

Dear Parents/Carers, Students, Governors, Old Olavians

30 April 2021

Headteacher's Newsletter 107



There has been a lot of work carried out on the site since Christmas and I wanted to update you on how this has progressed. Thank you to the site team who have worked incredibly hard to oversee and implement all these works. Lower Humanities and the staircases in the Old Quad have been refurbished. The Fives building is near completion and we hope to have this in full use in the next few weeks. The All-Weather Pitch

construction will commence during the next half term with this being ready to use at the start of the new academic year. This is a massive project, and we have used money donated by parents to the Voluntary Fund to pay for this. I shared with you before Easter information about how this exciting project was funded. Over the summer we will be installing extra security cameras to give coverage on the Park Avenue gates, and the pathway running from Park Avenue will receive care and attention. If you would like to donate into the Voluntary Fund to support the development of our school and help us enhance your child's environment, and you are not already doing so, please follow this [link](#) to the Virgin Money Giving webpage.



Please tell your friends or family who are teachers that we are currently looking for Part-Time Teachers of French/German and Economics. We are also looking to appoint a Careers Lead. Further details can be found on the school website by following this [link](#).

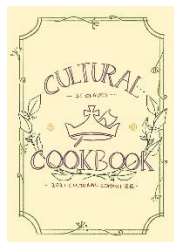


The Senior Prefect Team are still looking for entries to their first competition of the year based on the theme 'Community' and they are excited to see photographs from everyone in our community – parents, pupils, teachers, Old Olavians and Governors! Whether you are an aspiring Eliot Porter or have no experience (just like them!), they want to see what community means to you and how you display

that. There was an error in the email address in last week's Newsletter so please submit your entries to publicityteam@saintolaves.net by Monday 10 May. We hope to see all your amazing ideas come to life and add to the entries which have already been submitted.



This week's Teen Tips features a blog on co-dependency and how relationships thrive when both parties give and take in equal measure. You can read the blog on how it can affect children and young people by following this [link](#).



Today is the school's Cultural Celebration Day where we have been celebrating the rich and diverse culture of the Olavian community. As a part of the event, the Committee has compiled a Cultural Acts Video which can be viewed by following this [link](#). The Cultural Cookbook will be emailed out by Monday 7 May to the students' emails who have made a donation. If you have yet to make a donation and wish to do so, then this can still be done through the sQuid payment system.

Congratulations to Year 13 student, Srikar Namireddy, who swam in the Olympic selection trials and finished 1st in two of his events (200IM and 200 breaststroke) as well as finishing 2nd in the 100 breaststroke and 3rd in the 100m freestyle. What is even more remarkable is that in the 200IM, Srikar swam a time of 1:59:67 which secures him a berth at the World Swimming Championships in Abu Dhabi this winter. For him to qualify for a senior international competition whilst still swimming in a junior age group is outstanding. Well done Srikar!



On Friday 12 March, and just before the Spring Assessments, ten Year 13 students, and one Year 12 student, took part in the online British Biology Olympiad. The results have now been released and I am delighted to report that all students gained an award. Gold awards were achieved by Pravinija Sivakumar, Sophie Lu, Jonah McDonald, Isabelle Soo and Tennyson Cerase. Sophie scored so highly that she has been invited to attend the second round of the competition and is hoping to go on to

represent the UK in the International Biology Olympiad. Silver awards were achieved by Aden Ho, Anya Charman Jones, and also Daksh Mehta, who is currently in Year 12. Congratulations to Amelia Waterton who achieved a Bronze Award and Katherine Stanton and Erin Randall who were Highly Commended.



There has been a great deal happening in the German department both before, during and after Easter. On 30 March, Year 12 students were able to attend a live and online presentation from students and lecturers from the University of Sheffield on why study a language/s at university. The university

undergraduates - and one postgraduate student - as well as the lecturers in languages joined us live on Teams, and shared presentations on what studying (and teaching) languages has meant to them and how it has benefited them. Our Year 12 students were able to ask questions of the presenters and have these answered live. This was a really useful and fascinating insight into languages beyond school. The talk was recorded and can be accessed on the school 'Stream' platform by following this [link](#). Over the Easter Holiday, Year 12 Germanists took part in a series of revision days offered at no cost by the British-German Association. These revision classes took place online and were interactive,

as well as tailored to the specific needs of the students. The students were able to revise the German film of study (Good Bye, Lenin!), as well as have their grammar questions answered, and discuss best ways to learn vocabulary. Finally, the department is delighted to share the link to the series of German podcasts that Year 12 student, Derin Burke, worked on as part of a programme arranged by the Goethe Institut. This opportunity saw Derin work on a team with Sixth Formers from other schools all studying German, to plan, interview, edit, and promote this podcast series. These are all put together to form resources for students learning German; to practise their listening skills and gain cultural understanding. Derin's episodes deal with the themes of gastronomy, history, and sustainability. They can be heard by following this [link](#).

