



SALESIAN SCHOOL

Newsletter

May 2023 - Issue 15

“Salesian Season”

In some schools, I've heard the summer term described as 'Silly Season'. That blend of exams and trips means that there is activity in every corner of the school. Here, it is simply 'Salesian Season'. An opportunity to blend the care, love and provision for those sitting exams with the excitement of opportunities outside of the classroom. With longer days and brighter skies, this term is always an exciting one. I would encourage you to keep an eye out on the school calendar to see what is coming up for each year group this term!

Something that makes Salesian so special is that every exam starts with a prayer. For some, this might not seem significant, however, it is truly something special. Exams are collective tasks, with students across the country sitting the same paper at the same time. This is a daunting task, and one that can make students feel quite isolated without perspective and a sense of something more. Prayer or 'collective worship' prior helps us to understand that wider perspective on the situation. It helps Salesian Students understand that, although they are sitting the exam as an individual, we as a community are fully with them. It helps them to understand that they are loved regardless of the outcome of the exam and that the skills that they have learnt at Salesian School, to



be 'Faithful, Dedicated, Aspirational Christian Leaders' will set them up to go and build the kingdom, regardless of results. It also helps to remind them that they have the unwavering support of the Holy Spirit. John 14:27 says 'I am leaving you with a gift— peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give. So don't be troubled or afraid.' We are so immensely proud of our Year 11s and 13s and continue to pray for them as they move through this exam season. Any prayers for them would be welcomed from our wider Salesian Community also, so please do join us in this act.

I recently had the privilege of taking the Year 11 Football team to their District Final at Woking Stadium. The boys were successful, lifting the trophy after an emphatic 3-1 win against our Xavier Rivals of St John the Baptist (even sweeter). What I was so encouraged by was when, on the way back, one student shouted over the top of 'Sweet Caroline', "these are the moments we will remember forever". They are right. It was the perfect reminder that those single lessons (no matter how good we as teachers think they are) will not stay with them, but the opportunities outside of the classroom will.

I would love to encourage all of our Salesian Community to embrace the summer term and 'get active, get talking, get serving', making their own memories for a lifetime.

God Bless,
Mr P Fullbrook – Assistant Headteacher

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

Glory

This week we read the story of Jesus praying to God, and setting out the message of how to receive eternal life. The answer is simple – believe in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour. We celebrated the ascension last week, and Pentecost is only a week away too, so these words from Jesus in the scripture tell us about how He is going to fulfil all his promises, and that He will never leave us alone despite Jesus not being on Earth in Human form any more.

The second half of the passage is Jesus praying for his disciples – his best friends. The prayer he prays for them can also be for us too; he prays "Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name." How amazing it is that we can pray to Jesus and he will protect us, and by believing in Him, we will have life in eternity with Him. That surely is something to give Him all the glory for!

John 17:1-11

Eden Project Trip, May 2023

Geography

This was my first trip with Salesian after working here for 8 years. Having been to Cornwall on various occasions this trip will always be special due to the students and staff who attended.

Day 1

We arrived at the Eden project to this amazing site, once inside there are 2 different domes that are very different in vegetation and climate. The children in the Rainforest dome especially enjoyed the birds walking around. Once we arrived at our hostel it was nice to rest after a busy day. Some students played on the field whilst others took a walk on the beach.

Day 2

Early rise for our trip to Tintagel and the legend of King Arthur, after a walk up to the top we sat and ate lunch looking out over the amazing Cornish landscape. Viv one of the English Heritage workers gave us a talk about the remains we can still see. Newquay was our next destination for Blue Reef aquarium, I can say for all of us that the Turtle stole the show. Once back at the hostel, a quiz was the night activity. The Dragons, headed by Mrs O'Brien, were the lucky winners.



Day 3

Rooms cleared and back on minibuses for our final activity the Adrenalin Quarry!!!!

