



Message from the Headteacher

'Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.'
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

We returned to school on Monday on a high, following another spectacular concert last Friday. The musical arrangements were more challenging than ever, and our musicians and performers just keep improving. Next stop for them is the Royal Albert Hall on Tuesday, ahead of the National Concert Band finals in Manchester over the Easter break.

This week, I was delighted to welcome several teachers and support staff from Burntwood School who came to shadow staff here and observe effective feedback in English, Languages, Science and Pupil Support. This is testimony to the

strengths of these areas of our school life, and the high regard in which they are held by others in the wider school community.

Connections with our alumni are becoming even stronger this year. Earlier in the term, eagle-eyed staff spotted Effie Ansa playing the lead role in a production of *'Noughts and Crosses'*, and we are excited that she will return (briefly) in April to speak to pupils about her work and career pathway.

Finally, a big well done to **Gwenie S** (Year 8) who participated in an international fencing tournament in Poland. Another sport to add to the skill set of pupils at Saint Cecilia's!

God bless.

Renata Joseph
Headteacher

Chaplain's Corner

'This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.'
1 John 5:14

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we continue our series looking at prayer, we come to what I think is the most obvious aspect of prayer: asking.

How wonderful to think we have access to the God of the whole universe because of what His Son, Jesus Christ, accomplished on the cross! Just imagine how many hoops have to be jumped through to secure a personal meeting with present day kings or presidents. But with the King of Kings, we have access through prayer any day, at any time.

We can bring our needs and requests to God, no matter how big or small. The apostle John reminds us in this verse that we can be confident to ask for anything, because God will only grant them according to His will. Personally, I find that to be such a freeing thing. It says to me that God, like a good father, will only grant a request if it is according to His will for me,

and I know that His will for me is what is in my best interests. God is not going to give me something that will ultimately be detrimental to me.

The extra wonderful thing about prayer is that we can ask God for things on others' behalf. This idea became more important to me during the pandemic. There were times when I felt helpless as I heard news of loved ones (or loved ones of loved ones) who were sick. What's more, it wasn't possible to go and see them. Then it dawned on me that I might be in lockdown, but God was not. I could pray and ask God to go to places that I couldn't go to. And so I did. Whilst I can't report that every prayer I prayed was answered in the way I wanted, I know God heard every single prayer and was with those I prayed for, in more ways than I could have asked for.

So, let me finish by encouraging those who already pray to 'keep asking God'; and those who don't already pray, to 'start asking God'. Have a blessed week.

Alex Shoderu
Chaplain

Artist of the Week

A wonderful stencil print created by **Abi T** in Year 9. Year 9 used the inspiration of Shepard Fairey's artwork to create a series of stencils, lino prints and etchings. This led them to their Conflict and Protest mixed media final pieces, which they are currently completing. Abi used layers of acrylic colour and her carefully cut stencil to create her peace dove. Well done, **Abi!**

Stella Allan
Curriculum Team Leader for Art and Design



Spring Concert

On Friday 17th March, we held our Spring Concert. It was a fabulous evening with fantastic performances by our Concert Band, Guitar Group, Jazz Band, Choir, Musical Theatre Club, String Group, Student Vocal Group, Year 10 and Year 12 bands and superb student solos and duets. **Matthew B** and **Ellie K** in Year 13 were brilliant compères and we are very grateful to The Friends for keeping everyone refreshed with snacks and drinks. Thank you to all the staff, parents, carers and families who came along to support – it was completely sold out so apologies if you were unable to secure a ticket this time.

Next week our pupils and students in Choir, Musical Theatre Club, Concert Band and String Group perform *Zadok the Priest* and *'Les Misérables'* in the Brighter Sounds Concert at the Royal Albert Hall on Tuesday 28th March. We are all looking forward to it. This will be a real highlight for the school!



