



right2read



## Message from the Head Teacher

### Fred's Prayer for the Week

Dear Father,  
we rejoice for your grace that you have lavished upon us,  
and declare our lives for your glory as we walk in your light  
and love.

Your grace and peace is multiplied in my life  
through increased revelation of your Word given to us in the  
Gospels. Amen.

God bless, Fred (Chaplain)



prejudice and racism in our society. Our children must not be allowed to forget the atrocities of human behaviour. But instead, let us celebrate the fact that that we were all formed in the image of God.

Last night we had Parents' Evening for Yr 10 students and the fantastic turn out came as no surprise. It was great to see families working in partnership with the school to achieve the very best for our children.

Elsewhere in this week's edition, Mr Barry reports on how well our students have done in the Student Investor Challenge on page 3, our 'Classroom Columbas' series continues with Mr Shoebridge's RE class on page 2, and Mr Stone writes about the School Council and the STARS Travel Plan on page 4.

Mr N Fisher



On Monday, Yr 11 had some training on how to best prepare for their imminent GCSE examinations. Every Yr 11 student had Period 1 spent with Elevate, a company specialising in study and revision skills. If your son is in Yr 11, please do have a conversation with him about this training and how you can help him survive the pressures and excel. We have excellent teachers and a huge amount of support available but I'm sure I have read something, somewhere about leading a horse to water...

This week we reminded students about the International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Only seventy-five years ago the survivors of Auschwitz were liberated. We discussed the importance of respect and how sadly we still experience

### Parents' Evenings 2020

Yr 9

Thursday 13 February from 3:30pm - 7pm

Yr 8

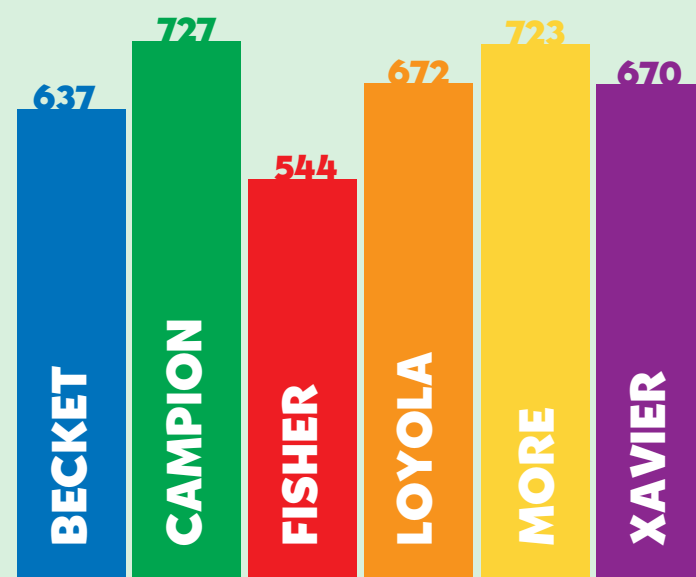
Thursday 5 March from 3:30pm - 7pm

Yr 7

Thursday 19 March from 3:30pm - 7pm

### House Points Overall Leaderboard

(as at 31 January 20)



# Columba's Classrooms

Having completed a unit of work on Covenant, chiefly those between God, Abraham, Noah and Moses, Yr 8 students were tasked to work, in pairs, to complete a series of quizzes to assess their knowledge and understanding. If they got the question correct they were allowed to move onto the next, if incorrect they had to write a sentence that gave the correct answer. Students were thoroughly engaged!

Mr Shoebridge  
Head of RE





## Student Investor Challenge

The Student Investor Challenge is the UK's premier investment competition with over 6,500 teams from across the world taking part. At St Columba's it has been a great success with twenty-eight teams and over 120 students involved from Yr 9 and Yr 10. The top four teams in Year 9 and Year 10 in December won a trip to visit

Barclays in Canary Wharf and the top teams in Yr 9 and Yr 10 at the end of round one won prizes of £100 for each team and are pictured with their prizes in assemblies on Wednesday and Thursday.

The competition has involved teams investing £100,000 of virtual money in two

portfolios on the London Stock Exchange. Students learned that they needed to keep their portfolios healthy by following the ups and downs of the market, judging when to buy and sell in order to make a profit.

