



STONYHURST
ANYWHERE

FRIDAY 22 JANUARY

From the Headmaster

The world news this week has been dominated by the Inauguration of the President of the United States. This has led me to reflect on leadership and responsibility. I was fascinated that one of the prayers used was composed by Archbishop John Carroll for the inauguration of George Washington. John Carroll, his brother and cousin, were educated by the Jesuits in St Omers, now Stonyhurst, in the 1750s. How amazing to be able to follow a 'golden thread' from Stonyhurst to the White House at this time of global challenge.

I am a musician and one of my favourite classical pieces is Belshazzar's Feast by William Walton. The Oratorio tells the story of the Old Testament King using an enormous choir and orchestra including four spatially separated brass bands. Belshazzar behaves blasphemously and there is a very dramatic moment when God writes a message on a wall saying to the King 'you have been weighed, measured and found wanting'. The line is also quoted in the well-known Heath Ledger film 'The Knight's Tale' which tells the story of a young man wanting to be judged worthy to be a Knight.

As a society we are preoccupied with weights and measures, with counting value. One of the debates around Brexit was whether we can use Imperial or Metric measurement. You may have a wall at home where you compare the different heights of family members in inches or centimetres. Your ingredients for the Great Stonyhurst Bake Off may be weighed in ounces or grams?





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From the Headmaster

In a Jesuit school the phrase 'you have been weighed, measured and found wanting' means so much more than mere academic measurement. Of course, we want young people to make excellent progress academically, but also to develop their co-curricular interests, their sport and to have a cultural hinterland. Above all Jesuit schools are about being 'big hearted'. Being a compassionate and generous person.

So my reflection for the week is for everyone to reflect on how we develop all the areas of our lives. To ensure that we value not only what can be weighed and measured and counted but also the less tangible values that make good men and women for others. Let us ensure that we are a community full of the big-hearted and pray that we are not 'found wanting'.

I hope you enjoy this Newsletter. Dr Jan Graffius has included a fascinating American item from the Collections as the Object of the Week.

Best wishes,

John Browne



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



Tilly's Motte and Bailey Castle is worthy of the Great British Bake Off!

Well, I have explored and clambered over castles up and down the country, and even in France, too, but I have never seen a motte and bailey that you can actually tuck in to.

Now, it is customary for people to attempt to recreate this style of castle on a beach, or perhaps in the garden. However, Tilly (Figures) and her Granny were even more intrepid and set to work to build their own version in their kitchen. They have created an edible masterpiece and one which is completely historically accurate, too!

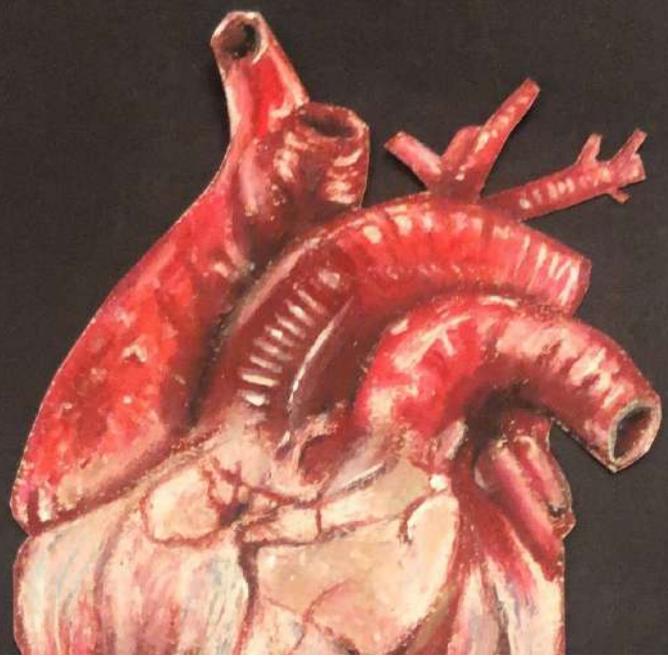
What a feast! I'm sure William the Conqueror and his barons would be fighting each other to get the first slice.

