

**St Paul's**  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

# Sixth Form Annual *Report*



## View from the Headteacher



Dear Parents/Carers

I am delighted to introduce this year's Sixth Form annual report. The Sixth Form provision at St Paul's is exceptional. Our Post 16 students represent the very best of our school values and they continuously strive to do the very best that is possible. Their individual and collective

passion and dedication demonstrates a real commitment to themselves as learners and to our school community. Each student within our Sixth Form clearly has a thirst for learning that I hope will stay with them beyond their time at

St Paul's. Our Sixth Form students demonstrate the values of servant leadership on a daily basis and present themselves as exceptional role models for our younger students to emulate. I hope that you enjoy reading about some of the fantastic ways that our Sixth Form have contributed to the rich and diverse community of St Paul's.

**Jo-Anne Hoarty**  
Headteacher

Please check our website [www.st-pauls.org.uk](http://www.st-pauls.org.uk) for news and information about our Sixth Form. Keep in touch through social media. We're on **Facebook/stpaulsmk**, **X/stpauls\_mk**, **Linkedin** and **YouTube** (search for St Paul's Catholic School Milton Keynes for both)



# Celebrating

## St Paul's students celebrate excellent A level and vocational exam results

St Paul's Catholic School is delighted to report some excellent achievements by its students in their A levels and vocational qualifications this summer. Students are going on to study a range of subjects leading to careers in areas including Product Design, Law, Biomedical Science, Psychology and Counselling, Fashion and Retail, Business Information Systems, Cyber Security, Midwifery, Automotive Engineering, Children's Nursing, Civil Engineering, the Police Service and the British Armed Forces.

Precious Boateng, who achieved A\* in Art, A in Sociology and B in Product Design and will be studying Product Design at the University of the Arts in London.

Caitlin Jordan, who gained A\* in her EPQ, A in History and Bs in Politics and Religious Studies. Caitlin is going to the University of Warwick to study Politics, Philosophy and Law.

Alice Richardson, who has gained As in Chemistry, History and Mathematics. Alice is going to study Politics, Philosophy and Economics at the University of Warwick.

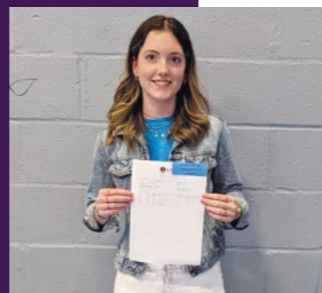
Hannah Smith who has gained an A\*, A and B and will be going to study languages at University.

Esdras Dazogbo, who is hoping to pursue a future in Medicine having gained As in Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics.

Jo-Anne Hoarty said: "We are immensely proud of all the work and achievements of our students, especially after such a difficult and disrupted few years. Our teachers have worked tirelessly to ensure students are all able to progress onto further education and study, and we look forward to seeing what they will achieve in the future. Congratulations to all our Sixth Form students this year."

Daniels Akula who is going to the University of Warwick to study Mechanical Engineering having gained A\*s in Mathematics and Design & Technology Design Engineering and As in Physics and Further Mathematics.

Tobi Aladesiun, who received As in English Literature, Mathematics and Chemistry and is going to study English at the University of Bristol.



## St Paul's Duke of Edinburgh team attend gold award celebration



Mrs Berry and Mrs Gouldsbrough from St Paul's Duke of Edinburgh team, along with former students Cat and Emma, attended a Gold Award celebration event at Buckingham Palace on Friday 19th May.

The event was one of the first His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh had hosted as the charity's patron. The Duke congratulated attendees in a speech and former England Lioness, Jill Scott MBE, also attended and gave a speech.

Our team reported back that it was a brilliant event and a proud day for St Paul's!

## Fashion and Photography students collaborate on photoshoot

Sixth Form students studying A Level Fashion and Textiles and A level Photography collaborated on an exciting photoshoot.

