

STUFF

Autumn Edition 2021





On behalf of everyone at SJB, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a very warm welcome to our Christmas edition of the school magazine Stuff@SJB.

Wow what a term this has been! It's been so lovely to be able to return to relative normality in school even if we are still juggling that alongside COVID. To be completely honest, I don't think that our school community is doing too badly considering what some others are currently dealing with – it is sad that we had to cancel the Carol Service but this is the only thing that hasn't been able to go ahead which I think is pretty remarkable. This last week has been a particular effort, as we've seen a

considerable increase in COVID cases in students but particularly amongst the staff. This led to us having to take the difficult decision to ask students in Years 12 and 13 to stay at home for the last day and a half and work independently. Nevertheless, the holidays have arrived now and it gives a much welcome break to everyone here at SJB.

The School Show, The Addams Family was absolutely wonderful to see; I'm so pleased we were able to go ahead with it. I am incredibly proud of all the students and staff involved – they did an amazing job in producing a performance that the children will remember for the rest of their lives!

Thank you to all parents for your support and

efforts in coming to terms with the ever-changing rules, the constant lateral flow testing and the vaccinations. It has been gratefully appreciated. We are praying 2022 will bring normality back to us all, as quickly as possible, but given the picture nationally right now, who knows! As per Miss Dwyer's letter, we would ask all students to continue taking lateral flow tests over the holidays and make sure they take one on Tue 4 January before coming into school; then in school during form time we will ask them to take another one as an extra precaution (this is something the government have asked us to do.)

Now for some customary news:
In September, we welcomed 240 Year 7 students and 32 external students to our Sixth Form. Even though some of these children have had to periodically self-isolate, it's still extremely heart-warming to see them integrate so well and already feel part of our school community.

We also welcomed 28 new members of staff, this was across the board and included Teachers, Support Staff and Trainees. I am pleased to report that they have all settled in really well.

We have some new little arrivals to our SJB family, Mr Alvarez and Miss Renn had a beautiful little girl called Sofia; Mrs Leah welcomed a gorgeous little boy called Austin and Miss Clark gave birth to a beautiful baby girl called Maia. As is also customary, we now have a few more SJB babies on the way – more news to follow in the next addition.

Sadly, we are saying goodbye to a few members of staff this Christmas; Mrs Doorenbos, Teacher of Languages who has been with us for over seven years has decided to spend some quality time at home with her growing family; Mrs Reeves, one of our much-loved Learning Support Assistants; Dr Castiello one of our Maths teachers; and Miss Radzvilaitė our Director of Music who leaves us to take on a new challenge in another school. We wish them all the best of luck for their future plans. Our existing Year 11 students are preparing for their exams in the summer and are currently busy

taking their Mocks. If you have a child in Year 11 please ensure that they have properly rested over the Christmas break so that they come back feeling refreshed and ready for the last push before their final exams in the summer. The same applies to the Year 13 students whom will begin their Mocks upon our return in January. To all the parents and students in Year 11 and 13; I know the summer brings some uncertainty and worry – that is completely normal. The students have been brilliant at keeping going – even with so many unknowns.

Finally, term ends at 12.00 noon on Friday 17 December. I should like to thank you for the support and encouragement you continue to give us all at SJB. We look forward to seeing the students back in school on Tuesday 4 January 2022, well rested, COVID tested and raring to go unless, of course, they are self-isolating!

We wish you all a peaceful and festive Christmas and send good wishes to you and your family for 2022.

God bless

James Granville Hamshar



Year 7

Time flies when you are having fun! We are already well over 350 lessons into our journey at SJB! We have had the joys of learning about the Norman conquest in History; in Geography having learned our way around SJB we have all graduated in map reading and now moved onto learning about the United Kingdom. In Science every student is now Bunsen Burner trained and starting to learn about organs, tissues and cells. We have been learning about the Church in RE and were lucky enough to visit our local church St Dunstan's for our away day. A huge thank you to Mrs Harrison our chaplain for the brilliant activities that helped us value our old friendships and foster new ones, as well as our kitkats at breaktime. Across all of our lessons we are realising that trying our best is so much better and more sustainable than just being the best, and our nomination and badge count is soaring! It's no surprise that we are all a little tired and ready for our holidays, it's been such an eventful term! Outside of the classroom we have been busy with clubs from Crochet, to Coding

and Choir. We have also visited tournaments, fielding teams for Netball, Basketball, Table tennis and Football. As a Head of Year I am especially proud of the boy's cross country team who braved the elements to bring home a North-West Inter-Schools trophy and lots of medals; a special mention to Ben (7RCC) for his solo bronze medal. Into next year we will continue to work hard, but having fun has also been a focus for our youngest students. I would like to thank all Year 7 students, parents and teachers for supporting the children's House event back in September; our odd socks day in celebration of Anti-bullying week and most recently our Christmas jumper day and hamper collection. We are certainly a year group who likes to get involved, and I look forward to what 2022 brings! Wishing everyone a restful festive break and very Merry Christmas when our time with family arrives

Miss Bates

Year 8

This first half term back has been fun filled and action packed for the Year 8s. We have been lucky enough to see the return of extra curricular clubs at which the year group have excelled in both team and individual sports.

