

4 December 2020

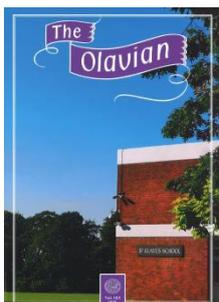
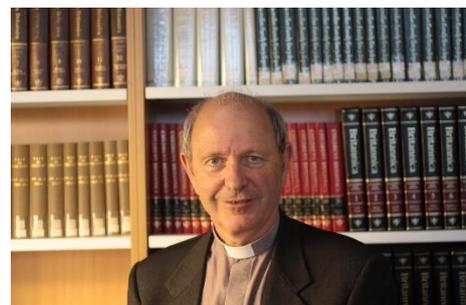
Dear Parents/Carers, Students, Governors, Old Olavians

Headteacher's Newsletter 91

Now the Stage 1 Entrance Test is complete, we need to shift our focus to the Stage 2 Entrance Test, which is scheduled for Tuesday 5 January 2020. When we set the date and made plans back in June, the situation for this academic year was very unclear. We were required to commit to dates, and we were aware that we would need to react and evolve to the challenges this year would bring. Our response to the challenges around the Stage 2 Test will be that the school will be closed for students on Tuesday 5 January. However, lessons will be delivered remotely in line with the normal timetable. There will also be no school on Friday 8 January, which will be deemed an INSET Day, so that papers can be marked. There will be no work set for students on this day. Whilst I appreciate this start to the new term is not ideal, and many of you may have differing views on how logistically we address the challenge of the Stage 2 Test, we feel this is the best way. Thank you in anticipation for your support with this matter.

Parents should continue to 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>. **Please make the school aware immediately if your child has tested positive.**

It is with great sadness that I share the news that The Rev Hugh Broadbent, a former Chaplain and Governor to St Olave's, died on Sunday 29 November after a long illness. Hugh was a great supporter of the school having been the Chaplain here from 1995 to 2009 and a Governor from 2015 until 2019. Hugh brought a great ministry for all in the school community working with staff, students, and parents, often giving great comfort at the most difficult of times. His ability to find the right words and to take the right path was incredibly impressive. There is no doubt that this role was enhanced by his own personal qualities of complete sincerity and trustworthiness, and his evident enjoyment of life. Our thoughts and condolences are with his family during this difficult time.



It was good to see this year's edition of 'The Olavian' being delivered, and copies will be distributed to students before the end of term. I hope you will have the opportunity to look at this outstanding publication. My thanks go to Mr Craig, Editor, and student, Arunabh Bagchi, for the enormous work involved in putting this splendid publication together. The magazine remains a celebration of the vast range of talent within the school, and how the school has risen superbly to the challenge of creating material during the lockdown.

Last Friday, teaching staff took part in training from UK Feminista on Tackling Sexism in Schools. The training opened with an interesting and engaging question on how damaging the phrase 'man up' is for students, and why sexism in schools is an important issue to tackle. Feminista's recent study (which you can read here: <https://ukfeminista.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Report-Its-just-everywhere.pdf>)

found that 64% of teachers in mixed-sex secondary schools in the UK hear sexist language in schools on at least a weekly basis. This is something we are working on as a staff body to tackle at St. Olave's and we want to assure you that gender stereotyping, sexist language and/or sexual harassment has no place in the Olavian community and any instances will be addressed seriously. If a student has any concerns, please do encourage them to speak to a member of staff, such as their Head of Year, as soon as possible.



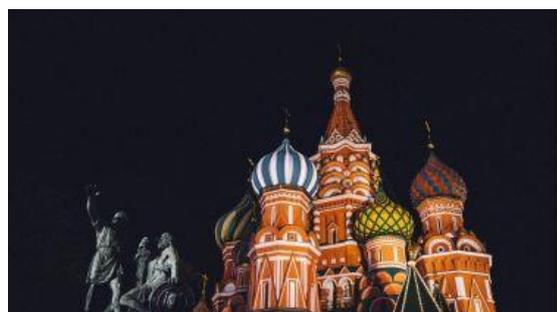
Congratulations to Year 12 student, Pradhay Amarnath, for receiving an EDT Silver Level Industrial Cadets' Certificate and Gold Standard in recognition for his work on

