



# REFLECTION

A Christian community where everyone has the right to be happy, be safe and achieve.

## CHAPLAINCY

Since my last report in Reflection, I have had a very busy few months. It was my first Christmas here at the school and did not take the advice offered of how busy it was going to be. We started the choir with just two boys and over a period of weeks it grew to about thirty students. Under the direction of Mr Southby, the group harmonised so beautifully. One of the trips which the choir undertook was to attend the Deepdene Brunch Club at St Stephen's in Welling, where the boys were well received and have been asked to return next year. Once the boys had finished singing they joined in with the members to do word search puzzles and play bingo. It was a struggle to get the boys to leave as they were enjoying themselves and spreading good cheer to those elderly members.

We also held the Annual Carol Service which was well attended this year, a big thank you must be given to all the musicians and singers they had all worked very hard to set a high standard. We were supported by the new drama group under the guidance of Miss Mortimer. Well done to the drama group.

Over Christmas the staff and students were fund raising for Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital. We raised over £1,000 so a well done to all who supported us.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a pleasant and happy new year.

Fred, School Chaplain



## Manna Centre

Thank you to boys, parents and staff who donated much needed food, toiletries and clothing for the Manna Centre for the homeless at Christmas. The Centre is open all year, seven days per week. This year I

was welcomed into the main dining area and was heartened by the obvious kindness being extended to people of varied ages, gender and ethnicity. They were very grateful for our gifts. Once again St Columba's community have shown the love of Christ, to others.

Mr J Woodcock  
YLC Year 7

2012  
FIVE GCSES  
A\*-C GRADE  
94%

2012  
55% 5A\*-C  
INCLUDING  
ENGLISH AND  
MATHS

## DIARY DATES

Half Term

**Monday 18th February -  
Friday 22nd February**

Return to School

**Monday 25th February**

End of Term

**Thursday 28th March**

SUMMER TERM

**Tuesday 16th April -  
Friday 24th May**

Bank Holiday

**Monday 6th May**

Half Term

**Monday 27th May -  
Friday 31st May**

Return to School

**Monday 3rd June**

End of Term

**Friday 19th July**

AUTUMN TERM

**Wednesday 4th September**  
Years 7 and 10 return

**Thursday 5th September**  
Years 8, 9 and 11 return

Half Term

**Monday 28th October  
Friday 1st November**

Return to School

**Monday 4th November**

End of Term

**Friday 20th December**

## REGISTER FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If your son is eligible to receive Free School Meals, please register your application with London Borough of Bexley immediately before the end of term. This will enable the school to qualify for extra funding from the Government to help provide learning resources for all, even if your son does not use his entitlement.



Education Sunday is a day of prayer and celebration for everyone involved in the world of education. This year it was celebrated on Sunday 27th January. We are obviously very proud of the academic success of our students but as a Catholic School we value all aspects of student success. As Bishop Mahan said, "Our schools and colleges play an important role in the life of the Church, sharing in the mission to make Christ known to all peoples. Our schools are a very significant way in which the Catholic community in England places itself at the service of society".

We are one of the 172 Catholic schools in the Southwark Diocese, we are part of a community of schools that serve the Catholic Church.

Mr N Fisher,  
Headteacher

# student voice

The articles for this edition have been gathered in and edited by the students themselves.

The Spring term is in full swing and boys from all year groups have started 2013 very positively. A new term has brought more educational and enriching activities and experiences. Here are just some of them.

**Mr R Donnelly, Editor**



## Every Second Counts!

I am Adebiji Shonubi. I have been above my targets in my subjects including Maths and English. I am very happy that I have received a letter at home to say I am over-achieving and in Assembly I was given a star which goes on my lapel and people will know straight away that I am over-achieving. Also it will help me when I am applying for college.

Always remember- every second you are being taught counts.

