NEWSLETTER

December 2016

A Happy and Blessed Christmas

and an Outstanding 2017!

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Cafod Young Leaders

Last year's CAFOD Young Leaders made such a wonderful contribution to school life, not just in a CAFOD context but also across the charitable life of the school, that it was a privilege to go with them to London to receive certificates from CAFOD's Chief Executive, not to mention going through the Holy Door with them at Southwark Cathedral and visiting the relics of Oscar Romero. Thank you to them all – our Sixth Formers are great!

Mr Waterfield

Our Year 12 CAFOD Young Leaders Team launched their year of training and activity yesterday at Oaklands Catholic School. They met and worked with other 6th form students from across the Portsmouth Diocese and have returned with great ideas for raising our awareness and response to global social justice at St Anne's. They have already helped to lead the Year 8 Curriculum Enrichment Day session on climate change and produced a resource to raise awareness of homelessness as we prepare for Christmas and each tutor group donates a hamper. Look out for them at school events!

Charity Events

As usual, the autumn term has been a busy one for charity events. The school's Global Focus supported our LSU link centre 'Matumaini' – a centre to support children and mothers in Tanzania and run by the sisters. We will be dedicating our charitable efforts in Lent to support the centre – and hopefully to help them buy a new oven! We also collected for CAFOD and have twinned another of our toilet blocks with one abroad – altogether sending over £1000 overseas in just this term alone! Thank you to all who supported us, in school and behind the scenes at home.

Our local focus has also been in full swing, with Becket House running a fair for Headway, Campion House a coin design activity for Honeypot and Edmund House a friendship bracelet workshop and sale for the Society of St James, which is also the charity for which we are collecting our hampers.

And that's just some of what's happened in school! We know that so many of our girls get involved and use their time, talents and treasure in activities and events out of school – their generosity is wonderful.

Eating for Charity!

Staff and 6th form raised a fantastic £335 for MacMillan Cancer Support which was almost £90 more than last year. There was cake of all shapes and sizes made and we had our first ever Cake Off champion, Mr Modena. There was tough competition but apparently the taste was amazing!

Stained Glass Returns

Our stained glass has returned to some of the windows overlooking the quad! Every tutor group was asked to contribute to this collage of our St Anne's identity.

We chose as our theme the idea of the charisms of the LSU sisters. We are so grateful to the vision of the LSU sisters through the years for making St Anne's what it is today and reflection on their key characteristics and aims is such an important exercise for the school!

The charisms are simplicity, hospitality, openness and warm relationships (take the first letter of each and you get 'show'!) and they set us out as different to other Catholic schools because we have a slightly different heritage to be proud of.

Catholic Young Writers' Winners

We were delighted to hear that Temi Onanunga (9 Bede) and Josephine Kiggundu (10 Becket) were commended in the 2016 Catholic Young Writers' Award. Both wrote entries on the lives of the saints but showed their relevance to life in modern Britain today and received books signed by journalist Joanna Bogle.

The saints seem so distant from us but they are not just super-people who did things that we could never do. They are the people the Church chooses to remember because their example has something to offer us today. We all become saints by living out our lives as best as we possibly can because our unique personalities, gifts and talents mixed with our individual situations mean that we can't be just like anyone else. Our school mission statement's challenge to us to be the best we can possibly be takes on a whole new meaning: we want our students to be saints!

So, congratulations to Temi and Josephine on the reminder about what we should all be striving for!

Let's get creative!

In September creative craft club started for years 7-9. Around 50 students have been coming along to hear about the Bible and make lots of fun and reflective crafts based on what they have been learning about that week. So far this year we have moulded candles, made friendship bracelets and designed our own rulers. December launches a month of special crafts that the girls will design and take home to remind them of the true meaning of Christmas.

I love this club because it allows me to be creative. My favourite thing we've made this year was the identity bracelets. This craft made me think about the identity God has given me and create a beautiful bracelet to remind me of that.
Lizzie, year 7

Craft club is a relaxing time for me in my busy week. I go each week with my friends to talk about what's important in life and have fun making lots of different crafts.
Mary-Grace, year 7

Christmas Hampers 2016

It is coming to that time of year again when are approaching advent and preparing for Christmas here at St. Anne's. It is also a time when we give back to the local community, especially to those who need our help most. The Society of St James is a Hampshire based homeless charity that supports over 2,500 each year. As a school we are supporting The Society of St James this Christmas to bring joy to those who aren't as fortunate as we are. Starting in December, each tutor group will be working together to make a Christmas hamper that the Society of St James will distribute to those in need at Christmas. Every hamper contribution, no matter how small, can make a big difference to those the charity supports.

Please join us in making Christmas 2016 the biggest donation yet!

R.E.

Year 7 Reflection Day

Year 7 had an enjoyable day on our annual pilgrimage to St John's Cathedral in Portsmouth. The activities included a tour of the cathedral, some creative responses to St Paul's teaching about belonging to a community and obviously a trip to the cathedral shop! The girls were congratulated by members of the public for their polite behaviour and they were impressed with the beauty of the building.

Year 8 Reflection Day

"The best reflection day I have had the pleasure to lead" exclaimed Mrs Russell at the end of our second curriculum enrichment day with Year 8. The whole day was focussed on 'going deeper' in exploring what it means to belong to our tutor group and the global community. Each tutor group took part in a range of activities to get to know each other better and they each made a tutor group jigsaw to show the unique skills and talents they bring to their tutor group. We also explored and responded to issues raised by climate change in an active session co-led by the Year 12 Cafod Young Leaders team. In the afternoon we wrote messages of hope to refugees which will be given by CAFOD to refugees to mark the end of the Year of Mercy.

Quotes

- I learnt more about my classmates and that most teachers like Strictly Come Dancing!
- I really liked writing to the refugees, it was nice knowing that it is going to someone in need – it is really heart warming.
- One thing I learnt is that climate change is affecting far more things than I thought. I thought my mum only wanted to save money!
- One thing I enjoyed was writing messages to the refugees to bring light and hope into their lives.
- I enjoyed the arty stuff, it was fun yet inspirational!
- I learnt that some people are suffering trying to make a change even though it should be all of us. If all of us in the world made a tiny change, it could become something big.

KS3 Southampton Schools Badminton League

We had two teams that recently took part in the Southampton Schools KS3 Badminton League. Both teams played very well and very clearly made vast improvements in their game play and skills throughout the league. Our A team won all of their fixtures and now will represent Southampton in the Hampshire round of the National league. Our B team won many of their games and came third overall. Well done to all involved!!

A Team – Rajabi Bhusal, Rochele Milano, Ysabelle Garcia, Ciara Reilly

B Team – Dolly Richardson, Lucy Bignall, Misha Patel, Emily Dason Plincke and Caroline Garratt

Cross Country

Cross Country League

The cross country girls have given brilliant performances so far this season in the Southampton city league. Its the start of another successful year for the St Anne's Cross Country girls teams. It is extremely pleasing to see lots of new faces joining from all years into the cross country league races and showing great promise for a fantastic season.

Year 7 girls are currently in 3rd place as a team.

The Junior Girls currently lie in 1st place as a team, with fantastic individual positions from Margot Broome, Olivia Reavey, Fae Thompson and Abigail Hadley. A fantastic start to the league girls, Let's get gold again this year.

I am exceptionally proud of the Year 10 girls Lydia Agbonkhina, Ashley Smith, Laura Travers, Patrycja Sypula, Sarah Collins and Glory Akpan, who are also currently in 1st place both teams A and B. They have committed themselves and got stuck in to the cross country again this season, and with the most intermediate girls in the teams we have ever had they are out demonstrating true team spirit to race which is wonderful to see.

Year 7,8&9 Hampshire Schools Cross Country Championships race held at Alton on the 29th of November.

It was a very cold but sunny afternoon at Alton for the Hampshire Cross Country Champs race. The girls came up against the best runners within the county. There were over 100 athletes in each race. For Lauryn Yonger and Izzy Larter it was their first experience of such a large strong fielded competition they both ran well and had a smile on their faces at the end.

The Year 8 girls also all had fantastic runs, conditions were tough but they grinned and bared up the long hill climbs, first home for the team was Fae Thompson followed by Abigail Hadley, Molly Aspinall and Kerensa Pickering, really well done. And finally for the year 9s Margot Broome and Olivia Reavey who both had exceptional runs, finishing in 5th and 6th. The girls went out strong and fast they stuck together throughout the race and powered up the hills breaking away a good gap to hold their positions, Fantastic result girls.

So a huge well done so far this season girls, keep up the hard work and training and I think you will all get the fantastic results you deserve in March.

Olivia Reavey and Margot Broome (Year 9) after their fantastic race at Alton Champs.

