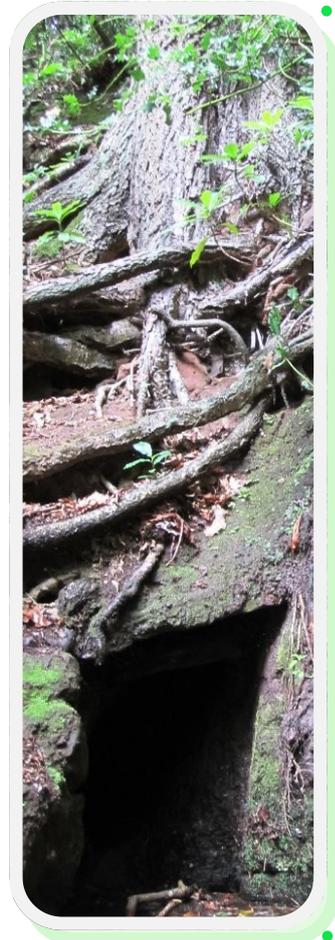




CELEBRATING ST PATRICK - 17TH MARCH

ON one of the woodland walks near where I live there is a sign and a small detour over a wooden bridge to a spot marked 'St Patrick's Well'. St Patrick is reputed to have blessed this well, a scarce source of fresh water at the time before his mission to Ireland in 432. Tradition or otherwise - this little corner has kept the title ever since. When I first saw the sign I was a little hesitant to go further; what if it was neglected or vandalised? What if it wasn't even there? But it was; the walk lead downhill below the surface of the modern road - beside the path the runoff from the rain mingled with the cascades of a brook that widened into a river. A hand drawn, arrowed sign seemed to lead nowhere and then there it was - in the grip of the deep roots of a beech tree. The water clear and bright above the debris of nature's leavings - twigs, leaves and crab apples. As dog walkers and bikers passed by there was a sense of timelines crossing; boundaries being pulled down. Sixteen hundred years of people coming to the Well; a place of life, of faith, of hope. So here I am today seeking the same refreshment of life. Even if Patrick hadn't been here, there was a simplicity and a practicality that would have certainly suited his spirituality. Somewhat returned to Creation; but why not? Why not?



GOD IN THE EVERYDAY; THE EVERYWHERE - in a walk through woodland; across tidal sands or sitting in an ancient church. Holy men and women have come before us whether or not we know their names - we are all part of a greater realm - we just have to take the time to step out of the normal way of things now and again.

SHREWSBURY YOUTH MISSION TEAM

SUNDAY 6TH MAY 10.00AM

St Luke's Parish is looking forward to meeting Dave Burke from the Youth Team who is going to Mass at St Luke's Church on Sunday 6th May, 10am. He will be talking about their work and how the Church can set up a Youth Team. Please come along and bring all the young people in your family as this is a great opportunity for them.

* Refreshments to follow in the Parish Centre *



Mairie Gelling, School Chaplain

THE ECONOMICS OF THE HOUSING MARKET

Robert Reed of Wright Marshall Estate Agents in Tarporley came in to deliver a presentation to our Year 10 GCSE Economics students. Robert's presentation was extremely informative and interesting and allowed our students to apply their understanding of demand and supply and government intervention to this key market in our UK economy. Some fantastic statistics were shared; in particular one graph demonstrated the disparity between salaries and house prices.

A HUGE THANKS to Robert and well done to our students who listened intently and asked some intelligent and thought-provoking questions.



THANKS TO ALL THE PERFORMERS

who took part in the Music Festivals
on the 7th and 8th March.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT



Our partner primary schools arrived at school at 4pm and we then rehearsed before enjoying a tea of pizza and chips! The audience were treated to a wide variety of music, including songs from each of our partner primary schools. Each performance was met with warm applause. The final piece of the evening "All you need is Love" was performed by every singer and musician, including the staff choir, approximately 140 on stage together!

A HUGE WELL DONE to everyone involved. We're already looking forward to next year!



GOOD LUCK to St Nicholas' Chamber Choir who will leave school at 7.30am on Saturday morning to travel to Tamworth for the Regional round of **MUSIC FOR YOUTH** Competition. They will be performing two songs, 'Sit Down You're Rockin' the Boat', which features our fantastic bass section and 'Ubi Caritas' an acapella arrangement.

Fingers crossed that they are chosen to take part in the National round in Birmingham in July.



SIXTH FORMERS PREPARE FOR NICARAGUA ... in Wales?

OVER THE WEEKEND a group of students from Sixth Form went on their Nicaragua Training Weekend. The purpose of this weekend was to prepare for our 18-day expedition to Nicaragua in Summer where we will be focusing on volunteering whilst over there.

