



Salvatorian College Parent Bulletin

Week Commencing
15th October 2018

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

With All Saints Day fast approaching, it is worth remembering that Pope Francis, in *Gaudete et Exsultate*, said: "Every saint is a message which the Holy Spirit takes from the riches of Jesus Christ and gives to his people." He acknowledged that "not everything a saint says is completely faithful to the Gospel; not everything he or she does is authentic or perfect. What we need to contemplate is the totality of their life, their entire journey of growth in holiness." The boys at Salvatorian College try their best to be authentic and perfect but they do not always reach this goal. What is important is that the boys learn from their mistakes so that they can become saints themselves.

I was pleased that a group of boys from Salvatorian College were helped along their journey of growth and holiness when they visited Rome last week. I am proud to say that they visited the Salvatorian Mother House and had a close audience with Pope Francis, himself. The boys were a credit to their families and their school and I have heard nothing but glowing reports about their experience.

Next week, please challenge your sons to tell you their target grades for each of subject. They should be well aware of these by now, knowing what the targets are and how they are going to achieve them. With this in mind, I would like you to keep your diaries clear for Target Setting Day which will take place on Wednesday, 7th November. The school will be closed on this day, for most pupils, and you will be invited in for a meeting with your son's Form Tutor to discuss and set targets for the remainder of the year.

Please also make arrangements for a teacher INSET day on Thursday, 15th November, when the school will also be closed. These days are vitally important to the running of the school. We try to keep them to a minimum and we appreciate your cooperation.

It is also very important that the boys have the correct equipment to enable them to effectively participate in their lessons. Your son's Journal contains a full list of equipment so please ensure all items are packed in his bag for school; a small 'pocket' dictionary is a useful addition if he is not already carrying one.

Kind regards,

Alan Bryant
Head of School

KEY DATES IN THE AUTUMN TERM

MON 15TH OCT – HALF-TERM ASSESSMENTS BEGIN

THU 18TH OCT – MASS OF DEDICATION

FRI 19TH OCT – BLACK HISTORY MONTH PERFORMANCE

FRI 19TH OCT – LAST DAY OF HALF-TERM

MON 22ND OCT – FRI 26TH OCT – HALF-TERM

THU 1ST NOV – ALL SAINTS DAY

FRI 2ND NOV – ALL SOULS DAY

WED 7TH NOV – TARGET SETTING DAY (SCHOOL CLOSED)

SUN 11TH NOV – REMEMBRANCE DAY

MON 12TH NOV – 11.30AM - ACT OF REMEMBRANCE (PARENTS WELCOME)

THU 15TH NOV – INSET (SCHOOL CLOSED)

MON 19TH NOV – Y11 MOCK EXAMS BEGIN

WORDS OF THE DAY

Monday – Specious

Adjective Superficially plausible, but actually wrong. Misleading in appearance. The politician gave the voters a **specious** argument about Brexit. Rather than admitting he overslept, Joe gave his teacher a **specious** reason for being late.

Tuesday – Insinuate

Verb Suggest or hint (something bad) in an indirect and unpleasant way. Manoeuvre oneself into a favourable position by subtle manipulation. She **insinuated** that her colleague had bribed his way into the top job. He **insinuated** himself into the President's confidence.

Wednesday – Compunction

Noun A feeling of guilt or moral scruple that prevents or follows the doing of something bad. They used their tanks without **compunction**. Surprisingly the gang member showed **compunction** when questioned about the crime.

Thursday – Tentative

Adjective Not certain or fixed; provisional. Done without confidence; hesitant. She had a **tentative** appointment at the hospital; the doctor would confirm it later in the week. The baby took his first **tentative** steps.



Salvatorian College *Parent Bulletin*

Week Commencing
15th October 2018

Friday – Innocuous

Adjective Not harmful or offensive. She asked an **innocuous** question, but her colleague did not see it that way. The football manager disagreed with the referee; to him, the foul looked **innocuous**.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)
Sunday 14th October 2018
A reading from the Gospel of Mark 10:17-30

As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, 'Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: "You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honour your father and mother."' He said to him, 'Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.' Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, 'You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.' When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions.

Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, 'How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!' And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, 'Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.' They were greatly astounded and said to one another, 'Then who can be saved?' Jesus looked at them and said, 'For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.'

Peter began to say to him, 'Look, we have left everything and followed you.' Jesus said, 'Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life.'

The question the man poses is an interesting one. He says, 'What must I do to inherit eternal life?' He thinks that we can get to heaven by doing things. If eternal life were this simple it would only be a question of finding out what things we must do and then, once

these have been completed, we will be let into heaven.

Entrance into the Kingdom of God is something that God freely chooses to bestow on whomever he wishes and nothing we do or don't do can gain us admittance. Admission to eternal life is something that can only be granted as a result of the mercy of God; it is something that is completely unmerited by us.

Jesus quotes the commandments and the young man assures him that he has kept them since his youth. Jesus then tells him the one thing he lacks is radical discipleship. He then tells the man to sell his possessions and join the band of Apostles thus embracing a life of utter dependence on God. By giving his wealth to the poor he will ensure that he is building up riches in heaven. The man is not keen, because it would mean giving up his many possessions.

Jesus then comes out with the memorable saying, 'It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.' In this metaphor, he is telling us that we have to completely detach ourselves from material things in order to enter the Kingdom. We cannot take our possessions with us when we die, nor any of our other worldly attachments.

Wealth is morally neutral; it is neither good or bad, but it is what we do with our wealth that brings it into the moral sphere. Jesus does not criticise the young man for his many possessions. Rather, what Jesus is pointing out is that the man's wealth was holding him back from radically embracing the Gospel.

Jesus reassures the disciples, who have given up their wealth and possessions to follow Him, and says that they will certainly be rewarded a hundredfold. But we have to understand that it is only God who can grant this gift. God can do for us what we cannot do for ourselves.

This Gospel is a call to embrace radical discipleship. We may be following the way of life set out in the Gospels but we need to do more than that. We need to be going something more radical. We need to be going the extra mile with our faith, doing something beyond the call of mere duty.

Sacrifice for the sake of the Kingdom is an essential requirement of those who wish to truly follow Christ. The Christian follows a difficult path in life but it is a journey with a destination. And the destination is nothing other than the Kingdom of Heaven.



Gaelic Football

Congratulations to Pearce Kerr and Darragh Griffin who travelled to Mayo in Ireland last weekend to represent London in Gaelic Football.

This was a fantastic opportunity for the boys, and their representation for the County is testimony to the hard work that the boys put in to their training.

The panel of players representing London won all of their games and demonstrated that the sport of Gaelic Football is just as strong in London as it is in Ireland.



ROME TRIP 2018

Last week, 37 students from Salvatorian College, St Thomas More School and Bishop Douglass School made an unforgettable journey to Rome, Italy.

In their quest for spiritual and cultural fulfilment, they visited various sites, most notably the Vatican – the headquarters of the Catholic Church and the home of our beloved Pope Francis. The group was

lucky enough to be able to see the Pope at the papal audience on the third day of the visit.

David Tiareh, of Year 11 (Salvatorian College), said, "This was one of the most amazing things I have ever done. The highlight of the trip was having the opportunity to see the Pope. I also loved the culture of Rome. All of those old buildings were so beautiful. Our tour guide was a really nice person who taught us the history of places like the Vatican, the Coliseum, and some of the famous religious sites, such as St Peter's Basilica."

Not only did the students enrich their knowledge, they also learned to get along outside of the school environment and interact with others they had never met before. Patricia, of Year 8 (St Thomas More), said, "The trip to Rome helped me to make new friends and to build my confidence in living with 'strangers' from other schools."

Patricia also felt very moved by the dedication of the local people to the preservation of their ancient culture and relics: "I've realised that the community really cares about its churches and monuments because there were military vehicles everywhere, protecting the historical structures. The citizens were also very vigilant and wanted to ensure that their city was treated with respect."

Mr Mann, who accompanied the cohort to Rome, said, "Salvatorian Colleges' first trip to this astonishing city proved to be a huge success and we hope to make the visit a yearly tradition. It is important that our students expand their knowledge and understanding of their Christian faith and there is no better way to do so than to visit the city of the successor of St Peter."

