



ST. CATHERINE'S SCHOOL

TWICKENHAM

SENIOR NEWSLETTER

Friday 15 March 2019

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wednesday 20 March
Thursday 21 March
Sunday 24 March
Wednesday 27 March
Thursday 28 March

Friday 29 March
Sunday 31 March
Tuesday 2 April
Wednesday 3 April
Thursday 4 April
Friday 5 April

Siena Society—Jeremy Jones Drama Studio 4.00pm
GCSE Drama Scripted Exam with Examiner 3.30pm
'Bring It On' rehearsal 10.00am—3.00pm
Year 8 Parent Teacher Meetings from 4.30pm in Hall
KS3 Lent Training 2.00pm-3.45pm
KS4 & 5 Careers Fair 2.00-4.30pm
Breakfast Club Mother's Day Special 7.30am
'Bring It On' rehearsal 10.00am—3.00pm
'Bring It On' Dress Rehearsal 1.30pm
'Bring It On' 7.00pm
'Bring It On' 7.00pm
Breakfast Club Easter Special 7.30am
DofE Award Bronze Expedition Practice at Bentley Copse

NEXT NEWSLETTER

Friday 5 April

FROM THE HEADMISTRESS

It has been a colourful and varied few weeks in the Senior School. It was lovely to gather together for our very special Ash Wednesday Mass on March 6, to which so many girls contributed by reading, serving, singing or simply joining in beautifully. It was very nice too, to welcome so many parents to mass, and also to the most enjoyable Shrove Tuesday drinks, the evening before. The girls have also made the most of the recent opportunity to dress up on World Book Day, which meant that spectacular characters, ranging from Queen Guinevere to Thing One, filled the corridors. This period has included a very enjoyable Musical Recital, where girls delighted the audience with a wonderful array of voice and instrumental pieces. As well as marvelling at their talent and commitment, it was also so good to see the friendship between the girls, who supported and applauded each other, and which is such a feature of life at St Catherine's.

Lastly, I am pleased to say that Mrs Hird, our Independent Listener, has proven a very welcome addition to the School. We have arranged for year group meetings so that all girls have the chance to hear about the counselling service and to ask any questions, and it is already clear that they are pleased to have this further provision for well-being. We are also arranging for Mrs Hird to deliver workshops during PSHE.

We've recently had successful parent/teacher and Options evenings. These events mark important moments in the girls' journey through the School and I especially enjoy the opportunity to meet parents. I also look forward to seeing you at the Senior Production, which is much anticipated.

With very best wishes
Mrs McPherson

SIENA SOCIETY



Following the fascinating talk by Helen Pankhurst, we welcomed yet another interesting speaker to the Siena Society. Nick Pulsford, who runs the Assisted Conception Unit at Kingston Hospital, presented a talk about his field. This talk covered a wide range of themes - the science behind assisted conception, the ethics of deciding how receives NHS treatment, and also careers in this field. This talk certainly provided much food for thought. Next week, Jeremy Jones will be coming to give us some insights into how the brain works - a very relevant topic now that exam season is so close. The Head of Psychology at Radnor House is also bringing his Sixth Form students, providing an opportunity for discussion among the students of both schools.

VISIT TO AUSCHWITZ

On the 6th February, Bella Page and I visited Auschwitz with the Holocaust Educational Trust, for the 'Letters from Auschwitz' project. We both originally wrote letters which stated why we were interested in going, and as we were accepted to go it was clear from our first seminar before the visit that it was going to an extremely harrowing experience - one which we'd never forget. We visited Auschwitz I, and then Auschwitz II-Birkenau. The visit was very beneficial for my history studies, but it was also an extremely upsetting and shocking experience. The haunting details we learnt and perspectives we attempted to comprehend were so disturbing. The camps felt empty and silent which only made the atmosphere more chilling. I have never learned so much and thought so much in just one day, with us also finishing the day with a religious ceremony from a most amazing and engaging Rabbi. Going to Auschwitz has taught me to think so much more deeply when I'm in a little pain, or feeling hungry, or feeling upset or scared about an exam result for example. The pain, hunger and feeling of being scared are just incomparable to the millions of Jews and other minorities who faced hell on earth in those concentration camps. We both feel we value life so much more after visiting, and also feel an emergent urge to share our experiences to make sure this horrific event will never be forgotten.

Millie

CAREERS

At St Catherine's, we encourage our girls to consider all sorts of possible career paths and not to be held back by certain careers being seen as gendered. Therefore, we were once again delighted to send Priya and Diamanta in Year 12 to attend a work experience day in the field of private equity organised by Level 20, who are a leading supporter of women in financial services.

