



Salvatorian College Parent Bulletin

Week Commencing
26th March 2018

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear Parents/Carers,

The last set of Year 11 mocks are now complete and we are only a few weeks away from examinations. There is a great opportunity next Wednesday for Year 11 parents to pick up the boys' reports and meet with teachers to discuss final preparations and current progress. I heartily encourage you to attend Year 11 parents evening.

Please note that school will close early on Thursday next week, at 12.35pm, after morning liturgies to mark Holy Week and anticipate Easter. School is open over Easter for revision and will open again for all pupils on Monday 16th April.

In sport, the Year 10 football team have progressed to the semi-finals of the Middlesex cup and are also playing in the semi-final of the Harrow Schools cup on Tuesday next week. We will pray for their success. The Year 10 basketball team lost in a close match in the final of the Harrow Schools competition against Cannons High School, which is no mean feat considering the size of the Year group. Year 11 boys should check the Easter Revision timetable as there is a full day of GCSE PE targeted interventions.

Please ensure you check your son's journal and check that he is completing homework being set for him. A number of boys have been referred to the compulsory 5 O'clock Homework Club because of non-completion of homework. Research shows that homework is a key factor in pupil progress,

Staff at Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' school have made very kind donations to our school of ICT equipment, piano keyboards and a large supply of library books. This generous offer will go a long way towards improving the library at Priestmead Campus and we are very grateful.

Kind regards,

LIBRARY BOOK DONATIONS SOUGHT

Thanks to the seed grant funding from Harrow School described in the bulletin several weeks ago, fundraising is now underway to equip fully the new Library and Learning Resource Centre ready for when we move into the new building. In the meantime, the library continues to grow at the Priestmead campus. **We are accepting, and would be very grateful for, donations of fiction and non-fiction books in GOOD condition.** These can be handed into the Reception Office on either campus.

FORTHCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

MONDAY 26TH MARCH – UP FOR DEBATE REGIONAL COMPETITION AT HARROW SCHOOL

WEDNESDAY 28TH MARCH – YEAR 11 PARENTS' EVENING, 4.30-7.30PM

THURSDAY 29TH MARCH – EARLY CLOSURE FOR ALL PUPILS AT 12.35PM

THURSDAY 29TH MARCH – YEAR 11 DRAMA TRIP, 1PM

MONDAY 16TH APRIL – ALL PUPILS RETURN TO SCHOOL AT THE NORMAL TIME

WORD OF THE DAY

Monday – Petulant

Adjective Childishly sulky or bad-tempered (of a person or their manner) He was a **petulant** child; his parents had learnt to ignore his tantrums and frequent explosive outbursts. Charles was a handsome chap, but it was rarely noticed because of his **petulant** pout!

Tuesday – Insurgent

Noun A person fighting against a government or invading force; a rebel or revolutionary.

Adjective Rising in active revolt. The **insurgents** had managed to get as far as the government buildings but were held back by the armed police. She had alleged links with **insurgent** groups.

Wednesday – Austerity

Noun 1. Sternness or severity of manner or attitude.
2. Difficult economic conditions created by government measures to reduce public expenditure. He was noted for his **austerity** and his authoritarianism. The country has been subjected to acute economic **austerity**.

Thursday – Condescending

Noun Having or showing an attitude of patronising superiority; the act of looking down on others.

I had decided to leave my job as my **condescending** boss was making it unbearable. The senior members of the club were **condescending** with the would-be members who lacked wealth and status.

Friday – Passion

Noun 1. Strong and barely controllable emotion. 2. The suffering and death of Jesus. Jesus was in suffered in agony during his **passion**.



GOSPEL REFLECTION

Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday) (Year B)
Sunday 25th March 2018
A reading from the Gospel of Mark 11:1-10:

Now when they drew near Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, He sent two of His disciples; and He said to them, "Go into the village opposite you; and as soon as you have entered it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has sat. Loose it and bring it. ³ And if anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need of it,' and immediately he will send it here." So they went their way, and found the colt tied by the door outside on the street, and they loosed it. But some of those who stood there said to them, "What are you doing, loosing the colt?" And they spoke to them just as Jesus had commanded. So they let them go. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their clothes on it, and He sat on it. And many spread their clothes on the road, and others cut down leafy branches from the trees and spread them on the road. Then those who went before and those who followed cried out, saying:

"Hosanna!

**'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessed is the kingdom of our father David
That comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest!'**

The extraordinary scene described in this reading is surely one of the most striking and memorable images described in the Gospels.

