

ACTA

ISSUE 2 - December 2020

Winter Term News

Inter house competition news

Fundraising is back!



St Richard Reynolds Catholic College Bulletin

■ Editorial

Hope Springs Eternal

Welcome to the second issue of our College publication, Acta. The artwork chosen for the front cover of this edition was the winning piece of art from our annual Christmas card competition and has been chosen for two reasons. Firstly, it's a fantastic example of the talents that our children possess. The artwork provides us with a snapshot of the continued excellence that our children demonstrate every day. We are proud to be able to showcase these talents in this edition.

Secondly, because of its emotive tones and content. At Christmas we celebrate the birth of Christ, and in many ways the child, so beautifully depicted in the artwork, represents the coming of our Lord. However, one can also interpret the child as a symbol of hope. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought much death and despair to the world. With the roll-out of a vaccine over the coming months, we have cause for optimism. There are clear parallels with the birth of a child in Bethlehem, over 2000 years ago, and the renewed hope we have for a return to normalcy in 2021.

Thank you to all the students and staff who have contributed to this issue of Acta. We wish the whole SRRCC community a healthy, safe and happy Christmas.

The Editors

Important Dates 2021	
January	
4th	Start of Term (Week A2)
13th	Yr 12 Parents Evening
15th	Inset Day (High School only)
20th	Yr 9 Parents Evening
February	
3rd	Yr 11 Parents Evening
15th—19th Feb	Half-term
17th	Ash Wednesday
24th	Yr 13 Parents Evening
March	
26th	End of Term (half-term)

Front Cover: *Beatrice Battalgia (Year 8)*

■ Message from the Principal

Advent should be a time of joy in the waiting for the birth of Jesus Christ symbolising that God is near. As we find ourselves at the end of a challenging year we should take time to reflect on our experiences throughout it and thank God for all the benefits He has given us and all the pains and insults that He has borne for us. In particular, I challenge you to identify a more dedicated, hardworking and caring group of staff than those here at our College. We are blessed to have them and it is because of them that your daughters and sons have had the exceptional all round experience that they have had pre and post the initial lockdown that began in March.

Our young people - all of them, from Reception to Year 13 - who you have entrusted to us, continue to delight in their own inimitable ways. Whether they have just completed their first term of school full of innocence, curiosity and excitement or are deciding on which particular place to continue their study after A levels whilst at the same time coping with the demands of the mock examinations that will begin directly after the Christmas break - all are uniquely made in the image of God. The responsibility we have, in partnership with you, inspiring, listening, challenging and most importantly of all, loving our young people - is one that we take very seriously.

As I write this on Tuesday 15th December, I can say that we have been very fortunate compared to other schools with regard to the impact that Covid-19 has had on the day to day running of the College. That is down, in no small part I believe, to the way that we have managed the organisation and logistics of College life as well as the support in conforming to the new protocols that has been shown by staff, students and parents/carers.

Our responsibility to recognise and insist upon a preferential option for the poor has manifested itself in numerous ways over the last year not least with our annual Salvation Army Christmas box appeal. We had another great response with some impressively decorated boxes filled with goods due to be distributed to families in need this Christmas. Thank you for your generosity.

Our High School Advent Liturgy is understandably different this year, especially being unable to host our annual Christmas Concert, and is has gone through post-production editing before release on Friday and watched by all those in Primary, High school and Sixth Form.

To view the High School Advent Liturgy please click [here](#).

Attendance in both the primary and high schools has remained relatively high at 96% for the high school and 97% for our primary across the term. I'm sure we can improve still further next term. It is pleasing that so many more students are walking and cycling to College. Thank you for ensuring that your child is meeting our expectation of wearing a helmet if they cycle to College.

Our young people continue to wear their uniform smartly and we are proud to receive many compliments on their appearance. Thank you for ensuring that your child has the correct College bag and shoes. As we approach colder weather, please consider the College uniform policy when buying a winter coat.

Please ensure that all belongings can be identified with students' names. Any lost property will be recycled in the New Year if it is not collected by the end of term from Student Services.

Please also remind your children that chewing gum is not allowed in College, will be confiscated and disposed of if found and students falling short of this expectation may be expected to do community service scraping it from floors and tables. Our stewardship of our environment is a key priority for us - if you have yet to see David Attenborough's feature documentary, **David Attenborough: A Life On Our Planet**, which serves as Attenborough's witness statement for the natural world, I urge you to do so.

At the end of term we say goodbye and good luck to Mrs Dodsworth from the Art department who is leaving to be closer to her family in the West country. We wish her well and thank her for all that she has done for our College. We also pray that Ms Pearce and Mrs Santos give birth to healthy children over the holidays and give thanks for the birth of Mrs O'Malley's daughter last week.

Our new term begins in 2021 on **Monday 4th January at 8.30am** for the High School and **8.45am** for the Primary School.

My prayers are for you, your families and friends, and for all of our community, for a safe, peaceful and blessed Christmas, and that 2021 is a year of renewed hope and imaginings for the future with a determination to overcome any challenge that is presented to us.

Mr R. Burke
Principal



A Christmas Message from Archbishop John Wilson

■ **Our Catholic Community**

This term has certainly been a unique experience for both staff and students alike. All of us have had to adjust to another version of school and we have been encouraged to look out for one another and to live calmly in the moment.

During this term we have turned our thoughts and prayers to those in need in our local area and as parents you have certainly played your part. The Salvation Army Christmas boxes were brimming over with food and toys. Thank you also for your incredible generosity in providing for those in need around us.

