



# ST. CATHERINE'S SCHOOL

TWICKENHAM

## SENIOR NEWSLETTER

Friday 25 January 2019

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 29 January	Year 9 Immunisations from 9.30am
Wednesday 30 January	Year 11 Parent Teacher Meetings 4.30pm
Friday 1 February	FOSC Quiz Night 7.00pm
Tuesday 5 February	House Music and Dance Competition
Wednesday 6 February	Year 13 MFL Conference Open Evening 6.15pm
Tuesday 12 February	Year 7 Parent Teacher Meeting 4.30pm FOSC Committee Meeting 7.30pm
Wednesday 13 February	Year 11-13 Art Trip to London Gallery Outlook Costa Rica Talk 6.30pm
Thursday 14 February	Siena Society—Nick Pulsford
Friday 15 February	Year 10 Theatre Trip to Macbeth

*NEXT NEWSLETTER*

*FRIDAY 15 FEBRUARY*

### FROM THE HEADMISTRESS

Good afternoon

Happy new year to everyone and welcome to the Spring term. The girls are braving the cold weather and have made a fine start to their lessons and activities.

The Sixth Form girls were pleased to return to their common room which was redecorated over the break and plans are underway for further changes and new furniture later in the year. We know that a comfortable, happy space is very important for these girls who, having just received such wonderful university offers, now have a time of important and careful preparation.

This first three weeks has included a beautiful Epiphany mass, some very successful cross country running, a talk for Years 11-13 on a volunteer opportunity in the summer, a thoughtful assembly on Holocaust Memorial Day, and an inspiring talk by Helen Pankhurst, the granddaughter of Sylvia Pankhurst, on the history and impact of all those who fought for the vote for women. It has really been a busy, enjoyable and varied time, and we look forward to more events and opportunities in the weeks to come

I would like to end with a reminder about safety. While I understand that the roads nearby can get very busy at school drop-off and collection times, we have had several recent reports of parking and driving choices which appear to compromise the girls' safety. Additionally, our neighbours find the congestion, and some casual parking, very difficult as it compromises access to their homes. I would like to ask all parents driving near the school put safety and consideration before convenience, and thank you very much for your support in this.

With very best wishes

Mrs McPherson

Mrs McPherson and the staff of St Catherine's  
are pleased to invite all Senior School parents  
to join them for our

## Shrove Tuesday Drinks Reception

On Tuesday 5 March  
In the Sister Paula Thomas Hall  
6.00 - 8.00 pm

RSVP: Chantal Goldburn on 0203 261 0142  
or [cgoldburn@stcatherineschool.co.uk](mailto:cgoldburn@stcatherineschool.co.uk)

## PARKING AND ROAD CLOSURE

### PARKING AND ENGINE IDLING

*May we remind parents to park with due care and consideration in the roads surrounding the school. Cars should not be parked on the zig-zag lines in Popes Grove after 8.00am.*

*We are currently receiving an increased number of complaints that cars park on the corner of Popes Grove and Cross Deep. This is illegal and extremely dangerous for children crossing the road. Local residents have noted number plates and may be contacting the police. It is also illegal to have your care engine running when stationary.*

### ROADWORKS

We have been informed by LBRUT that there will be carriageway resurfacing works at Cross Deep between King Street and Waldegrave Road commencing each night from Sunday 27 to Thursday 31 January between 8.00pm and 5.00am. During the works a road closure and diversion will be in operation. Pedestrian access will be maintained but bus services may be affected. To facilitate these works it will be necessary to impose some temporary parking restrictions in the road marked by cones.

## ENTRANCE EXAM

### Entrance Exam Day

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> January saw an early start for almost 170 Year 6 pupils from St Catherine's and many other local Primary Schools. We were delighted to welcome candidates to come and spend the morning in school, to sit their Entrance Exams, and then have a chance to enjoy some taster lessons in a variety of subjects including Food & Nutrition, Art, Dance, Science, Computer Studies, Geography, Languages and Drama. As well as a great opportunity to learn some new skills, candidates have the chance to explore the school, and meet other pupils who, if they are offered a place, might be in their Year Group next September. Parents were also invited to attend a presentation from, Mrs McPherson, as well as meet some key staff. It was a very lively morning, thanks to the commitment and time given by all the staff who volunteered their time and enthusiasm to help.

*M Ryan*

## MASS

### Mass

The Sr Paula Thomas Hall was filled for our first Mass of 2019 held on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January. Still in the Christmas season (which lasts until the Baptism of Our Lord – 13<sup>th</sup> January), our Mass focused on the Epiphany and recalled the visit of the Magi to Bethlehem. Once again, it was a pleasure to welcome Fr Ulick as well as a number of parents and parishioners from St James' to our School for Mass and refreshments afterwards. Thanks to all who helped with serving, reading and the music.

