



22.05.26

**Dear Parents, Carers, Students,
Staff and Friends of the School**



Over the last few years, we have had the honour of Bishop Peter celebrating Mass with the Confirmands. I have been quite moved by the growing number of young people that embrace this next stage of their formation, and completion of their initiation into the Catholic Church. This weekend, on the Feast of Pentecost, we will once again see large numbers of Notre Dame students undertaking this sacrament. Our thoughts and prayers are with them all. We are proud of you!

On the final day of this half term, I would like to highlight the incredible work of the PTFA, who have over the years given generously of their time and energy to welcome new parents, by organising the transition barbecue, manned the stalls at productions and concerts, and regularly met to determine how best to support the school. In the brief article below you will see a list of all the ways that this committed team have enabled great things to happen at NDHS, enhancing the lives of our young people through raising and donating tens of thousands of pounds! I hope that this might inspire a few more parents to come forward and volunteer some of their own time and energy. It can make a big difference, and many hands make light work.

“So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.”
— 1 Corinthians 13:13

We are now well into the exam season, and I am full of praise for Y11 and Y13. Their focus and stamina has been evident throughout, and many of them have left the exam halls quietly confident about their performance. This leads on to my hope that all of our young people are able to get some rest this half term, many of them are flagging and in need of a break from the routine of school.

Best wishes,

Tom Pinnington – Headteacher

PTFA

The Notre Dame PTFA, much like the school itself, is based on heritage, service and passion. We are a group of Parents, Grandparents, Teachers and Friends who aim to raise additional funds to offer support to all teachers and students who may need it. It comes from a love of the school and genuine satisfaction knowing we were part of

helping make something happen. Whether that was a picnic bench, an author visit, a Cross-Country Trip or catering supplies for hot drinks.

Culture and community is so important to us as an association and forms our 'why'.

A picnic bench gathers students together, an author visit may spark a love of literary expression, a cross-Country trip may expand confidence and perhaps sharing a hot drink with friends may allow them to connect more deeply.

Our goal for the ND PTFA is to not have to turn anyone away who comes to us with a request that genuinely benefits students and enriches their learning experience at Notre Dame. We can only do this through parent and friend donations. Please, when you see us asking for some donations, (it will never be much money) think about just how powerful your contribution could be.

Together let's raise our school culture to greater heights and the spirits of our students by being the best we can be.



The PTFA hold a monthly meeting on a Wednesday from 7pm either in the school staff room or at a local pub. The meeting in June will be on the 10th to discuss our year 7 welcome BBQ for new students and their families. Historically it is our biggest fundraiser and an important event as it is often the first time a new student and their family engages with the school community, so we ensure we do everything we can to make it a great day.

Is it also one of the many things that NDHS do that sets us apart from other schools. This BBQ alongside our sports week in July offers our new year 7's a chance to assimilate, gain confidence and meet new friends before the commencement of the academic year.

The other reason why the BBQ is important for year 7 families is the transition to high school can sometimes feel a bit disconnected. Parents are no longer chatting at the school gates as they did in Primary school, so the BBQ offers a gateway for parents to experience the school and chat with staff, the PTFA and other parents. We received some lovely feedback last year that the BBQ had given a lovely peace of mind for parents knowing that their child was entering a warm, safe and loving school community.

If you would like to attend the next PTFA meeting or are interested in joining the PTFA we would love to see you at The Georgian Townhouse on Unthank Road at 7pm on the 10th of June'. ndhsptfa@google.com

2025 Donations made to NDHS:

- National Cross County Competitions 2025 entry fee £300.00
- Creative writing workshop £450.00
- 2 Picnic Benches £806.00
- 6th form Coffee Club donation (coffee, tea etc) £22.79

