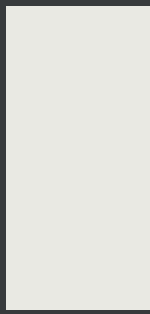


Inspicio



**“I have come so that you might have life, life in
all its fullness”**

John 10:10



INSIDE

JULIEN ALFRED VISITS
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CHINEKE FOUNDATION TRIP
JAZZ CAFE
CULTURE DAY
GIRLS FOOTBALL
GUYS & DOLLS
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY
WORLD BOOK DAY
CAREERS DAY
MATHS NUMBER DAY
MEET MRS GILLINSON



INSPICIO

(def. review, inspect, look into)

VOL NO.03

A Journey of Determination and Resilience

Julien Alfred's journey is nothing short of extraordinary. She shared with us her inspiring story of rising from humble beginnings to standing atop the world stage. Born and raised in Saint Lucia, Julien recounted how her love for running blossomed at a young age and was nurtured by supportive family, coaches, and mentors. However, she emphasized that her path to success was far from straightforward.

She spoke candidly about the relentless training sessions, the physical and mental demands of competing at an elite level, and the inevitable setbacks along the way.

There were injuries, losses, and moments of doubt, but Julien described how each challenge became a stepping stone toward her ultimate goals. Her story highlighted the importance of resilience, hard work, and an unshakeable belief in oneself—qualities that propelled her to Olympic glory.

For our students, hearing Julien's firsthand account of her struggles and triumphs was both enlightening and empowering. It showed them that even the most successful people face difficulties and that perseverance is the true key to success.

Inspiring Young Minds

The highlight of Julien's visit was an interactive Q&A session, where students eagerly posed questions about her life, career, and mindset. From queries about her daily training routine to how she stays motivated during tough times, Julien answered each question with honesty and thoughtful insight.



One student asked, “How do you keep going when things get hard?” Julien’s response was profound: “I remind myself why I started. There will always be hard days, but if you focus on your purpose and stay consistent, you’ll find your strength even in the toughest moments.”

Another student was curious about her diet and fitness regimen. Julien detailed the rigorous planning that goes into maintaining her peak performance, emphasizing the importance of balance and self-discipline. However, she also shared that success is as much about mental preparation as physical readiness. “Visualization is key,” she said. “I always picture myself crossing the finish line first. If you can see it in your mind, you can make it happen.”

Her answers resonated deeply with students, sparking conversations long after the session ended. It wasn’t just her words but also the sincerity with which she spoke that left everyone feeling uplifted and motivated.

OLYMPIAN JULIEN ALFRED VISITS

Lessons Beyond Athletics

While Julien's accolades on the track are awe-inspiring, her visit reminded us that her impact extends far beyond athletics. Her story is a testament to the power of determination, and her presence was a vivid example of how success can inspire others to dream big.

Teachers noted how Julien's visit reinforced the school's core values of perseverance, ambition, and community. As one staff member remarked, "Julien exemplifies everything we strive to teach our students—not just about achieving goals but about facing challenges with grace and determination."

Her message was clear: greatness is not reserved for the few but is accessible to anyone willing to put in the effort, maintain focus, and believe in themselves. This idea resonated with many students, some of whom shared afterward that they felt a renewed sense of purpose and motivation in pursuing their own dreams.

The Power of Role Models

For students at All Saints Catholic College, especially those from diverse backgrounds, Julien's visit was a powerful reminder of what can be achieved through determination and hard work. As a young woman from a small Caribbean island, Julien's rise to the top of the athletic world showed students that success is possible no matter where you come from. Her story underscored the importance of representation and the power of seeing someone who looks like you achieve greatness.

One student said, "Hearing Julien's story made me feel like I can achieve anything. She's proof that it doesn't matter where you start—it's about how hard you're willing to work."

A Day to Remember

The impact of Julien Alfred's visit extended beyond the immediate excitement of meeting an Olympic champion. It was a day filled with inspiration, motivation, and a renewed sense of possibility. As Julien shared her journey, she encouraged us all to reflect on our own goals and the steps we can take to achieve them.

She left the students and staff of All Saints Catholic College with a powerful message: *dreams are worth pursuing, no matter how ambitious they may seem.*

Her story serves as a reminder that with determination, resilience, and a clear vision, greatness is within everyone's reach.



