



Message from the Headteacher

*'For the Son of Man came to seek and save those who are lost'.
Luke 19:10*

This week has been incredibly fruitful. With so much going on, I am delighted so many pupils made time to get 'caught reading' - the Library's latest initiative to spread a culture of reading across school. The Library continues to be a hub of activity, and during a spot check, we logged over 2400 visits by over 550 different pupils in nine days!

The Friends of Saint Cecilia's continue to provide generous support to the school. After some serious fund raising, the Friends were able to award almost £10,000 to various departments and special projects in school. I am incredibly grateful for all the funds raised. It will make a real difference to the opportunities and support we can offer pupils. Amongst many other things, we will have new gymnastics mats for the cheerleading squad, theatre workshops for the Modern Foreign Languages department for pupils in Years 7- 9, and

costumes and music for the school production. I was also very touched to receive a kind donation of £500 to the school compassion fund. The Friends play a crucial role in our school community, and if you are interested in finding out more, or joining, do get in touch with the Chair, Valente Panattoni at friendsofstceccilias@gmail.com

Enjoy reading this week's news.

God bless,

Renata Joseph
Headteacher

Chaplain's Corner

*'Give all your worries and cares to God,
for He cares about you.'
1 Peter 5:7*

Dear Parents and Carers,

Peace and grace to you at the end of this week. Our Collective Worship theme this week was 'support', in line with a campaign that the Samaritans are heading called 'Brew Monday'. This, from the Samaritan's website, explains more:

'Why 'Brew Monday'?

The third Monday in January is sometimes referred to as 'the most difficult day of the year,' but this is a myth. At Samaritans we know there's no such thing as 'Blue Monday' – we all have our good days and our bad days, and those aren't for the calendar to decide. So we say it's time to stop this myth about Monday being 'blue' and instead start a conversation over a brew! Reach out and connect with family, friends, colleagues and loved ones.

We can always make time for a cuppa and a catch-up.

It doesn't matter if it's a Monday morning or Saturday night, or if you're drinking green tea, black coffee or orange juice. If you're sharing a cuppa and listening, you're doing it right.'

I encouraged mentors to create some space for pupils and students to engage with this during mentor time, and similarly



for staff to find time to have a brew with each other whether it was on Monday or any other day that week. I trust that it has been helpful for those who engaged with it. If you or someone you know is interested in finding out more about the work of the Samaritans, here is their contact: www.samaritans.org

May the peace of Christ be with you.

Amen

Alex Shoderu

Maths Trip to Oxford



Last Wednesday 11th January, twelve girls from Year 9 had the fantastic opportunity to spend the day at the Mathematical Institute, University of Oxford, attending the 'It All Adds Up' event. The day included talks from specialists in maths, including: 'Where can maths take you?', a session exploring the different careers mathematics at A Level and degree level can lead to.

Pupils had a chance to explore the maths behind tracking and predicting the spread of viruses among populations, and the spread of information, in a workshop led by epidemiologist, and visiting Fellow, Laura Schaposnik. They also had a chance to do some hands-on problem solving led by university students, as well as a Q&A session, where our pupils could ask students what it's like to study maths at a higher level and up to PhD standard.

The event aims to encourage more females to pursue mathematics beyond GCSE and to inspire budding mathematicians. The girls thoroughly enjoyed the day and relished the opportunity to be able to see a little of the beautiful city of Oxford.

Megumi Davis
Teacher of Maths



Drama and Art Theatre Design Workshop

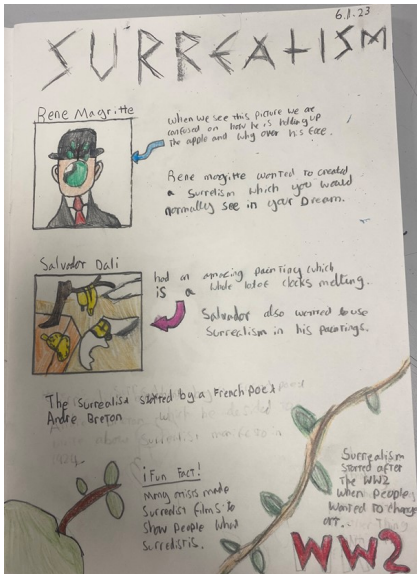
On Friday 13th January, we held a Drama and Art Theatre Design workshop with Year 11 and Year 12 pupils and students led by Amy Hare from Wimbledon College of Arts. It was a very inspiring and insightful workshop, where pupils and students were involved in a range of activities from creating puppets to designing costumes created from film and theatrical pieces.

