

A message from the Principal

As another academic year draws to a close, we say farewell to our leavers of 2023. We are confident that by far the vast majority of leavers will be very successful when they receive their results in August but regardless of outcomes we know that those who have completed their journey with us here at Saint Francis Xavier, have grown and will flourish as young adults in the next stage of their lives, whether that be at university, on an apprenticeship or in employment. We know that our students will leave us with confidence and resilience and ready to succeed in the world beyond college. At our Leavers' Service in May, I encouraged students to follow in our patron saint's footsteps: be courageous and ambitious and strive to always be compassionate, empathetic, and inclusive. Be a force for positive change, a beacon of hope, and a source of inspiration to others.

To our leavers: I hope that you have enjoyed your time at the College and remind you that you will always be a member of the Saint Francis Xavier family. We cherish the time you have spent with us and hope that the College Values of kindness, service, faith, inclusion, courage, honesty, respect and forgiveness, go with you as you make your own way in the world. God bless.



Careers and Progression

The Careers Department at the College provides advice and guidance to students to help them make informed decisions about their future career aims, and successfully progress into university, apprenticeship or employment.

On the week commencing 19th June, the College held its annual Careers Week. There was a whole host of progression activities with guest speakers from universities, employers and alumni. A few of the highlights included:

- Sarah Lewis, who shared her journey from school via university to her current role in Internal Communications at the YMCA with our Yr12 **Sociology** students;
- Our **Business** and **Engineering** students received a masterclass in hydrogen engineering and entrepreneurship from Charles Calvert of Vanguard Sustainable Transport Solutions;
- Alumnus Hendrix Famutimi, a registered social worker who is currently studying for his Psychotherapy Masters to qualify as a Clinical Psychologist, gave students of **Health & Social Care** invaluable insights into his experience in education and work;
- **Law** students heard from David Malone, Deputy Chief Crown Prosecutor and Patricia Deighton, a Crown Prosecutor, who both shared valuable insight on developing a career as a barrister;
- **Criminology** students heard from Detective Putt about his career journey into the Metropolitan Police;
- Jake Howard and Professor Ben Tippet from the University of Greenwich and the Royal Economic Society delivered an economics masterclass to **economics** and **business** students;
- Tayler Kirk from The Brokerage along with two of her interns shared some amazing opportunities for those from under-represented groups.





Our **maths** students were lucky enough to meet two amazing speakers during the Careers Week. Firstly, Alison Champernowne is a Data Analyst working for Avanade who analyses data to help businesses and organisations identify ways to better understand and improve their working practices. Alison talked about what her role entailed and its significance in all industries. She also gave very insightful advice about how skills gained during academic studies, such as problem solving, can support your future career without being directly related. The students then heard from Theodora Chen, a Digital Forensics Investigator working for the British Transport Police, who gave an engaging and informative talk on forensic investigation in the digital age. The talk included information on data storage, coding and encryption, the legal implications of cyber security and practical advice about how to keep your data safe. Students were even given the opportunity to work in hexadecimal and use ASCII to convert code. Thanks to Alison and Theodora for giving up your time and sharing so much valuable information with our students!



College Activities and Events

Following months of hard work, including product development, presenting to leading industry experts and even learning to sew, our Young Enterprise students were crowned London and Kent champions in the Young Enterprise UK Company of the Year Awards! Their product, the Draft Dodger, is an ingenious and environmental solution to the current cost of living crisis. Draft Dodgers are handmade and individually sewn draught excluders made from recycled furnishing fabrics and filled with recycled mattress foam. After much deliberation, the judges announced that Byakuren and their Draft Dodgers were the winners of the Young Enterprise London and Kent Best Company Award! The team of entrepreneurs Daniel James-Proffitt, Anthony Banton, Gerald Peralta Bonilla, Denzel Brown and Amenhotep Cousins go by the name Byakuren, which is the Japanese word for White Lotus. Having won the tough round, the team progressed to the National final which was held online on 6th June. The team competed against eleven other schools, all winners of their respective regions, but alas the team were not placed in the top three. The winning team, Monito, hailed from Bromsgrove Independent School with a product which aimed to improve children's financial literacy. Despite not being placed, this was a tremendous achievement by Team Byakuren for whom an entrepreneurial future lies ahead, I'm sure!