Thank You, Julien Alfred!

We are deeply grateful to Julien Alfred for taking the time to visit our school and share her incredible story. Her words and presence inspired not only our students but also our staff, who were reminded of the vital role they play in shaping young minds and futures.

As we reflect on Julien's visit, her parting words continue to echo in our hearts: *"Never stop believing in yourself. No dream is too big, and no goal is out of reach if you're willing to work for it."*

Thank you, Julien, for reminding us to dream big, work hard, and run confidently toward our goals. Your visit has left a lasting legacy at All Saints Catholic College, and we are all better for having met you.

"Never stop believing in yourself. No dream is too big, and no goal is out of reach if you're willing to work for it."

-Julien Alfred

**'That exclamation mark says it all.
Chineke! likes to startle and
amaze with the sheer joyousness
of its music-making'**

-The Daily Telegraph



The Symphony Orchestra's Trip



Last November, 20 of our lucky students had the incredible opportunity to attend a Chineke Orchestra concert at the prestigious Royal Festival Hall, thanks to the generosity of complimentary tickets. The evening, featuring a standout performance by the acclaimed Mr. Hoglind, was a truly unforgettable experience that left our young musicians and music enthusiasts in awe.

From the moment we stepped into the iconic venue, the excitement was palpable. For many students, it was their first time experiencing the grandeur of a world-class concert hall, and their wide-eyed wonder only grew as the evening unfolded.

The Chineke Orchestra, renowned for its commitment to promoting diversity and excellence in classical music, delivered a performance that was nothing short of breathtaking. Each piece was infused with passion and precision, showcasing the extraordinary talent of the musicians on stage. Mr. Hoglind's performance was a particular highlight, captivating the audience with his skill and artistry. Our students were so moved that their enthusiastic cheers echoed through the hall—a proud moment for our group!

But the evening was about more than just the music. It was an opportunity to connect with a larger cultural experience and to be inspired by the dedication and talent of professional musicians. For our students, many of whom are budding performers themselves, the concert was a powerful reminder of the joy and impact of live music.

The trip also fostered a sense of camaraderie among the students, as they shared this magical experience together. Conversations on the way home were filled with excitement, admiration, and renewed aspirations for their own musical journeys.

This extraordinary evening was not only a celebration of music but also a chance to create lasting memories. We are deeply grateful to the Chineke Orchestra and everyone who made this experience possible. It was a night that will undoubtedly inspire our students for years to come, strengthening their love for music and encouraging them to dream big.

Thank you, Chineke Orchestra, for reminding us of the transformative power of music!

A close-up, warm-toned photograph of a jazz band. In the foreground, a saxophone is being played, with its keys and body clearly visible. To the left, a clarinet is partially visible. The background is filled with other musicians and instruments, creating a bokeh effect of light and shadow. The overall mood is intimate and artistic.

JAZZ CAFE

Jazz Café

Celebrating a Timeless Tradition

In a harmonious blend of tradition, talent, and education, All Saints Catholic College recently hosted its much-anticipated Jazz Café, an event dedicated to celebrating a genre of music that resonates deeply within the school's cultural fabric. Designed as a unique platform for students to explore, perform, and appreciate the timeless art of jazz, the Jazz Café was not just a showcase of talent but a vibrant reminder of the enduring influence of jazz on music and culture.

A Space for Jazz in the Spotlight

Jazz has long been an underappreciated cornerstone of musical education and inspiration. Its improvisational spirit, rich history, and diverse styles have quietly informed many modern musical genres, shaping the way musicians and audiences experience rhythm and melody. Recognizing this influence, All Saints Catholic College sought to create an event that would shine a spotlight on jazz, offering students a chance to immerse themselves in a genre that is both challenging and rewarding.

The Jazz Café was crafted as more than just a performance; it was an educational journey and a celebration of heritage. By dedicating a special evening to jazz, the school underscored its commitment to nurturing well-rounded musicianship while paying homage to one of music's most transformative genres.