Total donations to NDHS: £1,578.79**2024 Donations made to the school:**

- Contribution to Music Department new piano purchase £340.00
- Stem Day 2023 year10 Careers Event £885.00
- Contribution towards the Duke of Edinburgh licence fee £800.00
- 2 Picnic benches £806.00
- Books for Social Sciences and EPQ £15.28
- Stem Day 2024 Careers Event £975.00
- Geography A level fieldwork trip £500.00
- 3D Printer for Technology Department £350.00
- Donation for author visit £200.00
- Drama Macbeth trip mini bus costs £126.00

Total donations to the school: £4,997.28**2023 Donations made to the school:**

- Sociology books £250.00
- Postage costs for Japan Society resources £60.00
- RE KABOODLE subscription £200.00
- Audible subscription + Sony headphones for library £130.73
- Geography Field trip £1000.00
- Dry ski slope lessons for pupil premium students £324.00
- Money towards exam laptops £1000.00
- Japan excursions £300.00
- Lake Garda Music Tour boat trip £300.00
- Resources for Board Game Club £87.82

Total donations to the school: £3,652.55**2022 Donations made to the school:**

- Refugee Week workshop £600.00
- Doodles Art Club and Games Club £200.00
- Philosophy and Ethics Trip to Cambridge £200.00

Total donations to the school: £1,000.00**2021 Donations made to the school:**

- Refugee week African drum and Capoeira workshop £800.00
- Y10 Book club £500.00
- Heritage and Culture Group £300.00

Total donations to the school: £1,600.00**2020 Donations made to the school:**

- Japan trip 2020 £700.00
- F1 Challenge participation for D&T Department £120.00
- Donation to NDHS towards a trampoline or outside table tennis table £750.00
- Donation towards Christmas lunch £500.00
- Wheelchair ramp for Chapel access £523.50

Total donations to the school: £2,593.50**2019 Donations made to the school:**

- AFRICAN DRUMMING WORKSHOP DURING REFUGEE WEEK £375.00
- Coach costs for Y8 retreat to Walsingham June'19 £500.00
- Engraved Trophy for new annual PE Awards £250.00
- NDHS Sports Award Trophy £200.00

Total donations to the school: £1,325.00**2018 Donations made to the school:**

- Help towards coach costs for Year 8 Retreat to Walsingham £500.00
- Study Club Funding Spring Term 2018 £250.00
- Study Club Funding Summer Term 2018 £250.00
- AFRICAN DRUMMING WORKSHOP DURING REFUGEE WEEK £375.00
- Help towards Japan Trip £700.00
- D&T Support £300.00
- Charity Christmas Tree Festival at St Peter Mancroft Church £180.00

Total donations to the school £2,555.00**2017 Donations made to the school:**

- Contribution towards Japan trip £700.00
- Coach contribution -Y8 to Walsingham £500.00
- Contribution Y5 project by J Kent £300.00
- Year 7 computer programming project (8 robots ordered) £240.00
- Year 7 reading scheme books £603.60

- Refugee week African drumming workshop £375.00
- 180 x 1 Quasar game voucher £360.00
- Memorial work carried out by Paul Short and team £350.00
- History Department bid £100.00
- Geography Department WORLDWISE Quiz prizes £100.00
- History reward badges £100.00
- English reward scheme £100.00
- Japan Trip Jan 2018 £700.00
- Y8 Walsingham Pilgrimage 2018 £500.00
- Y10 100% attendance/non-negative attitude rewards £360.00
- Y11 100% attendance/non-negative attitude rewards £200.00

Total donations to the school £5,588.60

2016 Donations made to the school:

- 50% of coach costs to Walsingham (Y8 Retreat) £400.00
- Codio Education Licence (ICT) £450.00
- After School Japanese Club £150.00
- Baton exchange visits £400.00
- Replacement Altar cloth £101.95

- Part costs of Lathe £2,000.00
- Donation towards microscopes £1,000.00
- Outdoor Football tables £500.00
- 186 2nd class postage £74.40
- Parachute for New Y7 intake BBQ £90.96
- Student Rewards Scheme £750.00
- PA System £553.74

