



SALESIAN COLLEGE FARNBOROUGH

Spring newsletter

MARCH 2010

Welcome from the Headmaster



Dear Parents

The Spring term began with disruption to college life due to the severe weather that we experienced in January. Despite this we have once again enjoyed a very full, busy and successful term. It is not possible to record all of this in a newsletter, but a sense of it is highlighted here.

We were delighted to welcome three new members of staff, Mrs Lorraine Stewart as our new Promotions Officer, Mrs Hannah Wiggins who will be teaching Mathematics until the end of the summer term and Mrs Helen Wilson as Assistant Librarian. The library will now remain open until 5pm each day for completion of homework and private study. Students attending must register on arrival and departure.

May I remind all parents that they are warmly invited to attend the annual Music Evening on Thursday 6 May beginning at 7.30pm in the College Hall. Parents are also invited to attend the Open Morning on Saturday 8 May at 9.15am to 12.30pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to see the work of the students and changes which have occurred in the College since last year. Family and friends are also welcome to attend the Open Morning.

The highlight of the term, amongst many, was the Salesian College Theatre Company production of Hairspray. From the standing ovation on the first night, the production was outstanding. Many congratulations to all the cast, backstage crew and staff who made the production so vibrant and professional.

I hope that all students, parents and family enjoy a holy Easter and that students return refreshed on Tuesday 20 April for the start of the summer term.

Patrick A Wilson

Hairspray receives standing ovation!



“An outstanding performance by all the students with amazing scenery which really set the scene.”

On the penultimate week of term, the school put on an amazing production of Hairspray. The three performances were a sell out, with over 900 people witnessing a truly memorable production. Daniella Richardson was a true leading lady, whilst Thomas Curran was sensational as Edna Turnblad.

So many people deserve praise for this production, especially Mr Ian Berryman, Director, whose determination and dedication delivered a truly memorable production; Dr Anthony Noble, Director of Music; Mrs Jane Desmidt, Assistant Director; Miss Sarah Pinkney, Choreographer, and Mrs Michelle Nash, Assistant Music Director. Thanks also to Mr Paul Chaventré for sound and lighting and to all who worked back stage in any capacity.

Messages for Parents

If you need to leave a message for your son or daughter, we would be grateful if you could leave the message before lunch so we can ensure he/she receives the message in time.

Parking

We have received a number of complaints recently from residents regarding parking. If you need to park near the school, please can you be mindful of local residents and avoid obstructing their driveways.

School Uniform

As the warmer months approach, all students must ensure that their shirt is tucked in, that their tie is worn correctly and that they only remove their blazer when given permission to do so.

Mobile Phones and Electronic Devices

Pupils in Years 7 to 11 may only bring a mobile phone to the college with the permission of the Headmaster. Electronic devices such as iPods and MP3 players are not permitted at school. Any device with camera facility, including mobile phones, are strictly banned. From the beginning of the summer term any boy breaking this clear college rule will be excluded. Please ensure that your son is fully aware of the consequences if he disregards this.

Theatre trips through the eyes of a student

Year 7 Theatre trip to Nation

In November, most of Year 7 went to see 'Nation', at the National Theatre in London. Although the book and theatre production of Nation were both very good they were very different. In the theatre version, parts of the novel had to be excluded either to shorten the play or because there was no narrator to fill the gaps. The best parts were the special effects, especially the underwater scenes which were amazing.

By Charlie Sweeting
Year 7



Shakespeare for Kidz 'Macbeth'

On 26 March, Year 8 went to watch a musical adaptation of William Shakespeare's 'Macbeth.' In the opening scene, rumbling tones set the mood for the rest of the production. Three figures emerge from the shadows. They are three witches – they look forward to meeting fated Macbeth.

