



Happy New Year! It's a great pleasure to have the opportunity to introduce the new Performing Arts newsletter. Last term was extremely busy for the whole of the department. It was completely jam-packed with activities, performing and a lot of rehearsals! Before I get into the amazing things we have planned for the coming term, allow me to introduce myself. My name is Gemma Barton and I am a Performing Arts Ambassador in year 10. Part of the ambassador's role is to represent Performing Arts and encourage students across the school to develop and nurture their talent and creativity, and we've definitely seen a lot of that this term. It has been lovely to see our younger years, specifically years 7s, enjoying their first school production. 'Our School Nativity' was a huge success and the amount of students involved was completely overwhelming! This term it has been incredibly rewarding to be involved in some St. Julie's firsts. The first ever 'ArtSchool' performing arts festival, which couldn't have gone better! We came away with many trophies for dance, drama and music, even getting perfect marks! We hosted a primary school showcase where we saw renditions of Annie and School of Rock, just to name a few. Being part of these events have not only developed our talents but helped us to develop transferable and lifelong skills. I speak on behalf of all the Performing Arts Ambassadors when I say we're lucky to get such incredible opportunities to partake in.

So, what's next? This term will be very busy with exam performances, competitions, workshops and auditions and we'd love you share in our journey. You can keep update with what's happening in Performing Arts via the school website. There's never a dull day with Team PA.

Gemma Barton



# Art's Cool at ArtSchool!

To celebrate the arts and talent of our young people, this year St Julie's Catholic High School launched 'ArtSchool', a performing arts festival taking place over two days with categories in dance, drama and music. Audiences at the festival had an incredible weekend's entertainment as 89 acts from 13 participating schools gathered to share their talents.

The schools who performed at the festival were:

- St Julie's Catholic High School
- Archbishop Blanch School
- St John Bosco Arts College
- Archbishop Beck High School
- Fazakerley High School
- Broughton Hall High School
- Belvedere Academy
- St Hilda's CE High School
- St Francis Xavier College
- St Peter and Paul Catholic High School
- Maghull High School
- Alsop High School
- The Academy of St Nicolas

The students competed for prizes in a broad range of categories, each judged by a prestigious panel, that included

**Drama Judges:**

Allan Williams - Learning Manager at the Liverpool

Everyman and Playhouse Theatre.

Catherine Devine - Professional artist working in theatres across the country.

**Music Judges:**

Stephen Mannings - Director of Choral Outreach at Liverpool Cathedral.

Carrie Birmingham - Director and Advance Vocal Teacher of Pro Vox Professional Vocal Academy.

**Dance Judges:**

Paul Doyle - Community dance artist at MDI, Liverpool and director and choreographer of Merseyside Youth Dance Company.

Nicky Berry – Professional artist working internationally in tours, hotels and on cruise ships.

The weekend was a real celebration of the arts and an excellent opportunity for young people to meet and share their talent and passion for the arts. We would like to thank all of the participating schools for sharing their student's work and all of the students involved for showing us their outstanding talent and entertaining us all weekend! We'd further like to thank the Judges for their valued time and sharing their expertise and finally, our audience, for their enthusiastic support for the acts.

We're already looking forward to ArtSchool 2019!

## Our School Nativity



In a change from previous years, our traditional whole school production gave way to a Christmas Extravaganza led by our youngest performers, with a hilarious original script full of local humour and references.

The principal cast delivered polished performances that left many of the audience astonished at the talents of students so young, and the carefully choreographed dance sequences were delivered flawlessly.

The performance culminated in rapturous applause from the packed audience, and their positive feedback will be part of the evidence that we will take forward as the school aims for the coveted top level 'Platinum' ArtsMark award.

Thank you to our generous audience for supporting the performance so warmly, and to our brilliantly talented performers for sharing their skills!





## Primary Pupils Wow With Their Talents!

To celebrate the arts and talent of some of Liverpool's younger students, this year, St Julie's Catholic High School launched 'A Primary Celebration of the Arts'.