Rock Challenge 2017

Since October we have been working hard on our choreography for this year's Rock Challenge entry.
We were inspired by the film 'Suffragette' and have decided to use some of the moving and incredible stories depicted in the film as the basis for our entry this year. The girls have been working extremely hard learning and developing the choreography this term and we are excited to have nearly finished the dance. Our next challenge will be ensuring that our choreography is performance ready and that our set and costumes are created and practised with.
We are planning on doing a performance to the school at a lunchtime in February so please come along and support us it would be great to see you there!

U16 Netball

Girls from Year 10 and 11 have united to battle the elements in a strong league this season. They have demonstrated great determination and outstanding skill on the court. We have placed 2nd in the League with the end of season Netball Cup still up for grabs.
The squad have shown outstanding commitment to fulfil all fixtures despite the Year 11 pre-public examinations and the Year 10 Work Experience fortnight. A huge thanks to parents who transported their children to and from fixtures during this time.
Our amazing, talented squad are; Zoe Reilly (Captain), Maisie Bartlett, Olivia Denham, Lucy Watson, Philippa Appleby, Patrycja Sypula, Sarah Collins, Annabelle Dick and Kari Paisey.

KS3 House Basketball Competition

This year a new House competition was introduced based around different basketball skills. This was organised by the PE department and run by Solent University. Each tutor group entered a team of 5 girls to complete the skills station and their points were added together to find the winning team. These rankings will contribute towards the house cup – which is presented at the end of the year.
This competition was also an opportunity to discover new talent to the sport – giving the pupils information about local clubs that they could attend.

House Basketball Competition Results 2016

Year 7

1st – Campion = 933
2nd– Alban – 775
3rd – Gregory – 693
4th – Edmund – 687
5th – Becket – 618
6th – Fisher – 498
7th – Bede – 331

Year 8

1st – Edmund – 1110
2nd – Alban - 928
3rd – Fisher – 740
4th – Gregory – 722
5th – Campion – 677

Theatre Review

'Macbeth' theatre review

On Thursday 22nd September my English class, 7 Ash, went with Miss Farnhill to watch the Young Shakespeare Company perform 'Macbeth' at St Swithun Wells Catholic Primary School in Eastleigh.

After a short mini-bus ride from St Anne's to St Swithun Wells, we settled down into our centre seats. At the start of the play, we were introduced to the brave protagonist and the namesake of the play, Macbeth, Thane of Glamis (later Glamis and Cawdor). The story's plot follows how ambition can form greed, envy and paranoia – sometimes being over-ambitious can lead to self-destruction.

The 5 actors and actresses including the magnificent storyteller, captivated the hearts of a young audience and guided us through an amazing rendition of 'The Scottish Play', packed full of circumstances when the fourth wall was broken. This doesn't exclude the beautiful soundscape produced by the audience and cast which set the scene for the weather and sounds on the heath. Prominent characters included: Lady Macbeth, Banquo, Macduff (Thane of Fyffe) and many others that were portrayed by members of the audience.

The plot shows how Macbeth, a strong warrior, was easily misled by 3 scandalous witches. His determination to become King led to the death of many, the withering of his heart and stone cold tyranny.

In a shrewd deduction, the play was excellently executed by these fabulous five actors. The Young Shakespeare Company managed to capture the essence of one of Shakespeare's greatest tragedies, so I, on behalf of 7 Ash, would like to say a whole-hearted thank you for the opportunity to have witnessed this spectacular play.

By Demi Onanuga
7 Bede

'Macbeth' theatre review

On Thursday 22nd September my English class, 7 Ash, went with Miss Farnhill to watch the Young Shakespeare Company perform 'Macbeth' at St Swithun Wells Catholic Primary School in Eastleigh.

Although I performed 'Macbeth' in my primary school, watching and taking part in the Young Shakespeare Company's production was the best experience I've ever had, even if it wasn't in the Mayflower Theatre! On the way to St Swithuns I sat in the front of the minibus next to Aisha Lawal and Miss Martin.

The play started when all of the audience created a soundscape for the heath where Macbeth and Banquo meet the 3 witches. There were sounds of the howling wind, roaring thunder, cracking lightning, howling wolves, growling bears, spookily hooting owls, and the low hum of magic. In that scene the lights were off and it was all dark; it would've been dark that night on the heath. Throughout the play, when the actors were speaking, they were all loud and clear.

The costumes were really clear. It was obvious when Lady Macbeth was sleep walking because she was in a traditional piece of nightwear. Different characters such as Lord and Lady Macbeth, had multiple costumes, not to mention how many each actor had as there were only 5 or 6 actors for the whole play! We, as the audience, also helped with the play with things such as the sounds and a few lines that the witches said.

The emotion from all the actors, especially the actor who plays Macduff was very intense. I was trying my hardest not to let the tears that were welling up in my eyes fall down my cheeks when Macduff found out that Macbeth had had his wife and children killed! That scene was very emotional for me!

I thoroughly enjoyed watching 'Macbeth' and I was on the edge of my seat the whole time! I personally thought that this was one of the best plays I've seen in my life; it was up to professional theatre standards!

By Rachel Lockwood
7 Campion

Theatre review of 'The Wind in the Willows'

On Thursday 17th November 2016 I had the pleasure of seeing one of Kenneth Graham's fabulous books, 'The Wind in the Willows' performed beautifully at the Mayflower Theatre. At first glance of the performance space it looked very majestic but you were transformed into the world of Ratty, Toad, Mole and Badger.

The beautiful set, designed by Peter McKintosh, had a fantastic atmosphere around it and really linked in with the story. The way it could change from a happy to a dark atmosphere was really surprising, you didn't expect it to happen. Halfway through the play when Mr Toad escaped from prison and the Police and his friends were looking for him the audience and where they were seated became part of the play and set. This meant the actors were breaking the fourth wall between them and the audience (also known as audience participation) and this made the play more thrilling and exciting.

The play is all about friendship and how true friends should not be taken for granted. It is also about how the small things in life matter more than money and luxury. The story is from an animal's point of view which makes it original from other plays. It all starts when Mole makes a new friend, Ratty, and then Mole is introduced to Mr Toad. Mr Toad has a craving for speed and purchases a motor car. As he does not know how to drive it properly he crashes the car 3 times and ends up in hospital. Mole and Ratty then go to meet Badger so that they can help Mr Toad realise he doesn't need a motor car and to give them up.

Each actor is worth noting, but standouts include Rufus Hound as Mr Toad for his loveable and mad personality as well as his hilarious catchphrase, "Poop!". Other standout actors were Fra Free, David Birell, Thomas Howes and Sophia Nomvete. I also loved the stoats, weasels and foxes – especially Neil McDermott as the Chief Weasel.

In addition the lighting, costumes, makeup and other key components added to the story and the production. The lighting was eerie and dark at some points but also very bright and joyful at others. The costumes worked well with the characters and did link together with the play. The makeup was incredible as it really transformed the actors into what they were playing.
The play was very upbeat and funny but also quite dark, eerie and serious. I highly

recommend you go and see this heart warming and funny play and you will enjoy it as much as me.

Suitable for ages: 2 – 90!
Star rating:

Written by Harjeet Sandhu in 7 Ash

Creative Writing Club

Creative writing club continues to be a popular lunchtime club where pupils have been using their imaginations to create characters and descriptions of faraway places. The art of storytelling is certainly alive and well! Pupils have particularly enjoyed creating stories which they have acted out.

Pupils are really looking forward to making and writing the blurb for giant chocolate bars which should fire their enthusiasm for the forthcoming festive season. New creative writers are always welcome. The club is on every Wednesday lunchtime in the English room.

Miss Smith

Debate Club Years 9-13

We meet Wednesday lunch time in Room 7 and have had some very lively debates since we started in September. Some of the topics have been light hearted and some very serious! Debate topics this term have included animal testing, catcalling, whether or not the global balance of power still lies with white males, and most recently, nationalism.

Our debate team are developing their higher level skills in collaboration and presentation. They also rise to meet the challenge of having to promote an idea they don't necessarily agree with by playing Devil's advocate – all very useful abilities in the real world!

Everyone from Year 9-13 is welcome – please come and join us!

Miss Moll and Mrs Taylor

Board Games Club

This term the English Department has started a new board games club which is open to students from all years of the school. It runs every Wednesday lunchtime from 12:40-13:10 in the English Room, and pupils are welcome to come along and try out a range of fun, English based games, including Boggle, Scrabble and many more. Not only is this a good way of socialising with friends and avoiding boredom over lunchtime, but the games really do improve pupils' English skills at all levels. If pupils are making excellent progress but want an extra challenge, then come along! Similarly, if English feels tough and they want a fun way of boosting key skills, then come along!

