



STONYHURST  
ANYWHERE

FRIDAY 20 NOVEMBER

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# From the Headmaster

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The newsletter this week reflects the typically wide range of experiences on offer to our young people and the enthusiasm with which they engage. We, and they, continue to be determined to maximise what can be done and optimistic that, despite the ongoing challenges of the pandemic, there are opportunities for learning, leisure and fun.

I reflected with the College pupils this week on determination and optimism. This was inspired by watching the series *The Queen's Gambit* during half term. Set in the 1950s *The Queen's Gambit* tells the story of a young girl who survives a car crash but is orphaned. She discovers chess through the kindness of the orphanage caretaker who plays in the basement and recognises her potential, and so begins her journey - from orphan - to prodigy - to international chess champion. It is an uplifting story of what is possible with determination and optimism.

Stonyhurst pupils are always determined. From their academic work to the sports field. It is deeply etched in the psyche (as well as on the sports tops) as 'Quant Je Puis' (As much as I can). However, it is the optimism of young people which is so infectious and brings such energy to the schools. This term has not been easy, but there is no doubt that the pupils and the staff have made the absolute most of all possible opportunities.

There is still much to achieve over the remaining weeks and much to celebrate as we move towards a very different Advent and Christmastide.

*Soha Browne*



# ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



## Jesuit Missions Climate Change Ambassadors

Stonyhurst St Mary's Hall have appointed their Jesuit Missions Climate Change Ambassadors for 2020/21:

Holly is any enthusiast for all things in the natural world and Dominic's interest in Caring for Our Common Home (CFOCH) was sparked by time spent gardening with an aunt.

Katrina was an active participant in our CFOCH in Lockdown initiative with Jesuit Missions, planting and growing fruit, vegetables and herbs in her allotment, during the summer term.

Harry is an excellent speaker and in November he and Katrina gave a presentation to their playroom (year group) on "why climate change affects the poorest most". Holly and Dominic, similarly, raised awareness with their presentation on "the importance of Caring for Our Common Home".

All four ambassadors are committed to exploring the relationship between Jesuit Missions (JM), Caring for Our Common Home and those in our world who are marginalised. Earlier this term, Dominic and Holly spoke with Lynn McWilliams (JM) via skype about their new roles.

At the end of November, Harry and Katrina will participate in the Jesuit Schools' "COP 26 One Year Out" virtual meeting organised by JM and facilitated by Educate Magis. They will share best practice with the other schools, consider what message they would like to communicate to the delegates meeting in Glasgow next year and how they can be agents of change.

We look forward to hearing more about the virtual meeting... Quant Je Puis!





# ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



## Music Masterclass & Recital

Dr Adam Swayne, Deputy Head of Keyboard at the Royal Northern College of Music, gave a masterclass and recital in the Top Ref on Wednesday.

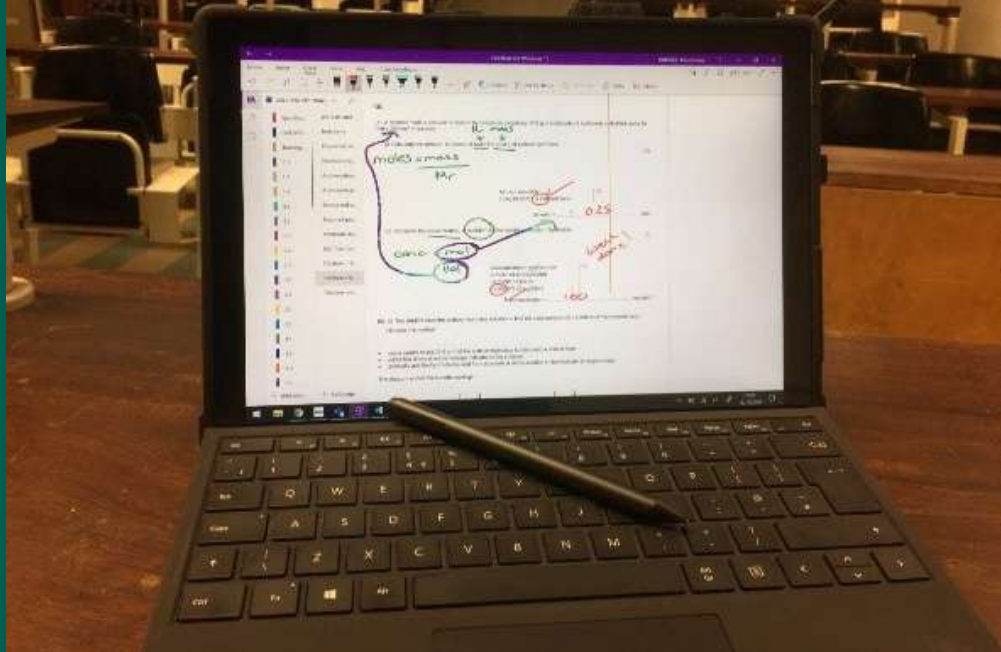
A live recital during lockdown is a wonderful treat, and Dr Swayne's journey from Gershwin to Malone and Rzewski (with a side order of Satie) was enthusiastically received by a socially distanced audience of pupils.

