

St Saviour's
& St Olave's
School

Our school is committed to the safeguarding of children and to equal opportunities.

October 2022

newsletter

FOR PARENTS, STUDENTS, GOVERNORS AND STAFF

Welcome Back!

Dear Parents/Carers

It's been a fabulous first half term of this academic year.

All students have been enjoying the upgraded playground space, and the new year 7 students have made a great first impression.

As I write they are attending the residential in the beautiful outward bound centre in Aberdovey. We look forward to hearing about their experiences, on their return.

We've enjoyed getting back to some of our old routines such as whole school assembly altogether in the hall.

This year's harvest festival was a wonderful occasion and the generosity of our community was once again clear for all to see.

The pages here will give you a flavour of all this half term's activity and we look forward to even more after the break.

But for now, we wish you all a safe and restful half term.

With best wishes

Catherine May
Headteacher



Our Year 11 Students celebrate results day (August 2022)

Important Dates for Parents & Students:

Diary Dates

24th to 28th Oct 2022
Half Term

7th Nov - 22nd Nov 2022
Year 11 GCSE Mock Exams

24th Nov 2022
Awards Ceremony

25th Nov 2022
INSET Day (Closed for Students)

28th Nov 2022 - 9th Dec 2022
6th Form Mock Exams

8th Dec 2022
6th Form Interviews

9th Dec 2022
PSHCE Day

13th Dec 2022
Carol Service

16th Dec 2022
Christmas Lunch
End of Term

FAITH UNITY
AND VISION
woodard
schools

Year 9 Learning Support Lego Competition

During PHSE Day students from Y9 took part in a Lego Workshop. Students were given the opportunity to explore the creativity and imagination which enabled them to relax and take a break from everyday school life.

The students worked in groups of 3 and collectively they created a mind – craft build using various pieces of Lego.

Ms Webb, Ms Kazandjieva and Ms. Eluma ran a competition for the top three builds, which were as follows:



***Nabeeha 9R
(3rd Prize)***



***Faith 9B, Shanita 9B,
Shuhana 9B
(2nd Prize)***



***Halima 9G; Clarissa
and Divine 9G; Ania 9G
(1st Prize)***

Feedback from the Lego session:

*“Lego therapy is good and essential, as it give students a place to relax and be themselves.
It’s a way to escape reality and broaden your imagination.”*

Ngor 9R

“I enjoyed Lego therapy as it gave time to take my mind off school work and focus on myself.”

Binta 9R

*“Lego therapy is fun and exciting place as it helps students to get along with their peers and it helps you to feel calm.
It also gets you excited to build amazing things which helps you with unleashing your creativity.*

Karima 9Y

Year 8 “Into University” Trip

Students from Year 8 as part of the school’s raising aspirations programme, in partnership with the charity “Into University”, took a group of 27 students to Cambridge University where they had a tour of the campus, met students and completed an activity about how laws are passed in the UK.

The level of student engagement was amazing. They asked a number of pertinent questions about university life, being away from home, available grants and scholarships, tuition fees and accommodation. Several students reported that they were now clearer about planning to go to university and now very much wanted to study at degree level.



Languages Week

As part of Languages Week at SSSO (25th - 30th September), students were invited at lunchtime to learn a variety of languages from across the globe, including Ukrainian, Bengali, Greek, Italian, Russian, Portuguese, Yoruba and BSL (British Sign Language).

This unique experience allowed students to better understand the languages spoken both in our school and around the world, as well as their cultures, again conveying the inclusivity and determination of the Languages Department in upholding SSSO's Anti-Racism Policy.

The week benefitted several students, such as Sheila (11R) who learned five languages during the week: "I really enjoyed it," she said. "I learned a lot from the clubs and enjoyed the assembly. This week also helped me decide what languages I will learn in the future."