The Performers: Students in the Spotlight

The event brought together a variety of ensembles and solo acts, each showcasing their unique take on jazz while collectively weaving a narrative of passion and creativity. The All Saints Jazz Ensemble set the tone for the evening, delivering polished and energetic performances that drew on the legacy of jazz greats. Their repertoire included timeless pieces such as Lil' Darlin' and A Night in Tunisia, offering a glimpse into the stylistic breadth of the genre.

Alongside them, *Ladbroke Groove*, a student-led band, added a contemporary flair, fusing traditional jazz with modern influences in a way that resonated with both seasoned jazz enthusiasts and newcomers to the genre. Solo vocalists and instrumentalists also took the stage, bravely interpreting classics and original compositions that spoke to their personal connection with jazz.

“

One of the standout moments of the evening was the performance by the Jazz Vocal Ensemble, a dynamic group whose harmonies and stage presence captured the essence of collaboration and improvisation that jazz represents. The diversity of performances highlighted the inclusive nature of the event, providing a platform for students of all skill levels to explore their musical potential.

”

Collaboration with Professional Musicians

A defining feature of the Jazz Café was the invaluable opportunity for students to collaborate with professional musicians. This collaboration added a layer of authenticity and mentorship to the event, as students worked closely with seasoned artists to refine their skills, understand the nuances of jazz performance, and create their own arrangements.

These collaborations were more than technical exercises; they were transformative experiences. Students learned how to navigate the delicate balance between structure and improvisation, a hallmark of jazz, and gained insights into the expressive potential of the genre. The professionals brought a wealth of knowledge and a contagious enthusiasm, inspiring students to push the boundaries of their creativity while respecting the roots of jazz.

A Celebration of Creativity and Community

The Jazz Café was more than just a musical performance; it was a celebration of community and creativity. The informal, café-style setting provided a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere, encouraging students to experiment and take risks in their performances. The supportive audience, comprising peers, family members, and staff, added to the sense of camaraderie and made the evening a true celebration of shared passion.

For many students, this environment was crucial in building confidence and resilience. The chance to perform in a space that valued growth over perfection allowed them to embrace the challenges of jazz and develop their skills in a supportive context. This balance of rigor and encouragement reflects All Saints Catholic College's broader philosophy of education, which emphasizes both excellence and empathy.

Jazz Cafe





The All Saints Catholic College Jazz Café was a triumph of education, artistry, and community.

By creating a space where students could explore the complexities of jazz, collaborate with professionals, and share their passion with an appreciative audience, the event celebrated the timeless appeal of this extraordinary genre.

In doing so, it also reaffirmed the school's commitment to nurturing not just skilled musicians but thoughtful, creative, and confident individuals ready to make their mark on the world.



CULTURE DAY



Unity in Diversity

Celebrating Diversity and Unity: All Saints Catholic College Culture Day

On October 11, 2024, All Saints Catholic College came alive with vibrant colors, melodies, and stories as students and staff celebrated Culture Day—a joyful event that embodied the school's values of inclusivity, respect, and unity.

This much-anticipated day transformed the campus into a vibrant showcase of the rich tapestry of cultures that make up the school community.

The event invited students to don attire representing their cultural heritage, creating a stunning visual spectacle. The hallways were alive with traditional garments from around the globe, reflecting the school's extraordinary diversity. Students wore everything from elegant sarees and intricately embroidered kimonos to boldly patterned African dashikis and festive Latin American dresses.



“

“It’s amazing to see everyone’s culture on display,” said a Year 10 student who proudly wore a traditional Colombian pollera. “I felt really proud to share my roots with my classmates and to see their pride in their cultures too.”

”



“For many of our students, this is a chance to take pride in their identities and feel seen. It also allows everyone to see the world through someone else’s eyes, building bridges across cultures and creating a stronger, more united community.”

Headteacher, Mr O'Neill

Fostering Unity Through Understanding

The impact of Culture Day went beyond the festivities. It provided an invaluable opportunity for students and staff to foster understanding and empathy. With over 40 nationalities represented within the school, Culture Day underscored the importance of embracing diversity as a strength.

A Year 11 student echoed this sentiment, saying, “Sometimes people assume things about you based on where you’re from. Today, I got to share my story, and my classmates understood me better. It feels really good to be seen for who I truly am.”

A Catalyst for Reflection and Growth

The day was also a moment for reflection on the importance of inclusivity and the school’s role in shaping a compassionate global citizenry. Workshops focused on the significance of cultural heritage, the impact of stereotypes, and the power of shared humanity.

