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Headteacher's idea for bored schoolboys turned them into 'best' pupils



50 years ago today, a group of bored Sixth Form students approached their Headmaster Brother Kerrigan. They requested they be able to start a youth club at the College on Friday nights.



He agreed - but there was a catch. The youth club also had to welcome local adults with learning difficulties, and the boys were tasked with making sure those members also had a great time. More than five decades later, the student-led mission continues, still receiving adults with special educational needs by engaging them in activities like bingo and pool, while helping the boys to be the best versions of themselves.



The College held a 50th Anniversary party to commemorate this amazing club. Attendees included Mr and Mrs Norman who met at the Friday Club 44 years ago and their son Joe and his wife Laura who met there 20 years ago! Sister in law Judy also pictured. Judy's mum - Jean Norman was a regular at the Friday Club for many years as she was the College Librarian until her retirement in 1998.



On Tuesday, 29th April, Years 7-10 attended a celebratory mass at Our Lady's Church, Cavendish Street. This was a votive mass to mark the **Feast of St. Anselm**, 21st April, and also the **Feast of Blessed Edmund Rice**, 5th May.

Brother Kerrigan Walk:

A special note of thanks to all who have sponsored our students for the Brother Kerrigan Walk over the past 5 years. Your support has helped raise £15,000, which has funded the construction of a well in Mabureh, Sierra Leone. This year's walk held special significance during the Church's Year of Jubilee, aligning with the call to be Pilgrims of Hope. Carrying our Jubilee banner from Leasowe to Seacombe, our students honoured Brother Kerrigan's mission by bringing hope to others through this symbolic pilgrimage.



We had the honour of welcoming Dr Wayne Tinsey, **Edmund Rice Education Beyond Borders (EREBB)** Global Ambassador. Dr Tinsey shared his wisdom and passion with both students and staff, inspiring us with his reflections on the transformative power of an Edmund Rice education.

Our Sixth Form students took part in the **Gaudete Pilgrimage of Hope in Liverpool**, journeying from St. Patrick's Church to the Metropolitan Cathedral. Organised by the Gaudete Trust, the event invited students to reflect on the theme of hope, both in Liverpool's Catholic history and in their own lives, echoing the Church's Year of Jubilee call to be Pilgrims of Hope.



Edmund Rice Society:

This final half-term saw the Sixth Form Edmund Rice Society put on their inaugural 'Model United Nations.' The Edmund Rice Society specifically seeks to uphold the special charism which the Christian Brothers have given to our College. One way in which it does this is through its connection with Edmund Rice International (ERI). This is a Christian-Brother led lobbying group based at the United Nations in Geneva, where it works to monitor and unite countries against human rights abuses. As part of this connection, two members of our Society are nominated to visit Geneva every year, where they learn both about the work of the ERI and of the United Nations more broadly. This has a direct impact on how students shape and lead the society.

This year we ran a special 'Human Rights Campaign' during Advent which mimicked the work of the ERI in the way that it gave a deep-dive view of the human rights situation in Sierra Leone. ERS members also wrote to our MP Alisson McGovern to express concerns about the Assisted Dying Bill, and invited her into College to field questions from Years 12 and 13.

Finally, the ERS has run its Model UN for KS3 students. Representatives were nominated from their forms and, in lunchtime meetings over four days, the ERS helped to guide them through the debating and voting process, closely mirroring the proceedings of the United Nations General Assembly.

Students were given the opportunity to learn in-depth about the countries they were representing; to examine international issues and alliances closely from the perspectives of human rights and conflict resolution; and to learn how to achieve a political consensus through compromise. The event was deemed to be a great success, and there are plans to host something similar for the Sixth Form in the new academic year.

Mr Kearney (Chaplain)



Celebrating Academic Excellence

Young Reporter



Over the past eight months, Joshua Jakrzewski Year 13, Jack Hall and Jack Banks Year 12 completed the **Young Reporters' Scheme**.

