

St Saviour's
& St Olave's
School

April 2023

newsletter

FOR PARENTS, STUDENTS, GOVERNORS AND STAFF

Happy Easter

Dear Parents & Carers

It's been a particularly hectic Spring term, and you can see from this extensive newsletter just how much has been going on.

Students taking exams this year have been working incredibly hard, and many of them will be joining us for Easter revision sessions in school. It was a particular delight to host the traditional year 7 Easter egg hunt this morning, and to see our parent/carers forum hold its inaugural meeting this term.

We are all looking forward to a well-earned rest to sustain us through the Summer term to come.

There have been some challenging times this term, and your support, working in partnership with us for the benefit of our whole community is greatly appreciated.

Wishing you a peaceful, restful, blessed Easter.

Ms C May
Headteacher



Reporting your child absent or late?

Email: attendance@ssso.southwark.sch.uk
Please email before 9 a.m. so as not to affect your child's attendance.

Important Dates for Parents & Students:

Diary Dates

17th April 2023
School Reopens

20th April 2023
Year 8 Parents Evening

1st May 2023
Bank Holiday
(School Closed)

8th May 2023
Bank Holiday
(School Closed)

4th May 2023
Year 7 Parents Evening

29th May to 2nd June 2023
Half Term

Narrative Writing

This Term students in year 7 completed a unit of work on narrative writing. As part of this work, students in 7B are writing novels and short stories. Which of these extracts from the opening chapters of three novels, entices you to want to read on and why?

Please send your comments to Ms Lloyd at alloyd@ssso.southwark.sch.uk with NOVEL in the email header.

End Times by Zeruiah

Chapter One: The Day of the Lord

The sound of a trumpet deafened my ears. Heavy hail hurled down on the earth. In the blink of an eye, bright scarlet blood and fire came rushing down like the Niagara Falls, causing a third of the earth and trees to perish. Another trumpet sounded. A colossal, mountain ablaze with brilliant flames, plunged into the sea. A third of the clear sea transformed into a large pool of red light. A third of all the creatures in the sea lost their lives and many ships were destroyed. Then there was a third trumpet. A great star, blazing as bright as a torch, descended from the sky and plunged into a third of the rivers of the earth. The name of the star was Wormwood. A third of the waters turned bitter and many humans fell to their deaths.

Then there was a fourth trumpet. The sun, moon and a third of the stars had darkened. As I watched, a soaring eagle screeched in a mighty voice, "Woe! Woe! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth!"

The clocks competitor by Amal

It happened, Mama warned me this would happen; I wish I had listened to her earlier. Well, it's too late now, things can only go downhill from here.

Chapter One: Finding my place

Everything was worse than I thought it would be. There weren't the luxuries that my mates said there would be. I guess I have been misled badly, badly. I was in a tough situation, and I didn't know how to get myself out of it. I was warned, warned to the extent where Mama feared that my life would be in danger. This was no place for someone like me. I wish I had done better, been better and been a better role model for my little Sis. Rose deserved better from me as a big brother.

Shapeshifter by Zahra

CHAPTER ONE

Nobody believes in werewolves. They never do. Not until it's too late. Just a silly little tale they think. Humans turning into werewolves at midnight and obliterating everything in their path. Right? Nobody believes in them until they see one. I never believed in such tales. I never did until I saw one with my own eyes. I know. It sounds unreal, doesn't it? Well, we will see what you think about that when you hear this story. Our school principal was a werewolf shapeshifter!! I miserably crumpled up the paper, scrunched it hard into a paper ball and aimed it towards the bin. And I missed. Aww. I swear I was getting better at throwing things. I swallowed the remaining milk from my cereal bowl and slammed the bowl on the dining table. I needed to hurry up or else I would be late for meeting Aura. She would probably scold me right up until we reached school. I got up and slung my bag on my back. I grabbed my coat and dashed out the front door. I jogged down the street until I reached Aura's house then cautiously crossed the lawn and climbed up the steps to her door. I was about to knock when the door burst open. I swear my soul jumped out of my body for a split-second.

Jack Petchey *'Speak Out Challenge'*

On Tuesday 7th March, Hypatia and Kiarna from 10 Yellow represented the school in the Southwark regional final of the Jack Petchey's Speak Out final.

Both performed articulate and engaging speeches on important issues and are a credit to the school. Below is an account of their experiences.

Hypatia

One word. When asked to write this entry, I decided to come up with one word to depict my experience. Thrilling. You may think that this is a strange word to choose but I think it's the most accurate to select.

The whole event was incredible. I got to step out of my comfort zone and unlock a talent that I had buried unintentionally. I was fortunate enough to meet new people at the competition as well as learn how to psychologically prepare myself for challenges.

To conclude, this experience was a huge eye opener and I encourage everyone to come out of your shell and try something new because you never know what you can do unless you try.

Kiarna

If there is one thing I specialise at is.... talking. Both friends and family and even my teachers have all, at some point, been blessed with having to hear me speak on and on and on and from quite a young age I have always been what some may call a good speaker and as a result of God's grace and others belief in me I have had many chances to speak, and the Jack Petchey Speak out challenge was one of them.

If I was to describe it with one word I would say it was most definitely a fulfilling experience. The challenge gave me the platform and chance to convey a message that is personal and resonates with me as a student and individual. In being given the platform and such an amazing opportunity, I was not only able to develop and improve my speaking skills, but I was able to bring my thoughts concerning social pressures on students to life and express my belief as to what living life really means.

