

# The Week at Saint Cecilia's



**Saint Cecilia's**  
Church of England School

www.saintcecilias.london

Glorifying God through outstanding, enjoyable education

13 - 17 November 2023



## Headteacher's Message

*"Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on a stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your father in heaven." (Romans 12:4)*

We welcomed the newly appointed vicar of Holy Trinity Wandsworth, Revd David Simpson on his first visit to Saint Cecilia's. His position means he becomes a Trustee and Member of our school, and he is keen to make a positive contribution to the life of the school for the benefit of all pupils and students. I am looking forward to working alongside Revd Simpson both as a Trustee and member of the local clergy.

This week, my learning walk into Maths, Science, English and Travel and Tourism showed how focused pupils and students continue to be in lessons. No more so than Years 11 and 13 who are in the lead up to their mock assessments. We realise this can be a tense period for some, and hope the recent stress busting session for Year 11 helped to alleviate concerns and provide strategies for those we know might be most affected.

With the support of some great parent ambassadors, Care for the Family were back in school leading another workshop, 'A Mind of their Own,' and sharing advice and guidance on how parents can support their children's well-being. Parents who were able to attend are invited to send feedback to Mr Alex Shoderu, who is working with me to develop further support sessions for parents and carers.

Finally, it was my pleasure to join Teacher of Art and Design, Miss Daisy Bernard, on the judging panel of our Christmas Card competition. After much deliberation, I am delighted to announce that **Pablo F** in Year 7 is our winner and will see his design on the front of this year's school Christmas card. Well done to **Joanna C** and **Hannah H** in Year 8 who were close runners up. Packs of Pablo's cards will soon be on sale, with all proceeds going to support the local food bank at Home Café, in St Andrew's Church, Earlsfield. Have a lovely weekend. God bless.

**Renata Joseph**  
Headteacher

## Chaplain's Message

*"Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope. Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed; for His compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." (Lamentations 3:21-23)*

It was wonderful to see some of you yesterday at the parent workshop.

It was great to welcome the Old Wandsworthians again last Friday for the Remembrance Service and to hear them speak to our Year 7s about their school, which was on our site, as well as share some stories of former schoolmates who fought and died in the two World Wars. Here are a few pictures from the day. Special thanks to **Fareeha C** in Year 13 who was the official photographer for the event! Every blessing to you for the weekend and ahead.



**Alex Shoderu**  
Chaplain

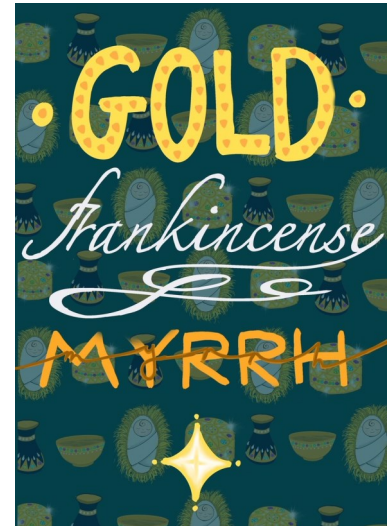
## Christmas Card Winning Entries

We were delighted with the number and quality of entries to our Christmas card competition and have selected our winner. Congratulations to **Pablo F** in Year 7 for the winning design! The competition drew entries from all year groups, in a range of media – digital, watercolour, collage and more. All entries were reviewed by the judging panel: Mr Alex Shoderu, Mrs Renata Joseph and me. Together, we selected a short list of three – pictured here – before choosing **Pablo** as our ultimate winner. **Pablo's** design will now be professionally printed for Mrs Joseph to send across the borough to churches, schools and organisations who have supported or collaborated with our school. There will be a small number of packs of these cards available to purchase through ParentPay, raising funds for the Home Café charity. More information about how to buy in next week's newsletter. Congratulations **Pablo!**

