



Message from the Headteacher

'If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you'

James 1:5

Year 11 made a fantastic start to the substantive part of their exam season. Excellent attendance, a positive attitude and mature behaviour has meant a calm and purposeful atmosphere in the exam hall. The Year 11 Academic Mentor and Safeguarding and Welfare Officer are available to support pupils who may be overly anxious in the coming days and weeks. We have emphasised to pupils the value of having support from subject specialists at this crucial point, and I am grateful to parents for supporting this message.

Yesterday, we said goodbye to Year 13 at their Leavers' Assembly. Although I was excited to see this year group take

another step towards the next stage in their lives, it was sad to be at one of the final events when they will all be together. I reminded them they have already shown much grit, determination and resilience over the last 18 months and, I am sure, they have a bright future ahead.

For the rest of the school it is full steam ahead towards the half term break and Jubilee celebrations. In the final week, Year 10 pupils are off to the theatre to see Hamilton, and Year 12 will visit Surrey University.

Have a lovely week.

God bless,

Renata Joseph
Headteacher

Chaplain's Corner

"Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but whoever hates correction is stupid"

Proverbs 12:1

Exams kicked off for our Year 11s this week and our Year 13s will begin theirs next week.

I have been praying for God's protection and peace for all of them since the start of this half term. Alongside a few parents, I have also been praying that God would give wisdom to parents of those doing exams to guide them in how they offer support to their children at this time.

Ahead of the exams, I took the opportunity of being in the company of one of the local church pastors to pray together in each of the exam halls, asking God to fill every pupil and student with His peace as they come in for their exams. I really believe that this will make a big difference for our pupils and students over the next few weeks. Amen.

Please may I ask you to pray that all staff here can be a

reassuring presence for pupils and students in all our interactions with them over these next few weeks. Do feel free to direct your child my way if they are feeling particularly anxious, but reassure them that they are being lifted up in prayer by myself and many others.

The theme verse this week feels apt for the start of exam season even though I hadn't planned it that way. Those pupils and students who have been disciplined with their studies, and in their preparation, should have all the knowledge they need to succeed in exams. Of course, the wisdom that this verse references is not just applicable to those about to sit exams, but is relevant for all of life, and therefore all our pupils and students. Another relevant verse in the Bible says this:

'No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.' (Hebrews 12:11)

Have a great weekend
Alex Shoderu

French Delicacies

This week, to celebrate their hard work in French over the past two years, our Year 13 got to enjoy 'une tarte à la framboise' from our local French bakery in Southfields - look at their smiles! We wish them the best of luck in their exams.

Pictured right: **Adrian** and **Heejin**

Sylvia Basilious
Interim CTL Modern Foreign Languages



Finalists of Wandsworth Young Musician of the Year 2022



We are delighted to be able to share the exciting news that two of our budding music stars have been selected to go through to the finals of Wandsworth Young Musician of the Year 2022— **Sami** on cello (Juniors) and **Jaden** singing (Seniors). The standard was very impressive so they have both done extremely well to be selected for the final, after the first round of adjudication.

Christopher Augustine, well-renowned trombonist, had the job of choosing participants from each category to progress to the final in July. His video announcing his chosen finalists is on the Wandsworth Music YouTube channel here: <https://youtu.be/RNCxmAJkepM>

The final round of the competition will take place on Monday 4th July at Burntwood School and we wish **Sami** and **Jaden** the best of luck.

John Wells
Curriculum Team Leader for Music

Games and Goodbyes in the Sixth Form

We don't ask our Sixth Formers to wear uniform or business dress to study at Saint Cecilia's. Yet it is now a tradition, started by the first cohort to leave in 2010, to wear their old school uniform (which they've often outgrown) into school to mark the end of their studies with us. They will soon be leaving us for universities, colleges and employment. It is always a day of double takes for the staff!

"Year 13 participated in Culture Day on Monday and School Uniform Day on Tuesday this week as part of our final week at Saint Cecilia's. There was a wide range of cultures displayed through outfits and it was enjoyable seeing everyone represent their culture. The school uniform day has been a tradition for leavers for many years, and it was great for it to be our turn to participate in this. We got shirts signed by teachers and students whilst saying our goodbyes. It was emotional seeing everyone in their old uniforms again for one last time and we were reminiscing on our lower school memories together."

Sadie, Year 13



Paul Bishop
Assistant Headteacher, Director of Sixth

Athletics - success at the ESSA Cup Competition

On Tuesday 17th May, selected pupils in Years 7-10 competed at the first round of the English School's Association Athletics (ESAA) schools' cup competition at the Linford Christie Stadium in west London. We had over 54 pupils compete in this team competition, more than any other school at the event. It was a huge success for both individuals and as a school team.

Overall results:

Year 7 and 8 Girls team won—1st place!

Year 7 and 8 Boys - 2nd place

Year 9 and 10 Boys won—1st place!

Year 9 and 10 girls were 3rd.



These are great results against 10 other schools, including Wimbledon High School and St Pauls Girls' School.

This means two of our teams have potentially qualified for the next round of this national competition. It was a fantastic day for our athletes at Saint Cecilia's. Well done to all!

