



Message from the Headteacher

It has been a busy final week to the half term, beginning with a visit from The Rt Revd Dr Richard Cheetham, Bishop of Kingston, ahead of his retirement. A former physics teacher himself, the Bishop enjoyed a tour of the new teaching wing and the opportunity to visit lessons. He was hugely impressed by the Q&A session held with Year 9 pupils, and their insightful questions addressing challenging issues such as 'Does God allow suffering?'

Sandwiched in the middle of the week was a theatre visit to see 'Hamilton', a trip to University of Sussex, Jubilee cakes in the Refectory and Year 11's farewell (for now) tea.

I had the pleasure of ending the week with members of the newly formed Junior Leadership Team, who helped governors and me choose a new catering company to run school breakfast, break and lunch services. **Matthew** (Year 12), **Sophie** (Year 9) and **Ruby** (Year 10) were impressive in their preparation and demanding in their questioning. With a focus on reducing single use plastics and waste, they were excellent advocates for their peers, keen to appoint the company most able to deliver high quality food, at a price their friends could

afford. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed tasting the different foods on offer, as each catering company competed to impress. I think they enjoyed being food critics for the day!

This afternoon, submissions to the Queen's Portrait competition will be judged at our Jubilee Scones and Tea party. The pop-up portrait gallery looks incredible.

I hope you enjoy the break and any plans you have to celebrate the Jubilee with family and friends. Staff and pupils will enjoy the additional bank holiday (that for everyone else falls within the half term break) at the end of the summer term.

God bless,

Renata Joseph
Headteacher



Chaplain's Corner

'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)

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our Collective Worship has centred on the theme of 'Wisdom' throughout this half term and I could think of no better way to end the series other than this verse: *'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).

James encourages us to put wisdom on our 'what to pray for' list. When it comes to making the big decisions in life we, as human beings, often only have hindsight to evaluate the wisdom of those decisions. But what if there was someone who is not limited to hindsight, but also has insight, foresight, and oversight over all time, history and over all peoples? That is exactly who the Bible says God is. What's more, James reassures us that God gives generously to all who ask.

It has been a real privilege in my role as Chaplain here to be able to pray for our school, staff, pupils and students concerning all kinds of issues, particularly in the last couple of years. It has been amazing to hear some stories of answered prayers; it's been great to have a God who is big enough and

cares enough to take all those things, and knowing that He will respond to them having all wisdom and all insight.

On Monday, we had the privilege of welcoming the outgoing Bishop of Kingston, The Rt Revd Dr Richard Cheetham to our school. I led a Q&A with him and our Year 9 pupils and my prayer for that time was that our pupils would glean wisdom for their own lives as they get to hear stories from his life and more than twenty years' service (see picture below). Our pupils engaged really well and posed some great questions.



Every blessing to you and your family over this half term break.

Alex Shoderu
School Chaplain

Year 13 Leavers' Tea



We are so lucky to have taught such wonderful students in Year 13! Last Friday marked their last day at Saint Cecilia's and we celebrated all that they have done with a Leavers' Afternoon Tea. The mentor team baked the most amazing cakes which were enjoyed by all, and some very amusing student awards were given out by the Prefect team. We wish them all the best of luck in their next endeavours.

Joanne Osborn
Sixth Form Year Leader and Curriculum Team Leader for Geography

Year 12 visit the University of Surrey

On Monday 23rd May, Year 12 visited the University of Surrey as part of their careers programme. They had lectures on university applications, student finance and personal statement writing. They also had a tour of the campus led by Student Ambassadors who were able to answer a range of questions. The University of Surrey also led a very informative session to parents on Thursday 19th May about the university application process and finance from a parents' perspective. If you missed this, there is a copy on our website. Please click [here](#) to view.

Joanne Osborn
Sixth Form Year Leader and Curriculum Team Leader for Geography



Jubilee Celebrations kick off with cake!

