



RAG DAY 2018

Salesian Newsletter

Easter 2018

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Easter Blessings

by Paul Gower, Deputy Headteacher

The Importance of Service

Righteousness, selflessness, service. Three words we might all aspire to.

The 4th April 2018 brings the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King's death. A man who dedicated his life to the betterment of others particularly in relation to the civil rights of black American citizens. By the time of his death his leadership had led to acts relating to civil rights, voting rights, immigration, national service and fair housing. He served his people and gave them liberty, equality and more than anything else hope. He ultimately paid with his life, a price he was willing to pay for his people.

At Easter we are acutely aware that Jesus, the son of Man, did just the same for all people. He served humanity through his love, life and ultimate sacrifice. At the last supper John tells us how He washed the feet of His disciples. Through this act He displayed His humility and servanthood.

They lived their lives in the service of others. A quest to give love, hope and a better life to those people in need of their help. We pray at this time that we can live our lives in a way that serves others.

RAG day provided the students of Salesian with such an opportunity. Last year's RAG day was an unprecedented success raising £18000 for charity and this year's was similarly successful. Despite the weather the sixth form costumes were colourful and the classrooms filled with music and laughter. The sport was competitive and high level, and the plethora of cakes, sweets and fizzy drinks added lots more energy! Later in this newsletter you will read further detail about the extraordinary efforts of our young people on this day.

The aim of all of this was to raise money for those who need it, to serve those who need serving, to give something back.

I hope the efforts of the Salesian students on this day will have made our Heavenly Father, Don Bosco and Martin Luther King all very proud.

I wish you a peaceful and holy Easter and hope you enjoy this Easter edition of our newsletter

Gospel Reflection

[Mark 11:1-10](#)

[Mark 14:1-15:47](#)

2017-18: Building the Kingdom from Salesian School

The first of this Sunday's Gospel readings encourages us to focus on blessings; which might seem like a curious thing to do given what Jesus is about to go through.





If you are (and I suspect that everyone reading this will be) fortunate enough to keep your food in a fridge, get your drinking water from a tap, sleep in a bed under a roof and live in a democratic country where you aren't persecuted by the government for your faith, beliefs or politics – then you are already one of the blessed minority in our world. However, we're not always very good at counting our blessings, particularly when facing difficulties or challenges in our lives.

The Gospel reading reminds us that the sacrifice that Jesus was about to make for us on Good Friday was a blessing because he would bring us closer to God. Each of us is called to be a blessing in person by the way we interact with others, this week is a good time to reflect on how well we do this.

The second Gospel reading focuses on Jesus' Passion, his final journey from arrest to crucifixion. Throughout this story we meet very real, very human characters who are presented in very human situations. Many of the challenges that we may have experienced

during Lent or in life in general are right here – staying loyal, keeping faithful, helping others, being brave, controlling anger, resisting pride, embracing humility. Taking some time to reflect on this story this week will provide one with a good bit of spiritual exercise in the lead up to Easter.

Reflections for Holy Week:

-  Which blessings do I sometimes take for granted?
-  Who is a blessing to me?
-  How can I be a blessing to others?
-  Which characters do I identify with in the story of Jesus' Passion? What implications does this have for my relationship with God and others? What might I do about this moving forward?

Staffing Update

I am delighted to announce Paul Gower's appointment as Head of School at Salesian. From June, Mr Gower will be taking on further responsibility for some of the operational running of the school in order that I can better fulfil Salesian's wider strategic commitment to working with and supporting other schools. Hopefully, you'll be pleased to know that this does not mean I am leaving; I have no plans to stop being the Headteacher at Salesian in the near future. Mr Gower has done an excellent job as Deputy Head this year and I am confident that the school will continue to flourish under our joint leadership moving forward.

One of the wider commitments I refer to is Chertsey High School where the Headteacher, Zelia Munnik will be taking maternity leave from May half term. During her absence one of our other Deputy Heads, Lizzie Bolton will become Head of School at Chertsey High to cover for Ms Munnik and Clare Forman who is currently part of our Sixth Form Leadership Team will cover for

Mrs Bolton by becoming the Interim Head of Sixth Form at Salesian.

At the end of this term we will be sorry to say farewell to the following staff who are moving on: James Barber who has worked as an IT Technician for the last 18 months, James Fuller, a former student who has worked as a Teaching Assistant, managed the LRC and helped to run our Youth Club and finally, Paul "Reg" Allen who has worked as our builder at Salesian for the last 17 years, during which time he has made a huge contribution to many aspects of the life of the school community. We wish all three of these gentlemen all the very best for the future and thank them for their good work.