Jesus instructs the disciples to fetch a donkey – a beast of burden and of service. Drawing near to Jerusalem, and with his fame spread far and wide, large crowds arrive to greet Him. However, these are not crowds of soldiers, or priests, or leaders, these are crowds of the poor, of the ordinary. In humbling Himself to die for our sins, Jesus, empowers the ordinary, the meek, as Mary foretold in her great song of praise at the Visitation: "He has put down the mighty, and has lifted up the humble and meek. He has filled the hungry with good things, and He has sent the rich away empty-handed."

And so we have a vision not of a Warrior King, but of a Prince of Peace, arriving on the back of a lowly donkey, surrounded by crowds of cheering, ecstatic ordinary people, who believe He has come to release them from their oppression.

But think of this scene from the point of view of Jesus. How strange it must have felt, to be surrounded by such joy and celebration, when He

knew the pain and suffering which He was shortly to endure. How strange it must have felt to know that He was not coming to save the people of Israel in the way they were expecting – through being a great king and mighty ruler – but rather by submitting Himself to torture, and ultimately death.

Whilst they do not know it, the people of Jerusalem who greeted Jesus at the gates of the city will shortly witness the greatest and most transformative of weeks in human history; a roller-coaster of emotion as their great hope for the future is taken from them in crucifixion, only to appear to them, having risen from the dead, just days later. And then comes the denouement: the dawning realisation that He was indeed the King they had believed Him to be, because precisely in the act of dying for their sins, He has opened the path to God's forgiveness, and raised them to the promise of eternal life.

As Catholic Christians, witnessing the events which make up the Holy Week & Easter is never merely an intellectual exercise. Instead we completely immerse ourselves in the liturgy, which in a most extraordinary way makes those happenings present to us in real time. We do not observe the as an outsider from a distance. Through the liturgy we become corporeally part of these events. They become present to us in the here and now.

Let us enter Holy Week in prayerful anticipation of the great journey upon which we will be led, as we walk alongside Jesus through his final days on earth.



Fresco by Giotto di Bondone (1267 – 1337)
from the Arena Chapel in Padua, northern Italy



BUILDING UPDATE

This week the steelwork installation on the south block reach the second floor. Work to clear the ground, which will enable foundations to be laid for the north block, is now largely complete.

Over the Easter Holidays, the position of the hoardings on the High Road will move, meaning the small carpark in front of the sports hall will be unusable. The visitor entrance to the school will still be from the High Road – please follow the signs.



LITERACY PROGRAMME

As part of the literacy initiative at Salvatorian College, representatives from *The Student View* came in on Thursday, 15th March. They ran a literacy workshop for our Year 10 students. Their aim is to use the power of journalism in order to give young people a chance to share their views through words.

The first session involved pupils discussing their views in relation to the influence of media, the importance of headlines, and fake news. Our pupils voiced opinions which were very insightful. They also analysed news reports and discussed examples of their own.

The second session involved the pupils planning and writing their own articles. They had an opportunity to choose topics about which they were passionate, and to engage in research to back up their points. Pupils learned that they must take into consideration copyright issues.

At the end of the day, pupils had a fully developed article which voiced their opinions. Their articles will be published on <http://www.thestudentview.org/>. We have two more

sessions to go in which the pupils will, again, have the opportunity to have their work published. This is a great opportunity for the boys and we are very excited to see the wonderful work we know they can produce.

Ms Flanagan

PUTTING CHRIST AT THE CENTRE

Ms Henry has written an article on the Catholic ethos of Salvatorian College which will be published in the magazine of St Erconwald's Church, Wembley.

In his introduction to 'Our Catholic Schools: Their identity and their purpose', Cardinal Vincent Nichols writes "If it is not to sell itself short, education must be based on the whole truth about the human person. That truth is fully expressed in the person of Jesus Christ. It is explored and presented in the living faith of the Church."

When I took over as Head of Religious Education at Salvatorian College earlier this year, the school had firm foundations for a rigorous Catholic ethos: reverent and ordered Mass attendance by all pupils; Catholic teaching and themes as part of the assembly programme; however, it did not feel like a school with 'the living faith of the Church' at its heart. Along with the new Senior Management Team, and the dedication of teachers and support staff, it has been my purpose and mission this academic year to ensure that Christ is at the Centre of all we do at Salvatorian College.

