



right2read



Message from the Head Teacher

Thank you for the fantastic turn out for the Yr 10 Parents' Evening last night. The more we work in partnership the more successful our boys will be. We will be reviewing the returned questionnaires we have received next week and we will keep you informed as we go through the season of Parents' Evenings and once again produce a report after the last one for Yr 7 has taken place. I would encourage you once again to let us have your thoughts and comments, every single one is read and recorded. If you leave your name, we will come back to you if there is an issue.

Are you happy with the grades your son received at the end of last term? Most of our families should be very happy - in fact 86% of our students are currently

making expected progress or better. In some end of term assessments some students will not do as well as they should.... probably because they are human and no one is perfect. What is important is that when our students are not doing as well as they should we must respond; student, school and families.

It should come as no surprise that all students will be tested in all of their subjects at the end of term if your child wants to achieve his best he has to prepare. Students have to prepare if they want to succeed. They need to make sure they understand what they are being taught and they need to revise for assessments. As parents and carers it can feel difficult to know how to help your son succeed - so I'd like to offer a few tips:

Fred's Prayer for the Week

Heavenly Father help us to stay strong, we are weak when we break your laws. Do not let us be corrupted by those around us, but to remain true to our faith. Leaving a lasting inheritance for those who follow after us. Father you are a just God, wash away our sins of wickedness, and lead us to the light of your loving Son. Amen. Amen.

God bless, Fred (Chaplain)

- talk with your son - ask him about what he is learning at school
- ask your son how is he is revising
- make sure he has his Super Six to be properly prepared for learning
- ask him what digital learning opportunities he is using

On the topic of preparation... Next week is forecast to be colder again - please make sure your son has a warm coat.



Mr Fisher

HAVE SUPER YOU GOT YOUR 6

**PEN
PENCIL
RULER
CALCULATOR
PLANNER
READING BOOK**

2018 PARENTS' EVENINGS

YEAR 9

Thursday 22 February

YEAR 8

Thursday 8 March

YEAR 7

Thursday 22 March

Do you have what it takes to be a Sports Leader?

If you wish to be considered for the St. Columba's Senior Sports Leadership Award, pick up an application from the PE Department!



SIMS Learning Gateway

*Click here to link to the
SIMS Learning
Gateway*



D

Monday

Spanish Chicken and Paprika Potatoes

Vegetable Paella

Seasonal Vegetables

Banana Cake served with Custard

N

Tuesday

Roast Chicken served with Roast Sweet Potato and Yorkshire Pudding

Quorn chilli served with Potato Wedges

Seasonal Vegetables

Jam Sponge served with Custard

E

Wednesday

Traditional Oven Baked Chicken Casserole served with potatoes

Lamb Rogan Josh served with Rice

Chick Pea Dhal

Seasonal Vegetables

M



Raspberry and White Chocolate muffin served with Chocolate Sauce

Thursday

Meatballs and Spaghetti with Garlic Bread

Spicy Bean Burger served with Potato Wedges

Seasonal Vegetables

Italian Lemon Cake

Friday

Fish and Chips

Barbecue Chicken served with Spicy Wedges

Ariabatta Pasta Bake or Cheese Omellete

Baked Beans

Strawberry Smoothie

Available Daily

A wide selection of
Hot Snacks, Rolls and Sandwiches

WEEK COMMENCING 05.02.18

SIMS

SIMS LEARNING GATEWAY SIMS PARENT APP

DID YOU KNOW?

SIMS Parent app is the new way to stay connected



SIMS Parent app is available on iOS, Google Play and Desktop



You can sign in securely to SIMS Parent app using an existing account such as Gmail, Twitter or Facebook



Essential school information (e.g. term dates) is available instantly on SIMS Parent app.



