



Message from the Headteacher

*'Give all your worries and cares to God,
for He cares about you'.*

1 Peter 5:7

This week our focus on 'potential' ran through lessons, mentor time, Collective Worship and an updated extra-curricular programme. There are over eighty free clubs and intervention sessions available to pupils and students this term. Newly added is 'Culture Club,' where pupils and students can create an item of clothing to reflect their cultural heritage, and then enter the house Fashion Show after the Easter break.

A week focused on 'potential' culminated in a visit to Oxford University for Year 10 mathematicians. We continue to take every opportunity to engage and connect pupils with the

Oxbridge and Russell Group universities and have a fast developing programme of events, so do watch out for opportunities as they are published. In fact, Oxford University visited us this week in the form of an offer to read Music for **Charlotte H** in Year 13. Well done, **Charlotte** and to **Ariadne R**, who is our Artist of the Week.

We already announced that Mrs Anouska Barnes was elected as a new Parent Governor and we are pleased to welcome her to the board. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Alison Miller who is stepping down from the board, for her contribution.

God bless
Renata Joseph
Headteacher

Chaplain's Corner

'Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.'

Isaiah 40:31

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you've had a good week and a good start to the year. It's been great to be back in school this week (after being away last week) and to see and hear about all the good things that are happening already in school - some of which you will read about in this newsletter.

In our Collective Worship times, we've been reminding pupils and students of the potential that is in each and every one of them and the promise that God gives to those who look to Him for help. With the start of each new year, comes a set of goals and resolutions for many people. Research suggests that the old adage 'easier said than done' proves to be true when it comes to New Year's resolutions. However, I am still one for setting goals at the start of each year.

One big thing I've learnt the over the years is that there will always be disappointments and failures along the way for a variety of reasons, some of which will have been in our control and some totally out of our control. The key thing, as our House Leaders shared with students and pupils is:

'God uses these times to remind us that reliance on Him is the best place to be—in good times or not. He can help us where we are. He can be our strength and stamina if we turn to Him. He can help us to reach our full potential.'

I pray that in the things you are hoping and praying for in the year ahead, for yourself, or for friends and family, you experience much of God's grace and strength for it.

'Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength...'

Amen
Alex Shoderu
Chaplain

Offer from Oxford University



Many congratulations to **Charlotte H** in Year 13 for receiving an offer from Oxford University to read Music. Charlotte worked exceptionally hard preparing for her interview and we are delighted and proud that she has been given an offer. She has also received offers from Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, Birmingham Conservatoire and The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. This is all representative of her superb musicianship. It is fantastic to see one of our music scholars coming to the end of their musical journey here with such great opportunities for the future. Well done Charlotte!

John Wells
Curriculum Team Leader for Music

Culture Club

We are really excited to be launching a new after school club open to all pupils and students - Culture Club. Please encourage your child to come and celebrate cultural heritage and produce some exciting outfits. After the Easter holidays they will have the chance to showcase their designs to pupils and parents at Saint Cecilia's first ever Fashion Show.

The club runs each Thursday from January 19th in Room 0.16 with Ms England, Ms Navarro and Ms Mulvey.



Victoria England
Teacher of Art and Design

Sara Navarro
Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages

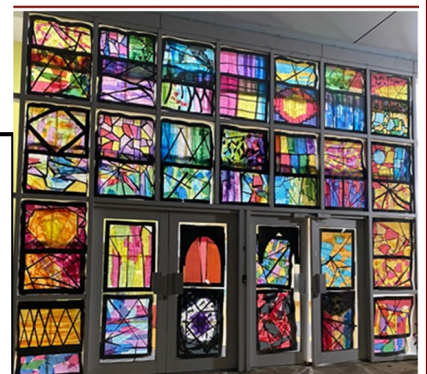
Window Wanderland Art Club

The Art department are delighted to announce the launch of another new club for Year 7 and 8 pupils:

Window Wanderland Art club

For the third year, Saint Cecilia's is taking part in the Window Wanderland community art project.

Window Wanderland is a Southfields community art project where people decorate their front windows with paper stained glass creations. Saint Cecilia's will leave the lights on so our decorated front windows become a large 'outdoor gallery' on Saturday 25th February and Sunday 26th February. Theme to be decided at the first club!



Pupils in Years 7 and 8 are invited to join the creativity in 0.11, run by Miss Allan, Miss Bernard and Year 12 Art students: starting Wednesday 18th January 3.30pm until 4.30pm to create our stained glass windows – with the help of some sweets!



Please encourage your child to sign up and join in this creative project.

Stella Allan
Curriculum Team Leader for Art and Design

Daisy Bernard
Teacher of Art and Design

Artist of the Week



Here is the first entry for Artist of the Week for 2023, and what a ray of sunshine it is! This mixed media piece was created by **Ariadne R** in Year 10 as part of our Natural Forms project in Textiles. **Ariadne** has used a combination of materials including paper, fabric, chalk and graphite stick to great effect.

Victoria England
Teacher of Art and Design

Trip to the National Opera Studio, Wandsworth

On Wednesday, I was fortunate to be able to take pupils in Year 11 and Year 13 to see a recital by students of the National Opera Studio in Wandsworth. It was a fantastic opportunity as **Matthew B** in Year 13 writes:

"On Wednesday I had the opportunity to be part of a group of GCSE and A Level singers who visited the National Opera Studio to hear a recital. It was a great afternoon, and the performances were of an exceptionally high standard. I enjoyed the variety of repertoire - from classic operatic arias by Mozart and Verdi, to musical theatre by Richard Rogers. Chatting to the performers at the end of the day about technique, performing as a classical singer, and careers was particularly useful when thinking about taking my music further."

