

# LIVING OUT OUR FAITH

Dear St Mark's Community,

As we reach the end of another academic year, it is wonderful to reflect on our special community and celebrate our students' many successes. We promote 'Everyday Excellence' at St Mark's, and whilst academic achievement is essential to equipping our students for the future, I am also incredibly grateful to our exceptional staff for providing so many activities, trips, and enrichment opportunities. The past half-term has been our busiest yet, and our students have truly lived out their faith in so many ways.

Here are just a few of our recent highlights:

## Curriculum Highlights & Trips

- **Technology Reading Chair Project:** Our Year 12 A-level Product Design students proudly presented the outcomes of this year's Year 5 Reading Chair Project. Collaborating throughout the design process, pupils from St Michael's and St Martin's Primary Schools visited our library to test, evaluate, and see their design ideas brought to life.
- **Geography Field Trip:** Our Year 10 Geographers visited Hengistbury Head in Dorset to collect coastal data for their GCSEs. The students were fantastic, working in teams to lead data collection and apply their classroom knowledge to the field.
- **MFL UCL Visit:** The Modern Foreign Languages department visited UCL for a Languages Taster Day. Pupils enjoyed a campus tour, a Bulgarian language lesson, and inspiring talks on the importance of learning languages.
- **Year 10 Business Talk:** Through our parent governor, Daryl Moraes, we connected with Prashant Yadav, CEO of Oasis Accountants. Prashant kindly hosted a business workshop and Q&A session for our Year 10 business students. We are incredibly grateful to both Daryl and Prashant for sharing their expertise.
- **Year 12 BMW Mini Plant Trip:** Our Year 12 business students visited the automated BMW Mini Plant, where they even spotted a robot dog! The trip directly linked to their studies in operations, quality control, and human resource management.

## Creative Arts & School Competitions

- **Poetry Slam:** On Thursday 25th June, we hosted the Hounslow Library Services' annual Poetry Slam. Our Year 7 students performed brilliantly alongside students from local schools and enjoyed live performances by professional poets.

- **Spelling Bee:** This year's competition was fierce! Year 7 students battled across forms to find our 'Champion Speller'—huge congratulations to Mitch (Y7 Becket), our St Mark's 2026 Spelling Bee Winner.
- **School Production:** The Music and Drama departments worked tirelessly with students to stage the rock musical *We Will Rock You*. Despite the summer heat, the cast and band put on an incredibly energetic and entertaining creative performance.

## Catholic Life

- **Mission of the Month:** Mr Neale (RE) led a fantastic new initiative for Catholic Ambassadors, which involved reading the Bible and focusing on a practical application linked to Stewardship. This was closely linked to our Eco Ambassadors' green initiatives.
- **The Swap Shop** was a great success. Students and staff brought in unwanted clothes and swapped them for "new-to-them" items, putting active stewardship into practice.

Our Chaplaincy Newsletter includes articles on the retreats, liturgies and other activities from this past term.

## Celebrating Success

- **House Cup & Sports Day:** Congratulations to More House! Not only did they win the overall House Competition this year (enjoying a well-deserved house party), but they also went on to win Sports Day!
- **Youth Parliament:** Gabriela Viegas (Year 9) and Julia Kasongo (Year 12) were shortlisted for the Hounslow Member of Youth Parliament election. Out of 26 candidates across the borough, we eagerly await the final results.
- **Anthea Bell Translation Prize:** Several St Mark's students received awards in this prestigious national translation competition run by Queen's College, Oxford, standing out among 25,000 participants nationwide.

Thank you to all our parents, carers, and alumni for your continued support. We wish you and your families a restful, happy summer break, and we look forward to welcoming your children back in September.

Ms Waugh-Lucas  
Headteacher



# KEY dates

2 Sep – Inset Day  
3 Sep – Year 12 Enrolment  
4 Sep – Year 7 & Year 12 Induction  
7 Sep – All year groups in school  
9 Sep – Year 12 Expectations Evening  
10 Sep – Year 10 Expectations Evening  
17 Sep – Year 11 Expectations Evening

23 Sep – Early finish at 2.15pm  
24 Sep – Open Morning & Evening  
25 Sep – Inset Day  
29 Sep – Open Morning  
6 Oct – Year 7 Welcome Mass  
15 Oct – Into 6<sup>th</sup> Form Evening  
21 Oct – Year 7 Tutor Evening

## HOUSE LEADERBOARD

1st – More  
2nd – Fisher  
3rd – Campion

## Bedrock Winners

Congratulations to our winning  
Bedrock classes  
7CA, 8PO, 9A3

and our individual winners  
Y7 – Joel Gjeta (7FI)  
Y8 – Abner Rodrigues (8PO)  
Y9 – Jolisha Fernandes (9CL)

## Connect With Us



St Mark's is now  
on LinkedIn.  
Please connect  
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school life.



Spread the word  
about our Alumni  
Network and  
encourage past  
pupils to  
register via the  
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## SAFEGUARDING BULLETIN

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## CHAPLAINCY UPDATES

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