Xaverian, our story... ...celebrating 160 years!

In 1862 the Xaverian Brothers began their long association with what was to become the present Xaverian College Manchester.

The Collegiate quickly gained a good reputation and the curriculum was expanded to cater for the growing Catholic middle classes who were finding their way into the world of business and commerce. **Read more about our journey online.**

XAV'S POSITIVE PAPER

2021 -2022



Artwork Designed By Martha Parry-Hensley, Studying A Levels In Graphic Communication, Politics And English Language.

WHAT'S INSIDE...

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College Prayer

O God,
we thank you for the life of
Theodore Ryken.
He opened his heart to Christ,
present in those
who were uneducated & oppressed
by injustice.
May we follow his example of faith
& generosity.
Grant us the courage & compassion
of Theodore as we seek to live lives
of love & Service.
We ask this through Christ,
Our Lord.
Amen.

Keep up-to-date with all things Xaverian!

Follow us on social media:

xaverian.ac.uk



Welcome from Xaverian Principal, Tony

During the past year, we have been fortunate as a College to be able to return to a normal teaching schedule on-campus following the pandemic. It has been heartening to see the approach taken by students in the recent exam season and this has been representative of their approach throughout the year. Although they had never taken formal external exams, and BTEC and CTEC students faced numerous deadlines to complete coursework, they approached the task of revision and dealing with exam and deadline stress with resolve and calm.

Personally, I will always remember their final day here at College. Traditionally we have finished with a Leavers' Mass and assembly in St Edward's, the church next door to Xaverian, and this year the church has never been so full. The atmosphere was wonderful, and it was an honour to address the students as they came together to celebrate their time here. It gave me the opportunity to thank them for all they have brought to the Xaverian community.

I wish good luck and continued success to students leaving us this summer and a warm welcome to those planning to start their journey with us in September. It has been a memorable year for a number of reasons and I'm sure our new and continuing students will make it another year to remember in the coming academic year.

A to Z Academic AdventureZ

Xaverian students took part in trips across the UK. Here is a summary of what they got up to:

A – AoC Championships, Nottingham University
B – Millport in Scotland, Biology
C – Chester Zoo, Business
D – Lowry Theatre, Drama
E – Edge Hill University, Business
F – The University of Manchester – English Literature
G – Platt Fields, Peace Garden Group
H – Home Cinema, French
I – London Theatres and Hotels, Drama
J – University of Law, Manchester
K – Tree Planting Rushholme, General RE
L – Lake District, Geography
M – London, Ancient History
N – Warwick University, Classics
O – Opera House, Drama and Theatre
P – Particle Physics Masterclass
Q – Liverpool Tate Art Gallery, Fine Art
R – UA 92, Sport and Business
S – Sheffield University – Accounting
T – Houses of Parliament, Politics
U – Manchester Central, Design Your Futures Event, Fine Art
V – Manchester Metropolitan University Law School
W – Whitworth Art Gallery
X – Blencathra, Geography
Y – London, Ancient History
Z – London, Accounting and Business







Community and Culture Day

This event is much-anticipated in the Xaverian calendar and, as always, was enjoyed by all.















ICYMI

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

A dream come true for a Xaverian Teacher



Phil Drinkwater, a Film Studies Teacher at Xaverian College, has recently seen his creative writing turned into a must-watch film by Dark Sky Films.

Broadcast Signal Intrusion, written in collaboration with Tim Woodall, is a psychological thriller, following a video archivist in the late 90s, who unearths a series of sinister pirate broadcasts and becomes obsessed with uncovering the dark conspiracy behind them.

Phil said: "As a screenwriter, the best thing is having your film made. When there is a sequence that is exactly what we originally wrote, performed by amazing actors, it feels great!

"I have been a teacher for 13 years and it's honestly a dream come true. I remember the teachers I had back in school playing a vital role in shaping my thinking and I knew I wanted to be a part of the process that helps guide and inspire young people. My absolute favourite thing to teach is Hitchcock's Vertigo. To take a film made 60 years ago and bring it to life, show students the possibilities of this medium peaking long before they were born – how exciting!"

Partnership with 'In Our Nature'

A group of Xaverian College staff and students joined forces with 'In Our Nature', to help create a greener, healthier and more connected Manchester, to rewild Park Crescent, Rusholme.

The group met to plant fruit trees, berry bushes, wildflowers, and they will be supporting with other initiatives to 'engage, empower, support, enable and inspire' Manchester communities to take action to reduce their CO_2 emissions by 50% over the next five years.