During our holy season of Advent, we are constantly reminded of the hope and joy our Christian faith brings to us. Jesus was and still is a positive force in our world. He encouraged those around Him; He listened and He loved. He healed and He forgave. How we need to hear such encouragement and hope today.

Thank you to the FoSRR for our beautiful Advent wreath which has been central to our morning prayers. Throughout November and December, I have been leading the Upper School in quiet contemplation and in preparation for the coming of Jesus at Christmas.

Weekly Thursday Masses have been celebrated in our chapel with Canon Peter Newby. Each form group has participated in the Mass and we hope to continue weekly Masses for the rest of the academic year.

As we approach the end of the term, we wish you and your family a very restful Christmas. May you encounter all the joy and hope you need this Christmas. With God everything is possible. Merry Christmas!

Mrs Walker, College Chaplain

School Prayer

St Richard Reynolds,
Be with us in our faith, life and learning.
Open our eyes to a challenge
Open our hearts to love
Open our ears to listen
Open our spirits to inspire
And let us see the good things of the Lord
(et videamus nos bona domini)

Amen

Charlotte Abbott Y7





Remembrance Day 2020



Primary and High School represented Remembrance Day by creating these fabulous displays in the Chapel and School.



Advent Calendar 2020

Year 7 liturgy reps distributed Advent Calendars to all form groups this year. Thank you!



■ Fundraising

The Primary and High Schools contributed toys and gifts for the Salvation Army who were collecting for families in the local area.



Salvation Army volunteers

Dear SRCC,
I just wanted to reiterate our sincere thanks for all of the hard work your school has put in to support our Christmas present appeal this year.



Over the weekend we have spent time sorting all the toys and putting together the parcels and we have been blown away with your generosity so thank you so much. May CHRISTmas bring to you joy, hope, peace and love.

Blessings

E. J. Watson

Lieutenant

They also supplied crates and bags full of food for the Christmas Beaver Box Campaign going to local families in Hampton and Richmond.



Hampton & Richmond Borough FC @HRBFC · 11 Dec

🙌 A MASSIVE thank you to everyone at @FoSRR for their incredible donations to the Christmas Beaver Box campaign 🎁

🚗 Not only did it fill two motors to the brim, but the effort into decorating the boxes was really special

Amazing work from everyone involved 🌟



👍 1

🔄 8

❤️ 27



Congratulations to 10P who picked up first prize for their clever box design

Sixth Form Fundraising



Sixth Form raised more than £300, donated 53 selection boxes which all went to the Care Leavers Charity and Richmond Christmas Day Dinner.



The Sisters of Charity of St Louis have been extremely generous towards the College since opening. They work with a project in Madagascar, helping the villagers to become self-sufficient by working with them, training them in farming techniques, animal care and financial management. We wanted to support the Sisters' work and return their generosity, so £1 from Christmas Jumper Day will go towards the Madagascar project. The other £1 will go towards the Sports Hall Fund.

Christmas Jumper Day

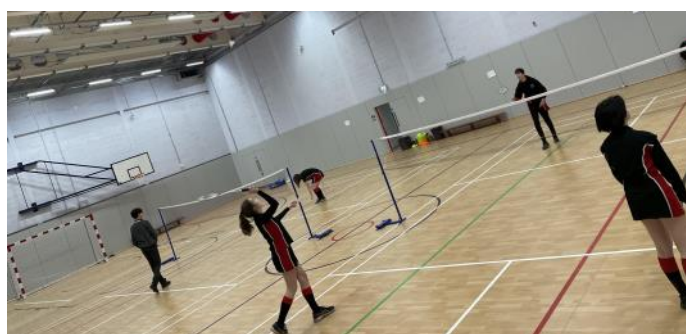


End of Term House LORRIC points

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Total
Bakhita House	2446	1659	1036	790	555	6557
Francis House	3067	1965	1145	1054	429	7710
Kolbe House	2985	1981	1212	909	477	7604
Line House	2881	1660	1281	1015	539	7414
Molla House	3470	1648	1229	1060	622	8070
Porres House	2669	1702	1263	1100	429	7161

Molla House lead the way in the LORRIC house points at the end of this term. Well done to all the students who contributed to this tally.

Inter house challenge—Better, Stronger, Together



Position	House	Points
1st	B	790
2nd	M	740
3rd	K	730
4th	L	720
5th	F	670
6th	P	490

Congratulations to Bakhita House for topping the leader-board this term



■ Careers & Work Experience



As 2020 draws to a close, many of us will be reflecting on the year we've had and we can all agree that 2020 has certainly not gone the way any of us expected! While it has been a very challenging year, we are committed to supporting our young people in their career decisions by various activities. At the end of November we started delivering careers guidance sessions via zoom to our Year 11 students either via group or 1:1 sessions. Why don't you have a chat with your child and see how they feel after the session and if they need help with their action plans (and please remind them all to have a back-up plan!)? These sessions will take place until the



end of February 2021 and parents and students can find all information together with recommended careers websites on their Year 11 Careers and Post 16 Pathways code - **5uf56bw**. All Year 11 students also took part in the Year 11 to Year 12 day where they had an opportunity to have a taster session of the many exciting A-Levels subjects our Sixth Form can offer our students. Economics seemed to be one of the most popular amongst students we talked to.



Despite all of the uncertainty in the world of work, we are hopeful that our Year 10 students will be able take part in the Work Experience programme in order to explore different career options available locally and start to develop the employability skills they will need when they finish formal education.