The event saw students from 37 different schools get together to learn more about a career in private equity, meeting leading women in the industry and gaining practical advice about building an outstanding CV. The girls then took part in a mock Investment Committee, where they acted the part of a dragon in Dragons' Den by appraising a potential investment opportunity.

LIBRARY NEWS

LIBRARY READATHON

Years 7 - 9 are running a Readathon to raise money for children in hospitals / hospices. Please help by encouraging their reading and sponsoring the girls for the number of books (or chapters) that they read this week. Sponsor money can either be sent in with your daughter or paid online at readforgood.org. -

Jacqueline Ruffle—

Dr. Erica McAlister from the Natural History Museum will be visiting the school on Tuesday 26 March. This is because the Prep Bug Club was awarded third prize in the AES Annual Exhibition. Dr. McAlister will be bringing a few copies of her book, 'The secret life of flies' so, if you think you might like to buy a copy bring in £10 on that day, or ask permission for the cost to be added to your termly bill.



We congratulate Molly Lee in Year who was awarded Wandsworth Young Sports Person of the Year Award recently. She is pictured (left) with her trophy.

Year7/8 Hockey Match v Kew House

Congratulations to our U13 team who beat Kew House 4-1. Our tactical formation of 3 2 1 seemed to have worked and St Catherine's possession was dominant. Congratulation to R Simms who scored most goals and was named the Girl of the Game by the opposition. I would also like to congratulate C Chitty who played sweeping back and communicated well with her mid field players, keeping the opposition out of our defending D throughout the game. Well done to all who played.



Representing Middlesex in the National School cross country.

Our congratulations go out to B Williams (pictured right) who has now been selected to compete at the National School's Cross Country in Leeds. A massive achievement and well earned. Good luck Bella.

Richmond Borough Trampolining Championships 8.3.19

Congratulations to the following who all medalled in this year's championships against LEH, Waldegrave, SRRCC, RTS.

Particular mention must be made of R Simms who achieved 1st place overall in KS3.

| KS3A: 1 st place overall | KS3B: 3 rd place overall | KS4: 3 rd Place overall |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| R Simms | G Babini- Motta | I Deykin |
| A McGuckin | S Antil | M Rees |
| E Antil | A Razza | P Simms |
| E Panton | K Proudlove | D Liddell |
| I Cova | T Berkett | M Riley |



If you would like to keep up with the current news and alerts, you can also follow us on **TWITTER** at <https://twitter.com/stcatherinessch>

Year 7 to London Zoo

On Tuesday 12th March, the Science Department ran a school trip to London Zoo for year 7 pupils to celebrate British Science Week. Despite having to battle the wet weather and strong winds, year 7 pupils remained in high spirits throughout the day and made the most of the opportunity to explore the different enclosures and exhibitions that were on offer. A particular highlight of the day was the animal show where pupils and staff watched flying, leaping and climbing animals show off their natural skills.



The trip was also intended for pupils to carry out research on the major groups into which animals are classified. Over the coming weeks, pupils will be completing an extended project based on their research and prizes will be awarded for work worthy of special mention. Staff in the Science Department look forward to judging the projects. *Ms Iqbal*

Year 8 to Wetlands

It was a bright, sunny Monday in March when Year 8 went for a visit during Science Week to Barnes Wetlands Centre.

There was a great deal of excitement on the Coach as we wound our way from Twickenham to Barnes. When we arrived pupils were then divided up into two groups with one group going Pond dipping while the other group went to explore recreations of the wetlands of the world like the Okavango Basin in Namibia in Africa, where the mighty Okavango River empties itself into The Kalahari Desert, giving rise to an abundance of wildlife of all kinds.

The Pond-dippers explored a typical pond and were amazed at the amount of teeming life they found there, including mayfly larvae, blood worms, mosquitoes, beetles etc. They tested the water for PH, Temperature, etc. There was a short lecture given as well where they looked at what the pupils had caught using a special close up camera and were asked to identify them using a biological key. They were told that the presence of certain species is an indication of the level of pollution.

Later on after lunch pupils went to a viewing platform overlooking the main lake to look at and try to identify. They also got to visit a fun interactive discovery centre which had many interesting displays to encourage the pupils to understand the importance of wetlands. They were, for example, able to divert the course of a river and to analyse the effects this had on local housing. They had to match products with raw materials (plants) found in Wetlands eg cricket bats matched with willow trees.

The pupils came home tired but happy. They were given 3 weeks to complete the write-up of their Wetlands projects and the incentive of Easter eggs as prizes for the best projects to be handed in a week before we break up for the Easter Holidays.

Mr Blake

Year 9 to Science Museum

For Science week Year 9 went to the Science museum. They were investigating Space and were able to obtain information in order to complete a project on space. They visited the Space gallery where they were able to see a full-sized replica of *Eagle*—the lander that took astronauts Armstrong, Aldrin along with Collins to the Moon in 1969. They discovered how we are able to live in space—to breathe, eat, drink and go to the toilet.



