



ST ANDREW'S RC SECONDARY SCHOOL

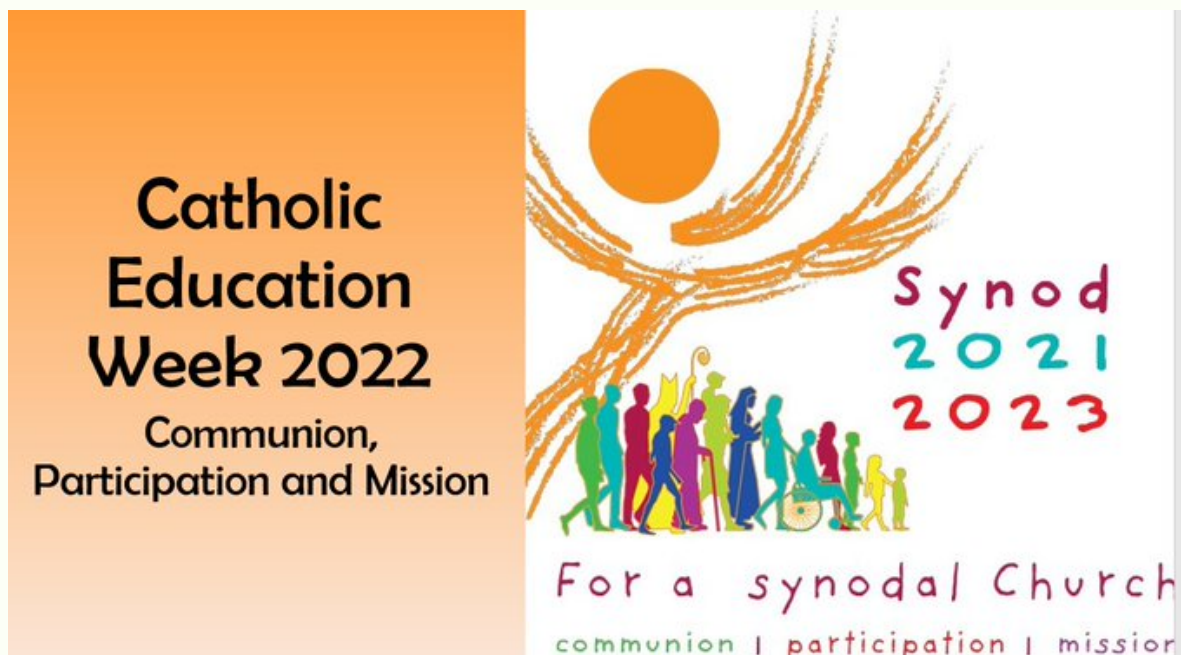
CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK 2022

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 2022, resources are provided to support schools and parishes to address the theme: "Communion, Participation, Mission". 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.





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 Communion, Participation and Mission – 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

Mr J 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 2022

January - Kelsey Marie Miller (S6)
February - Father Joe
March - Ryan Kane (S6)
April - Jessica, Emanuella and Anna Koffie
June - Mr Manclark
September - Abby Kelly



NEW SCHOOL CHAPLAIN – FR STEPHEN HANNAH

We welcome to our school, Fr Stephen Hannah as our new chaplain. Fr Stephen was Parish Priest for the parishes of Holy Family and St Ninian's in Kirkintilloch and is now based in St Joseph's, Tollcross – he was also school chaplain to St Ninian's High School in Kirkintilloch. We also give thanks for the fantastic support given to us by Fr Joe Mills over the past five years – despite celebrating his 80th birthday recently, Fr Joe is a very much loved member of staff and a fantastic example of a good shepherd.





REVISED MISSION STATEMENT

We recently have revised our Mission statement for our school – which is a Catholic community that promotes faith, service and inclusion, provides enrichment and nurtures lifelong learning.



S1 RETREATS

The work of URSpace is imaginative and lively, helping young people in Catholic schools and parishes 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 retreats given by UR Space and the Salesian Sisters.





CELTIC FOUNDATION

Our staff and young people are involved extensively with the Celtic Foundation. Last week we participated in their Christmas Bucket Collection outside Celtic Park. The festive period, although ordinarily a joyous time for most, is often one of the most difficult times of the year for those who are struggling financially. However, the ongoing cost of living crisis poses an even greater challenge this winter for so many.