A strong performance by Jason Lee Scott (Macbeth) and the leading lady, Emma Odell (Lady Macbeth) set the bar for the rest of the actors and actresses. In the final scene of this outstanding performance, Macbeth is killed by Macduff. Malcolm is declared king, as everyone looks forward to a brighter future and a new order for Scotland. All in all, the day was one to remember and enjoyed by many. The performance was fantastic and gave everybody watching an easy to understand adaptation of a great tragedy.

By Cameron Hogg
Year 8

Recent school trips and visits

Film Club visits the BBC

The Salesian Year 9 and 10 Film Club had their annual visit to the BBC recently to make 30 second adverts using Green Screen facilities. It was a successful day with a diverse range of inventively named and designed products used.

Thanks go to Mrs Linney for her work with the Film Club and to Mr Melvin who also accompanied the students on this excursion.



Intech Science Centre and Planetarium



Further to the Year 10 visits last year, on 25/26 February, Year 7 visited the [Intech Science Centre and Planetarium](#) near Winchester. The visit provided the opportunity for students to stretch and challenge their understanding of scientific principles, and to draw links between work studied in Science lessons, via the hands on exhibits and activities.

The boys attended a planetarium show, which supports the work covered in the Physics 'Earth, Solar System and beyond' topic, and they had the opportunity to build a cam-toy in the Computer Aided Design (CAD) and Computer Aided Modelling (CAM) workshop.

Visit to see Charlie Higson

On World Book Day, eighteen Year 7 to 9 boys joined Mrs Honeywill and Mrs Wilson in visiting Connaught School, Aldershot. We heard Charlie Higson speak about James Bond and his own writing of the popular Young Bond series. He also told us about his new horror book, The Enemy. After answering some questions, he met his fans and signed books which they had brought from home or bought at the event.



A review of Year 8's trip to Kew

One might think Kew Gardens is an interesting place made for the reproduction of plants, others might say that it is just full of the natural wonders of the World. They are both right. Kew is the home of beauty and culture. It is full of different varieties of plants. The Princess of Wales Conservatory is the most intricate of Kew's public glasshouses. It has ten climatic zones including the two key climate zones: the Dry Tropics and Wet Tropics.

All plants are shown as realistic as it is possible with ferns clinging to rocks and hand-made waterfalls running. There are paths on different levels which brings the visitors close to the plants so they can appreciate the subtle minutiae of the vegetation.

The other big attraction at Kew is the Palm House. It is the biggest green house there. It has three layers to represent the rainforest layers. This particular glasshouse is important because conservationists can use it as a secure place to accumulate atypical plants, which helps us learn more about foliage grown; pineapples, cocoa and sugar canes...

“The Royal Botanic Gardens is a must visit as it is really the ‘Key To Beauty’ ...”



The newest edition to Kew is the 18 metre high Tree-Top Walk which an unknown source has said, “It is absolutely fantastic!” It’s great views will hopefully inspire an artist to paint the amazing scene.

Kew is a very interesting and intellectual day out for everyone. Many things are to be found and learnt there, for example Bio-Diversity; how all the small plants can boost the economy.

**By Gabriel Daniels
Year 8**

Onatti Theatre Company

In November and January, we were again pleased to welcome the Onatti Theatre Company and their production 'La Chambre de Jean-Paul'. Year 10 and 11 French students enjoyed the play, and many were invited to participate.

Thanks to Mrs Anne Gower and the French staff for their organisation and help.



Awards and Certificates

Congratulations to the following students on their achievements this term :

Prefects

Appointment of new prefects: Daniella Richardson, Nicola Desmidt, Philip Cresswell, Zachary Moore, Sean Stella, Sukhi Badial and Nicholas Roberts.



Mr Wilson with the winning team

Worldwise Quiz

On 10 March, Salesian hosted a Geography quiz for teams from four schools. In total 10 teams of 3 participated. Salesian entered four teams and achieved the top four positions.

