



SALESIAN SKI TRIP FEBRUARY 2018

Salesian Newsletter

March 2018

Our Lenten journey continues

by Elizabeth Bolton, Deputy Headteacher

Returning from half term, students and staff re-energized, a huge amount has been accomplished. We have seen the transition of the Maths and MFL departments into their new homes at Guildford Road; the completion of the A Level Drama performances; a number of sporting successes; multiple school trips offered to KS3 – KS5 students; the completion of the Sixth Form external student meetings and a very successful and meaningful parents evening for the Year 13 students.

Gospel Reflection

Mark 9:2-10

Peter, James and John get a brief glimpse of heaven in this week's Gospel when Jesus reveals the true glory of God to them during the transfiguration. As we enter the second week of Lent, a glimpse of what it is we are working so hard to achieve offers much needed encouragement.

The theme of transfiguration clearly resonates with the mission of Catholic education. If we are to build the Kingdom

of Heaven by helping the children in our care to become the people God wants them to be, then we need to reveal all that is beautiful and brilliant about them. This can sometimes be pretty well hidden in teenagers but as we know, there are very few that can't be transformed through loving kindness and great teaching over the course of 7 years.

Those of us who have chosen to take up a challenge during Lent may already be struggling to stick with it but hopefully the promise of the reward at Easter in just 4 weeks time will be enough to see us through. Some of the youngsters that we are called to work with can present a far more trying challenge than giving up sugar in tea for 6 weeks and unlike the disciples, we don't always get a glimpse of what the transformation will look like when our work is done. However, the long-term transfiguration of young people is the work we have been chosen for and the world will become a better place for it. We must never forget the significance of the impact we make.

Reflections for the second week of Lent:

There is no better time than the Lenten Season to think about the direction of our lives, our interaction with those around us, and our relationship with God. During this time of reflection and sacrifice, we strive to put aside materialism and greed, counting our blessings for the things we truly need.

- Have I made a start with my Lenten challenge? If not, it's not too late...
- When have I struggled to "stay on the wagon"? What is it that keeps me going?
- When have I discovered something brilliant or beautiful in a challenging child? How did I find it?
- What am I doing to become the person God wants me to be?
- What am I doing to help the children I work with become the people God wants them to be?

Ski Trip

We are pleased to announce that it was another successful year for the highly anticipated Year 10 ski trip to Austria. This year 89 students and 13 members of staff travelled out to Saalbach and with Europe's heavy snowfall, the usual 22 hour journey turned into a gruelling 26 hours.

Despite a slow start, the trip was a roaring success with lots of smiles all round. It has to be said that perfecting a snow plough stop on the dry slopes at Bracknell doesn't quite compare to expertly negotiating a blue run in heavy snow which is what all the beginner groups were doing by the end of the week so a particular well done to these students.

At the other end of the spectrum, we had some very experienced skiers who challenged our very own Mr Keeling and Mr Fullbrook (both of whom are very talented) and covered some serious miles.

However, a special mention goes to Erica Di Gregorio who despite having never actually skied on 'real' snow held her own in one of the experienced ski groups and skied with real style. Whilst the return to school was a slight shock to the system with a few bleary eyes on the first Monday back, the students (and staff) were fantastic and demonstrated real Salesianity.

Kate Honeywood (Head of Year 10)



Sporting Success

Congratulations to Katie Clutterbuck on being selected to represent Surrey at the English Schools Cross Country Championships on 17th March. This means that Katie is in the top 8 runners for Year 10 and 11. This is testament to her hard work and dedication to running over the last few years. A quick mention too to her older brother Matthew who is a reserve.

Table Tennis

18 pupils represented Salesian School in the County Schools Individual Championships and I am very proud of how we played in all competitions. Pedro Pagnani and Harry Searle unfortunately met each other in the U13 semi-finals and after a close game Harry progressed to the final which he then won 2-0. Harry is now eligible for the National Schools Individual Championships to be held on 21st April 2018 in Wolverhampton.



