

# The Week at Saint Cecilia's



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

www.saintcecilias.london

Glorifying God through outstanding, enjoyable education

4th - 8th March 2024



## Deputy Headteacher's Message

**'For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son...' (John 3:16)**

The term continues to highlight just how busy pupils and students are beyond their learning in the classroom. In this week's newsletter, you'll see exciting achievements and activities that have taken place, as well as a range of events our community can look forward to: Years 7-9 movie night, the highly anticipated annual chess tournament and a BTEC fundraising event for Years 7 and 8 pupils, just to name a few pre-Easter activities.

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our Spring Concert on Thursday 14th March. In addition to celebrating our talented musicians, we are excited to debut our brand-new state-of-the-art sound mixer. With 16 microphones now at our disposal, it promises to be a truly memorable event. This fantastic addition is made possible by the ongoing contributions from our generous parent community to the School Fund, for which I extend my heartfelt thanks. We look forward to seeing many of you there and hope you thoroughly enjoy the evening.

**Lucy Bush**  
Deputy Headteacher

## Chaplain's Corner

**'So then, my friends, because of God's great mercy to us I appeal to you: Offer yourselves as a living sacrifice to God, dedicated to His service and pleasing to Him. This is the true worship that you should offer.'** (Romans 12:1)

**Theme: Looking In and Out**

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have completed another whole school endeavour this week, with our Worship in the Community on Wednesday. It's made for a busy couple of weeks, but has left me feeling so thankful for our whole school community and the local partnerships we have.

In our Collective Worship this week, we continued our 'Lent from around the world' theme in house assemblies and broadened our focus to thinking about our world in the 'In and Out' series in year assemblies.

Here is this week's Easter themed poem:

### Forever Supper

We do this to remember  
Slaves set free  
Prisoners released from bondage  
Captives of fear made whole

We do this to remember  
A new land; a new home  
The promise of a future bright with hope  
The defeat of giants

That was then, long ago  
But now, as you remember then  
Remember me

Forever  
My blood is your freedom  
My body is your bread of life  
And you will follow me to  
A new land, a new home  
The promise of a future  
Bright with hope  
And the defeat of giants.

Blessings to you for the week ahead.

**Alex Shoderu**  
Chaplain

## Spring Concert—next Thursday evening

This is a final reminder that Concert Band, Jazz Band, Choir, Musical Theatre Club, Classical Guitar Group and all our soloists, duets and student bands are performing next week in our Spring Concert on Thursday 14th March at 7pm.

This year's wonderfully detailed programme cover was designed by **Oliwer B** in Year 12.

Tickets have now sold out. If you have been unable to get tickets, please sign up to our waiting list. If you are no longer able to come, please let us know so we can re-distribute tickets.

**John Wells**  
Curriculum Team Leader for Music



## National Careers Week



This week, all teachers and support staff have joined together to celebrate careers by sharing the job they wanted to do when they were younger, their first job and their dream job (see left for some examples). These conversations can be carried on at home, and pupils and students can use [Unifrog](#) to find out more about these careers.

Both our Year 10 Computer Science classes enjoyed a workshop about careers in tech and learnt about Ada Lovelace and other female pioneers in the industry to celebrate International Women's Day. Did you know Computer Science is not just about coding?

**Catherine Young**  
Careers Co-ordinator



## Years 7-9 Movie Night

On Tuesday 19th March, straight after school (3.15 - 5.30pm), pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 are invited to a charity movie night. They can enjoy a movie from the comfort of a bean bag or comfy chair with popcorn and drinks. This is part of a house fundraiser for the Bishop of Southwark's Lent Call where all money raised goes towards projects that focus on peace with justice and resilience in the middle-east and Zimbabwe. Limited spaces are available, so sign up on ParentPay today to ensure your child's place! We suggest a minimum £2 donation (popcorn and a drink included); please feel free to donate more if you wish. Thank you for supporting this event.

**Becky Butlin**  
Teacher of Science



## Chess Tournament

The highly-anticipated annual Chess Tournament will take place throughout the school day on Thursday 21st March. The final will be held after school with pupils and students welcome to watch to see who earns the title of Chess Champ for 2024!