I was able to use my words which I believe are very powerful, just as yours as 'the power of life and death reside in the tongue,' to touch people, inspire and trigger thought and cause people to feel some form of emotion.

I believe that words are very powerful instruments and this experience taught me and has encouraged me to use my voice and as cliché and corny as it sounds, your words if orchestrated and constructed in an efficient and effective way can make a difference.

So, I encourage everyone reading this to SPEAK OUT and rise to every challenge!

Jack Petchey's
"SPEAK OUT"
Challenge!

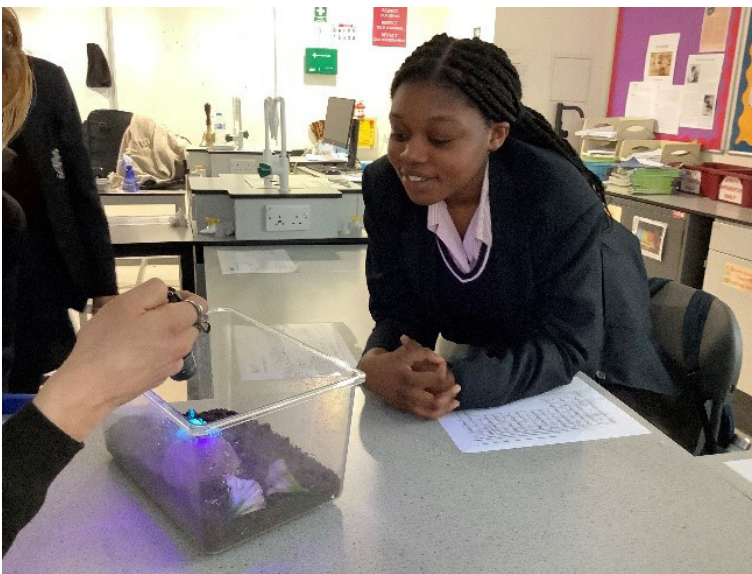


Zoolab Science Week

On the 13th March, all of year 7, and one class of lucky year 10's was able to have a lesson with ZooLab courtesy of Science week, who brought with them a frog, a snake, a giant snail and a scorpion!

Students were able to see these animals up close, and some brave students even held the snail and the snake! The ZooLab instructor also described how each of these animals is adapted to the habitat in which they live, and shared some fun facts about them - did you know that some scorpions glow under ultraviolet light?

Here are some photos of students enjoying meeting these exciting animals



LGBT History Week

Although Pride month around the world is in June it is marked in February in schools as LGBT history month.

Our awareness week was straight after half-term and Year 11 students showed student leadership by volunteering at the Rainbow Stand where pupils had the chance to ask questions anonymously, read up on rights and responsibilities, and post a message of support. The highlight of the week was when a former student Stacey came to share their experiences while they were at SSSO.

They were particularly impressed with the insightful questions from students and the fact that students are now allowed to wear trousers as part of the uniform – a real step forward for inclusivity. The programmed week included screenings of programs and films, there were competitions in Art and Ethics with some of the entries shared here.



LGBT Essay Competition

Daniella (11Y)

'All Anglican Priests are obliged to give blessings to same-sex couples. How far do you agree?' One reason not all Anglican priests are not obliged to give blessings to homosexual couples could be due to the infamous verse Leviticus 18:22, which reads

'You should not lie with mankind as with womankind; it is an abomination.'

This Levitical verse is one of the common arguments used against the LGBTQ+ community, because it is from the Pentateuch, (one of the first five books of the Bible) and so is revered by both the Jewish and the Christian community. Many Anglican Priests, therefore, would see the blessing of LGBTQ+ couples as direct disobedience to God's word.

On the other hand, Leviticus 18:22 has been mistranslated for well over 80 years. The passage is known as a 'clobber passage' - one often used to argue against homosexuality. However, upon further research it is likely that the verse was not referring to homosexuality, but rather pederasty (a sexual relationship between an older man and a younger man, usually a teenager.)

Another translation of this verse is about two men coming together to rape a woman, or a man raping a man. Furthermore, this verse only refers to men in same-sex relationships – not women, so even in Leviticus 18:22 does not allow same-sex relationships with men, it means that lesbian and non-binary couples could still get blessings.

Despite this, an Anglican priest could also argue that same-sex relationships are not natural, and were punished by God, as seen in the account of 'Sodom and Gomorrah,' the two towns believed to have been destroyed by God because of the homosexuality that its inhabitants engaged in. Anglican Priests could argue that this verse shows that those who disobey God or condone sins will surely be punished and meet the same fate that the inhabitants of the two cities did – suffering in fire, for eternity.

However, further research shows that this account from Genesis is another 'clobber passage' cherry-picked from the Bible to argue against homosexuality. The people of Sodom and Gomorrah were punished for their sinfulness – the Bible says in Genesis 13:12-13 that the people were 'wicked, great sinners against the Lord.' God punished Sodom and Gomorrah because of the lack of righteous people present in the town, not because there were gays there. Furthermore, the word 'homosexuality' does not exist in the Bible – it was put in during the 1940's, at the peak of the West's intolerance for it.

