

Dear Parents/Carers, Students, Governors, Old Olavians and Grandparents

4 October 2019

Headteacher's Newsletter 44



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE

Congratulations to Year 13 student, Lucy Saunders, who recently received a Special Commendation in the University of Cambridge's R. A. Butler competition for addressing the question 'Is left versus right still a useful way to think about political division?' The Prize was established in memory of the former Master of Trinity College, Lord Butler, who most famously served as Home Secretary and Chancellor of the Exchequer, and who was responsible for the introduction of free secondary education for all students in the UK. Lucy was commended for her entry after coming in the top 12 of 169 entries. She was invited to Cambridge to meet professors and students to discuss her essay last weekend.

Congratulations also to Year 12 student, Ayomide Akande, on the publication of his second novel: 'The Keys to the Kingdom'. The novel follows twins Max and Ty Cramford who receive a mysterious plea for help from a brother and sister claiming to be locked up in a Caribbean prison. They are inclined to ignore it - until a school trip to the tropical island of Santa Medora gives them a chance to investigate. They soon find themselves crawling through sewers and confronting the murderous henchmen of the evil President Pablo III in a desperate attempt to free the children who are the true heirs to the throne of Santa Medora. This novel is a thrilling and highly entertaining story for youngsters, teenagers and young adults alike by this very talented young writer.



Last Thursday, we celebrated the European Day of Languages within school. Students completed Languages quizzes in form time, and linguistics puzzles in their French and German lessons. There was face painting at break time as well as a bake sale at lunch, both to raise money for the charity 'Refugee Action'. This charity works with refugees and asylum

seekers in the UK to find them homes and jobs, and to integrate them into society. From the face painting and bake sale on Thursday, we raised over £180. We also launched a t-shirt design competition open to all years, which is running across the country in various schools. There was a special language challenge for Year 7, and all challenges, quizzes, and puzzles will generate points for students' houses. The fantastic catering team served a variety of European food in the canteen at lunchtime. Furthermore, Year 11 also had a Linguistics assembly, and the whole school enjoyed the MFL Faculty's Languages assembly last Tuesday, which featured a video with interviews of students and staff answering the question 'Why are Languages important to you?' in a variety of foreign languages.



Well done to all teams, and especially ‘Download Complete’ who won the first VEX Robotics competition of the season last weekend. The team also won the Skills Competition, achieving the highest score in this part of the competition, and through this performance have qualified for the National Finals. Qualification for the Finals is an annual achievement, but never have they qualified so early in the season. Congratulations to the team and hopefully this is the beginning of another successful year!

Computer Science and Maths Societies held a talk on Machine Learning and Data Science for Sixth Form students. Delta Capita, a challenger business and technology consulting firm, highlighted the careers available in the field of data science and machine learning. Students were enthused to learn about frameworks such as Tensor flow, PyTorch, Keras and Caffe. There were enriching discussions on supervised machine learning algorithms such as linear regression and how neural networks use gradient descent to take iterative steps to find minimum of a function. Year 13 student, Zarya Mekathotti, shared the experience of her internship with Delta Capita, and encouraged the students who attended her presentation to follow this career path.

A polite reminder from the PE Faculty that Games kit must be worn for Games wherever possible, even if your son is off-games, and not taking part. This will prevent school uniform becoming muddy unnecessarily or wet as the weather becomes more wintery. On another sport related note, congratulations to all the players who made this week’s ‘Rugby Team of the Week’.



ST. OLAVE'S PE DEPARTMENT
 "Inspiring growth through sport"



1 Joshua Fakujujo U13a	2 Patrick Kenny 2nd XV	3 Chidera Abana U13a
4 Elliott Wright U15a	5 Korede Sanusi 1st XV	6 Justin Adesina 2nd XV
7 Ananjan Ganguli U15a	8 Koby Willmott U13b	9 Matthew Bird U15a
10 Arren Dougherty U12c	11 Shomi Adekunle U13a	12 Jeffrey Akintolu 2nd XV
13 Niccolo Albarosa U15a	14 Jed Debra U13b	15 George Farrell 2nd XV



1/10/19

Following on from last week’s item in the Newsletter, the German department is very pleased to announce that the Year 10 students listed below also received awards in the University of Reading German Writing Competition:

- Nathan Danquah - Honourable mention
- Leo Walton - Certificate of Participation

Finally, if you are or know of someone looking to join St. Olave’s Grammar School as a teacher, we are seeking to appoint a well-qualified and enthusiastic graduate to join us for maternity cover as a part-time Teacher of Chemistry.

Wishing you and your families a restful weekend.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Rees
Headteacher

The [St. Olave’s website](http://www.saintolaves.net) is full of stories of student endeavour and success. Please do keep sending me news items and student successes either via colleagues or email. The email address is publicityteam@saintolaves.net. Do not forget to include all the details along with a high-resolution photo you are willing to share and have published on the school website.
