



Message from the Headteacher

'Trust in the Lord your God with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and He will make your paths straight'

Proverbs 3:5-6

Dear Parents and Carers,

One of the most rewarding aspects of headship is to be able to meet pupils face to face, and personally thank them doing so well at school. Often it's a quick 'well done' in the corridor, but last week I was able to have a proper sit-down tea with Year 8 pupils, nominated by their Year Leader for being excellent Upstanders in the school community and beyond. Well done to **Lili, Talia, Hannah, Florence, Miranda, Weronika, Arianna, Atina, Fareeha, Phoebe, Diana, Cristina, Amelie, Martha, Mairead, Andrea, Harriet, Jacob, Robert, Dominic, Shane, Kareem, Tim, Lucas, Freddie, Casper** and **Daniel**. **Robert** and **Tim** were nominated, but were too busy to attend, as they were representing the school at Southwark Cathedral!

The very popular Saint Cecilia's Bake-Off house competition was back, raising money for the school charity, YoungMinds. House Leaders chose the best cakes from their respective houses to go into the finals, giving me the very difficult task of

choosing an overall winner. I would happily have paid money to eat a slice of all the cakes that made it to the final, however there can be only one winner, and that was **Betty** in Year 7, baking for Carter House.

Finally, I am delighted our links with the community are getting stronger each term. On Wednesday, we welcomed guests to our very first School Experience Day. The aim of the event was to give the community an opportunity to observe the range of non-teaching roles in schools and experience school life. I hope events like this will help us continue to recruit high quality staff and volunteers, to support all the young people in school.

I wish you all have a lovely week.

God bless,

Renata Joseph
Headteacher

Chaplain's Corner

'Dishonest wealth will dwindle, but what is earned through hard work will be multiplied'

Proverbs 13:11

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this find you well and you had a good bank holiday weekend. This week at school we were talking about money - more specifically, wisdom for finances.

The Bible warns about the very real temptation to make money through dishonest means. Even if you do, it will dwindle away! We've tried to be clear on this with pupils and students by emphasising that those who make money in illicit ways won't be able to enjoy it. They will never have peace of mind or a clear conscience. Money can't buy peace or happiness!

However, we've also tried to be clear that having money or being rich is not a bad thing. The verse goes on to say, *'what is earned through hard work will be multiplied.'* Our message has been that hard work starts now if you want to lay good foundations for your future.

Another verse in Proverbs says, *'A good name [earned by honourable behaviour, godly wisdom, moral courage, and personal integrity] is more desirable than great riches'* (Proverbs 22:1). Therefore, the challenge also remains for all of us to think about whether we are making choices that will lead to a good name in future, or making choices that are short-sighted with only temporary rewards.

I hope you will be encouraged to pick up on these themes for discussion with your child whenever you get a chance.

Blessings to you in this new week.

Amen.

Alex Shoderu
School Chaplain

Sami and Mehdi receive a Royal Handshake!



What an amazing and unforgettable moment for **Sami** and **Mehdi** when they met HRH Prince Charles on Tuesday 3rd May! The twins in Year 7 have been engaged with RCM Sparks, The Royal College of Music's learning and participation programme, since 2016. They have attended over 26 events to date and were accepted onto the Sparks Juniors pathway in Spring 2019. This fully-funded programme of musicianship includes lessons taught by experienced teachers and supported by trained Royal College of Music undergraduate students. In September 2021 **Mehdi** achieved a full place at RCMJD, studying the bassoon and **Sami** achieved an associate member place in 2021 playing the cello and has successfully auditioned for a full RCMJD place starting in September 2022.

Both boys met the Prince, President of RCM, when he visited the college.

Following this prestigious occasion, the boys said,

"Prince Charles was friendly and was encouraging. He told my mum she must be very proud of the two of us." **Sami**

"It was great meeting Prince Charles, although I felt quite nervous. He said "well done" to my brother and me." **Mehdi**

John Wells

Curriculum Team Leader for Music

Leading Prayers in the Community



On Wednesday 4th May, following on from the fundraising for the Bishop's Lent Call, we were asked to lead the prayers at the Thanksgiving Service at Southwark Cathedral.

