

All Saints Catholic College

The Review Issue 3 | 2021/22

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Original photography by Ms Bertinato





A WORD FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Written by Mr O'Neill

As this year draws to a close, it is important to reflect on the time that we have had together this year alongside some remarkable achievements. The pages of *The Review* highlight some of the brilliant moments we have had in the second part of the year. A few weeks ago, our Year 11 students finished their GCSE examinations. As a school, we are so proud of them. This summer has seen the first set of formal examinations in three years. Our students have had to endure lockdowns and uncertainty, but their approach and attitude towards their examinations was incredible, a true inspiration to us all.

This year we completed our £4.5m building programme that resulted in the opening of the Rome building - a resource that has made a huge difference to the school community. We held a highly successful Open Evening that saw more people coming to visit the school than ever before and resulted in 700 applications to the school; 190 of which put us as first choice. In October, we received a visit from Ofsted who arrived at the judgement that whilst the school remains Good, there is sufficient evidence to suggest that it is now Outstanding - making us the first secondary school in the country to




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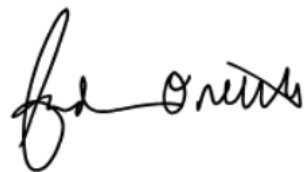




receive this judgement and one of only a handful of schools. In December the Diocese of Westminster inspected our school and, in the feedback, stated that we are at the very pinnacle of what an Outstanding Catholic school looks like. The school is also in the strongest financial position it has ever been in. In February, our students put on a production of 'Oliver!' that was simply outstanding and showcased the depth of talent that we have at the school. Last week, 150 of our Year 10 students went on work experience - an amazing experience for them.

Every one of these achievements is remarkable and outline the most important aspect of all; that is, how strong our school community really is. We are so lucky to have such hard-working, dedicated students and staff who form a community that strives to work together and constantly better itself. I want to reassure you that all the achievements we have made in the past few years are set to continue as our ambitions for your child grow stronger and stronger.

Have a lovely summer. God bless.



Mr O'Neill

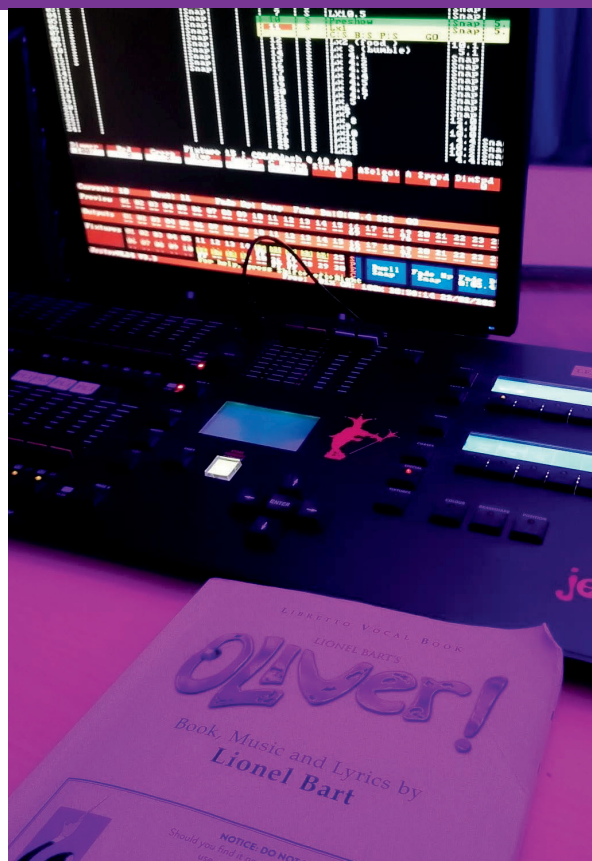


CONSIDER YOURSELF ONE OF US

Written by Miss Wilkinson

When I was at school, my favourite part of the year was always the annual school musical. I loved every aspect of it: the relationships you built with peers and teachers, the fun of acting and singing together in rehearsals, standing up on stage in costume and makeup, performing with live musicians and professional lighting and sound, having your friends and family watching, it was such a buzz! Extracurricular events like these undeniably played a huge part in me becoming a Performing Arts teacher and they continue to be a driving motivation for my students.

This year we decided to put on Lionel Bart's 'Oliver!' and what a show it was. We auditioned students at the start of the school year in September and with our finalised cast of forty students, rehearsals began in October 2021. With only four months to prepare for opening night, a rigorous rehearsal schedule was required – three nights a week for an hour and a half each session. Rehearsals were jam packed with singing, dancing and acting. Quite early on it became clear that the show was going to be a huge success, thanks to the incredible commitment and enthusiasm of the students involved.



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Students were coming back at lunchtime to practice their lines and were asking if they could stay behind after school to watch rehearsals, just to show support to their fellow cast members. It was wonderful to see.

In January, with just one month until curtain up, we recruited an all-student stage and lighting crew. We had two full days of rehearsals during the February half term break and further rehearsals with the pit orchestra when we returned to school. The pit orchestra consisted of our peripatetic teachers and a few additional professionals, who really helped bring the musical numbers to life. There's nothing quite like performing with a live band – what an experience for our students!

By opening night, the nerves were fluttering and the cast were beginning to feel the pressure! Nevertheless, they were

able to use that excitement to their advantage and brought a whole new level of energy to the stage! The show was fantastic – and all the hours of commitment and hard work truly paid off. Like most school performances, we had a few students who had a little last minute wobble and felt they couldn't possibly perform on stage in front of people they knew. However, with some gentle reassurance and an injection of self-confidence, they did it! It's a real highlight seeing students overcome their nerves and grow as people as a result! What is rather special about All Saints, is the support you see from peer to peer, particularly between year groups. We saw countless wonderful examples of this: from Year 11 students mentoring Year 7s, to Year 9 students encouraging the Year 8s to believe in themselves. The trust and respect they have for one another is truly inspiring.



"The show was fantastic – and all the hours of commitment and hard work truly paid off."





I really cannot emphasise enough how impressed the entire department was with the dedication and commitment shown by all involved in the show! The friendships the cast members have forged will hopefully last a lifetime, just like the memories they have made.

As a reward for their hard work, our governors generously paid for all cast and crew to go and see the *'The Lion King'* at the Lyceum Theatre, where they were able to watch one of our very own, Year 7 student Kylan, performing in the lead role of Simba!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Art team for creating our magnificent set, Mrs Marshall for being our costume and props organiser, Dr Slimings for his support in rehearsals and directing the music, lighting and sound, Miss Alfieri and Miss Kiely for supporting with direction, all peripatetic teachers in the pit orchestra and of course all staff who helped on the night. A special thank you must go to Mr O'Neill as without his continued and increasing support for the Performing Arts, we wouldn't have been able to create such a fantastic show. We've made a head start on plans for next year's musical and the excitement is already starting to build.



LONDON IS OPEN

Introduction

Written by Mr McGovern

With Covid restrictions now lifted, and the hospitality and entertainment industries roaring back to life, the final two terms of the academic year saw the welcome resumption of extra-curricular school trips. Whilst the 2022 ski trip to Italy sadly had to be cancelled due to rules surrounding vaccination status, London opened its doors once again and our students jumped at the chance to see what their thriving city has to offer.

Trips form an essential part of the *Formatio* offer here at All Saints, giving students an opportunity to push themselves out of their comfort zones and broaden their cultural understanding of London. They provide experiences that many of our students would otherwise miss out on, and form a vital part of creative subjects such as Food Technology, Drama and Art. In this edition of *The Review* we spoke to some of the teachers who led trips this year and asked them to describe what the experience was like for our students.



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"The trip acted as a huge source of inspiration for the entire class..."

Matilda The Musical

Written by Ms Alfieri

On the 2nd March, our Year 10 Drama students went on a trip to London's glittering West End to see the Royal Shakespeare Company production of 'Matilda the Musical'. Based on the original novel by Roald Dahl, this critically acclaimed, multi Olivier Award winning musical with book by Dennis Kelly and music by Tim Minchin, tells the tale of an ordinary girl with extraordinary powers who finds refuge in learning and library books.