Business students visit the University of Chester

Business Students were recently set the challenge of turning 'Slurr Farm' from a small, local healthy food provider into a national brand.

The farm's owners gave Xaverian students a brief to work with University of Chester Business School students to create a business plan to launch Slurr Farm's ambitions to transition from being a local producer of niche food products to expanding its distribution network to the whole of the UK.

The students first developed their ideas into a business plan and, in a Dragons' Den-style pitch, presented their ideas to a panel of experts in the Northwest's biggest boardroom. The students focused their ideas around the company's mission to be a green provider and pitched a sustainable concept as a basis for marketing their products. As well as gaining valuable business experience to put on their CVs, the students were given a taster of university life with a chance to explore the university's facilities.



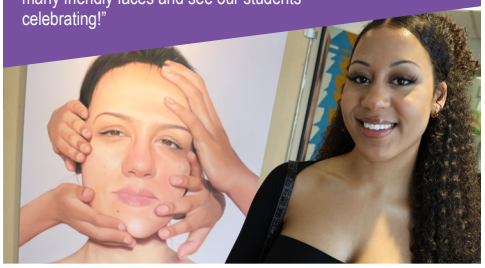
Creative Students Showcase work at Annual Exhibition

Students at Xaverian College had the opportunity to showcase their creative talents at the end-of-year Art Exhibition.

The annual event saw students from the College's Fine Art, Graphic Communication, Photography and Textiles courses proudly present work from their portfolios to family, friends, and the local community.

A portrait by Luana Soares, alongside three talented music students, captured the attention of all guests as they walked into the entrance of the College's Ward Hall building. Luana spent months perfecting her final piece, which was dedicated to her mother, who hadn't seen her artwork before the exhbition.

Shaun Steele, Divisional Lead, said: "I am thrilled that we were able to host the Art Exhibition on Campus this year. With the support from our brilliant teachers, students have produced fantastic work – I am constantly inspired by their creativity and dedication to developing their skills. It was great to welcome so many friendly faces and see our students celebrating!"



Young Athletes at the Top of their Game



Athletes from Xaverian College are set to further their sporting success overseas after being awarded prestigious scholarships by American universities.

Billie-Jean Davies, Ellise Rennie and Betty Hall, are young athletes who have been enthusiastic about achieving their sporting goals long before joining the College.

Billie-Jean, who has been playing football since she could walk, recently committed to West Virginia State University (NCAA Division 2) for Autumn 2022.

Elise, who currently plays for Manchester City Girls team, has already travelled all over the world playing football and will taking up her scholarship at Flagler College in St. Augustine, Florida.

Betty also plays for local clubs, including Manchester City Girls, FC United of Manchester Women and Bolton Futsal Club, and will be joining Elise at Flagler College for her scholarship.

Celebrating Award-winning English Students

Emilio Fox Castineiras and Faith Axon-Kendall, Year 12 students at Xaverian College, were recently crowned winners of this year's 'Talking About Voices' competition, led by Manchester Voices. The theme of their podcast focused on bilingualism, including thoughts on whether or not we have different personalities when speaking in two different languages.

Emma Jones, a Year 12 student at Xaverian College, has been named one of four winners in the prestigious Portico Sadie Massey Awards, which aims to encourage a life-long love of reading and writing in young people from all backgrounds. Emma's short story, Letting Go, has a nostalgic tone and focuses on processing the loss of a loved one.

Izobel Davies was named a runner-up in this year's 'Words For Your World' Competition. Izobel wrote a speech highlighting the urgent need to save the cities, culture and people that are being washed away due to rising sea levels.

PAST... Sarah

"I attended Xaverian College from 1987-89. I studied A Levels in French, Art and English Literature. I loved being at Xaverian College because I was able to study subjects I enjoyed under the tutelage of very knowledgeable and talented teaching staff who inspired me to study hard and go on to university, when at the time I didn't realise it was even a possibility for me to aspire to higher education.

"For me being at Xaverian was like being at a small university campus and it bridged the gap between school and a more independent life at university. Since leaving Xaverian, I gained a joint Honours Degree in English and French and became a teacher of French and Spanish and Head of Department for Modern Languages."



PRESENT... Chester



"I am a current Year 12 student at Xaverian and my areas of study include BTEC Business and CTEC ICT.

