

From the Headmaster

'Have we educated you in justice?'

The great composer Rossini once said of Richard Wagner's music that it had some 'great moments and awful half hours'. And so it is with the job of a Headmaster. Great moments and awful half hours. Many of the great moments are seeing wonderful performances and triumphs of your sons and daughters in the Academy Room, in the Top Ref, the classroom and laboratory or on the sports field - and even on-line!

Sometimes these great moments come when you least expect them.

This week I was interviewing a prospective pupil for Grammar next year who lives in California in the United States. I'll call her Anna. Anna is 13 years year old and is her Class Rep, enjoys debating and is a member of the Model United Nations, which we also run at Stonyhurst. Anna was a very articulate young person so I decided to ask her the question I often save for Higher Line interviews - 'how are you going to change the world for others'? To my amazement she launched into a passionate speech of how she wanted to become a lawyer to fight for those who were unable to stand up for themselves. To protect the vulnerable and those who were exploited by others. This outpouring of consciousness came without hesitation and with total conviction. Given that Anna is only 13 years of age it certainly made me take note.

It made me think about the phrase of Fr Pedro Arrupe SJ from his now famous address to Jesuit Alumni in 1976 which we know so well at Stonyhurst 'men and women for others'.

Today is the Feast Day of the St Omers Martyrs when we remember the twenty-one members of this College who gave their lives for their faith in the 17th century and are commemorated in the windows of St Peter's Church. Few of us will be called to give our lives for what we believe, although I always find it interesting that there are six windows left blank.





FRIDAY 12 FEBRUARY

From the Headmaster

Arrupe explained that men and women should live not for themselves, but for God and to love 'the least of their neighbours'. Arrupe asked his audience 'have we educated you in justice?' 'Perhaps not enough' he answered.

Two injustices strike me as we approach this much needed half-term break.

Firstly - the inequality of educational experience for young people globally. Our children and young people have enjoyed a seamless educational experience throughout the various lockdowns. This is not shared by all young people.

Secondly - the inequality of availability of the Covid-19 vaccine across the world. This has become even more apparent as the UK vaccine rollout tops 11 million this week. It is clear that in many parts of the world this will simply not be a possibility. We may not have it in our gift to right these wrongs but we can appreciate with gratitude our good fortune, even at a time when the year of restrictions has become tedious and exhausting.

My favourite extract from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians says:

'There must be no competition among you, no conceit; but everybody is to be self-effacing. Always consider the other person to be better than yourself, so that nobody thinks of his own interests first but everybody thinks of other people's interests instead.'

'Have we educated you in justice?' Perhaps not enough.

It has been an amazing half term for Stonyhurst in the most challenging of circumstances and we hope that we shall be able to welcome everyone back as soon as possible. Have a restful half-term.

Best wishes,

John Browne





ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Sporting Success

Lily, one of our talented Rhetoricians, is a British Tennis Champion and has recently achieved a scholarship to the University of Tulsa, which she has gratefully accepted. Tulsa is an NCAA Division 1 Programme which is the very highest standard of American College sports. They play in the American Athletic Conference so Lily will have the opportunity to travel and play against universities in Florida, Oklahoma, and Tennessee.

Lily will be studying whilst also balancing training sessions throughout the week and competitions at the weekend - securing such a prestigious scholarship is a brilliant achievement.

We wish Lily the best of luck from everyone at Stonyhurst - Quant Je Puis!





ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Virtual A Level Computer Science Debate

This week, Poetry Computer Science completed the mock trial of 'Bob', who had hacked into a government server and released sensitive information regarding illegal government spying on citizens.

Getting pupils excited about computer-related legislation is no mean feat, but this was a lively and well-informed debate thanks to their research. Barrister for the defence, Luke, gave an impressive defence (he even dressed up in his Dad's Court outfit); and for the prosecution, Rebecca gave an insightful application of the Computer Misuse Act and GDPR. 'Bob' played by Leo, gave an impassioned confession to the crime; however, Luke's application of the public interest disclosure act and the precedent of Gary McKinnon's pardon was convincing.

Our evidence for the trial was provided by Uche, as a government official, who gave insight to why the government may have been operating the monitoring of citizens. Kacper represented the police conducting the investigation and gave thoughtful comment on why individuals cannot break the law in response to the government breaking the law.