As part of their studies, Year 10 students were required to write a Live Theatre Review. In addition to its heart-warming storyline and catchy tunes, 'Matilda the Musical' is known to be visually stunning, famous for its lavish set and costume design, and so it was the obvious choice of show for

our students to experience. For many, this was the first time they had stepped foot inside a theatre, let alone be treated to tickets for such an iconic West End production. Each and every student thoroughly enjoyed the performance and walked out of the Cambridge Theatre onto the cobbled streets of Covent Garden eager to get involved in the magical world of theatre. Some students are now keen to apply to the Brit School for Performing Arts, whilst others have obtained work experience placements at the Bush Theatre. It's fair to say that the trip acted as a huge source of inspiration for the entire class, and they are eagerly looking forward to their next theatre trip, which will take place very soon. A huge thank you to all involved for a wonderful afternoon.



Bowling

Written by Mr McGovern

Every Friday morning a group of students meet in the LRC to discuss their progress over the week just gone and set targets for the week to come. These students are part of the Peer Mentoring Scheme, set up by Ms Boland and now spearheaded by Ms Samuel. The aim of the scheme is to partner younger students with older mentors who will guide them through their time at All Saints to help improve their attendance, application and behaviour. Students chosen to be mentors are those who constantly demonstrate the winning behaviours of All Saints, with good attendance, minimal Xs and lots of stars to their name. They are regarded as student leaders within our school community and excellent examples for our mentees to follow.

Both the mentors and their mentees have approached this unique arrangement with relish and enthusiasm. They have attended consistently, made new friendships and are making excellent progress as a result. It seemed only fair that they should be rewarded for their efforts, and so we headed off to Queens Bowling Alley for some friendly competition.

The rationale behind the trip was not only to reward their commitment to the scheme but to strengthen the bonds of friendship between mentors and mentees in an effort to make their working relationship even stronger. It was heart-warming to see our mentors eschewing their usual friendship groups and instead teaming up with their mentees for a friendly game.



"Students chosen to be mentors are those who constantly demonstrate the winning behaviours of All Saints."



The level of support and encouragement for one another was wonderful to see and the bowling wasn't bad either. Each strike (and there were many), was cheered to the rafters, and students returned to school having had lots of fun with the bonds between them permanently strengthened. We're excited to see the fruits of this special arrangement as students continue to enjoy the benefits of the Peer Mentoring Scheme for years to come.

"Both the mentors and their mentees have approached this unique arrangement with relish and enthusiasm."





Tate Modern

Written by Miss Nicholls

On 15th March, our Year 10 Art students went on a trip to the beautiful Southbank to visit the Tate Modern gallery. We walked along the river and explored the 'Surrealism Beyond Borders' exhibition presented in the Eyal Ofer Galleries of the Tate.

The exhibition states that "Surrealism is not a style – but a state of mind. It aims to subvert reality. To find the uncanny in the everyday. To tap into our unconscious desires and bring dreams to life. And for many artists around the world, it has been a way to challenge authority and imagine a new world."

Students learnt about Surrealism reaching across the world and over 50 years, with the exhibition showing how artists around the world have been inspired and united by Surrealism – from centres as diverse as Buenos Aires, Cairo, Lisbon, Mexico City, Prague, Seoul, and Tokyo.

Year 10 were incredibly inspired by the exhibition, taking photographs and sketching their favourite artworks as they soaked in the ideas and concepts of famous artists.

Thank you to Year 10 for a fantastic trip and Ms Bertinato for accompanying us.

London Aquarium

Written by Miss Burke

Rewarding good behaviour is something that All Saints firmly believes in. Acknowledging the large number of pupils who consistently behave in a sensible manner, set a good example and represent the school with distinction is important as it allows other students to understand that good behaviour does not go unrecognised. So, all students who had received less than 5 Xs, in addition to 100% attendance were rewarded with a trip to the Sea Life London Aquarium.

Located on Southbank, the London Aquarium is a very popular tourist attraction for those visiting the city from abroad. After registration, we all headed into central London keen to spend as much time as possible at the aquarium. From the underwater tunnel to the shark tank,

the students saw a wide range of creatures. I think it's fair to say one of the favourite areas of the aquarium amongst the students was the penguin enclosure. The students stayed here for quite a while watching the penguins plod around, dive underwater and play amongst spraying bubbles. It was wonderful to see the students so immersed in observing these beautiful animals. The jellyfish section was another firm favourite. To have the opportunity to see such a range of them at such close quarters was something that the students will remember fondly. Indeed, one student was so enamoured with the whole experience he remarked: "This is so much better than Thorpe Park!" Praise indeed.



"Rewarding good behaviour is something that All Saints firmly believes in."



All in all, it was evident that every student on the trip had thoroughly enjoyed the experience. They relished the chance to do something fun whilst also learning new facts about the ocean and its inhabitants. Nemo, Dory and the rest of the ocean were most certainly found!

"It was evident that every student on the trip had thoroughly enjoyed the experience."



Bread Ahead Bakery

Written by Ms Obikoya

On your marks. Get set. Bake!

A group of Year 10 students went in search of that illusive “Hollywood Handshake” as they spent some time making delicious doughy delights at the Bread Ahead Bakery in Borough Market. To understand how bread is produced on a mass scale, the students were tasked with making some bagels and pretzels. The students developed their skills by boiling, shaping and baking the dough to produce bagels and pretzels like those famously made in New York. The students were delighted that they were able to take home goody bags filled with tasty treats to share with their families and friends.

Later in the day, the students got the chance to tour Borough Market in order to observe how fresh produce is prepared and sold in a market as opposed to a supermarket. All of this fun and excitement plays an essential part in helping students to develop the necessary skills for the Food and Nutrition curriculum.





THE DOCTOR WILL SEE YOU NOW



Introduction

Written by Mr McGovern

Here at All Saints, we are constantly celebrating the successes and achievements of our students. Prizes are given out each Friday, reward trips happen each term and assemblies take place frequently to celebrate the hard work of students in front of their peers. But what about the teachers? Surely their achievements deserve to be recognised as well. In this edition of *The Review* we sit down with Dr Slimings to congratulate him on his recent Doctorate and discuss his first year teaching at All Saints.

What do you do at All Saints and how have you found your first year in the job?

I work in the music department so I play the piano for masses and concerts, I help with arrangements and generally assist with anything else in school where music is required. I'm also the Schola Cantorum teacher, so I spend a lot of my time working with them both as a choir and as individuals. They rehearse every day and each student gets an individual singing lesson with me once a week.

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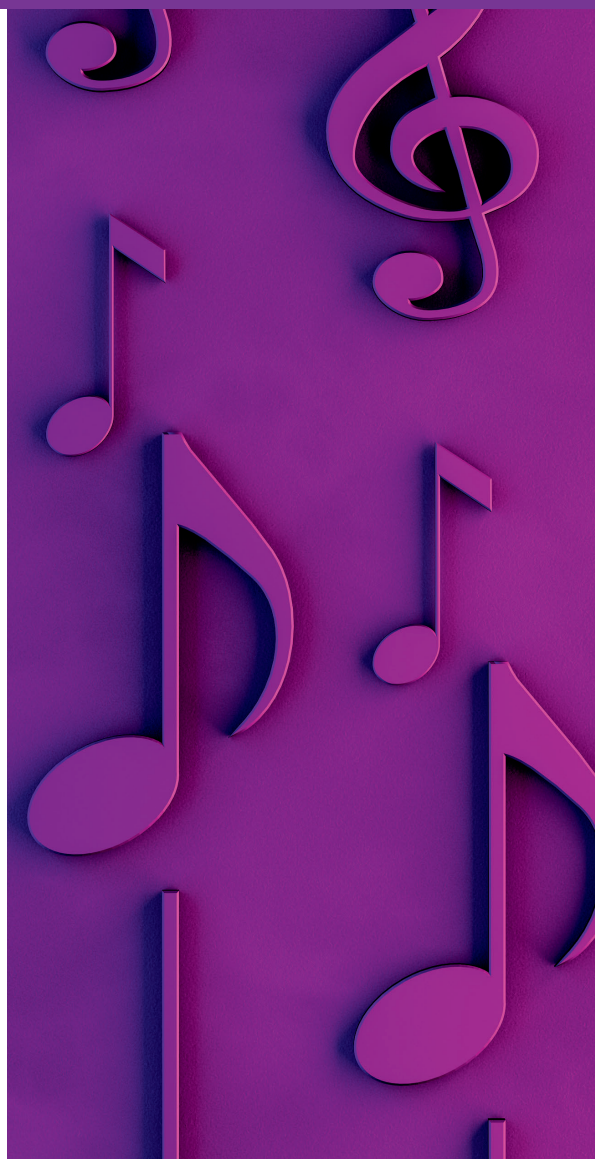
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I've been at All Saints roughly a year now. I joined in May 2021 when Schola first started. Originally I was contracted to work one day and a half a week but as the Schola has grown, so have my responsibilities within the school and I'm now here two and a half days a week. I love it here. I know it sounds trite but it's truly a privilege to get to work in an environment that you look forward to walking into each day. The staff are fantastic – young, ambitious and they really care about making a difference. The students here are fantastic too. They're so keen and they throw themselves at the material, no matter how difficult it might be. Often they're being asked to sing in other languages or tackle music written in difficult time signatures. Sometimes I don't think they fully appreciate quite how difficult the music they're singing really is, but they always rise to the challenge and exceed my expectations.

