



# Salvatorian College Parent Bulletin

Week Commencing  
10<sup>th</sup> September 2018

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

On behalf of the staff and Governors of Salvatorian College, I am happy to welcome you to the 2018-19 academic year. I am looking forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure our children can achieve their highest potential.

Salvatorian College have achieved their best GCSE results ever. Under the Progress 8 measure, the expected progress is likely to be in excess of +0.3 which is a marked increase from -0.08 in 2016/2017. This year 30% of all grades were above grade 7. The percentage of boys achieving a grade 4 or above in English and maths has risen by 10% this year, to 77% (well above the Harrow and national average) and the percentage achieving grade 5 or above is 50%. The results also include a string of grade 9s; in the History department, 25% of all boys achieved grade 9.

There were great successes across the board, but five of last year's Year 11 pupils are worthy of special mention having secured their places at St Dominic's Sixth Form College: Head Boy Jack Ruddy secured four grade 8s and six grade 9s (including maths, English Language and Triple Science). Sepahr Mafi was rewarded with six grade 9s, including English Literature, Maths and Triple Science, along with two 8s, a 7 and an A in Drama. Callum Casey achieved six grade 9s, three grade 8s and a 7. Stephen Mulchrone secured four grade 9s, five grade 8s and a 6. Jojolomo Thabo achieved eight grade 8s, a 7 in French and an A.

In order to be successful in school, the boys need support from both the home and school. A strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child's education. Parents, staff and Governors share the responsibility for our children's success and I want you to know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities.

To help ensure the future success of your son, please would you help guide and support your child's learning by ensuring that he:

1) attends school daily and arrives on time, ready to learn. Ms Greaves (Attendance Officer) has written about attendance in this bulletin. It is imperative that your son's attendance is exemplary. Encouraging regular school attendance is one of the most powerful ways you can prepare your son for success – both in school and in future life. When you make school attendance a priority, you help your son get better grades, develop healthy habits and avoid dangerous behaviour. Even a few days off can

have a significant impact on skills such as reading and writing. Boys who attend school regularly also feel more connected to their peers and their community, encouraging healthy friendships and relationships.

- 2) completes all homework assignments given by teachers. This year, the boys will be given an effort grade for homework, as well as work in lessons. Anyone not completing homework to a satisfactory standard will be given an X. You can check what homework has been set on Showmyhomework and in his journal.
- 3) reads daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills. All boys should have a reading book with them at all times, and the word of the day should be written in journals and used in writing.
- 4) shares school experiences with you so that you are aware of his school life. I ask that you look through your son's books and journal to ensure that you have a good idea of what is expected. If you have any issues or concerns, please email [admin@salvatorian.harrow.sch.uk](mailto:admin@salvatorian.harrow.sch.uk)
- 5) knows that you expect him to succeed in school. It is very important that we all have high expectations of your son and that he knows the value of hard work.

I will remind you of a few of the school rules: mobile telephones are not allowed under any circumstances, but children will always be allowed to phone home from the school office in emergencies; hairstyles should be conventional, not exaggerated, lined or coloured; uniform should be worn correctly to, from and at school. Behaviour should also be exemplary to, from and at school. If you become aware of any bullying, please would you contact Mrs Griffin at the email address above or speak to your son's Head of Year.

In order to avoid congestion and work in partnership with Priestmead Primary School, the boys will not now be allowed to turn left when exiting the school at the end of the day. They will be supervised to the next nearest bus stop (straight ahead down Oakfield Avenue), or turn right for an alternative route to Belmont Circus.

Furthermore, it has been decided to make a slight adjustment to the timings of the school day, the most important one being **an earlier finish at 3.10pm each day**. I implore you not to park in the immediate vicinity of the school when collecting your children as this may cause dangerous traffic congestion.

I look forward to working in partnership with you again this year.

