

Message from the Headteacher

'Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.'

Philippians 4:8

We have finally made it to half term, after a very exciting first half term back in school.

As always, we end on a high, with an important announcement from the Friends of Saint Cecilia's. I am delighted to share that the Friends elected three new officers

who will play a lead role in keeping this valuable charity alive. A warm welcome to the new officers and trustees is within this week's newsletter. I would like to honour the outgoing team for everything they have done in support of the school over a number of years. A huge thank you to the outgoing officers: Clare Salters, Karen Naples and Nicole Lyon.

I wish you a lovely break, and look forward to welcoming all pupils and students back on Monday 1 November at 8.45am.

Have a lovely week and God bless,

Renata Joseph
Headteacher

Chaplain's Corner

'Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.'

Philippians 4:8

Dear Parents/Carers,

Warm greetings to you. It's been a half term full of NEW things, big and small changes, but we've made it!

I am encouraging staff members and students to look back on this half term and, as the verse above encourages, to think about the things that have been good, lovely, and praiseworthy.

There is a song that has been playing in the Chapel this morning and floating into my office. The chorus says this:

"Even when I don't see it, You're working

Even when I don't feel it, You're working,

You never stop, You never stop working,

My God, that is who You are..."

Whatever these last few weeks have been for you and your family, I pray that you will be reminded of God's constant and loving presence and be reassured that He is with you.

Peace and blessings to you.

Alex Shoderu
Chaplain

Saint Cecilia's contributes to local community

Thank you to everyone who generously donated to our annual Harvest Festival food collection. Pictured are two house leaders (myself, Head of Ives House and Becky Butlin, Head of Carter House) as we wheeled trollies piled high with canned and non-perishable goods that were donated to the Wandsworth Foodbank this week. Your donations will be used to make up food parcels for families who are struggling with food poverty this winter.

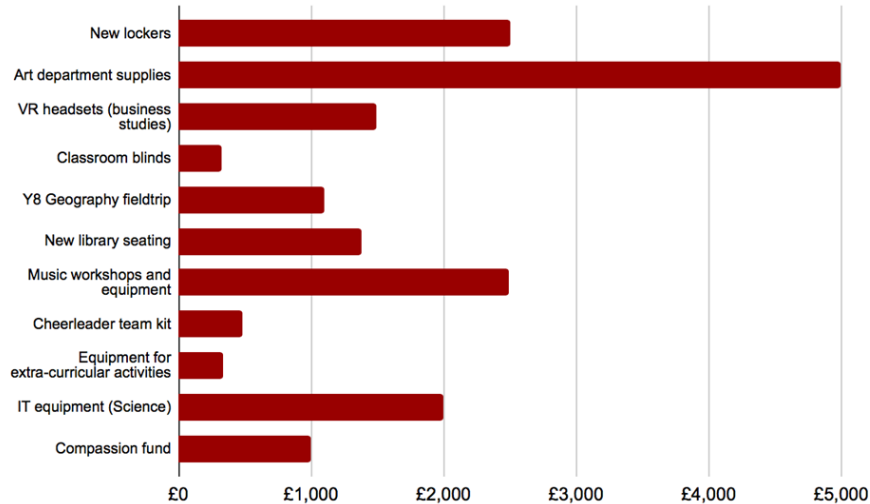
David Iannarelli
Teacher of Geography and Ives House Leader



The Friends of Saint Cecilia's - Old and New

Thanks to everyone who attended the Friends' General Meeting on Monday evening (18th October) to help make decisions about the distribution of funds and to elect new trustees to take the charity forward. It was a great turn out, and it felt really positive to think that the Friends charity has a future.

We had a lot of bids for funding from across the school and sadly were not able to fund them all, but we were able to distribute around £18,000 to school projects:



We were delighted to be able to elect a new set of officers to take on the leadership of the charity, and wish them well in the year ahead.

Trustees 2021-22

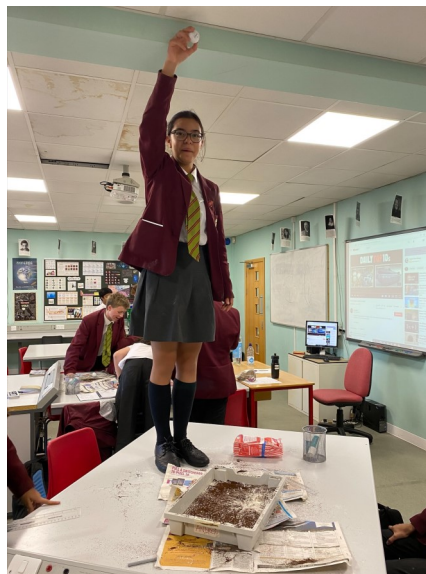
Chair: Valente Panattoni (Year 7 parent)
Treasurer: Susie Harker (Year 9 & Year 8 parent)
Secretary: Chavionne Richardson-Walker (Year 8 parent)
Debbie Geary (Year 10 parent)
Rebecca Gregg (former parent)

Clare Salters

Chair (Outgoing), The Friends of Saint Cecilia's

Astronomy Club Gets Active

In Astronomy Club a few weeks ago we were investigating meteorite impacts using flour, coffee and different balls. The activity involved a hands-on experiment and as you can see from the pictures, pupils got fully involved.



