

The Week at Saint Cecilia's



Saint Cecilia's
Church of England School

www.saintcecilias.london

Glorifying God through outstanding, enjoyable education

6th - 10th May 2024



Headteacher's Message

It is with immense pride that I can now share with you the glowing SIAMS report that was issued earlier in March. The findings encapsulate the very essence of our school community and reflect the dedication of our staff body to ensure that pupils, students and staff flourish, are nurtured and supported. Some highlights for me include: '*Leaders invest in a comprehensive extra-curricular programme, which nurtures students' interests and talents. They experience fulfilment and joy in their individual pursuits and performing with others*' and '*As a result of the vision, behaviour throughout the school is cheerful and courteous. Interactions between adults and pupils are characterised by affirmation and respect. Pupils' understanding of diversity and others' freedom and rights supports harmonious relationships.*' If you can find time, please see the full report [here](#) as it is an uplifting read.

I am delighted to hear that The Friends Spring Social event last night was such a success and raised over £3,000, all of which the school will benefit from. I would like to take this moment to thank The Friends for their continued support; we are very lucky to have such a dedicated team of parent volunteers to organise events and promote community as we appreciate everyone has busy lives.

Last Friday at the annual Friday Night Nets, our Senior netball team enjoyed a nail biting victory over Graveney School, winning by one goal in the last ten seconds to the rapture of the crowds. It was wonderful to see so many parents and staff watching from the sidelines, no doubt boosting our home advantage. It was a great addition to have The Friends running the bar and bbq for the first time, it certainly added to the buoyancy of the event.

I hope you enjoy the sunny weekend ahead. God bless.

Renata Joseph
Headteacher

Chaplain's Corner

'But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, He will bear witness about me.' (John 15:26)

Theme: Pentecost

Dear Parents and Carers,

Strength and peace to you for the week ahead. Sunday 19th May is the celebration of Pentecost in the Christian calendar. Pentecost is the celebration of the time in history when the Holy Spirit was given to the Church as recorded in Acts 2. The verse above describes the Holy Spirit as a Helper. I am hoping that our Year 11 and 13 cohort in their time here will have learnt that they can turn to God for help - and that they will do just that during this exam season. They will certainly have my prayers and support in any way they need it. Here is a prayer for them below.

Prayer:

Dear God,

Thank you for sending the Spirit to us as a Helper. Thank you that we can count on your help at all times, in the lows and the highs. Thank you, that you are especially close in difficult times. Help us to look to you for help in our own lives and to call on you for the lives of others we care about. In Jesus's name.

Alex Shoderu
School Chaplain

Music Tech Recording Workshop

On Tuesday 30th April, Year 12 BTEC music technology students had a great recording workshop with our partners at Crown Lane Studio. They learnt how to record the drum kit and guitar professionally under the expert guidance of the studio engineers. This will prepare them for their work experience placement at the Studio next week and their BTEC coursework. They all had a fantastic afternoon.



John Wells
Curriculum Team Leader for Music

GCSE Dramatists

THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG

On Thursday 25th April, GCSE drama pupils experienced a fantastic evening at the Duchess Theatre watching Mischief Theatre's, 'The Play that Goes Wrong.' Pupils absolutely loved the slapstick comedy involved as the play literally goes wrong, from the actors missing their cues, props breaking to even the staging collapsing!

Well done to all our drama pupils who behaved impeccably.



Sophie Moulard
Assistant Curriculum Team Leader for English and Drama

Conflict and Protest

This year, Year 9 pupils have finished their 'Conflict and Protest' art projects in true style. Here is a small selection of wonderful mixed media responses to the theme. You can see pupils here chose gender equality, animal rights, World War I soldiers' experiences, Black Lives Matter protests and the desire for Peace as subject matter.

The range of skills and ideas seen here is a testament to how thoughtfully pupils approached the project, inspired by artists such as Shepard Fairey. Collage, paint and pencil were used, but also many had sewn sections, lino printed or printed stencils and some even had moving parts.

