



Last year, the Government provided new statutory guidance on the teaching of relationships, sex and health education. Along with citizenship and careers education, these topics are taught at St Catherine's College under the title of 'Life Skills'.

The foreword to the Government's guidance says, 'Today's children and young people are growing up in an increasingly complex world and living their lives seamlessly on and offline. This presents many positive and exciting opportunities, but also challenges and risks. In this environment, children and young people need to know how to be safe and healthy, and how to manage their academic, personal and social lives in a positive way.'

Last term, we ran another successful Life Skills Week with a range of topics being taught. In upper school Year 10 learned new careers skills in preparation for Work Experience Week and Year 11 developed their knowledge and attitudes around relationships and sexual health. In Key Stage 3, the year groups had lessons on the theme 'Healthy and Safe'.

Our Life Skills curriculum supports our pupils in acquiring the knowledge and skills they need to manage their lives, and to consider their own attitudes and those of others. With these aims, the Life Skills Week helped Year 7 pupils learn about the importance of road safety and sleep; Year 8 practice first aid skills; and Year 9 explore both healthy and unhealthy strategies for dealing with difficult situations.

We are grateful to the East Sussex Fire Service, East Sussex Healthy Schools Service and the Know Knives Project for their support in delivering the 'healthy and safe' messages.



CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

This week, you have received a letter via edulink from Mr Berhane regarding coronavirus.

In school, we have taken all the necessary precautions to stop the spread of coronavirus. Every classroom has been provided with tissues and hand sanitizer. Posters are displayed in every toilet encouraging everyone to wash their hands properly and more often. All pupils have been shown videos on how to wash their hands correctly. Reminders of basic hygiene practices are published in our daily bulletin. In addition, door handles are being cleaned on a regular basis to try and prevent cross-contamination.

We will keep you informed of any developments when we receive them. If you are worried about your symptoms or those of a child, please call NHS 111. The advice is not to go directly to your GP or other healthcare environments. Please see further information on the [Public Health England](#) Blog and the [NHS UK](#) website.

PARENT FORUM THURSDAY 19 MARCH, 3.30PM

- Would you like to know more about what is happening at St Catherine's College?
• Would you like the opportunity to share your ideas?
• Would you like to keep in touch with the Senior Leadership Team?

To maintain open channels of communication with parents/carers, we would like to invite you to attend a Parent Forum on Thursday 19 March at 3.30pm. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Mrs Schaaf at sschaaf@stcatherines.college.

EARLY CLOSURE

There will be staff training from 2.30pm until 4.30pm on Monday 22 June. Therefore, on this day, school will close at 2.15pm for pupils.

If this causes any inconvenience, please contact the School so that arrangements can be made to supervise your child until normal closure time.



## ANTI-BULLYING



Several of the lessons taught during Life Skills Week provided our pupils with opportunities to reflect on situations that may result in bullying behaviour.

During the 'Healthy and Safe' topic in Key Stage 3, pupils had lessons that provided strategies that promoted positive mental health and wellbeing. These were, Promoting Emotional Wellbeing (Year 7), Digital Resilience (Year 8), and Healthy Coping Strategies (Year 9).

In Year 11, the Relationships and Sexual Health lessons included Managing Unhealthy Relationships and Consent and Coercion.

In addition to the education around anti-bullying and wellbeing, the practical action of designating two sets of toilets as KS3 and KS4 use only has taken place. The Pupil Leadership proposed this following a Happy and Safe Survey of pupils.

## SITUATION VACANT

### EXAMS OFFICER

Salary: Single status Grade 5 – 7  
£19,946 - £22,330 (pro-rata) dependent on experience

Part-time permanent post for minimum of 25 hours per week (to be discussed at interview), term time plus one week to be worked during exams results week in the summer holidays, and additional overtime hours as required. Full-time as required during internal and external examinations in November, March and May/June/July exams season.

We seek an experienced Exams Officer to lead the effective organisation of all internal and external examinations in accordance with the regulations laid down by the awarding bodies. This is a busy role and candidates should have the ability to work flexibly, under pressure. A positive outlook and the ability to work effectively as part of a team is essential.