What's your own background and how did you become a teacher of Music?

I went to a school that was similar to All Saints in many ways, a state school up in Hartlepool in the North East. I think that's one of the reasons I've felt so at home here – It's been nice returning to a school environment that feels so familiar and similar to that of my own schooling. It just so happened to have a fantastic music department – with passionate, inspirational teachers. There was one teacher in particular, named Mr Dixon who gave us really difficult harmonies and arrangements, but never made a fuss about how tricky they were as he always believed we could rise to the challenge. I try and channel Mr Dixon in my own practice now I'm a Music Teacher. I haven't always had my heart set on a career in music. In fact, I didn't have a singing lesson until I was seventeen.



"The students here are fantastic...they're so keen and they throw themselves at the material..."



I sang in the choir at school but that was for fun mostly and to get closer to a girl I fancied. She's married now and a Professor of Neuroscience at Oxford University so it would never have worked out anyway. The majority of my family are in the Royal Navy so I thought I'd follow in their footsteps. I wanted to be an Engineering Officer in the Submarine Service so I applied to do that at Cambridge University but I didn't quite get the A Levels I needed. Instead, I did my undergraduate in Singing followed by a Masters in Vocal Performance at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland in Glasgow, one of the most prestigious Performing Arts establishments in the world.

Now, I believe you've recently been made a Dr of Music? Congratulations.

Thanks very much. Yes, you may now call me Doctor. My doctorate was looking at the question: How do operatic singers sing together? Essentially exploring what happens when you get a group of trained singers trying to work together as one voice? I interviewed a lot of people, recorded their individual voices as part of a group and then compared what they said they did to what the acoustics said they did on the recording. I completed that in February.

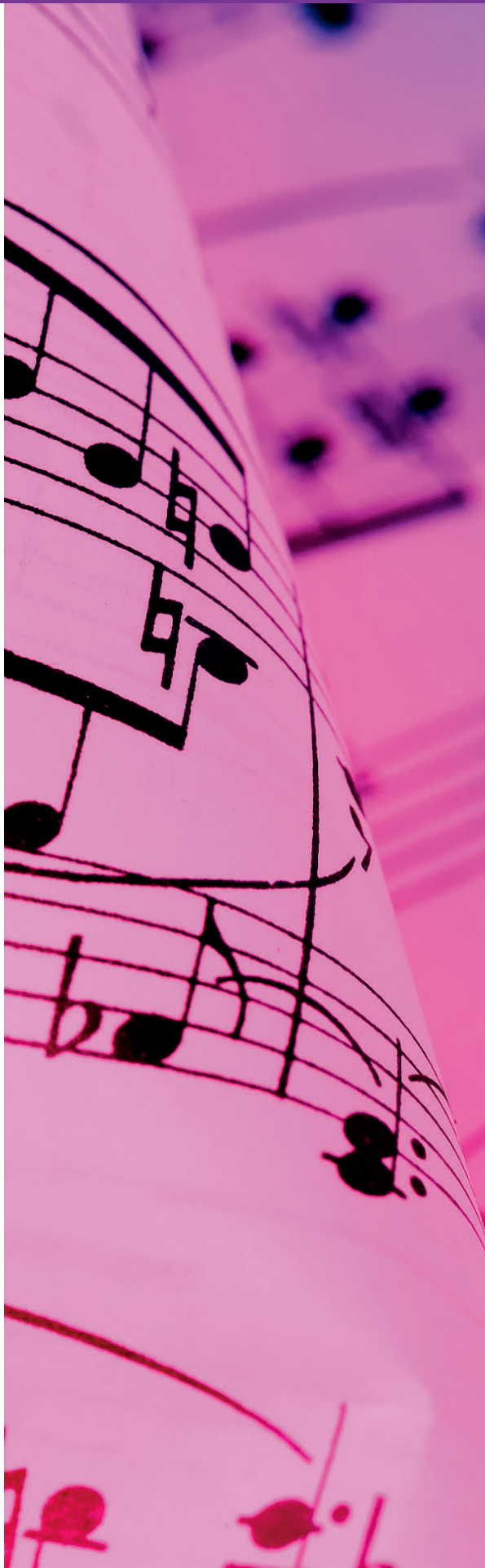
Where were you working before you joined All Saints?

Funnily enough I was employed at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland – lecturing in Music Psychology and Acoustics. I also teach the Education students, so for anyone wanting to train as a classroom Music teacher, I train them in how to teach singing in that setting. Primarily though, I was working as a conductor for Scottish Opera. I chose to spend more time at All Saints as I feel you make more of a difference



"I chose to spend more time at All Saints as I feel you make more of a difference..."





here. Last year, alongside my work here I was teaching at a very posh, very well-known private school in North London and I didn't enjoy it at all. The students couldn't get something wrong and weren't good at learning. Having those two contrasting experiences at the same time made my mind up. I feel like something is really being built here and I like getting in on the ground.

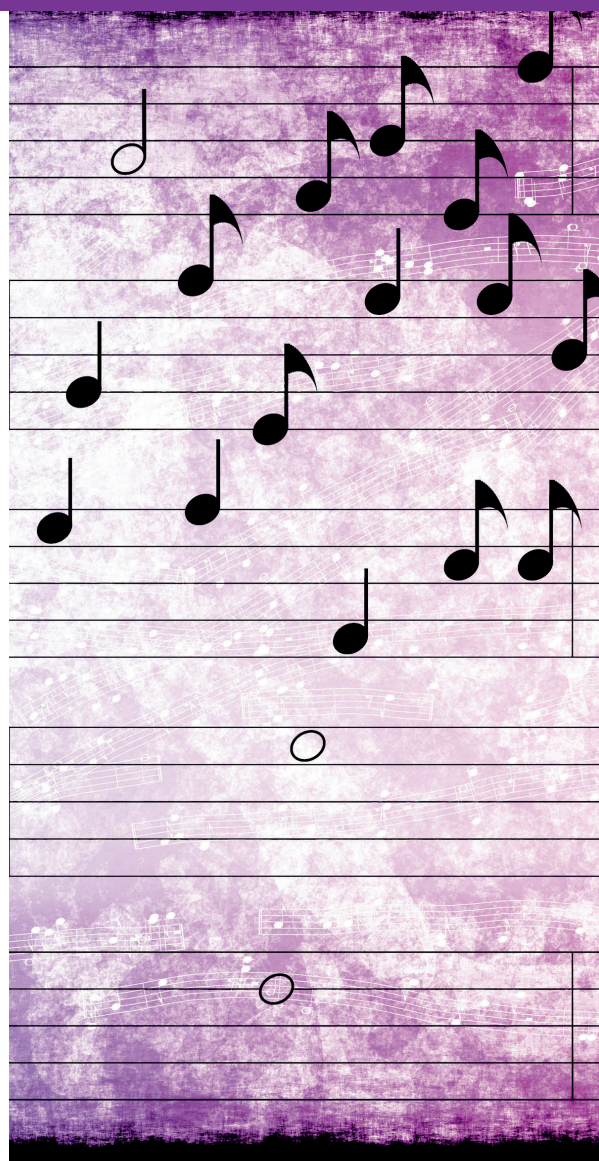
You were heavily involved in our recent production of *'Oliver!'* How was that?

