

St Michael's Catholic  
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# THE LINK

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

*Issue 189- September 2021*

## GCSE, A' Level and CTEC Results 2021

St Michael's Catholic College would like to congratulate all students in Year 11 and Year 13 on their exceptional performance in GCSE's, A levels and CTEC qualifications this summer.

The college is entirely confident that the systems it put in place for awarding grades was rigorous, robust and consistent so that all students can be assured that they genuinely deserved the grade that they were awarded. Every student approached the assessments that the college used to determine the grades with resilience and determination; they took advantage of additional study clubs and revision sessions and worked incredibly hard. Therefore St Michael's students in year 11 and 13 can feel assured that they are worthy of the grades that they have achieved. We would also like to thank all of the students' families for working together with us and for the support they have shown to their children and to the college in extremely difficult circumstances.

We are particularly thrilled that our Year 13 students are now able to progress to top universities and apprenticeships and notable results include:

Tasnim I – A' Level grades A\* A\* A is going to St John's College Cambridge to read Human Social and Political Sciences

Bless N – A' Level grades A\*A\*A A is going to Keble College Oxford to read History

Christian C – A' Level grades A\* A\* A\* A\* is going to University College London to read Biochemistry

Daisy W – A' Level grades A\*A\*A\* has gained a place on the fast track apprenticeship programme with the Civil Service

Franklyn C - Cambridge Technical grades Distinction \* Distinction \* Distinction\* is going to Bournemouth University to read Law

We wish all the Year 11 and Year 13 students from the class of 2021 well with their next steps and we know they have bright futures ahead of them.

*Ms F. Corcoran, Principal*



### Year 7 Summer school

As every year, St Michael's organises a Summer school for the new Year 7 students.

Here below they shared their experiences first hand.

Summer school was a fun and educational way to be introduced to St Michael's.

During the week we had a taste of what Secondary School is like and even got a historical trip to the Tower of London!. My favourite subject was drama because we had ice-breakers and explored the College.

Sports Day was very intense as all six Houses wanted to win. Savio won the majority of the "Tug of War". **Matthias, Year 7SA**

Summer School at St Michael's Catholic College was fun.

It gave you a real taste of what you will be doing in Secondary School. You'll finally meet everyone and get a chance to make new friends.

You will meet some teachers too. You will go through lessons you will love such as drama, DT and art.

I think summer school takes a lot of pressure and nerves away about starting Secondary School. It helps you find out how this first year is going to be. I understand why you would be nervous: it's a completely new place that's ten times bigger, but summer school takes all of the negative feelings away. **Alana F, Year 7DA**



During the week we were able to experience many taster lessons from a variety. In these, multiple fun activities awaited us such as how to use a Bunsen burner in science and designing our own product in business. Throughout each day we had the chance to learn about the lesson format in St Michael's. and our way round the school (especially during the orientation session we had during drama). It also gave us the chance to meet both teachers and other pupils.

The staff were both kind and supportive, willing to always help and many told us about the topics we would be looking at during the year.

I was very happy I had the opportunity to learn my way round the school and meet teachers in countless fun activities. Not only this, but my peers were helpful and a joy to be round, despite the struggles I felt when trying to socialise. **Yousef, Year 7SA**



## PE News

### Transport to success

We are pleased to announce that St Michael's College has taken delivery of our brand new college minibus.

The state of the art vehicle can transport 17 people and is wheel chair accessible.

Mr Gavin the Head of Physical Education said, "We are really happy with the purchase and would like to thank Ms Corcoran and the College governors for approving funding. This will be a game changer for us as we continue to develop our competitive school sports programme".



### Summer Sports Camp

Over the 6 weeks holiday we had the pleasure of organising our summer sports camp for all our students to attend. Students had a selection of different sports to choose from during the day. This was a huge success evident through the large number of students continuously turning up, who were very keen to take part each and every day, even when they are on holiday.

### *PE Department*



## King's Scholars Summer School



In the middle of August, when other students might have been taking it easy, a small band of our current Year 11 students made their way into school for two days of intensive, bespoke study skills training and subject-specific revision. The Widening Participation team from Kings College London has a long-standing partnership with St Michael's and every year they deploy university students and staff to come and deliver their successful Kings Scholars program. These students have graduated that programme and were 'topping up' their learning on the 16th and 17th of August with targeted tuition, workshops and sessions with current Kings Student Ambassadors. We congratulate Daniel D, Fayth H, Declan T. Sadie B, Jonathan G, Immaculate M, Gibson E and Angel U for putting their learning first and getting a head start on the demands of Year 11.

## St Michael's Catholic College

### Updated Hair Policy and adoption of the 'Halo Code' for schools and workplaces

As part of the college's commitment to equality and inclusion we have made changes to our hair policy following consultation with groups of students, staff, parents and Governors so that it better reflects and supports the diversity of the college community. As part of the consultation we have also adopted the Halo Code which supports schools and workplaces to ensure hair policies are inclusive and meet the needs of those who have Afro textured hair. Parents and students were informed about the proposed changes to the college hair policy at the end of the summer term and they have been well received.

If parents or carers have any queries about the new policy they should contact their child's Leader of Learning in the first instance.

We thank all parents and carers for their support.

**Ms Corcoran,**  
**Principal**



**The Halo Code**

Our school champions the right of staff and students to embrace all Afro-hairstyles. We acknowledge that Afro-textured hair is an important part of our Black staff and students' racial, ethnic, cultural, and religious identities, and requires specific styling for hair health and maintenance.

We welcome Afro-textured hair worn in all styles including, but not limited to, afros, locs, twists, braids, cornrows, fades, hair straightened through the application of heat or chemicals, weaves, wigs, headscarves, and wraps.

At this school, we recognise and celebrate our staff and students' identities. We are a community built on an ethos of equality and respect where hair texture and style have no bearing on anyone's ability to succeed.

#### Chaplain's Corner

### St Michael's Catholic College 2020-2021 A Salesian Reflection

Our life journey unfolds in mystery,  
Each moment is a gift.  
Sometimes our day is littered with  
failure and frustration,  
sometimes success and surprises  
overwhelm us with delight.  
The way of the Christian disciple  
challenges us to accept both these  
experiences, as gifts from God.  
We are called to love and trust  
both the Cross and the Resurrection,  
as part of the wisdom of God who calls  
us all to be sons and daughters.  
- Fr David O'Malley SDB -

### Back to School Prayer for the Start of the School Year

Loving God,  
Our creator, our Savior, our Companion,  
Bless this journey of a new school year that we undertake today  
Refresh our souls  
and renew our spirits  
As we embrace the beautiful ministry you have called us to.  
We welcome those who are new to this community and ask that  
you strengthen them to share the wonderful gifts you have given  
them.  
Lord, make our hearts pure as we prepare for the return of  
students to this school, and may you guide them to return with  
open hearts and minds eager to learn.  
We ask this in Your name,  
Amen

### 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. 708

