



Welcome Message



I would like to start by saying a huge well done to all pupils, parents and staff for all that they have done to ensure that the term has gone as well as it has. Remote learning has been a new and different experience, but I am exceptionally proud of the way that everyone has worked so hard to make it the success that it clearly has been.

In this newsletter, we celebrate cookery awards for Year 7 and Year 8, virtual music concerts and sports day, STEM presentations and the wonderful persuasive speeches, inspired by Malala Yousafzai, written by Year 9 and Year 10. These are just a few of the indicators of the strength of the St Gabriel's community; a community that has thrived despite the lockdown and remote learning. This newsletter will give

you the opportunity to see and reflect on what has been going on over the last few months.

It was lovely to welcome back Year 10 and 12 for their academic tutoring sessions at the end of June. But with so much that has had to be curtailed or cancelled by the impact of the pandemic, my thoughts turn to those pupils who would have been sitting public examinations and those in Year 6 who would normally have enjoyed a last term filled with various rites of passage, few of which have been possible to hold.

However, we must look forward to a brighter future; the spirit and resilience that has been shown throughout the term makes me optimistic for what lies ahead.

I wish you all a relaxing summer break.

Ricki Smith, Principal

Head Girl & Deputy Head Girl

Thank you to Ellie, Head Girl and Jenny, Deputy Head Girl for all they have achieved in their leadership roles in 2019 - 2020. We wish them well in their future endeavours. They hand over their leadership responsibilities to our newly appointed Head Girl, Elizabeth, and Deputy Head Girl, Fran.

We interviewed our new recruits to share a little bit more about their experience of life at St Gabriel's and their plans for the future.

What are you studying at A level?

Elizabeth: I have chosen to study Computer Science, Mathematics, Further Mathematics and Music.
Fran: I am studying Classical Civilisation, Politics and Psychology at A level. I am also completing my EPQ.

What are you excited about achieving?

Elizabeth: I would love to share my passion for technology and make it exciting and accessible to students. For example, creating clubs that the students can relate to such as App creation and game development;



Elizabeth - Head Girl



Fran - Deputy Head Girl

and organising motivational speakers to inform students of the wide and ever-increasing variety of careers in the technology industry.

Fran: Over the year I am very excited to present my ideas, for example, I enjoy sport, so that is an area I am keen to focus on and I am looking forward to interacting with the Senior School pupils, too.

Do you have any particular hobbies or passions?

Elizabeth: I love music! I play the guitar, piano, viola and bass and attend a wide variety of musical clubs both inside and outside of school. Classical guitar is my favourite instrument and I am currently working towards my Diploma. When I have a spare moment, I enjoy gaming with my friends; I particularly like survival games!

Fran: I enjoy tennis; I have been playing for around 10 years and have weekly lessons at my local tennis club, and have loved it ever since I started. I also enjoy playing netball; I am wing defence for the Sixth Form team.

“ **Congratulations to our new Head Girl and Deputy Head Girl. I have no doubt that they will do an excellent job of running a very strong leadership team in Year 13 in September.** ”

Mrs Chapman, Vice-Principal

[Read full interview](#)

Early Days at St Gabriels



Elizabeth: Year 3



Fran: Year 9

Focus on Food Technology



Years 7-9 completed their cookery awards during the second half of the summer term with fantastic results.

Year 7 created 'Super Salads' that reflected the 'Eatwell Guide' and 'Eat a Rainbow' healthy eating messages.



Year 8 pupils were tasked with adapting the ingredients in a ready meal to make it more nutritious by increasing the fibre and reducing the salt, fat and sugar content in the original dish.

Year 9 designed and made meals suitable for teenage girls, ensuring their dishes contained the specific nutrients required to support growth and maintain long-term health.

Year 10 have been studying the role of nutrients in the diet and have designed and made dishes for groups with special dietary needs. Some stand-out creations include this high fibre 'jewelled' pearl barley and gluten-free birthday cake.