When Lot's house was surrounded by the mob, we cannot assume it just a group of 'homosexual men' who had come to rape the angels that had entered Lot's house – there probably would have been several different people, not just homosexual males, who were curious about the two men who had appeared (seemingly from out of nowhere,) and entered the house of Lot, who was a foreigner in Sodom and Gomorrah. This means that another sin of Sodom was their intolerance for outsiders and mob violence – NOT HOMOSEXUALITY.

In conclusion, as someone who was raised in an unequivocally religious household but also as a young person in the 21st Century with LGBTQ+ friends, I believe that all Anglican Priests should (if they are comfortable) be able to give blessings to same-sex couples – as the Bible was misinterpreted and had the word 'homosexuality' placed in it (a word that previously did not exist and was not in previous translations of the Bible) because of the intolerant nature of the Church in the past – something that should not define us.

Christianity's (and the Scripture's) founding principle is love, so it should not be a demanding thing to show to others - especially towards marginalized groups like the LGBTQ+ community.

Project Guardian

"For PSHCE Day, we were fortunate enough to have Alex from Project Guardian visit and give a presentation about how they are making public transport safer for young girls and women like us. Project Guardian is an initiative which aims to combat and increase reporting of sexual harassment on public transport in London. They urge victims to report, and send plain-clothed police officers to catch perpetrators before they can do more harm."

"Through a series of chilling examples, I learnt that an outrageously large number of women experience unwanted sexual behaviour, but most of them do not tell anyone, for fear that it would not be taken seriously, or no one would believe them. However, we were reassured that this was not the case, and I now feel more supported in spotting and communicating indecent behaviour in public. It is relieving to know that, as young women, we are protected and supported and believed by the police in dire, harrowing cases of sexual harassment."

"It is encouraging that in these horrific cases, the victim will not be blamed – it is too often that girls are told they were "asking for it," instead of holding the perpetrator accountable."

Adelina (9R)

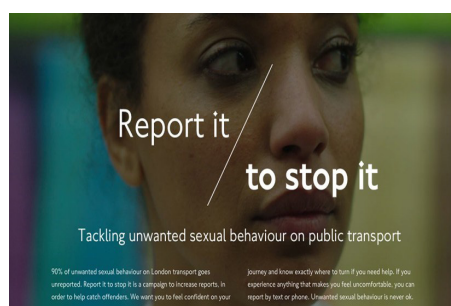


The "Report It to Stop It" campaign was launched by Transport for London (TfL), British Transport Police (BTP), Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) and City of London Police (CoLP) in March 2017.

That was 6 years ago but the theme is still extremely relevant. We are fortunate to have had Project Guardian visit our Year 9 students ever since.

Mrs Elliott-Janvier
Director of Learning Year 7

You can watch the campaign film here
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i_IJrpzntdA



Penguin Books Random House Visit

On March 8th, Shakthi (10G) attend a workshop with Penguin books, who are a publishing company. In this workshop, we were informed on the process of publishing and the many roles and professions available in this field of work.

We were able to split into groups and play a different role in the publishing process. We were given a task to do with the book "How to save it" and then we presented our ideas to the other groups and the people who came to give us the workshop.

As part of the designing team, our group were able to create a different book cover, which we found more appealing to a younger audience, and were able to explain our thought process behind it. Other groups worked on finance, writing the blurb, marketing and more and everyone shared amazing ideas and thoughts. Overall, the workshop was incredibly fascinating and a great experience.

The following book is one of a series of "How To..." guides, published by Merky Books – founded by Penguin and Stormzy back in 2018. Other titles include How to Build It, How to Write It, How to Change It, How to Calm It and How to Move It.

The series offers pocket-sized guides to help young people unlock their potential by offering practical advice.

Mrs Elliott-Janvier
Director of Learning Year 7



Swimming Star at St Saviours

Maia in 7R has a secret skill that you might not be able to guess, just by looking at her. She is an accomplished artistic swimmer, and on the 24th March, she took part in the Artistic Swimming National Age Group Championships.

Maia did extremely well and enjoyed the experience of a national competition. She came 5th in figures, 5th in duet, 4th in solo and won gold in team with the 12 and Under London Regional squad. Maia's interest in this sport began with her passion for ballet, dance, and swimming, which soon combined to lead her towards synchronised swimming. Maia is aiming to get into Team GB and then be part of the Olympic squad in her discipline.



KPMG Trip

On the 27th March, Mr Henry and Mr Young accompanied eleven more able maths students on a trip to the offices of KPMG, in Canary Wharf. KPMG is a multinational professional services network, and one of the Big Four accounting organisations.

The workshop, entitled Numeracy in the News, gave our students valuable knowledge about the news, the skills to explore different points of view and make up their own minds, and the confidence to have their say.

The event was run by specialist teachers from the Economist Educational Foundation, with the support of two KPMG volunteers.

Here are some comments from the students who participated:

My experience at KPMG was great and interesting

Liana 7G

KPMG was great, they taught us skills that are relevant to real life.

Maia 7R

KPMG was fun, I was able to see different employees from KPMG and they explained their roles.

Chioma 7Y



Cello Workshop & Music Exam

Southwark Music Service are working on a strings projects with famous 'cellist Sheku Kanneh Mason this year, and we have been lucky to be awarded three spaces for St Saviour's students to participate. Sheku Kanneh Mason performed at the wedding of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, and is one of the most notable 'cellists performing today.

These students will benefit from 7 workshops with the Philharmonia Orchestra string players, culminating in a concert in early June at the Royal Festival Hall.

