



THE LINK

*A fortnightly Newsletter for the pupils, parents and staff of
St Michael's Catholic College
Issue 223 - 22th January 2024*

Christmas Concert

On the 18th of December, we at St Michael's, held a Christmas concert for family and friends to enjoy. The amazing music department worked tirelessly to arrange a pleasing musical experience for all ages to come and see. Many students worked together to create an opportunity to showcase their talents and skills in music. After rehearsals over several weeks, they were able to share their love for music with all their family and friends. With a varying setlist, there were songs for every generation to enjoy and sing along to. From classic hymns to Mariah Carey, by the end of the night, all were in a jolly, Christmas mood. A crowd's favourite seemed to be the infamous Christmas song, "All I want for Christmas", which had all the parents clapping and singing along. Students had equal opportunities to shine, with sectionals like the Year 9s who played "Somewhere Only We Know" and the brass group with "Good King Wenceslas". The music was mood-lifting and everyone enjoyed themselves a lot. The choirs of all years were soothing breaks from the instrumental songs.

Of course, none of the concert would have been possible without the help of the incredible music staff at St Michael's. With Mr Wright teaching guitar, Ms Higgs leading the choirs, Ms Trundell instructing the string players and particularly Mrs Laurence arranging and preparing the band for the concert as well as Mr Laurence conducting. Thank you to all parents, pupils and friends who attended the concert and supported the Music Department. The proceeds from the concert will go towards new instruments needed to give lesson opportunities to others. And, as always, a huge well done to all students who participated and helped out! *Rubie Rose R. and Ainhua V. R. - Year 9*



Christmas Doors

The judges, Ms Corcoran and Ms Sayed said: “A very tough competition this year , meaning that we had to go round to see the doors twice!” The second place went to 10RU for most poignant environmental message.



1st Place— 7MA



2nd place –10RU



3rd Place



Christmas Doors



Goals met during Charity week

A Huge THANK YOU! To everyone who brought in items for the WrapUp London Campaign

Fundraising efforts last week mean RUA house have raised over £500 with money still being counted!



RUA Charity Week!

We collected OVER 100 Coats + many scarves, hats and gloves for the WrapUp London Campaign!

Thank you!



READY FOR WRAPUP 2023?

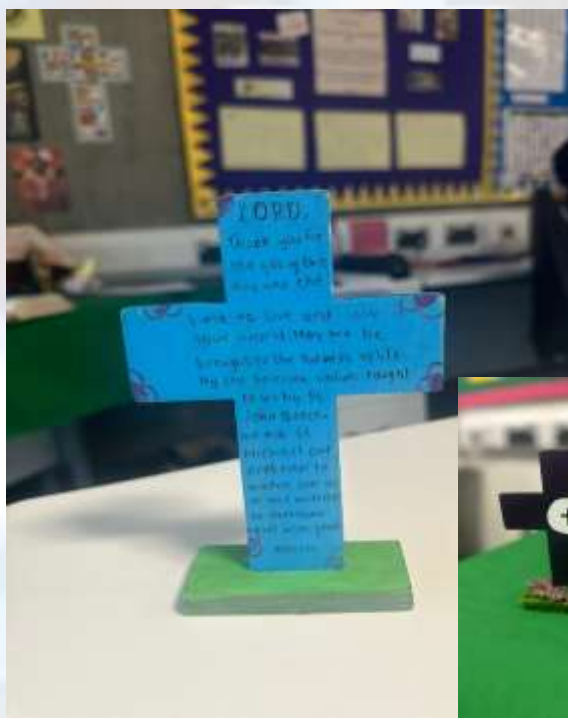
WrapUp London

Year 7 Cross House Competition Results

Savio: 1000 House Points

Mazzarello: 500 House Points

Da Costa: 300 House Points

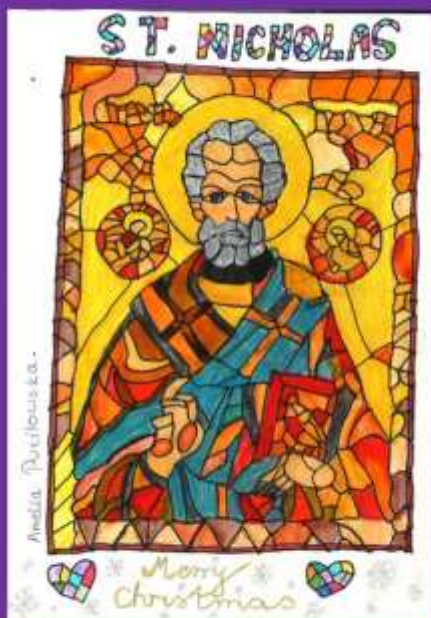


Christmas Card Competition Results

We had some fantastic entries to our Christmas Card Competition this year which made a difficult decision for the judges! All of the entries will be featured in the order of service at our end of term Christmas Liturgy booklet and receive 50 Points for their house, but the winners are...



