



AUTUMN TERM

Salesian College News

Welcome from the Headmaster



Dear Parents and Friends

As we all approach the end of a very busy and hardworking term this newsletter allows me to look back with pride on the many achievements and joys of this first term.

Our new students in Year 7 and Year 12 have very much settled in and have become completely at home in their Salesian Community. The examination students have been working very hard to ensure their success next summer. The staff have, through the time they give outside of lessons,

ensured that all have had such an enjoyable time in all their many activities organised this term.

When the Rector Major visited, we were able to reflect how successfully we all follow St John Bosco's mission within this community to make a Home, School, Playground and Church, so that all our students might live life to the full.

Have a wonderful and relaxing Christmas.

Gerard Owens

Don Ángel visits the College

On Thursday 21 November, our Rector Major, Don Ángel Fernández Artime, the 10th successor of Don Bosco arrived at the College as part of his visit to the 'St. Thomas of Canterbury' Province of Great Britain. On Friday, he met with the Salesian Community, followed by a talk to student representatives and presented certificates for the Don Bosco Projects winners. Don Ángel then had lunch and enjoyed meeting Staff, Governors, Parish and Student volunteers and members of the Sean Devereux Children's Fund.



Messages for Parents

Parking

Please may we remind all parents to be considerate when picking up or dropping students off. Please do not park on double yellow lines or the yellow zig zags, even if briefly. Such obstruction is putting students and fellow road users at risk of a serious accident.

Open Afternoon

The College's next Open Afternoon for prospective students and their parents will take place on Wednesday 5 February 2020 from 1.15pm to 3.30pm.

Quiz Night

The popular annual Quiz Night run jointly by the PTA and Sean Devereux Children's Fund, will be held in the College Hall on Saturday 8 February 2020. Put the date in your diary for a fun and competitive night for a great cause. The evening includes a fish and chip supper and bar on site too.

Photographs from Prize Night

Following the wonderful celebration of our students achievements on Prize Night, photos from the evening are available to purchase from Mr Matt Link at www.onlinepictureproof.com/mattlinkphotography/albums/schools/528227 Password SC1901

Outstanding A Level and GCSE Results



In August, the College celebrated outstanding academic success at both A Level and GCSE with a 100% pass rate at both A Level and GCSE.

Of particular note were at A level were Ben F who attained four A* grades and is reading Natural Sciences at Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge University. Also worthy of particular mention are Robert B and Sam R who each attained 2A*s and 1A and have both gone onto Durham University to read General Engineering and History respectively. Also in the top grades

were Sam C (Biochemistry, York), Alexander G (Economics, Exeter), Oliver T (Mechanical Engineering, Bath) and Max W (Medicine, Exeter) with 1A* and 2 A grades each. Ben K (Geography, Newcastle), Sam M (Mechanical Engineering, Nottingham), Callum S (Physics and Astro-Physics, King's College London) and Sam W (Flexible Combined Honours, Exeter) all achieved the equivalent of 3 A grades.



At GCSE, the top performing student this year was Miles J who achieved a perfect, and nationally outstanding, ten grade 9s and one A* followed by Thomas W (8x9, 2x8, 1xA*), Theo R (7x9, 2x8, 1x7, 1xA*), Alexander F (6x9, 3x8, 1x7, 1xA*), Thomas C (5x9, 4x8, 1x6, 1xA*), Japbir S (3x9, 3x8, 3x7, 1x6, 1x5, 1xB), William H (4x9, 4x8, 4x7, 1xB), James O (3x9, 6x8, 1x7, 1xA*), Oliver T (5x9, 2x8, 3x7, 1xA), James I (3x9, 5x8, 2x7, 1xA), Shreenidhi K (5x9, 3x8, 2x6, 1xA) and Daniel W (5x9, 3x8, 2x6, 1xA).

A warm welcome to our new Year 7 students

The new academic year began with great excitement and expectancy as we welcomed our new Year 7 students.



Year 13 Biology visit to Juniper Hall

Autumn is the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness, so it is the perfect time for the Year 13 Biology Field Course. Eleven intrepid students accompanied by Mr Hartland and



Mrs Jordaan spent two days at Juniper Hall Field Centre, nestled near the base of Box Hill. Friday was spent up on Mickleham Down, finding out how plants were reclaiming through succession the ancient gallops for Epsom Race Course. Saturday was spent ankle deep in the sparkling Tillingbourne River, its meandering channels offering a wide range of abiotic factors which influenced the distributions of leeches, freshwater shrimp and several species of mayfly.

