

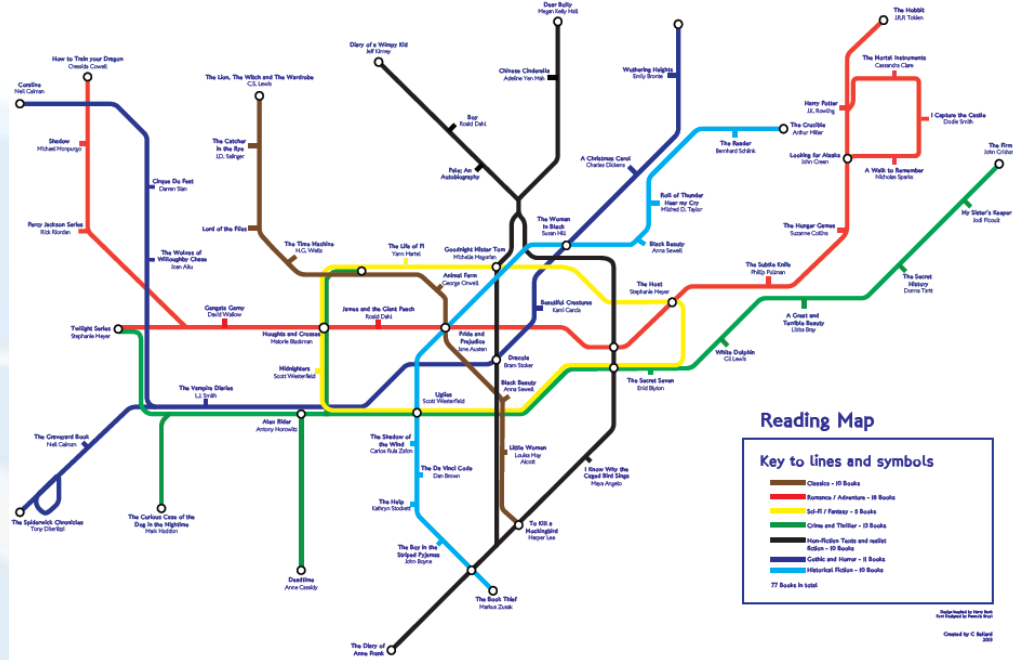
## Literacy

Since October last year all key stage three form groups have been participating in a mammoth competition to encourage reading. The idea was to use an image all were familiar with, the underground tube map, but to give it a literary twist! In the St. Michael's version each tube line represents a different genre of literature with stops along the way for different texts. Pupils were given an accompanying Oyster card with an age appropriate route suggested and sent off to get reading!

Those pupils who managed to complete their oyster and read five books are to be awarded a prize in an upcoming celebration assembly for their year group.

It has been fantastic to see pupils stepping outside of their comfort zone and tackling a range of increasingly difficult texts and we are proud of how students have rallied around discussing their efforts and comparing notes on each novel..

*Miss Ballard*



## Numeracy Problem Solving Day

On 15<sup>th</sup> January, the Problem Solving Company was invited to the College to run a special day for Year 9. The whole year group was taken off timetable and were engaged in a series of problem solving activities.

There were six different problem solving areas including an electronic maze, giant Towers of Hanoi and Lego reconstruction. The year group was split into teams, competing against each other on each problem in turn. The group that won were awarded prizes in an award ceremony at the end of the day.

The aim of this day was to create a 'can-do' problem solving mentality amongst the students to help them prepare as they embark upon their GCSE Maths course

which started this term. Here are two reports written by students about the day.

Problem Solving Day was a great day where we really got to apply our maths skills in a very fun and abstract way we wouldn't have done in our everyday life. It gave us an insightful glimpse about how maths is all around us from solving puzzles to having to reconstruct a Lego building. It was also an opportunity to mix with other forms that we wouldn't have the time to work with inside school. I especially enjoyed the maze challenge we had to do which took absolute teamwork from the entire group.

*Derek Obaseki (9S)*

Problem Solving Day was a day for our year dedicated to Maths. The day was very eventful and filled with many different activities that got us all thinking. Put together by Mr Irvine and hosted by all the Maths teachers, it wasn't difficult to see that Year 9 had a good day and would certainly not complain if it was to be done again.