Hugely stressful but also incredibly rewarding. It's not a show I knew particularly well and we didn't have that much time to pull it all together. It's a complicated show musically. The band parts are challenging and there's lots of incidental music so it was quite a large undertaking. However, watching how the cast built a community amongst themselves, which has continued even now the show is over, makes all the sleepless nights worthwhile. What's particularly exciting for us as a department and as a school is that a lot of the principal roles were played by students in Y7 – which bodes well for the future as they're only going to get better. The whole department is excited to build on the success of *'Oliver!'* and ensure that the All Saints musical gets bigger and better every year. We've already decided that next year the show will play over three nights, maybe even four. The orchestra is going to be bigger too, potentially seventeen players, so almost symphony size. Although I can't reveal the name of next year's show just yet, I think that everyone will be excited by the choice. It's a show that has lots of parts and lots of opportunities to sing solo – which will allow us to get more students involved and give them even more agency over it.



And finally, what would your message be to our current students, or parents of new students that might want to get involved in music at All Saints?

For those students who are already here I'd just like to remind them what an exciting time it is to be at All Saints if you want to get involved in music. There's loads going on. The Schola Cantorum will soon start recording material and going on tour, which will be an incredible experience for those students. But it's not all about Schola, or all about classical music. If Schola isn't for you, join the school choir instead. If you don't like that, join a band, or try the steel pans. If you don't like anything that's currently on offer, suggest something. Start it yourself. The facilities are there for you to use. We'll make it work. We know how important music is and it's paramount that all our students understand that the music department is here for everyone. It's not about creating students who are going to go on to train at a Conservatoire or end up as a soloist at the Royal Philharmonic. It's not about that. That would obviously be a wonderful achievement for the individual but that's not the end goal as a school. It's about building a community and cultivating friendships that last for a lifetime. All my best friends, still to this day are people who I met in music groups or in choirs. As for parents of new students, and why they should encourage their son or daughter to get involved with the music department at All Saints, there's loads of research that suggests that music helps students to be better at English and Maths. It's proven to help with reading and literacy and numeracy – and that's fantastic, but that's not why people get involved in music. You don't join a band or a choir to be better at English, you do it to be a better person, and to lead a richer, more fulfilling life.



"It's paramount that all our students understand the music department is here for everyone."



"Essentially, it's about teamwork and selflessness, about being part of a community and putting others before oneself."

Whilst they might not realise it now, having the opportunity to be involved in something like a choir or a music group helps to develop skills they're going to use for the rest of their life. So, whether they have to work as part of a team, stand up and talk in front of a group of people, or go to an interview and speak articulately, all these things require skills that need to be nurtured and you can do that through music and performance. Essentially, it's about teamwork and selflessness, about being part of a community and putting others before oneself. It's the spirit of All Saints and it's certainly something we cultivate in the music department.





NATIONAL TEACHING AWARDS

Written by Mr McGovern

Thursday 26th May 2022 was an important day at All Saints, as we joined schools up and down the country in celebrating National Thank a Teacher Day. A day on which school communities come together to celebrate the professionalism, passion and commitment of our schools. The 'Thank a Teacher' campaign recognises all staff working in schools; school leaders, teachers, teaching assistants and support staff such as lunchtime supervisors, caretakers and cleaners.

However, there was a second cause for celebration as staff and invited guests gathered in the Rome building to celebrate a very important achievement for our Headteacher, Mr O'Neill. On this day it was announced that he had been named a Silver Winner in the category of Headteacher of the Year in a Secondary School at the Pearson National Teaching Awards. Furthermore, it means that he is in the running to scoop the overall prize - the Gold Award at the Pearson National Teaching Awards UK ceremony to be held in November.



The Pearson National Teaching Awards are the 'Oscars' of the teaching profession, and this is a tremendous achievement, testament to the incredible journey All Saints Catholic College has been on since Mr O'Neill became Headteacher. Our Chair of Governors, Amanda J Sayers spoke at the event and was full of praise for our award winning Headteacher. She said:

"Mr O'Neill arrived at Sion Manning (as it was called then) in September 2016 like a complete whirlwind, sweeping away the years of neglect and indifference. He immediately installed a rigorous system of discipline, with sanctions for poor behaviour or lack of homework. Alongside the sanctions were prizes for good work and behaviour in the form of cash and vouchers to spend at Westfield. Sparkle and excitement was added in the form of fun events: Christmas lunches, proms and other memorable occasions that knitted the school community together and made the students know that they were wanted and that they belonged to something special.

Mr O'Neill's vision for the school went beyond the overhaul of the behaviour system and was much deeper than the obvious superficial changes like the fabulously renovated school buildings, he wanted to create an ethos where every one of the students, now boys and girls, could be called to be Saints. And so, All Saints Catholic College was born.

Our new Mission ensures, through the teachings of the Gospel that the whole child is educated and supported to be the best that they can be, ready to serve the school community and society more widely. With the school's popularity increasing year on year, and demand for places continuing to grow, our population



"Mr O'Neill arrived in 2016 like a complete whirlwind, sweeping away the years of neglect and indifference."

has ballooned from its low of 400 students to what will be 810 in September 2022. In recent applications, 185 families put All Saints as their first choice and our waiting list currently stands at 100. This is a remarkable turnaround.

Of the thousands of schools in the country, many of whom no doubt have wonderful tales of improvement to tell, how did Mr O'Neill from All Saints come to be shortlisted for this prestigious award? Well, that goes to the very heart of who he is. He was secretly nominated for this award by his staff who worked on an application without his knowledge, because they felt he deserved recognition for his achievements and efforts. Andrew leads by example and takes his staff, as well as governors and local leaders, with him on his quest for excellence in everything that he and the school does."

Congratulations Mr O'Neill. We're keeping our fingers crossed that we will have more exciting news to share once the Gold Award winners are announced in at the end of the year.





CATHOLIC LIFE



Introduction

Written by Mr Sunny

The Catholic ethos is at the centre of our school community and everything we do at All Saints is celebrated with reverence and respect. The calendar year began with us sharing the wonderful news that the Diocese of Westminster had carried out a Section 48 inspection on the Religious Education and Catholic Life of the school and found both to be Outstanding. The content of classroom education, quality of teaching, experience of Catholic worship and contribution to the common good were all areas that achieved high praise. This is a huge achievement for the RE department and the school as a whole.

Collective worship is incredibly important to us and whenever possible we like to come together as a school community to celebrate mass. Naturally this had proven difficult during the Covid-19 pandemic, but with that largely behind us, this year has already afforded us two such opportunities to join in collective worship. The first of these coming at the end of Easter term.

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KS3 Mass

The Solemnity of the Annunciation of The Lord

Easter Term finished with a special moment in our Catholic calendar, as on the 25th March, Years 7 - 9 gathered at Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church in Kensington to celebrate The Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord.

Services regularly take place in school throughout the year, usually in year groups. Yet, this was the first time the whole of KS3 had come together in some time, the first time we have taken our religious celebration 'off site' and for some students, the first time they had celebrated Mass outside of school. Fr Marco Salvagini celebrated Mass with us and afterwards, as per Pope Francis' intention, we consecrated Ukraine and Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and prayed for enduring peace.

It was wonderful to see the students coming together in worship. Their behaviour was exemplary both inside the church and on the walk back to school, with many people stopping to comment on our student's mature conduct. We'd like to thank parents and carers for their assistance in helping students get to church on time at the start of the day and for their continued support in helping to make special experiences like this such a success.



Grenfell Anniversary Mass

Written by Mr Sunny

Of all the events to have taken place at school over the last year, none were more poignant than that which brought the school together on the 14th June. A day forever in the hearts and minds of all those in RBKC, the fifth anniversary of the Grenfell Fire. The tragedy at Grenfell is deeply close to many members of our school community, and every year we remember all those who died in the fire and pray for their families. This year, a Memorial Mass was held at Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church in Kensington.

Students made the journey together, from St Charles Square in Ladbroke Grove, through Holland Park and all the way to Kensington High Street. Each student wore a green pocket square as a symbol of hope, unity and love – and to remember all those lives that were lost.

We had the privilege of being joined by four priests to celebrate the Mass; Fr Peter, our Parish Priest who preceded the Mass along with Canon Paschal Ryan, Fr Philip Baptiste and Fr Marco. Fr Peter gave a beautiful homily reflecting on Grenfell and asked us to think about three words that connect us to this tragic event: Desolation, Consolation and Reparation. Our Schola Cantorum led the singing throughout mass and closed the service with a beautiful rendition of 'In Paradisum', a 19th century piece composed by Gabriel Faure, traditionally sung at Requiem Mass.