We have been working in partnership with local primary schools to develop their arts provision and allow students the opportunity to showcase their work in a grand performance.

On Tuesday 4th December, 215 pupils from participating primary schools joined together at St Julie's for the day to rehearse and participate in activities led by our performing arts ambassadors.

Their day reached a glorious climax with a performance extravaganza before a packed audience of parents, teachers, relatives and friends.

And what a show it was - the performers cast aside any backstage nerves to perform proudly, confidently

and with gusto! With 215 students all taking a bow before a capacity audience, we may even have broken a record for our new theatre!

We would like to say a huge thank you to our participating schools:

- St Ambrose Catholic Primary School Choir
- Much Woolton Catholic Primary School Dance Troupe
- St Paschal Baylon Catholic Primary School Choir
- St Sebastian's Catholic Primary School Drama Club
- St Mark's Catholic Primary School Choir
- Phoenix Primary School Drama Club
- Christ the King Catholic School Choir

Most of all we'd like to say thank you to all of the performers who were a genuine pleasure to work with. We hope they enjoyed the day as much as we did and we're looking forward to next year!

## Swimming For Britain!



This term the talented Emily Pyper has been representing Great Britain in the Water Polo Under 19 European Championships alongside representing the City of Liverpool in the EU Nations Club Championships. It's been a busy time for Emily and we are incredibly proud of her sporting achievements.

## Hitting the Capital!

70 students from Years 9, 10, 11 and 12 visited London as part of their Dance courses. The students took a contemporary class at the world famous Pineapple Dance Studios.

This was followed by a trip to the magical Winter Wonderland where the students went on rides, tasted the delicious food on offer and got into the Christmas spirit. Later on in the evening the group attended a performance of 'Infra' at The Royal Opera House. This was an amazing opportunity to see a professional ballet in one of the countries most prestigious performance venues.

The students watched 'Infra' as part of their course. This was an unique opportunity to see the work performed live! Well done to all that attended - we are looking forward to the next trip to our country's Capital.



## On The Shoulders of Giants

Taking inspiration from the themes of the Royal De Luxe 'Giants' performance, students have devised a performance based on their own ambitions which they performed as part of Liverpool's city cultural event.

## Bouquet of Black Eyes

For World Mental Health day, Year 10 delivered a powerful performance based on relationships. They performed their inspirational message to all year groups in assemblies.

## Harmonising at Catholic Choir Competition

Catholic High Schools joined together at Cardinal Heenan for the annual Catholic Choir competition. St Julie's were commended for their beautiful harmonies and expression. Well done to all involved.

## St. Julie's Hosts LSSP Dance Festival

St Julie's have been proud to host the Liverpool School Sports Partnership's Christmas Dance Festival where 19 schools showcased their talents.

## Striking It Rich!

Year 8 students moved to a new beat last term as they enjoyed a drum workshop with Jeff Rich, former drummer of Status Quo. The 100 minute workshop explored some of the history of percussion and instruments from around the world, before a demonstration of some drum rudiments and a tour of the extended rock kit.



## Hold the Phone!

Year 7 students have been busy learning about the properties of materials and in particular acrylic as they designed and manufactured their own laser-cut phone holders. Pupils also used CAD software to support the design process and learnt about the harmful effects of over using plastics as they considered how to Reduce/Re-Use/Recycle plastic products in their own environment.



## ArtsMark Challenge

174 students rose to the challenge of Arts Award in St Julie's journey to Arts Mark.

Arts Award is a unique qualification that challenges young people to grow and develop as artists, leaders and inspire others with their work. With just a little direction and support, that's exactly what they did!

The students designed and delivered lessons, directed, choreographed and

performed in their own mini musical, Legally Blonde.

Last term our Arts Award moderator commended the students for their exceptional work and complimented how articulate and passionate the students were when describing Arts Award.

Well done to all 174 students who passed and are the first St Julie's students to achieve Arts Award Bronze.