homelessness. He participated in the TCS Digital Explorers Program where he received a technology briefing by industrial experts. Along with the virtual work experience, the programme entailed designing a digital product and creating a business pitch for this product. He was tasked to create a website to address a contemporary social issue and he choose to tackle homelessness. He designed and built a website along with a ChatBot using web programming languages (HTML5/CSS 3/NodeJS/Python) and ChatBot building platforms (ManyChat/Facebook); hosted on a Heroku web server. His product's working prototype can be found on this link <https://necessity.herokuapp.com>.

The German Department is thrilled to announce that Year 12 students Frank Shrimpton, James Perry, Peter Bellerby, and Matthew Todorov have been selected as just one of ten teams across Europe to win the Goethe Institut's 'Oekoropa' competition. The four students entered the competition by submitting a climate-neutral plan for a tour across Europe, planned for the summer of 2021, to stop at Berlin, Lisbon, and Ljubljana. As such, they had to specifically choose methods of transport that do not negatively impact the environment, and plan the time spent in each location carefully, as the trip should not exceed three weeks. Furthermore, the students had to design a public relations campaign that they would implement to share news and updates of their tour, e.g. on social media. They submitted all of this plan entirely in German to the Goethe Insitut. Now that their team has been chosen as one of the winning ten across Europe, the four students are set to receive 5,000 Euros to either put towards funding their planned trip, or if they would rather not go ahead with travel due to the implications of COVID-19, they may invest this money in an environmentally friendly project relating to school or the local area. In addition, each of the boys along with Frau Probodziak, who had agreed to accompany them on their trip, will receive a folding bicycle as a prize. There will be an online prize giving ceremony later in December and we will keep you updated with their plans for how to invest the prize money and whether or not their tour does go ahead.



The German Department is very proud to share that all students in Year 7, 8, 9, 10, and 12 currently studying German have had the opportunity to submit an entry to this year's Oxford German Olympiad. We have enjoyed success in previous years in this prestigious competition and are excited to see how the entries from our students are received in this round. In addition to the Germanists in the years mentioned, Charlotte Kerr in Year 13 and Prithish Rajarethinam in Year 11 also submitted an entry. This year's competition was themed around 'The Alps' and students produced such submissions as: a visual representation of mythical alpine creatures with descriptions in German; research on the ice-man 'Otzi'; an imagined conference programme about stopping the melting of glaciers; an illustration of a scene from the story, 'Heidi'; and research on alpine equipment used by the mountain communities, among other things. We will receive the outcome of the Olympiad in March 2021 and will share this with you as soon as we can.



We are delighted to announce that Peter Bellerby in Year 12 was selected as one of ten winners across the country for the Russian Translation Competition of the University of Sheffield. Peter will receive a certificate, £25 Amazon voucher, and be able to attend an exclusive Translation Workshop run by the university featuring professors and professional translators later this month. Well done Peter on this fantastic achievement.

Despite COVID restrictions, all students studying Computer Science have successfully completed the UK Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge, which is organised every year by the University of Oxford's Department of Computer Science, and Hertford College. We are pleased to announce a total of 141 students gained Distinctions and another 136 students received Merits. Our results are once again higher compared to last year. Congratulations to all students who have participated and special congratulations to Henry Etherington in Year 7, Patrick Williams in Year 9, Samuel Iranloye in Year 11 and Pradhay Amarnath in Year 12 for receiving the best results in school for their age group. Please find below the breakdown of results:

UK Bebras Results 2020	Merit	Distinction	Best in school for their age group
Junior (age 10-12)	30	31	Henry Etherington
Intermediate (age 12-14)	53	55	Patrick Williams
Senior (age 14-16)	43	35	Samuel Iranloye
Elite (age 16-18)	15	15	Pradhay Amarnath



Year 8 students have taken part in Greek Club with great enthusiasm. They have learnt how to write and pronounce the letters of the Greek alphabet, to identify derivations from Greek words into a plethora of languages and understand their use in various cross-curricular fields including Mathematics, Art and Music. Classics Society has run for specific year groups on separate days with talks on 'Athenian Theatre' and Sophocles' 'Antigone'. Shreyas Bharadwaj and Jonah MacDonald as Joint Caesars of the Society have run online quizzes and given talks, one covering 'Gilgamesh' and charring another prepared by Anupam Bandi about the differences in Roman government. Well done to all students involved.