"Each student wore a green pocket square as a symbol of hope, unity and love..."

We'd like to say a huge thank you to Fr Peter and everyone at Our Lady of Victories Catholic Church for making us all feel so welcome. We'd also like to express our gratitude to the teachers who were involved with organising the mass, to the staff who escorted students down to the church, our readers, our altar servers and to Mr Bick and the Schola Cantorum. Most of all, we'd like to show our appreciation to all the students who were in attendance. You approached the day with reverence and respect and represented the school and your community with distinction. Thank you.





DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT

Introduction

Written by Mr McGovern

Here at All Saints we are blessed to have a number of highly experienced peripatetic music teachers. They work alongside the music department to give students private lessons in a number of instruments including violin, guitar, cello and steel pans. Not only do they teach private lessons, but they also help to run extra-curricular clubs, play at Mass and perform at school events such as the opening of the Rome building and our recent production of *'Oliver!'*. In this edition of *The Review*, we will shine a light on these teachers and discuss their experience working at All Saints.

Miss Burley – Brass Teacher

Miss Burley is the brass teacher at All Saints. Her specialism is in the French horn which she began learning when she was 13 years old. When given the choice between the horn or the flute she was intrigued by the sound of the horn and its ability to be warm and lyrical one moment and then strong and impressive the next. Ultimately though, the decision was made for her by the discovery of an old horn in the attic of a family



friend. She went on to study the horn at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London, and then moved to Sweden for her Masters at Göteborgs Universitet, Högskolan för Scen och Musik. She returned to London in early 2020.

Miss Burley enjoys a mixed career of teaching and freelancing in and around London. This involves lots of varied work, from musical theatre to symphony orchestra and everything in between. She loves being a musician for the opportunities to travel, the chance to work in teams of creative people and of course performing all sorts of amazing, weird and wonderful music. On her time at All Saints she says, "The brass department is very new (not yet one year old) and I have loved getting to know all the students and staff who bring a fresh, open minded and enthusiastic energy to the music department."

Ms Leach – Violin Teacher

Ms Leach is something of a musical prodigy, starting violin lessons at just four years old and winning scholarships to study in the UK and US whilst still at primary school. A particularly inspiring teacher galvanised her into pursuing a career in music. Although classically trained, her love of improvisation has led her to play across a range of genres. She has performed at Wembley Arena, the Royal Albert Hall and headlined Latitude Festival with Seasick Steve. Shortlisted as 'Instrumentalist of the Year' by the Americana Music Association UK, some of her recent engagements include the Hammersmith Apollo with musical theatre star Ramin Karimloo in December 2021. For the past four years, Ms Leach has been training up a formidable core of young string players at All Saints where the school's passion



"Ms Leach has been training up a formidable core of young string players..."





"With such a fantastic array of musical opportunities on offer it's easy to encourage the students..."

for the Performing Arts make it a truly exciting place to teach.

Dr Slimings – Scola Cantorum Teacher

Dr Slimings holds a PhD from the University of St Andrew's and the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland from where he also holds an MMus in Vocal Performance. He has chorus mastered for the Alexander Gibson Opera Studio, as well as conducting the flagship vocal ensemble RCS Voices on many occasions. He is a conductor and workshop leader for the National Youth Choirs of Great Britain, Changing Voices Coach for London Youth Choir, and Musical Director of Hertfordshire County Youth Choir. He also teaches singing across London and is on the organizing committee of the multidisciplinary conference Spheres of Singing.

Mr Brown – Bass Guitar and Cello Teacher

Mr Brown started playing the cello and bass guitar at a young age, but it wasn't until secondary school that he really started to immerse himself in music, signing up to join school choirs, orchestras, rock bands and anything else that was going on. This was the environment that propelled him to study Music at the University of Leeds and go on to work as a professional musician. Since graduating, Mr Brown has toured both the UK and Europe and performed internationally at festivals in South Korea, Mexico and the United States of America. He also performs regularly around London and is looking forward to an upcoming concert at the Royal Albert Hall. He really enjoys teaching at All Saints as it reminds him so much of the school he attended. He says, "with such a fantastic array of musical opportunities on



offer it's easy to encourage the students in each of their musical journeys."

Mr Humphries - Steel Pan Teacher

It was during his time at school that Mr Humphries truly discovered his passion for music. The steel pan was the first instrument he learned and it opened his eyes to a world of music. Interestingly, he never intended to become a professional musician and had his heart set on a career in the sciences but soon realised that music was the path he was supposed to take. By the age of 21, he had competed and performed on three different continents on multiple occasions and has enjoyed numerous exciting opportunities since then. Initially he struggled to work professionally as a pannist/musician in a world that doesn't see pan on the same level as its

classical counterparts but through perseverance and determination he has changed that narrative for himself and aims to transform it irrevocably for pannists/percussionists in the future. His four years teaching at All Saints have been some of the best experiences he has had as a peripatetic teacher. He has taught in over ten schools but has never worked in a department that actively works to ensure their pupils are out there performing inside and outside of school. He is grateful to Ms Wilkinson for giving him free rein to work his magic with such wonderful students, and looks forward to many years ahead with the school, seeing the department continue to grow and thrive.

Mr Preece - Piano and Drum Teacher

Mr Preece played his first concert at just ten years of age. His Father put a keyboard in front of him



"He looks forward to many years ahead with the school, seeing the department continue to grow and thrive."





when he was very small, and that has turned into over twenty years playing jazz, pop, musical theatre and much more. He feels very lucky to have performed all over the world, from Canada to Japan, and in some of the UK's most iconic settings, including Glastonbury Festival and at the Royal Albert Hall. More recently, he is very proud to have completed his first book of compositions for the piano. He loves teaching at All Saints and feels blessed to be surrounded by some of the hardest working, inspiring colleagues and some of the loveliest, most determined students who make him smile every day.

Miss Wood – Woodwind

Miss Wood's nursery schoolteacher once said, "that girl is going to be a singer!". Perhaps the not-so-subtle inference was that she was a particularly noisy child, but that teacher turned out to be almost right. Music played

a major part in Miss Wood's life growing up and she remembers watching endless musicals and practising away on instruments in her spare time - even when asked to stop! She trained as a singer at university, but whilst there she decided instead to become a woodwind player, and later went on to study Saxophone at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. She now enjoys a career mostly playing in musicals in London and around the UK. She's always been passionate about teaching and is loving her time at All Saints, mainly due to its thriving community of peripatetic teachers and enthusiastic children. She finds it refreshing to be working in a school where music is so valued and encouraged, and she looks forward to being part of the music department's future!





Miss Burns – Singing Teacher

Miss Burns' passion for music began as a child when she trained at the Sylvia Young Theatre School. From there she went on to study music at the BRIT School, before graduating with a BMus Degree in Popular Music Performance (Vocals) from BIMM Institute - previously known as Vocaltech. Not only is she a singer, but she's also a professional songwriter and her compositions have been played on the BBC and featured during their coverage of the football World Cup. Teaching the students at All Saints has given Miss Burns a fantastic opportunity to share her skills with talented students and help them on their path towards their own musical success.

"Teaching the students at ALL Saints has given a fantastic opportunity to share her skills with talented students..."



SPORTS REPORT

Football

Written by Mr Waterhouse & Ms Herbert

Year 7 Boys

Our Year 7 boys' football team have had a season they can look back on and be enormously proud of. It has been an emotional rollercoaster, with both fantastic individual performances and remarkable team performances alongside some tough results to take along the way. Three consecutive wins set the boys up for a good league position, before two defeats towards the end of the season placed them into the Plate Final. The Plate Final proved to be another stern test for the boys as they faced a side who were resolute at the back and made themselves hard to break down. Nevertheless, the boys showed true spirit and togetherness; two qualities that the whole team displayed in abundance throughout the season. They worked as a team, won every second ball and refused to give up. With the scores level at full time, the match would be decided with a dreaded penalty shootout. In order for All Saints to take home the trophy, they would have to show courage and determination with every spot kick. As the huge crowd nervously looked on in



anticipation and with silverware on the line, the boys did exactly that. Having successfully dispatched all five of their penalties, all eyes were on our brilliant goalkeeper, Caesar Barker, who pulled off a magnificent save to send the crowd wild and ensure that the trophy would be coming back with purple ribbons on it!