Congratulations in particular to these pupils: **Evie F, Carolina M, Brooke M, Evie N, Austin B, Tammy D, Julia R, Rosie M and Phoebe B**



Austin B and Evie F



Brooke M and Tammy D



Rosie M and Julia R



Phoebe B and Carolina M

Stella Allan
Curriculum Team Leader for Art and Design

Year 8 and 12 Biology Conservation Trip

Last week, Year 8 had another fantastic day out at Hyde Park continuing their conservation activities. The groups rotated around different stations in the park, completing activities like weeding and mulching, sampling invertebrates, planting wildflowers, replanting off-shoots and taming brambles! A big congratulations to our Year 12 students who expertly facilitated the groups and completed the final task of their ASDAN conservation qualification.



Becky Butlin
Teacher of Science

Sixth Form Theatre Trip

On Wednesday 24th April, some very lucky Sixth Former students and staff got the chance to see *'Standing at the Sky's Edge'* with our very own alumnus student – the incredible Baker Mukasa, starring as George. It was such a great musical and Baker was amazing! The students had the chance to meet Baker after the show (pictured right in the yellow trousers). A huge thank you to Miss Jo Osborn and Mr Paul Bishop for organising the trip.

John Wells
Curriculum Team Leader for Music



Cells, Raps, Models and Cakes in Year 7 Science

In Year 7 Science, we have been talking about cells, specifically, what cells are made up of, and different types of cells. For their homework, the class was tasked with demonstrating their understanding through various methods of their choosing.

Six pupils (**Destiny CJ, Nabiha K, Samuel S, Elisa D and Sienna N**) choose to make cakes and scones. Naturally we had to eat them, so, this time at least, they can say that someone literally ate their homework!

Several (**Mina BS, Kyle T, Kavell B-P, Luka S, Sophie E, Sasha N, Isaac E and Imad M**, amongst others) made models that are now displayed in the classroom.

Two pupils (**Joseph A and Ryan O**) choose to write a rap!

We are very pleased with the effort that many pupils put into this homework assignment. It was fun and a great learning experience.

Richard Leitch
Teacher of Science



Library News

Library lessons

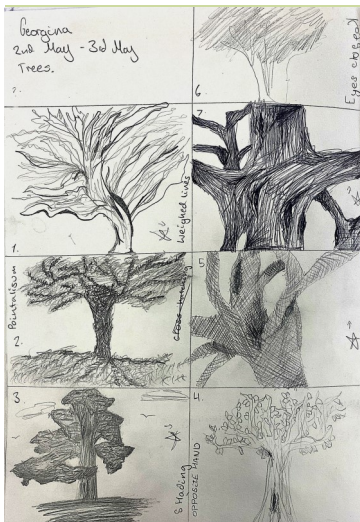
Recent Year 8 Library lessons have focused on different aspects of neurodiversity. Whilst most pupils are already aware of what this may look like, excerpts from a selection of books (pictured right) have added to their appreciation of what it might feel like to have ADHD or OCD, amongst other examples of neurodiversity. If you are interested in reading our recommendations, our reading lists are available [on the Library page of the school website](#).



Charity book sale

This has been postponed, but we hope to reschedule it very soon. In the meantime, please continue to send in any books (suitable for our pupils/students) that you would like to donate.

Rachel Goodhart
School Librarian



Artist of the Week

Year 8 pupils were asked to use different techniques to draw a tree as part of this term's project on 'Landscapes in the style of Hockney and Van Gogh'. **Georgina G** produced a set of beautiful drawings that really focused on different styles of mark-making. She is our Artist of the Week.