We began by revising our Mission Statement, which now places Christ in the very first sentence: 'We will embrace the teachings of Christ and, in our pursuit of excellence, we will foster a greater knowledge and love of the Divine Saviour'. We are passionate about faith-based education *because we are Christians, and because we believe Catholic values to be fundamental to an education which values and develops the whole human person – intellectually, morally, and spiritually.*

Secondly, we believe regular liturgical celebration and prayer should be at the heart of school life and daily routine. We opened a new Oratory (Chapel) on our Junior site, where 'Voluntary Mass' is celebrated weekly for students and staff who wish to attend, and Stations of the Cross has been said weekly during Lent. Starting after Easter, Morning Prayer (Lauds) will be said daily by staff and pupils in the Oratory, complementing the prayers said by pupils at the start of every lesson throughout the day. Pope Francis reminds us: "Our prayer cannot be



Salvatorian College *Parent Bulletin*

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26th March 2018

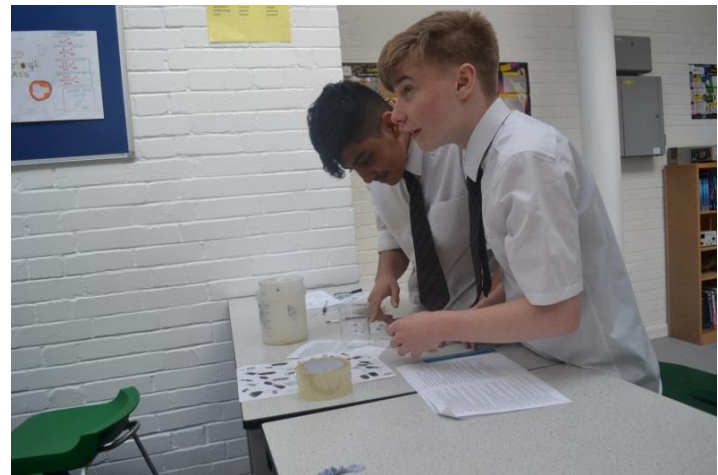
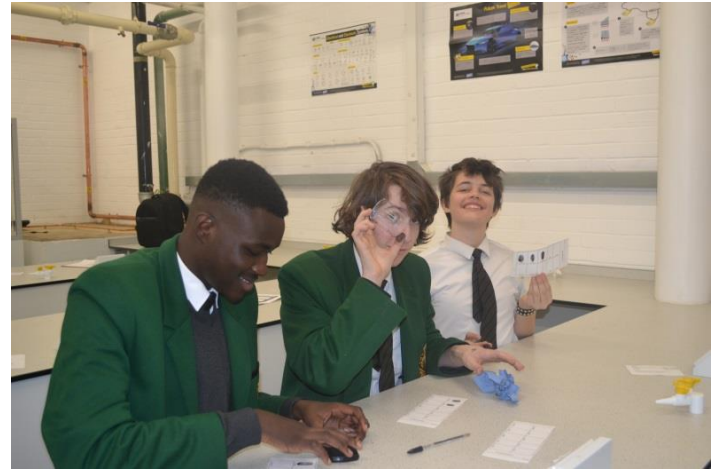
reduced to an hour on Sundays. It is important to have a daily relationship with the Lord."

Thirdly, we are promoting a culture which encourages pupils to consider life as vocation. By this we do not mean only vocations to priesthood and religious life, rather that all pupils should learn to interpret their existence in the light of God's plan. This is enacted, for example, through our very active charity committees, who have been inspiring in their work to raise funds and serve the local community this year, including arranging a Christmas tea party for local care home residents and senior citizens. The final sentence in our mission statement sums this up: 'We will nurture our pupils so that they become effective leaders of good influence.' We see our mission as ensuring pupils at Salvatorian College make the maximum progress in their academic studies, but also that they are formed in the light of Gospel values to use their talents, in whatever their future career path, to help build God's kingdom on earth.

NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK

Further to our article from last week which was accompanied by some wonderful pictures of pupils enjoying their Science Week experiences, please see some further images below of the forensic analysis investigations and experiments conducted by Year 10.

Ms Vosper



CLIP-ON TIES

Please note that the school uniform states the only ties allowed are the clip-on type. These can be purchased from the Finance Office or Reception for £5.50, or from www.uniform4kids.com for £7.50.



END OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS

Monday, 26th March, will be a non-uniform day for all pupils and staff. A £2 donation will be collected at the gate and all sums raised will be donated to our Lenten charities: Mary's Meals, The Cardinal Hume Centre, and Plan International UK.

The Lenten Liturgy will be held on **Thursday, 29th March**, beginning with Year 10 in the hall at the Salvatorian Campus during Period 1, followed by Year 11 during Period 2. During Period 3, Years 7, 9 and 9 will attend the liturgy on the Priestmead campus.

The school will **close early at 12.35pm** on **Thursday, 29th March**. A packed lunch will be made available for those pupils entitled to free school meals.

THE DONKEY

G.K Chesterton captures Palm Sunday from the perspective of the donkey that Jesus rode.