Five pupils performed to Dr Swayne in the masterclass earlier in the day, with works as varied as Chopin's Fantaisie-Impromptu and Mozart's G major sonata, and both Higher Line and Lower Line represented.

The Steinway in the Top Ref continues to be a valued resource for pupils of all abilities: it is never locked and is available to all!



# ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



## Immediate Feedback at a Social Distance!

'Paperless'; a phrase that initially made me apprehensive at the thought of having to turn my hand to marking and sharing all my resources online. I had heard rumours of other schools going paperless and was reassured in still having all the paper, dividers and files we would ever need in the Chemistry Department. Those days are gone! I am now sold on the notion of a paperless department and the opportunities it provides for both pupils and teachers.

Over the last term I have found accessing students work at any time or location such an advantage. From being able to look over student's class notebooks when writing reports, to preparing to discuss pupils' progress at parents' weekend- having immediate access to all work completed so far this year has been particularly insightful.

OneNote has meant the feedback and support I am able to give students is prompt, time relevant and therefore more effective. From looking over pupil's studies before the deadline to monitor organisation (and see who has left their studies to the last minute!), to giving me the opportunity to get ahead on marking, the benefits have been significant. There is no delay in seeing how well they have understood a particular topic, improving my efficiency in tailoring feedback and creating tasks which are more purposeful the following lesson.

One-to-one pupil feedback on class work has also been enhanced; I am able to respond immediately to in class work submissions- with the added benefits of it being confidential and at a social distance! Pupils take more ownership of in-class submissions with it recorded online, and by providing them with instant feedback (whilst still in the learning environment) gives them the time to consider and act on the feedback given in-class, hopefully leaving the lesson more confident in their understanding- or giving them further opportunity to ask for guidance.

OneNote has transformed many areas of my teaching already and I am looking forward seeing the other advantages it will bring over the year.

**Miss Bridges, Head of Chemistry**



# ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



## Teaching Music Online

Pedagogical guides to teaching music have emphasised the practical nature of the subject for many years: Cyril Winn's 'Teaching Music', published in 1954, for example, recommends the teaching of singing first and notation second. Music at Stonyhurst combines the academic and the practical, with each aspect nurturing the other.

This virtuous circle has been disrupted by the current circumstances, but our pupils and teachers are finding ways to take advantage of the necessary primacy of tech to explore new ways of learning. Class Notebook and OneDrive can store not just text and pictures but also audio and video. Indeed, recent ABRSM examination candidates had a copy of the video of their examination just afterwards, so they could review it with their teacher in the following lesson, rather than waiting for results.

We were already using Focus on Sound, an invaluable bank of listening resources with clear explanations, but the software has come into its own of late, with new content released every week and a new integration with Microsoft Teams making the administration seamless.