We have also been lucky enough to attend the St Dunstan's Reflection Days that had been delayed for the students since Year 7 and the team work and kindness they demonstrated during the activities on the day was fantastic to see.

The year group have not had an easy ride with the disruption to their Year 6 and Year 7, however the enthusiasm, positivity and hard work they have all demonstrated has made me very proud as their Head of Year.

I wish all students and their families a lovely, restful Christmas break making special memories with their nearest and dearest and look forward to welcoming them all back in January.

Miss Chambers

Year 9

The Year 9s have made a fantastic start to their year with a brilliant Autumn term. Touring their lessons, it has been wonderful to see how engaged and committed they are to their studies. Myself and Mr. Hacker have thoroughly enjoyed seeing life in school return back to some normality. Our Year 9 boys took part in their first inter-school football competition and whilst there may not have been any medals won, it was brilliant to see them back on the pitch. Some of our students were even able to take part in their 'Secret Showcase' as well as the school production of the 'Addams Family' which were both excellent productions. Four students who have really gone above and beyond

this term are Miss Atherton's Apple Ambassadors. Hazel, Jann, Aaron and Ryza have welcomed visitors into SJB to teach them all about our use of iPads and technology. They have played a wider school role teaching the Year 7s about the apps we use and how to embed them into their lessons. Congratulations Apple Ambassadors, you really demonstrate SJB excellence. Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to say a big "well done" to all students on a brilliant set of Monitoring as well as a "thank you" to all Parents for your continued support.

Miss Pailing



Year 10

Well what can I say about Year 10 this term? It doesn't take me to explain what an important time of the year this is for Year 10, and how much of a different challenge the year group are facing this year. All I can say is that every single student has risen to the challenge immensely!

On the sporting front we have come up trumps in the boys football, with both teams finishing 1st and 2nd in the entire competition amongst a really strong and competitive field. The girls netball team finishing 3rd in the district competition against some really strong competition. Finally the boys district basketballers finishing runners up to Woking High and narrowly missing out on glory.

Then we come to the school show. Year 10 was widely represented in the schools production of The Addams Family, from principle characters such as Uncle Fester, Wednesday and Pugsly Addams all the way to the chilling performances of those in the Ancestors Ensemble! The quality of the music was absolutely excellent and that is thanks in part to the three Year 10 students that played a pivotal role in the band!

Finally it leaves me to say, I go off on my Christmas break feeling as I do every year I have worked with this year group; immensely proud. Well done Year 10, I hope you all have a lovely Christmas and a restful New Year, and I look forward to seeing you all when you return.

Mr Ali

Year 11

As we finish the first term of our final GCSE year, the Year 11 students have returned to school with such ambition and positivity. They have all embraced their new role as ambassadors of the school and have showcased such brilliant leadership and maturity in this autumn term. So far, they have faced many challenges - from the various in-class assessments, after-school interventions and Year 11 mocks - but have also embraced the lighter side of life - evident in the exciting extra-curricular opportunities and outstanding school show.

As always, I want to say a huge well done to every single member of Year 11 for acknowledging that this is the time to channel their inner superstars and use every moment of their time here at SJB wisely. I am proud of each and every student, every day and I wish all Year 11 students a restful, tranquil and exam-free Christmas break so they can recharge and bask in the success of their first term.

Mrs Batterbee

Year 12

Year 12 have had a very hectic but brilliant transition into life in the Sixth Form. It's been great for us to have opportunities to gather as a whole year community both through our assemblies and key skills sessions in the first half term. In one of our first key skills sessions this half-term, we were able to run a very competitive interform dodgeball tournament with the PE department in which 12LS/KG ran out eventual winners. We've also been fortunate enough to have some excellent speakers come in and talk to our students regarding some difficult issues including safe drive and the dangers of alcohol and drugs to which the maturity of response by our students was second to none.

A number of our sixth formers have also started to help out the wider school community through supporting our Year 7 and 8 students on their away days. We have had students getting involved in

various groups regarding whole school matters such as our wellbeing team and mentors that are looking at how to further support our young students. As well as some of our students helping by coaching some of our extra-curricular clubs, it has been wonderful to see the selflessness that has been shown by our Year 12s.

All of our Year 12 students have made a great start to life in the Sixth Form but I would like to give a special shout out to our external students that have joined us from different schools locally and abroad, you have all been brilliant additions not only to the Sixth Form but the whole SJB community.

I hope you and all of your families have a safe, wonderful and restful Christmas and we look forward to welcoming the students back in the New Year.

Mr Witts



Year 13

As the end of this term draws in reflecting on everything that has happened in Year 13 reminds me of what a great year group they are and how blessed and fortunate I am to be there Head of Year. Taking over from Ms Clark at the end of Year 12 was to be no easy feat but as a year group they have really applied themselves this term.

From the initial October exam period that took place within a matter of weeks after coming back from the break it was impressive to see the focus and drive that they had to succeed. For many these exams were a really important experience since they reminded them of the end goal- the real exams come May/June of next year (finger's crossed)!