A huge shout out to our Catering Assistant, Jess, who went above and beyond to prepare these amazing jubilee creations for our pupils and students.



Andy Barrett
Premises Manager

Year 10 moved by Hamilton

Year 10 pupils had the fantastic opportunity to watch a matinee performance of *'Hamilton'* on Tuesday 24th May. It was a mesmerising show where the pupils were completely captured by the incredible talent of the cast.

If that wasn't enough, the pupils were able to enjoy a post show Q&A with the cast and have their programmes signed by none other than Alexander Hamilton himself! Year 10 were brilliantly well behaved and loved every second. What a great day for our students!

Pictures are taken with Jordan Frazier from the ensemble (right) and the star of the show Karl Queensborough, Alexander Hamilton (below).



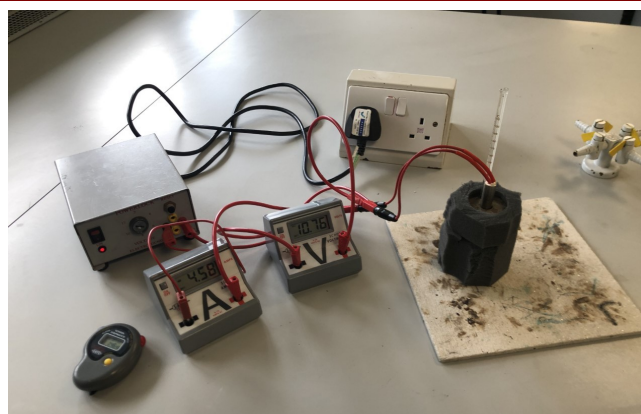
Sophie Mouland
Teacher of Drama and Year 7 Year Leader



Year 9 exceptional scientists

Year 9 have been learning the tricky unit of 'Energy' in science and it is impressive to see how they have embraced it. We recently carried out a practical to calculate the Specific Heat Capacity of different materials, a topic many struggle with. They have been fantastic since I arrived at the school on my PGCE placement, but with this unit they've really excelled. A special mention to **Amelia, Logan, TJ, Liv, Anand** and **Oscar** who have all engaged exceptionally well with the work.

The practical set-up for this experiment (pictured right).

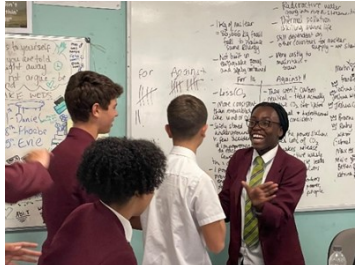
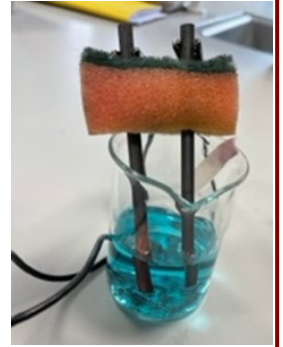
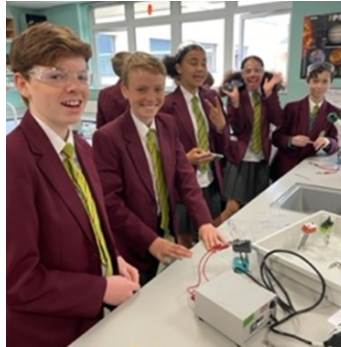


Huw Cross
PGCE Student Teacher

Exciting Science

Year 8

Pupils in Year 8 were 'shocked' when they saw shiny copper appear out of a blue solution! Through carrying out electrolysis, pupils were able to separate blue copper chloride solution into solid copper and chlorine gas.



Year 9

Year 9 enjoyed an 'energetic' debate about the use of nuclear energy. Pupils teamed up and argued for or against the use of nuclear power stations to generate electricity. Those who could not make up their minds had to listen to both arguments and be the jury. A shout out to our superb Judge **Faith** who efficiently maintained, 'Order! Order!,' as well as to our key speakers for the 'For' team **Frankie, Joshua G** and **Millie**, as well as our victorious 'Against' speakers, **Bethan** and... **Millie** again who switched sides midway through!



