



THE LINK

*A fortnightly Newsletter for the pupils, parents and staff of
St Michael's Catholic College
Issue 210 — January 2023*

Careers News - A Capital Experience

In September 2022 Seventeen of our Year 12 students were accepted onto the "Career Ready" programme.



During the 18 month process they will interact with a number of Business experiences, including 1-1 mentoring from an industry link, workplace visits, visiting speakers and the chance of an internship with a leading city firm.

Our students recently took part in "A Capital Experience", at the Dominion Theatre, then onto an afternoon session at the Bank of America in St Paul's, where they experienced an afternoon in the Boardroom on the theme of "Charity Sector v Private Sector".

It was fantastic to see our young people stepping up, into what was an extremely formal and alien environment. Every one of them gave the very best version of themselves, and needless to say were a credit to St. Michael's, as they step out into the Business World

Mr Davis, Career Ready Coordinator



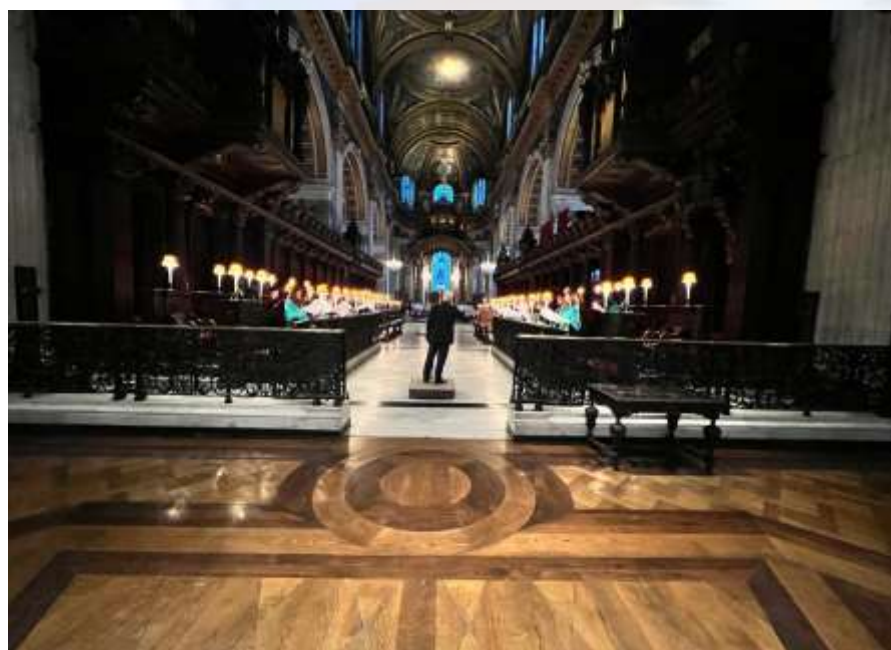
St Michael's Choral Scholars perform at St Paul's Cathedral!

Congratulations to Irati A-G, Julia M and Paul G in Year 10 and Jennifer B-D and Jonathan A in Year 8 who performed with Inner Voices Choir at St Paul's Cathedral on Monday to widespread acclaim.

Please find Year 10 Paul's reflections on the concert below:

St Paul's Cathedral is a great place to sing, but it does seem quite intimidating at first because it takes quite a lot of your voice just to be heard, the acoustics from the cathedral walls are incredibly majestic. Even when singing some songs such as Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis both by T. Tertius Noble, the pieces are just emphasised by the general openness of the cathedral and the organist that plays just above the Quires. This makes the experience all the more incredible as almost all of the songs that we had sung were in Latin, which also referred to the original language that the choir would use to sing in. All in all, there is no other place in the world where church services can sound more beautiful.

Mr Magnoff



Library news



January Book Review Winner

Title: Tom Gates Spectacular School Trip

Author: Liz Pichon

Rating: *****

Summary:

This book explores the struggles Tom Gates experiences in order to be able to go on a trip his school is organising. With the amount of disappointment Tom has faced recently, he must do everything he can to make sure he secures a spot on that trip. Little does he know, it would be much harder than he would have anticipated.