Within this term Year 13 have also had the fantastic opportunity to participate in the mock interview evenings process that was brilliantly arranged by Mrs Rismen. An event where students were interviewed based upon their personal statements and intended plans for next steps. Feedback from panel members was unanimously positive with comments ranging from how enjoyable interviewees found the process, to what great ambassadors students were on behalf of SJB. Feedback from students was also positive on how they found the experience with many commenting on how the experience went beyond what they had initially expected and how the advice received was to aid them with future next steps in life.

Beyond the mock interview evening Year 13 have also had two really invaluable key skills talks. Firstly Ms Cavell, SJB's Learning and Teaching Lead, spoke to the students about the science behind revision and memory, and effective ways in which revision could be done. Once again having spoken to students they commented on not only

how interesting they found the talk on the scientific front, but how useful the strategies were. Secondly Year 13 had a very powerful presentation virtually on the importance of road safety from Surrey fire service on 'Safe drive, stay alive.' With many of the 13's now driving into school or having lessons it was especially important looking at the impact decisions like drinking or texting can have when driving. Both these key skills sessions, though looking at a broad perspective of issues, gave the students invaluable life skills going forward.

Finally, on a day to day level Year 13 have been working hard in and out of lessons. It has been so good to see so many of them, especially this half term, studiously working away in the sixth study on even revision, classwork, or finalising their applications for UCAS or apprenticeships which many of them have now done and submitted. Moving into next term, it starts off all guns blazing with 8 days of internal examinations for the 13's as well as the official deadline for UCAS. However, if I learnt anything about them from this term, that is to know that each and every one of them is special and unique, and have really listened to my goal for all of them this year to become the very best versions of themselves.

Until we return after the Christmas break I wish you and your families a happy and holy Christmas, and may the joy of the birth of Christ be a constant reminder of good news.

Mr Budsynski-Seymour



Geography Field Trip

RIVER TILLINGBOURNE

On the 19th November the Geography department and year 11 geography students went on a fieldwork day to take part in an investigation as to how and why a river changes during its course as part of their GCSE fieldwork unit.

Although the way in which knowledge of fieldwork is tested has changed for GCSE's this year, it was decided that carrying out our own fieldwork is vital to our education. It has allowed us, as students, to get a further understanding of what makes

effective fieldwork and why it is so important in geography.

On our physical field trip we investigated the River Tillingbourne. The first part of our day consisted of visiting Juniper Hall where we spoke with instructors about how we were going to collect and present our data on channel depth, width and velocity. Once we had discussed what was going to happen throughout the day, we set off to our first site (Abinger Hammer).

Here we took many measurements to help us with conclusions and evaluations we would do later,



back at school. Once we were satisfied with the data we collected, we headed to our next site which was representative of the middle course of the river, Crossway's Farm. We repeated the data collection process, measuring river depth, width and velocity so that we could compare the two different parts of the river.

Once we had returned to school, in lessons we discussed our results and how we would present it. We also filled out a summary sheet as to how we could improve next time to make the enquiry more accurate.

By Macy McIlroy-Glasgow

PARK BARN & MERROW

For our human fieldwork, we went to Guildford to investigate the variation in quality of life between wards and we discovered why it varies between them.

We investigated the quality of life in Park Barn and Merrow, splitting into groups of 5 to collect different data from both wards. In our groups, we investigated the amount of litter we could see, the amount of traffic that passed by, and the noise pollution of two or three different points in different zones of Park Barn, and then in Merrow. As each group went to a different zone, we were able to collect and analyse data from many different points within the wards to have more accurate data.

Once we had collected data from the two wards, we came back to school to analyse our data and evaluate the investigation. From the noise pollution level, litter and traffic count, we could suggest how high or low the quality of life was in both our chosen areas, finding our predictions and hypothesis to be true; the quality of life was higher in Merrow than in Park Barn as it was cleaner, further from busy main roads, and better maintained environmentally. We could see this from the environmental quality surveys we took whilst at each location, rating factors such as graffiti and greenery.

Finally, we evaluated our investigation to see how we could improve it for next time and to see what succeeded.

By Fliss McGirr



REFLECTION DAY

YEAR 7

The Year 7 Reflection Day took place at St Dunstan's church and was on the theme of FRIENDSHIP. The focus was on looking at what it means to be a good friend, getting to know one another better and providing the opportunity to hopefully make new friends.

The day included times in the church, games in the foyer altogether, hymn practice and role play. We looked together at role models for friendship including most importantly Jesus and the friends he chose and what we can learn from him. We engaged in some fun activities and ended the day with a time of reflection listening to a Bible reading and each lighting a candle signifying our commitment to being a good friend.

We are grateful to the church for allowing us to use such a prayerful space, to the year team and



the Sixth Formers who came and helped out so wonderfully!

By Mrs Harrison, Chaplain

On Tuesday 2nd November, half of Year 7 went to St. Dunstan's church for a reflection day. When we got to the church we were given a room for each form, when my form and I got to our room we put our bags down and started the first activity...

In the first activity, we had to get a partner and sit opposite them, then Miss Mobbs and Miss Reeves rolled out a very long piece of paper, first off my partner had to draw me and it was hilarious! They had to write the person's name by it, then the paper was taken away and a new piece was put down, it was my turn...

