



### Welcome message from the Headteacher

A very warm welcome back to the new academic year from everybody at Saint Cecilia's.

One of the great benefits of working in education and with young people is the opportunity we have each year to have a new beginning; to be able to launch new strategies, tweak what we do well and build on it to make it even better.

We are excited to welcome new pupils and families, new colleagues and new governors, and to see the change to our buildings.

#### A Level and GCSEs – A celebration of individual success

Results for both A Levels and GCSEs are well positioned when compared to national results.

At A Level and Level 3 BTECs:

- 44.3% of grades achieved were A\*-A
- 71.2% of grades achieved were A\*-B
- 89.6% of grades achieved were A\*-C
- 78.0% of BTEC grades were Distinction\*-Merit

At GCSE:

- Attainment 8 score is 55.37 compared to 53.4 in 2020 and 51.4 in 2019
- 83.0% of pupils achieved grades 9-4 in both English and Maths
- 58.5% achieved grades 9-5 in both English and Maths

The grades represent an overall improvement in results. Our young people have had to work harder, be more resilient and more focused than ever. With the support of their teachers and families, they have done tremendously well and should be congratulated for all they have achieved.

In Year 13, a large proportion of students won places to their first choice university to study a wide range of subjects and disciplines. This included Zoe to study medicine at the University of Birmingham and Scout to study Veterinary Science at the University of Liverpool. I am equally delighted that so many progressed from our suite of BTEC subjects to universities across the country, where they will continue to aim high and achieve.

A number of students achieved A\*/A grades across all subjects at A Level:

Basima, Halla, Wasil, Rebecca, Tomas, Eryn, Badger, Rudy, Felix, Joss, Scout, Grace, Caleb, Hector Price, Kim, Zoe, Ethan, Eve and Sophia.

In Year 11, the following pupils achieved a combination of 7s, 8s and 9s across all subjects:

Jack, Ruby, Joel, Jake, Sebastian, Leo, Mackenzie, Helena, Jude, Natasha and Alex.

I am incredibly proud that the vast majority of pupils and students have progressed onto the next stage of their education.



### Welcoming new colleagues to the Saint Cecilia's family

It is with great pleasure that I introduce the following new staff to the Saint Cecilia's community:

Raga Abdelkhalil – Learning Support  
Lucy Bush – Deputy Headteacher: Teaching, Learning & Professionalism  
Chloe Durkan – Learning Support  
Lorenzo Frassoni – Teacher of Science  
Rachel Goodhart – Library Assistant & Literacy Support  
Francisco Jiminez Aranda – Teacher of Spanish  
Jason Kigo – Teacher of Maths  
Joni Moissonnier – Teacher of Geography  
Lorna Noble – Teacher of English & Literacy Catch-Up  
James Owen – Deputy Headteacher: Curriculum, Assessment & Standards  
Sally Rose – Teacher of Religious Studies

There are also staff, who you will know well, taking on new roles this academic year to support the pastoral, academic and extra-curricular life of school.

Emmanuel Asamoah-Mensah – Pupil Support Manager  
Becky Butlin – Carter House Leader  
Sylvia Basiliou – Curriculum Team Leader for Languages  
Harriet Field – Archimedes House Leader  
Lydia Julan – Assistant Curriculum Team Leader for Languages  
Elise Mussett – Safeguarding & Welfare Officer  
Sophie Moulard – Year 7 Leader  
Sara Navarro Martinez – Pedagogy Project Leader  
Kamini Patel – Senior Science Technician  
Rachel Skinner – Assistant Curriculum Team Leader for Science  
David Sugden – Duke of Edinburgh Co-ordinator

### Building Expansion – Phase 1 completed

The hugely anticipated handover of the new teaching block took place in August, ready to welcome additional pupils joining us in Year 7. The new teaching block includes new History, Science and Computing teaching rooms, as well as a staff training room and additional pupil toilets. Now, connected to the existing main building, the new block has formed a beautiful landscaped quad, providing a quiet outdoor space for pupils and students to spend time at break. We look forward to welcoming the Archdeacon of Wandsworth, the venerable John Kiddle, to dedicate the new wing on 29th September. Plans are now underway with Wandsworth to begin Phase 2: the dining hall extension.

### Mission, Vision, Aims and Priorities for 2021-22

The Mission, Vision and Aims of Saint Cecilia's remain the same.

We strive in our mission to 'Glorify God, through outstanding, enjoyable education'. This is underpinned by scripture, where Jesus said, *'I came so that you may have life, and have it abundantly'* (John 10:10).

We have a vision to:

Enhance the impact we have on pupils' outcomes, experiences and their wider development  
Expand the opportunities we offer to staff to develop as professionals  
Extend our reach into and beyond our community

We are determined to maintain a **Great Curriculum**, ensure **Great Learning**, promote **Great Professionalism** amongst pupils, students and staff, and build **Great Partnerships**. Despite the disruption and uncertainty since March 2020, we strongly believe we have a vision, staff body and school culture which is able to support, care and educate.

Amongst other areas, this year we will focus on:

Christian Ethos - Readiness for SIAMs and the development of a chaplaincy team  
Great Learning - Catch-up and educational recovery: highlighting literacy, numeracy, healthy minds, sports and the arts  
Great Curriculum - Curriculum Review - what are we teaching and why?  
Great Professionalism - Safeguarding the most vulnerable post-lockdown and promoting the well-being of all our pupils

As we look towards the future, staff and governors at Saint Cecilia's retain a positive attitude and are excited to be able to offer pupils and students an abundance of opportunity.

