

Summer is just around the corner, the weather has started to improve and everyone is looking forward to an extremely exciting last week of term when students will enjoy Sports Day, Trips out, Share Day and on the last day of term, end of year liturgies and an early finish! I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. I can assure you that the governors, my Leadership team and my staff are hard working, conscientious and determined to ensure your child continues to receive the best education. This has already been recognised by Ofsted and we continue to work together – to become the outstanding Catholic school we know we can be. Mr Logue, July 2015

Celebration Evening 2015 This is the most formal occasion upon which we celebrate the hard work, talents and achievements of our pupils during the last academic year. It is an evening where we both reward and inspire our great pupils to continue to excel in all their pursuits and is a memorable evening for the pupils and their parents. It makes me extremely proud and gives me great pleasure to mark the achievements of our students in effort, achievement, attendance and contributions to the liturgical, sporting and creative aspects of College life.

Mossley Cup – ‘Excellent performance in Year 7’, Laurence Cull
St Ann’s Cup – ‘Excellent Performance in Year 8’, Reyna Mistry
Headteacher’s Trophy, ‘Excellent Performance in Year 9’, Eleanor Burgess
Williamson Trophy – ‘Excellent Performance in Year 10’, Ciara Blackhurst
Fr. Kelly Cup – ‘Outstanding Contributions to all Areas of College Life’, Jaime Lowe
Peter Jackson Award – ‘Young Leader Award’, Amy Terry
Father Sheahan Award – ‘Award for Work in the Wider Community’, Faith Roberts & Mollie Jo Wood

The Olympic Award, first created to coincide with Britain hosting the Olympic Games, represents those pupils who are an example to the whole community of the Olympic Values of Friendship, Respect and Excellence – along with the four Paralympic values – Determination, Inspiration, Courage and Equality. This year, this fantastic award was presented to Shauna Griffiths, Yr8. She was also presented with a copy of a book she has written, ‘Runaway Teen’, Shauna’s ambition was to have a book published and we decided that we would publish it for her in recognition of this tremendous achievement, Shauna was absolutely delighted to receive a copy of her book from Mr Logue and the Olympic Award trophy.



The evening was brought to a fantastic close with a performance from our choir and a snippet from ‘A Midsummers Night’s Dream’ performed by our very talented Drama Group.

Class of 2015 Prom After working extremely hard for their GCSE exams, our Class of 2015 were able to celebrate together at their School Prom. Pupils arrived at school looking stunning. The weather was kind and they were able to take photographs as parents waved their excited sons/daughters off. Vintage Buses took the pupils from school to the White Hart, where a red carpet was waiting to lead them into the luxurious Oak Room. Pupils and staff enjoyed a delicious two course meal, before speeches, fun awards and games commenced. A ‘photo booth’ and photographer provided lots of fun and great memories of the evening. Mr Logue said ‘Special thanks go to Mrs Jinks, who arranged and coordinated this wonderful evening. It was great to see pupils and staff dancing together and enjoying themselves. The Class of 2015 were a credit to St Damian’s and it truly was an evening to remember.’





'The Breakfast Club' Since January the Mathematics department have been working with a small group of Year 10 students to raise their attainment in maths. These students have attended every Tuesday morning creating "The Breakfast Club" to tackle forthcoming topics in their 2016 Mathematics GCSE paper. During Breakfast club, the pupils have shown a great focus and drive to improve their Mathematics skills. Consequently students have benefited by showing increased attainment in their Summer Progress Check results.

Brains of Tameside Competition St Damian's awesome quiz team have emerged victorious and are through to the final on Monday 13th July of the 'Brains of Tameside'. Tameside School Performance and Standards Advisor, Mr Bob Berry said 'Many thanks to everybody who took the time to come to Dukinfield Town Hall after school – all of the students were a credit to your schools.' We took part in this extremely demanding and time pressured quiz, and at the end of a gruelling 45 minutes three teams emerged - St Damian's being one of them - WELL DONE!



