



Donegal Visit - see page 7

Dear Parents and Carers

As we approach the end of the academic year, we have a great deal to celebrate. The Leavers' Banquet was a magnificent occasion, with over 220 staff and students present for the meal and a large number of staff joined us for the entertainment later in the evening. As always, our young people did themselves proud; they looked wonderful and their behaviour was exemplary, as it has been throughout the exam season. They were a credit to themselves and their parents and carers and it was clear that they are ready to take their place in society as young adults. We look forward to some outstanding examination results in August!

With the superb organisation of Ms Spurling and her team the examinations at St Paul's and at Charlton Athletic all ran extremely smoothly.

Summer Schemes

Of course, some students find the transition from primary to secondary school very difficult for a variety of reasons, and in order to overcome these barriers to learning, the Royal Borough of Greenwich are facilitating a "Stepping Up" programme, which has proved to be very successful in recent years.

This year, the transition programme will be split between St Paul's and Thomas Tallis in order to allow students from all over the borough to access it. This programme will be followed in weeks 4, 5 and 6 of the summer holidays by our own summer sports scheme.

Enrichment and Sporting Activities

Throughout the Newsletter, you are going to read about a superb set of enrichment and sporting activities that have been made available for our students.



Farewell to members of staff

As is usual at this time of the year we have to say goodbye to some colleagues, and it is with sadness that we say goodbye to Claire Viner, our Finance Director, who has been appointed as Business Manager at a Multi-Academy Trust and Natasha Radford, Head of Drama, who is relocating to a post in mid-Kent.

We are also sorry to be losing some members of staff who are moving to pastures new; Claudius Buckle, Chelsea Croft, Rahan Gazi, Bea Granero, Madeleine Hughes, Amara Igwe, Colette Kelleher and Declan Redmond. I would like to thank them for their unique and valuable contributions to St Paul's and wish them every success in their new ventures.

We are delighted to welcome our new teaching staff, Katia Maiorono, Brendan Murphy and Katherine Owens.

I would like to thank all colleagues, both teaching and support, for their hard work throughout the last year; without the support and dedication of the staff, St Paul's Academy could not have continued to make excellent progress. I am also very grateful for the considerable support that we have received from the family and friends of our students.



I hope that you all have a relaxing and enjoyable summer.

Pat Winston

South London Boys Secure Title Number 5 at Féile Peile na nÓg Competition

On Sunday 25th June, the South London under 14 Boys' Gaelic football team captured their 5th Féile Peile na nÓg title in seven years at a sun drenched St Tiernach's Park in Clones. En route to the final, the boys recorded victories over the host club Bailieborough Shamrocks (Cavan), Magheracloone (Monaghan), NaGaeil (Kerry), Naomh Padraig (Donegal) and Clontarf (Dublin). Going into the final the boys were confident but knew they would have to produce something very special if they were to defeat a very strong and skilful St Gabriel's side from Galway. With 3 minutes remaining on the clock, South London found themselves playing with one player less. More significantly, they were a point behind and desperately trying to stop St Gabriel's from increasing their slender lead. However, the boys have displayed all year that they do not know how to quit. The boys had it ingrained into their brains not to give up if they were behind or let up if they were in front. After some heroic defending from Nathan Donnelly, the boys found an equalising score through the boot of Armani Orji before going in front with a Michael Akala point. It was then St Gabriel's turn to try and rescue the game and they threw everything at the South London team bar the kitchen sink. The pressure on the defence was immense and it was clear that any mistake would be punished by the skilful St

Gabriel's players. St Gabriel's committed almost every player forward to equalise but when the ball was eventually turned-over, south London had the opportunity to counter attack at speed and put the game to bed. Again, man of the match Armani Orji found himself in acres of open space to run into and struck another point to extend the lead to two with only a matter of seconds left to play. It felt like an eternity for the final whistle to sound but when it did there were wild celebrations on the pitch with mentors and players overjoyed. Many years of hard work and dedication paying-off in just one glorious afternoon.

The victorious team consisted of sixteen players from Dulwich Harps, two players from Round Towers and two players from Thomas McCurtain's. The pane of players have worked very hard since the first training session at the end of February. Congratulations to the players, the management team of Michael Donnelly, Ciaran Harrington, Michael Maher and Brian Smyth. We also acknowledge the unstinting support to both the coaches and players from Tim O'Sullivan and Danny O'Donovan throughout the competition.