Well done to Sofia in 10R, Azaria in 12S, and Alex in 9B.

Congratulations to Sophie who passed her grade 5 theory exam with merit on 8th February! This enabled her to take her grade 6 piano exam on 29th March - grade tbc!



STEM Workshop (Women's Day)

On International Women's day (8th March) Shakthi of 10G did a STEM workshop at UK Power Networks. "There were many interesting activities to do throughout the trip: including learning about what UK Power Network does, having a Q&A with senior women who play vital but different roles to do with engineering, learning about the different paths to a STEM career as well as hearing other workers' journeys to get to the profession that they have chosen, and finally, ending the workshop with a quiz."

"I really enjoyed learning about the paths that each person took and the struggles they have faced throughout their career as an engineer, especially as a woman. I was able to not only gain an insight in the field of work and specifically in this industry, but also ask for advice with coping with pressure, setting boundaries with workloads and how to seek out for work experience and other opportunities."

"I was inspired by every woman that we had the privilege of speaking to, for they all were incredibly helpful and were able to share some of the amazing contributions they have made in an often-male dominated field. The trip was an incredible experience to learn about STEM and I enjoyed it thoroughly."



Old Times Performance

On the 6th March 15 Year 9 students performed a play at The Soho Theatre as part of National Theatre Connections. Every year the National Theatre commissions ten playwrights to write new plays for young people. These are then performed by schools and drama groups up and down the country. Two professional directors come to watch the performance in school and then provide feedback before the show transfers to the professional venue.

Kourtney of 9G describes her experience of the project

The whole process of producing the show 'Old Times' was so bittersweet. Getting to know everybody and their characters was so fun it also allowed myself and the rest of the cast to get to know each other more than just cast members. In auditions you got to see everyone's talent and get creative in groups. Once you got through that part, made it to the cast, then you had rehearsals. Rehearsals was always something I looked forward to at the end of the day on Wednesday and Friday (sometimes Monday), as we got closer to our first performance it became even more stressful, but Ms Murphy always supported us until the very end which also gave us that little bit more of push power to see it through to the end to make her proud.

The whole process was literally crazy we all drove each other insane getting things like scenes and lines mixed up. There were always tears, laughs, frustration and those emotional scenes that literally have you trying to hold yourself together. But the more character work we did we got to understand our characters more which helped us get this story across.

This helped for our first ever performance with professional feedback, that's when everything really hit us all. I'm so glad we got that opportunity to do it the first time, that also gave us the chance to talk together as a cast to get everything out in the open. It also gave us a chance to get things right in time for our next performance at Soho Theatre. We used that feedback every single rehearsal from then to improve.

When the time finally came to perform at the Soho Theatre, we had a workshop on the day with a professional director which got us in the mood for the show. As the workshop went on, I was getting so tired and started anticipating the show and wanted to get it over with. It sorts of stressed me out even more than preparing me for the show. I began overthinking it but once it was all over with, I finally felt at peace and instead more excited for the show. Before the show I was so excited I finally got to chance to show off all my hard work and preparation. By the end of the show I was so upset, I hated that it was over, but I was sort of glad. We will never get an opportunity like this again and I'm so glad I got to be subject to it. I made some good friends and I've learnt so much about others around me and I had so much fun.



French Restaurant Trip

On the 22nd March, Mr Coeur and his Y12 and Y13 classes made their way to an authentic French brasserie on Bermondsey Street at lunch time, where students found themselves in a complete French environment. All students used this opportunity to speak and order in the target language. This setting also gave students a further insight into French culture and its traditional foods.

"Our trip to Casse croute, a French restaurant in Bermondsey, was enjoyable and fun. Even though I know my way around the beauty of French cuisine, it was a great opportunity to try French food again after a long time and be in the company of everyone who takes the A level.

There are a variety of options and the staff are nice and welcoming.

The highlight for me was the dessert, a simple creme brulee, which was outstanding.

I recommend this place, there will always be a different menu each time, so choose your choices wisely!"

Amel, Y12

"It was a wonderful opportunity to experience French culture via their cuisine and it helped us to engage with native speakers.

Moreover, it allowed us to develop our speaking by putting us on the spot to apply our knowledge to everyday conversations and listen carefully to various pronunciations.

Lastly, it was very enjoyable and enriching to explore the French culture in a new and exciting way!"

Amy, Y12



South London Art Gallery Visit

On the 7th March 2023, Ms Zanchi took a group of Year 11 GCSE Art students who were fortunate enough to go on a trip to the South London Art Gallery. We looked at a new exhibition comprised of pieces by art students studying at university and recent art graduates. The exhibition, known as the 'New Contemporaries,' contained pieces that utilised a diverse range of mediums, from acrylic and photography to knitted yarn, skillful cinematography, and even repurposed Adidas tracksuits!

The gallery visits served not only as an entertaining experience but also an educative and enriching one. Despite the fact we were away from the classroom, each of the pieces provided us with ideas, skills, and concepts for our own work. For example, the artist Yukako Tanaka's use of cinematography to depict dementia (and its detrimental effect on her grandmother,) had a particularly personal touch - something that is heavily encouraged in GCSE Art.

Furthermore, this visit also brought many students (like myself) the much-needed inspiration to finish the course in style, as our time in Y11 ends.

