

# The Week at Saint Cecilia's



**Saint Cecilia's**  
Church of England School

www.saintcecilias.london

Glorifying God through outstanding, enjoyable education

29th April - 3rd May 2024



## Headteacher's Message

*'For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made.'* (Psalm 139:13-14)

With language, art and drama exams under our belts, we are truly in examination season as we count down to the first whole cohort GCSE exam. Year 13 students will mark the end of formal lessons with a Leavers' Tea on Friday 10th May and a more formal celebration on 25th June, to which parents are invited.

Pupils in Year 11 will continue to attend all lessons in all subjects until May half term. After this point, they will continue attending lessons until they have taken all of the exams in that subject. This was explained to pupils and families in September, and I am grateful to parents for supporting pupils in the final stages of their preparation.

We are reminding pupils to take care of themselves, and let us take care of them, as they dig deep during the exam season. In what we know can be a stressful period for some, do remind your children to:

- make time for things they enjoy;
- talk to you about how they feel;
- find balance by taking regular breaks during revision, and being realistic about what they can do in a day;
- take care of their physical health by getting enough sleep and exercise;
- focus on themselves and avoid comparing themselves to others.

In other news, the vibrancy of our extra-curricular programme, trips and competitions continues. I am delighted that pupils and students in Years 8 and 12 have completed their conservation project work at Hyde Park and was proud to learn our athletes in Years 7 and 8 have yet again qualified for the borough championships.

We are looking forward to the week ahead. God bless.

**Renata Joseph**  
Headteacher

## Chaplain's Corner

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are well. May you be encouraged by this Psalm - written by pupils and students who attend Bible and Breakfast Club on Friday mornings.

### **A 'B&B' Psalm**

*God is our peace at all times.*

*God is our love at all times.*

*God gives us joy which gives people hope,*

*He will give us light to find our path.*

*God is our comfort,*

*He shields us from the darkest night*

*His love shines in the dark like a flickering flame.*

*God is always with us*

*"Lord, help me in times of trouble"*

*God brings hope when we feel alone,*

*He leads us in the path of good and not evil,*

*He turns our tears into joy*

*Therefore, trust in the steadfast love and faithfulness of the LORD.*

**Alex Shoderu**  
Chaplain

## Library News - Pupil Library Assistant Awards

*“Two weeks ago, I was lucky enough to attend the finals of the Pupil Library Assistant Awards 2024, an annual award made to recognise great contributions of pupil librarians. Although I did not win the award, I still had an amazing time!”*

*The event was held at Pearson Publishing on The Strand. After arriving, I was introduced to Jane Elson (an author who represented me in the awards). Each finalist stood up in front of everyone while their author read out the reason they made it to the finals (a very embarrassing experience!), before author Joseph Coelho (Children's Laureate) announced the winner and gave everyone their prizes. After the ceremony, all the authors gave each finalist signed copies of their books and I went home with about 30 books! It was an amazing day!”*

**Joe S-L, Year 9**  
**Pupil Librarian**

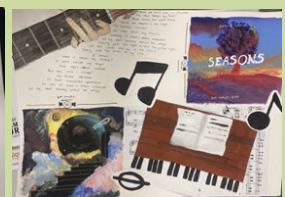


## Artists of the Week

These two Year 10 final pieces demonstrate great composition ideas and beautiful drawing and painting skills. They are the culmination of the 'Journal' project, where Year 10 pupils are given themes such as hobbies, travel and family to explore in a journal using a wide variety of materials and processes. The project is inspired by artist Jose Naranja's journals. All of Year 10 art pupils' journals are so interesting to look through, and they have developed their skills in various materials, as well as showing what inspires them in their everyday lives. Well done to **Miranda C** and **Diana S** in particular for creating these fantastic final pieces.



**Miranda C**



**Diana S**

**Stella Allan**  
**Curriculum Team Leader for Art and Design**

## Duke Of Edinburgh's Award – Final Reminders

- Please ensure you have paid on ParentPay before the practice trip for the additional costs (both Bronze and Silver Awards). This covers both the practice and the assessed expeditions.
- The Bronze practice expedition is to Richmond Park on **Friday 10th May**. Pupils set off from the Peace Garden at school at 8.50am. They need to bring a packed lunch as well as their kit bag, and will be dismissed from Richmond Park at around 2.30pm.
- The Silver expedition is on **15th-17th May**. Pupils need to meet at Amberley train station on Wednesday 15th May at 10am with their full kit. They will be dismissed from Amberley station in the late morning/early afternoon on Friday 17th.
- If pupils need to borrow a tent or cooking equipment, they must bring in a £10 note as a deposit for each item.

