



## The St Cecilia Concert was Music to our Ears!



On Wednesday 14th March we held our annual **St Cecilia Concert**, held in honour of the patron saint of music. Working on the success of the St Cecilia concert at *St John's Smith Square* last year as part of the 125th celebration, we set the students challenging and invigorating repertoire. Our instrumental first half contained performances of *Bernstein* and *Le Chevalier de Saint George* (the first known black classical composer) with the main orchestra and stunning solo performances from our best instrumentalists in the upper school. We were also pleased to welcome **Wimbledon College** who performed as part of the joint ensemble, an orchestra that performs biannually at the two schools. The second half contained vocal performances from the year 7 choir, year 8 choir, year 9 and year 10 GCSE groups, sixth form choir and chamber choir! All the students worked incredibly hard and it was a fantastic night.

*"The concert was incredible to sing in and to listen to the other choirs perform and the orchestral piece was outstanding!"*

*It was truly awe-inspiring!"*

**Ailish**



# headlines

Dear Parents and Friends,

Lent 2018 has been very special, with girls energised by the breadth of invitations to become more aware of the needs of others and do something about it. Thank you to all our Chaplaincy team.

I am pleased to share our good news that our work with the Sacred Heart Primary School has enabled the Sacred Heart to be awarded a Good by Ofsted. Well done to all the staff and students!

A team of Sixth formers have written a letter to Pope Francis to be published alongside voices of other Catholic Women. They were sharing their experiences of being young women in our church. It is a challenging letter setting out the contradictions and difficulties they experience. I am very proud of their courage and commitment to speak out.

Keeping connected, listening to each other and talking is the only way forward!!

I wish your you and your family a very happy Easter.

Best wishes

*Julia Waters*

Julia Waters BSc (Hons) MA  
Headteacher



# Industry Day



Thanks so the brilliant **Women of the Future Programme**, Year 12 students spent an Inspirational day in Industry at global commodities company **BHP**. The day opened young eyes to the incredible opportunities available to them in their future. Students heard from Group Treasurer and Head of Europe and senior staff from Marketing, Finance, Investor relations, External Affairs and Governance; learning about the exciting range of careers in such a worldwide operation.

# Holly Bourne

*"It was fun to have another author visit our school, I love reading so it's great when the school does things like this."*

**Year 7 Student**



**Holly Bourne**, author of *Am I Normal Yet?* and *The Manifesto On How To Be Interesting?* visited Ursuline High School this half term. Holly gave an inspiring talk about her life as an author. She also did a book signing and Q&A session for students. Alongside her writing, Holly has a keen interest in women's rights and is an advocate for reducing the stigma of mental health problems. She also works with Women's Aid to spread awareness of abusive relationships - what an great role model!

# Careers!



Year 8 were fortunate to receive a Careers Panel session with a technology focus, this was designed to help students chose their options, students learned more about skills valued in the workplace and the opportunities available to them.

Many thanks to **Priscilla Li** (Head of Applied Digital Innovation) **Cappemini**, **Helena Horsburgh** (Distribution Strategy) **Dropbox**, **Ina Yulo** (Senior Community Manager) **BrightTALK**, **Luke Munday** (Apprenticeship Technology Graduate) **Accenture** for taking the time to attend and share their experiences with students.

# Womens Day!



Alongside our Sixth Form Conference (Far Right, Top), we celebrated **International Women's Day** with Year 10 students urging all students to #pressforprogress in assemblies during the week of International Women's Day. Students called for action to achieve a quicker pace of change, in the face of the recent **World Economic Forum Global Gender Gap Report** that tells us that gender equality is over 200 years away.