“Culture Day reminded me how important it is to be open-minded,” said a Year 10 student. “We all have so much to learn from each other, and events like this show how beautiful our differences are.”

Teachers noted the lasting impact of these conversations on the classroom environment. “Culture Day sets the tone for the rest of the year,” said Associate Assistant Headteacher, Mr Willis. “It creates a space where students feel safe to share their perspectives, which enriches our discussions in so many ways.”

A Legacy of Unity

Looking Ahead

As the day came to a close, the school community reflected on the success of Culture Day and its impact on their shared journey. For many, it wasn’t just a one-day celebration but a call to continue building a culture of respect and understanding every day.

“I think Culture Day is just the beginning,” said a year 9 student. “We should have more events where we learn from each other, not just about culture but other things too.”

Mr O'Neill concluded the day with words of gratitude and inspiration: “Thank you to every student, teacher, and parent who made today unforgettable. Let’s carry this spirit of unity and celebration into everything we do as a school community.”

Culture Day at All Saints Catholic College was an annual resounding success, leaving a lasting impression on everyone involved. It celebrated the school’s diverse heritage while planting seeds for a future built on mutual respect, empathy, and collaboration.

In a world that often emphasises differences, events like Culture Day remind us of the beauty in our shared humanity.

For the All Saints community, it was more than a celebration; it was a testament to the power of diversity to bring people together and create something truly extraordinary.

Kicking Off a New Era: Girls' Football Thrives at All Saints Catholic College with £500,000 Pitch and Lionesses' Inspiration

Girls' football is thriving at All Saints Catholic College, where enthusiasm, talent, and determination are propelling the sport to new heights. With the unveiling of a cutting-edge £500,000 AstroTurf pitch, the school is revolutionising opportunities for young female players, inspired by the success of England's Lionesses.

This transformation was evident as the Year 7/8 girls' football team played their first competitive match this term—a moment that marked a milestone in the growing success of girls' football at the school.





A Memorable Debut: Holland Park vs. All Saints

The Year 7/8 girls' football team kicked off their competitive journey this term with a match against Holland Park's Year 8 squad. For many, it was their first time playing competitively, yet their excitement and determination were palpable. Elsie described the experience as "happy and exciting," while Maise said she felt "proud" to represent Team All Saints.

Despite facing an older team, All Saints' players delivered an impressive performance. Maeve sealed their victory with a spectacular goal in the closing minutes, a moment Frankie called "exciting because we got to celebrate all our hard work." Lola reflected on the joy of camaraderie, adding, "Traveling on the bus and having a laugh was just as exciting as the match."

The match wasn't just a sporting event; it was a celebration of teamwork, resilience, and the beginning of something special. Christmas karaoke on the bus ride home perfectly captured the team's spirit—united, joyful, and determined.



The Rise of Girls' Football at All Saints

The turnout for girls' football this season has been remarkable. Lola summed up the excitement, saying, "It's fun and exciting to be part of this growing program." Maeve shared how the increase in players has "made it more motivating to fight for a place in the team."

The new AstroTurf pitch has played a significant role in this transformation. Jemima reflected that having "actual size goals and pitches" has made training feel more professional. The state-of-the-art facility is a game-changer, fostering pride among students and allowing them to train and compete at a higher level.

A Bright Future for Girls' Football

As the Year 7/8 team continues to grow, their journey is about much more than football—it's about breaking barriers, inspiring change, and showing what's possible with determination and support. With the new AstroTurf pitch as a symbol of opportunity and the Lionesses as role models, the future of girls' football at All Saints Catholic College has never looked brighter.

The Lionesses' Legacy and the Power of Role Models

The success of England's Lionesses continues to inspire the next generation of players. "Seeing players like Mary Earps, who won the Golden Glove, is so inspirational," said Maisie. Lilian highlighted Marta's journey in overcoming sexism in Brazil, calling her "an inspiration for fighting against the odds."

For the girls at All Saints, the Lionesses represent not only sporting excellence but also the message that "girls can also win," as Jemima noted. The visibility of women's football has shifted perceptions, with RieRie stating, "It shows everyone can play together, not just boys."

