

Sixth Form Aid to the Church in Need Conference



The Year 13 Philosophy and Ethics group represented the college at the First Sixth Form Aid to the Church in Need Conference. At this conference they listened to two inspirational speakers who were Sr. Luma and Fr. Andrew Pinsent.

Sr. Luma is a biblical instructor at Babel College for Philosophy and Theology in Erbil, Iraq, and a summer instructor at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. Sr Luma has first-hand experience of Christian persecution having been forced to flee Qaraqosh on Iraq's Nineveh Plains, when Daesh (ISIS) seized the Christian majority town in the summer of 2014. After more than two years living as an internal refugee, she returned with her community to Qaraqosh. The Sisters

have provided education, including catechesis, opening kindergartens and a school.

The second speaker, Fr. Andrew Pinsent, was a Catholic priest and former particle physicist now working at Oxford University. He was formerly a high energy physicist on the DELPHI experiment at the LEP particle accelerator at CERN, has a degree in philosophy and theology from the Pontifical Gregorian University and a second doctorate, in philosophy. He is the author of *The Second-Person Perspective in Aquinas's Ethics: Virtues and Gifts* (Routledge, 2012) and a variety of publications on virtue ethics, neurotheology, science and religion, the philosophy of the person, divine action, and the nature of evil.

Our MC for the day was Brenden Thompson, a Catholic Voices Co-ordinator. He has appeared on numerous TV and radio programmes and leads the Catholic Voices Reframe speakers training programme. Brenden is also the founder of the charity Signs of Life.



Marketing Research experience for Year 12

The CTEC Business group had the opportunity to take part in real business activities on Thursday 18th of October. As part of their Unit 5 Marketing and Market Research assignment they had to conduct field research to test the market in the Potter's Field area of Tower Bridge. Students gathered responses which helped them to develop the business idea of creating a lunch delivery app aimed at professional people called 'Office Lunches'. The students really enjoyed the opportunity to speak to real business professionals which has aided them in their course.

Mr Merrigan





Year 9 Careers and Enterprise Trip

On Monday 5th November, we went on a Careers and Enterprise trip with Mr Lewis to a law firm called Holman Fenwick Willan (HFW). We learnt a lot about the different kinds of services they provide, and also what they do there. We also learnt about where we were geographically in the City of London.

We learnt about the kinds of businesses that go on in that borough, and more importantly why these different services are needed and used in people's everyday lives. We were able to interview various people who worked at HFW, and they all had very interesting and different jobs inside the company. We were able to

understand more about them and their job, and how things work with what they handle as their job.

We were also able to conduct a pitch about a new product, and this allowed us to develop our speaking skills, as well as understanding how people that have that job think, and the different ways to promote a certain item, especially one you are interested in and want others to buy into.

I found this experience very interesting, as it is something I am considering to do in the future. I am very grateful that I was able to do this, and I hope that others are able to experience this wonderful C&E programme with Mr Lewis in the near future.

- Lamake H. - 9VI

On Monday 5th of October, I went on a trip to a Law Firm – HFW (Holman Fenwick Willan). It was educational and engaging as well as being enjoyable. I learnt the different types of laws within jobs such as: Corporate law, Accountancy, Technology, Insurance and Finance. After that, I interviewed various people with different roles within the Law Firm. Some of them may include, Mariners and people who manage with commodities. Mariners are people concerned with sea including collisions and salvage. Commodities is an economic service involved in agriculture like drinks, sugar, coffee, etc. I learnt a lot during my visit at HFW and experienced what is like to work in a Law Firm and how it can impact your life. **- Leyna S. - 9VI**



History Trip to Pevensey Castle

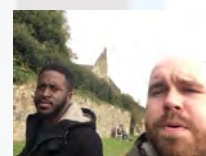
111 Year 11 students went to Pevensey Castle in Sussex to prepare for their GCSE exam on Norman England 1066-1100. Here is the experience told by one of them.

We arrived at the castle at around 10:30 am, and the teachers had it all planned out: each student got an A3 sheet of paper for data files and details about architecture, politics, social and religious aspects of the castle and its history. After being split up into

our groups, we walked inside the castle. It was an overwhelming experience, being able to see the actual castle and appreciating the structure and the position of it, proving what we had been learning in lessons about the castle as an overpowering figure and a symbol of Norman dominance.

Once inside the castle, we went around the in our groups, stopping at different stations where different teachers were stationed to tell us a bit about specialised subjects, such as religion in the chapel, spiritual power, and kings and queens who had been in Pevensey's dungeons, as well as general things such as the rebellions and all the characters who took part in the castle's history, like Robert de Mortain and William the Conqueror.