Students have gained financial awareness, experience of the stockmarket, develop character and skills working in teams and apply their maths skills.

Mr Barry  
Careers Lead



## BREAKING NEWS!!

We have just found out that the following teams  
(out of 6,500 across the world) will go through to the Semi-Finals:

### Top 250 Combined Portfolio

10X Crypto STC

10B STONKS

9F Phoenix

### Top 100 Strategic Portfolio

10S Bob

9B Team Truck

### Top 50 Progress in January

10B The Money Snipers

10M Pro Skull

This is a remarkable achievement, well done boys!



9F Phoenix (l to r) - Kevwe, Isaiah, David and George with Mr Barry



10X Crypto STC - Billy, Ben and Jason  
(Michael sadly absent)

School Council

The School Council meets every half-term with representatives, chosen by students, of every form group in the school. The Council is run by students themselves but is moderated by Assistant Head Teacher Mr Martin with Admin Support from Miss McKean. This half-term's meeting was held yesterday and covered such items as Sports and After-School Clubs, mobile phones and litter.

The Council was also visited by Mrs De Loureiro, the School Travel Plan Co-Ordinator from the London Borough of Bexley who explained about the accreditation scheme that the school has been part of in the past.

A 'Hands-Up' travel survey has already been carried out and further work will be done through the year to maintain our accreditation. At the end of the meeting, five students volunteered to work as Junior Transport Ambassadors (JTAs) and we will report on them and the start of their journey in a future issue.

Mr Stone  
Academy Executive Secretary



The School Council listening attentively to Mrs De Loureiro



Mrs De Loureiro speaking to the School Council yesterday

# Café Columba

## menu WEEK COMMENCING 03.02.20

WEEK 2

### MONDAY

Tandoori Chicken, Rice, Naan Bread and Vegetables

✓ Lentil Dahl, Rice, Naan Bread and Vegetables

Chicken Curry

Spaghetti Bolognese

✓ Tomato Pasta Bake

Lemon Slice and Custard

### TUESDAY

Caribbean Chicken, Rice and Peas

✓ Cheese and Potato Pie, Roast Potatoes with Vegetables

Chicken Curry

Spaghetti Bolognese

✓ Tomato Pasta Bake

Pineapple Upside Down Cake and Custard

### WEDNESDAY

Lincolnshire Sausage and Mashed Potatoes,

Yorkshire Pudding and Onion Gravy

Chicken Curry

Spaghetti Bolognese

✓ Tomato Pasta Bake

Salted Caramel Sponge and Custard

### THURSDAY

Sweet and Sour Chicken, Rice and Vegetables

✓ Vegetable Chow Mein

Chicken Curry

Spaghetti Bolognese

✓ Tomato Pasta Bake

Strawberry Jam and Coconut Cake with Custard

### FRIDAY

Fish, Mashed Potatoes and Peas

Chicken and Vegetable Pie, Mashed Potatoes and Peas

Chicken Curry

Spaghetti Bolognese

✓ Tomato Pasta Bake

Frosted Ice Cake and Custard

A selection of hot snacks, sandwiches, rolls and baguettes are available daily and the Breakfast Club is open 7:45am – 8:15am



## Want to learn how to play an instrument?

- Learn popular songs! perform in School events!
- Take Instrumental grades & gain a certificate.
- Play in different musical bands.
- Sign up and Pay now on **ParentPay!**



## Want to be apart of something fun; new and exciting? 10 Lessons – Any of the instruments below: Sign up on ParentPay!

Did you know – The following members of staff play a musical instrument:

- Mr Stone – Acoustic & Electric Bass guitar
- Miss Solly – Violin
- Mr Martin – Drum Kit
- Ms Sheridan: Piano, flute, piccolo, voice, saxophone, clarinet
- Mr Hancock – Guitar
- Mr Jesuratnam - Piano



## You have two options!

### 1. Instrumental Lessons.

- 15min shared lesson or 30min individual lesson. (Cost on Parent-Pay)
- Electric Guitar, Acoustic Guitar or Bass Guitar.
- Piano.
- Drum Kit.
- See Mr Watson for more info.

