



SALESIAN SCHOOL

Newsletter

March 2023 - Issue 13

Our Lenten Journey Continues

I am delighted to welcome you to our final newsletter of the spring term. I hope that this Lent continues to be a special time of reflection and prayer for your families and that you have drawn strength during this period.

In the weeks to come, we will be focussing on Easter and in particular the resurrection, that great event that is central to the Christian faith. In complete contrast to the despair of Good Friday when Jesus was crucified and laid in the tomb, Easter Sunday brings the joyful news that He has risen from the dead.

We are called to be "Easter people" which requires us to be full of joy and hope. This can obviously be difficult when we are facing challenging situations or dealing with traumatic events in life but as Easter people, we appreciate that things will always get better, and we therefore try to share that sense of optimism with everyone we encounter. Often, we need to experience pain and suffering to truly appreciate life and we will also often find that something truly wonderful comes out of even the most desperate situation.

To offer that sense of optimism it gives me pleasure to share with you some of the wonderful opportunities and experiences that the students and staff have encountered this half term. It started in earnest with Ash Wednesday services for all students



at the end of February, marking the start of the Lenten season. This was swiftly followed by Year 11 Taster Day which afforded the Year 11 students an opportunity to immerse themselves into life at the College. Shortly after this event, it was the turn of the Year 9's who were invited to attend their Options Evening, a great opportunity to discuss the merits of different courses with their teachers and parents. The extra-curricular programme has also provided students with a wealth of opportunities - we have been fortunate to offer a number of trips this month, including the Year 12 History trip to Poland, an RE trip in Year 10 to see Les Mis, a College Drama trip to observe An Accidental Death of an Anarchist by Dario Fo and Geography trips over the Easter holidays to Naples and Montenegro.

In the penultimate week of term, the Music department put on yet another excellent showcase, demonstrating the wonderful skills and talents of our students at the Spring Concert. There have been a plethora of sporting events and successes this term also, so a huge congratulations to the students and staff involved with these. Finally, the Leadership Team has also had the pleasure of meeting with all our existing Year 11 and Year 13 students and parents, this was as always, a wonderful opportunity to reflect on successes, experiences and plans for the future and left us with a real sense of gratitude and thanks for their efforts and contributions during their time at Salesian School and College. We wish them all the best of luck with what

will no doubt be a busy Easter holiday preparing for the upcoming exams in 6 weeks' time.

As this half term draws to a close, we look forward to the Hope that is set before us at Easter. Our prayer for all Salesian families is that we will be able to use this time as a springboard to revitalise, in preparation for the summer term. We wish you all the best for the upcoming break.

God Bless,
Mrs E. Bolton, Deputy Headteacher

+ **Gospel Reflection**
What does the scripture mean for us this week?

Belief

John 11:1-45
This week we read about the incredible story of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead. This is the most incredible truth: that we worship a Lord who can do these things, and He is alive now so we too can be filled with the Holy Spirit and see miracles in Jesus' name. If we trust that Jesus is Lord, anything is possible.

This story also shows us his human side, that he cried and got angry just like we do. By raising Lazarus from the dead, all those around him had faith that He was the Messiah.

This is an important lesson. God doesn't always do things in the way we expect or maybe want.... But if we believe in Him, and constantly lift our eyes up to Him, then we can have assurance of not only life in all it's fullness on Earth but also eternity with the One who loves us the most.

Getting To Know Our Teachers



Mrs P. Adams

Current Position in School:

I teach Mathematics across the curriculum at school and am part of the A-level team at the College.

How I got into teaching:

I got into teaching by supporting my own children with their maths learning and realised how much I loved it. I had an Economics degree but decided to do a Maths degree with a view to teaching and did my PGCE in 2016.

Why I love my job:

I enjoy teaching Maths because there are so many applications of our subject that students can take into their future lives/careers. It helps them express and resolve problems that cannot be easily tackled in other ways to give them a whole new way of thinking. Having worked in marketing, marketing research and public relations in my former career I have used maths extensively in my working life and draw on that experience to help show the relevance of our curriculum to students.

