



Message from the Headteacher

'In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, and through whom also He made aware of the universe'

(Hebrews 1:1-2)

Despite being the penultimate week of a very long term, this week's newsletter is testimony to just how busy school has been.

Year 11 have coped well with the practice this week's mock assessments have afforded them, and I am impressed with the seriousness and maturity with which they approached each assessment.

In recent weeks, we have reported on the success of pupils and students in the older year groups, but this week's newsletter highlights younger cohorts showing off their talents and skills in equal measure.

A fantastic performance at the Wandsworth district netball tournament, saw the Year 7 A team take gold. The Year 8 girls have joined only nine other schools to win a place in the regional finals of the CyberFirst girls' competition mentioned last week. A fantastic achievement for their first entry!

Last night, I was joined by parents and Mr Martin Andrews,

Vice Chair of governors at Crown Lane Studio, to see the winners of our Christmas carol competition record their entry. **Petra B** and **Ethan B** in Year 9 wrote 'Wonderful Winter's Night', and it was performed by Year 9 music scholars; **Bertie D**, **Oscar H G**, **Ruby H**, **Joshua M**, **Nicolo M T**, **Jasniq S** and **Ana V**.

In response to the rising number of cases of scarlet fever, parents were sent guidance on symptoms and how to minimise transmission. If your child develops concerning symptoms, do seek help from your GP or call NHS 111. If your child is diagnosed with scarlet fever please contact school so we can monitor infection rates and seek help from the UK Health Security Agency.

As we journey through the season of Advent, we are encouraging everyone in our school community to make room for God, in what is otherwise a season filled with many other things. This period of reflection culminates in the Christmas Carol Service in the final week of term. We hope to see many Year 7 parents at this event on Tuesday 13th December at 7pm.

Have a good week ahead.

God bless,

Renata Joseph

Chaplain's Corner

Dear Parents and Carers,

Warm greetings to you in this week where the weather has definitely made the jump from autumn to winter! I hope you are staying warm and doing your best to keep the cold/flu viruses away.

I am using my corner this week to share with you another poem, written as a reflection on Advent. May you be blessed as you read.

The One Who Is to Come

By Barbara Todd

What will He be like?

He will be the Burden-Bearer, the Peace-Maker

He will be the Chain-Breaker, the Truth-Speaker

He will be the Eternal, Holy One

The Mighty, Victorious Lord

The Restorer of Freedoms

The Healer of Wounds

He will make a highway in the desert

A path of peace

A way into the throne-room of Heaven

He is the Long-Awaited One

The One of whom dreamers dreamed

Kings sang

And prophets foretold

He was here when worlds began

And He will begin the end of time

He holds nations in the balance

And worlds as drops in a bucket

This One will join the hearts of the fathers to their children

Yet divide nations asunder

In Him all things will hold together

Yet because of Him, hearts will fail for fear

He will be the Justice-Bringer, the Righteousness-Speaker

The Demon-Slayer, the Life-Giver

The One and Only

Have a great week.

Alex Shoderu

Chaplain

New Parent Governor

We are delighted to announce that Mrs Anouska Barnes has been elected as our new Parent Governor. Mrs Barnes currently has two children in the school, in Years 8 and 11. Mrs Barnes has previously worked as a Cover Supervisor at Saint Cecilia's, during which time she was appointed Staff Governor, so brings excellent experience and knowledge to the position. Mrs Barnes currently works at All Saints Church in Wandsworth as Music Director.

We look forward to welcoming Mrs Barnes to the school governing body and trust she will be a valuable member of the board.

