



SALESIAN SCHOOL

Newsletter

June 2022 - Issue 7

Presence

Mr J. Kibble, Executive Headteacher

I am delighted to be introducing our latest edition of the Salesian Newsletter to you. The latter half of the summer term is always a particularly enjoyable, if somewhat hectic, part of the academic year. Assisted by the good weather (please God!), this is the period when we try to pack in as many of those activities as possible that enrich the curriculum and broaden the children's education. We look forward to sharing some of the great stuff that's been going on with you here and in our final newsletter on the last day of term.

As the exam season draws to a close, we have been reflecting on this latest aspect of our work to have returned to normal. Whilst I am sure some students would have been quite happy to have another year of centre-assessed grades, rather than the slog of preparing for and sitting all these exams, overall everyone appreciates the opportunity this cohort of students has had to feel like they genuinely own their success. Once again we have realised how important it is to be together at times like this. Our theme for this week has been "presence", which has proven apt as the reassurance, camaraderie and general support the students have enjoyed from staff and from one another will have no doubt played a part in all that will be achieved this summer.

We saw the importance of presence again before half term as the school, and particularly the college, mourned the loss of Abdullah Mallah, one of our Year 13 students who tragically lost his life in a car accident. Abdullah was a delightful young man who was dearly loved by friends and family. Coming together as a community, demonstrating our combined physical, emotional and spiritual presence gave those closest to Abdullah the comfort and strength required to carry on. Once again, the Salesian community rose to the challenge in difficult times. We continue to remember Abdullah and his family in our prayers.

As I write this, I can hear what sounds like an awful lot of children thoroughly enjoying themselves in rehearsals for "High School Musical" which will be performed later this term. It's going to be another great show; we hope you will be able to join us to enjoy it. The other place we have seen lots of children enjoying themselves recently is on our new school playing fields which have finally opened at Guildford Road. How wonderful to see sport being played outside on the grass and away from the noise of the M25 – even if Esso decided to dig up half of it to relay one of their fuel pipes as soon as we got on there! In other developments, the new Sports Hall is really taking shape now and we look forward to this being opened to the students in the Autumn term.

As we are in the midst of a rail strike, it doesn't feel like a good time to be raising the issue of traffic on Guildford Road, however,

you may be aware that we are expecting, in the coming months, Surrey County Council to embark on a significant project to widen the A320 outside school and remodel the roundabouts between here and St. Peter's Hospital. This will undoubtedly cause further disruption for the period of the works and we would encourage you to start thinking now about how you might adapt your travel plans if driving all the way to the school may not be an option for a considerable amount of time. We will share more information with you as we get it.

On a personal note, you will now be aware that Paul Gower will be taking over as Headteacher at Salesian in September as I move full-time to the Xavier Education Trust. Serving as Headteacher at Salesian for the past 16 years has been a privilege and an absolute joy, I feel so blessed to be part of such a great organisation and to have worked with so many wonderful students, staff and parents. I am incredibly grateful to all those members of our Salesian community who have made my vocation so happy and rewarding during my time here. This is not however, farewell; I plan to make the most of the next few weeks and shall continue to work closely with Salesian in my new role. I look forward to all that the school and the children will no doubt go on to do and achieve in the future under Mr. Gower's capable lead.

God bless you all.



Gospel Reflection

What does the scripture mean for us this week?

Companionship

This week we read the well known story of the feeding of the 5000, but on closer look there is so much more we can learn. Jesus shows us here his abundant generosity by even making enough food for there to be leftovers.

He shows us his attention to detail, making sure people are organised first. But most importantly of all, he shows us what can be achieved when we have the presence of Jesus living in our hearts and lives. To grow we must be actively present with others. We do this and spectacular things can happen.

