



Principal's Welcome

Newsletter

September 2022

Welcome to the start of a new academic year at St Mary's.

A very warm welcome to our newest students entering year 12. Sixth form is a very exciting new chapter, where you will gain independence and it will also help to shape you for the future. I very much look forward to welcoming you to our wonderful sixth form.

As year 13 returns they face the challenge of entering their final year and ensuring that they are in a strong position for the 2023 exam series. To our former students, I am immensely proud of your hard work and achievements. A great many of you are headed to your chosen university to continue your educational and personal journey.

The sixth form team have worked extensively to develop the educational provision and pastoral support for this year. As always, our success is dependent on teamwork between the school, parents and the students. In this spirit I ask you to keep in touch with the teaching staff as we strive to help our students achieve their best possible outcome at this critical stage of their education.

I hope that you enjoy reading our first newsletter of this academic year seeing what we have been up to here at St. Mary's.

Ms Crampton
CTK St Mary's Principal



Chaplaincy Thought

We begin the new year with faith, hope and love as we seek to live out our mission to bring the life of Christ to all in our sixth form community. The Chaplaincy team consists of Deacon Elderfield at Emmanuel, Mrs O'Sullivan at Aquinas and Miss Katama at St Marys. Together under the leadership of Mr Oladimeji, the Director of Catholic Education and Community, we work to build the Catholic ethos by providing opportunities for meeting, reflection and prayer.

Each site's Chaplaincy base consists of a Chaplaincy common room, a Chapel and multi-faith prayer room. A center for spiritual care, the team accompany students and staff by offering a listening ear, collaborating on charitable activities and organising the weekly mass and other services or celebrations throughout the year.

Last academic year included the successful Christmas toy appeals, and at Easter, the Easter egg appeal. All items donated were distributed through partners in the local communities for children and families in need. Celebrations to mark the patronal feast of Christ the King involved our students in the Gospel Choir. In support of our diverse community, we marked Eid with our Muslim community in the Chaplaincy.



Moments for special prayer included praying for the people of Ukraine, remembering the passing of students and staff and giving blessings during the exam period. Finally, opportunities for retreat included a staff away day to visit the Benedictine community of Sisters, Minster Abbey, Ramsgate.

We look forward to what the new academic year will bring us. We continue moving forward rooted in Christ the King of the Universe, trusting in His constant care and presence amongst us.

God bless you this coming academic year!

Results Day

Almost 1000 students at Christ the King Sixth Forms (CTK) are celebrating record successes in both A Level and BTEC qualifications with another great year of results and prestigious university destinations. 90% of CTK St Mary's students progressed onto study in Higher Education.

Despite the challenges created by the COVID pandemic, students have shown resilience and determination to land top grades and university places.



Tony | A* - Maths / A - Further Maths /
A* - Physics / B - Art
Engineering at Oxford University

Owen | A - Psychology / A - Maths / B - Biology
Psychology at Royal Holloway University

Lauren | A - Sociology / A - Business /
B - Psychology
Accounting & Finance at Birmingham University

Oscar | A - Religious Studies / B - Law / B - Biology
Law at Kent University

Lucu | A - Physical Education / B - Sociology /
B - Psychology
Physiotherapy at University of Essex

Wuraola | A - Psychology / B - Biology /
B - Chemistry
Physics at Nottingham University

Ryan | B - English Literature / B - History /
B - Media
Politics, History and Media at City University

Charles | B - Business / B - Biology / B - Chemistry
Biochemistry at Manchester University

Michaela | B - Sociology / B - Psychology / B - Law
Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences at Cambridge University

Jordan | A - Maths / B - Business /
C - English Literature
Pharmacy at Medway School of Pharmacy

Tadiwa | A - Sociology / B - Business /
C - English Literature
Business Management at Coventry University

Naomi | A - Psychology / B - Biology /
C - Chemistry
Biomedical Sciences at Birmingham City University

Marian | A - Sociology / B - Psychology /
C - Physical Education
Physiotherapy at University of Wolverhampton

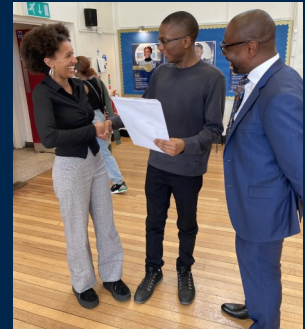
Heritage | A - Maths / B - Physics / C - Graphics
Mechanical Engineering at Loughborough University

Adeola | A - Sociology / A - Religious Studies / C - Psychology
Social Work at York University

Myah-Sheree | A - Sociology / B - Media /
C - Business
Business Management and Leadership at the University of Greenwich



Well done to all of our students on their fantastic results!



**HRH Queen
Elizabeth II
1926-2022**



Following the passing of HRH Queen Elizabeth II, our students have been paying tribute and signing a book of condolence.

We think of HRH Queen Elizabeth and her long period of selfless service, fulfilling her duty with excellence for 70 years. Similarly, we give thanks for King Charles III and his time to reign in these days.