- 1st place Laurence Blackhurst, Spencer Shaw, David Burroughs-Parke
- 2nd place Luke Simpson, Edward Green, Connor Muir
- 3rd place Toby Sansome, Tom Wardle, Edward Cummings
- 4th place Conor Ketley, Joshua Bramley, Jonathan Daines.

UK Maths Team Challenge

Salesian College came 3rd in the Regional Final held in Maidenhead. A team of 2 Year 9 boys, James Astles and Cameron Royle and two Year 8 boys Kumar Dixit and Ben Rothwell spent a day competing in the Regional Final against 29 other schools from Surrey, Berkshire and London. Hard work and preparation paid off finishing behind Reading Bluecoats and St Paul's School.



Mathletics

All students in Year 7-11 have Mathletics accounts and certificates are awarded for participation in Exercises and 'Live Mathletics'. The following students recently received certificates:

- Year 7 Barnaby Ridley, Harry Hudson, Lars Lubbock, Jonathan Parke, Tristan Semon-Ward, Joshua Samways, Christian Tepper, Oliver Copeland, Joshua Raw
- Year 8 Conor Margerison
- Year 9 Cameron Royle, Dylan White, Samir Desai, Scott Leadbetter, Jordan Maxwell, Owen Wagstaff, Benjamin Stone
- Year 10 Nickhil Desai, Robbie Colegate, Harry Shaw, Benjamin Martin, Alex Bolt

Boys who have achieved a silver certificate which is equivalent to 5 bronze certificates:

- Year 7 Callum Rose, Harry Till, William Ackroyd
- Year 8 Owain Saunders, Richard Clegg, George Burgess
- Year 9 Thomas Cornford
- Year 10 Alex Copeland, Calum Wendeatt, Daniel Raw
- Year 11 Dahlin Mony, Spencer Shaw, Gavin Christianson, Freddie Haslehurst, Thomas Fyvie, Jonathan Daines



Animated filming in action

Film Club

Recently, the following students were awarded certificates for various achievements in their filming.

The Best First One Minute Film: *The Follower*

Robin Emmanuel, Luke Bainbridge, George Coe, Joseph Conlon and Thomas Parfitt.

A special mention..

Dylan White and Scott Lowther submitted an animation at the end of last term in the Leeds Young People's Festival Competition. Their animation has reached the final stage and they have been invited back to get feedback from industry professionals.

Awards and Certificates

Physics Olympiad

Commendation: Jennifer O'Grady, Timothy Gibbons, Daniel Funnell, Michael Everard, Christopher Rix
Bronze: Dominic Hayes

Music

George Burgess Grade 2 Guitar Distinction
 Alexander Kember Grade 2 Guitar Distinction
 Thomas Leigh Grade 6 Tenor Saxophone Merit
 Finlay Pelling Grade 5 Alto Saxophone
 David Slaughter Grade 5 Theory of Music
 Joseph Conlon Grade 1 Guitar Merit
 Joshua Noble Grade 6 Piano



Library

New librarian: Jack Saunders. Well done to Alexander Head, Chris Hudec, Jim Brooker, Alex Graham, Richard Clegg, Harry Punter, Charles Wall and Matthew Williams for their good work as librarians.

House Projects

Two boys from each form in Year 7 have been presented with prizes as a result of outstanding work about the history of their House:

St Aidan's:	Nathan Gipson and Thomas Piotrowicz
St Bede's:	Jamie Hill and Michael Bailey
St Dunstan's:	Daniel Bamber and Harrison Clare
St Hugh's:	Zak Karimjee and Christian Tepper

Don Bosco Project

Three boys from each form in Year 7 were recently presented with certificates:

St Aidan's – Sam Storey, Daniel Mumford, Joshua Vincent
 St Bede's – Charles Fewings, Rohan Ninan, Jake Lamb
 St Dunstan's – William Parfitt, George Barfoot, James Martin
 St Hugh's – Oliver Watts, Joshua Raw, Christian Tepper



Public Speaking makes Salesian College History

Thomas Cornford (3H), Joseph Wheatley (3A), Jordan Maxwell (3H) and Robbie Smith (3H) have made Salesian College history by winning the Regional Final of the Rotary Youth Speaks Competition on Saturday 13 March. Jordan Maxwell stepped in at the last minute to replace Robbie who was ill, and he won Best Vote of Thanks in the competition. Thomas Cornford won Best Chairman. This is the fourth competition the team has won and they now go on to compete in the National Final on Saturday 8 May in Stratford-upon-Avon.