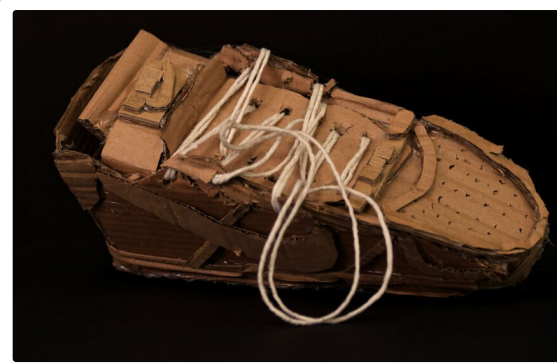
We were thrilled to see some fantastic work from our level 3 Art and Design students on show in the prestigious Sixth Form Colleges Association annual art exhibition. This year the theme was 'a sustainable future' so many congratulations to Ashon-Rae, Jeanette and Thaissa for having their pieces selected for the exhibition.



Walled by
Ashon-Rae Jemirifo



Dressed Crisps by
Jeanette Kitita



One step at a time by
Thaissa Van-Dunem



Some of the winners of the Jack Petchy Awards, which recognises outstanding young people in London, celebrated their achievements with a day out in the West End battling Zombies using virtual reality, visiting the cinema to watch Fast X and finishing the day with a pizza! Others preferred the thrill-seeking rides of Thorpe Park. Many congratulations to all our Jack Petchy winners: Daniel Street; Amber Meyrick; Adriana Martins; Edjola Dema; Ellen Tutton; Suber Mohamed; Elizabeth Wlosinski; Tracy Goudji-Garcia; Francely Gonzalez; Katie Pillar; Jack Brown; Citrina Forbes; and huge thanks to the teachers who gave their time to escort them on the visits



History students recently attended an A-level Study workshop at the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich. Whilst there, they explored maps, paintings, models, diaries and other 17th century artefacts, investigating England's development as a maritime nation and the significance of its growing imperial trade in Asia and the Americas. A truly educational experience!

Congratulations to A level Politics students Kelvin Lotsu and Calicia Tavernier, who have graduated from the Advocacy Academy, a social action youth movement. Here they are with SFX new recruit, Natasha McPherson, who will be continuing their work fighting for justice and equality.





Our English literature A Level students visited King's College London and spent the day developing their knowledge by participating in literature discussions and workshops. The King's College lecturers were very impressed, commenting on how 'bright and intelligent' our students were - which is exactly what we expect from our amazing students!

Our 2nd year UAL Creative Media level 3 diploma students held their final exhibition at the beginning of June – and what an amazing exhibition it was. There was a range of short films, merchandising and design work on show. It was a delight to witness the way in which students were able to enthusiastically articulate the inspiration behind their projects. The hard work that has gone into each and every project is phenomenal and the students were incredibly passionate and proud of their achievements.



Earlier this term, Travel and Tourism students attended a business and marketing workshop to support their course units. Luckily for them, the workshop was at Thorpe Park, so once the work was finished, they spent the rest of the day enjoying the rides as a reward for all their hard work this year!

Business BTEC level 3 extended diploma students recently visited the Museum of Brands. As well as exploring the museum to see how brands have changed over the last century, they took part in a branding workshop, learning about the importance of branding, targeting markets and customer profiles. Looking at this photo, I am instantly taken back to my Saturday nights as a child when the Muppet Show compulsive Saturday night viewing!