Most notable individual performances:

Abi (Year 8) - 1st in 300m

Ella (Year 8) - 1st in 200m and in Long Jump

Sam (Year 8) - 1st in 100m

Sammy (Year 8) - 1st in 1500m

Issy (Year 9) - 1st 300m

Alex (Year 10) - 1st in shot-put with over 14 metres!

Jack H (Year 10) - 1st 1500m

Jack R (Year 10) - 1st 300m

Melody (Year 10) - 1st Triple Jump

Tom (Year 10) - 1st Javelin



Harriet Field
Teacher of PE

Sports Fun: Inter-House and Staff vs Sixth Form tournaments

On Thursday 19th May, we held the Year 11 netball and football Inter-House event after school. Each House fielded a netball and football team and played in a round robin tournament against all the other houses, with both sports concluding in a final. There was a great atmosphere with all the teams playing against each other and other pupils coming to support. The eventual winners were **Archimedes**, with Ives and Turing coming in joint 2nd. Well done to all for a competitive tournament, and what a great way to get rid of the pre-GCSE exam nerves!

On Friday 13th May after school, we had the annual Staff v Sixth Form netball tournament. It was hugely competitive, and after a round robin, the final was between the Staff and Year 12/13 boys team - it is worth mentioning that many of our senior girls sadly could not play! It was a draw after the whistle blew so it went to 'golden goal' where the Sixth Form team ended up scoring and winning the final. Thank you to all who took part and to the Year 11 girls who stepped in to umpire. Next year the staff are going all out, as this is the first loss they have had in years! Good luck to all Year 13s in their exams!

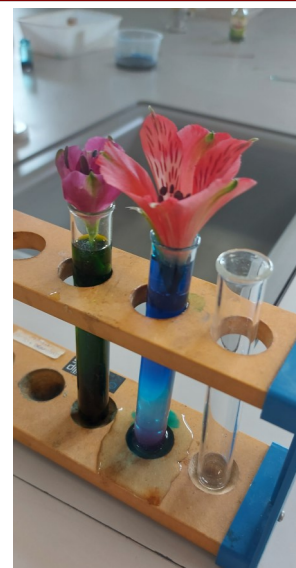


Harriet Field
Teacher of PE

Wonders of STEM activities in Year 8



Our Year 8 STEM activities have been looking at the wonders of the real world. Recently pupils created coloured flowers by exploring the biology of plants, demonstrating the position of the xylem within them. We had some eye catching results!!



Tessa Lashley
Assistant Curriculum Team Leader for Science

Poetry Translation Competition



If your child is interested in poetry, please encourage them to enter the latest competition by the Stephen Spender Trust.

The challenge: choose any poem in a foreign language and translate it into English. They will need to submit a commentary of no more than 300 words to explain to the judges how they approached translating the poem, and to **give examples of three translation decisions that they found the most interesting or challenging** along the way.

This year, there is an extra option of translating Romanian poetry. Click on this link to see more details: [Romanian Spotlight – Stephen Spender Trust \(stephen-spender.org\)](https://www.stephen-spender.org/romanian-spotlight)

The Stephen Spender Trust are offering the following prizes:

14-and-under category: £75 each for three winners

16-and-under category: £100 each for three winners

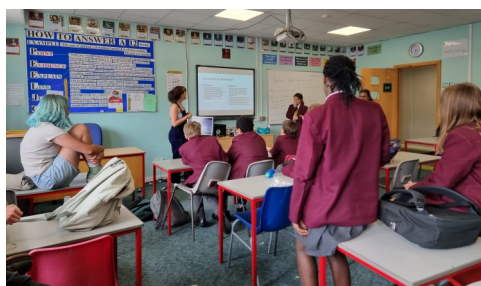
For more information, entry guidelines and inspiration, click [here](#) and ask your child to check Show My Homework for the commentary template. Submit all entries **including the original poem** to me or Claire Woodhouse before the 15th July. Pupils can come and find me if they have any queries.

Sylvia Basilious
Interim CTL Modern Foreign Languages

Open for entries
4 May 2022
Deadline
15 July 2022

Philosophy Club

"Are Dreams Real?" This week we had our biggest ever turnout for Philosophy Club. A massive well done to **Helena** and **Joshua** in Year 12 for their hard work in running a brilliant session, as well as a huge thanks to all of our amazing Year 7 pupils for their keen engagement! This week we delved into some of the biggest questions surrounding the topic of dreams - are they real? What is real? Can we even trust our own knowledge?