Story Wall

Featured Twitter Account



@StGabrielsNews

Follow us for the latest news from St Gabriel's



“ **The school has kept my daughter busy and engaged throughout this period and responded very quickly to these unexpected circumstances. Thank you to everyone involved.** ”

Current Parent



Remote Learning

Music

In this strange and challenging time we have tried to keep going with music teaching as normally and efficiently as possible. I would like to thank students, parents and the music staff for their perseverance over the last term and a half. What has been fantastic to see is some really good practising and playing from students who, in spite of the difficulties of remote live instrumental and singing lessons, have perhaps found themselves with a bit more time to practise and focus on their playing and, I hope, their enjoyment of music.

There have been a number of noteworthy performances during Dr Tebbs' weekly Lunchtime Lockdown Listening Club, where students performed live to each other with music ranging from classical cello, piano and flute to music theatre and original songs. We established a good routine of listening to the performance then unmuting our microphones to give a remote round of applause!

As well as these sessions, we were able to send out some fantastic Virtual Concerts of students' performances and a stunning choral arrangement of 'Somewhere Out There' showcasing some of our singers. In the virtual classroom, students have produced excellent work, often using real or virtual instruments, music apps and a lot of imagination, to learn about reggae, Baroque music, songwriting, film music, strange and interesting musical instruments, as well as more detailed work on composers as diverse as Pachelbel and Florence Price (the first African American composer to have her work performed by a leading American orchestra).



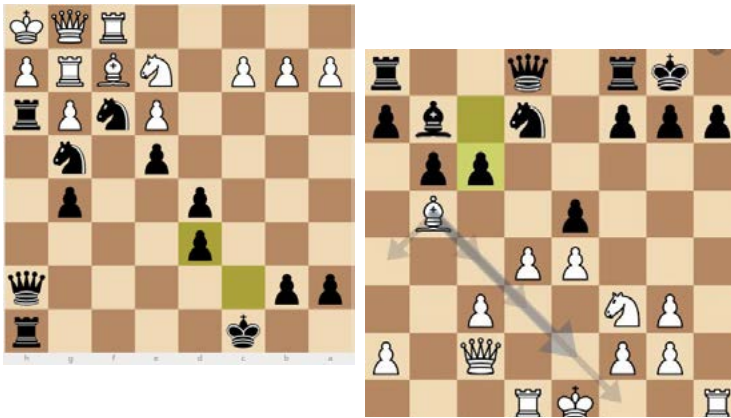
A special mention must be given to composer and regular performer in school Laura, Year 9, who has been busy writing throughout the lockdown. She has now released an outstanding song, U Remind Me of the Sun. Inspirational work, Laura!

Watch Laura's video on YouTube at: [uremindmeofthesun](#)

Chess Club

Chess Club has proved surprisingly easy to maintain during remote learning, with 'Teams' an effective channel of communication, and the website 'lichess' providing the boards without any need to sign in, pupils have shown great improvement over the past couple of months. The set-up involved each player responding to an invitation from Mr Ives, who then played the matches simultaneously.

Congratulations to those players who kept going during the Wednesday lunch break and who have honed their tactics. It was particularly satisfying that in the most recent Chess Club meet every game took over 30 minutes, which is a great sign in terms of application, ability and potential.



Ms Gunn

At the end of the Summer term we bid farewell to Ms Gunn as Junior School Music Teacher. However, we are blessed with her continued presence in school as she will return in September to teach the flute.

Farewell to Senior School Teaching Staff

Mrs Sue Sim



Mrs Susan Sim joined St Gabriel's 20 years ago and has been Head of Mathematics for the last 18 years. In that time she has changed the department considerably. She has a real passion for Mathematics, which is clear to see in all that she does, and she has enthused countless pupils, getting them to really explore Mathematical concepts rather than just learn processes by rote. Numerous students have gone on to study Mathematics at university and for many Mrs Sim has been the one to inspire them to do this. Some are now practising mathematics teachers themselves! For all pupils, she is there every

step of the way, not just in class but in clinics and one-to-ones, to ensure that each girl gets the support she needs to understand and, as importantly, enjoy Mathematics.

Over her time at St Gabriel's, Mrs Sim has also done many things besides run the Mathematics Department. She is a regular cast member in the annual staff panto; nobody has mastered a sinister stare to rival hers yet! In years gone by she has also performed on stage in the school dance show and is one of our star singers in the staff choir.