Look out for more details of the Rome trip in our Christmas issue of The Salvatorian magazine!





EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS

We believe that a broad and balanced extra-curricular club programme enhances our pupils' development. All of our clubs are free of charge and are managed by Salvatorian teachers and staff.

We expect all pupils to participate in at least one club for three reasons:

- Firstly, clubs provide the chance to acquire and develop skills and talent: from patience and self-reflection, to confidence and self-assurance, there are few better ways to develop character and 'soft skills' than to take part in one of the extra-curricular activities on offer.
- Secondly, clubs provide an opportunity to interact with peers, make friends and socialise with pupils from other year groups and classes.
- Finally, clubs offer the chance to have fun! Psychologists have found that the happiest people in life are those with a wide range of interests and hobbies.

Autumn Term 2018 Clubs:

Debating	Monday lunchtime	F4
Extra English	Wednesday lunchtime	F1, F4
History Films	Tuesday lunchtime	G7
Table Tennis	Mon-Thu lunchtime	Hall
Handwriting	Thursday lunchtime	F1
Handwriting	Tuesday lunchtime	F3
Art Club	Thu-Fri lunchtime	F5A
Homework	Every lunchtime	G2C
MFL Debate	Friday lunchtime	F7, F8
Art Club	Tue-Wed afterschool	F5A
Youth Club	Wednesday 5.30-7pm	Hall
Maths Club	Thursday afterschool	G8
U16 Basketball	Friday afterschool	
Fine Art	Friday afterschool	G5C
Homework	3.10-5.00pm	G1C



Salvatorian College *Parent Bulletin*

Week Commencing
15th October 2018

WAITROSE GREEN TOKEN SCHEME

Waitrose in **Harrow Weald** have included Salvatorian College in their "green token" scheme for the month of October. The money raised will support our annual distribution of Christmas hampers to the needy, including families, in our local community. Please encourage friends and family, if shopping in Waitrose, to give their green token to this worthy cause.

Mrs Watt

MENTAL HEALTH

With mental health and well-being receiving more focus and raising awareness at school- and national level, parents often ask me what they can do to help their children.

This simple guide should give you confidence that you are already doing many of the correct things to help your son, and might give you some ideas for the future.

Don't worry if you're not enacting all ten strategies all of the time, but perhaps you could identify some activities that might help embed more of these in your family life.

As always the safeguarding and pastoral teams at Salvatorian College are here to help and support.

10 ways to help your child look after their mental health...

Role Model

Be a positive mental health role model. Demonstrate positive behaviours which your child can learn from you.

Talking

Support your child to talk about their problems and how they are feeling.

Coping skills

Work with your child to develop coping skills. Support your child to learn skills such as problem solving and thought challenging.

Wellbeing

Promote healthy eating and physical activity. Exercise is a great tool to boost mood and reduce stress and anxiety.

Self care

Make sure your child has time and space to look after themselves. Involve yourself in their hobbies.

Autonomy

Allow your child to make their own decisions. This will help to build resilience.

Relationships

Support your child to build positive relationships with friends and family.

Relaxation

Help your child to relax. Teach them relaxation skills such as deep breathing.

Play

Promote play and creativity with your child. Allow them to explore.

Sleep

Support your child to build positive sleep habits. Develop a good sleep environment and routine.

PARENT GOVERNORS

Vacancies have arisen for two parents to serve on the Governing Board of Salvatorian College. The school's Governing Board is responsible for providing strategic leadership, oversight, and assurance of the school's educational and financial performance. The Governing Board is keen for candidates to have skills or expertise in one or more of the following areas:

- Strategic leadership
- Finance management
- Curriculum development and school assessment
- Property and estate management
- HR policy and processes
- Building networks and alliances

Governors are expected to:

- attend meetings (at least one full board meeting and one committee meeting per term);
- maintain confidentiality of sensitive information;
- commit to develop their skills through training and courses; and
- make a visit to the school at least once per annum.

Should you wish to apply, please email recruitment@salvatorian.harrow.sch.uk for a candidate form.

The deadline for applications is Friday, 19th October 2018.