I had to draw my friend George in 10 minutes but I didn't get too far, by the end of the ten minutes I still hadn't finished, I managed to get about 3/4 of the drawing done before the time ran out. When we came back in from break, we were all given a piece of card and were told to write two questions that you would like to be asked and then make it into a paper aeroplane, we then had to throw them around the room and pick random ones and throw them again for a minute, we then had to pick the closest one to us up and find the person who wrote it and ask them the questions.



After we had finished the paper aeroplane game, we all had to make a big line across the whole room and had to see how quickly we could make a clap move around the room. We then were split into two groups and had a race, my team won all of the three rounds! I really enjoyed this activity because it was very exciting.

After we had finished the clapping game, we moved on to a different game and stayed in a line, one of our teachers asked four Sixth Formers to go into the middle of the line. They had to close their eyes and two students were given a ball which they had to pass on, after about a minute had



gone one of the teachers asked the Sixth Formers to open their eyes, they had to guess who had the ball in their hands, in both of the two rounds nobody guessed it, it was very funny.

When we went into the hall, we had to spread around our benches and one of us was chosen to go and get a whisper from Mrs Harrison, our Chaplain, the whisper she gave me was "Acapella music is without instruments." And by the time the whisper had reached the last person it had turned out to be "something about something." I enjoyed this activity because it showed how rumours spread and can be changed easily.

It was the end of the day, and we had some time to reflect on all of our activities today, overall, this was an amazing day!

By Bill Case 7LM

Year 7 reflection day was a really nice experience. I think it encouraged the bonding of new friends, and relationships with our form tutors. We started out at SJB, in our own clothes and bobby hats! We then walked over a bridge and up the Jack and Jill steps to St Dunstan's church, chatting along the way.

When we arrived at the church, we played a drawing game, where we drew our partners, Vernice was mine. I thought her drawings were really, really good.

The mid-morning consisted of a game of passing a ball behind our backs while in a circle, the Sixth Formers with us had to guess where it was. They were terrible at guessing, even with the amount of giggling in the area where it was hiding.

There were a lot of games, and they were all really fun and engaging. I want to highlight the game when we had a coloured dot on our back and we had to guess what colour they were, without talking. Challenging but it made us think laterally. After lunch, we acted out the Good Samaritan in small groups, and I was the donkey! Mia was the Samaritan, Scarlett was the traveller and Noah was the innkeeper.

Lastly we went to an assembly, learning about friendship and the new friends we made, and how important they are to us.

I enjoyed the short walk home, tired after a day of exciting activities. I hope we can do this again in the future.

By Pippa Pang 7LM

YEAR 8

The Year 8 Reflection day also took place at St Dunstan's church but on the theme of TEAMWORK.

The day was split between fun activities and time in the church with the students encouraged to seize the opportunity to be off timetable and to take time to reflect and learn something that might be of help this year or in the future.

The teamwork activities included learning to work as a team, strategising, supporting each other, recognising other's strengths and weaknesses, trusting each other and listening to other's ideas. Jesus' team of disciples also provided an opportunity to reflect on the diverse team who literally changed the world.

In a similar ending to the Year 7 Reflection Day, each student was invited to light a candle signifying our commitment to being a good team player.



We are grateful to the church for allowing us to use such a prayerful space, to the year team and the Sixth Formers who came and helped out so wonderfully!

By Mrs Harrison, Chaplain

We started the day off by being put into 6 teams, every team had 4/5 people. Each team got handed a banner and was assigned to come up with a team name and decorate it. Every group decided on a team name and started decorating it. Each group had their own different unique name that they all had in common. Our group name was Fish Fingers because we all loved fish fingers we decorated our banner with a lot of fishes, rainbows and stars. Finally we looked at each other's banners and they got laid on the altar.

By Anna Zsiros 8LHN

One of the activities we did was tower building. All of the teams were given a bag with these objects inside of them:

- 2 ping pong balls
- 2 see through pots
- a roll of Sellotape
- one big and one small cardboard roll
- 2 tin foil dishes
- 10 straws



We had to work together -as a team- to try and build the tallest tower. In order to do this we had to listen to each other's ideas, and pick the one we think would work best. It was a really fun activity because the towers kept falling down! In the end we all had to hold it up whilst one of us smothered it in layers of tape. This activity was a great way to practice teamwork, as we all had to build this tower and win the challenge and beat all the other teams.

By Genevieve Worley 8LHN

One of the activities we did was role play. The role play was to show how if we work together we can get more done and we can accomplish things. Each group showed their version of how they can accomplish things together, One group showed how someone couldn't reach a pen on a high surface and someone came to help him by lifting him up so they could reach the pen, that is an example of team work. I found this activity fun and it was good to work with people I don't usually work with and it helped show how in a group we can accomplish more so I enjoyed this activity overall.