The South London team were delighted to be joined by Tom Denning, Chair of Dulwich Harps GFC for the competition. It was Tom's vision and

Féile Peile na nÓg Record

2007	Division 5 Quarter Final
2008	Division 5 Final Losers
2009	Division 5 Semi Final
2010	Division 5 Winners
2011	Division 4 Semi Final
2012	Division 4 Quarter Final
2013	Division 4 Winners
2014	Division 3 Winners
2015	Division 4 Semi Final
2016	Division 3 Winners
2017	Division 2 Winners



drive that ensured South London were allowed to enter the Feile for the first time in 2007. Our record over the last seven years has been magnificent!



Enterprise Education

Again, we have had an extremely successful year, raising in the region of £20,000 for a wide variety of charities, organisations and local fund raising initiatives.

These are some of the charities we have been able to support this academic year:

King's College Hospital - £3,000

Anerley Across - £1,000

Sister Ann & her Educational work - £2,000

CAFOD - £395

MIND - £936.45

Children with Cancer - £800

Macmillan Nurses - £1,000

Cancer research UK - £3,000

The Royal Marsden Hospital - £1,000

Weybourne Care Home - £200

Greenwich & Bexley Community

Hospice - £1,000

The Stroke Association - £471-94

The Living Thames - £1,000

Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital - £1,000

During the year, as a school community we have collected on a number of occasions, tinned and packets of food to support our local food bank in Thamesmead.

Any family or individual is given an emergency donation of food, along with basic menus which would last for three days.

We know that our contributions to Thamesmead foodbank makes a massive difference to the lives of many families and residents within our local community.

We have continued to maintain our links with Weybourne Care Home in Finchale Road.

This is a residential home for the elderly, many of whom are suffering from varying degrees of dementia. What residents have enjoyed most is the interaction with our students whilst working in craft-like activity sessions organised throughout the year. It has also been noted that our students gain from these occasions, as they meet people they would not normally engage with and learn of the challenges faced by many of the older generation.

Also throughout the year, we give birthday, Christmas and Easter gifts and cards to all the residents, as many have little family or no family contact.

Another way we have helped support the community is through our recycle initiative, Ditch It & Donate It.

The second Wednesday of every half term students and staff are asked to donate items of clothing, books, shoes, bedsheets and duvet covers for our recycle bin.

Arrangements have been made for any unwanted items to be collected from students as they come into school in the morning from outside the restaurant area. Money raised from our Recycle Bin goes towards our school charities and the Salvation Army.

Raising money for charity requires a great deal of organisation and initiative, and we are constantly looking for new ways to support a variety of charities, as well as raising awareness in our own community.

I would like to thank all members of staff and students for their enthusiasm, time, commitment and generosity, which I can always count on for any fundraising activities and events.

Jack Petchy Award Trip to the O2 Greenwich

Divine Hilary took five of his friends to Nando's and then Cineworld to watch 'The Mummy' in celebration of his achievement. The highlight was when Divine released his inner superhero at the 'Sky Studios Experience'. I think you'll all agree this is the perfect image to remember Divine and his success at SPA.



From left Miss Coombs, C.K, Divine, Kelan, Gemma, Eloise.



Divine at the Sky Studios Experience

Congratulations to **Nana Gyedu** in Year 9, who is currently ranked number 1 in the UK for Shot following a new personal best throw of 13.14 metres at the London Athletics Champs in Battersea on Saturday 10th June.

Nana is now part of Team London and has her sights firmly set on being selected to compete in the Olympics one day – watch this space!!



'Beyond the realms of the classroom'

Vocational Studies at SPA

This academic year a group of ten Year 9 students from St Paul's Academy have started attending offsite vocational provision at Archways Vocational College in Thamesmead. All ten students are currently undertaking a BTEC Level 1 qualification in Motor Mechanics and Bike Maintenance, through which students are working together to build their very own working Go-Carts and Bikes. Students are also undertaking BTEC qualifications in Food Preparation and Technology. In addition to gaining qualifications in Motor Mechanics and Bike Maintenance, students are also pursuing qualifications in Food Preparation and Food Technology. To date, students have received three AQA accredited qualifications which is instilling in them a belief that they can achieve and be successful.

