



STONYHURST ANYWHERE

FRIDAY 12TH JUNE 2020

From the Headmaster

This week has seen three significant events across the age range. The return of more of our children and staff to St Mary's Hall, the final submission of our GCSE and A' Level grades completing the set with the IB grades which were submitted some weeks ago and the last meeting of the current Committee. It was a great delight to see and hear children on campus again and equally pleasing to be able to conclude the academic careers here at Stonyhurst of our Rhetoricians. Our incoming Heads of Line will introduce themselves in next week's newsletter.

These events bring hope for the future whilst we recognise that the marathon is not yet over! These past weeks have been a tribute to staff and families working together and we are currently focused on how best to conclude what has been an extra-ordinary year. More details will follow but St Mary's Hall are preparing their Prize Giving and Great Academies is being reimaged for the online world. Our College guest of honour will be Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald. Details of the full programme will be available shortly and we hope that through being online many more of you will be able to join us than is often the case in person.

As this academic year heads into the final weeks we are reflecting on the learning that Stonyhurst Anywhere has brought us and how to retain the best of this in the future. The teams across campus are planning the risk assessments for a full reopening in September. We shall share these with you as soon as possible and welcome views and feedback as always.

Soha Browne



Perspectives & Horizons



'Quant Je Puis' Pudding

Filmed on what would have been the day of Rhetoric Ball, Quarantine Canteen brings us a party piece. Eton Mess? No, let's try a 'Quant Je Puis' Pudding. What better name for a pudding than 'As Much As I Can'! You can view the full video on our YouTube channel [here](#).

OS Takes on 'Pointless' Competition

Did you see former pupil and brilliant actor Patrick Baladi (OS 1990) on the TV quiz show 'Pointless Celebrities'? It was a brilliant episode and without giving any spoilers, we'll say, he does well. Why not view the episode [here](#) and see if you can get a pointless answer?



War Hero OS Featured in Newspaper

Seven Stonyhurst OS won the Victoria Cross, one of which was Captain Marcus Ervine-Andrews, who won the Victoria Cross for his bravery during the Dunkirk evacuation. Ervine-Andrews was one of 40 British troops to hold off the enemy and was the army's first VC to be announced during the Second World War. Ervine-Andrews has recently been featured in an article by Lord Ashcroft in the Mail on Sunday. Read the full article [here](#).

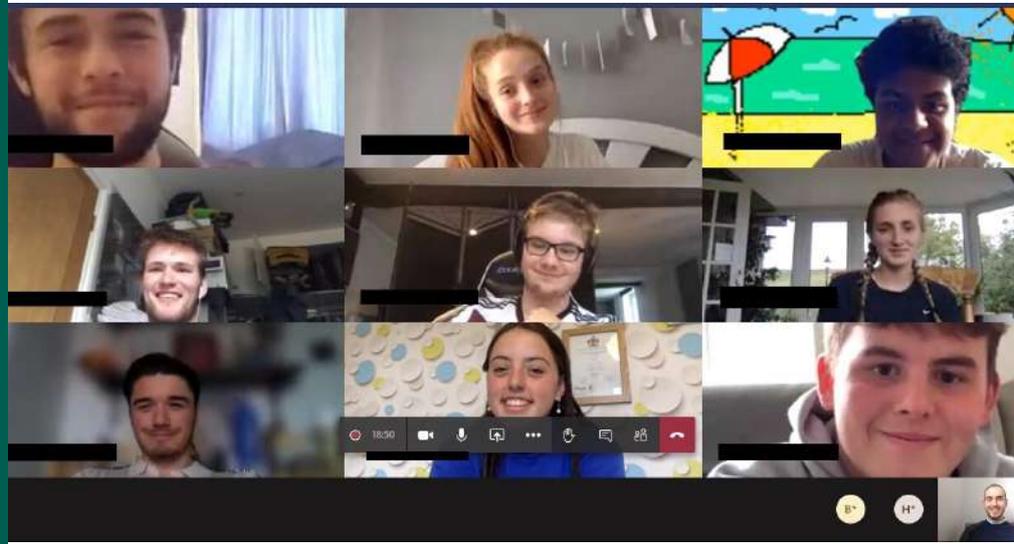
The Name's Bond...

Damian Bond, OS83 has worked in clinical diagnostics for 34 years. He was part of the team that launched the Clearblue pregnancy test worldwide where it rapidly became the market leader. This possibly warrants a claim for him being responsible for more women knowing they are pregnant than any other man alive.