The Pluto

Check out our recent posts on the Rwandan deal and the UK immigration crisis, suggestions on fighting climate change and a recap of the Salisbury poisonings. We are very excited to welcome some year 8 students who joined our year 10 editorial team recently. Every Tuesday, a brilliant group of opinionated young people, who are eager to express their ideas and be an active part of the school community, gather to discuss current affairs. Their articles can be found here:



Getting To Know Our Teachers



Father M. Villani

Current Position

I have been a teacher in the Religious Education department since 2010. I have also been involved in Chaplaincy since ordination in the same year and I am now in the Chaplaincy team with my colleagues.

How I Got Into Teaching

I went abroad as a missionary for almost two years and within that time frame I spent afternoons and weekends assisting in a pastoral capacity in a Catholic parish in Pakistan. There was a convent school next door so I also found myself teaching English to pupils from about the age of 14 upwards and the equivalent of KS2 science. The school was in two sections. I spent most of my time in the English medium school but was also teaching for several months in the Urdu medium school. How successful I was I shall never know as my Urdu was never brilliant!

Whilst teaching I saw a permanent poster affixed to one of the walls in the corridor; it said "To teach is to touch a life forever". Having considered teaching at the age of fourteen, as well as exploring the possibilities of law, professional language translation and the priesthood, this experience re-ignited my interest in teaching.

Why I Love Teaching

To share my love of knowledge with others is something I value.

I also remember the words of St. Thomas More in the film "A Man For All Seasons", by Robert Bolt in which Thomas tries to convince a young man to become a teacher by explaining that the people who would ultimately know how good he is as a teacher would be 'you, your pupils, their families, God. Not a bad public that'

A Fact About Myself

I am (healthily) obsessed with learning as many languages as I can on Duolingo (I am trying to study fourteen). I am also ambidextrous when playing tennis.

Year 10 Music GCSE Trip To Waterbears College

In May, our Year 10 GCSE students had a wonderful day visiting the Waterbears Music College. We have previously really benefitted from online talks/visits to school from their staff and students, but it was particularly enjoyable to go and see their premises and equipment in Brighton. Waterbears offer a large number of post-16 and post-18 courses and their teachers all have incredible experience in the industry. Obviously there was time for a trip to the beach too!

Thank you to Miss Barnsley and Mr O'Shea who accompanied the students, and Ms Petheram and Mrs Dorse for their hard work in organising the trip.

Piano Masterclass with Richard Meyrick

On Friday 10th June, three Year 9 students took part in an online workshop with renowned concert pianist Richard Meyrick. John, Sophia and Hannah (all in Year 9), performed a piece to Richard who critiqued them and gave them some wonderful tips that we all learnt from!

Richard was incredibly impressed by the quality of their playing and the difficult repertoire that the students were tackling. We are so proud of them and look forward to seeing the wonderful things they will undoubtedly bring to GCSE music next year! - **Miss R. Clarey**

Salesian School golfers are triumphant at Chipstead Golf Club

The Surrey Schools Golf Association held their annual "Higher Handicap" Golf Championships at Chipstead Golf Club on Thursday 5th May. This Championship is for boys with handicaps between 12-24 and girls between 10-36. Salesian School was represented by Leo S, Jonny D and Seb I, all sixth form students at the College and Grace T and Lucy A, both in Year 8.

It proved to be a most successful day for Salesian School with the boys winning the individual and team trophies. Jonny D scored a magnificent 45 pts to win the boys individual, with Leo and Seb scoring 37pts and 35 pts respectively to ensure victory over Gordon's, Whitgift, Epsom College and Trinity School etc. Grace and Lucy played really well in a field of girls, most of whom were at least 2 years older than them and it proved to be an excellent learning experience for them. Grace finished in third place with 29pts and Lucy was joint fifth scoring 27pts.