Completed application forms and letters of application should be sent directly to the College addressed to Mrs Windsor, Head of Personnel: swindsor@stcatherines.college, and arrive no later than noon on Thursday 19 March 2020.

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Successful applicants will need to undertake a DBS enhanced clearance.

## YOUTH PARLIAMENT REPS RECEIVE AWARD



Last week, Tom (our Youth Parliament Representative) and Nnamdi, joined pupils from various schools in East Sussex at the Democracy Awards, held in Parliament. The Awards recognised the efforts put in by schools in the recent election of the new East Sussex Youth Cabinet. Tom was delighted to accept a Bronze Democracy Award in recognition of the amazing work he has done with East Sussex County Council in his Youth Cabinet role.



Tom and Nnamdi enjoyed a tour around the Palace of Westminster before Sussex MPs answered questions from students, on various topics, from the daily life of an MP to the role of the House of Lords in Parliament. Tom and Nnamdi were also interviewed by our local MP, Caroline Ansell, which they described as an 'experience of a lifetime'.

## SUSSEX COAST CLUBBERCISE ZUMBA AND FITNESS

Please contact Sussex Coast Clubbercise Zumba and Fitness on Facebook if you are interested in the classes below which are held at St Catherine's College.



## FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT 2020

For two weeks each year thousands of individuals, companies and groups across the UK come together to share the stories of the people in developing countries who grow our food and drinks, and the cotton in our clothes - people who are often exploited and underpaid.

Fairtrade Fortnight was celebrated throughout the School. We were treated to Fairtrade chocolate desserts in the café, and Fairtrade messages were shared in Worship. In Life Skills lessons, pupils watched a new film about a family of cocoa farmers from Sierra Leone, West Africa. 'Guardians of the Rainforest' tells the story of how a group of cocoa farmers have come together to protect the rainforest and develop their communities through Fairtrade. <https://vimeo.com/388217600>

College Worship last week was led by pupils from the Global Awareness Group. They added their voices in the call for cocoa farmers to earn a living wage and shared stories that showed the positive impact that Fairtrade has on the women behind your chocolate bar. The pupils challenged us to consider the injustices of world trade when we do our shopping. The message was that our everyday choices affect the lives of others, even when we decide which chocolate bar to buy.

During Worship, pupils were invited to take part in a 'Blindfold Fairtrade Chocolate Challenge'. The challenge was to eat squares of Fairtrade chocolate each one flavoured with a second Fairtrade product that had to be identified. Thankfully, the mystery products did not include Fairtrade olive oil, black pepper or mango body wash!



## PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SHOP



The next pre-loved uniform sale will take place at Year 7 Parents' Evening on Tuesday 24 March from 3.30pm.

If you have any unwanted uniform items that you would like to donate, please drop into Visitor Reception or Student Services. We do ask that all donations are washed and of a reasonable quality. Thank you.

## COMBINED CADET FORCE

A report from Miss Haggart:

Eighteen of our cadets recently joined Eastbourne College Combined Cadet Force (CCF) at Hythe Range, Lydd. Hythe Range has a state-of-the-art electronic target system and cadets enjoyed learning about the components of a rifle and how to carry out all the different safety checks. They experienced shooting targets at 100m and five of our more experienced cadets shot targets at 200m and 300m.

Huge congratulations to Michael Easter and James Annandale-Johnston who both achieved Marksman status due to their high scores. Michael came top of the leader board out of 43 cadets and was also given 'Top Shot' status. On his first try, all 20 rounds hit the target!

If we have any parents/carers from a services background who would be interested in volunteering to work with our cadets, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please contact Miss N Haggart [nhaggart@stcatherines.college](mailto:nhaggart@stcatherines.college) for further information.



## THE GAMBIA

A report from Mrs Dolan:

During February 2019, students on the school Gambia trip were delighted to donate to Kulokochi School, several computers that were no longer used at St Catherine's College. The Headteacher, Mr Bogang, was absolutely thrilled. Kulokochi School was one of the first schools in The Gambia to have computers! Mr Bogang has since been taking weekly computer lessons to learn how to use a computer. The computers are a huge asset to the school especially with the addition of a printer which was paid for by money raised by the family of Hope Baxter. Mr Bogang has asked me to pass on his sincere thanks to all those involved with these wonderful donations.

