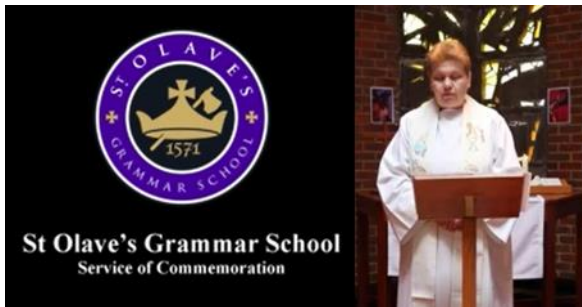


7 May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers, Students, Governors, Old Olavians

Headteacher's Newsletter 108



Yesterday, our annual Service of Commemoration and Thanksgiving would have taken place at Southwark Cathedral, but due to current restrictions, this service was held in the School Chapel instead. This is an important year as we commemorate 450 years since the School was granted the Royal Charter by Queen Elizabeth I. We have recorded a shortened service in the

School Chapel, observing strict social distancing measures, which can be seen by following this [link](#). We hope this service will help you celebrate and remember all those who made this school possible.

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](#).

You will be aware from the letter circulated by Dr Sidhu that we have made the following changes to the timetable and school day which will be implemented from **Monday 10 May**. Students not doing Teacher Assessments will now follow the same timings, with the day starting at 8:40 am for Period 1 and finishing at 3:10 pm. Lunch will start at 12:20 pm and finish for registration at 1:10 pm. We are confident that we can adapt to these changes smoothly from the start of next week and the School will continue to monitor and review the new timetable on a regular basis.

Parents may be interested to learn of two school coach routes being proposed from September 2021 onwards. The new routes, operated by Lewis Travel, will serve the following areas:

- Route S3: Abbey Wood, Erith, Crayford, Dartford, Wilmington, Swanley
- Route S4: Blackheath, Lee, Grove Park, Bromley North Chislehurst

For further details regarding these routes and existing routes, please contact Lewis Travel: <http://www.lewis-school-travel.co.uk/>.



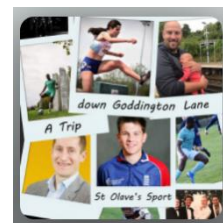
The deadline for the Senior Prefect Team's competition based on the theme 'Community' is Monday 10 May, and they are still asking for photographs from everyone in our community. Please

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.

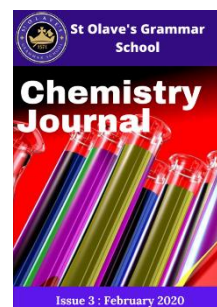


You may have missed the most recent episodes of 'A Trip Down Goddington Lane'. Each week, the PE Department speak to Old Olavians, discussing the impact sport has had on their lives. They have recently interviewed Fives player, James Toop, Rugby player, David Akinluyi, and sailor, Ben Falat. All of the podcasts can be found on Spotify by following this [link](#). Thank you to Year 12 student, James Double, who edits all the podcasts in the background.



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

- Two teams from St. Olaves participated in the Náboj Online 2021 competition recently and our teams were placed in 6th and 13th positions nationally. Náboj is an international mathematical competition designed for teams of five high-school students that represent their schools. The competition lasts 120 minutes during which the teams are trying to solve as many given problems as possible.
- Congratulations to editor of the Chemistry Journal, Year 12 student, Surya Senthikumar. Issue 3 of the Chemistry Journal is a fantastic collection of articles that shows how chemistry is such a diverse subject area and links in with other topics such as medicine, biology, physics and manufacturing. Chemistry really does impact many other fields of work. Thank you to everyone who was involved in making Issue 3 possible and well done to those who contributed such amazing articles. The journal can be seen by following this [link](#).
- Well done to Year 12 student, Hardiv Harshakumar, who has been selected to enrol for the Harvard Secondary School program. Hardiv was selected from an exceptional applicant pool based on his strong academic record and thoughtful application. He will be studying 'Robotics, Autonomous vehicles, Drones and Artificial Intelligence' and the course, which runs from June to August, will resemble that of a Harvard College student.



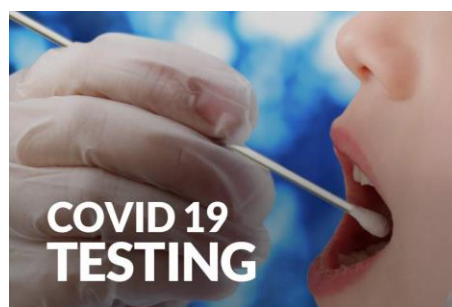
This week's Teen Tips features a podcast on nutrient deficiencies in adolescence, the signs and symptoms, and why they are so common and can be heard by following this [link](#).



Next week is Mental Health Awareness Week and this year's theme is nature. Mental Health Awareness Week is an annual event which provides an opportunity for the whole of the UK to focus on achieving good mental health. The Mental Health Foundation started the event 21 years ago. Each year the

Foundation continues to set the theme, organise, and host the Week. The event has grown to become one of the biggest awareness weeks across the UK and globally. Further details can be found by following this [link](#).

Following the success of the asymptomatic testing programme on the return to school, the Department for Education continues to stress the importance of pupils testing into the summer term. If anyone tests positive following an LFD test, you, your household, any support bubbles you are part of must self-isolate in line with the stay-at-home guidance. You will also need to arrange a lab-based polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test to confirm the result. If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test and the pupil can return to school. **Do not send your child into school while you or anyone within your household waits for the result.** You need to continue to report your result (positive, negative or void) to both NHS Test and Trace and to school. Please click on the following [link](#) to report your test result to school.



