



Message from the Headteacher

'And let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another'
(Hebrews 10: 24-25)

The first full week back has flown by incredibly quickly. We all needed the break, and it was encouraging to welcome staff, pupils and students back, looking and (I hope) feeling refreshed.

We began this half of term focused on resilience. Resilience is a feature of the Year 7 PSHE transition unit, and Collective Worship in year groups will focus on themes to help pupils build their confidence, a sense of connection and their character. Next week, pupils in Years 7 and 8 will have an

opportunity to see resilience in action as they hear from members of the Old Wandsworthians, who join us to mark Armistice Day.

We are looking forward to music concerts, Celebration Evening, and of course the Carol Service. With so many opportunities to welcome parents into school and see pupils in action, I do hope to see many of you at some point this half term.

God bless,

Renata Joseph
Headteacher

Chaplain's Corner

'But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in Him.'
(Jeremiah 17:7)

Dear Parents and Carers,

Warm greetings to you in Jesus's name. It has been a peaceful start to the second half of this term and there has been a lot of excitement on the sporting front as each year group has competed in Inter-House competitions.

It meant that our Collective Worship had to be conducted virtually this week, but nevertheless we took the opportunity to explore All Saints Day in our house Collective Worship. For our year Collective Worship, we started a new series looking at the Seven C's of Resilience. This week's theme was 'Confidence'.

In so many of the one-to-one conversations I have with pupils and students, I find that a big part of what I want them to take away from our meeting is increased self-esteem or confidence. With this as a basis, they can go so far and, in

many cases, exceed their own highest expectations. Without it, many of them don't even give themselves a chance.

I do know that during this teenage stage, the voices and opinions of peers seem to carry the most weight in their minds, but let's not underestimate the difference the voice of even one caring, loving, affirming adult figure can make.

I love the theme verse above from Jeremiah because I also have the privilege of encouraging pupils and students to put their trust in God and sharing with them the difference it has made in my own life.

I pray that we continue to find ways to encourage confidence, belief, hope, into our pupils and students.

Many blessings to you in the week ahead.

Alex Shoderu
School Chaplain

Parent Governor Vacancy

The Saint Cecilia's Governing Body is seeking to appoint a Parent Governor who will serve for a period of four years. Nominations are invited to fill this vacancy. Please click on the following links to find full information on our website: [Parent Governor vacancy letter](#), [Nomination form](#), [Parent Governor responsibilities](#).

The nomination form must be returned by **12 noon on Wednesday 9th November 2022**. Nominations will not be accepted after this time. Those nominated to stand should supply a personal statement, which will be circulated to all parents if a ballot is required. I look forward to receiving your nomination forms and statements.

Renata Joseph
Headteacher

Green Futures Project - Year 12 Volunteers

We are really proud that Saint Cecilia's is taking part in the Royal Parks' Green Futures Project, funded by the Kusuma Trust. We are only one of six schools invited on this project. Green Futures is an ambitious and innovative programme connecting hundreds of young people with nature and conservation in the Royal Parks, learning about ecosystems and conservation.

The project is directed at children in Years 8 and 12. The following Year 12 volunteers have been learning about biodiversity and leadership skills to lead teams of Year 8s for conservation work over three day trips to Hyde Park.



The picture (right) is a selection of them in training via webinars with the Royal Parks team to become Green Leaders: **Amelia, Amy, Catriona, Charris, Esther, Fareeha, Grace, Hollie, Isabel, Koko, Lily, Max, Nyx and Tatiana.**

Year 8 will become citizen scientists to learn and engage in conservation with some practical fieldwork and will take part in conservation at Hyde Park on Tuesday 8th November. It will be a fantastic day that will help educate and connect our pupils with the nature and conservation that is on their door step. Activities will include: bramble bashing, whip and tree planting, coppicing, dead hedging, bulb planting and harrowing.

Please ensure that you submit the ParentPay permission slip by the end of this week if your child is in Year 8.

Daniel Bowman
Teacher of Science

Artist of the Week



This is a sketch by **Grace** in Year 8. Pupils in Year 8 are designing images that will appear on a Pop Art pencil case. They have started drawing the main image for the pencil case, influenced by the work of Roy Lichtenstein. This is what **Grace** has achieved so far.

Victoria England
Teacher of Art and Design

Year 7 Flamenco Dancing

In Year 7 Spanish, we began the topic of free time and we started the unit doing a quiz on traditional dance styles in Hispanic countries such as salsa, tango, rumba and flamenco. Pupils were amazed at the colourful dresses that flamenco dancers wear, and they asked if they could learn a few moves: this is one where dancers pretend to pick and eat an apple. Pupils were very engaged and promised to show parents and carers at home!

Here is a [link to a short clip of them dancing.](#)



Sara Navarro Martinez
Teacher of Spanish

Christmas Card Competition 2022

We launched the Christmas Card Competition 2022 in last week's newsletter. This is 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 talk to your child – this is the ideal activity to keep them busy.

They can use any materials, e.g. 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. 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

Library News

Readathon

Thank you so much to those who have already returned their Readathon sponsorship forms. If any pupils or students have not yet done so, please bring these to the Library as soon as possible. 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. All pupils who have participated are asked to return their sponsorship forms to the Library so that we can reward them.