We are so grateful for all that she has done, from arranging trips and talks by mathematics jugglers to ensuring that she helps pupils and colleagues not only master mathematics but also their grammar! She has been an inspirational teacher and colleague and will be sorely missed.

Mrs Helen Porter

After over 20 years at St Gabriel's, Mrs Helen Porter, Teacher of Biology, hung up her lab coat at the end of term. Dedicated teacher and tutor, stick insect keeper and swiveller of the Big Blue Biology chair, Mrs Porter has carved out a huge place in the affections of St Gabriel's students and staff past and present. She started at St Gabriel's in 1998, having taught in a variety of large comprehensive schools, and immediately threw herself into school life. Dr Tebbs remembers Mrs Porter organising a series of highly successful Year 7 theatre trips to the West End over a number of years, noting her commitment to students' enjoyment and well-being, while others recall the many roles she played in the not-to-be-missed Christmas pantomime (including the back end of a crocodile in Peter Pan!).



Pastoral care has always been at the heart of Mrs Porter's teaching career and she has carefully overseen the smooth transition to Senior School of many Year 7 pupils, shepherding them through their first days, first form assemblies and first trips to Calshot with her customary enthusiasm and pragmatism.

Girls in Mrs Porter's Biology classes quickly realised that they were in the very capable hands of an expert with a real love of the subject. **Read More**

Mrs Rachel Dadds



Mrs Rachel Dadds has been at St Gabriel's for seven years and has made a significant contribution to the school, both academically and pastorally. As a Sixth Form tutor, she has guided many students through two of the most important years of their school career with wisdom and kindness. Students know that she is someone who cares deeply for them but will also not hesitate to tell them when they need to work harder or more efficiently. This warmth, rigour and consistency are all evident, too, in Mrs Dadds' teaching. She has made Psychology one of our most popular A level subjects, where students achieve amazing results and many go on to study the subject at top universities.

We shall also miss Mrs Dadds as a colleague, who is always there to support everyone and brighten our mornings with tales of her two beautiful little girls, Sienna and Clara. We wish her every happiness and success in her next post.

Ms Yi Zhang



We would like to thank Ms Zhang for all she has done in her two years as a member of the Modern Foreign Languages Department. She is a fantastic classroom practitioner who has cared for and inspired her Mandarin students.

It was a joy to see how she worked collaboratively with departments, such as Art and Drama, allowing her students to explore the Chinese language through their creativity. We will miss her and we wish her all the best for the future.



Message from Mrs Brazendale

Over the last three months we have been super proud of all our pupils' efforts in keeping their fitness going during this difficult period and encourage them to enjoy a well-deserved break.

Well done to everyone who utilised our weekly PE timetables, joined our Running and Gymnastics Clubs and participated in our Virtual Sports Day. We have loved seeing your work and various photographs from the different challenges you have undertaken, too.

Have a fantastic summer and we look forward to seeing you back in school in September.

PE Department Wave Farewell to Mr May

The PE Department are very sad to say goodbye to the much-loved teacher Mr May.

Mr May has been a wonderful member of the PE team, inspiring students and helping them to achieve their best. His sense of humour and gentle encouragement will be much missed by all.

We wish him every success in his next venture.



Virtual Sports Day Results

House	Total Points	Final Result
Alban	22	1st Place
Aidan	14	2nd Place
Chad	13	3rd Place
Bede	11	4th Place

Keeping Active

If you wish to revisit any of the PE timetables over the summer break, all exercises will remain available on Concilium and links to the YouTube videos are below. You can also have some fun with our Alphabet Circuit below.



Commit to Core Tuesday

- Week 1
- Week 2
- Week 3
- Week 4
- Week 5
- Week 6
- Week 7
- Week 8
- Week 9
- Week 10

Workout Wednesday

- Week 1
- Week 2
- Week 3
- Week 4
- Week 5
- Week 6
- Week 7
- Week 8
- Week 9
- Week 10

ALPHABET CIRCUIT

Decide on your time for each circuit and progress it each rotation, for example, Rotation 1=60 seconds, Rotation 2=65 seconds and Rotation 3=90 seconds. Spell out your first and surname with the corresponding exercise for each letter. Repeat for Rotation 2 and 3 (you will see the exercises change with each rotation). For demonstrations as to how to do each exercise check out the St Gabriel's Concillium PE page.

