

12 February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers, Students, Governors, Old Olavians

Headteacher's Newsletter 99

May I remind you that we are advertising for a part-time teacher of Art (maternity cover). Further details can be found on the school website by following this [link](#). The deadline for applications closes today. Also, if any parent/carer is interested in leading on this year's Olavian, and has publishing or editing experience, please do get in touch as this is an area I would like to develop.

The snow delivered by Storm Darcy from Sunday onwards would not have impacted on learning or journeys to school as it would have done in previous years and I do hope you and your families were able to have some sort of 'snow day'. The school site looks stunning and picturesque in the snow, and some of the photographs can be seen below:



To those families who have children in Year 11 and who want to join us in the Sixth Form, we can now confirm that the admissions tests will take place on Thursday 25 and Friday 26 February following discussion with Public Health Bromley. Candidates will be allocated either a morning or afternoon session on one of these days. Candidates have received an email detailing which day and session they have been allocated. The email will also contain details of the COVID measures and strict safety guidelines, which are in place for the test to proceed.

In a recent Year 9 PSHE lesson, students were asked what they liked about school. The answers given were perceptive and thoughtful, and are shown below:

- I like the school as it tries to promote us and keep us on our feet even when we fall.
- What I like about school is that I have a lot of people to go to, if I am not feeling my best.
- The school is good because I feel safe and also have a lot of fun there as well as leaning.
- It has really cool teachers who make lessons interesting.

- What I like about school is that it is a social place where everybody is respected.
- What I like about school is there is so much support and every day I come to school, there is something to look forward to.
- The sense of family and the ability to depend on each other.
- If you need help, you can rely on the school to have your back.
- I like how our school helps mental wellbeing.
- The diversity with the amount of cultures that come to the school.
- What I like about school is that it has such a close community where for the most part everyone gets on with each other really well and are happy to be there and help you when you need it.
- The general atmosphere created by the student body and the constant cheery interactions to keep everyone happy and the way people rally to improve others' experiences.
- What I like about school is how supportive the school is, and how safe I feel at school.
- What I like about school is the incredible opportunities I am given every day to strive for excellence with incredible teachers to make that happen.
- The students, the confidence and humour of them makes St. Olaves the way it is.
- The community and friends.

It is good to see so many positive comments about the school, the community, the sense of family and friendship from the students in Year 9, especially given the challenges that they, and all students, have been facing during this second period of lockdown for schools.

TEEN TIPS Wellbeing Hub



This week's Teen Tips features a Guardian Article by Donna Ferguson on schools and talking to your children about what is important to them. The article can be read by following this [link](#). There has also been a lot of speculation about this year's

GCSE's, A-Level's and IGCSE's which is increasing anxiety for many students, parents and staff. Matthew Curnier, an expert in the field, has put together a podcast, which you can listen to by following this [link](#).

The Design and Technology Department are running a 3D printing competition for students in Key Stage 3 and 4. The brief is to design your own chess pieces using Fusion 360 or Onshape with the prize being your own 3D printed chess set. Details have been posted on Teams and further information can be found below:

D&T COMPETITION



3D PRINTED CHESS SET

Can you design the best 3D printed chess set?

DETAILS:

Using Fusion 360 or Onshape design and 3D Model your own chess pieces. These will need to be suitable for 3D printing.

To help you do this you may need to research 3D printing and how it works. This will influence your designs.

You will also need to become familiar with some CAD software. For this competition, please use either Fusion 360 or Onshape. You can find lots of tutorial videos online that will teach you how to use the software.

You can sign up for Fusion 360 for free here. You will need to register for a free student account. If you need evidence that you are a student at the school please get in touch.

You can sign up for Onshape for free here. Onshape is completely online so will work on most computers and tablets.

HOW TO ENTER:

Once you have created your full chess set, please submit a rendering (high quality CAD image) of your 3D models to rhawley@saintolaves.net. The deadline is March 1st.

PRIZE:

The winning student will have their chess set design 3D printed in school for them to keep.

PRIZE

Your own 3D printed chess set

We are delighted to announce that Year 12 students studying Latin, French, and German have participated in the Advanced Paper round of the UK Linguistics Olympiad for 2021. This paper featured some fascinating questions using languages with scripts totally different to any language the students will have come across before, and with problems that tested students' understanding of vowel sounds, patterns of syntax, and observations of morphology. Students really enjoyed this challenge, and we look forward to receiving the results of the Olympiad later in the year.



