

# ST CATHERINE'S NEWSLETTER

*"Be who God wants you to be, and you will set the world on fire." - St Catherine of Siena*

## NEWS & FEATURES

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## From the Headmistress

There have been many wonderful events over the last few weeks. The House Music Competition was a fun afternoon of enthusiasm and great house spirit. This musical theme continued after half term with an excellent St Cecilia Concert, which was a celebration of wonderful variety, talent and winning smiles.

The academic calendar is also moving on swiftly. At the same time as Year 11 girls are thinking of their A Level subjects for next year, the Year 13 girls are receiving a very pleasing number of university offers. Girls from all years also helped to welcome a record number of visitors to our recent open evening, and as usual, they were the star attraction as they toured families around classrooms.

The end of term will bring the Carol Service and a wonderful evening for the school community to gather together. This year, there is a second Carol Service, for Alumnae, former staff and visitors from Brinsworth House, a local aged care home. This will be at St James Church on December 6, and you are welcome to extend an invitation to any former pupils that you may know (please contact Ms Goldburn on [cgoldburn@stcatherineschool.co.uk](mailto:cgoldburn@stcatherineschool.co.uk), for more details).

And lastly, enormous thanks go to the energetic and cheerful FOSC team who are preparing another excellent Christmas Market, for December 8.

With best wishes, Mrs McPherson

AUTUMN 2019

# Dates for your Diary

- Mon 25 Nov, 1.00–5.00pm, Shakespeare Schools Festival Rehearsal at The Exchange, Twickenham
- Mon 25 Nov, 7.00–9.20pm, Shakespeare Schools Festival Performance at The Exchange, Twickenham
- Tues 26 Nov, 7.30pm, Year 11 English theatre trip 'An Inspector Calls' at New Wimbledon Theatre
- Tues 26 Nov, 3.45–5.00pm, School Production rehearsal, Drama Studio
- Wed 27 Nov, 3.45pm, School Production rehearsal, Drama Studio
- Thu 28 Nov, 3.45–5.00pm, School Production rehearsal, Drama Studio
- Fri 29 Nov, 10.30am U14 Harrodian Netball Tournament
- Sat 30 Nov, ISA National Swimming Finals, Olympic pools
- Mon 2 Dec, Interhouse Netball Week
- Tue 3 Dec, 9.00am–4.30pm, Year 11 Retreat Aylesford
- Tue 3 Dec, 3.45–5.00pm, School Production rehearsal, Drama Studio
- Tue 3 Dec, 5.45pm, Year 10 English theatre trip, 'A Christmas Carol' at the Old Vic
- Wed 4 Dec, Year 11 Taster Day
- Thu 5 Dec, 3.45–5.00pm, School Production rehearsal, Drama Studio
- Thu 5 Dec, 4.00pm, Year 7–11 ACS Swimming Gala, Away
- Fri 6 Dec, 7.30–8.15am, Breakfast Club Christmas Party, Dining Room
- Fri 6 Dec, Year 11 Science Live Trip
- Sun 8 Dec, 12.00–3.00pm, FOSC Christmas Fair
- Mon 9 Dec, 6.00–10.30pm, Y10–13 Drama Student theatre trip, 'Candida', Orange Tree Theatre, Richmond
- Tue 10 Dec, 1.00–5.00pm, Year 7 pantomime trip, Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith
- Thu 12 Dec, 1.45pm – Senior pupils go home
- Thu 12 Dec, 6.30pm for 7.00pm start – Senior Carol Service, Hall
- Fri 13 Dec, 6.20am, Years 8–11 Christmas Markets trip (returns 16 Dec)
- Fri 13 Dec, End of Term



## ST CATHERINE'S ALUMNAE CAROL SERVICE

FOR FORMER STAFF AND  
PUPILS

will be held on  
Friday 6 December  
St James Church, Twickenham  
7–8.00pm

For more details please email  
[cgoldburn@stcatherineschool.co.uk](mailto:cgoldburn@stcatherineschool.co.uk)



## Year 7 & 8 St Issey Trip

On 20th October, 38 excited, yellow hoodie-clad girls gathered at London Paddington, ready for a week of adventures. When we arrived at Bodmin Parkway, we were met by the Manor House staff, and whisked off to our new home: an 18th century manor house in St Issey, Cornwall.

