



Message from the Headteacher

'For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so that we can do the good things He planned for us long ago'
(Ephesians 2:10)

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I write this on Thursday evening, we are saying goodbye to the Year 9 parents who attended their Parent Partnership event, and welcoming Sixth Form students back in for an evening of dancing at their well-being party. This year they have all come dressed as icons.

Although pupils and students have begun what I hope will be a restful break, their teachers, LSAs and the pupil support team, have a full day of professional development, led by the Teaching Innovation Group. We will focus on the delivery of

our Great Curriculum, supported by the latest research in adaptation, homework, retention of learning, assessment/feedback and revision.

We end the first half term with another very full newsletter, highlighting both team and individual success from across the school. I am delighted to see two Year 7 pupils achieving great success beyond the school gates. Well done **Elijus** and **Zebedee**.

I wish you all a lovely half term break, and look forward to welcoming pupils and students back on Monday 31st October, no later than 8.45am.

God bless,

Renata Joseph
Headteacher

Chaplain's Corner

'For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so that we can do the good things He planned for us long ago'
(Ephesians 2:10)

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have made it to the end of this first half term!

As I met with colleagues on Wednesday for our weekly staff prayer time, there was a real sense of thanksgiving for how God has carried us through these last few weeks, and the hope and peace that has been here at school in the midst of what was quite a hard term.

I have also been thankful for how well our new Year 7 cohort have settled in and for the retreat day I was able to lead with each class.

Thank you again for your support with our Harvest collection. We dropped all donations off at the Foodbank on Tuesday and I know what a blessing these will be for all those who will receive them.

I wanted to leave you with some of my favourite verses from Scripture. The verses never fail to give me hope in the midst of whatever season I'm in. I pray it will prove so for you and your family too.

'What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written:

*"For your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."*

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.'

(Romans 8:31-39)

Peace and blessings to you over the half term

Alex Shoderu
School Chaplain

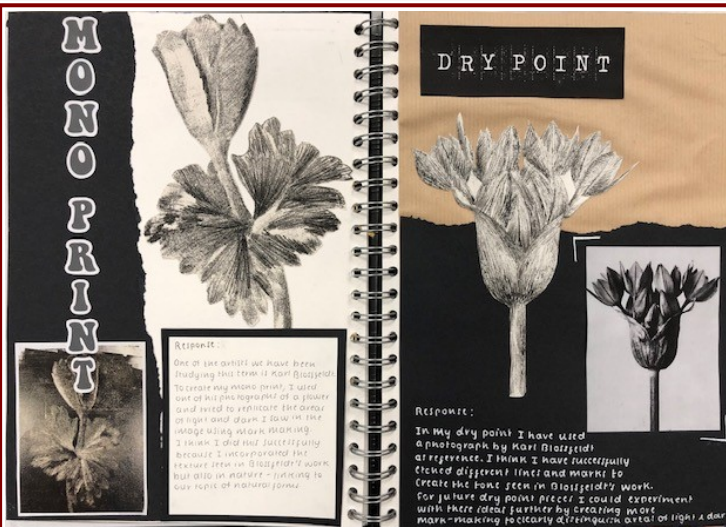
Year 7 Violinist's Victory

We are delighted to announce that **Elijus** in Year 7 has been successful in gaining a place in the National Children's Orchestra (NCO). This is a huge achievement as the selection process is rigorous. **Elijus** has proved himself to be a very talented violinist. The NCO currently comprises of over 650 remarkable young musicians, aged 8-14, who come together in three National Symphony Orchestras for residential orchestral activity and in four regional project ensembles for non-residential orchestral weekends. Well done **Elijus!**

James Robinson
Assistant Headteacher



Artist of the Week



Erin in Year 10 has been exploring line and form in response to natural forms in her textiles classes. Here is a wonderful double page of her different printing experiments.