James Kibble (Headteacher)

6th Form Taster Day

Year 11 Sixth Form applicants spent an informative and busy day at Highfield Road on Friday 16th March. The day was designed specifically for students to experience what post-16 education is like at Salesian Sixth Form and a chance to 'test drive' possible A-Level/ BTEC choices.

A session dedicated to preparing students, in advance, for the long and short-term necessities in applying to Oxbridge, Law, Medicine and Veterinary Science was also held for those interested in pursuing these academic routes.

With over 100 external applicants and 205 internal students, it was our busiest and best Taster Day to date!



Elizabeth Bolton (Head of Sixth Form / Deputy Headteacher)

Year 12 Enterprise Company

Young Enterprise company Epione performed creditably at the North Surrey Final on Thursday night. Once again, they picked up the award for Best Video Advert and a cash prize of £50.00. Unfortunately their efforts were not enough to seal a top two place needed to progress in the competition. However, a superb effort with special mentions to Sharon Opare, Sam Newport, Matt Clutterbuck, Joe Horsey, Ali Moortasa and Harvey Martin.



Andrew Mussenden (Subject Leader, Economics)

6th Form Psychology Conference

Psychology students from year 12 and 13 enjoyed a Psychology conference at the Emmanuel Centre near Westminster. The conference involved talks from various psychologists, all experts in their fields. One being the well-known social psychologist Philip Zimbardo who conducted the Stanford Prison Experiment. He spoke to students in depth about this particular study and gave an insight into other projects that he is currently involved with. At the end there was the opportunity for students to have their questions answered; stealing the chance of a group photo with Philip and his wife. The students really enjoyed the day and were genuinely inspired by Zimbardo and all the other psychologists they met.



Steph Court (Subject Leader, Psychology)

Visit from La Salésienne, Saint-Etienne, France

On Thursday 22nd March, with great pleasure, we hosted 40 French Sixth form students and 4 of their teachers from la Salésienne in Saint-Etienne, Southern France. They spent the morning with our 6th Formers studying French, speaking a mixture of French and English, so that all could practice the language they are learning. A tour of the Highfield Road site gave them a feel of what a Sixth Form college is like in the UK. They had many questions about assemblies and form time, interestingly while these are common place in the UK, they just don't exist in France!

After lunch they spent an hour with our 3 French Year 11 classes who rose to the challenge of answering questions and importantly understanding the answers the French students gave on topics for their own

speaking exam that takes place in May. The French students were highly impressed by the language and pronunciation of our students and were disappointed as the lesson drew to an end having had such a great time.

This is language learning at its best (apart from going to France of course!) and we look forward to hosting them again next year. Impressively, their visit to Salesian was the highlight of their trip to England!



Virginia Da Silva (Teacher of MFL)

RE Celebration Day

On the 16th March Salesian school was filled with excited students from our deanery schools. The fun filled day started with a warm welcome and a prayer from Fr Marco. All of the children from Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 took part in creative activities including scratch art, painting and song writing in order to learn about the subject of 'Vocation'. All of the students learnt how God has called each one of them to do something and how they may discover what God has called them for. The busy day finished with a prayer service in the Chapel with Fr. Marco and the children agreed that they had had a thoroughly enjoyable day!

A big thank you to everyone for coming and we look forward to the next one!

Olivia Woods (Year 9 Student)

Public Speaking Team

'Public speaking is the art of diluting a two-minute idea with a two-hour vocabulary'

Speaking about challenging, political and often conceptual topics, in front of a large group of strangers, is no mean feat. Yet this is exactly what our esteemed group of young debaters have tackled this year. Over the last three months, Miss O'Neill and I have had the pleasure of escorting our accomplished Public Speaking team to three heats in the *English Speaking Union* Public Speaking Competition. After winning the Surrey and Southeast heats - we reached the semi-final of the competition at the prestigious *English Speaking Union* headquarters in Mayfair (where we achieved second place). Along the way, our team secured the following awards: Best Chairperson, Olivia Woods; Best Speaker, Ella Shattock; Best Questioner, Lottie Fry, and last but not least, our creative team mascot -

Hayden D'Souza! Huge congratulations to the team.



If you would like to read more about the *English Speaking Union*, please visit <https://www.esu.org/> or contact Miss Jackson.

Amy Jackson (KS3 English Co-ordinator)

Rainy Rag Day Fun

It takes more than a bit of rain to dampen our enthusiasm for a good cause and Salesian students and staff rose to the challenge of Rag Day with such positivity that the sun actually came out! Our charities this year are Ashlyam Salesian Charity, White Lodge and Rethink Mental Illness, all excellent recipients of our efforts.