Charlotte



Isaac

Richard Leitch
Teacher of Science

Mixed Media Experiments

Year 10 have been working very hard on their mixed media experiments, trying to achieve texture and tone using a variety of drawing tools. Well done for such a great start to the year for both Year 10 Art and Year 10 Textiles groups.



Deya



Jack



Chukwudi



Bea

Stella Allan
Curriculum Team Leader for Art and Design

Year 13 Travel and Tourism

The Year 13 Travel and Tourism BTEC students visited the Natural History Museum this week as part of their Unit 9 assignment. They have visited two built attractions in recent weeks. During the study of their current unit, students develop analytical skills as they investigate the nature and role of visitor attractions, their commercial success, appeal, response to diverse visitor needs and the importance of delivering a memorable visitor experience.



Mr Jonathan Miller
Assistant Headteacher

Reports from the Rugby Field

YEAR 7

The Year 7 boys had their biggest victory yet beating Carshalton Boys 70-25, running in 12 tries. Try scorers were: **Spencer, Bertie, Noah, Leo, Dexter, Adam, Oliver, Nahshon** with 2 tries and **Amaru** with a hat-trick

The team played their best match yet, dominating the rucks, tackling across the pitch while problem solving how to stop the oppositions best players. An excellent effort.

Daniel Bowman
Teacher of Science

YEAR 8

The Year 8 rugby team have made a promising start to the season. To date they have played five matches, winning two, losing two and drawing one. Their victories have come against Carshalton Boys 35-20 and Bishop Thomas Grant 50-10. The draw against Rutlish was an excellent even contest with the score finishing 30-30.

The two defeats have come against Fulham Boys and Saint Benedict's, both very tough opponents who were organised and well drilled with some outstanding individuals. However, in both games, the boys kept going until the end and did not let their heads drop. A really great start to the year. Well done.

Christopher Luke
Teacher of Physical Education and Year Leader for Year 10

YEAR 9

Our first rugby fixture of the season was against Thomas Bishop Grant. We did not get off to a great start, playing as individuals, not as a team and quickly conceded quite a few tries. However, we did not give up, and in the second half the play was amazing and we won the game. We had pretty good rucks and tackles throughout the game. We won 40-20.

Our next game was against Fulham Boys. We started off strong and got two tries in the first half, but Fulham were just playing better and got five. Our tackles and rucks were very good and we won almost every ruck in that game. We just had to improve our speed to get the ball out to our wingers and use the space effectively. In the second half we started to do that and got three more tries. However, Fulham kept breaking our line on the wing with their size and power and scored four more tries. This game helped our team to get better by making us tackle bigger and more powerful opponents and to use the space more during game.

Our last game was against St Benedict's School. This school is very good at rugby (they had 10 coaches and heaps of rugby pitches that they play on every day) and they showed us how practice makes perfect. During the first half we were getting smashed - our opponent was amazing at getting the ball out to space very quickly and their runners were massive. They were breaking through our line every time and the score was about 35 – 0 to them at the end of the first half. At the start of the second half we were focused and ready to play. Our tackling and rucking was much better and we had the ball most of the time. We didn't score a try in the whole of the game but we were getting every tackle, and every ruck was strong. However, the opponent was better than us and the score was 60-0 at the end of the game. Our team learned so much during that game. We also enjoyed the post match pizza rolls and juice. We are all getting better as a team gradually and are looking forward to the game against Rutlish school on the 11th November.

Report written by **Alex** (Year 9)

YEAR 10

The Year 10 rugby team have had a promising first half term. They have played five games to date winning three of them, against Fulham Boys, Bishop Thomas Grant and Carshalton boys and losing two against strong opposition from St Benedict's and The London Oratory School.

Attached is a photo of the squad from this week's game against St Benedict's, where the boys produced their strongest performance of the season and lost narrowly 19-12.

Christopher Luke
Teacher of Physical Education and Year Leader for Year 10



Year 7 and Year 8's turn to continue the School's Winning Streak



Imogen Hamel
Teacher of PE

Last Thursday the Year 7 A netball team and the Year 8 A netball team both won against Southfields Academy. Amazing results from both teams. As you can see from the scores, they didn't let the opposition feature on the score board!

Year 7 A team beat Southfields Academy 15 - 1 and Year 8 A team beat Southfields Academy 20 - 0

Year 7 A team:

Abi (Captain), Naomi, Tehya, Lucy, Gaby, Evie, Yvette and Martine.

Player of the match in Year 7 was **Lucy**.

Year 8 A team:

Hannah, Nyah, Zara, Ana, Lucy, Elizabeth, Talia (Captain) and Alexia. Player of the match in Year 8 was **Lucy**.

