



### Message from the Headteacher

***"And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled himself, and became obedient to death—even death on a cross!"***

(Philippians 2:8)

Yesterday, we held the final Parent Partnership Event, meeting Year 9 parents to talk about the year ahead. I hope families have found these events worthwhile, and would welcome any feedback about how we might develop our partnerships with parents.

Last week we placed kindness and empathy at the heart of Collective Worship; encouraging pupils and students to be kind to each other, themselves, their teachers and you. It was heart-warming to share many examples of kindness across our school community. In light of the recent abuse received by teachers and young people in schools on social media platforms like TikTok, it was an important topic to focus on. I hope pupils will respond to our request to 'clean up' social media accounts if necessary. Thank you for your support in checking your children's phones.

After half term I was keen to get back into the classroom, and I was delighted to spend time in languages and science lessons last week. Lessons were engaging, purposeful and interactive. Year 11 were busy preparing for mock assessment in Spanish and Sixth Form Psychology students were discussing attachment theory. I am very grateful to the Year 13 chemists, who patiently explained complex formation of transition metals to me. I did find the Year 7 lesson on the periodic table slightly easier to digest!

Finally, an update on staffing in the Leadership Team. We said goodbye to Anessa Lee today, as she begins her maternity leave. In her absence, Alex Bishop will join the Leadership Team as an Assistant Headteacher, and Chris Luke will lead the PE department until the end of the academic year.

Enjoy reading this week's newsletter and have a great week ahead.

God bless  
**Renata Joseph**  
Headteacher

### Chaplain's Corner

***"[Jesus] made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness"***

(Philippians 2:7)

Dear Parents,

We continued our collective worship series this week with the theme of Empathy. In the last two weeks, we have looked at verses about Jesus that have helped us to think about Role Models and Power and this week we continued with these same themes.

These themes tied in well with the fact that it was national Anti-Bullying Week which was highlighted by our Year Leaders. The House collective worship picked up on the theme

verse: *"[Jesus] made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness"* (Philippians 2:7)

Because Jesus came to earth and lived as a human, he is fully able to empathise with all our weakness, trials and temptations. We can take our hopes, plans, dreams as well as our fears, worries, or anxieties to him. Nothing is too big or too small.

I hope that message encourages you too, as you approach next week.

Be blessed.  
**Alex Shoderu**  
Chaplain

### Saint Cecilia's Year 9 pupils leading the way in "Kindness"



In year assemblies this week the focus has been Anti-Bullying, with emphasis on the message of kindness - One Kind Word. A very recent example of some of our pupils demonstrating kindness in the community is shown in this film on YouTube, 'Kindness Detectives in Wandsworth'. At the end of the summer, six of our Year 9 pupils (Year 8 at the time of filming), **Nicolas, Ethan, Amelia, Vanja, Ariadne** and **Tayja**, took part in a wonderful 'kindness project.' We are really proud of the example that these pupils are setting for their peers and the rest of the school. Please take a moment to watch the film [here](#).

**Alex Shoderu**  
Chaplain

## Parent Governor Vacancy

We are advertising a vacancy for a parent Governor and are seeking applications from all parents. Full details with the (short) application form were emailed out earlier this week and are available [here](#) on our website or from Reception.

The school has an active and engaged Governing Body comprising of fifteen Governors with a wide range of skills and experiences. Governors conduct an annual skills audit and, while these skillsets are not essential, we are keen to encourage applications from those that have experience in: health and safety, human resources, premises and facilities management, and/or ICT systems. We strongly advocate inclusion and diversity and would like to ensure the composition of our Governing Body reflects the diversity of our whole school community.

Governors play an important role in providing oversight of the operations, as well as helping to shape our future plans and aspirations. There are two committee meetings a term (one in person, one via Microsoft Teams) and there is also the opportunity to join working groups for short term projects and to represent the school at events. We provide a range of training and support so that Governors learn and develop through their four-year term.

If anyone would like further information about the Parent Governor role or any aspect of Governance, please contact me by email [dcobb@saintcecilias.london](mailto:dcobb@saintcecilias.london) at any time. The closing date is Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021 at noon.