While Sibelius is the industry-standard typesetting software, and we can now make this available to composition students on their own laptops, there is also a cloud-based competitor, Noteflight, being tested by a number of Syntaxians.

The Flute Group and the Lower Grammar Part Song Choir have also enjoyed being filmed performing, as much for the experience as for public release (though the performers themselves certainly have copies which could be shared with their families with a little cajoling!).

Thanks in no small part to the generous proportions of the rooms in the Music Department, Visiting Music Teachers have been able to teach face-to-face since September. But teaching via Teams in the Summer Term meant that when any pupils have had to self-isolate, they have not had to miss their lesson.

So whilst disruption has been frustrating, it has also led to extraordinary creativity, and a genuine levelling-up of skills, particularly with pupils showing new software (Tracktion, Logic, Soundtrap, and others) to their teachers.

**Andrew Henderson, Director of Music**

# ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



## Line Competitions

This week's Line Competition has hotted up with a complete change to the rankings after two well contested events. The TikTok Dance competition revealed many talented young dancers, and also some hidden creativity on the part of some staff, but it was Weld who triumphed with their dancing tour of some of Stonyhurst's most iconic venues.

Please watch the video on our Inter-Line [Instagram account](#). There was a brilliant turnout from Poetry for their five-a-side football competition and they battled the inclement weather and some highly questionable refereeing from Mr Hanley to produce a very entertaining round-robin tournament. Champion and Omers couldn't be separated in the end, so a follow up final will need to take place soon!

Table is as follows:

Campion	St Omers	Sireburn	Weld
180	140	140	170

Syntax Rowing and Art Attack can change everything this week... We have also launched our Fantasy Rugby League through The Rugby Magazine, following the Gallagher Premiership which kicks off today. Teams from across all Playrooms are in the mix with Amazon prizes for the top three places as well as Line points for the top ten finishers. Some parental expertise is already being harnessed!





# ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

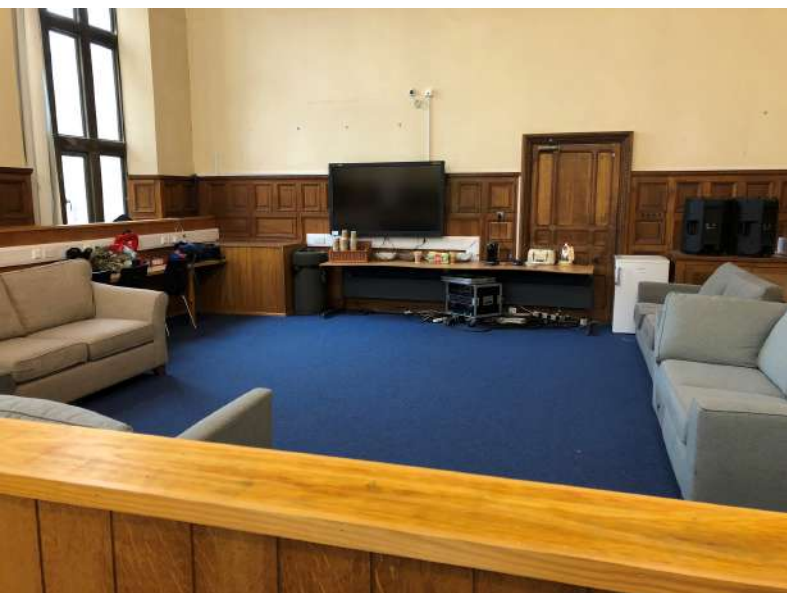


## New Playroom for Rhetoric

Having patiently waited for the Gerard Room to be converted from a teaching space to their new Playroom, the Rhetoricians are now well and truly 'settled in'. The creation of the Playroom has been an absolute team effort from many staff who have volunteered their time to help - their support shows the esteem they hold the children in and how much they want to make sure they are happy and content in their final year.

Mrs Hargreaves and Mrs Ashe have furnished the room with a collection of sofas that would not look out of place in any living room, Mr O'Malley and his team have provided cafe style tables and chairs and a group of boarding pupils have installed a stereo and speakers (and a disco ball). 'Team day boys' have also played their part by bringing down a fridge, kettle and toaster to complement the coffee machine already in place.