This was a hugely entertaining lesson and I have never heard the Computer Misuse Act linked to the Magna Carta before!

Mrs Rushworth

Head of Computer Science





ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

EAL's British Culture Initiative

It has been a busy fortnight in the English as an Aditional Language Department (EAL), particularly with the British Culture initiative in Mrs Addy's Lower Line lessons. The pupils were treated to a virtual Burns Supper to celebrate the Scottish poet Robert Burns' birthday, with a kitchen demonstration on cooking the Haggis, Neeps and Tatties meal. One of the pupils' tasks was to write an adaptation of 'My heart is in the Highlands', which had some insightful and interesting variations.

Last week saw the groups learning about Viking settlement in the British Isles and the custom of 'Up Helly Aa' in the Shetlands, a festival celebrating the end of winter. Our half term has culminated with a focus on Captain Sir Tom Moore and his endeavours. The pupils used musical lyrics to enhance their acquisition of grammar, talking about 'Heroes'. The Grammar and Syntax pupils were encouraged to use their own personal qualities for the benefit of others, and in the interesting times that we currently live in, to embrace Captain Tom's saying "Tomorrow will be a good day".









ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Syntax Parents' Weekend

Last Saturday we held Syntax Parents' weekend online. A series of videos on subject choices and addresses from the Headmaster and Head of Playroom came before one-to-one consultations. Being online, we had a higher attendance than usual from parents and the feedback we have received has been excellent. Over the half-term break Syntax parents will receive a questionnaire to help us refine our future Parents' Weekends.

We're always looking for ways to further improve communication.











ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

E-Safety

This week saw 'Internet Safety Week' at Stonyhurst. All through the year we take online safety very seriously and use a range of software to make sure that our pupils are safe online. While at home there are additional steps that parents can take to help too. The internet pages below have helpful hints and tips for parents to help them navigate some of the complexities of the online world.

<u>Visit Internet Matters</u> Visit Safer Internet



Drama Monologues

As part the Drama Department's weekly cocurricular activity, please see Portia's entry into the monologue challenge. Portia, one of our Drama Scholars and Lower Grammarians has chosen an excerpt from the production 'Fine', based on the book by Michelle Ashton.

Portia is playing the part of Lucy within the production, which explores the life of a teacher named Will, a counsellor in a 'further education' college. When his pupil, Lucy (played by Portia), is asked what she will reveal to others, she doesn't know how to respond. She is apprehensive about revealing her mother's abuse and the fact that she cannot do anything to resolve it.

The production explores that there is more to someone than initially meets the eye and that we should never judge a book by its cover. The monologue chosen by Portia teaches that it is OK to let go of your emotions and that it is not always possible to be in control of them.



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Pre-Prep Fun Continues

This week, the Hodder House 'keyworker club' has taken part in a pirate-themed drama lesson and enjoyed playing traditional games away from the digital screen whilst using their brains in a different way.... it's always good fun aboard the Good Ship Hodder!

For FS2's Enhancement Activity, pupils were asked to make their own sensory tray/bottles, based on the story 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' by Michael Rosen.

"We had a great time exploring in the woods yesterday and collecting everything to make our own bear hunt. We even got caught in a snowstorm on the way back! Once we returned, Savannah and Austin found their own characters and we read the story several times while going through each element."





















ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Line Competitions

This half-term, the Stonyhurst community was asked once again to rise to the challenges of moving the Line Competition online. As expected, we have more than risen to the challenge! From photography to Stonyhurst MasterChef, The Gerard Manley Hopkins Poetry Prize to 'Stonyhurst Does Countdown', as well as a 5 week distance running challenge, the competitive spirit of the Lines has been very much alive.

Stonyhurst MasterChef certainly showcased some hidden talent among our pupils, OS and parents, but it was perhaps the Stonyhurst staff who surprised us most with their culinary skills. As such, the judges decided to split the competition into a Staff and Parent Competition and a Pupil Competition. In the Staff and Parent competition, Mr Marsden, representing St Omers, placed fourth with his spectacular Sunday roast; Miss Edwards, representing Weld, placed third with a professional-standard chocolate cake extravaganza; Mrs Krekel, representing Shireburn, placed second for her authentic German Rye bread, made using traditional ingredients and techniques; but it was Mr Allanson, representing St Omers, who ultimately triumphed with what must surely be one of the most extravagant dishes ever seen in a cooking competition: Lobster Wellington.

