



### 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)

As we come to the end of another busy half term, we can look back in wonder at everything that has been achieved by so many of our pupils, students and staff. The long exam season continues for our Year 11 and Year 13 pupils and students, and we hope they can refresh and refuel over the half term break and return to finish their exams with renewed enthusiasm - with the promise of celebrations just around the corner.

Last Friday, The Friends hosted a hugely successful Spring Social in the Refectory. It was a lively evening and heartening to see so many parents socialising back in school. We are incredibly grateful to The Friends and all the hard-working volunteers who arranged the raffle, auction and all the refreshments and who make evenings like this possible. Thank you to all the Year 10 helpers and to The Badgers who performed and really got the evening going. I returned home to a very happy 14-year-old daughter as I was the top bidder

on a hamper full of treats including the teenage favourite, bottles of Prime! As a school, we say goodbye and thank you to Mr Valente Panattoni for his steadfast leadership of The Friends. We hope that the incoming team can lean on the school community for future volunteers and support.

Last night, I had the pleasure of attending the parent workshop hosted by our Chaplain, Mr Alex Shoderu, on parenting in a digital age. As well as being informative, I enjoyed meeting many parents, especially those of children in younger year groups. If you enjoyed the evening and have ideas of topics we could cover in future parent workshops, please do get in touch with us. They are an excellent way of meeting and sharing ideas, knowing that we are all being challenged by many of the same parenting issues.

I wish you a relaxing half term.  
God bless,

**Renata Joseph**  
Headteacher

### Chaplain's Corner

*'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)

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was great to see so many of you at the parent workshop yesterday evening. Seeing the discussions around the tables was a real highlight for me and I hope to be able to host more of these evenings in future.



This Sunday, 28th May, marks a significant day in the Christian calendar: Pentecost Sunday. The dramatic events of the first Pentecost can be found in the book of Acts, chapter 1 and I encourage you to read this if you're not already familiar with

Luke's account of what happened on that day. Safe to say, it changed the trajectory of the lives of the first disciples and, consequently, of Church history. That's why churches and Christians all over the world still celebrate this day.

In our Collective Worship this week, pupils and students heard from two guest voices. One sharing thoughts on the history and events of Pentecost, the other on the difference the Holy Spirit makes for us today. I trust our pupils and students enjoyed and were blessed by these thoughts.

Picking up on the theme verse above from John, it is wonderful to get clarity on who the Holy Spirit is: not just an 'energy', but an active part of the Trinity who is given to be our advocate and our teacher.

May God's Spirit keep and guard you and your family over this half term break.

Happy Pentecost Sunday!

Amen

**Alex Shoderu**  
School Chaplain

## Politics in Person



On Friday 19th May, Mrs Fleur Anderson, MP for Putney, Southfields and Roehampton, visited Saint Cecilia's for a Q&A with Sixth Form students.

After an introduction on how she got into politics and a discussion on different facets of her work, including within committees, Fleur took questions from a selection of 30 Year 12 and 13 students. As expected from our students, they were well-informed on current policy, so were keen to grill her on issues such as House of Lords reform, tuition fees and the recent Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act. **Fareeha C** in Year 12 also raised a key concern of hers - the need to fund open day visits for prospective university students. Perhaps Fareeha will now find her policy idea in a future manifesto! Fleur then met with Mrs Renata Joseph and was given a tour of the school.

We were delighted to have our local MP here and the students commented on how enjoyable and insightful they found her talk. We hope to build on this event with work experience opportunities and a future trip to Parliament.

**James Aldridge**

**Curriculum Team Leader for History and Politics, Pedagogy Lead and Professional Coordinating Mentor (PCM)**

## Artist of the Week



This week's Artist of the Week is **Carla KS** in Year 8 who created this wonderful response to David Hockney's work. In class, pupils are learning about Hockney's landscape art. Like a true artist, Carla delved deeper into Hockney's portfolio after visiting his exhibition and discovered some of his lesser known photographic work. Outside of class, she created this thoughtful piece incorporating this photo-collage style with the landscape art we are doing in school. Well done Carla for some brilliant independent work!

**Daisy Bernard**  
**Teacher of Art and Design**



## MFL Half Term Competitions

In the Modern Foreign Languages Department, we have set some challenges to all pupils for the half term break. French pupils can get busy baking and Spanish pupils can make sculptures from junk to mark the festival Las Hogueras de San Juan. Please encourage your children to get involved and get creative. Full information is available on Satchel One.



Omara Munoz Asensio  
Curriculum Team Leader for MFL



## Year 7 Writing

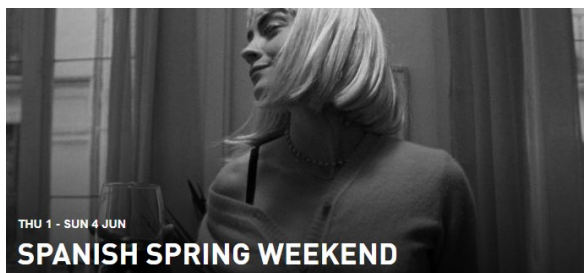
Year 7 pupils were set a homework recently to describe their local area in Spanish. **Daniel P** submitted an excellent piece of work (right) on his neighbourhood. Some pictures are very recognisable.