# Just Say No!



We welcomed the **StopWatch Theatre Company** who held an interactive session with our Year 9 students. They performed *I Love You Mum - I Promise I Won't Die*, a theatre piece (based on the story of **Daniel Sparogo-Mabbs** who sadly died in 2014) which aims to alert young people to the dangers of drugs.



netball tennis football athletics  
 rock climbing cross country  
 trampolining basketball hockey  
 dance duke of edinburgh award  
 wimbledon ball girls cycling

## housepoints

|            |     |      |
|------------|-----|------|
| BERNADETTE | 1st | 5433 |
| FRANCIS    | 2nd | 5255 |
| MARGARET   | 3rd | 4611 |
| CATHERINE  | 4th | 4602 |
| ANGELA     | 5th | 4149 |
| URSULA     | 6th | 2845 |
| TERESA     | 7th | 2713 |

## Philanthropy!



Stay Well Charity

Having met with their chosen charities all Year 8 students are now working on their presentations as part of this year's **First Give Philanthropy project**. Form groups will be competing at the final in May to win £1,000 for their form charity



Wimbledon FoodBank

Thank you so much to **Merton Foodbank, Winston's Wishes, the Winnicott Foundation, Staywell Kingston, Young Roots, Spear London** and **Project Zeroes** for giving up their time to work with Year 8.

## Rock Climbing!



GCSE P.E students had some extra climbing practise at **Craggy Climb** in **Guildford** this term. They worked on practising their climbing techniques and choosing thrie routes wisely. A fantastic array of skills on display and use of teamwork and cooperation to help spur classmates on- well done everyone!

## Rambert



Students enjoyed their visit to the **Rambert Dance Comapny** where they enjoyed a 'behind the scenes' experience day. The day started of with a historical talk before enjoying some practical dance sessions with the Rambert team.

## Ski Trip Prep!



In preparation for their Ski and Snowboard Trip (to Italy) over the Easter holidays, students enjoyed visiting the **Hemel Ski Centre** in **Hemel Hempstead**. We look forward to seeing photos of them on the slopes in the next issue!

## notepad

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Mon 16th April                           | <b>SCHOOL RETURNS</b>   |
| Tues 17th April (7.00-8.00pm)            | Year 6 New Intake Evening for Parents (A-L), Hall                 |
| Weds 18th April (7.00-8.00pm)            | Year 11 English Literature Day, Hall                              |
| Thurs 19th April (7.00-8.00pm)           | DoE Annual Awards Presentation, Hall                              |
| (6.00-9.00pm)                            | Year 6 New Intake Evening for Parents (M-Z), Hall                 |
| Thurs 26th April (7.00-9.00pm)           | A Level Drama Devised Performance                                 |
| Fri 27th April                           | Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel Multicultural Evening           |
| Sat 28th - Sun 29th April                | Junior Maths Challenge (All Day)                                  |
| Mon 30th April (7.00-9.00pm)             | DoE Bronze 1 Practice Expedition                                  |
| Tues 1st May (9.40-10.30am)              | Year 9 Parent's Revision Evening                                  |
| Thurs 3rd May (10.55-12.40pm)            | A Level Moderation Day  |
| (4.00-6.30pm)                            | BTEC Level 3 External Assessments start                           |
| Fri 4th May (12.40pm - 4.45pm)           | First Give Rehearsals, Hall                                       |
| Mon 7th May                              | Year 13 Photographs in Forms                                      |
| Tues 8th May (7.00-8.00pm)               | Year 12 End of Year Internal Exams (Until Friday 11th May)        |
| Thurs 10th May (All Day)                 | GCSE Art Exam   |
| Fri 11th May                             | Year 12 End of Year Internal Exams (Until Friday 11th May)        |
| Mon 14th May (10.55-12.40pm)             | HPV immunisation assembly   |
| Tues 15th May                            | Year 7 Learning Conference (Revision); Hall                       |
| Weds 16th May (1.20-3.10pm)              | Year 8 Parents' Evening   |
| Fri 18th May (2.00-3.00pm) (6.30-7.30pm) | Year 12 End of Year Internal Exams (Until Friday 11th May)        |
| Sat 19th - Sun 20th May                  | Yr10 GCSE Climbing assessment, Craggy Climbing                    |
| Mon 21st May (7.00-8.00pm)               | School closed for May Day   |
| Weds 23rd May (7.30-9.30pm)              | Year 7 'Help to Prepare your Daughter for Exams' Revision Evening |
| Fri 25th May (11.00-12.30pm)             | A Level Art Exam (Until Thurs 10th May)                           |
| Mon 28th May- Fri 1st June               | Year 8 First Give Philanthropy, Hall                              |
| Mon 4th June                             | First Give Philanthropy Final, Hall                               |
|  | PGL Aports Tour to Liddington (Until Sun 13th May)                |
|  | Year 8 Exams (Until Friday 18th May)                              |
|  | Year 10 Learning Conference, Hall                                 |
|  | Mental Health Awareness Week                                      |
|  | Year 9 Internal Exams (Until Friday 18th May)                     |
|  | GCSE Exams start (Until 26th June)                                |
|  | Year 12 Career Pathways Day, SFSC                                 |
|  | Rehearsal for Year 13 Celebration Mass; Sacred Heart Church       |
|  | School Council Meeting, SFSC                                      |
|  | Year 13 Leavers' Celebration Mass; Sacred Heart Church            |
|  | DoE Bronze 1 assessed and 2 Practice Expedition                   |
|  | Year 10 Parents' Revision Evening                                 |
|  | GCSE Music Concert, Hall  |
|  | Year 12 L2 Leavers Celebration, Wimbledon College                 |
|  | <b>TERM ENDS</b>  |
|  | <b>HALF TERM</b>  |
|  | <b>SCHOOL RETURNS</b>   |