On Wednesday June 22nd, the group attended an off-road testing day in Poles Wood, Essex. The day was run in conjunction with students from Woolwich Poly where they got the

opportunity to test the bikes they have been working on this term. Students were afforded the opportunity to ride in a controlled environment but also apply the skills they have learnt over the past 9 months, carrying out maintenance on their bikes throughout the day.

The importance of Vocational Education has long been stressed by Senior Leadership at SPA. With current government agendas focusing so strongly on making subjects more 'academically demanding', inevitably isolating our less academically inclined students, this project has yet again been a positive step by the school. Such an initiative highlights the total inclusivity of SPA in providing quality, individualised learning for all students and is something we as a school are very proud of.

We hope our Year 9 students continue to enjoy their studies at Archways Vocational College and look forward to continuing to develop our relationship with Archways next year.



MSC Science and Technology Challenge

A group of 10 year 8 students went to Greenwich University to compete in the MCS Science and Technology Challenge. Upon arrival students were split into pairs and teamed up with a pair from another school to create their teams for the day. Teams competed in challenges in fields such as: diagnostic medicine, police profiling and robotics. A team consisting of 2 students from St Paul's Academy and 2 from Woolwich Polytechnic School won overall, with another St Paul's team winning the police profiling challenge.

The winning team will continue on to the all London round of the Science and Technology Challenge."



Feast Day

Once again, the voluntary morning mass was very well attended and the assemblies throughout the day reflected students' achievements, not only in the academic subjects, but in all areas of school life.

The fundraising activities, which occupied the rest of the day, included all the traditional and successful stalls but some new and creative ideas. Students were able to purchase chicken and chips, ice creams, drinks and a selection of fruit smoothies, as well as taking part in stalls including tombola, "sponge the teacher", coconut shy and a photo booth.

For our selected charities, including Grenfell Tower Victims, Cancer Research and MacMillan Nurses, we raised in excess of

£2,700.

I would like to thank all members of our community for their enthusiasm and time during the day.



Cake made by Chelsea Hamshere in Year 8



Students enjoying the fundraising activities on Feast Day

Year 11 Celebration

Year 11 students celebrating the completion of their English course at the Leake Street Graffiti Tunnel. To reward themselves for working so hard this year they organised a reward trip to the IMAX cinema at Waterloo which has the largest screen in the UK. 'It was the last time we were together as a group, so it was great to have such a fun time, the film was great and the sun was glorious.' We wish them all the best of luck in the future and particularly in August when their results come through!



TV Presenter Lorraine Kelly visits St Paul's

On Tuesday 20th June, St. Paul's Academy welcomed special guests to the school to deliver 'Dove Self-Esteem' workshops throughout the day. The morning sessions were delivered to 80 students from Years 7, 8 and 9. The aim of each workshop was to raise awareness of self-esteem and confidence. Each workshop looked at these key areas and by the end of the session, students were able to reflect upon their behaviour and how it can have a significant impact on their use of social media.

The afternoon workshop was led by Lorraine Kelly and Dr Phillippa Diedrichs. Lorraine, as you may know, is a TV presenter who hosts The Morning Show on

ITV. Dr Phillippa is a research psychologist from the University of West England and an expert in this field.

At the end of the workshop, students had the opportunity to ask Lorraine questions about her show and work. Lorraine Kelly praised our Year 7 students, commenting that it was a joy to work with such wonderful children and inspiring to hear their thoughts on self-esteem and social media.

The lasting message was: it is important to remember images of people that we see in all types of media aren't always real and it's unfair to compare ourselves to this media.



Look Ahead and Plan

The LAP (Look Ahead and Plan) event last Friday was a huge success!

The Y9 students who attended were given the opportunity to work with leading organisations in higher education. Students developed their soft skills to support them with the demands of the wider world of work. This was achieved through fostering teamwork, communication and forward thinking!

While the morning session is focused on promotion of concrete skills like team skills and soft skills, the afternoon was geared towards raising aspirations, with a keynote speech that inspired students to consider going forward to university and professional careers. The afternoon also included a panel event with speakers from those professional careers with whom the students interacted with, asking interesting and insightful questions.

