



Message from the Headteacher

'But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative – that is, the Holy Spirit – he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you.'
(John 14:26)

This week has been a week of 'firsts' and 'lasts'. Our very own **Dylan B H** (Year 8) gave us a first: appearing on ITV's *'Britain's Got Talent'*, and wowing judges with a confident and flawless rendition of Beyonce's *'Listen'*. Many congratulations to **Dylan** who achieved a standing ovation from the audience and judges – including the hard to impress Simon Cowell. We are very proud of Dylan and excited to see how his journey unfolds as he heads into the next round. Good luck Dylan!

We are equally proud of **Louis W** who achieved his Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award. The Gold Award is the most challenging programme on the Duke of Edinburgh's scheme and a fantastic achievement for any student to succeed in, alongside their studies and other extra-curricular activities.

I hope you have seen the details for our first parent workshop since the pandemic. 'Left to their own devices?' aims to help parents navigate the online world their children engage with. If you would like to learn more, book your place via ParentPay without delay. This is a free event and spaces are limited.

Sadly, we had a few 'lasts', as Year 13 attended their final lessons, took their final photographs and met with mentors for their final tea party. Of course, we will see them as they come and go for examinations, and for a very final goodbye at their Leavers' Celebration on 27th June.

Today, we welcomed Fleur Anderson, MP for Putney, to school. Fleur hosted a lively Q+A session that was enjoyed by the Year 12 and 13 Politics students.

The Friends of Saint Cecilia's host their social event this evening. It is a great opportunity for parents and carers to spend time together and raise much needed funds for the school. I am very grateful to everyone who has volunteered their time, skills, and expertise, and look forward to seeing you there this evening. The event starts at 7pm and tickets can be purchased on the door.

God bless.

Renata Joseph
Headteacher

Chaplain's Corner

'Don't hold on to me for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go instead to my brothers and tell them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'
(John 20:17)

Dear Parents and Carers,

With exams in full swing this week, I'm sure that many of you will have had our Year 11s and 13s in your hearts and minds.

One of the ways that I will be offering support is through prayer and by making sure my door is always open for anyone who needs to talk. Please don't hesitate to direct your child to me at any time should they need it.

On the subject of prayer, in our Collective Worship this week, we are picking up on the Christian festival of Ascension which falls on Thursday 18th May this year. One of the big messages that Jesus wants to leave with his disciples is that his death

and resurrection has opened a way for them to have the same kind of relationship He has with his Father God. According to our theme verse (left), the disciples are now not just his friends, they are his *brothers*. God is now not just his Father, he is *their* Father and *their* God.

This is what makes prayer so powerful. It's not just a good spiritual exercise, but an invitation to commune with God, our Father. I will be doing lots of that on behalf of our pupils and students over these next few weeks. May God's peace be so tangible for them and for you as you seek to support all who are under your care or within your social circles.

Amen.

Alex Shoderu
School Chaplain

Super Star in the Making

Wow! We have all been moved and blown away by **Dylan BH's** (Year 8) performance last weekend on Britain's Got Talent. His voice and bravery were spectacular. If you didn't manage to watch him live, it is really worth listening to him perform [here](#). The whole video including their comments is about 6 minutes; watch from 1min-3min 30 for just his performance.



Becky Butlin
Teacher of Science and House Leader for Carter House

Artist of the Week

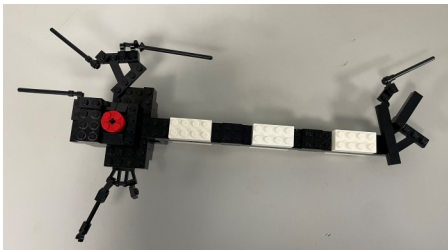


Jadie R in Year 10 is exploring the work of Klari Reis for GCSE and has created this wonderful response to a piece looking at cells using oil pastels. Well done **Jadie**. She is my Artist of the Week.

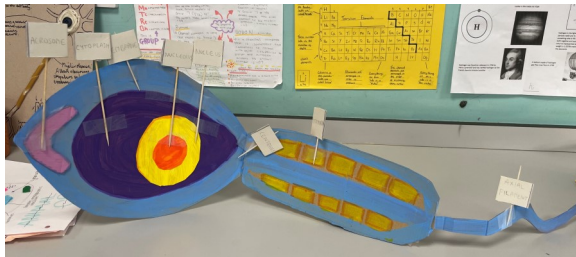
Victoria England
Teacher of Art and Design

Year 7 Cells

Year 7 have been studying cells and have created some wonderful models, ranging from nerve cells, palisade cells to sperm cells.



