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THE LINK

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

Issue 184- 30th April 2021

STEM class



Rob Bennett of Bloodhound Education joined us virtually on 30th March to present the key engineering ideas and the cutting-edge technology behind Bloodhound LSR, a UK-based project aiming to break the world land speed record using the most advanced straight-line racing car ever built.



Attempting to push engineering to its limits, the team, along with the car, flew out to the **Hakskeen Pan**, one of the largest isolated pans in the South African Kalahari.

On 6th November 2019 the car achieved 501 mph (806 km/h), and a final top speed of 628 mph (1,011 km/h) on 16th November, making it the eighth vehicle to attain a



land speed of over 600 mph.

Rob introduced us to the idea of Engineering for a Sustainable Future: for example, in warm regions such as Africa, people need to consider the engineering required to harness and store the cool night temperatures to cool their homes during the day.

Can this be done? Click on the links below to learn more about Bloodhound LSR.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zm110a0Kkxk>

Micropropagation

Richard Fenwick from **Plantlet Culture** joined us virtually on 27th April to talk to us about Micropropagation.

Micropropagation is the process of making large numbers of genetically identical plants from a single parent plant using tissue and cell culture techniques. This method of growing plants is most useful when:

- plants are rare or to stop a particular species of plant from becoming extinct;
- when a particular plant has been infected with a virus; and
- in the discovery of new plants.

The STEM Club will be growing plants in a test tube using a nutrient-rich gel. We will be recording changes and the growth of our plants over the next few weeks.

Click on the link below to learn more about Plantlet Culture, or to buy and grow your own plant in a test tube.

<https://www.plantletculture.com/>



Day 1 - Tomato Cutting taken, surface sterilized and placed in the nutrient rich gel.



Day 7 - Callus & Root formation has commenced, clearly seen through the gel.



Day 10 - Rooted Tomato plant ready to be grown outside in compost.



Stephen Lawrence Day 2021

Attached is a sample of some fantastic work submitted over Easter by students in each Year group to mark Stephen Lawrence Day on 22nd April.



Stephen Lawrence Day 22nd April 2021



I have a dream; We have a dream

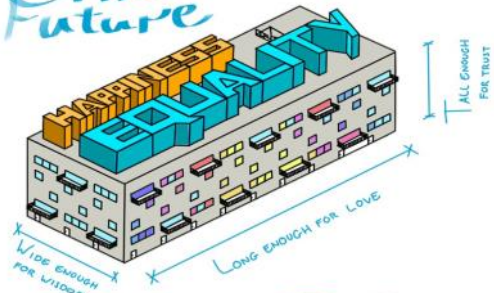
Building on our CPSHE session on the life and story of Stephen Lawrence and to mark Stephen Lawrence Day on the 22nd April, **share your own dream for the future.**

This could take the form of an expressive dance, poem, song or rap.



STEPHEN LAWRENCE DAY
ON 22 APRIL

Building The Future



<p>Glance back quickly</p> <p>then I look straight ahead.</p> <p>My cravings for success,</p> <p>are waiting to be fed.</p> <p>Filled with excitement,</p> <p>deep in my heart.</p> <p>I can taste the sweetness,</p> <p>of a brand new start.</p> <p>My hand with a pen,</p> <p>dance as they race.</p> <p>Dreams and ambitions,</p> <p>mutually chase.</p> <p>Eyes thoroughly scan,</p> <p>the ultimate list.</p> <p>Brain tries to think,</p> <p>what have I missed.</p>	<p>These goals that I set,</p> <p>should not be in stone.</p> <p>Since life is dynamic,</p> <p>and rarely alone.</p> <p>My goals should be true,</p> <p>and not simply high.</p> <p>The most important –</p> <p>always I'll try.</p>
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I dream everyday
I dream that my magic hand
With my creative pen will writ
Away to another
world for poets.

I dream,
That in the chambers of
my heart. I will be able to cure
The Sick.

But, is my dream finished?

My dream is to fly high
To flip through books and
Amaze myself

However, a dream should
Remember that the light
Will not always shine
The moon will not be
A whole and I may
Not always dream.

I have a dream

Suffering

~Relief

I DREAM TO LIVE IN A WORLD WHERE THERE IS NO PAIN OR SUFFERING. There will be no pain or pain, and anyone who needs help will receive it.

Discrimination

~Justice

I DREAM TO LIVE IN A WORLD WHERE DISCRIMINATION NO LONGER EXISTS. There will be no forms of violence or unfair treatment towards people due to who they are.