Sarah Mulvey
Teacher of Art and Design

Final DofE Silver Checklist

A reminder to parents/carers of Silver participants that the practice expedition in West Sussex is next week. To help your child prepare, please ensure that:

- you have paid the expedition fee on ParentPay (which includes the practice and assessed expedition)
- you have filled in the form on ParentPay with details on how your child will get home from Amberley station
- your child has borrowed any kit they need from the school store, and handed in the £10 cash deposit per item
- your child has their entire kit packed and ready (see previous letters with suggested kit list)
- your child has appropriate footwear and clothing for the three days of walking
- your child has brought appropriate meals (hot meals for the evening, simple breakfast, sandwiches/packed lunches for during the day) for each day
- your child's phone is fully charged (there will be no charging points on the trip, a portable battery is also advised but not compulsory)



Our starting point is 10am at Amberley train station on **Wednesday 15th May**. Please make arrangements for your child to be dropped off or to take a train which arrives at the station in time. The same for the return, leaving at 2.30pm from Amberley train station on **Friday 17th May**. The finishing time is provisional and based on how successful participants are with their navigation, so your child may contact you on Friday to let you know if they arrive earlier or later than planned.

Any queries, please ask your child to speak to, or contact, one of us beforehand.

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

Enquiring Minds



Activity

Devise and set up a home weather station for recording conditions. Set up a database to record and plot the information.

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 14 th 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.
Australian Rules Football	Mr Currie	Sports Hall or Play-ground	Year 10 Year 7-9	Wednesday 15 th May 3.15-4.15pm Wednesday 22 nd 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



This week, our Year 12 students started studying a topic on how Christians view and understand the Bible. They discussed the importance of examining the context of Bible passages and understanding verses within their broader framework. Additionally, students began to grasp the concept that different sections of the Bible serve distinct purposes and pondered the role of influences, such as tradition, in shaping one's interpretation of the Bible.

Some questions for discussion at home this weekend:

1. How does considering the historical context enhance our understanding of Bible verses?
2. In what ways do different parts of the Bible fulfil varying purposes for believers?
3. How can religious tradition impact our interpretation of the Bible?
4. Why is it important to approach the Bible with an open mind and critical thinking?

Sally Rose

Teacher of Religious Studies

Year 13 Last Day in School

Today we said 'goodbye' to Year 13, finishing the day with our traditional leavers' tea party. The cakes are baked by the Sixth Form mentors and enjoyed by the students. It's our way of marking the end of their lessons and the start of study leave.

Whilst it's a landmark day, students are welcome to study in school from 7am – 6pm Monday – Friday if they wish.

Please can Year 13 parents put two dates in the diary:

- Year 13 Prom: Friday 21st June at the London Rowing Club, 7pm—midnight.
- Leavers' Celebration: Tuesday 25th June in school from 3.30-4.30pm. Parents are warmly invited.

Details will follow via email next week.

Year 13 have been a really fantastic cohort and we wish them all the best in their forthcoming exams!

Paul Bishop, Director of Sixth Form and

Jo Osborn, Head of Sixth Form



Sports

Friday Night Nets

On Friday 3rd May, we hosted the annual Friday Night Nets event where our Senior 1st netball team played against Graveney School's Senior 1st team. The atmosphere was electric all evening, with music, half time entertainment, a shooting challenge and a BBQ run by The Friends of Saint Cecilia's (thank you so much to the parents for running this, the burgers were very popular!).

Our girls, led by captain **Amy H**, were one goal up at quarter time, building up to a six-goal lead by the final quarter, against a strong Graveney side. It quickly became a draw with just 30 seconds to go. **Bonnie F**, our shooter, scored with less than 10 seconds to the final whistle to secure the win! The crowd, made up of pupils, Sixth Former students, siblings and parents erupted; it was a great end to a wonderful evening. I'm so proud of how well the girls played. A huge well done to all and thank you to Graveney for being such amazing opponents.

Harriet Field
Teacher of PE



Gwenie takes Fencing Bronze

Last weekend, **Gwenie S** (Year 9) competed in the British Youth Championships for Fencing. She competed in the U14 girls Epee against 60 other competitors, completing five elimination rounds to finish in 3rd place, only narrowly being defeated in the semi-final by the gold-medallist. She is continuing to represent the England team and has been selected to compete in Switzerland next month. Gwenie is pictured on the left, lunging at her opponent.

Keep a lookout for this rising superstar!