Well hats off to all who took part in the zip line, giant swing also aqua park. The smiles on all faces was a joy to see. A great school trip students and staff will always remember. - Mrs L. Whalley



CAFOD Big Lent Walk

This Lent, as part of the Catholic Christian tradition of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, pupils in Year 7 raised funds for the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD), the official international aid agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales. The goal of the Big Lent Walk was to see how far pupils could walk within Lent in order to raise money by sponsors.

Encouraged by tutors and, in particular, the Head of Year 7 Mr. G Kern, the year group far exceeded expectations and raised in excess of £1500 which will help to improve the lives of the most vulnerable throughout lesser developed communities. Well done Year 7!
- Fr A. Villani



Young Sociologist of the Year

Congratulations to *Sam F* in year 13 who came first in the British Sociological Association Young Sociologist of the Year competition. He has won an iPad mini and £500 for his great efforts.

The prize judges felt that his essay gave "A timely look at how attitudes in the UK towards Russia changed because of the invasion of Ukraine. The essay uses both primary quantitative and qualitative and secondary evidence. It draws out the role of media in shaping attitudes and the comparative neglect of wars in Yemen and Ethiopia."

Sam's sociology teachers are immensely proud of him and look forward to hearing about his future endeavours as he hopes to study International Relations at university.



If you would like to read Sam's amazing essay titled "How can sociology help us understand the consequences of war?" please click [here](#). - Miss P. Murphy

Success at Surrey Schools Golf Event

The Surrey Schools Golf Higher Handicap Championships took place at Chipstead Golf Club on Thursday 4th May.

Lucy A in Year 9 played a wonderful round, scoring 41 points and

winning 6 points ahead of her nearest rival in the Girls Championships



Grace T, also in Year 9 scored 29 points and finished in 5th place. *Joe C* in Year 12 and in his first Surrey Schools competition, scored a very creditable 34 points in a very competitive Boys Championships. - Mr E. Doherty

A Trip to Rome

The Chaplaincy team took a group of sixth form philosophy and ethics students to Rome last November where we made great use of our sightseeing tour bus tickets. We visited the coliseum, the pantheon, Trevi fountain, spent time on a guided tour of the Vatican and even found our very own saint Don Bosco.

Much pizza was eaten but most amazingly Students bravely took on the challenge of climbing the 28 marble steps of the Scala Sancta on their knees which According to Roman Catholic tradition, the Holy Stairs were the steps leading up to

the praetorium of Pontius Pilate in Jerusalem on which Jesus Christ stepped on his way to trial during his Passion. The Stairs reputedly were brought to Rome by Saint Helena in the fourth century.

Father Marco, Miss Meredith, Mr de Quay and Mrs Hibbins-Durkin had a great time sharing this wonderful city with such wonderful students! - Mrs Hibbins-Durkin





D of E Activity Day

D of E activity day was enjoyed by our 300 students taking part at all levels in D of E. Archery, puzzle cube, mini golf, tent making, football darts, inflatable basketball and the popular hungry hippos were used to work on communication, teamwork...and have a bit of fun.

Our Silvers have just completed their practice expedition in the North downs. Whilst the weather could have been better, spirits were high, and they are very much looking forward to going on their assessed expedition to the Peak District in July. - Mr S. Graham



Sports

Year 7 Girls District Football Final

Salesian drew 2-2 in their final match of the district finals but managed to rise to victory with some sharp shooting to win 4-3 on penalties! Congratulations!



Year 10 & 11 Boys District Football Finals

The Year 10 and 11 Salesian boys football teams both won their respective District Cup finals for the second year in a row! Year 10 breezed through their game against BDB with a 8-0 win, whilst year 11 had a harder fought but still impressive win over SJB with a 3-1 final score.



Inter Salesian Athletics

5th May 2023

What a competition to remember. After arriving at a very wet Battersea Park Millennium Arena organisers were unsure if the day would be able to go ahead with thunder lightning and torrential rain it was looking unlikely.