Making the space a proper home will take further time and effort, and the Rhetoricians have been encouraged to be proactive and bring in decorations and pictures for the walls. A Rhetoric Playroom has been on the College agenda for some time, but the changes made to our routines and structures in light of the pandemic have allowed plans to be accelerated - now it's just a case of everyone making it the best possible space it can be.





# ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



## Times Tables Rockstars at St Mary's Hall

This week saw Maths Week England take centre stage in KS2 as all pupils from Prep to Elements took part in a Times Tables Rockstars battle with school children from across country. The challenge focused on pupils improving their confidence, knowledge and recall of times tables in a variety of online tasks. All pupils were fully engaged in the competition both at school and at home and they have worked extremely hard to earn points for their Lines in the process too.

The week culminated with a non-uniform day on Friday where the children were able to dress up as a rockstar or as their own Rockstar avatar, from the online platform. A lot of effort was put into the pupils' costumes and appearances by Adam Ant, John Bon Jovi and even Elvis himself were definitely a surprise to some staff across the campus that day. I'd like to thank all the children and staff for their efforts in making this week a real success and long may this love of maths continue!









# ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



## Upper Elements Film Production

We are pleased to announce that Upper Elements will be showcasing their very own 'festive film' at St Mary's Hall Parents' Weekend in December. Easy to rehearse and perform in bubbles, the brand new post-lockdown musical 'Who Took All The Loo Roll?' is a joyful celebration of the human spirit. Referencing the world's recent troubles in a sensitive way, it looks at our Christmas traditions and how they bring out the best in us, whilst also making light of some of the strange and humorous behaviour we displayed during this extraordinary year.

Filming began last week and pupils are really enjoying the process, whilst also working tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure the production is ready in time for the Christmas break. The film will be streamed on YouTube Premiere on Saturday 12th December.





# ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



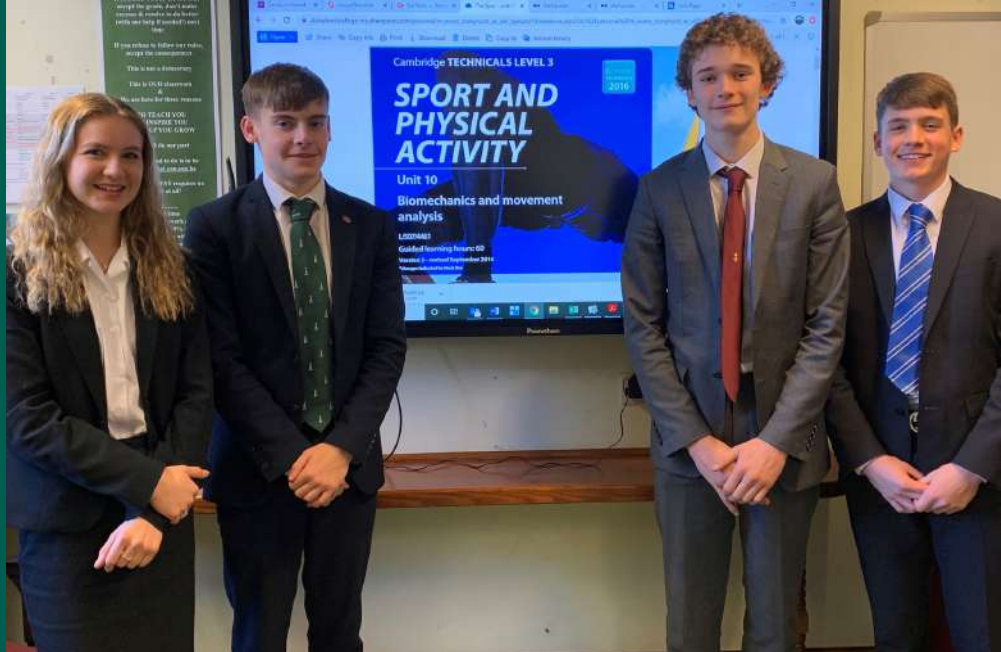
## Upper Prep's World War II Day

After arriving dressed WW2 evacuees on Wednesday, the pupils in Upper Prep (St Mary's Hall) didn't quite know what to expect! They were greeted by land girls and 1940s teachers and proceeded to enjoy a day full of creative WW2 activities and experiences. They were fascinated to find out about the Enigma Code with Mr Gibson, followed by some code breaking of their own.