Overall, we got a lot of new extra information, as well as consolidated our knowledge by being able to see what we were learning about and getting some field experience. I believe this was a great experience as we got a feel of what the 1060s were like and we got to consolidate our knowledge through a series of sessions with highly qualified teachers in a very historically rich location.—**Rodrigo P G. Year 11**





A trip to UCL on Dark Matter Day

On Tuesday 20th October the Science department celebrated Dark Matter Day by taking the 6th form physics students on a school trip to the University of London Observatory.



The trip was split into two parts, the first half of the trip allowed the students to talk to University researchers and PhD students about dark matter. Our 6th form students were told about current research that was going on and how this research is vital to help our understanding of dark matter. Dark matter is a difficult topic to understand as it cannot be visualised, but it is so important to all physicists as it makes up the majority of the universe. "Dark matter is the bridge between particle physics and astrophysics," X. Murrow. The hands on activities visualised to the 6th form that to understand dark matter, you must research the effect of dark matter, rather than dark matter itself. The second half of the trip

was a tour around the observatory, allowing the students to see the telescopes.

The students were shown two telescopes, one that was much older and worked by refracting and

the other that worked by reflecting. The technology behind the telescopes was explained to the students and they were shown recent images of what the telescopes had found, as well as being shown evidence of the use of the telescopes decades ago.

- Miss C.Perkins



Top students go to top University

On 31st October, eight keen biologists from Years 12 and 13 went to the University of Sussex to launch their

undergraduate-style program with The Brilliant Club.

The charity aims at opening access to highly selective universities by giving students training in a specific topic with a world-class expert. Our lucky few are studying 'Cancer: When Cells Go Rogue' with a PhD student from Kings College London. They will have small university-style seminars culminating in a substantial essay. Wish them luck! Ms. L. Casey



"Goosebumps" at the O2 for Year 7



On Wednesday 7th November I went on my first ever school trip with St Michael's. We were taken to the O2 Cinema, the most glamorous and expensive cinema I can think of.

We travelled there by train, yet we didn't need to pay, which was a great difference to usual transport. After a short while we were all tucked in cosily on our way. There were no seats available, so we had to stand, but it didn't matter.

Somehow it made us feel more like a family. When we walked inside the cinema, there was a gasp of delight followed by admiring comments. It was gorgeous. I knew it

would be nice, but it was at least ten times better than I had expected. I thought it was amazing that we could be part of such a great experience of luxury on one school trip. We sat down on our plush, comfortable seats on the back row - nobody complained because we had the best view from there.

Everyone enjoyed the film, and was a talking point for a long time. Then we took the train back to school and ate our lunch together in the playground when we arrived. This was really great as we had never done anything like this in Primary School.

It was an amazing fun day out and I hope we have another one. - **By Natasha J. 7G**



Kings Scholars Trip

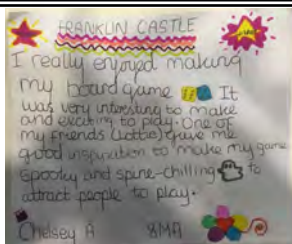


The King's scholars trip was the best outing I had had since the beginning of the year. During the day I was able to express my creativity in making our own universities and have fun whilst doing this. We were given the opportunity to let our imaginations nurture at King's Scholars as we built our universities and presented them to our friends. It was an amazing trip and I would definitely recommend it to others. I have also applied the useful skills we were taught at King's such as using my prior knowledge and note taking.

Gibson E.- 8SA



"Franklin's castle" Project



Like every year, Miss Hart set a competitive project for Year 8 students to create a board game based on "Franklin's Castle" and the chosen winner for this year is Chelsea A. Here are some of her words about her experience.

I really enjoyed making my board game. It was very interesting to make and exciting to play. One of my friends gave me good inspiration to make my game spooky and spine-chilling to attract people to play.

Chelsea A, 8MA





The Korean Exchange Experience

As part of the International Exchange Program, we welcomed 15 students from South Korea who stayed with Year 10 and Year 11 students from St Michael's. An action-packed itinerary saw the students spending their mornings at St Michael's before visiting an array of different landmarks, museums and attractions in London including: the Tower of London, afternoon tea at The Westbury, the Olympic Park, the Imperial War Museum and the School of Rock at the Gillian Lynne Theatre. The St Michael's students look forward to travelling to South Korea in November.

Miss C. Hayden



Sixth form Football matches so far...

It's been a tough start to competitive football life for the sixth form as, despite valiant efforts, they went down 3-0 in a Friendly against Bishop Thomas Grant and 5-1 in a subsequent South London Cup game against Kingsdale.

With the wet conditions, tricky directions, lack of 11 a side match practice over the years and lack of appropriate footwear (Samie, John, Jonathan...), it always looked like St Michael's would be underdogs against some well-drilled and

talented teams, who have obviously been playing together for many years.