Victoria England, Teacher of Art and Design and
Sophie Mouland, Teacher of Drama

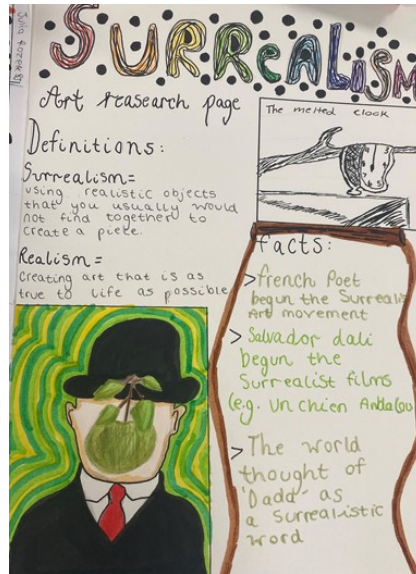


Surrealist research

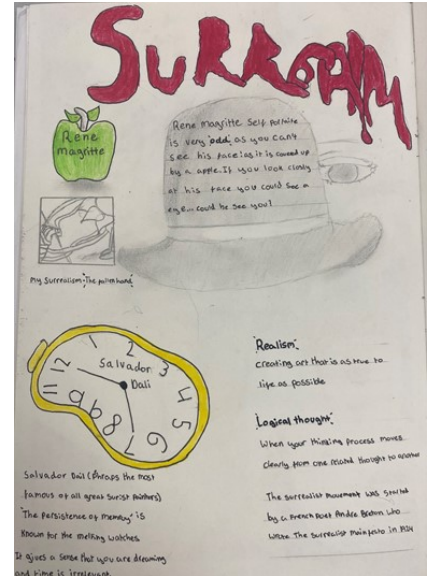
Year 8 have been working hard on their Surrealist research pages. Here are some excellent examples.



Austin H-B



Brooke



Julia R

Stella Allan

Curriculum Team Leader for Art and Design

Sportshall Athletics Competition Win

An impressive 55 pupils across Years 7 and 8 trialled to get into our sportshall athletics team. Sportshall athletics is an indoor form of athletics for children between the ages of 4 and 15. It is the largest competition programme in schools in the UK. After a tough selection, the pupils were selected to represent the school in the different track and field events.

On Thursday 12th January, our teams competed in the Wandsworth Sportshall Athletics Competition held at Battersea Sports Centre. The atmosphere was electric, as the pupils competed against many schools in the district at a huge variety of athletic events. It was a very successful day for Saint Cecilia's, as **we were the overall winning school!** Every Saint Cecilia's team won medals:

Year 7 girls: Silver

Year 7 boys: Silver

Year 8 girls: Silver

Year 8 boys: Gold

Our Year 8 boys won comfortably and qualify for the regional finals next month - a great achievement!

Particular well done to **Tristan B** and **Emma H** for being selected as Year 7 Athletes of the Day, and to **Nahshon O** and **Neema C** being selected as Year 8 Athletes of the Day. We are so proud of all pupils who trialled after school and lunchtimes leading up to the event. We are excited for the athletics season in the Summer Term!

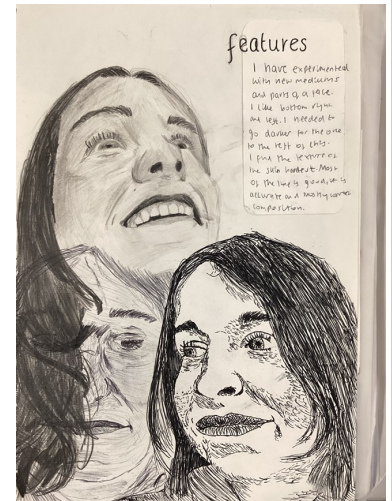


Harriet Field
Teacher of PE



Artist of the Week

Our Artist of the Week is **Chloe F** in Year 10 for her excellent exploration of the theme of portraits using a variety of materials. She has demonstrated a great understanding of how to show texture and tone using pencil, fine liner and biro. Chloe has also created an interesting composition idea in the way she has presented her experiments overlapping each other. Well done, Chloe!



Stella Allan
Curriculum Team Leader for Art and Design

Library News

Get Caught Reading!

It has been fantastic to see increased enthusiasm for reading in response to our Get Caught Reading prize draw. The Library has been full of readers filling every available space – to such a degree that we’ve decided to do a draw **each** Friday, rather than waiting until half term! Congratulations to those whose names have been picked so far – prizes and house points have been awarded. Keep encouraging your child to come to the Library and read to earn tickets for the draw! There will be a ‘super-draw’ at the end of this half of term, with ALL the tickets issued so far in with a chance to win bigger prizes and even more house points!



A-Z Reading Challenge

Ermuun S, one of our Year 8 Pupil Librarians, decided that this school year he would set himself a challenge to work through the alphabet, picking books by authors’ surnames. You can see from this list of books he’s read, that he’s up to K already and has read a real mixture of books! Great work Ermuun – keep it up!