In conclusion, this school trip acted both as a means of out-of-classroom enrichment and motivation to us GCSE students and as a last opportunity to create some memories as a class before our summer exams begin.

I would also like to extend my sincerest thanks to the St Saviours & St Olaves Art Department for organising this event.

Maryam, a former St Saviours & St Olaves graduate from 2021, in front of her fantastic series of photographs titled Boy at her group show opening at the South London Gallery.

Maryam says 'Boy seeks to represent the shared experience black men and gender nonconforming masculine people share despite their other differences. It articulates this by utilising double exposure in film photography to create a visual discussion with people who do not know each other and were not in previous contact prior to the work.

The photos act as a place of meeting for the subjects within them by photographing them on top of each other'.



Horrible Histories Club

Over the last term Key Stage Three students have been attending St Saviours & St Olaves Horrible Histories Club. Inspired by the Horrible Histories books and BBC television series, the History Department have been introducing students to all the weird and wonderful parts of history not covered on the curriculum.

Who said money doesn't grow on trees! In one session students learnt about the importance of chocolate in Aztec society and the fact that they used cacao beans as currency. They then got to test out some Aztec hot chocolate recipes, creating their own Aztec hot chocolate using, cacao, honey and even chilies!

Ms Moxey's session, students investigated Ancient Egypt, and learnt about powerful female goddesses including, Sekhmet.

Ms Price's session, students looked at the fearsome 'Spartan Schools' used for training Spartan warriors. The programme for next half term will include more fascinating tales from the past. Students will have the opportunity to extend their historical knowledge, ask questions, share their ideas, and join in debates and develop some of the key enquiry skills of a historian.

The club runs every Wednesday from 3.30- 4.20pm and all students in years 7, 8 and 9 are welcome to join.

B B C

[HORRIBLE HISTORIES]

Benin Bronze Debate

Over the past half term, Year 8 students have been learning about the Kingdom of Benin in their History lessons and exploring the enquiry question, 'Why was the Kingdom of Benin so remarkable?'

Students have explored the successful trade of the kingdom, their military strength, technological developments and the incredible warrior queen, Queen Idia. They have also had the opportunity to join in a topical debate being covered in the news now, 'Should the British Museum return their collection of Benin bronzes?'

Students wrote impassioned essays explaining their views and had the opportunity to participate in class debates on the topic. Many museums around the world are now returning the Benin bronzes to Nigeria, including the Horniman Museum in Forest Hill. Students will be watching closely to see if the British Museum do the same in the future.



Foreign Commonwealth Development Office Visit

Following their insightful and impassioned presentation at the Merchant Taylors' Hall as part of the Livery Academy Awards, students was invited to visit the Foreign, Commonwealth Development Office (FCDO) in February.

As part of their tour of the Foreign Commonwealth Development Office, the students met with senior colleagues and discussed their work on topics such as climate change, development and aid, and women and girls. The students also heard about routes into the civil service and the Foreign Commonwealth Development Office.

The students were able to see a wall of the UK women Ambassadors and a view of 10 Downing Street.

Hopefully, we have inspired some future diplomats!

"Visiting the Commonwealth Office was an extraordinary experience, that broadened my view on things I could achieve in the future."

"I found that it doesn't take having a high status or exceptional contacts to make a change as the people working at the Commonwealth Office were once just like us. We all have an equal chance to have a job in places like a governmental office."

"Though it sometimes seems as though it is something far out of our reach, truth is it's not as long as you look for a chance and take a step forward you'll be able to do it."

Leila
Year 12



Courtroom Visit & Tutor2u Workshop

As part of the Criminology curriculum, students are required to learn about the process of a criminal case from the Crime Scene to Courtroom, and in February, seventeen Year 13 students had the opportunity to immerse themselves in the workings of the courts system. They had a tour of the Royal Justice Court which informed them on why barristers wear wigs, the huge sums earned by some lawyers and why barristers working in the criminal justice system went on strike. The good and the bad in our justice system was revealed.

This was followed by a wander through the secret alleys and courtyards of the nearby Inns of Court, in the footsteps of some of the country's most renowned legal minds. In addition, students then were able to enter the public galleries at Old Bailey and sit in on one of the most interesting cases being heard on the day. The Old Bailey hears more murder trials than any other court in the country.

"When we visited the Old Bailey we did not expect it to be as engaging and insightful. Walking into the courtroom showed us how important the Criminal Justice system is in achieving justice. Not only did we listen to the arguments presented during a murder case, but we also got a first-hand view of CCTV evidence which was pivotal in the verdict and conviction reached."

Mary also commented that this experience has helped solidify her interest in studying Criminology at University.

Theresa, Mary and Docia
Year 13

Year 13 Economics and Sociology students attended exam workshops delivered by Tutor2u to prepare them for their final exams.

The workshops were designed and delivered by experienced teacher and examiner presenters, all of whom have a deep understanding of what students need to focus on to succeed in the 2023 exams.

Each workshop consisted of four sessions in a cinema screen by specialist presenters. It was a fast-paced, intensive day of revision!