However after waiting out the storm the competition could begin and what a great start we made with wins on the track and in the field. The 800m saw Lia Patterson break a championship record (one of many) with Jack Dawson going on to smash the Year 10 race in the same event! It did not stop there as the sun was breaking through the clouds- next up we had Katie De Gregorio and Xavier Taylor setting the track alight both smashing the 100m Championship records respectively in there age groups. (One of which was held by myself) Well done Katie!

The day continued to be a successful one with medals clinking around a lot of our students necks and athletes taking on events just to score a point even when they did not feel too confident. It was hard to believe that we wouldn't be up there with some of the top points by the end of the day. Results came in a few days later and what a performance by all of our students.

Girls

Year 7- 2nd
Year 8- 1st
Year 9- 1st
Year 10- 2nd

Boys

Year 7- 1st
Year 8- 1st
Year 9- 3rd
Year 10- 1st

All athletes should be very proud of themselves with some students coming away with 2/3 medals and high up finishes we could not be

happier. Salesian spirit was shown all round the stadium! Well done to all those who took part.
- Miss L. O'Brien

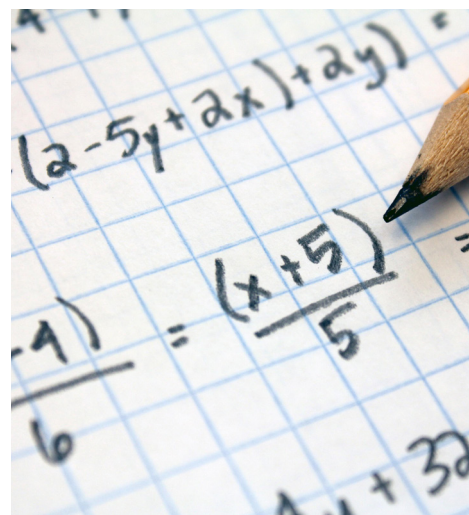


Junior Maths Challenge

2023

The main Maths enrichment opportunity in Year 8 is the Junior Maths Challenge, taken nationally by over 100,000 students. At Salesian we always have keen students ready to challenge their brains with puzzles, problems and pictures that develop their thinking skills.

We are really pleased that this year 44 students received a Bronze, Silver or Gold certificate. Best in school was Charlie, who along with Sammy, Lorenzo and Thomas, goes through to the next round of the Challenge, for which only 10% of participants qualify. Well done to all of our students for their hard work! - Mr A Creen



Coronation Cake Baking

The Friday before King Charles the Third's coronation, the History department held a cake bake-off for school students to celebrate the upcoming event. With Pizza Express vouchers on the line for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, there was some fierce competition! Absolutely well done to all for their fantastic baking skills. Here are just some of their amazing cakes:



ABBA Tribute Night

We are very happy to announce that we have a fabulous night planned for our dear Salesian Community. This year we are proud to invite you to an ABBA Tribute Night on the 23rd of June 2023.

Tickets are for sale now - £25.00 each and are available on Tucasi on a first come first served basis. This price includes food - burger and chips. Doors will open at 19:00 and the fun will begin at 19:30.

Drinks and crisps will be available to buy on the night (card machine will be in use). There will also be a Raffle held during the evening – Raffle tickets at £5.00 a strip.

These events are extremely important to us as we are trying to raise much needed funds where budget cannot stretch. As you probably remember from previous emails currently, we are looking at extending our school hall and getting a new minibus. We would love to see you there!

- Salesian Parent Association

ABBA

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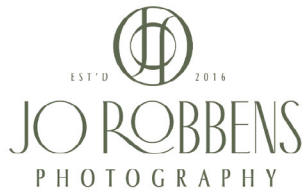
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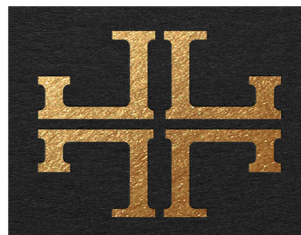
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