

St Michael's Catholic  
College

Llewellyn Street  
London SE16 4UN

Tel: 020 7237 6432

www.stmichaelscollege.org.uk  
contact@stmichaelscollege.org.uk

# THE LINK

*A fortnightly Newsletter for the pupils, parents  
and staff of St Michael's Catholic College*

*Issue 131 April 2017*

## King's Scholars

Year 7 King's scholars have just completed a 5 week after school programme of study skills led by Medical students from King's. Over the course of the five weeks, students were introduced to and challenged to apply the Kings Scholars skills while also learning more about University life. Students learned about the importance of asking and answering questions, surveying and summarising for example, through games and activities led by the King's ambassadors. All of these skills will be developed further during Language and Communication lessons this term.

## Australia Exchange Visit - An Amazing Opportunity

As a member of the Youth Executive Board for the Archdiocese of Southwark, the Education Commission offered us the opportunity to go to Canberra in Australia in an exchange programme with CSYMA, the Catholic Schools Youth Ministry Australia. I volunteered my interest and was fortunate enough to be chosen for the trip; I travelled with another student and three adults who were all members of the Education Commission. Our purpose for the trip was to observe the effectiveness of the CSYMA's Youth Ministry Model by attending their school. The Education Commission along with Archbishop Peter have been looking for a model that would help to encourage students to take a bigger role in their school's religious conduct as well as being more active in their faith by possibly becoming a Youth Minister.



The first day was spent on sightseeing and we went to places such as the National Museum of Australia, Australia's Parliament House and the Australian War Memorial. Kangaroos are common in the outskirts of the city and so there was always time to search for kangaroos in between the travels. For the rest of the week we attended the school where we met young people from Canberra and Sydney to Darwin and even New Zealand. Meeting all these young people I thought it would be difficult to befriend them because I was not a Youth Minister however, this was not a problem at all as I made lots of new friends. I also had the pleasure of meeting and befriending Aboriginal Australians from Darwin; they showed us their culture through their traditional dances and paintings.



The school consisted of lectures and workshops to enhance a Youth Minister's training that ranged from New Evangelisation, drama techniques and games that would be used for pupils in the lower schools, practice for testimonies etc. Everyday there would be time for praise and worship where all of us would sing songs together, I would look forward to this time every day because I enjoyed the music and the singing. Additionally, there was also mass every day and it was my first time being exposed to charismatic worship in a Catholic Church, the masses I had were different to what I usually have but nonetheless I enjoyed it. Of course, the week had more things in store beyond the lectures and the workshops as throughout the week there was a talent show, a formal night for the Sabbath Dinner, a Youth Rally as well as free time to wander around Canberra. On the final day, there was a LEAD mass for the Youth that was led by the Archbishop of Canberra, whom I had the pleasure to meet and talk to and afterwards the Youth Rally took place for the students of the Catholic schools in Canberra.

I was very blessed to have been given this opportunity to go to Canberra and despite the tight schedule the whole trip was an experience that I would never forget. The trip has made me want to return to Canberra one day and visit the wonderful people that I met. I look forward to our Australian counterpart visiting in June as they may visit St Michael's and I will be active with them throughout their visit. I am very thankful to Archbishop Peter, the Education Commission, and of course the teachers at St Michael's for making this trip possible for me, without them I would not have been able to have this experience.

*Pamela Consistente - Year 13*



## Public Speaking at St Michael's

### Articulate

Articulate, the annual St Michaels Public speaking competition has just completed the semi-final rounds with winners from each form group in every year up against each other to see which will represent the year group in the Grand final. The topics this year have been 'There's no such thing as Democracy' and 'What Makes a good leader?' and the quality of the speeches has been exceptional, with students delivering confidently, clearly and often having memorised their speeches off by heart! The judges had great difficulty deciding one winner for each year group but in the end, congratulations go to these students:

Representing Year 7: Jack Crowther Representing Year 8: Lauren Stewart Representing Year 9: Roland Zadi Representing Year 10; Oscar Asewando. The finals will be held this term. We wish all the best to our students at the finals.

### Jack Petchey

Michelle Webola in Year 10 represented the College at the Southwark final of the Jack Petchey Speak Out Competition. The event took place at Sacred Heart School where representatives from schools across the borough spoke in front of hundreds of people. Michelle's presentation on women was well received by her peers and judges.

### Chaplain's Corner

The month of May is a special time for Catholics to pay homage to our Blessed Mother Mary



She has a unique role in salvation history as the Mother of God, conceived without Sin, who by her own free will agreed to bring the "Word made flesh", (John 1:14) our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ into the world.

Her life in the Gospel Years was one of service and great devotion to Jesus, from the cave in Bethlehem where she

gave birth to Him, to Calvary in Jerusalem where she stood by His cross in His Crucifixion, from Crib to Cross, as it were.

While she has a somewhat low profile in the Gospels, her words there still resonate with us today and challenge us to follow her example of humility, obedience, and service to God.

We read in scripture that when she gives her famous assent to becoming Jesus' mother: "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it done to me according to thy word" (Luke 1:38). A short time later she proclaims with joy in the Magnificat when visiting Elizabeth, her relative, that "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour" (Luke.1:46-47).

### Dragons Den

I am delighted to inform you that the Year 9 pupils that took part in the Dragons Den competition at Borough Market yesterday won the Easter market competition.

The pupils were selling bags and nightlights that they had manufactured after school last week and were a credit to their year group and the school.

The pupils made £479.93 in sales/donations yesterday and when we deduct £228.57 for purchases made for materials the group have made a profit of £251.36, which they will be donating to cancer Research UK.

Congratulations to them on all their efforts and hard work.



### Safeguarding

**Important Notice from the Safeguarding Officer - there is a copy of our Safeguarding Policy on the College Website. A hard copy of this is available in the College Office.**



**Contacting the College - Direct parents access to college via email  
contact@stmichaelscollege.org.uk For absence please phone: 0207 237 6432 EXTN. 730**