The Chemistry at Home competition has now ended. We had some very interesting entries from Dr Seuss' Green Eggs with a chemistry twist to the chemistry of Covid-19. Well done to winners Keshav Sheshadri and Wessel Haartsen as well as runners-up Rishinan Ravichandran and Sriram Senthil. A special mention also goes to Apollo Fourniadis and Neal Ye for their creative entries.



Congratulations to Year 13 student and Vice-Captain, Srikar Namireddy, who has been selected to compete in the 2021 British Swimming Championships in London during April. This event will feature highly in the qualification process for the Tokyo Olympic Games. This is a great opportunity for Srikar to put in a strong case for European Championship selection, if not an Olympic event, and he is reaping the rewards of an immense breakout season in 2019/2020. Good luck Srikar!

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

- Congratulations to Year 12 students, Crystal Nettey and Oluwatoni Awodiya who also competed in the French debating competition organised by the Joutes Oratoires Lycéennes, which was highlighted in last week's newsletter.
- Last Friday, Year 13 students took part in a cook-along with Mark Briant from MobGroup, where they made Ramen - an easy Japanese noodle soup. Thank you to Mr Haines for organising this activity.
- Congratulations to Year 9 student, Keshav Sheshadri, who won a 50% scholarship to attend a summer school at Cambridge University after his performance in this year's Immerse Education Essay Competition.
- There was a rogue link in my newsletter last week to the Music Department's virtual concert. Please follow this [link](#) if you would like to see all the performances if you missed them last week.



We are pleased to announce that St. Olave's has launched a LinkedIn professional networking site, which will allow Old Olavians to connect with each other when they leave school. Thank you to Mrs Andrews, our Old Olavian co-ordinator, for her work on this. The site can be seen by following this [link](#) or through the school website. Please do sign up and start making those links.

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

Finally, thank you to the whole school community for their patience, support, wisdom and commitment during this half term. I applaud every parent/carer who has supported their child with remote learning, and the students deserve congratulations for their dedication and determination when adapting to a new style of learning. I know teachers and support staff have maintained routines and continued to look after the wellbeing of all our students – this is greatly appreciated. School is a very different place without the smiles and laughter that our students bring, and I hope we will have news about returning soon.

Wishing you and your families a restful half-term.

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



Apprenticeships are publicised this week for National Apprenticeship Week. The *Higher and Degree Vacancy Listing for 2021/2022* is a comprehensive list with a link to each opportunity from the platform: https://amazingapprenticeships.com/app/uploads/2021/02/Higher-Degree-listing_Feb-2021.pdf. Hundreds of vacancies are shown from various employers starting in 2021 and 2022. Higher and degree apprenticeships are widening access to the professions, and across all sectors, including STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics). Students considering their options can apply for these apprenticeships and a full-time place at university at the same time. Levels 4, 5, 6 and 7 are equivalent to a foundation degree and above; Levels 6 and 7 are equivalent to a bachelor's or master's degree. The training is paid for by the employer and the government, so there is no cost to students and parents plus apprentices earn a salary from day one. To view available roles, visit www.apprenticeships.gov.uk and head to *Become an apprentice*. Further professional advice on making the right career choices is available from the www.nationalcareersservice.gov.uk.

Universities are actively creating events for parents and potential students to discover more about courses and student life.



The University of Exeter has a free pathway programme created especially for students from Years 10 to 13, *Exeter Scholars*. There are eligibility criteria for the 100 available places. Successful students will take part in a two-week online programme to mark the start of their journey as an Exeter Scholar. This will take place from 12-23 April. This year a new virtual programme will enable attendees to become more informed about their higher education options in an interactive way. Applications must be submitted by students and their parents/carers by the deadline of 7 March 2021 at:

<https://www.exeter.ac.uk/exeterscholars/apply/year10/allapplicantssouthwestnationalvirtual/>

All scheduled live sessions will take place during the Easter holidays or in the early evening during term time and will usually last no more than an hour. The total anticipated time commitment across the two weeks is 13 hours. Exeter is hosting some live Q&A drop-in sessions open to students, parents and teachers at the following times on zoom:

- [Tuesday 16th February](#), 16:30 - 17:00, Meeting ID: 924 4246 9744, Password: 332498
- [Thursday 4th March](#), 17:15 - 17:45, Meeting ID: 940 0363 2495, Password: 685513

Alternatively, the team can be reached at exeterscholars@exeter.ac.uk



Queen's University, Belfast, has a variety of virtual events available to students in Years 12 and 13. These are taking place from this month onwards. The events are bookable and available to parents and students. The university has produced a letter for parents as well as students and these are now all posted onto Moodle under Preparing for Higher Education and accessible to students via their school username. www.qub.ac.uk

Free virtual work experience is offered to Year 12 and 13 students in finance, technology, law, engineering and business for those students wishing to explore their skills for the workplace.

