

October 2025



On Wednesday 8th October, Year 8 came together for their year group Mass. This was poignant as the readings of the Mass was taken for the feast day of St John Henry Newman. Fr Jude, asked the school chaplain to give the reflection after the homily which spoke about the historical significance of John Henry Newman to this country and Paul spoke about attending both the beatification and canonisation Masses that he was able to attend.

For many, it was the first time in which they heard of St John Henry Newman and there was great enthusiasm of from students in that he was only made a saint six years ago.

Student Bible Club.

The student bible club continues to meet regularly in the school chapel, where it is led by students themselves. This is open to all students across the school and is growing in popularity each session



In this meeting, the group discussed what faith means to them and how it is rooted in the Bible and how authentically they can live their lives according to the Word of God. Students meet over food and the group becomes very informal, yet structured.

It is open to all students and has become very ecumenical in that there are different Christian denominations represented. There are around 20 students come and all get a turn on leading the reflection.

Samaritans Christmas Shoebox appeal



The school launched the Christmas shoebox appeal for the Samaritan's Purse. This initiative is a joint venture between the well being team led by Mr Summers and the school chaplaincy.

The school set a target of reaching 100 boxes and is open across the entire school community and to parents. Deadline for the boxes is 5th November. These will be blessed by Fr Jude Belnas before they are taken to the collection point at the a local Baptist Church.

Avila House day

On 15th October, all students in Avila House came together for a liturgy service led by the school chaplain. During the reflection, the chaplain spoke about how Teresa of Avila was role model for young people in that she faced similar challenges that young people face today.

As part of the day, students paid £1 to come in non uniform to raise money for the chosen charities. At lunch, there was an opportunity for further fundraising where students could pay £1 to watch a film in the school hall.

20 students from across the school came to watch. The day raised over £100 which was a great way start to the fundraising events in the school. In total £150 was raised throughout the day.



Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th October- Year 11 reflection days



Over the course of two days, Year 11 took time out of their normal timetable to have a reflection day led by the Ignite Youth Team from the Diocese of East Anglia.

As part of the activities, the team spoke about self-image, and relationships, dealing with stress in the run up to exams. They also did some team building exercises.

In the afternoon, there was time to focus on mental health and ways in which prayer can help overcome these difficulties and time in the school chapel for prayer and adoration. It was a great way of bringing the year group together.



Over the course of the days, students engaged with testimonials from the Ignite team on what having a faith means to them and how it has changed their lives.

As part of the reflection day, students were asked about their priorities in life and was asked to write what they would take with them if they were stuck on a desert island. Students then had to explain their reasoning behind their choices to the whole group.