Year 10

There was no 'eye-rolling' in this Year 10 lesson, as pupils were fully en'gross'ed by dissecting eyeballs! Pupils carefully separated the layers of the eyeball to gain insight into the structures of the eye and their role in vision.



Becky Butlin

Teacher of Science and House Leader, Carter House

Science Club

Science club

This half term, pupils and students have enjoyed designing balloon rockets, using titration to neutralise antacids, and have created some effervescent portraits for our Jubilee celebrations!



Becky Butlin
Teacher of Science and House Leader, Carter House

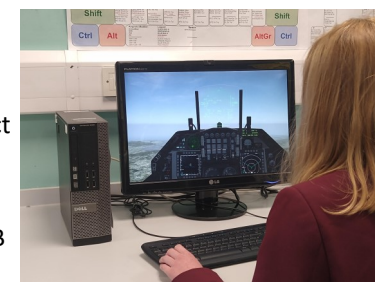
Virtual pilots take to the skies

A group of intrepid pupils from Years 7, 8 and 9 have been learning to fly high performance jet aircraft at Aerospace Club. Many have already completed their first take-off and landing. However flying these aircraft is not without its risks, several pilots have been forced to eject! The pupils have been familiarising themselves with the many switches and instruments in the 3D cockpit, a mixture of digital displays and analogue gauges. There are a vast number of keyboard commands to remember as well as checklists. Recently the pupils have been learning to start up the aircraft from a cold and dark state.

The study level flight simulator has been a huge challenge for the pupils, but there is a great spirit of cooperation amongst the club members. The dedication of the pupils who returned to the club this term has been fantastic. Incredibly most of the flying has been done without joysticks.

Aerospace Club is a STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics) project open to all year groups. We meet every Tuesday (early) lunchtime 12:15 -12:45 and after school on Thursdays 15:15 - 16:45 in room 1.16b.

If you would like to support Saint Cecilia's virtual pilots, you can donate any joysticks or USB game controllers. They can be handed into the school Reception.



Gyles Lambert
Learning Support Assistant



Exciting Science Continued

Year 12 Biology Field Trip

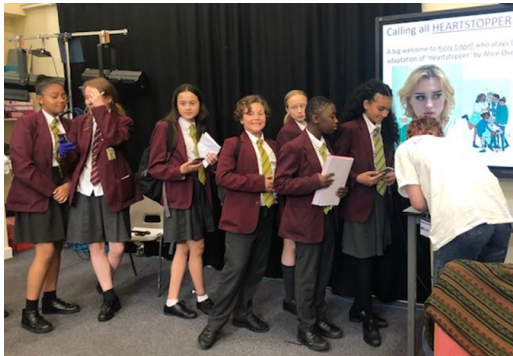
Year 12 were blessed with glorious weather as they visited Hyde Park's Lookout to conduct ecological studies and statistical evaluations as part of their A Level practical coursework. The students put into practice the different methods of sampling, conducted their own research using transects and investigated the biodiversity of a pond.



Becky Butlin
Teacher of Science and House Leader, Carter House

Netflix Star Visit to School

Kizzy Edgell, the actor who plays Darcy in the hit Netflix series *'Heartstopper'*, visited Saint Cecilia's on Thursday. This was a massive coup for the school! Pupils from all year groups were enthralled as they discussed their journey into acting, dozing off in hair and make up, what really happens on set and what it is like filming a hit show whilst sitting A Level exams. Kizzy answered all the pupils probing questions and graciously signed over 80 autographs. We await the second series with baited breath.