**Adebiji Shonubi 8F**

## My Meeting with Chris Powell

On 19th December, we went on a Fast Forward trip to Sparrows Lane (Charlton's Training Ground) to meet Chris Powell. We first watched the team train and headed back to the Meeting Room. Chris Powell came in, sat down and the interview began. We asked what it was like to be a football manager and more questions about it. The responses we got were amazing, we saw his passion for the game of football and the role model he is for everyone. It was an inspiring interview, a day we would never forget.

**Sean Doyle 9X**



## PE Reward Trip - Climbing

Rock climbing has been my favourite trip at St Columba's. I was allowed to go because of my effort in PE. When we got there, we were shown how to put on a harness. After that we split into groups. We started on an easy wall. Most of the people got to the top. Some people got half way but William Rickard climbed the hardest wall there.

**Jack Heneghan 8F**



## Trip to SKY Studios

Year 10 students travelled to SKY Studios in West London. This was a trip with the English Department. When we arrived, we were welcomed by a guide who took us on an interesting tour. The ethos of the SKY building is "Make, shape, share". This related to the year of the building. We saw the studios, editing

and broadcasting rooms. Later we were given the opportunity to create our own report about textspeak. I was a presenter and I thoroughly enjoyed it. We had a talk with a SKY Sports presenter, David Garrido. This was truly inspirational. It was a shame to leave, but it has inspired me for my career in the future.

**Patrick Cunningham 10F**



## Charlton Training Ground

Going to the Charlton Training Ground was a great experience for the team. Nick, a Charlton Coach, taught us a few drills and gave us a few tips for becoming a better player. After our training session, we went to watch the first team train with the Under 21s. It was great to see the first team play, and very inspiring. After the training session was over, we had a few words with ex-footballer Alex Dyer. He gave us great advice too. It was also good to see Ellis Brown, who used to attend our school. Overall I had a fantastic time and I am going to take the advice and tips into consideration so that I can become a better footballer.

**Donald Cole 9C**



## Performing Arts

### Music

Our fantastic gospel choir performed alongside St Catherine's, St Matthew's Academy and both Christ The King sixth form choirs at the Christmas event on the 18th December. It was an enjoyable event that brought our community together, so we thank Miss Christian-John who arranged the whole event and song choices.

We have been promoting "STC's GOT TALENT". Auditions are Wednesday 6th February and the event will be held in the Iona Theatre on Wednesday 6th March. May the best act win!

The Music Department are proudly working towards an Easter concert 'A Celebration of Music' by our GCSE classes. This will be taking place on Wednesday 13th March 7pm in the Iona Theatre.

Miss A Anand, Head of Music



### EXTRA-CURRICULAR MUSIC CLUBS All Year groups welcome

**MONDAYS** GOSPEL CHOIR  
2.30-3.30pm

**THURSDAYS** "ROCK UP AND SING"  
2.30-3.30pm

**TUESDAYS** UKULELE  
2.30-3.30pm

If anyone would like to get involved or have a different instrument club then please let Mr Southby or Miss Anand know.

**WEDNESDAYS** SCHOOL BAND  
2.30-3.30pm



### Visual Arts

Congratulations to all those talented student artists who have successfully submitted a piece of their artwork to the 'Young Art in Bexley' exhibition at Hall Place. This wonderful event takes place from 26th January to 24th February 2013 in the Stables Gallery which is open daily from 10am to 4.15pm and features work by the following students: Neal Case, Joshua Wilson-Addo, Daniel Bates, Martin Kagho, David Kamara, Thani Wiraphan, Szymon Mlynarz, Martin White, Chinonso Egejuru, Raiheim Mitchell, Freddie Blay-Hutton and Kwabina Amoako. Well done to all those students. Also well done to all those Year 11 students who participated in a one-day workshop at Eltham College Gallery in December. Students rose to the challenge of producing a rigorous sketch book in a day, based on various explorations across media incorporating, drawing, collages, critical studies and 3-D forms. The work students produced during the intensive day was outstanding. Finally, well done to the Year 7 students who completed banner work for the 'Year of Faith' currently on display in the School Hall.