The behaviour and participation of the students who attended was exceptional - well done Y9s!



Carol Duffy awarded England Netball: London and South East Netball Teacher of the Year 2017

In 2013, Miss Duffy helped to set up and establish Netball at St Paul's Academy. Each week up to 70 plus girls across Years 7 to 10 participate in regular netball training sessions with Miss Duffy delivering three plus netball training sessions a week for pupils. Acutely aware of the lack of competitive fixtures available for her girls to play and the lack of structure for secondary school Netball in Greenwich, Miss Duffy made it her mission to establish a sustainable league. Miss Duffy's vision was to enhance participation in Netball for all girls in Years 7 to 11 across schools in Greenwich. Miss Duffy aimed to set up a league which would allow girls to engage in regular, competitive netball fixtures, in turn developing the levels of skill and understanding of the games as well as building meaningful and lasting relationships between Greenwich Schools.

Over the last 3 years the Greenwich Schools' Netball League has continued to grow and within the last 12 months has seen the involvement of 8 secondary schools in regular netball fixtures across the borough each week. A further 3 schools to date will also join the league next year. Working closely with staff across all schools, Miss Duffy's passion and enthusiasm for netball has helped to hugely enhance its status and levels of participation throughout Greenwich Borough. Within the last 12 months Miss Duffy has also been working extremely closely with members of Greenwich Borough Sports Development department to help develop netball in Greenwich even further. As a result three Year 9 girls have also been afforded the opportunity to represent Greenwich Borough in the London Youth Games in July at Crystal Palace.

Miss Duffy has been the driving force of Netball in Greenwich and as a result has received this England Netball, London and South East Netball Teacher of the Year Award in recognition of all of her achievements. Well done Miss Duffy, keep up the great work!



St Paul's U14 Girls' visit Donegal

A party of 20 Year 7 – 9 students and 3 staff members, Joe Meade, Joel Weston and Eadaoin Devine travelled to the hills of Donegal for their Annual Girls' Gaelic Football tour in association with Dulwich Harps. With an early departure from St Paul's Academy, the girls were eagerly anticipating their trip to the Glenties.

Upon arrival at Belfast International Airport we were kindly by our Martin Mc Cabe our coach driver for the tour. Our first adventure for the day began at 'We are Vertigo' one of Europe's largest trampolining parks and high ropes activity centres. The girls had a blast as they bounced and hopped their way around the trampolines, for many this was a first time experience and needless to say it was enjoyed by all, staff and students alike. After a quick pit stop, the girls travelled through picturesque country side before arriving at our fabulous host club, Glenties, organised by the current Donegal Ladies Midfielder, Aoife Mc Donnell. Students and teachers rested upon their arrival and got to know their host families and new surroundings.

Friday began with a sightseeing trip round local beaches, Maghera and Narin, taking in some breath taking waterfalls and amazing landscape on the way. Pupils and teachers were in awe of the gorgeous scenery and many selfies were taken along the way! On Friday evening, we took on our host club, Glenties in a friendly. Considering this was our first 15 aside game all year, the St Paul's girls did a fantastic job. The first 10 minutes saw a nervous team start the game, however, come half time the girls had settled in to their stride. Even though the host team were in front, superb performances from Maria Borgues in goal, Sheila Idehen, Chances Mwanbiele and Shana Ajufo kept the dream alive. With 3 goals scored in the second half, the comeback was well and truly on. After a superb display of football from both sides, played with great sportsmanship, the Glenties came out on top. Our girls fought with grit and determination and many spectators commented on their fantastic fitness and skill level. A happy day all round, topped off by an evening of entertainment with our host families, with a visiting Magician to the host club, Glenties! Our girls got involved properly, many up on stage for the evening, amidst the tricks! Well done!