Mr Allen

Roald Dahl Party!

To celebrate his centenary, the English prefects and librarians held a Roald Dahl party in the library exclusively for year 7. They organised a treasure hunt around the school which was really popular and winners took away bespoke badges made from Quentin Blake's illustrations. There were also Dahl based activities run by the prefects in the library. All in all, a frothbuggling time was had by all.

Mrs Lewis

A Room With A View

On what must have been one of the coldest nights of the year, the Year 12 and 13 English literature groups travelled to Chichester to see Adrian Noble's production of EM Forster's 'A Room With A View'. The vast stage of the Festival Theatre reflected the grandeur of the Edwardian age, incorporating scenes from Italy and England. The elegance of the era was evident in the beautifully designed costumes, although the bathing scene was a little more minimalist. In a final twist, the ever-fussy chaperone, Charlotte Bartlett, played by Felicity Kendall, paved the way for the unconventional lovers, George and Lucy, to unite.
Forster's work connects well to the over-arching A-level theme of 'Love through the ages' and the trip should provide inspiration for future coursework and wider reading.

My Time Capsule

Some Year 7 students have been inspired by their recent studies on Being A Child of the 21st Century and they have decided to create their own capsules. Sissy Ellis of 7 Beech explains what she included in her time capsule and why.

My time capsule contains the following items:
- A newspaper
- A Collection of photos
- A detailed letter

I specifically chose a newspaper of the day to include in the time capsule because it will show what is happening around the world at this time. I also chose this because it would almost certainly make the reader compare their future lives with ours now. Further, I chose a collection of photographs of my house, my room, my phone and my family - as these will all change over a period of time. It would also be fascinating to see what reaction these items would cause to a person of the future.

Finally, I decided to put in a detailed letter explaining more about being an average 11-year-old girl in the 21st Century! I wonder what they might they make of it all?

'Whale Rider' and learning about the Maoris

Year Eight have been enjoying the novel 'Whale Rider'. Set in Whangara the novel celebrates the extraordinary talents of a young girl who must overcome the archaic traditions of her tribe to take her rightful place as Tribal Leader.

Alongside exploring the protaganist's unique relationship with whales our students have been examining the importance of the environment to the Maoris, who understand that their fate is linked to that of the environment, specifically the whales. This topic has lent itself to a range of exciting activities in the classroom, from drama roleplay and language exploration to measuring the whales in the playground, some of which reach to 20 metres in length. We would highly recommend reading 'Whale Rider' to anyone who has not yet done so, which could lead to some very interesting discussions with your daughter!

Miss Moll

From the Prefects...

English is one of the core subjects for GCSEs. Our department has been preparing the students for their English Literature and Language exams which will take place at the end of the year. Currently every class has been designated a nineteenth century novel: 'Jane Eyre' by Charlotte Bronte, 'Pride and Prejudice' by Jane Austen and 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens. The students are evidently keen to study their chosen novel. Our teachers set out several opportunities for students to read their novels, both in class and as homework.

As prefects in English, we are expected to perform our duties once every week. With the Head of the English Department, Mrs Watts, and our trainer, Mrs Lewis, we decide on suitable dates where we can meet up and discuss our other responsibilities. Our general contribution to this role is to help out our teachers and the English Department however and whenever we can. For example: sorting out the English cupboard, organising new books our pupils will be studying in class, sorting out the displays within our department, managing and preparing for fun social events, like the Roald Dahl party and treasure hunt.

We take pride in our roles as English Prefects and are keen on carrying out our responsibilities. It allows us the opportunity of practising our teamwork and independent skills in a work-based environment. We also enjoy contributing to the department and being able to provide help for our teachers whenever possible.

Elysa Salavarria and Tina Provis

KS4 Reading

Sixteen Books to Read Before You Turn 16

Catcher in the Rye – J. D. Salinger

Jane Eyre – Charlotte Bronte

To Kill a Mockingbird – Harper Lee

Cat's Eye – Margaret Atwood

Huckleberry Finn – Mark Twain

Great Expectations – Charles Dickens

The Diary of a Young Girl – Anne Frank

The Book Thief – Markus Zusak

1984 – George Orwell

The Great Gatsby – F. Scott Fitzgerald

Slaughterhouse 5 – Kurt Vonnegut Jnr.

Harry Potter Series – JK Rowling

Lord of the Flies – William Golding

Noughts and Crosses – Malorie Blackman

The Perks of Being a Wallflower – Stephen Chbosky

Pride and Prejudice – Jane Austen

Maths

Outstanding

Working Towards

Lacking Understanding

Stuck

Maths 'OWLS' – What are they and how can I use them at home?

Each time your child takes a formal maths assessment, in Years 7 to Sixth Form, she then completes an 'OWLS' sheet. These sheets allow each pupil to have an individual analysis of her areas of strength and weakness and to use these to set personalised targets.

So what are 'OWLS'?
They are a way of describing how well you understand a topic.

When setting targets, the girls are encouraged to look at the earliest questions that they are not 'Outstanding' at and set these as their targets. It is up to individual pupils to decide how to work on their chosen areas. For example, they could choose to use the Mymaths or Mathswatch links, complete practice exercises or make a poster.

After they have completed their work they should show it to you with their 'OWLS' sheet to comment, if you wish, and sign.

These sheets are kept together with each pupil's target work and are available for the girls to look back at particularly when revising for the next formal assessment.

The Sky is no Longer the Limit

Students meet Tim Peake

Last year students in Years 7 and 8 who were in either the Gardening Club or the Science Club, took part in an experiment with the European Space gency. They were sent two packets of seeds, one of which had been sent to the International Space Station for 6 months and one that hadn't. Like hundreds of other schools across the country they followed strict instructions to test the seeds and see whether or not being in space had affected them.

Earlier this term, the team prepared a presentation that was accepted by the organisers and they were invited to 2 days out at Portsmouth University.
The first day had a series of workshops and activities: learning about satellite photography and having a go at interpreting the photos; finding out how the light from distant stars tells us what they are made of; hearing about possible careers in the space and film industries (they use many of the same skills!); and seeing how space suits are designed to keep astronauts alive.

On the second day the team got to hear or see presentations from lots of other schools but the really exciting bit is that they got to meet Tim Peake and ask him questions. A prize goes to Mrs Martin for the most interesting question: how do you cut your hair in space? Apparently it involves using a hoover to stop the bits of hair going everywhere.

A really exciting couple of days and it was lovely to see an ex- St Anne's student, Dr Jen Gupta, up on stage with Tim Peake as one of the team who had organised the event.

London Art Trip

Exploring and experiencing artists' work first hand is an integral part of the GCSE and A-Level art course. On the 18th October our students participated in a trip to London.

During this time, we visited both a traditional Gallery and a Modern Gallery allowing the students to enjoy a wide range of different art styles. Further to this, we had the privilege of being in Trafalgar Square during the "Heroes' return" celebrating the athletes who participated in the 2016 Olympics.

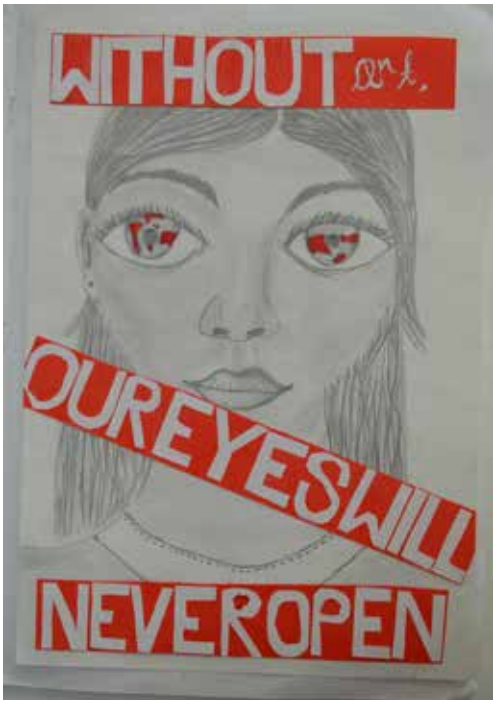
We first visited the National Gallery where the students had the opportunity to experience art by world renowned artists such as Caravaggio, Vermeer and Monet. This allowed for an understanding of the scale and precision that artists worked at in the past, without photographs.

The second gallery we visited was the Saatchi, where "Champagne Life" was being exhibited. This is a modern art display by an entirely female cohort. Students had a wide range of sculptural and 2D art forms in widely contrasting styles to explore throughout this exhibition. Further to this, students were given the opportunity to participate in a workshop based on the work of Julia Wachtel.

The full day was highly successful and enriching for the art students, a trip we plan to repeat in the future.

