



Mock Bar Trial

On Saturday 16th Nov, a group of St Michael's pupils and I took part in the Young Citizen's Bar Mock Trial Competition at the Inner London Crown Court near Elephant and Castle. The Bar Mock Trial is a competition in which students play the different roles in a courtroom and try to convince a jury of a suspect's guilt or innocence. We competed against schools from all over London, some of whom have done this programme for over a decade. It was our first time competing as a school and we convinced the jury in two of our three trials. It was an eye-opening experience that gave me a deeper insight into the justice system and how courts work. I played the role of a Prosecution Barrister, and had to argue my points in front of a real judge, while wearing a barrister's gown and wig! This enabled



me to deepen my understanding of what this job entails and to understand the pressures and excitement of being a courtroom lawyer. I felt this opportunity was beneficial to me as I as I have been thinking about becoming a barrister. This experience has deepened my understanding of the law and will help me in my A-level law course. It has also made me what to

pursue a career in Law even more. – **Damoyah, Year 12**

This experience had me so excited! I learned more about the pressure that barristers are under in the courtroom. It's not always easy to persuade a jury as you need to present complex information to them in a way they understand and can connect with. Today made me want to pursue law as a career even more." - **Jordan, Year 12**

I wasn't expecting today to be so packed. There were loads of students all working hard and everyone was really friendly. I've never been in a courtroom until today. I now have a much better idea of what happens inside a courtroom.- **Adrian, Year 11**

At the end of each session we were able to ask the judge some questions. I asked Justice Thompson whether it's fair to defendants for the prosecution to bring up previous convictions. Her Honour said that it is really depends on whether it's relevant to the current case. If you have a past offence of breaking into houses, it's relevant to a trial on theft. If you had an assault conviction in the past, it might not be.- **Dalena, Year 10**

"Fair trials are important for the rule of law. They are important for an equal society. Fairness matters. It means that everyone's equality is respected." - **Sade, Year 11**

Best experience ever!" - **Gracia Year 12**



St Michael's in Korea

On 28th November, 20 St Michael's students took the 11-hour flight to South Korea to complete the second part of the student exchange. Following an action-packed week in London, the St Michael's students were excited to reunite with their partners and stay with their families. The students experienced a wide range of activities whilst in Korea and gained so much from the experience. Full report to follow in January!



Alexander McCuaig



On the 22nd November, Business, Art and Economics students had the pleasure of having Alexander McCuaig over to discuss his take in the business and how successful MET STUDIOS have been for the last 30 years. He told us he had been working for MET, making his way up from senior designer in brand strategy to associate director in only the span of 6 years. He then left to work for Live Nation for 5 years as a head of creative, until he returned to MET Studio's, where he's been working for the past 3 years. He says it's was truly the best decision to return to MET as it's a very successful and fun job to have, and it brings him joy and pride to be working for a strong and prestigious company. Met Studio's mission is to tell stories through their creativity and the physical space they are given to work with. They go through long periods of research in regards to what story to explain and put it all in terms of what the client may want. They approach each project with an open mind and ingenuity in order to make the piece as impressionable and illustrious as they can. The pieces have won many awards for uniqueness. MET has worked with companies such as the Singapore Bicentennial Experience, Manchester United, Nike, Lego and Climate Control in Manchester.

- *Maja C.*



Bank of England visits St Michael's

On Monday 25th November the Year 12 and 13 economists were joined by the Chief Economist from the Bank of England as well as an Actuary and a Physicist.

We were informed about a typical day at their specific area of employment. An informative video was shown about how the Bank of England manages the economy. The Year 12 and 13 economists were split into 2 economies with a leader appointed for a "game". All pupils were given wages, in the form of chocolate coins and these were used by the pupils to bid for items necessary for the economy. The first one a jar of sweets, which was the central bank. A new leader was appointed who had to set a tax rate that had to be paid. The team with the greatest amount of money generated within the economy won.