Science Club

Each Wednesday lunchtime Dr Voke runs a Science Club for Years 7 & 8. This picture shows Dr Voke and Daniel West (both wearing safety goggles) thoroughly enjoying a science experience called 'Methane Madness'. This is an experiment with washing up liquid & methane gas combine to create a massive fireball that burns for a few seconds. It goes without saying that students **must not** try this at home!!

Tameside Schools Athletics We are very proud of all the pupils who represented St Damian's in the Tameside Schools Athletics at Sports City on Tuesday 30th June 2015. Mr Burtles said 'it is great to have so many winners! A special WELL DONE to all our talented sports competitors. They are a credit to our school'.

Duke of Edinburgh Information Evening for Parents , 23rd June 2015

The DofE scheme is a voluntary, non-competitive programme of practical, cultural and adventurous activities, designed to support the personal and social development of young people. It offers an individual challenge and encourages young people to undertake exciting, constructive, challenging and enjoyable things in their free time. The award is widely recognised by employers and educationalists. Some of the benefits to young people include developing or discovering: A sense of achievement; New skills and interests; Self-confidence and self-reliance; Leadership skills and abilities; Exciting opportunities; Experience of team work and decision making

The award has four sections: Skills, Physical, Volunteering and Expedition. More information can be found on the extensive DofE website: <http://www.dofe.org/> St Damian's will be offering this opportunity to the current Year 8s who will start the award in Sept 2015 as they move into Year 9. In the first instance, we will be giving pupils the opportunity to work towards the Bronze Award. Year 8 pupils have been asked to apply by writing a letter explaining why they should be selected. The successful applicants will be notified before the summer break.



Kindness Day

We celebrated Kindness day in school on Friday 12th June as part of the Diana Awards 'Anti Bullying Pro' social media initiative. Diana once said 'carry out a random act of kindness, with no expectation of reward, safe in the knowledge that one day someone might do the same for you' and this simple act of kindness can make a tremendous impact on a person's life. There were lots of pupils and staff displaying kindness throughout the day and Kieran Lyons was nominated for a 'single act of random kindness'. We were all thrilled to learn that he had

WON a prize. A goodie box full of gifts including a £15 iTunes voucher, books and Anti Bullying Pro wristbands was delivered to school for Kieran. He was delighted and is already planning to share his prize with friends and family.



Art and Design KS4 Work

The courses finished with an end of year exhibition which celebrated the work of the students through their own personal study in Art and the two topical themes of Alice In Wonderland and the Magna Carta. During the 2 year course, the pupils were very lucky to be working alongside an ex- student of St Damian's: Christopher Anderson who now runs his own creative company. The pupils enjoyed sharing his talents and working with Christopher throughout the course. Check out Christopher's amazing work at: www.noeyedtheatre.com

Introducing St Damian's 'OurSchoolsApp'

St Damian's are pleased to announce a brand new way of communicating with parents. Our very own FREE school 'APP'

'OurSchoolsApp' is a personalised app for our school and will allow us to keep you all updated with school information, news, calendar events and contact information. It is like a mini website on the go giving you access to what's going on at the school, at the touch of a button. You can download the 'APP' from the Google Play Android marketplace or the Apple Store, depending on which mobile phone or device you use. You can also access the 'APP' via smart pads and iPads by following the same download process from the relevant 'app' stores as mentioned above. When we update the 'APP' with new information or news about the school, a push button notification will automatically be sent to your own device to inform you of this update. You can then view the notification which will then take you directly to our 'APP'.

Communication with Parents: To keep you up-to-date of events happening in school and other information in an instant you can follow us on:



Follow us on twitter [@St Damians RCSC](https://twitter.com/StDamiansRCSC)



Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Damians-RC-Science-College/229699983834312>



Our website <http://www.st-damians.tameside.sch.uk>

Liturgy Group

June has been a fabulous month for the Liturgy group; as well as planning Share Day and looking at what charities they would most like to help out next, they have just found out that they have won the prestigious national "Diana Award", which is given to champion fundraising teams. Mr O'Loughlin said "*this is a much deserved reward for a group who give up most of their social time within school to look after others. This is something for St. Damian's to be really proud of*".