Year 11 Football Tournament

Year 11 football A and B teams attended a local tournament this week on Wednesday and worked really hard.

Y11 A-Team, **Jonathan, Elly, Felix, Jacob, Archie, Josh, George**, drew two games (both 0-0) and lost one (1-0)

Y11 B-Team, **Kai, Josh, Kyron, Jazib, Ezekiel, Michael, Nad-E-Ali**, won one (2-0), with Jazib and Ezekiel on the score sheet, drew two (0-0) and lost one (2-0), which was the 3rd/4th playoff.

Emmanuel Asamoah-Mensah
Pupil Support Manager and Year 7 Mentor



Year 7 & 8 Girls' Football Tournament



The Year 7 and 8 Girls' football team performed amazingly well this week in a local tournament in what was their first time playing together competitively. They won four matches (against Southfields, SJBC, Ashcroft, and Burntwood) and lost one against Graveney school.

We came second overall and unfortunately there wasn't time to play a final. All the girls came away with a silver medal. They should be extremely proud of their performance and their attitude.

Pictured: Back Row (L-R): **Brooke, Zara, Renae, Yvette, Alexia, Aurelia**
Front row (L-R): **Naomi, Angel, Ella, Sharon and Lucy**

Alex Shoderu
School Chaplain and Girls' Football Coach

French Pop Video Competition

Martha, Grace and Heejin received their £80 book vouchers after winning the regional competition for their French Pop Video competition. This annual competition was run by the Institut Francais and had 61 entries. The French singer Clémentine March, who was one of the judges, also offered an autographed CD to Heejin as she was very impressed by her performance of "Je chanterais de joie". Their entries can be watched here: <https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLE5zV1eHIMCMS-KC60w6yvGhhS4Bb2GDg4>



Heejin



Martha and Grace

Sylvia Basilious
Interim CTL Modern Foreign Languages

Cross Country Champions

On Thursday we had the Wandsworth Cross-Country Race on Tooting Common, where we had over 40 students representing the school. There were some superb individual performances, with a bronze medal for **Charlie** and a gold medal for both **Grace** and **Jack** in Year 10 for winning their races.

We are awaiting team results for this race, but they are looking promising, thanks to some great races by every year group.

The 'Inter boys' cross country team from last Monday came in the top three overall in the ESAA cross country cup, meaning they have qualified for the Regional Finals on Saturday 13th November. A great achievement by all the boys (**Jack, Charlie, Jack, Barnaby, George and Barnabas**).

Pictured: **Charlie, Grace and Jack**

Harriet Field
Teacher of PE



SIMS Parent App

We understand that some parents are still having difficulty activating their SIMS Parent App. Please [click here](#) to follow step by step instructions.

Siew Kheng Arbuthnott
Data Manager

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Adventures

We have finally completed all DofE expeditions, and all groups whose awards were disrupted due to COVID have caught up and are now back on track. We recently spent some time in the Surrey Hills with the Year 10s doing their Bronze Expedition and were blessed with good weather, no rain and great cooperation and effort by all.

Pupils made a range of food while at camp, from pot noodles to a huge bowl of hot dogs. This is the first trip we decided to hold a 'Masterchef' competition and this certainly did not disappoint! **Levi, Isaac, Evie, and Darcey's** group made ramen, including making their own broth, chopping carrots and peppers and adding noodles – impressive!

The pupils played a fun game of Manhunt, and slept peacefully under the stars. They even left camp early the next day because they were so willing to get up and get organised for the journey home.

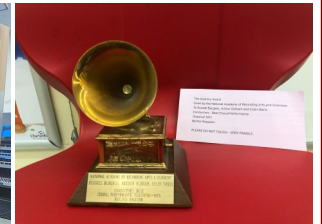
I am so proud of this cohort for their resilience and positivity and I hope that more decide to continue onto their Silver Award. Congratulations to Year 10s!



Rachel Skinner
Interim ACTL of Science, Turing House Leader and Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator

Old Wandsworthian's Dinner

On Saturday evening, the school hosted the annual reunion of the Old Wandsworthian's School Choir. The choir were world renowned, performing across Europe and even winning a Grammy for Best Choral Performance in 1971. The former boys school closed in 1991 with Saint Cecilia's opening on its grounds in 2003. Close ties have been built with the Old Wandsworthians, including hosting their annual choir reunion, holding a Remembrance Service each year and the Old Wandsworthians funding the prize for the HR King award at Presentation Evening. Five of our Sixth Formers (pictured: **Ignatius, Joseph, Isabelle, Olivia and Sophia**) expertly served the dinner and were a credit to the school.



Dave Cobb
Business Manager

Upcoming Event Reminders

- **Monday 1st November:** school resumes after half term
- **Thursday 4th November:** Surrey Storm Trials 1.00—3:00pm, Surrey Sports Park, Guildford, GU2 7EA (transport from Saint Cecilia's at 12pm)