



Message from the Headteacher

"He has shown you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly; and to love mercy; and to walk humbly with your God."

Micah 6:8

Last week we came together as a school community to read Dr Martin Luther King's 'Letter from Birmingham Jail'. Focused on the theme of 'justice', there was plenty of opportunity for interesting, thoughtful and challenging discussion across all year groups. Do grab your child's copy and feel free to read for yourself, and continue the conversations at home.

There is yet more change to COVID-19 guidance, as pupils are no longer required to wear face coverings in lessons, and the period of self-isolation is reduced, following a negative day 5 and day 6 lateral flow test. Pupils may be asked to test more frequently at home, if there is an increase in cases in their class. From the 27th January, pupils and students are no longer required to wear a face mask in communal areas, or whilst moving around school. They are welcome to continue to wear a face covering if they wish.

I am looking forward to the final day of our consultation

meetings with Year 11 pupils, where we discuss transition to the Sixth Form. For the vast majority of pupils, progression to Year 12 is the natural next step, so it is a pleasure to find out the A Levels and BTECs pupils want to take, and their aspirations for the future. Saint Cecilia's Sixth Form continues to offer excellent teaching, outstanding exam results and a supportive environment that propels students to the next stage of their education. We hope pupils will realise the advantages of remaining with us, for a further two years. Year 11 Parents' Evening takes place on Thursday 27th January. This is a virtual event. If you have any issues with technology, do get in touch with the school office for support.

Finally, a very warm welcome to Kirsty Warwick, who was appointed as a Parent Governor at the start of term. Over the course of this term, newly appointed governors will be introduced to the school community in the newsletter. Do look out for their stories.

Enjoy this week's newsletter and have a lovely week.

God bless,
Renata Joseph
Headteacher

Chaplain's Corner - Big Questions in Christian Union

It's been great to restart Christian Union at the beginning of this term. We have launched a new series, based on the Westminster Catechism, and are walking through, week by week, some of the big questions about life and faith. We have already covered:

'What is our only hope in life and death?' and
'What is God?'

And will go on to look at questions such as:

'How and why did God create us?'

'How can we glorify God?'

'Can anyone keep the law of God perfectly?'

'Who is the Redeemer?'

Christian Union takes place every Monday (3.10-4pm) in the Chapel and is open to all year groups.

Blessings,

Alex Shoderu
School Chaplain

Parent Governor Election

Congratulations to Kirsty Warwick on being appointed to the vacant Parent Governor position. Kirsty will join the Governing Body at its next meeting on February 24th and we are very grateful for her support and commitment. Kirsty is a new parent at the school with a daughter in Year 7, and she brings a wealth of experience as a former Chair of Governors, charity trustee and communications professional. We are delighted to have her on board.

Thank you to all the candidates who stood for election in the ballot. It is fantastic to have so much enthusiasm to support and develop the school. Over the next few weeks we hope to introduce our other new Governors to the school community via the newsletter.

Dave Cobb
School Business and Development Manager

Flu Vaccines Drop-In Clinics



The Wandsworth Immunisation Team have made us aware of the following drop-in clinics they are running if your child has not been able to have the nasal flu spray at school for any reason:

Saturday 22nd January 2022 - 10am - 1pm

Saturday 29th January 2022 - 10am - 1pm

Address: York Gardens Children Centre, Lavender Road, Clapham Junction, London SW11 2UG

There will be nasal flu and inactivated injectable flu available on the day.

Please only go to the clinic if your child has not already had the vaccine in school or at another clinic, as your child only needs one flu vaccine per flu season.

Appointments are not necessary. Should you need to contact the Wandsworth School Immunisation Team for further information, their contact details are:

020 3903 3374/07776 160173, Email: hrch.immunisationteammailboxwandsworth@nhs.net

Contacts on the day are as follows: 22nd January: Laura 07500 815871; 29th January: Katherine 07825 858381

We will continue to promote these drop -in clinics on the school website www.saintcecilias.london/lettersandnewslettersdownload

**Lucy Bush
Deputy Headteacher**

Promoting Justice for All

Our assemblies and mentor time conversations this week have been around the theme of 'justice for all', coinciding with the birthday of civil rights campaigner, Martin Luther King Jr. (1929 - 1968). This topic is relevant throughout school life: in curriculum subjects including History, Religious Studies and PSHE and in our SOAR policy, reminding our community to be socially responsible and stand up for what is right. Martin Luther King Jr. was a man of faith but he argued against conservative clergymen who sought to restrict his peaceful protests. Whilst imprisoned in an Alabama jail, he wrote a passionate and eloquent letter to these clergymen, and this is published as, *Letter from Birmingham Jail*.