Nicole Dragos and Jasmine Fawcus-Smith were both unfortunately beaten in their semi-finals of the U16 girls competition but have a good basis to progress on from in the future!



Artur Bose, Dominic Lavender and Marvin Tchangwa all made it to the semi-finals of the U16 boys competition. Artur beat Dominic to progress and unfortunately Marvin was beaten. Artur fought well in the final but was narrowly beaten by his club mate, Charlie, from SJB. Artur has been asked to represent Surrey at U19 level at the National Schools Individual Championships in April.

Charlotte Gallagher (Head of PE)

Football

The Year 7 a and b and Year 9 boys completed a clean sweep of football victories vs Salesian Farnborough last Saturday, 24th February. 7a team won 6-1, 7b team won 2-1 and the year 9s won 3-1. A huge thank you to Pete Fullbrook and James Greggor for giving up their time on Saturday morning so we could get the games on.

The Year 10s are on tour next weekend (9th and 10th March) against our other Salesian Schools, Thornleigh and Savio, all are welcome to come and support!
Dan O'Shea (Head of Boy's PE)

Swimming

Last week we took 12 students across all years to the North-East Surrey Schools Swimming Gala and we came away with some excellent individual success. For a couple of students it was the first time swimming in a gala and they performed extremely well under pressure. A huge well done to our medalist:

Year 8:

- Julia Rodrigues 2nd in 50m Frontcrawl
- Renee Cully 3rd in 50m Breaststroke
- Zara Hart who swam up for Year 10 came 2nd in both 50m breaststroke and 50m butterfly.

Year 9:

- Henry Allison 2nd in 50m Frontcrawl
- April Poulter (Head of Savio House)*

Chelsea's Choice

On Monday 19th February, Year 9 students attended 'Chelsea's Choice' which is "an innovative and powerful production highlighting the very serious and emotional issue of child sexual exploitation. The production shows how young people, boys and girls, are groomed by adults for the purposes of sexual exploitation using various methods, ensnaring young people and eventually taking complete control and dominating their whole lives. This is a very useful and innovative way of raising awareness of the issues relating to sexual exploitation and reaching young people, giving them some skills and knowledge to be able to protect themselves from this form of abuse." Sheila Taylor, National Working Group for Sexually Exploited Children and Young People.

A Level Drama and Theatre Performances

On Tuesday 27th February the Year 13 Drama and Theatre students had their practical performance exam. Students had to perform a monologue each, which saw performances from plays such as Chekov's 'Uncle Vanya', Laura Wade's 'Posh' and 'DNA' by Dennis Kelly. We were so impressed with their confidence and professionalism and it was a great way to showcase their individual talents. The exam also included three very different group performances; 'Tissue' by Louise Page, 'Metamorphosis' by Steven Berkoff and David Campton's 'The Cagebirds'. We will find out the result of the students' hard work in August. Mrs Garbett and Miss Long would like to say how proud they are of the students and congratulate them on such polished final performances.



Julius Caesar

The Drama department took the Sixth Form Drama and Theatre students to Nicholas Hytner's critically acclaimed production of 'Julius Caesar' on Wednesday 28th February. A snowy start didn't stop us, despite the sub-zero temperatures! The production was promenade, giving the students the chance to walk in amongst the action and was a fantastic chance to see some superb acting and a full range of technical design to write about in their exams.

Sarah Garbett (Head of Drama)



Winter Wonderland

With the arrival of the "Beast from the East" on Wednesday 28th February, it would have been an opportunity missed not to have challenged the students to a snowball fight! Special thanks for the bravery shown by the PE department! Don Bosco would have loved it!



Reasons why we stay open in the snow

- Education is important
- There is no reason not to when the staff are all here, the heating is on, the site is safe and the roads are clear
- How can we tell you that attendance is important and then shut the school?
- We're trying to teach the children to be resilient
- When schools close it has a knock on effect on parents and their places of work
- We like to stand out from the crowd at Salesian
- The children have really enjoyed the in-school snow day!
- Don Bosco would have opened the school

Thank you to all those parents who supported us by sending the children in. We were very sorry that South West Trains forced our hand by stopping their service on Friday afternoon.