Saturday saw us take on a neighbouring club, Glencolmcille, and after yesterday's performance, our girls were more than up for the game! We started strong and luckily stayed on top throughout! Again, excellent performances were displayed throughout the pitch, however, Tarila Yinfaowei, Faith Shoyomi and Antonia Adu were exceptional on the field of play. A fantastic welcome was had from all the Naomh Columba club, refreshments served in the local village and plenty of time for both teams to interact! It was a busy day, with a guided tour round Slieve League Cliffs, taking in the local sights. It is safe to say our girls had never seen anything

like this before so many thoroughly enjoyed their tour! The evening was finished off with a trip to Waterworld in Bundoran and a trip to the amusements- no better way to end a fantastic day!

On Sunday morning, we made the journey to Termon, another local club within the beautiful Donegal hills. We found ourselves up against a very experienced team indeed, consisting of some very skilful Donegal county players. The opposition were amazed at some of the saves made from our Brazilian goalkeeper, Maria Borgues who only took up the game of Gaelic football a few months previous to the trip. They also commented on our mid field duo and our hard work ethic all-round the pitch. Our team put up a strong battle, however, there was no debating the fact Termon were too strong for the St Paul's Academy girls. We were extremely gracious in defeat and after light refreshments in the club house, we stayed to cheer on the Termon Senior Ladies team play St Nall's in a league game for the afternoon. A fantastic morning, with another very welcoming club.

Luckily, a short journey from Termon brought us to the scenic area of the Glenveagh National Park. Here, we rented bikes for the afternoon

and cycled 8km around the lake and through to Glenveagh Castle. The weather conditions were ideal as we cycled our way up the hilly pathway taking in the delightful scenery around us. A fantastic experience for all the group, even our bus man joined in on the antics! On Sunday evening, we had a catch up with our Glenties families and had an evening of fun and laughter in the local sports hall. Faith Shoyomi entertained the crowd with a rap she had composed about her stay in Ireland – this certainly went down a treat for the locals!! We presented our host club with a plaque to show our thanks and appreciation for all their hard work, effort and generosity throughout the trip. It is safe to say a new friendship and bond has been formed with the Glenties and St Paul's Academy.

Massive thanks must go to all the host families, (Rosaleen Doherty, Orlagh Regan, Imelda Gallagher, Maria MacInnes, Teresa McDonnell, just to name a few) who gave up their time so generously, shared their homes and treated us like royalty on our stay! We are forever grateful and have made memories which will last a lifetime! Many thanks to Bernadette and Brendan Devine who came to visit the girls numerous times throughout the trip, supplying endless goodies and treats, you are too kind! Special

thanks to Berndadette Carr and Terence Cunnea from Glencolmcille for their help organising fixtures, Kieran Gallagher from Termon in the run up to the trip, but in particular Aoife Mc Donnell, who instigated, arranged and planned the accommodation, solely on your side, we are really grateful!

Many thanks to Pat Winston, for his unwavering support each and every year in the run up to the tour, we are very grateful. The trip would not have been a success without the fantastic help of our coaches, from setting up warm ups, organising equipment and providing lots of laughs along the way.

The girls have had an unbelievable experience, action packed from start to finish. It has been a learning curve in many ways, a new cultural experience for many but most importantly we have formed many new friendships along the way. The girls have been an absolute joy to work with, committed, driven, dedicated and have shown massive improvement from the beginning of the year. Each club we visited commented on their superb behaviour and attitude both on and off the pitch. Well done St Paul's Academy, you have been fantastic ambassadors for the school and club!





SportInspired Festival 2017 Greenwich Active Learning Programme

Working in collaboration with the charity organisation SportInspired, Friday 12th May saw St Paul's Academy host the **2017 SportInspired Festival** once again. This festival was in aid of national 'Give and Gain Week' and supported by Lloyds Banking Group who sent along 60 of their employees to volunteer at the event. This event was specifically targeted towards those pupils in Years 3 to 8 within the Greenwich Borough who have a special educational need. The aim of the festival was to help instil a love of sport and physical activity in these pupils who may not ordinarily be given the opportunity to engage in such activities as often as they would like.

Utilising our top-class sporting facilities at St Paul's we were able to deliver 6 different physical activity sessions for our 150 plus students in Years 3 to 8 who attended the festival. The children had the opportunity to experience a range of new and engaging activities which included Tri-Golf, Boccia, New Age Kurling, Dodgeball, Athletics, Dance and Polybat. Participation in what were new sporting activities for a number of the students will hopefully help to further encourage students to continue participation in sport and physical activity in the future.