May you all have a wonderful term!

**Renata Joseph**  
Headteacher

## Chaplain's Corner

*"For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it? I will make a pathway through the wilderness. I will create rivers in the dry wasteland."*  
(Isaiah 43:19)

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the new school year of 2021/22! I hope you and your family had a good summer break.

The theme and verse I have chosen for our first week back reflects the sense I have going into this school year. I'm sure you will have heard of the new building that has been added to the school, the new House (Carter) and the new Deputy Headteachers joining the Senior Leadership Team. There are many more 'new' things I could mention, but I'll finish with this one - your children will be going into a new school year!

In the midst of all the changes I'm aware of, I have a real sense of assurance that God is at work behind the scenes and underneath the surface to get us to where we need to be. There will be some in our community, both students and staff alike, who will be anxious about change, and I'd like to point to our theme verse for encouragement. In saying, '*I will make a pathway through the wilderness. I will create rivers in the dry wasteland,*' God is promising to be with us through any hard times we may experience in the midst of the changes.

None of us know what the coming year has in store, so we remain grateful for your partnership and support in prayer and in every other way, with the aim that Saint Cecilia's will be a school that 'Glorifies God through outstanding and enjoyable Education.' That's one thing that hasn't changed!

Peace and Blessings to you in Christ Jesus. Amen.

**Alex Shoderu**  
Chaplain

## Parents' Prayer Group

### Parents' Prayer - Special Invite for New Year 7 Parents!

Dear Parents,

Warm greetings to you and especially to our new Year 7 parents.

I wanted to let you know that we have a parents' prayer meeting that happens twice a term on Zoom and the first one of this new term and year is on **Tuesday 14th September**.

I would love you to join if the day and time works for you. Renata Joseph and I believe the inclusion of prayer has been one of the key things that has helped the school to rise above all the difficulties of the last couple of years, and we want to keep building on this in this new year. Please see details below:

#### Parents Prayer Zoom meeting

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September, 1pm – 1.45 pm.**

**Meeting ID:** 384 874 8823

**Password:** Romans832

**Alex Shoderu**  
Chaplain

## Sewing Star

**Bethany** in Year 9 won the Jack Petchey award last year and kindly donated her £250 prize money to the textiles department to be spent on a new sewing machine. What a wonderful example of generosity and school spirit!



**Victoria England**  
Teacher of Art and Design

## On the big screen

Airing now on CBBC—do not miss! Esmonde was a former pupil and student at Saint Cecilia's. He went on to study English and Drama combined at Birmingham City University and attained a double 1<sup>st</sup> in English and Drama combined. He is now a professional actor and voice-over artist, who can currently be seen in CBBC's 'Still So Awkward' and Apple TV's 'Ted Lasso'. His theatre credits include 'The Snow Queen' at The Park Theatre and 'Learning To Swim' at Criterion Theatre.



## Costa Coffee Café Open!



We are delighted to see the opening of the Costa Coffee Café in the Sixth Form Common Room. We know that this will be a welcome addition to the facilities we offer our Sixth Form students and our staff.

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

## Eco Efforts

As a school we are trying to make all aspects of the building and outside spaces as eco-friendly as we can and this will continue to be an on-going focus for us. The new classrooms achieve an 'A' rating for energy efficiency as they include solar panels, an air source heat pump (extracts warmth from the outside air to heat the classrooms), heat recovery ventilation systems, LED lighting and the latest control systems. We have received a Government grant for the main school building to add solar panels, an air source heat pump and to replace old internal lights with new LED fittings. The improvements should save £20,000 per year in energy costs and significantly reduce emissions.

We are improving our green space and have added bird boxes, bat boxes and bug hides to the 'green corridor'; the divide between the school and the neighbouring properties. A grassed courtyard has been created in the area where our temporary classrooms were located. We have over forty mature trees on site and will continue to plant new trees each year, so that younger trees will gradually mature to ensure a mixed (age and species) tree stock.

**Dave Cobb**  
Business and Development Manager



## Clubs Galore!

A club fayre was held this afternoon in the school refectory for pupils and students to sign up to clubs. A wonderful array of opportunities have been made available for pupils and students to get involved in. The variety available this term reflects the efforts of all our teachers to offer an abundance of opportunity to all children far beyond the classroom. The full list of clubs is available on the school website. To view the list please click [here](#)

**James Robinson**  
Assistant Headteacher



## School Space For Hire

If you are looking to book a space for a party, event or meeting, please bear in mind that the spaces at Saint Cecilia's are available to hire during the evenings, weekends and school holidays. We work with School Space, a local social enterprise, to let our spaces.

We have some great facilities including those to suit sports and a range of activities. If you're interested in a viewing or pricing, please contact [bookings@school-space.org](mailto:bookings@school-space.org).

To view all of the spaces available for hire and find information on pricing, please visit [Saint Cecilia's School - School Space \(school-space.org\)](http://Saint Cecilia's School - School Space (school-space.org))

**Dave Cobb**  
Business and Development Manager



## Additional Notices

We are ensuring that the website is kept as up to date as possible with school news. In the meantime, do contact us about your child's activities or achievements outside of school that you would like us to promote.

To do this, please email [info@saintcecilias.london](mailto:info@saintcecilias.london)

**Caroline Pyper**  
Marketing