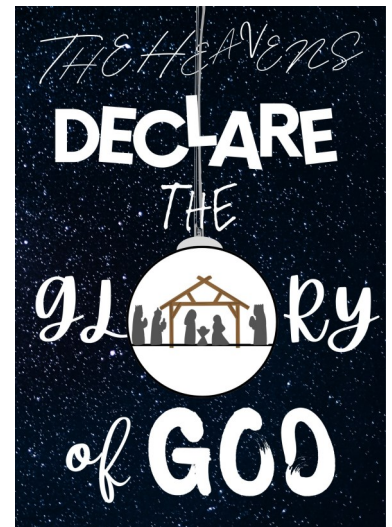
Daisy Bernard  
Teacher of Art and Design



Winning Design by Pablo F (Year 7)



2nd Place - Joanna C  
(Year 8)



3rd Place - Hannah H  
(Year 8)

## Artist of the Week

This week's Artist of the Week is **Alice J** in Year 11. Alice has created this realistic pencil drawing in response to photographer Dorothea Langue, capturing the sitter deep in thought. She has observed closely and worked hard to create an impressive piece.

Daisy Bernard  
Teacher of Art and Design



## The Friends Christmas Tree Sales

There is still time to order top quality **Christmas trees** at fantastic prices from the Friends of Saint Cecilia's, to help raise money for the school. The Christmas trees are extremely popular, so if you would like to place an order, please access this [link](#) by Friday 1st December. Prices start from £25 for a 3-4 foot tree. Tree collection will be on Saturday 9th December approximately 9-11am (TBC on 8th December) from Saint Cecilia's. Any queries, please email [secretary.friendsofstceccilias@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.friendsofstceccilias@gmail.com).



**Rebecca Gregg**  
Chair, The Friends of Saint Cecilia's

## Pupil Voice in Assemblies



Throughout the term, we have increased pupil voices in our acts of worship. Pupils and students in Year 11 and Year 12 have designed and presented segments in their house assemblies relating to the theme of the week. This week, Year 10 presented their mentor groups' thoughts on Anti-Bullying Week, many of them displaying well researched and thoughtful insights into what bullying is and how to best deal with it.

**Abigail S** and **Elioenai G** pictured left leading Ives house assembly.

We have also reflected on when 'banter' becomes bullying and identified ways we can be 'upstanders.' In Carter house worship, some Year 7 pupils delivered a series of role plays and asked the audience what was wrong with each scenario and what could have been done differently. Pictured right are **Eva B**, **Bayleigh G**, **Ryan S** and **Maliha D** in action, along with their House Captain, **Gwenie S**.

**Daniel Bowman**  
Teacher of Science and Head of Ives House

**Becky Butlin**  
Teacher of Science and Head of Carter House



## Wimbledon Writing Competition Winners

### Wimbledon Writing Competition Winners

Last year **Angel G**, **Joanna C**, **Eloise M-C** and **Jude P** (who is now at university) received a Highly Commended Award for their short story and poetry submissions to the Wimbledon Writing Competition.

Their work has now been published and is available to read in the Library along with the other successful entries from schools across London.

Huge congratulations to our pupils and students for all their marvellous entries.

I hope the success of their classmates will inspire more entries for the next competition in March 2024!

**Emma Rattier**  
Teacher of English



## Library News

### Poetry and Spoken Word Competition 2023

With such a large number of entries from Years 7-9, plus a handful from Sixth Formers and even a couple from staff, the judges had a big task to select the winners in our school's Poetry and Spoken Word Competition. We are grateful to Ms Tessa Lashley, Mr Emmanuel Mensah, Miss Emma Rattier and Mr Alex Shoderu for their willingness to judge the entries, and for the care they applied in scoring the poems. We are delighted to announce the winners:

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize** (£25 Waterstones voucher, 50 house points and name engraved on the Library shield)

**Senior: Nathaniel C** Year 12     **Junior: Joanna C** Year 8

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize** (A book and 25 house points)

**Senior: Grace E** Year 12     **Junior: Acacia D** Year 7

**Highly Commended** (10 house points)

**Senior: Ruby S** Year 12     **Junior: Zoe W** Year 7

If you would like to read the winning entries, please click [here](#).

