



**St Ralph
Sherwin**
Catholic Multi Academy Trust



OUR MISSION

'Growing in faith, serving with love, transforming our world; together in Christ.'

Serving 25 schools in the Nottingham Diocese

PENTECOST 2023 NEWSLETTER

'Outstanding' Ofsted grading for Blessed Robert Sutton

Blessed Robert Sutton Catholic Voluntary Academy in Burton has been graded 'Outstanding' in all areas by Ofsted.

The school is one of only three secondary schools in the country to move from 'Requires Improvement' to 'Outstanding' under the new Ofsted framework. Inspectors said that pupils are extremely proud to be part of this "highly ambitious school" and that leaders have the highest expectations for pupils, who receive a "high quality" education.

The Sutton Way was highlighted in the report, which focuses on academic excellence, spiritual development and social excellence and permeates throughout the school.

"Staff meet the needs of all pupils, including pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities, exceptionally well. Staff welcome pupils warmly into school each morning. Relationships between adults and pupils are positive and



The report said that pupils behave very well in lessons and around school and that they consistently exhibit the school's values of kindness, love and respect.

The school has also been shortlisted in the Secondary School of the Year category at this year's Tes Awards, which take place on June 23.

Schools come together to take part in CAFOD's Big Lent Walk

Schools across the Trust took part in CAFOD's Big Lent Walk, walking 200km in 40 days to help fight global poverty. This was a great opportunity for pupils and staff to live out our Trust Mission, helping to transform our world. Well done to everyone involved!





Pupils surprised by special visitor

A special visitor surprised pupils at Saint Joseph's Catholic Voluntary Academy in Matlock as part of a series of innovative workshops to bring books to life. Lunar the dragon took centre stage in an assembly during which children listened to a mythical story and were invited to use their imaginations to think about what happened next. Parents and staff also joined in the fun as children were invited to tickle Lunar under the chin and take part in a daring game, which involved dodging the dragon to get their hands on a book. Following the first workshop, children in the school's reception and nursery classes met a baby dragon and children in Years 4 and 5 made their own movie using green screen technology.

World Book Day 2023



Saint Joseph's in Matlock



Saint John Houghton



Saint Benedict



St Elizabeth's



St George's



St Alban's



Reflection from our Lead Lay Chaplain, Jamie Agius.

As we move towards the end of the season of Easter, we find ourselves moving through yet another time in our various calendars, religious and non-religious. Hopefully we'll be feeling the warmth of the spring sun on our skin and notice its effects

on the natural world around us. We will also be grateful for the fact that our Lenten sacrifices (some more successful than others) can themselves be sacrificed and left behind.

However, should that really be the case? Shouldn't our time of trying during Lent continue for the whole year? The deepening of our faith through the action of prayer, almsgiving and fasting shouldn't just be a 'once a year thing.' Surely in order to

be the most genuine follower of Christ we should do these things daily, if not hour by hour, minute by minute. If we wait for each Lent to come around before we do these things, will it not be a case of 'one step forward, two steps back'?

So, this Eastertide, let us strive to take our Lenten practices with us throughout the year, so that by the time we get to next Lent, we are a little bit closer to being like Christ.





It's been another very busy few months across our schools. Our pupils are currently working on some big ideas around our new Mission statement

which is 'Growing in faith, serving with love, transforming our world; together in Christ' and our Virtues of Trust, Togetherness and Kindness. We will be discussing these at our next Pupil Parliament meeting which will take place in May, building on the

great work done at our last meeting in September. We will celebrate our Trust Feast Day on December 1st and we plan to give all of our staff and pupils the opportunity to explore our Trust Mission statement, which they helped to develop, along with their own school Mission and Vision.

We will explore how we can live out our Mission in three main ways: supporting locally with the cost of living crisis; supporting communities globally which are in need and living out the words of Laudato si. This means that we will not have an Inset

Day on December 1st but there will be a Trust Inset Day on February 26 to enable all staff to focus on developing themes of teaching and learning across all of our 25 schools.

It has continued to be a very busy time for inspections. We are very aware of some of the sensitivities around Ofsted at this time but we are also extremely proud of all of our staff, governors and pupils who have done so well.