Player of the Year – Thierry Henry

Goal of the Season – Thierry Henry

Most Improved Player – Dani Berhe

Year 8 Boys

The Year 8 boys' team have experienced the kind of season that perfectly encapsulates what the topsy turvy world of sport is all about. A shaky and frustrating start left the team perplexed as to what was going wrong and wondering how they might move forward. Performances were not going to plan; opposing teams were getting all the luck and our players were beginning to take their frustrations out on each other. They knew that they should have been performing better, they just needed to work out how. After a long team meeting, a reshuffle of personnel and most crucially, a change of mindset, the boys took to the field for the crucial game against STM. Mr Waterhouse, channelling his inner Arsene Wenger, gave the boys a much-needed team talk, calmly reminding them of what they can achieve if they all pull together in the same direction. Then, the starting whistle blew and something magical happened. From the very first moment of the match the boys looked like a team reborn. Closing the opposition down, chasing every ball, working as a team across the entire pitch, encouraging and supporting one another throughout, the match turned into a performance of the highest quality. A thumping 5-1 victory in front of a





"This team is built on partnerships all over the pitch."

jubilant crowd as well as the infamous 'All Saints TV' cameras, put a smile back on people's faces and took the boys into the Plate Final. Unfortunately, however, once again the boys learned what a cruel game football can be, narrowly missing out on the trophy despite dominating the game from start to finish. A smash and grab raid by the opposition meant that our boys didn't get their hands on the silverware and had to watch the celebrations from a distance. However, their performance on the day and the giant strides they have made as a team throughout the season will have opposition teams looking over their shoulders next year.

Player of the Season – Pharrell Nelson

Goal of the Season – Nassim El Gourja

Most Improved Player – Oliver McInerney

Year 9 Boys

It's been a season to cherish for our Year 9 boys' team as they have swept aside all before them with contemptuous ease. They have been the dominant force in every game they have played and encountered very few difficulties along the way. This team is built on partnerships all over the pitch. The boys know each other's strengths and understand when they need to help one another. This has often led to their opponents getting frustrated and resorting to dirty tactics in a sly attempt to unsettle our boys and put them off their game. However, such dark arts have had little impact on this ultra-professional outfit, who have continued to show composure – choosing instead to let their football do the talking. Looking ahead to next year, the team are motivated by trophies and have their eyes firmly set on glory but they know that the road to success is long and

that the hard work has only just begun.

Player of the Year – Bernardo Chaves

Goal of the Season – Kyren Brewer

Most Improved Player – Mohammed Laraba

Girls Football Team

The girls' football team has had a fantastic year and trained every Thursday since September, come rain or shine. The team successfully defeated local rivals Burlington Danes Academy twice on their own turf. The first game took place in November and featured a mixed team consisting of players from Years 7 through to Year 10. Not only did Ruby Sue Fletcher lead her team by example; scoring an incredible five goals on the night, but she has been a very important role model for the younger team members throughout the season. The game ended 8-1 in favour of All Saints, in a comprehensive victory for the purple army.

In December, a team featuring girls from Year 7 and Year 8 attended a tournament at Loftus Road hosted by QPR Football Club. Although they didn't manage to pick up any silverware on this occasion, the girls gained valuable experience playing against an array of teams from around the local area. Sophie Owen had a superb tournament, catching the eye on a number of occasions as did Phoebe Potter, Lesa- Kennae Dodd and Lara Mechleb.

The final match of the season saw a keenly awaited return to BDA for the Year 7 and Year 8 girls where they enjoyed a comprehensive victory in a small sided game. Scarlett Kelly had a fantastic game, scoring a hat-trick of goals and helping her team to a 6-3 victory.



She gained strong support from Amayia Zaidell, operating in a Trent Alexander Arnold style role who weighed in with a number of assists. The match will be remembered for the debuts of Paula Maestre Perez, Gracie Altrudo and Sofia Marimo who all gave a good account of themselves in their first match.

With no more fixtures to be played the girls can look forward to next season with a sense of optimism, proud of what they have achieved and excited for what may come next year. The sun may have set on this year's season but there is every reason to believe that it will rise again next year and burn brighter than ever before.

Player of the Season - Ruby Sue Fletcher

Most Improved Player - Amayia Zaidell

Goal of the Season - Tsion Tamerat

"The girls can look forward to next season with a sense of optimism"





MUSICAL MOMENTS

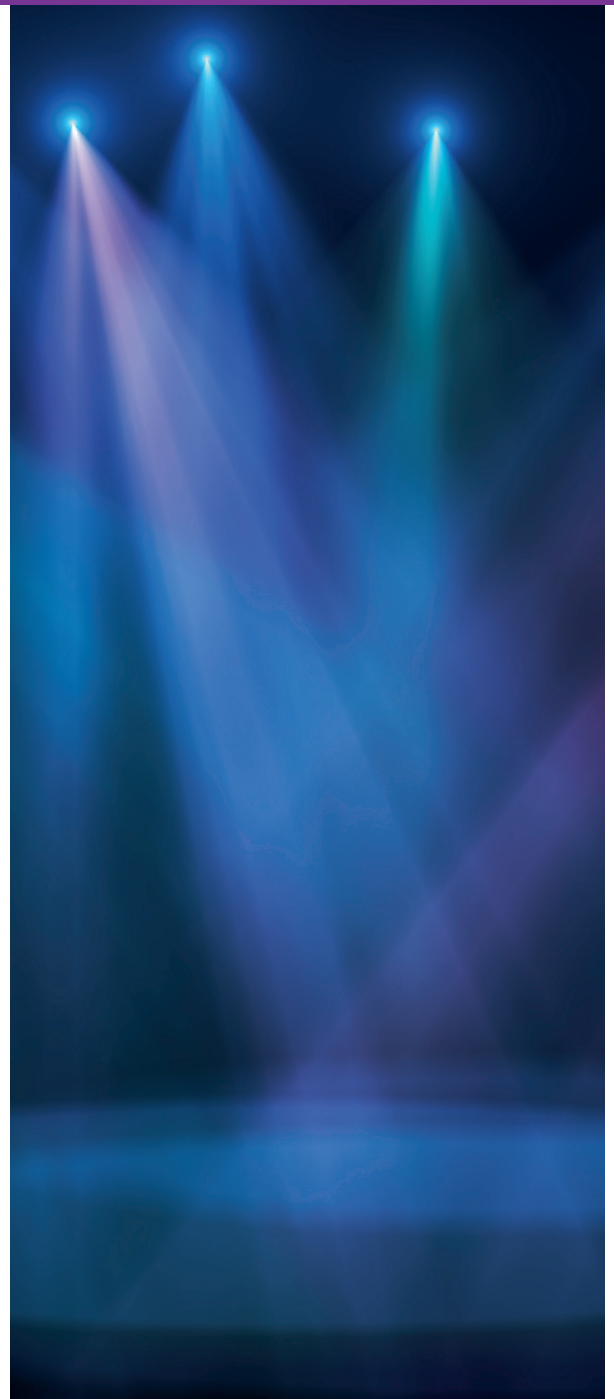
Written by Miss Wilkinson

Easter Concert

Before the Easter break, we held an in-house music concert which raised the roof here at All Saints. I was so proud of all the performers and delighted at how much they have improved since Christmas. It was also a fantastic platform for our talented Year 11 students to perform as All Saints students for the final time. The support from the audience was incredible - a further reminder of just how special our community is. The video recording of this concert is available on our Teams network for you to enjoy at home.