In the Pupil Competition, the judging was even more fiercely contested. There were many hugely impressive entries but ultimately the final four were Calon in Lower Grammar for his three course masterpiece in support of Shireburn; Etienne in Rhetoric, also representing Shireburn, for finding a final resting place for the rainbow trout Peter and Paul; in second place was Nnenna for Weld with her complex and multi-stage prawn and rice dish; and the overall winner was Hima in Lower Grammar for her hugely impressive Vegetarian Wellington featuring pastry made from scratch and an entire allotment of vegetables prepared in a raft of processes. Well done, Hima!

This last week also saw the first episode of 'Stonyhurst Does Countdown'. This was a very closely fought competition and all teams acquitted themselves extremely well. In 4th place were Shireburn; 3rd place was Weld; and, despite five sudden death rounds, St Omers and Campion couldn't be separated so shared the top spot. Well done to Connie and India for St Omers and Amy and Paddy for Campion. This is an unfinished battle that will need to be settled next half-term...







ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Line Competitions Continued

Finally, the challenge was set in January of going out for five progressively longer runs, building up to a full 5k in the final week of the half-term. There has been a core of dedicated runners who have stuck with the challenge throughout and now it is time to recognise their commitment to their Lines!

The pupil who logged the longest cumulative distance this half-term was George in Grammar, representing Weld. Well done to George who has secured 80 points for Weld for being the overall top athlete in the competition. Max in Syntax was in second place scoring 70 points for Weld; JG in Poetry was in third scoring 60 points for Campion; and Lilia in Lower Grammar was in 4th place scoring 50 points for Omers. A significant achievement for these four to top the table over the competition.

The following have also all secured 40 points for their Line by having completed the challenge:

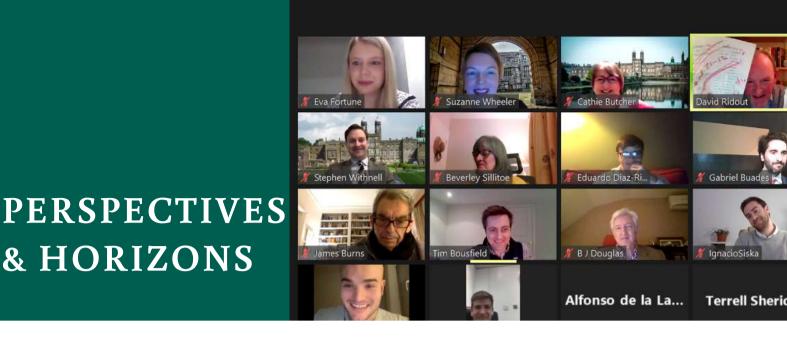
- Eva in Poetry (Campion)
- Will in Grammar
- (St Omers)
- Ed in Poetry (St
- Omers)
- · Mr Mellows (St
- Omers)
- Mrs Crossley (St
- Omers)
- Lilly in Rhetoric (Shireburn)
- Tommy in Rhetoric (Shireburn)
- Mr Wilmore (Shireburn)
- And Mrs Bulloch (Weld)

Congratulations to all our runners!

This means that as we go into the half-term break, the table is as follows:

Campion	St Omers	Shireburn	Weld
590	710	640	680

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Line Competition this term and we look forward to hostilities being renewed after a well-earned rest.



Virtual International Receptions

After such a challenging year, our virtual international receptions are an excellent way of allowing us to strengthen and renew links with our Stonyhurst community around the world, as well as allowing us to reach out to prospective parents who are considering a place at Stonyhurst for their children. So on Wednesday 3rd February we held a reception for our community in Mexico followed by one for our Spanish community on Thursday.

Both events were extremely well attended, and there were separate break out rooms for prospective and current parents of the College to meet with Mr Browne, for prospective and current parents of SMH to meet with Mr Murphy and an OS reunion room led by Mr Withnell.

The Stonyhurst attendees' fondness for Stonyhurst was evident with heartfelt, positive comments and memories being shared. It was a pleasure to witness such happy, engaging conversations.

