La Sainte Union Catholic School

Family Bulletin

4th April 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of another busy half-term, I am delighted to share some of the wonderful opportunities our students have embraced over the past few weeks. From unforgettable cultural experiences in Spain to thought-provoking discussions at our A-Level Philosophy and Theology Conference, our students continue to engage, explore, and excel.

Music has also been in the spotlight, with our talented Year 9 performers enriching the Celebration Presentations and **The Anomalies** making waves at The Jazz Café. Their energy and passion reflect the vibrant creativity within our school community.

Beyond the classroom, we remain committed to supporting our students' wellbeing and development. This edition includes important information on **exam anxiety workshops**, designed to help parents support their teenagers during this crucial period with confidence, as well as details on **Camden football trials** for those looking to showcase their sporting talent. Additionally, we are pleased to share information on **SEND surgeries in Camden**, offering valuable support for parents.

As always, thank you for your continued support. I hope you enjoy reading about the many achievements and opportunities for our ***Bright Women with Bold Futures.***

Best wishes,

Mrs Fegan

Headteacher

Important Dates:

Friday 4th April – Last day of term

Tuesday 22nd April – Students return

PHSE Topics

Year 7 - Child early forced marriage

Year 8 - Drug mis(use)

Year 9 - Camden Choices

Year 10 - First Give Project

Year 11 - Grief

Contact form for any PSHE related queries: https://forms.office.com/e/GY4SBrwbNW

Latest editions of the LaSWAP newsletter can be found here: LaSWAP Sixth Form Consortium - Newsletters

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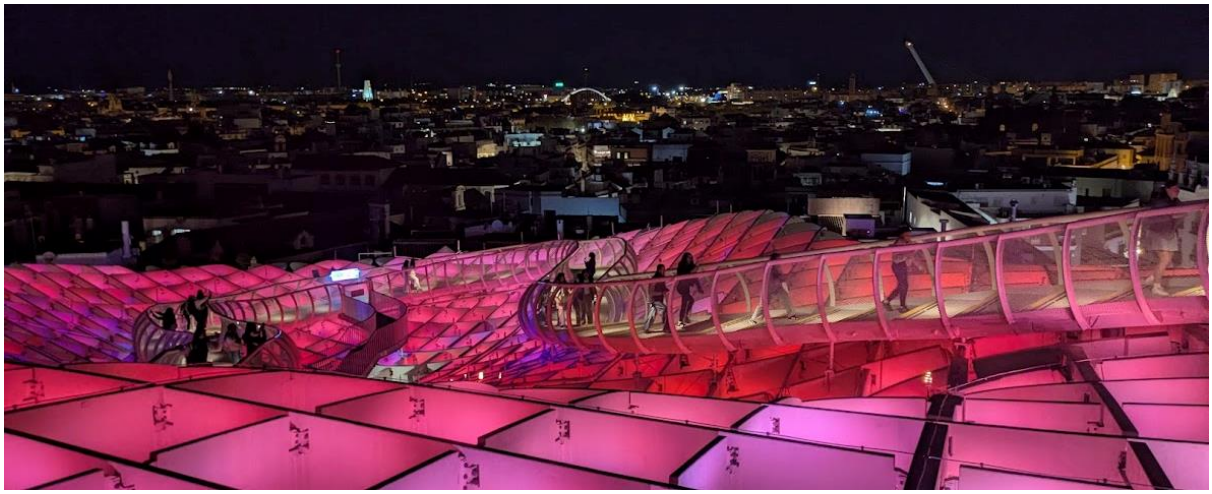
Viaje a Sevilla y Córdoba

A group of KS3 and KS4 students recently set off on an unforgettable trip to Spain, where they immersed themselves in the language, culture, and history of Seville and Córdoba. Their journey took them to iconic landmarks, introduced them to delicious local cuisine, and deepened their appreciation for Spanish traditions. Here's a look at their amazing experience!