**Dave Cobb**  
School Business and Development Manager

## Final Shout for The Friends Christmas Trees 2021

We would like to encourage you to order top quality Christmas trees for fantastic prices from the Friends of Saint Cecilia's and help raise money for the school.

The Christmas trees are extremely popular so if you would like to place an order, please complete [this form](#) by Friday 26th November. Prices start from £23 for a 3-4 foot tree.

Tree collection will be on Saturday 11th December approximately 9-11am (TBC on 10th Dec) from outside 64 Sutherland Grove, Southfields. Any queries, please email [angelamhead@gmail.com](mailto:angelamhead@gmail.com)

**Valente Panattoni**  
Chair, The Friends



## Calling all entries for School Christmas Card Competition 2021!

Thank you to everyone who has already submitted their inspiring entries. For pupils and students who are yet to submit, please remind them that they have until **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November**. This is the fantastic opportunity for your child to design the official card the Headteacher will send out across the borough to churches, schools, and organisations that have supported or collaborated with our school over the years.

To raise funds for the Home Café charity, we will have packs of five for sale for £2.50 per pack. These cards will be blank inside so you can use them as Christmas or thank you cards. Payment will be taken via ParentPay and packs will be distributed the week beginning Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December.

The 2021 Christmas Card Competition is open to all year groups. We are asking all pupils and students to design a card, using any medium, on the scripture theme of Jesus—The Servant King (Philippians 2:5-7). Holly Dorman, Admin and Finance, Alex Shoderu, Chaplain and our CTL for Art and Design, Stella Allan, will choose the winner. The final card will be professionally printed with the artist's name credited on the back.

Please find the [entry form](#) here. Alternatively, entry forms are available from the Library and Reception. Pupils and students should print this and either design straight onto the form or attach their final art piece firmly using glue or double-sided tape (no staples). It should fill the whole space. Artwork must be original. Entries with artwork attached should be handed into Reception or, if digital art, can be emailed to [hdorman@saintcecilias.london](mailto:hdorman@saintcecilias.london). Remind your child to tell us their name and mentor group if emailing their entry. The final winner will be announced in the weekly newsletter on Friday 26<sup>th</sup>. Good luck!

**Kelly Turner**  
Marketing Manager

Calling all artists in Year 7 - Sign up fast to get your FREE place

## Wandsworth Community Arts Initiative

Art project for pupils who go to schools in the Wandsworth Borough

# A Place to Call Home

**Open to all Year 7 pupils on a first come first served basis. Spaces are limited to 30 pupils per workshop**

**If you would like to attend this exciting FREE workshop sign up on ParentPay**

**When:** After school  
30<sup>th</sup> November and  
1<sup>st</sup> December.  
3.15 – 4.45

**Where:** Room 0.10 in the Art Department

**Aim:** to make a collective work of art that will be exhibited in Wandsworth in January

We are running Art workshops for all of those in Year 7 on a first come/first served basis on 30<sup>th</sup> Nov and 1<sup>st</sup> Dec, 3.15pm until 4.45pm. Spaces are limited to 30 for each session. The initiative culminates in a group architecture installation with other local schools in the borough. Participating schools have been given panels which, when assembled, will create a set of houses, to be exhibited in January in Wandsworth. The five main themes of the project are communication, belonging, commitment, diversity and support, which we will show visually in a variety of creative ways. We will use the processes of frottage, sensory drawing, word creation, collage and drawings in a variety of materials to respond in a visual way to a sense of community.