LETTER	ROTATION 1	ROTATION 2	ROTATION 3	LETTER	ROTATION 1	ROTATION 2	ROTATION 3
A	Squats	Press Ups	Butterfly Kicks	N	Plank	Star Jumps	Russian Twist
B	Hip Dips	Upper Cuts	Squat Thrusts	O	Jump Lunges	Elbow to Knee	Sit Ups
C	Squat Hold	Toe to wrist in plank	Crunches	P	Back Extension	Mountain Climbers	Wall Press
D	Wall Sit	Toe Touch	Calf Raises	Q	Tricep Dips	Burpees	Side Plank
E	Press Ups	Butterfly Kicks	Leg Lower	R	Star Jumps	Russian Twist	Arm Circles
F	Upper Cuts	Squat Thrusts	Plank	S	Elbow to Knee	Sit Ups	Press Ups
G	Toe to wrist in plank	Crunches	Jump Lunges	T	Mountain Climbers	Wall Press	Upper Cuts
H	Toe Touch	Calf Raises	Back Extension	U	Burpees	Side Plank	Toe to Wrist in Plank
I	Butterfly Kicks	Leg Lower	Tricep Dips	V	Russian Twist	Arm Circles	Toe Touch
J	Squat Thrusts	Plank	Star Jumps	W	Sit Ups	Press Ups	Butterfly Kicks
K	Crunches	Jump Lunges	Elbow to Knee	X	Wall Press	Upper Cuts	Squat Thrusts
L	Calf Raises	Back Extension	Mountain Climbers	Y	Side Plank	Toe to Wrist in Plank	Crunches
M	Leg Lower	Tricep Dips	Burpees	Z	Arm Circles	Toe Touch	Calf Raises



Yoga Club



Ms Ferretti's Yoga Club has proved popular in lockdown. After training with the Teen Yoga Foundation, Ms Ferretti set up an early morning club with Year 11 pupils and then introduced sessions for Years 7, 8 and 9.

It has proved a great outlet for both students and Ms Ferretti to connect during the summer term. Find out more about the Club and the benefits of yoga for teenagers. [Read More](#)

Spanish Lessons



In their remote Spanish lessons, Year 9 and 10 pupils have narrated fashion shows, created digital books, learnt about festivals and demonstrated a huge amount of flair in response to project tasks, working both collaboratively and independently. [Read more](#)

Certificates & Diplomas



One of the highlights for the English Department this half-term has been marking the St Gabriel's Year 11 Certificates and Year 13 Diplomas. This scheme was an amazing opportunity for students, and their very excited teachers, to explore content outside of the examination specifications.

Our pupils revelled in the freedom to explore different authors and texts and to create their own literature. They rose to the challenge of independent study magnificently.



Some of the highlights were a study of 'Haruki Murakami and his Influences' by Rhiannon, Year 11, a quarantine poetry anthology written by Tara Y, Year 11, and an exploration of 'Female Protagonists Throughout Literature, 50 CE - 1963' by Jennifer, Year 13.

A big well done to all the pupils who completed the English Certificate and Diploma! We are very proud of your endeavours. [View Work](#)

Persuasive Speeches

Inspired by Malala Yousafzai's speech to the United Nations on the importance of education for girls, Year 9 and 10 have been writing their own speeches on topics they are passionate about. Mrs Archer and Mrs Wellard-Hughes have been so impressed by the girls' powerfully persuasive speeches and their engagement in the world around them. They are future leaders in the making!

[View Speeches](#)



Remote Debating Society

The debating team have had a wonderful time on Teams during the summer term. Debates were held on a Thursday after school and covered a range of issues, many very topical, and many going way beyond the 5.30pm end point. After discussion and preparation, the debates have continued to follow Oxford Union Debating Rules. Mrs Archer would like to thank, the following debaters who have been as passionate as ever despite being 'remote': Tara, Lois, Talia, Heidi, Charlotte and Gabrielle.