Tuesday 25th March – Arrival in Seville
Excitement filled the air as we boarded our flight to Spain, with students working through their Spanish booklets en route. Upon arrival, we settled into our hotel and enjoyed a delicious dinner before setting off to explore the stunning *Setas de Sevilla*, a modern architectural marvel. Students first watched an immersive video introduction that provided a captivating overview of Seville's history and culture. Afterwards, they ascended to the top walkways of the Setas, where they took in breathtaking panoramic views of the city illuminated at night. This magical first experience gave students a unique perspective of Seville and set the stage for the adventures to come.



Wednesday 26th March – Exploring Seville
After breakfast, students had the opportunity to complete sections of their booklets before setting off for a day of cultural exploration. Our first stop was the *Real Maestranza*, Seville's historic bullring, where we learnt about the deep-rooted tradition of bullfighting. A visit to *Mercado de Triana* followed, where students explored vibrant market stalls filled with fresh produce and local crafts. Afterward, they participated in a hands-on cooking workshop at the market, where they learnt to prepare traditional *gazpacho* and *paella*, before enjoying the delicious dishes they had created. In the afternoon, we marvelled at the exquisite *Real Alcázar*, a palace known for its intricate Mudéjar architecture and lush gardens. The day ended with free time at the hotel pool, which proved to be a highlight for the students as they had a fantastic time enjoying the water and unwinding after a busy day of exploration.

Thursday 27th March – A Day in Córdoba

An early departure took us to the breathtaking city of Córdoba, where we began our visit at the *Roman Bridge*, which provided stunning panoramic views of the city. On our way to the *Roman Temple*, we enjoyed a scenic walk along the river, soaking in the serene ambience and historic atmosphere. After exploring the Roman Temple and *Plaza de la Corredera*, we paused for a leisurely lunch. Following lunch, we visited the magnificent *Mezquita-Catedral*. This extraordinary monument, a true testament to Córdoba's rich and layered history, uniquely blends Islamic and Christian architectural elements. Later, we ventured into Córdoba's historic Jewish Quarter, stopping at the *Synagogue* and wandering through its charming narrow streets, before concluding our day with a visit to the *Alcázar de los Reyes Cristianos*, where we admired its impressive towers and tranquil gardens.

Friday 28th March – Flamenco, Cathedral and Farewell

Our final day in Seville was dedicated to experiencing the heart and soul of Spanish culture. Students participated in *flamenco and cajón flamenco* classes, enthusiastically embracing the rhythm and energy of this passionate art form. A visit to the *Museo del Flamenco* deepened our understanding of its history and significance. After lunch, we explored the iconic *Giralda Tower*, enjoying spectacular panoramic views of the city. Following this, we visited the Cathedral itself, where we marvelled at its stunning architecture and historical treasures, including the resting place of part of Christopher Columbus' remains. As our adventure came to an end, we boarded our flight home with tired feet but hearts full of unforgettable memories.

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A highlight shared by one of our enthusiastic students, Chimamanda in Year 8, encapsulated the spirit of the trip:
"I really appreciate all the hard work and effort that was put into the Spanish Trip. My favourite things were flamenco, going to the pool, cooking, and loads more activities that took place that week. Once again I am really grateful for everything that we all got to experience all because of the wonderful MFL teachers."

This feedback beautifully reflects the joy and learning that characterised our journey. The trip was an incredible opportunity for our students to practise their Spanish, explore breathtaking landmarks, and gain a deeper appreciation of Spanish history and culture. We are immensely proud of their enthusiasm, curiosity, and respect throughout the journey. ¡Hasta la próxima!

News from Religious Education

A-Level Philosophy and Theology Conference

La Sainte Union welcomed Year 12 and 13 students to an inspiring A-Level Philosophy and Theology Conference. Our sixth-formers were joined by peers from LaSwap and the Diocese for four engaging Masterclasses led by Chris Eyres, author of Hodder's OCR textbooks and revision guides. The sessions—*The Body-Soul Problem, Meta-Ethics: What is Good, Secularism: Does it Matter,* and *Ask the Examiner: How to Get an A*—sparked lively discussions and debate, embodying the true spirit of philosophy in action.