Every child in school has been given a copy of this inspiring book which we hope will inspire them to stand up for justice and equality.



Martin Luther King

This week we are celebrating the legacy and Christian teaching of civil rights activist, Martin Luther King Jr. Come and see the library display and think about his arguments as you discuss them in assemblies and mentor times, and read through 'Letter from Birmingham Jail'.



**Susan Derby
School Librarian**

Artists creating together!

The MFL and Art Departments want to say a huge thank you to all our young artists and linguists who came to the first session of our Window Wanderland Club this week. We look forward to next Thursday when we will meet again. It was really uplifting seeing the older Year 10 artists helping the Year 7 and 8 budding artists.

Please tell your children to come and join us so together, we will make our school a prominent feature of this community project.



Stella Allan, Curriculum Team Leader for Art and Design and Francisco Jimenez, Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages

French Pop Video Competition

We are excited to announce that The Institut Francais French Pop Video competition is running again this year. Students need to create their own original pop video in French (no copyright material allowed). As we have so much talent at Saint Cecilia's, we would love to have as many entries as possible.

Last year, we had two entries win the regional competition for their age range (please click on the links below to see **Grace** and **Martha**, and **Heejin's** entries). For more info, pupils can speak to me or John Wells.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GScdMgjq09U&list=PLFuH7kW4IWkwYEakqXfqKivb2rT7tC4Zo&index=6>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zVAwN-NmEYc&list=PLFuH7kW4IWkwYEakqXfqKivb2rT7tC4Zo&index=15>

**Sylvia Basiliou
Interim CTL Modern Foreign Languages**

FRENCH POP VIDEO COMPETITION 2022

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS

Give the mic to your students and shoot a music video with them!

Do you believe your class's got talent? Do you feature your students sing or rap in French? If so, this competition is for you!

For whom? All students in British schools and Channel Islands, from 7 to 18 years old

What about? A music video of your students' French rap or song showing their talent

When? Submit your video by **15 April 2022**

Win books, tablets and attend a live Fête de la Musique concert!

To register: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/french-pop-video-competition-2022-tickets-214681223847>

Physics Refraction



One Year 11 class spent some time in Science investigating the refraction of light. Here, glass rods can be made to disappear. It's magic - no, it's just Science! The glass rods disappear because the rods and the oil both refract light the same way. Water refracts light differently than the rods, so you can see them.

Doing investigations like this not only makes learning a lot more fun, but also makes the concepts more memorable.

**Richard Leitch
Teacher of Science**



Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge

This week we held the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge for Year 10. They were given a workshop on public speaking and they then got the opportunity to perform their speeches. We are delighted to announce the winners of the Jack Petchey Speak Out Days: **Heloise, Elodie, Beth, Talitha, Macauley, Bradley and Drew**. These pupils will go through to the semi-finals in the Sixth Form assembly. The following got highly commended: **Joseph, Iona, Junior and Alex**

Pictured below are three of the Year 10 pupils who took part in the challenge, Janaiya, Grace and Heather:



Mairead Gibbons
Teacher of English, Leader of Year 11

Artists Aware!



Submit artwork for a chance to exhibit at the Royal Academy of Arts

How does it work?

The Young Artists' Summer Show is a free, open submission exhibition for young artists aged 4 - 19 years studying in the UK.

Artworks are judged by a panel of passionate artists and arts professionals, with selected artworks displayed online and on-site at the prestigious Royal Academy of Arts. This QR code will open the Royal Academy page with more information.

It is free to enter and I encourage all pupils and students to take part. Please ask them to come to speak to me in room 0.16.

Key dates for 2022:

Registration and submission open
10th January – 30th March 2022

Judging - May 2022

Online exhibition opens
19th July 2022

Display at the Royal Academy
19th July – 14th August 2022



Victoria England
Teacher of Art and Design

Artist of the Week

A fabulous self-portrait drawn by **George** in Year 7 for homework. George has captured his personality perfectly in this drawing and has used his knowledge of shading and mark making to achieve a very good likeness. Well done **George!** He is my Star Artist of the Week.