By May Bell 8LN

HOUSE SYSTEM

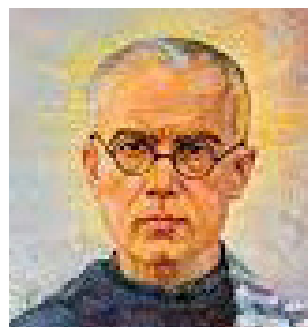
We have redesigned and relaunched the House system this year. We have made the decision to keep our four existing House patrons, but also to add in four brand new female House patrons. This is incredibly important for our female students to have a female ambassador to look up to and feel inspired by.

We now have eight houses and four colours, meaning that the male and female house work together to win points for that colour and at the end of the year a House Cup will be presented to the winning Houses! There are multiple House Competitions that run throughout the year, from House Music, Inter-House Sport and Sports Day to House Baking and the Year 7 Christmas Card Competition. In addition to the House Competitions, students can earn points through 100% attendance, nominations and credits, as well as attendance at extracurricular activities. Our House patrons are:

Red

Saint Maximilian Kolbe, was a Polish Catholic priest who volunteered to die in place of a stranger in the German death camp of Auschwitz in Poland during World War II.

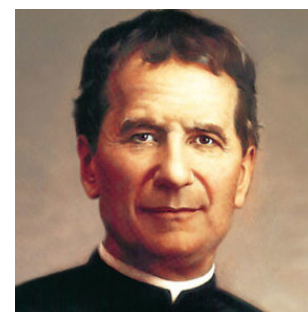
Mary Seacole was a British-Jamaican nurse, healer and businesswoman who set up the "British Hotel" behind the lines during the Crimean War.



Green

Saint John Bosco was an Italian Roman Catholic priest, educator, and writer of the 19th century who is the patron saint of schoolchildren.

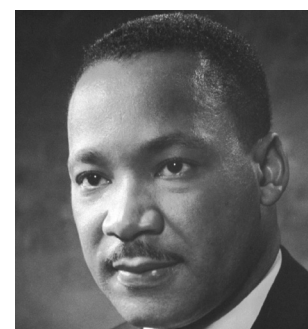
Emmeline Pankhurst was a British political activist. She is best remembered for organizing the UK suffragette movement and helping women win the right to vote.



Blue

Martin Luther King Jr. was an American Baptist minister and activist who became the most visible spokesman and leader in the American civil rights movement from 1955 until his assassination in 1968.

Dorothy Stang was an American nun who dedicated her life to defending the Brazilian rainforest from depletion from agriculture. She was murdered in Brazil by a hired gunman as she read from the Bible.



Yellow

Oscar Romero was the Archbishop of San Salvador from 1977 until he was assassinated in 1980.

Marie Curie was a Polish and naturalized-French physicist and chemist who conducted pioneering research on radioactivity.



On Saturday 25th September we held our SJB House Launch Event! Year 7 students took part in an inter-house sports competition, playing netball and football matches to win points for their House. There was also stalls run by our students, such as hook the duck, a raffle and a delicious cake/sweet stall! The PTA and members of our community also ran stalls, selling clothes, beauty products and more. Live music was performed by our students and there were food and drink stalls, bouncy castles and even a rodeo bull for the children to enjoy. It was a truly enjoyable day which kickstarted our new House system and raised lots of money for charity too.

By Miss Handford



Extra-Curricular Activities

We have also relaunched the Extra-Curricular Activities Program on offer this year. We have designed an extensive and ambitious program run by our own staff in their areas of expertise and enthusiasm. We don't just value what happens inside the classroom, but also what happens out of it. Being part of a club ensures the students develop new skills, make new friendships and feel part of the family community of our school.

Our new activities include Miniature Set Building, Crochet Club, Business Club, Politics and Debating Club, European Culture Club and a Faith in Action Award which rewards young people's active service to others in their community. Existing popular clubs include History Club, Mathletes, Poetry Club, Equestrian Club and Orchestra. Our PE department also run a wide range of sporting activities including Trampolining, Cheerleading and Climbing. Our Duke of Edinburgh Award runs every year, where the students embark on challenging expeditions to win Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards.

By Miss Handford



Food Club is the best club! It's a great way to socialise with your friends and bring home food for the family. We have made shortbread, teriyaki chicken, ginger bread and pasta.

Tyrone Opoku Agyemang, Jezrelle Mae Panaga, Georgia Ankama and Bea Gopaliza - Year 8.



Crochet Club is fun, relaxing and therapeutic. You learn from your mistakes! It's satisfying. You have to be patient. We are currently making a little whale out of wool, by double crocheting. I have never done crochet in my whole life and I have learnt a lot.

Elsie Scully, Kirsten Bazley, Chiara Nacca and Rose Wyatt - Year 7.



Tennis Club is a great opportunity for us to coach younger years in tennis. From the beginning, you can see the students have improved greatly! They enjoy it very much and we feel a sense of achievement from being able to support younger pupils.

Oliver Denninson and Erin Gerald - Year 12

History Club is interesting because we look at things we don't normally study in the lesson. It jumps around time periods such as now we are learning about medieval medicine. We do activities which are fun e.g. murder mystery!

Iggy De Cruz - Year 9.



DT Club is really fun. We make new things such as rubber band racers! We will then race our cars whilst keeping an egg safe. We learn how to use the machines and how to make things accurately.

Laura Rodrigues Coelho - Year 7.