*Molly Chandler (9A)*





### Yr 10—13 Badminton Tournament

On Friday the Year 10, 11, 12 and 13's completed the last of the year groups annual Badminton competitions.

As always, it was played in fantastic fashion with many of the games closely contested.

One of the stand out performances was from Carelle Toukam who came along to simply take part in the weekly Friday Badminton club, not realising that there was a competition. Carelle played fantastically well, progressing through the group stages to finish joint 3rd in the competition with Natasha Lohan. Ultimately, it was Ryan Ferguson (last year's Year 9 champion) who progressed to the final to play two time champion Kieran Stansbury. Early on, the final the game was closely contested with the scores at 4-5 to Kieran. However, as the game went on, Kieran played a number of deep overhead clears to the top right hand side of the court to Ryan's less favoured

backhand, making it difficult for Ryan to return. In the end, the final finished 14 - 21 to Kieran Stansbury.

As always, all pupils received certificates for taking part, with the finalist receiving Badminton rackets to develop their skills further.

The Badminton Champions for 2013-2014 are Year 7 - Timmy Taiwo, Year 8 - Samie John, Year 9 - Shammai Dawit, and Year 10, 11, 12 and 13 - Kieran Stansbury Well done to all.

*Mr Heasman*

**Lost Property**—Parents/carers, please encourage your children to come to the office if they have lost something. We only have a small space for lost property and have to dispose of items that we have for too long. We would prefer that items were returned to their owners. If coats and PE Kit have names on then this helps us to reunite them with their owners.

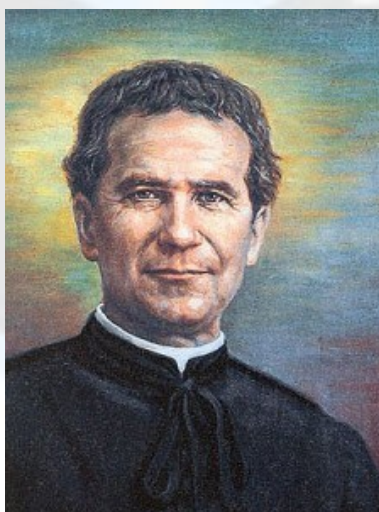
### Chaplain's Corner

Friday 31st January was the Feast day of St John Bosco who was an Italian Priest (1815-1888). He founded the Salesian Society based on the Spirituality of St Francis De Sales. St John Bosco worked with young people using reason, religion and loving kindness. He entertained children with magic tricks using them as lessons about God. The Salesian Society promoted Holiness for everybody asking followers to be cheerful, to pray and to do their duty well.

His motto was give me Souls and take the rest. Here is a prayer.

St. John Bosco  
Friend of the young,  
Teacher in the ways of God,  
Your dedication to empowering the needy inspires us still.

Help me to work for a better world,  
where the young are given the chance to flourish,  
where the poor's dream for justice can come true,  
and where God's compassion is shown to be real.  
Intercede for me as I bring my needs to you and to  
Our heavenly Mother, the Help of Christians.



### KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 10 Feb** - Year 10 Parents Evening
- 15-21 Feb** - China Trip
- 16-21 Feb** - New York Trip
- 17-21 Feb** - Half Term
- 5-7 Mar** - Year 10 Geography Field Trip
- 10-14 Mar** - Year 12-13 Mock Exams
- 10-14 Mar** - MFL Speaking Exams
- 18 Mar** - Yr 8 Parent's Evening

Direct parents access to college via email

contact@stmichaelscollege.org.uk

**Absence Text: please respond by text or phone on**

**0207 237 6432 EXTN. 730**

### Calling all Parents!

We have an e suggestion box on our website where you can post any helpful suggestions that you have or any feedback on our policies or procedures to help us to improve. We would be grateful for any constructive suggestions that you give. The e - suggestion box can be found in the 'Contact us' section of the College website.

suggestion@stmichaelscollege.org.uk Follow link to view: <http://www.stmichaelscollege.org.uk/contact-us>