Information about your child's school life (e.g. attendance, timetable, achievements) is presented on a clear and easy to use dashboard in the SIMS Parent app



Parents with more than one child at St Columba's can access information on both children from the SIMS Parent app



Your son's A2L and assessment data is released via both SIMS Learning Gateway and the SIMS Parent app



You can keep school updated with your latest contact details for continued communication via SIMS Parent app

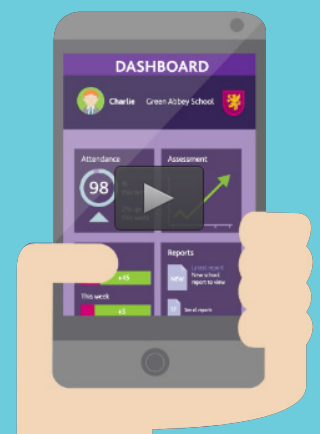


Some parents have never accessed their son's assessment data or A2L grades - SIMS Parent app makes it easier



For a re-invite (via email) to the SIMS Parent app (or alternatively your SIMS Learning Gateway login and password) please email SLG@st-columbas.bexley.sch.uk

We need up-to-date email addresses for you in order for you to access your son's information



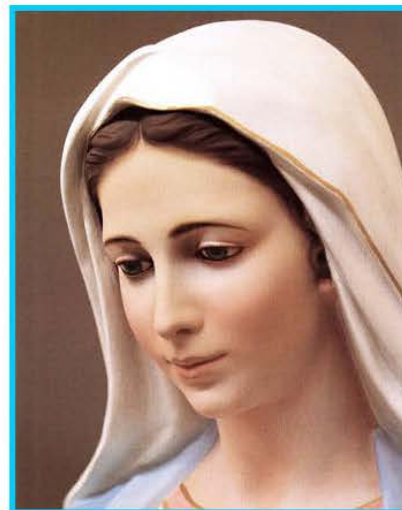
Our Lady's Film Evenings

at

St John Fisher Church Hall
48 Thanet Road
Bexley, DA5 1AP

01322-524813

www.stjohnfisherbexley.org



Admission Free - All Welcome

2018

date	arrivals	film starts	film	unfortunately for licence reasons the actual title of films cannot be promoted outside of St John Fisher church
Wed 24-Jan Christian Unity Octave	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	The Shroud of Turin & St Augustine of Hippo:	definitive documentaries on The Shroud & on the preeminent doctor and great saint of the Church (as scholarly background to April & May's movie)
Wed 21-Feb	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	Bl John Henry Newman:	documentary on life and places in England where he lived and worked
Wed 21-Mar	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	Bl Miguel Pro:	movie on famous Jesuit executed in Mexico for the crime of being a Catholic Priest
Wed 25-Apr	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	St Augustine of Hippo (part 1):	movie on a great doctor of the Church - watch either or both parts
Wed 9-May	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	St Augustine of Hippo (part 2):	movie on a great doctor of Church - will feature a recap of part 1
Wed 13-Jun	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	Bl Francis Xavier Seelos & St Kateri Tekakwitha:	documentaries on the Redemptorist missionary and the Native American Christian Mohawk Indian
Wed 18-Jul	6:45 PM	7:00 PM	St Joan of Arc:	movie on the heroine of France NOTE EARLY START BUT LATECOMERS WELCOME
No film evening during August				
Wed 12-Sep	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	St Vincent de Paul:	movie on advisor to French royalty & one of greatest humanitarians in history
Wed 24-Oct	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	Bl Pope Paul VI (part 1):	movie on life of pope from 1963 to 1978 - watch either or both parts
Wed 7-Nov	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	Bl Pope Paul VI (part 2):	movie on life of pope from 1963 to 1978 - will feature a recap of part 1
Wed 5-Dec	7:00 PM	7:30 PM	St Dominic:	movie on life of the selfless founder of Order of Preachers aka the Dominican Order

EXTRA-CURRICULAR PROGRAMME

Day	Year Groups	ART CLUB	Time	Room
Wednesday	All welcome	Come and Create!	2:30 - 3:30pm	Ar2