Kevin Gritton
Chief Executive

Praise from Ofsted following inspections

Ofsted inspectors praised Trust schools that have undergone inspections recently. Schools that achieved a 'Good' rating included Saint Mary's in Glossop and St Anne's in Buxton. St Mary's in Derby was graded 'Good' with Outstanding features in four out of five areas while St George's in Derby was graded 'Good' and inspectors said it could be 'Outstanding'.

Christ the King, Saint Mary's in New Mills, St Margaret's and All Saints, both in Glossop, St Thomas' in Ilkeston, all continued to be 'Good' schools.

Holy Rosary in Burton moved from Inadequate to Requires Improvement.

At St Mary's in Derby, inspectors said that following the fire which destroyed the school building in 2020,

Saint Mary's in New Mills has been named the 10th best small school in the Sunday Times Parent Power 2023: best UK schools guide and league table.



leaders had expertly managed the school during an unprecedented period of challenge and despite tremendous difficulty, they have kept the school community together.

At Saint Mary's in Glossop, inspectors said that pupils are happy and enjoy attending the school.



A ground-breaking ceremony took place at the site of the new building for St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy in Derby. Pupils and staff from the school, the Bishop of Nottingham, local clergy, and representatives from the Diocese of Nottingham and the St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi Academy Trust attended the event at the school's Broadway site. The new building is set to be the UK's first biophilic school and is a pilot project for the Department for Education.

Lessons in bridge building, morse code using electrical currents, and communicating via cans were all on the timetable at Saint Mary's in Glossop, as part of British Science Week.



Saint Mary's welcomed 18 Year 8 students from partner secondary school St Philip Howard, who led science lessons working with pupils of all ages.

The Year 8 students planned and delivered the sessions, which included creating a magnet obstacle course and setting up a crime scene investigation.

The day was part of British Science Week- a 10-day celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths.



OUR MISSION IN ACTION

- how pupils across our Trust are living out our Mission and transforming our world

Parents can 'weed while they wait' for their children at St Thomas' Catholic Voluntary Academy when its new eco-garden dream becomes a reality.

A 'flight path' eco-garden is being created at the school, in Ilkeston, after it secured £10,000 from East Midlands Airport's eco-gardens project.

Work is due to start shortly on creating the garden and Headteacher Michael Sellors said everyone was excited to see it come to life.

He said: "The children and staff are looking forward to having an eco-garden where the children can grow their own vegetables and care for local wildlife. We will also have a "weed while you wait" space for parents collecting their children at the end of the day."

The school is one of eight in the St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi Academy Trust that was successful in bidding for the funds.



Year 6 pupils at St John Fisher Catholic Voluntary Academy, in Derby, delivered a beautiful act of liturgical prayer on the theme of Almsgiving, which means donating money or goods to those less fortunate and performing other acts of charity.

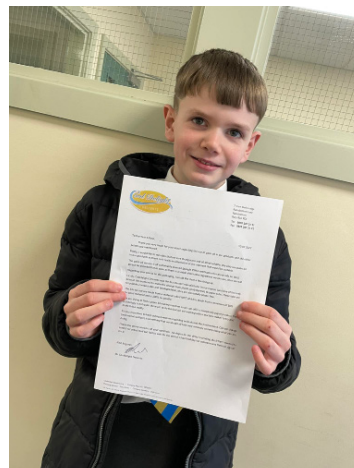


Congratulations to St George's Catholic Voluntary Academy, in Derby, which has achieved CAFOD's LiveSimply Award after taking action to live simply, sustainably and in solidarity with the world's poorest communities.

Pupils from Year 7 to Year 10 at Blessed Robert Sutton Catholic Voluntary Academy in Burton have been undergoing The Diana Award Anti-Bullying Ambassador training. Pupils will be achieving badges throughout the year as well as supporting their peers.



A Year One pupil at St Charles' Catholic Voluntary Academy, in Hadfield, was inspired to retell the story of the Last Supper following a Lenten Service.



Well done to Finlee, from St Anne's Catholic Voluntary Academy in Buxton, who wrote to Cool Delight Desserts about the use of palm oil. He also questioned whether they could consider using paper packaging. He received a response to his questions and the company said it aimed to use the least amount of plastic and products that could damage the planet.