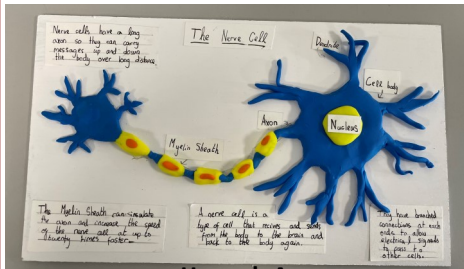
Jude F



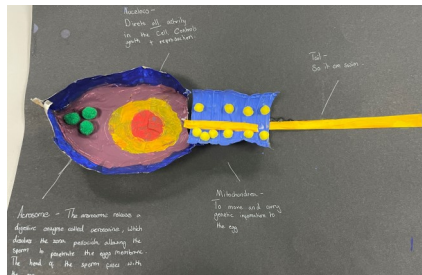
Joseph E



Sasha K



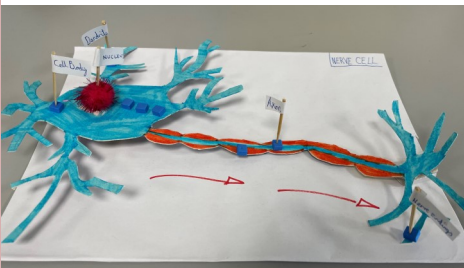
Hannah A



Lily G



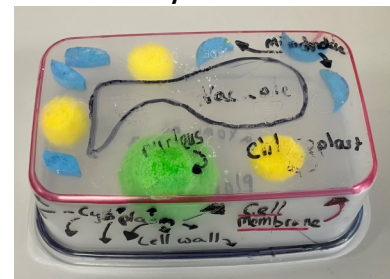
Myles R-H



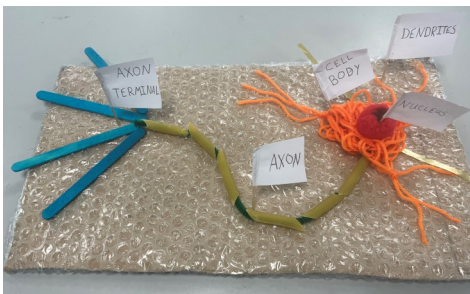
Isaac S



Abigail d J and Alex A



George G



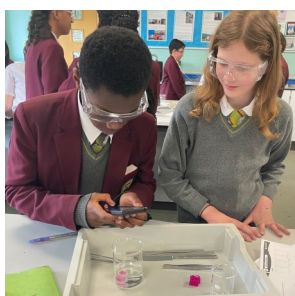
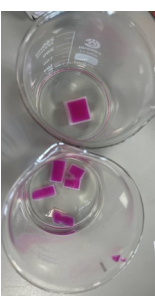
Rudy G



Maisie B

As well as creating their own models, pupils used microscopes to view onion cells on slides they prepared themselves and investigated diffusion into cells through changing the surface area of coloured cubes and timing how long it took for the acid to decolourise the jelly.

Becky Butlin
Teacher of Science



More Science News

Science Club

Our dedicated Science Club pupils have been 'working scientifically'. Two weeks ago, they selected the independent variables to alter to make the best cola and Mentos rockets. They investigated full sugar vs. diet cola, branded cola vs. non-branded cola, stacking Mentos vs. laying them flat and finally mint Mentos vs. fruit Mentos. The results seemed to indicate mint Mentos and branded cola gave the best results...but with a few bottles dropped on the way and one bottle knocked over while it was exploding, we concluded that we need to think about control variables next time!