KS3 Art work

Throughout the first term hard work and determination has demonstrated by all our KS3 art students. However, there are some students that have gone above and beyond to create pieces of work that inspire pride and illustrate high achievement.
Within the projects Year 7 are looking at Natural Forms, Year 8 Culture and Year 9 Memories. This has led to the creation of a wide variety of different styles, illustrating a broad range of skills from our students. I hope you enjoy the selection of work exemplified here.



Christian Union

Autumn Update

Christian Union got off to a fantastic start this term with pupils taking turns in leading us in a short Bible study. This has meant that our focus each week has reflected the needs and feelings of the group and has reminded us about how we can look to God in all circumstances. As fellowship is such an important part of the Christian Union we decided in November to take the opportunity to get to know each other better by going Ringoing at Southampton Snow Sports Centre. This involved sliding down a ski slope in a giant rubber doughnut. It was an evening full of laughing as well as a lot of screaming from Miss Everley and in true style of Christian Union we finished the evening eating sugar doughnuts.

Encouragingly we have had a number of KS3 pupils showing an interest in joining the Christian Union therefore we have decided to open the group up to Year 9 pupils from January 2017. So, if you would like to eat doughnuts, make some friends and learn and grow in God please join us Friday lunchtimes in room 60.

History

"Fun Yet Poignant" - Year 9 World War 1 Curriculum Enrichment Day

It is 100 years this year since the Battle of the Somme. The worst day in British military history was the first day of that battle! In order to allow our girls to understand this horrific event, and place it in context of the rest of the war, the history department ran a day of remembrance for our Year 9 girls. In the morning the girls, in their tutor groups, looked at three aspects associated with the war; the first was recapping the main causes of the conflict with the aim of creating a drama piece showing their beliefs as to the most important reason for the outbreak of the war. The second session was based around each group researching a specific battle within the war and producing a giant poster showing that it was a World conflict and not just a west European event fought in Belgium and France. The final aspect looked at in the morning was again specific to each tutor group but this time focused on a given woman who was involved and affected by the mass killings. These women ranged from soldiers through to spies and nurses, showing that it was not just men who were mentally and physically harmed in The Great War.

The afternoon saw all students and teachers together considering whether the concept of patriotism was enough of a reason for people to become involved with the fighting. Throughout the session various people popped back from the past to inform the girls of their reasons for getting involved and what they believed about the conflict. These included Edith Cavell, killed by the Germans as a spy; Siegfried Sassoon, a 'gentleman' and poet who suffered from shell shock, and Sylvia Pankhurst, a suffragette who set up the 'Mother's Arms' to allow women with children to work in the munitions factories. Throughout this session much singing was had in order to keep morale up, however, we did unfortunately lose some of our girls to the weapons that were demonstrated by 'Sergeant' Gallant.

"I totally loved the presentation and everything that I have done today..."

The best way to leave the day is in the words of one of our students:

"It was inspiring as I learned more about The Great War and the emotions."

Geography

The autumn term is always a busy one for the geography department as we try and squeeze in as many trips as possible before the winter sets in! This year was no exception.

Year 12 and 13 went out to Studland in early October to explore the vegetation changes from the shore inland. We were blessed with fair weather and the National Trust shop provided the hot chocolate! We were able to collect a large amount of really useful data that will be used by both year groups in different ways. Not only were we collecting data to help us understand the theory of coasts and ecosystems, students were also able to practice a range of practical skills which will prove useful for their own individual projects. Year 13 will be tested on their skills in an exam at the end of the year and Year 12 will use the skills when putting together their own personal investigations in the summer term. As well as visiting Studland beach, we also walked up to Old Harry Rocks to have a look at a classic bit of the Jurassic coast, to better understand the processes at work in the area.

Year 11 have spent much of this term completing their controlled assessments based on the Rivers trip we ran in the summer. We had a beautiful sunny day in June last year and were able to collect a large amount of data to help students understand the main features of Bartley Water in the New Forest. This is the last year this form of assessment will happen in geography as these skills we be assessed by examinations in the future.

Year 10 have had an excellent start to the new GCSE in geography. We started the year exploring the issues surrounding development and students really seem to have enjoyed the new content. Much of what we are studying is very relevant to what is going on day to day around the world and we encourage all students to watch the news or read a decent newspaper when they can.

Year 9 had plenty of opportunities to explore the outside world at the end of last term. We ran our first residential trip to Cornwall and it was extremely successful. Despite an inauspicious start with a rainy afternoon in Boscastle spirits were high for the whole weekend. We had a full day to explore Eden on the Saturday and students particularly enjoyed our version of the "Bush Tucker Challenge" with some very imaginative ideas being presented by the different teams. The accommodation at the Eden YHA was also exciting – we all stayed in shipping containers! They have been converted into sleeping pods and although not providing a huge amount of space, they were extremely comfortable. Everyone really enjoyed the food, which was provided by the restaurants down in the main Eden Complex and gave everyone plenty of choice. Our final day was spent with a visit to Newquay and the sun shone for us! A beautiful sunny morning on the beach paddling in the pools we found in the sand – perfect!

The winning sandcastle – a front room, complete with TV!

Year 9 also had the chance to visit a local beach at the end of term to practise some of the skills needed for GCSE and to help them understand the natural environment of our region better. On a cool windy and rainy day, we attempted to collect data on Avon Beach about the landscape and how people were changing the environment. This did not prove easy! To complete the day ice-creams and a sand castle building competition became possible as the wind dropped and the sun came out!

Year 8 have had a great term – they have been shaken, rattled and rolled with our tectonics scheme of work and are now finding out about sports and how trade is unfair. We have just begun to look at why sports stadiums are built where they are and how important they are to the economy of cities. Year 7 have been finding out about "Our Place" and we had some fantastic burger boxes this year, showing students' favourite places. Look out for the prizes for the three best at the end of term!
Our main competition this term was for KS3 students to cover their books with geographical images. They could choose how they did this and we had a wide variety of different mediums used. The winning books were:

French play "Le Café", Onatti Theatre

Saint Anne's was invited to join other secondary schools on the 7th November to see a French play written and directered by Onatti Theatre. This company creates plays based on the GCSE curriculum, which are performed entirely by native speakers. These plays allow language learners to develop their listening skills in a more authentic context, and raise awareness of just how much they can already understand. 30 students from 9 Medina attended the event. The play relied on audience interaction, and we were very proud to see three of our students volunteer to go on stage and become characters (customers at the café). They did a fantastic job and really impressed Miss Kiledjian and Ms Reina.

Olivia O'Mara (9 Medina) says that "the French play we experienced was very good. Although some parts were harder to understand, we were able to follow the storyline. There were some funny parts which we all really enjoyed. Personally, my favourite part was when they had volunteers go on stage: interaction with the audience is always a good thing".

Another Year 9 class will be offered the opportunity to go and see the Spanish play in March.

Miss Kiledjian

Music

Year 7 Informal Concert

Well done to the Year 7 students who performed in their first concert at St Anne's on Monday 17th October. It was a lovely to hear our new musicians perform solos in an informal setting. The girls work hard in their instrumental lessons in and out of school and it was brilliant that they took the opportunity to share and showcase their talents.

Instrumental Results from Summer 2016

Eleanor Baker	Piano	Grade 4	Pass
Yasmin Mall	Piano	Grade 4	Pass
Diana Rzayeva	Piano	Grade 1	Merit
Faith Ellison	Piano	Grade 1	Distinction
Sejal Kumar	Piano	Grade 2	Merit
Isabelle Lawes	Piano	Grade 5	Pass
Sherlyn Sherwin	Piano	Grade 2	Pass
Aoife Dougan	Piano	Grade1	Distinction
Soriah Orekan	Piano	Grade 3	Pass
Alvina Tom	Piano	Grade 2	Pass
Beatrice Buchaman-Lee	Piano	Grade 2	Pass
Lucy Watson	Piano	Grade 4	Pass
Charlotte Elsom	Piano	Grade 1	Distinction
Temioluwa Onanuga	Clarinet	Grade 4	Distinction
Isabelle Lawes	Flute	Grade 6	Merit
Isabelle Lawes	Singing	Grade 4	Distinction
Tia Fishlock	Signing	Grade 2	Distinction
Rachel Hawkes	Singing	Grade 2	Pass
Ruby Culpin	Singing	Grade 2	Pass
Faith Ellison	Singing	Grade 2	Pass

Congratulations to all these girls and to everyone who has taken instrumental exams recently!

Leisure and Tourism

Southampton City Centre Visit

On Tuesday 13th September the Year 11 Leisure and Tourism group visited Southampton City Centre to do some valuable research for their controlled assessment.

We visited The Library, Sea City Museum and finished the day off at The Quays. All the girls were investigating how the city centre of Southampton caters for both the tourist and leisure market.
The also had the opportunity to have an American themed lunch at Ed's diner in West Quay which was enjoyed by all.