The enjoyment felt by each of the students who participated in the festival was clearly evident to see throughout the duration of the day. Pupils enjoyed learning new skills, making new friends as well as getting the opportunity to work alongside

our numerous Lloyds Bank volunteers and Sports Leaders. **Thomas, a Year 7 student** from St Paul's Academy said:

'I don't usually like sports but today has been really fun. My favourite sport was the New Age Kurling.'

One of the greatest highlights of the day was the unbelievable work carried out by each and every one of the 40 St Paul's Academy Sports Leaders throughout the entire duration of the day. All of the external companies who were in school as well as all of the other staff from our neighbouring schools who attended the event simply could not praise our Sports Leaders highly enough. One Lloyds Bank employee commented saying,

'It was excellent, everyone was great and I was really impressed with the Sports Leaders.'

It is definitely safe to say that our young leaders more than stepped up to the mark, were true leaders in every sense of the word and were simply awesome across the board! This is testament to the hard work and dedication shown by our sports leaders over the last number of months working extremely hard to prepare themselves for this event. As well as ensuring that all of the kids participating in the event had an enjoyable day, all of our Sports Leaders have gained immensely from the event which is something we also set out to ensure. All of the Sports Leaders notably grew in confidence as the day progressed as well as enhancing their

leadership, teamwork and communication skills to name but a few. One motto which our Sports Leaders believe in at St Paul's is that 'Great leaders don't create followers, they create more leaders' and leaders in their own right is exactly what our students became on the day. Providing our students with such valuable and worthwhile opportunities is crucial to ensuring their holistic development.

Reflecting on their experiences of the festival, our **SPA Sports Leaders** expressed how during the day there was 'a great aura around the room' **(Verona, Year 11)**

'This event has really taught me how to be a leader. It has been character building'
(Michael, Year 9).

'The kids are very enthusiastic and inspirational'
(Dan, Year 11).

'Today has been a joyous day and I never thought I would meet such wonderful young people'
(Nana, Year 9).

'It's great to see that my efforts are making people happy, the day is really coming together'
(Stephen, Year 11).

Students who participated in the event from schools throughout the Borough of Greenwich also liked how they got the chance to work as a team and learn to play new sports on the day. One **Greenwich primary school teacher** commenting on their overall experience of the festival said:

'Thank you so much for inviting our school to take part in the festival, the children absolutely loved it and it was organised perfectly! The best school sport event I have ever been to! The team you had were amazing and so supportive of the children the whole time. Just a fantastic day and one they will remember. Thanks again, already looking forward to next year!'

Taking the opportunity to come along and see our festival on the day, our Vice Principal, Ms Malone commented:

'It's just fantastic! Listening you can just hear the sound of pure joy around. So many people helping too. I look at these volunteers (Sports Leaders) and I mean they look like members of staff!'

Such positive feedback simply reflects the overwhelming success of the day which was visibly enjoyed by all parties involved, be that pupils, staff or volunteers. As a school, St Paul's would like to thank SportInspired for their continued help and support, our numerous sports providers who assisted in the delivery of our many sports, all of the Greenwich schools who participated on the day as well as all the employees from Lloyds Bank who helped to make the day truly memorable.

We look forward to continuing to build upon such positive working relationships as well as ensuring that a legacy for inclusive engagement in sport and physical activity for all is achieved. An event such as the SportInspired Festival simply illustrates the power of sport!



SPA Netballers

record most successful season to date

With the level of talent among our SPA netballers on the rise as each season passes, this year saw our four teams across Years 7 to 10 collectively record our most successful netball season to date. Out of a possible 7 trophies up for grabs across all Greenwich School's competitions, St Paul's Academy netball teams have managed to secure 5 of those; a truly remarkable achievement.