Our next online reception will be for our community in Germany on Wednesday 10th March. Please contact **development@stonyhurst.ac.uk** for more information.





FAITH THAT DOES JUSTICE

Mass for the St Omers Martyrs

Today, we celebrated our annual St Omers Martyrs' Mass in St Peter's Church, to honour the brave early Stonyhurst pupils who gave up their lives for their Faith.

Fr Robert Persons SJ founded our school at St Omers in 1593.

Following the prohibition of Catholic education in England, several colleges were founded by Englishmen on the Continent, at Douai, Rome and Valladolid.

Father Persons recognised the need for a school to counter the severe laws against Catholic education that existed in England.

Many boys from devout English Catholic families received their education within its walls, over twenty of whom were martyred on their return to England.

Fifteen of that number, martyred for the holy faith between 1608 and 1680, have been raised to the dignity of the altar. They were invoked in the litany sung in our Holy Mass today, and are commemorated on the memorial in the Shireburn Quad, pictured to the right. It is for them that we hold this annual Mass of commemoration.

If you missed the Mass, you are still able to watch it here.



FAITH THAT DOES JUSTICE



Fundraising for the Xavier Project

St Mary's Hall held their annual bake-off fundraiser and outreach for the Xavier Project (supporting the education of refugee children in Uganda and Kenya). The charity was established by Edmund Page OS.

Families donated shop-bought cakes and biscuits which were distributed to the vulnerable and those isolating in Hurst Green. Out thanks to Fr Tim Curtis SJ and David and Gill in Hurst Green, who arranged for them to be delivered. Pope Francis makes the distinction between having a neighbour and being a neighbour.

On Saturday, many pupils baked and held an afternoon tea with their family/bubble - some with their best china and others connecting with extended family online! Donations were made to the Xavier Project via the JustGiving page. Please help support the project by donating here.

The cakes and biscuits were original and of a very high standard. Many incorporated the colours of the Uganda and Kenya flags and the Xavier Project logo. Others decorated their cakes with the words "hope", "peace" and "love" and a few acknowledged the efforts of the NHS during this pandemic. Judging took place for the best cake or biscuits from each Playroom (year group) with the winners receiving a prize and points for their Line.





















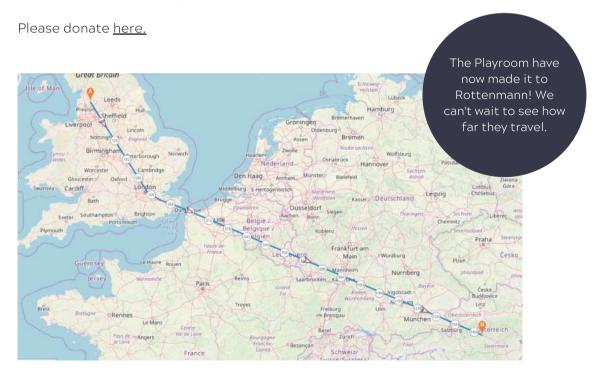
FAITH THAT DOES JUSTICE



Grammar Pupils Travel Across the Globe (Virtually)

The Grammar Playroom are 'traveling' as far as they can across the world throughout February to raise money for a local homeless charity, Nightsafe. Due to the current situation, they will be recording the distance they walk, run, cycle or swim each week using a variety of apps and providing this evidence to their tutor. The distances will be combined each week and plotted on a map to see how far they can travel as a Playroom. Their journey began on Monday the 1st February and final distances will be collected on Monday 1st March.

Nightsafe are a Blackburn with Darwen-based charity who support homeless young people aged 16-24. Their mission is to work with young people who are homeless or are at risk of homelessness to provide accommodation and day centre support, advice and guidance. They help with emergency needs and empower our young people to play a positive part in their local community. Their vision is that every young person that comes to Nightsafe will have a roof over their head, live in a safe environment, be treated with kindness, dignity and respect.



This week is National Apprenticeship Week across the UK. Pupils have been informed about the many online events taking place over the course of the week. The Careers Department meets with pupils interested in apprenticeships to discuss finding an appropriate apprenticeship, applying and interview preparation. This year we have five Rhetoricians actively applying for Degree Apprenticeships in September 2021 and this number is growing every year.