A Level English Literature Rossetti Trip

On Thursday March 1st, our English Literature A-Level students braved the elements and their teacher's feeble puns about 'grit' to attend a study day on Christina Rossetti in the appropriate Victorian setting of the Central Bloomsbury Baptist Hall. We were treated to four lectures on different aspects of Rossetti's poetic technique, the world around her and her reception in her own time and after as a female writer.



This year we have also visited the Globe Theatre for a workshop day on *Hamlet*.
Paul Harrison (2nd in English)

Teacher Training



Have you ever considered a career in teaching?

I broke all my school night rules of 'early to bed and wine free evenings' on Sunday

18th February to watch the glamour of the 2018 BAFTA awards. After all it's only once a year! My guilt throughout was completely exonerated at the point when Ridley Scott affirmed the importance of great teaching. Why couldn't they have given his award first?

'It's extraordinary what an enthusiastic teacher can do, drawing the student out, igniting independence, and encouraging a design of your own future, rather than waiting for something to happen. Teaching is the most important of all professions.' – Ridley Scott

Our own Salesian founder, St John Bosco (1815-1888), stressed the importance of high educational standards coupled with sound moral and religious values. It is not surprising then, that our aim is to nurture the talent of the teachers within our partnership of schools.

Teach SouthEast is an initial teacher training provider, guided by a commitment to doing not only what is right for our students, but also for our trainees. We offer courses to those wanting to become the teachers of the future. We deliver high quality, bespoke school centred initial teacher training (ITT) programmes for aspiring secondary school teachers across the South East of England.

Led by two 'outstanding' schools, Salesian School in Chertsey and Saint John the Baptist School in Woking, we are passionate about training and developing the outstanding teachers of tomorrow.

We offer our Trainees the unique opportunity to be part of a large enough cohort that you will have a wealth of opportunity to work with others training in the same school or subject alongside the chance to be given a personalised training year and be supported by a team of outstanding teachers who are working in the classroom as well as running our SCITT.

We firmly believe that the best place to train teachers effectively, in this complex but incredibly rewarding career, is in schools and our close links within our partnership provide trainees with a broad spectrum of experiences.

If you are a graduate, either coming straight from university or looking for a

career change, please contact me to find out more

jhawkins@salesian.surrey.sch.uk or visit our website www.teachsoutheast.co.uk

Joanne Hawkins (Teach SouthEast)

Fairtrade Fortnight 2018

As the first Secondary school in Runnymede to achieve FairAchiever status two years ago, we are proud of our continued efforts to support producers and artisans in Less Economically Developed Countries by our promotion of Fairtrade.

Every year Salesian School Chertsey holds two Bake Sales, one at Guildford Road and one at the Sixth Form at Highfield Road to raise money and awareness of the work achieved by the Fairtrade Foundation and Traidcraft to alleviate poverty through trade conducted with transparency, fairness and social justice.



CAFOD Youth Leadership Days

October 17th 2017 and January 25th 2018 saw a large gathering of Sixth Form students at St. Joseph's Reading and Farnborough Hill schools respectively. The event, organised and sponsored by the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development (CAFOD) aims to bring young adults together to provide information, inspiration, preparation and training for them to go into their schools and colleges to raise awareness and funds to support the life-changing work of the official overseas aid agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

Salesian Sixth Form Chertsey was represented by C. Rice (Yr. 12) and by Br. M Papierz SDB and Fr. M Villani SDB.

Fr Marco Villani (Chaplain)

CAFOD

Just one world

Having a Ball!

Please see below for details of the Salesian Parents Association "Spring Ball". Tickets are going fast. Contact spa@salesian.surrey.sch.uk to join in the fun!