Remote Debate Card for March - July 2020

1. This House would create an island for those who do not want to live under the jurisdiction of any state.
2. This House would introduce, for all citizens, a basic income without the requirement to work.
3. This House believes that Britain should pay reparations to its former colonies.
4. This House would prioritise education over all other demands on the Treasury.
5. This House would ban commercial satellites.
6. This House would ban the colonization of space.
7. This House would prioritise cheap food for the nation over ethical standards.

Science



On Monday 29 June, Year 9 girls took part in an exciting afternoon of online Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) presentations.

They stepped a few decades forward in time with YouTube and Science presenter, Greg Foot, who talked about the future of food and what we can do, as responsible citizens, to help the planet and the population! The girls were asked if they would consider eating insects for protein or buying burgers made from lab-grown beef, if it would be beneficial for all. Pupils learnt that a large percentage of the audience would be happy to eat pasta made from cricket flour!

In years gone by, alchemists were seen as wizards and magicians. However, pupils saw a range of optical illusions and some arty-tricks during Matt Pritchard's fascinating talk on 'Maths, Magic and the Mind.' They are sure to inspire some summer projects.

“ I liked listening to the girl who swam the English Channel and hearing about what she ate. ”

Rosie

“ I enjoyed how interactive and different it was. ”

Millie

“ I enjoyed how Anna persevered even though she was feeling very tired. ”

Lucia

“ It was an enlightening afternoon of online learning and discovery. In these unusual and unprecedented times, we were lucky to be able to access and get involved with such interesting scientists. Even if hands-on science is not always available in museums or exhibitions, we can use our minds and our creativity at home to make, challenge, learn and inspire! ”

Miss Tate
Chemistry Teacher



Well done Lily, Year 10, who took this photograph in response to an end of year energy light chemistry challenge.

“ I really enjoyed listening to the talk about food and how beliefs need to be changed. ”

Selina

“ I liked it when the magician, talked about psychology. ”

Ella

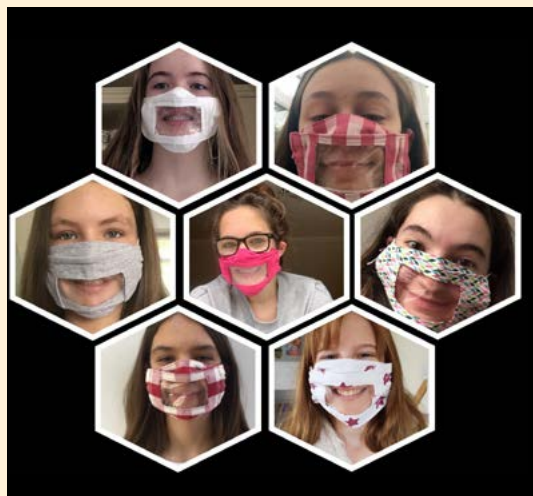
“ The presenters had good pictures to show what they were talking about, and it was also interactive. ”

Scarlett

Anna Ploszajski, a materials scientist, talked to pupils about the science of swimming the English Channel and why the salt content of sea water actually makes us more buoyant, so we float more easily. She fascinated and inspired pupils during her talk on the biology of 'feeding' while swimming, and the chemistry and physics which go into planning and completing a successful swim across the Channel.

Textiles

Smile Masks



In the Senior School, Ms Hunter, Textiles Teacher, inspired Year 9 pupils, to create 'smile masks' as part of their remote Textile lessons.

The masks are helpful in allowing those that lip read to access conversation and it is nice for everyone else to see their emotions too.