This event helped us to learn how an economy generates income. We were educated on the importance of tax and it's great impact on our economy and government funding. The money taken in is used to benefit the welfare state, the NHS, education, and the future of society through expanding skills for young people.



The questions asked and answered at the end benefited our personal knowledge of everyday economics such as the great impact each item we purchase has on the economy as it contributes to GDP. The fascinating fact was how the central bank pumped over £500bn into the economy from 2009 onwards to avoid a deep recession. The overall experience was fantastic, having a positive impact on our future economic studies and making us realise that physics, maths and economics are all welcome by the UK Central Bank. - *Patrycja B.*



Career Ready at "A Capital Experience"



Year 12 students on the Career Ready Program attended A Capital Experience at the Dominion Theatre where we listened to a motivational speaker Action Jackson. He taught us how to network effectively and gave us tips on how to approach the barriers when communicating in the workplace. We were then introduced to two Career Ready Alumni: Angel Maynard and Josh Wakefield, who spoke about their experience in the program and how networking and boosts of confidence got them where they are today. They both were very thankful to Career Ready as the program is the reason they have the skills to be working where they are today. The CEO of Career Ready Anne Spackman explained to us the

importance of the skills that we learn from the program as "employers are hungry to recruit young people" After we were finished at the Dominion Theatre, we went to Ofcom to gain crucial insights into the world of work to broaden our understanding of how different sectors in a business operate. Ofcom provided us with lunch before we went into a meeting room to discuss the different job roles and how they work on a day to day basis. In the meeting room individuals who worked at ofcom let us ask them questions about their job and their personal lives around education. From the 2 hours we spent at Ofcom we learned about the apprenticeships that were available to us and we were all told how important it is to work hard at school in order to gain UCAS points to eventually be able to work at their placement. Overall we learnt that not everything is handed to you on a silver spoon and it takes hard work to get to where you want to be and through Career Ready we will be set up for life.

Meghan M.

Fine Art Trip to Access Art 25



On the 25th November the Fine Art A Level students made the short hop to Piccadilly Circus to visit the Royal Academy of Art. The event was organised by the BNP Paribas Access Art 25 Programme which offers free entry to exhibitions for young people aged 25 and Under in what may be their first visit to an art gallery.



Pupils were able to view the solo exhibition of internationally-acclaimed British sculptor Antony Gormley and participate in some of the specially-curated events on the evening. The exhibition explored Antony Gormley's wide-ranging use of organic, industrial and elemental materials over the years, including iron, steel, hand-beaten lead, seawater and clay.

Other events offered on the night included; Digital drawing with the Procreate app, artist career talks throughout the night, clay figures workshop and the chance for pupils to create a 2D sculpture or turn their hand to zine-making.

Isabella O. of 12C had this to say about the evening. "The event was only open to art students aged between 17 and 25 and because of this it made the exhibition much more interesting, bringing a younger audience and experience with it. Other galleries tend to attract an older audience which I feel brings a certain type of snobbery and can make youngsters, like myself, feel uncomfortable, so to have one just for young adults was amazing."

Jacqueline Tigi of 12D said this about the exhibition, "This was my first visit to the prestigious Royal Academy and it won't be long before I go back again. The main attraction was of course the Anthony Gormley exhibition but there was so much more on offer. We had the chance to use procreate on the ipad as well as participate in a clay making workshop. I picked up many techniques and processes that I can apply to my future artwork." **Mr Lomax**



St Michael's at the London Jazz Festival 15+



On the 15th and 18th November, the Music Department took 20 pupils from Year.9-11 to concerts hosted by the London Jazz Festival at the Royal Festival Hall and the Queen Elizabeth Hall. This was a wonderful opportunity for pupils to hear world class performances of jazz/gospel and RnB music. **Rocio Tirado Torres** Year.9 gave the following report on seeing pop star Corrinne Bailey Rae:



"I have no words to describe how amazing the concert was! We saw pop star Corrinne Bailey Rae and her band perform and I loved the songs and the way the group interacted with each other. The connection that Corrinne made with the audience made me feel like she was singing just for me! It was wonderful to hear such great musicians performing live to a packed out and appreciative audience"

Sacred Heart Primary School Battersea visits St Michael's

Rev Gerry O'Shaughnessy sdb-Parish Priest Sacred Heart Battersea & Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Battersea Park,- brought along 26 pupils aged from Year.3-5 with five of their teachers, to perform to St Michael's pupils from Year.7-9. Several members of staff watched the performances by Sacred Heart pupils including Ms Corcoran. After the wonderful performances to our pupils and staff-some of our pupils performed to the visitors. We had very positive feedback from Fr. Gerry and Sacred Heart staff. We were asked if musicians from St Michael's would come to their primary school to perform sometime early in the new year. This will be very exciting! **Mr D Laurence**



Dancing for the "Battle of the Commentators" and not only



A Big Congratulations to our Maisie R. who has been asked to take part in "Battle of the Commentators" a charity event run by Sternberg Clark entertainment, where celebrities copy acts to raise funds for charity. The event took place at Finsbury Square where Maisie performed a routine with 6 other dancers from various schools. Maisie's group worked with the England Rugby Team players, showing them how to dance the routine so that they could in turn copy their act to raise funds for charity.



Maisie will never stop to amaze us: she has not only achieved a podium place at this years South East Region Oireachas World Qualifier Competition, consolidating her place at the World Irish Dancing Championships in Dublin next April, but she has also achieved a qualifying position at the recent Great Britain Championships which took place in Torquay in October.



National Novel Writing Month

National Novel Writing Month

Every year, in the month of November a global community of writers gather. Their purpose? To attempt to write a novel in one month. Yes, you read that correctly: to summon the muses and put their brains and fingers to creating a tremendous tale out of nothing. A cluster of brave souls from St Michael's stepped forward, from across Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. Some were ambitious, setting their personal word count goals in the tens of thousands. Others were more moderate. All were pushed forward by the desire to spin a story the likes of which had never been seen. Some of our brave writers fell early, writing for a few days and then dropping the pace. Others powered through

like word-creating machines. We applaud the efforts of all our writers, successful or otherwise. Special mention goes out to Aron in 7 Rua who smashed out almost 13,000 words in 30 days to bring us *"The Survivor of Chronos"* and Victoria in 8 Mazzerello who handmade her illustrated novel about the adventures of Scarlet. Well done one and all! -**Ms Casey**

St Michael's student awarded for the "Voice Competition": Why Malorie Blackman is my favourite author

"I don't want to live in a world where what I am isn't good enough..."

-Lynette McGregor, Noughts and Crosses.

From a young age, I really enjoyed reading and I still have a great passion for literature. Excluding early childhood, I have read over 100 books (most of them twice). As I grew older and read independently, I rarely came across black characters that had prominent roles. It wasn't until I read Malorie Blackman's books that I saw characters that had the same colour skin as me and had significant roles in the storyline. It didn't matter if they were good or bad. It mattered that they were there.

Malorie Blackman is a black British author who has written over 88 novels. She loved reading from a young age and enjoyed writing her own stories and poems. After spending 20 years in computing, she still knew that her ambition was to be a writer. This way, she could directly address the problems she went through and share it with a wide audience.

Malorie's books explore complexities in our past and present societies, such as prejudice, love, hate, the authority of the government and poverty. Usually in children's books, these issues are not explored. The way she writes makes me feel like an older person, even though it is directed towards children of my age. Malorie has made me more aware of the flaws in society and has helped me understand the struggles real people have had and still are experiencing. I think the main messages in her books are to speak out if you feel something is wrong and not to be afraid of the world outside. She has encouraged me to have confidence in myself.