*M Ryan*

# SPORTS NEWS

## PREP AND SENIOR SCHOOL EXTRA-CURRICULAR PE TIMETABLE (Jan 2019)

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Before School</b> 7.30-8.20am	Netball 9-11. JHe & GM	Early bird Senior Swimming 7:30 – 8:00 GM <b>Prep Fitness club</b> Years 3-6 7:30 – 8am KB	Early bird Senior Swimming 7:30 – 8:00 GM	<b>Prep Swimming club</b> <b>Years 3-6</b> <b>7:15 – 8am</b> <b>LW</b> Netball Yr7-8 GM. Yr10 GCSE PE Jhe	Trampoline squad training JHe (seniors)
<b>Lunchtimes</b> Prep: 12.20-12.50 Senior: 1.05-1.35pm	 <b>Prep Cross Country</b> Yr3-6 KB	XC cross country club All welcome GM + JHe  <b>Prep Hockey Club</b> Years 3-6 KB and LW	yr7-11 Netball/Hock match practice JHe & GM Senior 	Senior Netball/hockey match practice JHe & GN ----- Drama studio Dance Senior NHS	Seniors Badminton Club JHe & GM KS3 <b>Prep Hockey Club</b> <b>Years 3-6 LW&amp;KB</b>
<b>After School</b> 4-5pm	Senior Staff meetings. ----- Tennis England	<b>Prep Swimming Squad</b> <b>LW KB</b> <b>4-5pm</b> -----	Senior Swim Squad GM  ----- <b>Yr5 &amp; 6 Netball</b> <b>KB</b> 	Trampolining Club Yr7 & 8, JHe	<b>Junior Hip hop</b> <b>Small hall</b> ----- <b>5-6pm Tennis</b> <b>England.</b> ----- <b>Senior HOCKEY at</b> <b>old Cranleighans.</b> <b>Astro GM &amp; JHe</b> <b>(mini bus transport)</b>

### Cross Country

Congratulations to our Year 8 / 9 and Year 13 students who did well at the Richmond Borough Cross Country Championships and were selected to run in the Middlesex Championships, representing Richmond at Harrow School (B Williams, T Palmer, M Rogers-Cummings, R Neligan-Ayling)

All did really well and fought off the mud, opposition, hills, freezing weather and fatigue, all finishing the 3.3K course admirably. Although we wait for results I am almost sure Richmond snatched first place in the U15 Girls category.

Particular mention must be made to congratulate B Williams who has snatched 1st reserve in the English Schools. We wish her the very best and look forward to our next event, the ISA Championships on Friday 1 February 2019.

The team:

**Bella Williams**

**Tabitha Palmer**

**Maree Rogers-Cummings**

**Roisin Neligan-Ayling**

Reserves:

**Millie Hindley**

**Amelia Swaine**

**Zoe Young**



## SKIING

### Skiing

Our skiing trip over the New Year from the 29th December until the 5th January went with complete success. All students and staff had a fabulous time and worked hard on improving their techniques. A few of our students were beginners last year and now having been with us twice they are now on to more advanced slopes. We are so proud of all students as they were a credit to the school, showing exemplary behaviour at all times whether they were on the slopes or in the hotel and around the town. We enjoyed seeing the New Year in with a torch lit descent from the ESF instructors followed by fireworks and a disco. Please see our twitter for more photos and videos.

*Georgia Macwilliam*



## NEWS FROM THE SIXTH FORM

### Careers

It has been a busy week for careers. As university offers are flooding in for Year 13, it is time for our younger girls to start focusing on their futures! As part of our Sixth Form package, our Sixth Form girls receive membership of the independent Schools Careers Organisation, ISCO. They recently completed a questionnaire about their interests and aptitudes, and this week they each had a personal interview with a Careers Advisor. The girls commented that these interviews were "useful and inspiring", and they left their interviews feeling invigorated about taking the next steps.

Year 11 have also been considering the next stage in their educational journey. They have made provisional A level choices, and this will be followed up by an interview with Miss Bellerby to ensure that they have chosen the right options for them. Final choices will then be made on February 14th. Not long to go now until you join our Sixth Form, girls!

### UCAS Success!

The offers are continuing to pour in for our Year 13 girls... Izzy has achieved two offers to study Veterinary Medicine, and Roisin has just received an offer for Medicine at Exeter. Many girls have been given unconditional offers- Sofia has even received four unconditional offers - wow! Offers are being received from a wide variety of subjects, with the humanities and the sciences both being very well represented. Universities include Bristol, Exeter and Newcastle.

## SCHOOL LUNCHES

### Menus

Please note that the lunchtime menus have changed and are on the school website . Next week it will be Week 1 menu starting on Monday with Pizza Day.

## SIENA SOCIETY

### Siena Society - Helen Pankhurst

We were very pleased to welcome Dr Helen Pankhurst to our Siena Society this week. Helen is the great granddaughter of Sylvia Pankhurst, and she was talking about her latest book, "Deeds not Words". Helen gave a thought-provoking talk, and she asked the girls to think about the progress made today towards true equality of men and women. She made the girls consider the progress which has been made, but also to see that there is still a lot of work to be done. Mrs Ruffle, our Librarian, brought in a secretaire previously owned by Sylvia Pankhurst, and the girls were able to see and handle this important historical item. Many girls attended, with some of the proud members of Pankhurst dressing in sashes - Millie even made a beautiful cake to share! What a wonderful opportunity for the girls to meet an inspiring figure from a very important family!