The students gained an insight into the history of rockets. Suspended from the ceiling were two real space rockets—a British Black Arrow and a United States Scout.

The students were also able to find out how the space age started in 1957 with the launch of Sputnik 1 and saw a full-size replica of the Huygens module that landed on Titan in 2005 and a model of the Beagle 2 Mars lander.

The students enjoyed their trip. The image shows the pupils gaining information about materials while in the museum.

D Mitchell

WORLD BOOK DAY

Another fantastic World Book Day! Girls in all year groups dressed in pairs en mass or on their own and we had some of our most innovative costumes to date: A half transfigured Hermione Granger, Holmes and Watson, Pennywise and Georgie, Effie Trinkett, and Luna Lovegood complete with roaring lion head and copies of The Quibbler! We had a fantastic day with staff dressing as Mary Poppins characters representing everyone from the chimney sweeps to the suffragettes to kites and penguin waiters and of course the great lady herself. Our charity was Read For Good who ensure that books and reading opportunities are given to those in hospital or those who don't have access to materials and we raised over 600 pounds for this very worthy cause. The English department are already making plans for next year where we hope to have activities throughout the week to maximise opportunities to show off our love of reading and all things literature!



BRING IT ON

Months of hard work have come to fruition, and it is time for the annual Senior School Production! A cast and crew have been working tirelessly since the Autumn term, and are ready and raring to show you what they have been learning and rehearsing. Bring It On! The Musical tells the story of a plucky cheerleader named Campbell who fights against the odds to create a cheer squad ready in time for the National Championships against her manipulative and scheming adversary from a rival school. With hilarious jokes, catchy songs and acrobatic dance routines, it is definitely one to see!

Tickets are available from Ms Goldburn. Please note: no tickets will be available on the door, and so all tickets MUST be booked in advance. The ticket form is available through email, Twitter, and the school website. Don't run the risk of missing out: buy your tickets today!

Miss Collett—Head of Drama

ST. CATHERINE'S SENIOR SCHOOL PRESENTS Bring it On

Wednesday 3rd April
Thursday 4th April
Doors open at 6:30pm
7:00pm start

The
Musical

Libretto by Jeff Whitty

Music by Tom Kitt and
Lin-Manuel Miranda

Lyrics by Lin-Manuel
Miranda

Inspired by the motion picture
Bring It On written by Jessica
Benderger

For tickets, please contact
Ms Goldburn
Adults £6
Children £4

There will be NO tickets on the
door - advance tickets only!



Dear Parents,

FOSC will be holding their next Annual AGM on Monday 29 April 2019 and we are looking for fresh new faces. Please see next page for more information.



Sadly I will be standing down after 2 years in this role and we will also be losing our Vice Chair, Clare Murphy and our Estate Boards Organiser, Denise Stewart. FOSC needs **fresh faces** with **new ideas** and **enthusiasm** to fill these shoes!

If you are interested, but hesitant because you are not sure if you would enjoy the experience, please come along to our next committee meeting on Tuesday 2 April 2019.

Being a FOSC committee member will allow you to discover talents you never knew you had, get involved more with the school and further develop your organisation and management skills. Please contact me to become involved. I would love to hear from you.

Whilst writing, I would personally like to thank Clare and Denise and the rest of the committee members for their hard work and dedication over the years. Without these members, FOSC would not be able to hold the various events we do throughout the school year.

I look forward to seeing all at FOSC's next event, the Prep PJ Disco (see below)



Prep PJ Disco – Friday 22 March 2019

6.30pm - 8.30pm

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

Tickets cost £6 from your Class Rep





**Annual General Meeting / Class Reps Meeting
Monday 29th April 2019**

Dear Parents

We will be holding our Annual General Meeting on the above date in the drama studio, where all members are invited to attend. This will be followed by a Class Reps meeting to discuss the Summer Fair.

FOSC's current Chair, Sarah Prain has confirmed that she will be standing down from her position after two years in this role.

Nominations for the Committee posts should be sent to the Secretary on the slip below, before Friday 5h April 2019.

The positions for the Committee are as follows:-

Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Class Reps' Co-ordinator and other Committee members with various responsibilities.

Over the years FOSC has successfully raised large sums of money for the benefit of the girls, which can only happen with your continued support and enthusiasm.

We hope you will be able to join us for a glass of wine and we look forward to seeing you on Monday 29th April 2019.

Kind regards.

Polly Fox

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Nomination Form:-

Please return to the FOSC Secretary (via School Office)-Polly Fox

Name _____

Position _____

Nominated by _____

Seconded by _____

Signed _____