

Message from the Headteacher

'The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control...'

(Galatians 5:22-23)

This week, it was a pleasure to meet the new families joining us in September, as Year 6 pupils came along with their parents and carers, to sign Home School Agreements, buy uniform and attend the BBQ. I am grateful to the Friends of Saint Cecilia's for taking advantage of the lighter evenings, and organising an early opportunity for parents and carers to meet each other, Governors and the Leadership Team.

The impact of the Friends was felt far and wide this week, as pupils enjoyed a Djembe Drumming workshop and new iPads; all fully funded by the Friends. We are all REALLY grateful!

It is great to celebrate the individual success of students, and we are very proud of **Amalia** in Year 12, who is through to the final of the French Pop video competition. This is a huge achievement for Amalia - a talented linguist who counts French as her fourth language.

Next week we anticipate the planned tube and rail strikes will cause some disruption to pupils', students' and staff journeys to and from school. Staff are already planning their routes, trying to car share, cycle and walk to school. Please support your children to do the same, and prompt them to leave home earlier than usual, so they are punctual to school.

The weather forecast for next week is back to what we might usually expect at this time of year, therefore, pupils will be asked to resume wearing blazers. Jumpers are optional, and probably not needed at this time of the year. If the forecast changes (for the better), I promise we will be quick off the mark to let parents and carers know of any further relaxation of our uniform.

Have a peaceful week ahead.

God bless,

Renata Joseph
Headteacher

Chaplain's Corner

'The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control...'

(Galatians 5:22-23)

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we picked up on the importance of 'joy' and 'peace' in our Fruit of the Spirit series.

"Life with God is not immunity from difficulties, but peace in difficulties." (C.S. Lewis)

The YouVersion Bible App states:

Joy is a deep and enduring state of our soul that no circumstance, event, or human can steal away from us. It's delighting in God and choosing to rejoice in all things. Because our circumstances don't rule us, our mood swings are non-existent. This doesn't mean we are always in a 'good mood', but we can remain in an unexplainable place of

contentment. Joyful people don't allow misery, sorrow, sadness, or despair to rule their thoughts or guide their actions.

Peace is a deep well of confidence that God is who He is and that He will do what He says He will do. Peace comes from resting in the promises of God. It's choosing to work with others for a common goal, instead of insisting on our own way. Peace is often unexplainable and incomprehensible, but we know when we have it and know when we don't. May God's joy and peace fill your hearts and your homes today and in the coming week.

Amen.

Alex Shoderu
School Chaplain

Careers in STEM

There is a free virtual careers fair running from 4th – 8th July aimed at young people aged 14-18, who would like to explore careers in STEM. Interested pupils (and parents) will just need to register for the event using the following link, where there is more detail about the opportunities available.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/life-after-school-get-ready-registration-324089248667>

Elizabeth Hogg
Curriculum Team Leader for Science

French Pop Star Finalist

Congratulations to **Amalia** in Year 12 whose song, 'Si proche mais si loin' (which means so close but so far), has been selected by the Institut Français's national jury to go the final of the French Pop Video Competition!

As a regional winner, she will receive a £50 National Book Token at the end of June. Here is the [playlist](#) of the 15 videos selected for the final.

The French Department is extremely proud of her as she wrote and composed the song and put together the video entirely by herself. **Amalia** is Romanian, lived in Italy and came to England recently so French is her fourth language. This is a huge achievement!

Sylvia Basilious
Interim CTL Modern Foreign Languages



Year 7 Djembe Drumming Workshop



On Friday 10th June, we were very lucky to have Mohamed Gueye deliver a Djembe drumming workshop to a selection of Year 7 pupils. The sounds of the music of Western Africa filled the music department and it was an exciting experience for the pupils, many of whom had not experienced it before and have not yet joined a music club.