### 'Front Door' Drawing Competition

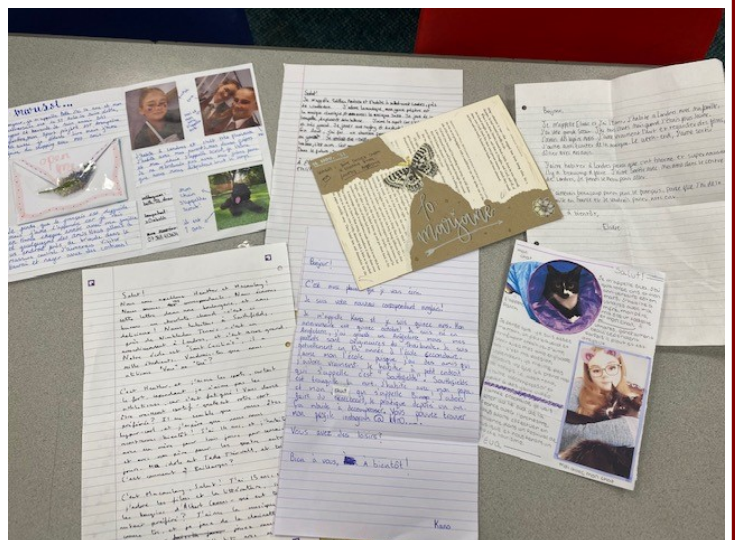
In addition, all of Year 7 are invited to create a small drawing (A6 size) of their front door, to include on one of the panels. There will be an additional prize and points for the most skilled 'front door' entries – the drawing can be in pencil, fineliner or biro. Please encourage your child to hand in entries for this by Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December to their Art teacher.

**Stella Allan**

**Curriculum Team Leader for Art and Design**

## Year 10 Pen Pal Letters

At the start of November, Year 10 French GCSE students received letters from students from a school in the south of France. In response, they have used their French skills to write some excellent replies to their pen pals.



**Sylvia Basilious**

**Interim CTL Modern Foreign Languages**

## Debating Club

**Dereiss, Head Boy** writes: "The Social Debate Club is a great opportunity for students to express and educate themselves on various relevant topics that concern us all. Ms Derby has kindly allowed us to use the library space to run this student-led club after school every Thursday week. Snacks and drinks are given out during debating to ensure a relaxing atmosphere, as this is a space where all opinions are respected and listened to with attention. It's a fun opportunity for those who love to take part in debates or those who simply enjoy listening to the opinions and point of views of their fellow students."



## Year 11 Devising Performances

Year 11 Drama students performed in their official devising practical examination on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November. Pupils were given a selection of stimuli to create an original performance by either performing a monologue, duologue or group performance. The pupils were complete professionals on the day of the exam, supporting each other through technical rehearsals by completing lighting and sound for each group as well as performing. The pupils were a real credit to the Drama department and to themselves! Well done Year 11!



Amelia



Phoebe



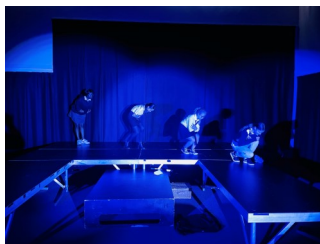
Jaimie and Maximus



Josephine and Ella

**Sophie Mouland**  
Teacher of Drama

Angel, Samara, Olivia and  
Rosie

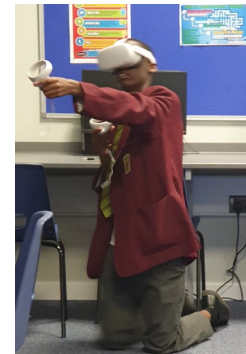
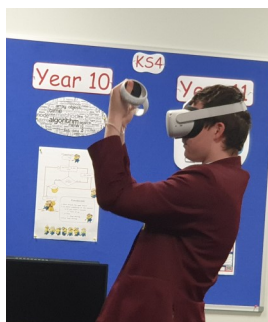


## Another thank you to The Friends

Thank you so much to the Friends of Saint Cecillas for the very generous funding award for the four VR sets and cases.

The provision of these additional sets mean that we double the current amount of pupils and students that are able to participate in Key Stage 3, Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 VR and Coding Clubs. We now have more opportunity for the Sixth Form Computer Science students to use this equipment for their Sixth Form projects. Other teachers are also exploring the amazing 3D virtual reality visions they can share with their subject and club students, such as the Astronomy Club with Richard Leitch.

**Tina Simpson**  
Teacher of Computing



## ESAA Cross Country Cup Regional Finals



After coming 2nd overall as a team in their last cross country race, the Year 9 and 10 boys qualified for the regional cross country finals in St Albans on Saturday 13th November. It was a tough course with many hills over 4.5km. The boys raced really well, with particular mention to **Jack** who placed a very impressive 16th overall in the race. As a squad they finished 8th out of 14 teams. This is a great result - to be the 8th best team in the whole of the London region against some very prestigious schools. Competing were **George, Jack, Barnaby, Tom, Louis and Charlie**. Well done boys!