Any pupils who live in the Shrewsbury Diocese (Year 8 and above) who have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation can receive this Sacrament at St. Peter's and St Raphael's Parish this year.

You can contact Father Philip Atkinson at St. Peter's Church, 0161 338 2575

Willow Wood Midnight Wander Congratulations to the staff from St Damian's who joined this year's Willow Wood Hospice Midnight Wander to help raise much needed funds. The Hospice was designed with the needs of the patients and their families in mind and provides a warm and cheery atmosphere. Everyone who visits Willow Wood is touched by the positive ambience. Willow Wood relies on the



generosity of supporters to maintain their loving care. Please visit their website to donate <http://www.willowwood.info/donations.html>

Year 6 Induction was a huge success all pupils got involved with the Lion Heart Challenge on Thursday the 2nd July, this event allowed pupils to make new friends and work with pupils from other schools. They had to use their entrepreneurial and problem solving skills to work as a team in designing and marketing a product. All of the groups worked fantastically well and it was a really hard competition to judge! Thank you to Mrs Ogden, Mrs Jones, our Chair of Governors, and Mrs Battaglia for Judging.

On Friday The 3rd of July Year 6 got to meet their new form tutors and form group, they took part in different ice breaker activities which allowed them to get to know each other. It was great to see that lots of pupils' had already made new friends and were supporting each other. The English department did a fantastic job in helping pupil's complete the 'Crème' Egg Challenge' all pupil's thoroughly enjoyed this and felt it was a really good learning experience! The Welcome Mass at the end of the day was a huge success and couldn't have happened without the efforts of all the staff and pupils involved. Year 6 left on Friday feeling happy and excited at starting in September and we look forward to welcoming them back. Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the smooth running of both the days!

Early Finish - School will finish at 1:30pm on Thursday 16th July 2015. School buses have been arranged, the only school bus unable to accommodate the change of time is the First Manchester 770 Oldham bus.



School Bus Service - We have been informed by Transport for Greater Manchester that from September 2015 the 863 service will be withdrawn owing to low passenger numbers. Most children will be covered by alternative services 771 and 864 which have spare capacity. From September the service 864 will be operated by Selwyn's and the afternoon journey on service 771 will be operated by Ashall's. **Fares and igo cards** – Details of fares on school services including igo cards can be obtained from our website at www.tfgm.com/buses

Some Basic Rule Reminders ...

- ★ No make-up, nail varnish or pierced ears are allowed
- ★ Phones are not permitted in school at **any** time
- ★ Shoes should be black, with no logos, and no trainers

Holiday Dates 2015/2016

	<u>Close</u>	<u>Re Open</u>
<u>Academic Year Starts</u>		Wednesday 2nd September 2015
Half term	Friday 23rd October 2015	Monday 2nd November 2015
INSET DAY	Friday 27th November 2015 (school closed)	
Christmas	Friday 18th December 2015	Monday 4th January 2016
Half term	Friday 12th February 2016	Monday 22nd February 2016
INSET DAY	Thursday 24th March 2016 (school closed)	
Good Friday	Friday 25 th March 2016 (school closed)	
Easter Monday	Monday 28 th March 2016 (school closed)	
Easter	Friday 1st April 2016	Monday 18th April 2016
Spring Bank Holiday	Monday 2nd May 2016 (school closed)	
Half term	Friday 27th May 2016	Monday 6th June 2016
Summer	Tuesday 19th July 2016	**

Dates for the Diary

Monday 13 th July 2015	Sports Day and the final of 'Brains of Tameside Competition
Tuesday 14 th July 2015	Trips Day
Wednesday 15 th July 2015	Share Day
Thursday 16 th July 2015	Liturgies and early finish, 1:30pm
Wednesday 2 nd September 2015	Return to school for all pupils

Finally, a massive thank you from both my staff and I for your continued support and loyalty to St Damian's. We really do appreciate the overwhelming support from parents to ensure that your child achieves the outstanding education they deserve ! We wish you all a safe and happy summer break and look forward to welcoming everyone back in September.