During the last school trip to The Gambia, we were delighted to have the privilege of sponsoring four children. We receive regular updates of these children from the Gunjur Project Association which include photos, letters and school reports. By sponsoring a child, we are giving them the most important gift of all—education. During February half-term, I visited The Gambia and was delighted to meet the sponsored children and introduce them to my family, as pictured below.

I am very much looking forward to our next school trip in February 2021. Before this trip, we are planning to do lots of fund raising for a new community hub which is currently being built. This will be used for adult education; including IT lessons; First Aid courses; literacy groups for women; a sewing room for textiles lessons; and a European standard kitchen where they can learn how to preserve some of their crops of fruit and vegetable. This will be a very important centre. It is hoped that many young people will be taught the skills they need to set up small business and aid the financial growth in that area. We currently have one place left on this trip and if your child is interested in going, please contact me at [cdolan@stcatherines.college](mailto:cdolan@stcatherines.college) or 01323 465400.



## ELLIOTT'S GOING TO CUT HIS HAIR OFF!



Year 7 pupil, Elliott, has decided to have his hair cut off and donate it to The Little Princess Trust. The Little Princess Trust use hair donations and money raised to make real hair wigs. These are given free to children who have lost their own hair through cancer treatment and other illnesses. Elliott is hoping to raise at least £500 and is nearly halfway there! If you would like to help him reach his target, please visit his JustGiving page:

[https://www.justgiving.com/Elliott-Canning?utm\\_source](https://www.justgiving.com/Elliott-Canning?utm_source)

Elliot and his family are very grateful for any support that they receive.

## SCHOOL PRODUCTION

### THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE



Thursday 19 March and  
Friday 20 March

Doors open at 6.45pm for  
7.00pm start

Adults £6; Child/  
Concessions £4

Tickets on sale at Reception

## TOP HOUSE POINT ACHIEVERS



### Year 7

Logan Adams **528**  
Nikitas Tarasidis **524**  
Melody Capehorn **499**  
Erin Cameron **482**  
Phoebe Gaskell **481**

### Year 8

Asha Reid-Wills **475**  
Amberley Connor **431**  
Jasmine Adsett **401**  
Eve Ward **352**  
Stephanie Brown **345**

### Year 9

Naomi Fraiss **484**  
Elizabeth Finn **446**  
June Maunga **412**  
Grace Boyd **408**  
Emily Duckett **380**

### Year 10

Ailsa Cameron **600**  
Berrie Robertson **599**  
Amber Matthews **497**  
Hanna Siddique **483**  
Seth Archibald **480**

### Year 11

Hannah Cheeseman **683**  
Katherine Pawley **650**  
Mia Lozinski **454**  
Lois Hilton **446**  
Jasmine Ramazannejad **431**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### March

19 School Production, 7.00pm  
20 School Production, 7.00pm  
24 Y7 Parents' Evening, 3.30pm - 7.00pm

### April

3 Last Day of Term 4  
20 First Day of Term 5  
21 Y9 Parents' Evening, 3.30pm - 7.00pm  
24-26 DofE Silver Practice Expedition  
25-26 DofE Bronze Practice Expedition  
29 Y8 HPV Vaccinations  
30 Y8 Parents' Evening, 3.30pm - 7.00pm

### May

6 Y10 Parents' Evening, 3.30pm - 7.00pm  
8 Bank Holiday  
22 Last Day of Term 5  
23-27 Y8 & Y9 Italy Cultural Trip

### June

1 First Day of Term 6  
15 Y10 Assessment Fortnight begins  
15-19 Y8 Bushcraft Residential Trip  
19 Town Sports  
21-25 CCF Summer Camp  
22 Staff Training —School closes at 2.15pm  
26-29 Y9 French Immersion Trip  
29 Y10 Work Experience Week starts  
30 Y6 Induction Evening

### July

2 School Prom at The Cavendish Hotel  
3 Y10 Work Experience Week ends  
4-5 DofE Bronze Qualifying Expedition  
7 Y6 Taster Day  
8 Y6 Taster Day  
10 Sports Day  
17 Last Day of Term 6  
20 INSET Day