Thanks go to Miss Martin for accompanying us on the fieldwork.

Bournemouth Fieldwork

On Wednesday 28th September the new year 10 Leisure and Tourism group went on a fieldtrip to Bournemouth.

The group have to study a seaside town for their course and a visit to Bournemouth gave them the perfect opportunity to build on the work they had done in class.
They visited the Oceanarium looking round at all the facilities they provide for tourists as well as having the opportunity to see all the marine wildlife.

They had a look at the beach including the opportunity to enjoy some 'traditional seaside cuisine.'

In the afternoon they had a ride on the cliff lift and were able to consider what groups of tourists would use this facility the most and why.

To finish the visit off they looked round the BIC to see the range of venues they have for hire as well as the services there are for tourists and locals to use.

Thanks go to Mrs Monk and Miss Martin for accompanying the trip.

Day Walk 5th November

For the first of the outdoor navigation training sessions we were blessed with a beautiful sunny day in the New Forest in Wilverley Enclosure. Thirty five students and eight staff members navigated routes around the enclosure negotiating the mud and fallen trees but bathed in bright sunshine and surrounded by the fantastic colour of the autumn leaves. The girls all did really well with their navigation skills and by the end of the day were successfully navigating by themselves. The emergency shelters came into their own at the end of the day as an excellent way of warming up !!! We are all looking forward to the next day walk in March.

Are you a St Anne's Alumni?

Did you come to St Anne's? Do you know someone that did? Friend, family member, colleague? Then please encourage them to sign up to our St Anne's Alumni network.
All they need to do is:

1. Go to www.futurefirst.org.uk
2. Go to the 'Sign Up' tab
3. Click 'Former Student'
4. Type in 'St Anne's Catholic School'

Or alternatively scan our QR code.
Signing up to our database allows alumni to keep up to date with all of the latest news and opportunities for how to still be involved with St Anne's.

futurefirst

Black History Certificate for Performance

We are part of a dance group called AlliveStar and we attend a lot of charity events. Last month we attended an event at City College for Black History Month and we were asked to dance a routine that we had put together. Later on we were honoured with a certificate from the mayor for our contributions to the community and for representing our school and its values. It was really exciting and we got to meet so many other people who have had such a big impact in our community and we learned about what things they had done and their plans for the future to make Southampton a better place. We met the mayor and talked to her about our performance and she asked us about what we plan to do for our futures and how we could take on a bigger role by helping our community develop. We told her that we plan on inspiring younger and older people to take part in clubs and charity events. We had a lot of fun being there and receiving an award and representing our school. We really enjoy dancing and hope to take part in more events soon.

By: Yasmin , Fatima , Janet and Fatou

Extra-curricular Enrichment

Launching the 2016 - 2017 Extra-curricular Programme

The start of this academic year seems like a distant memory as we are now closer to Christmas than we are the start of the year. However, during September, the staff (and Students) that run Extra-Curricular activities at St Anne's got together over a lunchtime to showcase some of the clubs and activities that pupils across the school can get involved in. The event was a great success as lots of St Anne's students came into the hall to find out how they can spend their social times. It seemed on the day that a club run by our Sixth Form students was the most popular with students dancing to K-Pop to get the attention of the students looking for a new club to attend. This was a great way to launch the start of the new extra-curricular programme and the newly introduced House competition in which students can gain points towards their Houses for attending clubs and activities in their own time…and we all know what points mean! PRIZES!!!!!!

After our first points collection this year I am pleased to announce the results as they stand;

1st Edmund	342
2nd Bede	210
3rd Fisher	175
4th Gregory	154
5th Campion	87
6th Alban	72
7th Becket	55

So, well done to Edmund house who are currently winning the extra-curricular points competition.

It has been great to see the introduction of some new clubs this year and the continuation of the St Anne's regular clubs. One of our newest clubs 'Knitting Club' run by Mrs Russell and Mrs Thomas seems to have had the most impact with both students and staff meeting up on Tuesday and Thursdays lunchtime to learn a new skill. It has been great to see the students setting up clubs that they have wanted to see at school too, a group of Year 9 students have set up a Henna design club and the English room is full almost every Thursday with girls drawing their designs on paper and on the SMART board. Another new addition to the extra-curricular programme this year is textiles club with Mrs Gray and her group of girls busy spending their lunchtimes sewing.

We would still like to increase our extra-curricular provision, so if there are any clubs that students want to see at school please see Mr Lewis who can help you get the club up and running.

Year 7

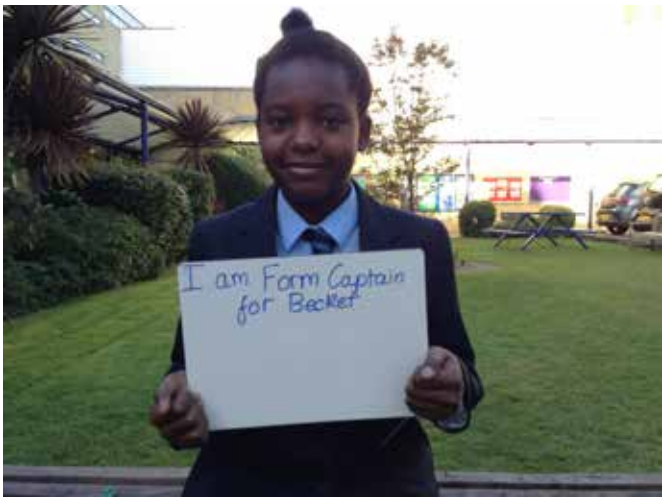
Curriculum Enrichment Days

What a wonderful start to the term, Year 7's have had at St Anne's.
Two Curriculum Enrichment Days accomplished, one trip to Portsmouth Cathedral and a day in school with volunteers from Barclays Bank to investigate Money Matters and Bank Accounts. During the visit to the cathedral, members of the public commented on "how wonderfully behaved" and "polite" the girls were, and Barclays Bank volunteers said they thoroughly enjoyed working with the students. Words to describe the girls were "delightful" and "respectful" amongst others. The Year 7 girls have been a credit to the school.
We had the opportunity to meet some parents for 'Tea with the Headmistress for Year 7 Parents' as well as parents and tutors having the opportunity to meet and discuss how the girls have settled in to the school during the Yr 7 Parents Pastoral Evening.
High quality assemblies were delivered to the Year group by students from; Becket, Bede and Edmund tutor groups. It was evident from the quality of all the assemblies the students put in a lot of hard work and pride in what they did.

Year 7 have a lot to celebrate. There are lots of superstars in the year group who compete in activities outside of St Anne's. In the office we love to hear about and celebrate their achievements. Big congratulations to:
Maya Kutty who recently competed in the prelims of the South East Regional English Schools Swimming Association's diving competition representing St Anne's.

She performed well and won her event, making it through to the national finals as part of the South East team. The finals are to take part at the Aquatics Olympic pool on Sunday the 11th of December - Good Luck!

Charlotte Murinda



Kiya Scott

Charlotte Murinda has won several medals in dance competitions, Lydia Buckell has also won several medal for gymnastics. Kiya Scott Smith ran and completed a 10k run! Well done to all!
Please encourage your daughter to pop into the Key Stage 3 office to share what they have done.
A lot has been packed into this term, and hopefully your daughter has settled in, found new friends and got used to the routines of secondary school, without getting lost around the building too many times!
Hopefully we can use the Christmas time to rest and reflect back over the last term, and look forward to the New Year. Wishing you all a very merry festive break.

Mrs Boorman
Head of Year 7

Year 8

Year 8 began with excitement and anticipation as we all returned to St Anne's in September knowing that we were no longer the new ones. Staff and tutors encouraged Year 8 pupils to be proactive in helping the Year 7 pupils to settle in as it wasn't so long ago that they were in that position too. Our girls did us proud in guiding lost pupils to lessons, assisting as buddies and ambassadors during the transition process and always being willing to lend a helping hand.

Roles and responsibilities have been nominated and elected so many congratulations to Paloma Morales Espejo, Evie Brine, Toni Britton, Janet Benson, Jessie Ratour and Roxanne Salavarria from 8 Alban. Navdeep Kaur, Boronia Gordon-Pullar, Molly Aspinall, Amy Bowen, Lily Hardman and Norah Alsalamah from 8 Becket. Emily Walker, Fae Thompson, Stephanie Ranieri, Anita Rathore, Tahmina Shareen Aqa and Alba Payne from 8 Bede. Lisa Musanhi, Meral Tawfik, Niamh Madden, Molly Ryan, Zita Gonda and Elsie Smith from 8 Campion. Sophia Chowdary, Hannah Jamil, Jamilah Halliday, Sarah Wright, Mia Santana Martin and Abigail Hadley from 8 Edmund. Lydia Ngwenya, Ysabella Rei Lopez, Chichi Nwabueze, Joya Taylor, Amber Hayat and Fiona Hariromana from 8 Fisher and finally, Amirah Khan, Rozeena Sumra, Rochele Milano, Kushwant Roath, Atonje Kakooza and Keara Fisher from 8 Gregory. Many congratulations to you all and we look forward to working with you this year.