Building Confidence and Life Skills

Beyond the pitch, football is equipping the girls with valuable life skills. Frankie emphasized how the sport has improved her communication, saying, "You're always talking to players in loads of ways, not just words." Jemima highlighted teamwork, explaining, "Working together is better than by yourself."

Participation in football has also helped the girls build confidence. Maeve shared how this season has made her feel "proud to wear the kit," while Elsie added, "It makes me happy and excited to represent the school."

Advice for Aspiring Players

For girls considering joining the football program, the team has plenty of encouragement to offer. Jemima advised, "Keep trying." Lola emphasized the inclusive nature of the sport: "Don't be put off by others. Football is for all genders." Lily encouraged, "Just do it—if you don't try, you'll never know. It's fun and a great way to make more friends."

“

“Playing football at All Saints makes the school better and makes me proud to represent it.”

”

Maeve, Year 8

With every goal scored and every match played, the team is proving that they're not just playing for themselves—they're playing for a brighter, more inclusive future in sport.

GUYS AND DOLLS



On the show days of *Beauty and the Beast*, Miss Jeffreys, Miss Finlay and I made a shortlist of musicals that we thought would work for this year we gave ourselves the brief of making sure that the chorus were more involved, and that dance would take a bigger part of the production. We had three or four in mind, but after seeing the immersive production at the Bridge Theatre we decided that *Guys and Dolls* had everything we wanted. So the licence was secured, the immersive experience designed, and auditions scheduled.

We had 120 auditions over two weeks, callbacks, dance calls, and chemistry reads. This process was the first time we really started to understand the level of talent we had, we could have cast each principal character three or four times over. As the first rehearsal drew near, we had a clear plan of what the stage was going to look like. Then we had everyone on stage at once and instantly realised that we were going to have to build something as we couldn't physically fit the whole cast on stage. The wall of sound in that first rehearsal was breathtaking.

Every Monday and Thursday we took over the hall and turned it in to the Hotbox club, with extra dance rehearsals on Wednesdays and acting rehearsals on Tuesday, the effort that every single student put in to the show was phenomenal. Every character was off book (they had learned their lines) before Christmas, I think this is a first in the history of any school show ever. Years of training (i.e. Mr Parker and I being hard task masters) really has started to show, the standard as well as the expectation rises year on year.

It's never until the February half term that we truly understand the scale of the production. We had professional scaffolders in to build the set, with a Year 9 pupil interested in a career in scaffolding coming in over half term to help. He was soon intrigued by rigging lighting, pyrotechnics, sound, and is now expressing an interest in technical production arts. This is a prime example of how the show can open doors that students didn't realise existed, or perhaps thought weren't for them.



Thursday and Friday of half term are serious production rehearsals. Having driven the minibus to Petersfield (but alas still not visited the bookshop) and collected 500 bits of costume we then put them together in the ugliest combinations we could muster. Being on stage, on the scaffolding, with lighting cues, props and everything is a huge undertaking. Students were working from 8am-4.30pm in their half term. Did I mention how amazed we are by their dedication? This is when our technical production students really come in to their own: painting backdrops, signs, boxes, bags, making fake cocktails and creating a world for our audience. This all happens over two days, a feat that I don't think I'd see in a professional company.

Show week is all about adrenaline, exhausted from the weekend but still needing to concentrate, the first bars of the Stage and Orchestra rehearsals really make an impact, the show suddenly comes to life and everything starts to feel very real. It's the first time I've ever been able to dismiss the band early because everyone was so well prepared and professional that we got through the whole show half an hour earlier than we expected!

We had sold out the hall for all three nights and tickets were still in high demand. Opening night was truly an artistic experience that I will remember for a long time. The way the audience belly laughed at the jokes, the surprise of the colour of Havana and just the smashed expectations of what a school show could sound like really brought home the quality of what everyone had produced.

The process was long, and at times difficult, and we demand high standards of the students. However, I know from the many tears on closing night that students were proud of their achievement, and I'd always rather they strive for excellence and present something they are truly proud of than settle for a bit of fun.

It is a genuine privilege to be able to work with a company like the ones we create here, the care they show to each other, the pride in themselves and the company, and the friendships they make. As I type this article a week after opening night, I have a web browser open with the licence application for next year's show. It's going to be epic!

