

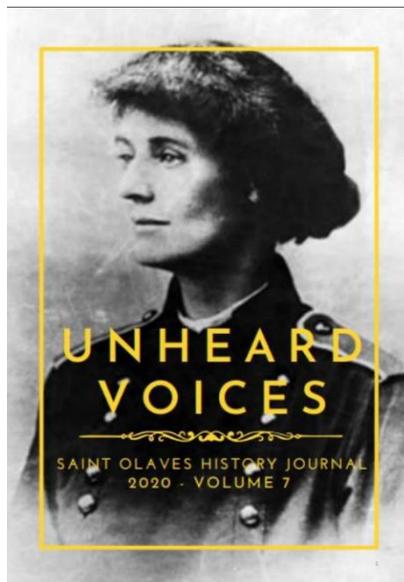
17 July 2020

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

### Headteacher's Newsletter 78

You will be aware the Government has now confirmed their plan that all pupils, in all year groups, will return to school full-time from the beginning of the autumn term. Consequently, we have been following closely the guidance and you should have received letters this week from either Mrs Maxwell or Mr Birtchnell outlining the plan for return. Procedures may still be reviewed and adapted over the summer depending on the national picture. **We are confident our plan prioritises the safety of students and staff.** The Government guidance we have been following can be found by clicking on this [link](#).

It is pleasing to be able to finish the year celebrating some outstanding publications and achievements from a variety of departments and students. The Computing Department has published the first Computer Science Journal in a number of years. This journal is full of fascinating articles ranging from the P versus NP problem, Quantum Computers, Ethical Hacking to various other articles and gives an insight into aspects of computer science beyond the school curriculum. Thank you to Min Jie Guo, President of the Computing Society, for editing a digital version which is available for all to read and enjoy by following this interactive online [link](#).



During the lockdown, the History Department have been running an enrichment competition for pupils in Years 7 - 10 to write an article about a topic in history that they have not studied at school so far. There were many great entries and the judging was tough. The Sixth Form Editorial Team ultimately decided that the following should win the prizes, and these will be put forward into the soon to be completed journal highlighting 'Untold Voices':

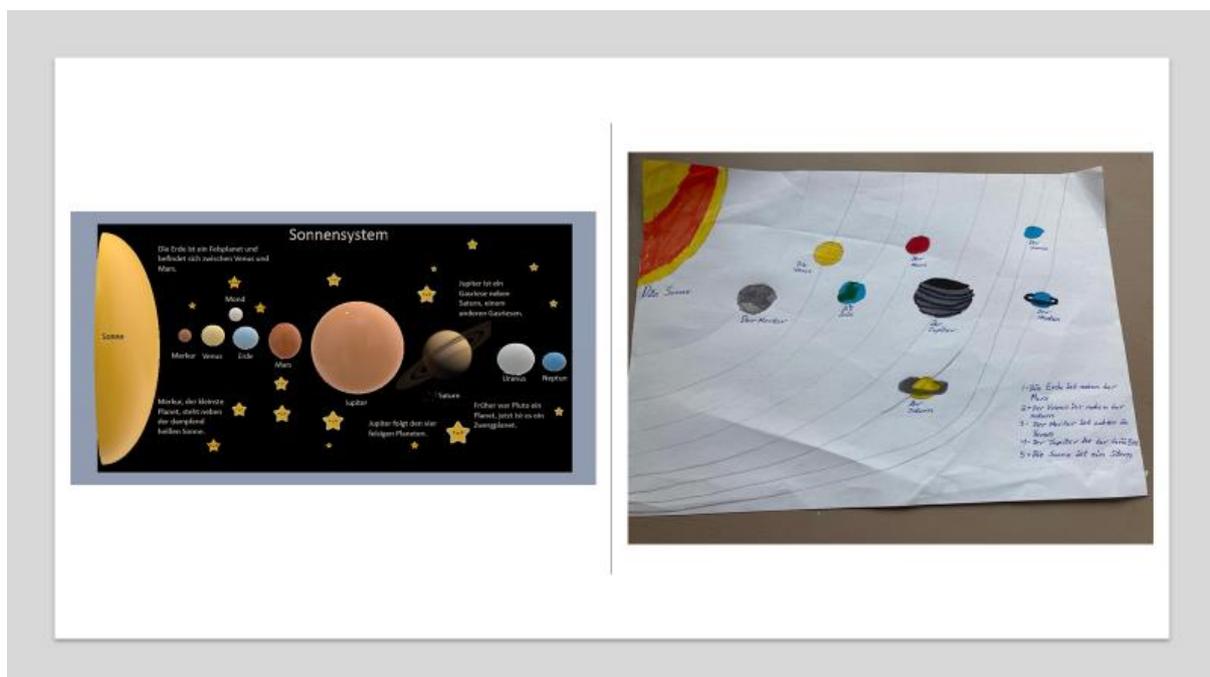
- Year 7: Agastya Singh - 'The 5 Core Concepts of Karl Marx'
- Year 8: Mark Ludden - 'The Siege of Jadotville'
- Year 9: Wafi Ali - 'The Lost Colony of Roanoke'
- Year 10: Nathan Danquah - 'The Story of Bernard Garrett'

