

Chaplaincy Bulletin – Issue 36

**Living and learning together as a Catholic community in Christ:
religion, reason and kindness are at the heart of our ethos through
Education.**











Sister Ann Hoskinson RIP

During the Christmas break the college was informed of the sad news that Sr Ann Hoskison, former Headteacher of St Michael's died on the 29th December. Sr Ann dedicated 25 years of her life to serving the college from 1976- 2001 and as a Salesian sister was inspired and motivated by the principles and spirit of St John Bosco to work with young people.

Sister Ann was a formidable figure for thousands of pupils at the St Michael's secondary school on John Felton Road for a quarter of a century. Aged 82 Sister Ann is said to have 'gone peacefully' in her sleep at the Elmthorpe Convent in Oxfordshire on Saturday 29 December, after suffering with heart problems for a number of years.

Her earlier sporting accomplishments were ever present when she became the headteacher of St Michaels in 1976, having handed over her family home in Alverstoke, Portsmouth, as a residential centre for the young people. Thousands of Bermondsey youngsters spent weekends away there on the Duke of Edinburgh Awards Scheme and Adventure Service Challenge Scheme Activities. Sister Ann also organised Geographical field trips with sailing and canoeing, as well spiritual retreats. A Maths and Science teacher, she taught at Mary Help of Christians Girls High School in Liverpool and Hugh Farringdon in Reading, before coming to Bermondsey as a head, retiring 25 years later in 2001. In 2002 she was awarded the honorary Freedom of the Borough of Southwark in recognition for the work she did for the pupils of St Michael's and is also remembered for going out in the 1990s recruiting teachers from Australia during a shortage in the borough at that time. Before moving to the convent in Cowley, Oxford, in 2014, Sister Ann carried on working – becoming the chaplain at Bishop Thomas Grant School in Streatham and continuing her work in Alverstoke. "May she rest in peace and rise in glory!"

-  **Christmas carol service-** We ended last term and year with a beautiful and reflective Advent service of carols and readings led by Canon Alan in Dock Head Church on the 21st December. (see pictures below)
-  **Christmas charity hamper appeal-** students generously donated several hundred items of non-perishable food and drinks and together with a local charity a number of “goody bags” and large hampers were distributed to local needy pensioners. In addition, several large hampers were given to unemployed families. (see pictures below)
-  **House Competition-Christmas doors-** Each tutor group decorated their classroom doors with a Christmas theme dedicated to their house Saint. The overall winners were Bosco and 7BC! (see pictures below)
-  **House competitions for this term** Inter house Table Tennis 14th – 18th Jan, followed by BOSCO Charity Week 21st– 25th Jan. Then it is a Inter house Handball Competition 28th Jan – 1st Feb, followed by The Battle of the Ancients – History Debate 4th – 8th Feb and then the Inter house Quiz Questions 11th – 14th Feb
-  **Salesian retreat –** Ten of our Year 10 students will be going on a Salesian led retreat in Liverpool from the 25th-27th January, with Ms Caden and Mr Parker. Our students will be given the opportunity to get away from the hustle and bustle of a normal London weekend and mix with other students from Salesian schools to learn more about Salesian values and grow in their faith.
-  **Salesian conference in Birmingham-**2nd February. A number of our teaching staff will attend this conference and will benefit from the pastoral training it will give to Senior and middle leaders. There are a number of workshops and inspirational talks planned on Salesian values.
-  **“Flame”-**The annual Flame conference is on the 2nd of March and is at the Wembley arena. The college will take a group of student volunteers to this exciting event. The organisers hope that the event will offer a depth of perspective for young people centred in their creation in the image and likeness of God.
-  **Christian unity week-** The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity involves Christian communities across the world and from almost every denomination. The week of prayer starts on the 18th of January and finishes on the 25th of January. Please remember Christian unity in your pray

Reflective poem- a recipe for a Happy New Year

Take twelve whole months, clean them thoroughly of all bitterness, hate, and jealousy. Make them just as fresh and clean as possible.

Now cut each month in to twenty-eight, thirty, thirty-one different parts, but don't make up the whole batch at once. Prepare it one day at a time out of these ingredients.

Mix well into each day one part of faith, one part of patience, one part of courage, and one part of work.

Add to each day one part of hope, faithfulness, generosity, and kindness. Blend with one part prayer, one part meditation, and one good deed. Season the whole with a dash of Christian spirit, a sprinkle of fun, a pinch of play, and a cupful of good humour.

Pour all of this into a vessel of love. Cook thoroughly over radiant joy, garnish with a smile, and serve with quietness, unselfishness, and cheerfulness.

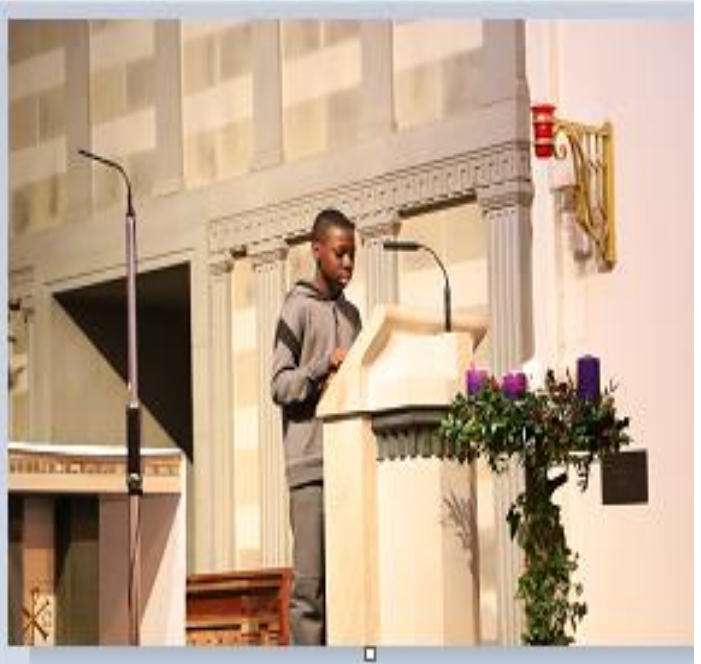
House competition –Christmas doors dedicated to the House Saints



Staff and students wore a variety of clothes on the last day of term-all in their house colours.



Christmas Carol Service in Dock Head Church 21st December 2018



Students were very generous with their donations of non-perishable items for the Christmas hampers- another example of our students putting their faith into action