As a way of accomplishing the Core Practical 12, needed for successful completion of the Practical Competency for Biology A Level, it could not have been more interesting. Students also gained confidence in their skills to plan and study, as well as wrangle the dark mysteries



Year 7 Retreat

All of Year 7 enjoyed their first Salesian retreat day in September at the local parish Church. The day was an opportunity to get to know each other better and understand what being in a Salesian school means. The students also had the chance to speak with a number of Sixth Form students from their House.



Year 7 visit Braywick Nature Reserve

Year 7 recently went to Braywick Nature Reserve to get to know each other better and undertake some team building activities. The students made a campfire and toasted marshmallows, built a den, undertook lots of activities together and had a great day out.



Share the Light Race Night 2019

Race Night was, again, a great evening with a fantastic turn out! Thank you so much to everyone who came and supported the event and all of the sponsors.

Almost £2,000 was raised on the night which is outstanding. This money goes to support Share the Light in helping with the educational, nutritional and medical needs of young people in Zambia. 'Twalumba Kapati' 'Zikomo' 'Thank You'



Year 12 Leadership Weekend

At the beginning of the Autumn Term, Year 12 travelled to YHA Edale, near Buxton in the Peak District, for the Year 12 Leadership Weekend. The aim was to bond the year group together and develop their leadership and group work skills with various different team building activities.

The group enjoyed raft building and climbing on the 'High Ropes' course, followed by 'Caving', which took many students out of their comfort zone. The YHA Edale team congratulated the students on their ability to work as a team and commented specifically on their 'can do' attitude, as despite some trepidation, the students supported each other through every single challenge put in front of them.

A wonderful weekend away in the Peaks and lots of valuable skills learnt and adventures had!



Year 8 Art and Classics visit to the British Museum



During the Autumn Term, Year 8 visited the British Museum as part of their Art and Classics studies. The students explored the world renowned Greek, Roman and Egyptian galleries to facilitate their comprehension of the languages and artefacts of the ancient world. The students explored the power and wealth of the Church and the Monarchy in Medieval Europe and how they were the patrons of the art and artefacts. The students investigated the period of Renaissance and how this moved culture out of the Dark Ages through re-visiting the Classical eras with a thirst for greater understanding of the world. Hand-made, precision tools for craftsmen and professionals were studied by the students. Finally we visited the "Elgin Marbles" and discussed their provenance and whether they really belong in the British Museum, how they were made and whether there is an argument for restoring them to their original state.

St Hugh's win Inter House Quiz!

On the week of the 25 November, Years 7-10 took part in an Inter House Quiz event hosted by the House Captains. It involved each year group answering a series of tricky questions on Kahoot in order to be the top scorer. The overall Winners of this year's quiz was St Hugh's. Congratulations to every student that took part and let's see if St Hugh's can keep the title next year!



A special shout out to our wonderful backstage team that assisted us with the technical side of the operation, as well as all the Sixth Form helpers for interacting with the quiz.

Battlefields Tour 2019

During October, 106 Year 9 students and staff took part in the annual Battlefields Tour visit to The Ypres Salient and the Northern France battlefields of World War One. The group were able to complete many pilgrimages, visiting the relatives of five students to pay their respects.

Day 1 was centered on the town of Ypres, which included visits to Tyne Cot Cemetery, the largest commonwealth cemetery in Belgium and Poperinghe Old Military Cemetery where Eugene Jervois, an alumnus of the College is buried and Hill 60, the scene of the first gas attack of the war. The Passchendaele Museum was an interactive experience and the evening culminated with our annual participation in the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate. 12 members of the party were able to take part in the wreath laying ceremony in front of a huge crowd.

Day 2 was based around the Arras area with visits to the Arras Memorial, the underground tunnels at Wellington Quarry and Neuville-Saint-Vaast German cemetery, the largest German military cemetery in France. A visit to the Vimy Ridge Park which included the impressive Canadian Memorial to the Missing was also striking. The Tour concluded with a Service of Remembrance at the Ring of Remembrance, a memorial which opened in August 2014, which highlights the names of 580,000 men who died in the region during WW1 – the largest war memorial in the world.

Thank you to all students, staff and Anglia Tours for a memorable tour.