Margaret Nunes Retirement

Margaret Nunes, a long-standing and much-loved member of our local Catholic community retired after 47 years of service at Christ the King Sixth Forms. As Senior Lead for ALS, Catering, Estates and Security, Margaret will be remembered by many staff, students and the wider community as a warm, happy and reassuring member of staff. Margaret worked at St Theresa's Convent School in, Lewisham for 17 years and remained on the staff when the school transformed into Christ the King Sixth Form College in 1992. Over 100 people including family, friends and staff (both present and past) attended her retirement celebrations, held at CTK Emmanuel.



In a service that was led by Father Doug Ball, Executive Principal Shireen Razey thanked Margaret for her long-standing commitment to the CTK Community, saying "Margaret has served CTK since its creation in 1992. Margaret's love for our community, our staff and our students shines brightly in all she does and is evident to everyone she meets. Margaret's legacy is woven deeply into the fabric of CTK."

Annual Staff Conference



CTK was delighted to welcome experts from the field of technology to lead and facilitate our annual staff conference which focussed on our digital strategy and how digital working has the potential to positively impact on the way we work at CTK.

Andrew Grill - Futurist Speaker, Technology Trends Expert, and Strategic Board Level Advisor, **Dr Martin Compton**, SFHEA - Associate Professor (Teaching UCL), **Dr Joanna Stroud** - Head of Online

Learning UCL, and **Andrew McFadyen** - FE skills senior consultant, gave a broad view of the digital world, an outline of the impact of technology and how digital ways of working can improve teaching and learning.

Staff have developed creative and innovative approaches to using technology through the pandemic and the conference provided an opportunity for them to share and develop ideas on how to benefit all members of the CTK community moving forward. The conference provided a fantastic opportunity for our staff to work with experts and take part in a range of activities and breakout sessions. We are looking forward to putting our learning and ideas into practice in the coming year.

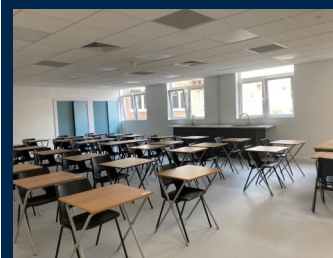
Simon Spearman Centre Principal, CTK Emmanuel said "It was wonderful to invite technology and pedagogy experts to speak at our staff digital conference this week. We are excited by the opportunities the digital world offers our students, and we want to build our expertise, so that CTK students' progress onto university and the job market with a confidence in their digital skills that sets them apart."



New Facilities



We are really excited that, after a summer of building work, our new canteen, reception area and classrooms are now complete and ready for students to use. Our fantastic new careers and progression hub will be opening later this month.



Open Day

Find out more about CTK at one of our upcoming Open Events [here](#)

9.30am – 1.00pm

CTK Aquinas -
5th November

CTK St. Marys -
12th November

CTK Emmanuel -
19th November

College Prayer



As members of the Christ the King Sixth Forms family we ask for your continued blessing upon our work and study.

You are the source of all truth and wisdom.

May we experience in full the Life that you offer us each day, to become the best that we can be.

Let no distractions or fears prevent us from trusting in your endless care for us.

Shine your Light into our lives that we may become brighter beacons of faith, hope and love in our community.

We make this prayer through Christ the Lord.

Amen.

Eco-Schools Green Flag Award!

Christ the King has earned an international accreditation recognising their amazing work in making their college more environmentally friendly and raising eco-awareness.

The work led by Alison Murphy, Assistant Principal with strategic responsibility for environment and sustainability, involved students in conducting an environmental review, assessing the college's recycling practices, energy usage, and how environmental themes are covered in classrooms. Building on their findings, the students planned a year of activities to improve the college's green credentials focussing on clean water, bio-diversity and school grounds. Eco-Schools is an international education programme that involves young people in taking action to improve sustainability and climate change.

The Award was also supported by Thames Water who provided teacher training and funds towards the application process.



Students completed their planned activities including recording and publishing our carbon emissions data quarterly, boiler replacement, with educational talks for our learners and SMART water visits from Thames Water

that enabled us to save 11,700 litres of water a day.



Students also continued with environmental initiatives to increase biodiversity, creating a wild meadow, planting to increase habitats for pollinators and foragers, maintaining our living roof system, and installation of bat boxes, nest boxes and insect houses.



At the Emmanuel site students established a small apiary and next year we will run a project with the students called the 'Wonder of Bees'. Students also created a community garden and our Gardening

Club run "sensory sessions" for our students and our local nursery school.

The College works closely with the Lewisham Biodiversity Board who also supported us.

Kenneth White Award



CTK Emmanuel successfully applied for a Kenneth White Award for a small project with a focus on bees. The College has already set up of two beehives on site with a view to establishing a colony of bees and enabling students to connect with the natural world and promoting sustainability and biodiversity.

The next step is to involve more students in this project, enabling them to discover the life cycle of the bees, and their role in the wider ecosystem. The funding received will enable us to purchase six bee suits for students to wear when they are taking part in the project. We hope to encompass many areas of the curriculum with this project as it gets more established.