



Salvatorian College Parent Bulletin

Week Commencing
18th June 2018

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

There is an air of excitement in the Salvatorian College community as the World Cup in Russia kicks off. Many of our pupils are descended from the participating nations and the tension is palpable, with the boys discussing which team is going to win and why. To celebrate, Mr Jones has organised our very own World Cup tournament with forms representing different nations. These games have been played at lunch times, with great spirit, and support from the other pupils. Whichever team you support, I hope you will enjoy the spectacle and that the boys will take advantage of this great opportunity to learn about different cultures and traditions.

The boys in Year 11 will soon find themselves with some time on their hands, as their examinations come to an end. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved for all of their hard work and preparation for this most challenging of periods. Without the support of parents and guardians, and the hard work of the teachers and staff, the boys would not be in such a strong position. Also, the Year 11 boys have really done themselves proud with their hard work, determination and perseverance over the last few months. I am certain that this will pay dividends when the boys come to pick up their results in August.

The rest of the school must continue to work very hard in preparation for their end of year examinations. These tests will give teachers the opportunity to focus in the boys' strengths and areas for development and will give the boys a taste of the rigours of GCSE exams. These tests really are important and should be taken seriously.

As we come towards the end of term, there is the temptation to take our foot off the pedal. This must not happen. Please can I request that you check your sons' homework diaries to ensure that homework is being written in and completed, in order to consolidate learning and prepare for the year ahead.

Kind regards,

Alan Bryant
Head of School

FORTHCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

MON 18TH JUNE – WHOLE SCHOOL EARLY CLOSURE AT 1.20PM

MON 18TH JUNE – Y11 LEAVERS' LITURGY, FOLLOWED BY AFTERNOON TEA – 2.00 – 3.30 PM (PARENTS WELCOME)

19-29TH JUNE – Y7-10 EXAMS

FRI 22ND JUNE – Y11 PROM

SAT 23RD JUNE – PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

TUE 26TH & THUR 28TH JUNE – Y5 TASTER DAYS

THU 28TH JUNE – Y7 PARENTS' EVENING

WORDS OF THE DAY

Monday – Leverage

Noun 1. Power to influence people and get the results you want. (Finance) The relationship between the amount of money that a company owes to banks and the value of the company. 2. The exertion of force by means of a lever. **Verb** Use (something) to maximum advantage. His position as Mayor affords him **leverage** to get things done through attending committee meetings. He tried to push the door open, but didn't have sufficient **leverage**.

Tuesday – Cursory

Adjective - Hasty and therefore not thorough or detailed. Not paying attention. Samantha gave the book a **cursory** glance; it wasn't about a topic she was remotely interested in. James gave a curt, **cursory** reply to the teacher, which resulted in a further sanction.

Wednesday – Culminate

Verb To reach the end, climax or point of highest development. The day had been bad enough, but to **culminate** in a torrential downpour, when I had forgotten my umbrella really was the last straw! A series of financial disasters **culminated** in the collapse of the country's largest bank.

Thursday – Threshold

Noun 1. A point of entry. A strip of wood or stone forming the bottom of a doorway and crossed in entering a house or room. 2. The intensity/magnitude that must be exceeded for a certain reaction, result or condition to occur. It used to be a tradition for a groom to carry his new bride over the **threshold** of their new



home. Emily was on the **threshold** of a dazzling career, it was well deserved after many years of hard work and dedication.

Friday – Clemency

Noun Mercy; lenience. His bid for **clemency** failed despite frantic lobbying by his supporters. The judge decided to use **clemency** in sentencing because the accused had already demonstrated regret for his crime by attempting to pay back the victim.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

10th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

Sunday 10th June 2018

A reading from the Gospel of Mark 3:31-35:

He also said, 'The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.' He also said, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.' With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

Today's Gospel suggests that Jesus wouldn't speak to the ordinary people except in parables. How strange it would seem today if someone were only to speak to us in parables! The Gospel passage tells us that he only really explained the fullness of his message in private to his disciples. Was Jesus being condescending to ordinary people? Not at all – he was simply communicating his message to them in a form they could understand.