The Sixth Form started the afternoon with an eclectic mix of fancy dress costumes ranging from 70s Disco to the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse and everything in between! Year 12 students were particularly excited as many had participated as lower school students and now it was their turn to step into the spotlight and entertain the rest of the school. Students who joined the school in Year 12 were amazed by the whole afternoon and the generosity of everyone involved.



While Year 10 were involved in the 'Superstars Tutor Group Challenge' and Year 11 in the 'Inter Tutor Group Sports', the rest of the school used their imaginations to organise stalls to try and raise as much money as possible on the day.

Outside it was all the fun of the fair with Slip and Slide, Coconut Shy, Hook a Duck, Skittle Sort and Candy Floss stalls, which were big hits with the crowds. Soak the Teacher (organised by 81Rua B) was particularly popular with poor Mr Roberts taking a barrage of wet sponges on the chin – literally! Moving inside, the creativity continued with Eat it or Wear it, where students had to taste

a mystery food or take a custard pie in the face if they backed out. More food-based fun was evident with the 'Sour Challenge' (could you eat a sour sweet without pulling a face?) and an oldie-but-goodie – Apple Bobbing. For students with energy to burn, there were physical challenges like Chair Spin and the Nerf Gun Shooting Range, completing a fabulous afternoon of fundraising.

Sue Dilworth (Teacher of English & Literacy co-ordinator)

Year 10 Graphics Trip

On Tuesday 27th March the Year 10 Graphics students visited 'The Winnie the Pooh Exhibition' at the V&A Museum. All 41 students enjoyed the day visiting the iconic exhibition celebrating the amazing story of Christopher Robin written by A.A Milne. The students enjoyed viewing the original sketches of the characters and the interactive displays.



There was also time to view the other amazing collections at the V&A to aid their primary research for their practice NEA project in which students will research and design a range of Graphic products based on the themes 'Children's learning and development' and 'The world of travel and tourism'. We look forward to seeing the amazing results in a few weeks' time and getting them prepared for their real NEA which starts in June accounting for 50% of their final GCSE grade.

Alexandra Alessi (Teacher of DT)

Year 10 Maths Feast

On Thursday 22nd March, 8 Year 10 pupils went on the Maths Feast at George Abbot School. This was an afternoon, which involved four rounds of different problem solving activities. The students worked in two teams, competing against a number of other schools. Lots of fun was had as they were challenged to stretch their knowledge in solving as many problems as possible in the given period. Truly putting their brains to the test!

Lottie Fry, Joe Lightfoot, Joe Kefford and Nat James were all part of the team, who amazingly won the problem solving round, getting full marks on the questions. Zahra Hadfield, Imogen Burton, Tia Dsouza and Dan Buttaci won the award for excellent

teamwork. Overall, a very successful afternoon. Well done all!

Alice Peterkin (Teacher of Maths)

Celebrating Our Students Work



'Between the Pages' Alannah Chillistone, Year 10

British Biology Olympiad 2018

We are delighted to celebrate more successes this year in the British Biology Olympiad 2018. This global competition for students in post 16 education aims to challenge and stimulate students with a keen interest in biology to expand and extend their talents. All of our Y13's who entered the competition were successful. We are very proud of them.

Tahira Abdul - Gold
Alexandra Green - Gold
Eleanor Smyth - Silver
Lauren Chambers - Highly Commended
Angelin Augustine - Highly Commended
Morganne Fields - Commended

Carol Burke (Biology Subject Leader)

House Team Celebrates St Patrick's Day

On Friday 16th March in keeping with a long running tradition at Salesian school, the House team put on a celebration for St Patrick's day at lunchtime on the yard.

The pupils baked a huge array of delicious green cakes, which sold out in minutes, closely followed by the coke floats! All of the money raised from sales will go to our three house charities. As usual, the 'Salesian Spirit' of our students shone, with many pupils volunteering to help with the logistics from scooping ice cream to collecting money. It certainly would not have run as smoothly without them!

Our year 7s and 8s also got into the green spirit of things making a donation to wear a green accessory, adding a great contribution to the total raised. All in all a very successful day.

Ingrid Barnsley (Head of Rinaldi House)

Girls Sporting Success

Our year 7 girls basketball team had an outstanding win against Fullbrook on Tuesday 20th March, winning 24-14. This is their second win this year! A HUGE well done to them!