We've enjoyed two fantastic Curriculum Enrichment Days this term and learned a lot about the wider world of work and how to take responsibility of our finances. Mrs Russell and the Chaplaincy Team did a fantastic job at organising our Reflection Day encouraging our pupils to 'Go Deeper' and explore who they are and what faith means to them in more depth. Mrs Russell commented on how delighted she was with the behaviour and enthusiasm and participation of our year 8 girls making the tutor team and myself very proud.
Alban, Gregory and Bede have created and presented some wonderful assemblies sharing their thoughts on Harvest, Who Inspires You and World Aids Day.

Reports have been completed and have been sent home to parents and it is encouraging to see that progress is being made and the hard work and commitment year 8 are putting into their studies is paying off. We will continue to encourage and motivate our girls to strive

for the best they can achieve and hope to see further improvement in the next round of reports. We look forward to meeting with parents to discuss your daughter's studies at the Year 8 Parent's Evening on Tuesday 31st January.

As the term comes to a close we look forward to some rest and relaxation and an opportunity to spend time celebrating and spending time with our families. The Year 8 tutor team and I would like to take the opportunity to wish you a restful Christmas break and best wishes for the New Year. To conclude we have some thoughts shared by members of year 8 on their experiences so far this year. We hope you enjoy them.

Best wishes,
Miss Taylor and the Year 8 Pastoral Team.

Written by Karishma Kaur and Gouri Roopesh on behalf of 8 Fisher

We are Fisher. Not only are we a loving family, we also believe in a loving community as we try our best to contribute as much as we can in making our 'OUTSTANDING' world even better.

So where do we begin? Let's start with our achievements in sport. Recently, we've taken part in the House Basketball competition, just like we aim to do in every opportunity we receive, our team came back with great results and we are so proud of them!

Christmas time is near (yay) however this is no time to relax! We've been taking up every little amount of our spare time to spread happiness in other's lives. How do you ask? Well, we've all signed up to bring in different food items or decorative objects that will build up our Christmas hamper that is sent to the less fortunate to brighten up their Christmas! Not only this, we are also going to be organising a House Charity event to raise money for charity with our motive for making the world a better place.

Making the world a better place is important to us because we believe this is a gift from God and we should respect that we are lucky enough to be living in such an environment. This thought was triggered in our minds during the last Enrichment Day we had where we reflected on such things and had so much fun working with different people than we usually do.

Hopefully this explains how we aim to be the best of our abilities and we won't stop here as we have a lot more to succeed in, together.

Written by Harprit Kaur on behalf of 8 Edmund

This year so far 8 Edmund have achieved lots of things like the attendance award for the tutor group with the highest attendance from September to October. We also achieved 100% attendance as a tutor group on week.

In our tutor group we all get on with each other and help anyone who needs it. Enrichment day was nice for us all as we learned about what we will need for our future. We also learned that if we do not take care of our common house (world), one day there won't be this beautiful world we live in today. We are still pleased about winning sports day in the summer and hope to do well this year too. In our tutor group we learn, we share, we listen, we care which is what makes 8 Edmund the best tutor group. We would like to thank our tutor Mrs Robinson as she is the person who keeps us all together like a family. Thank you Mrs Robinson, 8 Edmund are the best because of you.

Year 9

Alban

This year we have welcomed our new tutor, Mr Allen to St Anne's. He has helped our tutor group a lot and is proving to be a really kind and supportive tutor. As a tutor group we have already started making and decorating our Christmas hampers to help the less fortunate. We are also working together as a group to raise money at the Christmas Cracker the new shelter to be built outside House 3, we hope to do a bake sale with a chocolate fountain. We are very excited about this and hope it will be a huge success.

Campion

This year we have learnt to become a more united tutor group by using our PSHE time to discuss any problems we may have. Currently we are working to create our Christmas hamper to make it a worthy gift for those less fortunate than ourselves.
As always Mr Watt is in our thoughts and prayers and we wish him a healthy and happy Christmas and New Year.

Fisher

This term 9 Fisher have really enjoyed making our Christmas cracker and our house event. We have chosen to run a multicultural stall to celebrate the coming together of pupils from different cultures here at St Anne's. We have found our morning reflections very inspiring and have loved sharing our special intentions as a tutor group. We have really enjoyed our PSHE topics this term and have found the presentations and group work we have been completing really interesting. The enrichment days this term have been amazing, it is a great day where we can all come together as a year group and work as one. It is lovely to share the talents of others in Year 9 on these days and get to know each other in a different way.

Becket

This year so far has been really fun for our tutor group. Our Curriculum enrichment day 2 was very interesting learning about WW1. Our tutor group are very excited for 2017 as we have the opportunity to choose our GCSE subjects which will be very interesting and exciting. We cannot wait to see what the year will hold for us.

Gregory

This term in 9 Gregory we have been working very hard for our school community particularly on the Christmas Cracker stall and hamper. As a tutor group we are all very close friends and really enjoy helping and supporting each other, we do this through our involvement in extra curricular competitions and during our morning reflections. We are a very active tutor group and always do our best to help our school and the community.

Message from Mrs Dalmeny:

What a fantastic start to Year 9. As always the girls have returned from the summer holidays full of gusto, ready and eager to learn. It has been a jam packed term with a number of tutor events ranging from the organising of the Christmas Cracker and hampers to the creation of Stained Glass Windows and reflection books. It has been lovely to see so many of our year group working together so well and supporting each other to achieve a common goal.

At the end of last year we outlined our expectations that every pupil in Year 9 should be attending at least one extra curricular club during lunch or after school, I have been delighted to see so many have taken this on board and are now developing new skills and friendships outside of the classroom, it is a wonderful opportunity to showcase their interests and talents with others in the year group.

Our PSHE topics and curriculum enrichment days have developed pupils' understanding in a wide range of areas ranging from black history and cultural awareness to anti-bullying and personal hygiene, next term we will be focussing on raising our future aspirations, looking ahead to GCSE options and work experience preparation. We will be supporting and answering any concerns with regards to how the GCSE options work and will be spending time looking at career paths and further education opportunities.

2017 will be a year of many new challenges and adventures for all. For me personally this will involve the beginning of my maternity leave while I await the arrival of my baby due in March. I am looking forward to hearing news of how each of the wonderful pupils in Year 9 are progressing throughout the year and as always will be keeping them all in my thoughts and prayers.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year.

Mrs Dalmeny

Year 9 Careers Masterclass

On Thursday December 1st, Mr Lophanor took sixteen Year 9 students to take part to a Careers Masterclass event organised by the University of Southampton. 4 schools from Hampshire were involved. The sessions explained to the students the importance of transferable skills, with a few examples linked to studying at university. A competition was then organised in the afternoon between the 4 schools. Each school had to make a presentation, including a poster, to explain how skills can be transferred from one field to another, from one subject to another. Fate decided that Saint Anne's would do their presentation last, confirming the old saying "save the best for last". I have to say that the first competitor (Sandown Bay secondary school) raised the bar high, but our girls did not quail. Instead, they were resilient and adapted to the situation by amending their presentation as necessary in order to stay on a higher level than the other schools. The St Anne's girls made a presentation which contained a job interview role play, a rap song, a poster and a testimony of 2 St Anne's students. In the end the judges, as well as the other contestants, were very impressed by such an outstanding performance.

Our students showed a surprising level of confidence and satisfaction, as soon as the word "competition" was mentioned by the host. Fatimata and Yasmin said to me "Sir, you know we're going to win, right? We are an outstanding school. We are the best, believe me".
The girls were: Charlotte Plumptre, Diana Rzayeva, Ebony Agard, Fatimata Diallo, Kiren Kaur, Maddinah Latif, Millie Saunders, Nesisa Dupute, Nyasha Michell Dube, Rebekah Read, Romanee Smith, Sanha Ahmadi, Tayah Askham, Trumeeka Campbell, Wahida Shuruty, Yasmin Gusmao. Very well done to you all!

Year 9 Curriculum Enrichment Day

Empowerment and self- expression in different cultures

It was a real privilege to lead the Curriculum Enrichment day at the end of September for Year 9 pupils.