A parable is a simple story that illustrates a spiritual or moral lesson. Jesus uses these simple stories, which are easy to understand, to explain his message of salvation, which is comparably hard to understand.

How do we communicate our own faith? As Catholics, it is very clear that we must "meet people where they are", as Pope Francis tells us. By this, he means that we must be active in seeking out those

who may be open to the message of salvation. This could be by visiting the sick, helping the destitute, caring for the dying. In carrying out these 'works of mercy', as we refer to them, we are ourselves using a form of parable: by showing small acts of love and kindness to others, we can point to the greater mercy and salvation offered through knowledge and love of Jesus Christ. May we be the ones to plant the mustard seeds of mercy and love in others, which God may nurture into a full and deep faith.



The Shrine of St Alban, St Alban's Cathedral

This Wednesday, 20th June, is the feast day of St Alban, whose shrine is in St Alban's Cathedral, just north of us here in Harrow.

Alban lived during the third century in the Roman city of Verulamium, in the valley below the present Cathedral. One day he gave shelter to a stranger fleeing from persecution. This was a Christian priest, originally un-named but later called Amphibalus in the re-telling of the story. Alban was so moved by the priest's faith and courage that he asked to be taught more about Christianity, then still a forbidden religion.



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Before long the authorities came to arrest the fugitive priest. But Alban, inspired by his new-found faith, exchanged clothes with Amphibalus, allowing him to escape. The Roman soldiers instead arrested Alban and brought him before the city magistrate. Alban refused to sacrifice to the Roman gods, and declared: 'I am Alban and I worship and adore the true and living God, who created all things'.

The magistrate ordered that Alban should receive the punishment due to the priest. He was brought out of the town and up a hill to the site of execution where he was beheaded. Alban is honoured as the first British martyr, and his grave on this hillside quickly became a place of pilgrimage.

St Alban's story takes us back to the beginning of the Christian faith in Britain. His welcome to a persecuted stranger was a powerful example of courage, compassion and hospitality. St Alban is still with us in the Communion of Saints, and we worship God with him and ask his prayers.

The first church was probably a simple structure over Alban's grave making St Albans the oldest continuous site of Christian worship in Great Britain.

Regular trains run from Watford Junction to St Albans Abbey Station, and the Cathedral and Shrine are open daily.

WORLD CUP

Last Thursday saw the start of the KS3 FIFA Football World Cup Tournament, which has been organised by Conor Griffin (8D) and Martin McDonagh (8B).

KS3 students were asked to organise themselves into teams that have pupils from each year group. I am pleased to say that there will be over 60 pupils taking part in the competition which started last Thursday.

Participants will be playing against each other in a knockout 5-a-side football competition with the winning team receiving a trophy and prizes.

The winning team will also be taking part in a penalty shootout with a staff team on Thursday 21st June at lunchtime on the Priestmead Site.

Mr Jones

ATHLETICS SUCCESS

Saturday 9th June saw the Middlesex County Athletics Championships take place at Allianz Park (the home of Saracens rugby club). These Championships double up as trials for the English Schools Athletics Championships and the standard is

always extremely high as athletes from all over Middlesex compete for the 45 team places on offer.

Adam Rowlands, running in the 400m hurdles, ran a personal best and a championship record of 56.01. This was also inside the national standard time of 56.1, and it cemented his position as the number two-ranked 400m hurdler in the country.

We are delighted to announce Adam has been selected for the second time in three years to represent Middlesex at the English schools championships. We wish him all the best.

Mr Linale

HEALTHY EATING WEEK

Last week was designated 'Healthy Eating Week', and there were a number of activities across the school to encourage boys to reflect on the importance of a healthy and balanced diet. Boys in Year 9 cooked healthy dishes in their food lesson as part of the week. A selection of their delicious-looking dishes are shown below:





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ART CLUB

The Art Club is a fantastic way to improve your skills, or to explore your creativity. It takes place every Thursday and Friday at lunchtime in the Priestmead art room.

Mr James



ARTIST OF THE WEEK

The 'Artist of the Week' this week is William Byrne in Year 10. William's work is a personalised response to artist Georgia O'Keefe.

