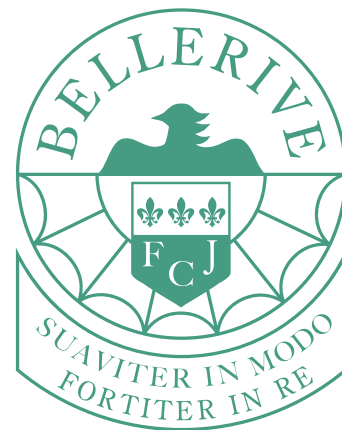


# Bellerive News

*For Parents, Carers, Parishes and Community*



*March 2022*

Welcome to our newsletter

## Celebrating the gifts Bellerive students bring to our community

This academic year, we are emerging from the many necessary restrictions and there is a sense of returning to a familiar pace in school.

Throughout the pandemic, the work of chaplaincy has continued with chapel groups continuing on Teams and support offered by email and phone. Each day staff and pupils were able to access prayers to pray alone or together in forms and the chapel has remained a welcoming, open space in school available to all.

In September it was a joy to return to the chapel and I have been encouraged by the many pupils who have walked through the door offering their gifts and talents to continue the work of chaplaincy in our FCJ School.

I have noticed that students share a thirst to reach out and help others. Our foundress, Marie Madeleine felt this thirst herself profoundly in 1816 when praying before a crucifix; she heard the words 'I thirst', and from this moment she responded to this call from God to respond to the needs of the world.

Over 200 years later our students continue to embody the energy of Marie Madeleine and are

shining examples of our values of companionship, dignity, excellence, justice, hope and gentleness.

I am pleased to introduce our two new year 7 chapel assistants; Neve and Evie who are setting an excellent example as young FCJ leaders, their enthusiasm has helped to renew and invigorate chaplaincy this year. They are currently working on a project to raise money for the Owen McVeigh Foundation, a cause close to Evie's heart.



Our Year 7's have continued the tradition of joining FCJ Group and we have a wonderful group of young people enjoying the sessions that are offered at lunchtime. They particularly enjoy craft with Miss McCarthy and have made Advent lanterns, poppies for Remembrance Day and prayer boxes. Prayer sessions with Sr MaryAnne and Mrs Henry give



us all an opportunity to pray for the needs of our world and Miss Rowlands has led us in responding to current issues such as the Church Synod and Environmental Justice.

Finally, it is exciting that the chaplaincy has been able to support a number of new initiatives in the life of the school, that respond to the dignity of our young people and allow our young people to work for justice.

The LGBTQ+ group provides a safe inclusive space for our young people. Also, we have started a Live Simply Group so that we can continue to find new ways to care for the environment in school and promote sustainability.

We are excited about our new developments in chaplaincy and I look forward to bringing more news in future from our groups.

Please follow us on Twitter for the latest news: @BelleriveFCJ

[www.bellerivefcj.org](http://www.bellerivefcj.org)

# Health and Well-being day for Year 11

Year 11 participated in their Health and Well-being day on 1st February.

They had workshops relating to Digital Health and Well-being, activities for a Healthy Mind and Body, Yoga, FCJ reflection and guests from the Anthony Walker Foundation. The girls found the experience very rewarding and really enjoyed their day.



## Legal eagles star in the 'Law Factor'

A group of Year 10 students secured a place on the prestigious 'Law Factor' programme this term.

The programme, run with support from Liverpool John Moores and leading legal firm DWF, encourages students to think about a career in law and gives the participants valuable experience and links with



key aspects of the legal profession. Catherine Shilitoe from LJMU was very impressed with our students and said 'Bellerive's students were the stars of the programme'.

Well done to Frieda, Estelle-rose, Gamila, Grace, Manolya Thana, Summer, Aaliyah and all involved.

## Erasmus visits continue after a two-year hiatus

Several Bellerive staff members are going or have been to France, Spain and Italy this academic year. They will spend one week in the school holidays working on language skills and experiencing the culture of the country. During last October half term, Mr McBurney attended a French language school in the beautiful medieval city of Rouen, France, and learnt about the different laws of French language as well as polishing up his language skills.