Please encourage your child to sign up using the sheets outside room 1.4.

**Tammy Williams**  
Teacher of Mathematics



## Olympic Games in MFL

The next Olympic Games, this year taking place in Paris, are fast approaching. In preparation, Year 7 pupils researched two French-speaking sportsmen/women of their choice. Here is **Imad M's** wonderful presentation on French sprinter, Marie-José Péro.

**Sylvia Basilious**  
Teacher of MFL



## Flamenco Flair

The school was filled with vibrant energy and rhythmic beats as pupils and students celebrated 'El Día de Andalucía' with an immersive exploration into the heart of flamenco. This traditional Andalusian festival came alive as they learnt about the origins of flamenco, discovering its rich cultural tapestry and significance.

Led by Danielle, a passionate flamenco instructor, everyone eagerly soaked up the history behind flamenco, tracing its roots back to the diverse cultural influences of Spain, including Moorish, Jewish and Romani traditions. They learned how flamenco emerged as a powerful expression of emotion, drawing from the experiences of marginalised communities, and serving as a beacon of resilience and identity.



Click on the photo above to see some of our pupils and students in action, guided by Danielle.

**Daniel R:** *"I loved the flamenco workshop this morning. It was the most enjoyable and exciting experience! I loved learning about one of the coolest, most awesome styles of music the world has known."*

**Gael N:** *"I have learnt lots of facts about flamenco and how southern Spanish culture is inspired by Indian and north African cultures."*

**Amira G:** *"It was incredibly enjoyable and Danielle made us feel included and taught us a lot about history and the culture."*

**Lael G:** *"I thought it was a beautiful way to learn about the origins of flamenco. Danielle was an amazing teacher and we learnt the movements well."*

**Omara Munoz Asensio**  
Curriculum Team Leader for MFL

## New Cutting Edge Equipment for our Drama and Music Departments

We are delighted to announce the arrival of a new state-of-the-art digital sound mixer, made possible by the support of our incredible parents and their regular contributions to our School Fund.

Our new Allen and Heath, Qu-16 mixer boasts remarkable features, including space for 16 microphones and user-friendly touchscreen control centre. This upgrade significantly enhances our capabilities in music technology, theatre and drama. With improved sound control and quality, we can accommodate more performers, provide unparalleled hands-on experience for our pupils and students and create show stopping live performances.

Come and listen for yourselves at our Spring Concert on 14<sup>th</sup> March. Thank you for making this exciting upgrade possible!



*Photo credit: Allen & Heath*

**Adele Henkes**  
Development and Alumni Relations Manager

## Materials Behaving Badly!

Is it a solid? Is it a liquid? In this practical, Year 7 pupils produced a non-Newtonian fluid, very similar to Oobleck, to investigate how this substance doesn't play by the rules! This suspension only behaves like a fluid some of the time. It has variable viscosity dependent on stress, which means that if you strike it quickly, it solidifies and exhibits the properties of a solid.



**Hanna McAnaney**  
Teacher of Science

## Duke Of Edinburgh Progress

We are thrilled that pupils working towards their Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh awards have successfully completed their first aid training. Throughout the sessions, they learned vital skills such as the recovery position, CPR, emergency procedures, burn treatment and the proper use of an EpiPen. We are immensely proud of how well they engaged with the training, demonstrating a serious commitment to their learning and preparedness. These skills are invaluable, not only for their upcoming expeditions, but also for life beyond the classroom.



We encourage you to discuss with your child the importance of these first aid skills at home and how they can be applied in various situations before they complete their expedition. To keep the pupils informed about future training sessions, we will be posting notices on the notice board in the art corridor and announcing them during assemblies. All children completing Bronze or Silver DofE must take full responsibility for their award by checking the notice board and coming to see us if they have any concerns or questions about DofE.