Years 10 - 13 visit to Krakow

During the College's tour to Krakow and Auschwitz over October Half Term, 44 students and 5 staff visited the Salesian Parish of Saint Stanislaus & St John Bosco in Debniki, where St John Paul II had been a parishioner. The students were welcomed by Fr Zygmunt SDB to Mass and shown around the room dedicated to the Salesian Martyrs. It was from this parish that on 23 May 1941, that Fr Józef Kowalski (1911-1942) along with 11 Salesians were arrested and transported to Auschwitz. In May 1942, Fr Józef Kowalski was killed after refusing to trample on his rosary. He was beatified in Warsaw in 1999 by Pope John Paul II. All of the Salesians died in captivity. Visiting the Salesian School in Oswiecim where Józef had been a pupil was a poignant reminder of the horrors of the Holocaust. The Salesian School were so welcoming and the students will remember the dancing with fondness! Being part of the wider Salesian family was never more apparent to all of the group on this day of such contrasts as they visited Auschwitz in the afternoon.



The tour included many memorable experiences including a memorial service in Auschwitz Birkenau, a place of such vast inhumanity; a visit to Wawel Castle and Cathedral, central to the history of Krakow; the old Jewish quarter of Kazmierz; the former Jewish Ghetto (including Oskar Schindler's Factory, the Pharmacy under the Eagle and Memorial Square; Wadowice (the birthplace of Pope John Paul II) and the amazing Wieliczka Salt Mines. The whole tour was a truly memorable experience for all involved.



Year 10 visit Oxford University

On Tuesday 5 November, students in Year 10 visited Oxford University and got a small taste of university life - from a talk about the benefits of an Oxbridge education, Q&A with students, a tour of St Edmunds Hall and an academic session on Shakespeare using some original 17th century books. Students saw the benefits of making educated choices for their future and how it could influence their path in life.



Years 7 and 8 enjoy Spanish Production

On Thursday 7 November the Onatti Theatre Company presented their Spanish play 'Primera Cita' to Year 7 and 8 students, who enjoyed a colourful and lively performance.



Jack The Ripper Tour



Year 11 kick started their revision of life in Victorian Whitechapel with a Jack the Ripper tour.

Mass of Remembrance

On Monday 11 November, the College held its annual Mass of Remembrance in honour of those who gave their lives in the war including our old boys remembered on the Rolls of Honour in the College Hall. The chief celebrant at the Mass was Fr. Charles Gosnell, Chaplain to H.M. Forces, with Year 9 students leading the Mass with a reflection on their trip to the First World War Battlefields. The Headmaster read the names of the Salesian College Farnborough old boys who died in the WWII, before the laying of a wreath by School Captain Jonathan and Head Girl Lucy and the playing of the Last Post by Sixth Form student Beth.



Celebrating Outstanding Achievement

On Friday 15 November, Salesian College celebrated a year of outstanding achievements at the College's Annual Prize Giving Ceremony. Mr Alex Morgan, Alumnus and Television News Journalist, presented the prizes to the students.

Mr Gerard Owens, Headmaster commented "The Annual Prize Giving is a special occasion when we celebrate the outstanding achievements of our students. This year the College had many successes, both at local, regional and national level in a wide variety of competitions and sports. In particular, we celebrate the outstanding academic success at both A Level and GCSE with a 100% pass rate at both A Level and GCSE."

Benjamin F achieved 4A*s at A Level and was awarded the Centenary Cup for the Highest Points. Congratulations also went to Miles J who was awarded the Headmaster's Prize for Excellence at GCSE in recognition of the 10 x 9s and 1 x A* he achieved.



Run for Sean raises a staggering £4,126.36

Well done to all of Year 7 who raised a phenomenal £4,126.36 for the Sean Devereux Children's Fund through their 'Run for Sean'. Sean, a former Salesian Head Boy, died coming to the aid of children in Africa and Year 7 wanted to support this very worthwhile cause.

The College was delighted to welcome Mrs Devereux and Mr Chatterton on Wednesday 6 November to receive the cheque on behalf of the Sean Devereux Children's Fund.



Musical Moments

Our choirs have been busy this term supporting numerous events, with the pinnacle being the 'Festival of Readings & Carols' which saw a wealth of new repertoire telling the story and enhancing our worship. Beth's beautiful singing in the contemporary arrangement of 'Away in a Manger' was one of many highlights in this service.