In the afternoon they enjoyed a totally immersive experience, which included an air raid, followed by a good old sing-song, hot tea and jam sandwiches in the Underground shelter. They were then 'evacuated' to a town called Clitheroe in the north of England where they stayed with a variety of eccentric characters.



# PERSPECTIVES AND HORIZONS



## Higher Line Sports Pupils Score 100%

It has been quite a breath-taking week for our Higher Line pupils who study the Cambridge Technical in Sport Diploma. The qualification, which is equivalent to two A-Levels and forms part of our IBCP program or it can be taken with an A-Level, had its online moderation on Tuesday.

The pupils had completed a substantial amount of work for moderation, in a variety of topics - Biomechanics, Sport Psychology, Sports Injuries and Rehabilitation, Sports Coaching, Anatomy & Physiology and Physical Activity in Society.

21 grades were awarded and, amazingly, every single grade was the highest grade possible, a Distinction!

This is fabulous news for our Poets and Rhetoricians, and especially for our Rhetoricians who are nearing the end of the qualification. Potentially some pupils could be achieving D\*D\* by the summer, which would be the equivalent to A\*A\* at A-Level.

Congratulations to all of our Higher Line Sports Pupils and staff!



# FAITH THAT DOES JUSTICE



## Boarders' International Lunch

This week, St Mary's Hall held their popular Boarders' International Lunch last Sunday. These international days offer boarders the chance to suggest specific dishes for the kitchen staff to recreate. Many of the pupils ask their parents to send through recipes which remind them of being at home, providing comfort whilst boarding at Stonyhurst.

The kitchen staff recreate the dishes to the best of their ability which becomes part of a much larger themed buffet. There has been as many as thirty separate dishes served at these events, from several nationalities. All the boarders are encouraged to try and taste foods from other nationalities and it has become a great way for Stonyhurst to celebrate diversity in a fun way.



# FAITH THAT DOES JUSTICE



## Interfaith Week

Last week, we joined with schools, churches and communities across the country to mark the national Interfaith Week.

Dilip in Syntax explains,

“Interfaith Week is an occasion that is intended to celebrate the UK’s religious diversity and to strengthen ties between communities of different faiths and religious beliefs.

It is important to recognise and celebrate all faiths around the world and in our own Stonyhurst community because:

- It encourages us all to learn about each other’s faith especially because we have pupils here from across the globe;
- It allows us to celebrate shared values between different faiths;
- It promotes understanding and acceptance between people with religious and non-religious beliefs.”

The Faith in Action Gold group have created a video Prayer Service that celebrates religious harmony and the different faiths of Stonyhurst pupils.

The Service invites you to enter into the time of prayer and reflection from your own faith position.

It lasts just over 10 minutes and can be viewed [here](#).

Well done to our Faith in Action pupils for the great deal of work that went into this excellent service.

## Inter Faith Week





# FAITH THAT DOES JUSTICE



## Niamh's Charity Bike Ride

Congratulations to Niamh (PP2) who completed her Brownie Guide #ActYourAge challenge in partnership with Children in Need. Niamh cycled a challenging 7 miles from Pendleton to Worston to Downham and back again. The weather wasn't the best and it wasn't helped by some very large puddles! However, Niamh's 'Quant Je Puis' attitude was very evident even when she had to cycle with a very soggy foot!

Niamh has raised a good amount of sponsorship too, well done!