St Michael's were further disadvantaged in the SLC game when centre-back Kristjan Papaj suffered a hamstring injury mere minutes into the game. He later said 'It felt bad before the game but I hoped it would be alright'. In fairness, the astro-turf-clad back two of John D and Samie J performed heroics in the first 30 minutes to keep the score at 0-0 as St Michael's held firm against the Kingsdale attacks. St Michaels then grew into the game thanks to the tenacity of midfielders Ronald and Ricky, as well as the marauding full back runs of Michael.

30 minutes into the game, good closing by Liam forced a mistake at the back whereby the Kingsdale keeper picked up a back pass. From the resultant free kick Jorge tapped the ball to Jacobo whose sweet low strike found the corner of the net! 1-0 St Michael's! Now could they hold the lead? No.

Within about 5 minutes it was 2-1 to Kingsdale, thanks to a good team move and a slightly dubious penalty (they later had a certain penalty denied to be fair).

This certainly had a demoralizing effect on the St Michael's team, disheartened and unlucky to be losing at the break. However they showed good energy and spirit to be competitive in the second half. However, as the game wore on, the superior organization and fitness of the Kingsdale players told and the game ended up comfortable for them, the score line perhaps not telling the full story of a game where St Michael's certainly had good periods of play. The difference was that the experienced Kingsdale players made their moments count in converting chances into goals.

Standout players for St Michael's were: captain Ricky (great strength, encouragement and resolve in the face of some frankly abusive behavior from some of their players), Ronald (honest hard-working player with good technical ability), Jacobo (scored the goal and showed nice touches), Michael (fantastic energy, competitiveness and ability) and William (made some key saves to keep us in the first half). Special mention to makeshift centre-back pairing Samie and John. Two of the best astro-turfs-on-a-muddy-pitch performances I have ever seen.

The positive attitude of everyone and the way the players conducted themselves throughout both games was nothing short of outstanding – they did themselves, coaches Cook and Ferguson and the whole school proud. **Mr N Cook**



Year 12 at the Old Vic



On the 29th October my A-level Drama class and I took a trip to the Old Vic Theatre in Waterloo to watch a performance of "Wise Children" by Angela Carter. The play was adapted for the stage by Emma Rice who is one of the theatre practitioners that we study throughout our course. As part as our A-Level course, we are lucky enough to watch various plays throughout the two years to continuously get ideas and knowledge on the world of theatre. However, unlike some other plays we have watched, we had not studied "Wise Children" before so we had no idea what to expect. The play was an explosion of acting, singing, dance and love stories about two sisters and their journey as show girls and relationship problems. At first it was very abstract and confusing as to what was happening but as it went on and everything came together it easily became one of the funniest and heart-warming plays I have ever seen. - **Devonté S., 12 B**

School Fund raising for Cancer Research



A big CONGRATULATIONS to Silvia D. (Year 11) that with her initiative of a cake sale last Thursday 8th November has raised over £170 for Cancer Research.

Chaplain's Corner



November is traditionally the Month of the Holy Souls. It begins, on the first of November, with the Feast of All Saints – when we recall all those great men and women who have reached their heavenly home.

This is followed, on 2nd November, by All Souls Day – when we pray for all the people who have died in the hope they will reach their heavenly home.

In our chapel at St. Michael's College we have a book of remembrance where students can write the names of people that they want to pray for. These prayers are offered up at Mass every week.

You will find a similar book in your parish church and each Mass each day is offered for the Holy Souls.

The following is a prayer for those who have died.

-**Mr F. O'Sullivan**

National Poetry Day

Recently it was National Poetry Day, so here is one of my favourite poems - about the sacrifices parents make. I read it often, usually after an extended family visit, it's good, I find, to remind myself of what I have always taken for granted.

Mr N Bourke

"Those Winter Sundays"

(Robert Hayden)

Sundays too my father got up early
and put his clothes on in the blueblack cold,
then with cracked hands that ached
from labor in the weekday weather made
banked fires blaze. No one ever thanked him.

I'd wake and hear the cold splintering, breaking.
When the rooms were warm, he'd call,
and slowly I would rise and dress,
fearing the chronic angers of that house,

Speaking indifferently to him,
who had driven out the cold
and polished my good shoes as well.
What did I know, what did I know
of love's austere and lonely offices?

Key Dates for your diary

AFTERNOON CLUBS until Christmas: Go to:
<https://www.stmichaelscollege.org.uk/trips-dates-and-events/>

Christmas Holidays: from Monday 24th December till Friday 4th January. Back to school on the 7th January 2019



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.

Lost and Found

We would like to remind the children to check the lost property on a regular basis to look for any lost clothing items they might have lost throughout the year.



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