This year's Yr13 UAL performance piece was a musical production of Little Shop of Horrors. An extravaganza of singing, acting and dance by a very talented bunch of students. It was a pleasure to see this group's final piece before they move on to, what I'm sure, will be bigger and better things in the future. Congratulations to you all, it has been a huge pleasure sitting in the audience watching your superb performances over the past two



Meanwhile, not to be outdone by their older counterparts, the Yr12 UAL performing and production arts students put on a sublime performance of 'Reimagining Othello', a reworking of Shakespeare's tragedy set partly in the future and partly in the 1970s. It was a truly creative masterpiece!



Our Student Ambassadors were celebrated at the inaugural annual Student Ambassador Awards ceremony. This rewards our remarkable students who give up their time to represent the College at open events and interview evenings. They even run our TikTok account and model for the prospectus! Each student received a certificate and a small gift of appreciation.



Earlier this term, we received a visit from 2020 Change, a youth empowerment organisation supporting young people in realising their true potential and cultivating the right mindset to engage with a changing society. 2020 Change representative, Georgia, introduced students to the "I Am Change" programme. The 10 week social empowerment programme gives young people access to universities and employers, helping level-up the playing field and giving students the confidence to succeed in their careers, regardless of their background.



Alumna, Larisa Vasilescu, returned to the College recently to mentor current students. Larisa has just completed a year's engineering placement and will be going to Cardiff University in September to study architecture. Here she is with Year 12 student Amanda Fernandes, who is studying the same courses that Larisa did at the College: geography, maths and graphical communication and also wants to study architecture. Who better to mentor our students than one of our own alumni.

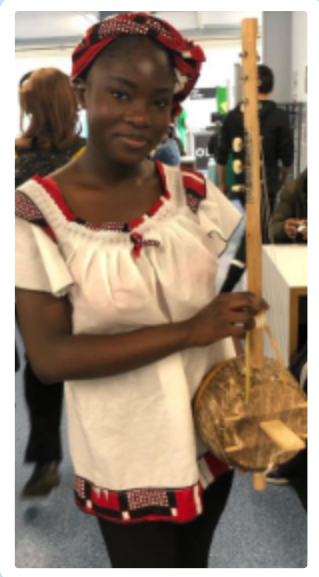


As part of their studies, 38 of our Spanish A-Level students went to see Federico García Lorca's acclaimed play *La Casa de Bernarda Alba* at the Cervantes Theatre. The book that inspired the play is studied as part of the curriculum module that covers the Spanish Civil War, Franco's dictatorship and the transition to democracy. After the show, the students were thrilled to meet Teresa Del Olmo-Actriz who plays Bernarda, a highly sought-after role for actresses in Spain.

Our Theatre Club students had a fantastic enrichment day out when they went to see *Sylvia*, the story of feminist, activist, pacifist, socialist and rebel Sylvia Pankhurst at the Old Vic Theatre. She was the lesser-known Pankhurst at the heart of the Suffragette movement, who changed the lives of working women and men across the world! The students were captivated and fascinated by the play and thoroughly enjoyed their trip!



On 26th May, we celebrated the heritage and culture of the Saint Francis Xavier community through our Culture Day. When arriving at the College staff, students and visitors were greeted by Our Lord's Prayer written in 25 languages to reflect the home languages spoken by our community. The day was an extravaganza of traditional clothing, food and music and was a huge success. I have never seen the canteen so full of students having fun and making so much noise! We are privileged to welcome students from so many different cultures and thanks to all their hard work, we celebrated our diversity in style. The entire day was a tremendous success. Thanks to all the staff and students involved in organising the day.





Year 12 Sociology students attended a fascinating lecture on 'Poverty, Shame and Stigma' by Dr Vic Loveday at Goldsmiths, University of London. Thanks to Brett St Louis for the flawless organising!