All three students have shown exceptional commitment and produced journalism of a high standard, all whilst balancing their regular studies. Since its launch with Newsquest Media Group in 2008, the scheme has expanded across the UK, each year welcoming fresh perspectives from young reporters. The programme offers a unique opportunity to experience the newsroom from the inside, covering local stories, conducting interviews, and working to tight deadlines. In doing so, students gain a wide range of transferable skills, from research and communication to critical thinking and time management.

Congratulations once again - we look forward to reading your headlines in the future!

Have you got skills in designing and making products?



Dominic Chackada has recently excelled in **A Level Design & Technology** and is now set to pursue an exciting career in Engineering. From September 2025, he will join Jaguar Land Rover's prestigious Level 6 Applied Professional Engineering Degree Apprenticeship (APEP).

Dominic will work on the design of key vehicle components whilst studying part-time for a B.Eng at the University of Warwick. Over four years, he will gain hands-on experience with cutting-edge technology—including CAD design, simulations, and prototype testing—on both current and future vehicles, including electric and hybrid models. Dominic's final prototype met all of the major requirements of the specification, providing a compact, hygienic, accessible, and aesthetically pleasing display system with a range of features, such as motion-sensor lighting and a mechanical lid-opening system. Congratulations, and we look forward to seeing the innovations you will help bring to life.

Mr McLoughlin

Poetry



Congratulations to two exceptionally talented Year 7 students, Harry Kenwright and Orelouwa Adewole, who have been highly commended for their entries in the **Christopher Salmon Poetry Competition 2025**, part of the Wirral Poetry Festival. This very special competition is held in memory of Christopher Salmon, a poetry enthusiast and former Calday Grammar School student who sadly passed away in February 2009, aged just 15. May his name continue to be remembered through this wonderful competition.

Year 12 Students Embark on Miniature English Language Investigations:

As part of their introduction to the A Level English Language 'Language in Action' coursework, Year 12 students recently completed mini language investigation projects to develop their independent research skills ahead of their non-exam assessment.

Working in groups, students formed hypotheses, designed methodologies, and analysed data on topics of their choice, presenting their findings to peers for discussion and critique.

Their investigations covered a diverse range of topics, including:

- A linguistic comparison of lyrics by Frank Sinatra and Slipknot
- How teachers adapt language for different age groups
- The influence of gender on language in political discourse

The students showed impressive analytical skills and a growing grasp of linguistic theory, laying strong foundations for their upcoming NEA projects. Mrs McKinley.



Expressive Painting in Art:

Year 8 students have studied renowned comic book artists to create self-portraits as superheroes, considering colour, shape, and form in costume design.

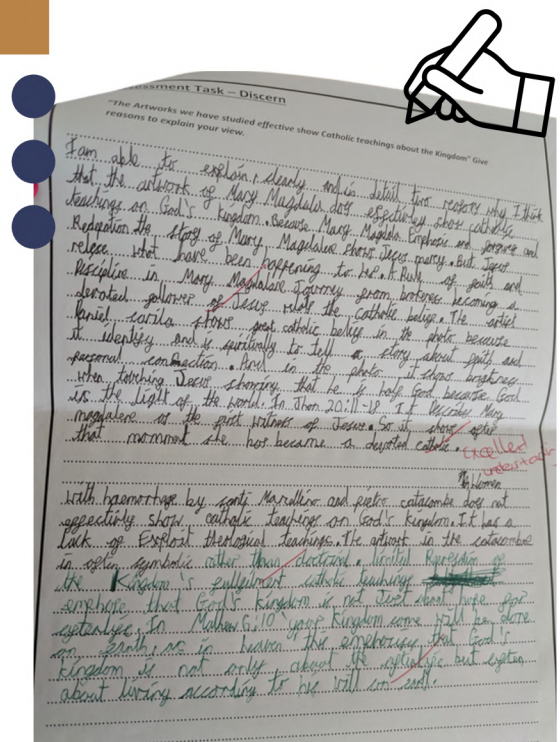
During a **GCSE** class visit to Liverpool students photographed iconic architecture and sculptures around the city and in the Walker Art Gallery. Students used Photoshop to explore several compositions before using a grid to accurately enlarge their chosen composition onto the large scale canvas. Attention to detail, ambition, scale and confidence with paint are an impressive record of their skills and hard work in Art coursework. Mrs Mills.



