

10 July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers, Students, Governors, Old Olavians and Grandparents

### Headteacher's Newsletter 77

I thought it would be good to change the focus of the Newsletter this week away from COVID-19 and use it to introduce the new Senior Prefect Team for 2020/21. It gives me great pleasure to introduce them all. The [St. Olave's website](#) and twitter page - [@saintolaves](#) has all the stories of student endeavour and success if you still want to know about what is happening around school and at home. We will be communicating with you our plans for reopening in September next week via InTouch so please look out for these plans in your inbox. Please be assured that the safety and wellbeing of the school community will be paramount.



#### **Rose Hind (Captain of School)**

**A Level Subjects: Religious Studies, Classical Civilisations, Maths**  
**AS Subject: French**

Attempting to summarise my feelings towards St. Olave's in just a few sentences has proved a near-impossible task; with every day spent at school, I see meaningful and continuous developments in both the academic environment and in myself - growing in kindness, resilience and practicality. In the role of Captain of School, I intend to advance this culture of evolution, seeking to catalyse the progressions in mental health and well-being structures, gender confidence, inter-year communication and complimentary academic and co-curricular emphasis. You may have previously seen me leading Law Society (as the 2020-2021 president), assisting in GCSE French support sessions, playing first team Netball, performing at Cabaret, hosting Cultural Evening, or simply glimpsed me hurrying down a corridor. Whatever it be, heading into the next academic year, I hope that you may come to view me as a friendly face for your all your suggestions and questions.



#### **Joshua Selfridge (Captain of School)**

**A Level Subjects: Physics, Chemistry, Double Maths**  
**AS Subject: Economics**

Throughout my time at St. Olave's, the one constant has been change. This community, united by a love of learning, never stops evolving. An atmosphere like ours inspires initiative and original thinking, and that is what I aim to bring to my role over the coming year. As co-president of Environmental Society, I have seen the school make great strides recently and I am confident that the trend will continue. I am fascinated by the way nature works and aspire to study Physics at university. Outside of academia, I am an avid runner and cyclist and I am also learning the guitar (or at least trying to!). Now presented with the opportunity to spearhead another year of change at this school, I am excited to work with my fellow Senior Prefects to leave a lasting legacy at St. Olave's. I hope that the SPT's work this year will benefit both current and future students across all aspects of school life.



**William Song (Head of Form Prefects)**

**A Level Subjects: Economics, Double Maths, Physics**

**AS Subject: Computer Science**

Since my childhood I have always been fascinated by maths, and my interest in financial markets has led to me wishing to pursue a course in economics at university. The amazing environment at St. Olave's and the wide range of opportunities offered is incredible, so I am very grateful for the hardworking, considerate, and determined individual that it has helped shape me into. During my tenure, I hope to make sure that everyone benefits from the resources available at our school and ensure that Form Prefects play a greater role in helping the lower years. Outside of lessons, I enjoy playing the violin and piano whether it be a solo or within the orchestra, as well as participating in Rugby and teaching Karate outside of school. I look forward to working with the amazing Senior Prefect Team this year and engaging with the school community more to make a positive impact.



**Ayomide Akande (Head of House System)**

**A Level Subjects: Double Maths, English, Economics**

**AS Subject: French**

My passion for justice and a reform in the legal system that sees systematic discrimination occur has led me to pursue a career in law, an area that affects us in every sphere of life, making it all the more interesting. As a practicing Christian, my faith is an essential part of my life, and has led to my active involvement within the school's Christian Union, of which I am Vice President. Outside of school, I use some of the time I have in writing; I have written two novels so far and currently maintain a blog commenting on contemporary social issues that particularly apply to young people. This passion for writing has translated to becoming President of Law Journal within school, as well as working on the Black History Month magazine. I also take a big interest in sports, having previously been involved with Rugby during my lower years and now taking the mantle of Captain of the U18 Basketball Team. As Head of the House Captain Team, I will be looking forward to increasing engagement with inter-house competitions and working together with the house captains to ensure the house system knits the school community together more tightly than before, creating a stronger sense of Olavian values within the school.



