about some of the difficulties young people are facing and how their service can support. The team also explained how to access this support via Form Tutors and the Pastoral Support Team.

The team also send into school App of the Month which is shared on posters around school and via ClassCharts. November saw the App 'Headspace' shared. This App focusses on using meditation to help with stress, focus and even sleeping better.

Please continue to look on ClassCharts for information shared regarding Mental Health support. Any concerns you have about your child, please speak to our Pastoral Support Team.

KINDNESS UK

Our work with the charity Kindness UK continues in school and we were delighted when they came into school to present our Kindness Champions with T-Shirts and badges to wear. They also sent motivational posters to display around school, encouraging us all to be Kind. Kindness Champions also wore an item of yellow on the 2nd November to mark Yellow Day, a day to promote the importance of being kind.



ANTI-BULLYING

Our Dian Award trained Anti-bullying Ambassadors in Year 10 continue to work on a weekly basis with all Year 7 forms, and have also been into local primary schools to promote their work, hoping for a smooth transition for the next new pupils to our school. Please contact your child's Form Tutor if you have any concerns regarding any issue they may be experiencing in school.

COMPUTING



UK BEBRAS COMPUTATIONAL CHALLENGE

The UK Bebras Computational Challenge is an online competition open to students in the UK and around the World. Back in November, 160 Year 8 students from Cardinal Allen took part in it.

The challenge tested student's logic and computational thinking skills through different types of fun and engaging problems. The aim of the challenge was to correctly solve as many problems as they could in 40 minutes.

All students enjoyed the challenge and we are delighted to say that all students who took part qualified to receive a certificate.

Kalvin Townsend came top of the school with 183 points.

Jack Anderton, Summer Holt and Logan Williams achieved a Gold Award certificate for being recognised as scoring amongst the top ten percent in the country.

CYBER GIRLS

First Event at Lancaster University

In September the Computer Science Department had the opportunity to take a group of 9 Year 9 girls (Phoebe Smith, Olivia Hopwood, Blossom Martinez, Natalie Roberts, Alexia Eacott, Katy Rogers, Ava Jones, Georgia Barlow and Gabriella Dominguez-Lee) to take part in the 'Cyber Girls First' event that took place at Lancaster University.

The day involved a tour of the campus and gave the students a taste of University life. They took part in various workshops throughout the day that included robotics building and a cyber-security simulation where our team of girls achieved a very respectable second place out of the 6 schools that attended.

The girls were perfect ambassadors for the school and we were very proud of their conduct and achievement on the day.



ART

We have been very busy in the Art Department this term! Thank you to all those who attended the Halloween Art Club and the Christmas Art Club! Your creations were fantastic!

YEAR 11 ART & PHOTOGRAPHY REMINDERS

Your exam papers—Component 2— will be issued on 10th January 2023 (this is your actual exam and not a mock!)

Your Portfolio—Component 1—is due in after Christmas.

The exam prep period will begin in January, leading to your 10 hour exam near Easter time.

You will be provided with full details of what this will entail on your return in January. You cannot prepare in advance for this, so please use any spare time over Christmas to complete

Have a lovely Christmas!

Mrs Glaister



SCHOLARS' NEWS

The Scholars have been very busy this term:

- ◆ We have had two visits from Andy Griffith.
- ◆ The new Year 8 Scholars have bonded during team building exercises in Beacon Fell.
- ◆ The Year 8 and 9's participated in a STEM event learning about the engineering of building aircraft (with some success and some crash landings!).
- ◆ The Year 10's visited the cinema to watch a live performance of Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*.
- ◆ All of the scholars have learnt about the different career choices in the banking industry from Gail Barrie who works at NATWEST bank.



DRAMA

BLOOD BROTHERS TRIP

Drama and English took pupils to see Blood Brothers at Blackpool Winter Gardens. Pupils behaved impeccably and it was a fantastic show.

Thank you to Mrs Ronson,
Miss Marsden, Mr Johnson and
Miss McCormick for supporting
this visit too.

Miss Roberts & Mrs Swift

A McCORMICK MATILDA THEMED DISCO!

On behalf of everyone at BRAVO!,
a massive THANK YOU to Miss
McCormick for all of your help this
term. You've been incredible!
Good luck in your future ventures.
We've saved you a seat front row
centre for the show in July.

Miss Roberts & Everyone at
BRAVO!



GEOGRAPHY

SECONDARY GEOGRAPHY QUALITY MARK

The Geography Department have, once again, been awarded the Secondary Geography Quality Mark with Centre of Excellence by the Geographical Association.

In November, MP Cat Smith, tabled an Early Day Motion to mark the achievement and visited school to meet with students and members of the department. The students enjoyed the opportunity to spend some time asking questions to CAT, and talking about their Geography lessons and career aspirations.



SPORT

FREDDIE CHEETHAM

Freddie Cheetham in Year 10 recently made his English Amateur Boxing debut. He stopped his opponent in the third round and is already training hard for his next bout. Well done, Freddie! You are a fantastic sporting role model for our students.



BADMINTON

The numbers attending our Badminton sessions have been incredible. As a result of this, our Badminton teams have had a great half term. Teams from Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 have played and won most of their fixtures against Fleetwood High School, Millfield, Baines and Carr Hill. Well done to our Badminton players. The future of Badminton at Cardinal Allen Catholic High School is very bright.

FOOTBALL

Our Year 7 and Year 8 Footballers had the opportunity to take part in the EFL Girls Cup at Poolfoot Farm. The team were amazing and made it all the way to the semi-finals. They were a credit to the school, well done. Shout out to Poppy English for coaching one of the teams.



FITNESS

Our students have been putting our state-of-the-art gym facilities to effective use this half term. Lots of students have enjoyed being active and learning about several types of training. It is crucial our students understand the importance of exercise as part of a healthy lifestyle.



DANCE FESTIVAL

Our Dancers absolutely smashed their performance at the Wyre and Fylde Sports Partnership Dance Festival held at the Winter Gardens this half term. They worked so hard over many weeks to perfect their performance. We were all incredibly proud of your achievements. Well done.



WHAT'S NEXT?

TRAMPOLINING
DANCE COMPETITION
INTERFORM COMPETITIONS
FITNESS CLUB
MULTI SPORTS v FLEETWOOD HIGH
LANCASHIRE CROSS COUNTRY

CHAPLAINCY NEWS



It was a joy to witness several of our Year 8 and Year 9 pupils receive the Sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop Paul at St. Teresa's! Well done to these pupils, who as part of their preparation also undertook some community work in Blackpool.

The first Blackpool & North Fylde Deanery Youth Mass was a great success! It took place at English Martyrs in Poulton on the Feast of Christ the King in November. Our pupils represented Cardinal Allen beautifully, through serving at Mass and preparing and singing a piece of music during Holy Communion. It was great to join pupils from St. Mary's in Blackpool for this event.



Many thanks to Mrs Hilton and pupils from Year 8 for leading the Christingle Reflections during the First Week of Advent in our School Chapel. This is such a lovely way to start this season and get us thinking about the true meaning of Christmas.



Our whole school Advent Fundraiser; “Mary’s Baby Shower” was a huge success. We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our school community and are so grateful for every single donated item that will be distributed to mums, babies and families in Fleetwood this winter.

Well done to the GCSE Child Development and Food Classes, who put a huge amount of effort into the event. It was wonderful to see so many of our pupils enjoying themselves over the three lunches!



Mass is celebrated in the Chapel every Friday morning at 8.15am. We are looking forward to celebrating Mass as a whole school on the last day of term!