My Likes:

One thing I liked about this book was the way the writer used a very relatable topic to base the story around. Some children have had experience with the storyline of this book (children in school overcoming adversity) so, by the author using a topic like this, it helps create a sense of familiarisation with the reader. This idea seems to be a common motif with Liz Pichon's Tom Gates series.

My favourite part of the book was when Tom Gates and his friends went to draw on the doodle wall because that moment in the book was very enjoyable to read.

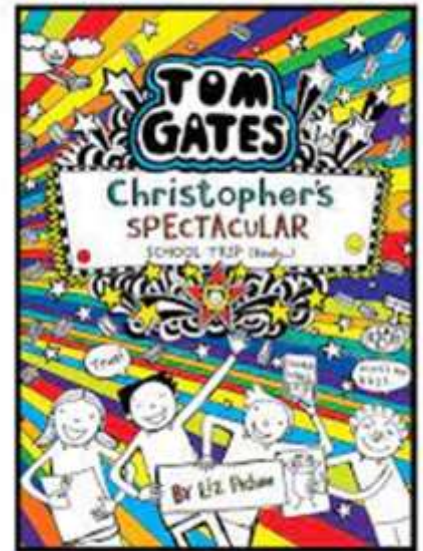
My Dislikes:

I don't have much to say for the dislikes due to the fact that I really enjoyed the book but, if I *were* to make a suggestion/improvement to the author, I would tell her to *maybe* try to use different words other than 'said' when including a piece of dialogue. This would make the book to be more cohesive and avoid repetition.

Recommendations:

I would definitely recommend this book to an audience around my age (12-13) because of the morals and structure. The book is written in a diary form and may therefore be slightly more appealing to a younger demographic: 9 and up. The book was very engaging and enjoyable to read. Definitely one of the easier ones as the vocabulary isn't too challenging.

by Mirabel M. Year 8DA



"A Christmas Carol" in St Michael's

On December 14th 2022 The St Michael's drama society showcased their first production 'A Christmas Carol'. The evening was full of laughter, music and reflection! The students put on a wonderful show and it was a real pleasure to see students from across the school, musicians and even a guest star teacher come together to tell this important story. It was impressive to see students running back stage, the lighting and sound desks, making props and scenery! We loved the use of modern music like the 'Macarena' with classic carols like 'Silent night' which were the backdrop to outstanding performances by our young actors and musicians. The show was a lovely way to end the year while also raising £250 for Southwark's foodbank. Well done all!

Ms Coulbeck

St Michael's Students curate exhibit at National Migration Museum

We are delighted to announce that Laura B and Ivy O in Year 11 reached the grand final of the "Moving Stories" competition at the National Migration Museum in December.



As a result, they had the opportunity to work with museum curators and internationally renowned artists to create an exhibit for the museum. This exhibit is now on display in the National Migration Museum in Lewisham until Easter, after which it will be on display at St Michael's. For further details of their work, please see the Challenge and More Able section of the college website here: <https://sites.google.com/stmichaelscollege.org.uk/challengeandmoreable/home> Mr Magnoff

Laura and Ivy reflect on their experience:

This year St Michael's Catholic College was lucky enough to be part of the project: *Moving Stories* led by the Migration Museum in Lewisham. We were even luckier to have our initial idea shortlisted into a small group of 6 other contestants. This opened a pathway into many incredible opportunities including working with the museum, and the lovely staff, who welcomed us into their community and allowed us to use the space of the museum as a workspace. We were also introduced to our professional artist, Shorsh Saleh, with whom we worked alongside to produce our final showing of our prototype. This was very educational as we were being guided along the process by someone who had so much knowledge and intellect to share with us, both of the project and in everyday life. We got along very well and look forward to working on future projects together! During the weeks leading up to the final decision we had just started our mocks and everything became a hectic blur of balancing school life with using any of our free time to work on the project. This consisted of collecting images to put toward the production of our video, and organising interviews with people who had reached out to us willing to share their (or their families) stories. Whilst this was going on Shorsh was also busy at work producing the physical body of our piece. Between this we were also introduced to our professional coach, Antonia Olex, though we were only able to meet with her at the final event we were able to discuss our ideas through a zoom meeting in which we came up with a speech to present our project. On the day of the finals we were so nervous, but we told ourselves that whatever the outcome would be, we were very proud of ourselves because of how far we had come. The atmosphere was great and welcoming, it was something special!! Each group had the chance to present their prototypes and ideas for further development as well as their process so far. Then after 40 minutes of discussion, the judges had finally come to their decision. The room fell silent, tension in the air. Regrettably, we were not the winners however the opportunity to partake in a competition like this has taught us a lot of valuable lessons and we look forward to further working with the museum.

