

13 November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers, Students, Governors, Old Olavians

Headteacher's Newsletter 88

We were made aware on Monday of a student in Year 9 who tested positive for COVID-19. We know that you may find this concerning, but we have continued to monitor the situation and worked closely with Public Health England. The small number of children who were in close contact with the individual who tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) received a letter via InTouch informing them that they must stay at home for 14 days. Parents should 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.

Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>



I was extremely proud to be part of our socially distanced annual Remembrance Day Service on Wednesday. Old Olavian, Mr Graham Milne, laid the wreath together with Captains of School, Rose Hind and Joshua Selfridge. Thank you to the Chaplain, Reverend Dr Julie Bowen, for leading the Service and to Mr Price for putting together



a video marking Remembrance Day with words and music. The video included a performance of 'The Last Post' by Year 13 student, Edward Cameron, and this was shared during form time with the rest of the school. Further details about this year's Remembrance, together with a service sheet, can be found on the school website by following this [link](#).



In our third edition of the Olavian Mathematical Newsletter we bring you more articles looking at exciting topics such as false proofs and the importance of statistics. On top of that we feature an article from an Old Olavian, Fawaz Shah, who studied Joint Mathematics and Computer Science at Imperial College London, talking about maths in the real world! The articles featured include:

- Fawaz Shah – 'Maths in the real world'
- Mrs Munday – 'False Proofs'
- Adrian Manickarajah – 'The Importance of Statistics'
- Tyrone Ziwa – 'The Josephus Problem'



The German department is delighted to share that along with Ritvick Sharma in Year 12, Peter Bellerby, Matthew Todorov and Frank Shrimpton have also entered the Translation Competition run by the University of Sheffield. Peter Bellerby not only submitted an entry in German, but also in Russian. We wish them all luck and will learn the results at the end of November.

Congratulations to the following on their recent achievements:

- Matthew Todorov in Year 12 on his virtual work experience week over half term, which was run by the Goethe Institut and completed entirely in German. Further details about his experience can be found by following this [link](#).
- Congratulations to Nursultan Balkibekov in Year 9 who won the school-wide Geography short-essay writing competition that was organised by the Academic Prefects. His thought-provoking response to 'How can geography help to solve problems in this pandemic?' can be read by following this [link](#).

With the various musical ensembles unable to meet in person, the Music Prefects have risen to the occasion, organising a school wide multitrack. The prefects have reached out to the composer, Peter Batemen, of 'Summon the Superheroes' which was originally written for action movie trailers and received the music score from him. All instruments are welcome; please encourage your child to take part and email edward.cameron@saintolaves.net to receive your instrument's score.

Additionally, this week saw the Economics Prefects launching their short-essay writing competition open to Year 11 - perfect for students considering taking the subject up at A-Level. Submissions should be no more than one side of A4, emailed to joshua.selfridge@saintolaves.net by Friday 4 December in response to the question: 'Who do you think is the most important Economist in history?'

As a result of our ongoing commitment to hold parents' evenings during the current pandemic we will continue to hold them remotely. Please be aware school will therefore close at 1:20 pm after afternoon registration on the following two days:

Thursday 19 November and Wednesday 25 November

During these afternoons staff will hold appointments online from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm with Year 13 and Year 12 parents respectively.

The PA are pleased to invite you to the Parents' Association Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 25 November 2020 at 8:00 pm. A link for this meeting will be distributed in due course. Please do email the PA via pa@saintolaves.net if you have any questions or you would like further information about being nominated as an officer for the committee.



You may be interested to listen to some early evening talks/events about Mars next week as part of National Astronomy Week. The talks will include Professor Sanjeev Gupta, who has previously spoken at the Olavian Lecture Series, and he will be speaking

on Thursday about the new NASA rover landing next February. All the talks are focused particularly towards schools and a schedule of events can be found by following this link: <https://astronomyweek.org.uk/naw-events-schedule>

I am aware that due to the length of my Newsletters some items may get missed. Moving forward, I will include the weekly careers news in an Appendix at the end of my newsletter. It always highlights excellent opportunities for our students to access online and outside school so please do read this section, and encourage your son or daughter to get involved.

Wishing you and your families a restful weekend.

Yours sincerely



Andrew Rees
Headteacher

See Appendix below

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.



Olavians who are considering studying architecture or design may be interested in attending a Skill Up Workshop for young people who wish to discover more about architecture. The event is run by the learning department of RIBA (The Royal Institute of British Architects). This creative architecture workshop will invite participants to think critically, share views on architecture and express themselves through creative practice. The theme is 'Design a Community Space'. Students aged 13-18 are invited to this free online event on Saturday 28 November from 10:00 am - 11:00 am.



Also of interest may be RIBA's free Young People's Forum intended for those over 16 with a passion for architecture and design. The forum is led by its members and meets regularly for practice visits, workshops, debates and other activities. To find out more, visit learning@riba.org

Animation, VFX and games are popular as a break from school work but they can also provide successful careers in a flourishing industry. Whether students are artistic, have a passion for maths



and programming or have an interest in business and marketing there are myriad roles available within the creative industries. A series of online events titled Access: VFX Meet the Industry are running between 10 - 26 November. These are delivered by Access VFX in partnership with [Escape Studios](#). Access VFX promote diversity and inclusion in the industry and this special programme is for

15-18 year old students. Advice on entry into the industry will include information about apprenticeships plus insights into careers in all areas of VFX including pre-production, production, graphics and many other related areas such as HR, finance and marketing. Those taking part will hear from professionals working at companies such as PlayStation, Industrial Light & Magic, Union VFX, Moonraker VFX, MPC Advertising, and The Mill. For more information please email hello@escapestudios.com

Virtual work experience is available with Airbus via the Springpod platform. All students in Years 10 to 13 have access to Springpod through their school email. This opportunity involves about 10 hours of activities that students can complete at a time that suits them, meaning they will not be missing out on school time. The free [Aerospace Virtual Work Experience](#) lasts for one week and would involve students virtually meeting a variety of team members working in areas anywhere from space to civil aviation. They will also learn about sustainability and manufacturing and they will complete work and assignments to build an understanding of life working at Airbus. Participants will each receive a certificate directly from Airbus which is something they can use in both their CVs and personal statements. For the full information and to apply, use the link <https://www.springpod.co.uk/airbus-aerospace-work-experience/>