



### Message from the Headteacher

*'Everything is from God, who has reconciled us to himself through Christ Jesus and has given us the work of reconciling others to Him'*

2 Corinthians 5:18

From start to finish, last night's spring concert was another amazing showcase of the skilled young people we have at Saint Cecilia's. Impressive art work by **Victor** in Year 12 was displayed on the front cover of the programme, and a wonderful collection of performances by our talented and creative musicians and performers was enjoyed by all. A big thank you to the Music team, led by Mr Wells, who continue to provide opportunities for pupils to perform for the community. Next stop, is Fairfield Halls for the Brighter Sounds concert.

Family Safeguarding has arrived in Wandsworth, and we are proud that two pupils **Fareeha** and **Heather** in Year 10 and 11, offered to share their views on improving equality, diversity and inclusion for the whole community. The girls have played a major role in helping the local authority to shape services for young people, and are superb ambassadors for our school.

The Innovation Club has gone from strength to strength this term. Already through to the finals of the V&A National

Schools Challenge, **Patrick, Shaydon, Sophia, Tintin** and **Zach** impressed the judges and won Best Pitch. Photos, videos and interviews will follow at the end of term. Thanks to Ms England and Mrs Davis who are working hard to build on the success of this new club.

I was hoping to get to the end of this term without another mention of COVID-19, but alas that was not to be. Thankfully, rates amongst pupils remain low, however staffing levels are affected. If you are waiting for staff to respond to a query, they may be absent or covering for a colleague. I thank you for your patience.

We welcome a new Governor, Toyin Akindeko, who joined our school in March. Her biography is included in this newsletter. We will end this week with whole school Collective Worship; reflecting on reconciliation and the humbling sacrifice of Christ Jesus. As a school it has been important to return to such whole school events, and I am looking forward to seeing all pupils before the end of term.

God bless,

**Renata Joseph**  
Headteacher

### Chaplain's Corner

*'Everything is from God, who has reconciled us to himself through Christ Jesus and has given us the work of reconciling others to Him'*

2 Corinthians 5:18

Dear Parents,

I just wanted to use my space today to thank you for your support this term, and in particular with the Ukraine appeal last week.

Thanks so much for your generous response (see picture, right). A couple of colleagues and I packed two cars full of donations to the Polish White Eagle Club on Tuesday and it felt amazing to be able to play some little part in the aid response.

I will write more next week with regards to the Colours Day we are holding for the Bishop's Lent Call, but suffice to say, I'm always really proud of the way we respond as a school whenever there is an opportunity to help or give.

This captures a part of what Paul the Apostle means when he says in his letter to the Corinthians, about doing "the work of

reconciling others to Him," and I pray that this continues to mark us out as a school going forward.

Every blessing to you and your family as we draw close to the celebration of Easter and all that God has done for us in Christ Jesus.

Amen



**Alex Shoderu**  
School Chaplain

## Introducing a new Governor

We are delighted to welcome a new appointment to our Governing body, **Toyin Akindeko**. I know that she will be a hugely valuable addition to the school's Governing Body with her wealth of experience in HR and as a parent of the school.



### **Toyin Akindeko - Foundation Governor**

Toyin was appointed a governor in February 2022. She is well equipped for this position due to her operational and strategic expertise in Human Resources gained at Metanoia Institute and having worked within Higher Education and charity-based organisations for a number of years. Toyin has worked in HR for over 12 years, working closely with executive members and senior managers to ensure that the highest standards of excellence are adopted across all HR processes; she is also responsible for driving a culture of positive employee relations. Toyin is a devoted Christian and has a daughter in Year 7.

