



Corpus Christi High School, Cardiff

AIM

Our aim is to educate the whole child; physically, spiritually, emotionally and academically. We want all our young people to leave Corpus Christi as well-rounded individuals who are independent learners and thinkers, ready to take their places in the wider world as responsible young adults. As a proud, Catholic school, kindness is central to our ethos, teachings and messages that we try and convey to our young learners. It is central to Christian teachings, and so important to both the pastoral and academic work we do in our school community.

What were have done this year

Student mentoring

We have identified pupils in Year 7, 8 and 9 that might benefit from older students mentoring them. This project started in September, with RAK ambassadors being chosen from Year 9, 10 and 11. The year 9 ambassadors became mentors for year 7 pupils, Year 10 ambassadors became mentors for year 8 pupils and Year 11 ambassadors became mentors for year 9 pupils. We identified that these pupils needed support and someone to talk to, other than a teacher. So for a morning each week, the pupils receive this invaluable support and our ambassadors demonstrate kindness with their advice, time and support.



RAK Ambassador Badges given to pupils who are part of the RAK council, ambassador or drop in scheme.

RAK Council

In September we also set up a RAK council. This is where two pupils from each year group can come and discuss how we can be even more kind in school and how to raise awareness of this in school. The pupils this year have been amazing with the ideas. We redrafted the anti-bullying policy to make it more pupil friendly, with the focus on the positive message of being kind being a prevalent factor. The pupils also came up with the idea of organising a kindness week in school, where each Year group can focus on a different charity, and then have a “Day of Donating Kindness” at the end of the week. More on this later.....

RAK Twitter page

The school now has a school twitter page, highlighting all the kind actions done by our pupils and also sharing positive messages, quotes and stories to inspire our pupils. It has been a great platform to share ideas and promote these positive actions.



“Drop in Centre”

Other RAK ambassadors got involved in setting up a “Drop in Centre” to support pupils who struggle to make friends and who may feel lonely at lunchtime. Every Wednesday, pupils who might feel vulnerable during break and lunchtime, can go to a room and chat to some of our RAK ambassadors and play games. Again, the theme of kindness is central to this group and activity.

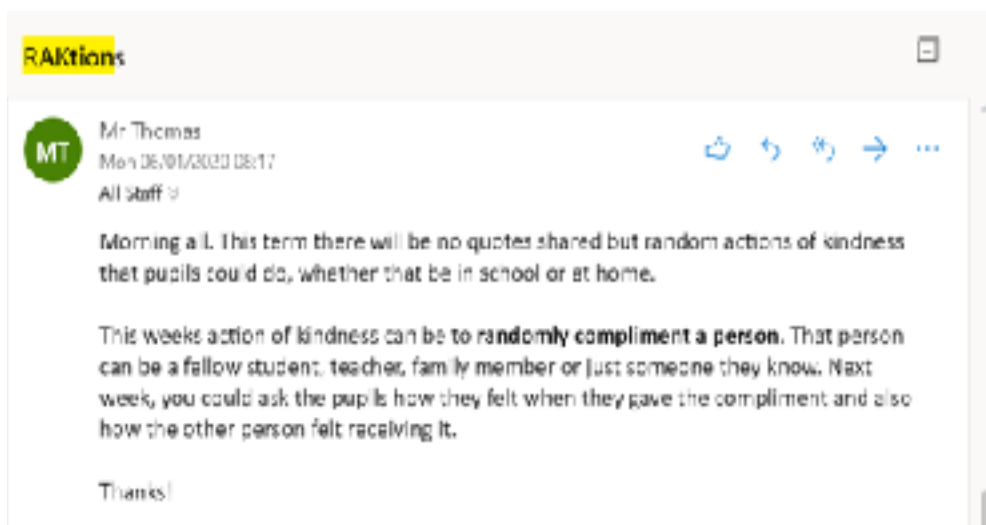


Pastoral activities

Since September, we have been sharing positive, kind activities with our form tutors to go through with their registration groups, again spreading the message of kindness and the importance of it. For the first term, up until Christmas, we share kindness quotes with each registration group.



The second term, we started to share RAKtions of the week. Again, ideas for pupils to demonstrate kindness throughout the week, in school and outside school.



RAKtion points

As a school positive behaviour discipline, we have the app "ClassCharts" which tries to promote positive behaviour through rewards. The system allows pupils to accumulate good points, and then can use these good points to buy rewards in the reward store. This year, we added a RAK symbol, where teachers and staff can award RAK points to those pupils who have demonstrated kindness in lessons and outside lessons. We have a seen a dramatic rise in these rewards points, which in turn has had a very positive impact on the school community.