Well done, Tilly and Granny - this is a signature bake, a technical challenge, and a show-stopper all rolled into one. I bet the judges on The Great British Bake Off would award you both first prize.

Mr Garlington
History
SMH



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

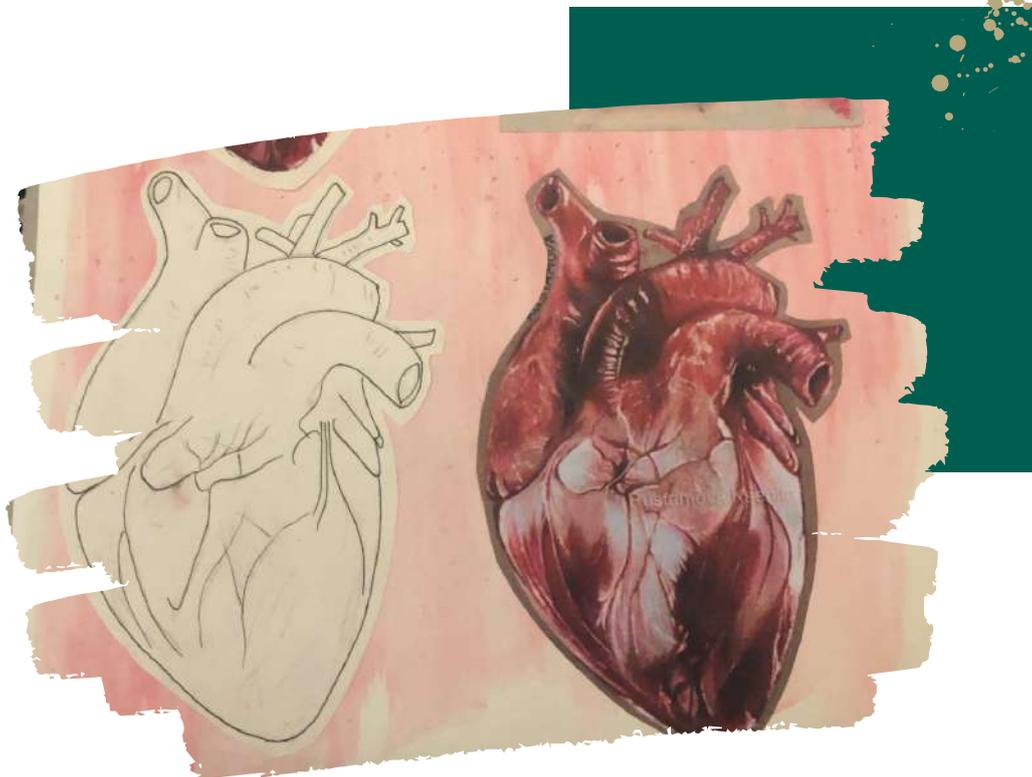


Artist in the Making

Another of our talented Syntaxians, Antonia, has produced a very intricate piece of art. Antonia's chosen investigation is all about how 'Flesh and bones and machinery' are used and interpreted by different artists, providing inspiration for her own work.

When creating this piece, she was influenced by Leonardo Da Vinci's drawings but more importantly by Julia Saville and how she tries to convey the rawness and reality of 'flesh' with thick textural layers of colour.

A wonderful painting by a very talented artist! Quant Je Puis.



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



British Culture

To encompass the development of the imaginative and creative dimension of pupils, there is a new initiative in the English as an Additional Language Department, focusing on British culture. Mrs Addy's Lower Line pupils are learning about different aspects of art, gastronomy, music and traditions. This week the pupils have been studying William Morris, an Oxford scholar who was a designer, printer, poet, weaver and architectural preservationist. He designed patterns inspired by British flora and fauna and drew inspiration from the British countryside, characterising his patterns with foliage. Morris' work included stained glass windows, furniture, wall hangings and tapestries.

The pupils researched different designs, then were set the challenge of creating their own this week, incorporating flora and fauna found around the Ribble Valley, many of which are found in the Bowland AONB (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) such as roe deer and hen harriers.

We are looking forward to seeing their creations!