During the COVID-19 pandemic he has been working with a London based diagnostics company on developing a molecular assay for COVID-19. The first step involves extracting and purifying the RNA from the sample. Supplies of extraction kits are very limited and generic. They developed a custom kit for COVID-19 swab samples and this has been adopted by a Public Health England testing lab. They are close to launching a full testing kit, which incorporates extraction, amplification and detection in both high throughput testing and a bedside test format.

He has summarised the Government's 5 pillar testing strategy in the attached article, which describes the technologies used and the strengths and limitations of each approach. It is not as simple as "Give me a test". The article can be found [here](#).

Academic Excellence



A Fond Farewell to Our Committee

This week saw the last Committee meeting before the Poets take over. The Heads of Line and some representatives of the Committee met with their successors in two sessions during the week, to help with informal questions and to pass on their experiences.

Lower Grammar Pupils Profile Themselves

Lower Grammar EAL (English as an Additional Language) have produced an 'EAL Pupil Profile', a collaborative effort having spent last week reflecting on the year. They have not only identified characteristics they see in themselves and each other, but the aspirations of Lower Grammar learners in the EAL Department. Studying overseas in another language brings its challenges, something our pupils embrace. The International dimension of the Stonyhurst community is captured in the image below, created by their teacher, Mrs Addy, who says "The EAL pupils are intrinsic to the Stonyhurst community, and bring a wealth of diversity which enhances the school ethos and enriches the school experience for everyone".



Lower Grammar Poems

Here are three fantastic poems by Lower Grammar pupils about the journey taken by migrants as they try to cross the border between Mexico and the USA.

Deserted on the Desert ~ by Alicia

A world of dirt and hunger,
Is no place for me,
A home of waste and wonder,
Until I no longer breathe.
Then one day I decided,
This was no life for me,
I left my friends,
My family and town,
To start a life that meant,
More money for the days I spend,
Working until the day would end.

I realised out of pity,
That America had opportunity,
More jobs, more money, more safety,
Something Mexico didn't have clearly,
I don't have a choice, It has to be done,
I never thought I would be on the run,
I'm desperate, Would you blame me?
I'm in search of a life without poverty.

With a prayer, I made the leap.
Crowded on a truck,
With no room to sleep,
Hours went by, I arrived in Altar,
The humid earth begins to heat,
Determined to live, the risk I take,
And now I wait,
If God is with me,
I might not die,
I'm desperate, alone, with one can of water,
Weeping, crying, knowing it is for the better,
Now I wait, for that day,
Until then, I wait,
Deserted on the desert of Arizona!

Walking Outcast ~ by Frederick

Walking-
Turned my back on all
For the feeling of joy
A feeling I know I may not achieve.

When it's for the family
But not for the one I left behind
But the one to come
For the one with jobs
With the one behind me
For the ones with health

With the ones dead behind me

For the feeling of security

The one I never experienced
Both home and on my way to the hope.
Drought and food that left my throat.
Dying like the people behind me.

Walking with shoes.
Walking with bare feet.
There was never a moment that I was still
To get out of hell
And enter heaven.

Was it the things there I want that made me leave,
Or the things of where I was that made me weak?
Was it the positives out weighing the negatives,
Or was it the sense of dysfunction?

It was what came that I never expected
I had found the hope.
I had made a life
It was the feeling that was named with
The feeling of a misfit.
An outcast.

Poem ~ by Felina

Born in Mexico, poor unable to read
Dreamt about good health care, education and to be freed
My family is jobless on the verge of homeless
At this point we're all just about hopeless
This needs to change, I'll pack my bags, plan the dates
Through the desert escape straight to the United States.

The dangers I faced from guns to dehydration
These were only a few obstacles to reach my destination
My friends with me, some didn't survive
Some of them younger than the age of 25
I didn't think I'd make it I truly thought I'd die
Due to the dehydration I couldn't even cry.

I remember when the States were in sight,
It was truly glorious and worth the fight
When we got there we all immediately got jobs
And thanks to our conditions we were against the odds
We bought houses and carried on we could hardly cope
But we couldn't give up we were our families only hope
Now life is better than ever, I've learnt to read
And I earn enough money to pay for my families feed

I support my family and life is much better
And I send my family money in little white letters
Yet even though my life is great I still live in fear
That I might be sent back home, the thought is always near
I can read, write, work and get suitably paid,
And this decision was the best one I've ever made.