Becky Butlin
Leader of Carter House

Year 12 Football Fundraising Effort

A group of Year 12 students will be taking part in a 12-hour football marathon tournament on 8th June in Richmond Park to raise funds for Tackle Africa. They would be very grateful for any support from the Saint Cecilia's community: scan the QR code for their JustGiving page.

Tackle Africa is a registered charity that uses the popularity of football to deliver HIV and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) information and services to young people on football pitches across Africa.

Daniel Taylor
Teacher of Business Studies



Notices

Measles Outbreak and Wandsworth Vaccination Clinics

The Central London Community Healthcare NHS Trust has informed us that confirmed cases of Measles have increased significantly across London with the highest rises being seen in Wandsworth, Harrow, Brent and Hammersmith and Fulham. They advise that all children should be up to date with two doses of MMR to give them best possible protection from this serious disease.

Wandsworth are holding walk-in vaccination clinics during May for children who have missed their vaccinations at school. MMR vaccinations are also available. The final clinic is being held tomorrow, Saturday 11th May. Please click on the picture for full information.

Lucy Bush
Deputy Headteacher

Walk-in vaccination clinic
Missed your vaccinations at school?
Visit your local community clinic to catch up with:

- 3-in-1 teenage booster
- MenACWY
- MMR
- HPV

Wednesday 8 May
15:30 - 18:00
St John's Therapy
Centre
London
SW11 1SW

Saturday 11 May
10:00 - 14:00
Fayland Children's
Centre
London
SW16 1SY

Call 020 3093 3374 for an appointment

Friends of Saint Cecilia's say Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who attended the Friends' Spring Social last night and placed bids in the silent auction - over **£3,000** was raised which is a huge amount for one event and will benefit the school. A special mention to the school premises team who helped make the event possible. We look forward to the next event!

Helen Ebert and Karen Naples
Co-Chairs, The Friends of Saint Cecilia's



Wandsworth Education Well-being Service

The Education Well-being Service is offering a live webinar for parents and carers of young people on 'Supporting Your Teenager with Emotional Difficulties and Self-Harm'. Being a teenager can be difficult to navigate, with lots of change and emotional ups and downs. This webinar aims to help parents and carers gain an understanding of emotional regulation and self-harm, including ways to respond and regulate your teen when they are emotionally distressed and engaging in harming behaviours.

The webinar will be presented on Tuesday 14th May, 7-8pm and again on Thursday 16th May at 12.30pm. You can sign up for one of the sessions by using the link [here](#).

Elise Musset
Safeguarding and Well-being Co-ordinator

SUPPORTING YOUR TEENAGER WITH EMOTIONAL DIFFICULTIES & SELF HARM
A parent webinar to help understand & support your Young Person

Being a teenager can be difficult to navigate, with lots of change and emotional ups and downs. Parents and carers can have key roles in supporting their teenagers through this by understanding emotional regulation, and how to facilitate healthy responses to difficult or testing situations.

This webinar aims to help parents:

- To understand what is meant by emotion regulation
- To support their teen to self-regulate
- To gain an overview of self-harm, including what we mean by self-harm, the ways in which somebody may self-harm, and reasons behind it.

DATE & TIME

Tuesday 14th May	7 - 8 pm
Thursday 16th May	12.30 - 1.30 pm

To book onto the webinar, sign up for free on Eventbrite using the link or QR Code

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/supporting-your-teenager-with-emotional-difficulties-self-harm-334649749m-campaign=social&share=twitter&source=organic>

wellbeing@schools.wandsworth.gov.uk

Upcoming Event Reminders

- 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.
- Monday 27th May - Friday 1st June: Half term. School closed
- Wednesday 5th - 7th June: Silver DofE assessed expedition
- Thursday 13th - 15th June: Bronze DofE assessed expedition
- Friday 21st June: Year 13 Prom 7-10pm
- Tuesday 25th June: Year 6 Parent Induction Evening 6-7.30pm
- Friday 28th June: Year 11 Prom 7-10.30pm at AFC Wimbledon Platinum Lounge

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