Historically we would offer this opportunity during summer term in Year 10, however due to the unpredictable nature of workplaces' capacity to offer placements, we have decided to move the Work Experience program to the first week of the new academic year 2021/2022 i.e. first week of your child being in Year 11 - between **31st August - 3rd September 2021**. By moving the week to September, we are confident that it will enable our students to fully maximise all remaining curriculum time. In addition, with the delay, more businesses are likely to be able to offer face-to-face placements to students again. A parentmail will be sent out shortly but all information is also posted on the Year 10 Careers and Work experience classroom - code **2qmh7gi**. There also remains a wealth of virtual work experience opportunities online for young people aged 14 - 19. Please encourage your child to check them out via google classrooms and apply as soon as possible. We don't want our students to miss out on these amazing opportunities which are FREE and would look brilliant on their CV's.



Our Careers department is also busy preparing for our Careers Fair 2021 which will take place during the National Careers week 1st - 6th March. This is our annual and a very popular event which is always a highlight of our careers calendar. This year the Ca-

reers Fair will be virtual and we have named it SHARE YOUR STORY. We are currently looking for volunteers to sign up to support this exciting event by recording a short video. You don't need to be an 'expert' in your field, you just need to love the work you do and to be happy to share your experiences, provide information and insight about your job and career, and the educational pathways that have got you there. Alternatively, if you know someone else who might also be interested in participating (family, friends, employers or local businesses) please do feel free to share this **letter**. We are keen to get our ever growing SRRCC School community involved in the project as much as possible. This is a great way to support the school, to inspire young people and to make a difference to our students' futures so what are you waiting for?



We are very excited to be launching Unifrog for our KS3 students early in spring term. Unifrog is currently being used in our Sixth Form and is very well received and we hope that our KS3 students will also greatly benefit from this destination platform regardless of their interests or academic ability.

We would like to wish you all a well-deserved and relaxing Christmas break and let's hope for a smoother 2021! Stay safe.

Iveta Drummond

Careers and Work experience Co-ordinator
careers@srrcc.org.uk



The SRR Podcast Team have enjoyed recording the first two of our episodes. With so much by way of current affairs to talk about, we have tried to shed light on some of the key issues that are affecting the world in 2020. If you are yet to listen to them, the podcasts can be found on the SRRCC Youtube channel.

Episode 1 - US Election and Fake News



Episode 2 - Climate Crisis and US Election Results



■ **An Interview with....**



Eleanor Hill, RE Teacher

How have you found the first few weeks of school?

I have absolutely loved this term. It's been pretty manic but I've really enjoyed getting to my classes better & getting more involved in the SRRCC community. That being said I cannot wait for a break, watching some Christmas films and eating far too much chocolate...

What has been the highlight of your first few weeks here?

A highlight of this term was definitely getting creative with my year 7 R.E class. They produced some amazing board games based on the Bible. We had Bible Monopoly, top trumps, charades & even a 'Bible quest'. It was lovely to see their creativity and imagination come alive.

What are you most looking forward to doing at St Richard Reynolds Catholic College?

I can't wait for the Christmas jumper day and having a Christmas party with my form. I've heard some great things about the last day of term and can't wait to experience some SRRCC Christmas magic.

If you had a magic lamp and one wish, what would it be?

I think the obvious answer would be an end to Covid, mainly so I can go and watch Harlequins play again & spend some time beating my brothers at board games... but if it wasn't Covid, it would definitely be to grow a few inches. Most of the year 7's are taller than me!

What's your favourite book and why?

My Year 10's know how much I struggle with reading so won't be surprised to know my favourite book is a kids book classic - 'Where's Wally?' Can keep you entertained for hours...

HEAD OF YEAR UPDATES

■ Year 7

I couldn't be happier with the progress Year 7 has made this term. They have once again proved themselves to be an adaptable and versatile Year group responding maturely and quickly to the need to start remote learning and continue with blended learning. Going around to the Year 7 classrooms has been very exciting this term. Particular highlights include blueberry muffins in food tech, reading *Private Peaceful* in English and our discussions about growing up in our PSHE dropdown day. Furthermore, it has been wonderful seeing all their hard work and thoughtful natures as each form has begun to prepare the Salvation Army Christmas boxes. I know that they will be making numerous families very happy over the Christmas period. Once again, well done for all the amazing things you have done in your first term at SRRCC - I know there will be plenty more to come!

Ms S. Thompkins



Year 7 drama- acting out Darkwood Manor

■ Year 8

Year 8 have adapted brilliantly and have shown great resilience, independence and patience with blended learning. The students' work ethic is great and I have enjoyed visiting lessons and experiencing the joy of learning taking place in the classroom. We are very proud of all they have achieved this term.

The reintroduction of tutor time has meant that Year 8 have been able to reconnect with their forms and their tutors. They have all been busy over the past few weeks getting their Salvation Army boxes ready to give to those less fortunate, reflecting the generous and compassionate young people they are.

Over the Christmas break I hope Year 8 are able to rest and recharge and enjoy the celebration that Christmas brings, where we celebrate the birth of Jesus. I look forward to seeing the students in January 2021 where we can all have a fresh start and begin the new year strong.

