

ST AUGUSTINE'S FEDERATED SCHOOLS

LENT
Newsletter



We want all of our community to have equal opportunities to experience life in all its fulness (John 10: 10). We encourage all community members to “be the best we can be” in every aspect of their lives as we grow in, and reflect on, the Christian virtues of Faith, Hope and Love (1Corinthians 13).

A GREAT TERM

Dear Parents/ Carers

At St Augustine's we hope that all students grow and develop as young people .Our Personal development was rated as outstanding by Ofsted. We are committed to ensuring that we follow a broad curriculum and the performing and creative arts are an important curriculum area for us. It is with great pleasure that on 28th March we welcomed back Zuhair Hassan(aka Big Zuu) to present awards in his name to those students showing potential in the field of Creative and Performing Arts.

Our former student and Bafta winner frequently visits the school to give encouragement and support to our students. He is often accompanied by former students and fellow Bafta winners Hyder Abdullah and Ahmed Al-Mashayekhi.

Eugene Moriarty
Head of Federation

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SECONDARY

Dear Parents/Carers

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for all of your support this term. We have had a large number of student led events, external visitors and workshops this term which can be found both in our newsletter and on our website. We have continued to provide opportunities for our students this half term.We have had various visitors and trips, including to Brunel University, London Zoo and The Museum Depot.

I hope everyone has a restful break over the Easter period and I extend my heartfelt wishes for a blessed and joyous Ramadan to all those observing. May this month be filled with peace, spiritual growth and the blessings of community and family.

Rachel Kelly
Head of Secondary



FAITH HOPE LOVE GROWTH

BIG ZUU AT ST AUGUSTINE'S HIGH SCHOOL

Double BAFTA Award winner, Zuhair Hassan, also known as Big Zuu, paid a visit to our school at the end of this term to present students with a special award. The TV personality used to attend St Augustine's High School and is extremely fond of his memories here. The Zuhair Hassan Award has been presented to all pupils who have shown potential in Performing and Creative Arts.



AJ Tracey's cousin, Big Zuu, is most known for his cooking show on the UKTV channel Dave. "Big Zuu's Big Eats" invites stand-up comedians touring the UK for a three-course meal. Some of the most famous, including Jimmy Carr, Jamali Maddix, Josh Widdicombe and London Hughes.



The TV personality said: "This was an incredibly positive experience and it shows how important it is to recognise people for their work! The kids were amazing!"

The children were really happy to have Big Zuu at the school and those given the award were elated about the recognition.

OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY YEAR 10 TRIP

Five Year 10 students, together with our Director of Learning, Mr Singh, met at Baker Street Station and made their way to Magdalen College at the University of Oxford.

Sophia Hamdan, C10, said: "On this trip we had eye-opening conversations, saw beautiful architecture and gained some amazing knowledge about the history of the University. After we arrived, the first thing we did was have an introduction to the university. Throughout this conversation we learned many interesting facts such as the University of Oxford being made up of thirty-nine colleges, the many fun societies they have (even a hummus society), the variety of courses you can take, financial information and more. Next, we received an insightful tour where we got to see the huge campus of the college while also learning about its interesting history. We then had an intense debate on topics such as "is war ever a good thing?", "would it be better if everyone spoke the same language." We learned about different opinions of complex topics. Afterwards, we got a tour of the actual city of Oxford which gave us a feel of what daily life would be like if we were to attend the university."



Next on the list was Cambridge University, and more specifically, Jesus College. They toured the grounds and spent their day as university student, learning about what happens when applying for a course and what degrees are available.

Corneliuz John Baquirin B10 explained: "When we arrived at Jesus College, we were welcomed and introduced to a member of the Admissions Team. Our first session of the day were icebreakers which allowed us to engage with and connect with other schools. Afterwards, we were greeted to two Student Ambassadors who would guide us around.