The Badgers (Oscar F, Sebastian R-F, Anthony G, Felix F)



Musical Theatre Club



**John Wells
Curriculum Team
Leader for Music**

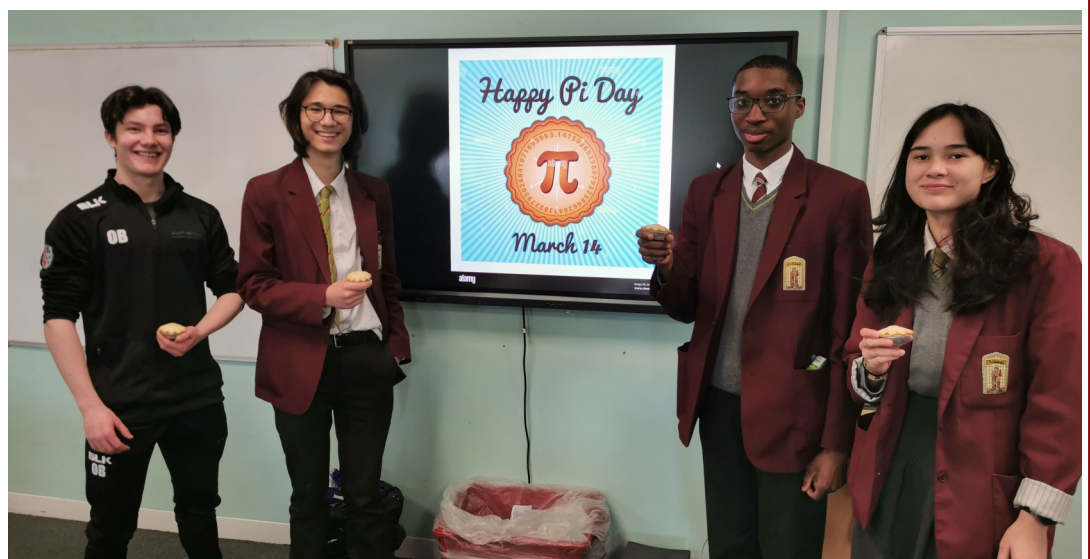


Pi Day

On 14th March, pupils in Year 10 and 11 celebrated International Pi Day (14th March, written as 3.14 in America) with some pies and problems involving Pi!

Pictured right: **Tom W, Oliver B, Kester I and Olivia H**

**Megumi Davis
Teacher of Maths**



Business BTEC Events

This week, two more Year 12 BTEC groups ran events for younger pupils as part of their course. The first event was an 'escape room' challenge where pupils in Years 7 and 8 worked in teams to complete a series of challenges and puzzles. To make it even more exciting, they had to do this in semi darkness, with just red spotlights (and phone torches!) to help them see. There were five challenges in total, the last one being a code to a safe, to access a final clue to crack the mystery. All of the groups had great fun, and the good news is they all managed to break free from the escape room!

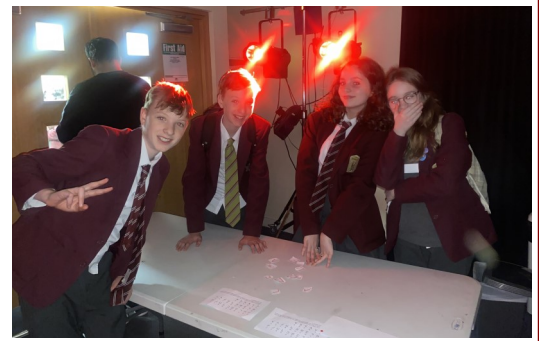
The second event was a movie night. After a quick vote, the pupils chose to watch 'Hotel Transylvania' while enjoying warm popcorn (with a free refill), drinks, sweets and cakes. This was another really successful event, and the pupils all had a lovely time. We also managed to make the whole school hungry, preparing the popcorn in the microwave before the event and carrying it through school!

The events are now finished for this year. All of the BTEC groups have done a fantastic job planning, marketing, creating budgets and then running their events. They have all learnt some valuable skills, and have a new appreciation of how much time and effort it takes to run events (and the energy needed to manage 50 Year 7 and 8 pupils!).



Tracey D, Earendil P and Hollie H

Lisa Morris
Curriculum Team Leader for Business Studies and Computing

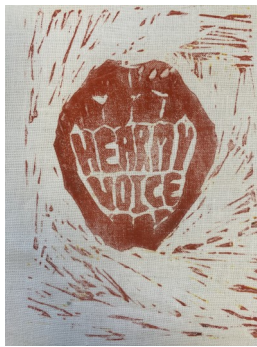


Year 9 Conflict and Protest Artwork

Year 9 used the inspiration of Shepard Fairey's artwork to create a series of stencils, lino prints and etchings leading to their Conflict and Protest mixed media final pieces which they are currently completing. Please see below some wonderful examples.