Aldershot Rotary Public Speaking Competition

Senior team: Toby Sansome, Alexander Morgan (won best speaker) and Joseph Barker

Intermediate team: Michael Williams, Jordan Maxwell and William Schnabel (runners up)

English Speaking Union

The following boys took part in the ESU Public Speaking Competition for schools and received certificates: Finlay Pelling, Sebastian Notarmarco-Pope and Benjamin Martin.

All in the name of Charity

Over the last few months, the school has donated a significant amount of money to charity. Thank you to those students, parents and staff who took part in the 'Sightsavers Walk', for which the total raised now stands at a staggering £3,000! The total from the four walks is now £20,000. Detailed below are a few of the other events that have taken place.



Salesian College raises money for children with special needs

As you are aware, last year the college raised over £10,000 at our annual PTA Spring Ball. It was decided that £3,000 of the funds would be donated to our nominated charity, the [Children With Special Needs Foundation](#) (CWSNF).

The CWSNF used the money to help The Grove Primary School in Frimley set up the 'Reading Plus' scheme. Reading Plus is a computer programme which helps children with literacy difficulties develop their silent reading skills.

Miriam Peace, Special Educational Needs Coordinator said "Reading Plus is already making a real difference to our children with special educational needs. The children using the programme are now more confident with their reading and we have also found that spelling and comprehension levels have significantly improved."

Library Sleepover raises over £500

On 26 February, 15 students and 6 members of staff took part in a Library Sleepover in aid of Mrs Mweete's Porridge Club. The Sleepover raised over £500 for the Porridge Club which helps educate orphaned children due to HIV/AIDS in Zambia.



Piñata Charity Fun

Piñata Charity Activity in aid of Haiti

A Piñata Charity Activity was organised by Year 8 St Dunstan's on 21 January and 4 February. The collection was generous and everyone enjoyed the event. Thank you to Mrs Cardona, Mr Yates and Mr Butler for helping to organise the Piñata.

Penny Roll Out Fundraising Event

3 St Bede's had fun raising money for the Haiti Disaster Fund by placing donated pennies on the floor to create the word Haiti as well as several lines stretching from the country's name. A total of 3,824 pennies were laid resulting in a raised sum of £38.24.

Ready, Steady, Cook

At the end of last term, Mr Darren Tinkler from Chartwells, our school caterers, delivered an interactive education session on healthy eating to all students in years 7 to 10.

Two teams, Red (Mr Matthew Bunyan, Tristan Semon-Ward and Joseph Wheatley) and Green (Miss Sarah Pinkney, Richard Clegg and Philip Blackwood), competed in a live cookery show demonstrating the importance of a balanced meal and looking at food groups.

The audience of 400 students acted as judges in the competition, considering appearance, flavour, techniques and presentation of the dishes prepared by the two teams. The teams only had 15 minutes to prepare their dishes. Mr Bunyan's team prepared pan fried chicken fillet in a tomato ragout sauce with wilted greens and pasta. But it was

Miss Pinkney's team who won the competition with their dish of pepper, onion and fresh spinach balti with Indian spiced potatoes and pilau rice. Mr Tinkler said "The competition was very close between the teams but the green team showed passion, flair, energy and presentation which stole the show. Delivering the healthy eating message in this fun way, means that students remember and put in to practice the lessons learnt."