GUYS AND DOLLS



We had 120 auditions over two weeks, callbacks, dance calls, and chemistry reads. This process was the first time we really started to understand the level of talent we had, we could have cast each principal character three or four times over

International Women's Day



At All Saints we celebrated International Women's Day with enthusiasm, creativity, and a whole lot of fun! From sports challenges to delicious cakes, the day was packed with activities that brought our school community closer and supported a great cause.

The astro pitch was buzzing at lunchtime with students and staff participating in our very own All Saints Record Breakers Competition. The energy was electric as everyone competed in high jump, 30m sprints, shot put, and a lively round of keepie-uppies. It was fantastic to see such determination and team spirit on display.

Meanwhile, in Creative Food Tech, students let their imaginations run wild by designing fashion garments using newspaper and masking tape. The highlight being a catwalk to showcase these inventive designs.

Over in the main playground, we hosted a Bake Off featuring an array of delicious cakes that were not only a treat for the taste buds but also for a good cause. All proceeds went towards women's charities, making every bite a contribution to empowering women.

To wrap up the celebrations, students got crafty by creating their own rosette-style badges adorned with names and images of inspirational women. Wearing these badges with pride, they showcased their appreciation and admiration for the incredible achievements of women around the world.

A huge thank you to everyone who participated and helped make this day so special. Here's to celebrating women today and every day!



World Book Day



World Book Day at All Saints Catholic College was a fantastic celebration of literature, creativity, and engagement across the school community. Staff embraced the spirit of the day by dressing as characters from books chosen by their departments, with students voting for the best-dressed department. The results were as follows:

- 1st Place: Creative Technology – Marvel Comics
- 2nd Place: Performing Arts – Gangsta Granny
- 3rd Place: Science – The Addams Family

Throughout the day, students across all year groups participated in a variety of engaging activities designed to foster a love for reading. These included a book swap event, bookmark design competition, book cover scavenger hunt, quiz and the ever-popular 'Book Scene' challenge, where tutor groups recreated iconic moments from literature.

A huge congratulations to our 'Book Scene' winners:

1st Place 7N – For their creative poses and exceptional use of Photoshop in a magical reimagining of Peter Pan.

2nd Place 9T – For their outstanding use of props to bring Shrek's Swamp to life (Shrek was a book before it became a film!).

3rd Place 10C – For their impressive use of camera angles and perspective to recreate The BFG.

World Book Day was a resounding success, reinforcing the joy and importance of reading within our school community. Thank you to all staff and students for their enthusiasm and creativity in making the day so memorable.



The winning staff team - Creative Tech!

Careers Day

Our Year 10 students had an incredible Careers Day, gaining insights into a wide range of future opportunities, including Engineering, Education, Data Science, Healthcare, the Charity Sector and more.

We had talks from professionals in the NHS, exploring healthcare career pathways, apprenticeship providers highlighting hands-on industry opportunities and entrepreneurs sharing their journeys and business advice.

St Thomas' Hospice inspired students with medical research and the impact of science.

The event gave students a deeper understanding of different career options and the paths they can take after school.

A huge thank you to all our guest speakers for opening doors to exciting futures!



Maths Number Day



On Friday 7th February, All Saints Catholic College proudly launched its first-ever National Number Day, a dynamic and engaging event designed to celebrate mathematics and inspire students across Years 7 to 11. The day featured an exciting whole-school maths challenge, encouraging students to apply their problem-solving skills in a fun and interactive way.

Throughout the event, students tackled a series of mathematical problems and, upon finding the correct solution, sought out the teacher wearing the corresponding number to collect a stamp in their booklet. This initiative not only reinforced mathematical fluency but also fostered teamwork, communication, and positive relationships between students and staff.

The purpose of Maths Number Day was to promote a deeper appreciation of mathematics by making learning enjoyable and accessible. A recent article by Chioma Etienne, Maths Lead at Purposeful Adventures (published 14th March), highlights the importance of celebrating maths in the same way as World Book Day, emphasising the need to shift perceptions and enhance student engagement.

At All Saints, we are committed to embedding this philosophy within our curriculum and will continue to celebrate Maths Number Day annually, ensuring that a love for mathematics is nurtured both inside and outside the classroom.