It was pleasing to meet the new Year 12 students for their Congratulations Evening recently. The evening, which took place online, allowed key members of the Sixth Form Pastoral Team as well as



the School Captains to talk to the students about enrichment, co-curricular activities and wellbeing before the students join us in September. We wish them all good luck in their teacher assessments over the next few weeks. Well done to Millie and Steven for speaking with confidence and consideration in their first event as School Captains.

On Wednesday, the Year 13 Senior Prefect Team, completed their final event with the recording of our online Commemoration. They completed readings and read passages from our Act of Commemoration. During their time, they have been innovative and creative in many areas of the school, including their online tour of the school for Open Morning. They have been an outstanding group of young people to work with, and my thanks go to them for their work supporting the school during this challenging year.

I would like to highlight further student achievements and activities that have taken place recently:

- Year 12 student, Elise Stringfellow, has been awarded 1st Prize in the Classics Essay Competition from the Cambridge Classical Association for her explanation about why Oedipus is the most memorable literary character she has encountered in Classical Civilisation.
- Congratulations to Year 10 student, Ethan Abeelack, gained a Distinction in his Level 5 LAMDA Public Speaking examination.
- Well done to Year 8 student, Kasim Rehman, who achieved his Baritone Grade 6 with Merit during the Easter holidays.
- Congratulations to Year 10 student, Sean Lee, who was awarded a Distinction and Silver medal in the Grade 8 piano class at the Blackheath Music Festival. He also achieved Grade 8 in Piano.



During May, St. Olave's usually participates in the annual RNLB fundraising week. This year we are supporting their initiative to raise £5m for the renovation of **RNLB London Tower** lifeboat station, which is located at Victoria Embankment on the River Thames. The current station is run out of a cramped, old barge, lacking proper facilities and space for crew/casualties. Your donations will support the

rebuilding of a new, modern floating lifeboat station, enabling 24/7 lifesaving support to continue at the UK's busiest lifeboat station. We are encouraging online donations this year via the following [link](#) - please mention 'St. Olave's/Tower Appeal' when making your donation.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish the students well as they prepare to take their summer assessments next week.

Please see the Appendices below for further Careers news from Mrs Platts, and information about reading from Mrs Martine, our librarian.

I hope you and your families have an enjoyable long weekend.

Yours sincerely

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

Andrew Rees
Headteacher

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. 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.

Appendix 1

Careers News



Morrisby interviews begin next week for those Year 10s who are taking part in the profiling process. Their interviews will take place via Zoom during school time with Mrs Sally East, our Morrisby consultant. Students can prepare for their interview by following the guidance sent out from Morrisby. Information about career paths leading from school subjects can be found on Unifrog at <https://www.unifrog.org/>

PwC UK careers has established a virtual classroom where students in Years 10 to 13 and their parents can engage in events after school. Students will have the chance to meet with a range of PwC ambassadors through the interactive live sessions, whilst also having the flexibility to watch and listen to the recorded sessions at a time best suited to them each week. On 11 May at 4.30pm the topic is resilience and building skills for a changing world and on 13 May at 6pm there is a session for parents about supporting young people in the changing world of work. More information and bookings can be found at: <https://www.pwc.co.uk/careers/student-careers/school-careers/virtual-classroom.html>

Year 12 students interested in law careers in the corporate world may wish to find out about Slaughter and May's 2021 Excellerators Programme. This is a one week virtual work experience scheme that offers an insight into a corporate environment. It is designed to help Year 12 students gain essential employability skills through interactive workshops, hands-on tasks and networking with legal sector professionals. To apply use the pdf posted on Moodle under Careers.