Celebrating Academic Excellence

Developing students to read and write like Theologians and Philosophers in Religious Education.:

Our KS3 Religious Education curriculum is inspired by Plutarch's idea that "the mind is not a vessel to be filled but a fire to be kindled." We aim not only to impart knowledge but to ignite curiosity, reflection, and deep thinking, helping students grow into theologians and philosophers of the future. The curriculum encourages students to ask profound questions about truth, justice, and existence while engaging with sacred texts and religious ideas from the Catholic tradition and beyond. Through reading, discussion, and extended writing tasks, students develop skills in religious language, use of evidence, and critical thinking, enabling them to read and write like theologians. Our goal is to cultivate religious literacy and foster respectful, informed engagement with diverse beliefs and values, ultimately kindling a lifelong interest in the big questions of life and faith. Miss Monk



Amazing results in the recent Maths Challenge.

Dexter Doyle and Malachy Cubbin Year 10 were in the top 7500 students across Years 10 and 11 in the whole of the country so qualified for the 'Pink Kangaroo' Maths Challenge. Dexter then finished in the top 10%. This puts him in the top 750 mathematicians across all Year 10s and 11s in the country! I can not wait to see how they perform when they're in Year 11! Miss Browning



Experimenting in Science



We have been awarded the '**National School Attendance Award**' for the Autumn/Spring/Summer Term 2024/25. Congratulations to all our students and their outstanding 100% attendance.

Hockey Alumni Update:

The Hockey Alumni has gone from strength to strength this year. For the past four years, we've entered a men's league with a team made up of current students and ex-pupils—offering a great opportunity for our students to develop their skills alongside experienced players. This year's support has been outstanding, with over 40 former students regularly travelling from across the country to represent the College. Mr Edwards.



A huge congratulations to the Year 7/8 **Touch Rugby Team**, who were victorious at the National School Championships. Definitely a team to watch for future success. A special shoutout to Alfie Wheeler, who was awarded Most Valuable Player for his outstanding performance.

Cricket Update:

It has been a fantastic few months for cricket at the College, with over 65 students taking part and many impressive team and individual performances. The Senior XI have shown great commitment, playing lunchtime indoor games and fixtures against schools including Birkenhead, Kings Chester, Wirral, and St Mary's.

KS3 also saw strong wins, with Year 7 making history by reaching the Cheshire Cup Final—the first St. Anselm's team to do so in eight years, after victories over Calday, Wirral, and Helsby.



Athletics Update:

Congratulations to the Athletics Teams who competed at the 2025 ESAA **National Final** in Chelmsford, Essex.

The Juniors finished 8th with a score of 472 points, finishing the highest ranked Team North of London. Platinum performances from Oliver M (Discus, 300m), Jack A (Hurdles, Triple Jump), and Jack H (Hammer, 100m).

The Inters finished 12th with a score of 474 points, finishing the highest ranked Team in the North of England. Platinum performances from Malachi H (Javelin, 800m). Individual platinum performances from Michael P (1500m), Dylan H (Hammer).



2025 National Finalist Athletics Team



Michael P



Dylan H



Mac L



Lukasz G

Year 9 T1 Rugby Team Crowned National Series Champions

Congratulations to the Year 9 T1 rugby team on their outstanding achievement in winning the National Series Final.

As part of a mixed event, the team competed alongside players from West Kirby Girls School, and both sets of students delivered excellent performances throughout the tournament. Their success has earned them an exciting invitation to play at Twickenham Stadium during half-time of an England Autumn International—a fantastic opportunity and a well-deserved reward for their hard work and teamwork.



Gaelic Football Champions:

Just when we thought we had covered every sport!

Congratulations to Pearse and James on their selection to play Gaelic football with Lancashire GAA in Ireland





Enrichment - Trips - Visits

Duke of Edinburgh Award:

A huge thank you to our team of volunteers who support students not only on the expedition but through out the planning and preparation stages also. A special thank you to Miss Browning and Mr Williams.