Pupils Represent Stonyhurst in Writing Competition

Two of our most promising linguists are representing Stonyhurst in a national competition. India (Syntax) and Amelia (Poetry) have both submitted an original piece of writing (in Spanish) for the contest organised by ISMLA (Independent Schools' Modern Languages Association), which is chaired by Dr Goodwin (Head of Languages).

India has written an essay about Diego Rivera's famous painting, 'La vendedora de flores', in which India explores the cultural context of the period by writing from the perspective of the character in the image. Amelia has written the transcript of an imagined guided tour in El Prado, Madrid, where the tour guide explores interpretations of Diego Velázquez's most famous work, 'Las Meninas'. Both girls are up against pupils in their year group from across the country, with the winners of each group being awarded a £50 itunes voucher.

¡Buena suerte a las dos!

¡Bienvenidos a mi casa!

Dr Goodwin's Grammar Spanish pupils recently produced some outstanding studies, 'lockdown style', for the GCSE house and home topic. The assignment was to write a script in Spanish of a guided tour around their house and some pupils were able to film the tour, creating very professional videos. Well done to all our Grammar Spanish pupils, with congratulations extended to the top performers Dilip, Connie and Adrian.

Academic Excellence



Geography Rhetoricians Turn Their Heads to Urban Planning

This week, as part of the Urban Planning University Prep (U-Prep) course, delivered by the Geography Department, the Rhetoricians were joined by a real life urban planner who talked to us about some of the regeneration projects he has been involved with across London. Keith Trotter is a Geography graduate, who went on to study Town Planning at post graduate level. During his career, one of his key roles was working as Project Manager, heading up the Nine Elms South Bank regeneration project, which includes the redevelopment of Battersea Power Station. Keith talked us through the development plan and explained how his team worked with both Wandsworth and Lambeth councils, the Mayor's office, Transport for London and both private landowners and private developers to create the huge brownfield regeneration project involving a wide range of residential, commercial and infrastructural developments. Keith also spoke about his new role working for Haringey Council, where he focuses more on economic development and town centre management, covering a wide area of North London. The Rhetoricians thoroughly enjoyed chatting with Keith and asked him some excellent and challenging questions.



