



More News



March 2015

Holocaust Survivor Evening



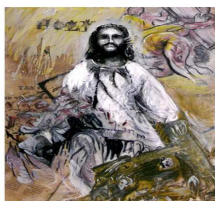
On Tuesday 24th March, students, parents, and members of the local community heard testimony from Holocaust survivor, Eva Clarke, as part of a visit organised by the Holocaust Educational Trust (HET). Eva was born in the Mauthausen concentration camp in Austria, on 29th April 1945. Her mother had previously been in Auschwitz-Birkenau. The American army liberated the Mauthausen camp three days after Eva's birth.

Students in Year 9 had previously spent a day in school learning about the Holocaust and participating in a wide range of other activities including the production of art work and music in response to what they had heard. Mr. Watson, Deputy Head said: "It is a privilege for us to welcome Eva Clarke to our school and her testimony will remain a powerful reminder of the horrors so many experienced. We are grateful to the Holocaust Educational Trust for co-ordinating the visit and we hope that by hearing Eva's testimony, it will encourage our students to learn from the lessons of the Holocaust and make a positive difference in their own lives."

The Diocesan Flame Train



20 students from St Thomas More travelled down to Wembley on the Flame Train. There were 600 students representing the different Catholic schools in the North East for the conference that took place at Wembley Arena with a number of guest speakers including Cardinal Vincent Nichols and Cardinal Tagle from the Philippines.



Message from the Head

Easter stands for new life and joy. May you make a happy and fresh start this holy season. God bless you all. Our Year 12 student Mariya Sheikh designed the Easter card for the Catholic Partnership.



St Thomas More student becomes North Tyneside's next Young Mayor.

St Thomas More student Abbie Armstrong recently topped the polls in the election for North Tyneside's Young Mayor, securing 3,194 votes. A total of 8,012 votes were cast during the three-day ballot, representing a 63 per cent turnout.

Abbie, who is in Year 7, will begin her duties later this month. Her role will be to represent young people in the borough for a year, and she will work with North Tyneside's Young Cabinet and Youth Council to influence decisions made by the council's Elected Mayor, Cabinet and Council.

Abbie's manifesto includes looking at ways to prevent bullying in schools, providing young people with better and improved sports equipment and creating a programme to support children who are going through hard times at home. She will also be able to influence initiatives that will benefit young people in North Tyneside, and ensure that young people are consulted on decisions that affect them.



Speaking after being announced as the new Young Mayor, Abbie said: "I am so surprised, I didn't even think I'd make it to the top four! Thank you to everyone who voted for me and to my friends, family and school for all the support - it really means so much."

After presenting Abbie with her badge of office, North Tyneside Elected Mayor, Norma Redfearn said: "Congratulations to all the candidates who stood in this year's election - they were all very worthy winners. I look forward to working with Abbie and hearing more about all her plans".

Wonderful World Book Day



On the 7th March this year Literature came alive as World Book Day was celebrated in style in the English Department! Miss Havisham rubbed shoulders with homeless Link from 'Stone Cold', The Woman in Black was seen wandering the corridors and a Narnian Snow Queen took tea in the office...served up by Edna from 'An Inspector Calls'. Despite some trauma over Miss Harlands 'new' haircut, students also embraced what became World Book Week; years 7 to 9 spent their lessons that week thinking about the beauty of books and what reading has meant to them – producing some brilliant display work in the process and inspiring each other with other cracking reads!

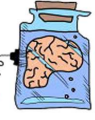
A-Level trip to Edinburgh Zoo

43 A-level biologists recently spent a day at Edinburgh Zoo with Mrs Woodman, Mr Hitchcock and Mr Ballard. As part of their AS coursework they have to find out about the conservation of endangered species.





Psychology Trip to Vienna



At the beginning of February a group of Year 13 Psychology students spent 4 days in Vienna. Sigmund Freud lived here for most of his life and the students were able to see his apartment where he worked. The group also visited Mauthausen concentration camp which is where Eva Clarke, our Holocaust survivor, was born. As well as this the students went skating on Europe's biggest outdoor ice rink and spent an afternoon in the zoo.



Oh We Do Like To Be Beside The Seaside



Every year in Geography students from Year 12 visit the coast at Druridge Bay. This is in preparation for their skills exam in the Summer and provides them with the opportunity to put into practice the theory they have learnt in lessons. Students used a wide range of Geographical techniques in order to complete a sand dune survey. And after a hard day working in the field of course the day ended with a spot of fish and chips for lunch!



Lord Glenamara Memorial Prize

Nicky Morgan presented Declan Pang with the Lord Glenamara Memorial Prize at a ceremony at University College London in February and congratulated him on his "selfless contribution" to his school and local community." The Education Secretary has invited him to visit London to experience working in the Department for Education to give him an insight into working in public life.



The Tenner Challenge

Some of our Year 9 ICT students have been involved in a Young Enterprise Initiative called the Tenner Challenge. This has involved them forming teams and planning how they will make a profit from £10 into profit. Activities organised have included car and minibus washes, cake sales, and selling waffles and smoothies. Any profits that the students make will be donated to the Tiny Lives Charity.



STM's Got Talent



Our talented youngsters from the Dance and Performing Arts courses in Years 10, 11, 12 and 13 put on a fabulous Spring Showcase event last week. The audience were treated to singing, dancing and magic tricks as students demonstrated their skills both on stage and behind the scenes.

Sporting Success

The Newcastle United Foundation, through the PL4S project, pays for a table tennis coach to come into St Thomas More twice a week, and at a recent event a team of 9 boys travelled to Sheffield Wednesday FC to compete in a PL4S regional competition. They were competing against Leeds United, Middlesbrough and Sheffield Wednesday. STM were triumphant and returned home with a trophy which Mr Young now has. As well as the trophy, 30 new bats and 300 ping pong balls will be arriving in school for the students to use.



In rugby our Year 9 team have played in three tournaments and still haven't lost a game, whilst our Year 8 team were County Cup semi finalists.

The Year 7 boys' badminton team played in their first regional tournament last week and came first. The Year 10 boys' football team are having a very successful season playing in the final of the County Cup, the semi final of the League Cup, and being one game away from winning the league.

Not to be outdone, the Year 8 girls' football team is second in the league and representing North Tyneside. Very well done to them all!