A Fact About Myself

I help support the students in a sewing club after school every week and really enjoy seeing how creative they can be as they use their maths to support their projects. In terms of sewing, Mrs Hibbins-Durkin, Brother Godwill and the students are helping me develop my skills and it is great we can learn from each other!

Gold DofE

A whopping 16 Salesians have been invited by HRH the Duke of Edinburgh to Buckingham Palace to receive the most prestigious award a young person can achieve, their Gold Duke of Edinburgh badge.

"A massive congratulations. This group managed to achieve one of the hardest awards a young person can get, all whilst dealing with Covid lockdowns and restrictions. Remember that this award does not only recognise the tremendous effort made, but also the tenacious and resilient person that they are. We are incredibly proud of them. Well done and well earned!"

- Mr S. Graham, DofE Manager



Drama Club

The year 7 drama club showcased their amazing talent in the Spring Term performance of Roald Dahl's "Revolting Rhymes". There were evil princes, clever giants, greedy girls, jockeys, and even a pistol wielding Red Riding Hood!

Each group worked tremendously hard to get their stories ready to share with an audience, from planning out characters, to making their own props and finding their own costumes. I am incredibly proud of this wonderful bunch and very excited to see as many of them as possible get stuck in with our production of "The Addams Family"!

A big thank you to the students, the parents who came to watch, and to Mrs Garbett and Mr Graham for all their support and encouragement.

- Miss P. Welland



Music Department

Battle of the Bands Recording Session:

Our fantastic Year 10 band, who won our Battle of the Bands competition in November, recently enjoyed their prize of a day's recording session at Waterrats Recording Studio in Woking. The boys had a four hour slot to record their winning song which was subsequently edited to achieve a professional quality recording. What a fantastic experience to see the inner workings of a studio - thank you to Waterrats for making this opportunity happen!



Sinfonia and Flute Choir To St Augustine's Primary School

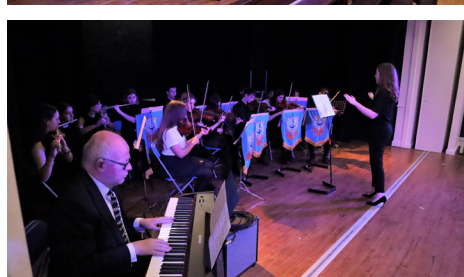
- February 2nd: We were lucky enough to have the opportunity to take our sinfonia and flute choir to perform for all of the students at St Augustine's, Frimley. Both ensembles played a selection of pieces, and students also demonstrated their instruments to our younger audience to inspire them and encourage them to take up an instrument. Given the enthusiasm right from Reception to Year 6, the future of music seems in very safe hands!

Instrumental Recital - February 8th:

As part of our recital series, we held an instrumental recital for students of all abilities in M39. This followed on from the success of our piano recital in autumn, and allowed those students who play an orchestral instrument/guitar to have the chance to perform in a low-stakes, informal setting (obviously with drinks and nibbles!) Repertoire ranged from heavy metal to Bach, incorporating trumpet, violin, cello, electric and acoustic guitar, flute and drums and all students did themselves proud. We are looking forward to our vocal recital in the summer term.

Spring Concert - March 21st:

Our annual spring concert took place on March 21st and this year, the theme was A Night At The Musicals! Featuring repertoire from the musical in the 1920s right up until the present day, over 140 students took part. Ensembles included: Junior Girls Choir, Senior Girls Choir, College Choir, Scholars Choir, Flute Choir, Jazz Band, Orchestra and Sinfonia, as well as soloists Hanna Dworska and Matilda Hardcastle, with repertoire from The Jungle Book to our finale, a Lloyd Webber medley. Thanks to all parents who supported us on the night.



Junior Choir Performance At Holy Family - 24th March:

Mr Graham and I were delighted to take a selection of the Junior Girls choir to Holy Family, to perform for their students and to run a small choir workshop. Judging by their enthusiasm, we can't wait to welcome them to Salesian!