John Wells
Curriculum Team Leader for Music



Pupil meets the Pope!



Emily B in Year 8 travelled to Rome over the Christmas holidays and was delighted to meet Pope Francis in person - she even had the opportunity to shake his hand!

Whilst in Rome, Emily visited the final resting place of Saint Cecilia, in a church in the Trastevere district, to research more about our school's namesake. It is lovely to see a pupil exploring some of the history relating to our school.



Mairead Gibbons
Teacher of English

Saint Cecilia's Bake Off is Back!

After last year's hugely popular competition, we are delighted to announce that the date for the eagerly anticipated Saint Cecilia's Bake Off 2023 is **Monday 6th February**. Please see key details below:

- Winners from each house will get Amazon vouchers and the overall first place winner will get 1,000 points for their house!
- Entries need to be left in the Refectory before 8.40am on the day (with a clear label of your name and house).
- Taste testing, judging and winners will be announced after school in the Refectory followed by a cake sale.
- Pupils and students can bring in cakes (homemade and shop bought) which won't be entered in the competition but used for the cake sale, raising money for Home Café.
- All house entries will be tasted by their House Leader.



Sarah Wood
Teacher of English and Drama

Library News



What are you looking forward to in 2023? Perhaps you want to try out something new – Veganuary anybody? Or maybe you feel inspired by the (sadly unsuccessful) launch of the first satellite from the UK and want to find out more about space? Or is 2023 the year you will attend an awards ceremony, where you have been involved in the voting process?

Whatever their interest, do encourage your child to come and have a look at what the Library has to offer to inspire them this year.



FAB WANDSWORTH SCHOOL BOOK AWARDS 2023

FAB
2023

Fantastic
A amazing
B brilliant

Previous winners include...



Will you help us choose the winning book?

Join the FAB 2023 Readers' Group and be the first to read these new books.

Read the shortlisted books and vote for your favourite.

Meet some of the authors at an awards ceremony with other local schools later this term.

See Miss Goodhart for more information.



Wandsworth has launched its FAB Book Awards 2023. We are encouraging pupils and students to get involved in this initiative and vote for their favourite book.

Click [here](#) for more information about the books on the FAB shortlist that your child can vote for.

As an added enticement to read in the Library, we have also launched our **Get Caught Reading** promotion. Whenever the Library is open, our eagle-eyed Pupil Librarians will be on the lookout for pupils and students who are engrossed in a book. Anyone who is 'caught reading' will receive a raffle ticket to which they should add their name before placing it in the tin. With up to 20 tickets available per child per week, the more they read, the greater their chance of being drawn from the tin at the end of this half of term. Prizes to include book tokens, chocolate and a **huge** stash of house points!!

Rachel Goodhart
School Librarian



Year 7 Football



On Wednesday 11th January, Year 7 played in a local derby against Ashcroft Technology Academy. Our boys played well as a team but were unfortunately lost 4-3. Goals were scored by **Tristan B** (two) and **Kishon C**.

Team: **Kishon C (Vice-Captain), Max J, Charles R-G, Lukas M (Captain), Tyler E-C, Prince W, Jefferson Y, Jack T, Dylan G, Kayon B, Tristan B, Max K and Toby C.**

Christopher Luke
Teacher of PE and Year Leader for Year 11

Updated Club List—Huge Choice on Offer

Astronomy.. Fashion... Sport...Culture...Science... Art...Music...Games...Creativity... DofE...Entrepreneurship...and more...!

At Saint Cecilia's we are proud of the extensive list of clubs and extra-curricular activities that are on offer before school, during lunch break and after school. They reflect the expertise and passions of our excellent teaching staff. They are **all free** and run by our staff on a voluntary basis. The list is kept updated [here](#) on the website. Please encourage your child to attend clubs as they offer a fantastic opportunity to expand interests as well as to socialise with other pupils and students.

Caroline Pyper
Marketing

Youth Club at Everyday Southfields

Just a reminder that the Youth Club at Everyday Church restarted this week. It's held every Thursday for pupils in Years 7 to 9, at the slightly modified time of 3.15-4.30pm. There will be pool, table tennis, table football, and computer games. It is a good space for pupils to relax and catch up with friends. It is free to attend, but there will be a tuck shop where £1 will buy a drink and a snack. Please do fill out a consent form on ParentPay if you would like your child to come along.

Any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch: ashoderu@saintcecilias.london

Alex Shoderu
Chaplain

Parents' Prayer Meeting

The next prayer meeting will be on **Thursday 19th January at 1pm**. For ease of attendance, this a Zoom meeting and the access details are:

Meeting ID: 384 874 8823

Password: Romans832

We look forward to seeing you then.

Alex Shoderu
Chaplain

Lunch Card Reminder

To help the queues in the Refectory at break and lunchtime run more smoothly, all pupils need to bring their lunch card to school each day. If pupils have lost their card, parents can buy a new one via ParentPay and your child can collect it from Reception. If any assistance is needed purchasing a new card, please contact your child's mentor. Lunch and breaktime service in the Refectory has been delayed because pupils fail to bring their lunch card with them. Pupils who repeatedly come to the Refectory to buy food without a lunch card will receive a low.

Natalie Burman
Head of Pupil Support and Pastoral Support Programme Coordinator

Upcoming Event Reminders

- **Saturday 14th and 21st January:** Sixth Form Consultations at Saint Cecilia's, 8.30am-4.30pm
- **Thursday 26th January:** Year 11 Parents' Evening, 5-8pm - virtual