The Schola and Senior Choir both sang with aplomb at the Prize Night with Morten Lauridsen's beautiful 'Sure On This Shining Night' aptly summing up this wonderful event. There is a great deal to look forward to during the next two terms, perhaps the most notable being the performance of Andrew Lloyd Webber's iconic musical 'Joseph', of which you are bound to hear more of in the coming months.

“Salesian Inspires and Careers Programme

This term, the College has had a very busy and varied programme of activities for careers from which the feedback from students, parents and professionals has been very positive. As part of our 'Salesian Inspires' programme, the College has had numerous speakers visit the College to speak to our students about their career. The College was delighted to welcome back alumni Mr Philip Rosell, Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon who spoke about careers in Medicine and Mr Willem Dane, who spoke about Engineering and the Graduate Programme at Rolls-Royce.

Year 11 students have now completed the Morrisby Online Report. The test assesses aptitudes, interests, work style, preferences, personality, learning style and work environment. It provides students with a profile for which career routes and subject options are most suitable for them. Post Morrisby careers guidance delivered by EC Careers was offered to the whole cohort in November.

The College are also very grateful to the many external companies that have supported our Careers Programme this Term including Mrs Emma-Marie Fry from EC Careers who gave a presentation to students on the new, wide range of Apprenticeships in the UK. The Dane Partnership who facilitated an Interview Evening for Year 13 students with over 40 professionals from a wide variety of industries including Medicine, Law, Business, Finance, Telecommunications and Media to assist students with interview preparation in their chosen career path.

Thank you to Mrs Dane who worked with Mrs Cardona on an evening highlighting interview skills and CV production for Year 13 which was very productive.



Students who are interested in a career in Aviation, attended the Vertical Flight Expo and Conference which included seminars on 'A career at British Airways and RAF opportunities.



Christmas boxes for Children overseas



Boys in Year 7-9 have been generously donating to the Samaritan's Christmas Shoebox appeal.

A total of 155 boxes were donated with gifts for children in need around the world. Thank you to Miss Callanan for organising the boxes.

Thank you to the PTA

Thank you to the PTA for donating £400 towards Turing Tumble Marble computers for the STEM Club and for purchasing new games for the Don Bosco Centre.



PTA Christmas Market



The Salesian Christmas market is a very busy annual event that brings together students, staff, parents and the local community. It gives the students on their Tycoon Challenge an opportunity to set up a stall and earn money by selling their items or running a fundraising game.

It allows the charities close to our Salesian hearts to set up stalls to sell their wares and share their message about what they do and how we can help them. It also gives us all the opportunity to start our Christmas shopping from the external shopping stalls most of whom are sourced from the local area thereby supporting many local small businesses.

The beautiful cake that Hayley from the catering department makes is raffled to raise funds for the PTA. The main raffle has some beautiful hampers made up from donations from the generosity of the Year 7 families and the Stallholders and wonderful donations from local businesses. It is a lovely fundraiser and the winners are excitedly drawn on the night of the market.

The Christmas market is a chance for the families to come together and catch up over some mulled wine or a hot chocolate all served by the famous PTA bar staff.

Bottles donated from Years 8-11 now make up our PTA bottle tombola which is always a very popular and busy stall and this year we had a fabulous PTA chocolate tombola with chocolate items donated by Years 12 and 13. This is a PTA event supported by all the years throughout the school. We thank you all for supporting us and coming to our events to help raise money for the Salesian College PTA.



World Biathlete Championships

Two students ranked in the top 8!



Super 8 S2 Rugby Champions



U15 & U17 Cross Country teams

win the two team titles at the District Championships



Year 7 Aldershot Schools

Football Semi Finalists



ISA National Swimming Champions



Sixth Form Netball Team



Diary Dates

SPRING TERM 2020

JANUARY 2020

Monday 6	College Entrance Examination
Tuesday 7	8.40am Term Starts for whole school, A Level & GCSE Mock Examinations begin (until Tuesday 14)
Saturday 11	12.00-5.00pm: Inter-House Badminton Championships, FRC
Wednesday 15	7.30pm - Lake District Parents' Information Evening
Thursday 16	4.30pm Visit of Parents of 9 St Aidan's and 9 St Bede's
Friday 17	GCSE RE Conference, St John Bosco College, Battersea
Tuesday 21	Year 9 Immunisations DTP & Men ACWY
Thursday 23	Year 11 Poetry Live Day, Hexagon Theatre, Reading, CAFOD Year 12 Young Leaders Programme Day 2, 4.30pm Visit of Parents of 9 St Dunstan's and 9 St Hugh's
Friday 24	Feast of Francis de Sales
Monday 27	7.00-9.15pm - Year 9 GCSE Options Evening
Tuesday 28	Chemistry Olympiad (prov.)
Thursday 30	Year 13 IPR 3 issued
Friday 31	11.00am Mass for the Feast of St John Bosco, 12.15pm Half day