Salesian has a proud tradition in Surrey Schools Golf tournaments, having won the Higher Handicap Championships four times in the last seven years as well as having six single figure handicap golfers who will be eligible to compete in the Surrey Championships at Purley Downs on 7th July. Ben W +0.5; Fredrik G 2.0hcp;

Aaron M 2.9hcp; Jaden H 7.4hcp; Sean J 9.1hcp; Harvey P 9.2hcp.
- **Mr E. Doherty**



The Jurassic Coast

This term, 30 keen year 8 Geographers were given the amazing opportunity to visit the Jurassic coastline for the weekend. Earlier this year the students had learnt about coastal processes and the formation of various landforms in their Geography lessons, so this was the perfect trip to bring the classroom alive and expand their knowledge. First stop on the trip was a visit to Bournemouth where students raced to compete in a treasure hunt. The highlight of the trip for many of the kids was kayaking around Durdle Door, Stair Hole and Lulworth Cove on the second day; incredible landforms that had been created by the erosive powers of the waves. On the last day we set off to find Old Harry, a stack left behind from a collapsed arch, before heading back to school.

The students were all incredible throughout the trip but 4 were picked out to receive a prize for displaying RUAH.

- Respect - Jamie R
- Understanding - Lucy A
- Affection - Charlotte B
- Humour - Javi S

- **Mrs S. Shephard**



Drama News

Year 7, 8 and 9 students are busy rehearsing for the Summer Production of Disney's 'High School Musical'. We are very excited to announce that tickets are now on sale for the performances on Tuesday 5th, Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th July at the Centenary Hall, Salesian College at 7pm. Tickets can be purchased via Tucasi. - *Mrs S. Garbett*

“Do you hear the people sing?”

Year 10 and 11 RE Les Mis Trip

On Thursday 3rd March, students from Year 10 and 11 attended a musical production of Les Misérables at the Sondheim Theatre in the heart of London's West End. Sixty students, the biggest group taken by the RE department enjoyed the musical version of Victor Hugo's story; an example of mission and evangelism for their GCSE RE course.

Set against the backdrop of the French Revolution, Jean Valjean, a prisoner on parole attempts to steal some silverware from a Bishop but is shown mercy and generosity by being given a set of silver candlesticks. He is told by the Bishop “You must use this precious silver, to become an honest man”.

The story tells of Valjean's redemption by living out mission (helping others) and evangelism (spreading the word of God), to others by saving Cosette, from a life of exploitation and the life of Marius when he is shot in the French Revolution and shows mercy by freeing Inspector Javert despite being a police officer who is seeking to capture him.

The musical which was turned into a 2012 Oscar Winning film starring Hugh Jackman and Anne Hathaway by director Tommy Hooper concludes with the famous line “to love another is to see the face of God” showing the importance of living the Kingdom of God. - *Mr D. Leung*

SALESIAN SCHOOL CHERTSEY

Production of:
Disney

HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL

ON STAGE!

Book by David Simpatico

Music Adapted, Arranged and Produced by Bryan Louiselle

Songs by: Matthew Gerrard and Robbie Nevil; Ray Cham, Greg Cham and Andrew Seeley; Randy Petersen and Kevin Quinn; Andy Dodd and Adam Watts; Bryan Louiselle; David N. Lawrence and Faye Greenberg; Jamie Houston

Based on a Disney Channel Original Movie Written by Peter Barsocchini

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International
All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI
www.mtishows.co.uk

SUMMER MUSICAL 2022
July 5th, 6th & 7th at 7pm
Centenary Hall, Salesian College, Highfield Road
Tickets available in advance via Tucasi

Follow us @salesiandrama



Apollo Learn

Salesian Young Enterprise Company 'ApolloLearn' has enjoyed an outstanding year. The directors produced a book aimed at raising awareness of climate change amongst primary school children, through the adventures of Kevin the Koala and Penelope Parrot.

In May at the North Surrey awards the company scooped first prize for 'Sustainability' and then won the prestigious main award of the evening - 'Company of the Year.' As winners of this competition they went forward to represent North Surrey at the Young Enterprise South East Awards, where they competed with the best of the best from Surrey, Kent, Sussex and Essex. Here they were just pipped into second place, but runners-up against some very fierce competition is a magnificent achievement.

Congratulations to Kojo, Zain, Aryan, Charlie, and Nicola.



The company still have some copies of the book available for sale. Please contact apollo.learn.ye@gmail.com for more details. The students would really value your support.