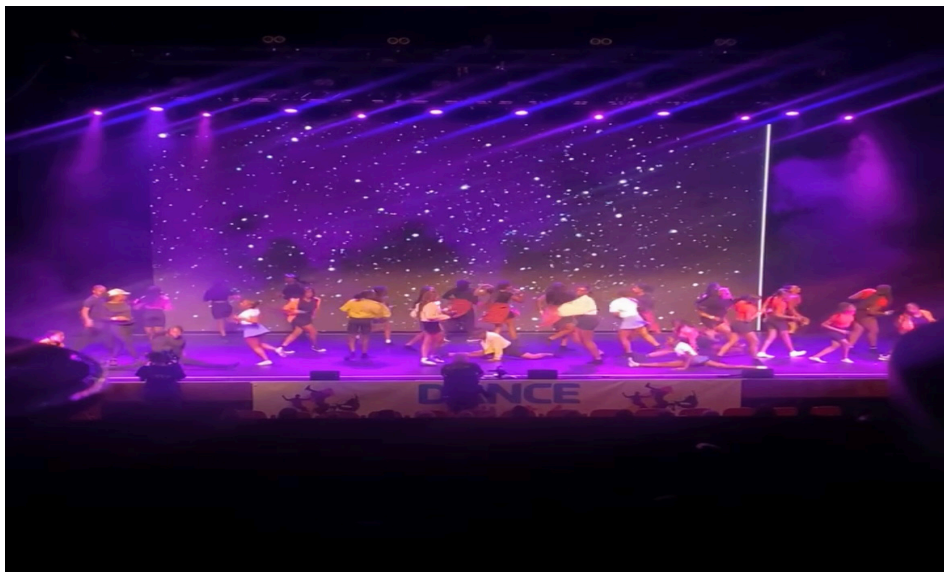
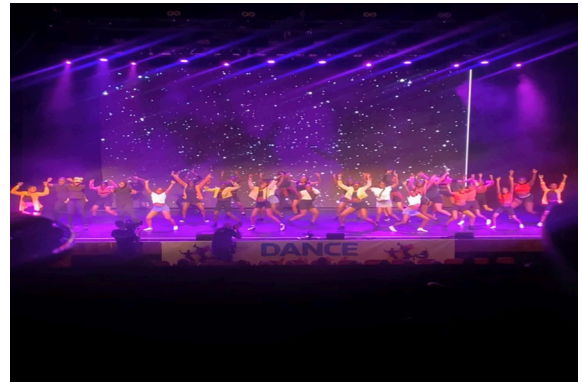
Dance Live Competition

On the 27th March 35 students from Yr 7 to Yr 10 performed at Dance Live Competition at G Live Theatre in Guildford. The students have been rehearsing since October and gave a mind-blowing performance.

Their piece was based on what would happen if The Wizard of Oz was based in South London instead of Kansas USA. The students performed incredibly and were complimented by many other schools for their creativity and performance.

The judges' feedback was that the piece was 'clever' and conveyed an original idea. She also highly favoured the song choices chosen.

Huge Well Done to all involved!



MarketAcess Visit

On the 3rd March, 30 students from Year 10 took part in a workshop at MarketAcess head office in Barbican.

Our students worked together with representatives from the Financial Technology company MarketAcess to participate in a Music Charity business simulation aimed to develop students understanding of business and entrepreneurship.

The students were put into 2 teams and had to pitch their ideas of a Music Charity to a host of judges and had even to perform a music event act to everyone.

"I had the privilege of attending trip with gave me a lot of insight about the world of finance. Within this trip I was able to work on many skills, including teamwork, being a good leader, communication, responding well to feedback and time management."

"I discovered the many roles within this sector of work, and thoroughly enjoyed being the chief executive of my team."

"We worked very well together and put on an incredible showcase at the end, which enabled us to show all the skills we had learned throughout the trip."

Shakthi 10G



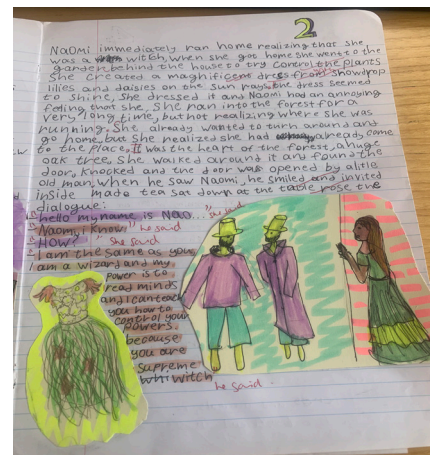
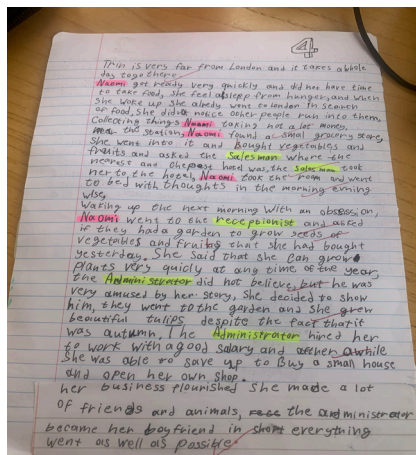
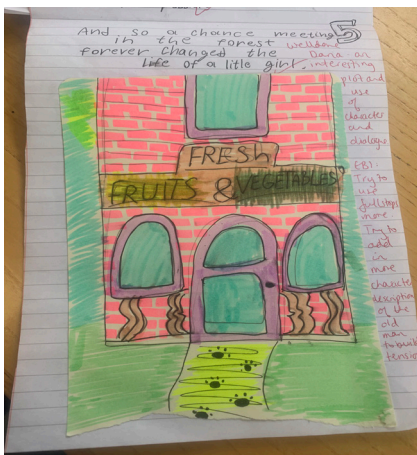
Story Writing Skills

Miss Gentili from the English Department, has been working with Daria (Year 8) on her story-writing skills.