The Addams Family School Show



The production of "The Addams Family" was one of the best school shows that we have done, in my opinion. The cast were friendly, rehearsals were fun, the makeup was stunning, and the atmosphere was enjoyable for everyone involved. All in all, it was an amazing experience that I will remember for the rest of my life. I managed to make friends with people that I otherwise would have never spoken to. The weekend rehearsals were busy, but where they lacked in free-time, it made up for that with spirited people who were willing to work as hard as needed. Each and every person in our small, but immensely talented cast brought individual skills that made the show unique. In fact, during show week, we had all got compliments from teachers and other students telling us how brilliant the show was. My only complaint would have to be that it is over.

If I had to pick my favourite part of the show, it would have to be the "Tango de Amor". The whole show blew me (and everyone who experienced it) away, but this dance stood out to me as an emotional, yet passionate dance for the reconciliation of Morticia and Gomez. Both and learning and performing it was a lot of fun.

In summary, I couldn't have asked for a better experience. I made new friends, had fun and learnt new things about myself.

By Scarlett Carrol-Baigle



The Addams family show was one of the spookiest, greatest shows. It had lots of amazing talent from students of all different year groups. It took lots of teamwork and it was amazing! It showed off lots of talent and everyone loved it. Everyone brought something special to the show with their talent. The whole cast was amazing! Doing the show really brings out the fun side of everyone. We all laughed and had lots of fun with each other, it was funny, creative and special as we all worked together to create a great show!

We did lots of after school rehearsals, weekends leading up to the show and full school days too! It was so great doing them, it was also good about the full days as we got to show classes! It was so great the newspaper came and we got lots of photos! It was so fun doing makeup, costumes, warmups and the show itself! It was so great doing the show 3 times as it really made it so fun.

There were lots of talented people who were in the show! All the people included the leads, the Addams family, the beinekes, the named ancestors, dancing ancestors, ancestors, The whole cast was amazing! It was a great show, everyone enjoyed it! It's sad the show is finished but it was great while it lasted!!

By Isabella Ianelli

The Interview **EXPERIENCE**



Mrs Risman assigned me to Mr Cavilla's panel, and I was kindly sent the zoom link ahead of the interview. Whilst this was my first interview experience, I was immediately put at ease by the panel members through their friendly manner and they outlined how the interview was going to be structured. They began by asking me about the institutions I have applied to and my personal statement. In particular, they pointed out that I had applied for History and Economics, but the History content in my personal statement was limited. I found this question extremely useful as it helped me to identify a limitation in my personal statement that could come to light in an interview, this has made me feel more confident about facing this question in the future. The conversation then progressed to economics, and I was questioned about the Bank of England's decision of holding interest rates. I

found this to be an extremely poignant question, as it encouraged me to apply my economic knowledge to a real situation. This practice was extremely useful, as application of economics is a skill that is valuable to many of the essay questions in A-level economics. Furthermore, I was asked about my aspirations beyond university and my extra-curricular activities. Finally, I was given the opportunity to ask any questions to the panel, I was extremely appreciative of this, as they were able to give me an intriguing insight on what they look for in a prospective employee. I found this advice very valuable as it came directly from 3 individuals who have a wealth of experience in interviews.

I was then moved into a waiting room whilst they reflected on my performance. Once I was readmitted, they gave me a chance to personally reflect on how I felt the interview went. I benefitted from this, as self-reflection is a skill that is paramount to personal development. Furthermore, they praised me on my performance, which I found extremely encouraging as it provided me with confidence for a future interview. Parallel to this, they suggested constructive feedback. For example, that I could have elaborated further on my interests outside of academia.

Overall, the experience ran smoothly and felt extremely professional. In the same vein, I feel as though it will help me grow through the myriad of useful suggestions and pieces of advice I was provided with. This low-stake experience will undoubtedly aid me for my future endeavours and I am extremely grateful for the time and effort that was offered from Mr Cavilla and his panel.

By Francesco D'Andrea

Inside *Beethoven*

On Thursday 4th November, some GCSE and A-Level students took the train to London Waterloo to attend the 'Inside Beethoven' concert at the Southbank Centre. Conducted by Nicholas Collon, the Aurora Orchestra played Beethoven's 7th symphony from memory, and a Mendelssohn violin concerto lead by the GRAMMY award-winning soloist Nicola Benedetti, one of the most sought-after violinists of her generation. The Aurora Orchestra are the first orchestra worldwide known to play an entire symphony from memory, establishing a reputation as one of Europe's leading chamber orchestras. Paired with Nicola Benedetti, this was an engaging and enthralling performance for both old and new concert-goers alike.

Despite studying music for over three years this was our first live Classical concert trip, and it did not disappoint! The audience was unanimously mesmerised by Nicola Benedetti's virtuosic performance, erupting in huge applause on the final note of the concerto. We loved the fact that

the concert was interactive too, as during the presenters' introduction to the symphony, we were invited to clap along with the timpani, while they walked us through the main themes, breaking down their development and the instrumentation of the symphony. We found this especially useful as analysis and understanding of Western Classical symphonies is major part of our A-Level studies. This was followed by a performance completely from heart, which captivated the audience and created an organic sense of community and inspiration in the orchestra. We personally loved the second movement the most, with its catchy melody, repetitive and lively long-short-short-long rhythmic idea and development from struggle to triumph.