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



Virtual Drama Performances



Since our Drama Department and pupils are unable to attend the theatre, the Department has brought the theatre to our pupils, via Stonyhurst Anywhere!

Lower Grammar drama pupils are beginning a digital theatre project and in order to do this, they have subscribed to Drama Online, which allows them to watch plays online - created by the National Theatre.

This half-term they are looking at Treasure Island...



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



Drama Monologues

As an alternative to our usual co-curricular this term, the Drama Department has launched a 'monologue challenge' for pupils across the school with the first entries arriving this week. Drama is an expressive art form and not a competitive subject, so the Drama Department did not want pupils to feel they were being judged when creating these monologues.

The task is for pupils to choose a monologue (from film, television, the stage, script, radio, stories etc.) and bring the performance to life for their audience. A PowerPoint presentation has been emailed to all drama pupils this week, with drama scholars being the first to be invited. We hope to have a wide variety of entries by the end of the half-term, the first entry was by one of our talented Poets, India (Drama Scholar) and is taken from Mike Bartlett's 2015 play, Bull.

It is hoped that these monologues can be shared with the wider Stonyhurst community, to serve as a reminder of the talented and creative individuals that Stonyhurst has waiting in the wings...



"The play centres around three characters who are waiting in anticipation outside their boss's office to see which one of them is going to be fired. The play is described as portraying the 'fine line between office politics and playground bullying', and in this scene my character Isobel, a master of manipulation and subtle intimidation, singles out the weak link of the group, Thomas, and belittles and chips away at his character.

Firstly, she aims to destroy his confidence by suggesting that everyone around him had no doubt in their mind that he was destined to failure, everyone including his ex-wife and young son. Secondly, she suggests that whatever little confidence he had was founded on the wrong idea about how life works."

India

Watch India's monologue [here](#)

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



Line Competitions Live On

The co-curricular life of the College seems as busy as ever! Between online competitions, academic extension opportunities as well as the usual range of clubs and societies which have moved into the virtual world, pupils are keeping fully engaged with all that a Stonyhurst education affords.

Not least is the support being offered to pupils to stay active during the dark days of January. The Games Department has provided a raft of sport-specific materials for pupils to engage with and Mr Evans (Head of PE) has created a series of guided videos that pupils can tune into each week. The Line Competition also invites pupils to record their running, through the Strava app, to keep alive the competitive spirit that is at the heart of the Stonyhurst sporting tradition.

Caring for the mental health of our pupils is especially important during this period and one aspect of the support being offered by the College is the “Wellbeing Workout”, created by Mrs Murphy, our Head of Psychology and PSHE. There are weekly tasks designed to sustain a positive mindset in challenging circumstances and Line points on offer for each completed task.

The Combined Cadet Force and Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme have both moved online and Lieutenant Colonel Barber, RSM Clare and Lieutenant Wilmore have demonstrated the adaptability synonymous with military life to ensure the spirit of the Corps remains strong in this period.

The Chaplaincy continues to provide a range of opportunities both to continue the spiritual formation of pupils but also provide help and support to the most vulnerable in this time (see page 9).

This week will also see the Chemistry Olympiad take place, with four of our best chemists entering and hoping to secure awards.

Weekly performances from our Music Scholars and Drama Scholars continue (see page 6), serving as a reminder of the talent we hope to see restored on stage in the near future, and in the weeks ahead, there will be further talks, competitions and virtual events taking place so that pupils can make the most of the Stonyhurst Anywhere experience.



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE



Line Competitions

The Christmas break saw a fiercely contested Winter Photography competition play out; little did we know that virtual events were to become the order of the day! As usual, the Stonyhurst community has adapted brilliantly and the Line Competition is now in full swing.

The top three entries from that competition are well worth reproducing here and will feature on next year's Stonyhurst Christmas cards produced by the Social Enterprise group.