We had some great feedback from some of the Year 7 pupils:

Laith: "It was fun and I got to learn more drumming styles which I can use in my music lessons"

Sharon: "It was a really fun workshop and I got to do something that I haven't done in a while"

Sophia: "It was nice to try something new and I liked how the drumming was different"

We are very grateful to the Friends of Saint Cecilia's who funded this, and we are hoping we can continue to offer a regular weekly Djembe club in September open to all pupils throughout the school. More details will be shared next term about this. A selection of Year 8 pupils will also experience the workshop later this month so watch this space for more pictures in a future newsletter.

John Wells
Curriculum Team Leader for Music

Wimbledon Bookfest

On a sunny afternoon on Tuesday 14th June, Year 8 pupils made their way to the Wimbledon Bookfest to listen to acclaimed British novelist, Alex Wheatle MBE, talk about his life experiences which led to and inspired his writing. They learned about his turbulent childhood, how he grew up in Shirley Oaks children's home, and his involvement in the Brixton riots leading to his time in prison - and later inspiring the Steve McQueen short film series 'Small Axe', which Wheatle became a scriptwriter for!

He took us through the beginnings of his career as a writer after prison, starting as a solo performance artist performing his one-man play *Uprising*, and leading on to becoming a prolific author with 17 published works to date.

Throughout, pupils were captivated as he brought to life the colourful characters he met along the way who shaped, inspired and encouraged him to write. At the end of the talk, everyone got to take home a copy of Wheatle's latest book, '*Kemosha of the Caribbean*'.



Emma Rattier
Teacher of English

STEM thanks the Friends



Members of the STEM club have been using the iPads bought with the money donated by the Friends this term. Pupils have used them to record videos of the practical investigations they have been carrying out and to take pictures of some the results of their work. Members are currently teaching themselves programming using the Swift programme on the iPads. We are extremely grateful to the Friends support which helps us keep up with the latest technology.

Tessa Lashley
Assistant Curriculum Team Leader for Science

Artist of the Week

Maleeha in Year 8 has drawn some stunning detailed studies of insects as part of the Year 8 Surrealist project. She is my Artist of the Week. Well done **Maleeha!**



Victoria England
Teacher of Art and Design

Trip to the British Film Institute

On Thursday 9th June, a group of over 40 pupils visited the BFI film studios. They had the opportunity to study three short films in French and understand how music and camera angles play an important role in film production. They used their French to describe the music, characters and put together dialogues for the characters in the films. Afterwards, we watched 'Belle et Sébastien', a French remake of a well-loved novel from 1966.

Well done to **Kiara, Nicolo, Abigail, Daniel** and **Oscar** who had the courage to take the microphone and answer questions in French in front of all the other schools. **Oscar** and **Daniel** are pictured below acting out a dialogue for the silent film 'Le Baiser'.



Martha in Year 8 has written her own report of the trip:

Jeudi, nous sommes allés à southbank pour une excursion BFI French avec d'autres écoles de Londres et même une école de Birmingham. Pour commencer, nous avons regardé quelques extraits de courts métrages français ('Les Crayons', 'Le Baiser' et 'Place des Fêtes'). Mon film préféré - d'après les extraits qui ont été diffusés - était 'Les Crayons' à cause de la finale, rebondissement inattendu. Nous avons terminé les activités après avoir visionné certains de ces clips; principalement la pratique du dialogue. Enfin, nous avons regardé le film "Belle et Sébastien" et tout le monde a applaudi quand les personnages qu'ils ont aimés ont réussi. À mon avis, cette excursion a été formidable car j'ai beaucoup appris et j'ai pu tester mes compétences en français. Je le recommande vraiment à tous ceux qui souhaitent élargir leur vocabulaire et leurs connaissances en français!