"I enjoyed the tour around Jesus College with the student ambassador the most, as she informed us about the history and significance of every place we briefly visited and answered the questions I asked. Following that, we had an academic taster session which gave us an example of university-style teaching. The professor kept everyone engaged, thinking, and interested, overall, I loved the academic taster session. The last session of the day talked about post-16 choices and how to put ourselves in a good position when it comes to university applications. This was a great chance to ask questions about anything we were interested about, and how we could stand out from other student applications.

To summarise, I am glad that I was invited on a trip to Jesus College. I was able to admire one of the colleges which contributed to making one of the most prestigious universities, learnt about student life after Highschool and what to expect when applying to universities. "

LDBS ANNUAL SERVICE AT ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL



On Thursday 1st February, students from Year 9 and Year 10 attended the London Diocesan Board for Schools' Annual Service at St Paul's Cathedral.

The service was to celebrate the work of all Church of England Schools, both primary and secondary, in London. The theme for this year was 'agents of reconciliation', and the service centred around a huge sculpture of the globe, which highlighted the importance of working towards a world based around mutual love and care. Our students were able to listen to Dr Krish Kandiah, who spoke about the importance of love for our neighbours. During the prayers, all students were invited to hold a candle aloft, symbolising the love that we all need to show for each other.

GEOGRAPHY COMPETITIONS

Pupils from Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9, have had the opportunity to participate in different projects, which helped them learn about different environments.

The Year 7 students looked at the marine ecosystem, specifically at the question : 'What is causing damage to our oceans?' . They had the opportunity to create the habitat in a box.

Ms Patel said: “We had a fantastic number of entries from boxes, posters and poems. All were beautifully designed and also had thought about the issues of plastic in our oceans. As you can see the students have produced some outstanding pieces!”

The winners of the model competition are: Brody Stokes (D7), Kyle Daquigan (D7), Mahmoud Khalil (F7), Rylee Joseph Thomas (C7).

The winners for the posters are: Khaled Salha (C7), Sara El-Faleh (C7), Yousif Almadani (E7), Isaiah Adu Coffie (D7), Nolawi Engdawork (F7).

In Year 8, students have an opportunity to participate in the Antarctic Flag competition as part of their unit on 'Which extreme environment is easier to adapt to any why?'.



Ms Patel continued: “We had a phenomenal number of entries - at over 80 from the whole year group. Students were to design a flag for Antarctica and to have their flag taken to Antarctica with a Scientist!

The winners of the competition are: Maryam Rahman (8D), Jayna Rajasegaram (8B), Kiera Mcsween (8A), Shaker Shawi (8A), Rebekah Engedawork (8A).

In Year 9, students started with a unit on 'How damaging are earthquakes and volcanoes?', and pupils had the chance create a volcano.

Ms Patel added: “We had some phenomenal displays from mini pop-up volcanoes to an actually 'erupting' volcano cake with volcanic 'bombs' which were all edible and erupting volcanoes which we experienced in the playground! This was a superb showcase of their understanding of the structure but also an enjoyable experience for many of our students.”

Winners for this competition are: Nicholas Carvalho (A9), Layla Kamaar (A9), Gabriela Secchio De Conceicao (A9), Zainab Hijazi (A9).

STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

We hosted 6 local Primary Schools for our inaugural Student Leadership Conference. Student leaders from different primaries across the borough, together with our St Augustine's Year 13 Prefect team, were invited to participate in a 'focus on our future', with guest speakers from the field of Sustainability. Our speakers, Evan & Angeli, presented on their business models, inspiring our young leaders with tales of innovation, including a recycling app to sort out your recycling, & wind turbines by road & rail.



The day itself saw all groups work together to develop a fully costed & planned project, focused on a particular environmental issue in their specific school, whether this was lights being switched off, greater recycling facilities, more cycling space or reducing food waste. All groups presented to the audience in a variety of formats, including speeches, interactive polls & questions, and a rap!