# Science Week : Sixth Form Conference



Students enjoyed a fun week of practical challenges for **Science Week**. Above, students were constructing towers out of paper and wooden sticks to see who could create the tallest one! Year 12 students attended **Imperial College, London** for a 'High Energy Physics Masterclass'. Next term students will be heading to *Switzerland* to visit the **Large Hadron Collider** at **CERN Headquarters** in *Geneva*! Exciting!

*"Stories told were extremely eye-opening about faith and being a woman.."* **Year 12 Student**



In partnership with, *Catherine of Sienna College, University of Roehampton, Ursuline* ran this conference for 6th Form students in celebration of International Women's Day 2018. Led by **Tina Beattie**, *Professor of Catholic Studies* at Roehampton, the aim of the conference was to empower young women to respond to the current strong call-to-action to press forward and progress gender parity. We want to empower every young Catholic woman to work towards transforming our Church and our world!

*"This event has inspired me to be more confident and have the self-belief that my faith can and will support me!"* **Year 12 Student**

## Taster Day!



Year 8 students took part in a **Taster Day** to help with their GCSE option choices. Above students were enjoying a D&T session with *Ms Thomas*.

## City of the Future!



Year 9 students turned into 'city scape designers' in March when they took part in a 'Designing the City of The Future' interactive challenge with City Planner (and parent) **Edgar Kiviet**. Students were put into differing city teams (such as Mumbai, London and Paris) with the challenge of creating the best new 'vision for the city'.

The session was designed to open students' eyes to a wide range of career options in the built environment and how city design is combatting some of the most difficult social environmental challenges both here in London and around the Globe. Congratulations to Team Nairobi who won the challenge and were rewarded with a trinket from Mr Kiviets trip to *Amsterdam*.

## Merton Arts!



On Saturday 10th March the **Sixth Form Merici Singers** were invited to perform at the opening ceremony of the new **Wimbledon Arts Space** at *Wimbledon library*. Performing a selection of acapella choir and solo items alongside other acts from the local community, the new performance space was opened in style and holds great promise for the future.

## Coding at Twitter

On 28th February 2018, selected Year 8 students (interested in GCSE Computer Science) were selected to take part in an **Interfaith Coding Event** at **Twitter Headquarters** in Central London.

The event brought together young women from diverse faiths (Jewish, Muslims and Catholic). Pupils from the following schools attended the session: **Hasmonean Girls School, Mill Hill; Yavneh College; & Ayesha Community School, Hendon**. The course was led by a female coding and software engineer from Twitter, who introduced the concept of coding with HTML and CSS. By the end of the session students had a functioning website they that created together.

Teamwork!