The chemistry prefects are promoting a 'Chemistry at Home' competition, where students are required to send a short video of themselves completing a chemistry experiment or demonstration at home as well as explaining the chemical concept they are demonstrating. This can be any concept, from electrochemical cells, to the reaction between vinegar and sodium bicarbonate. We hope that you will get creative and have fun! **Students should have adult supervision when they are completing their experiments and must speak to their chemistry teacher if they are unsure about any of the chemical they propose to use.**



After completion of his Master of Science in Petroleum Engineering degree in October of this year, Old Olavian,

Abstract submitted 10 November 2020 to the 2021 US Rock Mechanics Conference

Effect of Viscosity and Injection Rate on the Tensile and Shear Deformation Experienced by Interacting Hydraulic and Natural Fractures

J.E.J. Burtonshaw, R.N. Thomas, A. Paluszny and R.W. Zimmerman
Department of Earth Science & Engineering, Imperial College London

James Burtonshaw, has done incredibly well to be offered a role as a Research Associate in the Petroleum Engineering and Rock Mechanics Group (PERM) at Imperial College London. He recently submitted his first paper entitled 'Effect of Viscosity and Injection Rate on the Tensile and Shear Deformation Experienced by Interacting Hydraulic and Natural Fractures' for publication, and will be giving his first academic talk at a conference on his research at the American Rock Mechanics Association (ARMA) 55th United States Rock Mechanics Symposium in Texas in June 2021. James is hoping to begin his PhD next September. Well done to James and thank you for contacting the school with this excellent news.

Finally, I would like to highlight further student achievements that have taken place over the past week:

- Michelle Alwin Bob, Year 13, achieved a Distinction in her Grade 8 Piano exam.
- Navin Mathew, Year 8, obtained a Distinction in his Speech and Drama Grade 4 Solo Acting exam.
- Siddharth Mishra, Year 11, participated in the recent online Maidstone Music Festival in the solo piano category and won third place.
- Pradhay Amarnath, Year 12, achieved Distinction in his Grade 7 Electronic Keyboard exam.

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

Wishing you and your families a restful weekend.

Yours sincerely

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.

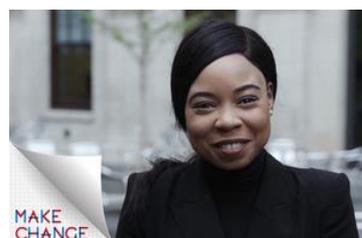
If you would like to donate into the Voluntary Fund to support the development of our school and enhance learning, and you are not already doing so, please follow this [link](#) to the Virgin Money Giving webpage.



For those students considering higher or degree apprenticeships, WhiteHat is a lively young organisation that works with employers to link them to potential apprentices. Their service is free for applicants and they have a range of opportunities with well-known companies offering apprenticeships in business, marketing, accounting, engineering, software and many other

areas at <https://whitehat.org.uk/>

From 14 December 2020 applications open for The Government Economic Service's Degree Apprenticeship Programme. Participants will study for their Economics degree at the University of Kent whilst also working in a central government department or agency on issues of social, environmental and economic issues facing this country. More information can be found at



<https://amazingapprenticeships.com/vacancies/employer/government-economic-service/>

All our students in Years 10 to 13 have access to the platform Springpod via school email. Here, live and interactive careers talks are available free to attend or watch on demand. Students can also browse employers' information and read notes from workplace ambassadors explaining their roles and their own progression toward them. It may seem far off but Springpod are now advertising their free February Half-term Virtual Work



Experience and Employability Skills Programmes running from 15 - 19 February. These are with The Chartered Institute of Marketing and Nestlé. More information from <https://www.springpod.co.uk/> There are also work experience opportunities in Teaching, Medicine (NHS Trusts) as well as opportunities in EY's Women in Business and Women in Technology programmes.