I love the Noughts and Crosses series because it represents the struggles people went through and the negative experiences they felt because they were seen as "different". The story is about two best friends who have opposite economic and social statuses, but they fall in love. However, because of their circumstances, their relationship is frowned upon. The story is so compelling as it shows how racism can tear society apart. Additionally, a number of Malorie's personal experiences are included, which creates a sense of realism and is quite shocking to imagine what others had to face.

Once I had read the first few sentences of Noughts and Crosses, I was fully engrossed and literally couldn't put it down. I finished it within one evening and was desperate to read the rest of the series. The fictional narrators had heart and emotion, and Malorie wrote with no boundaries.

Learning about Malorie's struggles and many rejections, has made me feel motivated to carry on in whatever I am doing because it can have a positive outcome. During her journey of becoming an author, she experienced 82 rejections before her first book was even published; yet didn't give up. To quote Malorie, "Trying and failing is better than not having the guts to never try at all."

Natasha J, Year 8





St Michael's Student on British Athletics

A big congratulation to Tolulope A. on successfully securing a place on the British Athletics Street 2 Stadium Academy for 2020.

Tolulope was part of the St Michael's college athletics squad that took part in the Street 2 Stadium event in October 2019. Tolulopes performances displayed some physical potential to become a successful track and field athlete with a possibility of representing Great Britain & Northern Ireland at major championships in the future. The S2S Academy, aims to help accelerate athletic development through a programme of training sessions. Well done Tolulope. ***Ms Iwobi***

SPORTS CORNER: Friday Night Lights and Year 10 Versus S.T.A.C

Friday Night Lights

On Friday 22nd November the Year 11 football team played their opening cup fixture against St Mary Magdalene. It was an exciting and hard fought match throughout with both teams putting together some very good football.

The 1st half began with St Michael's putting on all of the pressure. The work rate from the boys was outstanding with every ball being chased, giving St Mary Magdalene no time when they had it. Jayden BC took responsibility early on with some outstanding shots peppering their keeper. As the time went on, in the first half, St Michael's rarely needed to come back into their own half. A few breaks, from long kicks, from their keeper kept the defence of Kwabe, David, Carter and Xavier on their toes but they looked solid throughout. Dylan T and Prydin were calm in the middle and kept the ball moving well.

Arvin, Michael and Ayoola pressed for the whole game and made their lives difficult. Ryle was very reliable in goal throughout too. Midway through the 1st half the ball pinballed around in the St Mary Magdalene area with Michael somehow managing to strike the ball, with the help of a big deflection, into the back of the net. 0-1 St Michael's. Following this the pressure was kept on.

The second half started with an injury worry for Jayden BC, but Dylan V came in in his place and added a different dimension to the team. About 10 minutes later, though, Dylan V himself took a knock and had to be replaced. After a brief return of Jayden, Josh B took over and made the difference: he solidified the midfield after some Mary Magdalene pressure and looked to support and cover the defence. Some old school, boot to ball, defending from David B saw Dylan T producing 'that touch', while Kwabe continued to let nothing past him. Ryle was tested more times in the second half and rose to every challenge. Five minutes before the end Arvin's night was cut short to make way for super sub Daniel H. He came on with the promise of 5 goals but unfortunately could not quite deliver. He played well but had one golden opportunity that will not be mentioned in the match report! With pretty much the last play of the game St Michael's conceded only for it to be ruled out by the offside flag of the linesman. Final Score St Mary Magdalene 0-1 St Michael's. A quick thank you to Max who came with us as goal keeper cover and to our travelling supporter.



Year 10 Versus S.T.A.C



Thursday afternoon the Year 10s took the short trip to Dulwich Park to play one of the competition favourites, S.T.A.C. I think it is safe to say we very much went into this match as underdogs.

