



THE LINK

A fortnightly Newsletter for the pupils, parents and staff of
St Michael's Catholic College
Issue 229 - 12 June 2024

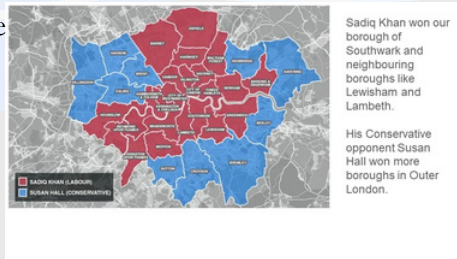
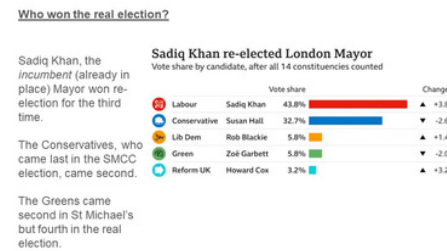
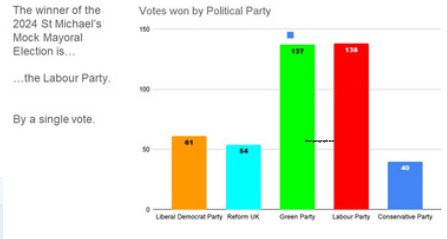
"London Mayoral Elections May 2024 - St Michael's Votes!"

To coincide with the London Mayoral Election this year and the wider local elections nationally, St Michael's staged its own ballot to gauge the opinions of the student population. Student participation in the democratic process was fantastic and at 46%, the turnout was significantly higher than the official election across London. In a tremendously exciting and close finish, Labour won the election by ONE solitary vote! Although the result mirrored the outcome in the official election, the performance of The Green Party was much stronger than across London as a whole. Let's aim for an even higher turnout for the next election later this year!

For a full breakdown of the results across Year Groups and a comparison to the wider London vote, please open the slideshow here:

<https://sites.google.com/stmichaelscollege.org.uk/challengeandmoreable/elections>

Mr D.Magnoff



Year 8 Students Enter the Forbidden Headquarters of The Order of St John!



This term students in 8F were granted special access to The Museum of The Order of St John. As part of an ongoing project with The Speakers Trust to reclaim the cultural spaces of London, our students were given the keys to The Gate of St John for the day - a space strictly off limits to the majority of the population for hundreds of years! Originally the headquarters of The Knights of the Order of St John of Jerusalem, who made their name during the troubled history of The Crusades one thousand years ago, The Clerkenwell Priory later became an important building for state security. 8F were given access to the rooms in which Shakespeare's plays were first edited by government censors before exploring the spaces in which William Hogarth, Samuel Johnson and Charles Dickens would work and socialise over the last 300 years. These Year 8 students then spent a day, one week later, developing their public speaking skills with specialist staff from The Speakers Trust on their experiences in the shadows of The Order of St John. -

Mr D. Magnoff

Please find Felipe's reflections below:

"These past weeks our class have been learning about public speaking from going on trips and having workshops. The other week we went on a trip to the Museum of the Order of St John both to learn about the history of the Order of St John and the museum and learning how to speak in public. After exploring the museum, we in our groups created a presentation and presented it to the class. The following week we learned about public speaking from an expert whilst doing fun games and making speeches. After practising and rehearsing our speeches we performed them to the class and received certificates for our hard work. Overall the workshop and the trip was very enjoyable and I would recommend it to other students. Thank you to Mr Magnoff for organising the trip and Ms Cumber and Mr Muir for taking us on the trip." - Felipe S, 8F -

<https://sites.google.com/stmichaelscollege.org.uk/challengeandmoreable/challenge-trips>



Mental Health Awareness Week

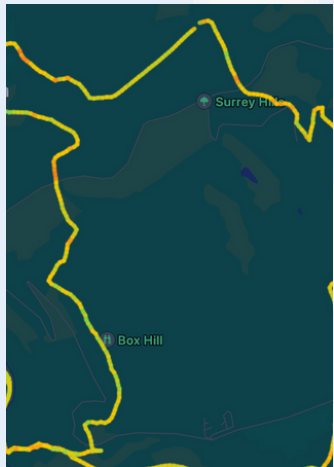
Our Mental Health Ambassadors raised £43 just by the sale of the mental health ribbons. The amount will be added to their previous sales, which will go to the charity Young Minds. Here some lovely photos from the activities last week.

Ms L.Chabaud



Year 13 CTEC Students Boxhill hike.

On Thursday 9th May Year 13 went on a hike at Boxhill in Dorking for their CTEC practical unit. We hiked 10 miles in total taking on several steep inclines followed by equally challenging descents, pushing them both physically and mentally. They all passed with flying colours and this hike contributes to them gaining their final distinction grade for the Cambridge Technicals - Extended Certificate in sport and Physical Activity. Well done to Paige, Adrianna, Charlie, Aaron, Samuel, Declan and Harrison. - ***Mrs C. Weatherley***



Chaplaincy Corner

The Word of the Lord

Pentecost Novena

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.”

(Genesis 1:1-2)

Pentecost Prayer



Come Holy Spirit

Come Spirit like rain, refresh, renew, revitalise.

Come Spirit like fire, embolden, enlighten, enable.

Come Spirit like a mighty wind, move, challenge, enkindle.

Come Spirit like wave, move, tear down, lift up.

Come Spirit, come Breath, draw us close, make song, bring intimacy.

Come Spirit, come Love, make one, make justice, make peace.

Come Spirit, come Kingdom, come Love. Amen

Reflection

The first image we encounter in the Bible is this beautiful picture of the spirit of God moving over the surface of the waters at the dawn of creation. Everything that follows in ...the scriptures is set in the context of the goodness of creation and our call to care for our common home.

This call is especially urgent today in the light of the climate emergency. let’s pray tpday that God’s nurturing spirit will challenge and strengthen us to make profound changes in our lifestyle. Changes that will prevent further damage to our environment and restore creation for the common good.

What ‘s been happening in the Faith life of the school?

- The month of Mary Rosary prayers continued in the college Chapel during breaktimes, members of both chaplaincy teams and other students of the college came together to reflect on the Mysteries shared during each session
- Year 12 CAFOD representatives shared their year long project at their final training ahead of their graduation in June
- Miss Casey and the Chaplaincy teams built a Pentecost display under the stairs to highlight the power of the Holy Spirit
- Miss Stewart shared assemblies about Pentecost, focusing on the History of the Church and the connections we all have worldwide because of this miraculous event
- Ms Corcoran, Mr Kelly and Miss Casey took Year 9 Students to Florence as part of the Salesian Exchange.