The Textiles students were able to model the outfits they had designed and created, whilst Photography students ran their own studio style photoshoot giving the models directions and considering lighting etc. Fashion students took their inspiration from designers including Stella McCartney, Dior, Iris Van Herpen, Rick Owens and Alexander Wang. There were some amazing, intricate garments being modelled and it was great to see the students work together with such high levels of energy and creativity



## Saying goodbye to Year 13 with a farewell barbecue

Before they began study leave we celebrated Year 13's hard work and achievements with a farewell barbecue. Teaching staff cooked and served the food and the Year 13 team decorated the Maureen Grant room and arranged for a celebration cake. The barbecue was a brilliant event and we enjoyed having the opportunity to wish Year 13 well with their exams and their exciting future plans.



## Precious wins national tech competition

Well done to Precious Boateng who won a national competition 'Techgirl', for her insightful report on how technology can be used to improve schools and education.

She was invited to a reception at Tottenham Hotspur's Football Stadium, in London, where she had the opportunity to discuss her ideas alongside international technology leaders who came together to talk about some of the most important challenges facing society today.

Leading female business mentors offered career advice and took part in a recorded interview with winners (after the winners received training from a top TV presenter). A work experience opportunity in technology was also offered to help winners kickstart their career in technology.



## Onesie day for Endometriosis UK

Year 12 students held a onesie day in support of their chosen Lent charity, Endometriosis UK. It's wonderful to see the creative ways our students apply themselves to fundraising activities.

## Helping Year 11 with study session

**Sixth Form students took on the role of study supervisors to give support to Year 11 with after school study sessions.**

The sessions were well attended with as many as 55 students at a time in attendance. One of our Year 11 students commented: "They were really helpful and I understood loads of stuff that they helped me with." Well done to Year 11 for taking up this fantastic opportunity and thank you to our Sixth Form study supervisors for providing this support.



## Year 12 get a taste of life at Trinity College, Oxford

In January a group of Year 12 students spent the day together in Oxford with Mrs Albone. They started the day with a tour of the Western Bodleian library where they saw many ancient books, conservation work and an Oxford University seminar on the History of Diplomacy taking place. They then had an interactive session in the Tutankhamun: Excavating the Archive exhibition which was fascinating.



Following this the students walked to Trinity College where they had tours of the college, sessions introducing the students to the university admissions process and question and answer sessions with undergraduate students.

Two former St Paul's students also joined them for part of the day, Sarafina who is studying Medicine and Isobel who is studying Spanish at Oxford, and were very helpful in answering questions. The group was also treated to lunch in Trinity College (although sadly their beautiful medieval dining hall was closed for renovation!).

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Mrs Albone said: "I would like to thank the staff and students who gave up their time to welcome us and give us such an insightful and enjoyable day."

## Criminology students become anti-violence ambassadors



Year 12 Criminology students have become Anti-Violence Ambassadors as part of an initiative from MK Dons SET to make a stand against knife crime. They were proud to receive their certificates showing that they are official ambassadors.

The students had the opportunity to visit the Knife Angel at Stadium MK and it was a moving and thought provoking experience for them.

MK Dons SET is working with community organisations and schools to provide education and engagement workshops around the Knife Angel sculpture to encourage young people to become anti-violence ambassadors and spread the word about keeping safe.

# Jadesola conducts research to help promote music industry careers

**It's always a pleasure to welcome back former students to the school. We were delighted to see Jadesola Omole who is doing some research for her Masters thesis at the Academy of Contemporary Music.**

She's been talking to students, our Head of Music, our Careers Coordinator and our Head of Careers about how we might redesign the interaction process between guidance councillors and Sixth Form students to promote careers in the music industry.

In addition to her studies, Jadesola is a singer/songwriter and her debut EP 'Seasons of Love' is out now. In fact, her songwriting talents have been recognised and she has just signed with a music publisher.

She is passionate about spreading the word about the rich variety of careers that are available within the music industry and we welcomed her insights and look forward to feeding this knowledge into our careers programme.