Becky Butlin

Teacher of Science

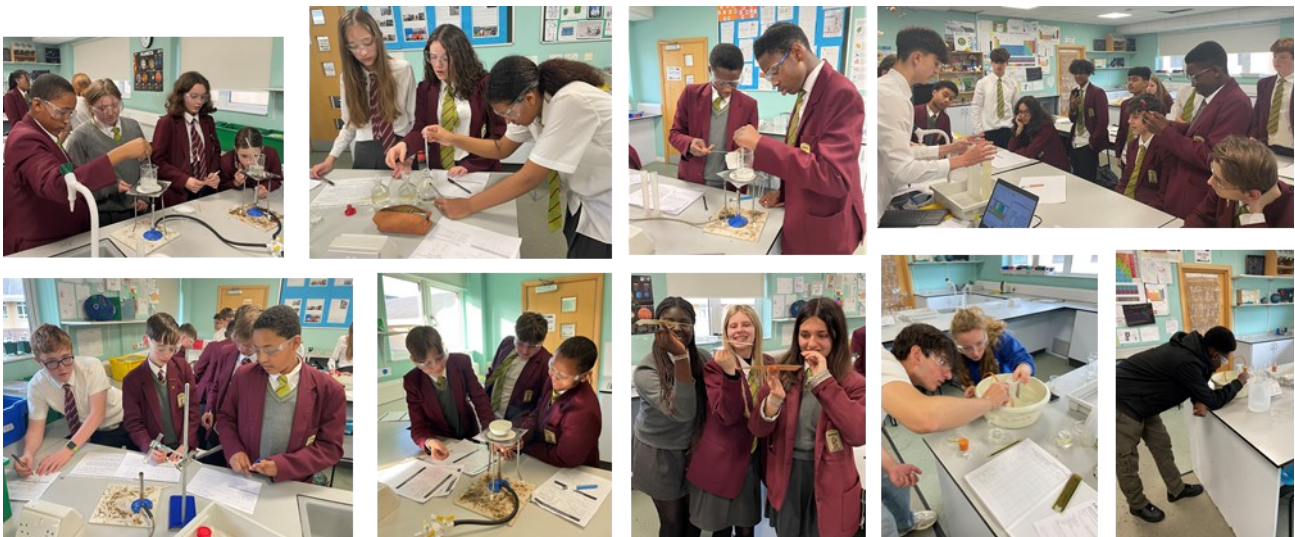


In the most recent Science Club, pupils worked to identify equipment and safety in the lab. They used beakers and stirring rods to create a reaction between copper oxide and sulphuric acid. They filtered the solution into a conical flask using filter paper and a filter funnel. Finally, the pupils transferred the filtrate into an evaporating basin and used a Bunsen burner to produce copper sulphate crystals.



Physics, Chemistry and Biology

Pupils and students in all year groups continue to complete practical work in lessons. Here is a snapshot of some of their experiments this year: Year 8 separating mixtures and chemical reactions, Year 10 exploring centre of mass and terminal velocity, and enzyme rate of reaction investigation in Year 12 A Level Biology.



Science Models

Nadia H, Joseph G and Grace W thoughtfully created models of specialised cells in science. Using scientific detail, they correctly labelled the different parts of the cell and presented their models in a creative way.

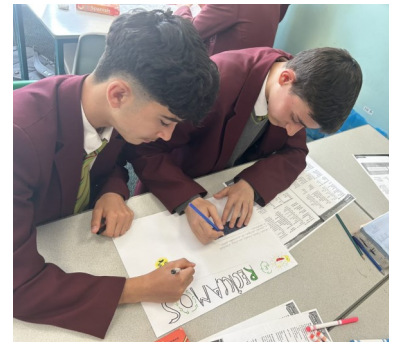


Hanna McAnaney
Teacher of Science

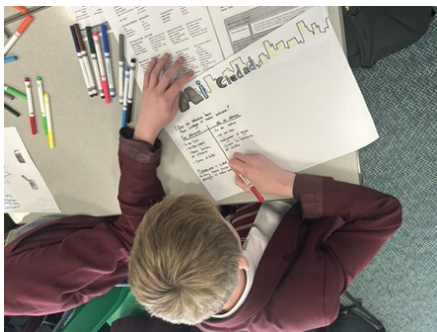
Year 9 Spanish Activism

This half term, Year 9 MFL pupils have been working on the topic of fair trade and what we can do to be more sustainable. They have learnt about the rights of children in Spanish-speaking countries. Finally, they have been raising awareness about environmental issues and what can we do to protect the environment. They created posters in class to raise awareness in Saint Cecilia's of these issues. Please see some great examples of their work below.