Total donation to the school £6,471.05

2015 Donations made to the school:

- Les Miserables Workshop £250.00
- DOE trip tracking device £360.00
- Half term Maths Circus Skills £400.00
- New altar £2,198.38
- Gazebo (x3) £219.99
- Go-Go Dragons £750.45
- Japan trip £500.00
- Geography Worldwide Quiz £100.00
- English Y8 Activity Boxes £350.00
- MFL Revision Workbooks £587.50
- Computing GCSE subscription £350.00
- Consultancy teaching-A level £200.00
- Geography OS map of Norfolk £250.00
- RE-Rotary Xmas Tree Festival £150.00

Total donation to the school £6,666.32

YOUNG CARERS BREAKFAST CLUB



**Come along to room 50B
Every first Wednesday
of the month
8.30am till 9.00am**



A young carer is a child or young person who provides regular care, support, or assistance to a family member who has a physical illness, mental health condition, disability, or substance misuse issue.

Does the above describe you? If so come along and have a chat.

Next one is 6th May

Another CAFOD Cake stall triumph!

On Thursday 7th May the NDHS CAFOD Club managed to raise an another AMAZING £191.40 for CAFOD's Sudan Crisis Appeal.



Our dedicated team of bakers turned up again with some delicious delights and our student community was only too happy to oblige us in enjoying eating them.

The response from students (and inevitably our wonderful parents and carers) in providing us with cakes to sell was fantastic, and for every bit of generosity shown we are truly grateful.

The CAFOD Club has now raised an incredible £487.46 in total for the Sudan Crisis Appeal

I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their wonderful efforts this year in working for the common good of all people.

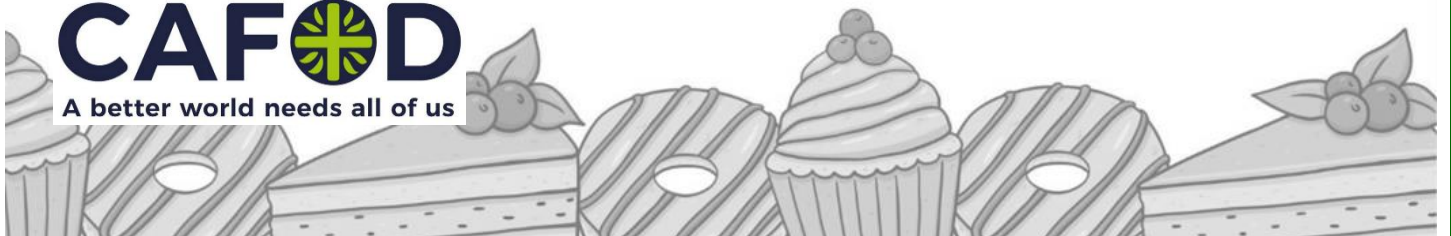
If you wish to learn more about this appeal or make a donation, please follow this link:

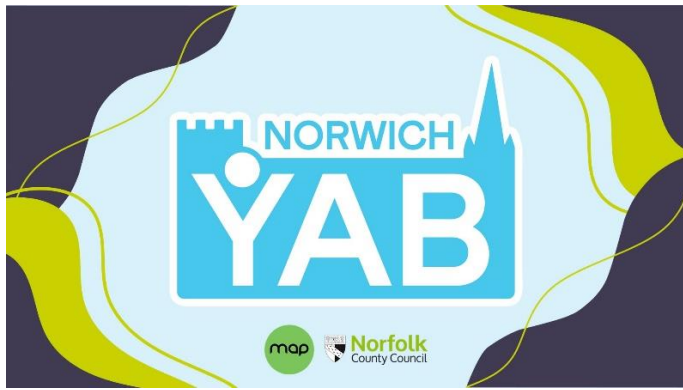
<https://cafod.org.uk/give/donate-to-emergencies/sudan-crisis-appeal>



**Thank you for your ongoing support of our
NDHS CAFOD Club!**

CAFOD
A better world needs all of us





WHAT DO WE DO AT A YOUTH ACTION GROUP?