**Renata Joseph**  
Headteacher

## Maths Inspiration Show

Last Thursday, 35 pupils got the opportunity to watch the Maths Inspiration Show at the Phoenix Theatre. This included our Year 12 Maths A Level students and a handful of Year 11 pupils who attended alongside almost 1,000 other students from across the country. The show was hosted by Matt Parker and included three interactive talks given by renowned maths authors and online/TV stars:

Zoe Griffiths – *Maths in the News*

Tom Crawford – *How Maths Can Save The Planet*

Ben Sparks – *The Windmills of Your Mind*



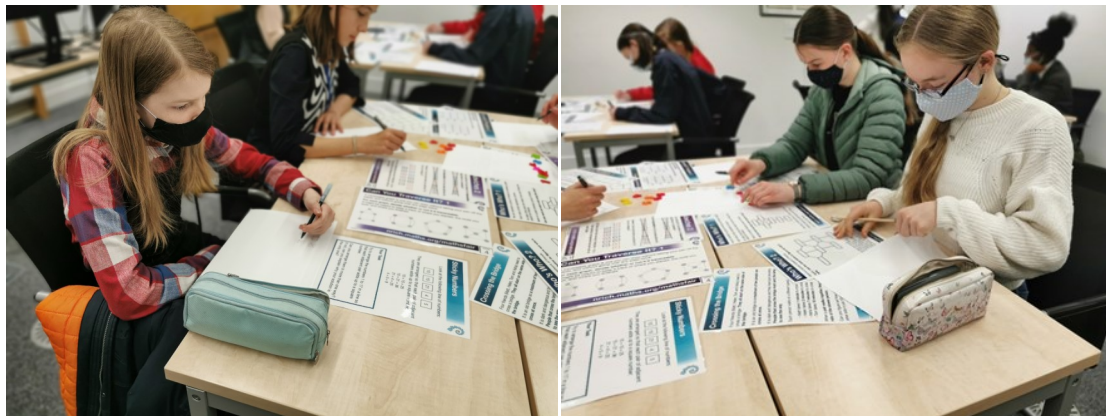
Pupils enjoyed the quick-witted show, and they got a chance to meet the speakers afterwards, ask them questions and get their books signed. One pupil in particular got the opportunity to express his gratitude to online star Tom Crawford and tell him that his videos “*were the reason I got a 9 for Maths GCSE.*”

**Megumi Davis**  
Teacher of Mathematics

## Oxford Maths Trip

Last Tuesday, The Mathematical Institute at Oxford University opened its doors to Year 9 girls from all over the country to encourage them to consider Maths beyond GCSE. After walking through the beautiful city of Oxford, the girls enjoyed a full day, which included a talk from a female astronaut, a deep dive into some crafty Maths by Dr Vicky Neale (a professor at the university), a hands on Maths workshop, and a student panel from the university. This was also a good chance for pupils to ask questions to the Admissions Officer who also gave an insight into careers beyond Maths at university.

Here's a report written by **Sophie** in Year 9: *"It was a very fun and informative day, and it made me a lot more enthusiastic to do Maths A Level! It was fun to do complex maths problem solving and learn about interesting things like parabolas, which are curves on graphs, that we made out of patterns in straight lines! We had a very good time and were talked to by a trainee astronaut and someone who had a Masters degree and PhD in Maths, as well as having a Q&A with students at Oxford."*



**Megumi Davis**  
Teacher of Mathematics

## Bake Off 2022 Competition

We are holding the Saint Cecilia's School Bake Off 2022 on Tuesday 3rd May at 3:10pm

Passionate about pastry? Fan of a flan? Ready for cake? We are encouraging pupils and students to get creative with signature bakes and win points for their bake's presentation!

Even if they are not entering, all pupils and students are invited to attend the 'Bake Off' and spend 30p on cake as we will be raising money for our house charities!

If they would like to enter, pupils and students should bring cakes and bakes, labelled with name and house to the Food Tech Room 0.14 by 8:40am on 3rd May. If pupils don't want to enter the competition, they can always contribute something to the bake sale.