Thomas - Lower Grammar



Mrs Crossley



Lilly - Rhetoric

This week, Stonyhurst MasterChef takes centre stage. The last lockdown saw an extraordinary array of spectacular entries for our Stonyhurst Bake Off, and the early signs are that this competition will be even more impressive. As ever, family entries are more than welcome. Speaking of families representing their Lines, tonight will see the first Family Quiz of the lockdown. Please do tune in at 20.00 on [Instagram](#) Live to resurrect old rivalries and once again show off the family general knowledge and see how many of the secrets of Stonyhurst the pupils have unpicked...

Thank you to everyone for supporting the Line Competition. The current standings below remind us that there is everything to play for!

Campion	St Omers	Shireburn	Weld
290	270	340	250

PERSPECTIVES AND HORIZONS



THE HEAD OF STONYHURST
Mr John Browne &

THE HEADMASTER OF
STONYHURST ST MARY'S HALL

Mr Ian Murphy

.....
would like to invite
you to our Online Spain Reception

Virtual Events

Building on our popular virtual Stonyhurst reception series, we have now released the dates for our Mexican and Spanish receptions.

Please join us for a Mexican reception on Wednesday 3rd February at 12:00 CDMX (UTC-6). This event is open to all our Mexican OS and current, past, and prospective parents. We would be grateful if you could RSVP for the reception by Wednesday 27th January to development@stonyhurst.ac.uk

We would also like to invite you to join us for a Spanish reception on Thursday 4th February at 19:00 CET (UTC+1). This event is open to all our Spanish OS, current, past, and prospective parents. RSVP for the reception by Thursday 28th January to development@stonyhurst.ac.uk

STONYHURST

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Mr John Browne &
THE HEADMASTER OF
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Wednesday 3rd February 2021

12:00 MEXICO CITY
CDMX (UTC-6)
18:00 GMT

RSVP
By Wednesday 27th January 2021
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STONYHURST

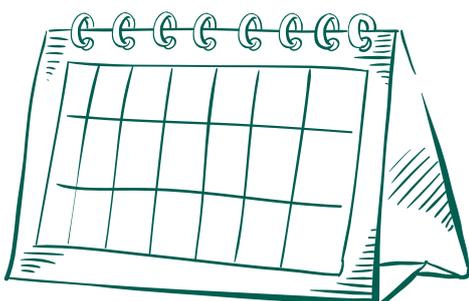
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FAITH THAT DOES JUSTICE



Chaplaincy Co-curriculars Continue!

Despite moving online, Chaplaincy co-curriculars continue to provide opportunities for Catechesis and social justice work across all Playrooms.

Our Confirmation group met this week to continue their formation course, focusing on the theme of Salvation History.

Our Faith in Action Bronze group have embarked on a new project to make Easter-themed Retreat activities for young people to use this April.

We have an exciting new link with Jesuit schools in Poland, Italy and America. On Tuesday, a group of Syntaxians had their first online meeting with pupils their age in these partner schools. Their first topic of conversation was comparing their experiences of life in lockdown.

More locally, pupils were invited to join a new initiative this week with our partner school in Liverpool, St Vincent's School for young people with sensory impairments. Over the past few months, their pupils have been developing green technology that can be attached to cars to reduce their emissions. Our pupils will now be working with theirs to create a presentation that will be pitched to funding bodies, in the hope that they will support the production of this tech.

Whatever the interests of our pupils, Chaplaincy offers opportunities for everyone and we look forward to seeing all that will be achieved through these co-curriculars in the coming weeks.

Careers Guidance

From Monday to Thursday this week, Syntaxians attended a series of Careers education assemblies every morning as part of their Careers Week. These assemblies were designed to inform pupils about how to fully understand the MyFutureChoice aptitude and interest test results, which most sat before Christmas, and how these link to choosing appropriate careers and Higher Line subjects.

Given that the tests went online for the first time this year, most of the presentations focused on how pupils navigate their way around the new MyFutureChoice online results portal, which is designed to enhance their interpretation of results. On Wednesday of Careers Week, pupils attended an International Baccalaureate Career-related Programme (IBCP) assembly, to follow on from the Higher Line Option Evening in September, where they were informed about the IBCP course by Mrs. Ashe, the IBCP Co-ordinator.