Ms J. Corbin



Year 8 Clay Masks Responses

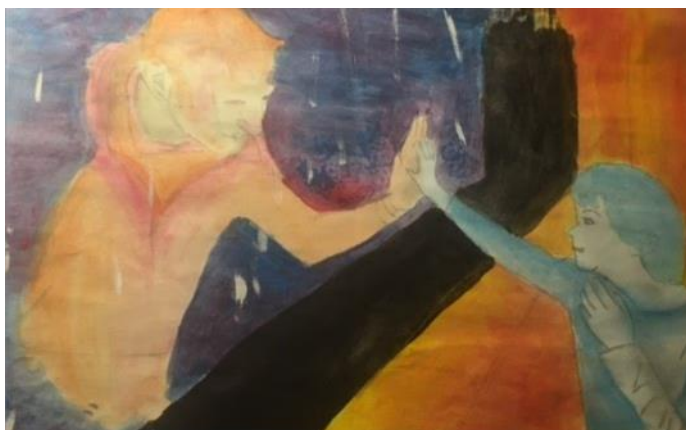
■ Year 9

Now that we have come to the end of the 2020 Autumn term (a term like no other we have experienced before) it has become apparent that staff and students alike, are very much looking forward to the Christmas break. Year 9 has survived the past 16 weeks extremely well, you have adapted brilliantly to the changes that we have had to implement in order to keep you safe and Covid free at school, thankfully we have completed term 1 without a single confirmed case with the year group (something that not many are able to claim). As a result of this our attendance figure has remained impressively high and we are currently sitting at 96.27%!

This success would not have been possible had your tutors, teachers, parents and YOU not been as responsible and respectful of each other and your surroundings as you have been up to now. It is imperative that you do not let your guard down over the holidays and that you continue to keep up the good habits you have created over this year. When we return in January Your GCSE options process starts to pick up, your tutor sessions in the morning will be showing the individual options videos for each subject, you have your parents evening on January 20th which will take place virtually, and your options forms will be due in shortly after that. It is really important that you talk with your parents/children to ensure the right choices are being made and that if you have any questions/concerns you can address these with your teachers before and during parents evening meetings.

All that is left for me to say is I wish you all a relaxing Christmas break, continue to look after each other and come back in January refreshed and ready to continue the great start you have had to this school year.

Mr B. Gibbs



Grace Lanigan (Yr 9) Lockdown response

■ Year 10

Year 10 have made a fantastic start on their GCSE journey. They continue to be resilient and bring lots of energy to the College. I have observed year 10 actively engaging in their lesson activities. Most students have displayed a diligent and independent approach to learning.

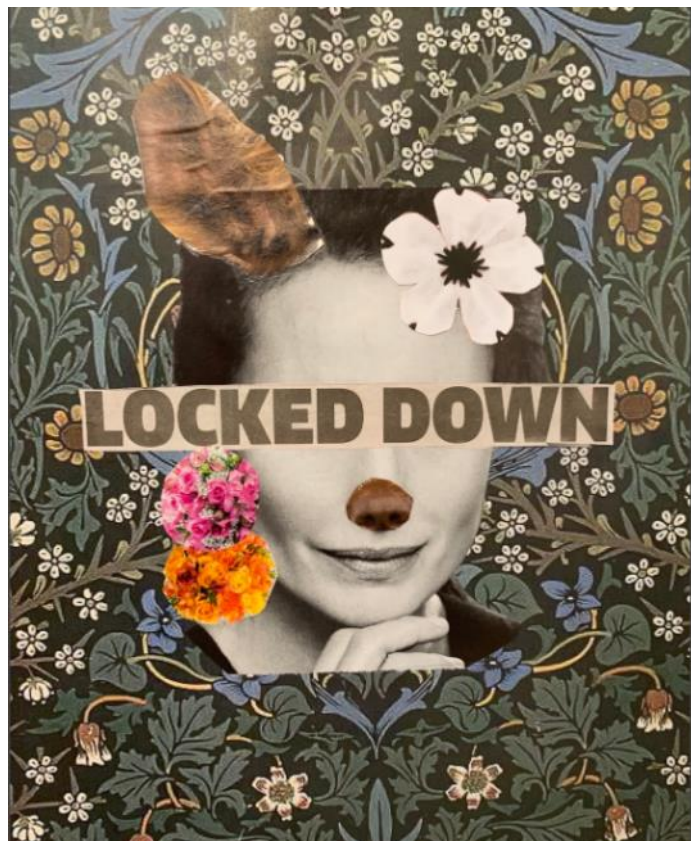
During tutor time year 10 have been learning revision techniques to support their retention of the knowledge. The power-points can be accessed on each tutor Google Classroom. Students should be readily revising and establishing good learning habits in preparation for future exams. Form time maths booklets are also being completed fortnightly to put knowledge into practice.

I was very impressed with contributions to the Christmas Box Appeal, a fantastic effort from everyone. Congratulations 10P on the first place prize, and an outstanding christmas cracker design. Thank you to all the year 10 students who attended the PE departments' **'Better, Stronger, Together'**, to promote equality in sport.

Overall Year 10 have achieved 6765 LORRIC points since September. This is a reflection of their vast positive achievements, lots to be proud of, well done!

I hope everyone has a well-deserved Christmas break. Happy holidays!

Ms J. Kieser



Leo Mapstone (Yr 10) Mixed Media

■ Year 11

Year 11 have had a wonderful term - they have accumulated 3,524 positive LORRIC points for independence, communication and organisation - key skills needed to be successful at GCSE. In November, Year 11 successfully completed their mock examinations and have continued to work hard in preparation for their January mock exams. I hope that they take the lessons learned from their preparation in November and build on these successes. The Salvation Army was so impressed with the food donations and efforts with the Christmas boxes - well done and thank you for being so generous! Have a wonderful Christmas break - rest, revise and reach out if you need any support.