New York Exchange a big success



Following the visit to New York in October, the exchange students from the Salesian High School, New Rochelle, New York landed at Heathrow on Saturday 13 March. Accompanied by Mr John Flaherty, Principal, and Father Jim Molloy SDB, the students spent ten days with us learning about the history of Britain and experiencing English life.

The students enjoyed various trips including Blenheim Palace, Oxford University, Horse Guards and Whitehall, Hampton Court, the Tower of London and the West End production of Les Misérables. They also experienced lessons with the Sixth Form at school.

The exchange was a huge success and enjoyed by all those involved. Thank you to all the host families for your hospitality and to the staff who helped facilitate the visit.

This was the third exchange visit and students in the current Lower Sixth will have the opportunity to take part in the New York exchange programme next year.

Travel update

Attention all Aldershot Parents

The coach route to Salesian which currently operates through Aldershot is introducing a new fare structure. This new fare compares well to other forms of transport including the public buses and private cars. The coach provides a safe, punctual and convenient way for your son or daughter to get to Salesian and the route could be altered to accommodate a stop convenient to you.

If in the past you have been put off by the cost of the coach or, for some other reason have decided not to use it, then you might be interested in the new reduced fare.

To find out more please contact Mr Andy Nash (Coach Co-ordinator)

Tel: 01252 793605 or email adpnash@btinternet.com

Does your son travel to school from Woking?

Aamir Ahmed will be joining Year 7 in September 2010. His parents would like to speak to other parents who live in Woking or the surrounding villages, to find out which method of transport their sons use and if anyone is interested in making shared transportation arrangements.

If you are able to advise or are interested in sharing transport, please contact Mr and Mrs Ahmed on 01483 756556 (home) or 07940 705457 (mobile) or via email:

shahbaz.ahmed@nomura.com

Drugs Awareness

I ask all parents to read the letter enclosed regarding 'Drugs Awareness' and to discuss this with your son or daughter.

Salesian College 500 Club 2009

Autumn Term Prize Draw winners

1st prize £150 — 227, Mrs Lisa Hill
2nd prize £50 — 34, Mrs Sue Cornford
3rd prize £25 — 48, Mrs Diane

Gregory

£710 was donated to the Bursary

Diary dates

24 April—The PTA Amethyst Ball
06 May—Music Evening
07 May—Half day—School finishes at 12.35pm
08 May—Open Morning
26 June—Garden Fete
OSA Five-a-side tournament at fields

Staff news

Congratulations to Mr Michael Stone who has been appointed to the position of Deputy Headmaster from September 2010. Mr Stone will be particularly responsible for academic and curriculum issues. We also congratulate Mr Andrew Moore who has been appointed to the position of Assistant Headmaster from September 2010. We wish them both well in their new positions.

We are pleased to welcome our new staff:



Mrs Hannah Wiggins
Maths Department



Mrs Helen Wilson
Assistant Librarian

Farewell

We would like to wish the staff who recently left all the best with their future endeavours. Mr Matthew Campbell (Physics) who has left to teach in New Zealand and Mrs Eimer Sheppard (Media Studies).

At the end of this term we are sad to say farewell to Mrs Jenny Turney who has taught Physics and Mathematics at Salesian since 1990. For over 20 years she has given very loyal and faithful service.

Mrs Lisa Hill has been a great supporter of the College since her eldest son joined in 1997. Besides running the uniform shop for many years, she has recently worked in reception. Both Mrs Turney and Mrs Hill will be very much missed and we wish them happiness in the future.

Feedback/Suggestions



I hope you have found this newsletter interesting and informative. As the new Promotions Officer, I would welcome your suggestions on what you would like to see featured in future newsletters. Going forward we intend to produce a newsletter every half term which will be shorter and more current. We are considering sending out some of the future newsletters via email and would like to hear your views on this. Please feel free to contact me on 01252 893021 or via email: stewartl@salesiancollege.com.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Lorraine Stewart