The match started with some strong tackling from our boys with Daniel K and Solomon making their attackers life difficult. Not too long into the half an unlucky bounce fell to the feet of their striker 1-0. A few minutes later St Michael's afternoon got worse with a very good goal scored by them. 2-0 with a few minutes to go until half time. St Michael's began to get a few more opportunities on goal and started to test their keeper. A great shot from Sean managed to creep under their goalie and we were back in it. 2-1. St Michael's had something to cheer about! With pretty much the last play of the 1st half it looked like we were going to make it even more difficult for ourselves when some clumsy defending gave away a penalty. Up steps Ryle. With a powerful hand, he managed to turn the ball away to the side and even regather it. This magnificent save filled the team with belief

and the already high work rate stepped up! A couple of pieces of magic from the quick feet of Liam began to put doubt in the minds of the S.T.A.C. players. Dylan, Joel, Isaac and Melvin didn't stop chasing throughout.

We kicked off the second half with what felt like a mountain to climb. 2-1 down against the team who apparently knocked out last years national cup winner the previous week. The pressure began to build on the favourites as St Michael's physical approach began to unsettle a team who seem to often get their own way on the pitch. The boys could sense that we were still in this and began playing with more of a smile on their face. Noel came onto the pitch and influenced it straight away. Some great football from himself and Destiny managed to get the ball to Tyrees who placed the ball calmly in the back of the net. 2-2.

Kevin and Cameron came on to the pitch and increased the intensity further. Could we actually pull off this upset? Unfortunately for us the short answer is no! Soon after S.T.A.C. managed to get the ball up the pitch to their striker who put the ball in the back of our net. 3-2 with no time left at all.

Final Score. S.T.A.C. 3-2 SMCC.

A big thank you to George for coming and being patient even though he unfortunately did not get on to the pitch this week.

The boys attitudes on and off the pitch were exemplary and if you were a neutral seeing the body language of the two teams at the end you would have thought that we had won.

Players Player of the Match - Ryle

Very proud of the boys and bring on Sacred Heart in mid January. - ***Mr Parker***



What Is Advent? History & Meaning

For many Christians unfamiliar with the liturgical year, there may be some confusion surrounding the meaning of the Advent season. Some people may know that the Advent season focuses on expectation and think that it serves as an anticipation of Christ's birth in the season leading up to Christmas. This is part of the story, but there's more to Advent.

The word "Advent" is derived from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "coming," which is a translation of the Greek word *parousia*. Scholars believe that during the 4th and 5th centuries in Spain and Gaul, Advent was a season of preparation for the baptism of new Christians at the January feast of Epiphany, the celebration of God's incarnation represented by the visit of the Magi to the baby Jesus ([Matthew 2:1](#)), his baptism in the Jordan River by John the Baptist ([John 1:29](#)), and his first miracle at Cana ([John 2:1](#)). During this season of preparation, Christians would spend 40 days in penance, prayer, and fasting to prepare for this celebration; originally, there was little connection between Advent and Christmas. By the 6th century, however, Roman Christians had tied Advent to the coming of Christ. But the "coming" they had in mind was not Christ's first coming in the manger in Bethlehem, but his second coming in the clouds as the judge of the world. It was not until the Middle Ages that the Advent season was explicitly linked to Christ's first coming at Christmas.



Southwark Foodbank Collection

A Big Congratulations to Year 12 Chaplaincy group supporting Southwark Foodbank who organised for students to bring in non-perishable items and collect Kg 195,44 of items.

The Foodbank was very grateful and sent us a Thank you letter.



Scrap Fabric needed

If you have any spare scrap fabric that you'll be willing to donate to the textile department we will be very grateful.

Miss R. Davies



MEALS DAILY CAP UPDATE

On the 4th June 2019, the students daily cap for meals increased from £4.50 to £4.75.

This is just a small increase to allow them to enjoy both breakfast and lunch.



Lost Property Collection

A great deal of lost property has been handed in and we would like to give students and Parents/ Guardians the opportunity to collect it.

The items will be kept until the end of each half term and full term after which, due to lack of space, they will be donated to local charities.

Please, remind your child to come and look for their lost items and to write their names on the labels of their items..

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