**Ishkaar Ujoodia (Head of Ambassador Prefects)**

**A Level Subjects: Economics, Double Maths, Chemistry**

**AS Subject: Biology**

I am incredibly honoured to have been selected as Vice Captain of School, and hope to make a meaningful contribution to the school community in the coming year. As a keen sportsman who has represented St. Olave's in the Cricket, Fives, and Rugby squads, and has captained both the Cricket and Fives teams, I recognise the importance and benefit of strong inter-year cohesion, and during my tenure, I aim to extend this feeling of interconnectedness and inclusivity throughout the school. Academically, I aspire to read Economics at university, which has been motivated through my desire to address the issue of income and wealth inequality that I constantly observe every time I visit my country of birth, South Africa. I greatly look forward to working with the rest of the Senior Prefect Team to improve every Olavian's school experience, and I hope that I can lead this focus on inter-year integration by getting to know more people throughout the school.



**Mitra Stainsbury (Head of Duty and Academic Prefects)**  
**A Level Subjects: Double Maths, Economics, Chemistry**  
**AS Subject: Physics**

During my time at St. Olave's, I have been astounded by the fantastic quality and quantity of opportunities on offer. Indeed, the school has enabled me to become the Chair of Cultural Evening, the Co-Editor of the Academic Journal as well as compete on the school's UKSDC team at a regional, national and international level. Eager to give back to the school, I embraced my initial role as a Chemistry Prefect, helping to organise the school's first inter-house chemistry quiz. This experience has motivated me to take up the mantle of Head of Academic Prefects in order to further fan the flame of both the students' love for learning and this school's wonderful sense of community. I hope to continue providing opportunities to others long after my time at St. Olave's is over by studying Economics at University: I aim to help reduce inequality through pursuing the economic empowerment of disadvantaged groups. For now, however, I am immensely excited to be working with the other incredible members of the Senior Prefect Team!



**Sheena Akende (Head of Charity and Events)**  
**A Level Subjects: Economics, Double Maths, History**  
**AS Subject: Chemistry**

Individuality and freedom of expression are staples of community life, and the Charity and Social events at St. Olave's are exceptional at fuelling this, by allowing people to share their talents as well as help the local community. I have previously been on the Cabaret and Cultural committees and as Head of Charity and Events I will be overseeing many more key events within the next year, such as Festival. Outside of school I have volunteered through tutoring primary and GCSE school students and helping at a local youth group. I feel that everyone should get involved in charity and giving back to the local area, especially through school, which will help to shape the impact of our future generations. We must also express ourselves academically, which is done through our societies, and through my role as Co-President of Political Economy Society. Economics is a field that I would like to pursue in the future, as you can help people to prosper – which is what I plan to do during my tenure as Senior Prefect. Throughout the next year, I plan to help the integration of new and existing students into the Olavian community through these co-curricular interests, where our Charity and Events allow us to strengthen the student voice, whilst positively impacting those in our wider community.



**Georgia Higgins (Outreach, Clubs and Societies)**  
**A Level Subjects: Biology, Chemistry, Maths**  
**AS Subject: French**

Over the last ten months, I have found St. Olave's to be a vibrant and involved community, which encourages its students to push themselves to succeed in all areas of life. My love for the sciences has been both supported and cultivated by my time here, and I have been able to pursue my hopes of studying medicine at university through attending Medics' Society and through the Le Chavetois programme, which I spent volunteering on the wards at Lewisham hospital. Outside of the time I spend working towards A-Levels and medicine, I enjoy playing the piano and practicing martial arts; I hope to achieve my second black belt sometime this year. As head of Outreach, Clubs and Societies, I will work towards strengthening ties between the school and its wider community, as well as ensuring that all societies are well-organised.



**Srikar Namireddy (Sports)**

**A Level Subjects: Biology, Chemistry, Maths**

**AS Subject: Physics**

Hoping to pursue my fascination for anatomical science, my dream and aspiration is to study medicine at university. Outside of the classroom, I am an accomplished swimmer, having won gold at nationals and qualifying for the Olympic trials, whilst I also enjoy partaking in performing arts, thus resulting in the completion of my grade 8 in both piano and public speaking. In my remaining spare time, I enjoy volunteering at the local care home and playing Cricket. During my tenure I wish to promote sports as a means of maintaining good mental health, due to it being a great way to escape from the stresses of daily life. I am very much looking forwards to working within the Senior Prefect Team to create a long-lasting and pronounced impact on how much you enjoy your time here at St. Olave's.

Further news about events that have happened over the last week and news about the end of term will appear next week.

I hope you and your families have an enjoyable weekend.

Yours sincerely

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 hi-res 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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