"Throughout my first year at Xaverian, I have enjoyed the freedom of independent study and breaks as well as the change in relationship I have developed with all of my teachers. The people and teachers are really fun and friendly. It's really enjoyable, there's lots of activities you can do here, lots of sports, lots of places you can go to revise. I'm excited to come here every day, which is why I applied to become a Student Ambassador."

FUTURE... Sara

"I chose to apply to Xaverian as it's one of the more local colleges, I attended the open day event and the two taster days and found that I liked Xaverian most out of the colleges I visited. I think I'm most excited to study Art as I want to learn how to use different mediums better and get feedback on my work so I can improve.

"My advice to other Year 11s would be to choose subjects you like, this way you will enjoy studying more and hopefully end up with the best grades possible."

OXBRIDGE SUCCESS

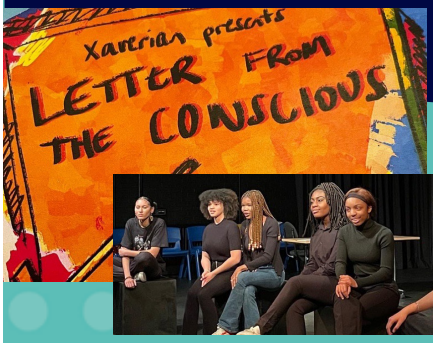
Eight exceptional Xaverian College students have received offers to study at Oxford and Cambridge universities.

Following months of intensive preparation and hard work, with the support of a specialist Oxbridge team at the College, students recently received the news they had gained a place at the universities which have been repeatedly ranked first and second in the UK and both are currently in the top 10 universities in the world.

Those set for Oxbridge continue a long tradition of high performing students from the College to secure prestigious Oxbridge offers. In recent weeks, hundreds more students at Xaverian College have received offers from other top UK universities, including, Durham University, University of St Andrews, The University of Edinburgh, King's College London, University of Warwick, and more.



LETTER FROM THE CONSCIOUS!



'Letter from the Conscious' was an idea that evolved from a discussion between a group of students sharing stories about their own personal experiences of racism and colourism, mainly focused in institutions.

From the conversations he had overheard them having, Joe Brownbridge, a Drama Teacher at Xaverian, suggested the idea of them creating a production out of their experiences that they had been discussing. The students created a survey to gather information from parents, friends and other people to share their own experiences, and used this information to begin creating their performance.

The students wanted to continue the momentum created by the performance, and one outcome has been the creation of a space where students can come together and talk openly about their experiences and share them with others. The intention is to embed this space into the enrichment programme so that all Xaverian students can participate and feel like they are not alone in their experiences.

One of the members of the group, Fummilola Osolake, said: "We wanted people to take away from this that black people, brown people, and people of colour are generally stereotyped, but we are not all the same, we are actually dynamic people that have different personalities and experiences.

"The performance was a vehicle for us to communicate this and to get our message across using our different skillsets such as drama, poetry, music and voice recordings. It was truly a team effort and we couldn't have done it without the contributions and support of students, their friends and families."



Music Concerts Return to the Royal Northern College of Music

Music concerts made a welcome return this year. Performed by over 140 Xaverian College students, alumni and staff, they are truly memorable evenings of entertainment.



GIANTS HIGHLIGHTS 2021-22

This year saw the Manchester Giants team gain selection into the prestigious Academy Basketball League, Northern Division. The team gained invaluable experience playing against top-ranked opponents across the North of England with some hard-fought wins to their credit. The team also welcomed new Head Coach, Paul Cantwell, who is well-known in the world of basketball and, who we are sure, will guide the team onto further success in the forthcoming 2022-23 season.

MCR GIANTS



What our students say about us...



Reflections from Esther in The Chaplaincy...

After spending such a long time in lockdown and finding our feet again once restrictions lifted, this academic year has felt like a truly joyful family reunion.

The atmosphere this year has felt so uplifting and hopeful, and for me the best parts have been:

- Despite having to postpone the trip for another year – we had the highest number of students sign up for the Lourdes Pilgrimage than ever before
- Having students, laughter, thoughtful conversations back in the Chaplaincy
- Being able to actually host a Macmillan Bakesale in September
- Hosting the Carita's Big Sleep Out on our field and again, having the highest student turnout we've ever had take part to raise money for the homeless
- The Leavers' Mass felt like a real family celebration. The students were so engaged, respectful and I was so proud of them

For the coming year I hope:

- We are finally able to go to Lourdes again after three years and be reunited with our friends from the Diocese of Dunkeld
- That the zeal and passion we had in abundance this year will continue to grow into the next