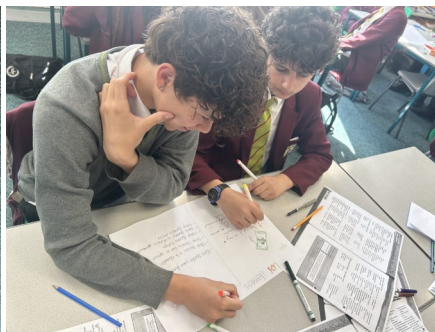
Omara Muñoz Asensio
Curriculum Team Leader for MFL



Kareem K and Loïc Z



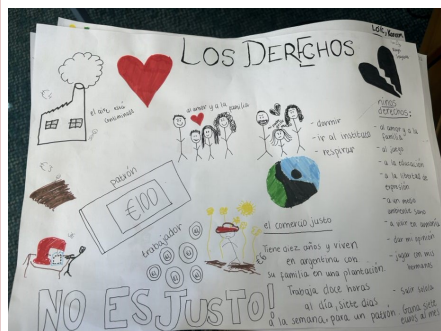
Alan B



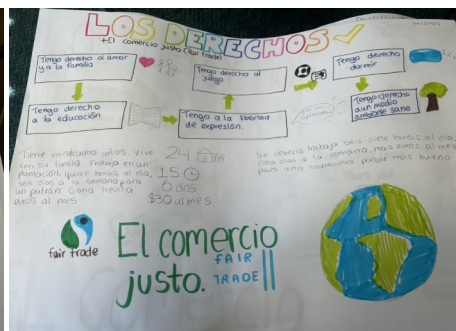
André L and Ben E



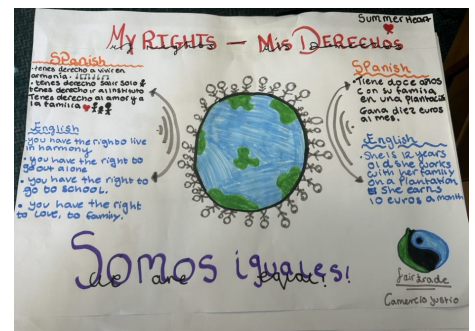
Summer H



Ivo D and Raya S



Miranda C



Summer H

Year 13 Leavers' Tea

Many years ago, Ms Joanne Osborn dreamed up the idea of a Sixth Form team 'bake off' to provide cake for our Year 13 students just before they go on study leave. This has now become an annual tradition and is a lovely way to mark their last day in school and say good luck before their exams. This year, the standard of baking was the highest yet, matched by the students' eager cake-eating. I hope the photos capture the spirit of what was a lovely event.



Paul Bishop
Assistant Headteacher,
Director of Sixth Form



Year 13s' Last Week in School

Year 13 marked their last week in school by taking part in a cultural dress up day on Wednesday 10th May and wearing their old school uniforms on Thursday 11th May. Our students this year were the most enthusiastic ever for these events. I hope they have the same enthusiasm for revision!

Paul Bishop
Assistant Headteacher, Director of Sixth Form



Year 8 Peace Garden Sketching

The sun shone over Saint Cecilia's on Thursday this week, so Year 8 took the opportunity to sketch 'en plein air' in the Peace Garden. Pupils have been looking at the mark making of Van Gogh and Hockney for their landscape project and drew some preparation sketches in graphite for their final piece.



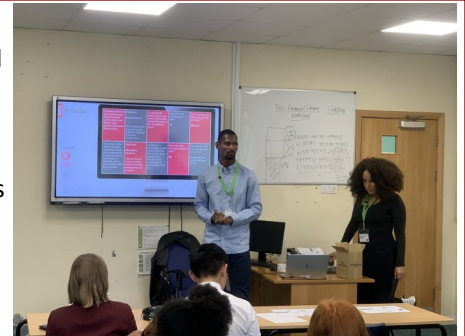
Victoria England
Teacher of Art and Design



Year 9 Financial Literacy



On Wednesday 17th May, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), delivered a financial literacy workshop to all Year 9 pupils. They guided pupils on topics including how to read your payslip, how income tax works and where the money is spent, how to understand pensions and student loans. The event was so successful that they would like to return to Saint Cecilia's to deliver more sessions to Year 10 and Year 12 pupils!



Anessa Lee
Assistant Headteacher

Library News



Thank you to those who submitted Mass Observation diary entries. If you or your child still has one to hand in, please email/give it to me in the Library.