UBS has a Finance Work Experience Day on 24 February from 10:00 am - 1:15 pm for Year 13 students interested in investment banking, finance or HR at UBS. The session will include an Introduction to UBS, an overview of apprenticeship opportunities and insider tips to their programmes and application process. Register here: <https://uptree.co/ubs/e/2642970048/>

Arm STEM Apprenticeship Masterclass is on 25 February 2021 from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm. On the day students will learn about the apprenticeships on offer at Arm, have a support and insight session on the application process and have the chance to be fast-tracked onto Arm's 2021 apprenticeship schemes. Register here: <https://uptree.co/arm/e/3228695541/>

Law & Business Work Experience Day with Mishcon de Reya for Year 13 students is on 3 March 2021 between 2pm-4:30pm. Intended for those interested in solicitor or business operations apprenticeships, the session will cover an introduction to Mishcon and the company culture, a careers pathway talk as well as a case study task. Register here: <https://uptree.co/mishcon-de-reya/e/2157180064/>

Google IT, Software Engineering & Digital Marketing Work Experience Day is for Year 13 students on 12 March 2021 from 9:00 am - 4.30pm. On the day students will cover an introduction to Google, undertake speed networking with current employees and interact with a panel of Google apprentices. Register here: <https://uptree.co/google/e/2264182908/>

The JP Morgan Technology Summer School for current Year 12 students is for a week between 16-20 August at 9:00 am – 5:00 pm. During the week students will develop professional skills with group projects, network with JP Morgan professionals and be fast-tracked for JP Morgan's 2021 apprenticeship schemes. Register here: <https://uptree.co/jp-morgan/e/3713219493/>

Appendix 2

Library News

Happy Valentine's Day!

The greatest love quotes of all time can be found in the pages of our most beloved books. From classic novels that are the staples of literature to contemporary books that reflect popular culture, love is a constant theme throughout them all. It is timeless and universal.



Love speaks to all generations and cultures, and because of this, it has served as the inspiration for some of the most celebrated and respected works of literature. From Jane Austen to F. Scott Fitzgerald, love is a common thread no matter when their novels were written.



Some quotes on love for you to ponder this week:

1. *"Do I love you? My god, if your love were a grain of sand, mine would be a universe of beaches."* — **William Goldman** (*The Princess Bride*)
2. *"In vain have I struggled. It will not do. My feelings will not be repressed. You must allow me to tell you how ardently I admire and love you."* — **Jane Austen** (*Pride & Prejudice*)
3. *"Gatsby looked at Daisy in a way that every young girl wanted to be looked at."* — **F. Scott Fitzgerald** (*The Great Gatsby*)
4. *"Whatever our souls are made of, his and mine are the same."* — **Emily Bronte** (*Wuthering Heights*)
5. *"I love you. I am who I am because of you. You are every reason, every hope, and every dream I've ever had, and no matter what happens to us in the future, every day we are together is the greatest day of my life. I will always be yours."* — **Nicholas Sparks** (*The Notebook*)
6. *"You should be kissed and often, and by someone who knows how."* — **Margaret Mitchell** (*Gone with the Wind*)
7. *"Every atom of your flesh is as dear to me as my own: in pain and in sickness it would still be dear."* — **Charlotte Bronte** (*Jane Eyre*)
8. *"You don't love someone because they're perfect, you love them in spite of the fact that they're not."* — **Jodie Picoult** (*My Sister's Keeper*)
9. *"Don't try to comprehend with your mind. Your minds are very limited. Use your intuition."* — **Madeleine L'Engle** (*A Wrinkle in Time*)
10. *"Doubt thou the stars are fire; Doubt the sun doth move; Doubt truth to be a liar: but never doubt I love."* — **William Shakespeare** (*Hamlet*)

Any questions or comments kindly contact librarian@saintolaves.net. Thank you.