**Make your Payment now on Parent-Pay. Be quick – Limited spaces!**

### 2. Ensemble workshops.

- At the moment – only Brass & Keyboard ensemble workshops. Starts afterschool.
- Learn how to play Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone or French horn in a small group.
- 10 -20 students in a group.
- Most likely to be on a Thursday or Friday.
- See Mr Watson for more info.

**Make your Payment now on Parent-Pay. Be quick – Limited spaces!**

## EXTRA-CURRICULAR PROGRAMME

Day	Year Groups	ART CLUB	Time	Room
Wednesday	All welcome	Come and Create! <b>Mrs Archer</b>	2:30 - 3:30pm	Ar2
Day	Year Groups	BBC SCHOOL REPORT CLUB	Time	Room
Thursday	Yr 7	Creating the News! <b>Miss Cox</b>	2:30 - 3:15pm	En6
Day	Year Groups	DEBATING CLUB	Time	Room
Thursday	KS3	Practice debating skills <b>Miss Ransome</b>	2:30 - 3:15pm	En4
Day	Year Groups	DRAMA CLUB	Time	Room
Tuesday	Yr 7 - Yr 10	School Production rehearsal <b>Mr Warburton</b>	2:30 - 3:45pm	Iona Theatre
Thursday	Currently Yr 7. KS3 after Christmas!	Trinity Guildhall Drama club <b>Mr Warburton</b>	2:30 - 3:30pm	Iona Theatre
Day	Year Groups	ENGLISH	Time	Room
Thursday	KS3	Writing Club <b>Mr Dennis</b>	2:30 - 3:15pm	En3
Day	Year Groups	HISTORY	Time	Room
Tuesday	Open to all GCSE History students	History Skills Master Class <b>Mrs Loveday-Jones</b>	2:30 - 3pm	Hi1
Day	Year Groups	COMPUTER SCIENCE	Time	Room
Thursday	KS4	Computer Science Club <b>Mr Williams</b>	2:30 - 3:30pm	CS1
Day	Year Groups	MUSIC CLUBS	Time	Room
Thursday	All years KS3 only	Choir Boys <b>Mr Watson</b> Cubase <b>Mr Watson</b>	2:30 - 3:15pm 3:00 - 3:30pm	Mu1 Mu2
Friday	Yr 7 only	African Drumming <b>Led by Yr11 Student</b>	2:30 - 3pm	Mu1
	All years	Keyboard Ensemble Brass Ensemble Guitar Ensemble	2:30 - 3:30pm	Mu1

Day	Year Groups	PE CLUBS
Tuesday	Yr 7, Yr 8, Yr 9	Rugby Training - Field <b>Mr Eldridge, Fred Umney</b> 2:45 - 3:45pm
Wednesday	All years	Basketball - Sports Hall <b>Mr Virgo</b> 2:45 - 3:45pm
Thursday	Yr 10	Football - <b>Mr Eldridge</b> 2:45 - 3:45pm
Friday	All years	Youth Club - Sports Hall <b>Mr Creighton</b> 2:45 - 3:45pm

Day	Year Groups	RE	Time	Room
Tuesday	All welcome	KS3 RE homework club <b>Mr Shoebridge</b>	2:30 - 3:30pm	RE1
Wednesday	New members welcome any time	Film Club <b>Mr Shoebridge</b> <b>Mr Egan</b>	2:30 - 3:40pm	RE1
	All welcome	Boy's Bible Club <b>Mr Olowofoyeku</b>	2:30 - 3:15pm	RE3
Thursday	Yr 9, Yr 10	KS4 GCSE Homework and Revision Club <b>Mr Shoebridge</b> <b>Mr Olowofoyeku</b>	2:30 - 3:15pm	RE1 RE3
	Yr 9 (from now until Christmas) Yr 8 Christmas to Easter	After School Enterprise Club (business and enterprise) <b>Mr Barry</b>	After School	RE2
Friday	Yr 11	GCSE Catch Up Sessions (Those who missed various topics in Y10 but not specifically targeted) <b>Mr Barry</b>	After School	RE2

Day	Year Groups	SCIENCE	Time	Room
Wednesday	Yr 7	Science Club <b>Miss Manning-Johnson</b>	2:45 - 3:45pm	SC7