**Sava Navarro Martinez**  
Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages





## Spring Concert

After a two-year pause, it was fantastic to return to live concerts at Saint Cecilia's with our Spring Concert last night (Thursday 24th March). It was fabulous to see so many parents and carers supporting our talented pupils and students. All the performers in Choir, Musical Theatre Club, Concert Band, String Group, and Jazz Band were simply amazing and all our soloists gave truly magical performances.

It was a delight to see all members of our very treasured Year 13 A Level music class - **Joseph, Judah, Louis, Nathan** and **Sophia** - taking part in their last school concert. **Sophia** did a very professional job as compere. Well done to everyone! The school and Music department are extremely proud of all the performers. Thank you to everyone who attended and took part.

We look forward to our concert at Fairfield Halls next Wednesday and future school concerts. A special thank you also to the wonderful Friends of Saint Cecilia's for providing the refreshments. We are always very grateful for their support at our events.



**John Wells**  
Curriculum Team Leader for Music



## French-speaking Countries Revealed

For homework this week, Year 7 French pupils had to research facts about two different French-speaking countries. They could choose from any of the 29 countries where French is the official language. Here are some of the best pieces of work displaying information about Belgium, Switzerland, Canada, Guadeloupe, Algeria, Madagascar, Monaco, Morocco and Laos.



**Sylvia Basilious**  
Interim Curriculum Team Leader Modern Foreign

Back: Eliza, Siena, Bea, Will, Sami and Mehdi  
Front: Sanika and Ava

## Artist of the Week



This week, my artist of the week, with this fabulous self-portrait, is **George** in Year 7. In this project, Year 7 have explored work by Frida Kahlo and the Fauves, have learnt facial proportion, how to use colours to express emotions and create shade and tone. **George** has used oil pastels and watercolour. Well done!

**Victoria England**  
Teacher of Art and Design

## More Year 9 Lino

A further wonderfully talented example of lino printing from Year 9 by **Patrick**.



**Stella Allan**  
Curriculum Team Leader for Art and Design

**Patrick**

## Astronomy Club



For the past few weeks in Astronomy Club, pupils have been investigating rockets. They have learnt about the basic physics which makes them work: Newton's 3<sup>rd</sup> Law (for every action there is an equal but opposite reaction). Pupils have been able to explore this law by using water rockets, ethanol whoosh rockets, stomp rockets and pop rockets.



**Richard Leitch**  
Teacher of Science

## A Place to Call Home



Ten Year 7 pupils visited the 'A Place To Call Home' exhibition on Monday 21st March. The exhibition in Southside Shopping Centre has been a wonderful art journey created by 2,000 pupils from various Wandsworth schools working together to respond creatively to the feeling of community. It's the first time pupils have had their work publicly exhibited. The exhibition has been open to everyone in the local area to see, as well as schools to visit.

Year 7 pupils **Nathan, Emily, Evelyn, Akili, Tammy, Phoebe, Sadie, Zach, Evie** and **Alice** worked with the project lead on-site in an art workshop, where they found inspiration from artwork to draw from, listened to sound installations and discussed community and what it meant to them. Well done to all who participated. If you manage to see the exhibition, please let us know how what you think. The project has been such a positive experience of working together creatively.

**Stella Allan**  
Curriculum Team Leader for Art and Design



## Netball News - Watching the super stars in action



On Monday 21st March our Year 11 and 12 netball girls went to watch Superleague netball team Surrey Storm play Wasps at Surrey Sports Park. The tickets were given to our pupils thanks to our senior netball partnership with Surrey Storm. On arrival the girls were invited into the 'fan-zone' where they played lots of interactive games.

As we took to our seats, the girls cheered on the Surrey Storm players as they ran onto the court. It was a tight and exciting game, with one goal difference in the last quarter. The Surrey Storm squad pulled ahead to win the game. After the match, the girls had the opportunity to meet all the Surrey Storm players for photos and signatures. An inspiring and fun evening out for our Year 11 and 12 girls!