These six pupils (pictured left) wrote prayers on different aspects of 'Home' and led all those in attendance from various schools across the Diocese in prayer. We were extremely proud of all our pupils involved:

Year 7: **Sharon and Gael**

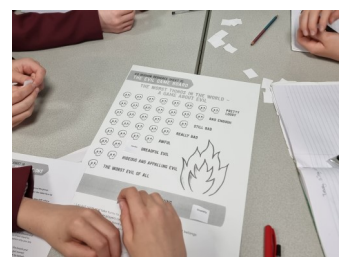
Year 8: **Daniel, Tim and Robert**

Year 9: **Olivia**

Alex Shoderu
School Chaplain

Religious Studies Corner

This week in Religious Studies some of our Year 8 pupils were wrestling with the problem of evil and suffering. Pupils debated with vigour as they ranked some of the most evil things in existence, having to justify their arguments with logic and reason. The game turned out some very interesting results, but a common theme was that money and greed were identified as root causes for a lot of wrong in the world today.



Kaan Cengiz

Teacher of Religious Studies

Insider Intel on Life in the Sixth Form

We have held several 'Ask us Anything' sessions throughout the Spring Term for Year 11 pupils, so they can meet our current Year 13s on an informal basis. In the Sixth Form common room over free coffees, soft drinks and snacks, pupils were able to ask current Sixth Formers all their burning questions so that they could get first-hand knowledge of what life in the Sixth Form is really like, both academically and socially.

These sessions have been extremely popular with both year groups, so much so that we will repeat them on an annual basis. The following were responses from some of the Year 13 students:

Judah: *"It was a privilege to help guide our Year 11 into making the right post-16 choice by staying at Saint Cecilia's."*

Lydia: *"It was a really good experience to have these productive conversations about life in our Sixth Form. They had some really thoughtful questions."*

Dereiss: *"These sessions were extremely beneficial. We got to understand what the Year 11 pupils really wanted to know about Sixth Form life here at Saint Cecilia's and we were able to answer all their queries."*

Paul Bishop
Assistant Headteacher, Director of Sixth Form

Artist of the Week

Year 9 pupils are exploring front cover designs this term. They will include a face or figure in their final design, so this week, they revisited drawing features and proportions of the face by drawing themselves using a mirror. In her drawing, **Jessica** used line and shading to create a lively, expressive self-portrait. **Jessica** has a passion for art and this shows in her work. **Jessica** is our Artist of the Week.



Sarah Mulvey
Teacher of Art and Design

Bronze Duke Of Edinburgh's Award Trip

Thursday 12th May is the big day for our Year 9 pupils embarking on their first DofE trip. We wish them glorious weather and fun while they walk in the lovely South Downs!

Parents and carers should please ensure all equipment required is packed and that they have adequate footwear as per the DofE website (www.dofe.org) so they can be certain to have a great and safe trip.

Rachel Skinner
Interim ACTL of Science, Turing House Leader, and Duke of Edinburgh's Award Co-ordinator

Basketball Success

We are delighted to announce that **Jonathan** in Year 11 has been selected to represent Wandsworth in the London Youth Games at the Copper Box Arena, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park on 21st May. He went through three selection evenings and has been chosen to play in the starting five. This is a huge achievement and is the result of his hard training and dedication.



Alex Bishop
Interim Assistant Headteacher

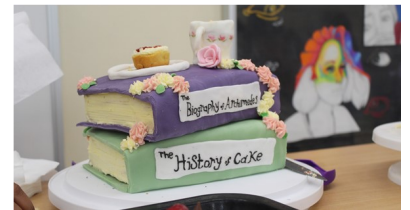
Saint Cecilia's Bake Off

We were amazed by all the entries for the Saint Cecilia's Bake Off 2022. They were remarkably creative, inspiring and delicious Mrs Joseph had a hard time trying to chose a winner. We are grateful to our pupils and students for making such a great effort and, in doing so, supporting our charity. Congratulations to everyone and especially to our winners!