Dave Cobb
School Business and Development Manager



Duolingo

It has been great to hear about some of our pupils who are using the free Duolingo app to help them learn a new language or reinforce their learning at school. Here, three pupils share their experiences:



"I started learning Arabic a few months ago on Duolingo because I knew someone who was doing it at university. I was really interested in learning a new alphabet as well as a language. I wasn't really thinking about learning it for a long time, I just wanted to have a look briefly at a new language. After trying this for a few weeks, I really started to like it and I enjoy the completely new script. I had no previous knowledge of Arabic, so started from scratch, learning the complete basics of how to draw a single letter and what it sounded like, but after a week or two, I was really understanding it. I decided I wanted to spend a longer time trying to learn more. I can now recognise lots of letters and numbers, and I can form and translate some simple sentences." **Phoebe W** (Year 9)

"Duolingo helps me with my French by embedding phrases and helping me learn how to change the word depending on the pronoun before it. I am also learning things that could give me a boost in future lessons. Duolingo helps with speaking, writing, reading and listening skills which helps a lot as we have tests based on these." **Alistair A** (Year 8)



"I've always admired those who can speak a different language fluently and wanted to be able to do it too. I am extremely interested in languages with a completely different alphabet. Korean seemed like it would be difficult, yet fun, and a useful language to learn. As I had time on my hands, I tried to find a reliable source to learn it from. I already knew about Duolingo and decided to get an account to see if it would be a good place to learn. And it was! When I started, I didn't know left from right or up from down. I find it easy to lose motivation, so just being able to do five minutes on the bus or when I'm bored and then getting rewarded for it is immensely helpful for me. It's made in sections so you can learn things easily, but you can also do different tasks at different levels and work towards goals to keep you interested. I would recommend Duolingo. It's free, fun and simple to learn from." **Cara M** (Year 9)

Pictured l-r **Cara M** (Year 9) and **Alistair A** (Year 8) with permission to show their work on their phones for this photo.

Sylvia Basilious
Assistant Curriculum Team Leader for Modern Foreign Languages

Year 12 Art



Carol Service
Tuesday 13th December 2022, 7pm
Holy Trinity Church, Beaumont Road, London SW19 6SP

Autumn Concert
Thursday 17th November 7pm



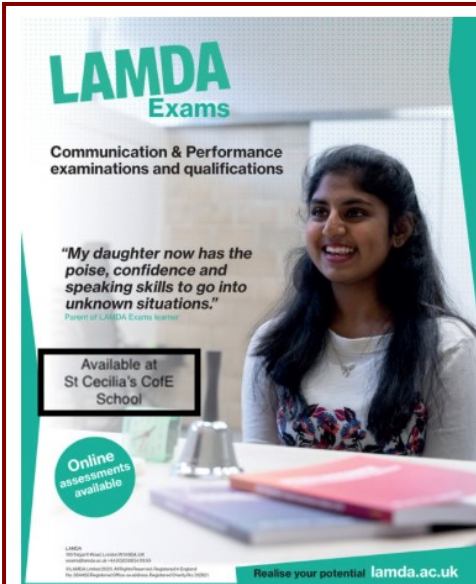
Megan P in Year 12 has demonstrated excellent fine liner drawing with her illustration for our concert programmes. Her new design will be printed on the Carol Service programme next week (see design far left). Her commitment to A Level Art is also shown in her highly skilled painting, featuring two of her peers.

All Year 12 Art students have shown real commitment to the subject this term, working hard to create both a large landscape painting and a mixed media

outcome. Well done to **Megan P** and the Year 12 Art students.

Stella Allan
Curriculum Team Leader for Art and Design

London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts (LAMDA)



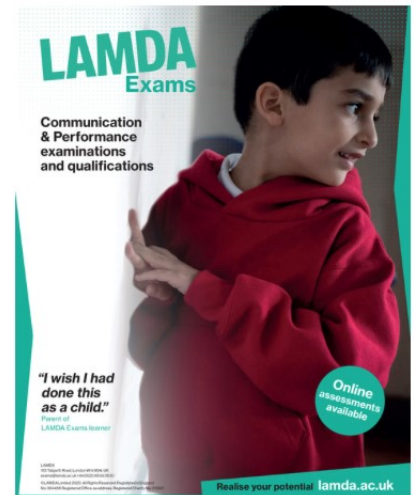
We are pleased to be able to offer LAMDA exams here at Saint Cecilia's. As well as providing pupils and students with a recognised drama qualification, participants are encouraged to develop self-confidence, physical presence and a strong speaking voice. Success in exams at the higher LAMDA grades can contribute to UCAS points for some universities.