Christmas Card Competition Results



Joint 2nd Place - Amelia P 11VI
500 House Points +
£10 Amazon Voucher



Joint 2nd Place - Clodagh Maria 7MA
500 House Points +
£10 Amazon Voucher



1st Place - Anuoluwa O8BC
1000 House Points +
£20 Amazon Voucher

Winners of the Year 7 Anti-Bullying Week Poem Competition

Thank you to those who submitted all the lovely poems!

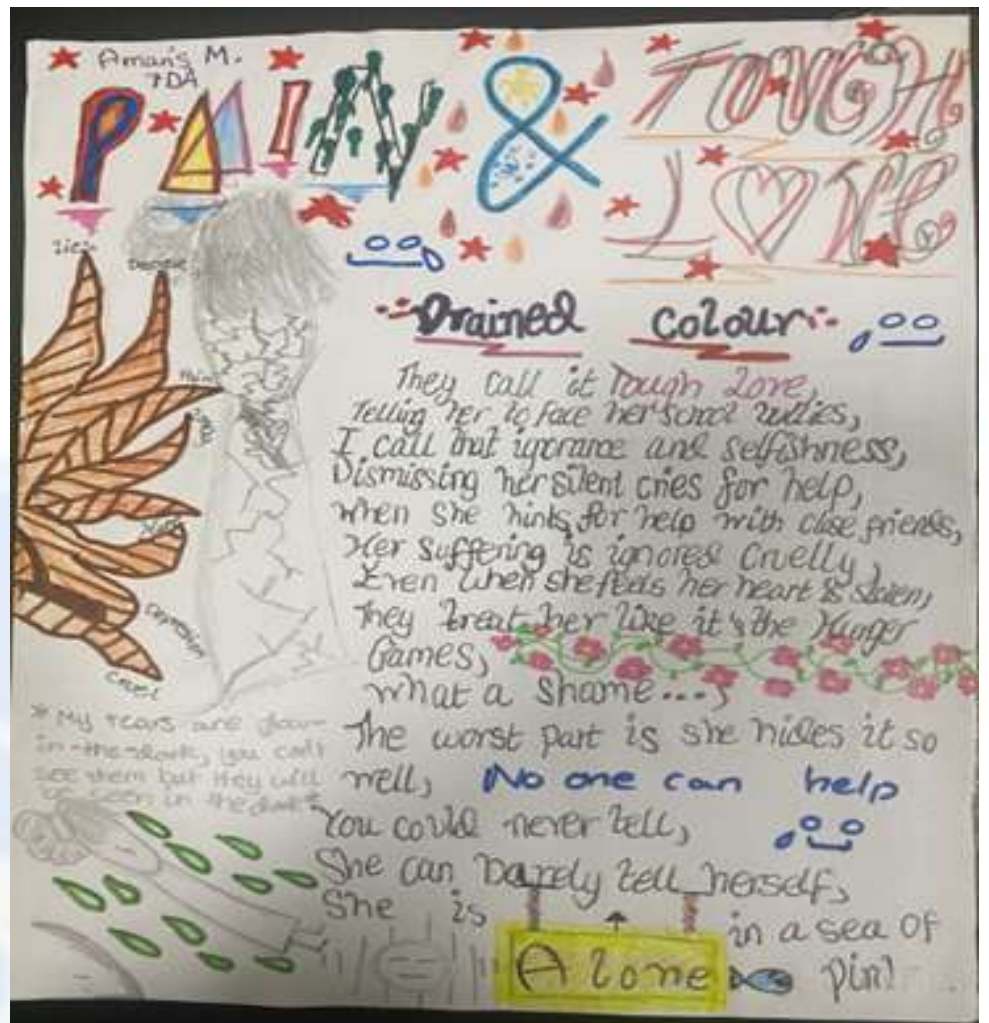
Karolina K, 7SA: winner of the 1st Prize