The Library marked Mental Health Awareness Week with this display of some of our resources addressing mental health issues.

The Library will be hosting a **Book Giveaway** on Thursday 25th May, to find new homes for books that we no longer need. Where possible we ask that pupils/students make a donation of at least 10p per book chosen. Funds raised will be donated to [The Children's Book Project](#) which seeks to tackle book poverty in the UK and to give every child the opportunity to own their own book.

Rachel Goodhart
School Librarian

Athletics Success at Wandsworth Event

On Thursday 11th May, a Year 7 and 8 Wandsworth athletics competition was held at Battersea Park. Saint Cecilia's had over 50 pupils competing at the event, some of whom were attending their first ever athletics competition. It was a difficult decision to select the teams, with over 100 Year 7s and 8s turning up to the trials. The pupils had a great day at the event, where we were lucky to miss the rain. Saint Cecilia's finished the day with over 20 medals, and many gold medal performances. Stand out individual performances came from **Cassielle M C** (Year 7) who won the 200m by over 30m and **Otis J** (Year 8) taking a comfortable gold in the 800m. We also had gold medals for both our Year 7 girls and Year 7 boys relay teams, where they showed great changeovers which they have practised in recent PE lessons.

This is a great start to the season, demonstrating such prowess on the track events. We now need to strengthen our field events to medal even more, something we are excited to practise once Wimbledon Park's track has been refurbished. Well done to all athletes who competed last week.



Harriet Field
Teacher of PE

Badminton



As well as school sport, it is always wonderful to hear about the many activities that our talented pupils and students participate in outside of school, often at a very high level.

We are delighted to report that over the last six months, the Surrey first badminton team (consisting of four boys, including **Reuben B** in Year 9 pictured left, and four girls) have beaten Essex, Hampshire, Middlesex and Kent. They qualified for the National county championships on 14th May at the University of Derby. Surrey lost in the first round to Yorkshire 7-13. They then went on to beat Yorkshire (B) 18-2 and Warwickshire 15-5 to come 5th overall. **Reuben** won seven of his nine matches at the finals and played extremely well. Well done to Reuben!

Alex Bishop
Curriculum Team Leader for PE

Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award



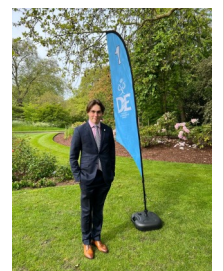
Congratulations to **Louis W** (Year 13) for completing his Gold Award. **Louis** was invited to attend the Duke of Edinburgh's Award ceremony held at Buckingham Palace. The event included a lovely day in the palace gardens, with tea and cake, public speakers, and presentations.

As Ruth Marvel, CEO of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award said at the event, "A Gold DofE Award is a remarkable achievement. Many young people attending today have overcome their own challenges to make it here—all of them have shown huge perseverance and self-belief, and gained skills and

memories to last a lifetime. They should all be incredibly proud."

This makes **Louis** our second successful Gold Award recipient at Saint Cecilia's. We wish our current Gold group of Year 12s and Year 13s the best of luck on their upcoming expedition to complete their award this summer!

Rachel Skinner
Teacher of Science and Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator



Auction is now open for tonight's social

Tonight is The Friends of Saint Cecilia's Spring Social and fundraising silent auction. Tickets for the event are just £5, which includes a drink and canapes (see the flyer at the end of the newsletter for how to book). There will be a live band and DJ too.

If you can't come tonight, you can still take part in the auction to help raise funds to support the school. There are some incredible lots to bid on including a framed football shirt worn by legendary Fulham FC player, Aboubaka Kamara, champagne, delicious food hampers, treats, days out, and even a huge 55" new ultra HD TV. There is even a basket of 10 Prime energy drinks in four flavours! Here is [the auction site](#) with all the information you need to bid. Good luck!

The Friends of Saint Cecilia's

Photographer Captures Spirit of the School



Once a year, we invite a professional photographer to come into school to take photos of staff, pupils and students to use on our website and in publications. This week, Ray O'Neill spent a day touring classrooms, breaktimes and after school clubs taking photos. Here is our headteacher, Mrs Joseph with a group of prefects and well being champions pretending not to be on camera. Look out for some of these new shots in future materials.