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 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.

Appendix 1

Careers News



The Cottrell Essay Prize for Medicine and Veterinary Medicine is open to all students in Year 12. Students are invited to choose one question from either Medicine or Veterinary Medicine and submit an essay of between 1,000-1,500 words. The deadline for entries is midnight on 31 May. Find out more via the link: <https://www.lucy.cam.ac.uk/Cottrell-essay-prize>

A free festival for 15 to 18 year old students thinking about their university choices is being streamed on 26 and 27 May. The Freshers Festival is delivered by Futures First and this is the fifteenth year of the festival. To book and find out some more information please visit: <https://freshersfestival.com/>

The University of Bath is now beginning to run in-person events in a Covid secure way and is prepared to meet students and their parents again. Their on campus events include individual tours for Year 12 students. More detailed information is shown on Moodle under Preparing for Higher Education and at: www.bath.ac.uk/campaigns/undergraduate-campus-tours. Bath also offers Year 12s 'Tour, Talk and Stay' for individual students or those accompanied by their parents with an overnight stay on campus to experience a fuller taste of student life. There are free places for eligible students. For younger students in Years 10 and above the University of Bath also has a new online e-mentoring/chat support particularly for those who are feeling a bit stretched and challenged and would like the support of a peer mentor on a particular part of their studies. This 'Ask Bath' programme uses a text based chat system to match participants with a current University of Bath student based in the subject area where they would like support. More information and the direct link are shown on Moodle under Preparing for Higher Education.



Speakers for Schools have interesting subjects in their webinars covering careers in diverse areas. Talks can be accessed via their website at: <https://www.speakersforschools.org/inspiration/vtalks/upcoming-vtalks/>

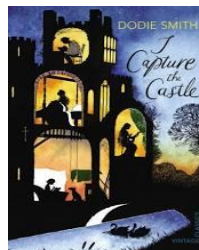
BAE Systems in Rochester are running their Engineering Taster Week 2021 once more this summer for students from Years 10 to 12. This will be the 16th year of running their popular programme. If there are any current Year 13 students who were disappointed by missing out on the experience last year, they are encouraged to find further information on other pathways into BAE Systems by contacting: ETW@baesystems.com.



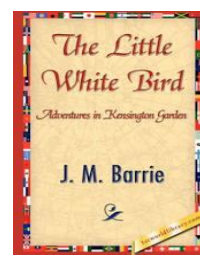
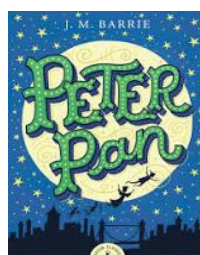
Appendix 2

From the creators of Neverland and London's most famous detective, to an under-celebrated proponent of Gothic themes and the paranormal, here are some authors who were born in **May**.

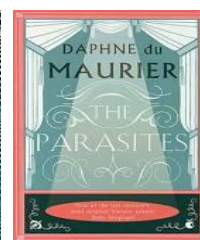
3rd May Dodie Smith The British author and playwright's best-known story is probably *The Hundred and One Dalmatians*, the idea for which came to her after a friend saw Smith's own nine Dalmatians, and said "Those dogs would make a lovely fur coat." But she also wrote tales about people and everyday life, most famously her delightful, witty coming-of-age bestseller, *I Capture the Castle*.



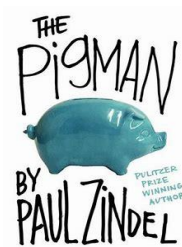
9th May J.M.Barrie Sir James Matthew Barrie is the creator of *Peter Pan*, the boy who would not grow up. But before Peter and his Lost Boys had adventures in Neverland, the character appeared in *The Little White Bird*, a series of short stories set in a London park. It features both elements of fantasy, and social commentary, and is an especially great read for Peter Pan fans interested in learning the character's origins.



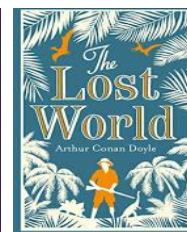
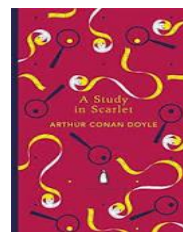
13th May Daphne du Maurier Although often categorised as a romantic novelist, du Maurier was more of a mystery writer, with stories that often involved the paranormal, or Gothic elements, and seldom came to a happy, or completely "satisfactory" ending. You may have heard of *Rebecca* and *My Cousin Rachel*, but for a lighter read, try *The Parasites*.



15th May Paul Zindel An author of more than 50 books for children and teens, Paul Zindel wrote stories that even the least enthusiastic reader would relate to. Many of them were semi-autobiographical, featuring young people who came from troubled backgrounds, or who feel like outsiders. *The Pigman*, is a book that addresses loss, loneliness, family and peer pressure, and friendship.



22nd May Sir Arthur Conan Doyle Without Conan Doyle, there would have been no Sherlock Holmes, and without Holmes, the entire genre of detective fiction might not have existed – or at least, not have been the same. So many fictional detectives are inspired by him. If you have never read any Sherlock stories, start with *A Study in Scarlet*. If you are intrigued to know what else the author put his hand to, try *The Lost World*, a sci-fi novel about an expedition to a region of South America where prehistoric animals still survive.



Any comments please email librarian@saintolaves.net.