Our first day took us on a cliff walk, body boarding and surfing. The sun was out, the sea was warm(ish) and the girls were fearless. The views from the cliff tops were beautiful, and the walk was filled with chat, laughter and ice cream. All the girls tried their best at the body boarding and surfing, with some girls even managing to stand up on their boards!

Tuesday was another lovely day, with the groups spending half the day rock climbing and the other half enjoying the Barbara Hepworth Museum and Sculpture Garden (and some shopping!) in St Ives.

The girls did some sketching, inspired by being in Hepworth's own gallery. They also found time for the first pasty of the week! Rock climbing was a challenge, but good fun, and all the girls felt a real sense of achievement as they clambered over the top. One group was even lucky enough to see a pod of dolphins as they waited to climb! The marine theme was continued into the evening as we had a private tour of Blue Reef Aquarium, spotting plenty of marine life from coral to crocodiles!

Wednesday was another active day and the sun was out for paddleboarding and sea kayaking. The girls had a great time and really showed their resilience as they learnt new skills or built on those they had developed already.

Thursday was another busy day as we headed off as a whole group to the cycle shop to get fitted for our bikes. We cycled the Camel Trail from Wadebridge to

Padstow, enjoying the sunny weather and learning some local history. We stopped for lunch on a beach and played some games on the sand before continuing on. Once we arrived in Padstow, it was free time for souvenir shopping, more pasties, and crab fishing! That evening we headed off to a swimming pool for a private session, and the girls wore themselves out with some raucous games.

On Friday morning we visited the Eden Project, huge biomes which house the largest rainforest in captivity. We learnt a lot as we wandered around, and were also lucky enough to see some owls which had come to visit from the Owl Sanctuary! After a busy session it was time to get on the train back to London Paddington. Yet again, the girls' behaviour on the train was exemplary. Everybody was reunited at the station and headed home to enjoy the second week of half term. Another fantastic trip was finished!



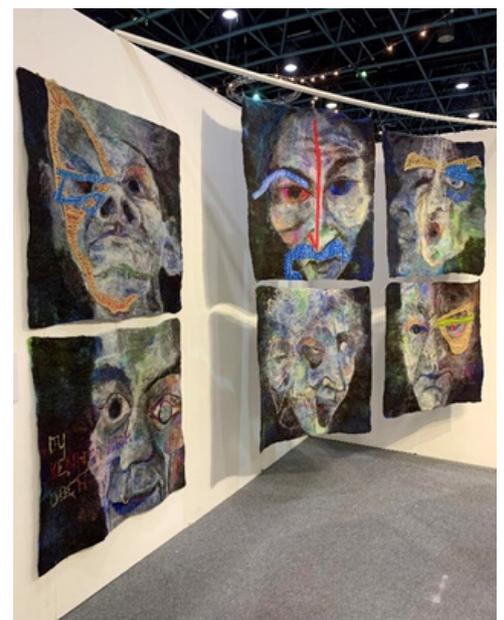
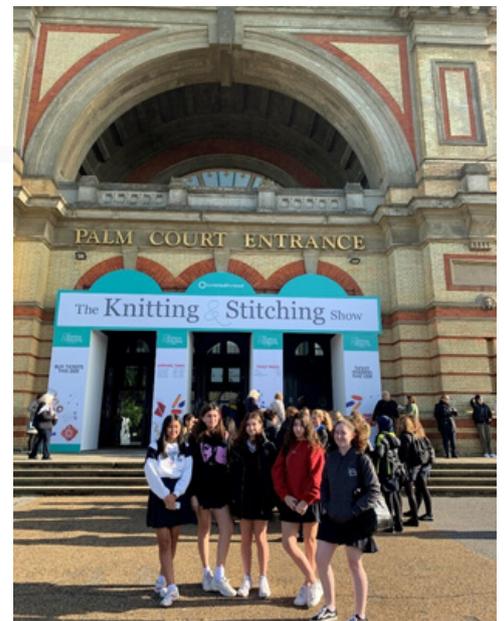
*"They were able to use what they saw at the show as inspiration for their own project."*  
**Mrs Moss, Art Teacher**

## Year 10 Knitting & Stitching Show

On Thursday, 10 October, the Year 10 Textiles students and I visited the Knitting & Stitching Show at the Alexander Palace in London. The students spent the day watching live artist demonstrations, where they showed how to create different textiles techniques. There was also a huge display of designers' work, from knitting, felting and abstract pieces, to fashion and new designers. And of course, lots of stalls selling everything textiles!