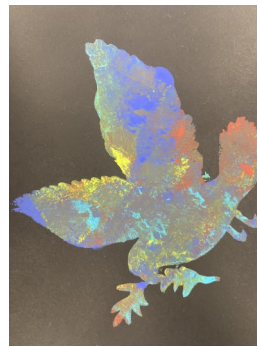
Yan L



Cristina V



Olivia K



Rebekah M



Ben E



Aurelia O



Joa R



Lucas T



Eliza R C



Ana F

Stella Allan
Curriculum Team Leader for Art and Design

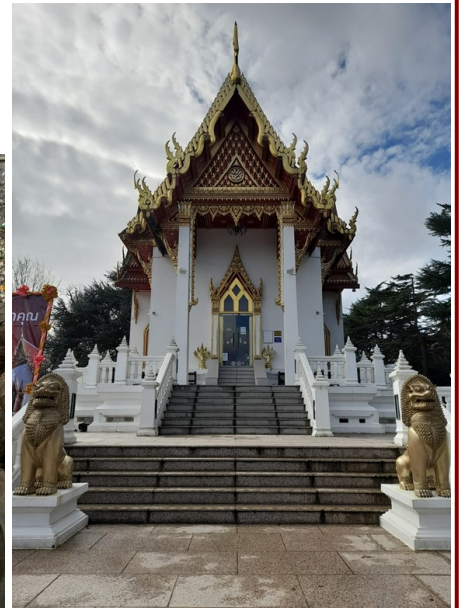
Religious Studies Trip

Tom du P in Year 8 reports:

"The Year 8 trip to a Thai Buddhist temple, Buddhapadipa Temple, was a truly eye-opening experience. We explored the beautiful gardens, ornate temple and simple Buddhist way of life. My favourite part was the opportunity to speak to one of the temple's very own monks.

Truly dedicated to his beliefs, he spoke about his way of life and experiences. We were also taught different ways of meditation and mindfulness - which are believed to help with reducing stress and improving relaxation. Thank you very much to the Religious Studies teachers for organising such a trip!"

Tom du P, Year 8



Kaan Cengiz

Teacher of Religious Studies

The Friends Spring Social

The Friends cordially invite you to our Spring Social on Friday 19th May from 7pm at Saint Cecilia's.

The evening will include live bands + DJ + free canapes. Year group stickers on arrival.

A silent auction including some incredible items:

- Aboubakar Kamara Fulham home match jersey
- Brand new 55" LED Panasonic flat screen TV
- Tea at the Ivy Restaurant
- ++++ loads of other great items ++++

Get your advance ticket today, only £5 per person.

Advance ticket holders will be entitled to one free drink on arrival!

Limited tickets are available via the Bopp payment link below. If you are buying more than one ticket, please increase the amount by multiples of five. Get your tickets today to avoid disappointment:

<https://bopp.app/link/5dssf>

If you have any questions, please email me at friendsofstceclias@gmail.com

Valente Panattoni
Chair, Friends of Saint Cecilia's

A promotional poster for the Friends of Saint Cecilia's Spring Social. The background is dark with colorful, bokeh light effects in shades of blue, purple, and pink. The text is white and bold. At the top, it says "DON'T MISS OUR". Below that, in large letters, is "FRIENDS OF SAINT CECILIA'S SPRING SOCIAL". There is a red button with "BUY NOW" in white. To the right, a list of activities is shown: "FREE DRINK", "FREE CANAPES", "LIVE BANDS + DJ", "PAY BAR + FOOD", and "SILENT AUCTION". The date and time are "FRI 19 MAY 2023" and "7-11PM | £5 ADV INC DRINK". At the bottom, it says "£6 DOOR (EXCLUDES DRINK)" and "SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL. CLICK HERE OR TYPE TINYURL.COM/BOOKFOSTC".

DON'T MISS OUR

FRIENDS OF SAINT CECILIA'S

SPRING SOCIAL

BUY NOW

FREE DRINK
FREE CANAPES
LIVE BANDS + DJ
PAY BAR + FOOD
SILENT AUCTION

FRI 19 MAY 2023
7-11PM | £5 ADV INC DRINK
£6 DOOR (EXCLUDES DRINK)

**SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL. CLICK HERE
OR TYPE TINYURL.COM/BOOKFOSTC**

Year 11 MFL Revision Cafes - Join the Fun!



There is not long to go until the GCSE oral exams which are in the first week of May. Pupils will be asked to do a role play, describe a photo card and have a conversation on a set topic. This counts for 25% of their final grade. Every **Tuesday and Thursday** MFL pupils have the chance to practice their oral skills from **3.15-3.45pm** with the help of our MFL assistants and A Level students. Please remind your child to come along and that the best way to improve is by practising! The sessions are fun and dynamic.