All entries have been published in a journal on the History and Politics Blog which is accessible for current pupils by following this [link](#).



Well done to Year 8 student Damyan Korada who recently carried out an investigation into photosynthesis using pond weed gathered from his home pond. He varied the distance to the light source and counted bubbles to measure the rate of photosynthesis. Thank you to the Junior Physics Society who held a remote Physics Bingo competition. Aaditya Nandwani proved to be an expert caller, asking some extremely challenging questions. Debangshu Saha was the eventual winner after a tense 4-way play-off. Well done to all the boys for organising and taking part in this final fun event of the year.

Recently, 7L have been learning about the Solar System in German with Frau Probodziak, including the names of the planets in German, and where they are positioned. The students created diagrams, all labelled in German, which can be seen below:



In French, Mrs Saunders's Year 10 class were asked to use their translation skills to provide a French guide to accompany the School's Virtual Tour PowerPoint made at the beginning of lockdown. This gave a practical and meaningful use to the vocabulary that her class were learning on the topic of school. Students voiced over 2 slides each culminating in a superb guide for all future French visitors, as well as showcasing their developing linguistic abilities. The finished tour can be heard by following this [link](#).



**United Kingdom  
Mathematics Trust**

I am pleased to announce that this year's Junior Maths Challenge results have now been published following the online event, which took place on Friday 3 July. Well done to Year 7 and 8, of whom 117 and 125 students took part with very high proportions gaining certificates. Unfortunately, there will be no follow on rounds this year. We would especially like to congratulate Angad Arya (8C) and Edward Hawkins (7H) for gaining the highest score in their year group with Edward gaining full marks. Well done to everyone who took part.

During lockdown, Year 7 student Shaurya Mehta competed in the Delancey UK Chess Challenge. This is a tournament where you play against other students in your age category and need to achieve a certain number of points to advance to the next round. Shaurya performed extremely well and qualified for the Terafinal, a tournament made up of the best students from across the country. Further details about this tournament can be found by following this [link](#).



# DELANCEY UK SCHOOLS CHESS CHALLENGE

The Anna Freud Centre has created the #SelfcareSummer Secondary pack to help young people to create their own individual self-care plan for the summer holidays based on strategies which other young people have found helpful. It also sign-posts young people and their families to additional support if they need it. It is all part of the Centre's #SelfcareSummer campaign which highlights activities, support and advice every day throughout the summer. It includes Challenge Tuesdays where young people can share their artwork, photography, poems, crafts or activities which are helping them stay mentally healthy over the summer. The pack can be found by following this [link](#).

The final scores for the House Competition after a fiercely fought competition are:

2019-20 House Competition		
House	Total Points	Position
Harvard	5060	1st
Bingham	5035	2nd
Cure	4470	3rd
Leeke	4125	4th

We said farewell to three colleagues this week. Ms Gillian Gardiner and Mrs Janine Penny are retiring after outstanding service to the school. Their impact on those they have taught is immeasurable. Mr Josh Peters is moving on after supporting the PE Department this year.



As we move into the next academic year I would like to express my thanks to the students, staff, parents, Governors, Old Olavians, the Foundation, the Rochester Diocesan Board of Education and the Local Authority for all that you have done during the crisis. It is not over and who knows if we will ever go back to

the times before, but one thing is for sure, I greatly appreciate the commitment, determination, loyalty, compassion, and care that you have shown and continue to give to the children, young people and adults that are all part of our school community.

Best wishes to all of our Year 10,11, 12 and 13s who are anxiously awaiting the outcomes of GCSE, AS and A-level examinations, and I am looking forward to meeting all of our new students who will be joining Year 7 and Year 12 in September.

Wishing you and your families a restful and refreshing summer break.

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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