Ms K. Hayles



Year 11 with their Salvation Army boxes



Ben Roohan (Yr 11) Michael Mew response, mixed media

■ Year 12

The Year 12's have had a fantastic first term with us. They have been involved in some very worthy charitable events such as 'The Richmond Christmas Day Dinner', supporting young care leavers in the Richmond Borough. They have been busy collecting donations and items for Christmas hampers, and have wholeheartedly got involved with collaborating with the charity. The students have additionally been completing an EtonX critical thinking programme, as part of their Shape programme, as well as study skills focusing on oracy and metacognition. Students demonstrated hard work and reliance during their assessment week in November, and have been celebrating their successful results.

Mrs A. Foster

Year 12's involved in the car leavers Christmas Event



This is some of the Year 12 Media work they have been working on recently for their A-Level.



This is a small selection of the Year 12 Media Studies students first practical work, creating a film teaser poster in a genre of their choice. The aim being to use imaginative photography, lighting and costume, hair and make-up.



■ Year 13

It has been another incredibly busy half term for our amazing Year 13 students, who have demonstrated so much enthusiasm, willingness and organisation from the start of this first term. It has been fantastic to see so many Year 13 students working hard and revising for their exams, commencing from 4th - 13th January.

Year 13 have also dedicated a lot of time on their NEA courses this term as well as their ongoing EPQs. Good luck to all the early applicants for their University interviews! The Cafe will also be re-opening to Year 13 students as we build up to exams, which allows students flexible spaces to work during study periods and longer days on site.

Well done to the students who have completed their Personal Statements and University applications! It has been a busy few weeks to get these re-drafted and completed, however we have now had a growing number of applications being sent off to Universities. A big thank you to the 5 brilliant Year 13 tutors have been busy with supporting students on their Personal Statements as well.

Year 13, keep up the brilliant work, you make us all very proud!

Have a restful Christmas and Happy New Year. Thank you,

Miss N. Ali



■ Sport

This half-term in core PE lessons students have explored and developed their skill set in Football, Futsal, Gaelic, Gymnastics, Badminton and Table Tennis. Elsewhere some of our Year 11 GCSE cohort spent the first weekend of December mastering their rock climbing skills, this counted towards their practical assessment grade and was an invaluable experience for them all. Year 11 into 12 Day also saw our PE Team meet some of our potential A-Level students for next year, which was really exciting. As well as getting an introduction into the course and specification, the Year 11's had a taster lesson on the conduction system. We can't wait to hopefully see them again in September 2021!!

After a short break, due to the National lockdown, our co-curricular provision re-started. It was great to see attendance levels hit the heights of the first half-term with students still having the option of; football, netball and touch rugby. We will continue to monitor the guidance as to what we can and can't do post-Christmas. Our co-curricular timetable for after Christmas will be released in due course.

Finally, the last week of term has been very busy. We have had the second round of our inter-house competition which took place in their normal core PE Lessons. The final tally of the inter house competition can be found in earlier pages of the bulletin.

As well as the next round of the inter-house competition, the last week of term has seen our 'Better, Stronger, Together' campaign launch which has focused on gender equality in sport. This campaign will hopefully allow for an environment where everyone feels confident taking part and competing in physical activity together regardless of their gender. Students had the option to enter mixed teams in the following sports; Futsal, Badminton and Table Tennis. Each form group in every year had a team representing them. We hope it will encourage teamwork and a love for sport and physical activity in every student within our college community.

PE Department



The St Richard Reynolds Sports hats are now available for sale on the School shop for £12. Why not snap one up before the end of the winter season?

Can you help? We are looking for sponsors of between £200—£500 for sports kit. Please contact Matt Kenny at m.kenny@srrcc.org.uk if you are able to help up. Thank you!

■ Music

We are excited that Tuesday mornings have seen the return of orchestra for Year 7 and 8. Students have been enjoying playing Christmas Carols together in socially distanced rehearsals led by Miss Firman and Mrs Fitzgerald. We would also like to congratulate the many students who have passed their Graded Music Performance exams this term!

Our Year 11 students recently had a virtual visit from French-American countertenor and harpsichord player, Collin Shay. Collin is a Baroque music expert and recently made his debut for the Royal Opera. He gave our Year 11 students a virtual Baroque instrument masterclass, performed some of their GCSE music set works, and gave a Q&A session about his career in music. The Year 11 students found the visit really helpful and offered excellent feedback - they were fascinated to learn about 'what different baroque instruments were made of... as well as their limitations' and found the session 'valuable because it widens my perspective on music'. We have more exciting virtual visits planned from various professionals working in the music industry, including a visit from John Nicoll who has worked as a Stage Manager for Opera Holland Park and Opera North.

There are lots of exciting musical events planned for next term - including Piano Scholars Auditions and a Composition Competition.

To contact us at any point please email:
Miss Davies at n.davies@srrcc.org.uk or Miss Firman at c.firman@srrcc.org.uk

Miss Firman & Miss Moss



Mr Shay's virtual Baroque Master Class

■ Art

Congratulations to Beatrice Battaglia (Yr 8), for winning our card competition, by producing a wonderful Christmas card response. This work is typical of the dedication and skill she so regularly demonstrates.



Christmas Card Response Winner



Beatrice Battaglia (Yr 8)



Agatha Shepherd Jones (Yr 11) Michael Mew response

Primary News

Reception enjoyed the last week of the topic, "Will you read me a story?" in style having come to school dressed in their favourite fairy-tale story. We have some great memories of this topic; stories read by many staff including Mr Burke and Miss McMullen; seeing Gingerbread Men run through our classroom caught on CCTV, enjoying decorating yummy gingerbread men and exploring many different traditional tales like the enormous turnip, Hansel and Gretel, Jack and the Beanstalk. We are now finding out that we can still learn at home as we come together for our daily Zoom lessons and share the things we have been doing.