The new term begins in January 2023. Lessons will take place during the school day and will last for 30 minutes. The weekly timetable will rotate to ensure that pupils and students do not miss the same lesson every week. Lessons can be offered on a 1:1 or a 2:1 basis. Fees per term are indicated below:

Fees for 10 week term

1:1 Session	£19 - 30 minutes	£190 per pupil
2:1 Session	£10 - 30 minutes	£100 per pupil

If you would like your child to participate, please email me to express your interest (smouland@saintcecilias.london.) Please indicate whether you would prefer this to be on a 1:1 or 2:1 basis.



If you would like 2:1 sessions, it would be helpful if you could indicate which pupil/student you would like to pair with.

We will confirm places before the end of this term and circulate a timetable in January. Payment will be made directly to the tutor once a place has been accepted.

If you have any questions, please contact me via email, or encourage your child to speak to me at school.

Sophie Mouland
Assistant Curriculum Team Leader for English and Drama

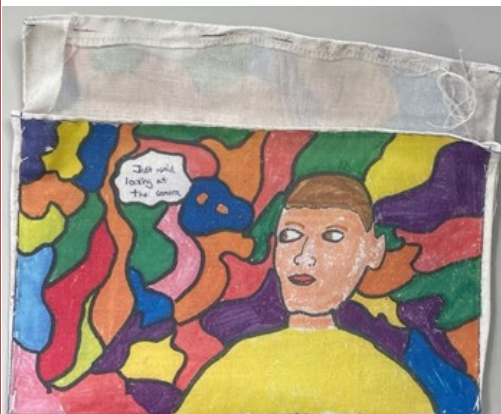
Year 7 Spanish Gets Dramatic

Pupils in Year 7 Spanish have learnt vocabulary for the weather and activities that they do in their free time. In order to score the highest marks in oral, pupils practised saying what they do when it is raining, hot or snowing. Costumes and props enhanced the activity as classmates guessed the weather that was being enacted.



Omara Munoz Asensio
Curriculum Team Leader for Modern Foreign Languages

Artist of the Week



Joe S L in Year 8 has created a fantastic design for his pop art pencil case, inspired by Roy Lichtenstein. He has used bold colours, onomatopoeic words and Ben Day dots, inspired by newsprint and comic books. He has printed his design onto fabric and sewed it together by hand to make this piece.

Daisy Bernard
Teacher of Art and Design

News from the Library

Warriors Short Story Competition

At the start of the school year, we welcomed author Vicky Holmes/Erin Hunter to school to talk to pupils and students about her career and the Warrior Cats books for which she is best known. This week, the [Warrior Cats website](#) launched their short story competition and we would love to encourage our pupils and students to submit their entries. They must complete a short story for which Vicky/Erin has written the opening scene.

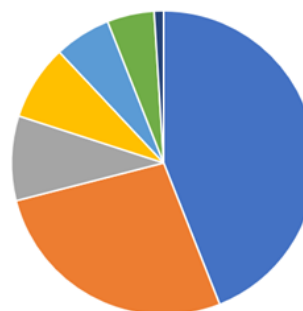
For both keen Warriors fans, and budding authors, this free competition is a great opportunity to stretch their creative muscles and every single entry will be read by a member of the Erin Hunter writing team. Winners will be announced at the end of February, and prizes include vouchers for Warriors merchandise as well as a dedication in the brand new '*Ultimate Guide To Warrior Cats*' which is being published next year. Full details can be found at <https://warriorcats.com>. The competition closes on 31st December.