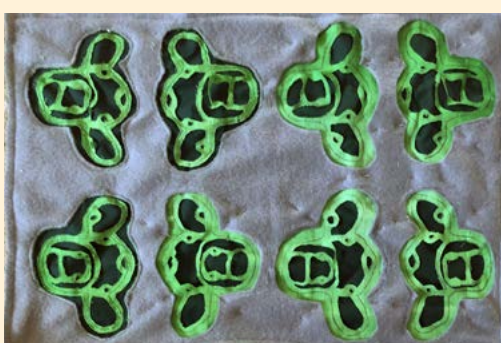
Read More

Costume Designs



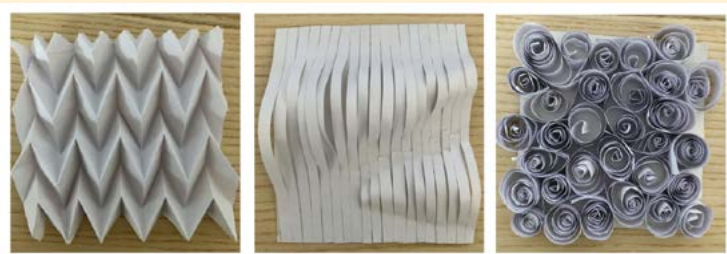
Costume designs created in Photoshop show Year 9 fabric manipulation outcomes, using materials sourced from around the home.

Textiles Coursework



Emily W, Year 10, created a reverse appliqué motif based upon a cow's head from an original photograph as part of her animal-based Textiles coursework.

Using paper and fabric manipulation, Emily also created this 3D patterned, texture work. A stunning outcome from work created with basic materials.



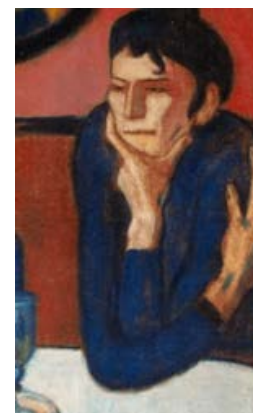
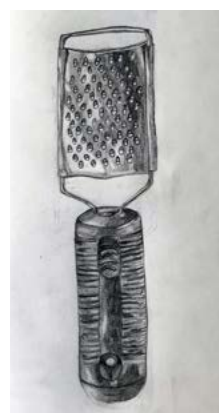
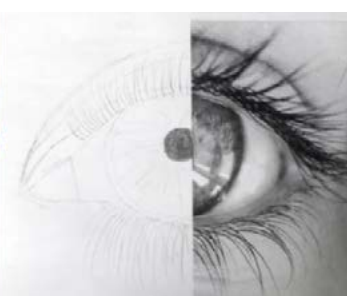
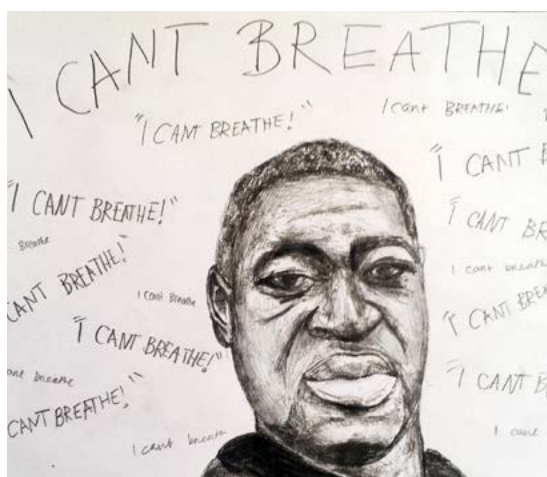
Online Sewing Course

Elsy, Year 7, took part in an online sewing course run by The Fashion School in Chelsea. She made this Alexander McQueen-inspired dress, which The Fashion School is hoping to display for all to see.



Art

During remote learning pupils in Year 7 and Year 8 have worked on a variety of art projects. Below are just a few examples of the explosion of creativity that has taken place. Pupils worked on various projects from observational drawings, such as household objects i.e. corkscrew, half package drawings, pop art culture, recreation of famous portraits, comic strips and graffiti inspired by Jean-Michel Basquiat to name just a few. There are many more creative art projects to view on the Art in Isolation gallery on our website. **[View Gallery](#)**



Dance Competition



Congratulations to Giselle, who won the Years 7-10 Dance Scholars remote dance competition. Giselle's outstanding choreography really captures the spirit of isolation, with a beautiful performance filmed in her garden at home.