Victoria England
Teacher of Art and Design

EFA Young Audience Award 2022



Calling jurors aged 12 to 14 for an exciting free event. Does your child love film? If so, please encourage them to join the British Film Institute Studios as a UK youth juror for this amazing annual event when young people in 42 countries worldwide watch the same three new European feature films and decide their winner.

The European Film Academy's Young Audience Award takes place online and in local cinemas around the world. If your child is aged 12 to 14, they are welcome to join the European Film Academy online wherever they live and whenever suits them, or they can also join them in person at the cinema on the Southbank.

If interested, please ask them to fill in the application form by Monday 24th October. They will need a parent/carer's permission. For more info go on to SatchelOne or click [here](#) for the link.

Sylvia Basilius
ACTL Modern Foreign Languages

Old Wandsworthians' Choir Dinner



Freya, Enguun, Rachel, Joshua, Kyann and Kelly

On Saturday 15th October, members of the Old Wandsworthians' Choir reunited at Saint Cecilia's for their annual dinner. Some of our Sixth Formers attended to act as waiting staff for the event and feedback was extremely complimentary on their professionalism.

Paul Bishop
Assistant Headteacher, Director of Sixth Form

Sixth Form Art Workshop



Sixth Form Art and Textile students had a one day art workshop based on improving their painting, sketching and idea development skills with artist Adebajji Alade. Adebajji specialises in sketching, drawing and painting people and places. During the workshop, Adebajji discussed books on art he's published and his artwork style, such as his plein air painting. He talked about his work on the BBC 'The One Show' as resident artist, during which he has painted public figures such as Chris Eubank and interviewed other artists.

Students were able to learn from his live sketchbooks and paintings he brought in. Adebajji demonstrated the equipment to use for best results whilst sketching 'on the go' such as on the Underground, and techniques of colour mixing and using the grid method. Students used their own project photos to develop their skills. They had the opportunity to discuss their own artwork and photography with him as they worked. All those who took part agreed that the workshop had been motivational and inspiring, hopefully building confidence in their own skills and ideas that they can use in their future projects.

The picture (right) is the painting Adebajji painted during one of his demonstrations and presented to us afterwards.



Stella Allan
Curriculum Team Leader for Art and Design

Christmas Card Competition 2022

We are delighted to launch our Christmas Card Competition 2022 – a fantastic opportunity to design the Headteacher’s official Christmas card, which is sent across the borough to churches, schools and organisations who have supported or collaborated with our school. It is open to all year groups, and we are encouraging everyone to be involved, so do please talk to your child – this is the ideal activity to keep them busy over half term.

They can use any materials - for example, watercolour, pencil, coloured pencil, fineliner, biro, acrylic, ink, digital editing as long as it is on the A4 entry form. Pupils and students can design straight onto the entry form or attach their final artwork in the space provided using glue or double-sided tape (no staples). Entry forms are available to download [here](#) to print at home or can be collected from Reception or the Library when they return to school after half term. If they would like to produce digital art, this can be emailed from their school email address to sallan@saintcecilias.london.

Their design should bring to life this year’s scripture theme of Joy (Luke 2:10-11) and, in particular, this verse:

‘And the angel said unto them, “Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all the people: for there is born to you this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord”.
(Luke 2:10-11)

The final card will be professionally printed with the artist’s name credited on the back. Artwork must be original.

If they would like to discuss any ideas or need help in deciding what materials to use, please ask them to talk to their Art teacher or see Ms Stella Allan, Curriculum Team Leader for Art and Design.

The closing date for entries is **Friday 11th November**. The final winner will be announced in the newsletter the following week. Good luck!



Closing Date: Friday 11th November

Stella Allan
Curriculum Team Leader for Art and Design

Sixth Form Talk from Alumni Akwasi Akoto



On Friday 14th October we were delighted to welcome back former student, Akwasi Akoto. He left in 2013, went on to graduate from Brunel University with a degree in Computer Science and is now working as a Data Analyst for a diversity consultancy called Mind Weaver. His talk was based on racism in tech (and why he gets paid to fight it) but also covered a broad range of issues around discrimination and inclusion. Each year group were engrossed for the hour-long session which included some audience participation and a question and answer section at the end. The feedback from students was incredibly positive and we look forward to more alumni visits in the future.