Kaan Cengiz
Teacher of Religious Studies

Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh's Award Bronze Expedition



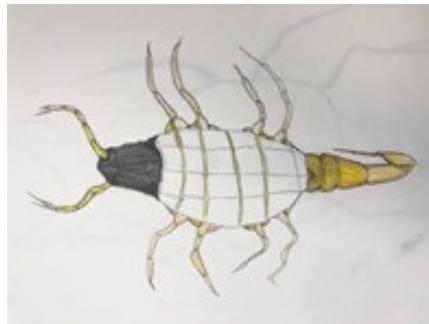
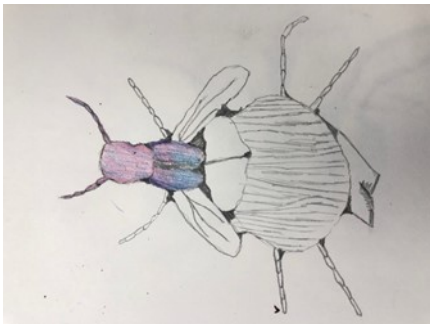
Year 9 got to finally enjoy their camping trip in the lovely Surrey Hills to complete their Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award. It was the largest group we've had with 90 pupils, all working independently to navigate to checkpoints and working on a project. Although a few got lost and a few struggled, all of them made it to camp on time and enjoyed an evening meal together. After a game of football, tag and cricket, it was lights out. Too bad for a few pupils whose tent got attacked by badgers in the middle of the night! They were up early the next day, making amazing progress on their second routes. I hope they all had an adventure full of memories to last a lifetime! Well done Year 9s!

Rachel Skinner

Interim ACTL for Science, House Leader of Turing and Duke of Edinburgh's Coordinator

Artist of the Week

This term Year 8 are exploring Surrealism, in particular surreal insects. Here are some wonderful preliminary studies of bugs by **Max**. He drew from both photographs and real insects to create these fabulous creepy crawlies. **Max** is my Artist of the Week.



Victoria England
Teacher of Art and Design

Year 10 Art and Textiles Trip

On Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th May, Year 10 Art and Design and Art Textiles groups visited London's Embankment and Tate Modern for the launch of their new Order and Disorder project, which is worth 60% of their final GCSE grade. The trips were an opportunity for pupils to collect evidence to show research and development for their new project. Pupils were given a set of activities to help them explore the world around the Embankment in drawings and photos. One of their main missions was to complete a handmade sketchbook with quick sketches of the day, including views across the Thames and from the bridges, nature, the different building structures and anything that inspired them linked to the theme of Order and Disorder. We also explored relevant artworks in Tate Modern to sketch and analyse.

Ms Mulvey, Ms England, Miss Bernard, Mrs Toneva and I noticed our artists engaged throughout the entire trip. Pupils took every opportunity to be inspired – looking around for something to sketch whilst sitting on the train, spotting photo opportunities en route to the gallery through fence gaps, between buildings and from interesting vantage points. We returned to school as enthused as they were, and we'd like to thank them for engaging with the trips and making the days so enjoyable and useful.

Stella Allan

Curriculum Team Leader for Art and Design



Meet with The Friends

The Friends of Saint Cecilia's will be holding a meeting for all members on Tuesday 24th May at 7.00pm at the school. You will be able to discover more about The Friends and how you can be involved as a parent/carer to support events and fundraising. There are numerous opportunities to help out! Your views and dedication are valued greatly. You can register for the meeting by using the link below:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/friends-of-st-cecilia-membership-meeting-tickets-344945309707>

We look forward to greeting you Tuesday 24th at 7.00pm!

Valente Panattoni
Chair, Friends of Saint Cecilia's

Work for Us

We are looking to fill positions at school, including a Learning Support Assistant and a Librarian, to start as soon as possible. Both are term-time only and 36 hours per week so may suit parents or carers who are looking to combine work with parenting responsibilities.

If you are interested in either of the roles, or you know of someone who might be, please visit our website [here](#) to find more details on the roles and how to apply.

Thank you

Nicola Anthony-Jones
HR Officer

Activities Week 2022 - Payment Reminder

A vertical graphic for Activities Week 2022, dated 11th - 15th July. It lists six activities with icons and logos: 1. Ride rollercoasters at Chessington World of Adventures (Years 7-10) with Chessington World of Adventures logo. 2. Pottery masterclass (Years 7-10) with a pottery wheel icon. 3. Hollywood Bowl Tolworth and Wetlands Centre (Year 7) with WWT logo. 4. Inter-House Rounders Tournament (Years 7-10) with a person bowling icon. 5. Movie at Cineworld, Southside (Years 7-10) with Cineworld logo. 6. Bowling and street golf at Gravity, Southside (Years 8-10) with Gravity logo. At the bottom, it says 'Compete in the Inter-House Sports Day in Wimbledon Park (Years 7-10)' with a Sports Day logo. A note at the bottom left says 'Book on ParentPay from 5th April' and the Saint Cecilia's Church of England School logo is at the bottom right.

Please ensure you have given your permission for your child to participate in Activities Week via ParentPay. If you have paid your first two instalments, the next is due by 5th June.

Activities Week will take place between Monday 11th and Friday 15th July and is an opportunity for the school community to come together and celebrate the end of the academic year. 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 23rd May:** Year 13 study leave starts
- **Tuesday 24th May:** A Levels begin. First exam Psychology
- **Tuesday 24th May:** Year 10 Drama trip to see Hamilton at the Victoria Theatre
- **Monday 30th to Friday 3rd June:** Half term - school closed
- **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
- **Saturday 9th July:** School Fête—more details to follow