



23rd September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Given the period of national mourning, the September highlights was delayed as a mark of respect.

Yet again, we are excited to welcome new pupils and families, new colleagues and governors, to the Saint Cecilia's family, and looking forward to the year ahead.

A Level and GCSE – A celebration of school and individual success

Summer 2022 saw the return of public examinations for Years 11 and 13. Against a backdrop of many challenges faced by pupils, students and staff since 2019, we are delighted to share the following headlines:

A Level and Level 3 BTECs:

- 24 % of grades achieved were A*-A
- 50% of grades achieved were A*-B
- 72% of grades achieved were A*-C
- 81% of BTEC grades were Distinction*- Pass

GCSE and Level 2 BTECs:

- Attainment 8 score was 55.1 (compared to 55.3 in 2021 and 53.4 in 2020)
- 84% of pupils achieved grades 9-4 in both English and Maths
- 66% achieved grades 9-5 in both English and Maths
- 82% of BTEC grades were Distinction*- Pass

In what we know is a transition year, back to normality, the grades represent an overall improvement at GCSE from 2019. I am delighted, we continue to see a high percentage of students achieving the very highest grades at A Level. We are incredibly proud of the success of our young people, after what has been an equally challenging year to previous years. As we celebrate their success and look towards the future, I am mindful of the significant contribution made by teachers, support staff, and the efforts of mentors and Year and House Leaders.

In Year 13 a large proportion of students won places to their first-choice university, to study a wide range of subjects and disciplines. This included students who achieved the very highest grades across all subjects. Well done to Sadie, Isabella, Victoria, Lydia and Moudood in Year 13. I am equally delighted that so many progressed from our suite of BTEC subjects to universities across the country, where they will continue to achieve and aim high.

In Year 11, the following pupils achieved a combination of the very highest grades across all subjects. Well done to Layla, Sophia, Mark, Daniele, Liza, Molly, Tara, Raphaela, Esther, Daniel, Ysobel, Katarina, Eva, Lily, Emma and Amy who achieved the very highest grades across all subjects.

I am incredibly proud that the vast majority of pupils and students have progressed onto the next stage of their education, and many Year 11 pupils have chosen to progress into our Sixth Form.

Welcoming new colleagues to the Saint Cecilia's family

It is with great pleasure to introduce the following new staff to the Saint Cecilia's family:

- Evangeline Bediako – Learning Support
- Daisy Bernard – Teacher of Art & Design
- Jason Kigo – Teacher of Maths
- Hannah McAnaney – Teacher of Science
- Lilia Madouri – Teacher of Languages (French)
- Kimberly Ototahor – Learning Support
- Agata Pempera – Library Assistant & Literacy support
- Laura Tringham-Kellman – Pupil Support
- Chris Pereira Rocha – Learning Support
- Daniel Taylor – Teacher of Business Studies & Computing
- Emma Ward – Teacher of Maths

There are also staff, who you will know well, taking on new roles this academic year, to support the pastoral, academic and extra-curricular life of school.

- Emmanuel Asamoah Mensah – Sixth Form Academic Mentor
- Sara Navarro Martinez – Pedagogy Project Leader
- Tessa Lashley – Pedagogy Project Leader
- Alison Sharpe – Cousins – Challenge Project Leader

Building Expansion – phase 2 underway this year

To enable the growth of the school, a new teaching block of 10 classrooms was opened in September 2021 as phase 1 of the expansion. We will soon submit a planning application for phase 2, which is an extension to our Refectory to provide additional space for the children to eat in comfort as well as a space for assemblies and clubs. The building work is funded by Wandsworth Council as part of their borough-wide school expansion programme. As well as providing an excellent learning environment, the new buildings include environmental features that are enabling us to reduce energy use even though the school is now larger.

Mission, vision, aims and priorities for 2022-23

The mission, vision and aims of Saint Cecilia's remain the same.

We strive in our mission to 'Glorify God, through outstanding, enjoyable education'. This is underpinned by scripture, where Jesus said, *'I came so that you may have life, and have it abundantly'*, John 10:10.

We have a vision to:

- Enhance the impact we have on pupils' outcomes, experiences and their wider development
- Expand the opportunities we offer to staff to develop as professionals
- Extend our reach into and beyond our community

We are determined to maintain a **Great Curriculum**, ensure **Great Learning**, promote **Great Professionalism** amongst pupils, students and staff, and build **Great Partnerships**. Despite the disruption and uncertainty since March 2020, we believe we have a vision, staff body and school culture, able to support, care and educate.

Amongst other areas, this year we will focus on:

- **Christian Ethos** – Readiness for SIAMs, the development of a chaplaincy team to include more solutions focused mentoring for pupils and students, and a review of Collective Worship
- **Great Learning** - Continued educational recovery in Years 7-11 (numeracy and literacy) and Years 12-13 (weekly academic mentoring for all students)
- **Great Curriculum** – Curriculum Review – KS3. What do we teach and why? How do topics fit into the bigger picture? How is learning assessed? What is the role of homework that supports progress?
- **Great Professionalism** – Post COVID-19 re-establishing an ethos and culture of good attendance and punctuality across all year groups.
- **Great Partnerships** – Parent Partnership events for each year group that reflect the specific needs of pupils and parents.

As we look towards the future, staff and governors at Saint Cecilia's retain a positive attitude, and are excited to be able to offer pupils and students an abundance of opportunity.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Renata Joseph
Headteacher