Should any issues arise, please encourage your child to speak with us both. Thank you for your support in preparing our pupils for this exciting adventure!

**Emma Rattier and Sally Rose, Duke of Edinburgh's Awards Co-ordinators**



## Thanksgiving Service at Southwark Cathedral

This week, I accompanied four of our House Captains to the Bishop's Lent Call Thanksgiving Service at Southwark Cathedral. It was a gathering of schools from across the Southwark Diocese to give thanks for the fundraising appeal which took place in the lead up to Easter. We raised just under £300 which will help fund projects that focus on peace with justice in the Diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East, and resilience and well-being across Southwark's Link Dioceses in Zimbabwe.

Pictured are House Captains **Chukwudi E** (Newton), **Ruby S** (Archimedes), **Grace E** (Ives) and **Will Z** (Schubert) with The Rev'd Canon Michael Rawson, Sub Dean of Southwark Cathedral.



**Alex Shoderu**  
**Chaplain**

# The Friends Spring Social - Thursday 9th May

A reminder that tickets are now on sale for the Friends of Saint Cecilia's Spring Social on Thursday 9th May from 7-9pm. Tickets are £5 each and all proceeds go to the school. We look forward to seeing you there for a fun evening and a chance to meet other parents and the Saint Cecilia's community. Please click [here](#) to purchase your tickets.

There will be a silent auction too, with some fantastic prizes.

**Helen Shaw and Karen Naples,**  
Co-chairs, the Friends of Saint Cecilia's



## Enquiring Minds

### Activity

Condense a film, book or TV programme into four sentences (or four words). Whose version is best?



### Enrichment Programme

Below are the upcoming teacher-led discovery sessions for this half of the Summer Term. Though aimed at More Able pupils, they are open to all.

**James Robinson**  
Assistant Headteacher

Art Shaped	Ms Tang/ Ms Allan	0.11	Year 8	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> May Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> May 3.15pm	Two consecutive sessions creating sustainable 3D art using recyclable materials like cardboard and paper. These sessions offer an opportunity to create art that is accessible, adaptable, and affordable.
Interviews & Auditions	Ms Moulard & Mr Bell	Drama room	Year 10	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> May 3.15pm	This session will show the art of making successful first impressions at public speaking, and even auditions. Exploring how your use of voice and physicality will enhance how you show your best self.
Australian Rules Football	Mr Currie	Sports Hall or Play-ground	Year 10 Year 7-9	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> May 3.15-4.15pm Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 3.15-4.15pm	You call that a sport? This is a sport! Come try your hand (and foot) at the world's greatest game, Australian Rules Football. From drop punts, handballs and speccys, you'll be ready to take the field.

## Table Talk: topics and questions from Religious Studies

In Year 9, pupils have been learning about the objects of devotion in synagogues and Jewish worship. They have learnt about the significance of the Torah ark as well as other aspects of the synagogue, such as a menorah and bimah. From understanding prayer rituals, to the symbolism behind each object of devotion, their knowledge has deepened, leading to a greater understanding of the Jewish faith and tradition.



**Here are some questions to spark meaningful conversations at home:**

- What do you think is the most interesting feature of a synagogue? Why?
- Can you identify any similarities between a synagogue and other places of worship you've learned about?
- What role do you think objects like the Torah ark have in Jewish worship?
- Why do you think it's important for people to learn about different religious traditions and their places of worship?
- Have you ever visited a synagogue or any other place of worship? What was your experience like?
- How do you think Jewish worship in a synagogue might be similar to or different from worship in other religions?

**Sally Rose**  
Teacher of Religious Studies

# Sports

## Football

I am delighted to share some outside school football success. Last Saturday, **Otis J** and **Nahshon O**, both in Year 9, played in the Eagles Trophy Cup Final. Their team, South London District, won 4-2 against South East Sussex schools after being 2-0 down. **Otis** scored one of goals. He is pictured right with the cup.