After a year and a half of cancelled events and isolation, being able to hear live music and experience the bustling atmosphere of London and the full orchestra hall was particularly thrilling and special, and we look forward to more music trips to come.

By Kiu Crane & Kathryn Terry



Summer SCHOOL



During the summer holidays, SJB opened its doors to over 200 new Year 7s, each of them eager to find out what Secondary School had in store for them. With a mixture of emotions – some nervousness and trepidation, but lots of excitement – the fresh-faced students embarked on a fun-filled week of new experiences and a first opportunity to see what their school life to come might be like. The new Year 7s had the chance to explore the school, meet new teachers, and of course lots of new friends, and sample some of the subjects they would be starting in September. There was lots of Sport, from dodgeball to rounders, with plenty of football at break times too, long with some healthy competition. There were Music and Drama workshops, where they



learnt about West African drumming and Musical Theatre choreography. Alongside this, the students sharpened their pencils, broke in new pens, and dove into some Maths, English and Science work with plenty of challenge to match the fun. All of the children had a brilliant time, learnt lots of new things and built up their confidence ahead of the new term in September. The week ended on a high with a presentation assembly for parents, featuring a photo montage, Music and Dance performances, as well as an exciting Houses reveal, where the students found their new House and colour. The children made a fantastic start to their time at Secondary School leaving with one week of holiday left for rest and relaxation before embarking on their Year 7 journey.

By Mr McKenna



Christmas Hampers



Over the past few weeks, students and staff at SJB have been generously donating gifts for our Christmas Hampers. Most of us are fortunate enough that we can look forward to our Christmas with wonderful presents, delicious food and spending time with loved ones. However, these past few months with the COVID pandemic have been tough especially for those who are less fortunate. Our Christmas Hampers are an opportunity for us to stop and reflect on how our contributions are crucial in allowing these people to have an enjoyable Christmas.

Our Year 7s were collecting for the children's ward at St Peter's Hospital. Sadly, these children will be spending their Christmas in a hospital bed, with little family around them due to the COVID restrictions in place. The Year 7 forms created a tremendous amount of hampers, filled to the brim with blankets, toys and books, for both boys and girls ranging from little babies to teenagers. Our Charity committee delivered these Hampers to the hospital on Friday 10th December and they were gratefully received by two paediatric nurses. One of the nurses, Izzy, told us how, usually, the kids would be all be allowed to go in the playroom and play together, and different family members could

come and visit them. However, due to COVID this hasn't been possible, and so the children have to play alone and only 1-2 people can accompany the child, so their Christmas will unfortunately be a lot lonelier.

Year 8s were collecting for Kingsleigh Nursing Home. Many of the elderly people who reside in the Care Home are already very lonely as they may only get visits a couple of times a year. However COVID has increased their isolation even further, so our Hampers may be the only gifts they get this Christmas. These hampers were delivered on Monday 13th December and the nurses who collected them were so pleased with all the gifts that we had collected!

Year 9s were collecting for St Vincent de Paul (SVP). Due to the past couple of months, it has been especially difficult for those who were already struggling to provide for their families, to get the basic essentials that they need to survive. There was an excellent donation from our Year 9s also, who made beautifully decorated Luxury Food Hampers, which will help to make mealtimes more special for those who receive them. These hampers are a way of showing our love to those families who are forgotten over the Christmas period.

Year 10s were collecting for Lighthouse. This is a local charity based in Woking, that supports local residents who live alone. Christmas can be even more isolating for them than usual as they don't have large families or friends that they can spend it with. The people that this charity supports ranges from young people who are just out of the



care system, to those who have been separated from family due to circumstances such as domestic abuse. We delivered these hampers on Monday 13th December, and the volunteers were overjoyed by all the gifts. One of the volunteers, Lucy, said that they would be having around 115 people this year for Christmas, so they were very grateful for our hampers!

Year 11s were collecting for the charity Catch 22. Many of the people supported by this Charity are homeless and have no one to help them, so our hampers are often their only gift at Christmas. These Hampers were delivered on Tuesday 14th December and the volunteers were very impressed with the amount of gifts we had collected!

Sixth Form were collecting for the charity Pound House. This charity supports young adults aged 16-22 who have recently left the care system and will be housed in temporary accommodation for a maximum of 2 years. These people have no one to guide them or care for them, so our Hampers may be the only thing they receive at Christmas. These hampers were delivered on Tuesday 14th December and the volunteers said that this year might have been the most presents they had ever received!

A huge congratulations to everyone for such a great collection this year!

By Sania Joseph



THE COMMITTEE

We have had a couple of meetings as a House Committee to discuss future House competitions. We have some ideas for all year groups such as: ~ Art competition ~ Film making competition ~ Climbing competition etc. We are going to organise a fun Christmas Card Competition for the Year 7s and there will be lots more fun competitions and great ways to earn house points further on throughout the year. We will have House Assemblies at the end of this term which will be run by the House Captains. Overall, we are extremely excited to hold these events and we are positive it will be a rewarding experience for all who participate.