Victoria England
Teacher of Art and Design

Come and Support our Rugby Stars

Our Rugby First XV team will be playing against local rivals, Fulham Boys School, on Friday 28th July 7-9pm and we'd love for the Saint Cecilia's community to be out in force to cheer them on. The match is being held at Rosslyn Park Club in Barnes and is sure to be a great contest – the last time we played them in November, we won 19-17, with a try from us in the final minute of play.

Our boys are all members of our London Irish programme and so the play will be top class. This is a great opportunity for parents, staff, and friends to see our talented team in action.

Entry is free, lots of parking available and Rosslyn Park have a clubhouse and bar which will be open for spectators from 7pm. Full details of the club with maps and directions here <<https://rosslynpark.co.uk/contact/map-directions/>

Address: The Rock, Priory Lane, SW15 5JH

Alex Bishop

Interim Assistant Headteacher

Football Reports

Year 7

Year 7 had their first football fixture of the year on Tuesday 18th January against Ernest Bevin College. Saint Cecilia's won the game 5-0. The goals were scored by **Otis** (two goals), **Tochi**, **Nahshon** and **Henry**. Well done boys!

Team (Pictured right): **Christopher, Ermuun, Amaru, Henry, Nahshon, Tochi, Matthew, Josh, Jed, Jonathan, Otis (Capt), Spencer, Noah**



Year 9

Captain of the Year 9 first team, **Dylan**, reports:

*"The first game of the season found Saint Cecilia's playing against Ernest Bevin. Saint Cecilia's played a 4-3-3 formation. We dominated most of the first half, going 2-0 up with goals from **Ashley** and **Nicholas**. We could have scored more with lots of shots on goal and we were supported with some amazing saves from the keeper, **Jack**. All round a very good team effort with a high work rate in the first half. The second half we went out strong. We made some subs bringing on **Robin**, **Martin** and **Arthur**. This helped us massively to push on and **Robin** scored a well worked goal. The opposition came on to us strong and we conceded a goal. We were battling to keep our dominance for a short period and then **Ashley** scored a stunning second goal that took all pressure off. With a three goal lead we just had to see the rest of the game out to a well deserved win. Final score: 4-1 to Saint Cecilia's."*

Year 10

This week Year 10 drew 2-2 with a well fought game against Ernest Bevin. The goal scorers were **Emmanuel** and **Tyrelle**. **Bradley** was named Player of the Match

Team (pictured right): **Oliver, Joseph, Samuel, Isaac (Capt), Alexander, Jack, Tyrelle, Sam, Emmanuel, Bradley, Barnaby, Jaden and Joel**.



Christopher Luke

Interim Curriculum Team Leader of Physical Education and Year Leader for Year 10

Netball News

The Year 9 A and B netball squads took on Laurels School on Monday. Both sides came out with convincing wins: 20-7 for the A team, with **Amanda** being selected as Opposition's Player of the Match, thanks to her brilliant defence at Goal Keeper. The B team won 13-4. Well done to **Charlotte** for being Coaches' Player of the Match for her many interceptions. After the game the girls got creative making this STC! sign on the courts.



Harriet Field
Teacher of PE

Work Opportunities in Catering Department

The school's catering department is currently looking for staff to help prepare and serve a selection of morning break and lunch dishes. The positions are Monday to Friday, term time only and have a good rate of pay. If you are looking to work in a busy, fast moving environment, please email our Catering Manager Steven.Nugent@compass-group.co.uk or phone 07827 843738 for an informal chat.

Thank you,

Dave Cobb
School Business & Development Manager

Call out for Gadgets

Do you have any unwanted joysticks or other games controllers at home that you no longer need? If so, our Aerospace Club would love to have them for pupils to use. USB or older game port devices are most welcome, for example:

- Joysticks
- Yokes
- Game pads
- Pedals
- Throttles

Please hand all donations into Reception where they can be passed on to the 'Joysticks Box' in the Bethany Centre.

Thank you!

Gyles Lambert
Learning Support Assistant



Upcoming Event Reminders

- **Saturday 22nd January:** Sixth Form Admissions Consultation Meetings
- **Wednesday 26th January:** Year 10 Trip to The Design Museum (9:30am - 3:30pm)
- **Thursday 27th January:** Year 9 Booster Vaccinations
- **Thursday 27th January:** Year 11 virtual Parents' Evening
- **Friday 28th January:** First XV exhibition rugby match at Rosslyn Park from 7-9pm - Saint Cecilia's Community invited.