1st - **Betty** Year 7 (Carter)



2nd - **Ruby** Year 10 (Archimedes)



3rd - **Emily** Year 7 (Schubert)



4th - **Sofia** Year 7 (Turing)



5th - **Sophie** Year 9 (Ives)



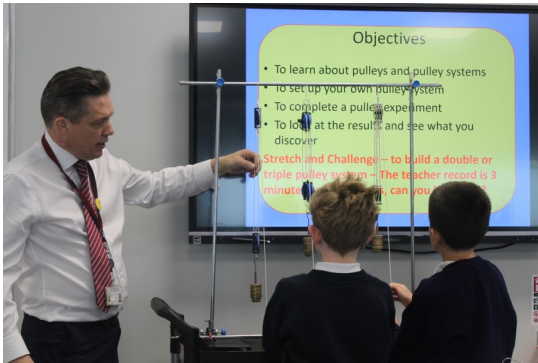
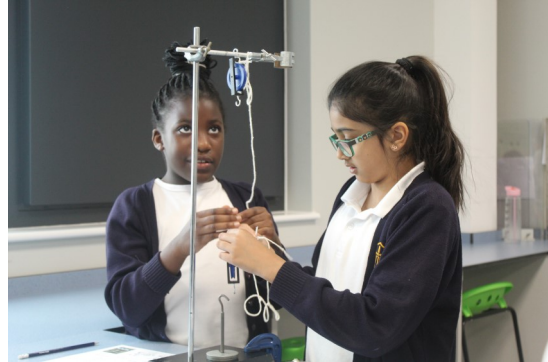
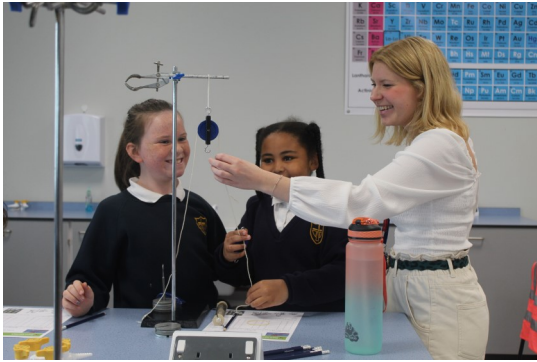
6th - **Elizabete** Year 10 (Newton)



Sara Navarro
Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages

Local Schools Enjoy Science Experience Days

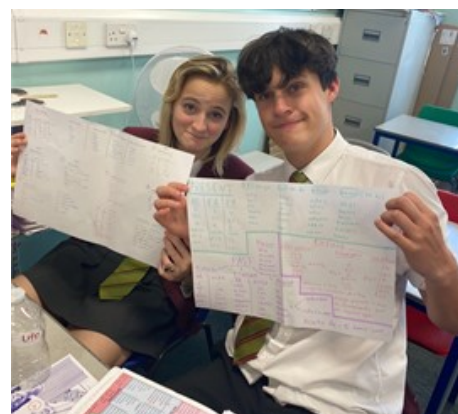
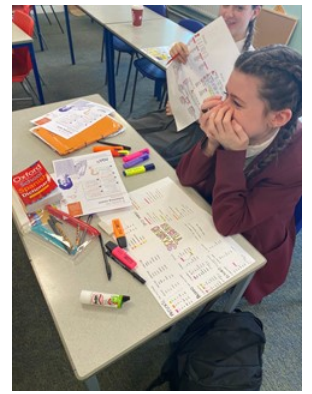
On Friday 29th May pupils from Year 5 at St Michael's CofE Primary School came to Saint Cecilia's to experience a science lesson. The pupils loved the hands-on lesson focused on weights and pulleys, and they were intent on recording their results accurately. Yesterday, pupils from St Mary's CofE Primary School came in to enjoy a similar session.



Paul Bishop
Assistant Headteacher

Year 11 Spanish Revision

Year 11 pupils have been revising for their Spanish exams since the start of this term and we are really impressed with their hard work and resilience after two years of disrupted learning. Some of them are going the extra mile, asking for A Level work already. These pupils are setting a great example for the younger year groups, and we couldn't be more proud of them. Well done!