The students found this day very beneficial to their own studies, as they were able to use what they saw at the show as inspiration for their own project. It was a great opportunity for the students to get an insight into the world of Fashion and Textiles and how they can aspire to achieve this. It was a long day of travelling, but the students thoroughly enjoyed themselves and the experience.

Mrs Ruth Moss  
Art Teacher





*Food Tech: Year 8 made quiche, which smelt fantastic!*



## Remembrance Day

St Catherine's pupils and staff gathered together at Radnor Gardens War Memorial on Monday 11 November for our Remembrance Service. The choir sang beautifully and Bella, Year 13, delivered our prayers alongside our Chaplain, Miss Ryan.



*"I thought the workshop was very interesting, fun, and creative, and I would love to do it again next year."*

**Alexa, Year 7**

## Legoland Workshop

On 18 October, Year 7 pupils had a wonderful day at LegoLand Windsor. The first part of our day was spent in a workshop. We got into groups of three and built a security guard robot out of Lego. We then wrote a program for the robot. We then fitted the robot a sensor which caused it to play a sound of our choice, change colour, and send a warning message to the computer screen when the motion sensor was triggered. My group managed to complete all the tasks and some of the extension to add some more features. I thought the workshop was very interesting, fun, and creative, and I would love to do it again next year.

By Alexa Tynan, 7C

## Siena Society Talk - Rick Findler, War Photographer

What an exciting Siena Society talk we had this week! Rick Findler, a war photographer who has travelled to some of the most dangerous countries in the world, came to speak to the girls about his career and experiences. Rick spoke about how he started out as a photographer selling local pictures, and how he established himself and now sells pictures to renowned newspapers such as the Times. There were some interesting facts - did you know that photographers like Rick fund their own trips, and then offer their pictures for sale to news outlets, receiving an average of £150 for a photograph which appears on the front page of a newspaper like the Times? Rick spoke about some of the hair-raising experiences he has been through, for example continuing to take photographs while being attacked by a policewoman wielding a baton, while covering the recent protests in Hong Kong. He also explained the difficulties of remaining impartial in the face of atrocities, for example photographing a Chinese man being beaten by the protesters in Hong Kong Airport, but being unable to help as his role is to record events not to change them. More exciting talks coming soon!

Miss Bellerby

Head of Sixth Form

## U12 Netball v Kew House

The U12 B Team had their first Netball Fixture at St Catherine's School against Kew House on 13th November. The first half was low scoring, with a score of 1-1 but after a constructive team talk led by the players, changes were made leading to a score of 4-1 in the third quarter. For a team that had not played together before, they identified areas that needed to be improved, such as using all three channels of the Netball court and making accurate passes to the appropriate teammate, and implemented them effectively into their tactics. The final score was 5-2 with M Weaver being awarded Player of the Match.

Congratulations to those who played in the match:

M Weaver  
C Hart  
E Murphy  
A Mote  
C Weise-O'Connor  
I Sweeney  
G Ellwood  
N O'Brien  
M Kondratyeva

## Year 7 & 8 Swimming v Lady Eleanor Holles

On 17 October 2019, Year 7 and 8 students traveled to Lady Eleanor Holles to represent St Catherine's School in the London School Swimming League. As a competitive league against a strong team, the girls had a great opportunity to put their swimming ability to the test. There were many close races and some impressive times, and although we were unsuccessful in getting to the next stage of the League, the girls must be congratulated for their determination and brilliant attitude throughout.

Well done to the following:

I Pritchard	A Holt
T Branson	R Berkett
K Proudlove	L Grist
S Sutcher	A Copus
C Hart	M Weaver
M Kondratyeva	I Huxley-Jennings
G Parker	L Owen
I Sweeney	S McMillan
G Carless	I Hiscott
	B Vettorazzo

***Congratulations to all the girls who competed at the ISA Regional Swimming Qualifiers. We had an excellent result, placing 2nd overall (1st place girls' school). Four individuals qualified for Nationals and the Year 8 Medley and Freestyle Relay Teams won their races. Well done!***



# Sports News

## Year 7A Netball v Kew House

Congratulations to the following who grew in strength and, after only a one goal difference in the first quarter of the match, went on to secure a 5-9 win. M Hunt was awarded Girl of the Game by the opposition. Looking forward to our next match v Greycourt.

GK	M Hunt/ I Hiscott
GD	C Nalder
WD	B Charlton
C	A Brady
WA	I Brady
GA	K Cohalen
GS	P Stokes/ P Wilder