ENGLISH TRANSLATION:

On Thursday, we went to the Southbank for a BFI French trip with some other schools in London and even a school from Birmingham. To begin with, we watched some clips from short French films 'Les Crayons', 'Le Baiser' and 'Place des Fêtes'. My favourite film, based on the clips that were played, was 'Les Crayons' because of the final, unexpected twist. We completed activities after watching some of these clips; mainly dialogue practice. Finally, we watched the film 'Belle et Sébastien' and everyone cheered when the characters they liked succeeded. In my opinion, this trip was great because I learnt a lot and got to test out my French speaking skills. I definitely recommend it for anyone who would like to expand their French vocabulary and knowledge!

Sylvia Basiliou

Interim Curriculum Team Leader for MFL

Year 7 trip to the Southbank

Our first Year 7 group went to the Southbank for their Geography fieldwork day on Tuesday this week. They had great fun conducting tourist research in and around the sights of central London. We finished the day with an ice cream and watching some street performers outside the London Eye.



David Iannarelli

Teacher of Geography and Ives House Leader

Scientists in Action

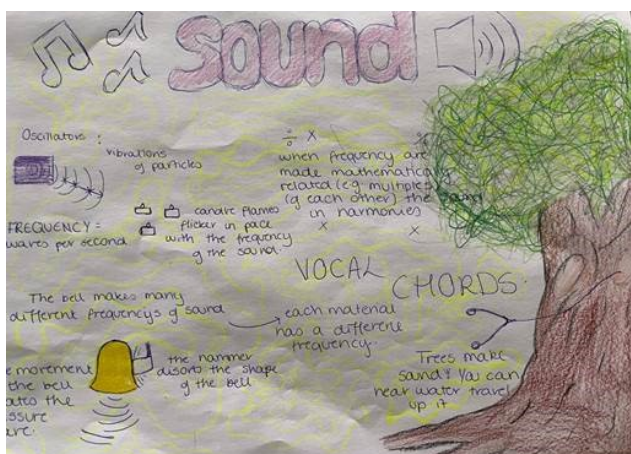
Virtual Conservation

Year 12 Biology used VR headsets to examine faraway lands and consider the efforts that might need to be taken to conserve endangered flora and fauna around the world. A click of a button and they were able to explore the African plains and Machu Picchu!

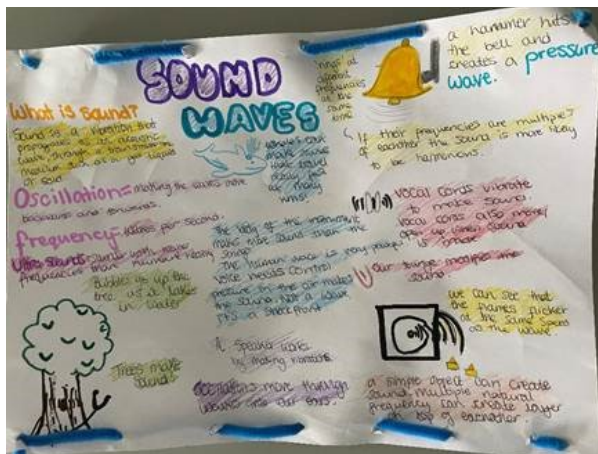


Making Sound poster competition

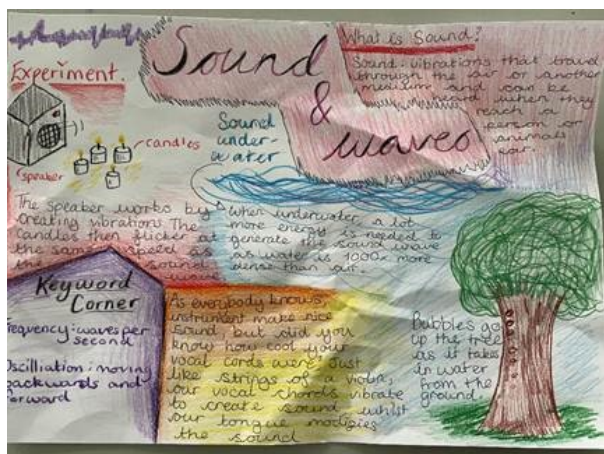
Pupils in Year 8 spent their lesson summarising their learning from a documentary about the making of sound. Here are some of the top entries from two of the classes. Pupils rated each other's work and awarded top points to their favourites. **Abi** was victorious in 8E **Ronnie-Rose** and **Paige** shared the crown in 8R!