Poets interested in Oxbridge and other Russell Group universities attended a meeting recently and were briefed by staff and OS Oxbridge graduates on how to build a strong university application. Attendees were encouraged to start 'super-curricular' exploration which involves delving deeper into their chosen subject through wider reading outside the classroom. They were also informed about the many pre-interview assessments often required for such prestigious universities.

This week was the final week of Higher Line options interviews with Syntaxians. At this stage they have had their individual interview with Higher Line staff, attended Careers Week and have spoken to Higher Line teachers at Parents Weekend. Syntaxians are now in a good position to choose their Higher Line subjects by the deadline date of February 22.

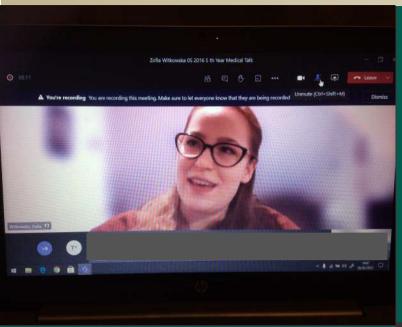
Lower Grammarians will attend a series of careers assemblies in mid-March in line with when they start thinking about GCSE choices, which are due towards the end of April. The Careers Department meets with Grammarians during the month of May and pupils work through a series of careers education activities appropriate for their stage of Lower Line.

Spark Sessions are ongoing and this week pupils were invited to attend a Teams meeting about studying in Europe (through English) presented by Mark Huntington from A Star Future. Previous Spark Sessions have included Studying in Australia and New Zealand, applying to University in the US, Netherlands university applications and studying Hospitality abroad.



Please follow the Careers Department on Twitter <u>@Stonyhurst_Uni</u> to keep up-to-date on the many careers-related virtual events that are happening over the coming months.

Half-Termly Round-Up



A-Level Theatre and Drama - External Speaker

Last month, our Rhetoric A Level Drama & Theatre pupils were joined by the British Theatre Director Michael Fentiman to discuss the practitioner Steven Berkoff.

Michael's expertise in Berkoff stems from his direction of several of his productions including 'East' and 'Messiah'. Michael's 2019 production of 'Amelie' was nominated for three Olivier Awards, including Best New Musical and Best Actress in a Musical. Michael has also worked alongside some of theatre's leading faces, such as Michael Boyd, Rupert Goold, Forbes Masson, Katherine Burke and Miriam Margolyes to name but a few.

Our thanks to Michael for giving up his time to speak with our pupils.



Zofia Witkowska OS16 Gives Talk about her Experience of Medical Studies at UCL

This month, the Waterton Society had the pleasure of meeting Zofia Witkowska, OS16, via Teams, to talk about her experience of medical studies at UCL.

Syntax and Higher Line pupils asked her questions relating to the application process and how the course is taught at UCL. Zophia was able to provide valuable suggestions for preparing to take the BioMedical Admissions Test (BMAT) and University Clinical Aptitude Test (UCAT).

In the last few weeks, continuing to embrace the Stonyhurst school motto, Zofia has been volunteering to support Nurses and Doctors treating Covid-19 patients during the current second wave of the pandemic.



Sporting Success Continues

From British Tennis Champions to professional cricket players, our sporting successes continue to flourish throughout lockdown.

Liberty has been invited to return to training with the Thunder, by Head Coach and former England Head Coach, Paul Shaw. The players are required to train three times a week and Liberty has been fortunate enough to be working alongside her current captain, and former World Cup Winner, Alex Hartley.

Lily recently achieved a scholarship to the University of Tulsa. Tulsa is an NCAA Division 1 Programme, which is the very highest standard of American College sports. Lily will have the opportunity to travel and play against universities in Florida, Oklahoma, and Tennessee.

Half-Termly Round-Up



Scholars' Lecture Guest Speaker

On Thursday 28th January, Mr Charlie Peters (OS) gave this term's Scholars' Lecture. He addressed Stonyhurst's scholars, and other interested pupils, live from LA: in a video meeting via the Scholars' Team. Charlie spoke to us on the subject of narrative and the power of story-telling. As an experienced and successful playwright, Hollywood screenwriter and short-story writer, he was able to draw on a wealth of experience, thoughts and anecdotes to inform and amuse the audience.