Vivo en Londres in el sur de Inglaterra. En mi ciudad hay muchos restaurantes y un estadio de fútbol. También hay muchas escuelas. Pero no hay una plaza del pueblo. Después de la escuela, o voy a un club después de la escuela o voy directamente a casa y juego videojuegos o hago mi tarea. El sábado voy a un club de fútbol y el domingo voy a la iglesia. Me gusta mi ciudad porque es divertida y hay mucho que hacer.



Sara Navarro  
Teacher of Spanish

## London Spanish Film Festival



If you are looking to do something fun and Spanish with the family during half term, we recommend visiting [The London Spanish Film Festival Spring Weekend](#) which returns to Ciné Lumière for its 11th season.

Three wonderful debut feature films will be shown, including Juan Diego Botto's magnificent '*On the Fringe*', which brings together powerful performances by Luis Tosar and Penélope Cruz, as well as the latest film by Cesc Gay, '*Stories Not to Be Told*'.

This special weekend also pays homage to the genius of Pablo Picasso on the 50th anniversary of his death, and invites the audience on a very special journey of discovery with flamenco singer Niño de Elche.

Omara Munoz Asensio  
Curriculum Team Leader for MFL

## Preparing for Fame

Miss Youlia Toneva and Year 12 art students have been hard at work designing and producing the backdrop for the school's summer production of 'Fame'. Designing something so large uses very different creative skills! Thanks to Miss Toneva and Year 12 students **Daniela, Raphaela M, Ysobel B** and **Teni T-A** for their design and help.



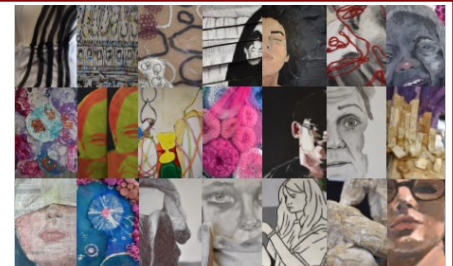
**Stella Allan**  
Curriculum Team Leader for Art and Design

## Annual Summer Exhibition

We are delighted to be able to invite all parents and carers to Saint Cecilia's Art and Textiles GCSE and A Level Annual Summer Exhibition on Thursday 15th June, 4.30pm until 7pm in the Drama Room.

The exhibition showcases the work of our artists, which is the result of a two-year creative journey. Beautiful sculptures and installations will take their place next to detailed figurative paintings, drawings, prints, textiles and films.

The exhibition is one of the pivotal moments in the school calendar and we the artwork is ambitious, challenging and diverse. We hope you can come to celebrate their achievements with us.



  
You are invited to the  
**Art and Textiles**  
**Annual Summer Exhibition**  
Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2023  
4.30pm – 7pm  
Drama Room

A private viewing to celebrate our exciting and thought provoking GCSE and A Level artwork.  
Enjoy refreshments and an interactive selfie booth too!

**Stella Allan**  
Curriculum Team Leader for Art and Design

## Library News



The Library was busier than ever on Thursday morning as pupils and students crowded in to get their hands on some of the 250 books and multiple magazines that were looking for new homes in our Book Giveaway. It was a case of first come, first served, with a limit of two books per person to start with.

We are delighted to have found new homes for these books and pleased to have raised about £30 for The Children's Book Project through donations given.

Just a reminder that your child can view all the Library stock, search the catalogue, renew books and place reserves using Accessit from home. They can click [here](#) or go to [uk.accessit.online/stc08](http://uk.accessit.online/stc08). Anyone wishing to use the Accessit app on their phone should download it and then come to the Library to get their login and password.

**Rachel Goodhart**  
School Librarian



## Athletics Success Continues

On Wednesday 17th May, we took 54 pupils, who had been selected to compete in the first round of the English Schools' Cup competition, to Croydon Sports Arena. We entered four teams: junior boys, junior girls, inter boys and inter girls into this prestigious event run by the English Schools' Athletic Association. The junior teams were made up of 14 athletes from Years 7 and 8 and inters consisted of 14 athletes from Years 9 and 10.

This is a team competition, whereby every athlete competes for points. The faster they run or the further they jump or throw, the more points for their team. The standard at the event was very high, with some of the strongest schools in London competing such as Dulwich College, Putney High School and Alleyn's School.

All our teams competed brilliantly, each coming in the top five overall in their category. Our junior boys finished 3rd overall and our junior girls were 4th overall. Saint Cecilia's was the highest scoring state school overall at the competition, which is brilliant as this was the highest standard of athletics out of all the London rounds.