Year 7

Our Year 7's have continued to grow and develop as the season has progressed. This season our strong squad of talented players have recorded wins over Eltham Hill, St Thomas More, Thomas Tallis, The John Roan, St Mary Magdalene and Harris Academy Greenwich in both league and tournament competitions. Commitment and hard work during all training sessions has ensured that the girls have built a strong working relationship and team ethos. Such qualities have helped all of the girls develop their individual skill levels as well as their ability to successfully gel as a team. Our Year 7 team finished runners-up in the London Youth Games qualifying tournament, where they suffered a narrow defeat to Blackheath High School. This is something which the girls are working extremely hard on ensuring doesn't happen again next season! In their first season representing SPA, the girls have also competed in the U12 Kent Netball competition where they performed exceptionally well. To round off a magnificent season, our Year 7 girls were crowned Greenwich Schools' Netball League and Tournament Champions! Well done girls on a fantastic start to your St Paul's Academy Netball careers. We look forward to hearing about many more successes in the future.

Year 8

Our Year 8 Netball team got their season off to a great start, recording convincing wins over Thomas Tallis (10-1) and The Joan Roan (14-0) in the Greenwich Schools' League competition. Continuing to develop and noticeably grow in confidence as the season progressed, our Year 8 team competed in the U13 Kent Schools Competition. Unfortunately losing some key players at crucial points during the season meant that the girls suffered uncharacteristic defeats to Eltham Hill and Blackheath High School. As a result the girls finished runners-up in their league competition, missing out on being crowned champions to Eltham Hill by a single point! The girls have shown great team spirit and determination in setting themselves a goal of winning both the league and tournament next season. We wish them good luck and are confident that as a team they will achieve their goal.

Year 9

Following extremely successful seasons in both Year 7 and 8, our Year 9 Netball team entered this season quietly confident of scooping up some trophies. Building upon the tremendous amount of hard work put in place during previous seasons, the

girls got their season off to a flying start recording a 23 – 5 win over Thomas Tallis and a 29 – 0 victory over The John Roan. Continuing to develop strong and slick set plays which seamlessly outwit their opponents have been a pleasure to witness and is testament to this hardworking and determined team. With strengths across all areas of the court, over the last 3 years the girls have used their physical talents combined with their magnificent team spirit and work ethic to develop into a team who have proved extremely hard to beat within the Greenwich Borough. With more schools such as Blackheath High School and Harris Academy Greenwich joining the league this year it provided the girls with some healthy competition. This resulted in the girls working even harder and developing an even stronger will to win. Finishing off their season the girls have once again remained undefeated within the Greenwich Borough for the third year in a row!; a truly outstanding achievement. In all league matches this season the girls have scored an impressive 85 goals and conceded a mere 9!

6 girls, along with 3 Year 7 and 3 Year 8 players have also been selected to train as part of the Greenwich Netball Squad in preparation for the London Youth Games at Crystal Palace in July. We wish all the girls good luck during the final selection process.

Year 10

Our Year 10 team is small in numbers but mighty in effort and team spirit. With a desire to perform to the best of their ability and represent SPA with pride, with the assistance of some Year 9 players our Year 10 team did just that. This season the girls have recorded victories over Eltham Hill and The John Roan. To top off a truly remarkable season, in their final league fixture the girls recorded an historic victory over Blackheath High School to be crowned Greenwich Schools' Netball League Champions. This is a feat which no SPA team has ever managed and one which we are very proud of! Well done girls, we are extremely proud of your achievements. Keep up the great work as you enter Year 11 and your final season at SPA.

Final congratulations must also go to our Year 10 player, Tareh who this year received a Jack Petchey Achievement Award in recognition of her dedication to netball over the course of the last number of seasons; both as a player and a volunteer. Tareh has used her Jack Petchey Award prizemoney to help purchase a much needed new netball kit for our teams across Years 7 to 10. To reward all of the girls for their hard work and commitment to netball throughout the season, the girls are looking forward to enjoying a team meal before breaking up for the summer holidays. Well done girls on a tremendous season and we look forward to hearing about many more successes in your future sporting endeavours.



Netball teams 2016 - 17

Charlton Athletic Community Trust Raising the Bar Project

Charlton Athletic Community Trust (CACT) have been running a Raising the Bar programme alongside the University of Greenwich to raise students aspirations of attending university once they leave school. The programme was run with a group of 14 Year 10 vCert Sport students at St Paul's Academy over the course of ten weeks. To mark the end of the project students were afforded the opportunity to attend the University of Greenwich, Medway Campus to experience university life first hand.