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Visit to the Orthodox Church

On Tuesday, our Year 9 students visited the local Greek Orthodox Church of Ss. Cosmos and Damian as part of their Ecclesiology studies. Led by Nicholas Ttofi, an academic in Byzantine theology, they explored the key features of an Eastern Church and gained insight into both the differences and profound similarities between the Catholic and Orthodox traditions.

Year 9 Celebration Assembly

The Year 9 Spring Term Celebration Assembly was brought to life by four outstanding musical performances from our talented students. Throughout the half-term, Year 9 has been studying cover versions and creating their own arrangements. Their hard work culminated in a series of performances that not only showcased their musical skills but also added to the celebratory spirit of the event, highlighting the incredible talent within the year group.

News from Music

La Sainte Union Students at The Jazz Café

The Anomalies lit up The Jazz Café on Sunday, 30th March, delivering electrifying performances of *Careless Whisper* and Radiohead's iconic *Just!* The energy in the venue was electric, with the crowd erupting as the band launched into the unmistakable chord progression of *Just*.
This marks their second Open Mic performance, following their debut at The Camden Club on 1st March. These

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fantastic opportunities are made possible by Intra, a charity dedicated to supporting young bands and providing performance platforms.
The Anomalies were cheered on by a fantastic group of LSU students from Years 10 and 8. We're excited to see more bands emerging and taking part in future Open Mic events—stay tuned for the next one on 11th May!

London Youth Games Camden Girls Football Trials 2025

Camden are hosting trials to represent the borough in this year's London Youth Games Girls Football Team. This is a great chance to represent Camden in one of the most prestigious youth sports events in London.

We're on the lookout for talented players who are passionate about football and have experience playing for a club or school team. The competition is fierce, with some of the best young talent in London going head-to-head.

Successful players will earn the opportunity to compete at the prestigious London Youth Games event on Sunday 15th June at Tooting and Mitcham FC.

Eligibility:

- *Players must be in School Year 7 & 8 (U13) or 9 & 10 (U15)*
- *Must live or go to school in the London Borough of Camden*

Trial Dates:

- *Tuesday, 22nd April 2025*
- *Tuesday, 29th April 2025*
- *Tuesday, 6th May 2025*

Time:

- *5:00 PM to 6:30 PM*

Location

- *Cantelowes Gardens Sports Pitch, Camden Road, NW5 2AU*

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Interested in joining the trials? Register your place here by clicking on the link or scanning the QR Code.

London Youth Games Girls Football Trials Registration Form

For more information, contact Kirsty Pealling, Community Sport & Physical Activity Officer:

- *Email: kirsty.pealling@camden.gov.uk*
- *Phone: 020 7974 6294*

Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to represent your Borough!

Exam Support

Thank you to those of you who have signed up to attend our Parent/Carer Exam Stress workshop. A link will be emailed to you directly.

For those who have not signed yet signed up, you can still attend using the link below:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88197371581?pwd=xg9MpMAWAbe7WQo4qSylgozYj3lM8M.1
Meeting ID: 881 9737 1581
Passcode: 658705

If you'd prefer this to be emailed to you, please complete the attached form:
https://forms.office.com/e/QFVpbUq1hp

Please email bsejdiu@lsu.camden.sch.uk if you have any questions.

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SEND SURGERY

Camden's SEND and Inclusion Service invites you to our Drop-in Surgeries to get answers to your questions.

Meet with:

- SEND officers
- Educational Psychologists
- Team managers
- Social care professionals
- Health care professionals
- Assisted travel professionals

Upcoming dates:

Tuesday 22 April, 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tuesday 3 June, 10.30am to 12.30pm

Tuesday 15 July, 10.30am to 12.30pm

Where: Crowndale centre, 218 Eversholt street, NW1 1BD

Camden

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Report card for La Sainte Union can be accessed here:

https://camden.schoolreport.org.uk/school/index.html?schoolId=2025401

Alternatively, you can scan this QR code with your phone's camera:

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