Eight Year 13 students recently completed their Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award qualifying expedition. This took place in Snowdonia with participants walking almost 50 miles over the 4 days. They encountered all types of weather but spirits remained high and they were a credit to our College. We look forward to them attending Buckingham Palace to receive their awards! Well done everyone. Over 90 Year 10 students have just completed the Bronze Award!



Annual Subject Specific Trips.....



Amalfi Coast



Munich



Belgium

Spanish Immersion:

St Anselm's families hosted students from Maristas School Santa María de la Capilla, Jaén, for 5 days. The students from both schools have had an amazing time together! From spending time with a family at home to visiting famous landmarks such as Goodison Park, The Royal Liver Building, Chester Zoo and the beautiful beaches of Wirral, we have enjoyed the company of our new friends from Jaén in Andalusia, Spain. We are looking forward to our return visit in October when St Anselm's students will stay with their Spanish families.



Enrichment



A group of KS4/5 students tested their detective skills and successfully completed the 'Escape the Fort' challenge!

Gt. Angelini's Rock Band Crowned Winners of Primal Live Song Contest



Resilience Personal Development Sessions for Years 7–10:

As part of our ongoing commitment to student well-being, students in Years 7 to 10 participated in a series of resilience-focused sessions delivered by the RAISE Team from the Merseyside Youth Association. To inform and enhance the support provided to children and young people, the RAISE Team conducted resilience and well-being surveys. These surveys aimed to gain valuable insights into the resilience levels of young people across the city, helping to shape more effective practices for those working with this age group. The sessions were carefully designed to help students develop a deeper understanding of resilience—what it is, how it can be cultivated individually, and the role that peers, family, school, and external services can play in supporting it. Students also explored the Resilience Framework, an evidence-based tool developed by academics at the University of Brighton (Resilience Framework – Liverpool CAMHS).

Each year group engaged with tailored content:

- Years 7 & 8 focused on building and maintaining healthy friendships.
- Year 9 explored the impact of the online world on resilience and well-being.
- Year 10 concentrated on managing exam-related stress and developing strategies to support academic performance.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Mia, Lucy, Rosie, and Rhiann from the RAISE Team for their dedication and for delivering these impactful sessions to our students.



Alumni Links

Celebrating Outstanding Scholar Anselmian John Barron

We congratulate John Barron who has just completed his Master of Arts with Honours in Theological Studies, graduating with First Class distinction. His academic journey has not only been marked by excellence but also by a sincere pursuit of truth and faith in the Anselmian tradition. John's remarkable achievements have earned him two of the highest academic honours: the Samuel Rutherford Prize, awarded for the most distinguished Senior Honors Work, and the Gray Prize, recognising the best essay relating to the Divinity curriculum. I wonder who his GCSE RE and A-level Theology teachers were...



A journey to the top of the world.

We had the honour of welcoming back Paul Anderson, a former student of The College (1979–1986), who returned to inspire our KS4 students with a powerful presentation on the strength of visualisation and the impact of positive self-talk.

In May 2024, Paul and his son achieved a breathtaking milestone—becoming the first father-son duo to reach the summit of Mount Everest via the challenging Tibet route.

Their incredible journey was more than just a personal triumph; together, they raised over £130,000 for Dementia UK.

What an inspiration!

Annual Golf Day

On June 20th, Anselmians gathered for the 11th Annual Golf Day at Wirral Golf Club, with one alumnus even flying in from Hong Kong for the occasion. It was great to see younger alumni joining in, despite some questionable handicap claims! The day ended with a win for Vinny O'Connor (his third title) and Philip Wood, both from the Classes of 1994 and 1995, alongside Wayne Miller and Richard Armstrong. Thanks to Wirral Golf Club and Pickled Walnut for their warm hospitality. We look forward to welcoming even more alumni, family, and friends at future Anselmians Association events.



Careers

Year 12 Trip to Cambridge

Year 12 set off in style in our new mini-bus for an overnight stay at Cambridge University. They spent the day exploring the campus, attending lectures and immersed themselves in University life.



Year 10 Work Experience

Our Year 10 are enjoying a week of work experience in a vast range of industries and companies across the country! Lewie is spending the week with Mersey Ferries. Oscar is refining his joinery skills with R&R Wirral Construction Ltd. Ethan, Louise & Dylan are having a blazing time with Merseyside Fire and Rescue Services. Oliver is working with leading UK independent specialist provider of quality aviation - Aerocare.