His thought-provoking talk included reflections on the 'uniquely human' nature of story-telling, and the ways it has changed over time – and continues to change now.

Careers Support

Over the term so far, there has been a series of initiatives and updates from the Careers Department.

In January, Syntaxians attended a series of Careers education assemblies every morning as part of their Careers Week.

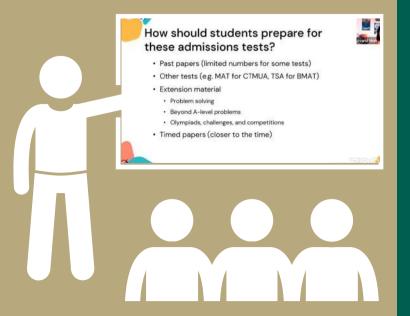
On Wednesday of Careers Week, pupils attended an International Baccalaureate Career-related Programme (IBCP) assembly, to follow on from the Higher Line Option Evening in September, where they were informed about the IBCP course.

Between now and half-term, all Syntaxians had an individual Teams interview with Careers/Higher Line staff in order to discuss their plans for study beyond Syntax.

More information on the Careers Programme can be found on the Careers section of the website <u>here.</u>



Please follow the Careers Department on Twitter <u>@Stonyhurst_Uni</u> to keep updated on the many careers-related virtual events that are happening over the coming months.



Oxbridge Preparation Continues

This Friday sees us bring advice from our OS Oxbridge graduates and staff members to the future crop of applicants for Oxford, Cambridge and other highly competitive universities. Our in-house video of help and advice from a number of recent graduates will help set the scene for those who will make their applications next year.

Mrs Allanson, our Oxbridge and Elite Universities tutor, also attended an online webinar this week to ensure our candidates have the most up-to-date information possible.

Half-Termly Round-Up



Stonyhurst Enterprises Launch New Website

2021 saw the launch of many new digital initiatives. Foremost among them is the new Enterprises website which is accessible to all. It's informative, easy to navigate and more user-friendly than the previous website.

Amongst the new features and images, the site contains detailed information regarding all aspects of Enterprises activity, and the improved and integrated enquiry and booking functionality aims to improve communication with our visitors.

The website gives better access to what Enterprises have to offer, who they are, and how they can make your visit to Stonyhurst one to remember.

Visit here

Stonyhurst Launches Wellness Platform

Another of our digital innovations was the launch of the Stonyhurst Wellbeing Platform, a great addition to our wellbeing provision, especially during lockdown.

The platform allows Stonyhurst to remotely track and monitor pupils' wellbeing, and to give them skills to look after their mental and physical health whilst at home.

Pupils can record their mood regularly which will allow staff members to initiate conversations with those who require support. Co-curricular activities will also feature on the new platform, including the latest 'Wellbeing Workout', which suggests a range of activities for pupils to try during half-term.

Log in here



Comments Companies Show 10 \$ centries Mood Indicator Learning Confidence Restling 6 Week Week Week Health 5 Comment Age Wellbeing Arishtton Shores Li Comment Age Mood Mood Scoris Scoris All-Comment Age Mood Mood Scoris Learning Confidence Show 10 \$ centries Mod Mood Scoris Learning Confidence Show 10 \$ centries Mod Mood Scoris Learning Confidence Show 10 \$ centries Learning Confidence Show 10 \$ centries Mod Mood Scoris Learning Confidence Show 10 \$ centries Learning Confidence Show 10 \$ centries Mod Mood Scoris Learning Confidence Show 10 \$ centries Learning Confidence Learning Confidence Show 10 \$ centries Learning Confidence Show 10 \$ centries Learning Confidence Learning Confidence Show 10 \$ centries Learning Confidence Learning Confidence Learning Confidence Learning Confidence Show 10 \$ centries Learning Confidence Learning Confidence Show 10 \$ centries Learning Confidence Learning Confidence

Stonyhurst Launches Virtual Tour

In January, we launched our state-of-the-art virtual tour providing families with an opportunity to explore Stonyhurst, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

From discovering the breadth of sports facilities to visiting Stonyhurst's very own museum and chapels, the virtual tour offers individuals a unique insight into studying and living at Stonyhurst. The tour is punctuated with information points, which provide further insight into those specific locations through historical facts, imagery and video content.