- Mr A. Mussenden

Duke of Edinburgh

The summer term always brings a plethora of Salesian pupils undertaking their D of E expeditions. We have had almost 300 pupils undertake their Bronze, Silver and Gold expeditions, which is a testament to the resilience, determination and fortitude of our pupils at Salesian.

Most recently, 160 pupils in year 9 passed their Bronze expedition with flying colours.

This was even more impressive given the 34-degree heat wave, which students overcame with tremendous tenacity. Congratulations to all. You should all hold your heads up high. Good luck to the Silvers who are soon to be assessed in the Peak district and Golds in the Lake district.

- Mr S. Graham



The Green Grass of Home!

We are delighted that this half-term we have had access to one of our two new playing fields at Guildford Road. Created from former farmland, the pitches are directly opposite the school and accessed by the new toucan crossing outside the School that was finally installed at Easter.

The PE department have been making full use of the space with various sports such as softball, rounders, volleyball, ultimate frisbee, athletics and year 7 rugby taking place.

We are very much looking forward to being able to host home rugby and football fixtures on the pitch from September. During the course of the next academic year we expect the larger, second pitch to be handed over to the School too. - **Mr P. Manly**



Business & Economics

Year 12 Business and Economics students have recently enjoyed a couple of visiting speakers. In May, the CEO of Fatface spoke of his journey from state school pupil to the head of one of our biggest fashion retailers. Will Crumbie talked about the current challenges his organisation faces, not just from the cost of living crisis, but also from the restructuring to the shift online, and the need to be acting sustainably and ethically in a dynamic economy. He faced some tough questions from a fully-engaged audience, and Will was full of praise for the incite of the students.

He is pictured below with the recipients of some free FatFace water bottles.

In June we were delighted to be entertained by Mr Alastair Thomas from the Bank of England (RTGS/ CHAPS Board Manager, Market Services Division). Alastair did not just cover standard curriculum monetary policy, but again spoke broadly about the role of the central bank, his own career path and even ventured into the world of crypto currencies. The students were equally vigorous with their questions of this speaker, who, like Will Crumbie, was full of admiration of their engagement and participation. - **Mr A. Mussenden**



Celebrating Dame Deborah James at Salesian

Deborah started her teaching career at SJB before joining Salesian as Assistant Headteacher in 2012. Deborah made an instant impact, her energy, enthusiasm, sense of fun and great work ethic endeared her to everyone here and it was obvious from the beginning that she was going to go on to achieve great things.

Deborah was responsible for developing Learning & Teaching at Salesian and played a key part in securing the school's "outstanding" Ofsted judgement in 2013. Deborah led our bid to become a Teaching School and established our Initial Teaching Training provision, Teach@Salesian which later became Teach South East, a nationally renowned centre of excellence for teacher development. Deborah's work on these initiatives has made a significant impact in schools across the region, she has helped to inspire hundreds of teachers who in turn will have gone on to support thousands of young people to benefit from a better education.

Deborah was promoted to Deputy Headteacher in 2016 and was supporting a local school on secondment when she first received her diagnosis. Given her fighting spirit, her love of life and her great gift for influencing people for the good, we knew that she would face the challenge of cancer with style; none of us however appreciated quite how much she would go on to achieve over the coming years. The awareness she has raised, along with the millions of pounds in donations to cancer charities will no doubt, just like her work in education, have a profound effect on thousands of families facing similar challenges in the future.

Deborah is remembered with great fondness at Salesian and we shall continue to celebrate her life and achievements going forward. Please join us in supporting Deborah's incredible fundraising efforts by contributing to her [Bowelbabe Fund](#) and please remember Deborah, her family and all who are battling cancer, in your prayers.

God bless Dame Deborah!

BOWELBABE FUND 



Dame Deborah James

Some of our lovely Salesian staff have been supporting Deborah James by wearing the Bowel Babe T-shirts, which have raised an incredible amount of money for an incredible cause.

If you would like to support please follow this link: <https://justgiving.com/campaign/>