The day enabled pupils to explore the theme of Empowerment and self-expression in other cultures. Pupils participated in art, dance, drama, MFL and music workshops throughout the day and groups presented their work to the whole year group at the end of the day in the Gym. Some of the highlights included pupils exploring the French Revolution in the MFL workshop, thought-provoking images from around the world in art and the creative dance, drama and music performances.

Below are some comments about the day from some pupils who participated in the workshops;

'I thoroughly enjoyed the day because it boosted my confidence and the teachers helped us understand about different cultures' (Fajr Khan- 9 Becket)

'Once you're on the stage you are nervous but once you finish you want to do more. That was how much fun it was for me' (Mariya Idiculla- 9 Campion)

'I absolutely loved learning about the French Revolution. It was very well explained and was very creative with the rosettes and drama performances' (Misha Patel- 9 Campion)

'The day was really fun and I liked how we showed the rest of Year 9 what we achieved' (Nesisa Dupute- 9 Gregory)

Thank you also to all the staff who led and supported the workshops for what was a very creative and thoroughly enjoyable Curriculum Enrichment Day.

Mr Rothery

Empowerment and self- expression

Empowerment:
The process of becoming stronger and more confident, especially in controlling one's life and claiming one's rights.

Self- Expression:
The expression of one's feelings, thoughts, or ideas, especially in writing, art, music, or dance.

Year 10

The Year 10 students have made a fantastic start to this year and with their GCSEs. Tutors and subject teachers have commented on the high standards of work that is being produced and the maturity in which the girls have started the year.

I am very pleased to welcome ten new students into our year group this term: Andreena Dragut, Siena Al Saidi, Safa Rahmat, Mary Mbabazi, Ismah Maroof, Maddison Duraku, Karolina Przydatek, Zuzanna Ozog, Dua Gull and Katie Kaola. I would like to wish them all the best for their journey through St Anne's and their GCSE courses.

The Year 10 students have recently returned to school after spending two weeks on work experience placements. Our students had an overwhelmingly successful two weeks, the feedback we had from their employers was fantastic. Our Year 10s represented St Anne's brilliantly. So many of our girls were commended for showing their initiative, taking on all responsibilities given to them and acting professionally at all times. I received several phone calls and emails expressing the employers thanks for sending such mature students to work for them and I am aware that many of our students would be offered jobs at the end of their two weeks.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms Ward for organising all of Work Experience and supporting our girls throughout the process. Also thanks must go to Miss Vlismas in the Library for helping students who were on site during work experience, Mrs Plowright and her team for taking on work experience students this year and to Mrs Gould for all the support she has given the girls, my team and I throughout the work experience, it has been gratefully received! Due to having excellent staff who are all committed to seeing our girls succeed in and out of school we have been able to visit students on their placements, talk to employers and receive fantastic feedback!

So many students excelled themselves throughout this process, but I wish to highlight a few.

- Chloe Welch:
Chloe demonstrated relentless determination to succeed.

- Joanna Anastasiou:
Her employer described Joanna as the best student they have ever had!

- Ola Bak:
Ola had an incredible work ethic and put other employees to shame.

- Wiktoria Tunska:
Wiktoria was described as being fantastic and St Anne's Creative Design Department wish they could keep her on staff as she has been so good!

- Habiba Akhter and Sophie Alexander
Both of these girls were incredibly well organised, not only were they the first to complete all the work experience forms but they also were given outstanding feedback from their placements.

- Ashante Otway and Zoe Barwicz
These two students were the first students to complete work experience at these companies. Due to their positivity, willingness to work hard and always be so professional these companies will now be taking on more work expeirence students.

- Reshmi Chowdhury, Mikaela De Castro, Kashmir Kaur, Unique Young, Mahima Rahman, Safa Rathmathul, and Faith Egbe
All of these girl's employers commented on how proactive, determined and hardworking they all were and how they were a credit to themselves, their families and our school.

- Eilise Brett, Shirely D'Souza, Malgorzata Marczak, Farah Parveen, Sanjana Sakar, Grashle Solaman, Simranjot Kaur, Anisha Roopra, Princess Habawel, Olivia Rutkowska and Merketa Dythe
These students impressed their employers so much that they have either already been offered a job or there is a job waiting for them as soon as they are old enough to work in the various companies.
This is an outstanding achievement, well done to all of these girls!

I have faith that the work skills and professionalism the students demonstrated to such a high level will be brought back into school. The girls are all working hard towards their controlled assessments, coursework and exams; I would like to encourage them to demonstrate a positive attendance record and attitude towards their learning to ensure they achieve their best in all areas of school life. I hope the work experience they have had helps to motivate them to excel in school and to reach their professional goals in years to come.

Miss A. King (HOY 10)

Year 11

The Year 11 students have had an extremely busy autumn term! The pre-public exams (PPE's) began straight after the half term break. These took place over a two-week period in the hall, and were co-ordinated by our exams team. The students worked hard revising and preparing for the exams and were congratulated for their mature and engaged attitude throughout the whole exam period.

The students then had a mock results day on Friday 2nd December. Tutors handed out envelopes to each student containing their results for all subjects. Many of these results included controlled assessment marks as they will do in their final exams too. There was a complete mix of emotions on the day, from excitement to frustration, disappointment to relief. It was a great insight for the pupils into how they will feel in the summer if they get certain results. We hope they appreciated this experience, and will use it to motivate themselves with their studies for the remainder of the year.

The whole school have also had two curriculum enrichment days (CED) this term. Year 11 were lucky enough to have a guest speaker from 'Positively mad' who ran an interactive session on study skills and also delivered a motivational speech. The students developed a range of revision tools during the first session, and were inspired to reach their full potential during the latter. During the afternoon, the girls took part in a range of reflection activities; from meditation to board games.

The second CED focused on subject interventions. Half of the year took part in maths interventions for the duration of the day, whereas the other half had a carousel of interventions and activities. They received revision sessions in chemistry, physics, MFL, RS, and IT; developed mindful practices and strategies to help them cope with upcoming stresses; and were introduced to a range of university options with a representative from the University of Southampton.

Year 12 are settling well!

Year 12 have taken to college life really well. The step between Year 11 and Year 12 has come naturally to most of them and we are already seeing good results in subject achievement, keep up the good work. Students who have come from other schools have found themselves really welcomed by our St Annians and it feels as though they have always been with us.

Monthly whole year group birthday celebrations of pizza and presents have become a real feature of Year 12 and I am so proud of the way the students have all formed such a bond so quickly.

We have had several team building sessions, the most exciting of which was a day at Woodmill Activity Centre. The students were able to face their fears taking part in some frightening challenges which included tunnelling, abseiling and climbing amongst other things.

Everyone really threw themselves into these challenges and managed to take part in things which they never dreamed they would be able to. I was lucky enough to work with one group all day and I was blown away by how brave they all were.

We have also had a curriculum enrichment day where the students were able to learn how to cook on a budget and learn about health and fitness. We also had a session with St John's ambulance to learn about some basic first aid which is a skill which is so important.

I look forward to moving in to 2017 with the Year 12s focussing hard on their assessment fortnight where we will learn how all of their hard work has paid off.
I hope you have a happy and peaceful Christmas and a joyous New Year.

Mrs Trueick
Head of Year 12

Y13 Interview Day 29th September

In preparation for higher education and employment the Year 13 students participated in a day focussing on their interview skills. Students were given the chance to prepare their personal statements and think carefully about how to answer interview questions.
A variety of professional people from the local community kindly gave up their time; our students really impressed those involved. Here are some of the comments and feedback we received on the day:
"I am amazed by the high calibre of the extra-curricular activities and the professionalism of the candidates"
"The students are great ambassadors for St Anne's"
"Really positive answers with regards to the subjects they've applied for. Good, quick, answers when thinking on the spot"
The interviewers came from a range of backgrounds including law, medicine and accountancy. The result was a highly informative day that allowed the students to reflect on personal statements, develop skills and enhance their applications to University.

Sixth Form Open Evening

On Wednesday 12th October we held our annual Sixth Form Open Evening. This year was very well attended with the hall, performing arts centre and science block buzzing with interest reflecting the judgement by Ofsted that our 16-19 provision is outstanding. We'd like to thank all the parents and students who attended and we are looking forward meeting you at interview.
So far we have already received over 100 applications from both internal and external candidates. The final deadline for applications is Friday 27th January 2016 but we encourage you to submit them sooner rather than later. Prospectuses can be obtained from reception and students can apply online via our school website. Should you have any further questions regarding the Sixth Form then please feel free to contact Mr Matteucci (Head of Sixth Form).