Ms Carney said: "Every single student involved did themselves proud and were a credit to their school. The courage & integrity the students demonstrated was fantastic throughout the day. We were also incredibly grateful for the teachers who supported their students and allowed this conference to take place by bringing their student leaders to visit. Finally, a huge thank you to our leaders on the day from Unloc, Zui, Faith, Katie & Ben. We very much look forward to hosting the conference again next year!"

PHYSIOTHERAPY AT BRUNEL UNIVERSITY

A group of 20 students who are interested in pursuing a degree in medicine or health care were given the opportunity to learn about Physiotherapy, Nursing and Occupational Therapy at Brunel University. Ms Kelly, Head of High School explained that the students had lectures in the morning about the different degrees and apprenticeships that they offer in the field of health care, listened to current students on the physiotherapy and occupational therapy courses, the different specialisms available and what funding is available to support with their learning.

Ms Kelly added: "We then had a tour of the campus so the students could get a feel for what University life would be like, the accommodation and the different societies that they can join. The afternoon was then practical based. The students visited the research labs that are used on the degree courses.



Yasmina (Year 13) having her knee tested for reflex and nerve damage

"The students looked at how gait analysis and VR headsets are used to inform any balance issues, CPR and how to use a defibrillator, how to use a stethoscope and measuring blood oxygen saturation levels."

"They also got to take part in some activities with special glasses that distorts vision and then, the students favourite, learning how to test reflexes at the knee and elbow! A great eye opener into the different courses available in medicine and health care."



Year 12 students learning CPR and how to use a Defibrillator to restart the heart.

YEAR 12 AND 13 TOOK TRIP TO DONMAR THEATRE

Our Sixth Form partnership with the Donmar Theatre continued, with 22 students from Year 12 and 13 seeing *The Human Body*. The play is based on the political battles surrounding the formation of the NHS after WWII ended in 1945. As so many of our students aspire to Medicine or study History, Politics & Sociology, this was a perfect play to demonstrate all 4! The visit to the play was preceded by a workshop where our students studied staging, set design & character development, including (as always with the Donmar) a focus on presence, performance and public speaking. A wonderful opportunity enjoyed by all.

MISS KELLY IS SET TO RUN THE LONDON MARATHON THIS APRIL

Miss Kelly will be completing the famous 26.2mile course on Sunday 21st of April 2024. She will be running the London Marathon for the National Deaf Children's Society which is one of the national organisations that supports some of our very own students at St Augustine's.



The students and staff have already held a charity event on 22nd March to raise money for the charity, which included wearing sports kit for the day and trying to complete any activity during the week that would equal or contain the numbers 26.2! This could have been 262 press ups to be completed during the week, 262 laps of a swimming pool, 262 football keep ups or to walk 26.2 miles during the week! So far, we have raised £750 !



If anyone would like to sponsor Miss Kelly, please email on rkelly@stahigh.org and we can send you a link to the fundraising page!

YEAR 12 STUDENTS SPEND A DAY AT PA CONSULTING



Half of the year 12 cohort attended an insight day into consulting. The day event was organised in partnership with two of our business partners Make the Leap - a charitable organisation and PA Consulting - a business management company. Students were introduced to the world of consulting and heard from professionals about the type of work they do and their educational background.



Students were then given a taster activity in small groups and had to act as consultants providing business support to customers which involved problem solving and team work. The day culminated in a presentation by students to panel and highlighted their creativity, communication and selling skills.

The students were really happy with the opportunity, and Elisse, a Year 12 student, said: "I really enjoyed being able to present ideas and get proper feedback on our presentations. Also being able to see what a real working environment would be like and hearing stories of how the employees decided to become consultants."

Another Year 12 student, Mohamed, added: "I have enjoyed the group presentation event as it has helped me gain more confidence in talking in front of others."