Victoria England
Teacher of Art and Design

Jubilee Art Workshop

On Monday and Tuesday this week, pupils attended our Jubilee art workshops led by Victoria England and Becky Butlin to create their competition entries for the Jubilee Queen's Portrait Competition. This is a competition led by the House Leaders and the Art department. Art materials were provided in order to help boost their creativity. Thank you to both teachers and Daisy Bernard who led the workshops with great enthusiasm. We have had over 50 entries, many of which are outstanding, and judging will take place on Friday 27th so we will announce the winners after half term.

Stella Allan
Curriculum Team Leader for Art and Design



Amazing Athletes

A special congratulations this week goes to our sporting athletes.

Following round one of the English School's Athletics Cup competition at the Linford Christie stadium, we had a team in all four age groups: the inter girls, inter boys, junior girls and junior boys. We have just been notified that all four Saint Cecilia's teams have qualified for the next round of the English Schools' Athletics Cup. The junior girls team and inter boys team have qualified for the 'A Final' at Lee Valley Stadium in June, and the junior boys and inter girls have qualified for the B final at Croydon track in June. This is a fantastic achievement to have all four teams qualify for the next round, particularly the ones who have made the 'A final' where they will compete against the best 12 schools in London at athletics.

Congratulations to the following Year 9 and 10 pupils for being selected to represent Wandsworth at the London Schools Athletics Competition in June at Battersea Park. This was based on their impressive performances at the Wandsworth athletics competition in June. It is a great achievement to have 13 pupils from Years 9 and 10 at Saint Cecílias being chosen. We wish them all the best of luck in the next round. We are excited to find out which pupils have been selected from Year 7 and 8.

Junior boys

100m: **Ashley**

200m: **Jade**

1500m: **Barnabas**

80m Hurdles: **Dylan**

Triple Jump: **Alexander**

Junior girls

100m: **Ella**

200m: **Moyin**

300m: **Isabelle**

Inter boys

400m: **Jack**

800m: **Charlie**

100 Hurdles: **Oliver**

Shot Putt: **Alexander**

Inter girls

100m: **Melody**

Harriet Field

Teacher of PE

Poetry Translation Competition - holiday reminder



This is a reminder that 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 Mrs Woodhouse before 15th July. Pupils can come and find me if they have any queries.

Please click on the attached link if you would like ideas of poems you could use:



[Prize Resources – Stephen Spender Trust \(stephen-spender.org\)](https://www.stephen-spender.org)

Sylvia Basilious

Interim CTL Modern Foreign Languages



CyberFirst Summer Holiday Courses




LEARNING

Want to do something that makes a difference this summer?

Are you enthusiastic about technology and interested in exploring and expanding what you know about staying safe online? CyberFirst's programme of free face-to-face and online summer courses could be just the thing to develop essential skills and bring a fresh purpose to your break.

The CyberFirst **Defenders**, **Futures** and **Advanced** courses are for 14 to 17-year-olds. You'll learn all kinds of practical insights into digital safety and how everyday technology really works. Course content will be delivered in our usual fun and interesting way, and you'll get to meet lots of like-minded students.

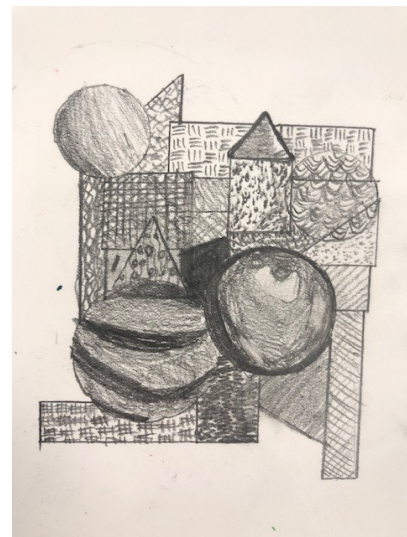


CyberFirst are running some excellent FREE summer courses to develop your child's expanding knowledge of cyber security and how to stay safe online. For more information, please click [here](#).