**Harriet Field**  
Teacher of PE

## Year 7 and 8 Netball Tournament

On Thursday 24th March, the Year 7 and 8 teams played in a tournament against one another to finish off a fantastic netball season. Both the Year 7 and 8 girls were excited yet nervous to play one another. Some of the games were extremely close, as highlighted by the final scores. A special mention to the Year 7A team for winning against the Year 8As. What an achievement!

Scores:

7A v 8A 7-5  
7B v 8A 5-5  
7C v 8B 9-1  
7D v 8B 16-0

Players of the match:

7A - **Martine**  
7B - **Mary-Joy**  
7C - **Sharon**  
7D - **Cara**

8A - **Hannah**  
8B - **Raya**

**Imogen Hamel**  
Teacher of PE





## Netball News - Years 10 and 11



On Thursday 24th March, the Year 10 and 11B netball teams played away at Ricards Lodge, narrowly losing 13-12. The girls had a slow start to the game with too many unforced errors, but closed the gap in the second half. Well done to **Samara** for being selected as Player of the Match. It was a beautiful sunny afternoon, and there was a great atmosphere in their final match of the year. Well done to all, and well done for attending before school practice each week through rain and sun!

Congratulations to: **Amanda, Angeles, Darcey, Drew, Josephine, Jessica, Issy, Melody, Rhianna, Roschele, Samantha, Samara, Sienna** and **Tori**.

**Harriet Field**  
Teacher of Physical Education

## Rugby Sevens - 1st VII

On Tuesday 22nd March, the 1st VII played in the prestigious Rosslyn Park National Schools Sevens tournament. The boys played three top quality and extremely physical matches. The first game was against Leicester Grammar School, which the boys won comfortably 35-12 and were buoyed by their win. Unfortunately, they lost against St Peter's Roman Catholic School Gloucester in the last play of the match with the final score 17-14 and a try being disallowed (watch try 3 below). The boys were unlucky in their last game of the day against Glenalmond College as they were drawing at half time, but in the second half they ran out of steam. A special mention to **Turner** in Year 13; the tournament marks his final school rugby match having played for Saint Cecilia's since he joined in Year 7. Player of the Match went to **Maximus**. Please click here to watch three of the tries from the day. [Try 1](#), [Try 2](#), [Try 3](#)



**Alexander Bishop**  
Assistant Headteacher (Interim)

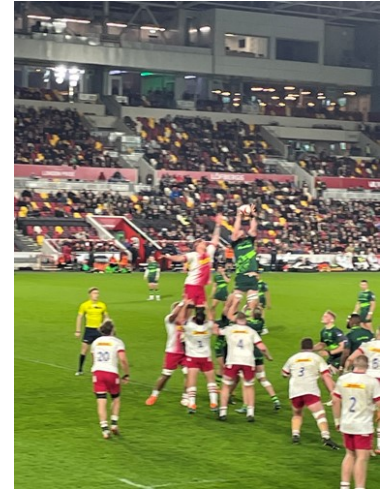


## Learning from the Experts - London Irish

On the evening Friday 18th March, the boys on our London Irish Programme were lucky enough to have free tickets for the Premier Rugby Cup match between London Irish and Harlequins at the Brentford Community Stadium. It was a very exciting game with a great atmosphere in the stadium and lots of friendly rivalry enjoyed between the two sets of fans. Many thanks to Alex Bishop for organising the trip.

Highlights of the match can be seen here [Game highlights](#).

**Joel**, Year 12, reports: 'it was a great fixture with London Irish victorious with the final score 34-19. We witnessed some amazing tries from the winning London Irish Squad. It was a good learning experience for us about defensive lines and dominating line outs and we admired some immaculate attacking plays that we can develop in our game. It was good to see some of our new boys attend, who seemed to have a really good time and got to know the squad a bit better. Overall it was a hugely successful night.'