If your child would like suggestions for, or help with, a reading challenge, do encourage them to come and ask in the Library.



Rachel Goodhart
School Librarian

 X-Isle Augarde, Steve AUG 1	 Pure Baggott, Julianna BAG 1	 Hunger Games, The [1] Collins, Suzanne COL 1	 Lie Kill Walk Away: From the Author of the Everest Dickinson, Matt DIC 2	 When the sky falls Earle, Phil EAR 2	 Big Fish Foster, Stewart FOS 1
 They Saw Too Much Gibbons, Alan GIB 1	 Humans, The Haig, Matt HAI 1	 Never Let Me Go Ishiguro, Kazuo ISH 0	 Haunt: Dead Scared Jobling, Curtis JOB 1	 Big shot [16] Kinney, Jeff KIN 0	

Year 8 Rugby Success



On Monday 16th January, the Year 8 rugby team played a rescheduled match against Ibstock Place School on the 4G pitch at Rosslyn Park and beat them convincingly 35-10. Well done to the boys for a comprehensive victory, with some excellent running rugby. The tries were scored by **Nahshon O** (three), **Amaru G** (two), **Caleb D** (one) and **Spencer E** (one).

Team: **Dexter M**, **Leo K**, **William G**, **Caleb D**, **Adam B**, **Bertie D** (Captain), **Toby G**, **Henry H**, **Amaru G**, **Nahshon O**, **Ethan D**, **Spencer E**, **Gael N P F**, **Chukwuka N** and **Oliver C S**.

Christopher Luke

Teacher of PE and Year Leader for Year 11

Netball News

On Wednesday 18th January, the Senior A and B teams (pictured right) took on Ewell Castle School A team at home. It was a cold afternoon but with a strong warm up, the girls got off to a flying start. The A team won 15-1, with the B team also taking a convincing win.

Well done to **Bonnie F** and **Lizzie B** for being selected as Opposition's Player of the Match for their shooting.

Also a well done to our Year 11 netball team who played against our senior teams when they were not playing against Ewell. It was great for them to play an older, more experienced team. Particular well done to **Melody C** for being chosen as Coach's Player of the Match. Well done to all!

Imogen Hamel

Teacher of PE



Year 10:

On Thursday 19th January, the Year 10B netball team (pictured left) travelled away to play against the Ewell Castle Year 10 team. After a thorough warm up, the girls took to the court and they were 8-6 up after the first quarter. They were able to cut out their unforced errors and pulled ahead even more. There were some great circle edge drives and accurate passes to our holding shooters. They won a convincing 32-16. A huge well done to all, particularly **Charlotte M** for being chosen as Player of the Match, as well as **Moyin T-A** for being chosen as Coach's Player of the Match due to her shooting accuracy. Well done to all for a great fixture!

Year 9:

On Tuesday 17th January, the Year 9A and 9B teams took on Ewell Castle School at home. The 9A squad won 26-14, thanks to some brilliant feeds from our centre court players, and impressive shooting by **Talia B** and **Elizabeth H**. The 9B team also won a convincing 15-2. A particular well done to **Abi T** for some great interceptions and **Grace Y** for some outstanding shooting. It was the best I have seen the girls play and it was great to see them applying centre passes they have practised at training. Keep up the good work at training girls, it's clearly paying off!

Harriet Field

Teacher of PE

Upcoming Event Reminders

- **Saturday 21st January:** Sixth Form Consultation at Saint Cecilia's, 8.30am - 4.30pm
- **Thursday 26th January:** Year 11 Parents' Evening, 5 - 8pm - virtual
- **Saturday 4th February:** Year 8 CyberFirst Girls' Competition at Deloitte London from 9.15am - 4.15pm
- **Monday 6th February:** Inter-house 'Great Saint Cecilia's Bake Off' in the Refectory from 3.30pm - 4.30pm
- **Tuesday 7th February:** Year 12 and 13 Trip to '*Othello*' at the Lyric Hammersmith from 7pm - 10.50pm
- **Wednesday 8th February:** Year 11 Geography Juniper Hall trip in Dorking from 7.30am - 6.00pm
- **Wednesday 8th February:** Year 9 booster vaccinations
- **Wednesday 8th February:** Years 10 and 11 French BFI Southbank Study Day from 9.30 - 4.30pm
- **Thursday 9th February:** Year 9 BFI French Southbank Study Day from 9.30 - 4.30pm
- **Thursday 9th February:** School chess tournament. All day
- **Thursday 9th February:** Year 9 Parents' Evening, 5 - 8pm - virtual
- **13th - 17th February:** Half Term