### Book Fair

In a few weeks' time, we will be holding a **Scholastic Half Price Book Fair** in the Library, with more than 250 titles to view and purchase at half the marked price. Pupils and students may visit the Library now to find out more about the books on offer and about the competitions where they could win a £5 voucher to spend at the fair (which will buy them a book usually priced at £10). We hope many families will support the Book Fair as it also enables us to earn free books for the school. Please use [this link](#) to see a selection of the titles that will be available and for details on how you can pay. Please note that payments will be accepted from 20<sup>th</sup> November.



**Book Fair competitions**  
As part of the Book Fair we are running 2 competitions.

**Competition 1** – write a **book review** of any book in the Library.  
Minimum 100 words. You may illustrate this if you wish.

**Competition 2** – design a **poster** for the Library.  
Use your imagination to create anything book-related.

Entries should be A4 and emailed or handed in by Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December.  
Each pupil/student may submit one entry for each competition.

Two winners for each competition will be awarded vouchers entitling them to books worth up to £10 from the book fair collection.



**SCHOLASTIC**  
**COME TO THE**  
**HALF PRICE BOOK FAIR**  
and earn **FREE BOOKS** for our school

THE BALLAD OF SONGBIRDS AND SNAKES  
LONK DOOR  
WOLFE COPPI  
LIKA THOMPSON

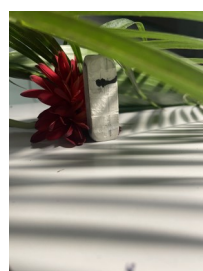
### Library Loyalty Card

It's never too late to start collecting stamps on one of our new loyalty cards but, after devouring a number of books over the past week, writing reviews and attending Library Club, **Simi A** and **Tom R** in Year 7 have both completed their first card within moments of each other! A most impressive effort!

**Rachel Goodhart**  
School Librarian

## Film and Photography Club

This week in Film and Photography Club we turned my art room into a light studio, experimenting with shadow photography. Using objects from the room as props, the artists got creative using lamps, flashlights from their phones and even a roll of cling film. It was great to see their original ideas and they created some brilliant outcomes. Well done photographers.



**Daisy Bernard**  
Teacher of Art and Design

## Science Celebration

This week we celebrated science. During mentor time, pupils and students considered some of the fantastic things science has done for us: developing life-saving medicines, creating dyes for our clothes, the technology for gaming or materials to enhance sporting performance. Their scientific knowledge was tested with the 'Under the microscope' picture quiz, that you can try too by clicking [here](#).

## Science in Action

At Saint Cecilia's, it's Science Day every day! Take a look at some of the practicals pupils and students have been completing in lessons, as part of Science Club and on field trips so far this year.



**Becky Butlin**  
Teacher of Science and Head of Carter House

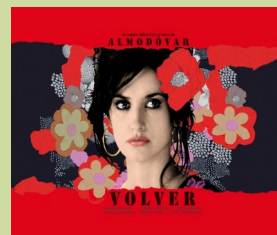
## MFL Update

### A Level Film Trip



On Monday this week, A Level Spanish students went to the BFI. They attended a study day to introduce them to the styles and themes used by Spanish film director Pedro Almodóvar to help them structure their answers in mock and final A Level papers. Conducted mainly in Spanish, the morning consisted of a clip-based presentation which gave an overview of Almodóvar's work including narrative themes, character archetypes, visual styles

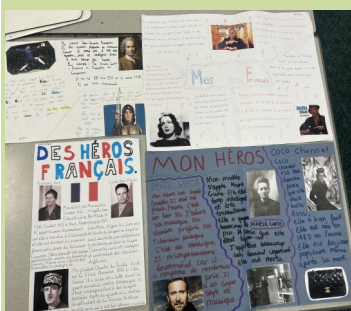
and influences, casting, and intertextuality. In the afternoon, they watched '*Volver*', one of his most famous films. Students really enjoyed the day and it will equip them with the vocabulary and cultural knowledge they need for their upcoming exams.