Kind regards 

Alan Bryant  
Head of School



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## KEY DATES IN THE AUTUMN TERM

**THU 13<sup>TH</sup> SEPT** – YEAR 7 PARENTS' INFORMATION EVENING 16.30-18.30

**WED 19<sup>TH</sup> SEPT** – SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

**THU 20<sup>TH</sup> SEPT** – YEAR 11 GCSE PROGRESS EVENING 16.45-18.00

**MON 24<sup>TH</sup> SEPT** – MID-TERM ASSESSMENTS BEGIN

**FRI 28<sup>TH</sup> SEPT** – EARLY CLOSURE (13.15) FOR OPEN EVENING

**MON 1<sup>ST</sup> OCT** – PUPILS ATTENDING THE ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO ROME DEPART

**MON 1<sup>ST</sup> OCT** – OPEN MORNING & EVENING FOR PROSPECTIVE PUPILS AND PARENTS (SCHOOL OPEN AS NORMAL)

**TUE 2<sup>ND</sup> OCT** – LATE START (09.30) FOLLOWING OPEN EVENING

**MON 15<sup>TH</sup> OCT** – HALF-TERM ASSESSMENTS BEGIN

**FRI 19<sup>TH</sup> OCT** – LAST DAY OF HALF-TERM

**MON 22<sup>ND</sup> OCT – FRI 26<sup>TH</sup> OCT** – HALF-TERM

## WORDS OF THE DAY

### Monday – Intimidate

*Verb* to frighten, or deter by or as if by threats. The barrister tried to **intimidate** the jury by blackmail. Simon appeared to be **intimidating** at first glance, but once I had spoken with him I discovered he's actually a very friendly person.

### Tuesday – Inkling

*Noun* a slight knowledge or suspicion; a hint. I had **inkling** from the first conversation that we would get along. The morning weather forecast did not give the slightest **inkling** that afternoon storm would be so violent.

### Wednesday – Disposition

*Noun* Someone's **disposition** is the way that they tend to behave or feel. Some of the rides at the adventure park proved unsuitable for people of a nervous **disposition!** He was a man of decisive action and an adventurous **disposition** which made him a popular choice as captain of the rugby team.

### Thursday – Cowered

*Verb* to shrink away or crouch especially for shelter from something that menaces, domineers, or dismays. When I heard that loud bang, I immediately **cowered** down behind the door. I cowered from the snake and prayed that it wouldn't see me.

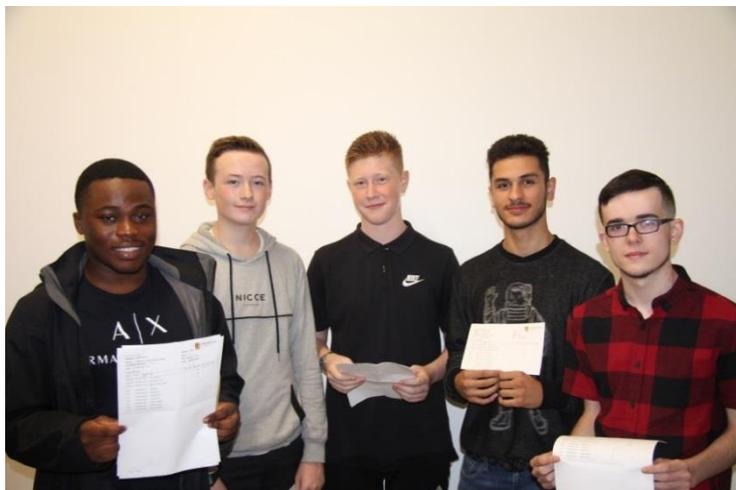
### Friday – Contrary

*Adjective* inclined to disagree or to do the opposite of what is expected or desired. Despite claims to the **contrary**, there's no real proof that aliens exist. **Contrary** to popular opinion, I would rather it snow than blistering sunshine! He is a sulky child and **contrary** where his homework is concerned.

## GOSPEL REFLECTION

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)  
Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2018  
A reading from the Gospel of Mark 7:31-37:

**Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his**



Year 11 leavers: Jojolomo, Stephen, Jack, Sephar and Callum celebrate superb results



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fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened.' And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, 'He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.'

