



# OUR LADY'S CONVENT HIGH SCHOOL

**WEEKLY NEWSLETTER: Issue No. 463 Friday, 15th January 2016**

## **Headteacher's message:** *Ms Justine McDonald*

The term is now well under way, with lots of parent events happening in the next few weeks - please see the **Announcements** section below for details.

On Thursday evening we have a very busy and successful Year 8 Parents' Meeting. Thank you to all parents, students and staff involved.

In Headteacher's assemblies this week we reflected on the Baptism of our Lord and the importance of forgiveness and mercy - especially in this Year of Mercy. We also explored the importance of Marian Identity, Compassion and Service, three of our Servite values, in helping us all to develop a more merciful approach to all our 'neighbours'. I hope the students will continue to reflect on these themes over the coming week.

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## **Announcements:** *Events and important dates*

### **School Outfitters: Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January**

Fosters Schoolwear will be in school from 3.30pm to 5pm to sell school uniform.

### **Early closure: Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January - School finishes at 2.20pm**

Please be advised that the school day will run with five 50 minute lessons on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January. Students will be dismissed at 2.20pm – unless they have been set a detention after school.

**Year 11 parents Information Evening: Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb** - starting at 5.30pm. This event is to give parents information and guidance to support their daughter in the final preparation for GCSE examinations.

**Year 9 Parents Information evening: Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> Feb** - starting at 5.30pm. This event is to give parents the information required to understand the options process which will take place in March (the Year 9 Options Evening is on the Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March).

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## **Reports and News**

### **Year 12 Psychology Trip 17<sup>th</sup> December - Report by Ms. Cooke**

We visited the Royal College of Psychiatrists to attend a debate about whether we are too focused on how we look. Clinical and Educational Psychologists presented their arguments, which included the influence of social media and health concerns. Speakers suggested that we should be concerned with how we look, but that we need to be more aware of what a healthy body looks like. The students were able to vote on which side of the debate they agreed with. There was a real divide in Our Lady's students about whether we are too concerned with how we look, and they continued to debate it on the best home.

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Headteacher : Ms Justine McDonald



## **Year 11 ASDAN trip to the Geffrye Museum: Mr M Meyers**

On Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January Leticia Andrade Chaves, Lavinia Mustata, Rhyanne Oliveira and Eucharia Opara went on a long round trip to visit places related to the topics of their ASDAN Short Courses, together with Mr Meyers and Ms Ankoma. The first port of call was the Abbey Vet surgery by Stoke Newington Station, where Rhyanne interviewed one of the nurses. She learned about new aspects of animal care and realised that she might enjoy working in that field, some day. Then it was on to 'Shine', a Hair and Beauty Salon in Stoke Newington Church Street, where it was Leticia's turn to interview one of the hairdressers. They discussed training opportunities at college as well as at 'Shine' itself and it turned out to be a very productive visit. For a different kind of visit we then went to the War Memorial inside Stoke Newington library. Lavinia studied the names of the young men – many of them boys, really – from the local area who were killed in the First World War. The "Great War", as it was called on the wall of the monument, although what was so great about it was not clear. What was clear was that the local community must have been hit very hard. We counted roughly 770 names, some of whom looked like Jewish, Italian or Indian names. We imagined that they belonged to people who had come to England in the hope of a better life, who then were proud to fight for their new king and country, only to die in Belgium or France, leaving their families and loved ones to mourn them. Lavinia will pick one of the names and research his life on the website of the war graves commission.

On to the Geffrye Museum, where Eucharia would look at the fabrics of the historical London interiors on display. But first we went to the cafeteria, because by now we were all hungry and thirsty. It took a while to choose from all the delicacies on the menu and it was a pleasure just to sit, eat and chat in such lovely surroundings and to get to know each other a little better. The interiors were amazing and Eucharia had a wealth of fabrics and upholsteries to choose from. We took pictures and decided to concentrate on one of them later. Abie and Leticia both thought they would be happy to move into the eighties apartment, right there and then! Mr Meyers quite fancied the rug in the Edwardian room.

Rhyanne really appreciated the lunch, as well as the chance to meet the nurse at the Vet's surgery. Lavinia was struck by the number of names on the local war memorial: "So many dead boys", she sighed. Eucharia mentioned all the beautiful fabrics as one of her highlights. Leticia came away with a clearer idea about how to develop her interest in hair and beauty care, but seemed to love the whole experience of the museum just as much. All girls commented on the interesting places they had never visited before, none of them very far from their local areas. They all thanked Mr Meyers and Ms Ankoma for a fascinating day. With twenty minutes to go until home time and Ms Ankoma being a local resident and Mr Meyers' wife being a Tottenham girl born and bred, we rounded off the day with an interesting discussion about the history of the local area and its communities.

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## **Community messages**

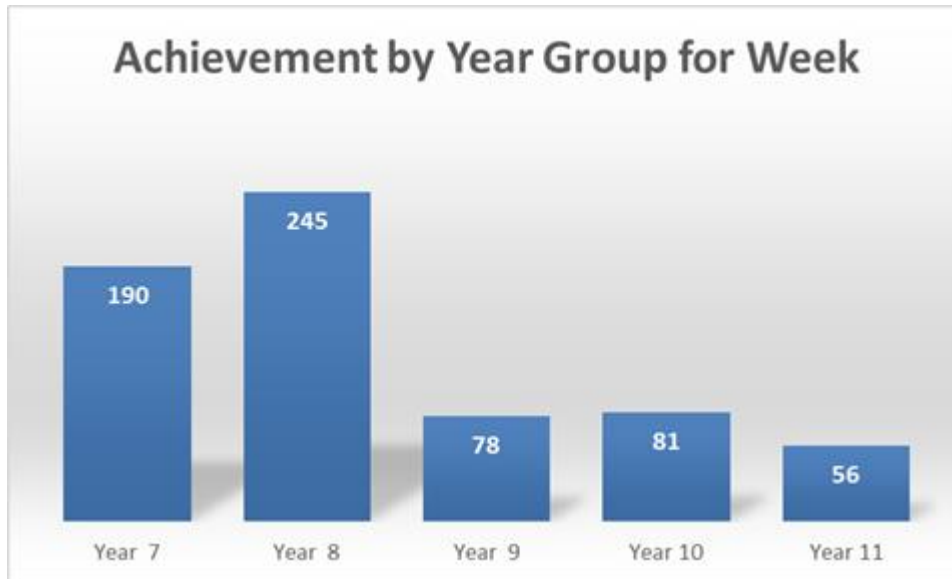
**Westminster Youth Ministry Art Day** for young people aged 14 to 20 years old. Day runs from 10am to 4pm in the Art Studios in Wapping. Free. To register: [callummcore@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:callummcore@rcdow.org.uk) For info: <http://dowym.com/events/>

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**Recognising Achievement:** *Mr. Smith, Assistant Headteacher.*

The table below shows the total number of achievement points received by each year group for week ending 8<sup>th</sup> January 2015.



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**Attendance and Punctuality:** *Dr Blackwell, Deputy Headteacher*

The table below shows the Form within each year group achieving the best attendance and the form achieving the best punctuality for the week ending 8<sup>th</sup> January 2016. Congratulations to these forms and a special mention to 10J with 100% Attendance and 9P with 100% Punctuality.

	Attendance		Punctuality	
	Form	%	Form	%
Year 7	7J	97.92	7J	99.17
Year 8	8P	96.77	8H	98.83
Year 9	9M	94.35	9P	100
Year 10	10J	100	10M	96.55
Year 11	11J	96.12	11J	98.28

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