Tina Simpson
Teacher of Computing

Artist of the Week

This accomplished drawing by **Maia** in Year 7 was created in response to the work of Sonia and Robert Delaunay. The class had to draw an abstract composition made up of geometric shapes and then use mark-making and shading to bring the composition to life. Well done **Maia**, she is my Artist of the Week.



Sarah Mulvey
Teacher of Art

Year 11 Tea Party

This week we planned another little treat for Year 11s. Instead of assembly on Wednesday, they enjoyed a little tea party. We are really impressed with how well they have been coping with the pressure of exams and hope that they have a restful but productive half-term.



Mairead Gibbons
Teacher of English,
Year Leader of Year 11 & EAL
Coordinator

Great Library Book Giveaway



Over the past year, the Library has accumulated a number of books that are no longer suitable/needed in our stock. The Great Library Book Giveaway provided an opportunity to send these books to new homes. Bursting through the door of the Library as soon as the bell rang, Year 7 were keen to snap up the best of the selection. Limited to two books each, there was much angst about which to choose and it was entertaining to watch the deliberations and rationalisations involved in the final choices.

'Can I just take them?' 'Can I really keep them?' 'Please can I change my mind?' 'Do we have to stick to just two?!'

There were swaps and re-swaps, bargaining with others and many smiling faces, along with amazement and gratitude that they could, indeed, just walk out with these books and keep them! The second break was a more sedate affair but pupils from Years 9 and 10 were grateful that some stock had been kept back for them. Only a small selection of books remained by lunch time and these quickly found new owners as well.

Thank you to everyone who came and demonstrated such enthusiasm and excitement about books. Special thanks to **Levi, Darcey, Joe** and **Keto** for their help in getting everything ready.

Rachel Goodhart
Assistant Librarian

Open Days for Year 7 Admission 2023

If you have a child in primary and would like to attend an open event for Year 7 entry in September 2023, our dates have just been announced:

Monday 4th July 9am - noon

Thursday 15th Sept 5 - 8pm

Monday 19th September 9am - noon

Monday 10th October 9am - noon

These events will be ticketed so we can manage numbers of visitors to our school. Tickets will be free and bookable via our Eventbrite page. We will open the bookings in June 2022, when our new prospectus will also be published. Please join [our mailing list on our admissions webpage](#) to be sent an alert when these are live.

Please also share these details with friends, family or neighbours who are looking for secondary schools for their children.

Kelly Turner
Marketing

Work for Us: Finance and Admin Assistant Vacancy

We are recruiting for a new position at the school which might appeal to our parent and carer community, a part-time Finance and Admin assistant, responsible for providing efficient financial support and general administration duties. The role is term time only, 20 hours per week. If you are interested in the role, or you know of someone who might be, please visit our website [here](#) to find more details on the roles and how to apply.

Nicola Anthony-Jones
HR Officer

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

This is a reminder to 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

Musical Instruments notice

Due to a couple of issues with instruments being misplaced or difficult to locate, please can all pupils' and students' instruments be labelled with full name and home address (both inside and outside the instrument case). In the event of any instrument being misplaced or going missing, this really helps us locate and return them.

James Thompson
Music Technician

Upcoming Event Reminders

- **Monday 30th to Friday 3rd June:** Half term - school closed
- **Monday 6th June:** Year 12 Geography Trip
- **Tuesday 7th June:** Year 12 UCAS Fair at University of East London
- **Wednesday 8th June:** Year 12 Geography Trip
- **Thursday 9th June:** Year 8 and 9 French Trip to the British Film Institute, Southbank
- **Friday 10th June:** Year 8 and 9 Spanish Trip to the British Film Institute, Southbank
- **Thursday 16th June:** Astronomy Club trip (Year 9 and 10) to the Greenwich Observatory from 8.50am to 4.30pm
- **Friday 24th June:** Year 13 Prom at The London Rowing Club from 7pm-midnight