At SJB we have a Chaplaincy Team of students from all across the years. The chaplaincy team do lots of different things to help with the faith life in the school. We gather often with Mrs Harrison, our school Chaplain, and talk about faith in our school and things we can do to help it. For example, at the beginning of this term we had a whole school mass outside, the chaplaincy team did many things to help out, such as setting out all the chairs, setting up the altar, reading out prayers and more. The chaplaincy team have the opportunity to do things in liturgies throughout the year such as an advent reconciliation and Christmas liturgy. The chaplaincy team offers lots of ways to deepen your faith in school and out of school, for example we have the option to take part in the Faith in Action Awards. These are awards that encourage us to act with our faith, this helps us deepen our faith and relationship with God by serving others in our school and wider communities.

I would add that the Sixth Form Chaplaincy reps, Owen and Libby, have done a great job leading Year 7 tutor times in the chapel and were instrumental in getting 6th form volunteers to help on the Year 7 & 8 reflection days – at which they were fab!

By Immy Branson Year 9

The Learning and Teaching Committee have three key foci for the coming months. The first of which is reward systems for different school years. This is being worked on by the Year 9 members alongside Miss Cavell. The second focus of our committee is assessment for learning. In lessons it is key to assess whether or not students have understood the material presented during the lesson and to what degree they understand. Methods to assess this are vital to the learning of each student. As it identifies potential weaknesses of an entire class or individuals. Both of which can be addressed to improve the students' learning. Thirdly, we have been working towards improvement of the 'Sixth Form Six' to ensure it is both effective and efficient when implemented into sixth form lessons. This focuses on how teachers can assist Sixth Form students to achieve their potential grade through teaching the best lessons possible. We have toured the school looking out for these methods in both different subjects and different year groups and discussed how methods varied in each case, as well as identifying areas for potential change or improvement. Observing each class and analysing the teaching methods and the students behaviour towards the lesson enabled us to have an understanding of what needed to be implemented to not only make lessons more effective but also engaging and informative.

Emily, Year 12

We started off our journey at the Wellbeing Committee with some excellent training from an organisation called EKON. One of the areas they work in is supporting schools in developing a wellbeing strategy. We had training in the 'ways of wellbeing' which really helped us to understand the elements necessary to ensure we keep healthy and happy. We spent the afternoon as a team which really allowed us to get to know each other better and to create a plan moving forward. With EKONs guidance we came up with a number of projects that we wanted to implement.

Currently, we are in the process of sending out guidance sheets to parents who might be struggling to support their children's mental health. We are also introducing 'Wellbeing Wednesday', which posts a useful resource on our SJB social media accounts every Wednesday. Furthermore, we will soon be sending out surveys to the school community to gain some feedback on their mental wellbeing and how we as a committee can work to make it better. We will then implement this feedback into assemblies targeted for the individual issues faced by each year group. We are also adding wellbeing posters in communal areas in the school, with focuses on prayer and meditation, starting in the sixth form and then being added to the main school as well.

In the long term, we are planning to open thank you boxes, in which students can post kind messages to boost positivity and sense of community. In the Sixth Form, a buddy system is being planned for external students to help them settle into their new school.

Overall, the Wellbeing Committee is already starting to make a change to the school community, and this is only the beginning.

By Freya Cooper

YEAR 10 NETBALL



On Wednesday 20th October, The Year 10 girls netball team did an outstanding job in their tournament. They went alongside the following schools: Salesian's, Winston Churchill and Kings International. Their first match started against Salesian's. The girls started out brilliantly! Within the first two minutes, Charlotte Elliot Booth scored the first goal. Salesian's then scored twice. The SJB team got their inspirational pep talk and carried on with great determination. In the last quarter of the match, Sofia Simpson scored the second goal. Salesian's then scored 3 more goals ending the match 2-5 to Salesian's. No overall points yet.

Afterwards, the girls prepared for their next match against The Winston Churchill School. In my opinion, that match was the most nail biting, sitting on the edge of your seat, match I watched that afternoon. Within a minute of the match beginning, Jessie Nicholl scored. These girls are unstoppable! Then, Jessie Nicholl again scored. Winston Churchill then scored twice to make it 2-2. The girls went to a break, once again getting an inspirational talk and swapped sides of the

court. With such great skill, Charlotte Elliot-Booth scored followed by Jessie Nicholl again! Winston Churchill school scored twice again, increasing the tension. Within a blink of an eye Charlotte scored again but Winston Churchill responded by scoring again, three times SJB managed one more goal. Ending the match 7-8 to Winston Churchill. However, SJB managed to get their first overall point.

This was it. This was the last match of the day. SJB vs Kings International School. Again, within the first minute Jessie Nicholl scored two goals. However, out of nowhere, Kings International scored twice. The match carried on with amazing defence from SJB. The girls scored 10 goals! They won their match 10-2. Earning an incredible 5 overall points.

Overall, The SJB girls came 3rd in their tournament.

The girls did brilliantly, a fantastic way to start the season and many more matches to come. We are excited to see the future of the Year 10 netball team.

By Olivia Ashford