*When fishes flew and forests walked
And figs grew upon thorn,
Some moment when the moon was blood
Then surely I was born;
With monstrous head and sickening cry
And ears like errant wings,
The devil's walking parody
On all four-footed things.
The tattered outlaw of the earth,
Of ancient crooked will;
Starve, scourge, deride me: I am dumb,
I keep my secret still.
Fools! For I also had my hour;
One far fierce hour and sweet:
There was a shout about my ears,
And palms before my feet.*

G.K Chesterton (1874 – 1936) was an English critic and author of verse, essays, novels and short stories, known for his exuberant personality and rotund figure. He was known for his voluminous journalistic output, literary criticism, and theology. He was converted from Anglicanism to Roman Catholicism in 1922. His conversion added edge to his controversial

writing, notably *The Catholic Church and Conversion* (1926), his writings in *G.K.'s Weekly*, and *Avowals and Denials* (1934). Other works arising from his conversion were *St. Francis of Assisi* (1923), the essay in historical theology *The Everlasting Man* (1925), *The Thing* (1929) and *St. Thomas Aquinas* (1933).

YEAR 8 MILITARY ASSAULT COURSE

On Monday 19th March, 28 of our year 8 students took part in an assault course at Henfold Lakes in Dorking. It is fair to say that the unexpected freezing conditions added a new dimension to the preparations for the day, with the lads having to wear many extra layers for the difficult task ahead. However, the icy conditions did not seem to deter the boy's in any way, with plenty of enthusiasm on show throughout the bus journey.



On arrival, the boys were made very clear of the difficult task ahead by our course instructors, who emphasised the freezing temperatures within the water challenges. Once the safety information was delivered, it was a quick jog to the start line through woods layered with thick mud. As this was a team event, the boys were encouraged to help each other over and under the obstacles in their way. From the offset, they stuck together, encouraging each other as they navigated a range of challenges. The high nets proved to be one of the more difficult obstacles, mainly due to the constant movement of the ropes, but also because of the 20-foot drop at the highest point. Even those with a fear of heights managed to succeed, largely down to the help from



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Week Commencing
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their teammates but also through their own excellent perseverance and determination.



As we progressed through the 2 mile course, the challenge became more difficult with the introduction of water based activities. With the temperature at -2C, the boys entered the water with little fear, and trudged through the muddy waters in a unified manner. With the build-up of mud now being complimented by soaking and freezing feet, some of the boys asked if this was anything like the conditions in the trenches during World War 1. However, we promise parents that no injuries were reported during the activities, although a shoe or two were almost lost along the way.



Although a bit cold and tired at the end of the course, the boys were still in jubilant form. The course instructors were so impressed with our boy's attitude in challenging the course, especially in such cold conditions, that they treated them to official medals to commemorate their achievement. These medals are usually kept for adults who complete the 16 mile course, so this was certainly an achievement of note. On the way home, the boys treated themselves to a well-earned hot chocolate and some lunch at the motorway services. Their excellent behaviour was noted by several customers, some of whom complimented the boys for their clearing up and their general politeness. It was a pleasure to take this wonderful group of boys, who continue to represent

themselves, their families and the Salvatorian College badge with great pride. Well done boys!

Mr Lenane and Mr Jones

COMMUNICATION WITH SCHOOL

All telephone and email contact with staff is through the Administration Office. Please use the email address which is the closest match to your query:

admin@salvatorian.harlow.sch.uk – absence, change of details etc.

parents@salvatorian.harlow.sch.uk – pastoral or academic issues / queries

admissions@salvatorian.harlow.sch.uk – admissions

finance@salvatorian.harlow.sch.uk – ParentPay, paying for school trips etc.

HOLY WEEK AT ST JOSEPH'S

The Salvatorian School Community is warmly invited to the services of Holy Week and Easter at St Joseph's Church, next to the Salvatorian Campus on High Road.

Holy Monday

- Masses at 7.30am & 10am

Holy Tuesday

- Masses at 7.30am & 10am
- *Westminster Cathedral Chrism Mass at 12 noon*
- Adoration & Benediction from 6pm until 7.30pm

Holy Wednesday

- Masses at 7.30pm & 10am
- Tenebrae at 7pm

- *The Sacred Triduum Begins* -

Maundy Thursday

- Mass of the Lord's Supper at 8pm, followed by watching at the Altar of Repose until Midnight

Good Friday

- Childrens' Stations of the Cross at 10am
- Confessions 10.30am to 12.30pm
- Solemn Stations of the Cross at 12noon
- Solemn Liturgy of the Passion at 3pm

Holy Saturday

- Confessions 10.30am to 12.30pm
- The Easter Vigil at 8pm

Easter Sunday

- Masses at 8.15am, 9.30am, 11am, and 12.30pm.