Year 1 have been immersed in creative RE opportunities this term whilst learning about the nativity story. We began by exploring the story of the annunciation; when the Angel Gabriel visited Mary to tell her the news she was going to have a very special baby. Pupils explored the feelings of both characters and thought about what they would say before responding with their own art work. We discovered that Mary is always portrayed wearing blue in her paintings and portraits.





We also took part in a colour group table team challenge; to create our very own nativity scene using junk modelling materials. We first explored which characters we needed to represent and discussed who were the key characters that were essential to the story. Pupils then had to collaborate and decide who was going to create what to avoid duplicates. They could decide whether they wanted to work on individual creations or take different roles. The creations the pupils made were fantastic and demonstrated fantastic collaboration and teamwork (even down to the tidying of the classroom afterwards). In the end it was impossible to decide on a winning team so all groups were awarded table points. We are now using these characters to retell the story of the Nativity. Year 1 would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very, Merry Christmas.



Year 2 have been learning about the Annunciation. We listened to the Gospel from St. Luke and looked at famous paintings which depict the special message that Mary received from the Angel Gabriel; that she would have a baby called Jesus and he would be the Son of God. We were inspired to create our own beautiful paintings to celebrate Mary saying 'Yes' to God. In our class liturgy, we have been thinking of the different ways that we too can say 'Yes' to God.



Year 3 were learning about the Annunciation and how Mary showed her love to God and others. Pupils explored and discussed a range of artwork that depicted both the annunciation and the visitation. Year 3 then created their own artwork that symbolises Mary's love.



Year 3 were looking at Isaiah 40 and selected their favourite verse. They then painted a painting to represent this verse and symbolise a different aspect of preparing for the coming of Jesus during Advent.



Year 4 have been busy scientists all term. We conducted numerous scientific experiments to explore and understand more about states of matter. We were especially curious to find out if all liquids are runny. In order to come to a conclusion, Year 4 conducted a fair test to discover the viscosity (a liquid's resistance to flow) of different liquids. We discovered that all liquids are indeed runny, although they can have a low or high viscosity which explains why some liquids are thicker than others.

The children in Year 4 were amazed when they managed to blow up a balloon without using their mouth or a pump! We observed and discovered the chemical reaction that takes place when you add bicarbonate soda (a base) to vinegar (an acid).

The children were quick to link their conclusion to prior learning that the *'air' produced by the chemical reaction was in fact carbon dioxide gas which was what caused the balloon to blow up.*

Our final experiment of the term was a rather relaxing one. We discussed what happens when you drop a bath bomb into water- what causes the bomb to fizz up? During our D&T lesson this week we made homemade bath bombs which we intend to use over the Christmas holidays to relax and celebrate all our hard work this term.



Year 5 explored a real conundrum in their Science lesson; 'Which falls first, a heavy or a light object?' Using Newton meters and carefully selected objects from around the classroom, Year 5 explored this age old question to discover the answer. They used the scientific equipment to find the mass and weight of the objects and then dropped them from a height while the fall was videoed in slow motion. Re-watching the footage allowed Year 5 to find their answers.



Year 5—In our topic lesson Year 5 stepped into the shoes of the astronauts living and working on board the International Space Station. They discussed the mysteries of living in space such as how astronauts eat, sleep and even brush their teeth. Nothing is easy when there's zero gravity! Using video and literature produced by real astronauts, Year 5 created their own detailed guide to living in space explaining how an astronaut carries out his or her daily routine. Following on from this lesson, Year 5 got to try ice-cream especially prepared to be eaten by astronauts in space.

Year 6—In Science, Year 6 have been looking at how mirrors reflect light, and how they can help us see objects. They then used their understanding of reflection to create a working periscope.

A simple periscope is a tube with a mirror at either end. The mirrors need to be positioned so that the light is reflected from the mirror at one end, down the tube to the other mirror, then out of the tube to the observer's eyes. Once we had a go at making our own periscopes, we went outside to test them out and found that they worked! We were able to see over and around obstacles.





Year 6 experimenting outdoors

School Streets and Cycling

Since the start of the School Streets initiative instigated by the council in September, the college has taken an active and positive part in helping it establish. Thank you to all the parents and students who are encouraging each other to use active forms of transport to arrive and leave the college site. We are delighted at seeing so many students cycling to college despite the weather.

As promised, we have endeavoured to maintain a constant dialogue with our local community and recently a couple of staff members took part in an important community webinar to find out the general consensus of the initiative. The results of traffic impact on local streets can be seen below:

Summary

- Grove Road - Cars reduced from 100 to an average of under 10
- Clifden Road - Cars reduced from 120 to an average of around 30
- Copthall Gardens - Cars reduced from 100 to an average of around 12
- Station Road - Cars reduced from 200 to an average of under 40
- Sherland Road - Cars increased from 25 to an average of under 30

- Per daily session (1.5 hours)



Since the start of the School Streets initiative instigated by the council in September, the college has taken an active and positive part in helping it We are pleased to hear that the majority of the community were very much in favour of the initiative continuing into the new year and beyond.

From January 2021, the roads currently affected by temporary road limitations will continue but there will no longer be manned stations with marshals at the entrance of the zoned off area. Instead, the council propose to install Automatic Number Plate Recognition Cameras which will manned electronically.