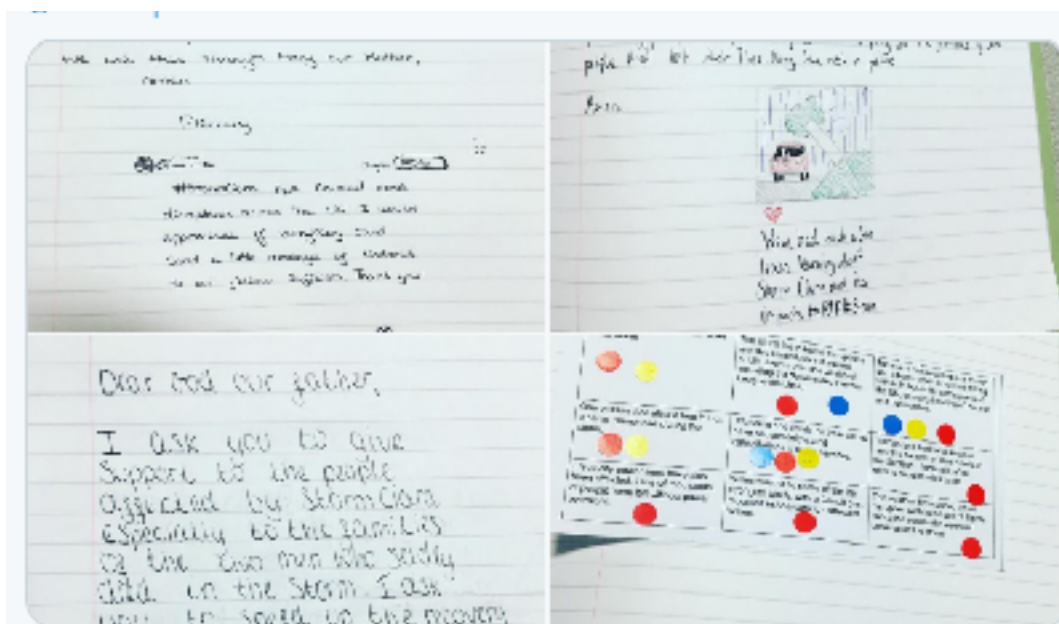


“Corpus Christi Kindness Week”

On the 10th-14th February we celebrated the first Kindness Week at our school. All students were aware of this and we encouraged them to be kind to each other and do acts of kindness throughout the week. This was mainly demonstrated on the Friday, which was a non-uniform day. The pounds raised went to the 5 different charities that each year group were made aware of during the week. Year 7 focussed on the RSPCA, Year 8 on Ty Hafan, Year 9 on the Salvation Army, Year 10 on the SVP and year 11 on CAFOD. For each assembly, the charities came in and talked to the year groups. They made them aware of the importance of being kind and how their actions can have a positive effect. On the Friday, the money raised from each year group went to their focussed charity and each year group also donated items that each charity needed, for example Ty Hafan wanted games.

Throughout Kindness Week, the registration groups did lots of different activities also. Kind messages and quotes were shared, and form groups also made cards for each other but also teachers – which certainly gave the staff a positive lift!

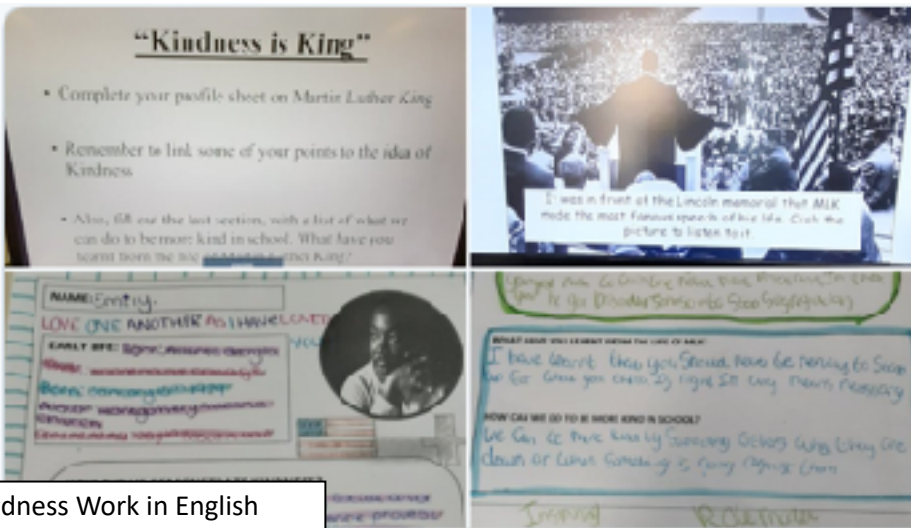
Also, departments got involved by teaching a lesson linked with the subject of Kindness to any KS3 class. There were some great ideas and work completed, for example in History we looked at the life of Martin Luther King and how he demonstrated Kindness throughout his life. Pupils made profiles to support this. In ICT, pupils made Kindness websites and posters on how to be kind on the internet. In English, pupils talked about ideas of kindness and wrote messages to people they were most grateful for. It was a fantastic week with a lot of awareness raised!