Edon M, 7DA: winner of the 2nd Prize

Amaris M, 7DA: Winner of the 3rd Prize

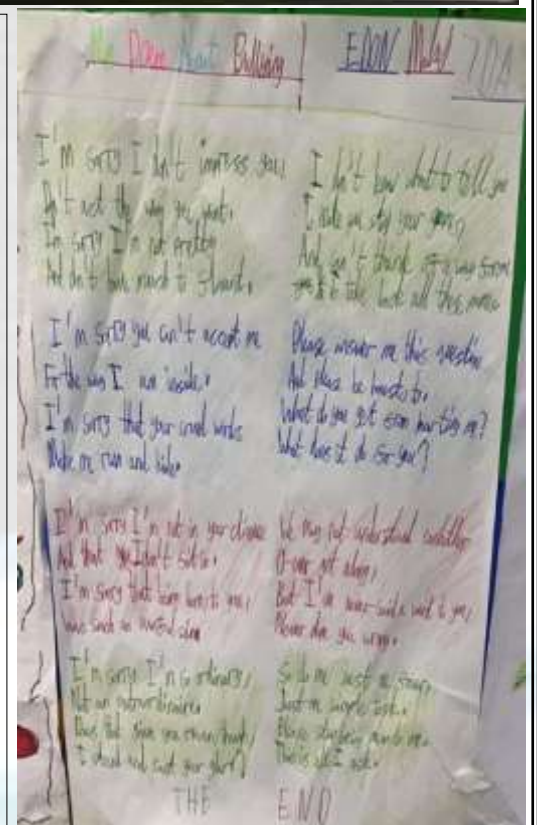
My poem about bullying

I'm sorry I don't impress you,
Don't act the way you want.
I'm sorry I'm not pretty
And don't have much to flaunt.
I'm sorry you can't accept me
For the way I'm inside.
I'm sorry that your cruel words
Make me run and hide.
I'm sorry that being born to you
Was such an awful sin
I'm sorry I'm so ordinary,
Not an extraordinary.
Does that give you reason though,
I stand and cast your glare?
I don't know what to tell you
To make you stop your games,
And can't think of a way for you
To take back all these names.
Please answer me this question
And please be honest too
What do you get from hurting me?
What does it do for you?
We may not understand each other
Or even get along,
But I've never said a word to you,
Never done you wrong.
So do me just one favour,
Just one simple task,
Please stop being meant to me
This is all I ask
Edon M, 7DA



Pain and Tough love

They call it *tough love*,
Telling her to face her school bullies,
I call that ignorance and selfishness,
Dismissing her silent cries for help,
When she hints for help with close friends,
Her suffering is ignored cruelly,
Even when she feels her heart is stolen,
They treat her like it's the hunger games,
What a shame...
The worst part is she hides it so well,
No one can help
You could never tell,
She can barely tell herself,
She is alone in a sea of piranhas.
Amaris M, 7DA



Chaplain's Corner

The Word of the Lord

Matthew 2:1-12



After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi[a] from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written:

‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a

ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.

Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.”

After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

A reflection on this...

Form us into your Peace-makers.
Enable us to look within ourselves,
to make straight our crooked hearts,
to patiently and lovingly await changes
in ourselves and others.

As you gather us tenderly,
and hold us close,
may we also show that same compassion
to the world.

Fill our hearts with your peace,
and our lives with your love,
that these may flow from our lives
and into our world.

We ask this through Christ,
our Saviour and our peace.

The world was in darkness,
And nobody knew,
The way to the Father, as
you and I do.

Amen



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

- We started the new year with Ms Corcoran leading assemblies for all students across the college, reflecting on the Christmas season and the Feast of the Epiphany.
- Year 13 were welcomed on their first day with a retreat on Peace and Hope; they were reminded of the adage that tomorrow is not promised and their futures are **there's to make as they wish**. They spoke of the gifts the Magi brought to the baby Jesus and reflected on the gift that is the Christ Child
- Year 9 DaCosta led the first Mass of the New Year in the College Chapel; they were reminded on the beauty that is friendship and to carry this in all that they do in school
- The Chaplaincy teams are busy preparing for the Feast of John Bosco, as it is the 200th Anniversary of his dream for the children of world

Miss Casey, Chaplaincy Co-Ordinator



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
d.freegard@stmichaelscollege.org.uk



Safeguarding Officer:

Ms Tania Rughooputh

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



Mr Allan Daly

Contact: 0207 237 6432 or
a.daly@stmichaelscollege.org.uk

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.

ADMISSIONS ARRANGEMENTS



Breakfast Club Reminder

Breakfast club is running from 8am every morning

All students can get **free** porridge or toast

Free fruit now available at the request of the Student Parliament



St Michael's Catholic College is consulting on its Admissions Arrangements.

Please have a look at the College Website via the link below for details on the consultation and how to respond.

<https://www.stmichaelscollege.org.uk/admissions-criteria/>

HOLIDAYS

HALF TERM

From Monday 12th February 2024

To Friday 16th February 2024

EASTER HOLIDAYS

From Friday 29th March 2024

To Friday 12th April 2024

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; we will not hold any responsibility for any item lost.**

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