If needed, the DofE contact email is [dofe@saintcecilias.london](mailto:dofe@saintcecilias.london)



**Sally Rose and Emma Rattier**  
Duke of Edinburgh Co-ordinators

## Artists of the Week

Year 8 have been exploring pattern and printmaking. Here are some lovely outcomes of repeat patterns using poly block printing

Left to right: (top) **Joshua G, Mia H,** (middle) **Hannah A, Zebedee E,** (bottom) **Jemima H and Paige D.**

**Victoria England**  
Teacher of Art and Design



## Year 9 Healthy Habits

In a fusion of language and wellness, Year 9 pupils learnt about healthy habits through dynamic activities in their Spanish language classes.

Pupils embarked on a journey beyond linguistic proficiency, exploring the cultural nuances of leading a healthy lifestyle. Through engaging activities, they not only expanded their vocabulary, but also gained practical insights into the importance of maintaining their well-being.

Reflecting on their experiences, pupils were enthusiastic about integrating these new found habits into their daily lives. Click [here](#) or on the image to see their workout!



**Omara Munoz Asensio**  
Curriculum Team Leader for MFL

## BTEC Fundraiser for Cancer Research UK



On Wednesday 27th March a group of BTEC students are holding a Trivia Night for Year 7 and 8 pupils from 3.45 - 5pm in the Sports Hall. To plan and manage an event is an important part of their assessment. Please encourage your child to come along to support their efforts and raise money for their chosen charity—Cancer Research UK.

Tickets at £3.50 can be booked via ParentPay.

**Lisa Morris**  
Curriculum Team Leader for Business and Computing

## Year 9 Create Algebraic Equations

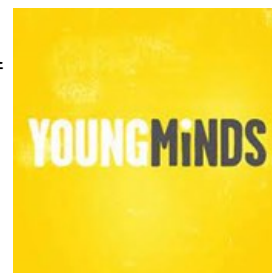
Year 9 pupils completed some amazing work on creating algebraic equations during maths lessons this week. As you can see from the photos, they gave their full concentration and were focused throughout!



**Nilesh Soni**  
Teacher of Mathematics

## Impressive Fundraising from Non-Uniform Day

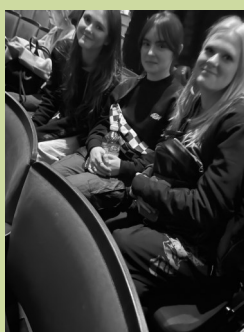
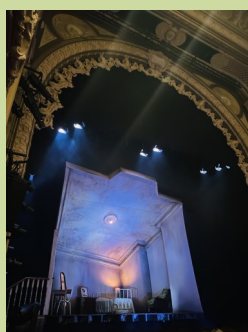
Thank you to all parents and carers who supported our recent non-uniform day in aid of Young Minds. We were able to donate a fantastic £1,053 to this very worthy cause.



**Julie Peterson**  
Finance Manager

## A Level Metamorphosis

Last week, A Level Drama students experienced an adapted version of Kafka's '*Metamorphosis*' at the Lyric Hammersmith. The physical theatre company, Frantic Assembly, and the poet, Lemn Sissay, collaborated to create a visually inspiring retelling of this famous novella.



A Level students acted as theatre critics for the evening, analysing and evaluating the production in preparation for their exams in the summer where they must write an essay about a piece of live theatre.

Thank you Sixth Formers for being fantastic as always!

**Sophie Moulard**  
Assistant Curriculum Team Leader for English and Drama, Lead Drama Teacher and

**Daniel Bell**  
Teacher of English and Drama

## Library News

### Readathon

Many thanks to all those who took part in the Read for Good Readathon. We have raised over £450 for this charity, helping to provide books and story-tellers for children in hospital. Our top two fundraisers were **Kamsy N** and **Benjamin S** in Year 7. They have been invited to choose a book prize in recognition of their efforts, and all those who participated have received house points.

### Empathy through reading

Over the past two weeks, all pupils in Years 8 and 9 have attended English lessons in the Library. This half term, these lessons have focused on how reading can help us to develop empathy for those around us. The ability to walk in someone else's shoes, to experience and understand other people's feeling and points of view, is an important skill, so classes have discussed some of the different situations we can learn about through reading. Excerpts from books where characters experience war, racism, bullying, disability etc. have given them insights they might not otherwise have had.