Day	Year Groups	BBC SCHOOL REPORT CLUB	Time	Room
Thursday	All welcome	Creating the News! Mr Dennis, Miss Cox	2:30 - 3:15pm	Ar2



Day	Year Groups	DEBATING CLUB	Time	Room
Thursday	Yr9, Yr10	Practice debating skills Miss Ransome	2:30 - 3:15pm	En4

Day	Year Groups	ENGLISH CLUB	Time	Room
Thursday	All welcome	Writing Club Ms Keevey	2:30 - 3:15pm	En3
Last Friday of month	G & T	Book Club	2:30 - 3:30pm	En3

Day	Year Groups	IT	Time	Room
Wednesday	KS4	Computer Science Club Mr Williams	2:30 - 3:30pm	IT1
Thursday	KS3	Computer Science Club Mr Williams	2:30 - 3:30pm	IT1

Day	Year Groups	MUSIC CLUBS	Time	Room
Wednesday	Yr7-10	Guitar Club Mr King	2:35 - 3:35pm	Music Office
	Yr7-8	Keyboard Club Mr Watson	2:35 - 3:35pm	Mu2
Thursday	All years	Choir Mr Watson	2:30 - 3pm	Mu1
	Yr7-9	Drum Club Mr Watson	3 - 4pm	All Practice Rooms
Friday	KS3	Music Tech Club Mr Watson &	2:35 - 4.30pm	Mu2
	All years book with Mr Watson	Band Practice Mr King	2:35 - 4.30pm	All Practice Rooms

Day	Year Groups	PE CLUBS
Monday	Yr7, Yr8, Yr9	Indoor Tennis Mr Creighton
Tuesday	Yr7, Yr8, Yr9	Rugby Training – Field Mr Donnelly Mr Eldridge Mr Martin 2:30 - 3:30pm
Wednesday	All years	Indoor Rowing - Fitness Suite Mr Eldridge 2:30 - 3:30pm
Thursday	Yr7, Yr8	Softball / Rounders Mr Eldridge
Friday	All years	Youth Club – Sports Hall Mr Martin

Day	Year Groups	RE	Time	Room
Tuesday	All welcome	KS3 RE homework club Mr Shoebridge	2:30 - 3:30pm	RE1
	All welcome	Boy's Bible Club Mr Olowofoyeku	2:30 - 3:20pm	RE3 
Wednesday	New members welcome any time	RE Film Club Mr Shoebridge	2:30 - 4pm	RE1 
Thursday	Yr 9, Yr10	RE homework/catch up club Mr Olowofoyeku	2:30 - 3:15pm	RE3

W THE WEDNESDAY WORD

The Parish Version

Encountering Christ
Prayerfully preparing for the
Sunday Mass and praying in
particular for our school families



Preparing for the Mass of Sunday 4th February 2018 - The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1 Relax & Remember

Set aside 10 -15 minutes and create a suitable environment by removing any distractions. Make sure that you are comfortable. Perhaps light a candle. Make the sign of the cross † and remain still for a minute of settling silence. **Call to mind the love that God has for you. Remember that through this scripture our Lord is truly present.** Then read the Gospel, preferably aloud and slowly, and pay attention to any words that stand out. If any do, meditate on them for a few minutes and be invited into a dialogue with God.



2 Read

Taken from the Gospel for Sunday 4th February 2018 (Mark 1:29-39): Jesus at Capernaum

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon's mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them. That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was. In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, "Everybody is looking for you." He answered, "Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came." And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.



3 Reflect

After spending a few minutes considering this Gospel, continue by reading Fr Henry Wansbrough's reflection.