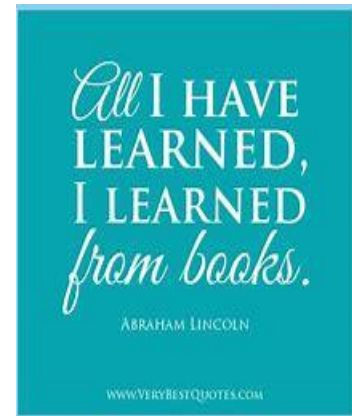
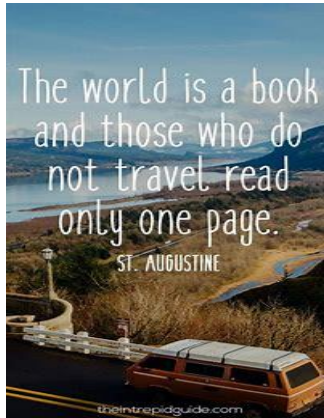
Pathways to Property are hosting two webinar events on 6 and 13 May. On 6 May they will be joined by SEGRO, a leading property firm who will talk about their business and the roles within it and on 13 May the session discusses the key skills needed to work in the property industry and how to best present yourselves to future employers. To find out more about Pathways to Property and their events, visit the website at <https://www.henley.ac.uk/research/academic-areas/real-estate-and-planning/rref/pathways-to-property>

InvestIN offers immersive work experience in a wide variety of careers and these have been popular with our students this year. We are partnered with InvestIN and consequently students have access to a discount on the events plus bursaries are available for a few eligible students. In-person weekend programmes are available in June and full details are shown on the website at: <https://investin.org/> There are some virtual events too. For 10% discount use the code STOLAVES2019 and bursaries for the online summer internships and in-person London events open on 4 May.



Appendix 2

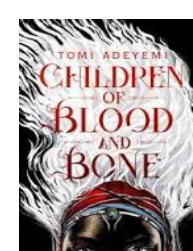
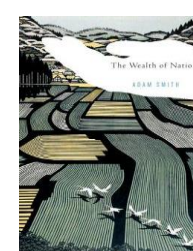
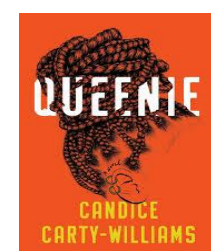
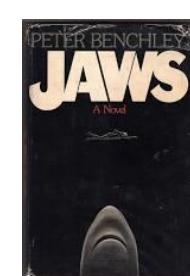
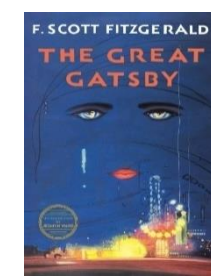
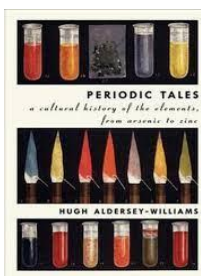
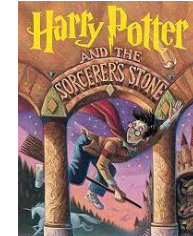
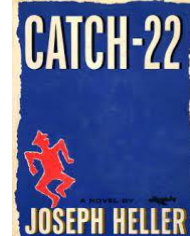
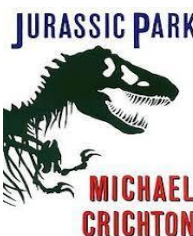
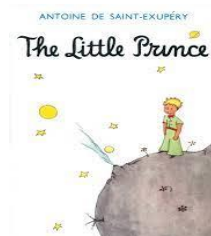
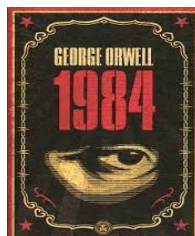
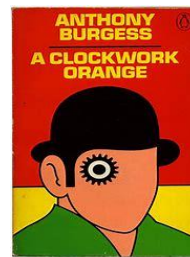
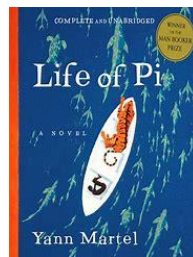
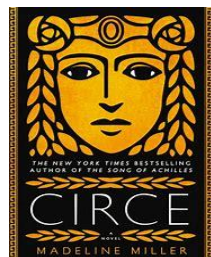
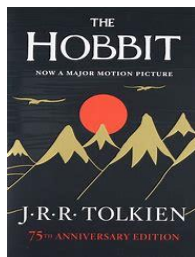
The most memorable book covers are the ones that become symbols of the books. Essentially iconic in design, yet simple, they possess powerful elements which can be propelled into and then create an integral connection to the book itself.



These manifestations of creativity and ideas often develop a memory of the book in relationship to its' book cover design; they are now subconsciously linked together. Instantly recognizable at a glance, they take you back to the story in a fraction of a second.

Many great book cover designs also became posters for the books' adaptations, making their way into pop culture and the hearts of the audiences forever.

There are so many to show here: something to investigate at your leisure maybe but **here are some of the most notable and striking:**



Any comments or questions kindly email librarian@saintolaves.net