



### 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

I'm delighted to start by announcing that the winner of our first Chess Tournament, after six hard fought rounds, is **Sacha** in Year 11! Sacha managed to snatch a win from **Ermuun** in Year 7, who should also be commended for an outstanding performance throughout the tournament. I am very grateful to Mrs Megumi Davis who organised and ran the event. A great turnout from our pupils, who challenged themselves and supported their friends.

I recently met the Friends of Saint Cecilia's new officers and trustees who are committed to building on the strong foundations of the previous team. They are planning new events to draw together the parent body and to raise much needed funds for school. Do look out for their updates and announcements, and please support this brilliant team. To find out more about the Friends and how you can support, do get in touch with the Chair, Valente Panattoni, and the team,

via email on [friendsofstcecilias@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofstcecilias@gmail.com)

We introduced Ms Thenuka Mehendrarsa, our new Academic Mentor, to pupils and students this week. Ms Mehendrarsa will focus on Year 11, supporting pupils' core learning. This is only one aspect of our catch-up programme, and will complement the access pupils will have to the National Tutoring Programme, and literacy and numeracy interventions already running for pupils in other year groups.

The library continues to be a hub of activity, at the centre of life at school. Next week, we welcome back two former students, **Esmonde** and **Baker**, who are both successful actors on stage and screen. Full information on their session is below. And finally, I congratulate all eight pupils selected to be Ball Boys and Girls in this year's Wimbledon Tennis Championships. A fantastic achievement!

Enjoy reading about all your children have been up to.

Have a good week ahead. God bless

**Renata Joseph**  
Headteacher

### Chaplain's Corner

*"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

We are coming to the end of our Micah 6:8 series in collective worship with pupils and students. We've explored what it means to act justly, love mercy and to walk humbly with God. I know that House Leaders and Year Leaders have highlighted some well-known, and some less well-known, figures who have demonstrated these qualities.

For me, there is no greater person in all of history that epitomises those things than Jesus himself. In the lead up to Christmas, we spoke about the humility he showed in leaving all of His heavenly glory and His divine rights to put on human

flesh and become one of us. In the Gospel, we read several eyewitness accounts of times where He showed mercy: healing of the leper; raising the widow's son from the dead; protecting the woman caught in adultery.

When it comes to 'act justly,' I still find it incredible to think about how Jesus allowed himself to be captured, beaten, and crucified in order to take on the punishment we deserved, to pay the debt that we owed. It's been great to hear the reflections and feedback of our pupils and students on this series and I hope they will find the time to talk about it at home with you too. Peace and blessings to you this week.

**Alex Shoderu**  
School Chaplain

### The Return of Saint Cecilia's Star Alumni



**Esmonde**

The Library is looking forward to welcoming back two of our ex-students, **Esmonde** and **Baker**. They have both gone on, via different paths, to be successful actors, working on stage and screen. They will be heading up an informal talk for our pupils and students who are interested in performance options after leaving school.

Please encourage your child in Year 9 to 13 to sign up for this event as soon as possible as spaces are limited. It's from 3.15pm next Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> February.



**Baker**

**Susan Derby**  
School Librarian

## Year 11 Text Workshop

Year 11 pupils are preparing to perform monologues from play texts for the next GCSE practical exam in February, and Group 64 from the Putney Arts Centre were invited into deliver a workshop for performing monologues.

The pupils were fantastic and thoroughly enjoyed the session, taking on board lots of hints and tips from professionals in the industry about performing monologues. Join me in wishing Year 11 Drama students luck in their next exam!

**Sophie Mouland**  
Teacher of Drama



## Patrick excels at Python



A big congratulations to **Patrick** in Year 9 for completing his Solo Learn Python for Beginners course and also his Bronze iDEA (The Inspiring Digital Enterprise Award) Award in code club this week. These are both industry recognised Adult Certification Program Awards that he will be able to include in his future employment CV. **Patrick** is now moving onto the Core Python Certification program along with his Silver iDEA Award, well done Patrick.

Congratulations also go to **Katrina** in Year 11 who has been awarded her Silver iDEA Certificate having already completed her Bronze last year. Well done **Katrina**!

There are still spaces in Week A Tuesday Key Stage 3 lunchtime Code Club, so if your child would like to learn to code, please encourage them to come to Room 1.28 and join us. There is also a girls only Code Club on a Monday Key Stage 3 lunchtime Week B too! Please encourage your child to sign up for their iDEA Award.

**Tina Simpson**  
Teacher of Computing

## Textiles Trip

A small group of Year 10 pupils went on a Textiles trip to the Design Museum. The pupils explored the 'Waste-Age' exhibition, discovering how natural resources are being wasted, and the innovative ways scientists and designers are working together to develop ideas to recycle materials.

Pictured right: **Alice, Ava, Elodie, Emily, Katie, Lana, Maia, Matilda, Melody** and **Tori**.



**Victoria England**  
Teacher of Art and Design



## Competitive Chess Championship

A huge well done to all those who participated in our first whole school chess tournament. It was a fantastic day of great chess playing with a full turnout of 64 competitors. The comradery and support all the competitors showed each other was a pleasure to see throughout the day, as well as the support of the whole school. Well done everyone!