World Cup Predictions in the Library

Thank you to those who have submitted their predictions for the outcome of the World Cup. House points have been awarded to all participants and the winner(s) will receive their prize next term. At the time of writing, the spread of votes was as per the chart pictured right:

Rachel Goodhart
School Librarian

World Cup predictions for overall winner



● Brazil ● England ● France ● Portugal ● Argentina ● Morocco ● Netherlands ● Croatia

Christmas Lunch sign up

This is a final reminder to make sure you have booked your child's Christmas lunch on ParentPay.

We are keen to ensure that all pupils and students have the chance to sit down to enjoy a traditional Christmas meal in the Refectory, and so we are offering each year group a specific day for their Christmas lunch over a three-day period. Pupils will be able to sit with their year group for the entire lunch break, so they have plenty of time to enjoy their meal with their friends. The meal will include a traditional roast (vegetarian option available).

Full information has been sent in a letter to you, which includes how and when to pre-book a meal for your child via ParentPay. Payment is due by 12 noon the day before your child's scheduled lunch.

Renata Joseph
Headteacher

**Saint Cecilia's
Christmas Lunches**

The dates for this year's Christmas lunches are 13th, 14th and 15th December.

A traditional turkey meal with all the trimmings or vegetarian option are available. Both, including dessert, are £2.50.

We would like to invite you to pre-book a meal for your child via ParentPay.

See letter for how and when to pay to book a Christmas meal for your child.

Debating Club Winners

Pictured on the right are the winners of our end of term British Parliamentary style debate: "This House believes only nuclear power can end this country's dependence on fossil fuels."

Congratulations to **Ronan F** (Year 10), **Max E** (Year 10), **Dominic C** (Year 9) and **Hannah B** (Year 9). As a club, the hot air we produced this term could certainly help warm the nation!



Mike Cox
Teacher of English

Drama with Group 64

GROUP 64
Theatre for young people

Group 64 Drama!

Tuesdays | 3.15pm-4.15pm | Drama Studio
Year 7, 8 and 9

Join local young people's theatre company Group 64 every Tuesday after school in the Saint Cecilia's Drama Studio. Each week, you will play exciting games, learn new skills, and use your creativity to make an original performance!

Contact Miss Moulard to Sign Up!

Coming Tuesday 10th January 2023

www.g64.org.uk | info@g64.org.uk

Starting next term, Group 64, the local young people's theatre company, will be holding fun acting sessions in the Drama Studio on a Tuesday afternoon, 3.15-4.15pm. If your child is in Year 7, 8 or 9, please encourage them to come along and play games, learn new skills and create an original performance.

There is a cost for this club and payment is made via ParentPay.

Sophie Moulard
Assistant Curriculum Team Leader for English and Drama

Group 64 are recruiting from the Alton Estate

Do you live on the Alton Estate in Roehampton? If so, this free theatre project for teenagers is an amazing opportunity.

Group 64 have started a new funded project in the Alton Estate and are looking for 15 teenagers who live there to take part. The project, called 'Alton - A Place I Call Home', is an exciting initiative. Group 64 directors will work with the residents to create a piece of theatre based on the history of the Estate and the memories and stories from different generations. It will be performed as part of the Wandsworth Fringe in June 2023.

Group 64 will run weekly sessions on a Wednesday evening, 5.30-7pm at Roehampton Library. To register, simply [fill out a registration form on their website](#), and select 'Alton - A Place I Call Home' as the class selection.

Sophie Moulard
Assistant Curriculum Team Leader for English and Drama

GROUP 64
Theatre for young people

'Alton - A Place I Call Home' Theatre Project!

Do you live on the Alton Estate and enjoy getting involved in theatre?

'Alton - A Place I Call Home' is an exciting new project focusing on the history and stories behind the Alton Estate! Working alongside Group 64 Theatre Company, we are looking for 15 teenagers to take part in this fantastic community project.