Work together to come up with ideas for our current projects

Share your opinions, have your voice heard!

Meet new people, build friendships, skills and confidence

And much more!

WHAT WE'RE WORKING ON:

Mental health & emotional wellbeing

Future ready skills

Local environment and outdoor spaces

Free clubs and activities



WHAT HAS NORWICH YAB BEEN DOING? HERE'S A FLAVOUR...



Helping the climate crisis



Raising awareness of hidden disabilities with an animation



Supporting mental health

PLUS...

- Norwich PRIDE
- Residentials
- First Aid Training
- Fun activities
- And more...

Working towards creating accessible play parks in Norfolk



Creating Wellbeing Bags for young people

YAB has really helped me build the fundamental life skills that you don't get taught in many other places and has definitely changed my life for the better

I can be myself and make new friends

I love being in a group where I can build my confidence and socialise with other people

WHAT BEING PART OF NORWICH YAB MEANS TO OUR YOUNG COMMISSIONERS

MONDAY LUNCHTIMES IN C10

Library

Summer is fast approaching and exam season is in full swing.

Good luck everyone!

The Library is open during lunch and after school for pupils who would like to revise. Due to the library being busier during this period, lunchtime Book Club on Wednesdays will resume after exams end.

Please remember to respect the space and others who are using it.

BOOK RETURNS

If you have any library books at home that are long overdue and need to be returned, please bring them back in.

No judgement of how long you've had them for!

Calling All Adventurers

Dungeons and Dragons club is officially up and running on Wednesdays after school

3:30 - 4:30 pm

Sister Mary's Library



Mental health awareness week takes place during May.

Here are some benefits reading has on your wellbeing.

- Reading relaxes your muscles, slowing your heartrate and helping you to feel calm.
- When you read about characters' thoughts, struggles, and relationships, your brain practices understanding emotions – both theirs and your own. This can help you feel less alone and more understood.



WHAT'S ON @

The Cathedral of St John the Baptist



MAKERS MARKET
10:30 - 14:30
MONDAY 25TH MAY
HANDMADE GIFTS,
HOME DECOR,
PLANTS & MORE
THE GARDEN CAFE
SERVING
HOMEMADE CAKES,
LUNCH AND COFFEE!
FREE ENTRY
THE NARTHEX,
CATHEDRAL OF ST JOHN
THE BAPTIST,
NR2 2PA

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF EAST AGLIUS
Children's Pilgrimage to Walsingham
26TH OF MAY | TUESDAY
10:45 AM
Walk from the Village to the Shrine and Basilica
12:00 PM
Holy Mass at the Chapel of Beccanastones
Bishop Peter Tunney
Clerical Mass sung by the 1000 Children Choir
Followed by a picnic and a fun afternoon in the barns

The Feast of Pentecost

This Sunday is Pentecost, Mass at 11am will be a Solemn Mass of the Solemnity. The Bishop will celebrate the Mass of Confirmations at 2pm. Please keep the candidates in your prayers.

Mary's month of May

We have our annual Flores de Mayo Festival taking place on Sunday 31st May 2026. You may wish to help arrange flowers, contribute an arrangement, donate flowers, or simply to enjoy the displays. Please speak to Jo Graham if you are interested, stjohnfhc@gmail.com

Could you help with Children's Liturgy?

We are a tiny team of volunteers, but the numbers of children attending liturgy are swelling. Could you offer a little time every few weeks to help share the Gospel with our children? If so, you're invited to come along and shadow one of our sessions during the 9am Mass. and no experience is necessary. Please contact Karen on k.sullivanking@gmail.com or speak to any of the team.

The Bible Listening Group 2026-27

We will meet on alternate Saturdays in the priests' house from midday to 1:30 from 23rd May. The introductory meeting (no preparation needed) will be on Saturday 23rd May. All adults, Catholic & non-Catholic, are welcome. For enquiries or to express interest, please speak to Fr Martin.