Please ensure that you are aware of ANPR as you may receive a fine if you chose to drive to the college gates during the restricted hours.



■ Friends of St Richard Reynolds

Our School Wishlist

FoSRR were very excited to recently launch a new website that gives parents the opportunity to support the school directly and get the things the school needs to them quickly. Thank you to all our parents, friends and supporters who have already made a donation; over 200 of you so far. Last week the first 14 items were ordered and are now on their way to school. Some classes have got together and made group purchases. It's a great way to give something back to the school to mark a birthday, somebody going the extra mile or even a win on the sports field!

If you haven't had a chance to look then please do so over the holidays. Donations can be made from as little as £1 and every penny really does count. And do feel free to pass the link on to any friends or family who might want to support our school: www.srrcc.ourschoolwishlist.co.uk

We would like to thank SRRCC parent Darren Bartlett who, through his boutique estate agency [Darren Bartlett Real Estate](http://www.darren-bartlett.co.uk), has sponsored our Wishlist website. His generosity means there are even more resources available to our school and every donation goes directly towards our children's experience.

Darren has also pledged a £250 donation to the school for any recommendation from a parent of the school that leads to a sale through his company. Please visit www.darren-bartlett.co.uk

If you are a parent who is interested in sponsoring any of our activities to fundraise for our school then do contact us at fossr.info@gmail.com We have lots of opportunities planned for next year!

Class Reps

We have a fantastic group of parents acting as class reps and want to thank them for all their support this year. We still don't have one in every form so if you fancy stepping forward for 11K, 11L, 10M, 10K, 9B or 9M then do get in touch with us.

We also want to thank parents Brad McAllister, Angela Busuttill, Patrona Briggs and Barbara De Angelis who have been helping us with projects this year. We really do need the skills, talents and support of our parent body to make things happen so do get in touch if you can support us.

Finances

We have now completed the financial handover from our previous treasurer David Bernie to our new treasurer Rhona Chilvers. The new FoSRR committee inherited a sum of money raised over the last couple of years thanks to both David and Kevin Nolan, the previous Chair and we were delighted to hand over to the school the sums of £15,000 towards large projects including the repayment of the Sports Hall, £5,000 for discretionary purchases as and when needed and £2,700 to the Primary School from their 2019/20 fundraising. As restrictions on face-to-face events continue we will need to come up with innovative and exciting ways to raise money while we continue to work with the challenges of Covid. Do get in touch if you can help with this.

FoSRR were delighted to fund an Advent Wreath complete with stand and candles for the school chapel. We received this lovely photo and message from Becky Walker, the School Chaplain.



"Here is the beautiful advent wreath that FoSRR bought for the chapel. We are using it daily for morning prayer and weekly Mass. The wreath will be used every Advent season and will bring light as well as meaning to our lives.

Let's pray that the meaning behind each candle namely Hope, Peace, Joy, Love will be lived through our faith in the world around us.

*Thanks a million,
Becky."*

THANK YOU!



Thank you to everyone who ordered from us this year. We are delighted to donate £220 to purchase books from the primary wishlist and donate towards the high school wishlist.

We will be back next year with our wreath workshops. Merry Christmas!

Fiona Bradford & Louisa Prescott Brann

Primary FoSRR

We were sorry to have to cancel the Advent Trail this week but, as throughout this difficult year, the safety of everybody has to take precedence. Thank you to the parents who had volunteered their windows and already put in much effort for a fun event. Thank you also to Memories Party Shop who sponsored the Trail. We look forward to rearranging this event when it is safe to do so.

While we couldn't hold the wonderful Wreath Making Workshops at the school this year, talented primary parents Fiona Bradford and Louisa Prescott Brann did use their creative skills to make wreaths to sell which were snapped up very quickly! The money raised from these sales will be put towards items on the Primary and High School Wishlist: www.srrcc.ourschoolwishlist.co.uk

FoSRR were delighted to provide some extra Christmas cheer for the Primary children by purchasing a virtual Panto! This will be viewed safely in their bubbles as part of their special end of term celebrations with Christmas jumpers, Christmas lunch and the Pantomime. It can also be viewed by children at home who are self-isolating so nobody misses out. Let's hope that next year we can treat the children to a real live performance!



Memories Party Shop, High Street, Twickenham

Memories owner Paras has been incredibly supporting to our school in the last supplying balloons for events such as the Summer Ball. Please visit him for all you party and celebration needs over the holidays whether a birthday balloon or some sparkle to welcome in the New Year and he will give 20% of every sale to the school. This offer is until 31st December.

We have to finish this newsletter and the year 2020 by saying a huge Thank You to all the staff at SRRCC - teaching, support, administrative, catering and facilities. They have put everything into keeping our children safe and learning in innovative and exciting ways against a backdrop of huge challenges.



Many of you contributed to our Treats for Teachers Collection and we're delighted to say we collected nearly £2,000! Last Friday we safely delivered, in a socially distanced manner, 140 boxes of chocolates to be distributed amongst the staff.

Thank you to Yr 11 Rep Christine McCorry who organised this and to Shamoona the community champion at Asda in Feltham who helped arrange the safe collection of so much chocolate! We will also be buying an Olive Tree for the school which is a Wishlist item and a contribution to Our Catholic Community. The excess money will be given to the school for the staff to use at a later date for a celebration, when it is safe to do so.

We wish all our staff, parents, families, friends and supporters a Happy and Restful Christmas and look forward to seeing you in 2021.

