

Dear Parents/Carers, Students, Governors, Old Olavians and Grandparents 14 February 2020

Headteacher's Newsletter 60

I thought that some of you might be interested to know that we are currently advertising for a part-time Teacher of Biology. If you, or anyone you know, might be interested in this post, do please get in touch with me as soon as possible.



I mentioned in my Newsletter last week that the fifteen-a-side rugby season had ended within school. It was quickly picked up that this was only for our boys and the girls' rugby season has continued. The ladies Under 18 rugby squad played last Wednesday against Hayes School in a fiercely competitive game. With a late kick off after they had played a Netball match, the Olaves team sparkled with an expansive game, moving the ball around and letting their forwards punch it up through the middle. Hayes, who were a little more experienced, absorbed the pressure well before counter attacking and scoring 1 of their 3 tries. Despite losing the girls worked hard, tackled with ferocity and never took a backward step. Well done to all who played. Next up is the Kent 7s.



Both netball teams played a home fixture against regular competitors, Langley Park School for Boys. A shortened game saw quarters of very competitive match play and determination from both sides. For the A team, the final score was 7-3 to St Olave's, achieved in part by excellent teamwork and confident shooting. The B team maintained a strong lead throughout their quarters until the last few minutes of the game when Langley just managed to come back, ending the game at 7-6 to Langley. Overall an enjoyable fixture and great to play against Langley again after other prior home and away games this season. Player of the match for the A team was Antonia Williams - her fantastic shooting helped secure a win for the St Olave's girls, and her excellence as a team player helped raise the standard of play immensely. Both teams continue training very hard for the numerous back-to-back fixtures as we continue through the season.



It was an early start for Year 8 'Team Columbus Aviation', who competed at the Galactic Challenge at Kings College London last Saturday. The teams were tasked with designing Astoria, the first space settlement on an asteroid in the main belt. Students were placed in teams and spent the day creating a presentation following a Press Release from the Foundation Society, which answers a Request for Proposal (RFP). Our twelve Year 8 students developed their engineering and aerospace knowledge together with their presenting and teamwork skills. Congratulations to the team. The judges gave the team commendations for: Clear delivery of their presentation

and the application of quantum computing to their design. Well done Year 8, it was a pleasure to see the students learning from the guidance of Sixth Form Olavians. A big thank you to them and to everyone who helped out beforehand and on the day.



Congratulations to Year 8 student, Arnav Sharma, on his success in The Big Bang Online Heats, which saw him awarded a place as a finalist in the The Big Bang Competition to be held at the NEC, Birmingham in March. This is a great achievement and testament to Arnav's hard work.



29 Year 9 students and their teachers enjoyed a day at the British Film Institute at the South Bank near Waterloo. The morning session was based around a selection of German film clips with a variety of activities to be completed in German, whether written or spoken. Students were also able to contribute their comments in German to the whole auditorium, thanks to a roaming microphone. In the afternoon, they watched a full screening of 'Berlin 36', a film based on a true story set against the backdrop of the Berlin Olympic games held in Nazi Germany. It depicted the exploitation, discrimination and persecution of a Jewish athlete who was not allowed to take part in the Games in spite of her talent and proven track record.

Boys from year groups across the school attended the first in our series of lunchtime careers talks on the subject of military careers. Captain Pete Bryan explained the range of roles open to soldiers from veterinary care and music, through HR and finance to intelligence and IT. He described the challenging yet rewarding experience of Sandhurst and the transferable skills gained from managing a group of 30 soldiers on leaving there. Sergeant Victoria Dwyer detailed the routes to becoming an officer whether via a gap year, university or post degree. Student feedback following the event stated that more talks of this kind would be appreciated. All the talks in the current series can be booked by students via Moodle on the website. Individual careers guidance interviews are also underway for all Year 12 students and those Year 10 students who are participating in Morrisby career profiling.



After half-term our university application process events for Year 12 students begin. First is the Higher Education Evening from 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm on 26 February 2020 in The Great Hall. Our speakers will cover choosing a university course, student finance, higher and degree apprenticeship opportunities and writing a personal statement. The Oxbridge and Medical School Evenings will follow this for those students applying there.