Participants will focus on working collaboratively to create and perform a vibrant and diverse show at the **Alton Estate and Putney Arts Theatre** as part of **Wandsworth Arts Fringe in June 2023!**

Looking for performers!

Rehearsals start mid November!
Register your interest by getting in touch!

Wednesdays 5.30-7pm at Roehampton Library!

jo.baxter@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk | info@g64.org.uk

Art Exhibition



As part of Celebration Evening, the Art and Design Department showcased some of the successful Key Stage 3 projects created this year, as well as some of last year's GCSE and A Level art pieces. The pop up art exhibition, curated by our Art Technician Ms Youlia Toneva, was enjoyed by guests before attending the rest of the evening.

Stella Allan
Curriculum Team Leader for Art and Design

Christmas Quizmas



This year, the House Leaders are launching a fundraising Christmas quiz called 'Quizmas' for Year 7-11 pupils. It will run during the school day on Thursday 15th December.

This year's 'Quizmas' will be in support of Home Café to help provide joyful Christmas hampers for all their foodbank guests. Home Café are an incredible local organisation who work alongside Earsfield foodbank to provide food for the most vulnerable in our community.

We are asking for a £1 donation per pupil to enter the quiz, paid via ParentPay. There is an option to donate more if you wish. Every £1 donated will give one entry into the raffle for a special Christmas prize. All details can be found on ParentPay.

Thank you for supporting us in this initiative and for helping to make Christmas joyful for those who are having a difficult time this season.

The House Leaders

Sixth Form looking Festive



On Thursday 8th December, Sixth Formers and staff got into the festive spirit, wearing their Christmas jumpers whilst raising money for our local foodbank, St Paul's Pantry.



Paul Bishop
Assistant Headteacher, Director of Sixth Form

Christmas Cards on Sale

Our popular Christmas cards are selling well on ParentPay, however we realise that purchases were originally limited to one pack per sale. We have adjusted this so please do purchase more packs if you wish. All sales will benefit our local chosen charity, Home Café.

This year's winning design 'Joy' by **Joanna C** in Year 7 and the popular design from last year 'Mary and Joseph' are available to purchase. Packs of five high-gloss A6 cards, left blank for your own message, are priced at £2.50 per pack. They will be distributed to your children via mentors.

If you are joining us for our Carol Service on 13th December, you will be able to purchase packs there.

Caroline Pyper
Marketing



Joy - 2022



Mary and Joseph – 2021

Netball News

On Friday 2nd December, the Year 10 netball squad took on Ark Putney Academy at home. Although it was a very convincing win, it was not the girls' best game. However, on Monday 5th December, the Year 10A netball squad travelled away to Chestnut Grove Academy and performed well. This was a better game from the start and the girls came away with a convincing 20-5 win. Well done to all, especially with a slightly depleted team because of illness. A special well done to **Faith E** for being selected as opposition's Player of the Match for her many tips in defence.

Pictured right: **Chloe H, Mia O, Abi D, Ruby HB, Issy D, Chloe V, Faith E, Charlotte M**



Harriet Field
Teacher of PE



Wandsworth District Winners!

On Monday 5th December, Year 7 A and B teams played at the Wandsworth district netball tournament. Both teams were in separate pools and played in three matches each. The A team won all of their matches and the B team won two and drew one. This resulted in the B team going into the third place play offs against Burntwood School and the A team going into the final against Graveney A team. The Bs played fantastically and dominated the game, beating Burntwood and coming third in the entire tournament! The A team had an intense match, but managed to outwit their opponents with team tactics,

excellent shooting and some great interceptions, winning the game and the tournament! The final score was 2-1 to Saint Cecilia's. Well done girls - a well deserved win!