**Rachel Goodhart**  
Librarian

# Enquiring Minds

## Activity Idea

Invent a new sport together. Make up appropriate rules, uniforms, equipment and run a tournament together.



## Enrichment Programme

Here are the upcoming teacher-led discovery sessions. Though aimed at More Able pupils, they are open to all.

The Importance of Study/Life Balance	Ms Allan	0.11	Years 10 & 11	Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> March 3.15pm	Find ways to revise that work, that don't overwhelm, and that keep a healthy work and play balance. Hear from previous GCSE pupils and A Level students on revision hacks as well as exploring how to stay resilient and look after your well-being during exam season.
Mark Latitude & Longitude	Mr Miller	1.1	Years 10 & 11	Tuesday 19th March 3.15-4.05pm	Using magazines and newspapers, you will find the latitude and longitude of the location. On a world map, we will mark the locations. See how long it takes until you have marks in most countries!

**James Robinson**

**Assistant Headteacher**

## Table Talk: topics and questions from Religious Studies

Year 8 pupils are learning about ethics. They are starting to wonder where ideas about morality come from. Pupils considered different ethical dilemmas and responded in a variety of ways. For example, some thought killing was always wrong whereas others thought certain circumstances justified the act.

To think further about why people have different views on what is right and wrong, use the following questions to consider where your sense of morality has come from:

- What role do you think family upbringing plays in shaping our ethical beliefs?
- How much influence do you think society and culture have on our understanding of what is right and wrong?
- Do you think social media influences your opinion on what is moral?
- What do you think has the biggest impact on most peoples' sense of right and wrong in 2024?



If you'd like to know more about the topic, we recommend the TEDtalk by Juan Enriquez: [How technology changes our sense of right and wrong.](#)

**Ewa Bednarek**

**Curriculum Team Leader for Religious Studies**

## Notices

### Pretty Planters

The Friends of Saint Cecilia's kindly paid for three new planters, compost and plants to brighten up the school entrance. These arrived this week and have been planted up, giving the entrance to the school some spring colour and cheer. We would like to thank The Friends for their generosity.



**Andy Barrett**

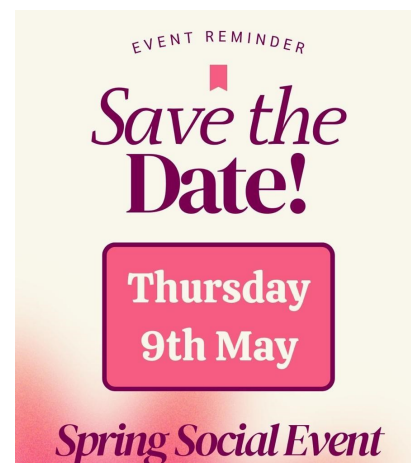
**Premises Manager**

## Friends Spring Social—Save the Date!

Save the date! Friends of Saint Cecilia's invite you to the Spring Social which will take place on the evening of **Thursday 9th May**. Please do come along - all are welcome and the more the merrier!

Not only do our events raise vital money for the school, they also provide a great opportunity to meet other parents, make new friends and foster that great sense of community that makes this school so special. We would love to see you there. More details on the evening's events will follow in due course.

**The Friends of Saint Cecilia's**



### Upcoming Event Reminders

- Thursday 14th March: Spring Concert at 7pm (see this newsletter for information)
- Tuesday 19th March: Years 7-9 Movie Night 3.15 - 5.30pm (see this newsletter for information)
- Thursday 21st March: Chess Tournament (see this newsletter for information)
- Thursday 21st March: Year 7 Parents' Evening (virtual) 5 - 8pm
- Thursday 21st March: Sixth Form Disco at 6pm (more information to follow)
- Wednesday 27th March: Wandsworth Brighter Sounds Concert at Fairfield Halls
- Wednesday 27th March: Year 7 and 8 Fundraising Trivia Night (see this newsletter for information)
- Thursday 18th April: Year 9 Preferences Consultations 5 - 8pm in school

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