

Heartbeat



Monday, July 1

Upper School Special

Issue 36

Olivia goes stateside to continue her soccer dream

Congratulations to Olivia Hoban who has earned a scholarship in the US with the University of Iowa.

Olivia, who currently plays for Everton Ladies U20s, will represent the University's 'soccer' team whilst also studying for her degree.

Whilst Olivia is approaching the end of her time at Sacred Heart, the Year 13 student reflected with the PE department about her football success so far.

Olivia claims that playing for Everton has been a 'huge commitment', but also a 'massive honour'.

Speaking to PE's Mr Duggan, Olivia said that she 'loves every minute of it'.

"We train three times a week and the sessions are very intense but I feel like I am improving and becoming more confident."

Olivia started at Everton in the Girls U8s team and was there for ten years.

The talented teenager was subsequently rewarded for her hard work and commitment by gaining an international call up to the England side in 2017.

"That was an incredible experience for me and my family", added Olivia. "I felt honoured to showcase my skills at the highest level."

From there, Olivia attended three England U15s training camps at St George's Park.

Olivia, who is a central midfielder, has extremely high levels of fitness and her passing, and especially defensive work, are exceptional.

However, when asked what her goal tally was this year, she jokingly replied, "I won't tell you. Let's just say I'm not known for scoring goals."

Mr Duggan added: "Olivia has a fantastic attitude towards football and she inspires those around her."

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Students impress teachers with Extended Project Qualification

It is fair to say, you are never quite sure what you're going to get when students start their Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), writes *English teacher, Mrs Weekes*.

It really is an independent choice for the students and valuable preparation for university. The 6th Form team who assess the Project, namely Mrs Callaghan, Ms Baker and Mr Daw, never cease to be amazed and indeed genuinely educated and enlightened by the interests of our Year 13 students.

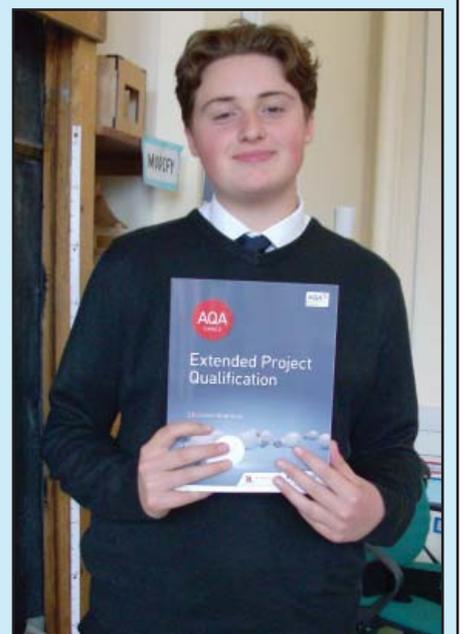
This year, topics ranged from genetic engineering to the reasons behind World War II, with one student presenting his

project in the form of a filmed drone landing.

Past projects have included the production of an online game, an exploration of whether 'loot boxes' constitute gambling and a highly successful charity football match between staff and 6th Formers.

The project consists of students presenting a 5,000 word dissertation or an artefact. The students are then assessed at key points in the process, with marks awarded for the demonstration of a range of skills that include, planning and research, time management and evaluation of resources.

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Sixth formers plan for life after Sacred Heart

Year 12 students are now underway with preparation for university applications for 2020 entry, *writes Ms Baker.*

Our students recently attended the Merseyside Higher Education Conference at the M&S Arena in Liverpool, to meet with universities from around the country to discuss options available to them.

We are fortunate to have very strong links with providers and welcomed representatives from local universities last week to meet with our students to provide information, advice and guidance on how to approach the design of their personal statements.

Our UCAS preparation continues this term and into the start of Year 13, when other national representatives and former students from Sacred Heart visit our pupils to inform them about the application process, bursaries, student life and Oxbridge visits will also take place during this period.



EPQ story, continued from p1

They also have to present their findings in the form of a five minute presentation with a Q&A to a non-specialist audience. The EPQ is well regarded by the university sector.

It carries more UCAS points than an AS Level, with the top grade being an A* in recognition of the quality and value of the range of skills demonstrated. Equally, candidates demonstrate qualities such as independence and management, which are highly prized in industry and commerce.

Whilst you never quite know what you are going to get as a project supervisor, students will get confidence in their ability to solve problems, take decisions and manage their time effectively, all of which is valuable preparation for any walk of life.

News in brief

Year 10 will have a talk by the Mizen family today. Also today, is an UCAS Day for Y12. Sportsdays take place on Wednesday (Y7/8) and Thursday (Y9/10). *A Night With The Stars* is at 7pm in St Edward Hall on Thursday. There is an UCAS information afternoon in the Chapel on Friday.

Olivia's story, continued from p1

“Our Year 8 girls had a football match against Everton U13s this year and when walking off the pitch, the girls saw Olivia training with Everton; all the girls look up to her, hoping to someday play at the same level.”

When asked what her biggest honour is, Olivia stated, “playing for Everton Football Club, no doubt about it.”

Whilst Olivia has loved playing for Everton and representing her country, she she has never forgotten her roots.

Olivia added: “I actually started at Marina Sands FC boys’ team and I loved competing against boys.

“I really feel it helped me improve and get me to where I am now.”

Back in December, Olivia organised a

trial at Soccer Showcase in Harrogate, where scouts from universities all over America attended.

Within a couple of weeks, Olivia had received 100% scholarship offers from Troy Alabama and Idaho State, but chose the University of Northern Iowa, following the rapport she had with representatives of the university.

Olivia added, “I am over the moon and I can’t wait to get started.”

Mr Duggan added: “This is a fantastic achievement and extremely well deserved. Olivia’s work ethic, alongside her sporting talent, is outstanding and everyone at Sacred Heart wishes her the best of luck as she embarks on her degree and future in sport; we are all delighted for her.”