MEET MRS GILLINSON



Joining the school in September 2024, Mrs Gillinson, Assistant Head Teacher and Teacher of Science, also oversees pupil engagement.

Why did you come and work at All Saints?

I had consistently heard wonderful things about the school from ex-colleagues, and was really impressed when I saw Andrew receive the secondary Head Teacher of the year award on the One Show, recognising how he had transformed the school. When I first came to visit the school, I was immediately struck by the excellent behaviour exhibited by students and the sense of community and togetherness amongst staff, exemplified by the shared SLT office. I was also excited by the innovative approaches within education i.e. Extended School Provision, focus on staff wellbeing, through the provision of flexi mornings.

Tell us about your background / upbringing

My family is from Barbados, my grandparents came over to the UK during Windrush and I am extremely proud of my cultural heritage. I have an extremely large extended family, as my mum is one of 5 girls, and I have too many cousins to name! Growing up we spent a lot of time at my grandparents' house, with food, dancing and music being something we came together to enjoy every Sunday afternoon.

The values that I was taught when growing up are still a big part of who I am today – family, community, importance of education, giving back and supporting one another. Every Christmas we still come together as a family to cook and feed the homeless community at my mum's Church.

What's been your highlight so far?

There have been so many to choose from in such a short amount of time! One of my stand-out moments so far was All Saints Day. Staff singing and waving the school flags, steel pans playing to welcome students on arrival. It was a wonderful day to celebrate so many diverse cultures and I felt a huge sense of community, with everyone wanting to talk about who they are and where they come from. However, the biggest highlight so far was the community Christmas dinner with the local care home residents.

So many people came together to make this night a success. This was the perfect example of giving back and supporting others (two of my core values). It was a wonderful atmosphere filled with a lot of laughter and an enjoyable time had by all, with the entertaining line dancing to finish of the evening. I met some incredible people, listened to heartfelt stories and laughed so much.

What other hobbies / interests do you have?

Aside from science (which is a HUGE passion of mine!), I love history. I studied it at A-level and even considered doing it as a degree. I am obsessed with musicals and my all-time favourite is Hamilton, which brings together my love of history and music. I studied ballet and tap when growing up and continued dance at university. When I was at school, I was part of the Netball team and continued this also into university.

I have always been a massive Sci-Fi geek and still am today. Doctor Who is an all-time favourite of mine, with Ncuti Gatwa and Matt Smith being my favourite Doctors. More recently, Supacell a modern-day Sci-Fi programme due to superheroes being carriers of sickle cell disease.

I love to cook but especially for others and enjoy bringing diverse cultures of food together.

Finally, I take inspiration from other women in STEM, such as Marie Maynard Daily, who was the first black woman to have a PhD in chemistry, she identified the link between high cholesterol, blocked arteries and the increased risk of heart disease, a discovery which is of great importance in today.

What's your role at ASCC? What is your focus?

I am an Assistant Head Teacher and Teacher of Science. I also oversee pupil engagement; I work across pastoral and pupil progress to maximise student engagement within school life. Some of the key initiatives I am working on include - academic support programme for KS4, compulsory study, quality assurance of homework and increasing the provision of mentoring opportunities for students. In addition, I am also looking to expand the rewards programme at All Saints, by creating more opportunities to recognise student excellence and progress.



INSPIRE

KEY DATES

Trinity Term 2025

- 22nd April - School Returns
- 25th April - St Catherine of Siena Feast Day
- 8th May - GCSE Examinations start
- 23rd May - Y11 Leavers Assembly
- 5th June - Fringe Festival
- 13th June - Grenfell Mass
- 19th June - Carmen at Opera Holland Park
- 2nd July - Y7 & 8 Awards Evening
- 4th July - INSET DAY (School closed to Pupils)
- 4th -9th July - Schola Tour
- 14th July - Summer Concert
- 15-16th July - Activities Days
- 17th July - Celebration Day
- 18th July - School Breaks Up (early finish)



JULIEN ALFRED VISITS
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CHINEKE FOUNDATION TRIP
JAZZ CAFE
CULTURE DAY
GIRLS FOOTBALL
GUYS & DOLLS
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY
WORLD BOOK DAY
CAREERS DAY
MATHS NUMBER DAY
MEET MRS GILLINSON