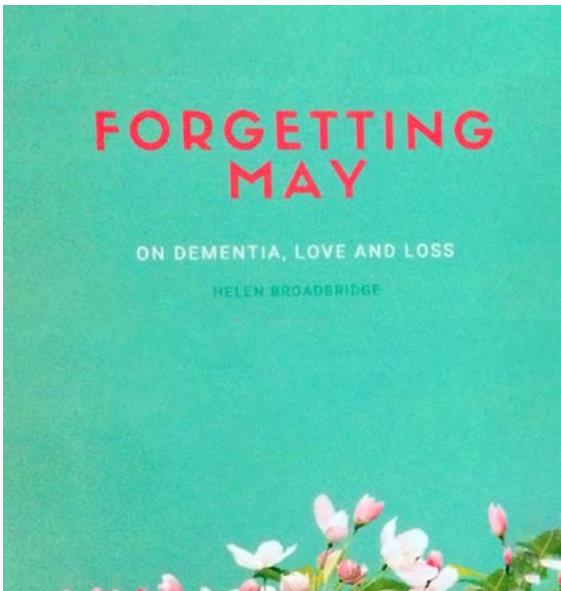
Congratulations also go to runners up, Robyn and Josie, with their highly creative and innovative dance entries.

Year 7 Induction Day



St Gabriel's Senior School hosted a remote induction morning for pupils joining Year 7 in September. Highlights included the English Department tasking pupils with their ideas on describing a tropical beach and a Geography session on what happens when a volcano erupts. Everyone had an opportunity to connect with each other and meet their new form tutors. We look forward to welcoming Year 7 pupils in September.

Alumnae



Alumnae, Helen Broadbridge, studied Modern and Medieval Languages at Cambridge after achieving A grades in Mathematics, Latin and French in 2010. Helen connected with Mr Ives recently and shared the news that she has achieved a lifelong ambition by writing and publishing a book about dementia. If you want to find out more about the book its available online. **Learn more**

Drama

Recreating Productions



Performing Arts Club has seen Year 7 & 8 find costumes at home to recreate some brilliant and funny scenes. Can you work out what shows are pictured above and below?



3D Set Designs

More fantastic set designs have been added to the 3D Theatre Set Gallery. Below, Krishna, created a Lego version and a poster for Harry Potter and the Cursed Child. **View sets**

“ My theatre has a proscenium stage with an arch. The scene is where is where Albus, Rose, and Scorpius go to borrow, Hermione’s time turner. ”

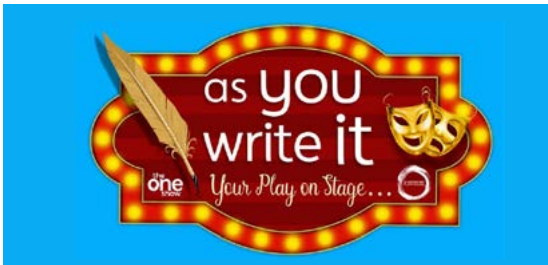
Krishna, Year 7



Documentary Making



The tortoise may be known as one of the slowest animals on earth but that did not stop Imogen’s pet tortoise, Nuggett, and a strawberry taking on starring roles in a recent Year 8 Drama documentary. **View Video**



Over the summer holidays, why not develop a new skill and get creative by learning to script write. **Find out more**

Costume Designs

Pupils have created some fantastic costume design drawings. **View Gallery**

Marketing Theatre Productions



Year 9 have been learning about the importance of marketing a show;how it is critical in raising audience awareness and how it will influence people to attend. Above is a fantastic design of bus advertising for a newly developed theatre production by Zosia.

Student Business Challenge - SoyKind

TheYear 12 Student Business Challenge company, SoyKind (meaning ‘I am Kind’), is a business that takes pride in its environmentally friendly, reusable vegan wax wraps!

The product aims to cut down the use of cling film and other forms of wrapping and replace it with an environmentally friendly alternative.

The wraps come in sets of three and are made from 100% cotton, plant waxes, tree resins and plant oils, and are reusable. They can mould and grip with the warmth of your hand to form a water repellent seal, effectively preserving what is inside.

The team have not been able to expand, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, but remain in business and the product can be pre-ordered. Visit our website to find out more. **Read More**



“ I was delighted to see our team working together to source and sell these attractive, reusable plastic-free wraps to help us reduce our use of cling-film. ”

Mrs Evans,
Head of Business