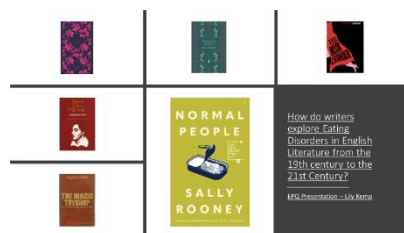
Year 13 student, Lucy, was runner up for the Role Model Awards at a national award event held by Just Like Us in London. It was an inspiring evening with talks by many famous people explaining the challenges they had faced as part of the LGBT community, including Matt Evers from Dancing on Ice, actor Charlie Condou and Only Way is Essex reality TV star, Bobby Norris. Sponsored by Goldman Sachs, this event celebrated diversity and the amazing work people like Lucy are doing in schools to empower students.



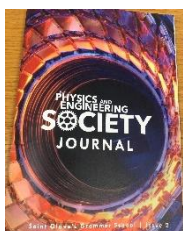


Year 9 enjoyed a Wellbeing cross curricular day on Tuesday. Sessions students engaged with included one delivered by Oliver Dixon from 'Mindfuel' as well as other members of staff focusing on topics such as resilience, the impact of the brain on wellbeing, mindfulness, and the power of sport in wellbeing. Mr Haines and Alicia Drummond delivered inspiring talks to parents across the year groups with tips and techniques on how to support young people as they grow up. Finally, talks were delivered to both Year 10 and Year 11 on exam stress. The hope is that the focus on wellbeing this week will promote amongst our student body the importance of promoting good mental health.

Hot on the heels of last week's fantastic HPQ presentations from Year 11, our senior students have embarked this week upon the first of a two week programme of Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) presentations. Almost 50 Year 13 pupils have, for this qualification, independently chosen research topics, thoroughly investigated them, and produced dissertation-length academic papers on them. The range of topics covered is simply staggering and reflects the breadth and pitch of Olavians' academic aspirations. All those who complete the qualification are required to present their research findings to an audience of their peers, parents and supervisors, all of whom have an opportunity to put questions to the candidates following the presentations. The incredible perspicacity, grit and depth of subject knowledge of our pupils really shines through in these no-holds-barred vivas, and all involved should be rightly proud of their learning. As a school, we are certainly very proud of them, and a list of the talks can be found in Appendix 2 at the end of this newsletter.



Congratulations to all students who took part in Showstoppers yesterday evening. The audience was taken to the West End with songs from 'Wicked', 'Phantom of the Opera' and 'Hamilton' to name just a few. Thank you to the staff who organised the evening. It was an immense pleasure to see the array of talent on show.



Well done to President Nicholas Munro and Vice Presidents Anujah Mohanathan, Gregoire Dastros-Pitei and Gregory Commey for putting together the second edition of the Physics and Engineering Society Journal. I hope you enjoy reading the range of articles covered, if you do manage to obtain a copy, such as 'Gravity' to 'Symmetry'.

Some dates for your diaries:

- St Olave's Cultural Evening on Saturday 29 February celebrates the diverse cultures existing within our school, while simultaneously raising funds for the charity 'Against Malaria'. Tickets can be purchased in advance via sQuid: Students £12; Adults £18; children under 11 years free.
- Our school production of Arthur Miller's classic, 'The Crucible' will be performed on the 12 – 13 March at 7:00 pm in the Chapel. Tickets are now on sale via sQuid, so please book your seats now.
- The annual Sport's Dinner will take place on Friday 1 May, from 6:30 pm in The Great Hall. Anyone who has represented the school in a sports team is welcome to attend. Tickets will be on sale in due course and further details of the event will follow shortly.



Finally, Bromley's Director of Education, Mr Jared Nehra, has asked that we circulate advice for schools regarding the Coronavirus. This advice can be found in Appendix 1 at the end of this newsletter.

Wishing you and your families a restful holiday.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Rees'.

Andrew Rees
Headteacher

See Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 below

The [St. Olave's website](#) and twitter page - [@saintolaves](#) has many more 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 photograph you are willing to share and have published on the school website.

Appendix 1 - Coronavirus – Advice for all early years’ providers, schools and further education providers

The government is monitoring Coronavirus and taking action at home and abroad. The risk to individuals remains low.

Please display the updated posters in relevant public spaces:

- <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5e35b25740f0b609169cb52a/coronavirus-public-info-poster-2.pdf>
- <https://app.box.com/s/iyfkaswybscd22gpdlx21tt4eb52n3ju>

Advice to those who have travelled recently

Public Health England has changed the advice for individuals who have travelled recently as follows:

Travellers from Wuhan and Hubei Province

If you have travelled from Wuhan or Hubei Province to the UK in the last 14 days, you should immediately:

- stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as you would with the flu
- call NHS 111 to inform them of your recent travel to the area

Please follow this advice even if you do not have symptoms of the virus.

