

20 November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers, Students, Governors, Old Olavians

### Headteacher's Newsletter 89

I am very aware my Newsletter is being dominated with messages about COVID and giving dates of events taking place remotely as there are fewer trips, sporting events and activities taking place. Please do keep sending me news items and student successes either via colleagues or email. The email address is [publicityteam@saintolaves.net](mailto:publicityteam@saintolaves.net). Do not forget to include all the details along with a high-resolution photograph you are willing to share and have published on the school website. I know there will be a lot still happening, which deserves a mention so please do contact me.

A reminder that school will finish on Wednesday 25 November at 1:20 pm after afternoon registration due to the Year 12 Consultation Evening. There will also be no school for pupils on Thursday 26 November and Friday 27 November due to the Year 7 Selective Eligibility Test (SET).

We were made aware on Monday of a student in Year 12 and on Wednesday a student in Year 9 who tested positive for COVID-19. We know that you may find this concerning, but we have continued to monitor the situation and worked closely with Public Health England. The small number of children who were in close contact with the individual who tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) received a letter via InTouch informing them that they must stay at home for 14 days. **Parents should be aware that if your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school** and should remain at home for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test-or-by-calling-119>.

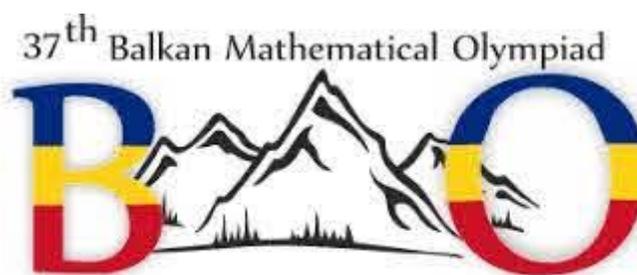
Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>



May I remind you that the PA are pleased to invite you to the Parents' Association Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 25 November 2020 at 8:00 pm. A link for this meeting will be distributed in due course. Please do email the PA via [pa@saintolaves.net](mailto:pa@saintolaves.net) if you have any questions or you would like further information about being nominated as an officer for the committee.

We are delighted to announce that we have a brand-new sports Instagram account, being used by the PE Department to promote sport both in and outside of school. We encourage friends, family, Olavians, past and present, to follow the account via this [link](#). Even in the current lockdown there is plenty happening for us to report and to update you about activities happening in the department.

Congratulations to Year 13 student, Linus Luu, who recently earned a Silver medal in the Balkan Mathematical Olympiad. The UK was invited as a guest nation to this prestigious international competition in early November, and Linus was one of only six students selected to represent his country. He answered two exceptionally difficult questions completely correctly, demonstrating once again his formidable mathematical knowledge, skill and intuition.



Year 12 Computer Science students attended the Computer Science in Action Day on 4 November 2020 not in the Emmanuel Centre, London but virtually from home. In five virtual sessions experts from academia and industry revealed computer science at its very best and took our students to the cutting edge in fields of AI and machine learning. Students were able to explore new algorithms for co-ordination that solve some of

the most pressing problems in transport and logistics. Students listened to a remarkable session on the curious case of a 13<sup>th</sup> Century Election Algorithm by Miranda Mowbray. Miranda discussed how an algorithm that was used for over 500 years to determine the ruler of Venice and its underlying design principle turns out to have an application to modern computer science. It was an eye-opening opportunity for our students to see how the future is revolutionised by the advancement in computer science and technology.



Over the summer term, the Art Department ran a competition for Year 7 students to create their own cardboard constructions inspired by their research into Favelas and the work of Ana Serrano. Using recycled materials, they made their own personal responses with a focus on sustainability. Congratulations to Som Shah, Agastya Singh, Vinay

Rajesh, Wessel Haartsen, Daniel Saldhana, Rayan Deputy, Shaurya Kadian and Ishan Ponnampalan (now all in Year 8) who created some fantastic pieces of work now on display in the Foyer.

As a school we want our community to feel safe, cherished and looked after. We regularly remind students about the need to be kind, thoughtful and respectful. Healthy relationships feature strongly in the new RSHE curriculum and with this in mind, we have been celebrating Anti-Bullying Week and used it as an opportunity to further promote the core values which are central to St. Olave's in form time and PSHE lessons.



We are delighted to work closely with Bromley Wellbeing Service and the Trailblazers Project. Please follow this [link](#) about webinars available to parents to support your son's mental health. The purpose of the webinar is to:



- Understand more about anxiety in children.
- Consider strategies that can help to manage fears and worries, and build confidence at this challenging and uncertain time.
- Learn more about local services for further support.

The webinars will be delivered online via Microsoft Teams and will be facilitated by practitioners from Bromley Y.