Academic Excellence

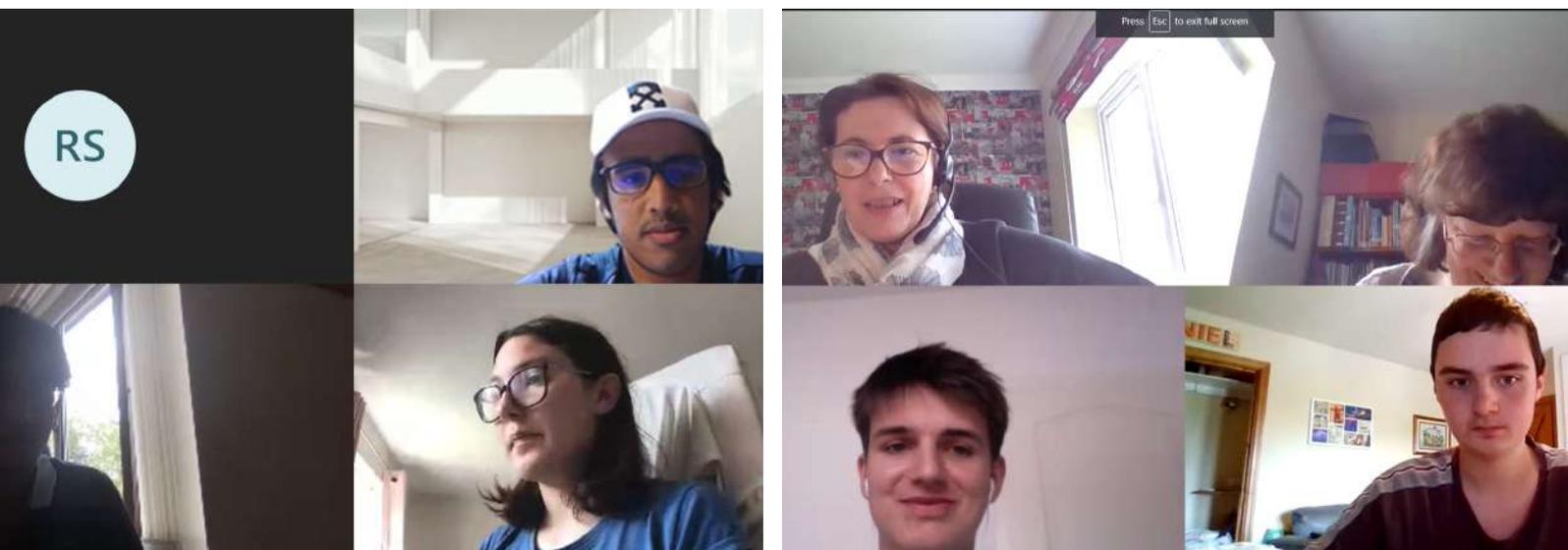


Model United Nations Virtual Debate

Stonyhurst's MUN Society have been working with Cheadle Hulme School's MUN Society to run their first inter-school online MUN debate this week. Using Microsoft Teams the groups jointly considered issues surrounding the ongoing refugee crisis as highlighted by the UNHCR (The UN Refugee Agency). Monday, saw their first ever online lobbying session, with pupils working together on Teams to collaborate and produce resolutions for debate.

The chosen resolution considering 'Countering Toxic Narratives About Refugees' was debated, jointly chaired by Stonyhurst and CHS pupils, on Wednesday. The standard of debate was exceptionally high throughout. Delegates worked hard in scrutinising Kenya's resolution on 'Countering Toxic Narratives' - with Edgar, representing Kenya, being kept on his toes throughout as he was tested on the clauses, data and background to the clauses. The resolution was finally voted down by the Assembly, but all agreed that debating on Teams worked brilliantly. So much so, that Cheadle Hulme School and Stonyhurst will be meeting up again next week to debate the next resolution on "Climate Change and Displacement of Refugees" already submitted by Dilip, the delegate for Germany.

Well done to all delegates!



Academic Excellence



Lava Lamp Fun

Our SMH pupils enjoyed a fantastic Science lesson in which they made Lava lamps at home. What an exciting lesson! Will you be making a lava lamp?



'FIND'

The Learning Support Team are pleased to share with you The FIND Newsletter. It is designed to help children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities and their families during lockdown. Features include learning resources from the Specialist SEND Teacher Service, online support groups, zoom classes, webinars and more. Other Specialist Teaching Support Bulletins (Toolkits), produced by the Lancashire SEND Inclusion Service, can be found on The Learning Support Firefly page. You can view the latest newsletter [here](#).

Faith That Does Justice



One Year for the Hummingbird Project!

This week, the Hummingbird Project reached the one year mark, meaning that the formal part of our commitment has come to an end and our new journey as friends and neighbours can fully begin.

The project began three years ago when the pupil Faith that Does Justice group responded to Pope Francis' call for Catholic communities to each house a refugee family. Since that time, the project has brought together not only pupils, but parents of the College, St Mary's Hall and St Joseph's, staff members, members of the Catholic and Anglican parishes of Hurst Green, and local residents. It has truly been a whole-community venture.

From the beginning, this was a project that inspired great achievements. The finance required to begin the project was raised in a single term through the fundraising initiatives of our pupils, culminating in a highly memorable whole school run on the Avenue. A great deal of furniture and home furnishings were donated by parents and installed in the family's house by our First XV rugby team. Pupils in the Hummingbird Group did the first supermarket shop and filled the cupboards for the family before they arrived. This was just the beginning of the incredible work that has gone on during this project.

To all the pupils, parents and community members who contributed in any way, large or small, to this project and to all those who have made the family feel so welcome since they arrived, even if only by a smile and a wave, we would like to extend our sincerest thanks. Also to the staff members of St Joseph's who have done so much to welcome the family into the school community and to help their children settle into their classes.

In particular, special thanks must be given to those in the Hummingbird Community group. The hours given from the working day, evenings, weekends and holiday time are inestimable and the project simply could not have been delivered without the expertise, dedication and overwhelming generosity of spirit shown by this group. It has been a real adventure for all those involved and one that has forged friendships and community ties that will no doubt far outlast the bounds of the Hummingbird Project.

Finally, thanks must be given to the family themselves. From the beginning, they have embraced every opportunity offered to them and engaged with the many requirements they have been presented with as newly-arrived refugees in this country. They have worked incredibly hard to learn English and the parents have now achieved a certified level that is beyond the expectations for this time period. The children have made huge strides in their learning and are already able to help their parents with translation. The father is poised to begin a new working role as soon as lockdown ends and the family are excitedly awaiting the arrival of their newest member later this summer.