The snippets gathered in the gospel reading give us a sample of Jesus' activity at Capernaum – healing and prayer. The first incident, the healing of the relative of his friend and follower Simon Peter, reminds us that Jesus does respond if we pray for the needs of our nearest and dearest. Then the summary of his evening activity shows his concern to bring healing and wholeness. Any Christian will desire to follow his example: we can harm or heal those around us in so many ways. It does not need to be a miracle! A greeting, a look, a smile, a touch can bring the peace of Christ to someone in desperate need of reassurance - and no less can these actions harm and wound. But the third little story, of Jesus going off to pray in the early morning, shows that the well-spring of all his activity was his union with God whom he called his Father. We cannot say what Jesus' prayer was, any more than I can say what your prayer is, but the confident communication between Father and Son must have been the source of his strength and compassion.

What sort of things can you do to bring healing to others? Where do you find it easiest to pray?

Dom Henry Wansbrough OSB

4 Respond & Request

Now slowly and prayerfully read the Gospel once again but this time in silence. Consider how this Gospel could apply to your life in general. Then thank God for any insight you may have received. Conclude by asking God to bless you with one of the following spiritual gifts to help you act on any resolution you have made: love, understanding, wisdom, faithfulness, peace, self control, patience, or joy. Please remember to pray for the Church and particularly our school families. **Then conclude by requesting the prayers of Our Lady & St Joseph.**



**The Wednesday Word is under the patronage of St Joseph, Patron Saint of Families and Protector of the Church
Within the tradition of the Catholic Church, each Wednesday is dedicated to St Joseph**

WEDNESDAY WORD PLUS †



Fr Henry's reflections on the first and second readings of Sunday 4th February 2018

First Reading: *Job's Suffering*

Job 7:1-4. 6-7

Job began to speak: Is not man's life on earth nothing more than pressed service, his time no better than hired drudgery? Like the slave, sighing for the shade, or the workman with no thought but his wages; months of delusion I have assigned to me, nothing for my own but nights of grief. Lying in bed I wonder, "When will it be day?" Risen I think, "How slowly evening comes!" Restlessly I fret till twilight falls. Swifter than a weaver's shuttle my days have passed, and vanished, leaving no hope behind. Remember that my life is but a breath, and that my eyes will never again see joy.

In the whole three-year cycle there are only two Sunday readings from the moving and tragic Book of Job. The Book describes the problem of sickness and suffering at its most acute: why should I suffer? Job has lost everything - wealth, family, health. He sits on a rubbish-heap, scratching his sores with a broken pot. In this passage from chapter 7 he gives a painful picture of the sick person's frustration - the slow and pointless passage of time, the crazy, distorted imaginings. He feels that God is oppressing him, but yet clings to God as his one hope of release. Undeserved sickness and death is worrying for anyone who believes in a loving God. On the natural plane, sickness is a reminder that things are out of order and could get worse. To the believer it is a reminder that this brilliant, complicated, sophisticated creation cannot continue developing for ever, but must return to God in God's own good time. As Jeremiah explains, the pot cannot complain to the potter, "Why did you make me like this?" But couldn't a loving God have made something so that it never went wrong?

Why does our confidence in God so easily give way to fear and mistrust? Why does God allow suffering in our world?

Second Reading: *Paul, the Servant of All*

1 Corinthians 9:16-19. 22-23

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me. So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessing.

As we work through this letter to the Christians of Corinth we find Paul reflecting on his own task. His teaching is firm enough. Under the compulsion of his divine call he has no choice but to teach the truth. Yet in his desire to win the Corinthians for Christ, he is sensitive to the needs of all people. Here he has just been giving a ruling on whether it is allowed to eat food which has been dedicated to pagan gods. His first point is that, as these gods don't exist, dedication to them does not affect the food. But his most important point is that you must not upset other people's consciences. In other words, the overriding principle is to be sensitive and caring towards the needs of each person. If we are anxious to do the right thing, we can often be quite hard about acting 'on principle', trampling on the feelings of others without regard for their own sincerely-held beliefs. For Paul the highest principle in his treatment of people is always love.

How do we best respect other people?

“Paul's most important point is that you must not upset other people's consciences.”

The Wednesday Word: *Connecting Home, School & Parish through the Word of God*
w: www.wednesdayword.org e: info@wednesdayword.org