FEBRUARY

Saturday 1	Regional HCPT Lourdes Preparation Day at Salesian College
Monday 3	Year 9 Retreat Week (Holocaust survivor testimony)
Tuesday 4	Years 7 & 8 - 4.30pm Visit of Year 13 Parents
Wednesday 5	1.15-3.30pm Open Afternoon for prospective students & their parents, 7.00-8.30pm Ski Trip Information Evening
Thursday 6	Year 12 Geography Field trip to Leeson House, Dorset
Friday 7	Year 11 and Year 12 Interim Progress Report 3 issued, Year 13 Retreat, St Cassian's Centre, Kintbury
Saturday 8	Hall 7.30pm PTA/Sean Devereux Fund Quiz Evening in College
Tuesday 11	4.30pm Visit of Parents of Year 11
Wednesday 12	Year 13 Physics department visit to CERN (return 14 February), Science Museum Roadshow visit to Years 7-9 students
Thursday 13	8 St Aidan's & 8 St Bede's Biology/Geography visit to Kew Gardens
Friday 14	8 St Dunstan's & 8 St Hugh's Biology/Geography visit to Kew Gardens
3.50pm	Mid-term break
Saturday 15	History A Level & GCSE History visit to Russia (return Wed 19 February)
Monday 24	8.40am Term re-starts
Wednesday 26	Ash Wednesday Services
Thursday 27	4.30pm Visit of Parents of Year 12
Friday 28	Year 7 ESB Examinations (prov.), Year 11 GCSE Physics Challenge (prov.), Year 7 Interim Progress Report 2 issued
Saturday 29	12.30-3.30pm Duke of Edinburgh Route Planning

MARCH

Tuesday 3	Year 9 "Robot Revolutions Day", 4.00pm St Hugh's House Sponsored Run for Share the Light, 7.30pm Year 12 Higher Education Evening (1) Music School
Wednesday 4	5.30pm Tea-Time Concert
Thursday 5	World Book Day celebrations, 4.30pm Visit of Parents of 7 St Aidan's and 7 St Bede's
Friday 6	UKMT Maths Intermediate Challenge (Years 9-11)
Tuesday 10	Years 12 and 13 Maths Inspiration Day, Hexagon, Reading
Thursday 12	4.30pm Visit of Parents of 7 St Dunstan's and 7 St Hugh's, Ten:Ten Productions Years 8-10
Saturday 14	9.00am-4.00pm Duke of Edinburgh Day Walk
Tuesday 17	Dress Rehearsal for College Production, all day
Wednesday 18	7.30pm Dress Rehearsal Evening Production
Thursday 19	7.30pm College Production
Friday 20	7.30pm College Production, Year 11 Full Academic reports issued, Year 10 Interim Progress Reports 3 issued, ISA Cross Country Finals, Rugby School
Saturday 21	7.30pm College Production
Monday 23	7 St Aidan's & 7 St Bede's Physics Department visit to WSC
Tuesday 24	7 St Dunstan's & 7 St Hugh's Physics Department visit to WSC, 4.30pm Visit of Year 10 Parents
Wednesday 25	Elevate Study Skills presentations to Sixth Form
Thursday 26	Mufti day in aid of Share the Light Zambia and CAFOD, Easter Services, Years 8 and 9 Interim Progress Reports 3 issued, Year 12 Spanish exchange students depart for Madrid (return 2 April)
	3.50pm Term ends
Friday 27	Staff Development Day (No students in College), Years 12 & 13 Full Academic Reports issued, Geography GCSE and A Level visit to Morocco (return 1 April), Years 7 and 8 Football Tour to Lisbon (return 31 March)
Saturday 28	Ski trip departs to Serre Chevalier (return 4 April)

APRIL

Friday 3	7.30pm Share the Light Zambia Advocates meal
Sunday 12	HCPT Lourdes Pilgrimage departs (returns 18 April)