A Night At The Musicals

During this summer term, alongside the busy examination season, All Saints students were working hard in preparation for our summer spectacular - '*A Night At The Musicals*' which was held on Wednesday 13th July. This concert was comprised of musical performances from a selection of well-known and much-loved musicals, including '*Rent*', '*The Sound of Music*' and '*Les Misérables*'. We even featured repertoire from operas such as Mozart's '*The Marriage of Figaro*' and an appearance from our very

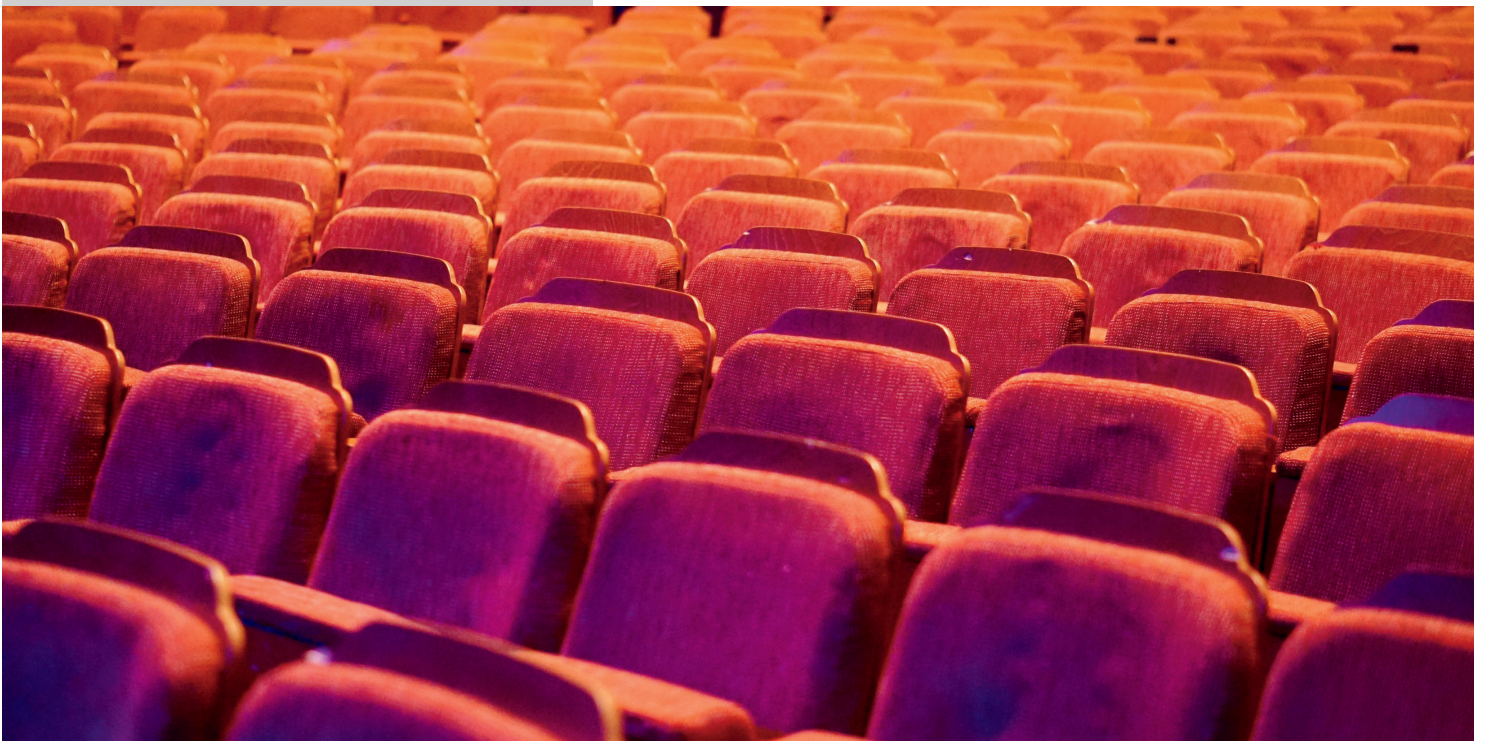


"The support from the audience was incredible and heart warming."

own Schola Cantorum. This broad and challenging programme was testament to the hard work staff and students have put into their music and instrumental lessons this year, post Covid.

Excitingly, we had a professional orchestra accompanying our students which comprised mostly of our fantastic peripatetic teaching staff. Having expert musicians support helped to produce the professional backing for our soloists, which seemed fitting seeing as their performances were of such high quality. Furthermore, I believe live accompaniment allows our students to be a lot more confident and expressive when performing in front of an audience rather than using pre-recorded backing tracks. Our students introduced their own performances and, in some cases, even acted them out - a whole musical experience that would be at home on the West End stage.

Thank you to all those who came to support our students at the summer concert - I hope you enjoyed it and we look forward to welcoming you into school again soon.





WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL

Written by Mr McGovern

Westminster Cathedral is considered by many to be one of the most beautiful and inspiring buildings in the world. This historic building, designed by renowned architect John Francis Bentley and built in the early Christian byzantine style, is the second largest Catholic Church in the UK and regarded as the Mother Church for Catholics in England and Wales. So, when a selection of our students were offered the chance to represent All Saints at the Pentecost Liturgy taking place there, they jumped at the chance. And so, on a bright sunny day in early June, thirty-four of our students, including members of the Steel Pan Band and Schola Cantorum joined thousands of others from the diocese in coming together to celebrate Pentecost – and what a celebration it was.

Staff and pupils were awe-struck as they entered the cathedral and surveyed its splendour for the first time. Visitors were equally impressed as they filed inside to join the celebration. The artistic appreciation of those inside the cathedral was matched in the Piazza outside as passers-by stopped to take in the talents of our Steel Pan Band, whose delightful sounds filled the air, putting smiles on faces and drawing rounds of applause.



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The celebration of the liturgy was, as Bishop Paul remarked, an opportunity to give thanks for the wonderful diversity we are so privileged to have throughout our diocese. Our Schola Cantorum showed no signs of nerves as they ended the service by singing a beautiful reflection, in one of the most famous cathedrals in the world.

Director of Musical Life, Mr Bick said proudly:

"It was great for All Saints to take the lead on something that included the whole diocese. Westminster Cathedral have their own very famous choir, so to be asked to sing in the same space as them is a huge achievement and testament to the progress our group have made over the past year. They've invited us back to sing at a Vigil mass, so we must have made a good impression."

Carlo and Victoria are both students in Year 10 and members of the Schola Cantorum. They had this to say about the experience:

"The cathedral is intimidatingly big but wonderful to sing in as it has such an incredible acoustic. It's also a space that allows singers to really hear themselves when they sing. When I first joined the Schola, I'd never have imagined that in just over a year we'd be able to fill a space like Westminster Cathedral." "It was an amazing experience and made us all keen to do more. We feel very privileged to have been invited to sing there. It was great for other schools to hear us, to show what we've been doing and perhaps inspire them to do something similar in their own school."

A huge thank you and well done to all the students that took part – you did All Saints proud.



"We feel very privileged to have been invited to sing there."





YEAR 11 LEAVERS

Staff Perspective

Written by Mr Williams - Head of Year

This academic year saw Year 11 students sit GCSE examinations for the first time in three years and our students approached the examination season with calm focus and steely determination. Intervention sessions were held every day, including Saturdays and our students' attitude to learning has been exemplary. Above all else, the positivity within the year group and support for one another has been a shining light throughout the year; the girls have conducted themselves in a fantastic manner and as their Head of Year I am incredibly proud of them. Throughout the entirety of examination season, which is a very demanding period, the vast majority of students were in before 8:20am to revise in their various ways, some in groups and others opting to do so in their own individual space. Regardless of their approach, all students were upbeat and resolute towards their examinations.

To celebrate their hard work over the past five years, the girls received a leavers assembly to mark the end of their examinations and the culmination of their time as



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All Saints students. This was well received by the year group, as were the awards and certificates that were handed out to a number of individuals. Categories were wide ranging – from most positive student to the individual most likely to be seen on TV, all of which were received with grace and good humour. In addition, the year group were treated to a prom, an opportunity to let their hair down after so much hard work and enjoy being together as year group for the final time. With DJ Burke and DJ Forshaw on the decks and a one-time only guest appearance from myself, MC Williams, it's no surprise that the dance floor was packed, and everyone had a lot of fun. Pictures were taken, shapes were thrown and memories were made as the girls gathered as a year group for the final time.

We're looking forward to seeing each of you again on results day in August, where we will have further opportunity to celebrate your achievements.

"The girls have conducted themselves in a fantastic manner and as their Head of Year I am incredibly proud of them."



Student Perspective

Written by Rhea Ranjan - Head Girl

As a student at All Saints Catholic College for five years, I can confidently say that it is an amazing institution where every student is given the opportunity to excel. Why?