Between now and half-term, all Syntaxians will have an individual Teams interview with Careers/Higher Line staff in order to discuss their plans for study beyond Syntax. This includes the opportunity to discuss potential subject choices for A Level, IB and IBCP. Syntax Parents' Weekend on February 6th is another opportunity to discuss future subject choices with your son/daughter's tutor and subject teachers.

More information on the Careers Programme for Syntax can be found on the Careers section of the website [here](#).



Please follow the Careers Department on Twitter [@Stonyhurst_Uni](#) to keep updated on the many careers-related virtual events that are happening over the coming months.

Share your lockdown journey with us

As we begin our virtual learning journey, we would like our pupils to know that wherever they are in the world, we are here to support each other.

We would love to know more about how you're keeping yourselves busy and motivated during this lockdown. Have you created a new 'Tik Tok dance routine' during Rec time or have you been getting crafty at home? Tag us in your photographs or videos using the hashtag #StonyhurstSpirit, to be reposted onto our feed.

If you would prefer to email your photographs or videos, please send them to: marketing@stonyhurst.ac.uk



Follow us on Social Media!

Follow our social media accounts where you can catch up on the latest news and get behind-the-scenes insights into life at Stonyhurst.

Click the links below to visit our accounts.

Follow us!



Have you joined your Playroom Facebook Group yet?

Lower
Grammar

Grammar

Poetry

Syntax

Rhetoric

Object of the Week

The American Military Pocket Atlas, printed by Robert Sayer and Richard Bennett
1776

As we watch the historic inauguration of the 46th President of the United States, Joe Biden, it seems appropriate to take an in-depth look at a rare British American map from the Arundell Library.

The Sayer and Bennet collection of maps was produced in 1776 for use in the American Revolutionary War, which had broken out in the previous year.

This particular map was inspired by the publication of an earlier chart, made at the suggestion of British Crown Governor in America, Thomas Pownall. Pownall was born in England and served the British Crown in America from 1753 until 1760, when he returned to England where he became an MP.

Pownall was renowned in the American colonies for his rational and sensitive approach to the difficulties of governing a colony thousands of miles from Britain, stating that 'a governor must lead those people for he cannot drive them.' He became a close friend of Benjamin Franklin, the leading American revolutionary, who frequently visited Pownall in England in the years after the Revolution. In 1770 he argued vehemently in Westminster against the controversial tax on tea in the colonies, saying that it would prove to be a millstone for English necks. Hostilities between American revolutionaries and British Crown forces broke out in 1775 and intensified after July 4th 1776 when the Declaration of American Independence was signed. The war lasted until the peace of 1783 with Britain ceding independence to their former colony.

The maps in this album were published in 1776 for the use of British officers serving in America. Designed to be used in the field of battle, it included the "maps that the British high command regarded as providing essential topographical information in the most convenient form...Surveys and Topographical Charts being fit only for a Library, such maps as an Officer may take with him into the Field have been much wanted. The following Collection forms a Portable Atlas of North America, calculated in its Bulk and Price to suit the Pockets of Officers of all Ranks". Although intended to fit into a pocket, it was usually carried in a holster; thus its nickname of the Holster Atlas.

This album came to Stonyhurst with Lord Arundell's library in the 1830s.



Open Days

St Mary's Hall Virtual Open Day

6th March 2021

9am -2pm

Stonyhurst College Virtual Open Day

13th March 2021

9am-2pm

St Mary's Hall Virtual Open Day

3rd May 2021

9am -2pm

Attending one of our virtual open events is a great way to experience the full spectrum of our school and will provide the opportunity to meet many of our academic and pastoral staff.

Stonyhurst is the UK's leading co-educational Catholic boarding and day school. Stonyhurst College offers an unparalleled standard of day and boarding education for pupils aged 13 to 18 years. High teaching standards, small class sizes and independent study sessions help our pupils to achieve strong academic results. Our educational excellence is complemented by an extensive co-curricular programme that presents the opportunity to discover and grow talents outside of the classroom.

Please note, the structure of our Open Days are subject to change as we continue to work in line with the latest guidance on social distancing.

To find out more and to book a place, visit our [website](#).