They are now through to the National finals playing Manchester district on Sunday 12th May at Stoke City stadium. We wish them the best of luck for another great game and a fantastic opportunity for the boys!

**Alex Bishop**  
Curriculum Team Leader for PE



## Notices

### Year 12 Parents UCAS Presentation

It was encouraging to see so many Year 12 parents attending the UCAS presentation on Wednesday night, delivered by University of Surrey. For those parents who were unable to attend, please click on the image here to see the full presentation.

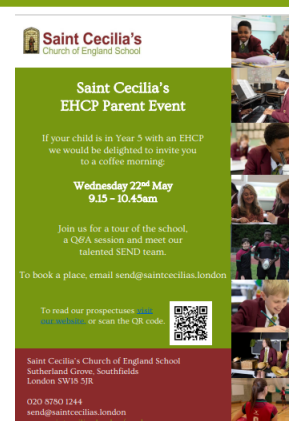


**Paul Bishop, Director of Sixth Form and**  
**Jo Osborn, Sixth Form Year Leader**

### Year 5 EHCP Parent Coffee Morning

On Monday 22nd May, we are holding a coffee morning for parents of children in Year 5 with an EHCP, who are interested in applying to Saint Cecilia's. If you have a child in primary school in Year 5 and would like to attend the tour and Q&A session, please email [send@saintcecilias.london](mailto:send@saintcecilias.london). Click on the image to see the full flyer.

**Cathy Bull**  
SENCo



### Please step up! Treasurer role needs filling at Friends of Saint Cecilia's

The Friends of Saint Cecilia's need someone from the parent body to take on the role of treasurer. You do not need to be an accountant or work in finance, however good administration skills would be helpful. It is a valued role, and we hope someone will be able to take on the role as soon as possible. You will only need to commit about three hours per month, and do not need to attend all the meetings that take place.

If you are interested or would like to learn more, please contact the Co-Chairs of the Friends - Helen Shaw and Karen Naples via the following email address [friendsofstcecilias@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofstcecilias@gmail.com).



Thank you to all those involved in the Friends of Saint Cecilia's for their continued fundraising efforts and support of the school.

**James Robinson**  
Assistant Headteacher

## Christian Union Summer Party - Thursday 13th June

Some of the local school Christian Unions are gathering together for an evening of games, food and a focus on Jesus. The Summer Party will be at Wimbledon High School on Thursday 13th June from 5-7pm, and the price is £5. The idea of these events is for pupils and students to make connections with people at other schools and enjoy time together. If your child would like to come or would like more information, please ask them to see me for a booking form.

**Alex Shoderu**  
Chaplain

## Monkey Chat App—risks to young people

We are concerned that pupils may be using the latest chat app, Monkey, on their devices. Although it is supposed to have a 17+ age limit on it, it appears there is no moderation or verification process.

Dr Claire Sutherland, an Online Safety Consultant from the National College, has produced a parents' information safety guide [here](#) which examines the Monkey chat app. The guide highlights several of the risks to young people using this platform and suggested ways to minimise them.



**Tina Simpson**  
Teacher of Computer Science

## Year 13 Locker Keys

If your child is in Year 13, please remind them to return their locker keys to Reception before they go on study leave.

**Tesha Flemming**  
Finance and Admin Assistant

## Lunch Timings—Swap for Year 9 and 11

A reminder for all pupils in Years 9 and 11, from Tuesday 7th May their lunch and break timings will swap over due to the exam period starting.

**Sandra Page**  
Examinations/Office Manager

### Upcoming Event Reminders

- TONIGHT Friday 3rd May: 'Friday Night Nets' Senior Netball v Graveney School at 6pm.
- Thursday 9th May: The Friends of Saint Cecilia's Spring Social 7-9pm
- Friday 10th May: Bronze DofE practice expedition in Richmond Park. 8.50am leave school, 2.30pm dismissed from Richmond Park
- Friday 10th May: Year 13 Leavers' Tea from 2.50pm
- Monday 13th May: Year 13 study leave begins
- Wednesday 15th May: Year 12 trip to The Lookout in Hyde Park
- Wednesday 15th - 17th May: Silver DofE practice expedition. Meet Amberley train station at 10am, dismissed from Amberley station late morning/afternoon on Friday.

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