Daria is a keen artist and has come on so much in her English as when she arrived here from Ukraine 6 months ago.

Here is her amazing final story which she produced over a double lesson.

What fabulous use of character and description!



Talksport Radio Presentation

On the 24th March, Media Studies students from Year 12 and 13 plus 6 invited students from KS3 were given the opportunity to hear from Olly Clink who is a sports journalist and match day reporter on all the leading football premier league matches from Talksport radio, the leading sports radio programme in the UK.

Our students also got to hear from Maya Graham who is on the apprenticeship programme at Talksport, it was good for our students to hear about her journey into the world of journalism.

The insight we got from sports journalists Oliver Clink and Maya Graham who is an apprenticeship at Talksport Radio was extremely helpful in our understanding of the media industry, specifically how to enter the industry.

Media is a subject of many gateways and doesn't require a set pathway to enter the diverse sector.

Learning more in-depth and live sports radio and programming as well as the differences in commercial and public broadcasting stations, expanded my knowledge on the subject and further opened my perception on how to enter and succeed within the media industry.

Yaa
13S



Winnie's World

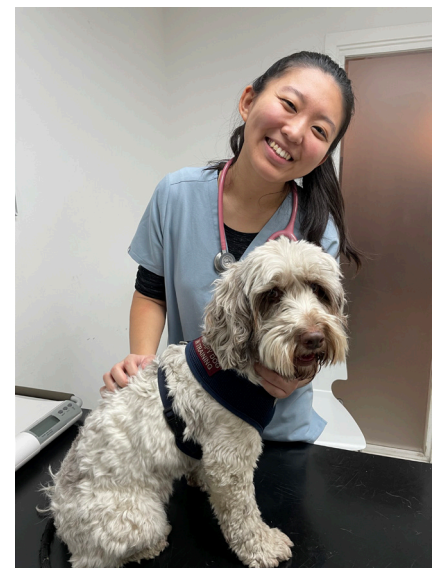
This term Winnie's responsibilities have grown to include library duty before school. At first it was just an informal visit to say hello, but now she goes every morning at about 8.15. Two year 7 students come to collect Winnie every morning from the languages office and lead her down to the library where she takes up her position on one of the comfy chairs. She loves the attention and students love having her there.

Winnie also provided a vital support role during Year 11 mock GCSE exams at the end of February. Anxious students can come and see Winnie if they are finding life a bit hard - taking a moment with her is often enough to distract from exam stress. Spending time with animals, talking to them or stroking them is a proven technique for reducing anxiety.

A significant event this term was Winnie's 2nd birthday. 5 students from Year 7 and 5 from Year 8 were invited to her party as a reward for kindness. They brought with them home-made cards and we played pass the parcel with a forfeit for the students, and a treat for Winnie in each layer of wrapping.

Winnie opened presents of treats from Lynne, one of our cleaners, and Ms Daniels, Head of ICT. Winnie also made light work of her dog-friendly birthday muffin from Mr Dennis in the premises team. She showed off her new-found 2-year-old maturity by posing for a very serene photo in the Cathedral after our commemoration service.

Hodge, the Cathedral cat, kept a very low profile while Winnie was around. During her six-monthly check-up at the vet she was found to be in very good health so life at school really must be suiting her.



Parent & Carer Forum

On the 22nd March, St Saviour's & St Olave's held their first Parent & Carer Forum. This was an exciting new event that aims to create new opportunities for parental and carer engagement at St Saviours & St Olaves, building on the successes of the Support Your Daughter events pre-pandemic.

Our first evening featured Doreen Sinclair-McCollin, former Headteacher and now CEO of 'Elevated Minds,' an inspiring organisation that works with young people in building resilience, confidence, and emotional intelligence. Her uplifting presentation offered our guests coaching on how to have challenging conversations with our young people.

Teresa Hughes, a former police detective and now an online safety and digital safeguarding consultant with her own consultancy (Girling Hughes Associates) and partnered with the Association of Adult and Child Online Safety Specialists (AACOS).

Her talk offered our guests crucial insights into the risks of online safety and what adults can do in keeping our young people safe.

Dionne Aarons also joined us, who works as a parent advocate in supporting parents understand the complexities of involvement with social services in Southwark.

At the end of the evening we had food in the dining hall where Rukayat Basaru – Parent Governor - led an engaging and entertaining session of scenario-based training on 'what would you do if your daughter...?'

We will be holding the next event in the summer term and would love to see many of you there!

Mr Robbins
Assistant Headteacher



Parent & Carer Forum Photos



Apollo Theatre Visit

On the 29th March the Year 12 Drama and Theatre Studies class visited the Apollo Theatre in the West End to watch a performance of 'For Black Boys Who Have Contemplated Suicide When The Hue Gets Too Heavy'.

The production is about six young Black men meeting for group therapy sessions and how they collectively become each other's safe space, and explores what it means to be Black in 21st-century Britain.

The play was devised in honour of Trayvon Martin's unlawful death in 2013 and in response to Ntozake Shange's seminal work For Colored Girls, instead focusing on Black British men rather than African American women.