Year 8 STEM Challenge

On Thursday 3rd July 30 students from Year 8 took part in a STEM. Students were actively involved in a range of tasks from Coding, Science, Engineering and Human workspace Design.



Congratulations to the winning team of Teddy, Luke, Ernie, Lynton and Harrison for their outstanding Design Solution for a new school dining room.

Farewell for now.....

Year 11

We proudly welcomed back our amazing Year 11 students to bid a heartfelt 'See you soon'. We look forward to seeing all students back in College at 8am on Thursday 21st August to celebrate their results and welcome them to Sixth Form.



Year 13

Year 13 students have enjoyed a series of memorable celebrations marking the end of their journey at the College, beginning with their Year 13 Mass — a fitting bookend to the Year 7 Mass that welcomed them into the Anselmian community. Their final year was filled with significant milestones, including the Colours Award Presentations, the much-anticipated (and famously lively) Anselmian Association BBQ, and culminating in a glamorous Prom at Thornton Manor.

We wish all our Year 13 leavers the very best of luck as they embark on their next chapter, and we look forward to welcoming them back to College to share their experiences and inspire the next generation of Anselmians



Welcome New Year 7

A warm welcome to our new Year 7 students who enjoyed a fantastic Induction Day with their new Form Groups. We look forward to seeing them again at the Rugby Camp at the end of August and for their second Induction Day on Tuesday 2nd September.



#OGA - Friends of St. Anselm's



We are absolutely thrilled to share some incredible news—thanks to your generosity, we now have not one, but TWO new minibuses! An enormous thank you to everyone who kindly donated to our GoFundMe campaign. Your support has been truly overwhelming and will have a lasting impact on our students and wider community. A very special thank you to our amazing sponsors whose generosity helped bring this vision to life:

- ✦ Savi Property
- ✦ RS Kerr Ltd
- ✦ Creek Metals Ltd
- ✦ PRL Site Solutions Ltd
- ✦ Allport Dental
- ✦ UIL Blending Sol
- ✦ D2I Systems Ltd
- ✦ Dropjaw Ventures
- ✦ Cavendish Nuclear
- ✦ The Allen Family



A very special thank you goes to the Kerr Family, especially Richard, for his unwavering commitment and dedication to this project. Your drive and heart helped steer this from dream to reality. Due to your support, our students will now have even greater access to the wide range of enrichment activities that are such a vital part of life at the College.

What a year it has been....

Farewell and Thank You

We extend our sincere thanks and best wishes to:

Mr. McGowan, Mr. Watson, Mr. Steepe, Mr. Morgan who are retiring this year and Mrs. Lyth, and Mr. Harris who are moving on to a new and exciting chapter in their career.

We thank them for their commitment, passion, and dedication to teaching over the years. Their contributions have left a lasting impact on students and colleagues alike, and they will be greatly missed.

*Good bye
and
Good luck*



Dear Parents and Carers,

As my first year as Headteacher comes to a close, I wanted to take a moment to express my thanks for your incredible support throughout what has been a truly eventful and memorable year.

From the projector and IT shutting down during my first ever Open Evening speech to leading our Year 7 Welcome Mass without a priest. From learning to ski in Canada alongside 100 students to navigating an Ofsted inspection. From celebrating outstanding academic achievements to reaching National Finals (I've lost count how many!). From Car Boots, Race Nights, Wreath Making, Discos and Christmas Showcases to two new mini buses!

What has kept me going through it all has been the unwavering support from our dedicated staff, our wonderful students, and most importantly, you, our parent and carers. Your encouragement, especially through the overwhelmingly positive comments in the Ofsted Parent View questionnaire, has meant more than I can say. Thank you for believing in our College and for being such a vital part of our journey. Here's to an even greater and more successful year ahead. Indeed, success is modest improvement done consistently!

I wish you all a restful, peaceful, and joyful summer.

With best wishes,

Mrs. Cubbin



Year 9 Mass on the Brothers' Lawn
July 25