Mrs D Archer, Head of Visual Art



## PE Department News

### Mr Martin's Marathon

Show your support for Mr Martin who will be participating in the 2013 Virgin London Marathon. He will be running to raise money for 'The Children's Society'. Training has just started and is going well so far. Check out the school website for videos of 'Mr Martin's Marathon Blog'. [Please check out Mr Martin's Donation page. Any contribution would be welcomed.](#)  
[www.justgiving.com/Harry-Martin1](http://www.justgiving.com/Harry-Martin1)

### Years 10 11 Basketball vs Cleeve Park

The Year 10/11 Basketball team defeated the reigning Bexley Champions for the past three years, Cleeve Park, 51-33. The visitors were never in the game from the moment Olawatumi Olajedi opened the scoring with a long 'three pointer'. Despite all their efforts, our slick passing and dribbling skills were too hot for Cleeve Park and saw us eventually run out comfortable winners.

### Climbing PE Reward Trip



## Maths

### GCSE Successes

Congratulations to our Year 11 students on their excellent exam success in the November 2012 Mathematics GCSE. 62% of our Year 11 students achieved a Grade C or better. This is the first time the school has entered the entire cohort in the November entry and the impressive initial pass

figure of 62% is one which our students assure us will be improved upon by results day August 2013. So it is a case of "watch this space" as we go flat out to increase the GCSE Maths grades. Further, our highest achieving students, including our super A\* students, will be moving on to take an additional Maths qualification.

### EXTRA-CURRICULAR PROGRAMME SPRING 2013

TUESDAYS	FOOTBALL	Yrs 7-10	2.30-3.30pm	Sports Hall
	BASKETBALL	Yrs 9-10	2.30-3.30pm	Sports Hall
WEDNESDAYS	INTERHOUSE COMPETITION			
		Yrs 7-10	2.30-3.30pm	Sports Hall
	FOOTBALL Team Training	Yr11	2.30-3.30pm	Sports Hall
FRIDAYS	ROWING CLUB (wk 1)	All Yrs	2.30-3.30pm	Fitness Suite
	GYM (wk 2)	Years 7-9	2.30-3.30pm	Fitness Suite
	TABLE TENNIS CLUB	All Yrs	2.30-3.30pm	Sports Hall
	WEIGHTS (wk 2)	Yrs 10-11	2.30-3.30pm	Fitness Suite

## RESULTS

### FOOTBALL

Yr7	North Kent Cup	v	Bexley Grammar	L	1-8
Yr8	North Kent Cup	v	Bexley Grammar	L	1-5
Yr9	North Kent Cup	v	Welling	W	12-1
Yr9	Kent Cup	v	Beths Grammar	W	1-0
Yr9	Kent Cup	v	Ravens Wood	L	3-4
Yr10	Friendly	v	Bexley Grammar	D	2-2
Yr10	Friendly	v	Beths Grammar	L	2-5
Yr11	Kent Cup	v	Tunbridge Wells Grammar	L	2-4

### BASKETBALL

Yr7	Bexley League	v	Cleeve Park	L	20-23
Yr7	Kent Cup	v	Canterbury	L	22-60
Yr8	Kent Cup	v	Cleeve Park	W	42-18
Yr9	Kent Cup	v	Bexley Grammar	L	44-47
Yr10	Bexley League	v	Cleeve Park Yr11's	W	51-33

Please visit our SPORTS page on the school website for up-to-date results, news and fixtures.

Mr H Martin, Head of P.E. Dept



**Does your son have a Scientific Calculator?**

**All students need one in every Maths lesson. The GCSE is assessed by both calculator and non-calculator papers.**



## SKY Studios

In the first week of 2013, a group of Year 10 students visited the SKY TV Studios in West London for a taste of life in broadcasting. Working in small teams and having prepared scripts on the topic of the impact of social networks and texting on the English Language, the boys were able to rehearse, film and edit their section in studios containing cutting-edge broadcasting equipment. The boys also toured the SKY Sports studios and even met a SKY Sports News presenter for a Q and A session.

This was a truly inspiring experience which resulted in our lads producing a first-class news report and which, no doubt, has inspired some would-be journalists.

Mr O'Sullivan, English Department