Abi



Ronnie-Rose



Paige

Becky Butlin
Carter House Leader, Teacher of Science

Bloody Good Period



Head Girl, **Lydia**, has been a driving force behind the free sanitary product initiative in school, a Bloody Good Period. She explains:

"After the Bloody Good Period campaign raised over £300 in aid of supplying period products to asylum seekers and those who cannot afford them, we decided the school should ensure accessibility for all pupils and students with periods. Working together with the Junior Leadership Team, we have launched a dispenser system for pads and tampons in the school bathrooms (also available from Reception and PSM). This has been aided by the Government funded Period Product scheme which provides free period products to learners in state-schools who need them in their place of study.

"I strongly believe nobody should be held back from accessing education due their period. This initiative, alongside the Bloody Good Period campaign, has helped all pupils and students with periods to become more comfortable in school. I am ecstatic to be leaving this mark at Saint Cecilia's and hope this initiative will flourish" - Lydia

We are really proud of the entrepreneurial and leadership skills that our Sixth Formers are demonstrating.

Alexander Bishop
Assistant Headteacher (Interim)

Activities Week 2022 - Payment and Permission Reminder

Activities Week: 11th - 15th July 2022

- Ride the rollercoasters at Chessington World of Adventures Years 7 - 10
- Craft some pottery to take home in the pottery masterclass Years 7 - 10
- Enjoy Hollywood Bowl Tolworth and an afternoon at the Wetlands Centre Year 7
- Play in the Inter-House Rounders Tournament Years 7 - 10
- Catch a movie at Cineworld, Southside Years 7 - 10
- Go bowling and play street golf at Gravity, Southside Years 8 - 10
- Compete in the Inter-House Sports Day in Wimbledon Park Years 7 - 10

Book on ParentPay from 5th April

Saint Cecilia's Church of England School

With only three weeks to go, this is a reminder to ensure you have given your permission for your child to participate in Activities Week via ParentPay. Please remember that full payments are **now due**. If you are unable to pay, please speak to the **Finance department (Julie Peterson)** or your child's **Year Leader**, and we look at how we can support you.

Activities Week will take place between Monday 11th and Friday 15th July. The activities will involve pupils being out of school for part or all of the day. Between Monday and Thursday, year groups will be able to:

- ◆ Ride rollercoasters at Chessington World of Adventures
- ◆ Go bowling and play street golf at Gravity in Wandsworth (Years 8–10)
- ◆ Enjoy Hollywood Bowl Tolworth and an afternoon at the London Wetlands Centre (Year 7)
- ◆ Craft some pottery to take home in the pottery masterclass
- ◆ Catch a movie at Cineworld in Wandsworth
- ◆ Play in an inter-house rounders competition

The whole school community will come together on Friday 15th July to take part in our annual Sports Day held at Wimbledon Park.

Andy Gillespie
Assistant Headteacher

Upcoming Event Reminders

- **Monday 20th and Thursday 23rd June:** Year 7 Geography Field trips to Southbank
- **Wednesday 22nd June:** Years 7-12 trip to London Coliseum to see *My Fair Lady*
- **Wednesday 22nd June:** Year 7 trip to Mexican Genius' Immersive Exhibition
- **Thursday 23rd June:** Year 9 trip to Wimbledon Synagogue
- **Friday 24th June:** Year 13 Prom at The London Rowing Club from 7pm-midnight
- **Wednesday 29th June:** Year 11 Prom on a cruise from Millbank Pier leaving at 6.45pm and returning 10.30pm
- **Monday 4th July:** first open morning for Year 7 2023 entry
- **Thursday 7th July:** Summer Concert. Full details to follow.