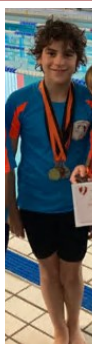
We have just heard that all four of our teams have qualified for the next round of the competition being held on Monday 12th June. Highlights of the competition came from **Ella R** (Year 9), **Nyah N-S** (Year 9), **Flo C** (Year 9), **Nahshon O** (Year 8) and **Casielle MC** (Year 7) who all won their sprint races. Particular well done to Year 7 and 9 athletes who still have another year in their categories. The event marked a huge achievement from Saint Cecilia's. Well done to all for an impressive team performance!



The following Year 9-11 pupils have been selected to represent Wandsworth at the London Schools' Athletics based on their impressive performances at the Wandsworth event last month. A huge well done to all: **Isabelle D** (Year 10), **Nyah N-S** (Year 9), **Louis E** (Year 10), **Jack H** (Year 11), **Charlie R** (Year 11), **Kevin E** (Year 11), **Arthur M** (Year 10), **Alex A** (Year 11), **Sammy H** (Year 9), **Alex B** (Year 9) and **Sebastian R** (Year 9). We are still waiting to hear who has been selected to represent their borough at the London Youth Games.

**Harriet Field**  
Teacher of PE

## Swimming Success



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 **Leo T** (Year 7) attended his first swim meet of the year last weekend at Cranleigh and managed to achieve personal best times, six medals and two Surrey county qualifying times. This is a great achievement, well done Leo!

**Chris Luke**  
Teacher of PE

## Year 12 UCAS Information

Thank you to all the parents who attended the Year 12 Parent UCAS information evening last week. We hope you found it helpful. Please click [here](#) to find the link to the presentations that were given, outlining key dates and finances.

**Jo Osborn**  
Curriculum Team Leader for Geography and Sixth Form Year Leader

## Work for Us - Fundraising Officer

Are you looking for a new opportunity and do you have transferable skills?

We are currently advertising for a Fundraising Officer and are keen to encourage local people to apply. While it would be great for applicants to have fundraising experience, this is not essential. We are looking for someone who has great communication skills, is well organised and can keep accurate records (mostly in Excel). The successful candidate will have support and training to ensure the new initiatives are successful.

This will be a very rewarding job as we are fortunate to be supported by an incredibly generous school community. There are many exciting projects in the pipeline awaiting funding. Our focus is entirely on our pupils, students and the school community and we will use the funds to enhance and extend activities and facilities for everyone, as well as provide financial support so that all our pupils and students have equality of access.

For an informal discussion about the job, please contact me on 020 8780 6706 or email [dcobb@saintcecilias.london](mailto:dcobb@saintcecilias.london)

Full details of the role and how to apply, are on the school website: [www.saintcecilias.london/workforus](http://www.saintcecilias.london/workforus)

**Dave Cobb**  
School Business and Development Manager

## Open Events for Year 7 Admission for Sept 2024 Entry

If you, your friends, family or neighbours are applying for a secondary school place for Year 7 entry in 2024, we are delighted to announce the dates of our open events.

[Thursday 29th June 9am - noon](#)

**Thursday 21st September 5 - 8pm**

**Tuesday 26th September 9am - noon**

**Tuesday 10th October 9am - noon**

These events will be ticketed so we can manage numbers of visitors in school. Tickets are free and bookable via Eventbrite. Our first event is available to book now, just click on the date above. We will open the booking for all other dates in June, when our new prospectus will also be published.

In the meantime, if you would like your child to be considered for a Foundation and/or Specialist Music place, you must also complete the supplementary information form(s). To complete these forms, use our [portal here](#). If you are unable to fill the form in online, please [contact our Admissions Manager](#) who will help you with this.

**Please note, if your child is a pupil at Saint Cecilia's with a Foundation place, you need to fulfil the same criteria and fill in the Foundation form on our portal to gain sibling priority for all subsequent applications.**

Please ensure that you apply for a Specialist Music place by **Monday 9th October 2023** and a Foundation place by **31st October 2023**. For information about Specialist Music and Foundation places, please see our [Admissions Policy for 2024/25](#).

**Sally van der Meer**  
Admissions Manager

## 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](http://www.mixandmunch.com) (BOOK ONLINE) or contact me

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



Mix\_and\_Munch\_Cooks



## Upcoming Event Reminders

- **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
- **Tuesday 13th June:** Summer Festival: Jazz Band to perform at the Wandsworth Civic Centre from 4-6pm
- **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
- **Thursday 15th June:** Annual Summer Art Exhibition 4.30 - 7pm in the Drama Room
- **Wednesday 21st June:** Year 8 BFI Southbank Study Day from 9.30am - 4pm
- **Wednesday 21st -23 June:** DofE Silver assessed expedition (Year 11)