We hope you enjoyed exploring our campus and wandering our halls in the safest possible way.

Visit the tour

Follow us on Social Media!

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.





Have you joined your Playroom Facebook Group yet?



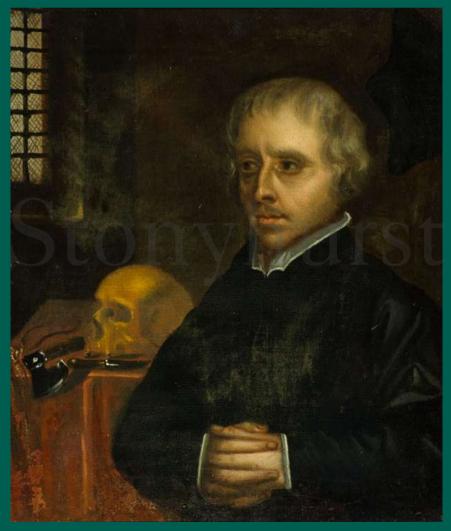
Object of the Week

Portrait of Blessed Thomas Whitbread sj, St Omers Martyr Oil on canvas c 1679 Property of the British Jesuit Province, on loan to Stonyhurst

Can you undergo a hard persecution? Are you content to be falsely betrayed and injured and hurried away to prison? Can you suffer the hardships of gaol? Can you lie in chains and fetters? Can you endure the rack? Can you be brought to the bar and hear yourself falsely sworn against? Can you patiently receive the sentence of an unjust judge condemning you to a painful and ignominious death, to be hanged, drawn and quartered? We can. Blessed be God.

In July 1678 Fr Thomas Whitbread, the Jesuit Provincial, addressed the young men studying for the priesthood at the Jesuit seminary of Liege. His prophetic words were fulfilled for himself less than twelve months later. But in July 1678, his message must have sounded strangely anachronistic. It had been 32 years since a Jesuit priest was last executed, and the English king, Charles II, was well disposed towards religious toleration. Moreover, his younger brother and apparent successor, James Duke of York, had recently converted to Catholicism.

In the peaceful summer of 1678 Thomas Whitbread revisited his old school at St Omers. Whitbread had first arrived at the college of St Omers in 1630 as a boy of twelve years old, from Essex. On leaving the school he entered the Jesuit order, and returned to England as a missionary in the turbulent years of the Civil War and the Cromwellian Commonwealth.



While at St Omers he was approached by Titus Oates, seeking admission to the Jesuit Order. Oates was a troubled and malicious individual who had manipulated his way into St Omers as a pupil despite being over 20 years old. His inappropriate behaviour led to his expulsion from the school after six months. Thomas Whitbread had no option other than to refuse him admittance to the Jesuit Order on the grounds of his demonstrably unstable character. Oates returned to London bent on revenge. He fabricated a plot claiming that English Jesuits planned to kill King Charles and place his Catholic brother James on the throne, triggering a Catholic takeover of Parliament and the country. The Plot fell on credulous ears; in England and Wales anti Catholic and anti-Jesuit hysteria reigned. Knowing nothing of this, Thomas Whitbread returned to London and walked into a furious storm. He was quickly arrested and imprisoned in Newgate gaol awaiting trial for treason. His trial, like so many others, was a foregone conclusion. On June 20th 1679 Whitbread and four other priests were dragged to Tyburn for execution. Thomas Whitbread protested his innocence in the face of impending death and forgave his accusers.

Throughout his life Whitbread had a particular love of music. During the months spent in prison he brought peace and comfort to many other prisoners through his musical skills. Singing was an excellent way to reach out to others, as the sound could travel far beyond the walls of the cell providing comfort and spiritual inspiration.

He was beatified in 1929.

Open Days

St Mary's Hall Virtual Open Day 6th March 2021 9am -2pm

Stonyhurst College Virtual Open Day 13th March 2021 9am-2pm

St Mary's Hall Virtual Open Day 3rd May 2021 9am -2pm

Attending one of our virtual open events is a great way to experience the full spectrum of our school and will provide the opportunity to meet many of our academic and pastoral staff.

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.

Please note, the structure of our Open Days are subject to change as we continue to work in line with the latest guidance on social distancing.

To find out more and to book a place, visit our website.