Laura and Ivy



Chaplain's Corner

The Word of the Lord

The Baptism of the Lord

The people were filled with expectation,
and all were asking in their hearts
whether John might be the Christ.

John answered them all, saying,
“I am baptizing you with water,

but one mightier than I is coming.

I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals.

He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”

After all the people had been baptized

and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying,
heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him
in bodily form like a dove.

And a voice came from heaven,

“You are my beloved Son;

with you I am well
pleased.”



A reflection on this...

The New Testament is founded on the Old Testament, both its main stories, its language, themes and ideas: To understand who Jesus is requires us to understand the Old Testament better also.

We are reminded that our faith is a reflection of the example of Christ. His baptism is a public, outdoor event and our faith needs to be public and outdoors.

We may wish to think again about what our baptism meant and means. Was it nice event (many years ago), or is it the signing up to following Jesus, living in the way of God? An interesting episode in the life of Jesus, or a reminder to us of God's call on our lives? And what is our journey?

Miss Casey, Head of Chaplaincy

What's been happening in the faith life of the school?

- * We remembered the life of Pope Benedict in KS3 lessons, as well as dedicating part of our Epiphany Mass to Him.
- * Year 8 attended Mass at Dockhead for the Epiphany
- * Miss Casey and Mr House led a retreat for Year 13 on the first day of term, reflecting on taking the spirit of Christ with them and values of Catholic Social teaching when they leave us in June
- * Miss Casey led assemblies about a journey in faith that all pupils are on, and the importance of reflecting on their own journeys, inspired by the baptism and life of Christ .





Safeguarding Officers



**Designated
Safeguarding Lead:**

Ms Jo Nottage

Contact: 0207 237 6432 or
j.nottage@stmichaelscollege.org.uk



**Safeguarding officer &
Deputy Designated Lead:**

Mrs Debbie Freegard

Contact: 0207 237 6432 or
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Safeguarding Officer:

Ms Tania Rughooputh

Contact: 0207 237 6432 or
t.rughooputh@stmichaelscollege.org.uk



Mr Allan Daly

Contact: 0207 237 6432 or
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Overall Responsibility:

Ms Felicity Corcoran - Principal

Contact: 0207 237 6432 or
Email: contact@stmichaelscollege.org.uk

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.

SPRING TERM 2022-2023

HOLIDAYS



Year 10 Kings' Scholars Programme

Year 10 Kings' Scholars should meet
from 3.30pm-4.30pm on each of the
below dates;

Thursday 19th January
Thursday 26th January
Thursday 2nd February
Thursday 9th February
Thursday 23rd February
Thursday 2nd March
Thursday 9th March
Thursday 16th March
Thursday 23rd March
Thursday 30th March

HALF TERM

13th February to 17th February

Inset Day: 10th February 2023

EASTER

Monday 3rd April 2023

To

Friday 14th April 2023

Lost property

Please make sure your child's property has their name on, this makes it easier to reunite lost property to its owner.
Please don't bring expensive property to school;

Please note that all lost property that is not collected will be disposed of at the end of each half term.



Contacting the College - Direct parents access to college via email
contact@stmichaelscollege.org.uk

For absence please phone: 0207 237 6432 Option 1



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www.stmichaelscollege.org.uk

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