

November 2015

2016: The Year of St. Julie

Commemorating 200 years since the end of the remarkable life of St. Julie Billiart, who died on 8th April, 1816.



Tim Alderman
Headteacher

Welcome to our November newsletter.

What is clear from this newsletter is the variety of additional opportunities that are

presented to students at St Julie's Catholic High School. These are not limited to certain year groups or subject areas, but all year groups across all subject areas. We could not fit them all in this newsletter so please visit our website stjulies.org.uk to see them all. It is clear that we have a committed and capable group of staff who search relentlessly for opportunities out of the ordinary. Much of the work done is outside of normal lessons and students are very grateful for the additional support they receive from staff.

You will notice that our school production 'Annie' is being rehearsed this term. The cast were selected in the summer and students have been working on it since then. You can see students in action, preparing for the first performance on December 14, by visiting the website to see a promotional video. I am sure it will be a fantastic way to end the term. However, before then we will be celebrating our Advent service and supporting the Hope+ food bank at the same time. Students are already collecting food items and other essential items, to bring up to the altar at the service. The aim is to beat last year's record of nearly 100 boxes full of food, which were then taken down to the food bank. Judging by the generosity seen from our students in past charity events I am sure they will do even better this year. Watch out for our December newsletter soon to see how they fared.

Best wishes, Tim Alderman,
Head teacher.



Rehearsals for the Christmas production of 'Annie the Musical' are well underway and you can see how our students are coming along so far in the trailer video on our website, or use the QR code printed here!

Tickets are on sale now for performances on the 14th, 15th and 16th December priced at £5 each.



Big Bang At Parliament

Our Young Engineering Team visited the Big Bang event at Parliament, but despite it being on the 5th November, this big bang didn't involve any gunpowder - it was the Big Bang Science Fair!

Students completed a creative engineering challenge by coming up with an innovative design for a disaster relief bridge that can be transported and erected quickly in an emergency. Our Physics A Level students were invited to the Palace

of Westminster to demonstrate their project to MPs and other politicians, policymakers and members of the business community.

At the event, our team heard from Nick Gibb MP, Minister for Education and Stephen Metcalfe MP, Chairman of the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee who encouraged students to take up engineering ahead of national engineering week.

Paul Jackson, Chief Executive of EngineeringUK congratulated our team on being one of just 12 projects selected to represent the 120,000 Big Bang projects across the country this year. Local MP, Maria Eagle, also visited the stand to discuss the project with the team.

The event was organised by the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee and EngineeringUK, and took place in the Terrace Marquee of the House of Commons.



Year 11 Students Get FACE time at the University of Liverpool

A group of Year 11 language pupils have enjoyed a 'Routes into Languages' conference at the University of Liverpool.

The students were given the opportunity to experience elements of student life by sitting in lectures and touring the campus. The students also got to put their language skills to practice through foreign film analysis.

The pupils later participated in language workshops; being introduced to Italian, Catalan and Portuguese.

The students all thoroughly enjoyed the day, with many expressing their interest to continue studying languages at A Level.



Students Explore Medicine with the Medical Mavericks!

Biology week lifted off this term with students exploring medical equipment and techniques in a practical workshop.

The session, led by Tom Warrender of Medical Mavericks, introduced a variety of medical techniques and hi-tech kit including ultrasound scanners, EKG analysers, keyhole surgery simulators, spirometers and pulse oximeters, anatomically accurate models for developing skills in intubation and injection and a rather clever ophthalmoscope strapped to an i-phone.

It certainly wasn't all demonstration though, and the students got very hands on with all the equipment with some deft sonography managed surprisingly quickly.

Get all the latest news from our school at www.stjulies.org.uk

The Great Bio Bake-Off!

Our students have been combining their scientific knowledge and sugarcraft skills in the Great Bio Bake-Off!

As part of our work in the Royal Society of Biology's *Biology Week* we invited students to bake and decorate a cake to illustrate any aspect of Biology.

The standard was incredible, and we finally narrowed it down to four winners. The winner of the 'scientific content' category was Molly in Year 8 with her highly detailed and fully labelled model of an animal cell. Olivia in Year 10 won the 'technical execution' category for her fantastically accurate model of a human heart

with fine anatomical detail. Finally, the 'interpretation of theme' category saw two joint winners: Caitlyn from Year 8 and Lois from Year 9 respectively designed a hugely creative split human body with one half showing skin and the other showing internal organs, and a platter of cup cakes featuring decorations representing the entire field of Biology.

We also had a staff category where Miss Peers' finely crafted red blood cell was narrowly pipped by Miss Hobson's exquisitely set cross-pollination cup cakes. Hearty congratulations to everybody who participated in this inaugural event.



Judo Gold for Year 7 Student

Congratulations to Ellie in Year 7 for a fantastic gold medal performance at the 2015 British Judo Championships for Minors.

The tournament was held at the University of Wolverhampton and Ellie took the top step of the podium for her weight category after a gruelling day of tough competition.

We'll look forward to keeping you updated on Ellie's further achievements. Well done!



Letters from 10 Downing Street!

After learning about the conflict in Syria and the plight of the refugees, Mrs Bridges' 8Q2 English class entered into individual correspondence with the Prime Minister.

Each student asked for more help and aid to be given to those who were suffering, using a variety of persuasive techniques. This week, the girls were

thrilled to receive a reply from David Cameron.

The Prime Minister thanked the girls for their thoughtful letters and detailed what the country was doing to help those in need.

Well done to 8Q2 for making a difference and getting their voices heard.



Singing Success!

Congratulations to our latest group of students who have successfully passed the Trinity College London singing examinations.

This year's cohort included a massive 36 students, ranging in age from Year 8 through to Year 13. With such a wide range of ages there was also an equally wide range of grades (4-8) aimed for,

with some of our older students meeting the very stringent demands of the Grade 8 award.

Well done to all of the students, and you can hear their talents put to great use in our regular choir performances and forthcoming Christmas Production!