Kindness Work in
Geography

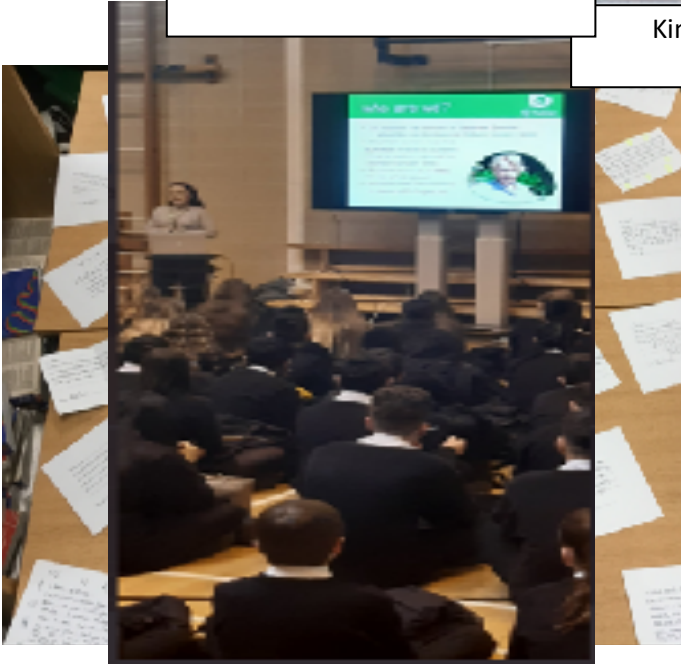


Kindness Work in Welsh

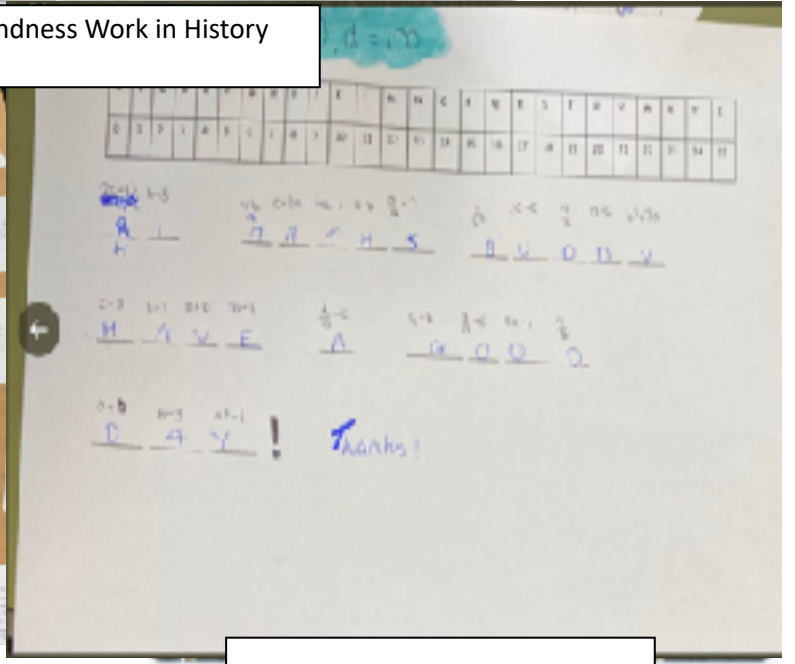


Kindness Work in English

Kindness Work in History



Year 8 learning about Ty Hafan in assembly



Kindness Work in Maths



Year 10 learning about the SVP in assembly

We managed to raise £900 for these charities. Learners with the most RAK points were also given prizes.