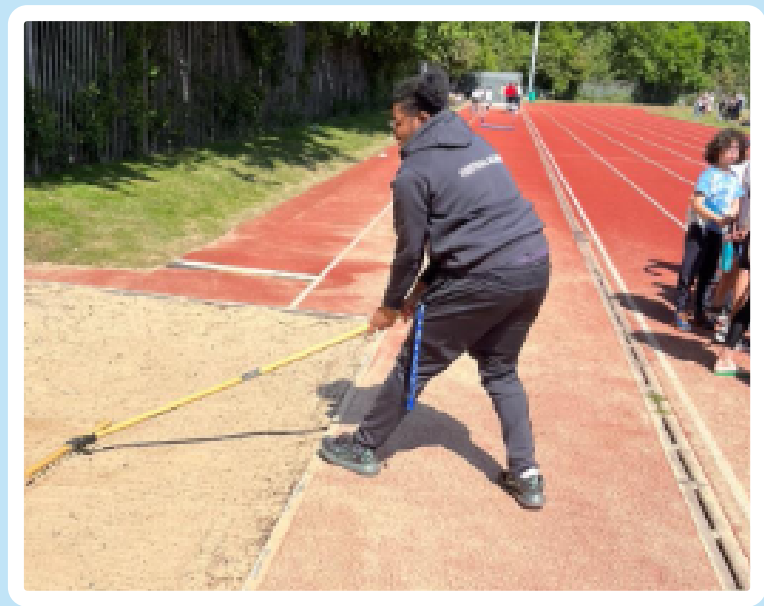
Another day and another fantastic theatre trip for our Spanish A level students who got up close and personal with the cast of 'Pablo Escobar is not my Uncle' when they attended the show at the Brixton House Theatre, earlier this term!

Over the past couple of years, students and staff have been supporting the African Caribbean Leukaemia Trust (ACLT). In fact, you may recall that we won an SFCA Community Impact Award for the work last year. In recognition of our support, ACLT organised for our science students to visit the Blood Donor Centre at St. George's Trust. The students learned about the importance of blood donation and the need for more donors, especially from ethnic minority communities. They discussed different blood types, how blood is distributed through hospitals and the importance of providing patients with the best matched blood, especially those with sickle cell. The students were shown around the clinic and observed donors donating blood (including our very own Ms Hardy!). They even tested their own blood type and worked out the best blood match to themselves. For some of our students this charity is particularly pertinent as many know a family member or friend who suffers from sickle cell anaemia.



Our English Language and Literature students enjoyed a fun-filled day trip to Paris, home to many great writers such as Jean Paul Sartre, Victor Hugo and Jules Verne. During their visit, the students explored the city by boat and on foot and were fortunate to see many of the city's celebrated sites. These included the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame Cathedral, the Centre Pompidou, La Place du Tertre, Montmartre before finishing with an amazing view of the Paris cityscape from the steps of the Sacre Coeur. What better view to get their creative writing juices flowing!

It's always lovely to hear stories of our students giving something back and volunteering in the local community. Here we have our Sports Science students, helping out with the organisation of Telferscot Primary School's Sports Day. The school were incredibly appreciative of our students contribution towards the success of the event which happened to be on one of the hottest days of the year! Well done to all those who volunteered; you are terrific ambassadors for the College.



Chaplaincy

On 4th May we held a Confirmation Mass for 8 confirmation candidates. Canon Gerard Bradley, the Episcopal Vicar for South West London confirmed the candidates. It was hugely gratifying to see the chapel full with guests and Sponsors. As well as the gift of the Holy Spirit, the candidates received a book of daily reflections, a rosary and a night light as gifts from the college. I hear that we have already had enquiries about Confirmation preparation for the next academic year.