**Sara Navarro**

Teacher of Spanish

### Year 10 French Heroes



Year 10 pupils studied vocabulary to describe people physically and their personality this week. They have learnt about some French heroes who we admire such as Angélique Kidjo, Stromae and Audrey Tautou. Pupils created a poster of heroes that they admire from other French-speaking countries using their new vocabulary. The poster champions were **Meike G, Annabelle K, Petar V and Jasniq S.**

**Omara Muñoz Asensio**

Curriculum Team Leader for Modern Foreign Languages

### A la Carte Cooking

**Ruven K** in Year 10 was inspired by a French cookery book in our classroom. He took a photo of the risotto Milanaise recipe and cooked it that evening. What a wonderful example of application of French learning!

**Sylvia Basilious**

Assistant Curriculum Team Leader for MFL



## Sports:

### Senior Netball News

#### Year 11 Netball



A Team

Last Friday, Year 11A and 11B netball teams travelled away to Chestnut Grove Academy for their netball fixture. The A team won 20-3, with Player of the Match chosen as **Issy D** for her steadiness bringing the ball through court. The B team won 13-8 and Player of the Match was **Anabeth B** for her sharp shooting.



B Team

**Harriet Field**

Teacher of PE

## Table Talk: topics and questions from Religious Studies

This week I would like to update you on the Year 11's current topic of 'Peace and Conflict.' Pupils are learning the reasons behind the initiation of conflicts and exploring the consequences of conflict that arise as a result. This topic is primarily based on Judaism. Pupils examine Jewish attitudes towards conflict and Jewish teachings about peace, as well as other viewpoints. To develop understanding, we have discussed real-life examples of conflict, including the ongoing Israel-Gaza conflict, as well as previous conflicts such as the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. This will help them to gain a more in-depth understanding of global conflicts and to develop critical thinking skills necessary for navigating the complexities of the contemporary world.



### Discussion questions for the family:

- In your opinion, what are the main causes of conflict/war in the world?
- How can we ensure that we get a well-rounded view of conflicts from different sources/the media?
- How can understanding different perspectives help prevent conflicts?
- What actions can individuals/world leaders take to contribute to a more peaceful world?

### Recommended reading for your children:

Encourage them to read the news and keep up to date with the current Israel-Gaza war and the war in Ukraine. Also, look into other wars around the world that we don't read about as much in the news.

**Sally Rose**  
Teacher of Religious Studies

## Notices:

### Sixth Form Application Deadline: Friday 24th November

This is the final reminder that the deadline for pupils in Year 11 to apply for a place in our Sixth Form is **Friday 24th November**. To apply, you will need to access our applications portal. We sent an email to you and your child in October with the link to the portal, your unique username (which is your email address) and password. Please log-in using these details via the 'Existing Users' box on the right-hand side.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me on 020 8780 1244 (press 2 for admissions) or [svandermeer@saintcecilias.london](mailto:svandermeer@saintcecilias.london).

**Sally van der Meer**  
Admissions Manager

### Regenerate Youth Club Open Day

Regenerate Youth Club are a local charity and have come into school this week to talk to pupils and students. They are holding an open day on Wednesday 22nd November from 5.30 - 7.30pm at Ashburton Youth Club. Please click [here](#) to find out more and encourage your child to go along.

**Alex Shoderu**  
School Chaplain

### Upcoming Event Reminders

- Monday 20th November: Maths Inspiration trip to Cambridge Theatre
- Tuesday 21st November: Business Studies trip to Wimbledon Lawn Tennis
- Friday 24th November: Music trip to Royal Holloway University
- Friday 24th November: Deadline for Sixth Form applications
- Thursday 30th November: Year 8 and 9 Disco 5.50 - 8.30pm
- Wednesday 13th December: Winter Sounds Concert at Fairfield Halls. Details to follow.
- Thursday 14th December: Year 7 Big Little Sleep Out on the playground 5-7pm
- Tuesday 19th December: Carol Concert at Holy Trinity Church 7pm