Sixth Former **Rachel J** commented afterwards, “Hearing Akwasi speak about his job was so reassuring for the future. We are constantly being told by family and society that we have to settle for a job which doesn't value the needs of a diverse range of workers. However, knowing that Akwasi has found a job which aligns with his values has given me hope that, in the field of science, I too can make a positive change for marginalised communities, as Akwasi is doing in tech.”

Paul Bishop
Assistant Headteacher, Director of Sixth Form

Year 11 Revision Resources

There is now a page on the school website dedicated to resources for Year 11 revision to help pupils in their GCSE work. It is available [here](#). This week, I have posted a [revision timetable](#) which pupils can use for the half term week (and beyond!). It is accompanied with an instruction sheet about how to create a revision timetable that emphasises the importance of ranking subjects from strongest to weakest, making sure pupils focus on the weakest first.

James Owen
Deputy Headteacher

News from the Library

New Pupil Librarians

Towards the end of the last school year, a number of Year 7 pupils attended a session to find out what the role of Pupil Librarian involves. Following that, they submitted application forms and, over the past half term, have been working their probationary period.

I am pleased to announce that they have formed a superb team, assisting Library staff with shelving returned books, preparing new stock, making bookmarks, designing displays, helping other pupils with computer or printing matters and much more. We are impressed with their professionalism and enthusiasm and are grateful for their help.

Congratulations to: **Alistair, Malak, Oliver, Tammy, Michael, Yvette, Abi, William, Charlie, Jayda, Alice, Evie, Maggie, Ermuun, Sofia** and **Joe** who have now received their badges!



In addition to these Year 8 pupils, we welcome **Hannah, Miranda, Dominic** and **Amelie** as Year 9 volunteers who are working in the Library as part of their Duke of Edinburgh's Award.

'The Tree' - Wimbledon BookFest Anthology

We are pleased to have been presented with a copy of this collection of short stories and poems by this year's 'Wimbledon Young Writers'. Featuring pieces by our own students **Darcey, Macaulay** and **Ruby**, this book showcases the winning and highly commended submissions from local secondary school pupils.



Readathon

If your child is taking part in the Readathon, please do encourage them to keep going over half term. Any money raised can be paid in online at readforgood.org/sponsor or via ParentPay (choosing the Readathon option). Cash/cheques should be brought to the Library in a named envelope. Please ensure that all payments are collected/made by Wednesday 2nd November. All pupils who have participated should return their sponsorship forms to the Library so that we can reward them.

Rachel Goodhart
School Librarian

Auditions for the Autumn Concert



Auditions for those wanting to perform a solo or duet in our concert on **17th November** will take place on Tuesday 1st November from 3.15 - 5pm in Room 1.25. It is open to all pupils who play an instrument or who sing.

Pupils in Jazz Band and Concert Band can audition at 3.15pm as well as those in String Group. Pupils only in Concert Band can audition at 4.10pm.

Please note - the standard is likely to be high so pupils need to be fully prepared at the audition.

Performers must have piano accompaniment or a backing track at the audition (a downloaded MP3 – NOT a YouTube link). Those without these will not be successful. Tickets for the concert will be on sale after half term.

John Wells
Curriculum Team Leader for Music

1st XI Football

The 1st XI football team beat Rutlish School on Wednesday 19th October in the first round of the County Cup.

The score in normal time was 2-2, with goals from **Elijah** and **Ronnie**. It then went to a penalty shoot-out where tensions were high but we won 5-4. **Jonathan** in goal made the vital penalty save. Penalty scorers were **Jack, Elijah, Kasper, Jenas** and **Ronnie**.

Player of the match was **Scott** who played centre back.