Of course, it has not been possible to properly mark this one year milestone, but once we return to College and gatherings are possible, we shall formally celebrate this momentous occasion with all those who were involved, including all our OS who were so instrumental in the project's conception.

The past year of the project has flown by and it seems only a short while ago that members of the community group were welcoming the family at a rainy Manchester airport and handing them the keys to their new home. The excited question of the daughter on seeing her bedroom for the first time, "can we stay here forever?", is a hope that is shared by all those who have been involved in this life-changing journey.



THE FINISHING LINE IS IN SIGHT...

The Interline Competition continues and as we draw closer to the end of the academic year, the question is who will take the cup at our virtual Great Academies?

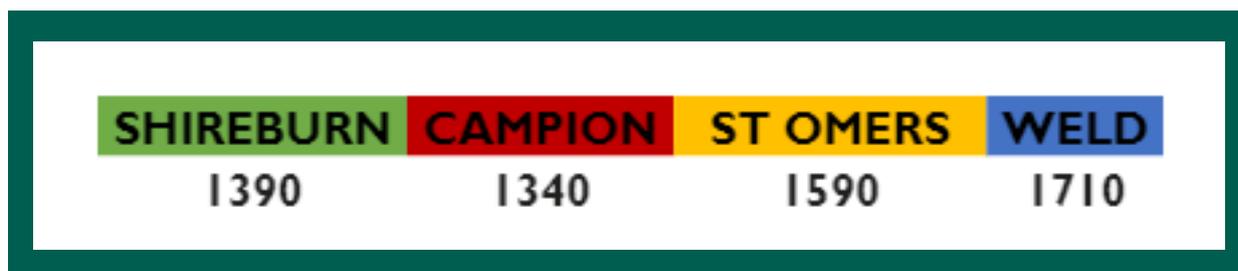
The Squat Challenge and FIFA competition results are in and congratulations go to Weld who took the win for the Squat Challenge with an phenomenal 8969 squats! Special mentions to Molly (St Omers) with 543, Adam (Shireburn) with 500 and Kitty (Weld) with 445.

The FIFA Competition put our pupils' thumb muscles to the test. In the XBOX Competition, Tom (St Omers) took the winning title with George (St Omers) in close second. In the PS4 Competition, it was Khunyuli (Weld) who was the champion with Wan (Campion) coming second.

Last Saturday, the party (and competition) was on, as our pupils took to Instagram for the DJ competition. The DJ, and therefore Line, with the most party-goers took the winning title. The competition was close, but it was Shireburn and DJ Paddy, who took the title, in the end.

Well done to all who took part!

CURRENT STANDINGS



Time to Put Your Best Foot Forward

This week, Lines are invited to take part in the 5K Running Challenge. Alongside the individual winners the top ten fastest times will be collated for an extra points bonus.

All our pupils need to do is run 5k and record it on any sport app, submitting their screenshot to their Line Captains! The race is on!



Which Line will Hit the Right Chord?

Mr Henderson has organised a brilliant competition with a prestigious external judge. Line captains have chosen their teams and now we let the music speak for itself!



INTERLINE 'ROBERT PERSONS ESSAY COMPETITION' ENTRY

'DISCUSS THE COMMEMORATION OF VE DAY' ~ MOLLY (ST OMERS)

The 8th May 2020 saw Great Britain, Western Europe, The United States of America and Australia commemorate 75 years since the surrender of Nazi Germany in 1945. For many, Victory in Europe day was a time to celebrate peace in Europe and being reunited with their loved ones. However, for millions, it was an opportunity for remembrance and commemoration of the lives of those who they have lost, knowing that no more souls would be surrendered to this devastating war.

75 years later, this reflective period still plays a primary role in our VE day celebrations. It allows descendants of soldiers to pay tribute to them and stand in solidarity with the nation to thank those who lost their lives so that we could live ours.

