

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a fabulous summer and this message finds you well.

We started new term off the back of some really excellent A-level and GCSE results. Our Year 13 students had 42% of all results graded at A\*-A , 73% at A\*-B with a staggering 20% of students getting straight A\*-A grades. At GCSE our A\*-A figure of 43% was double that of the national average and 90% of grades were 9-4 in comparison to the national figure of 67.3%. All this in the context of a shift back to '2019 levels' which squeezed grades across the country. All at Salesian were delighted for the students, each of whom deserved every success.

## Important upcoming events

Date	Event	Where	Time
13 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 10 Parents Welcome and Information Evening	School Sports Hall, Guildford Road	6pm start
14 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>College Open Evening (for 2024 college applicants)</b>	Salesian College, Highfield Road	5-8pm
18 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 7 Parents Welcome and Information Evening	School Sports Hall, Guildford Road*	6pm start
19 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 9 Parents Welcome and Information Evening	School Sports Hall, Guildford Road	6pm start
20 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 8 Parents Welcome and Information Evening	School Sports Hall, Guildford Road	6pm start
25 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 13 Parents Welcome and Information Evening	Salesian College, Highfield Road	6pm start
26 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 11 Parents Welcome and Information Evening	School Sports Hall, Guildford Road	6pm start
27 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 12 Parents Welcome and Information Evening	Salesian College, Highfield Road	6pm start
28 <sup>th</sup> September	2.20pm finish for staff development		

**\*This is a change from previously published times**

Please ensure you attend the welcome and information evening(s).

## Rebecca Clarey

Rebecca was a very private individual, and from the outset she requested that her struggle with her illness be kept quiet.

The main reason she requested this secrecy was that she didn't want to worry people; why should she worry people when all was going to be fine. I can hear her say it now.

Rebecca's view that all was going to be fine was based on two things, the first of these being she was the most optimistic person in the world, the type of infectious optimism that you couldn't help being swept up by. The second was because her faith told her that when she departed this world she will head to somewhere far more special. This meant that she was blessed with a wonderful sense of peace, a peace she maintained in those final moments in the company of her parents, her wider family and her visiting friends.

I had the pleasure of being one of those visitors and shared conversations with her where, despite her situation, she talked of her return in September and celebrated the success of the school's results. She even had me send her the Music results breakdown so she could analyse the outcomes and unpick an issue relating to a grade in her A-level class, I kid you not. So optimistic, so positive, so driven, so Rebecca.

We will mourn her loss, but soon, we will just celebrate her life because through her positivity and optimism, her faith and love, her words and actions, that is what she has given us permission to do. There will be tears, but not too many; she wouldn't be happy with us about that. Let there be smiles she would say, be optimistic about the future, celebrate your successes and do the best for those kids.

A gifted musician, an expert teacher, a loved colleague and a very dear friend, Rebecca will be hugely missed. Our whole school mass today was said in her honour and in time we will find further ways to remember and celebrate her. Today, we did that in prayer and song, two places she called home.



Paul Gower | Headteacher  
Salesian | Chertsey