Here's what **Michael** (Year 7) wrote about the chess tournament:

*'On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 64 students went to battle and competed in the ultimate chess tournament (held by Mrs Davis). Throughout the day, students played what might be the toughest challenge yet. From Year 7 to Sixth Form, people won and people lost in many long games and some surprisingly short games. As people fought, surprise and relief came to students from our wonderful, talented school. By the afternoon, the tournament was down to the final four: two good friends in Year 11 (**Victor and Sacha**), a Sixth Former (**Matthew**) and Year 7 (**Ermuun**). The battle could have been won by anyone. After a tough match, one fatal mistake saw **Matthew** out of the competition and **Ermuun** into the final, who was overjoyed. Shortly after, **Sacha** managed to beat his long-term competitor **Victor** who was excited to see if his friend could make it all the way. After school, students and teachers gathered in the chapel to see the final match between **Sacha** (Year 11) and **Ermuun** (Year 7). After a gruelling 20 minutes, **Sacha** managed to eliminate most of **Ermuun's** pieces, win back his queen and trap **Ermuun's** king with his castle, delivering the final blow with his queen. Everyone really enjoyed the day and we hope it happens again.'*



### The Final



**Megumi Davis**  
Teacher of Mathematics



## Rosslyn Park Rugby Match Report



After a three year enforced break, our annual Friday Night Under the Lights community event at Rosslyn Park Rugby Club took place last Friday. Our First XV rugby team took on Fulham Boys, and were full of confidence after victory against them earlier in the season. The turnout was amazing with alumni students from as far back as 2014, parents, whole families, Sixth Formers and younger pupils filling the stand. The team played valiantly and led most of the game thanks to 13 points scored by our superb No. 10, **Maximus**. However two tries by Fulham Boys in the final few minutes took the game from us. The team met defeat with dignified disappointment and can't wait for the fixture next year. A massive thank you to everyone who turned up to support the team.

On Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February the Calm Cup Sevens Tournament was held at Ealing Rugby Club to promote mental health and wellbeing. Twelve students represented the school with passion and panache and were runners-up to Latimer Upper school. All 12 students represented the school with aplomb, but stand-out performances were by **Turner** and **Jake** who dominated the game upfront, and **Paul** and **Omari** whose stunning running skills helped them score a handful of tries each.

**Paul Bishop**

**Assistant Headteacher**

## Wimbledon Championships 2022 Selection

The following pupils have been successful at this year's Wimbledon Ball Boy and Girl trials (held last Sunday), and now progress to the next stages of training at the AELTC. We could enter eight pupils this year and all eight were successful! An amazing achievement!

**George, Charlie, Barnabus, Alex, Louis, Jade, Arthur and Robin**

We are very proud of all their hard work and commitment.

**Alex Bishop**

**Interim Assistant Headteacher**



## Netball News

### Year 8

On Tuesday, the Year 8 netball A team travelled to Harris Academy Clapham and won a comfortable 13-1. The girls had a great warm up and started well, with great movement in attack. Well done to **Nyah** for being selected as the Opposition's Player of the Match for her many interceptions, as well as **Muiread** in defence for bringing the ball through court safely. Well done girls!

The team:

**Alexia, Alexia, Ana, Elizabeth, Hannah Lucy, Muiread, Nyah and Talia**

### Year 10/11

On Thursday our 'inters team' played away against Trinity Academy. It was a tightly contested game where our pupils won 8-7. The start to the game was slightly scrappy, but the girls began making better decisions with their passing, enabling them to get ahead. Well done to both Coach's and Opposition's Player of the Match, **Samara**, for her ability to bring the ball through court with ease. Well done to all!

**Harriet Field**

**Teacher of PE**



## Cross Country



On Wednesday we took our top cross country runners to compete at the London Schools Cross Country Championships at Wormwood Scrubs. All the pupils ran well and were proud to represent Saint Cecilia's. A particular mention to **Sammy** in Year 8 who came 21st out of over 110 runners in a race with Year 8 and 9 boys. We are awaiting exact results for all our competitors. Well done to all who competed at the highest standard cross country race of the year. Well done to **Ava, Alexia, Bethan, Bethany, Charlie, Chloe, Isabelle, Jude, Kai, Martha, Sammy, Spencer** and **Thomas**.

**Harriet Field**  
Teacher of PE

## Fabulous Football - Tournament Champions

This week the Year 7 and 8 girls' football squad travelled to Plough Lane, the home of AFC Wimbledon, to take part in a 5-a-side tournament. After a tour of the stadium, sitting in the subs bench and in the changing rooms, the girls competed against four other schools. The girls were undefeated and won the whole tournament! A fantastic achievement. Particular well done to **Aurelia** for being the top scorer of the day!



**Harriet Field**  
Teacher of PE

## Upcoming Event Reminders

- **Wednesday 9th February:** Group of Year 9 pupils to see Blood Brothers at the Wimbledon Theatre 1:30 - 5:30pm
- **Thursday 10th February:** Year 9 Parents' Evening (Virtual) 5-8pm
- **Monday 14th to Friday 18th February:** Half term
- **Friday 4th March:** Quiz and social night hosted by The Friends 7:30—9:30pm @ Saint Cecilia's