Health

~Peace

I DREAM TO LIVE IN A WORLD WHERE PEOPLE LIVE LONGER AND FEEL BETTER. Mental and physical health will be improved, with new cures and ways to stop pain.

Dear Lord,

We pray that one day we will be able to live in a world like heaven, with peace and harmony we ask for your happiness in the world from you.

AMEN.

I HAVE A DREAM THAT ONE DAY WE WILL ALL SEE EACH OTHER AS EQUAL. I DREAM THAT ALL MEN AND WOMEN WILL RESPECT EACH OTHER. I DREAM THAT PEOPLE OF ALL VARIOUS SKIN TONES WILL EVENTUALLY SEE EACH OTHER AS BEAUTIFUL. I DREAM THAT EVERYONE WILL BE ABLE TO LOVE WHOEVER THEY WANT WITHOUT BEING JUDGED. AND LASTLY, I DREAM THAT ONE DAY I CAN GO TO SPAIN AND HUG MY GRANDMA

BE YOURSELF



LOVE IS LOVE

Ivati A.G.

Sexism:
See it.
Name it.
Stop it.

@StepLawrencePhoto

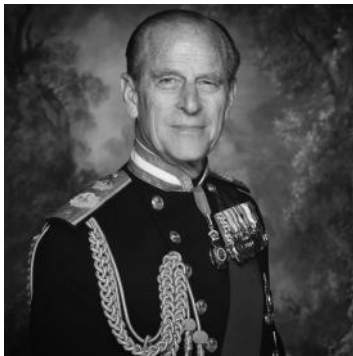




Chaplain's Corner

A big welcome back to the summer term!

During the break I hope you all spent time revitalising and spending quality time with family.



On the 17th of April we mourned the death of the Duke of Edinburgh.

Below is the requiem mass from Archbishop John Wilson.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord,
and let the perpetual light shine upon him.

May he rest in peace.

(<https://youtu.be/h-ltNt5TS0E>)

Easter is a time to renew our hope and boost our faith. May this term showcase all the light that God has bestowed upon you. Today instead of scripture and reflection I will share with you a lovely poem from Ruth Calkin and a message from Fr. Gerry O'Shaughnessy SDB on 'Finding God in the ordinary'. Finding God in grandeur and glory is perhaps easy for those who want to relegate faith to an hour on a Sunday; Jesus is offering us the challenge to find God in the ordinary—just like sharing a chaotic and noisy breakfast.

<https://www.salesians.org.uk/news/2021/04/finding-god-in-the-ordinary>

Fr Gerry O'Shaughnessy SDB offers a Salesian take on the Gospel for 4th Sunday of Easter (John 10: 11-18), Vocations Sunday.

'The Good Shepherd lays down his life for his sheep.' To be a TRUE pastor, a TRUE teacher or a TRUE parent, we have to make sacrifices. This may seem obvious to us, hearing these words on the other side of the cross and resurrection, and on the other side of two thousand years of reflection on the meaning of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.

The Good Shepherd, rather than allowing us to focus on our personal, exclusive relationship with Jesus Christ, invites us to extend the loving embrace of Jesus Christ to the whole world, to those outside the fold, as well as those who are closest to us. That is our mission, that is our task as followers of Jesus in the world today. Pope Francis celebrates the gift of a positive and helpful shepherding ministry: *A shepherd after the heart of God has a heart sufficiently free to set aside his own concerns. He does not live by calculating his gains or how long he has worked: he is not an accountant of the Spirit, but a Good Samaritan who seeks out those in need...For the flock he is a shepherd, not an inspector, and he devotes himself to the mission not fifty or sixty percent, but with all he has. In seeking, he finds, and he finds because he takes risks. He does not stop when disappointed and he does not yield to weariness. Indeed, he is stubborn in doing good, anointed with the divine obstinacy that loses sight of no one. Not only does he keep his doors open, but he also goes to seek out those who no longer wish to enter them.*

Pope Francis, Angelus, 3 June 2016



I Wonder

You know, Lord, how I serve You
With great emotional fervour
In the limelight.
You know how eagerly I speak for You
At a women's club.
You know how I effervesce when I promote
A fellowship group.
You know my genuine enthusiasm
At a Bible study.
But how would I react, I wonder
If you pointed to a basin of water
And asked me to wash the calloused feet
Of a bent and wrinkled old woman
Day after day
Month after month
In a room where nobody saw
And nobody knew.

Ruth Calkin

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
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