In this week's session, to prepare pupils for their role play, which is set in a GP surgery, pupils played 'Simon Says' to revise the parts of the body. They also played a board game so they can pretend to be a doctor or a patient in a medical appointment.

Omara Munoz Asensio
Curriculum Team Leader for MFL

Year 10 Portraiture

Since the beginning of the Spring term, Year 10 GCSE Art and Design pupils have worked on creating lovely portraits of themselves, friends or family members, using vibrant colours and exploring the beauty of mixed media techniques. Their unique artwork has been hung in the Chapel, creating an uplifting and creative environment for pupils, students and staff.



Youlia Toneva
Art and Design Technician

French Pop Video Competition

The Institut Français are running their French pop video competition again. Last year, **Amalia S** in Year 13 won the national competition with her song '*Si proche mais si loin*' about her grandmother. You can see her [winning video on YouTube here](#).

This is a fantastic opportunity to get creative in another language, so we would like to encourage as many pupils and students as possible to get involved. Pupils and students can sing by themselves, or with others, but no copyright material should be used.

Videos need to be submitted to me by the 20th April using the software [WeTransfer](#)

Good luck!

Sylvia Basilious
Assistant Curriculum Team Leader for MFL

Library News

The FAB reading group is looking forward to attending the FAB Book Awards ceremony at the Wandsworth Professional Development Centre next Thursday 30th March. We are hoping that some of the authors whose books we have been reading will be able to attend (despite the train strike!) and we are excited to find out which of these books has been voted the overall winner.



From school to stage

We are delighted that Effie Ansah, who was a student at Saint Cecilia's and is now starring in the Pilot Theatre production of *'Noughts and Crosses'*, is coming in to speak to our pupils and students about her journey from school to stage. Effie will be sharing her thoughts and experiences and answering questions at a special event hosted by the Library on Tuesday 18th April at 3.15pm. Do encourage your children to come along to this informal Q&A, whether they are interested in pursuing a career in acting, were lucky enough to see Effie perform in Kingston as part of our theatre trip last term, or have enjoyed the *'Noughts and Crosses'* series of books by Malorie Blackman. All those studying Drama at GCSE or A Level are especially invited. Places are limited so please book via ParentPay to guarantee a seat.



Headshot © Jonny Bosworth

Rachel Goodhart
School Librarian



'Noughts and Crosses' production photos © Robert Day

Year 8 Creative Language Learning

Last week, Year 8 worked in groups to prepare a fashion show, as they were studying the topic of Clothes in French. They worked really hard to make their creations, whilst clearly having fun doing it. They made a presentation in French in which they described what they had designed using a range of adjectives, connectives and complex structures.

Lilia Madouri
Teacher of French



Fantastic Fencer

Gwenie S in Year 8 competed in Poland last weekend in the U13 category of Challenge Wroclavia, an international fencing tournament. After a round of pool matches, she competed in the direct elimination rounds. Overall she came 51st out of 100 international competitors, who were mainly from North American and Europe. Well done **Gwenie!**

Harriet Field
Teacher of PE



Sportshall Athletics Final



On Tuesday 21st March, Year 8 boys travelled away to Ilford for the Sportshall Athletics London Youth Games finals. This was thanks to the boys winning the Wandsworth Sportshall Athletics competition and the London regional competition. Our boys were up against the top eight schools in the whole of London. It was a highly competitive day, with some fantastic athletic displays being shown by all. The top four teams had just 15 points between them. Our Year 8 boys came 4th overall, which is a great achievement and one they should be very proud of. They were just five points away from a medal!

A huge well done to all who competed, in particular **Nahshon O** in the relays and triple jump, as well as **Spencer E** in the relay and six lap race.

Shout out to **Noah S-A** with his lightning fast feet on the speed bounce too. We are excited to see what our team can do in this summer's athletics season.

Harriet Field
Teacher of PE

Senior Netball Update and Final Surrey Storm Trials

On Wednesday 23rd March, the Senior B squad travelled away to Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School to play their Senior A squad. The girls got off to a flying start, being 20-0 at half time. Their second half was not as good, but they still won 24-11. Felisitus, their Surrey Storm coach, was pleased to see some of the through court work they have been practising in training. Well done to all!