The weekend was eventful to say the least, we started off on the Friday by buying our food for the weekend, setting up our tents and getting the camp ready to be our temporary home. We spent the Friday night cooking, getting to know each other and shivering in the cold but we championed through it! We awoke early Saturday morning and began the daily tasks. Starting off with our group having a hearty bacon sandwich and set off on a 10km hill walk around Wales, learning about first aid, emergency situations and circumstances that we may come across in Nicaragua. On our return, we had a lovely trip to the beach in which our leader Bill led us in competitive team building and racing activities just to name a few. We sat in front of the sea and watched the sun go down, something that personally will definitely stay with me and others in the group. On the Sunday morning, we woke up to take all the tents down and proceeded on with a camp clean up. We even waved the Year 13 group off as they went for a traditional McDonalds breakfast as we sat there eating our scrambled eggs and beans on toast. The weekend for us all was challenging, insightful and educational.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU goes to the supporting teachers: Miss Riding, Mr Hamilton, Mrs Buckley, Mr Armstrong and Mr Bradley for giving up their weekend. We learnt many things over the last few days, including rice is a pain to cook, building rock towers is a skill and climbing up hills isn't as easy as it may seem.

JESS LEIGH 12 CAMARA



Tuesday 20th March

YEAR 9 BOYS RUGBY
St Nicholas vs Hartford High School

**BOYS YEAR 10 FOOTBALL
COUNTY CUP QUARTER FINAL**
St Nicholas vs Mosslands at Moss Farm

YEARS 10 & 11 GIRLS NETBALL
Away at Winsford Academy
(5.30pm pick up from Winsford, 6pm St Nicholas)

Wednesday 21st March

YEARS 7 & 8 BOYS RUGBY
St Nicholas vs Hartford High School

U16 GIRLS FOOTBALL CHESHIRE CUP
St Nicholas vs Hartford High School
Away at Hartford

GOOD LUCK TO ALL!

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***** GIRLS RESULTS *****

YEAR 9 MID-CHESHIRE NETBALL COMPETITION
St Nicholas' reached the Semi-Final

YEAR 7 MID-CHESHIRE HOCKEY COMPETITION
St Nicholas' reached the Semi-Final



***** BOYS RUGBY RESULTS *****

YEAR 7 - Well Done!!
St Nicholas vs Weaverham High School
WON 35 - 10

YEAR 8 - Unlucky!!
St Nicholas vs Weaverham High School
LOST 35 - 0

CONGRATULATIONS!!

A fantastic day at the Ellesmere Port Sports Village for the
COUNTY INDOOR ATHLETICS FINALS

The Year 7 Girls finished 4th in Cheshire and won the
'Spirit of the Games Award'!

Our Years 7 and 8 Boys finished 2nd in Cheshire.

So very proud of all our athletes!



NEXT MEETING



Thursday
22nd March
12.30pm -1.00pm
Conference Room

Period: 5.3.2018 - 9.3.2018

Weekly attendance update

%	Bernadette	Camera	John-Paul	Kolbe	Romero	Teresa	Vincent DePaul	Ward	Year Total
Year 7	97.3	93.7	94.8	96.7	99.6	96.8	96.3	N/A	96.4
Year 8	95.7	95.2	96.6	94.3	95.9	97.1	99.3	N/A	96.3
Year 9	94.8	96.5	93.8	96.6	97.2	98.9	96.1	97.9	96.5
Year 10	96.7	99.3	95.2	96.1	100.0	95.5	96.4	99.2	97.3
Year 11	94.4	95.2	92.8	99.1	97.2	96.4	96.8	97.2	96.0
Whole School	95.8	95.97	94.64	96.53	97.99	96.95	96.98	98.07	96.5

"EVERYONE MATTERS, SO ATTENDANCE MATTERS."

Big Heart Ball

Thank you for the fabulous response to our request for support with Sponsorship, Auction and Raffle prizes – you are wonderful!

We are still in need of one or two 'amazing and unique' Auction prizes OR raffle prizes such as restaurant or cinema vouchers, any kind of pampering treats – hair, massage, nails, facials, etc.

Please get in touch if you or your employer can help us with any of the above or with becoming a Ball Sponsor.

Don't forget to get your tickets for our fabulous Ball taking place at Vale Royal Abbey on Friday 15th June - a wonderful evening with fabulous food and dancing awaits you!

Tickets are priced at £50 and are available via Parentpay.

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

Colours Fashion Show

A LADIES ONLY event

Taking place in school on the evening of Friday 29th June.

Current Season clothing at up to 50% discount

from M&S, Wallis, Top Shop, Coast, and many more.

Further details next week.....watch this space!



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