Miss Duffy, PE Teacher at St. Paul's Academy said "Following participation in CACT's, through visiting the University of Greenwich students were able to gain insight into the university's Sports Science course, speak with current students about their university experience as well as engage in practical sports science workshops and fitness testing."

"Being afforded such an opportunity has been a fantastic and invaluable experience for our students. It has enabled them to experience third level education first hand and as a result helped to raise their own personal aspirations and levels of motivation."

"Students were able to put the theory they have been learning as a result of their own current course of study into practice which has made their learning much more relevant and vocational based."

"This is fantastic to see and an experience that I as a teacher am very grateful that my students have been afforded. Such experiences simply illustrate the significant impact that extended learning opportunities beyond the realms of the classroom can have for students."

The day was a success with Year 10 student Jesil, saying "I hadn't thought much about university before today but after this trip I definitely want to go to university and would like to become a physiotherapist."

Due to the success of this initiative we very much hope to continue to build upon our successful working relationship with CACT in delivering this programme to many more cohorts of students during subsequent academic years.

Sporting Success

The summer season for the 2016-17 academic year has seen success after success for the students of St Paul's. Back in May, the annual Cambridge Cup, held at Sutcliffe Park, was won by all of our teams. Both the Year 7 and 8 boys' and girls' athletics teams were victorious over Thomas Tallis, Colfes, Blackheath High, Corelli College, Eltham College and Eltham Hill, seeing 1st place finishes in 100m, 200m, relay, 800m, Long Jump and Shot.

Following on from this, students in Years 7 - 9 trialled for the Greenwich Borough athletics team. From the twenty pupils that attended the trials, sixteen were chosen to attend the Year 7 & 8 London Schools Athletics Championships at Mile End on Tuesday 13th June. On the day, we had lots of success with first place finishes in 100m Girls' final by Marian Owusuwaah and 100m Boys' final by Prince Mulamba, as well as firsts in Year 7 boys, Year 8 boys and Year 8 girls' relays.

For the main London Schools Athletics Championships at Battersea on Saturday 10th June, eight students were selected to represent Greenwich Borough. Marian

Owusuwaah for 100m, Rebecca Maddy for 200m, Grace Mbakam-Nitcheu for High Jump, Nana Gyedu for Shot and Discus, Atta Gyedu for 200m, Shay Francois for Long Jump, Prince Mulamba for 100m and Tunde Ajidagba for Shot. All of the students were outstanding ambassadors for the school and the borough on the day, and overall as a team Greenwich Borough placed second in London, which is a fantastic achievement! As a result of their phenomenal performances on the day, four of these students were selected to represent London at the upcoming English Schools' Athletics Championships held in Gateshead, Birmingham. Nana, Tunde, Atta and Prince will travel to Birmingham on Friday 7th July for the weekend with the team - we wish them every success in their events.

The final competition of the summer season will be on Monday 3rd July, where the Year 7, 8 & 9 girls' athletics teams will go up against local schools from the borough of Greenwich at Erith Stadium. We hope that we can repeat the success of last year and bring home some more trophies!!

Another fantastic summer of athletics for the students - well done to all those involved!



Wanted: a sponsor for our Sports Teams

If you can help, please
contact Ozan Akif:
Assistant Principal

ozan.akif@stpauls.greenwich.sch.uk



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TERM & HOLIDAY DATES 2017 - 2018

Autumn Term

Tuesday, 5th September

(Year 7 only return)

Wednesday, 6th September

(Year 8 - 11 return)

Friday, 22nd December

Autumn Half Term

Monday, 23rd October

Friday, 27th October

Spring Term

Monday, 8th January

Wednesday, 28th March

Spring Half Term

Monday, 12th February

Friday, 16th February

Summer Term

Monday, 16th April

Friday, 20th July

Summer Half Term

Monday, 28th May

Friday, 1st June

**CHARITY
MONEY RAISED**
Since becoming an
Academy we have raised in
excess of
£175,000
for a variety of different
Charities and
Organisations

Ditch it & Donate it Day Wednesday 13th Sept.

All students and staff are asked to donate items of clothing, boots, & shoes, coats, handbags, bedsheets and duvet covers for our recycle bin.

Items will be collected from students as they come into school, outside the Restaurant Area.

Please ensure that your items are in good repair and clean.



The Salvation Army