Year 7 Singing Competition -

March 30th: At the of writing, all of our year 7 classes are busily rehearsing for our second singing competition - this time the theme is music from the movies! Each class will perform in front of a professional judge and the stakes are high! - a Krispy Kreme for each student in the winning classes! With music ranging from Pure Imagination from Willy Wonka, to City of Stars from La La Land, we can't wait to hear all of the entries.

Peripatetic Lessons:

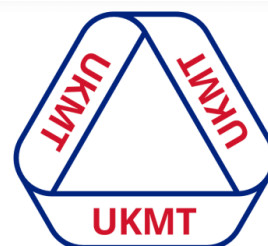
As Year 11 and 13 approach exams and the end of the year, there are spaces opening up with our peripatetic teachers. We offer lessons in: Piano, Voice, Woodwind, Bass Guitar; Acoustic Guitar; Electric Guitar and Drums. Please contact Miss Clarey (rclarey@salesian.surrey.sch.uk) if you are interested. - Miss R. Clarey

The National Maths Competition

The national Maths competition for Year 10 is taken by four Maths classes, with students tackling a variety of puzzles and problem-solving questions, and always producing a healthy crop of certificates.

Best in School was Gabriel T, with an outstanding score of 85. Both he and Christian O got a Gold certificate, and qualified for the follow-on round of the Challenge at the end of term.

Thank you to all the students who made such a great effort to take part, and we look forward to more enrichment opportunities in the future. - Mr A. Creen



**United Kingdom
Mathematics Trust**

British Biology Olympiad

Congratulations to our y12 and y13 students who between them achieved GOLD (Joddie W - Y13), SILVER (Alessia L - Y13, Holly T - Y12, Megan P - Y12) and COMMENDED (Daniel S - Y12). The British Biology Olympiad challenges and stimulates students with an interest in Biology to expand and extend their talents. Students were presented with topics and ideas which they were not familiar with, thereby competing with their problem-solving skills and understanding of core principles. Congratulations to all who took up the challenge. We are very proud of you. - Mrs C. Burke



Year 9 Champions League Football Tournament

The Year 9 Champions League competition commenced just before the Christmas holidays and was concluded last week. Played at lunch time every Thursday on the Astro pitch, the Year 9 students formed their own 6 six-a-side teams and played in two leagues of four. Each team played the others in their league on two occasions with the top two from each league qualifying for the semi finals. The final was played between Edward's All Stars and Mujaji's Maestros and was a very closely contested affair with the Maestros leading for much of the match and then 2-1, until a last minute equaliser by the All Stars. This resulted in a very tense penalty shoot-out watched by a large and vociferous number of the year 9 Year group and eventually won 3-2 on penalties by the All Stars.

The year 9 students who participated are to be commended for their enthusiasm, energy and organisation throughout the tournament and particular congratulations go to the first girls team to participate. "Girls Allowed" competed really well and showed great determination and resilience throughout. - Mr E. Doherty

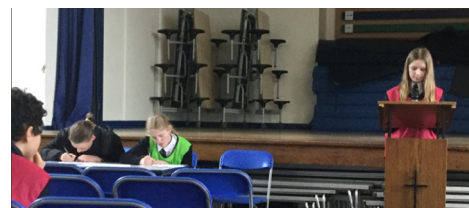


More debate news!

Year 7, 8 and 9 truly shone in their Inter-House Debate Competition on Wednesday 29th March. For all of them, it was their first taste at a debating competition but they handled the pressure with maturity and flair. Congratulations to Team Rua (Arthur B, Sara F, Caramia M) who were strong across the board, as well as Chloe L (Best Chairperson), Eva D (Best Speaker), William M (Best Questioner) and James N (Best Personality). It was especially lovely to see mixed teams of Year 7's, 8's and 9's working together seamlessly, and experienced older siblings helping train their budding younger siblings – true Salesian spirit!

Next up for Salesian Debate Club is our very first Xavier Trust Inter-School Debate Competition against SJB and St Peter's. It will be held on home turf, which will hopefully give us the advantage so wish us luck!

- Miss H. Burdekin





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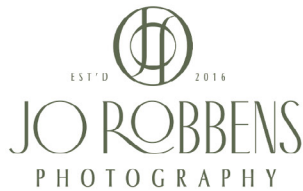
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