Fiona Scott, Senior Community Engagement Manager, from our business partner, gave us feedback@ "It was such a pleasure to host Year 12 students from St Augustine's High School at our Victoria offices recently. Our consultants enjoyed sharing their career journeys with the students and were impressed with their questions, ideas and observations throughout the session. Every student came with a fantastic attitude and commitment – traits that will help them succeed in the world of work in the future. We very much look forward to the rest of our planned activities with St Augustine's."

YEAR 7 TAKE TRIP FOR BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK

During British Science Week, on March 15, some of our Year 7 students were joined by Ms Boss and Mr Eke on a trip to the science museum.



Ms Bosso said: "The students were very fascinated and interested in the different scientific topics they explored during the visit. Moving through the different galleries (Mathematics, Energy Revolution, Medicine, Exploring the Space and much more) the students had a chance to engage with the interactive displays showing enthusiasm and curiosity. A great day was had by all."



THE WESTMINSTER FOOTBALL LEAGUE

The U16 girls football team fell at the last hurdle, finishing runners-up in the Westminster Football League after a 5-1 defeat against an extremely strong Grey Coats Hospital School. The team had done so well to progress through the earlier rounds beating our rivals St. George's and Paddington Academy convincingly. Stand out performances from Zoey, Rafif, Amal and Noor helped the team to our best ever finish. Mr Whent said: "I am immensely proud of the team work and togetherness of the team epitomizing our school values of Faith, Hope and Love. Next year will hopefully be our year!"

WORLD BOOK DAY CELEBRATIONS

World Book Day celebrations took place over three weeks with the opening of the Free pop-up book shops for all students in Key Stage 3. They were brought to the library during their Literacy or English lesson to choose a book of their own choice from a selection of hundreds of books. World Book Day tokens were distributed amongst students.

Whilst Key Stage 4 students and Sixth Formers were invited during lunch to choose a book to take home and make into their own library, including many classics.

All in all, over 1000 books were given to our students to promote reading and exert agency when choosing their own reading material.



The Big Literary Draw invited students to draw their favourite character, genre or book in our collective drawing exercise during the morning and lunch breaks. This was a favourite activity.



St Augustine's rich quarry of emerging writers surpassed themselves with lots of intriguing entries during the "Nano-story" writing competition. The winners were: Madihah (B8), Lina (D8), and Ali (C7).

WBD winning stories from the "nano-story" writing competition

1st Prize

Her words rang in my head like a bell. "The bad men are coming". Men? No, no, no...I messed everything up.

Crunch! Crunch! They were coming. I had to get us out of here. Her little shivers filled the air as I grabbed a long stick nearby. "Run! Hide! Go and don't come out unless I say, Okay? Pinky promise?" Our fingers locked and I watched her stumble to find somewhere to hide. The next five seconds not only determined my life, but hers as well, considering she wouldn't be able to hide in this cold for much longer.

By Madihah (D8)

2nd Prize:

My Body is drenched in a cold sweat, my brain swimming in unforgotten waves of pain. I put my head against my knees, and I pondered, it could have been different, it really could have. My whole body ached as I tried to stand up, but I tumbled back down against the rock-hard floor. I gazed at the floor, my teeth chattering at the chilly weather. My heart jumps as I hear footsteps, as I look up slowly, the man's lips twitch into a grin, my jaw drops down to the floor. At that moment, I knew it was time. It's time...

By Lina (B8)

3rd Prize:

Rage like fire, filled with hate, into the underworld with no water, the brutal side of her brain begins to activate.