By helping with the appeal, our school community wants to give hundreds of families in our local area the Christmas they deserve, making sure there's food on the table and gifts under the tree. Additionally, we have been able to help pensioners, women and children in refuge, the homeless community and refugees – as well as a whole host of others facing poverty and hardship.



AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED RALLY

Fantastic day with some of our students for the #ACN Rally. We were able to speak to young people in the Ukraine about their experience of faith and living through war. We then joined together to pray for peace. Our young people were a credit to us!



HONESTY



FAIRNESS



FORGIVENESS



LOVE



KINDNESS



CARITAS AWARD

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 over 60 young people involved with Caritas Award - young people commit to be of service in their schools, parishes and communities.





CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP IN SCHOOLS

As part of our partnership with St Mary's University in Twickenham, over 20 members of staff have taken part in career long professional learning opportunities. Over three evenings, our staff have taken part in the following areas of Catholic education:

- Session 1 - Catholic Education: The development of Catholic education, mission, and vocation.
- Session 2 - Leadership and Management: Exploring current leadership and management theories and Gospel values.
- Session 3 - Spiritual and Theological Foundations: Exploring spirituality and servant leadership in Catholic schools.

S1 MASS OF WELCOME

On Thursday 1 September 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 Joe for celebrating Mass, the Faculty of Performing Arts for the beautiful and the Faculty of Health and Food Technology for the delicious food and refreshments.

ST ANDREW'S HOSPICE

Our school continues to support the fantastic work of our friends at St Andrew's Hospice. In August, a group of intrepid staff scaled Ben Nevis on a very wet Saturday morning - they were able to raise over £800 to help in the running of the hospice.



Later in the year, a large number of 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 race in a time of 24:23.



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RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS

"The UK Committee for UNICEF (UNICEF UK) works with schools in the UK to create safe and inspiring places to learn, where children are respected, their talents are nurtured and they are able to thrive. Our Rights Respecting Schools Award embeds these values in daily school life and gives children the best chance to lead happy, healthy lives and to be responsible, active citizens.



Using the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) as our guide, we are working with more UK schools than almost any other organisation. Over 1.6 million children in the UK go to a Rights Respecting School and nearly 5,000 schools up and down the country are working through the Award. Schools work with us on a journey to become fully Rights Respecting.

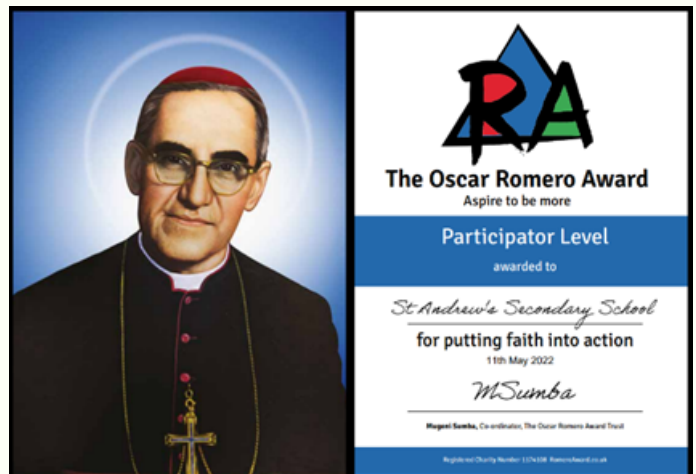
The Award recognises a school's achievement in putting the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child into practice within the school and beyond.

OSCAR ROMERO AWARD

We are currently the only school in Scotland that has been awarded the Oscar Romero Award which supports our school in realising and living the unique calling of a Catholic school to become an evangelising centre by empowering young people and staff to become true agents of the change they want to see in the world by putting their faith into action.

We put into practice the things we learn about the love of Jesus through our own acts of witness, in our contributions to charities:

- St Andrews Hospice - Ben Nevis Challenge/6KM Run
- Volunteering at the Wayside Club for homeless
- LaSallian Developing World Projects
- School Food and Clothing Bank
- Aid to the Church in Need



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