The Year 12 students watched the production as part of their A-Level devised exam which will take place after the Easter holidays and which focuses on archetypal versions of Black women and how we can work together to avoid these stereotypes.



Church of England National Education Lead for Racial Justice Presentation

On the 27th March 2023, 11 students from Key Stage 3 – 5 met with Bola-Alysia Ayonrinde, the Church of England National Education Lead for Racial Justice.

These students formed a student panel to critique a Racial Justice Curriculum from the Church of England. They looked at Key Stage 1 and 2 resources and feedback to Bola-Alysia to inform the development of future Schemes of Learning.

This valuable work, once tweaked, will be shared across the country.

Their names will be included in the national resources sent to all Church of England primary schools. All students have been awarded house points and their feedback also contributes to our work to be an Anti-Racist school.

The Religious Studies Department would like to thank the following students for their contributions:

Abigail & Zeruiah – Year 7

Adebimpe – Year 8

Darya – Year 9

Kiarna, Manuella, Ivy, Vanessa, and Samantha – Year 10

Rebecca & Omoteniola – Year 12



Cambridge University Visit

On the 20th March 2023, Year 12 and 13 Religious Studies students attended an all-day Philosophy and Ethics Study Day in the Faculty of Divinity at Cambridge University.

The day was led by academics and a guest speaker, the author of the 6th form A Level Religious Studies textbooks and revision guides.

This was an exciting and valuable opportunity to consolidate learning and support students in developing the critical reasoning skills necessary to access A/A* grades.

Here are some comments from students:

'It was very insightful especially when we were taken on a tour of the library that held original copies of books such as Summa Theologica by St Thomas Aquinas.

We were taught amazing skills on how to write stronger and higher-grade essays. Also, the iced coffee was amazing :)

'Some of us went to the garden next to the Faculty of Divinity. It was quiet and peaceful, with a lot of plants.

'The library located in the Faculty of Divinity had literally every book you could possibly think of to do with Philosophy and Ethics. The lecture(s) were informative especially the morning sessions about common errors and brushing up on our AO1 and AO2 skills.'

'The trip was really insightful and learning from an examiner about the common error found within the essays of various candidates helped to ensure that we reach the top grades.

It was a good way to get the feeling of University life to ensure whether or not it's the right decision and help to broaden our understanding of the next steps.'

'The trip was quite enjoyable and it was educational, to have the university experience of attending a lecture was quite interesting.'

'The campus was very clean. There were a lot of carrots around the campus so we concluded that there must be bunnies or deer around. It also had a lot of cyclists around so I felt encouraged to be fit.'

Many thanks to Ms Kennedy for accompanying the students and to the St Olave's Foundation for contributing towards the trip.



Commemoration Service Choir

In this year's commemoration service, held on the 14th March both the gospel choir and senior choir performed. After rehearsing with dedication in weeks leading up to the service. There were many amazing performances and solos.

The senior choir lead by Ms Watkins once again gave the school a beautiful technical piece of Laudate Dominum and Gloria with an outstanding solo. It was a fitting celebration of our 120th anniversary.

The Gospel choir lead by three year 12 students Teniola, Ololade, and Nasrin surprised the school with their performances of Tamela Mann's take me to the king played on the piano by a wonderful sixth former Azaria, and Blinded by Your Grace including a rap. The congregation were enthralled and it has been widely agreed that the musical performances at this year's commemoration service are amongst the best we've ever been treated to in the cathedral.

Ololade
12N



Commemoration Service

On the 14th March it was wonderful to come together as a school community to celebrate our 120th birthday at our Commemoration Service at Southwark Cathedral. We were delighted to be joined by Governors, members of the Foundation, former members of our school, and the Mayor of Southwark.

Our theme for the service this year was "Courage." This was inspired by several anniversaries which are taking place in 2023.

Our readings were based around each of these anniversaries which included: 10 years since the death of Nelson Mandela, 10 years since the legislation for Equal Marriage was passed in Parliament, 75 years of the NHS, 75 years since the arrival of the Empire Windrush, and 120 years of our school.

It was very moving to hear of the part that courage had played in each of these people and pivotal moments. Both our Head Girl, Elsie McDowell and Ms. May reflected on the theme of courage in their own readings, reminding us of our school motto and helping us to think about how we can use our courage to become "Makers of the future."

We also had beautiful works of art revealed throughout, echoing the readings. These culminated with a wonderful illuminated installation which depicted our own school anniversary.

In addition to our thought-provoking theme, we heard fantastic music from our Senior Choir who sang pieces by Vivaldi and Mozart, and our Gospel Choir who sang stunning renditions of "Take me to the King" by Kirk Franklin, and "Blinded by Your Grace" by Stormzy.

It is always a joy to be led in our cathedral services by the Dean of Southwark, the Very Rev Andrew Nunn. After 24 years at Southwark Cathedral, we were very sad that this was his last service with us before his retirement in July. We are incredibly grateful for all that we have received from him over the years, particularly his gift for communicating faith and the love of God in such a relatable way.

It was lovely to be able to thank him publicly for all his support for our school community, where he has also been a governor and Chair of the St Olive's Foundation. He will be greatly missed!

Through the hymns and prayers, it was a joyous and uplifting occasion, and a wonderful expression of our school's Christian ethos.

It is perhaps fitting to end with the Bible verse which we heard throughout:

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

Joshua 1:9



Commemoration Service Photos