## TALKS AT RADNOR HOUSE

### Exciting opportunities - a collaboration with Radnor House!

At St Catherine's, we are very secure in our knowledge that a single sex education is best for girls. Time and again, girls have been shown to thrive in girls' only schools, performing well in their exams and also showing an openness to studying STEM subjects. However, we believe that it is important that our girls have the chance to mix widely outside of the classroom. Therefore, St Catherine's Sixth Formers are now being invited to attend enrichment talks at Radnor House (their equivalent of our Siena Society). In return, Radnor students are being invited to attend our Siena talks. So students from both schools will have double the opportunities to have their minds challenged and stretched! If any St Catherine's Sixth Formers would like to attend any of the following talks, they should let Miss Bellerby know. All talks are from 4.10-5.00

Alexander Pope's Underworld, Professor Judith Hawley, Thursday 31st January. Judith will be talking about Pope's life. Some of this talk will take place in the Grotto. This talk is being filmed by the BBC

My Journey from Afghanistan to Safety: The Story of My Life as a Child Refugee, Gulwali Passarlay, Tuesday 5th February. Gulwali will be speaking about his life story. He is the author of "The Lightless Sky".

How Educating and Empowering Women is a game changer for solving poverty, Leanne McNulty, Thursday 14th March. Leanne will be talking about her global charity, Room to Read

Why do Robots Avoid Beaches? Dr Thrish Nanayakkara, Reader in Design Engineering and Robotics at Imperial College. Thrish will be talking about the cutting-edge work he does at Imperial in robotics

## PARIS TRIP

### Paris trip

During the Christmas holidays, Miss Wallace took a group of Sixth Formers to Paris. They visited the Louvre, the Tuilleries Gardens and Versailles. The group went on an evening boat trip along the Seine and enjoyed a shopping session at Galleries Lafayette.



Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a well-deserved rest over the Christmas holidays. Happy New Year to you all.

This term, we are concentrating on our two main events for the Spring Term – the Valentine Quiz Night and the Prep PJ Disco. It would be wonderful to see as many of you as possible at both events.

If you would like to offer any help on either event, please do let me know.



**GRAB A  
TEAM  
ITS  
QUIZ  
NIGHT**

## **THE Parents' Social of the Year Quiz Night – Friday 1 February 7.00pm for 7.30pm**

Our annual Quiz Night promises to be a lot of fun. **Tickets are £12 per person and are available from your Class Rep.**

The theme this year is "**Valentine**" – there will be a fish and chip supper with vegetarian options available. Please bring your own nibbles for your table.

FOSC will run a CASH bar on the night, serving wine, beer and soft drinks.

The maximum number of participants in a team is 10. The Quiz is open to all, not only St. Catherine's parents, so start planning those winning quiz teams and strategies and brush up on your general knowledge.

## **Prep PJ Disco**

This will be held on Friday 22 March.

Wear your **PJ's**, yes that includes parents as well and dance the evening away!

**Tickets are £6 and are available from your Class Rep**



## FOSC KEY DATES

<b>EVENTS:</b>	<b>QUIZ NIGHT</b>	<b>FRIDAY 1 FEBRUARY</b>
	<b>PREP DISCO</b>	<b>FRIDAY 22 MARCH</b>
	<b>MUFTI DAY</b>	<b>FRIDAY 21 JUNE</b>
	<b>SUMMER FAIR</b>	<b>SUNDAY 23 JUNE</b>
<b>MEETINGS</b>	<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>TUESDAY 12 FEBRUARY</b>
	<b>CLASS REPS</b>	<b>MONDAY 4 MARCH</b>
	<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>TUESDAY 2 APRIL</b>
	<b>CLASS REPS / AGM</b>	<b>MONDAY 29 APRIL</b>
	<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>TUESDAY 14 MAY</b>
	<b>CLASS REPS</b>	<b>MONDAY 3 JUNE</b>
	<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>TUESDAY 2 JULY</b>

**ALL PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO ALL MEETINGS HELD FROM 7.30PM**  
**Committee meetings are held in the Lodge Classroom**  
**Class Rep meetings are held in the Drama Studio**

### Thrift Uniform Shop

If you have any uniform that you no longer need, please donate to our lovely "Thrift Shop Lady" Chrissie Spencer and leave it at the School Reception. Any uniform is gratefully received.

Our second-hand uniform shop is a large contributor to the overall annual funds raised by FOSC and all proceeds go directly back into the school. As always, your support is appreciated. If you need any uniform please contact Chrissie on 020 8751 0066 or mobile 07769 556661.

Lastly please feel free to contact any committee member with any feedback or thoughts to help our fund raising efforts.

Best wishes,  
Sarah Prain  
FOSC Chair  
07977572503 [sarah.prain@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sarah.prain@yahoo.co.uk)