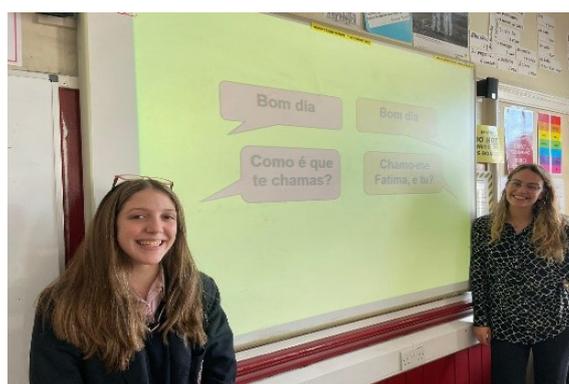
Sheila also loved the fact that BSL (British Sign Language) was taught, stating that it was "very inclusive".

In summary, the week was effective in showing students just how multicultural our world is, and how taking the time to learn other languages can make us more culturally aware, break harmful stigma, and ameliorate our lives (and the lives of others around us) as a whole.

Also, a special thank you to students in 9 Red who taught staff at lunchtime some useful phrases in Yoruba!

Daniella (11 Yellow)

First numbers in Bangla		
English	Transliteration	Transliteration
One	As-k	এক
Two	Doo-ee	দুই
Three	Teen	তিন
Four	Char	চার
Five	Paach	পাঁচ
Six	Cha-soi	ছয়
Seven	Shaat	সাত
Eight	Aaath	আট
Nine	Noy	নয়
Ten	Dash	দশ
Eleven	Aaga-ro	এগারো
Twelve	Baa-ro	বারো



Ceramicist Workshop

'Our Year 12 Art A-level class, had the privilege of participating in a workshop with ceramicist Maria Shub. We had an engaging discussion about the origins of clay artefacts and how clay has been used to create vessels throughout the course of history for multiple purposes (to eat from, to store items, etc.)

The designs and engravings on the clay sculptures had many meanings and told various stories of those from long ago.

Overall, the experience of this session was very insightful and influenced a lot of decisions we made for our coursework.

Zaynab (12N)



'Old Times' Audition by Molly Taylor

During first week back after the half term holiday, Year 9 students will be given the opportunity to audition for our annual production in the West End! **'Old Times' by Molly Taylor** will be performed at The Soho Theatre in March in conjunction with National Theatre Connections.

The play is about stigmatism, friendship and justice... Stefi and Zafer are twins about to turn 18, they have finally reached adulthood. However, life is throwing up complications; Zafer is fighting illness, and Stefi is scared the past is about to turn around and bite them.

Five years ago, when they were 13 years old, their old school crew were involved in the murder of a policeman. Except only one of them was accused and convicted.

The rest of the gang kept stum and weren't even implicated, but it tore their friendship group apart, and the town has never forgotten the notorious crime.

So when the 'murderer' is released from prison, and Stefi starts receiving spooky calls from an unknown number, she knows it's time to get the group back together so they can get a plan strategy, talk survival, and get their story straight.

***Who was really responsible for the crime? Who betrayed who? Do they deserve retribution?
And will they ever be able to move on?***



Kind to your body spirit and mind 'Poem'

There's a lot to say about a healthy body spirit and mind, All 3 mixed together is a perfect bind.

You see to some of us life may not be as kind, Our minds full of twists and turns. I don't even know what I want so my body yearns, Yearns for stability

My spirits telling me inside I can unlock a better version of me , I can be what I dream to be aim high for the sky

You know what, I can get higher than the sky, have no limits to what I can achieve, I can be who I want to be, I can shoot past the stars.

The sky is just a place that I can go if I aim further there's no telling where I'll go. When you're alone your mind is all you've got, your body is a containment for it, so be happy with it because it's doing its job keeping all your beautiful thoughts inside.

Your spirit please don't leave that behind, your spirit is connected to body and mind so be kind.

Kind to your body spirit and mind. Will you be kind to your body spirit and mind?

I'll leave it all up to you to decide .

A very special thank you to Kourtney, Isabella and J'adore who took major roles in whole school assembly on the 17th October.

They researched the topic of Health in body, mind and spirit.

Abiola Bello Visit (Black History Month)

On the 12th of October, year 7s were lucky enough to attend an author visit from Abiola Bello as part of the school's celebration of Black History Month.