Finally, I would like to highlight a number of achievements and activities that have taken place over the past week:

- Law Society has officially formed its team for the Bar Mock Trial Competition, appointing students as barristers, witnesses, jury members, a clerk and an usher ready for the regional heats.
- The third issue of the Olavian Wellbeing Journal 'Insight' is currently in production and we are looking forward to giving students in Year 11 to Year 13 the chance to have their work published. Submissions relating to any field of interest to mental health and wellbeing are welcomed.
- Maths Society held their first Integration Bee. Year 13 student, Josh Parchure, won in a 3-2 final against Advait Menon.
- Space Society heard from Year 13 student, Angelika Kochajkiewicz, on 'The merits of asteroid mining'.
- Year 13 students, Tennyson Cerase and Daniel Pereira, achieved Silver CREST Awards for their investigation entitled, 'Why is Coca Cola such a successful company?', in which they performed chemical (and taste!) tests on a number of competing cola brands.
- Congratulations to Old Olavian, Moses Abraham, who features in the December 2020 edition of GQ magazine. Moses left last summer and has been photographed modelling the latest fashion in coats.
- I thought you would like to see a photograph of all our Arkwright Scholars, James, Hardiv, Aaditya, Daksh, Saakshi and Nathan together having been presented with their certificates.



Please see the Appendix below for this week's Careers news.

Wishing you and your families a restful weekend.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Rees'.

Andrew Rees  
Headteacher

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The [St. Olave's website](#) and Twitter page - [@saintolaves](#) has many more stories of student endeavour and success. Please do keep sending me news items and student successes either via colleagues or email. The email address is [publicityteam@saintolaves.net](mailto:publicityteam@saintolaves.net). Do not forget to include all the details along with a high-resolution photo you are willing to share and have published on the school website.

If you would like to donate into the Voluntary Fund to support the development of our school and enhance learning, and you are not already doing so, please follow this [link](#) to the Virgin Money Giving webpage.

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## Appendix 1

Careers News



Universities are now busy encouraging potential applicants to find out about their courses by attending virtual taster days and specialist events. Most are intended for the Sixth Form but there are also opportunities for younger students to participate online on a variety of topics. These are free and open to all, so they offer the chance to explore subjects and institutions well before the pressure is on to make a final decision.

The University of Kent offers an online Taster Day on Saturday 21 November for Year 12 and 13 students considering applying for mathematical related degrees. Science, Mathematics and Actuarial Science will all be covered in sessions with academics and students. For further information go to <https://blogs.kent.ac.uk/mathstasterday/>

In London, King's College and Imperial College also have lively events coming up. At King's, Taster Days for Year 12s are available in History, Theology and Religion, Geography, Biomedical Engineering and Chemistry. They also offer a Winter School for students aged 15 to 17. This new programme will take place in February and can be booked now. The winter school will enable this age group to explore different subjects that may interest them for future study at degree level. Taking this initial step into the world of higher education is an attractive opportunity at this earlier stage in school life. Please find more information by following this link: [King's Winter School](#)

Imperial College is running a variety of online events aimed at different ages. STEM Potential is for Year 10s and is a two-year programme for students who are enthusiastic about the STEM subjects of Computing, Science, Mathematics and Technology and who are planning to study Maths and Science in Year 12. There are eligibility criteria for this programme and details are on the website and to apply go to: [STEM Potential \(Year 10\)](#)

2eMPower Enigma Workshop is a forthcoming webinar specifically for autistic students aged 14 to 17 who are working across most areas of the curriculum at age-expected levels. This will be delivered by Imperial College in collaboration with the National Museum of Computing at Bletchley Park on Saturday 12 December from 10.00am to 4.00pm. Participants will take part in a series of interactive problem-solving activities, either working alone or in a group of up to four students. To secure a place and find out more, please apply directly to Professor Sara Rankin at [s.rankin@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:s.rankin@imperial.ac.uk)

**2eMPower  
WORKSHOP**

Throughout November and December, the University of Sheffield offers online [Taster sessions](#) in a variety of subjects for Year 13 students. Those offered fall within the broad categories of Engineering, Social Sciences and Medicine, Dentistry and Health.



Two on-line booklets feature apprentices selected especially for International Women's and Men's Days for 2020. Many interesting Higher Apprenticeships are represented with individual case studies detailing their current roles, their aspirations and their role models. Please follow this [link](#) for more information.

Our partner organisation InvestIN offers paid for immersive internships in London for ages 12 to 14 and 15 to 18 in a range of careers. They have now released their programme for summer 2021 internships and applicants can obtain a 15% discount using the code INTERN15 if booking before 31 December 2020. They went ahead with the summer 2020 programme and plan to do the same next year. Due to the necessity of social distancing fewer students can take part so places are limited. For more information and to apply use the link <https://investin.org/pages/summer-internships>

More details and how to book for all these events and more can be found by our students on MOODLE.