Travellers from other parts of China and other specified areas

This advice applies to travellers who have returned to the UK from the following areas:

- Elsewhere in China
- Thailand
- Japan
- Republic of Korea
- Hong Kong
- Taiwan
- Singapore
- Malaysia
- Macau

If you have returned to the UK from any of these areas in the last 14 days and develop symptoms of cough or fever or shortness of breath, you should immediately:

- stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as you would with the flu
- call NHS 111 to inform them of your recent travel to the country

Encouraging good hygiene

As always, if you have symptoms of a cold or flu, then there are measures you can take to stop germs:

- Always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze. Then bin the tissue, and wash your hands, or use a sanitiser gel.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after using public transport. Use a sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are unwell.

Latest information

Updates on Coronavirus:

- <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Travel advice for those travelling and living overseas:

- <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus>

Public Health England blog:

- <https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2020/01/23/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-what-you-need-to-know/>

Appendix 2 – Year 13 EPQ Titles

Speaker	Title
Meghana Kavarthapu	What is the future of password security?
Saylan Mehmet	Teratomas and what they tell us about our bodies?
Aran Grover	To what extent is dystopian fiction a "nightmarish vision of the future"?
Laurence Jackson	In the everchanging property landscapes is buying or renting the best option?
Gabriel Omonitan	Has western colonisation been a help or a hindrance to Africa's socio-economic development?
Finn Horden	The satirisation of war?
Lucille Essilfie	Dentistry is for everyone but can everyone access dental care?
Chaitanya Badhwar	To what extent is it safe to develop A.I?
Chrysoula Prachalia	To what extent would we be able to recreate Fallout's Supermutants?
Lily Kemp	How has the exploration of eating disorders in English Literature progressed from the 19 th - 21 st Century?
Abigail Clark	Sunscreens: what is their future?
Ian Rodrigues	Could we ever achieve a healthcare system which maximises both equity and efficiency?
Amani Younus	To what extent does the Equality Act of 2010 prevent race discrimination and should immigration status be a protected characteristic?
Sidney Woolf-Hoyle	The Second World War ended on 15.8.45. What if it didn't?
Raymond Guo	To what extent are behaviourist theories the most valuable in understanding childhood development?
Louis Cavalli-Dowland	Is depression a public health crisis?
Lucy Saunders	To what extent is it sensible to describe fascism as right wing?
Joyce Adewumi	To what extent is medical research a channel for neo-imperialism?
James Farrow	The semantics of war?
Victoria Akinleye	To what extent has literature, fashion and the music industry been an accurate depiction of the way society views women?
Matthew Perry	Algaculture
William Guest	Does the existence of dystopian lit. and media hinder the possibility of ever living in a dystopian society?
Manas Chawla	How do the key principles of quantum mechanics apply to the engineering industry and what is its potential for use in this field?
Kudakwashe Rusenza	Does traditional medicine serve to be the barrier to the evolution of medicine within developing countries?

Sharon Anand	Why is it a necessity that the perception and treatment of mental health issues within the UK community should change?
Shane Morris	How much potential do other forms of transport have to compete with air travel?
Melodie Showell	Is the music of Debussy more impressionist or symbolist in style?
Oliver D'Costa	What is the future of commercial civil aircraft and aviation?
Amogha Bhorker	To what extent has Ayurvedic medicine influenced modern medical practices?
Talitha Jones	Should sex offenders receive free psychiatric treatment?
Shannia Williams	Can suspended animation buy the golden minute?
Ciara McPherson	The world's first mental epidemic: why are the youth fighting for psychological wellbeing and to what extent are antidepressants the results of beneficence?
Erica Appiah	To what extent can traditional medicine treat sickle cell disease in Africa?
Nadiya Ivahnenko	How is bio -inspiration influencing current robotics' research?
Yifan Shen	To what extent do Chinese laws and policies protect the environment from global warming?
Laschar Williams	How far is criminal behaviour the result of biological and social influences?
Nyal Mansoor	To be confirmed
Charles Anderton	To what extent, as a species, can we achieve immortality?
Osaruese Egharevba	To what extent should childhood vaccinations be made mandatory in the UK?
Beatrice Elliott	How far is time travel possible?
Justin Yeung	Can hydrogen-powered cars be integrated into society in the next ten years?
Yasmin Nayyar-Bhatia	Cryptocurrency?