Our Confirmation with the Episcopal Vicar for South West London, Canon Gerard Bradley

This year's Leavers' Service took place on Friday 26th May. There were readings, hymns and prayers shared at the service which was largely organised and run by the students. At the end of the service we held the Leavers' VESPA Awards to congratulate students for their hard work and commitment during their time at the College. The Principal's Awards went to:

- The Principal's Courage Award - Zara Acheampong
- The Principal's Resilience Award - Shranieya Jeyabalan
- The Principal's Outstanding Achievement Award - Hammad Kamara
- The Principal's Outstanding Achievement Award - Rachael Aina
- The Principal's Outstanding Contribution Award - Joshua Manduvi
- The Principal's Outstanding Contribution Award - Tom Bosnic-Boyce



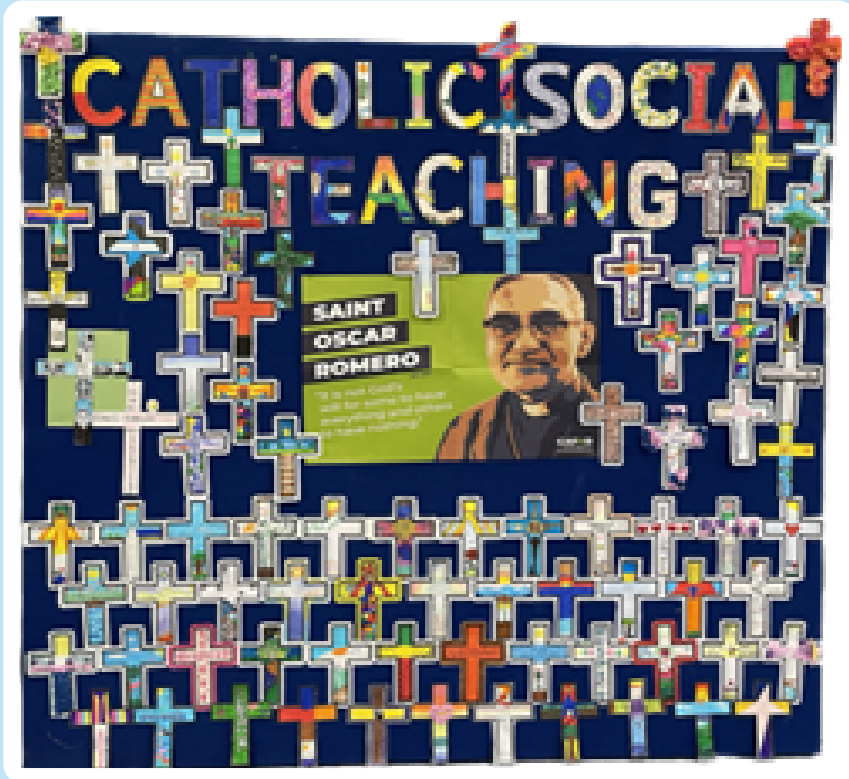
During the final week of June the College celebrated 'Make a Difference week'. During the week, students and staff were asked to do one of three things:

- Bring in pre-loved clothes to donate to the Ace of Club's charity shop;
- Bring in items from their prescribed list for their food bank;
- Write to their local MP or local councillor on pertinent matters such as the cost of living crisis or the rise in homelessness

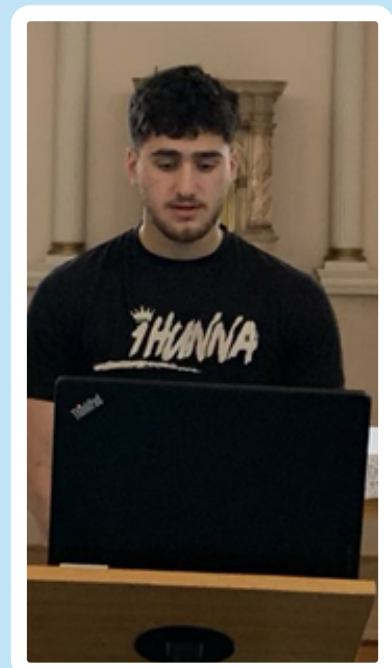
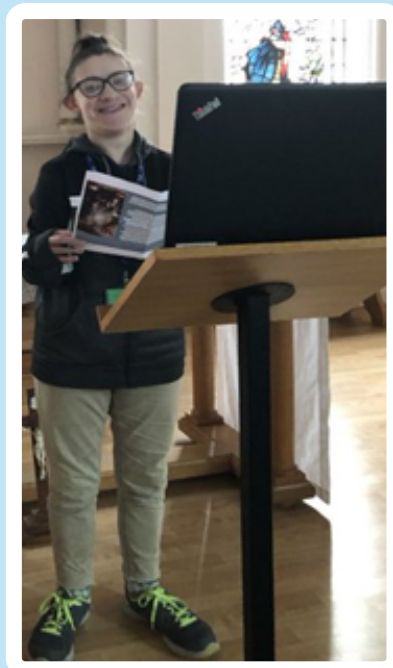
In the case of writing to politicians or councillors, members of the Chaplaincy team were on hand to offer advice and guidance to students.