Kelly Turner
Marketing

Year 11s' Great Start to Exams

This week, I want to give a special mention to our Year 11s. They have made an excellent start to the challenging exam season and they have approached the exams with maturity and resilience. All the staff have noticed how well they are coping. Well done Year 11, keep it up!

James Owen
Deputy Headteacher

Mental Health Awareness Week 2023

This year's Mental Health Awareness Week takes place from 15th to 21st May 2023. The week is run by the Mental Health Foundation, which started it in 2001. The theme for the week this year is anxiety. Good Thinking have produced a toolkit with a list of resource to help deal with anxiety, uploaded [here](#) to our school website, which we hope you might find useful.



Anessa Lee
Assistant Headteacher

Workshop for Parents and Carers



This is a reminder to join us for our free workshop on parenting in a digital age on **Thursday 25th May from 6.30 - 8.30pm**. The evening is open to all parents and we hope you can make it. COVID-19 restrictions limited so many of these types of activities, so I'm especially looking forward to welcoming you into school, and facilitating parents meeting other parents.

Please register your attendance through ParentPay as soon as you can. The deadline is tonight, **Friday 19th May**.

Don't hesitate to contact me with any questions ashoderu@saintcecilias.london

Alex Shoderu
School Chaplain

Thursday 25th May from 6.30 - 8.30pm

Venue: Saint Cecilia's Church of England School
in partnership with Care for the Family

*Would you like to gain an understanding of the online world your children inhabit?
Would you like to know more about how to keep your child safe online?
Do you feel alone when it comes to experiencing the challenge of parenting in a digital age?*

Following the success of Katherine Hill's popular book, 'Left to Their Own Devices', we are delighted to give parents at Saint Cecilia's the opportunity to attend a workshop, based on the book, and developed by Care for the Family.

This 90 minute workshop aims to address the challenges posed by the online world (e.g gaming, pornography) and give parents practical tips on navigating a world of screens. As well as helping parents keep their children safe online, this workshop will encourage parents to involve their children in setting boundaries in the home and making positive choices for themselves.

Cookery Classes

Following on from the success of their previous holiday classes, Mix and Munch are holding two more cooking classes for teenagers over May half term. They will be held in our Food Tech room on Wednesday 31st May, and there are two time slots available.

The menu this time is rice paper rolls, Thai chicken curry and cheesecake - delicious!

Please contact Rachael who runs Mix and Munch directly to book places - contact details on the flyer, right.

Dave Cobb
Business and Development Manager



12-15 Year Old Holiday Cooking Classes

3 hour (drop off) session where we cook and eat and learn to make delicious

Rice Paper Rolls, Thai Chicken Curry & Cheesecake

Wednesday 31st May at 9.30-12.30 AND 2.00-5.00pm

Where: Saint Cecilia's School, Sutherland Grove, SW18 5JR
Cost: £36 per child (£66 for 2 siblings)

www.mixandmunch.com (BOOK ONLINE) or contact me

Email: hello@mixandmunch.com Phone: 07989 346084 (Rachael)



Mix_and_Munch_Cooks



Upcoming Event Reminders

- **Friday 19th May: TONIGHT!** The Friends' social evening and fundraiser in the Refectory from 7 - 9pm (see attached poster for information on how to buy tickets)
- **Tuesday 23rd May:** Year 10 trip to South Thames College from 10 - 1pm
- **Thursday 25th - Friday 26th May:** Bronze DofE Expedition
- **Friday 26th May:** Half term (return to school Monday 5th June)
- **Thursday 8th June:** Years 8 and 12 Conservation Project in Hyde Park from 9.30am- 4pm
- **Friday 9th June:** Inter-house Lip Sync Battle at school from 1.50 - 4pm
- **Tuesday 13th June:** Year 8 and 9 BFI Southbank Study Day from 9.30am - 4pm
- **Wednesday 14th—16th June:** DofE Silver assessed expedition (Year 10)
- **Wednesday 14th June:** Music trip to the National Opera Studio for Years 9 and 10
- **Wednesday 21st June:** Year 8 BFI Southbank Study Day from 9.30am - 4pm

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FREE CANAPES
LIVE BANDS + DJ
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SILENT AUCTION

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7-11PM | £5 ADV INC DRINK

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SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL. CLICK HERE
OR TYPE TINYURL.COM/FOSTC2023

[Buy tickets via The Friends' TicketSource page here](#)