# FAITH THAT DOES JUSTICE



## Confirmation Programme

Our annual Confirmation programme began this week with pupils from Grammar, Syntax and Higher Line participating.

There is a great mix within this year's cohort: Catholics seeking to become full members of the Church, pupils of other Faith backgrounds considering being welcomed into the Church and even a few pupils who have already been Confirmed, but who want to undergo the formation again now that they're older.

The programme will guide pupils through interactive sessions that cover the full history and teachings of the Church. Throughout these sessions, they will be invited to apply the knowledge gained to their own lives and personal faith journey.

Covid permitting, the Confirmation Mass will hopefully take place in Spring.



# Mark Thompson OS Appointed Inaugural Patron of the Stonyhurst Foundation



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STONYHURST FOUNDATION  
STONYHURST  
CLITHEROE  
LANCASHIRE BB7 9PZ

PRESS RELEASE – 19 NOVEMBER 2020:

## MARK THOMPSON OS APPOINTED INAUGURAL PATRON OF THE STONYHURST FOUNDATION

The Stonyhurst Foundation (the "Foundation") is pleased to announce that Mark Thompson OS has been appointed as the inaugural Patron of the Foundation.

The Stonyhurst Foundation is a registered charity focused exclusively on widening access to Stonyhurst. The goal of the Foundation is to remove financial barriers, making a Stonyhurst education available to as many young people as possible.

Stonyhurst is the UK's leading co-educational Catholic boarding and day school for 3–18 year olds. Founded in 1593, it is the oldest continuously active Jesuit school in the world.

The position of Patron within the Stonyhurst Foundation is an honorary position. It recognises outstanding commitment to the Foundation and support for its ethos and aims. The Foundation intends to appoint a number of Patrons over time.

*Stephen Withnell, Stonyhurst Foundation Director, comments:*

"Mark is an alumnus and a passionate supporter of Stonyhurst. He is a former Director General of the BBC and a former CEO of the New York Times. His appointment comes at a pivotal time for the Foundation, as we seek to deliver an ambitious strategic fundraising plan, a plan which aims to make the Stonyhurst Foundation the most ambitious provider of bursaries and fee assistance in Catholic education in the UK. Mark's unparalleled leadership experience in the business and charity sectors will be of enormous benefit to the Foundation as we move forward.

*Mark Thompson, Stonyhurst Foundation Patron, comments:*

"I know from my own experience how Stonyhurst can change lives. World-class teachers like Peter Hardwick and Freddie Turner SJ opened my mind and the school gave me a confidence and independence that has served me well ever since. The Stonyhurst Foundation will make this unique education available to so many more young people, and that's why I am so pleased to endorse it."

I'm tremendously excited about the Foundation's mission and the potential to grow its philanthropic income. I look forward to working with the Trustees to raise funds and help achieve the Foundation's ambitions, and to build on the wonderful support of its donors and ambassadors."

Telephone: 01254 827276 Email: [manager@stonyhurstfoundation.com](mailto:manager@stonyhurstfoundation.com)  
Website: [www.stonyhurstfoundation.org](http://www.stonyhurstfoundation.org)

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# NEWS FROM STONYHURST ENTERPRISES



## Christmas Holiday Club

Bookings are now being taken for our Christmas Holiday Club which will be running from Monday 14th December to Wednesday 23rd December. We have an exciting programme of Christmas activities planned with daily bakes and crafts including festive-themed pizzas and decorations.

Places are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis so please book early to avoid disappointment. To reserve a place, please contact the Sports Centre at [sportscentre@stonyhurst.ac.uk](mailto:sportscentre@stonyhurst.ac.uk).