Throughout this year, the College has continued to support a number of different charities. Last term, our collection for Steel Warriors, a charity that take knives off the street and turns them into outdoor gym equipment located in public parks, raised £414.05.

In a recent Religion and Philosophy lesson, students learned about Saint Oscar Romero and the significance of the Romero Cross before being invited to decorate their own crosses. Deacon Tony and Gabrielle later created a display of the crosses which is located in the college foyer. On the back of this, eight students, along with two staff members attended the Romero Awards Mass celebrated by Archbishop John Wilson at St George's Cathedral.



The reflection broadcasts have been a real success this year. Reflections are broadcast live from the chapel at 10.57 each day. We encourage students to deliver the reflections as far as possible. Below, we have (from left to right): Nathan telling us why there is nothing ordinary about the Church's season of Ordinary Time; Jess telling us about the Cosmic Hand of God and Haydar explaining why there is more that unites than divides the Abrahamic faiths.



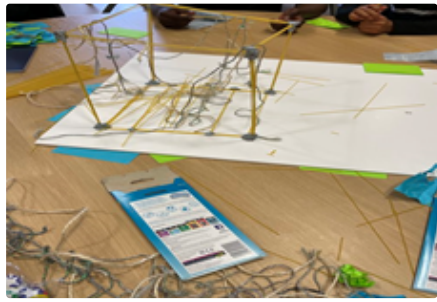
SFX Chaplaincy students lead a Yr 9 retreat at Bonus Pastor School



On Tuesday 11 July members of the Chaplaincy facilitated a retreat day for a group of Year 9 pupils from Bonus Pastor Catholic College. The focus of the retreat was the Catholic Social Teaching principle of rights and responsibilities.

Having arrived and given the pupils a silent task, they were then taken on a journey via CAFOD's 'On the Move' exercise where, in groups, they follow the experience of those fleeing war and seeking refuge. The task showed how everyone has the right to be safe, and that we all have a responsibility for the safety of others. Using Nelson Mandela as inspiration, the pupils were asked to identify as many qualities of leadership they could before demonstrating these qualities when set the challenge of building the tallest tower out of Spaghetti (the uncooked version, of course!)

Thank you to our 5 students who gave up a day of their holiday to help facilitate the retreat.



Congratulations to European Champion Desharne Bent -Ashmeil!

We are thrilled for our Yr13 Sport Science student Desharne Bent-Ashmeil who has won gold in the synchronised 3M Springboard at the European Games with her partner Amy Rollinson. Having finished fourth in both the European Championships and Commonwealth Games last year, the pair struck gold after pulling off a stunning final dive. We are all very proud of you, Desharne, and we look forward to watching you achieve even more at the Olympics next year!