In order to meaningfully commemorate VE day, it's important to understand how it would have affected our lives should we have lived at this time. Everybody will undoubtedly comprehend the severity of this monumental war, but may not be aware of the implications that it placed on Stonyhurst. For obvious reasons, Stonyhurst and the Ribble Valley were not targeted areas for the majority of the second World War due to their sparse populations. However, the uncovering of a log book written by the Headmaster at Hodder Place during this period would suggest otherwise. It was in this logbook where the daily activities of the boys would be recorded, disguising any evidence of war for the majority. However, on June 6th 1944, following accounts of soccer and a spelling test, the recorded account was divergent of their typical routine as the headmaster had scribed 'All in at 5:15PM, INVASION!!'. Upon further research, the reasoning behind this bombing was discovered. A German fighter plane had been sent to bomb the Whalley Viaduct in an attempt to disrupt the movement of goods. However, with limited fuel and only one attempt at the bombing, the pilots had misjudged their navigation and therefore needed to dispose of the bomb. With the intentions of not bombing a densely populated area, they headed for the countryside - in the exact direction of Stonyhurst. It was on the banks of the river Hodder where the bomb was discarded, a location where many of the Stonyhurst pupils and staff have visited and will no doubt have created fond memories. This was the location of the preparatory school at the time, hence explaining the rather abnormal entry provided by the Headmaster on June 6th. Recalling upon such accounts can seem surreal but also bring a more sentimental meaning to such celebrations.

Following their indisputably horrifying bombing experience, it comes as no surprise that Stonyhurst VE Day celebrations 75 years ago were as extravagant as any. In 2020, streets were filled with union jacks, trumpeters, socially distanced families and the blaring sounds of 1945 radio, the same broadcast that verbally brought peace to Europe 75 years ago. Our celebrations differed massively from those of the Stonyhurst boys in 1945, where Higher Line gathered on the flats for an official smoke before patriotically marching down the avenue from Hurst Green displaying the Union Jack. However, the conclusion of their celebrations is one which we can all appreciate, a united chorus of 'Domine Salvam Fac'.

As an international community, VE Day holds different meanings for everybody at Stonyhurst. However, the victory commemorated should be the same for all, we were all victorious of peace in Europe, something that will always be celebrated, despite nationality, race or religion.

For many, the past few months have been a solace period and VE Day provided an opportunity for many to celebrate the end to a divided Europe in a period of ultimate global unity. Interestingly, Victory Day 75 years ago consisted of the gathering of thousands on streets all around the world embracing one another at a time they never thought would come. This year, many gathered on the streets with the hopes of embracing one another, but instead were separated. On a celebration where we have never been so physically distant, it's hard to remember a time where we were all so united. Inspired by the famous words of Winston Churchill, we allowed ourselves a 'short period of rejoicing.'

Object of the Week

Louis XV Cope

This detail shows the hood of beautifully embroidered cope, which, with a matching chasuble and mass set, was a present from King Louis XV of France to his youngest daughter, Princess Louise Marie when she entered a Carmelite Convent in 1770. It is embroidered with the lilies of the French royal family.

Louise Marie was the youngest of Louis XV's ten children and had the dubious honour of being known at court as Madame Dernière (Madam the Last) during her childhood. As a young woman she showed reluctance to marry, reputedly turning down the hand of Prince Charles Edward Stuart with the words,

'I don't want any husband other than Jesus Christ.'

At the age of 33 she persuaded her father to allow her to enter the convent at St Denis, where she intended that her prayers would compensate for her father's lax morals. She entered the convent on October 10th 1770, and was handed her nun's veil by her sister-in-law, Marie Antoinette. She was a great advocate of the Jesuits, and bitterly regretted their expulsion from France in 1762. She lived a life of simplicity and prayer as a nun, eventually rising to the rank of Mother Superior, and died aged 50 in 1787. Her last words were characteristic,

'Au paradis! Vite! Au grand gallop!'

Her grave, along with the other royal tombs in the church of St Denis, was desecrated during the French Revolution.

She was declared a Venerable Servant of God in 1873, and her life is celebrated on December 23rd. Her cause for canonisation is still current at the Vatican, awaiting the customary miracles for it to proceed.

The cope and chasuble came up for sale in England in 1953 when they were bought by Mr Oswald Goodier (OS 1917) in memory of his father (OS1885) The cope was traditionally worn at Benediction on the Ascensio Scholarum.



Princess Louise aged 27,
by Francois Hubert Drouais, 1763,
by permission of the National
Gallery of Victoria, Australia

Stonyhurst Anywhere: A Teacher's Perspective

As it became clear that countries all over Europe were entering lockdown, staff at Stonyhurst were keeping a close eye on the news. BBC News 24 had replaced the usual quizzes and property development programmes on the staff television in the Shireburn Room. There was anxiety about the welfare of the pupils but also the question: how would we cope?