Christopher Luke
Interim Curriculum Team Leader of Physical Education and
Year Leader for Year 11



Boys' Football



The Under 13s boys football team (Year 8) beat St Richard Reynolds Catholic College in the first round of the county cup 7-2.

Goals were scored by **Nahshon** (three), **Jonathan** (two), **Kassius** (two).

A dominant performance to start the season. In the next round they will play Harris Academy Crystal Palace.

Christopher Luke
Interim Curriculum Team Leader of Physical Education and Year Leader for Year 11

Rugby Updates

The Year 9 rugby team gained an excellent victory against Kingsdale Foundation School winning 41-29.

Tries were scored by **Harry** (two), **Nahshon** (two), **Sam** (one) and **Ruven** (one). **Daniel** also scored three conversions. Special mentions for **Nahshon**, **Bertie** and **Adam** from Year 8 who played up a year and more than held their own against the older opposition.

Christopher Luke
Interim Curriculum Team Leader of Physical Education and Year Leader for Year 11



Individual Cricket Success

Huge congratulations to **Zebedee** in Year 7, for getting in to the Surrey Boys Under 12 squad. A huge achievement! Here he is in bat (pictured right). Well done **Zebedee!**



Rosie Lonsdale
Assistant Curriculum Team Leader for Science and Year Leader of Year 7

Reminder - Applying to Saint Cecilia's

A final reminder that if you have a child in **Year 6**, now is the time to apply for a place at secondary school. The deadline for applications is 31st October 2022. All applicants must use the common application form on your home council's website. If your first child was awarded a Foundation Place, you must apply for a Foundation Place for all siblings, or the sibling link won't count. Please find the additional form for Foundation Places on [the admissions page of our website](#). If you have any queries about the process, please do not hesitate to contact me on 020 8780 1244 (press 2 for admissions) or admission@saintcecilias.london

Sally van der Meer
Admissions Manager

The Friends AGM - 1st November



Calling All Parents and Carers!

The Friends of Saint Cecilia's will be hosting their **Annual General Meeting** on **Tuesday 1st November 2022 at 7pm**.

It's a very important night for us. Please make every effort to attend, take part in the decision making and get involved in the following:

- **Voting** on School bids
- **Election** to recruit new committee members and trustees
- **Call for volunteers** to help support our events throughout the year

All current parents/carers of Saint Cecilia's pupils and students are welcome to join the Friends and come along to the meeting - you can sign up on the night. Come and make a difference; let your voice be heard!

Valente Panattoni
The Friends of Saint Cecilia's

Consultation for Sixth Form Admission Arrangements for 2024/2025

We are conducting a consultation for Sixth Form Admission Arrangements for 2024/2025. The consultation period is from **Friday 21st October to Friday 16th December 2022**.

Key Information for 2024-2025

- We are updating the section of the admissions policy for international students, to clarify the conditions for entry.
- Our SEND clause has been updated to reflect the need for consultation with the local authority for those with an EHCP.
- We have updated our Looked After Children section to be in line with the Government's policy change of September 2021.
- All other Sixth Form admission requirements remain the same.

Please click [here](#) for more information and to have your say

Sally van der Meer
Admissions Manager

Upcoming Event Reminders

- **Monday 24th –28th October:** Half Term
- **Tuesday 1st November:** The Friends of Saint Cecilia's AGM 7-8.30pm at Saint Cecilia's
- **Thursday 3rd November:** Chess Club visit to Bletchley Park
- **Tuesday 8th November:** Year 13 visit to Whitechapel
- **Monday 7th November:** Deadline for Sixth Form applications via SIMS Student App
- **Tuesday 8th November:** Netball Academy with Surrey Storm Trials, Surrey Sports Park, 12.30 - 3pm
- **Saturday 12th November:** NCBF Regional Festival for the Concert Band
- **Thursday 17th November:** Autumn Concert 7- 8.30pm at Saint Cecilia's