Desharne was recently interviewed by BBC Sport which you can read here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/diving/66093123>



Enrichment at St Francis Xavier

The enrichment programme at St Francis Xavier provides students with the opportunity to develop new interests, become more knowledgeable and skilled in an area, boost their self confidence and benefit from doing something away from the subjects they are studying. Increasingly, employers and universities say they are looking for applicants with a wide range of transferable skills; the CBI say that over 70% of employers want employability skills to be a top educational priority. Skills such as independence, team working, communication and problem solving are developed through these extra-curricular activities which "enrich" the student experience and make our young people competitive applicants as apprentices, employees and university undergraduates. We encourage all students to get involved with the activities on offer. This year, students have participated in a wide range of activities including:

- Young Enterprise; Culture Cafe; Safe Space (LGBTQ+ student group); Book Club; Theatre Club; Creative Writing; Model UN; Chess Club; Puzzle Club; Drama production.
- Sport: table tennis, badminton, men's/ women's football, men's/women's basketball; fitness

Cricket Academy



An exciting addition to the curriculum from September 2023 will be the introduction of a Cricket Academy, run in partnership with Surrey County Cricket Club (SCCC) as part of their Sixth Form State School Cricket Programme. The programme will be available to students, both males and females, who have an interest in cricket and want to learn more about a career in the sport, as well as those that have a developing talent for cricket and who are looking to take their skills to the next level. Surrey County Cricket Club will provide all the equipment required to run the programme, including the installation of cricket nets in the sports hall.

The College is just one of three schools/colleges involved in the programme; the others being Lilian Baylis Technology College in Kennington and The George Abbot School in Guildford.

The programme will consist of four elements:

- an academic or vocational programme of study;
- 4 hours of professional cricket coaching per week;
- 2 hours of strength and conditioning training per week;
- Employability workshops and ECB coaching courses.



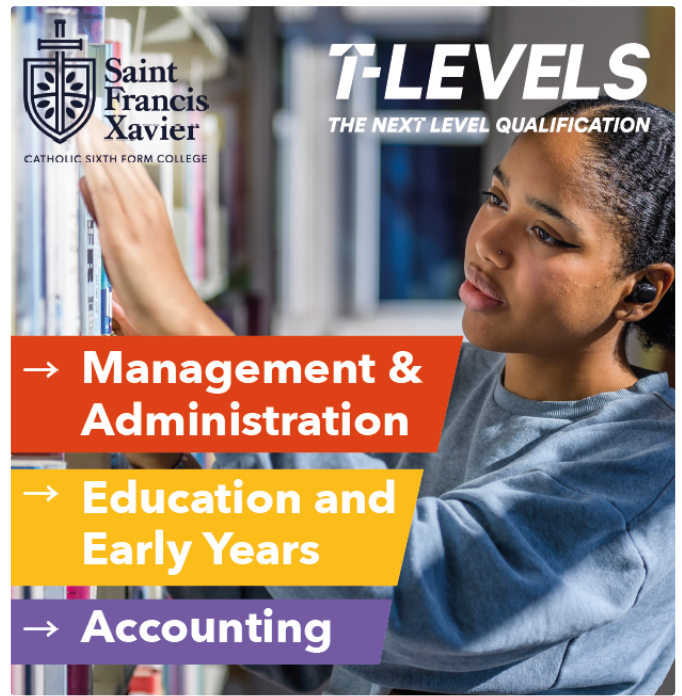
T Level update

Our venture into the world of T Levels continues to be successful. Our business and administration students have now completed all of the required 315 hours of their Industry Placements across a range of industries including:

- East London NHS Foundation Trust
- CR8 Football
- Exceed Reading Stars (Education)
- JAGS Foundation
- Kindred (PR)
- Prince of Peckham (Hospitality)
- Reds10 (Construction)

Feedback from employers has been incredibly positive with students putting what they have learned in the classroom into practice as well as developing their business etiquette. Some students have already presented a T Level marketing strategy to senior executives, including the CEO at Reds10. Students undertaking their placement at the NHS East London Foundation Trust attended the SFX Careers Fair as NHS ambassadors which was a great advertisement for T Levels, more generally.