Christmas Holiday Club 2020								
	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Monday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>
Morning Session 1	Breakfast Club and Free Choice	Breakfast Club and Free Choice	Breakfast Club and Free Choice	Breakfast Club and Free Choice	Breakfast Club and Free Choice	Breakfast Club and Free Choice	Breakfast Club and Free Choice	Breakfast Club and Free Choice
Morning Session 2	Baking	Baking	Baking	Baking	Baking	Baking	Baking	Baking
Morning Break	Juice, Fruit and Biscuits	Juice, Fruit and Biscuits	Juice, Fruit and Biscuits	Juice, Fruit and Biscuits	Juice, Fruit and Biscuits	Juice, Fruit and Biscuits	Juice, Fruit and Biscuits	Juice, Fruit and Biscuits
Morning Session 3	Swimming	Swimming	Swimming	Swimming	Swimming	Swimming	Swimming	Swimming
	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
Afternoon Session 1	Free Choice/ Sports Hall	Free Choice/ Sports Hall	Free Choice/ Sports Hall	Free Choice/ Sports Hall	Free Choice/ Sports Hall	Free Choice/ Sports Hall	Free Choice/ Sports Hall	Free Choice/ Sports Hall
Afternoon Session 2	Craft	Craft	Craft	Craft	Craft	Craft	Craft	Craft
Afternoon Break	Juice, Fruit and Biscuits	Juice, Fruit and Biscuits	Juice, Fruit and Biscuits	Juice, Fruit and Biscuits	Juice, Fruit and Biscuits	Juice, Fruit and Biscuits	Juice, Fruit and Biscuits	Juice, Fruit and Biscuits
Afternoon Session 3	Tennis	Tennis	Tennis	Tennis	Tennis	Tennis	Tennis	Tennis
Afternoon Session 4	Christmas Activities/ Movie	Christmas Activities/ Movie	Christmas Activities/ Movie	Christmas Activities/ Movie	Christmas Activities/ Movie	Christmas Activities/ Movie	Christmas Activities/ Movie	Christmas Activities/ Movie

\* Sample Timetable

In line with government guidance, activities will be substituted where appropriate.

Book Online!  
[sportscentre.stonyhurst.ac.uk](https://sportscentre.stonyhurst.ac.uk)



## Follow us on Social Media!

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Follow our social media accounts where you can catch up on the latest news and get behind-the-scenes insights into life at Stonyhurst.

Click the links below to visit our accounts.

*Follow us!*



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Have you joined your playroom Facebook Group yet?

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Lower  
Grammar

Grammar

Poetry

Syntax

Rhetoric

# Object of the Week

## ‘The Jesuit Family Tree’

Portuguese, early 18th Century

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Stonyhurst’s pupils, staff, and visitors would be forgiven for not recognising this unusual painting; it does not hang on a main thoroughfare of the school and is so dark as to be almost invisible when viewed in normal light. However, it is a truly remarkable and unique object; there are no known other examples in existence.

The Jesuit Family Tree, as it is known, hangs in the Angels’ Chapel. Taking a form like a pictorial family tree, the painting shows the past prominent members of the Jesuit order. The founder of the Society, Ignatius, is seated at the trunk of the tree, and around him are the other founding members. Above him, up the centre of the tree, are the most recognisable Jesuit saints: Stanislaus Kostka, Aloysius Gonzaga, Francis Borgia and Francis Xavier. The infant Christ is at the top, surrounded by a sunburst, and encircled by three of the crucified Jesuit martyrs of Japan. The rest of the tree is filled with significant Jesuits from the 16th and 17th centuries, including bishops, cardinals, theologians and martyrs. In addition, suspended from the lower branches of the tree are visual representations of the main activities of the Society, including teaching, preaching, and missionary work.

The inscription at the bottom of the painting indicates it originated from the Portuguese court, commissioned by King John V. The painting came to Stonyhurst in 1835 through the former headmaster, Fr Norris. According to a letter of Fr Norris, he acquired it from a Jewish picture dealer who had mistakenly listed the painting as ‘Martin Luther and the Leaders of the Reformation’.

Museum-standard photography, recently carried out on the paintings collection, gives some idea of the picture that lies beneath decades (or centuries!) of dust and varnish. By using filters to alter the light when photographing the paintings, it is possible to show some of the light and colour which hides beneath. It is hoped that, in the future, it will be possible to have such a unique picture restored and returned to its former glory.