**Harriet Field**  
Teacher of PE

## Year 8 Netball

The Year 8A and 8B netball teams took on Hollyfield School on Tuesday 16th. A narrow loss by the A team, and a 11-3 win for the B team. Particularly well done to Players of the Matches **Nyah** and **Tiwa** for their work in defence, as well as Coaches' Players of the Matches **Phoebe** and **Grace**. Well done to all. We are excited for the district netball tournament with Year 8 on Monday!

**Harriet Field**  
Teacher of PE



## Year 7 Netball

Year 7 won both of their netball matches this week against Hollyfield School in Surbiton. Amazing results from both teams. Hollyfield School didn't even score one goal!

Results:

A team - 18-0

B team - 24-0

A Team (pictured left):

**Naomi, Abigail, Evie, Lucy, Ellen, Gabrielle, Yvette and Coco** (Player of the Match)

B Team (pictured right)

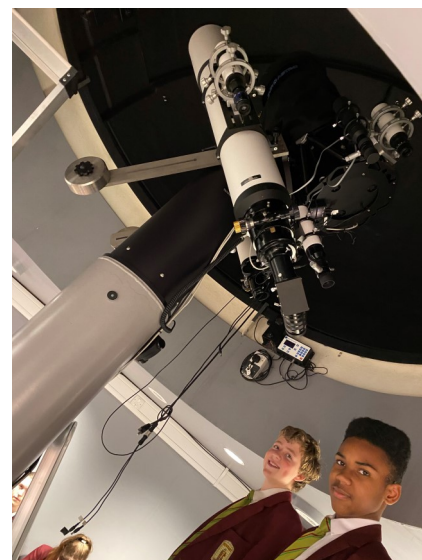
**Mary-Joy, Neema** (Player of the Match),  
**Tehya, Sophie, Ava, Daisy, Martine and Eliza.**



All girls played an incredible standard of netball and should be proud of their performances! I commend all players! Keep it up! All the hard work is paying off!

**Imogen Hamel**  
Teacher of PE

## Life beyond our planet



On Thursday, 16 pupils from the Astronomy Club (Years 9 and 10) visited Westminster School. They had the opportunity to see the school's planetarium and their newly installed observatory. Our host was a teacher of Physics at the school and an Astronomer himself.

The trip started in the planetarium. The host led everyone through a tour of the Milky Way galaxy. Pupils got to see objects such as Orion's Belt, Polaris, Sirius, the Crab Nebula, different constellations, and many more objects in the night sky. They got a sense of what is out there, both what we can see with the naked eye, and what we can only see with a telescope or binoculars.

The next part of the trip was the school's observatory. Although the weather (and the fact that it wasn't quite night time yet) didn't allow them to use the observatory, our host demonstrated how it worked. He talked about the three different telescopes that were set up and used by staff and pupils at the school, how they worked, and in what situation each of the telescopes would be used. We hope to invite our host as a guest speaker to a wider audience of pupils here at Saint Cecilia's.

**Richard Leitch**  
Teacher of Science

## Saint Cecilia's prepares for the festive season



This week has been very busy. We have planted a new Christmas tree in the school quad and decorated it with lights. It is only six feet tall at the moment but we hope it will grow two feet each year. The right hand picture was taken earlier this week when Teacher of Business Studies and Computing, Sy Hussain, kindly let us use his VW truck to collect the school Christmas tree from Wimbledon Park.

**Andy Barrett**  
Premises Manager

## Upcoming Event Reminders

- **Tuesday 2nd December:** Year 13 Virtual Parents' Evening 5-8pm
- **Friday 3rd December:** Nasal Flu Vaccines Year 7-11
- **Monday 6th December:** Year 7, 12 and 13 Little Sleep Out 4pm - 7pm
- **Thursday 9th December:** Presentation Awards Ceremony 6:30pm—8:30pm in the Sports Hall
- **Tuesday 14th December:** Carol Concert at 7pm Holy Trinity Church, Beaumont Road