The FoSRR Team

The Friends of St Richard Reynolds

fosrr.info@gmail.com

Follow us on Twitter [@FoSRR](https://twitter.com/FoSRR)

Get Involved <https://bit.ly/fosrrHappytoHelp>

Money raised this term:	
Balloon race	£1,560
SRRCC wishlist	£5,000
EasyFundraising	£100
Amazon Smile	£100
Christmas Shopping (Trees, Wrap etc)	£150+

Remember to register with EasyFundraising and Amazon Smile before you finish your online Christmas shopping – an easy way for the school to raise money without you spending any.

Donated to the school this term:	
£15,000 towards the sports hall loan and other large projects	Advent wreath with stand and candles for the chapel
Studio Light Box Kit	Statue of Our Lady
Virtual pantomime for Primary children	Chalice and Paten
Measuring mini beasts	Islamic Artefacts Pack
An Olive tree	Usborne book of world religions
Badminton set	Subscription to Teen Breathe magazine
15 copies of Demon Dentist	Igneous rock collection
Ditty photocopy masters	Metamorphic rock collection
Foldaway grouping circles	Sedimentary rock collection
140 boxes of Christmas chocolates for teachers	

On behalf of the staff, students and parents of St Richard Reynolds Catholic College, we'd like to say a HUGE



to all the members of FoSRR who work tirelessly to organise and provide ingenious ways of fundraising for the school. We appreciate all you do and are grateful for all your time and effort!



THE FRIENDS OF ST RICHARD REYNOLDS

Helping You Get Organised for the Festive Season in a safe and socially distanced way

VIEW THE SELECTION OF CARDS, WRAPPING PAPER, TAGS, DECORATIONS AND SMALL GIFTS AT

WWW.NORTHBROOKFUNDRAISING.CO.UK/SRRCC



Every purchase will result in a 22% donation to FoSRR which will go towards supporting our children's education across the College. Use the link above or add the code SRRCC at the checkout. All orders will be safely delivered to your address. Please support us!

It's time to
SAY YES!

to a new pavilion on Moormead



To support the proposal, go to the planning portal: bit.ly/MMPavilion2020

Charity Number 1179951

As you may know, parents at the school and local residents have got together to organise a proposal for a new pavilion on Moormead Park. The planning application is now live, and residents are invited to comment on the application which is on the Richmond Council planning portal, here: <https://bit.ly/MMPavilion2020>

This school is a supporter of the project because:

- Big efforts have been made to involve the whole community in the development of the proposals
- The proposed facility will provide loos, café and a bookable space, opening the park up to the whole community
- Environmentally friendly considerations have been built into the design

You can find out more about the plans and the charitable objectives behind the proposals on the Moormead Community & Sports Pavilion website: <https://e-voice.org.uk/mmp/> If you want a new pavilion on Moormead Park, please register your support on the Richmond Council planning portal.





DARREN BARTLETT REAL ESTATE

A Boutique Property Agency covering the London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames

Our School Wishlist sponsor **Darren Bartlett Real Estate** will donate £250 to our school for any recommendation from a Friend of St Richard Reynolds that leads to a sale!
www.darren-bartlett.co.uk

Richmond
SPARKLE
#RICHMONDSPARKLE
Share your sparkle with us using the hashtag or tweet us @LBRUT

WHAT ARE THE NEW RESTRICTIONS?

 <p>DO NOT SOCIALISE INDOORS You must not meet socially with friends and family indoors in any setting unless you live with them or have formed a support bubble with them.</p>	 <p>WORK FROM HOME IF YOU CAN If you are able to work from home you should continue to do so.</p>	 <p>TRY TO REDUCE YOUR JOURNEYS You can continue to travel, but should look to reduce the number of journeys you make where possible.</p>	
 <p>WASH YOUR HANDS Make sure you wash your hands for at least 20 seconds, or use hand sanitiser, regularly.</p>	 <p>KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE Stay 2 metres apart from people you don't live with.</p>	 <p>COVER YOUR FACE Stay safe and wear a face covering. This includes on public transport, in shops and taxis (there are exemptions).</p>	 <p>STICK TO THE 'RULE OF SIX' You may continue to see friends and family you do not live with (or have not formed a support bubble with) outdoors, including in a garden or other outdoor spaces. When you do so, you must not meet in a group of more than 6.</p>



CHRISTMAS TREE EXPRESS

Christmas Trees



To sign up please visit our website:

www.cathchild.org.uk/lent

CCS Lenten Challenge

This Lent we are asking children and young people across the diocese to participate in the CCS Lenten Challenge: "Will we bend down and help another to get up?" The theme is inspired by Pope Francis' recent encyclical 'Fratelli Tutti', and the challenge he sets us: "Each day we have to decide whether to be Good Samaritans or indifferent bystanders . . . Will we bend down and help another get up? This is today's challenge, and we should not be afraid to face it."

We are asking schools to take up Pope Francis' challenge and help local disadvantaged children and families in their time of need. For more information and to sign up for this year's CCS Lenten Appeal please visit our website: www.cathchild.org.uk/lent

We would be so grateful if your school can participate in this year's Lenten Appeal - your support makes such a difference to children and families across the diocese.



FREE

Families Upon Thames

IN THIS ISSUE

Everything Christmas!

Win Toys for Christmas! Micro Scooter + LOTS MORE!

See inside T&Cs apply

November/December 2020

Familiesonline.co.uk

We're pleased to be able to send you the Nov/Dec Families Upon Thames magazine. It is full of resources and ideas to help you and your family through the autumn term and to keep your children entertained, busy and productive. You can read the magazine [HERE](#). We hope you enjoy it.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year 2021!