Remembrance Day

As we approach Armistice/Remembrance Day, we have highlighted a selection of books relating to this topic in the Library. Please do encourage your children to come and browse/borrow them.

One of my favourite books is...

If any pupils or students would like to submit a photograph of them with one of their favourite books, along with a sentence or two about why they like it, we will add these to a forthcoming display. Please email photos and comments to library@saintcecilias.london. Thank you.

Rachel Goodhart
School Librarian



House Leaders

The House Leaders are delighted to officially announce our House Captains! We had many applications for the four different captain roles for each house. Our House Captains represent their houses at events, during charity drives, and around the school. Our Sports Captains mainly represent their house during sports events and competitions. Our Charity Captains mainly represent their house during charity events, like our recent Harvest Festival and Team Seas charity run. Our Eco Captains mainly represent their house in terms of environmentalism and will be involved in making sure we are doing what we can regarding our environmental impact.

We had our first meeting with all our captains on Tuesday morning to welcome them into the role, and to give them an opportunity to meet each other. It was a lovely breakfast together discussing what their roles are and how they will be supporting their house throughout the year.

Congratulations to all our captains!

Schubert:

House: **Freya** and **Jake** (Year 13)

Eco: **Aurelia** (Year 13)

Charity: **Sam** (Year 11)

Sports: **Phoenix** and **TJ** (Year 10)

Archimedes:

House: **Samara** (Year 12) and **Elizabeth** (Year 13)

Sports: **Sophie** (Year 10) and **Shakaina** (Year 13)

Charity: **Ruby** (Year 11)

Eco: **Marty** (Year 13)

Ives:

House: **Layla** (Year 12)

Sports: **Daniel** (Year 9)

Charity: **Amanda** (Year 10)

Eco: **Jacob** (Year 11)

Newton:

House: **Ezekiel** (Year 12)

Sports: **Charlie** (Year 11)

Charity: **Charris** (Year 12)

Eco: **Catriona** (Year 12)

Turing:

House: **Eve** (Year 13)

Sports: **Oskar** (Year 13)

Charity: **Ava** (Year 9)

Eco: **Evie** (Year 11)

Carter:

House: **Gwenie** (Year 8)

Sports: **Evie** (Year 8)

Charity: **Phoebe** (Year 8)

Eco: **Rosie** (Year 8)

Rachel Skinner

Teacher of Science, Turing House Leader and Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator



Year 11 Basketball Team

On Wednesday 2nd November, the Year 11 basketball team had a successful start to the borough competition winning their first three matches. They beat Southfields Academy, Harris Battersea and Ark Putney with convincing wins in all three matches.

The second round of matches takes place in a couple of weeks where they will play the remaining schools and look to take the title.

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



Surrey Storm Trials



If your daughter is in Year 11 and would like to be considered for Saint Cecilia's senior netball squads next season (Sept 2023—April 2024), they must attend the upcoming netball trial. The trial will be held at Surrey Sports Park, which is the home of Netball Super League team Surrey Storm.

If successful, pupils and students will receive coaching from Surrey Storm players three times a week at school. They will get Surrey Storm and Saint Cecilia's branded kit, tickets to watch Surrey Storm play, subsidised gym membership at a local gym and other benefits.

The trial takes place on Tuesday 8th November. Pupils need to meet outside the PE office at 11.00am and we will take a coach to Surrey Sports Park for the trial. Pupils will return to school by 4pm. Pupils must wear their school PE kit and bring snacks, a packed lunch and water.

If they would like to attend the trial, they must sign their name up on the PE board, giving their preferred netball positions by the end of Monday 7th November.

Harriet Field
Teacher of Physical Education

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's revision strategy found [here](#) is about how to 'space' out revision and how often your child should be reviewing information to try and cement it in their memory in the run up to exams. It fits with the previous revision strategies about how to identify the gaps in knowledge and then how often to revisit them in short 'pomodoro' sessions. The diagram online shows how revisiting knowledge can help cement topics/subjects to memory.

James Owen
Deputy Headteacher

Woodland Trust



We are delighted that the Woodland Trust has kindly donated 105 samplings for planting round the school.

On this first delivery we received: 15 elders, 30 hazels, 15 dog roses, 15 blackthorns, 15 crab apples and 15 rowan trees. We are expecting more over the next couple of weeks.

We will be planting these over the next week or so.

Andy Barrett
Premises Manager

Upcoming Event Reminders

- **Monday 7th November:** Deadline for Sixth Form applications via SIMS Student App
- **Tuesday 8th November:** Year 13 Art visit to Whitechapel
- **Tuesday 8th November:** Year 8 and 12 trip to the Outlook Centre Hyde Park
- **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
- **Wednesday 14th November:** Year 12 Art visit to Embankment and Tate Modern
- **Thursday 17th November:** Autumn Concert 7- 8.30pm at Saint Cecilia's
- **Friday 18th November:** Year 13 trip to Southampton University
- **Monday 21st November:** Year 9 Printing Workshop at the National Gallery
- **Thursday 1st December:** Celebration Evening at Saint Cecilia's, 6-8pm. More details soon.