We are looking forward to launching two new T Levels from September in Accounting & Education and Childcare. Both courses will be delivered in fully refurbished learning spaces that even includes a practice nursery for the Childcare course. Our aim is that those students following T Level programmes will be better prepared for the workplace than their non T Level counterparts, and therefore be much more competitive in the labour marketplace.



Yr11 Applicants - Experience Day

Over 400 applicants with conditional offers enjoyed a fun-packed morning experiencing a day in the life of a student at Saint Francis Xavier at our Experience Day on 30 June. Our prospective students had a welcome from the Principal, followed by three interactive curriculum taster sessions. The day ended in the canteen and quad where the new students got to know the teachers and their fellow sixth form college students - along with a free ice cream and other goodies! We wish everyone a fantastic summer and best of luck for 24th August when you receive your GCSE results. .



What happens next for our Year 11 applicants between now and September?

Once you receive your GCSE results on 24th August, you will be invited into the College to finalise your study programme and enrol you into the College.

This year, enrolment will begin on Friday 25th August and goes through to Friday 1st September. You will receive a letter over the summer, about which enrolment day you should attend. On your enrolment day, our student ambassadors will be there to guide you to the Sports Hall, where you will meet with a tutor to agree your programme of study.

You will need to bring your exam result slips, a copy of your enrolment invite, and an appropriate form of ID (passport or birth certificate) with you.

What do I do if I can't make the enrolment day?

It is vital that you make every effort to attend your enrolment day as it forms the basis for a successful start to your time at college. In exceptional circumstances, it may be possible to make alternative arrangements. If this is the case, it is essential that you contact the Admissions Team at the College, prior to your enrolment appointment.

Can I bring my parent/carer with me?

Parent/carers are welcome to attend enrolment with you. Equally, it is perfectly acceptable for you to attend alone should you choose to do so. Our student ambassadors will be on hand to support you through the process.



Can you or your employer help London plug its skills gaps?

Are you or your employer able to support the College in addressing London's skills deficits? If so, we would love to hear from you. We are looking for employers who would be willing to work with our students in delivering work-related skills and offering work placements or other industry experiences. We are particularly keen on hearing from you if you work in the following sectors: health and social care; hospitality; creative; construction; digital; financial; green (sustainability).

If you believe you or your employer can help please email Natalie: n.green@sfx.ac.uk

Key dates for your diary

Last Day of Term for Students : Friday 7th July 2023

| Term | First Day | Half Term | Last Day |
|------------------|---|--|-----------------------------|
| Autumn Term 2023 | New students and follow-on students: *Fri 25th August - Fri 1st Sept 2023 Students progressing from Yr 12 to Yr13: Friday 8th September 2023 | Friday 20th October 2023 - Friday 27th October 2023 | Thursday 21st December 2023 |

***Students will receive information regarding their actual enrolment date**

Monday 11th September 2023: Teaching starts for all students

Thursday 17th August 2023: Level 3 Vocational and A Level results day

Thursday 24th August 2023: Level 1, 2 and GCSE results day

18th-20th October 2023: Oxbridge exams

Tuesday 7th November and Thursday 9th November 2023:

GCSE English resit exams

Wednesday 8th November, Friday 10th November & Monday 13th November 2023:

GCSE maths resit exams

Monday 13th November 2023: Non-term day (except for GCSE maths students)





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Located in three acres adjacent to Clapham Common, St Francis Xavier Catholic Sixth Form College is the perfect location for all your venue needs. From our all-weather pitch and sports hall for parties and sports clubs, to our brand new business hub for all your meeting needs, we have spaces for all your requirements.


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 - Business Hub - the ideal location for meetings, events and training
 - Chapel - consecrated Roman Catholic Chapel for rehearsals and celebrations

- 
- Mac Suite - professional quality IT training room
 - Dining Hall and Quad - ideal for parties, whatever the weather
 - Multi-Purpose Hall - perfect for performance, fitness and conference
 - Dance Studio - suitable for all dance and exercise classes
 - Music Studio - dedicated recording studio and sound booths. Engineer available

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