Abiola Bello is a British-Nigerian, award-winning, bestselling children's/YA author who was born and raised in London. She wrote her first novel at the age of eight and experienced her first taste of 'being published' after winning a school poetry competition at the age of 12.

Seeing her words in print fuelled a passion for writing that remains to this day. Abiola first began writing the Emily Knight saga shortly afterwards (still only 12 years old!).

Abiola is the co-founder of The Author School, Hashtag Press, Hashtag BLAK, The Diverse Book Awards, That Playlist Book Box and ink!

The Author School was shortlisted for The Great British Entrepreneur Awards 2016. Hashtag Press won Best Publishing House by the People's Book Prize 2020.

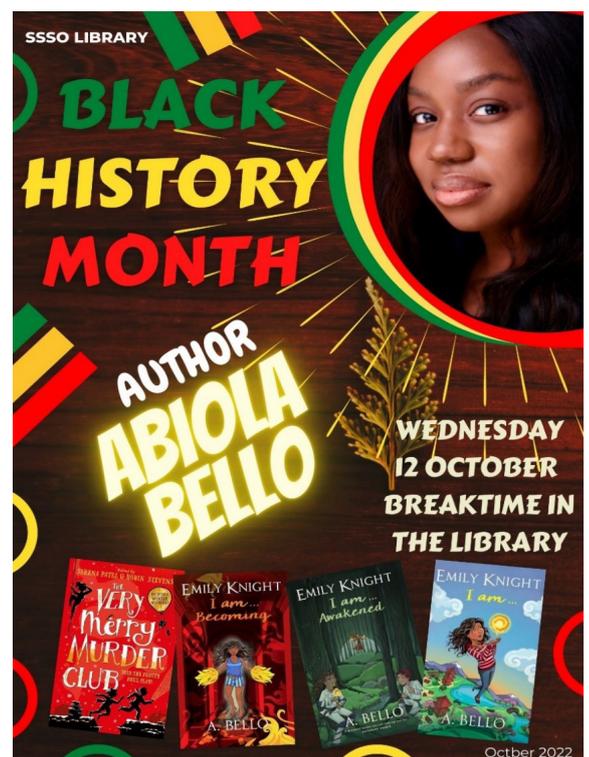
Abiola spoke about her experience of persevering in the face of ten years of rejection from the publishing industry, due to its lack of diversity. Students found it very inspiring!

She spoke about the importance of representation in books, and her ambition to see someone like her reflected in the characters of the fantasy books she grew up loving.

Her childhood love of comics, wrestling, and anime revolving around superpowers transformed into her successful Emily Knight series, which she has developed since the age of 12.

Abiola passed the joy of superpowers onto everyone in attendance through an imaginary battle between superheroes created by Year 7 students.

Elsie and Salina, 13B



Black History Month

The Month of October is Black History Month, and students have been enjoying a full programme of activities inside and outside their lessons.

As a school, we know that black history should be taught and celebrated throughout the year but October is an important opportunity to highlight black history and culture.

The theme for this year has been, 'Time for Change: Action Not Words' and we have been reflecting on this message in assemblies and tutor time with students leading with poetry, their own lived experiences, and reflections. Students have attended afterschool dance workshops led by our Sixth Formers, movie screenings, participated in competitions, and attended presentations and seminars led by students and staff.

Dashiloh in Year 13 led a fascinating presentation on the lesser-known heroes of black history including significant figures such as Queen Nandi Bhehbe, mother to Shaka, King of the Zulus, Steve Biko, South African anti-apartheid activist, and Lady Sarah Forbes Bonetta, who had a unique relationship with Queen Victoria. Dashiloh finished her presentation by offering students a taste of one of her favourite foods, a delicious snack is commonly known as 'puff- puff' but also known as Mikate or Mandazi.

Lilyana in Year 12 also shared her passion for History and the Arts with a presentation titled, 'Black Influence on Inventions and in the Arts'. Students learned about Alexander Miles and his creation of the automatic elevator doors and Marie Van Brittan Brown who invented the video alarm system. They also found out about actor and theatre manager, Ira Aldridge. Lilyana asked students to think about their influences and heroes and left an important message with students that they can achieve anything that they put their minds to.