April Poulter (Teacher of PE / Health & Social Care)

Open Mic Night



On Friday 23rd of March we held our inaugural Salesian 'Open Mic Night'. Welcoming an array of performers across KS3 and KS4 to the stage showcasing their drama and musical talents...we even had a bit of comedy from Olly Davis in Year 7! After much deliberation from our panel of judges Tara Packham (Year 8) won 3rd place for her beautiful singing, Casey-Ann Crockford and Abi Jones (Year 7) were awarded 2nd place for their drama and singing performance of 'Strangers' and Kriztel Glor Sayon and Steph Lomibao (Year 9) were our overall winners with their musical duet. Well done to all acts! Both parents and students were keen for the event to be hosted again in the near future, so keep your eyes peeled for our next 'Open Mic Night'!

Kelly Moore (Assistant Head of Year 9)

Fundraising Concert for Bowel Cancer UK



What a special night was had on Saturday 24th March! Alumni and current students, parents and staff all congregated to put on an evening of entertainment to raise funds for Bowel Cancer UK in support of Deborah James, our Deputy Head, who is currently fighting a courageous battle. It was tribute to Deborah, as well as to our school community, that so many past students made the trip back to school to perform or to watch the concert. Particular mention must go to past students Callum Mazzella Hart and Jarrett Millen for

their compering (how we have missed your terrible jokes!), Callum for his wonderful jazz playing and accompanying and Niamh Hunter for her beautiful rendition of *Ave Maria*. Other current students who performed solos were Abi Johnston, Will Marshall, Katie Ansell, Rachel Fernandes, Cathra Plant, Leisel Abrahams, Helen Soane, Charlie Woodman and Ethan Hennigan.

As well as these fantastic students, staff band, 'Souls and Scholars' delighted with a varied programme of songs (a little taster for our spring concert on the 24th April!) Surely one of the highlights of the evening was the joint choir who rounded off the concert – parents, staff and students who all gave up their Saturday mornings to rehearse and put together in record time *City of Stars* from 'LaLa Land' and *Stand By Me*. The only thing that could possibly top this was seeing Deborah herself, who gave an inspiring and moving speech, which definitely pulled at both the heartstrings *and* the purse strings – we are delighted that, with ticket sales and donations, we have raised around £1200 for Bowel Cancer UK. *Thank you* to all who supported this amazing cause.



Rebecca Clarey (Head of Music)

Salesian Souls singing in Battersea

On Thursday 22nd March we were delighted to be asked by Fr Andrew, who is now teaching at St John Bosco College in Battersea, to be 'guest artists' at an evening of Lenten music in his new school. Of course, this was a fitting occasion for our recently formed liturgical choir, Salesian Souls, to make their debut! The concert was a spectacular evening of really varied items, and we were privileged to watch the students of St John Bosco College perform. Salesian Souls also did themselves proud, and performed a Sister Act Medley.



Rebecca Clarey (Head of Music)

Getting to Know Our Teachers



Jonathan Hicks
(Teacher of RE, Asst
Head of Year 8, Head
of Zatti House)

Current Position in School:

I am currently a Teacher of RE, and Assistant Head of Year 8. My responsibilities involve supporting Ms Long in the day-to-day running of year 8, and in particular looking after attendance, rewards and making sure our students are in lessons on time! I love being involved in the pastoral aspects of the school.

How I got into teaching:

I've always wanted to teach. I remember in my year 9 careers talk writing down that I wanted to be a teacher when I was older. A few teachers inspired me, Mr Bell, my Geography teacher. Mr Stapleton who taught Philosophy, and of course our very own Mrs Morrison. I took a rather scenic route to get into teaching. After I graduated from university, I emailed Mr Kibble begging for some work experience in order to apply for a more traditional PGCE route into teaching. I was lucky enough to be offered a job as a teaching assistant. A year later, I job shared with Mr Corry doing 50/50 as a TA and cover supervisor, before moving into being a full time cover supervisor. In 2014 I began my training in RE through Teach SouthEast.

Why I love my job:

I think most teachers would say they love their job due to job satisfaction, and it's hard to disagree. The feeling at the end of the school day when you know you have made a difference to someone's life or when you see students have a light bulb moment, is incredibly satisfying.

I feel genuinely lucky to work here at Salesian. As an ex-pupil being able to live and carry out the ethos that I experienced myself as a child is tremendous.

If you are interested in pursuing a career in teaching, email Joanne Hawkins jhawkins@salesian.surrey.sch.uk or visit our website www.teachsoutheast.co.uk

Supporting Salesian Parents Association

The online auction is open to everyone running from March 27th to April 21st, at 9.30PM. Take a look and get bidding!
<https://uk.pro.giveqy.com/salesianschool>

Please remember to return all raffle tickets to school by 30th April 2018.