## Bumper donations for Winter Night Shelter MK



**Our wonderful community has pulled together once again to make it a bumper year of donations to our Winter Night Shelter shoebox appeal.**

We'd like to say a special thank you to our Sixth Form students for their hard work in getting the shoeboxes together. This year the shelter sent a van to collect our donations as in previous years we have had so many that they cannot fit them in one car and have to do several trips. The back of the van as well as seating inside was filled with our donations and Russell from the Night Shelter commented that we are the best school in MK for our shoeboxes and is very grateful for all we do to support.

Another brilliant effort from the caring and generous St Paul's community.

## Celebrating our Sixth Form ambassadors

**Our Sixth Form ambassadors make such a big contribution to school life.**

They volunteer at events such as award ceremonies and open evenings, help out generally around the school and serve as great role models for Years 7 to 11. To celebrate their commitment we held a special breakfast and presented them with certificates of recognition.



## Serving up tasty cakes for the coronation bake off

Our Year 12 students got into the Coronation spirit by entering some excellent cakes into our Grand Coronation Bake Off competition. The Year 12 entries were tasted and judged by Year Leader, Mrs Shepherd, and Chaplaincy and Pastoral Leader, Mrs Robinson, who took this duty very seriously. The Year Group winner was Kai Dodimead.

Afterwards the cakes were sliced and sold to raise funds for our Coronation charity, NAWT Bedfordshire. It was a fantastic effort from all our bakers and we're grateful to all the students and staff who participated so enthusiastically.



## Joanna shares her experience of Swansea University



**Former St Paul's student, Joanna Wnekowicz, came to speak to the Year 12 politics students about her experience at Swansea University. Joanna is currently studying International Relations and American Studies.**

She shared advice with the students about how to be successful and get involved at university from the beginning. Joanna appreciatively spoke about how her education in A level Politics and GCSE History at St. Paul's has influenced her to now pursue a career in diplomacy.

Joanna also spoke about joining the American Society at Swansea and how they travelled to eight American states. She told the students how what they are learning in Politics plays out in America as she was even able to visit the Georgia State Senate and witness a filibuster on the Senate floor. Ms Markatos and Mr Woodward are so incredibly proud of her and are very pleased that she came back to St Paul's to encourage and share her experience with our students. We know that she will be successful and wish her the very best in the future.

# EPQ students explore fascinating subjects

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Ellis Ocano, who plans to study Biomedical Engineering at university, chose to do an EPQ on 3D printing a prosthetic limb. For her research Ellis was fortunate to meet twice with Professor Kawal Rhode, Professor in Biomechanical Engineering at King's College London, and was able to do a trial print of her prosthetic limb there.

She also spoke to an amputee about the physical and psychological aspects of wearing a prosthetic limb, gaining a very useful insight into the subject. Ellis found that having to combine a lot of difficult information to understand her research helped put her ahead for university. She also felt that having to meet tough deadlines proved to be good discipline for time management.

For Lola Amner, who wants to study Operation Department Practice (organising and running surgeries), her chosen EPQ topic psychosocial predicts was very useful when it came to her university interviews and helping her to think

about a career in medicine. She enjoyed doing online research, reading a book by renowned psychoanalyst Erik Erikson and taking on the challenge of writing her 5000 word essay.

Nikola Szymanska hopes to study Criminology at university and her EPQ meant that she could choose a topic that really informed her future studies and ultimate career dream of being a solicitor or barrister.

Her EPQ subject was Madeleine McCann and she looked into the many different, often controversial, theories surrounding Madeleine's disappearance. Her research included reading Kate McCann's book as she wanted to understand the mother's viewpoint and to find out about the family dynamic. She read many historic articles and found they were based on hearsay and speculation rather than fact. At first Nikola found writing the 5000 word essay daunting but she just wanted to keep writing and, in the end, had to edit and cut down her piece. Nikola felt the essay prepared her for her dissertation and she found it good practice and helpful for university.



## Tristan excels in karate championships

Congratulations to our Sixth Form student Tristan (pictured second right) who took part in the English Goju-Ryu-do Karate Association (EGKA) Regional Championships 2023 and became the Regional Champion for both Unison Kata and Kumite (individual fight).

A few years ago Tristan was the National Champion for Unison Kata so it's great to see his winning streak continuing.

Well done Tristan.



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