A - Purple team: **Iman A-H, Hannah H, Sophie de R, Cassielle M H, Libby K, Melody D, Vittoria B, Katie L**

B - Green team: **Beatrice E, Sariah B, Keziah D, Rozalia O, Paige D, Emma H, Abigail de J, Immy C, Zoey O**

Imogen Hamel
Teacher of PE

On Tuesday 6th December, the Year 8A team played against Chestnut Grove Academy. Despite a few of the girls being off ill, the team won very comfortably and the final score was 15-1. There were some great centre and back line passes, which the girls have been practising. Well done to all the players competing on a very cold evening! Well done to **Martine L** and **Evie F** for being chosen as Opposition's Players of the Match.



Harriet Field
Teacher of PE

London Irish Programme Trials for the 2023 squad



On Wednesday 19th October, we held trials for a place on the London Irish Rugby Programme for September 2023 at Hazelwood (the London Irish Training Ground). The facilities there, as you would imagine, are superb, and we had the bonus of arriving whilst the London Irish First Team were training. A group of 36 boys attended, including six pupils from other schools, so there was a very competitive edge to the drills and matches. It is important to note that there are only 24 places available.

The programme provides three sessions a week, led by London Irish coaches, a branded tracksuit supplied by the London Irish kit supplier BLK, a chance to attend London Irish fixtures and subsidised membership to a local gym. The scheme began in September 2020 so we will be entering our fourth year come September 2023.

Paul Bishop
Assistant Headteacher, Director of Sixth Form

Gymnastics

On Thursday 1st December, the school gymnastics squad performed at the Celebration Evening. Made up of pupils from Years 7 - 9 who are currently working to improve their individual floor skills, the squad put together a short routine which included some sports acrobatics, as well as tumblers and choreography. The pupils worked really hard in the weeks leading up to the performance and are to be congratulated for their wonderful display.

Year 7: **Aysia F, Zoey O, Ava L, Joseph M, Emma H, Jemima** (not pictured)

Year 9: **Phoebe W** (filling in for **Rosie B** who was unwell)

Please click [here](#) to watch the squad in action.

We look forward to seeing their display at the Sports Awards evening next year!



Imogen Hamel
Teacher of PE

CAMHS Parent Workshops

The CAMHS wellbeing team offer regular free online workshops for parents and carers. Upcoming topics include 'Supporting your child with sleep' and 'Supporting your child with anxiety,' but they offer a variety of helpful topics throughout the year. Please use the link below to book yourself onto any of these free events.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/o/camhs-wellbeing-teams-45820855373>

Catherine Bull
SENCo, Literacy Co-Ordinator and Teacher of English

Year 11 Revision Support

A huge well done to all Year 11 pupils who have been doing their mock GCSE exams this week. They have approached them in a diligent and sensible manner, maintaining the high standards they have set themselves, throughout what has been a very challenging week for them. Please make sure they have a break this weekend, as they complete their preparation for their final exams at the start of next week.

James Owen
Deputy Headteacher

Second-Hand Uniform Sale

The next second-hand uniform sale will take place at Saint Cecilia's on Thursday 15th December from 4 - 6pm. There is still time to clear out wardrobes and donate uniform that your children have outgrown. Please bring in any donations of used school uniform that is in good condition, and leave at Reception. We would be particularly grateful for donations of PE kit.

Thank you.

Fouzia Radi
The Friends of Saint Cecilia's

Upcoming Event Reminders

- **Monday 12th December:** Year 12 and 13 ice skating trip to Glide at Battersea Power Station
- **Tuesday 13th December:** Annual Carol Service from 7pm at Holy Trinity Church, Beaumont Road SW19
- **Tuesday 13th, Wednesday 14th, Thursday 15th December:** Christmas lunch for pupils. Pre-book now on ParentPay
- **Thursday 15th December:** Sixth Form Christmas lunch and quiz
- **Thursday 15th December:** Friends of Saint Cecilia's second-hand uniform sale at Saint Cecilia's, 4 - 6pm
- **Friday 16th December:** Term ends 12.10pm or 12.30pm depending on year group
- **Tuesday 3rd January 2023:** Spring term starts. Professional Development Day for teachers
- **Wednesday 4th January 2023:** First day back for pupils and students