**Paul Bishop**  
Assistant Headteacher, Director of Sixth Form

## Year 10 Rugby Sevens

On Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March, Year 10 boys took part in The Fulham Boys School Rugby Sevens tournament held at Barn Elms sports centre.

In their first ever sevens tournament, the boys adapted well to the different format and improved in skill and confidence with every game. Overall they finished the day in 3<sup>rd</sup> place, with notable victories against the hosts and St Richard Reynolds from Richmond.

Pictured: Back row - **George, Sam, Jack, Tom, Alex, Kamil, Olly**  
Front row - **Tyrelle, Kevin, Bradley, Olly B (Captain), John**

**Christopher Luke**  
Interim Curriculum Team Leader of Physical Education and Year Leader for Year 10



## Year 9 Football

On 23rd March, Year 9 played against Ashcroft Technology Academy.

Match report written by **Jade**:

*"We started the game going uphill and scored a very good, technical goal in the first few minutes of the game. Ashcroft recovered and scored later on in the first half and held us to a tie by half time, despite many good chances and shots on goal. However, in the second half of the game, we had the wind and hill with us and rallied to score six goals overall holding Ashcroft to 0 in the second half. Player of the match was awarded to me (**Jade**) and **Jack** who was a great goalkeeper and made a lot of great saves. Overall it was a good game with a lot of scoring. The final score was 7-1 to Saint Cecilia's."*

**Alexander Bishop**  
Assistant Headteacher (Interim)

## End of Term Arrangements 1st April

The term will end for Years 7, 8 and 9 at 12.10pm (the end of their period 3). The term will end for Years 10, 11 and 13 at approximately 12.30pm (the end of their assembly). All pupils and students need to make their way home as soon as they are dismissed. There will be a food service before school and during the 20 minute breaks, but no food will be available after 12.10pm. Year 12 end of term arrangements will be communicated by Ms Osborn. I hope all pupils and students have an enjoyable Easter break.

**Jonathan Miller**  
Assistant Headteacher

## SIMS Parent App

As a reminder, we have a school app called SIMS Parent App, which brings together key information about the school and your child's learning in one place. The purpose of the app is to improve communication and ensure that information about your child's learning is easily accessible. You can also provide updates to contact and medical details quickly and easily.

Information currently on the app includes:

- ◆ Activities information and updates (extra-curricular)
- ◆ Attendance records
- ◆ Behaviour updates
- ◆ Reports
- ◆ School communication, letters and messages
- ◆ School calendar
- ◆ Timetable

The app is available on Apple iOS and Android devices, via the relevant app stores, and you can also access the information via the website [www.sims-parent.co.uk](http://www.sims-parent.co.uk).

We hope to have all parents signed up to the app. If you are unable to create an account, please let us know, as we will continue to send messages via email, text for those who do not have access.

Please note that all absences are required to be reported to [reception@saintcecilias.london](mailto:reception@saintcecilias.london) or by calling the school.

**Sandra Page**  
Examination/Office Manager

## Library Request

There are a significant number of books that have not been returned to the Library (some since before COVID) and we would very much like to recover these for the Summer Term.

Please may we ask everyone to have a really good look at home for any school library books and to return them by simply dropping them in the box outside the Library.

There are no penalties for late books – but we would really like to have them back as soon as possible. Thank you!

**Rachel Goodhart**  
Library Assistant



## Upcoming Event Reminders

- **Wednesday 30th March:** Surrey Storm final trials 4:30 - 6pm at Saint Cecilia's Sports Hall
- **Wednesday 30th March:** Brighter Sounds Concert at Croydon Fairfield Halls 7pm
- **Thursday 31st March:** Year 7 Parents' Evening (virtual)
- **Thursday 31st March:** Years 12 and 13 trip to The National Theatre to see *Our Generation*
- **Friday 1st April:** End of term (early finish)
- **Tuesday 19th April:** Summer Term begins Week A