For many years, Stonyhurst has maintained a traditional way of working alongside embracing new technology such as Firefly and seeking to embed this into the pupils' experience. However, prior to the lockdown, I think it is fair to say that books, files and good old fashioned pen and ink were used in the majority of lessons. Speaking as a traditionalist (I'm an English teacher so it's to be expected!) I think there is a lot to be said for pen and ink, and, like many of my colleagues, wasn't sure that Stonyhurst would work without them. How could we maintain quality lessons without face-to-face contact with our pupils? It seemed an impossible obstacle to surmount.

The bad news was announced that Britain was entering lockdown, and on the twentieth of March, Stonyhurst closed its doors to pupils and staff. The news that examinations were to be cancelled sent Rhetoricians into a state of shock and anti-climax. We gathered together in St. Peter's for a farewell hymn practice, and to bid goodbye to our older pupils. It was an emotional moment, but also one in which I was glad to have participated. The Rhetoric leavers of 2020 were in LG when I started at Stonyhurst, and I got to know them well as their Deputy Playroom Mistress over two years. As the school day ended, the pupils left, and the school, which had been gradually emptying in the preceding weeks, fell quiet. I went home for the Easter break, wondering what we would face when the Summer Term resumed. I personally felt somewhat sceptical about online learning. I had many doubts and questions: how would we keep our pupils engaged? How would we mark work? Would the pupils hand in studies? Would they even log on?

About half way through the Easter holidays, an email landed in my inbox with the schedule for a staff inset agenda like no other. I read it through with dread. "Zoom," "Microsoft Teams," "Classoos," "Webinar..." There was so much to learn and most of it was unfamiliar and strange! However, I was so impressed with the training we had from both Stonyhurst and St. Mary's Hall. Detailed, clear videos on a range of software were provided for staff to energise us and make us feel confident utilising the new technologies. In addition to this, there were live meetings, demonstrating how to use new programmes, troubleshooting, inviting questions and providing support. For those with queries or problems, dedicated email addresses and one to one support was available. At the same time, pupils and even parents were going through a training programme of their own.

Within three days, we were ready to teach a full timetable of online lessons to our pupils.

I cannot stress what a mammoth achievement this was, and I am very grateful to those who were at the forefront of what can only be called a technical revolution!

Friday the 17th of April arrived. This was it. The first day of online teaching. It felt a little like the first day of walking into a classroom with the ink on your QTS certificate still wet. I logged into my lesson with my Grammarians and loaded the resources I was going to be using. Within seconds, my pupils were appearing on the screen. Pupils from Nigeria, Hong Kong, London, and of course, the Ribble Valley! Every single pupil attended the lesson and it was so nice to see them and speak to them. I was astonished and reminded once again of one of the things I love about this job: that the young people we work with can always surprise us.

As the weeks went by, I continued to be impressed with the engagement of the pupils, with their attendance, their ongoing commitment to their work, and the quality of their studies. Although this is not the summer term that any of us envisaged, I feel truly proud to have been a part of a small piece of Stonyhurst history. I still see the merits of pen and ink, but I'll definitely be making use of my document camera and online learning tools for a long time to come. A school as old as Stonyhurst must continue to evolve with the times, whilst also preserving the traditions that give it its character. I think Stonyhurst Anywhere has been a great example of blending tradition with modernity; our long-standing motto of Quant Je Puis is nowhere more apparent than in the approach to a completely new way of teaching and learning.

Mrs Ashworth

Assistant Head of English



STONYHURST
ANYWHERE

Stonyhurst College Virtual Open Day

Saturday 20th June 2020



This Virtual Open Day is your opportunity to find out more about Stonyhurst College.

Stonyhurst is the UK's leading co-educational Catholic boarding and day school. Stonyhurst College offers an unparalleled standard of day and boarding education for pupils aged 13 to 18 years. High teaching standards, small class sizes and independent study sessions help our pupils to achieve strong academic results. Our educational excellence is complemented by an extensive co-curricular programme that presents the opportunity to discover and grow talents outside of the classroom.

All families will start their virtual tour by meeting the Headmaster Mr John Browne. You will then have the opportunity to meet other key members of our staff to talk more specifically about areas you are interested in. To register for this event, please complete the form on this page. Please ensure you indicate who else you would like to speak to during your virtual visit.

We welcome families to join us for our virtual events via online video conferencing tool: Zoom. Click [here](#) to learn how to join a Zoom meeting.