Through the dedication and talent of their incredible teachers, whose work ethic is unmatched, All Saints supports each and every student throughout their time at the school. From hosting online lessons during lockdown, to holding after-school intervention sessions to help students further, All Saints is truly a place where one will flourish. Personally, as an outgoing Year 11 student who was preparing for my GCSEs, the after-school interventions, plus Saturday morning and half-term revision sessions provided all the support I needed to fully prepare for my exams.

Furthermore, many extra-curricular opportunities are given to All Saints students. I've had the honour of attending Ri maths masterclasses at The Royal Institution and completed programmes like the Manning Award alongside fellow classmates. This has given me an upper hand when attending sixth form interviews, so I'm truly thankful to All Saints for providing me with such opportunities and encouraging me to take part.

During my time here, between 2017 and 2022, the school has changed dramatically – in a good way. Facilities have greatly improved, with new bathrooms and several classrooms being built as well as a studio theatre, music practice rooms and instrumental lessons provided for those aspiring musicians.



Sadly, my secondary school journey has come to an end. I am now going to continue my education by going to sixth form, and with the school's help, I was able to find and apply to suitable institutions with ease. I do wish there was a sixth form at All Saints, as I'll miss the lovely atmosphere, great teachers, and fun activities that make the school so special. I'd like to thank everyone at All Saints for the wonderful environment they have created and all the great memories I made here. It's been a privilege to be Head Girl and an experience I will look back on and treasure.

"It's been a privilege to be Head Girl and an experience I will look back on and treasure."





FOND FAREWELLS

Introduction

Written by Ms Burke

The end of every school year is tinged with sadness as we must say goodbye to a handful of staff members who will be leaving us in July. This year we bid farewell to some key members of staff who are leaving us to begin a new chapter in their career. Their hard work and contribution to All Saints is something that will be cherished for a long time. They have put in a considerable amount of effort to ensure that every student here at All Saints is given the best possible platform for success.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank those staff members that are sadly leaving. Your hard work has not gone unnoticed and everyone at All Saints wishes you every success in all your future endeavours. You will be greatly missed. After the years spent working at All Saints and the bonds and memories made, it felt only right that we got one last goodbye message from them before they departed. Below we share goodbye messages from those leaving, remembering fond moments and favourite memories from their time at All Saints.



Farewell





Ms Nesmyth

I started my teaching career at ASCC. Many of you have helped to impact the moral compass of my teaching. Teaching is not an easy career; it is more than a job and much more than what is seen on the surface. Though it is trying, the rewards make it more than worth it. Seeing how over the last five years many of the students have developed into young adults makes it an honour. As I leave the fold I look forward to the new opportunities before me. I hope that I have made a positive impact on the students as they continue their path and will take the many memories you have gifted me.

Ms Rose

When I left my job as a government statistician at the Department of Health to pursue being a Maths teacher all my colleagues thought I was mad! I'll never forget when my Dad

sat me down and said, "Do you have any idea how hard teachers work?" Ten years and three children later I arrived at Sion Manning Girls School to combine my love of Maths teaching (which yes was very hard work) with a role centred on data, assessment and reporting. Suddenly the reasons I left my job at the Department of Health was no longer there – this data was real; the students were real, and they were right here in front of me. Suddenly there was a story behind every point on a graph and every result I analysed.

I have loved working at All Saints Catholic College. The students are fantastic, diverse but also uniquely talented and they come together to form a school community that has a real sense of togetherness and a determination to succeed. I have experienced five results days and each one has been unique but celebrating the progress



each student makes is so rewarding. The teaching staff are incredible and dedicated. I have been given opportunities to learn and develop but also keep teaching. What has made the real difference to me is how working part-time has been embraced and the flexibility that the job has allowed me while raising a young family. If I could pick up All Saints Catholic College and move it to where I now live, I would be staying, but unfortunately house prices have pushed me out of London and I am moving back into the classroom full time in a local school. I will take what I have learnt and cherish the memories I have made. Thank you, All Saints.

Ms Baker

I have loved being a part of the school community here at All Saints over the past year and a half and will treasure these memories for years to come.

Thank you to all the wonderful members of staff and all the lovely students for making my time so special, I wish you all the best for the future.

Ms Ablel

I joined the team here at All Saints Catholic College five years ago as a science technician. From day one, the staff have always been very friendly and pleasant to work with, so much so that I don't know how five years have passed me by so quickly! Their professionalism and desire to inspire, care for and equip students with academic knowledge as well as life skills that will hopefully prepare them for a bright future and to be a highly skilled future generation is truly exemplary.

The students are incredibly polite, well-mannered and a wonderful bunch of kids who I will very much miss seeing every day. They are truly one of the reasons w





why I was inspired to leave and commence teacher training this year so thank you All Saints students. You are wonderful.

Ms Herbert

To the entire All Saints community, I would like to say thank you. It's difficult to say goodbye to such an incredible and fulfilling place to work, but I'm supremely grateful for the memories I will take with me. I started at All Saints in 2016, when it was known as Sion Manning Catholic Girls School and have had the privilege of being involved in the immense journey the school has enjoyed over the past number of years. Some highlights for me include watching the Schola perform, the amazing production of 'Oliver!' and of course, the staff versus student football game featuring our Year 10 boys, earlier this year. I have loved watching the students at this school

excel and thrive in the local community and beyond, from the vibrancy and energy of the steel pans to the academic strength of the Saint Thomas Aquinas awards. I wish you all a wonderful summer holiday, and many more years of happiness at All Saints Catholic College.

Ms Marshall

I started here in September 2014 as the second in charge of Science during a difficult period in the school's life. At this time, the school was still Sion Manning, filled with characterful lively girls and an overabundance of empty seats. Part way through my first year, the Headteacher at the time retired leading to an interim Headteacher being put in place, and subsequently Mr O'Neill in September 2016. I am still astonished as ever when reflecting on the transformation of Sion Manning into All Saints and the immeasurable lessons



that I've learned along the way. Watching Mr O'Neill's leadership and his unwavering vision turn into action has been remarkable and I feel lucky to have directly worked with and for him on this journey.

One of the standout moments of my time here, is the All Saints Inauguration Mass in September 2018. After what felt like years of preparation, it was the first instance of many where we were able to sit as a community and bask in an atmosphere that reminded us of how far we had come. Sat alongside our staff and students were headteachers from other schools; colleagues from the Diocese of Westminster and from RBKC; priests, bishops, cardinals and clergymen; past teachers, Governors and Sion Manning alumni. Our pupils, looking incredibly smart and proud in their new uniforms, sang beautifully

at the tops of their voices and it brought a lump to my throat and sent shivers down my spine.

At this point I was newly appointed to the Senior Leadership Team and we were going full-throttle on making changes and improvements to many aspects of school life. During SLT meetings, we would spend hours thrashing out ideas, debating concepts that elicited a huge range of opinion around the table, and ironing out initiatives that we would then bring forward to staff. These moments in the run up to, and after the opening of All Saints, were the most exciting, developmental times of my career, and seeing the product of that embedded into All Saints as it is now, is extremely satisfying to behold.

Working within a school is not limited to the 9 – 5 working hours that govern other workplaces or the four walls of the school site.



Good Bye

"Watching Mr O'Neill's leadership and his unwavering vision turn into action has been remarkable"



the
end

"It goes without saying that I will miss All Saints, my colleagues, and the children immensely."

When you join a school, you join a community with whom you agree, disagree, grow, celebrate and mourn with. You see people come and go, thrive and struggle. I truly understood that concept and the resilience of people within our community at the time of the Grenfell fire in June 2017. That morning, I woke early in an attempt to settle my nerves as it was the day of the Chemistry GCSE exam, and I was Head of Science at the time. This was quickly relegated when I found out what was going on and rushed into school as quickly as I could. I spoke individually to every pupil due to take their exam that morning, leading to the most poignant moment of my time here when I addressed them as a collective immediately before they entered the hall. Never had I witnessed such strength in character, courage and solidarity as these 75 children who soldiered through in the.

face of ultimate adversity.

It goes without saying that I will miss All Saints, my colleagues, and the children immensely. This school is an unbelievable place to be a part of and those that work tirelessly to keep it thriving are nothing short of inspirational. Whilst it is my time to move on to pastures new, I will always be fully invested in the success of the school and the community it serves and I am excited to watch it continue to prosper in the years to come.



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