It is never revealed to us who the 'they' are who are mentioned in this passage. However, they must have heard something of the miraculous abilities of the Galilean preacher, and perhaps even saw in him the fulfilment of the Messianic promise of the Hebrew scriptures. What drew them to Jesus on that day was the desire to see their friend healed of his deafness and dumbness.

During the service of baptism, we hear echoes of this Gospel passage. After the pouring of water takes place, the priest makes the sign of the Cross on the ears and lips of the candidate and says the words: 'The Lord Jesus made the deaf hear and the dumb. May he soon touch your ears to receive his Word, and your mouth to proclaim his faith, to the praise and glory of God the Father.'

Our Baptism is all about hearing and proclaiming the Word of God. We are not Baptised in order to remain silent in relation to the Gospel; we are not Baptised to ignore the contents of the Gospel. Rather Baptism expresses a desire for faith, even if in the case of infant baptism it is the desire of the parents on behalf of the child.

As a school community, regardless of our own faith backgrounds, we are first and foremost a school community with a Catholic ethos. In pursuit of our educational goals for our children we must not lose sight of their spiritual growth. This requires us, as parents and teachers, to encourage them to approach the world with open ears, ready to engage with spiritual and intellectual challenges.

Let us strive to be the 'they' of this Gospel passage, bringing our friends in need of comfort and healing, to Jesus. We, too, may be astounded beyond measure by his love for our friends and for ourselves.



*Healing of the Blind Man*  
by Sebastiano Ricci (1659-1734)

## ATTENDANCE

We are committed at Salvatorian College to ensuring your son reaches his full learning and development potential. One of the most important aspects of gaining a great set of results, and learning how to succeed in life, is to ensure that your son develops a good attitude towards attendance and punctuality. These two areas are vital for success in future life and are two of the most important skills he will acquire whilst at school.

Our aim is for all our pupils have 100% attendance. This should be easily achievable when you consider the number school holidays that pupils are entitled to. However, I recognise that sometimes severe illness means pupils cannot come into school. In this case, you must report the illness to the absence line on 020 8863 2706 option 3 before the start of the school day. However, minor and non-contagious illnesses should not immediately mean that you child takes time off school.

If your son is absent for more than three school days in a row, you must provide the school with medical evidence eg. an appointment card or doctor's note.

Routine appointments such as dentist or doctor visits should be made outside of school hours or during school holidays. I do understand that orthodontist and hospital appointments are sometimes unavoidable but, in these instances, evidence of appointments must be provided.

Thank you.

Mrs Greaves (Attendance Officer)



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## **PARENTPAY**

Parents of pupils in years 8-11 should already have active ParentPay accounts from last year. Please ensure any outstanding payment items from last year are cleared as soon as possible.

Year 7 parents will be advised by email of the temporary login details for their new ParentPay accounts this weekend. Please ensure your son's school meal account is topped up before Monday to guarantee service in the canteen.

Year 11 parents will notice that balances (positive or negative) have been transferred from the 'Salvatorian College Lunch Money Account' payment item to the 'Priestmead Campus Lunch Money Account'. Going forward, all parents who wish their pupils to purchase food in the canteen will need to top up the 'Priestmead Campus Lunch Money Account' payment item.

**Please remember the school's policy on school meal accounts:**

- **If the balance is zero, or in debt, on your son's school meal account, it will be physically impossible for the canteen staff to serve him, and he will be turned away - this is the same as would be true of any high street shop, café or restaurant.**
- **If, for whatever reason, there are no funds on the lunch account, then you must provide a packed lunch for your son to bring to school.**
- **If you are eligible for Free School Meals, a balance of £2.40 will be added, automatically, to your son's lunch money account on a daily basis. This will buy a hot main meal and desert at lunch service. Should your son wish to buy more than this, eg. a snack at break, you must ensure there are adequate funds on the account.**