The Senior A squad stayed at Saint Cecilia's to have internal fixtures against our Year 10 A and B teams. The Senior squad were more patient and controlled in attack as the game went on and won both games. It was great to see **Faith E** and **Azzura S** start to practise more advanced defensive skills in the circle. The Players of the Matches were **Chloe V** and **Azzura S** in Year 10, as well as **Clem M** in the Senior squad. Well done to all!

The final Surrey Storm senior netball trial will be held from **4.30pm- 6pm on Wednesday 29th March** in our Sports Hall. If your child would like to be considered for our Senior squads next season, they must attend. Please remind them to write their name and 1st and 2nd preferred netball position on the sign-up sheet outside the PE office, by Tuesday 28th March. Felisitus (Surrey Storm Superleague player and international netball player) will be helping select teams, as well as PE staff. Any questions please email me directly: hfield@saintcecilias.london



Harriet Field
Teacher of PE

Flavours from Lebanon in the Refectory

Pupils and students were treated to some exciting flavours this week as they sampled a Lebanese inspired lunch. The menu had piri piri and Cajun shawarma chicken with flat bread, rice and a selection of four middle Eastern salads including mango and iceberg tabbouleh. Vegetarians were offered falafel with flat bread and beetroot hummus. It was fantastic to see so many of our pupils and students being adventurous and trying different tastes and flavours in the Refectory.



Dave Cobb
Business and Development Manager

Sports Teams Photographs

Please remind your child to bring in full sports kit for their team photos on Wednesday 29th March. Schedule below:

Team	Time to leave class	Team	Time to leave class	Team	Time to leave class	Team	Time to leave class
Year 7 Rugby	8:50	Year 8 Netball B	9:30	Senior Development	10:00	Year 10 Football	10:30
Year 8 Rugby	8:50	Year 8 Netball A	9:30	2nd VII	10:00	1st XI	10:40
Year 9 Rugby	9:00	Year 9 Netball B	9:40	1st VII	10:10	Gymnastics squad	10:50
Year 10 Rugby	9:00	Year 9 Netball A	9:40	Year 7 Football	10:10	Cheer squad	10:50
1st XV Rugby	9:10	Year 10 Netball B	9:50	Year 8 Football	10:20	Indoor Athletics squad	11:00
Year 7 Netball C	9:20	Year 10 Netball A	9:50	Year 9 Football	10:20	BBG's	11:00
Year 7 Netball B	9:20			KS3 Girls Football	10:30		
Year 7 Netball A	9:20						

Alex Bishop
Curriculum Team Leader for Physical Education

Cookery Classes

Following on from the success of their previous holiday classes, Mix and Munch are holding another afternoon of cooking classes for teenagers. They will be held in our Food Tech room on Thursday 13th April, and there are two time slots available. Please contact Rachael who runs Mix and Munch directly to book places - contact details on the flyer, right.



12-15 Year Old Holiday Cooking Classes

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

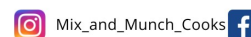
Pizza & Orange & Chocolate Biscotti

Thursday 13th April 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)



Dave Cobb
Business and Development Manager

Second Hand Uniform Sale - Volunteers Needed

A reminder that The Friends will be running a Second Hand Uniform Sale on Thursday 30th March from 4-6pm in the Chapel.

As usual, we will need some volunteers. I would be grateful if you could let me know if you could spare 30 minutes (or more!) of your time to help. Please could you email uniform.friendsofstcecilias@gmail.com to let me know if you are willing to volunteer with any of the below:

Set up from 3.00 - 4.00pm

Selling from 4.00 - 6.00pm

Packing away uniforms in the Friend's cupboard from 6.00pm

If you have any school uniform items that you wish to donate, please drop them off at Reception. We are still accepting donations! Many thanks,

Fouzia Radi
The Friends

Upcoming Event Reminders

- **Tuesday 28th March:** Brighter Sounds Concert at the Royal Albert Hall. String Group, Concert Band, Musical Theatre Club and Choir will rehearse all day and perform at 7pm.
- **Thursday 30th March:** Second Hand Uniform Sale from 4-6pm in the Chapel
- **Thursday 30th March:** Year 7 Parents' Evening (virtual) 5-7pm
- **Thursday 30th March:** FAB Book Awards ceremony, Wandsworth Professional Development Centre, 8.50am - 2.30pm
- **Friday 31st March:** End of term. Pupils and students dismissed after end of term assembly.
- **Monday 17th April:** Summer Term starts
- **Tuesday 18th April:** Visit in the Library from Effie Ansah at 3.15pm