Ms Turle presented on 'Black British Activists', and students learned about the long history of activism within the black community. From Amy Ashwood Garvey, who founded, The Afro Women's Centre, in 1959, probably the earliest Black women's organisation in the UK to Paul Stephenson who led a boycott of Bristol's buses which eventually led to the Race Relations Act of 1965. Students were also asked to consider what the theme for this year, 'Time for Change: Action Not Words' means, and they offered some thoughtful reflections.

Mr Quartey led a very popular and packed-out lunchtime, afrobeat workshop. Students loved the opportunity to create music together.

Ms. Daniels led a workshop about black video game pioneers and the impact that they have had on gaming. She also shared with pupils the opportunity to create their own video game, through the BAFTA Young Game Designer Competition which takes place in March.

If you are an aspiring game designer speak to Ms. Daniels!

Year 9 had the opportunity to part take in a MasterChef competition with pairs battling it out to create the most creative and delicious dishes for the judges to try. Students loved the opportunity to demonstrate their culinary skills.

Black History Month

As part of the celebration of Black History month. Students in 8 Blue have looked at a range of revolutions as part of their work on "Animal Farm" , which is based on the events of the Russian Revolution of 1917.

The revolutions on the Caribbean island of Grenada, the revolt on the Amistad where enslaved Africans took back their freedom and the Haitian Revolution of 1804, were discussed and compared.

*A photograph of Toussaint L'Ouverture, who led the Haitian revolution
(bottom right)*

Winnie's World

Winnie has made a great start to this term.

She is now present during break time and loves to meet students and wag her tail at them in exchange for cuddles.

Winnie will be doing group sessions with different year groups starting after half-term and we can't wait for more students to have the chance to work closely with her.



Harvest Festival

On 6th October we were delighted to be able to celebrate our Harvest Festival with the whole school together in the hall for the first time since 2019.

Harvest Festival has always been one of the high points in our year – it creates a powerful sense of celebration and worship, as every person in the school community brings forward a food gift to offer to people in need in our local community.

As we thought about all that we are grateful for, we were encouraged to ponder these words of Jesus, “Store up your treasure in heaven...For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Matthew 6:20-21.

We sang our way through many hymns as people made their way to the front of the hall, with a sense of joy gradually building throughout! At the end we were overwhelmed by the amount of food that had been donated. This sense of generosity and compassion is a hugely important part of our Christian ethos.

In these difficult times, we were particularly grateful to be able to support Southwark Foodbank and The Manna Society, who work with the homeless in Southwark.

The charities really rely on our gifts and they send their heartfelt thanks to everyone in our school community for their generosity.



Student Leadership (Head Girl)

This half-term has been a busy time for everyone, especially with the school returning to many events that have not happened since before the pandemic. From assisting at Open Mornings to helping run languages week, so many students have worked unbelievably hard this term to ensure that this has all run smoothly.

Students throughout the school have also been strongly involved in this year's Black History Month, especially through running workshops, giving presentations, and speaking in assemblies. I have to give a special thank you to the Diversity and Inclusion Prefects, who worked tirelessly to organise it.

There has been a strong focus on student leadership this half term, and I am looking forward to continuing to work with the new School Council, Year 11 Prefects, and House Captains - well done to everyone who was elected! It has been amazing to see our new vertical structure in practice and hear everyone's ideas through meetings across the student leadership team.

However, one of the highlights of this term for me has got to be our first whole-school Harvest Festival since 2019. It was wonderful to hear everyone singing together and to see the generosity of all the students and staff who donated food and toiletries.

It is an honour to have been chosen as Head Girl, and for this academic year, I want to focus especially on student leadership and sustainability. During the next half term, there will be meetings with all of our student leaders, and I am committed to ensuring that their voices are heard.

Working with our brand-new Environmental Society, which is made up of students and staff who are all committed to making the school as sustainable as possible, has been wonderful. It will be running every Friday after half term if anyone is interested in joining!

Elsie
Head Girl 2022-23