



LENTEN SNOW

A 'smattering' is the idiosyncratic parlance of the Met office. A smattering of sharp, cold, ice white flakes dancing in the easterly wind; a dusting of sparkingly bright crystals fallen from a heavy pink clouded sky outlining the angles and convolutions of the landscape; catching the eye again – 'Look, look'. This smattering has had a dramatic effect. The radio warns of hazardous driving conditions and recommends only necessary journeys; sports events are cancelled; St Nicholas' stalwart site staff clear the car park and the students arrive frosted but unbowed. Driving along tree-lined roads, the suffering of the natural world is apparent; bark turned ashen grey, evergreen leaves tinged with red and brown - signs that the heartwood is clawing the last of the summer down into itself, the life force knowing to curl in on itself and wait.

Under the hedgerows - movement – flashing, too rapid to pin down, to register on the eye; then, the sharp, high pitched 'chack' of a blackbird. Still, moving, darting; sharp eyes seeing details, sharp beak picking at twigs and leaves. But it is enough; a spell is broken - the monochrome reveals itself as a backdrop to the pioneer accents of spring. Golden catkins have quietly unfurled themselves and adorn the hazel and willow, soft as rabbit fur. The pearly gleam of the first snowdrops nestle in the bulwark roots of a sycamore; tissue paper flowers of cherry and blackthorn, impossibly fragile yet, knowing the time has come, have come. Acid green shoots of spring flowers lie close to the ground in our prayer garden, like the helmets of soldiers waiting to go 'over the top'.



**This is the season for Lent. Lent knows about waiting.
No need to hurry; there is a lesson to be learnt;
there is a time to every season.**

COMMUNITY MASS - SUNDAY 4TH MARCH

WE will celebrate our second COMMUNITY MASS at St Mary's RC Church in Middlewich. This is an excellent opportunity to share the Lenten journey between the parishes and school community. Also, one of the Shrewsbury Youth Mission Team will also be joining us to share our celebration. We invite our students to come and join in the preparation from 3.00pm and family and friends to join us for the parish Mass at 5.00pm with refreshments later. More details have been sent via ParentPay and the parish newsletters. Permission forms can be brought on the day.

PLEASE DO JOIN US!

Mairie Gelling, School Chaplain



SPORTS

CONGRATULATIONS ...

Last weekend in Sheffield, **GABRIEL MIKOLEIZIK** of 8 Kolbe became the 4th fastest in the country at 60 metres indoor sprinting. He is also ranked 8th at the 200 metres competition at Sports City Manchester.



Monday 5th March

GIRLS U13 MID CHESHIRE CHAMPIONS INDOOR CRICKET

They will go on to represent the area at Bridgewater High School at the regional championships

Tuesday 6th March

GIRLS U13 HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

Away at The Grange

BOYS U15 FOOTBALL CHESHIRE CUP QUARTER CUP FINALS

Away at Mosslands School, Wallasey

Thursday 8th March

GIRLS U13 FOOTBALL CHESHIRE CUP

Away at Bishop Heber High School

GOOD LUCK TO ALL!

FIXTURES

ST NICHOLAS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC FESTIVAL

with performances from our partner primary schools



7th March
St Joseph's
St Wilfrid's

8th March
St Bede's
St Luke's
St Vincent's



**** Starts 6.30pm in the School Hall ****
and should finish approximately 8.00pm

TICKETS are available at the primary schools, ParentPay and also on the door each night - £3 each.

Period: 12.02.2018 - 16.02.2018

Weekly attendance update

	Bernadette	Camara	John-Paul	Kolbe	Romero	Teresa	Vincent DePaul	Ward	Year Total
Year 7	96.67%	98.21%	94.48%	95.71%	96.43%	94.64%	96.79%	50.00%	90.37%
Year 8	94.84%	94.33%	98.00%	91.03%	95.67%	97.24%	95.17%	NA	95.18%
Year 9	92.14%	94.44%	91.48%	94.67%	90.00%	94.14%	90.69%	93.45%	92.63%
Year 10	94.64%	96.79%	92.69%	94.83%	95.52%	97.00%	96.21%	91.60%	94.91%
Year 11	94.23%	96.92%	95.00%	92.17%	93.08%	96.54%	92.31%	96.92%	94.65%
Whole School	94.50%	96.14%	94.33%	93.68%	94.14%	95.91%	94.23%	82.99%	93.24%

"EVERYONE MATTERS, SO ATTENDANCE MATTERS."

REPORTING BACK FROM

ANDORRA



FORTY-THREE STUDENTS and six staff ranging from Years 8 to 13 spent a superb week in snowy Andorra during the half term break. We had two beginner snowboarding groups and three skiing groups, all of whom made significant progress. The après-ski activities consisted of mass, bowling, a spa trip, shopping and a pizza evening. Everywhere St Nicholas' students went, people commented on their conduct and attitude. They were a pleasure to be with and were fabulous ambassadors for the school.





WINE TASTING EVENING
FRIDAY 2ND MARCH 7.00 – 11.00 PM

TICKETS SOLD OUT!

Thank you for your support,
we look forward to seeing you this evening.
PLEASE NOTE START TIME IS 7.30PM

CANCELLED

Due to unforeseen circumstances we have had to **CANCEL** the
First Aid Course scheduled for Saturday 17th March.
We are looking at an alternative date and will keep you updated.
Anyone who has already paid will be refunded.



Big Heart Ball



Venue: The stunning Vale Royal Abbey and grounds
Fabulous three course meal, coffee and chocolates
Raffle, Auction, Dancing, fun and friendship!

Date: Friday 15th June 2018, 7.00pm until 1.00am

JUST OVER 40 TICKETS REMAINING!

**We can accommodate small groups, couples and singles.
Come along and join us for this fantastic bi-annual event.**

Further information is available on the PTFA section of the website.

DOES YOUR EMPLOYER RUN A MATCH/MATCHED FUNDING SCHEME?

Matched Funding can make a huge difference to the amount we raise at any event. The level of your involvement is up to you - we have lots of areas where you could help, especially with our up-coming Ball. Every additional pound raised has the potential to improve our children's day-to-day learning and social experience at St Nicholas'. If you feel able to help in any way, big or small, please email: kim@copley.co.uk



Our next

PTFA MEETING

takes place in school
on Monday 5th March 6 - 7pm

WELCOME