**WARHAMMER**  
**WARHAMMER CLUB**  
in the Library  
every Monday & Thursday  
at 2:30pm  
Everyone welcome





*Celebrating the Year of the Word  
with The Wednesday Word.*

*Lectio Divina – prayerfully  
preparing for the Sunday Mass.*



**Preparing for the Mass of Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2020 - The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord**

**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.

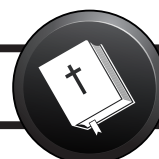


**2 Read**

**Taken from the Gospel for Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2020**

**The Child Destined for the Rise and Fall of many (Luke 2:22-40)**

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said: 'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all the nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel.' As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.' There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem. When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.



**3 Reflect**

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

*The story of the Presentation of the child Jesus in the Temple is dominated by Simeon's welcome, 'a light to enlighten the gentiles and the glory of your people Israel', and by his warning to Mary, 'a sword will pierce your heart'. Simeon reiterates the angel's promise that the child would fulfil the destiny of Israel and Israel's mission to the nations. Much like any family life, the promised future included the delights of the growing, developing child, and the background fear that the great destiny of each child may include sorrow and even heart-break. How much did Mary and Joseph know about the precious child they were nurturing? As he grew to independence did he become more loving and supportive? How did his contemporaries find him? Was he a leader? Did he stand out from the pack? Each of us has a private picture of the child, the boy, the adolescent, the young man. If he was fully human, he had the same frustrations and worries as every child growing in youth and through puberty. All we know for sure is that 'the child grew to maturity' and that Mary 'pondered all these things in her heart' - with Simeon's welcome and warning before her mind.*

**Imagine Jesus' first serious conversation as an enquiring child with Mary.**

**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.**



# WEDNESDAY WORD PLUS +

Fr Henry's reflections on the first and second readings of Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2020



## First Reading: *The Coming of the Lord*

### Malachi 3:1-4

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his Temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fullers' alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

*This first reading from Malachi is dire and threatening. The Lord will come to his Temple and refine it. The reading seems to fit better with the coming of Jesus to the Temple to cleanse it in the final days of his ministry than with the coming of the child Jesus in helpless innocence. Yet the searing, final coming is already presaged in the coming of the young Jesus to the Temple to be greeted by Simeon as the fulfilment of God's promise of salvation. Malachi prophesied the purging of the sons of Levi, and no one can deny that a dreadful purging of the sons of Levi took place at the sack of Jerusalem in the year 70AD; the people had failed to recognize their Lord. This cannot but give us pause to reflect whether we, who have theoretically committed ourselves to Christ, have in fact responded and been converted and purged. Are we in any way better than those who were condemned and suffered, or are we merely more secretive, better at concealing our faults and secret distortions from others? The thoughts of all hearts will be laid bare in the end. It might be as well to start laying our hearts bare (or purging them) now.*

*How is it that many people failed to recognize who Jesus was?*

## Second Reading: *The Faithful High Priest*

### Hebrews 2:14-18

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Jesus too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

“Jesus' loving obedience to the Father will save the human race.”

*The inclusion of this reading is unbelievably moving: the child presented in the Temple is also to suffer, the sword will pierce Mary's heart. But it is because Jesus is fully human, and now a helpless child, that his loving obedience to the Father will save the human race. 'What was not assumed was not saved,' say the Fathers. In Jesus, the source of our salvation, the disobedience of Adam was washed away. Adam is the representative of us all, personifying the human race. Jesus had to be like his brothers and sisters, to share their full human nature if he was to save their human nature. He shared our baby helplessness, our adolescent anguish, our fear of death, our loss of friends whom we thought were faithful. In all this he knit himself into the human race and, by taking it upon himself, saved it by joining it once more into the Father's love. The language of high priesthood is used in this Letter to the Hebrews because the letter is written to Hebrews who were pining for the rituals of the Temple. But the priesthood of Christ is radically different, according to the order of Melchizedek (an unknown priesthood), and no longer that of Aaron.*

*What was the purpose of Jesus' death?*

The Wednesday Word: *Connecting Home, School & Parish through the Word of God*

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