



ST ANDREW'S RC SECONDARY SCHOOL

CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK 2023

Catholic Education Week takes place each year from the Feast of St Margaret of Scotland (16th November) until the Feast of St Andrew (30th November). Schools and parishes are asked to consider which week within this fortnight best suits their local community for marking this important aspect of the school year.



The Catholic Church in Scotland encourages schools, parishes and other agencies to work closely together in order to celebrate the successes of Catholic education particularly during one week each year. The purpose of Catholic Education Week is to highlight the significance of education, not only for young people but for society as a whole. Students, parents, teachers and others are asked to reflect on their own roles in the education process – at home, in school, in the local parish.

For Catholic Education Week 2023, resources are provided to support schools and parishes to address the theme: **"Pilgrims of Faith."** While these can be used throughout Catholic Education Week itself, many can be used at other times throughout the school year, leading to a deeper understanding of the theme.

"The beauty of the Christian faith lies not in its theological explanations but in the lives of people who dedicate themselves to prayer, charity and sharing the Gospel...Be discoverers of beauty, seekers of the treasures of faith...because faith cannot remain a memory of the past, something 'museum-like.' No, it always lives again in the joy of the Gospel, in the community made up of people, in the assembly of those who experience mercy and recognize themselves as brothers and sisters loved by God by grace..."

Always remember: the witness of life communicates the beauty of faith,"



Pope Francis





HEAD TEACHER MESSAGE

As a community of faith, learning and service, we believe that our mission is to nurture each young person by placing Christ and his teachings at the centre of their lives.

God created each one of our young people as a unique person and we endeavour to meet their needs as individual, and help them to develop their talents, discover new skills and to face the future with hope.

Our origins as a Marist school echo strongly in the words of the orders founder, St Marcellin Champagnat who exhorts all in our school – “To educate children you must love them, and love them all equally”. and so we have high expectations of our pupils; we expect them to work hard but also to take a full part in the life of the school. In return, we strive to provide the best teaching, learning and opportunities in a caring and supportive environment, where pupils are challenged and give of their best.

The theme of Catholic Education Week is Pilgrims of Faith – throughout this newsletter, you will see many examples of our young people and staff sharing in the mission of our school.

Please continue to support pray for all in our school community – as we will for you.

Kind regards

John McGhee.

Head Teacher





OGILVIE AWARD

**“Whatever you did for one of the least
of my brothers you did for me”**

Matt 25:40

The Ogilvie Award is named after our first Head Teacher, Brother John Ogilvie. In his initial address to parents and carers, he wished that our young people be immersed in actions that were deemed ‘noble and worthwhile’.

Part of realising our mission is to create a vibrant Catholic school community where every young person finds meaning and purpose in their life through experiencing continual personal growth; our school places an extremely high value on the importance of being a good citizen – regardless of background.

This monthly award is intended for those young people who go above and beyond expectations in demonstrating compassion and service to others.

Winners 2023

January - Kobi Connolly

February - Kadijah George & Gemma Reolon

March - Caden Turnbull

May - Lewis Murdoch

June - Susan Neilson

September - Codi Milne

October - Farrah McIvor & Summer Weir





S1 RETREATS

This Autumn we have held our S1 Retreats in St Joseph's (Tollcross). The retreats help our young people to explore their faith and achieve their full potential, through creative activities, discussions, games and prayer.

Over 350 of our S1 pupils have participated in the retreats led by the RE department.



S1 WELCOME MASS

On Thursday 31 August we had the most special night at our S1 Welcome Mass. Thanks to all young people, parents/carers & staff who attended. Special thanks to Father Stephen for celebrating Mass, the Faculty of Performing Arts for the beautiful music and the Faculty of Health and Food Technology for the delicious food and refreshments.

MADRID TRIP

In late October, 70 young people and 7 staff travelled to Madrid for a week of football and culture.

While in Madrid, the group celebrated a very special Mass in the Parish of Nuestra Senora de La Misericordia in the Vallecas district.





WAYSIDE CLUB

Since early September, groups of Sixth Year young people and staff have been volunteering on Wednesday evenings at the Wayside Club. The centre offers food, company and access other services for homeless and vulnerable people 365 days of the year. Our young people have shown exceptional commitment and compassion in helping others.





CARITAS AWARD 2023–24

The Pope Benedict XVI CARITAS AWARD encourages and promotes the ongoing faith journey of young people. It recognises that some are already active and committed within their homes, schools, parishes and dioceses and it invites others to respond to God's call of love. It supports and celebrates the faith witness which young people give within their communities.



Introduced in 2011, as part of a legacy of the UK visit of Pope Benedict XVI in September 2010, this award asks young people to use their faith learning as a starting point for further faith reflection, leading to actions which show their faith witness. Participants in the Caritas Award will be supported in deciding how they can develop and use their gifts in a way that witnesses to God's love ("Caritas") in their communities. We are challenged to use our talents for the service of others and so we at St Andrew's have around 100 young people involved with Caritas Award – young people commit to be of service in their schools, parishes and communities.





ST ANDREW'S HOSPICE BEN NEVIS CHALLENGE

Our school continues to support the fantastic work of our friends at St Andrew's Hospice.

On Saturday 2 June, a group of intrepid staff and young people scaled Ben Nevis on a very hot Saturday morning - they were able to raise over £800 to help in the running of the hospice.



ST ANDREW'S HOSPICE 6KM

On Sunday 17 September, around 70 senior pupils and staff took part in the hospices annual 6K Fun Run/Walk.

As well as raising over £1000, our own Mr Murray (PE) was the winner of the male staff race for a second year in a row, while Miss McLellan came second in the female staff race.





JUSTICE AND PEACE SCOTLAND

On Tuesday 24 October Anne-Marie Clements from Justice and Peace Scotland spoke to our Sixth Year students on their work and putting faith into action.



CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK PRAYER

Jesus our Teacher, in your love for us, help us to develop our own talents, so that we may become like you and lead lives of goodness.

Bless all learners and all teachers. May our Catholic schools continue to serve our families, our communities and our country.

Help us, through our learning, to believe in you and to celebrate the life of your Church. Help us to grow in holiness as we grow in friendship with you and try to become saints.

We make this prayer in the name of Jesus, our Lord.

Amen.

ST JOSEPH'S AND ST JOACHIM'S FOODBANK

Our Sixth Year young people have been assisting at the Foodbanks at St Joseph's (Tollcross) every Tuesday and St Joachim's in Carmyle every Friday.