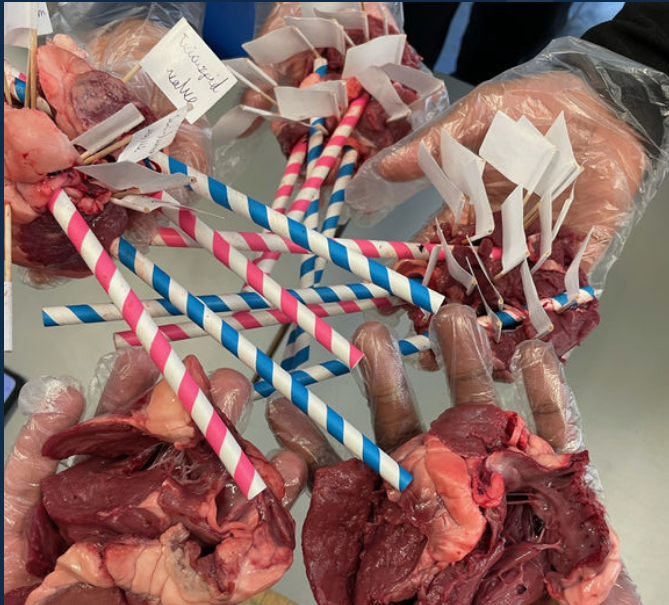
By Ali (C7)

All the entries will be made into a little booklet for our students to enjoy reading in the library.

YEAR 12 STUDENTS COMPLETE HEART DISSECTIONS

The Year 12 BTEC Sport students in year 12 have been studying the Cardiovascular System, covering all aspects of the heart, the different functions of blood vessels, how the heart works and the electrical system that controls our heart beat.

Ms Kelly said: "Part of the theory was turned into a practical lesson this week where the students got to dissect a heart, figure out the chambers and valves and label the different types of heart muscle. I can safely say we have some very precise and careful future surgeons amongst Year 12!"



ENTERPRISE DAY AT CHANGEMAKER STUDIOS

Year 10 Enterprise and Marketing students attended an enterprise day at Changemaker studios this term. They were lucky enough to hear from different speakers including Adeline Roche, brand manager at Estee lauder who shared her career journey. Students then pitched their own brand campaigns using VR technology.



READING WORKSHOP

Miss Carney has started the Reading Workshop with primary school children in order to inspire the love for learning through one to one focused reading.

She said: "By having an older mentor, we can encourage the students and this has been my experience so far. Working in pairs and small groups, can really have a big impact, as that was the case for me when i was at that same primary school so i wanted to share that same experience. By encouraging a collaborative and engaging environment, my aim was to inspire curiosity, critical thinking, and a passion for learning more among young minds."



Ola added: "I'm really enjoying reading with the younger students from Primary. I feel by working with the younger kids, not only am I developing my own skills in supporting others, but I'm able to inspire them to push themselves further and encourage them to find more joy in their education through reading. I'm really happy I got involved as reading is something I consider to be an essential hobby in everyone's life."

YEAR 9 WOMEN IN TECH EVENT

Thirty year 9 students took part in 'The Women in Tech' event in partnership with Unloc – an educational charity and led by two well-known businesses Burberry - British fashion and Verizon – Communication technology on Tuesday 23rd January. The aim of the event was to challenge stereotypes and inspire young women to consider careers in the technology sector, to develop young people's employability and enterprise skills through a variety of skills-based challenges and to introduce young people to a range of Burberry and Verizon career pathways



YEAR 12 INSIGHT INTO ANAESTHESIA

A group of year 12 students interested in following a career in medicine attended a workshop led by four members of the Association of Anaesthetists including a doctor and trainee doctor. The event included an introduction into what is anaesthesia, its historical facts, different types and how to follow a career into the sector and entry requirements. It was followed by a hands-on activity which saw students learning how to manipulate medial instruments and about dosage of the anaesthetic drug to patients.



sarah, a Year 12 student said: "It was an amazing experience I learnt a lot about anaesthesia and the doctors were very informative and supportive I gained a lot of experience and knowledge about anaesthesia and medicine and I definitely recommend it to other sixth formers."



Amin added: "I learnt about what it is like to be an anaesthetist and the different procedures involved. I also learnt more about First Aid and the pathway to becoming an anaesthetist."

TERM DATES - 2024-25

Please find a link to our school website where parents/carers can see the school term dates for 2024-25. <https://www.stahigh.org/school-life/term-dates/>