"Attending school again was a refreshing and very rewarding experience. I did group work and then one to one conversational French too. I felt I made a lot of progress in a short space of time, so it was a very positive cultural opportunity."



Our Knitting Club continues to be an inspiration. The picture shows the fruits of their efforts and the hats were presented to our friends at the Liverpool Women's Hospital for use with their premature babies. Well done all!

Please follow us on Twitter for the latest news: @BelleriveFCJ



# Suspicious scenes in the Sixth...

Our Year 11 enjoyed their *arresting* Sixth Form taster day recently. They investigated and worked together to solve a *crime*.

We know that they enjoyed trying out our amazing Sixth Form only facilities. If you want to join our Sixth Form in September 2022 make your application now!



# Checkmate!

Mr McBurney has been running a lunch time chess club with Year 10 and it has proved a big success.

Our students have enjoyed learning the rules and made lots of progress over the last few sessions.

I wonder if we have any budding chess masters waiting in the wings?!



# Shocking baking!

Some Year 9 physicists spent the weekend baking some 'conductive dough' to use in their Physics lesson today. They were investigating how the length of the dough affects its resistance and are looking forward to writing up their findings.

## RE Department welcomes Islamic speaker

During last autumn term, the RE Department welcomed Hinnah Heydari from the Liverpool Community Spirit who came to speak with Year 9 students as part of their studies of Islam.

She spoke on a variety of subjects, including rules around clothing and modesty for women and the Muslims celebration of Eid.

Isabelle Hodgson (9A) said 'I think this talk has really improved my knowledge on Islam. I really enjoyed the talk' while Gabriella Kattou said 'It was very interesting and informative, I didn't know that in Islam, Muslims won't draw God!'



Huge congratulations to Millie who has reached the School Girls National cup final for the under 12s.

The final will be hosted at either the Wolverhampton or Aston Villa ground in the near future. Millie says she has been playing football for as long as she can remember, she plays for two teams, The Liverpool Schoolgirls U12 team and she also the captains the Liverpool girls team. She is proud that both teams are the top of their league. Millie says she trains for about 5 hours a week. Well done to Millie and we wish her and her team every success for the final.

Please follow us on Twitter for the latest news: @BelleriveFCJ



# Year 9 art stars in Queen's Platinum Jubilee pageant

Well done to Year 9 pupils who worked with an artist in residence Hector Dyer on the project River of Hope. They worked on three beautiful fabric banners illustrating their hopes for sustainability and growth.

The work will be photographed, digitally manipulated, and will be printed on a flag that will be used in the procession for the Queens Platinum pageant in the summer. A big thanks to Miss Rider and Miss Moore for assisting the girls.



## Debate Mate success



## Bonjour...

Our French Department welcomed two former students back to talk to Year 9 and Year 11 about taking French as an option for GCSE and A-level.

Ellen is currently in 2nd year at University of Liverpool completing a French and History Degree. Olivia is coming to the end of her first year Masters course in Translating and Interpreting at the Université de Lille. Thanks Ellen and Olivia. Everyone loved having you in the Department!



Bellerive's Debate Mate Club are celebrating after winning 3 out of 4 of their debates in their first debating competition. The Urban Debate League competition, which took place online on 1st February, involved two teams of girls from Years 7-10 debating with other schools.

Students debated two motions: the first motion was that politicians' private lives should be kept private; the second was whether to ban disciplinary measures in Britain's schools.

Overall, Bellerive's two teams competed in 4 debates (2 debates

each) and won 3 of them. Ms Whitehead, who oversaw one of the debates, was full of praise for all the teams. She said that judges described the debate that the girls lost as 'one of the best debates we have ever seen.'

The next round of the UDL takes place during the week commencing 7th of March and we have high hopes for our fabulous team of debaters.

The Debate Mate Club is for years 7-10 and meets after school on a Tuesday. If you are interested in joining, please get in touch with Mrs Walker.

Please follow us on Twitter for the latest news: @BelleriveFCJ