Sara Navarro
Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages

Year 7 and 8 Amazing Athletes

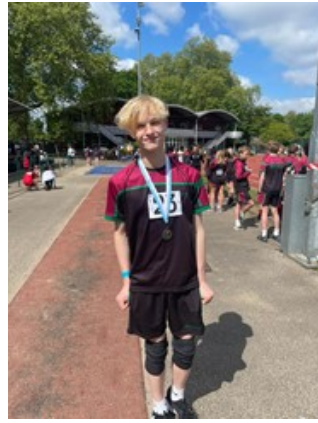
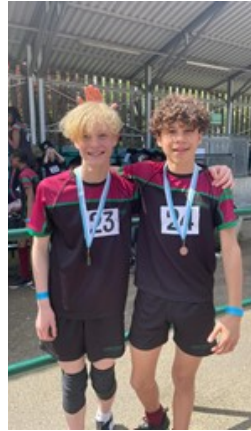
On Thursday 5th May, Year 7 and 8 pupils attended the Wandsworth Athletics Championships held at Battersea Park athletics track. The pupils had a fantastic day, both competing and watching the other athletes in all athletic disciplines. Our team performed well, with over 20 medals earned against a huge number of schools. The school did extremely well overall. It was an inspiring day for all and we look forward to what these year groups can do in the future.

Medal Table

Year 7		
Name	Medal	Event
Amaru	Gold	Relay
Henry	Gold	Hurdles
Henry	Gold	Discus
Henry	Gold	Relay
Nahshon	Gold	100 metres
Nahshon	Gold	Long jump
Nahshon	Gold	Relay
Spencer	Gold	800 metres
Tochi	Gold	Relay
Amaru	Silver	200 metres
Tochi	Silver	High jump
Bertie	Bronze	Hurdles
Otis	Bronze	1500 metres
Year 8		
Name	Medal	Event
Ella	Gold	100 metres
Ella	Gold	Long jump
Seb	Gold	Hurdles
Ana	Silver	Relay
Ella	Silver	Relay
Elizabeth	Silver	800 metres
Nyah	Silver	Relay
Tiwa	Silver	Relay
Ben	Bronze	Hurdles
Caleb	Bronze	Javelin
Ivy	Bronze	Hurdles
Martha	Bronze	1500 metres
Nyah	Bronze	100 metres
Sam	Bronze	100 metres

Harriet Field
Teacher of Physical Education

Pictures of the Athletes



Confirmed Term Dates 2022-2023

Term dates for the Academic year 2022-2023 are now confirmed and are on the school website. Inset days are now called Professional Development Days.

Autumn Term 2022

Term starts: **Thursday 1st September**

Professional Development Days (no pupils and students in school): **Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd September**

Monday 5th September: Year 7 and Year 12 only

Tuesday 6th September: All pupils and students return to school

Professional Development Day (no pupils and students in school): **Friday 21st October**

Half term: **Monday 24th – Friday 28th October**

Term ends: **Friday 16th December**

Spring Term 2023

Term starts: **Tuesday 3rd January**

Professional Development Day (no pupils and students in school): **Tuesday 3rd January**

All pupils and students return to school: **Wednesday 4th January**

Half term: **Monday 13th - Friday 17th February**

Term ends: **Friday 31st March**

Summer Term 2023

Term starts: **Monday 17th April**

Half term: **Monday 29th May - Friday 2nd June**

Professional Development Day (no pupils and students in school): **Friday 7th July**

Term ends for pupils and students: **Thursday 20th July**

Professional Development Day (no pupils and students in school): **Friday 21st July**

Term ends: **Friday 21st July**

Activities Week 2022 - Payment 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

Bookings are now open for Activities Week 2022. Please book and pay the first instalment via ParentPay.

Activities Week 2022 will take place between Monday 11th and Friday 15th July 2022 and will be 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. Full information has been sent out in a separate letter to parents/carers.

Andy Gillespie
Assistant Headteacher

Upcoming Event Reminders

- **Tuesday 10th May:** Celebration Evening at Saint Cecilia's 6.30-8.30pm - details have been sent out
- **Wednesday 11th May:** Business BTEC students are hosting a movie afternoon for Years 7 and 8
- **Thursday 12th May - Friday 13th May:** Bronze DofE trip