Y13 Treasure Hunt 15th November

Year 13 students took part in a treasure hunt around Southampton designed to promote collaborative skills and an appreciation of the city we live and work in. They were given photos of landmarks, some well known and some more obscure, which they had to visit and evidence this with a group photo. This took them all over the city with students visiting statues, galleries, museums, monuments and shops. The students worked together with great enthusiasm to produce some great presentations and win fun prizes. The day was also an opportunity for them to have a day away from the stresses and challenges of what is a very demanding academic year.

TEACHMEET SOUTHAMPTON

Professional Development for Teachers by Teacher

On the 30th November, St Anne's hosted a city-wide TeachMeet to allow teachers across Southampton to share best practice and learn from one another. Over 100 people from 23 different schools or educational organisations got together in our school hall to share what they are doing to improve the education of young people across the region and to steal ideas which we can take back to our own schools. It was a privilege for St Anne's to organise and host the event and the feedback was very positive. Areas covered included:

- Developing independence of pupils as they review learning in English.
- Using coaching to help teachers self-reflect and improve their practice.
- Teaching Additional Maths to more able pupils at GCSE.
- Intervening and supporting the weakest mathematics pupils in Year 7.
- Using Philosophy for Children to develop higher order thinking and reasoning skills.
- Using the ancient game of GO to teach pupils.

Parents Voice

As in previous years, we have gathered the views from parents through parent's evenings. A box is left at the main reception for parents to complete on their way in or out of the evening. We have then posted home questionnaires to those parents who did not attend the evening. In this way, every parent in the school has the chance to have their say about the school.

In 2015-2016, we had 268 responses, which is 26% of the school community; the highest response rate in the last 4 years. 28 questionnaires were received by post from parents not attending the parents evening, which is 10% of the responses.

Responses

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016
Number of Responses	158	265	221	268
Percentage of School	14%	24%	20%	26%

Percentages show the responses that agreed or strongly agreed with each statement.

Happy, Healthy and Safe

Year	2014	2015	2016	National
My child is happy at the school.	97%	98%	97%	92%
My child feels safe at this school.	97%	99%	99%	94%
This school deals effectively with bullying.	90%	95%	95%	68%
This school makes sure its pupils are well behaved.	91%	94%	94%	86%
My child is well looked after at this school	96%	99%	99%	90%

Learning

Year	2014	2015	2016	National
I receive valuable information about my child's progress	92%	96%	90%	83%
My child makes good progress at this school	95%	98%	98%	87%
My child is taught well at this school.	96%	100%	96%	87%
My child receives appropriate homework for their age.	89%	95%	92%	82%

Overall

Year	2014	2015	2016	National
This school is well led and managed.	96%	98%	97%	82%
This school responds well to any concerns I raise.	91%	97%	93%	79%
I would recommend this school to another parent.	96%	96%	98%	86%

There were lots of positive comments from parents, some examples:

- Best school on the planet!
- Miss Thompson - Amazing Head of Year
- Very happy that my daughter goes to this school, very good school
- We are very happy with St Anne's. Wonderful staff
- Well pleased with school support for my child. She is very happy at school.
- Really appreciate the excellent organisation and the dedication of the teachers.
- I am pleased with St Anne's - my daughter just came to the 6th form and has achieved well and extremely happy.
- I am extremely happy with my daughter's support.
- Very pleased with our child's progress so far
- Excellent school
- No issues - delighted so far! Thank you
- I am really proud of this school and helping my daughter to reach her targets
- My daughter loves St Anne's and seems to be thriving here.
- Librarian is amazing
- All good thank you very much
- Thank you for being approachable and for taking care of my whole child and not seeing her as a grade machine!
- This is a fantastic school. Newly qualified teachers are naturally less adventurous regarding teaching methods but my child responds well to being given responsibility for learning and is doing well. We are very pleased with her progress and development. More places for Duke of Edinburgh would be good.

We are all members of a great club…

St Anne's PFA!

Thousands of students have benefitted from the fundraising our fabulous Parents and Friends Association are involved in every year. You may have contributed with a donation or by buying refreshments at a Parents' Evening or a strip of raffle tickets at the School Concert. Thank you very much for your support.

The PFA support our extra-curricular clubs and our dance production for Rock Challenge 2017, in addition to the drive to raise funds for the new seating area in the grounds behind House 3.

We aim to raise £15,000. We could raise…….

£11,500 if 500 families each bought a 500+ Club token
£1,000 from raffles at the School Production and School Concerts
£1,000 from pupil and parent stalls at the Christmas Cracker
£2,000 from sales of refreshments at school events

We need your help! You could contribute in many different ways, donating your ideas, time, money or skills. If you would like to be involved in any way, please let us know by email to: PFA@st-annes.uk.com , or complete the 500 club form on the website and hand it in at Reception.

...and finally

Dear Parents,

I hope you are glowing with pride for your daughters having read the inspiring articles in this Christmas Newsletter. The overwhelming feeling of warmth, endeavour and care for each other and their community shines through on every page. From the outstanding example set by our Sixth Form CAFOD Young Leaders to the phenomenal achievements of Year 7 students there is a great deal to celebrate at St Anne's. The reviews of 'Macbeth' and 'The Wind in the Willows' written by Year 7 pupils on page 9 are exceptional and the reports from so many extra-curricular clubs and activities are amazing. Reports of our Curriculum Enrichment Days describe the positive impact of these opportunities to explore subjects in depth, and accounts of trips out of school to explore geography, see live theatre performances and meet Tim Peake are exciting to read.

It is clear that our girls make the most of every opportunity and work very hard indeed at all aspects of life at St Anne's. Their positive attitude, commitment, diligence and enthusiasm combine to make them truly exceptional and through sheer hard work and resilience, girls of all levels of ability achieve astounding success across and beyond the curriculum. With a staff team who encourage our girls and Sixth Form students to achieve even more than they thought possible, it is easy to see why a recent visitor to the school described St Anne's as not just 'Outstanding' but 'In the stratosphere'!

In addition to our status as an 'Outstanding' school, we have received the excellent news that the school remains in the top 13% of all schools nationally with the release of the Government's analysis of the 2016 results in RAISEonline. This means that students at St Anne's continue to make the best progress in the country. Congratulations to everyone involved in this truly exceptional achievement.

We have welcomed visitors from across the country this term to professional development events for teachers including the local 'TeachMeet' for Southampton schools, a Leadership Development course for schools across Hampshire and a Teacher Effectiveness Enhancement Programme open day for schools across the country. Feedback from our visitors has been extremely positive, with particular praise given to the quality of teaching and learning and the warm welcome received from students and staff.

The feedback from our first formal external evaluation by Southampton City Council is also extremely positive with two main findings highlighted:

- This school is extremely well led. As a consequence it is a happy and exciting place to learn. Staff morale is very high.
- Pupils are very well cared for here and they make exceptionally good progress.

Although we are very pleased with these achievements, we know there are always improvements to be made and we will continue to look for ways to give our girls and Sixth Form students the very best education we are able to provide, giving them an excellent foundation on which to build successful futures.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all members of our school community a very happy Christmas as we look forward together to the opportunities 2017 will bring. May the joy and peace of Christmas be with you, always.

Lyn Bourne, Headmistress

Dates for your Diary

January 2017 - Spring Term

Tuesday 3rd January	Staff Development Day - No Students in School
Wednesday 4th January	Sixth Form Assessment Fortnight Starts
Tuesday 17th January	Y11 Parent's Evening 4:30pm - 7:30pm
Thursday 19th January	Yrs 7, 8 & 9 Parents Tea with Headmistress 3:30pm - 4:30pm
Tuesday 24th January	Young Musician Final 6pm - 8pm in the Hall
Tuesday 31st January	Yr8 Parents' Evening 4:30pm - 7:30pm

February

Tuesday 7th February	Sixth Form Parents' Evening 4:30pm - 7:30pm
Thursday 9th February	PFA Meeting to plan Summer Events 5:30pm - 6:30pm
Saturday 11th February	DofE Silver First Practise Walk
Monday 20th February	Half Term Begins
	Yr10 to Yr12 South of France Trip
Tuesday 28th February	KS4 Curriculum Evening 6pm - 7:30pm

March

Wednesday 15th March	Curriculum Enrichment Day 3 - Students in School
Tuesday 28th March	Yr7 Parents' Evening 4:30pm - 7:30pm
Thursday 30th March	Yrs 10, 11, 12 & 13 Parent' Tea with Headmistress 3:30pm - 4:30pm

April

Monday 3rd April	Easter Concert 7pm - 9pm
Friday 7th April	Early Closure 12:30pm
Saturday 8th April	Iceland Trip begins

Do you know anyone who would like to join us?

Applications for a place in the Sixth Form in September 2017 are welcome. Please complete the application form on our website.

If you know of any girls 11 – 16 who would like to join us at St Anne's we have limited places available in some year groups. Please ask their families to contact the school on 023 8032 8200.